

JL
Xm 56' 72
N 21.93
69 235

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

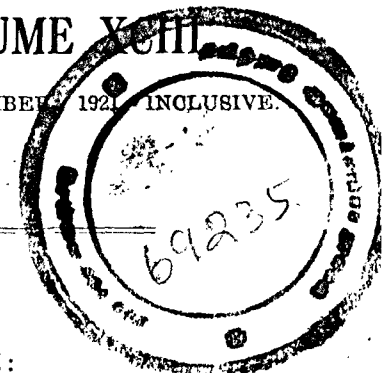
A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

"Were all nations to follow the liberal system of free exportation and free importation, the different States into which a great continent was divided would so far resemble the different provinces of a great Empire. As among the different provinces of a great Empire the freedom of the inland trade appears, both from reason and experience, not only the best palliative of a dearth, but the most effectual preventative of a famine, so would the freedom of the exportation and importation trade be among the different States into which a great continent was divided."—ADAM SMITH.

JL
Xm 56' N 2.1
N 21.93

INDEX TO VOLUME XXXIII

BEING FROM JUNE TO DECEMBER 1921 INCLUSIVE.



LONDON:
PUBLISHED AT THE ECONOMIST OFFICE,
3 ARUNDEL STREET, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

MCMXXI.

INDEX TO THE ECONOMIST

FOR THE HALF-YEAR ENDING DECEMBER, 1921.

(L) = LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

(R) = REVIEWS OF BOOKS.

- Aboyne-Clyde (Ceylon) Rubber, 954
 Accountancy to economics, 499
 Accounts of the Corporation of London for the year ending March 31, 1921, 770 (R)
 Addis, Sir Charles, 843
 Aerated Bread Company, 931
 African and Eastern Trade Corp., 141
 African banks, 648
 African Canning and Packing Corporation, 987
 African City Properties Trust, 599
 African Oil Corporation, 987
 Agricultural and fishery research work, cost, 1062
 Agricultural and General Engineers, 892
 Agriculture :—
 Conditions, 850, 1020
 Crop prospects, 93, 257, 405, 538, 574
 Harvest year. The, 538
 Position of workers, 613
 Progress of, 888
 Wages, 333
 World's harvests, 618
 Aitken, Henry, 985 (R)
 Alby United Carbide, 599, 1091, 1176
 Allen, J. E., 431
 Alliance Bank of Simla, 162, 599
 Allied shipping control, 328
 Allied war debts, 4
 Allocation of railway compensation, 972
 Allsopp (Samuel) and Son, 1111
 Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, 1024
 America (U.S. of) :—
 Agricultural exports, 409
 And Mexico, 368
 Argentine Loan and other new issues, 578
 Bad investment demand, 1025
 Bankers and livestock industry, 13
 Banking and credit situation, 222
 Banking position, 636
 Bank rate, 13, 129, 222, 467, 542
 Budget, 1112
 Building activity, 1155
 Business failures, 143
 Chilean loan in N.Y., 589, 820
 Commodity prices in July, 294; in August, 474; in September, 621; in October, 933; in November, 1112
 Corn crop, 933
 Cotton consumption and export, 182, 292
 Cotton crop, 48, 143, 220, 294, 335, 440, 539, 578, 759, 850, 1110
 Cotton ginning report, 1025
 Cotton prices rise, 508
 Cotton statistics, 1061
 Crops, 440
 Depression in steel industry, 335
 Foreign commerce, 508
 Foreign countries again seeking loans, 335
 Foreign trade, 182, 251, 335
 Foreign trade with principal countries, 50
 "Frozen credits," 508
 Further relaxation in money, 50, 260
 German credits, 182
 Germany gets \$9,000,000 credit, 222
 Gold holdings, 182
 Government new saving certificates, 1155
 Government's crop report, 474, 762
 Great lakes, 254
 Guaranty survey, 251
 Heavy investment demand for bonds, 892
 Improvement in many directions, 508
 Industry quiet, except apparel trade, 50
 Judge Gary on the outlook, 977
 Laws to regulate grain exchanges, 409
 Marked improvement in general banking position, 50
 Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway, 954, 1025
 Money easier, 542
 Money rates, 621
 New issues, 977
 New York City Bond sale, 1155
 November failures, 1064
 October exports, 1025
 October trade, 977
 Pig-iron production, 370
 Queensland loan in N.Y., 575
 Railroad Equipment Trust certificates, 542
 Railroad claims, 260
 Railroad earnings in June, 335; in July, 474; in August, 578; in September, 977; in October, 1064, 1112
 Railroad freight rates, 762, 977
 Railroad Labour Board, 1064
 Railroad outlook, 143, 762
 Railroad Refunding Bill, 409
 Railroad's lower income, 13
 Railroad wages, 763, 933
 Reductions in Federal Reserve Bank's statement rates, 892
 Reduction in New York rate, 13
 Repayments by British Government, 809
 Rubber trade, 576
 Secretary of the Treasury's annual report, 1112
 Steel and disarmament, 1109
 Steel Corporation, 260, 474, 762, 854
 Steel merger, 1064
 Steel wages reduced, 370
 Strong investment demand, 1155
 Ter Meulen scheme, 888
 Trade and industry, 370
 Trade movements, 621
 Trade quiet, 1064
 Unfavourable Government crop report, 335
 Uruguayan loan in N.Y., 258
 War Finance Corporation, 222, 260
 World's debt to, 849
 American economic life in its civic and social aspects, 342 (R)
 American Harter Act, 886
 America's population policy, 403
 Anchor Line, 259
 Anderson, B. M., 328
 Angell, Norman, 148 (R)
 Anglo-Bulgarian Tribunal, 474
 Anglo-Burma Oil Company, 773, 863
 Anglo-Dutch Plantations, 761
 Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, 20
 Anglo-European Steamship, 423
 Anglo-Japanese Agreement, 87, 1056
 Anglo-Mexican trade, 369
 Anglo-Persian Oil, 1062
 Anglo-Polish Bank, 741
 Anglo-Portuguese Telephone, 162
 Anglo-South American Bank, 599
 Anglo-Sumatra Rubber, 873
 Annuaire Statistique de la Letvie, 809 (R)
 Ansell's Brewery, 955
 Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Rly., 448
 Anuario Financiero y de Sociedades Anonimas de España, 809 (R)
 Aramayo Francke Mines, 541
 Argentina :—
 Cordoba Central, 832
 Finance and trade, 1109
 Loan in America, 578
 Railway rates, 438
 Railway results, 619, 756
 Railway strike averted, 854
 Argentine Great Western, 792
 Argentine land companies, 1059
 Argentine North-Eastern, 1002
 Argentine Iron and Steel Co., 524
 Argentine Land and Investment, 873
 Argentine Navigation Co., 892
 Arizona shareholders' new interests, 542
 Armament restriction, 87
 Armstrong, Colonel, 1103
 Armstrong-Whitworth results, 140
 Ashanti-Obuasi Reefs, 449
 Ashfield's (Lord) scheme of Underground extension, 897 (L)
 Aspetti Sociali ed Economici della Guerra Mondiale, 770 (R)
 Asquith, H., 751, 743
 Assam Railways and Trading, 833
 Associated Belting Companies, 190
 Associated British Commerce and Industry, 589
 Atkinson, Meredith, 513 (R)
 Auckland (City of) loan, 1071
 Australasian banks, 650
 Australia :—
 Bank figures, 1158
 Budget, 505
 Census results, 264
 Commonwealth budget, 896
 Commonwealth loan, 772
 Compulsory inscription of private securities, 375
 Confiscation of war profits, 375
 New Commonwealth loan, 180
 New South Wales loan, 589
 Public finance, 264
 Queensland loan in N.Y., 575
 Revival in the Stock Exchange, 375
 Trade outlook, 1158
 Western Australian stock, 901
 Year's trade, 545
 Australia : Economic and political studies by various writers, 513 (R)
 Australian base metal mining companies and labour, 808
 Australian Estates and Mortgage, 77
 Aylesbury Borough sewerage and sewage disposal loans, 150
 Bakap Rubber, 1044
 Baker, Duncombe, and Co., 792
 Baldwins, Limited, 741
 Balfour, A. J., 883
 Ranbury, Sir Frederick, 803
 Bankers' Almanac and Year Book, 1118 (R)
 Bankers and banking credit, 632
 Bankers' credits, 148 (R)
 Bankers' manifesto, 175
 Bank dividends, 47
 Banking abroad, British, 634
 Banking half-year, 137
 Banking number, 629
 Bank rate, 129, 467, 801
 Bank rates, 3, 129, 222, 467, 843
 Bank shares, 639

Bankruptcy courts, 470
 Bankruptcy in 1920, 889
 Banks:—
 African banks, 648
 Alliance of Simla, 162, 599
 American banking position, 636
 Anglo-Polish, 741
 Anglo-South American, 599
 Australasian banks, 650
 Baker, Duncombe, and Co., 792
 Banca Italiana di Sconta, 1153
 Banco di Roma, 524
 Banco Espanol del Rio de la Plata, 423
 Banco Nacional Ultramarino, 110, 599
 Bank of Australasia, 741
 Bank of British W. Africa, 77
 Bank of Montreal, 1044
 Bank of Taiwan, 792
 Banque Belge pour l'Etranger, 954
 Banque Industrielle de Chine, 14, 52, 96
 British-American Continental, 507
 British banks trading abroad, 642
 British Overseas, 1022
 Canadian banks, 652
 Chinese banking, 810
 Commercial of Australia, 819, 987
 Commercial of Scotland, 1091
 Commercial of Spanish America, 832
 Commonwealth of Australia, 954
 Continental Guaranty Corp., N.Y., 277
 Cox and Co., 162
 Czechoslovak banking, 640
 Eastern banking and trade, 641
 English, Scottish, and Australian, 914
 Farmers' Loan and Trust, 207, 1091
 Foreign banks with London offices, 642
 Hambros of Northern Commerce, 77
 Higher education in banking, 635
 Imperial Bank of India, 145, 162
 Indian banks, 654
 International Banking Corp., 491
 Italo-Belgian, 1139
 Jugo-Ginko (Tokyo), 914
 Kajima, 914
 Kansallis-Osake-Pankki (Helsingfors), 277
 London and General Trade, 1002
 London Joint City and Midland, 116, 242, 557, 832, 914, 1044
 Mitsubishi, 1044
 National Co-operative, 722, 832
 National of Scotland, 1091
 Royal of Scotland, 1002
 Sino-Scandinavian, 599
 Standard of S. Africa, 162
 Statement of bank accounts, 644
 Sumitomo, 1044
 Tata Industrial, 741, 1139
 Union of Australia, 778
 Western Australian, 1139
 Yokohama Specie, 954
 Yorkshire Penny, 116, 1044
 Bantam (Java) Rubber, 915
 Barcelona Traction, Light, &c., 873
 Barker, J. Ellis, 299 (L), 446 (L)
 Barranquilla Railway and Pier, 941
 Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton, 259
 Bastiat, Frederic, 546 (R)
 Batu Matang Rubber, 1002
 Batu Rata Rubber, 873
 Beardmore (Wm.) and Co., 1046
 Beauchamp (Bank of N. Zealand), 287
 Belgium:—
 Reparations, 399
 Bell, Sir Hugh, 175
 Bengal Doars, 792
 Bengal Iron Co., 557
 Bengal-Nagpur Railway, 277
 Benson and Hedges (Canada), Limited, 901, 984 (L)
 Berenguela Tin, 976
 Berisford (S. and W.), 833
 Bets, payment by cheque, 759
 Bill of lading, 470, 886, 973, 1030 (L)
 Birckett, M. S., 56 (L)
 Bisichi Tin, 976
 Bleachers' Association, 1024
 Bolchow, Vaughan, 438
 Bolivia, 219, 330
 Boom in textile machinery, 134
 Boots Cash Chemists (Eastern), 355

Bovril, Limited, 60
 Bowley, Prof. A. L., 363
 Branch shop companies, 290
 Briand, Hon. R. H., 1030 (R)
 Brazil, 539, 927
 Brazil. Cotton growing, 472
 Brazilian International Exhibition, 335
 Brazilian railway rates, 914
 Brazilian Traction, 34
 Brewery shares and results, 331
 Briand's visit, 1055, 1065
 British-American Continental Bank, 507
 British-American Tobacco, 741
 British and Dutch income-tax, 470
 British Automatic Company, 875
 British Automobile Traction, 190
 British banks trading abroad, 642
 British Burmah Petroleum Company, 1032
 British capital in Canada, 473
 British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, 932
 British East Africa Colony of Kenya, 862
 British Electric Transformer, 491
 British Empire Cotton Growing, 931
 British Empire Exhibition, 578
 British financial policy, 4
 British glass industries, 508
 British Guiana. Government bonds, 415
 British Hungarian debts settlement, 370
 British India Steam Navigation, 1045
 "British industry" ship, 408
 British Merchants' Morocco Association, 1045
 British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce, 809
 British North Borneo Company, 812, 832
 British Overseas Bank, 1022
 British Thomson-Houston Company, 941
 Broadstairs Gas Company, 151
 Brompton, Chatham, Gillingham and Rochester Waterworks, 449
 Brooklands (Selangor) Rubber, 1044
 Brown (Matthew) and Co., 380
 Buckmaster, Lord, 175
 Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway, 739
 Buenos Ayres Great Sthrn. Railway, 741
 Buenos Ayres Western Railway, 741
 Building Guild experiment, 9
 Bukit Tambun Rubber, 915
 Bulgarian affairs, 852
 Bulgarian—Anglo, tribunal, 474
 Bulgarian loan settlement, 618
 Bulgaria's difficulties, 369, 1154
 Bulletin of statistics, 810
 Burberrys, Limited, 207, 931
 Burch, Henry Reid, 342 (R)
 Burden of the rates, 17 (L)
 Burma Corporation, 277, 891
 Burmah Oil, 10, 48
 Business costs, 1069 (R), 1160 (R)
 Business men's committee, 175, 215, 228 (L)
 Business men's petition, 175
 Business problem, 215

Calcutta. Port of, 189
 Calico printing and bleaching charges, 406
 Camp Bird group finances, 1112
 Canada:—
 American traffic for Canada rlys., 581
 Banks, 652, 765
 British capital in, 473
 Business conditions, 765, 857, 936
 Canadian West Indies trade, 53
 Cattle export trade, 544
 Census returns, 857
 Commercial conditions, 144
 Crop prospects, 224, 373, 544, 765
 Customs regulations, 857
 Election campaign, 581
 External trade, 224
 Federal finances, 581, 765
 Financial conditions, 144
 General election, 765
 Grain marketing, 581
 Grand Trunk Railway, 297, 399, 406, 544, 581, 853, 1111
 Halifax Graving Dock, 473
 Hopeful crop prospects, 53
 Hydro-Electric Commission Report, 544
 Impending General Election, 544
 Industrial conditions, 373
 May trade returns, 53
 National railways. Surplus, 765
 Prices, 544

Public finance, 936
 Pulp and paper, 857
 Railway costs, 53
 Railway improvement, 936
 Railway problem, 443
 Railways in 1920, 290
 Revenue problems, 53
 Stock markets and industrial conditions, 544, 857
 Tariff issue, 544, 765
 Tariffs and trade, 936
 Trade figures, 857
 Trade returns, 544
 Trend of business, 581
 Unemployment, 765
 U.S. "Emergency Tariff," 53, 765
 U.S. fiscal policy, 765
 U.S. tariff and Canadian industry, 224
 Cannon, Prof., 431
 Cannes Conference, 1147
 Capital:—
 Export of capital, 535
 Fixed: Railway and other, 1008
 Half-year, 8
 Levy, 431
 Quarter's new, 501
 Year's new, 1149
 Cardiff Congress, 433
 Future of, 887
 Jugoslavia coal concessions, 50
 Output, 93, 180, 220, 257, 367, 405, 471, 539, 758, 929, 1020, 1103, 1153
 Salvaging the industry, 5
 South Wales muddle, 503
 Wages and profits, 939 (L), 985 (L)
 Cardiff shipping slump, 754
 Carr, Cecil T., 1030 (R)
 Cass, W. G., 860 (L)
 Cassel, Prof. G., 4, 251, 751, 843, 844
 Cassel (Prof. G.) second memorandum, 844
 Castlefield (Klang) Rubber, 1002
 Castner-Kellner Alkali, 975
 Cauldon Potteries, Ltd., 343
 Causes and remedy for depression, 101 (L), 265 (L)
 Census of England and Wales, 333, 364
 Census of Scotland, 401
 Central America. Federation of, 256
 Central Argentine Railway, 739
 Century Insurance, 34
 Ceylon Government 6 per cent. loan, 548
 Ceylon Timber and Rubber, 833
 Chamberlain, Austen, 883
 Chamber of Shipping Committee, 45
 Changes in the value of gold, 58 (L), 148 (L)
 Chapman and Sons, Limited, Eastbourne, 20
 Chase Economic Bulletin, 328
 Chester Music Hall (1921), 730
 Chile, 408, 757, 1110
 Chilean loan in New York, 589, 820
 Chilean Transandine Railway, 34
 Chili Telephone, 162
 Chimpul (F.M.S.) Rubber, 873
 China at the Conference, 930, 984 (L)
 China. Cotton trade, 850
 Chinese banking and trade development, 810
 Churchill, Winston, 499
 City Equitable Associated, 151
 City Life Assurance Co., 812
 City of Manchester. Abstract of the Treasurer's Accounts (1921), 1070 (R)
 Civil Service, 176
 Civil Service salaries, 257
 Clayton Wagons, 423
 Clerical, Medical, and General, 181, 207, 577
 Clearing sky. The, 1015
 Cliff, A. B., 379 (R)
 Clyde Valley Electrical Power, 548
 Clynes, J. R., 612
 Coats, J. P., 975
 Coffee markets, 330
 Cole, Sanford D., 939 (R)
 Colne Valley Water Company, 20
 Colombia, 539, 927
 Colombian Prop. Gold Mines, 60, 104
 Colonial Gas Association, 987
 Coltness Iron Company, 557
 Commercial Bank of Australia, 819, 987
 Commercial Bank of Scotland, 1091
 Commercial Bank of Spanish America, 832

Commercial Company of the Channel Islands, 1073
 Commons, J. R., and Others, 1160 (R)
 Commonwealth Bank of Australia, 955
 Communism and Labour, 178
 Consolidated Fund Bill, 287, 843
 Consolidated Gas Company of N.Y., 941
 Consolidated Gold Fields of S. Africa, 932, 1091
 Consolidated Main Reef, 504
 Consolidation of trade unionism, 971
 Consumers' co-operative societies, 771 (R)
 Continental Guaranty Corporation N.Y., 277
 Control of shipping, 328
 Cook, W. J., 227 (L), 341 (L), 377 (L), 934 (L)
 Co-operative Insurance Society, 975
 Co-operative societies' results, 1106
 Co-operative Wholesale Society, 473
 Copestake, Crampton, and Co., 761
 Copper property sales, 507
 Cordoba Central Railway, 832
 Cordova Land, 915
 Corner-house mine quartette, 504
 Cory (Wm.) and Son, 49
 Costa Rica, 256, 887, 1018
 Cost of living, 138, 251, 291, 363, 471, 618, 928, 1108
 Cost of living. Committee's report, 251, 363
 Cost of pensions, 1108
 Cost of production, 18 (L), 59 (L), 187 (L)
 Cotton industry in France, 478 (R)
 Cotton trade:—
 Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, 1024
 American consumption, 182, 292
 American crop, 48, 143, 220, 294, 335, 440, 539, 578, 759, 850, 1110
 American statistics, 1061
 British Empire cotton growing, 931
 Calico printing and bleaching charges, 406
 Cotton cloth export statistics, 406, 575
 Depression, 292
 Dispute settled, 438
 Dividends, 438, 890
 Egyptian crop, 220, 810, 890
 English Sewing Cotton, 95
 Hours, 139
 In Brazil, 472
 In China, 850
 India and the trade, 10
 International statistics, 472
 Japanese trade, 619
 Lancashire dividends, 438
 Lancashire trade, 92, 572
 Liverpool Cotton Association, 507
 Nigeria cotton growing, 974
 Official statistics, 1153
 Raw cotton prices, 10, 406
 Research, 507
 Short time, 890, 974
 Spinning dividends, 95
 Wages, 1021, 1110
 Wages agreement, 10
 County of London Electric Supply Company, 515
 Course of trade, 177
 Cowie Harbour Coal, 459
 Cox and Co., 162
 Cox, Harold, 18 (L)
 Craies, C., 18 (L), 59 (L), 101 (L), 187 (L), 227 (L), 378 (L), 414 (L), 446 (L), 625 (L), 860 (L), 898 (L)
 Craig, Sir James, 843, 967
 Crammond, Edgar, 4, 399
 Credit export scheme, 335, 535
 Credits, 499, 502
 Credits and Currency Committee, 93
 Crises and policies, 1055
 Cronite Foundry Company, 481
 Crookes, Roberts, Ritchie, and Co., 987
 Crop prospects, 93, 257, 405, 538, 574
 Crosswell's Cardiff Brewery, 423
 Croydon Corporation loan, 1119
 Cuba, 927, 1018
 Currency, 387, 421, 521, 739, 953, 1041, 1088, 1174
 Currency policy, 93, 327
 Currency problem, 18 (L), 57 (L), 101 (L), 147 (L), 187 (L), 227 (L), 265 (L), 299 (L), 327, 340 (L), 377 (L)
 Czechoslovakia:—
 Banking position, 640
 Economic position, 1107
 Electrification, 259
 Foreign trade, 50

Dalgety's year, 853
 Dalton (Dr), 431
 Danish limited companies, 258
 Darkest hour. The, 1103
 Dartford Brewery, 875
 Davis, Elmer, 587 (R)
 De Beers Diamond, 976, 1064
 Debentures and mortgages, 891, 1061
 De la Rue (Thomas) and Co., 819
 "Delegated legislation," 1030 (R)
 Denmark:—
 Bank rate, 42
 Limited companies, 258
 Dennis Brothers, 955
 Derby, Lord, 1055
 De Valera, 751
 Diamond Fields of Africa (D.F.A.) Exploring Company, Limited, 103, 1073
 Digest of British Economic History, 342 (R)
 Disarmament Conference at Washington, 287
 Disposal Board's achievements, 139
 Distillers Company, 49
 Dorman (W. H.) and Co., 1046
 Dorman, Long, and Co., 1023
 Dreamland, Margate, 480
 Dudley (Town of) Gas Light Co., 730
 Dutch East Indies. Taxation, 180
 Eagle Oil Transport Company, 189
 Eastern Banking, 641
 Eastern Extension, &c., Telegraph, 955
 Eastern Telegraph, 955
 East Kent Road Car, 190
 Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron, and Coal, 207
 Economic section of the British Association, 431
 Economic sophisms, 546 (R)
 Economic troubles and the currency, 299 (L)
 Economic Industrielle, 1159 (R)
 Effects of the war on credit, currency, &c., 431
 Eggleston, De Witt Carl, 1069 (R)
 Egyptian cotton crop, 220, 810, 890
 Egyptian deadlock, 1016
 Egyptian finances, 758
 Elliott's Metal, 459
 Employment in June, 138; in July, 291; in August, 471; in September, 617; in October, 928; in November, 1108
 Employment in November, 1108
 Enemy debts, 50, 292
 English Electric Co. of Canada, 730
 English, Scottish, and Australian Bank, 914
 English Sewing Cotton, 95
 Entre Rios Railway, 1002
 Estonia, 262
 Estimates reduction, 215
 Estimates. Supplementary, 215
 Evans, Sam, 938 (L), 967
 Evolution of world peace, 266 (R)
 Excess profits duty, 91, 1060
 Exchange Cinema, 773
 Exchange, 984 (L)
 Exchanges, 3
 Exchanges and unemployment, 586 (L)
 Exchange. Stability in, 251, 625 (L)
 Ex-enemy debt clearing office, 850
 Export credits, 335, 499, 535, 611, 752, 758, 804, 844
 Exports, 884, 924

Falcon Mines, 439
 Far Eastern problems, 87
 Farmers' Loan and Trust Co., 207, 1091
 Federation of British Industries, 335, 621, 923
 Federation of Central America, 256, 887
 Fifty years of British life assurance, 760
 Finance:—
 Accounts for 1920-21, 574
 Allied war debts, 4
 Bank rate, 129, 467, 801
 Bank rates, 4, 129, 222, 467, 843
 Bankruptcy Courts, 470
 Bank statements, 257, 436, 573, 644, 850
 British and Dutch income-tax, 470

British financial policy, 4
 Bulletin of statistics, 810
 Business problem, 215
 Cost of living, 138, 251, 291, 363, 471, 618, 928, 1108
 Cost of pensions, 1108
 Cost of production, 18 (L), 59 (L), 187 (L), 147 (L), 187 (L), 227 (L), 265 (L), 299 (L), 327, 340 (L), 377 (L), 446 (L)
 Crises and policies, 1055
 Currency policy, 93, 327
 Currency problem, 18 (L), 57 (L), 101 (L), 147 (L), 187 (L), 227 (L), 265 (L), 299 (L), 327, 340 (L), 377 (L), 446 (L)
 Economic troubles and the currency, 299 (L)
 Enemy debts, 50, 292
 Estimates reduction, 215
 Excess profits duty, 91, 1060
 Exchange, 984 (L)
 Exchanges, 3
 Export credits, 335, 499, 502, 535, 611, 752, 758, 804, 844
 Financial position, 287
 Floating debt, 3
 Gap in the machine. A, 499
 Gold standard, 147 (L), 185 (L), 339 (L), 378 (L)
 Groping forwards, 287
 Guarantee in respect of borrowings by Dominions, &c., 611
 Half-year's new capital, 8
 Indemnity, 399
 Index number, 46, 216, 363, 365
 Inter-Allied Conference, 334
 Inter-Allied debts, 809
 International monetary policy, 844
 Joint Committee on Cost of Living report, 251
 Law and business at the Hague, 470
 London Congress, 4
 Monetary half-year, 3
 Monetary policy, 327, 376 (L), 414 (L), 446 (L)
 Money and trade, 467
 Money in 1921, 1148
 National savings, 256
 New tax system, 536, 584 (L), 626 (L), 768 (L)
 Post-war troubles, 228 (L), 265 (L)
 Problems of international finance, 4
 Quarter's new capital, 501
 Receipts from Germany, 618
 Reparations, 4, 15, 256, 294, 399, 923, 934, 967, 979, 983 (L), 1027, 1055, 1067
 Reparations. Allied debts and exchanges, 860 (L), 868 (L), 983 (L), 1029 (L)
 Repayment of National Debt, 1117 (L)
 Repayment to U.S., 809
 Road to sanity, 967
 Sliding scale interest, 817 (L), 860 (L)
 Sound Currency Association, 182, 327, 499, 542
 Stability in exchange, 251
 Supplementary estimates, 137, 809, 850
 Tabular standard of value, 378 (L), 414 (L), 446 (L)
 Ter Meulen scheme, 4, 844, 888
 Treasury and borrowed securities, 972
 Treasury bills, 3, 41
 Treasury bonds, 43, 103, 220, 986
 War stock appreciation, 1104
 Wealth, wages and national content, 218
 World's debt to U.S.A., 849
 Year's new capital, 1149
 Finance section (League of Nations), 467
 Financial reform in Hungary, 404
 Financial symposium, 431
 Finland:—
 Banking, 55
 Finances, 55
 Industry and trade, 55
 Politics, 55
 Prices, 55
 Railways, 55
 Shipping and ports, 55
 First mortgage debenture issues and existing mortgages, 891, 1061
 Fishing industry, 140, 760
 Fixed capital: railway and other, 100 (L)
 Foreign banks with London offices, 642
 Forestal Land, Timber, and Railway, 251
 Förlag. A. B. Svenska Teknolog Förenings, 414 (R)

Forrester, R. B., 478 (R)
Four Power pact, 1055
France:—
 And Turkey, 809
 And Washington, 933
 Bank of France, 371
 Banque de Paris, 410
 Banque Industrielle de Chine, 14, 52, 96, 1114
 Bourse, 14, 52, 96, 261, 336, 371, 410, 441, 475, 543, 580, 621, 762, 813, 855, 893, 933, 978, 1026, 1065, 1114, 1156
 Budget and debt service, 1156
 Budget Bill, 1065, 1114
 Budget debate, 978
 Budget proposals, 96, 543, 621
 Commodity prices, 14
 Conference between M. Doumer and Sir R. Horne, 441
 Cost of living, 509
 Cost of occupation, 509
 Departmental estimates, 543
 Exchanges, 475
 Fall in the franc, 441
 Finance Commission, 371, 543, 621
 Finance debate, 893
 Financial agreement, 410
 Financial conference, 294, 371
 Financial outlook, 183
 Foreign trade, 183
 Franco-Spanish tariff, 1065
 Harvest, 475
 German coal prices, 294
 German labour, 1026
 German workers and devastated villages, 813
 Incidence of taxation, 762
 Increase in taxation, 336
 Industrial loans, 14
 Industrial problems, 855
 Industrial restoration loan, 1026
 Labour developments, 1156
 Ligue de la République, 621
 Loan to Germany suggested, 1065
 London Conference, 1114
 London financial agreement, 1026
 Lottery bonds, 762
 Material for devastated areas, 580
 Matin and secret agreements, 509
 M. Briand's visit to London, 1065
 National debt, 336
 National income, 261
 New capital, 261
 New issues, 371
 Next budget, 52
 Occupation costs, 543
 Public debt, 261
 Purchase of German material, 52
 Railway rates, 1114
 Reconstruction of mines, 509
 Record crops, 410
 Reparation agreement, 580
 Reparation payments, 294, 399, 580
 Revenue, 294
 Revised estimates, 762, 813
 Rumoured moratorium, 978, 1026
 State control, 621
 Submarine construction, 1147
 Supplementary budget, 371
 Tariff changes, 52
 Taxation prospects, 14
 Taxation returns, 441, 893
 Telephone charges, 14
 Telephone service, 933
 Textile trades, 183
 Trade returns, 933, 1114
 Trade Union Congress, 261
 Unemployment, 183
 War service and profits, 855
 Wiesbaden agreement, 813, 978, 1026
 Yield of taxation, 813
Fraser, Sir Drummond, 4
Fruits of victory, 148 (R)
Furness, Withy, and Co., 259

Gainford, Lord, 175
Galang Besar Rubber, 915
Gan Kee Rubber, 1045
Gap in the machine, A, 499
Geddes, Sir Eric, 215
General Electric Company, 49
General Reinsurance, 242, 599
General Smuts and Rand labour, 851
George, D. Lloyd, 611, 751, 803, 843
George, Lloyd, at Inverness, 535
German Customs duties, 575

German debts, 50, 292
German margarine industry, 368
Germany:—
 Agreements, 262
 Baltic States, 262
 Banking fusion, 814
 Banks in 1920, 98
 Bourse, 15, 98, 144, 222, 296, 338, 372, 411, 442, 476, 623, 764, 814, 856, 894, 934, 979, 1027, 1067
 Cabinet crisis, 764
 Capital levy, 338
 " Catastrophe " boom, 764
 Coal, 338, 764, 934
 Crops, 222, 442
 Currency, 979
 Debt clearing house, 850
 Dutch credit, 144
 Employment, 15, 222, 372
 Estonia, 262
 Exchange, 15, 98, 144, 222, 296, 338, 372, 411, 442, 476, 623, 764, 814, 894, 934, 979, 1027, 1067
 Export duties, 814
 Finances, 144, 372, 934, 1067
 Financial reform, 296
 Foreign credits, 222, 251
 Foreign trade, 764, 979, 1027
 Industry, 98, 442, 476
 Inflation, 894
 Labour movement, 442
 Latvia, 262
 Levy on industry, 623
 Lithuania, 262
 Mark collapses, 623, 856
 Mark exchange and fluctuation, 849
 Marks buying power, 338
 Politics, 372, 442, 814
 Ports, 1067
 Prices, 98, 296, 814, 894, 934, 1027
 Profits, 979
 Reichsbank and Loan Bureau, 814
 Reichsbank policy, 372
 Renner Tanning and Dyeworks, 251
 Reparation plans, 4, 15, 256, 294, 399, 894, 923, 934, 997, 979, 983 (L), 1027, 1055, 1067
 Reparations taxes, 98, 478
 Repayment, 618, 803
 Sanctions, 15
 Shipbuilding, 372
 Shipping, 144
 Silesia, 296, 623
 Socialism, 222
 State finances, 856
 Taxation of foreigners, 478
 Trade, 222, 442, 856, 1067
 Trade boom, 296
 Union prospects, 262
 Wages, 625 (L), 768 (L)
 Wages and production cost, 411
Germany's export policy, 625 (L), 769 (L), 817 (L)
Gibson, A. H., 431
Gide, Charles, 771 (R)
Glen Bervie Rubber, 481
Glen Rubber and Tea, 915
Globe Kinemas, 515
Gold, 32, 74, 115, 160, 204, 240, 276, 314, 352, 387, 421, 455, 489, 521, 555, 598, 739, 791, 829, 871, 911, 952, 1001, 1041, 1088, 1135, 1174
Gold. Changes in value, 58 (L), 148 (L)
Gold question, 844
Goldfields Rhodesian Development, 812
Gold standard, 147 (L), 185 (L), 339 (L), 378 (L), 414 (L)
Gordon Hotels, 181
Government and General Investment, 1045
Government and labour, 134
Government and unemployment, 753
Government investments, 972
Government trading, 46
Governments and the revival of trade, 571, 615, 770 (L)
Gramophone Company, 599
Grand Trunk Railway, 297, 399, 406, 544, 581, 853, 1111
Graphic Cinema Company, 820
Great Boulder Propy. Gold Mines, 941
Great Lakes, 254
Great Western of Brazil, 873
Greece:—
 Finance and politics, 618
 Financial situation, 980
 Greek currants, 576
 Greenwood, Arthur, 251
 Griffith, W. J. N., 342 (R)

Grogan, Ewart S., 770 (L)
Cropping forwards, 287
Growth of foreign trade of Europe, 848
Growth of foreign trade of the British Empire, 612
Growth of foreign trade of the chief European nations, 329
Growth of foreign trade of the nations of America, 1105
Guarantee in respect of borrowings by Dominions, &c., 611
Guatemala, 136, 256, 887, 1021
Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds, 408
" Guild socialism," 9
Guinness's profits, 221

Hadfield, Sir Robert, 431
Hague Rules, 1921. The, 470, 886
Hague Rules, 1921, Discussed from Business Side, 939 (R)
Hague Rules, 1921, Explained, 939 (R)
Haiti, 220
Half-year's new capital, 8
Halifax Graving Dock Company, 473
Hall marking linens, 368
Hambling, Sir Herbert, 467
Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, 77
Harding, President, 1015
Harper Bean Limited, 141
Harris, L. C., 939 (R)
Harrisons and Crosfield, 578
Harrods, Limited, 319
Harvest year. The, 538
Henley and Son's Cyder Co., 449
Hepburn, A. B., 328
Herts and Essex Waterworks Co., 941
Hichens, W. L., 431
Higher education in banking, 635
High Wycombe Theatre Company, 449
Hirst (Geo. H.) and Co., 833
History of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, 818 (R)
History of the *New York Times*, 587 (R)
History of the Peace Conference of Paris, 627 (R)
Holiday tasks, 399
Holland:—
 Budget, 512
 Crisis, 512
 Dutch railways, 146
 Finances of Amsterdam, 1069
 German credit, 1069
 Industries Fair, 146
 Life insurance, 146
 Proposed increase in tariff, 146
 Protection, 1069
 Royal Dutch export duties, 512
 Speculation, 1069
 Trade balance, 1069
Hollins (Wm.) and Co., 355
Home railway dividends, 179
Home railway position, 1061
Home railways and local rates, 472
Honduras, 256, 887
Horne, Sir Robert, 175, 215, 843
Hours Bill, 134
Housing bonds, 292
Housing costs, 973
Hoyle (Joshua) and Sons, Lim, 548, 915
Hudson's Bay Company, 77, 181, 557
Hughes, C. E., 883
Humber, Limited, 955
Hume, George H., 18 (L)
Hungarian-British debts settlements, 371
Hungarian debt, 812
Hungarian property, 1155
Hungary, financial reform, 404

Iceland (Kingdom of) bonds, 415, 449
Ida H. Tin, 976
Imperial and Foreign Corp., 1045, 1063
Imperial Bank of India, 162
Imperial Shipping Committee, 886
Imperial taxation, 379 (R)
Imports, 1017
Income-tax. British and Dutch, 470
Ind, Coope, and Co., 1023
Indemnity, 399
Index number, 46, 216, 363, 365, 537, 80
970

Index numbers of shipping freights, 434, 769 (L)
India:—
 Alliance Bank (Simla), 162
 And cotton trade, 10
 Banks, 654
 Bengal-Nagpur Railway, 277
 Boycott of foreign goods, 412
 Burma Corporation, 277
 Cheaper money, 16
 Exchange, 145, 412, 511
 Financial policy and Indian opinion, 263
 Fiscal Commission, 1061
 Foodstuff prices, 511
 Government rupee loan, 20, 103, 151, 229, 263, 480
 Government 5½ per cent. loan, 1071
 Imperial Bank, 145, 162
 Import duties, 258
 Loan and exchange questions, 16
 Mine finance, 182, 577
 Monsoon, 47, 145
 Munitions Board case, 511
 New loan, 263
 Railways, 500
 Trade, 145
Indian securities, 974
India Rubber, Gutta Percha, 931
Indicators, Limited, 730
Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), 480, 956
Industrial fatigue and efficiency, 1160 (R)
" Industrial Government," 1160 (R)
Industrial profits, 89, 568
Industrial profits—a year's figures, 89
Industrial State, 627 (R)
Industry. The voice of, 175
Inflation et déflation, 513 (R)
Insulind (Sumatra) Rubber, 1045
Insurance:—
 Century, 34
 City Equitable Associated, 151
 City Life, 812
 Clerical, Medical, and General, 181, 207, 577
 Co-operative Society, 975
 Fifty years of British life assurance, 760
 General Reinsurance, 242, 599
 Life Association of Scotland, 207
 Liverpool Marine and General, 1002
 Lloyds, 925
 Marine difficulties, 133
 National Benefit, 589
 National Mutual Life Association of Australasia, 872
 Shares, 851
 Sun Life of Canada, 116
 United Insurance Company, 449
Inter-Allied debts, 809
Inter-Allied debts and Ireland, 938 (L)
Inter-Allied debts and Lancashire, 575
Inter-Allied Finance Conference, 334
International Banking Corporation, 491
International Chamber of Commerce, 809
International Coal, 459
International Labour Conference, 807
International Law Association, 470, 886
International Monetary Conference, 499, 542, 621
International monetary policy, 844
Inter-Oceanic Railway of Mexico, 832
Ireland:—
 Agreement, 1015, 1019
 And Inter-Allied debts, 938 (L)
 Labour movement, 1058
 Negotiations, 751, 803, 843, 967, 1015, 1055
 Overseas trade, 1109
 Peace Conference, 87
Iron and steel in Sweden, 414 (R)
Iron and steel output, 291, 436, 574, 889, 1060
Isleworth Rubber, 449
Italy:—
 Agricultural production, 816
 Appreciation of paper money, 225
 Banca Italiana di Sconto, 1153
 Banking deposits, 1157
 Banking situation, 624
 Budget speech, 225, 1068
 Closing of shipyards at Trieste, 624
 Commercial treaty with France, 896
 Cost of living, 510
 Debt charge, 1157
 Declining note issue, 225
 Decrease in consumption of luxuries, 510

Decrease in note issues, 816
Decreasing deficit, 225
Fall in Stock Exchange quotations, 54
Financial problems, 54
Foreign trade statistics, 981
Legislation by degrees, 444
Lira depreciation, 816
New general tariff, 99
Postal and other savings banks, 896
Proposals on expenditure, 54
Public revenue, 510
Resignation of Giolitti Cabinet, 54
Revenue returns, 298
Savings banks, 298, 896
State Bank, 896
State railways deficit, 981
Stock market depression, 1157
Subsidies to shipbuilding, 444
Trade balance, 816
Transition to free trade in wheat, 54
Isis Chemicals and Dyes, 901
Italo-Belgian Bank, 1139

Jackson, T. Ernest, 585 (L)
Jagtiani, H. M., 186 (L), 897 (L)
Japan:—
 Anglo-Japanese agreement, 87, 1056
 Conditions, 334, 408, 473
 Cotton trade, 619
 Foreign trade, 264
 Half-year's balance, 264
 Nine months' trade, 937
 Specie holdings, 264
 Trade and finance, 48, 142, 221, 540, 619, 811, 930, 1021, 1111
 Unfavourable balance, 937
Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, 508
Johnston, T. B., 327, 376 (L), 586 (L), 769 (L)
Joint Committee on Cost of Living Report, 251
Jong-Landor Rubber, 832
Jordan, Wm. Leighton, 341 (L)
Jugo Ginko (Tokyo), 914
Jugoslavia:—
 Bourse, 767
 Budget, 1029
 Coal concessions, 50
 Constitution, 185
 Exchange, 767, 1029
 Export duties, 185
 External loan, 1029
 Internal and external loans, 767
 New general tariff, 185

" Kaffirs." Revival in, 332
Kahn, Otto, 379 (R)
Kajima Bank, 914
Kansallis-Osake-Pankki (Helsingfors), 277
Kansas City, Mexico, and Orient Railway, 1139
Keelings Oxides (1921), 344
Kelantan Rubber, 1045
Kelly's Directory of Merchants, &c., 19 (R)
Kenny (Selangor) Rubber, 1045
Kern River Oilfields, 741
Killinghall Rubber, 1045
Kitson, Arthur, 327, 339 (L)
Knapp, G. F., 102 (R)
Kuala Lumpur Rubber, 1045

Labour:—
 Agricultural wages, 333
 And Australian base metal companies, 808
 And communism, 178
 And leisure, 926
 And the Government, 134, 753
 Employment in June, 138; in July, 291; in August, 471; in September, 617; in October, 928; in November, 1108
 " Guild Socialism," 9
 Hours Bill, 134
 In 1921, 1150
 International Conference, 807
 Irish movement, 1058

National Alliance of Employers and Employed, 431
Position of agricultural workers, 613
Provisional Joint Committee, 134
Troubles on the Rand, 620
Unemployment, 399, 431, 446 (L), 499, 502, 535, 546 (L), 567, 586 (L), 611, 626 (L), 753, 768 (L)
Unemployment percentages, 291
Wealth, wages, and national contentment, 218
Labour international handbook, 149 (R)
Lachapelle, Georges, 899 (R)
Lancashire and inter-allied debts, 575
Lancashire Electric Light and Power Company, 480
Land and industry, 860 (L), 899 (L)
Langkapoera (Sumatra) Rubber, 955, 1073
Latin-American notes, 136, 219, 339, 539, 757, 927, 1018
Latvia, 262, 811
Latvia, Annuaire Statistique, 899 (R)
Latvian leather, 258
Latvia's trade, 335
La Vérité sur Notre Situation Financière, 899 (R)
Law and business, 1118 (R)
Law and business at the Hague, 470
Lawrence (Mr.), 431
Layton, W. T., 1055
Leaf, Alfred E., 546 (L), 626 (L), 860 (L), 983 (L)
Leaf, Dr. W., 499, 809
Leake, P. D., 536, 584 (L), 626 (L), 768 (L)
League of Nations (Finance Section), 467
Législation Ouvrière et Prévoyance Sociale en Suède, 771 (R)
Leipzig Exhibition, 1914, 409
Leopoldina Terminal, 34
Le Système Monétaire et le Change Anglais Depuis la Guerre, 447 (R)
Levinger, Alfred, 625 (L)
L'évolution Actuelle du Bolchevisme Russe, 1159 (R)
Liebig's Extract, 49, 343
Life Association of Scotland, 207
Linsens, hall marking, 368
Lion Picture House, 60
Lipton's profits, 10
Liquor control profits, 760
Lithuania, 262
Liverpool Cotton Association, 507
Liverpool Marine and General Assurance, 1002
Liverpool Warehousing, 956
Llanelli and District Electric Lighting and Traction Company, 1072
Lloyd (Edward), Limited, 95
Lloyd's, 925
Lloyd's Register of Shipping, 138
Local housing bonds, 292
Local Loans stock, 810, 819
London and General Trade Bank, 1002
London, Brighton, and S.C. Railway, 929
London Congress of International Chamber of Commerce, 4
London (County of) Electric Supply Company, 515
London housing bonds, 621
London Joint City and Midland Bank, 116, 242, 557, 832, 914, 1044
London Nitrate, 875
London, Port of, 405
London School of Economics, 440
Loria, Achille, 770 (R)
Low temperature carbonisation, 344, 459

Macara, Sir Charles, 587 (R)
Mackintosh (John) and Sons, 1045
Maindy Shipping Company, 754
Majedie (Johore) Rubber Estates, 863, 873
Major, Mark B. F., 586 (L), 768 (L), 898 (L), 899 (L)
Malayalam Plantations, 151
Malayan Rubber, Loan, and Agency, 190
Mambau (F.M.S.) Rubber, 1003
Manchester Picture House, 480
Manchester and " safeguarding of industries," 333
Manchester Brewery Company, 480
Marconi International Marine, 181
Marconi Wireless Telegraph, 293
Marine insurance difficulties, 133

Maritime Law Committee, 470, 886
Mark exchange and fluctuation, 849
Marples, George, 769 (L)
Martin, Percy F., 985 (R)
Marvin, F. S., 266 (R)
Mason, D. M., 57 (L), 185 (L), 227 (L), 327

Matlock Cinemas, Limited, 730
Mawas, Alfred, 447 (R)
Maynards, Limited, 741
McConechy, J. S., 1030 (L)
McDougall, F.R.S., Prof. W., 1160 (R)
McKenna, R., 175, 751
Measuring the cost of living, 363
Mediterranean Oilfields, Limited, 60
Mengkilol (Central Johore) Rubber, 481
Merchants' and manufacturers' petition, 175
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, 620
Mersey Power Company, 548
Mesopotamia. A new era in, 407
Metropolitan and Ipswich Water Supply, 448

Mexico:—
And United States, 368
Anglo-Mexican, trade, 369
External debt, 438
Inter-Oceanic Railway, 832
New coin, 1018
Outlook, 292
Position in, 94, 219, 507, 1154
Mexican Corporation, 620, 1072
Mexican Eagle Oil, 48, 875, 1045, 1111
Mexican North-Western Railway, 142
Mexican Railway, 914, 1062, 1111
Midland Counties Electric Supply, 986

Mining:—
Arizona Copper, 542
Ashanti-Obuasi Reefs, 449
Batch of tin producers, 676
Burma Corporation, 277, 891
Camp Bird group, 1112
Colombian Prop. Gold, 60, 104
Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, 932, 1091
Consolidated Main Reef, 504
Copper property sales, 507
Corner-house mine quartette, 504
De Beers Diamond, 976, 1064
Diamond Fields of South Africa Exploring Company, 103, 1073
Falcon Mines, 439
General Smuts and Rand labour, 851
Gold Fields Rhodesian Development, 812
Great Boulder Prop., 941
Indian mine finance, 182, 577
Johannesburg Consolidated Investment, 508

Labour troubles on the Rand, 620
Modderfontein East, 504
Mount Morgan, 439
National Mining Corporation, 390
New Gold Fields Company, 932
New Modderfontein, 504
North Broken Hill, 541
Nourse, 504
Rand cross-currents, 369
Revival in Kaffirs, 332
Ropp Tin, 293
Santa Gertrudis, 423
Simmer and Jack Proprietary, 852
Southern Van Ryn Gold, 407, 415
St John del Rey Gold, 11
Tanganyika trio, 96
Three South African companies, 141
Tin trio, 541
Transvaal output for June, 95; for July, 292; for August, 440; for September, 577; for October, 853; for November, 1064
Transvaal statistics, 407
Van Ryn Gold, 1024
Wages and hours on the Rand, 932
West African gold mines, 819
West African gold producers, 1064
Westralian Mines Development, 773
Ministère du Travail, &c., 817 (R)
Mississippi Valley, 217
Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway, 954, 1025, 1044
Mitchells and Butlers, 277
Modderfontein East, 504
Mond Nickel Company, 207
Monetary half-year, 3
Monetary policy, 327, 376 (L), 414 (L), 446 (L), 845
Money and trade, 467
Money in 1921, 1148

Monthly bulletin of statistics, 810
Morib Rubber, 955
Mountain, Sir Edward, 499
Mount Bischoff Tin Mine, 541
Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company, 439

National Alliance of Employers and Employed, 431
National Bank of Scotland, 1091
National Benefit Assurance, 589
National Co-operative Bank, 792, 832
National Mining Corporation, 390
National Mutual Life Association of Australasia, 872
National Savings Certificates and Local Loans, 595
National welfare and National Decay, 1160 (R)
National Welsh Slate Quarries, 540
Naval armament reduction, 751, 883, 1015
Newcastle-on-Tyne Electric Supply, 449, 1071
New Delabole Slate Quarries, 589
New Gold Fields Co., 932
New hopes, 87
New Ice and Cold Storage Co., 987
New Modderfontein Co., 504
New Plymouth Harbour Board, 1161
New Southern Van Ryn Gold, 407, 415
New South Wales 6 per cent. loan, 589
New South Wales Government railways and tramways, 1174
New tax system, 536, 584 (L), 626 (L), 768 (L)
New Transport Co., 833
New Zealand:—
City of Auckland loan, 1071
County of Southland Electric Power Board debentures, 343
Finance, 511
Government stock, 20
Income-tax, 511
New Customs tariff, 1115
New Plymouth Harbour Board, 1161
Re-assuring signs imminent, 511
State finance, 851
Thames Valley Electric Power Board, 380
New Zealand and River Plate Land Mortgage, 1176
Nicaragua, 256, 539, 887
Nigerian Government 6 per cent. loan, 730
Nine months' overseas trade, 569
Nitrate agreement, 577
Nitrate position and results, 253
Nitrate Producers' Association, 576
Nobel industries, 141
North British Publishing Co., 481
North British dividends, 929
North Broken Hill, 541
North Labis (Johore), 832
North Metropolitan Electric Power, 60
Norway:—
Anti-trust legislation, 576
Bank rate, 86, 147
Change of Government, 17
Coming elections, 624
Contracting trade, 512
Cost of living, 376
Crops, 376
Depressed industry, 17
Drought, 816
Elections, 816
Exchanges, 17, 226, 816, 982
Finance, 982
German competition, 147
Harvest, 512
Heavy taxation, 1116
Industrial conditions, 147
Insurance troubles, 1116
Money, 226
Note circulation, 1116
Note issue, 376
Paper workers' strike ended, 624
Russo-Norwegian trade agreement, 437
Shipping losses, 1116
Strike difficulties, 512
Tax on shareholders, 226
Trade conditions, 376, 982
Nourse Mines, 504
Nuneaton Gas Co., 344

Oil:—
African Oil Corporation, 987
Anglo-Burma Oil Co., 773, 863
Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, 20
Anglo-Persian, 1062
British Burmah Petroleum, 1032
Burmah Oil, 10, 48
Eagle Oil Transport, 189
Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), 480
Kern River Oilfields, 741
Market troubles, 572
Mediterranean Oilfields, 60
Mexican Eagle, 48, 875
Phoenix Oil, 77
Royal Dutch, 48, 1022
Scottish American Oil, 140, 619
Shell Transport and Trading, 48
Tankers, Limited, 619
United Premium Oil and Cake, 319
Vegetable oil industry, 811
Oil in troubled waters, 48
Olsson, Wm., 1069 (L)
Orient Steam Navigation, 1023
Oroville dredging group, 49
Other people's money, 365
Our index number, 46, 216, 363, 365, 537, 805, 970
Outlook for British banking abroad, 634
Overseas trade (see also Trade)
Direction of, 288
Half-year's, 88
In July, 252; in August, 400; in September, 569; in October, 845; in November, 1020, 1057

P. and O. Steam Navigation, 975
Pacific Gas and Electric, 941
Pacific Pact and the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, 1056
Pahang Consolidated, 976
Palmer, R., 149 (R)
Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron, 524
Pará, 539
Paraguay, 757
Paraguay Central Railway, 914
Parent Tyre Co., 1063, 1161
Pawle, G. S., 186 (L), 265 (L)
Payment of bets by cheque, 759
Payment of indemnities and unemployment, 546 (L), 586 (L), 626 (L), 768 (L)
Pearson and Knowles Coal and Iron Co., 491, 772
Peco, Limited, 1073
Peebles, A. M., and Son, 1176
Pelotas. Municipality of, 589
Periquet, D. Daniel Riu y, 899 (R)
Peru, 136, 330, 757, 1018, 1110
Peruvian centenary, 180
Peruvian Corporation, 956, 1022
Peter Walker and Robert Cain, 513
Philippines. Future of, 540
Phoenix Oil and Transport, 77
Pigou, Prof. A. C., 587 (R)
Pilferage, 45
Pinner Gas Co., 901
Poland:—
Austrian gold, 185
Bank's progress, 620, 766
Banking, 1117
Bank rate, 477
Bialoviesha forests, 766
Budgetary debates, 445
Cabinet crisis, 445, 477
Capital levy, 766
Construction in rolling-stock, 477
Corn for export, 445
Crop prospects, 185
Customs union with Dantzig, 376, 937
Czecho-Slovakia Treaty, 858
Decontrol, 185
Developments, 140
Exchanges, 16, 376, 445, 582, 766, 858, 937, 1117
Finances, 226, 477, 937
Financial outlook, 16
Financial programme, 582
Financial Reform Bill, 766, 858, 1158
Foreign trade, 226, 937

Port of Calcutta deb. stock, 189
Port of London, 405
Port of London Authority, 901
Portugal. Situation in, 761
Position of the agricultural workers, 613
Post-war troubles, 228 (L), 265 (L), 341 (L)
Premier's prescriptions. The, 535
Prices:—
Cost of living, 138, 251, 291, 363
Index number, 46, 216, 363, 365, 537, 805, 970
Index numbers of shipping freights, 434
Of commodities, 844
Prices and wages, 188 (R)
Prices and wages in United Kingdom, 363
Principles of Government accounting and reporting, 818 (R)
Principles of the law of sale of goods, 985 (R)
Problems of international finance, 4
Producer Gas Plants, 190
Provisional Joint Committee, 134
Public trustee's report, 179
Pullangode Rubber, 1003
Pullman Car Co., 150

Quarter's new capital, 501
Quarter's shipbuilding, 94, 574
Queensland loan in New York, 575
Queer Far-Eastern finance, 407

Railway borrowing, 929
Railway rate reduction, 1107
Railway Rates Bill, 132
Railways Act: Adjustment of charges, 847
Railways Act rates, 402, 616
Railways and road transport, 929
Railways Bill, 7, 43, 56 (L), 148 (L), 186 (L), 574
Railways amalgamation tribunal, 1002
Railways:—
Allocation of compensation, 972
Amalgamation, 574
Antofagasta (Chili), 448
Argentine Great Western, 792
Argentine North-Western, 1002
Argentine rates, 438
Argentine results, 619, 756
Assam railways and trading, 833
Barranquilla Railway and Pier, 941
Bengal Dooars, 792
Bengal-Nagpur, 277
Brazilian rates, 914
Buenos Ayres and Pacific, 739
Buenos Ayres Great Southern, 741
Buenos Ayres Western, 741
Canadian railways in 1920, 297
Central Argentine, 739
Chilean Transandine, 34
Cordoba Central, 832
Deficit, 47, 333, 367
Entre Rios, 1002
Fixed capital, 100 (L)

Increased production, 582
Increase in import duties, 185
Inflation, 376
Italian capital in Galicia, 185
New joint stock companies, 226
New oil deposits, 1158
Oil convention with France, 185
Oil production and export, 1117
Politics, 477
Pre-war debts of the textile industry, 226, 445
Relations with Russia, 858
Retail prices and exchanges, 1117
Strikes, 226, 376
Sugar production, 1158
Trade depression, 858, 1117
Trade negotiations with Czecho-Slovakia, 185
Trade relations with Austria, 226
Trade with the East, 477
Vanderlip (F.) in Warsaw, 858
Wages, 16
Warsaw Corn Exchange, 376
Policy and principle, 803
Political Economy Club, 149 (R)
Political economy of war, 587 (R)
Portland Town Estate Co., 1072
Port of Calcutta deb. stock, 189
Port of London, 405
Port of London Authority, 901
Portugal. Situation in, 761
Position of the agricultural workers, 613
Post-war troubles, 228 (L), 265 (L), 341 (L)

Rainbow and the fog, 843
Rally of our European markets, 884, 924, 1017
Ralph, F. H. M., 342 (R)
Rand cross-currents, 369
Rand labour troubles, 620, 851
Rangoon Electric Tramway, 449
Rassak (F.M.S.) Rubber, 1003
Raw cotton, 10, 406
Reading Electric Supply, 1072
Real wages in Germany, 625 (L), 768 (L)
Receipts from Germany, 618
"Received for shipment" bills of lading, 973, 1030 (L)
Recollections, 587 (R)
Reconstruction in Eastern Europe, 221
Redditch Gas Company, 449
Redhill Gas Company, 20
Rees, J. F., 627 (R)
Reflections of a financier, 379 (R)
Remedies and limitations, 611
Remedy. The, 377 (L)
Renold, C. G., 366
Reparation and unemployment, 891
Reparation problems, 983 (L)
Reparations, 4, 15, 256, 294, 399, 803, 923, 934, 967, 979, 983 (L), 1027, 1055, 1067
Reparations, Allied debts, and exchanges, 860 (L), 898 (L), 983 (L), 1029 (L)
Repayment of National Debt, 1117 (L)
Repayments to United States, 809
Revival in "Kaffirs," 332
Rhondra, Viscount, 770 (R)
Rini (Java) Rubber, 915
Rio Grande do Sul. State of, 539
Rio Negro (Argentina) Land, 557
Rising wall of tariffs, 968, 1029 (L), 1069 (L)
Road to sanity, 967
Roberts, G. E., 4
Robinson, F. B., 1069 (R)
Roneo, Limited, 549
Rooiberg Minerals, 976
Ropp Tin report, 293
Resario Drainage Company, 589
Riescher, Wilhelm, 1159 (R)
Ross, Victor, 818 (R)
Roumania's recovery, 1154
Rover Company, 491
Royal Bank of Scotland, 1002
Royal Dutch Petroleum, 48, 1022

Rubber:—
Abovne-Clyde (Ceylon), 954
Anglo-Dutch Plantations, 761
Anglo-Sumatra, 873
Bakap, 1044
Bantam, (Java), 915
Batu Matang, 1002
Batu Rata, 873
Brooklands (Selangor), 1044
Bukit Tambun, 915
Castlefield, 1002
Chimpul (F.M.S.), 873
Gelang Besar, 915
Gan Kee, 1045
Glen Bervie, 481
Glen Rubber and Tea, 915

Insulinde (Sumatra), 1044
Jong-Landor, 832
Kelantan, 1045
Kenny (Selangor), 1045
Killinghall, 1045
Kuala Lumpur, 1045
Langkapoera (Sumatra), 955, 1073
Latest developments, 139, 334
Majedie (Johore), 863, 873
Malayalam Plantations, 151
Malayan Rubber, Loan, and Agency, 190
Mambau (F.M.S.), 1003
Mengkilol (Central Johore), 481
Morib, 955
North Labis (Johore), 832
Outlook, 759
Output restrictions, 974
Problem, 221, 259, 1153
Pullangode, 1003
Rassak (F.M.S.), 1003
Results for 1920, 135
Rini (Java), 915
Rubber Plantations Invest. Trust, 541
Rubber Producers' Association, 221
Rubber producing companies, 546 (R)
Rubber Shareholders' Association, 259, 540, 578, 759
Sengat, 955
Singapore Para, 955
Singapore United, 915
Situation, 293
Sumatra Para, 1045
Sungei Dangar (Malay), 873
Tandjong, 1139
Tangoel, 832
Tanjong Malim, 833
Uganda Plantations, 1045
United Semiang, 1045
U.S.A. trade, 579

Russia:—
Famine, 260
Financial policy, 1152
Foreign trade, 620
L'Evolution Actuelle du Bolshevisme Russe, 1159 (R)
Liabilities, 809, 890
Position in, 432
Reconstruction, 221
Soviet Government, 809, 890
Russo-Asiatic, 11, 577
Russo-Norwegian trade agreement, 437
Rylands and Sons, 259
Rylands, Sir Peter, 93, 431

Safeguarding of industry, 4, 44, 87, 131, 287, 333, 405, 439, 468, 535, 567, 751
Safeguards against Protection, 131
Salter, J. A., 328
Salvador, 256, 887, 1021
Salvador loan default, 852, 1154
Salvador Railway scheme, 334
Salvage and Towage Co., 578
Salving the coal industry, 5
Samuelson Transport Co., 380
San Paulo Mortgage and Finance, 1161
Santa Catalina Nitrate, 875
Santa Gertrudis Co., 423
Santo Domingo, 136
Savings certificates and Local loans, 505
Savoy Super-Cinema (Wallasey), 60
Schuster, Sir Felix, 4
Scotch whisky trade, 1110
Scott (Walter), Limited, 355
Scottish American Oil, 140, 619
Scottish American Mortgage, 162
Scottish Australian Investment, 956
Sea Fisheries, 760
Sengat Rubber, 955
Serbian loan, 436
Shaw, B., 431
Sheepbridge Coal and Iron, 491
Steel Products (Stores), 1072
Shell Transport and Trading, 48
Ship Canal Portland Cement, 1176
Shipbuilding, coal, and oil, 806
Shipping:—
American Harter Act, 886
Anchor Line, 259
Bill of lading, 470, 886, 973, 1030 (L)
Cardiff slump, 754
Chamber of Shipping Committee, 45
Control of shipping, 328
Furness, Withy, and Co., 259
Hague Rules, 1921, 470, 886
Index number of shipping freights, 434, 769 (L)

Increased production, 582
Increase in import duties, 185
Inflation, 376
Italian capital in Galicia, 185
New joint stock companies, 226
New oil deposits, 1158
Oil convention with France, 185
Oil production and export, 1117
Politics, 477
Pre-war debts of the textile industry, 226, 445
Relations with Russia, 858
Retail prices and exchanges, 1117
Strikes, 226, 376
Sugar production, 1158
Trade depression, 858, 1117
Trade negotiations with Czecho-Slovakia, 185
Trade relations with Austria, 226
Trade with the East, 477
Vanderlip (F.) in Warsaw, 858
Wages, 16
Warsaw Corn Exchange, 376
Policy and principle, 803
Political Economy Club, 149 (R)
Political economy of war, 587 (R)
Portland Town Estate Co., 1072
Port of Calcutta deb. stock, 189
Port of London, 405
Port of London Authority, 901
Portugal. Situation in, 761
Position of the agricultural workers, 613
Post-war troubles, 228 (L), 265 (L), 341 (L)

Premier's prescriptions. The, 535
Prices:—
Cost of living, 138, 251, 291, 363
Index number, 46, 216, 363, 365, 537, 805, 970
Index numbers of shipping freights, 434
Of commodities, 844
Prices and wages, 188 (R)
Prices and wages in United Kingdom, 363
Principles of Government accounting and reporting, 818 (R)
Principles of the law of sale of goods, 985 (R)
Problems of international finance, 4
Producer Gas Plants, 190
Provisional Joint Committee, 134
Public trustee's report, 179
Pullangode Rubber, 1003
Pullman Car Co., 150

Quarter's new capital, 501
Quarter's shipbuilding, 94, 574
Queensland loan in New York, 575
Queer Far-Eastern finance, 407

Railway borrowing, 929
Railway rate reduction, 1107
Railway Rates Bill, 132
Railways Act: Adjustment of charges, 847
Railways Act rates, 402, 616
Railways and road transport, 929
Railways Bill, 7, 43, 56 (L), 148 (L), 186 (L), 574
Railways amalgamation tribunal, 1002
Railways:—
Allocation of compensation, 972
Amalgamation, 574
Antofagasta (Chili), 448
Argentine Great Western, 792
Argentine North-Western, 1002
Argentine rates, 438
Argentine results, 619, 756
Assam railways and trading, 833
Barranquilla Railway and Pier, 941
Bengal Dooars, 792
Bengal-Nagpur, 277
Brazilian rates, 914
Buenos Ayres and Pacific, 739
Buenos Ayres Great Southern, 741
Buenos Ayres Western, 741
Canadian railways in 1920, 297
Central Argentine, 739
Chilean Transandine, 34
Cordoba Central, 832
Deficit, 47, 333, 367
Entre Rios, 1002
Fixed capital, 100 (L)

Rainbow and the fog, 843
Rally of our European markets, 884, 924, 1017
Ralph, F. H. M., 342 (R)
Rand cross-currents, 369
Rand labour troubles, 620, 851
Rangoon Electric Tramway, 449
Rassak (F.M.S.) Rubber, 1003
Raw cotton, 10, 406
Reading Electric Supply, 1072
Real wages in Germany, 625 (L), 768 (L)
Receipts from Germany, 618
"Received for shipment" bills of lading, 973, 1030 (L)
Recollections, 587 (R)
Reconstruction in Eastern Europe, 221
Redditch Gas Company, 449
Redhill Gas Company, 20
Rees, J. F., 627 (R)
Reflections of a financier, 379 (R)
Remedies and limitations, 611
Remedy. The, 377 (L)
Renold, C. G., 366
Reparation and unemployment, 891
Reparation problems, 983 (L)
Reparations, 4, 15, 256, 294, 399, 803, 923, 934, 967, 979, 983 (L), 1027, 1055, 1067
Reparations, Allied debts, and exchanges, 860 (L), 898 (L), 983 (L), 1029 (L)
Repayment of National Debt, 1117 (L)
Repayments to United States, 809
Revival in "Kaffirs," 332
Rhondra, Viscount, 770 (R)
Rini (Java) Rubber, 915
Rio Grande do Sul. State of, 539
Rio Negro (Argentina) Land, 557
Rising wall of tariffs, 968, 1029 (L), 1069 (L)
Road to sanity, 967
Roberts, G. E., 4
Robinson, F. B., 1069 (R)
Roneo, Limited, 549
Rooiberg Minerals, 976
Ropp Tin report, 293
Resario Drainage Company, 589
Riescher, Wilhelm, 1159 (R)
Ross, Victor, 818 (R)
Roumania's recovery, 1154
Rover Company, 491
Royal Bank of Scotland, 1002
Royal Dutch Petroleum, 48, 1022

Rubber:—
Abovne-Clyde (Ceylon), 954
Anglo-Dutch Plantations, 761
Anglo-Sumatra, 873
Bakap, 1044
Bantam, (Java), 915
Batu Matang, 1002
Batu Rata, 873
Brooklands (Selangor), 1044
Bukit Tambun, 915
Castlefield, 1002
Chimpul (F.M.S.), 873
Gelang Besar, 915
Gan Kee, 1045
Glen Bervie, 481
Glen Rubber and Tea, 915

Insulinde (Sumatra), 1044
Jong-Landor, 832
Kelantan, 1045
Kenny (Selangor), 1045
Killinghall, 1045
Kuala Lumpur, 1045
Langkapoera (Sumatra), 955, 1073
Latest developments, 139, 334
Majedie (Johore), 863, 873
Malayalam Plantations, 151
Malayan Rubber, Loan, and Agency, 190
Mambau (F.M.S.), 1003
Mengkilol (Central Johore), 481
Morib, 955
North Labis (Johore), 832
Outlook, 759
Output restrictions, 974
Problem, 221, 259, 1153
Pullangode, 1003
Rassak (F.M.S.), 1003
Results for 1920, 135
Rini (Java), 915
Rubber Plantations Invest. Trust, 541
Rubber Producers' Association, 221
Rubber producing companies, 546 (R)
Rubber Shareholders' Association, 259, 540, 578, 759
Sengat, 955
Singapore Para, 955
Singapore United, 915
Situation, 293
Sumatra Para, 1045
Sungei Dangar (Malay), 873
Tandjong, 1139
Tangoel, 832
Tanjong Malim, 833
Uganda Plantations, 1045
United Semiang, 1045
U.S.A. trade, 579

Russia:—
Famine, 260
Financial policy, 1152
Foreign trade, 620
L'Evolution Actuelle du Bolshevisme Russe, 1159 (R)
Liabilities, 809, 890
Position in, 432
Reconstruction, 221
Soviet Government, 809, 890
Russo-Asiatic, 11, 577
Russo-Norwegian trade agreement, 437
Rylands and Sons, 259
Rylands, Sir Peter, 93, 431

Safeguarding of industry, 4, 44, 87, 131, 287, 333, 405, 439, 468, 535, 567, 751
Safeguards against Protection, 131
Salter, J. A., 328
Salvador, 256, 887, 1021
Salvador loan default, 852, 1154
Salvador Railway scheme, 334
Salvage and Towage Co., 578
Salving the coal industry, 5
Samuelson Transport Co., 380
San Paulo Mortgage and Finance, 1161
Santa Catalina Nitrate, 875
Santa Gertrudis Co., 423
Santo Domingo, 136
Savings certificates and Local loans, 505
Savoy Super-Cinema (Wallasey), 60
Schuster, Sir Felix, 4
Scotch whisky trade, 1110
Scott (Walter), Limited, 355
Scottish American Oil, 140, 619
Scottish American Mortgage, 162
Scottish Australian Investment, 956
Sea Fisheries, 760
Sengat Rubber, 955
Serbian loan, 436
Shaw, B., 431
Sheepbridge Coal and Iron, 491
Steel Products (Stores), 1072
Shell Transport and Trading, 48
Ship Canal Portland Cement, 1176
Shipbuilding, coal, and oil, 806
Shipping:—
American Harter Act, 886
Anchor Line, 259
Bill of lading, 470, 886, 973, 1030 (L)
Cardiff slump, 754
Chamber of Shipping Committee, 45
Control of shipping, 328
Furness, Withy, and Co., 259
Hague Rules, 1921, 470, 886
Index number of shipping freights, 434, 769 (L)

Law and business at the Hague, 470
 Lloyd's Register, 138
 Maindy Shipping, 754
 Orient Steam Navigation, 1023
 Quarter's shipbuilding, 94, 574
 Western Counties shipping, 754
 Short Fiscal and Financial History of
 England, 627 (R)
 Shropshire, Worcestershire, &c., Electric
 Power, 151
 Silesia, 296, 575, 618, 623
 Silesian deadlock, 258, 287
 Silver, 32, 74, 115, 160, 204, 240, 276, 314,
 353, 387, 421, 455, 489, 521, 555, 598,
 739, 791, 829, 871, 911, 953, 1001,
 1041, 1088, 1135, 1174
 Simmer and Jack Proprietary, 852
 Singapore Para Rubber, 955
 Singapore United Rubber, 915
 Sino-Scandinavian Bank, 599
 Slaters, Limited, 1112
 Sliding-scale interest, 817 (L), 860 (L)
 Slubbers' loss, 932
 Smith (S.) and Sons, 1155
 Some gilt-edged yields, 810
 Sorocabana Railway, 423
 Sound Currency Association, 182, 327,
 499, 542, 621
 Sources of our imports since the Armis-
 tice, 1017
 South Africa:—
 Consolidated-6 per cent. stock, 514, 941
 Imports and exports, 506
 Trade conditions, 10, 48, 220, 292, 407,
 437, 811
 Trade possibilities, 292
 South African Diamond, 1112
 Southend Waterworks Co., 589
 Southern Pacific report, 95
 Southern Van Ryn Reef Gold, 407, 415
 South Kent Water Co., 481
 Southland (County of) Electric, 343
 South Metropolitan Gas, 189
 South Wales coal muddle, 503
 South-West Africa Co., 1024
 Spain:—
 Anuario Financiero y de Sociedades
 Anonimas, 899 (R)
 Commercial relations with France, 1068
 Finance, 478
 Five months' foreign trade, 264
 Introduction of foreign stock, 584
 Morocco, 478, 584
 Tariff, 182
 War credits, 339
 Spalding, Wm. F., 148 (R)
 Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills, 390
 Spencer, W. H., 1118 (R)
 Spender, H., 431
 Spiers and Pond, 11
 Staatliche Theorie des Geldes, 102 (R)
 Stability in exchange, 251, 625 (L)
 Stamp, Sir J. C., 431, 499
 Standard Bank of South Africa, 162
 Statement of bank accounts, 644
 State of Bahia South-Western Rly., 1139
 Staveley Coal and Iron Co., 480, 491
 Steel famine and Britain's chance, 289
 Stinnes, Herr, 923
 St John del Rey Gold Mining, 11
 Stocker, E. P., 817 (L)
 Stock Exchange:—
 And pre-war accounts, 505
 Home railways and local rates, 472
 Peace problems, 178, 367
 Rubber market, 293
 Settlements, 94, 939
 Some gilt-edged yields, 810
 Troubles, 616
 Stocks, M. D., 627 (R)
 Still Picture Productions, 491
 Straits Settlements stock, 1031
 Strakosch, H., 467
 Strand Hotel, Limited, 1045
 Sublime and the ridiculous. The, 751
 Sudan in evolution. The, 985 (R)
 Sugar commission, 46
 Sumatra Para, 1045
 Sumitomo Bank, 1044
 Sungei Dangar (Malay), 873
 Sunday Publications, Limited, 1162
 Sun Life Assurance of Canada, 116
 Supplementary estimates, 137, 809, 850
 Surrey Public House Trust Co., 1072
 Suyling (Prof.) of Utrecht, 470
 Sweden:—
 Acute depression, 512
 Bank figures, 339
 Bank rate, 42
 Banking losses, 1983
 Change of Government, 583
 Commercial conditions, 767
 Cost of living, 100, 583
 Currency contraction, 413
 Depression, 413
 Elections, 512
 Exchanges, 1116
 Financial conditions, 100, 767
 Gloomy outlook, 512
 Harvest prospects, 17
 Industrial conditions, 226, 339
 Industrial idleness, 17
 Labour outlook, 146
 Monetary conditions, 146
 Money and stocks, 17
 New Cabinet's proposals, 767
 New companies, 146
 Ore exports, 413
 Premium bonds, 226, 339
 Prices, 1115
 Rents, 983
 Revenue prospect, 859
 Russian gold and krona exchange, 583
 Russian gold shipments, 478
 Shipbuilding, 1116
 Stock Exchange weakness, 859
 Stock markets, 226
 Timber, 983
 Timber exports, 859
 Timber prices, 146, 478
 Trade agreement with Russia, 983
 Wages, 100, 478, 1116
 Sweden as producer of wool goods, pulp,
 paper, tar, and other forest products,
 414 (R)
 Swedish Government publication, 771 (R)
 Swiss holders and German assets, 584
 Switzerland:—
 Bankers' Congress, 413
 Bank failure, 897
 Bank rate, 298
 Budget deficits, 1159
 Cost of living, 1029
 Exchange, 298, 817
 Fall of security prices, 859
 Federal budget, 897
 Foreign credits, 807
 German assets, 584
 Hours of labour, 1029
 Industrial conditions, 298
 Nestlé finance, 513, 982
 Plentiful investment funds, 513
 Railway crisis, 265
 Railways, 1159
 Reduced clearing turnover, 413

Tabular standard of value, 378 (L),
 414 (L), 446 (L)

Tandjong Rubber, 1139
 Tanganyika trio, 96
 Tangeol Rubber, 832
 Tanjong Malim Rubber, 833
 Tankers, Limited, 619
 Tariff disarmament, 1069 (L)
 Tariffs, 968, 1029 (L)
 Task before us. The, 567
 Tata Industrial Bank, 741, 1139
 Taxable capacity of a nation, 536
 Taxation:—
 British and Dutch income-tax, 470
 In Dutch East Indies, 180
 Lower taxation, 1103
 New tax system, 536, 584 (L), 626 (L),
 768 (L)
 Task before us, 567

Tea:—

Plantation companies in 1920, 435
 Tecca (Argentina) Land, 833
 Telephone Manufacturing Co. (1920), 987
 Temiscouta Railway, 873
 Temperley, H. W. V., 627 (R)
 Ter Meulen scheme, 4, 844, 888
 Textile machinery. Boom in, 134
 Thames Valley Electric Power Board, 380
 Theory and practice of international com-
 merce, 118 (R)
 Thomas (D. A.) Vicount Rhondda, 770 (R)
 Thornycroft (J. I.) and Co., 1091
 Tillett, B., 399
 Tin trio, 541
 Tootal Broadhurst Lee Company, 355

Trade:—

And unemployment, 611
 Bankers' manifesto, 175
 Causes and the remedy of depression,
 101 (L)
 Co-operative trade and losses, 473
 Course of, 177
 Export credits, 335, 499, 502, 535, 611,
 752, 758, 804, 844
 Government trade, 46
 Governments and revival of trade, 571,
 615, 770 (L)
 Growth of foreign trade of Europe, 848
 Growth of foreign trade of the British
 Empire, 612
 Growth of foreign trade of the chief
 European nations, 329
 Growth of foreign trade of the nations
 of America, 1105
 Merchants' and manufacturers' petition,
 175
 October trade volume, 1109
 Rally of our European markets, 884,
 924, 1017
 Revival of, 843
 Tariffs, 968, 1029 (L)
 Trade Boards, 469, 474, 585 (L)
 Trade Facilities Act, 923
 Trades Union Congress, 399
 Trade Unionism. Consolidation of, 971
 Trafford Park Estates, 557
 Transvaal output for June, 95; for July,
 292; for August, 440; for September,
 557; for October, 853; for November,
 1064
 Transvaal statistics, 407
 Treasury and borrowed securities, 972
 Treasury bills, 3, 41
 Treasury bonds, 43, 103, 220, 986
 Treasury bonds, Series "B," 548
 Trinidad Lands Reclamation, 1072
 Tronoh South, 541
 Trust Houses, 438
 Turf Commission Agency, 730
 Turkey and France, 809
 Turkey. Financial position, 973
 Tweedales and Smalley (1920), Limited,
 103, 151

Uganda Plantations, 1045
 Underground extension. Lord Ashfield's
 scheme, 897 (L)
 Unemployment, 399, 431, 499, 502, 535,
 567, 586 (L), 611
 Unemployment and payment of indemni-
 ties, 546 (L), 626 (L), 768 (L)
 Unemployment and reparation, 891
 Unemployment and the Government, 753
 Unemployment, credits and the currency,
 446 (L)
 Unemployment percentages, 291
 Union Bank of Australia, 773
 Union Cold Storage, 439
 Union of South Africa consld. stock, 514
 Union of South Africa 6 per cent., 941
 United Dairies, Limited, 812
 United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, 60
 United Insurance Company, 449
 United Premium Oil and Cake, 319
 United Railways of Havana, 853
 United Steel Companies, 541
 United Temiang (F.M.S.), 1045
 Upper Silesia, 258, 287, 296, 575, 618, 623
 Uruguayan loan in N.Y., 258
 Uruguayan railways, 619

Van Ryn Gold Mines, 1024

Vegetable oil industry, 811
 Venezuela, 539
 Venezuela. Banking and foreign ex-
 change, 891
 Vernon, H. M., 1160 (R)
 Vickers' year, 1063
 Victoria Falls Power, 492
 Voice of industry, 175

Wages and hours on the Rand, 932
 Walker (Peter) and Robert Cain, 515

Wallis, Albert and Percy, 187 (L),
 188 (R), 266 (L), 377 (L), 414 (L)
 Wall Paper Manufacturers, 1063
 Walton Vale Picture House (Liverpool),
 773
 Waring and Gillow, 1046
 War and national finance, 1030 (R)
 War stock appreciation, 1104
 Washington Conference, 751, 883, 1015,
 1055, 1056
 Watney, Charles, 984 (L)
 Watts, Dr (U.S.), 4
 Way of peace, 883
 Wealth, wages & national contentment, 218
 Weardale Steel, Coal, and Coke, 956
 Webb, M. de P., 1117 (L)
 Webster, Francis, 983 (L)
 Webster, Nesta H., 18 (R)
 Weir, Lord, 612
 Weldon's, Limited, 833
 Welsbach Light Co., 277

Welwyn Garden City, 151
 West African Gold Mines, 819
 West African Gold Producers, 1064
 Western Australian Bank, 1139
 Western Australian stock, 901
 Western Counties Shipping, 754
 Western Telegraph, 956
 Weston-super-Mare Gaslight Co., 103
 Westralian Mines Development, 773
 Wheat Commission, 46
 Wigglesworth, F., 58 (L)
 Williams, Skelton, 377 (L)
 Wilson, Sir James, 59 (L)
 Winter Gardens Picture Theatre, 481
 Wintringham, Miss, 843
 Wirth, Herr, 1055
 Woking Water and Gas, 1072
 Wolfe, Archibald J., 1118 (R)
 Wood Street Cinema (Middleton), 103
 Wool. Government trading in, 46
 Workshop committees, 366

World monetary problems, 251
 "World Revolution," 18 (R)
 World's debt to the United States, 849
 World's harvests, 618
 Worsnop and Co., Limited, 773

Year's new capital, 1149
 Yokohama Specie Bank, 954
 City local housing bonds, 150
 Yorkshire Electric Power, 481
 Yorkshire Penny Bank, 116, 1044
 Young, Hilton, 215
 Yves-Guyot and Arthur Raffalovich,
 513 (R)

Zagorsky, Simon, 1159 (R)

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

(A) = INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT.

(B) = INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

Aerated Bread, 1036
 African and Eastern Trade Corporation,
 197
 African Steam Ship, 1034
 Allsopp (Samuel) and Sons, 1169
 Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, 1078
 Amalgamated Press, 1129
 Amalgamated Textiles, 155
 Anchor Line (Henderson Bros.) (A), 345
 Anglo-Egyptian Bank, 990
 Anglo-Persian Oil, 1121
 Anglo-Siam Corporation, 1083
 Anglo-South American Bank (A), 775
 Ansell's Brewery, 994
 Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway,
 24
 Aramayo Mines in Bolivia, 591
 Argentine Great Western Railway, 823
 Argentine Iron and Steel (Pedro Vasena
 F. Hijos), 550
 Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, 1130
 Assam Railways and Trading, 824

Bahia Blanca and North-Western Rail-
 way, 824
 Bank of Adelaide, 67
 Bank of British West Africa, 106
 Bank of New South Wales, 106
 Bank of New Zealand, 301
 Bank of Roumania, 194
 Banque de la Seine, 23
 Barclay, Perkins, and Co., 25
 Bengal Nagpur Railway, 903
 Bisichi Tin (Nigeria), 996
 Bovril Australian Estates, 1082
 British Empire Trust, 195
 British Motor Spirit, 154
 British North Borneo, 824
 British Overseas Bank, 1074
 Brown (John) and Co., 25
 Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway, 784
 Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway,
 784
 Buenos Ayres Western Railway, 785
 Bukit Tambun Estates, 994
 Burmah Oil, 62

Calcutta Tramways, 109
 Cargo Fleet Iron, 99
 Castlefield (Klang) Rubber Estate, 1034
 Central Argentine Railway, 784
 Champion Reef Gold Mining of India,
 592
 Channel Tunnel, 69
 Chinese Engineering and Mining, 1080
 City Deep, 67
 City of San Paulo Improvements and
 Freehold Land, 399

Clerical, Medical, and General Life
 Assurance Society, 590
 Coltness Iron, 732
 Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie,
 591
 Commercial Bank of Spanish America,
 827
 Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa,
 995
 Cory (Wm.) and Son, 109
 Crompton and Co., 110

Dalgety and Co., 904
 Dinnington Main Coal, 27
 Distillers Co., 107
 Dominion Steel Corporation (B), 382
 Dorman, Long and Co., 1077

East African Estates, 268
 Eastern Extension, Australasia, and
 China Telegraph, 992
 Eastern Telegraph, 991
 Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron and Coal, 268
 Edward Lloyd (A), 152
 English, Scottish, and Australian Bank,
 943
 Erinoid, 785
 Ex Lands Nigeria, 27

Forestal Land, Timber, and Railways, 22
 Frederick Hotels, 1168
 Furness, Withy, and Co., 304

General Electric, 154
 General Mining and Finance Corpora-
 tion, 482
 Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon
 (A), 102
 Godfrey Phillips, 110
 Goode, Durrant, and Co., 864
 Gresham Life Assurance Society, 21
 Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds, 482

Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce,
 152
 Harrisons and Crosfield, 731
 Harrods (Buenos Aires), 1130
 H.E. Proprietary (New), 197
 Hovis, 60
 Howard and Rullough, 66

Hoyle (Joshua) and Sons, 948
 Hudson's Bay Company, 233
 Imperial Ottoman Bank, 821
 Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), 994
 International Tea Company's Stores, 155

Java Para Rubber Estates, 906
 Johannesburg Consolidated Investment,
 1164
 John Brown and Co., 25
 Joshua Hoyle and Sons, 948

Kern River Oilfields of California, 786
 Kimberley Water Works, 906

Leach's Argentine Estates, 550
 Liebig's Extract of Meat, 199
 Lipton, 66
 Liverpool Marine and General Insurance,
 1076
 Lloyd, Edward (A), 152
 Lobitos Oilfields, 155
 London and River Plate Bank, 1125
 London Asiatic Rubber and Produce, 65
 London Maritime Investment, 864
 London Nitrate, 947

Malthby Main Colliery, 28
 Manaoas Harbour, 1082
 Mexican Light and Power, 26
 Mexican Railway, 23, 1124, 1163
 Mitchells and Butlers, 306
 Molassine Company, 235
 Mond Nickel, 234
 Mortgage Company of Egypt, 28

National Bank, 193
 National Bank of New Zealand, 105
 National Bank of Scotland, 1126
 National Bank of South Africa, 230
 Nechi Mines (Colombia), 109
 New Modderfontein Gold Mining, 1081
 Nobel Industries, 196
 North Anantapur Gold Mines, 866

Ohlsson's Cape Breweries, 199
 Orient Steam Navigation, 1076
 Oroville Dredging, 108

Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation, 1033
Phillips, Godfrey, 110
Phoenix Oil and Transport, 1167
Premier Oil, 1036

Raphael Tuck and Sons, 347
Rio de Janeiro Land Mortgage and Investment Agency, 1127
Royal Bank of Scotland, 989
Rubber Plantations Investment Trust, 590
Rubber Securities, 734
Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, 68

Samuel Allsopp and Sons, 1169

Sheepbridge Coal and Iron, 516
Showell's Brewery, 1131
Siamese Tin Syndicate, 69
South Durham Steel and Iron, 993
South-West Africa, 1035
Spiers and Pond, 70
Standard Bank of South Africa, 194
Stoll Film, 1168
Stoll Picture Theatre (Kingsway), 1165
Strand Hotel, 1035
Sudan Plantations Syndicate, 945

Threlfall's Brewery, 198
Tilbury Contracting and Dredging, 271
Timber Fireproofing, 382
Transvaal and Rhodesian Estates, 517
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates, 234
Tuck (Raphael) and Son, 347

Union Bank of Australia, 195
Union Cold Storage, 483
Union Corporation, 107
United Dairies, 865
United Premier Oil and Cake, 346
United Railways of the Havana and Regla Warehouses, 904

Van Den Berghs, 270
Van Ryn Gold Mines Estate, 1083
Vickers, 1167

Wall Paper Manufacturers, 1127
Western Australian Bank, 1126
Western Telegraph, 990
Wm. Cory and Son, 109

INDEX TO SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS.

Alliance Bank of Simla (Balance-sheet). October 8
Anglo-American Oil Co. (Report). July 2
Anglo-Burma Oil Co. (Prospectus). October 29
Anglo-South American Bank (Balance-sheet). October 22

Bank of New Zealand (Accounts). August 20
Banque Belge pour L'Etranger (Balance-sheet). November 26
Barcelona Traction, Light, and Power Co. November 12
Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton. August 13
British Burmah Petroleum. December 3
British Overseas Bank (Balance-sheet). December 17

Chinese Engineering and Mining. December 17
City Equitable Association (Prospectus). July 23
Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney. September 10

Commonwealth Bank of Australia (Balance-sheet). November 26
Consolidated Main Reef (Accounts). October 1
Corn Exchange Bank. October 15
Credito Italiano. October 22

De Beers Consolidated Mines (Balance-sheet). December 3
De la Rue (Thomas) and Co. (Prospectus). November 5

International Banking Corporation. October 8
Italo-Belgian Bank (Balance-sheet). December 17

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment (Accounts). October 1

Mersey Power Co., Limited (Prospectus). October 8

Metropolitan and Ipswich Water Supply (Prospectus). September 17
Mexican Eagle Oil Co. December 24

National Bank of South Africa (Accounts) (84)
New Modderfontein Gold Mining (Accounts). October 1

Odham's Press Limited (Prospectus). October 15

Peter Walker (Warrington) and Robert Cain and Sons, Limited (Prospectus). October 1

Royal Bank of Scotland (Accounts). December 3

Sheffield Steel Products, Limited. December 17
Southern Pacific Co. (124)

Treasury Bonds. July 16, 23, September 3, October 8, December 3, 17

Yokohama Specie Bank (Balance-sheet). November 26

JULY 2, 1921.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1921.

No. 4,062.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January, 1921. Amalgamated with Andresens Bank, A/S Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000



Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

32 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.

New York Office—93, Liberty street.

Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.

London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Issued " 312,000,000
Reserve " 176,000,000
Deposits " 4,390,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 1, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.2

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY

Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	1	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets	19
The Monetary Half-Year ..	3	New Issues	20
Problems of International Finance	4	Active Securities	20
Salvaging the Coal Industry ..	5	Company Meetings	21
The Railways Bill in Committee	7	Government Returns—	
The Half-Year's New Capital ..	8	Currency Notes Account....	28
The Building Guild Experiment	9	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	29
Business Notes—		Bankers' Gazette—	
Cotton Wages Agreement ..	10	Bank of England	29
India and the Cotton Trade ..	10	Clearing Returns	29
Raw Cotton Prices	10	Overseas Bank Returns	29
Trade Conditions in South Africa	10	Loan and Discount Rates ..	31
Burmah Oil	10	Overseas Rates	31
Lipton's Profits	10	Rates of Exchange	31
Spiers and Pond	11	Bullion	32
A Wonderful Old Mine	11	Imports and Exports of Gold ..	32
Russo-Asiatic	11	Gold and Silver Prices.....	33
The Revenue	12	Company News—	
Overseas Correspondence—		Dividend Announcements..	33
United States	13	Mining Output Statistics ..	33
France	14	Analysis of Balance-Sheets ..	34
Germany	15	Reports and Notices.....	34
Poland.....	16	Rhodesian Gold Output	34
India	16	Railway and Tramway Traffic	35
Sweden	17	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	36
Norway	17	Commercial Reports—	
Letters to the Editor—		Oil Outputs	36
The Burden of the Rates ..	17	Corn Trade	36
The Cost of Production	17	Iron and Coal Trade	37
The Currency Problem	18	Cotton Trade	38
Books and Publications—		Wool Trade	38
Reviews	18	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds ..	39
Books Received	19	Hide and Leather Trades ..	39
		Portland Cement	39
		Overseas Produce Markets..	39
		Price Current	40

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £2 18s 0d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broadstreet (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

Up till last Thursday the market looked like getting over the turn of the half-year very easily, but on that day pressure was found to be severe, and a very large amount was borrowed from the Bank of England for a week at 6½ per cent., so much so that some borrowers were obliged to take loans for eight days, so as to spread the problem of repayment. Outside lenders were able to extract 7½ and even 8 per cent. for loans over the night from borrowers, who were thus enabled to avoid going to the Bank. This unexpected pressure was accompanied

by the equally unexpected announcement that the sale of yearling Treasury bills had been suspended, and had been replaced by the offer of six months' bills at the same price, $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Since January 1st is a Sunday, six months' Treasury bills sold on June 30th and dated July 1st will be payable on December 31st, and there was consequently an eager rush to apply for this specially cheap and desirable maturity, which put a handsome present into the pockets of those who secured it. As end-December bills could easily have been placed at $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., the market made merry over the incident, which it was inclined to ascribe to a mistake on the part of "Treasury high-brows"; but it seems more likely that the Bank of England would be responsible for a detail of this kind. Yesterday, owing to the large sum due from the market in payment for Treasury bills, there was still a fair demand for money. Commercial bills remained extremely scarce, but it is expected that now that the coal stoppage is over the supply will improve. Three months' bills, now an October maturity, were quoted nominally in the neighbourhood of $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	June 10, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	6%	6%	6%	6%	6% (June 23, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	4	4	4	4	4% (June 23, '21)
Discount, Call	4	4	4	4	4% (June 23, '21)
Houses Notice	4	4	4	4	4% (June 23, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	5	5	5	5	5% (June 23, '21)
Do 6 months ..	5	5	5	5	5% (June 23, '21)
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	5	5	5	5	5% (June 23, '21)

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return was less favourable. The stock of gold rose by £9,000 and the circulation by £1,528,000, and so the Reserve was £1,519,000 lower. Securities were swollen by £9,630,000, of which £6,923,000 went to Other, and the Deposits were thus more than eight millions higher, Other rising by $9\frac{1}{2}$, while Public fell by $4\frac{1}{2}$. The currency notes circulation declined by £1,065,000 to £323,884,400, which includes £2,024,500 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £273,909,900, which is £43,645,300 below the maximum.

The statement of Revenue and Expenditure for the first quarter of the financial year 1921-22 shows that Revenue during that period amounted to £204,168,385, which is a decline of £110,818,067 on the corresponding period of the previous year. Too much importance, however, must not be attached to this drop, which is fully accounted for by Special Receipts, which yielded £14,007,884, a decline of £84,338,950, and Excess Profits Duty, which at £17,114,000 shows a decline of £39,254,000. Property and Income-tax, at £63,900,000, shows an increase of £10,162,000 as compared with the corresponding quarter. Customs and Excise totalled £73,241,000, against £71,408,000. Telephone Service yielded £900,000, against £1,900,000. Interest on Sundry Loans at £1,954,837 is £1,870,897 lower. Stamps yielded £2,697,000, a decline of £2,928,000. Expenditure during the quarter totalled £271,420,290, against £284,728,238. It will be noted from our table below that the Floating Debt has increased by £98,641,000 during the quarter. Treasury Bills outstanding have increased £100,806,000 during the quarter. Net sales of National Savings Certificates amounted to £2,080,000, and Treasury Bonds £1,002,675. During the quarter £13,666,369 of Other Debt has been repaid.

In the foreign exchange market there has been another very dull week, varied only by a further dramatic depreciation in the Polish mark, the value of which on the 30th reached a figure of 8,000-8,500 marks to the £ sterling. The enormous increase in note circulation, consequent mainly on the difficulty of getting in taxes from the rural population, and the ill-advised policy of the Poles over the Silesian and Lithuanian questions, go far to explain this movement. But it is unfortunate that the collapse

should have been accentuated just at the time when Poland shows real signs of getting its house in order, both politically and industrially. The Austrian krone continues also to fall, although at a less rapid rate, and the London quotation on the 30th had reached 2,100-2,300. In Vienna on the 27th the rate for Inlandskronen was 2,675-2,695, as compared with the London rate for Auslands-kronen of 1,900-2,000 on the same day. For the time being little is being heard of the League of Nations' plans for relief. The New York rate, after recovering at the end of last week to 3.76 $\frac{1}{2}$, fell back again at the end of the half-year to 3.72 $\frac{1}{2}$, apparently on some revival of orders in the States after the settlement of the coal strike. Yesterday, however, there was a recovery to 3.73 $\frac{1}{2}$. The quotation for futures remains the same as last week at about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ cent per month above spot. Very little movement has been shown in the Paris rate, which with a little irregularity ended the period at 46.57 $\frac{1}{2}$, or about 15c better than the week before. Brussels at 46.90 is again at a slightly higher discount as compared with Paris than last week, but this discrepancy is unlikely to continue. In Paris the quotation for futures has narrowed a little from 5c to 8c last week to 3c to 5c per month below spot, while the Brussels rates at 10c to 15c have remained practically unchanged. The lira, in spite of the fall of the Giolitti Cabinet, has shown considerable activity, and has recovered from 78.75 to 75.60. Amsterdam, after being as high as 11.37 $\frac{1}{2}$, has fallen back to 11.34 $\frac{1}{2}$, only 1 cent. above last week's quotation. Madrid has gone some 40 points in favour of this country, while the Swiss rate has remained comparatively steady. Christiania also has moved very little, while Stockholm and Copenhagen have gone slightly in our favour. In Germany the steady depreciation, which is the almost inevitable consequence of reparation payments, is having its effect, the rate at 280 being about 11 marks higher than last week. The quotation for futures remains at 1 to 2 marks below spot. Helsingfors, after some very irregular movements, has been able to retain some of its recent recovery, and is now quoted at just above 220, although there has as yet been little sign of revival in the timber trade. Prague, at 275, has depreciated slightly, while Bucharest, at 245, is some 6 points higher, and Budapest at 975 some 25 points higher, than last week. Sofia (at 340) has depreciated also very slightly, as, too, has Belgrade at 130. Among the South American rates there has been little movement, Buenos Ayres, Rio, and Valparaíso being slightly cheaper, and Montevideo unchanged. The rupee has moved very little, and the yen is also unchanged. The silver market remains very dull, with little on offer and a slight rise in spot prices, but with complete uncertainty as to what may come, and forward rates slightly below spot. Singapore is unchanged; Shanghai $\frac{1}{2}$ d dearer.

It is announced that the business of Messrs Arbuthnot, Latham, and Co., of 33 Great St Helens, Bishopsgate, is being converted into a joint stock company. The firm has been in existence under the same title and at the same address since 1833, and the business will continue to be conducted by the existing partners (in the new capacity of directors) on the same lines as in the past. The capital of the new company is to be £600,000, of which £550,000 will be issued and £400,000 of it paid up. Mr R. W. M. Arbuthnot and Mr Reginald Abel Smith will become directors of the company, in addition to the present four partners. It is always a matter of more than merely sentimental regret when such changes happen, since the old private firms of the City perform a special and most useful function. In this case it appears to be due to the fact that the present partners have no sons to carry on the business.

News of the suspension of the Banque Industrielle de Chine, a French institution, founded in 1913, was received in the City on Thursday with more regret than surprise. It has for some time been known to be in difficulties, owing to a too spirited policy of expansion following a successful beginning. The incident cannot fail to have a bad effect in China, where the Government was closely interested in the bank as creditor and shareholder, and the public had placed considerable deposits in its charge.

Liquidation has been proceeding for some months, and it is believed that the positions open in silver and in exchange are largely cleared.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1921.

Total spent	£ 271,420,290	Raised by revenue ..	£ 204,168,385
Dec. in balances....	253,757	Net borrowings	66,998,148
Total	271,166,533	Total	271,166,533
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts...	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.*

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
War Stock	349	16	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4 & 5% War Stock	...	...	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,038	1,971	1,951
National War Bonds	...	...	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan	...	...	...	...	409	409	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	...	...	...	...	360	357	358	358	358
Treasury Bonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	22	23
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,221
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Nat'l Savings Certs.	...	...	138	227	267	274	279	283	285
War Expend. Certs.	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Debt	...	...	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,122
American Loan	...	...	51	51	51	51	...	...	...
Temporary Advances	1	...	204	455	243	205	306	155	152
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,662
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,711

* These figures have now been adjusted in accordance with Mr Baldwin's statement given in the Official Report of Parliamentary Debates in the House of Commons for December 9th, 1920 (see page 2420).

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	June 30, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	June 30, '21.	12 days ended June 30, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England..	69,750,000..	...	39,250,000..	+10,500,000
Advances by Public Departments	173,941,000..	154,489,000..	113,074,000..	-16,471,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,050,090,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,221,647,000..	+16,120,000
Total Floating Debt	1,293,781,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,373,971,000..	+10,149,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

JUNE 25TH.—Premier invites leaders of Northern and Southern Ireland to a conference.

JUNE 26TH.—Italian Cabinet resigns.

JUNE 27TH.—Coal Conference assembles. Provisional agreement reached. Empire Premiers meet at Downing Street. House of Commons discuss unemployment pay. New Zealand Loan issued. Polish mark touches low record. London Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce opens. New Irish Lord Chancellor appointed.

JUNE 28TH.—Coal agreement completed. Government offer of £10,000,000 renewed. Southern Irish Parliament opened at Dublin, only 15 Senators and four members of the Lower House attending. Coal settlement terms debated in Commons. Premier of Northern Ireland accepts London Conference invitation.

JUNE 29TH.—Empire Premiers discuss Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

JUNE 30TH.—Agreement reached in engineering dispute. Quarterly revenue returns issued. Safeguarding of Industries Bill in the Commons. Yearling Treasury bills withdrawn and six months' Treasury bills again offered. Suspension announced of the Banque Industrielle de Chine.

JULY 1ST.—Vote for the £10,000,000 coal subsidy discussed in the Commons.

The Stock Exchange has not enjoyed any considerable increase in the volume of business, but the tone has improved on the reduction in Bank rate and the coal settlement. Consols and National War Bonds have advanced conspicuously, and Home Rails are a little better on the improvement in the industrial outlook.

A distinct increase in activity is reported from the cotton trade, buyers having displayed increased confidence, and extensive purchases of piece goods for India have taken place this week. The feeling in the wool trade is more optimistic, owing not only to the coal settlement, but also to the wage agreement with operatives. Some woollen mills are restarting, and as soon as coal supplies are available it is anticipated that many of the larger mills will be able to run longer hours than before the coal stoppage began. The iron and steel industry is preparing for a revival of activity as soon as fuel is available; and the position in the engineering branch is relieved by the wage agreement arrived at this week. The boot trade is looking forward to a big increase in demand, as stocks have run very low during the coal stoppage.

Details of market movements and news from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE MONETARY HALF-YEAR.

DURING the first half of 1921 several interesting features have marked the course of the money market's history. The two reductions in Bank rate from 7 per cent. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on April 28th and to 6 per cent. on June 23rd have marked a relaxation in the dear money policy, either because, as in the opinion of its supporters, it had done its work and effectively checked the speculation in produce and the rise in prices which was producing chaos, or because, as is the opinion of those who are most strongly opposed to it, it has helped to produce widespread depression in trade, which has for the time being killed enterprise and so severely checked the demand for credit. Probably the truth, as usual, lies somewhere between these extreme views, but, at least, it is satisfactory to know that the official reduction in the value of money accompanied by a lowering in the price which the Government had had to pay on Treasury bills has cheapened the financing of the country's floating debt. On the other hand, the extreme depression in trade, accentuated by the coal stoppage, which has done such enormous harm to the country as a whole, and no good to those whose interests were believed to be involved by it, has been a sufficiently disastrous cause for an easier level of rates in the money market. Though it may well be argued that the coal stoppage might have been avoided by a better display of statesmanship on the part of all concerned, it is probably true that the trade depression, which has been almost world-wide, was a stage that had to be gone through in the course of economic convalescence. The feverish activity of the first half of 1920 was bound to be followed sooner or later by exhaustion and depression, and though it came sooner than many expected, it was perhaps just as well to get it over, and it may even be hoped that there are signs of an improvement in trade, when the effects of the coal stoppage have ceased. But with regard to this possibility of better trade in the future everything depends in this country on a reduction in the cost of production to a level at which it can compete in the markets of the world.

Changes in various Bank rates have been numerous during the half-year and with the exception of the Austrian

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN:
The Right Hon. R. McKENNA
JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:
S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital - £38,116,050
Paid-up Capital - 10,359,800
Reserve Fund - 10,859,800
Deposits (Dec 31st, 1920) - 371,841,968

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.
OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

have all been downward. The following table gives the principal movements:—

April 6, 1921, Swiss Bank rate reduced $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{4}{3}\%$
April 15, 1921, Austrian " " raised $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{6}{3}\%$
April 26, 1921, Swedish " " reduced $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{7}{3}\%$
May 5, 1921, Danish " " $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{6}{3}\%$
May 4, 1921, Swedish " " $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{6}{3}\%$
May 5, 1921, New York Federal Reserve reduced $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{6}{3}\%$
May 19, 1921, Belgian Bank rate " $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{5}{3}\%$
June 2, 1921, Indian " " $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{5}{3}\%$
June 16, 1921, New York Federal Reserve " $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $\frac{6}{3}\%$

A highly important and successful departure was the inauguration on April 21st of the tender system for the sale of three months Treasury bills. These were on continuous offer at the beginning of the year at $6\frac{1}{2}\%$ per cent. This rate was reduced to 6 per cent. on March 11th. This method of sale ceased on April 20th, when the tender system was begun for bills of this usance, a fixed sum being on offer each week, at first on Thursdays, though the date of tender was altered to Fridays on May 12th. Additional three months bills have been sold on the intervening days at rates notified from time to time by the Treasury, ranging from $5\frac{1}{2}\%$ per cent. from April 22nd to 28th to 5 per cent. from June 23rd to 30th. We append a complete record of the results obtained by the tender system, which shows that it has worked in a manner highly satisfactory to the Treasury, while at the same time its advantage has been obvious in making the sale of Treasury bills less a matter of official control, and leaving the rate to be decided by the competition of the market working according to its estimates of the conditions:—

Date.	Amount. £	Applied for. £	Average Rate of Discount. £ s d
April 21	50,000,000	51,930,000	5 19 3.95
28	50,000,000	76,735,000	5 14 5.64
May 5	50,000,000	94,620,000	5 12 11.18
12	45,000,000	93,355,000	5 11 2.81
20	45,000,000	65,565,000	5 14 11.02
27	55,000,000	72,490,000	5 13 1.83
June 3	55,000,000	84,775,000	5 12 1.06
10	40,000,000	83,977,000	5 12 2.28
17	40,000,000	82,670,000	5 10 1.06
24	55,000,000	96,485,000	5 6 8.89

A considerable reduction has taken place during the half-year in the amount outstanding of the floating debt, though it should be noted that the total at the end of March was some 99 millions lower than that which is shown at the end of June. The same tendency is noticeable in the movement in what is perhaps the most important item in the floating debt, namely, the Ways and Means Advances made by the Bank of England. These, as will be seen from our table, began the year at $87\frac{1}{2}$ millions, and had been wiped out altogether by the end of March, but have had to be increased to $39\frac{1}{2}$ millions on June 30th:—

	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.
Bank of England advances	£ 87,250,000	none	£ 39,250,000
Public Department advances	218,722,000	154,489,000	113,074,000
Treasury bills	1,102,109,000	1,120,841,000	1,221,647,000
	1,408,081,000	1,275,330,000	1,373,971,000

The increase in the floating debt during the last three months of the past half-year, which were the first three months of the current financial year, was chiefly due to the failure of the revenue to keep pace with expenditure. Too much stress has been laid upon this point by some of the critics of the Government finance, who have now been encouraged by an answer too hastily given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer last Thursday, in reply to a supplementary question. The decline in revenue as compared with last year's is fully accounted for by E.P.D. and special receipts. In fact, the general revenue of the country has so far come in remarkably well, and there is quite a fair chance, in spite of Sir Robert's statement, that the estimated revenue will be gathered.

The market rates of discount have, as usual, moved in accordance with the rate ruling for Treasury bills. As a whole, except on occasions of seasonable demands, the supply of short credit in Lombard street has been comfortable, though some complaint has been heard of the effect produced by arrangements made for the monthly balance-sheets by the joint stock banks. The following

comparisons show how the averages compare with those of the four previous years:—

	DAILY AVERAGE FOR FIRST HALF-YEAR.				
	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Bank rate	£ s d 5 6 0	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 6 8 7	£ s d 6 16 0
Market rate (3 months)	4 16 7	3 13 0	3 10 0	6 2 2	6 2 7
Margin	0 9 5	1 7 0	1 10 0	0 6 5	0 13 5
Short loans	£ s d 4 11 0	£ s d 3 6 2	£ s d 3 4 7	£ s d 4 16 0	£ s d 5 7 7
Deposit rate (banks) ..	4 0 0	3 2 6	3 0 0	4 8 7	4 16 0
Margin	0 11 0	0 3 8	0 4 7	0 7 5	0 11 2

The following table gives the principal movements in exchange:—

Centre.	Method of Quoting.	Par Level.	Rate, Dec. 31, 1919.	Rate, Dec. 31, 1920.	Rate, June 30, 1921.
Paris	Francs to £1	25.22½	40.90.95	59.72.77	46.70.75
Berlin	Marks to £1	20.43	186.189	257.259	281.283
Amsterdam	Florins to £1	12.107	10.08.10	11.26.28	11.35.36
Copenhagen	Kroner to £1	18.159	19.68.72	23.15.20	22.15.20
Rome	Lire to £1	25.22½	50.00.50.10	101.1.102	76.76½
Switzerland	Francs to £1	25.22½	21.10.13	23.15.20	22.18.20
Madrid	Pesetas to £1	25.22½	19.60.65	26.44.49	28.72.75
Lisbon	Pence to mills	53½	19½.20½	63.7	81.3½
Athens	Drachmae to £	20.43	25.70	47.50	64.65
Warsaw	£2. Marks to £	20.43	2.250	8.000.8.500	
New York	Dollars to £	4.86½	3.76.76½	3.54.54½	3.72½.72½
Buenos Aires	Pence to dollars	47.58	61½.62½	51½.51½	43.44
Rio de Janeiro	Pence to dollars	18	17½	9½	7½
Montevideo	Pence to dollars	51	65½.66	49½.50½	40½.41½
Valparaiso	Pesos to £	13.33	12½(a)	9½(a)	35.50
Calcutta	Ster. to rupee	10 to gold sov.	12.47½.7½	15½.7½	1.33½.7½
Hong Kong	Ster. to dollar	24½	4/10½	3/2.2½	2/7.7½
Shanghai	Ster. to tael	7/9	4/1.2½	3/5½.6½	2/6½.6½
Yokohama	Ster. to yen	24½	2/8.8½	2/8.8½	2/6½.6½

† Par value of rupee was 1/4 for these quotations. (a) Pence to peso.

The most notable features in the above table are the improvement in the currency of our principal Allies and of the value of sterling in New York. Sterling, in fact, rose to over \$4 to the £ in the middle of May, and then fell back sharply owing to the effects of the coal strike and the action of the Reparation Commission in demanding the first instalment of Germany's indemnity payment in dollars. The comparatively small depreciation in the value of the mark is notable, in spite of the reparation settlement and its consequences. Greek currency has depreciated severely owing to the politics and military adventure, and the same reasons may be assigned for the extremely rapid tumble in the value of the Polish mark, though German manipulation is alleged to have assisted it.

Thanks to trade depression, unemployment, and deflation the value of the outstanding currency notes shows a decline of not less than $43\frac{1}{2}$ millions during the half-year, from $367\frac{1}{2}$ millions on December 29th last to $323\frac{1}{2}$ millions on June 30th. During the same period the Bank of England note circulation declined from £132,851,150 on December 29, 1920, to £129,006,290 on June 30th.

PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCE.

MUCH sound doctrine—some of it open to criticism as counsels of perfection—has been preached during the past week at the London Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce. On the whole, the bankers, merchants, and financial experts there assembled repeated and endorsed the conclusions arrived at last autumn at the Brussels Conference, which have since been glibly accepted by spokesmen of the various Governments to whom they were addressed, and consistently ignored by most of them in the financial policy pursued. Our own Government has certainly made an effort to provide a margin out of revenue (giving a somewhat generous meaning to the word) for reduction of debt, but its effort to free commerce from restrictions—an object on which strong emphasis was laid at Brussels and now in London—has consisted of the fatuous Reparations Recovery Act, now followed by the almost equally preposterous Safeguarding of Industry Bill, which is being forced through in spite of weighty protests by bankers, scientists, and the cotton trade. The Lord Chancellor, in welcoming the delegates on Monday, observed, only too truly, that the primary object of business men was to carry on business, and of politicians to attend to politics. If the Government had thought less about politics and more about the economic interests of the country its record might have been less emphatically condemned by the country in a series of by-elections.

A resolution was brought forward on Tuesday urging, among other things, that in order to remedy the dislocation and instability of rates of exchange, Governments should pursue a strict policy with regard to taxation and economy; that inflation of paper currency should be stopped and progressively decreased; that the question of inter-Allied debts should be studied, and the greatest possible liberty should be granted in all commercial and financial transactions. The clause concerning the progressive decrease of inflation produced a difference of opinion and an interesting discussion. Professor Gustav Cassel moved the deletion of this phrase, urging that stability was more important than deflation—in fact, that Governments must prohibit attempts to deflate currencies, because it was impossible to stabilise while such attempts were in progress. "One of the main causes of the present serious depression of trade and the unparalleled degree of unemployment was the efforts which had been made to increase the internal value of money and force prices down." (Times report, June 29th.) This contention was vigorously traversed by Sir Felix Schuster, who maintained "that countries which had departed from their pre-war gold standard must aim at deflating their currencies gradually, so as to inflict the least injury, but with one object in view—a return as soon as possible to the pre-war gold standard. That would be the policy of the bankers of the United Kingdom, and until that object was attained he thought they must adhere to a policy of gradual deflation—certainly in this country." The position taken by Sir Felix was endorsed by Mr Watts, on behalf of the United States delegation, and also—a highly important fact, which was not reported—by the French and Belgian spokesmen; and Dr Cassel's amendment was defeated, in spite of his protest that if currency were made more valuable the burden of State debts would be so crushing that productive work could not be carried on. With doctors so distinguished in disagreement, the ordinary seeker after truth may well be bewildered. Certainly, we must agree with the Swedish specialist that stability in prices and rates of exchange would be, if it could be secured, an immeasurable help towards a revival of trade and confidence; but could we be sure that any "stabilisation," for example, of the Polish mark at its present level would long remain stable? Stability cannot be won merely by giving new names and denominations to currencies, but has to be founded on the solvency of the State and the productive power of the people. On the other hand, Sir Felix admitted that deflation might be carried on too rapidly, and we understand that he must not be taken as urging that countries like France and Italy should necessarily aim at returning to the pre-war par. We have always hoped for a gradual cure for the chaos into which our currency has been reduced by bad war finance, through increase of goods rather than through too hasty measures for diminishing the volume of currency and credit. But most of our readers will heartily endorse Sir Felix's view that any action by the conference which might have encouraged our own or other Governments to fresh currency naughtiness would have been a disaster. The paper-strewn path is so easy and alluring, and can be made to look so specious in its attractiveness, especially to a Prime Minister and a Chancellor of the Exchequer who are blissfully ignorant of finance and at their wits' end to restore the waning popularity of a discredited administration. And everyone who understands and values the true foundation of British financial prestige will agree with Sir Felix that a return to the pre-war gold standard is, for us at least, a financial goal towards which we have to work with steady determination.

On the subject of Allied debts, the American delegation deprecated action, on the ground that the time was inopportune, and that it was undesirable that the International Chamber should seem to weaken the integrity of obligations. On Wednesday Sir Drummond Fraser, on the ter Meulen scheme, had a highly satisfactory innings, and scored the hearty endorsement of the American delegation. Mr G. E. Roberts, of the National City Bank of New York, made an important statement on the subject of the Reparations Agreement, saying that, though it had been welcomed in America, American financiers viewed with concern the possibility that Reparation bonds might be offered in the United States on the ground that the low price at which they would have to be offered to secure

sale might "spoil the market not only for these bonds, but for foreign offerings generally, and thus seriously interfere with all efforts to aid the European situation."

The subject of German Reparations was also prominent in the address delivered on British Financial Policy by Mr Edgar Crammond to the Bankers' Institute last Tuesday, which also ranged over many other interesting matters. Mr Crammond, for example, with a temerity rare even among statisticians, told his audience not only that the total income of the nation in 1920 was £4,400 millions, but also that in 1921 it could not exceed £2,800 millions, and argued that on this basis the present rate of official expenditure could not be maintained without endangering the whole economic fabric. On the subject of Reparations, Mr Crammond argued that even if it were physically and financially possible for Germany to make reparation in the form now proposed, this payment would give Germany such a commanding position in the markets of the world that they were entitled to ask France to reconsider the matter from another point of view, namely, that of the capacity of the markets of the world to absorb Germany's manufactures without disturbing the economic position of the other great manufacturing Powers. Where were these vast exports going to find a market? "Germany would become the central workshop of the world, although operating under depressing conditions and at famine wages; her central shop would stretch out its tentacles to all markets of the world, aided by the boundless passion and tenacity of a people fighting for its life with the whole force of its concentrated productive machinery. In the past, Germany supplied one-tenth of the world's consumption of manufactures, hereafter she would be compelled to increase her share to 40 per cent. and to oust a corresponding proportion of competitors' goods."

Like other Jeremiahs who warn us of the evil effects of receiving an indemnity, Mr Crammond omits several important considerations. He assumes that the world's power to consume goods is strictly limited; but surely it may expand—with good sense in foreign politics it may expand very considerably, especially when the "safeguarding of industry" absurdities are put on the scrap-heap. He also forgets that the indemnity payment will be a handicap on German industry, and will give its foreign competitors a handsome margin in their favour. In fact, if British industry is true to itself, and gets to work instead of whining for Protection, Germany will only be able to export the huge total ultimately required by finding and making new markets. Mr Crammond concluded that Germany must be compelled to pay such an indemnity as could be safely exacted without disturbing the economic balance of the world, and he believed that she was willing to do so, but he was convinced that it must be a very much smaller amount than that laid down by the London Conference. France might fairly claim that she could not re-open this question unless it was considered in connection with her own external war debts. He urged that the whole problem should be reconsidered by France, the United States and this country on the understanding that both Great Britain and America would cancel the French war debts, and that France in her turn would cancel the war debts due to her by the smaller Allies. "The cancellation of the French war debts by Great Britain and the United States should form part of a general policy of the cancellation by all the Powers of the inter-Allied war debts, except in the case of the British war debt to the United States, which we could quite easily meet when the trade of the world became normal."

SALVING THE COAL INDUSTRY.

ALTHOUGH a wages settlement has been reached, and on Monday as many men will return to work as can be employed to immediate advantage in the pits, the coal industry is not at all in the position of making a simple re-start after a prolonged period of inaction. The export markets have gone, and the home markets are paralysed. Both the producing and selling ends of this fundamental industry will need to be reconstructed before any of those engaged in it can know whether the future will hold any place for them at all. Many pits will never be reopened; many more will absorb much work in pumping and timber-

ing before coal can be cut from them; many others will become producers before sure markets have been found for their products. We shall see before us not the re-starting so much as the salving of an industry.

It was not so after the five weeks' strike of 1912, or after the three weeks' strike of last autumn. Then the industry resembled a ship which was placidly lying in port, ready to set forth upon a voyage as soon as steam could be raised in the boilers. Now the industry more nearly resembles a derelict hull upon the rocks, a hull which cannot become a live ship until it has been repaired and pumped out and coaxed into deep water; and even then the problem will remain of finding profitable freight for the ship to carry. During the three months of inactivity in the coal fields the trade of this country has been drawing near to a stop; it cannot instantly revive merely because once more coal is being cut and stocks being piled up. Much of our trade cannot be revived until coal has become both plentiful and cheap. Trade is much more quickly lost than it can be regained. It is not in any spirit of pessimism that we write. If our people will settle down to real hard work in the coal industry and in all other industries, so that costs of production may be lowered and markets re-won, this country will quickly make up for its losses in the war and in the peace. But just as nothing saved us in the war except courage, hard work, and a united front, so nothing can save us in the difficult days of peace except courage, hard work, and, above all, a united front. Industrial stoppages such as those which have directly and indirectly resulted from the coal troubles, must not happen any more. We cannot stand them; they augur ruin to us all.

The value of the settlement of this week cannot immediately be appraised. Everything will depend upon the spirit in which the new system of profit-sharing is worked by the mine owners and the mine workers. The men have been defeated upon the issue of a National Pool of wages and profits, but they have really won more than they have lost. Their enduring loyalty, the splendid self-sacrifice of the miners in the more favoured districts to the interests of those in the less favoured, and their perfectly wonderful discipline and law-abiding quietness have commanded the sincere respect of all classes in the country. We like to believe that in no country except Great Britain could thousands of men slowly starve for thirteen weeks without bursting forth into violence and crime. At the price of their painful endurance they have won respect and obtained a profit-sharing system wider in its scope and more hopeful in its possible effects than any other which has yet been devised for a great industry. For the first time in the history of coal-mining the miners have had a "square deal" expressed in plain terms. And the country, which contributes ten millions to help the miners through the first three months of their difficult salvage operations, is committed to the task of seeing that the deal is kept square. We, all of us, have become trustees of the contract of settlement.

We have no great fear that export markets will remain closed, always provided that costs can be substantially lowered. The quality of British coal is its own best advertisement. Our European customers, after learning how bad other coal can be, will gladly go back to their first love, if they can obtain supplies at a reasonable price. We do not take very seriously the threat of United States competition, except possibly in South America. Although American coal is far more cheaply produced in America than is British coal in England or Scotland, the cost and difficulty of transport to Europe are prohibitive in normal times. One cannot add large quantities of coal to America's regular outward shipments of grain, cotton, and other raw materials without placing a greater demand upon shipping space—all one way—than it is able to meet. Heavy American coal exports increase the difficulties and cost of shipping, while British exports of coal—because they are moving in the opposite direction—diminish the difficulties and lower the costs. It may be that much time will pass before the wide markets of 1913 can be re-won for British coal; but the natural advantage which our coal enjoys of employing shipping in the most economical manner by affording return freights will operate in the future as in past. Our export collieries will have to win their way back by turning out the stuff cheaply and

cutting prices, just as in the far-off days before the war they won and held their way.

The salving of an industry is a hard and cruel task. We are afraid that a substantial proportion of the men who were employed before March 31st in and about the coal fields will find their occupation gone. No really substantial reduction in the cost of coal can be achieved except by employing fewer men and getting better results from their work. Between 1913 and 1921 the number of men employed went up by 20 per cent., and the output of coal per man went down by 20 per cent. No industry in a competitive world can exist under conditions so economically impossible. No one, least of all perhaps the members of the miners' executive, expects that more than two-thirds of the miners can get back to work on Monday. The industry was over-manned before the stoppage; it will be still more seriously over-manned after work recommences. There will be much suffering before the men who are permanently displaced can get other work, and in the meantime there must be a new drain upon the country of unemployment doles to workless miners. At the lowest estimate there are two hundred thousand more men in the coal fields than the coal industry can permanently support.

It is instructive to note by what process this apparently interminable dispute was brought to a sudden end. The actual settlement, except in some points of detail specially favourable to the men, is not new. The principle of profit-sharing was agreed upon four months ago. The dispute ended because the miners' leaders usurped powers of negotiation and decision which the constitution of the Federation did not give them. The constitutional course, which up to this week had been scrupulously observed, was for the executive, first, to negotiate with the mine-owners and the Government, not as plenipotentiaries but as representatives; secondly, to report their conclusions to a conference of delegates from the districts; and, thirdly, if so instructed by the delegate conference, to ascertain the views of the men by ballot. This procedure was gone through some three or four weeks ago, with the unexpected result that the men, too proud to admit defeat though anxious to get back to work, returned a more than two-thirds majority in favour of continuing the fight. The executive, who knew the financial stresses of the situation better than the men, realised that heroic endurance further persisted in must mean starvation. They took the bold course of passing over the ballot and cutting out the constitutional procedure; they approached the mineowners and the Government as self-constituted plenipotentiaries, saying, "If you will settle with us we will settle with the men." The intermediate conference of delegates, with its majority of "die-hards," was washed out completely. Desperate men will take desperate courses, and we may all be thankful that the miners' executive had enough courage of desperation to convert a nominal into an actual effective leadership.

There can be no doubt that, so far at least as the coal miners are concerned, the men have shown themselves to be more pugnacious than the leaders. And this is no new experience. In 1912, after five weeks of stoppage, the Government of the day promised legislation for a minimum wage, the executive recommended acceptance, but the miners by a substantial majority refused compliance. Fortunately the rule of a two-thirds majority for a strike, or the continuance of a strike, was brought by the executive into operation, the men were instructed to go back to work, and went like lambs. They appear to have regarded their hostile vote as a protest, and not as a decision. Exactly the same thing happened last autumn. There was the same disregard of the executive's recommendation, the same invocation by the executive of the two-thirds majority rule, and the same obedience to the order of return. Now we have a real two-thirds majority practically overruled, and the usurpation of authority by the executive, to all appearances, willingly condoned. These experiences do seem to suggest that the rank and file of the coal miners prefer to be governed rather than to govern themselves. We should be glad to believe that the true remedy for industrial disturbances is the development of a sense of responsibility among the men, and of a determination to restrain the ambitions of restless leaders. But when one sees, as one constantly does see, trade union leaders striving for peace and men

persistently voting against peace, that belief is difficult to entertain. It is not easy to escape from the conclusion of Mr Clynes, expressed in the House on Tuesday last, that "a ballot of the rank and file of the workmen, no matter in what trade, has never yet ended a dispute which would not otherwise have been ended; but, on the contrary, ballots have very often been the cause of disputes being prolonged.....The worst body of men very often, or the men least capable of forming a true judgment of their own interests, are the masses of the workmen themselves." In the present stage of industrial education we are afraid that Mr Clynes is right; "self-determination" by the rank and file of trade unions does not make for peaceful settlements. One big factor in this coal business cannot be disregarded: the settlement which we all welcome was the work of one resolute man, Mr Frank Hodges. If Mr Hodges could have prevailed with his own executive he would have ended the dispute on pretty much the same terms two long months ago. We owe to the courage of one man the peace which the mass of his supporters had refused to accept.

THE RAILWAYS BILL IN COMMITTEE.

THE fifteenth of August is getting dangerously near, but the Railways Bill, like a wounded snake, drags its slow length along. It has been four weeks in Committee, and about one-seventh of its clauses and a portion of one of its seven schedules have been discussed. Possibly, if the railway companies could thrash out an agreed policy beforehand, instead of leaving individual directors to discuss their differences before the Committee, if, for instance, their representatives on the Committee would refrain from objecting to clauses which the Railway Company's Association had asked for, progress might be more rapid. Possibly, also, if the senior member for the City of London, who, according to an ingenious statistician, has spoken at sufficient length to occupy one-sixth of the total columns of Hansard contributed by the whole Committee of about 70 members, were to curb his benevolent desire to improve a Bill to which he has announced himself as totally opposed, a further measure of acceleration might be attained. Until the Bill has become an Act not a few boards of directors will have to face the disagreeable necessity of deciding whether they shall withhold or whether they can venture to pay interim dividends at least on their ordinary stocks.

The amendments made so far are not of far-reaching importance, except that the grouping of the Scotch railways with the English East Coast and West Coast companies respectively has been accepted in principle. After a discussion lasting the best part of an hour the important question has been decided that the costs of the Amalgamation Tribunals, which are not to exceed £35,000 in all—say, roughly, one-thirtieth of 1 per cent. of the revenue which the companies will receive during the life of the Tribunal—shall be borne by the companies themselves and not by the taxpayer. The period for submitting voluntary schemes has been extended for a year till June 20, 1923, and it has been decided that the Minister shall consider representations made to him before giving his approval to a scheme or sanctioning changes in the groups as laid down in the Bill, and that a scheme shall not become operative unless and until formal resolutions to that effect have been passed through both Houses of Parliament. In the face of a forlorn opposition led by one of the members for Hull, it has been decided that the groups shall be on a territorial basis, and not so planned as to preserve competition between important points. The Committee have refused to overload the present Bill with the question of the ultimate fate of joint lines, of which the railways of the Cheshire Lines Committee are the most important instance.

Clause 6, which we discussed at some length on our last reference to this subject, has been entirely deleted, and a short clause substituted providing that the Amalgamation Tribunal shall take into consideration all the circumstances of the case, and in particular the value on a net earning basis of each of the constituent and subsidiary companies both as a separate company and as a

component part of the new amalgamated company. The £60,000,000 to be handed over by the Government in satisfaction of all claims for compensation is to be paid not into the Bank of England, but to Messrs Glyn, the bankers of most of the companies. The question how the money shall be finally allocated was postponed on the understanding that it would probably be possible at a later stage to bring up an agreed clause dealing with the matter.

Meanwhile, a careful memorandum on the Bill has been circulated by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers. With their introductory statement—stressing the importance of the railways to the iron trade, and the importance of the iron trade to the railways—no one is likely to quarrel. But not all the claims they make will find universal acceptance. They still pin their faith to statutory maxima as a protection to the trader. For one thing, all railway history is against them. For another, they themselves state that the bulk of their trade will continue in the future, as in the past, to be carried at exceptional rates. And it is difficult to see how statutory maxima can serve to keep down exceptional rates—that is, rates which already are below not the maximum only, but the normal scale. On the question of competition the industry takes a somewhat ambiguous attitude. It is not opposed to the proposed amalgamations, "provided there is reasonable assurance that some substitution for competition in promoting efficiency and low costs is found." The industry is not satisfied that such a substitute is provided by the Bill; but it is not successful in finding any preferable alternative. The Bill, says the memorandum, professes to provide two safeguards: statistics adequate as a basis for criticism of efficiency, and the provision that, only on condition that the management is efficient and economical, shall rates be adjusted so as to secure to the companies their standard revenue. How can a trader, asks the memorandum, prove affirmatively that management is not efficient and economical? How can statistics help them unless they have a right to prescribe the form which the statistics take? There is force, no doubt, in both objections. But it is difficult to see what more can be done. The Rates Tribunal, it must be remembered, will be in future an expert body. The members will themselves be competent to interpret the existing statistics, and to call for further information when there is justification for demanding it. It will be easy, for instance, for traders in future to claim that the train-load or truck-load of a company whose rates are under discussion, as compared with those of another company, is so small as to prove inefficiency. And then the burden of disproof is shifted to the company. It seems to us that, once adequate statistics are furnished, the traders will no longer be fighting in the dark with their hands tied, as they have in great measure done hitherto before the Railway Commission. Certainly, in America the proceedings before the Inter-State Commerce Commission show very clearly that traders there have no difficulty in bringing forward experts competent to meet the railwaymen on their own ground; and in discussing the statistics of the companies and putting forward calculations of their own giving a different aspect to the case.

The industry further complains that separate tribunals decide—the one the wages to be paid, and the other the freight rates to be charged. But they do not, as indeed they could not, suggest that the two sets of decisions should be made by the same tribunal. And it is surely obvious that the Wages Board, when fixing rates of pay, must necessarily have regard to the amount that the public can reasonably be asked to pay for carriage. And similarly the Rates Tribunal must consider how much the railway staff can reasonably claim to receive. The two tribunals must in a sense each regard the other as supplementary. The conclusions of the one will always form an important element in the decisions of the other. The memorandum points out very truly that revenue can be dissipated, not only by paying too high wages, but by employing an unnecessary number of men. But here, too, surely statistics should be adequate to test efficiency. It is an everyday matter, for instance, to check up man-hours as against tons loaded and unloaded in a goods shed, or against trucks handled through a marshalling yard. It is done by the companies themselves. The

Rates Tribunal and the traders will be fully entitled to be told the results.

One statement in the memorandum we cannot let pass without a word of comment. It is asserted that "the only satisfactory test of efficient and economical management is the ability to earn a profit." Surely, let us say, a fleet of clipper ships between Liverpool and New York might be most efficiently and economically managed. But they would hardly make a profit. The clippers have gone out of the business, and the owners have transferred their capital elsewhere. It is unfortunate for railway shareholders that to them this course is not open. Railway tunnels cannot be shifted. Few of them can even be adapted, like the famous tunnel under Edinburgh, to the growing of mushrooms.

THE HALF-YEAR'S NEW CAPITAL.

New capital issues in the quarter just ended were a little larger in aggregate than in the first quarter of the present year, a fact which may at first sight seem surprising in view of the disturbance of the economic position caused by the coal dispute. As will be seen from figures given in the course of this article, issues of speculative securities and industrial shares were comparatively small, while issues of investment stocks and debentures account for an unusually large proportion of the quarter's total. In view of the grave uncertainties of the outlook the investing public have been concentrating their attention upon investments of a well-secured and fixed-interest-bearing type, and borrowers have catered abundantly for their taste, while the release by the industrial crisis of funds normally employed in production and commercial enterprise have assisted in the absorption of the large supply of investment securities put out. The aggregate of new capital applications during the June quarter was £65 millions, as compared with £63 millions in the March quarter and £98 millions in the June quarter of 1920. For the past half-year the total is £128 millions, which compares with £233 millions in the first half of 1920. New issues, quarter by quarter, in recent years are set out in the following table:—

New Capital Applications.

Year.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total for Whole Year.
	£	£	£	£	£
1904.....	19,905,000	50,654,000	9,547,000	42,913,000	123,019,000
1905.....	67,301,200	36,915,500	22,854,100	40,116,600	167,187,400
1906.....	30,264,800	55,059,800	10,835,800	24,012,800	120,173,200
1907.....	49,428,600	40,304,600	15,631,400	18,265,400	123,630,000
1908.....	45,287,900	64,385,600	31,541,800	50,988,400	192,203,700
1909.....	64,238,400	56,835,200	27,694,400	33,588,800	182,356,800
1910.....	99,355,600	88,721,400	28,111,600	51,250,500	267,439,100
1911.....	61,245,000	56,238,800	14,914,500	59,361,100	191,759,400
1912.....	47,966,100	62,377,500	40,687,100	59,819,300	210,850,000
1913.....	50,344,700	70,014,900	29,961,800	46,216,000	196,537,000
1914.....	97,610,200	54,739,100	20,265,200	339,908,100	512,522,600
1915.....	46,313,500	25,693,200	586,772,500	26,462,500	685,241,700
1916.....	156,251,200	131,022,500	111,578,000	186,584,700	585,436,400
1917.....	825,925,200	221,254,300	57,054,400	214,362,100	1,318,596,000
1918.....	475,258,700	220,921,500	329,674,000	367,527,200	1,393,381,400
1919.....	291,901,400	93,879,000	536,502,200	113,776,800	1,036,059,400
1920.....	135,094,500	98,011,700	61,195,600	73,247,800	367,549,600
1921.....	63,292,600	65,281,900	..	..	..

A comparison of the geographical distribution of the capital raised in the past half-year with the records of last year and of previous years is given below:—

DESTINATION OF NEW CAPITAL.

	First Half of Years.				
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom.....	16,677,000	24,159,400	20,324,400	207,742,400	70,241,000
British Possessions.....	35,576,800	27,322,200	43,002,600	21,541,100	37,568,600
Foreign countries.....	65,230,000	58,252,000	57,032,600	3,822,700	20,764,900
Total.....	117,483,800	110,313,600	120,359,600	233,106,200	128,574,500

In the first half of 1913 of the £120 millions of new capital raised only one-sixth was destined for employment in the United Kingdom, while only a little short of one-half was for foreign countries. The result of the war was to concentrate the resources of the capital market upon home purposes. Thus in the first half of 1920, out of a total of £233 millions raised in the first six months, no less than £207 millions were employed at home, while the total for

employment in foreign countries was only a paltry £33 millions. The figures for the first half of 1921 reveal a movement in the direction of pre-war distribution, both foreign countries and the Empire having largely increased their proportions.

A classification of the purposes for which the new capital was raised is given in the following table:—

Description.	Total, First Half-year 1920.	First Quarter, 1921.	Second Quarter, 1921.	Total, First Half-year 1921.
	£	£	£	£
British Government loans.....	17,190,000	16,984,300	3,082,700	20,067,000
Colonial Government loans.....	7,970,000	7,399,600	20,210,000	27,609,600
Foreign Government loans.....	nil	1,930,000	3,520,000	5,450,000
British Municipal & County loans.....	25,372,500	9,431,200	7,155,000	16,586,200
Colonial Corporations.....	nil	500,000	990,000	1,490,000
Foreign railways.....	1,116,000	nil	nil	nil
Australian mines.....	580,000	nil	nil	nil
South African mines.....	54,700	233,700	100,000	333,700
Other mines.....	1,798,800	25,000	65,900	90,900
Explorat'n, financial, & investment trust.....	11,192,100	1,157,500	630,000	1,787,500
Breweries.....	775,700	520,000	nil	520,000
Merchants, import'rs, &c.....	1,030,000	nil	300,000	300,000
Manufacturing.....	53,027,800	8,163,000	11,079,000	19,242,000
Stores and trading.....	2,337,800	1,000,000	2,500,000	3,500,000
Estate and land.....	1,389,500	380,300	418,600	798,900
Rubber.....	4,675,600	273,400	376,500	649,900
Oil.....	4,221,100	9,599,400	5,002,500	14,601,900
Iron, coal, steel, and engineering.....	13,212,100	380,000	2,960,000	3,340,000
Electric lighting and power.....	3,792,500	372,500	1,668,500	2,041,000
Tramways, omnibus, &c.....	34,300	92,500	555,000	647,500
Motor traction and manufacturing.....	6,611,500	35,000	570,000	605,000
Gas and water.....	161,700	705,700	759,900	1,465,600
Hotels, theatres, and entertainments.....	4,857,000	1,383,900	531,400	1,915,300
Patents and proprietary articles.....	745,000	nil	66,200	66,200
Docks, harbours, and shipping.....	17,679,000	2,243,200	nil	2,243,200
Banks and insurance.....	15,508,600	4,000	2,048,000	2,052,000
Miscellaneous.....	37,772,900	478,400	692,700	1,171,100
	233,106,200	63,292,600	65,281,900	128,574,500

For the past half-year British Government loans figure for nearly £20 millions, of which £3 millions was raised in the second quarter. Our figures do not include temporary borrowings through Treasury bills and ways and means advances, and, as regards the past quarter, consist of £1,002,675 for Treasury bonds, and £2,080,000 representing the excess of sales over repayments of National Savings Certificates. Colonial Government borrowings were heavy in the past quarter, and are made up as follows:—

Description.	Nominal Amount.	Issue Price.	Yield at Issue.
	£	£ s d	%
Government of India 7 % 1926-31.....	7,500,000	.. par ..	7 0 0
Ceylon Government 6 % 1936-51	3,000,000	.. 97 ..	6 4 6
South Australia 6½ % 1930-40	3,000,000	.. par ..	6 10 0
Tasmania 6½ % 1930-40	2,000,000	.. par ..	6 10 0
New Zealand 6 % 1936-51	5,000,000	.. 96 ..	6 5 9

* Including profit on redemption at final date.

The sole foreign Government loan in London in the June quarter was the issue by the Norwegian Government of £4,000,000 6 per cent. stock at 88. Borrowings by British local authorities were not so heavy in the past quarter as in 1920, but Derby, Gateshead, Newport, Reading, Wallasey, Glasgow, Sheffield, and Londonderry have been in the market for an aggregate of over £7 millions. Under the heading "manufacturing" a big decline from last year's figures will be noticed. Here, and, indeed, in most branches of industry and trade, issues of ordinary shares have been conspicuous by their infrequency, the recent issue, of £150,000 ordinary shares by A. W. Gamage being a noticeable exception. Among the large preference share and debenture issues of the past quarter the following may be noted:—Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Milk 2,000,000 8 per cent. £1 cumulative pre-

ference shares at par; Brunner, Mond and Co. 2,500,000 7½ per cent. £1 cumulative preference shares at par; General Electric, £3,500,000 7 per cent. mortgage debenture stock at 92½; Cape Explosive Works, £1,000,000 7½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at 95; Harrods Buenos Ayres, 1,750,000 8 per cent. £1 cumulative preference shares at par; Baldwins, Limited, £2,250,000 7½ per cent. debenture stock at 95. For a considerable part of this quarter the market's appetite for investment securities seemed insatiable, and quick oversubscription was a frequent experience. Among oil companies the principal issue of the past quarter was that of 3,000,000 8 per cent. £1 cumulative preference shares at par by the Burmah Oil Company. A distinct feature of the quarter has been the large number of small debenture issues by gas and water companies. In the Banking section the Bank of Australasia issued to its shareholders 12,500 shares of £40 each at the price of £60 each, and the only large insurance issue of the June quarter was that of 300,000 £1 shares (5s paid) by the Employers' Liability Insurance Company at £4 per share.

THE BUILDING GUILD EXPERIMENT.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ONE of the most interesting and significant developments of the past 18 months is the growth of the building guild movement. What is called "Guild Socialism" has made remarkable headway in the trade union world, largely because it supplied an element lacking in the more austere form of socialism known as collectivism. That element struck the imagination of organised workers because it offered "industrial democracy," not merely in the shape of public ownership, which might take the form of an official-ridden bureaucracy or a more or less benevolent autocracy, but in the form of industrial self-government. Collectivism made its strongest appeal to the consumer; guild socialism makes its most powerful appeal to the producer, to whom is held out a new status. Broadly speaking, the Guild idea centres upon public ownership combined with government and administration by the employees of all grades.

The Building Guilds have not attained to the public ownership of the building industry, but they are conducting an experiment in industrial self-government divorced from "production for profit." In January, 1920, a Building Guild Committee was started in Manchester. Similar committees rapidly sprang into existence in Lancashire and other parts of the country. These various committees were associated in the Building Guild, Limited. Later the Guild of Builders (London), Limited, was founded.

The various local committees consist of representatives of the trade unions in the building trades, and provision is made for the representation of administrative and technical workers. Each representative on the committee is responsible, in co-operation with the labour director or district secretary, for the supply, conditions of employment and discipline of the employees in his own trade union. Foremen are appointed by the committee on the recommendation of the managing committee of the trade union concerned. The Guild is not a profit-making concern. It undertakes to build houses for local authorities for a sum equal to the cost of labour and material, plus 6 per cent. (to cover plant and overhead charges, salaries of buyers, head office expenses, &c.), plus £40 per house (to provide for continuous pay for the workers on Guild contracts). This sum of £40 per house is put into a central pool, and used to pay men for "wet time," sickness, and other interruptions to employment.

The Co-operative Wholesale Society is in the position of a joint contractor, advancing the money for plant and acting as the Guild's banker. The Co-operative Insurance Society acts as guarantor for the due performance of contracts. The great co-operative movement is therefore closely associated with the Building Guild scheme.

The purposes of the Guild are to reorganise the building industry as a public service, to apply the principle of self-government to the industry, and to maintain the spirit of craftsmanship. Actual building operations only

began last October, and, therefore, the experiment is yet in its early stages. What is clear from the testimony of clerks of works and other independent people is that the output of the Guild worker is substantially higher than that of the worker in private employment. It is agreed also that the work is of a high standard. An official of a local authority has said that "the quality of the work is extra good and far superior to that done by any other contractors in the district." A responsible officer of the Ministry of Health recently declared of the work of the guildsmen on one contract that it was "the best in England and Wales."

The tenders submitted by the Guild are generally substantially lower than those submitted by private contractors. The Guild appears to be able to build workmen's houses for a sum approaching £200 less per house than the average private builder. So far the number of contracts given to the Guild number barely a dozen. There is a certain prejudice against the Guild, and the Ministry of Health has not been exactly enthusiastic in support of it. Recently the Minister of Health informed Guild representatives that it was intended to put the Guild as regards future contracts on the same terms as ordinary builders. This subtle decision is naturally deemed to be an attempt to destroy the spirit of the Guild by converting it into a profit-making concern.

What the future holds for the Building Guild none can say, but it seems certain that it will extend its operations, and that the idea will be applied to other industries. In the case of building, the capital required is relatively small. Guilds in most other industries will be faced with the provision of a good deal larger capital expenditure per worker. Nevertheless, guilds have been inaugurated in both the packing-case and furniture industries, and active propaganda is being undertaken with a view to the establishment of guilds in other trades.

It may be justly stated that our experience of the guild in action is insufficient to warrant general deductions. But there is no doubt whatever that experience of capitalist industry shows conclusively enough that the keener and more intelligent workers are in permanent revolt. They cannot, with any confidence, anticipate any large measures of nationalisation. The more pernicious forms of public control established during the war have been pointed out as experiments in nationalisation, when, to use the elegant phrase of the Prime Minister, they were types of "bastard nationalisation" of the worst sort. Nevertheless, there is a reaction against public ownership. Moreover, capitalism has succeeded in assuming its old sway. We have not even clipped its wings or persuaded it to become "enlightened." The only course left to Labour, apart from continuing the struggle, is to go into business itself.

This seems reasonable enough, and the Building Guild has, on the whole, been kindly received by the non-Labour section of the public who have heard of it. Yet there are misgivings about it, though nobody has yet dared to call the new movement Syndicalism—which it is—and therefore there has been no panic in Mayfair or the Middle Classes Union. The real opposition will begin to show itself if guilds of various kinds become, as they may in some industries, a serious challenge to the existing industrial order. Notwithstanding the fact that the Guilds will embody the principle of voluntary co-operation—which is commonly regarded as an excellent thing, in reason—they will be frowned upon by capitalist competitors because their code of morals and conduct will be different from—and Labour would say superior to—the code of capitalist enterprise. There is reason to think that the obstacles which have been placed in the way of the Building Guild have been raised directly or indirectly by the vested interests in the building industry—which is not surprising.

Apart from interested opposition, the guilds will have their own difficulties. The real testing time will come when the first flush of enthusiasm has died away; mistakes will be made, experiments will fail. The guilds will necessarily be modified in the light of experience. But though they may not succeed in becoming the predominant form of productive organisation, the movement contains principles which Labour deems to be essential to a just economic order.

Business Notes.

Cotton Wages Agreement.—As anticipated the provisional agreement relating to the wages dispute in the Lancashire cotton industry was signed by all the officials of the organisations affected at the end of last week. The strike altogether lasted three weeks. The agreement provides for an immediate reduction of 60 per cent. on list rates or 3s 10d in the £1 on present wages, with a further reduction in six months of 10 per cent. on list rates of 7d in the £1 on current wages. The agreement is for six months, but at the end of that period, if either side wants a further change in wages, three months' notice will have to be given; so wages are fixed until the end of March, 1922. The operatives have returned to the factories this week, but in the spinning mills the short-time policy of the Masters' Federation has remained in force. The state of trade was to have been considered yesterday (Friday) in Manchester, at the monthly meeting of the Masters' Federation, and it is reported that if the improvement in business continues the federation will soon be prepared to abandon the scheme of organised curtailment of production. The workpeople are now being paid on a basis of 155 per cent. above the lists, but when wages are considered it must be remembered that two years ago the working hours in the mills were reduced from 55½ to 48. Speaking generally, therefore, it may be said that the operatives are now obtaining about £2 5s against each £1 earned in 1914. It is estimated that this cut in wages means a fall in the cost of production for spinners and manufacturers of about 12½ per cent.

India and the Cotton Trade.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—For over six months English merchants, and especially those in Lancashire, have been very seriously affected by the refusal of native dealers in India to pay for goods shipped on the basis of current exchange rates. The native dealers have contended that the Government promised to stabilise the value of the rupee at 2s, whereas exchange to-day stands at about 1s 3½d. The position of affairs has frequently received the attention of the India Section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, and on certain occasions particular firms have urged the compilation of a black list of firms abroad who have not met their obligations. The executive of the India Section of the Chamber of Commerce declined to permit such a list to be drawn up in the name of the Chamber, but an attempt is now being made to form an Indian Merchants' Information Bureau. It is proposed that shipping firms should supply a firm of chartered accountants with the names of native dealers who are defaulters in paying for goods. When a shipping house receives an inquiry from abroad from a firm not known to them they will at once make an inquiry to the chartered accountants as to the standing of the dealer in question. It is hoped that in this way the unsound firms will be frozen out of trade. It remains to be seen whether the suggested information bureau will receive sufficient support; but it is understood that so far many leading Manchester firms have not yet given their support. It may be said that, compared with two or three months ago, the trade position in India is much better, and remittances are being received on a free scale in Manchester from Bombay and Delhi, the two places where most of the trouble has arisen.

Raw Cotton Prices.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—A review of the spot prices in Liverpool during the half-year ended June 30, 1921, for fully middling American and fully good fair Sakellaris Egyptian cotton, which are the recognised standards, reveals some interesting facts. On January 3rd the quotations were 9.99d per lb and 21d per lb for American and Egyptian respectively, and the period closed with the prices at 7.85d and 15.50d. The highest rates were American 11.78d on January 11th and Egyptian 23.50d on January 17th, the lowest levels touched being 7.13d for American on February 28th and 13d for Egyptian from February 28th to March 4th. For the 125 days on which the market was open the average is 8.60d in the case of American and

17.33d for Egyptian. The average prices for the previous six months ended December 31, 1920, were 20.31d for American and 50.83d for Egyptian, whilst similar figures for the first half of last year work out at an average of 28.97d and 80.09d respectively. In the first six months of the year 1914, just before the outbreak of the European War, the comparative averages were 7.47d for American and 10.96d for Egyptian.

Trade Conditions in South Africa.—According to a report on conditions in South Africa issued by the Standard Bank of South Africa, industrial unemployment is increasing at most centres. The share market is reported quiet and without feature. There is little change in wholesale and retail trade conditions, but the slight improvement in the produce market continues. Wool is making, on the average, about pre-war prices. The wheat market is reported firmer as a result of import restrictions. Hides and skins are in better demand, with an improvement of about 10 per cent. in prices, excepting goats and bastards, which are unchanged. There is more inquiry for all classes of mohair, except winter kids. The quality of this season's crop is below the average.

Burmah Oil.—The exceptionally high level of profit reached by the Burmah Oil Company in 1919 was not quite maintained last year, the report for 1920 showing a drop in trading profits from £4,344,500 to £3,965,950. This decline, however, is apparently due to the large amounts written off for depreciation on various accounts, amounting in all to £1,153,800, as compared with £498,900 for 1919. The amount written off oil wells, &c., account alone for 1920 was £972,900, as against £374,900. The report states that the increase in fields expenditure is due partly to extended drilling, testing, and exploratory work. Results for the past four years and for 1914 are given below:—

	1914.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Trading profit ..	971,278	2,306,225	2,849,103	4,344,469	3,965,950
Interest, &c.	58,335	161,270	215,692	287,149	322,177
	1,029,613	2,467,495	3,064,795	4,631,618	4,288,127
Income-tax	50,509	205,360	268,927	318,121	294,835
Administration ..	27,596	31,832	52,550	126,761	103,713
Depreciation	124,242	..	..	..	..
War expenses	30,028	5,173	..	..	..
Insurance	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
To reserve	200,000	200,000	186,695	1,361,447	346,848
Prof. dividend ..	55,375	45,200	36,750	42,000	44,531
Ord. dividend ..	523,875	619,125	857,250	1,428,750	1,543,050
	(27½ %)	(32½ %)	(30 %)	(50 %)	(30 %)
Carried forward..	72,601	1,383,977	1,776,229	1,536,994	2,142,184

* Includes £40,000 written off investments. † Tax free. ‡ Tax free, and in addition 50 per cent. as a bonus in new ordinary shares. § Including donation of £50,000 to Cambridge University.

The report points out that, as in 1919, the high average value of the rupee contributed considerably to the year's profits, and that although petroleum values have fallen during the past six months the company never benefited to the full extent by the very high prices. "Against any reductions in profits due to increased field expenditure, the fall in prices, and the now lower value of the rupee, can now be set the relief from taxation consequent on the abolition of the excess profits duty." The latter cost the company £1,333,000 for 1919, and as will be seen from the table a substantial balance is being carried forward to meet the final payment. The ordinary capital was increased during the year by a bonus distribution, and the present rate of 30 per cent., free of tax, is equal almost to 54 per cent. on the old capital. A detailed analysis of the balance-sheet will be found in the usual column.

Lipton's Profits.—The report of Lipton, Limited, for the year ended March 31st last shows a heavy decline in profits, owing to "unprecedented falls in market values of commodities," losses on overseas trade, and a loss on the tea and rubber estates. The report states that the losses on the export business amounted to £103,000, towards meeting which the War Contingencies Reserve of £50,000, "built up to meet a situation of this kind,"

has been applied. The appended summary shows results since 1902:—

Year Ended March.	Gross Profits.	Expenses, &c.	Net Profits.	Depreciation.	Div.
	£	£	£	£	%
1902.....	228,202	39,441	188,761	19,063	8
1903.....	230,920	56,342	174,578	19,630	8
1904.....	226,506	47,810	178,696	21,720	7
1905.....	231,131	50,170	180,961	20,713	7
1906.....	201,308	40,787	160,521	21,125	7
1907.....	228,027	59,656	168,371	23,318	6½
1908.....	274,335	83,935	190,400	27,624	8
1909.....	358,813	157,124	201,689	38,963	8
1910.....	295,041	128,755	166,286	4,499	6
1911.....	258,649	107,732	150,917	4,810	6½
1912.....	307,207	103,922	203,285	51,341	6
1913.....	315,606	111,967	203,639	41,095	6
1914.....	314,949	151,461	163,488	23,202	6
1915.....	272,182	149,509	122,673	*262,274	nil
1916.....	295,089	125,645	169,444	45,104	nil
1917.....	442,776	140,189	302,587	44,057	7½
1918.....	544,322	126,222	418,100	44,055	12½
1919.....	579,678	130,902	448,776	47,411	12½
1920.....	644,564	177,005	467,559	51,866	12½
1921.....	433,230	158,061	275,169	57,103	12½

* Including £220,889 drawn from "premium on shares account."

It will be seen that, in spite of the decline in profits, the dividend of 12½ per cent. is maintained. This is done, however, at the expense of the reserve account, which gets nothing as against £100,000 a year ago. The balance forward is also more than £44,000 lower at £30,800. The principal change in the balance-sheet is a decline of £367,800 in stock-in-trade, which now stands at £1,783,000. Plant and machinery are £147,700 higher at £559,400, the outlay having been made "with a view to decreasing costs of production." The report states that an interest has been acquired in a large oil refining works by the purchase of debentures at a cost of £110,000, of which £85,000 has been paid since the close of the financial year. The installation of a margarine factory on adjacent premises is awaiting more favourable conditions. Since the date of the balance-sheet the paid-up capital has been increased by the issue of £600,000 9 per cent. preference shares. Savings bank deposits stand in the balance-sheet at £132,700, or £7,700 more than a year ago.

Spiers and Pond.—The report of Spiers and Pond, Limited, for the year ended March 31st last, which is the third year of operation since the company was re-organised, shows that there was a drop of about £20,000 in net profits. A comparison of results for the past three years is given below:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
	£	£	£
Profit	128,520	151,365	136,072
Deb. interest, &c.	26,714	26,419	31,209
Net profit	101,806	124,946	104,863
Brought forward	..	15,355	15,652
	101,806	140,301	120,515
Reserve, &c.	35,000	43,000	22,000
Directors	2,000	5,000	5,000
Dividend	49,451	76,649	70,984
	(10 %)	(12½ %)	(12½ %)
Carried forward	15,355	15,652	22,531

The report gives no information as to the year's business. A year ago it was stated that no settlement had been arrived at with the Government in respect of occupation of properties during the war, and the latest profit and loss account has a footnote to the effect that no credit is included for rent of premises occupied during the war by the Government. During 1919-20 the paid-up capital was increased from £494,500 to £692,800, a bonus distribution being made for about one-half of the increase. The increase, however, only became effective at the beginning of the financial year just closed. The reserve is now credited with £20,000, raising it to £80,000, and £2,000 goes to staff provident fund. Directors' additional remuneration again amounts to £5,000. The balance-sheet is analysed in detail elsewhere.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

ISSUED CAPITAL £1,844,986.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches and Associated Companies in

Australia	Ceylon	Japan	Morocco
Borneo	China	Java	New Zealand
Canada	India	Malaya	Sumatra
		U.S.A.	

The Company offers the services of its organisation to manufacturers and others desirous of establishing new connections in the East and elsewhere.

A Wonderful Old Mine.—Our mining correspondent writes:—The report presented at Thursday's meeting of the St John del Rey Gold Mining Company—the 90th annual statement—contains many interesting features, not the least consisting in the intimation that, thanks to the successful operation of the cooling plant, this venerable undertaking has secured a new lease of life. For years past work in the lower levels—which have now attained the record depth of 6,400 feet—has been conducted with increasing difficulty owing to the rise in the temperature of the air and the rock. Naturally, this problem received careful consideration, and a design for a cooling plant was evolved. Completed after many delays and at a much greater expense than anticipated owing to war conditions, the installation started work in December, and although designedly not run to full capacity, had by March effected a reduction in rock temperature of 0.8 deg. Fahr., and in air temperature of 5.3 deg. Fahr. The company, it is intimated, now has sufficient power for working the mine down to and including horizon No. 26, or four levels below the present bottom. Appended is a summary of the results for the past three years:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Ore crushed.....tons	165,000	166,000	146,800
Value of bullion.....	£429,069	£516,212	£549,914
Average per ton	52/-	54/-	57/8
Working cost in Brazil	33½	44/-	48/-
Net profit.....	£124,338	£108,605	£167,749
Dividends, tax, &c.	£91,218	£93,193	£102,719
To capital works account.....	£35,000	£50,000	£85,000
Carried forward	£19,255	£16,936	£18,585

The growth in revenue arises partly from improvement in the value of the ore and partly from the premium on gold; the latter, however, is not included in the average. On the other hand, costs have also advanced. In each of the past two years the accounts have received a windfall in the shape of a return of taxes. It will be seen that the whole of the surplus available after providing for the dividends—which since 1910-11 have ruled at a steady 10 per cent.—has been devoted to capital expenditure. No considerable further outlay should be necessary for some time. The manager calculates the ore opened up as 1,228,000 tons, equal to about 6½ years' reserves at full output, or excluding part of the lowest level, which has not been fully explored, 827,000 tons, equal to 4½ years' supply. A favourable feature is the rise in values. Looking at the position all round it would seem reasonable to expect, at any rate, a continuation of the recent dividend rate, on which basis the yield is about 13 per cent, while the "profit in sight" works out at 9s on the 4½-year and 13s on the 6½-year reserve estimate. This is irrespective of the discoveries which may—and doubtless will—be made below the 22nd level of the gold mine. There are also the unexploited iron and manganese deposits.

Russo-Asiatic.—The eagerly-awaited report was issued on Monday evening, and if not exactly disappointing, proved to contain little new regarding the position as between the company and the Soviet Government. On this

subject shareholders must possess their souls in patience until the meeting, which is to be held on July 6th. It is, however, stated that recent information received from Russia confirms that no material damage has been done to the properties. In the light of this intimation, and generally, it is a little startling to read that claims to the amount of £56,000,000 have been made for compensation in respect of the confiscation carried out in 1918, "based on the stocks of metals, materials, &c., on hand, the profit value of the proven ore reserves, and the cost of plant, machinery, &c." With regard to the European properties taken in hand while the company was marking time in Russia, it appears that boring on the Villemange silver-

lead area in southern France has been attended with encouraging results, but the Algerian concession, although "surface conditions of great promise were found, supported by large dumps left by mining operations carried on 40 years ago," did not come up to expectations. The accounts to December 31st show net expenditure £47,800, debenture interest being the chief item. Net cash assets stood at £887,000; of this, however, £721,600 is receivable from the preferred stockholders of the Russo-Canadian Development Corporation (in liquidation). It may be recalled that the position of the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated was discussed at some length in our issue of May 14th under the heading "The Revival in Russian Shares."

THE REVENUE.

I.—An ACCOUNT of the TOTAL REVENUE of the UNITED KINGDOM in the undermentioned periods of the Year ending March 31, 1922, as compared with the corresponding periods of the preceding Year.

	Quarter from April 1 to June 30, 1921, compared with the corresponding Quarter of the preceding Year.			
	Quarter ending June 30, 1921.	Quarter ending June 30, 1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs	£ 28,345,000	£ 33,301,000	£ 4,956,000	
Excise	44,896,000	38,107,000	6,789,000	
Motor Vehicle Duties	1,421,000	1,421,000		
Estate, &c., Duties	10,924,000	10,211,000	713,000	
Stamps	2,697,000	5,625,000	2,928,000	
Land Tax and House Duty (including Super-Tax and Mineral Rights Duty)	390,000	370,000	20,000	
Property and Income Tax	63,900,000	53,738,000	10,162,000	
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	17,114,000	56,368,000	39,254,000	
Corporation Profits Tax	2,020,000	2,020,000		
Postal Service	7,350,000	7,150,000	200,000	
Telegraph Service	1,250,000	1,200,000	50,000	
Telephone Service	900,000	1,900,000	1,000,000	
Crown Lands	130,000	110,000	20,000	
Interest on Sundry Loans	1,954,837	3,825,734	1,870,897	
Miscellaneous—				
Ordinary Receipts	6,868,664	4,733,884	2,134,780	
Special Receipts	14,007,884	98,346,834	84,338,950	
	204,168,385	314,986,452	23,529,780	134,347,847
			Net Decrease, £110,818,067.	

II.—An ACCOUNT showing the RECEIPTS into and ISSUES out of the EXCHEQUER in the Quarter ending June 30, 1921, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding Year.

RECEIPTS.	Quarter ending June 30, 1921.	Quarter ending June 30, 1920.	ISSUES.	Quarter ending June 30, 1921.	Quarter ending June 30, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on April 1—			Expenditure—		
Bank of England	£ 2,591,051	£ 7,159,773	Permanent Charge of Debt	£ 3,891,788	£ 4,140,590
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,209,324	Interest, &c., on War Debt	112,014,683	102,311,470
	3,074,506	9,369,097	Road Fund	966,000	866,906
Revenue, as shown in Account I.	204,168,385	314,986,452	Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	1,071,854	2,093,790
Temporary Advances Repaid—			Land Settlement	451,852	456,532
Bullion	1,550,000	600,000	Other Consolidated Fund Services	152,289,550	174,856,950
Money Raised by Creation of Debt—			Supply Services	271,420,290	284,728,238
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues—			Total Expenditure chargeable against Revenue	271,420,290	284,728,238
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	2,000,000	..	Temporary Advances—		
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1915	27,500	..	Bullion	1,900,000	600,000
Under the Housing Act, 1914	25,000	..	Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904	84,909	84,909
(b) For other Issues—			Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—		
By Treasury Bills for Supply	1,145,109,000	857,465,000	Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 & 1920	2,000,000	700,000
By 4 per Cent. Funding Loan, 1960-90	..	101,341	Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1915	27,500	..
By 4 per Cent. Victory Bonds	..	258,622	Under the Housing Act, 1914	25,000	30,000
By National Savings Certificates—			Redemption of Unfunded Debt—		
Under War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	10,450,000	..	Treasury Bills for Supply	1,043,454,000	914,848,000
Under Finance Act, 1920	8,530,000	..	War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	11,570,510	15,811,041
By Treasury Bonds	1,002,675	7,930,000	Principal of National Savings Certificates—		
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	3,713,840	10,095,777	(a) Repaid by issues under Sec. 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	3,600,000	8,650,000
(c) Ways and Means Advances	329,374,000	364,841,000	(b) Repaid otherwise	2,450,000	2,130,000
Repayments—			Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off, 1920-21	..	..
In respect of issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	7,719	1,612	6% 1920	2,130,000	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,650,250	..	Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	17,380,209	14,022,055
Interest—			Ways and Means Advances Repaid	331,539,000	326,037,000
Received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	85,532	..	Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	7,320,045	5,820,045
			Proceeds of National Savings Certificates—		
			Issued under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	4,265,000	..
			Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11	..	..
			Issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	13,800
				1,597,497,663	1,573,475,088
			Balances in Exchequer—		
			Bank of England	£ 2,065,550	£ 1,933,184
			Bank of Ireland	765,199	690,629
				2,820,749	2,623,813
	1,700,318,412	1,576,098,901		1,700,318,412	1,576,098,901

MEM.—

Floating Debt outstanding March 31, 1921	£ 1,275,530,000	
	June 30, 1921.	June 30, 1920.
Ways and Means Advances outstanding—		
Advances by Bank of England	39,250,000	69,750,000
Advances by Public Departments	113,074,000	173,941,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	*1,221,617,000	1,050,090,000
Total Floating Debt outstanding	1,373,971,000	1,293,781,000
Net increase	98,641,000	

* Includes £505,000, the proceeds of which were not carried to the Exchequer within the period of the account.

22nd July, June 30, 1921.

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—REDUCTION IN NEW YORK RATE—BANKERS AND LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY—RAILROADS' LOWER INCOME.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, June 17.

THIS week's reduction by the New York Federal Reserve Bank in its rediscount rate from 6½ per cent. to 6 per cent. occasioned no surprise in financial circles; it was quite generally expected, in view of the marked improvement that has taken place lately in the banking position. The reduction is the second made by that institution in less than six weeks. The 6½ per cent. rate came into force on May 5th. From June 1, 1920, to the latter date the rate had stood at 7 per cent. The present reduction puts the rate back to the figure which prevailed during the first five months of 1920. At that time, or, rather, in January, 1920, the New York bank's reserve ratio was 38 per cent. By June of last year it had advanced to about 40 per cent., and it now stands at 60.6 per cent. Changes in the rediscount rate of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, however, are not governed merely by its own reserve position, and the same is true with respect to such action by the other 11 central reserve institutions. Due consideration has to be given to the reserve position of all of the banks, and to credit conditions generally. For that reason this week's reduction is all the more significant; it is plainly a recognition not only of the stronger reserve position of the local bank and of the Federal reserve system as a whole, but also of the relaxation of the strain on credit generally. The new rate became effective on June 18th, and applies to all classes of paper eligible for rediscount at the local institution, namely, advances on commercial paper for a period not exceeding 15 days; advances not exceeding 15 days on Liberty Loan bonds, Victory notes, or United States Treasury certificates of indebtedness and customers' notes secured by those issues, and rediscount of customers' notes so secured for period not exceeding 90 days; and advances not exceeding 15 days secured by bankers' acceptances and rediscounts of same not exceeding 90 days. All Federal Reserve banks now have a rediscount rate of 6 per cent., with the exception of those at Chicago, Minneapolis and Dallas; it is expected, however, that those three institutions, which are maintaining a 6½ per cent. rate, will shortly make a reduction to 6 per cent. Should the credit and banking situation continue to improve, a further lowering of rates may be looked for during the summer. The commercial paper market has thus far reflected the Bank rate reduction only to a slight extent; prime names are now being discounted at 6½ and 6¾ per cent., the choicest obtaining the former rate, while paper less well known moves at 7 per cent. Time money is still firm, and very sparingly offered; borrowers are bidding 6¾ per cent., with 7 per cent. asked, but demand for fixed-date accommodation is light, since borrowers are providing for their requirements in the call money market, where rates have eased considerably to 5½ per cent. on the Stock Exchange, and to as low as 3 per cent. in the unofficial or outside call money market. At present there is a plethora of call funds, with very little demand for stock market purposes.

A highly important and constructive development this week was the agreement on the part of eastern and western banking groups to extend much-needed financial assistance to the livestock industry, thereby making it unnecessary for the Government to provide relief directly through the War Finance Corporation or any other agency. The agreement was reached as a result of recent conferences in Washington between the Administration and private banking interests. Between 15 and 20 New York and other eastern institutions have undertaken to subscribe some \$25,000,000 toward a fund of \$50,000,000 which is to be advanced to livestock interests; the other part of the fund is to be provided by western bankers. Details of the plan are now being worked out at conferences at which J. P. Morgan is presiding. The plan as thus far outlined is to make six months' advances on cattle through loans approved by a committee of bankers who are familiar with that class of paper. By limiting the

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

Resources over \$500,000,000

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
17, Sherborne Lane, King William Street,
London, E. C. 4



loans to six months' periods the paper will be eligible for rediscount at the Federal Reserve institutions, thus relieving the banks from the burden of carrying it. The six months' paper will be subject to review upon maturity, and the loans will be renewed unless circumstances and conditions develop to disqualify them. They will, therefore, virtually be long-term credits of from, perhaps, two to three years.

Net operating income of the railroads in April amounted to \$29,201,000, or \$1,494,000 less than in March. On the basis of the tentative valuation fixed by the Inter-State Commerce Commission for rate-making purposes, the April showing is at the rate of an annual return of only 2.18 per cent., as compared with 2.30 per cent. in March. In other words, the April net operating income fell short by \$51,286,000, or nearly 64 per cent. of the amount which the carriers should have earned in order to get a return at the annual rate of 6 per cent. authorised by the Transportation Act. Total operating revenues in April were \$433,181,000, representing an increase of 7.7 per cent. over those for the corresponding month of last year, while operating expenses were \$375,752,000, or 6.2 per cent. less. Net operating income aggregated \$29,201,000, as against a deficit of \$23,767,000 in the same month last year. In making comparison with April, 1920, however, account should be taken of the fact that railroad operations in that month were greatly interfered with by the "outlaw" switchmen's strike. The ratio of operating expenses to revenues in April was 86.74 per cent., as compared with 87.10 per cent. in the preceding month. For the eight months since September 1st, when the Government guaranty period expired, and when the higher freight and passenger rates authorised by the Commerce Commission took effect, the net operating income of the railroads totalled \$279,008,000, which is at the annual rate of return of 2.41 per cent. on their tentative valuation, according to statistics compiled by the Association of Railway Executives. That sum is \$414,253,000 below the amount which they were expected to earn from the increased rates.

FRANCE. — TAXATION PROSPECTS — INDUSTRIAL LOANS — TELEPHONE CHARGES — COMMODITY PRICES — BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, June 28.

NOTWITHSTANDING the continued illness of M. Doumer, the Minister of Finance, it is hoped that the Bill for the Budget of 1922 will be laid before the Chambers during the first week of July, so that the Deputies and Senators may be able to consider its provisions during the holidays. What those provisions will be remains a secret, but it was stated in the Chamber this week by M. Bokanowski, who is one of the financial experts of the House, that it will be necessary to impose some 3,000,000,000 of new taxes during the coming twelve months to meet expenditure that will have to be incurred. "There are some of us," M. Bokanowski added, "who think that if the taxpayers did their duty the present taxes would be sufficient." Unfortunately, as the figures I quoted recently eloquently showed, the French fiscal net is made of a mesh that is very much more open than it ought to be, and so far there is no indication of any serious attempt to draw the net closer.

The position of M. Doumer is exciting a good deal of speculation, both in regard to his health and for other reasons, and it would be no surprise for anybody if he made way for another. At the same time the resignation is to-night announced of M. Charles Dumont, who has for the past two years held the important post of *rapporteur général* to the Budget Commission in the Chamber. M. Dumont, who was spoken of as a possible Minister of Finance shortly before M. Briand selected M. Doumer for that post, gives as the reason for his resignation his feeling that he has held the post long enough. In private affairs M. Dumont occupies an important official position in connection with the management of one of the two important Paris banks whose financial complications have latterly been much discussed.

The situation of the Banque Industrielle de Chine (with which, it may be stated, M. Dumont is in no way connected) continues to excite a good deal of nervousness, and is the subject of much comment in the French Press. It is announced that several conferences have taken place to-day, at the Ministry of Finances, between M. Doumer and representatives of the Banque de France, the Banque de Paris, and the Banque de l'Indo-Chine, but led to no tangible result. The delay in arriving at a solution is all the more unsatisfactory as the French Government has received telegrams from its Chargé d'Affaires in China indicating that the position in that country is steadily becoming worse. There are still hopes that arrangements may be made to enable both the Banque Industrielle de Chine and its fellow in adversity to weather the storm, but the outlook in both cases is regarded as extremely unsatisfactory.

The Chamber has spent a good deal of time this week in discussing modifications to the unfortunate "turn-over tax," which has met with almost universal disapproval since its inception, and has so far failed to yield even 50 per cent. of the amount expected from it. One of the modifications decided upon has been the creation of two categories of hotels, &c., on one of which the tax will be fixed at 3 per cent. and on the other at 10 per cent. Another innovation is the establishment of a fixed sum per annum in respect of this tax in the case of business concerns whose total turnover does not exceed 120,000 of a year, the payment being made by four quarterly instalments.

The public loans from which the money is to be obtained that is required to bring about the restoration of the wrecked towns and ruined industrial organisations of Northern France are now being steadily issued one after the other. Albert, Rheims, and Verdun have during the past few weeks all issued appeals to the investor, backed by the double guarantee of their own municipal resources and the annual payments due to them from the Government in respect of their respective shares in the German indemnity. Simultaneously, as I stated a few weeks ago, the various industrial groups are also organising loan issues. The loan asked for by the great group of colliery undertakings was issued not long ago, and this week the

prospectus has appeared of a loan of 200,000,000 issued by the "Groupeement de l'Industrie Sucrière Française en Reconstitution (Sucreries et Raffineries)," which is the official title under which the 40 great sugar-producing industrial undertakings who are concerned have elected to be known. Practically the whole of the French beet sugar-producing concerns are situated in the devastated regions, and they, like the colliery firms, have united for common action. The money will be used for the reconstitution of the collective plant. The issue takes the form of bonds of 500f each, with interest at the rate of 6 per cent., free of all present and future taxation, and the bonds are offered at 475, redeemable at par during the next 30 years. Interest and sinking fund charges are guaranteed by the deposit, by each of the companies in the group, of the legal titles to the compensation which is due to them from the Government, amounting to a total sum of 14,529,782f per annum.

In view of the heavy deficit on the French postal, telegraph, and telephone services, and of the serious capital expenditure that will be required to place the services on a proper working basis, efforts are being made to re-organise the scale of charges in a manner that will render it possible to bring about at least a balance between revenue and expenditure. The first of the three services to form the subject of definite proposals for reform is that of the telephones, in respect of which a Bill has for some time been under the consideration of Parliament. The outstanding feature of this Bill is the substitution of the message rate principle for the flat annual subscription rate. The proposed new scale has raised a great deal of controversy, but its Governmental sponsors claim that it will reduce the number of demands on the service by 50 per cent., while increasing the revenue from subscribers by some 12,000,000 of a year.

Remarkable figures are published by the *Illustration* this week tracing the variations in prices of a large number of different articles during the period of 1914 to March, 1921, and M. André Pavie, the author, expresses his belief that the present tendency towards a fall will be continued. Foodstuffs in most cases have shown a drop in the period from the fourth quarter of 1920 to the end of the first quarter of this year, though bread and flour, which used to cost 40c and 60c per kilogramme, have remained unchanged at 1f 30c and 1f 75c. Beefsteak, which was 3f 80c the kilo in 1914, rose to 17f 20c in 1920, and dropped in March of this year to 16f 80c. Eggs, which were 1f 50c the dozen in 1914, rose to 10f 40c, and have dropped to 7f 20c. Potatoes, curiously enough, only doubled in price in 1914-20, and in the first quarter of 1921 dropped from 50c per kilo to 45c. Rice, which was 90c the kilogramme, began dropping after the autumn of 1920, when it stood at 4f 80c, to fall since to 3f 25c. The above are Paris prices, but there is a fairly exact comparison between Paris and the provinces. Food costs reached their maximum in the winter of 1920 of 326 for Paris and 350 for the provinces, but in March this year the increase had fallen to 258 per cent. As regards clothing, the figures show that an ordinary suit to measure in 1920 had risen from 70f to 500f, to have fallen in 1921 to 375f. A suit *de luxe* has shown an enormous slump, the fall being from 1,200f to 600f, and this is typical of clothing of all sorts.

The week has seen the sudden revival of Bourse activities, due, no doubt, to a certain extent to the desire of certain important financial groups that there should be no collapse on the eve of various important issues that are being made. Thus the town of Paris is shortly placing a loan of 18 hundred millions on the market; the sugar industry is absorbing 200 hundred millions, the town of Rheims is asking for 120 millions, Verdun for 60 millions, and Algeria is proposing a loan of one milliard six hundred million. Consequently, it cannot be expected that for the time being a keen interest will be taken by the public in Bourse operations. French 3 per cents. closed at 57.70, as against 56.80. Banque de Paris rose from 1,245 to 1,260, and Union Parisienne from 1,220 to 1,330. Transports have improved, Chargeurs Réunis advancing from 535 to 555, and Transatlantique from 235 to 250. Metallurgical shares have shown little change, Creusot being typical in improving from 2,180 to 2,230. Tintos are up at between 1,350 and

1,380, though Boléo is weaker, having dropped from 485 to 470. Petrol shares have for the most part failed to participate in the general improvement. Royal Dutch is down from 18,950 to 18,500. Shell has held its own at 256, and Mexican Eagle is actually stronger, having advanced from 279 to 288.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	June 23, 1921. Francs.	June 16, 1921. Francs.	June 26, 1913. Francs.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	20,403,923	20,403,923	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	599,140,106	600,598,577	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	788,261,160	775,593,993	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	6,047,472	6,047,472	..
Notes in circulation	37,494,061,955	37,972,172,185	5,398,917,975
Interest on securities	71,803,334	54,990,091	19,541,783
Bank notes to order	1,228,694	976,791	3,675,511
Treasury account	42,415,481	25,921,666	450,388,158
Current accounts, Paris	1,589,854,829	1,626,435,118	645,165,325
Do branch banks	1,040,631,434	1,105,850,371	86,883,424
Dividends payable	3,855,572	3,943,617	19,668,791
Discounts and sundries	148,169,146	145,367,653	1,542,227
Re-discounts	16,101,387	16,101,387	5,532,896
Sundries	1,011,105,116	986,448,790	228,248,699
Total	43,050,596,808	43,557,864,833	7,084,584,149
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,794,131,643	5,793,578,129	3,940,647,848
Balances abroad	688,261,716	686,908,899	..
Commercial bills overdue	1,583,750	44,459,323	4,80,879
Discounts in Paris	1,518,396,029	1,473,642,955	651,511,960
Foreign bills	5,165,225	5,810,229	16,722,763
Treasury bills	503,828	71,112	36,107
Discounts in branches	961,329,008	964,439,617	987,438,163
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	100,052,737	101,511,208	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	15,394,000
Do on public securities	420,275,457	399,519,742	200,189,604
Do on branch banks	1,791,067,881	1,805,697,513	533,814,425
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,000,000,000	25,000,000,000	6,538,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern- ments	4,062,000,000	4,061,000,000	12,980,750
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	..
Do disposable	101,836,155	101,836,155	98,401,519
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	46,899,073	46,899,073	42,011,275
Expenses and management	42,571,594	40,399,151	1,102
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,304,493
Sundries	2,181,260,187	2,097,829,635	270,250,760
Total	43,050,596,808	43,557,864,833	7,084,584,149

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	2 1/2
Advances on bullion	2 1/2
Advances on public securities	6 1/2

GERMANY.—REPARATIONS PLANS—SANCTIONS—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—EMPLOYMENT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, June 27.

THE submission of a detailed Reparations taxation plan is expected this week. The only definite announcement since last week is that the Corporations Tax is to be raised to 30 per cent. This tax (*Koerperschaftssteuer*), which came into force on April 15, 1920, is an income-tax on public companies at an uniform rate of 10 per cent., plus supplements rising from 2 per cent. on net profits exceeding 3 per cent. on capital to 10 per cent. on profits exceeding 18 per cent. At these rates the tax will this year yield 1,050,000,000 m. The increased sugar tax, decided on before the Reparations settlement, is being opposed by the Socialists. A Bill has been submitted creating a Federal Reparations Office (*Reichsentschaedigungsamt*) with administrative and judicial functions, and with local branches. Another Bill authorises the issue of the Reparations Bonds on the lines laid down in the ultimatum. The Reichstag is to-day to occupy itself with the sanctions, which, according to M. Briand's statement of the 25th, will be retained for a time to be measured by Germany's goodwill. If goodwill is to be proved by payment of reparations, this particular test is unfortunate, as the sanctions are seriously injuring Germany's production and commerce, and therefore her ability to pay. The smuggling in of forbidden wares is proceeding wholesale, to a value estimated by the Commissary for Import and Export Licences at between half a milliard and 1 milliard a month.

With the mark exchange already falling as result of the increased demand for foreign currency, caused by reparations, this smuggling is disastrous. Even if the continued occupation of the three Rhine towns is necessary, the dissolution of Germany into two Customs Unions is unnecessary and obstructive. The bad economic condition of the Austrian Succession States is largely due, it is admitted, to the new obstructive Customs frontiers. The results here are similar. The Succession States' frontiers have at least the excuse that they gratify Nationalistic passions, for the Rhine Customs frontier there is not even that bad reason. The Reichsbank is this week buying gold at the rate of 300 marks for the 20-mark coin, and 42,500 marks for 1 kilogramme of fine gold. The foreign exchanges rose considerably in the past week; are now in some cases more than 100 per cent. over the lowest prices of last year, and are all much above the lowest prices of this year:—

	May 25, 1920.	Jan. 26, 1921.	June 27, 1921.
Sterling	140.65	215.75	279.80
Dollar	34.80	55.56	74.58
French franc	270.30	400.40	602.15
Lire	200.20	210.25	372.90
Gulden	1,336.50	1,861	2,472.50
Swedish crown	785.80	1,226.25	1,669.20
Swiss franc	620.60	885.90	1,261.30

The Reichsbank statement for June 22nd has not yet appeared. On the whole week stocks had again a big rise, which continued to-day. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* stock index figure for June 25th is 15,628, against 15,134 on the 18th, 13,438 on March 5th, and 17,013 (highest reached) on January 8th. Tuesday and Wednesday witnessed extensive profit-taking, which had not much effect on prices, but the boom was renewed next day, and has not since weakened. Among metal stocks there was a large demand for Phoenix and Mannesmann Tubes. Shipping stocks, which have been dull for some time past, showed new activity under leadership of the German-Australian and Hamburg-South American lines, and Hamburg-Americans were for a time firm under influence of the agreement for Baltic trade with the Soviet Government. Single stocks in various groups rose sharply without any known cause. Quotations of leading stocks to-day and on June 30, 1919, after which date the "Catastrophe Boom" proper began, are:—

	June 27, 1920.	June 30, 1919.
BANKS.		
Darmstädter	177.50	106
Deutsche	322	187
Disconto	273.75	149
Dresdner	227	130
SHIPPING.		
Argo	749	176
Deutsche-Australasische	409	132
Hamburg-Amerika	169 1/2	94
Hansa	279	202
Norddeutsche Lloyd	149	95
INDUSTRIAL.		
Aachener Spinnerei	440	205
Allgemeine-Elektriz. Ges.	297	180
Augsburg-Nuernb. Maschin.	460	172
Badische Anilin	410	338
Bochum Gusstahl	520	187
Emil Busch (optional)	455	250
Chemisch. Fabr. Griesheim).....	307.75	205
Concordia Mining	430	305
Daimler Motors	243	195
Deutsch-Luxemburg (iron, coal) ..	353	147
Deutsche Erdoel (petroleum)	857	295
Dynamit Nobel	365.50	146
Faber (pencils)	450	248
Gelsenkirchen (iron, coal)	390	157
Hoechst Farbwerke	334.74	299
Hohenlohe (coal, iron)	240	99
Kali Aschersleben (potash)	300	160
Laurahütte (smelting)	330	150
Linke-Hofmann (engineering)	470	275
Mannesmann Tubes	649	171
Orenstein und Koppel	625	172
Phoenix Bergbau	769	189
Rhenische Stahlwerke	508	141
Sarotti Schokolade	899	210
Schuckert Elektrische Werke	259	124
Siemens and Halske	339	164
Vereinigte Glanzstoffe (artificial silk) ..	815	442

Federal Loans show no uniform tendency. Unchanged at 77.50 is War Loan; 4 per cent. is to-day quoted 77.20, as against 77.60 on June 17th; 3 1/2 per cent. at 77, against 69.50; 3 per cent. at 76.40, against 74.75; Colonial 4 per cent. at 69.10, against 72; and Savings and Premium at 85.30, against 85.70.

Unemployment is declining. The number of publicly supported entirely unemployed on June 1st was 358,000, against 395,000 on May 1st, and 429,000 on March 1st. The number of publicly supported members of unemployed persons' families fell in June from 440,000 to 384,000. Not included in the unemployed figures are 250,000 persons engaged in public emergency works.

POLAND.—THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK—WAGES—EXCHANGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, June 24.

THE most important event of the past fortnight has been a struggle between the Cabinet and the Finance Minister over financial policy. Some Ministers were opposed to Mr Steczkowski's policy of economy. The Cabinet voted a supplementary credit of eight milliard marks, not foreseen in the budget estimates, and in consequence the Minister of Finance tendered his resignation. This happened just when the Polish mark had begun to decline in a manner hitherto unknown. The Cabinet was strongly attacked by almost the whole Press for its policy of financial extravagance. The pressure exercised by public opinion was so strong that the Cabinet has been forced to rescind its vote granting to the Ministry of Public Works a supplementary credit. At the same time, Mr Steczkowski has been asked to remain in office, and has consented.

On June 21st, before a Committee of the Diet, the Finance Minister expressed the opinion that if a policy of strict economy is pursued Poland's next budget will be a normal one. To achieve this, however, it is necessary to reduce military expenditure and to adopt a foreign policy which is in accordance with the financial resources of the country. Mr Steczkowski is convinced that he will be able to cover this year's deficit by foreign and domestic loans. According to figures quoted by the Finance Minister, Poland is only covering 20 per cent. of her expenditure out of revenue. Mr Steczkowski pointed out that the post and telegraphs yield a surplus, while of the deficit of the Ministry of Railways, amounting to 15 milliards, 11 milliards are for the purchase of rolling stock, the building of new lines, &c. For education 11 milliards are expended; for the army 60 milliards. From direct taxes seven milliards are obtained; from Customs duties and monopolies 23 milliards.

With the steady decline of the currency, wages are steadily rising in a manner unknown in Western Europe. The figures given below show how difficult and uncertain are the conditions under which Polish industry is working:—

	Highest Warsaw Wages.	Index of Wages.	Index of Cost of Living.
1920 April	400—500	100	100
May	400—500	100	124
June	500—600	122	125
October	1,500—2,000	389	173
November	1,500—2,000	389	207
December	1,401—1,500	322	305
1921 January	2,001—2,500	500	384

From April to January the wages have risen five times, while the cost of living has increased much more slowly.

Since the beginning of this week there have been no official quotations of foreign exchanges, Russian roubles excepted. Last quotations were as follows:—American dollars, 1,570, 1,550, 1,545, 1,490. German marks, 23.65, 23.50, 22.80. English pounds, 6,900, 5,800, 5,760. French francs, 120, 115.

It may be seen from these quotations that during the last ten days a further decline in Polish currency has taken place. On June 13th American dollars were quoted 1,250, 1,270, and they now stand at nearly 1,500. According to Mr Steczkowski, this decline is due to the uncertain political situation, especially with regard to Upper Silesia

and to the great demand for foreign bills by the Lodz industry, which is accumulating great stocks for the Russian market. The Ministry of Finance is trying to persuade the soda manufacturers to sell their stocks in countries with a sound currency. It is expected that this will help to relieve the pressure which is exercised on the foreign exchanges by the imports of cotton.

INDIA.—CHEAPER MONEY—LOAN AND EXCHANGE QUESTIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, June 4.

THE one event of political importance that has taken place in India during the past fortnight was the interview accorded to Mr Gandhi, Pundit Malaviya, Lala Lajpat Rai, and other leaders of the non-Co-operation Movement by His Excellency Lord Reading. The conversations were of a private character. Opinion in India was at first sharply divided in regard to the value and necessity of these meetings, but a speech made before the members of the Chelmsford Reform Club by the Viceroy has considerably assisted in moulding an idea that much good may come out of the conversations. It is significant to note, however, that since these meetings the Ali Brothers, who lead the Mohammedan wing of the non-Co-operators, have issued an apology for various inflammatory speeches made by them.

The official standard of the Imperial Bank of India was lowered to 5 per cent. on June 2nd. This reduction has been expected for some time in this city and Calcutta. This decision strengthens the rumours that are afloat to the effect that the issue of a new Indian rupee loan is about to be made, and the main topic of interest in the bazaar centres upon its probable interest rate. Opinion appears to be fairly solid on the point that 6 per cent. per annum will not be exceeded. The general dissatisfaction surrounding the 7 per cent. India loan recently raised in England, to which I referred in my last despatch, has mainly disappeared. It arose, in the main, out of misunderstanding. But in the meanwhile further particulars have been received from home regarding the loan, and the Finance Department of the Government of India has issued a statement on the subject. The Chamber of the Indian Merchants in Bombay has asserted that, judging from the results of the loan, and from the fact that immediately after its issue its price went to a premium, the sum asked for (£7,500,000) might have been obtained on terms more favourable to this country. The Government of India repudiate any suggestions of lack of judgment on the parts of either themselves or the Secretary of State for India regarding the issue of this loan. It is pointed out that the last sterling loan raised in England on behalf of India took place in 1912, and that since then conditions, political and financial, have completely changed. It was essential that this loan should prove a success.

Gold in Bombay now stands at Rs.30-4 per tola, and has been moving slightly in sympathy with the London-New York cross rate. Sovereigns are being bought at Rs. 18-15 a coin, and silver is coming in for moderate inquiry. Exchange registers no improvement of note, still ruling just above the 1s 3d line. Yesterday's Bank telegraphic transfer rate was 1s 3 5/32d, with a quiet undertone. The Viceroy's statement that a fall in exchange "is a symptom of the dislocation of the world's trade, and, applied to India, is a mirror of the changed conditions of the balance of trade during recent times," is not accepted in financial circles as presenting this country's position in exactly the correct light. It is pointed out that in many instances countries that have experienced a depreciated exchange have been more or less impoverished as a result of the war. But India was not impoverished. She contracted no external debt. So, it is argued, other reasons must be looked for to explain India's present unfavourable position; and here it is that the recommendations of the last Currency Committee come in for adverse criticism, particularly in regard to its resolution fixing the rupee at 2s gold.

SWEDEN.—INDUSTRIAL IDLENESS—MONEY AND STOCKS—HARVEST PROSPECTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, June 26.

THE past month has been marked by a further closing down in industry. Many works have taken the occasion of the midsummer holidays, which in Sweden under normal conditions are usually very thoroughly celebrated from June 22nd or 23rd until the end of the month, to give their workers a longer rest than usual, several serving notices of indefinite termination of work. Lack of capital compels many sawmills to stop working and putting goods on stock, there being practically no outlet whatever for further deliveries. It is said that the co-operation between Swedish and Finnish timber exporters will be continued, and that a further lowering of prices is imminent. It is doubtful, however, if that will attract buyers, who seem to have lost altogether the courage to purchase. One must go back as far as the beginning of the 'nineties to find such remarkably poor figures of sales and export. In normal times three-quarters of a million standards used to be placed by this time of the year. Now not one-tenth of this quantity has been disposed of. The greatest interest in industrial circles seems to be concentrated eastward. Although on the whole Swedish traders have been disappointed with Soviets' bombastic trade programme, and actually insignificant quantities, as compared with Press statements, have found their way to Russian Baltic ports, two important concerns, the Swedish Ballbearing Company and the Match Trust Company, seem to have come to some arrangement with Moscow. The Soviet Government has invited the latter concern to take charge of the match factories in Russia, to put them on a workable footing by supplying engineers and machinery against permission to dispose of the output at liberty, after leaving some portion for Russian consumption. The company has accepted the invitation, and a delegation is now on the way to Moscow to fix up an agreement. The position in the money market is a little easier than it used to be, and there are hopes that the State Bank will make a further cut in the discount rate. The Stock Exchange has experienced further falls, and there seems to be practically no limit to the downward trend. Scandinavian and Finnish exchange rates have moved up and down during the last few days, especially Finnish marks, which have been down to practically the same level as German marks. It is hoped that the settlement of the Aaland question may help to stabilise Finnish exchange. The prospects of harvest are again brighter, plenty of rain having come down just in the nick of time. This will prevent the need for imports and make up somewhat for the damage the industrial deadlock is causing. And work will be offered pretty soon to crowds of unemployed who are now walking the streets.

NORWAY.—CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT—DEPRESSED INDUSTRY—EXCHANGE MOVEMENTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, June 25.

POLITICAL events have taken place during the last week which most likely will considerably influence the economic life of this country in the near future. The Liberal-Conservative Government, which superseded the Radical Government, in its turn has now, after exactly one year, been superseded by the Radical Government. The late Government followed a line of handling the finances of the country, and more particularly the taxing, which the present Government will certainly deviate from in various ways. The trading community view with concern the growing burden of taxes, especially at a period when trade and shipping is so extremely dull. It is calculated that about one-third of the entire tonnage of the country is laid up. Besides, the seamen's strike is still going on, though, as it seems, gradually ebbing out. Industry, general trade, and exports, as well as imports, are languishing.

The stock market during the latter half of the week showed a little more activity, probably because there is an expectation of an impending reduction of the Bank rate, which for just one year has kept steady at 7 per cent. The exchanges remain extremely high—against this

country—with some slight ups and downs. Just now sterling is 156.15 kroners, dollars 7.00, and Swedish kroners 156. Also Danish kroners are getting higher and higher. The last explanation of the high price of the Swedish krona is that much Bolshevik gold is handled in Sweden, involving great demand for Swedish money, with a consequent rise in the price of the same.

The protracted British coal strike would have long before now placed Norwegian industries in a very precarious situation if business had been brisk. As it is now consumption is much reduced, and it is calculated that there is a supply in the country for another three months, leaving out of consideration large quantities of firewood remaining from the coal crisis of two or three years ago.

Letters to the Editor.

THE BURDEN OF THE RATES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The enormous increase in the rates all over the country constitutes a serious problem, and it is vitally necessary that those responsible should make every effort towards reduction.

It is not easy for the ordinary ratepayer in London, where the rates required by a number of different authorities are levied at one and the same time through the borough councils, to place his finger on the worst offenders. Undoubtedly, at the present moment the London County Council is incurring more odium than is its due. To say this is not for one moment to suggest that there has been no expenditure by the L.C.C. which an earlier recognition of the real financial circumstances of the country would have shown to be inexpedient. Nor, although there will probably be a decided fall in the L.C.C. rate for the next half-year owing to the fall in wages and costs of materials and to the measures which the Council is itself taking, is it to be thought that there is no need for strong and steady pressure of public opinion to be brought upon the Council to cut down expenditure ruthlessly. Especially serious is the rise in the education rate, since it connotes a parallel increase in expenditure out of taxes also. The same is true of the police rate, for which the L.C.C. has no responsibility.

It is, however, a fact that the record of the London County Council compares very favourably with the record of other authorities spending the ratepayers' money.

I attach statistical tables, for which I fear that I can scarcely expect you to find space, but which I would ask you to allow me to summarise. Table I. shows the total, treating the rates in 1913-14 as the basis (100), the total rates in the £ in metropolitan boroughs in 1920-21 stood at 190, in county boroughs at 195, in other urban areas at 196, and in rural parishes at 216. The L.C.C. rate stood at 156 in 1920-21, and on the Estimates it will stand at 169 in the current year 1921-22.

Table II. gives in detail for a number of years the total average rates in the £ in London (excluding the City), the precept rates of various central authorities, and the average net rate in the £ for the expenditure of boards of guardians controlled and borne locally; while Table II. (a) expresses these figures in relation to the year 1913-14 (100). Summarised, the result is as follows:—

	Year, 1918-19.	Year, 1919-20.	Year, 1920-21.	Year, 1921-22. Estimated.
Total average rates in £	114	130	193	210
London County Council	110	106	156	169
Metropolitan Police	137	172	204	237
Metropolitan Asylums Board	127	181	278	277
Metropolitan Water Board	133	248	458	578
Boards of Guardians	116	192	361	..

Table III. gives in detail for the same years the net rate in the £ levied by each metropolitan borough council for expenditure under its own control, dividing the boroughs according as they passed under Labour-Socialist control in November, 1919, or remained under Municipal Reform.

control, and also expresses the figures in relation to the year 1913-14 (100). The average rate per borough for the years 1918-19, 1919-20, 1920-21, and 1921-22 (estimated) is as follows:—

	Year, 1918-19.	Year, 1919-20.	Year, 1920-21.	Year, 1921-22. Estimated.
All boroughs (28)	121	160	287	336
14 boroughs under Labour-Socialist control since 1919-20	121	162	305	365
12 boroughs under Municipal Reform control throughout	113	147	247	281

These tables, taken together, are of peculiar interest to the ratepayers and municipal electors of London. It was in 1906-7 that the Municipal Reform Party were returned to power on the L.C.C. and on almost all the borough councils. On the L.C.C. they kept down the rate for purposes other than education, so that it was the same in Armistice year (1918-19) as in 1906-7. And the total L.C.C. rate to-day shows a far smaller increase compared with 1913-14, the last pre-war year, than do the rates of other authorities. The borough councils, with few exceptions, remained under Municipal Reform or kindred control from the elections of November, 1906, till those of November, 1919, when the Labour-Socialists captured half of the councils. Between 1906-7 and 1913-14 the Municipal Reformers effected a marked reduction in the rates for borough council purposes, and in 1918-19 the average rate was little higher than in 1906-7, and in the councils on which they retained control in 1919 they have contrived that the rates should rise far less than elsewhere. The extraordinary rise in the borough council rates in places where the Labour-Socialists gained power in 1919 should certainly serve as a lesson to those whose apathy led to that event, and as a warning against its repetition at the L.C.C. and Borough Council Elections next year.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, GEORGE H. HUME.
County Hall, June 28th, 1921.

THE COST OF PRODUCTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your Labour correspondent evidently misses the meaning of the points I raised; it is, therefore, not worth while to repeat them. It is, however, desirable to correct him on one point of fact. He states that I finally suggested "what is essentially co-partnership and profit-sharing." What I suggested was that the workman should "himself make an effort to provide the capital he requires." This has nothing to do with co-partnership or profit-sharing.—Yours faithfully, HAROLD COX.
Gray's Inn, June 28th, 1921.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I must apologise to Mr Mason for having unintentionally misrepresented his views as to the probable amount of the fall in prices involved by a return to the gold standard. I agree also that if the output of gold increases the eventual fall will not be so great as now appears probable.

I am not convinced as to the importance of bringing sterling into parity with the dollar. The price levels must also come into parity, so that we should get just the same amount of American produce in exchange for a given amount of our goods, as we do now.

Both sides in this controversy have the same ultimate object in view, that is to stop the present violent fluctuation of the standard of value which is obstructing the exchange of goods.

We should approach the problem from the standpoint of what seems really practicable within reasonable time. If we take a careful look at the financial conditions to-day we see that an international gold standard can be restored only when the inter-Allied debts are cancelled, paid off, or funded, when the indemnities are paid, when the internal debts of all ex-belligerent countries have been written down in the ratio that prices must fall to restore the gold standard, when redundant currencies have been with-

drawn from circulation, and banking credit based thereon contracted, and when the gold accumulation in the United States is distributed among the nations.

So far very little progress has been made towards these objects. In this country the actual amount of the decrease from the maximum of currency and bank deposits appears to be about 6 per cent., though there has been a fall of 40 per cent. in wholesale prices. The falling revenue is a sure sign of more inflation to come, and bank deposits are already increasing again. In the United States prices have fallen 49 per cent. from the highest, but gold is still accumulating, and there is now 60 per cent. more gold than in 1914, though prices are only 22 per cent. higher than in August, 1914. It is clear that one country alone cannot restore the gold standard, for gold prices will not find their true level till gold is restored in all the principal commercial countries. The United States will have inflation in spite of anything they can do. It would seem that the dead weight of liabilities makes it impossible to do more than play at deflation.

Very little return of confidence and stimulation of the velocity of circulation will bring prices bounding up again, when I suppose the screw will be put on again and a fresh crisis generated. I fear that the policy of trying to restore the gold standard, as pursued up to the present, will not give us the gold standard, or any kind of stability of prices at all, but very wide movements up and down, each swing dipping perhaps a little lower than the preceding one.

I conclude that the real practical question before us is not really paper or gold, but opportunist management of paper, or a new standard of value, and scientifically regulated currency.

The steps needed to steady the price-level are simple and capable of immediate execution; that is, to unite the Bank of England note issue to the Treasury note issue, and maintain the notes at a fixed purchasing power by regulating the circulation and the Bank rate. Foreign exchanges would continue to follow the purchasing power parities. The actual level of purchasing power selected would require very careful study. I would suggest off-hand the mean between the highest reached and the present level.

It is a terrible thing that men should suffer privation in the midst of potential plenty because of a bad system of book-keeping. I venture to suggest that all those interested in setting up a stable standard of value should arrange to meet together in order to formulate a definite programme.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.

Apollo House, 4 Bunhill row, London, E.C. 1,
June 27th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"World Revolution." By Nesta H. Webster. Constable and Co. 1921. 18s.

MRS WEBSTER in this volume maintains the reputation for brilliance and originality which she has already obtained by her *French Revolution*. This book traces the course of Revolution from the first French Revolution through 1848, the First International, the Paris Commune, and the Bolsheviks to the present day. Each movement is the child of the same parent—secret societies bent on destruction, and using well-intentioned idealists as their unwitting instruments. Originating with the Bavarian "Illuminati" in 1776, the secret revolutionary infection has contaminated Freemasons, trade unions, and Socialists, and has gained additional virulence by intermixture with the Pan-German and Semitic toxins. In spite of Mrs Webster's extensive research and sometimes striking parallels, we confess that our belief in human wickedness and human credulity stops short of the conclusion that a century and a quarter of Revolution can be made by a handful of Nihilists, Anarchists, or lunatics. We cannot agree that Internationalism is a "policy of national suicide" and "only another name for Pan-Germanism." Nor do either Mrs Webster or the Socialists do themselves or anybody else any good by the

common practice of assigning sinister interests as the only possible explanation of views differing from their own.

"Kelly's Directory of Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers of the World." (London) Kelly's Directories, Limited. 64s net.

THESE two volumes contain a concise statistical account of each country, its ports and principal towns, with classified lists of consuls, bankers, merchants, brokers, shipping agents, buyers of British goods, and the manufacturers of goods exported; also the names and addresses of the manufacturers of the United Kingdom, and very carefully arranged lists of exporters and importers. It is stated that this, the 35th edition, involved over 600,000 alterations as to trade references alone. Some idea can be gathered of the magnitude of the work. It is certain that this directory can be used to advantage by every merchant and manufacturer who is capable of handling world trade and is desirous of expanding his business beyond the limits of the British Isles.

Among the important changes relating to foreign countries (additional to those made in last year's edition) are the following:—The towns of Alsace-Lorraine have been arranged in their proper order in the French section. Sections have been opened for Palestine, Syria, and the Kingdom of Hedjaz. What has hitherto been known as the British East Africa Protectorate now appears as Kenya Colony. Russia, unfortunately, still remains out.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Political Economy Club. Founded in London, 1821. Centenary Volume. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 21s net.

Vers le Livre Relevement Economique et Financier de la France. By J. Perchot. *Discours Prononcés au Sénat (1916-1920)*. (Paris) Librairie Félix Alcan.

Capital and Labour. Their Duties and Responsibilities. By Walter Jones, J.P. (London) P. S. King and Son, Limited. 2s 6d.

Economica, May, 1921. No. 2. Issued terminally by the London School of Economics and Political Science. (London) T. Fisher, Unwin, Limited. 2s 6d net.

This issue contains two articles by Professor Bowley, also "Measurement of the Balance of Trade," by Dr C. K. Hobson, and other interesting matter.

Sell's Directory of French and Belgian Firms With Telegraphic Addresses and Telephone Numbers. English-French Indexes to Trades, 1921. (London) Business Dictionaries, Limited, 166 Fleet street.

An interesting example of business enterprise.

Kelly's Directory of Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers of the World, 1921. (London) Kelly's Directories, Limited. In two volumes, £3 4s net.

Agricultural Statistics of India, 1918-19. Vol. 1. (Calcutta) Department of Statistics. 2 rupees.

Year Book of Austria, 1920. From Official Sources. Second Series. (Vienna) Hermann Goldschmidt.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. July 13.	ACCOUNT. July 14.
THE end of the first half of the year finds Stock Exchange markets in a condition of subdued hopefulness. Six months ago expectation ran high of an early reduction in the Bank rate to 6 per cent., an expectation which was fulfilled ten days ago. The intervention of the miners' strike and the rapid decline in trade have led to such restriction of Stock Exchange business as would have seemed almost impossible a year or 18 months ago. Gilt-edged stocks have risen during the six months. Speculative issues have mostly declined. The broad trend of public inclination, so far as investment and speculation are concerned, has been indicated many times in the <i>Economist</i>. Although the miners return to work on Monday, the effect of the coal strike cannot fail to make itself felt upon profit and loss accounts in the early future. And, with the summer season so close at hand, the brightening of the general	

outlook, financially and industrially, has led to very little increase of business in Stock Exchange markets.

Nevertheless, prices are inclined to be firmer, and the Stock Exchange looks forward to better times in the autumn. The gilt-edged market remains strong, and already the optimists discuss the possibility of further reduction in the Bank rate.

New Zealand has come forward as an applicant for five million pounds in 6 per cent. stock at 96, but in spite of this the existing colonial and corporation stocks are mainly better on the week. A feature is provided by the way in which Consols and National War Bonds of all series have advanced. Foreign Government bonds are somewhat jerky. Brazilians continue under a cloud, because of the rate of exchange. French and German bonds are out of favour. Mexicans keep steady, on the possibility of a satisfactory funding scheme, to deal with arrears of interest on the bonds, being propounded in the near future.

Home Railway stocks advanced on the conclusion of the coal strike. The energetic way in which the railway companies are pushing forward preparations to deal with holiday traffic have attracted attention to the stocks, and there has been a little investment buying in the heavy group. The other railway markets have, however, little to boast about. Movements in Argentines are narrow and irregular. Mexicans remain comatose, and in Canadians nothing of fresh interest has happened during the week. Brazilian Rails are flat.

What steadiness there is in the rubber market may be ascribed to the impression that raw rubber cannot possibly go much lower than its present price of 8½d per lb, and that a change for the better may be in sight, owing to the more favourable statistical position shown, for the third time in June, by the deliveries exceeding landings of the produce. Chairmen at various meetings this week, however, have taken a very cautious view of the present position and of the immediate outlook. Amongst oil shares, the postponement by the Mexican Government of the suggested increase of the export tax upon oil led to a recovery in several of the leading shares. Shells remain firm on the eve of the meeting to be held on Monday and the dividend payment to be made on the day following. There is, however, little public business to support the list. A drop in Trinidad Centrals, brought about by disappointment with the dividend, was wiped out by a subsequent rally. The textile list is the firmest amongst industrials. Settlement of the trouble in the cotton trade and the fact that the market, both in London and Manchester, appears to be ill-supplied with shares, brought about a noticeable improvement in the popular issues. The shipping section is quiet, but insurance shares have again responded to a breath of buying from the North. The banking list is not yet affected by the reduction in the Bank rate. There have been minor recoveries in various iron, coal, steel, and armament shares. Other industrials derived a certain amount of benefit from the prospect of differences being composed and of trade, as a whole, settling down to work. Gas stocks are better, as a natural sequel to resumption of work in the coal mines, and in the electrical market one of the few features has been a keen demand for underwriting in the new issue of debenture stock made by the North Metropolitan Electric Power Company.

Brightness has taken the place of depression in the Kaffir Circus. It needed but little support to bring about a fairly general recovery, and when the Cape started to send buying orders in the middle of the week, the list responded promptly. The Randfontein and the Modder groups have been prominent in the movement. Chartered and other Rhodesians attracted a little fresh attention, and the changes in De Beers have been wrought, as usual, by a few handfuls of Paris orders. Russo-Asiatics went ahead, on the issue of the company's report, though the price failed to maintain its full advance, and in the Mexican mining market, Santa Gertrudis 8 per cent. notes have come up from 50 to 56½. Broken Hills are harder, on account, according to market reasoning, of the gradual restoration of peace conditions in the industrial world. West Africans are idle, and no changes of consequence occurred amongst Malayan or Nigerian tin shares, although the Cornish prices hardened.

The Stock Exchange Committee have confirmed their decision to add to the permanent Rules of the House the provision that permission must be obtained from the Committee for all dealings in new issues, except those of the British Government. A meeting of proprietors was held on Thursday, at which the resolutions for reorganisation of the capital of the Stock Exchange were formally confirmed. It may be added that preparations for establishment of the War Memorial in the Stock Exchange are now well advanced, and the work of excavation in Capel court for the erection of the monument itself will probably be started this month.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	123,206,213*	..	..	..
* Adjusted figures.				
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts April 1st to April 30th.....	£	1,602,875		
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
Net Receipts into the Exchequer Week Ended June 30, 1921.				
April 1 to June 30, £2,080,000*	250,000	..	250,000	
* Adjusted figures.				

To the Public—	New Zealand Government.	£5,000,000 6% Inscribed Stock (red. at par 1936-51), issued at 96% (June 28) ..	5,000,000	4,800,000	250,000	4,550,000
Chapman and Sons, Eastbourne, £1, at par ..	60,000	..	60,000	..	6,000	54,000
Do 15,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par (June 28) ..	15,000	..	15,000	..	1,500	13,500
A. W. Gamage, Limited, 150,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par (June 27) ..	150,000	..	150,000	..	18,750	131,250
Redhill Gas Co., £30,000 7½% Red. Stk., at par, red. at par July 1, 1931 (June 29) ..	30,000	..	30,000	..	3,000	27,000
Colne Valley Water, £63,263 7% Deb. Stk., at par, red. at par July 1, 1931 (June 29) ..	63,263	..	63,263	..	6,326	56,937
Amount offered to public.....	5,118,263	..	285,576	..	4,832,687	
Total offered for subscription to date in—						
1921.....	£128,574,476	1920.....	£367,549,656			
1920.....	233,106,282	1919.....	1,036,059,951			
1919.....	391,970,294	1918.....	1,393,381,441			
1918.....	715,566,803	1917.....	1,318,596,010			
1917.....	1,050,646,467	1916.....	585,436,850			
1916.....	296,145,822	1915.....	685,236,326			
1915.....	70,001,376	1914.....	512,522,633			
1914.....	162,951,419	1913.....	196,536,980			

Government of India Rupee Loan.—The Indian Government 1921 Rupee Loan was opened on June 20th, and within the first six days subscriptions in India and in London have exceeded Rs. 16½ crores. The loan, which is in the form of 6 per cent. (free of Indian income-tax) five and ten-year bonds at par, is for an unlimited amount, and remains open until July 30th for cash subscriptions, and later for the conversion of 1921 and 1922 Indian War Bonds.

New Zealand Government £6% Inscribed Stock, 1936-1951.—Issue of £5,000,000 at 96 per cent. The Bank of England are authorised to receive applications for £5,000,000. If not previously redeemed, the stock will be paid off at par at the Bank of England on August 1, 1951, but the Government reserve to themselves the right to redeem the stock at any time on or after August 1, 1936. The New Zealand ordinary revenue and expenditure account has shown a surplus in each year during the war, the accumulations to March 31, 1921, amounting to £23,730,000. Of the accumulated surpluses, a sum of £1,200,000 has been used to increase to over £2,000,000 the gilt-edged securities held under the Reserve Fund Securities Act. Approximately, £3,000,000 of the proceeds of the loan will be applied to the payment of contracts placed in the United Kingdom for the supply of rolling-stock and material required for extension of the railways, for plant required in the development of additional electric power installations, and for equipment for other necessary public works. Interest will be payable half-yearly, on February 1st and August 1st. This is a trustee investment.

Chapman and Sons, Eastbourne, Limited.—Authorised capital, £100,000, divided into 60,000 10 per cent. non-cumulative preference and 40,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each. The present issue consists of all the preference and 15,000 ordinary shares, at par. The company has been formed to acquire the business of garage and motor-coach proprietors carried on by Messrs Chapman and Sons, of Eastbourne. Profits are given for two years. The business, it is stated, expanded rapidly after the Armistice. The purchase price is fixed at £78,421, of which a minimum amount of £20,000 is payable in cash. Goodwill is fixed at £25,000, and is payable in ordinary shares. Valuations of property and motor-coaches have been made by independent people. The prospectus is a reasonably clear statement of affairs. The shares are a speculative risk, but not without merit in their class.

Redhill Gas Company.—Incorporated 1865. Issue of £30,000 7½ per cent. debenture stock at par, to be redeemed at par on July 1, 1931. The total authorised stock capital is £200,000, of which there has been issued £179,500. The authorised loan capital is £68,750, of which £16,150 has already been issued. The net revenue of the company for the year ended December 31, 1920, was £10,919, and as the interest on debenture stock, including that now to be issued, only absorbs £2,896, the issue may be regarded as well secured for interest payments. After due consideration has been paid to the smallness of the issue, these debentures are a sound investment of their type.

The Colne Valley Water Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament in 1873. Issue at par of £63,263 7 per cent. debenture stock, to be redeemed at par on July 1, 1931. The authorised stock capital is £490,000, of which (including premiums) £381,525 has been paid up. The authorised loan capital is £245,000, of which £127,000 has been already issued. The net revenue of the company for the year ended December 31st last was £24,578, while the interest on existing debentures, including those now to be issued, will amount to £11,028. Thus this issue is reasonably well covered. Moreover, the stock is a trustee investment within the meaning of the Trustee Act of 1893. But no mention is made as to a Stock Exchange quotation. With this exception, the issue is a good one.

Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, Limited.—We are officially informed that 76 per cent. of the recent issue by the Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields, Limited (to shareholders of that company and of Lobitos Oilfields, Limited), has been subscribed. The underwriters are thus called on to take up 24 per cent.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.				
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.	
War Loans	3½% 1925-28 .. 87½	88 ..	+	Local Loans 3% .. 53½
Loans	4½% 1925-45 .. 81½	82 ..	+	Aust. 5½% debts. 1922-7 94 .. 94
	5% 1929-47 .. 88	88½ ..	+	Canada 4½% 1920-25 .. 94 .. 94
	4% 1929-42 .. 96	97 ..	+	India 3½% Stock .. 56½ .. 56½
Funding Loan 4% .. 71½	71½ ..	—	—	Do 7% Stock .. 24pm .. 24pm
Victory Bonds 4% .. 77½	77½ ..	—	—	N.S.W. 5½% 1922-27 .. 93 .. 93
Conversion Loan 3½% .. 62½	63 ..	—	—	U.S.A. 4½% 1925-28 .. 93 .. 93
Consols 2½% .. 46	46½ ..	+	+	Victoria 5½% 1924-34 .. 94 .. 94
Irish Land Stock 2½% .. 48	49 ..	+	+	
Banks.				
Barclays B. (£1 f.p.d.)	2½ .. 2½	..	..	Nat. Bank of Egypt 17½ .. 17½
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½ .. 2½	..	..	(£10)
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £24 paid)	6½ .. 6½	..	..	Nat. Bank of S. Africa 11½ .. 11½
London County West. minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14½ .. 14½	..	..	(£10)
Colonial and Foreign Railways.				
Antofagasta Cons.	51 .. 47½	..	..	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 12½ .. 12½
B. A. & Pacific	36 .. 36½	..	+	Leopoldina
B. A. Gt. Southern ..	53 .. 53	..	..	Mexican Railway .. 16 .. 15½
Buenos Ayres West. ..	53 .. 53	..	..	Do 1st Pref. .. 36 .. 36
Canadian Pacific	139 .. 146½	..	+	Do 2nd Pref. .. 26 .. 26
Central Argentine ..	48½ .. 48	..	—	San Paulo
Grand Trunk Ord.	4½ .. 4½	..	..	United Havana .. 61 .. 61
American Railroads.				
Chesapeake & Ohio ..	61½ .. 71	..	+	Southern
Erie	16½ .. 17	..	+	Do Non-cum Pref. .. 56 .. 56
Do 4% 1st Pref.	24 .. 25	..	+	
Foreign Government Securities.				
Argentine 5% 1886-7 ..	93 .. 92½	..	—	Italian 3½% Rentes .. 27½ .. 26
Belgian	58½ .. 60	..	+	Greek Monopoly 4% .. 37½ .. 38
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914 ..	55 .. 54	..	—	Japanese 4½% .. 115 .. 115
Chilian 4½% 1895 ..	63 .. 64	..	+	Do 4% 1910 .. 61½ .. 59½
Chinese 5% 1912 ..	68 .. 68½	..	+	Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 53 .. 53½
Egyptian 4%	61 .. 62	..	+	Peruvian Corp. Pref. .. 17½ .. 16½
French 5%	42 .. 43	..	+	Russian 5% 1906 .. 14½ .. 14½
Do 4%	33 .. 34	..	+	Spanish 4% .. 70½ .. 69½
Telegraphs.				
Anglo-American "A" 17 ..	168 .. 168	..	..	Marconi Canada .. 1½ .. 1½
Eastern Telegraph .. 164½ ..	164½ ..	..	..	Marconi Marine .. 1½ .. 1½
Marconi Wireless .. 2½ ..	2½ ..	..	..	
British Railways.				
Great Central Pref.	10 .. 9½	..	—	L. and N.W. .. 69½ .. 70
Great Eastern	27½ .. 27	..	—	L. & S. Western, Def. 18½ .. 21
Great Northern Def. ..	26 .. 26	..	..	Metropolitan .. 25½ .. 26
Great Western	64½ .. 66	..	+	Metropolitan District 18½ .. 18
Launce and Yorks.	49 .. 50	..	+	Midland Deferred .. 42 .. 45
London, Brighton, "A" ..	40 .. 40	..	..	North British Def. .. 11½ .. 11½
London, Chatham	54 .. 54	..	..	North-Eastern .. 71 .. 71
Do Arb. Pref.	40 .. 39	..	—	South-Eastern "A" .. 21 .. 22
Miscellaneous.				
Aerated Bread (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Lipton (£1)
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) ..	16/9 .. 18/6	..	+	Lister (£1)
Ass. Plind. Cement (£1) ..	19/3 .. 20/9	..	+	Lobitos Oilfields (£1) .. 4½ .. 4½
B'ham Small Arms (£1) ..	10/6 .. 10/6	..	..	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) 2½ .. 2½
Brazil Traction (\$100) ..	30½ .. 31½	..	+	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 4½ .. 4½
British American Tobacco (£1) ..	3½ .. 3½	..	..	Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 5½ .. 5½
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	1 .. 1	..	..	North Caucasian (10) .. 8½ .. 8½
Burmah Oil (£1)	6½ .. 6½	..	..	Pekin (20)
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) ..	2½ .. 2½	..	..	Rubber Plantations ..
Courtaulds (£1)	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Investment (£1) ..
Cunard (£1)	4½ .. 4½	..	..	Shell Transport (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½
Dorman, Long (£1) ..	4½ .. 4½	..	..	Smithfield & Argentine ..
Dunlop Rubber (£1) ..	4½ .. 4½	..	..	Meat (£1)
Forestal Land (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Underground Electric (£10) .. 2½ .. 2½
Furness, Withy (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Do "A" (10)
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) 80½ .. 82
Hudson's Bay (£1) ..	6½ .. 6½	..	..	United Serdang (20) .. 4½ .. 4½
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	2½ .. 2½	..	..	United Tobacco (£1) .. 4½ .. 5
Int'l. Nat'l. Paint (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Ural Caspian (£1) ..
Linggi Plantins (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Vallambrosa (20) ..
				Vickers (£1)
				Watney Def. Stk.
Mining.				
Brakpan (£1)	2½ .. 2½	..	..	Knights
Broken Hill Prop. (8) ..	1½ .. 2	..	+	Modderfontein (10) .. 3½ .. 3½
Chartered (£1)	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Modderfont. "B" (5) .. 1½ .. 1½
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Modderfont. Deep (5) .. 4½ .. 4½
Crown Mines (10) ..	1½ .. 1½	..	..	Premier Def. (20) .. 2½ .. 2½
De Beers Def. (£2½) ..	2½ .. 10½	..	+	Rand Mines (50) .. 2½ .. 2½
East Rand Prop. (£1) ..	2½ .. 2½	..	..	Rio Tinto (£5) .. 24 .. 30½
Geduld (£1)	2½ .. 2½	..	..	Spring Mines (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) ..	4 .. 4½	..	+	

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

CONTINUED GROWTH.

LARGER AVERAGE SUMS ASSURED.

The seventy-second ordinary general meeting of the Gresham Life Assurance Society, Limited, was held, on June 30th, at the chief office, St Mildred's House, Poultry, London, E.C., Sir Reginald Macleod, K.C.B. (the deputy-chairman), presiding.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—I beg to move: "That the Directors' and auditors' reports be approved and adopted." Exactly a year ago to-day the chairman welcomed you to our annual meeting with an assurance of the continued growth and progress of the society. I deeply regret that he is not now with us, and that we are thus deprived of the annual survey, in his hands of unrivalled experience, not only of our own position, but of the world condition as it affects assurance. Sir Charles Hanson is suffering the penalty of over-strain from over-devotion to his many duties, and I can assure you that his enforced absence to-day is a cause of great disappointment to him, as it is, I am sure, to you and to the board, and most particularly to myself. He has been chairman of the society for 13 years, and this is the first occasion that he has been unable to preside at the annual meeting. The reports of his progress are favourable, and I hope that he will soon be among us again in renewed vigour.

PROGRESS OF THE BUSINESS.

The business of the society continues to expand. 6,711 policies have been issued assuring an amount of £4,354,000, as compared with 6,029 assuring £3,524,000. The policies are both more numerous and for larger amounts, the increase in number being 11 per cent. and in total sums assured 23 per cent. This volume of business, testifying as it does to the great confidence inspired by the name of the "Gresham" in all the countries where we continue to do business, is the more encouraging, since, as you are aware, no new business is undertaken in Austria and Hungary—countries which used to be among the most important on our list. It is interesting to observe that in the last year before the war—1913, which was very prosperous, and when these branches were in full activity—the sum assured was £2,426,000, the present increase from that date being 79 per cent. Indeed, 1920 has established a record for the "Gresham," which is now in its 72nd year. The premiums for new assurances have been £193,000, as compared with £162,000 in 1919 and £107,700 for 1913. The sum of £89,000 has been received as consideration for annuities, and does not differ materially from the figure for 1919.

SOCIETY'S INCOME.

The income of the society reached a total of £1,526,000, a reduction of £38,000 on last year. This fall is due to the fact that in 1919 we brought into account some arrears of premiums from previous years. But for this item the revenue in 1920 would have exceeded that of the previous year. The death claims amount to £460,000, being £50,000 less than the sum required last year, when the figure was swollen by the deferred notification of deaths which had occurred during the years of war. The claims are now normal and are within the actuarial expectation. The payments under matured endowment assurances amounted to the large sum of £551,000, as compared with £518,000 the previous year. I may remind you that, while the maturity of endowment policies leaves a void requiring to be filled by new business, every such policy has meant a profit to the society. On the debit side of the first schedule you will notice a sum of £153,000 entered under the heading of surrenders, this being more than treble the figure of 1919. This involves no loss to the society. Policies had been maintained in being under moratoria established in various countries. It has now been possible to cancel such policies as were not renewed by the payment of due premiums, and the outstanding premiums were fully covered by the values of such policies.

RATIO OF EXPENSES TO PREMIUM INCOME.

It will be noticed that the ratio of expenses to the premium income on the present occasion has reached a very high figure, owing

to reasons which are briefly stated in the report. With regard to the effect upon this ratio of the abnormally large amount of new business transacted during the year it is universally recognised that a considerable part of the expenses of a life assurance company is directly attributable to the acquisition of new business, and this is especially the case when a company is operating abroad, where it is customary to remunerate the agent mainly by payment of a comparatively high rate of commission upon the first premium. It is estimated that in the accounts now under notice more than one-half of the total expenses is attributable to the "procurement" of new business, and a return to a normal rate of production would therefore automatically reduce the expense ratio. The general rise in prices is a matter of common, not to say painful, experience. This rise is naturally greatest in those countries in which the currency shows the greatest depreciation. The abnormal costs in such countries are responsible for an appreciable part of the rise in our expense ratio. The policyholders and shareholders may rest assured that everything is being done to reduce expenditure, the present high level of which can only be regarded as a passing and transitory phase in the society's history.

INCREASED RATE OF INTEREST.

The rate of interest earned upon the society's funds is at the rate of £4 5s per cent. after deducting income-tax, and the improvement of no less than 3s 7d per cent. upon the figure of 1919 is highly gratifying. It means an additional profit to the society of over £17,000 a year. You will see on reference to the note to the balance-sheet that foreign currencies have again been converted into sterling at pre-war rates. No other course is for the present possible, but the inconvenience is fully realised, and the earliest opportunity will be taken to remove, or at least reduce, the anomaly. Meanwhile, I repeat the assurance given by the Chairman last year that our assets and liabilities are affected in an equal degree, and the position of the society is in no way prejudiced. As to the year now half run, the slackness of trade and many industrial upheavals have for the time involved some slackening of activity. I believe this is an almost universal experience, but our business interests are so widely spread as to lessen to a great extent the effect of local conditions.

From what I have said you will appreciate that the work of this society requires, and I can assure you it receives, the most loyal and constant attention of the officers and staff. It is a much more exacting business than in the case of a life office pursuing the even tenor of its way in dealing with British business alone; negotiations have frequently to be undertaken in foreign countries and with Government Departments at home and abroad. In Mr Lawson, the general manager and secretary, you have a very able and devoted servant. The actuary, Mr Harry Bearman, possesses our entire confidence, and from the assistant manager, Mr Savery, Mr Lawson has loyal and indefatigable support.

THE FUTURE.

With regard to the future, such is the vitality of the society that the cessation of business in ex-enemy countries in no way impairs our strength. We rely more and more upon our home branches, as well as upon those we have established in the Dominions and in India. In France, Egypt, Spain and in other European countries the demand for our policies is gratifying evidence of the confidence entertained in our society, which has taken a leading part in the introduction of life assurance. In foreign lands, although such business entails certain difficulties, among others a greater apparent expense ratio, it has compensating advantages, and undoubtedly adds to the strength of the society. It is with complete confidence that I recommend this report for your adoption.

Mr Courtney C. S. Fooks seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors, Mr C. C. Macrae, Mr Courtenay C. S. Fooks and Mr Charles H. Beadnell were re-elected.

On the motion of the Chairman, the Right Hon. Lord Southborough, G.C.B., was elected a director of the society.

The proceedings then terminated.

HEAD OFFICES. LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.
ROYAL
 INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
 ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

FORESTAL LAND, TIMBER, AND RAILWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION.

COMPANY EXTENDING ITS FIELD OF ENTERPRISE.

QUEBRACHO MARKET—LABOUR IN THE ARGENTINE.

The fifteenth ordinary general meeting of the Forestal Land, Timber, and Railways Company, Limited, was held, on the 30th ultimo, at Rixter Plate House, Finsbury circus, London.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Lawley, G.C.S.I. (the chairman), presided. Mr O. J. Buxton (secretary and London manager) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Turning to the balance-sheet, I will briefly explain the figures and compare them with those relating to the year 1919. The capital issued now includes the whole of the new issue, and the participating rights of the preference shares are now eliminated.

The item for debentures outstanding is due to the failure, for various reasons, of holders of bonds to present them for payment. In course of time these will be redeemed. You will notice the depreciation account stands at a lower figure than in last year's balance-sheet. This is due to the fact that £190,554 had been written off the Estancia assets by way of depreciation during past years; and the Estancia business now having been sold, at a price substantially in excess of the book value, the sum of £190,554 has been taken out of the depreciation account and become part of the profit made on the Estancia business. Our reserve account has now attained to the substantial figure of £1,849,338, after writing off all the costs of the recent reorganisation of capital and redemption at a premium of 2½ per cent. of our two series of debentures. The statement of the realisation of Estancia and other assets speaks for itself.

ESTANCIA SALE PROFITS.

In comparing the properties and assets figures for 1919 with those for 1920, it may be asked why the figures for freehold lands, &c., for 1920 are not much smaller than they are, regard being had to the very large amount realised by the Estancia sale; but it has to be remembered that all the assets sold were not included in the first figure on the assets side of the balance-sheet, but were distributed among the succeeding items, such as holdings in associated companies, livestock, stocks of stores, and sundry debit balances. The whole of the assets sold were valued in our books, after deducting the depreciation above mentioned, at £1,578,040, and, having been sold for £2,500,000 odd, will leave a profit of £924,510. Your directors have decided not to deal with this item this year, but to leave it over for treatment in future balance-sheets. In allocating the profit and loss balance of £938,886, as set out in the balance-sheet and report, we found it advisable to set aside to taxation reserve £300,000. It is a large amount, but you will not have forgotten that income-tax for the year 1920 is based on the average of the profits for the years 1917, 1918, and 1919, and we had to provide a substantial reserve. Coming to the properties and assets side of the balance-sheet, a few comments are necessary. The first item, freehold lands, &c., is less than last year by reason of the sale of the Estancia assets included formerly, but includes £197,438 due to capital expenditure during the year on railways and factory plant and buildings.

Holdings in associated undertakings, which are valued at cost, now include our interest in the Natal Tanning Extract Company, amounting at the date of the balance-sheet to £356,000, but our holding in the Development Company of Santa Fé has, of course, been taken out. Livestock is down from £569,657 to £161,444, due to the sale of Estancia cattle. The item now remaining represents the value of our cattle at Las Camas and La Aurora for our own use and for sale in our stores. Our stocks of extracts and felled timber are largely in excess of the figures of last year, owing to the trade depression, but they have been valued at or below cost, and a substantial portion has now been realised. Stocks of stores and materials are up £90,000 on the 1919 figure, due largely to the greatly increased cost of purchases in 1920. Sundry debit balances are considerably less than last year, and are all realisable.

It will be noticed that about half of the amount due from purchases of our Estancia business was received during the year. Bills are held to cover the balance, and £351,000 has been received

on account of these since the date of the balance-sheet. War loans and bonds are all at market value on the date of the balance-sheet. Other investments include local Argentine Government bonds at the nearest valuation possible.

QUEBRACHO MARKET.

Standing on this platform 12 months ago, I was able to say that the market for quebracho extract was constant, and prices for the manufactured article were higher than in the previous year. Within a very few weeks a dense cloud of depression descended on the industrial world and has not yet lifted. The depression was universal and world-wide. The tanning industry shared the same fate as other industries, and, with the greatly diminished activity in the leather market, the demand for quebracho extract was correspondingly greatly reduced. In the first eight months of 1920 our sales were maintained in goodly quantities and at satisfactory prices. In the concluding months of the year the tonnage sold was very small and at prices lower than in the earlier months preceding. During the same period conditions in the Argentine changed adversely from the company's point of view. Unrest in the labour world prevailed throughout the Republic. Strikes and rumours of strikes were constant in our factories, as well as among the dock labourers in Buenos Aires and at Santa Fé.

It is no exaggeration to say that from week to week and from month to month the members of our staff went literally with their lives in their hands. In spite of the dangers and difficulties by which the members of the staff were confronted, the tally of work done was remarkably good, the output was maintained at a high level, and this, in my opinion, does infinite credit to all concerned, and places the shareholders under a great obligation to the staff for the courage and loyalty with which the latter safeguarded their interests.

LABOUR AND COST OF PRODUCTION.

At the beginning of the year the eight-hour day came into practice, and, while the hours of labour were thus reduced there was an increase in the rate of wages. It would have been impossible for the company to have resisted successfully the demand for such an increase at such a time. At the same time we have endeavoured to increase the amenities of life for our staff and workmen. So it has come about that, while the price of our manufactured article has fallen, there has been a steady and inevitable rise in the cost of production. The accumulation in our stores of quebracho extract has been so great and the demand so limited that we resolved to close down all our factories. The present moment is opportune for a complete overhaul of our factories, so that when once again our existing stocks have to be replenished we shall enter into competition with other manufacturers with the comfortable assurance that in the forests, in the wood depôts, and in the factories the organisation and the mechanical equipment shall be as economical and efficient as human labour and skill can make them.

During the year under review we acquired large and valuable interests in certain wattle plantations and factories for the production of wattle or mimosa tanning extract in Natal. Advantage has been taken of the condition of commercial paralysis, which we confidently hope is only a temporary condition, to put our house in order, to overhaul, to clean up, and to equip all the factories in South Africa, so that when the present dark days of depression are ended we may be ready to go full steam ahead on a rising market.

ORGANISATION STRENGTHENED.

Our industrial organisation has been further strengthened by the inclusion in the sphere of our activities of Messrs Fontana's factory at Resistancia, in South America, as well as an interest in Messrs Brillas Pagans and Co.'s factory in Barcelona. You will see, therefore, that we are looking to a wider horizon and an extended field of industrial enterprise, so that we may be in a position to take the fullest possible advantage of the revival of trade which is certain, sooner or later, to come along. Meanwhile, the necessity of a reduced dividend will be evident to our shareholders, and I can assure you that to your directors it is a great disappointment that such a necessity should have arisen. When, however, we look around and see how other industrial undertakings have fared in the same period, and when we take into consideration the strength of our reserves, we find material comfort so far as the past is concerned, while as to the future, all our energies will be devoted to perfecting our organisation so as to produce at as low a cost as possible extract of the highest quality.

TRADE CONDITIONS OF THE CURRENT YEAR.

I would like to say a word or two as to the trade conditions of the current year. At its commencement we deemed it wise to liquidate a portion, at all events, of our very large stocks at prices which hardly show any margin of profit. We hope by this policy we have helped to keep running the wheels of the tanning industry and to revive trade. Latterly, demand for extract has consider-

ably increased, and prices have somewhat improved. We hope that they will soar still higher, but it is only right that I should impress upon you the necessity of patience, and warn you that the results of this year's trade must inevitably be adversely affected by the world-wide depression and paralysis of trade. At the same time, I say—and say emphatically—that we have every confidence that we shall surmount our present difficulties, and in the future achieve success fully comparable with the success which we have achieved in years gone by. I have only to add that we are all of us greatly indebted to the members of the local board and our officials in Buenos Aires for their valuable co-operation in carrying on the business of the company in the face of serious difficulties.

BARON D'ERLANGER'S SPEECH.

Baron Emile B. d'Erlanger (vice-chairman), in seconding the motion, said that in these troubled times shareholders might not be indifferent to hear from one who had been connected with the company since its inception, and one who looked upon this financial enterprise as his fondest child, what were the difficulties they had had to meet, and what were the difficulties which they still had to contend with, how they intended to cope with them, and upon what rested their absolute confidence that those difficulties would be temporary and would be overcome. He would like to preface his remarks by stating that the difficulties of the company were in common with those of every industrial enterprise, almost without exception, all over the world. He thought they could esteem themselves more than fortunate in comparison with nine-tenths of industrial enterprises. In the first place, their financial situation was not only strong, but sound. That was an assertion which could not and ought not to be lightly made, and therefore he proposed to review the figures of the balance-sheet which had been submitted to them by the chairman. If they would delete, for the moment, the first two items, fixed assets and sundry investments, it would be found that the rest of their assets, which were all liquid assets—and he insisted upon the word "liquid"—amounted to £6,586,000. On the other hand, if shareholders looked on the other side of the balance-sheet and read it in conjunction with the report, it would be seen that £300,000 had been set aside for income-tax reserve. Also, they must take into consideration the amount which had to be paid to the shareholders by way of dividends. Further, if they excluded from the debit side of the balance-sheet the items owing, and which, therefore, should not enter into the calculation, it would be found that their total liabilities to third parties amounted to £2,507,000.

LIQUID ASSETS.

Therefore, the total balance of liquid assets over liabilities to third parties amounted to no less than £4,078,000. What did that mean? It meant that the first two items which he had asked them to delete from their present calculations would have to sell for the ridiculously small sum of £1,072,000 to give shareholders back the whole of the capital at the par value of the company. Those two items, fixed assets and sundry investments, stood in their books respectively at £4,036,000 and £978,000, or a total of £5,114,000. Against that sum they had accumulated a depreciation of £1,053,000 and £1,849,000 of reserve. He ventured to state, with an experience of over 12 years in the company and a knowledge of the assets which they had, that if they tried to-day, notwithstanding the world-crisis, they could not replace those fixed assets for the £5,114,000. Consequently, it would be seen that the total assets of the company—liquid and fixed—amounted to no less a figure than £9,294,000, and after deducting the preference capital, which amounted to £1,545,852, a balance of £7,548,367 would be left for the ordinary shareholders—a value of over £2 per share. He had made those calculations to show the shareholders that the depreciated value of their shares to-day was due to the general conditions of the world, to the trade depression, and to the appreciation in the yield expected from securities of every kind. He considered, and he hoped he was right, that this trade depression and this high yielding of value of money were both more or less of a temporary nature. He would now ask the meeting to review the situation which existed in the early days of the war—in the year 1915. At that time there was such an enormous demand for leather, and consequently such an enormous demand for tanning materials, that the price of quebracho rose not only in comparison with itself, but in comparison with all other tanning materials that competed with it or which were used in conjunction with it. Therefore, the whole efforts, the whole mind of the board and the staff in the Argentine, were centralised upon producing the greatest quantity of extract possible, in order to meet the demand of the armies in the field. Almost every ingredient which was required in the manufacture of extract rose, and provision had to be made accordingly. As the exceptional demand lasted a considerable time after the war, costs rose to a very high level indeed. Then, drastically and suddenly, the slump occurred in the leather market, as in all other commodi-

ties required to meet the needs of the world. He could, however, assure the shareholders that the board were seeking every means by which they could reduce the costs of every factor that entered into the charges of manufacturing extract.

COMPANY READY FOR TRADE REVIVAL.

He would like to state that, from the point of view of an industrial company making tanning extracts, the Forestal Land rested to-day on a much stronger and sounder basis than ever before. They could produce a greater quantity of material and sell a greater quantity of material than they had ever been able to do before. In his opinion—and he believed that opinion was shared by his colleagues on the board—when the great depression in trade was past, when they had put all their factories in the best possible condition, they ought, with a reasonable margin between cost price and selling price, which they were sure to obtain, and the vast quantity of material which they would be in a position to sell, to be able to make profits at least equal, if not superior, to what they had done before. He thought that there was every reason to congratulate themselves upon what had already been achieved, and if in the future they could maintain that record, he considered they ought to be satisfied.

The resolution was passed unanimously, and the formal business having been transacted, a vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff terminated the proceedings.

BANQUE DE LA SEINE.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—INCREASED PROFITS.

The general meeting of shareholders of the Banque de la Seine was held on the 17th ult., under the chairmanship of M. Léon Pissard, chairman of the board of directors. Sir Basil Zaharoff and M. Verdé Delisle, the two largest shareholders present, acted in the capacity of scrutators. The accounts submitted to the meeting show that the net profits for the financial year 1920 amounted to 4,060,008.02 francs, as against 828,235.25 francs in 1919. After placing the sum of one million francs to reserve, the profits available for distribution are 3,060,008.02 francs. The dividend on the shares has been fixed at 35 francs per share, i.e., 7 per cent.

The figures in the balance-sheet at December 31, 1920, total 185,459,107 francs, as against 95,319,639 francs in 1919.

The amount of bills discounted and Bons de la Défense Nationale has increased from 14,865,369 francs in 1919 to 38,882,966 francs in 1920; correspondents from 6,044,811 to 26,710,682 francs; advances and loans from 6,671,897 francs to 28,801,416 francs; financial participations from 1,534,117 francs to 6,787,480 francs; stocks and shares (which include a very large proportion of liquid securities) from 6,723,420 francs to 7,745,386 francs.

On the debit side, the total of deposits and creditors has increased from 61,872,132 francs in 1919 to 112,730,241 francs in 1920. Of this latter figure, deposits at short notice and current accounts amount to 44,020,888 francs, which is considerably less than the liquid assets, which consist of cash in hand and at bankers, liquid securities and Bons de la Défense Nationale, and balances with correspondents.

The Chairman's speech showed that on June 3, 1921, the deposits at short notice and current accounts at short and longer notice amounted to 55,200,000 francs, as against liquid assets of 63,700,000 francs. At the same date securities stood at 6,383,000 francs, financial participations at 6,562,000 francs, and financial syndicates at 8,256,000 francs.

MEXICAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

LARGE INCREASE IN TRAFFIC RECEIPTS.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN MEXICO.

The 112th ordinary general meeting of the Mexican Railway Company, Limited, was held, on the 29th ultimo, at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, Mr Vincent W. Yorke (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr C. Tennant) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that it was a matter of satisfaction to them to be able to present a report dealing with the actual working of the railway and accounts dealing with money earned. The increase in gross receipts, over 7,000,000 pesos, as compared with just under 5,000,000 for the last half-year that could be usefully compared, namely, July-December, 1913, was most striking and gratifying. All classes of traffic showed a substantial increase with the exception of foreign goods. That falling off was really due to want of motive power.

The increase in passenger traffic was really the most remarkable feature of the whole report. The money earned was £471,000 more than in the corresponding half of 1913, while the number of pas-

sengers had increased by no less than 380,000, an increase of no less than 40 per cent. That large increase in passenger traffic had been obtained in spite of considerably less facilities for travel being offered to the public. To his mind, it was convincing evidence of the great prosperity of the country. Express earnings also showed a remarkable rise. Goods traffic had been extremely heavy, the total paying goods having increased by over 25,000 tons, and the receipts by \$890,000. Local traffic had been good, but the principal feature was the large increase in petroleum and fuel oil.

Expenses, unfortunately, had increased to a greater extent than the receipts, roughly speaking, by \$3,000,000, as against \$2,000,000. In addition to the large increase in salaries and wages and the higher cost of all railway material, increased expenses had been incurred in making good the serious damage of the revolutionary period. The working of the property during the half-year had been a difficult matter. The amount of traffic to deal with had been vastly in excess of any previous half-year, and the equipment with which to handle it had been so depleted as to prove quite inadequate to cope with it. It had been found possible to increase the passenger kilometrage and the goods kilometrage by 32 per cent., as compared with 1913. Several serious strikes had added much to the difficulty of operation.

The financial results of the half-year, in view of the great difficulties under which the line had been worked, should be considered satisfactory. Though the net earnings had only produced £147,000, the premium obtained on remittances owing to the high value of the peso had brought them up to over £200,000.

RESULTS OF THE CURRENT HALF-YEAR.

As regards the working of the current half-year, they had made a most promising start, and the results obtained prior to March 1st had been a great improvement on the preceding half-year. The work of renewing the equipment and improving the service was proceeding well. Unfortunately, a strike had broken out on March 1st, and had lasted until April 24th, which had had the effect of curtailing their earnings and increasing their expenses. During the last four or five weeks since the strike ended the traffics had been extraordinarily good, and if labour troubles abated he saw no reason why they should not continue so.

A cable just received indicated that there were prospects of very heavy traffic over the line, and the only doubt in his mind was whether they would be able to carry it.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO MEXICO.

On his recent visit to Mexico he had been agreeably surprised with the state in which he found the property to be. Much work remained to be done, but, given normal conditions and if funds were available, it should be a very good property again in two years' time. As regarded the economical condition of the Republic, he had been agreeably surprised. The City of Mexico had made on him a far more favourable impression than on any of his previous visits.

Prosperity was apparent in every direction, the population had largely increased, there had been a great uplifting of the lower classes, wages were high, employment was abundant, and the value of property was very high. What he had seen in Mexico City was also true of the two large cities which the railway served—Puebla and Vera Cruz. Investigation had proved that there was a real solid background to what might have been only superficial indications. In the first place the replacement of a paper by a gold and silver currency had made an extraordinary difference to economic conditions. In spite of the bad services given by the railways and the frequency with which strikes had occurred, trade was very active, and most traders were willing to admit that they had rarely done so well as recently.

On the other hand, the state of the outlying districts was not so satisfactory. Farms and sugar plantations had suffered very seriously by the revolutions, and in many parts of the country confidence had not been restored. In most places the mines were working to their full capacity, and the output of silver was very little short of the best figures recorded. The public revenue was estimated at over 250 million pesos, or nearly 2½ times the highest revenue obtained in any year by the Government of General Diaz. On the other hand, public expenditure in every direction was very high.

The situation of the public finances was to him full of hope. There was a genuine desire, he believed, among those in power to cut the coat according to the cloth, and though a firm hand would be needed, there appeared to be plenty of margin, under careful administration, to provide for the payment of the various indemnities owing and the regular service of the external and the internal debt, and to do so without recourse to a loan. He had formed a very favourable impression of the new Government of President Obregon. Though they had been but a short time in office, they had met with remarkable success in restoring order to the country. There were no organised forces in any part of the vast Republic operating against the Government, and the only

outbreaks that were taking place were in the nature of pure brigandage.

With regard to the question of the payment of the indemnity and the raising of the rates, he had not been successful in obtaining any definite promise with regard to either question. Some progress has since been made by their general manager, who informed them that the increase in rates had been agreed to by President Obregon, but awaited the sanction of an executive department. There had always been an excellent feeling between the Mexican Government and the Mexican Railway, and he by no means despaired of a favourable issue being reached. It was obvious to him that uppermost in the minds of Mexican Ministers was the fact that their Government had not been recognised by H.M. Government. That grievance was not against our Government only, but against those of the U.S.A. and France.

RECOGNITION OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

Recognition by those three Governments would mean a great deal to those in power in Mexico. In his opinion, anything that would add to the strength of the present Mexican Government was most desirable from the point of view of the company. The question was really also one of great public importance to France and Great Britain, who had both been financially crippled by the war. Of the £750,000,000 foreign capital invested in Mexico, £250,000,000 belonged to France and £250,000,000 to Great Britain. Approximately a return of £10,000,000 sterling came annually to this country, and £10,000,000 to France from those investments, and that income at the present time had almost vanished. In August 1914, the Mexican peso was a piece of paper with the value of 1s 1d in English, and 1.35 francs in French currency. At the present time the peso was of gold or silver, and was worth 2s 8d, more than double in English, and six francs, nearly four times, in French currency.

Therefore, while France and England had suffered cruelly in the value of their currency, Mexico had, in spite of the revolution, added enormously to the value of hers, and any payments received from that country were not only much magnified by the present rate of exchange, but in themselves helped to put exchange right. To look at the matter in another light, the capital of the Mexican Railways represented less than 5 per cent. of the total of British investments in Mexico, but the receipt of the indemnity owing by the Mexican Government, together with other amounts owing for income-tax by the company, would mean a payment of no less than £650,000 to H.M. Government by way of income-tax. To sum the matter up, he believed that the Mexican Government was not only willing but able to pay its debts within a reasonable time, but they looked for recognition. To refuse recognition until debts were paid was to him to enter on a vicious circle, which, by obstinacy on both sides, might last for an indefinite time. So obsessed had he been with the justice of the case that since his return from Mexico he had never ceased for one day to endeavour to form a body of public opinion in the City in favour of recognition, and he had every reason for believing that in a very few days a petition, signed by really representative and influential firms and persons, would be presented to H.M. Foreign Office pleading for their most earnest consideration of the matter.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business transacted.

ANTOFAGASTA (CHILI) AND BOLIVIA RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—LARGE INCREASE IN GROSS RECEIPTS.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC AS TO COMPANY'S FUTURE.

The thirty-third ordinary general meeting of the Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway Company, Limited, was held on the 28th ultimo, at Winchester House, London, the Hon. Charles N. Lawrence (the chairman) presiding.

Mr A. W. Bolden (managing director and secretary) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the directors had to record a very good traffic year to December 31st last, but the company had before it, he was afraid, the prospect of a poor succeeding 12 months, somewhat similar to the results for 1919. The nitrate industry certainly seemed to suffer from time to time through the fluctuations of fortune, and whereas in 1920, and particularly in the early part of the year, there was a boom in nitrate, they were at present faced with a slump in the industry. The gross receipts for the past year were excellent, totalling £2,370,079 from the combined undertaking of the railway and waterworks, or 76.01 per cent. increase on the gross receipts of the previous year. Practically all classes of traffic gave increases very much greater than for 1919, but they had to remember that that was a very poor year. The amount of nitrate carried in 1920 was 1,013,491 tons, or nearly four and a-half times what they handled in 1919. The shipping results were also considerably improved, again on account of the greater production of nitrate,

while the receipts from the waterworks undertaking were £140,140, as compared with £119,700 in 1919.

All this, of course, was a bright picture, but it was marred somewhat by the fact that the total working expenses were 68.14 per cent. of the gross receipts, as compared with 65.48 per cent. With the amount brought forward they had a total of £1,115,131 to deal with, and the directors recommended a final dividend on the consolidated ordinary stock of 4 per cent., making a total of 7 per cent. for the year, and that £285,706 be carried forward.

CORPORATION PROFITS TAX.

Referring to the corporation profits tax, he contended that it was an unfair tax, as it penalised holders of ordinary or deferred stock in limited liability companies, as compared with those who derived their income from other sources. He wished our legislators would seriously and definitely decide that this burden of taxation should be removed, and that quickly, and that expenditure should not be guided by what was merely desirable, but by what the country's revenue could bear. Capital expenditure had still been kept to as low a limit as possible, but the company's lines of railway, like others in growing countries, were constantly having to be added to in some form or other, and a railway's capital account might be closed in theory, but it could never be in practice. Certain increases in tariffs had been authorised by the Chilean Government in order to compensate the company in some measure for the higher wages bills which they had incurred, as well as to meet the other growing expenditure, but it had yet to be seen whether they were sufficient. As to Bolivia, they were taking all steps open to them in order to obtain an increase, but so far they had not had any increase whatever over pre-war rates. With regard to the outlook, at the moment they were faced with the problem of the nitrate industry being at a low ebb. Things were bound to recover, but it was a question of time. As improvement occurred he had faith that nitrate would be one of the things which would be required first, because agriculturists who had used it in the past were only waiting their ability to purchase it again.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

BARCLAY, PERKINS AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS AND PROMISES.

The twenty-sixth ordinary general meeting of Barclay, Perkins, and Co., Limited, was held, on the 27th ultimo, at Cannon street Hotel, London, Mr E. W. Giffard (chairman and managing director) presiding.

The secretary (Mr E. P. Pullar, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that this was the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the company, and, on the whole, the directors could congratulate the shareholders on a satisfactory report. They had had a very difficult year to contend with. It was true that some of the restrictions imposed by the Control Board and the Ministry of Food had been slightly relaxed, but, on the other hand, others remained in force, and, in particular, the restrictions on gravity and on the retail price of beer, both of which were great handicaps to their business. There had been a strong movement in the House of Commons to get rid of the Control Board, and upwards of 170 members had requested the Government for time to move resolutions to do away with it, but the Government had refused to grant time.

He proceeded to read extracts from speeches made by the Prime Minister when introducing the Bill for the Control Board in 1915, in which Mr Lloyd George said that the measure was a purely war measure, and that the Bill was a temporary one. He (the Chairman) could not help thinking that in the business world, if anybody gave those pledges and did not keep them, they would not be looked upon—well, as good business people. Few of them wished to return absolutely to pre-war conditions, as they recognised that improvements in certain directions were desirable. Sometimes he could not help wondering whether promises of that sort, made but not kept, were not the cause of the great discontent in the country at the present time, and which they saw voiced at recent elections. He thought that the people felt that the promises of the Government were not always sincere, and in this case they had reason to think so.

THE ACCOUNTS.

With regard to the accounts, the profits added to the balance from the previous year gave a total of £316,567. Debenture interest and interim dividends on preference and ordinary shares had been paid, and they recommended the payment of 4s per share free of tax on the preference shares, making 10 per cent. for the year, and £6 per share on the ordinary shares, free of tax, equal to 6 per cent. on the original ordinary share capital, making a total of 8 per cent. for the year. The general reserve had been increased by £250,000, and now amounted to £550,117. That was a very substantial figure, and had been built up entirely out of profit. The

gross profit on trading showed a decrease of £193,000, and the net profit a decrease of £178,359. At first blush that was very unpleasant reading, but he had warned them last year that they could not possibly expect to keep up the rate of profits they were then making, as they were abnormal. Apart from that, the main reason for the decrease in the profit was the decrease of 62,000 barrels in sales, which was due to unemployment, and the consequent scarcity of money. Further, it was due to the fact that the net price to the consumer did not cover the enormous increase in the duty and in the cost of material, including labour and materials. The retail price of beer was still controlled, and therefore they could not get more for it.

Costs had continued to rise. As compared with 1919-20 the average cost of coal had increased a further 22 per cent., and was now three times the pre-war figure. Wages and materials for repairs, &c., had not reached their maximum in 1919-20, but had done so in the year under review, and the cost per barrel was now nearly three and a-half times the pre-war figure. With regard to the future of our business, as far as it is possible for us to judge the outlook for the immediate future is not very promising. With increasing unemployment and the general industrial unrest, falling wages, and high taxation, sales are hardly likely to increase. With wages falling, if the working man is to continue to have his beer, the retail price must come down, and this is obviously impossible unless the duty is put down first. With a duty of roos per barrel there is no room for a decrease in the retail price of beer, so that the immediate future is a little obscure from that point of view. What the effect may be when the Control Board ceases to exist, and the control of gravities and retail prices is removed, it is impossible to foresee. In conclusion, the Chairman stated that they had made a new departure, having taken to brewing a lager beer, which they had hoped to have ready at the beginning of this summer, but the industrial unrest had kept it back.

Mr Granville Beven seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff concluded the proceedings.

JOHN BROWN AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

DEVELOPMENTS IN COMPANY'S WORKS.

FOREIGN COMPETITION AND THE COAL DISPUTE.

An ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of John Brown and Co., Limited, was held, on the 28th ultimo, at the Royal Victoria Hotel, Sheffield. Lord Aberconway (chairman of the directors) presided.

The general secretary (Mr E. Middleton) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said the situation in which they found themselves was the most serious situation he had ever known in this country. Since he became connected with the business the position of their trade in iron, coal, steel and shipbuilding was hardly reflected in the balance-sheet, but part of last year's operations were very profitable. Although the trade outlook was gloomy, they must not forget the company had an investment of great value to use in maintaining the income of the company. They were sparing no effort in turning their undertaking from the production of war material to peace products. That policy they had continued vigorously, and those who had seen, or heard about, developments at Sheffield, Clydebank, Scunthorpe, and the collieries would readily see they had not left any opportunity unexploited; and they would also notice from the increased figures on the balance-sheet that they had spent a good deal of money.

They had turned their attention closely to new plant for axles, bars and railway springs. Castings and railway materials received their special attention, and the work at the colliery which they mentioned last year would produce good results when they got to work again. In all directions they were economising, they were cutting down overhead charges and endeavouring to introduce machinery for reducing costs, such as coal cutters. The company's undertakings were in first-class condition, and ready for profitable work when trade recovered. At the moment one saw very little sign of trade recovering.

FOREIGN COMPETITION.

It was quite certain that firms were waiting for lower prices, and they were buying from America, Belgium, and Germany. He would give one item to show the conditions of the iron and steel trade. He found that Belgium was delivering basic pig-iron here at £5 per ton, and we could not make it at less than £8 15s to £9 without any profit at all. Basic blooms coming in this country from Germany and Belgium were £8 15s. Here the makers' price was £15.

These were instances of competition they had to face to-day, and they could not expect Continental people who were poorer

than we, and whose capital had been depleted, to deal with a country like ours, where economic conditions and prices were still at an impossible level. The worst of it was that till foreign exchanges were stabilised foreign business would have the advantage over us, which with energy on our part we could overcome.

He thought the very first duty of our statesmen ought to be to adjust the exchanges and stabilise conditions under which commodities were dealt with. This no doubt was responsible for a good deal of the present difficulties, and if only our labour leaders would turn their attention to these economic facts and look into the current quotations for steel, iron and machinery, and see how we were handicapped against the foreigner, he felt satisfied they would take a very much wider view than they had done.

Capital and labour both shared in the prosperity of the last few years, and it seemed to him only reasonable that both should participate in the difficulties, and yet at a time when we had hardly recovered from the war, when there was the greatest financial stringency in the country, these Socialistic adventurers chose this as their time for trying their experiments. They had driven a million miners out of work, and now apparently these men, having spent all their resources, were to be led back again on conditions which, if they had consulted those men who know, they would have known were the very best conditions that could have been offered them.

There were hundreds of thousands of men out of work in trades dependent on coal. Blast furnace men, fitters, shipyard workers, all depended on the price of coal, because unless the price of coal was brought down they could not expect to get the price of materials down.

He felt certain, and every steel-maker would agree, that till coke fell to about 25s or 35s per ton and coal proportionately, it would be impossible to start a single blast furnace in this country.

He would like to say a word of sympathy for the men, because they had their own point of view. The men had played the game, and he thought it was creditable to our British instincts of fair play that they had practically universally turned down

the wrecking policy of the revolutionists who were trying to get the upper hand of the unions.

Sir Charles Ellis seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

MEXICAN LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, LIMITED. PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT CONFIRMED.

A meeting of the holders of the 5 per cent. first mortgage gold bonds of the above company was held, on the 29th ultimo, at Winchester House, London, at which resolutions were passed confirming the agreement of arrangement provisionally entered into by the committee on behalf of the bondholders. Mr Harold G. Brown, representing the National Trust Company, presided.

Mr E. R. Peacock, the chairman of the Bondholders' Committee, in moving the resolutions, recalled that until 1913 the Mexican Light and Power and the Mexican Tramways Group of Companies had been very prosperous concerns. Having traced the troubles of the succeeding eight years and the recent progress, he went on to say: When, in May last year, the party of General Obregon established its position, he, the speaker, went with Mr Hubbard to Mexico, and made a rapid survey of the situation, and it seemed to them that the new Government might reasonably be expected to establish itself permanently. Immediately after that visit to Mexico the Committee had begun to study how best to regularise the situation, and the provisional agreement before the meeting that day was the result. He was glad to say that concessions had been reached, and the results indicated made possible without ill-feeling on the part of anyone. Out of a total of amounts overdue to creditors aggregating £1,887,000, an agreement had been reached with all except two, who claimed £89,000 in respect of principal and interest, and he was hopeful that a settlement would be come to with them on lines approximating those reached with other creditors. As to the position of the companies, when the resolutions should have been made effective,

the Tramways company was naturally in the less fortunate position because of the five years' period of Government intervention. No arrears of interest were now being paid, but it was hoped that earnings would be sufficient to pay off the arrears of the first mortgage bonds fairly rapidly. The second mortgage bonds had a prospect of several years' waiting before interest was available, but the claim of the company of over 19,000,000 pesos for damages against the Government had a very important bearing upon this situation. In principle the members of the Mexican Government recognised responsibility for substantial damages, and if a satisfactory settlement were reached on the whole question of Mexican finance, it might well be that the Company's claim or part of it might be included in that settlement. The Light and Power Company and its subsidiaries found themselves in an unhappy position for another reason. A new power plant was wanted, and the only money on hand belonged to the bondholders.

THE OUTLOOK.

Under the scheme provision was made for setting aside part of that money for new power plants, and, in anticipation of that, the Committee had taken all steps to advance preparations so that no loss of time could result. Owing to the failure of the rains of last August, it had been necessary, despite all the efforts to utilise steam reserve, to ask all power users to reduce demands by 25 per cent., and to reduce the tramways service and public lighting. Such measures had been very unpopular, and everyone blamed the company, including the Government. It was clear, however, that in the circumstances the Government, which, with the municipality, together owed the company over 7,000,000 pesos for services rendered, could not reasonably blame them for not having begun the construction of a power plant earlier. The bondholders, however, would readily recognise that under such conditions it was essential that no time should be lost in making the situation safe for the future, and in doing that he believed they were serving their own best interests, because the demand for power was great, and, given reasonably normal conditions, the earnings of the company should increase. That would affect not only the Light and Power Company, but also the Tramways Company. He was hopeful that the position of the companies would steadily improve. If they would co-operate with the Government of Mexico the future was bright; otherwise prospects would be, to say the least, somewhat doubtful. On the whole, he regarded the chances of an understanding as reasonably good, and the future with tempered optimism.

Mr H. F. Chamen seconded the resolution, which the Chairman declared to be carried unanimously.

Similar resolutions were passed at the meetings of the Mexican Electric Light Company, the Pachuca Light and Power Company, and the Mexican Tramways Company.

Mr Peacock stated that as soon as the arrangements approved by the bondholders had been confirmed by the Canadian Courts and had become absolute, notice would be published in the Press, so that holders might collect their bonds from the Committee and cash the coupons payable.

THE DINNERINGTON MAIN COAL COMPANY, LIMITED. OWNERS' LIBERAL TERMS TO THE MINERS.

Mr Maurice Deacon presided at the annual meeting of this company, at Sheffield, on Monday, 27th ultimo, the other directors present being the Right Hon. Lord Aberconway, P.C., the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bart., M.P., Mr F. Fowler, Mr W. H. McConnel, and Mr W. D. Gainsford.

The report and accounts covered the two years ended March 31, 1921.

The Chairman stated that the 30 new coke ovens which were ready for starting could not be set to work because the iron and steel trades of the country were now at a complete standstill, and it was very doubtful whether these industries would start again until the price of coke was reduced to a figure at which, for some time at any rate, it would be worth while to manufacture it.

Reviewing the past year, he stated that they had had a dispute with the deputies, which caused the collieries to stop for a week, and another stoppage of 17 days in common with other collieries throughout the country. Referring to the present stoppage, he said the terms offered by the owners were, in his opinion, exceedingly liberal. They were based on the principle that a living wage to the colliers, and a living wage to the owners, should govern the future of the trade, and that each district should pay the wages which the industry in that district was able to afford. Those principles were, more or less, agreed by the owners and the men. The offer made by the owners, which included a proposal to give the men 80 per cent. of surplus profits over a fixed minimum profit, had been refused. If the Government agreed to renew their offer of ten million pounds, it was very probable that the owners would agree to pay the 80 per cent. of surplus profits. The standard

profit had yet to be agreed, so that they were not really out of the wood. They did not know that day when the pits were going to work any more than they did a month ago, but one of the principal miners' leaders had admitted that they had not the strength to continue the fight, and it was therefore hoped that the strike would soon come to an end.

COMPANY'S MINES IN SOUND CONDITION.

When work was resumed at the collieries a very great difficulty would arise throughout the country because many collieries would not be able to re-open and take back their men. At Dinnington, he was glad to say, they would be able to start, as having a good roof, the pit had been standing very satisfactorily throughout the strike. They had no difficulty from spontaneous combustion, nor from water, so that they would be amongst the fortunate ones who would be able to start. If they had been able to pay a rather high dividend in the past, he was sure that they would be glad to sacrifice a portion in order to produce cheaper fuel, and so enable the trade of the country to be built up again. Only when that happened could the coal trade itself be prosperous.

Although they were going through exceedingly troublous times, and they must bring themselves to look for small dividends, he thought they must rely upon the fact that the colliery has a long lease of life, and they might hope that during that long period there would be a prosperous time for the coal trade again.

A final dividend of 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year, free of income-tax, was declared.

Mr W. B. M. Jackson, of Chesterfield, was appointed a director. The Right Hon. Lord Aberconway, P.C., the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bart., M.P., and Mr F. Fowler were reappointed directors.

A shareholder, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said that as an engineer, he knew that engineers in this country could not carry on unless the price of coal was greatly reduced. Orders were going to America for large sugar plants and boilers at a lower price than the plates could be brought at in Sheffield.

THE EX-LANDS NIGERIA, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF COMPANY'S FUTURE.

The ninth ordinary general meeting of shareholders of the Ex-Lands Nigeria, Limited, was held, on the 29th ultimo, at the Chartered Institute of Secretaries, 59A London Wall, London.

Mr H. G. Latilla, the chairman of the company, proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said they had met this year under circumstances which were not so favourable to them as they had been in the past six years. The price of tin, as they all knew, had fallen very seriously, with the result that, instead of realising £196 per ton in London for their ore, the average price this year had only been £131 per ton—a considerable difference. In consequence, they had only been able to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. for 1920, as against 20 per cent. for 1919, 12½ per cent. for 1918, and 20 per cent. for 1917. In all, since 1915, they had paid shareholders in dividends 75 per cent., free of income-tax, which, he ventured to think, was a very fair record, and one which he hoped they would be able to equal, if not surpass, when the present world depression cleared away. He did not know if shareholders had read speeches by the heads of the Government to the Colonial Premiers. Mr Winston Churchill, speaking of the Colonies and of Nigeria especially, said: "The whole of Nigeria is self-supporting. It is moving rapidly ahead, and there is no doubt that the two Nigerias (meaning the North and South) will absolutely vindicate the exertions made on their behalf by the late Mr Joseph Chamberlain."

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

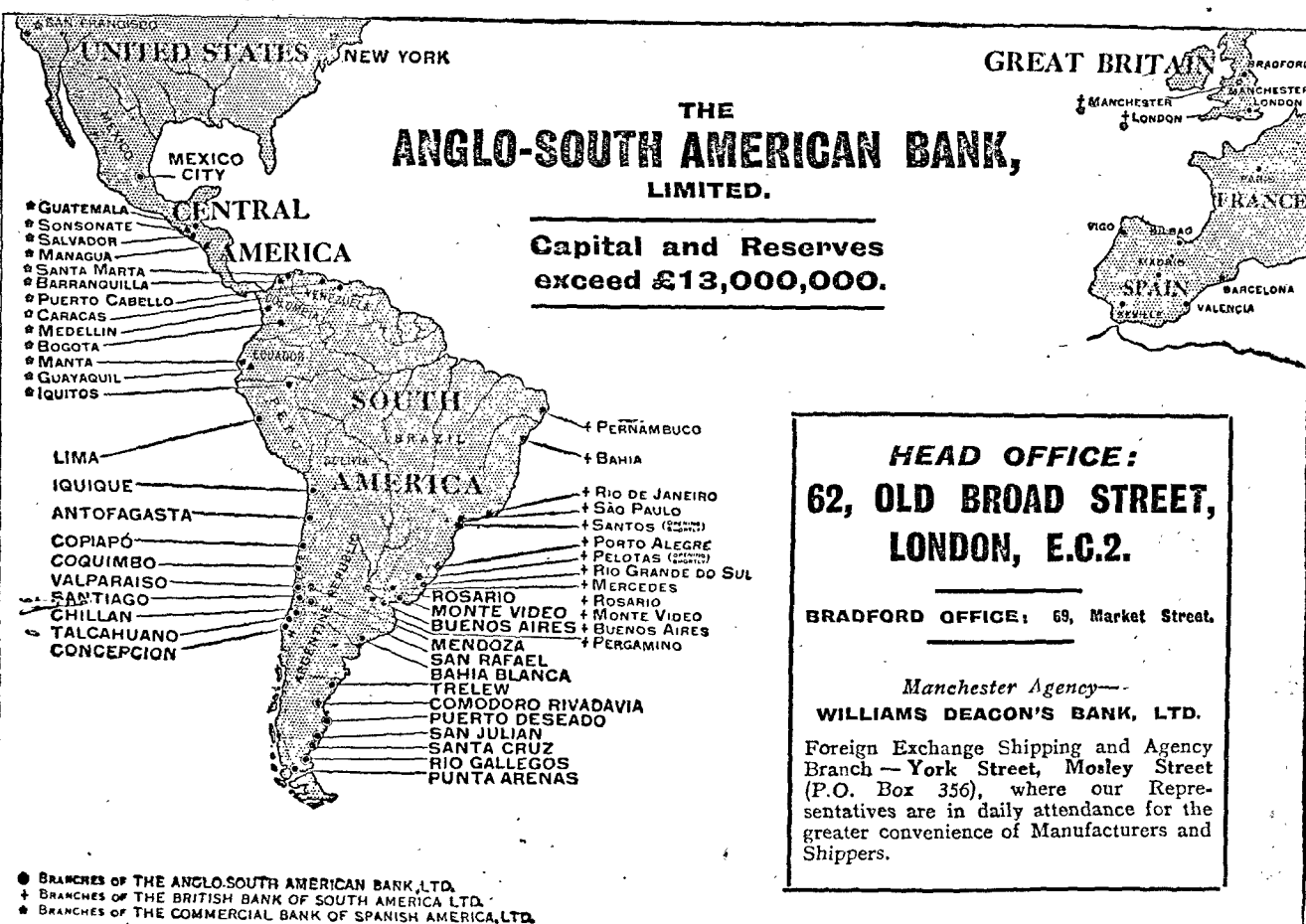
Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and **THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,**
are established.



(They constitute one of the most solid and valuable possessions of the British Crown, and will repay handsomely any further support by British credit which they may need.)

Owing to various circumstances no tin had reached the company since last January. We therefore now had a stock of 207 tons in Nigeria, which at the current price of £165 per ton represented in cash about £24,000. Their expenditure in Nigeria was not so great as that of many companies, but they were giving that matter their consideration. Two of the staff whose engagements had terminated were not returning to the property, and as the agreements of others terminated they would consider the question as to re-engaging them unless things improved. They did not wish to take drastic steps if it could possibly be avoided.

The company had spent £1,000 for the acquisition, with others, of properties in Nigeria, representing a total of 29.7 square miles, which might be of considerable potential value. It was desirable, however, at the present time not to do more than rest on those properties until an improvement in conditions prevailed. He was optimistic enough to believe that a return to better times was in store for the company at no distant date.

Mr T. Piercy seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

THE MORTGAGE COMPANY OF EGYPT, LIMITED.

VIOLENT ECONOMIC DISTURBANCES IN EGYPT.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of the Mortgage Company of Egypt, Limited, was held on the 30th ultimo, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, Sir Henry Babington Smith, G.B.E., chairman of the company, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—The period to which the accounts refer was one of violent economic disturbance throughout the world, and not least in Egypt. The sudden end of the general boom in trade which followed the termination of the war led to a complete cessation of demand, and the price of cotton fell even more rapidly than it had risen. The other staple products followed a similar course, though their fluctuations were not so extreme as those of cotton. The best lands have fallen by 60 or 70 per cent., while second or third lands have fallen from 30 to 50 per cent.

Turning to our own business, the first point to which I would call your attention is the table in the board's report, giving the amount invested in first mortgages at the end of each year since 1910. For the first time for 60 years the total shows an increase. It reached its maximum in 1915, when it amounted to £3,481,000. It then steadily declined, mainly owing to the prosperity which the war brought to Egypt, until, in 1920, it had fallen to £2,589,000. At March 31 last it stood at £2,877,000, an increase of £288,000 on the previous year. The instalments in arrear have increased from £111,158 to £240,238. This is still much smaller than the high figure of £410,938 reached in 1916. As very little new business has been entered into in the last six years, it follows that a substantial number of instalments have already been paid on the loans which have now fallen into arrear, and the margin of security is therefore satisfactorily high. The board are of opinion that the arrears need not give you any cause for anxiety, and that any losses which may arise are fully provided for in the reserve for bad debts, which now stands at £32,733. The item for property acquired by foreclosure is still negligible in amount.

In addition to the reserve for bad debts, the general reserve now stands at £200,000, to which we propose to add a further £10,000. The profit on sales, amounting to £91,139, is held in suspense, because it is receivable from the purchasers in instalments, and cannot, we consider, be definitely treated as profit until it is actually received. Having regard to these reserves, and also to the fact that we have purchased £731,100 of our debentures, ultimately repayable at par, at a cost of £589,824, I think you will agree that the position of the company is exceptionally strong.

The balance of profit and loss account amounts to £80,310, as against £117,488 last year and £83,777 the year before. This diminution is in great part due to the heavy burden of income-tax and of the corporation profits tax. We feel justified in recommending you to maintain the dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 2 per cent., and to add £10,000 to the general reserve, with the net result that a balance of £43,249 will be left to be carried forward to the next account.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

THE MALTBY MAIN COLLIERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

BOARD'S CONSERVATIVE POLICY IN VIEW OF THE STRIKE.

At the annual meeting of the Maltby Main Colliery Company, Limited, in Sheffield, on Monday, 27th ultimo, Mr Maurice Deacon presided. The other directors present were the Right Hon. Lord Aberconway, P.C., the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bart., M.P., and Mr W. H. McConnel.

The directors presented balance-sheets for the two years ended March, 1921.

In view of the serious consequences of the strike, which had now lasted nearly three months, and of the fact that a large amount of money would have to be expended to bring the pit back into a state of efficient repair, the directors felt that it was not only wise but necessary to strengthen their financial resources very substantially to enable them to meet these heavy items of expenditure. The future of trade was very uncertain, and he thought that the shareholders would agree that it was wise to be conservative in the distribution of profits made. Last year they paid 7½ per cent., and this year it was proposed to pay 5 per cent. for the year, less tax. In addition, they would set aside £20,000 for the purposes just mentioned. It must be remembered that the colliery was still in the developing stage, but their output was gradually increasing, and they were getting nearer to the point when it would be commensurate with the large amount of capital spent. Until they arrived at that point they could not expect a good dividend. In spite of all the obstacles of strikes, and the general lack of energy and attention to work which the men had shown throughout the country, the output was considerably more than it was in 1920.

Mr Deacon went on to say that the industry had been placed in comparative bankruptcy by the action of the Government in terminating the subsidies at March 31st.

NEED FOR FUEL PRICE REDUCTION.

Trade was seriously depressed. The iron and steel trades were dead for the time being, and every other trade was suffering very seriously. Until the price of fuel was greatly reduced, it was quite evident that industry could not be brought round to normal, nor would they be able to compete with the foreigners. Belgian pig-iron was being sold for £6 per ton in this country. Prior to March 31st pig-iron could not be produced in this country for less than £9 per ton.

Mr McConnel, in seconding the report, said that it was absolutely necessary that the price of coal should come down if this country was to carry on at all. If that were done, the cost of living would be less, and the real wages would therefore be increased. He did not know whether it was possible to hope that the men discussing the matter in London at the present time would take up the question of the hours of labour, and ask for the old eight hours' day to be reverted to. It was one possible solution of a definite improvement in the output of coal without bringing the miner's wages below the figure at which it was possible for him to live. He expressed the hope that the miners' leaders would be Englishmen enough to put that forward as a solution of the present difficulties, leaving the seven hours' question for some future time when it might be possible to carry it out.

Mr W. H. McConnel and the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bart., M.P., were re-appointed directors.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments in Bank Accounts.	Advances to		Redemption Account.					
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.		
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£		
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	..	11,423		
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	48.1	9,924	9,268	
1915.										
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536	
1916.										
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868	
1917.										
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,564	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,488	
1918.										
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566	
1919.										
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413	
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271	
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589	
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802	
1920.										
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981	
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305	
Sept. 29.....	355,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385	
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134	
1921.										
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141	
June 1.....	330,071	15,673	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.5	295,553	157	
15.....	330,071	15,173	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.5	294,050	244	
22.....	327,680	14,946	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.6	291,503	173	
29.....	324,949	14,616	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	288,597	220	
29.....	323,894	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,705	150	

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled.

† Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000.

Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, July 4-July 9th, were opened on July 1, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £77,540,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 12s 7d will receive about 52½ per cent. and above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 12s 11d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £5 7s 3.34d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
June 10 (3 months)	40,000,000	83,977,000	5 12 2.28	5½	£98 11s 7d, above in full (Monday to Friday bills) about 37% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 11s 11d, above in full. £98 12s 2d (Monday to Friday bills) about 64% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 12s 6d above in full. £98 12s 10d (Monday to Friday bills) about 27% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 13s 2d, above in full. £98 12s 7d (Monday to Friday bills) about 52½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 12s 11d, above in full.
June 17 (3 months)	40,000,000	82,670,000	5 10 1.06	5½	
June 24 (3 months)	55,000,000	96,485,000	5 6 8.89	5	
July 1 (3 months)	60,000,000	77,540,000	5 7 3.34	5	

The amount to be offered next week will be £55,000,000.

The OCEAN ACCIDENT and GUARANTEE CORPORATION, Limited.

ASSETS £7,472,880
CLAIMS PAID £25,000,000

Accidents and Illness, Employers' Liability, Fidelity Guarantees, Fire and Burglary, Motor Cars, Public Liability, Inspection and Insurance of Boilers, Engines, Electrical Plant and Lifts, Executorships and Trusteeships.

Head Office: MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, June 29, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	145,001,350	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,551,350
	145,001,350		145,001,350

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities	61,202,852
Reserve	3,244,117	Other securities	85,827,910
Public deposits*	15,296,889	Notes	15,995,060
Other deposits	131,739,542	Gold and silver coin ..	1,815,377
Seven-day & other bills	7,651		
	164,841,199		164,841,199

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, June 29, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,244,117	+ 5,755	— 15,309
Public deposits	15,296,889	— 131,902,306	— 451,310
Other deposits	131,739,542	+ 9,747,422	— 44,821,486
Government securities	61,202,852	+ 2,707,506	— 28,875,579
Other securities	85,827,910	+ 6,922,701	— 77,360,521
Reserve	17,810,437	+ 1,518,713	+ 1,536,236
Note circulation	129,006,290	+ 1,528,295	+ 8,948,450
Coin and bullion	128,566,727	+ 9,582	+ 10,484,686
% of reserve to liabilities	124%	— 13%	+ 32%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
April 6.....	128,348,348	129,215,415	145,707,010	145,844,873	17,592,933	124%	13½
13.....	128,348,222	128,537,050	132,440,637	131,902,306	18,261,172	124%	13½
20.....	128,345,367	128,276,450	127,658,109	126,852,390	18,518,917	124%	14½
27.....	128,358,165	128,519,725	141,260,257	140,668,538	18,288,440	124%	15
May 4.....	128,357,634	129,528,235	140,807,558	141,225,277	17,279,399	124%	15½
11.....	128,363,247	128,768,640	128,421,373	128,039,388	18,044,607	124%	15½
18.....	128,360,554	128,194,750	121,813,463	120,941,358	18,615,884	124%	15½
25.....	128,349,547	127,807,650	127,246,063	126,479,708	18,991,887	124%	15½
June 1.....	128,369,554	128,280,135	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	124%	11½
8.....	128,375,126	127,491,195	150,945,823	150,945,823	18,539,419	124%	12½
15.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	124%	13½
22.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,690	137,400,455	19,329,150	124%	13½
29.....	128,366,727	129,006,290	147,036,431	147,030,762	17,810,437	124%	12½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	June 28, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	July 2, 1919.	June 30, 1920.	June 29, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,431,330	£ 28,933,380	£ 79,947,855	£ 120,057,840	£ 129,006,290
Public deposits	15,807,217	19,014,809	24,557,689	15,748,199	15,296,889
Other deposits	47,235,294	41,248,964	166,924,589	175,966,969	131,739,542
Government securities	14,971,344	11,046,570	98,702,306	90,078,431	61,202,852
Other securities	36,355,557	41,461,289	83,493,763	103,188,431	85,827,910
Reserve of notes and coin	22,456,438	25,463,980	27,070,008	16,274,201	17,810,437
Coin and bullion	40,437,768	35,947,360	88,567,863	117,882,041	128,366,727
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	46½%	42½%	14½%	8½%	12½%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	12½%
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	2½	2½	3½	6½	5½
Price of Consols	79½	74½	53½	47½	35½
Price of silver per oz	24½d	33s 0d	73s 3d	78s 9d	89s 1d
Average price of wheat	25-30-35	25-17½-20	29-73-79	47-90-48-20	46-55-80
Exchanges: Paris	£4-84½	£4-7	£4-50½-3	£3-95-96	£3-74½-77
on Amsterdam	12-1½-3	12-05-10	11-76-79	11-09-14	11-36-38½
London	20-43			150-152	272½-282½
Clearing house return	194,793,000	199,913,000	536,043,000	780,489,000	597,629,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
	£	£	£
1921.			
January 1—June 22	15,174,124,000	1,533,936,000	16,708,060,000
June 30	551,261,000	46,368,000	597,629,000
Total to date 1921	15,725,385,000	1,580,304,000	17,305,689,000
Do 1920	18,085,052,000	2,089,893,000	20,174,945,000
Increase or decrease in 1921. {	— 2,359,667,000	— 509,589,000	— 2,869,256,000
	13%	24.3%	14.2%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920. {	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	39.6%	20.2%	39.4%

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 25, 1921.	June 18, 1921.	June 26, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	2,487,735	2,487,247	2,452,562	+ 488	521,775
Silver	622,554	617,709	620,543	+ 4,845	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,763,731	1,783,176	1,631,714	+ 19,445	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	—	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	—	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	4,171,025	4,198,923	3,872,143	+ 27,898	1,901,550
Deposits	1,259,163	1,250,132	1,155,990	+ 9,031	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

Assets.	May 13, 1921.	April 28, 1921.	May 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
Gold and balances abroad	1,393,383,578	1,415,238,493	1,523,286,303	-21,854,915	-129,902,725
Government loans and securities	1,483,050,810	1,327,002,514	709,350,362	+156,048,296	+773,700,448
Discounts and loans	741,858,528	755,099,480	601,292,882	-13,240,352	+140,565,646
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,688,077,539	1,648,723,230	1,389,129,610	+39,357,309	+298,947,929
Government deposits	114,889,741	109,132,363	313,087,524	+ 5,750,378	-198,197,783
Private deposits	774,027,547	791,378,991	584,363,627	-17,351,444	+189,664,280
Deposits at fixed rates	789,149,265	780,569,438	430,497,859	+ 8,579,777	+358,651,406

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 28, 1921.	May 21, 1921.	May 23, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
Gold and silver	1,280,943	1,280,744	1,281,664	+ 199	221,320
Discounts	39,867	33,573	35,345	+ 6,294	41,740
Advances	98,174	93,053	153,949	+ 5,121	70,540
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	1,059,723	990,613	1,033,873	+ 69,110	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,399,284	1,360,160	1,427,392	+ 39,124	87,540
Private deposits	55,036	169,754	102,390	- 85,124	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 22, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	1,091,564	1,091,565	1,091,660	— 2	1,313,240
Silver	10,477,006	9,910	3,500	+ 689	3,321,920
Treasury notes	66,096,785	11,357,383	16,492,640	- 880,377	60,780
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	71,086,713	71,883,643	51,656,580	+ 103,070	2,013,860
Deposits	11,112,843	14,690,767	11,579,780	+ 3,578,284	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 20, 1921.	May 13, 1921.	April 30, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
Total cash	1,391,492	1,388,618	1,395,036	+ 2,874	1,221,875
Foreign bills	3,149,598	3,167,328	3,264,857	+ 17,730	418,400
Advances to the Treasury	28,102	28,508	28,509	- 406	81,300
Other advances	6,931,293	7,011,266	7,126,117	+ 79,983	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	13,185,047	13,933,320	14,026,645	-218,273	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,785,616	1,733,327	1,724,613	+ 52,289	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 22, 1921.	June 20, 1921.	June 28, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	605,969	605,965	636,304	+ 4	163,092
Discounts and advances	12,331	12,503	13,894	+ 172	8,436
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	424,205	429,127	463,928	+ 4,922	153,504
Deposits	991,929	994,262	1,004,808	- 2,333	316,632
Deposits	50,638	58,115	143,717	+ 7,477	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 4, 1921.	May 28, 1921.	June 5, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,570,222	—	—
Silver	3,000	300	253	—	—
Discounts	1,071	44,404	18,148	+ 13,333	—
Government loan	9,837,973	9,785,592	4,099,949	+ 49,331	—
Other advances	2,786,979	2,752,648	813,918	+ 34,031	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,100,578	11,077,557	4,661,087	+ 23,021	—
Deposits	5,973,335	5,921,899	2,220,247	+ 51,435	—

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 23, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	544,019	543,890	533,088	+ 129	171,175
Discounts	110,784	110,784	86,652	—	18,350
Advances	10,566	10,119	15,949	+ 467	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	358,939	295,593	342,930	+ 63,346	103,000
Deposits	880,187	885,114	883,721	+ 4,927	275,925
Deposits	159,108	105,194	119,350	+ 53,914	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to May 31, 1921, total issues were Fr.30,673,000, of which Fr.9,218,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 25, 1921.	June 18, 1921.	June 26, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	Position May 24, 1914.
Gold	281,436	281,473	261,054	+ 37	+ 20,382	104,917
Balance abr. and foreign bills	122,540	122,431	88,719	+ 109	+ 33,821	112,107
Swedish and for. Gov. securities	16,447	17,121	45,611	- 674	- 29,164	3,147
Discount and loans	430,141	447,840	643,567	- 17,699	- 213,426	74,465
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	627,366	631,227	676,641	- 3,861	- 49,271	112,668
Deposits	162,319	182,627	276,570	- 20,308	- 11,425	226,555

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 23, 1921.	June 16, 1921.	June 9, 1921.	June 24, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	332,200	335,870	335,192	356,687	- 3,670	332,650
Securities	661,121	642,477	647,326	626,420	+ 18,644	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	6,062,341	6,100,798	6,131,698	5,166,370	- 38,457	934,150
Current accounts	1,135,498	1,075,259	1,057,746	2,027,642	+ 60,239	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 7, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	May 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	7,459	7,096	5,126	+ 363	—
Silver coin	—	—	—	—	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,381,441	5,281,185	6,582,896	- 3,899,744	—
Loans	554,979	614,261	630,391	- 59,282	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	46,426,767	45,583,194	44,244,339	+ 843,573	—
Deposits	10,153,849	9,793,443	9,419,173	+ 355,406	—

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 7, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	May 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	166	186	186	—	—
Silver coin	—	—	—	—	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	11,694,780	11,846,878	11,090,961	- 152,098	—
Loans	110,422	110,768	111,098	- 316	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	14,112,965	13,685,610	12,725,130	+ 427,355	—
Deposits	5,168,826	5,760,131	6,001,831	- 591,305	—

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 31, 1921.	April 30, 1921.	May 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Coin and bullion	227,570	227,571	227,487	- 1	76,644
Loans and discounts	311,289	344,743	352,366	- 33,454	88,470
Deposits abroad	15,597	8,159	34,789	+ 7,438	24,102
Securities	50,636	50,873	57,618	- 237	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	496,688	532,108	515,651	- 35,420	157,266
Deposits	60,205	58,680	38,748	+ 1,525	6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	June 15, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,289	147,289	147,331	—	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	35,788	39,900	64,892	- 4,112	23,533
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities	9,095	9,095	10,513	—	8,316
Discounts and loans	418,300	419,981	417,286	- 1,681	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	402,423	408,987	423,367	- 6,564	113,484
Deposits at notice	101,326	102,483	140,780	- 1,157	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 27, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	May 13, 1921.	May 6, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Government securities	9,104	9,562	9,931	10,217	- 46,34	—
Other securities	1,384	1,384	1,384	1,384	—	—
Loans	14,480	14,768	15,112	15,461	- 28,67	—
Cash credits	20,698	20,951	21,047	21,053	- 25,86	—
Inland bills	14,873	15,016	14,997	14,755	- 15,81	—
Foreign bills	46	38	60	71	- 8	—
Bullion	—	6	7	8	- 1	—
Dead stock	2,094	2,094	2,077	2,078	- 60	—
Advances	39,49	37,39	37,16	36,66	+ 1,90	—
Balances with other banks	13,27	19,26	20,94	21,59	- 5,99	—
Cash	26,409	24,957	23,967	25,771	- 1,45,64	—
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital	10,016	9,890	9,508	9,208	+ 11,96	—
Capital paid up	5,316	5,285	5,137	5,117	+ 2,99	—
Reserve	3,696	3,691	3,658	3,633	+ 49	—
Public deposits	12,651	12,810	13,007	14,332	- 23,29	—
Other deposits	66,501	66,176	65,907	66,497	- 33,85	—
Loans against sec. per cont.	16,70	16,87	16,32	16,16	- 17	—
Sundries	1,228	1,115	1,083	1,050	+ 11,64	—

	May 27, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	May 13, 1921.	May 6, 1921.
The above incl. —				
Deposits in London	17,100	34,500	41,000	64,300
Advances in London	132,400	130,300	130,200	130,000
Cash and balances at other banks in London	92,585	130,607	140,812	168,828

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold	3,361	3,358	+ 3	1,571
Government securities	39,291	39,593	- 302	2,084
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	34,185	34,350	- 164	2,400
Government deposits	2,656	2,655	- 1	2,315
Other deposits	13,832	16,856	- 3,024	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	June 2, 1921.	June 9, 1921.	June 16, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	June 30, 1921.
Call money	7 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral) ..	7 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	6 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	6 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days	7 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	7 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2

Note.—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	June 25 15-50
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	June 22 22-50
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	48-48	"	June 27 85-00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31d	"	June 28 3-70
San Salvador	Pesos to £1	24-65d	"	June 22 8-20
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-65d	"	June 25 192-78
Costa Rica	Colones to £1	10-45	"	June 4 18-50

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, June 30, 1920.	Rate, June 16, 1921.	Rate, June 23, 1921.	Rate, June 30, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	7-30	4-33	4-25
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	125-45	14-60	8-55	8-35
Copenhagen	"	12-10	6-40	6-32	6-30
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	16-25	10-00	9-76
Christiania	"	"	"	"	"

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, June 18, 1921, as below:—

	Buying Rate.	Selling Rate.
London (cheque)	£1 1,275	1,305
Paris	100 fr. 2,700	2,800
New York	" 3,300	3,400
Stockholm	100 kr. 7,700	7,800
Copenhagen	100 kr. 5,850	5,950
Christiania	100 kr. 5,100	5,200
Berlin	100 mk. 530	535
Helsingfors	100 mk. 560	575
Riga	100 rbl. 65	72
Amsterdam	100 fl. 11,400	11,550

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From May 13, 1921.	From May 16, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.
Demand	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.
30 days	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.
60 days	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.
90 days	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.
120 days	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 prem.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	100	100
Sight	100	100
Cable	100	100
On demand	100	100
30 days	100	100
60 days	100	100
90 days	100	100
120 days	100	100
5 months' sight ..	100	100
6 months' sight ..	100	100

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	June 25, 1921.
	Rs.	Rs.
Outstanding with public	43,73,55,000	55,52,60,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	61,26,00,000
Total	1,04,99,55,000	1,16,78,60,000
India Office, June 30, 1921.		

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended June 29, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £9,582 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended June 23, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended June 23, 1921.
Belgium	£ 674	United States	£ 1,297,250
British West Africa ..	51,694		
British South Africa ..	952,456		
Other countries	656		
Total values of imports of gold	1,005,480	Total declared value of exports registered in the week ..	1,297,250

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on June 30th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,551,350, as compared with £126,548,220 last week. A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was practically all taken for New York. Gold to the value of \$400,000 has been received in New York from Holland. The following are the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of May last:—Imports, £2,032,452; exports, £6,079,479. In this instance the very wide discrepancy between the sterling totals of the gold imports and exports probably arises from some delay in Customs entries passing into the statistics. It is, however, of importance to remember, when comparing sterling values of the imports and exports, that incoming gold is declared on the basis of its coinage value, and outgoing gold upon that of its value in the open market, i.e., coinage value plus the premium paid by the exporters. The Southern Rhodesian gold output for May, 1921, amounted to 48,744 fine ounces, as compared with 47,853 fine ounces for April, 1921, and 46,266 fine ounces for May, 1920. An important find of gold is reported from Meekatharra (Western Australia). We learn from Bombay, under date of 11th inst., that the feature of the gold market then was that, in spite of the advance in price to Rs. 30.14, up-country arrivals of the metal were small. The net up-country arrival, even at this high rate, was not more than about 5,000 to 10,000 tolas per day. Notwithstanding that the New York cross rate was down heavily, the banks were not able to secure gold freely from the market, owing to these small arrivals, and the market was also bare of stock.

SILVER.

On the whole, the market has been steadier in tone, though not very active. The Indian bazaars bought for shipment by this week's steamer, but generally sold an equal amount for two months' delivery. The operations for China have been singularly erratic. On several days both purchases and sales were made for that same quarter. No fresh developments have taken place in regard to the German silver to which we referred last week. Some of it is being shipped to America, but whether for the purpose of being pledged, or ultimately for realisation, is not yet known. The following details, published by the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank, Limited, give a bird's-eye view of the great activity of currency within China and the comparative scantiness of bullion movements with other countries. Arrivals and shipments of silver during the month (April) were as follows:—

Arrivals of bar silver	378
Shipments of bar silver to Hongkong	232
Shipments of sycee to Foochow	60,000
Do Hongkong	900,000
	960,000
Arrivals of dollars from 16 various China ports	4,120,000
Shipments of dollars to 4 China ports	730,000
Do 2 Japanese ports	590,000
Do 1 British port (Hongkong)	2,955,000
	4,275,000

The above indicates that the British colony of Hongkong received more than 80 per cent. of the total exports.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.
(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	June 7, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 22, 1921.
Notes in circulation	16,789	16,843	16,994
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	6,719	6,774	6,925
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,436	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	6,799	6,799	6,799
Securities (Indian Government) ..	835	835	835
Securities (British Government) ..			

The coinage during the week ending 22nd inst. amounted to 10 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 25th inst. consisted of about 35,750,000 ounces in sycee 27,000,000 dollars and 420 bars of silver, as compared with about 36,700,000 ounces in sycee and 27,000,000 dollars on the 23rd inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 5 1/2d the tael. Statistics for the month of June are appended:—

Bar Silver.

	Cash Delivery.	Forward Delivery.	Bar Gold.
	Per Oz. Std.	Per Oz. Std.	Per Oz. Fine
Highest price	35 1/2	35 1/2	111 0
Lowest price	33 1/2	33 1/2	105 5
Average price	34-971	34-831	108 10-2

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.		Cash, Per Ounce.
June 25 ..	110 5	35 1/2	July 7, 1915	22 1/2
27 ..	109 6	35 1/2	7, 1916	22 1/2
28 ..	109 5	35 1/2	6, 1917	39 1/2
29 ..	109 3	35 1/2	5, 1918	48 1/2
30 ..	110 0	35 1/2	4, 1919	53 1/2
July 1 ..	110 1	35 1/2	2, 1920	51 1/2

NOTICES.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of a new branch at Church House, Salisbury road, Blandford, Dorset, under the management of Mr J. G. Hall.

Lloyds Bank, Limited, announces that a branch of the bank, to be known as "The Stock Exchange Branch," was opened on July 1st, at 21 Austinfriars, E.C. 2, under the management of Mr O. W. Bart.

Lloyds Bank, Limited, announce that branches of the bank are now open at 45 The Broadway, Ealing, under the management of Mr E. T. Stanley, and at 77 Clarence street, Kingston-on-Thames, under the management of Mr F. J. Wills (also manager of the Teddington branch).

The directors of Barclays Bank, Limited, have decided to establish a joint local board for Liverpool and Manchester and the South Lancashire district. The board will consist of the following members, viz:—Col. the Right Hon. the Lord Rochdale, chairman; Mr Frederick Charles Bowring (Liverpool), Mr Allan Heywood Bright (Manchester), Mr Peter Forrester (Manchester), Mr Robert Durning Holt (Liverpool), Mr Thomas Lonsdale (Liverpool), the Right Hon. the Lord Stanley (Liverpool), Mr Cecil Mercer Woodbridge (54 Lombard street, London).

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday, July 4th, a branch at 42 High street, Ilfracombe, under the management of Mr W. T. Annear.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, announce that a branch of the bank is now opened at 383 Station road, Harrow.

The London office of the National City Company of New York announces the opening of a Continental office in Geneva (Switzerland), which office will take over the investment business which Messrs N. W. Halsey and Co., Limited, have been conducting in Geneva for many years.

Branches of the Merchants' Bank of Canada have been opened at Montreal (St Catherine and Drummonds street); Baie St Paul, Quebec; Winnipeg Beach, Manitoba.

The Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited, notify the opening of a branch at Gisborne, New Zealand.

It is announced that a West-End branch of Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, was opened on July 1st at Norway House, 21-24 Cockspur street, Trafalgar square.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div.	Method of Payment.	Lat'st Year.	Pre-vious.
Banks.					
Alexander's Discount Company ..	15%	..	Less tax ..	8	10
Bank of British West Africa ..	4%	..	..	7	..
Banque de la Seine ..	..	..	..	..	..
Industrial Bank of Japan ..	8	..	..	..	..
London Merchant Bank ..	5 p.s.*	..	Less tax ..	..	..
Vienna Continental ..	8%	..	..	..	..
Insurance.					
Eagle, Star & British Dominions ..	10%+	..	Tax free ..	30	30
Do ..	7 1/2%	..	Tax free ..	..	..
General Life ..	10	..	..	..	..
Mining.					
Clydesdale Collieries ..	10%	..	..	..	..
De Beers Cons. ..	10 p.s.+	July 15	Less tax 4/6 in £	..	..
Dumree Coal ..	7 1/2%	..	..	..	..
Gt. Boulder Perseverance Gold ..	5 p.s.	July 1	(in liquidation)	..	..
Natal Navigation Collieries ..	5% (& bonus 5%)	..	..	..	..
Railways.					
National of New Zealand ..	6%+ (& bonus 2%)	..	Tax free ..	14	14
Tea and Rubber.					
Badulipar Tea ..	5%+	June 30	Less tax ..	..	..
Bukit Cich ..	2 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Changkat Salak, Pref. ..	1 p.s.	July 20	Less tax ..	..	..
Do Defd. ..	1 p.s.+	July 20	Less tax ..	..	..
Jaipur Tea ..	..	..	Tax free ..	2 1/2	12
Mayfield (Dimbala) Tea, Pref. ..	6	July 30	Less tax ..	..	..

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Continued.

Other Companies.				%	%
Albert Acre Spinning	4/6 p.s.+	July 9	..	..	..
American Cyanamid, Pref.	1 1/2%	July 1	..	..	..
Angus (George) and Co.	5%	July 1	Less tax	..	..
Asbestos Corporation	1 1/2%	July 15	..	..	..
Asia Spinning	4 1/2 p.s.+	..	..	8	7
Belgravia Dairy	4 1/2%	..	Less tax	..	..
Bell Telephone of Canada	2%	July 15	Less tax	..	..
Benn Bros.	2 1/2%	July 1	..	..	..
Blumel Brothers	1/8 p.s.+	July 1	..	..	..
British Steamship Investment Trust, Defd.	5%	& bonus	5% Less tax	17 1/2	20
Butterley	1/10 p.s.+	July 1	Tax free	2 1/2 p.s.	2 1/2 p.s.
Canadian Northern Prairie Lands	5%	July 15	..	6	15
Charles Kinloch and Co.	3%	..	..	15	..
Crowden and Reeves	..	..	Less tax	7 1/2	10 1/2
Davy Brothers	5 1/2%	Aug. 1	Less tax	10	..
Distillers' Co.	12 1/2 p.s.+	..	Tax free	6	..
Dominion of Canada Investment Dundee, Perth, and London Supply	7 1/2%	..	..	12 1/2	22 1/2
Durban Spinning	2 1/2 p.s.	..	..	5	10
East Surrey Water, Ord. "A"	..	..	Less tax	5	7
Do Ord "B"	..	..	Less tax	12 1/2	..
Eastwoods	10%	July 1	Tax free	..	..
Farmers' and Cleveland Dairies	6%	July 2	Less tax	..	..
Farnham United Breweries	6*	July 8	Tax free	..	..
Globe Shipping	2 1/2%	..	..	..	..
Goodwin, Foster, Brown, Limited, Pref.	5 1/2%	June 30	..	..	..
Government Stocks and Other Securities Inv., Defd.	6%	..	Less tax	..	..
Guardian Investment Trust, D/d. H. and C. Grayson, Pref.	1/10 p.s.	July 20	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Hardy's Crown Brewery	2 1/2 p.s.	..	Tax free	10	..
Hazellwood Shipping	5%	July 31	..	12 1/2	..
Hoare and Co.	2 1/2%	..	..	..	..
Home and Colonial Stores	12 1/2%	July 1	..	8	..
Hovis	4 1/2%	..	..	..	..
Huggins and Co.	1/6 p.s.+	July 30	Less tax	..	..
Hull, Blyth, and Co.	7 1/2%	..	..	..	..
Irvine's Shipbuilding, Ptg. Pref.	10%	July 1	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Irwel Bank Spinning	5 1/2%	..	Tax free	13	..
James Radie	3%	..	Tax free	10	15
Do bonus	..	..	Less tax	..	..
J. C. and J. Field	7 1/2%	Sept. 30	Tax free	..	..
J. F. and H. Roberts	10%*	Aug. 2	Less tax	..	..
Johannesburg Cons. Investment	10%*	..	..	..	..
John Crossley and Sons	1/10 p.s.+	..	..	..	..
Leesbrook Spinning	1/3 p.s.	..	..	10	..
Leicester Brewing	7 1/2%	..	..	12 1/2	12 1/2
Lipton, Limited	7 1/2%	July 1	Less tax	10	..
Matthews and Co., Cum. Pref.	5%	..	..	8	5
Major and Co.	4%	..	Less tax	..	..
New England Breweries, Pref.	1/6 p.s.+	..	..	..	..
New Hey Spinning	5t	..	..	..	..
New Palladium (stockwell)	5%	July 18	Less tax	..	..
New Tamarugal Nitrate	3%*	..	Less tax	..	..
New Transvaal Chemical, Cum. First.	4%*	..	Less tax	..	..
Do Cum. "A"	1/3 p.s.+	..	..	..	..
Oldham Twist Spinning	7 1/2%	July 1	Less tax	..	..
Openshaw Brewery	7 1/2%	..	Less tax	..	..
Orchestral Company, Cum. Pref.	11%	..	Less tax	4/ p.s.	..
Orchestral Iron and Steel	11%	..	Less tax	..	..
Philadelphia Co.	6 1/2%	July 1	Less tax	7 1/2	7 1/2
Philip Harris and Co.	5%	..	Less tax	..	..
Pinchin, Johnson, and Co., Pref.	10%	..	Less tax	8 1/2	..
Planet Trading	4%	..	Tax free	15	..
Prince of Wales Dry Dock	2 1/2%	..	..	6	..
Real Estate of S. Africa	2 1/2%	July 1	Less tax	..	..
Reckitt and Sons	28%	..	Tax free	7 1/2	..
Rickett Cockerell	50/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Rose Spinning "A"	40/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Do "B"	30/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Do "C"	5/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Royton Spinning	12%	..	Less tax (2 yrs. to Sept., 1913)	5	5
Scarborough and Whitby Breweries, Pref.	6t	..	Tax free	10	10
Second Industrial Trust	7 1/2%	..	Less tax	12 1/2	12 1/2
S. P. Austin and Son	13%	Aug. 1	..	..	..
Spiers and Pond	13%	..	..	..	..
Steel Company of Canada	1/3 p.s.+	July 15	Less tax	..	..
Stott and Thatcher Spinning	5%*	..	..	..	..
Stuttford and Co., Limited	1/10 p.s.+	..	..	20	10
Sun Spinning	..	..	..	..	..
Theatre Royal, Birmingham	..	Aug. 1	..	5/ p.s.	50
Thornton-Smith, Ord.	..	..	..	25	..
Do Defd.	..	..	Tax free	..	..
Thos. Stevens (Confectioner)	5%*	July 22	Tax free	10	15
Tredegar Iron and Coal	..	..	Less tax	7	6 1/2
Trinidad Central Oilfields	9t	..	Less tax	..	..
Trustees' Corporation	5%	July 7	Less tax	..	..
Victoria Falls, &c. (for 1920)	3%	..	Less tax	20	20
Do (for 1921)	5%*	& bonus	10% p.s.) Less tax	6	12 1/2
W. C. Orr and Son	..	..	..	..	..
Wm. Mowat and Sons	2 1/2%	July 2	Less tax	..	..
Wentman and Co.	..	..	..	..	..

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.	Tons.	
Renong	373	First half of June.
Jantar	22	..
Mongu	35	..
Zaaplaas	13	Concentrates; est. profit, £20.
Coal.		
Chinese Engineering	72,195	Week ended June 18th.
Witbank	93,267	..

BROKEN HILL SOUTH.—Output for four weeks ended May 7th:—“7,610 tons of crude ore, assaying 14.8 per cent. pb., 8.3 ozs ag., and 15.3 per cent. zn., were treated and produced 1,411 tons concentrates, assaying 63.7 per cent. pb., 30 ozs ag., and 8 per cent. zn. 9,606 tons dump slime were treated, assaying 10.9 per cent. pb., 7.8 ozs ag., and 13.5 per cent. zn., and produced 1,262 tons concentrates, assaying 49.2 per cent. pb., 43.5 ozs ag., and 14.9 per cent. zn. Despatches of zincy tailings were as under:—To Zinc Corporation, 24,166 tons net; to Amalgamated Zinc (De Bary's), 5,437 tons net.”

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

BURMAH OIL.
December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
1st pref. shares	250,000	..	Refineries	581,606	.. + 114,971
2nd pref. shares	750,000	..	Wells, plant, &c.	212,413	.. + 112,413
Ord. shares	5,143,500	.. + 2,286,000	Fields, electrici-		
General reserve	200,000	.. + 2,031,000	cation	305,823	.. + 305,823
Insurance fund	360,000	.. + 20,000	Pipe lines	285,253	.. + 92,291
Marine fund	366,989	.. + 87,654	Tanks, tankers,		
Provident fund	255,575	.. + 147,858	&c.	475,271	.. + 90,473
Sundry creditors	1,814,305	.. + 450,866	Stocks of plant ..	2,817,944	.. + 814,311
Profit and loss	3,191,883	.. + 450,889	Stks. of products	1,065,522	.. + 359,474
			Investments	4,266,963	.. + 1,062,573
			Sundry debtors	1,593,976	.. + 215,405
			Cash and loans	707,441	.. - 1,344,657
Total	12,332,252	.. + 1,392,267	Total	12,332,252	.. + 1,392,267

SPIERS AND POND.
March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	692,829	..	Properties	983,734	.. - 31,396
Deb. stock	460,877	.. - 14,007	Plant	270,113	.. + 9,895
Deb. redemption			Wines, &c.	127,287	.. - 43,248
account	13,834	.. + 13,834	Sundry debtors	39,837	.. - 1,287
Mort. on Black-			Investments	116,330	.. - 3,693
pool property ..	40,958	.. + 129	Cash	61,047	.. - 20,476
Sundry creditors	129,177	.. - 21,799			
Suspense account	103,703	.. - 78,213			
General reserve	60,000	.. + 30,000			
Taxation reserve	10,000	.. + 10,000			
Uncl. interest, &c.	1,115	.. - 446			
Profit and loss	85,905	.. - 29,709			
Total	1,598,398	.. - 90,205	Total	1,598,398	.. - 90,205

LIPTON, LIMITED.
March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
5% cum. pref.	1,000,000	..	Goodwill, &c.	1,988,312	.. + 61,465
Ord. shares	1,250,000	..	Plant, &c.	559,399	.. + 147,667
Debentures	1,100,000	..	Stocks	1,784,936	.. - 367,797
Bills payable	134,833	.. - 267,429	Sundry debtors	734,870	.. - 76,483
Bank overdraft	287,299	.. + 287,299	Insurance, &c.	19,152	.. + 5,922
Sun. creditors, &c.	843,582	.. - 44,395	Investments	176,145	.. + 41,462
Savings bank de-			Cash at bank and		
posits	132,686	.. + 7,731	on hand	179,709	.. + 11,359
Unclaimed divs.	4,659	.. + 489	Pension fund		.. - 37,623
Debtors intrst					
accrued	9,000	..			
Benevolent fund	8,995	.. + 3,995			
Reserve	550,000	..			
Pension fund		.. - 37,629			
War. cont. res.		.. 50,000			
Profit and loss	124,529	.. - 114,095			
Total	5,440,583	.. - 214,034	Total	5,440,583	.. - 214,034

Reports and Notices.

We are informed that the offices of Walter R. Skinner, "Capitalist," "Mining Manual and Mining Year Book," and "Oil and Petroleum Manual" have been removed to 15 Dowgate hill, Cannon street, London, E.C. 4.

The Mediterranean Company for General Trade have removed their head offices to 14 Trinity square, London, E.C. 3.

Mr Joseph Hood, M.P., has resigned his deputy-chairmanship and directorship of the British American Tobacco, Limited, and directorships of the Associated Companies.

We are officially informed that the following have now joined the board of the General Petroleum Company of Trinidad, Limited:—Sir Clifford Cory, Bart., M.P., chairman of Cory Bros. and Co., Limited, and Messrs F. W. Barker, chairman of the Lanadron Rubber Estates, Limited; Herbert Guedalla, managing director of the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited, and Henry Ernest Leatham, director of Messrs Henry Leatham and Sons, Limited.

Sir Arthur Worley, C.B.E., F.C.I.I., general manager of the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, Limited, was elected president of the Insurance Institute of London on Tuesday, June 28th,

Mr Henry Mann, deputy-general manager of the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, was re-elected hon. treasurer, and Mr J. A. Pollard of the Alliance Assurance Company, Limited, was re-elected hon. secretary.

Mr Chas. A. Sack has been appointed director of the Sungei Matang Rubber Estate, Limited, to fill the vacancy on the board caused by the death of the late Mr Ewen Cattanech.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

3 PER CENT. CONSOLIDATED EXTERNAL DEBT OF COLUMBIA.—Tenders of bonds of the above debt for amortisation were opened to-day at the offices of the Council of Foreign Bondholders. Tenders ranged from 53½ to 65 per cent. Those at and under 55 per cent. were accepted.

RAILWAYS.

CHILIAN TRANSANDINE.—At the adjourned meeting of debenture holders, held at Winchester House on June 24th, at which holders of debentures to the amount of £896,100 were present, either in person or by proxy, the resolution dealing with the exchange of the present debentures of the above company for Chilean Government 8 per cent. bonds was unanimously passed. This resolution is binding upon all debenture-holders, whether represented at the meeting or not. Bankers who have given certificates of deposit of debentures are advised that they are now free to release the debentures so deposited. Immediately advices have been received by the company that the contract made with the Chilean Government has been approved by the Chilean Congress the present debentures will be exchanged for scrip certificates for the Government bonds.

LEOPOLDINA TERMINAL.—The net revenue of Leopoldina Terminal Company for 1920 was £64,980, plus £15,237 brought in, making £80,217, less interest on 5 per cent. first debentures £59,270, sinking fund charge for redemption of debentures £9,480, income and corporation taxes £2,750, leaving £8,717, which the directors propose be carried forward. As a result of the fall in Brazilian exchange sterling value of dividend received from Cantareira Company shows considerable falling off. Administration expenses and general charges of Cantareira Company for year amounted to Rs.317,160½, as compared with Rs.314,923½ for 1919.

ASSURANCE.

CENTURY INSURANCE.—An arrangement has been made between the Century Insurance Company, Limited, and the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, under which the Commercial Union will, as from July 1st next, act as the Century's underwriters and managers for marine insurances transacted in the United Kingdom. City Underwriters, Limited, will complete all matters connected with the business accepted for the Century Insurance Company during their management, and will continue to supervise the marine foreign agencies of the Century.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRAZILIAN TRACTION.—The revenue of Brazilian Traction Light and Power Company received under contracts with subsidiary companies for 1920 totalled \$7,036,824, which with interest on investments and miscellaneous income \$206,618, together \$7,243,443, less general and legal expenses, administration charges and depreciation on securities \$313,782, interest and charges on secured gold notes and other loans \$674,537, provision for general amortisation \$260,000, leaves a net revenue \$5,995,122. Dividends on preference shares at 6 per cent. per annum absorbs \$600,000, leaving surplus of \$5,395,122, plus \$2,587,008 brought forward, making \$7,982,131. Approximately \$4,900,000 has been utilised towards meeting capital expenditure on properties, leaving \$3,082,131 to be carried forward. The board is disappointed that they have been unable to authorise resumption of payment of dividends on ordinary share capital. This has been due to extremely unfavourable exchange conditions which have prevailed and still continue, and stringency of money, which has made it impracticable to finance necessary capital expenditure by sale of securities.

Mr Frank Henderson has resigned the chairmanship of the City of Santos Improvements Company, Limited, owing to increasing obligations in other directions, but retains his seat on the board. Mr Norman B. Dickson has been elected chairman in his place.

RHODESIAN GOLD OUTPUT.

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	253,807	211,917	211,851	293,794
February	232,023	220,885	250,020	288,225
March	239,023	225,808	199,881	134,932
April	239,916	213,159	208,934	282,396
May	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June	225,447	214,215	194,194	..
July	251,740	214,918	313,126	..
August	257,096	207,339	241,270	..
September	247,865	223,713	231,226	..
October	136,780	204,184	248,085	..
November	145,458	186,462	282,237	..
December	192,870	158,835	272,470	..
Total Gold	2,652,250	2,499,492	3,056,549	..

NOTE.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

		Week's Rec'ts, 1921.	Aggregate Rec'ts, 1921.
Metropolitan District		£	£
London Electric	25 weeks June 25	247,958	5,938,091
City and South London		..	..
Central London		..	..
L.G.O.		..	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams		..	..
London United Trams	25 weeks June 25	59,195	1,343,956
South Metropolitan Trams		..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)		..	..
Geareless Motor		..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246	+ 6,300	Rs. 11,63,235	- 53,14
Barsi Lt. Ry.	8 weeks		28	16,600	- 13,800	1,72,600	- 86,80
Bengal & N. Western	7 weeks	21	2,067	6,20,650	+ 44,631	41,05,603	+ 1,21,92
Bengal Nagpur	7 weeks	21	2,695	12,52,000	- 49,000	92,89,000	- 1,89,23
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	11 weeks	June 18	2,671	21,17,000	+ 3,39,000	2,39,78,000	+ 1,59,00
Burma	7 weeks	May 21	1,242	4,63,848	- 1,15,457	1,89,291	- 5,62,23
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	11 weeks	June 18	239	85,000	- 6,491	1,07,71,715	- 77,39
East Indian	11 weeks	18	2,772	29,59,000	+ 1,33,000	3,30,45,000	+ 7,35,00
G. Indian Peninsula	11 weeks	18	5,121	24,18,800	- 32,700	1,12,89,000	+ 2,88,70
Madras & S. Mahr.	8 weeks	May 28	3,012	13,69,000	+ 19,322	1,08,75,000	+ 1,92,84
Rohilk'd & Rumeon	7 weeks	21	259	65,973	- 5,617	4,39,758	- 37,47
Do Lucknow-Breilly	7 weeks	21	287	82,332	+ 9,340	5,34,848	+ 31,75
South Indian	8 weeks	28	1,852	8,34,563	- 4,873	67,12,144	- 84,48
Sthn. Punjab(month)	5 mths	Feb. 28	716	6,83,752	- 94,252	2,041,325	+ 1,31,30
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	51 weeks	June 25	752	11,200	- 1,400	606,100	- 13,80
Argentine Trans.	51 weeks		111	536	- 1,144	133,655	- 26,11
B. A. and Pacific	51 weeks	25	3,425	144,000	- 29,000	6,721,000	- 1,37,00
B. A. Gt. Southern	51 weeks	25	3,903	168,000	- 9,000	8,615,000	- 825,00
			Net	20,000	- 12,000	1,430,000	- 1,702,00
B. A. Western	51 weeks	25	1,882	79,000	- 24,000	4,075,000	- 1,150,00
			Net	6,000	- 25,000	484,000	- 1,265,00
Buenos Ayres Cent.	10 mths	Apr. 30	190	41,425	- 13,261	406,493	- 12,90
Central Argentine	51 weeks	June 25	3,305	189,000	- 28,000	9,992,000	+ 15,00
Cordoba Central	51 weeks	25	1,205	68,000	+ 7,800	2,772,800	- 308,69
Entre Rios	51 weeks	25	811	21,600	- 2,300	1,179,700	- 51,80
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	5 mths	May 31	31	Ms 63,750	+ 17,250	218,400	- 34,10
Gr. West. of Brazil ..	25 weeks	June 25	1,005	10,000	- 6,600	365,400	- 248,40
Leopoldina	25 weeks	25	1,831	29,588	- 24,492	813,341	- 514,21
Leopoldina	25 weeks	25	1,534	30,489	- 14,050	953,921	- 408,27
State of Bahia, S.W.	5 mths	May 31	52	Ms 41,000	- 37,000	395,000	+ 28,00

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.	Dividend.
					Prefnc.	Ordinary.	Rate				
Banks.		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
National Bank of New Zealand	Mar. 31	69,573	326,822	396,395	..	140,000	14	140,500	115,895	256,299	14
Financial, Land.											
Dominion of Canada Investment ..	April 30	1,282	12,499	13,781	3,938	5,250	6	3,000	1,593	11,132	6
Hotels, Restaurants, &c.											
Spiers and Pond	Mar. 31	15,652	99,863	115,515	..	70,984	12½	22,000	22,531	119,945	12½
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Davy Brothers	Mar. 31	14,969	35,583	50,552	4,500	25,500	7½	..	20,552	17,714	7½
Motor and Cycle.											
Wolseley Motors	Sept. 30	123,752	Dr 83,582	40,170	21,000	..	..	3,842	15,328	124,346	..
Nitrate.											
Tarapaca and Tocopilla	Dec. 31	7,074	69,235	76,309	..	14,000	10	..	62,309	Dr 6,463	..
Oil.											
Burmah Oil (b)	Dec. 31	207,041	3,737,724	3,944,765	44,531	1,543,050	30½	215,000	2,142,184	4,155,938	50½
Rubber, &c.											
Khota Tampan	Jan. 31	2,734	102	2,836	..	..	..	..	2,836	11,666	30
Kopowas	Dec. 31	14,144	Dr 12,247	1,897	..	..	..	..	1,897	5,255	..
Pernambang	Dec. 31	..	4,663	4,663	..	..	..	..	4,663	..	..
United Patani	Dec. 31	..	5,368	5,368	..	..	..	2,852	2,516	..	..
Shops and Stores.											
Lipton	Mar. 31	74,874	162,155	237,029	50,000	156,250	12½	..	30,779	378,229	12½
Tea.											
Jaipur	Dec. 31	10,834	Dr 5,316	5,518	..	1,500	2½	..	4,018	8,621	12½
Trust.											
Equatorial Rubber Trust	Mar. 31	..	21,030	21,030	..	..	..	4,042	16,988	..	..
Scottish Tea and Rubber Trust	May 31	756	4,411	5,167	..	2,450	2½	..	2,717	22,387	20
Other Companies.											
Burgis and Colbourne	May 4	7,976	2,734	10,710	3,300	1,500	5	..	5,910	12,945	15
Eastwoods	Mar. 31	..	55,607	55,607	..	36,699	12½	..	18,908	..	..
J. C. and J. Fields	Mar. 31	3,153	12,355	15,508	6,199	4,374	10	..	4,935	36,777	15
Major and Co.	Dec. 31	11,444	25,904	37,348	17,311	2,916	10	10,642	6,479	..	..
Philip Harris and Co.	Mar. 31	5,261	5,721	10,982	1,875	1,050	7½	1,000	7,057	12,479	7½
Wm. Mowat and Sons	May 31	2,548	1,483	4,031	1,050	840	6	..	2,140	4,159	12½

† Tax free. (b) Burmah Oil.—Ordinary capital increased during 1920. The 1919 dividend of 50 per cent. absorbed £1,428,750, and the 1920 dividend of 30 per cent. took £1,543,050.

OIL OUTPUTS.

COMMONWEALTH OIL CORPORATION, LIMITED.—Advice from Australia reports for the four weeks ended May 20, 1921: Shale reported, 2,617 tons. Crude oil produced, 236,273 gallons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Production for the week ending Wednesday, June 22, 1921, amounted to 588 tons.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Droughty conditions prevailing for some time past have been partially relieved by welcome rains over the Southern, Western and Midland counties, but further moisture is needed for spring cereals and fodder crops. Official reports, however, continue to speak favourably respecting the wheat crop. Hay is being secured under ideal conditions, and small supplies arriving on the markets show excellent quality. Offerings of native wheat are on a very limited scale, with many provincial markets bare of supplies. Suitable milling qualities realise 96s to 98s, with inferior grades 88s to 93s per quarter 504 lbs. Imported descriptions move off quietly, and prices are 2s 6d to 5s lower, both for Governmental and free offerings. No. 1, Northern Manitoba, ex ship, 91s, No. 2, ditto, 91s, ex store. Australian, ex ship, 81s 1½d, and Argentine, ex ship, 84s to 85s. per quarter. Shipments of late have been on a very liberal scale, and the outlook generally for next season remains favourable to importing countries, crop news, on the whole, being quite satisfactory. It is reported that measures are being taken to accelerate the de-control of wheat; which would involve the liquidation of Governmental holdings. Flour.—The demand shows no improvement, and prices 2s easier at 69s for London straight run delivered per 280 lbs. Country straights rule at 62s to 63s, free on rail. There is a fair demand for best grades of imported at steady rates, the market being scantily supplied, and recent arrivals were readily absorbed. Manitoba export patents quoted 71s, straights 69s, Kansas patents 67s, and Australian 65s per 280 lbs, ex store, with Australian July shipment quoted at 56s to 56s 6d per sack. The market for maize developed a steadier tone, consumptive demand showing some improvement, owing to the spell of dry weather. Plate quoted 48s, yellow South African 46s 6d,

47s, white ditto 44s, and Rangoon 46s, landed, per 480 lbs. The forward market also showed more activity, buyers being attracted by the lower prices ruling recently, and quite a good business transpired in European and Plate cargoes at advancing rates. Sales include Plate steamers afloat at 42s to 44s 6d, as to size and position, July-August 40s 6d, Dan-Gal-Foxanian afloat 44s 4½d, and a part cargo Moldavian afloat 45s per 480 lbs. Barley quiet but fully steady on the spot. English grinding quoted 45s to 52s, Californian 50s to 54s, and Morocco 46s landed per 448 lbs. American malting 44s 6d landed, No. 4 Canada Western ex ship 44s, Canada feed 40s 6d, American feed 41s, and Egyptian feed 40s landed per 400 lbs. Scottish pearl barley £21 to £23 per ton ex store. On c.i.f. terms the market ruled quiet, but prices the turn steadier. Cargoes of Dan-Bess-Kustendji afloat sellers 44s 6d, and new crop August-September 41s, with a part cargo afloat done at

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

44s per 400 lbs. Parcels firmer for Californian, but business confined to narrow limits. Beans steady. The U.K. crop promises to be very light owing to absence of rain, and many fields have been attacked by vermin. English spring quoted 55s to 68s, and new winters 52s to 55s. Old crop firmly held at 73s to 85s per 532 lbs. China horse beans £9 5s to £10 10s per ton ex store. Peas firm with a hardening tendency. English maples range from 75s to 95s. Duns 55s to 63s, marrowfats 60s to 100s per 504 lbs. Japanese marrowfats 27s 6d to 28s, and Tasmanian blues 17s to 19s per cwt ex store. English oats firm and sparingly offered, while prospects of the new crop indicate a light yield, while very short in straw owing to continued drought. Whites range from 47s to 50s per 336 lbs. Foreign sorts remain quiet. Plate f.a.q. 30s, ditto clipped 31s 6d, Chilean tawny 32s 6d, No. 2 Canada Western 34s 6d, No. 3 ditto 31s 6d per 320 lbs landed. Oatmeal quiet, but late rates generally maintained. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split quoted 49s, and Egyptian 34s per 100 lbs ex store. Homeward grain freights have been generally quiet apart from some inquiry from the Continent. The River Plate section is somewhat depressed, and rates lower on free tonnage offers. Up river to U.K./Continent July 1-20th done at 45s to 43s 9d, with tonnage since obtainable at 42s 6d ton. North America steady, with 6s quarter quoted U.K. and 27½ cents per 100 lbs Hamburg, while several vessels were fixed at 27½ cents Gulf to Rotterdam/Hamburg August. North Pacific paid 55s ton to U.K. Eastern markets firm but quiet on scanty tonnage offers. Bombay/Karachi 25s scale basis. Dalry wheat 50s, Saigon rice 50s, Australian wheat July 65s per ton to U.K./Continent. Danube grain showed more interest in prompt loading at 27s 6d, with possibly 30s obtainable for handy size steamers to U.K./Continent, with 5s ton less if Mediterranean ports of discharge. Time charter steady quiet at 7s per ton per month for one trans-Atlantic round, and proportionately less money for longer periods.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1 week to June 25	45,774	21,734	130,470	75,244
41 weeks to June 25	12,661,618	10,706,108	12,684,609	9,475,383
Average price of English wheat per quarter	89 1	78 9	73 5	74 4
= per cwt	20 9	18 4½	17 1	18 0

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
June 18	17,343 4	3,303 1	6,790 2	89 4	43 1	39 4
25	10,913 7	3,642 7	3,999 6	89 1	41 0	38 11
1917	10,417 2	8,577 5	3,213 5	78 3	73 11	55 1
1918	17,557 0	2,538 6	1,071 2	74 4	57 10	46 4
1919	30,143 1	1,731 1	3,853 0	73 3	63 4	49 1
1920	5,071 3	1,634 4	1,560 0	78 9	87 2	64 7

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated June 30th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: It is not yet possible to say when the iron and steel works may resume operations. In the meantime, there is practically no business doing. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. and No. 4 foundry are very scarce, but lower qualities are plentiful. No. 3 and No. 4 are quoted £6 15s. per ton for home consumption, and the export price is now 143s per ton. The free market for East Coast hematite has resulted in mixed numbers being offered at their rate of 140s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: It is uncertain when operations may be resumed at the local works. Steel ship plates, home, £15; steel ship angles, home, £14 10s; iron bars, home, £19; steel rails, home, £15 net. Iron ore: A few cargoes have lately arrived against old contracts, but so far there has been no resumption of buying for forward deliveries.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The coal strike has been settled, and a stoppage in the engineering trade, which would have been almost as serious, avoided. Some branches of engineering are at present well supplied with orders from both overseas and home sources. As coal may be available to some extent next week, a good many local firms are preparing to restart operations. In the lighter and finished branches a fair amount of business has accumulated, but the outlook for raw steel remains as bad as before the strike. Makers of acid steel can see, perhaps, two months' work, but not more. Most of the basic steel wanted is being obtained from abroad. Continental billets are less than £7, whereas the home price is £12. This figure should, however, be reduced £2 next week. Prices generally, however, are in the melting-pot, as steelmakers want to know what they will have to pay for their coke. If they can get down to within a couple of pounds of the Continental prices of steel they may have a chance of doing business. There will be no general restarting of the blast furnaces for the present, although foundry iron is scarce. The

crucible steel department is still almost without orders. Inquiries generally are plentiful, and tend to increase. Bright steel has been reduced from £25 to £20, Yorkshire Crown bar iron from £19 to £16, and iron hoops from £23 5s to £20 5s. Wire rods have not been lowered officially, but prices are being cut. Some collieries have been kept in a condition whereby a prompt start can be made in getting coal. Many, however, have suffered from fall of roof and water to such an extent that they will not be ready for normal working for two or three weeks. It is expected the distribution will be controlled for some time, railways, gas, and electric works having the preference.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The settlement of the coal dispute has given great satisfaction to trade and industrial circles in the West of Scotland, which were on the brink of total paralysis. There have been several cargo lots landed in the Clyde from America and Canada of late; but, acceptable as these were, they were quite inadequate to requirements, even those alone applicable to utility purposes. It is recognised in informed quarters that weeks must elapse before production approaches to normal conditions. At every colliery in this district repairs, more or less heavy, have to be effected ere the workers can have free scope at the faces and before the outputs can be appreciable in quantity. In some cases the reconstructions, it is said, will occupy attention to the end of July, and that not sooner will the great body of the men be employed. Fortunately, the annual summer trade holidays fall in during the interval, and therefore demand from public works will not be in force, and by the time it again comes into play it is hoped that supplies on hand account will be well adequate for needs. It will take a longer period, it is feared, to meet any inquiry which may come along in shipment interests. While the immediate outlook for coal supplies is by no means assured, it is surprising how encouragingly the tone of business in iron and steel has gathered strength in the past few days—to the extent even of the opinion gaining acceptance that by the beginning of August a departure for the better will be visible in several of our leading manufacturing departments. This feeling has been helped forward unquestionably by the prospects that the trouble in the joiners' trade, which has lasted for six months (and greatly hampered shipwright business), is ripe for adjustment; and that the threatened dislocation with the engineers will be averted. Happily, coincidentally, a substantial quantity of new work has come into the market. Locomotive builders have booked an order for 45 powerful engines for the New Zealand Government, and negotiations are proceeding relative to 2,500 wagons for the same authority, who are also credited with having given out to local firms a valuable line for hydro-electric works to be erected in the colony. Then a Glasgow firm has secured a £30,000 contract for constructional work. Harland and Wolff are said to have acquired an extensive stretch of territory on the south side of the Clyde, on which they purpose large expansions, such as should raise their yard to the premier place, as regards size, in the United Kingdom. This firm is said to have an enormous volume of work in hand, and has been continuously employed throughout the general slump in shipbuilding. Despite the prevalence of some adverse factors, Clyde shipbuilders last month put into the water 16 vessels of 40,371 tons, bringing the totals for the half-year up to 118 craft, of 235,800 tons, not a bad issue in all the circumstances. Since last week Scotch bar iron has been reduced by £3 a ton, making "Crown" quality £16 per ton. Thirteen months ago the quotation was as high as £30 a ton. As against £16 per ton for home make at present, it is instructive to note that Continental steel bars are selling at about £10 ton, delivered Forth ports. A strong inquiry has set in for Scotch foundry iron for both home and foreign markets, and values are still hardening, and this mainly because of the shortage of supplies. Hematites are more plentiful, and are named as at £9 f.o.b. at works.

BY-PRODUCTS TRADE.

Our correspondent writes:—The continued coal strike has caused the coal tar products market considerable depression. Pitch, however, shows a tendency to recover, and will probably be much

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

Head Office: . . 54, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.
And over 1,500 Branches in England and Wales.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£20,000,000
ISSUED AND PAID-UP CAPITAL	£15,592,372
RESERVE FUND	£8,250,000
DEPOSITS (31st December, 1920)	£327,788,370.

Every Description of British and Foreign Banking Business Transacted.

Executorships and Trusteeships Undertaken.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

THE BRITISH LINEN BANK	Head Office: . Edinburgh.
THE UNION BANK OF MANCHESTER LIMITED	Head Office: . Manchester.
THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANK, LIMITED	Head Office: 27, Clements Lane, London, E.C.4.

moderate compass. F.M.S. Straits, June-August, Rotterdam, sold, £29; ditto, August-October, £29 15s to £29 2s 6d; Ceylon, June-August, London, quoted £31; South Sea Islands ditto, £28 10s; F.M. Straits, June-August, Marseilles, £27 15s. Palm kernels steady. July-September, sold, £20 10s to £20 5s.

MENTHOL.—Spot lots changed hands at 19s; Japanese peppermint oil, spot, sellers, 4s 3d; aniseed, spot, sold, 2s 3d; refined slabs of camphor, Japanese, on spot, quoted, 4s, and Chinese, 3s 10d; crude, spot, 2s 9d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 90s per cwt.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market generally slow but steady. Liquid yolk, spot, prime, 135s per cwt; albumen, spot, 2s 11d per lb for hen.

RUBBER.—A steadier tone governed the market this week, and a fair volume of business resulted. Plantation crepe, spot, sold, 8½d to 9d; July-September, 8½d to 9d; October-December, 8½d to 9d; smoked ribbed sheet, spot, sold, 7½d to 8d; July-September, 8½d; October-December, 9d to 9½d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted 10½d; caucho ball, 7½d.

OILS.—Linedseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 35s; September-December, 34s 9d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 52s; refined, 60s. Cotton firm. Crude Egyptian, 38s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 46s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 92s; and shipment, 66s. Coconut firm. Ceylon, spot, 56s; July-August, 48s 9d; Cochin, ditto, 54s. Soya firm. Oriental, cases, July-August, 33s; barrels, ditto, 36s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 22s to 24s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 43s; deodorised, barrels, £55. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 80s; Rosin easier. American, grade B, 15s 6d; F, 16s; G, 16s; K, 17s 6d; M, 17s 6d; WW, 24s; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 9½d; and water-white, 1s 10½d per gallon.

OLSEEDS.—Linedseed: Market irregular and firmer, with fair dealings. Calcutta, July-August, £20 5s, sellers; Bombay, £21. Plate, spot, Hull, £19; affloat, sailer, sold, £18 12s 6d; steamer, early July, £19 2s 6d; parcels, June-July and July-August, sold, £18 to £18 15s; August-September, £18 2s 6d to £19; September-October, £18 5s to £19. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, June-July, £21 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £20 15s; brown Cawnpore, £19 10s. Cottonseed firm. Egyptian black, July, sold, £11 5s; and white, £11. Bombay, June, Hull, nominally £10 5s. Gingelly firm. Chinese, June-July, Continent, £25. Castor, Bombay, June-July, sold, £16 10s, and Brazilian, £13 10s, Hull. Ground nuts, Coromandel, machine-dried, July-August, £21 15s; ordinary, £20. Chinese decontaminated, f.a.q., July-August, £22 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin exhibited a rather firmer tendency at the week's commencement, dealings being confined chiefly to forward dates, with July selling at £168 and three months' £168 15s to £169. Little change characterised Tuesday's movements, while prices were rather easier at Wednesday's market, cash being registered at £167 10s to £166 15s, three months' £169 10s to £168 10s. A firmer tone pre-

vailed on Thursday, cash being sold at £167, late August £168 10s, and three months' from £169 to £168 15s, finally £169 5s. At Friday's session prices moved in an upward direction. Cash changed hands at £168 10s to £168 and since at £169 10s; August dates £168 10s to £169 10s, and three months' from £171 to £170, improving to £171 15s, and since done at £171 5s. Copper tended quiet and somewhat lower, while steady at the decline. By the middle of the week standard on spot moved down to £70 7s 6d, and three months to £70 12s 6d. A larger business was concluded at Thursday's meeting, values being dearer. Cash changed hands at £71 2s 6d, July dates £70 17s 6d to £71 5s, and three months' £71 to £71 10s. At Friday's session values advanced. Standard cash realised £72 2s 6d to £72, late August £72 7s 6d, and three months' £72 7s 6d to £72 2s 6d. Electros, £75 10s to £77 10s; best selected, £72 10s to £74 10s; strong sheets, £112. Wire bars, £75 10s to £77 10s. Lead firmer at £23 5s to £23 2s 6d, as to position. Spelter easier at £27 2s 6d to £27 12s 6d, according to position. Antimony, English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade and export, £150.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on June 29th as follows:—The tallow market was firm during the week, with prices advancing. A more lively demand developed; the unsold lots of the previous auction were mostly cleared and buyers still remained unsatisfied. At to-day's auctions the better kinds of mutton advanced 6d, good mixed 2s, and inferior sorts 2s 6d. At auction to-day 1,433 casks tallow were offered, and 1,353 were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 36s 9d; good to fair, 35s 6d to 34s 6d; dull to dark, 33s 9d to 29s 6d; hard, 35s 6d. Australian beef: Fine, 43s; good to fair, 38s to 34s 9d; dull to dark, 30s 3d to 29s 3d; sweet, 43s 9d. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs., —; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, nominal. The market letters unchanged for tallow, stuff 2s dearer. Town tallow, 29s per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, none; melted stuff, 17s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town: 29s, net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 27s; home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, 32s; fair to dull, 29s 6d to 26s. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 22s; melted stuff, 22s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—JUNE 30.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal.	Sheep, per stone.
Beasts—Herefords..... s d s d	Sheep—Downs (clipped) 10 8 to 12 8
Shorthorns..... 10 0 to 10 8	Longwools..... 10 4 to 12 4
Devons..... 10 0 to 10 8	Crossbred..... 12 0 to 15 0
Northfords..... 10 0 to 10 8	Scottish..... 12 0 to 15 0
Scottish..... 10 0 to 10 8	Lamb—Downs..... 12 0 to 15 0

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—JUNE 30.

Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
Epicures..... s d s d	Jerseys..... s d s d
Kidneys..... 14 0 to 15 0	St Malo..... 15 0 to 16 0
..... 16 0 to 18 0	

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				INDIA RUBBER.—lb—s d s d				PROVISIONS.—s d s d				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb—s d s d			
COCOA—duty 4½d p lb	s d	s d	s d	Para, fine, spot	s d	s d	s d	Butter, per cwt.	s d	s d	s d	Singapore, fair White	s d	s d	s d
Trinidad, per cwt.	56	0	0	Cape, good to fine	40	0	0	Do factory	156	0	174	Black Singapore	0	4	0
Granada	52	0	0	Plantation crepe	0	9	0	Do do	172	0	181	White Siam	0	9	0
Ceylon, plantation	70	0	0	INDIGO.—per lb	s d	s d	s d	Argentine	170	0	174	Pimento	0	24	0
Guayaquil	58	0	0	Benzal, good red vio-	9	0	11	Dutch	186	0	205	Cinnamon—1st sort	1	3	0
Bahia, finest	56	0	0	let to fine	9	0	11	New Zealand	194	0	209	Do 2nd	1	0	0
COFFEE.—42 per cwt.				Mid. ord. vio. to good	7	6	8	Danish	208	0	214	Do 3rd	1	0	0
E. India fine d. r. d.	70	0	112	Low to good ord.	6	0	0	Bacon, spg'd.—Irish	187	0	210	Do 4th	0	9	0
Do good to fine	110	0	135	Madras, dry leaf, good	5	0	0	Danish	187	0	210	Chips	0	34	0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	70	0	112	Do low to ord.	1	6	4	Canadian	150	0	165	Cassia lignea	31	0	22
Good to fine	115	0	135	Kurpah, g. mid. to gd.	6	0	7	American	110	0	127	Cloves—Zanzibar	0	84	0
Central American, gd.	115	0	135	Low to mid.	3	6	5	Hams—Irish	nom			Penang	2	0	2
Ord. to mid	62	0	86	HEMP.—per ton	s d	s d	s d	Canadian	118	0	172	Ginger—per cwt.	120	0	132
Mid. to fine	85	0	95	St. Petersburg, layer	nom			Manila	108	0	172	Do small rough	30	0	32
Colombian, ordinary	50	0	52	Madras, June-Aug.	38	0	0	American	108	0	172	Do washed	30	0	32
Do gd. ord. to low mid	55	0	75	N. Z. spot, high fair	41	10		Pork—per 8 lbs	82	0	82	Japan	37	0	40
Do mid. to fine	80	0	103	JUTE.—Native first marks,	s d	s d	s d	Beef—Frozen, per lb	2	4	5	Jamaica	103	0	140
CHEMICALS.—				July/Aug. subls.	25	5	0	Scotch	9	8	11	Mace	0	6	1
Acid, tartaric	per lb	2	5	LEATHER.—per lb	s d	s d	s d	Cheese—cwt.—Canadian	65	0	162	Nutmegs, good to fine	1	1	4
Nitric	0	24	0	Bale Bends 6/10 lb.	1	2	0	New Zealand	94	0	155	Small to medium	0	6	0
Oxalic, net	0	10	1	Do do 12/14	2	0	3	Eng. Cheddars	nom			Chillies—per cwt	90	0	153
Tartaric, English	1	7	1	Do do 14/16	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			TALLOW.—per cwt.	35	6	0
Foreign	1	7	1	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Dutch	94	0	150	Do	38	0	0
Alum lump, per ton	220/0	27/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Eggs, per 120	25	0	26	FLOUR.—25 lb	0	0	0
Do ground	220/0	27/0		Bark Tanned Sides	3	0	3	English	25	0	26	Eng. straight ex mill	63	0	0
Ammonia, carb., p. lb	0	4	0	Shldrs fm DS Hides	0	4	0	FLOUR—25 lb	22	0	23	RICE.—per cwt. c.i.f.	17	0	0
Muriate, White, ton	70	0	75	Do Eng or WS do	0	8	1	Eng. straight ex mill	63	0	0	Rangoon No. 2	17	0	0
Sulphate	20	0	25	Do do 14/16	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sulphate, lump, per ton	25	0	30	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Acetic, lump, per ton	25	0	30	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Powder	per ton	42	10	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Ashes, pot., per cwt	195	0	195	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Pearl do	nom			Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	17/0	18/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Borax, crystals	cwt 34	0	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Do powder	35	0	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Cream Tartar	140	0	145	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
3% powder	per lb	5	2	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Calomel	per oz	1	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Iodine, dry	per oz	1	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	220/0	27/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Potash	0	6	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Chlorate, net	0	2	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Prussiate	1	4	1	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Do Foreign	1	4	1	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sulphate	per ton	40	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Bal-Aceton	per lb	1	1	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Bal-Ammoniac, pr. cwt	75	0	80	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Soda Chloride, per ton	110/0	12/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton	27/0	30/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Alkali	per ton	215/0	22/0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Caustic	per ton	215/0	22/0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sugar of lead white ton	0/0	0/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Foreign white	255	0	61	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sulphate Quinine	nom			Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
English Brand	nom			Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Foreign do	3	11	4	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sulphate Copper, p. ton	30/0	31/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Zinc, cmt	nom			Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Sulphur Flour	19/0	20/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Do Roll	18/0	19/0		Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lbs	6	6	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
English	5	6	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
COPRA.—per ton c.i.f.				Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Malabar, July-Sept.	s d	s d	s d	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
Ceylon	3	0	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
FMS Singapore	23	0	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
FMS Straits	23	0	0	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0
COCHINEAL.—per lb	2	0	3	Do do 17/18	2	0	3	Cheshire	nom			Broken 14	14	0	0

JULY 9, 1921.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 1921.

No. 4,063.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full information respecting
ESTATE DUTYand
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIESissued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

ment caused much bewilderment, and, by a complicated chain of argument, was pointed to in some quarters as a fresh indication that Bank rate will have to come down in order to stimulate applications for the new Treasury bond issue.

	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	6	6	6	6	6 (June 23, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	4	4	4	4	4 (June 23, '21)
Discount, Call	4	4	4	4	4 (June 23, '21)
Houses (Notice)	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½ (June 23, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	4½	5*	5*	5½*	..
Market rate (3 months' bills)	5½	5½	5½	5½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed no improvement. The stock of gold was increased by £2,000, and the circulation rose by £102,000, making the Reserve £100,000 lower. Securities rose by £1,870,000, Government securities being £2,595,000 higher and Other £725,000 lower, and Deposits were thus a million and three-quarters higher, Public rising by £4,423,000 and Other being reduced by £2,698,000. The currency notes circulation expanded by £1,523,000 to £325,407,000, which includes £2,012,500 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £275,444,600, which is £42,110,600 below the maximum.

The Swedish and Danish Bank rates were reduced by ½ per cent. to 6 per cent. on July 5, 1921. The Swedish Bank rate had stood at 6½ per cent. since May 4, 1921, and the Danish rate has been at 6½ per cent. since May 5, 1921.

There has been more business in the exchange market this week than for some little time past, but, although no rates have moved violently, there is no feeling of certainty anywhere. New York, which ended on July 1st at 4.72½, rose to 4.73½ on Monday, fell away again gradually to 4.72½ on Thursday, and although yesterday morning it was up again to 4.71½, the tendency was weak, and there is a general feeling that rates may go somewhat lower. Quotations for futures, at about one-half cent per month above spot, are practically unchanged. Paris, in spite of banking troubles and a deterioration in harvest prospects, has moved up only a little, after some irregularity, to 46.65 yesterday (as compared with 46.55 a week ago), when Paris was inclined to offer sterling. Brussels, on the other hand, at 47.35, showed a rather wider spread from Paris than it did a week ago at 46.82. Paris, at about 3 centimes per month under spot, and Brussels, at about 9 centimes, are rather narrower quotations for futures than last week. Both Italy, at 77½, and Madrid, at 29, have moved in our favour, while Switzerland has gone against us from 22.17½ to 22.12, and Amsterdam, after a slight relapse, has ended at 11.36, the same as the preceding week. Christiania at 26.37½ and Copenhagen at 22.27½ have both slightly depreciated; Stockholm, at 17.00, after being some points higher during the week, is practically unchanged. On Monday there was, for some unexplained cause, a sharp appreciation in the German mark to 273, after which, however, the rate rose again almost at once to its old level of about 279. Helsingfors, at 222, has shown itself able to maintain some part of its recent recovery, while Portugal, at 8½d, reflects in its improvement the announcement of a small loan in America. Among the Central European exchanges the London rate on Vienna (Auslandskronen), after rising to 2,450 on Monday, is back at 2,300 as compared with 2,150 a week ago. On Monday last the Vienna rate (for Inlands-kronen) was 2,820. This tendency of the two rates to come more closely together is the inevitable result of the decree issued towards the end of April permitting the purchase of Inlands-kronen from abroad for the purpose of direct payments in Austria, and as the meaning of the decree becomes more widely understood we may expect to see a still closer approximation of the rates. Warsaw, after recovering to about 5,500 on the news of the energetic measures contemplated by the Polish Government, has moved up again to about 7,500. Prague has

remained steady at about 275½, Belgrade at about 132, while Budapest is slightly better at about 1,000. Sofia has depreciated from 340 to 350, and Bucharest, in spite of harvest prospects, is also a little higher at 251. Athens at 66, although a little below its worst, continues to depreciate; Constantinople at 535 is also somewhat higher. South American exchanges, as a whole, have moved somewhat in favour of this country. India, perhaps on more doubtful monsoon news, has weakened slightly. The yen, on the other hand, has moved up to about 2s 7½d, reflecting the general improvement in Japanese trade conditions. As the result largely of fears occasioned by the Banque Industrielle de Chine there was on the 5th a sharp demand for silver from China, bringing up the price to 36½d, but since then demand and price have fallen away again somewhat. Shanghai and Hong-kong have, of course, followed these movements.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO JUNE 30, 1921.

Total spent	£ 271,420,290	Raised by revenue ..	£ 204,168,385
Dec. in balances....	253,757	Net borrowings	66,998,148
Total	271,166,533	Total	271,166,533
ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	318	315	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19
4½% War Stock	..	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,951	1,951	1,951
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358	358
5½% Conversion Lm.*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,221	1,221	1,221
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292	292	292
Natnl Savings Certs. ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285	285	285
War Expnd. Certs.	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,122	1,122	1,122
American Loan	..	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	152	152	152
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,596	7,596	7,596
Total Liabilities.....	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,644	7,644	7,644

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

	June 30, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	June 30, '21.	June 30, '21.
Way and Means Advances	£ 69,750,000..	£ 154,489,000..	£ 39,250,000..	£ 10,500,000
Advances by Bank of England..	173,941,000..	113,074,000..	16,471,000	16,471,000
Advances by Public Departments	1,050,090,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,221,647,000..	1,221,647,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,293,781,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,373,971,000..	1,373,971,000
Total Floating Debt	1,293,781,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,373,971,000..	1,373,971,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

JULY 2ND.—U.S. President signs peace with Germany and Austria-Hungary.

JULY 4TH.—Coal mines reopen. Conference of Southern Unionists and Sinn Fein leaders at Dublin. Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Bill debated in Commons.

JULY 5TH.—General Smuts in Dublin. Chancellor of the Exchequer announces new issue of Treasury bonds. British Mediterranean Fleet concentrating on Constantinople.

JULY 6TH.—General Smuts confers with Prime Minister on Irish question. Debate on time for passing Railways Bill in Commons. Death of Lord Balfour of Burleigh. Australian Government introduces Bill to establish a Tariff Board.

JULY 7TH.—Commons debate on coal settlement. Housing subsidy to end.

JULY 8TH.—Ulster Premier visits the King.

On the Stock Exchange the announcement of the forthcoming Treasury bond issue caused a reaction in gilt-edged securities, which, however, was arrested later in the week, partly on hopes that the new loan will be instrumental in bringing Bank rate lower. The volume of business remains small, hopes that lower Bank rate and industrial settlement would cause a revival being disappointed.

The cotton market has continued to present a more active appearance, a feature being the volume of speculative purchases by shippers of cloth to India, while a healthy turnover is reported for several minor outlets. From the woollen textile industry more business is reported than for many weeks past, and the general tone is good. Another series of colonial wool sales begins at Coleman street on Monday. Work is gradually being resumed in the iron and steel industries, and it is hoped that next week will see some blast furnaces in operation. From Sheffield, however, a continuance of idleness is reported by steel makers. The hide market is a little firmer. A rather better demand is reported for linseed oil.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

NEW TREASURY BONDS.

ON Tuesday last the Chancellor of the Exchequer made the following statement in the House of Commons:—

"After careful consideration and consultation, I have decided to offer for subscription an issue of 5½ per cent. Treasury bonds maturing April 1, 1929, the price of issue being fixed at 97. Holders of the 5 per cent. Exchequer Bonds maturing on October 5, 1921, and of National War Bonds maturing in 1922 and 1923, will be offered an opportunity of converting their holdings into these Treasury Bonds. The sole purpose of the issue is to provide for redeeming maturing obligations, and thus to avoid undue recourse to Treasury Bills and Ways and Means Advances. I am sure that I can confidently rely on the people of the country to support this issue, and so assist our efforts to maintain our financial position on a sound footing. I should add that the loan will not be for any fixed amount, and I do not propose in the first instance to fix any definite period within which subscriptions will be received. I will circulate in the Official Report a *résumé* of the terms of the issue."

The following are the terms of issue as thus officially published:—Price of issue, £97 per cent. Principal repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. Interest exempt from corporation profits tax. Bonds convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Applications will be received on July 12, 1921, and thereafter until further notice. The first dividend will be payable on October 1, 1921, and will represent interest to that date from the date on which payment for the bond is made. On notice given not later than July 26, 1921, holders of the following Exchequer and National War Bonds may surrender their holdings in whole or in part, and receive in exchange therefor similar holdings of like amounts of Treasury Bonds of the present issue, together with a cash payment as follows:—

5 per cent. Exchequer Bonds, due October 5, 1921, a cash payment of £4 per £100 of bonds surrendered.
5 per cent. National War Bonds, due October 1, 1922, a cash payment of £4 per £100 of bonds surrendered.
5 per cent. National War Bonds, due April 1, 1923, a cash payment of £3 10s per £100 of bonds surrendered.
5 per cent. National War Bonds, due September 1, 1923, a cash payment of £3 10s per £100 of bonds surrendered.

All conversions will take place as on July 26, 1921, to which date interest will be paid in respect of bonds surrendered, and from which date the 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds issued in exchange will carry interest.

It will be seen that the terms attached to the new issue should be very attractive to investors, since they can place their money at a high rate, and acquire an option which will enable them to transfer it to a long-dated security, the 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan, if before October, 1922, such securities should have become more desirable than

short-dated obligations. If not, the holder of the new bonds can wait for redemption in 1929, and this comparatively short life will secure him, to a great extent, against depreciation in the meantime. Offered at the right time and by the right Government, the security might easily have been very successfully placed, in spite of the obvious criticism that it is too short for the investor and too long for the market, because the option attached robs the first half of the criticism of most of its sting. But the time, of course, is ill-chosen with the holiday season just going to begin, though, as the issue is to be on offer till further notice, it is possible that when the world comes back to business the loan may be galvanised into something like success. But the worst obstacle in its way is the discredit from which the present Government suffers, especially in the matter of expenditure, which has imbued most investors with the belief that by lending to it they are likely to encourage it in extravagance. Such an atmosphere is most unfavourable to the efforts of the Treasury to put the finances of the country on a sounder basis, and must remain so until it can be dispelled. In spite of the cash bonuses offered to holders of maturing securities to induce them to convert, it is not expected that professional owners of them will be beguiled into an eight-year security. To real investors the conversion terms should be as attractive as the terms of subscription.

THE RAILWAYS BILL.

THE Railways Bill is advancing through Committee with slow but not stately steps. In spite of the fact that the Committee is now sitting till 6 p.m. three days a week, the 75 clauses of the Bill are being disposed of at a rate fractionally less than one clause per diem. On Wednesday Sir Frederick Banbury proposed by an amendment to Clause 12 to deprive the Transport Minister of power to order a company to afford reasonable facilities and conveniences to the public. After a discussion lasting 1½ hours he found one other member in a Committee of more than 60 to support him. The groups have been settled practically in the form proposed by the Minister, with the addition of the Scottish grouping which he accepted on the first day. But the precise terms of amalgamation are to be finally settled on Report. The South Wales coal lines, the Taff, the Barry, &c., have been transferred from the category of "absorbed" to that of "constituent" companies in the Great Western group. The change, while possessing some importance from the internal company point of view, makes no difference affecting the public interest. There were one or two interesting discussions as to what was to be done with a company, with a liability of some thousands of pounds for Parliamentary expenses, whose only asset was an Act which nothing had been done to put in force. Attempts to maintain the old idea of competition, in place of the idea of territorial monopoly substantially embodied in the Bill, were made in the shape of amendments to create a Central and a Liverpool and Manchester group, but were defeated. The members for Hull, needless to say, died in the last ditch in an endeavour to prevent the Hull and Barnsley being absorbed in the North-Eastern group, but were beaten by a majority of nearly three to one.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN,

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital	-	£38,116,050
Paid-up Capital	-	10,859,800
Reserve Fund	-	10,859,800
Deposits (Dec 31st, 1920)	-	371,841,963

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

In the course of the week it became evident that something must be done to accelerate progress. August 15th is only five weeks off, and on that day the companies become responsible for their own finance. Without the £60,000,000 grant, for which the Bill provides, the position of many of them will be perilous in the extreme. In the language of a member, who is also a railway director: "Unless this Bill is passed before that day many of the less financially strong railway companies will be faced with absolute bankruptcy." Accordingly on Wednesday evening, in the House downstairs, Mr Chamberlain submitted a series of drastic proposals, which, after a long debate and several divisions, were duly passed. Part III. of the Bill, consisting of 40 clauses, establishing a Rates Tribunal and giving it full powers to control rates in future, is transferred to a separate Committee. The step was very necessary. When the Bill was introduced it was generally understood that this part, having been accepted by the railway companies on the one hand and the great trading organisations on the other, was mainly non-contentious. Since then about 500 amendments have been put down. The separation of the Bill into two parts, referred to two different Committees, is said to be unprecedented. But there is no practical difficulty involved, for Part III. is really in effect a separate measure, and might perfectly well have been introduced as such, except for the technical reason that it makes provision for the rates to be charged by the groups which only come into existence under the provisions of Part I. Secondly, power is given to the chairman of each Committee to enforce what is technically known as a "Kangaroo" closure, that is, to select from the amendments those which appear best suited to secure discussion on important points of principle, and to jump over the rest. Thirdly, Mr Chamberlain proposed that when the Bill emerges from Committee three days and no more should be allotted for the report and third reading stages. He subsequently gave way to the extent of allotting five days. But from the table of the allocation of Parliamentary time which he put forward it is evident that it will only be with good luck, and after a fierce scramble, that the Bill will receive Royal Assent by August 15th.

The railway companies are fortunate in their choice of the member who acts as their principal spokesman, Major Hills, a North-Western director, who sits for Durham City, and who has done his best not only to improve the Bill, but to smooth its passage.

SAFEGUARDING UNEMPLOYMENT.

WHEN we say that a man is "well-meaning" we politely imply that though his intentions may be good his actions in their working out are both feeble and futile. In this qualified sense we do not doubt that the Government, urged by their Protectionist supporters, were "well-meaning" when they drafted their Bill for the "safeguarding" of industries. Their intention was to reduce the risk of men in some of our industries being thrown out of work by the so-called dumping of foreign-made imports. But what they overlooked at the beginning, and are trying with the aid of distorting spectacles to overlook now, is that no industry in this highly organised country stands by itself. They are being warned by the big banks and by the great woollen, cotton, and steel trades that in regard to industry this country is a highly articulated machine in which the elementary completed product of one trade is the semi-manufactured raw material of another trade higher up the industrial scale. In the words of the hymn, "We are not divided, all one body we." If the elementary product of one trade be advanced in price by means of a tariff on competitive imports, then the trade higher up the scale, which uses this product, home or imported, as a raw material, is at once penalised in the world's markets. In other words, by "safeguarding" employment in some trades we shall certainly safeguard unemployment in other and possibly more important trades. The danger which threatens us, as has been clearly brought out in the debates on the Bill in Committee, is lest protective tariffs may be imposed in the interests of some trades, because the procedure laid down in this Bill does not permit the effect of these tariffs on other trades to be adequately appraised.

In Part II. of the Bill Clause 2 lays down the conditions under which specific trades may by Order be brought within its provisions, and be protected by a tariff of 33½ per cent. on imported goods. A trade applying for an Order has first to satisfy a Committee set up by the Board of Trade that goods are being "dumped" at prices below the cost of production here, or are being imported from countries with depressed exchanges at prices below those at which similar goods can be profitably manufactured here. Next the Committee has to be satisfied that by reason of the above importation "employment in any industry of the United Kingdom is being, or is likely to be, seriously affected." Those conditions being declared by the Committee to be fulfilled the Board of Trade "may" make an Order. In the original Bill an Order made had merely to be laid on the table of the House of Commons for twenty-one days, but the protests against the unconstitutional grant of taxing powers to the Board of Trade have brought out a Government amendment under which Orders to have effect must be definitely approved by resolution of the House. This amendment does ensure that the House of Commons shall take responsibility for Orders, but there is no adequate provision in any part of the procedure yet laid down whereby the inquiring Committee and the Board of Trade will be compelled to look beyond *ex-parte* applications by specific trades, and to take into account the effect of any Orders upon the general trade and employment in the country. The whole procedure is *ex-parte*; it permits trades which are threatened by dumping to seek the protection of tariffs, but it does not permit other trades to show cause why these tariffs should not be imposed. One may produce evidence to show that unemployment is caused by dumping, but one is not allowed, as the Bill stands, to produce evidence to show that unemployment will be caused by tariffs.

It was not possible seriously to defend this one-sided arrangement when Clause 2 came before the Committee of the House in the latter part of last week. The out-and-out Protectionists, to whom tariffs bring a mystic soul comfort by mere imposition, could vote down amendments more easily than they could produce plausible arguments against them. The fight came over an amendment requiring a Committee (under Part II. of the Bill) to satisfy itself that the effect of an Order in a specific case would not diminish the aggregate employment in the United Kingdom. A typical example of the dependence of one trade upon the products of another is afforded by paper. The trades—publishers, printers, bookbinders, &c.—which use paper as a raw material employ five times as many people as the trades which make paper. The paper-making trades might apply for an Order setting up a protective tariff upon imported paper, a Committee of the Board of Trade would be empanelled to hear them, but the much larger paper-using trades would not have any *locus standi* to appear also before the Committee and offer evidence against the application. An inquiry taken under such conditions would be flagrantly absurd, and yet nothing would stand between the paper-using trades and a protective tariff on their raw material except an appreciation by the Board of Trade of the absurdity of the whole proceeding. Similar examples can be taken from any trade in this country which uses as its raw material the completed product of another trade. No industry uses more partly manufactured material, much of it imported, than do our great shipbuilding yards, and yet, under that Bill, the shipbuilders would be unable to put up their case against a duty of one-third *ad valorem* on ships' plates.

Although the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Baldwin, showed in his speech against the amendment that he realised its unanswerable force, he felt constrained to oppose it in the name of the Government. Mr Baldwin is the victim of "political exigencies." This Bill has been thrown as a sop to the rebellious Protectionist majority in the Government; it has been deserted by the author of its being (gone to the Exchequer), and Mr Baldwin is compelled to play the part of a conspicuously reluctant foster-parent. His argument against the amendment was conclusive in its favour. He said that if a Committee took into consideration the effect of a tariff in one trade upon employment in other trades, the inquiry in each case would be protracted into months and no decision reached. It

would be far better that no decision should be reached than that the *ex-parte* appeal of one trade for protection should lead directly to loss of trade and unemployment in other and more important trades. The case for the amendment was: "Hear the other side." The case for the unamended Bill was the case of the judge who refused to hear more than one side, lest the mind of the court should be confused. In order that the inquiring minds of the Board of Trade Committee may not be confused, they will not, if the Protectionists have their way, be allowed to hear more than the case for protection.

But Mr Baldwin, though he opposed the amendment to which we have referred, and secured its rejection, clearly sees that Clause 2 of the second part of the Bill cannot be left in its present state. He promised that before the Bill leaves the Commons he would try to find some means by which a Board of Trade Committee "might be enabled to take cognisance of some facts other than those directly concerned with the one industry" which was applying for protection. We trust that he will be patient in trying, that if at first he does not succeed, he will try, try again. The instinct of self-preservation may stimulate his flagging imagination. For, as President of the Board of Trade, he will have a "rotten time" if Clause 2 be not substantially amended. Every report by a Committee in favour of a tariff on some industry will be received with howls of protest by all those other industries which will be adversely affected. Though the Committee could not hear them, the President of the Board of Trade will not be able to refuse audiences. He will spend no small part of his working day in receiving deputations and in retrying, with the assistance of his officers, the *pros* and *cons* of a case concerning which the Committee has heard no more than the *pros*. The Board of Trade will never dare to make an Order which it cannot defend from every point of view when that Order is submitted for confirmation by the House of Commons. Even in a House with a Protectionist majority, sheer protection, for its own sake, regardless of consequences, cannot find many thick-and-thin supporters.

PILFERAGE.

ONE of the greatest difficulties in the prevention of pilferage is the number of hands and people interested in every sea voyage. First there is the consignor and his packer, whose duty it is to see that the merchandise starts the voyage in a fit condition to travel, and resist the attentions of wayside thieves; second, the carter who takes the goods from warehouse to wharf or dock; third, the lighterman; fourth, the dock authority; fifth, the stevedore; sixth, the police; seventh, the shipowner; and lastly, the thieves and the underwriters—the former pocketing the proceeds of the pilferage, and the latter being expected to pay for the thieves' fun.

It is largely because there are so many interests concerned that pilferage continues, every party being inclined to say that the fault lies elsewhere than with him, the shipowners saying that most thefts take place on land, the carters declaring that they are committed in warehouse or at sea, the dock authorities putting the blame on anybody but themselves, and all agreeing that underwriters ought to pay the claims. If only these conflicting interests could be harmonised or so far brought into touch with each other as to make common action possible we should have gone a long way towards stopping the evil. For this reason we welcome every open statement of opinion from shipowner, carrier, lighterman, or dock authority, and are especially glad to note the practical suggestions made in the second interim report of the Chamber of Shipping Committee, published during the past week. The points on which the Committee touches may be summarised as follows:—

- (1) Greater care in the issue of bills of lading, and discouragement of bills "received for shipment."
- (2) Better definition of lighterman's liability and amendment of the London Lighterage clause, this amendment depending on a Bill now before Parliament.
- (3) Improvement of the police service, and extension of the London police scheme to the whole of the River.

Adoption in other countries of similar schemes, accompanied if necessary by a levy on steamers using the docks.

(4) Enlistment of special help at certain foreign ports, and especially co-operation of the Seamen's Union.

(5) Assistance in foreign ports of officials of the Department of Overseas Trade, who can render valuable help.

(6) Regulation of the packing of goods, or rejection by the shipowner of goods which appear to be insufficiently packed.

(7) Improvement in ships' fittings to make the task of thieves on board ship more difficult.

(8) Fuller instructions to masters and men for the safe handling of cargo.

(9) A more complete tally of goods, and better relations between shipowners and dock authorities for examination of cargo at the time of discharge.

There is little doubt that the suggestions made by the Committee follow the right lines, and if they can be successfully carried out a great reduction of the evil should be achieved. The fundamental principle is to bring about better co-operation of all the parties, those who carry the goods, those who handle them, and those who are responsible for law and order in the docks. In other words, the whole organisation of transport has to be tightened up, and a much closer control established at every stage of the voyage. The old organisation which was good enough for pre-war conditions, when dishonesty, flagrant enough to commit downright theft, was comparatively rare, is not strong enough for the present day, when most men seem ready to yield to the first temptation that offers itself. Until the pre-war standard of conduct is restored everybody must be prepared to spend more money on police, on clerks to tally goods, on more expensive methods of packing, and on better supervision, both in warehouse and on board.

Apart from their advice to shipowners to take greater care in issuing documents and in tallying goods, two points stand out in the Committee's report—the extension of the London police scheme and the possibility of forcing shippers to pack their goods more effectively. In the London docks there has undoubtedly during recent months been an improvement due to better police methods, and if in other ports and other countries a corresponding improvement could be made merchants all over the world would be greatly benefited. On the matter of packing shipowners are in something of a difficulty. An attempt to standardise the packing and force shippers to reach a given standard of efficiency is not a plan that inspires confidence. On the other hand, the present method of scribbling across bills of lading some such words as "packages frail" is equally unsatisfactory. No one supposes that the person who writes the words on the bill has made a thorough examination of all the packages he condemns, and experience suggests that certain lines make a practice of damning all the packages of certain shippers against whom they have for some reason or other a black mark. There are, we believe, some firms in London whose method of packing is as good as their neighbours who never get a bill that is not "clausured," and are consequently having perpetual trouble with their insurers when claims come along for settlement. If it were possible to give up the habit of clausuring bills and instead to reject the frail cases and make shippers repack the goods, the change might have excellent effects in making merchants really careful in selecting their cases for shipment.

Two points not dealt with in this second interim report must not be lost sight of, first delay, and second underwriters' liability. The thief's best friend is the man who delays goods at the docks, either because he cannot ship them or because he does not want the delivery. Leave goods in the dock warehouse in Constantinople for three or six months, and the chance of getting them intact when you do apply for them is very small. Quick loading, quick discharge, quick delivery are essential to satisfactory international trade. The question of insurance seems for the moment to be settled. Underwriters are now accepting only 75 per cent. of the theft risk, based on the actual shipping value. That underwriters' action in forcing part of the risk on to the merchants' shoulders has had some effect is obvious, but for all that the present arrangement is far from perfect, and as the scandal of pilferage decreases we may hope that it will again be

possible for merchants to take out a full policy of insurance. For desperate times desperate remedies are required, but let us hope that these need not be kept in force for ever.

OUR INDEX NUMBER.

THE very small decline in our Index Number of wholesale prices of commodities recorded for May has been followed by a considerably larger drop during June, the total falling from 4910 to 4810, a decline of 100 points. This results from a sharp reduction in one or two quotations rather than from a general decline. The present figure of 4810 compares with 7847 a year ago, with 8352 at the end of March, 1920, the highest point reached, and 2565 at the outbreak of war, and is the lowest figure recorded since November, 1916. Our usual table below gives the monthly fluctuations of the five groups:—

Date.	Cereals and Meat.	Other Food Products (Tea, Sugar, &c.).	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous (Rubber, Timber, Oils, &c.).	Total.	Percentage Change.
Basis (avg. 1901-5)...	500	300	500	400	500	2200	100.0
Jan. 1, 1914....	563	355	642	491	572	2623	119.2
April 1 "....	560	350	626	493	567	2597	118.0
July 1 "....	565	345	616	471	551	2549	115.5
End July "....	579	352	616	464	553	2565	116.6
" Dec. "....	714	414	509	476	686	2800	127.3
" Dec., 1915....	897	446	731	711	848	3634	165.1
" Dec., 1916....	1294	553	1124	824	1112	4908	223.0
" Dec., 1917....	1286	686	1684	839	1348	5845	263.2
" Dec., 1918....	1271	780	1889	878	1391	6210	282.6
" Nov. "....	1289	782	1848	903	1389	6212	282.6
" Dec. "....	1303	782	1805	866	1337	6094	277.0
" Jan., 1919....	1287	782	1618	828	1335	5851	265.9
" Feb. "....	1288	782	1596	818	1310	5796	263.8
" Mar. "....	1285	782	1502	844	1294	5708	259.4
" April "....	1306	752	1512	912	1290	5774	262.4
" May "....	1310	776	1643	931	1327	5988	272.2
" June "....	1338	800	1741	937	1371	6188	281.3
" July "....	1339	805	1854	1033	1417	6450	293.2
" Aug. "....	1380	822	1877	1040	1383	6503	295.9
" Sept. "....	1399	817	1979	1047	1344	6587	299.4
" Oct. "....	1412	838	2123	1064	1358	6795	308.9
" Nov. "....	1427	866	2202	1093	1396	6985	317.5
" Dec. "....	1441	881	2442	1145	1453	7364	334.7
" Jan., 1920....	1461	857	2702	1211	1535	7768	353.1
" Feb. "....	1454	886	2951	1253	1614	8160	370.9
" Mar. "....	1508	914	2974	1246	1709	8352	379.6
" April "....	1498	908	2938	1232	1654	8232	374.2
" May "....	1484	981	2819	1295	1619	8199	372.7
" June "....	1511	929	2562	1289	1555	7847	356.7
" July "....	1499	934	2594	1308	1541	7876	358.0
" Aug. "....	1438	927	2521	1302	1554	7743	352.0
" Sept. "....	1504	928	2362	1311	1539	7645	347.5
" Oct. "....	1560	900	1951	1316	1446	7175	326.1
" Nov. "....	1478	869	1651	1259	1336	6594	299.7
" Dec. "....	1344	805	1284	1216	1275	5924	269.3
" Jan., 1921....	1295	797	1187	1128	1209	5617	255.3
" Feb. "....	1176	771	1038	1053	1137	5176	235.3
" Mar. "....	1212	727	1030	1003	1125	5097	231.7
" April "....	1196	723	1031	936	1043	4929	224.0
" May "....	1195	691	996	963	1065	4910	223.2
" June "....	1174	665	973	973	1023	4810	218.6

The minerals group, it will be seen, is alone in showing a slight rise, this being due to a rise in pig-iron. Steel rails and iron bars were unchanged, while tin and copper were slightly lower. In the first group of foodstuffs beef and mutton were lower, and barley fell a little, but otherwise there were no movements worth recording. In the group of subsidiary food products the only alteration of note was a sharp drop in sugar, tea and coffee being a shade firmer.

In the textiles group Australian wool and silk have moved up a little, but hemp and jute are lower, and all cotton quotations show a fall. Messrs Robert Barbour and Brother's monthly report shows that prospects of revival in trade, now that the coal and cotton disputes are settled, have brightened. They write:—

The outlook at the beginning of the month was about as bad as it could be. No coal, no mills running, no business offering, was in general terms the daily menu. Whilst negotiations in regard to the two great industrial disputes dragged on without in either case the least apparent prospect of a settlement, business of any weight was impossible, and no developments could be expected so long as the question of delivery remained entirely

vague and without guarantee. Later on, however, an improved undercurrent of inquiry began to make itself felt, and in one way or another, despite prevailing hindrances, the position showed distinct signs of improvement. Mail and telegraphic reports from China indicated a healthier state of things in that market, stocks were being gradually reduced, and fresh purchases of grey and white shirtings finding their way into the older books. Within the last two weeks Calcutta has shown renewed interest in dhooties, mulls, jacconets, and shirtings, whilst other Indian markets have put out feelers not altogether without promise.

In the miscellaneous section the only change of any size is a drop of over 20 per cent. in petroleum.

We show below how prices at the end of June compare with those ruling at the time of the Armistice, the index numbers for the end of November, 1918, being taken as 100:—

	Cereals and Meat.	Other Foods.	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
End Nov., 1918	100	100	100	100	100	100
" Mar. 1919	100	100	81	94	93	92
" Sept., 1919	108	104	107	116	97	106
" Dec., 1919	112	113	132	126	104	118
" Mar., 1920	117	116	161	138	123	134
" Aug., 1920	111	118	136	144	112	124
" Sept., 1920	117	119	128	145	110	123
" Oct., 1920	121	115	104	145	104	116
" Nov. 1920	115	111	89	139	96	106
" Dec. 1920	104	103	69	134	92	95
" Jan., 1921	100	102	64	125	87	90
" Feb., 1921	91	99	56	116	82	83
" Mar., 1921	94	93	56	111	81	82
" April, 1921	93	93	56	104	76	79
" May, 1921	93	89	54	107	77	79
" June, 1921	91	85	53	108	74	77

Minerals alone remain above the Armistice level, while textiles are nearly 50 per cent. lower than at the termination of hostilities, after having been over 60 per cent. above that level at the end of March, 1920. Taking the end of July, 1914, figure as 100, the present totals work out as follows:—Cereals and meat, 203; other foods, 189; textiles, 158; minerals, 210; miscellaneous, 185; total, 188.

GOVERNMENT TRADING.

A BLUE-BOOK has recently been issued, which is likely to be a work of frequent reference in future discussions upon the subject of excursions by Governments into the realm of commerce. This official publication (Cmd. 1368, price 3s 6d net) contains the trading accounts and balance-sheets relating to the services undertaken by the Government during the war in connection with war materials and food supplies, with comments thereon by the Comptroller and Auditor-General. The volume is not entirely comprehensive, in so far as it excludes the accounts of the Ordnance Factories, the Army Clothing Factories, the Ministry of Munitions National Factories, and other Government establishments, which are published separately. But, on the other hand, it includes the accounts of the operations of the Ministry of Food, of the Ministry of Munitions as regards wool and other raw materials, of the Sugar Commission, the Wheat Commission, of the Ministry of Agriculture, of the War Risks Insurance scheme, and other Government war activities. The accounts are in some cases complete, in others provisional, while in some cases the activities concerned are still being carried on. The financial results of the various operations are diverse. On its dealings in wool and other raw materials the Ministry of Munitions shows a profit of over £71 millions. Of this sum apparently about £57 millions is due to colonial wool, and this amount is subject to profit-sharing arrangements with the Dominion Governments. On the wool accounts the Auditor-General writes as follows:—"The purchase of the colonial wool clips continued until June 30, 1920, under the agreement with the Dominion Governments, and large stocks remain unsold. The department, however, will render only one further account, covering the period April 1st to December 31, 1920, arrangements having been completed by which the remaining stocks will be liquidated as from January 1, 1921, by an independent company known as

the British Australian Wool Realisation Association. This company has acquired from the Commonwealth Government the entire interest (one-half) of that Government in the Australian profit-sharing wools remaining in the possession of the Ministry. It was estimated that, when the accounts for this section up to December 31, 1920, were completed, the total assets would be found to consist of a stock of wool, fully paid for, exceeding 1,800,000 bales, and a cash balance exceeding £12,000,000. The nominal share capital of the company based on these estimates has been fixed at £25,000,000."

Other profits include £2 millions odd on imported timber administered by the Board of Trade, and £988,090 on the operations of the Ministry of Food, while from the operations of the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic) £435,336 accrued to the Exchequer up to March 31, 1920. On the War Risks Insurance scheme there was at March 31, 1920, a surplus of receipts over payments of £22,267,595, but "a portion of this amount will be required to meet liabilities not definitely ascertained." Profits on trading with interned steamers, &c., were £1,338,008, and profits on freight on Government-owned prize, detained, and other vessels, £1,151,922. Entries on the losses side are numerous. They include deficits of £4,270,868 on home timber, £2,003,655 on sugar, £1,172,603 on flax production, £5,396,260 on fertilisers, £12,962,932 on fish, oil, and vegetables, £4,462,596 on motor tractor and horse ploughing, while far the most formidable loss in the list is that of £104,810,517 on cereals administered by the Wheat Commission. This figure, it is stated, represents "approximately the loss involved in selling the loaf below its cost, taking into account the profit realised on the sale of cereals used for purposes other than the loaf." The Government has not, of course, been immune from the unfortunate experience of private concerns in suffering loss through falls in the values of stocks. The accounts of the Sugar Commission provide a striking illustration of this point. On its operations from August, 1914, to March 31, 1919, this Commission showed a net profit of £6,057,799, but in the following twelve months a loss of no less than £8,061,454 was sustained. It would be very easy, in the case of many of the accounts, to frame an indictment of the authorities responsible, but it must always be remembered that most of the operations which led to loss were carried on not under ordinary commercial conditions, but under the stress and haste of pressing national emergency. And sometimes, as in the case of the Wheat Commission, the losses were incurred voluntarily and as a matter of high policy, which, whether right or wrong, was altogether beyond the control of those who had to conduct the business in question. The Auditor-General, the public usefulness of whose investigations is apparent all through the volume, is able to conclude that:—"Subject to the observations in the subsequent paragraphs of my report, the results of my examination were generally satisfactory."

However, some of these "observations in subsequent paragraphs" disclose shortcomings which make unpleasant reading for the taxpayer. A few examples may be taken for illustration. Arrangements were made, without Treasury sanction, for the erection at Hull of wool storage accommodation at a "possible expenditure of £250,000." The contract apparently was placed "without competitive tenders and without consultation with other manufacturers as to other types or designs of sheds." In this case the Treasury were dissatisfied and refused to share responsibility. In connection with the Home Timber Supplies Department one reads of "an excess charge of £28,451," a refund of which from the Canadian authorities is being sought, while apparently unnecessary cost was incurred by paying sums to "an Allied Government" at a less favourable rate of exchange than that agreed upon. It is also rather startling to find that losses on flax production were about 50 per cent. of expenditure, and that in one year upwards of £200,000 was paid to each of two firms as commission on sales of bacon and lard. The Auditor-General suggested a decreasing rate of commission on larger turnovers, but the Ministry of Food, rightly or wrongly, rejected the suggestion. Then there is the well-known case of British

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.
Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

Farina Mills, Limited, in connection with which public funds have been charged with over £500,000, and assets to be realised are estimated not to exceed £70,000. The thoroughness with which the facts about such dealings as these are set out justifies the description of the Auditor-General as one of the most useful of our public servants.

Business Notes.

The Indian Monsoon.—The monsoon in India broke at Bombay about a month ago, and during the first couple of weeks the rains were very heavy. According to a telegram received this week from the Viceroy in India, there has been a break in the rains, chiefly in the North-Western area. A revival of buying for India in Lancashire cotton goods is now showing itself, and Manchester merchants are rather concerned as to the effect of the less satisfactory monsoon reports upon trading conditions. It may be said, however, writes our Manchester correspondent, that private cables received this week in Manchester are rather better than the public telegrams. Buying of cotton goods has yet not been checked, and although the grain crops in certain parts of India may not do very well, it is believed that the coming season will be generally satisfactory.

Bank Dividends.—Many of the midsummer interim dividends of the leading joint-stock banks have been announced this week, and few changes are shown as compared with last year. The dividends for a number of years are shown below:—

	Per Cent. per Annum.							
	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's	*16	*16	*16	*16	*16	16	16	..
Barclays Bank "B" shares....	†18½	†17½	†17½	†17½	†20	†20	14	14
Lancashire and Yorkshire	17	16	16	16	16	16	16	17
Lloyds	*18½	*18½	*18½	*18½	*18½	*18½	18½	16½
London Joint City and Midland	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Lon. Cnty. Westminster & Parr's	21½	18	18	18	20	20	20	..
Manchester and County	14½	13½	13½	13½	15	15	15	..
Manchester & Liverpool District	*17½	*17½	*17½	*17½	*17½	*17½	18½	..
National Provincial and Union	18	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Williams, Deacon's	15	14	14	14	14	12½	12½	12½
Alexanders Discount.....	10	10	10	10	12	13	14	15
National Discount.....	11	10	10	10	11	12	12	12
Union Discount.....	13	13	13	13	13	14	14	14

* Final dividend. † On old capital.

The only change shown by the banks is an increase by the Lancashire and Yorkshire, but the alteration is made "with a view to equalisation of the two half-yearly distributions." Alexanders Discount Company pays an additional 1 per cent. It had been generally anticipated that few changes would be made in dividends, for any decline in profits due to the trade conditions of the half-year has probably been counterbalanced by the absence of investment depreciation.

The Railway Deficit.—A statement issued by the Ministry of Transport shows the claims put forward by the railway companies under the agreements for the month of May. Total gross receipts were £13,255,000, and total expendi-

ture £18,102,000. After deducting the debit balance shown on the working of "other businesses" the deficit was £5,242,000. The Government guarantee is £3,852,000, making the net Government liability as claimed £9,094,000. The Government liability for April was £9,544,000, making a total of £18,638,000 for the first two months of the financial year. Passenger receipts were not much lower in May than in April, but goods train receipts fell from £6,978,000 to £5,738,000. Receipts from coal, coke, &c., were only £285,500. Goods train traffic in May, 1920, was returned as £11,114,000.

American Cotton Crop.—The Agricultural Bureau of the United States Government has published its second report on the cotton crop for the season 1921-22. The condition on June 25th has been returned at 69.2 per cent., against 66.0 per cent. a month previously, and 70.7 per cent. in June, 1920. The bureau has also issued an estimate of the acreage, this being given as 26,519,000 acres, as compared with 35,654,000 acres a year ago. The reduction in the acreage, therefore, is over 28 per cent. The reports are about as expected, and when published the figures did not cause any particular change in raw cotton values. On the basis of the statistics published, the crop should be only about 8,500,000 bales, against 13,350,000 bales for the season which is now ending. The condition report is the worst for 20 years, and all sections of the belt appear to have been adversely affected by the wet spring. Numerous advices are being received of the plants being seriously injured by the boll weevil pest.

Oil in Troubled Waters.—The innumerable shareholders in the Shell Transport and Trading Company have derived consolation from the study of the chairman's speech at the meeting last Monday, while they have gained illumination from that of Sir Henri Deterding. The effect in the Stock Exchange was to bring about improvement in the prices of Shells, Mexican Eagles, and Royal Dutch, though Burmahs, the fourth member of the giant quartette, have been little influenced by the improvement in the others. The dividend on Shells is now paid, and the price will be up on Thursday. As the amount is free of tax, a clear 5s will be deducted from the quotation, giving Shells what the Stock Exchange calls a "cheap" look. The chairman declined to be drawn on the point as to when, and in what shape, a new issue of capital is likely to be made, so the anticipations of Shell shareholders will continue to be pleasantly excited by the prospect of their being allotted new ordinary shares at some bonus price. The market rumour in advance of the meeting was to the effect that a new issue of shares might take the form of preference capital, and the recent example of the Burmah Oil Co., with its offer of 3,000,000 8 per cent. preference shares at £1, was indicated as furnishing an example that the Shell Company might find it convenient to follow. There is sufficient probability in this theory to render it advisable for proprietors of Shell shares to bear it in mind; otherwise, when a new issue is made, there will certainly be disappointment if it is not in ordinary shares. The outlook for the oil industry can hardly fail to be influenced by conditions and considerations which are affecting other trades. The Shell is paying 35 per cent. dividend, free of tax, equal to 50 per cent. with tax at 6s in the £. The Mexican Eagle dividend at present is 60 per cent. On Royal Dutch the dividend has recently been reduced from 45 per cent. to 40 per cent., and the Burmah dividend, instead of being 50 per cent., as it was a year ago, is now 30 per cent., tax free. It is necessary to add, of course, the reminder that new issues of capital have been made that call for additional profits if previous dividends are to be maintained; but so great has been the prosperity of the oil industry that the shareholders in the various companies have been led, almost unconsciously, to look for a maintenance of previous distributions in spite of increased capital. The Burmah dividend reduction was candidly foretold by the chairman seven months ago, and there was great curiosity to learn from the Shell meeting whether any "cut" in dividend

might be expected from this quarter also. The chairman referred to the matter in very guarded terms, and it may be well if some of those who went to the meeting were impressed with the possibility of the dividend coming down. The American oil interests are apparently spoiling for a fight with any companies which have threatened the American supremacy in control of the oil trade. The Government of Mexico is about to impose fresh taxation upon oil exported to other countries, and to this step some of the American groups have retorted by the threat to withdraw their tankers from the American service, and to cease taking supplies from Mexico altogether. The shrewd presumption is that stocks of oil in America are sufficient to meet decreased demand, in these days of commercial depression, without it being necessary for the companies to take active steps for replenishment of those stocks. Conceivably, the Americans may be able to do without purchase of Mexican oil for some time to come. As, however, a certain amount of the American trade in oil is concerned with re-export, it is contended that buyers, instead of applying to Americans, will go direct to the Mexican producers, and take their supplies without the intervention of the American parties. It may be doubted whether the Americans would have adopted what seems to be a high hand if they had not felt pretty confident of success in retaining their present trade, and, at the same time, of cutting off customers from Mexico. Those who are interested in the industry must face the prospect of a tough struggle. The present position suggests that war between the American oil interests and those of outsiders is at least a possibility that must be faced. The extraordinary popularity achieved by oil shares during the boom of a couple of years ago has resulted in the whole country being deeply concerned in the fortunes of oil, and so great has been the optimism built upon the outlook, that any curb put upon the imagination in respect to oil fuel is scouted as pure pessimism. But even the oil industry, in spite of the advertisement it has achieved by reason of the coal strike, is subject to conditions that are governed by present depression in trade. The Foreign Office has issued a further statement on the subject of the friction that has arisen in connection with the oil interests of this country and those of the United States. Lord Curzon pays handsome tribute to the power of the Americans in the matter of oil markets, and undertakes a painstaking defence against the suggestion that the British Government is paying undue heed to the protection of the interests of British subjects.

Conditions in South Africa.—According to a cable received by the National Bank of South Africa, from its Cape Town office, dated July 1st, the Customs returns for the quarter ended March 31st reveal a decrease in South Africa's exports of £14,750,000, compared with the first quarter of the year 1920. Total imports were the same as 1920 quarter at £17,500,000, of which £9,500,000 from the United Kingdom and £6,500,000 from foreign countries. As regards the proposed reduction of Rand miners' wages, deadlock, it is reported, prevails momentarily, but some confidence apparently exists in commercial circles regarding ultimate solution of the problem by miners' representatives taking a broader view of the present and future conditions of the gold industry.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—According to recent advices from Tokyo the increasing demand for money by raw silk manufacturers kept the tone of the money market firm during the second half of June—this demand has come rather later than usual this year—while the approach of the half-yearly settlement tended in the same direction. Discount rates, however, were stationary. The market for cotton yarns was firmer, although the American cotton market was weaker. The prices of rice and other cereals tended towards weakness. Government rice purchases up to the end of June were estimated at 364,000 koku. Dullness characterised the stock markets, and changes in security prices were unimportant. According to the first half-yearly reports, spinning, weaving, electricity, and oil manufacturing concerns show better results, but ship-

building, shipping, iron manufacturing, and chemical industries produced less favourable figures. Profits mostly showed a decrease, except in the case of big firms. Many new enterprises paid no dividend, and there has been a certain amount of liquidation and capital reorganisation. At the end of June the Bank note issue stood at 1,218,000,000 yen, Government deposits at 312,000,000, and advances and discounted bills of the Bank of Japan at 147,000,000 yen.

The General Electric Company.—The recent issue of £3,500,000 7 per cent. mortgage debenture stock by the General Electric Company, Limited, lends an added interest to the report and accounts just issued for the year ended March 31, 1921. As profits are on an increased capital a comparison of figures with the previous year would for this reason be of little value. Including £175,668 brought forward, total profits amount to £971,817. After deducting £8,000 for debenture interest, allocating £157,915 for depreciation, and contributing £17,266 to a pension fund, the preference issues receive their dividends, and £211,198 goes in distributing 10 per cent., free of interest, among ordinary shareholders. A sum of £348,094 is carried forward, subject to excess profits duty (if any) and corporation profits tax. The report points out that "Owing to the present state of industry the directors consider the usual allocation to reserve out of profits inadvisable, and recommend that the amount which they would have allocated under normal conditions should remain in the 'carry forward' to next account, which thus stands at the total of £348,000. They feel all the more justified in making this recommendation as the reserve account has benefited during the year by the sum of £257,016, through the transfer of net premiums received on the share issue of March, 1920, thus making the total of this account over £700,000." For the previous year profits were £771,646, and a similar dividend to that mentioned above was paid on ordinary capital. The balance-sheet will be found analysed in the usual column.

Distillers' Company.—The report of the Distillers' Company for the year ended May 15th shows a decline in gross profits from £669,464 to £597,582. Expenses were also higher, and net profits after payment of debenture interest are about £86,000 lower at £415,393. Recent years' financial results are compared below:—

YEAR ENDED MAY 15th.

	1914.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Gross profits ..	£ 310,993	£ 397,141	£ 394,199	£ 502,379	£ 669,464	£ 597,580
Brought forward ..	19,223	60,600	61,872	65,358	70,435	100,526
Income-tax, &c.	330,216	457,741	456,071	567,737	739,899	698,108
Debit interest ..	28,733	82,020	96,217	140,167	140,862	155,099
Reserve & dep.	36,409	29,025	28,813	27,090	27,090	27,090
Balance	100,550	144,061	60,000	125,000	255,000	105,000
Balance	164,524	202,635	271,041	275,480	316,947	410,919
Preference div.	13,499	10,762	10,684	10,045	11,432	11,432
Ordinary div..	130,000	130,000	195,300	195,000	204,989	290,493
(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)
Carried forward ..	21,025	61,873	65,357	70,435	100,526	108,994

Allocations to reserves at £105,000 are £150,000 less than the high figure to which they were raised a year ago. This decrease enables the 10 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares (free of tax) to be maintained on an increased capital, while the carry forward is slightly raised. Last October the company offered to shareholders at par one new ordinary share for every five preference shares, and two new ordinary shares for every five ordinary shares held. The balance-sheet, an analysis of which will be found in the usual column, shows that the offer has resulted in an increase in the ordinary capital from £2,049,890 to £2,916,670.

Wm. Cory and Son.—The high level of profits reached in the year ended March 31, 1920, by Wm. Cory and Son, Limited, has been exceeded in the past financial year, the report issued this week showing a net profit of

£770,800, which compares with £755,500 for 1919-20. Profits and appropriation for a number of years past are given below:—

	1914-15.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Profit	£ 215,328	£ 447,689	£ 492,734	£ 468,616	£ 755,523	£ 770,843
Brought forward ..	44,511	88,970	130,897	135,084	177,153	278,308
Deb. interest ..	259,839	536,659	623,631	603,700	932,675	1,049,151
Written off	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000	37,000
Reserve, &c. ...	6,000	41,199	110,000	175,000	25,000	..
Ord. dividend ..	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500
(10 %)	(15 %)	(20 %)	(20 %)	(20 %)	(20 %)	(20 %)
Employees' shs	1,108	2,562	4,047	4,047	4,851	7,819
Carried forward ..	58,231	130,897	135,084	177,153	278,308	391,812

No allocation is made to reserve, but it will be seen that a substantial addition is made to the balance forward. The ordinary dividend is maintained at 20 per cent., but a distribution of 25 per cent. is made on the employees' shares as against 20 per cent. a year ago. The balance-sheet shows an addition of £281,300 to creditors, while investments in Government securities are up by £471,600. Reserves, including premiums of £440,000 on ordinary shares, total £1,190,000, while staff funds amount to £142,400.

Liebig's Extract.—The report and accounts of Liebig's Extract of Meat Co., Limited, continue to record the activity of this company. Although profits are down, the directors are able, by allocating a smaller sum to reserve, to pay the now usual 25 per cent. dividend free of tax. The company's record since 1914-15 is as follows:—

	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Sales	£ 601,251	£ 683,442	£ 900,979	£ 2,056,671	£ 1,073,632	£ 1,114,291	£ 1,049,088
Expenses	375,381	372,912	570,240	1,737,546	769,287	791,284	763,703
Net profit	225,870	310,530	330,739	319,125	304,345	323,007	285,385
Brought forward ..	50,859	70,142	150,619	247,647	243,609	252,076	247,878
Directors	276,729	380,672	481,358	566,772	547,954	575,083	533,263
Ord. dividend ..	19,587	28,053	31,711	31,163	33,878	35,205	18,221
Ord. dividend ..	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
(22½ %)	(25 %)	(25 %)	(25 %)	(25 %)	(25 %)	(25 %)	(25 %)
Reserve, &c.	2,000	2,000	92,000	92,000	62,000	92,000	59,228
Carried forward ..	70,142	150,619	247,647	243,609	252,076	247,878	255,814

The directors take only £18,221, as compared with £35,205 last year. The company is engaged in constructing a refrigeration plant at Fray Bentos, and in connection with this and other developments fresh capital is required. A circular has, therefore, been issued to shareholders. An increase in the company's capital by the creation of 180,000 new ordinary shares of £5 each is recommended, and it is proposed to issue at an early date to the ordinary shareholders at par 120,000 of the new shares in the proportion of one share for every ordinary share at present held. The remaining 60,000 shares will be held in reserve. As the £5 ordinary shares are at present quoted at round about 18½, shareholders are offered a substantial bonus. In another column we analyse the balance-sheet.

Oroville Dredging Group.—Our mining correspondent writes:—The reports for 1920 of the producing subsidiaries of the Oroville Dredging Company contain, amongst other interesting items of information, a calculation of the remaining period of "life." For the benefit of readers not conversant with the position, it may be recalled that the Oroville originally acquired the share capital of an American company owning gold-dredging rights. As these areas came near exhaustion, fresh fields were sought, and found in the Republic of Colombia. A subsidiary company—the Pato Mines—was formed to operate the dredging concession, which comprised 40,000 acres. Then an adjoining area of 400 acres was secured, and the Nechi Mines formed to operate it. As the existence of the American company had ceased to serve any purpose, it was placed in liquidation. In 1919 a further property in Colombia—this time a gold and silver mine—was taken up, and transferred to the Colombian Corporation. The main assets of the Oroville Dredging

Company consequently comprise shares in these several undertakings. In like manner, the company is dependent for its income chiefly upon the dividends of the Pato and Nechi concerns; the third is only in the preliminary stages of development. During the year ended September 30th last the Pato dredged 1,437,600 cubic yards for a yield averaging 36.6 cents, an improvement in both respects upon the 1918-19 results, while the total operating costs, at 13.71 cents, were somewhat less than before. Thus the company's profit and loss account shows a surplus of £98,800, with no allowance for taxation, as against £27,900, after deduction of £33,700 income-tax. The dividends of the past year total 21s per share, in place of 3s previously, the profits having been over-distributed in the one case and under-distributed in the other. With regard to the mining position, the general manager reports that the prospected area so far exhausted has yielded \$502,000 in excess of the estimates, and that the remaining blocks represent about 12 years of work for the dredge. In addition, there is a large area not completely prospected. Having worked 83.7 per cent. of the possible running time, as against barely 50 per cent. in 1918-19, the Nechi naturally treated an increased quantity of ground. The yield, however, fell off somewhat, and while the total operating cost average apparently shows a marked reduction, it is above that of 1917-18; the ratio for 1918-19 was swollen by various adventitious circumstances. The net profit of £140,000 more than doubled the previous year's figure, and a careful examination of the available records elicits that the dividends have been increased in corresponding proportion, amounting to 100 per cent. on the ordinary shares, as against 45 per cent. in respect of 1918-19. Half the issued capital is in 25 per cent. preference shares. From the balance-sheet it might be inferred that these alone received any distribution for the past year; nor is the matter made clear in the report of the directors. A feature is the strength of the financial position. This is a point of importance, seeing that the remaining ground is likely to be exhausted in 18 months from the date of the report, or nine months from the present time. After having been practically stationary for two years, the net profit of the Oroville Dredging Company, reflecting the increased distributions of its subsidiaries, expanded to £114,100. The payment of 3s per share in place of 2s for 1918-19 left the enhanced balance of £42,800 to go forward, subject to excess profits duty (if any) and corporation tax. The yield on the basis of the past year's dividends is 12 per cent.—not excessive, having regard to all the circumstances. Shareholdings figure in the balance-sheet at £715,000, this total covering 126,000 ordinary shares in the Pato, 89,000 in the Nechi, and 255,000 in the Colombian Corporation. With reference to the last-named undertaking, upon which the future of the Oroville so largely depends, it is stated that developments continued to show satisfactory results, and that the new mill is expected to be installed by the end of 1922.

German Debts.—The Board of Trade announce that by an agreement made with the German Clearing Office, now awaiting the approval of the Reichstag, the time for lodging claims with the British and German Clearing Offices by their respective nationals under Article 296, Section III., Part X. of the Treaty of Versailles, has been extended to September 30, 1921. No further claims under the above Article will be accepted after that date by the Clearing Offices concerned.

Czechoslovak Foreign Trade.—The Czechoslovakia Bureau of Information states that during the month of April the value of goods exported from Czechoslovakia to America was 740,966,000 dollars, as compared with 331,440,000 dollars for the corresponding period of last year. During the same month the value of imports from the United States to Czechoslovakia was 26,744 dollars, as compared with 93,303 dollars last year. The Czechoslovak department for foreign trade has decided to reduce the export tax on all kinds of paper, paper goods, writing and drawing requisites from $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

of the invoice price. The export tax on linen products and hempen goods will also be reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. These reductions took effect from June 20th.

Serb, Croat, Clovene Coal Concessions.—H.M. Consul at Zagreb has forwarded to the Department of Overseas Trade particulars of certain concessions for coal fields in the Zagreb district, in respect of which the concessionaire hopes to attract British capital. Details of the concessions in French and German may be consulted at the Inquiry Room, Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen street, Westminster, S.W. 1.

The annual dinner of the London Chamber of Commerce, at which H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G., has accepted an invitation to be the principal guest, and which was postponed on account of the industrial situation, will take place on the 26th instant at the Connaught Rooms.

The Right Hon. W. F. Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand, will be the chief guest at a luncheon to be given in his honour by the British Empire Producers' Organisation, at the Hotel Victoria on July 14th. Application for tickets should be made to the Secretary, 5 Old Queen street, S.W. 1.

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—MARKED IMPROVEMENT IN THE GENERAL BANKING POSITION—FURTHER RELAXATION IN MONEY—FOREIGN TRADE WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES—INDUSTRY QUIET, EXCEPT APPAREL TRADES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, June 24.

FURTHER marked improvement has taken place during the past week in the general banking position. For the entire Federal Reserve system the ratio of reserve to note and deposit liabilities now stands at 60 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.—the highest of the year. The gain of more than 3 per cent. for the week resulted partly from an increase in cash reserves, principally gold, but mostly from reduced credits for member banks, a decrease in deposits, and further contraction in the amount of notes outstanding. The week's reduction of \$35,000,000 in note circulation makes the present total less by \$765,600,000 than the maximum reached in December last. The New York Federal Reserve Bank's ratio has advanced to nearly 69 per cent., the highest recorded for any week since 1917, notwithstanding heavy loans to interior banks. Most of the central reserve banks throughout the country have shared in the recent improvement, but the New York institution has the highest reserve ratio, with the exception of the Federal Reserve Bank at Boston. Eastern banks are in a much stronger position, so far as reserve ratios are concerned, than are those at central reserve points in other parts of the country, which seems to indicate that liquidation and contraction has been more pronounced in the East than elsewhere.

Partly reflecting the betterment in the banking situation money rates have shown further relaxation, more so in call money rates than in rates for fixed-date loans. Call funds are now obtainable on the New York Stock Exchange at 5 per cent., and in the outside money market at 4 per cent., and offerings greatly exceed the demand. Owing to the prolonged declines in the stock market requirements for speculative purposes are comparatively light. The daily turnover in the call money market for some time past has probably not exceeded \$10,000,000 or \$15,000,000, as against about \$40,000,000 to \$45,000,000 in a normal bull movement in the securities market. In this connection it is noteworthy that Wall street brokers' loans, according to reliable estimates,

now aggregate only \$600,000,000 approximately, the lowest since pre-war years, and comparing with the maximum total of such borrowings reached in July, 1919, namely, \$1,750,000,000. Time money is slightly easier, being offered in limited amounts at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. for short periods, but borrowers are not disposed as a rule to bid higher than 6 per cent., and demand even at that figure is very light. Business paper is being more generally discounted at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. for choice and prime names, respectively, than heretofore, although the rate for names less well known is still 7 per cent. The Federal Reserve Bank at Dallas, Texas, has just lowered its rediscount rate for commercial paper from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 per cent., following similar action taken recently by the New York Federal Reserve Bank; only two of the 12 central reserve institutions, those at Chicago and Minneapolis, now have a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. rediscount rate, but they are expected to reduce to 6 per cent. shortly.

Ordinarily, relaxation in money rates would stimulate a rise in prices of securities, but thus far it has had little, if any, effect upon the stock market. The latter suffered further violent declines this week, due chiefly to aggressive bear raids, the execution of stop-loss orders, and liquidation of speculative accounts in which margins had become exhausted or impaired by the almost continuous decline of recent weeks. The average price of 20 leading industrials used for statistical purposes fell this week to 64.90, the lowest level reached since June 1, 1915, while that of 20 prominent railroad shares touched 65.52, the lowest recorded since July 25, 1898. The market has been steadier, with some recovery from the lowest levels during the past few days, but buying power at the moment is rather feeble. There are indications, however, that the active trading list is heavily oversold. Oils, steels, motors, rubber and sugar stocks, and miscellaneous specialties have sustained the severest losses, together with some of the standard rails, including Canadian Pacific, which dropped to 101, the lowest point witnessed in 20 years.

Detailed figures of our foreign trade by countries during May, made public by the Department of Commerce, disclose the fact that nearly one-quarter of the decrease, in total imports that month, of \$50,000,000, as compared with April, was due to reduced shipments from Cuba. More than 85 per cent. of the decrease in imports from Europe was the result of smaller shipments from the United Kingdom. Although total exports were some \$10,000,000 less than in April, there was a slight increase in our shipments to Europe and Asia. The following tables show, in thousands of dollars, the exports to grand divisions during May, and exports and imports for eleven months ended with May, with comparisons:—

EXPORTS.			
	May, 1920.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.
	\$	\$	\$
Europe.....	382,942	174,645	176,823
North America....	185,268	94,307	89,659
South America....	58,220	20,717	18,037
Asia.....	76,064	29,859	31,121
Oceania.....	22,075	14,610	9,465
Africa.....	21,299	5,775	4,641
Total.....	745,868	339,913	329,746

ELEVEN MONTHS' EXPORTS.			
	1920.	1921.	
	\$	\$	
Europe.....	4,566,880	3,230,554	
North America....	1,459,900	1,553,856	
South America....	444,675	505,954	
Asia.....	727,747	510,459	
Oceania.....	167,086	248,532	
Africa.....	114,474	129,995	
Total.....	7,480,762	6,179,350	

ELEVEN MONTHS' IMPORTS.			
	1920.	1921.	
	\$	\$	
Europe.....	1,060,901	883,174	
North America....	1,271,451	1,152,921	
South America....	779,777	465,613	
Asia.....	1,250,392	767,026	
Oceania.....	144,099	148,311	
Africa.....	179,126	51,742	
Total.....	4,685,746	3,468,787	



"The Swedish Bank of Commerce"

Exports and imports by principal countries during May, as compared with May, 1920, were as follows:—

EXPORTS.			
To—	May, 1920.	May, 1921.	
	\$	\$	
Britain.....	152,000,000	80,000,000	
France.....	58,000,000	10,000,000	
Germany.....	21,000,000	20,000,000	
Italy.....	33,000,000	23,000,000	
China.....	12,000,000	8,000,000	
Japan.....	44,000,000	12,000,000	
Argentina.....	17,000,000	8,000,000	
Brazil.....	14,000,000	4,000,000	
Chile.....	4,000,000	1,000,000	

IMPORTS.			
From—	May, 1920.	May, 1921.	
	\$	\$	
Britain.....	44,000,000	19,000,000	
France.....	10,000,000	12,000,000	
Germany.....	5,000,000	6,000,000	
Italy.....	6,000,000	7,000,000	
China.....	22,000,000	8,000,000	
Japan.....	31,000,000	23,000,000	
Argentina.....	23,000,000	5,000,000	
Brazil.....	10,000,000	7,000,000	
Chile.....	15,000,000	3,000,000	

Industry generally is less active, and the dullness is likely to become more pronounced with the summer shut-down of many plants for repairs. How extensive the further slowing down may be is problematical, especially since industrial production now ranges from only 25 per cent. to about 75 per cent. of full capacity. Curtailment has been heaviest in iron and steel, petroleum, lumber, and coal industries, and trade is quietest in those lines so far as new buying is concerned. The apparel manufacturing trades—woollens, silks, and cottons—are the most comfortably situated, as they have been for a number of months with respect to production and orders in hand for forward delivery. The leading interest in the woollen goods industry, for instance, is running its plants virtually at full capacity. Trade in broad silks and in silk hosiery is much larger than a year ago and steadily expanding, and a very substantial volume of business has been done on fall lines. Finished cotton goods, though seasonably dull in some lines, are active in others, notably gingham; the demand for spring, 1922, gingham far exceeds available production of manufacturers who have offered lines for that season. The woollen goods industry, in particular, has shown a marked increase in production during the past five months. The Census Bureau's reports, giving returns from 917 manufacturers employing wool machinery, as to the active and idle machinery on June 1st, show the following percentages idle on that date, as compared with preceding months:—

	Feb. 1.	March 1.	April 1.	May 1.	June 1.
Wide looms.....	53.9	43.1	36.1	26.2	20.5
Narrow looms.....	48.7	41.7	34.4	28.7	25.2
Carpet looms.....	49.7	60.5	57.2	53.6	53.0
Cards.....	56.5	46.2	33.0	25.3	21.6
Combs.....	43.8	28.8	18.7	14.2	10.9
Woollen spindles....	58.0	47.2	32.3	23.8	20.6
Worsted spindles....	45.0	33.0	21.8	12.9	10.1

From the foregoing percentages it will be seen that carpet looms are the only exception to the improvement in the entire industry from the depression of last winter.

FRANCE.—THE NEXT BUDGET—PURCHASE OF GERMAN MATERIAL—TARIFF CHANGES—BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, July 5.

THE Finance Commission of the Chamber is proceeding steadily with its work in connection with the Budget Bill for 1922, and there is still hope that the Estimates comprised in it may be laid before the Chamber before it rises for the holidays. M. Bokanowski, who is generally regarded as one of the soundest financial critics in the House, was to-day elected Rapporteur-Général of the Budget, in succession to M. Dumont, whose resignation was reported last week. It is significant of the tendency towards drastic economy that now pervades the Chamber that the Commission to-day, after considering the credits asked for in connection with the maintenance of the troops in Syria and Cilicia, decided, in principle, by 12 votes to 10, to reject these credits, except as regards the effectives strictly necessary for the protection of Syria, and to support the immediate return of the surplus troops now in Cilicia. The presence in Paris at this moment of Bekir Samy Bey, the representative of the Kemalist Government, is regarded as foreshadowing the probability of some arrangement being come to, possibly in the form of a resumption of the agreement tentatively reached a few weeks ago between the French Government and Kemal Pasha, that will enable the French army of occupation to be withdrawn from Cilicia.

The conversations that have been going on here between the French and German economic experts have been adjourned, and will not be renewed until July 11th. It is understood that an agreement has been come to, for all practical purposes, between M. Loucheur and Herr Dr Rathenau, which turns on the purchase by France of an enormous amount of industrial and other material from Germany. The total amount in question is reported to be something like 15,000,000,000f. The commodities to be furnished by Germany will include both manufactured goods and raw materials, and will comprise, I understand, not only all classes of things needed in the devastated regions, but also general merchandise of various kinds. It will also probably be found that France will make large purchases of railway material from Germany, including, it is reported, 500 locomotives of the latest types and 25,000 wagons. French industry, for obvious reasons, is not at present in a position to furnish supplies of this kind in anything like the quantities urgently required, and will not be able to do so for some time to come. On the other hand, the low price of the German mark, as compared with the franc, is a factor in the situation that cannot be ignored in the present condition of the national finances.

The Presidential decree fixing the new co-efficients of increase in the French General Customs Tariff was promulgated in the *Journal Officiel* on Monday morning, and reveals substantial increases in the duties on goods entering the country from ex-enemy countries and others that have no commercial conventions with France. The decree completes the modifications that have been going on for many months past in connection with the whole of the French Customs duties. It has a double character—the one aiming at re-establishing as exactly as possible the measure of protection given to domestic industry before the war and until it was enormously reduced by the general rise in commodity prices, and the other having for its object the provisional establishment of new rates, with a view to a further revision, in a few months' time, in the event of price changes continuing unstable. It is hoped, however, that the stabilisation of prices in the near future will render further revision unnecessary.

A comparison between the new co-efficients of increase in duties with the co-efficients of increased commodity prices since 1914 shows that in fixing the new scales of duties the French authorities have not erred on the side of undue severity against the foreign importer. In many cases (perhaps, indeed, in the majority) the percentage of Customs protection set up against countries benefiting from the minimum tariff (such as Great Britain) is appreciably lower than it was before the war. This, indeed, was one of the basic general principles of the modification that has just been completed, namely, to give allied

and friendly countries more favourable treatment, after the war, than they previously enjoyed, as compared with other nations. As a retort to the strong opinions that have been expressed in England and elsewhere in regard to the new Customs rates, it is insisted in many quarters here that the actual figures of the new tariff demonstrate that France is even now much less Protectionist, in fact, than some of the reputed Free-trade countries. In support of this the case of Belgium is cited, and such comparative figures as the following are quoted:—

	Belgian Duties.	New French Duties.
Men's clothing	20	15.5
Women's clothing	15 and 20	9.4 and 16.4
Jewellery and silverware	10	7.3
Furniture	15	13.9
Watches	80.4	3.4
Photographs, films, &c.	15	7.1
Perfumes (alcoholic)	20	16.8
Do (ordinary)	20	4.5
Gloves (skin)	15	5.9
Lace	15	8.6
Silk tissues	20	8.7
Common glass	10	5.6
Motor cars and chassis (heavy)	15	14.9
Other vehicles	15	13.6

The Banque Industrielle de Chine, to which I referred last week, has closed its doors, but whether the undertaking will be formally wound up or whether it will be allowed to come to an arrangement with its creditors and continue trading remains to be seen. The deficit is estimated to amount to something like 250,000,000f (although double that figure has been mentioned), and the unfortunate position of the bank is generally understood to be largely due to unduly heavy commitments in connection with the boom in rice and other commodities. There is a good deal of controversy in Paris as to the reasons which induced the Government to decide finally that it was inadvisable for aid to be extended to the concern, and there is a tendency in some quarters to blame the Finance Minister, M. Doumer, for his action in the matter. It is alleged that the Banque de Paris et Pays Bas offered to come to the rescue by issuing a Chinese loan in this country, if the Government would give its consent to such a course, but that the latter refused to agree to this course. On the other hand, it is alleged that this consent was dependent on the Chinese Government guaranteeing the proposed loan, and that the Pekin authorities refused to give this guarantee. A third version is that the Chinese Government was at first disposed to extend the desired help, but was subsequently persuaded to refuse. The whole question is to form the subject of an important debate in the Chamber.

The blow to French influence in China through the failure has naturally been enormous, but would have been much more serious but for the action of the Chinese Native Bankers' Association, who have taken upon themselves to honour the whole of the notes issued by the Banque Industrielle de Chine that have been put into circulation through its numerous Far-Eastern agencies. These notes, which ranged in nominal value from a dollar upwards, were in the hands of the poorest classes, and are reported to total about \$2,000,000, or some 16,000,000f. The action of the local Chinese bankers has undoubtedly prevented serious public disturbances, that would have been almost certain had the failure been allowed to run its normal course.

An application has been made to the Paris Tribunal of Commerce for the Banque Industrielle de Chine to be allowed to take advantage of the special law passed on July 2, 1919, to meet special cases arising out of the war, and come to an arrangement with its creditors that will enable it to continue business. This law was passed as a kind of prolongation of the moratorium, and stipulates that, until October 24th next year (or three years after the ratification of the peace treaty), any trader who finds himself insolvent "pour cause générale de guerre," may apply to the courts for permission to ask his creditors to allow him to come to an arrangement with them. In the event of such a request being granted, the debtor may continue to carry on business under an administrator specially appointed for the purpose. When the application came before the court this afternoon, it was pointed

out that, in the case of a limited company, the consent of the shareholders in general meeting assembled must be obtained before such an application can be entertained. The application was adjourned until after the general meeting of shareholders, which has been called for July 25th.

A curious point has been raised in connection with the possibility that the shareholders may be called on for the balance of their share capital. Some few months ago the directors invited subscriptions for a large amount of share capital, which was issued at a premium of 155f per 500f share. This premium and 50 per cent. of the nominal share capital was payable immediately, leaving an uncalled 250f per share. In order to test their liability on this point, certain shareholders have laid an information against the directors, alleging that the latter must have known that the bank was insolvent at the time the new capital was taken up, and that consequently they should be allowed to escape further liability.

The dominating feature of the Bourse this week has been the collapse of the Banque Industrielle de Chine, but there is a very definite feeling among financiers that perhaps the wisest policy was to let the bank go. Any attempt at saving it would have resulted in very heavy sacrifices. This view undoubtedly explains why, despite the failure of so important a bank, the Bourse has remained stable. As regards securities owing by the bank, these have long ago been discounted, and it is common knowledge that for months past the bank was in difficulties. French Three per cents. closed this week at 56.17, as against 56.70, but Foreign Government stocks have shown no very great tendency to move. Banks have fluctuated, Banque de Paris rising from 1,235 to 1,280, to finish at 1,260. Union Parisienne varied between 780 and 820, and closed at 810. Crédit Lyonnais was slightly stronger at 1,340, as against 1,330. Transports are on the whole stronger. Nord Sud has dropped from 180 to 165, but Omnibus has risen from 595 to 619, Chargeurs Réunis have risen from 590 to 595, Transatlantique from 250 to 260, and Chargeurs Français from 750 to 790. Petrol is rather stronger, and Royal Dutch rose from 18,500 to 20,600; Shell is stationary at 259, and Mexican Eagle has maintained its position at 287.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	June 30, 1921. Francs.	June 23, 1921. Francs.	July 3, 1913. Francs.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	20,403,923	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918)	595,645,496	599,140,106	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	810,943,897	788,261,160	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	6,047,472	..
Notes in circulation	37,422,086,820	37,494,061,955	5,663,027,165
Interest on securities	60,657,850	71,803,334	63,779,699
Bank notes to order	1,113,967	1,228,694	4,330,653
Treasury account	89,961,335	42,415,481	229,395,515
Current accounts, Paris	1,693,983,781	1,599,854,829	591,285,834
Do branch banks	1,076,598,129	1,040,631,424	108,928,472
Dividends payable	2,350,688	3,858,572	12,991,551
Discounts and sundries	5,560,593	148,669,146	3,352,415
Re-discounts	15,389,701	16,101,387	5,532,896
Sundries	1,255,573,514	1,011,105,116	380,086,276
Total	43,306,387,373	43,050,596,808	7,286,730,816
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,794,131,643	5,794,131,643	3,945,569,424
Balances abroad	690,906,258	688,251,716	..
Commercial bills overdue	561,122	1,583,720	..
Discounts in Paris	1,793,567,421	1,518,396,029	614,944,245
Foreign bills	5,822,840	6,165,225	21,831,291
Treasury bills	87,173	503,828	131,579
Discounts in branches	1,102,891,923	961,329,008	1,220,876,893
Adjourned payments, Paris and branches	96,558,127	100,052,737	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	15,394,000
Do on public securities	422,549,424	420,275,457	209,651,251
Do on branch banks	1,772,683,055	1,791,061,831	530,000,000
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,000,000,000	25,000,000,000	..
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments ..	4,052,000,000	4,052,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,930,750	12,930,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,836,155	101,836,155	99,655,203
Revenues indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	46,919,655	46,899,073	42,101,019
Expenses and management	1,114,657	42,571,924	1,741,331
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,351,493
Sundries	2,079,853,194	2,181,260,187	248,322,593
Total	43,306,387,373	43,050,596,808	7,286,730,816

* Temporary advances funds.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	%
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6½

CANADA.—HOPEFUL CROP PROSPECTS—U.S. "EMERGENCY TARIFF"—MAY TRADE RETURNS—REVENUE PROBLEMS—RAILWAY COSTS—CANADIAN-WEST INDIES TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, June 23.

THE crop prospect is very hopeful, Dr Grisdale, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, being authority for the statement that, unless a period of very bad weather intervenes, the crops will be the best in the history of the country. As in 1915 the yield of wheat was 393,000,000 bushels, one can readily see what a really big crop means. But there is nothing as uncertain as a Western crop. To date the conditions have been unusually good, and if only an average amount of moisture falls, then a big yield would seem to be assured.

It is gratifying to note that the acreage sown to wheat, instead of showing a decline, as one might naturally expect, owing to the marked drop in prices, is actually higher than ever before in the history of the country. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that the number of acres under wheat is 18,654,000, as compared with 18,232,000 for 1920. This is 2,311,000 more than the average for the 1915-19 period. When one recalls how the cultivation of wheat was stimulated by high prices and the urgent call for greater production during the war years, one can readily see that the Canadian farmers are doing their utmost to get the most out of the soil.

Of the 18,654,000 acres under wheat, only 709,000 acres are of the fall variety. As an indication of the important part played by the prairie provinces in wheat-raising, it may be said that of the total foregoing acreage, 17,418,000 is credited to them. Saskatchewan naturally leads, and in this respect quite sustains its reputation as the greatest wheat-producing province in Canada, if not in the whole of the Empire, the acreage being 10,061,000, or practically the same as last year. Manitoba is credited with 2,679,000 acres, and Alberta with 4,679,000, or 600,000 acres more than last year. It is interesting to note that Manitoba, which for so long was the banner wheat province, is now far behind Alberta in this respect. The very large acreage in the latter province may to a very considerable extent be attributed to the splendid crop of 1920, which has induced many farmers to seed every available acre, especially as the conditions have been so favourable.

The question of a market naturally arises, but in reality this is secondary to that of the yield, for no matter how high prices may be, if the wheat is not available, the farmer can derive no benefit therefrom. The placing of a duty of 35c per bushel bars the way to the American market for wheat intended for consumption. This would be a serious matter were it not for the fact that it is expected that the United Kingdom will be in the market for her usual supply, which she was not last fall.

This brings up the probable effect of the "emergency" tariff legislation of the United States on Canada. After making due allowance for possible outlets for trade in other directions, it must be admitted that the effect will undoubtedly be very serious for Canadian agriculture. Were it not for the rate of exchange, it is quite probable that Canada might, as she did after the passing of the McKinley and the Dingley tariff legislation, find compensating markets in the United Kingdom or Europe; but the situation is quite different to-day, as the story of falling exports to the Mother Country and France shows. So it is quite apparent that, through the force of circumstances, this country is dependent on the American market to a greater extent than she has been for some years.

The live-stock industry will probably feel the effect most. During the last few years the effect of the embargo in the United Kingdom has been offset through the free entrance of cattle into the United States. But with the latter market effectually closed, there is a rather dark outlook for this branch of industry. Add to this the high freight collected on domestic shipments, and there is grave danger.

that the industry may receive a blow from which it will not recover for years.

The trade returns for May show a marked falling off in all departments, but most of all in imports. As compared with May, 1920, the decline in the total figures is equal to one-third, they being \$129,038,951, as compared with \$193,739,631 for the same month last year. Over the same period, the falling off in imports was equal to 40 per cent., the figures being \$68,304,986 and \$113,320,699 for the same month in 1920. Exports declined from \$80,000,000 to \$60,600,000 for May, 1921. The decline in imports was due to a genuine reduction in purchasing power, though, of course, a lower level of prices manifestly reduced the totals. In this connection it may be said that the reduction was brought about through the natural corrective forces operating in the currents of trade. This is of importance, so much having been said as to the necessity of taking measures to reduce imports. Shipments from the United States and the United Kingdom seem to have been about similarly affected, the marked falling off in imports of textiles from the latter pretty well indicating the general decline in the demand for this class of goods.

Taking everything into account, exports, while they were 20 per cent. in value below those for the same month last year, or \$60,600,000 as compared with \$80,000,000, held their own surprisingly well. This is especially true when one takes into account the marked decline in prices that has taken place during the last 12 months. Doubtless the desire to reach the American market before the incoming of the new scale of duties swelled shipments to the United States beyond what they otherwise would have been. On the month's operations the adverse trade balance was \$7,500,000.

The decline in receipts from Customs, the sales tax, as well as from minor sources of revenue, seems likely to constitute quite a problem. The Minister of Finance anticipated a falling off in Customs amounting to nearly \$40,000,000. On the first two months of the current fiscal year the loss has been equal to about 50 per cent. of that amount. From present indications a revenue of \$115,000,000 from this source would appear to be more probable than the estimated \$132,000,000. The sales tax as a revenue-producer has also failed to come up to expectations. A moment's reflection would show the strong probability of this, for it is impossible that collections should maintain the same level on a rapidly declining volume of business. Happily the income-tax has come to the rescue of the situation in a surprising manner. As in most other countries, it took some time to get the collecting machinery thoroughly under way. In the first year the collections were but a little over \$9,000,000, in the second year they mounted to \$20,000,000, and in the third to \$47,000,000. This year it was arranged that collections should be made in the form of four instalments, the first of which fell due at the end of April. At this date \$39,500,000 was paid in, which gives rise to the hope that the collections for the full year may amount to nearly \$100,000,000. The day is not far distant when the income-tax will be Canada's chief source of revenue. This is a surprisingly good showing for a country that introduced this tax but four years ago.

The railway managements are wrestling with the problem of reducing costs, but as traffic continues to fall away in a very marked manner, without as yet a corresponding decrease in operating expenses, it is difficult to see that much progress has been made in the matter of net returns. Notices of a reduction of 12 per cent. in wages, beginning July 1st, were issued to the railway employees, the position of the companies having also been very plainly stated to the latter in conferences at Montreal. Within a few days it was, however, found necessary to postpone the date for the incoming of the reduction. The truth is, that to effect a reduction in wages has, for the better organised employees, been found to be a much more difficult matter than had been imagined. Considerable reductions will doubtless be made, but for the most part they will be most marked among clerks and the weaker unions. This means that the saving will not be as large as had been expected. It may be taken for granted that wage scales adopted in the United States will be those in Canada.

The Canadian-West Indies trade agreement went into effect on June 18th. As it provides for the granting of greatly increased preferential duties on certain Canadian products entering the Islands, in return for which a similar preference is granted on certain products of the Islands entering Canada, it has been hoped that trade between the two groups would thereby be much stimulated. From present indications it is doubtful whether the high expectations of some will be realised. The Canadian Government's Mercantile Marine, which has been operating a service to the West Indies, reports that, on the business of the first four months of this year, it was the only one of its routes that did not pay. The purchasing power of the Islands having been much reduced through the fall of sugar prices, it is questionable whether Canada will derive much immediate benefit in the matter of increased exports. As the Islands should, however, through the increased preference, get much of the sugar business that now goes to the United States, the Treaty should confer substantial and immediate benefits on them.

ITALY.—THE TRANSITION TO FREE TRADE IN WHEAT—PROPOSALS FOR INCREASING EXPENDITURE—THE RESIGNATION OF THE GIOLITTI CABINET AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS—THE FALL IN STOCK EXCHANGE QUOTATIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, July 2.

SINCE my last letter Signor Soleri, the High Commissioner for Food, has obtained the consent of the Cabinet to a scheme for the final passage to free trade in wheat. After declaring that they will accept until August 31, 1921, all offers from agriculturists of national wheat at 125 lire per quintal for soft wheat and 145 lire for hard wheat, with additional premiums of 21.50 and 25 lire for southern provinces, islands, and territory formerly occupied, the Government were obliged to forbid until the same date any commercial intercourse between the two sets of provinces, those with and those without premiums, as otherwise all wheat could be smuggled from the latter into the former provinces for the sake of the premiums.

For the two months of July and August the sale price by the Government to millers is fixed at 128 and 150 lire for the two qualities. They hope that agriculturists will prefer to sell to private millers at a price from 125 to 128 lire rather than to the Government at 125 lire, so that the Government will be relieved of the burden of too great a mass of wheat thrown upon it by national producers fearing the competition of foreign wheat at lower prices. As the imports of foreign wheat will be made free only from September 1st, the prices will oscillate until that date about 128 and 150 lire. The loss of the national Exchequer will be reduced to the payment of the premiums in the Southern and other privileged provinces. One may hope that this will be the last loss, and that after September 1st the State will be free from this appalling source of expenditure, and the wheat trade definitely restored to its natural freedom.

In his recent speeches the Premier uttered significant warnings against proposals of new expenditure which are forthcoming after the announcement, repeatedly made by responsible Ministers, that the deficit of the Italian Budget was reduced from 14 billion lire in 1920-21 to 4 billions in 1921-22. Signor Giolitti said very pointedly that 4 billions are not a matter to be trifled with, and that the deficit figure will easily increase if Parliament and Government will not set their faces resolutely against all new expenditure. The proposal, largely patronised in the Chamber of Deputies, of giving another monthly bonus of 200 lire to all public employees would add 900 millions lire to the expenditure. A scheme for national health insurance would cost another 900 millions, and so on.

The warnings fall as yet on sterile ground as far as concerns the House of Deputies, where the Government encountered a bitter opposition when they proposed the reduction of the number of public employees and the concession to this end of the necessary discretionary powers to Ministers. The Cabinet had to resign, apparently upon a doubtful vote on foreign policy, but in reality also owing to the difficulties encountered in the task of limiting the

increase of expenditure and of applying the somewhat wild schemes of taxation voted by Parliament in September last. Especially the total confiscation of war profits is proving difficult in a falling market. As the law of September 24, 1920, prescribes that the valuations for taxing purposes shall be made at the date of June 30, 1920, and as at that date all prices were in Italy at their maximum, the taxpayers are confronted with the impossible task of paying enormous taxes upon a basis of values which is fast disappearing. For example, taxpayers who had invested, upon the advice of the Government, their war profits in ships, when these had to be bought from 2,000 to 2,200 lire per deadweight ton, are to-day obliged to pay these same 2,000-2,200 lire to the public Exchequer when the price of the ton has fallen to 500 lire.

To this cause of financial instability there is added the menace of compulsory inscription of all private securities. Inscribed securities are far from popular in Italy, where only bearer securities are practically negotiable. The fear of compulsory inscription is not the least cause of general decreases in the prices of stocks and shares. A recent calculation by Professor Bachi gives the following results on a basis of 100 for December, 1918:—

	Dec., 1918.	Dec., 1920.	May, 1921.
Banks	100	103.17	96.54
Ex-Railways	100	62.21	51.37
Transportation by land ..	100	70.86	60.11
Transportation by sea	100	83.61	51.79
Cotton	100	137.77	103.38
Jute	100	118.18	96.07
Wool	100	101.47	101.11
Hemp and Flax	100	152.81	98.42
Silk	100	172.32	123.79
Mines	100	74.54	55.79
Metals	100	47.75	26.93
Engineering	100	55.12	58.28
Motorcars	100	72.71	50.39
Electricity	100	67.68	63.48
Chemicals	100	80.26	67.07
Sugar	100	108.91	92.24
Food	100	106.40	90.66
Waterworks	100	87.13	87.44
Land and houses	100	100.63	102.66
Miscellaneous	100	130.50	108.67
General index	100	79.67	68.39

For cotton, wool, silk, and miscellaneous maximum prices were quoted later than December, 1920. The land and houses category is alone enjoying a continuous rise, owing to better prospects for the future, when the exceptional Rent Restriction Acts will cease to operate. The fall was most severe in navigation, mines, engineering, motor-cars, which were the greatest war profiteers, and reaches its maximum in the metallurgical group, owing to the artificial nature of this industry in a country like Italy deprived of coal and iron. One of the last acts of the Giolitti Cabinet was a decree promulgating the new fiscal import and export duties. The publication of this new general tariff is awaited with interest, as it is feared that Protection has gained by it a signal victory just at a time when all people are clamouring for a reduction in the high cost of living.

FINLAND.—POLITICS—FINANCES—BANKING—INDUSTRY AND TRADE—PRICES—RAILWAYS, SHIPPING, AND PORTS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, July 4.

FINLAND in April experienced a change of administration, a new Cabinet then being formed of eight members of the Progressive and four of the Agrarian party, under premiership of Professor J. H. Vennola, formerly Minister of Trade, with M. R. Holsti remaining as Foreign Minister. Home politics have been quiet. The contentious Language Laws, regulating official use of Finnish and Swedish, have been finally put through, against Swedish opposition. The League of Nations' decision in favour of Finland in the Alands Question has been well received, and has apparently prevented a worse conflict, as Finland seemed resolved not to surrender the

islands. The Communist party is relatively quiet, and some of its most determined members of late transferred their activities to Sweden. From Russia there has of late been no threat, and, according to Moscow newspapers, the numerous and active Finnish Reds at Petrograd are in bad odour with their hosts.

Details of the Budget for 1921 were sent from here to the *Economist* in January. The somewhat altered figures after handling in the Riksdag Budget Committee in March were:—

Expenditure—	Fin. Marks.
Ordinary	1,808,631,305
Extraordinary	430,473,100
	2,239,104,405
Revenue—	
Ordinary	2,154,855,650
Extraordinary	76,291,000
	2,231,146,650

deficit being 7,957,755 Fm., to be covered out of the Budget Fund, which, according to the State Comptrol, amounted to 120,000,000 Fm. at close of 1920. The Budget of 1913 balanced at 178,436,300 Fm. Since before the war the Budget has been radically transformed, not only by the inflation and price-rise, but also by the introduction of an effective direct taxes system. In 1913 direct taxes played practically no rôle, the receipts being only 6,500,000 Fm.; in 1921 they are estimated at 344,900,000 Fm., a fifty-fold increase, while indirect taxes have increased about ten-fold. The estimated yield of the income and property taxes in 1921 is 320,000,000 Fm. The State Debt on April 30th is officially stated:—

Consolidated—	Millions of Fm.
Foreign	543.4
Home	933.9
Floating—	
Foreign	136.5
Home	516.7
	2,130.6

showing an increase since January 31st of 281,000,000 Fm., due mainly to consolidation loans concluded in the Scandinavian countries in February. An official report puts the following values on State-owned productive property:—Forests and land, 5,351,614,000 Fm.; buildings, 239,533,000 Fm.; sawmills, 11,000,000 Fm.; railways, 2,248,893,000 Fm.; waterfalls, 345,750,000 Fm.; Jokki Estates Company, 50,000,000 Fm.; shipping, 37,000,000 Fm.; total, 8,283,790,000 Fm.

The money market all last year was strained, and this condition has continued. Since the autumn of last year the Bank of Finland's discount rate has been 9 per cent., the highest in Europe, and private banks in November raised their deposit rate to 6½ per cent. These high rates have not reduced the demand for money. The note circulation, which at close of 1919 was 1,123,942,801 Fm., at close of 1920 reached 1,341,041,560 Fm., a little less than its maximum for the year; was 1,404,900,000 Fm. on May 30th, and 1,392,100,000 Fm. on June 15th. The non-conversion of notes into gold, which has been the practice since 1914, was legalised until further notice by a law presented in April. The Bank of Finland's net profits in 1920 were 75,079,188 Fm., against 118,115,940 Fm. in 1919. The Bank's current account claims on Russian and Austrian correspondents were written off to 1 Fm. each, and its holdings of Russian, Austrian, and

IMPORTANT NOTICE

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

have appointed Messrs. Constable sole agents for the sale in Great Britain and the British Empire of their OFFICIAL and SEMI-

OFFICIAL PUBLICATIONS

NOW READY:

Report on the Financial Reconstruction of Austria, 5/- net
Report by M. Marcus Wallenberg on Reciprocal Treatment of Foreign Banks in different Countries, 2/- net.

Double Taxation by Sir Basil Blackett (with addendum) 2/- net.
Two Reports regarding Holders of Securities and Bonds by M. C. E. Ter Meulen Each 2/- net.

CONSTABLE & CO LTD. 10-12 ORANGE ST. LONDON W.C.2.

Hungarian bonds similarly treated. Its capital, which at close of 1919 was 25,000,000 Fm., has been increased to 100,000,000 Fm. by transfer of 75,000,000 from reserve, reserve being left at 23,583,153 Fm. Its loans and advances increased during the year by 136,900,000 Fm. The monthly reports of the private banks show that deposits on January 31, 1921, totalled 3,657,900,000 Fm., and loans 5,584,800,000 Fm., and that on May 31st deposits were 3,808,100,000 Fm., and loans 5,895,100,000 Fm., the excess of loans having increased in the four months from 1,926,900,000 Fm. to 2,087,000,000 Fm., which figure is nearly double the excess (1,052,900,000 Fm.) on January 31, 1920. The banks' net debts to abroad rose from 779,100,000 Fm. on January 31st, to 911,400,000 Fm. on May 31st.

The Fin. mark's foreign exchange, after a considerable recovery in December last, has heavily fallen this year, but after reaching a lowest rate of 262½ to sterling on June 16th, and has since somewhat risen. The exchanges index published by the trade journal *Kauppaliehti* (based on 100 as average price in Finnish currency of 10 leading currencies) shows for January, 1920, 386.7, May 272.4, November 559.6, February, 1921, 399.8, and April 581.4. Apart from political apprehensions as regards Russia, which make it difficult to obtain large foreign credits for imports, the only known cause of this exchange decline is the suspension of the export boom which began towards the middle of 1920; but this is aggravated by the circumstance that prices of imports have risen considerably more than prices of exports. In April, the Bank of Finland declared in principle against providing the private banks with exchange for payment for imports; and the private banks are refusing to finance imports for their clients. The Economic Council, which last year advised the Government, and was later dissolved, has been reconstituted; but it is not stated that the former exchange regulation system will be restored.

Industry and foreign trade are in a bad condition. The number of protested bills in January-May, 1921, was 1,606, against 1,117 in the same months of 1920, and 836 in 1919. The causes of bad trade are similar to those of Europe generally: the consumption of imports, largely food, cannot be cut down beyond a certain point, while the demand for exports has declined. Finland's troubles are aggravated by loss of the Russian market, which before the war was her chief paper buyer. Small paper deals were last month concluded with Russia. Finland's problem is to gain new permanent markets for her specific export goods, and last year it seemed that this aim was attained through very large sales of paper, pulp, and timber to England. Of 2,906,600,000 Fm. exports 1,257,600,000 Fm. went to England. But the precariousness of a trade balance dependent mainly upon purchases by a single country has been proved by the practical cessation since last autumn of English buying, and the result is a return of the passive trade balance of the first months of 1920. Finland always had a passive trade balance, but her pre-war payment balance was maintained by moneys sent home by emigrants and by money brought in by the numerous Russian villa residents between the frontier and Vyborg. The last resource has entirely ceased. Figures of foreign trade in the first five months of 1921 and 1920 are:—

(Millions of Fm.)				
	Imports.	Exports.	Impt. Excess.	
1920.				
January	254.6	43.3	211.3	
February	254.8	97.7	157.1	
March	213.0	59.7	153.3	
April	273.6	97.8	175.8	
May	205.0	197.5	7.5	
1921.				
January	194.7	95.4	99.3	
February	271.1	64.2	206.9	
March	170.4	58.4	112.0	
April	296.6	111.2	185.4	
May	340.4	138.9	201.5	

The marked recovery shown in May, 1920, was so well continued that three of the following months actually showed an excess of exports, and that on the whole year exports reached 2,906,600,000 Fm. against 3,620,300,000 Fm. imports, which was a great improvement over 1919 with imports of 2,509,900,000 Fm.

and 880,400,000 Fm. exports. Only a sudden and great improvement of the weed, paper, and pulp trades can produce in 1921 the relatively good results of 1920. Business is naturally depressed, and prices and wages are falling. In February the paper mills resolved to reduce wages 25 per cent., and in May were announced wage reductions of 15.20 per cent. in the metal industries. The absence of commercial treaties is felt. France, as retaliation for prohibition of wines, &c., imposed maximum duties on Finnish paper and pulp, but an agreement is being concluded. In the first five months of this year France sold to Finland only 11.4 million Fm. of goods, and bought only 8.1 million Fm. Figures for other chief countries (in million Fm.) are:—

	Imports.	Exports.
Germany	353.3	57.9
England	324.8	188.8
U.S.A.	152.0	55.7
Sweden	145.6	61.6
Denmark	112.9	23.2
Holland	55.9	18.8

The index cost of living (100 July, 1914) was 830.6 in first quarter of 1920, 1,103.2 in December, 1,065.4 in January, and 1,007.5 in April.

In spite of the depression considerable activity is being shown in public enterprises. In February a State Railway Commission recommended a construction programme for 33 years, to cost altogether 3 milliards, and including (1) transit railways, chief of which would join Abo directly with Riihimäki, the function for Helsingfors, thereby providing a shorter trade route from the Gulf of Bothnia ports to Petrograd; (2) local and suburban lines around Helsingfors, Tammerfors, and Viborg; (3) North Finnish lines, chief of which would connect Rovaniemi in North Finland with Petchenga (now called Petsamo) on the strip of Arctic Ocean territory acquired through the Peace Treaty with Russia, length 500 kilometers. The whole programme covers 23 lines of 3,302 kilometres length. A Commission is at present inspecting the Petchenga route. The improvement of harbours and preparations for free ports are being proceeded with, in particular the harbour and free port at Graesholm and Sandvik at Helsingfors. Finland's commercial fleet at the beginning of 1921, reports the *Helsingfors Mercator*, consisted of 5,385 vessels, gross tonnage 619,789, of which, however, 292,599 tons were lighters and barges, 99,556 tons being steamers, 12,311 tons motor ships, and 140,830 tons sailing ships. In 1920 159 vessels of 31,935 gross tonnage were under construction; completed during the year were 135 vessels of 22,779 tons. Most of these vessels were laid down in 1919 under more favourable freight conditions, and at present shipbuilding is depressed. The State Railway Department, reports the *Hufvudstadsbladet*, is about to establish a large railway construction workshop somewhere in the centre of the country to replace obsolete establishments at Kuopio.

Letters to the Editor.

THE RAILWAYS BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your issue of July 2nd you deal very fairly with the Memorandum on the Railways Bill issued by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, with the main theses of which you appear to agree. Railway receipts must inevitably be governed by the ability of the traders and the travelling public to pay, and any attempt to impose higher charges will defeat its own object by driving traffic on to the roads or by killing trade.

May I, however, say a word in defence of the statement in the memorandum that "the only satisfactory test of efficient and economical management is the ability to earn a profit"? You say that railway companies are in a different position from other concerns in that they cannot transfer their capital. But railways are not alone in this respect. Merchants and bankers may be able to transfer their capital, but most industrial capital is fixed, and unless an industrial concern makes provision for future changes in methods of production its capital is irretriev-

ably lost when economic progress renders its plant obsolete.

The prudent business man is therefore constantly modernising his plant or, to quote your example, replacing his sailing ships by steamers, out of revenue. This is precisely what the railway companies ought to do; they must be made to fight for their revenue by proving themselves a more efficient means of transport than any other method. They must do this by electrification, by improved methods of loading and handling merchandise, by rapidity of service, &c. If they fail to keep up to date, even the Minister of Transport would hardly maintain that they are entitled to a standard revenue in perpetuity. Such a doctrine would not only be economically unsound, it would be futile. The unfortunate user of the railways who has no prospect of escaping from the railways would not be able to provide sufficient revenue to furnish a standard return on a capital of £1,300 millions, and when other traffic had transferred itself to other means of transport a great part of the railway track of the country would suffer the fate of the Edinburgh Tunnel. If the railways are to be assisted to secure a revenue without having to work hard for it by progressive methods and constantly improving administration, the main argument for leaving them in private hands is removed.

It is for these reasons that the first instruction to the Rates Tribunal—to whom Parliament is delegating its power of regulating all railway charges—should be to fix such rates as will maintain and develop transport by rail. It is then for the railway companies so to organise their undertakings and to make such arrangements with their men as would enable them to pay a dividend.—Yours faithfully,

M. S. BIRKETT.

National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, London, July 7th, 1921.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I desire to thank Mr Craies for his letter which appeared in your issue of the 2nd inst., and am glad to find there is so much agreement between us, so far as the ultimate object we have in view is concerned.

It does not appear to me to be either fundamental or necessary that all inter-Allied debts, as stated by your correspondent, should be either cancelled, paid off, or funded before an international gold standard can be restored. It is no doubt an advantage to have these debts settled in some form, but they existed in pre-war days, although to a lesser extent, and their existence should not therefore hinder the carrying out of this most necessary reform.

The price levels which Mr Craies desires to see come into parity are surely more likely to do so when the various currencies have been restored to parity. I entirely agree with your correspondent that the redundant currencies must be withdrawn from circulation as a first step in preparation for the resumption of specie payments. Whether all the Continental countries will be able to restore their former units of value is open to doubt. Austria, Russia, and Poland, I imagine, will find it impossible, but they ought to make a beginning, and I believe our good example will encourage them to do so. I do not agree that we must wait until they are ready.

Mr Craies' suggestion that all those interested in setting up a stable standard of value should arrange to meet together in order to formulate a definite programme appears to me to be an admirable one, and I shall have pleasure in bringing it before my executive committee. A meeting or conference, which might take place in the autumn, at which plans or proposals for the rehabilitation of the currencies of the various countries could be discussed and recommended, would be most valuable, and should hasten the restoration of the exchanges on which the revival of trade and commerce so much depends.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

D. M. MASON.

Chairman Executive Committee Sound Currency Association, 115 Cannon street, London, E.C. 4.

July 4th, 1921.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised £3,000,000

Paid Up Capital 1,050,000

Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.

On **Current Accounts** interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your correspondents are in general agreement upon one thing—that what we require, both for our export trade and for the security of the relations between capital and labour, is stability of values; and a gold standard is a good thing so far as it guarantees this. But having failed to maintain the gold standard, we have still the problem of securing stability before us. The reason of our failure to maintain that standard is not far to seek. We could not have won the war without borrowing, but the creation of liabilities on a prodigal scale without a corresponding creation of assets is nothing more nor less than inflation, and the expansion of the currency is an unavoidable consequence.

If we wish to return to the gold standard now or in the near future, our national income must fall to approximately pre-war figures, unless our production is greater than before the war. But the Board of Trade figures show that on the basis of 1913 values our imports for the first quarter of this year are only £122,410,000, as compared with £164,500,000, and our exports £66,989,000, as compared with £124,942,000, with the result that our turnover has fallen to £189,399,000, compared with £289,442,000; while the balance of trade against us is £55,421,000, compared with £39,558,000 in 1913.

This is evidence of the great decline in production, due to shorter hours of labour and other restrictions. We have lost a large portion of the income formerly derived from abroad, partly through sales of investments, and partly through debts contracted abroad, as with the U.S.A., and our Russian debts are practically irrecoverable. In these circumstances, it would not be safe to assume that the income of Great Britain on a gold basis is larger to-day than in 1913, even allowing for the increase in population. This gives us a figure of £2,000,000,000, the usual estimate for the year 1913.

The problem before us, then, is how, out of this income, to provide a sum of £500,000,000 per annum for the service of the national debt and war pensions—i.e., 25 per cent. of our income. The working class will not suffer such a deduction from their standard of living. Capital exacts a larger amount, both because high rates of interest are sanctioned by a high Bank rate, and because there is an increase of approximately 50 per cent. in its claims due to our huge national debt. The whole income of the middle class would not suffice to provide the amount, and in any case if that class is subjected to an unfair burden it will be reduced to ruin, and we shall have a reproduction of the condition of Russia on a worse scale, for Britain's greatest asset is the brain and activities of that class.

We are left with no alternative but to revalue our liabilities in a depreciated currency, as all our neighbours have done. To put the case in the most concise form, industry cannot bear the burden of the present national debt in terms of gold, and our attempt to deflate without regard to this fact has not been without an influence on the balance-sheets of our railways and coal mines.

The solution of our difficulties will come before long. The Bank of England has already realised by its action

in reducing the Bank rate to 6½ per cent. that the use of the discount rate to bring us to gold parity cannot be exercised without some regard to the state of trade in the country. The present policy of the directors has yet to be clearly formulated, but from the moment they acknowledge the gold standard to be beyond their reach even for a relatively brief period, they have no choice but to maintain stability of values by other methods, and there are at least two guiding principles by which they can do so. They may regulate the issue of currency and the discount rate so as to maintain the pound sterling at parity with an average of all the principal foreign exchanges; or, secondly, so as to maintain the pound sterling at parity with an approved index-number of general commodity values constructed on scientific lines, such as would command the confidence and respect of the whole world as a measure of values. The latter principle is unquestionably the sounder of the two, and is advocated by advanced economists like Dr G. M. Verrijn Stuart. There is nothing revolutionary in it. The Bank of England have already the power now to control the demand for currency by means of the Bank rate within the rigidly inflexible restriction imposed by the Government. If this arbitrary restriction is removed, the control will remain in their hands and can be exercised on the terms stated—namely, that the standard of values be maintained within reasonable fluctuations without reference to the stock of gold in the coffers of the Bank, which has, after all, merely a commodity value at present. This stock of gold will become available for the settlement of international debts, and there will be no further need to hoard it uselessly in the coffers of the Bank. Our power to draw gold from abroad for our requirements will be no less than before the war, for it depends on our production, which will always bring gold in exchange. Indeed, the falling off in our production to-day is seriously compromising that power to draw gold.

With the currency of the country controlled in this manner, not cramped as at present in iron bands, the trade and commerce of the country can expand freely; merchants and manufacturers will be assured of that stability of values without which business becomes chaos; wages will no longer have to be varied, as they are now, in accordance with an index-number, as the currency itself will guarantee the desired constancy of values for the working classes; our foreign customers will find the pound sterling an even more reliable standard of value than we achieved by adherence to gold in less difficult times.

The situation of industry to-day is no surprise to the writer, who warned the members of the Cunliffe Committee in January, 1918, of the disastrous consequences that would ensue from any attempt to bring back values to gold parity without taking into consideration the inflation caused by the public debt. Now that the matter has been put to the proof, we must look forward to an intelligent revision of the policy to which the Bank of England was committed by the recommendations of that Committee. The return to a gold standard will be possible when we can equate the assets and liabilities of the nation in terms of gold at its pre-war rate with the pound sterling; but if by a stroke of the pen we could achieve that rate to-day, it would, on the admission of the gold-mining companies themselves, only result in destroying the very foundation of a gold currency—the gold-mining industry itself.

If I may venture a prediction, the present generation will not witness a return to the pre-war gold basis, for the colossal creation of debt in Europe has disturbed all values far more deeply than most of us are aware. It is the instability of the present situation that makes it impossible for merchants and manufacturers to make any provision for the future, and which, therefore, cuts at the very root of business development. If England would set herself the task of providing a really sound and scientific basis on which her trade, both at home and abroad, could be healthily developed, she would confer the greatest blessing that is possible on the whole world, as well as on herself.—Yours faithfully,

F. WIGGLESWORTH.

82 Fenchurch street, London, E.C. 3,
June 21st. 1921.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF GOLD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The following broad conclusions may be drawn from a study of this question. From the nature of the case the estimates offered can only be approximations to the truth:—

(1) The quantity of gold now in the possession of mankind is about 1,000 million ounces—enough to make 4,250 million sovereigns. Of this quantity the United States holds about 200 million ounces, India about 100 million, and the United Kingdom about 60 million.

(2) The new production of gold at present averages about 21 million ounces per annum (last year it was 16.5), and, owing to the comparative indestructibility of gold, the world's stock is increasing at a rate exceeding 1 per cent. per annum.

(3) This progressive increase in the world's stock of gold must, taken by itself, have a tendency to cheapen the value of gold in exchange for other commodities—that is to say, to raise the gold prices of commodities generally.

(4) Gold in the form of coin or bullion can easily be hoarded or made into ornaments, and so withdrawn from currency; and, on the other hand, gold in hoards or in the form of ornaments can easily be turned into coin or bullion and made available for currency purposes.

(5) At present, of the 1,000 million ounces of gold in the world, only about 400 million are held or used for purposes of currency, and about 600 million are in private hands, either in the form of coin, bullion, or ornaments.

(6) Of the 400 million ounces held or used for purposes of currency (mainly by treasuries and banks), the United States now holds about 160, the United Kingdom about 43, France 52, Japan 30, and India six million ounces.

(7) Gold is still the common measure of the value of paper currencies for the purposes of international exchange, whether of credit or commodities.

(8) Although during the last seven years the banks and treasuries of the world (excluding Russia) have nearly doubled the quantity of gold held by them, they have absorbed little more than the world's new production during that period, and a considerable quantity of the gold which has disappeared from currency has been added to private hoards and ornaments, and can easily be made available for currency purposes should the holders of it so wish. Should any large quantity of gold be brought out of hoards and added to currency, this would tend to a rise in the gold prices of commodities.

(9) The general result of the restrictions imposed on movements of gold during the war was to reserve new production for the use of the European countries (other than Russia) and of the United States, and to lead to a great accumulation of gold in the United States. This process must have had a strong influence towards raising the gold prices of commodities in that country.

(10) In consequence of the removal of most of those restrictions after the Armistice, the countries of Asia and South America were enabled to obtain the gold they wanted, and one result of this re-distribution of the world's gold was to reduce the accumulation in the United States—a process which must have had some effect towards the fall in gold prices in that country which has been so marked since April, 1920. Most countries in the world have now obtained all the gold they at present require, and most of the surplus gold which becomes available, either from new production or from other causes, now finds its way to the United States, which is again rapidly accumulating gold. This process must have a tendency towards raising the gold prices of commodities in the United States, and may retard, or even to some extent reverse, the fall in the gold prices of commodities in that country which has been going on during the last 12 months.

(11) The fall in the gold prices of commodities in the United States during the last 12 months has been so much more rapid than the fall in the prices of commodities in the United Kingdom, measured in gold, that by the ordinary operations of trade it is likely (even if there is a rise in prices in the United States) to lead to a further fall in the prices of commodities in the United Kingdom measured in gold, and therefore to a further fall in those

prices measured in British paper currency, unless there is a serious fall in the rate of exchange with New York and in the quantity of gold which the British paper pound will buy in London. That can only happen if (1) an increase is made in the quantity of British paper currency outstanding, or if (2) the world's financiers (including bankers and merchants generally) lose faith in Britain's ability and determination to pay her just debts and to restore the pound sterling to the value of the 113 grains of gold contained in a sovereign.

SIR JAMES WILSON, K.C.S.I.

Ochilview, Crief, June 27th, 1921.

THE COST OF PRODUCTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Economists are continually lecturing workmen on the futility of restricting output, and yet the workmen do not listen. How is it that workmen are not convinced of so obvious a truth as that a better standard of life all round can only be obtained by increased output?

I think the root of the matter is somewhat as follows:—Habit is the greatest of social forces. If in a given society a bigger output per hour is obtained by better methods, the benefit can be felt in three ways:—

- (a) More leisure.
- (b) A higher standard of comfort.
- (c) A greater power to carry out capital works.

If a given society gets a better output per hour, but does not alter its habits and standard of life, nor go in for capital extensions to a sufficient extent to take up at once the labour displaced by improved methods, either all must work less, or, more probably, some workmen will remain outside the circle of employment.

It is the feeling of the difficulty and delay in overcoming this inertia of society which leads men to go slow and make work, and leads, also, to an enormous expense in sales propaganda in order to create new wants. It is curious to consider that it required a world-war to stimulate production to its utmost and to absorb all the available labour.

The problem of getting workmen to do their best will be solved when we find means of directing to useful work, without loss of time, all labour saved by improved methods (or of spreading the leisure gained evenly through society), and of doing this in such a way that all workmen are able to follow and appreciate the process.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.

Apollo House, 4, Bunhill row, London, E.C. 1,
June 20th, 1921.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Allied Shipping Control. An Experiment in International Administration. By J. A. Salter, C.B. (Oxford) Clarendon Press. 10s 6d net.

Other People's Money. By A Trustee. (London) Mills and Boon, Limited. 2s 6d net.

This is a reprint in book form of a series of interesting articles which originally appeared in the *Economist*, although, as far as we can discover, there is no acknowledgment of this fact.

Government Control and Operation of Industry in Great Britain and the United States during the World War. By Charles Whiting Baker. (New York) Oxford University Press. \$1.

Obtainable from Mr Humphrey Milford, London.

An Empire View of The Empire Tangle. (Imperial Conference, 1921.) By Edward O. Mousley, with Preface by Rt. Hon. W. F. Massey. (London) P. S. King and Son, Limited. 3s net.

The Unity Series, IV. The Evolution of World Peace. Essays arranged and edited by F. S. Marvin. (London) Humphrey Milford. Oxford University Press. 9s 6d net.

New Zealand Official Year Book, 1920. Twenty-ninth year of issue. (Wellington, N.Z.) Marcus F. Marks, Government Printer.

Whitherward? Hell or Eutopia. By Victor Branford. (London) Williams and Norgate.

Monthly Review. June 30, 1921. (London) Offices of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.

Contains a verbatim report of the recent address of the Right Hon. R. McKenna on "International Debts" to the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

(with which has been amalgamated the London Provincial and South Western Bank Ltd.)

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business. Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
July 13.	July 14.

The announcement by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of his intention to introduce a new 5½ per cent. Treasury bond at 97 gave the Stock Exchange the opportunity for speculating in advance upon a possible reduction in the Bank rate last Thursday. When the announcement was made in the House, the fact of there being no alteration caused some little amusement. Gilt-edged stocks at first fell sharply on the news of the 5½ per cent. forthcoming loan, the prospectus of which is to be issued on Monday. It was not long, however, before the decline was arrested. The War Loan touched 87½ before it recovered to 88½, and the rest of the gilt-edged list moved on lines somewhat similar.

Brazilian bonds are better, in the foreign market, and there has been a recovery in French issues. German Threes are flat. Argentine, Chinese, and Japanese have received rather more favourable attention, but it cannot be said that business in Foreigners is of any volume worth mentioning. The same remark might be applied, indeed, to many other parts of the Stock Exchange, and the conclusion of the coal-strike has brought about no such increase in general business as the House had hoped would be the case. The prospects of early peace in Ireland are helpful to investment stocks, but the proximity of the holiday season tends to restrict investment and speculation.

Holders of Home Railway stocks are too accustomed to disappointment for them to feel any great surprise at the failure of their market to respond to the end of the coal strike. The various stages of the Railway Bill and the debates which have risen thereupon are studied with a good deal of interest, but apparently they have not aroused hopefulness, for prices of ordinary, deferred, debenture, preference, and guaranteed are mostly lower on the week. There is, in short, no support accorded to any of the stocks, apart from the Undergrounds, in this market. Grand Trunks have been moving listlessly and irregularly. Mexican Rails gave way on the political difficulties that have arisen in connection with the oil export duty. Brazilians are weaker, and Argentines continue to dwindle.

New schemes are afoot for dealing with restriction of the output of rubber, and the desperate condition of the industry is rousing into renewed effort the Rubber Growers' Association and various other bodies connected with rubber. Prices of shares are, on the whole, rather better. In the oil market the feature is the way in which Mexican Eagles were depressed, owing to a genuine fear lest the imposition of further taxation upon the export of oil by Mexico may bring to a head the minor points of friction which have been developing between Mexican oil interests and those of American oil groups. The tendency of the market, therefore, has been heavy, although Shells kept fairly firm, owing to the cautiously cheerful speeches at the Shell meeting last Monday. A number of iron, coal, steel, and armament shares gained a few pence apiece as the sequel to the resumption of work in the coal mines. A more cheerful view prevails in connection with the textile trades, and this found reflection in a fair number of rises at the beginning of the week, which, however, were scarcely held, owing to the lack of public support. The Banking group is inclined to be better, thanks to the dividends now in course of declaration. The feature is the strength of National Discounts, which have risen about a point, owing to the directors' decision to wipe off £10 of the liability on the shares. The rises amongst Insurance shares have been checked, and the Shipping market is very quiet, failing to derive any benefit from the coal position. Marconis have given way, apparently on fears as to what the forthcoming dividend announcement is likely to be, and the Cable group, also, is a little easier, for which vague apprehensions of American competition may be deemed responsible. Spiers and Ponds advanced on the dividend and meeting, and other catering shares remain quietly steady. Money continues to go into such good-class preference and debenture issues as offer 7 to 8 per cent. on the money.

The Cape has been buying a few Kaffir shares, with the result that Springs Mines, and certain others of the Deep Level list, show a hardening tendency. Arbitrage houses report a fair amount of activity in De Beers, where movements have been sharp and irregular. Rio Tintos gave way after exhibiting strength. In the Rhodesian market, Chartered has kept about 11s 9d for the greater part of the week. Russo-Asiatics fell to 9s 9d after the meeting on Wednesday, subsequently recovering in the course of a couple of hours to 11s, and again sagging-off a trifle. Mexican Mining shares are inclined to be dull owing to the political developments, and the only section of the mining markets to show any pronounced strength is that for Broken Hill shares, where all the leading descriptions are better on buying orders received from the Colony. West Australians are a little heavier, and the proverbial doornail is not more dead than is the market for West Africans.

A ballot was held in the Stock Exchange, on Thursday, for the election of a member of the Committee in place of Mr Lionel Robinson, recently resigned on account of ill-health. Out of three candidates, Mr J. H. Chaldecott, of Messrs Jourdan and Pawle, was successful.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	128,574,476			

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts April 1st to April 30th.....	1,002,675
---	-----------

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

Net Receipts into the Exchequer Week ended June 30, 1921.	
April 1 to June 30, £2,080,000	250,000

To the Public—

Lion Picture-House and Estate (Huddersfield), 125,000 Ord., £1, at par (July 4).....	125,000	125,000	15,625	109,375
Savoy Super-Cinema (Wallasey), 23,250 Ord., £1, at par (July 4).....	23,250	23,250	5,812	17,438
Colombian Proprietary Gold Mines, Ltd., 60,000 Shares, £1, at par (July 4).....	60,000	60,000	15,000	45,000
Nth. Metropolitan Electric Power Supply, £228,460 7½% Deb. Stk. (red. at par), issued at 95% (July 4).....	228,460	217,037	11,423	205,614
Weston-Super-Mare Gas Light, £23,340 7½% Perp. Deb. Stk., at par.....	23,340	23,340	5,835	17,505
Do £10,856 7½% Pref. Stk., at par.....	10,856	10,856	2,714	8,142
Mediterranean Oilfields, Limited, 250,000 Shs., 2s, at par (July 7).....	12,500	12,500	3,125	9,375

Amounts offered to public..... 471,983 .. 69,534 .. 412,449

To Shareholders only—

Gadek Rubber Estate, £15,000 8% Cons. 1st Mort. Deb. Stk. (red. at 105% 1926-31), issued at par 15,000 ..	15,000	1,875	13,125
---	--------	-------	--------

Total .. 15,000 .. 1,875 .. 13,125

Total offered for subscription to date .. 1,002,675 .. 1,002,675

1921 .. £129,061,459	1920 .. £367,549,656
1920 .. 239,204,322	1919 .. 1,036,059,951
1919 .. 294,608,779	1918 .. 1,393,381,441
1918 .. 737,518,403	1917 .. 1,318,596,010
1917 .. 1,066,287,423	1916 .. 585,436,850
1916 .. 368,522,200	1915 .. 685,236,326
1915 .. 657,001,376	1914 .. 512,522,633
1914 .. 165,423,248	1913 .. 196,536,980

The North Metropolitan Electric Power Supply Company.

Incorporated by the North Metropolitan Electric Supply Act, 1900. Authorised capital £1,500,000, of which £950,000 has been issued and paid up. By their special Acts the company is authorised to borrow up to one-third of its issued share capital, providing that one-half of it has been paid up. The company also has power to borrow further up to £500,000 under other Acts. There are issued and outstanding £234,800 5 per cent. mortgages of £100 each, "redeemable at 105 per cent." This is an issue of £228,460 7½ per cent. debenture stock at 95 per cent. This 7½ per cent. debenture stock will be secured by a trust deed, and constitutes a floating charge on the assets of the undertaking. But it is subject to a prior floating charge to secure the £234,800 5 per cent. mortgages already mentioned, and a specific mortgage of the Willesden Power Station, upon which the sum of £23,570 is now secured. The company undertakes not to issue further charges, floating or specific, under trust deeds, except for the purpose of securing bankers' advances. The prospectus shows a statement of capital expenditure, uncalculated capital, and investments at cost, which total £1,408,904. After allowing for prior charges, the present issue is well secured as regards capital. An excellent table of income and distribution is submitted, which dates from 1908. This shows that there is ample cover for interest payments. The issue is a good one of its class, and was quickly subscribed.

The United Glass Bottle Manufacturers, Limited.

Authorised capital £1,500,000, divided into 500,000 7½ per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each (free of income-tax up to 6s in the £), of which 499,800 have been issued, and 1,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 417,530 have been issued. In the *Economist* for May 14, 1921, on page 981, we recorded and commented upon an offer for sale of £600,000 7 per cent. (free of income-tax up to 6s in the £) first mortgage debenture stock at par. The following details are taken from an advertised statement which appeared in the Press to comply with the requirements of the Committee of the Stock Exchange:—"The cumulative preference shares originally bore interest at the rate of 6 per cent. (free of income-tax up to 6s in the £), but the rate was raised from 6 per cent. to 7½ per cent. prior to the issue, in May, 1921, of the 7 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock. In April, 1913, 25,250 preference shares of £10 each were issued at par in part payment of the purchase price of subsidiary companies, and in March, 1914, 730 preference shares of £10 each were also issued at par in part payment of purchase price of subsidiary companies. These preference shares were subdivided into £259,800 shares of £1 each in July, 1919. Under contract, 240,000 of the preference shares were subscribed for at par by B.S.T., Limited, who received a commission of 2½ per cent."

Mediterranean Oilfields, Limited.—Authorised capital £75,000, divided into 750,000 shares of 2s each. This is an offer of 250,000 shares for subscription at par. This company has agreed to purchase the coal and oil shale rights over approximately 4,000 acres of a farm known as Twyfelaar No. 3, situated in the Sheepmore district of Ermelo, in the Transvaal province of the Union of South Africa, on the main line of railway to Johannesburg, Natal, and Delagoa Bay. Favourable and independent reports on the property have been made, but the issue should only be considered by those with an intimate knowledge of the directors.

Colombian Proprietary Gold Mines, Limited.

Nominal capital £200,000, divided into shares of £1 each. This is an issue of 150,000 shares, of which 90,000 will be issued as fully paid up in payment of purchase consideration, and 60,000 are now offered for subscription at par. The vendors undertake to discharge certain preliminary expenses, and it is stated that the 60,000 shares now offered have been guaranteed without the payment of any cash commission, but in consideration of the right to subscribe at par for 32,000 shares up to October 22, 1922. The company has been formed to acquire certain gold-mining properties or claims in Colombia. The independent reports, from which only extracts are given in the prospectus, are carefully worded, but though in a conservative vein, give the outside readers little to go upon. It is a favourable point that the vendors show their confidence by taking payment in shares. A highly speculative proposition, and only suitable for those with more knowledge than can be gleaned from the prospectus.

The Savoy Super-Cinema (Wallasey).

Authorised capital £25,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an offer for subscription at par of 23,250 shares. The company has been formed to purchase freehold land at Liscard, in the borough of Wallasey, and erect a picture theatre. The vendor of the land is also interested in promoting the company, independent valuation is offered in the prospectus. The prospectus mentions that certain other directors are interested in the promotion, and will receive each £250 in cash and £250 in ordinary shares. The proposition is only suitable for those who have personal knowledge of the directors and of local conditions.

Lion Picture House and Estate (Huddersfield), Limited.

Authorised capital £125,000, divided into shares of £1 each. The company has been formed to acquire from two limited companies, a "picture house" and other properties. An independent valuation is submitted, which gives the value of the properties to be acquired as £104,000. The purchase price has been fixed at £116,000, the difference, £12,000, representing goodwill. This prospectus, as far as cinema prospectuses are concerned, is remarkable for one thing—past profits are stated for a few years back. But these, it should be noticed, are given before charging depreciation, interest, and income-tax and excess profits duty. It is intended to undertake a considerable amount of building construction alterations. These are to be financed by mortgages. This is an issue for consideration by local investors and those who have faith in the business capacity of the directors. It is satisfactory to note that an application is to be made to the Stock Exchange for permission to deal in shares.

Bovril, Limited.—At a meeting held on July 1st the directors allotted 100,000 6 per cent. preference and 60,000 7½ per cent. ordinary shares. Consequently upon this new issue, the 500,000 5½ per cent. preference shares and the 750,000 7 per cent. ordinary shares in Bovril, Limited, will in future rank for dividend at the rates of 6 per cent. and 7½ per cent. respectively.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War Loans 3½% 1925-28 ..	88 ..	87½ ..	½ ..
Loans 4½% 1925-28 ..	81½ ..	81 ..	½ ..
4½% 1929-42 ..	87½ ..	87 ..	½ ..
Funding Loan 4% ..	71½ ..	71 ..	½ ..
Victory Bonds 4% ..	77½ ..	77 ..	½ ..
Conversion Loan 3½% ..	65 ..	64½ ..	½ ..
Consols 2½% ..	48½ ..	48 ..	½ ..
Irish Land Stock 2½% ..	49 ..	48½ ..	½ ..
Local Loans 3% ..	53½ ..	53 ..	½ ..
Anst. 5½% debts. 1922-7 ..	94 ..	94 ..	0 ..
Canada 4½% 1920-25 ..	94 ..	94 ..	0 ..
India 3½% Stock ..	58 ..	57½ ..	½ ..
Do 7% Stock ..	33pm ..	33pm ..	0 ..
N.S.W. 5½% 1922-27 ..	93 ..	93 ..	0 ..
U.S.A. 4½% 1920-25 ..	93 ..	93 ..	0 ..
Victoria 5½% 1924-34 ..	94 ..	94 ..	0 ..

Banks.

Barclays B (£1 f.p.d.) ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	0 ..
Lloyds (£25 with £1 pd.) ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	0 ..
London Joint City and Midland (£12 paid) ..	6½ ..	6½ ..	0 ..
London County Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) ..	14½ ..	14½ ..	0 ..
Nat. Bank of Egypt 17½ ..	17½ ..	17½ ..	0 ..
Nat. Bank of S. Africa 11½ ..	11½ ..	11½ ..	0 ..
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) ..	8½ ..	9 ..	½ ..
Standard of S. Africa 10½ ..	10½ ..	10½ ..	0 ..
(£20 with £5 paid) ..	10½ ..	10½ ..	0 ..

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	47x ..	47x ..	0 ..
B. A. & Pacific ..	36½ ..	36 ..	½ ..
B. A. Gt. Southern ..	53 ..	52 ..	1 ..
Buenos Ayres West. 5½ ..	52 ..	52 ..	0 ..
Canadian Pacific ..	146½ ..	149 ..	2½ ..
Central Argentine ..	48 ..	47 ..	1 ..
Grand Trunk Ord.	4½ ..	4½ ..	0 ..
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 12½ ..	12½ ..	12½ ..	0 ..
Leopoldina ..	19 ..	18½ ..	½ ..
Mexican Railway ..	154 ..	15 ..	1 ..
Do 1st Pref.	56 ..	56 ..	0 ..
Do 2nd Pref.	26 ..	25 ..	1 ..
San Paulo ..	115 ..	116 ..	1 ..
United Havana ..	61 ..	60 ..	1 ..

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio ..	71 ..	73 ..	2 ..
Erie ..	17 ..	17½ ..	½ ..
Do 4½ 1st Pref.	25 ..	26 ..	1 ..
Do Non-cum Pref.	59 ..	61 ..	2 ..

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5% 1886-7 ..	92x ..	91x ..	1 ..
Belgian 3% ..	60 ..	61 ..	1 ..
Brazil 5% Fund. 1914 ..	64 ..	65 ..	1 ..
Chilian 4½% 1895 ..	64 ..	65 ..	1 ..
Chinese 5% 1912 ..	68½ ..	69 ..	½ ..
Egyptian 4% ..	62 ..	62½ ..	½ ..
French 5% ..	43 ..	44 ..	1 ..
Do 4% ..	34 ..	34½ ..	½ ..
Italian 3½% Rentes ..	96 ..	96 ..	0 ..
Greek Monopoly 4% ..	38 ..	37 ..	1 ..
Japanese 4% ..	115 ..	116 ..	1 ..
Do 4% 1910 ..	59x ..	59x ..	0 ..
Mexican Cons. 1899 ..	59½ ..	58 ..	1½ ..
Peruvian Corp. Pref. ..	16½ ..	17 ..	½ ..
Russian 5% 1906 ..	14½ ..	14 ..	½ ..
Spanish 4% ..	69½ ..	69x ..	½ ..

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" ..	163 ..	163 ..	0 ..
Eastern Telegraph ..	164½ ..	164½ ..	0 ..
Marconi Wireless ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	0 ..
Marconi Canada ..	1½ ..	1½ ..	0 ..
Marconi Marine ..	1½ ..	1½ ..	0 ..

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. ..	9½ ..	9 ..	½ ..
Great Eastern ..	27 ..	26½ ..	½ ..
Great Northern Def. ..	26 ..	25 ..	1 ..
Great Western ..	66 ..	64½ ..	1½ ..
Lancs. and Yorks.	50 ..	48 ..	2 ..
London, Brighton, "A" ..	40 ..	39 ..	1 ..
London, Chatham ..	6 ..	5½ ..	½ ..
Do Arb. Pref.	39 ..	38 ..	1 ..
L. and N.W.	71 ..	68 ..	3 ..
L. & S. Western, Def. ..	20 ..	19 ..	1 ..
Metropolitan ..	26 ..	25½ ..	½ ..
Metropolitan District ..	18 ..	18 ..	0 ..
Midland Deferred ..	45 ..	43 ..	2 ..
North British Def.	11½ ..	11 ..	½ ..
North-Eastern ..	71½ ..	70 ..	1½ ..
South-Eastern "A" ..	22 ..	21½ ..	½ ..

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1) ..	1½ ..	1½ ..	0 ..
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) ..	186 ..	179 ..	7 ..
Ass. Ptd. Cement (£1) ..	20 ..	20 ..	0 ..
B'ham Small Arms (£1) ..	10 ..	10 ..	0 ..
Brazil Traction (£100) ..	31 ..	31 ..	0 ..
British-American Tobacco (£1) ..	3½ ..	3½ ..	0 ..
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	68 ..	68 ..	0 ..
Burmah Oil (£1) ..	2 ..	2 ..	0 ..
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) ..	2 ..	2 ..	0 ..
Contraids (£1) ..	1½ ..	1½ ..	0 ..
Cunard (£1) ..	1½ ..	1½ ..	0 ..
Dorman, Long (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Dunlop Rubber (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Forestal Land (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Furness, Withy (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Hudson's Bay (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Internat'l Paint (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Linggi Plants (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Lipton (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Lister (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Lobitos Oilfields (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Lyons (J. & Co.) (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Mexican Eagle (£10) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
North Caucasian (10) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Pekin (2) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Rubber Plantations ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Investment (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Shell Transport (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Smithfield & Argentine ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Meat (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Underground Electric (£10) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Do "A" (1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Do Inc. Bds. (£100) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
United Serang (2) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
United Tobacco (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Ural Caspian (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Vallambrosa (2) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Vickers (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Watney Def. Stk.	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..

Mines.

Brakpan (£1) ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	0 ..
Broken Hill Prop. (8) ..	2 ..	2 ..	0 ..
Chartered (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Crown Mines (10) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
De Beers Def. (£24) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
East Rand Prop. (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Geduld (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Knights ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Modderfontein (10) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Modderfont. "B" (5) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Modderfont. Deep (5) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Premier Def. (2/6) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Rand Mines (5) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Rio Tinto (£5) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..
Spring Mines (£1) ..	1 ..	1 ..	0 ..

OIL OUTPUTS.

APEX (TRINIDAD) OILFIELDS, LIMITED.—The secretary begs to intimate that the estimated production for June was 16,985 barrels, equal to, approximately, 2,400 tons.

LOBITOS OILFIELDS, LIMITED.—The production for May is cabled as 8,845 tons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, June 29, 1921, amounted to 669 tons.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the *Economist*, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim div.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Lat. Pre-vious.	Dividend for Whole Years.
Banks.						
Banco de Chile ..	16 ..	..	..	..	..	..
Bank of British West Africa ..	4% ..	..	..	..	..	..
Barclays "A" ..	10% ..	Aug. 2	Subject to tax	..	..	..
Do "B" and "C" ..	14% ..	Aug. 2	Subject to tax	..	..	..
Equitable (Half) ..	17½% ..	July 30	Subject to tax	..	..	..
Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce ..	5% ..	..	Tax free	..	22½	21
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	19/10 ..	..	Subject to tax	..	..	..</

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

BURMAH OIL COMPANY, LIMITED.

RECORD PROFITS AND DIVIDEND.

"LONG HISTORY OF UNBROKEN PROSPERITY."

CHAIRMAN ON HIS VISIT TO COMPANY'S PROPERTIES.

FALL IN PRICES AND FUTURE PROSPECTS.

The annual general meeting of the Burmah Oil Company, Limited, was held, on the 7th instant, in Glasgow.

Sir John T. Cargill, Bart. (the chairman), presided.

The Chairman said: In these difficult and trying times, when, after a period of exceptional, but undoubtedly in many ways artificial prosperity, the swing of the pendulum has come with a vengeance, and in a very large number of cases shareholders are faced with much reduced dividends, and in many cases none at all, I feel it is a great privilege to be in the happy position of submitting to you a statement of accounts which marks another record—both as regards the total profits and the dividend proposed—in the company's long history of unbroken prosperity.

LARGE INCREASE IN GROSS PROFIT.

The total gross profit shows an increase of £236,682 9s 7d on the 1919 record one of £4,654,793 19s 10d, and though the rate of dividend is only 30 per cent., as against 50 per cent. for 1919, the reduction on the rate is, of course, due to the capitalisation of reserves carried through last year, and the amount of the ordinary dividend proposed to be paid is actually £1,543,050, as against £1,428,750 for 1919. Personally I look on this as, under all the circumstances, a most gratifying result of the year's operations, and I feel sure that the great majority of the shareholders will agree with me in this view.

CHAIRMAN'S WARNINGS AT PREVIOUS MEETINGS.

Looking to the exceptionally large amount—£1,291,000—placed to general reserve in 1919 and subsequently capitalised, I am just afraid that in some quarters there has been a certain amount of disappointment that more profit was not available for dividend purposes in 1920, but those of you who were present at the last annual meeting, or who read my speech afterwards, will no doubt remember the warnings I then gave as to the very heavy way in which our profits were bound to be hit by increasing taxation and increased working costs—especially in connection with our largely extended and much more expensive fields operations—and I suggested you should adopt by own attitude of what I called reasoned and reasonable optimism, and not pitch your expectations on too high a basis and so run the risk of disappointment.

ALLOCATION TO RESERVE.

As against the £1,291,000 placed to general reserve in 1919, we have placed £195,000 for the year 1920 in the accounts now before you, a difference of £1,096,000, and a comparison of the accounts for these two years will show you that the total taxation for 1920 appearing in these accounts, allowing £1,800,000 for excess profits duty and £135,000 for corporation profits tax, shows an increase of no less than £581,760 15s 8d as compared with 1919, while the amount written off the fields account in 1920 is £598,066 8s up, as compared with 1919, so that the increases under these two heads almost account for the difference on the amount placed to general reserve, and the increase of £236,682 9s 7d on the gross profit.

TAXATION AND WORKING COSTS.

As regards taxation, I told you last year that we roughly estimated the increase at £750,000, figuring on the same profit as for 1919, and taking into account the amount we pay for taxation in India, which does not appear in the accounts before you, and the refund of income-tax we are receiving under the Boustead decision, our estimate has proved to be very near the mark. As regards the fields account, it was quite impossible for me at that time to even hazard an estimate of what the increase was likely to amount to, but no less than three times in my speech I emphasized, as I had done on several occasions before, the great increase working costs were going to show for several years to come owing to the enormously enhanced cost of drilling and all material; the very much deeper wells we are having to sink, especially in the Yenangyoung field; our largely extended drilling and testing operations necessitating the employment of a greatly increased staff and the general all-round increase on salaries and wages. It was really only in 1920 that all those factors began to take material effect, for as I told you at several past annual meetings we were

fortunate in having bought ahead at pre-war prices very large quantities of pipe and drilling materials, and these cheap purchases pretty well covered our requirements until the end of 1919. Now the pipe and materials we are working on cost anything from three to six times what our pre-war supplies did. And in addition, as I told you in July, 1918, we have been using large quantities of second-hand pipe drawn from abandoned wells, and this, of course, kept our drilling costs much lower than they otherwise would have been. These supplies are now practically at an end, and this has also tended to unduly emphasize the rise in fields expenditure.

COLOSSAL NATURE OF THE COMPANY'S OPERATIONS.

No one who has not seen—as I did during the course of my tour in Burma last winter—the extent and nature of the operations covered by what we call our fields account, can really have the slightest idea of what I think I can truthfully describe as the colossal nature of these operations, but the following comparatively few details will, I think, help you to grasp the position and realise why the expenditure involved under to-day's conditions is so great. Our American staff, responsible only for actual drilling and production work, numbers now fully 100, and we have about 100 strings of tools constantly working—many of them day and night—drilling wells. We have something like 700 wells actually completed and producing oil, all of which require more or less constant attention, and many of our wells have now to be drilled to well over 3,000 feet. Out of a total number directly employed in the company's service in Burma and India of some 35,000, we have, roughly speaking, between 13,000 and 14,000 Europeans, Americans, Indians, and Burmans on our oil fields operations alone, including a highly-trained geological staff of 10, which is constantly engaged in searching for and examining likely oil-bearing land and advising on operations in the proved fields.

TESTS IN OUTSIDE AREAS.

Between Burma, Assam, and the Punjab we are either actually engaged on or on the point of starting up some nine tests in outside areas, mainly in outlying districts requiring heavy expenditure in road-making, laying of water lines, and provision of accommodation for drillers and employees generally. We have always devoted a fair proportion of our profits to this exploratory and testing work because your directors have recognised that it is in the interest of the company and of the oil industry of Burma and India that we should do so. After all, crude oil is the life-blood and very existence of the company, and I am sure you will all agree that no stone must be left unturned in order to try and discover fresh sources of supply, particularly in Burma and India, where the company both holds such a commanding position in the market, and possesses all the transport, refining, and marketing organisation required to deal with a large production of crude oil.

COMPANY'S INTERESTS IN ASSAM OIL COMPANY.

It is because of this position and in this direction that, after careful geological examination of the properties of the Assam Oil Company, Limited, your directors, towards the end of 1920, decided to make their offer to the shareholders of that company to acquire their shares at £2 each for cash or in exchange for shares in your company, in the proportions of nine Assam Oil Company for two Burmah Oil Company shares. As you are aware, this offer was made conditional on at least 75 per cent. of the Assam Oil Company shares being thus offered to us, and this proportion and more being forthcoming, the transaction was duly completed. Since then we have acquired further shares of the company for cash on a much lower basis than our original offer, and we now hold over 90 per cent. of the Assam Oil Company's capital. Although these properties may not be capable of very greatly increased production or yield wells of great calibre, our geologists advise us that the possibly productive area is greater than had been previously imagined, and that satisfactory, steady, and lengthened production can safely be looked for even only from the already proved areas.

At Badarpur, in Lower Assam, our developments have been fairly satisfactory during the past year, and give promise, if not of a big field, at any rate of paying production.

As mentioned in the report, in my speech at the recent extra-

ordinary meeting of the company and in the prospectus of the recent issue of preference shares, our production from our proved Burma fields and their production potentialities for the future continue satisfactory.

We have not been fortunate to strike oil in any of our outside tests either in Burma or in India during the year, but, as already mentioned, this policy of exploitation for oil is being energetically continued in every area of reasonable geological promise, and no effort is being spared within justifiably speculative limits to prove or disprove by the drill—the only real if expensive solution—whether these carefully selected geologically promising areas actually contain oil in commercial quantities. I say commercial advisedly because, as I have previously had reason to point out, not every oil show, or even oil well, means a commercially exploitable oil field, and this less so than ever, at least at the moment, when there has been such a heavy fall in the value of crude oils and a temporary overplus in the world's production.

THE ACCOUNTS.

I will now run through the accounts and refer briefly to the items calling for special comment. I have already referred fully to the large amount written off the fields account. You will observe that £112,413 15s 9d is added to the £100,000 at which this account stood in the last balance-sheet. This represents purely capital expenditure on buildings and machinery—as separate from the drilling and other expenses incurred in the production of crude oil, which we will continue to write off annually in the future as we have done in the past—and ample provision will be made from time to time for depreciation on this capital portion of the fields account, and any further additions which may be made to it.

The £70,499 8s 7d, £30,000, and £80,328 15s 9d provided for depreciation on refineries, pipelines, and tankers and tank installation accounts respectively are on the usual ample scale.

The customary £20,000 has been added to insurance reserve, bringing this account up to the substantial figure of £360,000, and the fire and marine insurance account has been raised from £279,335 15s 6d to £366,988 13s 8d.

PROFIT AND DIVIDENDS.

After providing for the above appropriations and the £195,000 placed to general reserve and paying income-tax, directors' fees, and all charges there is a balance of £3,729,765 2s 11d. From this fall to be deducted the interim dividends paid in November amounting to £537,881 5s, leaving a balance of £3,191,883 17s 11d, and this your directors recommend should be applied in payment of the final preference dividends, amounting to £21,000, and of a final dividend of 4s per share, free of income-tax, on the ordinary shares, £1,028,700, amounting together to £1,049,700, and leaving £2,142,183 17s 11d to be carried forward, subject to the payment of excess profits duty and corporation tax, which together we estimate at something in the neighbourhood of £1,935,000.

COMPANY'S HUGE TAXATION PAYMENTS.

While on the subject of taxation it will no doubt interest you to know that in the years 1915 to 1920 the total taxation paid by the company in the shape of income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation tax amounted to no less than £7,870,776, while in the same period the total ordinary and preference dividends paid to the shareholders have only amounted to £5,816,331, so that the National Exchequer has actually received fully £2,000,000 more from the company than the shareholders have.

In connection with the payment of the preference dividends the directors have decided to bring the three classes of preference shares into line and pay dividends on all three at the same time—namely, April 30th and October 31st. The first full half-year's dividend on the new 8 per cent. preference shares will be paid on April 30th next.

STAFF'S APPRECIATION OF PROVIDENT AND PENSION FUNDS.

Under the provisions of the provident and pension fund by which the members of the fund share in the prosperity of the company on the basis of the rate of dividend paid on the ordinary shares, you will see that the substantial sum of £141,847 18s 9d has been credited to that fund. I was aware how greatly appreciated this fund is by the staff on this side, and during the course of my tour in India and Burma, when I came into personal contact with so many of our Eastern staff, it was very deeply impressed on me how far the creation of this fund has gone to still further strengthen the very friendly and harmonious relations which have always existed between employer and employed in our company.

The increase on interest account from £285,154 8s 9d to £319,816 16s 10d is almost entirely due to the larger dividend—10 per cent., free of tax, as against 8 per cent., free of tax, for 1919—received on our holding of Anglo-Persian ordinary shares for 1920, and similarly the increase on investment account from £3,204,390 16s 9d to £4,266,963 3s 3d is practically accounted for by our increased holding in that company.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO THE PROPERTIES.

I had the great pleasure and satisfaction of last winter taking the trip to India and Burma which I told you last year I intended doing. I first of all visited the company's principal agencies in India and then spent two months in Burma, and this gave me ample time to inspect the company's properties and operations and to consult with the managers and agents on the many very important points in connection with those operations, and generally on the management of the company's affairs in the East, on which personal consultation with those on the spot is so helpful and so desirable. I am not going to detain you with any detailed account of my trip, and will only say that, taken all over, what I saw thoroughly satisfied me once more as to the immense value of the company's oil lands and the high state of efficiency in which all its properties—refineries, plant, and buildings generally, and fleet are maintained—and I was more than ever impressed with the immensity and completeness of the arrangements for the production of the crude oil and its conveyance from the fields to the refineries; its refining and the transportation of the finished products to the main installations in India; and finally the sale and distribution of these products throughout the whole of India and Burma.

Owing to the war I had not been able to go East since 1913, and many changes had taken place during those eight years, but the one direction in which I saw no change was in the loyalty to the company's interests and the keenness in their work displayed by the managers, agents, and the staff throughout the entire business, and I welcome this opportunity of publicly testifying to the great value of these services to which in such a large measure the success of the company's operations is due. And again it was impressed on my mind how highly desirable it is in a corporation such as ours that, as far as possible, those at the head of affairs on this side should keep in personal touch with not only those in charge of the management on the other side, but also those responsible for the conduct of every branch of the company's business and operations there, so as to promote and encourage in every possible way that good feeling between employer and employed which goes so far to ensure the successful running of any business, and so long as I am fortunate enough to remain chairman of this great company and am given the health and opportunities to do so, it is my intention to continue to regularly pay these visits to the seat of our operations in the East.

NATIVE WORKERS AND OUTSIDE AGITATION.

Last year I ventured to say we were a very large but, on the whole, a very happy family, and the warmth and kindness of the welcome extended to me personally on every side, and all I saw of the excellent relations existing between the managers and the staff and the great majority of the workers in every branch of the business, made me feel how justified I had been in making that statement. As the outcome of the war, and in common with nearly all large employers of labour in India and Burma, we have been experiencing a certain amount of "liveliness" amongst our native workers and have had several strikes to contend with. With practically only one exception these strikes have been engineered and fostered by outside and political agitators—Gandhi, non-co-operators, and otherwise—whose main idea seems to be to stir up strife between employers and employees and clog the wheels of industry. As I have told you on more than one occasion, we do everything in our power to make our native workers comfortable and contented, and our wages for both skilled and unskilled labour have for a long time past been at least equal to the highest and in most cases higher than those paid by other employers of similar labour. We believe that the great majority of our workers are—and have been—quite satisfied with their pay and the conditions under which they live, but when a strike was declared many of them, though anxious and willing to work, were forced to join the strikers by intimidation of the most flagrant character. We have always been prepared—and still are prepared—to receive and give every consideration to any reasonable requests or complaints put forward in proper form by any of our workers.

THE REFINERIES.

Operations at our refineries during the past year were steady and results satisfactory in a further reduction in fuel consumption and increase in the volume of our more valuable products. Our refineries in Burma at present occupy three separate sites—at Dunnedaw, near Rangoon, and on that side of the river; at Syriam, some six miles down, and on the other side of the river; and at Boggyok, some two miles or so from Syriam. In the direction of concentration of management and control we are now considering a scheme to bring our refining operations all together at Syriam, and, in the process, to apply the most modern and up-to-date methods of distillation and refining there. From these proposals very considerable economies in labour, management, and fuel consumption besides improvements generally in products are anticipated.

The substantial addition, £185,470 2s 4d, to refineries account is principally due to the provision of a large amount of new gas-tight tankage for the storage of benzine and also to considerable additions to the new type of refining plant to which I referred fully last year. These gas-tight tanks are expensive to erect but amply repay the expenditure through the reduction of loss by evaporation.

The £87,273 18s 4d added to the pipe-lines account is the cost of the two additional pumping stations which I told you in 1919 we were installing with a view to materially increasing the throughput of the line and lengthening its life by operating it at a reduced pressure. These two stations came into operation in December last, and have been working quite satisfactorily. In due course, when we have our oilfields electrification power house completed, it is intended to apply electrification to our main pipe-line pumps. The £35,016 6s 11d charged to the depreciation account is the cost of relaying about 35 miles of the main pipe line which had become seriously corroded owing to the soil in that small section of the line being very heavily impregnated with alkali.

COMPANY'S TANKERS.

The company's fleet has run steadily and without any serious mishap during the year. The construction of our new 10,000-ton tanker is now making fairly satisfactory progress in view of all the circumstances of to-day's labour conditions here, and delivery is anticipated early in 1922. The bulk of the £170,801 11s 1d added to tankers, &c., account is represented by the cost of a number of the launches and river steamers which I told you last year had been put in hand, principally to replace those purchased from us by the Government for Mesopotamia. Material additions have also been made to our installations and distributing facilities in India. While I was East I had the opportunity of inspecting nearly the whole of our fleet of tankers and launches, and the very high state of efficiency in which I found them all reflects the greatest credit on our marine superintendent, Captain Currie, and all the officers and engineers of the fleet.

Progress with the electrification of the Yenangyoung Oil Field has been satisfactory in all the circumstances of delays in receipt of plant, &c., consequent on labour troubles in this country, and two of our neighbours in that field have contracted to take their requirements of current from us.

INTERESTS IN TRINIDAD.

As regards our interests in Trinidad, I regret that our friends the United British Oil Fields of Trinidad, Limited, have not yet succeeded in developing production either of a steady character or of important volume, but everything possible continues to be done to achieve these two essentials to success, and in this direction their board has recently made arrangements to place fields operations under the direct management on the spot of the technical experts associated with the producing companies of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company, Limited, which company, as you know, is also interested in the United British Oil Fields of Trinidad, Limited.

As regards the market for our products in 1920, the report and accounts before you speak fully for themselves. The recent very heavy fall in petroleum values does not affect your company as regards kerosene—by far the largest marketed product of our crude oil. And in the case also of our lubricating, &c., oils, which are similarly almost entirely marketed in India, these had not advanced to anything like the levels reached in other markets, and consequently have not, at least meantime, shared in the decline in values elsewhere.

LOWER PRICES FOR PETROLS, WAX, AND CANDLES.

The decline in the market value of petrols, paraffin wax, and candles affects us as it does others. In the former case the full disposal of our production is, however, assured, and in the latter, although demand is far from strong, we see no reason to anticipate that our production will not continue to go reasonably satisfactorily into consumption. But in the case of these three products we shall require to be content with much lower values than have recently ruled—at any rate until world trade conditions become more settled, and the markets at present more or less closed to consumption again become free buyers and consumers.

Our petrols continue to go largely into consumption in India, and in due course—at least on the basis of our present production—we should market our entire output there, and so cease to be exporters of this product. In any case, what we do require to export will in less than a year from now be exported by us and sold on our own account, instead of, as at present, on a profit-sharing arrangement with buyers under contract, and these new conditions should be to the advantage of the company.

At the recent extraordinary general meetings I fully explained the reasons necessitating the raising of further capital, and as you

are all aware, the recent issue of £3,000,000 8 per cent. cumulative preference shares was a great success, and very largely over-applied for. As you are also aware, the holders of the 250,000 preference shares of £1 and the 75,000 shares of £10 each were given the opportunity of consolidating these two classes of shares and having the rate of interest on them raised from 6 to 6½ per cent., but, apparently owing to apathy, the proxies returned fell very largely short of the majority required to carry the necessary resolutions, and the directors had perforce to drop the scheme.

THE OUTLOOK.

In regard to the outlook for the future in general and the prospects for the current year in particular, I am sure that in these abnormally trying and uncertain times you will not expect me to deal with this undoubtedly difficult question in any other vein than the cautious one I have invariably adopted in the past. As I said last year, I am no pessimist as regards the future of the Burmah Oil Company—the very reverse—but when it comes to looking ahead, I always endeavour to see both sides of the picture—the unfavourable as well as the favourable—and every year it is more strongly impressed on me how impossible it is to foresee the course of events for any length of time ahead, and how foolish it is to attempt to enter into the dangerous realms of prophecy.

EFFECTS OF TERMINATION OF E.P.D.

Dealing with the current year, the one extremely favourable feature is the termination, at December 31st last, as far as we are concerned, of the excess profits duty, our liability for which for 1920 as shown in the accounts is estimated at the huge sum of £1,800,000. I have, however, been astonished to find how many people—including even men of large business experience—have jumped to the conclusion that supposing our net profits for 1921 were the same as for 1920, this whole sum would be saved to the company. As a matter of fact, it would be subject to deduction of 6s income-tax and 1s corporation profits tax, equal to £630,000, so that the net saving would be £1,170,000. Against the very large saving there will be under this heading will have to be placed the reduction in profits through the fall in the prices of petrol, paraffin wax, and candles, to which I have just referred, the severe drop in the Indian exchange, and higher working costs due principally to increased wages granted to our Indian labour. How far the one will go against the other it is impossible for me to attempt to forecast at present, but I feel that we can with every confidence look forward both to satisfactory trading results for the current year and to the future of the company for many years to come. And, fortunately, prices of materials and stores are distinctly on the downward grade, and, as I have said, we anticipate in due course considerable economies in working costs from the electrification of the oilfields and the concentration and further improvements of our refineries.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR CHRYSTAL AND MR HAMILTON.

I opened my address last year with an intimation of an apology, for absence on account of illness, from Mr W. J. Chrystal, and I closed it with a reference to Mr James Hamilton's retirement, for health reasons, from the post of manager of the company which he had held for 15 years. In less than a month afterwards Mr Hamilton passed quietly away, and in April of this year Mr Chrystal was also taken after a long-drawn out and painful illness borne with wonderful patience and fortitude. I need not repeat here the tribute I last year paid to Mr Hamilton, and will content myself by again saying that after 27 years' daily association with him in connection with the affairs and management of the company no one can speak with greater knowledge than I can of the immense value of the services rendered by him. Mr Chrystal joined our board in 1911 and proved himself an ideal director, regular in attendance at all board meetings, and keenly interested in all the affairs of the company. His career—commercial, public, and private—is too well known in Glasgow to require any panegyric from me, and, speaking for myself and my co-directors, I will only say that through his death we have lost not only a valued and trusted colleague, but one whom we always felt it was a privilege to call our friend.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

Acting on the powers conferred on them under article 89, the directors appointed Mr Gilbert C. Whigham to fill the vacancy caused by Mr Hamilton's death, and you will be asked in due course to confirm this appointment. After serving the company for 14½ years in Rangoon Mr Whigham came to the London office at the end of 1919, and has there taken an important share in the management of the company's affairs, and the board ask you with every confidence to confirm their action in appointing him to a position which he has so worthily earned.

From the report you will have seen that to fill the vacancy caused by Mr Chrystal's death the directors recommend the election of

Mr David McCowan. Mr McCowan is so well known in the commercial and public life of Glasgow that I feel there is no necessity for me to enlarge in any way on his fitness for the position, and I am sure you will heartily and unanimously endorse your directors' choice.

I now beg to propose "that the report of the directors and audited statement of accounts, including the balance-sheet and the profit and loss account, as at December 31, 1920, presented to the meeting be received, approved, and adopted." I call on Mr Ashton to second the motion, and after it has been seconded an opportunity will be given to the shareholders to ask questions or make any comment.

Mr. H. S. Ashton : Mr Chairman, ladies, and gentlemen, I beg to second the motion.

The Chairman : Gentlemen, are there any questions anyone would like to put, or any remarks anyone would care to make? There being none, I now beg to put formally to the meeting the resolution which I have proposed and which Mr. Ashton has seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

THE DIVIDENDS.

The Chairman : I have now pleasure in moving that the following dividends, recommended by the directors—namely, "First, on the 6 per cent. first preference shares of £1 each, of 7 1-5th per share, equivalent to 6 per cent. per annum, from June 30th to December 31, 1920, less tax; second, on the 6 per cent. second preference shares of £10 each, 6s per share, equivalent to 6 per cent. per annum, from June 30th to December 31, 1920, less tax; third, on the ordinary shares of £1 each, 4s per share, free of tax, making, with the interim dividend, 30 per cent. for the year—be adopted, and that the same be hereby authorised to be paid on July 26, and that the balance of £2,142,183 17s 11d, subject to excess profits duty and corporation tax, estimated at £1,935,000, be carried forward." I shall ask Mr Honeyman to second the motion.

Mr O. H. Honeyman : I beg, sir, to second the motion. The motion was adopted.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

The Chairman : I now beg to move that Mr Gilbert C. Whigham be re-elected a director of the company.

Mr William Robb : I beg to second.

The motion was adopted.

The Chairman : I now beg to move that Mr Robert I. Watson be re-elected a director.

Mr T. H. Gollan : I beg to second the re-election of Mr R. I. Watson.

The motion was adopted.

The Chairman : I also beg to move that Mr H. S. Ashton be re-elected a director of the company.

Mr William Auld seconded the resolution, which was adopted.

The Chairman : I beg to move that Mr David McCowan be elected a director of the company.

Mr Robert Clark seconded the motion, which was adopted.

Colonel D. S. Morton : I beg to propose the appointment of Mr J. Herbert Wilson, C.A., as auditor of the company, at the remuneration of 500 guineas. This is an increase on last year. I understand that the last increase took place in 1916. As every business man knows, like ourselves, the auditor has to pay largely increased salaries to the staff; not only so, but the work connected with the auditing of a company like this has increased, and is increasing, year by year, and I think, under the circumstances, you will agree with me that the augmentation of the remuneration is amply justified.

Mr J. B. Couper : I have much pleasure in seconding the proposal of the appointment of Mr J. Herbert Wilson, C.A., as auditor of the company. The motion was adopted.

The Chairman : That, gentlemen, is all the business, and I have to thank you very much for your attendance here to-day.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr R. C. Greig : I should like, just in a very few words, to ask you to accord to Sir John Cargill, our esteemed chairman, a hearty vote of thanks. By his speeches in the past he has set himself a high standard, and I venture to say the speech we have listened to to-day is more than worthy of its predecessors. We have received an interesting account as to the present position of the company, and also with regard to the future. In proposing this vote of thanks I should like also to make special reference to the visit paid to Burma by Sir John during the past year in our interest. As many of you know, travelling is still uncomfortable and subject to the post-war conditions. When he started out the reports from India of unrest were not reassuring. It is only in keeping with Sir John's *esprit de corps* and devotion to the interests of this company that he should have cast aside these

considerations and hastened to personally oversee the important developments which have taken place. He has given us a most satisfactory account of the state of the staff, and I am sure that they, on their part, will feel that his visit has inspired them. I ask you to accord Sir John Cargill a most hearty vote of thanks. This was seconded, and carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPLY.

The Chairman : Mr Greig, ladies, and gentlemen, I have once again to thank you most heartily for the very kind reception you have given to me to-day, and Mr Greig specially for the very kind and encouraging words he has used in proposing this vote of thanks. I referred to the very kindly reception I got on all hands when I was in the East, and I again ventured to liken my 35,000 odd employees there to a happy family. I feel now that I can add to that already not inconsiderable family the very large body of shareholders, some 20,000 odd now, on this side, so that together I am at the head of what I think I might call a very large family. But I think I can say this family is so extremely well behaved that it does not cause me any real anxiety, as is evidenced by the fact that when my barber was cutting my hair two days ago he told me he had been looking for a grey hair, and he could not find one. I think that is a very excellent testimony to the behaviour of my large family. I can only say what a great pleasure it was to me to take my trip to the East, and I purpose, so long as I am given health and strength, to do so again so that I can come before you, ladies and gentlemen, with a thorough knowledge of every branch of my business and give you first-hand information of what is going on on the other side, where, after all, the real work of the business of the company has to be carried on. I thank you very much indeed.

The proceedings then terminated.

BANK OF ADELAIDE.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—INCREASED PROFIT.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1921, the fifty-fifth annual meeting of shareholders of the Bank of Adelaide was held at the head office in Adelaide. Mr Arthur Waterhouse (chairman of directors) presided.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said : The bank has maintained a very strong position. The net profit is £104,678, as compared with £101,571 last year, an increase of £3,107 after making provision for all doubtful dependencies, and also for loss and depreciation on Government stocks, some of which we deemed it advisable to sell.

Deposits show a decrease of £395,000, which is mainly due to the repayment of Government deposits. Bills in circulation are £474,500 higher, mainly due to the issue of currency drafts instead of cable remittances and sight drafts owing to the exchange difficulty. On the asset side coin and bullion remain about the same as last year, as gold coin is not much disturbed in these days of paper currency. Australian notes are £290,000 more, owing to the inflow of money as the result of partial realisation of the harvest. Government debentures show a fall of £121,600, as the sales of stocks were greater than the purchases during the 12 months. Imperial Government Treasury bills, money at short call, and bank bills purchased, together show a fall of £1,579,000, caused by heavy drawings on London to meet our customers' engagements. Bills receivable and all other advances have increased by £1,811,000, largely owing to the brisk demand for accommodation by our customers, caused to some extent by the increased cost of their stocks. Our liquid assets, which amount to £3,303,900, represent 9s 7d in the £1, or 47.9 per cent. of the total liabilities to the public, which stand at £6,857,950. That is a very satisfactory position, the strength of which I am sure will commend itself to you.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

LONDON ASIATIC RUBBER AND PRODUCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF THE COMPANY'S FUTURE.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of the London Asiatic Rubber and Produce Company, Limited, was held, on the 5th instant, in the council room of the Rubber Growers' Association, 38 Eastcheap, London, Mr H. J. Welch (chairman of the company) presiding.

Mr E. Martin, representing the secretaries (Messrs Harrison and Crosfield, Limited), having read the notice convening the meeting, and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in the course of his speech, said : During the year the issued capital was increased by the issue for cash of 633,516 shares, at a premium of 2s per share.

A sum of £63,351, representing the premium on these shares, was added to our reserve account, which then amounted to £98,457.

To the amount of the reserve might be added our net profit and loss carry-forward of £61,693, our claim for refund of excess profits duty £30,850, and the difference between the par value and the agreed price of 6s per share upon the shares since issued for the Tamok estate, amounting to £32,972. As we are declaring no dividend these can all be properly regarded as reserves existing on December 31st, and together make a total of approximately £224,000, equal to over £30 per planted acre.

On December 31—including the Tamok estate, but excluding Elphil estate, not then acquired—we possessed a planted area of 6,859 acres. If you deduct the net value of our liquid assets from the nominal value of our issued share capital—including the shares since issued for the Tamok estate—you will see that the net balance of the par value of our issued share capital on December 31st was equal to less than £26 per planted acre.

The net profit for the year amounted to £35,611, which, with the sum of £31,082 brought forward from last year, makes an available total of £66,693. In addition to this, the company is entitled to a refund of excess-profits duty of approximately £30,850.

Four thousand acres were in bearing last year, and the yield per acre was increased to 424 lbs, against 409 lbs the previous year. According to the latest reports from the visiting agent, all our seven estates are in good order, and everything will be done to keep them in that condition as economically as possible.

The forward contracts deliverable out of the 1921 crop amount to 116,480 lbs, at an average net price of 2s. 3½d. Of this 40,320 lbs—part of a contract taken over with the Elphil Company—has been bought back at a profit to the company of 1s 8d per lb, in order to leave us free further to restrict tapping on that estate.

RESTRICTION OF OUTPUT.

The heavy visible stocks of rubber and the further considerable and continual fall in its price during the last two or three months have led the board to the conclusion that in the interests of the company further restriction beyond 25 per cent. is advisable. They hope by these means to reduce the ultimate net cash loss to the company. The board have therefore cabled instructions for the reduction as soon as possible of the total output of the company's Malay Estates at least to 50 per cent. of the normal output, and for this reduced amount to be obtained from the areas where yields are best and cost of production cheapest.

Tapping has been stopped entirely on the Plang and Simpang Estates, and the agents have been instructed, if advisable, to cease tapping altogether on some of the other estates or divisions of estates, and to concentrate on the remainder. As any substantial saving must be made by reduction of the labour force and of the cost of European supervision, the board have given special instructions to limit the number of coolies. The board have also again emphasised upon our agents and managers that considerable further economies are essential, and that all expenditure except that absolutely necessary to preserve the estates must cease.

Amongst the advantages which will ensue from the appalling depression in the rubber industry will be the reduction of cost of production and the elimination of expenditure entered into when profits were phenomenal, but which the stress of the present times will demonstrate are not essential. Many of the economies now being made will become permanent. This will enable us, if necessary, to sell our product cheaper and so increase the demand for it, and perhaps eliminate to some extent competition from reclaimed rubbers and fillers and substitutes.

Another advantage which will probably result from our present troubles will be the stimulus afforded to new uses and development of the present uses of rubber.

Having regard to the existing crisis in the industry and the uncertain outlook, the board much regret they cannot recommend the payment of a dividend at the present time.

They consider that the most important matter at present is to ensure that this company should come through the present crisis with the smallest loss possible, and with the estates in a reasonably good condition. The financial position of the company is very strong and the directors are of opinion that the company's resources will be sufficient to carry it through the present crisis. The directors see no reason to doubt that when the selling price of rubber again shows a reasonable profit over the cost of production of the average of well-managed and favourably placed estates, we shall again enter the dividend-paying list of companies with a capital cost per acre, a financial position and a cost per pound of our product which will be inferior to few and the envy of many.

Mr M. Wilkinson seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors and auditors were re-elected and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the staff in the East.

HOWARD AND BULLOUGH, LIMITED.

"MORE FAVOURABLE RESULTS THAN IN PRECEDING YEAR."

INCREASED OUTPUT DESPITE STRIKES.

The twenty-seventh annual ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Howard and Bullough, Limited, was held at Globe Works, Accrington, on Thursday, the 7th instant, at twelve o'clock noon. The chairman of the company, Sir George Bullough, Bart., presided.

The reports of the directors and auditors, and balance-sheet were taken as read.

In moving the adoption of the reports and accounts, the Chairman said: Since our last meeting our year's production has been interrupted on two occasions by coal disputes through which the country has passed; but in spite of this, by gradually putting into operation and employing our plant and staff to the fullest available extent, your directors are glad to state that the output has been increased in an appreciable degree, which has naturally led to more favourable results than was possible in the preceding year.

ALLOCATIONS.

Of the disposable balance of £158,749 your directors propose, after payment of the customary 10 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares, and after payment of the preference dividends and the debenture interest, to place £40,000 to the dividend reserve account, which will then amount to £200,000, and to carry forward to next year's account the remaining £50,956.

You will observe that our balance-sheet shows a bank overdraft, accounted for by the large sums disbursed by us for the important extensions of our works alluded to in my previous report, and now approaching completion. Your directors did not consider it advisable, during the depressed stock markets, to convert a portion of our investments into cash; but found it more advantageous to bridge over this period with the help of an overdraft.

WISDOM OF AMICABLE ADJUSTMENT OF DISPUTES.

As to the future, I am glad to see that the wisdom of solving difficulties by amicable adjustment round the conference table is becoming more generally recognised, and the prospect of improved industrial activities and relations are therefore distinctly brighter. I now beg to move the adoption of the reports of the directors and auditors as presented in the balance-sheet.

Mr F. Scarisbrick seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr T. Gordon moved that a dividend be paid for the half-year ending May 31, 1921, at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, on the preference shares, and a fourth quarterly dividend of 2½ per cent., less income-tax, on the ordinary shares, making, with the interim dividends already paid, 10 per cent. for the year on the ordinary shares.

Mr R. W. Bugler seconded, and the resolution was carried.

Mr H. Ross proposed the re-election of Sir George Bullough, Bart., as director of the company.

Mr S. W. Wilkinson seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

Mr W. A. Walsh proposed the re-election of Messrs. John Adamson, Son and Co., of Manchester, as auditors of the company, on the same terms as before.

Mr W. Livesey seconded, and it was agreed to.

Mr R. W. Bugler moved a vote of thanks to the chairman and co-directors, and to the staff for their services.

Mr W. Livesey seconded.

Sir George Bullough suitably responded, and the meeting then terminated.

LIPTON, LIMITED.

RECORD FIGURES IN HOME TRADE.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of Lipton, Limited, was held at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, on the 5th instant, Sir Thomas J. Lipton, chairman of the company, presiding.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, the Chairman, in the course of moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Notwithstanding that we have still further increased our turnover, our trading has been less satisfactory than for the last few years. This is a matter of much regret, but I have no doubt most of you are aware of the very exceptional, and to a great extent unforeseen, trading circumstances that have been generally experienced, both at home and abroad. I will go fully into the causes that have contributed to our results, but before doing so I will ask Mr H. L. Peters, who has succeeded Mr Williamson Milne as deputy-chairman, to explain to you the variations that have occurred in the figures of our profit and loss account and balance-sheet.

Mr Peters, having gone through the accounts and given explanations of the various items,

The Chairman, who was received with cheers, in the course of his speech, said that, while the dividend had been maintained at the 12½ per cent. paid in the preceding three years, the profits had

been adversely affected, first by increased wages and heavier cost of carriage; secondly, by the drop in values of commodities; and, thirdly, by the severe slump in the export and foreign trade. The increased wages paid amounted to £110,000 more than last year, while the increased charges for carriage cost them £76,000 more. With regard to the fall in values, he stated that they had made no fewer than 243 reductions in prices during the year, and the loss of profit on the articles so reduced had amounted to £147,000. In reducing prices they had done their part in forcing down the cost of living. There was no doubt that this policy had won the further confidence of the public, as evidenced by the considerable expansion that had taken place, and was still continuing, in the company's home sales. Although the export trade had been for a considerable time greatly curtailed compared with a period of activity in the preceding year, he was glad to be able to report a renewal of inquiries for goods and other recent indications of a more favourable nature. Their tea and rubber estates in Ceylon, like those of the large majority of planting companies, had been worked at a loss; but in their own case there was a decided recovery already as regards tea. The three factors mentioned as adversely affecting profits cost the company £436,000, which was more than double the shrinkage in the total profits. To partly compensate for this set-back, they had transferred £50,000 from the war contingencies reserve, which was created to meet unforeseen circumstances such as he had alluded to, and they had taken credit for Excess Profits Tax recoverable.

LARGE INCREASE IN HOME FIGURES.

The most important compensation they had for the set-back was the increased trade that the company had done throughout the United Kingdom, the figures of which were considerably larger than in any previous year. There had been a considerable amount of competition, in which they had taken their share, which had tended to restrict profits, and a slightly lower rate per cent. of gross profit had been earned. With a view to strengthening their resources, they had during the year purchased additional properties, and had extended their factories. They had also opened a further number of new branches, which had shown good results. This expenditure had put them in a stronger position to carry on not only the increased trade they had already secured, but also the further expansion it was the board's determination to secure. They had no doubt whatever that when trade generally assumed a more settled state, which he trusted would not be long, they would be able to show still further progress. In this connection, it would interest the shareholders to note that the company's home trade during the past four years had shown an expansion of 178 per cent.; in other words, their trade was now two and three-quarter times as great as in 1917. Each year had shown a substantial increase on the preceding one, last year's figures being a record; and since the making up of the accounts there was still further improvement, the present rate of increase being 2½ millions a year. These figures could not fail to carry conviction as to the strength and vitality of the business, and he was quite sure that the results of the past year, in view of the exceptional circumstances with which they had had to deal, and the extremely difficult times through which they had passed—the reflection of which could be seen much more severely in many other industries—could only be regarded as satisfactory, and showed what good grounds they had to look forward with every confidence to the future.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT.

As an instance of future development, allusion was made in the report to the purchase of £125,000 in debentures secured on a large oil refinery at a cost of £110,000. Part of the consideration for this investment was a lease for 99 years at a nominal rent of adjacent premises on the property which was suitable for conversion to a margarine factory. The board's intention was to supply the plant and machinery and carry on the manufacture of margarine under the company's own control. Since this investment was made there had been changes in the conditions of the oil refining business generally, and they had considered it expedient to defer this development until conditions were more favourable. They were continuing their policy of extending the business wherever possible and opportune. At the same time, they realised the need for caution in times like the present, and were alive to the necessity of economising where possible in view of the heavy costs of trading to-day. He stated that, after paying the dividend of 12½ per cent. for the year, there was left a balance of £30,779 to be carried forward.

A few questions having been replied to by the Deputy-Chairman, resolutions approving the report and accounts and the dividend, re-electing Mr G. J. Lemmens, Mr H. L. Peters, and Mr Bowker to the board, and reappointing the auditors, were all carried unanimously.

A cordial vote of thanks having been passed to the chairman for presiding, and to the board for its conduct of the business during the year, the proceedings terminated.

CITY DEEP, LIMITED.

(INCORPORATED IN THE TRANSVAAL.)

SATISFACTORY YEAR'S PROGRESS.

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of shareholders was held in Johannesburg on Friday, May 27, 1921, Mr J. R. Leisk (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—Before we proceed to examine the reports and accounts of our company for the year 1920 it is desirable, I think, to remind shareholders that, in making any comparison of the figures set out therein with the figures of previous years, they must not overlook the change in our capital and property accounts that has been occasioned by the acquisition, a year ago, of the City and Suburban mine, plant and equipment. As will have been seen from the annual report and accounts now before us, this transaction is reflected in the balance-sheet as at December 31st last by an increase of £121,500 on both sides of that account. It was reasonable, therefore, to expect that our profits for the past year would be greater, owing to the increased capital thus invested in our company, and also that our tonnage would show an increase, owing to the corresponding addition to our mine property. To the foregoing extent, therefore, we must discount the improvement in our 1920 results in order to obtain a true comparison with the results of the preceding year.

However, even if we make the most liberal allowance for this discount factor, the returns now before us must be regarded as exceedingly satisfactory. At £649,348 the working profit for the year shows an increase of £191,661 over the profit for the previous twelve months, while the rock crushed was 862,500 tons—an increase of 244,000 tons over the corresponding figure for 1919. It must be remembered too, that these results were achieved in spite of the dislocation at the mine occasioned, in the first place, by the native disturbances in February of last year, and, secondly, by the strike of white workers in November last.

The net profit for the year, viz., £644,184, together with the unappropriated balance of £245,471 brought forward from 1919, and a small amount in respect of dividends forfeited—in all £890,095—was carried to appropriation account and applied as follows:—Expended on capital account, £87,995; less proceeds from sale of stands, receipts under Bewaarplaats Act and value of liquid assets taken over from City and Suburban Company, £12,472, leaving a balance of £75,523; less Government taxes, £96,121; and dividends Nos. 16 and 17 of 12½ per cent. and 20 per cent. respectively, £415,250; making £586,894, leaving a balance of £303,201. Of this balance £118,940 was represented by net cash and investments, the remainder consisting of stores and materials, sundry debtors, &c., as detailed in the directors' report.

I would now invite your attention to the very important question of mine development. No doubt you will have remarked the decrease during the last few years in development footage, and the decrease at the end of 1920 in the volume and average value of the ore reserves. So long, of course, as our native force remained inadequate, any increase in development could only be secured at the expense of current mining, but our labour supply has been greatly improved by the City and Suburban absorption, and since the beginning of the current year it has been possible to do a great deal more towards maintaining our reserves. In this connection I may observe that the development footage driven for the first four months of 1921 has exceeded that for the corresponding period of 1920 by 1,459 feet, equal to an increase of 365 feet per month. It would be difficult, however, to give any useful review of the values of this most recent development, owing to the fact that the bulk of the driving has been in the footwall of the reef, and consequently very few complete reef exposures have been made. All that can be said is that these exposures indicate normal values.

You may ask why it was that, with the increased labour force available for the greater part of last year, an earlier commencement was not made with the more vigorous development programme. The answer is, that the re-organisation necessary to make a success of the absorption of the City and Suburban mine, entailed the use of a considerable amount of native labour, and delayed the diversion of the boys to development work.

In consequence of the conditions to which I have just alluded the ore mined last year from the reserves was not replaced by the ore developed. Moreover, the ore developed during 1920 was somewhat below the value of the ore mined from reserves; the City and Suburban brought some ore of lower grade into the payable reserves, and, finally, owing to increased working costs, 301,200 tons of a low value had to be eliminated from payable reserves.

THE ORE RESERVES.

As a result of all these factors the ore reserves as re-calculated at December 31, 1920, show a decrease of 318,850 tons in volume and of 0.4 dwt in value, as compared with the reserves at the commencement of that year. It should not be forgotten, however, that if working costs decrease, as it is earnestly to be hoped they will,

a large body of developed tonnage will be restored to the payable ore reserves.

Another factor that has retarded development during the past year is the fact that the winding capacity of the two incline shafts has been insufficient for effectively handling the tonnage for the mill, the rock broken in shaft sinking, and the men and material. To meet this difficulty, a second winder has been installed in No. 2 shaft, and has been running since the end of last month, while a new engine chamber has been cut at No. 1 shaft, and a new winder is at present in course of erection. When both these winders are running, it will be possible to sink the two incline shafts more rapidly, and thus accelerate the adoption of a policy of more rapid development.

Progress throughout the year in the sinking of the South Shaft was steady. A monthly average of 121 feet was maintained, notwithstanding difficulties experienced through encountering excessively hard rock; and at April 30th of this year the shaft was down 3,200 feet, leaving 1,300 feet to complete the first stage. It is anticipated that the sinking of this first stage will be completed about the end of the year. The 17th level main crosscut, which is being driven to intersect the shaft at the 4,500 feet mark, is now only 1,065 feet from the shaft.

With regard to the expenditure upon the South Shaft, the estimate is £238,500 for sinking and temporary equipment, preparation of site, &c. Of this sum, £160,821 had been expended to the end of last month, leaving a balance of £77,679 still to be spent. Later on, of course, it will be necessary to set aside a substantial sum out of profits to provide for the permanent equipment of this shaft.

As regards the general situation during the expired portion of the current year, the tonnage milled continues to increase, and the average yield is higher than last year by about 0.5 dwt. On the other hand, costs also are above the average of last year, owing very largely to the small tonnage milled in February, when the strike of white workers occurred involving a stoppage of work for nine days. Mention of the increased yield of 0.5 dwt for the last

four months leads me to repeat and emphasise how essential it is for the future of the company that a grade of ore should be mined more in keeping with the grade of the ore reserves—profits being maintained by milling a greater tonnage. The completion of the installation of the second winding engine at No. 2 incline shaft will greatly facilitate the reversion to this policy. As this shaft has had to handle most of the men and material for the mine, it has been impossible to haul through it the amount of ore that should have come from the lower section of the mine, with the result that we have had to mine a larger amount of ore from some of the richer blocks in the upper portion of the property, and thus have obtained an average yield higher than is justified.

The resolution was unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

RUSSO-ASIATIC CONSOLIDATED, LIMITED. IMPROVED POSITION IN RUSSIA.

The first ordinary general meeting of Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, Limited, was held, on the 6th instant, at Winchester House, London, E.C., Mr Leslie Urquhart (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Although the balance-sheet states the cash in hand at £170,785, it is perhaps not made sufficiently clear that our liquid resources amount to £892,000, for the £721,649 due from Russo-Canadian shareholders is in course of collection by fixed calls.

In some quarters surprise has been evinced that our claims against the Soviet authorities should amount to such a large figure as £56,000,000, and, in fact, doubt has been expressed as to the accuracy of that figure. These claims were filed more than three years ago, and I find that in the covering letter sent with them it was stated that the claims did not purport to include all the properties and assets, and were only indicative of the general value of the main business. I have again gone through the figures of these claims with our engineers and other experts, and find not only that

the figure of £56,000,000 is a conservative one, but that certain very important assets have been omitted entirely.

I now have to refer to the negotiations between ourselves and M. Krassin, the representative of the Russian Soviet Government in this country, which were inaugurated after discussions with and on the advice of the Board of Trade. My discussions with M. Krassin have been of a practicable, helpful, and very friendly nature. I mention this because under ordinary circumstances it would have been difficult for the representatives of two such antagonistic systems as those of Capitalism and Communism, as applied to economics, to find a common basis of understanding. Capitalism stands for right of property and economic freedom, while Communism is the absolute negation of both these principles. I quickly found, however, common ground for agreement with M. Krassin in our mutual intense desire for the resuscitation of the economic life, peace, and prosperity of Russia.

You will appreciate that our negotiations have been lengthy partly because of the difficulty of communication with Moscow, but mainly because of the large principles involved, for not only will our agreement with the Soviet authorities open the way to resumption of operations on our own properties, but it will, I hope, provide a firm basis on which foreign capital may re-enter Russia.

I may say I was only yesterday evening officially notified by M. Krassin that the Moscow Government has telegraphically agreed to the basis of the proposed agreement discussed with him. There are certain outstanding questions on which we are not in complete accord, but which, I have reason to believe, will be settled very shortly to our satisfaction. So soon as matters are definitely settled a statement will be made to our shareholders.

POSITION AT THE PROPERTIES.

In the meantime, we are organising a mission, comprising members of our staff, to proceed to the properties to investigate the conditions and prepare a programme.

The question of resumption of work on the properties after a long period of stagnation is one which may appear of great difficulty. So far as we are concerned, we can only speak from our own experience. When the Urals and Siberia were administered by the Siberian Government in 1918 and 1919, and we resumed control after the retirement of the Bolshevik forces who had been in possession for some nine months, we had no difficulty in restarting the various departments and reaching in four to five months' time a production which not only covered all operating expenses, but left a profit. This result was obtained without restarting our copper department and without any moneys being remitted from this country. The position to-day is certainly not so difficult as it was in 1918; there is no fighting front as there was then 100 miles away, and our mechanics' shops, railways, and coal mines are still in operation—on a small scale, it is true, but in a position to help us materially in starting up. Further, the majority of the members of our technical and administrative staff are on the properties, and the workmen are only too anxious to see us come back.

As to transport, which is undoubtedly a serious question in Russia, we are fortunate in having our own railways for local needs, and only require limited facilities on the State railways for the import of necessary materials and supplies and export of our high-priced metal products.

Let me repeat that our sole aim and object in endeavouring to come to an agreement with the Soviet Government for the return of our properties is the safeguarding of the interests of more than 10,000 shareholders. While we may not agree with the past policy of the Soviet Government because of the losses we have sustained as shareholders in the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, we have no concern, as foreigners, with the politics of Russia; and I repeat with the strongest emphasis that our only desire is to see the return of prosperity to that great country, which will bring benefit to the Russian people and to us as shareholders in this country.

The report was agreed to unanimously, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff.

CHANNEL TUNNEL COMPANY, LIMITED. EXPERIMENTS WITH NEW BORING MACHINE.

Presiding at the annual meeting of the members of the Channel Tunnel Company, Limited, held on the 4th instant, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, Baron Emile B. d'Erlanger, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the accounts in the coming year would show an appreciable difference, because it was not their intention to stand idle, and they had taken advantage of certain communications made to them to construct a machine which, if ever they got permission, would greatly expedite the boring of the tunnel. They had spent some £6,000 on the construction of the machine, and the trials so far made, though of an experimental character, had proved quite satisfactory.

They intended a little later on to move that machine to the cliffs of Dover and to make experiments with it on the material

with which they would have to deal when the construction of the tunnel actually took place. Should it prove satisfactory they might use it for contracts, and in that way seek to recoup themselves for the expenditure incurred upon it.

In the matter of obtaining the sanction of Parliament to the construction of the tunnel little progress had been made. Notwithstanding the continued efforts of the members of the Committee for the Channel Tunnel in the House of Commons, and especially of their chairman, Sir Arthur Fell, they had not yet received any intimation that the Government was prepared to entertain the question seriously for the present. What the world was most in need of was peace, and until that peace was established on a more solid basis he was afraid that permission to make the tunnel would be more or less long deferred. He moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr C. Sheath seconded the resolution.

Sir Robert Perks suggested that the proposed experiment with the boring machine should be carried out as part of the trial heading, or of the permanent tunnel, thereby securing to the company a preferential right to construct the tunnel. He further remarked that the South-Eastern Railway and Northern of France Railway might reasonably be expected to encourage the preliminary work indicated in view of the threatened diversion of traffic owing to the construction of the port of Richborough in view of the large sums that the French Government was spending on deepening the channel up the Seine to Paris, which would increase very materially the already huge traffic conveyed by water from this country to Paris.

The motion was carried unanimously.

SIAMESE TIN SYNDICATE, LIMITED. COMPANY'S STRONG POSITION.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Siamese Tin Syndicate, Limited, was held on the 5th inst., at Winchester House, London, Mr William H. P. Stevens (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr Charles A. Underwood, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in the course of moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Out of the profits of the year 1920 we actually distributed in dividends 30 per cent., compared with the 25 per cent. of the previous year, and the net profits were sufficient to have allowed of the payment of a final dividend of 5 per cent., making 35 per cent. for the year, had we not thought it more prudent, in view of the present price of tin and the dislocation of trade and commerce generally, to conserve our cash position. With the 40,000 fully-paid shares of the Bangrin Tin Dredging Company, Limited, which under the heading Investments at Cost, figures for the first time in the balance-sheet, we have the whole consideration that we received for the sale of that property intact, after paying the 30 per cent. dividend. The benefit of the outlay on equipment made during the year is reflected in the very satisfactory performances of all three dredges during the past year. With tin at its present price numbers of mines cannot afford to produce, and it is inevitable that the resumption of the industrial demand will be followed by a rise in the market price of tin. We have got the tin. We can produce at a profit with tin at a price at which many other mines would starve, and the efficiency of the dredges to-day is greater than it has ever been since they were erected.

And Ngow is not the only property, as it has been in the past, from which we may expect returns in the future. The dredge that is to work the Bangrin property is nearing completion, and, it is hoped, will be erected and operating early next year. The shares that we hold in the Bangrin Tin Dredging Company, Limited, will earn us dividends as soon as the dredge can be got to work on that estate. The sale of the Ratroot property to the Australian Company, of which I told you in my speech last year, is on the eve of completion. If Merah and Bandon have been disappointing, the other properties that are ripe for development give promise of prosperity for the Siamese Tin Syndicate for many years to come.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and a hearty vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, directors, and the staff, both at home and abroad, the meeting terminated.

HOVIS, LIMITED. CLAIMS ON MINISTRY OF FOOD.

The ordinary general meeting of Hovis, Limited, was held, on the 6th instant, at the Caxton Hall, Caxton street, Westminster, London, Mr J. Browne-Martin (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr A. E. Cressall, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and **THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,**
are established.



• BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said: We have not yet settled with the authority that has taken over the Ministry of Food the accounts of the company either for the year ended March 31, 1920, or the year ended March 31, 1921. There is no doubt that the control of the milling industry was greatly for the benefit of the public in general at the time in which control was established; on the other hand, the milling industry was placed at a disadvantage compared with other businesses.

Amongst other restrictions this company suffered was one restricting the company's advertising, and we look to the Ministry of Food, who have reaped the benefit of our previous advertising, to see that at any rate we do not suffer by the control placed upon our industry in an inequitable way. I may, however, tell you that in consideration of the millers accepting decontrol at March 31st last certain payments were made to them. This amount in the case of the Hovis Company was about £12,000, and was in respect to possible loss which might be sustained through taking over the stocks of wheat and flour at the prices which ruled at March 31st last. This sum of money, it was agreed, should be free from any taxation whatsoever, and will be placed to reserve.

The directors think it advisable to recommend a dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, which is the same dividend as paid last year, and also to defer the consideration of capitalisation of certain of the company's reserves to be distributed amongst the shareholders. This step will, of course, meet with the full approval of the shareholders, as it has always been the policy of this company to adopt a conservative attitude in the matter of its finances, but the directors feel that it is due to the shareholders to make this statement in view of the issue of fresh capital to the company in November last. That issue was made for the purpose of purchasing the share capital of an old-established mill—namely, that owned by Marriage, Neave and Co., at the Albert Flour Mills, Battersea. That investment has so far turned out even more satisfactory than the directors anticipated. I also wish to refer to a further investment we made in March last of two small mills in Newbury, which, added to the means we have already at our disposal, will provide us with an equipment to ensure steady-going and satisfactory results to the company.

The dividend of 8 per cent. was approved, and the usual formal business having been transacted, the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman and board.

SPIERS AND POND, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

The thirty-seventh ordinary general meeting of Spiers and Pond, Limited, was held on the 6th instant, at Cannon street Hotel, London, Sir J. S. Harwood Banner, M.P., the chairman, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, and dividend of 12½ per cent., said: The share capital remains unchanged at £692,829. Debenture stock, you will be glad to observe, shows a reduction in the year of £13,834, leaving an amount outstanding of £455,187. While a proportion of the debentures redeemed have been paid off out of the proceeds of sales of property, no less than £6,740 have been redeemed by the operation of the sinking fund, which came into force for the first time in the period covered by these accounts. If you will just glance at the profit and loss account for a moment you will see that we have debited the revenue this year with £4,815, this being the amount available for redemption under the sinking fund set up by the trust deed. I need hardly say that to the extent debentures are so redeemed out of our profits we are in effect creating an additional reserve account, and in comparing the accounts with last year you will no doubt bear this fact in mind. The general reserve account stands at £60,000, as compared with £30,000 a year ago, and if you approve the recommendations we are to submit to you to-day this reserve will stand in the next balance-sheet at £80,000. If to this you add the £10,000 of taxation reserve which was created last year, and which remains intact, we have in these two reserve items a fund of £90,000, which, I think you will agree, is not an unsatisfactory figure to have attained in the three years since the company was reorganised and your present board came into office.

Now referring to the profit and loss account, the profit on trading to March 31st, totalled £128,364, as compared with £144,755. We have a net profit available for distribution of £104,863 as compared with £124,946 last year—a reduction of, say, £20,000, of which £4,800 is accounted for by the redemption fund. With the amount we brought forward from last year, viz., £15,651, we have available £120,515. We propose to carry £20,000 to reserve account, raising this to £80,000; and to allocate to the staff provident fund £2,000; leaving us after payment of the directors' additional remuneration with the sum of £22,515 to carry forward to next year, or some £7,000 more than we brought into the account.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.						
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.		
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£		
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	49.1	9,924	11,423		
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	..	..	9,286		
1915.											
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536		
1916.											
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868		
1917.											
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,486		
1918.											
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566		
1919.											
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413		
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271		
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589		
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802		
1920.											
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981		
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	3,05		
Sept. 29.....	*353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385		
Dec. 29.....	*367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134		
1921.											
Mar. 30.....	*343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141			
June 8.....	*330,071	15,173	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.5	294,050	244			
15.....	*327,580	14,946	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.6	291,503	173			
22.....	*324,949	14,618	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.7	288,397	220			
29.....	*323,884	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150			
July 6.....	*325,407	14,572	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.7	288,892	137			

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled.

† Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000.

Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £55,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, July 11-July 16th, were opened on July 8, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £117,220,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 13s 9d will receive about 93 per cent. and above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 14s 1d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £5 3s 6.64d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
June 17 (3months)	40,000,000	82,670,000	5 10 1.06	5½	£98 12s 2d (Monday to Friday bills) about 84%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 12s 6d above in full.
June 24 (3months)	55,000,000	96,485,000	5 6 8.89	5	£98 12s 10d (Monday to Friday bills) about 27½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 13s 2d above in full.
July 1 (3months)	60,000,000	77,540,000	5 7 3.34	5	£98 12s 7d (Monday to Friday bills) about 52½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 12s 11d above in full.
July 8 (3months)	55,000,000	117,220,000	5 3 6.64	4½	£98 13s 9d (Monday to Friday bills), about 93%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 14s 1d, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, July 6, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£	Government debt	£
145,002,890		11,015,100	
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	126,552,890
145,002,890			145,002,890

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	Government securities	63,798,078
Rest	3,288,818	Other securities	85,102,305
Public deposits	19,720,551	Notes	15,894,605
Other deposits	129,041,060	Gold and silver coin	1,816,193
Seven-day & other bills	7,752		
166,611,181			166,611,181

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

A POLICY IN THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

owing to the very MODERATE RATE OF PREMIUM, is the ideal method of providing for

DEATH DUTIES OR DEPRECIATION ON INVESTMENTS.

particularly in view of the Abatement of Income Tax allowed in respect of PREMIUMS PAID.

Example: Age 40 next Birthday.

The Annual Premium, limited to 25 payments, to assure £2,500, payable at death, to provide Estate Duty of £82 7 11 that amount would be 12 7 2
Less rebate of Income Tax (at 3s. per £) 12 7 2

Making Net Annual Outlay £70 0 9

MAXIMUM Amount of Premiums Payable, £1,751

MINIMUM Sum Assured Payable, £2,500

Head Office: 6, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

LONDON: 3, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

WEST END: 17, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

Accumulated Funds £16,500,000.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, July 6, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,238,818	+ £ 44,701	+ £ 14,344
Public deposits	19,720,551	+ 4,423,662	+ 1,834,543
Other deposits	129,041,060	+ 2,538,482	+ 12,005,605
Government securities	63,798,078	+ 2,352,226	+ 11,373,225
Other securities	85,102,305	+ 725,605	+ 1,207,691
Reserve	17,710,798	+ 99,639	+ 1,256,911
Note circulation	129,108,285	+ 101,995	+ 6,364,470
Coin and bullion	128,369,083	+ 2,356	+ 7,631,381
% of reserve to liabilities	11½%	+ 1%	+ 8%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
April 13.....	128,348,222	128,537,050	132,440,637	131,902,306	18,261,172	15½	14½
20.....	128,345,367	128,276,450	127,658,109	128,852,390	18,518,917	14½	14½
27.....	128,358,165	128,519,725	141,260,257	140,668,359	18,288,440	15½	14½
May 4.....	128,357,634	129,528,235	140,225,277	138,089,388	18,044,607	14½	14½
11.....	128,363,247	128,421,373	128,089,388	18,044,607	18,044,607	14½	14½
18.....	128,369,554	128,194,750	121,813,463	120,941,358	18,615,804	15½	14½
25.....	128,349,547	127,807,660	128,479,700	127,246,066	18,991,887	14½	14½
June 1.....	128,363,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	11½	14½
8.....	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	12½	14½
15.....	128,375,126	127,491,195	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	13½	14½
22.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,690	137,400,455	19,329,150	12½	14½
29.....	128,366,727	129,006,890	147,036,431	147,036,431	17,710,798	11½	14½
July 6.....	128,369,083	129,108,285	148,761,611	148,900,383	17,710,798	11½	14½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	July 5, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	July 9, 1919.	July 7, 1920.	July 6, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,690,735	£ 28,933,380	£ 79,595,430	£ 122,274,815	£ 129,108,285
Public deposits	10,763,524	19,014,809	21,794,687	17,856,948	19,720,551
Other deposits	52,589,602	41,249,984	70,521,335	117,035,458	129,041,060
Government securities	14,969,346	11,016,570	136,945,806	52,424,853	63,798,078
Other securities	37,617,516	41,461,280	83,335,770	83,894,614	85,102,305
Reserve of notes and coin	28,712,126	25,463,980	27,525,015	16,443,887	17,710,798
Coin and bullion	39,952,861	35,947,360	88,670,445	120,737,702	128,369,083
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	45½%	42½%	12%	12½%	11½%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	6%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	2½	2½	3½	6½	5½
Price of Consols	78½	74½	52½	47½	47½
Price of silver per oz.	24½d	26½d	53½d	52½d	36½d
Average price of wheat	31s 10d	33s 0d	73s 4d	83s 10d	89s 10d
Exchanges	Paris 25.283-31½	25.174-20	30.54-56	45.40-80	46.50-90
on New York	\$4.84½	\$4.79	\$4.494-50½	\$3.93-95	\$3.703-73
on Amsterdam	12.1½	12.05-10	11.74-76	11.13-16	11.33-36½
on Berlin	20.4½	20.4½	14.8-150	17.7-281	17.7-281
Clearing house return	394,051,000	199,913,000	672,487,000	799,899,000	859,230,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1-June 30.....	15,725,385,000	1,580,304,000	17,305,689,000
July 6.....	802,112,000	57,118,000	859,230,000
Total to date 1921.....	16,527,497,000	1,637,422,000	18,164,919,000
Do 1920.....	18,790,781,000	2,164,063,000	20,974,844,000
Increase or decrease in 1921..	- 2,263,284,000	- 526,641,000	- 2,809,925,000
	12.0%	= 25.0%	= 13.5%
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919.....	25,028,678,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,446,000
Increase or decrease in 1920..	+ 9,918,005,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	= 39.6%	= 20.2%	= 37.4%

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.
London: 5

BANK OF JAPAN.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 21, 1921.	May 21, 1921.	May 21, 1921.	May 21, 1921.	Move- ment.	Position June 30, 1921.
Gold and silver	1,280,943	1,280,943	1,280,943	930,888	+ 199	221,320
Discounts	39,867	33,573	35,345	393,854	+ 6,294	41,740
Advances	98,174	93,053	153,949	396,147	+ 5,121	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,059,723	990,613	1,033,873	1,305,939	+ 69,110	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,399,284	1,360,160	1,427,392	1,344,865	+ 39,124	87,340
Private deposits	55,036	169,754	102,390	85,124	- 114,718	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	1,091,553	1,091,553	1,091,553	1,313,240	1,313,240
Silver	11,205	10,599	10,599	321,920	321,920
Treasury notes	8,311,298	10,477,006	17,251,600	2,165,798	60,780
Bills discounted	81,173,196	66,036,785	50,954,100	- 15,076,411	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	75,321,095	71,986,713	53,975,180	+ 3,334,382	2,013,860
Deposits	20,392,708	11,112,483	23,413,950	+ 9,280,225	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	May 31, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	May 10, 1921.	Move- ment.	Position May 31, 1921.
Total cash	1,428,194	1,391,492	1,388,618	+ 36,702	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,128,278	3,149,538	3,167,328	+ 68,650	418,400
Foreign bills	20,733	28,102	29,508	+ 7,369	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,773,471	6,931,283	7,011,256	+ 157,812	11,507
Other advances	2,128,405	2,046,898	2,046,126	+ 81,507	79,175
Securities	215,586	213,962	217,434	+ 1,624	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	13,763,428	13,185,047	13,933,320	+ 578,381	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,631,789	1,785,616	1,733,327	- 103,827	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 4, 1921.	June 22, 1921.	July 5, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Coin and bullion—Gold	605,969	605,969	605,969	636,305	636,305
—Silver	11,571	12,331	14,141	- 660	163,092
Discounts and advances	515,151	424,205	490,556	+ 90,946	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,032,298	991,929	1,040,751	+ 40,369	316,632
Deposits	111,561	50,638	125,985	+ 60,923	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 18, 1921.	June 11, 1921.	June 19, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,600,222	—	—
Silver, &c.	232	303	239	—	11
Discounts	38,840	38,840	21	—	14,961
Government loan	9,916,585	9,849,921	4,099,949	+ 66,564	—
Other advances	2,775,277	2,823,593	763,455	+ 48,316	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,034,371	11,087,752	4,736,088	—	3,381
Deposits	6,044,886	6,024,677	2,166,912	+ 20,209	—

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion—Gold	544,076	544,076	533,124	+ 67	171,175
—Silver	110,784	110,784	87,111	—	18,350
Darlehens-Kassenschein	10,230	10,586	16,689	—	356
Discount and advances	395,494	358,339	379,948	+ 36,555	103,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	941,083	880,187	953,510	+ 60,896	275,925
Deposits	144,520	159,108	105,941	- 14,588	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to June 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,471,000, of which Fr. 10,230,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 2, 1921.	June 25, 1921.	July 3, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1921.
Gold	281,393	281,436	281,226	— 43	+ 20,167	104,918
Balance abn. and foreign bills	121,933	122,540	92,694	— 602	+ 29,244	112,172
Swedish and for Gov. securities	15,792	16,447	45,583	— 655	— 29,791	32,465
Discount and loans	407,108	430,141	682,268	+ 46,967	— 205,160	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	681,441	627,366	730,537	+ 54,075	— 49,096	226,555
Deposits at notice	160,340	162,319	273,502	— 1,979	— 112,962	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 29, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	June 16, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and silver	328,258	332,200	335,870	355,615	— 3,912	332,650
Securities	641,661	641,121	642,477	620,047	— 19,460	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	6,110,162	6,062,241	6,100,798	5,284,454	+ 47,821	934,150
Current accounts	1,094,586	1,135,498	1,075,259	1,923,353	— 40,312	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion, bills	8,553	7,459	7,096	+ 1,094	1,094
Silver coin	2	1	1	—	—
Bills discounted, warrants	1,380,486	1,381,441	5,281,185	—	955
Loans	551,315	554,797	614,261	—	3,634
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	47,208,636	46,425,767	45,583,194	—	781,869
Deposits	6,593,109	10,153,849	9,738,443	—	3,560,740

HUNGARIAN BANK.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	185	166	186	—	1
Silver coin	11,690,533	11,694,780	11,845,878	— 4,247	426
Bills discounted, warrants	109,993	110,762	110,768	—	426
Loans	14,251,598	14,112,965	13,685,610	+ 138,633	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	5,036,328	5,168,826	5,760,131	— 131,898	—
Deposits					

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion	227,564	227,570	228,030	— 6	76,644
Loans and discounts	326,726	311,289	367,531	+ 15,437	88,470
Advances to the Govt.	10,209	15,597	33,928	— 5,388	24,102
Securities	50,553	50,636	57,818	— 83	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	496,213	496,688	528,660	— 475	157,266
Deposits	67,910	60,205	43,451	+ 7,705	6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,289	147,289	147,331	—	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	35,788	39,900	64,892	— 4,112	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Govern- ment securities	9,095	9,095	10,513	—	8,816
Discounts and loans	418,300	419,981	417,286	— 1,681	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	402,423	408,987	423,367	— 6,564	113,484
Deposits at notice	101,326	102,483	140,780	— 1,157	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 10, 1921.	June 3, 1921.	May 27, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Government securities	Rs. 8,77,19	Rs. 8,66,27	Rs. 9,56,82	Rs. 9,56,82	+ 10,92
Other securities	1,38,42	1,38,42	1,38,40	1,38,40	—
Loans	14,65,13	14,77,83	14,76,68	14,76,68	— 12,70
Cash	20,79,93	20,90,19	20,69,85	20,95,71	— 10,26
Inland bills	13,91,03	14,23,49	14,87,32	15,03,16	— 29,46
Foreign bills	69	45	46	38	— 44
Bullion	3	5	5	2	— 2
Dead stock	2,03,68	2,09,48	2,09,64	2,09,04	+ 20
Sundries	49,01	49,78	39,29	37,39	— 77
Balances with other banks ..	12,69	12,37	13,27	19,26	+ 32
Cash	25,00,99	26,86,91	26,40,91	24,95,27	— 86,91
LIABILITIES.					
Subscribed capital	10,10,32	10,08,16	10,01,56	9,89,60	+ 2,16
Capital paid up	5,33,83	5,31,64	5,31,64	5,28,65	+ 54
Reserve	3,70,30	3,70,14	3,69,63	3,69,14	+ 16
Public deposits	7,62,47	10,43,88	12,65,81	12,89,10	— 2,81,33
Other deposits	69,74,52	68,24,20	66,51,01	66,17,16	+ 1,50,32
Loans against sec. per contra ..	54,75	55,87	16,70	16,87	— 4,12
Sundries	1,32,12	1,27,94	1,22,89	1,11,25	+ 8,98

Assets.	June 10, 1921.	June 3, 1921.	May 27, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	Week's Movement.
The above includes—					
Deposits in London	£ 17,700	£ 17,100	£ 17,100	£ 34,500	—
Advances in London	381,000	382,400	132,400	130,300	—
Cash and balances at other banks in London	89,872	86,274	92,585	130,607	—

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	£ 3,361	£ 3,361	—	£ 1,571
Government securities	40,831	39,291	+ 1,540	2,084
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	34,024	34,186	— 162	2,400
Government deposits	2,511	2,656	— 145	2,315
Other deposits	14,177	13,832	+ 345	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 23, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold	F. mk. 42,626	F. mk. 42,626	F. mk. 42,620	—	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	373,740	376,896	116,579	— 3,156	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Govern- ment securities	957,528	991,520	1,067,915	— 34,002	21,826
Discounts and loans	351,458	319,230	209,728	— 32,223	105,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,339,287	1,392,110	1,198,057	— 2,823	123,941
Deposits at notice	110,965	118,367	75,155	— 7,402	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 1, 1921.	May 25, 1921.	May 18, 1921.	June 8, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Coin and bullion	Escudos. 27,685	Escudos. 27,658	Escudos. 27,649	Escudos. 27,261	+ 27
Gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	—
Balance abroad	5,820	4,623	6,437	5,910	+ 1,197
Discounts	118,816	118,521	116,446	95,339	+ 295
Government loans	588,111	588,111	588,111	360,122	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	647,858	640,868	641,555	426,863	+ 6,990
Deposits	47,677	49,209	45,873	39,860	— 1,532

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.
(000's omitted.)

(000's omitted).						
ASSETS.		Nov. 30, 1920.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Sept. 30, 1920.	Aug. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
	Levs.	Levs.	Levs.	Levs.	Levs.	Levs.
Gold	37,072	37,038	37,032	37,030	+	34
Silver	16,972	16,935	16,949	16,972	+	37
Treasury notes	39,396	41,382	223,507	223,508	+	1,386
Bills discounted	287,826	287,806	287,891	288,256	+	20
Notes in circulation	3,390,948	3,488,430	3,456,136	3,415,739	—	97,428
Deposits	1,183,908	1,141,734	1,145,304	1,134,142	—	47,174

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sacres to £1	10-15	Sight London	July 2 13-50
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	July 6 21-75
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	48d	"	July 4 85-00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31d	"	June 28 3-70
San Salvador	Pesos to £1	24-65d	"	June 30 8-05
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-65d	"	July 2 199-80
Costa Rica	Colones to £1	10-45	"	June 11 17-50

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, June 28, 1921, as below:—

	Buying Rate.	Selling Rate.
London (cheque)	£1 1,350	1,365
Paris	100 fr. 2,850	2,950
New York	\$10 3,400	3,500
Stockholm	100 kr. 8,200	8,300
Copenhagen	100 kr. 6,100	6,300
Christiania	100 kr. 5,300	5,400
Berlin	100 rmk. 540	545
Helsingfors	100 fmk. 610	630
Riga	100 lrb. 65	70
Amsterdam	100 H.fl. 11,800	12,000

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From May 13, 1921.	From May 16, 1921.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 ..	1 1/2 prem.
Demand ..	1 1/2 dis.	1 1/2 dis.
30 days ..	1 1/2 ..	1 1/2 ..
60 days ..	1 1/2 ..	1 1/2 ..
90 days ..	1 1/2 ..	1 1/2 ..
120 days ..	1 1/2 ..	1 1/2 ..

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	..	..
Sight	..	..
Cable	..	..
On demand ..	96 1/2	96 1/2
30 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
60 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
90 days	94 1/2	94 1/2
120 days	..	..
5 months' sight ..	..	..
6 months' sight ..	..	..

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended July 6, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £2,356 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
Week Ended July 6, 1921.	Week Ended July 6, 1921.
British India	United States
British South Africa ..	France
Straits Settlements	Netherlands
Total values of imports of gold	Total declared value of exports registered in the week ..

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write, on July 7th, as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,552,890, as compared with £126,551,350 last week. A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was taken for New York. New York reports the arrival of gold value 50,849,000 and \$3,400,000 from France and London respectively.

SILVER.

The market has been more active during the week, with China the dominant factor. Inquiry from this quarter, in conjunction with a continued scarcity of supplies, was the cause of sharp advances in the quotations. On the 5th instant the price rose 1d for spot and 1/2d for forward delivery. The

price for cash thus attained—viz., 36 1/2d—was the highest since February 9th last, and that for forward—36 1/2d—since January 29th last. The rise, however, proved somewhat overdone, as yesterday saw a decline of 1/2d and 1/2d for cash and forward respectively. While on the whole there has been more business, it seemed scarcely on a scale to justify the wide fluctuations. We have been informed, under date June 23rd, that the production of silver in the United States has fallen off, and that the stocks in New York have been considerably reduced, with the result that offerings there have been limited. Reverting to the question of the German silver, latest advices from New York appear to indicate that the matter of arranging advances on the security of silver presents more difficulties than was first anticipated. It was announced on Friday that the Banque Industrielle de Chine had suspended payment. This institution was an important operator in silver in all markets. It is understood that their position in this country has already been liquidated. News from India as to the monsoon was to the effect that it commenced rather patchily. A more recent report announces an improvement on the West Coast of the Peninsula. Nevertheless, it would appear from latest advices very doubtful as to whether expectations in this connection will be realised. The monthly balance of Indian trade for May shows a marked improvement in favour of that country—namely, minus 200 lacs, as compared with 685 for April. Since June, 1920, the balance has been adverse—to the average extent of 692 lacs per month. The worst month was November, 1920, with a minus balance of 1,107 lacs. An early return to normal conditions of trade is extremely desirable for the Indian Empire, and anything which might assist toward that end would be specially welcome at the present time. The Indian Empire possesses an abundance of bamboos and savannah grasses capable of being transformed into paper pulp. An official inquiry has been made recently as to how an industry derived from this material could be developed, which would obviate the import of paper pulp, and also build up a profitable export trade with other countries. Paper plays such an important and increasing part in the world's activities that success would add considerably to the assets of the Indian Empire. The potentialities of such a trade are so great that it might well become a significant factor in the exchange, as well as in the internal prosperity of India. Recent labour troubles in Australia have caused a great shrinkage in its production of metals, as will be seen from the following statistics (in fine ounces):—

	1918.	1919.	1920.
Refined silver recovered by Australian smelters, &c.	9,736,757	6,534,888	562,651
Refined silver recovered by Australian Mints	183,705	*150,000	*150,000
In lead-silver-gold bullion	..	..	141,263
In zinc concentrates and ores exported ..	511,480	437,846	522,515
	10,431,942	7,122,734	1,376,429

* Estimated.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	June 15, 1921.	June 22, 1921.	June 30, 1921.
Notes in circulation	16,843	16,994	17,176
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	6,774	6,925	7,106
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,435	2,435	2,436
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,799	6,799	6,799
Securities (British Government) ..	835	835	835

The coinage during the week ending 30th ultimo amounted to 13 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 4th instant consisted of about 36,700,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 420 bars of silver, as compared with about 35,750,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 420 bars of silver on the 25th ultimo. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 6 1/2d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.		Cash, Per Ounce.
July 2 ..	110 1	35 1/2	July 14, 1915	22 1/2
4 ..	110 3	35 1/2	14, 1916	22 1/2
5 ..	110 1	36 1/2	13, 1917	41
6 ..	110 4	36 1/2	12, 1918	48 1/2
7 ..	110 9	36 1/2	11, 1919	53 1/2
8 ..	110 10	36 1/2	9, 1920	52 1/2

NOTICES.

A branch of the Merchants' Bank of Canada has been opened at St Tite, Quebec.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of a new branch at 38 Union street, Ryde, Isle of Wight, under the management of Mr C. H. White.

The following appointments have been made in the Guaranty Trust Company of New York:—Mr E. Graham Humphreys to be assistant manager, Mr Reginald Hale to be treasurer, and Mr Oscar List to be assistant secretary of the London office of the company.

The Bank of Montreal announce that a branch of this bank was to be opened for business at Keremeos, B.C., on or about June 23rd.

A branch of Coutts and Co. is now open at 1 Park lane, W. 1, under the management of Mr Guy D. White.

The Bank of New South Wales has received a cable from the head office in Sydney, announcing the death on June 30th, of Sir John Russell French, K.B.E., the general manager of the bank.

A branch of Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, has been opened at Norway House, 21-24 Cockspur street, Trafalgar square, London.

The Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited, notifies that a branch of the bank has been opened in Townsville, Queensland. At a meeting of the London Clearing Bankers the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, chairman of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, was elected chairman, and Mr F. C. Goodenough, chairman of Barclays Bank, Limited, deputy-chairman for the ensuing year.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

WM. CORY AND SON.

March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Cum. pref. shares ..	850,000	..	Land, buildings, &c.	4,377,213	.. - 88,225
Ord. shares	2,850,094	..	Stock, &c.	190,996	.. + 54,980
Employees' shares ..	47,552	.. + 11,268	Debit balances ..	3,379,876	.. - 59,476
4% deb. stock	700,000	..	Inv. on behalf of staff funds ..	125,662	..
4 1/2% deb.	200,000	..	Investments	118,327	..
Unpaid divs.	14,358	.. - 34	War Loan, &c.	1,908,318	.. + 471,582
Premium on new ord. shares	440,000	..	Cash	56,767	.. + 13,962
Reserve	650,000	..			
Insurance fund ..	100,000	..			
Staff pensions	114,495	.. + 3,969			
Employees' war fund	27,953	.. + 674			
Credit balances ..	3,316,124	.. + 281,275			
Profit and loss	846,582	.. + 115,673			
Total	10,157,158	.. + 412,823	Total	10,157,159	.. + 412,823

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT.

March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Pref. shares	1,000,000	..	Land, bldgs, &c.	404,161	.. + 1,827
Ord. shares	600,000	..	Investments	538,762	.. + 25,423
5% red. notes	600,000	..	Debtors	1,167,893	.. + 278,556
Bills payable	100,000	.. + 100,000	Establishments abroad ..	156,196	.. + 56,908
Creditors	1,025,758	.. + 328,648	Stock	2,320,446	.. + 71,792
Reserve	942,772	.. + 197,772	Cash	129,335	.. - 67,647
War. cont. res.	..	.. - 110,000			
Insurance fund ..	..	.. - 102,740			
Profit and loss ..	448,253	.. - 41,821			
Total	4,716,793	.. + 366,859	Total	4,716,793	.. + 366,859

NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED

Registered in the Transvaal.

Capital and Reserve - £4,215,000

The Bank will be happy to co-operate with Business Houses wishing to develop their trade with South and East Africa.

OVER 500 BRANCHES in Africa. Also Branches at Antwerp, Bombay, New York, Port Louis and St. Helena.

Full List of Branches and Particulars sent on application.

LONDON OFFICES

CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON WALL, E.C.2
18 St. Swithin's lane, E.C.4. 25 Cockspur street, S.W.1

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	2,111,975	.. + 886,975	Freehold land & buildings	2,705,308	.. + 1,997,494
Pref. shares	3,278,681	.. - 189,438	Expenditure on Kingsway site, &c.	..	.. - 120,990
4% deb. stock	200,000	..	Plant, &c.	792,868	.. + 387,190
Loans	2,575,000	.. + 2,575,000	Premium on purchase of Fraser and Chalmers ..	110,000	..
Sundry creditors ..	1,652,955	.. + 249,946	Loose plant, goodwill, &c.	..	..
Provision for removal expnses ..	..	.. - 12,000	Sundry debtors ..	3,359,911	.. + 859,119
Premium ord. shares	257,017	.. + 194,110	Stock-in-trade, &c.	..	.. + 1,377,514
Reserve	450,000	..	Trade investments	1,155,650	.. + 174,745
Profit and loss ..	559,291	.. + 145,368	Govt. securities ..	38,658	.. + 13,658
			Cash	145,632	.. - 838,769
Total	11,084,919	.. + 3,849,961	Total	11,084,919	.. + 3,849,961

DISTILLERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

May 15, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	2,916,670	.. + 866,780	Land & buildings ..	1,100,000	.. + 150,000
Pref. shares	326,620	..	Plant	450,000	.. + 50,000
Reserve fund	600,000	.. + 100,000	Investments	1,056,378	.. + 121,626
Fire insco. fund ..	140,000	.. + 5,000	Sundry debtors ..	1,014,288	.. + 33,915
Superannuation ..	101,337	.. + 1,167	Stocks	2,169,598	.. + 167,612
Deb. stock	820,000	..	Cash	131,420	.. - 48,494
Loans from subsidiary cos.	449,919	.. - 288,952	Bills receivable ..	88,186	.. + 85,443
Sundry creditors ..	659,294	.. - 217,925	Loans to subsidiary cos.	421,123	.. - 234,656
Overdraft from bank	..	.. - 170,750			
Carriage on spirits ..	127,443	.. + 25,622			
Profit and loss	283,710	.. + 60,474			
Total	6,430,993	.. + 385,446	Total	6,430,993	.. + 385,446

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR JUNE, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.	Gold Recovered.	Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Crude Works.	Mill.	Crude Works.
Gold.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	Ozs.
Associated (W. A.)	5,962	3,200	1,862	480
Balaghat	11,988	17,165	3,856	811
Champion Reef	2,927	..	..	..
Cons. of New Zealand ..	2,070	..	..	..
Meuzies Cons.	2,166	3,945	281	647
Mount Dobby	17,243	41,993	6,712	3,794
Mysore	700	1,600	787	125
North Anantapur	8,916	13,674	4,629	675
Nundydroog	12,900	13,450	7,584	1,091
Orengum	..	..	..	..
Oriental Consolidated ..	..	..	..	..
St John del Rey	..	..	..	..

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.	Tons.	
Chenderiang	69	Quarter ended June 30th.
Filani	4	..
Gopeng	86½	Est. value, £8,290; est. costs, £3,120.
Idris	13½	Est. value, £1,312; est. cost, £1,633.
Ipo	5½	..
Jos	7	..
Kamunting	82	Quarter ended June 30th.
Kinta	35½	Value, £3,500; gross profit, £2,042.
Kramat Pulai	..	Mine profit, £1,334.
Lahat	52	Value, £5,123; cost, £4,952; tribute profit, £183.
Malayan	86½	Value, £8,598; cost, £8,018.
Naraguta Ext.	20	Despatched, 17 tons.
Pahang	240	Black tin; alluvial, 107 tons.
Pusing	15	£292 gross tribute.
Rambutan	31	Est. value, £1,430; est. cost, £816.
Rayfield	104	Shipped 31 tons.
Ropp	3	Despatched 3 tons. ..
Rukuba	124	..
Siamese	33	Est. value, £3,880; est. cost, £3,150.
Sungei Besi	36	Est. value, £8,430; est. costs, £1,700.
Tekka	21½	Est. value, £2,058; est. cost, £1,515.
Tongkah Harbour ..	98	..
Tromoh	26	Value, £2,625; cost, £2,600.
Coal.		
Chinese Engineering	89,081	Week ended June 25th.
Clydesdale	27,617	Coalbrook; 27,617 tons from Blackhill.
Dundee	37,049	..
Glencoe Natal	10,724	..
Natal Navigation	25,243	..
Northern Natal	11,074	..
Tweenfontein United ..	86,103	..
Vryheid (Natal)	36,223	..
Wankie	28,177	Coke sales, £9,978.
Miscellaneous.		
New Vaal River	..	Diamonds registered, 741 carats; value £5,134.
Rhodessa Broken Hill	1,569	Lead.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	26 weeks July 2	251,822	..	6,189,913	..
London Electric	26 weeks July 2	62,103	..	1,406,059	..
City and South London					
Central London					
L.G.O.					
Metropolitan Electric Trams					
London United Trams					
South Metropolitan Trams					
Tramways (M.E.T.)					
Gearless Motor					

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	6 weeks May 14	993	1,89,246 + 6,300	11,63,233	53,141
Barsi L.R.	10 weeks June 11	118	20,700 - 5,500	2,11,400	1,00,300
Bengal & N. Western	8 weeks May 28	2,067	5,96,260 + 64,979	47,01,860	1,86,903
Bengal Nagpur	8 weeks May 28	2,695	12,07,000 - 44,000	1,04,96,000	2,33,326
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	12 weeks June 25	2,871	20,42,000 + 2,64,000	2,60,20,720	18,54,000
Burma	8 weeks May 28	1,342	5,30,659 - 75,463	44,84,856	4,41,700
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	12 weeks June 25	239	83,000 - 13,589	11,40,715	91,084
East Indian	12 weeks June 25	2,772	28,03,000 + 6,000	3,58,55,000	7,41,000
G. Indian Peninsula	12 weeks June 25	3,121	23,86,900 - 5,65,300	3,35,15,800	2,05,059
Madras & S. Mah.	9 weeks June 4	3,012	13,10,000 + 16,157	1,21,85,000	2,09,004
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	8 weeks May 28	259	70,378 - 1,375	5,10,156	38,854
Do Lucknow-Breilly	8 weeks May 28	287	84,195 + 14,776	6,9,043	46,527
South Indian	9 weeks June 4	1,852	8,04,173 - 80,095	75,16,317	1,64,487
Sikh. Punjab (month)	5 mths Feb. 28	716	6,93,752 - 94,252	40,21,325	1,31,300
ARGENTINE (A).					
Argentine N.E.	2 days July 2	752	2,100 - 900	..	..
Argentine Trans.	2 days July 2	111	159 - 311	..	..
B.A. and Pacific	2 days July 2	3,425	41,000 - 31,000	..	..
B.A. & Southern	2 days July 2	3,903	44,000 - 43,000	..	..
B.A. Western	2 days July 2	1,822	2,000 - 10,000	..	..
Buenos Ayres Cent.	11 mths May 31	190	46,021 - 12,558	507,448	24,528
Central Argentine	2 days July 2	3,305	40,000 - 25,000	..	..
Cordoba Central	52 weeks June 30	1,205	70,000 + 7,500	2,822,800	293,600
Entre Rios	2 days July 2	811	6,000 - 4,000	..	..
Brazilian (B).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	5 mths May 31	1,005	Ma 63,750 + 17,250	218,400	34,100
Gt. West. of Brazil	26 weeks July 2	1,005	8,700 - 6,600	375,100	255,000
Leopoldina	26 weeks July 2	1,831	31,908 - 18,833	850,249	561,045
San Paulo	26 weeks July 2	1,533	26,632 - 13,182	780,553	421,456
State of Bahia, S.W.	5 mths May 31	52	Ma 41,000 - 37,000	393,000	28,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	26 weeks July 3	838	13,540 - 11,310	662,220	595,315
Arauco	1 mth Apr. 30	644	12,000 + 500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	26 weeks June 30	366	17,946 + 3,728	..	172,230
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths June 30	1,059	81,358,630 + 147,980	14,428,740	56,794
Taital	11 mths May 31	180	(b) 13,613 - 13,432	270,213	5,508
Cuban.					
Havana Central	51 weeks June 25	681	12,325 - 2,782	765,079	141,584
United of Havana	2 days July 2	681	17,030 - 30,322	..	..
Uruguay.					
Central Uruguay	2 days July 2	273	6,535 - 3,279	..	..
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	2 days July 2	311	628 - 1,623	..	..
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	2 days July 2	185	173 + 1,308	..	..
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	2 days July 2	211	324 - 892	..	..
Midland Uruguay	11 mths May 31	319	14,255 - 7,324	191,583	32,650
North-West Urug.	11 mths May 31	113	5,319 - 1,397	66,304	8,765
Uruguay North	11 mths May 31	31	1,489 - 417	22,012	4,143
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	26 weeks July 2	33	Ps 16,000 - 4,000	403,900	68,000
Bilbao	6 mths June 30	15	1,462 - 1,343	12,378	8,438
Bolivar	6 mths June 30	136	11,809 + 232	61,993	6,664
Colombian Nat. Rly.	5 mths May 31	86	19,680 - 660	95,760	9,224
Costa Rica	11 mths May 31	190	32,556 + 5,145	228,241	3,146
Dorado Extension	2 mths Jan. 31	70	16,000 + 4,000	..	..
Egyptian Delta	10 weeks June 10	5594	17,510 - 3,095	64,657	17,639
Gt. Southern of Spain	25 weeks June 10	104	Ps 38,385 - 52,401	1,351,397	803,630
International of Central America	5 mths May 31	239	80,732 + 2,815	383,493	8,291
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths Feb. 28	403	38,774 + 1,841	173,344	354
Mexican Railway	26 weeks June 30	403	(b) 8,570 - 5,050	50,110	21,720
Do	5 mths June 30	30	Net \$52,200 - ..	67,480	..
Nassau-Oscarshamn	4 mths Apr. 30	..	Net \$52,200 - ..	872,300	..
Ottoman Railway	4 mths Apr. 30	..	Net \$52,200 - ..	25,609	33,005
Smyma to Aidin	1 week June 25	379	19,516 - ..	..	..
Paraguay Central	2 days July 2	274	1,450 - 880	..	..
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	3 mths Feb. 28	..	Net \$2,311,374 + 414,841	16,380,765	5,299,660
Puerto Cabello, &c.	5 mths May 31	55	4,500 - 500	22,750	5,250
Salvador	2 days July 2	100	645 - 341	..	..
Santa Fe Province	1 mth May 31	..	129,376 - 32,282	..	..
French Railways	5 mths May 31	112	10,620 - 8,192	43,930	28,512
Samana & Santiago	5 mths May 31	112	(a) 14,156 + 4,108	73,015	11,775
Zafra and Huelva	5 mths May 31	112	(a) 14,156 + 4,108	73,015	11,775
CANADIAN.					
Canadian Northern	26 weeks June 30	9,750	\$1412,200 + 131,500	30,381,870	3,770,377
Canadian Pacific	26 weeks June 30	13,589	\$4387,000 - 675,000	83,453,000	8,605,000
Grand Trunk	26 weeks June 30	3,616	\$445,662 - 13,305	7,390,155	511,194

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange, + 10 days.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	10 mths Apr. 30	Gross	\$107,534	- 20,725	1,705,549	+ 501,439
Canadian Ntn*	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$4,742,200	- 121,300	25,775,000	+ 3,528,177
Canadian Pac*	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$13,892,000	- 2,568,000	69,594,000	+ 5,983,000
Grand Trunk	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$3,294,000	+ 96,000	9,846,000	+ 1,049,000
Grand Trunk	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$1,278,700	+ 95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,200
Temiscouata	1 mth May 31	Gross	\$122,900	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500
White Pass & Yukon	12 mths Dec. 31	Gross	\$23,716	..	..	..

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth Apr. 30	810	102,534	+ 12,411	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	10 mths Apr. 30	277	11,221	+ 257	113,359
New Cape Central	22 weeks June 4	205	2,157	+ 295	58,870
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth Apr. 30	1,397	149,045	+ 22,910	..
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth July 31	..	11,529	..	..
Shire Highlands	..	..	..	..	..
Nyassaland	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	- 450	+ 1,45

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
Atchafalaya Topeka	3 mths Mar. 31	15,145,264	- 889,917	44,405,003
Baltimore and Ohio	4 mths Apr. 30	15,933,279	+ 726,581	64,192,189
Chicago and Milwaukee	4 mths Apr. 30	10,621,047	- 1,202,828	41,356,630
New York Central	4 mths Apr. 30	25,883,001	+ 549,159	103,093,997
Pennsylvania	4 mths Apr. 30	39,948,392	+ 5,335,160	164,545,307
Southern Pacific	4 mths Apr. 30	21,149,944	+ 4,542,814	85,588,919

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.	Total Receipts.
Anglo-Argentine	26 weeks June 30	329	\$69,648	- 5,217	2,075,759
Burnley Corporation	1 week July 2	12	\$3,101	- 478	..
Calcutta Tramways	26 weeks June 25	354	Rs 94,070	- 2,066	..
Chatham & District	25 weeks June 23	15	\$1,519	- 315	40,352
Egyptian Markets	25 weeks June 24	..	\$1,837	- 813	54,031
Glasgow Corporation	..	..	..	..	..
Tramways	..	..	..	..	..
Isle of Thanet	5 weeks July 2	99	\$50,224	- 5,260	230,588
Lancashire United	39 weeks June 29	..	\$1,785	- 23	23,563
Liverpool Corporation	26 weeks June 28	39	\$3,201	- 810	89,188
L.C.C. Tramways	26 weeks July 2	124	\$11,594	- 2,828	727,569
L.C.C. Tramways	14 weeks June 6	144	\$107,655	- 18,665	1,395,768
Perambuco Elect. (2 wks)	26 weeks June 30	..	Rs 46,115	- 196	440,169
Pernambuco Trams	25 weeks July 3	..	\$2,742	- 3,300	103,405
Singapore Electric	10 weeks May 21	..	\$11,519	- 11,538	259,153

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Alabama Power..	1 mth	June 30	{ Gross Net	\$259,059 \$130,812	+ 88,481 - 22,750	..	..
Barcelona Trac. repts. in psta.	5 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	2,862,358 1,750,158	+ 214,766 + 231,909	15,188,278	+ 2,907,691
Brazilian Trac. repts. in mil.	5 mths	31	{ Gross Net	14,462,000 7,862,000	+ 3,477,000 + 1,600,000	65,942,000	+ 15,702,000
Brisbane Electric	5 mths	31	..	\$47,910	+ 1,360	231,445	+ 8,141
Brit. Columbia Electric, &c. .	11 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$774,523 \$172,937	+ 54,519 + 439	8,753,164	+ 726,241
Buenos Ayres La Croze Trams ..	11 mths	31	51½	\$58,492	+ 3,922	629,444	+ 67,765
Burmah Electric Trwys. & Light.	10 mths	31	..	R48,353	+ 1,570	..	+ 58,142
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	31	{ Gross Net	\$33,771 \$8,172	..	..	..
Canadian -Wstrn. Natural Gas ..	8 mths	May 31	Gross	\$60,510	- 2,543	666,829	- 153,021
Carthage and Herrerias Trms.	6 mths	June 30	12	11,410	- 4,152	14,283	- 14,321
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	May 31	Gross	\$18,000	+ 500	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth	Mar. 31	{ Gross Net	\$3,030 \$1,208	..	..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$1,198,110 \$1,159,571	- 21,220 - 1,000,301	21,235,767	- 186,041
Cordoba Light, &c.	2 mths	31	..	\$23,311	- 2,978	45,619	- 15,594
Cuba Railroad ..	7 mths	Jan. 31	{ Gross Net	\$1,606,395 \$568,028	+ 448,281 + 79,092	8,497,481	+ 1,017,241
Eleo. Sup. of Vict.	4 weeks	Apr. 30	22	\$55,120	+ 187	..	2,258,391
Havana Elec. R.L.	4 mths	30	{ Gross Net	\$1,062,636 \$478,312	+ 96,902 + 36,185	4,241,613	+ 600,533
International Light & Power	11 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$22,639 \$8,531	+ 669 - 404	233,595	+ 19,061
Kalgoolie Elec. Tramways ..	3 mths	Mar. 31	20½	\$2,485	..	5,219	..
Keystone Tele. ..	6 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$145,171 \$47,747	+ 818 - 3,760	723,397	+ 5,570
La Guaira Harbr. La Plata Electric	1 mth	June 30	..	\$7,650	- 2,493	213,771	- 42,791
Lima Light, Pwr and Tramwys.	6 mths	30	..	\$5,186	- 292	27,891	- 5,251
Lisbon Electric..	3 mths	Mar. 31	{ Gross Net	\$63,966 \$21,467	+ 3,783 - 2,808	188,269	+ 13,309
Manila Electric Railroad, &c. }	5 mths	May 31	Gross	276,225	- 5,600	67,423	7,151
Miss'p' Riv. Pwr.	1 mth	June 30	{ Gross Net	\$293,873 \$114,125	+ 32,070 + 15,914	1,499,564	+ 164,321
Para Electric	6 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$192,146 \$150,983	+ 9,557 + 1,403	840,862	+ 23,841
Rangoon Electric	4 mths	Apr. 30	{ Gross Net	\$24,755 \$10,251	- 1,076 - 1,239	144,415	- 1,711
Shanghai Electric	5 mths	Feb. 28	25	\$280,566 \$11,716	+ 34,566 + 14,716	1,132,066	+ 169,641
Toronto Rly., &c.	5 mths	May 31	Max.	\$120,718 \$166,090	+ 5,718 + 9,490	519,386	+ 66,401
United Electric T. of Montevideo.	8 mths	June 30	Gross	\$1,271,306 \$364,093	+ 64,376 - 28,381	791,829	+ 433,971
Utah Securities..	1 mth	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$242,960 \$569,568	+ 2,971 + 50,563	376,416	+ 29,121
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.,	Quarter	Mar. 31	Net	\$300,057 \$172,390	..	..	..
Winnipeg Electric	5 mths	May 31	{ Gross Net	\$433,836 \$126,818	+ 23,094 + 15,747	2,357,776	+ 120,732

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.
					Prefee.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
		£	£	£	Amount	Amount	%			%
Banks.										
Bank of British West Africa	Mar. 31	30,377	139,803	170,180	..	80,000	8	40,000	50,180	125,147
Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce	Mar. 31	74,720	256,567	331,287	..	137,500	22½	120,000	73,787	124,918
National Bank of South Africa	Mar. 31	43,200	338,881	382,081	..	237,200	8	110,000	34,881	515,478
Breweries.										
Distillers Co.	May 15	100,526	415,393	515,919	11,431	290,494	10½	105,000	108,994	501,512
E. Robins and Son	April 30	6,494	6,587	13,081	1,645	3,150	7½	2,576	5,710	18,427
Hoare and Co.	April 18	3,079	112,702	115,781	..	55,000 Ptg. Crts. } 37,625 5 Ord. }		20,000	3,156	125,775 5½ Ord.
Financial, Land, &c.										
Australian Estates and Mortgage ..	Dec. 31	5,327	48,889	54,216	..	47,153	5	5,000	2,063	49,134
Trustees Corporation	May 31	47,880	67,827	115,707	16,538	25,725	7	22,500	50,944	61,345
Hotels and Restaurants.										
Belgravia Dairy	May 28	20,426	12,630	33,056	..	4,872	7½	110	28,074	8,622
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
Horseley Bridge and Engineering ..	Mar. 31	11,600	30,784	42,384	..	20,000	8½	10,000	12,384	..
William Cooke and Co.	Mar. 31	31,213	(1) 62,219	93,432	9,750	64,875	..	15,000	3,807	..
Wm. Cory and Son	Mar. 31	278,308	733,843	1,012,151	21,250	599,089	20	..	391,812	718,523
Nitrate.										
San Sebastian	Dec. 31	Dr 25,650	37,016	11,366	..	..	..	..	11,366	Dr 30,980
Rubber, &c.										
Bambrakelly	Mar. 31	5,226	2,942	8,168	..	4,000	5	..	4,168	10,142
Changkat Salak	Dec. 31	30,415	13,541	43,956	..	12,994	(20 Pfg. O. } 10 Dr Ord. }	10,500	20,462	25,437 (40 Pref 30 Def.
Henrietta	Dec. 31	3,243	Dr 3,031	212	..	..	..	..	212	23,197
North Hummook	Mar. 31	..	Dr 4,010	Dr 4,010	..	..	..	..	Dr 4,010	..
Peacock and Nilambo	Dec. 31	2,931	Dr 31,118	Dr 28,187	..	..	..	..	Dr 28,187	10,008
Sapong Rubber and Tobacco	Dec. 31	5,266	12,471	17,737	..	..	..	7,000	10,737	20,137
Shipping.										
Burns, Philp, and Co.	Mar. 31	9,886	167,095	176,981	..	125,000	10	45,000	6,981	239,623
Isles Steam Shipping	June 30	21,965	163,420	185,385	..	43,908	20½	130,000	11,477	..
Tea.										
Alliance Ceylon	Dec. 31	13,044	Dr 8,834	4,210	..	..	..	..	4,210	24,466
Imperial Ceylon	Dec. 31	9,625	Dr 26,428	Dr 16,803	..	..	..	..	Dr 16,803	12,038
Lunyu	Dec. 31	16,019	Dr 25,512	Dr 9,493	..	..	..	Dr 10,000	507	31,593
Tramways and Omnibus.										
Calcutta Tramways	Dec. 31	55,960	169,697	225,657	12,500	48,163	7½	122,403	42,591	148,443
Trust.										
Second Industrial	June 15	5,062	23,887	28,949	6,510	10,500	5	5,000	6,939	19,471
Waterworks.										
Buluwayo Waterworks	Dec. 31	1,901	4,812	6,713	..	..	..	4,337	2,376	4,962
Other Companies.										
Alex. Findlater and Co.	Feb. 28	10,519	2,117	12,636	1,155	385	5	500	10,596	3,201
Apollinaris and Johannis	Mar. 31	Dr 190,803	10,460	Dr 180,343	..	..	..	..	Dr 180,343	..
Asprey and Co.	Mar. 31	22,407	9,475	31,882	3,850	16,000	16	..	12,032	30,359
Brooke, Bond, and Co.	June 8	12,091	29,048	41,139	..	15,000	10	18,716	7,423	28,537
Cape Asbestos	Dec. 31	9,394	25,378	34,772	7,105	5,005	10	13,525	9,137	20,429
Crompton and Co.	Mar. 31	18,177	66,292	84,469	13,922	32,677	10	19,500	18,370	52,878
Edinburgh Evening News	May 31	22,677	11,148	33,825	5,000	6,000	6	..	22,825	16,726
General Electric	Mar. 31	175,668	788,150	963,818	229,344	211,198	10½	175,182	348,094	530,048
Liebig's Extract of Meat	Mar. 31	247,878	267,164	515,042	50,000	150,000	25½	59,228	255,814	287,803
Lovell and Christmas	June 18	83,896	73,882	157,778	19,950	45,500	10	5,000	87,328	92,130
National Match Factory of Venezuela	Aug. 31	33	Dr 2,254	Dr 2,287	..	..	..	..	Dr 2,287	5,558

† Tax free. (b) Three years.

£9 to £10, and Chinese horse beans £10 to £10 10s per ton ex store. Peas firmer, with a good demand. English Duns 60s to 67s. Maples 80s to 95s per 504 lbs. Australian blue 18s to 20s. Japanese marrowfat 32s to 33s ex store, Chinese white July-September sold 14s 3d c.i.f. per cwt. Offals firm. Middlings £11 to £11 10s. Plate Pollards ex ship £8 15s to £9 per ton. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 30s, and Egyptian 34s per 100 lbs. Oatmeal generally quiet, and prices unaltered on the week. Homeward freight markets generally quiet, but rates steady, as owners show no disposition to press tonnage. Montreal to U.K./Antwerp/Rotterdam prompt done at 5s 10½d one and 6s 1½d qr two cents discharging ports. Gulf to Rotterdam/Hamburg quoted 27½ cents per 100 lbs, while 8s qr was paid to West Italy prompt, and 7s 9d also 7s 7½d second half August. The River Plate section displayed a firmer tendency, especially for forward loading, and there is a strong inquiry for August tonnage. Drought conditions in Central Europe have occasioned an improved demand for feeding stuffs, which is reflected in the freight markets. Steamers were taken for heavy grain spot up-river loading at 45s, and August 42s 6d, while 48s 0d was established for linseed cargoes from Santa Fé to U.K./Continent July. North Pacific rates at 56s 3d ton U.K. India quiet. Bombay-Karachi 25s scale basis and 27s 6d on dead weight. Burma rice paid 37s 6d to Germany, while 50s is the nearest indicated for similar cargoes from Saigon, with Dalny wheat and/or beans 50s to 52s 6d U.K./Continent. Australia paid 63s 9d July-August steamer, and 50s quoted for sailing vessels, home. Danube grain in fair request, and 20s 9d paid prompt; 28s 3d to 27s 9d July to U.K./Continent. Other markets without new feature.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to July 2	Cwts. 37,613	Cwts. 25,723	Cwts. 98,584	Cwts. 43,101
42 weeks to July 2	12,099,231	10,731,831	12,783,193	9,516,486
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 89 10	s d 83 10	s d 73 4	s d 74 4
= per cwt	20 11½	19 6	17 1	18 0

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.						
June 25	10,913 7	3,642 7	3,999 6	89 1	41 0	38 11
July 2	8,776 2	2,709 0	4,470 4	89 10	41 11	38 8
1917	8,825 4	2,378 3	3,659 0	78 1	69 5	55 2
1918	10,057 3	3,732 0	1,239 3	74 4	61 7	46 10
1919	25,003 1	1,377 6	3,163 6	73 4	62 4	49 0
1920	6,585 2	828 1	2,571 0	83 10	95 4	65 0

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated July 7th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Resumption of work is proceeding slowly as blast furnace works have their coke supplies to produce before starting. It is expected that next week will see some furnaces in operation. Foundry pig-iron will be scarce for some time to come,

as the lower-grades of iron only can be produced until the furnaces get into regular working order. The current quotation of No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. is 135s per ton, and for East Coast mixed numbers hematite the price is 160s per ton, for home consumption. Manufactured iron and steel: Some of our steel works will be working on Monday next. Meanwhile, steel prices have been reduced to:—Steel ship plates, home, £15; steel ship angles, home, £14 10s; iron bars, home, £16; steel rails, home, £14 net. Iron ore: The market is still dead. Works have good stocks to start on and are not anxious about buying yet.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—One effect here of the settlement of the coal dispute is a marked increase in the number of inquiries for finished steel material of many kinds, and it is expected that a proportion of these will result in business. A few of the works which were closed for want of coal have restarted in part, and there will be a more general resumption next week. The majority of the steel makers, however, have no appreciable weight of orders on their books. So far as they are concerned, the depression is as acute as ever, nor are there any indications of a revival of demand for raw steel of the cheaper class. Everything points to a continuation of idle plants and part-time working so far as the large part of Sheffield's industries is concerned. The news that coal prices are to go up has produced a feeling of discouragement among the local optimists. Advancing local rates and increased insurance charges also mean an addition to production costs, which must tell against the cheapening of prices, which is an indispensable condition to the restoration of normal trade. A few Russian orders have been booked on suitable terms as regards payment. There is a fair demand for steel forgings, castings, files, saws, edgetools and farm tools. Future prices of steel are under consideration. Crucible steel, and tool steel in particular, remains stagnant, the overseas demand being quite negligible. Work at most pits was resumed on Monday, but outputs have been small so far, and it is not expected that they will be normal for some weeks. Collieries are congested with orders. The coke trade is likely to be quiet for the present, as it is unlikely that many iron furnaces will be put into blast for some time to come. Some collieries are advising increased prices of coal.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The settlement of the coal trade dispute has this week imparted a rather better tone to iron and steel connections, has led to more buying of material here and there, and the expression of more cheerful hopes as to the future. At the same time, there is no getting over the fact that there is a spirit of hesitancy abroad as to entrance on commitments running into forward periods. For it is feared that the spirit of unrest in the labour world has not been quite laid—a condition that makes for caution if not restriction in business. Then, while satisfaction obtains at the production of coal having been revived, dissatisfaction is expressed at the course which prices have already taken, and threaten to follow. As a body, consumers maintain that there can be no appreciable and sustained revival in trade unless quotations for fuel are sensibly reduced, meaning to a point substantially under what ruled prior to the strike. Instead, this week Scotch coal-owners have issued circulars fixing their prices at from 7s 6d to 15s a ton over their pre-strike charges. At the new level—at the old (March) one as well—steel, iron, ship, and engineering firms advise that they cannot pull along; hence the difficulty in the current position that is cropping up. In all the leading industrial relations coal appears to be the one block to a partial, at least, trade rally, and those industrially concerned are resolved on once more closing down rather than face the demands made upon them. This is a most unhappy conjuncture—just when there was some promise of an improvement. It was on the cards that several structural concerns had arranged to keep machinery running full throughout the coming holidays—from the middle to the end of the month; that two or three steel works in the middle ward of Lanarkshire were about to restart their rolling-mills, and that generally the recent stagnation was to be broken-in upon. Now the whole prospect seems likely to remain as it was, and is—filled up with idleness. Steelmakers have just booked orders for several thousand tons of ship plates; a good inquiry exists for sectional steel, steel tubes, and for wire ropes (which is ahead of the output), for galvanised sheets, and all kinds of locomotive-building material. Scotch pig-iron makers continue to experience an eager demand for foundry sorts, of which there is only a small tonnage in sight, and none being produced. For No. 1 £8 15s f.o.t. at the works is named, and £8 10s for No. 3. Scotch hematite sluggish at £9 a ton. Large quantities of basic steel are being offered from Belgium and Germany round about (and under) £6 a ton. This iron is going, it seems, into ship plates, and is being mixed with Scotch for special qualities and purposes. Reverting to the coal position, it may be mentioned that at a great many collieries no start has yet been made, because of the bad state of the roads, floodings, and accumulations of gas, &c. To-day house prices are fully 50s at the pit-head; splint, 60s; dross, 50s.

THE COTTON TRADE.

MANCHESTER, July 7.

The market has continued to present a more active appearance. Operations have been somewhat irregular, and in some quarters it is asserted that the recent improvement in the turnover is being exaggerated. The fact remains, however, that certain leading shippers of cloth to India continue to purchase speculatively on a



THE CHATWOOD SAFE

SINCE 1858.



THE NIGHT WATCHMAN.

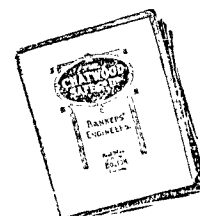
IN olden times the aristocracy, the wealthy traders and others possessing large quantities of cash, jewellery, or negotiable securities, found the sound of the night watchman's step and his cheery "all's well" very welcome during the small hours; for in those days

there was no CHATWOOD SAFE, and owners of treasure often slept uneasy in their beds—robberies, frequently accompanied by violence, being of common occurrence.

Compare these conditions with those prevailing to-day: The Banker or Merchant who entrusts his valuables to THE CHATWOOD SAFE may leave his premises unguarded, in the contented confidence that whether Fire, collapse of his building, or a desperate attack by scientific Burglars takes place in his absence, this triumph of steel and ingenuity affords him the highest degree of security against every risk that it is possible to obtain.

This Book is Free—

Send to-day for a complimentary copy of The Chatwood Safe Book. Over 40 pages, profusely illustrated, containing fullest particulars. Gratis upon request.



THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED
BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: BOLTON.
Branches: LONDON, MANCHESTER, GLASGOW
55 Gracechurch St., E.C. Royal Exchange, 12 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

free scale. Makers of light fabrics, chiefly in Blackburn and districts, have now decidedly more work to go on with. Operations for China have been restricted, although bids are becoming more numerous. Quite a healthy turnover has taken place for several minor outlets. Prices tend to stiffen, as manufacturers when they have sold refuse to accept further contracts at old rates. Business has been on healthier lines in American and Egyptian yarns, and spinners have obtained support as a result of further buying in descriptions suitable for India.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, July 7, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, June 30.	Price, June 23.	Price, June 16.	Price, June 9.	Price, June 2.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8-12	7-85	7-66	8-30	8-38	8-06
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16-00	15-50	15-50	16-00	16-00	16-00
— Egyptian .. per lb	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 40's twist .. per lb	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	31	31	31	31	31	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0	32 0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31 6	30 6	30 6	31 0	32 0	32 0
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18 9	18 6	18 6	18 6	19 0	19 0
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 16, 8 1/2 lbs	16 9	16 6	16 6	16 6	16 6	16 6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, July 7, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8-12	8-27	21-60	22-77	19-00	8-01
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16-00	62-00	27-09	29-40	30-60	11-52
— Egyptian .. per lb	17 1/2	54	41 1/2	50	24 1/2	12 1/2
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	16 1/2	50	40	49 1/2	24	12 1/2
— 40's twist .. per lb	16 1/2	50	40	49 1/2	24	12 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	31	96	55 1/2	62 1/2	43 1/2	21
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32 0	83 6	57 0	62 0	31 3	18 9
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31 6	82 6	56 6	60 0	31 0	16 10
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18 9	14 0	14 0	14 0	17 10	14 1/2
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 16, 8 1/2 lbs	16 9	42 6	30 0	30 9	16 1/2	9 1

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—July 1, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island .. per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto ..	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American ..	Or	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	O	L	M	GM	GM
Brazilian.	Mid	M	F	G	F	Gd.	Fr.	Gd.	Fr.	Gd.	Fr.	Gd.
Pernambuco, &c.	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Paraiba ..	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Maceio ..	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Mossoro, &c.	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Ceara ..	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Maranhão ..	5-20	7-70	10-20	..	..	..	21-61	29-11	..	19-14	22-14	..
Brown ..	..	8-50	10-00	12-50	14-50	..	nm	55-50	..	20-29	26-26	..
Upper ..	..	8-50	9-50	11-50	12-50	..	nm	42-00	..	18-96	25-17	..
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	25-00	28-00	31-00	33-00	..	85-00	95-00	..	nm	..	..
Peruvian—Rough ..	..	..	9-50	11-00	12-00	..	..	47-00	..	..	..	..
Ditto Mod. Rough ..	..	6-50	8-50	10-00	..	..	34-50	42-00	..	21-50	25-50	..
Ditto Smooth ..	5-70	8-70	9-45	9-95	10-95	34-11	37-11	42-51	22-64	23-64	25-14	..
Ditto Sea Island ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	23-00	27-50	..
African, East, &c.	4-25	5-25	7-25	8-25	10-25	31-50	34-50	48-50	23-50	23-50	24-70	..
East Indian.	G	F	for	Gd.	F	G	F	for	Gd.	F	G	F
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	..	7-55	7-80	8-05	..	..	..	20-85	..	..	18-55	..
— Broach ..	6-55	6-80	7-05	7-30	7-55	18-35	18-85	19-85	17-05	17-30	17-80	..
M. Ginned Bhownagar ..	4-09	4-59	5-09	5-59	6-09	13-94	14-94	16-51	15-49	16-24	16-99	..
M. Ginned Comra, No. 1 ..	4-15	4-65	5-15	5-65	6-15	14-00	15-00	16-50	15-55	16-30	17-05	..
M. Ginned Khandesh ..	5-70	6-20	6-70	7-20	7-70	12-25	13-25	14-85	15-05	15-80	16-55	..
M. Ginned Comptah ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17-10	..	17-30	..	..
M. Ginned Bengal ..	3-15	3-65	4-15	4-65	5-15	8-25	9-00	10-25	..	..	..	..
M. Ginned Seinde ..	3-03	3-53	4-03	4-53	5-03	8-07	8-52	10-07	13-45	14-29	14-95	..
Tinnivelly ..	7-30	7-55	7-80	..	..	20-90	21-10	..	17-80	18-05	..	..
Madras, Western ..	5-95	6-20	6-45	6-70	..	17-35	17-85	..	17-05	17-30	..	..
Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	5-95	..	..	..	14-35	..	..	17-05	..	..	..
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	6-20	..	..	..	14-65	..	..	17-30	..	..	..

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Deposits
\$154,911,487



Total Assets
\$190,367,409

Merchants and Manufacturers desirous of opening up in Canada are offered complete and valuable information, including particulars of Water Power, Sites, Tariffs, etc. Saving Bank Department at London Office and throughout all Branches in Canada.

400 BRANCHES IN CANADA. COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE.

LONDON OFFICE: 7. B. DONNELLY, D.S.O., 53, CORNHILL.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says: Although there is no great activity in any department of the wool textile industry, there is certainly more doing than for many weeks past, and the tone, on the whole, is good. More machinery is being brought into operation as coal becomes available, and although mills are mainly working off arrears which accumulated during the enforced period of idleness, the increased consumption should ultimately have a good effect on the general position. Prices generally are steady, but most firms are again waiting for the London sales to reveal the strength or otherwise of the raw material market. A sale of colonial wool will be held at Hull to-morrow, and on Monday the auctions will be resumed in Coleman street Wool Exchange, the offerings for the series amounting to 170,000 bales. Some traders think that values will be easier, but everything depends on the nature of the Continental competition. In the meantime Bradford quotations for tops are mostly unchanged, and there is just a moderate amount of business passing, with warp 64's tops in the neighbourhood of 3s 4d per lb. Yarn business on home account is quiet, but rather more is being done in the export section, particularly with Germany in single and twofold crossbreds, while a fair amount is going through in mohair yarns. Prices are steady, though a certain amount of undercutting is still met with here and there. Heavy stocks of plain goods are being held by some firms, and low prices are being accepted in order to clear. The financial position remains acute, and meetings of creditors are of frequent occurrence. At the same time, there are signs of some improvement, especially in dress goods, and more interest is being shown in proofed union gabardines. A fair amount of business is also being booked for Japan in spring goods for October-November delivery.

COLONIAL WOOL.

Attention is being turned to Coleman street Wool Exchange, where another series of sales will begin on Monday. The previously announced arrangement that the auctions would continue three weeks is to be carried out, and 170,000 bales of wool will be catalogued. It is to be hoped that the trade will be able to absorb this quantity without values suffering a serious relapse. There are very few indeed who expect that last sales closing values will be fully maintained. The knowledge that the auctions will last three weeks will make many buyers go slow at the beginning, in the hope of picking up at lower prices. It is understood that both importers and the B.A.W.R.A. are prepared to meet the market, but that they will not sell any wool below the reserves fixed last April. It is most desirable that this policy should be strictly adhered to, for it is not the price of wool which is preventing trade revival, but the slowness of the demand for the fully manufactured article. If retailers had acted in line with manufacturers by reducing their prices to a similar extent, a larger volume of summer trade in textiles would have been done. There is reason for saying that wholesale and retail clothiers who have laid themselves out to meet the public purse by reducing their prices in harmony with present manufacturing costs, have done a good volume of trade.

There should be a very good offering of wool in London, and as far as can be ascertained both merinos and crossbreds will be well represented. Some surprise has been expressed at no German representatives being present at the recent Antwerp sale, but for all that the auctions went well, although slightly lower values were in evidence. The B.A.W.R.A. acted wisely in meeting the market, a policy which should be repeated at the forthcoming sales. Shearing becomes general in Australia this month, and it will be just as well for the association to get rid of all they can before the advent of another new clip.

Trade in consuming centres is somewhat better, and the manufacturing position generally presents a more hopeful appearance. The settlement of the coal strike has enabled many mills to start running again, and quite a number are running four full days per week, whilst in several cases full time (48 hours) will be worked for the next month or two. This certainly indicates a larger consumption, though in many cases longer hours have been introduced to catch up with arrears. This week a reduction in the wages of textile operatives comes into force. Carbonisers' charges are reduced as from July 1st, and a reduction in combing charges is also expected shortly. These, of course, all contribute to a modification of working charges—a very desirable end. It is understood that the reduction in combing charges will be much less than is considered desirable by the trade, and some concern is also felt respecting the price of coal. Fabulous prices have been paid during the recent weeks of scarcity, and it will be some little time before supplies become adequate to the demand. Meanwhile it is considered that fuel should become available at considerably more reasonable prices. Everybody is anxious to see a permanent in-

EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE.

You may be paying too much. You may be covering too little.

In the former case we may effect a very considerable saving on your Premiums under our system of Employers' Liability Insurance. Or it may be that your risk is one for which we can quote you special terms, or for which we can suggest precautions that may materially reduce your Insurance Premiums. We invite your inquiries. Write to the

EAGLE, STAR AND BRITISH DOMINIONS INSURANCE CO., LTD., Head Office: BRITISH DOMINIONS HOUSE, ROYAL EXCHANGE AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.3. Branches and Agents throughout the United Kingdom. ASSETS EXCEED £19,000,000.

crease in the number of hours worked in the mills, and providing this can be brought about there will be no difficulty in clearing the wool offered in London.

LONDON COLONIAL WOOL SALES (July (V) Series, 1921).

The following are the approximate quantities of B.A.W.R.A. wool to be offered in London during the "V" Series, commencing on July 11th:—Australian—Greasy merino combing, 38,500 bales; do lambs, 800; do carbonising, 1,700; do carbonising lambs, 200. Scoured merino combing, 4,000; do clothing, 4,000; do lambs, 200; do carbonising, 1,000. Greasy crossbred combing, 9,400; do lambs, 1,000; do carbonising lambs, 600. Scoured crossbred combing, 1,000; do clothing, 1,200; do lambs, 700; do carbonising, 200. New Zealand—Greasy crossbred, 10,400; scoured do, 5,200; slipe do, 4,400; re-conditioned wool "R.M.D.," 500—85,000 bales. In addition to the above 85,000 bales of privately-owned wool will be offered during the series, say, 36,000 bales Australian, 39,000 bales New Zealand, 2,000 bales Cape, and 8,000 bales Punta Arenas.

BELFAST LINEN TRADE.

Flax.—In consequence of the small quantities of flax offered in the local markets, prices were well maintained this week. The improved demand for yarns may cause prices to go higher, as farmers are not disposed to offer their flax for sale at present prices. On the Continent there is no change to report, as very little flax is being marketed. There will be supplies of fresh retted flaxes in the course of a few weeks, which will increase the quantity of flax offered for sale, and may improve selection.

Yarns.—A better feeling is quite observable in the trade. Orders are becoming more numerous, and in some cases for fair quantities. The last monthly returns show stocks somewhat reduced, whilst yarns invoiced and delivered are considerably in excess of production.

Weavers.—Improvement continues. More business has been done, and the tone is much better. The drastic curtailment in production must sooner or later make itself felt in healthier conditions. Factories generally are closing down for the whole of next week, and in some cases in addition for the week following.

Merchants.—There are more enquiries for all classes of goods from the export markets, and while the volume of business actually placed is small, there is a distinctly better feeling. The home trade is quiet, and little can be expected till after the August holidays, and the amount of trade to be done will depend largely on the success of the midsummer sales.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Rather more business has been done in linseed oil, though demand is intermittent. There has on balance been an advance of about 20s per ton, and the market appears to have a firm undertone, with prices still in buyers' favour. More interest has been evinced in forward positions, the last four months of the year having a slight premium of 10s over spot and near oil. Cotton oils have advanced strongly on scarcity of crude, which is about 40s dearer on the week, with refined 40s to 50s advance. Comparatively little cotton oil is being produced now, supplies of seed being only moderate, and the cake residue more or less a drug in the market. A steady trade is reported in soya bean oil at about unchanged prices. Rape oil is, however, quiet, and quotations purely nominal. Some large contracts for palm kernel oil have been placed with Hull crushers. A fair trade has been done in ground-nut oil at advancing rates. On the whole, however, while the oil market is steady and values rather higher, there is no great amount of activity. The outlook for the immediate future depends to a certain extent upon the speed with which industrial equilibrium is restored.

Plate linseed, which experienced a setback last week, when as low as £18 was accepted for seed on passage, has made a good recovery, and at Hull up to £19 has been freely paid for La Plata about being shipped, this figure about representing current values of spot and forward. Egyptian cottonseed has again been a firm market, with more inquiry and some business done at slightly more money. Bombay cotton is, if anything, inclined lower. After a period of idleness, some business has been done from Hull in Manchurian soya beans at £13 to £13 5s for July-August loading, and for Brazilian castor seed £13 10s has been paid for July.

The shipments of linseed from the Argentine from January 1st to the end of June are returned at 613,900 tons, against 590,400 tons a year ago, and of Indian linseed 23,275 tons. The shipments to the U.K. round 252,000 tons, to the Continent 275,000 tons, and to the United States 113,000 tons.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Market hides were again firmer in Bermondsey on Thursday, best ox making from 6½d to 9½d per lb, an advance of ½d to ¾d on last prices. Cows were steady, one class dropping an ½d. Calf showed little alteration, light being a shade weaker. Lambs sold from 1s 3d to 5s 2d. Supplies coming to markets are small, and the demand is keen for best grades, as tanners are now working in more hides in view of the improved outlook. Trade in imported hides is moderate, sales of Leibig Colons being reported at 10½ c.i.f. Liverpool. Contrary to conditions here, the American market is cabled as nominal, with best heavy packers now offered at 13 cents, and Bogota drys at 12 cents.

Trade in sole leather remains steady, although business is not evenly distributed. Tanners are very firm on prices, especially as they know stocks in warehouses of factors and merchants are low. Consumers are, however, very conservative, and buy still for immediate needs only. Best pinned bellies are now scarce, and prices are advancing as the demand is good. Chrome upper leathers are selling fairly well, and prices are firm to an advance. Semi-chrome is not much wanted in view of the supply of real chrome, and dressers are hard put to find work for their limited number of hands. Chrome sides are dearer, and as high as 1s 4d per foot is now being asked. Brown glacé is in short supply, but little coming in from overseas.

Shoe manufacturers are a shade busier, but orders are trickling in for winter boots and shoes. Supplies of heavy boots in retailers' hands are very low, and good business is expected in this direction, once wages become circulated in the late disturbed districts.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, July 8.

Improved trading conditions were in force during the week in several directions, manufacturers interesting themselves more freely in raw materials, and on balance there was decidedly more confidence expressed.

SUGAR.—A very firm market resulted this week, particularly for refined at dearer prices. Tate's cubes sold, 60s 9d to 61s 9d; granulated 57s to 57s 6d; castor, 61s to 61s 6d; pieces, 47s to 51s. Lyle's granulated, 57s to 57s 3d; yellow crystals, 51s 6d. American granulated, spot, sold, 56s 9d to 57s, as to quality; ditto, July, steamer, 28s, c.f. and i. White Java, August-September, 19s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. White Brazilian, spot, sold, 53s; crystallised West India, from 45s to 49s 6d, as to sample. Dutch granulated, prompt, quoted 27s 6d to 28s, f.o.b. terms; and Czecho-Slovakian granulated, 27s 6d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Term market dearer, and December sold, 17s. Later the market reacted, and December sold, 15s 1½d, but recovered to 15s 10½d.

COFFEE.—Moderate quantities were offered in auction, and all the finer qualities received fair support at about steady rates, but the market for common remained extremely dull. Good bold Mysore, sold, 108s 6d; good bold, Vera Paz, 125s. Future delivery market quiet, but steady. March, sold, 42s.

COCOA.—Market steadier, with fair transactions at full values. Fine Grenada, 56s. Butter, 2s 1d per lb.

TEA.—Indian auctions this week totalled 53,500 packages. Good competition predominated for all good to fine liquoring parcels, but common and medium moved off slowly at irregular rates. 22,700 packages Ceylon offered, received but quiet attention, and rates tended against the seller, especially for the lower grades.

RICE.—Market firm, with a sustained demand for all descriptions, also broken. Rangoon, two stars, spot, sold, 18s 3d to 19s 3d; ditto, afloat and loading, 17s 3d to 18s 7½d, c.f. and i., Hamburg. Saigon, No. 1, afloat, to London, 16s to 18s. No. 1 garden Siam, due steamer, Hamburg, 16s 10½d to 18s 6d. Burma No. 1 a broken, June-July, sold, 14s 3d to 15s; Hamburg, No. 2 A, 13s 9d to 14s 6d. Siam C. 1, broken, June-July, 13s 6d to 14s 6d; and C. 3, 13s 3d to 14s, c.f. and i., Hamburg. Rangoon bran firm at 8s, ex ship, to arrive. Beans and peas very firm. Rangoon hand-picked beans, on spot, sold, 10s, and August-September, 11s 6d. Japanese peas, spot, sold, 34s 6d; crop 1920, July-August, 29s; and crop 1919, 28s.

SPICE.—Pepper market steady with a moderate amount of business effected both with regard to spot and forward. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 4½d; ditto July-September, steamer, 4½d; Aleppo, spot, sold, 4½d; Tellicherry, 4½d; white Singapore, spot, 9½d; Muntok

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

ditto, 93d; ditto July-September, steamer, 93d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold, 83d to 9d, as to quality; pimento, spot, done 24d; flake tapioca, fair quality, spot, changed hands at 14d all per lb. Fair Penang seed pearl, spot, sold, 21s; ditto July-September, 18s 3d; small sago, spot, 27s; sago flour, June-August, 14s 3d. Desiccated coconut, fine and medium cuts, spot, sold, 55s; halves, July-August, 50s.

FRUIT.—A moderate demand prevailed for currants, and Pyrgos sold, 50s. Sulphur quoted, 65s to 68s; Vostizza, 89s to 90s. Valencia raisins and sultanas steady, quiet. Dates steady, and Siar, spot, sold, 15s 6d.

JUTE steadily hardened this week on stiff advices to hand by cable from Calcutta and sustained buying orders chiefly on continental account. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, 22s to 23s; lightning assortment, ditto, 22s to 23s; ditto, spot, Dundee, 22s to 23s; ditto, subs, June-July, steamer, 16s; native firsts, subs, ditto, 22s 5s; heart, subs, ditto, at 15s to 16s. Hessians and twills steadily held, but only a quiet demand prevailed during the greater part of the week.

HEMP.—In poor support, but prices about steady, as sellers were not unduly pressing. J grade, July-September, sellers, 36s 10s; K ditto, 33s 10s; L, 33s, and M, 29s. New Zealand quite neglected. Fair quality, July-September, sellers, 33s. East India quiet. No. 2, Benares, to arrive, quoted 17s.

SHELLAC.—Market generally firm, and T.N., spot, sold, 320s; August, 265s; October, 230s to 240s, and 220s.

COPRA.—Market, after being firmer, assumed a quieter tone. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, Rotterdam and Hamburg, sold, 29s 10s to 30s, and later at 29s 15s. Ceylon, July-September, London, sellers, 31s 10s. Palm kernels dearer, and July-September, sold, 21s 2s 6d, with August-October, 21s 5s.

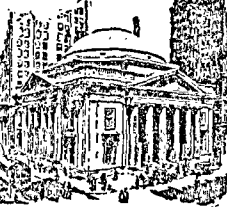
RUBBER.—Market commenced the week firmly, but later developed some irregularity on easier American advices. Standard crepe, spot, sold 83d; August-September, 9d; October-December, 9d to 93d, and 93d; January-March, 10d to 103d. Sheet, spot, sold, 73d to 78d, and 73d; August-September, 8d. Fine hard Para, spot, 103d.

OILS.—Linseed firm. Spot, net, naked, 35s 6d; September-December, 34s 9d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 52s; refined, 60s. Cotton firm. Crude Egyptian, 38s 6d; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 46s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 92s; and shipment, 66s. Coconut firm. Ceylon, spot, 55s; July-August, 48s 6d; Cochin, ditto, 54s. Soyabean firm. Oriental, cases, July-August, 33s; barrels, ditto, 36s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 22s to 24s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 43s; deodorised, barrels, 55s. Turpentine nominal. American, spot, 77s; Rosin quiet. American, grade B, 15s 6d; F, 16s; G, 16s; K, 17s 6d; M, 17s 6d; WW, 24s; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 93d; and water-white, 1s 103d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market irregular and firmer, with fair dealings. Calcutta, July-August, 21s, sellers; Bombay, 21s 10s. Plate, spot, Hull, 19s 5s; afloat, sold, 19s 5s; June-July and July-August, sold, 18s 15s to 19s 5s and 19s; August-September, 19s to 19s 5s and 19s; September-October, 19s to 19s 5s and 19s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, June-July, 21s 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted 20s 15s. Brown Cawnpore, 19s 10s. Cottonseed irregular. Egyptian black, July, 11s 5s; and white, 11s. Bombay, June, Hull, nominally 7s 6d. Gingly firm. Chinese, June-July, Continent, 22s. Castor, Bombay, June-July, 16s 15s, and Brazilian, 13s 15s, Hull. Ground nuts, Coromandel, machine-dried, July-August, sold, 21s 10s; ordinary, 20s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., July-August, 22s 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin continued active and firmer until Tuesday last, cash fluctuating to 172 5s and three months' to 174 5s, the tendency being easier during the middle of the week on realisations, while these dates moved down to 169 15s and 171 10s respectively. A further decline was established at Thursday's market, dealings being on a liberal scale. Cash changed hands at 168 10s, middle of July 169 to 168 10s, and three months' at 171 10s to 170 5s—finally 170 10s. At Friday's session the market was quieter and prices slightly easier. Cash changed hands at 168 5s, early September 170 to 169 10s, and three months' at 170 10s to 171, while since done at 170 10s. English ingots, 168 to 169. Copper: The standard market manifested a steady tone at the week's commence-

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.
Correspondence invited.
Chartered 1836.
Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.
Member of Federal Reserve System.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.
The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS.		INDIA RUBBER.		PROVISIONS.		SPICES.	
COCOA—duty 44d p. lb.	s d	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt.	s d	Para, fine, hard, spot	s d	Butter—per cwt.	s d	Pepper, per lb.	s d
Trinidad, per cwt.	55 0 0	Cape, good to fine, 40	15 0	Plantation crepe	0 82 0	Irish creamery	190 0 2 5	Singapore, fair white	0 9 0 9 1
Granada	52 0 0	Balm of Peru, per lb.	8 6			Do factory	160 0 1 5	Black Singapore	0 4 0 4 1
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 0	Capivi	2 0 2 6	INDIGO—per lb.		Australian	172 0 1 2	White Siam	0 9 0 0 0
Guayaquil	58 0 0	Camphor		Bengal, good red vio-	9 0 11 0	Argentine	150 0 1 7 4	Pimento	0 2 0 2 8
Bahia, finest	56 0 0	Japan, refined	3 6 0 0	let to fine	7 6 8 6	Dutch	156 0 2 0 5	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 3 0 0 0
COFFEE—42 per cwt.		Cardamom, Ceylon	1 5 0 0	Low to good ord.	5 0 0 7 0	New Zealand	194 0 2 0 0	Do 2nd	1 1 0 0 0
E. India fine ord. g. r. d.	70 0 112 0	Cantharides	per lb 0 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 0 6 0	Danish	203 0 2 1 4	Do 3rd	1 0 0 0 0
Do good to fine	110 0 135 0	Castor-oil	cwt 85 0 85 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 0 4 0	Bacon, spot—Irish	217 0 0 0	Do 4th	0 9 0 0 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	70 0 115 0	Gum Benjun, Sum.	7 10 0 11 10 0	Kurpah, good to fine	6 7 6 6	Danish	264 0 3 0 0	Chips	0 3 0 0 0
Good to fine	120 0 145 0	Olibanum, drops	0 0 0 0	Low to mid	3 6 5 6	Canadian	173 0 1 8 5	Cassia lignea	35 0 0 0
Central American, g. d.		Ipecacuanha	9 0 10 0	HEMP—per ton	2 5 0 0	Hansa—Irish	125 0 1 4 0	Clove—Zanzibar	0 9 0 0 0
ord. to mid	62 0 86 0	Mid. to fine	2 9 0 0	St. Petersburg, layer	nom	Canadian	nom	Penang	2 6 0 0 0
Colombian, ordinary	50 0 52 0	Oil, Castor	0 0 0 0	Manila, June-Aug.	37 0 0	American	178 0 1 8 2	Ginger—per cwt.	120 0 130 0
Do good to low mid	55 0 75 0	Aniseed	2 0 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	41 0 0	Lard—Irish bladders	78 0 83 0	Cochin, cut	120 0 130 0
Do mid. to fine	80 0 100 0	Peppermint, H. G. H.	45 0 0 0	JUTE.		American boxes, 50lb	84 0 84 0	Do small rough	30 0 32 6
CHEMICALS.		Rubbr, China, fr to fu	5 6 8 0	Native first marks,	25 5 0 0	Pork—per 8 lbs	9 0 9 8	Do washed	33 0 40 0
Acid, citric	per lb 2 5 2 6	DTY STUFFS, &c.		July-Aug. subs.	25 5 0 0	Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	2 4 5 4	Japan	6 0 0 0
Nitric	0 2 4 0 6	Gauze, China, per cwt	90 0 90 0	LEATHER—per lb.	s d	Scotch	8 12 0 0	Jamaica	125 0 140 0
Oxalic	0 10 1 0	Turner, Bengal	20 0 20 0	Sole Bonds 6/10 lb.	2 0 2 0	New Zealand	103 0 122 0	Mace	per lb 6 1 0 0
Tartaric, English	1 5 4 1 6	Madras, finger	12 6 15 0	Do do 10/12	1 10 2 3	Eng. Cheddars	155 0 163 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1 5
Foreign	1 5 4 1 6	Gambler, block	30 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 0 3 3	Cheshire	155 0 163 0	Small to medium	0 6 0 9
Alum lump, per ton	17 0 0 17 0 0	Gauze, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Do do 14/16	2 0 3 0	Dutch	84 0 145 0	Chillies—per cwt	90 0 130 0
Do ground	21 0 0 17 0 0	DTY WOODS.		Do do 17/18	2 0 2 10	Eggs, per 12	25 0 26 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	
Ammonia, carb. p. lb.	70 0 72 0	Brazil	19 0 0	Do do 18/20	2 0 2 10	English	22 6 24 0	Good mutton	36 0 0 0
Muriate, White, p. lb.	70 0 72 0	Fustic, Jamaica	19 0 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 9 1 6	FLOUR—250 lbs	67 0 0 0	Beef	38 0 0 0
Sulphate	25 0 26 0	Cuba	20 0 0	Bellies tm DS do	0 6 4 0	RICE—per cwt. c.l.f.	0 0 0 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	
Arsenic lump, per ton	95 0 100 0	Logwood, Campeachy	15 0 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 8 2 2	Rangoon No. 2	19 0 0 0	E. I. flake, fair, spot	0 15 0 2
Powder	per ton 42 0 45 0	Honduras	17 0 0	Dressing Hides	0 8 2 2	Broken 1a	15 3 0 0	Pearl	per cwt 20 0 20 6
Ashes, pot.	per cwt 150 0 158 0	Gauze, fine	15 0 0	Ro. Eng. Calif. 25/50lb	5 0 5 6	ROBIN—per ton	15 10 0 24 0 0	TEA—duty 10d, British,	
Pearl do	nom	Red Sanders	12 0 0	Australian Sides	0 10 1 5	French	14 0 0 17 0 0	foreign 1a per lb.	s d
Bleaching pwr. p. tn.	17 0 0 18 0 0	Sassafras Ceylon	23 0 0	METALS—B. Copper	s d	SAGO—Pearl, per cwt	26 0 27 0	Indian and Ceylon	s d
Borax, crystals	cwt 34 0 0 0	FLAX—spot—c.l.f.	2 5 0 0	Best selected	75 0 75 0	Sago flour	15 0 16 0	Pekoe	0 3 1 4 4
Do powder	35 0 0 0	Riga ZK	95 0 105 0	Sheets (strong)	112 0 0 0	Silk LAC—per cwt—s	d s	Broken Pekoe	0 5 1 9 1
33% powder	140 0 145 0	Pernau I.D.	90 0 100 0	Standard	72 0 72 0	Silk LAC—per cwt—s	d s	Orange Pekoe	0 6 1 7 1
Colmeal	per lb 5 3 5 6	Blancet U.A. Medium	105 0 110 0	Lead—Egg, Pig p. ton	24 0 0 0	Second, fair to fine	410 0 425 0	Broken Orange	0 6 2 4
Iodine, dry	c. per oz 1 0 1 1	FRUIT—New		Soft Foreign	23 0 0 23 0 6	TM Orange	32 0 0 0	Pekoe Souchow	0 31 0 6 1
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	20 0 0 21 0 0	Oranges, Val. selected	s d	Spice, G.O.H.	26 0 0 27 0 6	Garnet, Lac. Ac, free none offering	0 0 0 0	TOBACCO—	
Potash—		Do 4-cases 45	61 0 0	Tip—English India	0 162 0	Katra, P. & Co. Ltd.	9 0 16 0	Duty 2—10/4 per lb.	s d
Chlorate, net	0 4 0 7	Do Malaga cases	0 0 0 0	Do do bars	169 0 170 0	Blocky (TN)	237 6 0 0	Common to fine	s d
Prussiate	1 6 1 0	Do Naples boxes	0 0 0 0	Standard, cash	168 0 168 12 6	SILK—per lb.		Common to fine	s d
Do Foreign	0 4 0 7	Lemons, Naples, cases	23 0 40 0	OILS—Fish, per ton—E	s d	China—Blue Elephant	24 0 0 0	Strips	2 0 2 6
Sulphate	per ton 40 0 50 0	Do boxes	30 0 0	Seal, pale, 40	0 50 0	Tussah	10 0 12 0	Kentucky leaf	
Sul-Acetos	per lb 1 12 2 0	Do Sicilian boxes	31 0 0	Seed, Laked, per ton	35 10 0	Re-reced	0 0 0 0	Common to fine	1 0 1 6
Sul-Ammonia, p. cwt	75 0 83 0	Do cases 15	21 0 0	net, naked	35 10 0	Japan	29 0 33 0	Strips	0 3 1 9
Soda Bicarb, per ton	210 0 220 0	Do Malaga boxes	0 0 0 0	Bape, refined	60 0 0	Rain—Raw, fr. Milan	3 0 34 0	Common to fine	1 0 1 6
Crystals, exsiph. p. tn	27 0 0 8 0 0	HIDES—Wet-salted		Crude	53 0 6	SILK—M. o. P. per cwt		China	0 2 1 3
Alkali	81 0 0 9 5 0	Australian	per lb 5 0 7	Cotton-seed, crude	38 13 0 0	Mailla, bold	15 0 0 14 0 0	Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 7 0
Caustic	23 0 0 25 0 0	West Indian	0 5 0 7	Edible refined	46 0 53 0	Macassar	15 0 0 0 0 0	Seedleaf	1 6 4 6
Sugar of lead white	0 0 0 0 0 0	Cape	0 54 0 64	Cocoa-nut, crude	56 0 75 0	Sydney	9 10 0 14 0 0	Havana	1 6 6 6
Foreign white	255 0 63 0	Oporto	0 4 0 62	Refined	50 35 32 10	W. Australian	9 0 0 14 0 0	Greek	0 10 1 0
Sulphate Quinine		Dry & Dry-salted Cape	4 0 4 11	Palm	50 35 32 10	Bombay	5 10 0 6 10 0	East Indian	0 6 2 0
English Brands	nom	Madagascar	0 4 0 7	Petrol. Oil, per 8 lbs	1 9 1 0	BUGAR—per cwt duty	25 84 0	Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 0 0
Sulphate Copper, p. tn.	30 0 0 31 0 0	Buttaloese	0 6 0 12	Oil Cakes, Laked, Eng.	per ton 24 10 15 0 0	per cent. polarisation	s d	WOOL—Colonial, per lb—	
Zinc, cut	nom	Penang	0 6 0 10	Oil Seeds—Linseed		B. W. I. muscovado	37 0 45 0	Australian scoured	
Sulphur Flour	19 0 0 20 0 0	E. I.	0 8 0 9	La Plata, July-Aug.	219 0 0	Crystals, white	nom	Mexico, superior	2 6 3 6
Do Holl.	19 0 0 20 0 0	Market Hides, London	0 8 0 9	Calcutta, p. tn, July-Aug.	220 15 0	Castor	61 0 61 6	Merino greasy	1 2 2 6
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb	9 5 0	Best light do	0 82 0 91	Portland Cement—		Java, spot	45 0 50 0	Prime Crossbred	1 9 2 2 1
English	4 9 5 0	Do light do	0 7 0 7	Best, per ton delv.	87 6 93 0	Refined—London—			
COPRA—per ton c.l.f.	s d	2nd ox, heavy	0 7 0 7			Yellow Crystals	51 6 0 0		
Malabar, July-Sept.	nom	Do light	0 6 0 7			Cubes	61 9 0 0		
F.M.S. Singapore	31 5 0	Do 2nd cow	0 6 0 7			Crushed	nom		
Do Straits	21 11 0	Best calf	0 14 0 0			Granulated	57 0 57 6		
COCHINEAL—per lb	2 0 3 6	2nd do	0 14 0 0			Crystals, white	nom		

ment, cash being registered at 72, and three months' 72 10s to 72 5s, values moving in a slightly upward direction on Tuesday, while a little lower during the middle of the week, when cash changed hands at 72 5s to 72 2s 6d, and three months' 72 7s 6d to 72 5s. Values were a little dearer at Thursday's meeting. Cash, sold, at 72 7s 6d; August dates, 72 7s 6d to 72 12s 6d; and three months' at 72 5s to 72 10s. At Friday's session a steady tone prevailed, business being moderate. August dates sold at 72 5s to 72 2s 6d, and since at 72 10s, with three months' at 72 5s to 72 10s. Electros, 75 10s to 77 10s; best selected, 73 to 75. Lead steady, at 23 2s 6d to 23. Spelter slightly easier at 26 17s 6d to 27 7s 6d, as to position. Antimony, English regulus, 37 to 40. Aluminium, home trade and export, 150.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on July 6th as follows:—The tallow market was firm during the week, but less active. At to-day's auctions the better kinds of mutton advanced 6d, good mixed was unchanged, and inferior sorts declined 6d. The stock in London on June 30th, as returned by the wharves, amounted to 28,129 packages, showing a decrease during the month of 1,888 packages. At auction to-day 1,903 casks tallow were offered, and 1,158 were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 37s 3d; good to fair, 36s 3d to 35s 3d; dull to dark, 33s 9d to 29s 6d; hard,

35s 6d. Australian beef: Fine, 43s; good to fair, 38s to 34s 9d; dull to dark, 30s 3d to 29s 3d; sweet, 43s. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs., —; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, nominal. The market letter is unchanged. Town tallow, 29s per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, none; melted stuff, 17s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town: 29s, net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 27s; home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, 32s; fair to dull, 29s 6d to 26s. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 22s; melted stuff, 22s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—JULY 7.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	s d	Sheep—Downs (clipped)	s d
Shorthorns	10 6	Longwools	10 4 to 12 4
Devons	10 6	Crossbred	10 0 12 0
Norfolks	10 6	Scottish	12 0 15 0
Scottish	10 6	Lamb—Downs	12 0 15 0

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—JULY 7.

Epicures	s d	Per Cwt.	s d	Per Cwt.	s d
Kidneys	11 0	8 to 9 0	11 0	10 0 to 11 0	

SOUTH-NORWAY.

**FREDRIKSSTAD
PRIVATBANK,**

Fredriksstad.

Paid-up Capital
and Reserves:
Kr. 23,000,000.

Banking and Exchange
Business
of every description.

London Bankers:—Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited;
London County Westminster & Parr's Bank, Limited; London Joint
City & Midland Bank, Limited; Cox & Co.

**TERRITORY OF SOUTHERN
RHODESIA.**

SALISBURY MUNICIPAL LOAN.

ISSUE OF £100,000 4½ PER CENT. BONDS TO
BEARER OF £100 EACH.
The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited,
give notice that Bonds numbered:—
5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 225, 226, 227, 372, 583, 590,
597, 599, 684, 696 to 713 inclusive,
861 to 870 inclusive,
42 Bonds of £100 each = £4,200,
have been purchased for cancellation during the
year ended 30th June, 1921.

In addition to the above, Bonds numbered:—
938 to 947 inclusive,
183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191,
192, 584, 585, 586,
6 to 10 inclusive, 144 to 148 inclusive, 172,
173, 235, 236, 237, 340, 397, 398, 410 to 418
inclusive, 553 to 557 inclusive, 786 to 790
inclusive, 819, 820, 831, 832, 833,
65 Bonds of £100 each = £6,500,
have previously been purchased for cancellation.
Of the above-mentioned Bonds, numbers
183 to 192 inclusive,
10 Bonds of £100 each = £1,000,
are reported to have been lost in transmission to
South Africa. The public are cautioned against
receiving or negotiating the Bonds referred to.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

(With which are incorporated the Bank of Africa, Limited, Established 1879, the National Bank of the Orange River Colony, Limited, Established 1877, and the Natal Bank, Limited, Established 1854.)
 Bankers to the Union Government in the Transvaal, the Orange Free State and Natal, and to the Imperial Government.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£4,000,000	SUBSCRIBED AND PAID-UP CAPITAL	£2,965,000
RESERVE FUND	£1,300,000		

Head Office:—PRETORIA. LONDON OFFICES: Circus Place, London Wall, E.C.2.—18, St. Swithin's Lane, E.C.4 and 25, Cockspur Street, S.W.1. NEW YORK OFFICE: 44, Beaver Street, Wall Street District. BOMBAY OFFICE: Eruckshaw Buildings, Hornby Road. Also Branches at: ANTWERP (Belgium). JAMESTOWN (St. Helena). PORT LOUIS (Mauritius). ROTTERDAM: In Offices of Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging. AMSTERDAM: In Offices of Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging. Address: Boompjes, Rotterdam. Address: Rokin, Amsterdam.

FRANCE.—This Bank is affiliated with Messrs COX & COY. (FRANCE), LTD., with offices at Algiers, Amiens, Boulogne, Cannes, Cologne, Havre, Lyons, Marseilles, Mentone, Monte Carlo, Nice, Oren, Paris and Rouen. Agents in British West Africa, The Belgian Congo, Madagascar, and the principal Cities of the World.

Report of the Directors to be presented to Shareholders at the Ordinary General Meeting to be held at Pretoria on the 29th June, 1921.

The Directors beg to submit the Balance Sheet of the Bank for the year ended 31st March, 1921. After making full provision for bad and doubtful debts and applying £50,000 in reduction of Bank Premises Account, the net profits for the year are £382,081 10s 9d, inclusive of the balance of £43,200 1s 8d brought forward from 31st March, 1920. The Bank's investments stand at or under the present market prices.

They recommend that the profit be apportioned as follows:—

To Dividend of 8 per cent. (of which the Interim Dividend paid for the six months ended 30th September, 1920, absorbed £118,600)	£237,200 0 0
Reserve Fund (raising it to £1,300,000)	50,000 0 0
Pension Fund	60,000 0 0
Balance to be carried forward	34,881 10 9
	£382,081 10 9

BALANCE SHEET, 31st March, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
To Subscribed Capital	2,965,000 0 0	By Cash on Hand and with Bankers	7,407,496 2 0
296,500 Shares of £10 each (fully paid).		Remittances in Transit	2,545,431 16 1
Reserve Fund	1,250,000 0 0	Native Gold on hand and in Transit	232,585 9 4
Notes in Circulation	4,523,131 10 0	Money in London at Call and Short Notice against Securities	2,254,499 13 9
Deposits, Current and other Accounts	48,043,869 12 8		12,440,414 1 2
Drafts issued on Branches and Agents, and Acceptances outstanding at date	2,523,285 8 6	British and Colonial Government and other Securities (including Stock lodged with the Government of the Union of South Africa), at or under market prices at 31st March, 1921.	3,756,769 9 6
Rebates on Bills not yet due	73,248 1 7	Bills of Exchange, purchased and current at this date	8,982,332 2 4
Bills Receivable on Account of Customers	12,241,837 19 3	Bank Premises and other properties in South Africa	812,888 9 8
Profit and Loss Account:—		Bills Discounted, Loans, etc.	33,337,023 19 2
Balance undivided at 31st March, 1920	£43,200 1 8	Bank Furniture and Fittings, Stationery and Stamps	322,528 1 8
Net Profit year ended 31st March, 1921	338,881 9 1	Bills for Collection	12,241,837 19 3
	382,081 10 9	Loans guaranteed and secured (as per contra)	86,977 12 1
Less Interim Dividend paid 23rd November, 1920	118,600 0 0		
Contingent liability in respect of Loans guaranteed and secured	85,977 12 1		
	£71,975,771 14 10		£71,975,771 14 10

*Since increased to £1,300,000.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

To Retate on Bills not yet due		By Gross Profits (including Balance undivided at 31st March, 1920, p. £43,200 1s 8d, after deducting Interest due on Fixed Deposits, Income Tax, Duty on Note Circulation, other Government Taxes, Appropriation to Bank Premises, Furniture and Fittings, and Stationery, making provision for losses and contingencies, and depreciation in the value of Investment Securities	
Expenditure, including Rents, Rates, Salaries, Remuneration to Directors and Auditors, and all other expenses at Head Office and Branches	1,271,115 13 8		1,726,445 11 0
Balance Carried Forward	382,081 10 9		£1,726,445 11 0
	£1,726,445 11 0		

We hereby certify that all our requirements as Auditors have been complied with and that we have examined the above Balance Sheet and have found same correct according to the Head Office Books and the certified Returns received from the Branches and Agencies of the Bank. We have also examined certified Statements showing the Securities representing the Investments of the Bank, and find that they agree with the Balance Sheet. We are of opinion that the above is a full and fair Balance Sheet, properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs as shown by the said Books and Returns.

PRETORIA, 18th June, 1921.
 We have verified the Securities held by the London Offices of the Bank as at the 31st March, 1921, and certify that we found the same to be in accordance with the Bank's records.
 LONDON, 21st April, 1921.

ROBERT BAIKIE, Incorporated Accountant, } Auditors.
 DOUGALL, LANCE & WEBBER, Incorporated Accountants, }
 DELOITTE, PLENDER, GRIFFITHS & CO., }
 Chartered Accountants.

APPROPRIATION.

To Dividend of 8 per cent. (of which the interim Dividend paid for the 6 months ended 30th September, 1920, absorbed £118,600)		By Balance of Profit and Loss Account	
Reserve Fund (raising it to £1,300,000)	£37,200 0 0		382,081 10 9
Reserve Fund	50,000 0 0		
Pension Fund	60,000 0 0		
Balance to be Carried Forward	34,881 10 9		
	£382,081 10 9		£382,081 10 9

CRÉDIT SUISSE.

Established 1856.
 Capital and Reserves - - France 130,000,000
 Head Office: ZURICH, SWITZERLAND.

Basle, Bern, Frauenfeld, Geneva, Glaris, Kreuzlingen, Lausanne, Lugano, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, St. Gall.
 General Banking Business.

BANQUE FRANÇAISE POUR LE COMMERCE ET L'INDUSTRIE, 17, rue Scribe, PARIS.

Established 1901.
 Capital ... Fr. 100,000,000 fully paid
 Reserve Funds ... Fr. 17,300,000
 Deposits (31st July, 1920) Fr. 525,000,000

Transacts General Banking Business.

Correspondents in England:
 LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK, LTD.,
 Head Office and Branches.

For Conditions and Particulars application can be made to the London Representative, 7, Lothbury, E.C.2.

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

Established under Egyptian Law, June, 1898, with the exclusive right to issue Notes payable at sight to bearer.

Capital £3,000,000
 (In 900,000 Shares of £10 each, fully paid.)
 Reserve Fund £2,100,000

Governor—B. Hornsby, Esq., C.B.E.
 Head Office .. Cairo.
 London Committee:
 E. W. P. Foster, C.M.G.
 Sir Carl Meyer, Bart.
 Hon. Algernon Mills.
 Col. the Hon. Sidney Peel, D.S.O., M.C.

LONDON AGENCY:
 6 & 7 KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.
 Manager—J. T. Beatty-Pownall.
 Assistant Manager—A. F. Gillbee.

Accounts opened with traders and private persons. Circular Notes Issued.

Every kind of Banking business transacted.
 Offices in Egypt at Cairo (Head Office), Alexandria, Assiut, Assuan, Benha, Beni-Suef, Chibin-el-Kom, Damanhur, Fayoum, Guerga, Kenah, Luxor, Mansourah, Minieh, Mousky (Cairo), Port Said, Rod-el-Parag (Cairo), Sohag, Suez, Tantah, and Zaqazig; and in the Sudan at Khartoum, El-Obeid, Omdurman, Port Sudan, Suakin, Tokar, and Sub-Agency at Wad-Medani.

BANK OF JUGOSLAVIA Ltd.

Zagreb, Jugoslavia
 Subscribed Capital JK200,000,000
 Reserve 50,000,000
 NEW YORK AGENCY
 25 Broadway New York
 Cable Address "Jugobank"

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

Head Office—TORONTO.

Paid-up Capital.....\$15,000,000 (£3,082,192)
 Reserve Fund.....\$15,000,000 (£3,082,192)

Over 530 Branches throughout CANADA, and in NEWFOUNDLAND, the UNITED STATES, the WEST INDIES and MEXICO.

LONDON Office: 2 LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3.
 A general Banking Business conducted with all points in North America.

CHARLES CAMBIE, Manager.
 A. R. PHIPPS, Asst. Manager.

JULY 16, 1921.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:
 A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, JULY 16, 1921.

No. 4,064.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
 HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
 AND
 BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted.

BANGO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON. Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
 Esc. 24,000,000



Reserve Funds:
 Esc. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

32 offices in Portugal,
 23 " " East and West Africa.
 9 " " Brazil.
 5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.

New York Office—93, Liberty street.
 Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
 London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
 Capital, Issued ... " 312,000,000
 Reserve ... " 176,000,000
 Deposits ... " 4,390,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.
 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
 Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:
 BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
 BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
 BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

LONDON Office - 1, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.2

Manager: E. CONSOLO.
 Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
 Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	85	Company Meetings	105
Leading Articles—		Government Returns—	
New Hopes	87	Public Income and Expenditure	110
Half-year's Overseas Trade	88	Currency Notes Account ..	111
Industrial Profits	89	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	111
The Closing of E.P.D.	91		
Lancashire Cotton Trade ..	92		
Business Notes—		Bankers' Gazette—	
Currency Policy	93	Bank of England	111
Coal Output	93	Clearing Returns	111
Crop Prospects	93	Overseas Bank Returns ..	112
The Quarter's Shipbuilding ..	94	Loan and Discount Rates ..	113
Stock Exchange Settlements ..	94	Overseas Rates	113
The Position in Mexico	94	Rates of Exchange	114
Cotton Spinning Dividends ..	95	Bullion	114
English Sewing Cotton	95	Imports and Exports of Gold ..	114
Edward Lloyd	95	Gold and Silver Prices	115
Southern Pacific Report ..	95		
Transvaal Output for June ..	95	Company News—	
The Tanganyika Trio	96	Mining Output Statistics ..	104
Overseas Correspondence—		Dividend Announcements ..	116
France	96	Reports and Notices	116
Germany	98	Railway and Tramway	
Italy	99	Traffics	117
Sweden	100	Analysis of Balance-Sheets ..	118
Letters to the Editor—		Profit and Loss Accounts ..	119
Fixed Capital	100	Commercial Reports—	
The Currency Problem	101	Oil Outputs	104
The Causes and the Remedy of Depression	101	Corn Trade	118
Books and Publications—		Iron and Coal Trade	120
Reviews	102	Wool Trade	120
Books Received	102	Cotton Trade	121
Stock Exchange News—		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds ..	122
The Stock Markets	102	Hide and Leather Trades ..	122
New Issues	103	Portland Cement	122
Active Securities	104	Overseas Produce Markets ..	122
		Price Current	123

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £2 18s 0d.
 Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

A FURTHER creation of credit, as indicated by Thursday's Bank return, has evidently been responsible for the easy conditions which characterised the market this week. In the early days short loans were offered freely down to as low as 3 per cent.; on Thursday and yesterday there was a better demand. Early expectations of a reduction in Bank rate were modified as the week advanced, especially in view of the firm tendency of rates in America. The discount market was very quiet and easy in tone until Thursday, when there was a tendency for rates to harden on the announcement of no change in Bank rate. Yesterday the discount market was weak, and the quotation for three months' bills almost nominal. The result of the

Treasury Bill tenders, given elsewhere, was lower than had been expected.

	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	6%	6%	6%	6%	6½ (Jne. 23, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	4	4	4	4	4½ (Jne. 23, '21)
Discount / Call	4	4	4	4	4½ (Jne. 23, '21)
Houses / Notice	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½ (Jne. 23, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	4½	4½	4½	4½	5
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	5	5½	5½	5½	5

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return reflected heavy repayments by the market to the Bank, and a large addition to the Government overdraft. Other securities being £7,489,700 lower, while Government securities rose by £12,205,000. There was a slight addition to the gold stock, and a reduction of £1,152,700 in the circulation, so that the Reserve rose by £1,157,300. Deposits were thus £5,867,600 higher, Other being increased by £5,923,200, while £55,600 came off Public. The circulation of currency notes rose by £96,000 to £325,503,300, which includes £2,005,300 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is now £275,548,000, or £42,007,200 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the nine days ended July 9, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	31,589	Supply Services	15,610
Taken from Exchequer Balances ..	660	Interest on Debt	7,043
		Sundries	417
		Reduction of Debt	9,179
	32,249		32,249

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £9,179,686, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Public Departments Advances + 1,000		Treasury Bills	4,104
		Bank of England Advances ..	3,000
		National Savings Certificates ..	150
		Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	1,242
		Depreciation Fund	660
		Other Debt	1,000
		Sundries	224
	+ 1,000		10,180

Property and Income-tax, including Super-tax and Mineral Rights Duty, brought in £8,562,000, while Customs and Excise yielded £6,079,000 to revenue. Ordinary Receipts under Miscellaneous yielded £142,354, and Special Receipts £9,808,642. The floating debt was reduced by £6,560,000 to £1,367,411,000.

The Norwegian Bank rate was reduced ½ per cent. to 6½ per cent. on July 5, 1921. It had stood at 7 per cent. since June 25, 1920.

Business in the exchange market this week has again been active, with rather more excitement than for some time past. As was expected a week ago, New York fell away rapidly from the 3.71½ quoted on the 8th to 3.62½ on Monday, and although there was some recovery on the two following days to 3.65, it has relapsed again to 3.63. Many different reasons have been assigned for this movement, which is probably the result of the combination of several of these, such as, for instance, grain and other purchases on French and German account, with the underlying expectation of a considerable revival in demand for American raw materials on their present price level, and a consequent further depression in the value of sterling. The rate for futures has narrowed a little from ½ cent a week ago to ⅓ cent per month above spot. The franc has so far been little affected by the fall in sterling values, the Paris rate, in fact, having fallen from 46.60 on the 8th to 46.37½ on the 14th. Yesterday, however, a reaction set in, bringing up the rate again to 46.50. Contrary to expectation, the Brussels rate has not drawn nearer to Paris, and, indeed, at 47.60 yesterday shows a further widening compared with 47.37½ a week ago. Berlin, after being quoted at 279 on the 8th, rose on Monday to as high as 284½. This movement, however, was followed by a rapid fall to 270½ on Wednesday, on well-advertised reports that credits had been arranged by the Reichsbank in Holland, and the announcement of the

visit of Mr Lamont and other American business men to Berlin. It is clear that this reaction has been overdone, and yesterday's figure of 273 is still surprisingly low, in spite of reports that advances to Germany for grain purchases are now being discussed in New York. If Germany is to fulfil its reparation obligations, the pressure on the mark will surely be so heavy as to counteract factors such as these. Among other West European exchanges, Amsterdam, after rising from its quotation of 11.36½ a week ago, has remained stationary for three days at 11.40½, while Switzerland has moved irregularly against us from 22.10 to 22, and Madrid has fallen rapidly from 29 to 28.02. Italy, which on the 14th was about 77.38, rose above 80, but has now gone down again to about 79. Portugal at 8½d has remained fairly steady. After some irregularity, the three Scandinavian countries show a movement on the week well in our favour, while Helsingfors has recovered a little to 217½, as compared with 222½. In Central Europe the London (Auslands-kroner) quotation for Vienna has moved up on the week to 2,550. On the 12th the quotation for Inlandskrone was 2,815, as compared with an Auslands-kroner rate of 2,600, showing that the two rates are drawing still more closely together. Warsaw, although it was not able to maintain its recovery to 5,500 on the 14th, has been rather more steady at about 6,500. Prague, where a bank clerks' strike is stopping almost all business, is quoted in London very slightly better, at about 276. Budapest is about the same at 1,025. Belgrade has depreciated, in spite of harvest prospects, from 134½ to 138½, while Sofia, where there are various troubles, owing to agrarian legislation, the abolition of the moratorium and reparation payments has leapt up from 360 to about 500. Athens has remained relatively steady, while Constantinople has depreciated a little. Among the South American exchanges, Buenos Ayres, Rio, Montevideo, and Valparaiso have all moved somewhat against us. The rupee is slightly more expensive on more reassuring monsoon reports, and the yen has moved up again by about ⅓ to 2s 7½d. Silver this week has shown more strength than for some time past, the price on Thursday being up to 37½d spot. Such a price, however, is hardly justified by general conditions or outlook, the cause being rather a temporary stringency in China, resulting from the troubles occasioned by the recent troubles in banking circles.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO JULY 9, 1921.			
	£		£
Total spent	294,489,971	Raised by revenue ..	235,757,357
Dec. in balances	914,152	Net borrowings	57,818,462
Total	293,575,819	Total	293,575,819
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	July 9, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	28	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	16	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,948	1,948	1,948
National War Bonds ..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan ..	409	409	409	407	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	357	357	357	357	357	357	357	357	357
3½% Conversion Loan*	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Treasury Bills	15	77	957	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,121	1,121	1,121
Exchequer Bonds ..	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Natnl Savings Certs. ..	138	227	267	274	279	283	283	283	283
War Expend. Certs. ..	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Other Debt	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,121	1,121	1,121
American Loan	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances ..	204	455	243	205	206	155	150	150	150
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,756	7,755	7,755
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	15,921	17,481	18,079	17,876	17,832	17,644	17,804

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.					Movement 9 days ended July 9, '21.
Way and Means Advances	July 10, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	July 9, '21.	July 9, '21.	
Outstanding—					
Advances by Bank of England ..	39,500,000..	154,489,000..	114,074,000..	114,074,000..	3,000,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	172,491,000..	154,489,000..	114,074,000..	114,074,000..	+ 1,000,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,078,629,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,217,687,000..	1,217,687,000..	— 4,560,000
Total Floating Debt	1,290,620,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,367,411,000..	1,367,411,000..	— 6,560,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

JULY 10TH.—President Harding issues invitation to Disarmament Conference. Heat wave in England.

JULY 11TH.—Truce in Ireland. Premier makes statement in Commons on Anglo-Japanese Treaty and President Harding's proposal.

JULY 12TH.—Irish delegation arrives in London. Debate on Safeguarding of Industries Bill.

JULY 13TH.—Engineers ballot in favour of acceptance of employers' terms.

JULY 14TH.—Mr Lloyd George and Mr De Valera confer at Downing Street. Resignation of Dr Addison. Sir Alfred Mond makes statement on Housing Policy.

JULY 15TH.—Ulster Premier in London.

The stock markets this week have enjoyed rather better business than for some time past; hopes of Irish peace and of cheaper money, and the Washington disarmament conference proposal, having, as well as the improvement in the Labour outlook, been responsible for improved sentiment.

In the Lancashire cotton trade inquiry has again been fairly large. The demand from India remains healthy, and business for Egypt is better. In weaving districts more machinery has been restarted, and unemployment is being reduced. Recovery in the woollen industry hangs fire. Prices of the raw material have fallen, and buyers are mainly awaiting developments. Consumption is increasing, but most mills are merely working off arrears, and the amount of new business coming forward is small. In the iron and steel industry the approach to resumption of activity is slow. No general restarting of blast furnaces is expected just yet. In the Glasgow district holidays are in full swing. Partial resumption of work is reported in the Sheffield district, but business is not large. Vegetable oils remain a steady market, but business is on a modest scale. The shoe trade is improving.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

NEW HOPES.

FOR many months past general circumstances have been such that the pessimist has enjoyed himself to the full. It is refreshing, therefore, to find the optimist at last having an innings, and the present week, with a truce in Ireland, an Irish Peace Conference in Downing Street, and President Harding's invitation to an armament restriction conference at Washington, not to mention the resumption of normal railway services, has certainly given him a chance. Even the optimist, perhaps, will fear to predict that the Downing Street conference will compose the bitter quarrels which for centuries have rent Ireland in twain; and, with memories of the Hague still fresh, it is easy to remember how very long a step it is from the proposal of a conference on armament restriction to a mutual curtailment of unproductive expenditure, which might give budgets a chance of balancing, and relieve overburdened taxpayers. Nevertheless, the revival of hope, however distant, which this week has brought, is as welcome as refreshing rain after the long drought of statesmanship failure, which, progressively since the Paris Conference began, has withered up hopes of international stability and concord and financial sanity. An official statement issued on Sunday night in Washington gave the following information about the President's proposal:—"The President, in view of the far-reaching importance of the question of limitation of armaments, has approached with informal but definite inquiries the group of Powers heretofore known as the Principal Allied and Associated Powers—that is: Great Britain, France, Italy, and Japan—to ascertain whether it would be agreeable to them to take part in a conference

on this subject to be held in Washington at a time to be mutually agreed upon. If the proposal is found to be acceptable, formal invitations for such a conference will be issued. It is manifest that the question of limitation of armaments has a close relation to Pacific and Far-Eastern problems, and the President has suggested that the Powers especially interested in these problems should undertake in connection with this conference the consideration of all matters bearing upon their solution, with a view to reaching a common understanding with respect to principles and policies in the Far-East. This has been communicated to the Powers concerned, and China has also been invited to take part in the discussion relating to Far-Eastern problems." On Tuesday in the House of Commons the Prime Minister welcomed the President's "wise and courteous initiative," and, coming straight from a meeting of Empire Premiers, was able to accept on behalf of the British Empire. As Mr Lloyd George pointed out, this acceptance could not have been so "prompt, effective, and unanimous" but for the happy chance that the Imperial Conference was in session in London. France has been equally prompt in acceptance. In the course of his statement, Mr Lloyd George dealt at length with the Anglo-Japanese agreement, and made the important announcement that it is the desire of both countries "that the agreement shall be brought into complete harmony with the Covenant of the League of Nations, and that wherever the Covenant and the agreement are inconsistent, the terms of the Covenant shall prevail." Peace and concord are in the air this week, and the re-entrance of the United States into the arena of world politics provides the brightest hope that reason is once more dawning in international affairs. "We have been looking," said Mr Lloyd George, "to the United States for a lead." That lead has now come in practical and welcome fashion. If the Washington Conference, which, it appears, may assemble in October or November, does no more than produce understanding between the chief naval Powers of their policies in the Pacific, it will still have made an invaluable contribution towards the re-establishment of international confidence.

Few events could more effectively rub in, so far as this country is concerned, the urgent need for the retrenchment, which an international armament agreement would make possible, than the issue this week of a new Government loan, the features of which we discussed last week. And if sanity is reviving in the International sphere, we are not yet free from "Bedlamite" features at home. Next to the secure establishment of peace, the greatest need of the world is the freest possible interchange of commodities. Yet the Government's happy-go-lucky protectionist proposals, masquerading under the title of "The Safeguarding of Industries Bill," drag themselves painfully through the House of Commons under the guillotine. Tuesday night's debate produced incidents the humour of which will appeal to Free-traders. The Bill sets up a Committee with power to fix certain duties. Intolerable, some members complained, to deprive the House of Commons of its control over taxation. An amendment was moved that this Committee should be a Select Committee of the House of Commons, and it was left to a Unionist

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

member to point out that if the Committee were to be so composed "members' lives would be made perfectly hideous by lobbying from outside." This dilemma is a pretty illustration of the difficulties and dangers that arise as soon as protection is approached. But it is by no means the only dilemma. Sir Stanley Baldwin was faced by a time-honoured difficulty when he was asked to define what is a raw material, and, being a skilful Parliamentary hand, was not drawn into the attempt. The question arose out of the suggestion that a manufacturer who exports a finished article made out of imported raw material, on which a duty has been paid, should be allowed a rebate. Here we are back to the old awkward truth that the finished product of one industry is the raw material of another, and that by taxing any form of raw material required by British industry, legislation must tend to decrease and not to increase employment. This week has seen the publication of manifestoes against the Bill, by a group of merchants, by a long list of prominent firms in the woollen industry, and by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party executive. These follow upon the weighty protests of bankers and scientists, to which we have previously referred. But the guillotine continues its work, and the limbs, if not the head, of the fiscal system under which this country has prospered will shortly fall into the basket.

HALF-YEAR'S OVERSEAS TRADE.

THE Board of Trade figures of overseas trade in June are very much in accordance with the poor expectations necessitated by the prolongation of the coal stoppage. British exports were valued at £38.2 millions for June, as compared with £116.4 millions in June, 1920, and £92.8 for the first month of the present year. That June exports were, in value, less than half those of January is an eloquent illustration in which the hopes of the past half-year were disappointed. June imports were £88.1 millions, against £170.3 millions a year ago. The extent to which the fall in prices is responsible for these changes may be roughly gauged by the movements in our Index Number, which were printed in detail last week. Since June a year ago, according to this calculation, the general level of wholesale prices has fallen about 38 per cent. A summary of trade value figures for June and the six months of 1921 and 1920 reads as follows:—

MONTH OF JUNE.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	170,265,687	88,182,481	82,083,206	48.1
British exports	116,352,350	38,152,238	78,200,112	67.1
Re-exports	20,123,928	7,082,764	13,041,164	64.8
Total exports	136,476,278	45,235,002	91,241,276	66.8
Excess of imports over total exports	33,789,409	42,947,479	9,158,070	27.1

SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	1,033,037,703	571,691,493	461,346,210	44.6
British exports	637,466,884	368,895,027	268,571,857	42.1
Re-exports	135,891,048	49,685,689	86,205,359	63.7
Total exports	773,357,932	418,580,716	354,777,216	45.8
Excess of imports over total exports	259,679,771	353,110,777	105,568,994	41.1

* Adjusted figures.

Over £106 millions have been knocked off the visible adverse balance, as compared with the first half of 1920. This reduction was the work of the early months, for in May and June the import excess was greater than in the corresponding months of last year. How the visible balance has moved month by month is shown in a table given below:—

EXCESS OF IMPORTS OVER EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).				
(In Millions of £'s.)				
	1920.	1921.	Change in Balance in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
January	52.0	14.2	37.8	72.7
February	61.8	20.6	41.2	66.7
March	45.8	18.0	27.8	60.7
April	40.5	21.5	19.0	47.0
May	26.8	36.0	9.2	34.3
June	33.7	42.8	9.1	27.0
	260.6	153.1	107.5	41.3

As regards the half-year's real balance, it must be supposed that the idleness of much shipping, both in this country and in many parts of the world, has caused some considerable decline in our invisible exports.

The aggregate value of the past half-year's trade turnover was £816 millions less than in the corresponding half of 1920. Of this drop the cotton industry alone accounts for about £27.1 millions, imports of raw cotton being less by £151.8 millions, exports of cotton yarn and manufactures less by £101.1 millions, and re-exports of the former £19 millions less. The gross declines were distributed as follows over the main classes:—

DECREASES IN JANUARY-JUNE, 1921, AS COMPARED WITH JANUARY-JUNE, 1920.				
	Imports.	Exports.	Million £'s.	
	£	£	£	%
Food (British) and tobacco	79	7.2	71.8	8.9
Raw materials and articles mainly un-	292.4	56.9	235.5	29.8
manufactured				
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	90.0	202.4	112.4	12.5

In the half-year we exported only 6,025,448 tons of coal, valued at £15,433,560, and imported 1,849,537 tons, worth £6,577,916. The effect of prices changes, and also the smaller quantities (in many cases) of raw materials and food imported in the past six months compared with January to June, 1920, is seen from the following figures:—

	1920.		1921.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons	£	Tons	£
Raw cotton (centals)	12,758,131	182,358,806	5,133,176	31,719,795
Sheep and lambs wool ..	4,578,456	47,892,005	3,693,251	24,080,830
Flax, hemp, & jute (tons)	271,803	21,855,594	96,290	5,976,102
Wet hides	249,754	2,449,910	144,258	631,867
Dry & salted hides (cwts)	568,956	5,656,352	112,039	571,385
Pulp of wood	505,225	12,437,969	178,592	4,306,507
Rubber	1,155,940	13,665,321	1,157,347	6,110,519
Iron ore	3,459,508	9,158,827	1,284,166	2,748,363
Grain and flour .. (cwts)	82,207,111	94,107,544	75,593,976	67,715,537
Butter	1,057,785	14,745,747	2,145,705	27,912,013
Sugar	16,056,844	39,818,488	13,840,648	21,979,814
Tea	217,539,336	15,278,628	219,607,479	10,739,331

In almost every case a substantial price fall is indicated, while, with the exception of rubber, most important raw materials were imported in much smaller quantities than in 1920—a sign of the industrial depression. Among British exports, machinery, electrical goods and apparatus have recorded advances in the value figures, while sales of ships abroad have been heavier.

Gold imports in the six months were £23,874,490, against exports of £29,538,587, of which over £28 millions went to the United States. In the corresponding period of 1920 gold exports were heavier at £42,685,926, but of this amount the United States took only £10½ millions. Silver imports in the past half-year were £4,896,014, and exports £5,281,007. The shipping figures illustrate trade depression and the effects of the coal dispute. Last month only 1,993,656 tons of shipping engaged in foreign trade cleared with cargoes, compared with 3,105,494 tons in June, 1920, and 5,584,411 tons in June, 1913. The six months' figures for the three years respectively are 13,716,784 tons, 18,263,337 tons, and 32,896,245 tons. The Board of Trade has issued the following statement showing the weight of imports and exports passing in May compared with May, 1920, and May, 1913:—

Month of May.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Tons.	Decrease in May, 1921.	Tons.	Decrease in May, 1921.
1921	2,891,000	..	590,100	..
1920	3,876,000	25.41	3,498,700	83.13
1913	4,496,000	35.70	7,655,900	92.29

The decline in the weight of exports is caused to a considerable extent by the cessation of coal shipments, while among imports for May the returns show 450,162 tons of coal.

Imports and British exports for June and the first six months of 1921 and 1920 are compared below under 42 heads.

IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).				
	Month Ended June 30.		Six Months Ended June 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	19,835,098	15,233,329	94,107,544	67,715,537
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	516,841	445,448	4,775,038	3,177,202
C. Meat	11,790,744	11,352,374	70,647,990	74,646,137
D. Animals, living, for food	445,407	1,445,407	1,303,475	1,303,475
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable	15,633,805	14,931,712	90,117,803	91,771,213
F. " " " " dutiable	17,179,632	7,968,426	99,711,471	50,701,037
G. Tobacco	3,384,501	1,581,620	21,862,013	12,877,630
Total, Class I.	67,340,621	51,915,316	381,221,859	302,152,262
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	..	5,022,371	..	6,577,916
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	951,728	392,263	4,683,412	3,834,327
C. Iron ore and scrap	2,238,853	78,829	9,848,770	3,684,753
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	1,406,455	612,793	9,071,837	4,573,090
E. Wood and timber	7,438,295	1,110,384	31,513,870	13,233,833
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	15,399,240	5,828,498	183,926,859	32,164,793
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	10,289,487	2,945,001	51,573,594	24,706,642
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	358,760	82,362	2,373,012	326,433
I. Other textile materials	2,892,181	362,339	22,182,596	6,055,779
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins & gums	5,929,057	2,097,039	46,493,032	17,132,734
K. Hides and skins, undressed	2,483,020	469,326	22,132,871	4,146,919
L. Paper-making materials	4,170,245	465,216	14,424,930	5,062,046
M. Rubber	2,858,809	638,491	14,787,716	6,728,081
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	1,502,891	286,107	11,291,628	3,597,993
Total, Class II.	57,919,031	18,388,919	424,304,117	131,895,339
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured:—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	291	62,712	5,759	97,153
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	1,030,251	533,626	5,357,422	3,585,618
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,414,958	1,306,502	9,728,830	13,875,589
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	3,330,265	1,427,469	20,949,090	10,088,345
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	981,109	469,411	5,454,231	3,595,087
F. Electrical goods and apparatus	124,372	191,459	594,468	1,238,770
G. Machinery	1,717,897	783,364	9,215,542	6,997,955
H. Manufactures of wood and timber	921,921	279,319	3,644,182	3,010,791
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures	1,113,672	485,332	4,847,629	2,761,375
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	2,616,345	854,799	9,204,636	4,799,891
K. Silk and silk manufactures	3,639,485	1,467,507	19,848,287	10,270,992
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	2,931,843	533,392	13,562,924	4,258,164
M. Apparel	1,846,980	765,872	9,052,772	4,437,663
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours	3,419,554	720,335	16,380,353	6,386,137
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured	6,717,302	4,065,979	33,089,566	34,261,763
P. Leather and manufactures thereof	1,551,428	544,523	14,284,322	3,351,729
Q. Paper and cardboard	3,586,984	1,065,251	14,243,487	5,778,809
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	2,698,486	446,021	14,119,084	4,346,289
S. Rubber manufactures	647,553	279,742	3,357,164	1,937,003
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	3,390,592	1,287,201	18,497,851	9,805,538
Total, Class III.	44,681,284	17,599,916	226,037,509	136,047,071
IV.—Animals, not for food	43,787	46,183	188,031	203,843
V.—Parcel Post, non-dutiable articles	280,964	232,147	1,286,187	1,392,978
Total	170,265,687	88,182,481	1,033,037,703	571,691,493

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month Ended June 30.		Six Months Ended June 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	175,342	173,119	1,603,015	1,929,209
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	69,670	125,659	529,851	529,767
C. Meat	70,805	73,099	457,728	317,667
D. Animals living, for food	5,611	1,445,407	1,303,475	1,303,475
E. and F. Other food and drink	3,148,238	1,713,858	18,200,956	12,645,012
G. Tobacco	848,461	347,761	4,529,975	2,594,701
Total, Class I.	4,312,516	2,439,107	25,321,521	18,093,225
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	7,932,817	12,677	54,900,469	15,433,560
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	170,543	25,514	965,952	504,951
C. Iron ore and scrap	59,658	9,620	398,217	71,020
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	77,582	41,050	1,059,331	356,620
E. Wood and timber	105,798	30,042	604,218	212,064
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	215,288	27,192	2,117,959	250,941
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	763,330	295,830	6,009,447	2,226,483
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	3,975	462	73,034	8,484
I. Other textile materials	115,445	31,669	397,979	219,121
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums	1,131,072	363,748	6,999,842	2,393,013
K. Hides and skins, undressed	176,746	99,297	3,051,856	736,199
L. Paper-making materials	215,382	34,207	1,339,097	320,452
M. Rubber	44,288	6,069	277,475	68,228
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	435,021	148,061	3,618,826	2,077,369
Total, Class II.	11,446,945	1,125,468	81,813,702	24,878,545

	Month Ended June 30.		Six Months Ended June 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel.....	1,801,123	..	9,717,282	1,534,579
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	1,533,144	602,121	7,518,158	6,885,895
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	11,521,907	2,771,218	57,707,485	38,150,482
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	2,399,120	638,364	13,451,588	6,611,001
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	1,096,072	656,337	5,810,125	5,231,531
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	1,212,360	877,190	5,246,130	7,671,295
G. Machinery	5,026,233	5,285,130	23,822,933	41,120,395
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	175,857	118,588	1,128,901	906,383
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	37,443,400	9,605,229	195,536,465	94,415,882
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	12,555,165	3,285,203	68,803,315	32,156,468
K. Silk and silk manufactures	472,087	178,810	2,725,844	1,260,286
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	3,781,946	1,476,705	23,252,855	9,493,911
M. Apparel	4,260,146	1,113,024	22,345,279	10,301,786
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	3,311,093	998,565	18,972,213	11,035,683
O. Oils, fats, & resins, manufactured ..	1,297,078	338,124	8,149,238	2,584,289
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	818,766	351,907	7,010,938	2,088,729
Q. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	940,374	490,912	4,553,653	4,550,776
R. Rubber manufactures	4,146,698	2,877,236	18,625,589	26,458,133
T. Miscellaneous articles mainly or wholly manufactured	1,129,605	268,022	5,636,313	2,594,416
	4,099,222	1,725,436	21,707,355	14,377,864
Total, Class III.	99,081,446	33,658,121	521,703,659	319,229,784
IV.—Animals, not for food	278,813	181,920	1,902,700	1,814,949
V.—Parcel Post.	1,232,630	747,622	6,725,302	4,878,524
Total	116,352,350	38,152,238	637,466,884	368,895,027

The average profit per company for the whole period is £102,300. The effect of the abolition of E.P.D. can as yet have made itself felt in only a very few cases. In the next table we give a comparison of profits in 20 different groups, from which it will be seen that certain branches of industry have felt the effects of the depression much sooner than others:—

NET PROFITS (after Payment of Debenture Interest, &c.).

	No. of Cos.	Reports Published in Year Ended June 30.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		1920.	1921.	£	%	£	%
Breweries	101	8,140,393	8,624,099	483,706	5.9	..	..
Canals, docks, &c.	8	402,154	553,574	151,420	37.5	..	..
Electric lighting, &c.	38	1,994,857	2,562,136	567,279	28.4	..	..
Gas	57	1,538,427	1,590,410	51,983	3.4	..	..
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	34	1,790,651	1,961,154	170,503	9.5	..	..
Iron, coal, and steel	100	11,932,758	13,725,138	1,792,380	15.0	..	..
Land mortgage	80	5,855,945	5,375,551	..	..	480,394	8.2
Motor and cycle	24	1,677,430	1,452,572	..	..	224,858	13.4
Nitrate	20	517,749	2,026,006	1,508,257	148.0	..	..
Oil	10	13,350,397	19,193,666	5,843,269	43.9	..	..
Rubber, &c.	245	4,649,945	4,011,811	..	..	638,134	13.8
Shipping	27	7,246,042	7,992,860	746,818	10.3	..	..
Shops and stores	52	7,665,931	6,618,423	..	..	1,047,508	13.6
Tea	67	2,210,069	287,875	..	..	1,922,194	87.0
Telegraph, &c.	16	3,819,443	5,361,562	1,542,119	40.5	..	..
Textiles	43	14,401,206	12,676,435	..	..	1,724,771	12.0
Tramways	34	1,461,887	1,656,101	194,214	13.2	..	..
Trust companies	78	4,845,492	4,845,492	..	..	..	..
Waterworks	22	5,508,535	504,054	..	..	2,281	0.5
Miscellaneous	296	33,636,890	37,496,416	3,759,526	10.9	..	..
	1,563	126,861,374	138,521,335	11,659,961	9.2	..	..

Thus the motor, textiles, retail shops and stores, and rubber groups show substantial declines in profits, while tea plantation companies have fallen on very hard times, the aggregate profits of 67 companies in this section showing a decline of 87 per cent. On the other hand, there are several conspicuous increases in profits, the most prominent being the nitrate group, which has made a remarkable recovery from the post-war slump through which it passed. The oil, telegraph, and canals groups have also done well.

The next table shows how profits were distributed, the last column including the amounts by which the balances carried forward exceeded the amounts brought in:—

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.

	Net Profits.	Ordinary Dividend.	Preference Dividend.	Reserve, &c.
1920.	£	£	£	£
Third quarter	27,032,462	16,252,981	2,357,136	8,422,345
Fourth quarter	27,633,839	14,390,397	3,115,713	10,127,729
1921.	£	£	£	£
First quarter	43,387,538	24,377,364	6,357,529	12,652,645
Second quarter	40,467,496	23,732,561	8,028,662	8,706,273
	138,521,335	78,753,303	19,859,040	39,908,992

There is considerable divergence in the methods of company directors in the matter of reserve and similar appropriations, for some strike profits after making allowance for full depreciation and contingencies, while others make such allocations after disclosing profits. In compiling these statistics a uniform method has been followed as far as possible. It will be seen that reserve appropriations have grown smaller in 1921, the average for the 12 months being less than 29 per cent. of profits, as against 36½ per cent. in the last quarter of 1920. How profits for the 12 months were appropriated in each group may be seen from the next table:—

	Net Profits.	Ordinary Dividend.	Preference Dividend.	Carried to Reserve, &c.
Breweries	8,624,099	4,415,595	1,342,865	2,865,839
Canals, docks, &c.	553,574	257,166	251,609	44,799
Electric lighting, &c.	2,562,136	854,387	586,489	1,121,260
Gas	1,590,410	1,349,847	267,172	973,409
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	1,961,154	809,153	616,318	535,683
Iron, coal, and steel	13,725,138	8,074,642	1,397,311	4,253,185
Land, mortgage, &c.	5,375,551	3,206,863	865,085	1,305,603
Motor and cycle	1,452,572	736,967	265,982	450,623
Nitrate	2,026,006	1,125,607	3,000	897,399
Oil	19,193,666	13,825,583	698,453	4,675,630
Rubber, &c.	4,011,811	2,657,302	43,881	1,310,628
Shipping	7,992,860	3,799,952	1,160,056	3,032,852
Shops and stores	6,618,423	3,885,892	1,224,524	1,508,007
Tea	287,875	438,991	239,960	391,076
Telegraph, &c.	5,361,562	1,833,282	290,708	3,177,572
Textiles	12,676,435	7,670,827	1,447,033	3,558,575
Tramways	1,656,101	623,761	1,042,042	970.2
Trust companies	4,845,492	2,804,685	1,091,897	948,920
Waterworks	504,054	337,923	66.9	71,276
Miscellaneous	37,496,416	19,985,778	6,932,010	10,578,628
	138,521,335	78,753,303	19,859,040	39,908,992

* Decrease.

The most remarkable feature in this table is the tea company group. The amount brought forward from the previous accounts by these 67 companies was £1,252,600, and only £715,900 is carried forward to next year. Specific allocations to reserve were £145,600, so that we get a distribution of a sum equal to 152 per cent. of net profits going to ordinary shareholders, 83 per cent. to preference shareholders, while the reserve appropriation is a minus quantity to the extent of £391,100. The gas and tramways groups also draw on the balance in hand to a slight extent to meet dividends. The highest percentage of profits going to reserve is shown by the telegraph and telephone group, but a high figure is also shown by the electric lighting and power, nitrate, and shipping groups. A very small proportion of profits goes to preference shareholders in the nitrate and rubber groups, but this arises from the fact that the amount of preference capital issued is quite insignificant.

We next show the proportion borne by net profits and amounts carried to reserve to total ordinary and preference capital:—

	Total Ord. and Pref. Capital.	Net Profits.	Carried to Reserve, &c.
1920.	£	£	£
Third quarter	163,024,500	27,032,462	8,422,345
Fourth quarter	182,215,000	27,633,839	10,127,729
1921.	£	£	£
First quarter	365,534,600	43,387,538	12,652,645
Second quarter	336,719,100	40,467,496	8,706,273
	1,047,493,200	138,521,335	39,908,992

There is a conspicuous reduction in the ratio of reserve allocations to total capital, the figure for the last quarter being very much below the average. There has also been a progressive decline in the ratio of net profits to capital. The average rates paid on the various classes of capital for each quarter and the 12 months, together with the previous year's averages, for comparison are given below:—

	Debenture Capital.	Debenture Interest.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1920.	£	£	%	%
Third quarter	31,409,000	1,298,625	4.12	4.35
Fourth quarter	52,562,300	2,329,632	4.43	4.40
1921.	£	£	%	%
First quarter	86,124,600	3,831,042	4.43	4.25
Second quarter	76,243,900	3,538,103	4.61	4.40
	246,339,800	11,000,402	4.48	4.34

	Preference Capital.	Preference Dividends.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1920.	£	£	%	%
Third quarter	48,675,600	2,357,136	4.9	4.7
Fourth quarter	58,306,000	3,115,713	5.3	6.2
1921.	£	£	%	%
First quarter	128,124,800	6,357,529	5.0	5.1
Second quarter	144,065,100	8,028,662	5.6	5.0
	379,171,500	19,859,040	5.2	5.2

	Ordinary Capital.	Ordinary Dividend.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1920.	£	£	%	%
Third quarter	114,348,900	16,252,981	14.2	10.8
Fourth quarter	126,909,000	14,390,397	11.6	11.5
1921.	£	£	%	%
First quarter	237,409,800	24,377,364	10.3	11.2
Second quarter	189,654,000	23,732,561	12.6	13.7
	668,321,700	78,753,303	11.8	11.9

The average rates show a fairly uniform fluctuation, but there are distinct signs of reduction in the average rate paid on ordinary capital in the last two quarters as compared with the previous year.

The New York Trust Company

with which is consolidated

The Liberty National Bank of New York

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions.

Buys and sells American and foreign securities

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Ltd.

The average rates in each of the groups for 12 months, together with those shown a year ago, are as follows:—

	Debenture Capital.	Rate of Interest.	Preference Capital.	Rate of Dividend.	Ordinary Capital.	Rate of Dividend.	Rate a Year Ago.
Breweries	34,439,785	4.3	24,491,398	5.5	37,283,277	11.8	12.0
Canals, docks, &c.	2,088,576	3.6	5,634,310	4.5	6,740,587	3.8	2.5
Electric lighting, &c.	12,145,697	4.6	11,591,814	5.1	12,599,195	3.6	2.5
Gas	9,181,821	3.7	7,548,429	3.5	38,196,897	3.6	4.9
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	7,949,771	4.5	7,614,682	8.1	8,015,516	10.1	10.8
Iron, coal, and steel	17,688,531	5.0	26,611,750	5.2	76,374,698	10.5	13.4
Land mortgage, &c.	24,518,817	4.1	17,466,433	4.9	35,092,654	9.2	10.6
Motor and cycle	2,072,220	6.0	4,326,433	6.1	8,547,744	8.6	11.7
Nitrate	537,600	5.4	50,000	6.0	7,071,500	15.8	12.4
Oil	5,572,416	5.1	12,880,308	5.4	47,941,167	28.9	26.3
Rubber, &c.	742,732	6.7	968,985	4.6	34,084,302	7.8	13.9
Shipping	18,173,023	4.8	22,785,130	5.1	38,477,536	9.9	13.0
Shops and stores	6,503,017	4.5	23,991,208	5.9	25,834,806	15.0	22.4
Tea	832,417	4.9	14,678,889	5.1	7,911,781	5.5	15.3
Telegraph, &c.	4,329,070	4.1	5,659,220	5.1	19,932,304	9.5	11.1
Textiles	11,637,036	4.3	28,191,541	5.1	56,664,113	13.6	23.1
Tramways	24,640,829	4.5	12,391,642	8.4	17,523,157	3.6	3.3
Trust companies	34,099,605	4.1	31,892,618	3.4	37,827,357	7.4	5.9
Waterworks	2,858,095	4.0	2,760,928	3.4	5,982,420	5.7	6.1
Miscellaneous	26,328,718	4.9	120,636,193	5.8	146,120,651	13.6	12.4
	246,339,776	4.5	379,171,511	5.2	668,321,724	11.8	11.9

The debenture rates call for no comment. The rate on preference shares in the tramways group is due to payment of arrears by the Anglo-Argentine Tramways Company. The rates on ordinary capital mostly show a reduction, the oil, nitrate, and trust company groups being notable exceptions. Each of the sections which recorded a decline in net profits has suffered a reduction in the average rate of ordinary dividend, the largest being that shown by the textile group. The figures, it should be pointed out, do not include issues of bonus shares, or the benefits obtained by shareholders from the issue of shares at a price below market value. Were it possible to compute the value of such items in the above table, the only effect would be to produce a more marked decline in the ordinary shareholders' receipts, for such practices are rapidly becoming a thing of the past.

THE CLOSING OF E.P.D.

DESPITE the welter of new clauses and proposed amendments with which the Chancellor was faced on the Finance Bill at the Committee stage, he may be said to have escaped comparatively lightly. A thin attendance during a night sitting seemed to render ineffective what opposition there might have been to his views. So far as it concerns the termination of the excess profits duty, with all that it meant to industry, two main features have, so to speak, been resuscitated from the Committee stage, and are now facing him upon Report, reinvigorated by all those methods of concerted interest with which the Press and the Federation of British Industries have familiarised us in the past few years.

These two questions relate to the position of forward contracts and bad debts. Some astonishment has been expressed that the concessions already granted by the Chancellor in relation to stocks have cost the Exchequer

£80,000,000. That is to say, they have been taken into account in arriving at an Exchequer estimate of £120,000,000 for the current year which, but for these concessions, we are told, would have been £200,000,000. It is fashionable, and, indeed, very forcible, to state that the Exchequer really cannot afford any more concessions, but an important distinction has to be made here. Any money which is involved in putting taxpayers on an equitable level amongst themselves should be regarded as an integral part of the tax, and it should never be reckoned even as part of the potential yield, and, therefore, should never be counted as a sacrifice of revenue. Once having made the tax equitable to taxpayers as a whole, any further concession that is given to them truly ranks under the second category as a real expense to the Exchequer, the "pros and cons" of which should be carefully weighed. No question of what the revenue can or cannot afford, therefore, should avail under the first head on constructing an equitable tax, but it is all the more important that under the second head every concession that can possibly be avoided should be withheld. As we have said on a previous occasion, the excess profits duty taxpayer must learn that a time is coming when he can no longer rely on his past payments to the Exchequer—long since spent—to save him from the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune!

Now, the questions that are clamouring for settlement affect the revenue mainly under the first head, viz., that of equality amongst taxpayers. As the Federation of British Industries points out, two competing firms placing forward contracts in September, 1920, for delivery of similar quantities of material at a similar price on June 1, 1921, may fare very differently under the duty if the final accounting period of one ends on September 30, 1920, and of the other not until July 31, 1921, should the value of the material purchased have fallen substantially by, say, June 1, 1921. The proposal now made is that just as the earlier accounting period is to be put on a level with the later by the first clause of the White Paper—known as the "levelling process"—in regard to its stock-in-trade, so also it should be put on a level as regards its stock that is under contract for purchase. The firm with the later accounting period may secure handsome rebates on the reduced price of the goods delivered, whereas the firm with the earlier period must stand the racket of the whole loss, and it is alleged that many bankruptcies are imminent under this head.

The first point that occurs to one was made by the Chancellor in resisting this proposal at the Committee stage, viz., that as a rule selling contracts when made are based on the buying prices, and, therefore, no loss will actually mature. The new clause rules this out by providing that such cases of selling contracts shall not be eligible for relief. The clause also provides that a valuation of such forward contracts must be customary in the business, and the amount claimed shall not be greater than the general average of forward contracts in previous years.

It is obvious, too, that if the seller of such goods sold forward also includes them in his stock in hand at the end of his accounting period without bringing in the contract profit on them, the revenue will already be making, under the ordinary stocks concession, an allowance in respect of that particular block of physical goods, and can hardly be expected to do so a second time. Obviously the vendor should not, in equity, be allowed to secure this advantage. The proposed clause also meets this point, and, therefore, as it is drawn it may be taken to have robbed the whole question of its worst perils. Without such an allowance it is clear beyond question that some taxpayers will be penalised because their excess profits duty period ends prior to a substantial slump in prices.

What will be the position if the Chancellor refuses the clause? There is nothing whatever in the law to say whether such an accountancy loss at the date of closing the account is not a proper claim, and upon appeal before the Commissioners, and, indeed, in the High Court, it may easily be that it will prove to be allowable, following the lines laid down in judicial dicta as to the computation of profits upon a commercial basis. In the absence of any clause, either negative or positive, such claims will be inevitable, and if the Revenue contests them much litigation will undoubtedly result, involving unnecessary expense, with the highly probable ultimate result that, without any of the safeguards that have been suggested, the Revenue will lose the point.

On the second clause relating to bad debts, the proposal is that if the estimate for bad and doubtful debts given in the final accounting period is shown on August 31, 1922, to be too small in the light of ultimate results, the conditions obtaining in August, 1922, shall be substituted in that final accounting period. But it will be seen that here we have something additional to the question of "levelling up" the taxpayer. In so far as the conditions at August 31, 1921, are looked at, it is, no doubt, in view of the present great slump in trade, quite a necessary provision to put traders upon a level in this respect. Two firms each have a debt due to them from a third business, which they both regarded as good on September 30, 1920. The firm making up its accounts on that date has to treat it for excess profits duty as good, but if it fell bad in the following March the second firm making up its accounts to June, 1921, would get a full allowance. A revision at August 31, 1921, appears, therefore, to be but a general part of the levelling process, but the suggestion that it should be taken to a year later puts it on quite another footing. It is one of those concessions to all taxpayers which may be regarded as being costly to the Revenue, and we could well understand if the Chancellor's decision were that it should be resisted. If 1922, why not 1924?

The closing of the Report stage will end a notable epoch in fiscal history, so far as legislation is concerned, but the administrative side is going on for a long time, and what with the necessity for a chartered accountant for the owners and for the miners in each coal mine, and for overlooking the excess profits duty settlements during the next five years, there is, at least, one profession that seems to be ensured prosperity by the State when all others are forsaken.

LANCASHIRE COTTON TRADE.

(BY OUR MANCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.)

TAKING the past quarter as a whole, the experience of cotton spinners and manufacturers in Lancashire has been very unsatisfactory, but during the last few weeks there has been a distinct revival of inquiry, especially in certain sections, and more business has been done than for over 12 months back. The depression was very acute when the coal strike began, and the shortage of fuel was not a very great hardship for producers as a whole, as most firms had very little work to go on with. Uncertainty has also prevailed with regard to the outcome of the negotiations on the wages question in the cotton trade, and owing to the operatives declining to submit to the reduction proposed by the employers, all the spinning mills and weaving sheds closed down early in June. A settlement was not reached until production had been at a standstill

for three weeks. The agreement provided for an immediate reduction in wages of 60 per cent. on list rates, or 3s 10d in the £ on current wages, and a further drop of 10 per cent. on list rates, or 7d in the £ on present wages from the beginning of next year. The agreement is for six months, but at the end of that period either side desiring a change will have to give three months' notice, so wages are fixed until the end of March, 1922. It is estimated that the reduction in wages will mean a fall in the production costs of spinners and manufacturers of about 12½ per cent. A favourable development has been cheaper money, the fall in the Bank rate to 6 per cent. being very welcome.

During the past three months there has not been any marked change in raw cotton prices. On March 31st the quotation for fully middling American on the spot in Liverpool was 8.02d. Rates fluctuated from day to day, and on April 18th the figure was 8.31d. By April 29th the price had fallen to 7.99d, but there was a rise to 8.34d on May 9th. Alterations were quite unimportant, and on May 31st 8.19d was posted. After 8.40d being registered on June 13th there was a rather easier tendency until 7.50d was quoted on June 21st. Since then prices have been dearer, the figure on June 30th being 7.85d and on Wednesday last 8.67d was posted. Imports from the United States to this country have continued limited. Until this week Lancashire spinners have purchased sparingly both on the spot and in futures. Demand, however, is now improving. The season in America is drawing to a close, and the crop will probably be about 13,350,000 bales, against 12,218,000 bales in 1919-20. For the new season the outlook for supplies is far from satisfactory. The official condition reports are poor, and the reduction in the acreage is estimated at about 28 per cent. There is a possibility of the yield being less than 9,000,000 bales. Stocks, however, throughout the world are heavy. Egyptian cotton prices have been fairly steady. The quotation on March 31st for fully good fair Sakellaridis on the spot in Liverpool was 17.50d. There was an advance to 18.25d in the middle of April, but on May 2nd the figure was 17.50d. At the end of that month 16.50d was the figure, and on June 30th 15.50d was registered. Since then prices have been rather firmer, the rate on Wednesday last being 16.50d. The Egyptian crop for this season will be about 4,620,000 cantars, against 5,642,000 cantars in 1919-20. The new crop is very backward, and there has been a reduction in the area under cultivation. A small output in 1921-22 must, therefore, be expected. Stocks, however, in Alexandria are much larger than 12 months ago.

Towards the end of May inquiry in piece goods for abroad began to broaden, and many customers in foreign outlets displayed increased interest in Manchester prices. Most of the attempts at transactions were futile, as buyers were not prepared to pay the rates required. The continuance of the coal strike and the wages dispute in the Lancashire cotton industry checked developments, but gradually the needs of consumers became more urgent. Manufacturers at that time were not in a position to guarantee delivery, and this fact made progress very difficult. Towards the end of June the settlement of the coal and cotton labour disputes resulted in a distinct change of sentiment in the Manchester market, and since then a much larger business has been done, and manufacturers have been enabled to extend their order lists. The buying movement has been initiated by India, and in addition to a substantial indent trade, especially for Calcutta, several leading merchant houses in this country have bought speculatively on a considerable scale. There has been a slight break in the monsoon rains, but it is believed that there will be a good season in our Dependency. A big turnover has taken place in light fabrics, such as dhooties, which are chiefly made in Blackburn and district, and some manufacturers have engagements into next year. Inquiry for China has broadened, and more trade has been done, but operations have not been very important. Stocks in the Far-East are being reduced, and buying on a bigger scale is probably near at hand. Business has been of larger volume for Java, Singapore, Egypt, Persia, and other minor outlets, but not much support has been given by shippers to South America. A steady improvement is now showing itself in home trade circles, and much better clearances are taking place in light fancy materials.

The following is a comparative table of our shipments of piece goods:—

SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE.			
	Yards.	£	
1913	3,582,788,800	48,756,738	
	Square Yards.		
1920	2,396,798,000	153,347,097	
1921	1,211,021,700	75,104,452	

In square yards we have exported so far this year on last much less freely to Bombay, China, Turkey, Egypt, and Bengal, but there are small increases in the takings of Roumania, Mexico, and British East Africa.

Although the outlook for spinners of yarn is now brighter trading conditions during the past quarter have been wretched. The recent increased activity in piece goods has not yet been fully reflected in a larger offtake in twist and weft. This position of affairs is due to the fact that cloth makers have been "long" in yarn, and they have not found it necessary to cover contracts booked. So far back as last October the Master Spinners' Federation organised short-time working in mills using Egyptian cotton, and since then the factories have only worked four days a week. Last December it was decided only to run American mills three days a week. This curtailment of production on an organised scale is still going on, but the state of trade is to be considered by the Masters' Federation at the end of this week, and there is a possibility of the short time being abandoned, or some variation in the restriction of output. Comparatively few spinning companies now publish balance-sheets, but most mills at the end of June were unable to pay a dividend for the half-year. During the past six weeks there has been a distinct revival of demand in yarn suitable for India, and an extensive business has been done.

The following is a comparative table of our export trade in yarn:—

SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE.			
	Lbs.	£	
1913	106,409,000	7,512,062	
1920	78,614,000	23,912,824	
1921	50,638,100	10,301,588	

So far this year on last we have shipped on a smaller scale to the Netherlands, France, the United States, Belgium, and Sweden, but there have been small increases in the exports to Roumania, Germany, and Bengal.

The trade prospects are brighter than for a long time back. Up to recently no business of importance has been done in either yarn or cloth since the spring of last year. Since then there has been a marked depreciation in values, and many difficulties have been experienced by merchants in liquidating stocks. The process, however, has been carried through without any important failure. The refusal of native dealers in India to meet their drafts has been a very serious matter for Manchester shippers, but according to recent telegrams our customers are more inclined to pay their debts as fresh supplies of goods are wanted, and new contracts cannot be arranged until past obligations are met. The Manchester market is now firmer, and in certain classes of goods producers are in a position to hold out for profitable rates. No real boom in trade is expected, but it is believed that a steady improvement will show itself during the next few months. Unemployment is decreasing, and there should be very little idle machinery by the end of the year. Shares in textile concerns and mill companies are hardening in price, and brokers are experiencing a better demand from the public.

Business Notes.

Currency Policy.—Sir Peter Rylands has addressed to the Prime Minister a letter conveying the following resolutions of the Credits and Currency Committee of the Federation of British Industries:—"That the Credits and Currency Committee of the Federation of British Industries urges the Government to appoint a Commission, with terms of reference similar to those of the Committee on Currency and Foreign Exchanges after the war, presided over by the late Lord Cunliffe, in order to reconsider the currency policy in the light of recent

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

EASTERN AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches and Associated Companies in

Australia	Ceylon	Japan	Morocco
Borneo	China	Java	New Zealand
Canada	India	Malaya	Sumatra
	U.S.A.		

The Company acts as Eastern Agents for manufacturers and others, and invite correspondence with the view of developing foreign trade.

events. This Commission should contain representatives not only of industry and commerce, but also of Labour, so that the effect of any policy on trade and employment may be fully considered." The proposal "is not put forward as a criticism of the policy recommended by Lord Cunliffe's Committee." But the letter enumerates changes in conditions since the publication of the Cunliffe Report, which, in the opinion of the Federation, constitute an argument for the appointment of a new Commission to reconsider currency problems.

Coal Output.—The official figures of the production of coal during the period of stoppage show that the total tonnage raised in the various areas during the 13 weeks from April 4th to July 2nd was 179,100 tons, made up as follows:—

	Tons.
Northumberland	30,000
Durham	3,400
Yorkshire	20,900
Lancashire, Cheshire, and North Wales	12,900
Derby, Nottingham, and Leicester	18,900
Stafford, Salop, Worcester, and Warwick	77,500
South Wales and Monmouth	5,500
Other English districts*	4,200
Scotland	5,800

Total for Great Britain

* Including Cumberland, Westmorland, Gloucester, Somerset, and Kent.

The average output for the first 13 weeks of the year was 4,275,000 tons, but in the week ended April 2nd production dropped to 1,950,100 tons.

Crop Prospects.—The monthly report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries states that the very dry weather of June, following the previous dry period, had a bad effect on grass and spring-sown crops, but was very favourable for the hay harvest. In many districts ponds have dried up, and there is a scarcity of water for live-stock. Autumn-sown wheat has stood the dry weather well, though in some cases the straw is short; but spring wheat, where sown, is patchy and has not done so well. On present appearances, the yield will probably be about average. Where sown early, barley and oats are satisfactory plants, as a rule, and have made fair growth in most districts, though the straw will be shorter than usual. Later sowings are, however, thin and stunted in growth, and have often come into ear prematurely, while on light land the plant is sometimes dying off. Winter oats are fairly promising. On the average, both barley and oats are expected to give poor yields in all parts of the country. Potatoes came up well, but they have been checked by the drought, and, although healthy, have not made much growth, as a rule. The frosts which occurred during June did some damage. Early varieties are only giving light crops, and generally poor yields are expected. Hay-making began earlier than usual in all parts of the country, and in the South was almost finished by the end of June, while in most of the later districts quite half the crop had been carted. The crops are very light, however, especially of meadow hay, but they have been secured in splendid condition with a minimum of labour. Aftermaths are making no growth, and the fields which have been cleared are very brown. Root crops which are being grown for seed have suffered from the drought, but mangolds and turnips will probably give moderate crops of seed.

Swedes are less satisfactory. The dry weather has caused a good many apples and pears to drop from the trees, and soft fruits are not yielding so well as they promised. Gooseberries, though variable, are giving about average yields in most districts, but other descriptions of small fruit are distinctly under average. Plums and pears are very light, and yields of cherries are below average, on the whole, but apples still promise satisfactory crops. Summarising the returns, it would appear that wheat is the only crop which is likely to give an average yield. Expressing an average crop by 100, the appearance of the crops on July 1st indicated probable yields per acre as shown by the following percentages:—Wheat, 100; barley, 87; oats, 89; beans, 94; peas, 93; potatoes, 90; mangolds, 91; seeds hay, 90; meadow hay, 77; and hops, 96.

The Quarter's Shipbuilding.—According to Lloyd's Register shipbuilding returns for the quarter ended June 30, 1921, the merchant tonnage returned as under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of June, 1921, amounts to 3,530,047 tons. This represents a reduction of about 269,000 tons as compared with the total at the end of the previous quarter, but under the present conditions the figures can only be regarded to a large extent as nominal. As in the previous quarter, the total includes a considerable amount of tonnage on which work has been suspended owing to the decline in the demand for tonnage, and also a large quantity of tonnage the completion of which has been postponed owing principally to the joiners' strike and the coal dispute. The tonnage on which work has been suspended amounts to 735,000, and the tonnage which has been delayed in completion amounts to about 444,000 tons. These two totals, amounting to 1,179,000 tons (equal to one-third of the whole of the tonnage under construction), must be deducted in order to enable a comparison to be made with the figures for normal times, and we thus arrive at a reduced total of 2,351,000 tons under construction in the United Kingdom. As compared with the figures for the quarter ended March 31, 1921, there has been a reduction of about 104,000 tons in the tonnage launched during the past quarter. Whereas in 1913 the average tonnage completed during each quarter was over 23 per cent. of the total work in hand at the beginning of the quarter, the corresponding figures for 1920 fell below 13 per cent. There is a still further reduction during the last six months, the output for this period having fallen as low as 8½ per cent. There is a continued reduction in the tonnage commenced. In the March quarter the decrease amounted to 113,000 tons, and there is now a further reduction of 224,000 tons. The tonnage actually commenced during the June quarter was only 68,928 tons, which represents less than 2 per cent. of the tonnage in hand at the beginning of the quarter. This is perhaps the most significant figure in the return as indicating the very unfavourable outlook for the immediate future. The total merchant tonnage building abroad is 2,669,421 tons; and it may be noted that, unlike the returns for the United Kingdom, those for abroad are not subject to any considerable reduction on account of suspended or delayed work. The tonnage is about 619,000 tons lower than the total building at the end of March, 1921, largely due to the continued decrease in the United States of America, in which country the tonnage now under construction is only 17 per cent. of the total building there in March, 1919. Apart from the United States, the leading countries abroad are: Holland, with 391,389 tons; France, 390,453 tons; Italy, 310,333 tons; and Japan, 200,262 tons. The total decrease in these four countries amounts to 169,000 tons as compared with the previous quarter.

Stock Exchange Settlements.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—The barren condition of Stock Exchange business during the current year has given rise to a constant ferment of dissatisfaction amongst a certain section of Stock Exchange members in London and the country exchanges at the refusal of the Stock Exchange Committee to re-establish fortnightly and monthly settlements. Since the reopening of the Stock Exchange in January, 1915, dealings have been for cash, and although periodical settlement days are fixed by the Stock Exchange Committee, these are simply for the convenience

of borrowers and lenders who have to pay and receive interest money on stocks and shares in respect of unsettled transactions at the end of July, 1914. It does not require any particular consideration to understand that the periodical settlement, either fortnightly or monthly, has the effect of stimulating speculative business. In bygone days it was always held in the Stock Exchange that members could not possibly live by investment alone, but that they were dependent for the luxuries, if not the necessities of life, upon the speculation facilitated and encouraged by the fact that bargains need be settled only twice a month. Out of that system there arose the well-known contango or carry-over practice, which, in brief, means that sellers are willing to lend their stock, or moneylenders to provide money, wherewith to finance such purchasers as do not wish to pay for what they buy. It was estimated—in the vaguest way, however—that when the war broke out there were engagements open in the Stock Exchange for speculative account running into something like two hundred millions of money. These have been so substantially reduced that the rump of the account is guessed to-day as being no more than about five millions, taken at the pre-war prices. Nevertheless, it is this oddment of the cold-storage account which stands in the way of a resumption of bi-monthly settlements. According to the temporary regulations of the Treasury, borrowers had the right to continue their loans for a year after the conclusion of Peace, or upon the expiration of the Courts (Emergency) Powers Act, whichever might be the sooner. It is assumed nowadays that the two terms will run concurrently, and as Great Britain is not formally at peace with Turkey, there is at least a period of 12 months ahead before the borrowers can be forced to complete engagements open at the end of July, 1914. It is argued by those who desire an immediate return to term-settlements that the fact of this cold-storage account need not stand in the way of resuming pre-war arrangements, but the view of the Stock Exchange Committee is that the resumption of bi-monthly settlements would inextricably complicate the position as it is governed by the rules affecting failures. It stands to reason that speculative business invites a much more risky element than dealing for cash does; and, if fortnightly settlements were re-established, in the course of which members failed to comply with bargains entered into from now onwards, they would also be unable to complete any commitments which they still had open in respect of the pre-war account. Various suggestions are put forward from time to time with a view to meeting the complexities of the position, for there is a strong feeling that Stock Exchange business would be greatly increased by a return to term settlements. The convenience of the public is also a matter to which due consideration must be directed, but, taking everything into account, the Stock Exchange Committee have arrived at the view, although it is not necessarily one which might not be modified, that re-introduction of bi-monthly and monthly accounts has to be regarded as impracticable until the pre-war speculative account is finally closed.

The Position in Mexico.—Three weeks ago an official announcement by the Mexican Government indicated that the payment of interest on the External Debt would be assumed on July 1st. Mail advices show why the expectation was premature. It appears that President Obregon directed the Finance Minister to deposit the proceeds of the increased export duty on oil at the Banco Nacional for this purpose, but the suspension of production by the American companies, as a demonstration against the increase of the duty, has cut off the expected revenue and so postponed the resumption. Alarming reports arrived last week of disturbances in the Tampico region, due to the unemployment caused by the suspension, and President Obregon's alleged order that the companies should compensate their workmen for their abrupt dismissal seemed likely to initiate a fresh stage in the dispute. Apparently, however, order has been restored; the Mexican Government has undertaken to police the district, and the American warships sent to Tampico have been withdrawn. The non-American oil companies have refused to join in the demonstration, and will probably profit considerably by the suspension of the American export. But the legality of

the increased duty is doubtful, inasmuch as it has been imposed not by Congress, but by Presidential decree. Still, in the absence of further disturbances, it is quite possible that Mexico may soon be sufficiently prosperous to begin to satisfy her creditors out of her general revenue, independently of what the duty may produce. But the action of the oil companies will probably tend to multiply the reports of impending revolution, and will help to delay the recognition of General Obregon's Government. And, in the event of a prolonged deadlock over the question of recognition, it seems doubtful whether that Government can maintain itself in power.

Cotton Spinning Dividends.—Many Lancashire cotton spinning companies take stock at the end of June, and Mr Frederick W. Tattersall, of Manchester, has prepared a summary of the announcements of 100 leading firms. Out of 76 mills which have a total paid-up ordinary share capital of £7,696,450, the results of which cover the period of three months ended June 30th last, 48 have not been able to make a distribution to shareholders, one has declared a dividend of 5 per cent., 14 10 per cent., one 11 per cent., two 12½ per cent., two 13 per cent., one 15 per cent., six 20 per cent., and one 24 per cent. per annum, which works out at an average per company of 4.82 per cent. per annum. For the previous quarter the same concerns paid an average dividend of 7.13 per cent. per annum, and for the three months ended December 31st last 19.49 per cent. per annum. The figures for the remaining 24 mills are for the first six months of this year. Nine firms have been unable to make a return to shareholders, three have paid 5 per cent., eight 10 per cent., one 13½ per cent., two 20 per cent., and one 25 per cent. per annum. The average per company is 7.22 per cent. per annum, which compares with 22.46 per cent. per annum for the last six months of 1920. The ordinary share capital of these 24 companies is £2,454,000. An analysis of the trading of the 100 companies for the first half of the year 1921 shows that the average dividend per company is 6.28 per cent. per annum, as against 22.52 per cent. per annum for the same concerns for the six months ended December 31, 1920.

English Sewing Cotton.—The depression in the textile trade is clearly reflected in the report of the English Sewing Cotton Company, Limited, for the year ended March 31st last. A year ago trading profits reached the record total of £794,100, but the report for the latest financial year shows a very severe drop, to £254,200, the lowest level touched for many years. Results since 1913-14 are set out below:—

	1913-14.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Trading profits	£ 376,365	£ 488,505	£ 468,733	£ 503,854	£ 598,105	£ 794,136	£ 254,242
Dep. and deb. int.	65,843	65,338	64,804	65,396	64,363	64,012	64,497
Net profit	310,522	423,167	403,929	438,458	533,742	730,124	189,745
Brought forward	100,079	120,862	174,029	177,958	191,416	193,563	358,608
Amount available	410,601	544,029	577,958	616,416	725,158	923,687	548,353
Preference dividend	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Ordinary dividend	130,000	180,000	200,000	200,000	250,000	300,000	300,000
Reserves, &c.	125,000	140,000	150,000	175,000	231,595	415,307	415,307
Carried forward	105,601	174,029	177,958	191,416	193,563	158,608	198,353

* Includes £200,000 transferred from stock contingencies reserve.

In spite of the drop in profits, the ordinary dividend is maintained at 15 per cent., this being made possible by the transfer of £200,000 from reserve for stock contingencies. Two years ago the capital was doubled by the capitalisation of £1,000,000 of the reserve funds. Stock-in-trade stands £420,100 lower in the balance-sheet, at £1,324,700, being taken at cost or market value, whichever is the lower, and there is also a reduction of £245,200 in investments in War bonds and War Loans. Creditors are £305,700 lower, but debtors have increased by £172,000, and the American Thread Company's current account has risen from £30,600 to £166,800.

Edward Lloyd.—A heavy decline in profits is recorded in the report and accounts just issued of Edward Lloyd, Limited, for the year ended December 31, 1920. As will be seen from our table given below, gross profits have fallen from £223,033 to £119,876:—

	1913.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Trading profit	£ 152,363	£ 103,386	£ 123,953	£ 151,536	£ 177,941	£ 223,033	£ 119,876
Brought forward	23,629	39,234	39,304	37,195	39,923	52,690	10,977
Management exps., &c.	175,992	142,620	163,257	188,731	217,864	275,723	130,853
	9,869	16,191	23,937	24,183	40,549	5,121	7,201
Reserve, &c.	166,123	126,429	139,320	164,548	177,315	270,602	123,652
Preference dividend	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Ordinary dividend	37,125	37,125	37,125	37,125	37,125	37,125	42,188
Rate	67,500	30,000	45,000	67,500	67,500	82,500	60,000
Carry forward	(11½ %)	(5 %)	(7½ %)	(11½ %)	(11½ %)	(13½ %)	(5 %)
	41,498	39,304	37,195	39,923	52,690	130,977	21,464

From the £130,977 carried forward from 1919 accounts £120,000 was transferred in 1920 to a "capitalisation reserve account." In September, 1920, the capital of the company was increased from £1,275,000 to £1,875,000 by the creation of 600,000 ordinary shares, which were allotted to ordinary shareholders by way of bonus. This and other changes will be found noted in the analysis of the balance-sheet, which appears in another column.

Southern Pacific Report.—The United States Government relinquished control of the American railroads on March 1, 1920, and the report of the Southern Pacific Company for the year 1920 therefore covers two months of operation by the Government. The figures for 1920 below include the operations of the line for the entire 12 months, regardless of the change in the form of control:—

	1919.	1920.	Increase or Decrease
Operating revenues	\$ 239,657,272	\$ 282,269,504	+ 42,612,232
Operating expenses	188,385,172	242,113,790	+ 53,728,618
Net operating revenue	51,272,100	40,155,714	- 11,116,386
Railway tax, &c.	11,963,690	14,905,009	+ 2,941,319
Operating income	39,308,410	25,250,705	- 14,057,705

The ratio of expenses to revenue was 85.77 per cent., having risen steadily from 62.18 per cent. for 1917. The net revenue for 1920 was 45.2 per cent. less than in 1917, in spite of the movement of 54 per cent. more traffic units with 3.9 per cent. less train miles. Average wages were increased 92 per cent. above the average for 1917. The increase of 28½ per cent. in operating expenses was largely due to higher wages and to increases in cost of fuel and other materials. A sum of \$20,490,420, being the estimated balance due from the Government under the guaranty, is taken into the income account. The credit balance of income account transferred to profit and loss is \$25,359,200. After payment of the 6 per cent. dividend and making certain adjustments, the surplus is increased by \$5,970,000 to \$157,976,300.

Transvaal Output for June.—The June statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the total production of fine gold during the month amounted to 678,490 ounces, as compared with 687,776 ounces in May, and 715,957 ounces for June, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	Fine Ozs. 787,467	Fine Ozs. 782,634	Fine Ozs. 714,182	Fine Ozs. 676,059	Fine Ozs. 670,503	Fine Ozs. 651,593
February	753,594	781,321	659,759	636,728	625,350	558,137
March	796,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,123
April	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,944	686,979	681,382
May	777,681	779,385	741,317	724,995	699,041	687,776
June	761,764	759,724	727,696	702,379	715,957	678,490
July	761,087	757,839	736,199	725,497	736,099	..
August	781,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	..
September	771,587	738,231	708,206	698,558	682,173	..
October	729,339	751,290	679,764	723,722	662,472	..
November	783,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	..
December	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	..
Totals	9,296,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	3,928,501

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months by Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and Contractors.

	Nov., 1920.	Dec., 1920.	Jan., 1921.	Feb., 1921.	March, 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.
Gold mines	158,773	159,671	165,287	171,518	174,364	172,826	170,595	168,152
Diamond mines	14,245	14,261	14,541	14,697	14,906	14,908	14,510	14,704
Diamond	3,504	3,240	3,319	3,612	3,564	3,316	3,302	1,317
Total	176,522	177,174	183,147	187,827	190,634	189,050	186,407	184,173

The Tanganyika Trio.—Our mining correspondent writes:—Some surprise may have been occasioned on the part of people not familiar with the position by the publicity given in London to the affairs of the Union Minière du Haut Katanga, a Belgian company, whose shares command a high premium on the Brussels Bourse, but are not dealt in here. The explanation is that a good proportion of the capital, including "dividend" shares, is held by the Tanganyika Concessions; while for some time past the Zambesia Exploring Company, another concern started with great ambitions, has practically confined its energies to assisting in the financing of the Tanganyika. Thus the shareholders in two fairly large British undertakings are vitally concerned in the progress of the Union Minière. The latter holds a huge mineral concession in the Congo Free State, and during recent years has paid substantial dividends. Naturally, during the war the directors had to "gang warily," but after the evacuation of Brussels by the Germans accounts were published covering the five years ended December 31, 1918. A gross profit was shown of nearly 117,000,000f, of which, after the deduction of special appropriations, a divisible balance of 44,510,000f remained. A dividend of 150f per 100f share was declared, absorbing 37,500,000f. In 1919 the profits amounted to 30,237,000f gross, 13,429,500f net, and 50f per share was disbursed. The adverse rate of the exchange prevented this from being reflected in a distribution on the part of the Tanganyika Company. Last year's operations resulted in a gross profit of 15,740,000f; the surplus, after providing for interest, &c., was devoted towards depreciation. Appended is a comparison of the last three balance-sheets:—

ASSETS.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Plant, buildings, development, materials, & stores en route	61,953,700	97,463,800	163,469,730
Materials and stores	13,489,300	20,583,100	28,283,451
Securities	28,729,200	15,507,000	15,925,000
Products (ores and metals)	20,326,000	60,145,800	22,342,205
Cost of debenture issue			2,000,000
Sundry debtors	20,430,700	8,048,700	19,993,303
Cash	15,555,300	1,511,300	404,856
Statutory deposits	21,000	21,000	21,000
LIABILITIES			
Capital and share premiums	20,000,000	20,000,000	40,000,000
Statutory reserve		1,250,000	1,250,000
Special reserve		3,979,400	4,371,628
Ordinary depreciation fund	26,111,200	33,281,300	69,025,707
Extraordinary	18,880,000	25,880,000	
Debentures	15,000,000	20,000,000	60,000,000
Sundry creditors	35,465,100	84,427,900	75,323,620
Debenture interest, &c.	516,100	1,011,700	2,447,570

It will be seen that capital expenditure has been on a large scale, the most important item, or, rather, collection of items, having nearly trebled. Part of the money has been provided out of revenue through the depreciation accounts, as shown, part by the raising of further capital. Towards the end of last year 12,500 shares were issued at 800f apiece, the quotation on the Brussels Bourse being then 1,900f. Shortly afterwards 40,000,000f of 7 per cent. debentures were placed. An even greater expansion is now projected in order to permit of the conduct of mining and treatment operations on an extended scale, and to meet the peculiar position in which the company is placed by the terms of its concession. The present capital consists of 150,000 ordinary shares of 100f each, a like number of "dividend" shares, possessing the same rights, but having no par value; 20,000 debentures of 1,000f each carrying 4½ per cent., and 40,000 carrying 7 per cent. interest. Further shares of the first-named class are to be created and allotted in connection with the extension of the company's rights to 1990—their limit; then, to provide for development, plant, &c., 300,000,000f are to be issued over a period of six years—half in debentures and half in what might be termed participating preference shares. This is a simplified presentation: the actual scheme is elaborate and involved. Whether or not the Tanganyika Company takes up its proportion of the new shares, it will benefit substantially through the receipt of scrip gratis under its agreement with the Comite Special du Katanga, and also through the completion of the Benguella Railway, in which it owns a nine-tenths interest. Copper smelting was commenced in 1911, and attained an average of about 20,000 tons per annum. For the first half of the current year 13,030 tons have been produced from the direct smelting of rich ores

from four mines; a concentrator for the treatment of low-grade material has commenced running. With these works, supplemented by a leaching plant, the output is expected gradually to work up to 140,000 tons per annum. The ore in sight in the 10 mines in the south-eastern district is estimated at over 32,000,000 tons, containing about 2,000,000 tons of copper. Then there are the copper mines in the western district. Coal is being extracted and used locally, and the production of tin is increasing. Deposits of gold, cobalt, and uranium are also known to exist. Additional power is to be provided by two hydro-electric installations. Altogether, therefore, the Union Minière promises to be one of the "big things" of the mining world. The results of these activities in the shape of dividends necessarily depend largely upon the state of the metal markets.

Oversea Correspondence.

FRANCE.—BUDGET PROPOSALS—BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, July 12.

IN accordance with his promise, M. Doumer, the Finance Minister, last Friday laid on the table of the Chamber a summary of his Budget proposals for 1922. The object was, of course, that Parliament should be in possession of the Minister's financial proposals before rising for the summer recess, and thus be in a position to consider them during the holidays. A rough analysis of the new Budget Bill shows that it marks a return to the principle of a unified budget, and to the sound method of balancing expenditure with revenue, without having to resort to further borrowing. Budgetary unity M. Doumer proposes to realise by suppressing what has of late years been known as the Extraordinary Budget, and by abolishing the special accounts arising out of the financing of the war. The outstanding special accounts, it may be recalled, are now being liquidated, and should be entirely wound up by the end of the current financial year. The expenditure formerly included in the Extraordinary Budget has now, for the most part, been rendered unnecessary, and what still remains of it will be incorporated in future in the Ordinary or only remaining Budget, where the items concerned will appear in the form of a special credits section, which will form part of the estimates for each ministerial department, until it progressively disappears with the cessation of the causes of its creation.

The outstanding idea of M. Doumer's first Budget is that the national finances, and the public credit of the country, can only be replaced on a sound footing if the system of continually resorting to fresh national loans is abandoned, and the public expenditure reduced to its lowest possible figure, and met by revenue from taxation. From the beginning of next year, the Minister argues, all increase of the national debt must come to an end, and the only future loans must be merely for the conversion or consolidation of the existing national debt, with the exception of those for the purpose of raising money for the reconstitution of the devastated areas. The money required for these purposes will, of course, be due from Germany, but as it will be payable only by annual instalments, some kind of loans will be required, either in the form of direct issue by the sufferers themselves (such as the loans that have recently been issued by the combined collieries, the combined sugar concerns, &c.), or by the Crédit National, the organism that was specially created for the purpose a few months ago. Some form of credit operation may also have to be effected in connection with the sale to neutral countries of the German bonds placed in the hands of the Reparations Commission.

The estimates comprised in the new Budget are as follows:—

	Francs.
Expenditure	25,496,000,000
Revenue	25,514,000,000
Estimated surplus	18,000,000

The estimated expenditure in the Budget for 1921, which was voted on April 30th, amounted to 26,499,000,000f, so

that there is an apparent reduction in the new Budget of 1,003,000,000f. As a matter of fact, the real reduction of expenditure, so far as the estimates included in the recent Budget are concerned, amounts in round figures to 2,548,000,000f. The new Budget, for the first time since 1870, includes expenditure in connection with Alsace-Lorraine, amounting to 145,000,000f, while the increased amount to be found to meet the interest on the national debt, which it is obviously impossible to avoid, reaches a total for 1922 of 1,000,000,000f. The amount allocated for redemption purposes will also have to be increased by 400,000,000f to cover the sinking fund requirements of the last national loan.

On the revenue side M. Doumer estimates a yield of 3,300,000,000f from direct taxation, and 16,120,000,000f from registrations, customs, indirect taxation, &c., making together 19,420,000,000f. The estimate coming under the second of these headings is based on the yield from similar sources during the year 1920. Another 3,050,000,000f is expected from "exceptional resources," from which it is expected the financial year of 1922 will benefit in the same way, as last year suffered from exceptional expenditure arising out of the war. These "exceptional resources" will include the yield from the tax on war profits (including the proportion due from Alsace-Lorraine), and the revenue received from the sale of Army and other stocks. This, it is estimated, will bring the total revenue "in sight" up to 22,470,000,000f, leaving a balance of 3,000,000,000f to be obtained from new sources (although it is regarded as probable that the two Chambers, as the result of their examination of the Budget proposals, will insist on cutting down still further some of the estimates that will be placed before them). A certain amount of saving will also probably be effected owing to the expected continued fall in commodity prices, which will naturally benefit the Government as well as other consumers. In any case, it is regarded as unlikely that any proposals will be brought forward for the imposition of entirely new taxes. What is generally expected is that the Finance Minister will attempt to procure whatever extra money may be necessary by doubling, or at any rate substantially increasing the existing tax on turnover, which would be a comparatively easy operation.

Reports current in financial circles here indicate that there is a probability of American capital coming to the rescue of the Banque Industrielle de Chine, to which I referred last week. This bank was organised, it may be remembered, in 1913, with the aid of the Chinese Government, which subscribed one-third of the capital, and undertook by formal contract to "assist the bank in all operations that it might undertake in conformity with its objects." The aim of the Chinese authorities was to provide a means that would enable it to escape from the limitations imposed upon it by the International Financial Consortium, which has for so long possessed a practical monopoly over all financial and public works undertakings in China. The standing given to the bank from its close connection with the Chinese Government was substantially increased by the permission given to it by the latter to issue its own notes, which soon stood at a premium in China, and by its acquisition of certain important Chinese railway concessions. Under French management the Banque Industrielle de Chine became an important factor in extending French influence in China, in face of British, American, and Japanese rivalry.

Apparently, too great a measure of success led to the downfall of the institution. With so many advantages in its favour, the Banque Industrielle presumed on its good fortune. In order to attract business, it offered a higher rate of interest than its older rivals, and rapidly secured an enormous number of accounts, which represented something like 1,000 millions of francs in its Chinese branches alone. Risky speculations on an enormous scale in rice and other commodities eventually caused the British banks, who had formerly accorded large credits to their Franco-Chinese confrères, to call in their money, with the result that is now known. The bank's available funds were exhausted, and, finding it impossible to continue, it closed its doors. The situation of the Banque Industrielle de Chine was the cause of a long discussion in the Chamber on Friday, which arose in consequence of the announcement that some time ago, when the bank's

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President

JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

Resources over \$500,000,000

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
17, Sherborne Lane, King William Street,
London, E. C. 4



position became critical, a telegram was despatched from the Quai d'Orsay, signed by the then Premier, M. Georges Leygues, requesting the French Ambassador in London, Comte Saint-Aulaire, immediately to bring pressure on the Governor of the Bank of England and Mr Reginald McKenna, the chairman of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, for the purpose of inducing them to come to the rescue. M. Leygues, from his seat in the Chamber, denied all knowledge of this telegram, which M. Briand frankly admitted to have been signed and despatched by M. Philippe Berthelot, Permanent Secretary of the French Foreign Office (whose brother is the president of the Banque Industrielle de Chine). The incident produced exceptional excitement in the Chamber, but M. Briand courageously "covered" his very able subordinate, and insisted that the Government was prepared to stand or fall by the Chamber's decision in the matter. In the result, M. Briand received what was for all practical purposes a vote of confidence by a majority of some 50 votes.

The Bourse has suffered from depression in consequence of the dog days even more than from such disquieting events as the shaken credit of the Banque Industrielle de Chine. There has been general inactivity and a fall in values, because of the attempt in certain quarters to realise securities. The difficulties of the Mexican petroleum industry have provoked uneasiness, and further disquieting factors have been the fall in value of petroleum in Pennsylvania and the mobilisation of the British Fleet before Constantinople. It is worth noting that there has been a marked improvement in business in the great Paris shops since the beginning of the month, and the hope is expressed generally that there is a real improvement in the economic situation. French 3 per cents. are rather stronger at 56.50, as against 56.17. Banks have fluctuated, Banque de Paris finishing at 1,270, after having been quoted at 1,260 and 1,312, while l'Union Parisienne is at 800, after fluctuating between 800 and 840. In railways Nord-Sud remains depressed at 165, Omnibus rose from 619 to 640, to drop back at 607, Chargeurs Réunis, having paid a 20f dividend, is back from 590 to 550, and

Messageries from 215 to 205. Metallurgical undertakings are lower, Creusot falling from 2,145 to 2,130, and Acieries de France from 605 to 585. In mining securities Tintos have fluctuated from 1,440 to 1,420, and Boleo is weaker at 435.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	DEBTOR.		
	July 7, 1921. France.	June 30, 1921. France.	July 10, 1913. France.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	32,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918)	586,175,233	595,645,496	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	855,273,461	810,943,897	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,667,080,370	37,422,086,820	5,593,784,890
Interest on securities	96,877,570	60,657,850	37,682,064
Bank notes to order	975,856	1,113,967	4,127,467
Treasury account	22,931,615	89,961,335	244,054,928
Current accounts, Paris	1,686,062,002	1,693,988,784	533,735,947
Do branch banks	1,003,533,955	1,076,598,129	78,402,456
Dividends payable	16,478,954	23,360,688	7,511,717
Discounts and sundries	14,078,306	5,560,593	5,434,829
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,829
Sundries	1,062,687,243	1,255,573,514	280,577,191
Total	43,282,250,866	43,306,387,373	7,015,883,786
	CREDITOR.		
	July 7, 1921. France.	June 30, 1921. France.	July 10, 1913. France.
Cash in hand	5,795,067,251	5,791,644,138	3,935,852,374
Balances abroad	668,411,578	690,906,258	..
Commercial bills overdue	1,328,292	561,129	40,557
Discounts in Paris	1,665,815,324	1,793,667,421	585,948,029
Foreign bills	7,066,341	5,822,840	20,592,441
Treasury bills	201,334	87,173	120,425
Discounts in branches	1,073,607,932	1,102,891,923	960,871,207
Adjourned payments, Paris and branches	97,027,864	96,558,127	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	7,869,000
Do on public securities	424,023,230	422,549,424	205,274,420
Do on branch banks	1,850,378,083	1,772,683,085	553,271,181
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,300,000,000	25,000,000,000	*6,398,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern- ments	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,983,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,908,221	101,836,155	99,586,202
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	46,952,402	46,949,655	42,128,884
Expenses and management	2,640,513	1,114,657	1,833,878
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,304,499
Sundries	1,861,500,209	2,079,853,191	274,811,439
Total	43,282,250,866	43,306,387,373	7,015,883,786

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	%
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	2½

GERMANY.—REPARATIONS TAXES—BANKS IN 1920 —EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—INDUSTRY—PRICES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, July 11.

THE Reichstag has adjourned until September, after hearing only a general statement as to the new financial reform. The more important tax Bills are not prepared, the yields are in most cases not yet calculated, and differences of principle in the Coalition parties, it is believed, prevent any clear definition of the new property taxes. The Chancellor's statement to the Reichstag on July 6th put the budgetary situation as follows:—Ordinary expenditure 48.5 milliard marks, of which 35.8 milliards for Federal purposes proper; extraordinary, 59 milliards, of which 26.6 milliards for execution of the Peace Treaty, the remainder going mainly on subsidies to the railways and posts and food-cheapening subsidies. The extraordinary expenditure, Dr Wirth promised, will be cut down as speedily as possible. The third (Reparations) part of the Budget, consisting of the fixed annual payment and the 26 per cent. on exports, is calculated at 3.3 milliard gold marks, estimated in the first year on the assumption that the foreign buying power of the mark will move towards its home buying power, at 42 milliards of paper marks. The occupation cost, for which 15 milliards have been provided in the 1921 Budget, is an unknown quantity. The principle of the new financial reform will be a fair equilibrium between direct and indirect taxation. Direct taxation proposed is: increase of the income-tax yield by improvement in assessment and control methods; an elaboration of the emergency levy (Reichsnoteopfer), a heavy increase of the tax of dividends and interest, a reform of the insurance tax, and new

taxes on motor-cars and on betting. Indirect: increase of Customs duties, coal, sugar, tobacco, and beer taxes; elaboration of the spirit monopoly, mineral water and match taxes, and establishment of an explosive monopoly. The reform of the emergency levy will be based on the fact that owners of real property have not been so heavily taxed as owners of paper-mark wealth; the method to be adopted will be annually recurring assessments, which will take into account the displacement of values caused by fluctuations in the value of the currency, this affecting also public companies, which so far under the levy have been taxed a uniform 10 per cent. The annual yield would be at least 7 or 8 milliards. The promised State participation in industry is to be achieved by taking a proportion of dividends. A post-war profits tax is fore-shadowed, which will take part of the increments of wealth since July 31 or December 31, 1919, here only very large increments being touched. From these taxes is expected 32 to 36 milliards revenue more than in 1921, and the total taxation yield will be 80 milliards. Of the new coal taxation Dr Wirth only repeated that it would take as much of the difference between home and world market prices as can be taken without injuring industry. Direct taxes in the coming years will bring 40.5 milliards, or 54½ per cent., of revenue. This programme, which naturally does not provide for the covering of all expenditure, estimated at 150 milliards, was severely attacked by German-National and German People's party spokesmen. It is, in fact, less precise than the partial semi-official statements earlier made. The new inflation wealth reaped by owners of real property through the rise in nominal values will be trebly taxed—by the amendment of the emergency levy, by the post-war profits tax, and by the existing triennial *Besitzsteuer*, which takes 10 per cent of increment of wealth.

Dr Wirth again protested against the sanctions as a cause of injury to trade, and therefore a threat to his reforms. Reports, in fact, agree that the Rhine Customs frontier is seriously damaging business. According to a report of the Rhenish Reichstag Deputy Erkelenz, a production decrease of 30-50 per cent. has been caused to some firms. In 90 Düsseldorf concerns, employing 50,000 workmen, the number of hours worked less than the normal has increased since March 6th four and a-half fold. Since February the quantity of goods loaded in Düsseldorf harbour has fallen to half, and the number of railway carloads to nearly a third. A report of the President of Düsseldorf county states that 200,000 out of 550,000 employees are working short time.

The private banks' reports for 1920 show the effect of inflation in an all-round increase of business, and also in largely increased profits. The dividends of the eight largest banks are increased. The gross and net profits (in millions of marks) and dividends are:—

	Gross.	Net.	Dividend.	Dividend, 1919.
Deutsche	713.0	185.0	18	12
Disconto	397.9	160.1	16	10
Dresdner	421.8	144.2	12½	9
Darmstaedter	263.0	58.5	10	8
Berl. Handelsges.	72.7	36.9	12½	10
Commerz und Privat.	210.0	66.8	12	9
National	110.7	46.5	10	7
Mitteldeutsche	73.5	16.6	10	8

Gross profits totalled 2,262,000,000 marks, or 1,429,000,000 marks more than in 1919, and nett profits 715,000,000 marks, or 454,000,000 marks more. The average dividend was 13.4 per cent., against 9.1 per cent. Capital at close of 1920 was 1,740,000,000 marks, showing an increase of 280,500,000 marks during the year. Capital and reserves (in millions of marks) at close of the year were:—

	Capital.	Reserves.
Deutsche	400	378
Disconto	310	140
Dresdner	260	80
Darmstaedter	220	47
Berl. Handelsges.	110	34.5
Commerz und Privat.	200	50.7
National	150	30
Mitteldeutsche	90	13.8

The Disconto and Dresdner Banks both announce increases of capital, in each case by 90 million marks. The liabilities of the eight banks at the close of 1920 totalled 63,346,000,000 marks, or 2,519 per cent. on their capital

and reserves of 2,514,000,000 marks. The banks' realisable assets mostly consist of Treasury bills, and these are classed as realisable on the ground that they may be promptly rediscounted by the Reichsbank. The Deutsche Bank report shows that 85.1 per cent. of liabilities are covered by assets classified as "fluid in the first degree," the Dresdner 70.2 per cent., the lowest being the National Bank with 44.7 per cent. The reports do not show what proportion of the bills are Treasury bills, but it is known that trade bills play a small and decreasing rôle. The clearings of the eight banks last year totalled about five billion marks; the three largest banks had each clearings of over one billion. The report for 1920 of the Deutsche Girozentrale, which is the central institution, founded in 1918, of the local Giro-Zentralen, or municipal union banks, shows also a large increase in business. Capital is to be increased to 55,000,000 marks. The Savings Banks in May experienced a decline of 200,000,000 marks in deposits; the nett increase of deposits in the whole first five months of 1921 was 2,650,000,000 marks, against 1,740,000,000 marks in the same months of 1920, and 3,250,000,000 marks in same months of 1919. The number of bankruptcies in the first half of 1921 was 1,573, against 447 in same half of 1920, and 4,490 in first half of 1914. The demand for industrial capital in June was 1,525,000,000 marks, against 1,179,000,000 marks in May. The total for the first half-year is 10,291,000,000 marks, of which 6,635,000,000 marks was for ordinary stock, 2,439,000,000 marks for bonds, and the remainder for preference stock. A Bill has been submitted depriving the private note-issuing banks of the right to dispose of their gold. These banks, the Bayerische Notenbank, Sächsische Bank, Württembergische Bank, and Badische Bank hold 55 million marks gold, and on the basis of an agitation for the sale of this gold, and for voluntary relinquishment of the right of issue, there has been heavy speculation in their shares, which stand much higher than Reichsbank shares. The new law compensates the banks for loss of power over their gold by increasing their tax-free issue right. In future the total issues may be 640,000,000 marks.

The Reichsbank statement for June 30th shows record pressure, caused entirely by State demands. The bank's holding of discounted Treasury bills increased by 15,173,359,000 marks to 79,607,790,000 marks, while private bills declined by 96,948,000 marks to 1,565,406,000 marks. Note circulation increased by 3,334,382,000 marks, the largest week's increase so far, to 75,321,095,000 marks; State deposits increased by 2,116,590,000 marks to 5,647,805,000 marks, and private deposits by 7,163,635,000 marks to 14,744,903,000 marks. "Kassenschein" circulation increased by 50,600,000 marks to 8,706,600,000 marks. Money continues to be very plentiful. Day money can be had in Berlin for 4½ per cent. The decline in reichsmark exchange has brought here foreign money, mostly American. The bourse during the past two weeks has continued active and firm. The outside public, disregarding the probable effect on dividends, and on the liquidation value of company assets of the State's intended taxes and participation in profits, is buying eagerly. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* securities index shows a rise from 15,628 on June 25th to 15,885 on July 2nd, and to 16,632 on July 9th, the last figure being 85 per cent. above the level of January 2, 1920. Last week began with a frantic demand for stocks, mostly by outsiders. Leaders were the coal and iron stocks of the companies fused in Herr Stinnes' Rhine-Elbe Union, in particular the Deutsch-Luxemburg Company, but other Western metal stocks were also demanded; also shipping and shipbuilding stocks, while bank stocks were dull. The market was supported by numerous, mostly denied, rumours of fusions, but the American peace vote had no effect; also, despite expectations, no effect on the mark exchange, the dollar to-day selling at 78.45½, and sterling at 285.05. War Loan was to-day quoted 77.50, 4 per Cent. Federal 78.30, 3½ per Cent. 69.40, 3 per Cent. 76.10, Colonial 4 per Cent. 69.50, and Savings and Premium 80.25.

Prices are again rising. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* monthly index shows for 77 commodities on July 2nd 135.4, against 127 (lowest since February, 1920) on June 4th, a maximum of 153 on December 1st last, 100 on January 1, 1921, and 9.23 before the war. On June the

food group rose from 127 to 144.5, textiles and leather from 70 to 79, and minerals from 109 to 115.3, while the miscellaneous group fell from 191.4 to 190.6. Of the 77 commodities 29 rose, 10 fell, and the rest remained unchanged. The price-rise must partly be ascribed to the fallen buying power abroad of the reichsmark; but the slackening in the world price-fall is elsewhere observable—the last Swedish and Danish monthly indexes show no change. The Prussian Ministry of Trade's reports on industry in June show a general buying activity on the part of the public, the invariable result of currency depreciation; but this is not yet fully reflected in industrial activity. In the textiles branches the demand and the condition of employment improved; in other branches, in particular the chemical, paper and machine, the activity caused by expectation of higher prices was counterbalanced by the sanctions, aggravated in the case of dyes by the manufacturing crisis abroad. In the electrical branches only the small-motor department showed an improvement. The improvement in the cotton, wool, and silk branches was marked.

The Zwangswirtschaft is approaching its end. A conference of food ministers decided in favour of abolishing Sugar Control on August 1st. The area under sugar is rapidly increasing, and is this year 77 per cent. of that of 1913-14. The price of that portion of the wheat harvest that remains controlled is fixed at 2,300 marks per metric ton, rye 2,100 marks, barley 2,000 marks, and oats 1,800 marks.

ITALY.—THE NEW GENERAL TARIFF.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, July 10.

THE most important measure enacted by the past Giolitti Cabinet on the eve of its fall was the hurried passing by Royal legislative decree of the new general tariff. The decree bears the date of June 9, 1921, and was published in the official *Gazette* of June 30, 1921. Professor Alessio, the former Minister of Industry, was evidently bent on leaving his mark on fiscal legislation. A new general tariff was necessary, for the existing tariff of 1887 was growing obsolete. The great problem was—more or less protection? No one dreamed of a return to the Free-trade era of Cavour and his immediate successors. A Royal Commission had studied the problem, and published over 30 large volumes of special and general reports. Its findings were decisively protectionist. They proposed that the old system of a general tariff and of subsequent treaties of commerce with foreign countries with lower binding duties should be discontinued, and that in place thereon should be substituted a system, akin to French or United States examples of a double tariff; a higher tariff to be applicable to some nations and a lower tariff to States giving us the benefit of lower duties, both duties to be variable, at the pleasure of the Italian Government. The Protectionism in these proposals was too rampant to be acceptable to political parties. The present Alessio tariff maintains the old principle of a general tariff applicable to all countries which apply their general tariff to our goods, and of a lower tariff based on future treaties of commerce. Much will depend, therefore, on the stipulation of commercial treaties, but evidently the general tariff is to be a basis on which negotiations will be conducted. The general features of the new tariff are as follow:—(1) The tariff is applicable as from July 1, 1921, to all goods which do not come from countries with which Italy has a treaty of commerce in force. (2) The duties are payable in gold, i.e., at a rate of exchange which is every week fixed by Government, on the basis, presumably, of a mean of the exchanges with France, Switzerland, Great Britain, and United States. (3) To the principal duty there is to be added, in the great majority of cases, an additional duty, called increment coefficient (*coefficiente di maggiorazione*). For instance, "Horses," which bear the schedule number 1 of the new tariff, pay, if not less than 1.40 metres in height, 140 gold lire each. As, however, the increment coefficient is 0.5, we shall add another 70 lire, so that the whole duty will be 210 gold-lire, which, by the way, corresponds to-day to about 700 paper-lire.

(4) The additional duty is variable at the will of the

Government. If the Minister of Industry thinks that foreign competition is becoming too severe, he can put up the duty by a decree, and afterwards put the decree on the table of the House of Deputies, which, it is hoped, will accept the accomplished fact.

(5) The new tariff includes 951 schedules, whereas the old tariff contained only 472. The increase is partly due to technical variations and progress in the industry between 1887 and 1921, but is also, unmistakably, an indication of the more Protectionist tendency of the new tariff. With more numerous and refined distinctions between goods and goods, the clause of the more favoured nation will not work at all smoothly. The refinement in the classification of goods is directed against the peril—from a Protectionist point of view—that a lowering of a duty on a given class of goods in favour of a given country may be used by another country for claiming a decrease on other goods which happen to be in the same class. With more detailed schedules this stretching of decreases will not be so easy as in the past. The change of classification makes an exact comparison between old and new tariff more difficult. If all schedules resembled the first already cited ("horses higher than 1.40 metres"), the prospect for Italian consumers would not be bright. In the old tariff horses paid 40 gold-lire. Now they pay 140 lire principal duty, 70 lire additional duty, in all 210 lire, all in gold, equivalent to about 700 paper-lire. The increase in paper-lire is about seventeenfold. Fortunately the increases are not everywhere so high. But the instance given is sufficient to point out a fundamental mistake in the new tariff. The compilers evidently adopted the "increment coefficient" to enable the Government to counteract the influence of increased costs of production of Italian goods in relation to the assumed lower cost of foreign goods. But the payment in gold-lire has already the very same aim and effect. The payment in gold and the additional duty are bound to overlap, and to constitute, in most cases, a double charge on Italian consumers.

The schedules are so varied as to give an impression of decrease in the lower grades of goods, but the decreases are few, and comparatively unimportant in comparison with the increases in the higher grades. If the "principal" duty may appear lowered in some cases, this impression is reversed if we take account of the additional duty. Italian consumers, moreover, who pay duties in paper-lire and whose incomes, in not a few cases, have not increased in proportion to the depreciation of the lira, are apt to be hit by the gold duties even more severely than foreign importers from relatively appreciated countries. The Government says that foreign States, as, for instance, Great Britain, France, Spain, Czecho-Slovakia, have increased their tariffs even more, but the contemplation of worse cases will be a scanty comfort to Italian consumers.

SWEDEN.—THE COST OF LIVING—WAGES—FINANCIAL CONDITIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, July 9.

EASIER conditions in the money market have warranted a further lowering of the discount rate, which is now 6 per cent., still a very high figure, and far too high in comparison with trade conditions. It is hoped, therefore, that we shall not have to wait very long until the next abatement takes place. Every quarter the Swedish Board of Social Welfare publishes an index of the cost of living, which is based on reports from 49 different places all over the country, and also on the expenses for a family of four with an annual income before the war of 2,000 kroner. The result obtained at the end of June last shows a considerable decline, as compared with March, there being a drop of 13 points, viz., from 249 to 236. On October 1st last year the cost of living in Sweden, according to this table, reached its highest level at 281, and since then there has been a decline up to now of 45 points. Largely contributing to this cheaper living, which on paper looks quite correct but may not be noticed to any marked degree by the public in general, have been cheaper prices for foodstuffs, fuel, lighting, clothing, and sundry expenses, whereas rents and taxes are unchanged, and prob-

ably will be so for at least a year ahead. As regards wholesale prices, there is no doubt that also in this country the previous constant falls have been checked. Thus, for example, vegetable foodstuffs, coal, hides, and leather have gone up, whereas there are slight set-backs in animal foodstuffs, agricultural necessities, metals, buildings materials, textiles. Prices for woodpulp have been stagnant. The average gives the same position for June as for May last. The Government has just granted another two million kroner for relief work in the northern parts of the country. Lately considerable criticism has been launched against the principle of unemployment support, as seriously retarding the downward progress of wages and costs. It is felt that unless Swedish industry materially reduces its working costs no place will be found for its products in the domestic or foreign markets. Thus far the iron industry claims 40 per cent. reduction in wages, as compared with last year, half of this being agreed upon already earlier this year. There will, of course, be strong opposition, but the claim seems justified. Notwithstanding the fact that considerable concessions have been made in prices for Swedish export pig-iron, no business is taking place.

A considerable depreciation has taken place during the first half of this year in shares of all kinds. It is estimated that this loss amounts to 725 million kroner, whereof 500 millions fall on industrial shares, 32 millions on traffic, and 192 millions on banking shares. Since the termination of the British coal strike there has been a slight improvement in sterling, and this has affected also other exchange rates, with the result that we see dollars, francs, and the other Scandinavian rates somewhat better. What will happen with German marks, which have also gone up a little, is an open question. There have been reports that German industry is falling off, but until we have some more substantial proofs of this statement it is better not to judge. The fact is, however, that for some months Germany has not been taking so much raw material from this country.

Letters to the Editor.

FIXED CAPITAL: RAILWAY AND OTHER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—My attention has been called—*apropos* of your criticism of the Memorandum on the Railways Bill, issued by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers, which appeared in your issue of July 2nd—to a letter from Mr Birkett in your issue of July 9th. Writing on behalf of the federation, Mr Birkett claims that the fact that railways cannot transfer their capital does not greatly differentiate them from other trading concerns. The matter is of some public interest, so with your permission I should like to say a word.

It is true that all trading capital is in some degree fixed. But the difference of degree between a railway and an ordinary factory is so great that it practically becomes a difference in kind. Physicists tell us that the laws which apply to the movement of water in the Atlantic Ocean do not apply to the movement of a single drop. And this is really analogous to the case for railways made in a few words in your article. I take up the balance-sheet of a manufacturing company with which I am connected. I find that the total capital is roughly equivalent to the value of "stock and works in progress," and further that the value of the output for the year is roughly three times the total capital. And 5 per cent. on the turnover means 15 per cent. on the capital. Compare this with a railway. Before the war it took the English railways nine years to turn over their capital once. In every £100 of capital about 75 per cent. was fixed and irremovable; about 20 per cent. was in rolling-stock, practically unsaleable, about 3 per cent. representing stores partially realisable. A profit of 65 per cent. on the amount of the turnover was equivalent to an average dividend of 4 per cent. Surely the resemblance to a factory is of the slightest.

As to the question whether "the only satisfactory test of efficient and economical management of a railway is the ability to earn a profit," let me give Mr Birkett another instance, in addition to your mushroom tunnel. Some 50 years ago an enterprising company built a rack railway over the Mont Cenis Pass, to connect the railway systems of France and Italy. Some years afterwards the railway administrations on the two sides of the Pass combined and made a tunnel. Naturally, the rack railway lost the whole of its traffic, and the cost of removing the rails was, I believe, greater than their scrap value. Did the fact that the mountain railway failed to earn a profit prove lack of efficient or economical management? Or was it not rather that the shareholders' money was matter in the wrong place?—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

A STUDENT OF ECONOMICS.

London, July 11th, 1921.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I appreciate Mr Mason's courteous letter, and I feel that he will be doing a great public service by arranging for a conference to examine the highly important, but very difficult problem of stabilising the value of currencies.

It would help very much to the understanding of the position taken up by those who advocate the gradual return to the old gold standard if Mr Mason would state clearly in what manner he foresees the two main obstacles being overcome. These obstacles are:—

(1) The very large proportion of the total national income which would be required to pay the interest on debt if the money value of the national income were reduced by causing prices and wages to fall in the degree necessary in order to restore the gold standard. Taking the output of commodities to have been about 20 per cent. less in 1920 than in 1913, and taking into account the loss of interest on foreign investments sold during the war, one might estimate the national income for 1920 at 1913 prices at about £1,500,000,000, of which debt service would take 23 per cent. Is it possible that the nation can or will face such a burden, or does Mr Mason favour the writing down of debt by a capital levy?

(2) It appears, both from theory and experience, that a small reduction in currency and credit produces temporarily quite a large fall in prices, owing to the psychological effect in weakening confidence and retarding the velocity of circulation of money and bank deposits. There is then a partial recovery, which (if the policy of deflating currency still continues) will be followed by a further fall in prices. So that the policy of gradual deflation seems to mean a see-saw of prices, each dip going a little lower. Such a condition of affairs could not be conducive to enterprise or to that increased production of wealth which is the true means to pay our debts and to place our finances on a sound basis. Does Mr Mason dispute the bad effect of falling prices on trade and production, and if so, on what grounds?

Until clear and satisfactory replies can be given on these two points, I must continue to believe that the adoption of the tabular standard of values would be a sounder policy than the attempt to return to the old gold standard. I believe the adoption of the tabular standard would stabilise foreign exchanges more rapidly than any other policy.

Without venturing to criticise the interesting forecast of the probable movements of gold prices given by Sir James Wilson, I venture to remark that gold does not seem likely to prove a very reliable standard of value in the immediate future. The output of gold has been falling since 1912, and though a temporary increase of gold prices in U.S.A. is likely, owing to the accumulation of gold in that country, the gradual return of other nations to the gold standard would increase the demand for gold as currency, and would tend to make it more valuable (to depress gold prices), as happened in the years following 1873, when country after country demonetised silver and adopted the gold standard.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

London, July 13th, 1921.

AKTIEBOLAGET UNIONBANKEN I FINLAND.

Amalgamation of:
WASA AKTIE BANK, establ. 1879.
ÅBO AKTIEBANK, " 1896.
LANDTMANNABANKEN, A.B., " 1910.

Head Offices: WASA, ÅBO, HELSINGFORS.

57 Branches.

Capital Paid Up and Reserves:

Fmk. 235,000,000.

Telegr. Address: "Unionbank."

Every description of Banking business transacted.

THE CAUSES AND THE REMEDY OF DEPRESSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The general expectation, since the beginning of this year, for a revival of trade, has not been realised, and the position at present seems to be a deadlock.

Many reasons have been, and are still, advanced as to the causes of the slump. Those most repeated amongst them are, that prices had reached too high a level, and that the world could not pay (or refused to pay) such prices; and yet it is obvious that the increase of values was the inevitable result of the supply of commodities being considerably less than the demand, and that the world was paying the very high prices.

The overseas trade of this country reached the following figures in 1920:—

Imports	£ 1,936,742,120
Exports	1,557,974,984
Total imports and exports	3,494,717,104

Taking into consideration that the above total figure was £905,176,150 in excess of the total overseas trade of 1919, and that the greater percentage of the 1920 trade was contracted in 1919—prior to the last rapid advance in prices—there is no doubt that the total overseas trade this year would have considerably exceeded £4,000,000,000, but this was not going to be accomplished.

The Treasury declared, in the autumn of 1919, its policy to be to reduce credit inflation and to restore an effective gold standard—without, by the way, having a free gold market.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer declared that:—"The extent of the advances made to trade was such as to endanger and reduce the amount of Treasury bills."

In short, a policy of general deflation was proclaimed, and forced upon the commercial world through artificial means of contraction of credit.

How disastrous the result of such policy has turned out to be, as regards the national finances, the revenue figures of the present financial year clearly show.

On the other hand, the effect of such policy upon trade is the present inevitable deadlock.

Shortage—or contraction of credit—creates forced sales, and the latter create panic and colossal losses, which, in their turn, create deadlock.

A glance at the statistics should convince the most enthusiastic deflationist that there is colossal shortage of commodities.

The ratio of production to consumption (i.e., the effective demand) is the true and solid factor determining prices. Any other procedure affecting prices is artificial, and therefore temporary.

The position, at present, is that, on the one hand, retailers and most of the wholesale dealers in overseas markets are short of goods; but, on the other hand, for the financial reasons explained above, the manufacturer, the exporter, and/or the importer is forced to sell at prices considerably less than the present cost of production.

I wonder if the authors of such untenable policy have yet realised that manufacturers and export merchants have lost, and are still losing, colossal figures for the benefit of the retailers, and so long as retailers can find

sellers giving goods away, are they or the wholesale dealers expected to place fresh orders for their requirements?

The revival of trade is bound to come, but it will not begin until and unless the present silly forced sales cease and confidence is re-established; and this can only be accomplished provided the pressure of finance upon commerce is relaxed.

The recent reductions of the Bank rate are clear indications of a reversal of the policy which was undoubtedly responsible for the present stagnation, colossal unemployment, and almost complete cessation of production of wealth. It should be borne in mind that credit (or currency), whether based on the gold standard or not, is mere token of real wealth—i.e., commodities—and that, therefore, they should continue to be instrumental for the production of such wealth.

If you take care of production, prices will take care of themselves. Until the supply of commodities counterbalances the demand, the true measure of the pound (£) cannot be re-established.

Contraction of credit stops production, and the latter, in the long run, enhances the value of commodities. Whether the purchasing power of a person, or a nation, is less or more, if there is shortage of goods, the price of such goods will reach famine level.

The writer has seen a certain quality of textiles being retailed in a foreign market in 1919 at 5s per yard, and in 1920 at 7s 9d per yard, at the day's rate of exchange of the respective countries, the pre-war value of such goods being 4d per yard! And yet the purchasing powers of both countries were, and are, at the lowest ebb.

OBSERVER.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Statische Theorie des Geldes." By Georg Friedrich Knapp. Third Edition, Revised and Enlarged. (Munich) Dunder and Humblot, 45 marks.

The tiresome habit of rewriting a *magnum opus* is very prevalent just now, but this is not a case in point. The changes made in successive editions of this nominalist Bible are not so considerable as to make it necessary for an unbeliever to reread the book in its new form. The theoretical chapters are quite unaltered in this revised version.

In spite of the great stir which this work has made on the Continent since 1905, it is bound to remain comparatively unfamiliar in England. Its portentous armoury of new technical terms makes it a difficult book to read in the original and an impossible book to translate. This is a pity, because it results in our hearing a good deal, at second hand and indirectly, of an eccentric monetary theory which does not appeal to us, and hearing very little of the much more valuable work which Knapp has done in the historical field. The theory does not appeal to us because we fail to see the need of looking at economics through the spectacles of the jurist. We still talk unrepentantly of the "value of money," and believe that a shilling is not worth as much to-day as it was before the war. But if anyone would attempt to render into English the historical chapters of this book, he would be doing a public service, and might at the same time discover that Knapp the historian is much better appreciated in this empirical country than Knapp the nominalist.

The Universal Trading Code, reviewed in the *Economist* for June 25, 1921, on page 1376, can be obtained in London from Messrs Gay and Hancock, Limited.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Law of Carriage by Railway. By Henry W. Disney. Fifth Edition. (London) Stevens and Sons, Limited. 12s 6d net.

Report and Papers Relative to the Financial Reconstruction of Austria. Published for the League of Nations. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 5s net.

The Economics of Reparation. By J. A. Hobson. (London) George Allen and Unwin, Limited. 1s net.

The History and Present Condition of the Oil Industry in Galicia. By Dr S. Janicki. (London) Polish Press Bureau, 2 Upper Montague street, W.C.1. 2s 6d net.

Journal of Indian Industries and Labour. Volume I., Part 2. May, 1921. (Calcutta) Superintendent Government Printing.

Textile Institute, Manchester. Spring Conference, Basle, May 17 to 20, 1921. (Basle) Froberuis, Limited.

An interesting book, printed in English, issued by the Basle Chamber of Commerce as a souvenir of the Conference.

The Irish Situation. By Stephen Gwynn. (London) Jonathan Cape. 3s 6d net.

A survey of the situation in Ireland up to and including the elections of June, 1921.

The Edinburgh Review. July, 1921. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 7s 6d.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 103, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. ACCOUNT.
July 27. July 28.

For some reason or other the Stock Exchange got the impression that the Bank rate might be reduced to 5½ per cent., or possibly even to 5 per cent., on Thursday, with the result that gilt-edged stocks showed an appearance of buoyancy in advance of the announcement. Upon the decision being made known, the War Loan and a few of its immediate satellites eased off, but considerable strength continued to be shown by the newly-issued Colonial, Corporation, and similar stocks, while Home Railway prior-charge issues advanced in many cases. Business in most markets is better than it has been, various factors contributing. The hope of cheaper money, the expectation of settlement in Ireland, the conclusion of the industrial trouble in the coal, engineering, and allied trades, and the prospect of disarmament in the Pacific, have all played their parts in bringing about a less doleful feeling. There has been some improvement even amongst the speculative markets.

Foreigners are generally firm. The Paris Bourse was closed on Wednesday night for the rest of the week, and this had some little effect in checking activity amongst the inter-Bourse securities. Brazilians, however, are a harder market. Chinese have been steadily bought on the idea that the proposed conference between Great Britain, the United States, and Japan may lead to a reduction of armaments in the Far East from which China will benefit. Japanese dollar bonds have further advanced. French and German issues are better, and the Argentines came into demand towards the end of the week.

In the Home Railway market it is the "Heavy" group—which comprises North-Westerns, Midlands, Great Westerns, North-Easterns, and Lancashire and Yorkshire—which is the firmest of the moment. Rises have been secured by all these stocks. On the other hand, the Southern passenger, the Scottish, and the Underground sections are somewhat dull, from which the inference is drawn that it must be investors who are buying Home Rails, and that, regarded as speculations, the lower-priced stocks present little temptation. There is nothing doing in Grand Trunks, Mexican, or Argentine Rails. United of Havana gave way on the placing, privately, of a fair amount of debenture stock. The general tendency amongst South American Railway issues is heavy.

Rubber shares are decidedly better on a recovery to 10d per lb in the price of rubber, coupled with the statement that the United States is once more in the market as a buyer of the raw stuff. Several dozen price-improvements have occurred. The oil market continues under the influence of the political negotiations between Mexico and the United States in connection with the proposed new taxes on oil. The latest gossip is to the effect that Mexico has consented to postpone, *sine die*, the imposition of the fresh taxation to which President Harding voices strong American objection. Prices have been some-

what irregular, though keeping to the firmer side on balance. A number of textile shares are better, and in the shipping market a recovery in the price of silver, the metal, caused rises in P. and O. deferred and Indo-China Steamship. A number of banking shares are ex dividend this week. Hong-kong Banks have risen substantially, partly on the dividend announcement, but still more in consequence of the hardening of silver. There is not much doing in the insurance market. The speculative shares, such as Dunlops, Vickers, Maypole Deferred, and a few others, have hardened in sympathy with the better tendency in other parts of the Stock Exchange. New industrial issues are decidedly good, substantial premiums being established upon the Metropolitan Electric Extension debenture and the new debenture stock of the North Metropolitan Electric Company. The wireless group is quiet, while amongst catering shares Lyons stand out with further improvement, the company's new "A" shares being more particularly in demand.

Owing to a further rise in the price of gold, Kaffirs are a more cheerful market. There has been a little Continental demand, supplemented by Cape buying and support from the inner rings of London and the provinces. Without much business to back up the movement, it is doubted whether the rise possesses much staying power; but this remains to be seen. Chartered are harder, on the hope that General Smuts will take in hand the matter of coming to some settlement in regard to the inclusion of Southern Rhodesia in the Union of South Africa. Mexican silver shares came to the front with improvements owing to the strength of the metal, but the tin groups remain neglected. Several of the diamond shares have hardened, and Russians keep tolerably steady, while in the West African market the gold-producing shares command but little interest. The Stock Exchange, taken as a whole, has assumed a more cheerful complexion, and the improvement in prices has certainly played its part in contributing to the slight increase in the volume of business.

We are officially informed that Mr Adam Walker has been expelled from the Stock Exchange.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—

Amount previously recorded.... 129,061,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER 9 DAYS ENDED JULY 9, 1921.

April 1 to July 9, £1,910,000 Dr 150,000 .. Dr 150,000

To the Public—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Wood Street Cinema (Middleton), 8,000 Ord. £1, at par (July 11)	8,000	8,000	2,000	6,000
Amount offered to public.....	8,000	8,000	2,000	6,000
To Shareholders only—				
Metallurgical and Mining Syndicate, 350,000 Shares, 2s 6d, at par	43,750	43,750	8,750	35,000
Sumatra Planting Syndicate, 20,000 Shares, £1, at par.....	20,000	20,000	2,500	17,500
Total offered to shareholders only.....	63,750	63,750	11,250	52,500
Total offered for subscription to date in—				
1920.....	£128,977,209			£367,549,656
1921.....	248,216,123			1,036,059,951
1918.....	402,956,829			1,393,381,441
1919.....	766,612,895			1,318,596,010
1917.....	1,059,453,423			585,436,850
1916.....	516,531,200			685,236,348
1915.....	657,123,876			512,522,533
1914.....	169,612,623			196,536,980

5½ % Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. Principal and interest of the bonds are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, while interest on bonds will be exempt from Corporation Profits tax. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Rights of exchanging their holdings for similar amounts of the new bonds, together with a cash payment, are offered to holders of the following securities on the terms indicated:—5 per cent. Exchequer bonds, due October 5, 1921, 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due October 1, 1922—a cash payment of £4 per £100 of bonds surrendered; 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due April 1, 1923, 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due September 1, 1923—a cash payment of £3 10s per £100 of bonds surrendered. Bonds will be in denominations of £50, £100, £200, £500, £1,000, and £5,000, and the interest will be payable half-yearly by coupon. The amount is not limited, and the bonds will be on continuous sale for an unspecified period. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9, 1921 (see page 43).

Government of India Rupee Loan.—The subscriptions in India and London to the Indian Government 1921 Rupee Loan, which was opened on June 20th, amounted to Rs 2½ crores up to July 7th. The loan, which is in the form of 6 per cent. (free of Indian income-tax) five and ten-year bonds at par, is for an unlimited amount, and remains open until July 30th for cash subscriptions, and later for the conversion of 1921 and 1922 Indian War Bonds.

Tweedales and Smalley (1920), Limited.—Authorised share capital £1,250,000, of which 900,000 ordinary shares have been issued for cash and 10s per share is called up. The directors do not intend at present to make a further call upon these shares. The company was incorporated on February 20, 1920, and was formed to acquire for £1,257,112 in cash the business of Tweedales and Smalley, Limited, Castleton, Lancashire, makers of machinery used in cotton-spinning mills, established in 1891. The purchase includes £295,546, investments, £35,355 cash, besides book debts. It is stated that the company is booked ahead for orders at remunerative prices. During the war period the company was a controlled establishment. The auditors certify the pre-war standard of profit as £99,175, when the company was engaged in its ordinary trade of making textile machinery. No shares have been issued otherwise than for cash, and no shares underwritten, neither has a prospectus been issued inviting applications for shares. The company's accounts were made up to April 30th last, and disclosed a profit of £132,497 16s, out of which a year's dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum has been paid, the balance of £43,000 2s 3d being carried forward. The directors are empowered to borrow by the issue of debentures, and it is stated that the borrowing powers have been exercised to the extent of £600,000. The above information is extracted from an advertisement which appeared in the Press, and it is issued in accordance with the regulations of the committee of the London Stock Exchange. It is stated that application to deal is being made to the Stock Exchange authorities. The cautious investor, however, should require further details as to the trend of past profits, the value of net assets, the cost (if any) of goodwill, also some light on the interest cost of the debenture issue, and further information about "investments" at £295,546 are needed. Are these investments "at cost" or market value?

Diamond Fields of Africa (D.F.A.) Exploring Company, Limited.—Incorporated under the laws of the Orange Free State. Authorised capital £110,000, divided into 880,000 shares of 2s 6d each. The company was registered in April, 1920, for the purpose of adopting an agreement made between John Dale Lace and Evlin Tyrrell Heally to prospect for diamonds, gold, silver, and other precious stones, &c. 680,000 shares have been issued, of which 200,000 shares represent the subdivision of 25,000 shares of £1 each upon which 3s 6d per share had been paid, 400,000 shares were issued as fully paid to the vendor, representing the consideration payable for the transfer of the options, underwriting commission, and services in connection with the promotion of the company. A further 80,000 shares were allotted as the consideration for the transfer of a further option acquired by the company. The company holds options upon properties totalling 33,807 morgen, about 71,500 acres, subject to payments amounting to £156 10s per quarter. This information is extracted from an advertisement inserted in the Press in compliance with the regulations of the Committee of the Stock Exchange, London. Application is being made to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for permission to deal in 400,000 of the issued shares of the company. A nebulous letter is inserted in the advertisement with reference to reports on the properties. We fail to find anything attractive in the proposition.

The Weston-super-Mare Gaslight Company.—Incorporated by Act of Parliament. The prospectus gives figures of "existing capital," which amounts to £135,775 stock and £46,510 of loan capital. This is an issue of £23,340 7½ per cent. perpetual debenture stock and £10,856 7½ per cent. preference stock at par. The preference stock is "redeemable" after a period of ten years at par at the option of the directors. The debenture stock will rank *pari passu* with existing debentures. Beyond a table showing that the quantity of gas made has increased from 73,510,100 cubic feet in 1893 to 343,235,800 cubic feet in 1920, no details are given in the prospectus as to the progress of the company. Surplus revenue is not stated, nor are we supplied with any figures as to liabilities and bankers' loans. Without this very necessary information we must fail to recommend the issue.

The Wood Street Cinema (Middleton), Limited.—Authorised capital £8,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an issue of the whole amount at par. The objects of the company are to take over an existing "picture house" and effect alterations and improvements. Apparently £300 is made on the sale of the property, and a further £600 in shares is allocated as promotion profits, in addition to incidental expenses. Except where an investor has full satisfactory knowledge of the directors and of local conditions, a subscription to this issue would be a leap in the dark.

Colombian Proprietary Gold Mines, Limited.—Letters of allotment for the recent issue of 60,000 ordinary shares of £1 each at par have been posted.

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
War 4½% 1925-28 .. 87½	87½	87½	—
Loans 4½% 1925-45 .. 81½	81½	81½	—
4½% 1929-47 .. 88½	88½	88½	—
4½% 1929-42 .. 96½	96½	96½	—
Funding Loan 4½% .. 71	71	71	—
Victory Bonds 4½% .. 76½	76½	76½	—
Conversion Loan 3½% .. 62½	62½	62½	—
Consols 2½% .. 47½	47½	47½	—
Irish Land Stock 2½% .. 49½	49½	49½	—

Banks.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Barclays B (L1, f.p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
London Joint City & Midland (L12 with £2½ paid) .. 62	62	62	—
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) .. 14½	14½	14½	—

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Antofagasta Cons. 47½	47½	47½	—
B. A. & Pacific .. 35	35	35	—
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 51	51	51	—
Buenos Ayres West. .. 52	52	52	—
Canadian Pacific .. 149	149	149	—
Central Argentine .. 47	47	47	—
Grand Trunk Ord. 43	43	43	—

American Railroads.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Chesapeake & Ohio .. 73	73	73	—
Erie .. 17½	17½	17½	—
Do 4½% 1st Pref. 26	26	26	—

Foreign Government Securities.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Argentine 5% 1886-7 .. 93½	93½	93½	—
Belgian 3% .. 61	61	61	—
Brazil 5% Fund. 1914 .. 55	55	55	—
Chilian 4½% 1895 .. 65	65	65	—
Chinese 5% 1912 .. 69	69	69	—
Egyptian 4% .. 62½	62½	62½	—
French 5% .. 44	44	44	—
Do 4% .. 34	34	34	—

Telegraphs.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Anglo-American "A" .. 16½	16½	16½	—
Eastern Telegraph .. 164	164	164	—
Marconi Wireless .. 2½	2½	2½	—

British Railways.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Great Central Pref. 9	9	9	—
Great Eastern .. 26½	26½	26½	—
Great Northern Def. 25	25	25	—
Great Western .. 64½	64½	64½	—
Lancs. and Yorks. 48	48	48	—
London, Brighton, "A" .. 33	33	33	—
London, Chatham .. 58	58	58	—
Do Arb. Pref. 37	37	37	—

Miscellaneous.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Aerated Bread (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 17½	17½	17½	—
Ass. Pind. Cement (L1) .. 20	20	20	—
Bham Small Arms (L1) .. 10½	10½	10½	—
Brazil Traction (£100) .. 31½	31½	31½	—
British-American Tobacco (L1) .. 3½	3½	3½	—
Brix & Arg. Meat (L1) .. 6	6	6	—
Burmah Oil (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Coats (J. and P.) (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Courtaulds (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Cunard (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Dorman, Long (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Dunlop Rubber (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Forestal Land (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Furness, Withy (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Highlands and L1 .. 1½	1½	1½	—
lands Rubber (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Hudson's Bay (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Imperial Tobacco (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Int'nal Paint (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—
Lingit Plants (L1) .. 1½	1½	1½	—

Mines.

	Price Last Week	Latest Price	Rise or Fall
Brakpan (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Broken Hill Prop. (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Chartered (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Cons. Gold Fields (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Crown Mines (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
De Beers Def. (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
East Rand Prop. (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Geduld (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—
Gov. Gold Areas (L1) .. 2½	2½	2½	—

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR JUNE, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.	Gold Recovered.	Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Mill.	£	£
Gold.				
Abbotiakoona	6,550	..	..	..
Ashanti	6,692	..	..	..
Associated Northern—				
Iron Duke	225	..	..	..
Victorious	2,463	..	..	..
Cam and Motor	11,700	..	..	..
Clonbe and Phoenix	6,185	..	..	..
Golden Horseshoe	10,032	..	..	..
Great Boulder Prop.	8,743	..	..	..
Ivanhoe	15,425	..	..	..
Kalgurli	1,572	..	..	..
Lake View and Star	6,360	..	..	..
Lonely Reef	5,350	..	..	..
Plymouth Cons.	8,000	..	..	..
Prentiss Block A	7,177	..	..	..
Resende	5,700	..	..	..
Tomboy	18,500	..	..	..
Transvaal and Rhodesian—				
Fred	1,550	..	..	..

(a) Par value. (b) Loss.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
	Tons.	
Copper.		
Tanganyika	2,736	..
Tin.		
Berenguela	28	Black tin, average 65 % fine tin.
Bisichi	33	..
Deebok	32	..
Heawood Tin and Rubber ..	..	Profit, £59.
Nigerian Cons.	64	..
Nigeria (Bauchi)	69	..
Renong	16	Shipped 16 tons.
South Bukeri	13	..
Sybu	94	..
Yarde Kerri	..	..
Coal.		
Burma Ruby	78,497	Rubies valued at Rs.50,000; royalties, Rs.9,000
Chinese Engineering	19,883	Sales week ended July 2, 1921.
Durban Navigation	576	..
East Kent	23,428	Week ended July 9th.
Middleburg	56,153	Year 330,172 tons.
Vereniging	..	£5,247 bricks.
Miscellaneous.		
Akim Diamonds	..	Yield 90½ carats.
Casheal Syndicate	..	383 diamonds, weighing 157 carats; and 26 ozs gold.
Zinc Corporation	9,315	Zinc concentrates; 865 tons leady concentrates.

BURMA CORPORATION.—Bawdwin Mines—Cable: No. 2 level—East crosscut 440 ft north, from 0 ft to 30 ft, nil; from 30 ft to 40 ft 8 ozs silver, 14 per cent. lead, 2 per cent. zinc; 2 per cent. cu.; from 40 ft to 45 ft 9 ozs silver, 7 per cent. lead, 2 per cent. zinc, 6 per cent. copper. Lead production for month of June, 3,295 tons gross; refined lead, 2,323 tons. Refined silver production, approximately 266,893 ozs. (Office note—Production seriously affected during June by a strike on the Burma Railways, which lasted practically the whole of May, and prevented supplies necessary for June reaching the smelter.)

MOUNT LYE.—From June 2nd to 29th inclusive, ore treated by concentrating plant, 5,187 tons; concentrates produced, 1,465 tons; ore smelted, 7,138 tons, being 4,970 tons from the Mount Lye mine and 2,568 tons from the North Mount Lye mine, also 1,511 tons concentrates. The converters have produced during the same period 455 tons of blister copper, containing—copper, 451 tons; silver, 14,315 ozs; gold, 280 ozs. Furnace in blast 670 hours. Flotation plant extensions completed; started running June 2nd; all parts are now running satisfactorily.

ROOBERG MINERALS DEVELOPMENT.—June:—Ore mined, 2,601 tons. Total ore accumulated for crushing at a later date, 7,397 tons. Tons treated:—Ore, £3,182; alluvial ground washed, 4,047. Concentrates produced 55 tons. Expenditure, including realisation charges and exploration, £5,991. Revenue, £5,997. Adjustment, nil.

OIL OUTPUTS.

BRITISH BURMAH PETROLEUM COMPANY LIMITED.—A cablegram has been received from Burma reporting the total production of crude oil by this company and the Rangoon Oil Company, Limited, amounted to 69,020 barrels for the month of June.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED.—Total production during June amounted to 91,157 barrels, or approximately 13,022 tons, including 40,808 barrels from the properties of the St. Helen's Petroleum Company, Limited.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, July 6, 1921, amounted to 875 tons.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT CO., LTD., 24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—INCREASED PROFIT.

The forty-ninth ordinary general meeting of the National Bank of New Zealand, Limited, was held, on the 15th inst., at 17 Moor-gate street, London, the Hon. William Pember Reeves (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary and London manager (Mr Arthur Willis) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, first dealt with the figures appearing in the balance-sheet, and stated that the reserve fund, if the proprietors approved of the directors' recommendations, would be increased to £1,040,000. Deposits stood at £8,296,000, as against £8,856,000 last year, a decrease of £560,000. The decrease was entirely in free deposits, while interest-bearing deposits showed a considerable increase due to the raising of fixed deposit rates in January last. The decrease in free deposits was caused by the general financial stringency at present existing in the Dominion. Bills payable and other liabilities, including provision for doubtful debts and depreciation of investments, showed an increase of £2,410,000. The figure this year was £4,130,000, compared with £1,720,000 in 1920. On the assets side coin, &c., showed a decrease of £656,000, the figures being £1,305,000, as compared with £1,961,000 last year. Securities stood at £2,136,000, against £3,595,000, as holdings in Treasury bills had been very much reduced. Advances had gone up to £10,560,000, an increase of £4,635,000. The total figures for the year were £15,654,000, as compared with £13,578,000 for 1920. Landed property and premises stood at £196,000, as compared with £140,000 last year. With regard to the profit and loss account, the gross profit at £645,000 was up by £134,000, and the net profit was £326,500, or an increase of £70,500 over last year's figures, after paying a bonus to the staff of £23,600. The figures of the previous year were exceptionally good, showing an increased profit of £70,000 over that of the previous year. That continued expansion of profitable business was very satisfactory. As to why it was not accompanied by a further addition to the dividend and bonus, substantial as those were, he would point out that their financial outlook this year had two very different sides.

DEPRECIATION OF INVESTMENTS.

On the one hand, they had a sound and prosperous business which had rapidly increased, and they had every prospect for the present of being able to employ all their funds fully, to say the least of it; on the other hand, the commercial and industrial position in New Zealand was not nearly so satisfactory as it had been, and while it had brought heavy demands for advances, it had also caused a sudden and sharp depreciation in the price of their New Zealand Government securities, and no less than £75,000 had been taken from profits and put to the depreciation of securities reserve. That was not pleasant, but their New Zealand bonds were excellent securities, which would mature in comparatively short periods. So far as they could see at present, there was no reason to suppose that they would be obliged to realise any of them at a loss. Ultimately, therefore, the sum now set aside against their depreciation should come back to their ordinary revenue. The taxation for which they had to provide was heavier than before. Moreover, there was a large sum in dispute under the head of excess profits duty.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

The chief reason which made prudence especially essential in the allocation of the funds at their disposal was found in the changed commercial and industrial outlook both here and in New Zealand. The change for the worse in New Zealand affected the banks directly. Last year he had been able to point to a condition of great prosperity in New Zealand, but already there had been signs that that could not last, and he had warned them that the astonishing figures of the Dominion's trade then laid before them were the result of artificial conditions which could not continue. He had not foreseen that the financial and industrial difficulties now embarrassing business in the Dominions would come so suddenly and with such force. He would doubt whether the long history of commercial fluctuations—at any rate of those in time of peace—had shown anything much more rapid. For many years past more than nine-tenths of New Zealand exports had been products of the land. Lavish expenditure everywhere, both during the war when it was necessary and after the Armistice when it was not, had provided an artificial market for those products. The overdue and inevitable reaction, causing in the Old World a heavy fall in the demand for commodities, loss of confidence, and much unemployment, had suddenly begun seriously to interfere with New Zealand's principal markets. Coincident with the shrinkage of buying power in England, had come the action of English manufac-

turers, who had begun without warning to fill long-standing orders from New Zealand, with the result that her banks were loaded with bills and the Dominions flooded with goods.

HIGH IMPORT FIGURES.

High as the import figures for 1919 had been—over £30,000,000 sterling—they were more than doubled in 1920—an increase which no country could face without a shock at a time when the profits of its export trade were going downhill. It might be said that the New Zealand importers should not have plunged in the light-hearted fashion. Though it would have been a convenience to the banks if they had not, it must be pointed out, in fairness, that for something like five years previously they had found it most difficult to obtain even moderate supplies from British manufacturers. Many seemed, therefore, to have fallen into the habit of placing—at ever-increasing prices—orders more or less in excess of what they really required, doing that in the hope of securing at least a part of what they needed. Last summer had come the slump over here, and British manufacturers had found time to fill overseas orders. Current indents had been executed to the full. Orders two or three years old, regarded as obsolete by the importer, had also been fulfilled. Others, which were to be spread over months, had been sent forward in one or two shipments, until there was neither bond nor free storage in New Zealand ports adequate to hold the huge accumulation. What orders they could the New Zealand merchants had cancelled, but instances of unjustifiable repudiation had been extremely rare. Merchant and retailer were now engaged in the anything but easy task of disposing of their importations. As was inevitable, the wild rush of importing business had been followed by a corresponding pause. Ships had been going out to New Zealand in ballast, and the position in the Dominion would gradually be adjusted, though not, of course, without inconvenience and loss.

RESULTS ON NEW ZEALAND TRADE.

The extraordinary commercial episode, of which he had given the outlines, had affected their business very acutely. In the first place, from July of last year an unprecedented stream of bills on New Zealand had poured into their London office, and continued without ceasing until they were obliged to decline to take in bills at all except under credits or for collection. What had brought things to that pass was not merely the volume of bills here, but the fact that owing to transport obstacles and other checks of the New Zealand export trade money was not coming across from the Antipodes in anything like amounts sufficient to make good the depletion of their funds here. The position was gradually improving, but it would not be normal for some time. If the commercial difficulties of New Zealand were confined to a spasm of excessive importations, they would soon come to an end. Unfortunately, they were not. With the excessive imports had come a very serious fall in the price of exports, a fall causing in some cases the disappearance of any margin of profit. The trade figures for last year showed in the case of wool, their chief export, a drop in value of nearly 7½ millions. With the drop in wool, hides, skins, pelts, and tallow were also depressed. More serious, however, than the loss of those minor exports was the unsatisfactory state of the market for chilled and frozen meat. Last year the meat export had held its own well. For months past, however, prices had been so bad that in a good many cases producers were probably making nothing out of their shipments. The story of dairy produce was somewhat better. Upon the profitable sale of those three exports the financial stability of the Dominion depended. He needed, therefore, no excuse for pointing out that the freight charged for their transport from New Zealand to England was a very vital question. Freights now charged were such that unless they were reduced the growers would be unable to go on.

A WORD OF WARNING.

As to what the banks had been doing by coming to the assistance of the trading community in their endeavours to help the public, they had gone as far as prudence would allow. Two years ago he had been able to tell them that the financial position of the New Zealand Government was exceptionally strong. It was by no means weak now. Indeed, if they looked to the figures of the financial year ending on March 31st last, they saw much reason for congratulation, but in financial matters the outlook for the Dominion's Revenue Authorities was not altogether bright, and the New Zealanders would have to face heavy taxation to the accompaniment of falling revenue and decreasing trade.

New Zealand, after a quarter of a century of almost unbroken prosperity, had to face an industrial and commercial depression. Some of her difficulties were temporary; others might continue for a period still uncertain. The adverse balance of trade must put itself right shortly, and indeed was already doing so. Excessive freight charges must, and would, be modified. The fall in the Public Revenue could be met, to some extent, by economy. A much more difficult problem was the drop in prices of colonial produce. Wool showed perhaps the least satisfactory outlook; that of dairy produce, which until quite recently had been satisfactory, would possibly again improve. New Zealand's main strength was the possession of unusual natural advantages, and the industry and courage of a resourceful and educated population. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business was duly transacted.

BANK OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA, LIMITED.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN WEST AFRICA.

The twenty-seventh annual general meeting of the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, was held on the 14th instant, at the Cannon-street, Hotel, London, the Right Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G., G.C.M.G. (the chairman), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that 50 per cent. had been added to the paid-up capital, which now stood at £1,200,000, and, by reason of the addition of premium received on the new shares issued, they had increased the reserve by rather over 50 per cent. to £625,000. There was a considerable decrease in the current deposit and other accounts, which a year ago had reached a total of £11,800,000. The position disclosed in the balance-sheet was extremely liquid, the percentage of cash to the bank's liabilities to the public being 31.50, and if the Treasury bills were regarded as cash, the percentage was increased to 40. The falling off in business was also reflected in other bills of exchange, which had decreased by £2,000,000, and by the reduction in the loans and advances by £1,250,000. Premises and furniture account showed an increase of nearly £100,000. The directors believed that the premises were worth to-day more than the amount at which they stood in the books.

While the net profit was higher than it was a year ago, it was less in proportion to the increased capital, but it was only fair to say that they had not had that increased capital available for the whole year. They proposed to charge to the profits the whole of the stamp duty of £20,000 paid in respect of the new capital, and to apply £15,000, as they did a year ago, to the depreciation of premises and furniture, and £5,000 to the insurance fund. In view of the trade conditions universally prevalent, the shareholders would not be surprised to find that the directors had decided to recommend a dividend of only 8 per cent. for the year, as against 10 per cent. last year. The comparatively large sum of £19,000 had been added to the carry forward, bringing that item up to £50,180.

COMMODITY PRICES IN WEST AFRICA.

The trade conditions experienced during the greater part of the year under review had more than justified the note of warning he ventured to sound a year ago. The problem facing the West African Governments in regard to their revenues was not one which he was called upon to attempt to solve, but he ventured to hope that the programme of public works would be pressed forward with just so much or so little postponement as was actually dictated by insistent circumstances. Everyone connected with West Africa must recognise that the power to purchase depended upon exports, and it was clearly to the interest of manufacturers in the United Kingdom, as well as of the West African producer, that no impediments other than those which were unavoidable should be put in the way of West African trade.

West Africa had experienced all the severity of the slump, both in produce and in goods imported. The African could not obtain the cost price of the former, and could not pay the cost price of the goods he wished to purchase. The result was that little business was being done, and heavy losses must be faced by those who decided—and, in his judgment, wisely decided—to cut their loss and take what they could get for their commodities. Values to-day were no better than the cost of replacement. Some of their smaller customers were unfortunately placed, but where loss to the bank was anticipated or realised, provision had been made, and they believed that the worst had been passed.

THE OUTLOOK.

He was not going to attempt to prophesy as to the future. Many factors had to be reckoned with, including not only the inevitable depression following the artificial prosperity which succeeded any war, but the slow restarting of the international machinery of credit and transport, which the late war so thoroughly broke up. We had yet to see real peace established throughout Europe, and at home a better understanding between classes whose real permanent interests were identical, and not separate. When these objects were attained we should see international trade once more established upon sound lines.

During the year the capital of the company had been increased to £4,000,000 by the creation of 200,000 new shares of £10 each. Of these 100,000 (£4 paid) were issued at the price of £6 5s per share to the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, the National Provincial and Union Bank of England, and the Standard Bank of South Africa. The premium of £2 5s per share, amounting to £225,000, had been added to reserve. This arrangement was entered into with the concurrence of Lloyds Bank, Limited, which institution held 37,500 shares. Of the total issued capital of the bank, therefore, over 45 per cent. was held by the four great Banks named. In conclusion, his Lordship stated that he had decided to pay a visit to the British West African colonies next winter.

Sir Owen Philipps, G.C.M.G., M.P., seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

SATISFACTORY HALF-YEAR'S RESULTS.

The half-yearly general meeting of the Bank of New South Wales was held at the Chief Banking House, Sydney, on Tuesday, May 31, 1921. The chairman, the Hon. Sir Charles K. Mackellar, K.C.M.G., M.L.C., president of the bank, in moving the adoption of the report, said:

Gentlemen,—It is now my duty to move the adoption of the report and balance-sheet. At last half-yearly meeting I explained at some length the figures of the balance-sheet and the situation generally then. There has been comparatively little change in the former since then. Our efforts to get the business on to a steadier footing have been successful, and our customers now realise that while we are prepared to meet the legitimate requirements of trade and the operations of business generally, we are not prepared to go to unreasonable and imprudent lengths in support of their enterprises.

Since last half-year there has been an increase of £1,625,000 in deposits, but this is of a temporary nature, for, generally speaking, this portion of our business is stationary for the time being. We cannot expect otherwise when several of the channels of supply—wool, meat, metals are running sluggishly. Fortunately other channels have been running full—as wheat and butter.

Bills payable items are somewhat over £2,000,000 higher than at last half-year, which arises chiefly from the incidence of our selling operations on London. Owing to the stringency in London exchange we are dealing in drafts on the selling side rather than telegraphic transfers, hence the outstandings are heavier than when transactions are quickly cleared. I fully explained the exchange situation to you last November, and need only add that wheat and butter exports have enabled us to fairly meet the reasonable requirements of our clients, but we still have to do some rationing, and will have to do so until equilibrium is properly restored, which cannot be till the exports of wool and meat and metals can show better results.

ASSETS, ADVANCES, AND PROFIT AND LOSS.

The first line figures on the assets side are some £2,700,000 larger than at the September balance. The increase in the deposits partly accounts for this. After deducting in full maturing liabilities and special items, we continue to maintain about 10s in the £ for ordinary liabilities.

Aggregate advances to customers and others are only £250,000 higher than at last half-year, but are still largely ahead of March, 1920. I explained fully the position in November last. Without pressing unduly on our clients we are steadily but quietly working to get reasonable reductions in what we consider redundant figures. Mercantile requirements are gradually coming down and will go on doing so as excessive stocks are realised, and though the wool situation still makes pastoralists' income uncertain, signs are not wanting of a movement in our principal staple, which if it goes on will help the position very materially. In this respect we must be patient, for we have to face a very heavy hold over of wool from the war period, which will require very careful and judicious handling to get rid of.

In connection with profit and loss, you will notice that the board have recommended the payment of a bonus of 10s per share. This is a very special matter. Part of it is derived from exceptional profits made in one or two items during the half-year, and part from the carry forward which is larger than is really needed. But I wish to repeat that this must be viewed as a special exception to our recognised policy with regard to distributions of profit, which we still think is the most sound for the bank to pursue.

PROSPECTS.

Since the break of the drought the seasons have been generally propitious for the man on the land, and there are hopes of a good harvest next season and a fair prospect of flocks and herds being restored to something like pre-drought numbers. Prices, however, are rather on the down grade, and this must be looked for as one of the conditions of after-war adjustments. It is quite certain that trade generally will have to adapt itself to the changed circumstances—and all round similar adjustments will have to be made. If prices come down, the cost of production must, sooner or later, come down too. From this chair I have from time to time voiced the opinion of the board that economy in every direction should be the keynote of the country's policy, and never has it been more needed than now. If this is judiciously practised the sooner will the country get on to satisfactory economic levels, and the influence of the war become a thing of the past.

THE DISTILLERS COMPANY, LIMITED.

GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS ON LIQUOR TRADE.

CRUSHING TAXATION AND ITS EFFECT.

The forty-fifth annual general meeting of the Distillers Company, Limited, was held at Edinburgh, on the 15th instant, Mr W. D. Graham Menzies, chairman of the board, presiding.

The Chairman, after making sympathetic reference to the death of Mr Alexander McNab, who had been a director of the company for 33 years, said:—The profit for the year shows a drop from the previous year of £86,000. This, at first sight, may seem startling until it is remembered that last year's profits were exceptional, and that compared with 1919 the profits of 1921 are £80,000 better, so that we must not complain. The past year has also seen wages at their highest, with coal latterly at almost prohibitive prices, where procurable at all, while grain, our principal raw material, has shown a startling drop, thus making it impossible at all times to avoid loss in realisation of the products produced from the dear materials. It may be of interest for you to know that based on the same quantity of spirits produced during the last two years, the increased cost of fuel during last year was no less than £57,000, and of wages £69,000—amounts which we trust will be sensibly diminished during the current year.

UNJUSTIFIABLE RESTRICTIONS.

I would like to refer to one aspect of the trade which is deserving of consideration. During the war, as loyal citizens, we were content to put up with all sorts of restrictions, and even to taxation of our industry beyond a point which we knew it could reasonably bear. We put up with this for the sake of our country, which we wished to see emerge successfully out of the struggle for the world's freedom. Even for twenty months after the Armistice we have waited patiently to see what we were to get in the way of relief. We are now promised some remission of the restriction on the hours during which liquor may be sold, and have received some vague promise that a Licensing Bill is to be produced in the dim and distant future, whereby all the grievances of the trade, or such of them as the Prohibition party will permit to be removed, are to be met. Meanwhile, the consumption of liquor in this country is being rapidly killed except amongst those who can afford any prices, however high, and those who, under any conceivable circumstances will obtain what they want at whatever cost. Between these two sections lies the great mass of the population who neither can afford to pay the present exorbitant prices nor who desire to drink to excess, but yet feel the want of their usual stimulant. Do the Government really think that they are studying the best interests of the country by compelling abstinence of liquor through high duties and diverting into other channels the money which but for these high duties would be used for the legitimate enjoyment and sustenance of the body? Last Budget we refrained from pressing our demands that the duties on the liquor trade should be reduced to a reasonable basis, as we felt that the Chancellor of the Exchequer was in a difficult position, but when we see how doles are given here and there to placate certain interests, and money is still being squandered in needless extravagance, I think the time has arrived when the whole trade should unite with the moderate opinion of the country in demanding next year that these exorbitant duties shall cease and that the legitimate trade of the country shall not be strangled through excessive taxation.

I now beg to move the adoption of the report, which recommends that a dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, less tax, be paid on the preference shares, with a final dividend of 12s per share on the ordinary shares, which with the interim dividend already paid equals 10 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax—both dividends being payable on August 1st next—and that there be carried forward to the current year £108,994 5s 4d.

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SPEECH.

In seconding the adoption of the report, Mr W. H. Ross, the managing director, said:—

I rise with much pleasure to second the adoption of the report, and to endorse what our chairman has just warned us will be the effect of the present high Excise duties on the legitimate consumption of Scotch and Irish whisky in these Islands. It seems monstrous to think that an article which we sell when new to our wholesale customers at 3s 6d per gallon should be subject, when cleared from bond, to a duty of 7s 6d per gallon, or 20½ times its original value. What industry could stand such an impost? If we compare the present rate of consumption with that which prevailed pre-war, we find there is a shrinkage of roughly ten million gallons per annum. No doubt the teetotalers will claim this as a direct benefit to mankind, and they may even admit that the Government have been more successful in reducing the consumption of liquor than what they themselves have been able to do with their prohibition propaganda. The electors of Scotland

have recently had an opportunity of declaring in no uncertain fashion what they think of prohibition. It is time, therefore, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer should realise that where taxation has the effect of strangling an industry he must readjust the taxation to the limits which that industry can bear, without regard to the moral effects on the community as interpreted by a minority of the population. It is sheer bigotry to claim that by restricting the rights of the individual and increasing the cost of the article consumed you are going to make a more sober nation. The experience of America has proved the contrary to be the case. You certainly will reduce the total consumption, but only amongst that class commonly described as the moderate drinkers, who never abused the privilege they previously enjoyed, while you leave the door open to the confirmed toper who, as the chairman has said, will spend his last sixpence before he will do without his whisky or beer. Surely the saner method, rather than try to crush all sense of moral responsibility from a man's life, is to endeavour to educate him to the moderate use of alcoholic stimulants by improving his surroundings and providing him with reasonable facilities for the enjoyment of his refreshment as and when he desires it. Such is the aim of a Scottish Bill which is at present being promoted by the trade for the improvement of the public-house, and in which I am taking a close personal interest.

A FICTITIOUS THEORY.

I have already referred to the decreased consumption of spirits in this country. So long as such reduction lasts, the manufacturers of all grades of spirits must take careful stock of the position, and see that over-production does not take place. I am aware that some buyers look upon over-production as a means of forcing down the price even to a non-paying basis, and that they benefit thereby. That is a fictitious theory. No doubt temporarily it may show a benefit to the customer, but in the end it must lead to the crushing out of the weaker manufacturer, and to a restriction of the output to such an extent as will inevitably increase the cost to a greater degree than if the production had been kept regular and within reasonable limits. I look forward, therefore, to our production for beverage purposes having to be curtailed, and unless we succeed in charging a higher rate of profit on the reduced quantity, our net manufacturing profit must suffer. Fortunately, this contingency has not been overlooked by your directors, and we are now possessed of certain other investments, the revenue from which should make up for any deficiency likely to arise on our staple product.

POWER ALCOHOL.

Only one word more and then I am done. A year ago I referred to what the company were doing in experimenting with a possible motor fuel to take the place of petrol should this article fall short of the demand. Your directors have never changed their opinion that as a competitor to petrol, any mixture containing alcohol would always be heavily handicapped by cost of production. Nevertheless, as an aid to making good the supposed petrol shortage, we have deemed it desirable to make such inquiries as were possible as to the means whereby the most economical alcohol can be produced. Three of your directors with other experts have visited various parts of the Empire in search of suitable raw material for production of such a product either on the spot where the material is cultivated, or for importation into this country to be converted into alcohol in our own plant at home. No action has yet been taken on their reports, as it is felt that owing to the reduced demand the necessity for an alternative motor fuel is not now so clamant. On the other hand, your directors have proved from practical experiments that such a fuel is feasible in the existing motor engine, and that as soon as the Excise regulations for dealing with this new product have been passed—which I hope will be in the course of the next few weeks—the way will be clear for putting on the market commercially to a limited extent the new fuel with which we have been experimenting.

The motion was carried unanimously.

UNION CORPORATION, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S INCREASED INTERESTS IN MEXICO.

The annual general meeting of Union Corporation, Limited, was held at Johannesburg on June 3, 1921, Mr M. McCormack presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the net profit for last year of £199,074 compared with the higher amount of £237,917 for 1919, but came midway between that amount and the £145,380 of 1918. The income from dividends (the corporation's steadiest form of revenue) had

further advanced, but the year, unlike 1919, had been unfavourable for other profitable business. The falling off in profit, which he thought was moderate under the conditions which ruled, was due mainly to smaller share market operations and to writing off the greater part of the year's expenditure on prospecting, &c., in Mexico. While this amount was written off the exploration reserve account remained intact, and £40,000 was again placed to reserve account. A dividend of 2s per share, or £140,000, which was the average of the rates paid for 1918 and 1919, was distributed and £10,074 added to the amount carried forward. It was pleasing to note that in the past four years the corporation had accumulated out of profits £198,355, which appeared partly as reserves and partly as carry forward. In addition, as was stated in the report, the shareholdings at present market prices showed a very substantial surplus over the sum at which they stood in the accounts.

Since the reduction works of the Modderfontein Deep Levels were started in December, 1914, the company had produced gold to the value of £5,783,071, taking the metal at its standard price only. Adding to this the premium obtained since the South African gold mining industry was allowed a free market for its product, the total value realised on gold account was £6,220,861, and at the end of the last financial year the company had an unappropriated balance of £163,464. This was an excellent record for a mine with a capital of only £500,000.

During the year they had increased their interests in Mexico. Last autumn it was decided to restart operations at the La Fe Mining Company's property, but the break in silver caused the decision to be reversed. However, wages had come down considerably, and the question of resuming operations might soon again become one of practical politics. The San Francisco Mines of Mexico made a fair profit for its last financial year with the present small plant, but the drop in metal prices had produced small losses since. It was, however, reckoned that when the new 250-ton a day plant was in operation fair profits would be made even on the present price level.

The report and accounts were adopted.

OROVILLE DREDGING COMPANY, LIMITED.

GOOD PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE.

The tenth general meeting of Oroville Dredging Company, Limited, was held on the 13th instant, at River Plate House, London, Mr John A. Agnew presiding in place of the chairman (Mr F. W. Baker), who was indisposed.

Mr John A. Agnew, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the profit and loss account showed a net profit of £111,829, which indicated a very satisfactory position. Adding to this amount the balance brought forward from last year, and deducting the sum of £94,399 paid in dividends for the year, they had a balance to carry forward to the current year of £42,797, which was subject to excess profits duty and corporation tax. A careful study of the balance-sheet and those of the Pato and Nechi companies, in which they were so heavily interested, would afford the shareholders an infinite amount of satisfaction. Their holding in the Pato Mines had been increased to a total of 89,021 shares out of 100,000 shares issued. That the action of the board in acquiring at a very reasonable price the additional interest of 15,000 shares was justified was, he thought, clearly indicated by a study of the accounts of that company and realisation of the fact that its profits for the year under review approximated 100 per cent. of the issued capital. The actual profit, after writing off £26,153 for depreciation, was £98,759. If to this figure was added the balance brought forward from the previous year, £195,475, and deducting the dividends paid, £105,000, the Pato was shown as carrying forward £188,234 to the current year.

The excess profits duty position made it necessary for them to adopt a very conservative attitude in connection with the disposal of profits. The shareholders would be pleased to note that they held something like £110,000 in gold in hand or in transit, and in Treasury bills and cash. One very satisfactory feature about the company's work was the continuous confirmation they had regarding the estimates originally placed on the gravel. The general manager estimated that there was a further 12 years' life

for the Pato dredge. This figure applied exclusively to the area originally prospected.

The year's operations had been entirely satisfactory, and the outlook for the current year was such as to cause the directors to look forward to an equally successful result. So much was this the case that they had just declared an interim dividend of 1s per share, payable on the 27th inst., less the usual tax, and they had reason to believe that this would in no way interfere with the continued payment of the usual quarterly dividend of 9d per share.

Lord Brabourne seconded the adoption of the report and accounts, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

NECHI MINES COLOMBIA, LIMITED.

"VERY SATISFACTORY YEAR OF OPERATIONS."

The sixth annual meeting of Nechi Mines (Colombia), Limited, was held, on the 13th instant, at River Plate House, London, Mr John A. Agnew presiding.

Mr John A. Agnew, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the net profit for the year under review amounted to £140,003, which, added to the balance brought forward from the previous year of £62,197, made a total of £202,200. Out of the latter sum dividends had been paid amounting to £57,750, leaving £144,450 to be carried forward to the current year. One feature that he was sure the shareholders would note with some satisfaction was that at the date of the closing of the accounts there was represented in Government securities, in gold in transit and at the property, and cash, the sum of £140,747. The item of "sundry creditors" consisted principally of sums claimed to be due in the shape of income-tax, and was very much more than set off by the item "sundry debtors," which appeared at £56,938. The latter figure represented very largely advances made in Colombia in connection with the Constancia Mine, and the amount in question had, since the closing of the accounts, been greatly reduced.

A reference to Mr Prichard's report and to some figures set out in that of the directors indicated that they had had a very satisfactory year of operations on the Nechi property. In this, as in the Pato ground, the estimates of Mr Prichard as to the recoverable value to be won had been amply borne out. For the past year over 2,000,000 yards of gravel had been dredged over an average depth of 50.8 ft. The total field costs amounted to 11.71 cents per cubic yard, compared with 15.69 cents for the previous year. This fact, and the study of the interesting comparison quoted in Mr Prichard's report, indicated the excellence of the work carried out. In the general manager's report reference was made to the time estimated to be required to finish dredging the Nechi Company's ground. This applied to that portion of the latter which had hitherto been regarded as highly profitable, but outside this area there would be found a considerable yardage which, while not approaching in value that now being dealt with, would nevertheless yield a profit in dredging.

The position of the company regarding the claim of the Inland Revenue to excess profits duty was extremely difficult to define; it was bound up, so far as the all-important point of amount of capital invested was concerned, with that of the Oroville Dredging Company, Limited, and the two must be taken together. Meantime, the uncertainty compelled the directors to hold undistributed a larger amount of profits than would otherwise be the case.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

CALCUTTA TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

NEED FOR FURTHER CAPITAL.

The ordinary general meeting of the Calcutta Tramways Company, Limited, was held, on the 11th instant, at 1 Queen Victoria street, London, Mr John G. B. Stone presiding.

The Chairman, in the course of moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: The traffic receipts show an increase of 6½ per cent. with practically the same number of miles run, the passengers carried nearly 53½ millions, showing an increase of 6 per cent.

The result of the working is a gross profit of £240,389. After adding interest on investments, £7,886, deducting excess profits duty and Indian and English income-tax, and adding the amount brought forward, and deducting the debenture interest and dividends paid, £52,332, there remains an available balance of £189,076. This amount the directors propose to deal with by paying a final dividend on the ordinary shares of 3s 6d per share, absorbing £24,082, making, with the dividend already paid, 7 per cent. for the year free of income-tax (against 10 per cent. for the previous year); by the transfer of £40,000 to reserve for depreciation, increasing the total of that account to £144,619; by the transfer of £80,000 to taxation reserve account as a pro-

vision against excess profits duty and corporation profits tax; by the contribution to the staff provident fund of £2,403, carrying forward a balance of £42,591, subject to Indian super-tax, to be ascertained.

With the heavy increase in the cost of working it is no longer practicable to carry the public at existing fares, and a new scheme of fares is now under the consideration of the board, and will be brought into operation as quickly as possible.

The loss of revenue due to the strikes, coupled with the drop in the takings for the current year from other causes, have drained the company's available cash resources, already depleted by the overspent capital account, and further capital will require to be issued, the form of which will be considered by the board.

As regards our prospects for the current year, although our aggregate receipts to date show a considerable decrease, it is due to the heavy trade depression and to a variety of causes, all of which, in our opinion, are of a temporary nature. There are not wanting signs of improved trade conditions, which a good monsoon will help to develop, and to which our traffic will quickly respond.

The Chairman having replied to questions asked and suggestions made by Mr F. C. Rimington, the report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

WM. CORY AND SON, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S STRONG POSITION.

The twenty-fifth annual ordinary general meeting of Wm. Cory and Son, Limited, was held on the 14th instant, at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon street, London, Sir A. C. Cory-Wright, Bart. (the chairman of the company), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the past year's trading showed that, after making provision for general charges, maintenance and depreciation of plant, and interest on the company's debenture stock, and after allowing for the excess profits duty and corporation tax, there remained a balance of profit of £733,843 13s 3d, which, with the amount of £278,307 14s 9d brought forward from the previous year, made a total sum of £1,012,151 8s. The interest on the preference shares for twelve months, and the dividend on the ordinary shares of 5 per cent., paid last December, absorbed £186,819, leaving a balance of £825,332 8s available for allocation. It would be seen from the balance-sheet that the liquid resources accruing from reserves and undistributed profits revealed a financial strength unprecedented in the company's history, and was directly attributable to the conservative policy pursued by the directors over a period of many years. At the meeting last year he mentioned that, in view of the rapid development of oil fuel, they realised that the time had come when they could no longer confine their operations to the sale and handling of coal, and that, therefore, they had decided to avail themselves of an opportunity of becoming associated with a company formed principally for the purpose of supplying fuel oil for bunkers at all the main trading ports throughout the world. This company had now commenced its operations, and although at present in its infancy, there was little doubt that a steady and increasing business would develop. The agreement which they had entered into appointed them exclusive selling agents for the supply of oil fuel to one of the most important groups of producers, and, in the course of time, this was bound to prove of material advantage to this company.

Although the result of the year's trading would admit the pay-

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which

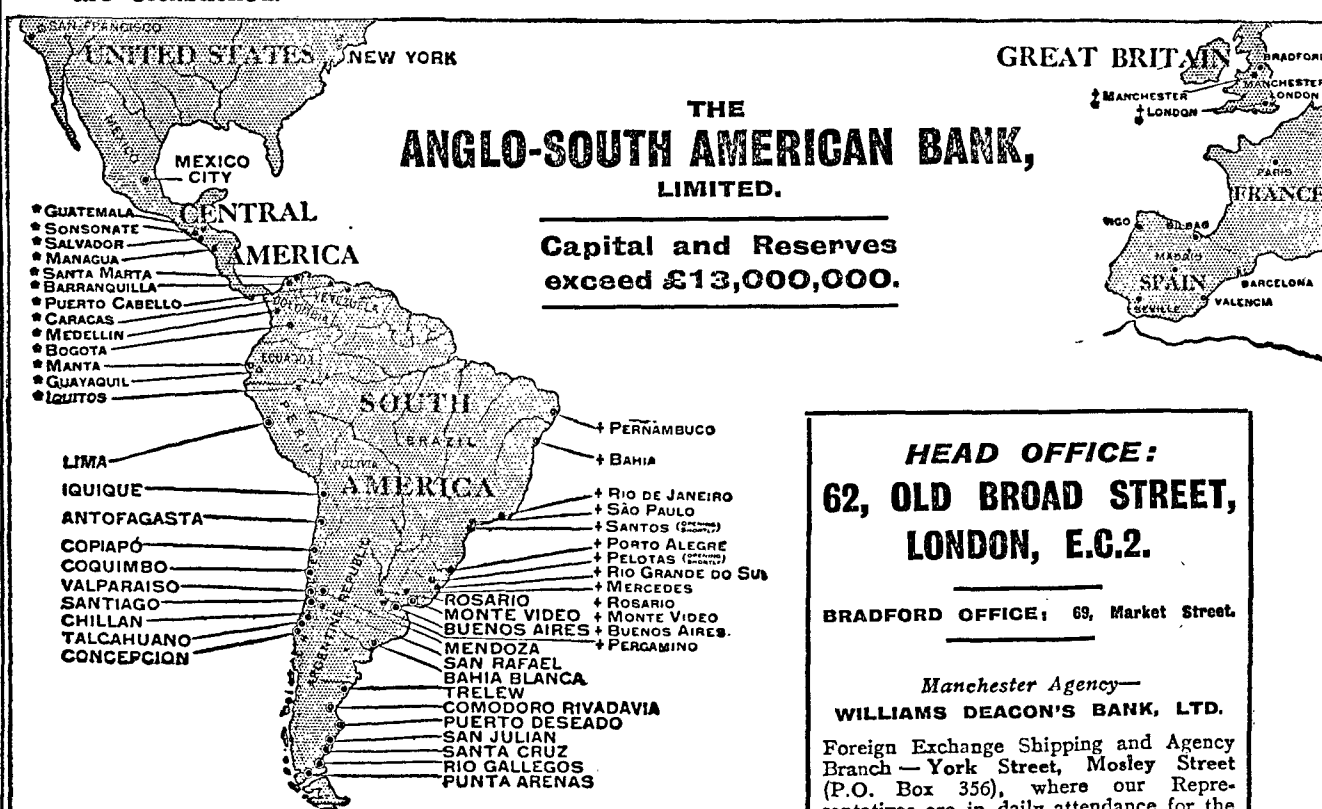
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,

and its affiliated Institutions,

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,

and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,

are established.



• BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

ment of a dividend equal to that of last year, the directors felt that, in view of the unsettled condition of trade generally, it was the right policy to preserve the company's resources as far as possible, and they recommended that the bonus should be paid less income-tax, instead of tax free as last year.

The report and accounts were adopted.

CROMPTON AND CO., LIMITED. SATISFACTORY RESULTS—INCREASED PROFITS. COMPANY'S TAXATION BURDEN.

The eighth annual general meeting of Crompton and Co., Limited, was held, on the 14th instant, at Winchester House, London, E.C., the Chairman (Mr A. A. C. Swinton, F.R.S.) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said the actual profits earned on trading during the year were exceedingly good, but from their trading profit they had to deduct a large sum necessary to write down their stocks to a safe figure. The expansion of their foreign and export trade during the year had been very noticeable. Profits in Australia and India particularly were very encouraging, but unfortunately the fall in the value of the rupee had sadly depleted their Calcutta profits. As in previous years, the profits shown in the accounts were after making provision for excess profits duty, corporation tax and income-tax. The excess profits tax had told very hardly on the company owing to the fact that their pre-war standard was not a good one, but that tax would come to an end with the accounts now submitted.

TAXATION'S DRAIN ON PROFITS.

The shareholders were aware that on any profits they made above the standard they had to pay 60 per cent. excess profits duty, then on the balance 5 per cent. corporation profits tax and 6s in the £ income-tax on what remained. In other words, on every £1,000 they earned over and above the standard the Government took £734, leaving them with £266. Excess profits duty on the figures before them was at the rate of 60 per cent., against 45 per cent. last year. It was therefore with a considerable amount of satisfaction that, notwithstanding those many and varied drains on the profits, they were able to show a net available balance of £66,291, against £52,878 last year. The directors proposed to carry to reserve £19,500, bringing the reserve up to £75,000, and to pay, with the interim preference dividend, a dividend on both preference and ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which was the same as last year, and to carry forward £18,370.

PROSPECTS.

This time last year the directors were in the fortunate position of having to turn away business, but the position to-day had entirely altered. It was true that they finished off the year at March 31st with a considerable amount of work in hand, but in the present condition of trade new business was extremely difficult to get. There were plenty of inquiries, but orders were not being placed. However, the settlement of the coal strike would undoubtedly relieve the position, and they were told that there was going to be a very distinct revival in trade.

The report was adopted.

GODFREY PHILLIPS, LIMITED. CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF COMPANY'S FUTURE.

The twelfth ordinary general meeting of Godfrey Phillips, Limited, was held, on the 11th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, Mr M. David Phillips presiding.

The Chairman said that the liabilities were reduced by about £600,000, the stock showed a reduction of over £900,000, and debtors an increase of £86,000. The directors much regretted that for the first time there was a balance on the debit side of the profit and loss account. The causes of the adverse result were the same as those which operated in a number of businesses in their own and other trades, and which were due to the very exceptional conditions which prevailed during the year.

In the autumn of 1919 they had made their purchases of the season's crops after a careful survey of the situation. The cost price of the goods so purchased, already very high, increased with the depreciation of sterling; then, with unprecedented suddenness, the volume of the trade diminished very largely, not only in Great Britain, but all over the world, due in the latter case to the fall in the value of silver and to the fall in the value of Indian rupees and French and Belgian francs. Consequently, the stocks which they purchased were likely to last them very much longer than was anticipated when the contracts were entered into. Then came the slump in prices. They had met the difficult situation, firstly, by selling part of their stock and, secondly, by writing down the cost price of their raw materials to market value. The

losses so incurred had been considerably lessened by the recovery of excess profits duty, but the relief so obtained was not sufficient to wipe out the losses sustained during the year.

With regard to the present prospects, the company was once more gaining ground, its business was increasing, its financial position was generally better, and its products were meeting with an increasing demand as it became recognised again that there were none better. Although he very much wished he could promise the immediate resumption of payment of dividends, such a procedure was impracticable while the deficit remained. Still, he was very hopeful that business in the future would prove more profitable. He could not promise that in 1921 they would earn sufficient profit to wipe out the adverse balance, but he hoped that before the end of the year they would be making a profit. They considered the slump over as far as their business was concerned, and that they had now turned the corner and were getting back into their stride.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		Receipts.	
	Apr. 1, 1921, to July 9, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to July 10, 1920.	July 1 to July 9, 1921.	July 1 to July 10, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:	£	£	£	£
Bank of England....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland....	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
Customs.....	32,768,000	37,336,000	4,423,000	4,035,000
Excise.....	46,552,000	40,188,000	1,656,000	2,081,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	1,633,000	212,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	11,931,000	11,868,000	1,007,000	1,657,000
Stamps.....	3,567,000	6,606,000	870,000	981,000
Land Tax.....	400,000	380,000	10,000	10,000
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	72,462,000	62,751,000	8,562,000	9,013,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	18,054,000	62,144,000	940,000	5,776,000
Corporation Profits Tax	2,600,000	..	580,000	..
Post Office.....	10,750,000	11,250,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands.....	130,000	110,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	4,082,813	5,978,922	2,127,976	2,153,188
Miscellaneous.....	7,011,018	5,073,130	142,354	339,246
Ordinary Receipts...	23,816,526	100,873,962	9,808,642	2,527,128
Special Receipts.....	235,757,357	344,559,014	31,568,972	29,572,562
Revenue.....	238,831,863	353,928,111	..	..
Total, Inc. Balance ..	..	..	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances Repaid:—	..	..	..	..
Bullion.....	1,750,000	650,000	200,000	50,000
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—	..	..	..	..
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—	..	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	2,000,000	700,000	..	700,000
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	25,000	30,000	..	30,000
(b) For other issues:—	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	1,281,947,000	1,028,135,000	136,838,000	170,670,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1900-30.....	..	101,541	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	258,622	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....	..	11,700,000	..	1,250,000
Under the Finance Act, 1920.....	9,580,000	..	1,050,000	..
By National War Bonds.....	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds.....	1,002,675	8,570,000	..	640,000
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	3,713,840	10,098,715	..	2,938
(c) Ways and Means Advances ..	368,324,000	382,411,000	38,950,000	17,600,000
Repayments—	..	..	..	..
In respect of Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	9,180	2,481	1,461	869
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	1,650,250	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	85,532	..	..	..
Total.....	1,908,946,845	1,795,615,270	208,628,433	220,516,369

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		Issues.	
	Apr. 1, 1921, to July 9, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to July 10, 1920.	July 1 to July 9, 1921.	July 1 to July 10, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	6,220,877	6,654,355	2,329,089	2,513,765
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	116,748,602	106,958,314	4,713,739	4,646,844
Road Fund.....	1,120,000	..	154,000	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c....	1,292,772	937,286	120,918	70,380
Land Settlement.....	824,560	2,332,764	110,177	236,974
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	483,585	489,156	31,733	32,624
Supply Services.....	167,899,575	191,814,072	15,610,025	16,957,122
Expenditure.....	234,489,971	309,185,947	23,069,681	24,457,703

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.
ROYAL
INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, July 13, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£ 145,004,240	Government debt	£ 11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,554,240
	145,004,240		145,004,240

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	£ 14,553,000	Government securities	76,003,078
Rest	3,293,610	Other securities	77,612,637
Public deposits.....	19,664,910	Notes	17,048,675
Other deposits.....	134,964,309	Gold and silver coin ..	1,819,421
Seven-day & other bills	7,982		
	172,483,811		172,483,811

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, July 13, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,293,610	+ 4,792	+ 407
Public deposits	19,664,910	+ 55,641	+ 1,993,499
Other deposits	134,964,309	+ 5,923,249	+ 15,341,783
Government securities ..	76,003,078	+ 12,205,000	+ 16,564,495
Other securities	77,612,637	+ 7,489,668	+ 1,009,925
Reserve	18,868,096	+ 1,157,298	+ 1,776,239
Notes circulation.....	127,955,565	+ 1,152,720	+ 3,717,925
Coin and bullion	128,573,661	+ 4,578	+ 5,494,164
% of reserve to liabilities	12½	+ ½	+ 1

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
April 20.....	128,345,367	128,276,450	127,658,109	125,852,390	18,518,917	14½	7
May 7.....	128,358,165	128,519,725	141,260,257	140,668,358	18,288,440	13	12
May 14.....	128,357,634	129,528,235	140,807,558	141,252,777	17,279,399	12½	12
May 21.....	128,363,247	128,768,640	128,421,373	128,089,388	18,044,607	14	6½
May 28.....	128,360,554	128,194,750	128,913,463	120,941,358	18,615,804	15½	12
June 4.....	128,349,547	127,807,660	128,479,703	127,246,006	18,991,887	14½	12
June 11.....	128,363,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	11½	12
June 18.....	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	12½	12
June 25.....	128,375,125	127,491,195	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	13½	12
July 2.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,690	137,400,455	19,329,150	13½	12
July 9.....	128,366,727	129,006,290	147,036,431	147,030,762	17,810,437	12½	12
July 16.....	128,369,083	129,108,285	148,761,611	148,900,383	17,710,798	11½	12
July 23.....	128,373,661	127,955,565	154,629,219	153,615,715	18,868,096	12½	12

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	July 12, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	July 16, 1919.	July 14, 1920.	July 13, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,285,030	£ 28,933,380	£ 78,896,650	£ 124,237,640	£ 127,955,565
Public deposits.....	9,278,015	19,014,809	24,914,569	17,671,411	19,664,910
Other deposits	47,908,925	41,248,964	112,622,742	119,622,526	134,964,309
Government securities ..	14,967,286	11,046,570	44,630,806	59,438,585	76,003,078
Other securities	30,382,639	41,461,280	83,405,361	78,622,562	77,612,637
Reserve of notes and coin ..	29,821,666	25,463,980	28,257,025	17,091,857	18,868,096
Coin and bullion	40,656,696	35,947,360	89,703,675	122,879,497	128,573,661
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	52½	42½	20½	12½	12½
Bank rate of discount	5½	3½	5½	7½	6½
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	1½	2½	3½	6½	4
Price of Consols	78½	74½	52	47½	37½
Price of silver per oz.	24½d	26½d	54½d	53½d	53½d
Average price of wheat.....	32s 1d	35s 0d	30s 3d	46s 8d	46s 3d
Exchanges on Paris	25-28½-31½	25-17½-20	30-83-95	46-80-47	46-35-45
Exchanges on New York	84-84½	84-79	84-36-33	83-90-91	83-65-63
Exchanges on Amsterdam	20-45	12-05-10	11-70-72	11-08-15	11-40-42
Exchanges on Berlin	20-45	20-49	15-154	15-154	27-0-272
Clearing house return	262,664,000	199,913,000	604,796,000	733,220,000	593,174,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1—July 6	16,527,497,000	1,637,422,000	18,164,919,000
July 13	539,594,000	53,580,000	593,174,000
Total to date 1921.....	17,067,091,000	1,691,002,000	18,758,093,000
Do 1920	19,445,280,000	2,262,784,000	21,708,064,000
Increase or decrease in 1921..	- 2,378,189,000	- 571,782,000	- 2,949,971,000
	12½	= 25½	= 13½
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920..	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	= 39½	= 20½	= 39½

	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		Issues.	
	Apr. 1, 1921, to July 9, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to July 10, 1920.	July 1 to July 9, 1921.	July 1 to July 10, 1920.
	£	£	£	£
OTHER ISSUES.				
Temporary Advances—				
Bullion	2,050,000	750,000	150,000	150,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....	84,903	84,903	..	..
Under the Unemployed Insurance Act, 1921.....	75,000	..	75,000	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—				
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	2,000,000	700,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	40,000	..	40,000
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	25,000	30,000	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—				
Treasury Bills for Supply.....	1,184,396,000	1,057,116,000	140,942,000	142,268,000
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....	12,812,435	17,261,731	1,241,925	1,450,690
Principal of National Savings Certificates—				
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	4,150,000	9,950,000	{ 550,000 650,000 }	1,300,000
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	3,500,000			
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—				
1921-22.....	..	2,130,000	..	..
1920-21.....	..	..	..	..
6%, 1920	2,130,000			
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	18,380,409	14,644,383	1,000,200	622,320
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	372,489,000	375,337,000	40,950,000	49,300,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....	7,980,067	6,320,045	660,022	500,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....	4,265,000	13,800	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 15 (b) (1) of the Finance Act, 1911.....	161,200	..	..	..
	1,906,786,491	1,793,563,815	209,288,828	220,088,720
Balances in Exchequer—				
Bank of England.....	1,978,722	1,925,155	76,828	8,020
Bank of Ireland.....	181,632	1,126,300	583,567	435,670
Total.....	2,160,354	3,051,455	660,395	427,640
Treasury, July 11, 1921.				

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to July 9.			
BIRMINGHAM	106,170,120	72,938,100	- 33,232,020
BRISTOL	48,934,000	40,118,000	- 8,816,000
BULBUL	245,336,800	198,756,600	- 46,580,200
HULL (22 Weeks ended July 9)			
LEEDS	49,487,500	31,718,400	- 17,769,100
LEICESTER	36,240,300	21,354,400	- 14,885,900
LIVERPOOL	459,549,000	235,049,800	- 224,499,200
MANCHESTER	865,385,500	389,054,900	- 476,330,600
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	33,129,000	19,934,600	- 13,194,400
NOTTINGHAM	46,083,500	33,721,300	- 12,362,200
SHEFFIELD			

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.
UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.
(000's omitted.)

Resources.	July 8, 1921.	Week's Movement.	July 5, 1920.
Total gold reserve	2,477,810	+ 15,880	1,971,700
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	153,410	+ 10,120	137,810
Bills discounted for member banks	1,801,360	+ 29,800	2,451,190
Bills bought in open market	31,140	+ 460	390,090
Government obligations owned	263,040	+ 5,710	336,240
All other resources	47,630	+ 2,000	31,270
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	34,020	+ 18,670	21,700
Other deposits	1,679,130	+ 8,690	1,733,190
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,671,920	+ 37,440	3,168,810
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	133,300	+ 900	189,230
All other liabilities	16,720	+ 15,310	40,020
Capital and surplus	135,930	+ 11,710	259,340
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	60.0%	+ .8%	42.8%

CANADIAN BANK.
(000's omitted.)

	Jan., 1921.	Dec., 1920.	Nov., 1920.	Month's Movement.
Reserve fund	133,344	133,049	132,782	+ 295
Note circulation	206,176	228,759	234,340	- 22,583
Demand deposits	584,025	657,497	686,754	- 73,471
Notice deposits	1,313,094	1,293,007	1,292,009	+ 20,087
Deposits outside Canada	318,623	356,771	351,781	- 38,148
Current coin	85,118	82,688	85,211	+ 2,430
Dominion notes	186,590	177,489	190,641	- 9,101
Deposits Central Gold Reserve	89,703	113,353	114,903	- 23,650
Call loans in Canada	12,474	114,703	108,471	- 2,229
Call loans outside Canada	191,854	211,443	218,183	- 19,589
Current loans in Canada	1,264,490	1,301,804	1,359,973	- 37,314
Current loans outside Canada	173,380	184,540	169,678	- 11,160
Total liabilities	2,642,380	2,778,309	2,835,579	- 135,929
Total assets	2,926,867	3,056,979	3,116,896	- 130,112

BANK OF FRANCE.
(000's omitted.)

	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 8, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,520,505	5,520,318	5,588,500	+ 187	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,275	..	..
Silver coin and bullion	274,552	274,326	247,450	+ 236	632,650
Discount and advances	5,108,179	5,194,259	4,295,700	- 86,080	2,327,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	37,667,080	37,422,087	38,012,125	+ 244,993	5,811,875
Government deposits	29,932	29,961	52,275	- 67,029	183,700
Private deposits	2,689,336	2,770,587	3,408,100	- 81,191	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.
(000's omitted.)

	July 9, 1921.	July 2, 1921.	July 10, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	2,488,918	2,487,972	2,452,535	+ 946	521,775
Silver	619,275	622,053	608,034	- 2,778	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,954,636	1,815,929	1,743,033	+ 138,707	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	..	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	4,221,737	4,184,696	3,941,509	+ 37,041	1,901,550
Deposits	1,051,069	1,198,998	978,742	- 147,929	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.
(000's omitted.)

	June 13, 1921.	May 28, 1921.	June 12, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Week.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,376,343,124	1,376,175,615	1,549,292,191	+ 167,509	-172,949,067
Government loans and securities	1,680,442,371	1,560,948,336	798,501,797	+119,940,535	+881,940,574
Discounts and loans	788,185,150	777,391,684	632,654,616	+10,793,466	+155,530,534
Notes in circulation	1,735,200,904	1,723,890,546	1,389,371,800	+11,310,358	+345,829,104
Government deposits	114,491,340	110,012,747	272,339,626	+ 4,478,602	-157,848,277
Private sight deposits	864,036,262	809,346,483	625,029,774	+54,689,779	+239,006,488
Private deposits at fixed rates	807,000,601	795,324,877	450,264,996	+11,675,724	+356,735,605

BANK OF JAPAN.
(000's omitted.)

	June 11, 1921.	June 4, 1921.	May 28, 1921.	June 12, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,280,341	1,280,824	1,280,343	967,174	- 483	221,320
Discounts	33,231	34,057	39,857	308,522	- 826	41,740
Advances	96,461	100,343	98,174	524,550	- 3,882	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,049,275	1,072,056	1,059,723	1,203,514	- 22,781	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,375,148	1,372,810	1,399,284	1,339,402	+ 538	87,340
Private deposits	104,337	80,485	55,036	80,865	+ 23,852	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.
(000's omitted.)

	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	1,091,560	1,091,563	1,091,560	..	1,313,240
Silver	11,068	11,205	3,760	- 137	321,920
Treasury notes	6,679,493	8,311,208	17,272,280	- 1,631,715	60,780
Bills discounted	72,620,866	81,173,196	44,167,060	- 8,552,330	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	75,839,226	75,321,095	54,045,260	+ 518,131	2,013,860
Deposits	9,927,014	20,392,708	16,939,980	-10,465,694	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.
(000's omitted.)

	May 31, 1921.	May 20, 1921.	May 10, 1921.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash	1,281,194	1,321,492	1,389,518	+ 36,702	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,218,278	3,149,598	3,167,328	+ 68,680	418,400
Foreign bills	20,733	28,102	28,508	- 7,369	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,773,471	6,931,283	7,011,266	-157,812	nil
Other advances	2,128,405	2,046,898	2,046,126	+ 81,507	79,175
Securities	215,586	215,962	217,494	+ 1,624	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	13,763,428	13,185,047	13,933,320	+ 578,381	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,681,789	1,785,616	1,733,327	-103,827	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.
(000's omitted.)

	July 11, 1921.	July 4, 1921.	July 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion—Gold	605,969	605,969	636,311	..	163,092
— Silver	11,422	11,671	14,416	- 249	8,436
Discounts and advances	479,512	515,151	500,028	- 35,639	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,027,764	1,032,298	1,026,554	- 4,534	316,632
Deposits	79,590	111,561	148,596	- 31,971	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.
(000's omitted.)

	June 18, 1921.	June 11, 1921.	June 19, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,600,222	..	..
Silver	282	303	230	- 11	14,961
Discounts	23,879	38,840	38,840	- 14,961	..
Government loan	9,916,585	9,849,921	4,099,949	+ 66,664	..
Other advances	2,775,277	2,823,593	763,545	- 48,316	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,084,371	11,087,752	4,736,038	- 3,381	..
Deposits	6,044,886	6,024,677	2,166,912	+ 20,209	..

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.
(000's omitted.)

	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion—Gold	544,151	544,076	533,168	+ 75	171,175
— Silver	110,135	110,784	87,577	- 49	18,350
Darlehens-Kassenschein	9,156	10,230	17,314	- 1,071	..
Discount and advances	394,033	395,494	353,024	- 1,461	103,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	915,065	941,083	928,112	- 26,018	275,925
Deposits	164,687	144,520	97,380	+ 20,167	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to June 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,471,000, of which Fr. 10,230,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.
(000's omitted.)

	July 9, 1921.	July 2, 1921.	July 10, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	281,370	281,393	261,246	- 23	+ 20,124	104,918
Balance abn. and foreign bills	119,841	121,938	95,219	- 2,097	+ 24,622	112,172
Swedish and for. Gov. securities	14,594	15,792	45,456	- 1,198	- 30,862	32,465
Discount and loans	450,043	477,108	658,212	- 27,065	- 208,169	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulat'n	629,665	631,441	699,880	- 51,776	- 70,215	226,555
Deposits at notice	169,512	160,340	274,758	+ 9,172	- 105,246	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.
(000's omitted.)

	July 7, 1921.	June 29, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	July 8, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	327,262	328,258	332,200	356,385	- 996	332,650
Securities	597,125	641,651	661,121	575,984	- 44,536	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulat'n	6,119,845	6,110,162	6,062,341	5,301,434	+ 9,683	934,150
Current accounts	1,050,181	1,094,586	1,135,498	1,849,574	- 44,405	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.
(000's omitted.)

	June 23, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion, bills	5,823	8,553	7,459	- 2,725	..
Silver coin	2	2	1	..	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,321,423	1,380,486	1,381,441	- 59,063	..
Loans	532,944	551,315	554,979	- 18,771	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	47,825,013	47,208,636	46,426,767	+ 616,377	..
Deposits	7,723,182	6,593,109	10,153,849	- 1,130,073	..

HUNGARIAN BANK.
(000's omitted.)

	June 23, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion, bills	185	185	186	..	..
Silver coin	..	..	..	..	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,321,423	1,380,486	1,381,441	- 59,063	..
Loans	532,944	551,315	554,979	- 18,771	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	47,825,013	47,208,636	46,426,767	+ 616,377	..
Deposits	7,723,182	6,593,109	10,153,849	- 1,130,073	..

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.
(000's omitted.)

(000's omitted.)					
	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion	227,564	227,570	228,030	.. 6	76.6
Loans and discounts	326,726	311,289	367,531	+ 15,437	88.4
Debtors abroad	10,209	15,597	33,928	.. 5,388	24.1
Securities	50,553	50,636	57,818	.. 83	11.9
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	496,213	496,688	528,660	.. 475	157.2
Deposits	67,910	60,205	43,451	+ 7,705	6.6

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, July 16, 1921.	Rate, July 8, 1921.	Rate, July 15, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22½	46.35-40	46.45-50
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20.43	149-150	268-270
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24.02	575-585	2300-2350
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24.02	170-180	270-280
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20.43	630-650	6500-6600
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25.22½	125-135	250-255
Constantinople	piastres to £	T.T.	110	..	520-540
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25.22½	160-180	330-340
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25.22½	60-65	132-137
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12.107	11-12	11-12
Brussels	franc to £1	T.T.	25.22½	43-45	47-48
Christiania	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	23-25	26-28
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	17-18	17-18
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	23-25	22-24
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25.22½	97-101	220-224
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25.22½	30-90	66½-67½
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25.22½	65½-66	77½-78
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22½	22-23	22-23
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25.22½	24-25	28-29
Lisbon	pence to £1	T.T.	53½	11-12	11-12
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97½	97½-97½	97½-97½
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4.86½	3-38-88½	3-71-1½
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4.86½	4-38-40	4-20-22
Buenos Ayres	pence to £1	T.T.	47.58½	57½-57½	43½-43½
Rio de Janeiro	pence to £1	T.T.	15	14½	17½
Montevideo	pence to £1	T.T.	51	56½-57½	40½-41½
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	90 days	13.33	11½(a)	34-80
Lima	Per. to £1	90 days	10	10	10
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10½d	1s 10½d
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10½d	1s 10½d
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10½d	1s 10½d
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	3s 8d-3s 9d	2s 7½d-7s 8d
Shanghai	ster. to tael	T.T.	..	5s 2d-5d	3s 8d-9d
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	2s 3½d-4½d	2s 3½d-4½d
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	24.2½	2s 7½d-8d	2s 7½d-8d
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24.06½	2s 3½d	2s 3½d
Mexico	pence to £1	T.T.	..	130d	123½d-133½d

† Rate for previous day. § Sellers. (a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	June 16, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1921.	July 14, 1921.
Call money	5½	5	5	5½	6
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral)	6½	6½	6½	6½	6
Bank acceptances	..	..	..	..	..
Members—eligible, 90 days	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	6½	6½	6½	6½	6½
Ineligible, 90 days	6½	6½	6½	6½	6½
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	6½	6½	6½	6½	6½

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, July 15, 1921.	Rate, June 30, 1921.	Rate, July 7, 1921.	Rate, July 14, 1921.
London—					
60 days	Dollars for £1	4.8666	3.6625	3.6525	3.5775
Cable			3.6625	3.7125	3.6375
Cheques			3.7212	3.7075	3.65
Paris	Cents for 1 franc	19.30	*11.84	7.99	7.96
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19.30	*11.20	7.95	7.82
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19.30	*5.62	16.82	16.80
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19.30	*16.84	4.89	4.82
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23.83	2.5750	1.3225	1.3275
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20.26	0.6999	0.1725	0.1550
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19.30	16.10	12.90	12.88
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	40.195	35.125	32.80	31.90
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	26.80	16.80	16.65	15.95
Christiania	Cents for 1 kroner	26.80	16.80	16.65	15.95
Stockholm	Cents for 1 kroner	26.80	16.80	16.65	15.95
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	19.30	12.80	5.92	5.70
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	100	..	87.875	88.00
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49.85	51.20	47.80	47.90
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$1	..	*73.00	49.40	49.60
Shanghai	Cents for 1 Shng. tael	..	101.75	66.25	66.90
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	..	36.50	23.90	23.45
Buenos Aires	Gold pesos for \$100	103.65	107.70	146.70	150.25
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	32.43	..	10.85	10.35
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	20.60	21.00	10.90	11.00

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1. ‡ Cents for Mexican \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, July 15, 1921.	Rate, June 30, 1921.	Rate, July 7, 1921.	Rate, July 14, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	7.35	4.00	4.03½
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123.45	14.50	7.80	7.87½
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	15.30	7.81	7.89
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	15.30	7.81	7.89
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	15.30	7.81	7.89

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	July 9 13.40
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	23-25	..	July 6 21.75
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	48-50	..	July 11 85.00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-51	..	July 9 3.65
Sau Salvador	Pesos to £1	24-65d	..	July 12 8.10
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-66d	..	July 9 206.80
Costa Rica	Colones to £1	10-45	..	June 25 17.35
Bolivia	Bolivianos to £1	10-45	..	June 10 14½

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, July 5, 1921, as below:—

	Buying Rate.	Selling Rate.
London (cheque)	£1 1.370	1.395
Paris	100 fr. 2.950	3.000
New York	\$10 3.600	3.750
Stockholm	100 kr. 8.400	8.500
Copenhagen	100 kr. 6.250	6.350
Christiania	100 kr. 5.300	5.400
Berlin	100 rmk. 540	550
Helsingfors	100 fmk. 645	670
Riga	100 lrb. 70	76
Amsterdam	100 H.fl. 12.200	12.400

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From May 13, 1921.	From May 16, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 % dis.	1 % prem.
Demand	1 % dis.	1 % prem.
30 days	1 % dis.	1 % prem.
60 days	1 % dis.	1 % prem.
90 days	1 % dis.	1 % prem.
120 days	1 % dis.	1 % prem.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	..	..
Sight	..	..
Cable	99	99½
On demand	100	100½
30 days	99½	100
60 days	99½	100
90 days	99½	100
120 days	99½	100
5 months' sight	99½	100
6 months' sight	99½	100

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	July 2, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,73,55,000	Rs. 49,85,70,000
In paper currency reserve	Rs. 61,26,00,000	Rs. 61,26,00,000
Total	Rs. 104,99,55,000	Rs. 111,11,70,000
India Office, July 12, 1921.		

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended July 13, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £4,578 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

	Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
	Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
	Week Ended July 13, 1921.	Week Ended July 13, 1921.
British India	£ 193,530	£ 552,700
Other countries	£ 520	£ 552,700
Total values of imports of gold	£ 194,050	£ 552,700

GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

Statement showing the form in which the balance of the reserve was held on June 30, 1921:—

	£
In India	Nil
In England—	
Cash at the Bank of England	3,658
British Government securities—	
Value as on March 31, 1921	14,598,956
British Government securities since purchased (cost price)	24,852,743.
	39,455,557

R. G. JAGUET, Accountant-General.

India Office, July 11, 1921.

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on July 14th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,554,240, as compared with £126,552,890 last week.

A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was, as usual, taken for New York. The quotation for gold on Tuesday—namely, 113s 4d per fine ounce—was the highest since January 5th last, when it was fixed at 114s 10d per fine ounce.

Gold to the value of \$14,087,000 has been received in New York—\$7,545,000 from London, \$5,117,000 from France, \$1,000,000 from Australia, \$225,000 from Colombia, and \$200,000 from Uruguay.

Judgment was given yesterday in the Chancery Division on the important question as to whether a holder of Russian 5 per cent. bonds of 1906 or deposit notes issued under an ukase of the late Tsar (dated August 29, 1897) had any claim upon Russian gold roubles deposited in the Bank of England. Mr Justice Peterson decided that a holder of these securities had no such claim. It remains to be seen whether the matter will be debated in a higher court. Most of the gold which may come on offer in the world's markets will be destined probably for the United States of America. Hence any decision that may be made by the legal courts of that country with regard to Soviet gold will be awaited with special interest.

The following are the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of June, 1921:—Total imports, £4,950,818; total exports, £5,033,054.

SILVER.

The market has shown considerable strength during the week, largely owing to a demand from China arising out of the difficulties into which certain Eastern banking institutions had become involved. Until these are straightened out, some stringency in Chinese supplies of hard cash is but natural. Trade conditions themselves do not yet seem to warrant any serious inquiry for remittances to the East.

American silver operators have not been disposed to let out supplies with any freedom, and an appreciation of the U.S. dollar accentuated their action. Fortunately Continental and other quarters have provided our market with quite substantial amounts, and further assistance of this sort is to be expected. The rise yesterday to 37½d for cash and 37½d for two months' delivery was the result of the Indian bazaars sending buying orders upon a depleted market. These prices were the highest fixed since February 3rd and January 28th last respectively. The high rate, however, evoked sellers from the United States. Better news as to the monsoon may have stimulated Indian demand.

An appreciation in the value of the U.S. dollar can help in a double way to sustain the value of silver. It tends to enhance the cost of silver sales from that country, but it also raises the value of gold, and by so doing renders gold shipments from India more likely. Inasmuch as Indian sellers of gold often set off their gold sales by silver purchases, a demand is generated for silver, which naturally may stimulate the price.

The preliminary U.S. estimate of the world's production for 1920 is as follows (in fine ounces):—

United States	56,564,504
Canada	12,793,541
Mexico	66,516,354
North America (total)	135,874,399
Central America	2,700,000
South America	15,000,000
Europe	5,400,000
Australasia	1,200,000
Asia	7,000,000
Africa	1,300,000
Total for world	168,474,399

The Mexican production of 66,516,354 fine ounces compares well with 62,517,000 fine ounces in 1918 and 62,681,987 in 1919. As we have stated in previous letters, that of this year is not likely to be so good, owing to the closing down of lead-producing mines in that country.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

	(In Lacs of Rupees.)	June 22, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1921.
Notes in circulation	16,994	17,176	17,222	17,222
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	6,925	7,106	7,150	7,150
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,435	2,436	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion in India ..	6,799	6,799	6,802	6,802
Securities (Indian Government) ..	835	835	835	835

The coinage during the week ending 7th inst. amounted to 3 lacs of rupees.

The stock in Shanghai on the 4th inst. consisted of about 36,700,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 420 silver bars. No fresh news has come to hand.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.
July 9 ..	110 10	37½	37
11 ..	112 10	37½	36½
12 ..	113 4	37	36½
13 ..	112 9	37½	37½
14 ..	113 2	37½	37½
15 ..	113 4	37½	37½
July 21, 1915			22½
21, 1916			30½
20, 1917			39½
19, 1918			48½
17, 1919			54½
16, 1920			52½

NOTICES.

Cable advice has been received by the London office of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia that branches have been opened at Burnie and Devonport, both in the State of Tasmania.

Mr J. A. Stark (late assistant secretary of the Bank of England) has been appointed secretary of the London and Brazilian Bank, Limited.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank announce the opening of new branches at 15 High street, Ilfracombe, under the management of Mr A. J. Mason, and in Market place, Coleford, Gloucestershire, under the management of Mr C. V. Garrett.

The London office of the National City Bank of New York announces that the bank has opened a branch at 42nd street and Madison avenue, New York City. It has also absorbed the Commercial Exchange Bank, which formerly operated at 1,133 Broadway and 330 Bowery, New York City. Both of these offices are now being conducted as branches of the National City Bank of New York.

The London office of the Banca Commerciale Italiana will be 30 Threadneedle street, E.C.2, on and after July 18th.

After July 16th the address of Kenneth H. Rocky, London representative National Bank of Commerce, New York, will be 174-178 Gresham House, Old Broad street, E.C.2.

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	May, 1921.			June, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
	Tons.	£	£	Tons.	£	£
Aurora W. United (10s shares)	10,850	15,378	608	10,640	£15,182	784
Brakpan	54,500	£116,614	40,051	53,700	£111,170	37,516
City Deep	86,000	£191,664	65,535	85,500	£191,944	60,843
Consolidated Langlaagte	39,600	£65,269	13,971	44,300	£67,905	16,782
Consolidated Main Reef	48,000	£90,220	9,390	49,200	£89,600	12,949
Crown Mines (10s shares)	188,000	£273,715	36,144	190,000	£54,337	54,952
Durban Roodepoort Deep	27,500	£9,636	5,337	27,000	£48,948	4,387
East Rand Proprietary	130,000	£11,243	125,500	£175,493	5,012	5,012
East Rand Consolidated	33,100	£16,511	33,400	£56,420	12,646	12,646
Geduld Proprietary	46,000	£681,285	21,118	44,500	£79,889	26,534
Geldenhuis Deep	48,637	£68,083	1,660	45,668	£65,773	1,157
Glynn's Lydenburg	3,370	£6,829	973	3,385	£7,710	1,837
Goch, New	16,300	20,162	721	17,300	£19,946	809
Government Areas	134,000	£280,930	133,900	129,000	£275,556	130,329
Kleinfontein, New	47,700	£68,918	3,254	48,900	£73,137	3,638
Knight Central	27,500	£36,473	1,213	28,100	£36,208	2,930
Langlaagte Estate	38,500	£63,448	3,255	40,200	£65,700	3,469
Luipdaars Vlei	12,000	£24,112	1,152	12,500	£26,866	1,388
Meyer and Charlton	13,700	£42,166	24,053	13,000	£41,056	23,671
Modderfontein B.	58,000	£169,629	95,153	57,500	£172,956	100,144
Modderfontein Deep Levels	41,300	£120,375	73,000	42,600	£127,180	80,108
Modderfontein East	24,000	£52,808	14,580	24,000	£53,281	12,604
Modderfontein, New (£4 shs.)	88,000	£225,010	111,617	96,000	£239,617	127,778
New Unified	11,000	£13,202	1,724	11,200	£13,571	2,213
Nourse Mines	42,200	£71,988	5,017	42,000	£71,942	2,965
Primrose, New	20,900	£23,307	1,789	21,600	£23,514	1,671
Randfontein Central	121,000	£183,779	13,102	123,500	£201,427	31,322
Robinson (£5 shares)	38,500	£40,772	2,610	42,200	£42,002	2,494
Robinson Deep	59,000	£92,521	16,264	56,300	£92,242	17,764
Roodepoort United	22,400	23,000	*14,96	22,200	£24,434	*425
Rose Deep	52,000	£70,582	10,377	53,500	£73,610	11,755
Simmer and Jack	60,000	£74,647	12,043	61,400	£74,817	13,851
Spring Mines	43,900	£100,332	36,656	41,500	£99,941	
Sub-Nigel	9,000	£29,838	6,548	9,500	£30,127	6,419
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates	15,620	£24,312	2,568	15,590	£23,282	1,263
Van Ryn	38,500	£40,772	2,610	42,200	£42,002	11,770
Van Ryn Deep	48,000	£136,246	69,614	51,000	£144,525	71,000
West Rand Consolidated	42,000	£77,975	6,890	47,000	£88,695	10,721
Witwatersrand Deep	33,100	£48,411	4,143	32,000	£48,802	4,509
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	3,520	£9,276	4,948	34,391	£50,536	7,616
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	35,300	£48,442	6,145	37,400	£53,995	10,004
Woluter	31,400	£41,045	3,599	32,600	£41,376	4,220

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div.	Final Div.	Method of Payment.	Lat'st Pre-vious.	Dividend for Whole Years.
Railways.						
Cork, Brandon, and S. Coast	2*	Sept. 5	Less tax			
Delhi Umballa	7%	Sept. 1	Less tax 3/9 in £			
Egyptian Delta Light, Pref.	4*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Great Northern (Ireland)	3*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Midland, Def.	4*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Port Talbot Railway and Docks	9*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Banks.						
Alexanders Discount Co.	15	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Banco Nacional Ultramarino	4/ p.s.*	Sept. 1	Subject to tax			
Bank of Liverpool and Martins.	2 1/2% (bonus 2 1/2%)	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Hibernian	9	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Hongkong and Shanghai	4 1/2 p.s.*	Sept. 1	Subject to tax			
Imperial Bank of India	16	Sept. 1	Tax free			
Lloyds	16 1/2*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
London County Westminster and Parr's, £20	10%*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Manchester and County	6 1/2%*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Munster and Leinster	20	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Netherlands of S. Africa	20*	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Union Bank of Manchester	15 1/2	Sept. 1	Tax free			
Union of Australia	15 1/2	Sept. 1	Tax free			
Insurance.						
British Traders'	9/ p.s.* (& bonus 20%)	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Scottish Automobile	7 1/2	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Union of Canton	16/ p.s.* (& bonus 20 p.s.)	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Mining.						
Gaika Gold	5%*	Aug. 3	Less tax 3 1/2 in £			
Nundydong	1/ p.s.*	Aug. 3	Less tax			
Oriental Consolidated	50c p.s.*	July 19	Less tax			
Oroville Dredging	1/ p.s.*	July 27	Less tax			
Poderosa	2/6 p.s.*	July 26	Less tax			
Tekka	4 1/2 p.s.*	July 26	Tax free			
Witwatersrand Deep	5%*	July 26	Tax free			
Tea and Rubber.						
Anglo-Ceylon and General Estates	25 1/2*	July 14	Less tax			
Bambakelly (Ceylon) Tea	5	July 14	Less tax			
Borhelles Tea	10	July 14	Less tax			
Ceylon Upcountry Tea	5	July 14	Less tax			
Changkat Salak, Defd.	5 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Eastern Assam	10	July 30	Less tax			
Jokai (Assam) Tea	10 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Jorehaut Tea	10 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Makum (Assam) Tea	10 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Telbedde Ceylon	10 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Other Companies.						
Accrington Spinning	13 p.s.*	July 15	Less tax			
African & Eastern Trade Corp.	5 %†	July 15	Less tax			
Agua Blanca Nitrate	7 %†	July 15	Less tax			
Ardwick Picture Theatre	5 %†	July 15	Less tax			
Argyle Spinning	13 p.s.*	July 15	Less tax			
Borough Spinning	13 p.s.*	July 15	Less tax			
British and Foreign General Securities	2 1/2%	July 15	Less tax			
British Borneo Timber	2 1/2%	July 15	Less tax			
British Empire Trust, Defd.	13*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
British Investment Trust, Defd.	13*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Burns Ring Spinning	16 p.s.*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Cairo Spinning	13 p.s.*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Canadian Explosives, 7% Cum.	13%	July 15	Less tax			
Cardiff Channel Dry Docks	4 %†	July 15	Tax free			
Central Spinning	2/ p.s.*	July 15	Less tax			
Colombo Commercial	2 1/2%*	July 29	Tax free			
Commercial Gas, 4 % Stock	4 1/2 %†	July 29	Tax free			
Do 5 1/2 % Stock	3 1/2 %†	July 29	Tax free			
Cort Improved Dwellings	4	Aug. 5	Tax free			
Courtauld, Limited	1/ p.s.*	Aug. 5	Tax free			
Cowling Spinning	16 p.s.*	Aug. 5	Less tax			
David and William Henderson	13 p.s.*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Dickens Green Spinning	13 p.s.*	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Dominion Steel, Pref.	1 1/2%	Aug. 1	Less tax			
Dowry Spinning	14 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Dublin United Tramways	3	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Edward Lloyd	13 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
English Sewing Cotton	13 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Enso Spinning	16 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Freeman, Hardy, and Willis	12 1/2	July 29	Less tax			
Glasgow Corn Exchange	10	July 26	Less tax			
Gloucester Railway Carriage	6	July 26	Less tax			
Do Bonus	5	July 26	Tax free			
Granville Spinning	20/ p.s.*	July 26	Less tax			
Greenwood and Bailey	2 1/2%†	July 26	Less tax			
International Tea Co.	1/ p.s.*	July 26	Less tax			
James Deakin and Sons	1/ p.s.*	July 26	Less tax			
John Clegg Spinning	13 p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
John Knight, Limited	12 1/2	July 30	Less tax			
J. W. Benson	2 %*	July 30	Less tax			
Langston Monotype	2 %*	July 30	Less tax			
Lilley and Skinner	15 %†	July 30	Less tax			
Lobitos Oilfields	1/ p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
London Shoe Company	1/ p.s.*	July 30	Tax free			
Joseph Byron and Sons	5	July 30	Less tax			
Lowfield Spinning	2/6 p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
Manchester Bonding Warehouse	2/6 p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
Manchester Commercial Build.	5/ p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
ings, Nos. 1 and 2	2/ p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
Do Nos. 3 and 4	2/ p.s.*	July 30	Less tax			
McIntyre, Hogg, Marsh, and Co.	23%*	Aug. 14	Less tax			
Mercentile Invest. and General	34%*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Mersey Spinning	13 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Moorfield Spinning	3/ p.s.*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
New Egyptian Co.	4 %*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
New South Wales Land	4 %*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Northern Corporation	4 %*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Ohlson's Cape Breweries	3/ p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Oldham Albion Spinning	3/ p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Pargson Mortgage	12	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Pine Spinning	16 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Less tax			
Shanghai Waterworks	21 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Sheffield and District Cinema	20%	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Sheffield Bill Posting, &c.	1/ p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Simms Motor Units	6/ p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
Soudan Spinning	1/3 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			
South African Breweries	1/3 p.s.*	Aug. 2	Tax free			

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Continued.

Southern California Gas, Cum.	\$6 p.s.	July 15	on account of arrears	%	%
Spillers Milling, &c., Pref.	6	July 30	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
St. James and Pall Mall Elec.	7*	Aug. 4	..	..	..
Surrey Public House Trust	5 %†	..	..	10	10
T. H. Downing and Co.	1/ p.s.*	..	..	10	10
Tempus Shipping	20	..	Less tax	(a) 20	30
Threlfall's Brewery	5 %†	..	Tax free	10	15
Tredegar Iron & Coal, "A" & "B"	5 %†	..	Less tax	..	..
United States Debenture	10*	..	..	..	..
Vulcan Spinning and Manufac.	£10	..	Tax free	..	..
Waldorf Hotel	10 %†	..	..	3	nil
W. and T. Avery	10 %†	..	Less tax	15	..
Whessoe Foundry	4/ p.s.*	..	Tax free	10	..
William Murray and Co.	4/ p.s.*	..	Less tax	5	8
Wm. Roberts (Tipton)	5	..	Tax free	5	10
Wren Spinning	13 p.s.*	..	..	6	..
Yorkshire Electric Trams	..	..	..	6	6

(a) Increased capital.

Reports and Notices.

Sir John Sutherland Harwood Banner, M.P., D.L., J.P., has accepted the position of chairman of the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited, in the place of the late Rt. Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, K.T., P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.

The directors of the San Paulo (Brazilian) Railway Company, Limited, have elected the Right Hon. the Earl of Bessborough as chairman of the board, to succeed the late Right Hon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh, K.T.

BANKS.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.—For the year 1920 the net profits were Esc.6,370,709, which includes Esc.266,041 brought forward. It is proposed to place Esc.700,000 to permanent reserve and Esc.400,000 to extra reserve fund. The dividend on working shares granted to staff absorbs Esc.55,049, and Esc.61,046 is placed to staff pension fund. A dividend of 20 per cent., free of Portuguese income-tax and transfer and stamp duties, is proposed (of which 12 per cent. has been paid), leaving a balance of Esc.354,612 to be carried forward. In 1919 the dividend was the same.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.—Average weekly position during June, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£	Ratio to Curr't. Deposit & Other Acc'ts.
Capital paid up	10,860,481	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balances with the Bank of England	55,880,178	15.1
Reserve fund	10,860,481	Current deposits, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account)	370,706,194	
Current deposits	370,706,194	Acceptances and engagements on account of customers	17,368,319	
Acceptances and engagements on account of customers	17,368,319	Money at call and short notice	13,270,478	3.6
Money at call and short notice	13,270,478	Investments	51,958,922	14.0
Investments	51,958,922	Bills discounted	63,013,825	17.0
Bills discounted	63,013,825	Advances to customers and other accounts	189,532,344	51.1
Advances to customers and other accounts	189,532,344	Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements	17,368,319	
Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements	17,368,319	Bank premises at head office and branches	4,035,196	
Bank premises at head office and branches	4,035,196	Shares of the Belfast Banking Co. Ltd., and the Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.	3,258,040	
Shares of the Belfast Banking Co. Ltd., and the Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.	3,258,040			
	409,795,475		409,795,475	

YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK, LIMITED.—The following statement shows the comparative figures on June 30th in each year from the date the new bank commenced business, together with the closing figures of the old Yorkshire Penny Bank:—

	Deposits.	Cash in Hand, at Bank of England, & at Short Notice and Short Bills.	Percentage of Cash, &c. to Deposits.
August 29, 1911	18,200,102	1,222,593	6.71
June 30, 1912	18,989,017	2,924,917	15.40
" 1913	19,733,950	4,044,362	20.49
" 1914	20,720,689	4,963,284	23.95
" 1915	20,821,658	5,860,369	28.14
" 1916	19,355,665	5,787,904	29.90
" 1917	17,372,474	4,159,333	23.94
" 1918	20,772,184	7,325,394	35.26
" 1919	26,086,358	13,029,809	49.94
" 1920	28,222,295	14,391,657	49.93
" 1921	29,347,484	14,161,910	48.25

ASSURANCE.

SUN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF CANADA.—New life assurance policies were granted during 1920 for the large sum of £21,963,959, an increase of £4,179,949 as compared with the previous year. Premium income for the year amounted to £4,392,915, bringing the total yearly income to £5,993,064. Funds have increased by £1,624,277, and now amount to £23,004,545. Annuity consideration money was £323,003 for the year. The total assurances in force are now £99,994,744.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	27 weeks	July 9	254,442	6,444,355	..
London Electric	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
City and South London	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
Central London	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
L.G.O.	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
South Metropolitan Trams	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..
Gearless Motor	27 weeks	July 9	63,785	1,469,844	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246	Rs. 6,300	Rs. 11,653,231	Rs. 531,000
Barsi Lt. Ry.	11 weeks	June 18	118	20,600	3,900	2,300,000	25,000
Bengal & N. Western ..	10 weeks	June 11	2,067	6,50,150	1,62,831	59,30,790	4,27,720
Bengal Nagpur	9 weeks	June 4	2,695	12,04,030	73,000	1,17,00,000	3,06,400
Bombay, Bar. & C.I. ..	13 weeks	July 2	2,871	19,13,000	1,48,000	27,93,370	2,02,02,000
Burma	9 weeks	June 4	1,342	5,77,038	24,064	5,06,589	4,17,760
Delhi, Umballa Kalka ..	13 weeks	July 2	2,39	92,000	13,502	12,32,715	1,04,540
East Indian	13 weeks	June 2	2,279	29,51,000	98,000	3,88,06,000	8,39,000
G. Indian Peninsula ..	13 weeks	June 2	2,321	25,02,700	48,100	5,66,64,878	3,77,780
Madras & S. Mah.	10 weeks	June 11	1,302	13,30,000	7,682	1,35,00,000	3,30,000
Rohilk'd & Kumaon ..	10 weeks	June 11	259	62,826	2,218	6,38,901	35,800
Do Lucknow-Breilly ..	10 weeks	June 11	287	75,042	14,429	7,70,501	74,100
South Indian	10 weeks	June 11	1,852	2,44,149	3,507	83,60,466	1,67,99,000
Sthn. Punjab (month) ..	6 mths	Mar. 31	717	8,89,237	50,014	49,10,562	81,200
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	2 days	July 2	752	2,100	900	6,155,300	14,55,000
Argentine Trans.	9 days	July 9	111	1,865	145	134,061	26,500
B. A. and Pacific	9 days	July 9	3,425	161,000	78,000	67,21,000	1,35,70,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	9 days	July 9	3,903	189,000	54,000	8,728,000	79,60,000
B. A. Western	9 days	July 9	1,882	93,000	27,000	14,377,000	1,71,500
Buenos Ayres Cent.	11 mths	May 31	190	46,021	12,558	50,748	24,500
Central Argentine	9 days	July 9	3,305	212,000	65,000	9,592,000	15,000
Cordoba Central	9 days	July 9	1,205	89,000	1,500	2,822,800	293,600
Entre Rios	9 days	July 9	811	6,000	4,000	1,179,700	51,800
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern ..	5 mths	May 31	Ms 63,750	17,250	218,400	34,100	34,100
Gt. West. of Brazil.	27 weeks	July 9	1,005	8,000	7,500	383,100	262,500
Leopoldina	27 weeks	July 9	1,831	23,457	23,846	879,706	584,800
San Paulo	27 weeks	July 10	1,553	32,017	15,048	812,570	461,800
State of Bahia, S.W. ..	6 mths	June 30	52	Ms 48,000	58,000	441,000	30,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	27 weeks	July 10	838	13,930	13,300	676,150	608,600
Arauco	1 month	Apr. 30	644	12,000	500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	26 weeks	June 30	366	17,946	3,728	..	172,200
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	513,860.50	147,980	14,428,740	56,700
Taltal	12 mths	June 30	180	(b) 10,947	16,323	281,160	10,780
Cuban.							
Havana Central	9 days	July 9	9	14,889	4,870	..	..
United of Havana	9 days	July 9	681	78,817	66,700	..	..
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	9 days	July 9	273	28,712	55	..	..
C. Urug. (East Ext.) ..	9 days	July 9	311	4,785	2,555	..	..
C. Urug. (North Ext.) ..	9 days	July 9	185	2,711	1,879	..	..
C. Urug. (West Ext.) ..	9 days	July 9	211	2,558	827	..	..
Midland Uruguay	12 mths	June 30	319	12,979	6,391	205,322	38,260
North-West Urug.	12 mths	June 30	113	5,531	1,017	72,543	9,000
Uruguay North	12 mths	June 30	3	1,383	753	23,473	4,000
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	27 weeks	July 9	33	Ps 23,000	6,000	432,900	74,000
Bilbao	6 mths	June 30	15	1,462	1,343	12,378	8,000
Bolivar	6 mths	June 30	135	11,009	232	61,993	6,400
Colombian Nat. Rly.	5 mths	May 31	86	19,680	660	95,760	9,240
Costa Rica	11 mths	Mar. 31	190	32,656	5,145	228,241	3,000
Dorado Extension	6 mths	June 30	70	18,500	2,750	107,750	9,100
Egyptian Delta	11 weeks	June 20	559	19,215	1,510	7,58,72	18,900
Gt. Southn. of Spain ..	26 weeks	July 2	20	Ps 36,451	46,180	1,390,430	819,700
Inter. of Spain	5 mths	May 31	233	88,332	2,815	383,493	8,200
Central America	5 mths	May 31	Net	38,774	1,841	173,343	300
La Guaira & Caracas ..	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	(b) 8,570	5,060	50,110	21,700
Mexican Railway	1 week	July 7	403	\$315,300	+ 100,400	..	..
Do	5 mths	June 30	403	\$1150,200	..	5,485,200	..
Nassjo Oscarshamn.	4 mths	Apr. 30	Net	\$52,200	..	872,300	..
Ottoman Railway, Smyrna to Ath.	1 week	July 2	379	..	13,774	52,609	33,000
Panama Central	9 days	July 9	274	4,520	670	5,970	1,500
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	5 mths	Feb. 28	233	\$2,311,374	+ 414,841	16,380,765	+ 5,299,660
Puerto Cabello, &c.	9 days	July 9	100	3,450	500	22,750	5,200
Salvador	9 days	July 9	100	3,571	240	..	..
Santo Fe Province, French Railways	1 mth	May 31	..	129,976	39,282	..	..
Samana & Santiago	6 mths	June 30	112	15,893	3,015	59,810	31,500
Zafra and Huéla	5 mths	May 31	112	(a) 14,156	4,108	75,015	11,700
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	27 weeks	July 7	9,750	\$1264,900	+ 76,200	31,646,700	+ 3,846,570
Canadian Pacific	27 weeks	July 13	38,588	\$3440,000	- 333,000	86,893,000	- 8,938,000
Grand Trunk	27 weeks	July 7	7,616	\$273,305	- 52,832	7,663,460	+ 458,300

48, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.
Telephone: 1773 Avenue.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—	Cwts. 25,515	Cwts. 20,013	Cwts. 20,916	Cwts. 28,183
1 week to July 9	12,125,746	10,751,843	12,864,109	9,544,669
Average price of English wheat per quarter.....	s d 88 7	s d 84 10	s d 73 3	s d 74 4
= per cwt	20 8	19 8	17 1	18 0

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	grs bsh	grs bsh	grs bsh	s d	s d	s d
July 2	8,776 2	2,709 0	4,470 4	89 10	41 11	38 8
9	6,186 5	2,677 0	3,471 2	88 7	42 10	39 4
1917	6,878 7	1,983 7	2,682 7	78 2	70 10	55 1
1918	6,576 0	1,259 3	296 7	74 4	57 6	47 0
1919	19,547 1	1,817 2	2,216 7	73 3	63 1	49 11
1920	4,669 5	880 1	2,407 6	84 10	90 11	64 9

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated July 14th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Since our last report the position is practically unaltered. With the exception of two or three blast furnaces, which are being blown in in order to produce pig-iron for their steel works, it is not expected that blast furnaces will generally be re-started for some time to come, or until the cost of fuel and other requisites are reduced to a price that will enable pig-iron to be produced to meet the competition from other countries and until the present stocks of lower grades of pig-iron are disposed of. There is very little No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. available, the actual selling price of which is 135s per ton, with 5s more for export. East Coast mixed numbers hematite still remains at 160s per ton for home consumption. Manufactured iron and steel: A small number of steel works have resumed partial operation to work off old orders, but here again fuel will have to be cheaper before a general re-start is made. Very little fresh business is doing. Steel ship-plates, home, £15; steel ship angles, home, £14 10s; iron bars, home, £16; steel rails, home, £14 net. Iron ore: There is no market at all in foreign ore.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—Arrivals of fuel have enabled a partial resumption of industrial activity, which will be further increased next week; but the position of trade generally is little better than it was before the strike, when severe depression prevailed except in a few branches. Evidences of an early revival in buying are still lacking, many of the export markets being almost dead. A slight improvement in India and the Far East is, however, being experienced. Makers of pig-iron have taken no steps in the direction of putting their furnaces into blast. This operation may be deferred until the outlook is a good deal better than at present. Steel billets have been reduced £2 per ton, and wire rods £3 per ton; but the new quotations are appreciably above those of Continental makers. Foreign wire rods can be bought delivered at £9 10s, compared with the British price of £13 5s. There is a similar disparity between the prices of foreign and British billets. The depression in the crucible and tool steel branches is more widespread than at any time in the history of the trade, and has been developing continuously for more than 12 months. Makers of all classes of steel are burdened with stocks of material bought at the highest point of the market. A moderate trade is being done in tools of various kinds. Coal is coming along in increasing quantities, but the output is not likely to be normal for a long time. Works are not ordering heavily for steam coal, whereas the railway companies are taking all that they can get. A brisk demand is reported for gas and small fuels. Owing to the hot weather the call for house coal is comparatively small.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The week has been a very quiet one in all business circles, iron and steel ones particularly. This, owing to the advent of the annual summer trade holidays, which run from now on to about the end of the month. There are a few exceptions. For instance, the colliers are only to be off for a couple of days, resuming on Tuesday, their services being urgently needed for putting the mines in working order, but the large iron, steel, and shipbuilding yards will not be in general motion for a couple of weeks, if then. Much depends on the extent of the coal supplies, without which no progress can be made. It is reported that during the past three months—while the coal dispute lasted—some of the steel establishments looked substantial orders for material, including several lines for ship and boiler plates, and that the managements are anxious for a start, though it is recognised that contracts will require to flow more freely than is the case if the resumption is to be maintained. General engineering prospects are given as fairly encouraging, judged by the various inquiries afloat. Amongst the engagements placed in the last few days is one for a couple of powerful lathes with Messrs. G. and A. Harvey, Glasgow, and secured against strong American competition for a foreign Government. The money value is put at £20,000. Another favourable factor announced is an order for 13,500 tons of steel rails with Messrs. Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds, for the Indian

State Railways, at £10 2s 6d per ton, which is 15 per cent. below the figure named by German competitors. Happily, the threatened trouble between the shipbuilding engineers and their men over the question of a reduction of wages has been settled to-day, through the operatives agreeing to the proposal. That will assure of a lot of hung-up work being proceeded with immediately. Unfortunately, however, an arrangement has not been arrived at with the joiners—the one black cloud hovering now over the local industrial horizon—and in consequence measures are again being taken for shifting steamers from the Clyde to French ports for fitting-out purposes. A large fleet of boats will have to be dealt with in this way, unless a means out of the deadlock is speedily discovered. A very light trade is passing in Scotch foundry iron, but there is an increase in the forward inquiries, which holders are not disposed to meet, as their stocks are low, with no prospect of an early revival in manufacture. Scotch ironmasters remain determined to keep their furnaces out of blast until supplies of fuel are not only plentiful but are also appreciably cheaper in price than they are, which, according to some estimates, would mean a reduction of about 40s a ton, a "cut" which, it can be taken, will not be willingly assented to by producers. They are still handling only limited quantities of all sorts, owing to the restricted outputs from the various collieries, where the men are as yet mainly concerned in restoring the working conditions. In many instances the repair operations will take months to execute. Quotations for all available coal are much stiffer than they have been over a long period. For domestic descriptions the terms are from 10s to 12s a ton higher than in pre-strike times, and for "industrials" 10s a ton dearer, and it need hardly be said that consumers are complaining bitterly.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The reduction in the prices of raw material at the colonial wool sales at Liverpool and Hull prepared users for a corresponding decline at the current series of London sales, and on the opening day things looked rather ominous. There was some improvement on the two succeeding days, however, and this partial rally has had the effect of stopping the fall in Bradford. Most firms are still waiting to see if any further change will be recorded in Coleman street, and the amount of business passing is so small that values are not being tested sufficiently to indicate whether current quotations are too

high. At the same time, the tendency all round is certainly towards lower prices, and the position to-day is decidedly in favour of the buyer, whether in tops, yarns, or pieces. Consumption is increasing, but most mills are merely engaged in working off arrears, and new business does not come forward in sufficient volume to encourage the hope that trade is on the mend. Spinners are doing a more or less hand-to-mouth business on home account, and the export markets are slow, with the single exception of Germany, to which country some fair weights of crossbred and mohair yarns are being sold. There is no real improvement in the piece goods trade, for what little new business is being booked is largely discounted by the sacrifices made on dear stocks, while the financial position is so disturbing that many sellers hesitate to part with goods until absolutely assured of the ability of the purchaser to meet the account.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The event of the week has been the opening of another series of Colonial sales, there being available 170,000 bales. The selection on the whole is good, the daily offerings providing a range of wools suitable to all requirements, and in both merinos and crossbreds leave nothing to be desired. What is wanted is competition, and one cannot but feel that the adverse financial position is telling its tale. As one Yorkshireman said the other day, "There is much wool but little money stirring." Buyers are to-day having to operate on a restricted scale, because they are in a worse financial position than they have been for the past twenty years. It is quite true that three bales of wool can be purchased at what was the price of one bale a good year ago, but it is difficult to sell the resultant tops, yarns, and pieces, and that is responsible for the present limited competition in Coleman street. There is nothing like the same keenness to buy that was in evidence last series, and at the same time one feels that many are waiting the opportunity to take up still cheaper wool if that can be had. One cannot but feel that even Germany has withdrawn a good deal of support after ruling and propping the market for the last three to four months. During the earlier part of the year America was a powerful factor in Coleman street in determining wool values; then Germany took America's place, and now both are distinctly quieter. Wool users in Germany must now be fairly well supplied with direct imports from South America, South Africa, and to some extent from Australia; but with combing machinery fully employed and practically all mills running full time—in some isolated cases even two shifts being run—consumption must be far greater than in the West Riding of Yorkshire or Northern France.

The opening was to a large extent disappointing but harmonised with what prevailed at Hull a week ago and at Liverpool three weeks ago. Many Bradford buyers forecasted that merinos would be down 7½ to 10 per cent., and that was the decline which actually took place. Since the opening a somewhat better buying spirit has developed, without prices being materially affected, these remaining in sellers' favour. Good wool can be had at a most useful price, and one regrets very much that the home trade is not better prepared for operating than is the case. Crossbreds have also suffered a further decline, 50's to 58's losing 5 per cent., while medium and coarse crossbreds are back almost to the lowest point yet touched. Prices will not have to fall much more than 5 per cent. to bring B.A.W.R.A.'s and importers' reserves into operation, but it is to be hoped that this will not take place. Not even buyers are

desirous of lower values, but nobody can fight against the law of supply and demand, and after all it is somewhat depressing after the spurt seen at the last London sales to find that prices have lost ground on average 10 per cent. The missing link continues to be the limited consumption on home trade account. Manufacturers cannot obtain good piece orders even though prepared to accept prices which show no profit on to-day's cheap wool and comparatively high conversion costs.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—July 8, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American	d	a	a	a	a	a	d	a	a	d	a	a
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	M	G	O	L	M	M	G
Brazilian	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F
Pernambuco, &c.	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Paraiba	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Macao	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Mossoro, &c.	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Ceara	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Maranhão	5	6	8	14	10	6	5	6	8	14	10	6
Egyptian	8	5	10	10	12	5	8	5	10	10	12	5
Brown	8	5	10	10	12	5	8	5	10	10	12	5
Upper	8	5	10	10	12	5	8	5	10	10	12	5
West Indian—Sea Island ..	25	100	28	100	31	100	25	100	28	100	31	100
Peruvian—Rough	9	5	10	10	12	5	9	5	10	10	12	5
Ditto Mod. Rough	6	5	8	5	10	10	6	5	8	5	10	10
Ditto Smooth	6	14	9	8	10	13	6	14	9	8	10	13
Ditto Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
African, East, &c.	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5
East Indian	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee ..	6	8	7	5	7	5	6	8	7	5	7	5
Broach	6	8	7	5	7	5	6	8	7	5	7	5
M. Ginned Bhowanagar ..	4	34	4	34	4	34	4	34	4	34	4	34
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	4	40	4	40	4	40	4	40	4	40	4	40
M. Ginned Khandeish ..	4	15	4	15	4	15	4	15	4	15	4	15
M. Ginned Comptah ..	3	40	3	40	3	40	3	40	3	40	3	40
M. Ginned Bengal ..	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38
M. Ginned Seinde ..	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38	3	38
Tinnivelly	7	55	7	55	7	55	7	55	7	55	7	55
Madras, Western	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20
Coconada, Red	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20	6	20

MANCHESTER, July 14.

In certain sections of the market the tone has been rather quieter, but inquiry has again been of considerable dimensions. Many sellers are now striving to secure more remunerative prices, but buyers are hesitating to go on at hardening rates. In cloth for India encouraging sales have been put through in bleaching and printing descriptions, but not much has been done in grey staples. Some merchants seem to be a little concerned at the agitation in our Dependency against foreign goods. No general buying has been recorded for China, but fair transactions have been mentioned in white goods and fancies. A steady business has been done for Java, Egypt, and Persia in a variety of cloths, and rather better reports have been received from the home trade. More machinery is being restarted in weaving districts, and unemployment is being reduced. Rates in American and Egyptian yarns have stiffened, and a fair business has been done in home counts. Export numbers have been sold more freely for China, and demand for India remains healthy.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, July 14, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		July 7.	July 30.	June 23.	June 16.	June 9.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	8 74	8 12	7 85	7 66	8 30	8 38
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16 50	16 00	15 50	15 50	16 00	16 00
Egyptian	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2
Yarns—32's twist	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 40's twist	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	32	32	32	32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31	31	31	31	31	31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18	18	18	18	18	18
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	16	16	16	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, July 14, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	8 74	8 12	7 85	7 66	8 30	8 38
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16 50	16 00	15 50	15 50	16 00	16 00
Egyptian	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2
Yarns—32's twist	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 40's twist	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	32	32	32	32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31	31	31	31	31	31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18	18	18	18	18	18
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	16	16	16	16	16	16

THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

(with which is incorporated the AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION, LTD.) Bankers to the Government of the Union of South Africa, in Cape Province; to the Imperial Government in South Africa; and to the Administration of Rhodesia.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL ...	£10,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...	£8,916,660
PAID-UP CAPITAL ...	£2,229,165
RESERVE FUND ...	£2,893,335
UNCALLED CAPITAL ...	£6,687,495
	£11,809,995

Board of Directors.

William Reiersen Arbuthnot, Esq.	Solomon B. Joel, Esq., J.P.
Sir David M. Barbour, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G.	Horace Peel, Esq.
Edward Clifton Brown, Esq.	Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G.
Stanley Christopherson, Esq.	William Smart, Esq.
Robert E. Dickinson, Esq.	Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.
James Fairbairn Finlay, Esq., C.S.I.	

Senior General Manager in South Africa—J. P. Gibson.

Joint General Managers in South Africa—Noel Jennings, John Jeffrey, James S. Shiel.

Assist. Gen. Managers in South Africa—G. F. Le Sueur, W. K. Robertson. London Manager—Francis Shinton. Secretary—Herbert G. Hoey.

Head Office: 10, CLEMENTS LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.4.

London Wall Branch: 63, London Wall, E.C.2.

West End Branch: 17, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.

(Adjoining the Royal Colonial Institute.)

NEW YORK AGENCY: 69 WALL STREET.

ROTTERDAM BRANCH: 15 COOLSINGEL.

AMSTERDAM BRANCH: 69 ROKIN.

HAMBURG AGENCY: Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., 49-53 SCHAUBENBURGER-STRASSE.

Over 440 Branches, Sub-Branches and Agencies in CAPE PROVINCE, NATAL, ORANGE FREE STATE, TRANSVAAL, RHODESIA, NYASALAND, BASUTOLAND, KENYA COLONY, KENYA PROTECTORATE, UGANDA, ZANZIBAR, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA, SOUTH WEST AFRICA, TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, BELGIAN CONGO.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION transacted at all Branches and Agencies. CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened on the usual terms, and DEPOSITS RECEIVED for fixed periods at rates which may be ascertained on application.

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS opened on terms, particulars of which may be obtained at Branches. BILLS NEGOTIATED AND COLLECTED.

DRAFTS issued, MAIL and TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES made. LETTERS OF CREDIT and COMMERCIAL CREDITS established. TRAVELLER'S LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available in all parts of PURCHASE and SALE of Stocks and Shares effected. [the world.]

DIVIDENDS, ANNUITIES, ETC., received and COUPONS COLLECTED. STRONG ROOMS provided for the safe custody of Securities and Valuables of Customers.

ASSAY DEPARTMENT—Gold, etc., and all Mineral Ores assayed and EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE business undertaken. [realised.]

The Officers of the Bank are bound not to disclose the transactions of its customers.

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Though vegetable oils generally are a steady market, and values maintained, business continues on quite modest lines. Raw linseed oil is inclined firmer and dearer, but this is due, not so much to expansion of demand, as the refusal of crushers and others to take less money in view of present figures being under actual cost of production. A widening of demand is, however, expected later. Cotton oils are steady on scarcity, without much trade passing, crude oil being unchanged, and edible refined quoted slightly dearer. Palm kernel oil has been fetching more, but all other kinds are nominally unchanged.

A fair business has been done in Plate linseed at about 10s advance for named steamer on passage, with a firm tone ruling. The quantity afloat from Argentina has greatly increased, and as several steamers are loading, will probably still further increase and have an effect upon the market. That afloat for the U.K. is returned at 95,600 tons, and that for the Continent 63,000 tons. Indian linseed afloat is negligible being only 6,400 tons to the U.K. and Continent combined. Very little inquiry is experienced for Egyptian cotton seed, which, however, continues steady; new crop is already offering. Further business has been done in Manchurian soya beans to Hull at £13 5s, July-August loading. The imports of oilseeds and oilnuts to the United Kingdom in June were below the average, viz., 94,366 tons, against 118,876 tons a year ago, and 139,374 tons in May this year. For the six months, January-June, the aggregate is 630,759 tons, against 719,052 tons a year ago, a decline of 88,293 tons, equal to 12 per cent. Linseed at 210,203 tons was 20,000 tons better, but, owing to the extremely small imports from India, cottonseed at 175,664 tons was 62,617 tons, or 26 per cent., down. Oilnuts, at 209,500 tons, were 34,000 tons behind, largely on account of reduced palm kernel arrivals.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Bermondsey hide market remained steady on Thursday last, although best ox in the heavy weights advanced ½d, making 9½d. Lights were unchanged, and alterations in cow, calf and wool skins were unimportant. The domestic hide market is, however, generally firm, and higher prices are recorded again in Manchester and Bradford. As there are tanners who take the view that the high price of hides is due to export demand, it is interesting to note that 73,053 cwt went overseas during the first half of this year, as compared with 43,654 cwt for the same period of 1920. The foreign hide market is also firm, and frigorifics are realising from 10d to 10½d. Dried skins are selling better in view of the improved industrial outlook. The American market is cabled as inactive, with heavy packers now selling at 13 cents.

Trade has not yet much improved in sole leather, and sellers have come to the conclusion that consumers have sufficient stock to carry out orders in hand. Tanners are, as a rule, firm on the question of price, although I hear of weak holders, who cut prices for big lots of bends. Offal is a slow seller, light shoulders and bellies only being wanted. The upper leather section remains quiet with a better tone. Kip curriers are in a better mood now that the big Government stocks are off the market, but still find the trade in wax butts and semi-chrome very slow. Box calf and glacé kid is wanted in small parcels, and prices are firm.

The shoe trade is improving, but until the demand sets in for heavy goods, full time generally will not be worked. The long spell of fine weather has also affected trade, and renewals of footwear must be necessary when it breaks up. The export trade shows a further serious decline, the value of footwear sent abroad during the first half of the current year being only £1,249,306, as compared with £3,313,343 for the first six months of 1920.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, July 15.

The markets in some cases disclosed increased activity, as apart from home buyers being more in evidence, good absorption took place on Continental account. Prices were very steady to in many instances dearer.

SUGAR.—General stability governed this market, prices almost without exception being 6d per cwt higher on the week, and there was a good demand particularly with regard to white descriptions. Tate's cubes sold, 62s 3d to 63s 3d; granulated, 58s 6d to 59s; castor, 62s 6d to 63s; Lyle's granulated, 58s 6d to 59s; yellow crystals, 53s. American granulated, spot, sold, 58s 6d; white Brazilian, 53s 6d to 55s; ditto Mauritius, 53s 6d; crystallised West India, 44s to 50s 6d, as to quality; muscovado, 35s to 46s; Dutch granulated, prompt, 29s to 30s; Czecho-Slovakian ditto, 28s 6d, f.o.b. terms. Stocks in Cuba are nearly 1,000,000 tons in excess of last season.

COFFEE.—Spot market without new feature. Moderate quantities were offered at public sale, but only partially sold, as demand proved quiet. The better qualities, however, realised steady prices. Future delivery market quietly steady. July, sold, 42s 6d; September, 42s 6d; December, 43s.

COCOA.—Market quiet, though steady. Some fine Grenada sold, 56s. **TEA.**—During the week 51,200 packages Indian were catalogued, and received moderate support, at about previous quotations. The finer liquoring sorts fetched full recent rates, but inferior disclosed some irregularity. 20,400 packages Ceylon offered ruled generally weaker in value, mainly owing to inferiority of quality. Java sold firmly.

RICE.—Market active and strong. Two stars, Rangoon, spot, 21s 6d; afloat sold, 20s to 20s 6d; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, sold, 20s to 20s 6d; No. 1 Saigon, 19s 6d to 20s; No. 1 A Burma broken, afloat, 15s 6d to 16s; No. 2 A, ditto, 15s 3d to 15s 6d; Siam C 1 broken, 15s; C 3, 14s 9d. Burma bran, July-August, quoted £8 10s ton, ex ship. Rangoon hand-picked beans, spot, sold, 14s 6d; Japanese peas, spot, 35s 6d cwt.

SPICE.—Pepper market fully steady, and fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 4½d; July-September steamer at 4½d; Aleppy, spot, 4½d; Tellicherry, 4½d; white Singapore, spot, 9½d; Muntok, ditto, 9½d; ditto, August-October, 9½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold 10d; pimento at 2½d; flake tapioca, spot, 1½d; ditto July-September steamer, 15s; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 21s; July-September, 18s 6d; small sago, spot, 27s; sago flour, July-September, 14s 1½d; desiccated coconut, fine and medium cuts, on spot, 54s; July-August, 50s. Ginger dull, unaltered.

FRUIT.—Market for currants continued quiet. Pyrgos, quoted, 50s to 52s; Vostizza, 89s to 91s. Smyrna sultan range from 140s to 152s. Dates steady. Siar, spot, 15s 6d.

JUTE.—Market advanced sharply owing to the first forecast of the Indian Government as to acreage sown, being from 35 to 40 per cent. below that of last season, and which in turn was on a comparatively small scale. Liberal trading ensued even at the higher rates in force. Native first marks, assortment, spot, Dundee, sold, £33; ditto subs. July, Hamburg, £28 5s; lightning subs, ditto, £22; heart subs, £17; and tops of ditto, afloat, £20. Calcutta hessians and twills dearer on the week, with sellers reserved.

HEMP.—Manila remained flat. J grade, July-September, sellers, £35; K ditto, £32 10s; L, £32; M, £28. New Zealand, fair, July-September, £33. No. 2 Benares, July-August, £17, sellers.

SHELLAC.—Market steady. T.N., spot, 300s; October, sold, 240s to 235s.

COPRA.—Market irregular, with fair transactions. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, sold, £31 15s to £31 5s and £32; Rotterdam, Ceylon, July-September, £33; South Sea, £30 15s. Palm kernels firmer, and July-September, sold, £22 7s 6d; August-October, £22 10s to £22 17s 6d.

RUBBER firm, on stimulating American advices, but eased later. Stocks on the week increased about 500 tons. Crepe, spot, sold, 10d to 10½d and 9½d to 10d; October-December, 11d, 11½d, and 11d; January-March, 11½d to 1s 0½d and 11½d. Sheet, spot, sold, 9d to 9½d and 9½d; October-December, 10½d, 9½d and 10½d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted, 11d; cauchó ball, 7d.

OILS.—Linseed firmer. Spot, net, naked, 38s; September-December, 37s 3d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 52s; refined, 60s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 40s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 48s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 92s; and shipment, 66s. Coconut firm. Ceylon, spot, 56s; July-August, 50s; Cochin, ditto, 56s. Soya firm. Oriental, cases, July-August, 35s; barrels, ditto, 37s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 22s to 24s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 45s; deodorised, barrels, £57. Turpentine dearer. American, spot, 112s; Rosin firmer. American, grade B, 16s; F, 16s 6d; G, 16s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 9½d; and water-white, 1s 10½d per gallon.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899.)

Capital Subscribed - - - - - Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up - - - - - Y45,000,000
Reserve - - - - - Y10,380,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office - - - - - 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Fochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kiangsu, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking Exchange Business, undertakes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market firmer, with active dealings. Calcutta, July-August, sold, £21 15s to £22 10s. Plate, spot, Hull, £20 10s; afloat, sold, £19 10s to £20 10s; June-July and July-August, sold, £19 10s to £20 7s 6d; August-September, £19 10s to £20 10s; September-October, £19 10s to £20 10s. Rapeseed firmer. Toria, July-August, £22 10s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £22; brown Cawn-pore, £21. Cottonseed dearer. Egyptian black, July, sold, £11 10s to £12; and white, £11 to £11 12s 6d. Bombay, afloat, Hull, sold, £10 5s to £10 7s 6d. Gingly firm. Chinese, July, Continent, sold, £25 5s to £25 10s. Castor, Bombay, June-July, £17, and Brazilian, £14, Hull. Ground nuts, Coromandel, machine-dried, July-August, sold, £21 15s; ordinary, £20 5s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., July-August, £22 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market continued active, irregular, and easier until last Tuesday, cash fluctuating down to £164 10s and since advancing to £166 5s, three months' to £168 10s. A quieter tone prevailed during the middle of the week, cash being registered at £165 5s to £167, and three months' at £166 to £167 5s. A decline occurred at Thursday's meeting. Cash changed hands at £166 to £165 10s, and since at £166 10s, late August £167, and three months' at £168 10s to £168, and again at £168 10s. At Friday's session a rather easier tendency prevailed. Cash changed hands at £166 to £165 5s, and three months' at £168 5s to £167 15s. English ingots quoted at £165. Copper tended slightly dearer at the week's commencement, with business in standard cash at £72 10s to £72 12s 6d, three months' £72 12s 6d. Values moved in a downward direction at Tuesday's market, these dates being done at £72 2s 6d and £72 5s respectively. Little change characterised movements during the middle of the week, dealings being on a smaller scale. At Friday's session rates were lower, the market being steady at the decline. Cash realised £71, late August £71 5s to £71 2s 6d, and three months' £71 5s. Electros £75 to £76, best selected £71 to £71, and strong sheets £107. Wire bars, £75 to £76. Lead steadier at £23 5s to £23 7s 6d. Spelter rather easier at £26 5s to £27, according to position. Antimony, English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home and export remain quoted at £150.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—JULY 14.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	s
Beasts—Herefords	9	2	10
Shorthorns	9	0	8
Devons	10	0	8
Norfolks	9	0	8
Scottish	9	0	8
Irish	9	0	8
Sheep—Downs (clipped)	8	8	10
Longwools	8	0	10
Crossbred	8	0	10
Scottish	10	0	12
Lamb—Downs	10	0	12

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—JULY 14.

Per Cwt.			
	s	d	s
Epicures	9	0	10
Eclipse	10	0	11
Sharpe's Express	10	0	11

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.			
COCOA—duty 4½d p lb	s	d	s
Trinidad, per cwt.	56	0	62
Granada	52	0	56
Ceylon, plantation	48	0	70
Guyana, ditto	56	0	60
Bahia, insect	56	0	60
COFFEE—42 per cwt.			
E. India fine old g.d.	70	0	112
Do good to fine	110	0	135
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	70	0	115
Good to fine	120	0	145
Central American, g.d.	62	0	86
Ord. to mid	65	0	95
Mid to fine	85	0	105
Columbian, ordinary	50	0	52
Do good to mid	55	0	75
Do mid to fine	60	0	100
CHEMICALS—			
Acid, citric	per lb	2	5
Nitric	per lb	0	24
Oxalic, net	per lb	0	10
Tartaric, English	per lb	1	6
Foreign	per lb	1	5
Alum lump	per ton	110	17
Do ground	per ton	110	17
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	per lb	0	4
Muriate, White	per lb	0	75
Sulphate	per lb	0	25
Arsenic, lump	per ton	95	0
Powder	per ton	42	0
Asbes, pot.	per cwt	150	0
Pearl do	per cwt	150	0
Bleaching pwr. p. lb	per lb	17	0
Borax, crystals	per cwt	34	0
Do powder	per cwt	35	0
Cream Tartar	per cwt	135	0
5% powder	per lb	5	3
Calomel	per lb	5	3
Iodine, per oz	per oz	1	1
Nitrate of Soda, p. lb	per lb	20	0
Potash—			
Chlorate, net	per lb	6	0
Prussiate	per lb	4	1
Do Foreign	per lb	4	0
Sulphate	per lb	0	50
Sul. Acetate	per lb	1	10
Sul. Ammoniac, p. cwt	per cwt	75	0
Sul. Bicarb., per ton	per ton	410	0
Crystals, ex ship, p. lb	per lb	27	0
Alkali	per lb	9	5
Caustic	per lb	23	0
Sugar of lead white	per lb	0	0
Foreign white	per lb	255	0
Sulphate Quinine	per lb	4	0
English Brands	per lb	4	0
Foreign	per lb	4	0
Sulphate Copper, p. lb	per lb	32	0
Zinc	per lb	19	0
Sulphur Flour	per lb	19	0
Do Boll	per lb	18	0
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb	per lb	9	0
English	per lb	4	0
COPRA—per ton c.i.f.			
Malabar, July/Sept.	per ton	33	0
Ceylon	per ton	31	0
M.S. Singapore	per ton	31	0
F.M. Straits	per ton	31	0
COCHINEAL—per lb			
2	0	3	6

SOUTHERN PACIFIC CO.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY:

Your Board of Directors submits this report of the operations and affairs of the Southern Pacific Company and of its Proprietary Companies for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1920.

As stated in last year's report, the Federal Government, which took over the railroads and steamship lines of your company on December 28, 1917, relinquish control of such properties at 12.01 a.m., March 1, 1920. Your properties, therefore, were operated by the Director General of Railroads during the first two months of the year, and by your company during the last ten months of the year. In the following table showing the net railway operating income of the Southern Pacific Transportation System for the year 1920, compared with that for the year 1919, the figures for 1920 include the results from the operation of your properties for the entire year, regardless of the change in the form of control. To make the figures for 1919 comparable, they have been revised to include, in addition to Federal operations, \$1,457,689.84, corporate operating expenses, and \$2,433,617.90, war taxes, which, in the report for last year, were included in the deductions from Corporate income.

NEW YORK, N.Y., JUNE 23, 1921.

	Calendar Year 1920	Calendar Year 1919	+ Increase. — Decrease.	Per Cent.
1. Average miles of road operated	11,151.60	11,043.11	+ 108.49	.98
Railway Operating Revenues—				
2. Freight	\$183,416,522 60	\$163,011,660 07	+ \$20,404,862 53	12.52
3. Passenger	71,701,637 26	69,371,140 37	+ 2,330,496 89	20.77
4. Mail and Express	13,660,156 52	7,838,257 82	+ 5,821,898 70	74.28
5. All other transportation	5,074,092 84	2,446,116 65	+ 2,627,976 19	107.43
6. Incidental	8,342,712 13	6,286,816 60	+ 2,055,895 53	21.15
7. Joint facility—Credit	105,349 51	128,988 99	— 23,639 48	18.33
8. Joint facility—Debit	80,967 01	25,408 13	+ 55,558 88	21.88
9. Total railway operating revenues	\$282,269,504 25	\$239,657,272 35	+ \$42,612,231 90	17.78
Railway Operating Expenses—				
10. Maintenance of way and structures	\$48,465,465 26	\$34,894,157 31	+ \$13,571,307 95	38.89
11. Maintenance of equipment	59,548,392 36	48,011,463 31	+ 11,536,929 05	24.03
12. Total Maintenance	\$108,013,857 62	\$82,905,610 62	+ \$25,108,247 00	30.29
13. Traffic	3,490,706 53	2,256,660 61	+ \$1,234,045 92	54.68
14. Transportation	117,227,797 91	93,280,330 78	+ 23,947,467 13	25.67
15. Miscellaneous operations	5,603,062 74	4,231,266 21	+ 1,371,796 53	32.56
16. General	8,112,651 83	6,101,739 76	+ 2,010,912 07	32.96
17. Transportation for investment—Credit	340,286 67	390,435 63	— 50,149 06	12.84
18. Total railway operating expenses	\$242,113,790 06	\$188,385,172 35	+ \$53,728,617 71	28.52
19. Net revenue from railway operations	\$40,155,714 19	\$51,272,100 00	— \$11,116,385 81	21.68
20. Railway tax accruals	\$14,792,063 67	\$11,911,994 62	+ \$2,880,069 05	24.18
21. Uncollectable railway revenues	112,915 09	51,694 91	+ 61,220 18	118.48
22. Railway operating income	\$25,250,705 43	\$39,308,410 47	— \$14,057,705 04	35.76
23. Equipment rents—Net	4,456,775 66	\$375,081 20	+ 4,081,694 46	—
24. Joint facility rents—Net	558,414 37	9,423 90	+ 548,990 47	—
25. Net railway operating income	\$21,312,344 04	\$39,677,067 77	— \$18,364,723 73	46.28

* Credit.

FEDERAL OPERATIONS.

The Director General of Railroads operated your properties during the months of January and February, 1920. The net income for those months amounted to \$4,809,574.25.

The following table shows the results of Federal operations during the whole period of Federal control—January 1, 1918, to February 29, 1920—compared with the standard return compensation payable by the United States Government for the use of your properties:

	Federal Income in excess of Standard Return	Standard Return in excess of Federal Income
1918	\$7,757,935 04	—
1919	—	\$4,394,355 44
January and February, 1920	—	3,173,713 78

* Federal Income in Excess of Standard

Return entire period of Federal control \$240,805 82

This result may be changed when the accounts between the Director

General of Railroads and the various corporations are finally settled.

The status of the accounts of your Company and its Proprietary Companies at December 31, 1920, with the United States Railroad Administration, incident to the period of Federal operations, is shown in the balance sheet. The net balance of \$1,695,262.66 due from the Government, as shown by such accounts, is made up as follows:

Due from Government on account of depreciation reserves and road and equipment retirements \$10,879,165 36

Less:—

Amounts advanced by Government for additions and betterments; expenses prior to January 1, 1918, and other corporate liabilities, in excess of cash, agents' and conductors' balances; revenues prior to January 1, 1918; balance due on standard return; and other corporate assets collected \$8,217,508 62

Agents' and conductors' balances at February 29, 1920 594,037 01

Book value of materials and supplies turned over by Director General on February 29, 1920, in excess of the book value of materials and supplies taken over by him on January 1, 1918 (subject to adjustment as noted below) 372,337 07

Balance due from Government \$1,695,262 66

Under the contract with the Director General he is required to return to the companies at the end of Federal control materials and supplies equal in quantity, quality, and relative usefulness to the materials and supplies which he received, or to pay for any deficiency at prices prevailing at the end of Federal control. Pending final settlements of the accounts, the book value of the materials and supplies returned by the Director General on March 1, 1920, has been temporarily credited to the Government's account. Owing to the high prices prevailing during, and at the end of, Federal control, the value of the materials and supplies returned by the Director General was considerably in excess of the value of the materials and supplies taken over by him; but as the quantity returned was less as a whole, there will be a considerable amount due from the Government on account of materials and supplies, instead of an amount due to the Government, as indicated by the foregoing statement.

GUARANTY PERIOD OPERATIONS.

As stated in last year's report, your company accepted, for itself and all its system lines, the guaranty offered by the Government under the terms of the Transportation Act of 1920, to the effect that the railway operating income for the six months period beginning March 1, 1920, should not be less than one-half of the annual compensation fixed in the contract made with the Director General of Railroads under the Federal Control Act, including additional compensation for use of additions and betterments.

One of the provisions of such guaranty was that there should not be included in operating expenses for maintenance of way and structures, or for maintenance of equipment, during the guaranty period, more than an amount fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The Commission has not yet fixed the amount of such maintenance expenditures to be included in operating expenses, and in determining the results of operation and the amount due from the Government for the guaranty period as shown below, there have been included in maintenance expenses only the actual expenditures for maintenance during the guaranty period, and the known unaudited expenses attributable to such period.

AMOUNT DUE FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT UNDER ITS GUARANTY.

Amount of Government's guaranty for the six months' period from March 1 to August 31, 1920, being one-half of the annual compensation fixed in the contract of February 19, 1919, with the Director General, as changed by the Interstate Commerce Commission up to December 31, 1920 \$23,979,110 92

Net railway operating income for the above period as booked to December 31, 1920 3,488,683 42

Estimated balance due from the Government, as determined above, taken into the year's income account \$20,490,427 50

The amount of the Government's guaranty, as shown above, does not include any additional compensation for the use of additions and betterments, new equipment, and road extensions, as for computing such additional compensation were not available at the time the income account for the year was closed.

Under the Transportation Act the Interstate Commerce Commission is required, as soon as practicable after the expiration of the guaranty period, to ascertain and certify to the Secretary of the Treasury the amount necessary to make good the guaranty to each carrier, and on October 18, 1920, the Commission issued an order requiring each carrier which had accepted the guaranty offered by the Government to file a statement showing the amount due to the company by the Government under the latter's guaranty as computed by the company. In its order the Commission stated it had adopted no formula for computing the maintenance allowance for the guaranty period, and suggested that each carrier should prepare and submit for the consideration of the Commission such data in connection with the maintenance adjustments proposed by the carrier as the latter should consider proper. Since the close of the year your company has prepared and filed its claim in accordance with such order, and it is hoped that an early settlement will be obtained.

Following is a summary of operating revenues, operating expenses and net revenue from railway operations, showing the results of the results of transportation operations for 1920 compared with 1919 and 1918 under Federal control, and with 1917, the last year of private operation prior to Government control:

	1920	1919	1918	1917
Operating revenues	\$282,269,504 25	\$239,657,272 35	\$221,611,200 21	\$193,971,489 51
Operating expenses	242,113,790 06	188,385,172 35	162,722,371 84	120,631,822 82
Net revenue from railway operations	40,155,714 19	51,272,100 00	58,888,828 37	73,339,666 72
Operating ratio, per cent.	85 77	78 61	73 43	62 18
Total train miles	51,890,806	46,865,203	49,701,205	54,024,750
Traffic units (ton miles plus 3 times passenger miles)	22,010,457,900	20,108,015,285	20,836,032,009	20,876,908,397

The above table illustrates the constant and enormous growth of operating expenses since 1917, which is the result of changed conditions commencing with Federal control, the net revenue of 1920 being 45.2% less than 1917, despite movement of 5.4% more traffic units with 3.9% less train miles. Average railway wages were increased by governmental agencies, either during or subsequent to Federal control, to a figure 92% above the average for 1917. The expense of operating your property has been profoundly affected by the increase in prices of fuel, ties, lumber, and all other kinds of material used in operation. The net revenues of 1920 were further decreased through the failure to advance freight and passenger rates to cover added prices until the end of August, whereas the large wage award made by the United States Railroad Labour Board was retroactive from May 1, 1920. Expenses of 1920 were augmented through various agreements of a national character executed by the Director General late in 1919 establishing working rules under which compensation is allowed in excess of the value of services performed, and time and one-half punitive overtime is paid after 8 hours in various classes of service, including operation of freight trains where delay to such trains is rewarded by premium payments for overtime.

Since the return of your lines on March 1, 1920, the initiative of your organization has resumed effect, normal service has been restored, unfair rate relationships have been corrected and progress has been made in recovering diverted traffic.

Comparing 1920 with 1919, ton miles of revenue freight increased 8.53%; revenue passengers carried one mile increased 7%, augmented by increased tourist travel and large conventions on the Pacific Coast, and operating revenue increased \$42,612,232, or 18%. These results were adversely affected by a protracted strike of longshoremen of coastwise steamship lines extending from March until August (in which the demands of the strikers were successfully resisted) and an increasing diversion of transcontinental tonnage to the Panama Canal during the latter part

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES COMBINED—continued.

of the year. On the other hand, increased freight and passenger rates were authorized by the Interstate Commerce Commission to become effective August 26, 1920, the benefits of which accrued during the last four months of the year except that some of the states denied corresponding increases in intrastate traffic which (upon appeal to the Interstate Commerce Commission), with unimportant exceptions, have been more recently authorized.

The increase of \$53,728,617.71, or 28.52%, in railway operating expenses was largely due to higher wage schedules effective May 1, 1920, established by the United States Railroad Labour Board, to the national labour agreements before-mentioned, to increases in prices of fuel and other materials, and to the expense of moving 7.28% heavier passenger traffic and 9.90% heavier freight traffic than in previous year, the traffic volume of 1920 having been the greatest in the Company's history.

Maintenance of Way and Structures increased \$13,571,307.95, or 38.89%. Materials used in maintenance include 527.76 miles of new steel rail; 4,887,913 ties, equal to 1,704.89 miles of continuous track, and 3,316,915, or 578.46 miles of tie plates.

Maintenance of Equipment increased \$11,536,929.05, or 24.03%, the greater equipment mileage incident to heavier traffic necessitating more maintenance work, performed at higher prices for labour and material. Your Company shares with other railways the disastrous effect of under-maintenance of freight cars during Federal control. These cars were used by the Railroad Administration regardless of ownership and were operated principally upon other roads having no ownership interest in their proper maintenance, 87.5% of the Company's box cars being away from home when the roads were returned to private management. With the return of these cars to home lines in large numbers at the close of 1920 and in the early part of 1921, the great extent of their under-maintenance has been developed, and on June 1, 1921, with 80% of our cars on home lines, we find 10% of them are in bad order and require repairs, as compared with 4.6% out of service for repairs when the road went under Federal control at the end of 1917. The work of placing this equipment in proper condition must be undertaken during the current year, at very heavy cost.

Traffic Expenses increased \$1,234,045.92, or 54.68%, due to the higher price conditions affecting all expenses and to the restoration of traffic agencies and bureaus of information for the convenience of the public and to regain traffic diverted from the Company's lines during Government control.

Transportation Expenses increased \$23,947,467.13, or 25.67%, incident to an increase of 10.72% in train mileage required to move the greater traffic of 1920 and to the higher wages and increased cost of fuel and other materials. Because of restoration of car and train service of which the public have been deprived during Federal control and to the lack of which they were unwilling to submit when no longer urged by patriotic motives, there was a slight decrease of 0.71% in the average freight car load and of 3.89% in the average freight train load, but the passenger train load increased 7.46%. The gross ton mileage moved per pound of fuel (oil equated to coal on basis of four barrels of oil to one ton of coal) shows a slight decrease in freight service and an increase in passenger service. Compared with 1913 the more efficient use of fuel in 1920 is equivalent to a saving of \$5,478,000 and for the seven years 1914 to 1920, inclusive, the saving amounts to \$18,669,000.

Miscellaneous operations increased \$1,377,769.53, or 32.56%, allocating to dining cars, hotels and restaurants, the increases being generally offset by increased revenue received from these sources.

General Expenses increased \$2,010,912.07, or 32.96%, due to increased charges for Federal valuation work, increased accounting requirements incident to Government control and guarantee periods, and higher wage scales.

Item No. 23, Equipment Rents, shows an increase of \$4,874,856.86. This increase allocates to rentals received in 1919, but not in 1920, for ocean steamships leased to the United States Government; to increased rental payments made to the Pacific Fruit Express Company, in which this Company has a half interest; and to the omission during Federal control of rentals for equipment interchanged between railways.

INCOME ACCOUNT—SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES, COMBINED.
(Excluding offsetting accounts.)

	Year ended December 31, 1920	Year ended December 31, 1919.	+ Increase — Decrease	Per Cent.
OPERATING INCOME. (March 1 to December 31, 1920, inclusive.)				
RAILWAY OPERATING REVENUES:				
1. Freight	\$157,220,043 42		+ \$157,220,043 42	
2. Passenger	61,607,126 86		+ 61,607,126 86	
3. Mail	3,764,550 44	See	+ 3,764,550 44	
4. Express	6,054,466 52	Explanation	+ 6,054,466 52	
5. All other transportation	4,639,538 20	Below.	+ 4,639,538 20	
6. Incidental	7,038,752 12		+ 7,038,752 12	
7. Joint facility—Credit	81,889 56		+ 81,889 56	
8. Joint facility—Debit	24,874 94		+ 24,874 94	
9. Railway operating revenues	\$240,381,492 18		+ \$240,381,492 18	
RAILWAY OPERATING EXPENSES				
10. Maintenance of way and structures	\$41,938,579 91	\$94,614 60	+ \$41,843,965 31	
11. Maintenance of equipment	49,521,811 29	42,079 56	+ 49,479,731 73	
12. Total Maintenance	\$91,460,391 20	\$136,694 16	+ \$91,723,697 04	
13. Traffic	3,097,893 12	94,474 15	+ 3,003,418 97	
14. Transportation	100,486,655 12	5,664 15	+ 100,480,990 97	
15. Miscellaneous operations	4,830,833 96	—	+ 4,830,833 96	
16. General	7,247,152 52	1,220,857 38	+ 6,026,295 14	
17. Transportation for investment—Credit	33,006 68	—	+ 33,006 68	
18. Railway operating expenses	\$207,186,859 24	(a) \$1,457,689 84	+ \$205,729,169 40	
19. Net revenue from railway operations	\$33,194,632 94	(b) \$1,457,689 84	+ \$34,652,322 78	
20. Railway Tax accruals	13,006,696 07	(a) 2,433,517 50	+ 10,573,178 57	
21. Uncollectible Railway Revenues	95,346 40	—	+ 95,346 40	
22. Equipment rents—Net	4,060,345 12	—	+ 4,060,345 12	
23. Joint facility rents—Net	492,695 98	(c) —	+ 492,695 98	
24. Net railway operating income	\$16,524,941 33	(b) \$3,891,307 74	+ \$20,416,249 07	
25. Revenues from miscellaneous operations	\$2,581,763 93	\$14,033,155 75	— \$11,451,391 82	81.60
26. Expenses of miscellaneous operations	1,342,255 38	7,565,331 96	— 6,223,076 58	82.26
27. Net revenues from miscellaneous operations	\$1,239,508 55	\$6,467,823 79	— \$5,228,315 24	80.84
28. Taxes on miscellaneous operating property	46,346 16	223,706 58	— 177,360 42	79.28
29. Miscellaneous operating income	\$1,193,162 39	\$6,244,117 21	— \$5,050,954 82	80.89
30. Total operating income	\$17,718,103 72	\$2,352,809 47	+ \$15,365,294 25	
NON-OPERATING INCOME.				
31. Income from lease of road—Standard return	(d) \$8,043,288 03	\$18,244,660 03	— \$40,201,372 00	83.33
32. Other income from lease of road	34,705 27	28,497 04	+ 6,208 23	21.79
33. Miscellaneous rent income	809,388 70	731,015 97	+ 78,372 73	10.72
34. Miscellaneous non-operating physical property	373,830 41	360,059 30	+ 13,771 11	3.82
35. Separately operated properties—Profit	31,269 12	24,909 46	+ 6,359 66	25.53
36. Dividend income	5,251,323 91	1,182,038 97	+ 4,069,284 97	344.26
37. Income from funded securities—Bonds and notes—Affiliated and other companies	1,921,964 07	2,370,301 11	— 448,337 04	18 91
38. Income from funded securities—Investment advances—Affiliated companies	389,226 77	443,942 36	— 54,715 59	12 32
39. Income from unfunded securities and accounts	1,370,528 34	355,563 95	+ 1,014,964 39	285 45
40. Income from sinking and other reserve funds	774,710 03	742,040 20	+ 32,669 83	4 40
41. Miscellaneous income—U. S. Government Guaranty	(e) 20,490,427 50	—	+ 20,490,427 50	
42. Other miscellaneous income	(f) 401,949 71	622,172 08	— 220,222 37	35 40
43. Total non-operating income	\$9,892,611 94	\$55,105,210 47	— \$15,212,598 53	27 61
44. Gross income	\$57,610,715 66	\$57,458,019 94	+ \$152,695 72	.27
DEDUCTIONS FROM GROSS INCOME.				
45. Rent for leased roads	\$226,277 70	\$267,019 89	— \$40,742 19	15 26
46. Miscellaneous rents	601,925 75	717,692 48	— 116,766 73	16 27
47. Miscellaneous tax accruals	838,367 78	706,591 76	+ 131,776 02	18 65
48. Interest on funded debt—Bonds and notes	22,533,483 13	22,701,121 06	— 167,637 93	7 47
49. Interest on funded debt—Non-negotiable debt to affiliated companies	136,478 00	147,496 30	— 11,018 30	8 32
50. Interest on unfunded debt	51,303 51	375,066 92	— 323,763 41	42 07
51. Amortization of discount on funded debt	169,228 14	292,131 27	— 122,903 13	22 90
52. Maintenance of investment organization	24,789 93	(a) 32,154 99	— 7,365 06	43 19
53. Other miscellaneous income charges	959,582 09	670,158 21	+ 289,423 88	1 42
54. Total deductions from gross income	\$25,540,441 03	\$25,909,412 88	— \$368,971 85	1 65
55. Net income	\$32,070,274 63	\$31,548,607 06	+ \$521,667 57	
DISPOSITION OF NET INCOME.				
56. Income applied to sinking and other reserve funds	\$1,053,915 19	\$1,022,861 92	+ \$31,053 27	3 04
57. Dividend appropriations of income	—	(h) 17,478,459 12	— 17,478,459 12	—
58. Total appropriations	\$1,053,915 19	\$18,501,323 04	— \$17,447,407 85	94 30
59. Income balance transferred to credit of Profit and Loss	\$31,016,359 44	\$13,047,284 02	+ \$17,969,075 42	137 72
60. Per cent. of net income on average amount of outstanding capital stock of Southern Pacific Co.	10.57	10.45	+ .12	1.15

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES COMBINED—continued.

The decrease of \$5,050,954.82 in Miscellaneous Operating Income (line No. 29) is due to the fact that this year's figures include only two months' operations of the California Fuel Oil Department, the property having been sold to Southern Pacific Land Company on February 29, 1920. There is, however, an increase in dividend income of \$1,000,000 on account of dividends received from Southern Pacific Land Company.

The decrease of \$40,201,372.03 in Income from Lease of Road—Standard Return (line No. 31)—is due to the fact that this year's figures include the standard return for the months of January and February only while the property was operated by the Government. This decrease is offset by the increase of \$20,418,249.07 in Net Railway Operating Income (line No. 20) and the estimated amount of \$20,490,427.50 in Miscellaneous Income—U.S. Government Guaranty (line No. 41).

The increase of \$1,014,964.39 in Income from Unfunded Securities and Accounts (line No. 39) represents interest on U.S. Government Certificates of Indebtedness, bank acceptances, and increased bank deposits, resulting principally from the sale of about \$8,500,000 of Liberty Loan bonds in January, 1920, and the unapplied proceeds of the sale in June, 1920, of \$15,000,000 of Series "E," Equipment Trust Certificates.

The decrease of \$220,222.37 in Other Miscellaneous Income (line No. 42) is the result principally of a decrease in the credit for lap-over items of revenue prior to January 1, 1918, due not only to the decrease in such items, but also to the fact that since the end of Federal Control such items have been included in the appropriate operating revenue accounts instead of in Miscellaneous Income, in accordance with regulations of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

DEDUCTIONS FROM GROSS INCOME.

The decrease of \$40,742.19 in Rent for Leased Roads (line No. 43) is the result, principally, of a payment made last year on account of rental for the year 1918.

The decrease of \$116,766.73 in Miscellaneous Rents (line No. 45) is the result, principally, of a decrease in the rental for pipe line for use of California Fuel Oil Department, the latter having been sold to Southern Pacific Land Company on February 29, 1920.

The increase of \$131,776.02 in Miscellaneous Tax Accruals (line No. 47) is the result, principally, of a general increase in the rate of taxation.

Interest on Funded Debt—Bonds and Notes (line No. 48) shows a decrease for the year of \$167,632.93. The interest was increased \$707,231.67 by the issue this year of the \$15,000,000 of Seven Per Cent. Equipment Trust Certificates, Series "E," and of the \$2,814,000 of Six Per Cent. Equipment Trust obligations issued in payment for equipment assigned by the Director General of Railroads. It was decreased \$619,135.11 by the conversion of Southern Pacific Company Four and Five Per Cent. Twenty-year Convertible Bonds; \$126,609.56 by the retirement of bonds through sinking funds, etc.; and \$120,109.93 by the acquisition of bonds by Southern Pacific Company and Proprietary Companies.

The decrease of \$223,763.41 in Interest on Unfunded Debt (line No. 50) represents principally, interest paid last year on funds borrowed for the purchase of Liberty Loan Bonds.

The decrease of \$122,903.13 in Amortization of Discount on Funded Debt (line No. 51) is the result, principally, of the conversion during the year of \$24,416,500 par value, of Five Per Cent. Twenty-year Convertible bonds into Common Stock, the unextinguished discount on such bonds having been charged to Profit and Loss.

The increase of \$239,443.83 in Other Miscellaneous Income Charges (line No. 53) is due to an adjustment made this year correcting an erroneous debit to "Expenses prior to January 1, 1918," made in December, 1918.

The dividends paid during 1920 were appropriated from the profit and loss surplus, and therefore do not appear in the Income Account. They amount to \$18,209,590.82 for the year, an increase of \$731,137.70. The increase is due to the dividends on stock issued against Five Per Cent. Convertible bonds retired. The figures for this year include \$316.00, and those for last year \$334.00, representing dividends on stocks of Proprietary Companies held by the public.

On December 31, 1920, the principal of advances to the Southern Pacific Railroad Company of Mexico amounted to \$38,709,747.41. The interest accruing on these advances has not been taken into the income of the Southern Pacific Company.

CAPITAL STOCK.

The capital stock of the Southern Pacific Company outstanding at the beginning of the year amounted to ... \$302,024,905 64

Issued during the year:
Common stock issued in exchange for a like amount of Five Per Cent. Twenty-Year Convertible Gold Bonds surrendered and cancelled... 24,416,500 00

Amount of Southern Pacific Company capital stock outstanding December 31, 1920 ... \$326,441,405 64

There was no change during the year in the capital stocks of the Proprietary Companies. The amounts outstanding December 31, 1920, were as follows:

Preferred stock ... \$29,400,000 00
Common stock ... 317,432,400 00

Capital stocks of Proprietary Companies outstanding December 31, 1920, were held as follows:

In hands of public ... 75,603 00
Owned by Southern Pacific Company ... \$346,456,800 00

Owned by Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Railroad & Steamship Company ... 300,000 00

Capital stocks of Proprietary Companies outstanding December 31, 1920, were held as follows:

In hands of public ... 75,603 00
Owned by Southern Pacific Company ... \$346,456,800 00

Owned by Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Railroad & Steamship Company ... 300,000 00

Capital stocks of Proprietary Companies outstanding December 31, 1920, were held as follows:

In hands of public ... 75,603 00
Owned by Southern Pacific Company ... \$346,456,800 00

Owned by Morgan's Louisiana & Texas Railroad & Steamship Company ... 300,000 00

BALANCE SHEET.—SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES, COMBINED.
ASSETS—DECEMBER 31, 1920, COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 31, 1919, EXCLUDING OFFSETTING ACCOUNTS.

ASSETS.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Increase.	Decrease.
INVESTMENTS.				
Investment in road and equipment	\$1,023,128,725 51	\$1,007,467,713 46	\$15,661,012 05	
Improvements on leased railway property	4,307,667 10	4,181,212 60	126,454 50	
Sinking funds	15,894,531 85	15,072,997 66	821,534 20	
Deposits in lieu of mortgaged property sold	14,406,620 76	954 02	14,405,666 74	
Miscellaneous physical property (a)	13,785,215 46	32,550,023 13	—	\$18,764,813 67
Investments in affiliated companies:				
Stocks	328,460,971 48	276,077,877 61	52,383,093 87	
Bonds	148,424,714 44	142,891,570 60	5,533,143 84	
Stocks	11,267,951 70	11,917,751 70	—	649,800 00
Bonds	1,551,407 54	1,208,529 17	342,878 37	
Notes	107,281,536 58	107,990,144 96	—	708,608 38
Advances				
Other investments:				
Stocks	156,710 29	156,710 29	—	
Bonds	9,021,311 91	15,649,902 44	—	6,628,590 53
Notes	2,032,491 77	2,328,227 78	—	295,736 01
Advances	294,019 97	381,240 98	—	87,221 01
Miscellaneous	2,295,565 08	2,115,678 98	179,886 10	
CURRENT ASSETS.				
Cash	\$16,452,542 35	\$12,281,625 76	\$4,170,916 59	
Special deposits	224,119 20	37,876 78	186,242 42	
Loans and bills receivable	59,268 34	194,590 05	—	\$135,321 71
Traffic and car-service balances receivable	6,212,714 73	183,363 95	6,029,350 78	
Net balance receivable from agents and conductors	5,694,542 13	—	5,694,542 13	
Miscellaneous accounts receivable	17,160,402 64	3,256,128 77	13,904,273 87	
Material and supplies (b)	40,263,353 08	1,555,151 07	\$38,708,202 01	
Interest and dividends receivable	2,269,418 00	2,230,709 00	38,709 00	
Rents receivable	1,163,745 30	1,221,141 82	—	57,396 52
Other current assets	481,779 82	23,726 95	458,052 87	
ACCOUNTS WITH U.S. RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION.				
Standard return	\$104,532,608 09	\$96,489,320 06	\$8,043,288 03	
Less received on account	74,125,000 00	61,625,000 00	12,500,000 00	
Balance due from U.S. Government	\$30,407,608 09	\$34,864,320 06	—	\$4,456,711 97
Cash and agents' and conductors' balances taken over January 1, 1918, revenues prior to January 1, 1918, and other corporate assets collected, etc.	38,005,388 11	37,775,606 19	229,781 92	
Materials and supplies, December 31, 1917	23,689,556 32	23,468,531 66	221,024 66	
Depreciation and other reserves	9,751,386 36	8,670,321 83	1,081,064 53	
Road and equipment retired and not replaced	1,127,779 00	1,257,102 56	—	129,323 56
U.S. GOVERNMENT.				
U.S. Government deficit in guaranty income (c)	\$20,490,427 50	—	\$20,490,427 50	\$3,054,264 41
DEFERRED ASSETS.				
Working fund advances	\$193,392 66	\$43,008 18	\$150,384 48	
Insurance and other funds	16,360 00	16,360 00	—	
Other deferred assets	8,382,913 27	7,177,875 02	1,205,038 25	
UNADJUSTED DEBITS.				
Rents and insurance premiums paid in advance	\$202,706 36	\$90,285 79	\$112,420 57	
Discount on capital stock	3,988,600 00	3,983,600 00	5,000 00	
Discount on funded debt	2,400,820 37	3,039,679 78	—	\$638,859 41
Other unadjusted debits	22,343,697 62	3,581,020 76	18,762,676 86	
Securities issued or assumed—Unpledged (d)	5,985,175 00	5,924,675 00	60,500 00	
Securities issued or assumed—Pledged (d)	156,500 00	156,500 00	—	
TOTAL.				
Total	\$28,935,824 35	\$10,693,586 33	\$18,242,238 02	
Total assets	\$1,933,231,368 70	\$1,764,947,577 43	\$168,283,791 27	

(a) The value of the unsold Central Pacific Railway Company and Oregon and California Railroad Company land grant lands is not included in the above statement of assets. (b) Represents material and supplies of California Fuel Oil Department. (c) See explanatory remarks regarding Guaranty Period operations. (d) Excluded from total assets and a corresponding amount excluded from outstanding funded debt in accordance with regulations of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES COMBINED—continued.

BALANCE SHEET.—SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES, COMBINED.
LIABILITIES—DECEMBER 31, 1920, COMPARED WITH DECEMBER 31, 1919, EXCLUDING OFFSETTING ACCOUNTS.

LIABILITIES.	DECEMBER 31, 1920.	DECEMBER 31, 1919.	INCREASE.	DECREASE.
STOCK.				
Capital stock of Southern Pacific Company	\$326,441,405 64	\$302,024,905 64	\$24,416,500 00	
Capital stock of Proprietary Companies	346,832,400 00	346,832,400 00	—	
Total stock outstanding	\$673,273,805 64	\$648,857,305 64	\$24,416,500 00	
Premium on capital stock of Southern Pacific Company	\$6,304,440 00	\$6,304,440 00	—	
Total	\$679,578,245 64	\$655,161,745 64	\$24,416,500 00	
LONG TERM DEBT.				
Funded debt unmatured				
Book liability	\$608,457,445 95	\$618,169,836 73	—	\$ 9,712,390 78
Less held by or for companies	6,141,675 00	6,081,175 00	\$60,500 00	
Actually outstanding—				
Southern Pacific Company	\$159,158,160 00	\$167,608,760 00	—	\$8,450,600 00
Proprietary Companies	443,157,610 95	444,479,931 73	—	1,322,290 78
Total funded debt	\$602,315,770 95	\$612,088,691 73	—	\$9,772,890 78
Non-negotiable debt to affiliated companies:				
Open accounts	47,792,526 82	5,482,434 97	\$42,310,091 85	
Total	\$650,108,297 77	\$617,571,096 70	\$32,537,201 07	
CURRENT LIABILITIES.				
Loans and bills payable	\$5,000,000 00	—	\$5,000,000 00	
Traffic and car-service balances payable	10,112,285 10	\$82,354 41	10,029,930 69	
Audited accounts and wages payable	28,527,473 11	1,134,611 16	27,392,861 95	
Miscellaneous accounts payable	3,335,273 09	1,654,735 02	1,740,538 07	
Interest matured unpaid	4,554,009 33	5,030,633 14	—	\$476,623 81
Dividends matured unpaid	4,683,119 51	4,622,115 76	61,003 75	
Funded debt matured unpaid	29,213 92	62,213 92	—	33,000 00
Unmatured interest accrued	4,979,378 44	4,813,872 14	165,506 30	
Unmatured rents accrued	284,176 59	288,393 77	—	4,217 18
Other current liabilities	898,064 18	51,492 17	846,572 01	
Total	\$62,462,993 34	\$17,740,421 49	\$44,722,571 85	
ACCOUNTS WITH U.S. RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION.				
Advances for additions and betterments	\$25,463,867 72	\$24,592,835 48	\$871,032 24	
Advances for expenses prior to January 1, 1918, and other corporate liabilities paid, etc.	51,166,637 10	47,811,802 81	3,354,834 29	
Agents' and conductors' balances February 29, 1920	594,037 01	—	594,037 01	
Federal material and supplies February 29, 1920	24,061,913 39	—	24,061,913 39	
Total	\$101,286,455 22	\$72,404,638 29	\$28,881,816 93	
DEFERRED LIABILITIES.				
Other deferred liabilities	\$209,864 09	\$53,476 61	\$156,387 48	
UNADJUSTED CREDITS.				
Tax liability	\$1,878,273 38	\$4,166,294 49	—	\$2,288,021 11
Insurance and casualty reserves	3,182,804 69	3,309,723 29	—	126,918 60
Operating reserves	4,312,251 64	—	\$4,312,251 64	
Accrued depreciation—Road	1,489,080 76	1,332,017 17	167,063 59	
Accrued depreciation—Equipment	54,581,951 21	51,343,247 38	3,238,703 83	
Accrued depreciation—Miscellaneous physical property	86,553,083 02	58,439,936 81	28,113,146 21	8,541,207 84
Other unadjusted credits	\$152,029,444 70	\$127,127,426 98	\$24,902,017 72	
CORPORATE SURPLUS.				
Additions to property through income and surplus	\$1,575,921 24	\$1,404,504 31	\$171,416 93	
Funded debt retired through income and surplus	23,333,510 55	22,362,877 20	1,030,633 35	
Sinking fund reserves	11,602,666 84	11,177,796 69	424,870 15	
Appropriated surplus not specifically invested	3,818,177 83	3,818,177 83	—	
Total appropriated surplus	\$40,330,276 46	\$38,703,566 03	\$1,626,710 43	
Profit and loss—Balance	247,286,791 48	236,185,415 69	11,101,375 79	
Total corporate surplus	\$287,617,067 94	\$274,888,981 72	\$12,728,086 22	
Total liabilities	\$1,933,231,368 70	\$1,764,947,577 43	\$168,283,791 27	

(a) The outstanding capital stock and funded debt include capital stocks and funded debt of Proprietary Companies of the par value of \$346,756,800 and \$110,732,900.45, respectively, a total of \$457,489,700.45, which securities are owned by the Southern Pacific Company or by Proprietary Companies, or are held in sinking funds of Proprietary Companies. The cost of these securities is included in the investments shown above. Of the said amount, stocks of the par value of \$249,653,161, which stand charged on the books at \$232,932,667.41, are pledged against the issue of Southern Pacific Company stock and bonds. (d) Represents accrued depreciation on electric power plants and substations, general office building at San Francisco, wood preserving works, Sacramento rolling mill, oil storage plants, grain elevators, and similar facilities. (e) Represents principally interest on construction advances which have not been repaid.

FUNDED DEBT.		
On June 1, 1920, to provide for the construction and acquisition of new rolling stock, an equipment trust, known as "Southern Pacific Equipment Trust, Series E," was created and an issue of \$15,000,000, par value, Seven Per Cent. Equipment Trust Certificates authorized, all of which were issued during the year. The certificates are dated June 1, 1920, and mature serially in lots of \$1,250,000 on June 1 of each year from 1924 to 1935, both inclusive. In accordance with the terms of the trust all of the certificates were guaranteed by the Southern Pacific Company.		
The \$2,814,000 of Six Per Cent. Equipment Trust Notes to be issued in payment for the 1,000 box cars which the company was compelled to take over from the Director General, as explained in last year's report, were also issued during the year. As the purchase price of such equipment as finally determined upon only slightly exceeded the minimum purchase price, the difference was paid in cash, so that no further equipment notes are to be issued in connection with such equipment.		
The funded and other fixed interest-bearing debt of the Southern Pacific Company and of its Proprietary Companies, outstanding December 31, 1919, was as follows:		
Southern Pacific Company	\$167,608,760 00	
Proprietary Companies	444,479,931 73	\$612,088,691 73
Total outstanding December 31, 1919		
Issued during the year:		
Southern Pacific Company		
Seven Per Cent. Equipment Trust Certificates, Series "E"	\$15,000,000 00	
Six Per Cent. Temporary Equipment Gold Notes	2,814,000 00	
Total	\$17,814,000 00	\$629,902,691 73
Retired during the year:		
Southern Pacific Company		
San Francisco Terminal First Mortgage Four Per Cent. Bonds:		
Purchased from payments to sinking fund	\$7,100 00	
Five Per Cent. Twenty-year Convertible Gold Bonds:		
Retired in exchange for a like amount of Common stock issued	24,416,500 00	
Four and One-half Per Cent. Equipment Trust Certificates:		
Series A, Due March 1, 1920	\$1,012,000 00	
Series B, Due September 1, 1920, paid off	201,000 00	
Series C, Due December 1, 1920, paid off	117,000 00	
Series D, Due May 1, 1920, paid off	511,000 00	1,841,000 00
Total	\$2,841,000 00	\$626,961,691 73

Brought forward		\$629,90
------------------------	--	----------

SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY AND PROPRIETARY COMPANIES COMBINED—continued.

ADDITIONAL ROLLING STOCK AND FLOATING EQUIPMENT.
As indicated in last year's report, the following rolling stock, ordered to provide for increased requirements and to replace vacated equipment, was included in Southern Pacific Equipment Trust, Series E, created June 1, 1920:

72 locomotives
4,815 freight-train cars
50 passenger-train cars
140 electric cars

The total estimated purchase price of such equipment is \$22,500,000. Of this amount the sum of \$15,000,000 has been provided by the equipment trust certificates issued under the above-named trust, and the remaining \$7,500,000 will be provided out of the general funds of the company. A part of such equipment has been placed in service, and it is expected that the remainder will be delivered and placed in service during the calendar year 1921.

In addition to the above equipment there were delivered by outside builders or completed at company's shops during the year 3 locomotives, 16 passenger-train cars, 251 freight-train cars, and 4 electric cars, the total cost of which was \$971,000. Of the four steamships mentioned in last year's report, the freighter El Estero was placed in service November 24, 1920; the freighter El Isco, January 20, 1921; and the freighter El Lago, March 14, 1921. It is expected that the tank steamer Taniahua will be completed and delivered during the latter part of 1921. The contract price of these four steamers is \$7,430,000.

THE SUIT INVOLVING THE RIGHT OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY TO OWN THE STOCK OF THE CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY

In last year's report it was stated that this case was pending before the Supreme Court of the United States on an appeal by the Government from a decision against it in the lower Court, and that it was expected that the case would be argued and submitted at the October Term, 1920. The case came up for hearing in the Supreme Court on April 17th, 1921; and, after full oral argument, was submitted on April 19th and taken under advisement by the Court. An early decision is expected.

CONTROVERSY ARISING OUT OF THE OREGON & CALIFORNIA RAILROAD'S LAND GRANT

This is an accounting suit brought in 1917 by the United States seeking to offset against the compensation of \$2.50 per acre, due the Company for the unsold lands, moneys received by the Company, in excess of \$2.50 per acre, by reason of past sales, leases and otherwise, as well as taxes levied since the forfeiture decision in 1913 and voluntarily paid by the Federal Government to the State of Oregon. This case is ready for trial and will probably be heard and decided in the United States District Court of Oregon some time during 1921.

SEPARATION OF CALIFORNIA OIL PROPERTIES—INCLUDING STOCKHOLDING IN ASSOCIATED OIL COMPANY—FROM RAILROAD PROPERTIES

At a meeting held December 1st, 1920, your board of directors adopted the following plan for the separation of the California oil properties—including the stockholding in the Associated Oil Company—from the railroad properties:
A new company, known as the Pacific Oil Company, was organized under the laws of the State of Delaware with a capital stock of 3,500,000 shares of no par value, and the Southern Pacific Company subscribed for the entire capital stock at \$15.00 per share. Of the \$52,500,000 so realized the new company retained \$8,750,000 as a working capital and expended the remainder, \$43,750,000, in purchasing from the Southern Pacific Land Company (the entire capital stock of which is owned by the Southern Pacific Company):

(a) About 250,000 acres of land owned by the Southern Pacific Land Company, situate in the State of California, of which about 25,000 acres are proven oil lands and the remainder lands heretofore withdrawn from sale as possible oil lands, together with existing field improvements and materials and supplies;
(b) 200,690 shares, par value, \$20,000,000 representing 50.48% of the outstanding capital stock of the Associated Oil Company.

Holders of the capital stock of the Southern Pacific Company registered as such on the books of the Company at the close of business on January 14, 1921, were given the right to purchase at Fifteen dollars (\$15.00) per share, payment to be made in full on or before March 1, 1921, one share of stock of the new company for each share of Southern Pacific Company stock so held.

The capital stock of the new company was fixed at 3,500,000 shares, to correspond as nearly as possible to the total number of shares of Southern Pacific Company stock outstanding together with the number of shares reserved for conversion of the company's 5% convertible bonds. Holders of \$38,329,500 of these bonds sub-

sequently exchanged their bonds for Southern Pacific Company stock, so that of January 14, 1921, there were 3,443,809 shares of Southern Pacific Company stock outstanding.

Southern Pacific Company stockholders, or their assigns, purchased an aggregate of 3,414,604 shares of Pacific Oil Company stock, thus leaving in the company treasury at this date 85,396 shares of such stock, which will be held subject to sue disposition as your board of directors may determine.

The carrying out of this plan has completely divorced the California oil properties from the railroad properties.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY OF MEXICO

The value of the property damaged or destroyed from the beginning of the Madero revolution in 1910 down to December 31, 1920 (including that damaged or destroyed during the revolution against Carranza), now amounts to 5,421,326 pesos equivalent to \$2,710,663. While the company has been unable to make an collections this year on account of these depredation claims, the claims were checked during October, November and December, 1920, by representatives of the Government in connection with representatives of the Company and no serious objections were raised to the claims as originally filed. The Company has claim against the Mexican Government aggregating 15,935,586 pesos, equivalent to \$7,967,793, representing amounts due for freight and passenger service performed for rental of road and equipment, and for materials furnished to or confiscated by the various military authorities. About one-half of these latter claims have been filed with the proper departments of the Government, and the remainder are in the hands of our fiscal representative in the City of Mexico and are being filed as rapidly as the congested condition of the departments will permit. Since the inauguration of President Obregon on December 1, 1920, payments amounting to 128,690 pesos have been made on account of these latter claims, while additional claims amounting to 587,350 pesos have been approved for payment.

The Company has also filed claims aggregating 5,908,816 pesos, equivalent to \$2,954,408, for the cost of restoring the Alamos and Tonichi Branches and the main line from Acaponeta to Tepic, the operation of which was compelled to abandon in the spring of 1913. These claims are, of course, subject to correction when the lines are restored and again placed in operation and the actual cost can be determined.

The average miles of road operated during the year was 1,001.47 miles, and only such maintenance work was carried on as was found necessary for the operation of trains over those portions of the line open for traffic.

LOS ANGELES UNION TERMINAL COMPANY

The Southern Pacific Company has acquired the entire capital stock, \$3,250,000 par value, of the Los Angeles Union Terminal Co., in exchange for value of lands transferred to the Terminal Company and a part of the construction cost incurred. This enterprise occupies nineteen acres of land at Seventh Street and Central Avenue, being in the heart of the newer wholesale district, and at the intersection of the principal east and west retail street of the city and the lines of your company. The major part of the wholesale produce and fruit business of the city is carried on at this terminal, and in addition a number of important manufacturing and jobbing firms have their plants established there. Two six-story reinforced concrete buildings, with basements having rentable floor area of 846,000 square feet, or 19.5 acres, have been erected, and a third is under construction. The market section is of two-story concrete buildings, supplied in part with basements and with a rentable floor area of 405,352 square feet, or 9.3 acres. The completed buildings are at this time 98.8 per cent. rented. The terminal company is served exclusively by the Southern Pacific Company and its subsidiary the Pacific Electric Railway Company, the latter under agreement doing all the switching for both Companies. The enterprise is productive of a very large freight traffic for your company.

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC MARKET COMPANY

Your company has also acquired substantially all the stock of the Los Angeles Public Market Company owning fifteen and one-half acres of land at Sixth and Alameda Streets, one block from the site of the Los Angeles Union Terminal Company.

This property, formerly the site of the Los Angeles Produce Market until the produce business outgrew its facilities, is planned eventually to use for railway purposes.

At this time the buildings thereon are rented to 85% of capacity, the tenants including overflow from produce section of the Los Angeles Union Terminal Co., the terms of occupancy being such as to permit without delay the use of the property for railway purposes when needed.

PROPERTIES AND MILEAGE.—The transportation lines of the Southern Pacific Company, and of certain affiliated companies herein referred to as "Proprietary Companies," constituting the Southern Pacific Transportation System, operated at December 31, 1920, were as follows:—

DIVISIONS.	First Main Track.	Additional Main Track.	Sidings.	Ferries.	Water Lines.
A.—Mileage of lines operated by Southern Pacific Company:					
1. Owned by Southern Pacific Company:					
Rail lines.....	547.72	15.88	213.22	—	—
Water lines.....	—	—	—	—	4,400.00
2. Leased from Proprietary Companies:					
(a) Central Pacific Railway.....	2,288.97	253.43	944.47	9.90	125.00
(b) Oregon & California Railroad.....	4.60	188.80	—	—	—
(c) Southern Pacific Railroad.....	3,491.07	207.83	1,525.49	3.00	—
(d) South Pacific Coast Railway.....	105.14	20.46	49.12	3.00	—
B.—Mileage of lines operated by the following Proprietary Companies:					
1. Arizona Eastern R.R. Co.....	382.66	—	82.52	—	—
2. Houston & Texas Central R.R. Co.....	932.82	14.56	274.34	—	—
3. Galveston, Harrisburg & San Antonio Ry. Co.....	1,380.03	45.25	438.44	—	—
4. Texas & New Orleans R.R. Co.....	475.54	11.83	218.88	—	—
5. Houston, East & West Texas Ry. Co.....	191.60	.89	65.52	—	—
6. Houston & Shreveport R.R. Co.....	40.74	.69	6.94	—	—
7. Morgan's Louisiana and Texas R.R. and S.S. Co.....	400.67	58.35	250.74	3.00	—
8. Louisiana Western R.R. Co.....	207.74	—	87.72	—	—
9. Lake Charles & Northern R.R. Co.....	72.66	—	12.20	—	—
10. Iberia & Vermilion R.R. Co.....	21.44	—	11.21	—	—
11. Southern Pacific Terminal Co.....	—	—	25.05	—	—
Total.....	11,240.30	653.77	4,392.81	18.90	4,525.00
Less mileage used in connection with property of two or more of above companies and included in mileage of each.....	31.23	29.99	69.07	—	—
Total miles of road operated at December 31, 1920.....	* 11,209.07	603.78	4,323.74	18.90	4,525.00
Total miles of road operated at December 31, 1919.....	11,089.68	771.60	4,249.00	18.90	4,525.00
Increase.....	119.39	—	74.74	—	—
Decrease.....	—	167.82	—	—	—
Average miles of road operated during year 1920.....	11,151.60	618.93	—	—	—

* Includes 11'05 miles owned jointly with other companies, 4'37 miles leased from other companies, and 160'63 miles operated under trackage rights; and excludes 41'34 miles of owned lines leased to other companies.

In addition to the 11,099.07 miles above tabulated, the Southern Pacific Company solely controls through ownership of capital stock 854.34 miles of Affiliated Companies and 1,240.52 miles of the Southern Pacific R.R. Co. of Mexico, and jointly controls (through ownership of capital stock in equal proportions with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company) 534.42 miles of the Northwestern Pacific Railroad, and 59'65 miles of the Sunset Railway, and with Messrs John D. and A. B. Spreckels, 156.15 miles of the San Diego & Arizona Railway, a grand total of 14,054.16 miles.

GENERAL

Dividends on the capital stock of your Company were declared during the year, payable as follows:

1 1/2 per cent. paid April 1, 1920.....\$4,531,054.93
1 1/2 per cent. paid July 1, 1920.....4,531,303.17
1 1/2 per cent. paid October 1, 1920.....4,531,311.08
1 1/2 per cent. payable January 3, 1921.....4,615,611.64

Total.....\$18,209,280.82

On May 15, 1920, the Southern Pacific Equipment Company was organized under the laws of California, for the purpose of constructing and acquiring equipment for Southern Pacific Company and its affiliated companies. All the outstanding

capital stock of the new company is owned by Southern Pacific Company. Of the new equipment mentioned above the Southern Pacific Equipment Company is building 30 locomotives, 2,000 box cars, 1,000 stock cars, 1,000 flat cars, and 65 caboose cars. It is also building 1,000 of the 4,000 new refrigerator cars included in the Pacific Fruit Express Equipment Trust mentioned in last year's report.

Under the pension system put into effect January 1, 1903, there were carried on the pension rolls at the end of the year 1,022 employees. The payments to pensioners for the year amounted to \$465,566.63.

By order of the Board of Directors,

JULIUS KRUTTSCHNITT

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

JULY 23, 1921.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:
A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, JULY 23, 1921.

No 4,065.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full information respecting
ESTATE DUTYand
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIESissued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund Haugesund
Bergen Sandefjord
Christianssand S. Skien
Drammen Stavanger
Fredrikstad Trondhjem

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 31st December, 1920 ... Lire 4,117,617,960

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italocredi, Cannon, London."

Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	129	Letters to the Editor—	
Leading Articles—		The Currency Problem	147
Safeguards Against Protec-		The Gold Standard.....	147
tion	131	Changes in the Value of Gold	148
The Railway Rates Bill		The Railways Bill	148
Through Committee	132	Books and Publications—	
Marine Insurance Difficulties	133	Reviews	148
The Government and Labour	134	Books Received	149
Boom in Textile Machinery	134	Stock Exchange News—	
Rubber Companies Results		The Stock Markets.....	149
for 1920.....	135	New Issues	150
Latin-American Notes	136	Active Securities.....	152
Business Notes—		Company Meetings	152
Supplementary Estimates..	137	Government Returns—	
The Banking Half-Year ..	137	Public Income and Expen-	
Employment in June	138	diture	155
Cost of Living	138	Treasury Bills by Public	
Lloyd's Register of Shipping	138	Tender	156
The Disposal Board's		Currency Notes Account ..	156
Achievements	139	Bankers' Gazette—	
Cotton Trade Hours	139	Bank of England	157
Latest Rubber Developments	139	Clearing Returns	157
The Fishing Industry	140	Overseas Bank Returns ..	157
Polish Developments.....	140	London Clearing Banks....	158
Armstrong-Whitworth Re-		Loan and Discount Rates..	159
sults	140	Rates of Exchange.....	159
Scottish-American Oil Report	140	Bullion	160
African and Eastern Trade		Imports and Exports of Gold	160
Corporation	141	Gold and Silver Prices	161
Nobel Industries.....	141	Company News—	
Harper, Bean	141	Analysis of Balance-Sheets	161
Three South African Com-		Reports and Notices	162
panies	141	Railway & Tramway Traffic	163
The Mexico North-Western		Rubber Outputs & Dividends	164
Railway	142	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	165
Japanese Trade and Finance	142	Dividend Announcements..	165
Swiss Taxes on Coupons ..	142	Mining Output Statistics..	165
Overseas Correspondence—		Commercial Reports—	
United States	143	Corn Trade	165
Germany	144	Iron and Coal Trade	167
Canada	144	Wool Trade	168
India	145	Cotton Trade	168
Holland.....	146	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	169
Sweden.....	146	Hide and Leather Trades ..	169
Norway.....	147	Overseas Produce Markets	170
		Price Current	171

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de L'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

5 1/2 PER CENT.

ON Thursday, following cables announcing a reduction in the New York Federal Reserve Bank's rate of rediscount to 5 1/2 per cent., the directors of the Bank of England lowered Bank rate from 6 to 5 1/2 per cent., and the banks and discount houses reduced the rate offered on deposits, the former to 3 1/2 per cent. and the latter to 3 1/2 and 3 3/4 per cent. for call and notice money respectively.

The 6 per cent. Bank rate has been in operation for four weeks, and the period has been one of inflationary Government finance, resulting in superabundance of floating credits in the market and a weakening of the Bank of England's position. Thursday's change somewhat disorganised the money market, and short loan rates were adjusted to lower levels. In the discount market a disturbing factor was the keen demand for "additional" three months' Treasury Bills, which were still on offer at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and business in commercial bills was almost negligible. With an increased demand for Treasury Bills there is some hope of a reduction in the Government overdraft at the Bank, and a consequent increase in the efficacy of the new Bank rate, while the anomalous disparity between Bank rate and market rate, which has recently been increasing, is now rectified. The lower level may act as a stimulus to trade activities, and promote confidence amongst the business community.

	July 22, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	6%	6%	6%	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4%	4%	4%	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount (Call)	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4%	4%	4%	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	5%	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank Return showed a reduction of £6,000 in the gold stock and of £238,000 in the circulation, making the Reserve £232,000 higher. Government securities rose by £6,715,000, and Other securities by £4,663,000. Deposits were thus £11,594,000 higher, Public falling by £2,728,000, while Other rose by £14,322,000. The circulation of currency notes fell by £1,537,000 to £323,965,900, which includes £1,998,300 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £274,017,600, which is £43,537,600 below the maximum.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank rate was reduced $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on July 21, 1921. It had stood at 6 per cent. since June 16, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended July 16, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	17,778	Supply Services	8,730
		Interest on Debt	1,619
		Sundries	655
		Reduction of Debt	5,300
		Added to Exchequer Balances..	1,474
	17,778		17,778

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £5,300,078, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Public Departments Advances ..	+ 100	Treasury Bills	— 8,900
Advances by Bank of England ..	+ 4,750	Unemployment Insurance ..	— 1,050
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 100	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 497
Treasury Bonds	+ 22		
Sundries	+ 200		
	+ 5,672		+ 10,447

Property and Income-tax, including Super-tax and Mineral Rights Duty, brought in £7,812,000, while Customs and Excise yielded £5,622,000 to revenue. Ordinary Receipts under Miscellaneous yielded £136,124, and Special Receipts £1,500,000. For the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1921 £1,050,000 was allocated. The floating debt was reduced by £3,465,000 to £1,363,946,000.

In the foreign exchange market the chief feature of the week has been the weakness in the dollar exchange, which from 3.62 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 15th has fallen away, with slight variations, to a quotation of 3.58 $\frac{3}{4}$ on the 21st, and although the rate was slightly firmer yesterday morning at 3.58 $\frac{1}{2}$, there is no reason to assume that the lowest point has yet been reached. If, as we may perhaps assume, some revival in trade may now be looked for, its first indications will make themselves felt in heavier purchases of raw material, which will bring additional weight to the usual autumn drain. There have been rumours

that the German Government has been converting back into European currencies some dollars accumulated in anticipation of reparation payments, but if this is true, the effect on exchanges has been small. The quotation for futures has widened back again to $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. per month over spot. After being steady for the first three days of the period at about 46.45-50, the Paris rate weakened a little to 46.30 on the 20th, and a slight recovery on the 21st was followed by further weakness to just over 46.30 yesterday morning. In view of the extreme seriousness of the French financial position, which no amount of discussion or expedients has yet succeeded in reducing, and in the face of the almost complete certainty of further large issues of paper currency, it is surprising that the franc rate continues so firm. Brussels also shows a recovery in value on the week from 47.58 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 47.45, but there is still little improvement in the unexplained spread between the Paris and Brussels rate. Some indication of tendency is given in the future quotations, which for Paris is one centime per month below spot, for Brussels five centimes. Italy, after some depreciation and uncertainty, has recovered again, and ends the week only very slightly worse at 80, but there is a general feeling that, in view of Italy's economic difficulties, the lira is over-valued. Madrid and Switzerland have both moved slightly against us, from 28.20 to 27.80 and from 22 to 21.85 respectively. Amsterdam has moved up from 11.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 11.39 rather suddenly, owing to rumours of difficulties in that country, which, however, have not yet been confirmed. The three Scandinavian countries have again moved considerably in our favour. The Helsingfors rate, after recovery to 217, has again risen to 223. Portugal, after its recent rise in value, has again somewhat depreciated. After getting down again to nearly 270 the mark, as was to be expected, reacted sharply at the beginning of the week to 280. Since then, however, it has appreciated again in value to 275. It is possible that Germany in one way or another has completed its preparations for meeting the total reparation payments due by the end of August; but, in spite of hard work in Germany and increasing exports, there would seem little to justify an optimistic view as to the future of the mark. In Central Europe the Austrian krone continues to depreciate, the London quotation for Auslands-kronen being now about 2,700. On the 19th, when the rate for Inlandskronen was 2,997.50, the rate for Auslands-kronen was 2,600, showing a still further narrowing of the margin between the two rates. Polish business is restricted, and the rate is again somewhat higher at about 6,500. Prague also has depreciated from 275 to nearly 280, Bucharest from 255 to 265, and Belgrade from about 140 to about 142. Sofia, after its recent heavy depreciation, has recovered a little. Athens also is very slightly better, while the Constantinople rate shows a further rise to about 545. Among the South American rates, Buenos Ayres, Valparaiso, and Montevideo have moved somewhat in favour of this country, while Rio has appreciated slightly. The rupee and the yen are also somewhat higher. Silver, which had a dull week and depreciated in value, livened up again towards the close on a recrudescence in demand from India. Hong Kong remained unchanged at 2s 8d, but in Shanghai the price was pushed up somewhat in connection with the recent banking troubles, which now appear to be satisfactorily arranged as far as the Chinese public is concerned.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO JULY 16, 1921.

Total spent	£ 305,494,187	Raised by revenue ..	£ 253,535,481
Inc. in balances	559,678	Net borrowings	52,518,384
Total	306,053,865	Total	306,053,865
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	July 16, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term. Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,949	1,949	1,949
National War Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	357	358	358	358	358
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % Conversion Ln.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	23	23
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,208	1,208
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,121
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	154
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,596
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,799

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	July 17, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	July 16, '21.	Week ended July 16, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	43,500,000	..	41,000,000	+ 4,750,000
Advances by Public Departments	169,641,000	154,489,000	114,674,000	+ 600,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,066,050,000	1,120,841,000	1,208,272,000	— 8,815,000
Total Floating Debt	1,279,231,000	1,275,330,000	1,363,946,000	— 3,465,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

JULY 16TH.—Ulster Cabinet comes to London.

JULY 18TH.—Conversations between Premier and Mr De Valera. Ulster Cabinet returns. New heat wave. Finance Bill debated.

JULY 19TH.—Government defeated on Finance Bill amendment exempting co-operative societies from corporation profits tax. New Licensing Bill introduced. Dominion Premiers discuss question of preliminary conference on the Pacific question.

JULY 20TH.—Committee stage of Safeguarding of Industries Bill completed. Dockers' wages to be reduced.

JULY 21ST.—Bank rate reduced. Premier and Mr De Valera again confer. Debate on housing policy.

JULY 22ND.—Mr Valera returns to Ireland.

Thursday's reduction in the Bank rate to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. caused an immediate improvement in the quotations of gilt-edged stocks. But in most of the markets the volume of business remains small.

The cotton market has had a quieter week, and demand for cotton goods for India has fallen off, owing to uneasiness about the monsoon and the political position in that country. Hours of work in the spinning section have been increased from 24 to 35 per week. Activity is increasing in the woollen mills in the Bradford district, but is concerned principally with arrears, new orders being scanty.

At the London wool auctions home users were little in evidence, the demand coming mainly from the Continent. Middlesbrough reports complete absence of pig-iron and iron ore business, but some steel works are resuming work on old orders. In the Sheffield district little improvement is recorded. The hide market is stronger, and shoe manufacturers busier. The oilseed markets have enjoyed this week a revival of demand.

We regret to hear, as we go to press, of the death of Mr A. J. Wilson, founder and editor of the *Investors' Review*.

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST PROTECTION.

In the present epidemic of tariff madness which is raging over the world, we should, one may suppose, in this country account ourselves fortunate that nothing worse is threatened than a much modified Bill for "safeguarding" minor industries. Many things have happened since this measure in its original crude and virulent form was first introduced into the House of Commons. Warned by the indirect admission of that once stout Free-trader, Sir Alfred Mond, that it was a Bill to raise prices, and would be of no use unless it did raise them, the opponents of a tariff system in this country bent their energies towards

securing substantial amendments. They have been ably assisted by Mr Baldwin, the President of the Board of Trade, who, as the Bill's unwilling stepfather, has displayed an icy indifference towards Sir Robert Horne's posthumous child. The result has been the insertion of substantial safeguards designed to prevent the provisions of the Bill from being used as a raw measure of price-raising protection. The amendments already inserted in Committee and promised for the Report stage will interpose real obstacles to the imposition of a 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. *ad valorem* tariff upon goods which we need in this country, either for direct consumption or as partly manufactured raw materials for our great industries. It has been said that the strongest safeguard between the consumers in this country and the imposition of a tariff system against imported goods is the traditional financial procedure of the House of Commons. No new duty can be imposed except by explicit resolution of the House. The unconstitutional attempt in the original Bill to turn the flank of this procedure by giving taxing authority to the Board of Trade has been defeated. The House of Commons remains, as always, the supreme taxing authority. That is the first and greatest safeguard against protection which has been restored to the people of this country.

There are others of much value. It will be recalled that in Part II. of the Bill, which we recently discussed, it was open to any industry to put up an *ex parte* case—to a Committee set up under the Bill of the Board of Trade—that unemployment in that industry was caused, or was likely to be seriously affected, by the practice known as "dumping" foreign goods. No provision was made for hearing evidence from other and more important industries, in which employment would be seriously affected by the imposition of a duty of one-third on the goods alleged to be dumped. Many examples have been given to show how intolerably and injuriously such a one-sided system of inquiry would have worked in practice. Makers of ship-plates in this country might have established a plausible case for a tariff simply because shipbuilders, to whom cheap imported ship-plates were a vital necessity, were not allowed a hearing. The case for a tariff could have been presented, but not the case against a tariff. After resisting amendments which were designed to set no limits to the scope of the inquiries into claims put forward in favour of tariffs, Mr Baldwin has undertaken to provide on Report for, at least, some measure of impartiality. These Board of Trade Committees are not, as was originally intended, to be equipped with impenetrable pro-tariff blinkers. They will now be instructed to take into account the effect of a tariff on employment in any industry which uses as material the goods for which tariff protection is sought. When, and if, for example, the makers of ship-plates seek to obtain a tariff of one-third against imported plates, the shipbuilders will be heard in opposition to the application. And so for other trades. The paper users will be heard against the protectionist claims of the paper makers, the steel rolling mills against the makers of steel ingots, and so on. That is a most valuable safeguard. It provides that before the Board of Trade can consider the case for a tariff to have been established, the opponents directly interested against the proposed tariff will

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

be fully heard. A further amendment has been accepted by Mr Baldwin to the effect that the Committee of inquiry, which examines applications for tariff protection, must satisfy itself that the industry in this country which seeks protection is conducted in a reasonably economical and efficient manner.

We have thus a series of safeguards which should secure the people of this country against the worst effects of this legislative effort to slaughter our trade in the sacred name of Protection. Of course, far the best service which the Government could do the country would be to throw the wretched Bill into the waste-paper basket. It is a bastard offspring born of the "political exigencies" of a Coalition. It has been condemned utterly by the banks, and by the great exporting trades of Lancashire and Yorkshire. But if our highly-organised and interwoven industries have to put up with the handicap of blundering political attempts to "safeguard" them from "dumping," it is as well that the handicap should be made as difficult as possible to impose. The more difficult the better.

The safeguards against its operation are now formidable. Those who seek to get tariff protection under it have first to prove that "dumping" exists on a substantial scale, causing or likely to cause serious unemployment. Dumping is defined to be sale below cost of production, which is in turn defined to be the wholesale selling price in the country of origin, less 5 per cent. It is this dumping part of the Bill which is the more important, because it is subject to no time limit; it is permanent until repealed. Next, the seekers after protection have to satisfy a Board of Trade Committee, composed of five reasonably intelligent and responsible persons, that a tariff of one-third *ad valorem* on imported goods will not create more unemployment in industries which use those goods as material of manufacture than it prevents in home manufactures of competing goods. Then the would-be subjects of special protection must prove that they themselves are efficient and economical in the management of their works. After the Committee has reported to the Board of Trade, the experienced officials of the Department will find themselves obliged to re-examine the whole case, to hear the views of opposing deputations, and generally to stand the racket of opposition from industries which may be indirectly and adversely affected. Finally, the case for protection, should the Board be persuaded to make an Order, has to be strong enough to face a debate in the House of Commons; no Order will have effect—except temporarily during a recess—until the House has confirmed it by financial resolution. We may confidently predict that there will be many claimants, but few successful verdicts. If one may judge from the attitude of the President, we conclude that the Board of Trade is not in love with this Bill. It will not lightly imperil its prestige by putting forward Orders for protection which, under fire of criticism in the House, may need to be withdrawn. It will walk very warily, realising that a single grave blunder will make a public mockery of its own Bill. Our firm hope is that the safeguards against protection have been made strong enough to prevent the Bill from coming into operation at all. This would be the best result of all; better, perhaps, than the abandonment of the whole measure.

THE RAILWAY RATES BILL THROUGH COMMITTEE.

ANOTHER fortnight has passed since our last reference to the Railways Bill. Since then the appointment of a second Committee to deal with the rates clauses, and the imminent approach of August 15th, have considerably hastened matters, and the last outstanding clause was disposed of on Thursday morning. The Bill emerges from Committee substantially in the form in which it passed second reading, the most important change being that the whole of the railways of Great Britain are now included in four groups instead of seven. Two of them, the Southern and Western, are so small in comparison with the remaining two, the North-Western and the North-Eastern groups, that it almost seems a pity that the Committee did not go further and combine the Southern and Western groups, and so make in the South and West of England a more adequate counterpoise for the big battalions to the north of them.

Though the Bill is substantially unaltered so far, it is by no means safe in harbour yet. For the Report stage downstairs in the House of Commons, which is expected to be reached on Wednesday next, a large number of new clauses have to be put down, and though intended to embody an agreement settlement, some of them may turn out not to represent entire agreement. Moreover, there is the House of Lords still to come, and their Lordships are apt to have opinions of their own on matters of this nature.

The Minister has under Section 12 obtained powers to make orders as to standardisation and common user of plant and facilities. They are less than the powers he asked for. They have no relation to the talk that has been indulged in by the Committee, and the statements that have appeared in newspapers to the effect that a Government department was depriving private enterprise of the right to manage its own affairs. They fall very far short of the powers possessed by the Government of the United States to control the private railways of that country. But if the Ministry of Transport is permitted to retain the services of competent technical experts they will doubtless be efficacious. Probably the Ministry will in practice advise and persuade, and only in the last resort attempt to issue orders. Part IV. of the Bill, dealing with wages and conditions of service and the establishment of what are practically Whitley Councils, and constituting on a permanent basis the Central and National Wages Boards, has gone safely through.

Part III. of the Bill (Railway Rates) maps out what might almost be called a revolution. In future there will be an expert Rates Tribunal which will fix not maxima, but actual standard rates and fares which the companies normally must charge, and which they have no power to alter. The standards are to be revised annually for the first three years, and thereafter at less frequent intervals. These rates are theoretically to be such as to secure to each group the aggregate pre-war net income of all the separate companies absorbed into the group within certain possible additions in the future. This sounds simple, always provided that putting up rates connotes increasing net revenue, a point on which there is much searching of heart in railway circles at the present moment. But, unfortunately, the bulk—it is commonly said to be 80 per cent.—of the goods traffic of the country has hitherto been carried not at standard rates, but at rates below, often very far below, the standard. The question how these exceptional rates are to be treated in future was the main subject dealt with by Grand Committee A. Broadly, it has been settled as follows:—Exceptional rates, not differing from the standard rates by more than 5 per cent., are to be swept away and not to be granted in future. The concession to the trader is not worth the complexity which they cause. Exceptional rates, not less than 5 per cent. and not more than 40 per cent. below the standard, may continue if companies and traders agree, and may, on condition of being reported to the Minister, be granted in future. The Minister can thereupon, if he thinks fit, refer the question of their reasonableness to the Rates Tribunal. He can also, on the application of competing water carriers, either coastwise or by canal, refer the question of the reasonableness of such rates to the Tribunal if he thinks that a *prima facie* case has been made out, that, having regard to the cost of running the railway service, the rates proposed mean competition carried to an unjustifiable extent. No exceptional rates exceeding the limit of 40 per cent. below standard can be either retained or introduced without the consent of the Rates Tribunal.

Clause 35 has rescued the railways from the dead hand of the Act of 1894; and they may now once more, having reduced a rate, put it up again to the old figure if the experiment does not succeed. There is one clause in the Bill which will be welcomed by economists and financial critics whose business it is to study and understand railway operation and railway accounts. Section 67 (Accounts Returns and Statistics) places on the companies a permanent obligation to render to the Minister such statistical returns as they have been required to furnish for the last year and a-half under the temporary powers contained in the Ministry of Transport Act of 1919. So it may be hoped that we have now heard the last of the

obscurantist talk that in railway matters, unlike all other business, cost accounting is first impossible, and, secondly, useless, and that rule-of-thumb is the true and only guide. The younger generation of railway men have long estimated this talk at its true value. But so long as the old school persisted in decrying the use of statistics, and endeavoured to prevent their universal introduction, it was difficult for the young men to acknowledge publicly the benefit which they knew they would obtain from them. Now that the returns are compulsory, their lips will be unsealed, and we may hope that within a few years serious criticism of the operation of the different groups in the light of comparative statistics will become possible. The traders can be trusted to discover and use their new weapon each time the Rates Tribunal revises the standard rates, and to insist that the maintenance of the standard revenue shall only be permitted to the shareholders on condition that the management is shown to be efficient and economical.

MARINE INSURANCE DIFFICULTIES.

It is one of the peculiarities of marine insurance that when the renewal of a steamer's policy is under negotiation the underwriter usually wants to force up the insured value of the boat, while the owner wants to lower it, the underwriter trying to make himself liable for a larger sum if the vessel is lost, and the owner trying to cut the underwriter's liability down. The reason for this paradox is that the rate of premium is always a percentage of the insured value, so that the total amount of premium paid to the underwriters is greater on a high valuation than on a low one, and out of this total premium the underwriter has to meet not only a claim for total loss if it should occur, but the cost of

1. Repairs after accidents.
2. General average.
3. Salvage charges.
4. Collision liabilities.

All these expenses have to be borne out of the one premium, and in order to make this premium as large as possible, it is to the underwriter's interest to keep the value of the steamer up. On the other hand, the owner, whether he pays on a high value or a low, receives in respect of most of his claims other than total loss exactly the same indemnity. Consequently he likes a lower insured value.

The history of "time" business in the marine insurance market is in the main a record of this struggle between owners and underwriters to force the value down and up, according to their different interests, and the weapon most popular with underwriters on their side of the contest is what is known as a "time agreement," by which the underwriters every year agree among themselves certain general alterations in values, undertaking that whenever an insurance is renewed the valuation shall be fixed in a definite agreed relation to that of the previous year. Thus, in one year all values must go up 15 per cent., in another they remain unchanged, in a third they are allowed to fall by 10 per cent., and so on.

Most underwriters set great store by these "time agreements," and believe that they are essential to profitable underwriting; but, like all artificial arrangements of this kind, they have their weak side, and sooner or later under stress of circumstance they collapse. Then the market is thrown into confusion, and competition between underwriters appears all the more violent for the restrictions hitherto imposed upon it. Such a collapse has happened in the last few months. The "time agreement" which was based on the enormously high values of the war period and of 1919 has given way in the new circumstances of 1921; the market is thrown open to competition; the insured value of steamers has had a sensational fall, and the total volume of premium paid under present conditions to underwriters for "time" insurance cannot be more than 60 per cent. of the corresponding sums paid last year. In other words, the fund of current premiums, out of which the underwriter must meet the cost of repairs, general average, salvage, &c., is being reduced by 40 per cent. or 50 per cent. As an illustration of what is happening, let us take the actual case of a small steamer

insured last year on a value of £75,000, and recently renewed on a value of £40,000, the rate of premium in both years being 6 per cent. The comparative position of underwriters in the two years is as follows:—

1920.			
Total Loss Liability.		Liability for Repairs, &c.	Premium.
£ 75,000	....	Unlimited	£ 4,500
1921.			
Total Loss Liability.		Liability for Repairs, &c.	Premium.
£ 40,000	....	Unlimited	£ 2,400

Here, with a smaller liability for total loss, underwriters receive 46 per cent. less in premium, and still carry the same unlimited liability for repairs, &c. This is the result of the death of the "time agreement."

In view of this remarkable collapse in the volume of premium, underwriters are naturally asking themselves what the end is to be, and whether, in the new state of free competition, they can hope to avoid disastrous losses. Memories of the days before the last "time agreement" came into force are not yet dead, and the figures of companies and underwriters in that period are not encouraging. In 1908, which was perhaps the worst year known to "time" underwriters in this country, the majority of independent marine companies made heavy losses, the figures of nine of them being as follows:—

1908 UNDERWRITING.			
	Premium.	Profit.	Per-
	£	£	centage.
British and Foreign	315,842	42,595	13.4
Merchants	203,490	3,641	1.8
Sea	300,691	7,987	2.6
	Premium.	Loss.	Per-
	£	£	centage.
London and Provincial	199,427	7,564	3.7
Maritime	219,763	21,058	9.6
Reliance	102,873	2,097	2.0
Thames and Mersey	378,818	35,333	9.3
Union	390,775	19,867	5.0
World	206,399	15,615	7.5

In this year, the last of really bad depression in the "time" market, one company out of nine made a decent profit, two scrambled home with a tiny margin on the right side, nine made losses ranging from 2 to nearly 10 per cent., and it is not probable that the experience of Lloyd's underwriters in the same period was much better.

Are the next few years to reproduce these deplorable results of the 1908 period, or will the market be able to emerge from the chaos into which it has been thrown by the death of the "time" agreement and readjust itself to the new conditions of business? It will not be an easy process, for it is characteristic of these agreements in restraint of competition that when they disappear they leave behind them a state of disorder and helplessness very difficult to overcome. That the agreement will be revived on the old lines in the near future is incredible. The old insured values of steamers were too far from their actual values to allow of it, and if any new agreement is devised, it must be framed on very different lines from the old. Indeed, it seems safe to say that "time" business can be put on to a profitable basis only in two ways:—

(1) By a rise in rates corresponding to the fall in values; or

(2) by a big reduction in the cost of repairs.

The first method will prove extraordinarily difficult, and at best can only gradually become effective; but if the industry of the country develops in the right way, the second improvement may come more quickly than is generally anticipated. How the total cost of repairs has varied from the highest level reached in the boom we do not exactly know; but in one important item there has already been a very welcome change. In 1913 the basic price of steel plates in England was between £7 and £8; in 1920 it reached its highest point of £24 10s; now it is £15. Comparing this high-water mark basic price with the present, we have a fall of about 40 per cent., and the decline in the actual cost of plates is, we believe, even greater. It is at least encouraging that this reduction should correspond roughly to the average fall in time premiums; but as the bill, it remains to be seen how far the a steamer's repair

Company.	Production.				Price per Lb. 1914.	Price per Lb. 1919.	Price per Lb. 1920.
	1914.	1918.	1919.	1920.			
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	s d	s d	s d
Anglo-Malay.....	1,384,382	1,386,254	1,662,991	1,430,807	2 14	1 10	1 7
Chersonese.....	537,646	554,389	665,165	553,267	2 14	2 0	1 7
Cons. Malay.....	584,050	732,319	986,800	1,070,939	2 04	2 0	1 5
Golden Hope.....	174,133	230,571	376,849	641,824	2 24	1 11	1 6½
Hglds & Lowlands	137,858	1,123,799	1,504,374	2,533,919	2 2	2 11½	1 5
Linggi.....	1,389,290	1,782,052	2,804,960	2,804,217	2 13	2 13	1 8½
London Asiatic.....	1,131,430	1,177,919	1,615,566	1,605,830	2 14	1 11	1 6
Selangor.....	614,199	669,048	888 830	868,833	2 24	2 1	1 6
Soremban.....	516,084	812,515	1,073,723	1,102,921	2 14	2 1	1 1
Shellford.....	157,130	264,053	313,279	205,762	2 13	2 3	1 7
Sungei Kapar.....	658,616	680,386	842,556	905,883	2 24	2 0	1 1
United Serdang.....	1,827,943	2,678,564	3,048,945	3,789,951	2 34	1 9½	1 14

To enable a comparison to be made with the prices which were obtained for rubber, we set out below the cost of production per lb over the past seven years of seven of the companies :—

Cost of Production per Lb.

	1913.	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Anglo-Malay	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d	s d
Consolidated Malay	1 0-38	0 10-45	0 8-12	0 8-21	0 10-25	0 9-21	0 11-07
Golden Hope	1 0-61	0 11-93	0 9-93	0 11-52	1 1-17	1 0-70	1 2-69
Highlands & Lowlands	1 2-18	0 11-23	0 9-90	0 11-87	1 2-87	1 0-81	1 2-11
Linggi	0 11-53	0 9-29	0 9-41	0 9-42	0 10-83	0 7-52	0 10-95
London Asiatic	1 0-73	0 9-54	0 9-04	0 9-51	1 2-06	0 10-83	0 11-68
United Serdang	1 7-95	1 1-50	1 0-60	1 3-96	1 1-88	1 0-85	1 2-22

If these are carefully studied and compared some interesting variations will be found. It is a measure, however, for some satisfaction to observe that conditions which led up to this high working cost have since changed. The rupee is again at a low level, and rice is at a much lower figure, and it is confidently predicted that these heavy working costs will not occur again.

The next table records the net profits after providing for all working expenses for this group of selected companies over a period of years :—

NET PROFITS after PROVIDING for all EXPENSES.

	1912.	1913.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Anglo-Malay	£	£	£	£	£	£
Chersonese (F.M.S.) ..	122,309	104,365	130,346	51,359	92,048	44,617
Consolidated Malay ..	20,764	29,081	47,296	28,668	67,234	29,253
Golden Hope	58,265	34,712	44,064	18,472	39,438	75
Highlands & Lowlands ..	20,318	12,254	18,414	6,857	15,080	9,872
Linggi	136,441	79,079	98,352	48,168	99,056	37,712
London Asiatic	147,814	89,680	143,137	36,778	123,607	35,612
Selangor	86,202	61,274	91,932	36,368	87,725	52,410
Seremban	42,300	50,263	60,981	33,357	61,661	28,712
Shelford	45,027	22,471	51,257	41,080	64,991	18,376
Sungei Kapar	23,955	12,559	12,034	5,594	5,610	4,986
United Serdang	65,867	42,364	41,873	24,652	47,700	16,534
	72,596	112,813	216,765	76,878	107,726	98,225

This is a sad picture for shareholders to contemplate, and brings vividly home to our minds the speculative nature of growing commodities where the estimated demand is not sufficiently taken into consideration. How decline in the price of rubber has affected revenues may be judged from a statement made in the report of the Seremban Rubber Estates. The price realised for its crop was 1s 2.28d per lb, which is a reduction of over 11d per lb on previous years' figures. This resulted in a revenue decline of £48,000, and the resulting profits of £18,376 were carried forward to next year's accounts, dividends being passed. Our final table shows the trend of share prices during the past two years. Prices in 1914 are also shown for comparison :—

Name.	Prices of 1919.		Prices of 1920.		Price July 27, 1914.	Price Aug. 5, 1920.	Price July 12, 1921.
	H'gst.	L'wst.	H'gst.	L'wst.			
Anglo-Malay (£1)	3½	2½	3½	1½	4	2	1½
Chersonese (2½)	4/7	3/1	4/11	2/3	2/4	3/9	2/4½
Cons. Malay (2½)	14/1½	10/4½	14/7½	5/1½	7/4½	11/6	3/
Golden Hope (£1)	73/9	51/10½	85/7½	30/	1½	2½	1½
Highlands & Lowlands (£1) ..	63/9	45/7	65/	28/9	1½	2½	32/6
Kapar Para (£1)	8½	5½	94/4½	36/	4	3½	1½
Linggi (2½)	82/6	60/4½	74/4	27/3	13/	2½	1½
London Asiatic (2½)	11/4	6/1	8/3	3/1	5/9	4/9	3/6
Malacca (£1)	7½	4½	6½	1½	3	4½	1½
Rubber Est. of Johore (£1) ..	52/6	37/6	69/1	22/6	2	1½	1½
Selangor (£1)	25/7½	17/	30/11½	15/	4½	1½	1½
Shelford (£1)	42/6	28/	45/	20/	4½	8/7½	4/
Sungei Choh (£1)	26/1	19/4½	34/8½	22/	1½	37/6	9/9
Sungei Kapar (2½)	10/	7/6	12/6	4½	5/4½	8/7½	3½
United Serdang (2½)	16/10	11/2	17/	3/11	7/	5/10½	3/

The poor results achieved by rubber companies during 1920 has naturally had a depressing effect upon share valuations, and, as will be seen, prices have suffered severely. The marked difference between highest and lowest prices during 1920 shows how acutely the market has felt the depression. Holders of rubber shares may console themselves with the belief that it is a long lane that has no turning; but the arguments which would make us believe that the turning is in sight are not so convincing as might be wished.

LATIN-AMERICAN NOTES.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GUATEMALA.—Among other new fiscal arrangements determined upon by the recently-elected President, Señor Don Carlos Herrera, is a reorganised taxation system expected to bring in a considerably enhanced revenue "without in any way proving a heavy burden upon the community." At present practically all Government revenues are derived from import and export duties, the largest contributor being coffee, the export duty upon which has long been hypothecated to the service of the British debt. From time to time the amount of the duty has, however, been altered; thus, while in 1898 it was "irrevocably" fixed by law at \$1 silver, and under the contract made with the Republic's external creditors in 1895 it had been equally "irrevocably" fixed, for ten years, at \$1½ gold, in 1899 the Government violated its contract by reducing the coffee duty to \$1 paper; but in 1912 the export duty was re-established at \$1½ gold. Now it is decided to reduce the coffee tax to one-third of the amount, so that the trade in the commodity may be increased in amount. To make up for the expected loss in revenue from that source the Government is considering the introduction of an income-tax similar to that in force in the United States, with which country the bulk of Guatemala's trade is carried on. There are evidences that the whole of the economic arrangements of this small Central American State are, like those of Nicaragua, Santo Domingo, Honduras, and Panama, coming under the tutelage of the big Northern brother; a Publicity Bureau, in charge of an American, has been started at Guatemala City, to encourage foreign (that is to say, North American) investments in agriculture and the acquisition of land for coffee and other production. Revenues are still somewhat below the expenditure of the Administration, and a Financial Commission is about to render its report regarding the best means to alter this state of things; to rearrange the floating debt, which now exceeds 2½ millions sterling; and further taxation. Trade, meanwhile, is steadily improving in bulk; banks are showing favourable balance-sheets, and several contracts have been signed with foreign syndicates for additional railway construction in hitherto untouched districts, and for the re-opening of a canal in the Chiquimulilla district connecting the frontier of the State with that of El Salvador and with the port of San José. Satisfactory reports of fresh discoveries in the mining regions are also to hand.

PERU.—The adverse financial conditions that have prevailed in Peru since the end of 1920 show little sign of improvement, and the unusual step of temporarily suspending the payment of pensions has been resorted to as one means of lessening expenditure. While this decision is said to be in no sense of the word "political," it nevertheless demonstrates the fearlessness of the Executive in challenging unpopularity with the many pensioners—who abound here as in all Republican countries—for the sake of the State. This is not the first occasion upon which the President, Señor Don Augusto B. Leguía, has shown a rare moral courage and absolute independence of opinion in handling the financial interests of Peru. As a result of his attitude, he has had to re-form his Cabinet several times during this, his second, term of office. The new Ministry is said to be the strongest that has yet held office in Peru. Most of Peru's money troubles have been occasioned by severe fluctuations in exchange and the reckless gambling that has gone on in certain financial circles. The Government has done what was in its power to counter these speculations by declining to allow the cable and telegraphs to be used for the purpose. The imposition of heavier duties on cotton goods has also impeded business, while little or no raw cotton has of late left the country. Notwithstanding these and many other adverse factors, it is to be noted that, up to time of writing; not one financial house has been reported as

being in difficulties. Optimists aver that there is nothing in the situation to cause alarm, and that, if the present support accorded to the Executive continues, a speedy improvement may be looked for. It is also worth notice that the well-known British bank, the Anglo-South American Bank, not long ago opened another branch in the city of Lima, while a national institution, upon the lines of the Bank of France, is about to be established with a capital of 30,000,000 soles (=£3,000,000) to centralise the State revenues, including Customs receipts.

SANTO DOMINGO.—The benefits attaching to the financing of the smaller Latin-American States by their Northern neighbour are strikingly illustrated in the case of the negro State of Santo Domingo, sometimes known as the Dominican Republic. In 1903—the year of the inspired revolt of Panama against the parent country, Colombia—the United States took violent charge of the finances and trade of Santo Domingo, and have remained in control of them since. British interests, represented by the early loan of £750,000, made as far back as 1869, were brushed aside, and, notwithstanding the persistent objections raised by the Corporation of Foreign Bondholders, a most inequitable arrangement for settling British claims was in 1908 determined upon; owing to the discriminating policy then adopted towards British bondholders the Stock Exchange refused a quotation of the Santo Domingo Customs Administration Gold Bonds. During the 18 years that have passed under the domination of the United States the finances of the country have, however, undoubtedly improved. When the administration of the revenues was commenced the Republican Government's account was overdrawn to the extent of \$14,000, while all classes of the Civil Service were clamouring for their pay. To-day the revenues and expenditures balance, and for the current year a surplus is expected exceeding \$1,000,000. But the greater portion of the Republic's revenues are taken for the liquidation of its debts, incurred, for the most part, to North Americans, who hold not alone the largest proportion of the 5 per cent. Sinking Fund Gold Bonds of 1908, which are a first charge upon all the Customs of the State, but of the 1918 Loan also, the lenders taking good care that this amount should be paid back before the proposed termination of the United States General Receivership of Dominican Customs. But the State itself, according to advices to hand, is kept so poor that it has been compelled to arrest the greater part of the most urgent public improvements, the limited allotments allowed by the North American Controller being wholly insufficient for the purpose. There are two debts owed by the Dominican Government, the first, originally \$20,000,000, forming the prior lien upon the Customs; the other, which amounts to a little over \$4,000,000, represents payments due for damages during the public disturbances preceding 1916, and principally in connection with American-owned property. The liquidation of the first-named debt has progressed according to agreement, while one-half of the sum has already been repaid, the other half actually exists, or is secured. The second debt was to have been repaid at the rate of 5 per cent. of the principal and the interest each year, so that it would be liquidated in 20 years; such a rate of liquidation would entail a charge upon the revenues of \$400,000 a year; but owing to irresistible pressure brought to bear the Dominican Government has been obliged to allocate 30 per cent. of all Customs revenues over the amount of \$3,000,000 per annum to the liquidation of these bonds, which thus in a few years will have been entirely repaid. Execution of the Republic's public works, such as roads, sanitary installations, port and harbour improvements, &c., must wait. In one instance a sum of \$2,000,000 has already been laid out upon the construction of a highly important highway—from Monte Cristi to Santo Domingo via Santiago, Moca, La Vega, and Bonao—but this amount will in all likelihood be lost, as before the money can be found to continue and consolidate the work done this will have fallen into disrepair and have become useless. In other directions, where similar enterprise has been commenced and large sums of money have been spent upon grading and in some cases the putting on of the first layer of stones, the work will in a short time also be wasted.

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1753.
Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.
Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.
Correspondents in all parts of the world.
COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

Business Notes.

Supplementary Estimates.—There was issued yesterday a supplementary estimate for £62,210,497 for the Civil Services. The chief items are the following:—Railway and Canal War Agreements Liquidation £36,000,000, Corn Production Guarantee £19,400,000, Ministry of Labour £1,620,000, Emergency Services (purchase of coal) £1,275,000, Miscellaneous War Services (Foreign Office) £1,146,899, and a grant to the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation £928,715. The railway agreement item includes £31,500,000 as the first instalment (one-half) of the settlement of claims on the termination of control, the remaining £4,500,000 being required to meet deficiency in net receipts due to the prolongation of the coal stoppage. The Foreign Office war service item includes £655,300 for payments under agreements with American meat packers, and £350,000 for relief of prisoners in Turkey. In the Ministry of Labour item no less than £850,000 is for salaries, wages, and allowances. Already supplementary estimates have swallowed up a very large proportion of the surplus entered on paper in the Budget estimates, while since the Budget was introduced revenue prospects have, of course, been impaired by industrial strife.

The Banking Half-Year.—The statement of the weekly averages for June of the joint stock banks, set out in full elsewhere, shows one or two interesting changes, as may be seen from the comparative table below, which gives the weekly averages for each of the past six months for the nine English banks :—

(Million £'s.)

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	Feb., 1921.	Mar., 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.
Capital and reserves	115.4	115.6	115.6	115.6	115.8	115.9
Acceptances	88.4	77.5	69.4	63.0	63.0	57.7
Deposits (including undivided profits, &c.)	1,810.1	1,754.4	1,715.0	1,709.9	1,729.3	1,768.4
	2,013.9	1,947.5	1,900.0	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	Feb., 1921.	Mar., 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.
Coin, notes, balance at bank, and cheques in course of collection, &c.	256.2	247.4	244.8	249.6	250.3	265.1
Money at call	98.9	87.9	82.6	91.9	96.5	98.0
Investments	341.3	340.0	336.1	333.7	331.2	335.9
Discounts	361.9	328.9	282.1	275.1	304.0	346.2
Loans and advances	845.1	843.5	862.6	852.2	839.9	815.4
Cover for acceptances, pre-mises, &c.	110.5	99.8	91.8	86.0	86.2	81.4
	2,013.9	1,947.5	1,900.0	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0

Deposits show quite a sharp upward movement, while acceptances are lower. On the assets side, bills discounted show a further large increase, presumably owing to purchases of Treasury Bills, while advances are again lower. Both cash and money at call are higher. Most of the banks have also issued their half-yearly balance-sheets, dated June 30th. We give below the combined totals of

the "big five," together with comparisons with the figures recorded six and twelve months ago:—

(Million £'s.)

	June 30, 1921.	Compared with Dec. 31, 1920.	Compared with June 30, 1920.
	£	£	£
Paid-up capital	59.2	+ 0.9	+ 2.6
Reserves	46.9	— 0.1	+ 2.1
Acceptances and endorsements	47.4	— 32.0	— 27.4
Deposits (including undivided profits)	1,620.1	— 13.5	+ 35.0
Total	1,773.6	— 44.7	+ 12.3
Cash in hand and at bank	253.6	— 20.6	— 9.6
Ratio to deposits	15.6 %	— 1.2 %	— 1.0 %
Money at call and at short notice	79.9	— 9.3	+ 2.5
Investments	303.2	— 3.5	+ 26.8
Discounts	331.9	+ 50.1	+ 174.3
Loans and advances	735.7	— 31.9	— 107.2
Premises and sundries (including cover for acceptances)	69.3	— 29.5	— 20.9

Deposits are slightly lower than at the end of 1920, but still £35 millions higher than a year ago. Treasury Bills are again presumably responsible for the large increases in bills discounted. Advances have not fallen so much in the past six months as in the second half of 1920, but the whole of the decline in acceptances has taken place this year.

Employment in June.—In June, the last month of the coal stoppage, unemployment, which had already assumed grave proportions, again increased slightly. In addition to the actual effects of the coal dispute, there was a three weeks' stoppage in the cotton industry. According to the *Labour Gazette* the percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received rose from 22.2 at the end of May to 23.1 at the end of June. These figures, which exclude coal miners, "are by far the highest ever recorded by the department." Monthly movements in the trade union percentage over a number of years are shown below:—

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.

End of—	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	2.2	0.6	0.3	1.0	2.4	2.9	6.9
February ..	2.0	0.5	0.3	0.9	2.8	1.6	8.5
March	1.9	0.5	0.3	1.2	2.9	1.1	10.0
April	1.7	0.5	0.3	0.9	2.8	0.9	17.6*
May	1.9	0.5	0.4	0.9	2.1	1.1	22.2*
June	1.9	0.5	0.4	0.7	1.7	1.2	23.1*
July	1.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	2.0	1.4	..
August	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	2.2	1.6	..
September ..	2.3	0.4	1.3	0.5	1.6	2.2	..
October	2.2	0.3	1.1	0.4	2.6	5.3	..
November ..	2.0	0.3	1.1	0.5	2.9	3.7	..
December ..	2.6	0.3	1.4	1.2	3.2	6.0	..

* Excluding coal miners.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act rose from 17.3 at May 27th to 17.8 at June 24th. The coal mining industry is excluded in calculating the trade union percentages; the Unemployment Insurance percentages include those coal-miners who were entitled to claim unemployment benefit under the Act, but not those who ceased work owing to the trade dispute. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at June 24th was approximately 2,178,000, of whom 1,549,000 were men, 478,000 were women, and the remainder were boys and girls. At May 27th the corresponding number was 2,122,000, of whom 1,469,000 were men and 497,000 were women. In addition to those unemployed, 490,000 males and 343,000 females were registered as working systematic short time at June 24th in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act or the Out-of-Work Donation Scheme. At May 27th the corresponding numbers were 607,000 males and 580,000 females. The decrease between June 24th and May 27th, however, the *Labour Gazette* explains, is due to the fact that, owing to the dispute in the cotton industry, about 320,000 persons in that industry ceased to be eligible for the benefit. It is

calculated that in the first six months of the year 77,000,000 working days were lost by trade disputes.

Cost of Living.—The downward course of retail prices which had been somewhat rapid in the preceding months, was checked in June. According to the statistics of the Ministry of Labour, published in the *Labour Gazette*, the "cost of living" at the end of June was 119 per cent. above the level of July, 1914—the same percentage of increase as for the end of May. Movements in this figure for the past 18 months are tabulated below:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.

1920.	Per Cent.	1920.	Per Cent.
January 1st	125	November 1st	176
February "	130	December "	169
March "	130	1921.	
April "	132	January 1st	165
May "	141	February "	151
June "	150	March "	141
July "	152	April "	133
August "	155	May "	128
September "	161	June "	119
October "	164	July "	119

June saw some reduction in prices of clothing, but retail food prices advanced from 118 per cent. to 120 per cent. above the July, 1914, level, eggs and potatoes growing dearer.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping.—The new edition of Lloyd's Register Book contains complete particulars of all the sea-going vessels of the world of 100 tons and upwards. It thus includes a full record of upwards of 33,000 steamers and sailing vessels. More than twenty-eight and a-quarter million tons of shipping are classed by Lloyd's Register. There are recorded in the Register Book (excluding vessels of less than 100 tons) 4,773 sailing vessels of 3,128,328 tons and 28,433 steamers of 58,846,325 tons, thus making a world's total of 33,206 vessels of 61,974,653 tons gross. The reduction in sailing tonnage since pre-war time—say, June, 1914—amounts to 852,000 tons, which is a much smaller decrease than any that occurred in the previous period of seven years. This is principally due to the increase which has taken place in the United States, the only country which has added to its sailing tonnage since 1914, apart from any ex-German tonnage allocated. Nearly 41 per cent. of the world's sailing tonnage is now owned in the United States. It should, however, be remembered that the figures for that country include a large proportion of sailing barges. The other countries which still have a considerable amount of sailing tonnage are the British Empire (482,000 tons), France (353,000 tons), Norway (213,000 tons), and Italy (183,000 tons). The percentage of sailing vessels to the world's tonnage is now 5 per cent. as compared with 8 per cent. in 1914, and nearly 22 per cent. in 1902. The tonnage of wood steam vessels owned in 1914 amounted to 1 per cent. of the total steam tonnage, whereas for the present year that percentage has risen to 3.9. Valuable statistics are given of sea-going steel and iron steam tonnage owned by the principal maritime countries. Apart from Germany, Greece is the only one which still shows a reduction in the tonnage now owned as compared with 1914. Notwithstanding the increased construction and the large amount of ex-enemy tonnage allocated to British ownership, and, of course, included in the figures, there are at the present time only 411,000 tons more owned in the United Kingdom than in 1914. The sea-going tonnage of the United States has increased by nearly 10½ million tons, an increase of 570 per cent. on the 1914 figures. The other countries in which the largest increases are recorded are:—Japan (1,421,000 tons), France (1,128,000 tons), Italy (950,000 tons), and Holland (736,000 tons). As in the case of the United Kingdom, the figures for France and Italy include a considerable amount of ex-enemy tonnage allocated to these countries. The figures for Germany conclusively show the change in the maritime position of that country. While in 1914 Germany ranked next to the United Kingdom with over 5,000,000 tons of sea-going steel and iron steamers, her total tonnage now

stands at only 654,000 tons. The United States percentage of the world's sea-going steel and iron steam tonnage has increased from 4.3 in 1914 to 22.7 in 1921. The relative position of some other countries has also altered to a large extent. In 1914 the United Kingdom owned nearly 44½ per cent. of the world's sea-going steam tonnage; the present percentage is just over 35½. Norway, which occupied the third place, is now sixth, while Japan, which was sixth, is now third, closely followed by France with only 17,000 tons less. Taken together, the Scandinavian countries—Norway, Sweden, and Denmark—show an increase as compared with 1914 of 505,000 tons. Summarising the totals, it will be seen that the present position of the sea-going merchant steel and iron steam tonnage, as compared with 1914, is as follows:—

	Tons.
Increase in the United Kingdom	411,000
Increase in the United States	10,477,000
Increase in other countries	6,311,000
Total	17,199,000
Loss to Germany	4,444,000
Ex-Austro-Hungarian tonnage	1,052,000
Total	5,496,000
Net world's increase	11,703,000

In 1914 there were 3,668 sea-going steamers each of 4,000 tons and above; there are now 5,209. The greatest increase has taken place in those of between 6,000 and 10,000 tons, their number having increased from 1,004 in 1914 to 1,784 in 1921. Other interesting statistics refer to sea-going steam and motor vessels of over 4,000 tons.

The Disposal Board's Achievements.—In a second report on the operations of the Disposal and Liquidation Commission, Sir Howard Frank, the chairman, states that the results are as follows:—

Sales of Surplus Stores:—	£
From Armistice to March 31, 1920	208,922,663
From April 1, 1920, to March 31, 1921	87,626,791
From April 1st to June 30, 1921	7,204,432
	303,753,886
Sales of Raw Material on Trading Account:—	£
From Armistice to March 31, 1920	226,712,640
From April 1, 1920, to March 31, 1921	51,747,663
(Sales of wool are included only to December 31, 1920, stocks having been handed over to the British Australian Wool Realisation Association, Limited, as on January 1, 1921.)	
From April 1st to June 30, 1921	110,567
	278,570,870
Grand total	582,324,756

The expenses of disposals, including commission, charges, and storage, handling, &c., of stocks in the store depots amount to approximately 5 per cent. of the proceeds of sale. About 88 per cent. of the total quantities notified as available for disposal to June 30th last have been sold. Large reductions in the staff of the Ministry of Munitions have been made in the last fifteen months, the total on July 1st being 7,543 as against 49,956 on April 1, 1920. Of the total staff on July 1st 76 per cent. were ex-service men, and about 5,200 were formerly industrial staff engaged in the custody, handling, &c., of stores.

Cotton Trade Hours.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—The Master Cotton Spinners' Federation in Lancashire is a highly efficient organisation, and controls almost completely the spinning section of the cotton trade. In times of depression the policy of the federation is to curtail yarn production on an organised scale. So far back as last October it was decided by employers using Egyptian cotton to run the mills only 35 hours a week instead of the usual 48. In December the factories using American cotton began to work only 24 hours a week. This concerted action in the way of restricting output has been in force until the end of last week. This week, however, there has been a variation in the scheme. The short-time movement in the Egyptian section has been abandoned altogether, and it has been decided to extend the working hours in the American department from 24 to 35 a week. This decision has given considerable satisfaction

to the operatives, who naturally have suffered severely since the beginning of the year. The trade position at the moment scarcely warrants full time working, but in the opinion of the committee of the federation it is desirable that at the earliest possible moment individual members should have the right of working their machinery as they think fit.

Latest Rubber Developments.—The Rubber Growers' Association is receiving a good deal of support in its appeal to all producers of plantation rubber to assist in the formation of a Rubber Producers' Corporation, which shall have for its objects the practical control of the industry. This control would bestow the ability to fix the selling price of rubber, to regulate the opening of further rubber lands, to purchase or make advances on the rubber harvested by members of the Corporation, and to finance their rubber estates. It is not sought to exercise any function in regard to the management or control of the estates belonging to members of the corporation except in regard to the matters just mentioned. The nominal capital of the Rubber Producers' Corporation is to be £2,000,000 in 2,000,000 shares of £1 each, with borrowing powers up to an amount of £8,000,000, either by debentures or otherwise, of which a minimum of £3,000,000 is to be raised in the first instance. It is proposed to allot the ordinary shares to rubber plantation companies, or individuals owning plantations, on the basis of one share for each planted acre of rubber they possess. By this means it is hoped to obtain the adhesion of companies, British and Dutch, owning 2,200,000 acres (about two-thirds of the existing planted area), this minimum being deemed necessary to make the scheme effective, which can only be accomplished in a spirit of co-operation. It is estimated that about half the 2,200,000 acres is controlled in the United Kingdom, and the other half by Dutch interests and local producers in various Eastern countries. Briefly, therefore, it is suggested that British interests connected with the rubber industry should put up £1,100,000 of actual money, payable by instalments spread over a year, in order to carry out this scheme. The essence of the proposition resides in the following clause:—"The agreements to be entered into between the Corporation and its shareholders, and between the Corporation and the Dutch Corporation, shall be for a first period of five years, or until a resolution for the voluntary winding up of the Corporation is passed at a meeting of shareholders, at which 75 per cent. of the capital is represented." The Corporation will not go to allotment until the owners of at least 2,200,000 acres, inclusive of the Dutch Corporation membership, have agreed to come into the scheme. City gossip has it that some of the biggest controlling houses in Mincing lane have given their support already, but, as usual, it will be in the securing of the "tail" of the support, to adopt the cricket word, where difficulty may arise. Considering the position of the rubber industry, it is obvious enough that any considered scheme put forward for the purpose of benefiting rubber will receive friendly attention, especially when it is mooted under the auspices of a body like the Rubber Growers' Association. The people who have followed rubber, however, for the past half decade, and who know how difficult it is to reconcile the many interests which war against one another in the trade, admit doubt as to whether companies and other rubber producers will consent to tie up their freedom for five years, as provided in the paragraph set out above. Some companies have got forward contracts at quite good prices for this year and the whole of 1922. Others are in desperate straits for lack of money to carry on from week to week at this present time. Differences of local situation account for the fact that some estates, even now, can make a profit, whereas others are running at a heavy loss. It may be easily understood, therefore, that the comparatively well-to-do companies may hesitate to join the ranks of those which gladly welcome a scheme which promises some sort of relief to their present difficulties. To-day's outlook does not promise much improvement in the near future so far as statistics are concerned, because only last week the landings of rubber in the Port of London were 1,604 tons, against deliveries of 952 tons, thereby increasing the stocks by 652 tons on the top of the previous week's in-

crease of 720 tons. The present amount of rubber in stock is over 70,000 tons, an enormous amount considering the very moderate rate of consumption of the present day. The price of the material is still no better than 10d per lb, or thereabouts, and although the rubber share market in the Stock Exchange has taken a distinct turn for the better, and many shares show substantial rises as compared with those of a fortnight ago, it would be folly to encourage such hopefulness at the moment as would induce rubber shareholders to think that their troubles are nearly over, and that a brighter era is on the threshold. It would be a matter of sincere satisfaction to be able to offer rubber shareholders, thousands of whom are ladies and people who gave very much more for their shares than they could obtain for them to-day, the opinion that the industry is on the point of returning to dividend-paying days.

The Fishing Industry.—The way in which the fishing industry has been prejudiced and crippled by the late coal trouble is strikingly illustrated by the latest returns of the landings at the ports of England and Wales. In June the quantity fell to 576,625 cwts, as compared with 989,658 cwts in June last year, and the value, including shell fish, to £1,131,041, against £1,635,216. The average value of the wet fish landed rose, however, to 38s per cwt against 32s 3d a year ago and about 15s or 16s in pre-war days. For the six months January-June the aggregate was 4,156,388 cwts, valued at £8,555,469 (including shell fish, £284,815), against 5,217,464 cwts, and value £9,990,450 (including shell fish £302,370) in the corresponding period of last year. There has thus been a decline of over a million cwts in weight and of £1,434,981 in value. The average for wet fish over the six months works out at 39s 9d per cwt against 36s 10d a year ago. To the total weight cod contributed 30 per cent., haddock 20 per cent., and prime fish (soles, brill, and turbot) but 2 per cent. Owing to high working costs and unremunerative prices realised, large numbers of trawlers were laid up throughout the half-year, these being added to when the miners' strike came and cut off supplies of bunker coal. A proportion was, however, kept at sea by taking in bunkers at near Continental ports, but the high cost (round 80s a ton being paid) was scarcely justified in view of poor markets for the fish when landed. The lack of adequate rail facilities and the fact that fish in the inland towns is no longer a cheap food had no doubt much to do with the slackening of demand. One of the most urgent needs of the English fishing industry is improved means of distribution to the great industrial centres, together with considerably lower rates for transit. The fewer trawlers going out from Hull and Grimsby caused Danish, Dutch, and German fishing boats to divert their supplies to those ports. While it is a fact that these landings in May and June were about four times the usual monthly average, the aggregate for the six months at all ports of England and Wales was only 211,043 cwts and the value £452,735, and represents but 5 per cent. addition to the British caught fish, these figures not being included in those quoted above.

Polish Developments.—Though still without definite frontiers, and imperilled by the conflict in Silesia, the Republic of Poland is beginning to cope with its financial difficulties and to secure new outlets for its trade. Its first Treaty of Commerce, just concluded with Rumania, is based on the principle of reciprocal most-favoured-nation treatment conjoined with the utmost freedom of transport; and it gives Poland the option, for the 18 months following its signature, of acquiring land at Galatz and Braila as the site of a Polish free port. This will provide an alternative to Dantzig and facilitate overseas trade throughout the year. Further, on July 1st the Finance Minister, Mr Stoczowski, was able to inform the Parliament that considerable progress has been made both in cutting down expenditure and in finding new revenue. By levying new taxes and increasing old ones, coupled with the establishment of State monopolies, the revenue of 1921-22 should be about ten times in excess of that of 1920-21. (The expenditure for 1919-20 appears to have been about five times the revenue for that year.) The effect of the increased revenue during the first three months of 1921

(which closed the fiscal year) was to increase the value of the mark and stabilise the exchange; and the prices of necessities declined. Since April, however, the mark has fallen 60 per cent., partly owing to the Silesian crisis, and indirectly to the decline in emigrants' remittances from America and to the cessation of the export of timber and petroleum. The shortage of currency due to these two causes has been met by the purchase of foreign currencies, and this has further depressed the value of the mark. It is officially stated that the decline has been intensified by force sales of Polish currency by speculators, especially in Vienna, and by the employment of this currency to some extent by Germany to purchase dollars wherewith to pay reparation. But the depreciation of the mark does not mean that Poland is insolvent. No satisfactory estimate of the national wealth can be made at present, but her public lands alone are not much below three million acres, and, with the State forests, mines, railways, manufactories, and salt works, the public assets alone must far exceed the thirty milliards of marks which constitute her national debt.

Armstrong-Whitworth Results.—For the year ended December 31st last, profits of Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co., Limited, amounted to £675,180, to which must be added the balance brought forward of £1,049,899, making together the sum of £1,725,079 available for shareholders. Dividends absorb £803,750, and £921,329 is carried forward to next year's accounts. The ordinary shares secure a 10 per cent. distribution, less tax, against 12½ per cent., free of tax, up to 5s in the £1 for 1919, which, considering conditions generally prevailing in the engineering industry, must be regarded as satisfactory. The report states that "there is still a large amount of work in hand which has been delayed by industrial difficulties, and, in addition, some important contracts have recently been secured by the civil engineering and other departments." Turning to the balance-sheet, total assets are now recorded as £28,736,394. The company holds £1,380,000 three-year notes guaranteed by the Belgian Government, while investments and advances "at or under cost" amount to £5,394,697. In the usual column the balance-sheet will be found fully analysed.

Scottish-American Oil Report.—The first report and accounts of the Scottish-American Oil and Transport Company, Limited, from the date of its incorporation—October 28, 1919—to March 31, 1921, provides disappointing reading for shareholders. On a capital of £4,762,855 a profit of £42,076 was made, and of this sum £10,000 has been allocated in writing off office furniture, &c. In the report the directors give interesting details concerning the flotation of Tankers, Limited, and it is possible that at the first general meeting of the Scottish-American, which is to be held on July 27th, further information will be offered. The report briefly states that "under the terms of an agreement dated June 24, 1920, the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, assumed as from July 1, 1920, the technical and commercial management of the company." Perhaps further particulars of this agreement will also be forthcoming at the meeting. The balance-sheet is worthy of notice, specially the remarks of the auditors. Investments include "Southern Oil and Transport Corporation," at £2,792,075; the auditors inform us that these shares "are not quoted on the market, but, in our opinion, their present value is under cost." The company holds shares in Tankers, Limited, on which 10s per share has been paid. In this direction £750,000 has been invested, and there is a contingent liability of £750,000 in respect of these shares. The report, however, mentions that £1,125,000 has been paid up on these shares, and that there is £375,000 now remaining to be paid. Barges and tugs are valued at £296,141, but the auditors point out that "no depreciation has been provided." The auditors are certainly to be congratulated on the manner in which they have carried out their duties. It will be interesting to know what the preference shareholders of Tankers, Limited, will have to say about the proposals to vary the freight contract.

African and Eastern Trade Corporation.—In the thirty-first annual report and accounts of the African and Eastern Trade Corporation, Limited, reference is made to the scheme, since abandoned, for the fusion of interests with Lever Brothers, Limited. The ordinary shares were reduced to £4,000,000 and a new class of share called 15 per cent. cumulative preferred ordinary shares created. The report says that "since the purpose for which these shares were created no longer exists, your directors will shortly put before the shareholders proposals to cancel or convert them into ordinary shares. Provision has been made out of the reserve fund for claims for capital duty. In the meantime, none of the preferred ordinary shares will be issued." Net profits for the year ended December 31, 1920, amount to £854,499, to which has to be added the balance from last year's account of £191,473, making a total of £1,045,972. To investment depreciation account is allocated £300,000. On the ordinary shares a total dividend at the rate of 17½ per cent. is distributed, as compared with 30 per cent. in the previous year. But the ordinary paid-up capital is now £3,545,506, as against £2,455,366 on December 31, 1919. Investments are shown in the balance-sheet at £8,293,215, but it is not stated whether these are entered at cost. However, it must in fairness be pointed out that on the other side reserves, at £6,914,358, are a very substantial item, specially when it is considered that the total of gross assets is but £15,621,680. We analyse the balance-sheet in our usual column.

Nobel Industries.—Since the last report was issued, the title of this big combination has been changed from "Explosives Trades, Limited," to "Nobel Industries, Limited." Net profits to December 31, 1919, were £1,655,242. In the report and accounts just published net profits are recorded for the year ended December 31, 1920, as £849,996. But these figures convey a rather unfair comparison, as profits for 1919 were swollen by including certain receipts, from constituent companies, derived from trading in 1918. From this latter total, however, £22,923 must be deducted for interest accrued up to the period covered by the accounts, on the 8 per cent. seven-year secured notes subscribed for in November, 1920. The directors are wisely pursuing a conservative policy, for the report states that they "have been impressed with the paramount necessity, in the present industrial crisis and the uncertain financial prospects ahead, of conserving the resources of the company, and have accordingly decided to make no recommendation for the payment of a dividend on the ordinary and deferred shares, a course which they have no doubt will commend itself to the shareholders." In the balance-sheet investments are taken at cost, and amount to £21,146,446, but the report notes that "the market value of all quoted industrial securities held by the company or its constituents as at December 31, 1920, was approximately equal to their cost to Nobel Industries, Limited." Shareholders, however, cannot learn from the balance-sheet what proportion of the investment items represents "quoted industrial securities." The balance-sheet will be found analysed in another column.

Harper Bean.—The report and accounts of Harper Bean, Limited, to be submitted to shareholders at the first ordinary general meeting of the company to be held on July 25th, is in some respects a rather remarkable document. For the period covered by the accounts from November 7, 1919, to December 31, 1920, a loss of £129,847 is recorded. But in a new company, with a paid-up capital of £4,879,230, this should scarcely be sufficient reason to depress the £1 ordinary shares to the small value of 1s 9d. But the position disclosed in the auditors' certificate is not very reassuring. Unpaid calls amount to £1,121,052. Of this sum, £15,808 has been collected, but the auditors consider that calls in arrear are not "likely to be recovered in full." Again, they state: "Investments appear in the balance-sheet at cost, which, in our view, is greatly in excess of their present value," and that "loans" at £887,955 and sundry debtors

"cannot be considered entirely good assets." It would be interesting to learn something further about the "large number of fully-paid shares to be delivered up for cancellation." It is possible, however, that more light will be shed on these and other points at the general meeting. At least, shareholders should endeavour to have these points elucidated.

Three South African Companies.—Our mining correspondent writes:—During the past week the annual statements have been issued of a trio of "Kaffir" mining-financial undertakings. Although the companies are engaged in something approaching the same line of business, their reports tell very different stories. The South African Townships, Mining and Finance Corporation earned the substantially increased profit of £289,700—equivalent to nearly 30 per cent. upon its issued capital. No real comparison can be made between the results of 1920 and 1919, as during the last-named period the company absorbed six kindred concerns, incidentally changing its title—without, however, effecting a much-needed abbreviation. Earnings on the scale above indicated must be regarded as distinctly satisfactory. The dividend, however, remains at the increased rate of 10 per cent. paid for 1919. This, together with taxes and £12,800 written off the assets, will absorb £120,100, leaving about two-thirds of the year's earnings to be added to the carry forward, which now stands at £265,650. From the explanation given at the meeting, a full account of which is attached to the report, it appears that the conservative policy followed in the matter of the distribution is due partly to the aim of the directors to stabilise the dividends, but an examination of the balance-sheet indicates that the company has expanded its interests. Thus share investments now figure at £574,300, an increase of £118,700. The report, while giving full details as to the farms, townships, &c., owned, contains no schedule of shareholdings. This omission was to some extent made good at the meeting, the chairman supplying the information that, with the exception of a large block of Rezendes, practically all the Corporation's gold mining interests were in dividend-paying mines on the Far-Eastern Rand. The other principal shareholdings are in the South African Coal Estates (Witbank)—a recent amalgamation; the West End Diamond Mine, described as "highly payable," upon which a washing plant will be shortly erected; and the Leeuwpoot (African Farms) Tin Mines, which last year re-entered the dividend list with the rather liberal distribution of 15 per cent. South African Townships shares are quoted at par, thus giving a yield of about 10 per cent. The second concern is the General Mining and Finance Corporation. At one time several of the subsidiaries appeared to have good prospects, but the only two producing mines now in the dividend list are the Van Ryn and that rich little proposition the Meyer and Chailton. As to the Corporation itself, no distribution has been made since the modest 7½ per cent. paid in respect of 1910. The earnings of 1919 were cut into by a somewhat heavy loss on mining ventures; those of last year scored a marked improvement upon the results of 1918, the profits on realisations largely exceeding those of either of the two preceding periods—a rather remarkable feature, having regard to the experience of other like undertakings. But, of course, £53,900 does not go far on a capital of £1,875,000, even were there no other consideration. In the present case another and very potent consideration exists in the shape of a depreciation equivalent to 63 per cent. upon the holdings of stocks, shares and debentures. Moreover, the corporation has made advances to the tune of £352,800 to "mining and other companies"—which for all practical purposes may be taken to represent the Roodepoort United. The outlook for this company is described as "most critical," and altogether there would seem little prospect of the repayment of any appreciable portion of this huge indebtedness. It is to be hoped that the Corporation's latest venture, the Transvaal Silver and Base Metals—whose shares are not yet dealt in over here—may provide a measure of compensation for the disappointments in other directions. The case, however, is one where a drastic scaling down of capital seems inevitable sooner or later. The third of the trio—the Bechuana-

land Exploration Company—is a finance, land and investment concern; its interests centre mainly in Rhodesia, the Transvaal coming next. Last year the directors took advantage of the favourable conditions to effect substantial realisations, and largely as a result the assets show a marked contraction at £372,200. This amount works out at about 12s 6d per 10s share, now quoted at 9s 6d. The lion's share of last year's increased profits was written off the shareholdings; still, the slightly enhanced distribution of 10d per share may be regarded as conservative.

The Mexico North-Western Railway.—The third report of the receiver of this company, which is one of a well-known group incorporated in Canada, indicates a considerable improvement in the outlook, though the bondholders are warned not to expect an early resumption of payments or a rapid recovery. The line is working on the North from Juarez to Madera, and in the South from Chihuahua City to Rincon, and the Cumbre tunnel, blown up some years ago by insurgents, has been repaired and reopened. The central portion between Temosachic and Madera, closed since 1915, when 14 large bridges were destroyed by revolutionists, is under repair, and will, it is hoped, be reopened by October 1st. A trestle bridge on a timber branch, accidentally burnt last October, has been replaced by a switchback out of the insurance money, so the danger of its interruption by fire is at an end. The traffic is suffering through the depression in the timber market, both in the United States and in Mexico, and through the closing of mines caused by the fall in silver, and the earnings hardly balance the expenditure; but the mills at Pearson and El Paso have been partially at work throughout the past year, and must be kept going to avoid trouble with the authorities and local unrest. The timber on the company's property, though originally over-estimated, is extensive and valuable, and the estimate requires early revision. That on the 250,000 acres leased from the Terrazas possibly will all be used before the termination of the lease, which was paid for in advance. Claims for insurrectionary damages to the amount of \$7,000,000, U.S. currency, have been lodged with the Claims Commission, and the \$500,000 borrowed in New York in 1915 was paid off three years ago. The political outlook is improving, but the recovery must necessarily be slower for a company operating in remote and devastated Chihuahua than for the tramways and light and power companies of the Federal capital. Had the company not continued, in the face of great difficulties, to operate its lumber plants and its railway throughout the ten years of revolution, they would practically have ceased to exist. But peace will create a surplus on the normal earnings and a further development of the traffic. A meeting of the shareholders or bondholders would be useless at present, but it is hoped to hold one when the situation definitely improves.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Latest advices from Tokyo state that with the half-yearly settlement over and the money borrowed for that purpose repaid to the Bank of Japan, the money market became quiet, and short money rates were weakened by the repayment of 20,000,000 yen Treasury bills due on July 15th. The price of rice rose suddenly to 30 yen owing to reduction of stocks caused by Government purchases. The high prices of cotton yarns are maintained, despite the inactivity of the export trade, for there is a growing demand from weavers, and stocks are comparatively scarce owing to the restricted production. Share quotations improved in sympathy with the improvement in the commodity markets. The market for silk yarn is dull, the high quotations for new yarns having checked inquiries from the United States. For the month of June imports were valued at 148,000,000 yen and exports at 107,000,000 yen. The note issue of the Bank of Japan stands at 1,053,000,000 yen, and advances and discounts are 66,000,000 yen.

Swiss Taxes on Coupons.—We are informed by the Union Bank of Switzerland that on June 25, 1921, the law regarding stamp duty on coupons received the assent of the Swiss Federal Assemblies. Coupons of Swiss securities are subject to tax, with the exception of securities issued by the Swiss Confederation, the Swiss Federal Railways, and the Cantons, if before the law entering into force they have been declared tax free. The coupons of foreign securities circulating in Switzerland and issued there or quoted on any of the Swiss stock exchanges, and interest from money deposited with Swiss banks are also liable. With regard to the percentage of the tax no distinction whatsoever is made between Swiss and foreign securities subject to the tax. The tax is 2 per cent. on coupons of bonds or debentures and on credited interest subject to the tax; 3 per cent. on shares, stocks, founders' shares, bonus shares, and bonus certificates; 6 per cent. on premiums of bonds drawn for redemption with a premium. After expiration of the so-called referendum limit—which extends to October 4, 1921—the Swiss Federal Council is to fix the date on which those provisions are to become effective.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MERCHANTS AND MANUFACTURERS.—A public meeting of business men will be held at the Mansion House on Tuesday, July 26th, at 12 o'clock noon, to consider the imperative need of increasing production and reducing expenditure. The principal speakers will be Mr. Walter Leaf and Sir Hugh Bell. The Lord Mayor has consented to take the chair, and he will be supported by Lord Aberconway, Sir Kenneth Anderson, Sir Charles Armstrong, Hon. R. H. Brand, Mr Henry Bell, Mr E. Clifton Brown, Mr J. Annan Bryce, Mr Laurence Currie, Mr H. Dawson, Mr H. W. Dillon, Mr F. C. Goodenough, Mr W. L. Hichens, Sir Charles Hobhouse, Hon. Lionel Holland, Lord Inchcape, Mr R. McKenna, Sir Charles Mallet, Mr F. C. Le Marchant, Sir Percival Perry, Sir Felix Schuster, Sir Richard Vassar-Smith, Sir Edward Ward, Mr Thomas Wiles, and others.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF CIVICS.—The inaugural lecture will be given by Professor Patrick Geddes, with the Mayor of Guildford in the chair, on Saturday, July 30th. Among the courses of lectures offered in the two following weeks (besides the standard courses on sociology, social philosophy, social psychology, and civics) will be new courses on social biology, art in social life, geography, and modern history. Full particulars may be obtained from Miss Margaret Tatton, Leplay House, 65 Belgrave road, Westminster, S.W. 1.

An interesting conference of well-known employers and trade union representatives is to take place this week-end at the residence of Sir Samuel Waring, Footscray, Kent, at which the subject to be considered is "Foreign Exchanges and their Influence on Industry." The gathering is one of the series of week-end conferences which have been arranged under the auspices of the Industrial League and Council, and, through the generosity of prominent personages in the commercial and industrial world, are being held at their country residences.

THE Oxford University Extension Delegacy has arranged a full programme for its twentieth summer meeting to be held at Oxford from July 28th to August 17th. The main subject of study will be the Place of Ancient Rome in the History of Civilisation. The inaugural lecture will be given by Sir Rennell Rodd, lately British Ambassador at Rome. In the Economic Section, lectures, conferences, and classes will be held on "The Efficiency and Control of Industry." Mr J. A. R. Marriott, M.P., will give the introductory lecture.

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—COTTON CROP FORECAST—RAILROAD OUTLOOK—BUSINESS FAILURES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, July 2.

If the condition of the cotton crop fails to improve during the summer there will be an exceptionally small yield in this country. The Department of Agriculture's report places the condition of the crop on June 25th at 69.2 per cent. of normal as against 67 per cent. on May 25th, 70.7 per cent. a year ago, and 78.8 per cent. the 10-year average for June 25th. The area under cultivation, 26,519,000 acres, shows a decrease of 28.4 per cent. from last year's acreage of 37,043,000. This year's acreage, in fact, is the smallest since 1900, and never before has there been such a decrease from one year to another. The indicated yield of 8,433,000 bales would be the smallest crop of the last quarter of a century, nearly 5,000,000 bales less than last year's production and about 8,000,000 bales below the record crop of 1914. Not in a score of years has the condition of the growing crop been so low on June 25th as it was this year. All sections of the cotton belt have been affected. The poor condition, according to Government experts, is due to the late, wet spring and to the presence of the boll weevil in large numbers, particularly in Texas, Arkansas, Alabama, and Tennessee. Owing to unfavourable conditions in April and May and to various discouraging factors, notably the shortage of fertilizer and unsatisfactory prices for the staple, the abandonment of planted acreage has been greater than usual east of the Mississippi River, ranging from 5 per cent. in North Carolina and Mississippi to as high as 10 per cent. in Georgia, with 3 per cent. in Arkansas, but practically no change in Texas. West of the Mississippi the abandonment has been slight. The quantity of fertilizer used this year decreased 66 per cent. from the average amount used during the preceding four years, according to a supplementary report issued by the Department of Agriculture. So far as the prospective yield is concerned too much reliance should not be placed upon estimates based upon the June condition. A very marked change has sometimes taken place between the end of June and harvest time. Last year, for instance, the crop was estimated at only 11,450,000 bales on a June condition of 70.7 per cent., but improvement in condition during the summer brought the actual yield up to 13,366,000 bales approximately. Ordinarily such a bullish report would have caused a very pronounced rise in the cotton market, but the strengthening influence of this week's report as a market factor was largely offset by the unfavourable trade conditions ruling at present in this country and Europe, and also by the fact that there will probably be a surplus of about 7,000,000 bales of cotton in all positions in the United States to carry over into the new crop statistical year beginning August 1st.

The outlook for the railroads is now brighter than for many months past, although they are by no means "out of the wood" yet. Within the last week or so there have been some distinctly favourable and encouraging developments. As a result of recent conferences in Washington between administration officials, bankers, and railroad representatives, at which the very urgent need of immediate remedial measures was again emphasised, steps will be taken, it is understood, to effect an early adjustment and settlement of the respective claims of the carriers and the Government arising from Federal control and operation of the railroads during the war period. The Government has already paid to the carriers a substantial portion of the amount due to them under the guarantee provisions of the Transportation Act, but still owes a huge sum in claims, payment of which has been held up for various reasons since the railways were returned to private management and the guarantee period expired. According to Secretary of the Treasury Mellon, there is now available in the Treasury the sum of \$250,000,000 approximately to be used in the settlement of such claims, although a great deal more than that will probably be required to square the account. That amount, however, is expected

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.

On **Current Accounts** interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

to be paid to the railroads in the near future, or at least a large part of it. The carriers, on the other hand, are heavily in debt to the Government for permanent improvements made to the properties during the period of Federal control. There is a wide difference of opinion as to amount of such indebtedness, but whatever it may be, as finally determined, the railroads are not likely to be required to meet that obligation until they are in a position financially to do so without danger of embarrassment. Present indications are that the carriers will be allowed to issue bonds to meet a portion, at least, of that indebtedness; in fact, plans to that end, it is said, are now being formulated.

Railroad earnings have taken a decided turn for the better. Complete results of operations during May are not yet available, but preliminary reports of earnings on 119 roads operating more than 150,000 miles show operating revenue of \$318,760,000 in that month, against \$322,598,000 in May a year ago, representing a decrease of only 1.2 per cent., while operating expenses of \$268,163,000 were 14.2 per cent. less. Net operating income for the month amounted to \$31,290,000, as compared with a deficit of \$6,512,000 in May, 1920, showing an increase in that item of about 580 per cent. Final returns for all the leading railroads of the country are expected to show a total net operating income of some \$38,000,000 for May, against a deficit a year ago of about \$11,000,000. Railroad loadings of freight for the third week of June showed a reduction of 8,256 cars from the preceding week and of 136,995 cars from the corresponding week a year ago, the decrease being attributed to lighter coal and ore shipments. Car loadings from January 1st to June 18th totalled 17,136,930 cars, against 19,827,872 in the like period of 1920, and 17,472,804 cars in 1919. The falling off this year, of course, reflects the depression in trade and industry.

The average reduction of 12 per cent. in railroad wages became effective yesterday on all the principal lines of the country, and involved about 1,500,000 employees. The various unions are still considering whether or not they will accept the reduction. A referendum vote has been taken by different classes of union labourers, but the result has been announced by only one, namely, the International Brotherhood of Firemen and Oilers, 95 per cent. of whose members voted against accepting the wage cut ordered by the Railroad Labour Board. Notwithstanding the referendum votes, final decision in the matter has been referred to a committee of five representing the 16 railroad unions affected. That committee has not yet reached or announced its decision; but the general expectation is that the wage reduction order will be accepted, under protest perhaps.

The record of business failures for the full calendar month of June and for the first half of the year presents some interesting comparisons. There were 1,329 failures in June, according to Bradstreet's, as against 1,338 in May, and 562 in June a year ago. Last month's number is the smallest reported in any month since last November, not quite 2½ times the number reported in June, 1920, but nearly three times that reported in July, 1919, which was the low point of monthly failures for about a third of a century. Liabilities of \$50,992,929 for June were also the smallest since November, but 56 per cent. above those of June, last year. Failures for the six months ending with June total 9,010, three times the total for the first half

being made to the Government of India to take steps to alleviate the exchange depression. But it appears fairly obvious that the Government is resolved to leave exchange alone, and that there will be no more unfortunate experiments, such as selling reverse Councils against the Gold Standard Reserve held at home.

The Imperial Bank of India returns for June 24th show that Government deposits increased by Rs. 1,320 lakhs. This increase gives some indication of the amount taken in during the first week that the new loans were open. There have been large purchases of these loans in all parts of India, and Bombay is understood to lead in the amounts subscribed by the big cities, although no official intimation has yet been received. There is plenty of money for investment in the city, owing chiefly to the slackness of trade, and our discount rate stands at less than 4 per cent.

At the end of the week ended June 22nd the total amount of notes in circulation was valued at Rs. 1,69,94,25,124. Bombay's holdings, as usual, were largest, amounting to Rs. 54,96,24,727. Calcutta followed with Rs. 47,79,35,638, and then came Rangoon (Rs. 19,96,24,139), Lahore (Rs. 16,66,12,704), and Madras (Rs. 15,41,98,333), Cawnpore and Karachi following. In regard to the Reserve, silver coin in India totalled Rs. 65,04,50,009, gold coin and bullion Rs. 24,35,44,363, and there was silver bullion under coinage to the value of Rs. 4,20,31,835. Bombay's holdings were respectively Rs. 23,07,97,470, Rs. 13,93,68,597, and Rs. 39,91,298. Calcutta had as much as Rs. 3,80,40,537 worth of silver under coinage. Securities, at purchase price, held in India amounted to Rs. 67,99,33,446, and held in England to Rs. 8,34,66,471. There was no transfer between the Paper Currency Reserve and the Indian branch of the Gold Standard Reserve during the week. The percentage of metallic reserve to circulation was 55.21.

HOLLAND.—PROPOSED INCREASE IN THE TARIFF—INDUSTRIES FAIR—DUTCH RAILWAYS—LIFE INSURANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, July 8.

HOLLAND is a Free-trading country, and opposition against the Minister of Finance's proposed Bill to increase the tariff of import taxes by 40 per cent. is very strong. At present the so-called "fiscal" tax is 5 per cent. The increase from 5 to 7 per cent. is apparently not very important, but it opens the door to further increases, and the fall in prices which is still going on, and which in itself points to a sounder state of affairs, will be checked quite unnaturally by a similar artificial measure. The feeling is general that, above all, energetic endeavours should be made to curtail Government expenditure, especially the war budget.

The decision that the fifth Industries Fair, which will be held at Utrecht from September 6th until 16th, shall be international, is also quite in keeping with the principle of Free-trade to which the majority of the people here adhere. The chairman of the Association for Industries Fairs in the Netherlands said in this respect, "A national annual fair was good, was necessary in past years. Circumstances have altered since, and it would be wrong, and it would testify to chauvinistic short-sightedness, if the foreigner were still refused admission to the annual fair. This participation is an incentive to competition, and this incentive is necessary if the Dutch manufacturer is to keep abreast of the times." An enormous permanent building has been erected, and the fact that Utrecht lies in the centre of the Netherlands renders it most suitable as a centre for such fairs. We hope that many English firms will avail themselves of the opportunity to attend the fair, where they can show their products and meet, on neutral ground, competitors and business friends from all parts of the world.

Although the receipts of the Dutch railways have increased by more than 30 per cent. (204,000,000 in 1920, as against 156,000,000 in 1919), the balance-sheet shows a loss in 1920 of 2,400,000. Consequently no dividend will be declared; for 1919 a dividend of 3 per cent. was paid. In future, after the necessary legislation has been passed

the Government will get considerable influence in the management of the railways, and, on the other hand, a guarantee of a dividend of 5 per cent. will be given. A very serious situation has arisen in the insurance world. Two important life insurance companies are practically insolvent, of which one, the Algemeene (General) is the largest institution here, with over 200,000,000 fl. insured capital. The other one is the Kosmos, with 100,000,000 fl. insured capital. Previously the Dordrecht, of the same size as Kosmos, went over to the Eerste Nederlandsche, a strong office which guarantees their policies. It first appeared as if this institution had also given financial assistance to the Algemeene (a combination of the boards took place), but this was not the case. An Emergency Bill has now come into force affecting both Algemeene and Kosmos. Extension of the field of activity to Central Europe, and investments in those countries to a larger extent than necessary, are among the causes of this débâcle. Also among fire insurance companies there are many weak companies, chiefly among the "war-babies," and a general feeling of uneasiness is prevailing, accentuated by the failure of the various companies combined under the title of "Concern Sorel," which had a phenomenal expansion during the war, and is now in the receiver's hands.

SWEDEN.—TIMBER PRICES—MONETARY CONDITIONS—NEW COMPANIES—LABOUR OUTLOOK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, July 16.

THE co-operation between the Swedish exporters of timbers has ceased owing to the failure to agree on a joint price policy, and the market has therefore been left to the mercy of buyers. It is expected that there will be severe price-cutting before long as some mills are evidently very anxious to get rid of their goods. Prices for timber are now actually lower than before the war, and naturally producers are losing heavily. The money market is much easier, and the Stock Exchange has experienced a strong rise all round, there being hopes for a general revival of trade and a further lowering of the discount rate. It is deemed almost certain that the State Bank will undertake this step probably in connection with the launching of the new 100 millions kroner loan, which has been so much talked of. The last report of the State Bank is very satisfactory, inasmuch as there is a decline in notes circulation of 52 million kroner, or a decrease from June last of 49 million kroner. Domestic bills and trade loans also show a falling off of 28 million kroner. The amount of notes circulation in Sweden has been since 1913 as follows:—1913, June, 227 million kroner; 1915, 293 million kroner; 1916, 352 million kroner; 1917, 466 million kroner; 1918, 668 million kroner; 1919, 728 million kroner; 1920, 736 million kroner; and 1921, 679 million kroner. The depression in industry and trade is reflected in a marked decrease in the number of companies formed during the first half of this year, only 486 concerns being registered, as against 744 during the corresponding period 1920, with a total capital of 28.7 million kroner, as against 53 million kroner in 1920 and 25 million kroner in 1913. New formations refer principally to industry and commerce, whereas no new banking concerns and very few traffic undertakings were formed. The increase in capital during the first half of this year amounted to 74 million kroner fresh subscriptions and 13.7 million kroner bonus shares. The labour market is still very restless, and no agreement has been reached with the sailors or dockers. The latter have refused to entertain 20 per cent. lower pay and go on striking. A serious drawback is that in the mining industry, for instance, the present wages agreement runs until the end of the year, so that no change is possible until then. The same is the case with a number of railways, who are paying their employees war wages, with the result that their tariffs are killing all prospects of export. Many concerns are beginning to realise that the most serious time is in front of them, and are rather making preparations to shut down entirely instead of keeping on at a loss. Favourable, although for the season rather cold, weather is promising much for the crops, but the hay is reported to be a little short in growth.

NORWAY.—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS—GERMAN COMPETITION—BANK RATE REDUCED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, July 6.

PERHAPS the greatest difficulty with which Norwegian industry has at present to cope is the competition with countries having a deranged exchange. Norwegian industry is met by this competition not only in the foreign markets, but also in Norway itself, and that even in articles that are specialties of Norwegian industry. Steps have been taken by the men of those industries to obtain protection; it seems, however, doubtful if they will obtain any results, and the consequences probably will be the stoppage of some of those industries until an improvement of the exchange position has taken place.

The seamen's strike now has been practically ended, and, excepting the tramp steamers, which will be separately dealt with, a reduction on the wages established in 1920 of 17 per cent. has been agreed to—12 per cent. reduction to be effected at once and 5 per cent. as from December 1st. All the strikers for whom employment can be found within four months to have the preference. The settlement is a compromise, with concessions from both sides.

So far, trade in all its branches is extremely dull. Still, despite the season, with its holiday-making, especially in England, hopes are entertained of an improvement soon in all branches of trade, because our own strikes are over, and, above all, the coal-strike in England is over, which made itself intensely felt in our country.

Hay-making now is going on all over the country. The dry and sometimes very cold and sometimes very hot weather with scorching winds to a great extent has destroyed the fair prospects of the early summer of a rich harvest. If plentiful rains do not soon set in there is a great danger of serious damage by drought both to cereals, potatoes, &c.

Exchange transactions continue at low-water level, with no marked fluctuation of prices. The amount of notes of the National Bank in circulation at the turn of the half-year was 418.4 million kroner. Normally, this should have been 460 million kroner. The decrease in circulation thus continues its downward advance—a sign both of stagnant trade and, to some small degree, of receding prices of commodities. Under these circumstances, the board of the bank decided to-day to reduce the bank rate of discount from 7 to 6½ per cent.; the private banks, as usually, followed suit.

At present a discussion is going on as to the margin of interest between the rate given by the banks for money deposited, and the rate at which they lend. The difference ordinarily is ½ per cent., but voices are raised for an increase to 1 per cent.—i.e., the depositors would get so much less. On the other hand, it has been argued that rather than increasing the profit accruing from differences in the rates of interest, the banks, to gather the means wherewith to meet losses and hard times, ought to try to reduce their managerial expenses, which are considered to have grown into far too large proportions. There, at present, this question rests.

Letters to the Editor.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Mr Craies raises some interesting speculations in your issue of the 16th inst., and asks me some questions which I shall endeavour to answer.

He anticipates a considerable fall in prices and wages if the gold standard is restored. I doubt this as a direct result of restoration. Of course, we shall be able to buy our cotton and food cheaper from America, and a gradual fall in the cost of living and production is a good thing, and will stimulate trade and industry eventually. He fears that the burden of the debt service will be increased. I believe it will be lightened. Our credit will be improved by the resumption of specie payments, and therefore our ability to fund or refund the debt. A saving of 1 per

cent. in interest charge will save the country about 50 millions.

(2) It is true that falling prices discourage trade and production, but this was bound to take place, and had to take place to enable us to compete in the common markets of the world. To retard this painful experience by artificial means is to prolong the agony and hinder the ultimate recovery. I have already written at length on the advantages of the gold standard as compared with any scientific alternative. The gold standard will give stability to prices, and I have no fear as to there being plenty of gold available for monetary purposes. A gold standard does not entail a gold currency, but the re-establishment of equilibrium between gold and paper. That can be most easily and economically achieved by gradually reducing the paper, and that is what we desire. —I am, Sir, your obedient servant, D. M. MASON.

July 16th, 1921.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—After reading the recent correspondence in your journal on this subject, the average person's condition must surely be one of sheer bewilderment. Indeed, some of the statements made by the gold-standard revivalists leave one gasping. For example, in face of such crises as those of 1847, 1857, 1866, 1907 and 1914, Mr D. M. Mason, of the Sound Currency Association, deliberately asserts that the "gold standard has stood the test of time." Not only is this contrary to experience, but it is far nearer the truth to say that the so-called gold standard has never even stood the test of a single national crisis. Whenever a great political upheaval has loomed large the gold-standard system has had to be suspended. The mere shadow of the recent great war caused gold to disappear from circulation before even a shot was fired.

Mr Mason says that he pointed out to Mr Lloyd George in August, 1914, the effects which would follow from the issue of Treasury notes—namely, the hoarding and exporting of gold. Mr Mason confuses effects with causes to such a degree that he forgets his history. It is quite untrue to say that the Treasury notes drove gold out of circulation. The Treasury notes became necessary largely because gold had already disappeared. He admits that there was a panic in August, 1914, and the cause of the panic was the disappearance of legal tender. The Treasury notes were issued at the demand of the bankers themselves, who besought the Government's aid to save them and the country from bankruptcy, and one of the most contemptible features in these efforts to revive the pre-war monetary system is that many of those whose institutions were saved by these notes have been the first to revile the Government for having issued them. If gold fetishism did not render its votaries immune to reason one might hope that the events which have recently occurred would serve to cure them of their idolatry.

The deflation policy was first started, after the war, in the United States, and according to a recent address by the former Comptroller of the Currency, Mr J. S. Williams, its results have been the ruin of business in the richest and hitherto most prosperous country in the world. Deflation has caused the people of the United States greater losses than the whole of their expenditure during the war. We are in the same position, and suffering from the same lunatic policy. On the other hand, Germany, that has not been "taken in" by these silly claims of the gold-standard advocates, is to-day the most prosperous country in Europe—if not in the world. She has reduced her mark to the lowest point in her history, and she is purposely keeping it low in value by continuing to issue fresh notes whenever her foreign credit tends to raise its value. The result is that she is able to invade all the world's markets—whether protected by high tariffs or low tariffs—and she is underselling the manufacturers of all other nations; and she has only to continue this policy for the next five years and the bulk of the world's trade will be under her control.

The trouble with the gold standardites is that they will not face facts. Mr Mason talks of restoring the gold basis for our legal tender, but he does not indicate, nor has he the faintest notion of where the gold is to come

from to enable the banks to obtain a sufficiently safe basis for the currency and credit. No country in the world has ever yet been able to establish its legal tender and credit permanently and soundly upon gold. When Mr Mason talks about the gold standard having stood the test of time—in which he evidently refers to this country—he overlooks the fact that the real basis of our currency has been the national credit, and not gold. When gold fled we still had the national credit in the shape of the £18,500,000 Bank of England notes, which are issued against the national securities.

The great objection to the so-called gold standard is that it professes what it is incapable of performing. Gold can only be used to a very limited extent in the redemption of credit. Whenever the demands of industry rise beyond a certain amount the gold standard system is unequal to the occasion, and its effect is then to destroy trade and depress industry. The problem is merely one of quantity. If Mr Mason and his friends can discover new sources of gold supplies; if instead of having a ridiculous basis of, say, £100,000,000 of gold, on which to carry a super-structure of thousands of millions of credit, he can provide a sum more proportionate to the load it has to carry; if he can prove that with the increase of trade and business the supplies of gold will increase proportionately, he will then be in a position to urge his claims with rather more confidence than at present; but so long as things are as they are, the attempt to revive the gold standard is the most deadly menace to a revival of trade, industry, and employment that could possibly be engaged in.—
Yours faithfully,
ARTHUR KITSON.
12 St James's square, S.W., July 18th, 1921.

THE CHANGES IN THE VALUE OF GOLD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your issue of 9th instant contains an important, and, indeed, very interesting, letter from Sir James Wilson under the above heading; and I do not wish to argue any of the eleven points specified as reasons for changes in the value of gold; but I ask you to allow me to call attention to an omission which, in face of the eminent position Sir James Wilson has held in the management of Indian finance, seems strange.

Everyone who has followed the discussion on Indian finance during the past fifty years must recognise that Sir James quite understands that the value of gold is generally affected by a rise or fall in that of silver. But that reason is a glaring omission in his letter.

I notice that in July, 1911, I wrote: "Sir James Wilson shows that during the decade 1900-10 gold bought on the average 37 per cent. more and silver 38 per cent. less than in the eleven years 1867 to 1877."* That means that at that time there would, under the double standard, have been no change in the general level of prices. There was no misunderstanding in those days as regards reciprocal action in a rising or falling value of either metal, whilst they are not harnessed together so as to form a joint standard. But now, though so recently as in your issue of May 7th I alluded to the fall in the gold price of silver during the 25 years 1871-96 as having not far from doubled the value of gold, and also the rapid fall in the gold price of silver in six months of last year, 1920, from 89½ to 38½ as having caused the recent sudden and disastrous fall of prices in gold standard countries, Sir James Wilson ignores that reason for a change in the value of gold, and seems to reject the idea that the double standard gives a steadier standard of value than either the gold or the silver standard.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WM. LEIGHTON JORDAN.

Royal Societies' Club, July 20th, 1921.

THE RAILWAYS BILL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your correspondent Mr M. S. Birkett writes:—"Railway receipts must inevitably be governed by the ability of the traders and the travelling public to pay, and any attempt to impose higher charges will defeat its own object by driving traffic on to the roads or by killing trade."

* "The Standard of Value," p. 254.

Railways are an industrial undertaking, and cannot reasonably be expected to kill themselves to save other industries.

As to the roads, if the real users had to purchase and pay for their permanent way, as the railways have, or even if all paid in proportion to the damage they do for the maintenance of the roads, we should not hear much about the competition of roads with railways for heavy traffic or long distances.

The war showed the futility of roads as compared with railways for carrying heavy traffic.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
E. H. B.

July 20th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Bankers' Credits." By William F. Spalding. (London) Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Limited. 10s 6d net.

SINCE the fall in commodity values the question of credits has become acute, and Mr Spalding's book appears at an opportune time. There has been so much mental stock-taking by bankers on this involved subject that its pages will be eagerly studied for guidance in avoiding the incautious and unseasonable advance. But, despite the resounding title of "Basic Principles," considerations of this nature have not been attempted. Again, a chapter dealing with the numerous irregularities in documents that come forward under credits would have been helpful in practice.

After briefly tracing the origin and development of the credit system, the author describes the various instruments evolved for travellers' convenience, such as circular letters of credit, circular notes, and travellers' cheques. The several types are well defined, and their functions lucidly explained. The remainder of the book is mainly devoted to the more important subject of mercantile credits, which facilitate the import and export of goods. On this subject the exposition is much less lucid, and appears to have become enveloped in the prevailing uncertainty of the minor oracles. Thus, instead of confusion being dispelled, it becomes more confounded through the author being misled by "fancy names" or local terms, drawing distinctions where none exist, and being induced to include absurdities such as "Payment on receipt credit" and "Payment against documents credit" as special types. Better to have grouped all such variations into one chapter under a comprehensive title instead of devoting separate treatment to each. Mr Spalding is timorous enough to head a chapter "Documentary Credits," although confident that the term is a misnomer, so that we hardly recognised our old friend the Bill Authority, known in America as the "Authority to Purchase." Excluding this document and the acceptance credit, practically peculiar to accepting houses, we are satisfied with the generic term, bankers' credit. According to the transaction or bargain it becomes confirmed or unconfirmed, open or restricted; it may call for drafts at sight, any usance, or no drafts at all; it may be issued in sterling or currency, be revolving or otherwise. In short, a bankers' credit can contain all the novelties mentioned and many more we know of without loss of identity, even when disguised as a "revocable export credit."

It is to be hoped that the next edition will see much rearrangement and revision. And then there would still be room for an exhaustive work on principles and practice of bankers' credits.

"The Fruits of Victory." By Norman Angell. W. Collins, Sons, and Co. 8s 6d net.

THIS is a sequel to "The Great Illusion," and will be welcomed by the many admirers of the latter. Mr Angell has a rare gift of putting things clearly, and in the first chapter of this book, on "Our Daily Bread," brings out with timely force the fact of the economic interdependence of the nations, and especially the helplessness of Europe and England without a supply of food and materials from other countries in exchange for their manufactured goods. The defects of the book, which are likely to rob it of much

of the effect that it might otherwise have produced, are due to the writer's passionate hatred of war, which leads him to over-state the evils that have arisen from its last and most terrible example, and to ignore anything that can be put on the other side of the account.

"Political Economy Club: Founded in London, 1821." Volume VI. Macmillan and Co. 1921.

As a rule, the affairs of private societies, such as clubs, whatever their objects may be, are not subjects for public comment. But the Political Economy Club may fairly be regarded as one of the exceptions to this rule. It has included among its members a considerable number of men of mark in politics and business, and in the study of the science of economics. David Ricardo is credited with its conception, though the idea seems to have been brought to fruition by Thomas Tooke. James Mill, T. R. Malthus, Colonel Torrens, and John Lewis Mallet were among the original members. The list of distinguished economists who joined the club at later dates includes John Stuart Mill, Henry Fawcett, Walter Bagehot, G. J. Goschen, W. S. Jevons, and Henry Sidgwick; and William Newmarch and Robert Giffen may be mentioned as examples of unusually able handlers of statistics in the solution of economic problems. There have also been a good many members of a type portrayed by Thackeray in "The Newcomes," where the Colonel's old Indian civilian friend, James Binnie, is a member of the club.

Mr Henry Higgs, the editor, has managed well with the materials available for the book, which were not too plentiful. Among the most useful of the documents which he obtained was an admirable memorandum of an address given at one of the dinners in 1905 by Sir John Macdonell, whose death the club has recently had to deplore. Sir John answered the question, What has the Political Economy Club done since 1821? by saying: "Just what political economy has done since that date." His brief but clear survey of the club's history may be summed up in his further statement that "For three-quarters of a century it has been a common meeting-ground of theorists and practical men. Each has profited by the experience of the other."

"The Labour International Handbook." Edited by R. Palmer Dutt, 1921. The Labour Publishing Company. 12s 6d.

THE first part of this book consists of "reviews of the leading issues of international affairs and foreign policy from a Labour standpoint," combining the characters of works of reference and of expositions of policy. As the former they contain much valuable information in facts and figures, chiefly abstracted from official publications, and covering the Peace Treaties, the constitution and activities of the League of Nations, the scope of other international organisations, official and voluntary, and statistics of trade, production, and finance—just the right kind of thing for the intelligent citizen, whatever his politics. More provocative of dispute, because sometimes of highly partisan colouring, are the inferences drawn from these facts. The editor's refreshingly candid admission that bias is inevitable, however, covers a multitude of sins; and the facts themselves, so far as we can judge, show a high degree of accuracy. The second part of the handbook gives brief accounts of the International Labour and Socialist movements, followed by synopses, containing much matter not easily accessible elsewhere, of the position of these movements in 44 different countries.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Statesman's Year-Book. Statistical and Historical Annual of the States of the World for the Year 1921. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 20s net.

Well up to its usual standard of excellence as a work of reference.

War Government of the British Dominions. By Arthur Berriedale Keith. (Oxford) Clarendon Press. 10s 6d net.

A Digest of British Economic History. By F. H. M. Ralph and W. J. N. Griffith. (London) John Murray. 5s net.

Labour and the Land. An Agricultural Policy. By Henry

D. Harben. (London) The Labour Publishing Company, 6 Tavistock square. 6d.

The Labour Monthly. A Magazine of International Labour. Vol. I. No. 1. July, 1921. (London) The Labour Publishing Company, Limited, 6 Tavistock square, W.C. 1. 1s.

Cenni Statistici sul Movimento Economico dell'Italia. (Milan) Banca Commerciale Italiana.

The British Trade Review. July, 1921. (London) 115 Cannon street, E.C. 1s.

Business Conditions in Argentina. Report No. 151. May 31, 1921. (Buenos Aires) Ernesto Tornquist and Cia, Limitada.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

(with which has been amalgamated the London Provincial and South Western Bank Ltd.)

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business. Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
July 27.	July 28.

The simultaneous reduction to 5½ per cent. in the Rates of the Bank of England and the New York Federal Bank came with no particular surprise to Stock Exchange markets, though both are welcome as being likely to quicken investment in gilt-edged securities. The Capel court market promptly quoted prices higher upon Thursday's reduction in the Bank rate. The improvement extended to British Government securities, including National War bonds and the 3½ per cent. War Loan, Corporation and Colonial stocks, Home Railway prior-charges, and a good many of the securities in the Indian railway list. Whether the change will have much effect upon general business in the Stock Exchange at this season of the year is a matter for some little doubt, though members talk hopefully of the outlook. The volume of trade throughout most of the markets this week has been small, though sentiment continues cheerful, and the optimist professes to look for a further reduction to the round 5 per cent. in the Bank rate before the autumn demand for money comes into play.

Movements amongst foreign bonds have been generally upward, with a fair demand for Chinese issues, Brazilians also remaining in favour. Japanese have improved substantially. Argentines are a better market, though in Chileans there is not much going on. German Threes have been fluctuating narrowly around 6½. The strength of French bonds is maintained, and Italians are better on the week.

The Home Railway market was prepared for reduction in the interim dividends on Midland, Great Eastern, and North Staffordshire stocks. A feature has been the heaviness in Undergrounds, due to advance apprehensions that the Underground Electric Income distribution would be influenced by the recent adverse movement of the American rate of exchange. A few of the lower-priced Home Railway stocks attracted attention, on the resumption of holiday traffic upon something approaching pre-war scale, but the coming decontrol of the industry is responsible for a caution which, in some cases, amounts to nervousness on the part of the public interested in the Home Railway industry. Mexican Rails have given way. Argentines, on the other hand, recovered after their heavy fall, the speculative investor taking the view that present levels discount a good deal of what is likely to happen in the near future in regard to dividends. United of Havana stock has further fallen, owing to the recent issue, privately placed, of debenture stock, and Brazilian railways, where they have moved at all, gave way further. Nothing of interest has occurred in Canadian railway stocks.

The rubber market revival was carried a little further during the earlier part of the week, but the statistical position has not consistently improved. As a consequence, fresh buyers held back. The market argument is that rubber itself, and the prices of rubber shares, have now got down to such levels at which there is not likely to be much further fall, though

this contention does not take into account the possibility of financial difficulties being disclosed by weaker concerns. The steps taken by the Rubber Growers' Association to promote a Rubber Producers' Corporation are deemed a bull factor. Amongst oil shares, something of a sensation was produced by a disastrous report issued by the Scottish American Oil Company. The shares were a very lively gamble last year, when the price rose at one time to 45s. They now stand at about 3s. 6d., and the meeting next Wednesday is likely to prove a heated one. Of the bigger shares, Mexican Eagles drooped upon vague news of a fire having broken out on oil lands in Mexico. There is also talk of the possibility of a rate war in oil becoming more pronounced. This affects all the shares in the better-class companies, and those of the Trinidad group are dull with the rest. Royal Dutch are moving violently, both up and down, according to the vagaries of speculation in Holland. The shipping market is better, with rises in the higher-priced stocks, but iron and steel shares gave way together with Vickers, on the closing-down of more works in the North of England. The Armstrong report, showing a falling-away of profits, caused the shares to weaken a trifle. British Dyestuffs, both ordinary and preference, are dull owing to the passing of the interim dividends. This was not entirely unexpected, and the textile market as a whole is inclined to be harder owing to the more favourable reports concerning the industry which continue to buoy the hope that the worst of the trade depression may be regarded as over. Hudson's Bay are steady on the maintenance of the usual 40 per cent dividend, and Egyptian shares of all kinds have been in demand in consequence of the brighter outlook for cotton, and the rising value of Egyptian land. Further gains have accrued to the leading tea shares. The cable market keeps steady, and Marconis are moving very quietly on the eve of the dividend announcement. Van Den Berghs rose at one time to a shade over 40s, on the hope of the long-expected bonus being declared. Speculative markets such as Dunlops have retreated into the background so far as any active interest is concerned. Harper Beans continue flat on the report issued this week. Brewery stocks are brighter on the proposed lightening of the liquor restrictions. Various Canadian industrials advanced in correspondence with the movement in the rate of exchange.

The Kaffir market is distinctly harder by reason of a further rise in the price of gold, which has touched £5 15s per oz, and thereby encouraged expectations of the lower-grade mines coming to a profitable point again. Considerable discussion is taking place in South Africa over the question of wages, but while the price of gold keeps up, the impression on this side is that miners are not likely to agree to any substantial reduction in their pay. The diamond market is firmer, because it is thought that a demand for diamonds is noticeable in the United States. Rhodesians are uninteresting, and amongst the tin shares the tendency has been to let prices fall owing to the setback in the price of the metal. What speculation there is amongst miscellaneous mining shares revolves round Russo-Asiatics, which are well supported by their usual followers. Australians are again buying Broken Hill shares, and this support serves to keep prices hard. The little Indian mining market has received no particular benefit from the recent rise in the price of gold. Mexicans are dull, and the other mining sections attract no attention worth mentioning.

The Stock Exchange Committee are being petitioned to bring pressure to bear upon the Treasury with a view to the reinstitution of fortnightly settlements. The committee have not yet officially considered the petition, but their attitude is known to be based upon the fact that as there is a pre-war account still existing, no reversion to fortnightly settlements can be attempted until this is cleared up. Under the temporary regulations, those who had stock open at the end of July, 1914, cannot be compelled to settle until a year after the conclusion of peace.

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	128,977,209			
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts April 1st to April 30th.....				£1,02,675
New series week ended July 16th.....				22,315
Total receipts to date				1,024,990
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
Net Receipts into the Exchequer Week Ended July 16, 1921,				
April 1 to July 16, £2,030,000	100,000			100,000

To the Public—				
Broadstairs Gas Co., £12,500 7½ per cent. Deb. Stk. (red. at par Dec. 31, 1926, 1931, or 1936), iss. at par (July 16).....	12,500	12,500	1,250	11,250
Pullman Car Co., £500,000 8 per cent. Mt. Equipment Debts. at 98½ per cent, repayable at 102½ per cent. July 1, 1923 to 1948 (out of proceeds of this issue £118,500 outstanding 6 per cent. Debts. will be redeemed, making additional new capital £381,500 (July 19).....	381,500	375,777	38,150	337,627
Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire Electric Power, £300,000 7½ per cent. 10-year Guar. Conv. Deb. Stock (red. at par, 1924-31), iss. at 97 per cent. (July 21).....	300,000	291,000	30,000	261,000
Total offered to public.....	674,000	679,277	69,400	609,877
To Shareholders only—				
Malayalam Rubber and Produce Co., 777,000 Shares, £1. with 13s 4d credited as paid up, the balance of 6s 8d being payable by instalments	777,000	259,000	25,900	233,100
Calcutta Electric Supply, 250,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par.....	250,000	250,000	62,500	187,500
Miranda Estancia, 20,000 10 per cent. Cum. Shares, £1, at par	20,000	20,000	2,500	17,500
Total offered to shareholders only.....	529,000	529,000	90,900	438,100
Total offered for subscription to date in.....	£130,307,801			
1920.....	255,925,373	1920.....		£367,549,656
1919.....	414,506,162	1919.....		1,036,059,951
1918.....	799,538,437	1918.....		1,393,381,441
1917.....	1,065,314,238	1917.....		1,318,596,010
1916.....	333,548,200	1916.....		585,436,850
1915.....	657,123,876	1915.....		685,236,326
1914.....	172,176,027	1914.....		512,522,633
		1913.....		196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Rights of exchanging their holdings for similar amounts of the new bonds, together with a cash payment, are offered to holders of the following securities on the terms indicated:—5 per cent. Exchequer bonds, due October 5, 1921, 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due October 1, 1922—a cash payment of £4 per £100 of bonds surrendered; 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due April 1, 1923, 5 per cent. National War Bonds, due September 1, 1923—a cash payment of £3 10s per £100 of bonds surrendered. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of the 16th inst.

City of York Local Bonds for Housing.—Issue of 6 per cent. local bonds at par. Applications are invited for an unstated amount of bonds, the proceeds of which will be "applied solely for the purpose of housing schemes approved by the Government." These bonds are a trustee security, and the bonds can be obtained "on terms which provide for repayment of the amount subscribed" in five, seven, or ten years. The general terms for the issue of these bonds are similar to other housing bond issues made under the authority of the Ministry of Health. While there can be no question as to the security offered both for repayment of capital and payment of interest, the difficulty of effecting sales of these bonds in case of some sudden need should be carefully considered.

Borough of Aylesbury Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Loans.—Tenders are invited for loans to be secured on the general district rate, and repayable by equal half-yearly instalments of principal and interest combined, or any other method which may be mutually agreed. The details are: For sewerage, £4,160 is required for 30 years; and for sewerage and sewage disposal, £4,286 is required for 15 years.

The Pullman Car Company, Limited.—Authorised and issued share capital £500,000, in £1 shares, all of which are fully paid. There are also outstanding £118,500 6 per cent. first mortgage sinking fund equipment debentures, which will be repaid on or before April 1, 1922, at 105 per cent., out of the proceeds of the present sale. This is an offer for sale of £500,000 8 per cent. first mortgage equipment debentures at 98½ per cent. These debentures are repayable at 102½ per cent., by 25 equal annual drawings, beginning on July 1, 1923, but the company has the right to purchase "at or below 102½ per cent." The debentures are now offered for sale by Messrs Erlangers, and have been purchased by them at 91 per cent. They are paying 2½ per cent. underwriting commission, and ½ per cent. overriding commission, together with brokerage and the cost of advertising, printing, and circulating this offer. These debentures will be secured by a trust deed in favour of Barclays Bank, Limited, as a specific first charge, subject to the existing charge to secure

the £118,500 outstanding 6 per cent. debentures on the rolling-stock and cars, equipment, and other fixed assets, on the new rolling-stock to be acquired by the company out of the proceeds of the shares issued in 1920 and of the present issue, and as a floating charge on the other assets of the company. Holders of the 6 per cent. first mortgage sinking fund equipment debentures will be entitled until July 25, 1921, to exchange their debentures for an equivalent nominal amount of 8 per cent. debentures. Holders will receive, per £100 bond, (a) £6 10s, being the difference between the price at which the 8 per cent. debentures are now offered for sale, and the redemption value of the 6 per cent. debentures, viz., 105 per cent., and (b) £1 8s, less income-tax, representing the difference between the amount of the coupon due January 1, 1922, to be attached to the scrip certificates to be issued in respect of the above exchange, and six months' interest, at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum to December 31, 1921. The Pullman Car Company was formed in 1915, to take over the business of the Pullman Company, registered in 1882, to provide and operate Pullman cars on various railways in Great Britain and elsewhere. Surplus assets are valued at £1,337,671, while assets to be specifically mortgaged for £500,000 of debenture amount to £1,216,343. Profits are given for four years from 1917. The table given shows a rapid growth of operating expenses. In 1920, with gross earnings at £192,000, a net profit of £65,776 was made, while in 1919 gross earnings were £148,000, yielding a net profit of £65,125. The prospectus is a clear statement of affairs, and the offer is a fair one in its class.

The Shropshire, Worcestershire, and Staffordshire Electric Power Company.—Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1903. Authorised share capital £1,750,000, of which £500,000 has been issued and paid up. The loan capital consists of 5½ per cent. first debenture stock for £100,000, of which £94,350 is outstanding. There has been lodged with the Ministry of Munitions, and with the company's bankers £400,000 6 per cent. second debenture stock as security for advances, and there was a balance outstanding on December 31, 1920, of £36,052 of the purchase price of the Dudley Corporation Electricity Supply Undertaking, which is payable by instalments over a period of years. This is an issue of £300,000 7½ per cent. 10-year guaranteed convertible debenture stock, guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the British Electric Traction Company, Limited, at 97 per cent. This guaranteed convertible debenture stock will be "redeemable" at par on July 1, 1931, or by six months' notice at any time after January 1, 1924. It will be secured by a trust deed to be entered into between the company and the Union Commercial Investment Company, Limited, as trustees, constituting a floating charge on the undertaking, subject to the following prior charges:—(1) 5½ per cent. first debenture stock with sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum, £100,000 (now outstanding £94,350). (2) Second debenture stock for £344,000 lodged as security for advances for construction purposes with the Ministry of Munitions. (3) A specific charge on the Dudley Electric Supply Undertaking in favour of the Dudley Corporation to secure the payment of £36,052, being the balance outstanding on December 31st last of the purchase price of this undertaking, which is payable by instalments. Gross revenue is given from 1914, but it would have been better, perhaps, if figures of net revenue had been offered. Revenue in 1920 from sales of current, interest, and dividends on investments, &c., amounted to £379,673; from this was deducted expenses of operation £310,593, interest and sinking fund on the issued first debenture stock, £6,490, interest payable to the Dudley Corporation £1,397 (total £318,450); leaving available a balance of £61,223 to meet the interest charges of £22,500 per annum on the present issue of debenture stock and £16,240 on the loan from the Ministry of Munitions for the present year, and thereafter a diminishing annual amount. The total assets as shown by the balance-sheet at December 31st last, amounted to £1,320,223. The amount ranking in priority to the present issue is £457,069, for which securities have been charged to an amount of £530,402, but part of the proceeds of the present issue will be applied to the reduction of this liability. At any time during the currency of the guaranteed debenture stock-holders have the option to exchange the same at the rate of £100 of debenture stock for £100 8 per cent. "A" ordinary shares and £20 of "B" ordinary shares of the company to be issued to them in satisfaction for the stock. The "A" ordinary shares will rank for a non-cumulative dividend in priority to the "B" ordinary shares to the extent of 8 per cent. per annum, and the "A" ordinary shares will participate thereafter share for share in any profits distributed after the "B" ordinary shares shall have received 8 per cent. dividend upon the amount paid up. The ordinary stock of the British Electric Traction Company, Limited, which unconditionally guarantees the payment of the principal and interest of the above-mentioned 7½ per cent. 10-year guaranteed convertible debenture stock, is quoted at round about £35½ for £100, which investors must take into

consideration. The offer is hardly suitable for small investors, its attraction depending upon the view taken of the probable value of conversion rights.

City Equitable Associated, Limited.—Authorised capital £1,100,000, divided into 1,000,000 8 per cent. participating preference shares of £1 each, and 100,000 ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 464,000 participating preference shares have already been allocated to the shareholders of the Greater Britain Insurance Corporation, Limited, and the City of London Insurance Company, Limited, and 60,000 ordinary shares have been allotted. There are now offered for subscription 250,000 of the above-mentioned preference shares at par. The prospectus states:—"After payment by way of dividend to the holders of the ordinary shares of a sum equal to the amount of the preference dividend, one-half of any surplus profits in each year which it shall from time to time be determined to distribute shall be divided among the holders of the participating preference shares and the holders of the ordinary shares rateably in proportion to the capital for the time being paid up." This is somewhat ambiguous. We are, however, informed by the company that the surplus will be equally divided between the two classes. The company has been formed to "consolidate the interests" of the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company, Limited, and the latter-named company unconditionally guarantees the 8 per cent. dividend on the preference shares issued at present. The guaranteeing company has had a profitable career, but the information given in the prospectus is scarcely sufficient to allow the investor to gauge the value of this guarantee. It may be that this undertaking will be successful, and in that event the participating rights would be of value, but it should be realised that the division of surplus profits is equally between possibly £1,000,000 of preference capital and £100,000 of ordinary capital. Without more precise information than that vouchsafed in the prospectus we cannot advise investment in this issue.

Broadstairs Gas Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament, 1875. Issue at par of £12,500 7½ per cent. debenture stock, to be redeemed at par on December 31, 1926, 1931, or 1936, at the option of the purchaser. The authorised stock capital amounts to £103,000, of which there has been issued £76,952 (including premiums of £15,322), and the authorised loan capital £51,500, of which £21,450 has been issued. The net revenue of the company for the year ended December 31, 1920, was £4,218, while the interest on existing debentures and those about to be issued amounts to £2,035. Thus interest on the issue is well covered. The company is one which should make good progress under efficient management. An interesting feature of this prospectus is the option of repayment at various dates given to debenture holders. A good issue of its class, subject to the usual drawback of the possible difficulty of effecting sales of stock in case of need.

Malayalam Plantations, Limited.—Authorised capital £777,000, divided into shares of £1. This is a reconstruction scheme in connection with the Malayalam Rubber and Produce Company, Limited, in liquidation. These 777,000 £1 shares are credited as 13s 4d per share paid up, and the balance of 6s 8d per share is payable by instalments. This is an interesting variation of the various methods resorted to for raising fresh capital in the rubber-growing industry, and shareholders in the old company should give careful attention to the offer.

Welwyn Garden City, Limited.—Issue of £100,000 6 per cent. debentures, repayable at par on June 30, 1941. Some interesting details showing the progress made by this company are given in a circular. While the issue, considered purely from an investment point of view, may not be attractive, the objective aimed at by the company is deserving of the support of those who are willing and sufficiently opulent to help along an admirable scheme.

Government of India Rupee Loan.—The subscriptions in India and London to the Indian Government's Rupee Loan, which was opened on June 20th, have exceeded Rs. 26 crores up to July 14th, of which about Rs. 23½ crores were in the form of cash, including Indian Treasury bills, and the balance in the form of Indian War Bonds. The loan, which is in the form of 6 per cent. (free of Indian income-tax) five and ten year bonds at par, is for an unlimited amount. Subscriptions are accepted in cash or 1921 and 1922 Indian War Bonds, but cash subscriptions must be made not later than July 30th.

Tweeddale and Smalley (1920), Limited.—In the *Economist* for July 16th, on page 103, we reviewed the position of this company. The secretary now writes to inform us that there has been no debenture issue, and that "investments" referred to have been realised at a profit. A copy of the company's balance-sheet for the year ended April 30, 1921, has been forwarded to us, and we notice amongst liabilities the item, "Loans and interest to date" at £603,709. The company's shares are now included in the Stock Exchange lists of London and Manchester.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½%, 1925-28) .. 87½ .. 87½ ..			
Loans (4½%, 1925-45) .. 81½ .. 81½ ..			
Loans (5%, 1929-47) .. 87½ .. 88½ ..			
Loans (4%, 1929-42) .. 96½ .. 96½ ..			
Funding Loan 4% .. 70½ .. 70½ ..			
Victory Bonds 4% .. 76½ .. 76½ ..			
Conversion Loan 3½% .. 65 .. 65 ..			
Consols 2½% .. 47½ .. 47½ ..			
Irish Land Stock 2½% .. 48½ .. 48½ ..			

Banks.

Barclays B. (£1, 10s.) .. 2½x .. 2½x ..	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10) .. 17½ .. 17½ ..
Lloyds (£5 with £1 10s.) .. 2½x .. 2½x ..	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10) .. 11½ .. 11½ ..
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid) .. 6½x .. 6½x ..	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) .. 9x .. 9x ..
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) .. 14½x .. 14½x ..	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) .. 10½ .. 10½ ..

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons. 46 .. 46 ..	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 12½ .. 12½ ..
B. A. & Pacific .. 35½ .. 36½ ..	Leopoldina .. 18 .. 18 ..
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 51 .. 52½ ..	Mexican Railway .. 15 .. 14 ..
Buenos Ayres West. .. 51 .. 52½ ..	Do 1st Pref. .. 36 .. 35 ..
Canadian Pacific .. 149 .. 153 ..	Do 2nd Pref. .. 25 .. 24 ..
Central Argentine .. 47 .. 49 ..	San Paulo .. 116 .. 112 ..
Grand Trunk Ord. .. 4½ .. 4½ ..	United Havana .. 59 .. 58½ ..

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio .. 73 .. 75 ..	Southern .. 26 .. 27 ..
Erie .. 17½ .. 17½ ..	Do Non-um Pref. .. 63 .. 63 ..
Do 4% 1st Pref. .. 25 .. 27 ..	

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5%, 1886-7 .. 94 .. 94 ..	Italian 3½% Rentes .. 26 .. 25 ..
Belgian 3% .. 62½ .. 62 ..	Greek Monopoly 4% .. 32½ .. 32½ ..
Brazil 5% Fund. 1914 .. 56 .. 57 ..	Japanese 4½% .. 118½ .. 120 ..
Chilian 4%, 1895 .. 66 .. 66 ..	Do 4%, 1910 .. 59½ .. 59½ ..
Chinese 5%, 1912 .. 70 .. 70 ..	Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 58 .. 58 ..
Egyptian 4% .. 62½ .. 63½ ..	Peruvian Corp. Pref. .. 17 .. 17 ..
French 5% .. 45 .. 44 ..	Russian 5%, 1906 .. 13½ .. 13½ ..
Do 4% .. 35 .. 34½ ..	Spanish 4% .. 69½ .. 69½ ..

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" 163 .. 17 ..	Marconi Canada .. 1½ .. 1½ ..
Eastern Telegraph .. 162½ .. 162½ ..	Marconi Marine .. 1½ .. 1½ ..
Marconi Wireless .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. 9 .. 9 ..	L. and N. W. 70½ .. 71 ..
Great Eastern .. 26½ .. 27 ..	L. & S. Western, Def. 19½ .. 19½ ..
Great Northern Def. 25½ .. 25½ ..	Metropolitan .. 25½ .. 27 ..
Great Western .. 68 .. 68½ ..	Metropolitan District 17 .. 18½ ..
London & York .. 50 .. 50 ..	Midland Deferred .. 45½ .. 45 ..
London, Brighton, "A" .. 38 .. 38 ..	North British Def. 11 .. 11 ..
London, Chatham .. 53 .. 53 ..	North-Eastern .. 70 .. 72½ ..
Do Arb. Pref. 37 .. 36 ..	South-Eastern "A" .. 22½ .. 22 ..

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..	Lipton (£1) .. 4x .. 4x ..
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 17/9 .. 17 ..	Lister (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
and Co. (£1) .. 17/9 .. 17 ..	Lobitos Oilfields (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
Ass. Portland Cement (£1) 20/3 .. 19/6 ..	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
B'ham Small Arms (£1) 10/ .. 8/6 ..	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
Brazil Traction (£100) 30½ .. 30 ..	Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
British-American Tobacco (£1) .. 33½ .. 33 ..	North Caucasian (10) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Pekin (2) .. 5 .. 5 ..
Burmah Oil (£1) .. 6½ .. 6½ ..	Rubber Plantations Investment (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Shell Transport (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
Courtaulds (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..
Onward (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	Underground Electric (£10) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	Do "A" (1/1) .. 7½ .. 7½ ..
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) .. 84 .. 78 ..
Forestal Land (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	United Serang (2) .. 5 .. 5 ..
Furness, Withy (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	United Tobacco (£1) .. 5 .. 5 ..
Highlands and Low- lands Rubber (£1) 1½ .. 1½ ..	Ural Caspian (£1) .. 5 .. 5 ..
Hudson's Bay (£1) .. 6½ .. 6½ ..	Vallambrosa (2) .. 5 .. 5 ..
Imperial Tobacco (£1) 2½ .. 2½ ..	Vickers (£1) .. 5 .. 5 ..
International Paint (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	Watney Def. Stk. 149½ .. 152½ ..
Linggi Plantas (£1) .. 14½ .. 14½ ..	

Mines.

Brakpan (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Knights .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
Broken Hill Prop. (8/1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Modderfontein (10) .. 3½ .. 3½ ..
Chartered (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Modderfont. "B" (5) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Modderfont. Deep (5) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
Crown Mines (10) .. 1½ .. 2 ..	Premier Def. (26) .. 4½ .. 4½ ..
De Beers Def. (£2½) .. 11½ .. 10½ ..	Rand Mines (5) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Rio Tinto (£5) .. 31 .. 30½ ..
Geduld (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..	Spring Mines (£1) .. 1½ .. 2 ..
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4½ .. 4½ ..	

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for week ending Wednesday, July 13, 1921, amounted to 814 tons.

UNITED OIL AND REFINERY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Throughput of refinery for June, 28,946 barrels.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE, LIMITED.

BANK MAKING SATISFACTORY PROGRESS.

The ninth annual meeting of Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, was held on the 21st instant, at 43 Bishopsgate, London, E.C., Sir Everard Hambro (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr J. H. Roscoe) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman, in the course of his address, said: The accounts cover a whole year's trading of the British Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, which, on its amalgamation with Messrs C. J. Hambro and Son, became Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, and this amalgamation at the date of the report had been in operation for five months. A special dividend of 17½ per cent. up to October 31st was declared to the old shareholders of the British Bank of Northern Commerce. Similarly, Messrs C. J. Hambro and Son took the profits earned by their firm up to that date. The profit and loss account therefore contains seven months' working of the British Bank of Northern Commerce, and five months' working of the joint concern. These profits, after paying all expenses amount to £346,932 17s 7d. From this has to be deducted income-tax, stamp duty on new capital, reserve for corporation tax, 17½ per cent. interim dividend already paid, and £100,000 to write down all our securities, other than 1922-1923 National War bonds, to market prices. We now propose a dividend of 5 per cent., leaving £73,787 to be carried forward.

REASON FOR CHANGE OF NAME.

Business has not been so active, but all things considered we are quite satisfied by the progress we are making. When the amalgamation was arranged, the question was raised whether the name "Hambros Bank, Limited," should be assumed. It was, however, decided in the negative, because it was intended to show through the union of the two names that the traditions of both institutions would be continued. During the past few months it has, however, gradually become clear that the retention of the words "Northern Commerce" is prejudicial to the bank's business in Southern and overseas countries, where the impression has been created that the international position of the bank has to some extent been narrowed down. Your board have therefore unanimously decided that, in the interest of the bank, its name had better be altered and abbreviated to "Hambros Bank, Limited."

The report and accounts were adopted, and a final dividend of 5 per cent. for the year, free of income-tax, was declared, payable on and after the 22nd inst.

At a subsequent extraordinary meeting the proposal to change the name to Hambros Bank, Limited, was approved.

EDWARD LLOYD, LIMITED.

INCREASED TAXATION BOTH AT HOME AND IN NORWAY.

PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

The thirty-first ordinary general meeting of Edward Lloyd, Limited, was held on the 20th instant, at the head office of the company, 4-7 Salisbury court, Fleet street, London, Mr Frank Lloyd (chairman and governing director of the company) presiding.

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The report of the directors for the year ended December 31, 1920, states that:—

The profits for the year, after allowing for capitalisation expenses, depreciation, making provision for bad and doubtful debts, estimated excess profits duty, income-tax, corporation profits tax and contingencies, amount to .. 119,876 7 10

making, with the balance brought forward from the previous year (less the amount capitalised) ... 10,976 16 0

a total of .. 130,853 3 10

Deducting:—
Interest on pension account, directors' and auditors' fees, head office and transfer office expenses .. 7,201 1 6

123,652 2 4

Dividend on the preference shares for the year to December 31, 1920 .. 42,187 10 0

Leaving as per balance-sheet .. 81,464 12 4

Deducting interim dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of ninepence per share (free of income-tax), paid January 29, 1921 .. 45,000 0 0

There remains a balance of .. 36,464 12 4

The directors now recommend the declaration of a final dividend for the year on the ordinary shares at the rate of threepence per share (free of income-tax), making 5 per cent. for the year .. £15,000 0 0

Carrying forward to the next account .. 21,464 12 4

The profits for the year, after making provision for company expenses, show a decrease of £105,236 4s 9d, as compared with 1919.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The secretary (Mr Robert B. Miller) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—Gentlemen, you will see from the report which has been in your hands for the last few days that the profits for last year show a falling off of £105,236 4s 9d as compared with 1919. This falling off is largely due to the increased taxation both here and in Norway, and to the provision we have had to make for the necessary repairs to the west wall of Riddham Dock.

TRADE DEPRESSION.

You will all know that the present time is a bad one for British trade generally, and our particular industry is feeling the result of the severe depression as acutely as most others. Under the circumstances, the directors do not feel that it would be prudent to recommend a further distribution of more than 1½ per cent. on the ordinary shares, making a total of 5 per cent. for the year.

The capitalisation of our reserves, foreshadowed at our last general meeting, was carried out last September, and our nominal capital thereby put into closer relation to the actual capital employed in the business. It is unfortunate that the present severe depression should have followed so closely the completion of that

operation, but we have every confidence in being able to make a reasonable return on the increased capital when things again become more normal.

With regard to 1921, the prospects are far from encouraging, the consumption of paper of all kinds having fallen off to an unparalleled extent, and the protracted coal strike has had the effect of still further curtailing the demand.

POSITION AND PROSPECTS.

In common with other industries, we are feeling the effect of the abnormal and varying rates of exchanges, and also the reduced demand for paper in consequence of the consumption by publishers of the heavy stocks they held at the close of last year. These stocks have now been brought down to a low level, and there are signs of a revival in the near future. Owing to our conservative policy in the past, we have every confidence in the company emerging in a strong position, and, as soon as the foreign exchanges have become stabilised, being able to meet competition from all sources as we have done in the past.

During the past year the men have thoroughly settled down to the three-shift system, and we have no doubt we shall soon make good the ground we have lost during the war compared with countries which were not so deeply affected as we were.

I must again thank our staff and employees, both at home and in Norway, for the excellent service they have rendered; their loyalty and goodwill are, if possible, even more appreciated in bad times than in good.

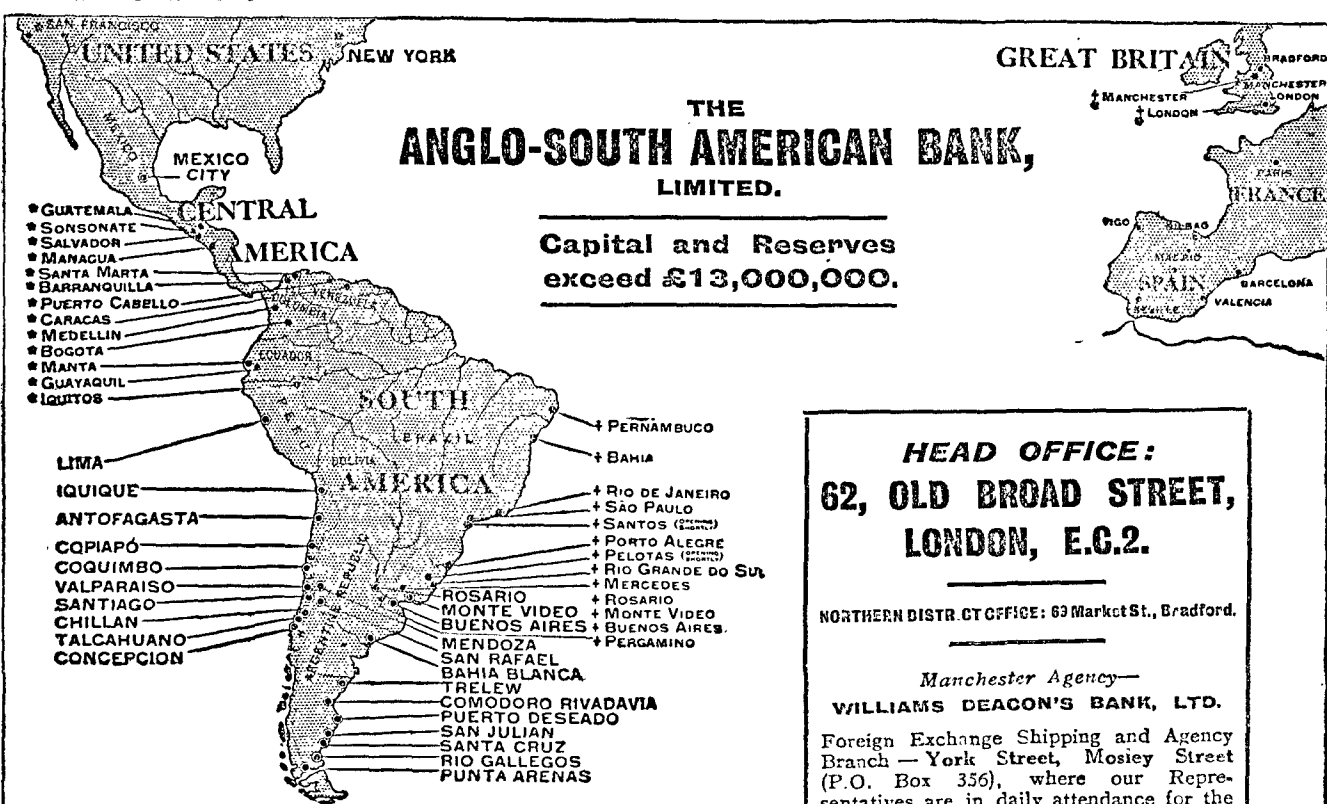
Mr Harry Lloyd seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted, and a final dividend of 3d per share (free of income-tax) was declared on the ordinary shares, making, with the interim dividend already paid, 5 per cent. for the year.

The retiring directors, Mr F. N. Lloyd, Mr W. J. Whyte, and Lieutenant-Colonel John R. Garwood, D.S.O., were re-elected, and Messrs Turquand, Youngs, and Co. were reappointed auditors.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman, directors and staff.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Repre-
sentatives are in daily attendance for the
greater convenience of Manufacturers and
Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—LARGE INCREASE IN PROFITS.

The annual general meeting of this company was held, on the 21st instant, at Magnet House, Kingsway, London.

Mr Hugo Hirst (chairman and managing director), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that when in 1889 he assisted as one of the founders in the formation of the company, with a registered capital of £30,000, he little dreamt that it would be his good fortune to direct its affairs for 32 years. In spite of his most enthusiastic belief in the future of the electrical industry, he could not at that time have imagined that the company would grow into a world-wide concern, which would find it necessary to build its own home suitable for its own scientific purposes, including the hall in which that meeting was being held, and which served for the instruction and welfare of the employees. He trusted that good fortune would continue to favour the company within the walls of its new home.

CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS.

The balance-sheet presented for the year to March 31st last was one of which they had every reason to be proud, but the four months of the new year which had just elapsed were casting a shadow over those results. He sincerely hoped that the slight improvement noticeable during the last week or two might continue, and that they might still create in the course of the remaining eight months a peak in the curve of the business which would counteract the dents and depressions created during the first four months. They were effecting all possible economies to help the company over a difficult period, and he was satisfied that as soon as this period was passed the future of the G.E.C. would be as happy and prosperous as the past. The net profit from all sources during the past year amounted to £796,148. Year after year certain writers and speakers—who imagined that they were doing a service to labour—pointed to the growth of the company's results as if it were wrong to progress, or as if the results were extorted at the expense of their manual workers. They either did not or would not understand that the results were due to joint efforts—that capital and the brain workers were doing their share as well. Labour would be told that the company had made £160,000 more profits, but no attention would be drawn to the increase in capital—£2,000,000 during the year—which was essential to obtain the increased yield. Out of the total profits only £539,000 would flow into the pockets of the shareholders, who, had they invested in British and Colonial securities the capital which they had invested in the G.E.C., would have had an income of at least £300,000 without risk of any kind. To secure to them the remaining £239,000 distributed among 12,500 shareholders they had been able to employ usefully 16,640 workpeople and staff. The company had paid to them in wages and salaries £2,864,000. In addition they had contributed another £2,000,000 of wages to workers in other industries spent on transport and on the raw materials required for their manufactures, and in this particular year they had contributed at least another £1,000,000 to the wages in the building trade alone; but the main benefit to all was that capital and labour had jointly created new values, and added to the much-needed wealth of the country some £8,000,000 or £9,000,000 in the past year.

KEY INDUSTRIES AND ANTI-DUMPING BILL.

Referring to the debates in the House of Commons upon the Key Industries and Anti-Dumping Bill, the Chairman said he noticed that the name of the General Electric Company was frequently mentioned in connection with the decision of the Government to include electric light carbons in that Bill. "Why should a powerful company like the G.E.C. be protected?" and "Look at the growth of the company" were some of the remarks made. Some people seemed to imagine that all the company's results were due to electric light carbons, and the Government had been accused of favouring the G.E.C. and assisting it to a monopoly. As a matter of fact the total capital invested in the carbon enterprise up to the outbreak of war was only £40,000, and the total losses incurred in that enterprise up to 1914, through no fault of their own but through the deliberate attacks of foreign trusts, was £78,000. They made no profit out of these carbon works during the war in spite of the great service which they rendered to the country, and the total accumulated losses to March, 1920, amounted to £115,000. Another industry with which they were connected—their Leamington glass works—had provided almost of equal value to the country as the carbon works, but it had not received the protection from the Government which was promised at one time. The financial results of these works owing to foreign competition had always been indifferent. Foreign trusts tried to acquire them before the war, but the directors would not part with them, as they preferred independence from the foreigner to additional profits, and their policy had been justified. Having referred to the company's activities in several departments, he said in conclusion

that they were well equipped to deal with all the demands that might come upon them, and nothing but the financial or social collapse of this country could stop the G.E.C. from obtaining its fair share of the world's work.

The report was unanimously adopted.

BRITISH MOTOR SPIRIT COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF INDUSTRY'S FUTURE.

The fourth ordinary general meeting of the British Motor Spirit Company, Limited, was held on the 18th instant, in London, Mr Alfred Armitage, J.P. (the chairman), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the profits of the Anglo-Texas Company, after deducting all operating and administrative charges, royalties, depreciation of plant and equipment, and American State and Federal taxes, amounted to £150,729 for the eleven months to December 31, 1920, which was at the rate of £164,432 a year. The sum of £67,908 was transmitted as dividend to England, and appeared to the credit of this company's profit and loss account, and the balance, amounting to £82,821, was held in reserve against expenses of development and depletion of oil resources.

The Louisiana Petroleum Products Company, in which they held a large interest, recently commenced operations on a commercial scale. The latest reports received from America stated that it was then refining 1,200 barrels of crude oil daily, and it was expected that within three months it would be working at its full capacity of 3,000 barrels. The holding of the British Motor Spirit Company, Limited, in this refining company had been increased from 40 per cent. to 85 per cent. of the common stock in addition to the whole of the preference shares. Referring to their oil production company, the Anglo-Texas Oil Company, he said that at the time they commenced operations the production was 1,000 barrels a day, and despite the natural fall in the output of the original wells the average daily production was well maintained. On one of the producing leases they took over three wells, all producers, but of the next two wells drilled, at least one was a dry well, and the other was only a small producer. These failures destroyed their earlier hopes, but further development enabled them to maintain an average daily production after allowing for stoppages of between 800 and 900 barrels, despite the natural fall in the output of the original wells. Some of their largest leases still remain to be developed. These might be regarded as reserve lands, but adjacent developments by other companies indicated that they were of increasing value. In the early months of the current year their production declined through an accident to the casing of the largest well, but fortunately when this was repaired its output was found not to have been affected, and it still continued to be a large producer.

INTEREST IN VALUABLE FIELD ACQUIRED.

More recently a two-thirds interest had been acquired on a lease on which drilling operations had been very successful. The first well came in with a very large production in May, and had to be choked down to 2,000 barrels a day, and the second well, which came in in June, was equally good—namely, 2,000 barrels. A third well was being drilled, and would shortly be completed, and there was sufficient room on the lease for a total of five or six wells. The lease was considered to be extremely valuable. A great advantage of this particular lease was that they now had a direct pipe-line connection between it and the refinery, thus ensuring a supply of the crude oil for refining purposes, and enabling them, when there was a glut in the market of crude oil to turn a large portion of their crude oil into finished products at the refineries, and thereby obtain cash payment for it. The oil lands which the company possessed gave it ample acreage for future development, although they might consider it advisable to buy or sell leases to suit the programme of their business.

THE FUTURE.

With reference to the future, he said it was very difficult at this moment to say what was going to happen as regards prices for crude oil and finished product, but he thought he had said sufficient about the operations of the company to show them that the production of crude oil, in spite of their earlier disappointment, had increased beyond all reasonable expectation, and although production in the future, as in the past, might be liable to fluctuation, they had every reason to believe that the general tendency would be in the upward direction. The highest prices for the different qualities of their crude oil ranged from 3.50 dollars to 3.75 dollars, but the present-day prices ranged between 40 cents and one dollar. They did not regard these prices as permanent; the general opinion was that in the future they would rise considerably. He thought shareholders would gather from his remarks that they had already made very satisfactory progress in development during the past year, the period in which this company had been developing and working its properties in America. Their production was four times greater than it was a year ago when they took over the first leases,

and their refinery was working satisfactorily. It only remained for them to see better prices for their commodities, and he thought they might safely gather from the reports they were receiving that there was a bright future in front of the company. The present depression in trade could not last for ever, and they might be thankful that already a better feeling prevailed, and when the revival in trade generally did come he did not doubt that oil would receive its share of the improved conditions.

Mr Edward Manville, M.P., seconded the motion, which, after a short discussion, was carried unanimously.

AMALGAMATED TEXTILES, LIMITED.

MORE ORDERS AND FULL TIME.

The first annual meeting of Amalgamated Textiles, Limited, was held on the 19th instant, Mr T. H. Morris, D.L., J.P., presiding. He said that the property consisted of the amalgamation of three well-known worsted spinning concerns, producing practically the whole range of worsted yarns for the manufacture of ladies' dress goods, men's wear, fancy worsted cloths, and all classes of hosiery. They were well equipped, long established, with a splendid reputation for high-class work, fully manned with excellent staffs, each with ample capital and considerable reserves, with no loans or charges on their properties, and no goodwill; all with large earning powers in normal times, and each showing a credit balance on the past year's results, notwithstanding that all stocks had been written down to the day's value on March 31, when the financial year ended. The coal strike had had the effect of stopping all production, and had enabled merchants and producers to dispose of a certain amount of surplus stocks which had cleared the way for new business to some extent.

The company was the largest firm of worsted spinners in the country. The labour position in the industry was satisfactory, no trouble having arisen, and an Industrial Council was doing good work in conciliation between employers and employed.

The board felt that each firm in the amalgamation should preserve its own individuality. Benefits of amalgamation must be gained by joint services and by comparison of methods of production, but the reputation of each firm for its own products must be preserved. In attempting to effect economies which amalgamation could produce, care was being taken to assist and not to hamper the enterprise and reputation of the three concerns. The directors were doing their utmost to safeguard the company's resources, making every preparation for more prosperous times, and therefore they felt that no dividend other than that on the preference shares could now be paid.

With regard to the future, the Chairman said that only that morning the board had received from one of its concerns in Yorkshire a letter which ended by saying: "We have had a very satisfactory post this morning—several nice lots of orders—so that we have arranged to go on full time to-day." Another of the factories went on full time on Monday. It was satisfactory to know, after having the mills closed down two or three days a week, and a large number of hands unemployed or on the smallest possible wages, that they were going back to full employment and full pay. He thought it would be the beginning of better times.

The resolution was carried, and it was unanimously decided that the name of the company be changed to Daniel Illingworth, Morris, and Co., Limited.

The proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

LOBITOS OILFIELDS, LIMITED.

HIGHEST PRODUCTION FIGURES IN COMPANY'S HISTORY.

The thirteenth annual ordinary general meeting of the Lobitos Oilfields, Limited, was held on the 18th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London.

Sir Archibald Williamson, Bart., M.P. (the chairman), who presided, said that the production of oil for the year 1920 was 97,296 tons, being the highest figure yet attained. The net profit earned was £52,026. In view of the slightly increased production, the diminution of profits would appear disappointing, but there were exceptional circumstances which accounted for it. The price obtained for the oil during 1920 was that fixed for a long contract made nearly four years previously, when market conditions were very different. The price had been remunerative during the earlier years, but owing to the high cost of production in 1920 the net results had been adversely affected. A new contract had become operative as from January 1, 1921, and under that contract they would receive a substantial increase on the price under the preceding contract. The prospects were such as to enable the board without hesitation to recommend the maintenance of the usual dividend for the past year.

Turning to the items of the balance-sheet, it will be noted that they had recommended an allocation to reserve fund on the present occasion, but they had continued their usual conservative policy

of making adequate provision for depreciation under the headings of equipment account and development account. They had also continued to write down the value of the tank steamer *El Lobo*, which now stands at a low figure.

There is a new item in the balance-sheet under the heading of "New Tank Steamers' Construction Account," on which account they had expended up to December 31st last £122,102. The delivery of the two 10,000-ton tank steamers had been retarded owing to strikes and other causes. They had chartered both steamers for a period of time, and the profits earned by them should enable the company to write them down to a moderate figure. Their other steamer had also been chartered for three years at a profitable rate.

He had previously called attention to the effect of the policy of withholding Government lands in Peru from exploitation. The Government was now studying a new petroleum law. During 1920 twelve new wells were put in the producing list, and two were abandoned, so that on December 31st last there were 163 producing wells. They had secured some important areas of land and oil rights in Colombia, which they believed might prove to be very valuable at no distant date. The company's production for the six months ended June 30th last was 50,183 tons. The figures for May and June were in each case the largest in the history of the company, and they hoped that they would be still further increased.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

INTERNATIONAL TEA STORES, LIMITED.

GOOD YEAR'S BUSINESS AND RECORD PROFIT.

The twenty-sixth annual general meeting of the International Tea Company's Stores, Limited, was held, on the 21st instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, Mr. G. A. Tonge (governing director and chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr E. Davies) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—You will be glad to see that we have made a larger profit than in any previous year of the company's existence—namely, £275,508. This, I know, is only £2,000 in excess of that made last year, but you must bear in mind the fact that we have over 460 branches, and limit them as we may, we always have to carry huge stocks; consequently, when our balance-sheet was made up at the end of April everything had to be taken at whatever value it might have fallen to at the time. This meant a very drastic cutting down indeed.

Most of you know the very great drop there has been in nearly all food products, and with this loss in value I am sure you will agree with me that we have every reason to be highly satisfied with the result of our efforts. Our trade is considerably in excess of all previous periods.

Turning to the report, you will see that we brought forward from last year £41,808; this, together with the profit I have mentioned, amounts to £317,316, which enables us to pay our 6 per cent. and 7 per cent. preference dividends, 12 per cent. on our ordinary shares, to depreciate our fittings and fixtures by £20,000, to place a similar sum to reserve, and to carry forward £97,888, which is subject to excess profits duty and corporation profits tax.

Looking at the balance-sheet which you have no doubt studied, I do not think I have any comment to make, except to tell you that the freehold property, taken at £520,384, is undoubtedly worth a sum far in excess of this figure; a great deal of it was bought years ago, and would probably fetch several times what we gave for it.

With regard to the business generally, I have told you that the trade is showing a considerable increase, and we are making big efforts to manufacture as many as possible of the goods we sell. By doing this we not only get an increased profit, but we also ensure that the articles we sell are of the highest standard of purity and excellence.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	£	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to July 16, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to July 17, 1920.	Week Ending July 16, 1921.	Week Ending July 17, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
	..	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....		34,522,000	38,614,000	1,754,000	1,278,000
Excise.....		50,420,000	48,011,000	3,868,000	7,823,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..		1,851,000	..	218,000	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....		12,646,000	14,749,000	715,000	2,881,000

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF LONDON CLEARING BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

1921.—June.	Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	Coutts and Co.	Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westm'r. and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provinci- al and Union Bank of Eng'nd, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Willm's Bank, Limited.	Total.
ASSETS.											
Coin, bank, and currency notes and bal- ances with the Bank of England.....	£ 8,785	£ 42,076	£ 1,522	£ 2,537	£ 37,725	£ 55,880	£ 32,267	£ 31,685	£ 4,470	£ 4,504	£ 221,451
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom	2,178	7,255	434	879	8,633	11,478	8,229	8,189	164	853	48,292
Items in transit	8,521	20,028	2,767	5,850	12,999	13,271	18,966	12,314	7,665	3,250	105,631
Money at call and short notice.....	5,033	69,221	2,906	749	84,081	63,014	79,228	38,893	3,741	3,109	349,975
Bills discounted	16,149	55,423	4,692	6,066	66,336	51,959	53,855	50,648	13,471	6,345	324,984
Investments	39,592	149,336	7,554	6,729	139,247	189,532	128,278	135,942	18,009	19,195	833,414
Advances to customers and other accounts											
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.	4,331	7,023	410	1,050	9,471	17,368	13,472	3,385	540	1,101	58,151
Bank premises account	1,287	4,292	340	370	5,008	4,035	3,930	3,887	452	611	24,212
Investments in affiliated banks	..	8,270	..	..	7,641	3,258	2,991	2,240	..	..	24,400
LIABILITIES.	85,876	362,924	20,625	24,230	371,141	409,795	341,256	287,183	48,512	38,968	1,990,510
Ratio of cash to current, deposit, and other accounts	11.2	12.67	8.1	11.8	11.2	15.1	10.4	11.9	10.5	12.8	12.2
LIABILITIES.											
Capital paid up.....	2,349	15,592	800	1,000	14,372	10,860	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,661
Reserve fund.....	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,860	9,004	8,879	980	1,000	51,673
Current, deposit, and other accounts	77,797	332,059	18,615	21,530	337,298	370,706	309,759	265,610	42,360	34,993	1,810,727
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	4,330	7,023	410	1,050	9,471	17,369	13,472	3,385	540	1,100	58,150
Notes in circulation.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Reduction of bank premises account	..	..	..	150	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
	85,876	362,924	20,625	24,230	371,141	409,795	341,256	287,183	48,512	38,968	1,990,510

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 10, 1921. Lire.	May 31, 1921. Lire.	May 20, 1921. Lire.	Mov- ment. Lire.	Position May 31, 1914 Lire.
Total cash	1,368,720	1,428,194	1,391,492	- 59,474	1,221,875
Inland bills	5,179,680	3,218,278	3,149,598	- 38,698	418,400
Foreign bills	20,733	20,733	28,102	..	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,674,679	6,773,471	6,931,283	+ 98,792	..
Other advances	2,149,183	2,128,405	2,046,898	- 20,784	79,175
Securities	217,455	215,586	213,962	- 1,869	205,700
LIABILITIES.	13,639,742	13,763,428	13,185,047	- 123,686	1,556,925
Note circulation	1,625,347	1,681,789	1,785,616	+ 56,442	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 18, 1921. Florins.	July 11, 1921. Florins.	July 19, 1920. Florins.	Week's Movement Florins.	Position May 31, 1914 Florins.
Coin and bullion—Gold	605,963	605,969	636,338	..	14,961
— Silver	11,323	11,422	14,714	+ 99	8,436
Discounts and advances	443,398	479,512	476,695	+ 36,114	153,504
LIABILITIES.	1,019,299	1,027,764	1,027,294	- 8,465	316,632
Notes in circulation	53,226	79,590	125,546	+ 26,364	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 18, 1921. Lei.	June 11, 1921. Lei.	June 19, 1920. Lei.	Week's Movement Lei.	Position May 31, 1914 Lei.
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,600,222	..	..
Silver, &c.	292	303	230	- 11	..
Discounts	23,879	38,840	21,353	+ 14,961	..
Government loan	9,916,585	9,849,921	4,099,949	+ 66,564	..
Other advances	2,775,277	2,823,593	2,775,277	+ 48,316	..
LIABILITIES.	11,084,371	11,087,752	4,736,088	- 3,381	..
Notes in circulation	6,044,886	6,024,677	2,166,912	+ 20,209	..

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 15, 1921. Francs.	July 7, 1921. Francs.	July 15, 1920. Francs.	Week's Movement Francs.	Position May 31, 1914 Francs.
Coin and bullion—Gold	544,206	544,151	534,524	+ 55	171,175
— Silver	110,735	110,735	88,429	..	18,350
Darlehens-Kassenschein	9,729	9,156	17,551	+ 573	..
Discount and advances	299,877	394,033	329,682	+ 94,156	103,000
LIABILITIES.	891,084	915,065	906,902	- 23,981	275,925
Notes in circulation	98,186	164,687	101,738	+ 66,501	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to June 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,471,000, of which Fr. 10,230,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 16, 1921. Kroner.	July 9, 1921. Kroner.	July 17, 1920. Kroner.	Week's Movement Kroner.	Year's Movement Kroner.	May 24, 1914. Kroner.
Gold	281,339	281,370	261,249	+ 31	+ 20,090	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills	117,863	119,841	92,960	- 1,978	+ 24,903	112,172
Swedish and for. Gov. securities	14,134	14,594	45,351	- 460	- 31,217	32,465
Discount and loans	443,347	450,043	654,250	- 6,696	- 210,903	112,668
LIABILITIES.	614,407	629,665	691,259	- 15,258	- 76,8..	225,555
Notes in circulation	192,143	169,512	276,929	+ 22,631	- 84..	69,680

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 14, 1921. Francs.	July 7, 1921. Francs.	June 29, 1920. Francs.	July 15, 1920. Francs.	Week's Movement Francs.	Position May 28, 1914 Francs.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	327,176	327,262	328,258	356,333	- 86	332,650
Securities	573,568	597,125	641,661	589,540	- 23,757	697,600
LIABILITIES.	6,126,756	6,119,845	6,110,162	5,341,535	+ 6,905	934,150
Notes in circulation	1,021,405	1,050,181	1,094,586	1,840,912	- 28,776	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 30, 1921. Krone.	June 23, 1921. Krone.	June 15, 1921. Krone.	Week's Movement Krone.	Position May 31, 1914 Krone.
Gold coin and bullion, bills Silver coin	6,632	5,828	8,553	2	804
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,305,808	1,321,423	1,380,486	- 15,615	..
Loans	499,910	532,944	551,315	- 18,365	33,034
LIABILITIES.	49,685,140	47,825,013	47,208,636	+ 1,860,127	..
Notes in circulation	9,713,367	7,723,182	6,593,109	+ 1,990,185	..

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 30, 1921. Krone.	June 23, 1921. Krone.	June 15, 1921. Krone.	Week's Movement Krone.	Position May 31, 1914 Krone.
Gold coin and bullion, bills Silver coin	..	155	185	..	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	11,693,384	11,690,964	11,690,533	+ 2,420	..
Loans	107,844	107,897	109,993	- 53	..
LIABILITIES.	18,095,898	17,671,017	14,251,598	+ 424,881	..
Notes in circulation	1,161,987	1,599,243	5,036,928	- 437,256	..

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 30, 1921. Kroner.	May 31, 1921. Kroner.	June 30, 1920. Kroner.	Month's Movement Kroner.	Position May 31, 1914 Kroner.
Coin and bullion	227,564	227,570	228,030	- 6	76,644
Loans and discounts	326,726	311,289	367,531	+ 15,437	88,470
Debtors abroad	10,209	15,597	33,928	- 5,388	24,102
Securities	50,553	50,636	57,818	- 83	11,988
LIABILITIES.	495,213	496,688	528,660	- 475	157,266
Notes in circulation	67,310	60,205	43,451	+ 7,705	6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 7, 1921. Kroner.	June 30, 1921. Kroner.	July 7, 1920. Kroner.	Week's Movement Kroner.	Position May 31, 1914 Kroner.
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,292	147,295	147,379	..	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	33,136	34,233	60,200	- 97,000	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Govern- ment securities	8,707	9,095	10,499	- 388,000	8,816
Discounts and loans	415,110	440,179	430,314	- 25,069	76,911
LIABILITIES.	420,946	418,400	448,018	+ 2,546	113,484
Notes in circulation	76,996	107,124	122,211	- 30,128	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	June 24, 1921. Rs.	June 17, 1921. Rs.	June 10, 1921. Rs.	June 3, 1921. Rs.	Week's Movement Rs.
Government securities	14,43,72	8,66,89	8,77,19	8,66,27	+ 5,76,83
Other securities	1,38,43	1,38,42	1,38,42	1,38,42	..
Loans	14,40,96	14,50,33	14,65,13	14,77,83	+ 9,37
Cash credits	21,03,12	20,86,88	20,79,93	20,90,19	+ 16,24
Inland bills	13,28,94	13,49,60	13,94,03	14,23,49	+ 20,66
Foreign bills	78	42	89	45	+ 36
Bullion	3	2	5	5	+ 1
Dead stock	2,09,78	2,09,69	2,09,68	2,09,48	- 9
Sundries	52,99	56,06	49,01	49,78	+ 3,07
Balances with other banks	14,67	14,45	12,69	12,37	- 22
Cash	30,45,27	26,85,59	25,00,99	26,86,91	+ 3,59,68
LIABILITIES.	10,53,36	10,14,32	10,10,32	10,08,16	+ 39,04
Subscribed capital	5,44,59	5,34,83	5,33,83	5,33,29	+ 9,76
Capital paid up	3,71,10	3,70,85	3,70,30	3,70,14	+ 25
Reserve	19,05,01	5,85,25	7,62,47	10,43,80	+ 13,19,76
Other deposits	67,56,33	71,76,70	69,74,52	68,24,20	- 4,20,37
Loans against secs. per contra	55,30	55,20	54,75	55,87	+ 10
Sundries	1,46,36	1,35,52	1,32,12	1,27,94	+ 10,84

The above includes—	June 24, 1921. £.	June 17, 1921. £.	June 10, 1921. £.	June 3, 1921. £.
Deposits in London	20,900	21,300	17,700	17,100
Advances in London	381,700	381,000	381,000	382,400
Cash and balances at other banks in London	98,911	98,724	89,872	86,274

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	April 30, 1921. £.	Mar. 31, 1921. £.	Month's Movement £.	Position May 31, 1914 £.
Gold	3,361	3,361	..	1,571
Government securities	40,831	39,291	+ 1,540	2,084
LIABILITIES.	34,024	34,186	- 162	2,400
Notes in circulation	2,511	2,656	- 145	2,315
Government deposits	14,177	13,832	+ 345	2,560
Other deposits	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Changed.	Changed.
Amsterdam .. July 1, 1915 .. 4 1/2	Madrid .. Nov. 4, 1920 .. 6
Athens .. May 15, 1920 .. 6 1/2	Paris .. Apr. 8, 1920 .. 6
Berlin .. Dec. 23, 1914 .. 5	Prague .. May 12, 1920 .. 6
Brussels .. May 19, 1921 .. 5	Rome .. May 11, 1920 .. 6
Bucharest .. Sept. 4, 1920 .. 6	Sofia .. June 14, 1919 .. 6 1/2
Calcutta .. June 2, 1921 .. 5	Stockholm .. July 5, 1921 .. 6
Christiania .. July 5, 1921 .. 6 1/2	Swiss Bank .. Apr. 6, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Copenhagen .. July 5, 1921 .. 6	Tokyo .. Nov. 18, 1919 .. 8
Helsingfors .. Nov. 8, 1920 .. 9	Vienna .. Apr. 15, 1921 .. 6
Lisbon .. Sept. 3, 1920 .. 7	Warsaw
New York Fed. Reserve .. July 20, 1921 .. 5 1/2	

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	June 23, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1921.	July 14, 1921.	July 21, 1921.
Call money ..	5 1/2	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral) ..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days ..	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days ..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days ..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days ..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, July 22, 1920.	Rate, July 7, 1921.	Rate, July 14, 1921.	Rate, July 21, 1921.
London—					
60 days ..		3-7450	3-6525	3-5775	3-53
Cable ..		3-8125	3-7125	3-6375	3-585
Cheques ..		3-8025	3-7075	3-63	3-58
Paris ..		19-30	*12-89	7-96	7-84
Brussels ..		19-30	*12-08	7-82	7-67
Switzerland ..		19-30	*5-77	16-80	16-53
Italy ..		19-30	*18-15	4-82	4-58
Berlin ..		23-83	2-43	1-3325	1-3275
Vienna ..		20-26	-600	0-1550	0-1400
Madrid ..		19-30	15-80	12-80	12-90
Amsterdam ..		40-195	34-625	32-65	31-90
Copenhagen ..			16-35	16-65	15-95
Christiania ..			16-50	14-10	13-55
Stockholm ..			21-75	21-78	21-12
Athens ..		19-30	12-60	5-70	5-65
Montreal ..		100	88-00	87-62	88-50
Yokohama ..		49-85	47-90	47-90	48-20
Hong Kong ..			72-50	49-40	49-50
Shanghai ..			102-00	66-90	67-70
Calcutta ..			35-50	23-45	23-20
Buenos Aires ..		103-65	113-00	120-25	155-25
Rio de Janeiro ..		32-42	21-28	10-35	10-45
Valparaiso ..		20-60	22-00	11-00	11-00

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, July 22, 1920.	Rate, July 7, 1921.	Rate, July 14, 1921.	Rate, July 21, 1921.
Amsterdam ..		59-26	7-22	4-03 1/2	4-18
Switzerland ..		123-45	14-50	7-87 1/2	8-15
Copenhagen ..			15-29	7-69	8-33 1/2
Stockholm ..		88-88	11-50	6-07	6-30
Christiania ..			15-50	9-36	9-90

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador ..	Sucres to £1 ..	10-15	Sight London	July 16 13-40
Venezuela ..	Bolivares to £1 ..	25-25	"	July 6 21-75
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20 ..	48d	"	July 11 85-00
Nicaragua ..	Corobas to £1 ..	49-31d	"	July 9 3-65
San Salvador ..	Pesos to £1 ..	24-65d	"	July 19 8-00
Guatemala ..	Pesos to £1 ..	2-66d	"	July 16 199-80
Costa Rica ..	Colonos to £1 ..	10-45	"	June 25 17-35
Bolivia ..	Bolivianos to £1 ..	12-50	"	June 10 14 1/2

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, July 5, 1921, as below:—

	Buying Rate.	Selling Rate.
London (cheque) ..	£1 1-370	1-395
Paris ..	100 fr. 2-950	3-000
New York ..	\$10 3-600	3-750
Stockholm ..	100 kr. 8-400	8-500
Copenhagen ..	100 kr. 6-250	6-350
Christiania ..	100 kr. 5-300	5-400
Berlin ..	100 rmk. 5-40	5-50
Helsingfors ..	100 fmk. 6-45	6-70
Riga ..	100 lrb. 7-0	7-5
Amsterdam ..	100 H.N. 12-200	12-400

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From July 22, 1921.	From May 16, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T. ..	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.
Demand ..	1 1/2 % "	1 1/2 % "
30 days ..	1 1/2 % "	1 1/2 % "
60 days ..	1 1/2 % "	1 1/2 % "
90 days ..	1 1/2 % "	1 1/2 % "
120 days ..	1 1/2 % "	1 1/2 % "

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. New Zealand.	Aus. New Zealand.
T.T. ..	101	102 1/2
Sight ..	101	102 1/2
Cable ..	101	102 1/2
On demand ..	99 1/2	100
30 days ..	99 1/2	99 1/2
60 days ..	99 1/2	99 1/2
90 days ..	99 1/2	99 1/2
120 days ..	99 1/2	99 1/2
5 months' sight ..	99 1/2	99 1/2
6 months' sight ..	99 1/2	99 1/2

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	July 16, 1921.
Outstanding with public ..	Rs. 43,73,55,000	Rs. 45,88,19,000
In paper currency reserve ..	61,26,00,000	61,26,00,000
Total ..	104,99,55,000	107,14,19,000

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended July 20, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed a decrease of £6,202 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

	Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
	Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
	Week Ended July 20, 1921.	Week Ended July 20, 1921.
British West Africa ..	£ 30,641	£ 1,635,294
British South Africa ..	1,585,856	720
New Zealand ..	530	
Total values of imports of gold ..	1,617,027	1,636,014

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on July 21st as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,556,570, as compared with £126,554,240 last week. The official Bank of England rate of discount was reduced to-day to 5 1/2 per cent. The fair amount of gold that came into the market was taken for New York. New York reports the arrival of \$3,264,000 in gold—\$1,500,000 from London, \$1,500,000 from France, and \$164,000 from Mexico. The wide range from which India draws its gold supplies is shown by the following rupee figures, which relate to the ports of Bombay and Calcutta (combined) from January 1st to May 31st this year:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	Rs.	Rs.
Aden ..	45,04,763	
Bagdad ..	12,22,500	
Bahrein ..	12,41,492	
Basrah ..	1,95,91,787	
Debai ..	3,26,325	
Fremantle ..	4,38,750	
Jeddah ..	12,46,251	
Koweit ..	5,51,998	
Kobe ..		4,57,41,382
London ..	13,06,419	
Malta ..	2,10,500	
New York ..	8,88,666	9,92,35,499
Osaka ..		85,41,000
Singapore ..		12,44,367
Stockholm ..	12,73,680	
Zanzibar ..	88,200	1,02,000
Other ports, Indian, &c. ..	93,218	28,036
Total ..	3,29,84,549	15,48,92,284

SILVER.

The tone of the market has been less robust. The unsettled conditions in China arising from recent banking difficulties had caused a good deal of local demand for hard cash, but it is reasonable to expect, now that encashment of the Banque Industrielle note issue seems to be assured, a return of confidence, and this naturally would be accompanied by a return of cash into the custody of the banks. Most of the buying orders have been to cover sales previously made in speculation; bear operators, however, are not now numerous. The scantiness of daily supplies has been the prevailing feature. So small were these on the 13th inst., and the three successive days, that the cash quotation did not change—a stability which

has not been recorded since October 15-18, 1919. The Indian bazaars have been inactive until to-day, when a recrudescence of demand, coupled with an improvement in the value of the U.S. dollar, brought about a rally in the price of cash silver of 1d from 37d recorded yesterday, the lowest quotation of the week. At the same time, the difference widened to 3d. We referred last week to two ways in which an appreciation in the value of the U.S. dollar could assist in raising the price of silver. There is also a possible third. Whilst the currency pound quotation of rupees is so much below their gold standard value, a rise in the value of gold consequent upon movements of the U.S. exchange tends to harden the sterling value of the rupee, and thus to render a remittance of silver from this market to India a more profitable transaction—in other words, the bazaars could afford to pay a better currency pound price for their metal. Chinese official figures as to the imports and exports of silver (given below) are of particular interest in view of the position of the silver market at the present time:—

(Value in Haikwan taels.)

Year.	Imported.	Exported.	Net Import.	Net Export.
1911 ..	61,082,957	22,776,955	38,306,002	..
1912 ..	45,098,297	25,849,645	19,248,652	..
1913 ..	55,711,490	19,743,126	35,968,364	..
1914 ..	16,498,744	30,121,693	..	13,622,949
1915 ..	20,717,506	39,099,820	..	18,382,314
1916 ..	37,088,320	63,766,446	..	26,678,126
1917 ..	27,507,292	48,490,390	..	20,983,098
1918 ..	36,124,229	12,629,302	23,494,927	..
1919 ..	62,093,707	8,968,418	53,125,289	..
1920 ..	126,354,388	33,715,410	92,638,978	..
Total ..	488,276,930	307,161,205	181,115,725	..

It will be observed that during 1914-1917 net exports were recorded instead of net imports, as in the years preceding. The grand total of the net exports for these four years is less than half the net imports of the following three years 1918-1920, and less than 90 per cent. of the net imports of 1920 alone, 92,638,978 Haikwan taels. The last-named figures represent the remarkable total of 112,575,000 fine ounces. The population of China is so large that the power of hoarding is very great indeed, but an importation of this size implies special conditions and a continuance of such an abnormal state of affairs cannot be regarded as likely. In this connection the statement recently issued by Mr B. Lenox Simpson, adviser to the Chinese Government, is enlightening:—“.....The statistical department of the Bank of China had just completed researches into the disappearance of silver coin by hoarding in Manchuria and in the metropolitan province of Chihli. They estimated that in each area from 10,000,000 to 15,000,000 silver dollars (£1,250,000 to £1,875,000) had been withdrawn and hidden since the coining of the Yuan Shi Kai dollar had commenced on a large scale in 1914, and that, therefore, in the 22 provinces there might be anywhere from 100,000,000 to 200,000,000 dollars (£12,500,000 to £25,000,000) in cash, which the restoration of confidence would draw out.” At the present price, £25,000,000 of silver would be equivalent to about 150,000,000 fine ounces.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1921.	July 14, 1921.
Notes in circulation ..	17,176	17,222	17,354
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,106	7,150	7,283
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India ..	2,436	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,799	6,802	6,802
Securities (British Government) ..	835	835	834

The coinage during the week ending 14th inst., amounted to 18 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 16th inst. consisted of about 34,000,000 ounces in sycee, and 26,500,000 dollars, as compared with about 36,700,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 420 bars of silver on the 4th inst.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

	Gold.	Silver.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.
1921.			
July 16 ..	113 4	37 1/2	37 1/2
18 ..	113 9	37 1/2	37 1/2
19 ..	115 0	37 1/2	37 1/2
20 ..	114 4	37 1/2	37 1/2
21 ..	114 11	38	37 1/2
22 ..	114 9	38	37 1/2

NOTICES.

A branch of Lloyds Bank, Limited, has been opened at Hartlepool (corner of Abbey street and Northgate), under the supervision of the West Hartlepool manager (Mr W. J. Wood).

The business of the London Bank of Australia, Limited, which has been amalgamated with that of the English, Scottish, and Australian Bank, Limited, will be conducted at 5 Gracechurch street, London, E.C. 3, to which address all future communications should be sent. The services of the staff of the London Bank of Australia, Limited, have been retained.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, have opened a branch of the bank at 32 Leys avenue, Letchworth (Herts). Resident officer, Mr R. B. Ford.

A branch of the Bank of British West Africa, Limited, has been established at Enugu, Nigeria.

The National Bank of South Africa, Limited, have received a cable from their head office, Pretoria, intimating that Mr Walter Solomon Webber, M.L.A., has been appointed a director of the bank.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

COUTTS AND CO.

	June 30, 1921.	ASSETS.	Compared with June 30, 1920.
LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Amount.	
Capital ..	800,000 ..	Cash ..	5,028,571 ..
Reserve ..	800,000 ..	Treasury bills ..	1,739,509 ..
Current and deposit accounts ..	18,739,358 ..	Investments ..	4,690,794 ..
Acceptances ..	408,400 ..	Bills discounted ..	10,273,463 ..
		Acceptances ..	408,400 ..
		Bank premises ..	346,430 ..
			6,130
Total ..	20,747,758 ..	Total ..	20,747,758 ..

Memo.—The liability under the guarantee of £8,928 in respect of the Yorkshire Penny Bank is not included in the above.

NOBEL INDUSTRIES, LIMITED.

	December 31, 1920.	ASSETS.	Compared with Dec. 31, 1919.
LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Amount.	
Ord. shares ..	7,919,623 ..	Investments ..	21,146,446 ..
6% cum. pref. ..	6,375,160 ..	Leasehold rights ..	116,047 ..
Def. shares ..	1,443,638 ..	Office premises ..	11,047 ..
8% seven-year notes ..	3,022,923 ..	Office furniture ..	15,872 ..
Amounts due to associated cos. ..	3,347,793 ..	Steamships at cost ..	43,500 ..
Sundry cr'as ..	132,006 ..	Amounts due from associated cos. ..	1,100,821 ..
Bank loan ..	367,232 ..	Sundry debtors ..	521,836 ..
Profit and loss ..	891,917 ..	Cash ..	332,648 ..
		Preliminary expenses ..	..
		Cost of note issue ..	223,128 ..
Total ..	23,500,298 ..	Total ..	23,500,298 ..

GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE, AND CO.

LIABILITIES.		Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.	ASSETS.		Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.
Amount.	£	£	Amount.	£	£
Capital paid up ..	1,000,000 ..	..	Cash	5,206,861 ..	— 303,746
Reserve fund....	500,000 ..	..	Money at call and notice	6,886,500 ..	+ 1,468,350
Current accts.	18,288,814 ..	— 1,210,315	Investments	6,408,243 ..	— 1,136,684
Deposit accts.	6,063,796 ..	— 3,074,176	Bills dis- counted, &c.	7,130,799 ..	— 4,307,484
Reduction of bank pre- mises account	149,793 ..	+ 4,927	Bank premises....	370,000 ..	..
Total	26,002,403 ..	— 4,279,564	Total	26,002,403 ..	— 4,279,564

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND.

June 30, 1921.			
LIABILITIES.	Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.	ASSETS.	Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.
Amount. £		Amount. £	
Capital paid up 9,350,416	+ 1,502,552	Cash 39,874,114	+ 3,632,903
Reserve 8,878,041	+ 1,639,000	Money at call	
Bills, &c. 3,385,215	+ 2,297,614	and notice	
Deposits, &c. 265,610,602	+ 9,282,354	Investments. 52,887,663	+ 10,122,800
		Discounts, &c. 182,107,640	+ 14,180,245
Total 287,183,274	+ 10,126,292	Total 287,183,274	+ 10,126,292

WILLIAMS, DEACON'S BANK, LIMITED.

LIABILITIES.		Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.		ASSETS.		Inc. or Dec. Compared with June 30, 1920.	
Amount.	£			Amount.	£		
Capital paid up	1,875,000	..		Cash	5,775,760	..	619,199
Reserve	1,000,000	..	+ 100,000	Money at call and notice	3,148,913	..	+ 1,595,599
Current deposit, and other accts	36,041,139	..	- 1,798,674	Investments	6,351,433	..	- 126,375
Acceptances	1,194,035	..	- 608,757	Bills of exchange	3,666,280	..	+ 1,311,721
Rebate account	..	..	- 33,583	Advances on current accts.	19,357,638	..	- 3,978,364
				&c.	1,194,035	..	- 608,757
				Acceptances	1,194,035	..	- 608,757
				Bank premises.	618,115	..	+ 84,356
Total	40,110,174	..	- 2,341,019	Total	40,110,174	..	- 2,341,019

MANCHESTER AND COUNTY BANK.

LIABILITIES.		June 30, 1921.		ASSETS.		Compared with June 30, 1920.	
	Amount.	Compared with June 30, 1920.		Amount.	Compared with June 30, 1920.		
Capital	1,092,040 ..	£	..	Cash	5,060,604 ..	£	+ 844,001
Reserve fund ..	725,000 ..	£	..	Bills of ex- change	2,726,600 ..	£	+ 55,817
Depreciation & in vestment reserve	125,000 ..	£	..	Investments ..	3,654,587 ..	£	+ 1,094,992
Unclaimed divs.	1,386 ..	£	64	Short loans ..	368,695 ..	£	+ 257,596
Current de- posit, and other accts... ..	25,528,599 ..	£	+ 101,150	Advances	15,518,424 ..	£	+ 489,028
Acceptances ..	38,796 ..	£	..	Acceptances ..	36,795 ..	£	+ 183,755
Profit and loss	256,884 ..	£	..	Property acct..	400,000 ..	£	+ 100,000
Total	27,765,705 ..	£	47,497	Total	27,765,705 ..	£	47,497

SIR W. G. ARMSTRONG, WHITWORTH, AND CO., LIMITED.

		December 31, 1920.			
LIABILITIES.		Compared with Dec. 31, 1919.		ASSETS.	
				Compared with Dec. 31, 1919.	
	£	£			£
Ord. shares.....	5,512,500	..		Properties	11,348,046
4% 1st pref.....	1,000,000	..		Investments in	.. + 1,467,287
5% 2nd pref.....	1,000,000	..		and advances in	
6% 3rd pref.....	2,500,000	..		subsidiaries	5,394,697
4% deb. stock	2,500,000	..		Work in progress	.. + 5,394,697
6% deb. stock	2,000,000	+ 2,000,000		stocks, &c.	6,201,796
General reserve	1,400,000	..		Debtors	3,147,596
Share prem. acct.	323,207	- 193,793		Trade and other	.. + 2,107,254
Creditors	9,373,036	- 2,724,079		investments	614,465
Employees' de-				Cash and bills	649,794
posits	424,448	- 62,243		Security for 3-year	.. + 2,012,277
Three-year notes	1,380,000	+ 1,380,000		notes	1,380,000
Profit and loss	1,323,203	+ 273,304			.. + 1,380,000
Total	28,736,394	+ 674,189		Total	28,736,394
					.. + 674,189

AFRICAN AND EASTERN TRADE CORPORATION.

December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount. Inc. or Dec.		Amount. Inc. or Dec.	
£	£	£	£
6% cum. "A"		Factory build-	
pref.	300,000 ..	ings, &c.	707,544 .. + 197,593
6% cum. "B"		Property	185,487 .. + 150,493
pref.	2,599,933 ..	Office furniture	500 ..
Ord. shares	3,545,506 ..	Stock of goods,	
Acceptances	313,346 ..	&c.	2,736,306 .. + 1,178,013
Sundry creditors	1,306,490 ..	Ships in trans-	
Advances by		it outw'd	110,726 ..
bankers.	..	Produce in trans-	
Deprecia'n fund	226,507 ..	it homeward	
Insurance fund	235,651 ..	and in store ..	318,446 ..
General reserve	6,452,200 ..	Sundry debtors	2,796,900 ..
Profit and loss	642,047 ..	Insee. and other	
		payments	79,378 ..
		Cash and bills ..	393,179 ..
		Investments ..	8,293,214 ..
			+ 1,533,578
Total	15,621,680 ..	Total	15,621,680 ..
	+ 2,333,377		+ 2,333,377

Reports and Notices.

The address of the London office of the Imperial Bank of India is now 5 Whitlington Avenue, E.C. 3.

Mr Frank E. Searle has resigned from the board of directors of Messrs Edward Starr and Co., Limited, of Lloyd's, and is commencing business on his own account as an incorporated insurance broker, under the style of Frank E. Searle and Co., with offices at 23 Bucklersbury, Mansion House, London, E.C. 4. Telegraphic address, Elisearle, Cannon, London.

The approval of the Court has been granted to the reduction in the capital of the Manila Railway Company (1906), Limited.

Lieut.-Col. T. Gracey, D.S.O., R.E., has joined the board of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, vice the late Col. T. Gracey, C.S.I., R.E. Sir John Stratheden Campbell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., has joined the board of the Rohilkund and Kunaon Railway, vice the late Col. T. Gracey, C.S.I., R.E. Mr E. A. Neville has joined the board of the Delhi, Umballa, Kalka Railway, vice the late Col. T. Gracey, C.S.I., R.E.

At a general meeting of Richard Thomas and Co., Limited, held on Tuesday, July 19, 1921, a resolution was passed that the appointment of Lord Bledisloe of Lydney as a director of the company be determined.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

GUAYAQUIL AND QUITO RAILWAY COMPANY 6 PER CENT. PRIOR LIEN MORTGAGE GOLD BONDS.—The twenty-fifth amortisation of the above bonds took place on July 20th at the banking house of Messrs Glyn, Mills, Currie and Co., by public tender, the amount to be applied being £17,878 4s 3d. Tenders amounted to \$223,000, ranging from £189 to £245 per bond. Tenders at £189 15s and under were accepted in full.

REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA GOLD BONDS, 1909.—With reference to the above bonds the Council of Foreign Bondholders have received a telegram from the bankers in New York notifying the payment of the July instalment of the Debt Service, in accordance with the arrangement of May 25, 1912.

BANKS.

ALLIANCE BANK OF SIMLA, LIMITED.—Subject to audit, the profit for the year ending June 30, 1921, after payment of expenses, full provision for bad debts, depreciation of investments, &c., is Rs. 12,35,492. The amount brought forward was Rs. 3,13,931, making a total of Rs. 15,49,423. Deducting the interim dividend paid in December last, the sum now available is Rs. 11,42,891, which the directors propose to utilise, after payment of the preference dividend at the rate of 6 per cent., in payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, together with a bonus of 3 per cent., free of tax. It is proposed to transfer two lakhs to reserve and one lakh to pension fund. The balance to be carried forward is Rs. 3,31,154.

COX AND CO.—The balance-sheet to March 31, 1921, has just been issued. The total capital is £650,000, and reserve fund stands at £600,000. Current deposits, and other accounts amount to £17,770,632, and acceptances to £910,076, making total liabilities £19,930,708. The principal assets are cash £5,441,970, advances £6,148,850, bills receivable £2,794,857, and investments £2,128,977.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.—A balance sheet has been received from the central office of the bank, as follows:—"Profit from the period January 27th to June 30th, Rs. 58,14,792, which is disposed of as follows: dividend declared at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, absorbing Rs. 33,00,656; transferred to reserve fund, Rs. 10,00,000; transferred to pension funds, Rs. 5,00,000; carried forward, Rs. 10,14,136—total, Rs. 58,14,792."

STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.—Balance-sheet, March 31, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital subscribed, 445,833	£	Cash, 10,221,078	£
Shares of £20, with £5 paid	2,229,165	Reserves in transit	2,142,959
Reserve fund	2,893,333	Native gold on hand	109,305
Notes in circulation	4,609,342	Investments—	
Deposits, current, and other	—	British Govern-ment securities,	
accounts, including provision	—	Colonial Govern-ment, Municipal	
for contingencies	57,285,172	and other securi-ties (including	
Drafts outstanding, accept-ances under credits, and	—	deposits of stock	
bills of exchange re-dis-counted	1,360,333	with the Union	
Customers' bills for collection,	9,081,548	Government)	5,120,416
per contra	—	Bank of British	
Profit and loss—	454,407	West Africa, Ltd.,	
Balance, as per account below	454,407	33,334 £10 shares	
		£4 paid	145,836
			5,266,252
		Bills of exchange purchased	7,968,948
		and current at this date	
		Bills discounted, and advances	
		to customers (including Stock	
		Exchange loans under	
		Treasury Minute of October	
		31, 1914)	42,191,033
		Customers' bills for collection,	9,081,548
		per contra	—
		Bank property and premises	
		(including furniture and	
		fixtures) at cost, less amounts	
		written off	896,219
		Stamps, stationery, and open	
		policies	35,900
			77,913,302

MISCELLANEOUS.

ANGLO-PORTUGUESE TELEPHONE.—The report of Anglo-Portuguese Telephone Company for 1920 states that floating assets and liabilities in Portugal at close of year have been converted into sterling at the rate of 64 per escudo. Capital expenditure amounted to £121,367. Gross income was £48,046, less expenses £42,023, leaving a profit of £6,023, as against £29,797 for 1919. After payment of income-tax, £1,186, and providing for debenture interest and sinking fund, £6,100, the amount for disposal (including £8,828 brought forward) is £7,564. In November the company paid an interim dividend of 3 per cent., less tax, which absorbed £7,778, being £213 in excess of amount now available. The amount of corporation tax has not yet been ascertained.

CHILI TELEPHONE.—The gross revenue of Chili Telephone Company for the year to March 31, 1921, was £238,784, less gross expenditure in Chili and London £195,137, leaving a profit of £43,647, plus £19,843 brought in, making £63,490. The directors recommend a final dividend of 3s per share, free of tax, making 6 per cent., free of tax, for the year, placing £17,285 to general reserve, and carrying forward £16,504. Difference on converting liquid assets and liabilities in Chili at the lower rate of exchange was £12,785, and this amount has been debited to general reserve.

SCOTTISH AMERICAN MORTGAGE.—The net profit of the Scottish American Mortgage Company for year ended May 31, 1921, was £81,898. The directors recommend a dividend for the year of 12 per cent. (less tax), placing to surplus revenue account £2,348, making it £58,257. Owing to the greatly reduced prices for wheat and cotton, collections of interest have been less punctual than usual. It is anticipated that arrears will be collected. The balance on exchange, amounting to £16,685, has been carried along with other sums to contingent fund, which has been increased by £35,000.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
London Electric	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
City and South London	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
Central London	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
L.G.O.	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
London United Trams	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
South Metropolitan Trams	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..
Gearless Motor	28 weeks	July 16	245,495	£ 6,689,850	£ ..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246 +	6,300	Rs. 11,63,233	Rs. 55,118
Barsi L. Ry.	12 weeks	June 25	118	18,700 +	44,900	2,50,700	1,49,320
Bengal & N. Western ..	11 weeks	18	2,067	6,38,970 +	1,77,360	67,55,20 +	7,90,518
Bengal Nagpur	10 weeks	11	2,625	12,02,000 +	1,35,000	1,29,02,000	40,900
Bombay, Bar. & C.I. ...	14 weeks	July 9	2,871	17,93,000 +	61,000	2,97,26,000	20,63,000
Burma	10 weeks	June 11	1,342	9,96,531 +	29,173	56,78,271	3,72,618
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	14 weeks	July 9	239	94,000 +	29,711	1,34,297	1,34,297
East Indian	15 weeks	16	2,772	30,30,000 +	1,63,000	4,48,68,000	1,23,50,000
G. Indian Peninsula ..	14 weeks	9	3,121	24,52,500 +	2,45,700	3,81,17,378	1,67,518
Madras & S. Mahr.	11 weeks	18	3,012	13,50,000 +	27,562	1,48,65,000	2,44,22,000
Rohilk'd & Kumaon ..	11 weeks	June 16	259	51,054 +	588	17,37,308 +	9
Do Lucknow-Breilly ..	11 weeks	11	287	74,102 +	15,468	18,90,690	1,35,770
South Indian	11 weeks	18	1,852	8,41,491 +	22,530	92,01,957	1,50,000
Sthn. Punjab (month)	6 mths	Mar. 31	717	8,89,237 +	50,014	49,10,562 +	81,120
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	2 weeks	July 16	752	£ 1,726 +	206	£ 3,591 +	
Argentine Trans.	2 weeks	9	111	1,865 +	145		
B. A. and Pacific	2 weeks	16	3,425	122,000 +	36,000	283,000	114,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	2 weeks	16	3,903	145,000 +	14,000	334,000	40,000
B. A. Western	2 weeks	16	1,882	78,000 +	3,000	17,000	33,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	11 mths	May 31	190	5,000 +	10,000	8,000	34,000
Central Argentine	2 weeks	July 16	125	46,021 +	12,558	507,448	24,000
Cordoba Central	2 weeks	16	1,205	67,000 +	6,700	391,000	96,000
Entre Rios	2 weeks	16	811	179,000 +	900	44,200	6,512
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	6 mths	June 30	—	Ms 53,500 +	12,750	271,900	21,300
Gt. West. of Brazil.	28 weeks	July 16	1,005	7,100 +	8,100	390,200	270,600
Leopoldina	28 weeks	16	1,831	23,455 +	21,243	909,161	606,100
San Paulo	28 weeks	17	1,534	27,164 +	13,417	839,734	449,930
State of Bahia, S.W.	6 mths	June 30	52	Ms 48,000 +	58,000	441,000	30,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	28 weeks	July 16	838	13,545 +	9,165	689,695	617,770
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000 +	500	—	—
Nitrato (2 weeks)	28 weeks	July 16	366	15,674 +	25,570	—	197,900
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	81,558,630 +	147,980	14,428,740	56,770
Taltal	12 mths	30	180	(10) 19,947 +	16,323	281,160	10,800
Cuban.							
Havana Central	9 days	July 9	9	14,889 +	4,870	—	—
United of Havana	2 weeks	16	681	58,038 +	52,562	136,855	219,220
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	2 weeks	July 16	273	23,786 +	5,332	52,948 +	5,200
C. Urug. (East Ext.) ..	2 weeks	16	313	6,811 +	2,193	11,596 +	300
C. Urug. (North Ext.) ..	2 weeks	16	185	2,974 +	555	5,685	2,400
C. Urug. (West Ext.) ..	2 weeks	16	211	2,308 +	394	4,866 +	400
Midland Uruguay	12 mths	June 30	319	12,979 +	6,391	205,322	38,200
North-West Urug.	12 mths	30	113	5,531 +	1,017	72,543	90,200
Uruguay North Urug. ..	12 mths	30	3	1,383 +	753	23,473	4,800
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	28 weeks	July 16	35	Ps 18,000 +	2,000	450,900 +	72,000
Bilbao	6 mths	June 30	15	1,462 +	1,343	12,378	8,000
Bolivar	6 mths	June 30	13	11,809 +	232	62,140	9,400
Colombian Nat. Ry.	5 mths	May 31	86	19,680 +	660	95,760	24,300
Costa Rica	11 mths	31	190	19,296 +	14,779	269,817	92,300
Dorado Extension	6 mths	June 30	70	18,500 +	2,750	107,750 +	9,000
Egyptian Delta	13 weeks	30	5594	8,324 +	4,848	82,196	23,770
Gt. Southn. of Spain ..	27 weeks	July 9	104	Ps 26,427 +	60,561	1,47,865	910,330
International of Central America.	6 mths	June 30	Net	22,957 +	192	196,391 +	5
La Guaira & Caracas ..	2 mths	Feb. 28	234	(16) 8,770 +	5,066	50,110	21,700
Mexican Railway	2 weeks	July 14	403	\$115,000 +	91,400	647,500 +	191,800
Do	5 mths	June 30	Net	\$52,200 +	—	5,485,500 +	—
Nassico Oscarshamn.	4 mths	Apr. 30	—	13,774 +	8,237	52,609	33,000
Ottoman Railway, Smyrna to Aidin.	1 week	July 9	379	7,457	—	5,970	1,500
Paraguay Central	9 days	9	274	4,520	670	—	—
Puerto Athens, &c.	5 mths	Feb. 28	—	\$2,311,374 +	414,841	16,380,765 +	5,299,640
Puerto Cabello, &c.	9 mths	May 31	35	4,500	500	22,750	5,200
Salvador	2 weeks	July 16	100	2,136 +	1,930	5,707	1,600
Santa Fe Province, French Railways.	1 mth	May 31	—	129,976	39,282	—	—
Samana & Santiago	6 mths	June 30	—	15,880 +	3,015	59,810	31,500
Zafra and Huella	6 mths	30	112	(a) 12,630 +	440	85,645 +	12,250
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	28 weeks	July 14	9,750	\$118,100 +	7,100	\$2,827,800 +	\$3,39,400
Canadian Pacific	28 weeks	14	13,388	\$337,000 +	457,000	90,290,000 +	9,395,000
Grand Trunk	28 weeks	14	3,616	\$27,813 +	57,864	7,942,273 +	400,400
(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.							
Adjusted, April 30, 1921.							

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month June, 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Six Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.					
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.		%	%	%	%	%
Allagar	260,400	359,250	350,450	..	..	121,500(5)	..	15	10	10	10	10	10
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,410,300	2,103,300	..	..	885,800(5)	..	215,500	35	17	17	17	17
Anglo-Malay	1,386,234	1,662,991	1,430,807	79,696	- 47,849	464,189	..	261,333	85	65	45	60	30
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	790,899	771,865	1,058,736	59,411	- 18,491	..	..	..	50	30	20	30	15
Ayer Kuning	609,360	960,175	943,803	65,000	- 14,000	385,400	..	111,500	30	25	10	30	7
Bah Lias (Oct. 31)	576,285	974,520	1,561,555	82,884	- 33,302	838,867(8)	..	70,081	5	10	10	10	10
Bajoe Kidol, 17/6 paid (Mar. 31) ..	709,515	941,776	1,026,504	28,862	- 50,270	216,368(3)	..	75,615	13	10	25	20	10
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	230,300	15,300	- 3,058	164,080(12)	..	66,120	25	10	10	5	..
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	446,573	474,148	614,867	..	..	392,297(9)	..	68,262	10	6	12	10	..
Bantam (Java) (June 30)	965,374	749,146	914,166	..	..	607,081(10)	..	15	10	15	15	15	..
Banten (Selangor) (April 30) ..	407,196	348,145	571,712	..	..	466,691(12)	..	103,375	22	10	15	25	..
Batang Consolidated	265,004	321,271	407,586	26,733	- 16,053	139,139	..	33,206	210	160	110	150	5
Batu Caves	593,644	675,534	647,153	51,909	- 2,013	260,011	..	33,206	50	35	35	20	..
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	38,500	- 26,500	260,500	..	131,000	20	20	20	20	..
Bekoh (June 30)	454,948	443,860	..	33,020	- 6,808	398,125(12)	..	20	20	20	20	20	..
Bertam Consolidated (March 31) ..	1,007,358	1,534,416	..	125,000	- 1,000	..	..	27	5	5	5	5	..
Bukit Cloh	364,250	375,743	342,250	25,000	- 2,880	149,000	..	10,280	25	12	5	10	..
Bukit Kajang (June 30)	851,435	697,900	881,671	63,949	- 7,770	749,371(12)	..	134,842	35	15	25	10	..
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	590,213	900,681	900,000	58,000	- 9,130	128,016(3)	..	101,179	15	10	12	20	..
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	889,753	769,303	1,161,322	..	..	210,334(3)	..	95,036	100	50	50	150	..
Bukit Sembawang	630,289	1,060,000	1,636,302	87,000	- 57,025	..	..	12	10	10	10	10	..
Ceylon (Para)	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	87,042	- 7,844	390,823	..	128,656	40	25	27	40	..
Chersonese	554,389	665,165	652,456	34,703	- 23,916	202,963	..	113,810	14	7	12	20	6
Cheviot	468,180	815,285	875,814	..	..	299,050(4)	..	26,050	15	10	7	21	5
Cleely Ordinary (March 31)	626,732	705,765	631,300	..	..	634,300(12)	..	64,169	140	75	75	60	..
Consolidated Malay	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	63,410	- 25,890	428,490	..	60,110	83	50	25	37	..
Damansara	490,882	749,935	801,897	58,000	- 8,915	335,569	..	56,596	55	40	28	32	..
Dennistown	491,337	656,621	435,210	..	..	119,036(3)	..	12	5	10	20	20	..
Djember	329,691	451,577	550,900	..	..	327,500(8)	..	12	5	10	20	20	..
Dusun Durian	587,996	752,228	1,053,163	57,923	- 24,815	407,217	..	85,981	15	12	7	12	..
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	225,183	338,504	454,740	..	..	387,000(10)	..	16,300	10	5	25	10	..
F. M. S. Planters	378,000	793,000	933,000	61,000	- 22,100	447,800	..	57,400	6	12	5	10	..
General Ceylon	889,581	1,252,782	1,247,524	86,620	- 9,825	441,780	..	115,500	25	20	15	30	..
Golconda Malay	455,045	535,932	612,403	36,208	- 17,273	227,970	..	96,631	45	35	20	35	..
Golden Hope	290,571	376,849	461,324	20,572	- 15,643	113,984	..	101,638	25	20	10	25	..
Grand Central (Ceylon)	3,382,936	5,164,927	5,217,447	562,773	- 57,177	1,643,172	..	654,614	14	10	9	15	2
Gula-Kalumpang	1,513,200	1,549,500	1,618,387	85,000	- 57,000	..	..	16	16	10	22	7	..
Harpenden	315,736	423,423	454,366	29,000	- 5,008	149,200	..	88,758	125	90	30	72	7
Highlands and Lowlands	1,123,799	1,504,374	1,533,919	29,600	- 27,981	578,283	..	192,357	38	17	17	30	..
Inch Kenneth (May 31)	417,249	361,180	427,039	28,710	- 1,360	..	..	75	40	45	45	45	..
Java Amalgamated	663,661	937,688	932,212	..	..	319,147(4)	..	47,064	15	10	20	20	..
Java Rubber Plantations	242,446	317,381	380,504	..	..	150,200(4)	..	17,592	15	10	10	20	..
Jeram (March 31)	200,219	319,403	294,240	..	..	11(1)	..	18,382	22	10	10	15	..
Jong-Lander (June 30)	613,197	564,325	663,950	42,510	- 8,984	566,079(12)	..	97,871	25	15	20	15	..
Jugra Land and Carey (Nov. 30) ..	..	..	2,457,721	..	..	537,035(3)	..	90,871	..	..	..	5	..
Kamuning (Perak) (June 30)	778,418	705,772	902,005	..	..	682,150(10)	..	58,456	20	6	12	12	..
Kapar Para	792,763	1,036,566	1,092,058	67,419	- 19,433	588,157	..	106,414	70	70	50	40	7
Kawie (Java) (March 31)	425,300	549,219	610,200	..	..	71,400(2)	..	35,700	25	25	20	20	..
Keptigalla (March 31)	557,815	503,217	536,311	42,493	- 19,433	109,823	..	10	5	2	2	2	..
Kepong (Malay)	275,085	412,320	750,704	31,867	- 28,668	222,242	..	111,540	10	5	2	20	..
Kinta Kelias (March 31)	450,030	700,023	693,757	52,270	- 17,814	106,500(3)	..	89,902	15	10	10	20	..
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	1,627,748	1,579,662	1,709,537	97,000	- 29,720	1,322,395(12)	..	376,445	45	15	20	15	..
Kuala Selangor	506,075	604,857	656,468	52,810	- 1,892	315,279	..	10,696	150	133	62	62	25
Labu (F.M.S.)	700,200	1,135,792	1,120,320	..	..	329,900(4)	..	1,300	40	30	22	25	5
Lanadron	1,121,362	1,245,745	1,451,209	91,811	- 27,470	554,635	..	141,594	10	5	6	20	..
Langen Java (Aug. 31)	698,281	700,222	812,728	20,000	- 42,560	411,691(10)	..	297,903	15	12	15	7	..
Langkat Sumatra	403,000	467,900	500,000	..	..	108,400(4)	..	28,500	32	15	12	20	..
Ledbury	528,206	703,929	685,259	39,274	- 14,233	223,879	..	115,797	32	20	15	35	..
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,782,052	2,804,900	2,804,217	132,908	- 10,533	647,689(4)	..	218,860	140	116	50	25	..
London Asiatic	1,177,919	1,615,566	1,607,086	132,908	- 10,533	751,187	..	116,708	45	40	25	35	..
Lunnet (Sept. 30)	974,500	1,108,800	1,431,500	82,200	- 36,800	800,478(9)	..	204,482	20	12	17	12	..
Malacca, Ordinary	3,250,604	4,210,746	4,084,666	145,517	- 1,325	1,181,940(4)	..	92,642	45	20	10	30	..
Malayalam	1,519,844	1,752,709	1,853,366	97,500	- 12,680	593,550	..	79,332	10	8	12	12	..
Mendaris	543,014	1,002,567	1,416,558	97,500	- 12,680	593,550	..	53,614	10	10	5	10	..
Merlimau	1,248,678	1,593,088	1,646,237	38,370	- 19,181	155,280(2)	..	161,105	18	16	14	19	..
New Crocodile	494,830	625,070	782,470	..	..	131,865(4)	..	11	5	10	10	10	..
Nordana (Johore)	523,435	608,753	743,464	40,760	- 22,937	110,275(3)	..	45,466	30	15	15	25	..
North Hummock (March 31)	637,621	548,392	655,558	19,690	- 9,288	58,163(3)	..	14,803	16	6	10	20	..
Padang Java (March 31)	213,429	339,188	302,272	18,642	- 18,642	294,252	..	11,909	25	22	12	20	..
Panawatte	495,293	676,583	751,379	63,126	- 20,904	269,495	..	113,185	300	250	150	250	5
Pataing	507,813	725,278	761,538	39,000	- 55,591	389,110	..	410,087	20	21	35	10	..
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	606,256	789,308	1,067,238	38,860	- 11,313	103,517(3)	..	35,742	37	22	6	18	..
Perak Rubber (March 31)	538,796	578,480	587,171	38,860	- 11,313	36,800(1)	..	2,417	12	10	6	10	..
Port Dickson-Lukut (March 31) ..	429,544	538,644	555,355	..	..	145,500(4)	..	49,922	7	6	10	10	..
Rangoon Para	390,543	611,142	630,352	..	..	221,132	..	67,264	16	12	6	15	..</

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Available for Dis- tribu- tion.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Amount.					Rate.
		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
Banks.											
National Bank of Australasia.....	Mar. 31	50,015	336,610	386,625	..	190,000	9½ Ord & Pf.	140,000	56,625	154,156	8
Provincial Bank of Ireland	June 30*	24,780	52,239	77,019	..	25,515	13½	20,000	31,504	61,531	13½
Standard Bank of South Africa	Mar. 31	210,446	(1)759,377	969,823	..	413,098	16½	350,000	206,725	..	..
The National Bank	June 30*	27,713	133,158	160,871	..	63,000	12	70,000	27,871	134,448	12
Breweries.											
Ohlsson's Cape Breweries	Mar. 31	55,596	17,802	73,398	11,500	31,500	6†	..	30,398	46,647	9†
Parker's Burslem	June 2	24,902	79,394	104,296	12,300	41,000	10	25,000	25,996	..	..
South African Breweries	Mar. 31	67,536	178,454	245,990	50,000	162,891	11½†	..	33,099	235,984	12½†
Canals and Docks.											
Ardrossan Harbour	May 31*	144	418	562	..	..	..	..	562	9,214	..
Financial, Land, &c.											
Scottish American Mortgage	May 31	55,909	81,898	137,807	43,550	36,000	12	..	58,257	91,158	12
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Brightside Foundry	June 30	2,028	17,847	19,875	2,250	8,340	10	7,000	2,285	..	..
Normanby Iron Works	June 30	981	11,165	12,146	3,600	7,200	12	..	1,346	11,476	12
Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co.	Dec. 31	1,049,899	675,180	1,725,079	252,500	551,250	10	..	921,329	..	..
W. and T. Avery	Mar. 31	23,003	68,426	91,429	10,069	36,340	15	20,000	25,020	59,956	15
Motor and Cycle.											
Harper, Bean	Dec. 31	..	{ (t) Dr 129,847 }	{ Dr 129,847 }	..	..	..	..	{ Dr 129,847 }	..	..
Oil.											
Scottish American	Mar. 31	..	42,076	42,076	..	..	..	10,000	32,076	..	..
Rubber, &c.											
Badek	Dec. 31	6,623	Dr 3,212	3,411	..	..	..	..	3,411	18,620	15
Bidor	Mar. 31	6,261	Dr 1,769	4,492	..	..	..	..	4,492	25,688	35
Bila (Sumatra)	Aug. 31	3,938	6,784	10,722	..	..	..	..	10,722	3,627	..
Bruas-Perak	Feb. 28	5,068	Dr 3,563	1,505	..	..	..	..	1,505	10,482	20
Lankat Rubber	Mar. 31	18,825	Dr 24,457	Dr 5,632	..	..	..	Dr 6,000	368	35,407	25
Marawan (Java)	Dec. 31	5,747	Dr 5,212	535	..	..	..	..	535	..	..
Travancore	Dec. 31	21,050	Dr 10,936	10,114	..	..	..	..	10,114	17,449	15
Shipping.											
British and Irish Steam Packet	Dec. 31	2,466	128,913	131,379	50,880	60,000	6	..	20,499	..	..
Hazelwood	May 16	3,767	42,799	46,566	..	28,124	17½	15,000	3,442	47,290	20
Tea.											
Eastern Assam	Dec. 31	52,787	16,509	69,296	..	15,139	15	..	54,157	37,397	20
Jokai (Assam)	Dec. 31	99,021	Dr 36,52	62,498	6,000	15,000	6	Dr 7,500	48,998	36,370	10
Lungla (Sylhet)	Dec. 31	18,575	Dr 71,862	Dr 53,287	..	..	..	Dr 5,000	Dr 43,287	12,470	7½
Nedem	Dec. 31	42,999	Dr 59,546	Dr 16,547	9,450	..	..	..	Dr 25,997	86,429	25
Telegraphs and Telephones.											
Anglo-Portuguese Telephone	Dec. 31	8,828	Dr 1,263	7,565	(o) 7,778	..	..	..	Dr 213	11,468	7
Textiles.											
Anglo-French Textile	Dec. 31	5,426	38,686	44,112	2,773	22,655	{ 10 20† }	15,000	3,684	38,477	{ 10 20† }
Trust.											
British Steamship Investment	June 30	429,106	171,198	600,304	12,600	220,500	17½	..	367,204	342,693	22½
Hampstead Garden Suburb.....	Mar. 31	350	Dr 284	66	..	..	..	..	66	..	..
Tyre Investment.....	Feb. 28	218	288,076	288,294	70,000	{ 55,000 75,000 }	{ 10 Pf. Od. 1500 Od. }	..	88,294	249,200	{ 10 Pf. Od. 200 Od. }
Waterworks.											
Cleveland Water	June 30*	1,328	3,414	4,742	..	3,400	{ 10 "A" 7 "B" }	..	1,342	3,467	{ 10 "A" 7 "B" }
Other Companies.											
African and Eastern Trade Corpora- tion	Dec. 31	191,473	854,499	1,045,972	103,924	434,451	17½	300,000	207,597	1,001,618	30
Bradford Coal Merchants'	Mar. 31	4,277	13,362	17,639	5,500	7,490	5	1,000	3,649	18,933	8
H. H. and S. Budgett and Co.	Feb. 26	15,456	30,905	46,361	15,748	8,404	12½	10,000	12,209	61,725	12½†
John Swan and Sons.....	April 30	12,551	11,983	24,534	2,500	5,000	10†	4,500	12,534	16,487	8†
Manchester Dock and Warehouse ..	June 24	797	30,593	31,390	17,789	12,500	5	..	1,101	33,986	5½
Manchester Ship Canal Ware- housing	June 24	870	8,207	9,077	4,463	3,500	5	..	1,114	9,366	5½
New Darvel Bay (Borneo) Tobacco..	Dec. 31	2,208	9,007	11,215	..	..	..	..	11,215	10,392	6
Nobel Industries	Dec. 31	230,389	827,073	1,057,462	261,698	..	..	38,266	757,498	..	..
North Glamorgan Wagon	Mar. 31	2,459	2,565	5,024	..	1,250	12½	300	3,474	2,480	12½
Pillsbury-Washburn Flour Mills ..	Aug. 31	{ Dr 550,044 }	51,282	{ Dr 498,762 }	..	..	..	..	{ Dr 498,762 }	47,039	..
Reeves and Sons.....	April 30	9,725	21,132	30,857	6,971	15,000	20	3,500	5,443	17,554	20
S. Hoffnung and Co.	Mar. 31	16,717	91,378	108,095	26,250	33,750	15	26,500	21,595	98,938	15

* Half-year.

(1) Standard Bank of South Africa accounts for 15 months.

(o) Anglo-Portuguese Telephone.

(t) Harper, Bean.—Nov. 7, 1919, to Dec. 31, 1920. Interim dividend only.

malting, 45s 6d; No. 4 Canada Western, 47s; Canadian feed, 44s; American feed, 42s, all per 400 lbs landed terms. Pearl barley, £2 1/2 to £2 3/4 per ton. On c.i.f. terms a cargo of Dan-Bess-Kustendji expected loading, sold 45s per 400 lbs. Oats generally firm on spot, with a fair demand. English whites quoted 46s to 49s; the winter grey 32s to 35s, old 44s, per 336 lbs. Of imported, late, f.a.q., 32s 9d; clipped, 33s 6d; Chilean tawny, 33s 6d; No. 2 Canada Western, 35s 6d; No. 3 ditto, 34s 6d; New Zealand, 50s; Australian, 31s 6d, per 320 lbs, landed. On c.i.f. terms, and business resulted at irregular but generally firm prices, a fair firmly held. English spring, 65s to 75s; new winters, 55s to 60s, per 532 lbs. Chinese horse beans quoted £9 15s to £10 10s per ton. Peas also firm and in good demand. English maples, 95s; Duns, 65s to 68s, per 504 lbs; Japanese, 35s to 36s; and Tasmanian blue, 21s to 22s, per cwt, ex store. Oats, 36s; and meal firm.

Scottish quoted £26 to £27, and London made £23 to £24. American and Canadian rolled oats, £23 per ton. Lentils nominal. No. 1, split, 34s, and Egyptian 30s, per 100 lbs. Homeward freight markets displayed a fair amount of activity for grain cargoes, and rates were firm, especially for early loading. From the Gulf of Mexico tonnage was taken to U.K., July 31st cancelling, at 7s 9d per qr one, and 8s 3d two ports of discharge; 7s 1 1/2d August 7th, and 6s 9d August 15th, with 26 cents per 100 lbs to Antwerp/Hamburg range, August. Montreal paid 5s 10 1/2d qr U.K./Continent, July. North Pacific, 60s for wheat or flour cargoes and 65s to 66s 3d barley. River Plate section fairly active, especially for August-September loading, and steamers in this position were placed at 45s to 47s 6d as to cancelling date, India quiet, and 22s 6d quoted on dead weight to U.K./Continent. Out-ports, however, ruled stronger and tonnage scarce. Saigon rice

is worth 62s 6d to 65s, with 65s paid for Danly beans and/or wheat to U.K./Continent, while 65s is obtainable from Australia for wheat cargoes home. The Danube has been in strong request, and fixtures included July steamers at 35s to 30s, August 15th 29s, and August 31st cancelling 28s 6d per ton, U.K./Continent. South Africa inactive, and other markets nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to July 16	Cwts. 16,952	Cwts. 16,328	Cwts. 52,676	Cwts. 23,900
44 weeks to July 16	12,142,698	10,768,171	12,916,785	9,568,569
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 85 5	s d 85 3	s d 73 4	s d 74 3
= per cwt	20 2	19 11	17 2	18 0

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
July 9	6,185 5	2,677	3,471 2	88 7	42 10	39 4
16	3,955 4	1,498 5	3,516 3	86 5	42 7	39 3
1917	7,396 3	3,421 7	3,935 7	78 3	72 1	55 2
1918	5,577 4	2,294 2	376 4	74 3	60 5	45 4
1919	12,291 1	580 2	2,031 6	73 4	62 9	49 11
1920	3,809 7	814 3	1,027 6	85 3	91 11	64 5

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Pig-iron: There is an entire absence of business in pig-iron for consumption either at home or abroad. The costs of manufacture are still too high to enable British ironmasters to compete with foreign pig-iron. The normal quotations remain as follows: No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron 135s per ton, and East Coast mixed numbers hematite 140s per ton, but no new business is reported. A few blast furnaces have been restarted to make pig-iron for consumption in firm's own steel works. Manufactured iron and steel: Operations are being resumed at some of the local steel works for manufacturing material against old contracts. There are no new orders being placed. Steel ship plates, home, £15; steel ship angles, home, £14 10s; iron bars, home, £16; steel rails, home, £14 net. Iron ore: There is an entire absence of business in iron ore as all works have large stocks, and are declining to take deliveries against contracts until they resume operations at their blast furnaces.

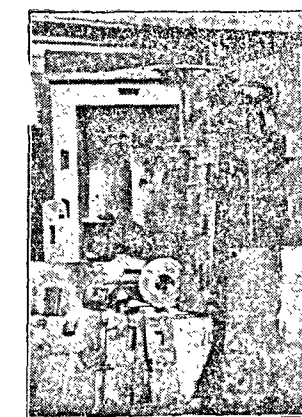
Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The position of the local steel industry appears to be no better than before the strike. A considerable proportion of the open-hearth furnaces in the district restarted this week on orders which have accumulated during the past three months, but these only amount to two or three weeks' work, so that the course of business in the immediate future will be watched with great anxiety. Signs of revival in export buying are still wanting. Prices of British iron and steel material, although lower, are still substantially above European quotations. Steel billets have been reduced £2, and wire rods £3 in certain qualities, and £6 in one. There is a gradual deflation going on throughout products of steel, including tools. Makers, unfortunately, hold large stocks of material which were bought at the inflated prices of a year ago, so that reductions in selling quotations mean losing money. The demand for railway steel, whether for the home or overseas railways, has been phenomenally quiet for a long period owing to purchases at much cheaper rates on the Continent. The crucible steel trade is little if any better. A few orders are coming in, but foreign buying is quite negligible. Trade is falling off in files and most classes of hand tools, and there are loud complaints from the cutlery makers. So far as steam coal is concerned, the railway companies are the largest buyers, as they are building up their exhausted reserves. Not much is doing in export. Gas companies are also taking large tonnages. As regards house coal, the public, after getting in temporary supplies, are ordering with great caution. The rush is over. Slacks are going out of hand steadily, but the demand is less active, buyers holding off in the expectation of prices coming down. No blast-furnace coke is being produced.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Industrial business has been practically wholly suspended in this

The Modern Burglar's Methods

High Explosives

IN the words of Sir Leonard Dunning, H.M. Inspector of Constabulary—"Crime is a profession which each year becomes better educated and better equipped."



The remarkable ingenuity and sound technical knowledge of practical mechanics displayed by the modern Burglar in present day safe robberies prove these words to be only too true.

The use of high explosive as a safe-breaker is one which has found much favour by the modern Burglar on account of its simplicity and effectiveness. The accompanying illustration shows the door of a "cheap" safe which has been blown to pieces by high explosives inserted in the keyholes.

In THE CHATWOOD SAFE, although the locks may be shattered by this method of attack, the security of the safe is in no way affected. Even in cases where the handle, locks and hinges have been entirely destroyed, the door has remained unopened and contents of the safe secure.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE

Since 1858

The Chatwood Safe Book—containing many illustrations and full particulars—gratis and post free upon request.

N.S.—D 2.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED

BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: BOLTON, ENGLAND

LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW
55 Gracechurch St., E.C. Royal Exchange 12 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

district for about a week back, and it is said literally that has been the experience in commercial lines. The trade holidays and enforced idleness in very many departments account for the situation. A moderate restart was made yesterday in some of the Ayrshire and Lanarkshire collieries, and the numbers working will now be daily added to, but adequate supplies from producers will not be up to the mark for a time to come. This will tell mostly against the reopening of the large steel and iron works, which, in fact, are not expected to be in running order before the advent of August. And shipbuilding and engineering must follow suit, and their off period therefore will also extend into next month. Rumour has it that constructors in steel and iron have fairly good order books on hand, but that they are in no wise disposed to hurry proceedings—until the coal outlook becomes defined. The existing scarcity of fuel is keeping prices very stiff and is limiting transactions to necessitous cases, chiefly the bunkering of steamers and the provisioning of gas and electricity works, and even in these connections buying is as much restricted as possible. All round everybody is crying out for cheapness in coal, without which it is affirmed general trade cannot be revived. The difficulty is to fix a common basis on which both parties can meet and deal. Yesterday there were sellers of Fife and Lanarkshire first sorts at from 40s to 45s a ton, figures that represent a decline of 10s a ton on those of ten days ago, but the quotations did not approve themselves to buyers. The latter decline as a body to commit themselves to a rate, but there are consumers who condescend on the essential terms as from 20s to 25s at the pit head. It will take a week or two to clear up and adjust the situation. On Monday a story got about that negotiations were proceeding for the amalgamation of various large and important English and Scotch steel-making interests, but the statement lacks confirmation or indeed support of a reliable kind.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The comparatively small amount of business passing in the home trade is reflected in the poor competition of home users in London, and as was the case in June, the colonial wool auctions are being mainly supported by the Continental demand. More machinery is being brought into commission in the consuming centres, though the increased activity in the mills is principally due to the working off of arrears, and the longer running hours will not be possible for many weeks unless new orders are forthcoming on a much larger scale. Some improvement may be expected from the reduction in the combing tariff, especially as wool has been held up in some instances pending the adjustment of the new scale of charges, but Germany is still a serious competitor in this section of the industry. In this connection it is worthy of note that while a considerable proportion of the Bradford combing plants is idle, most German combing establishments are fully booked up for at least six months ahead. The turnover is small, and quotations for tops are again easier. Users are only covering their immediate requirements, and the buyer appears to be master of the situation. A moderate amount of new business is passing in yarns, the home trade buying some fair weights of merinos, while crossbreds are in demand for Germany. In both cases, however, the business does not amount to a great deal. There is nothing new in the piece goods trade, but there is a little more movement in some directions, though at prices which leave no profit even on to-day's rates.

COLONIAL WOOL.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

The sales have been well attended throughout the week, and the buying spirit in evidence can still be described as fairly good. It is a fact that prices can now be considered as on average 7½ to 10 per cent. lower compared with the average prices of last series, but the offerings have been absorbed creditably, and that is the best feature of the auctions. Last Monday saw an increased number of Continental and Yorkshire buyers turn up, all of which has meant additional buying power, and as a result the sales have gone with a good spirit, with the Continental section most in evidence. Taking a survey of the clean scoured costs of the wools which are selling, it is patent to everyone that the raw material is at a most acceptable price, and any failure of trade revival cannot be laid at the door of the cost of wool. Business is still difficult in consuming centres, and apparently the textile industry of the West Riding is not nearly so comfortably situated as the mills in either France or Germany. The renewed large operations of the Continental section of buyers have given rise to a good deal of surprise, and there is reason for this. Evidence increases that trade is fairly good on the Continent, and in Germany in particular. The increased demand for pieces and bellies, all on Continental account, is very significant, and apparently these wools are all wanted for mule spinning, to produce soft full-handling fabrics which are still popular on the Continent as dress goods. Crossbreds are still

moving irregularly, and every quality from 50's downwards is cheap. The home trade continues to purchase 56's to 58's freely at last week's rates, but any movement at all in lower crossbreds is in buyers' favour. Faulty slipes are often 15 per cent. down, and this is all evidence of a very limited trade in the Huddersfield and South of Scotland manufacturing areas. Cape wools, too, are on average 10 per cent. easier, and the offerings here continue to be very limited.

I regret to say that trade does not show much sign of revival in West Riding manufacturing areas, although a few mills, now that coal is available, are running a full week. It is to be hoped that more will be doing at the piece end of the trade, which continues to be the most unsatisfactory branch. A new and lower combing tariff came into operation last Monday, the reduction on 58's and upwards being 1d, 56's ½d, and ½d on all qualities below. This, with the sensible reduction in wages which took place at the beginning of the month, must all tend to lower costs of production, this being wanted most. Lately a better inquiry has developed in Bradford on German account for tops and noils, both merino and crossbred, and prospects seem to indicate an improvement in the course of a few weeks. I understand that German combing establishments are busy, and that higher charges are likely. Better accounts continue to come to hand from the United States, where the textile industry is reported to be busy. Retail clothiers in this country continue to complain bitterly at the marked absence in the demand for new clothes, and that undoubtedly is the weakness of the textile position generally.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—July 15, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.				
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.		
American.														
Sea Island per lb.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d		
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm		
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	M	F	G	O	L	M	G
	539	614	729	819	909	1079	1965	2285	2915	1784	1949	2234		
Brazilian.														
Pernambuco, &c.	Mid	MF	Fr.	G	F	Gd.	Fne	MF	Fr.	Gd.	MF	Fr.	Gd.	
Paraiba	594	844	1094	..	..	..	2240	2990	..	2104	2404	..	..	
Macelo	594	844	1094	..	..	..	2240	2990	..	2104	2404	..	..	
Mossoro, &c.	594	844	1094	..	..	..	2240	2990	..	2104	2404	..	..	
Ceara	594	844	1094	..	..	..	2240	2990	..	2104	2404	..	..	
Maranhã	594	844	1094	..	..	..	2240	2990	..	2104	2404	..	..	
Egyptian.														
Brown	..	900	1050	1300	1500	..	..	nm	5750	..	2029	2526	..	
Upper	..	500	1000	1200	1300	..	..	nm	4500	..	1896	2517	..	
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	2500	2800	3100	3300	..	..	..	8500	9500	..	..	..	nm
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	950	1050	1150	..	..	..	4500	..	..	2975	..	
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	700	850	1000	..	..	..	3300	4100	..	2150	2550	
Ditto Smooth	644	944	1019	1069	1169	..	..	..	3490	3790	4340	2554	2704	
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	nm	nm	..	..	..	..	nm	..	..	2300	2750	
African, East, &c.	475	575	775	875	975	1075	3050	3350	4750	2475	2515	2595		
East Indian.														
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee ..	G	F	for	Gd.	F	G	Fne	G'in	for	Gd.	Fne	for	Gd.	Fne
Broach	715	740	765	790	815	840	865	..	2110	..	1960	..	..	
M. Ginned Bhownuggar ..	479	529	579	629	679	729	1419	1519	1679	1654	1729	1884		
M. Ginned Cozra, No. 1. ..	485	535	585	635	685	735	1425	1525	1685	1660	1735	1810		
M. Ginned Khandeish ..	460	510	560	610	660	710	1250	1350	1510	1610	1685	1760		
M. Ginned Comptah ..	630	..	680	..	730	..	..	1735	..	1835	..	..		
M. Ginned Bengal	375	425	475	525	575	625	850	925	1050	..	..	..		
M. Ginned Seinde	363	413	463	513	563	613	839	907	1032	1450	1525	1600		
Tinnivelly	790	815	840	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		
Madras, Western	655	680	705	730	..	..	1760	1810	..	1810	1835	..		
Coconada, Red	Fr.	655	..	..	..	..	1500	..	..	1810	..	..		
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	680	..	..	..	..	1525	..	..	1835	..	..		

MANCHESTER, July 21.

The tone of the market has been quieter, and less business has been done than in recent previous weeks. In cloth for India demand has fallen off. This change is partly due to the uncertainty with regard to the monsoon season, and partly owing to some un-

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Deposits
\$154,911,487



Total Assets
\$190,367,409

Merchants and Manufacturers desirous of opening up in Canada are offered complete and valuable information, including particulars of Water Power, Sites, Tariffs, etc. Saving Bank Department at London Office and throughout all Branches in Canada.

400 BRANCHES IN CANADA. COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE.
LONDON OFFICE: J. B. DONNELLY, D.S.O. 53, CORNHILL.

easiness relating to the political situation in our dependency. Merchants have not sufficient confidence in the general prospects to anticipate their requirements further ahead. Occasional orders of moderate weight have been arranged for China, Java, and Singapore, and the general trade position in the Far East is improving. There has not been much activity for the Mediterranean or European outlets. The position of manufacturers remains very irregular, but many firms are steady in quotation as a result of having rather more work to go on with. Restricted operations have occurred in American and Egyptian yarns for home consumption, and spinners find it difficult to obtain any definite relief. Some fair lots have been booked in export yarns for Eastern markets.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, July 21, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, July 14.	Price, July 7.	Price, June 30.	Price, June 23.	Price, June 16.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8.65	8.74	8.12	7.85	7.66	8.30
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16.50	16.50	16.00	15.50	15.50	16.00
— Egyptian per lb	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2	17.2
Yarns—32's twist per lb	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
— 40's twist per lb	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5	16.5
— 60's twist (Egyptian) per lb	31.5	31.5	31.5	31.5	31.5	31.5
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	32	32	32	32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31	31	31	31	31	31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18	18	18	18	18	18
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	16	16	16	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, July 21, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8.65	28.55	22.04	21.30	19.00	8.07
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	16.50	67.00	27.09	29.98	31.00	11.60
Yarns—32's twist per lb	17.2	55	43.5	50	24.5	12.8
— 40's twist per lb	16.5	50.5	42.5	52	24.5	12.8
— 60's twist (Egyptian) per lb	31.5	98	57.5	64	44.5	21
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	88	61	61	31	6
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31	61	59	6	31	6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	18	49	0	35	6	34
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	16	9	42	6	30	6

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The position in market hides grows stronger week by week, and although tanners profess to see trouble ahead, they still follow a rising raw material market. All hides sold in Bermondsey auction on Thursday again advanced, and heavies at 9½d to 9¾d, showed an advance of ¼d to ½d per lb on last prices. Cows also advanced in a similar ratio, heavies and lights making 7½d per lb. Calf were steady, and lambs sold from 1s 3d to 4s 10d, a fall of 4d per skin on the latter. The demand for foreign hides is not quite so lively; fregorifics are offered at 9½d, and a parcel of Leibig Colons have made 10½d. Drys are not selling well to the home tanner, but there seems a better demand for export. The American market seems easier, and heavy Chicago packers are now down to 12½ cents.

Business in leather seems falling off in view of the holidays; sales in bulk of bends are now only made where concessions are made in price, and it is feared that if the quiet holiday demand lasts for a month, the tanners' accumulations of sole leather may again depress the market. Upper leather is dull, although the outlook is regarded as better for box calf and glacé goat. Some amount of German chrome calf and patent is again being offered, and as the quality is good and the price low, it finds buyers. The glacé kid market is still unsettled, as some of the stock now being liquidated by the banks is selling still well below cost of production.

Shoe manufacturers are fairly busy, and in the Bristol district full time is being resumed in many cases. The home trade generally is of fair dimensions, but the difficulty of finding export markets is a very increasing one—even South Africa having placed an embargo on the imports of many kinds of footwear.

THE TIMBER TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Both imports and consumption of building woods have been light over the month, and the stocks in the country have not been decreased to the large extent desired by importers. Large quantities of timber on the spot have found their way through the

auction brokers' hands, and in many instances at prices that must have entailed heavy losses to sellers, though for special sizes prices have been maintained at the present low scale of values compared with those ruling last summer. Little f.o.b. business has yet been negotiated with Swedish wood exporters. The latter at a meeting held recently decided to lower their f.o.b. rates to a basis of £26 a Petrograd standard for unsorted red deals, and £16 for 7 in battens, but these are not yet sufficiently low to induce importers to operate, as Finnish and other European countries are quoting cheaper rates as well as the smaller Swedish exporters who are not in the union. At a later meeting of the Swedish wood manufacturers, it was resolved that they be not tied down to a minimum rate in their selling prices. The Canadian spruce market continues dull, and prices are more difficult to maintain, due, to a large extent, to the competition from the North of Europe. Stocks at the West Coast ports are still on the heavy side, with consumption only fair. The mahogany market both in Liverpool and London has continued to be of a dull character, with a tendency to lower prices. At a Liverpool sale held recently the brokers' minimum for African wood was reduced from 5d to 4d per foot super, and this had the effect of quickly disposing of a large number of Grand Bassam logs put up for auction. There is at present little market for small and inferior wood. The consumption of cedar is slow, and shipments are not recommended. Other furniture woods are in only moderate request. Stocks of teak, both of logs and dimensioned wood, are heavy, with consumption quiet. Native timber is also of an uninteresting character. Writing generally of the trade, native and foreign, there is a lack of confidence as to whether prices have touched bottom. The demand is of a hand-to-mouth character, and though conditions are expectedly better since the end of the dispute in the coal trade, the general industrial conditions of the country must improve before the timber trade again gets into its full stride.

LINEN TRADE.

BELFAST, JULY 20.

Flax.—The Irish markets were closed the greater part of last week owing to holidays, but any small lots offered were taken off the market at higher prices. On the Continent there is practically no change to report, and supplies are still very small, as fabricants will not scutch the straw in the present dry weather.

Yarns.—Since date of last report the market shows signs of improvement, and considering the holiday season, a fair amount of business has come to hand. This applies to both line and tow yarns. Demand for damask warps continues, and orders are being placed for forward delivery. Continental spinings are not much in evidence, prices as a rule being above the level of home yarns.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The oilseed trade during the past few days has experienced a marked revival of activity, more particularly in linseed and linseed oil. The strong demand for Plate linseed towards the close of last week has been greatly accentuated both here and on the Continent by the drought and the giving out of the pastures, which have compelled cattle rearers and dairy farmers to make heavy calls for oilcake. Hence the urgent need of crushers for seed near at hand to meet the unexpected demand for the residual.

The result has been, taken with the strength in Argentina, a very firm market, and a considerable amount of business appears to have been put through at daily advancing prices, Plate linseed on spot

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed : : : Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up : : : Y45,000,000
Reserve : : : Y10,380,000

Head Office : : : TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office : : : 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kluang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking Exchange Business, undertakes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

and passage having appreciated fully 70s on the week to £23, with Indian seed correspondingly dearer in sympathy. The large quantities of Argentine linseed afloat or about to be shipped, though to be taken into account, have not proved an adverse factor. On the other hand, with the big demand for the cake product at a time when stocks are extremely low, it seems possible that supplies will be readily absorbed.

Raw linseed oil has followed the seed market, and has advanced strongly up to £39 per ton (London), and £37 10s (Hull) being paid for spot oil, with a fair business reported in the September-December position round £38. All round the tone is much more confident. On scarcity and dearer seed cotton oils have advanced, crude being up 40s, and edible refined 60s per ton on the week. Soyabean oil is also in better request, and quoted higher, while for crude rape oil sellers are demanding 80s, more than has been the price for some weeks past. Palm, kernel and groundnut oils meet with a steady inquiry, the latter fetching more money.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

“Blue Tiers,” a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and “Red Tiers,” a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. “Ferrocete,” a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, July 22.

There was a fair amount of business in several directions, though in a general sense demand proved rather quieter, after the activity previously shown. Such articles as Rangoon beans and Japanese peas were in considerable request, both with regard to spot and forward positions, and firm features characterised the market. Continental buyers were again very much in evidence.

SUGAR.—The market continued to move on firm lines, and there was a good inquiry both on grocery and manufacturing account, with offers from most producing countries sparingly made. Tate's cubes sold, 62s 9d to 63s 9d; granulated, 59s to 59s 6d; pieces, 47s 6d to 50s; castor, 63s to 63s 6d; Lyle's granulated, 59s to 59s 3d; yellow crystals, 53s 6d. Crystallised West India sold, 45s to 51s 6d, as to quality; and muscovado, 38s to 46s. American granulated, spot, sold, 58s 6d; ditto, afloat, 30s, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, September-October, 22s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. White Brazilian, spot, changed hands at 53s 6d to 55s; and white Mauritius, 52s 6d to 54s 6d. Dutch granulated, prompt, 30s 6d, f.o.b. terms; and cubes, 35s. Czechoslovakian granulated, prompt, 29s, f.o.b., Hamburg. Cuban stocks amount to 1,440,000 tons, as compared with 445,000 same time last year.

COFFEE.—A steady tone prevailed, and the moderate quantities offered in auction met with fair support. Fair bold Mysore, sold, 12s 6d; Nairobi, 96s; Blue Mountain Jamaica from 197s to 192s 6d; Vera Paz, bold, 19s to 192s 6d. Future delivery market quietly steady.

COCOA.—Only a small volume of business resulted this week at about late rates. Fine Grenada, 56s; butter, 2s 1d per lb.

TEA.—In auction some 46,900 packages Indian were brought forward this week, and with better and well-distributed competition full to dearer prices were secured. The finer liquoring descriptions in particular sold well. 23,500 packages Ceylon met with but moderate support, and any alteration in values proved favourable to the buyer.

RICE.—Market firm, but general trade much quieter, buyers pausing after recent liberal purchases. Two stars Rangoon, spot, 21s 6d; afloat, 21s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, sold, 20s 6d; No. 1 Saigon afloat, 19s; No. 1 A Burma broken, June-July, 15s 6d; No. 2 A, 15s 3d; Siam C.1, broken, June-July, 14s 9d; C.3, 14s 3d. Rangoon bran, June-July, quoted £8 10s, ex ship terms; and Siam, July-August, sold, £8 5s, c.f. and i. terms. Rangoon beans, spot, hand picked, sold, 14s for 1920 crop, and 1919 crop 12s. Japanese peas, spot, sold, 35s 6d; crop 1920, July-August, 33s.

SPICES.—Pepper ruled steady, with moderate inquiries. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 43d to 44d; August-October, steamer, 44d; Aleppy, spot, 43d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, spot, 93d; Muntok, ditto, 93d; ditto, August-October, 93d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, changed hands at 11d; ditto, July-August, steamer, 11d. Pimento, spot, 23d; flake tapioca fair, spot, sold, 14d, all per lb. Fair Penang seed pearl, spot, sold, 21s; small sago, 27s; sago flour, August-October, 14s 6d. Desiccated coconut, fine cut, spot, sold, 55s; medium, 55s; halves, July-August, 53s. Ginger quiet, steady.

FRUIT.—The market for currants remained in a quiet state at late rates. New Cape sultanas, spot, quoted 100s to 135s, as to quality. Dates steady. Siar, spot, sold, 15s 6d.

JUTE.—The market assumed a much quieter tone this week, and though there was no undue pressure to sell, prices tended easier. Native first marks assortment, subs, June-July, steamer, sold, £27 15s to £27; lightning actuals, ditto, £22; ditto, subs, £21 10s to £21 5s; heart, subs, £16 15s. Calcutta hessians and twills steadily held, but only retail sales resulted. 10 oz, spot, 21s for hessians, and 8 oz, 19s 6d per 100 yards.

HEMP.—Manila remains dull and featureless. J grade, July-September, quoted, £36; K, ditto, £33; L, sold, £32 10s; and M, quoted, £27 10s. New Zealand nominal. Fair, July-September, £32. East India idle, unaltered.

SHELLAC quiet, and spot transactions were on the basis of 300s for T.N. standard. August, sold, 250s; and October, 230s.

COPRA.—Market ruled dearer in the early part of the week, but became easier and unsettled. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, Rotterdam, sold up to £35 2s 6d, then £33 15s; Ceylon, £36 to £35 10s; Cebu, £34 to £33; Java, £34 15s to £34. Palm kernels, August-October, done £24 to £23 5s.

RUBBER.—Market generally quiet this week. Plantation crepe, spot, sold, 10d to 93d; August-September, 10d; October-December, 10d to 103d; January-March, 113d. Sheet, spot, sold, 93d to 9d; October-December, 103d to 10d; January-March, 103d to 103d. Fine hard Para, spot, 11d; and ball, 63d.

OILS.—Linseed firmer. Spot, net, naked, 39s 3d; September-December, 38s. Rape firmer. Crude, spot, 54s 6d; refined, 61s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 40s 6d; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 48s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 98s; and shipment, 66s. Coconut firm. Ceylon, spot, 58s; July-August, 52s; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya firm. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 39s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 22s to 24s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 48s 6d; deodorised, barrels, £60. Turpentine irregular and easier. American, spot, 91s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s; F, 17s 6d; G, 17s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 93d; and water-white, 1s 103d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market firmer, with active dealings, but irregular. Calcutta, July-August, quoted, £24 5s. Plate, spot, Hull, £22 10s; afloat, sold, £22 to £22 10s and £21 15s and £22; June-July and July-August, sold, £22 to £22 5s and £21 15s and £22; August-September, £22 to £22 5s and £21 15s and £22; September-October, £22 to £22 5s and £21 15s and £22. Rapeseed firm. Toria, July-August, £22 10s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed irregular. Egyptian black, August, sold, £13 1s; £13, and £13 2s 6d; and white, £12 12s. Bombay, August-September, £11 10s. Gingelly firm. Chinese, June-July, Continent, sold, up to £28 10s. Castor, Bombay, July-August, sellers, £20, and Brazilian, £16 10s, Hull. Groundnuts, Coromandel, machine-dried, July-August, sold, £25 10s; ordinary, £23 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., July-August, £24 per ton.

METALS.—Tin occupied moderate attention last Monday, the tendency of prices being easier, with business in cash at £165 to £164 10s; three months' £167. Selling pressure followed until the middle of the week, while these dates fluctuated down to £160 and £162 respectively, improving since to £162 10s. Thursday's market exhibited an upward tendency. Cash changed hands at £160 10s to £161, and three months' at £163. At Friday's session values advanced. Cash sold at £163 to £162 10s, August £163 to £163 10s, and three months' £164 to £165. English ingots, £162 10s. Copper: The market tended rather firmer at the week's commencement, standard cash being registered at £70 15s to £70 12s 6d, and three months' £71. A good business resulted on Tuesday at a lower range, cash declining to £70 2s 6d, three months' to £70 10s. Steadiness in general prevailed during the middle of the week, end of July being down at £70 2s 6d, and three months' £70 10s. At Thursday's meeting, cash sold at £70 7s 6d, early August, £70 12s 6d to £70 15s, and three months' at £71 to £70 17s 6d. At Friday's session the market favoured sellers. August dates realised £70 15s to £71, late September £71 5s, and three months' up to £71 5s. Electros, £74 10s to £76; best selected, £71 to £73; strong sheets, £105. Lead firmer at £24 to £23 12s 6d as to position. Spelter easier at £26 15s according to position. Antimony: English Regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium: Home trade and export remain quoted at £150.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—JULY 21.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	a
Beasts—Herefords	8	10	9 6
Short-horns	8	8	9 4
Devons	8	8	9 6
Norfolks	8	8	9 4
Scottish	8	8	8 4
Irish	8	8	8 4
Sheep—Downs (clipped)	8	8	10 8
Longwools	8	8	10 0
Crossbreds	8	0	10 0
Scottish	11	8	12 8
Lamb—Downs	11	8	12 8

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—JULY 21.

	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
	s	d
Epicures	8	0 to 9 0
Eclipse	9	0 to 10 0
Sharpe's Express	9	0 to 10 0

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				INDIA RUBBER.—lb. s d				PROVISIONS.—s d s d				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb. s d s d			
COCOA. —Duty, British grown				DRUGS.				Butter. —per cwt.				Singapore, fair White			
35s, foreign 42s, cwt. s d				Aloes, fine E.I., per cwt. 10 18 0				Irish creamery				0 94 0 94			
35s, foreign 42s, cwt. s d				Cape, good to fine, 40 0 0				Do factory				Black Singapore			
Trinidad, per cwt. 56 0 0				Malacca, Fern, per lb. 2 0 0				Australian				0 94 0 94			
Grenada, per cwt. 42 0 0				Cappivi				Argentine				White Siam			
Ceylon, plantation, 70 0 0				Camphor				Dutch				0 24 0 24			
Guaiana, 58 0 0				Japan, refined				New Zealand				Cinnamon—1st sort			
Bahia, finest				Gardamons, Ceylon				Do 2nd				1 3 0 0			
58 0 0				Catharides, per lb.				Do 3rd				1 0 0 0			
COFFEE.—British grown				Castor oil, cwt.				Do 4th				0 9 0 0			
35s, foreign 42s, cwt.				Gum Benjun, Sum.				American				0 34 0 0			
70 0 0				Olibanum, drops				Hams—Irish				Cassia Lignea			
E India fine ord. g.d. 70 0 112 8				Ipecacuanha				Canadian				35 0 0 0			
Do good to fine				Jalap.				Lard—Irish				Cloves—Zanzibar			
Do good to fine				Musk, China, oz.				American boxes, 50lb				0 112 0 112			
Do good to fine				Oil, Cassia				Do 2nd				0 2 0 0			
Central American, g.d.				Aniseed				Do 3rd				0 1 0 0			
ord. to mid				Peppermint, H.G.H.				Do 4th				0 9 0 0			
Mid. to fine				Rhubarb, China, 4r to 4r				Do 5th				0 8 0 0			
Good to fine				DYE STUFFS, &c.				Do 6th				0 7 0 0			
Central American, g.d.				Galls, China, per cwt.				Do 7th				0 6 0 0			
ord. to mid				Turmeric, Bengal				Do 8th				0 5 0 0			
Mid. to fine				Madras, finger				Do 9th				0 4 0 0			
Good to fine				Gambier, block				Do 10th				0 3 0 0			
Columbian, ordinary				Cutch, ord. to fair				Do 11th				0 2 0 0			
Do good to low mid				DYEWOODS				Do 12th				0 1 0 0			
Do mid. to fine				Brazil, per ton				Do 13th				0 0 0 0			
Foreign				Fustic, Jamaica				Do 14th				0 0 0 0			
Alum lump, per ton				Shade fm D8 Hides				Do 15th				0 0 0 0			
Do ground				Do Eng or WS				Do 16th				0 0 0 0			
Ammonia, carb., p. lb.				Do Eng or WS				Do 17th				0 0 0 0			
Muriate, White, ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 18th				0 0 0 0			
Sulphate				Do Eng or WS				Do 19th				0 0 0 0			
Arsenic, lump, per ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 20th				0 0 0 0			
Powder, per ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 21st				0 0 0 0			
Ashes, pot., per cwt				Do Eng or WS				Do 22nd				0 0 0 0			
Pearl do, do				Do Eng or WS				Do 23rd				0 0 0 0			
Bleaching p.wdr, per lb				Do Eng or WS				Do 24th				0 0 0 0			
Borax, per cwt				Do Eng or WS				Do 25th				0 0 0 0			
Do powder				Do Eng or WS				Do 26th				0 0 0 0			
Cream Tartar				Do Eng or WS				Do 27th				0 0 0 0			
53½, powder				Do Eng or WS				Do 28th				0 0 0 0			
Iodine, dr.				Do Eng or WS				Do 29th				0 0 0 0			
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 30th				0 0 0 0			
Potash—				Do Eng or WS				Do 31st				0 0 0 0			
Sulphate, net				Do Eng or WS				Do 32nd				0 0 0 0			
Fusate, do				Do Eng or WS				Do 33rd				0 0 0 0			
Do Foreign				Do Eng or WS				Do 34th				0 0 0 0			
Sulphate				Do Eng or WS				Do 35th				0 0 0 0			
Sal-Acetos				Do Eng or WS				Do 36th				0 0 0 0			
Sal-Ammoniac				Do Eng or WS				Do 37th				0 0 0 0			
Soda-Bicarb.				Do Eng or WS				Do 38th				0 0 0 0			
Crystals, exship, p. ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 39th				0 0 0 0			
Alkali				Do Eng or WS				Do 40th				0 0 0 0			
Sugar of lead white				Do Eng or WS				Do 41st				0 0 0 0			
Foreign white				Do Eng or WS				Do 42nd				0 0 0 0			
Sulphate Quinine				Do Eng or WS				Do 43rd				0 0 0 0			
China Brands				Do Eng or WS				Do 44th				0 0 0 0			
Foreign				Do Eng or WS				Do 45th				0 0 0 0			
Sulphate-Copper, p. ton				Do Eng or WS				Do 46th				0 0 0 0			
Zinc, cut				Do Eng or WS				Do 47th				0 0 0 0			
Zinc Flour				Do Eng or WS				Do 48th				0 0 0 0			
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb				Do Eng or WS				Do 49th				0 0 0 0			
English				Do Eng or WS				Do 50th				0 0 0 0			
COPRA.—per ton, c.l.f.				Do Eng or WS				Do 51st				0 0 0 0			
Malabar, July/Sept.				Do Eng or WS				Do 52nd				0 0 0 0			
Ceylon				Do Eng or WS				Do 53rd				0 0 0 0			
MS Singapore				Do Eng or WS				Do 54th				0 0 0 0			
MS Straits				Do Eng or WS				Do 55th				0 0 0 0			
COCOAINE.—per lb				Do Eng or WS				Do 56th				0 0 0 0			

INDIA RUBBER.—lb. s d				PROVISIONS.—s d s d				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb. s d s d			
Para, fine, hard, spot				Butter. —per cwt.				Singapore, fair White			
Plantation crepe				Irish creamery				0 94 0 94			
INDIGO.—per lb.				Do factory				Black Singapore			
Bengal, good red vilo-				Australian				0 94 0 94			
let to fine,				Argentine				White Siam			
Mid. ceylon, good				Dutch				0 24 0 24			
Low to good ord.				New Zealand				Cinnamon—1st sort			
Madras, dry leaf, good				Danish				1 3 0 0			
Do low to ord.				Siam—Engd.—Irish				Do 3rd			
Kampal, mid. to gd.				Danish				1 0 0 0			
Low to mid.				Canadian				Do 4th			
HEMP.—per ton—				American				0 9 0 0			
St Petersburg, layer				Hams—Irish				0 34 0 0			
Manila, June/Aug.				Canadian				Cassia Lignea			
N. Z. spot, high fair				American				35 0 0 0			
JUTE.—£ s d				Lard—Irish bladders				Cloves—Zanzibar			
Native first marks,				American boxes, 50lb				0 112 0 112			
July/Aug. subs.				Do 2nd				0 2 0 0			
LEATHER.—per lb.				Beef—Frozen, per lb.				Ginger, per cwt.			
Sole Bends 6/10 lb.				Do washed				120 0 130			
Do 10/12				Do 3rd				Cochin, cut, oz.			
Do 12/14				Do 4th				30 0 32 6			
Do 14/16				Do 5th				Do washed			
Do 17/18				Do 6th				30 0 40 0			
Do 19/20				Do 7th				Japan			
Do 21/22				Do 8th				Jamaica			
Do 23/24				Do 9th				120 0 140 8			
Do 25/26				Do 10th				Mace			
Do 27/28				Do 11th				per lb 0 10 1 2			
Do 29/30				Do 12th				Nutmegs, good to fine			
Do 31/32				Do 13th				1 14 1 5			
Do 33/34				Do 14th				Small to medium			
Do 35/36				Do 15th				0 84 0 10			
Do 37/38				Do 16th				Chillies—per cwt			
Do 39/40				Do 17th				130 0 140 8			
Do 41/42				Do 18th				TALLOW.—per cwt.			
Do 43/44				Do 19th				Good mutton			
Do 45/46				Do 20th				41 3 8 8			
Do 47/48				Do 21st				Beef			
Do 49/50				Do 22nd				41 0 8 8			
Do 51/52				Do 23rd				TAPIOC.—per lb.			
Do 53/54				Do 24th				E. 2 Plak, fair, spot			
Do 55/56				Do 25th				Pearl			
Do 57/58				Do 26th				per cwt 20 6 27 0			
Do 59/60				Do 27th				TEA.—duy 10d, British,			
Do 61/62				Do 28th				foreign is per lb—			
Do 63/64				Do 29th				Indian and Ceylon—			
Do 65/66				Do 30th				s d s d			
Do 67/68				Do 31st				Pekoe			
Do 69/70				Do 32nd				Broken Pekoe			
Do 71/72				Do 33rd				0 94 1 94			
Do 73/74				Do 34th				Orange Pekoe			
Do 75/76				Do 35th				0 92 1 94			
Do 77/78				Do 36th				Broken Orange			
Do 79/80				Do 37th				1 0 1 94			
Do 81/82				Do 38th				Pekoe Souchong			
Do 83/84				Do 39th				0 84 1 2			
Do 85/86				Do 40th				TIMBER.—Timber & Hewn Wood			
Do 87/88				Do 41st				E. 1 Oak, (good)			
Do 89/90				Do 42nd				Karril Pine cubic ft.			
Do 91/92				Do 43rd				0 9 0 16 0			
Do 93/94				Do 44th				Satinwood super			
Do 95/96				Do 45th				1 6 6 0			
Do 97/98				Do 46th				Cedar cubic			
Do 99/100				Do 47th				0 7 1 2			
Do 101/102				Do 48th				American Oak			
Do 103/104				Do 49th				0 11 11			
Do 105/106				Do 50th				American Ash			
Do 107/108				Do 51st				0 42 0 10			
Do 109/110				Do 52nd				TOBACCO.—			
Do 111/112				Do 53rd				Duty 82/10/4d per lb.			
Do 113/114				Do 54th				Virginia leaf			
Do 115/116				Do 55th				s d s d			
Do 117/118				Do 56th				Common to fine			
Do 119/120				Do 57th				1 3 2 3			
Do 121/122				Do 58th				Stripes			
Do 123/124				Do 59th				2 0 2 0			
Do 125/126				Do 60th				Kentucky leaf—			
Do 127/128				Do 61st				Common to fine			
Do 129/130				Do 62nd				1 13 1 9			
Do 131/132				Do 63rd				Stripes			
Do 133/134				Do 64th				0 8 1 0			
Do 135/136				Do 65th				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do 137/138				Do 66th				1 0 7 0			
Do 139/140				Do 67th				Seedleaf			
Do 141/142				Do 68th				1 6 6 0			
Do 143/144				Do 69th				Havana			
Do 145/146				Do 70th				6 0 0 0			
Do 147/148				Do 71st				Greek			
Do 149/150				Do 72nd				0 10 1 0			
Do 151/152				Do 73rd				East Indian			
Do 153/154				Do 74th				0 6 2 0			
Do 155/156				Do 75th				Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb			
Do 157/158				Do 76th				2 0 up			
Do 159/160				Do 77th				TURPETINE, p. cwt			
Do 161/162				Do 78th				81 0 0 0			
Do 163/164				Do 79th				WOOL.—Colonial, per lb—			
Do 165/166				Do 80th				Australian scoured			
Do 167/168				Do 81st				Merino, superior			
Do 169/170				Do 82nd				2 0 2 9			
Do 171/172				Do 83rd				Merino greasy			
Do 173/174				Do 84th				2 2 0 0			
Do 175/176				Do 85th				Fine Crossbred			
Do 177/178				Do 86th				1 3 1 6			

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

CITY EQUITABLE ASSOCIATED LIMITED.

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1908-1917.)

Authorised Capital - - £1,100,000

— DIVIDED INTO —

1,000,000 8 per cent. Participating Preference Shares of £1 each and 100,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, of which 464,000 Participating Preference Shares have already been allocated to the Shareholders of the Greater Britain Insurance Corporation Limited and the City of London Insurance Company Limited, and 60,000 Ordinary Shares have been allotted.

THERE WILL BE OFFERED FOR SUBSCRIPTION ON MONDAY NEXT, 250,000 8 per cent. Participating Preference Shares of £1 each at par

Guaranteed as to Capital and Dividend by the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company Limited.

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS:—

On application - - - -	2s. 6d.	On 1st October, 1921 - -	5s. 0d.
On allotment - - - -	2s. 6d.	On 12th January, 1922 - -	10s. 0d.

Payment in full may be made on allotment and interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum will be allowed on such pre-payment.

The said Participating Preference Shares carry a fixed preferential dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum on the capital paid up. After payment by way of dividend to the holders of the Ordinary Shares of a sum equal to the amount of the preference dividend, one-half of any surplus profits in each year which it shall from time to time be determined to distribute shall be divided among the holders of the Participating Preference Shares and the holders of the Ordinary Shares rateably in proportion to the capital for the time being paid up.

The dividend on the Participating Preference Shares will be payable half-yearly on the 1st January and the 1st July in each year calculated to the 31st December and the 30th June respectively. The first dividend on the Participating Preference Shares now offered for subscription will be payable on the 1st January, 1922, and will be calculated on the amount paid up from the respective due dates of the instalments to the 31st December, 1921.

The Articles of Association provide that upon a winding up the assets available for distribution among the Members are to be applied in the first place in payment of the capital paid up on the Preference Shares and all arrears of the fixed preferential dividend thereon, whether declared or not, up to the commencement of the winding up, and in the next place in paying the capital paid up on the Ordinary Shares. Any assets remaining are to be distributed as to one-half thereof among the holders of the Preference Shares rateably in proportion to the number of Preference Shares held by them respectively, and as to the other half among the holders of Ordinary Shares rateably in proportion to the number of Ordinary Shares held by them respectively.

Applications from Shareholders in the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company Limited and the Associated Companies will receive special consideration.

DIRECTORS.

GERARD LEE BEVAN, of 1 Cornhill, London, E.C., Chairman of the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company Limited, *Chairman.*
GEORGE EDWARD READ ADAIR, 6 Wellesley House, Lower Sloane street, S.W., Director Greater Britain Insurance Corporation Limited.
BRIG.-GEN. SIR DOUGLAS DAWSON, G.O.V.O., C.B., C.M.G., of Remenham, Ipswich, Director of the Norwich Union Life Insurance Society Limited (London Board).
HENRY RALPH GRENSIDE, of Crathorne, Weybridge, Surrey, Director of the City Equitable Fire Insurance Company Limited.

GENERAL MANAGER.

E. G. MACKENZIE.

BAIRD & SELLERS.

BANKERS.

THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL & UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, 61 and 63 Victoria street, Westminster (Head Office), and branches.

W. G. A. EDWARDS, 3 Coleman street, London, E.C.2.

BROKERS.

ELLIS & STEARNS, 1 Cornhill, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.
PERSHOUSE & CO., 4 Copthall court, and Stock Exchange, London, E.C.

AUDITORS.

N & LEPINE, Bond court, Walbrook, E.C.

LEGAL AND REGISTERED OFFICE.

W. LOCK, 3 & 4 Lothbury, E.C.

Prospectuses and Forms of Application for Shares may be obtained at the registered office of the Company and from its Bankers, Solicitors, Brokers and Auditors.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000



Branches as Under.

83 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor
New York Office—33, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27b, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up ... " 348,786,000
Reserve ... " 178,000,000
Deposits ... " 4,390,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY

Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	173	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets.....	188
The Voice of Industry	175	New Issues	189
The Civil Service	176	Active Securities.....	190
The Course of Trade	177	Company Meetings	192
Labour and Communism ..	178	Government Returns—	
Stock Exchange Peace		Treasury Bills by Public	
Problems	178	Tender	200
Business Notes—		Currency Notes Account ..	200
Public Trustee's Report ..	179	Public Income and Expen-	
Home Railway Dividends..	179	diture	200
Railway Statistics	180	Bankers' Gazette—	
Coal Output.....	180	Bank of England	201
New Commonwealth Loan		Clearing Returns	201
in Australia	180	Overseas Bank Returns ..	201
The Peruvian Centenary ..	180	London Clearing Banks....	203
Taxation in the Dutch East		Loan and Discount Rates..	203
Indies	180	Rates of Exchange.....	203
Clerical and Medical's Life		Bullion	204
Bonus	181	Imports and Exports of Gold	
Hudson's Bay Report	181	Gold and Silver Prices ...	204
Gordon Hotels	181	Company News—	
Marconi International		Analysis of Balance-Sheets	
Marine	181	Mining Output Statistics	
Indian Mine Finance	182	Railway & Tramway Traffic	
Spanish Tariff.....	182	Dividend Announcements..	206
Overseas Correspondence—		Rhodesian Gold Output ...	206
United States	182	Reports and Notices	206
France	183	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	208
Poland	185	Commercial Reports—	
Jugoslavia	185	Corn Trade	207
Letters to the Editor—		Iron and Coal Trade	208
The Gold Standard.....	185	Wool Trade	210
The Railways Bill	186	Cotton Trade	210
The Currency Problem	187	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	
Cost of Production.....	188	Hide and Leather Trades ..	211
Books and Publications—		Overseas Produce Markets	
Reviews	188	Portland Cement	211
Books Received	188	Price Current	212

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £2 18s 0d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

THE abundance of money continued in the early days of the week, but, thanks to heavy repayments to the Bank of England by the Government, as indicated in Thursday's statement, supplies of floating credits have become less plentiful. There have also been signs of a better supply of bills, and the discount market has also been affected by the increased demand for money, and rates are higher all round, the quotation for three months' bills yesterday being 4½ per cent. Business, however, was almost negligible pending the result of the tenders for Treasury bills. There was a good demand for £3,000,000 six months' Treasury bills placed by the New South Wales Govern-

ment on Monday at 5½ per cent., the bills being dated August 2nd, and on Thursday the Port of London Authority were successful with £1,000,000 in three months' bills, the average rate being stated to have been about 4½ per cent. The alteration in the French Bank rate has had practically no effect on the London market.

	July 29, 1921.	July 22, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	6	6	(Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	4	4	(Jly. 21, '21)
Discount / Call	3½	3½	4	4	(Jly. 21, '21)
Houses / Notice	3½	3½	4½	4½	(Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	4½	4½	4½	4½	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills) ..	4½	4½	5	5½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

A substantial improvement in the Bank of England's position is shown in Thursday's return. The gold stock rose by £2,600, and the circulation by £565,600, making the Reserve £563,000 lower. But Government securities were reduced by £39,530,000, and Other by £4,274,500, and deposits were thus £44,413,000 lower, £1,562,600 coming off Public and £42,850,400 off Other. The proportion has accordingly risen from 11½ to 15½ per cent. The currency notes circulation expanded by £1,248,000 to £325,214,000, which includes £1,988,900 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £275,275,000, or £42,280,200 below the maximum.

The Bank of France reduced its rate of discount from 6 per cent. to 5½ per cent. on July 28, 1921. It had stood at 6 per cent. since April 8, 1920.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended July 23, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	29,096	Supply Services	16,514
Taken from Exchequer Balances	495	Interest on Debt	2,234
		Sundry	449
		Reduction of Debt	10,304
	29,591		29,591

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £10,303,910, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Public Departments Advances ..	+ 12,300	Advances by Bank of England ..	- 22,500
Treasury Bonds	+ 3,700	Treasury Bills	- 1,318
		Unemployment Insurance ..	- 570
		National Savings Certificates ..	- 50
		Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 491
		Depreciation Fund	- 1,000
	+ 16,000		- 25,929

Customs and Excise added £12,416,000 to the revenue, and Property and Income-tax produced £7,056,000. Excess Profits Duties yielded £4,000,000, and Special Receipts under Miscellaneous £2,040,000. For the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1921 £570,000 was allocated. The Floating Debt was reduced by £11,285,000 to £1,352,661,000.

Business on the foreign exchange market has been much quieter again this week, and the movement of rates, with one or two exceptions, has been relatively restricted. Mainly as the result of Germany's preparations for reparation payments the florin rate moved up rapidly from 11.41½ on the 22nd to 11.66 on the 27th. Since then there has been a slight reaction, but yesterday the quotation still stood at 11.57. Future quotations for florins are now roughly the same as spot. Italy, too, has found it impossible to maintain its recent improvement, the quotation for the lira rising from 80.45 a week ago as high as 87½ on the 27th, with a recovery to 86½ yesterday. Disturbed political conditions and increasing intensity of depression, which has hit LARHOUSE & CO. and most other countries, is quite sufficient to account for this depreciation. Among the S

upward tendency has continued, the movement this week being most marked in Stockholm, which rose from 17.39 on the 22nd to 17.68½ on the 26th. Since then, however, there has been a recovery to 17.40. In Berlin the effect of the well-advertised credits from Holland and the States has soon spent itself, and the quotation has risen steadily from 273½ a week ago to 291 yesterday. Recent reports would suggest that export demand is here also beginning to slacken. The quotation for futures stands at about one mark per month under spot. The New York rate, after falling from 3.60½ on the 22nd to 3.57½ on Monday, has remained throughout the week round about this figure, and yesterday seemed a little stronger, the rate being quoted at 3.58. Much interest is shown at the very low rates for money now being charged in New York. The quotation for futures remains the same as a week ago at about ½ cent per month above spot. The Paris rate has risen from 46.25 to 46.70, a smaller movement than might have been expected in view of the increasingly serious reports of the French financial position, and the persistence shown by the French Government in its dangerous policy in Silesia. The Belgian rate has moved up in the same way, from 47.37½ to 48.25, and still shows no tendency to reduce the strangely wide margin between the French and Belgian franc. Through the recent discrepancy between money rates in Paris and London the quotation for French futures has moved for the time being to 3 centimes above spot, but with the change in the French Bank rate this position is not likely to be maintained. The Brussels rate for futures has at the same time narrowed to 2 centimes below spot. Spain during the week has been irregular, having moved up as high as 28.13. Yesterday, however, at 27.90, it was only 15 points above last week's quotation. Switzerland from 21.76 moved at first in our favour, probably, as in the case of Amsterdam and Stockholm, as the result of German activities, but has since gone back again to 21.80. Lisbon has recovered a little, from 7½d to 7¾d. Helsingfors has found it impossible to maintain its recent recovery, and is again depreciating rather rapidly. In Central Europe the depreciation of the Austrian "Auslandskrone" continues, the London quotation being about 3,000 as compared with 2,650 a week ago. The last available Vienna rate (Inlandskrone) was 3,375 on the 26th, when the London (Auslandskrone) rate was 2,800. Warsaw has also broken away again, being now up to about 7,700. Bucharest and Prague continue to depreciate, being now in both cases round about 280. Belgrade is also moving up more rapidly than usual, having reached 150, while Sofia remains more or less dead at about 450. Athens at 65.50 shows a slight tendency towards recovery, while Constantinople is unchanged at 550. The rupee at 1s 3½d is just a little firmer, and the yen also has moved up again slightly to 2s 8½d. Among South American exchanges both Buenos Ayres and Monte Video are slightly more expensive, as also are Rio and Valparaiso. A fairly strong demand from the Indian bazaars, following on the recent heavy purchases from China, has brought up the spot price for silver to 39½d, the highest quotation since January last. Supplies, however, are by no means scarce, and the large amounts of German silver reported to have arrived at New York show that there are other exceptional factors in the market, so that considerable caution is needed in judging the present outlook. As usual, the Hongkong and Shanghai rates have moved up with the rise in silver prices.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.			
FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO JULY 23, 1921.			
Total spent	£ 324,781,081	Raised by revenue ..	£ 282,631,350
Inc. in balances	64,743	Net borrowings	42,214,474
Total	324,845,824	Total	324,845,824
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)											
	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	July 23, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19	19
4½% War Stock	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4½% War Stock	..	..	2,092	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,947	1,947	1,947
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358
3½% Conversion Ln.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	27	27
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,207	1,207	1,207
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292	292	292
Natnl Savings Certs. ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285	285	285
War Expend. Certs. ..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,506	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,121	1,121	1,121
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	143	143	143
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,740	7,740	7,740
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,789	7,789	7,789

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.					Movement
Way and Means Advances	July 24, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	July 23, '21.	July 23, '21.	Week ended
Outstanding—	£	£	£	£	£
Advances by Bank of England ..	36,000,000	154,489,000	18,500,000	—	22,500,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	163,341,000	154,489,000	128,974,000	—	+ 12,300,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,066,358,000	1,120,841,000	1,207,187,000	—	+ 1,085,000
Total Floating Debt	1,271,699,000	1,275,330,000	1,352,661,000	—	+ 11,285,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

JULY 25TH.—Scottish census shows increase of 2.5 per cent. in population. Corn Production Acts (Repeal) Bill debated in Commons.

JULY 26TH.—Commons debate on Civil Service. Income-tax Payers' Society formed. Mansion House meeting of merchants and manufacturers calls for retrenchment.

JULY 27TH.—Railways Bill at report stage. Speaker rules out road transport.

JULY 28TH.—House of Lords debate on economy. September 1st fixed as official date of the end of the war.

JULY 29TH.—Budget prospects debated in Commons.

Business on the Stock Exchange remains small, but the tone is fairly good. Speculation is absent, but investment stocks are well supported, and good-class new issues have been oversubscribed. The strength of bank shares has been a feature. Home Rails are weak.

Business in the Lancashire cotton trade has been on a small scale this week. There is a considerable falling off in the demand for cloth from India, but shippers to China are operating a trifle more freely. A slightly better tone is reported from the Bradford wool trade, though business is still very limited. The wool auctions, which closed on Thursday, showed a stronger tone at the finish. In the pig-iron market an entire absence of business continues, and the restarting of more blast furnaces is not expected. In the steel trade generally there appears to be little improvement to note. Several shipbuilding yards and large engineering works in the Glasgow district have made a partial resumption. The hide market remains firm. A lull has succeeded the recent great activity in the market for linseed.

Details of events and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE VOICE OF INDUSTRY.

THE overwhelming need for retrenchment has been a leading theme of the week. Ten weeks ago the leading bankers of the City of London issued an impressive and unanswerable manifesto emphasising and explaining the need for reduction in public expenditure and for the freeing of trade and industry from bureaucratic interference. That petition is followed up this week by an appeal on similar lines, signed by a comprehensive and imposing list of business men and business firms in every leading branch of British commerce and industry. This appeal reads as follows:—

"We, the undersigned merchants and manufacturers, and of the United Kingdom, desire to endorse the weighty and unanimous appeal by leading bankers issued on May 12th, and to insist with them on the need of dealing promptly with the perilous situation in which the country is placed.

"The appeal, which opens by recalling the petition of the merchants of the City of London addressed to the House of Commons in 1820, dwells on the parallel between the state of the country then and now.

"At the present juncture the following problems seem to call most urgently for attention:—

"An immediate and drastic reduction of expenditure is of vital importance.

"The freeing of our trade and industry from the trammels imposed by the war is not less essential.

"The interference with our commerce, whether by Parliament or by the Administration, must be stayed at once.

"But it is perhaps even more important that the inhabitants of this country should be impressed with the absolute need for greater industry and greater thrift, so that the wealth annihilated by the war may be restored. Such restoration can only be accomplished by earning more and spending less.

"By these means alone shall we be able to bear the burdens from which we suffer, to regain the foreign trade essential to our prosperity, and to contribute to the well-being, not only of our own country, but of all other countries on which we are largely dependent.

"We invite our fellow countrymen to join with us in impressing on the Government, on Parliament, and on the nation at large the paramount importance of these great questions."

In the list of signatories, the great staple industries—cotton, wool, and other textiles, coal, iron, and steel, machinery and engineering, shipbuilding, chemicals, building trades, railways, shipping, and import and export trades—are all represented by influential names. This appeal is the complement of the bankers' petition, and leaves his Majesty's Government with no excuse for mistaking the emphatic opinion of the whole business community on the all-important matters referred to.

With this appeal still on the top of his letter-basket the Chancellor of the Exchequer naturally displayed some diffidence in replying at a Mansion House banquet on Thursday night to the toast of Prosperity to the Public Purse. Sir Robert referred to himself as the most friendless mortal in the realm, and it was left to Mr McKenna to assure him that if in dealing with economy he would prove himself "ruthless, relentless, remorseless," the City would support him through thick and thin. The Chancellor's speech in the main was a conventional apology for the present scale of public expenditure, softened by the usual verbal recognition of the need for economy, and did not suggest any realisation of the strong position into which he is placed by the vigorous assertion of opinion of the business community, which surely places in his hand a sharp and powerful weapon with which to carry out the ruthless, relentless, remorseless economy for which Mr McKenna called. "From being the watchdog of the public purse," complained Sir Hugh Bell at a Mansion House meeting on Tuesday, "the Treasury has become the spendthrift of the public wealth." Many will refuse to accept the severity of this indictment, but few will quarrel with Sir Hugh's further comment that what the country needs

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN: The Right Hon. R. McKENNA
JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS: S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 100 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

FAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK

is a Chancellor who will make the Treasury a real and effective terror to spendthrifts.

The need for economy has also been the subject of debates in both Houses of Parliament this week. On Thursday Lord Buckmaster in the House of Lords said: "Little by little the truth is coming home to the people that the country is bleeding to death from excessive taxation," and continued, "any Government which takes in hand with courage, consistency, and with unflinching sincerity and truth the conduct of our administrative system and financial affairs at this moment would be a Government which every loyal citizen could honestly support." In the same debate Lord Gainford drew attention to the size of the bureaucracy. An economy debate in the House of Commons debate on Tuesday drifted into a discussion on the pay of Civil Servants, a difficult question which we discuss in a subsequent article. Altogether the week has shown the Chancellor with unparalleled clearness the strength of public opinion which he will have behind him in any earnest attempt at retrenchment. Will he make use of the opportunity?

THE CIVIL SERVICE.

BOTH in Parliament and in the Press we are in danger of giving up a great and beneficial principle which was, before the war, applicable to those in the public service. This was the doctrine of the responsibility of Ministers for the personnel, conditions of service and pay of their permanent subordinates. The Civil Service, as such, was immune from criticism because it was not permitted to reply to criticism. If Departments of State were inefficiently run, or spent too much money, the Parliamentary Chiefs, and ultimately the Cabinet, was held to be solely responsible. Seeing that they alone had the right to reply to criticism, and that they alone introduced and pushed through Parliament the legislation which the Civil Service was organised and staffed to administer, they alone were the proper objects of critical attack.

We have in this country not abandoned in theory the doctrine of Ministerial responsibility for the Civil Service, though in practice during recent years we have honoured it more in the breach than in the observance. The Civil Service itself is becoming more and more the whipping boy of popular criticism. Before the war the English bureaucracy worked quietly in its own way, administering unobtrusively the not very exciting affairs of the country, and coming little into combat with the man in the street. It was honoured as comprising the ablest, the most dependable, and the least corruptible officials of any body of public servants in the world. Then came the war, and driven by national necessity, the bureaucracy not only expanded enormously, but was compelled through the controls of transport, and food and drink, and everything else, to interfere very drastically indeed with the personal liberty and tastes of every man and woman in the country.

The Civil Service no longer moved unseen, in the mysterious backwaters of Whitehall; it was all around us, everywhere, all day long. It regulated the weakness of our melancholy beer, doled out food to us against coupons, and limited the height of our wives' boots. For the first time in its history England was consciously governed by a bureaucracy whose powers were unlimited, and England so detested the experience that it came to connect all its troubles with the emergence of bureaucracy from the old seclusion. England had been compelled to let an all-pervading genie out of its bottle, but the war being over, it determined to squeeze that genie back again at once, and to cork the bottle very tightly. The responsibility of Ministers was ignored. It was now the Ministers who had fallen out of sight, and the Civil Service which remained visible as an ubiquitous public nuisance. The present unpopularity of the Civil Service is due largely to the folly of Ministers who failed to realise (immediately after the Armistice) that the country was sick of being governed bureaucratically. The "controls" have outstayed the national need for them, and the Civil Service, which administers these controls under orders from the Government, sees itself condemned as if it were the author of them. It is the bureaucracy, and not the Government responsible for it, which is now surrounded by wolves howling for blood.

We are all agreed that the Government Departments are lamentably slow in getting rid of their war accretions. The Ministries of Shipping, of Food, and of Munitions, though called by other names, still support large and redundant staffs. As the expectant widow said of her slowly expiring husband, "I have even ordered his coffin, yet he won't die." A Government Department once created is, like Charles II., an unconscionable time in dying. But slowness in dissolution, however aggravating it may be to the burdened taxpayer, is less the fault of the bureaucracy than of the Ministers whose job it is to give the orders for coffins, and to see that they are filled. At any rate, the Ministers are responsible, and it is they who should be criticised. A Parliament or Press which attack the rank and file and demand that their pay shall be cut are barking up the wrong tree. They should attack the Government for not getting rid more rapidly of redundant Departments and for piling up legislation which involves the creation of administrative offices.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer this week, while paying lip service to the merits of the Civil Service, has introduced his economies at the wrong end. He has cut down the pay of the "commissioned officers," upon whom the efficiency of the service depends, while leaving the "rank and file" subject only to the automatic reduction in bonus due to the fall in prices. We do not for a moment suggest that the rates of pay and bonus of the rank and file are too high. They are not. The mischief is that there are far too many rank and file drawing pay and bonus. No one with some experience of business organisation who enters a Government office can fail to notice the amount of overlapping which goes on. There is far too much circulation of "jackets" for "observations" and far too little original work. No one is allowed to do original work until he is of comparatively high rank, so that the higher officials are much over-worked and many of the lower officials much under-worked. That small percentage of the Civil Service which fills the posts of Principal Clerks, Assistant Secretaries, and Permanent Secretaries—or equivalent ranks—is in most offices very greatly over-worked. It has no eight-hour day or ten-hour day. Yet it is this small percentage of the higher "commissioned officers" which has to bear the greater part of the burden of Sir Robert Horne's super-cut. It is to suffer from an automatic reduction in bonus in September of about 25 per cent.—due to the decline in the "cost of living" index number—and a further cut in what remains of the bonus of from 20 to 60 per cent. No one with a salary of £2,000 a year or more is to receive any bonus at all—this means a cut on the £2,000 a year man of £750, and on the £3,000 a year man of £500; and no salary is to be increased by bonus beyond a limit of £2,000 a year. The hardest worked and most responsible officials are to be most heavily reduced in pay.

No just comparison can be made between the higher officials of the Civil Service and the superior officers of banks, insurance companies, or commercial houses. It is futile to compare the £3,000 a year of a Permanent Secretary and the £8,000 or £10,000 a year—more in prosperous years—of an insurance manager. The higher ranks of the Civil Service are recruited from the Universities; the Civil Service is not a branch of commerce, but an educated profession such as law, medicine, or science. What we must ensure if the Civil Service is to keep up its high administrative efficiency is that the upper division shall continue to attract the fine flower of the Universities. No man who enters the Civil Service expects to become rich, but he should be able to look forward to the possibility of a competency equal to that of a moderately successful doctor or lawyer. The higher officials, now that Sir Robert Horne has cut their bonus and left them to bear the full weight of income-tax, will be distinctly worse off than their predecessors before the war. Few there be who reach £2,000 a year, a sum which (less income-tax) is not the equivalent of £800 in 1914.

There are 770 permanent Civil Servants with salaries of over £1,000 a year (exclusive of bonus), and upon this small body will fall the greater part of the saving of half a million which Sir Robert Horne expects from his super-cut. They will lose—with the super-cut and the automatic cut—from £300 to £750 a year each. The automatic cut in bonus, which will come into force in September, of about 25 per cent. is due to the drop in the

cost of living index number from 165 per cent. above pre-war to about 125 per cent. That will be universal throughout the Service, and will mean a saving of between 10 and 11 millions. As the index number falls so will the bonus continue to fall in the proportion of 1-26th of the basic bonus (March, 1920) for every five points in the index number. The bonus is revised every six months, so that there will be another automatic revision in March next. We are not in love with the bonus system. It was temporary in origin, and is very vulnerable to attack. It will be much better—as soon as the after-war cost of living has become more or less stabilised—to abandon the bonus system altogether and to revise the salary and pension scales of the Civil Service from top to bottom. This has been done for the Navy and Army, and the country has accepted the new rates as fair.

THE COURSE OF TRADE.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE finish of the coal strike, together with the acceptance by the workers of several industries of a lower basis of wages is leading certain irresponsible prophets to predict a sudden revival of trade prosperity. We are bidden to cast pessimism on one side, and to look ahead for the golden edge which it is said is already lining our cloud of distress. Such statements are mischievous in the extreme. There can be no recovery until we clearly recognise, first, the reasons for the ills we suffer, and then endeavour to remove them.

We are to-day, in fact, comparatively poor, and, whatever our future may hold, we are pressingly concerned with the present. Our commercial fate depends on the speedy revival of our foreign trade, and this, in turn, rests simply on a competitive international basis. Standards of life disappear in the simple necessity to live, and to live we must produce at a price below that our competitors can offer. We have four basic industries—the textiles of cotton and wool, engineering, and coal production. The last of these determines the prices the other trades—and particularly engineering—must demand, or go out of business. It is admitted that the present price of coal is too high. It can be reduced only by increased production, as the chief cost rests on wages, and therefore at present the willingness of the miner to work harder seems to be a prime factor in the chances of trade recovery. Slackening demand for smaller coal, with a consequent awkward accumulation of stocks, may in time compel a lower price, but the process will be slow; it may, however, be expedited if the collieries have the courage to lower the price at once, and thus at one stroke prevent awkward accumulation of stocks, and at the same time assist in the general revival of industry. Especially useful would such a step be in the coking trade, and consequently in the restarting of steel production on a lower basis of cost, and therefore more capable of meeting foreign competition. In the engineering trades generally there is a more hopeful outlook, but the fixing of lower wages is insufficient itself; and if our competition is again to become effective in world markets labour must freely and openly accept a piecework basis. The tendency, though latterly in this direction, is still bitterly opposed by the extremist leaders, who though at present clouded over by the common-sense of the mass, have by no means given up the fight. It is just the measure of this return to sanity in economics which will determine the fate of the industry. If we can win, nothing will avail; but if, on the other hand, the decent worker insists on his extra skill and energy being properly rewarded, then our trade future is assured, and somewhat of the old prosperity may again be felt.

The position in the textile trade has altered little. Lancashire cotton depends mainly on the East. India is none too well off, and still suffers from post-Armistice repletion. China, where not starving, is harried by military bandits in the pay of rival politicians, who in the name of democracy are slowly squeezing the country to death. The price of raw material has touched bottom,

and the future may, from scarcity of cotton, see an increase, which, reflected in the final cost of material, will again check buying. Here we depend on good Indian seasons and the re-establishment in China of some sane and strong Central Government. We hear repeatedly of a better feeling in the wool textile industry, but it is difficult to find any reason for these prophecies. Certainly a proportion of manufactured material has gone into general consumption, but this country, as well as the European markets, is still choked with finished goods speculatively ordered and calmly returned when prices fell. Much of this is now offering at prices which are below the cost of manufacture to-day, even with the present cost of wool and the fall in wages fully taken into consideration. There can be no real alteration until the bulk of this material is absorbed. To a large extent manufacturers and merchants have composed their differences and shared their losses, but both have found an unexpected stumbling-block in the retailer, who, in the main, stubbornly refuses to cut his losses, even though such a course would re-start demand, and thus again make profits possible for him.

The exchange position in Central Europe, or, rather, the inability of the countries to export goods in return payment, has practically closed this market to fully manufactured textiles, and so accentuates the glut at home. The many fancy schemes devised to escape economic laws by a change of nomenclature are gradually receding from practical commercial life, as traders find that the essence of the change is simply an extension of credit without any real addition of security. Nor can there be any increase of security until the countries concerned settle down to work and to production. Poland appears to have ruined herself by insane military adventure, and lost what little chance she once had of becoming a great commercial State; and Greece, full of vague ambitions, is rapidly losing her friends and destroying her last vestiges of credit. In Czecho-Slovakia and the Balkan kingdoms there is more hope. There the great bulk of the people are peasants, and they are settling down with quiet determination to get back their old rude plenty. Out of their excess of production there seems some hope of a revival in trade for us, although there, from contiguity and knowledge of the people, competition from Germany will be fierce and concentrated.

Surely the time has now arrived when even our politicians must admit that we cannot get reparation from Germany and at the same time close our ports to her trade. Obviously, since we cannot be paid in raw materials, we cannot get the reparations without the trade, and therefore we should at once cease to limit freedom of trade by the futile expedient of surcharging German exports. We either get the exports and ourselves pay the surcharge or the trade ceases. In neither case do we benefit. The quickest way to restore trade is to remove the artificial barriers in its course; these barriers, proven useless, are fast becoming mischievous for the future. Why not admit a mistake everyone now realises, and start again?

It is regrettable that the industrial position in the United States remains so obscure. There is little life in their demands on us, and yet we must have their food products. The exchange position is the index of the difficulty, and we can see little prospect of a speedy change.

But have we done everything possible at home to set ourselves going again? Our immediate financial future seems to indicate further inflation, owing to the necessity of providing for the serious fall in the revenue returns. In spite of repeated warnings from the constituencies, the Government makes so little effort to reduce Departmental spending that people are beginning to wonder whether the State Socialists have not prevailed over the Prime Minister and persuaded him that England in future must in every detail be guided by a super-Civil Service, whose activities are to be bounded only by its appetite. To demand detailed reductions in this or that Department is useless; what we really want is a stern challenge to the very existence of any new Ministry or any new department of an old Ministry which had no pre-war use.

That is the true issue if we are to get back to economic sanity, and its proper settlement the chief factor in any hope of a return of industrial, and therefore of national, prosperity.

LABOUR AND COMMUNISM.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

In the days before the war the term "Socialist" lost its worst terrors as an abusive epithet. When Sir William Harcourt said "We are all Socialists nowadays," Socialism had become respectable; and people whose views were particularly obnoxious were referred to as "extreme Socialists," which is much like saying "extreme Christians," or "extreme anti-vaccinationists." It does not mean very much. But the Russian Revolution provided a new term—"Bolshevik," or as the working man would say, "Bol shevik." And nowadays those who stand to the left of one are denounced as Bolsheviks. It is a good word for the purpose. It is uncouth; it is foreign; and its meaning, if you happen to know it, leaves your mind a blank. Bolshevism is the modern bogey-man, and it has been dangled before the public by the Prime Minister himself as a warning against the British Labour movement.

The theory of Bolshevism may be good or bad, but in fairness to Lenin and Trotsky it ought to be said that it has no more to do with murder and other atrocities than the British Constitution has with the exploits of the "Black and Tans." Bolshevism accepts the Soviet form of government, excluding from the franchise those who are not regarded as workers. There is nothing new in the idea of the Soviet system; nor is the exclusion of a section of the community from the franchise a modern notion. Bolshevism stands for "the dictatorship of the proletariat." This resonant phrase in practice means the dictatorship of the conscious minority of the proletariat. Again, there is nothing new in the conception of a society governed by a minority. It has been the custom in the past, and, whatever our theories of government may be, the practice is general even to-day. But the Bolsheviks claim to be Marxian Socialists (though there are Marxians who vehemently deny that Bolshevism is Marxism), and what is really new is that the Bolshevik Marxian Socialists in Russia have seized the reins of government.

In every Labour movement there is a "left wing," and this section has in some countries gone Bolshevik, buoyed up by the apparent success of the Russian Revolution. There are real Bolsheviks in this country, who have formed themselves into the Communist Party of Great Britain. This party is affiliated with the Third International at Moscow, and its policy is determined by Moscow. Some months ago it applied for affiliation to the Labour Party, but the executive declined to accept it. The correspondence which passed between the two bodies was published in the executive's annual report, which was presented to the recent Labour Party Conference at Brighton, and the delegates upheld the executive's decision by an overwhelming majority. This is rather unfortunate for the Duke of Northumberland and the scare-mongers who appear to believe that the British Labour movement is honeycombed with Bolshevism, and financed largely from Communist sources.

The application of the Communists for affiliation was made apparently with the intention of capturing the political machinery of Labour. Really, of course, they have no use for the Labour Party, and members of the Communist Party have made bitter attacks upon it. The claim of the Communists that they were the means of securing Mr Ramsay MacDonald's defeat at East Woolwich is not without foundation, and had there been a by-election in East Leicester, as appeared probable when Lord Reading relinquished the Lord Chief Justiceship, the Communists would have brought out a candidate against Mrs Philip Snowden, the official candidate of the Labour Party.

Min. The Communists have undoubtedly increased in numbers, but their influence is negligible. During the past few months the atmosphere of unrest and the repeated promises of labour have provided as favourable conditions as the Communists are likely to get for the time being. But unrest, unemployment, and the Civil War have not created a wave of revolution, and the Civil War has not created a wave of revolution. The stoppage in the coal mines is remarkably free from outbursts of anarchy, and the Government truth is that British mentality which is now surrounded by wolve.

is an unsuitable soil for the growth of Bolshevism. The enthusiastic and often able young men who are the missionaries of Communism are bad psychologists, and they lack experience. British labour is not Bolshevik, nor is it likely to become so.

The chief ally of the Communists in this country is the Government. Its campaign of persecution is doing more for the Communist party than they themselves could possibly do by propaganda work. Obscure Communists have been charged with "sedition" and imprisoned. The Government's interpretation of "sedition" and its apparent fear that the speeches of Communists will win converts make it appear ridiculous. The Labour party executive has strongly protested against any limitation on the freedom of speech, not because it agrees with the views expressed by those who have been put upon their trial for "sedition," but because it regards the Government's short-sighted policy as an insult to the intelligence of the people.

The signs are all against any considerable increase in the numbers of the Communists if the Government would cease from acting as their publicity agent. On its industrial side the Labour movement is absorbed in conserving and consolidating its forces. For some time it is more likely to be occupied with its own internal problems than with anything else. On the other hand, the political side will become more prominent. There is a widespread view that more weight must be put behind the political movement. The Labour party has political possibilities, and so far from there being a reaction against Parliamentary activities, there is a growing opinion in favour of greatly increased Labour representation in the House of Commons. The questions which lie before the Labour movement, the present temper of trade unionism, and the attitude of labour towards politics indicate clearly enough that the general outlook of the movement is out of sympathy with Communism. If, however, Labour after the next election is under-represented in the House of Commons (as it is to-day), and if political action fails, the revival of industrial action may create circumstances in which Communism will gain converts. But the Labour movement is far less nervous about Communism than the Duke of Northumberland and the *Morning Post*.

STOCK EXCHANGE PEACE PROBLEMS.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE Stock Exchange discussion as to whether it will be advantageous to return to fortnightly settlements is not carried on entirely from the point of view of members. In point of fact, all the arguments, both for and against, pray in aid the public interest, and it seems as though a genuine desire were felt in the Stock Exchange that the public should receive the benefit of the protection which the cash dealings afford, and, on the other hand, the greater facilities for flexible markets that would be established by reverting to the pre-war principle of fortnightly accounts. A private meeting of some 50 or 60 members was held early this week with the intention of setting up a small committee that should convene a representative gathering of members of the House, from whom should be elected an executive committee for the purpose of discussing the best methods of carrying on Stock Exchange business when the House becomes freed from the temporary regulations imposed by the Treasury. The chairman stated that the meeting was intended to be a purely Stock Exchange gathering, and asked that any non-members should not remain. The discussion, however, proved to be somewhat undetermined. Nobody seemed to have any clear idea of what was wanted, and the chairman fully pointed out that no intention was formulated of reaching any agreement which might conflict with the Stock Exchange.

of business which may be of greater benefit than that in force before the war. The fixing of September 1st as the date on which the war shall be officially declared at an end implies that the pre-war account which was open at the end of July, 1914, will have to be liquidated by August 31, 1922. The impatient in the Stock Exchange would desire to get back immediately to fort-

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary, Ltd., established throughout Australasia.

ISSUED CAPITAL £1,844,986.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches in Ceylon, F.M.S., India, Dutch East Indies, Canada, Japan, and elsewhere.

The Company offers facilities to Plantation Companies in the development of estates and sale of produce.

Manufacturers' Selling Agents in London and Abroad.

nightly settlements, contangoes, &c., irrespective of the moratorium account, but the Stock Exchange Committee take up the sound position, as already indicated, that members of the House ought not to undertake such fresh obligations as would be entailed by speculative accounts until such time as all the pre-war commitments were cleared up. Several members, brokers and jobbers alike, advocate the setting-up of a system akin to that which prevails in New York, whereby if a man wishes to carry-over stock he is required to put up a certain definite margin of cash. Members of the London Stock Exchange used to carry-over stocks and shares without provision of any margin, save in exceptional circumstances. This is derided as being an absurd and ludicrous manner of conducting business, inasmuch as no other branch of industry would think of carrying on speculative commitments without any sort of cash margin to protect the brokers and principals.

Mechanical difficulties in the way of obtaining and of passing on cash margins are obvious enough. But as these can be surmounted in Wall Street, the argument runs that they should not prove insuperable in London. Another point in connection with this suggestion is that a man, in providing margin for carrying-over stock, practically stamps his bargain as a gambling transaction, and to what extent this would bring the business under the shadow of the Gambling Acts is a matter that would require serious attention. It is frequently urged against the Stock Exchange Committee that, as a body, they are apt to follow the line of least resistance and the policy of *laissez faire*, from which experience the inference is drawn that they are not likely to take any definite steps yet in the way of consulting the House on the problem arising out of the return to pre-war conditions. With 13 months ahead in which the whole question can be explored and threshed out, it may well be that nothing practical will be attempted at present, but a good many members would like to see the matter thoroughly examined before the time comes when the Stock Exchange has the option presented to it of reverting to fortnightly settlements or of continuing the system of cash dealings. There is so much to be said on the one side and on the other that it is not surprising to find Stock Exchange opinion sharply divided, even amongst the most experienced members, and as it is a matter which concerns wide circles of the country, it may be reasonably hoped that the Stock Exchange Committee will lay their plans well in advance of the day when Treasury control shall cease.

Business Notes.

Public Trustee's Report.—The Report of the Public Trustee for the year ended March 31, 1921, records the acceptance during that period of 1,559 new cases of an aggregate value of £15,682,492. These figures are lower than in preceding years. The following table shows the business undertaken by the office since its inception:—

		£
1908 (3 months)	63 cases accepted, valued at	384,317
1908-9	381 " " "	3,133,523
1909-10	622 " " "	4,989,191
1910-11	877 " " "	6,548,641
1911-12	1,050 " " "	8,626,315
1912-13	1,364 " " "	12,067,535
1913-14	1,573 " " "	13,425,343
1914-15	1,543 " " "	11,623,425
1915-16	1,595 " " "	16,622,194
1916-17	1,811 " " "	16,544,193
1917-18	1,876 " " "	17,861,889
1918-19	1,767 " " "	17,191,413
1919-20	1,949 " " "	21,863,780
1920-21	1,559 " " "	15,682,492
Total	18,030	166,164,701

The year was "one of experiment upon the lines" down by Sir George Murray's Committee of Enquiry. A new scale of fees was introduced, with a view making the office self-supporting; but although, apparently, the yield of the new fees was very close to Simpkin's estimate, expenditure, "entirely through

ternal circumstances," exceeded estimates, and the year's working resulted in a deficit of £114,890, or nearly £12,000 worse than in the previous year. It is estimated that "if all the fees throughout the year had been received at the new rates, the deficit would have been reduced to approximately £60,000." Among the "external circumstances" producing the increase in expenditure were the rise in the Civil Service war bonus "far above all anticipations," the clerical re-grading scheme, common to the whole Civil Service, and a rise in maintenance charges, such as rates, lighting, heating, &c. Changes in organisation are recorded. A section has been built up for dealing exclusively with trusts and estates of small value. The special section which kept the records of landed property and mortgages has been broken up, and the post of legal adviser has been abolished. Largely as a result of such changes, the clerical staff has been reduced by 50 during the year. Mr Simpkin enumerates the following reasons why "the administration of trusts tends to become more and more difficult":—(a) The inadequacy of "fixed" incomes to present conditions and the consequent frequency of requests for the exercise of the trustee's discretion to advance capital—an anxious discretion under the best of circumstances. (b) The continued depreciation of investments. (c) The complexity of investments, caused partly by the numerous varieties of Government issues, partly by the fluctuations of foreign exchanges, and partly by the frequent readjustments of industrial capital. (d) The complications of income-tax, especially with regard to beneficiaries resident abroad. (e) The technicalities of estate management, including the enforcement and observance of the provisions of such measures as the last Rent Restriction Act.

Home Railway Dividends.—Some reduction in the interim dividends of the Home Railways was expected, and those so far declared show this anticipation to have been correct. The list below compares the midsummer declarations for the past five years:—

Name.	Mid-summer, 1917.	Mid-summer, 1918.	Mid-summer, 1919.	Mid-summer, 1920.	Mid-summer, 1921.
	Rates per Cent. per Annum.				
Great Central, 1881	4	4	4	4	4
Do 1889	4	4	4	4	4
Great Eastern	4	1	1	1	3
Great Northern, pf. ord.	4	4	4	4	nil
Do Cons. 6% "B"	6	6	4	6	nil
Lancashire & Yorkshire	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
London and N.-Western	5	5½	5½	6	5
	4	4	4	4	4
	2½	2½	2½	2½	2
	4	4	4½	4½	4½
			5	5	4
			1	1	1½

at last year's level. Prices have not moved very much on the announcements, the reductions being smaller in some cases than was expected.

Railway Statistics.—The railway statistics for the month of May issued by the Ministry of Transport clearly reveal the effects of the coal stoppage on traffic. The number of passenger journeys (excluding season-ticket holders) was 81,814,378, or 25.63 per cent. less than in March, but the passenger train-miles were reduced by no less than 43.20 per cent. As regards freight traffic, the total tonnage conveyed in May, 1921, showed a decline of 21½ million tons, or 75 per cent., compared with May, 1920, and the ton-miles worked a decrease of 70 per cent., made up as follows:—

(000's omitted).

Description of Freight.	Tons.		Ton-Miles.	
	May, 1921.	Decrease.		May, 1921.
		No.	Per Cent.	
General merchandise (including live stock)	3,684	2,376	39.21	328,031
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	1,417	14,822	91.27	73,819
Other minerals	2,057	4,101	66.60	95,985
Total	7,158	21,299	74.85	497,835
				69.75

Freight train mileage shows a reduction of 60.8 per cent. compared with May, 1920, but the decrease in coal and coke and other heavy traffics again seriously affected the operating results, although not to the same extent as in April. The average wagon and train loads were 3.72 tons and 103½ tons respectively, as compared with 5.45 tons and 134½ tons in May, 1920, and the net ton-miles worked per engine-hour were 360, as against 435½ in the corresponding month of last year. The new rolling stock completed and put into traffic during the month was 37 steam locomotives, 51 passenger carriages, and 2,160 wagons.

Coal Output.—The production of coal for the week ended July 16th in the mines of Great Britain was 3,927,500 tons, which compares with 2,354,900 for the week ended July 9th, the first week of resumption after the settlement of the dispute. For the week ended March 26th last the output was 3,660,000 tons, and for the following week 1,950,100 tons.

New Commonwealth Loan in Australia.—Particulars have been received in London by cablegram of a 6 per cent. loan, locally styled "The Diggers' Loan," of £10,000,000 about to be floated in Australia by the Commonwealth Government through the Commonwealth Bank. The lists will open on August 8th and close on September 5th. The price of issue 96, and the loan matures in 1930. The loan is for repatriation purposes and the payment of war obligations. Interest will be subject to Commonwealth income-tax, but free of State taxation. The following loans have already been issued in Australia by the Commonwealth Government, through the Commonwealth Bank, entirely for war purposes, for which, it may be mentioned, no loan has been floated outside Australia:—

The Peruvian Centenary.—On Thursday Peru celebrated the hundredth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence which followed the entry of her Argentine liberator, San Martín, into Lima, and was made a reality three and a-half years later by the definitive defeat of the Royalist and Spanish remnant by another liberator, the Colombian General Sucre, at Ayacucho. Special British and French missions are now in her capital, and their congratulations will be heartily echoed from Europe. Her century of national existence has been chequered, and often disappointing to her friends abroad. More than any other Spanish-American country she has suffered, at first from the lack of competent and conscientious administrators caused by Spanish tutelage, and repeatedly by the divisions among her small ruling class. Great prosperity has alternated with complete insolvency, and prolonged disturbance with periods of sound constitutional rule. Her wealth in nitrates was first developed by Chileans and then seized by Chile; her vast revenue from guano was partly misapplied by her Governments, but to a far greater extent misappropriated by their members, and her resultant bankruptcy in 1876 was followed by the long and devastating war with Chile, by constant fears of its renewal, and by a series of sudden revolutions, of which the latest took place in 1910. Happily there is reason to hope that it may be the last. President Leguía's rule seems to be firmly established, and his sweeping constitutional reforms are apparently both just in principle and successful in working. He is anxious to attract foreign, and especially British, capital and immigrants, and the outstanding and irritating difficulty with Chile over the lost provinces seems likely to be settled eventually by some form of foreign mediation. Since 1890 the country has been solvent, and the existing foreign debt is not excessive, judged by the standards of to-day. Two years ago the foreign trade had far surpassed pre-war figures; at present the country is suffering, like the rest of Spanish-America, from the lack of purchasing power set up by the war-made poverty of Europe. But this will pass, and the great development of Peruvian resources in sugar and cotton will be followed by an even greater development in coal, rubber, minerals, and possibly petroleum, a process in which a large share should be taken by British capital and British traders.

Taxation in the Dutch East Indies.—The necessity of meeting the growing deficits, writes a correspondent, has led the Dutch Government to alter considerably the scheme of taxation in the Netherlands East Indies. Changes in the income-tax are the most important, but the Customs and Excise duties are also affected. The Taxation of persons is extended to all classes of the inhabitants, and will in future vary from 1 to 25 per cent. of the net income. But the most important changes are those affecting legal persons. In their case the alterations are as follows:—The flat rate of tax on the net income has been raised from 4 per cent. to 6 per cent. The excess or super-tax rate which used to be levied on the amount by which the net income exceeded 5 per cent. on the share capital, has been raised from 8 per cent. to 10 per cent., though the rate of earnings which is allowed on the capital before the super-tax rate is applicable has been raised to 8 per cent. But in addition legal persons will in future be taxable on the amount by which the net income, after the deduction of the flat rate of tax, exceeds one-tenth of the capital invested. This third class of income tax rate is progressive, and is intended to replace the war profits tax. As the application of this new taxation will take time, there have been introduced temporary taxes on a series of products. In the case of rubber, chinchona bark, and quinine, a temporary expedient takes the form of an export duty. In the case of sugar, coffee, tea, and tobacco, the temporary taxes consist of progressive scales on the difference between the selling price and the cost price of the articles. In the case of the Customs duties, the new maximum rate is 12 per cent. *ad valorem*. Existing 10 per cent. rates are being raised to this figure, 6 per cent. rates to 10 per cent. rates, whilst articles formerly free are being taxed at 6 per cent. In addition to the export duties

already mentioned, copra, pepper, and coconut oil are made dutiable, whilst the taxation of oils and by-products is increased. The excise duties on matches, petroleum, benzine, &c., are also increased.

Clerical and Medical's Life Bonus.—A remarkable financial feat has been performed by the general manager and the directors of the Clerical, Medical, and General Life Office. The valuation as at June 30th last, on the severe basis of 2½ per cent. interest, has shown a surplus sufficient to maintain the rate of bonus paid to participating policyholders in 1911 and 1916. This is the more remarkable, seeing that the society has shareholders—the Employers' Liability Corporation—who take in dividends one-tenth of the surplus and, unlike its most serious competitors the London Life or the old Equitable, pays commission to agents for the introduction of business. Notwithstanding these two handicaps, the society has done what the old Equitable could not do—it has kept up its pre-war rate of bonus. Two factors have materially contributed to make this result possible. The mortality experienced has been very low indeed—low even for a society which has a very strong medical board and has always specialised in the selection of lives. During the past five years the claims by death, in spite of war losses and an influenza epidemic, have been no more than 65 per cent. of the amounts expected, and for the past 12 months have been less than half the amounts expected. The net rate of interest earned has been higher than at any time in the society's history; it has been more than 4½ per cent., against a rate assumed in the valuation of 2½ per cent. Depreciation, that great bugbear, was faced a year or so ago, when the long-dated securities were sold and short-dated bonds substituted for them. The great bulk of the Stock Exchange securities held are now redeemable at fairly short dates, and as they have all been valued at market prices, there is a hidden reserve of more than £200,000. In the course of the next ten years fully £150,000 will accrue to the funds as profit on redemption. The slight increase in the expenses is being gradually met by the increase in rates of premium which was put on in May of last year. We understand that the divisible surplus next October will be nearly £755,000, very little less than the £796,000 of five years ago or the £777,000 of ten years ago. The reserves, at 2½ per cent., are some £350,000 in excess of what they would have been at a valuation standard of 3 per cent. What has been done under the difficulties of war can scarcely fail to be maintained in peace; a life assurance society which has been able to keep its valuation rate unweakened and its bonus distribution unimpaired should have the brightest of prospects before it.

Hudson's Bay Report.—Considering the crisis that took place in the fur trade the results of Hudson's Bay Company for the year ended May 31st last are better than might have been expected. The fur trade resulted in a loss of £84,086, but other trading proved so satisfactory that the total of fur and trading profits is only £31,700 behind that of last year. Net land receipts were also a little lower, but the ordinary dividend is maintained at last year's rate of 40 per cent. This involves a reduction of about £50,000 in the carry forward. Recent years' results are summarised below:—

Year Ending	Net Land Receipts.	Fur and Trading Profits.	Total Net Profits.	Ordinary Dividend.
May 31—				
1909	175,476	80,391	255,867	260,000
1910	240,045	166,156	406,201	400,000
1911	548,512	159,966	708,478	400,000
1912	273,268	196,070	469,338	400,000
1913	589,926	228,324	818,250	500,000
1914	297,302	86,636	383,938	400,000
1915	2,697	30,641	33,338	nil
1916	24,652	266,662	291,314	200,000
1917	140,777	279,708	420,485	300,000
1918	367,841	315,964	683,805	400,000
1919	262,126	406,414	668,540	450,000
1920	174,276	331,757	506,033	400,000
1921	154,161	300,049	454,210	400,000

For the year ended March 31st last farm land sales were 178,301 acres for £624,117, an average of £3 10s per acre, compared with 276,629 acres for £970,878, an

average of £3 10s 2d for the preceding year. Sales of town lots amounted to £16,651, compared with £3,151. The balance-sheet, which is analysed in a later column, shows a big decline in "investments," and a substantial rise in the amount invested in the fur trade, while cash in hand is £132,477 higher. The report records that since the early part of the year fur prices have improved.

Gordon Hotels.—On Thursday the policy of the directors of the Gordon Hotels was approved by the shareholders at a general meeting, and Sir Francis Towle was re-elected to the board. It is difficult to see, on the information given, how shareholders could have taken any other course. But it is a great pity, perhaps, that shareholders and directors of the Gordon Hotels, Limited, cannot quietly adjust their differences at a series of round-table conferences. Valuable energy is being diverted from promoting the true interests of the undertaking to keep all the fire of internal dissensions. In the table which we give below we show how the company has fared over a period of years:—

	1913-14.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Trading profit	£161,665	£54,248	£100,969	£107,110	£174,542	£204,121	£138,882
8% notes accrd. int.	8,650	15,339	12,417	9,252	8,641	8,553	8,944
Debt interest	71,325	71,325	71,325	71,325	71,325	71,325	71,325
Net profit	81,990	Dr 30,416	17,227	26,533	94,576	124,243	68,018
Brought forward	4,927	6,891	9,210	35,743	24,170	30,838	
Preference div.	86,617	Dr 23,525	9,210	35,743	130,519	148,413	78,856
Ordinary div.	53,075	..	..	..	106,150	106,150	53,075
(3%)	28,950	..	..	..	..	..	..
Carried forward	4,592	Dr 23,525	9,210	35,743	24,169	42,263	25,781

* Dr 23,525 less £15,500 compensation for Hotel Metropole.

From 1905 until the war the ordinary dividend varied between 2 and 3 per cent., but ordinary shareholders have received no distribution for the past seven years. There are also 100 deferred shares of £10 each on which nothing has been paid since 1903. Preference dividends are now paid up to May 31, 1919, while the report states that "the directors have under consideration a scheme for dealing with the arrears of preference dividend so as to relieve the finances of the company of back payments which will in due course be submitted to the shareholders for their sanction." The balance-sheet will be found analysed in our usual column. The criticism of Sir Francis Towle's appointment strikes one as being somewhat premature. The test of his worth will be, after a fair trial, he is able to bring the undertaking into the dividend-paying lists. Then, we assume, no one will carp at his appointment or salary, except those who have objects in view other than the success of the concern.

Marconi International Marine.—The report of the Marconi International Marine Communication Company for the year 1920 shows that although there was a large increase in gross revenue, the net profit declined substantially owing "very largely to exceptional circumstances." These are stated by the directors to be losses on salaries paid in India owing to fluctuations in the value of the rupee, depreciation in Government securities and foreign currencies, resulting in a temporary loss of £67,600, and a decline in profits on foreign business of nearly £30,000, notwithstanding an increase of business. Moreover, "expenses of ship telegraph stations" have risen from £397,500 to £588,700. The table below summarises results for the past five years and for 1913:—

	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Total revenue	£146,326	£270,230	£470,855	£563,445	£772,462	£933,811
Expenses, &c.	102,700	167,653	272,892	371,119	569,596	811,111
Interest	6,597	5,829	5,907	5,989	4,725	4,725
Balance	37,029	96,748	192,056	186,342	198,141	118,000
Rep. of debts	3,500	3,500	2,080	940	..	..
Reserve	..	17,347	50,000	..	..	..
Dividend	30,604	51,618	89,997	150,000	178,900	178,900
(10%)	(10%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)
Carried fwd.	6,068	51,279	105,418	141,760	161,890	48,000

The dividend is maintained at 15 per cent., but the carry forward is much reduced. The report states that on June 30th last Government securities and money remaining abroad had appreciated and the loss substantially diminished. An analysis of the balance-sheet will be found in the usual column.

Indian Mine Finance.—Our Mining correspondent writes:—In the hey-day of their prosperity, the boards of companies operating on the Kolar Goldfield consistently followed the practice of making share issues at substantial premiums for the purpose of providing for what was termed "capital expenditure." So far as the latter related to plant and machinery, or even to the sinking of a new shaft, the procedure followed might be considered warrantable. The deepening of existing shafts, and the opening-up of fresh levels to replace the ore extracted, cannot, by any stretch of the imagination, be properly regarded as capital expenditure. However, for a time all went well. The shareholders eagerly subscribed for new shares at a price well below the current market quotation, and the directors pocketed their commissions on the inflated dividends. Some few years ago, under changed conditions, a new spirit became evident; the leading concerns set aside large sums to reserve, or effected heavy writtings-off, towards covering outlay of the nature indicated. Of late, however, there has been a reversion to the former policy in a particularly unpleasant form. Last September the Nundydroog Company paid a dividend of 5 per cent.; in October the shareholders were electrified to receive a circular proposing reconstruction on the basis of an assessment of no less than 6s per 10s share. Much indignation was expressed, but the scheme went through; proprietors unable to put up the additional money, albeit by instalments spread over more than a year, simply had to forfeit their interest. Now, following closely on the heels of a market rumour, the directors of the Champion Reef Company intimate that in September they will submit a scheme of reconstruction, "the details of which are under consideration." The values in the lowest workings, it is stated, justify the prosecution of work at greater depth; but to meet the outlay the company's financial resources must be strengthened. Reference to the last balance-sheet, September 30, 1920, shows that at that date the company's surplus cash assets amounted to over £90,000. A dividend of 4d. per 2s. 6d. share was paid in February. Hence the case presents much the same features as that of the Nundydroog. It is probable that the general run of shareholders would prefer developments to be provided for out of earnings rather than that small distributions should be made and followed up by an assessment.

Spanish Tariff.—The current issue of the *Board of Trade Journal* contains the draft of the proposed new Spanish Tariff. This Draft Tariff is published for general information, and up to September 8th the Spanish Customs Board will be prepared to receive representations and petitions on the subject of the tariff proposals, which may be submitted in writing by industrial or commercial bodies, or private individuals, who may consider their interests to be affected by the proposals. At the end of the period the Draft Tariff, together with all representations received, will be reviewed by the Customs Board, who will, as soon as possible thereafter, submit to the Spanish Government the definitive draft of a new tariff. The Board of Trade propose to invite Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations in the United Kingdom to submit to them any representations which those bodies may desire to make in the interests of the trade of their members, with a view to such representations as may appear to be necessary being made officially to the Spanish Government with regard to the proposed new tariff in relation to the trade of this country with Spain.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Sound Currency Association on Thursday, it was decided to proceed with arrangements for the holding of an International Monetary Conference, to be organised by the association, in the late autumn, for the purpose of drawing up a programme of the steps which may be deemed advisable and necessary to rehabilitate the currencies of the various countries and to re-establish the gold standard.

Obersea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—FOREIGN TRADE—GOLD HOLDINGS—COTTON CONSUMPTION AND EXPORT—GERMAN CREDITS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, July 15.

THE foreign trade returns, issued this week by the Department of Commerce, show that our exports in June increased somewhat over the small total for May, which was the lowest total of any month since January, 1916. June exports aggregated \$340,000,000, as against \$329,000,000 in the preceding month, and \$629,000,000 in June a year ago. Imports were \$198,000,000 compared with \$204,000,000 in May and \$552,000,000 in June, 1920. Both exports and imports have declined almost to the same extent from their high records. June exports were 63 per cent. below the highest monthly total, while imports were 64 per cent. below the high peak of last June. During the fiscal year ended June 30 our total foreign trade, exports and imports combined, fell off more than three billions of dollars, the decrease being about evenly divided between exports and imports. The following table shows at a glance the fluctuations in foreign commerce each fiscal year from 1913-14 to 1920-21 inclusive:—

	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Exports.
1913-14	2,364,579,148	1,893,925,657	470,653,491
1914-15	2,768,589,340	1,674,169,740	1,094,419,600
1915-16	4,333,482,885	2,197,883,510	2,135,599,375
1916-17	6,290,048,394	2,659,355,185	3,630,693,209
1917-18	5,919,711,371	2,945,655,403	2,974,055,968
1918-19	7,232,282,686	3,095,720,068	4,136,562,618
1919-20	8,108,988,663	5,238,352,114	2,870,636,549
1920-21	6,519,365,734	3,666,769,537	2,852,596,197

According to an official statement from Washington, gold holdings in the United States on July 1st amounted to \$3,223,351,644, which establishes a new high record. From January 1st to June 20th imports of the yellow metal totalled \$338,420,725, and indications are that the figures will soon reach half a billion. Official statistics of imports since June 20 are not yet available, but it is known that receipts during the past three weeks have been heavy. The following table gives figures furnished by the Federal Reserve Board of the total gold shipments to the United States by European countries from January 1st to June 20, 1921:—

From—	Jan. 1 to June 20, '21.	From—	Jan. 1 to June 20, '21.
Austria	9,000	Portugal	20,892
Belgium	39,691	Russia in Europe	85,000
Denmark	3,161,497	Spain	3,123,880
France	70,441,038	Sweden	43,269,401
Germany	7,279	Switzerland	2,944
Greece	965,745	Turkey in Europe	253,731
Italy	102,285	U.K.—England	100,609,224
Netherlands	75,605,393		
Norway	1,532,100	Total Europe	239,229,160

In addition to the above total, North American countries sent \$32,550,580; South American, \$12,000,829; Asia, \$48,363,744; and Australia, \$6,333,537. Comparatively small amounts were received from New Zealand, the Philippine Islands, Abyssinia, British West and South Africa, and Portuguese Africa.

Notwithstanding the generally quiet state of trade in cotton textile lines, it is evident that the low prices of the raw material and of cotton goods have stimulated consumption of the staple. Census Bureau returns show that June consumption totalled 461,656 bales, representing an increase of 4.7 per cent. over May, and the largest monthly total since last August. As compared with June of last year, the decrease was 94,000 bales, or 17 per cent., owing to the fact that only 32,665,315 spindles were active, as against 34,457,464 in the corresponding month of last year. Consumption for 11 months, August to June inclusive, was 4,477,773 bales, compared with 5,894,611 bales in the like period of the preceding year, or a decrease of about 24 per cent.

The War Finance Corporation's recent advance of \$5,000,000 to the Staple Cotton Co-operative Association

of Memphis marks the adoption of a broader policy by the corporation in its efforts to aid cotton exporters in the present emergency. Heretofore the corporation has considered applications for assistance in exporting cotton only in cases where the cotton was actually exported under definite contracts of sale, or where the arrangements provided for prompt shipment against deferred payments; for future shipments within a reasonable time against either prompt or deferred payments, after arrival in foreign countries where goods were under definite contract for sale; or for prompt shipment to warehouses in foreign distributing points, to be held there on account of the American exporters and bankers for marketing out of warehouses. The advance to the cotton association mentioned goes beyond those limitations. Under the terms of the loan, the association agrees that, out of the 100,000 bales of long staple cotton pledged as security it will export within one year a quantity sufficient to repay the full amount of the loan out of the proceeds of export sales—the cotton to be held in American warehouses until the time is favourable for export. The advance approximates one-half of the present market value of the cotton, and will run for a maximum period of one year, although it may be repaid sooner as the cotton is exported and sold. The War Finance Corporation, through its managing director, Eugene Meyer, jun., has announced that it stands ready to assist other organizations, as well as cotton exporters and banking institutions, in the same way, provided the advances can be made upon a sound business basis, and provided, also, that the corporation may be definitely assured that the advances will be repaid from the proceeds of export sales within a year.

Germany is said to be negotiating with American bankers for credits in the United States, ranging from 30 days to one year, and totalling \$49,000,000, approximately. The credits, which are to be used for purchases of grain, cotton, and copper, and possibly to some extent in connection with reparations payments, involve different pieces of financing. Two banking groups, according to statements made in reliable quarters, are working on credits of \$5,000,000 and \$10,000,000, another group is handling a \$25,000,000 credit, and still another a \$9,000,000 credit. The syndicate considering the latter credit is understood to consist of the International Acceptance Bank, the Chase National Bank, the Bankers' Trust Company, and the First National Bank of Boston. The present negotiations are being carried on by the bankers, it is said, with the Getreide Einfuhr' Stelle. The credits, according to reports current here, are to be an obligation of that agency or department of the German Government, and endorsed by a syndicate of German banks, and are to take the form of acceptances which would be eligible for rediscount at the Federal Reserve banks.

FRANCE.—THE FINANCIAL OUTLOOK—FOREIGN TRADE—UNEMPLOYMENT—THE TEXTILE TRADES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, July 27.

ALTHOUGH the Chambers have both risen for the recess, the Finance Commission of the Lower House is steadily continuing its work, in spite of a temperature that has stood day after day in the neighbourhood of 100 degrees in the shade. The object of the Commission is to complete its consideration of the estimates by the time the holidays are over, so that the Finance Bill for the coming year may, if possible, be passed through all its stages in time to come into operation on January 1st. This is a counsel of perfection that has often previously failed to assume practical form, but the unusual spectacle of the Finance Commission doggedly continuing its work when even the catering staff of the Chamber has gone for its holidays has given rise to a widespread belief that this year, perhaps, what has hitherto been regarded as impossible may be accomplished.

M. Maurice Bokanowski, the energetic young financial

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

Resources over \$500,000,000

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
17, Sherborne Lane, King William Street,
London, E. C. 4



authority who was recently appointed to the post of *rapporteur général* of the Budget Commission, is enthusiastically optimistic as to the future of his country from the financial point of view. "The financial situation of France, although at present apparently bad, may and will become excellent," he said, in the course of a chat I had with him last week. "We are determined, in spite of the heavy burden the country has to carry in consequence of the German onslaught, on a balance between revenue and expenditure. The really embarrassing factor is the Budget for the Liberated Regions; that is to say, the expenditure which must be repaid by Germany. I need not hesitate to say that the financial situation of France is dependent on the Germans carrying out their obligations under the Peace Treaty.

"Apart from the expenditure which must be recouped from Germany, our disbursements for 1922 will amount to 22,500,000,000, to which must be added 1,500,000,000 for expenditure in connection with the maintenance of our troops in Cilicia, Upper Silesia, and other regions. Of this total of 24,000,000,000, thirteen milliards, or more than half, will be spent on the discharge of our various debts. Before the war the French Budget totalled 5,000,000,000, and our national debt represented an annual charge of 1,000,000,000. It is clear, therefore, that French expenditure has increased from 4,000,000,000 a year to 11,000,000,000." M. Bokanowski insisted that, in spite of the accusation of reckless expenditure that is brought against the French in certain quarters, no people is more thrifty than they, in spite of the frightful increase in the cost of living, the fall of the franc to .35 of its former par value, and the fact that wages have been increased to three times their former scale.

The French foreign trade returns for the first six months of 1921 are now available, and indicate that, although they are still favourable on balance to this country, the falling off in both imports and exports during the past month has

been substantial. The comparative figures for the first halves of 1921 and 1920 respectively are as follows:—

	First Six Months of		Increase or Decrease.
	1920.	1921.	
Imports—	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Foodstuffs	6,366,668,000	2,488,606,000	— 3,878,062,000
Raw materials	13,160,529,000	5,139,928,000	— 8,020,601,000
Manufactured goods	6,664,505,000	2,778,904,000	— 3,885,601,000
Total	26,191,702,000	10,407,438,000	— 15,784,264,000
Exports—			
Foodstuffs	1,114,774,000	1,000,733,000	— 114,041,000
Raw materials	3,046,006,000	2,718,143,000	— 327,863,000
Manufactured goods	7,621,078,000	6,484,436,000	— 1,136,642,000
Postal parcels	474,365,000	596,543,000	+ 122,178,000
Total	12,256,223,000	10,799,855,000	— 1,456,368,000

For the first time the valuation in francs on which the above figures are based is made (*but only in respect of the figures for 1920*) in accordance with the official fixed scales for 1920. The Customs authorities point out that, owing to the recent substantial falls in commodity prices, which are now much lower than in 1920, it has not been possible to value the imports and exports for 1921 on the same basis as in the previous year. The figures for 1921 therefore are based on the fixed scale for 1919, which approximated very closely to the values now prevailing. The official scale for 1919, it is explained, involves a difference of only about 3 per cent., while if that of 1920 were applied the discrepancy would be equal to something like 27 per cent. Exact comparison between the totals for the two periods being rendered difficult owing to the fall in commodity prices, the Customs authorities have thought fit to publish, also for the first time, the comparative tonnage of the exports and imports for the two periods in question, which are as follows:—

	Tonnage During First Six Months of		Increase or Decrease.
	1920.	1921.	
Imports—			
Foodstuffs	3,326,785	1,636,479	— 1,690,306
Raw materials	17,584,057	13,618,110	— 3,965,947
Manufactured goods	1,219,768	802,687	— 417,081
Totals	22,130,610	16,057,276	— 6,073,334
Exports—			
Foodstuffs	479,956	667,231	+ 187,275
Raw materials	4,210,226	5,627,429	+ 1,417,203
Manufactured goods	823,934	1,019,354	+ 195,420
Postal parcels	9,365	11,938	+ 2,573
Totals	5,523,481	7,325,952	+ 1,802,471

When compared on a tonnage basis, French imports for the six months show a decline of only 27 per cent. as compared with the figures for the corresponding period of last year (23 per cent. of this representing the falling off in the imports of raw materials); while if the comparison is made according to values, the decrease is equivalent to over 60 per cent. Exports, on the other hand, show an increase of 1,800,000 tons in weight, but a decrease of 1,456,000 in value.

The real significance of the French returns, however, in their relation to the general slump in business throughout the world, is only to be noted when they are compared with those issued last month, setting forth the details for the first five months of the year. From those figures it was seen that whereas the imports into France for the first five months of 1920 had a value of 15,722,000,000, those for the corresponding period of 1921 had fallen to 8,683,000,000, a decline of 7,038 millions. The figures now issued indicate that the comparative decline in imports during the month of June alone was 8,746 millions, or more than that for the whole of the previous five months put together. Exports for the five months ending with May were 1,221 million francs in excess of those for the corresponding period of last year. The figures now issued show that the total French exports during June were to the value of 1,750,000,000, as compared with 6,429,000,000 for the corresponding month of last year.

French unemployment figures continue to show a steady decline. The number of unemployed in receipt of unemployment allowances from the 131 departmental and muni-

cipal funds throughout France is now 47,566, or a decrease of 518 as compared with the previous week. The number in receipt of unemployment allowances at the end of April was 84,810. Of the 47,566 workless people referred to, 31,429 were in the Paris area. To these figures must be added, perhaps, another 40,000, to represent unemployed who have no need of help from the public funds. It should also be added, as the Ministry of Labour is careful to point out, that the published figures do not include the number of workers on short time, nor those in districts where there are no unemployment funds. The latter contingency applies especially to the devastated regions, where the financial situation of practically the whole of the communes renders the organisation of local unemployment funds impossible. In such cases, men and women requiring relief through unemployment are succoured by the ordinary poor-law organisations, and thus escape inclusion in the statistics of the Labour Ministry.

The situation in the French textile industry is again causing alarm. Strikes have occurred in the Lille cotton area and the Roubaix-Tourcoing woollen centre, owing to proposed wages reductions. At Lille the strike was due to a proposal by the employers for a reduction in wages similar to that in the Vosges cotton area, where a cut of 15 per cent. has been made, in conformity with the reduction in the cost of living. The effect of this may be judged from the fact that the saving in one Vosges mill alone, where there are 40,000 spindles, amounts to 690,000 of a year. The same principle applied to the mills in the Lille district would mean, it is stated, a reduction in operating costs of about 24,000,000 of a year. The French woollen mills in the North are many of them working only from 16 to 24 hours a month, it is reported. Cotton mills in the Roubaix area have been idle 20 hours a week, and their output has been reduced to 50 per cent. of the normal. Lille cotton mills are working on an average 27 hours a week, and three-quarters of the linen mills from 18 to 24 hours a week, the rest being idle. In the Lyons silk area weavers are working from 32 to 40 hours a week, 35 per cent. of the looms being stopped. Dyers and dressers are working 12 hours a week, and 75 per cent. of the throwers are idle.

The market has been fluctuating considerably, and it was hoped that there would be a sensible recovery after the fifteenth, but the difficulties in Upper Silesia have aggravated the situation. Throughout the week there has been a series of erratic movements, caused in part through the drop in Mexican Eagles owing to fires in the wells near Vera Cruz. The French 3 per cents. were rather lower at 56.35, as against 56.50. Banks have fluctuated, Banque de Paris varying between 1270 and 1290, Union Parisienne between 800 and 788, and Crédit Mobilier between 425 and 420. Transports have shown a tendency towards depression; thus Metropolitan is back from 383 to 373, Nord Sud and Omnibus have remained unchanged at 165 and 607 respectively, while Chargeurs Réunis have dropped from 550 to 530, Transatlantique from 232 to 222, and Messageries from 305 to 280. Electrical undertakings have declined, Thomson falling from 840 to 790 and Telegraphie sans Fil from 800 to 730. Metallurgical undertakings are mostly weaker, Creusot standing at 2100, as against 2145, and Acieries de France being firmer at 605, as against 585; but St. Nazaire has dropped from 980 to 850, and Acieries du Nord and Est from 500 to 469. In mining securities, Tintos are weaker at 1423, after having stood at 1460, but Boléo is better at 315, as against 285.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	July 22, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 24, 1913.
Capital of the Bank	2,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to reserve	5,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of land	0.000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	27,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund	20,659	577,569,777	..
Surplus earmarked for sinking	141	877,102,601	..
Fund for advance to State	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918)	37,267,951,060	37,555,469,890	5,452,079,950
Notes in circulation	73,669,091	69,440,563	27,475,554
Interest on securities	1,165,243	1,034,974	4,642,673
Bank notes to order	31,336,441	23,436,689	362,761,058
Treasury account	..	..	..

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Current accounts, Paris	1,786,885,698	1,710,256,359	610,400,821
Do branch banks	985,340,572	992,354,314	85,664,071
Dividends payable	9,868,987	11,940,357	4,955,922
Discounts and sundries	24,044,358	20,227,455	7,775,477
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,696
Sundries	1,053,359,637	1,023,579,377	217,816,493
Total	42,971,736,987	43,132,688,655	7,034,514,259
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,795,835,711	5,795,661,601	3,997,731,150
Balances abroad	633,869,858	637,033,506	..
Commercial bills overdue	6,062,448	3,678,973	10,949
Discounts in Paris	1,643,204,762	1,680,141,499	574,528,997
Foreign bills	5,531,534	7,067,374	18,305,997
Treasury bills	262,646	55,636	134,107
Discounts in branches	937,579,944	1,021,528,482	985,202,054
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	76,123,290	78,482,409	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	4,334,000
Do on public securities	417,591,746	413,795,128	197,680,681
Do on branch banks	1,790,719,268	1,800,266,003	532,373,808
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,000,000,000	25,200,000,000	6,398,500
Treasury bonds in respect of advances to Foreign Govern-ments	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,908,221	101,908,221	99,586,202
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	47,072,794	46,985,616	42,405,159
Expenses and management	4,845,027	3,321,650	1,968,395
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,368,499
Sundries	2,114,868,545	1,946,510,364	242,557,411
Total	42,971,736,987	43,132,688,655	7,034,514,259

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	2 1/2
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6 3/4

POLAND. — CROP PROSPECTS — DECONTROL — OIL CONVENTION WITH FRANCE — ITALIAN CAPITAL IN GALICIA — TRADE NEGOTIATIONS WITH CZECHO-SLOVAKIA — AUSTRIAN GOLD: INCREASE OF IMPORT DUTIES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, July 22.

THE crop prospects continue to be excellent. It may be assumed that Poland will be able to feed her population without resorting to the import of foreign corn. According to the estimates of the Ministry of Agriculture, the yield of winter-sown corn will be by 100 per cent. greater than a year ago. Potatoes came up very well, and there are prospects for an increased crop of sugar-beet. Waste lands have disappeared completely in the central provinces, and only in the Eastern districts are uncultivated fields to be found.

On July 15th the system of food control, of maximum prices, &c., ceased to exist. The trade in food products — with the exception of sugar and alcohol — is now absolutely free. The Ministry of Food is being liquidated.

The oil convention with France has not yet been signed. This is principally due to some difficulties in drawing a line of demarcation between French and other companies which are exploiting the Galician oilfields. There are different undertakings which are French in name but in which German capital is interested to a large extent. The French Government has the intention of excluding those companies from the benefits of the convention, and this is one of the principal reasons of the delay in the signature of the agreement.

Lately Italian capital has entered the field in Galicia. The "Petroli d'Italia," which were pursuing hitherto drilling operations in Albania, have acquired oilfields in Western Galicia. For the exploiting of these deposits a special company has been founded. In Budapest a new undertaking — the "Napta Polania," with a capital of 100 million kronen — has been created. The Italo-Hungarian Bank is financing this new company.

Negotiations between Czechoslovakia and Poland for the conclusion of a trade agreement have been opened. The Czechoslovakian Minister of Commerce, Mr. Hotowec, has arrived in Warsaw, and is discussing with the Polish authorities the principal points of the future convention. The conclusion of an agreement with Czechoslovakia is of the greatest importance for the two countries, in consequence of their very intimate economic relations. As country of origin, Czechoslovakia ranges in the Polish trade returns second, and as country of destination third. As far as the iron industry is concerned, Czechoslovakia has already acquired a kind of monopoly of the Polish market.

From the 50 million kronen of the gold reserve of the Austro-Hungarian Bank, which had to be divided among the succession States, Poland has obtained 4,468,000 kronen. The bulk of this sum is composed of English sovereigns. The depreciation of the Polish mark has forced the Government to increase the import duties. These duties are calculated in gold and paid in paper marks, according to a varying agio. This agio has been actually fixed at 19.900 per cent. for luxuries, and at 14.900 per cent. for other articles.

JUGOSLAVIA. — EXPORT DUTIES — THE NEW GENERAL TARIFF — CONSTITUTION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BELGRADE, July 22.

THE Customs duties on exports are daily becoming more embarrassing for the export trade of Yugoslavia. The dearth of agricultural products which was manifested in Central Europe in the years 1919 and 1920 has sensibly diminished. Jugoslavian wheat has not a privileged position, even in Austria, and American wheat is a strong competitor.

The same thing obtains with regard to other products which Yugoslavia exports. Consequently duties on export must be reduced. Some reductions were made in February, 1921, and again on June 16th, the following articles being affected — horses, beef, pigs, meat, bacon, sausages, lard, lignit.

A new general tariff of Customs duties on imports was published on July 16th. It contains a minimum tariff for the countries which have commercial treaties with Yugoslavia, England, France, &c., and a maximum tariff for other countries. The minimum tariff is higher than the rates existing up to the present. By this new tariff the wood, iron, and textile industries are specially protected. The sugar, flour, beer industries are already sufficiently protected. A special tax of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* on "articles de luxe," already in existence, charged over and above the ordinary rates, still remains in force. Although national industries are thus sufficiently protected, they are not satisfied. The Government, however, taking into consideration the case of the consumers in the country, who, if tariffs were raised further, would consequently have to pay more for their requirements, and who suffer sufficiently already on account of high cost of living, decline to go any further in this direction.

The new Constitution was definitely voted on June 28th by a great majority. Thus Yugoslavia, the last of the new States in Europe, receives a Constitution which is the base for its political and economical development. The National Assembly rose for vacation at the end of June, and things are quiet, both politically and commercially.

Letters to the Editor.

THE GOLD STANDARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—If Mr Arthur Kitson is bewildered by reading the correspondence on this subject which has appeared in your journal, I doubt whether anything I can state will be of much service to him. The subject is certainly very much alive, and although some of your readers may be a little wearied of the controversy, its importance is my excuse for again troubling you with this letter.

Mr Kitson takes exception to my statement that the "gold standard has stood the test of time," and points to the crisis of 1847, 1857, 1866, 1907, and 1914 as evidence to the contrary. No one has ever claimed for the gold standard that it will prevent crises from occurring, but, under its operation they are less likely to occur. Another thing to bear in mind is that a crisis may occur because of some defect in your banking system, and which has nothing whatever to do with the gold standard. There is no doubt room for improvement here, whereby greater elasticity would be provided and a crisis ren-

dered less likely to take place. Mr Kitson and other reformers might direct their attention to this aspect of the question in the event of a monetary conference being arranged.

Your correspondent exaggerates when he states that gold disappeared in 1914, before even a shot was fired. It is true that owing to a defect in our banking system, when the panic took place in August, 1914, the Bank Act had either to be suspended or a new credit instrument provided, such as the Treasury currency note. As a matter of fact, both were provided during the war, and on several occasions I have paid my humble tribute in the House of Commons to the skill with which Mr Lloyd George handled the crisis of August, 1914. But as Mr Kitson states, I pointed out to Mr Lloyd George the effects which would follow if no provision was made to gradually redeem the emergency paper money when the panic was over. No action was taken. On the contrary, the issue of Treasury currency notes was continued indefinitely, with the results which are only too well known, and to-day we are paying the price for that lack of foresight. It is a painful experience, and the deflation policy which was necessary has, no doubt, caused a great deal of inconvenience and loss to many people; but would Mr Kitson seriously have recommended any other? Mr Kitson forgets that it was the high prices and perilous heights to which everything had been forced by inflation which led to the comparatively small curtailment of credit on the part of the banks and other lending institutions. Your correspondent described the claims of the gold-standard advocates as silly, and that Germany has not been taken in by them. According to Mr Kitson, Germany has reduced her mark to the lowest point in her history, and is purposely keeping it low in value by continuing to issue fresh notes, and if she will continue this policy for the next five years the bulk of the world's trade will be under her control.

Does Mr Kitson seriously intend your readers to believe this? If so, Russia and Poland would be our most formidable competitors, and all this nonsense, I suppose he would call it, of economy, attempting to restore the £ sterling to its par value, should be placed on the scrap-heap, and a policy of unlimited printing of paper-money installed in its stead. When we have got the value of the pound down to that of a shilling, and enormously increased our debt, we would then, according to Mr Kitson, be in a position to control the bulk of the world's trade. I wonder who would look silly then.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

D. M. MASON.

July 25th, 1921.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Personal controversy is always disagreeable, and it gives me no pleasure to draw the attention of your correspondent Mr Arthur Kitson to the fact that Sir Thomas Gresham, who flourished in the time of Henry VIII., first adumbrated the fiscal law—known and respected for over 350 years as “Gresham's law”—that “the weaker currency drives out the stronger.”

Your correspondent actually says:—“Mr Mason confuses effects with causes to such a degree that he forgets his history (!). It is quite untrue to say that the Treasury notes drove gold out of circulation.”

Surely, Sir, the man in the street knows quite well that the £ note is daily quoted at about \$3.60 in American currency based on gold, whereas a golden sovereign is still intrinsically worth its exchange value—say, \$4.85 at par. Naturally no golden sovereigns are in circulation here.

With regard to Mr Kitson's assertion that Germany is the most prosperous country in Europe, possessing a paper mark of the real value of a penny, I would ask him if he suggests we should reduce our shilling to the real value of one penny, or should we go one better than Germany and reduce it to a half-penny? It could easily be done: a Government only requires a printing press with a sufficient quantity of paper and ink.—Yours faithfully,

G. S. PAWLE.

July 25th, 1921.

THE RAILWAYS BILL—STANDARD REVENUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The discussions in the Committee on the Railway Bill have raised very prominently its two most characteristic features, viz., rates and standard revenue. They are an essential part of a scheme which is an attempt at a compromise between nationalisation and unregulated management by the companies. It is a compromise to which in this country and in America people have been led by successive steps. At this stage it may be mentioned that in America a very minute and elaborate régime has been imposed upon the railway companies. That the Geddes Bill affords a remarkable similarity to the Transportation Act of 1920 will be manifest to everyone who has looked into the latter. That it bears particular kinship in its two features which we are about to scrutinise is also apparent. There is, however, one difference: that whereas the American Act has a long and continuous history behind it, the English Railway Bill affords no such clear background in the past. For an explanation of the Bill, therefore, the railway history across the Atlantic will afford a useful guide.

The principle of standard revenue has its fascination not merely on account of the ethical element, viz., justice to shareholders, but has its roots more firmly planted on economic soil. The need of encouraging private capital by the prospect of a reasonable return, in order to induce the necessary funds to be forthcoming, is more than apparent in a new country. But in England this need, though yet dimly realised, is bound to assume serious dimensions in the near future. As compared with Belgium, England has still an inadequate net of railways, and the importance of inducing capital in the railway industry ought not to be underrated. The question has of late, with the incursion of motor transport, been pushed into the background; but to those better acquainted with the transport industry it is more than clear that the motors cannot take the place of railways. The motor transport has not yet been made to pay its full share of the costs of the king's highways, and therefore still rests on an uneconomic basis.

The problem of a fair return is again intertwined with the problem of rate regulation. The whole rate structure in America is growing up on the basis of the ability of the railroads to supply the service, measured in terms of a return to their capital. The whole argument, to put it in a nutshell, is that more than a reasonable return is an unnecessary burden on the patrons of the railways; less than this means a check to the development of traffic, inasmuch as the necessary capital for extension and improvement will not be forthcoming. The explanation of this theory lies in an attempt to reconcile the interests of the shareholders with those of the public.

Although one will hardly find fault with the principle of standard revenue as enumerated above, one cannot honestly congratulate the Minister on its elaboration and development. The most trenchant criticism offered on Clauses 52 and 53 of the Bill appeared a few days ago in the *Times* under the signature of W. T. Layton. His objection, to summarise briefly, is that a plan which aims at obtaining standard revenue by a yearly or a periodical revision of rates is at once unsound and foredoomed to failure. But while this must be conceded as a grave defect of the principle as worked out in the Bill, it can hardly be suggested that the principle is unworkable. As it has been said above, the idea of standard revenue is not new in the world. Let us see how the difficulty to which notice has been drawn by Mr Layton has been met in America and in France, where also they are moving towards the adoption of this principle. A contingent fund as in America, or a common surplus fund (*fonds commun*) as in France, is a necessary complement of any scheme of this sort. In America half the excess over the income adjudged as fair is returned to a reserve fund of the carrier company, and the other half to a contingent fund under the control of the Federal Government. In France, likewise, the Government Bill proposes to create a *fonds commun*. The Commission of Finances, which examined the scheme, spoke of the utility of this fund in very apt language. At the cost of a little more space I reproduce it below:—

“It is then in several respects a problem of mechanics.

If the pressure of a waterfall is brought on the turbines directly and without any precautions, hardly any power is generated. During the dry season the force will be almost nil; on the other hand, during the rainy season the machinery will be inundated by excessive flow. A clever engineer who wishes to get the best out of the fall interposes between the fall and the machinery a reservoir to maintain a constant and regular flow to the turbines.

“In the same way, in order to obtain a uniform system of our railways, to avoid the sudden variations of tariffs, we must build up a reserve. This is what the proposed convention is attempting to do by creating *le fonds commun*.”

The stability of charges is a much graver consideration than the assurance of standard revenue. But to secure this stability is not impossible, or even improbable, without wrecking the Bill. To cast one's eyes back to the earlier outline submitted by the Minister, there were not merely faint glimmerings, but clear indications of an idea to establish a reserve fund. This could have served to ward off sudden fluctuations of tariffs.

There is still another objection to which the above clauses are exposed. However just it may be to assure a certain rate of return to the companies for a temporary period, it will be obviously absurd to fix this return permanently. The value of money is a varying thing, and it is uneconomic to fix it for all time to come. The American Act takes count of this factor, and provides for periodical revisions and adjustments by the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

I will defer my remarks on the question of exceptional rates until a later date.—Yours faithfully,

H. M. JAGTIANI.

London School of Economics, July 25th, 1921.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I thank Mr Mason for his replies to my two questions, and I venture to bring forward the following criticism thereon for his consideration.

Mr Mason admits that falling prices discourage trade, but believes that it is necessary to go through this painful experience in order to compete in the common markets of the world. In another passage he states that a gradual fall in the cost of living and of production will stimulate trade and industry. While it is a matter of every-day experience that the reduction of the price of any one article stimulates the demand for that article, it is a fallacy to deduce from this that a proportionate reduction of the price of all articles will stimulate demand. Trade is only the exchange of goods, and the same quantities of different kinds of goods would exchange for one another after a general fall in prices as before. Therefore a general price reduction would make no difference at all, except to inflict hardship and loss on those who had to discharge debts expressed in money, and to give unearned increment to those who had to receive such debts. “The real price of everything,” says Adam Smith, “what everything costs to the man who wants to acquire it, is the toil and trouble of acquiring it.” Our trade consists, roughly speaking, of obtaining food and raw materials in exchange for manufactures. We are cheap if we give good value in manufactures in exchange for what other nations send to us: this is what attracts food and raw materials to our shores. The experiments in deflation, with the view to restoring the gold standard, have so far made us actually dearer, for the fall in the price of what we buy (except certain food-stuffs) has been greater than the fall in the price of what we sell. As an illustration, the equivalent weights of cotton yarn and cotton cloth, which could be obtained in exchange for 100 lbs of middling American cotton at different dates, work out as follows:—

	QUANTITIES EQUIVALENT IN VALUE TO 100 LBS MIDDLING AMERICAN COTTON.		
	1901-5 Average.	Jan. 1, 1920.	July 21, 1921.
Yarn, 32's twist.....lbs	66 ..	55½ ..	48½
Cloth, 39-in shirtings (37½ yards 8½ lbs)	57½ ..	52 ..	35½

It would be very interesting if the *Economist* would give index numbers showing the relative movements in the

articles which we buy and those which we sell since April, 1920. It seems to me clear that it is a matter of complete indifference what the absolute price level is in any system of currency, provided that the prices of different articles are well adjusted to the labour of producing them, and that the price level remains steady. The cost of goods to the foreigner in his own currency is adjusted automatically through the exchanges. On the above grounds, I dispute most emphatically that there is any necessity whatever to make the country go through a period of suffering and unemployment in order to reduce the general level of prices and restore the gold standard. The only intelligible object in doing this is to give a premium to a limited class of creditors at the expense of the misery of the rest of the community.

The further fall in prices necessary to restore the gold standard cannot be less than the present premium on the dollar—or, say, 25 per cent.—and I believe the eventual fall would be greater, as the gold standard was reintroduced into other countries.

As regards the burden of debt, I venture to doubt whether a policy which admittedly leads to bad trade, and therefore to falling revenue, is likely to improve our credit. On the other hand, the fall in the money value of the national income, and therefore the increase in the proportion of it which must be taken for debt service, is a certain result of the deflation policy.

Mr Mason is correct in saying that a paper currency may be maintained at par with gold, by limiting the amount in circulation. It is equally easy to maintain a paper currency at par with an index number of prices, by which means greater stability would be attained, without the evils of bad trade and increased burden of debts.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.

July 25th, 1921.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—We see by his letter in the *Economist* of July 23 that Mr Kitson thinks the average reader of your correspondents' economic reasonings must be left in a condition of sheer bewilderment. And we heartily agree with him. But as the “average person” is the majority of persons—the majority that rules—it is to be regretted that your correspondents' teaching can only lead to gaping bewilderment.

Yet so it seems to be. Although the “inflationist” argument gets so great a show of support from the present obvious trade depression, no controllers of finance ever seem to see any salvation in it. At any rate, they seem helplessly to follow the “deflation” policy, though a little apologetically, owing to the fact that the policy can show nothing but trade depression resulting from its efforts. Neither side seems to take any notice of your suggestion that perhaps there has not been any deflation, or the learned bimetalist argument that all the trouble could be overcome by using the double standard of value. All these gentlemen seem to prove their case quite beyond any refutation by their opponents, yet no one seems any nearer agreement. In spite of their solemn predictions and mutual warnings, it seems the whole herd of advisers and advised must rush down the steep into the sea as if possessed of a “lunatic policy.” Whether we cling desperately to a quantity of gold or flounder in a German Ocean of marks that will purchase nothing, we seem impelled by some force we can neither understand nor control to go down to that poverty and toil which seems alone able to capture the world's trade.

In this confused controversy there seems to be one idea in common. The “deflationists” see that a standard of value should be as nearly an invariable one as possible. The bimetalists also think that the standard would be more invariable if it was the mean variation of two commodities. And the “inflationists” go to the logical conclusion that the standard would be still more invariable if it was the mean value of all commodities. But the difficulty seems to be to find what the mean is and to make prices keep to the mean when we have got it; these standards have been tried, and are still being tried, in one country or another, yet prices have never been invariable for a moment. We seem to need a greater light on how exactly a standard of value can control the level of prices.

May we suggest that possibly the price level does not depend upon quantity or value of currency at all? We seem to have heard it stated with great authority that value depends upon demand and supply; and if that is so, things that become more wanted or more difficult to obtain should surely become higher in price. If the supply of currency is short (?) its value should go up. The idea that the price level should, or could, be made invariable seems to us the most pernicious fallacy that has ever muddled the heads of economists.—Yours faithfully,

ALBERT AND PERCY WALLIS.

July 25th, 1921.

COST OF PRODUCTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I think Mr Craies does not get really to the root of the objection of the workman—or his leader—to increasing output.

Habit, as he recognises in the latter part of his letter, is inertia rather than active force; it is leaving alone the forces in operation without bringing new forces into action.

Objection to increasing output on the part of the workman is partly resistance to selfish desire for undue gain by the employer, partly an unreasoning belief that what is bad for the employer is, *ergo*, good for the workman; that there is just so much work to be done in the world, and that the less the employer gets out of it the better it is for the workman, and the more he gets out of it.

In the world war there were large numbers of people who were temporarily lifted out of the old ruts of feeling, both among employers and workers, and those who were not lifted out of them were able to gorge themselves on the public purse, directly or indirectly.

It is the moral lift and the consequent outburst of intelligent and harmonious and unselfish effort that we want, quite as much from the labour side as from the employers'.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

July 19th, 1921. E. H. B.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Prices and Wages." By Percy and Albert Wallis. P. S. King and Son, 1921. 25s.

IN 450 closely reasoned pages the authors of this work set out the fundamentals of their economic creed. They believe (1) that the value of everything is unalterably fixed by the "labour-time" required for its production; (2) that general changes in prices can only take place when there is a change in the labour-time required for the production of gold, or whatever else is the standard of value; (3) that laws of supply and demand are the follies of "the economists," to whom is ascribed the belief that cost of production has little or nothing to do with value; (4) that this doctrine, though, as the authors realise, it is more akin to that of Marx than any other, is in reality a prop of the "capitalist system." Incidentally we learn that capital is not the result of saving, and that in pre-war days we consumed annually practically the whole of our annual production. In support of this extraordinary picture of orthodoxy in unorthodox clothing walking hand in hand with pure heresy, an immense amount of evidence is adduced, but this sometimes has to be roughly handled before it will yield the appropriate deductions.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

the *Annals of a Financier*. By Otto H. Kahn, with an Introduction by the Right Hon. J. H. Thomas, P.C., M.P. if he suggest Hodder and Stoughton, Limited. 10s 6d, value of oil.

Germany and of the *British Empire Chamber of Commerce* be done: a *States of America*. Vol. 1, No. 4. May with a sufficient (New York) 120 Broadway.

fully, *Journal of the Russian Economic* July 25th, 1921. (London) P. S. King and 5 6d, net.

Industrial India. No. 1. August, 1921. (Bombay) Tata Publishing Corporation, Limited. Rs. 2.

"Industrial India" has been produced with a twofold object. (1) That India generally, and more especially India's industrialists, may be kept fully informed upon all developments as they occur in the West. (2) That every possibility and complete data shall be available to all parties interested where new enterprises and further development of existing industries is possible in India. This monthly review can be obtained from the Tata Publishing Corporation, Limited, King's House, Kingsway, London, W.C. 2.

The Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society of England. Volume 81. (London) John Murray. 15s.

Travels of a Consular Officer in North-West China. By Eric Teichman. (Cambridge) University Press. 25s. net. *The Nineteenth Century and After*. August, 1921. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 4s.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch - Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. August 10. ACCOUNT. August 11.

While the volume of Stock Exchange business has been comparatively small, the tone of markets is not unsatisfactory. The feature of the week has been the way in which new issues of good class were rapidly over-subscribed by the public. A month ago underwriters began to get a little shy of taking new obligations, owing to the way in which the public were postponing investment in new issues until after allotment, evidently with the intention of getting stock at a discount. To-day, however, the appetite of the investor, despite the holiday season, is eager for good securities offering a reasonable rate of interest. Nor have the latest stocks come into competition with those already existing. Investment is the order of the day, speculation being very passive.

The last day having passed for effecting conversion of National War bonds, Exchequer bonds, &c., into the new 5½ per cent. Treasury eight-year bonds, several of the prices of the short-dated Government securities went back, while the War Loan itself has been somewhat dull in tone. Victory Bonds and Funding Loan, however, are a better market, and once more the scrip stocks of such borrowers as Ceylon, New Zealand, India, and many of the Home Corporations show rises in reflection of the way in which the effect of the lower Bank rate is steadily working. Home Railway prior-charge stocks are included in the lists of those which the investor demands, and Indian Railway stocks advance with monotonous regularity day by day.

The Foreign market has seen a fair amount of buying of Brazilian bonds, while Japanese dollar stocks have vied with the weather in breaking records. Chinese bonds are firmer, though French and German issues hang back. There is, however, a fair amount of Continental demand for foreigners as a whole, and the market is not a bad one.

Home Railway stocks are lower, nominally on account of the reduction in dividends which have been announced; actually because the public are taking no interest whatever so far as fresh buying is concerned. There is a shade of nervousness perceptible amongst holders of Home Railway stocks now that the time for decontrol is so close at hand. Argentine Rails recovered on the hope that substantial increase in rate will be permitted to companies in the near future, but Canadians and Mexicans are practically unchanged, and the weakness of Brazilian rails, notably San Paulos, continues pronounced, the fall in the milreis accounting for the depression.

The rubber market is heavy again, owing to the obstinate refusal of the raw material to show any resiliency. Amongst oil shares, dealing has become so largely a professional affair that prices move up and down in violent fashion, to the

accompaniment of very meagre public business. The Scottish-American meeting on Wednesday, at which amalgamation with Tankers, Limited, was mooted, caused a fall in the price of the latter. English Oilfields are flat, owing to the lack of recent information obtainable in regard to the company. After many months of quietude, the banking share market is coming into its own, and a long string of rises in the shares of the London, Foreign, Colonial, and Indian banking issues testifies to the shrewd appreciation of the investor of the strength and security offered by such issues. The insurance market is neglected, and in shipping shares there is next to nothing doing, the market being a trifle sympathetic with the heaviness in iron, steel, engineering, and armament varieties, brought about by the continued closing down of important works in various parts of the country owing to trade depression. Trade conditions are also causing dullness amongst textiles. The brewery market is easier, owing to a Watney dividend that was regarded as disappointing. Cable and wireless shares exhibit little movement, and other sections of the miscellaneous market command attention which is more academic than practical.

The white labourers of the Rand have caused Kaffir prices to slip back, here and there, by reason of the vote which is now to be taken on the point of whether the proposed reduction in wages of 1s 6d per day shall be accepted by the whites on the Rand. In the dullness of Kaffirs, Rhodesians participated to a slight extent; diamonds have hardly moved. The recent activity in Russo-Asiatics has been followed by a certain amount of selling on the eve of the holiday. Tin shares are inclined to be easier, and Broken Hills went back a shade on a slackening of Australian support.

The Stock Exchange petition to the committee, asking for re-institution of fortnightly settlements, was duly presented earlier in the week. It has been decided to make no official notification on the subject, but the Stock Exchange understands that the committee have notified to the petitioners that the matter is receiving their careful consideration. By the official fixing of the date of Peace—Turkey or no Turkey—for September 1st, the necessity for complete liquidation, within a year, of the pre-war account is now formally established.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	130,307,801	..	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,024,990
5½ % 1929 receipts week ended July 23, 1921	3,700,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED JULY 23, 1921.

April 1 to July 23, £1,380,000	Dr50,000	Dr50,000
--------------------------------------	----------	----------

To the Public—				
The Commissioners for the Port of Calcutta, £1,000,000 7½% Debentures (red. 1922-31), issued at par (July 25)	1,000,000	..	50,000	.. 950,000
City Equitable Associated, Lim., 250,000 8% Ptg. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (July 25)	250,000	..	31,250	.. 218,750
British Automobile Traction Co., Limited, 200,000 Cum. 8% Ptg. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (July 25)	200,000	..	25,000	.. 175,000
East Kent Road Car, 25,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par	25,000	..	6,250	.. 18,750
Eagle Oil Transport Co., £3,000,000 12-year 7% Notes (rep. at par June 30, 1935, or at 101 % June 30, 1920), at 98% (Bearer) and 97% Registered (July 27) 3,000,000 ..	2,940,000	..	150,000	.. 2,790,000
South Metropolitan Gas, £734,000 6½% Red. Deb. Sks. (rep. at par, 1931), issued at 97 % (July 27)	734,000	..	711,980	.. 36,700
Producer Gas Plants, Limited, 50,000 10% Ptg. Pref. Sks. at par (July 27)	50,000	..	6,250	.. 43,750
Associated Belting Companies, Limited, 180,000 10% Cum. Pref. Shares, 10s, at 10s 6d (July 27)	90,000	..	94,500	.. ..
Total offered to public	5,271,480	..	399,950	.. 4,871,530
To Shareholders only—				
Malayan Rubber, Loan, and Agency, £25,000 10% Terminable, Conv. 1st Debts. (red. at 110%, 1928), issued at par ..	25,000	..	2,500	.. 22,500
Sheffield and District Cinematograph Theatres, 36,000 Shares, 10s, at £1	18,000	..	36,000	.. 18,000
Total offered to shareholders only	..	..	61,000	.. 40,500
Total offered for subscription to date ..	5,296,480	..	460,950	.. 4,835,530
in—				
1921	£139,290,281	..	..	.. £367,549,656
1920	260,936,678	..	..	.. 1,036,069,251
1919	421,847,127	..	..	.. 1,391,381,441
1918	828,065,472	..	..	.. 1,318,596,010
1917	1,070,418,048	..	..	.. 585,436,850
1916	341,870,000	..	..	.. 685,236,326
1915	656,688,876	..	..	.. 1,214,522,633
1914	172,235,327	..	..	.. 196,536,980
Total offered for subscription for whole year—				
1920	..	..	..	.. £367,549,656
1919	..	..	..	.. 1,036,069,251
1918	..	..	..	.. 1,391,381,441
1917	..	..	..	.. 1,318,596,010
1916	..	..	..	.. 585,436,850
1915	..	..	..	.. 685,236,326
1914	..	..	..	.. 1,214,522,633
1913	..	..	..	.. 196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of the 16th inst.

Port of Calcutta.—Issue of £1,000,000 7 per cent. debentures to bearer at par, repayable at par on July 1, 1951, but the Commissioners of the port reserve the power to repay at par any time after the expiry of 10 years from date of issue, on giving six months' notice. The loan is offered for subscription with the sanction of the Government of India, and is secured upon the tolls, dues, rates, rents and other charges authorised to be levied under Act III. of 1890 of the Council of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal and amending Acts, and the issue ranks *pari passu* with other loans as a first charge upon the properties vested in the Commissioners of the port. The Commissioners undertake to purchase annually in the market from 1926, at a price not exceeding £100 per cent., debentures of the present issue to the extent of not less than 2 per cent. of the amount issued, for holding or cancellation. Payments will be made to a sinking fund for the redemption of the present issue in 30 years, and will commence in January, 1922. The Acts referred to provide for setting aside half yearly out of income, before making any disbursements, a sinking fund of such amount as will suffice to liquidate each loan contracted, such sinking fund to be invested in the name of two trustees in the securities of the Government of India, or in the debentures issued by the Commissioners under the Acts. The amount to the credit of the sinking fund on March 31, 1921, was £990,000 at an exchange of 1s 4d per rupee. The unimproved value of the properties vested in the Commissioners on March 31, 1921, was, at an exchange of 1s 4d to the rupee, £10,290,000, and the capital debt on that date amounted to £6,816,000, after deduction of £990,000, the amount to the credit of the sinking fund. This valuation does not include the value of the Strand-bank and Howrah foreshore lands. The table of income and expenditure could have been made more informative as to amount required for interest payments. Accounts for the year ended March 31, 1921, are not yet complete, but it is stated that the income will be approximately £1,800,000 and the expenditure £1,600,000, including provision for depreciation of securities amounting to £180,000. The issue is not without merit, but consideration must be paid to the political outlook.

The Eagle Oil Transport Company, Limited.—Authorized capital £5,000,000, all of which has been issued. There is an unpaid balance of £800,000 on ordinary shares, which is payable by December 31, 1921. This is an offer for sale of £3,000,000 12-year 7 per cent. notes, being part of an authorised issue of £5,000,000. The notes are issued at 98 for bearer and 97 for registered notes, and they are repayable at par on June 30, 1933, with the option to the company to repay on June 30, 1927, at 101 per cent., on giving three months' notice. The conditions of issue provide that the company shall not create debentures, "without providing that the notes shall rank as to principal and interest *pari passu* with or in priority to such debentures." It should, however, be noticed that "There are statutory ships' mortgages in favour of the builder for £297,000." The notes will be unconditionally guaranteed as to principal and interest by the Mexican Eagle Oil Company. From the noteholder's point of view the guarantee of Mexican Eagle Oil Company renders the financial position of the Eagle Oil Transport Company, Limited, of comparatively little importance. The Mexican Eagle Oil has an issued share capital of \$129,327,610 Mexican gold, while profits for the year ended June 30, 1920, exceeded £5,000,000. The prices paid by Messrs Higginson and Co. for these notes were 93 per cent. for registered and 94 per cent. for bearer notes. The financial reputation which has been earned by the "Eagle Oil" group of companies possibly justifies this issue, but the yield offered does not appear conspicuously attractive.

South Metropolitan Gas Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament, 1842. Authorised share capital £8,011,999, of which £6,859,895 has been issued. The loan capital consists of £1,895,445 of 3 per cent. debenture stock, and £734,000 6½ per cent. debenture stock now offered at 97 per cent., repayable at par on September 15, 1931. The fresh capital is required for the purpose of repaying existing temporary debentures of £500,000 and bank loans, the additional charge upon the company's revenue being approximately £10,000 per annum. The security offered by the present issue is indicated by the amount of profit available for distribution among the shareholders, which is shown by the accounts, certified by the Board of Trade to have been as under:—Average for the five years 1910-1914, £319,101 per annum; average for the war period (1915-1918), £252,508 per annum; for the year ended December 31, 1920, £346,391 per annum. The company's property has been independently valued at £14,500,000. This is an attractive offer, and deserved the welcome it received.

The British Automobile Traction Company, Limited.

—Authorised capital £500,000, divided into 200,000 cumulative 8 per cent. participating preference shares and 300,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each, of which 200,000 ordinary shares have been already issued. This is an issue at par of 200,000 preference shares. The participation rights consist of an "additional 2 per cent. up to 10 per cent. *pro rata* with holders of ordinary shares in proportion to the capital paid up on the preference and ordinary shares respectively in any distribution by way of dividend in any year after payment of a dividend for that year of 8 per cent. on the capital paid up on the ordinary shares." The company was registered in March, 1905, and operates the "British" omnibuses and motor coaches in London, Barrow-in-Furness, Buxton, Macclesfield, and Stockport. It also holds interests in associated companies, providing omnibus, motor-coach, and other transport services in other parts of the United Kingdom. The company's investments in these associated companies stood in the books at December 31, 1920, at £290,000, the average dividend yield for the past year being at the rate of over 11 per cent. An interesting table is given of profits and dividends, showing how the company has fared since 1913. The directors are to be complimented on providing intending investors with a copy of the balance-sheet of the company for the year ended December 31, 1920, in the prospectus, while the names of the directors may be taken as a favourable sign for future success if technical knowledge can ensure it. It should not be overlooked, however, that the question of public road service versus railroad service has not yet been satisfactorily settled on its financial side.

Associated Belting Companies, Limited.—Authorised capital, £350,000, divided into 350,000 ordinary shares of 10s each, and 350,000 10 per cent. cumulative preference shares of 10s each, of which 260,000 ordinary and 260,000 preference shares have been issued. This is an offer for sale of 180,000 of the above preference shares at 10s 6d per share. The Associated Belting Companies, Limited, was incorporated on June 19, 1920, and has since acquired the businesses of Geo. Banham and Co., Limited, Farnworth, Lancs, and Lewis and Tylor, Limited, Grange Mills, Cardiff. The total amount paid for the businesses was £260,000 in cash. There are no debentures or debenture stock charging the undertaking of the company at present. Surplus assets are valued at £263,950, exclusive of goodwill and patents. It should be noticed, however, that the value of mills has been estimated on the basis of to-day's building costs. Profits are shown in the aggregate for 4½ years, and these average £42,400 per year, while it is stated that the amount required to pay the preference dividend is £13,000 per annum. The Atlantic Trust, Limited, of Cardiff, purchased these shares at 10s each, and it is perhaps surprising to find that they are paying all the expenses of this offer, offering a brokerage of 2d per share, and willing to accept 6d per share profit. On the information offered it is difficult to determine the future prospects of the company, and there is a considerable element of speculation attached to a purchase of these shares.

The Malayan Rubber Loan and Agency Corporation, Limited.—Issue at par of £25,000 in terminable and convertible 10 per cent. first debentures to existing holders of shares and debentures, secured by a floating charge on the assets of the company. The company may redeem the debentures at £110 per cent. at any time on giving six months' notice, while holders are offered the right to convert during their currency, into fully-paid ordinary shares at the nominal par value. In the balance-sheet of the company for the year ended June 30, 1921, it should be noted that investments—the principal asset—at £162,653 are taken at cost, and although it is mentioned that this sum is "less amounts written off at date," the position is not clear, especially when in conjunction the auditors state in their certificate that "they are not in a position to assess their present value." This is, however, followed by the words "we have obtained all the information and explanation we have required."

Producer Gas Plants, Limited.—Authorised capital £100,000, divided into 50,000 10 per cent. participating preference shares of £1 each and 50,000 ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an issue at par of 50,000 participating preference shares. The participating rights and directors' profits are rather involved, and we quote from the prospectus as follows:—"Any payments available for dividend in any year after payment of the fixed dividend on the preference shares and a like dividend for such year on the capital paid up on the ordinary shares and after providing for the additional directors' remuneration hereinafter referred to, shall be divided as to 20 per cent. between the holders of the preference shares in proportion to the amounts paid up thereon respectively. The existing fully-paid ordinary shares and the additional ordinary shares shall be in *passu*, and shall be entitled to be paid out of the year after the said dividend payable on the pre-

ference shares a fixed dividend for that year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the capital paid up thereon, and after providing for the directors' remuneration hereinafter referred to shall be entitled to the remaining 80 per cent. of the surplus profits of each year. Whenever in respect of any year the dividend of 10 per cent. per annum is paid on the preference and ordinary shares the directors shall be entitled to 5 per cent. of the surplus profits." Could not this have been explained in more simple language to the busy reader of the prospectus? The company manufactures a portable producer gas plant under its patents, which can be fitted to any standard petrol driven commercial vehicle without alteration to engine or chassis. The company was formed in 1917 to take over and develop the patents known as Parker Producer Patents relating to the principle of substituting producer gas in place of liquid fuel for internal combustion engines driving commercial vehicles, tractors, boats, &c. It is stated that 25,000 ordinary shares have already been issued, but after perusing the prospectus we are unable to find exactly what investors are getting for their money. What is the company paying for the patent? Is it a sound commercial proposition? Is the rate of dividend offered on the shares big enough to make an investment in such a speculative undertaking attractive? The intending investor should carefully turn these questions over in his mind before subscribing.

East Kent Road Car Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £200,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 175,000 are issued and fully paid. This is an issue of 25,000 ordinary shares at par. The company was formed in 1916 to amalgamate a number of old-established East Kent omnibus undertakings. Past results are given for the last four years. The assets of the company are not set out in a very clear manner. We are shown the total expenditure, which is given as £256,840. Then we are informed that a depreciation reserve fund has been created, and this stands at £47,465. Are we to assume that the balance of £209,375 represents the net surplus assets, and that there are no further liabilities to people other than shareholders? With this exception the prospectus is a clear statement of affairs. The issue is suitable chiefly for the consideration of local investors.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War 3½% 1925-28 ..	87½	87½	..	Local Loans 3% ..	53½	53½	..
Loans 5½% 1929-37 ..	81½	81½	..	Aust. 5½% debts 1922-7 ..	94	95	+1
4½% 1929-47 ..	88½	88½	..	Canada 4½% 1920-25 ..	94	95	+1
4½% 1929-47 ..	96½	96½	..	India 3½% Stock ..	58½	59	+1
Funding Loan 4% ..	70½	71½	+1	Do 7% Stock ..	104½	104½	..
Victory Bonds 4% ..	76½	76½	..	N.S.W. 5½% 1922-27 ..	93	93	..
Conversion Loan 3½% ..	63½	63½	..	U.S.A. 4½% 1920-25 ..	93	93	..
Consols 2½% ..	48½	49½	+1	Victoria 5½% 1924-34 ..	94	94	..
Irish Land Stock 2½% ..	48½	48½	..				

Banks.

Barclays B (£1 f.p.d.) 2½x ..	2½	..	..	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10) ..	17½	19	+1½
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) 2½x ..	2½	..	..	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10) ..	11½	11½	..
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid) 6½x ..	6½	..	..	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) ..	9x	9½	+½
London County Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) 14½x ..	14½	..	..	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) ..	10½	10½x	+½

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons. 46 ..	46	..	..	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 12½ ..	12½	..	..
B. A. & Pacific ..	38½	..	..	Leopoldina ..	18	18½	+½
B. A. Gt. Southern ..	52½	..	..	Mexican Railway ..	14	14	..
Buenos Ayres West. ..	52½	..	..	Do 1st Pref. ..	35	..	..
Canadian Pacific ..	153	156	+3	Do 2nd Pref. ..	24	..	..
Central Argentine ..	49	55	+6	San Paulo ..	112	..	..
Grand Trunk Ord. ..	4½	4½	..	United Havana ..	58½	57½	-1

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio ..	75	77	+2	Southern ..	27	28	+1
Erie ..	17½	18½	+1	Do Non-cum Pref. ..	63	63	..
Do 4% 1st Pref. ..	27	..	..				

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentina 5% 1886-7 ..	94	94½	+½	Italian 3½% Rentes ..	25	25	..
Belgian 5% ..	62	63	+1	Greek Monopoly 4% ..	32½	32½	..
Brazil 5% Fund 1914 ..	57	58	+1	Japanese 4½% ..	120	121½	+1½
Chilian 4½% 1895 ..	66	67	+1	Do 4% 1910 ..	59½	63½	+4
Chinese 5% 1912 ..	70	71	+1	Mexican Cons. 1899 ..	53	58	+5
Egyptian 4% ..	63½	64½	+1	Peruvian Corp. Pref. ..	17	16½	-½
French 5% ..	44	44½	+½	Russian 5% 1906 ..	13½	13½	..
Do 4% ..	34½	34	-½	Spanish 4% ..	69½	69½	..

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" 17 ..	17	..	..	Marconi Canada ..	1½	1½	..
Eastern Telegraph ..	162½	162½	..	Marconi Marine ..	1½	1½	..
Marconi Wireless ..	2½	2½	..				

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. ..	9	8½	-½	L. & N. W. ..	71	69	-2
Great Eastern ..	27	27½	+½	L. & S. Western, Def. 19½ ..	19	..	..
Great Northern Def. ..	25½	24½	-1	Metropolitan ..	27	27	..
Great Western ..	68½	67	-1½	Metropolitan District 18½ ..	18½	..	..
Lancs. and Yorks ..	50	47½	-2½	Midland Deferred ..	45	42½	-2½
London Brighton "A" 38 ..	38	37½	-½	North British Def. ..	11	10½	-½
London Chatham ..	52	51	-1	North Eastern ..	72½	71½	-1
Do Arb. Pref. ..	36	35	-1	South Eastern "A" 22 ..	21	..	..

Miscellaneous.							
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Lipton (£1) ..	2½	2½	..
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) ..	17½	15½	-2	Lister (£1) ..	2½	2½	..
and Co. (£1) ..	17½	15½	-2	Lobitos Oilfields (£1) ..	2½	2½	..
Ass. Ptd. Cement (£1) ..	19½	19½	..	Lyons (J. & Co. (£1) ..	2½	2½	..
B'ham Small Arms (£1) ..	8½	8½	..	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) ..	5½	5½	..
Brazil Traction (£100) ..	30	28	-2	Mexican Eagle (£10) ..	5½	5½	..
British-American ..	30	28	-2	North Caucasian (£10) ..	5½	5½	..
Tobacco (£1) ..	3½	3½	..	Pekin (2) ..	15	15	..
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	6½	6½	..	Rubber Plantations ..	5	5	..
Burmah Oil (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Investment (£1) ..	5	5	..
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Shell Transport (£1) ..	5½	5½	..
Courtaulds (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Smithfield Argentine ..	7½	7½	..
Cunard (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Meat (£1) ..	7½	7½	..
Dorman, Long (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Underground Electric ..	7½	7½	..
Dunlop Rubber (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Do "A" (1) ..	2½	2½	..
Forestal Land (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) ..	78	76½	-1½
Furness, Withy (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	United Berdang (2) ..	5	5	..
Highlands and Low ..	1½	1½	..	United Tobacco (£1) ..	5½	5½	..
India Rubber (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Ural Caspian (£1) ..	5½	5½	..
Hudson's Bay (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Vallambrosa (2) ..	5½	5½	..
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Vickers (£1) ..	152½	139½	-13
Int'l Nat'l Paint (£1) ..	1½	1½	..	Watney Def. Sks. ..	152½	139½	-13
Linggi Plants (£1) ..	1½	1½	..				

Mines.

Brakpan (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Knights ..	3½	3½	..
Broken Hill Prop. (8) ..	2½	2½	..	Modderfontein (10) ..	3½	3½	..
Chartered (1) ..	2½	2½	..	Modderfont. B (5) ..	1½	1½	..
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Modderfont. Deep (5) ..	2½	2½	..
Crown Mines (10) ..	2	2	..	Premier Def. (2/6) ..	4½	4½	..
De Beers Def. (£2½) ..	10½	10½	..	Rand Mines (5) ..	2½	2½	..
East Rand Prop. (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Rio Tinto (£5) ..	30½	30½	..
Geduld (£1) ..	2½	2½	..	Spring Mines (£1) ..	2	1½	-½
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) ..	4½	4½	..				

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.**WATNEY, COMBE, REID, AND CO.**

June 30, 1921.				ASSETS.			
LIABILITIES.		Inc. or Dec.		LIABILITIES.		Inc. or Dec.	
	Amount.				Amount.		
5 % cum. pref. £	1,783,564	—	2,880	Buildings, good	9,967,712	..	324,812
stock ..	3,185,410	..	..	will, utensils ..	718,048	..	62,686
Pref. ord. stock ..	796,353	..	..	Loans and int. ..	121,195	..	27,579
Def. ord. stock ..	4,518,835	..	..	Agencies	356,520	..	337,531
3½% deb. stock ..	41,758	..	25	Investments ..	435,985	..	14,550
Interest, &c.	203,442	..	102,136	Trade invest-	626,146	..	158,366
Deposits ..	451,570	..	15,619	ments	..	..	..
Insurance fund ..	974,870	..	123,193	Cash ..	619,283	..	184,386
Creditors ..	85,151	..	1,756	Stock and ma-	110,000	..	15,800
Beer duty owing ..	456,239	..	247,486	terials ..	36,641	..	7,399
Special reserve ..	36,252	..	28,748	Insurance fund ..	..	..	96,378
Contingencies ..	342,086	..	126,504	Licence duties ..	..	..	..
Depreciation res. ..	..	..	..	Treasury bills....	..	..	..
Profit and loss ..	12,991,530	..	164,375				
				Total	12,991,530	..	164,375

THE GORDON HOTELS, LIMITED.

May 31, 1921.							
LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	£		Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	£
Def. shares	1,000	..	..	Purchase price of			
Ord. shares	965,000	..	..	properties, &c.	3,715,473	..	..
Pref. shares	965,000	..	..	Trafalgar square			
Deb. stock	1,665,000	..	..	property	11,212	..	..
8% notes	250,000	..	+ 250,000	Freehold property	8,582	..	..
Deb. int. accrued	20,825	..	..	Expenditure on			
Interest on notes	6,190	..	+ 6,190	improvements ..			
Divs. outstanding	936	..	- 505	of hotels	315,838	..	+ 315,838
Sundry creditors	229,636	..	+ 36,827	Cost of note issue	15,627	..	+ 15,627
Premium account	207,317	..	..	Investments at			
Leaseholds re-				cost	212,058	..	- 26,839
demption funds	223,019	..	+ 7,561	Wines, &c.	225,735	..	- 3,043
Profit and loss ..	78,857	..	- 16,842	Sundry debtors..	38,668	..	- 2,440
				Cash	68,598	..	+ 6,126
Total	4,612,781	..	+ 283,569	Total	4,612,781	..	+ 283,569

HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

May 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.		Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
	£			£	
Ord. shares	1,000,000	..	Cash in London ..	152,756	.. + 132,477
Pref. shares	2,000,000	..	Premises in ..		
Creditors & credit ..			London	89,350	.. + 89,350
balances	3,271,939	— 390,705	Amount invested ..		
Funds and reserve ..	1,000,892	+ 13,651	in trade	1,508,947	.. + 500,858
Balance of land ..			Amount invested ..		
account	33,459	+ 4,161	Rail shops ..	4,184,856	.. + 79,265
Profit and loss ..	472,202	— 49,950	Debtors	725,393	.. 31,100
			Winnipeg offices ..	514,393	.. + 225,993
			Investments	391,915	— 1,353,293
			Loans	210,840	.. — 56,101
 Total	 7,778,492	 — 422,843	 Total	 7,778,492	 — 422,843

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

GLOUCESTER RAILWAY CARRIAGE AND WAGON COMPANY, LIMITED.

SIR RICHARD VASSAR-SMITH ON INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.
WAGON REALISATION ACCOUNT AND TAXATION.
CORDIAL RELATIONS WITH EMPLOYEES.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company, Limited, was held at the company's offices, Bristol road, Gloucester, on Monday, July 25th. Sir Richard V. Vassar-Smith, Bart. (chairman of directors), presided, the other members of the board present being Mr. M. F. Maclean, Lord Bledisloe, Sir F. Colchester-Wemyss, and Mr. John Macgregor (managing director).

15 PER CENT.

In their report the directors stated that the profit on trading, including the interest from investments and after making the usual provision for depreciation, was £43,903 12s 5d, and the disposable balance, after deducting the interim dividend paid February 1st last, was £82,771 3s. The directors recommended the payment of a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum (£26,250), less income-tax, making 10 per cent. for the year, and a bonus of 5 per cent., free of income-tax (£26,250), and that the balance of £30,271 3s be carried forward. The revenue account to May 31, 1920, included the surplus on part of the sale of the wagon-hiring branch of the company's business. As counsel now advised that this sale should be regarded as a capital transaction, the accounts had been adjusted accordingly.

WAGON REALISATION ACCOUNT.

Sir Richard Vassar-Smith, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, first of all called attention to the reference in the report to the surplus on part of the sale of the wagon-hiring branch of the company's business. He pointed out that the company made a certain amount of money in the realisation of some of their wagons which were let on hire, which to May 31, 1920, amounted to £148,651. Of this amount, £100,000 had been placed to the reserve, and the remainder went into the profit and loss account. The company had, unfortunately, some litigation pending with the Crown with regard to the liability of the company to taxation in respect of that amount. The question had been before the Special Commissioners in London, who had given a decision against the company—that the money was liable to taxation. It was a very doubtful point. The company were advised by counsel that they had a very strong case, and so they proposed to take it before a judge. Therefore the question of taxation on that money was really in the balance at the present time. The company had the money, but whether they would have to pay a large amount in taxation upon it in the future remained to be seen. He hoped that they would not have to do so. The total amount of the wagon realisation account to May 31, 1921, including the £43,903, was £420,620, to the whole of which the question of taxation would apply. That money was in the possession of the company, either in the bank or in material, and it all belonged to the shareholders, except what the revenue authorities might take out of it, and, as he said, he hoped they would have nothing. The directors were now perfectly justified in carrying the £43,903 to profit and loss account; but, presuming the Inland Revenue authorities got their way over the wagon realisation account, it might, perhaps, cause the company to pay excess profits duty on a small amount of its profits. But, at any rate, supposing everything came to the worst, and the company had to pay corporation tax, income-tax, and excess profits duty, there would still be left a very substantial balance out of the £420,620. Sir Richard Vassar-Smith proceeded to refer to other items in the accounts, and also referred in sympathetic terms to the death of Mr. E. K. Little, one of the directors, since the last meeting of shareholders.

THE COMPANY AND THEIR EMPLOYEES.

The Chairman went on to refer to the subject of a partnership scheme which was put forward by the company in connection with their employees. Those of the shareholders who were cognisant with the working of the company would know, he said, that they had with a number of years a works committee of the men, who consulted fully, the managing director with regard to the work and so on, had gone on very satisfactorily. Mr. Macgregor, however, July 25 chairman's instigation had a meeting of the men,

at which he told them plainly the present position of things, and that really prices must be reduced considerably before the company could expect to obtain a fair share of orders. The men were very pleased at this confidence, and it was all done in a very friendly way. A scheme was formulated for making a closer partnership—he (Sir Richard) used the word "partnership" because, in effect, it would have been a partnership with the whole of the employees of the company. In a scheme of this nature they were always obliged to put down things which might arise—not necessarily to carry them out, but simply to consider them; and in this scheme, which was of a confidential nature as between the management and the men, there was a clause with regard to the trades unions which had been severely commented upon. There was also another clause with regard to the Federation of Employers, which was never alluded to at all. But, at any rate, the suggestion was in the scheme, that possibly the men might retire from their unions and the company, as employers, from the Federation of Employers. When he (the chairman) heard of it he was afraid—and the board agreed with him—that it was not altogether a right suggestion, and it was at once withdrawn as something which they could not carry out. He did not know that he had anything more to say on the subject than that.

The company's relations with the employees were very friendly, and he could say that his own relations with the leaders of trades unions were also very friendly. He met those leaders frequently, and he should like to say at once that the company had had a great deal of assistance from those leaders with regard to disputes in the works, which had not been many. He could tell the shareholders that he had received an assurance from all the leaders of the trades unions referred to that with regard to the output of the company—which was really the thing that mattered: the amount of work which was turned out—they would give the directors every possible assistance to enable them to determine what was the quantity of work they had a right to expect from the men.

THE FUTURE OF INDUSTRY.

Now, perhaps, the shareholders would like him to say one or two words about what he had in mind with regard to the future of industry generally. He was afraid, however, that he could not tell them very much. Since the last meeting of the company the country had been going through a period of anxiety and trouble such as, he supposed, had never existed before. All he could say about it was that he had gone through that period without any serious breakdown in any industry. The industries, although they were loaded with stocks and materials purchased at very high prices, had borne with one another, and received assistance from those who could give it, and they had been able to carry on—there had been no catastrophe of any sort. That had lasted now for from nine to ten months, and having lasted so long, he saw no reason why they should not consider that the foundation of industry was very much firmer than it was a year ago, or certainly at the time when the boom ceased. The boom ceased suddenly, and there was a tremendous slump. The industries of the country had survived it, and things were, he believed, on a much firmer footing than they were a year ago.

A BETTER FEELING.

The coal trouble, of course, hit things very hard—it caused a great deal of disturbance of trade and an enormous loss. That, he hoped, was past, and he thought he could say quite confidently that he believed of his own knowledge that there was a very much better feeling now with labour than there had ever been. The sound labour leader was coming back to his own; he was now enabled more or less to advise his constituents, and the extremist was put rather in the background. He (the chairman) really knew that there was a very much better feeling, and that the cost was coming down, and he hoped that by-and-by they might fairly look forward to a better and a normal time in industry and commerce. Of course, that entirely depended upon the goodwill, the co-operation, and the general feeling between the employers and the employed. There was evidence that that had begun, and he hoped it would continue, and that all concerned would work together for one common

cause, without the difficulties and the troubles which had been experienced in the past.

He knew it was a hackneyed statement now, but it was as perfectly true to-day as it was at the time of the Armistice: that we wanted increased production to make up the losses which we incurred during the war. We also wanted the most rigid economy in our expenditure. That applied to everybody, from the Government down to each individual who had anything to spend. It was only by increased production and economy that we could hope to put ourselves right, add to the wealth, and, he hoped, get back to the amount of wealth that we had before the war.

There were several schemes going on now for the purpose of promoting credit to disturbed countries in Europe, all of which were in a fair state of advancement, and he thought that before very long we should see a restoration of better conditions generally. We had not arrived at peace by a long way, for at the moment there were some very disturbing elements about; but he thought that we might hope that things would become more quiet, and that the system of credit to which he referred would enable a certain amount of work to be done. There was one thing he might add for the comfort of shareholders. What was wanted very much in many of those countries was reconstruction of railways, which involved the purchase of railway plant, and he thought that the first orders which would come to this country when they got settled in regard to those credits would be large orders for locomotives and rolling stock, of which the Gloucester Railway Carriage and Wagon Company should get its share.

Mr. M. F. Maclean seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

LORD BLEDISLOE AND RICHARD THOMAS AND CO.

Upon the proposition of Mr. A. Slater, seconded by Mr. R. J. Tucker, Mr. Maclean and Lord Bledisloe were re-elected directors. In putting this motion, the Chairman said a great many of the shareholders would have noticed in the Press a report of an outrageous meeting in connection with Richard Thomas and Co., Limited, at which Lord Bledisloe was asked to retire from the board. An explanation was given—at any rate the circumstances were all stated. What he (Sir Richard Vassar-Smith) would like to say was this: that they had not a more painstaking director on the board of the Gloucester Wagon Company than Lord Bledisloe, who had a thorough knowledge of the many things in connection with that company. Lord Bledisloe attended the meetings very regularly, he gave the Wagon Company the best of his experience and judgment, and he (the chairman) could also say he was very pleased that Lord Bledisloe was a colleague of his in another place, where he did equally well in the general interests of the company concerned. It seemed to him (Sir Richard Vassar-Smith) incomprehensible that a meeting such as that of Richard Thomas and Co., Limited, to which he referred, should have been called for the purpose of getting rid of Lord Bledisloe at the whim of the person in question.

Mr. Maclean and Lord Bledisloe briefly acknowledged their re-election. Lord Bledisloe said he very particularly appreciated the shareholders' renewal of confidence at the present time.

Messrs. Hudson Smith, Briggs and Co., chartered accountants, Bristol, were reappointed auditors.

Upon the proposition of Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. F. J. Billett (Liverpool), a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and directors and the managing director and staff of the company.

THE NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.

A SATISFACTORY HALF-YEAR'S BUSINESS DESPITE DIFFICULTIES

The half-yearly general meeting of the National Bank, Limited, was held, on the 28th instant, in Dublin. Sir John Purcell, K.C.B. (the chairman), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Well, needless for me to tell you that, owing not only to the unsettlement and trouble that has unhappily affected our dear native land during that time, but also to the universal financial stringency and other abnormal and economic uncertainties prevailing in Ireland, in England, and, as a matter of fact, over the whole world, it has been a period of very considerable anxiety to your directors to the end that there might be no failure on their part in the efficient and proper discharge of their duties to the bank and to its customers.

The difficulties to be contended with were many and serious. We had for three months a coal strike at the other side of the Channel—one of the most disastrous in the history of the country—involving stagnation and heavy losses in almost every class of business, and, as a consequence, a largely increased volume of unemployment all round on a distressing scale, and leading up to a deplorable economic situation. Because of all this our national industries, without exception, have been sorely damaged.

Indeed, at a recent meeting of the stockholders of one of the largest and most important trust companies of London, I heard the chairman describe 1920 as one of the blackest in our financial history, and this position, so far as my experience goes, still remained during the first six months of the year 1921. Nevertheless, notwithstanding all these drawbacks and unfortunate happenings and this atmosphere of depression—political difficulties, financial difficulties, industrial difficulties, and labour difficulties, which have had to be faced, we have, I hold, in this bank, managed to steer a safe course, and I venture to think the outcome of our operations over the half-year is by no means unsatisfactory.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

I proceed to give you the figures. There is no change in the "Paid-up capital." It remains at £1,500,000. The "Rest" has not been touched. As explained in paragraph 3 of the report, the heavy charges which fall upon the profits of the current half-year do not admit of any addition to that item. There is no change in the "special reserve." It still stands at £180,000. "Notes in circulation" have fallen by £1,095,000. This is due to the shrinkage of general business and to the continued Government restrictions upon the holding of fairs at which our notes were always largely used. "Deposit and current accounts" show an increase of close upon five millions and a-half. The figures of "Acceptances to bankers' drafts" are practically the same as 12 months ago.

Turn now to the assets side of the balance-sheet. "Cash on hand" is down by some £977,000. The explanation of this lies in the fact of the decrease in our note circulation. The item "money at call" (taken in conjunction with the National War Bonds) is larger by £2,373,000—due to a larger holding of Treasury Bills. "Government securities and corporation stocks, &c.," show a fall of £34,000, mainly due to repayments of stocks at maturity. "Advances on securities" have gone up by nearly three millions. "Bills discounted" show an increase of some £8,000.

It will be seen that the item "Bank premises" is increased by the sum of £61,000. This was due to the necessity for certain expenditure on the opening of new branches at Port Talbot (South Wales) and in Leadenhall street, London, and mainly also to the extension and improvement in the head office premises—Old Broad street—rendered necessary by the considerable growth of our business there.

In addition to large alterations in the Banking Hall, we have raised the building by two additional floors, and we now have a handsome structure entirely freehold in the best business part of the City. The freehold site value of the handsome building in question represents a very large sum, which constitutes a substantial amount of inner reserve running into some hundred thousands of pounds.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

On reference to "Profit and Loss" account, it will be seen that our expenditure has gone up by £31,400. This is mainly due to the very large additions recently made to the staff salaries and bonus. We again, as in the previous half-year, provide £70,000 for taxation and contingencies, and we make full provision for bad and doubtful debts. Finally, we pay the usual dividend of 12 per cent., and carry forward £27,871 to the "Profit and loss new account."

It will be seen that our aggregate means stand at close upon 40 millions, an increase of nearly 4½ millions. Our liquid assets show a proportion of 57 per cent. as against our liabilities payable to the public on demand.

I venture to think that you will agree with me that we have legitimate grounds for being satisfied with the accounts which have been put before you. In all the circumstances, the general result is, I submit, good, and, though here and there, items may be less satisfactory than in previous half-years, yet we have, I hold, every reason to congratulate ourselves upon a good showing.

Six months ago I called attention to the fact that there was then a heavy depreciation in the values of our Government stocks, but that we had made adequate provision for the same by the utilisation of certain of our inner reserves, and, further, I stated that a comparatively small appreciation would cover any remaining deficiency, and this has now been practically wiped out. As I have previously explained, the question of appreciation or depreciation in the temporary values of these particular stocks does not, in any way, affect the return which we receive by way of interest.

TRADE CONDITIONS IN IRELAND.

Ireland's principal industry—farming—which for the past five years enjoyed unprecedented prosperity, is now, I am sorry to say, experiencing the inevitable reaction, and many adverse circumstances have occurred to render the present year one of exceptional anxiety to farmers. These factors have contributed to a sharp fall in prices, and this unfortunate position will, I fear, mean heavy loss to those who bought store stock at the high prices which prevailed last spring.

Trade again in Ireland cannot be described as satisfactory. Still, I am advised that traders are standing the strain well.

I am sorry to have to report that during the past half-year the bank has again been the victim of raids on some of their branches, resulting in the loss of some £6,000. These robberies, seemingly carried on, but, as I judge, without warrant, under the cloak of politics, have been, we are satisfied, the base and shabby acts of common thieves, and sure am I have not had the smallest measure of sympathy or approval of any one possessing a particle of genuine patriotic sentiment.

As the past six months have been anxious ones for your directors, so they have been for all the members of your staff; and, in concluding these remarks of mine, I, on my own part, and on the part of my colleagues—and I am sure I may include, too, the shareholders present—wish to pay a high tribute to the zeal, diligence and loyalty of all the members of our staff, male and female, high and low.

I ask leave to say one final word, which I know will have a ready echo in this room. It is this. I desire to express my fervent hope and prayer that the conferences held in this city, and in London, may eventuate in such a solution as will lead to the happiness, the prosperity, and the unity of the people of Ireland. This, I am sure, is the heartfelt desire of all of us.

The resolution was carried unanimously. The Earl of Kenmare, C.V.O., was elected a director, the usual formal business was transacted, and votes of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff terminated the proceedings.

BANK OF ROUMANIA, LIMITED.

EXCHANGE RATES EFFECTS ON ROUMANIAN TRADE.

The ordinary annual general meeting of the Bank of Roumania, Limited, was held, on the 27th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, Viscount Goschen, C.B.E., presiding.

The Secretary (Mr H. Locke) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Gentlemen,—In rising to move the adoption of the report and the accounts for the year ending December 31st last, I must first refer to the regrettable death of the late Earl of Bessborough, who was our chairman for many years, and a member of the board of the bank for nearly a quarter of a century. His absence is keenly felt by us, and very much regretted. His death was followed within a few months by that of Mr Pyramé Naville, who had been connected with us for an even longer period.

Lieut.-Colonel Sir Albert Stern and Mr C. de Cerjat have been appointed by the board to the vacancies thus caused, and you will be afforded an opportunity at a later stage of re-electing them, should you so desire.

I assume that, as usual, you will take the directors' report and the balance-sheet as read. As you will see from the report, the trading accounts for the year, after deduction of the dividend of 5 per cent. paid in December last, and after making provision for bad debts, income-tax, &c., writing down investments in British Government securities to market value, and placing £2,000 to pensions fund, show a credit balance of £13,231 os. 9d.

QUESTION OF THE EXCHANGES.

This sum, in view of the unsatisfactory state of the exchanges, has been transferred to a contingency account. I am sure the shareholders will agree that, in view of the great development which may be looked forward to in Roumania, and in order that we may be in as favourable a position as possible to participate in this development, this is the wisest policy to adopt.

One of the principal reasons for the unfavourable state of the exchanges in Roumania is the fact that Roumania is a country where taxation has, so far, been extremely light, so light as to be almost a negligible quantity. This matter has recently received attention on the part of the Roumanian Minister of Finance, M Titulescu, who, in his recent Budget, introduced taxes on a scale comparable to this country. Most of these provisions have, I believe, now become law. When the full effect of these provisions is felt, the finances of the country should benefit considerably, and should be on a more satisfactory footing.

The rate of exchange when we made up our accounts on December 31st last was 280 to the £. This adverse rate, you will readily understand, severely affects the profits of a company such as ours having capital.

I am pleased to say that during the past year Roumania has made considerable progress towards the re-establishment of a normal trading system.

The working of petrol, which in 1919 was 917,276 tons, was with a number of 1,030,086 tons, as compared with 1,544,847 tons fully, the harvest was not as good as might have been had gone on, the area under cultivation was considerable.

July 25th, chairman.

ably below the normal. As regards the prospects for this year, practically all the area possible of cultivation is sown. A little damage has been done to the wheat by the recent heavy rains, but the maize crop has benefited considerably, and, although unfavourable reports were recently circulated, the latest advices received by us from Roumania are to the effect that, speaking generally, the outlook is very favourable, and I might add that in some quarters it is thought that the crop will be an exceptionally good one.

PROSPECTS.

Imports from Great Britain, which in 1919 were valued at £5,585,085, were, for the year 1920, £7,108,514. I am glad to say that Roumania shows an increasing capacity for absorbing British goods, which justifies the hope that in future she may become an important market.

The Roumanian State, during the year, successfully floated an internal 5 per cent. loan of one milliard of lei, the amount subscribed at our guichets being over 100,000,000.

The effect of the unfavourable exchanges still weighs heavily on the economic life of the country, and although the country in itself, from the fact of its being chiefly agricultural, is very prosperous, yet commercial and industrial affairs, owing to their dependence on foreign sources of supply for their requirements, are naturally very much hampered by the uncertainty of exchange. It is to be hoped that, with the possibility of bigger exports of grain, oil and wood in the near future, this exchange difficulty will gradually be overcome.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA.

SATISFACTORY POSITION—TRADE CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The hundred and eighth ordinary meeting of shareholders of the Standard Bank of South Africa was held, on the 27th inst., at Cannon street Hotel, London, Mr William Smart presiding.

The Chairman said: During the period under review we have absorbed the African Banking Corporation on terms which we consider advantageous to the shareholders of both institutions, and we are glad to welcome here to-day for the first time shareholders of the African Banking Corporation who have exchanged their holding in that institution for shares in this bank in terms of the amalgamation agreement.

Another event which will no doubt be of far-reaching importance to South Africa is the passing of the Currency and Reserve Bank Bill and the consequent establishment of the Central Reserve Bank.

The powers of the new bank are clearly defined and limited, and it will not enter into active competition with the commercial banks for ordinary banking business, but will have the sole right of issuing notes for 25 years. As soon as the Central Reserve Bank is in a position to issue these notes the right of issue by the other banks will cease.

The period for which the accounts are rendered has been full of difficulties and rapid changes. When the financial year opened the balance of trade was greatly in favour of South Africa. It therefore became necessary to raise the rates of exchange in an endeavour to assist in adjusting the trade balance. Partly as a result of these high rates of exchange, imports into South Africa then increased considerably, while the rapid fall in the price of wool and other produce reduced exports to a minimum. Thus in the space of a few months the position was entirely reversed, and it became necessary to again adjust the exchange rates to meet the drain on funds in London. The steps taken by the banks had this desired effect, and it may be added that during the last few months exports have steadily increased and are now in excess of the imports.

The immediate future is full of uncertainty. There are no magical avenues leading to prosperity, and this can only be achieved by thrift, industry, and a determination to produce supplies at a level which will enable this country to compete successfully with its rivals, otherwise trade will undoubtedly pass to foreign competitors.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

In the first place you will notice that the subscribed capital has increased by £2,666,660, to £8,916,660, and the paid-up capital by £666,665, to £2,229,165, consequent upon the issue of 133,333 shares in exchange for African Banking Corporation shares. This leaves a balance of £1,083,340 authorised capital available for issue when necessary. The reserve fund now stands at £2,893,335, the increase being consequent on the amalgamation. Notes in circulation started at £4,609,342, the increase being accounted for by the note issue taken over from the African Banking Corporation. Our deposits have increased from £52,624,150 to £57,285,172, due chiefly to the amalgamation, but as the fall of prices continues banking

deposits decline, and we shall probably see those figures at a lower level.

Turning now to the assets side of the balance-sheet, you will no doubt note with satisfaction the strength of our cash position, the total cash holding at March 31st being £10,221,077.

Our investments stood at £5,266,252, an increase of £583,063 on the figures for 1919. My predecessor in the chair last year foreshadowed the necessity of having to make provision for depreciation, and you will see from the profit and loss account that it has been necessary to provide out of profits no less than £200,000 in order to write down our investments to the market price as at the date of the balance-sheet.

Since then the value of our securities has materially improved, and I trust that it will not be necessary to make provision for depreciation in our next balance-sheet.

You will notice a new item under the head of "Investments," and that is our holding in the Bank of British West Africa. This represents our proportion of a block of shares purchased last year by the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, the National Provincial and Union Bank of England and ourselves in terms of an agreement which we hope will provide for a closer working arrangement between the banks named to the advantage of all concerned.

From the profit and loss account you will see that the total net profits for the fifteen months to March 31st amount to £759,377, to which has to be added £210,446 brought forward from 1919. Out of this we have already paid two interim dividends up to June and December of last year, and it now remains for us to declare a final dividend for the three months to March 31st. This we recommend should be 3s 6d per share, being at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, and in addition a bonus of 3s 1½d per share, which is equivalent to 2s 6d per annum, the same rate as for 1919.

I feel sure you will be satisfied with the strength of our position as disclosed by these figures. In conclusion, he moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Sir David M. Barbour seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS OF THE YEAR'S WORKING.

The annual general meeting of the Union Bank of Australia, Limited, was held, on the 25th instant, at 71, Cornhill, London, Mr Henry P. Sturgis (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, after expressing regret at the death of his colleague, Mr W. R. Mewburn, said he thought the shareholders would agree with him that the result of the past year's working was very satisfactory. The profits allowed of their placing £20,000 in reduction of bank premises in Australia and New Zealand, adding £120,000 to the reserve fund, which now stood at £2,750,000, and declaring a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax. The figures of the year under review, compared with those of a year ago, showed a decrease of £1,276,000. The increase in advances was principally caused by accommodation given to merchants to finance abnormal imports of goods in the latter half of last year, and was reflected in the decrease in bills receivable caused by the withdrawal of funds from this side. While the gross profits were higher by about £257,000, expenses were higher by nearly £200,000. Of this, £100,000 came under the heading of provision for income-tax and corporation profits tax, and remuneration of staff in Australia and New Zealand was about £70,000 higher, some £40,000 being due to the higher rate of war allowance granted to the staff during the period under review.

The exchange position in Australia, as in other parts of the world, had been difficult. While exports remained practically stationary, imports showed the large increase of £61,000,000, as compared with 1919, or 70 per cent. The financing of the abnormal imports imposed a heavy strain on the resources of the Australian banks in London. It became necessary to impose severe restrictions on drawings on London. This policy, though causing some inconvenience to traders for a time, was very necessary in the interests of Australasian trade generally. With regard to the present position, the proceeds of wool, wheat, and butter had afforded some relief, and the position had become easier. In view, however, of the depressed state of the markets for Australian produce generally, and the uncertainty existing in all markets, it was difficult to forecast when exchange conditions would become normal. The season throughout the Commonwealth during the year was excellent, and more or less normal conditions prevailed in the Dominion. Since the beginning of this year, trade in Australia and New Zealand had been less active. This condition and the lower prices ruling for Australasian products rendered the outlook for the

future somewhat uncertain, but in the immediate future he thought they must look for comparatively quiet trade throughout Australasia.

The report was unanimously adopted, and at an extraordinary general meeting it was resolved that the capital of the bank be increased to £9,000,000 by the creation of 100,000 additional ordinary shares of £15 each.

The Chairman stated that the directors had come to no decision as to when an issue should be made. They were of opinion that the business of the bank called for an increase of capital, and they considered that an issue should be made whenever the time appeared favourable.

THE BRITISH EMPIRE TRUST COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANOTHER SATISFACTORY YEAR.

The twentieth ordinary general meeting of the British Empire Trust Company, Limited, was held at Liverpool Street Hotel, London, on the 27th instant, Mr J. Davidson (deputy-chairman and managing director) presiding.

The Chairman said: We are pleased to be able to meet you again with a statement which shows that, after providing fully for depreciation, the profits enable us to recommend the payment of dividends of 5 per cent. on the preferred ordinary and 7 per cent. on the deferred ordinary shares, leaving £18,267 to be carried forward.

From the point of view of income the company's position is better to-day than at any previous time in its history, because our two main sources of income, viz., trusteeships, registrarships and secretariats and interest and dividends on investments have now reached higher figures than ever before.

Our income from trusteeships, registrarships and secretariats has increased steadily each year. I quote the figures for the last five years:—1917, £10,475; 1918, £10,873; 1919, £11,421; 1920, £12,344; and 1921, £14,481.

Interest and dividends on investments are naturally subject to fluctuation, but owing mainly to the policy of the board in continually writing down the investments to the lowest market prices, income from this source continues to increase, and is higher in the year under review than in any previous year. The income from this source for the past five years is as follows:—1917, £38,983; 1918, £47,061; 1919, £47,402; 1920, £52,651; and 1921, £65,693.

It has been necessary again this year to provide a substantial amount to write the investments down to the lowest market values. The intrinsic value of the securities, with a few exceptions, remains satisfactory, and no doubt much of the depreciation will be recovered in years to come, but the directors are convinced that the making of full provision for depreciation from year to year is the only sound policy, as it places the company's credit on an unquestionable basis—a matter of the first importance from the point of view of obtaining and carrying through future business.

BRITISH COLUMBIA ELECTRIC RAILWAY'S POSITION.

The British Columbia Electric Railway Company was affected in this manner. Before the war it was in the highest credit and its securities were regarded as safe and stable investments. The fares and rates which it was permitted to collect were sufficient to allow a fair return upon its capital, by which I mean "fair" having regard to the level of interest rates then prevailing, and it was, in consequence, always in a position to obtain additional capital to expand its services as required by the growth of the communities it served. But the increases in wages and cost of materials resulting from the war, intensified by the temporary reduction in population of the districts served, so increased the cost of operation that from 1914 to 1919 it was unable to pay any dividends on its preferred and deferred stocks. In 1918, the position having become absolutely impossible, the City of Vancouver agreed to allow the company to charge a 6 cent fare, and the authority to continue this charge has been extended to July 1, 1922. This right to collect a higher fare, the expansion of the population, and the return to more normal conditions generally, have enabled the company to resume the payment of dividends on its preferred and deferred ordinary stock, but as the right to collect the higher fare continues only for another year, the company's credit and the price of its securities both still suffer from uncertainty, which, as you know, perhaps as much as any other adverse factor, tends to kill credit. I am glad to say that the City of Vancouver, having in view that before long the company will have to extend its operations if the growth of the city is not to be retarded, entered into negotiations for the granting to the company of a revised franchise. The negotiations are practically completed, and we have recently received assurances on which we are entitled to place complete reliance, that the new franchise will be executed within the next few weeks. I cannot attempt, at this time, to review the terms of the new franchise, but they are such as to give me confidence that they will secure to the company such stability of income as should enable it to pay dividends in future commensurate with the rate of interest

which shareholders of such enterprises have the right to expect to receive, and will thus lead to the complete re-establishment of its credit. I can, therefore, confidently say that the prospects of the company are brighter than they have been at any time since 1914.

WINNIPEG ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

The conditions affecting the Winnipeg Electric Railway Company were very similar to those which I have just described. Owing to increased wages and costs of all kinds, the company had to discontinue payment of dividends on its ordinary shares in 1917. Since then it has been granted increases in rates, which have assisted in offsetting the increased wages and other operating expenses. Its net earnings since 1918 show substantial improvement, and it is steadily returning to its strong pre-war position. The following figures demonstrate the improvement which is taking place:—

The net earnings from 1918 to 1920 were as follows: 1918, \$1,221,428; 1919, \$1,323,623; 1920, \$1,881,503.

During the present year further substantial increases in earnings are reported month by month.

The Monterey Railway, Light, and Power Company, after suffering under eight years of revolutionary conditions in Mexico, is now in a much improved position as the result of more settled conditions and the rehabilitation of the currency of that country, which has had the effect of bringing the rate of exchange between Mexico and Great Britain back to normal. In consequence of this improvement the company has been able to submit to the debenture holders a scheme of reorganisation which, if approved by the debenture holders at a meeting called for July 28th, will enable the company to resume immediately some payment of interest to the debenture stockholders.

CANADIAN WESTERN LUMBER COMPANY.

The Canadian Western Lumber Company has had a remarkable recovery from the ill-effects of the war. Under the scheme of reorganisation sanctioned in 1914 the company was pledged to resume payment of interest on its first mortgage debenture stock as from January, 1922—that is, it was pledged to make the first payment of interest not later than June 1, 1922. I am pleased to say that it was found possible not only to resume interest payments on the first mortgage debenture stock on December 1, 1920—more than 18 months before the date anticipated—but it was also able, on June 1 last, to pay to the first mortgage debenture stockholders 5 per cent. in cash towards the arrears of interest due on that debenture. The company is now in a very strong position, and I have no hesitation in predicting that it will be able not only to continue without interruption payment of interest on its first mortgage debenture stock, but also that before long it will be able to pay to the holders of that stock the balance of the accumulated arrears of interest.

The only company with which we are connected which now gives us cause for anxiety is the Canadian Western Natural Gas Light, Heat, and Power Company, which supplies the City of Calgary and some neighbouring cities and towns with natural gas.

Mr Horne-Payne then briefly reviewed the history of that company and its present position, and concluded:

I beg to move: "That the accounts for the year ended April 30, 1921, and the reports of the directors and auditors thereon be received, and adopted."

Mr T. Blundell Brown seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

NOBEL INDUSTRIES, LIMITED.

"SATISFACTORY TRADING RECORD FOR THE PAST YEAR."

The ordinary general meeting of Nobel Industries, Limited, was held, on the 29th instant, at Winchester House, E.C., Sir Harry McGowan, K.B.E., chairman and managing director, presiding.

The secretary (Sir Joseph Stamp, K.B.E.) having read the notice calling the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—When I last had the pleasure of addressing you a year ago I closed my speech with an expression of confidence that when we met again in 12 months' time we should have an equally satisfactory trading record to present to our shareholders. That expectation has been fulfilled, and it is clear from the balance-sheet now in your possession, the practical difference being that while the profits earned have been approximately the same as for 1919, we come to you to-day with our recommendation for the payment of no dividend on the ordinary shares. This, naturally, must at first be a disappointment to you, and I can assure you that it was with the greatest reluctance that your directors decided on this policy. The decision is due principally to the disastrous coal stoppage, now happily finished, accentuated by the unprecedented conditions obtaining during the past nine months. Most of our

factories have had practically no output during the coal stoppage, and for a long period several were closed down entirely. In view of the loss known to accrue from this cessation of business, and the consequent uncertain prospects for the ensuing months of this year, you will agree with the wisdom of the course taken by your directors in not recommending the payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares, and thus strengthening the position of the company by conserving its resources.

During the autumn of last year depression struck this country with almost cyclonic severity, and from a condition of affairs when it appeared as if the demands could not be satisfied, manufacturers in this country were faced with the almost impossible task of keeping their factories going. Almost in a night the demand ceased, and enormous stocks of commodities could not be moved at all. Some reaction was expected, but certainly few saw it coming with such suddenness. I am glad to tell you, however, that 12 months ago we decided to shorten our supplies of raw materials, with the result that at the end of last year your various companies were in a very healthy condition as regards stocks of materials in hand and commitments ahead. In point of fact, had there been no coal stoppage, by this time our stocks of the chief high-priced materials would have been worked off, and we should have been in a position to take advantage of the present lower costs of materials, and so have reduced our selling prices.

YEAR'S RESULTS.

Coming to the result for the year, we have received as dividends (after the companies have provided their own corporation profits tax) rather more than £1,200,000 before providing for income-tax, which, after deducting income-tax and our own expenses, leaves £850,000. This by no means exhausts the profits that have been earned by the companies, which in a number of cases are considerably in excess of the sums distributed. I might remark here that in comparing this result with last year's balance-sheet, some newspapers omitted to point out that the profit then shown, viz., £1,655,000, represented the results of two years, 1918 and 1919, and not of one year only.

After providing for the interest accrued on the new note issue up to December, 1920, we bring into the balance-sheet for the year £827,072, which, with the carry forward from last year, gives us a total of £1,057,461. When we have deducted from this amount the two half-yearly preference dividends, and made other provisions as detailed, we are able to carry forward a sum of £757,000. Surely an excellent result on the part of companies which, prior to the war, relied for a considerable percentage of their profits on the supply of war material for our own and foreign governments.

It has been asked by some shareholders whether we will undertake to declare an interim dividend in due course, but I can only say that we should not care at this juncture to raise any hopes in that direction, for we should prefer to be entirely free to be guided in our action by the course of events.

ECONOMIES.

From now onwards considerable economies in the working of our various businesses will gradually make their effects felt, thus enabling us to accomplish what we set out to achieve, viz., the strengthening of our industry by increased efficiency, or, in other words, the elimination of waste. By reason of lower cost, we shall thus be able to meet foreign competition, and we hope to go even further, and give the advantage to our customers in lower prices for our products.

You will have seen in the Press that there has been an inquiry under the Profiteering Acts into the activities of the company so far as the trade in explosives is concerned, by a Sub-Committee appointed by the Standing Committee on Trusts. The inquiry did not begin until the end of last year, and as the Committee's existence was brought to an end in May, they found themselves unable to make such a full examination as would have resulted in a really complete view of the matter in their report. We had supplied them with a considerable amount of information which was not referred to in their report, apparently because they had not had time to verify it. Where we furnished detailed costs of particular products specified by the Committee, in no case did it appear that the ratio of profit now being made was equal to that made before the war. It would, in our opinion, have been a more gracious act on the part of the Committee, and possibly even more judicial, if these facts had been mentioned by them, with the addition of any saving qualifications they might have desired, for we have no doubt that if those results had been reversed, the Committee would not have been prevented merely by the absence of opportunity to verify them from mentioning them in their report. It could have been shown that we were holding a proper balance between the interests of the consumers and our shareholders.

INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS.

Now, as to our chief industrial investments for which quotations exist. We are as convinced as ever of our wisdom in entering the transport industry in the direction in which it has been done.

One can visualise enormous progress, not only in this country, but in other parts of the world.

Dealing first with our investment in General Motors Corporation of America. It will be remembered that in my speech last year I informed you that we had become partners in General Motors Corporation to the extent of approximately \$25,000,000, and that the permanent financing of this and other capital outlay was then receiving our consideration. You will remember that soon afterwards the general financial position became very strained, and we, therefore, deemed it expedient to relieve ourselves of a considerable part of this obligation, which we did without loss to ourselves, so that by the time we made our note issue our own commitment was for 609,425 shares at \$20 per share, \$12,188,500. The ultimate cost, after allowing for exchange fluctuations, of this to us was £3,400,000. I can, without entering into any details, give you our assurance that our shareholders will derive substantial advantages from the net return on this investment.

Now a word on our investment in the British Cellulose Company. This is not a new investment of Nobel Industries, Limited, but was originally an investment of Nobel's Explosives Company, Limited, gone into by them during the war period, and therefore included in Nobel Industries when formed. The cost of our investment was just over £300,000, and you will therefore see that it is a relatively unimportant part of our total investments, which, I hope, removes a popular misconception as to the extent of our holding in that company; I may state, moreover, that our holding represents only 6.1 per cent. of the total capital. Doubtless many of you here will have seen the circular issued to the shareholders of the Cellulose Company at the beginning of June, which, I think, brings the position to date. Conditions over the past 18 months have been all against that company. They admit that they are many months behind their programme, but are still believers in their future prospects.

The Dunlop Company, in which we are interested, has also experienced the full effect of the depression in trade, but their prospects are now improving, and nothing has occurred to shake our faith in the future of that company. It might be interesting to our shareholders to know that if we decided to liquidate our Dunlop interests even at to-day's low prices our loss would be comparatively negligible.

Our investment in British Dyestuffs Corporation, which again is relatively small, having been acquired at a cost of slightly over £200,000, represents only 3.4 per cent. of their total capital. In view of the fact that the Government permitted the importation of German dyes, coupled with the depression in the textile trade, the British Dyestuffs Corporation have had a bad time, but their directors naturally expect that proper solicitude for the company's interests as against foreign competition will be shown by the Government.

COMPANY'S INVESTMENT POLICY.

We did not invest in these companies with an eye to capital appreciation or depreciation, but decided, after due deliberation, that these were companies in which we could hold permanent investments, not only giving us substantial revenue, but which would have most important trading effects in our whole scheme of operations. The largest remaining investment of a marketable character is our holding in Canadian Explosives, Limited, which continues to operate most successfully despite the adverse conditions.

I would emphasize that one should not be influenced too much by market quotations. Permanent investments such as we hold must be judged by their earning capacity, and not by their temporary market value. Nevertheless, it is satisfactory to be able to state that, if we take the market value at December 31, 1920, of all the industrial securities held by this company and its constituent companies, for which market quotations are obtainable, that value was fully equal to their cost to Nobel Industries.

PROSPECTS.

Now as to the prospects for this year and the immediate future. What are they? He would be a bold man to prophesy, but it is clear that the manufacturing companies in this country have lost three or four months' profits by the coal deadlock, and surely the experience of that stoppage would lead one to expect that we shall not see its repetition, and that we may reasonably look for a period of industrial peace. It is, to my mind, a matter of regret that something cannot be done to restore the commercial equilibrium of the world by re-establishing the buying powers of the stricken countries of Europe. Until this is done we cannot hope for a full restoration of the world's trade, and in particular of the great export trade upon which our own country is so dependent.

With regard to our own business, in view of all the facts, one must not be too optimistic as to the trading results for 1921, but you may accept my assurance that your company is in a sound condition, and I am hopeful that all the economies introduced will offset to a certain extent the loss of revenue brought about by the coal troubles and general depression.

The report was adopted, and the usual formal business transacted.

AFRICAN AND EASTERN TRADE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF THE FUTURE.

Mr J. H. Batty (chairman of directors) presided over the thirty-third annual ordinary general meeting of the African and Eastern Trade Corporation, Limited, which was held on Thursday last, the 28th instant, in the banqueting hall of the Exchange Station Hotel, Liverpool. There was a full attendance of directors and shareholders.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the accounts and report, said there was no doubt in his mind that the potentialities of the corporation were unique. They might be going through troubled waters, but he believed they could look forward to the future with the utmost confidence. He had no wish to minimise the deplorable condition of trade this year, but was hopeful that there might be some recovery before the year was completed. In arriving at the results for 1920 no credit had been taken for excess profits tax. Whatever sum was recoverable would be brought into the accounts for 1921. Their directors had had a very anxious and trying time. Not only had they to face the extraordinary decline in produce prices, but they also had wide fluctuations in the exchange and depreciation in the value of the ordinary trading stock; and last, but not least, the decline in the volume of trade. After taking all these things into account, the directors hoped that the shareholders would appreciate the result achieved. It would still take some time for trade to resume its normal flow. There had been a stupendous swing from the height of prosperity to the depth of depression in the period they had just been through. His anxiety was most keenly directed to their national finance, which would give cause for the gravest anxiety in the early months of next year. Unless they had immediate relief from taxation, trade would continue to suffer, and there would be increased distress throughout the country. They must be allowed to retain the capital in their businesses, and a certain percentage of the profits was needed to finance new enterprises. Trade in West Africa had greatly felt the effects of the world-wide slump, and this was reflected by the serious decline of the imports from these colonies.

Mr Robert B. Miller seconded, and the resolution was unanimously adopted.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Robert B. Miller, a final dividend of 5 per cent., less income-tax, was declared on the ordinary shares of the company, making, with the interim dividend already paid, a total dividend of 17½ per cent., less income-tax, for the year.

The retiring directors, Messrs J. H. Batty, E. A. Beazley, A. A. Cowan, and Major-General W. H. Grey, C.B., C.M.G., were unanimously re-elected.

The directors' fees were agreed upon, and the auditors were reappointed.

H.E. PROPRIETARY (NEW), LIMITED.

COMPANY'S IMPROVED RESULTS.

The ordinary general meeting of the H. E. Proprietary (New), Limited, was held, on the 25th instant, at River Plate House, London, Mr F. H. Hamilton (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman said that when a year ago the directors submitted the accounts for 1919 he was able to point to the fact that they showed a considerable improvement upon those of the previous year. In asking the shareholders now to approve of the accounts for 1920, he was glad to be able to state that they presented a further substantial increase in the earning power of the company. The various reserve accounts totalled about £58,500, or over 20 per cent. of the company's issued capital, and gave them a position of considerable strength.

PICCADILLY HOTEL SALE.

The outstanding feature of the year was the sale of their Piccadilly Hotel interest. A small proportion of their shares were sold last year, and the remainder about three months ago. The directors had received a number of inquiries from shareholders regarding that transaction in consequence of the advertising campaign which was made at the time of the issue of preference shares by the purchasers, Messrs. R. E. Jones, Limited. One or two of their correspondents were disposed to be critical. One of them quoted a statement that the buyers were buying at the bottom of the market, from which he deduced that the directors must be singularly ill-advised to choose that moment for selling. Naturally they had to deal with these questions with caution and some reservations as long as the purchase was not actually completed, and even now he would deprecate a detailed discussion in fairness to all concerned. It was not difficult, however, to show that the transaction, from the point of view of this company, was very advantageous. The price obtained of 20s.

for each rs share was, in view of all the facts, extremely good. Then they were naturally influenced by the fact that for the year ending July 31, 1920, they received dividends of 150 per cent. on the par value of the shares, which was equal to 7½ per cent. on 20s. When the Indian Government thought it worth while to pay 7 per cent. it could hardly be considered that 7½ was an extravagant return upon a London hotel of the luxury class. Moreover, the dividend in question was the largest that the hotel ever paid, and in their opinion the general conditions of business were certainly less favourable than those that obtained during 1919 and 1920.

St. James's Court, the shares of which were entirely owned by this company, continued to make excellent progress. The demand for good service flats was a steady one, and there was no reason to think that it would decrease. On the other hand, the supply was limited by the cost of building. It would be impossible to-day to build St. James's Court at a price which would yield a return of 3 per cent. on the cost, and there was no reason to think that that state of things would change appreciably. The board took a very sanguine view of the future of St. James's Court. They had during the year only distributed a small part of the profits earned by way of dividend, but a considerable sum, largely out of accumulated profits, had been spent in enlarging the restaurant, for which an outside licence had now been obtained, and in reorganising the kitchen arrangements.

INTERESTS IN OIL, STEEL, AND GOLD.

During the year the directors had given some attention to oil properties, and had acquired interests in the Apex (Trinidad) Oilfields, Limited, the Premier Oil Company, Limited, and the London and Midland Oil Company, Limited. In all those three companies they were associated with strong financial groups, and they had every reason to think that those investments would turn out satisfactorily. In the Channel Steel Company they were interested together with some of the most powerful colliery and iron masters in Great Britain. That company owned large areas

in Kent in which the existence of coal and large deposits of excellent ironstone had been proved. One day there would be a great industrial development there. The company's gold interests were extensive, and very promising, but an active policy had been ruled out during the past year. They owned the whole of the farm Klippoortje, on the far Eastern Rand, and they had a working arrangement for joint action when the time came with the owners of the adjoining farm Maraisdrift. In Klippoortje they had what was probably the nucleus of a great and profitable mine. With regard to their general policy the directors had in the past pursued a conservative line, and shareholders were feeling the benefit of it to-day. The position he had been able to disclose was a strong one, and their assets, in addition to being to a considerable extent productive and liquid, or semi-liquid, included many interests which, although dormant to-day, had great potential and speculative value. The directors had decided to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. in respect of last year's work, and had also declared a further dividend of 5 per cent. in respect of the current year.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

THRELFALL'S BREWERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS DESPITE TRADE SLUMP.

The thirty-fourth annual general meeting of Threlfall's Brewery Company, Limited, was held, on the 27th instant, at the Cannon Street Hotel, London, Major C. M. Threlfall (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr F. Cornwall) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: You will agree with me, I am sure, when I state that the trading result for the financial year under review is wonderfully good, especially when we take into consideration the depression—and in some cases stagnation—which has existed in the

industrial life of the country during the last 12 months. I think, gentlemen, in face of these difficulties our profits for the year are most satisfactory.

In accordance with resolutions passed in July and August last year, the amount standing to the credit of the reserve fund on June 30, 1920, has been distributed among the ordinary and preference shareholders by the issue of one fully-paid share for every two held by the ordinary shareholders, and a cash payment of 10s per share to the preference shareholders. In addition, 500,000 £1 ordinary shares were offered to the shareholders at a price of 25s per share, and over-applied for. I take this opportunity of expressing the regret of your board that the applications received from the preference shareholders and debenture stockholders could not be considered, as the ordinary shareholders alone applied for over 100,000 shares more than the number offered for subscription.

In the balance-sheet there is £125,000 standing to the credit of share premium account. This is the premium of 5s per share received on the issue of the new ordinary shares in October last. This additional capital will be usefully employed in the extension of the company's business.

During the year a number of licensed premises have been purchased, the results from which up to the present have fully justified the anticipations of the board. A large amount has had to be expended on decorations and repairs owing to the compulsory neglect to which the properties were subjected during the war and the 12 months following, because of the shortage of labour and materials.

Your directors feel—and we are sure you will readily agree—that we should again recognise the excellent and loyal work done during the past year by all our employees, and we have much pleasure, therefore, in acknowledging those services by allocating out of the profits the sum of £25,000 as a bonus.

Both the breweries at Liverpool and Salford have been enlarged and partly remodelled, so as to bring them right up to date and to provide for the increased demand which is being made upon them.

Properties are continually being offered to the directors, but it is our desire only to purchase those which will be beneficial not only to the company, but also to its customers. The public house is, in our opinion, the working man's club, and it is our endeavour to make the place as comfortable as possible, so that a man, after a hard day's work, may enjoy a rational amount of refreshment in cleanliness and comfort. The hours, of course, have been restricted owing to the existence of the Liquor Control Board. As this was only a wartime innovation, the time has arrived when the trade should be relieved from the inconveniences imposed by this body, and I am glad to say that under the proposed new Bill there now seems to be every prospect of these undue interferences with the rights of the working man being removed.

The resolution was carried unanimously, and some congratulatory remarks from shareholders terminated the proceedings.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S STRONG POSITION—NEW CAPITAL TO BE ISSUED.

The fifty-sixth ordinary general meeting of this company was held at Cannon street Hotel, London, on Friday, the 29th instant, Mr C. E. Gunther presiding.

The Chairman said that the past year had been largely one of adjustment and tidying up of the exceptional position which remained as an aftermath of the war, and the directors sincerely hoped that they might now look forward to a more normal period of business. In the balance-sheet the stocks were on a thoroughly sound and healthy basis, so that they could enter the new period of working with confidence and every prospect of a continuance of successful trading. The strong position of the company, due to the conservative management of the past, justified the board in recommending, although the year's results had not been up to the earnings of previous years, that the final distribution should be maintained at last year's rate of 15s per share. The reserve fund, with the amount it was now proposed to add, and including the transfer of the insurance fund, would be made up to the substantial figure of £1,000,000.

REASONS FOR FRESH CAPITAL.

The heavy drain of taxation had depleted the company's cash resources, so that they had to look to the raising of fresh capital as a means of equipping themselves with the new plant and machinery required in order to convert the Fray Bentos factory into a frigorifico. Apart from this, in consequence of the higher costs and the general needs of the business, the amount of money locked up in stocks was greater than in pre-war times. The directors had accordingly decided to recommend that the capital be increased from £1,600,000 to £2,500,000 by the creation of an additional 180,000 ordinary shares of £5 each. It was proposed to offer to the present ordinary shareholders 120,000 shares at par in the proportion of one new share for each ordinary share at present

held, and as the ordinary shares were at present quoted at a substantial premium, the board had no doubt that these new shares would be readily taken up.

During their visit to the River Plate last year, Mr Follett Holt and himself made a special study of the question of taking up refrigeration at Fray Bentos, and it was decided to proceed with the scheme. The construction work was now well on the way, and it was expected that some time during the next working season they would be ready with an up-to-date equipment for the production of chilled and frozen meat. In all, Mr Follett Holt and himself visited and inspected 20 of the company's estancias, saw over 150,000 head of the company's own cattle, and were greatly pleased with all they saw, and especially with the marked improvement in the quality of the cattle.

The company's herds in Rhodesia had been maintained in good condition, and their steadily increasing stocks were being further graded with pedigree blood, both imported and locally purchased.

The company had acquired a suitable farm in Kent for the purpose of concentrating pedigree cattle for export to their overseas farms.

The sales of the company's different proprietary articles had been well maintained both here and through their Continental distributing centres, where their branches, reconstructed and reorganised, were now making good progress.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and at an extraordinary general meeting the proposed increase of capital was approved.

OHLSSON'S CAPE BREWERIES, LIMITED.

TRADING UNDER DIFFICULT CONDITIONS.

The ordinary general meeting of Ohlsson's Cape Breweries, Limited, was held, on the 27th instant, at Cannon street Hotel, London, Mr Herbert J. W. Jervis presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the actual balance of profit for the year amounted to £17,801, which, with the amount brought forward from the previous account of £55,595, made a total of £73,397. From this had to be deducted the dividend on the cumulative preference shares, leaving a balance at profit and loss of £61,897.

The results of the year's trading had been disappointing, and came upon the directors with something like a shock. Their money sales for the first nine months of the year showed a constant increase upon the corresponding period of the previous year, which had itself shown a considerable advance on its predecessors, so that up to the month of February the returns they had received gave them every evidence of a successful year's trading. From the turn of the year, however, business out in South Africa assumed a very different aspect. Labour troubles arose on every hand, strikes were constant in almost every industry, and the company's business itself was to some extent affected. The general spending power of the community seemed to be suddenly affected, and by the time the business year closed the rate of increase of sales, in money value, had dropped from 8½ per cent.—the increase up to December 31st—to 3½ per cent. at the closing of their accounts, on the corresponding period of the previous year, while the sales of their products in bulk had fallen some 4½ per cent. for the whole year, which, in relation to their increased overhead charges, inevitably reduced the amount of available balance.

Future prospects in many ways showed signs of improved trading results. Their beers were of the first quality, and gave every satisfaction. The South African beer had to bear a heavy excise,

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI—(Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

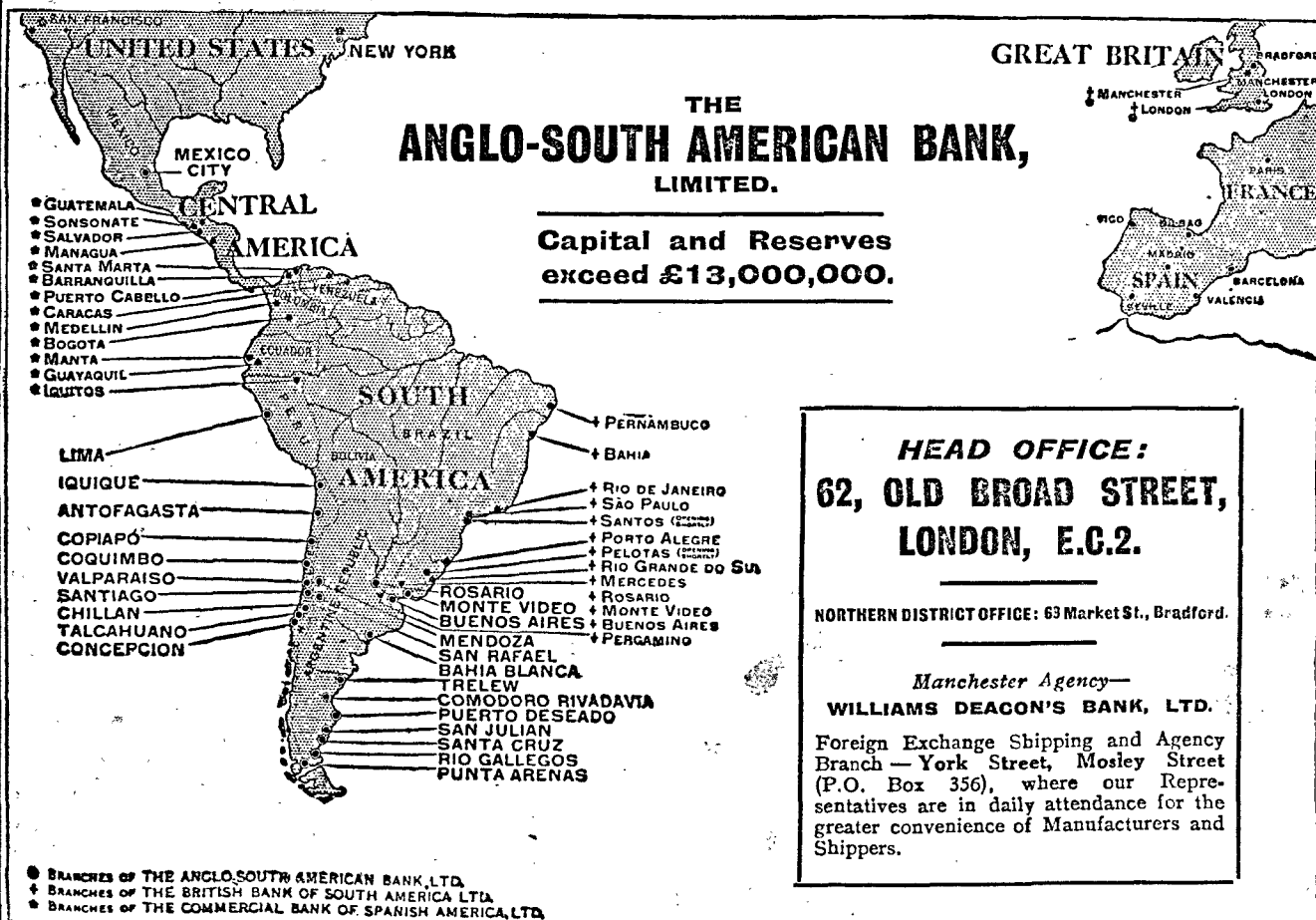
Capital and Reserves - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



which had been increased by 150 per cent. since the outbreak of war, although it was produced entirely in the Union, and from materials grown in the Union—with the exception of hops, which they had repeatedly tried to cultivate there—while wine, another native product, contributed nothing to the revenue. Trade conditions in the country generally were not at present in a flourishing condition, and there were vast quantities of produce waiting for the restarting of the British and European markets, and until some clearance took place there was not likely to be much improvement; but South Africa had ever been a country of surprises, and the depression of to-day quickly changed to the prosperity of to-morrow. The resolution was adopted, and a dividend of 6 per cent., free of tax, was declared on the ordinary shares.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.
(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Advances to Bankers.	Advances to Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£ 21,535	£ 6,302	£ 5,810	£ 18,500	..	48.1	9,924	11,423
Aug. 26.....	38,478	169	600	..	..	..	..	9,286
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621
1915.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102
Dec. 27.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637
1916.	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133
1917.	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536
Dec. 31.....	366,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537
1920.	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370
Mar. 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660
June 29.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,426
Sept. 29.....	367,606	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504
Dec. 29.....	343,896	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334
Mar. 30.....	323,894	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.6	287,750
June 29.....	325,467	14,572	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	289,097
Oct. 1.....	325,503	14,682	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	289,097
Dec. 29.....	323,966	14,771	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,635
1921.	325,214	14,602	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	288,736

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Tuesday to Saturday, Aug. 2-Aug. 7th, were opened on July 29, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £99,975,000. Tenders for Tuesday to Friday bills at £98 17s 5d will receive about 49½ per cent. and above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 8d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 8s 7.82d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
July 8 (3 months)	55,000,000	117,220,000	5 3 6.64	4½	£98 13s 9d (Monday to Friday bills), about 93%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 14s 1d, above in full
July 15 (3 months)	60,000,000	122,740,000	4 19 4.57	4½	£98 14s 8d (Monday to Friday bills), about 96%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 15s 0d, above in full
July 22 (3 months)	50,000,000	123,005,000	4 8 3.31	4½	£98 17s 8d (Monday to Friday bills), about 80%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 11d, above in full
July 29 (3 months)	60,000,000	99,975,000	4 8 7.82	4½	£98 17s 8d, above in full

The amount to be offered next week will be £50,000,000.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.
RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	RECEIPTS.	Week Ending	Week Ending
	Apl. 1, 1921, to July 23, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to July 24, 1920.	July 23, 1921.	July 24, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—	£	£	£	£
Bank of England	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,209,321	..	..
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
Customs	38,323,000	41,540,000	3,801,030	2,926,000
Excise	5,035,000	52,271,000	8,615,000	4,260,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	1,851,000	..	..	..
State, &c., Duties	13,925,000	16,036,000	1,279,000	1,287,000

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	RECEIPTS.	Week Ending	Week Ending
	Apl. 1, 1921, to July 23, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to July 24, 1920.	July 23, 1921.	July 24, 1920.
Stamps	£ 4,032,000	£ 7,202,000	£ 260,000	£ 269,000
Land Tax	410,000	380,000	10,000	..
House Duty	..	..	..	..
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	87,330,000	77,346,000	7,056,000	6,406,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	22,114,000	69,670,000	4,000,000	3,712,000
Corporation Profits Tax	3,260,000	..	400,000	..
Post Office	13,250,000	13,250,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands	130,000	190,000	..	80,000
Interest on Sundry Loans	4,095,325	5,978,922	12,512	..
Miscellaneous	7,519,499	5,250,836	372,357	56,000
Ordinary Receipts	27,356,526	105,873,962	2,040,000	..
Special Receipts	282,631,350	394,988,720	29,095,869	19,996,000
Revenue	285,705,856	404,357,817	..	..
Total, inc. Balance	2,250,000	750,000	150,000	100,000
OTHER RECEIPTS.	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances Repaid:—	..	..	..	..
Bullion	2,250,000	750,000	150,000	100,000
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—	..	..	..	..
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issued:—	..	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	2,000,000	700,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	25,000	30,000	..	..
(b) For other Issues:—	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bills for Supply	1,473,524,000	1,272,346,000	106,752,000	128,217,000
By Treasury Bonds	..	101,391	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	258,622	..	..
By National Savings Certificates	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	11,130,000	13,200,000	800,000	750,000
Under the Finance Act, 1920	..	5	..	..
By National War Bonds	1,024,990	9,275,000	3,700,000	365,000
5-15 year, 1925-35	3,700,000	..	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	3,713,840	12,733,871	2,635,156	..
(c) Ways and Means Advances	406,774,000	407,141,000	27,850,000	7,700,000
Repayments	..	..	..	..
In respect of Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	9,180	2,481	..	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,650,250	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	85,532	..	..	..
Total	2,191,620,153	2,120,996,132	168,347,869	169,763,156

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

		Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		ISSUES.	
		Apl. 1, 1921, to July 23, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to July 24, 1920.	Week Ending July 23, 1921.	Week Ending July 24, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent Charge of Debt.....		6,302,877	6,654,355	..	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....		120,580,023	113,596,054	2,294,174	2,448,740
Road Fund		1,550,000	..	218,000	..
Payments to Local Tax- ation Accounts, &c.....		1,392,772	1,456,229	200,000	518,943
Land Settlement.....		1,101,125	2,421,859	30,470	89,095
Other Consolidated Fund Services		680,453	489,156	..	..
Supply Services		193,173,825	207,279,072	16,544,250	7,160,000
Expenditure		324,781,081	331,896,725	19,286,894	10,216,778

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	RECEIPTS.	Week Ending	Week Ending
	Apl. 1, 1921, to July 23, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to July 24, 1920.	July 23, 1921.	July 24, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—	£	£	£	£
Bank of England	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,209,321	..	..
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
Customs	38,323,000	41,540,000	3,801,030	2,926,000
Excise	5,035,000	52,271,000	8,615,000	4,260,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	1,851,000	..	..	..
State, &c., Duties	13,925,000	16,036,000	1,279,000	1,287,000

Treasury, July 25, 1921.

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON. **ROYAL** INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, July 27, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£ 145,008,020	Government debt	£ 11,015,100
Other securities	7,434,900	Gold coin & bullion	126,558,020
145,008,020		145,008,020	

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	£ 14,553,000	Government securities ..	£ 43,188,078
Rest	3,357,851	Other securities	78,000,845
Public deposits	15,373,851	Notes	16,724,650
Other deposits	106,435,907	Gold and silver coin ..	1,812,043
Seven-day & other bills ..	5,833		
139,725,616		139,725,616	

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, July 27, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,357,851	+ £ 46,885	+ £ 13,803
Public deposits	15,373,851	+ 1,562,593	+ 225,197
Other deposits	106,435,907	+ 42,850,426	+ 12,214,242
Government securities ..	43,188,078	+ 39,530,000	+ 16,724,283
Other securities	78,000,845	+ 4,274,466	+ 2,519,636
Reserve	18,536,693	+ 563,026	+ 2,221,505
Note circulation	128,283,370	+ 565,630	+ 2,914,175
Coin and bullion	128,370,063	+ 2,604	+ 5,135,680
% of reserve to liabilities ..	154%	+ 31%	+ 3%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
May 4.....	128,357,634	129,528,235	140,807,558	141,225,277	17,279,399	124	54
11.....	128,363,247	128,768,640	128,421,373	128,089,388	18,044,607	124	54
18.....	128,360,554	128,191,750	121,813,463	120,941,358	18,615,804	124	54
25.....	128,349,547	127,807,660	128,479,703	127,246,006	18,991,887	124	54
June 1.....	128,363,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	124	54
8.....	128,369,554	128,280,155	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	124	54
15.....	128,375,126	127,491,195	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	124	54
22.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,637	137,400,455	19,329,150	124	54
29.....	128,368,727	129,006,290	147,036,451	147,300,762	17,810,437	124	54
July 6.....	128,369,083	129,108,285	148,761,611	148,900,353	17,710,798	124	54
13.....	128,375,661	129,152,715	154,629,219	153,650,715	18,869,029	124	54
20.....	128,367,499	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,993,589	19,099,719	124	54
27.....	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,609,758	121,188,921	18,536,693	124	54

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 25, 1921.	June 18, 1921.	June 11, 1921.	June 26, 1920.	Move- ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
Gold and silver ..	1,278,547	1,280,558	1,280,341	989,563	-	2,211
Discounts ..	38,475	33,344	33,231	354,381	-	22,320
Advances ..	104,677	97,416	96,461	327,011	+	7,261
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation ..	1,124,169	1,073,140	1,049,275	1,264,846	+	51,029
Govt. deposits ..	1,318,658	1,343,298	1,373,148	1,313,541	-	24,640
Private deposits ..	79,192	107,726	104,337	87,039	+	28,534
						11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold ..	1,091,556	1,091,544	1,091,640	+	12
Silver ..	14,089	11,450	6,160	+	2,639
Treasury notes ..	6,344,948	5,511,748	17,254,600	+	833,195
Bills discounted ..	72,010,114	78,126,729	39,452,369	+	6,116,615
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	74,997,125	75,352,635	53,983,200	-	355,510
Deposits ..	9,928,184	14,584,808	12,298,420	+	4,656,624
					2,013,860
					842,346

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 10, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	May 20, 1920.	Move- ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
Total cash ..	1,368,720	1,428,194	1,391,492	-	59,474
Inland bills ..	3,179,680	3,218,278	3,149,598	-	38,598
Foreign bills ..	20,733	20,733	28,102	-	81,300
Advances to the Treasury ..	6,674,679	6,773,471	6,931,283	-	98,792
Other advances ..	2,149,189	2,128,405	2,046,838	+	20,784
Securities ..	217,455	215,586	213,962	+	1,869
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	13,639,742	13,763,428	13,185,047	-	123,686
Deposits and drafts ..	1,625,347	1,681,789	1,785,616	-	56,442
					1,556,925
					192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 25, 1921.	July 18, 1921.	July 26, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold ..	605,969	605,969	636,338	-	163,092
Silver ..	11,159	11,323	15,015	-	8,436
Discounts and advances ..	440,585	443,398	463,582	-	2,813
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	1,012,790	1,019,299	1,017,208	-	6,509
Deposits ..	53,438	53,226	123,097	+	212
					316,632
					5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 18, 1921.	June 11, 1921.	June 19, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold ..	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,600,222	-	11
Silver, &c. ..	23,879	38,840	21,353	-	14,961
Discounts ..	9,916,585	9,849,921	4,099,949	+	66,564
Government loan ..	2,775,277	2,823,533	763,545	+	48,316
Other advances ..					
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	11,084,371	11,087,752	4,736,088	-	3,381
Deposits ..	6,044,886	6,024,677	2,166,912	+	20,209
					20,209

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold ..	544,261	544,206	538,127	+	55
Silver ..	110,735	110,735	88,889	-	18,350
Darlehens-Kassenschein ..	12,957	9,729	17,691	+	3,228
Discount and advances ..	304,136	299,877	340,155	+	4,259
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	882,227	891,084	898,219	-	8,857
Deposits ..	107,910	98,186	121,786	+	9,724
					275,925
					33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to June 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,471,000, of which Fr. 10,230,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 24, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
Gold ..	281,305	281,339	261,259	-	34	20,046
Balance abt. and foreign bills ..	117,781	117,853	97,696	-	82	20,085
Swedish and for Gov. securities ..	13,888	14,134	45,351	-	246	31,463
Discount and loans ..	444,946	443,347	631,539	+	1,599	186,593
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation ..	592,972	614,407	674,124	-	21,435	81,152
Deposits at notice ..	196,721	192,143	270,640	+	4,578	73,919
						226,555
						69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 19, 1921.	July 14, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion) ..	325,453	327,176	327,262	-	1,723
Securities ..	567,287	573,368	597,125	-	6,081
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	6,092,590	6,126,750	6,119,845	-	34,160
Current accounts ..	1,023,132	1,021,405	1,050,181	+	1,727
					934,150
					112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	June 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills ..	5,219	6,632	5,828	-	1,413
Silver coin ..	2	2	2	-	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts ..	1,307,278	1,305,808	1,321,423	+	1,470
Loans ..	498,713	499,910	532,944	-	1,197
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	50,142,590	49,685,140	47,825,013	+	457,450
Deposits ..	9,156,396	9,713,367	7,723,182	-	556,971
					1,197

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	June 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills ..	184	185	185	-	1
Silver coin ..	11,698,725	11,693,384	11,690,964	+	5,341
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts ..	107,868	107,844	107,897	+	24
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	17,923,868	18,095,898	17,671,017	-	172,030
Deposits ..	1,328,887	1,161,987	1,599,243	+	166,900
					166,900

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion ..	227,570	227,570	228,030	-	6
Loans and discounts ..	326,726	311,289	367,531	+	88,740
Debtors abroad ..	10,209	15,597	33,928	-	5,388
Securities ..	50,553	50,636	57,818	-	83
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation ..	496,213	496,688	528,660	-	475
Deposits ..	67,910	60,205	43,451	+	7,705
					157,266
					6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold ..	147,292	147,295	147,379	-	3,000
Balance abroad and foreign bills ..	33,136	34,233	60,200	-	97,000
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities ..	8,707	9,095	10,499	-	388,000
Discounts and loans ..	415,110	440,179	430,514	-	25,609
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	420,946	418,400	448,018	+	2,546
Deposits at notice ..	76,996	107,124	122,211	+	30,128
					113,846
					7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	June 10, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Government securities ..	14,79,32	14,43,72	8,66,89	8,77,19	+
Other securities ..	1,35,23	1,38,43	1,38,42	1,38,42	+
Loans ..	13,46,80	14,04,96	14,50,33	14,65,13	+
Cash credits ..	22,03,14	21,03,12	20,86,88	20,79,93	+
Inland bills ..	12,87,14	13,28,94	13,49,60	13,94,03	+
Foreign bills ..	38	78	42	89	+
Bullion ..	9	3	2	4	+
Dead stock ..	2,05,57	2,09,78	2,09,69	2,09,68	+
Sundries ..	58,27	52,99	56,06	49,01	+
Balances with other banks ..	15,12	14,67	14,45	12,69	+
Cash ..	34,69,54	30,45,27	26,85,59	26,00,99	+
LIABILITIES.					
Subscribed capital ..	10,65,56	10,53,36	10,14,32	10,10,32	+
Capital paid up ..	5,47,64	5,44,59	5,34,83	5,33,83	+
Reserve ..	3,71,21	3,71,10	3,70,85	3,70,30	+
Public deposits ..	20,35,48	19,05,01	5,85,25	7,62,47	+
Other deposits ..	70,83,98	67,56,33	71,76,70	69,74,52	+
Loans against securities ..	55,41	55,30	55,20	54,75	+
Sundries ..	1,26,91	1,46,36	1,35,52	1,32,12	+
					19,45

The above includes—
Deposits in London .. £ 21,800 .. £ 20,900 .. £ 21,300 .. £ 17,700
Advances in London .. £ 381,700 .. £ 381,700 .. £ 381,000 .. £ 381,000
Cash and balances at other banks in London .. 90,649 .. 98,911 .. 98,724 .. 89,872

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold ..	£ 3,361	£ 3,361	+	1,571
Government securities ..	40,831	39,291	+	2,084
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation ..	34,024	34,186	-	162
Government deposits ..	2,511	2,656	-	145
Other deposits ..	14,177	13,832	+	345
				2,400
				2,315
				2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold ..	F. mk. 42,626	F. mk. 42,626	F. mk. 42,618	-	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills ..	386,190	384,507	141,191	+	1,683
Loans ..	947,733	947,743	1,067,763	-	10
Discounts and loans ..	336,961	335,888	191,345	+	1,073
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	1,354,389	1,375,424	1,194,043	-	21,035
Deposits at notice ..	128,739	111,276	79,431	+	17,463
					123,941
					21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

	June 29, 1921.	June 22, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Assets.	Escudos.	Escudos.	Escudos.	Escudos.	Escudos.
Coin and bullion ..	27,751	27,719	27,723	27,258	+
Of which gold ..	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	-
Balances abroad ..	1,596	2,865	4,421	5,301	+ 1.20
Discounts ..	120,885	119,300	117,859	110,345	+ 1.50
Government loans..	588,111	588,111	588,111	360,122	+ 1.80
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	649,845	648,037	652,425	446,616	+ 1.80
Deposits ..	56,968	53,167	46,633	42,310	+ 3.80

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

		Par Level.	Rate, July 29, 1920.	Rate, July 14, 1921.	Rate, July 21, 1921.	Rate, July 28, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	6.85	4.18	4.09	4.09
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123.45	13.90	8.15	7.87	7.65
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	89.88	11.06	6.30	6.26	6.13
Stockholm			15.20	9.90	10.37	9.76

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	July 23 13.40
Venezuela	Bolivars to £1	25-25	"	July 27 21.95
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	48d	"	July 26 83.00
Nicaragua	Corobas to £1	49-31d	"	July 27 3.75
San Salvador	Pesos to £1	24-65d	"	July 19 8.00
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-65d	"	July 16 199.80
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	"	July 2 17.50
Bolivia	Bolivianos to £1	12-50	"	June 10 14

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, July 19, 1921, as below:—

	Buying	Selling
London (cheque)	£1 1.460	1.475
Paris	100 fr. 3.100	3.200
New York	" 3.195	405
Stockholm	100 kr. 8.500	8.600
Copenhagen	100 kr. 6.300	6.400
Christiania	100 kr. 545	550
Berlin	100 mk. 680	690
Helsingfors	100 lrb. 95	105
Riga	100 Hfl. 12.900	13.000

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.		Australia and New Zealand on London.	
	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus.	New Zealand.	Aus.	New Zealand.
T.T.	..	..	..	..
Sight	..	..	..	..
Cable	..	..	..	..
On demand	96 1/2	96 1/2	101 1/2	101 1/2
30 days	95 1/2	95 1/2	100 1/2	100 1/2
60 days	95 1/4	95 1/4	100 1/4	100 1/4
90 days	94 3/4	94 3/4	100 1/4	100 1/4
120 days	..	..	..	..
5 months sight	..	..	..	..
6 months sight	..	..	..	..

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended July 27, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £2,604 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended July 27, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended July 27, 1921.
Belgian Congo	44,558	United States	1,082,200
British South Africa	907,832	Sweden	690,076
British India	580,665		
Straits Settlements	11,652		
Other countries	800		
Total values of imports of gold	1,545,507	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	1,772,276

GOLD.

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on July 28th as follows:—

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,558,020, as compared with £126,556,570 last week. The fair amount of gold that came into the market was taken for New York. Gold to the value of \$6,495,000 has been received in New York—\$5,670,000 from London and \$825,000 from France. The monthly balance of Indian trade, including bullion and rupee paper, is still against that country. The total for June is minus 167 lacs of rupees, as compared with 200 in May. We append Chinese imports and exports of gold over a series of years—the value is in Haikwan taels:—

Year.	Imported.	Exported.	Net Import.	Net Export.
1911	4,023,530	2,490,648	1,532,882	..
1912	9,296,528	1,838,423	7,458,105	..
1913	3,065,290	4,450,890	..	1,385,600
1914	861,167	13,861,917	..	13,000,750
1915	818,827	18,211,040	..	17,392,213
1916	19,903,117	8,102,268	11,800,849	..
1917	13,871,778	5,024,575	8,847,203	..
1918	1,228,342	2,281,659	..	1,053,317
1919	51,078,643	9,896,429	41,182,214	..
1920	50,966,880	68,469,360	..	17,502,480

Total 155,114,102 .. 134,627,209

10 years' net import..... 20,486,893

Gold does not circulate in China as currency, but the ratio between gold and silver is a matter of keen interest, and also of practical concern, as is the case in India. The abnormal high value of silver that has obtained recently created the impression that gold was cheap, hence the people of China, including those in the lower classes, turned out their savings which they had stored in the form of silver, and invested in gold—usually in some form of personal adornment. This gold demand was particularly active in 1919, and the early part of 1920. As the value of silver fell, the demand for gold languished, and was at length converted into a disposition to sell and to replace the silver. In this way, from the Chinese standpoint (seeing that their currency is silver), a considerable profit was made over the operation. The statistics for 1920 reveal a heavy outward movement of gold during the latter part of that year.

SILVER.

Prices have advanced further this week, largely in consequence of demand for the Indian bazaar, which followed extensive purchases on account of China. A fair-sized shipment will be made by this week's steamer to Bombay. The cash quotation to-day—39 1/4d—is the highest since January 27, 1921, and the premium for cash delivery—1 1/4d—since March 15th last. The strength of the silver market at the present time is remarkable when we consider the high price silver has reached in India—about 105 per 100 tolas—and in the United States well over 61 cents per ounce. It is not as if there was a real shortage of supplies. The fact that considerable amounts of German silver are announced by Reuter as arriving at, or on the way to, New York (probably over 20,000,000 ozs), is against such a contention. Some 7,000,000 ozs are on the way to augment the visible stocks in China. No doubt, shrinking production is a factor in these high prices (it is certainly not keen demand for Eastern products). The chief reason, however, appears to be the wild speculation in exchange which has prevailed recently in China. The following appeared in the issue of the *Mexican Post* for July 4th last:—"It was officially stated yesterday that the decree abolishing the tax on all silver exported from the country will be repealed in view of the rise in the price of this metal in foreign markets. The measure in question was enacted when the silver situation became extremely acute due to the decline." The same journal states that the production, notwithstanding the shut downs and the labour decrease brought about by the mining companies, has not been appreciably less.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	July 7, 1921.	July 14, 1921.	July 21, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,222	17,354	17,429
Silver coin and bullion in India	7,150	7,283	7,356
Silver coin and bullion out of India	..	..	2,435
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,435	2,435	2,433
Gold coin and bullion out of India	..	..	6,802
Securities (Indian Government)	6,802	6,802	6,805
Securities (British Government)	835	834	835

The coinage during the week ending 22nd inst. amounted to 9 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 23rd inst. consisted of about 34,300,000 ozs in sycee, 27,500,000 dollars, and 300 bars of silver, as compared with about 34,000,000 ozs in sycee and 26,500,000 dollars on the 16th inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 8d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.	
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.			Cash, Per Ounce.	
July 23	114 9	38 1/2	37 1/2	Aug. 4, 1915	22 1/2		
25	114 8	38 1/2	38 1/2	4, 1916	30 1/2		
26	114 10	38 1/2	38 1/2	3, 1917	41		
27	114 10	39	38 1/2	2, 1918	48 1/2		
28	114 10	39 1/2	38 1/2	1, 1919	55 1/2		
29	115 2	38 1/2	38 1/2	July 30, 1920	56 1/2		

NOTICES.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, announce that a branch of the bank is now open at Market place, Swaffham (Norfolk), the resident officer being Mr F. W. Hale.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Tuesday, August 2nd, a branch at 22 High street, Hemel Hempstead, under the management of Mr George I. Wallbank.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

		Week's Receipts, 1921.	Aggregate Receipts, 1921.
Metropolitan District	29 weeks July 22	240,797	6,930,647
London Electric	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	..	..	..
London United Trams	29 weeks July 22	60,402	1,592,013
South Metropolitan Trams	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..
Gearless Motor	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246	+ 6,300	Rs. 11,63,233	- 53,141
Batali L. Ry.	13 weeks	June 2	118	18,300	- 49,200	2,69,000	- 1,98,300
Bengal & N. Western	12 weeks	May 2	2,067	5,72,360	+ 1,07,136	73,27,380	+ 8,97,654
Bengal Nagpur	12 weeks	May 16	2,695	12,76,000	- 1,01,000	1,41,85,000	- 5,45,056
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	15 weeks	July 16	2,871	19,45,000	+ 2,11,000	3,18,65,000	+ 24,68,000
Burma	11 weeks	June 18	1,342	5,85,517	+ 87,091	63,03,965	- 2,46,349
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	15 weeks	July 16	239	30,30,000	+ 1,63,561	45,17,156	- 37,751
East Indian	15 weeks	June 16	16,312	24,36,300	+ 3,80,700	4,48,68,000	+ 12,35,000
G. Indian Peninsula	12 weeks	June 25	3,012	13,18,000	- 8,146	4,05,53,678	+ 1,91,530
Madras & S. Mah.	12 weeks	June 25	259	64,338	+ 1,174	1,80,1,648	+ 2,29,924
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	12 weeks	June 25	287	72,239	+ 11,855	1,92,92,929	+ 1,47,569
Do Lucknow-Breilly	12 weeks	June 25	1,852	8,67,169	+ 53,224	1,30,69,126	- 91,840
South Indian	6 mths	Mar. 31	717	8,89,237	- 50,014	49,10,562	+ 81,286
Stn. Punjab (month)							
				717	8,89,237	- 50,014	49,10,562
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	3 weeks	July 23	752	11,200	- 2,800	33,600	- 6,200
Argentine Trans.	3 weeks	July 23	111	1,914	+ 594	5,535	+ 655
B. A. and Pacific	3 weeks	July 23	3,425	133,000	- 19,000	416,000	- 135,000
B. A. & Gt. Southern	3 weeks	July 23	3,903	157,000	+ 8,000	491,000	- 32,000
B. A. Western	3 weeks	July 23	23	2,000	+ 5,000	37,000	- 28,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 mths	June 30	190	49,858	- 12,999	594,834	- 36,712
Central Argentine	3 weeks	July 23	3,305	192,000	- 28,000	583,000	- 124,000
Coroba Central	3 weeks	July 23	1,205	72,500	+ 8,500	228,500	+ 13,700
Entre Rios	3 weeks	July 23	811	20,000	- 3,600	64,200	- 11,700
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	6 mths	June 30	..	Ms 53,500	+ 12,750	271,900	- 21,350
Gt. West. of Brazil	1 month	July 1	1,005	8,300	- 7,000	398,500	- 277,600
Leopoldina	29 weeks	July 23	1,831	29,663	- 25,394	938,824	- 631,528
San Paulo	29 weeks	July 23	1,533	25,798	- 22,659	865,532	- 472,580
State of Bahia, S.W.	6 mths	June 30	62	Ms 48,000	- 58,000	441,000	- 30,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	29 weeks	July 23	838	16,145	- 19,000	705,940	- 639,155
Arancó	1 month	Apr. 30	64	12,000	+ 500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	2 weeks	July 16	366	15,674	+ 25,570	..	..
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	313,580	+ 147,980	14,428,740	- 56,794
Talca	12 mths	June 30	180	10,947	- 16,323	281,160	- 10,815
Cuban.							
Havana Central	3 weeks	July 23	..	1,194	- 1,355	36,637	- 9,032
United of Havana	3 weeks	July 23	681	57,015	- 45,592	193,870	- 164,854
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	3 weeks	July 23	273	20,198	+ 1,221	72,696	+ 6,498
C. Uruguay (East Ext.)	3 weeks	July 23	311	3,679	+ 1,426	15,275	- 1,788
C. Uruguay (North Ext.)	3 weeks	July 23	185	3,297	+ 801	8,982	- 1,633
C. Uruguay (West Ext.)	3 weeks	July 23	211	1,482	- 524	6,348	- 937
Midland Uruguay	12 mths	June 30	319	12,979	- 6,392	205,324	- 38,283
North-West Uruguay	12 mths	June 30	113	5,531	- 1,017	72,543	- 9,075
Uruguay North	12 mths	June 30	3	1,383	- 753	23,473	- 4,818
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	29 weeks	July 23	33	Ps 22,000	+ 6,000	472,930	+ 78,000
Bilbao	6 mths	June 30	15	1,462	- 1,343	12,378	- 8,338
Bolivar	6 mths	June 30	136	11,809	+ 232	61,993	- 6,464
Colombian Nat. Ry.	5 mths	May 31	86	19,680	- 660	95,760	+ 24,317
Costa Rica	11 mths	June 30	190	19,290	- 14,779	259,817	- 24,317
Dorado Extension	6 mths	June 30	70	10,500	- 2,750	107,750	+ 2,072
Egyptian Delta	14 weeks	July 10	5,694	9,155	- 3,966	91,351	- 27,377
Gt. Southern of Spain	28 weeks	July 16	104	Ps 28,786	- 58,122	1,447,651	- 968,473
International of Central America	6 mths	June 30	Net	65,383	+ 463	448,876	+ 8,754
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	234	22,957	+ 192	196,391	+ 546
Mexican Railway	3 weeks	July 21	403	\$290,500	+ 110,800	938,000	+ 302,600
Do	5 mths	June 30	Net	872,300	..	5,485,200	..
Nassjo Oscarshamn	5 mths	May 31	..	12,611	- 8,180	65,220	- 41,185
Ottoman Railway	1 week	July 16	379	7,218	..	..	..
Bmyrna to Aidin	2 weeks	July 16	274	4,530	- 270	10,500	- 1,820
Paraguay Central	9 mths	Feb. 28	..	\$2,311,374	+ 414,841	16,380,765	+ 5,299,660
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	5 mths	May 31	35	4,500	- 500	22,750	- 5,250
Puerto Cabello, &c.	3 weeks	July 23	100	2,073	- 1,336	7,780	- 3,000
Salvador	3 weeks	July 23	100	2,073	- 1,336	7,780	- 3,000
Sante Fe Province, French Railways	1 mth	June 30	..	132,000	- 48,552	..	..
Samana & Santiago	6 mths	June 30	..	15,880	- 3,015	59,810	- 31,551
Zafra and Huelva	6 mths	June 30	112	(a) 12,630	+ 440	85,642	+ 11,515
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	29 weeks	July 21	9,750	\$1336,200	+ 158,400	34,164,000	+ 3,997,800
Canadian Pacific	29 weeks	July 21	13,388	\$3,363,000	- 235,000	93,658,000	- 9,680,000
Grand Trunk	29 weeks	July 21	3,516	\$291,350	- 65,934	8,323,661	- 335,934

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Year.	Lat'st Pre-vious.
Banks.					
Australian Bank of Commerce.	7 1/2	Aug. 1	Less tax	6 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial Bank of Australia.	15	Aug. 1	Less tax	15	15
Commercial Banking of Sydney.	5 1/2	Aug. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Farmers' Loan and Trust Co.	5 1/2	Aug. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Home Bank of Australia.	5 1/2	Aug. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Union of Canada.	2 1/2	Aug. 1	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Insurance.					
Life Assn. of Scotland.	5	Nov. 11	Less tax	5	5
Mining.					
Bechnanland Exploration.	3 1/2	Aug. 17	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Broken Hill Prop.	3 1/2	Aug. 17	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Lynn's Lydenburg.	3 1/2	Aug. 17	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Miami Copper.	50c p.s.	Aug. 15	Less tax	50c p.s.	50c p.s.
Band Mines.	35	Aug. 11	Less tax 3/1 in £	35	35
Pekka-Tapi.	15 p.s.	Aug. 6	Less tax	15 p.s.	15 p.s.
Railways.					
Bengal and North-Western.	5	Aug. 6	Less tax 3/9 in £	5	5
Bury Port and Gwendraeth Valley.	3 1/2	Aug. 6	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Dublin and South-Eastern, Pref.	4	Sept. 5	Less tax	4	4
Port of Clyde Junction.	7	Aug. 9	Less tax	7	7
Full and Barclay.	13 1/2	Aug. 22	Less tax	13 1/2	13 1/2
Lancashire and Yorkshire.	14 1/2	Aug. 10	Less tax	14 1/2	14 1/2
London, Brighton, and S.C.	1	Aug. 18	Less tax	1	1
Univ. Ord.	2	Aug. 18	Less tax	2	2
Do Pref. Ord.	2	Aug. 18	Less tax	2	2
London, Chatham, and Dover.	2 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
London and North-Western.	2 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Maryport and Carlisle.	2 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Metropolitan.	13 1/2	Aug. 22	Less tax	13 1/2	13 1/2
Do (Surplus Lands).	3	Aug. 22	Less tax	3	3
North London.	2 1/2	Aug. 12	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Shahdara (Delhi) Light.	7	Aug. 10	Tax free	7	7
South-Eastern, Univ. Ord.	15 1/2	Aug. 10	Less tax	15 1/2	15 1/2
Do Pref. Ord.	15 1/2	Aug. 10	Less tax	15 1/2	15 1/2
Rubber.					
Lanka Plant.	5 1/2	Aug. 16	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
South Warranah Tea.	6 1/2	July 29	Less tax	6 1/2	6 1/2
Other Companies.					
A. A. Jones and Shipman.	10	Aug. 31	Less tax	10	10
Allen-Liversidge, Limited.	6	Aug. 2	Less tax	6	6
Anton Jurgens, Cum. B. Pref.	20 p.s.	Aug. 2	Less tax (2 yrs. to July 31, 1922)	20 p.s.	20 p.s.
Archibald Arol and Sons, Pref.	24 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	24 1/2	24 1/2
Ashton Brothers.	13 p.s.	Aug. 2	Less tax	13 p.s.	13 p.s.
Atlantic First Leased Lines.	10	Aug. 2	Less tax	10	10
Belgian Spinning.	13 p.s.	Aug. 2	Less tax	13 p.s.	13 p.s.
Bent's Brewery.	10	Aug. 2	Less tax	10	10
Birmingham Railway Carriage.	10	Aug. 2	Tax free	10	10
Bodega, Ord. f.p.	23 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	23 1/2	23 1/2
Do part paid.	2/ p.s.	Aug. 16	Less tax	2/ p.s.	2/ p.s.
Bon Marché.	5 1/2	Sept. 15	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bovril, Limited, Pref.	7	Sept. 15	Less tax	7	7
Do Ord.	3 1/2	Aug. 4	Tax free	3 1/2	3 1/2
Bristol Tramways and Carriage.	5	Sept. 5	Less tax	5	5
British Empire Trust, Def.	10	Sept. 5	Less tax	10	10
British Oil and Cake Mills.	5	Sept. 5	Less tax	5	5
Britannia Shipping.	10	Sept. 5	Less tax	10	10
Cambridge University and Town.	5 1/2	July 30	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Waterworks (£10).	3 1/2	July 30	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Do (£7).	3 1/2	July 30	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Cardinal Investment Trust.	3 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	3 1/2	3 1/2
Charing Cross, West End Elec.	3 p.s.	Aug. 15	Less tax	3 p.s.	3 p.s.
Chelsea Electricity.	5	Sept. 15	Less tax	5	5
City of Aberdeen Land.	10 p.s.	Feb. 1	Less tax	10 p.s.	10 p.s.
City of B.A. Trans.	10 p.s.	Feb. 1	Less tax	10 p.s.	10 p.s.
City Property of Aberdeen.	1/3 p.s.	Aug. 16	Less tax	1/3 p.s.	1/3 p.s.
Consett Iron Company.	1/2 p.s.	Aug. 16	Less tax	1/2 p.s.	1/2 p.s.
Consett Spanish Ore.	2/6 p.s.	Aug. 16	Less tax	2/6 p.s.	2/6 p.s.
Crown Brewing.	7	Aug. 14	Tax free	7	7
Dublin Distillers.	5 1/2	Aug. 14	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
East Indian Coal.	5 1/2	Aug. 14	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Edinburgh, Dundee, and Aberdeen Investment.	5	Aug. 14	Less tax	5	5
Electrical Distribution of York-shire.	5 1/2	Aug. 14	Tax free	5 1/2	5 1/2
Empire Transport.	5 1/2	Aug. 14	Tax free	5 1/2	5 1/2
Engineers and Ironfounders.	20	Aug. 14	Less tax	20	20
English Velvet and Cord Dyers.	6	Aug. 14	Tax free	6	6
Fleming, Reid, and Co.	5 1/2	Aug. 15	Tax free	5 1/2	5 1/2
Frederick Hotels.	16 p.s.	Aug. 15	Less tax	16 p.s.	16 p.s.
General Hydraulic Power.	2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2	2
George Routledge and Son.	2 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Grand Canal.	2 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Greenlees and Son, Pref.	7 1/2	Aug. 15	Less tax	7 1/2	7 1/2
H. H. and S. Budgett.	7 1/2	Aug. 15	Tax free	7 1/2	7 1/2
Hadfields, Limited.	16 p.s.	Aug. 1	Tax free	16 p.s.	16 p.s.
Hart Accumulator.	16 p.s.	Aug. 1	Tax free	16 p.s.	16 p.s.
Henry Hope and Sons.	6	July 30	Less tax 6/ in £	6	6
Herbert Morris, Lim., Cum. Pref.	5	July 30	Less tax 6/ in £	5	5
Heritable Securities & Investmt.	6	July 30	Less tax	6	6
Hills Dry Docks and Engineering.	10	July 30	Less tax	10	10
Hunter, Barr, and Co.	6	July 30	Less tax	6	6
Hurst Spinning.	20	July 30	Less tax	20	20
Investment Corp. (Canada).	6	July 30	Less tax	6	6
J. Grayson, Lowood and Co.	7 1/2	Aug. 2	Tax free	7 1/2	7 1/2
J. Sears and Co.	7 1/2	Aug. 2	Tax free	7 1/2	7 1/2
Jeremiah Rotherham and Co.	7 1/2	Aug. 2	Tax free	7 1/2	7 1/2
Jurgens, Limited, Cum. Pref.	7 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	7 1/2	7 1/2
Kirkcaldy Brewery.	1/6 p.s.	Aug. 19	Less tax	1/6 p.s.	1/6 p.s.
London Commercial Sale Rooms.	5	Aug. 19	Less tax	5	5
Ludlow Brothers.	5	Aug. 19	Less tax	5	5
Manchester Trust.	5	Aug. 19	Tax free	5	5
Mather and Platt.	5	Aug. 19	Tax free	5	5
Metropolitan Electric Supply.	1 p.s.	Aug. 12	Less tax	1 p.s.	1 p.s.
Moss Nickel.	10	Aug. 12	Tax free	10	10
National Gas Engine.	10	Aug. 12	Less tax	10	10
New Regent Spinning.	10	Aug. 12	Less tax	10	10
Normanby Ironworks.	10	Aug. 12	Less tax	10	10
North Glamorgan Wagon.	10	Aug. 12	Subject to tax	10	10
Premier Investment.	2 1/2	Aug. 12	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Outageon Brewery.	6	July 19	Less tax	6	6
Railway Deb. and General.	4	Aug. 8	Less tax	4	4
Railway Share and Trust.	4	Aug. 8	Less tax	4	4
Raphael Tuck and Sons.	10 1/2	Aug. 8	Less tax	10 1/2	10 1/2

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Continued.

Reeves and Sons.	3 1/2	Aug. 2	Tax free	3 1/2	3 1/2
Richard Evans.	12 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax (2 yrs. to June 30, 1914)	12 1/2	12 1/2
Robert Arthur Theatres, Pref.	5 1/2	Aug. 6	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Samnugger Jute.	5	Aug. 6	Less tax	5	5
Santa Rita Nitrate.	5	Aug. 2	Less tax	5	5
Scott, Son and Co. Pref.	4 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	4 1/2	4 1/2
Scottish Wagon.	4 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	4 1/2	4 1/2
South American Light & Power.	5	Aug. 2	Less tax	5	5
Southern Californian Gas, Cum. Pref.	56 p.s.	Aug. 2	(arrears for 1913.)	56 p.s.	56 p.s.
Stockport Ring Spinning.	13 p.s.	Aug. 4	Less tax	13 p.s.	13 p.s.
Tarmac, f.p.	13 p.s.	Aug. 4	Less tax	13 p.s.	13 p.s.
Do part paid.	8	Aug. 4	Less tax	8	8
Thomas Wallis and Co.	5 1/2	Aug. 6	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Titagar Jute.	5	Aug. 2	Less tax	5	5
Union Commercial Investment.	5	Aug. 16	Less tax	5	5
United States Investment.	5	Aug. 16	Less tax	5	5
Victoria Jute.	5 1/2	Aug. 6	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
W. and T. Avery (Old).	10 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	10 1/2	10 1/2
Do (New).	7 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	7 1/2	7 1/2
Walter Scott, Limited.	1 p.s.	Aug. 2	Less tax	1 p.s.	1 p.s.
Ward and Goldstone, Ord.	2 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	2 1/2	2 1/2
Do Ptg. Pref.	15 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	15 1/2	15 1/2
Watney, Combe, and Reid, Def.	15 1/2	Aug. 2	Less tax	15 1/2	15 1/2
Weaver and Co.	10	July 30	Less tax	10	10
Western Wagon and Property.	8	Sept. 1	Less tax	8	8
Westminster Electric Supply.	5 1/2	Sept. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
William Hancock and Co.	5 1/2	Sept. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
Williamson's.	7 1/2	Sept. 1	Less tax	7 1/2	7 1/2
Wm. France Fenwick.	5 1/2	Sept. 1	Less tax	5 1/2	5 1/2
W.S. Mortgage of Scotland, Def.	10	Sept. 1	Less tax	10	10
Wyman and Sons.	10	Aug. 5	Tax free	10	10
York Waterworks, Ord.	10	Aug. 5	Tax free	10	10
Do New Ord.	7 1/2	Aug. 5	Tax free	7 1/2	7 1/2

PERRY and Co., Limited.—The directors regret that they do not see their way to pay an interim dividend. Especially in view of the present state of trade, and also having regard to the necessity of conserving, as far as possible, the financial resources of the company, the directors consider it necessary to wait until the results of the complete year's trading are available before dealing with the matter.

GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY.—The directors have resolved to pay the dividends for the half-year on all preference stocks down to and including the 4 per cent. preference stock, 1889, the same as before.

GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—The directors announce that in view of the uncertain position of the railways they have determined to defer the declaration of a dividend on the ordinary capital until the end of the year. The warrants for interest for the past half-year on the guaranteed and preference stock will be posted on August 20th. A year ago 1 1/2 per cent. was paid on the ordinary capital, giving 2 per cent. on the preferred converted and 3 per cent. on the "B" stock.

RHODESIAN GOLD OUTPUT.

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	253,807	211,917	211,851	293,794
February	232,023	220,885	250,020	283,225
March	239,023	225,908	199,881	151,932
April	239,816	213,159	208,934	282,396
May	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June	225,447	214,215	194,194	238,199
July	251,740	214,918	313,126	..
August	257,096	207,339	241,270	..
September	247,885	223,719	231,226	..
October	156,780	204,184	248,085	..
November	185,458	185,462	282,237	..
December	192,870	158,835	274,470	..
Total Gold	2,652,250	2,499,492	3,056,549	..

NOTE.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

OIL OUTPUTS.

THE COMMONWEALTH OIL CORPORATION, LIMITED.—Advice from Australia reports for the four weeks ended June 17, 1921.—Shale retorted 2,891 tons; crude oil produced 273,919 gallons. For the four weeks ended July 15, 1921.—Shale retorted 2,192 tons; crude oil produced 208,286 gallons.

Reports and Notices.

To succeed Mr Charles Hendry, who has been promoted to be one of the managers at the chief administration, the directors of the London and Lancashire Insurance Company, Limited, have appointed as their London secretary, Mr Archd. F. Rae. Mr A. J. Falkner has now been given the title of assistant London secretary. In succession to Mr Archd. F. Rae the directors have appointed M. C. M. MacEwing to the position of local manager at their Aberdeen branch.

The directors of the South Staffordshire Mond Gas (Power and Heating) Company elected Mr William H. Carder, F.C.I.S., as director in place of the late Sir Gilbert H. Claughton, Bart.

The directors of the Hull and Barnsley Railway Company have elected Mr Edward Watkin to be a director of the company in place of the late Mr George Blake Walker. Mr Watkin will continue to discharge the duties of general manager as hitherto.

At the meeting of the court of directors of the London Assurance Mr S. I. E. Crouch was appointed secretary to the corporation in succession to Mr C. A. Denton, who has recently retired after nearly 30 years' service.

We are informed that, consequent upon ill health, Mr George Chappell, general manager of the Royal Insurance Company, Limited, has tendered his resignation, to take effect as from July 31st. Mr Chappell has been invited to a seat on the board as from August 1st. To fill the vacancy the directors have appointed Mr J. J. Atkinson, at present deputy manager, to be the general manager of the company.

BANKS.

THE FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY.—Statement of June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital stock.....	5,000,000
Surplus and undivided profits.....	11,617,150
Deposits—including foreign branches.....	120,899,337
Domestic and foreign acceptances.....	2,295,108
Bills payable Federal Reserve Bank, secured by U.S. Government securities.....	1,000,000
Accrued interest and reserved for taxes, dividend, &c.....	1,593,822
	142,405,417
	142,405,417

ASSURANCE COMPANIES.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The directors state that as the outcome of the valuation which has just been made at the close of the nineteenth quinquennium on June 30th last, the society is able to maintain the 2 1/2 per cent. valuation standard for all life assurances, both with and without profits, as well as for the annuity business, and will be in a position to repeat in October next the record scale of bonus paid to the participating policy-holders in 1911 and 1916.

LIFE ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND.—The valuation of liabilities as at April 5th last was made at three per cent. interest. The net rate earned during the five years to April 5th was £4 os 5d per cent. The surplus shown before adjustment for depreciation was £474,058, which was reduced to £124,395 when £349,663 had been written off securities. The directors have divided £93,989 among policy holders in classes A3, B, and B2. The bonus amounts, in class A3, to 15s per cent. for each of the two years to April, 1921. It is calculated that the depreciation of securities absorbed more than the whole of the profits of the first three years of the quinquennium. The shareholders' dividend is £1 2s 6d a share, less tax, for the current year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BURBERRYS, LIMITED.—The directors have decided to await the accounts of the company for the year to March 31, 1921, before coming to any decision regarding the payment of the dividend on the preference shares due August 1, 1921. The proposed arrangements recently referred to in the Press for the re-organisation of the company's capital and the issue of debenture stock have not matured. It is anticipated that the accounts will be ready for presentation to the shareholders in October next, and the directors will then be in a position to give their views regarding the re-organisation of the company's capital.

EBBW VALE STEEL, IRON, AND COAL COMPANY.—The directors report and accounts for the year ended March 31, 1921, has just been issued. The directors state that the collieries as a result of the national coal strike, were idle from October 18 until November 4, 1920. Operations were suspended in February and March, 1921. The iron and steel departments were fully employed until the national coal strike in November, 1920, after which work continued intermittently until the close of the financial year. The company has for some years owned a moiety of the share capital of John Lancaster and Co., Limited, and Powell's Tillery Steam Coal Company, Limited, and in April, 1920, acquired the other moiety from Messrs T. Beynon and Co., Limited, by the issue of ordinary shares in this company, for which special provision was made in the resolution passed by the shareholders on June 19, 1918, and duly confirmed on July 4, 1918. The entire share capital of Lancaster's Steam Coal Collieries, Limited, was also acquired during the financial year. In April, 1920, the company acquired, partly for cash and partly by exchange of shares, practically the whole of the ordinary share capital of the Newport-Abercarn Black Vein Steam Coal Company, Limited. No portion of the profits from the last-named company has been taken into the present accounts inasmuch as the financial year of this company coincides with that of the Ebbw Vale Company. Notwithstanding the before-mentioned stoppages, the wages paid during the year in respect of the Ebbw Vale company's operations amounted to £4,168,015, as compared with £3,119,528 during the previous year. The balance of profits brought forward from last year was £16,301. Gross profits for the year amount to £633,247, and the net profit was £399,389. Preference dividend absorbed £84,000. The sum of £200,000 has been put to reserves. Dividend of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares absorbs £125,000, and £6,690 is carried forward.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.		
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.	
					Prefce.	Ordinary.						
		£	£	£	Amount.	Amount.	Rate.		£	£	£	%
Banks.												
Guernsey Banking	June 30	7,984	19,516	27,500	..	12,500	25	12,000	3,000	..	..	
Breweries.												
Watney, Combe, Reid, and Co.	June 30	277,265	281,524	558,789	89,286	127,416	4Prf.Ord	}	150,962	493,205	4Prf.Ord	
						191,125	24 Def.		..		24 Def.	
							Ord.				Ord.	
Financial, Land, &c.												
City of Aberdeen Land Association ..	June 30	3,070	2,570	5,640	..	4,900	10	..	740	..	..	
City Property Association of Aberdeen	June 30	712	1,016	1,728	450	504	6	..	774	714	6	
Hudson's Bay Company	May 31	172,152	450,050	622,202	100,000	400,000	25	{	122,202	756,757	25	
Investment Corporation of Canada	Apl. 30	3,819	32,449	36,268	13,500	12,000	15		..	5,768	31,234	15
United States Mortgage of Scotland	May 31	2,284	12,739	15,023	4,725	7,000	6		5,000	3,298	11,714	5
Gas.												
Maidstone	June 30*	11,884	5,266	17,150	..	3,480	10	..	1,831	11,839	10	
Hotels, Restaurants, &c.												
Gordon Hotels	May 31	30,838	48,018	78,856	53,075	..	..	..	25,781	124,243	..	
Iron, Coal, and Steel.												
Consett Iron	June 30	40,946	315,484	356,430	40,000	300,000	10	6,824	9,606	577,563	12½	
Consett Spanish Ore	June 30	259	12,552	12,811	..	12,420	22½	..	391	9,814	17½	
East Indian Coal	Apl. 30*	2,280	Dr 3,910	Dr 1,630	..	6,000	5	Dr 10,000	2,370	22,591	15	
Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron, and Coal ..	Mar. 31	16,302	393,388	415,690	84,000	125,000	5	200,000	6,690	..	..	
Lochgelly Iron and Coal	May 31	55,911	86,473	142,384	7,000	57,750	13½	20,000	57,634	126,227	30	
Nitrate.												
Santa Rita	Dec. 31	7,185	37,891	45,076	..	17,500	25	..	27,576	5,308	5	
Rubber, &c.												
Igalkande	Dec. 31	573	Dr 4,308	Dr 3,735	..	..	..	..	Dr 3,735	2,397	6	
Malayan Rubber	June 30	2,085	1,413	3,498	..	..	..	..	3,498	9,469	10½	
Merchiston	Mar. 31	3,134	Dr 4,340	Dr 1,206	..	..	..	..	Dr 1,206	9,942	22½	
Timbang-Deli (Sumatra)	Mar. 31	..	Dr 916	Dr 916	..	..	..	..	Dr 916	..	..	
Shipping.												
Indo-China Steam	Dec. 31	8,099	539,320	547,419	14,875	138,850	56	390,415	3,278	..	..	
Tea.												
Dooars	Dec. 31	42,780	Dr 46,847	Dr 3,567	5,250	..	..	..	Dr 8,817	112,384	22½	
East Indian Tea and Produce	Dec. 31	Dr 8,708	Dr 79,706	Dr 88,414	..	..	..	Dr 4,296	Dr 84,118	Dr 8,730	..	
Telegraphs, &c.												
Marconi International Marine	Dec. 31	107,890	117,570	225,460	..	178,909	15	..	46,551	198,141	15	
Trust.												
British North Borneo Rubber Trust	June 30	2,565	9,435	12,000	..	..	..	..	12,000	29,811	8	
Other Companies.												
British Oxygen	Mar. 31	60,392	127,856	188,248	..	57,054	15½	8,763	122,431	125,378	17½	
Fellows Magneto	Dec. 31	5,772	31,961	37,733	..	13,400	..	..	24,333	..	..	
Owen and Robinson	May 31	6,629	6,905	13,534	2,100	3,500	10½	1,000	6,934	..	..	
Preserve Manufacturers	June 30*	Dr 267,982	16,188	251,794	..	..	..	..	251,794	..	..	
Salter and Salter	June 30	7,370	Dr 3,371	3,999	3,600	..	..	..	399	10,647	12½	
Smithfield and Argentine Meat	Dec. 31	5,936	12,494	11,907	..	..	..	Dr 60,000	Dr 59,007	106,806	7½	
Weldon's	June 30	23,940	37,312	61,252	10,000	22,500	12½	..	28,752	72,950	20	

* Half-year.

† Free of tax.

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.						
July 16	qrs bsh 3,555 4	qrs bsh 1,498 5	qrs bsh 3,516 3	s d 86 5	s d 42 7	s d 39 3
July 22	4,168 0	3,479 3	5,006 3	81 11	44 2	37 2
1917	7,499 7	615 7	1,930 3	78 3	65 7	55 2
1918	6,326 7	824 2	369 6	74 3	56 11	46 2
1919	9,040 6	499 7	1,742 3	73 4	63 4	48 11
1920	4,058 5	309 0	908 4	84 10	86 1	64 7

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated July 28th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is an entire absence of business in the pig-iron market, as until the cost of fuel is materially reduced it is very unlikely that more blast furnaces can be put into operation in this district. At present there are seven furnaces working making iron for use in the steel works owned by the same companies. At the same time, Continental pig-iron is coming into Middlesbrough in large quantities at something like £2 per ton less than it can be produced here. Meantime nominal prices remain unchanged as follows:—Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron, 135s. per ton, and East Coa. home consumption. local works have rest use up their stocks on and scrap, and it is doubtful to

say how long this may continue. Steel ship plates (home), £15; Steel ship angles, £14 10s; iron bars, £16; steel rails, £14 per ton net. Iron ore: Until blast furnaces can be restarted, there is no

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

business possible in iron ore, but a few cargoes are coming in under exceptional circumstances. In the absence of business there are no prices mentioned.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The position of steel generally fails to register any improvement, some branches being rather better fixed than before the strike, while others are worse off than ever. Foreign trade could not be more unsatisfactory. Most of the local companies have been losing money continuously since the beginning of the year. A few blast furnaces in the district have started up on foundry iron, but those producing hematite, with few exceptions, are standing until there is some demand from the steel makers, and this may not develop until next year. Manufacturers generally are holding off for some definite move in respect of coal and coke prices. Makers of special steels here are greatly concerned at the proposals in the new American Tariff Bill, as it imposes duties so heavy as will, to a large extent, shut out their alloy steels from the American market. For many years a good deal of the finest brands of Sheffield tool steel has been bought in the United States, on the strength of its unique properties. The trade has been dwindling of late, and the imposition of duties amounting to something like 50 per cent. will make the price prohibitive. Business is fairly stagnant in tools, cutlery, and electro-plate. The execution of a big Russian order for files, saws, and engineers' small tools has proved a blessing to a score or more local firms, among whom the work was shared. The demand for steam coal and cobbles is active, and a heavy tonnage of the former is going to the railway companies. Export trade is poor. Gas fuels are moving freely. Owing to quietude at the coke ovens there is not much call for slack. The call for house coal is smaller than had been anticipated. Owing to the hot weather, not much coal is needed, and consumers are holding off for cheaper rates.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The industrial situation in the West of Scotland generally is gradually yet slowly getting again into working form. Several shipbuilding yards and engineering shops managed to make a partial re-start on Monday, and it is understood that at a number of other establishments steam will be got up on Monday first, which ends what is locally known as the Fair holiday period. Still a good many works will continue idle, as they have been, more or less, for at least a couple of months. Probably the most unpromising of any of the positions is that which holds in the pig-iron section. There is not a furnace in blast north of the Tweed, and no arrangements are in progress for re-lighting. To re-light a set of furnaces involves, it appears, an initial expense of thousands of pounds sterling, and owners advise that they are not prepared to face the responsibility in existing circumstances. They explain that, say, for foundry iron (such as exists in stock) they cannot command £10 a ton, and that that figure is not remunerative. With Continental (Belgian and German) material offering freely in our home markets at from £2 to £3 a ton less, they recognise that higher and payable rates for Scotch make is hopeless, and in that serious contingency they are insisting on substantial reductions in manufacturing costs, in which wages and coal play the most consequential parts. The belief here is that fuel is bound to see a lower level, but not likely the level that big consumers are panting after and will alone, they affirm, be satisfied with. A very delicate and difficult position has thus, it will be seen, been created, and how it is going to be adjusted is matter indeed for deep and weighty consideration. Such stock of iron as lies in makers' hands is being steadily absorbed for special purposes, and the contemplation is that soon not a ton will be in sight. The position in the steel trade is much the same actually—that is as regards the volume of trade—only if a demand were in some way to set in there is plenty of hematite iron at command to meet it. Of course, at a price and at the moment buyers regard quotations as too high—thanks again, it is said, to dear coal. Whatever may come of it, there is no doubt as to trade and business influences being concentrated in an effort to break down not only the current, but the forward standards of fuel—those applying to values and supplies; and it is a question whether the coal industry can satisfactorily bear the burden. That has to be seen. During the recent holidays it transpires a decent volume of orders for steel plates and sections were booked by steel producers, and in some connections it is intended to set rolling mills in operation, so as to clear these off. There have also been a variety of inquiries in circulation as to supplies of structural material; yet, taken all over, orders and inquiries do not constitute, it is stated by authorities, any reliable support to the conclusion hinted at here and there that trade is on the mend. Shipbuilders, so far as declared, are not handling any fresh tonnage, and they cannot get on with certain launched work because of the joiners being still on strike. There are no fewer than 50 steamers (20 new) lying rusting in the Clyde for the lack of overhauling and re-fitting labour. Coals more plentiful—sufficient for the restricted outlet—and values somewhat easier in tendency, particularly for lower grades.

CUMBERLAND IRON. (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

With fuel at its present price, the re-lighting of the Cumberland and Furness district furnaces on either ordinary or special hematite pig-iron remains impossible. There is no market for Bessemer mixed numbers at the officially quoted figure of £8 per ton, and the utmost that can be expected to happen this quarter, unless developments as satisfactory as they would undoubtedly be surprising were to take place, is that a few furnaces may be blown in to deal with an accumulation of orders for small lots of metal. Even

that prospect, however, is uncertain. It is quite clear that no large volume of business can come makers' way until iron is down to £6 per ton, and a lower figure is also mentioned. How fuel is to be brought down to the level at which iron smelters would buy it is a problem as yet unsolved. Presently, however, coal owners are to discover that they, too, are without a market for their wares. The first rush for coal is over, and this week there is such a glut of "smalls" that the price has been reduced from 38s to 31s per ton, while round coal for shipment to Ireland is 1s per ton cheaper at 40s per ton. As far as round coal is concerned, Cumberland collieries will be able to dispose of the greater part of the production. "Smalls" are in different case. Only when the normal number of furnaces on ordinary iron is in full blast can the output be absorbed, for then, of course, every coking plant is in full swing. It may be seen, therefore, that in a few weeks' time with the coking industry still idle the collieries themselves cannot work more than half time. When that unhappy state of affairs arises the way to a resumption of operations in the iron, steel, and iron ore industries may become plainer. The iron ore industry is hit the hardest of all. Many of the pits have not drawn metal since October, and few of them worked after January, a very considerable tonnage of Spanish ore having been imported meantime. This long period of unemployment is inducing a spirit of accommodation in the iron ore miners, and it is stated that they are on the eve of accepting a reduction of wages which would afford the ironmasters some little help. Obviously, wages cannot be based on the present selling price of ordinary iron for the reason that the iron cannot be sold.

COAL TAR PRODUCTS.

There are very few products for sale, as with the coal mines only just getting back to work, supplies for gas works and coke ovens are only beginning to arrive, and outputs of products are not yet very great. What products there find a fairly ready market, pitch being particularly well spoken of in anticipation of a resumption of shipping in the early autumn. Sellers are not willing to accept less than 80s per ton, and in some directions 90s is reported. The rubber manufacturing industry has shown distinct signs of recovery, and as a consequence the market in solvent naphtha has greatly improved. It is difficult to obtain supplies at under 3s per gallon. The market in carbolic acid is dried up, but cresylic acid is slightly better than when last reported at about 3s per gallon for pale quality, and 2s 8d for dark quality. Intermediate products are also improving, especially salicylic acid, aniline oil and salts, which are required on export account.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—A very drastic reduction has been made in the price of sulphate of ammonia, and the quality of the material being placed on the market this season is also distinctly

Messrs. HODDER and STOUGHTON have pleasure in announcing Mr. OTTO H. KAHN'S NEW BOOK,

REFLECTIONS OF A FINANCIER

"MR. KAHN HAS HIS FACE SET TOWARD THE LIGHT."
Theodore Roosevelt.

A VOLUME of striking essays written by one of the greatest financiers in the world and introduced by a prominent Labour Leader. The author is well entitled to address a British audience, as from the outbreak of the Great War he threw his resources and capacities on the side of the Allies and was responsible to as great a degree as any other individual in influencing America to come in on our side. This volume makes a direct appeal to every class of worker—to the CITY MAGNATE, to the PROFESSIONAL and to the LABOURING MAN.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY THE
Rt. Hon. J. H. THOMAS, P.C., M.P.

Price TEN SHILLINGS and SIXPENCE Net. Postage 9d. extra.

HODDER AND STOUGHTON, LTD.,
WARWICK SQUARE LONDON, E.C. 4.

better. 25½ per cent. ammonia material has been fixed for sale for home agricultural uses at £14 6s for ground material, and £13 16s 6d for unground material, while 24½ per cent. material is being sold at £12 17s and 25 per cent. material at £13. These prices have already been productive of fairly substantial orders, and there is every indication that good business will continue.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—July 22, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	G	M	F	G	O	L	M
	5-48	6-23	7-38	8-28	9-13	10-83	11-77	12-27	13-27	14-16	15-66	16-66
Brazilian.	Mid	M	F	G	F	G	F	Fr.	G	Fr.	G	Fr.
Pernambuco, &c.	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Paraiba	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Maceio	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Mossoro, &c.	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Ceara	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Maranhão	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Egyptian.	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Brown	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Upper	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
West Indian—Sea Island ..	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Peruvian—Rough	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Ditto Mod. Rough	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Ditto Smooth	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Ditto Sea Island	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
African, East, &c.	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
East Indian.	G	F	Per	G	F	Per	G	F	Per	G	F	Per
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Surat—Mac. Ginned Branch	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Bhowanagar ..	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Khandeish	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Comptah	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Bengal	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Seinde	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Tinnivelly	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Madras, Western	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
Coconada, Red	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	5-98	6-48	7-98	8-48	9-48	10-48	11-48	12-48	13-48	14-48	15-48	16-48

MANCHESTER, July 28.

No special feature has presented itself throughout the market during the past week, and business generally has been on a very small scale. Fewer cables have been received from India, and the falling off in cloth demand for that outlet is attributed to the efforts of Gandhi, who is agitating for complete boycott of all foreign goods. Naturally that news has caused a certain amount of uneasiness in Manchester circles, but the position is not regarded as very serious. Only a few sales of cloth have taken place for our Dependency. There has been a tendency for shippers to China to operate a little more freely, but demand for that outlet could not be described as formidable. Recent advices, however, state that the position out there is improving daily. Not very much business has been done for the outlets of the Mediterranean, but Java and Singapore have purchased some moderate sized lots. American and Egyptian yarns have been practically neglected, and prices generally have tended to ease. Export numbers have been in request for India and China.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, July 28, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, July 21.	Price, July 14.	Price, July 7.	Price, June 30.	Price, June 23.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8-34	8-65	8-74	8-12	7-85	7-66
Egyptian	15-50	16-50	16-50	16-00	15-50	15-50
Yarns—32's twist	17-1	17-1	17-1	17-1	17-1	17-1
— 40's twist	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	31	31	31	31	31	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	32	32	32	32	32	32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	31	31	31	31	31	31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 16, 10 lbs	18	18	18	18	18	18
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	16	16	16	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, July 28, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8-34	27-29	21-16	20-80	19-35	8-40
Egyptian	15-50	67-00	27-09	30-19	30-50	11-60
Yarns—32's twist	17-1	57-1	57-1	57-1	57-1	57-1
— 40's twist	16-1	50-1	42-1	52-1	24-1	13-1
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	31	98	58	64	44	21
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	32	87	61	62	31	6
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	31	61	59	60	31	6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 16, 10 lbs	18	48	35	33	31	4
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	16	42	31	31	26	4

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Wednesday, says:—Although business continues to be conducted on very restricted lines, the general tone of the market appears to be slightly better. The good demand in London on Continental account has off-set the comparatively poor competition from the home trade, and values of raw material are steadier than during the first week of the auctions in Coleman Street. This has had a steadying effect on the top market in Bradford, though the fact remains that average 64's can be bought at about 3s per lb, a figure at which the tops cannot be made out of wool bought in London. This has been a source of trouble for several months past, and in yarns, also, some spinners are accepting business at prices which cannot possibly cover the cost of production. In the circumstances all quotations are more or less nominal, and buyers do not hesitate to make the most of the very cheap sales that are reported from time to time. These cut prices, of course, exercise a depressing effect on the market, and there can be no lasting improvement until all firms resolutely oppose new business that is offered at prices which do not allow of a reasonable margin of profit. The lack of an adequate outlet abroad for yarns is still retarding development in this branch of the industry, but there is a fair amount of inquiry for botanics for the home trade. In the manufacturing section trade is "spotty," and most buyers are offering very low prices. There is a little more inquiry from South America for fancy worsteds, and Japan is open to do business at a price. Stocks of dear goods are still heavy, and fabrics for men's wear move very slowly.

COLONIAL WOOLS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The sales which finished on Thursday continued to show a fall maintenance of the better features which developed during the second week of the auctions, and the series ended better than the majority expected at the opening. It turned out that the cheapest wools were obtainable during the first week of the series, and the writer has always maintained that a firm finish makes for the well-being of the textile trade of all Europe. Recent experience has proved over and over again that a strong beginning and a weak finish has always been the precursor of declining values, but this time, although the trade is faced with a good four weeks' interval, I see no necessity for prices declining in consuming markets, or that trade should contract. It is quite true that some decent wool has been picked up at a most reasonable price, but as I have repeatedly said, traders do not regard to-day's standard of wool values as being the stumbling block to trade revival. On the other hand, firm and established prices cannot but inspire confidence, and make for the betterment of the entire industry. This should bring about the results desired, the firm finish sending buyers back to their respective centres feeling that the bottom has not yet dropped out of the wool market.

No better feature developed during the latter half of the auctions than the renewed buying on home trade account. One cannot but feel that Bradford topmakers in particular waited until they felt that crossbred wool was cheap, and at 5d to 8d per lb for the respective qualities, the raw material is indeed worth a buy. There certainly is more doing in tops and yarns of a crossbred character in Bradford, this notwithstanding the repeated wail of that market being quiet. No doubt it is disappointing when a comparison is made with normal times, but let confidence become established on the Continent and the Balkan States currency assume more settled proportions, and a big trade will be done both in single and two-fold yarns spun out of medium and coarse crossbreds. German merchanting firms are doing their utmost in this respect, and regrettable as it is, German houses are better able to handle this business than Bradford export houses, who will probably content themselves with doing business with the firms they supported in pre-war days. The time has not yet arrived for anyone to take undue risks, but at the same time I think that every consideration should be given to pre-war customers on the Continent, whose resources have not been materially impaired with the result of the war.

In the course of an official announcement regarding their future selling policy, the directors of the B.A.W.R.A. state that no new clip wool shipped after May 9th will be offered for sale in Europe before October, and so far as this market is concerned, therefore, official limits do not become compulsory till the October sales. From that date they may be expected to remain in force until April, 1922, because the sales of new clip wool until that date will probably consist entirely of wool shipped under guarantees provided for in the Australian Government's proclamation of May 9th.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.,

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £245,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

The great activity in linseed has been followed by a lull, buyers being disinclined to follow the market. Prices have, therefore, exhibited an easier tendency, though, generally speaking, the tone is firm and the level of values well sustained. Plate linseed on spot at Hull has commanded £23 and seed on passage £22 10s, while "for shipment" has hovered between £22 10s and £23. An unusual quantity of linseed is at present on its way to Europe, that for the United Kingdom being 130,000 tons, and that for the Continent 96,500 tons—in all, 227,400 tons, compared with 191,200 tons a week ago. Stocks here are short, and should supplies arrive with anything like regularity there seems every probability of their being readily absorbed and the effects on the market scarcely felt.

The demand for raw linseed oil has not been so pressing, and transactions but few. Values, however, are steady round £37 10s per ton naked, ex Hull mill, and £39 10s London, with £38 quoted at Hull for the last four months. All kinds of cotton oil have been in good request and Egyptian crude is slightly dearer. The improved oil demand has stimulated trade in cottonseed, both Egyptian and Indian being freely dealt in at higher prices. Very little is doing in soya bean oil, sellers, quotations being above buyers' ideas. Rape oil is in poor demand, and most other oils are quiet and consumers reserved.

Linseed cakes have continued in strong demand, and more inquiry is reported for cottons.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hide market remains firm, and although tanners profess to see no economic reason for paying advances, yet they say they are forced to do this to keep going. At the Bermondsey auctions held on Thursday best ox sold from 7½d to 9½d, showing an advance of ½d on last prices. As high as 10½d is, however, being obtained in several provincial markets. Calf were also dearer, and advanced ½d to ¾d per lb, best selection making as high as 14d. Lambs were sold from 1s 3d to 4s 8d, and pelts from 2s to 3s each. A steady trade is passing in foreign hides, and prices in some cases show an advance. Spot sales of Leibig Colons are cabled at 11½d c.i.f. for export, and 9½d for Fray Bentos. Dry hides are selling moderately, and the position is rendered stronger by the fact that Germany has of late been a big buyer of this class of raw stock. The American position is better, and heavy Chicago packers are now quoted at 14 cents, and light native cows at 12 cents. The American House of Representatives have decided that hides and skins shall remain on the free list, so that we may continue to expect raids on our raw stocks when market conditions favour the American tanner.

The demand for sole leather has fallen off this week in view of the holidays, but tanners are very firm on prices. The demand for low-grade sole is still an unpleasant feature, as it shows there is a good deal of rubbish being worked up into what is now known as "stunt footwear." Upper leather is also quiet, and little is expected until after the holidays. German box calf and patent leather is coming freely into the market at prices well below British cost of production.

Business has been fairly brisk in shoe factories, as a fair number of holiday "rush orders" have been sent out. The export section is still very quiet, but in the opinion of experts the outlook is better.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.
"Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, July 29.

The markets for the chief part disclosed rather quiet features this week, though, in some directions, moderate absorption took place on Continental account.

SUGAR.—There was a fair amount of trade doing, white descriptions being again largely favoured, and the general tone of the market continued very steady owing to dry weather conditions in some of the beet growing districts of Europe. Of British refined, Lyle's granulated sold 59s to 59s 3d; yellow crystals, 53s 6d. Crystallised West India changed hands from 46s to 51s, as to quality; muscovado, 38s to 46s. American granulated, spot, sold, 58s 6d to 58s 7½d; ditto afloat parcels, 30s, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, August-September, quoted 23s, c.f. and i. Dutch granulated, prompt, quoted 31s;

Czecho-Slovakian crystals, prompt, 30s, both f.o.b. terms. Belgian crystals, October-December, sold, 20s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Cuban stocks 1,435,006 tons, against 408,000 same time last year. Term dearer, December, sold, 17s.

COFFEE.—There was a good demand for all the better qualities, and full to dearer rates were secured, but inferior met a slow market. Gold bold Vera Paz, sold, 13s 6d. Future delivery market remained generally dull.

COCOA.—There was only a retail amount of trade effected during the week, but sellers adhered to steady asking prices. Butter, 2s 1d per lb.

TEA.—During the week 45,000 packages Indian were offered by auction, and with brisk and well distributed competition full to dearer rates were obtained, particularly with regard to common clean parcels. About 20,000 packages Ceylon were catalogued, and although general run of quality was by no means attractive, fair competition ensued at steady values.

RICE.—Market steady, but business pursued a rather quiet course. Two stars Rangoon, spot, sold, 21s 6d; afloat, Hamburg, 21s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, quoted, 21s; No. 1 Saigon, ditto, 19s 6d; ditto, long grain, 19s 9d; No. 1 Burma broken, afloat, 15s 6d; No. 2 A, ditto, 15s; Siam C 1, broken, 14s 9d; C 3, ditto, 14s 3d. Rangoon bran, forward, quoted, 9 per ton, ex ship. Rangoon beans, hand-picked, spot, sold, 14s; August-September, 14s 6d; Madagascar butter beans, spot, good white, sold, 20s; Japanese peas, spot, sold, 37s 6d; ditto, afloat, 35s 6d, c.f. and i. terms.

SPICE.—Pepper met with moderate support, and a steady tone prevailed. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 4½d; ditto, August-October, 4½d; Aleppo, spot, 4½d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, spot, 9½d; Muntok, 9½d; ditto, August-October, sold 9½d, 9½d, and 9½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold 1s to 1s 2d; and to arrive, 1s 0½d to 1s 1½d. Pimento, spot, sellers, 2½d; flake tapioca, spot, fair quality, 2d per lb; ditto, August-October, steamer, London, sold, 16s. Fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 22s; Singapore, August-October, sold, 19s 4½d; small sago, spot, 27s; sago flour, August-October, done 16s. Desiccated coconut, fine cut, spot, sold, 55s to 54s 6d; medium, 54s 6d; halves, July-August, 52s 6d per cwt. Ginger quiet, steady.

FRUIT.—A quiet, but generally steady tone governed the market for currants. Pyrgos quoted 50s to 51s. Dates steady, and Siar, spot, sold, 15s 6d.

JUTE.—A quiet condition of affairs prevailed, spinners merely operating in order to satisfy pressing requirements, and prices disclosed a weaker tendency. Native first marks assortment, substitutes, July-August, steamer, sold, £26 15s to £26; lightning subs., ditto, £21 to £20 10s; and heart subs., £16 10s to £16. Calcutta Hessians and twills dull, unaltered.

HEMP.—The market for Manila kinds continued to move on firm lines, while influenced by cable advices as to the abolition of grades from J downward as from September 1st next. J grade, July-September, sold, £37; K, £33 10s; L, £33; M, £29. New Zealand quiet, but steadily held.

SHELLAC.—Market remained quiet, T.N., spot, 290s, August, 245s, and October 230s.

COPRA.—The market proved irregular throughout the greater part of the week though moderate transactions were effected. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, sold, £35 5s to £34 10s, £35 10s, Ceylon, July-September, £35 15 to £36 5s; Cebu, £34; F.M. Straits, August-October, Marseilles at £32 10s to £33 10s. Palm kernels, August-October, done, £23 7s 6d, £23 5s and £23 12s 6d.

RUBBER.—A quiet tone ruled during the greater part of the week, and prices were fractionally weaker. Standard plantation crepe, spot, sold, 9½d to 8½d; August, 9½d to 8½d; September, 9½d to 9½d; October-December, 10d to 9½d; January-March, 10½d to 10½d. Sheet, spot, sold, 8½d to 8½d; August, 8½d to 8½d; October-December, 9½d to 9d. Fine hard Para, spot, sellers, 11½d. Caucho ball, 6½d.

OILS.—Linseed irregular and easier. Spot, net, naked, 39s 6d; September-December, 38s 6d. Rape firmer. Crude, spot, 56s; refined, 64s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 43s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 50s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 95s; and shipment, 65s. Coconut firm. Ceylon, spot, 58s; July-August, 52s; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya firm. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 43s 6d. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 22s to 24s. Groundnut firm.—English crushed, naked, spot, 52s; deodorised, barrels, 62s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 80s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s; F, 17s 6d; G, 17s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 9½d; and water-white, 1s 10½d per gallon.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed - - - - - Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up - - - - - Y45,000,000
Reserve - - - - - Y10,380,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

London Office - - - - - 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Fochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kluikang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
Cocoa—Duty, British grown	55 0 0	Aloes, fine E.L., p. cwt	150 0 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	0 11 0	Butter—per cwt.	250 0 0	Singapore, fair White	0 9 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	55 0 0	Cape, good to fine.	40 0 0	Plantation crepe	0 11 0	Irish creamery	250 0 0	Black Singapore	0 9 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	55 0 0	Balsam Peru	8 0 0			Do factory	250 0 0	White Siam	0 9 0
Granada	42 0 0	Capivi	0 0 0			Argentine	214 0 0	Pimento	0 24 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 0	Campor	2 0 0			Dutch	260 0 0	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 3 0
Guayquil	58 0 0	Japan, refined	4 14 0			New Zealand	259 0 0	Do 2nd	1 1 0
Bahia, finest	50 0 0	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 0 0			Do 3rd	250 0 0	Do 3rd	1 0 0
COFFEE—British grown		Cantharides	0 0 0			Danish	250 0 0	Chips	0 34 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	55 0 0	Castor-oil	85 0 0			Bacon, smd.—Irish	175 0 0	Cassia Lignea	35 0 0
Do good to fine	110 0 0	Gum Benjain, Sum.	7 10 0			Danish	254 0 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 0 1 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	100 0 0	Olibanum, drops	0 0 0			American	125 0 0	Penang	2 6 3 6
Good to fine	120 0 0	Ipecacuanha	0 0 0			Hams—Irish	nom	Ginger—per cwt.	
Central American, gd.	145 0 0	Musk, China, 3oz	0 0 0			Canadian	220 0 0	Cochin, cut	1 13 0
ord. to mid	62 0 0	Oil, Cassia	0 0 0			Lard—Irish	nom	Do small rough	30 0 32 6
Mid. to fine	85 0 0	Aniseed	2 3 0 0			American boxes, 50lb	6 9 5 6	Do washed	33 0 40 0
Colombian, ordinary	50 0 0	Peppermint, H.G.H.	45 0 0			Fork—per 8 lbs	9 0 10 4	Japan	38 0 0
Do gd. ord. to low mid	60 0 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fr	5 6 8 0			Beef—Broken, per lb	1 8 5 6	Jamaica	120 0 140 0
Do mid. to fine	80 0 0	DYE STUFFS—				Scotch	9 8 10 8	Mace	0 10 1 2
OHMICALS—		Galls, China, per cwt	75 0 80 0			Cheese—Canadain	130 0 135 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1 5
Acid, citric	2 5 2 6	Gallic, China, per cwt	14 6 0 0			New Zealand	125 0 130 0	Small to medium	0 84 0 10
Nitric	0 24 0 4	Hamamelis, per cwt	18 0 0			Eng. Cheddars	135 0 150 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 140 0
Oxalic, net	0 10 1 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	
Tartaric, English	1 64 1 7	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Good mutton	41 0 8 8
Foreign	1 64 1 7	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Beef	41 0 8 8
Alum lump, per ton	17 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	
Do ground	17 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 11 0 2
Ammonia, carb. p. lb.	4 0 4 4	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Pearl	21 6 27 0
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	TEA—duty 10d, British,	
Sulphate	228 0 25 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	foreign 1s per lb.	
Arsenic, lump, per ton	95 0 100 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Indian and Ceylon	0 54 1 14
Powder, per ton	145 0 150 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Broken Pekoe	0 54 1 44
Asbes, pot., per cwt	10 0 10 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Orange Pekoe	0 54 1 52
Pearl do	nom	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Broken Orange	0 11 2 64
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	17 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Pekoe Souche	0 43 0 9
Borax, crystals, cwt.	34 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	COBALT—	
Do powder	35 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Duty 8d—10/4d per lb.	
Creosote Tartar	150 0 155 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Virginia leaf	0 54 1 14
Calomel	5 5 6	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	2 0 2 6
Iodine, dry, per os	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Kentucky leaf	1 0 1 6
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	20 0 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Potash	0 6 0 7	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Chlorate, net	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Prussiate	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Do Foreign	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	40 0 50 0	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, White, ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	160 0 0	Strips	1 3 1 9
Sulphate, per ton	1 1 1	Do do	20 0 0			Do do	16		

since June 30th, though it may be that additions to the market's holding have been more than counterbalanced by the maturing of bills in other hands. Perhaps the big reduction in the Government securities held by the Bank of England, shown in its return a fortnight ago, may only now be making its effect felt, and it appears that Mondays are likely to be awkward occasions this month, owing to small maturities of Treasury bills on those days. In the meantime, anticipations of ease owing to fresh inflation on a great scale, to be caused by the supposedly awkward position of Government finance, have not been realised. The Bank of England's Ways and Means advances have been reduced by 16 millions since the turn of the half-year, and the satisfactory sales of the attractive $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Treasury bonds now on offer, and the receipt of over 12 millions from Germany on reparation and occupation. In fact, the country is not nearly as near to bankruptcy as some of its citizens seem to want to believe—even the destitution of the wealthy appears to have been exaggerated, judging from the unprecedented traffic to the grouse moors reported by the railways. The market rate of discount was nominal yesterday at about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. pending the tender for Treasury bills.

	Aug. 12, 1921.	Aug. 5, 1921.	July 29, 1921.	July 22, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount Call	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return shows decreases of £2,000 in the stock of gold, and of £1,135,000 in the note circulation, leaving the Reserve £1,133,000 higher. Government securities increased by £2,518,000, and Other by £3,826,000, and there was thus an increase of $7\frac{1}{2}$ millions in the deposits, of which nearly two went to Public and the balance to Other. The circulation of currency notes declined by £2,087,000 to £327,133,200, which includes £1,967,700 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £277,215,500, or £40,339,700 below the maximum.

The Swiss Bank rate was reduced $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to 4 per cent. on August 11, 1921. It had stood at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. since April 6, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended August 6, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	14,846	Supply Services	17,466
Taken from Exchequer Balances	928	Interest on Debt	6,667
Amount Borrowed	9,287	Sundries	919
	24,162		24,162

These operations increased the National Debt by the sum of £9,286,993, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Public Departments Advances	+ 3,700	National Savings Certificates	— 350
Treasury Bonds	+ 3,950	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 740
Advances by Bank of England	+ 4,250	Depreciation Fund	— 400
Unemployment Insurance	+ 2,115	Other Debt	— 2,932
Treasury Bills	+ 274	Sundries	— 580
	+ 14,289		— 5,002

Customs and Excise added £3,611,000 to the revenue, and Property and Income-tax produced £7,145,000. Special receipts under Miscellaneous yielded £500,000. The Floating Debt was increased by £8,260,000 to £1,363,586,000.

The past week in the exchange market has been one of many fluctuations, but of no very large volume of business. Interest has, as usual, centred in the dollar. Last week we had to report a sudden jump to 3.60; this was continued until actual dealings took place at 3.72 on Tuesday, a day of violent fluctuations, as the rate later dropped to 3.64. Since then a recovery took place, to be followed by subsequent weakness, and a further recovery to yesterday's quotation of 3.66 $\frac{1}{2}$. The movement would appear to have been caused partly by the realisation of dollars on reparation account, and partly by the offer of a fairly large line in London on private account. The coincidence of these two influences seems to have alarmed dealers in New York, who proceeded to cover up their oversold sterling position, with an effect altogether disproportionate to the actual business passing. The rate appears to be steadier at the moment, with the whole market watching carefully for any indications of operations on reparation account. Forward margins are unchanged. In Paris holiday influences appear to be more potent than political, and though there has been much movement of quotation the actual turnover has been small, with forward business very much quieter. Limits of fluctuation are 47.10 and 46.40, with a recovery to 46.78 yesterday. Future quotations have widened somewhat, and would appear to be governed more by the speculative outlook than the actual value of money at the two centres. Brussels at 48.17 has appreciated, probably as the result of actual transactions in reparation payments or in expectation of their near approach. The difference between the Belgian and the French rate has therefore narrowed considerably. Futures are unchanged. In Italy there have been a number of dealings, as the result of which 83.25 was quoted yesterday, which is slightly lower than last week, and the pressure of German sales upon the Dutch exchange, which we noted at last writing, has continued, raising the quotation slightly on balance to 11.78. Switzerland has hardly altered, being called 21.69, and the effect of the lowering of the Swiss Bank rate will be watched with interest. Scandinavians have been erratic, and on the whole weaker. Christiania, after rising to 28.65, has fallen back to 28.15, the same quotation as a week ago. Stockholm has declined to 17.40, and Copenhagen, after touching 23.45, yesterday stood at 23.00. The German mark has resumed its expected course, being 300 to a trifle over, no doubt in preparation for the end of August payments. Finland is higher at 240, and Vienna after its recent firmness has suddenly improved, without obvious explanation, to 2700. Warsaw has lost last week's improvement, and is quoted 7400. Prague shows little change at 287, and Budapest is slightly better at 1300. Belgrade and Sofia continue to improve, being quoted 150 and 425 respectively. Bucharest at 283 and Athens at 66 $\frac{1}{2}$ have not moved to any appreciable extent, although a weaker tendency in the latter has been created by the reported failure of attempts to raise a loan in this market. Buenos Aires and Valparaiso show little change at 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ and 35.80, Monte Video is 1d dearer at 42 $\frac{1}{2}$, and Rio has lost some of the recent improvement, being quoted 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. The Indian exchanges are slightly better at 1s 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, and Yokohama has increased in value, being called 2s 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Following a drop on Tuesday to 36 $\frac{1}{2}$ d for spot, silver has recovered to 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, and the China exchanges are called 2s 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ d for Hong Kong, and 3s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d for the Shanghai tael.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO AUGUST 6, 1921.

	£		£
Total spent	369,484,280	Raised by revenue ..	314,135,061
Dec. in balances	213,888	Net borrowings	55,135,331
Total	369,270,392	Total	369,270,392
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	..	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	..	..	16	16	15	15	15	15	15	15
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % 5% War Stock	..	..	2,031	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,944	1,944	1,944
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,278	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % Conversion Loan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	25	25
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,202	1,202
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	138	138	227	267	274	279	283	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,117	1,117
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	356	356	356	356
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,754	7,754
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,802	7,802

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Aug. 7, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Aug. 6, '21.	Aug. 6, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	58,250,000	..	23,250,000	+ 4,250,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	160,091,000	154,489,000	138,424,000	+ 3,709,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,046,980,000	1,120,841,000	1,201,912,000	+ 310,000
Total Floating Debt	1,265,321,000	1,275,330,000	1,363,586,000	+ 8,260,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

AUGUST 6TH.—Government releases all interned or imprisoned members of Dail Eireann.

AUGUST 8TH.—Supreme Council meets in Paris to discuss Silesian problem. Railway Bill debate. M.P. dies in the House.

AUGUST 9TH.—Railways Bill passes third reading. Sir Wm. Plender appointed independent chairman of National Coal Board.

AUGUST 10TH.—Japan accepts November 11th as date for Washington Conference. Safeguarding of Industries Bill debated.

AUGUST 11TH.—Reply received from Mr De Valera. Report stage of Safeguarding of Industries Bill completed.

AUGUST 12TH.—Mr Lloyd George leaves Paris. Silesian question referred to League of Nations.

A very restricted volume of business has been passing on the Stock Exchange this week, and in the latter days investment stocks developed an easier tendency.

Cotton markets have had a quiet week. Buyers are hanging back in the expectation of lower prices. Trade expansion in Europe is held back by political uncertainty. From the wool trade quiet progress of business, with some expansion in consumption, is reported. Cables from Australia indicate encouraging demand for the raw material. The pig-iron trade is encouraged by prospect of lower coal and coke prices, but these will have to fall further before makers of Cleveland and hematite can generally resume. Steel works are reported short of orders, and there are few signs of any substantial revival. In the hide market quotations have advanced again, and the boot trade is now reported to be fairly busy. In the markets for vegetable oils and oilseeds a fair trade is reported.

Details of market movements and news from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

STABILITY IN EXCHANGE.

WITH the quotation for sterling in dollars jumping 8 cents in a day, the handicap on trade and finance imposed by the present instability of the exchange market has been once more brought home to the business community, which already knew quite enough about it. Everyone agrees that the chaos wrought in the exchange market by the currency and credit debauch in which all the Governments of the

world have indulged since 1914 is one of the greatest difficulties in the way of the resumption of international trade, and we are all seeking for light on the subject of a remedy. It was thus with a feeling of expectant hopefulness that we turned to an Appendix on the "Problem of the Exchanges" to the Final Report on the Cost of Living, just issued by the Joint Committee on the Cost of Living appointed by the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress. The Report itself was a little disappointing. It expended many pages on denouncing profiteering, a subject which, in the present attenuated condition of industrial profits, seems to be rather ancient history; and though its criticisms of industrial inefficiency, owing to unenlightened management, may well be studied by our organisers, nationalisation, public ownership, and public regulation of the economic system—all the items of which a patient public is most heartily tired—are still the chief dishes in the menu when the time comes for practical proposals. Nevertheless, we hoped for new light on the exchange problem, because it is one to which Labour leaders, being free from tradition and prejudice, should bring a fresh mind to bear; and also because the Appendix on the subject is from the pen of the Committee's very able secretary, Mr Arthur Greenwood. He quotes freely from Professor Cassel's memorandum on World Monetary Problems addressed to the International Financial Conference held last year at Brussels, and lays stress on the need, first emphasised by the Professor, for the "establishment of rates of exchange comparable with real purchasing power parities." Unfortunately, when we try to arrive at the purchasing power of money in any two countries as a basis for arriving at the true parity between them, we are faced at once by the difficulty of assessing purchasing power. For example, this Report gives about 30 pages to an examination of the Ministry of Labour's cost of living Index Number, and comes to the conclusion that it was in September last 28 points too low. Mr Greenwood treats the Government's proposed 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent. tariff for dealing with collapsed exchanges with all the scorn that it deserves, observing that it will tend to depress the purchasing power of foreign currencies and accentuate the present evil. He proceeds to show that the problem which confronts the Government (which he seems to hold responsible for the exchanges of the world) is that of the stability of the exchanges, to be arrived at through (1) a new equilibrium and (2) minimising deviations from it. "To secure equilibrium every nation should, under international agreement, take every possible step to deal with its financial position. In some cases external assistance will be necessary, but whatever measures are necessary, the accounts of European nations must be made to balance." Again quoting Brussels, Mr Greenwood effectively points to the burden of armaments as producing fresh inflation, but the removal of this burden clearly would not be enough, as is shown by the example of Austria. It is easy to say that "accounts must be made to balance," but it is not so easy to see this reform happening. To secure the prevention of abnormal deviations from the purchasing power parity, Mr Greenwood, following Dr Bruins and Professor Cassel in their observations put before the Brussels Conference, maintains that Germany and other countries with outstanding external

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

floating debts, in the shape of paper money exported, or debts on current account, should fund these debts, which, again, is more easily said than done; and that artificial restrictions on foreign trade should, by international agreement, be abolished or reduced to a minimum. "The British Government, instead of pursuing a policy of restrictions, should take the initiative in convening through the League of Nations an International Conference, with a view to ensuring the utmost freedom and equality in international trade."

But if Mr Greenwood throws no new light on the exchange problem, he gives us plenty on the mind of our Labour friends. For he tells us that "the measures herein suggested are simple and sufficient," so that he really seems to think that it is quite easy to make all the nations balance their Budgets, all the foreign holders of notes and other forms of external floating debt consent to their being funded, and all the nations agree to free and equal trade. And at the end of a report which demonstrates to its own satisfaction that the Government cannot even produce a cost-of-living Index Number that is within 28 per cent. of accuracy, he apparently expects the Government to set about doing these "simple and sufficient" things at a time when it is, on his own showing, blundering hopelessly in its own fiscal policy. Now we begin to see why keen minds like Mr Greenwood's delude themselves into a belief that nationalisation is going to produce welfare for mankind. If they can really believe that it is quite simple and sufficient to point out that certain things are desirable, and tell a Government which has proved its own incapacity to do them, to carry them out—if they can swallow this camel, then nationalisation goes down easily. But if actually taken, it seems likely to produce violent indigestion.

Even if the measures suggested by Mr Greenwood were adopted, it does not quite follow, as he tells us it does, that "the problem of the exchanges would be solved and normal international trade would be resumed." The productive power of many countries, our own included, is still below normal, and in some cases external help will be needed not only to balance Budgets (in which case it should be given most cautiously), but also to set industry and agriculture going with the old activity. This help can only be given to the extent required if we have a great surplus of goods to lend to those who need them, and we question whether this Report on the Cost of Living will tend to produce the spirit that will give us that great surplus. Something, however, is being done, as the letters in last week's *Economist* from Berlin and New York showed, to provide Germany at least with foreign credits; and this week a Reuter telegram from Hamburg has announced the purchase of the Renner Tanning and Dyeworks Company by the Forestal Land, Timber and Railway Company, an English concern, hitherto chiefly interested in Argentina. The attitude of the United States towards foreign trade is obviously of the highest importance to the question of exchange. At present America is sitting on a mass of gold, dreading the inflation that it would produce if allowed thus to work its own cure, and setting up a new tariff to keep out foreign goods. With much more excuse—since Protection is with her a cherished plaything—she thus follows our own Government's sagacious action in making economic confusion worse confounded. Criticism of this attitude, however, seems to be active on the other side of the Atlantic. The "Guaranty Survey" of July 25th, published by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, observes that "the United States has become the leading creditor nation, and as soon as foreign Governments are prepared to pay interest on their indebtedness we shall be entitled to receive more than \$500,000,000 annual interest payments from abroad. While this amount may be offset in considerable degree by tourists' expenditures, freights, insurance, &c., the balance is bound to be in our favour, even though no part of the principal is paid. A change in the relation of our exports to our imports or the reinvestment abroad of large capital sums must be expected if Europe's debt to us is to be liquidated. While it is true that the date of such liquidation may be temporarily postponed through the extension of credits and the adoption of similar devices, it is, nevertheless, true that the debt must be paid eventually in goods, or not at all."

OVERSEAS TRADE IN JULY.

THE July trade returns are perhaps as good as could reasonably be expected. They show British exports about £5 millions higher than in June and re-exports £2½ millions better. Imports, on the other hand, are some £7½ millions lower than in June. Thus the adverse balance on the published merchandise figures is £15 millions better than for June. When the comparison is made with July, 1920, the result is deplorable; the more so, because July, 1920, saw British exports at their highest peak and the import excess for the month down to a level that would have been unusually low, even in pre-war times. It should, therefore, be remembered that last month's figures are compared with an exceptional and not an average month of last year. The comparison of the figures for July and the seven months ended July 31st with those for the corresponding periods of 1920 reads as follows:—

	MONTH OF JULY.		Inc. or Dec. in July, 1921.	
	1920.	1921.		
Imports	£ 163,126,786	£ 80,757,174	£ 82,369,612	% 50.3
British exports	137,451,904	43,172,399	94,279,505	68.8
Re-exports	17,848,479	9,361,556	8,486,923	47.3
Total exports	155,300,383	52,533,955	102,766,428	66.2
Excess of imports over total exports	7,826,403	28,213,219	20,386,816	+ 260.5

	SEVEN MONTHS ENDED JULY 31.		Inc. or Dec. in 1921.	
	1920.	1921.		
Imports	£ 1,195,819,350	£ 652,348,038	£ 543,471,312	% 54.7
Exports	774,918,788	412,067,426	362,851,362	46.9
Re-exports	153,739,527	59,047,245	94,692,282	61.7
Total exports	928,658,315	471,114,671	457,543,644	49.3
Excess of imports over total exports	267,161,035	181,233,367	85,927,668	32.0

In spite of the increase in the import excess contributed by May, June, and July, this balance for the seven months is still nearly £86 millions lower than a year ago. But, obviously, the happy anticipations of what the real balance would be in 1921, which were aroused by the experience of the first three months, must be soberly revised. Here are figures showing how the balance has changed month by month in the present year:—

	EXCESS OF IMPORTS OVER EXPORTS (MERCHANDISE).		Change in Balance in 1921.	
	1920.	1921.		
January	52.0	14.2	..	- 37.8
February	61.8	20.6	..	- 41.2
March	45.8	18.0	..	- 27.8
April	40.5	21.5	..	- 18.9
May	26.8	36.0	..	+ 9.2
June	33.7	42.8	..	+ 9.1
July	7.8	28.2	..	+ 20.4
	267.1	181.2	..	- 85.9

In the seven months export figures exports of British manufactures are down this year from £640.6 millions to £355.9 millions, a drop of £284.7 millions, or nearly 44 per cent. To this drop cotton yarns and manufactures contribute £131 millions, woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures £47 millions. In quantity the cotton piece goods exported were almost exactly half the amount exported from January to July, 1920, while in quantity yarn exports were not very much less than two-thirds of last year's January to July total. In exports of the raw material class the seven months show a drop of £66.7 millions, of which coal alone is responsible for nearly £47 millions. The drop in imports is distributed thus:—

	IMPORTS, JANUARY-JULY.		Decrease in 1921.	
	1920.	1921.		
Food, drink, and tobacco	Mill. £ 450.2	Mill. £ 344.1	Mill. £ 106.1	% 23.5
Raw materials and articles mainly manufactured	476.2	152.1	324.1	68.0
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured	267.5	154.0	113.5	42.3

After making the fullest allowance for the dramatic fall in prices—especially cotton—the decline in imports of the

raw materials of British industry remains very striking, and it would seem inevitable that if and when industrial demand shows a really substantial recovery imports of many important raw materials will have to be on a heavy scale. This does not improve the immediate outlook for the moment in the visible trade balance.

A measure of the slump in overseas trade is furnished by the figures of shipping engaged in such trade. In January to July of this year the tonnage cleared with cargoes was 16,506,979 against 21,643,942 and 38,864,368 respectively in the corresponding periods of 1920 and 1913. However, tonnage cleared in July, 2,806,316 tons, shows some improvement on the June figure of 1,993,656 tons. Statistics of the volume of trade issued by the Board of Trade show that the total tonnage imported in June, 1921, was practically the same as in June, 1920, but in June of this year the import of coal amounted to 1,391,000 tons, as against none in June, 1920. Iron ore and scrap showed a decline of 677,000 tons. Exports in June, 1921, show a marked decline, amounting to 2,850,000 tons, or 87 per cent., compared with the corresponding month of 1920. The practical cessation of coal exports accounts for 2,266,000 tons of the decreased tonnage.

Imports of gold coin and bullion in the seven months were £28.1 millions, as compared with £26.2 millions in the same period of 1920, while exports were £35.2 millions (of which £33 millions went to the United States), against £46.2 millions. Taking gold and silver together, imports have been much the same as in 1920 and exports £11 millions less. The July returns contain figures showing the direction of British overseas trade in the first half of the year, which we propose to discuss in a further article. Some details of import and export values in July and the seven months of this year and last are appended:—

	IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).		Seven Months Ended July 31.	
	1920.	1921.		
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	22,313,880	9,584,365	116,421,424	77,299,902
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	513,851	508,888	5,288,889	3,686,090
C. Meat	13,975,771	10,573,983	84,623,761	85,180,151
D. Animals living, for food	335,441	335,441	1,638,916	1,638,916
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable ..	14,260,244	12,188,814	104,378,047	103,960,027
F. " " dutiable ..	14,979,268	7,077,775	113,916,508	57,697,506
G. Tobacco	3,812,506	1,819,577	25,603,611	14,677,884
Total, Class I.	69,355,520	42,089,843	450,232,240	344,141,476
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	..	4,885,450	..	11,463,366
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	802,679	514,823	5,486,091	4,349,150
C. Iron ore and scrap	2,264,093	51,862	12,112,863	5,736,615
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	1,414,659	381,249	10,485,896	4,954,339
E. Wood and timber	9,867,723	2,077,154	41,381,593	15,310,993
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	9,103,244	4,019,916	193,030,103	56,184,709
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	10,334,129	2,224,606	61,907,653	26,331,248
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	285,106	46,470	2,658,118	442,900
I. Other textile materials	2,467,234	395,553	24,649,830	6,451,332
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, gums ..	5,577,071	2,378,732	52,070,103	19,239,803
K. Hides and skins, undressed ..	2,357,735	822,743	24,900,606	4,969,662
L. Paper-making materials	3,719,858	1,446,748	18,144,818	6,508,794
M. Rubber	2,302,706	637,253	17,090,422	7,665,334
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	1,405,507	349,492	14,695,135	3,947,485
Total, Class II.	51,899,144	20,232,111	476,203,261	152,127,450
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	958,321	113,823	5,759	210,976
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	..	597,269	6,315,743	4,182,887
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,310,164	1,344,134	12,038,934	15,219,723
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	3,948,839	1,201,225	24,897,929	11,289,570
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	981,686	571,504	6,435,917	4,166,591
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	142,258	114,752	736,726	1,353,522
G. Machinery	1,689,320	853,707	10,904,862	7,851,672
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	727,827	349,277	4,372,009	3,350,068
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	979,641	449,495	5,827,270	3,210,870
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	2,516,564	547,331	11,721,200	5,347,222
K. Silk and silk manufactures	3,373,342	1,559,721	23,221,629	11,830,713
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	2,038,509	508,915	15,601,433	4,767,079
M. Apparel	1,232,688	723,110	10,345,454	5,165,773
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	2,602,722	741,266	19,583,075	8,239,803
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured ..	6,819,189	4,361,799	39,903,055	38,623,562
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	1,397,163	808,806	15,681,395	4,160,535
Q. Paper and cardboard	3,452,614	928,533	17,696,101	6,707,342
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	2,523,966	408,151	16,643,050	4,754,440
S. Rubber manufactures	694,931	416,149	4,052,095	2,403,152
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	2,972,505	1,400,629	21,470,356	11,206,167
Total, Class III.	41,422,543	18,004,596	267,460,052	154,051,667
IV.—Animals, not for food	11,577	12,450	199,608	216,293
V.—Parcel post, non-dutiable articles ..	438,002	418,174	1,724,189	1,811,152
Total	163,126,786	80,757,174	1,195,819,350	652,348,038

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month of July.		Seven Months Ended July 31.	
	1920.	1921.		
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	335,441	211,138	1,938,455	2,140,347
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	68,788	142,975	598,639	672,746
C. Meat	75,463	57,351	533,191	431,018
D. Animals living, for food	3,009,131	7,350	21,210,587	28,199
E. and F. Other food and drink	1,026,302	517,121	5,556,277	14,611,233
G. Tobacco	..	..	..	2,911,822
Total, Class I.	4,515,488	2,702,140	29,837,009	20,795,365
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	8,928,455	1,559,649	63,828,924	16,993,209
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	156,998	75,399	1,122,950	580,350
C. Iron ore and scrap	68,832	18,334	467,049	89,354
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	93,620	24,105	1,152,951	380,725
E. Wood and timber	93,662	31,943	697,860	244,007
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	263,936	50,367	2,381,895	281,328
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	772,413	281,645	6,781,860	2,508,128
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	4,886	3,135	77,920	11,619
I. Other textile materials	121,269	123,986	519,248	343,107
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums	1,122,054	369,778	8,121,896	2,762,791
K. Hides and skins, undressed	237,672	92,111	2,329,528	828,310
L. Paper-making materials	278,889	47,630	1,617,986	368,122
M. Rubber	52,632	6,697	330,107	74,925
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	355,558	109,984	3,974,384	2,187,353
Total, Class II.	12,550,876	2,774,783	94,364,578	27,653,328
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	2,179,847	83,932	11,897,129	1,618,511
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	2,039,893	499,532	9,558,051	7,385,427
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	14,657,639	2,854,125	72,365,124	41,004,607
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	2,580,875	618,834	16,032,463	7,229,835
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	1,409,416	693,468	7,219,541	5,924,999
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	1,157,591	621,056	6,210,966	8,828,866
G. Machinery	7,244,057	5,130,112	31,166,930	47,551,107
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	285,620	146,410	1,414,821	1,052,793
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	39,910,160	10,115,473	235,446,625	104,531,355
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	14,329,517	3,496,411	83,132,832	35,652,879
K. Silk and silk manufactures	541,576	146,050	3,267,420	1,406,336
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	5,279,071	1,432,814	28,531,926	10,926,725
M. Apparel	5,189,736	1,176,050	27,535,015	11,477,836
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	4,461,213	1,069,307	23,433,486	12,104,990
O. Oils, fats, & resins, manufactured ..	1,283,572	446,792	9,433,810	2,831,081
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	1,076,956	378,269	8,087,894	2,466,998
Q. Paper and cardboard	1,233,500	534,609	5,769,453	5,085,385
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	2,280,578	3,490,990	25,906,167	29,949,123
S. Rubber manufactures	1,301,069	264,498	6,937,382	2,858,914
T. Miscellaneous articles mainly or wholly manufactured	5,603,811	1,968,890	27,311,166	16,346,754
Total, Class III.	118,953,602	36,701,757	640,657,261	355,934,541
IV.—Animals, not for food	437,246	337,869	2,339,946	2,152,818
V.—Parcel Post	994,692	652,850	7,719,994	5,531,374
Total	137,451,904	43,172,399	774,918,788	412,067,426

NITRATE POSITION AND RESULTS.

THE year 1919 caught nitrate-producing countries between two stools. The war demand was over, the peace-time demand for nitrogenous fertilisers still in abeyance. The year 1920 opened with great optimism in the nitrate industry, and a return to normal consumption was hoped for. Highest hopes, however, were disappointed, the nitrate industry being impeded by the development of acute trade depression and erratic exchanges. Nevertheless, when profits of producing companies for 1920 are compared with the disastrous 1919 figures, it will be seen that much improvement took place in 1920. A number of nitrate companies have recently issued reports and accounts for 1920, and we tabulate below net profits, dividends, reserve allocations, &c., for a number of these in 1920 and 1919 respectively:—

	Net Profits.		Ordinary Dividend.		Reserve, Deb. Redemption, &c.		Carried Forward.	
	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Angela	5,849	31,096	7,000 (10%)	14,000 (20%)	12,338	17,047	2,174	2,223
Anglo-Chilian..	70,085	457,152	82,500 (15%)	137,500 (25%)	..	175,000	153,472	210,624
Lagunas	14,244	47,178	1800 (2%)	36,000 (4%)	..	..	26,478	11,788
Leutaro	23,222	5,335	88,000 (16%)	..	40,000	..	66,588	71,922
New Paocha ..	Dr 19,073	4,137	3,434 (5%)	5,496 (8%)	Dr 13,000	..	2,319	95,999
Rosario*	39,487	125,666	60,000 (10%)	120,000 (20%)	..	..	17,541	23,206
Sal'r del Caru'n	9,184	45,936	7,700 (5%)	30,800 (20%)	..	15,000	8,479	8,615
San Patricio ..	2,452	9,074	..	5,000 (5%)	34	..	2,418	4,075
San Sebastian ..	Dr 30,980	37,017	..	..	..	..	Dr 26,650	11,366
Santa Rita	5,308	37,891	5,000 (5%)	17,500 (25%)	..	..	308	20,391

With two exceptions, the companies in this table made a striking recovery in 1920, Anglo-Chilian, in particular, showing large profit figures. This company, before paying a 25 per cent. dividend, against 15 per cent. a year ago, places £25,000 to renewals account and £150,000 to depreciation and general reserve account. The report also states that "revenue has borne the cost of all repairs and maintenance of the railway, rolling-stock, and moles." On the whole, the balance-sheets show some improvement. The latest balance-sheet positions of the various companies are analysed below:—

LIABILITIES.

	Share Capital.	Debentures and Loans.	Creditors.	Bills Payable.	Reserves.	Profit and Loss.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Angela	70,000	..	30,276	..	30,000	16,178
Anglo-Chilian	800,000	254,500	170,515	112,018	565,508	349,623
Lagunas	300,000	..	60,535	..	100,000	73,655
Lautaro	150,000	156,000	93,717	263,626	283,958	71,922
New Paccha	68,700	4,096	24,588	6,250	32,878	6,455
Rosario	600,000	..	108,588	154,238	60,000	113,206
Salar del Carmen	220,000	..	36,393	..	45,737	46,715
San Patricio	100,000	..	9,180	..	5,000	14,362
San Sebastian	143,750	19,096	10,378	..	3,590	11,366
Santa Rita	100,000	..	37,646	..	40,000	45,076

ASSETS.

	Raw Material, Buildings, &c.	Stocks.	Debtors.	Bills Receivable.	Cash and Investments.
	£	£	£	£	£
Angela	43,672	47,428	559	38,000	16,793
Anglo-Chilian	969,880	531,058	49,321	461,876	316,901
Lagunas	816,514	127,971	11,612	20,000	161,808
Lautaro	197,500	900,753	39,698	..	299,374
New Paccha	25,715	31,966	29,304	..	15,830
Rosario	500,312	182,269	153,076	..	239,117
Salar del Carmen	226,986	86,711	4,394	22,000	8,753
San Patricio	96,810	8,633	7,244	3,000	12,855
San Sebastian	130,767	56,227	376	..	1,686
Santa Rita	101,581	89,528	4,097	10,000	17,543

If 1920 disappointed the optimists, the early months of the present year produced a severe crisis in the industry. While supplies increased rapidly, consumption, instead of returning to normal, became stagnant. Stocks accumulated alarmingly and prices fell fast. In February a pool was formed comprising all the chief holdings of stocks in Europe with a view to stabilising prices and saving a débâcle. The collapse of the American market diverted unexpected supplies to the European market, and of the million tons or so in the hands of the pool Messrs Aikman, Limited, estimate that only 100,000 tons were sold in the first six months of the year. The development of this crisis in the industry was naturally reflected in the share market, and quotations of nitrate-producing companies' securities are very much lower than a year ago, as will be seen from the following table, which gives prices, dividends, and yields for the companies whose profits have been listed above:—

PRICES, DIVIDENDS, and YIELDS.

Company.	Share.	July 24, 1919.			July 22, 1920.			July 29, 1921.		
		Price.	Div.	Yield.	Price.	Div.	Yield.	Price.	Div.	Yield.
Angela	1 1/2	15	30	15 1/2	2 1/2	10	4 1/2	1 1/2	20	12 1/2
Anglo-Chilian	5 1/4	15	5	15 1/2	15	15	4 1/2	9 1/2	25	13 1/2
Lagunas	5 1/4	2	8	1 1/2	2	2	8	1 1/2	4	18 1/2
Lautaro	5 7/8	18	9	14 1/2	16	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	nil	nil
New Paccha	1 2/3	10	4 1/2	3 1/2	5	1 1/2	3 1/2	8	9 1/2	18 1/2
Rosario	1 6/8	15	11 1/2	9 1/2	10	5 1/2	1 1/2	20	18 1/2	18 1/2
Salar del Carmen	1 2/3	20	9 1/2	3 1/2	5	1 1/2	1 1/2	20	14 1/2	14 1/2
San Sebastian	1 1/2	nil	nil	1 1/2	nil	nil	1 1/2	1 1/2	nil	nil
Santa Rita	1 1/2	5	5	1 1/2	5	5	2 1/2	1 1/2	25	4

(c) £5 shares.

The outlook to-day is dominated by the existence of huge stocks, while consumption will hardly recover until general trade recovery sets in. The following statistics relating to supplies and deliveries are given by Aikman (London), Limited, in their half-yearly report:—

	1914.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Deliveries in Europe and Egypt for six months ending June 30th	1,494,000	453,000	661,000	490,000
Deliveries in Europe and Egypt for twelve months ending June 30th	1,984,000	..	861,000	706,000
Deliveries in United States for six months ending June 30th	295,000	384,000	671,000	82,000
Deliveries in United States for twelve months ending June 30th	553,000	1,521,000	794,000	644,000
Deliveries in Other Countries for six months ending June 30th	47,000	67,000	167,000	43,000
Deliveries in Other Countries for twelve months ending June 30th	92,000	115,000	227,000	84,000
Shipments to Europe and Egypt for six months ending June 30th	831,000	62,000	555,000	509,000
Shipments to Europe and Egypt for twelve months ending June 30th	2,025,000	415,000	950,000	1,233,000
Shipments to United States for six months ending June 30th	310,000	114,000	798,000	213,000
Shipments to United States for twelve months ending June 30th	547,000	1,223,000	997,000	696,000
Shipments to other countries for six months ending June 30th	41,000	57,000	153,000	27,000
Shipments to other countries for twelve months ending June 30th	87,000	128,000	227,000	66,000
Production in Chile for six months ending June 30th	1,455,000	909,000	1,183,000	834,000
Production in Chile for twelve months ending June 30th	2,822,000	2,236,000	1,927,000	2,135,000
Visible supply for Europe and Egypt at June 30th	416,000	178,000	317,000	832,000
Visible supply for United States at June 30th	84,000	21,000	216,000	230,000
Visible supply for other countries at June 30th	11,000	19,000	19,000	1,000
Stocks in Chile at June 30th	754,000	1,500,000	1,248,000	1,368,000
Total supply in sight at June 30th	1,265,000	1,718,000	1,800,000	2,431,000

Although some degree of stability is assured by stocks being so largely concentrated under one control, the position remains an anxious one for nitrate producers, and numerous oficinas in Chile have been closed down. Messrs W. Montgomery and Co. estimate production in the first six months of the present year at about 830,000 tons, against 1,456,000 tons in the first half of 1914. Attempts are being made to arrange a scheme under which production and shipments from Chile may be resumed on a limited scale. The holders of European stocks have held a meeting this week, and are understood to be communicating certain proposals to the Nitrate Association in Chile and the Chilean Government. Naturally, the Government of Chile, which depends largely upon the export duty for its revenue, is intimately interested in the matter. Obviously, however, the prospects of shareholders are mainly governed by the movements of consumption, and these in turn depend on general economic revival. A report published this week by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research gives interesting statistics bearing on the nitrate position. It is shown that the world's resources in nitrogen products have doubled since 1912. But the report also forecasts a doubling of the American consumption of fixed nitrogen within seven years.

THE GREAT LAKES.

PROVIDENCE has given to the United States not only the largest agricultural, mineral, and water-power resources among the nations of the world, but has endowed it with the most wonderful system of inland waterways, with the Mississippi and its tributaries, and with the Great Lakes. These open the vast territories of the Republic and facilitate and encourage their rapid development.

The Great Lakes are situated midway between Canada and the United States and between the Atlantic and the Pacific. The western end of Lake Superior reaches almost exactly to the centre of the United States. The Lakes are connected among themselves, and they are connected with the magnificent St Lawrence River, with the Hudson River, on which New York is situated, and with the Ohio and Illinois rivers, the mighty tributaries of the Mississippi. In addition, they are connected with the Ottawa River, on which lies the capital of Canada. The waterway formed by the St Lawrence and by the Great Lakes extends from the Strait of Belle Isle to Duluth, a distance of more than 2,000 miles. According to the report of the United States Commissioner of Corporations on Transportation by Water, the Great Lakes have an area of 95,645 square miles, an area which is only slightly smaller than that of the United Kingdom. According to Tarr and McMurtry's geography, the Great Lakes, which are extra-

ordinarily deep, contain one-half of the fresh water on the earth's surface; and the Lake Superior alone, though much smaller than the Caspian Sea, is the largest body of fresh water on the globe.

The great importance of the North American lakes is due not only to the fact that they open up the United States and Canada to the centre, but also to the fact that about their shores are to be found the most valuable and the most extensive agricultural and mineral resources in the world. Towards the west of Lake Superior lie the great grain-growing States Minnesota and North Dakota and South Dakota, and on the other side of the border are Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta. About the Lakes are to be found the most important grazing grounds, which abound in livestock of every kind. To the north of the Lakes lies highly mineralised and largely industrial Ontario, which contains almost half the population of Canada. Towards the south are the gigantic American coalfields, by far the largest in the world, and around the coal-pits are to be found the principal manufacturing centres of the Republic. Towards the west of Lake Superior occur by far the most important iron ore deposits, which supply the great iron and steel industries of the United States with their raw material.

The Great Lakes lie not only in the centre of the North American continent, but also in the centre of trade and industry. The natural resources of the Central and Western States of the Republic and of the Central and Western Provinces of Canada are the greatest and richest in the world, and their exploitation has only begun. Directly on the shore of the Great Lakes are situated some of the most important towns of the United States and of Canada, such as Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Buffalo, Milwaukee, Rochester, Toledo, Erie, Duluth, Toronto, Hamilton (Ontario), Kingston. In easy access by water are Pittsburgh, Montreal, and Quebec. At enormous cost New York has been placed in connection with the Lakes by means of the Erie Canal. The fabulous growth of the principal towns on or close to the Great Lakes is due to the fact that these occupy the centre of the continent, and that its most valuable natural resources are to be found around their shores. Comparing 1850 with 1920, Chicago has grown from 29,963 inhabitants to 2,701,705, the population of Detroit has increased from 21,019 to 993,678, that of Cleveland from 17,034 to 706,836, that of Buffalo from 42,261 to 506,775, that of Pittsburgh from 67,863 to 588,193, that of Milwaukee from 20,061 to 457,147, that of Rochester from 36,403 to 295,750, that of Toledo from 3,829 to 243,164, while Duluth, which had only a few huts in the middle of the last century, is now one of the most important ports in the world, with a population of 98,917. The towns on the Canadian shore have grown in a similar manner. The Great Lakes have brought about the stupendous growth of the towns mentioned. Had it not been for the Lakes, Chicago and other leading towns of the centre and the west of North America would still be unimportant villages. The rapid development of American agriculture and stock-raising and of the American mines and manufacturing industries would have been impossible, for transport by railway would have proved too expensive. The great coalfields about Pittsburgh and the great iron ore fields to the west of Lake Superior are separated by a distance of 1,000 miles. English experts had expressed the opinion that the United States could never develop an important iron and steel industry, because the distances dividing the coal and iron deposits were too great. They had not allowed for the possibility of improving the Lake ports and the waterways connecting the Lakes, which allowed heavy materials to be carried at the lowest rates in the world.

The shipping on the Great Lakes has rapidly increased from a small tonnage to nearly 3,000,000, and the freight traffic has grown to gigantic proportions. There are two particularly important links on the Lake route—the Sault St Marie Canal, which connects Lake Superior with the other lakes, and the Detroit River, which connects the southern end of Lake Huron with Lake Erie. The movement of freight over the Sault St Marie Canal shows the following expansion:—

	Net Tons.
1881	1,567,741
1890	9,041,213
1900	25,643,073
1910	62,363,218
1916	91,888,219
1919	62,235,542

During recent years the commerce on the Detroit River link has shown the following increase:—

	Net Tons.
1902	44,260,506
1910	73,526,602
1916	100,907,279
1919	73,091,328

It will be noticed that the traffic along the two vital links of the chain of lakes is far greater than that of any port or that of the Suez Canal as regards the quantity of goods handled. The Suez Canal traffic reached its maximum in 1912 with a net tonnage of 20,275,120 tons. In the opinion of many competent observers the Lake traffic, though gigantic, is only at its beginning.

If we wish to visualise the position of the Great Lakes in the economy of North America and of the world we should compare the situation over there with that of districts with which we are familiar. Montreal, lying far up the St Lawrence River, occupies a position very similar to London. Whereas, however, the estuary of the Thames extends only to a very few miles, Montreal is separated from the sea by more than 1,000 miles, and the territory on either side of the St Lawrence below Montreal is exceedingly rich in natural resources of every kind. London owes its great position to two factors—its situation on an estuary and to a busy industrial hinterland. But while the natural and industrial resources which are within reach of London are comparatively small, those at the back of Montreal are absolutely unlimited. The greatest agricultural, industrial, and mineral resources of the world are concentrated about the Great Lakes. The Lakes reach to the very heart of the American continent, and, branching out in every direction, open it to the traffic of the world. They constitute another and a greater Mediterranean inasmuch as the natural and industrial wealth about the shores of the Great Lakes is infinitely vaster than that which is to be found in Southern Europe, Northern Africa, and about the Black Sea.

Hitherto the Great Lakes have been inland lakes for all practical purposes. Their connection with the Atlantic by way of the St Lawrence and of the Erie Canal and the Hudson River on the one hand and with the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Canal which leads from Chicago to the Illinois River and to the Mississippi on the other hand has been unsatisfactory. These approaches have been usable only for comparatively small ships, notwithstanding the improvements recently made. The Americans feel very keenly the necessity of cheapening their inland transport. An agitation has been started which aims at improving the connection between the Great Lakes and the St Lawrence River to such an extent as to enable sea-going ships of about 10,000 tons to go directly up to Chicago and Duluth and to make the towns in the centre of the continent important seaports. Mr Herbert Hoover, who is not only an eminent organiser, but also an eminent practical engineer, stated in a recent address that such an improvement would lower the cost of carrying wheat to Liverpool very greatly, that it would reduce the cost of carrying it to the sea-border from about 12 cents per bushel to 1 cent or 2 cents per bushel. He favours the development of the lakes-to-ocean route, because it would not only benefit the American farmers and other exporters of bulky materials, but because it would abolish congestion on the railways and in the port of New York. The project of making the interior of North America accessible to sea-going ships up to 10,000 tons is difficult and costly. The Great Lakes are not situated on the level of the sea, but they are basins which rise towards a considerable altitude. Hence they can be connected only by means of canals provided with locks, and they would necessitate the raising of the water level and the deepening of shallows. Still, in due course this great scheme will no doubt be carried out to the vast benefit of all North America, of Montreal, which ought to become another and greater London, and of the world.

THE FEDERATION OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

EARLY in the present year the representatives of the four Republics of Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, and Costa Rica signed a Pact at San José, the capital of Costa Rica, uniting themselves "in a perpetual and indissoluble union," to be known as the Federation of Central America. A special article in the Pact provided that Nicaragua (which separates Costa Rica from Honduras and Salvador) should be free to join the Federation on expressing her desire to join. Owing to the Government of the United States viewing with approval the consolidation of the five States into a single Federal Republic, the Treaty which at first hindered Nicaragua from at once signing the Pact has been modified, and the Federation is an accomplished fact. There will in future be one President, presiding over a territory of about 174,000 square miles, which contains a population of between four and five millions, in place of five Presidents; one Senate and one Assembly, in the place of five, with a corresponding reduction in the number of diplomatic officials maintained abroad. The relative importance of the five States and the development of their foreign trade are shown in the following table:—

	Popula- tion.	Area. Square Miles.	Imports.		Inc.	Exports.		Inc.
			1901.	1912.	Per cent.	1901.	1912.	Per cent.
Guatemala.....	2,200,000	48,300	£52,000	£1,964,000	130.5	£1,504,000	£2,631,000	74.9
Honduras.....	700,000	46,250	347,000	863,000	148.7	515,000	616,000	20.0
Salvador.....	200,000	7,200	523,000	1,355,000	160.0	875,000	1,769,000	102.2
Nicaragua.....	800,000	49,200	460,000	*600,000	30.4	696,000	*1,000,000	43.7
Costa Rica.....	500,000	23,000	763,000	2,072,000	171.5	1,002,000	2,048,000	104.3
Total.....	4,400,000	173,950	2,945,000	6,854,000	133.0	4,592,000	8,064,000	75.6

* These values are probably much lower than the actual ones, not available.

The table shows that although Costa Rica has the smallest area except Salvador, the value of her imports in 1912 stood highest of the five States. Guatemala stood second, Salvador third, Honduras fourth, and Nicaragua fifth. The value of the exports in 1912 by Guatemala placed her first, Costa Rica being second, Salvador third, Nicaragua fourth, and Honduras fifth. From the *percentage* increases in the values of the imports it is seen that Costa Rica made the most rapid progress in the eleven years, followed by Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, and Nicaragua. Costa Rica and Salvador also stood first and second in the increase of their exports, Guatemala being third, and Nicaragua fourth. The value of the total imports (£2,945,000) of the five States in 1901 added to the value of the total exports (£4,592,000) gave a total trade value of £7,537,000, which rose to £14,918,000 in 1912, showing a total increase in the eleven years of £7,381,000, or very nearly double the amount. In addition to rich agricultural resources the new State possesses very valuable minerals, including gold, silver, platinum, copper, iron, lead, zinc, antimony, nickel, and mercury. The bulk of the trade of the Republics has naturally been done with the United States, but the United Kingdom has done a considerable and increasing trade with the five States, as is shown in the following table:—

U.K. Imports from	Guatemala.	Honduras.	Salvador.	Nicaragua.	Costa Rica.	Total of the Five States.
Average 1909-1913.....	£294,000	£5,400	£87,800	£95,300	£1,221,300	£1,703,800
Average 1914-18.....	163,800	800	96,700	47,100	1,198,200	1,506,600
1919.....	315,300	1,000	122,900	119,900	1,589,500	1,969,600
1920.....	280,700	12,300	233,400	101,300	1,068,500	1,686,200
U.K. Exports to						
Average 1909-13.....	302,200	110,600	334,600	220,800	225,900	1,194,100
Average 1914-18.....	228,600	70,500	305,000	137,000	124,400	865,500
1919.....	398,000	72,300	249,900	167,700	112,400	1,000,300
1920.....	895,300	329,700	685,100	438,100	584,800	2,933,000
TOTAL TRADE.*						
1913.....	707,700	129,900	449,000	367,100	1,570,700	2,924,400
1919.....	720,500	73,300	314,500	290,100	1,083,300	2,481,700
1920.....	1,194,100	345,800	922,800	557,800	1,666,800	4,684,300

* Including re-exports.

The table shows that until 1920 the value of our imports from the five States exceeded the value of our exports to them; that our imports from Costa Rica were more valuable than from any of the others, Guatemala coming second to Costa Rica, and Honduras standing fifth. It also shows that we sent goods to Guatemala and to Salvador that exceeded in value those we sent to Costa Rica, but that Costa Rica did the most valuable trade with us in 1920 owing to the high value of our imports from her. In 1913

our principal imports from the five States were coffee (£1,210,200), bananas (£681,000), unrefined sugar (£38,500), mahogany (£25,400), dyestuffs and dyewoods (£6,100), and small amounts of rubber and hides. Our principal exports in 1913 were as follows:—

U.K. Exports to	Guatemala.	Honduras.	Salvador.	Nicaragua.	Costa Rica.	Total.
Cotton manufactures, piece goods.....	£131,100	£65,800	£155,600	£118,100	£61,800	£532,400
Do other manufactures.....	30,000	16,000	29,800	21,300	17,400	114,500
Bags and sacks.....	34,000	?	21,800	13,500	13,800	103,500
Machinery.....	20,400	?	22,500	5,200	15,900	64,000
Iron and steel manufactures of	11,500	3,700	10,800	9,100	28,500	63,500
Cotton yarn.....	35,900	?	27,400	?	?	63,300
Woolen and worsted manufactures.....	9,300	3,100	6,500	10,100	23,400	52,400
Implements and tools.....	14,200	?	3,700	3,700	3,900	25,500
Soap.....	?	?	?	19,500	3,200	23,100
Parcel post.....	11,700	9,700	7,400	3,200	12,900	44,900

Other exports of our produce and manufacture comprised chemicals and chemical preparations (£7,300), medicines and drugs (£4,100), biscuits and cakes, confectionery and jams, beer and ale, candles, china and earthenware, and painters' colours.

Business Notes.

Reparation Payments.—In reply to a Parliamentary question, the Financial Secretary of the Treasury has issued the following statement showing the reparations payments made by Germany up to April 30, 1921:—

I. APPROXIMATE STATEMENT by the REPARATION COMMISSION OF DELIVERIES MADE by GERMANY from NOVEMBER 11, 1918, to APRIL 30, 1921.

	Total. Gold Marks.	Received by this Country. Gold Marks.
Receipts in cash.....	99,334,000	.. nil
Deliveries in kind—		
Ships.....	270,331,000	.. 190,816,000
Coal.....	437,160,000	.. nil
Dyestuffs.....	36,823,000	.. 8,421,000b
Other deliveries.....	937,040,000	.. 6,210,000
Immovable property and assets not yet encashed.....	2,754,104,000	.. 450,000
Totals.....	4,554,792,000	.. 205,897,000
Say.....	£284,500,000	.. £13,000,000

II. DELIVERIES UNDER THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS of MAY, 1921.

- Bond for 12 milliard gold marks, dated July 1, 1921.
- In cash or three months' bills, one milliard gold marks (as the first two quarterly payments of the fixed sum of two milliard gold marks a year prescribed by the Schedule of payments).

III. CASH RECEIPTS OF THE TREASURY TO DATE.

	£
(1) Proceeds of the sale of ships.....	7,000,000
(2) Proceeds of the sale of dyestuffs.....	238,000
(3) Cash received from the Reparation Commission....	4,875,000

Total..... 12,113,000

Of the above the sum of £5,499,620 has been appropriated in aid of the Vote for Advances for German Coal Deliveries, 1920-21, and the balance, £6,613,380, has been or will be paid to the Exchequer as "Miscellaneous Receipts" on account of the cost of the British Army of Occupation up to April 30, 1921.

IV. RECEIPTS UNDER THE GERMAN REPARATION (RECOVERY) ACT, 1921. To the 9th instant..... £341,000

Of a total of £284,500,000, this country's share is £13,000,000, of which £12,113,000 was actually received by the Treasury up to April 30th.

National Savings.—The fifth annual report of the National Savings Committee (White Paper Cmd 1427, price 1d) records the results of the Committee's work in 1920. During that year the money raised by the sale of Savings Certificates was £44,785,311, as compared with £79,013,499 in 1919. The decrease is attributed in large part to general trade depression and unemployment. The total number of Savings Certificates sold from their first issue in February, 1916, to December, 1920, was 440,441,390, representing a cash value of £341,342,077. The total amount repaid (excluding accrued interest) was £61,404,669, of which £31,829,879 was repaid in 1920, as compared with £19,864,618 repaid during 1919. The amount remaining invested on December 31, 1920, was £279,937,408. The report records "the contributions of investors through the Post Office and Trustee Savings Banks to State securities since the outbreak of war." The total of these contributions, including the net proceeds

of Savings Certificates, amounted to approximately £22,814,000 during 1920, making a total of £589,663,000 since the outbreak of war. These contributions reached high-water mark at £179,403,000 for the year 1918.

The Crops.—The monthly report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries states that the drought continued throughout July in practically all parts of the country, though in the North and South-West of England and in Wales there was some rain in the last week or 10 days. The corn harvest began early, some winter oats being ripe before the end of June. In most districts, except in the North and the later districts in Wales, cutting had begun by the third week of July, and harvest was in full swing at the end of the month. Half the corn had been carted in many Southern districts, most of the oats and a fair proportion of the wheat being safely in stack before the end of July. In the North a few fields had been cut, and a general start with the harvest was expected early in August. The crops are standing well to the binder, so that reaping can be done quickly. The ears of wheat have filled well and the crop has ripened evenly, with the result that rather better yields are now expected than a month ago. The later crops of barley and oats, on the other hand, have deteriorated during July. Barley and oat straw is very short, except for the autumn-sown crops, and in some cases the binder could not be used for reaping on this account. On the average, yields of both these crops will be light, though those sown early in the spring are fairly satisfactory, and winter crops are generally good. Beans are turning out much worse than was anticipated a month ago. In many districts winter beans have been damaged by fly, and almost everywhere spring crops have suffered very materially. Prospects for peas have also deteriorated. In many districts the haulm has been shrivelled by the hot sun, and the pods have filled badly, and maggots have done some damage. In all parts of the country the prospects of the potato crop are worse than at the end of June. On damp soils they have done moderately well, but on the lighter lands they have made little growth, and are tending to die off prematurely. In some cases sprouting is already noticed. Early varieties have given very light crops, the tubers being small. There are some good plants of mangolds, where they were sown early, but these are backward, as growth has been slow. Thin and patchy plants are very common, however, and poor crops are expected. Turnips and swedes are not so unsatisfactory in Wales and the North of England as in other parts of the country, but even in these more favoured districts there are many patchy fields, and yields will be poor. Later sowings failed to germinate, or were eaten off by fly and are failures. Haymaking was finished very early, there being few districts where all the crop had not been secured by the middle of July. The hay was stacked in good condition, there being practically no rain while the crop was being gathered. Throughout the month pastures have remained very short of grass, and were generally scorched. In a few districts, however, the rains of the latter half of July induced some growth and changed the colour of the fields. Owing to the shortage of grass store, stock have required hand feeding in some districts, and generally milking cows have needed good supplies of corn and cake. Cattle and sheep have suffered where water has been scarce, and have often lost condition, but where there has been a good supply of water they have not done badly. The yield of milk has fallen off. As a rule, sheep have stood the drought better than cattle, and hill sheep have done fairly well. The drought has affected the growth of hops, which are not so vigorous as usual. Young plants have suffered most, and have turned yellow. The older hops in well-managed gardens have stood the dry weather fairly well. The crop of apples has been still further reduced, as many have fallen from the trees, but generally an average crop is expected. The apples are smaller than usual. The yield of pears will be light, and plums are practically a failure, though light crops will be gathered in some districts. The supply of labour has been ample for farmers' requirements. Owing to the shortage of roots and the light crops of corn, which are standing well, less temporary labour than usual has been required.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

ISSUED CAPITAL £1,844,986.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches and Associated Companies in

Australia	Ceylon	Japan	Morocco
Borneo	China	Java	New Zealand
Canada	India	Malaya	Sumatra
		U.S.A.	

Manufacturers desiring representation in any of the above Countries are invited to communicate with the Company.

The Bank Statements.—The figures of weekly averages for the month of July issued by the joint-stock banks are printed in full on a later page. Below we give a table comparing the monthly totals for the month of the nine English banks with those of previous months:—

(Million £'s.)

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	Mar., 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.
Capital and reserves.....	115.4	115.6	115.6	115.8	115.9	115.9
Acceptances.....	88.4	69.4	63.0	63.0	57.7	52.2
Deposits (including undivided profits, &c.).....	1,810.1	1,715.0	1,709.9	1,729.3	1,768.4	1,785.4
Total liabilities.....	2,013.9	1,900.0	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5
Coin, notes, balance at bank, and cheques in course of collection, &c.....	256.2	244.8	249.6	250.3	265.1	252.1
Money at call.....	98.9	82.6	91.9	96.5	98.0	103.6
Investments.....	341.3	336.1	333.7	331.2	335.9	336.3
Discounts.....	361.9	282.1	275.1	304.0	346.2	372.6
Loans and advances.....	845.1	862.6	852.2	839.9	815.4	812.2
Cover for acceptances, pre-mises, &c.....	110.5	91.8	86.0	86.2	81.4	76.7
Total assets.....	2,013.9	1,900.0	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5

The increase in deposits, which brings the total to within £25 millions of the highest this year, has been accompanied by a further small decline in acceptances. The decrease in cash of £13 millions has been partly offset by an addition of £5½ millions to call money, while discounts are over £26 millions higher, owing largely, it may be presumed, to heavier purchases of Treasury bills, and to a small extent perhaps to an increase in the volume of commercial bills.

Coal Output.—The production of coal for the week ended July 30th was 4,587,300 tons, which compares with 4,334,000 tons for the previous week, and 3,935,200 tons for the week ended July 16th. The total production for the first seven months of the year is 72,947,900 tons, as against 142,408,900 tons for the corresponding period of 1920. In the week ended July 31, 1920, the output was 4,565,200 tons.

Civil Service Salaries.—The Select Committee appointed to examine the Estimates, finding their appointment too late to permit of effective work in that direction, turned their attention to the increases that have lately taken place in Civil Service salaries. Their report issued this week (White Paper 293, price 1d) sets out a number of figures of high-grade salaries, and comments as follows:—"It appears that the reduction of the bonus in the case of the lower-class official is automatic on a fall in the cost of living, but that the bonus paid to the higher-class official, being an executive act of the Government, may continue for a considerable period after each fall. From the evidence it would appear that in addition to the granting of a war bonus increases in salaries have also been made. In these circumstances, and in view of the financial stringency at the present time, it appears to your Committee that the moment chosen to make large increases in salaries was most inopportune." The general tone of the comment will meet with general agreement. But it should be remembered that economy in the Civil

Service should be achieved, not by underpaying the best men, but by reducing the numbers in receipt of salary. The Committee conclude by recommending that a Committee on Estimates should be appointed at the earliest possible moment in the next session of Parliament. Answering a question about this report in the House of Commons on Thursday, Mr Chamberlain said: "It is not without very grave consideration and deep regret that I find myself differing with a Committee of this House. I will do everything in my power to expedite the publication of the evidence and put it in the hands of members at the earliest possible moment. May I give the House one illustration of what I mean? The report says that 'the witness stated that a Civil Servant was required to work a seven-hours' day.' The answer of the witness was, 'A higher division man is eligible for eight weeks' holiday if he has 10 years' seniority. He is also required to work a seven-hours' day. The real facts are that he neither gets the full holiday nor works a seven-hours' day; he works a greatly longer day.' I submit respectfully to the House, and even to members of the Committee, that the answer as summarised in the report is not a fair representation. I will take steps immediately I leave the House to expedite the printing of the evidence, and my earnest prayer to the House is that they will be good enough to read it."

The Silesian Deadlock.—An agreement on the partition of Upper Silesia has so far proved impracticable. The Supreme Council, or, rather, its Committee of experts, has to draw a line ensuring that the great German metallurgical establishments of the so-called "industrial triangle," of which the angles are respectively at Beuthen, Gleiwitz, and Kattowitz, shall none of them be cut off from their normal sources of coal and raw material, and at the same time complying with the desire of the Polish "islands" in the triangle to be joined to Poland. Possibly the framers of the Treaty expected that the results of the plebiscite would involve no more than the trimming of a Polish fringe on the east and south of the whole region; but the figures of the voting by districts, first published last week in Paris, show that of the seven districts in the so-called "triangle" four urban areas—Beuthen, Kattowitz, Königshütte, and Gleiwitz—declared for union with Germany by majorities of three, four, and even five to one, two rural areas for Poland by more than six to five, and the seventh, Zaborze, for Poland by a small majority. Lines had been suggested dividing the province, of which those nearest to a fair compromise left some districts with Polish majorities to Germany, while transferring others with German majorities to Poland; but on Tuesday, at Mr Lloyd George's suggestion, the experts were again set to work to draw a fresh line more in accordance with the wishes of the localities, and thus cut into the "industrial triangle," which in France is regarded, more correctly, as an archipelago. This line is not yet revealed, but the British representatives apparently concede nearly the whole of the "triangle" to Germany, while the French wish to assign it, all but Gleiwitz and Zaborze, to Poland. The British line will apparently go far to satisfy the requirements mentioned above; the French case seems to be based partly on the "historical rights" of the Polish population collectively, partly on the fact that the Poles are permanent residents, and the German voters largely outvoters and practically strangers, and partly on the broader considerations (not visibly contemplated by the Peace Treaty) that to take account of the needs of industries developed by Germans in a Polish region means the encouragement of German "penetration" elsewhere, and that the "triangle" under German sovereignty may be made into an arsenal and munition factory for a German war of revenge. A solution suggested in Paris is an Allied "condominium" over the industrial region with "corridors" to Germany, and to such German sources of supply as may fall to Poland. But the whole question was referred on Friday morning to the League of Nations, and so, for the present, the difficulty is shelved.

Indian Import Duties.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—There is a disposition in Lancashire trade circles to revive the agitation against the Indian import duties

Last Tuesday there was a meeting in Manchester of spinning and weaving employers, and representatives of the operatives, when the state of affairs was discussed, and it was decided to seek an interview with the members of Parliament for textile constituencies. It is understood that a deputation will go to London next Thursday. There is a distinct fear of our trade in manufactured cotton goods with India being lost unless something is done. The Bombay mills are exceedingly busy and earning big dividends, whilst in Lancashire depression prevails. It is not likely that the British Government will be prepared to meet the protests from Lancashire by granting any concessions, but it is recognised that when the General Election comes candidates for Lancashire constituencies will be very closely questioned as to their attitude on this subject. It is suggested in some quarters that a commission should go to India and discuss this matter with the leading organisations in our Dependency, and it is stated that such a deputation would be welcomed abroad.

Uruguayan Loan in New York.—It is announced that on Monday last a syndicate of New York bankers, headed by the National City Company, offered for subscription in New York $7\frac{1}{2}$ million dollars 8 per cent. bonds of the Republic of Uruguay at 98 $\frac{1}{2}$. These bonds, which are dated August 1, 1921, are to be retired on or before August 1, 1946, through the operations of market and sinking funds. The Republic will advance \$75,000 each quarter during the first five years of the loan to purchase bonds in the open market up to 100; any unused funds to revert to the Government. During the second five years of the loan the maximum price will be 105, and thereafter until maturity the balance of the issue will be purchased in the open market or drawn at 105 until the entire issue shall have been paid off. The loan was over-subscribed.

Danish Limited Companies.—The Danish Statistic Department has just published the first official survey of Danish limited companies, based upon the first proper registration of such companies. The following figures refer to January 1st of the present year. On that date there were on the register a total of 4,636 Danish limited companies, with an aggregate capital of 2,325,000,000 kr. The Danish capital claims a large share, as will be seen from the following table:—

	Number of Companies.	Capital Paid up. Kr.
Copenhagen	2,731	1,735,000,000
Provincial towns	1,376	506,000,000
Rural districts	529	84,000,000
	4,636	2,325,000,000

The larger companies, with a capital of 1,000,000 kr or more, number 466, and account for more than three-fourths of the aggregate capital of all the companies.

Latvian Leather.—An order has been published in the official Latvian Government organ, *Valdības Vestnesis*, dated July 26, 1921, according to which all restrictions hitherto existing in respect of the sale, purchase, transport by land or waterways within Latvia of tanned or untanned hides have been rescinded. This order to come into force 14 days after the date of its publication in the said official gazette. Three months after the aforesaid date the export abroad of tanned or untanned hides will be permitted without special licence on payment of the undermentioned Customs duty, which is calculated in francs gold per kilo, and which is payable in Latvian currency subject to the observation of the regulations laid down by the Minister of Finance. The duties are as follows:—(a) Ox, cow, and horse hides, francs 0.80 gold per kilo on dry hides and francs 0.40 gold per kilo on wet hides. (b) Calf hides, dry, francs 1.00 gold per kilo; wet, francs 0.50 gold per kilo. (c) Sheepskins, dry, francs 0.40 gold per kilo; wet, francs 0.20 gold per kilo. (d) Goatskins, dry, francs 0.60 gold per kilo; wet, francs 0.30 gold per kilo. (e) Manufactured leather: (1) Chrome, chevreau, chevrete, lining skins (calf and sheep), and white glove leather, francs 1.50 gold per kilo; (2) sole leather, inter-sole leather, belly leather, and upper leather, francs 0.50 gold per kilo. If

the hides, skins, and leather mentioned under letter (e) have been imported from abroad in a raw state, and have undergone the process of manufacture in Latvia, the export duty payable thereon is as follows:—Hides, skins, and leather appearing in par. (1), francs 0.25 gold per kilo; those appearing in par. (2), francs 0.10 gold per kilo.

Rubber Shareholders.—We have received from Mr H. McD. Morison, of 9 Drapers' gardens, E.C. 2, a letter urging the formation of a Rubber Shareholders' Association. "There is at the present time in contemplation," he writes, "a scheme formulated by the Rubber Growers' Association for the control of the industry; this scheme has been the subject of approval and of criticism by various interests, but there has been no opportunity even for consideration of the scheme by shareholders as a class and as a distinct body. One of the first objects of the proposed Association would be to ascertain the views of individual shareholders with regard to this scheme to collate and consider these views and to act in accordance with the results. It is clear that, to be effective, such an association must be supported by a large body of shareholders; it must be able to represent shareholders' opinions at company meetings, and the only way in which it can do so is by using collectively the votes of its members. An association such as is proposed would not be in opposition to directors, agents, managers or other servants of the company, but it would be in a position to insist that the requirements of the proprietors were carried out." Rubber shareholders who favour the formation of such an association are invited to communicate with Mr Morison, stating the companies in which they hold shares and the amount of such holdings.

Electrification in Czechoslovakia.—A scheme involving the construction of a barrage 70 metres in height at Stechovice, near Prague, has been submitted to the Minister of Public Works. This barrage, situated 30 kilometres south of Prague, would produce over 250 million kilo-watt-hours a year, and would save Czechoslovakia 60,000 waggons of coal. The realisation of this scheme would cost from 250 to 300 million crowns. It is stated that all the organisations concerned in Central Bohemia, notably the Chamber of Commerce at Prague, the Agricultural Board, the Federation of Czechoslovak Industries support the project, which has attracted the attention of many foreign engineers and financiers. The electrification of Central Bohemia and the improvement of the Vltava as a waterway will completely alter the economic situation of that region. The first essential to economic development in Czechoslovakia is the increase of national output, especially as regards agricultural produce. With this end in view a scheme, it is suggested, should be drawn up for the rational utilisation of the hydraulic resources of the country, and the realisation of the barrage scheme at Stechovice would mean a considerable advance in this direction.

Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton.—A decline in net profits is shown in the report of Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton for the year ended June 30th last. Gross trading profits were still higher at £1,158,200, but general expenses increased by over £63,000, and miscellaneous revenue brought in £46,000 less. The table below compares results for the past four years and for 1913-14:—

Year ended June 30.	1914.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross trading profit	749,607	771,896	890,294	1,113,121	1,158,172
Expenses	455,611	463,416	568,151	817,546	880,771
	293,996	308,480	322,143	295,575	277,401
Sundry revenue	143,153	207,086	232,693	282,965	236,894
Balance forward	64,593	68,120	61,570	60,080	61,970
	501,742	583,686	616,406	638,620	576,265
Deb. interest	80,800	80,800	80,800	80,800	80,800
Bad debts and invest. deprec.	34,266	65,766	24,646	43,450	29,980
Prof. dividend	68,000	68,000	68,000	68,000	68,000
Ord. dividend	204,000	204,000	217,600	224,400	224,400
Rate	15 %	15 %	16 %	11 %	11 %
Reserve, &c.	50,000	103,550	165,280	160,000	100,000
Carried forward....	64,676	61,570	60,080	61,970	73,085

The appropriation for bad debts and reserve for doubtful debts and investment depreciation is much smaller, £100,000 is again carried to reserve, but £60,000 which was set aside a year ago as provision for income-tax is not required this year. This enables the ordinary dividend to be maintained at 11 per cent., free of income-tax, and an increase of over £11,000 to be made in the carry forward. The balance-sheet shows increases of £337,100 in creditors and of £70,800 in debtors. Stocks are valued at £2,489,900, or £739,600 more, but there is a decline of £535,400 in investments. Goodwill and trade marks remain unchanged at £800,000.

Rylands and Sons.—The report of Rylands and Sons, Limited, the Manchester firm of manufacturers and warehousemen, shows a net loss for the half-year ended June 30th of £1,263,300, as compared with a profit of £254,000 for the corresponding period of 1920. Against this loss there is to be set a claim of £283,800 in respect of excess profits duty to December 31st last and £917,100 for estimated excess profits duty recoverable for the past half-year. These two items, together with £117,500 brought forward, give a credit balance of £55,100 at profit and loss account. It is proposed to transfer £250,000 from reserve and pay preference dividend and the usual 10 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares, and to carry forward £193,100. The reserve fund will be reduced to £250,000, and there is an insurance contingency fund of £350,000. The cash item amounts to £127,000. The directors attribute the company's heavy loss to the unprecedented fall in values of stock-in-trade. The latter stands in the balance-sheet at £2,642,300, as compared with £3,301,400 six months ago. Losses under heavy contracts, all of which have been cleared or provided for, are said to be also partly responsible.

Furness, Withy, and Co.—The report of Furness, Withy and Co. for the year ended April 30th last shows a sharp decline in profits from the previous year's high level, although the figure of £782,900 is higher than that earned two years ago. The following table compares results since 1907-8:—

	Total Profit.	Depreciation.	Reserve, &c.	Dividends.	Ord. Rate.
	£	£	£	£	%
1907-8	327,825	114,742	..	153,851	5
1908-9	267,075	114,897	..	166,361	5
1909-10	332,992	145,417	..	163,302	5
1910-11	440,732	179,603	50,000	220,620	7 $\frac{1}{2}$
1911-12	653,207	240,000	125,000	270,620	10
1912-13	756,141	350,000	125,000	270,620	10
1913-14	620,928	350,000	..	270,620	10
1914-15	653,548	350,000	15,000	268,431	10
1915-16	1,386,960	350,000	300,000	463,125	20
1916-17	*787,564	350,000	200,000	456,250	20
1917-18	645,077	200,000	..	452,500	20
1918-19	747,661	..	300,000	452,500	20
1919-20	1,004,821	500,000	..	452,500	10
1920-21	782,944	300,000	..	452,500	10

* After payment of two years' Excess Profits Duty.

Profits are shown "after providing for taxation," but no profit and loss account is published with the report, nor do the directors vouchsafe any information as to the year's operations. The dividend and bonus of 5 per cent. each are paid free of income-tax. Two years ago the ordinary capital was increased from £2 millions to £4 millions. The balance-sheet shows a reduction of £2,853,400 in creditors, which include bills payable and provision for taxation, while debtors are lower by £2,096,100, and there is a decrease of £681,300 in cash and Treasury bills.

Anchor Line Results.—Two years ago Anchor Line (Henderson Bros.), Limited, had a very bad year, but in 1919-20 there was a substantial recovery. The report for the year ended April 30th last, just issued, shows a falling off in net profits, though the figure is well above the low level touched two years ago. The table appended compares results for a number of years:

lowing details showing for the first six months of 1921 the total share capital of the new companies issued, the total amount of new capital issued by existing companies, and the total amount of new obligations and bonds issued:—

(In Millions of Francs.)

Categories.	New Companies.	Incr'ses of Capital.	Obligations and Bonds.	Total.
Banks and credits fonciers	10.0	102.0	1,200.0	1,312.0
Assurance	14.5	25.7	3.2	43.4
Real estate	19.4	28.3	42.7	90.4
Tramways and light railways	60.0	1.0	24.5	85.5
Ports, docks and warehouses	0.5	28.9	15.7	45.1
Canals and public works	..	35.4	19.0	54.4
Gas	..	1.2	32.5	33.7
Electricity	67.5	62.8	171.4	301.7
Automobiles and aviation	4.0	9.1	46.9	60.0
Metallurgical	19.5	156.9	396.8	573.2
Petroleum	0.7	8.2	30.0	38.9
Chemical products	135.0	205.6	55.4	396.0
Construction materials	20.5	34.1	118.4	173.0
Mines (metallic)	3.0	6.6	18.0	27.6
Collieries	..	133.0	1,220.2	1,353.2
Shipping	3.0	39.9	176.0	218.9
Food products	33.4	48.4	73.9	155.7
Trade and manufactures	43.9	111.2	32.3	187.4
Rubber and tobacco	..	14.5	..	14.5
Printing and paper	7.2	27.1	35.4	69.7
Various	7.7	37.9	37.5	83.1
French co.'s operating abroad ..	23.5	35.2	80.3	139.0
Foreign companies	7.6	19.0	15.6	42.2
Totals	480.9	1,172.0	3,845.7	5,498.6

The most striking feature of this table, at the first glance, is the enormous proportion of "obligation" or debenture issues, which confirms the observation as to the preference of investors, in these days of falling prices and industrial stagnation, for securities yielding a fixed rate of interest.

The reduction of the Bank rate to $\frac{5}{2}$ per cent. and the absence of any forthcoming heavy issues before, at least, the autumn has encouraged a large proportion of the professional element on the Bourse to predict a substantial revival of business during the present month. The past week has amply justified this prediction, and boursiers once more are induced to admit that at last business has begun to look up. The Rente has remained unchanged, but Spanish Externals, Japanese Fours, and Chinese Fours and Fives have all risen appreciably, as have also Russians, on the political news. Banks and transport descriptions have shared in the general advance, and so have metallurgical shares and collieries. Tintos, although at one time slightly higher, closed again at 1,425. Oils have fluctuated considerably, but closed at practically same figures as at the beginning of the week. Sugars, on the rise of the staple from 165, the price at which it stood a few weeks ago, to 256, have been lively, and Say in particular has been the subject of much discussion, in consequence of the complaint which has been laid against it and other refiners by the Beet Sugar Growers' Association, who allege that they have been guilty of reaping enormous illicit profits.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Aug. 4, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,106,750	22,106,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918)	572,594,747	573,827,695	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	919,756,026	905,711,756	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,364,596,815	36,941,449,710	5,510,469,439
Interest on securities	59,852,983	67,367,883	25,934,634
Bank notes to order	982,204	955,293	4,186,911
Treasury account	36,284,807	22,285,462	361,991,009
Current accounts, Paris	1,693,667,582	2,220,185,071	599,096,196
Do branch banks	1,099,208,760	1,009,183,682	90,639,961
Dividends payable	7,782,032	8,518,992	3,859,196
Discounts and sundries	32,554,709	27,528,092	10,698,550
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,552
Sundries	1,037,422,634	1,012,885,212	197,196,7
Totals	43,090,999,739	43,060,176,149	6,994,536,836

CREDITOR.

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Cash in hand	5,796,820,853	5,796,361,247	4,003,364,010
Balance abroad	628,191,102	632,191,102	..
Commercial bills overdue	3,465,838	693,956	274,028
Discounts in Paris	1,735,203,746	1,767,560,435	556,682,101
Foreign bills	6,064,322	5,119,919	20,570,069
Treasury bills	254,717	212,180	..
Discounts in branches	1,248,114,041	996,468,873	924,092,128
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	73,507,378	74,740,327	882,892
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	2,018,000
Do on public securities	414,000,167	414,065,285	204,900,321
Do on branch banks	1,744,662,478	1,753,177,690	547,543,439
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,200,000,000	25,100,000,000	..
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	6,198,500
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,859,035	101,859,035	99,579,293
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	47,036,568	47,073,324	42,497,180
Expenses and management	8,827,513	6,517,143	3,912,439
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,304,499
Sundries	1,689,045,482	1,967,873,369	260,637,933
Totals	43,090,999,739	43,060,176,149	6,994,536,836

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5%
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6

GERMANY.—BALTIC STATES—UNION PROSPECTS—AGREEMENTS—ESTHONIA—LATVIA—LITHUANIA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, August 8.

SINCE the establishment of their *de facto*, and in part internationally recognised, independence, the Baltic States, including Finland and Poland, have held several conferences with the aim of a common policy. Talk of a military, political, and economical union has been prevalent; but so far the conferences have resembled those held during the war by Sweden, Denmark, and Norway; that is, they have considered free collaboration rather than any even loose form of federation. This is natural. All five States have the strong common interest of military preparedness to resist reconquest by Russia, Red or White; but, otherwise, except for Finno-Esthonian sympathies based on similar origin and on language affinity, there is little in common, and there are strong elements of disunion. Esthonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland have all Irredentist questions with their nearest neighbour; Poland's international methods threaten dangerous commitments for the Allies; and Finland, on the basis of her higher culture, settled government, and established economical system, is inclined to regard the four possible Allies as greater liabilities than assets.

Collaboration, however, has been established to a certain extent, and progress is still being made. In Reval a meeting of the Finance Ministers of Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania was held, at which it was provisionally agreed to abolish the common Customs frontiers, to unify railway rates, to help one another's transit trade and navigation, and to conduct banking, insurance Bourse affairs, foreign concession policy, and weights and measures (metric system) on similar lines.

Of the three new South Baltic countries, the natural economical conditions of Lithuania seem to be best, but of late the greatest progress towards settlement has been made by Esthonia. Unlike Latvia, Esthonia is not hampered by a great unemployed industrial population. Through making the first peace with Russia, Esthonia outstripped Latvia, and also Finland, in the race for transit trade, and to this is owed a great deal of business activity in Reval. The land question is acute. The great proprietors, mostly German nobles, have been practically entirely expropriated, and in general estates are limited to 100 hectares. The division of the expropriated estates does not seem to have been skilfully carried out, and in principle it is challenged on the ground that the small proprietors have not the skill, machinery, and livestock necessary for intensive farming.

Esthonia's first regular Budget, submitted in May, totalled on both sides 6,762,440,300 Em, the deficit being 1,129,779,200 Em, of which 756,607,200 Em was to be met by increase of note circulation:—

	REVENUE.	Em.
Ordinary	4,507,376,900	
Extraordinary	2,255,063,400	
	6,762,440,300	

	EXPENDITURE.	
Ordinary	4,821,632,700	
Extraordinary	1,940,807,600	
	6,762,440,300	

As passed by the Budget Commission in July, the total was 6,328,441,722 Em. Of revenue 1,468,273,900 Em comes from taxes, and 3,039,103,000 Em from State undertakings. Among taxes, Customs yield 394,997,000 Em, income-tax 402,300,000 Em, taxes on business and industry 206,085,500 Em; and stamp duties 139,847,400 Em. Nearly half the State undertakings revenue (1,250,210,000 Em) comes from the spirit monopoly; railways yield 700,000,000 Em, Posts 221,000,000 Em, and State trading and industrial concerns 460,799,000 Em. Of expenditure, 1,528,527,500 Em is for defence, 342,194,300 Em for interest on debt, 928,240,000 Em for Communications, 282,660,000 Em for the Interior, 275,986,600 Em for the Ministry of Trade, 271,370,900 Em for Education, and 235,084,000 Em for agriculture. Extraordinary revenue, in which appears the above-mentioned note emission, includes various State-held moneys and the foreign exchange reserve. Extraordinary expenditure includes 646,575,000 Em for extinction of debt, and 324,554,300 Em for defence, the remainder being mostly for special outlay by the Ministries of Communications, Trade, and Finance. The income-tax was reformed in June, and now rises from 5 per cent. to (on incomes over 900,000 Em) 40 per cent. In July the Budget Commission reported that note-printing had for the time being ceased, as current revenue was sufficient. The foreign debt, as reported to the Budget Commission on July 6th, is: to Finland, 10,000,000 Em, repayable by December 1st; to the American Help Committee for grain, \$27,714,600, payment date June 30th last; to the United States Government, \$12,213,377, repayable in 1922-24; to France, 13,145,304; and to England, £200,000. The interest on the small home debt is only 10,000,000 Em.

In the spring Esthonia introduced a new import tariff, which reduced the duties on fuel, raw materials, and farm and industrial machinery, and some other goods; and increased, from twofold to eightfold, the rates on luxuries, including luxury foods. In March the wood export duties were fixed at 40s per standard of 165 cubic feet, pit-props and paper-wood at 20s per Gothenburg standard of 180 cubic feet, squared timber 12s per load of 50 cubic feet. Esthonia's foreign trade, largely transit, is developing. In second half of 1920 flax worth 350,060,860 Em was exported. Chief imports were:—Food, 142,471,896 Em; raw materials, 111,742,108 Em; and chemicals and dyes, 111,742,108 Em. Trade this year in Em was:—

	Exports.	Imports.
January	99,745,694	(not available)
February	35,603,134	328,878,447
March	72,238,864	311,000,989
April	105,807,297	481,238,226
May	456,770,908	452,770,908

May was the first month with a favourable balance, due mainly to export of 253,354,580 Em of paper and pulp, mostly to Russia. In earlier months paper exports played a small rôle. With the exception of textiles, industrial production in 1920 was considerably greater than in 1919, paper production increasing 66 per cent., wood wares 454 per cent., leather 120 per cent., and spirits 1,250 per cent.

Latvia since June has had a new Cabinet, with M. Mejerowitz (Foreign Minister in the former Cabinet and an Agrarian) as Premier and Foreign Minister, and with a more Nationalistic policy than its predecessor. The anti-Semitic and anti-German movement is strong. Under a pending Land Bill the State will compensate the expropriated owners at the values of 1920, which, reckoned in gold, is about one-tenth of the pre-war value. Foreigners will be required to sell their land within three years to Lettish citizens. Plans for a reform of the currency are under way.

Industry is still almost entirely suspended. The population of Riga has fallen to 170,000, and the invasion of the land by industrial workmen, without skill or capital, hampers agriculture. A Free Ports Bill has been passed, Libau and Windau, as practically ice-free, being preferred. Plans for three Commercial Treaties—a general Treaty,



and Treaties with Germany and Sweden—have been prepared by a Government Commission. The last-published monthly foreign trade reports show no great change:—

	Imports.	Exports.
May, 1921	596,830,854	165,395,199
June,	558,039,022	162,918,494

The amount of transit goods carried in June was 166,491 puds. Latvia in the middle of this year had 1,145 industrial undertakings, with 21,306 employees, 24 undertakings belong to the State, and 443, employing 9,740 workmen, are situated in Riga. The number of industrial employees in Riga before the war was four or five times as great.

Lithuania's trade draws much advantage from the retention of the mark currency, established during the German occupation. The circulation is about one milliard marks. The Russian currency has almost entirely disappeared. Only in the country around Vilna, still occupied by Polish troops, is there a currency crisis, this being caused by the Polish mark's depreciation. The peasants of this district sell their surplus food to Latvia, usually (as the Lettish rouble is far below the German mark) on barter lines. The last completed Lithuanian Budget for 1920 showed 671,500,000 marks revenue. A new statement by the Finance Minister shows that the actual revenue was only 411,000,000 marks, and expenditure only 422,000,000 marks. Customs brought 113,500,000 marks, and monopolies (flax, &c.) 229,000,000 marks. The expenditure of the Communications Ministry was 69,656,887 marks, Interior 23,141,943 marks, Education 22,153,843 marks, Agriculture 16,632,996 marks, and Finances, Trade, and Industry 15,266,789 marks. Lithuania owes 100,000,000 marks to Germany and \$5,000,000 to the United States, but the latter debt is guaranteed by American Lithuanians. Three American-Lithuanian companies are working at the revival of industry and international trade.

Lithuania last year had a favourable trade balance. Exports and imports were respectively 542,900,000 marks and 428,728,000 marks. Of exports, 84 per cent. were flax and wood; of imports, 72 per cent. were finished goods. Exports classified as raw and half-finished materials totalled 474,100,000 marks. Imports of food were 41,200,000 marks, boots and leather 47,500,000 marks, textiles 105,000,000 marks, and clothing 18,500,000 marks. A satisfactory settlement of the Vilna question would materially improve Lithuania's business prospects, in particular as a transit country, as through that city run the main railways to all parts of European Russia.

INDIA.—FINANCIAL POLICY AND INDIAN OPINION—THE NEW LOAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, July 22:

ONE of the most important events of the past three weeks was the meeting between the Viceroy and members of the Marwari Association of Calcutta. The Marwaris dealt with a number of points—mainly commercial—which Lord Reading considered on the spot. It was pointed out that the Marwari community takes an important part in trade and industry in the whole of India, but, in their opinion, they were not adequately represented on civic bodies. There was a grumble against the Government's railway policy and the ruling of tariffs, a plea for further repre-

sensation on the board of the Imperial Bank of India, and a deprecation of Governmental action regarding exchange. The most important point of the Viceroy's reply to this deputation was his assertion, regarding the last subject, that he was inclined to agree with them, and his assurance that both in the matter of exchange and the provision of credit facilities the Government would not take action without consulting Indian opinion, and particularly the views of Indian business men.

The new Government of India Loan is making very good progress. The total sales up to the 19th instant, including the subscriptions received in London, total Rs. 30,15,99,500. This presidency easily leads the way, and has taken nearly 14 crores of this amount. Our purchases are over a crore a week. The above total includes over three crores of 1921 and 1922 War Bonds converted into the new loan. Gold for export is arriving in Bombay from up-country stations. Ready silver stands at Rs. 101/4, and has been fluctuating somewhat during the past fortnight. The profit of the Imperial Bank of India for the six months ended June 30th last—a sum of Rs. 58,14,792—is everywhere regarded as satisfactory. Since my last letter a French Chamber of Commerce has been established in Bombay with the object of developing economic relations between France and the West India and the Persian Gulf. Mons. R. Vadala, the French Consul here, was the founder.

AUSTRALIA.—CENSUS RESULTS—PUBLIC FINANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, July 2.

THE Commonwealth Government has published a preliminary return of the census, showing that the population of Australia on April 4th last was 5,419,702, or an increase of 969,721 during the past 10 years. From the detailed registration returns published annually, it appears that the excess of births over deaths during the 10 calendar years 1911 to 1920, inclusive, was 778,644, so that the excess of arrivals over departures was approximately 191,077. As, however, the number of those who left Australia to take part in the war exceeded the number of those who returned by 73,503, the excess of ordinary immigrants over emigrants for the 10 years was approximately 264,580, practically the whole of which took place during the four years 1911 to 1914, inclusive. A feature of the annual figures has been the increase in the proportion of the six metropolitan cities, which at a recent date contained about 42 per cent. of the total population of Australia, against 38.05 per cent. at the 1911 census. This points to a comparative absence of progress in country population and production, an inference which is confirmed by other statistics. It is hoped, however, that the increased attention given to country settlement, both by returned soldiers and others, during the last year or two will remedy this state of things and lead to renewed progress. The preliminary census return in New Zealand shows a total of 1,216,974, or an increase of 208,506 in 10 years. The total for Australia and New Zealand together is thus approximately 6,636,676, against 4,546,520 in 1901, or an increase of 2,090,156 in 20 years.

The Commonwealth Treasurer has announced that the revenue and expenditure for the year ended June 30th (exclusive of loan transactions) will result in a slight surplus, the expenditure being about 65 millions, and the revenue slightly more. Exact figures will not be published for some time. The revenue has been swollen by a windfall in the shape of heavy Customs receipts from exceptionally large importations during the 12 months, but for which there would have been a deficit on the year's operations. A credit balance of about 5½ millions was brought forward 12 months ago, and this will now be slightly increased by the surplus for the past year. The Treasurer takes credit for having spent less than the Budget estimate, but it is to be noted that estimates of expenditure are usually drawn up to leave a margin in excess. The expenditure of 65 millions for the past year compares with 50½ millions for the preceding year, 1919-20, the increase being partly due to higher amounts payable for interest, sinking fund, repatriation of soldiers, and other expenditure consequent

upon the war, and partly to the tendency of ordinary expenditure to increase. The repatriation expenditure is partly charged to revenue, and partly against loans.

JAPAN.—FOREIGN TRADE—HALF-YEAR'S BALANCE—SPECIE HOLDINGS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TOKYO, July 5.

CONTRARY to the hope entertained in the more optimistic circles of Japanese commerce, the end of the half-year's foreign trade leaves a somewhat swollen unfavourable balance. To an already high figure the month of June added a further 38,993,000 yen, making the total adverse balance for the six months no less than 223,001,000 yen. June's export trade reached a total value of 108,051,000 yen, against 183,249,000 yen for the corresponding month of last year, a decline of 75,198,000 yen. The value of import trade, on the other hand, amounted to 147,044,000 yen, as compared with the 218,522,000 yen for June last year, the decrease amounting to 71,478,000 yen. As compared with last year, Japan's total loss of trade during the first six months of this year thus amounts to some 1,381,387,000 yen, of which 563,458,000 yen represent exports, and 817,929,000 yen imports. The total trade of the half-year may be summarised as follows:—

	January to June, 1920. Yen.	January to June, 1921. Yen.
Exports.....	1,138,275,000	574,817,000
Imports.....	1,615,747,000	797,818,000
Total.....	2,754,022,000	1,372,635,000
Adverse balance	477,472,000	223,001,000

As to exports of bullion during the period, there were none, while imports amounted to 111,000,000 yen, as compared with exports to the amount of 1,642,000 yen for the same period of last year, and imports to the value of 49,209,000 yen.

Japan still maintains her embargo on exports of gold. The national specie holdings, which totalled no more than 353,000,000 yen before the war, now amount to 2,158,000,000 yen, of which 854,000,000 yen belongs to the Government and 1,194,000,000 yen to the Bank of Japan. Of the total some 964,000,000 yen is in England and America; but it is noticeable that the inflow of gold to Japan has been steady during the past two years.

SPAIN.—FIVE MONTHS' FOREIGN TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRID, August 7.

THE statistics for Spain's foreign trade for the first five months of the current year have only just been officially published. According to these, the value of Spain's imports and exports compares as follows with the figures for the two previous years:—

Imports.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Live stock	1,059,830	6,963,144	1,950,890
Raw materials	164,576,740	159,764,981	189,453,802
Manufactured goods.....	104,071,521	226,834,197	285,155,132
Food stuffs	65,758,763	137,040,130	163,713,384
	335,466,854	520,602,452	640,273,208
Gold in bars and coin	848	4,897,600	78,840
Silver	100,449	674,410	379,691
Total	335,568,151	536,194,462	640,731,739
Exports.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Live stock	491,038	664,550	794,864
Raw materials	78,697,104	93,414,265	59,807,348
Manufactured goods.....	126,524,115	127,507,529	92,585,424
Food stuffs	247,772,373	210,357,935	144,907,812
Gold in bars and coin.....	387,150	3,092,400	1,320,840
Silver idem.....	3,955,790	3,195,760	5,811,209
Total of exports.....	556,229,540	438,232,439	305,227,497

Without taking into account the movement in metals, Spain's foreign trade has fallen by 24,180,075 pesetas during the first five months of 1921, as compared with the same period in 1920, but, on the other hand, was 49,415,172 pesetas higher than in the corresponding period of 1919.

SWITZERLAND.—RAILWAY CRISIS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, July 31.

THE high value of Swiss currency in comparison with that of all the four neighbouring countries, combined with the possibilities of alternative traffic routes, creates a serious crisis in the railway system of Switzerland. The following figures for the Federal railways show the abnormal state of affairs:—Gross receipts—1919, 341.75 millions; 1920, 394.03 millions. Working expenses—1919, 290.89 millions, or 85.5 per cent. of gross receipts; 1920, 358.33 millions, or 91.9 per cent. of gross receipts. In spite of considerable increases of freights and fares, the net profit is not sufficient to pay the interest on outstanding bonds; it is the taxpayer who will have to take charge of the difference.

Letters to the Editor.

POST-WAR TROUBLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your correspondent, dealing with the above subject in your last issue, evidently has not observed my letter in your issue of July 16th, under the same "nom-de-plume" as he himself adopts, whereby I tried to show the "causes and the remedy of depression."

Will your correspondent be good enough to say whether the remedy shown in my letter is not the only practicable one to rectify the "frightful muddle"? And if not, why not?

I agree that it is useless to talk of "greater industry and greater thrift" when the means are not there. It is, however, equally useless asking business men to give us a "complete inventory of the wealth annihilated by the war," as it is obvious that "the goods actually produced during war-time" are the wealth so annihilated.

The position is, that we have created a colossal National Debt to carry on the war without, of course, producing or acquiring, as yet, exchangeable commodities to counter-balance or to justify such debt. Hence the increased values of commodities, or the depreciation of the currency.

It is of no use saying that our business men have created nearly 8,000 million pounds' worth of "fictive credits," when it is common knowledge that the whole of the nation is responsible for the creation of same by tacitly agreeing, in 1914, to fight German militarism.

It appears that, in the opinion of your correspondent, the cause of the present "muddle" is the so-called "fictive credits"—i.e., the war debt—and that the abolition thereof will remedy matters. But why does he not tell us how this is going to be done?

I venture to suggest that the only way to bear now and eventually pay off the heavy burden of our internal and external war debt and the interest thereon is either:—

1. To buy and sell on the level of prices ruling, say, at the end of 1919; or,
2. To buy and sell six times the quantity of goods that we exported and imported in 1913 at the prices ruling then.

As it is impossible to accomplish the latter proposition (at any rate, for some generations), it seems to me that the first proposition is the only sane and logical remedy. The problem seems to be in a "cul de sac" in the minds of our "armchair economists." They refuse to see the simple fact that practically the whole of the manufacturing countries created the so-called "fictive credits" during and on account of the war, and that until such "fictive credits" are paid off in goods it is simply preposterous to expect a low level of prices for commodities.

The policy advocated by the "Cunliffe Committee" simply means that such "fictive credits" must be paid on

the basis of the gold standard—i.e., we must produce six times more quantity of goods at a given time compared with pre-war days, and we must find markets for such quantity! *It cannot be done.*

The sooner the Government and the financial world face the real facts and act accordingly the better will be the chance of averting the colossal economic disaster which is hanging over the country.—Yours faithfully,
Manchester, August 8th, 1921. OBSERVER A.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—“Observer’s” letter seems to me to leak in consequence at every pore.

By what logical process does he manage to detach debts from assets in his light-hearted way? We are rich, he thinks, because we still have large assets, regardless of our enormous debts. Our 8,000 millions of debt is composed of fictive credits—scraps of paper—by means of which 400 million pounds are extorted from us annually, he thinks!

Surely if I borrow large sums of money to enable me to meet unavoidable though crushing demands, and am unable to repay the sums borrowed, I cannot complain because the lenders demand interest on their loans.

I am not out to defend war finance in detail; doubtless there were grave errors; but the simple process of calling debts “fictive credits” and wiping them out seems unsatisfactory; regarded from the lowest point of view, the plan would prevent our getting any more credits, “fictive” or otherwise.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
August 8th, 1921. E. H. B.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your correspondent “Observer” has a grip of the present financial situation, which, indeed, is summarised pretty completely in the Cunliffe Report. But why coin a new word—“fictive” credit? When any Government or any individual borrows money, the immediate effect of such action must necessarily be a fictitious prosperity on behalf of the borrower. You borrow £100,000; your bankbook shows £100,000 to your credit, which you immediately begin to spend. It is only when interest becomes due or repayment is demanded that the borrower feels the draught. As long as the borrower can keep on borrowing more than he has to repay in principle and interest, this fictitious prosperity must continue.

Everybody knows these facts, and there is nothing for the business man or any other man to shut his eyes to.

Your correspondent demands an abolition of this fictitious credit. There can be only two ways: either by redeeming it or repudiating it. You can do the latter at once by going into the Bankruptcy Court; but if you have been grossly extravagant in your spending, it would probably take years of patient effort and unremitting toil to redeem the past. Which course does your correspondent recommend?—Yours faithfully,
August 7th, 1921. G. S. PAWLE.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Our letter to the *Economist* of July 30th was intended to point out the great confusion that has come into our economic reasoning upon currency and trade; and the various correspondents to your issue of August 6th might all have written their letters with intent to emphasise our view in the most dramatic manner possible.

Two gentlemen kindly offer to enlighten our bewilderment, but it will be noticed that their views of our error are diametrically opposed to each other. Mr Craies admits that we argue correctly from our assumed premises, but that one of our terms is ambiguous, because “token currency” is not like other commodities in exchange, as its supply “is absolutely under control of the State.” Mr Craies and his school of disputants would seem actually to think that the State really distributes currency in the way which is so humorously suggested by your correspondent, “Economist in Wonderland,” whose letter we recommend to Mr Craies’ careful consideration.

We imagine the State only issues currency of any kind against security or value received, and if financiers will not

produce the required goods or securities the State cannot issue that currency—they do not really control it. And financiers are not likely to take the responsibility of supplying currency (credit) against security if they think that security will fall in value while their liabilities to the State remain unchanged. The whole problem is to find the real value of those goods or security against which a like value of credit may be issued.

Mr Cook's view is much more like our own, and he gives a historical sketch of price movement to show a connection between quantity of money and prices. No one will, we think, doubt that there is some connection between the supply of money and level of prices, but our difficulty was to know "how exactly" that connection fixed the price level. It is the want of exact knowledge we want to point out. Take Mr Cook's period from 1873 to 1896, when money was in short supply; did prices gradually drop? We find they went up considerably about 1883, and went very high indeed in 1890; and while they were falling from then to the low point in 1895 the world's supply of gold had gone up by £12,000,000 a year. This does not agree with a fall of prices exactly, and leaves it questionable whether it is exactly the quantity of gold that matters, or some other quality—say, its cost.

Then comes your correspondent "Observer," who supports our view of the chaotic condition of economic reasoning by "our business men" pretty forcibly. He further tells us we must abolish fictive credit if we would be saved; but, alas! he does not tell us "how to do it."—Yours faithfully,

ALBERT AND PERCY WALLIS.

Westacre, Kettering, August 6th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

"The Evolution of World-Peace." Essays arranged and edited by F. S. Marston. Oxford University Press. 9s 6d net.

WHEN history is limited to the details of warfare and of politics, it is apt to make for pessimism as to the future of mankind. The broader views taken in this volume give a sounder basis for hope. It contains 11 lectures, delivered last August at the Summer School at Woodbrooke; one is introductory; six deal with the movements towards unification in the past—the spread of Hellenism through Alexander's conquests, the Roman Empire and its effects on legal and social conceptions, the failure of Pope Innocent III. to establish control by the Papacy, the work of the Dutch merchants in developing international law and of Grotius in formulating it, the influence of the French Revolution outside France, and the resettlement of Europe after Waterloo. These are severally described by eminent authorities with a wealth of learning which may have strained the assimilative powers of their hearers. Then Mr Marston shows how fertile the last half of the last century was in international agreements which were not strictly political; and in other bonds of union: Mr Whelen sketches the multifarious activities of the League of Nations, and Mr H. G. Wells and Miss Eileen Power—of whose contributions the substance had appeared previously—deal respectively with the actual barriers to international intercourse and with the need for the inclusion in school text-books of the social and economic sides of history. The book should be useful to all students of world-politics.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

American Economic Life. By Henry R. Burch. (London) Macmillan and Co. 9s net.

Unemployment and Industrial Maintenance. By G. D. H. Cole. (London) Labour Publishing Company. 6d.

Map of the British Cemeteries in Flanders. Edited by the Press and Publicity Service, Belgian State Railway. (Brussels.)

The Problem of Upper Silesia and the Reconstruction of Economics. (Breslau) Chamber of Commerce.

Upper Silesia and the Changes in the Iron Industry of Europe by the Versailles Memorandum by the Mining and Metallurgical Section, the East Europe Institute. (Breslau.)

The Gold and Rediscount Policy of the Federal Reserve Banks. By A. Barton Hepburn and Benjamin M. Anderson. (New York) Chase National Bank.

Report of the Netherlands Bank. Presented on June 21, 1921. (Amsterdam) Blikman and Sartorius.

Australia To-Day. Special Number of the *Australian Traveller*. (London) Australia House. 2s 6d.

Armstrong Whitworth Ships. (London) Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co.

Income Tax Up to Date. By H. J. Gully. (London) Financial News. 9d.

Report of the Fuel Research Board for the Years 1920-1921. Section 1. Steaming in Vertical Gas Retorts. (London) H.M. Stationery Office. 1s 6d net.

The 100 Best Investments. (London) British, Foreign, and Colonial Corporation, Limited. 2s net.

London Joint City and Midland Bank's Monthly Review. *London County Westminster and Parr's Bank's Review.* *Barclays Bank's Monthly Review.*

Bulletin of the Federation of British Industries. August 9th. (London) is.

Contains a special Taxation Supplement, reviewing questions affecting the taxation of industry.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. August 25. ACCOUNT. August 26.

In a week in which holiday influences have again had the upper hand, business in the stock markets has been of a similar character to last week. Prices remained fairly steady for the first few days, but there was a marked dullness in quotations towards the end of the week. Once again recently-issued Corporation and Colonial stocks were the most sought after amongst investors, and prices again rose in many cases. On Wednesday and Thursday, British Government securities gave way a little, selling of Consols on Continental account, it is stated, causing a further weakening in the quotation, while Conversion Loan and 5 per cent. War Loan were also lower. Last week's active demand for South American bonds, especially Brazilians, subsided, and the latter came on offer as a result of the further fall in the exchange. Towards the end of the week, however, there was a mild rally. Argentine bonds have been fairly firm, with a few rises here and there. News that the Federal Government had been asked for assistance in respect of the over-due July coupons had little effect on the State of Para issues. Chinese and Japanese issues are a little higher, and Mexican Fives have been in demand. Reports from Mexico state President Obregon expects to have available 7½ million pesos for external debt service by October. In the Home Railway market, the approach of decontrol is viewed with pessimism in the market, and the public seems to prefer to await events before doing business. The Scottish group has naturally been depressed by the passing of dividends by the Great North of Scotland, by the Highland, by the Caledonian, "in view of the excessive cost of labour and the continued depression in trade," and by the Glasgow and South-Western, on account of "the action of the Ministry of Transport in withholding a large sum due." An exception to the general dullness of the railway market has been the Underground group, Underground Electric Income bonds being quite firm. In the foreign railway market, Argentines were weak at first, but steadied later in the week, while Mexican Railway issues have moved up.

The Industrial section has been almost stagnant. There has been a little quiet buying of bank shares. An advance in P. and O. Banking was followed by a sharp relapse. Shipping shares were quiet, but fairly firm, and breweries were unchanged. Forestal Land shares were in demand, on the acquisition by the company of the capital of Renner and Co., a German tanning and dyestuff firm. The rubber share market

has again been very quiet. We refer in another column to the proposal to form an association of rubber shareholders. Tea shares, on the other hand, have been quite active, and a considerable amount of business has been done. The oil share market has been idle, and with a little liquidation in evidence, prices have been inclined to recede.

Business in the mining section has been small, but there has been a good tone, and prices, on the whole, have been very steady. Many Kafir issues were marked ex-dividend on Thursday, and the lower prices attracted buyers.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	£ 143,198,781	£ ..	£ ..	£ ..

TREASURY BONDS.	£
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	1,021,990
5½ % 1929 receipts week ended July 30, 1921	8,130,000
Week ended August 6, 1921	3,950,000
Receipts to date	12,080,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.	£
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED AUGUST 6, 1921.	
April 1 to August 6, £1,080,000	Dr 350,000
..	Dr 350,000

Shareholders only—	£
British Malay Rubber, £39,000 10%	39,000
1st Mt. Debs., at par, red. at 155	39,000
Dec. 31, 1926—Jan. 1, 1932	9,750
29,250	29,250

Shareholders only—	£
Oriental Rubber, £22,000 10 %	22,000
Debs., at par, red. at 105, Dec. 31, 1926—Jan. 1, 1932	22,000
5,500	5,500
16,500	16,500

Shareholders only—	£
Total offered to shareholders	61,000
only	15,250
45,750	45,750

Shareholders only—	£
Total offered for subscription to date	124,659,781
1921	272,385,547
1920	426,553,533
1919	874,928,005
1918	1,078,634,048
1917	363,763,600
1916	658,668,876
1915	172,285,827
1914	237,549,656
1913	1,036,059,951
1912	1,393,381,441
1911	1,318,596,010
1910	585,436,850
1909	685,256,326
1908	512,522,633
1907	196,536,380

Shareholders only—	£
Local Loans 3%	53
Aust. 5½ % deb., 1922-7	95
Canada 4½ % 1920-25	95
India 3½ % Stock	58
Do 7½ % Stock	104
N.S.W. 5½ % 1922-27	93
Uoif.S.A. 4½ % 1920-25	93
Victoria 5½ % 1924-34	94

Shareholders only—	£
Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.)	2½
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2 paid)	6½
London County Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14½

Shareholders only—	£
Antofagasta Cons.	46
B. A. & Pacific	40
B. A. G. Southern	56
Buenos Ayres West	56
Canadian Pacific	158
Central Argentine	55
Grand Trunk Ord.	43

Shareholders only—	£
Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10)	19
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10)	11½
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	9½
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	10½

Shareholders only—	£
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref.	12½
Leopoldina	22½
Mexican Railway	14½
Do 1st Pref.	35
Do 2nd Pref.	24
San Paulo	116
United Havana	59

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Argentine 5½ % 1886-7	95
Belgian 3½ %	61x
Brazil 5½ % Fund, 1914-60x	62
Chilian 4½ % 1895	67
Chinese 5½ % 1912	71½
Egyptian 4½ %	64½
French 5½ %	64
Do 4½ %	34

Shareholders only—	£
Italian 3½ % Rentes	25
Greek Monopoly 4½ %	32½
Japanese 4½ %	121
Do 4½ % 1910	64
Mexican Cons. 1899	57
Peruvian Corp. Pref.	16½
Russian 5½ % 1906	134
Spanish 4½ %	69

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Shareholders only—	£
Chesapeake & Ohio	77
Erie	18½
Do 4½ % 1st Pref.	27

Telegraphs.

Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Anglo-American "A" 17 ..	17 ..	—
Eastern Telegraph .. 163½ ..	163½ ..	—
Marconi Wireless .. 2½ ..	2½ ..	—
Marconi Canada .. 1½ ..	1½ ..	—
Marconi Marine .. 1½ ..	1½ ..	—

British Railways.

Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Great Central Pref.	83 ..	—
Great Eastern	21½ ..	—
Great Northern Def.	23½ ..	—
Great Western	64½ ..	—
Lancs. and Yorks.	46 ..	—
London, Brighton, "A" 37½ ..	37½ ..	—
London, Chatham	54 ..	—
Do Arb. Pref.	36 ..	—
L. and N.W.	69 ..	—
L. & S. Western, Def.	18½ ..	—
Metropolitan	26½ ..	—
Metropolitan District ..	18½ ..	—
Midland Deferred	42½ ..	—
North British Def.	91 ..	—
North-Eastern	71½ ..	—
South-Eastern "A"	20½ ..	—

Miscellaneous.

Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1) ..	1½ ..	—
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) and Co. (£1) ..	16½ ..	—
Ass. Portland Cement (£1) ..	19½ ..	—
Bham Small Arms (£1) ..	9½ ..	—
Brazil Traction (£100) ..	50 ..	—
British American Tobacco (£1) ..	3½ ..	—
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	1½ ..	—
Burmah Oil (£1) ..	6½ ..	—
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) ..	2½ ..	—
Courtaulds (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Cunard (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Dorman, Long (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Dunlop Rubber (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Forestal Land (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Furness, Withby (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Hudson's Bay (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
International Paint (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Linggi Plants (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Lipton (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Lister (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Lobitos Oilfields (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) ..	14½ ..	—
Mexican Eagle (£10) ..	50 ..	—
North Caucasian (100) ..	50 ..	—
Pekin (2) ..	50 ..	—
Rubber Plantations Investment (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Shell Transport (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Underground Electric (£10) ..	14½ ..	—
Do "A" (1) ..	14½ ..	—
Do Inc. Bds. (£100) ..	14½ ..	—
United Serdang (2) ..	14½ ..	—
United Tobacco (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Ural Caspian (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Vallambrosa (2) ..	14½ ..	—
Vickers (£1) ..	14½ ..	—
Watney Def. Stk.	14½ ..	—

Mines.

Brakpan (£1)	2s.	2½s.	+	Knights	3s.	3s.	
Broken Hill Prop. (8)	2s.	2s.	+	Modderfontein (10)	3s.	3s.	
Chartered (£1)	2s.	2s.	+	Modderfont. "B" (5)	1½s.	1½s.	
Cons. Gold Fields (£1)	2s.	2s.	+	Modderfont. Deep (5)	2½s.	2½s.	
Crown Mines (10)	2s.	2s.	+	Premier Del. (2½)	4s.	5s.	+
De Beers Del. (£2½)	11s.	11s.	+	Rand Mines (5½)	2½s.	2½s.	
East Rand Prop. (£1)	2s.	2s.	+	Sio Tinto (45)	50s.	30s.	-
Geduld (£1)	2s.	2½s.	+	Erio Mines (£1)	2s.	2s.	

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

EAST AFRICAN ESTATES, LIMITED. LARGE AREA OF COMPANY'S PROPERTY READY FOR SUB-LEASING.

The fourteenth ordinary (adjourned) general meeting of East African Estates, Limited, was held, on the 10th instant, at the registered offices of the company, Carlton House, Regent street, London, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Plymouth (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr Wm. Beaumont) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—I move the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1920, and in doing so I regret to have to say that Lord Cobham—chairman of the board until about 18 months ago—has felt obliged to resign his seat on the board. He has done so owing to failing health, but the company is fortunate in having on the board his son, Major Lyttelton, who is continuing the active interest in the concerns of the company which Lord Cobham has always evinced.

I have to express the board's regret at the unavoidable delay in presenting the report and accounts.

It has always been the practice of the board to give all material information in their annual reports, and it will be noticed that this policy has not been departed from on this occasion.

THE ACCOUNTS.

With regard to the accounts, I should like to remind you that the very valuable property which is held under a long lease from the Government is included in the balance-sheet at a nominal figure of £1. It is impossible at present to estimate the true value of such a property. In drawing attention to the satisfactory nature of the assets of the company I would point out that, in addition to investments, taken at their market value, sundry debtors (less creditors), stock in hand and in transit and the Entebbe mortgage (since paid off), totalling £29,466 14s 4d, there was in cash and at call the large sum of £145,687 2s 1d.

There is an adverse balance in the profit and loss account, owing to a great extent to the board's policy of writing off administrative expenditure, which might reasonably, in a company of this character, be charged to capital account. The intention of the directors has always been, and is, to develop portions of the property with a view to sub-leasing plantations. The war greatly interfered with the development of the estates and sub-leasing, and in some respects the spade work commenced before the war had to be gone through again after the cessation of hostilities. As a further explanation of this I would remind you that all work had to be stopped during the war owing to the absence of labour. As the shareholders will recognise, the land, having been left alone, had to be reclaimed and the absence of labour made good. The Government recognised this by giving us three years more in which to spend the required amount of development under the terms of our lease.

Excluding the four months' trading, all the expenditure of the company has been in respect of development or experiment, in pursuance of the board's policy. As far as the coast plantations are concerned, it can be said that the experimental stage is reaching its close, and there should be nothing in the very near future to prevent the achievement of the main object of the company—namely, letting and sub-leasing land based on successful experiment.

Owing to the scarcity of Government surveyors there has been unusual delay in the surveying of the company's land. This was unavoidable, as only Government surveyors could be employed, but I am pleased to say that nearly one-half of our coast concession has been surveyed, and the whole of the Taveta concession (100,000 acres) was completely surveyed by the Government last year. We are, therefore, in a position to deal with this concession whenever a favourable opportunity arrives.

Experiments are being carried out on the Taveta concession with various tropical products. So far the reports are satisfactory. This land, in the opinion of all experts who have inspected it, is a valuable property.

With reference to the building site at Likoni, which is considered a great asset of the company, the architects' plans are now before the Government for sanction, and it is hoped to get an early decision. It will be remembered that Likoni is the land abutting on the harbour opposite Mombasa, which, from every point of view, presents great attractions as a residential district. We have no doubt of the necessity and demand for houses on this site, Mombasa having become very much congested.

CURRENCY PROBLEM.

The currency question has added no little to the difficulties of the board. It will be remembered that the rupee exchange value before the war was 1s 4d. By March, 1920, it had risen to 2s 8d. For some reason the Government stepped in and stabilised the rupee in East Africa at 2s. Unfortunately for East Africa, very soon after the stabilisation the Indian rupee dropped to about its pre-war figure, where it now remains. After a good deal of hesitation on the part of the authorities, the currency has been placed on a permanent basis, florins having taken the place of the stabilised rupee. From reports we have received from East Africa labour is adjusting itself to pre-war rates, which should in future reduce our costs.

The directors were hopeful of the commercial department, which commenced in February, 1920. Unfortunately, the department started just at the end of the boom in trade, which was followed in East Africa by great financial stringency, intensified by the currency difficulty. Our managing director visited East Africa at the end of 1920. He rapidly saw the undesirability of continuing the department, and immediately gave instructions for its liquidation. All orders given in England were cancelled, and his prompt action has prevented the company losing a considerable sum of money.

You will be pleased to note that part of the premiums received on the new issue of shares has been used to write off all intangible assets in the last balance-sheet and the expenses of the new issue.

Mr Herbert Guedalla seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Major the Hon. J. C. Lyttelton then proposed that the retiring directors (the Earl of Plymouth and Mr Herbert Guedalla) be re-elected.

Mr M. R. Margesson seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. Margesson, seconded by Sir Owen Thomas, M.P., the auditors (Messrs Downes, Munns and Co.) were reappointed, and the proceedings terminated.

EBBW VALE STEEL, IRON, AND COAL COMPANY, LIMITED

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF COMPANY'S FUTURE.

RESULTS OF GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE IN INDUSTRY.

The fifty-fourth ordinary general meeting of the Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron and Coal Company, Limited, was held on the 9th instant, at the Cannon street Hotel, London, Sir Frederick Mills, Bart. (chairman and managing director), presiding.

The secretary (Mr Bertram Northgraves, A.C.I.S.) read the notice convening the meeting, and the report of the auditors was read by Sir William B. Peat.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, after apologising for the delay in holding the meeting, said: Last year, although the recital was a little out of place, I explained to the shareholders that the company had purchased Messrs Beynon's interest in John Lancaster and Co., Limited, and Powell's Tillery Steam Coal Company, Limited; that we had purchased the entire share capital of Lancaster's Steam Coal Collieries, Limited; and also practically the whole of the ordinary share capital of the Newport-Abercarn Black Vein Steam Coal Company, Limited.

The directors are still satisfied with these purchases; they have every reason to suppose that they were made in the best interests of the company, and that in the years to come we shall reap the benefit of extensions which were entirely along the lines of the policy pursued by the company for many years past.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

Passing now to the balance-sheet, it will be observed that the ordinary share capital is now fully paid, the difference of three-quarters of a million between this year's figure and last being accounted for by the part payment of the colliery shares I have just alluded to. These shares were issued at a premium, which is added to premium on shares account. The debenture loan, by reason of the redemption of a somewhat larger sum than was actually due—advantage having been taken of the very low price at which the stock stood in the market—is now below a million pounds. This is a very small amount for a company with well over ten millions of surplus assets.

A new item is that of the note issue of £3,000,000, issued at a discount of 1½ per cent. Only half of the total was issued to the public, and bore an underwriting and over-riding commission of 5½ p.m. The other moiety of the total was taken firm

by the subsidiary companies at the price of issue, without commission.

Turning to the assets side of the balance-sheet, it will be observed that the expenditure during the year on collieries and works, after deduction of property sold, is in the neighbourhood of a million. The extensions include, of course, the two new large glass furnaces, one of which was set to work a year ago, and the other is nearly completed; the coke ovens, the last batch also nearly completed; the alterations to the steel works; and a large number of items of improvement in the collieries, particulars of which I recorded last year. The investments are increased from £408,133 to £2,810,184, due, of course, to the acquisition of the shares in the associated collieries.

STOCKS ON HAND.

The item "stocks on hand" requires more than a passing remark. The total amount of over a million and a-half pounds is considerably in excess of a reasonable amount, even for the enlarged operations of the company, and one that must be considerably reduced as opportunity serves. The increment is mostly in iron and steel stocks, and was brought about by the practically sudden stoppage of demand for iron and steel. Before arriving at the figure which appears in the balance-sheet, a very large sum was written off values in order to bring them well within the description of "cost or market price." Moreover, it is proposed to allocate a sum of £150,000 to meet any possible reductions in value that have taken place since the date of the balance-sheet. It is impossible for me at this moment to prophesy what is going to happen in the iron and steel markets of the world, and therefore it is impossible to say whether these stocks can be realised to fetch the sums at which they will now stand in the

company's books. I can only express the opinion that I think we have made adequate provision for any fall in the markets that is likely to take place, and you may rest assured that this item will engage the careful attention of the board until it is reduced to more manageable dimensions.

The other item in the balance-sheet calling for special comment is the amount remaining unpaid by the purchasers of our seven-year notes, which was £127,500 at March 31st, and has since been reduced by £75,000. There remains at the moment a sum of £52,500 to be paid, plus interest, and your directors feel that in the present state of the money market no good purpose would be served by unduly pressing for the payment of the balance.

GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE AND ITS RESULT.

In my speech to the shareholders last year I ventured, in endeavouring to forecast the future, to say that:—

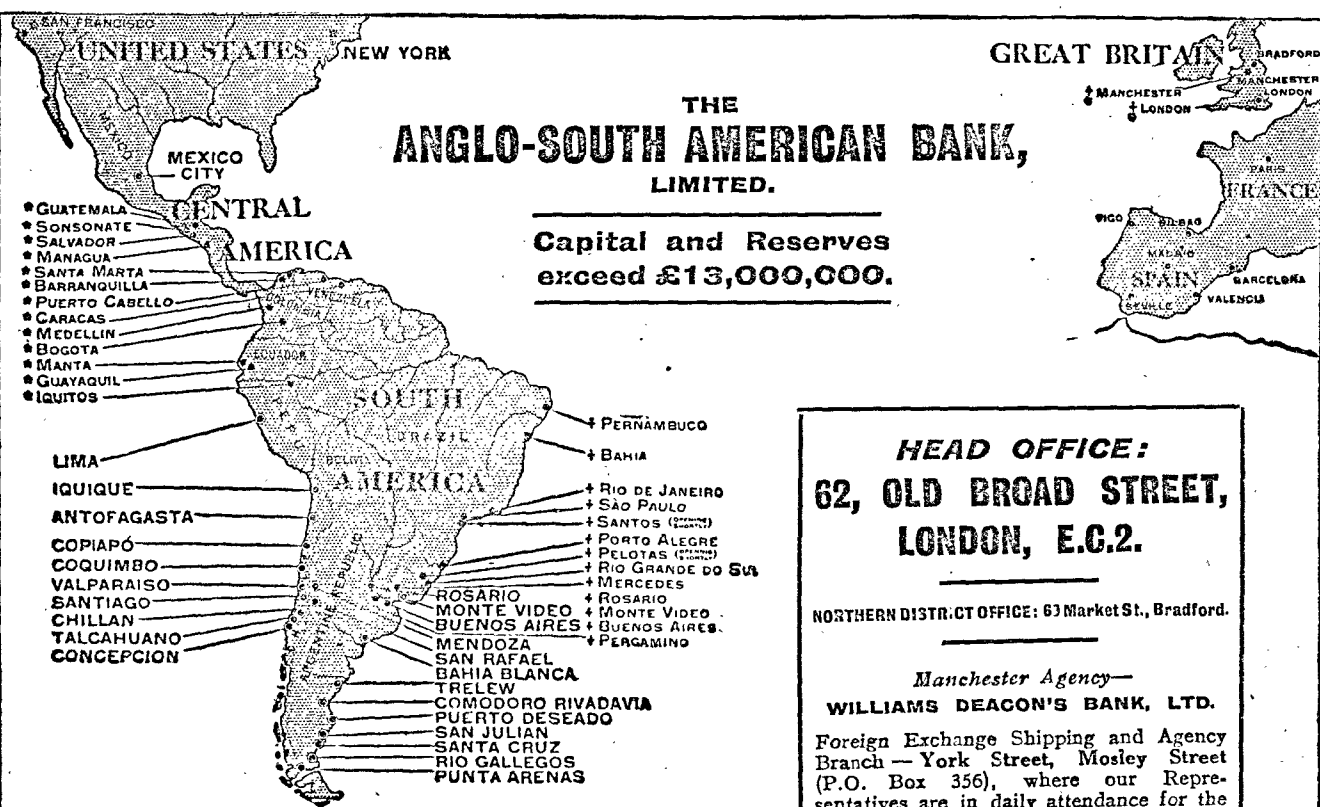
"All we require is a minimum of interference from Government Departments, a fair field and no favour, and I am convinced we shall be able to conduct this vast undertaking to the satisfaction of the public, the comfort and well-being of our workpeople, and to the reasonable profit of the shareholders."

Ladies and gentlemen, we have had none of the ingredients enumerated and necessary to produce such a result. Almost immediately after our annual meeting I was constrained to observe in a public statement relating to other affairs that it was obvious the world was no longer going to be content to pay £25 a ton for steel, and very shortly afterwards the bottom dropped out of the iron and steel markets of the world. Then came the demand of the colliers of this country for a share of the very high prices the Government was compelling our Continental friends to pay for British coal. Whatever may be the rights and wrongs of the colliers' demands, whatever may be the justification for the

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

• BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
• BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

Government's demand of famine prices for coal, the result of these two movements was disastrous. At the point of the bayonet the colliery workpeople were given terms which defeated their own ends. The output of coal, instead of going up by leaps and bounds, as was expected and promised, went down. The bottom of that market fell out as suddenly as had that of the Iron and Steel market, with the immediate result that the colliery undertakings of this country were compelled to pursue an inglorious and unprofitable policy of part-time, accompanied by enormous costs, until eventually the Government itself became frightened, and dropped the industry as it were a hot brick.

This disastrous proceeding—the result of Government interference—was quite naturally followed by a cessation of work, caused by the inability of the colliery owners to pay anything like the rates of wages current in the first three months of the year; and while the Government was compelled to repay the colliery owners the losses sustained from December to March, there were a great many items of expenditure in such a company as ours which were irrecoverable from that source.

On top of the national dispute, Ebbw Vale and some of the associated companies had difficulties of their own, because it must be remembered that from motives of patriotism Ebbw Vale became a munitions centre during the war; we should doubtless have consulted our own financial interests better by refraining from taking the part we did, but I, personally, do not regret our attitude. The effect, however, was, as I say, to constitute Ebbw Vale a munitions area, and I much regret to have to say that undue advantage of that fact was taken by several of the trades union representatives by demanding and obtaining, at frequent intervals, terms and conditions from the Government departments which we opposed, and which would never have been granted had we not been a munitions area. It was felt that it would be unwise to issue a balance-sheet and to recommend a dividend while our own disputes remained unsettled, and in recommending to you to-day to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. we recognise that while this policy may appear to the shareholders to be unduly conservative, we might perhaps have been compelled, by any further continuance of the disputes, to have refrained from declaring any dividend on the ordinary shares of the company.

NEED FOR INDUSTRIAL PEACE.

Now, as to the future, it is, of course, not only impossible, but exceedingly unwise, to attempt any forecast. Suffice it to say that all classes of the community must begin at the beginning. The collier and the agricultural labourer are, in effect, the beginnings of industry. Both these must be got to work before industry as a whole can be set going. Without cheap coal there can be no other industries such as we have been accustomed to during the last hundred years, and without cheap iron and steel there can be no shipbuilding, engineering and allied trades. I believe the heart and the patriotism of the British working classes are both undoubted, and that they recognise that the harmonious working together of both capital and labour is essential to their own peace and welfare as it is to the progress of the country as a whole.

Notwithstanding the shock your financial resources have received by what amounts to a practical cessation of output for close on nine months, it must be observed that you hold a remarkable property, developed for a number of years at vast expense, with a great sphere of usefulness before it. You possess the essential raw materials for the natural industries of the country; you possess a great organisation, and I still feel justified in saying, as I did last year, that if we can have a minimum of Government interference has been a fair field and no favour, we shall render you a good account (acres) of improved opportunities that will thus be accorded to this company.

A favourable solution was carried unanimously, and the usual formal Experimenting has been transacted, a vote of thanks to the chairmen, and the staff terminated the proceedings. This land, in the valuable property. With reference to considered a great asset of DEN BERGHS, LIMITED. before the Government for the decision. It will be remembered that the Government's decision, on the harbour opposite MY general meeting of Van den Berghs, on view, presents great attractions, and I am sure that the Hon. Lord Ebury, chairman of no doubt of the necessity and Mombasa having become very n

The secretary (Mr A. G. Hales) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, referred first to the loss the company had sustained in the death of the late chairman, Sir Herbert Mackworth Praed. Proceeding, he said that the accounts showed that the capital had been increased by £1,500,000, while one of the associated companies on the Continent had made a further issue of capital to the extent of about £5,000,000, the total capital placed with the public by the company and its associated companies on the Continent now amounting to the enormous sum of £6,750,000. The notes issued by the company in 1915 and 1916 had now been practically redeemed, but the associated company in Holland had made a new issue of notes to the extent of £1,250,000, redeemable in 10 years. The policy of expansion, to which the late chairman had referred at the last meeting, had again been followed up to an even greater extent than in former years. The Fulham factory had been further enlarged, and its capacity very materially increased. On the Continent further acquisitions had been made by one of the associated companies in Scandinavia, Belgium, &c., and the purchase of a considerable business in France had recently been completed. The figures in the balance-sheet relating to the floating assets and liabilities reflected the great increase in the volume of the company's trade, and in their inter-relationship revealed a sound financial position. In view of the large trade which the company was doing, they were compelled to carry large stocks. It was a matter of common knowledge that during the closing weeks of last year an unprecedented drop in the prices of all sorts of commodities had occurred, and especially in those used in their business. The directors, however, were of opinion that the carry forward, together with the other reserves, would be sufficient to offset any depreciation, and moreover, those stocks had now been practically all consumed, the goods manufactured therefrom having been sold at prices greatly exceeding the market prices of raw materials prevailing at the time of such sales.

THE PROFITS.

As to the balance of profits shown, the directors had alluded in the report to the difficulty of settlement accumulated through the interruption of communication with the Continent during the war. There was also the excess profits duty to settle. They were advised that it was not possible to allocate accurately the results to each of the past seven years, and that was the reason why the profits for the 1½ years were shown together with the balance of profits from previous accounts. The balance of profit brought forward—£1,482,707—was subject to excess profits duty and contingencies, and the greater part of it was not available for distribution. It had been stated in the Press that the profits for the 1½ years only amounted to £110,000, but it would be seen from the explanation he had given that if the contingencies referred to were deducted from the carry forward shown in the previous accounts, the profit for the period under review must be greater to that extent. The directors admitted that the accounts must be far from clear, but that was solely due to the fact that both the previous and present accounts had been largely based on estimates. The directors were taking all steps possible to ensure that the next accounts should show results as definite as in pre-war days.

THE FUTURE.

As to the future, taking into consideration the great drought, and the consequent high prices of butter and milk, it looked as

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors), FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts (31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

though they would have an increased sale for their margarine and condensed milk. The crushing mills connected with their business were fully occupied, the refineries turned out all the oils required, and the margarine factories were working at high pressure. The condensed milk company of Holland was turning out large quantities of condensed milk, the bulk of which was consumed in this country, and the soap trade was increasing and showed satisfactory results.

Speaking generally, he thought they might say they were doing fairly well. He thought he ought to make some reference to the strike which occurred at Fulham last year. This lasted for six weeks, and was eventually settled satisfactorily. Since then amicable relations had been established, and the joint works committee, which was an outcome of the strike, was working satisfactorily, both as regarded employers and employed.

Their margarine was being placed on the market in excellent condition, notwithstanding the abnormally hot weather through which they had recently been passing, and was meeting with much acceptance. Their "Blue Band" margarine was especially appreciated, and was receiving nothing but praise both from the trade and the consumer.

Mr Jacob Van den Bergh seconded the resolution, and after some questions had been answered it was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

TILBURY CONTRACTING AND DREDGING COMPANY, LIMITED.

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION.

At a general meeting of the Tilbury Contracting and Dredging Company, Limited, held on July 28, 1921, Colonel Richard Lionel Hippisley, C.B., chairman of the company, said:

"I am glad to be able to say that your Company has more than maintained the satisfactory position which was reported to you at the last General Meeting, and what is worthy of special attention in the Accounts now before you is that, notwithstanding the depression which has prevailed in the business world during the last year, its business and profits continue to improve and the financial position as shown by the balance-sheet is still further strengthened.

"Special mention may be made of the great improvement in the working of the Maidstone Quarry. The profits derived from the largely increased output are considerably in excess of those of any previous year.

"It is interesting to compare the Company's financial position now with that at the date of its reconstruction in 1906. While the Capital has remained unaltered the total assets have increased from £358,791 to £804,910 in 1921, Reserve for Depreciation of Plant from £70,800 in 1906 to £160,200 in 1921. Total Creditors from £79,340 to £338,442, Excess of Assets over Creditors, after allowing for depreciation, from £208,651 to £306,268. This last item shows that the value of the Shareholders' interest in the Company's Capital and Reserves, after meeting all outstanding liabilities, is approximately 150 per cent. of the issued Capital. Your Directors consider the position actually better than shown by these figures, for the reason that they are based upon continuous and liberal depreciation applied to the whole of the Company's assets, a large amount of which assets are at pre-war cost.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, August 3, 1921, amounted to 630 tons.

THE KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED.—The total production during the month of July amounted to 93,421 barrels, or approximately 13,346 tons, including 42,912 barrels from the properties of the St Helens Petroleum Co., Limited.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.						
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Notes in Circulation.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.	Balance at Bank of England.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.											
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	18,500	..	48.1	9,324	11,423		
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	..	..	..	..	9,288		
1915.											
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536		
1916.											
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	5,868		
1917.											
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,486		
1918.											
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566		
1919.											
Mar. 28.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413		
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	5,271		
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	..	250	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	5,589		
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	..	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802		
1920.											
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981		
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305		
Sept. 29.....	355,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385		
Dec. 29.....	357,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134		
1921.											
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141		
June 29.....	323,884	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	160		
July 20.....	323,966	14,771	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,635	152		
27.....	325,214	14,602	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	288,736	150		
Aug. 3.....	329,226	14,818	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	293,038	150		
10.....	327,133	14,785	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.7	290,827	141		

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Aug. 15-Aug. 20th, were opened on Aug. 12, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £74,340,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 15s 9d will receive about 73.3 per cent. and above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 15s 3.8d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
July 15 (3 months)	60,000,000	122,740,000	4 19 4.57	4½	£98 14s 8d (Monday to Friday bills) about 36½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 15s 0d, above in full. £98 17s 8d (Monday to Friday bills) about 80% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 11d above, in full. £98 17s 5d (Tuesday to Friday bills), at 49½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 8d, above in full. £98 16s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 94% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 2d, above in full. £98 15s 9d (Monday to Friday bills) about 73.3% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d, above in full.
July 22 (3 months)	50,000,000	123,005,000	4 8 3.31	4½	
July 29 (3 months)	60,000,000	99,975,000	4 8 7.82	4½	
August 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	77,955,000	4 10 10	4½	
August 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	74,340,000	4 15 3.8	4½	

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Aug. 6, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Aug. 7, 1920.	Week Ending Aug. 6, 1921.	Week Ending Aug. 7, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
..	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	125,800,000	45,726,000	2,526,000	2,294,000	..
Excise.....	198,200,000	61,420,000	1,085,000	1,296,000	..
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	3,650,000	354,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	15,726,000	1,035,000	653,000	..
Stamps.....	21,000,000	4,395,000	818,000	40,000	..
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	100,287,000	89,871,000	7,145,000	6,413,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	23,284,000	78,012,000	660,000	4,762,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	3,650,000	150,000	..	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	15,250,000	15,250,000	1,000,000	..
Crown Lands.....	650,000	210,000	190,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	4,156,141	5,978,922	60,342	81,400
Miscellaneous.....	21,500,000	7,770,850	5,455,051	5,334	..
Ordinary Receipts.....	158,500,000	32,092,270	115,493,031	7,711,000	and £21,583
Special Receipts.....	1,216,650,000	314,135,061	437,061,004	..	..
Revenue.....	..	317,209,567	446,430,104	..	..
Total, Inc. Balance ..	..	..	..	..	..

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, August 10, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	145,014,510
Government debt	11,015,10
Other securities	7,434,90
Gold coin & bullion	126,564,51
145,014,510	145,014,51

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000
Rest	3,475,613
Public deposits	18,258,625
Other deposits	114,196,547
Seven-day & other bills	6,061
150,488,846	150,488,84

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Aug. 10, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,475,613	+ 52,226	+ 16,818
Public deposits	18,258,625	+ 1,941,045	+ 2,259,566
Other deposits	114,196,547	+ 5,486,415	+ 9,822,441
Government securities	50,115,365	+ 2,518,410	+ 18,135,084
Other securities	81,107,097	+ 3,825,628	+ 7,301,532
Reserve	19,266,384	+ 1,133,098	+ 3,762,627
Note circulation	127,564,270	+ 1,134,905	+ 2,036,475
Coin and bullion	128,360,654	- 1,807	+ 5,313,102
% of reserve to liabilities	14%	same	3%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
May 18.....	128,360,554	128,194,750	121,813,463	120,941,358	18,816,804	14%	13%
25.....	128,349,547	127,807,660	128,479,700	127,246,006	19,991,887	14%	14%
June 1.....	128,363,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	14%	14%
8.....	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	14%	14%
15.....	128,375,126	127,491,195	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	14%	14%
22.....	128,357,145	127,477,935	139,328,690	137,400,455	19,329,150	14%	14%
29.....	128,366,727	129,006,290	147,036,431	147,030,762	17,810,437	14%	14%
July 6.....	128,369,083	129,108,225	148,761,611	148,900,383	17,710,798	14%	14%
13.....	128,373,661	127,955,565	154,629,219	153,615,715	18,868,096	14%	14%
20.....	128,367,459	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,935,589	19,099,719	14%	14%
27.....	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,809,758	121,188,924	18,536,693	14%	14%
Aug. 3.....	128,382,461	128,699,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14%	14%
10.....	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	14%	14%

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Aug. 9, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Aug. 13, 1919.	Aug. 11, 1920.	Aug. 10, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	30,463,745	28,933,380	79,723,435	125,537,795	127,564,270
Public deposits	7,651,734	19,014,809	22,454,852	15,999,059	18,258,625
Other deposits	43,469,888	41,248,964	89,157,643	124,018,988	114,196,547
Government securities	14,967,286	11,046,570	21,390,356	68,250,449	50,115,365
Other securities	25,527,800	41,461,280	81,222,618	73,505,565	81,107,097
Reserve of notes and coin	27,661,177	25,463,980	27,014,310	15,989,757	19,266,384
Coin and bullion	39,674,922	35,947,360	88,287,745	123,067,552	128,360,654
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	64%	42%	24%	11%	14%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	2 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Price of Consols	78 1/2	74 1/2	52 1/2	46 1/2	49
Price of silver per oz	24 1/2	26 1/2	58 1/2	58 1/2	37 1/2
Average price of wheat	32s 0d	33s 0d	75s 4d	85s 10d	72s 2d
Exchanges (Paris)	25 1/2-27 1/2	25 1/2-27 1/2	33 1/2-35 1/2	50 1/2-52 1/2	46 1/2-47 1/2
New York	\$4 3/4	\$4 7/8	\$4 3/4-3 1/2	\$3 67-68	\$3 64-65 1/2
Amsterdam	12 1/2-14	12 1/2-15	11 1/2-17	10 1/2-9 1/2	11 1/2-8 1/2
Berlin	20 1/2	20 1/2	80-83	166-169	295-296
Clearing house return	223,282,000	199,913,000	584,340,000	715,278,000	648,772,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—August 3	18,929,813,000	1,837,739,000	20,767,552,000
August 10	589,748,000	59,024,000	648,772,000
Total to date 1921.....	19,519,561,000	1,896,763,000	21,416,324,000
Do 1920	21,972,147,000	2,566,400,000	24,538,547,000
Increase or decrease in 1921.....	- 2,452,586,000	- 669,637,000	- 3,122,223,000
	- 11%	- 26%	- 12%
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	35,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	38,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920.....	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 29%	+ 20%	+ 28%

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF LONDON CLEARING BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	Coutts and Co.	Glyn, Mills, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Williams Deacon's Bank, Limited.	Total.
1921.—July.											
ASSETS.											
coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England	8,192	36,157	1,611	2,058	36,686	55,794	32,771	30,408	3,850	4,555	212,082
balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom	2,198	6,920	460	906	7,701	10,026	8,343	6,425	157	846	43,982
treasury bills in transit	9,269	23,348	2,884	5,948	13,143	13,164	19,680	13,905	8,805	2,304	112,450
money at call and short notice	4,538	77,111	2,715	892	91,226	65,141	82,081	44,621	3,668	4,231	376,224
Bills discounted	17,409	56,013	4,691	6,264	66,101	52,585	53,783	48,822	13,579	6,309	325,556
investments	40,298	149,018	7,806	6,211	136,957	187,280	130,810	134,321	18,383	19,535	830,619
Advances to customers and other accounts	3,709	6,392	362	886	7,805	14,873	13,446	3,584	549	1,090	52,696
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.	1,294	4,497	346	370	5,080	4,489	3,948	3,902	495	624	25,045
Bank premises account	..	8,228	..	..	7,642	3,258	2,991	2,240	..	..	24,359
Investments in affiliated banks	86,907	367,684	20,875	23,535	372,341	406,610	347,853	288,228	49,486	39,494	2,003,013
Ratio of cash to current, deposit, and other accounts	10.3	10.7	8.5	9.8	10.7	15.1	10.4	11.4	8.8	12.8	11.6
LIABILITIES.											
Capital paid up	2,349	15,592	800	1,000	14,372	10,860	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,662
Reserve fund	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,860	9,004	8,878	980	1,000	51,672
Current, deposit, and other accounts	79,450	337,450	18,914	20,999	340,163	370,017	316,383	266,457	43,494	35,529	1,828,856
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.	3,708	6,392	361	886	7,805	14,873	13,446	3,584	549	1,090	52,694
Notes in circulation	..	..	..	150	..	..	..	..	2,963	..	2,979
Reduction of bank premises account	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	150
	86,907	367,684	20,875	23,535	372,341	406,610	347,853	288,228	49,486	39,494	2,003,013

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to August 6.			
BIRMINGHAM	120,347,000	80,893,300	- 39,453,700
BRISTOL	55,319,200	46,335,000	- 8,984,000
DUBLIN	275,866,100	225,039,200	- 50,826,900
HULL (26 Weeks ended August 6	55,798,200	28,795,600	- 27,002,600
LEEDS	40,593,600	24,138,600	- 16,455,000
LEICESTER	516,444,800	267,300,800	- 249,074,000
LIVERPOOL	973,577,800	438,317,400	- 534,760,400
MANCHESTER	37,123,700	58,254,600	+ 21,130,900
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	37,123,700	22,327,400	- 14,796,300
NOTTINGHAM	53,293,600	37,536,800	- 15,756,800
SHEFFIELD	..	..	..

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 5, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Aug. 2, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve	2,552,810	+ 21,580	1,977,700
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	151,030	- 3,040	150,940
Bills discounted for member banks	1,617,620	- 32,880	2,491,630
Bills bought in open market	29,960	+ 10,540	345,310
Government obligations owned	255,530	+ 6,050	325,380
All other resources	52,690	+ 2,120	30,740
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	56,750	+ 25,040	12,170
Other deposits	1,648,320	- 15,240	1,685,070
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,536,670	- 950	3,120,140
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	127,480	- 2,660	192,170
All other liabilities	17,970	+ 420	52,160
Capital and surplus	316,200	+ 110	259,970
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits	63%	+ 3%	44%
Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	..	..	..

CANADIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Jan., 1921.	Nov., 1920.	Dec., 1920.	Month's Movement.
RESERVE FUND	133,344	132,782	133,049	+ 267
Note circulation	206,176	234,340	228,759	- 5,581
Demand deposits	584,026	686,754	657,497	- 29,257
Notice deposits	1,315,094	1,292,009	1,293,007	+ 9,998
Deposits outside Canada	318,623	351,781	358,771	+ 37,000
Current account	85,118	86,211	82,688	- 3,523
Deposits Central Gold Reserve	186,590	190,641	177,469	- 13,172
Call loans in Canada	89,703	114,903	113,353	- 23,550
Call loans outside Canada	112,474	108,471	114,703	+ 6,232
Current loans in Canada	191,854	218,183	211,443	- 26,711
Current loans outside Canada	1,264,490	1,359,973	1,301,804	- 58,169
Current liabilities	173,380	169,678	184,540	+ 14,862
Total liabilities	2,642,380	2,835,579	2,778,309	- 57,270
Total assets	2,926,867	3,116,896	3,056,979	- 69,917

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 11, 1921.	Aug. 4, 1921.	Aug. 12, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,516,597	5,516,285	5,589,775	- 312	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,943,367	1,943,367	1,978,275	..	..
Silver coin and bullion	275,918	275,535	248,250	+ 413	632,650
Discount and advances	4,766,720	5,221,205	4,433,825	- 454,485	2,327,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	37,225,800	37,364,596	38,046,325	- 138,796	5,811,875
Government deposits	39,415	36,285	69,550	+ 3,130	183,700
Private deposits	2,641,845	2,788,875	3,319,650	- 147,030	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 30, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	2,493,596	2,492,441	2,491,337	2,452,400	+ 1,155	521,775
Silver	623,233	627,539	625,065	601,698	+ 4,306	728,600
Loans and discounts	2,024,334	2,042,789	2,025,601	1,717,627	- 18,455	890,725

NETHERLANDS BANK

Assets.	Aug. 8, 1921.	Aug. 1, 1921.	Aug. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	605,969	605,969	636,338	—	163,092
Silver	10,972	10,972	15,579	—	8,435
Discounts and advances	453,928	476,093	446,153	+ 22,170	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,018,176	1,038,588	1,027,587	+ 20,412	316,632
Deposits	59,514	63,235	101,166	+ 3,721	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

Assets.	June 18, 1921.	June 11, 1921.	June 19, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,600,222	—	11
Silver, &c.	232	303	230	—	14,961
Discounts	38,879	38,840	21,353	—	66,664
Government loan	9,916,585	9,949,921	4,099,949	—	48,316
Other advances	2,775,277	2,823,593	763,545	—	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,084,371	11,087,752	4,736,088	—	3,381
Deposits	6,044,686	6,024,677	2,166,912	—	20,209

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

Assets.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	544,442	544,386	539,095	+ 56	171,175
Silver	110,711	110,711	89,258	—	18,350
Darlehens-Kassenschein	12,938	12,806	18,373	+ 132	—
Discounts and advances	323,552	315,786	371,764	+ 7,766	103,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	913,601	927,041	928,755	+ 13,440	275,925
Deposits	93,684	79,194	112,025	+ 14,490	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to July 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 31,778,000, of which Fr. 12,803,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

Assets.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 30, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
Gold	285,090	280,335	261,298	+ 4,755	+ 23,792	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills	107,987	117,481	91,769	+ 9,494	+ 13,198	112,172
Gov. securities	12,868	13,134	45,351	+ 266	+ 32,483	32,465
Discount and loans	442,303	437,514	652,608	+ 4,789	+ 210,305	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	620,516	629,414	721,328	+ 8,898	+ 100,812	226,555
Deposits at notice	174,218	177,374	245,587	+ 2,956	+ 71,369	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

Assets.	Aug. 3, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	July 19, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	325,178	325,109	325,453	+ 69	332,650
Securities	596,306	581,803	567,287	+ 14,503	697,600
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	6,170,097	6,138,109	6,092,590	+ 31,988	934,150
Current accounts	1,016,352	999,706	1,023,132	+ 16,646	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

Assets.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	8,643	6,784	5,219	+ 1,869	—
Silver coin	5	2	2	+ 3	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,285,576	1,309,331	1,307,278	—	23,755
Loans	470,554	505,728	498,713	—	35,174
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	51,183,028	50,435,263	50,142,590	+ 747,765	—
Deposits	9,636,290	9,168,589	9,156,396	+ 527,601	—

HUNGARIAN BANK.

Assets.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	182	184	184	—	2
Silver coin	—	—	—	—	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	11,717,780	11,597,743	11,698,725	+ 20,037	573
Loans	107,780	107,880	107,880	—	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	17,946,374	17,684,165	17,923,868	+ 262,209	—
Deposits	1,320,524	1,547,684	1,328,887	+ 227,160	—

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	227,564	227,564	227,840	—	76,644
Loans and discounts	306,152	326,726	361,559	+ 20,574	88,470
Debtors abroad	18,741	10,209	36,809	+ 8,532	24,102
Securities	50,160	50,553	51,543	+ 393	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	481,581	496,213	541,192	+ 14,632	157,266
Deposits	75,256	67,910	45,752	+ 7,346	6,596

BANK OF NORWAY.

Assets.	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,292	147,295	147,379	—	3,000
Balance abroad and foreign bills	33,136	34,233	60,200	—	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities	8,707	9,095	10,499	—	388,000
Discounts and loans	415,110	440,179	430,314	+ 25,069	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	420,946	418,400	448,018	+ 2,546	113,484
Deposits at notice	76,996	107,124	122,211	+ 30,128	7,188

For issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1914, authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the bank is limited at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and ordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

Assets.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Govt. securities	13,76,19	15,24,89	14,79,32	14,43,72	8,68,89	+ 1,48,71
Other securities	1,35,39	1,35,39	1,35,39	1,35,39	1,35,42	—
Loans	13,65,81	13,45,22	13,45,22	14,40,96	14,50,33	+ 20,85
Cash credits	21,50,36	21,41,81	22,03,14	21,03,12	20,86,89	+ 8,51
Inland bills	11,51,72	11,88,98	12,87,14	13,28,94	13,49,69	+ 37,71
Foreign bills	1,42	64	38	78	42	+ 7
Bullion	13	5	9	2	2	+ 1
Dead stock	2,09,85	2,09,70	2,05,57	2,09,78	2,09,69	—
Sundries	31,35	33,51	58,27	53,99	56,06	+ 2,11
With other banks	18,06	19,29	15,12	14,67	14,45	+ 1,2
Cash	34,02,91	33,69,16	34,69,54	30,45,27	26,85,59	+ 33,72
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital	10,73,76	10,67,72	10,65,56	10,53,36	10,41,32	+ 6,0
Capital paid up	5,49,69	5,48,18	5,47,54	5,44,59	5,34,83	+ 1,5
Reserve	3,71,37	3,71,34	3,71,21	3,71,10	3,70,85	+ 3
Public deposits	16,58,56	16,26,39	20,15,48	19,05,01	5,85,25	+ 32,17
Other deposits	71,14,59	72,40,09	70,83,95	67,56,33	71,76,70	+ 1,25,5
Loans against secs.	80,59	78,01	55,41	55,30	55,20	+ 4,5
Sundries	68,59	1,66,48	1,26,91	1,46,36	1,35,52	+ 37,8

Assets.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	Week's Movement.
The above includes—						
Deposits in London	54,600	25,800	21,800	20,900	21,300	—
Advances in London	575,000	509,600	381,700	381,700	381,700	—
Cash, &c., at other banks in London	113,463	116,443	90,649	98,911	98,724	—

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold	3,361	3,360	—	1,571
Government securities	40,831	38,966	+ 1,865	2,087
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	34,024	32,859	+ 1,165	2,400
Government deposits	2,511	2,415	+ 96	2,315
Other deposits	14,177	13,656	+ 521	2,664

BANK OF FINLAND.

Assets.	July 30, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	July 31, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	42,626	42,626	42,626	—	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	404,820	384,719	126,582	+ 20,101	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Government securities	907,260	918,761	1,087,777	+ 8,501	21,896
Discounts and loans	348,801	346,200	206,520	+ 2,601	106,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,357,741	1,330,516	1,207,115	+ 27,225	123,941
Deposits at notice	111,284	130,009	75,831	+ 18,725	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

Assets.	June 29, 1921.	June 22, 1921.	June 15, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Coin and bullion	27,751	27,719	27,723	27,258	+ 32
Of which gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	—
Balance abroad	1,596	2,865	4,421	5,301	+ 1,269
Discounts	120,885	119,300	117,859	110,345	+ 1,585
Government loans	588,111	588,111	588,111	360,122	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	649,845	648,037	652,425	446,616	+ 1,808
Deposits	56,968	53,167	46,633	42,310	+ 3,801

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Gold	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	37,075	+ 217
Silver	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,890	16,910	+ 3,673
Treasury notes	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	+ 27,335
Bills discounted	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	+ 32
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	+ 23,102
Deposits	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	1,236,438	+ 44,401

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold	14,300	13,500	15,400	13,135	+ 80
Silver	39,700	38,900	39,500	38,938	+ 80
Foreign coin	39,700	38,900	39,500	38,938	+ 80
Foreign banks	893,930	117,625,000	106,625,000	93,625,000	+ 13,000,000
Advances to the Govt.	6,833,600	6,374,200	5,921,400	5,526,699	+ 499,600
Private loans and discounts	10,336,500	13,675,400	9,142,000	7,602,375	+ 3,338,900
Other assets	—	—	—	—	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	102,697,300	94,575,800	86,755,300	74,087,403	+ 8,121,500
Government accounts	—	—	—	—	—
Other accounts	33,963,000	28,582,200	16,831,600	14,472,500	+ 5,386,800
Reserve	68,900	16,400	16,400	16,400	+ 68,900
Other liabilities	12,089,100	15,752,600	12,400,700	10,559,192	+ 3,663,500

Assets.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	June 17, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold	75,182	75,127	75,087	75,203	75,203	+ 55
Other coin and notes	17,554	23,089	24,520	22,420	22,420	+ 5,535
Foreign credits	342,018	344,369	343,200	339,385	339,385	+ 2,351
Bills	185,648	179,996	173,749	174,957	174,957	+ 5,652
Govt. advances	4,227,905	4,072,205	4,072,205	4,022,498	4,022,498	+ 155,700
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	4,001,849	3,841,029	3,853,305	3,841,354	3,841,354	+ 160,820
State credits	375,348	375,348	375,348	375,348	375,348	+ 300
Deposits	409,626	422,036	400,106	350,003	350,003	+ 12,410

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement
---------	----------------	---------------	----------------	------------------

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates, Aug. 2, 1921, as below:—

	Buying Rate.	Selling Rate.
London (cheque)	£1 1485	1,495
Paris "	100 fr. 3,100	3,200
New York "	\$1 35	410
Stockholm "	100 kr. 8,500	8,600
Copenhagen "	100 kr. 6,400	6,500
Christiania "	100 kr. ....	....
Berlin "	100 rmk. 525	530
Helsingfors "	100 fmk. 650	660
Riga "	100 rbl. 85	95
Amsterdam "	100 Hfl. 12,900	13,000

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,75,55,000	Rs. 39,15,90,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	99,15,90,000

India Office, August 11, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended August 10, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed a decrease of £1,807 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Aug. 10, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Aug. 10, 1921.
Belgium	£ 40	United States	£ 995,173
Italy	1,000,000	Belgium	10,200
British South Africa	765,417		
British India	392,473		
Total values of imports of gold	2,157,930	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	1,005,337

GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

Statement showing the form in which the balance of the reserve was held on July 31, 1921:—

	£
In India	Nil
In England—	
Cash at the Bank of England	4,170
British Government securities—	
Value as on March 31, 1921	11,525,636
British Government securities since purchased (cost price)	27,963,177
	39,492,983

R. G. JAGUET, Accountant-General

India Office, August 11, 1921.

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on August 11th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,564,510, as compared with £126,563,335 last week. A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was taken for the United States of America. It is reported from New York that gold to the value of \$3,600,000 has been received there from London. It is reported that a Bill has been introduced in the Argentine Congress to permit the exports of gold to within 50 per cent. of the circulation. Argentina now has a gold reserve of 81 per cent. Bankers and commercial men have been urging for almost a year the removal of the restrictions on gold exports. The price of gold in India during the week ending July 16th last touched Rs. 33.2 per tola, and that for sovereigns rose to Rs. 20.9; that is to say, a premium of 105½ per cent. upon their legal tender value. The steps by which the European States created by the Great War evolve a currency system linked with gold are of absorbing interest. No less will be developments connected with it. In each of these cases the printing of stability in exchange can be achieved until this easy mode of finance is placed. The young and vigorous Czechoslovakian currency u fund has jewels worth towns—say alt. can become must

atly depreciated currencies of Russia, Austria, and Italy. In each of these cases the printing of stability in exchange can be achieved until this easy mode of finance is placed. The young and vigorous Czechoslovakian currency u fund has jewels worth towns—say alt. can become must

before the war, and here were coined the golden ducats familiar from the plays of Shakespeare. Its archives date back to 1630. When the Austro-Hungarian Empire collapsed, the Hungarians carried away all moveables, and destroyed all else. The building has now been restored and new machinery installed. The new currency is to consist of crown, 50-heller, and 20-heller pieces. The advantage of employing gold as the most suitable basis of currency throughout the world has been clearly established. The report that the coinage of silver will shortly be resumed by the Petrograd Mint does not conflict with it, for it is not conceivable that commerce can be transacted between Russia and the rest of Europe with any degree of ease unless its currency be again linked with gold, whatever may be the metal employed for use within its borders. Turning from Europe to the Far East, the Produce Exchange at Dairen has decided, as from October 14th next, to base its transactions upon gold (the Japanese yen) instead of silver, as heretofore. This action has been brought about by the circulation in Manchuria of yen notes secured by gold to a much larger extent than those secured upon silver. The currency, however, of the congeries of States called China still remains silver. Until that country is more cohesive and the Government more effectively centralised, a movement toward a gold standard is retarded, though eventually a serious attempt to change from a silver to a gold basis may be regarded as assured.

SILVER.

Silver maintains its reputation for waywardness. Prices remained steady until the 8th inst., when the Indian bazaars became sellers, and a fall of ½d ensued in the price. This reversal of policy was followed by a sharp fall in the Shanghai exchange of 2d, succeeded, on the 9th inst., by one of 1½d in the silver quotation here for cash delivery, and of 1½d in that for two months, supplies being exceptionally plentiful, and buyers shy. Assisted by some buying on account of China, the price has recovered to some extent, but the tone of the market is nervous. In the absence of support from the Indian bazaars, sellers can only look to China to relieve them of their stock. Orders from this quarter are so subject to speculation that reliance can be placed upon any particular course being continued from one day to another. This renders the future uncertain, especially now that the market here is not likely to lack supplies, from the Continent or elsewhere.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	July 14, 1921.	July 22, 1921.	July 31, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,354	17,429	17,556
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,283	7,356	7,481
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,435	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion in India	6,802	6,805	6,805
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	834	835	835

The coinage during the week ending 31st ult. amounted to 7 lacs of rupees. The stock of silver in Bombay on the 5th inst. consisted of 2,400 bars. The stock in Shanghai on the 6th inst. consisted of about 32,700,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 670 silver bars, as compared with about 34,200,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 840 silver bars on the 30th ult. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 6½d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.			
Aug. 8 ..	114 2	38½	38½		Aug. 18, 1915	22½
9 ..	113 3	38½	37½		18, 1916	31½
10 ..	111 4	36½	36½		17, 1917	44
11 ..	112 7	37	36½		16, 1918	48½
12 ..	112 5	37½	37½		15, 1919	59
13 ..	112 1	37½	37½		13, 1920	59½

NOTICES.

Lloyds Bank, Limited, announces that a branch will be opened on the 16th inst., at the Chapter House, St Paul's Cathedral, under the management of Mr G. P. B. Scammell. The Chapter House was designed by Wren, and has been leased to Lloyds Bank for 21 years.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday, August 15th, a branch at 32 Bellevue road, Wandsworth, S.W. 17, under the management of Mr H. D.

City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce branches at 46 Market place, Falmouth, and at 47 High Street, London, E.C. 4, under the management of Mr W. Vaughan Jones, and at 47 High

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div. or Final.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	
					Latst Year.	Pre-vious.
Railways.						
Canadian Pacific	2½%	Oct. 1	Less tax			
Cathart District	2½%	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Chatham & District Lint.	2½%	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Cleator and Workington	2½%	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Nottingham and Grantham	2½%	Aug. 31	Less tax			
Plymouth, Devonport, &c.	1½%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Rhymney	8%	Aug. 19	Less tax			
Ross and Monmouth	3½ p.s.	Aug. 27	Less tax			
Waterford and Tramore	4%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Banks.						
Banco Com. Italiana and Bulgara ..	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Industrial Bank of Japan	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Queensland National	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Insurance.						
New Zealand Insurance	8 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Mining.						
Deebeck Dredging	1 p.s.	Aug. 20	Less tax			
Rambutan	8 p.s.	Aug. 24	Less tax			
Tea and Rubber.						
Perak Rubber	8 p.s.	Aug. 24	Less tax			
Other Companies.						
American Trust	5%	Aug. 10	Less tax			
Appl. and Barrett	2½ p.s.	Aug. 30	Tax free			
Bass, Ratcliff, and Grettton	8%	Aug. 30	Tax free			
Belgrave Spinning	4 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Bell Spinning	2 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Boddington's Breweries	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Bradford Dyers	1 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Cheetham's Spinning	6 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
City of Westminster Properties ..	4 p.s.	Aug. 29	Less tax			
Coral Reef Spinning	4 p.s.	Aug. 29	Less tax			
Crave, Wilson, and Co.	4½%	Aug. 23	Tax free			
D. and J. Fowler	4½%	Aug. 23	Less tax			
Dawn Spinning	3 p.s.	Aug. 23	Less tax			
Devon Spinning	5 p.s.	Aug. 23	Less tax			
Dura Doubling	2½ p.s.	Aug. 23	Less tax			
Edinburgh American Land	4 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Fairbairn, Lawson, Coombe, & Barbour	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Furness, Withy, and Co.	5½%	Sept. 7	Tax free			
Herne Bay Waterworks	2½ p.s.	Sept. 7	Less tax			
Holly Spinning	1 p.s.	Sept. 7	Less tax			
House and Mill	2½ p.s.	Sept. 7	Less tax			
International Investment	2½ p.s.	Sept. 3	Less tax			
J. and G. Walker Ring Spinning ..	6 p.s.	Sept. 3	Less tax			
John Anderson's Polytechnic	6 p.s.	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Lancashire & Yorkshire Waggon ..	12 p.s.	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Lime Spinning	13 p.s.	Sept. 3	Less tax			
Limmer and Trinidad Asphalt	15 p.s.	Aug. 12	Less tax			
Maple Spinning	2½ p.s.	Aug. 12	Less tax			
M. B. Foster and Sons	10%	Oct. 1	Tax free			
Merchants' Trust	2½%	Oct. 1	Tax free			
Milrow Spinning	3 p.s.	Oct. 1	Less tax			
Mitchells and Butlers	13 p.s.	Oct. 1	Less tax			
Monarch Spinning	13 p.s.	Oct. 1	Less tax			
Netherlands Trading Society	3½%	Aug. 28	Less tax			
Northampton Electric "B"	5½%	Sept. 6	Tax free			
Powell Duffryn Steam Coal	5%	Sept. 6	Tax free			
Radiation	5%	Sept. 6	Tax free			
Railway Investment, Pref.	1½ p.s.	Aug. 29	Less tax			
Richard Kay	10%	Aug. 29	Less tax			
Rylands	10%	Aug. 29	Less tax			
San Patricio Nitrate	5½%	Sept. 1	Tax free			
South Suburban Gas	5½%	Sept. 1	Tax free			
Spencer, Turner, and Boldero	3 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Standard Spinning	3 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
State Spinning	3 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Sommerville Spinning	1½ p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Tines Spinning	2 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Waller and Son	2 p.s.	Sept. 1	Tax free			
Welsbach Light	2 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Wernth Spinning	3 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
West Surrey Water, Ord.	7½%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Do	5½%	Sept. 1	Less tax			
William Hancock	5 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
Windsor Spinning	5 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			
W. T. Henley's Telegraph	1 p.s.	Sept. 1	Less tax			

(b) Also share bonus of 50%.

Reports and Notices.

Mr Wm. Petrie Nicholls has been elected a deputy director of Spillers Milling and Associated Industries, Limited. Mr W. P. Nicholls is the son of Sir William Edgar Nicholls, governing director and chairman of the company.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

CONSOLIDATED EXTERNAL DEBT OF COLOMBIA.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders have received the August instalment of the Debt Service in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

RAILWAYS.

THE BENGAL-NAGPUR RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Holders of debentures (bonds to bearer) of this company amounting to £152,000, and falling due on August 18, 1921, are notified that the directors, with the sanction of the Secretary of State for India in Council, are prepared to renew such debentures at 99 10s per £100 (10s discount) for a further period of two years, with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, provided the holders of the said debentures intimate their acceptance of this offer and send their bonds to

MINES.

BURMA CORPORATION, LIMITED (Incorporated in India).—On the invitation of the board in Rangoon the following gentlemen representing large interests in the corporation have agreed to act as an advisory committee:—Sir Henry Strakosch, Sir John Mann, Mr John A. Agnew, Mr A. Chester Beatty, Mr F. A. Govett, Mr Herbert Guedalla, and Mr James C. Prinsep. On the recommendation of this committee, Mr P. E. Marmion, lately manager of the Swansea Vale Spelter Company, Limited, has been appointed by the board general manager in Burma, to succeed Mr R. G. Hall, whose agreement is expiring shortly. Mr E. P. Mathewson, an engineer and metallurgist of great reputation, has also been engaged to visit the mine and consult with Mr Marmion as to the general lines of policy to be adopted.

BANKS.

CONTINENTAL GUARANTY CORPORATION, NEW YORK.—June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital stock	\$ 3,000,000	Cash resources	\$ 3,116,258
Surplus	150,000	Notes and acceptances	8,512,228
Undivided profits	220,344	Foreign bills of exchange	42,361
Reserves	238,265	Accounts receivable	431,382
Collateral trust gold	4,975,000	Investments	890,925
Trade acceptances	91,510	Office equipment, less depre-	56,045
Interest earned	4,020,334	Interest on	28,839
Foreign bills of ex-		Prepaid discount	161,698
change redis-		Prepaid premiums	2,954
counted			
Accounts payable	85,718		
Bills payable, in-			
cluding special			
collateral loans			
Interest received in			
advance	128,193		
Demand, time,			
and conditional			
deposits & interest			
accrued thereon	319,166		
	9,634,081		
	13,242,690		13,242,690

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI (HELSINGFORS, FINLAND).—Balance-sheet, June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital paid up	Fmk 150,000,000	Cash	Fmk 69,049,881
Reserve funds	92,422,189	Due from foreign banks ..	40,379,433
Interest and commission		Loans, discounts, and	
earned	32,508,500	advances on accounts	1,467,292,618
Time deposits	792,010,027	Bonds and securities	41,892,554
Cheque accounts	232,392,625	Premises	14,557,697
Balances of foreign banks ..	221,120,324	Sundry accounts	35,296,318
Acceptances	45,461,563		
Sundry accounts	102,552,273		
	1,668,468,501		1,668,468,501

MISCELLANEOUS.

MITCHELLS AND BUTLERS.—The report and balance-sheet for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a net profit, after making all provisions and reserves, of £430,089, which, with £235,764 brought in from previous account, makes £665,853 for disposal. The preference dividends amount to £30,000, and the ordinary dividend of 10 per cent. for the year absorbs £161,471. The sum of £100,000 is put to reserve, making it £450,000, and £236,735 is carried forward to next account. The board state that these results may be looked upon as satisfactory, taking into consideration the acute industrial depression prevailing during the last six months of the financial year, and the additional onerous duties imposed upon beer, wines, and spirits, by the Budget of April, 1920. On May 1st the Midland Brewery was closed down, and the whole of the brewing operations of the company were then concentrated at Cape Hill Brewery, from which it is anticipated much more economical production will result. This year it will be noted the board does not recommend the appropriation of a sum from the profits to the employees' superannuation fund, as the total amount of that fund exceeds £112,000. It is intended at present to pay pensions out of the company's current profits, and to treat the superannuation fund—which is outside the assets of the company—as a reserve to meet abnormal circumstances.

WELSCH LIGHT CO.—The directors' report for year ended March 31, 1921, has just been issued. They have to report that the prolongation of the failure to fulfil pledges for the safeguarding of key industries and prevention of dumping has led to the ill effects foreshadowed in their last report. As the result of unrestricted imports of foreign goods produced and sent to this country under conditions of labour and exchange extremely adverse to British industry, sales have diminished, stocks have inevitably accumulated, and values have fallen. It must be added, with regret, that, as a necessary consequence, large numbers of trained hands have had to be discharged from employment. The pending Safeguarding of Industries Bill—a less comprehensive measure than that introduced by the Government in 1919—is still under the consideration of Parliament. After writing down the stock as at March 31, 1921, to meet the depressed market conditions, the profit and loss account shows a net profit of £13,134, subject on the one hand to liability for corporation profits tax and, *per contra*, to any claim the company may have for repayment in respect of excess profits duty. To this sum of £13,135 has to be added the balance carried forward from last year, amounting to £21,344, making a total of £34,479. A dividend of 5 per cent. is paid for the year on the ordinary shares, absorbing £12,896, and £21,583 is carried forward.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Metropolitan District	31 weeks Aug. 6	242,589	7,415,001	..	..
London Electric	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
City and South London	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
Central London	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
L.G.O.	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Tramways	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
London United Tramways	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
South Metropolitan Tramways	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..
Gearless Motor	31 weeks Aug. 6	63,440	1,715,738	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	6 weeks May 14	993	1,89,246	Rs. 6,300	11,63,233
Barsi L. Ry.	15 weeks July 16	118	97,400	Rs. 80,600	3,90,900
Bengal & N. Western	14 weeks	9,206	5,42,320	Rs. 76,902	84,31,058
Bengal Nagpur	14 weeks	9,206	5,42,320	Rs. 76,902	84,31,058
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	17 weeks June 30	2,874	16,97,000	Rs. 36,000	3,55,01,000
Burma	13 weeks July 2	1,340	5,95,858	Rs. 1,07,703	75,20,289
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	17 weeks	30	2,772	Rs. 2,00,000	5,07,42,000
East Indian	17 weeks	30	2,772	Rs. 2,00,000	5,07,42,000
G. Indian Peninsula	17 weeks	30	2,772	Rs. 2,00,000	5,07,42,000
Madras & S. Mahr.	14 weeks	9,206	5,42,320	Rs. 76,902	84,31,058
Rohilk. & Kumaon	14 weeks	9,206	5,42,320	Rs. 76,902	84,31,058
Do Lucknow-Breilly	14 weeks	9,206	5,42,320	Rs. 76,902	84,31,058
South Indian	15 weeks	16,185	9,12,220	Rs. 91,250	1,27,58,477
Sdn. Punjab (Mahr.)	6 mths Mar. 31	717	8,89,237	Rs. 50,014	49,10,562
Argentine (A).					
Argentine N.E.	5 weeks Aug. 6	712	12,100	Rs. 1,100	58,300
Argentine Trans.	5 weeks	6,111	1,349	Rs. 81	8,471
B. A. and Pacific	5 weeks	6,342	136,000	Rs. 7,000	691,000
B. A. & Gt. Southern	5 weeks	6,342	136,000	Rs. 7,000	691,000
B. A. Western	5 weeks	6,342	136,000	Rs. 7,000	691,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 mths June 30	190	16,000	Rs. 6,000	430,000
Central Argentine	5 weeks Aug. 6	5,305	191,000	Rs. 9,000	963,000
Cordoba Central	5 weeks	6,120	68,500	Rs. 3,400	366,500
Entre Rios	5 weeks	6,811	20,000	Rs. 3,000	105,100
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	6 mths June 30	1,005	55,500	Rs. 12,750	271,900
Gt. West. of Brazil	31 weeks Aug. 6	1,831	39,792	Rs. 10,822	417,000
Leopoldina	31 weeks	7,153	28,227	Rs. 16,547	1,015,975
San Paulo	31 weeks	7,153	28,227	Rs. 16,547	1,015,975
State of Bahia, S.W.	7 mths July 31	62	56,000	Rs. 74,000	497,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	31 weeks Aug. 7	838	14,110	Rs. 34,070	733,890
Arauco	1 month Apr. 30	644	12,000	Rs. 500	288,200
Nitrato	30 weeks July 31	366	11,574	Rs. 32,986	417,000
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths June 30	1,053	81,586	Rs. 147,986	1,442,740
Taitai	1 month July 31	180	9,173	Rs. 16,350	56,794
Cuban.					
Havana Central	5 weeks Aug. 6	7	10,638	Rs. 2,265	58,025
United of Havana	5 weeks	7	10,638	Rs. 2,265	58,025
Uruguay.					
Central Uruguay	5 weeks Aug. 6	273	22,097	Rs. 3,215	115,882
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	5 weeks	311	2,935	Rs. 994	25,104
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	5 weeks	6,185	2,634	Rs. 17	13,444
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	5 weeks	6,211	1,986	Rs. 319	10,449
Midland Uruguay	1 mth July 31	319	12,766	Rs. 4,077	..
North-West Urug.	1 mth	313	5,851	Rs. 117	..
Uruguay North	1 mth	31	1,383	Rs. 558	..
Other Foreign.					
Alcor and Gaudia	31 weeks Aug. 6	33	11,000	Rs. 1,000	499,900
Bilbao	7 mths July 31	15	10,111	Rs. 126	13,425
Bolivar	7 mths	136	10,111	Rs. 126	72,478
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths June 30	86	18,720	Rs. 2,820	114,480
Costa Rica	12 mths	30	190	Rs. 23,857	233,674
Dorado Extension	6 mths	30	18,500	Rs. 2,750	107,750
Egyptian Delta	15 weeks July 20	559	19,697	Rs. 3,415	101,048
Gt. Southern Spain	30 weeks	30	104	Rs. 32,149	41,151
International	6 mths June 30	192	68,583	Rs. 463	448,876
Central America	2 mths Feb. 28	233	618,570	Rs. 5,063	1,96,391
La Guaira & Caracas	5 weeks Aug. 7	403	8,284,400	Rs. 26,400	1,616,000
Mexican Railway	6 mths June 30	403	8,284,400	Rs. 26,400	1,616,000
Do	6 mths June 30	403	8,284,400	Rs. 26,400	1,616,000
Nasaj Oscarhaman	5 mths May 31	..	12,611	Rs. 8,180	65,220
Ottoman Railway	1 week July 30	379	7,257	Rs. 580	24,370
Byrrna to Adia	5 weeks Aug. 6	274	2,311,374	Rs. 414,841	16,390,765
Paraguay Central	9 mths Feb. 28	..	2,311,374	Rs. 414,841	16,390,765
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	5 mths May 31	35	4,500	Rs. 500	22,750
Puerto Cabello, &c.	5 weeks Aug. 6	100	2,595	Rs. 244	13,012
Salvador	5 weeks Aug. 6	100	2,595	Rs. 244	13,012
Santa Fe Province	1 mth June 30	..	132,000	Rs. 48,562	75,480
French Railways	7 mths July 31	112	15,610	Rs. 51,129	75,480
Barana & Huella	6 mths June 30	..	12,630	Rs. 440	85,645
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	31 weeks Aug. 7	9,750	8,134,900	Rs. 140,500	37,233,600
Canadian Pacific	31 weeks	7,133	8,367,000	Rs. 283,000	102,992,000
Grand Trunk	31 weeks	7,516	8,325,166	Rs. 31,566	9,012,301

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange, adjusted, April 30, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Receipts for Month	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	11 mths May 31	Gross	\$127,456	- 10,131	1,831,651	+ 490,831
Canadian Nat.	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$4,742,200	- 121,300	25,778,000	+ 3,528,177
Canadian Pac.	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$14,462,000	- 2,019,000	84,056,000	+ 8,002,000
Grand Trunk	3 mths Mar. 31	Gross	\$1,278,700	+ 95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,200
Temiscouata	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$43,610	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth May 31	810	106,776	Rs. 16,593	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	12 mths June 30	377	1,899	Rs. 1,389	130,197
New Cape Central	23 weeks July 16	205	2,556	Rs. 329	73,656
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth May 31	1,397	146,077	Rs. 12,000	..
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth July 31	..	11,523	Rs. ..	..
Shire Highlands	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	Rs. 450	..
Nyasaland	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	Rs. 450	..

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Atchafalaya	5 mths May 31	15,216	\$954	\$4,472
Baltimore and Ohio	5 mths	31	\$15,722,738	\$2,540,380
Chicago and Milwaukee	5 mths	31	\$11,059,949	\$47,822
New York Central	5 mths	31	\$26,566,190	\$62,636
Pennsylvania	5 mths	31	\$40,773,400	\$64,735
Southern Pacific	5 mths	31	\$21,345,217	\$262,332

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Receipts for Week	Total Receipts
Anglo-Argentine	31 weeks Aug. 6	323	\$78,025	Rs. 1,911	2,450,985
Burnley Corporation	1 week	6	\$3,537	Rs. 325	..
Calcutta Tramways	31 weeks	6	\$7,506	Rs. 6,705	469,324
Chatham & District	30 weeks July 28	15	\$1,811	Rs. 66	48,905
Egyptian Markets	30 weeks	23	\$1,649	Rs. 158	62,487
Glasgow Corporation	10 weeks Aug. 6	99	\$24,215	Rs. 1,299	435,665
Tramways	10 weeks	3	\$3,485	Rs. 729	33,455
Ile of Thanet	4 weeks	2	\$3,863	Rs. 648	106,219
Lancashire United	31 weeks	10	\$1,456	Rs. 438	887,355
Liverpool Corpora- tion Tramways	31 weeks	10	\$97,150	Rs. 9,516	1,911,236
L.C.C. Tramways	31 weeks	10	\$48,418	Rs. 5,049	530,350
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	30 weeks July 31	7	\$3,500	Rs. 2,427	118,239
Peramburam Tram.	31 weeks Aug. 7	2	\$12,748	Rs. 8,711	333,265
Singapore Electric	25 weeks July 2	..	..	Rs. ..	269,407

† Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Alabama Power	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$259,059	Rs. 88,481	..
Barcelona Traction	6 mths	Gross	\$130,812	Rs. 22,750	..
Brazilian (a)	6 mths	Gross	\$2,912,556	Rs. 388,558	18,100,834
Brisbane Electric	6 mths	Gross	\$1,774,541	Rs. 156,551	11,647,132
Brit. Columbia	7 mths July 31	Gross	\$4,837,000	Rs. 3,383,000	80,199,000
Electric, &c.	11 mths May 31	Gross	\$74,583	Rs. 54,519	8,753,164
Buenos Ayres La	11 mths	Gross	\$172,937	Rs. 439	2,305,962
Burnah Electric	11 mths	Gross	\$58,492	Rs. 3,929	629,444
Trways & Light	11 mths	Gross	\$54,275	Rs. 3,804	..
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$31,218	Rs. ..	..
Canadian Westm.	8 mths May 31	Gross	\$60,510	Rs. 2,543	666,829
Natural Gas	7 mths July 31	Gross	11,936	Rs. 2,228	16,219
Carthage and Trms.	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$21,900	Rs. 4,400	..
Herreries Wareh.	1 mth Mar. 31	Gross	\$20,300	Rs. ..	..
Catlagoo	1 mth	Gross	\$1,208	Rs. ..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths June 30	Gross	\$82,785	Rs. 1,313,455	19,922,312
Cordoba Light &c.	3 mths	Gross	\$78,187	Rs. 1,292,527	15,285,349
Cuba Railroad	7 mths Jan. 31	Gross	\$1,606,385	Rs. 448,284	8,497,431
Eleo. Sup. of Viet.	8 weeks May 22	Gross	\$368,028	Rs. 79,092	4,447,784
Havana Electric	5 mths	Gross	\$1,000,117	Rs. 153,816	5,341,730
Light & Power	5 mths	Gross	\$98,576	Rs. 12,583	2,334,033
International	11 mths May 31	Gross	\$22,639	Rs. 609	233,595
Light & Power	4 mths Apr. 30	Gross	\$3,531	Rs. 404	70,971
Kalgoorlie Elec. Tramways	4 mths	Gross	\$716	Rs. 250	868,277
Keystone Tele.	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$144,880	Rs. 6,933	269,254
La Guaira Harb.	1 mth July 31	Gross	\$85,483	Rs. 2,529	..
La Plata Electric	7 mths	Gross	\$5,425	Rs. 33,317	..
Lima Light, Pwr. and Tramways	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$59,393	Rs. 4,513	304,875
Lisbon Electric	1 mth Mar. 31	Gross	\$20,115	Rs. 322	104,294
Manila Electric	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$310,559	Rs. 45,390	1,810,051
Railroad, &c.	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$126,210	Rs. 34,249	708,018
Mississippi Riv. Pwr.	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$150,885	Rs. 9,557	840,862
Para Electric	7 mths June 30	Gross	\$24,884	Rs. 1,403	169,239
Rangoon Electric	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$232,125	Rs. 47,900	1,424,191
Shanghai Electric	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$152,655	Rs. 40,985	594,373
Toronto Ry., &c.	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$1,271,506	Rs. 11,289	6,552,485
United Electric T. of Montevideo	9 mths July 31	Gross	\$42,411	Rs. 2,764	418,827
Utah Securities	1 mth May 31	Gross	\$569,568	Rs. 50,563	..
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	Quarter Mar. 31	Gross	\$172,390	Rs. 28,131	..
Winnipeg Electric	5 mths May 31	Gross	\$433,836	Rs. 29,094	2,357,776
		Gross	\$126,818	Rs. 15,747	673,304

14 weeks return. † Converted at current rates of exchange, ‡ Approximate receipts.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Amount.					Rate.
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	%
Breweries.											
Bass, Ratcliff, and Gretton	June 30	61,970	403,515	465,485	68,000	224,400	11†	100,000	73,085	454,290	11†
Clarkson's Old	June 30	4,069	18,681	22,750	3,900	9,100	14†	7,000	2,750	22,056	14†
Mitchells and Butlers	June 30	235,764	430,089	665,853	60,000	269,118	10	100,000	236,735	505,617	10
Waller and Son	June 30	22,022	30,307	52,329	4,900	23,175	14†	10,000	14,254	24,506	14
William Hancock and Co.	May 31	20,737	56,116	76,853	20,700	26,000	15	10,000	20,153	71,143	15
Financial, Land, &c.											
British Canadian & General Invest.	Dec. 31	2,379	7,107	9,486	..	5,393	5	2,000	2,093	9,492	5.
Nitrate.											
San Patricio	Dec. 31	5,287	9,075	14,362	..	5,000	5†	..	9,362	2,418	..
Rubber, &c.											
Perak Plantations	Mar. 31	17,255	Dr 17,249	6	..	..	..	..	6	20,944	18‡
Shipping.											
Anchor Line (Henderson Brothers) ..	April 30	141,399	205,246	346,645	12,512	25,000	10†	200,000	109,133	258,937	20†
Furness, Withy, and Co.	Apl. 30	172,904	782,944	955,848	52,500	400,000	10†	300,000	203,348	1,004,821	10†
Tea.											
Augusta Estates	Dec. 31	567	Dr 2,742	Dr 2,173	..	..	..	..	Dr 2,175	863	..
Empire of India and Ceylon	Dec. 31	25,458	Dr 66,128	40,670	10,950	..	..	..	Dr 51,620	116,843	16
Textiles.											
Isaac Holden and Sons	June 30	6,837	21,192	28,029	7,612	8,063	6‡	10,000	2,354	38,177	11‡
Rylands and Sons	June 30*	1,318,438	{ Dr 1263315	55,123	42,000	70,000	10	Dr 250,000	193,123	253,925	10
Trusts.											
Atlantic	June 30	1,233	14,832	16,065	..	13,500	15	..	2,565	18,667	15
Waterworks.											
East Worcestershire	June 30*	2,553	559	3,112	..	641	2‡	300	2,171	1,473	3‡
Other Companies.											
D. and J. Fowler	Mar. 31	13,243	25,069	38,312	8,250	15,000	7‡	1,732	13,330	26,800	8
Fuller's United Electric Works ..	Mar. 31	8,039	{ Dr 129,403	{ Dr 121,369	..	..	..	..	{ Dr 121,369	..	..
Welsbach Light	Mar. 31	21,344	13,135	34,479	..	12,896	5	..	21,583	61,688	15

English new Dunns 64s to 68s, old maples 93s to 100s, blues 90s to 110s per 504 lbs. Oatmeal firm and occasionally dearer, with small supplies of imported. Scottish quoted £26 to £28, London made £23 10s to £24 10s, flaked oats £27 to £28, and rolled oats £23 10s to £24 per ton. Offals tend dearer and middlings quoted £14 to £15 5s per ton. In the chartering market the demand for grain freights shows a falling off, and rates ruled easier. River Plate inactive and nominal at 40s. Up river to U.K./Cont. August-September heavy grain. Montreal grain paid 5s 9d, and Gulf 6s 9d to 6s 6d qr U.K., 24 cents per 100 lbs Antwerp/Hamburg range. Wheat from North Pacific ruled at 62s 6d, with 63s 9d paid for barley cargoes home. Easterns quieter. Bombay/Karachi 32s 6d dead weight. Kohlschlag rice done 65s U.K./Cont., and Dalry beans 70s picked ports U.K. A considerable business transpired in wheat cargoes from Australia at 75s to 72s 6d October-November loading at usual ports to U.K./Cont. Maize from South Africa quoted 42s 6d, while heavy grain from the Danube remains dull and weak at 27s 6d to U.K./Cont. end September cancelling. Other markets nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to August 6.....	Cwts. 92,228	Cwts. 5,262	Cwts. 25,461	Cwts. 12,644
47 weeks to August 6.....	12,295,849	10,799,921	13,013,724	9,624,618
Average price of English wheat per quarter.....	s d 72 2	s d 85 10	s d 73 4	s d 74 7
= per cwt.....	17 5	19 9	17 2	17 5

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
July 30	5,380 6	6,379 5	9,190 0	75 8	45 1	34 8
Aug. 6	21,520 6	4,693 7	9,030 7	72 2	45 9	32 2
1917	5,110 2	8,337 3	1,448 5	78 4	76 1	55 0
1918	2,950 2	1,013 2	139 2	74 7	57 7	46 3
1919	5,941 3	1,299 4	1,714 2	73 4	73 8	55 6
1920	1,228 0	409 2	968 4	85 10	85 3	63 2

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated August 11th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: It is estimated that there are now seven blast furnaces blowing on the North-East Coast producing basic pig-iron for local steel works. Although there has been an appreciable fall in the prices of coal and coke, the price of the latter will have to go considerably lower before makers of Cleveland and hematite pig-iron can resume except at a heavy loss. Consequently they are not resuming operations meanwhile. The stock of Cleveland No. 3 G.M.B. foundry pig-iron is exhausted, and the price is nominally 135s per ton. There is a stock of East Coast hematite for which 160s for home consumption and 140s for export is asked. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel works have resumed, but are short of orders. Foreign pig-iron is being partially used. Steel ship plates, £15; steel ship angles, £14 10s; iron bars, £16; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: Business in imported ore is still dead. Various prices have been named. Best Bilbao Rubio is reported as having been offered as low as 25s, c.i.f. East Coast.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The industrial and business positions here can hardly be said to have improved on the week, though in some instances (associated with iron and steel) there has been rather more stir in production, and, generally, there have been rather more inquiries floating about. But in the latter relation, which is the more important of the two, it cannot be said that the inquiries have so far resulted satisfactorily for manufacturers either in the raw or finished positions. Buyers seem intent in their approaches to feeling their way in the matter of prices, deliveries being apparently of secondary consideration, for they are rarely named. It is taken for granted all round that quotations for steel and iron products will before long be appreciably reduced, but the real extent is the point on which dubiety exists, and which concerns dealers. This, it is recognised, depends on the course of things in the coal market. The tendency there is weakish, and already terms have fallen by, for good fuel, about 20s a ton at, say, 35s. But consumers do not regard the drop as sufficient, and are aiming at, at least, 25s, above which figure they contend profitable business cannot be done and the desired expansion in trade brought about. And there is no doubt as to that; but mine-owners assert that even at 35s a ton they have reached the non-paying level, and that a lower rate spells ruin for the industry and a closing down of pits. It remains, therefore, that a very serious contingency has arisen, one that will tax the best wits of the experts to handle and adjust satisfactorily. This much, according to authorities in the various interests concerned, is evident: that, come what may, and in the first place, ship-owners will not contract for new steamers on the current basis of costs, and that shipbuilders will not construct, and steelmakers will

not run their mills at present rates of remuneration, far less lower, unless they are assured of equivalent concessions on all products that enter into their manufacture—and this brings us back to the basic fact that there is only coal to work upon, and seemingly a deadlock as to that. The few rolling mills running this week have been solely engaged in finishing-off old orders, which are not being replaced. Shipbuilders continue to be much inconvenienced by the strike absence from the yards of the joiners, and this has necessitated the discharge of several hundred hands since Monday. A number of blast furnaces will blow in next week, and will be in a position to deliver No. 1 foundry by the beginning of September. Ironmasters say that the relighting will not be a profitable operation, and is only being entered on so as to retain their hold on certain home and foreign markets. Locomotive engineers, partly because of a scarcity of certain steel sections, have been obliged to restrict their working week from five to four days. But it is reported that there are some good inquiries on the carpet. Black sheets makers, who have been going short for months, feel a development of demand from India and the Far East generally. Tube makers also find conditions more hopeful, and bolt, nut, and rivet makers are the turn better employed. But the majority of the works in these branches—sheets and subsequent—draw the bulk of their huge products from the Continent, principally Belgium. These imports cover angles, bars, hoops, files, blooms, and miscellaneous fittings. The landings this week at East Coast ports include 7,800 tons of pig-iron, 3,000 to 4,000 steel blooms, and 3,000 bars (not tons). In the last week or two Belgium has been stiffening up her quotations for everything, and is not disposed to guarantee deliveries with the promptness common only recently, which suggests that she is getting filled up with orders, cheap ones particularly. Yet a bit of ground has to be travelled before an equilibrium in values on the Continent and here can be established. There are pounds of difference to overcome, and the equalisation will be at our expense whatever the means adopted.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—So far as the principal local industries are concerned, there is no evidence of the great revival of trade which a couple of months ago the Prime Minister assured the country was at hand. The position is quite as flat as before the strike, and it is questionable whether the reaction is not still in operation. Foreign business in steel is going to the Continent, including valuable orders from India. Some of the plants which were started up after the strike have been closed again or put on short-time for the want of work, and staffs at the large establishments are being gradually reduced, an operation which involves the discharge of officials who had held responsible positions for years. Engineering branches report that few new orders for heavy machinery are coming in. The only active branch at the moment is that supplying colliery tools and equipment. The crucible steel trade is almost at a standstill, and it is feared that several consuming countries abroad can now supply their own needs in the ordinary grades. Special steels have never been so quiet before in the overseas markets, and there is only a moderate inquiry at home. Leading business men are endeavouring to persuade the American Government to modify in its new Tariff Bill the prohibitive duties on imported high-speed steel, which at present prices amounts to about 2s per lb. If the proposals stand, it will be impossible to sell the Sheffield material in America. Coke used for melting crucible steel has just been reduced 17s per ton, but the new price is still double the pre-war figures. A steady increase in buying of steam coal is reported, and the railways continue to take a large tonnage, but the export trade is disappointing, and little is doing in slacks and household fuel. Prices of the latter are 3s 6d per ton more than before the strike. Not much progress is being made in starting coke ovens.

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—August 5, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	Ord	G O L M	G M M P	G O L M	G M M P	G O L M	G M M P	G O L M	G M M P	G O L M	G M M P	G M M P
American	5.69	6.44	7.59	8.49	9.34	11.04	20.10	23.30	29.85	15.13	16.78	19.63
Brazilian.	Mid	M P	Fr	G P	Gd	Fne	M P	Fr	Gd	M P	Fr	Gd
Pernambuco, &c.	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Paraiba	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Maceio	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Mossoro, &c.	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Ceara	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Maranhao	5.69	8.19	10.19	...	...	...	22.60	29.10	...	18.33	21.33	...
Egyptian.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brown	...	9.50	11.00	13.50	15.00	...	nm	nm	nm	24.00	30.50	...
Upper	...	9.50	10.50	12.50	13.00	...	nm	nm	nm	22.00	28.50	...
West Indian—Sea Island ..	...	23.00	26.00	29.00	31.00	...	nm	nm	nm	...	...	...
Portuguese—Rough	...	9.00	10.00	11.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto Smooth	...	7.00	8.25	9.50	...	...	...	...	...	21.50	25.50	...
Ditto Sea Island	...	6.69	9.69	10.44	10.94	11.94	35.10	38.10	43.60	21.83	22.83	24.33
African, East, &c.	5.25	6.25	8.25	9.25	10.25	11.25	29.50	32.50	46.50	22.95	23.95	24.95
East Indian.	G F	Far	Gd	E G	Fne	S in	Far	Gd	Fne	Far	Gd	Fne
Sura—Mac. Ginned Surtee	...	8.05	8.30	8.55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broach	...	7.05	7.30	7.55	7.80	8.05	19.10	19.60	20.60	17.10	17.35	17.85
M. Ginned Bhownagur ..	...	4.94	5.44	5.94	6.44	6.94	14.44	15.44	17.04	15.54	16.29	17.04
M. Ginned Comra, No. 1 ..	...	5.00	5.50	6.00	6.50	7.00	14.50	15.50	17.10	15.60	16.35	17.10
M. Ginned Khandish ..	...	4.75	5.25	5.75	6.25	6.75	12.75	13.75	15.35	15.10	15.85	16.90
M. Ginned Compla.	...	6.20	...	6.70	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Bengal	...	4.15	4.65	5.15	5.65	6.15	8.75	9.50	10.75	...	...	...
M. Ginned Scinde	...	4.03	4.53	5.03	5.53	6.03	8.57	9.32	10.57	13.50	14.25	15.00
Tinnivelly	...	7.80	8.05	8.30	...	...	21.35	21.85	...	17.85	18.10	...
Madras, Western	...	6.45	6.70	6.95	7.20	...	...	...	...	17.10	17.35	...
Cocacada, Red	...	Fr	6.45	...	...	...	15.25	...	...	17.10	...	...
M. Ginned Cocacada, Red ..	...	Fr	6.70	...	...	...	15.50	...	...	17.35	...	...

MANCHESTER, August 11.

The market during the past week has been very quiet. Buyers are anticipating lower prices, and orders are being held back. Until there is a change of sentiment in this respect there is little probability of increased activity. In cloth the most promising outlook is China, and fair orders have again been booked in grey and white shirtings, sheetings, and fancies, whilst moderate support has been given by shippers to Java and Singapore. Some advices from India are rather better, but only a small trade has been done. If the monsoon rains continue to do well, there is some expectation of freer buying next month. The uncertain political situation in Europe and the Near East prevents any expansion in trade. Goods suitable for home consumption have not attracted much attention. American yarns for home use have been dull of sale, and prices are easier on the week. Supplies are more than sufficient to meet the requirements of users. Export demand for India has fallen off somewhat, but business continues to be done for China in twofold quantities. Irregular operations have occurred in Egyptian counts.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, Aug. 11, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Aug. 4.	Price, July 28.	Price, July 21.	Price, July 14.	Price, July 7.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8.95	8.78	8.34	8.65	8.74	8.12
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian	16.00	16.00	15.50	16.50	16.50	16.00
Yarns—32's twist	17	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2
— 40's twist	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	30	31	31	31	31	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31	0 31	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	30	6 31	0 31	6 31	6 31	6 31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	17	9 18	3 18	9 18	9 18	9 18
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	16	6 16	9 16	9 16	9 16	9 16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, Aug. 11, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	8.95	28.43	19.73	23.63	19.90	8.75
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian	16.00	70.00	30.50	30.19	30.00	11.60
Yarns—32's twist	17	55	42	53 1/2	26	13 1/2
— 40's twist	15 1/2	52 1/2	41 1/2	53 1/2	25 1/2	13 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	30	98	61	65	45	21 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31	0 35	6 60	6 64	6 33	0 18
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	30	6 31	6 59	0 62	3 32	6 17
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	17	9 48	6 35	6 36	9 19	0 10
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	16	6 42	0 31	0 32	3 17	3 9

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—While there is really no change at this centre, things are no worse. Overseas cables report a very firm market for raw wool, and this compels topmakers to adopt a firmer attitude. There certainly is a

reasonable business passing in a quiet sort of way, and average 64's tops are still worth 36d, and a warp 64's 38d to 39d. There is also a marked scarcity of Cape tops, which are saleable at fully as much as Australian. A reasonable trade is going on export account, and some good orders have been received from Germany for 1-24's and 1-30's crossbred yarns. Full market prices have been made, and this is hoped to be the beginning of a big trade in these super and demi lustre yarns, which assumed big proportions before the war. We think that consumption shows a little expansion, and prospects point to more doing after the holidays. News from the Cape also indicates more doing in mohair, and prospects generally can be regarded as better. Yarn spinners are running longer hours, and while manufacturers do not report any important change, there is more disposition to sell old stocks and quote tempting prices for future business.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

News from Australia indicates a firm market, with an encouraging demand for wool. According to private cables received, the sales are going somewhat better than expected, and both home and Continental buyers are operating fairly extensively, while even American houses are purchasing the best merinos, because they know they cannot do without them. It seems somewhat ridiculous that the United States should impose import duties upon raw materials, for United States mills can no more do without the best merino wool grown in Australia than the farmers in the country can do without sunshine to ripen their crops. That is, if the manufacture of the best classes of worsted goods is to continue, and after all such goods remain the most popular in every English-speaking market in the world. It is really amazing the hold that good merino fabrics have upon the general public, and value for value the finest and best wool in the world is the cheapest. Nothing would suit B.A.W.R.A. better than to see American buyers come into the market and secure the highest classes of merinos, for if they paid no more than what English and Continental buyers are prepared to pay, their competition would stimulate the entire trade. It almost looks as if there is a speculative buy of merinos in Australia; any way, the sales are going well, competition is broadening, and recent prices have moved in sellers' favour.

During the past week the Right Hon. F. W. Massey, New Zealand Premier, has visited Bradford. He received a very hearty welcome, and has been greatly impressed with the wool industry of the West Riding. There is no doubt that in the manipulation of crossbred wool Bradford spinners and manufacturers are past masters, and what is wanted is a development of trade, when cross-breds would soon arise from the dust. Every speaker at the public meeting emphasised the desirability of getting rid of every shred of control, for the trade is well able to work out its own salvation without any interference whatever from any outside authority. Great sympathy was expressed by actual consumers themselves with Australasian wool growers that the present standing of the raw material should be so unsatisfactory, but economic laws are operating, and will continue to do, no matter what is done. Mr Harry Dawson, as usual, hit the nail on the head when he said that cheap wool was a rare good thing for the countries that were poor to-day. Cheap wool meant cheap clothing, and cheap clothing would help to bring prosperity back again. This is what everybody has felt all along, and although it affords no pleasure to anyone at the consuming end of the trade to learn that New Zealand pastoralists last year had to sell their clips at a loss, it is by no means the first time that they have been called upon to do this, and surely after the piping times which they have experienced for the past 20 years, they can stand one or two seasons of low values.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL SALES.

Messrs. Dalgety and Co. have received the following cable from their Melbourne branch, dated August 10th:—"3,500 bales of wool offered and practically all sold under good general competition. Prices are unchanged as compared with the closing rates of last series."

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The market for linseed oil continues to have a firm tone consequent on a good demand both on home and export account, spot oil again advancing to £38 per ton naked ex Hull mill. Forward positions, in sympathy with the strength of seed, are at a substantial premium, £39 being quoted for September-December delivery, and £39 10s for January-April. The United States, which has imported comparatively little Argentine linseed to supplement the domestic yield, has of late been a ready buyer of English

National Provident Institution.

Three good points

in favour of a Life Assurance policy.

1. It will show you a good return for your money.
2. It will give you no anxiety as to depreciation.
3. It will enable you to save Income Tax.

Full detailed particulars will be sent post free on application to—

48, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

Telephone: 1773 Avenue.

linseed oil, and a good deal depends upon the extent of that country's need to import further.

Cotton oils are in rather better supply, and a fair trade has been done in crude, which, after a slight reaction, has firmed up again, with other grades practically unchanged. A steady business is also reported in crude soya bean, palm kernel and ground nut oils values, however, being little altered.

Plate linseed eased off somewhat last week, and a fairly substantial trade was put through at the decline at £22 to £22 10s for September-October shipment, since when a firmer tone has developed. Spot and near are steady in view of the great shortage of stocks, and the apparent ability of the market to absorb the large quantities afloat. Egyptian cotton seed has been in good request at somewhat higher figures, and a steady trade has also been done in Bombay. For soya beans £16 has been paid September-October shipment to Hull. Very little indeed is passing in rape seed, which is engaging most attention from Continental buyers. Palm kernels are very firm, and dearer to buy.

The demand for linseed cakes has slowed down, but a good trade is now being done in cotton cakes.

SILK TRADE.

The report of Messrs Chabrières, Morel and Cie, dated Lyons, August 6, 1921, reads as follows:—We confirm our advice July 7th. Since then, our market has been fairly active, and prices for silk have advanced steadily: they are to-day higher by 10 to 25 francs than a month ago. The demand from America which for several months past had governed our market has abated in July, and the transactions effected during the period under review have been mostly for European manufacturers. The latter, who have gone through difficult times during last year, have allowed their stocks of raw silk to run down almost to nil. They have lately taken some orders, and are reactivating some of their idle looms. At the same time, the stocks of piece goods have been largely disposed of, and are now quite moderate, both in the hands of manufacturers and of jobbers as well as of retail dealers: a general policy of abstention from purchases, the effects of which are now being felt, had indeed followed the accumulation of stocks during the boom period of 1919, and the general position of the piece goods trade is once more perfectly sound. Our manufacturers are now facing serious difficulties in securing the silk which they urgently need, ready parcels or prompt deliveries being very scarce. It is strange that whilst the crop of 1921, including the stock carried over in Japan, will be fully equal to that of 1920, the available supplies of silk on the consuming markets are not by any means large at present. The stocks in America are only moderate, and the stocks in Europe have seldom, if ever, been smaller. There are only very few parcels of Asiatics on their way to Europe, so that a scarcity of silk on our side is bound to be felt during a few months to come, the more so as flatures in Italy have been largely contracted for. The question is whether Japan can take advantage of the situation to gradually dispose of its holdings, and at the same time maintain its prices. Asiatic markets are quiet, and remain on a higher basis of prices than those ruling on this side. Eastern exchanges have been comparatively steady during last month. There is a good inquiry on our market for China flatures, as well as for Cantons; the demand for crapes has pushed the latter up to the parity of the best Italian silks. Levant silks are comparatively advantageous and in good demand, but their production is very limited. Italian silks are practically sold out until November, their sale having been helped by the decline of the lira. There is a distinct improvement in the demand for thrown silks.

LINEN TRADE.

Flax.—The Irish markets remain small, as farmers believe they will get better prices by waiting. Any lots offered were bought up at unchanged prices, but selection was poorer. On the Continent supplies are small, and practically no scutching is being done at the moment. Now that the weather has become cooler and more suitable for scutching, the scutchers will likely resume work, and larger supplies will shortly be placed on the market.

Yarns.—The better feeling experienced this past few weeks has been well maintained, and an increasing number of yarns have changed hands. Such spinners as have cleared their stock are now holding out for a margin on any yarns that have to be produced, and a good many cases are reported of advances having been paid.

Weavers.—The improvement noted last week continues.

Merchants.—The better tone noticed recently has been maintained this week, and there appears to be a welcome tendency for business passing to expand. The quantities are not large, but all things considered they must be accepted as fairly satisfactory for this season of the year. There is more inquiry for linen handkerchiefs.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hides again advanced at Thursday's auctions held in Bernadonsey, best ox selling from 7½d to 10½d each, an advance of ½d to ¾d on last prices. Calf were also dearer, lights making up to 15d. Tanners are very sure at the advance in hides, and attribute it to the export demand mainly from Germany. At all events, the export of British hides is still increasing, the total weight this year to the end of July being 86,104 cwts, valued at £278,641, of

which quantity Germany took 24,206 cwts, valued at £55,974. In July, 1920, exports weighed 4,134 cwts, rising to 13,087 cwts for July last. A steady trade has been done this week in imported hides, fregoric being quoted on spot at higher figures. The American market is calmed firm, with best packers offered at 14 cents.

Trade in leather has been uneven this week, some merchants reporting good business, others a dull time. Bends of 12-14 lbs have been in request from manufacturers and repairers, and tanners are very firm on prices. Rough dressing leather has somewhat improved, and the supply of rough split butts for export has got very low. Upper leather is slow, but once the holiday season is over, sellers anticipate a good demand, as stocks of finished boots and shoes are now low.

The boot trade is now fairly busy, and in addition to the regular lines of boots suitable for winter wear, makers of sports and football boots are full of orders. Exports of footwear to the end of June this year were valued at £1,375,081, as against £4,072,584 for the same period of last year—a very serious fall indeed.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 8½d to 9½d per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, August 12.

A fair amount of business was carried through in the chief commodities during the week, though in some directions prices disclosed some irregularity. In those markets where rates moved to an appreciable higher level, profit-taking ensued and exercised a weak influence. There was a good inquiry, particularly on continents account for beans and peas, also rice, and increased strength governed these markets.

SUGAR.—With a falling-off in general demand, only a comparatively small amount of business resulted, but prices maintained a steady level. Tate's cubes sold, 6½d to 6½d; granulated, 6½d to 6½d; castor, 6½d to 6½d; pieces, 4½d to 5½d. Lyle's granulated, 6½d to 6½d; yellow crystals, 5½d. Crystallised West India sold in retail quantities at from 4½d to 5½d, as to quality. Good to fine muscovado, 4½d to 4½d. American granulated, spot, sold, 5½d to 5½d; afloat, spot, 3½d to 3½d, c.f. and i. White Java, September-October, quoted 2½d, c.f. and i. Dutch granulated, prompt, 3½d; cubes, 3½d, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Czechoslovakian, granulated, prompt, 3½d; cubes, 3½d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Belgian crystals, October-December, 2½d, f.o.b., Antwerp. White Brazilian, spot, sold, 5½d to 5½d. Mauritius quoted 5½d. Terminal market quiet, steady.

COFFEE.—Market firm to dealer, and the fair quantity offered in auction this week aroused good competition, particularly the finer qualities. Fair to fine bold colour Costa Rica, sold, 12½d to 13½d; fair to good bold Vera Paz, 12½d to 13½d; Matagalpa, 11½d to 11½d; Guatemala, 11½d to 11½d; East India, bold, 9½d to 11½d. Future delivery market quieter. September, sold, 4½d.

COCOA.—Market very quiet, with only retail transactions at previous rates. Cocoa butter steady at 2s 10d per lb.

TEA.—Offerings of Indian in auction this week totalled 51,300 packages, which met good competition. Good to fine ruled fully steady, while low medium and common sold with marked freedom at higher quotations than those ruling prior to the holidays. 25,200 packages Ceylon were eagerly competed for at firm rates, with common again in sellers' favour.

RICE.—Market firm, with a fair amount of business effected. Two stars, spot, sold, 24s; ditto, afloat, 23s 3d. No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, and August-September, 24s. No. 1 Saigon, afloat, 21s 6d to 22s. Burma brokens not offered. Siam, broken, firm. C. 1, August-September quoted 16s 3d, and C 3 15s 9d. Bran steady. Rangoon, August-September quoted 19 per ton, ex ship. Beans firm. Rangoon hand-picked, spot, sold, 14s to 15s 9d; August-September, 14s 6d to 16s 6d. Madagascar, good, all white butter beans, spot, sold 36s for

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.,

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1833 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

new crop, and 32s 6d old. Japanese peas dearer. Spot, 46s; crop 1920. August-September, sold, 40s to 41s.

FRUIT.—The market for currants, also Valencia and sultana raisins ruled quiet but steady. Dates steady. Siam, spot, 15s 6d.

SPICE.—Pepper steady, but trade moved quietly. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4½d; ditto, August-October, 4½d. Aleppy, spot, 4½d. Tellicherry, 5d. White Singapore, spot, 9½d. Muntok, ditto, 9½d; August-October, 9½d. Pimento, spot, 2½d. Zanzibar cloves, fair quality, on spot, sold, 1s 3d to 1s 3½d. Tapioca firmer. Fair flake, spot, sold, 2½d; ditto, September-November, steamer, 17s; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 23s; August-October, London, 22s, and Hamburg, sold, 23s. Sago flour, August-October, sold, 16s 6d to 16s 9d. Desiccated coconut, spot, fine and medium, sold, 54s to 54s 6d; halves, August-September, 54s.

JUTE.—There was a fair amount of business in force, but after advancing a subdued tone set in. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £31 to £32; ditto, spot, Genoa, £33 to £34; ditto, substitutes, old crop, August-September, £26 15s to £27; lightning assortment, spot, Dundee, £25 10s; ditto, dock, Hamburg, £25 5s; ditto, subs, old, August-September, £22 12s 6d to £22 10s; heart subs, ditto, £16 to £16 10s. Hessians steady. 10 oz Calcutta, spot, London, sold, 21s; 8 oz, 19s. A twills, August-September, sellers, 70s; B ditto, spot, sold, 58s; ditto, August-September, sellers, 60s. Salts, August-September, sellers, 49s; sugars, ditto, 69s; flour, spot, 77s 6d per 100 bags.

HEMP.—A quiet and featureless condition of affairs governed this market. J grade, August-October, quoted, £38; K, £35; L, £35; M, £31. New Zealand fair, August-October, £34 10s. Italian more or less nominal.

SHELLAC.—Market steady, but spot trade quiet. Fair T.N., spot, 300s; August delivery, sold, 270s to 260s; October, 272s 6d to 267s 6d, 270s and 260s.

COFFEE.—A quieter tone ensued, and prices, while irregular, ruled lower. F.M.S. Straits, August-October and September-November, Rotterdam, sold, £38 to £34 12s 6d and £35; Ceylon ditto, August-October, London, £38 10s to £36; South Sea Islands, £37 to £34; Cebu, £37 to £34. Palm kernels easier. August-October, sold, £24 5s to £23 and £23 7s 6d.

RUBBER.—Market generally quiet and featureless. Standard crepe, spot, sold, 8½d to 8½d; September, 8½d; October-December, 9½d to 9½d; January-March, 10d. Sheet, spot, sold, 8½d; October-December, 9½d to 9½d; January-March, 10d. There was a moderate trade done in undergrades, including specky browns at 6½d to 6½d, and darks 5½d to 6d. Wild, steady quiet, and fine hard Para, spot, quoted 7s; soft fine, 15s; with Caucho ball, 7d. Stocks of plantation in London warehouses amount to 71,523 tons.

OILS.—Linseed irregular, with a quieter demand. Spot, net, naked, 39s; September-December, 38s. Rape firm. Crude, spot, 56s; refined,

64s. Cotton firm. Crude Egyptian, 43s 6d; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 53s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 100s; and shipment, 71s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 56s; August-September, 53s 6d; Ceylon, ditto, 58s. Soya firm. Oriental, barrels, ditto, nominally 45s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 25s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 53s; deodorised, barrels, 63s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 69s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s; F, 17s 6d; G, 17s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum steady. American, spot, 1s 9½d; and water-white, 1s 10½d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market fairly active, but irregular. Calcutta August-September, sold, £23 17s 6d to £24 5s. Plate, spot, Hull, £21 afloat, £21; July-August, sold, £20 15s to £21; August-September £23 and £21 5s; September-October, £23 to £22. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, July-August, sold, £22 10s to £22 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed firm. Egyptian black August, sold, £14 5s to £14 10s; and white, £13 15s to £14. Bombay August-September, £12. Ginglyly easier. Chinese, August-September, Continent, sold, £29 5s to £28 15s. Castor, Bombay, July

ALL INVESTORS SHOULD POSSESS "THE 100 BEST INVESTMENTS"

ANNUAL VOLUME, 1921-22.

This standard work, which is in its eleventh year of issue, contains the latest information regarding one hundred securities specially selected as being the best of their kind from the whole available field of investment, and ranging from Government loans to Ordinary Shares.

Comprising:
Government and Municipal Loans 48
Debentures and Short-Term Notes 26
Preferred and Pref. Ord. Shares 15
Ordinary Shares 13
100

In addition, the Introductory Articles:—
"An Economic Survey for Investors."
"Home Rents—A Definite Policy for Investors."
"Investment with a Purpose."

sound a warning note and define the principles which should govern the prudent employment of capital in the immediate future. The volume includes

Investment Index Figures. Hints on Income Tax.

Chart showing Investment Movements.

Special attention has also been given to the requirements of investors resident abroad who desire to know of stocks dealt in on the British

markets in respect of which they need not suffer reduction of Income Tax.

Post free on receipt of 2/- from the Publishers.

Apply Dept. No. 33,

THE BRITISH FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORPORATION Ltd., Investment Bankers,

8, F.G. HOUSE, GRESHAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				DRUGS.				INDIA RUBBER.—lb				PROVISIONS.—				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
COCOA.—Duty British grown				Aloes, fine R.I., p. cwt	150	0	180	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

August, sellers, £19, and Brazilian, £15 10s. Hull. Ground nuts, Coromandel, machine-dried, July-August, £28; ordinary, £26 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., July-August, £27 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin occupied fairly good attention, while values moved in an upward direction until last Tuesday, cash fluctuating to £152 10s and three months' to £164 10s. Selling pressure prevailed during the middle of the week, these dates fluctuating to £159 and £161 5s respectively. Prices again relapsed at Thursday's meeting. Cash realised £157 down to £156 10s, while since registered at £157 5s, late October £158, and three months' £160 10s to £158 15s. At Friday's session the downward tendency was prolonged. Cash changed hands at £155 10s to £155, late October, £156 15s, with three months' fluctuating to £156 10s. English ingots, £155. Copper continued in quiet request, no desire to sell being shown. At the week's commencement standard cash changed hands at £70, three months' £70 10s. Little alteration characterised movements until Wednesday, when a few warrants "three months" sold at £70 10s to £70 12s 6d. At Thursday's market cash sold at £70 2s 6d to £70, early September £70 5s, and three months' £70 10s to £70 7s 6d. At Friday's session rates were rather easier, the market being steady

at the decline. Standard cash sold at £70 to £69 15s; three months', £70 2s 6d. Electros, £74 10s to £76; best selected, £69 15s to £71 15s; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £74 10s to £76. Lead easier at £23 10s to £23 2s 6d, as to position. Spelter lower at £25 10s to £26 2s 6d, according to position. Antimony, English Regulus remains at £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade £115; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—AUGUST 11.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	q
Beasts—Herefords	9	8	10 4
Shorthorns	9	6	10 2
Devons	10	6	10 2
Northfords	9	6	10 2
Scottish	9	0	..
Irish	9	0	..
Sheep—Downs (clipped)	11	4	12 0
Longwools	10	8	11 4
Crossbred	10	8	11 4
Scottish	12	8	14 8
Lamb—Downs	12	8	14 8

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—AUGUST 11.

Per Cwt.			
	s	d	q
Essex	11	0	12 0
Dutch	11	0	12 0
Essex	11	0	12 0
Dutch	11	0	12 0

BASS, RATCLIFF & GRETTON, LIMITED.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

TO BE PRESENTED TO THE ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS
at the **THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**,
TO BE HELD AT THE OFFICES OF THE COMPANY, BURTON-ON-TRENT,
On Thursday, the 18th August, 1921, at 12.30 o'clock.

DIRECTORS:

COL. JOHN GRETTON, M.P., *Chairman.*

COL. ROBERT F. RATCLIFF.
MAJOR H. F. GRETTON.
P. W. RATCLIFF.

GERARD A. CLAY.
JOHN LAMBRICK.
CLAUDE N. BURT.

The Directors submit to the Shareholders the Balance Sheet of the 30th June, 1921, and Profit and Loss Account for the year ending on that date, showing a Profit, before charging Interest on Debenture Stock, of £484,314 18s 7d, which, with £61,969 19s 3d brought forward from the previous year, makes a total of £546,284 17s 10d. Of this amount £210,000 has been appropriated to the payment of Interest on Debenture Stock, Dividends on Preference, Stock and an Interim Dividend of 3 per cent. on the Ordinary Shares, leaving a balance of £336,284 17s 10d. Out of this it is proposed to declare on the Ordinary Shares a further Dividend of 8 per cent. (£163,200), making 11 per cent. for the year free of Income Tax, payable on the 1st September, 1921, to place £100,000 to the Reserve Fund (which will then amount to £800,000), and to carry forward to the next account the balance of £73,084 17s 10d.

The Directors again consider that they have made sufficient provision for contingencies which may be reasonably foreseen. The retiring Directors are MAJOR H. F. GRETTON, and MR P. W. RATCLIFF, who offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors recommend that MAJOR THE HON. EVAN BAILLIE be elected a Director of the Company, and a resolution accordingly will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

The retiring Auditors, Messrs COOPER BROTHERS & Co., are eligible and offer themselves for re-appointment.

BURTON-ON-TRENT,
8th August, 1921.

By order of the Board,
D. BURRELL, Secretary.

Banks, &c.—Continued.

THE BRITISH & NORTH EUROPEAN BANK, LTD.,

31 & 33, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2.

H. Guedalla, Chairman.
A. Kjaer, Managing Director.

The Bank transacts every description of Banking business and extends facilities for trade between Great Britain, Russia, Scandinavia, France, Italy, America, etc.

THE BANK OF ADELAIDE.

(Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1865.)
Authorized Capital ... £2,000,000
Subscribed Capital ... £250,000
Paid-up Capital ... £250,000
Reserve Fund ... £250,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders ... £1,870,000

Head Office: ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
Sydney Office: 105, PITT STREET.
Melbourne Office: 207, COLLINS STREET.
Bills on Australia purchased or collected.
Drafts issued and Remittances cashed.
Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained on application.
LONDON OFFICE—11 LEADENHALL ST., E.C.3.
PERCY ARNOLD, O.B.E., Manager.

THE MAURITIUS COMMERCIAL BANK,

PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.
(Incorporated by Royal Charter and continued under Local Authority.)
ESTABLISHED 1838.

Capital ... Rps. 2,000,000
Reserve Fund ... 1,500,000
Undivided Profits ... 611,153

London Agents—LLOYD'S BANK LTD., 17 Cornhill, E.C.3.
Paris " LLOYD'S and NATIONAL PROVINCIAL FOREIGN BANK LTD.
Agents in India—NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA LTD.
Agents in South Africa and New York—THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA LTD.
Also agencies in The Straits Settlements, Japan, Australia, Madagascar, Reunion.
Telegraphic Address, "E.G.O."

THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.

Incorporated by Russian Government Decree.
Capital, Authorised ... RbIs. 65,000,000
" Subscribed ... RbIs. 55,000,000
" (Subscribed by the Chinese Government) Kouping Tails 8,500,000
Reserve Funds ... RbIs. 26,961,423
" Kouping Tails 1,767,033
HEAD OFFICE AT PETROGRAD.
Branches at all the principal towns in Russia, Manchuria, Siberia, Central Asia, and China, also at Paris, Bombay, Hongkong and Yokohama.
Interest (paid quarterly) allowed on Fixed Deposit and on Current Accounts, at rates to be learned on application.
Banking business transacted of every description.
CHANTREY INCHBALD, London Manager.
64 Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

The Great Alternative

Saner Politics or Revolution.

By LEONARD J. REID, M.A.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"His indictment of the criminal folly of Bolshevism is most effective."—*Morning Post.*

"A sound and rational contribution to political controversy. We recommend every thinking politician to read it."—*Saturday Review.*

"An able plea for a great New Liberalism."—*Scotsman.*

"To unsettled and troubled Liberals we would heartily commend it. It is a finely suggestive discussion of certain vexing questions with the solution whereof Liberalism is vitally concerned."—*Liverpool Daily Post.*

"Studiously moderate."—*Economist.*

"Sane and thoughtful writing."—*Daily News.*

Crown 8vo. 6/6 net.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO.,
39, Paternoster Row.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 1921.

No. 4,069.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2
ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSGILD, President
The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund	Haugesund
Bergen	Sandefjord
Christiansand S.	Skien
Drammen	Stavanger
Fredrikstad	Trondhjem

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 500,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 31st December, 1920 ... Lire 4,117,617,960

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italocredi, Cannon, London."
Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market ... 285	Company Meetings ... 301
Leading Articles—	Government Returns—
Groping Forwards ... 287	Treasury Bills by Public
The Direction of Overseas	Tender ... 310
Trade ... 288	Currency Notes Account ... 310
Steel Famine and Britain's	Public Income and Expen-
Chance ... 289	diture ... 310
Branch Shop Companies ... 290	
Business Notes—	Bankers' Gazette—
Employment in July ... 291	Bank of England ... 311
Cost of Living ... 291	Clearing Returns ... 311
Iron and Steel Output ... 291	Overseas Bank Returns ... 311
Cotton Trade Depression ... 292	Loan and Discount Rates ... 313
American Cotton Consump-	Rates of Exchange ... 313
tion ... 292	Overseas Bank Rates ... 313
Local Housing Loans ... 292	Bullion ... 314
Enemy Debts ... 292	Imports and Exports of Gold
Trade with South Africa ... 292	and Silver Prices ... 315
Transvaal Output for July	
292	
The Outlook in Mexico ... 292	Company News—
The Rubber Situation ... 293	Dividend Announcements ... 315
The Marconi Report ... 293	Railway & Tramway Traffic
The Ropp Report ... 293	316
Overseas Correspondence—	Rubber Outputs & Dividends
United States ... 294	317
France ... 294	Transvaal Gold Outputs ... 318
Germany ... 296	Mining Outputs ... 318
Canada ... 297	Oil Outputs ... 318
Italy ... 298	Profit and Loss Accounts ... 319
Switzerland ... 298	Analysis of Balance-Sheets
	319
	Reports and Notices ... 319
Letters to the Editor—	Commercial Reports—
Economic Troubles and the	Corn Trade ... 319
Currency ... 299	Iron and Coal Trade ... 320
Books and Publications—	Wool Trade ... 320
Books Received ... 299	Cotton Trade ... 321
Stock Exchange News—	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds
The Stock Markets ... 299	322
New Issues ... 300	Hide and Leather Trades ... 322
Active Securities ... 300	Portland Cement ... 322
	Overseas Produce Markets
	322
	Timber Trade ... 322
	Price Current ... 323

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £3 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

IN spite of the large addition to the market's resources caused by the fresh creation of credit by the Bank of England for the use of the Government, as shown by the Bank return, money has still been far from abundant. On Monday the market was only able to repay part of the large sum then due to the Bank, and on Thursday there was a strong enough demand to threaten fresh borrowings, though they were not actually necessary. Discount rates remained firm, apprehension being expressed as to the possible effect on the supply of cash of the German

reparation payment. If this payment enables the Government to make a large reduction in outstanding Ways and Means advances, it seems safe to expect that the market may be severely pinched.

	Aug. 19, 1921.	Aug. 12, 1921.	Aug. 5, 1921.	July 29, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	5½	5½	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount, Call	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	4½ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months	4½	4½	4½	4½	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills) ..	4½	4½	4½	4½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed an increase of £26,000 in the stock of gold, a decrease of £1,329,000 in the note circulation, and a consequent increase of £1,355,000 in the Reserve. Government securities expanded by 7½ millions, while the market's repayment reduced the Other by 1½ million. There was thus an addition of nearly 7½ millions to the deposits, more than the whole of which went to Other, Public being nearly a million lower. There was a reduction of £3,892,000 to £323,241,000 in the circulation of Currency Notes, this total including £1,955,500 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is now £273,335,500, or £44,219,700 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended August 13, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	17,558	Supply Services	6,910
		Interest on Debt	1,019
		Sundries	1,061
		Reduction of debt	8,547
		Added to Exchequer Balances..	921
	17,558		17,558

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £8,547,170, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

Treasury Bonds	Min. £	Public Departments Advances	Min. £
Advances by Bank of England	+ 7,500	Treasury Bills	- 5,900
National Savings Certificates	+ 350	Surrenders of Bonds &c.	- 1,374
Sundries	+ 254	Depreciation Fund	- 800
	+ 10,654	Unemployment Insurance	- 315
			- 18,711

Customs and Excise added £4,090,000 to the revenue, and Property and Income-tax produced £5,877,000. Special receipts under Miscellaneous yielded £3,529,559. The Floating Debt was reduced by £9,540,000 to £1,354,046,000.

There has been a change of interest during the past week in the exchange market from dollars, which have been much quieter, to German marks, in which fluctuations have been extreme and violent, with a large business. In dollars, the extreme limits have been very much closer, the highest rate being about 3.67½, with a sharp fall, on commercial demand here, to 3.64, and a subsequent rise to yesterday's figure of 3.66, at which the market was steady, with no very large dealings. The forward quotation is slightly weaker in tendency, and margins are consequently slightly narrower. Paris has continued quiet, with a firm undertone, and yesterday was quoted at the highest point, 47.40. Brussels has depreciated in sympathy with Paris to 48.30, and the difference between the two centres has narrowed still further. Italy, after fairly active dealings, shows a considerable rise during the week, the quotation at the moment of writing being 85, while Amsterdam is unchanged, in spite of the keen demand for sterling there, and considerable offerings of florins in this centre, which at times were incapable of acceptance. Switzerland was slightly easier at 21.64, while the general tone for Scandinavians has been weak. Christiania, although it has been lower, was quoted 28.20, Stockholm 17.18, and Copenhagen 22.40, following a dip to 22.10 on Wednesday. With regard to marks, these were offered in large

volume, principally from Scandinavia and Holland, and to a less extent from Switzerland and France. The quotation rose rapidly to 342 on Tuesday, to be followed by an almost equally rapid decline to 320, and subsequently 308, at which it closed on Thursday. Yesterday the weakness continued, but less acutely, and dealings were taking place at 306. The immediate future of the rate would seem to depend on whether the August reparation payments have now been fully provided for, or whether a balance is still to be remitted. The demand for forward German marks at present levels is fairly large, the quotation being about 2 points per month below spot. In the smaller exchanges, Finland continues to rise, and is now 248, Vienna has lost last week's improvement, and is quoted 3,100; Warsaw, after a slightly higher quotation, is worse, at 8,100; while Prague has depreciated to 300. The Hungarian crown, in sympathy with the other Balkan currencies, has fallen to 1,400; Belgrade is called 157, and Sofia round about 420. Bucharest, after being higher, closed at 298, and Athens is unchanged at last week's quotation. Buenos Aires at 44½ and Valparaiso at 36 are both higher on the week, while the Uruguay dollar continues to improve, and is now 43½d. Rio rose during the week to 8½d, but was slightly weaker at the close at 8d. Following the rise in silver to 38½d, Indian rupees have been in rather firm demand, especially for forward; the spot quotation is firm at rs 4½d to rs 5d. Yokohama was slightly easier at 2s 7½d, and the Hongkong and Shanghai tael have improved respectively to 2s 9½d and 3s 9d.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE. FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO AUGUST 13, 1921.

Total spent	£ 378,474,147	Raised by revenue ..	£ 331,693,289
Dec. in balances....	192,697	Net borrowings	46,588,161
Total	378,281,450	Total	378,281,450

ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,943	1,943	1,943
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358	358
3½% Conversion L'n.	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	25	25	25
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,121	1,121	1,121	1,121
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292	292	292
Nat'l Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285	285	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,117	1,117	1,117
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	165	162	162	162
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,746	7,746	7,746
Total Liabilities.....	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,794	7,794	7,794

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Aug. 14, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Aug. 13, '21.	Movement Week-ended Aug. 13, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England..	54,750,000..	..	30,750,000..	+ 7,500,000
Advances by Public Departments	155,091,000..	154,489,000..	132,524,000..	- 5,900,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,048,492,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,190,772,000..	- 11,140,000
Total Floating Debt	1,258,333,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,354,046,000..	- 9,510,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

AUGUST 13TH.—Final meeting of Supreme Council and Inter-Allied Finance Conference in Paris. New Spanish Cabinet formed.

AUGUST 14TH.—Text of Government proposals for Irish settlement and Mr de Valera's reply published.

AUGUST 15TH.—Irish railway dispute settled. Sharp decline in mark exchange.

AUGUST 16TH.—Meeting of Dail Eireann opens in Dublin. Premier makes statement in Commons on Silesia, Greece, Turkey, and Russia. Safeguarding of Industries Bill read a second time in House of Lords. Death of the King of Serbia.

AUGUST 17TH.—Mr de Valera reiterates refusal to accept Government's terms. Lords carry two amendments against Government in debate on Safeguarding of Industries Bill.

AUGUST 18TH.—Dail Eireann in secret session. Commons debate on Imperial Conference. House of Lords amend Railways Bill, and read a third time, but drop amendments to Safeguarding of Industries Bill. Price of petrol reduced.

AUGUST 19TH.—Premier's statement on Ireland.

In the stock markets, excitement has been provided this week by a collapse in oil shares. The only other features have been the strength of foreign bonds and Argentine railway stocks, and the volume of business remains at a holiday level. The complete absence of new capital issues continues.

Business in the cotton markets is slow, with Indian demand poor. But the monsoon news is satisfactory, and more activity in this quarter is looked for next month. In the wool market, there is rather more activity, though the home piece trade leaves much to be desired. Wool values, however, are firmer, and consumption maintains its recent improvement. The resumption of pig-iron production proceeds very slowly indeed. In most branches of the steel industry business is stagnant. In Glasgow, a better feeling prevails, owing to the settlement of labour disputes in the shipyards, and to the news that one of the largest steel works in the district is about to resume. Quotations in the hide market are still rising, and the shoe trade reports improvement in home demand. In the market for vegetable oils and oilseeds an easier tone prevails.

Details of events and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

GROPING FORWARDS.

With good reason Mr Asquith described the Prime Minister's review of the position, made during last Tuesday's debate on the Consolidated Fund Bill, as the most satisfactory statement yet received on the international situation since the Armistice. Mr Lloyd George very frankly put before the House the differences in point of view which made it impossible for France and Britain to agree on the subject of Silesia—"there was always the complication of that element of security." Full allowance was made for French feeling on this point, but most of us will agree with the Prime Minister that the British view on this point was more far-sighted. It remains to be seen how soon and how effectively the Council of the League of Nations can settle the question, but it is at least something gained that the Supreme Council is no longer to bewilder the world by trying to deal with it by means of makeshifts which decide nothing. In the meantime the Polish insurrection has been "liquidated," the Allied authority is reasserted, an agreement has been reached concerning the despatch of reinforcements, if necessary, and, in answer to a question asked by Sir Philip Magnus, the Prime Minister replied* that, in spite of their not being members of the League of Nations, the Germans will be in exactly the same position as the Poles in the matter of putting their case before the League. That Greece and Turkey should be left to fight out the question of Asia Minor was an inconsistency which Mr Lloyd George defended with his usual amazing dexterity as not only the only but the best course, because war "does in the end teach a respect for facts." Does it? It has taught him to be responsible for a Safeguarding of Industries Bill, the best that can

* As reported by the Times, but not by Hansard.

be said of which is that it seems likely to be a dead letter, and to impose economic "sanctions" on Germany which were from the first obviously a farce, and are now to be abandoned, being admitted by himself to be "irksome and injurious." Mr Lloyd George spoke with more convincing eloquence on other effects of war—this country with a debt of 8,000 millions, a heavy burden of pensions, and with millions of unemployed because our world-customers are impoverished by the war; France, with her richest provinces still devastated, unable to balance her Budget in spite of all her industry and thrift; Italy in the same case; distress in Austria; in Russia the problem of 35 millions dying from starvation, with the gaunt spectre of pestilence and the danger that it may sweep over a Continent too exhausted by war to resist it. "The Disarmament Conference at Washington comes not an hour too soon; and even that will not suffice, unless there is a constant vigilance of federated nations throughout the world, whatever form that federation may take, to make sure that ambition, folly, and greed shall never again plunge the world into this quagmire of wretchedness." After these evidences of sweet reasonableness on the part of the Prime Minister—so very different from the temper in which he appealed to the country in 1918—the House was little surprised to hear a Coalition Unionist, Colonel Moore-Brabazon, urging that we should no longer look on Germany as an enemy; though when he waxed eloquent on the necessity of the revival of Central Europe in the interests of British trade and prosperity, Colonel Wedgwood suggested that he should "come over to this side."

Thus there seems to be at last some hope that the long-delayed date of the official outbreak of peace may find public opinion in this country, even as represented by the politicians who so often play to the lowest instincts of the gallery, earnestly eager for real peace and all that it means; and with the appalling conditions in Russia to remind our revolutionary hotheads of the consequences of upsetting even a faulty economic system before a new one is ready to work in its place, there is perhaps a chance that the world may really settle down to try to bring back prosperity by work and thrift and the other copybook virtues which have lately been flouted as Victorian shibboleths. It is surely high time. The Chancellor of the Exchequer—who later in the debate reviewed the country's financial position—told the House once more that if the estimated revenue is realised there will still be 78 millions, against 80 as originally expected, for debt redemption. He admitted, however, that the E.P.D. will certainly be below estimate, and seemed to be doubtful about Miscellaneous Receipts, though he stated that a very substantial sum will come in on reparation account. But for next year the prospects are such as to call for drastic action. "In order to make the accounts balance, we shall have to reduce expenditure by at least £130,000,000"; but the answers received from the departments to the Treasury circular of last May, which called on them to provide for an aggregate reduction of 113 millions, only indicate definite reductions of 50 millions, with a "probability" that when complete returns have been received we shall achieve a reduction of 70 millions, leaving 60 more still

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN: The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS: S. B. MURRAY F. WYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital	10,860,565
Reserve Fund	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.
OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES
OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 100 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

to be cut off. Under these pressing and unprecedented circumstances, the Chancellor very properly claimed that the House needs help, and justified the appointment of an outside committee. Its composition had already been announced at question time as follows:—Sir Eric Geddes, chairman, Lord Inchcape, Lord Faringdon, Sir Joseph Maclay, and Sir Guy Granet. It is a strong team, with a great task before it. The House of Commons, very naturally, resents its appointment very seriously as unconstitutional and derogatory to the dignity of Parliament. It is certainly most unfortunate that this dignity, already much impaired by the manner in which the Government has treated the House, should have to be further discredited. But the question of the balancing of the nation's Budget and relief from the burden of taxation which takes the heart out of industry is clearly so urgent and important that no measures which can assist its solution can be forgone. The House of Commons has talked and talked about economy, but has not voted in the right way at the right time, and it has only to thank its own failure when it finds itself reinforced by five gentlemen from outside. If their advice and suggestions are effective—as there is at least some reason to hope—public opinion, with its shrewd instinct for practical advantages, will emphatically endorse the Government's action. For we have to remember that the economies demanded are based on estimates of revenue which are by no means certain to be fulfilled. All over the world the same problem faces the peoples of checking the expenditure of Governments and relieving the weight of taxation. Mr Beauchamp, chairman of the Bank of New Zealand, told the meeting of shareholders, held on June 17th, that during the year ended on March 31st last the advances in New Zealand had increased by no less than £10,500,000, of which, roughly, £2,000,000 was caused by income-tax payments. When prosperous communities can only meet the taxgatherer's demands with the assistance of their bankers on this scale, it is more than high time to call a halt.

THE DIRECTION OF OVERSEAS TRADE.

THE quarterly statistics published in the latest Board of Trade returns showing for the first six months of the year the origin of imports and destination of exports, provide some interesting comparisons with previous years. The official figures are classified in two groups only—foreign countries and British Possessions. In the tables below we separate European from other foreign countries and show, first of all, the balance of trade with Europe, the United States, Other Foreign Countries, and the Dominions for the first half of each of the years named in the table—

	JANUARY TO JUNE.			
	1914.		1919.	
	Excess of		Excess of	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
Europe	Min. £ 294	Min. £ 1379	Min. £ 2315	Min. £ 1074
U.S.A.	345	..	620	..
Other Foreign Countries	54	..	596	..
British Possessions	66	..	171	..
	61.1	..	326.7	..

The most striking feature here is the change that has occurred in our trade with the Continent, there being a surplus of imports from Europe in the first six months of 1921, whereas in the two previous years there was a very heavy excess of exports. Gratification at the reduction in the adverse balance with the United States is tempered by the fact that allowance has to be made for the heavy decline in prices as compared with last year. Moreover, later figures will show that the proportionate decline in exports to America has been almost as great as that of imports.

Several Continental countries have reversed the balance on merchandise account during the past six months as

compared with the corresponding period of 1920, as may be seen from the table below:—

	FIRST HALF-YEAR.	
	1920.	1921.
	Excess of Exports.	Excess of Imports.
	Million £.	Million £.
France	63.4	2.8
Belgium	15.5	4.7
Sweden	0.1	3.4
Denmark	3.6	15.1
Netherlands	11.0	2.1

Both France and Belgium, and especially the former, show a remarkable change, for which the coal stoppage is doubtless partly responsible.

The next table shows imports from Continental countries in the first six months of each of the past six years and of 1921:—

From.	IMPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
France	23,929	15,322	11,588	16,742	19,884	40,843	28,346
Italy	4,527	6,399	5,551	7,938	6,724	10,570	4,412
Switzerland	5,775	8,551	8,830	8,656	4,965	20,072	9,518
Spain	6,873	12,766	11,258	14,471	17,298	20,152	11,532
Portugal	1,480	3,008	2,581	4,787	6,282	4,264	2,016
Belgium	11,469	932	160	114	754	24,702	18,197
Germany	39,531	327	1	1	9	11,836	11,734
Austria-Hungary	3,803	6	1	1	3	1,561	248
Greece	676	1,642	432	1,044	4,145	2,136	1,477
Roumania	1,770	..	..	..	..	138	1,840
Turkey (European)	652	101	21	2	520	2,265	359
Russia	15,252	4,590	2,363	1,873	1,815	12,210	298
Sweden	5,909	8,829	4,544	11,246	12,575	23,753	8,951
Norway	3,574	8,335	8,315	13,758	8,462	13,025	5,081
Denmark	12,054	10,744	10,744	1,947	2,120	14,298	20,048
Netherlands	11,493	10,631	11,787	5,487	5,118	18,311	18,943
	148,778	92,316	74,985	88,066	90,674	220,097	143,060

As compared with last year, there is a heavy decline all round, with the exception of Denmark and Holland. The drop in imports from France and Belgium is not so heavy as in some cases, and in the case of Germany the figure is practically unchanged. As compared with 1914 the decline in the total is heavy, if allowance be made for the change in values.

The next table gives imports from other foreign countries:—

From.	IMPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
United States	70,447	152,756	153,380	255,054	249,637	311,332	152,295
Cuba	2,724	8,822	7,430	7,546	9,220	21,637	3,818
Mexico	585	1,276	776	2,343	3,489	6,401	5,782
Argentina	18,004	24,335	26,850	26,348	33,095	70,004	37,720
Brazil	5,183	5,096	5,608	3,962	6,143	8,290	3,011
Chile	2,996	6,215	4,627	8,992	3,541	7,263	3,345
Peru	1,180	1,614	1,688	3,575	3,608	7,322	2,651
Uruguay	1,584	1,513	2,463	3,743	5,576	3,411	4,205
Japan	2,047	5,046	7,328	11,779	13,142	12,853	4,968
China	1,976	3,738	4,096	5,154	8,540	12,710	6,229
Turkey (Asia)	1,377	1,377	315	463	1,781	3,394	1,538
Other countries	11,865	17,559	22,024	19,555	28,589	34,143	30,793
	120,619	228,167	236,605	348,516	368,506	499,350	254,455

This year's figures are all smaller, with the exception of Uruguay, which has sent us slightly more. The comparison with 1914 is very different from that of the previous table. Imports from the Dominions are shown in the next table:—

From.	IMPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Canada	9,899	25,384	27,310	44,566	48,243	33,974	23,051
Australia	21,431	19,165	41,750	33,083	54,173	59,906	41,997
New Zealand	16,068	18,398	16,153	17,201	23,989	25,795	29,438
India and Ceylon	22,615	40,826	42,294	50,089	64,582	68,528	29,970
South Africa	7,179	6,743	7,145	6,825	11,741	13,558	9,302
Egypt	11,858	16,221	22,674	35,949	23,850	51,170	12,153
West Africa	3,394	6,986	7,685	8,293	12,213	19,367	5,709
Mauritius	302	2,442	230	2,872	4,537	4,556	4,401
Straits Settlements	7,134	8,685	8,530	9,240	9,172	10,090	3,751
Malay States	1,338	2,517	5,117	1,193	3,771	4,216	1,823
West Indies	1,373	2,817	2,846	2,658	5,651	8,831	3,707
Other Possessions	3,896	5,536	7,145	7,633	9,978	13,701	9,512
Total	106,487	153,719	188,809	215,602	261,899	313,887	174,176

New Zealand is the only exception to the general decline from last year, while heavy reductions are shown by India and Ceylon and Egypt. In the case of the latter the drop in the price of cotton has no doubt played a

very large part. Exports to the Continent show a much larger contraction than imports:—

To—	EXPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
France	14,364	47,406	55,416	62,573	75,060	75,869	20,849
Italy	7,437	9,738	13,278	14,286	11,711	21,775	9,485
Switzerland	2,084	1,919	3,164	2,608	7,231	6,493	2,407
Spain	3,686	3,720	2,677	2,049	4,955	8,264	8,591
Portugal	1,600	2,164	1,729	1,710	2,804	5,115	1,864
Belgium	6,507	108	133	45	3,424	28,111	9,646
Germany	18,890	..	..	..	3,424	10,711	6,958
Austria-Hungary	2,188	495	22	652	2,623	7,247	2,446
Roumania	1,573	..	..	..	1,540	2,491	3,394
Turkey (Europe)	1,833	25	92	402	3,410	7,039	2,446
Russia	8,505	8,895	15,156	109	2,634	5,087	1,886
Sweden	3,757	3,207	1,261	977	8,970	20,985	4,644
Norway	3,543	5,134	4,380	1,680	11,069	14,848	5,919
Denmark	2,995	5,059	3,809	980	16,342	15,576	4,265
Netherlands	8,127	12,035	9,731	7,136	11,743	22,345	12,910
	88,940	99,935	110,848	95,207	182,791	253,465	97,462

Roumania provides the only exception, with a slight increase, while France and Denmark record the heaviest declines.

Exports to other foreign countries do not show so severe a contraction:—

To—	EXPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
United States	17,769	17,456	19,179	15,090	10,607	42,282	23,184
Cuba	890	977	1,046	1,051	834	2,557	2,461
Mexico	159	160	355	339	624	1,567	2,896
Argentina	9,645	6,857	6,214	7,487	9,190	18,260	16,332
Brazil	4,034	2,885	3,436	4,170	4,711	9,784	6,404
Chile	2,569	1,863	2,145	3,491	2,848	3,390	3,574
Peru	706	468	786	806	823	1,872	1,628
Uruguay	1,127	967	1,027	1,450	1,561	2,543	1,881
Japan	5,146	3,633	2,592	4,985	14,594	14,691	9,621
China	8,445	5,279	4,135	7,887	7,135	18,601	14,691
Turkey (Asia)	2,877	205	254	605	2,674	9,352	751
Other countries	13,745	12,580	15,090	17,644	18,145	35,852	31,131
	67,342	53,035	56,259	60,508	64,137	160,474	112,867

Exports to South American countries have kept up fairly well, and, taking price changes into consideration, probably show some increase in volume. In the case of Chile an increase in the value figures is shown. Exports to the Dominions are compared in the next table:—

To—	EXPORTS—JANUARY TO JUNE.						
	(000's omitted.)						
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Canada	9,580	8,755	9,121	6,577	6,271	21,170	10,255
Australia	17,711	17,040	10,148	10,538	13,924	24,336	24,898
New Zealand	4,689	5,801	3,618	3,291	4,665	9,378	8,332
India and Ceylon	36,676	27,870	29,541	29,291	28,239	86,056	60,749
South Africa	10,830	10,937	9,383	10,333	9,906	22,423	16,306
Egypt	4,935	5,531	7,257	13,079	7,492	20,389	8,466
West Africa	3,931	3,010	3,501	4,401	5,118	11,354	5,830
Straits Settlements	2,612	2,454	2,161	3,288	2,611	7,381	4,924
West Indies	1,233	903	1,099	808	797	2,222	2,078
Other British Possessions	6,979	6,557	8,212	9,512	8,905	18,819	15,728
British exports to Possessions	99,176	88,838	84,041	91,118	87,828	223,528	158,566

Australia has taken more, and in the case of New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies the decline is small. Heavier reductions are shown for Canada, India, Egypt, and West Africa.

The final table gives re-exports:—

RE-EXPORTS JANUARY TO JUNE.							
(000's omitted.)							
To—	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
France	6,205	7,185	8,576	7,491	13,605	28,368	4,657
Italy	507	2,015	2,399	2,149	2,275	3,392	695
Belgium	4,140	3	14	1	5,424	12,095	3,815
Germany	11,396			**	1,591	14,106	10,374
Russia	4,556	3,220	2,041	9	1,141	2,956	98
Sweden	452	1,842	164	45	1,979	2,901	371
Norway	272	897	737	64	823	970	374
Denmark	261	1,700	709	8	3,645	2,348	649
Netherlands	2,615	4,794	2,865	289	11,159	6,925	3,885
United States	18,210	20,855	21,471	2,707	7,520	38,449	10,783
Japan	108	256	145	423	637	1,289	427
Other countries	3,847	4,034	2,715	1,139	2,702	8,920	2,861
Total for foreign countries	52,569	46,801	41,835	14,325	52,501	122,719	43,445
British Possessions	6,707	7,320	4,411	2,453	2,934	13,172	6,237
Total	59,276	54,121	46,246	16,778	55,435	135,891	49,682

cost of steel, caused mainly through dear fuel and slack labour, the world will consume little more than 30,000,000 tons of steel this year. But the world wants vastly more than this tonnage. Colossal railway and other steel-using schemes have been held up since 1914. Vast constructional works have been delayed. Renewals and repairs have fallen far into arrears. For more than four years the chief steel plants were engaged on munitions. Not only so, but much machinery and other steel work was destroyed. For more than two years since the armistice most of our steel plants have operated far below full capacity. For seven years most ordinary steel wants have stood neglected. The tonnages of steel diverted from commercial to war purposes, or lost through war-time damages or after war-time industrial dislocations, since 1914, by the steel-producing countries, have not been less than the following:—United States, 90,000,000 tons; Germany, 75,000,000 tons; Britain, 30,000,000 tons; France, 20,000,000 tons; Russia, 10,000,000 tons; Belgium, 10,000,000 tons; other countries 25,000,000 tons.

Some idea of the world's steel requirements may be gathered from these figures. A few months ago the Brazilian Minister of Industry gave particulars showing that his State alone required 16,000,000 tons of railway steel and 14,000,000 tons of other steel. And Brazil produces no steel for herself. She has to import the whole. What a glorious trading avenue this opens! Or take British India. Just before the war it was stated that India needed another 30,000 miles of railway, with all the necessary equipment—a mileage equal to the entire and dense network of our British home railways. To-day the need is greater. Still more new mileage is wanted, and the existing railways need abnormal renewals. China wants vast railways. So does Africa. So do nearly all the Latin-American Republics. Central and Eastern Europe will call for enormous quantities of steel as soon as financial matters are smoothed out.

For this huge potential trade in steel, what is the competition? Ignoring temporary and artificial factors, let us glance at the permanent and fundamental points in the steel-trade problem. The United States is the biggest productive country. She holds the most ore and coal, and has the most plants. But she has such a big home market, and labours under such great shipping handicaps, that, in ordinary times, she cannot export very much heavy steel. And it is export trade in which we are chiefly interested. It is not the American home trade, but the foreign trade that interests us. In this line America is badly placed. Her ore is deposited 1,000 miles from her coalfields. Her iron and steel works, on account of the coal, are between 400 and 500 miles from seaboard. Her ports are at enormous distances from most foreign markets. She has coal and ore which are easily mined, but these natural advantages are more than neutralised by her long haulage distances.

Then there is Germany. Germany beat us before the war mainly by means of export bounties. But export bounties are not allowed under the terms of the Peace Treaty. Besides, Germany has lost one-third her productive capacity by the reversion of the Lorraine. Germany is still one of the world's three chief steel countries, but in Germany the ore and coal supplies are far apart, and the works are far from seaboard.

Against these natural and economic disadvantages, Great Britain has her ore and coal supplies, her furnaces and shipping ports, all practically side by side. Whilst in Germany the average haul for raw materials to furnaces, and for finished goods to ports, is 150 miles, and whilst it is over 500 miles in America, it is less than 30 miles in the little United Kingdom. On top of this we have the very best coal and the very best ore. We have a unique, inherent manufacturing and metallurgical skill. We have the widest experience of foreign markets and customs. We have the most Colonies needing steel. We have the most ships to carry raw materials inward and finished goods outward. Our resources are by far the best in the world—so far, at all events, as exportation is concerned. Our trading opportunities are glorious and golden. If only we will shake off our indolence and stupidity, and economically develop our resources and take our opportunities, we shall once more get the lion's share of international trade.

BRANCH SHOP COMPANIES.

ABOUT two months ago we reviewed the reports of a number of companies engaged in the retail shop trade in London, and the figures showed that net profits had already started to decline. In the following article we propose to examine the accounts of several shopkeeping companies whose business is run on the principle of a number of branches with centralised management. In all kinds of retail trade the year 1920 was a very difficult one. It will always be remembered for the severe decline in wholesale prices which set in in the early summer, and although it may be argued that many retailers did not bring down prices to the consumer in anything like the measure which the drop in wholesale prices would appear to justify, it nevertheless has to be remembered that a great bulk of the stocks offered to the public in 1920 were purchased when wholesale prices were at their highest, and had to be disposed of at a smaller profit or at a loss, or else written down very severely in the balance-sheets. Our list of companies is a miscellaneous one, but all are well known companies, and will require no introduction. In the first table we show the dividend record since 1910:—

	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920
Bobby and Co.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Boots (Eastern)	12	12	12	12	12	10	10	12	12	12	12
Charles Baker and Co.	nil	5	7	6	3	7	8	8	12	25	10
Home and Colonial ("A")	nil	20	20	20	25	30	30	30	30	30	15
Hope Brothers	5	6	6	6	5	4	6	8	10	15	10
International Tea Stores	7	8	8	9	10	7	10	12	12	12	12
Lipton	6	6	6	6	nil	nil	7	12	12	12	12
Maynards	10	10	10	10	10	20	40	50	50	50	20
Maypole Dairy (Ord.)	100	200	212	162	100	100	25	125	100	100	37
Park's Drug Stores	nil	nil	nil	4	6	4	7	10	10	10	10
Pim Bros.	7	7	7	7	7	9	10	12	12	12	12
Plummer, Roddis	5	5	6	8	5	5	7	8	10	15	10

* Free of income-tax.

As would be expected, no increases in distributions were made, and one or two drastic reductions will be observed, but it should be added that some of the lower dividends are paid on larger capital. This is particularly so in the case of Maynards, Maypole Dairy Company, whose deferred capital was increased from £1,233,300 to £2,158,300, and Home and Colonial Stores, whose ordinary capital rose from £100,000 to £400,000. The reason for most of the other reductions can be clearly seen from the next table, which gives net profits for 1913 and from 1915 to 1920:—

	1913.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Bobby and Co.	£19,458	£23,461	£30,058	£29,595	£32,249	£51,136	£44,400
Boots (Eastern)	25,311	24,489	27,471	29,288	30,622	30,678	32,001
Charles Baker and Co.	17,634	17,488	16,967	14,990	21,207	97,314	27,834
Home and Colonial	179,486	251,657	256,877	226,156	235,650	249,290	267,023
Hope Brothers	41,553	27,231	51,780	58,171	64,353	116,043	67,552
International Tea	132,733	109,619	140,889	206,741	156,831	240,974	251,581
Lipton	140,286	104,340	238,530	354,044	380,270	378,229	162,156
Maynards	10,716	13,733	26,512	43,332	80,468	148,427	86,508
Maypole Dairy	482,555	520,616	448,950	736,354	703,169	1,069,577	962,969
Park's Drug Stores	4,326	4,712	5,159	6,675	12,234	15,979	7,383
Pim Bros.	18,366	24,718	27,726	29,472	23,445	34,725	27,449
Plummer, Roddis	20,787	16,997	22,635	20,351	22,111	36,887	16,852

* Eighteen months.

The decline in aggregate profits as compared with the year 1919 amounts to close upon £500,000, or 20 per cent., but the total is more than £800,000, or 77 per cent. higher than in 1913. The largest decline is shown by Lipton, and this the directors explain as being due partly to the unprecedented falls in the value of commodities, the company's large turnover necessitating the holding of considerable stocks which were from time to time affected by these reductions, and to losses on overseas trade, and on the company's tea and rubber estates. Only three companies have recorded an increase in profits, the largest being that of the Home and Colonial Stores, a company which can show a very steady record of profits throughout the war period. A sharp decline in profits is shown by Hope Bros., despite a large turnover. The chairman stated at the annual meeting that the rate of gross profit had been less, the company being compelled to place orders some months in advance of requirements, and when goods were delivered they had to offer them at the current market price.

The next table shows the principal balance-sheet items:—

	Total Liabilities.	Re-serves.	Leases, Property, &c.	Stock in Trade.	Goodwill.	Cash & Investments.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bobby and Co.	1,036,475	40,000	503,193	287,079	25,155	47,145
Boots (Eastern)	723,761	229,966	434,392	245,201	25,000	621
Chas. Baker and Co.	592,213	78,810	143,878	345,878	40,000	30,699
Home and Colonial	3,038,007	501,702	297,743	1,144,624	671,246	816,913
Hope Brothers	1,027,299	100,000	192,951	408,453	250,000	89,123
International Tea	2,530,593	144,900	575,305	686,801	628,675	208,212
Lipton	3,449,583	550,000	*1,988,312	1,782,996	?	355,853
Maynards	468,135	26,447	74,693	145,156	nil	176,402
Maypole Dairy	5,364,959	805,431	3,264,460	1,213,869	422,900	649,854
Park's Drug Stores	149,155	26,568	39,128	76,653	12,151	4,968
Pim Bros.	527,244	65,000	*160,000	184,240	?	2,042
Plummer, Roddis	512,421	61,000	196,308	135,117	50,000	3,178

* Includes goodwill.

Only two companies in the list failed to separate goodwill in the accounts from the property item, namely, Lipton and Pim Bros. Maynards wrote off the remainder of the item a year ago, and Hope Bros. have reduced theirs by £15,000, but in all other cases no change has been made. In some instances, notably Home and Colonial and International Tea Stores, the amount still stands rather high in proportion to the total assets. It is as well to remember, however, that with a company of this description goodwill must always be a valuable asset. The book value of stocks does not show, with one or two exceptions, the decline which might have been expected.

In the final table we give share prices and yields:—

Description.	Share.	Present Amount.	Price July 30, 1914.	Price July 31, 1915.	Price July 31, 1916.	Price Aug. 16, 1921.	Present Yield.
Chas. Baker, 8% cum. pref.	£5	70,000	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	4 1/2	8 1/2
Home and Col., 6% cum. pref.	1	900,000	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2
Do 15% cum. ord.	1	250,000	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2
Do 15% cum. ord.	1	250,000	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2
Hope Bros.	1	300,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Do 5 1/2% cum. pref.	1	300,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Do 7% cum. "A" pref.	1	250,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Internat. Tea, 6% cum. pref.	5	600,000	5 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	7 1/2
Do 7% cum. "A" pref.	1	250,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Lipton, Limited, Ord.	1	1,250,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Maypole Dairy, 5% cum. pref.	1	350,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Do 20% cum. pref.	1/2	450,000	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	6 1/2
Do deferred ord.	2/	215,332	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	6 1/2
Pim Brothers	5	150,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2
Plummer, Roddis	1	175,000	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	6 1/2

The market has not been very active, and in most cases prices are slightly lower than they were a year ago. The yields with a few exceptions, however, do not run unduly high, taking the class of business in which the companies are engaged into consideration. The outlook, however, is sufficiently obscure to damp the potential investor's ardour in respect of this, as of many other sections of the industrial market.

Business Notes.

Employment in July.—Although unemployment remains serious, July showed distinct improvement in a number of industries. In some cases, particularly iron mining and pig-iron manufacture, work continued to be almost entirely suspended, and in others, including iron and steel and tinplate manufacture and the textile trades, unemployment and short time working were general. In the pottery trades, where a rapid recovery was made, and in agriculture and the building trades employment generally was fairly good. According to the *Labour Gazette*, the percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received fell from 23.1 at the end of June to 16.7 at the end of July, and the percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act fell from 17.8 at June 24th to 14.8 at July 29th. The coal mining industry is excluded in calculating the trade union percentages for June; the Unemployment Insurance percentages for June include those coal miners who were entitled to claim unemployment benefit under the Act, but not those who ceased work owing to the trade dispute. The Trade

Union percentages month by month for a number of years are shown below:—

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.											
End of—	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1913.	1916.	1917.	1921.
January	22	06	03	10	24	29	69	22	06	03	69
February	20	05	03	09	28	16	85	20	05	03	85
March	19	05	03	12	29	11	100	19	05	03	100
April	17	05	03	09	28	09	176*	17	05	03	176*
May	19	05	04	09	21	11	222*	19	05	04	222*
June	19	05	04	07	17	12	231*	19	05	04	231*
July	19	04	04	06	20	14	167	19	04	04	167
August	20	04	05	05	22	16	..	20	04	05	..
September	23	04	13	05	16	22	..	23	04	13	..
October	22	03	11	04	26	53	..	22	03	11	..
November	20	03	11	05	29	37	..	20	03	11	..
December	26	03	14	12	32	60	..	26	03	14	..

* Excluding coal miners.

The decline in wages continued in July. The *Labour Gazette* states:—"Changes in rates of wages, reported as having come into operation in July, in the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department, affected over 3,600,000 workpeople, of whom less than 5,000 received increases. The net effect of all the changes was a reduction in weekly full-time wages of about £1,070,000."

Cost of Living.—According to the statistics compiled by the *Labour Gazette*, the cost of living rose 3 points between July 1st and August 2nd. The downward movement, which had been unbroken since November, 1920, was checked in June, and gave way to this slight rise in July. How the official cost-of-living figures have moved month by month since January, 1920, is shown below:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.					
1920.			1921.		
Per Cent.	1st	Per Cent.	1st	Per Cent.	1st
January	125	January	165	January	165
February	130	February	151	February	151
March	130	March	141	March	141
April	132	April	133	April	133
May	141	May	128	May	128
June	150	June	119	June	119
July	152	July	119	July	119
August	155	August	122	August	122
September	161	September	161	September	161
October	164	October	164	October	164
November	176	November	176	November	176
December	169	December	169	December	169

As regards food alone, the average increase, as compared with July, 1914, in the cost of the pre-war working-class dietary rose from 120 per cent. at July 1st to 126 per cent. at August 2nd. Milk, butter, eggs, bacon, and cheese became dearer, but meat, sugar, and potatoes were cheaper.

Iron and Steel Output.—Statistics issued by the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers show that the production of pig-iron in July amounted to only 10,200 tons, compared with 386,000 tons in March and 750,600 tons in July last year. The production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 117,200 tons, compared with 359,100 tons in March and 789,900 tons in July last year. At the end of July, 15 blast furnaces were in operation, compared with 109 immediately before the coal stoppage and 299 last July. The following table shows the production of pig-iron and steel in each month from January, 1919:—

	Pig Iron.		Steel Ingots and Castings.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
January	Tons. 665	Tons. 754	Tons. 493	Tons. 493
February	645	464	798	483
March	699	386	840	359
April	671	60	794	70
May	739	14	846	6
June	726	1	845	3
July	751	10	790	117
August	752	..	709	..
September	741	..	885	..
October	533	..	544	..
November	403	..	505	..
December	683	..	747	..
	8,008	..	9,057	..

(000's omitted.)

Of the pig-iron produced in July 3,300 tons were basic, 2,600 tons foundry, 600 tons forge, and 3,700 tons of "other qualities."

Cotton Trade Depression.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—Early in July there was an improvement in the Lancashire cotton industry. Manufacturers of cloth restarted looms, and at the end of that month the Master Spinners' Federation decided to bring to an end organised short time. Since the beginning of August demand has fallen off to a very serious extent, and the ground recently gained by spinners and manufacturers has now practically been lost. In weaving, looms are being stopped owing to the absence of work, and there is some talk of spinners resorting to organised short time again. The matter will probably be considered early in September. The slack state of affairs is partly due to the anticipation of lower values. Recently raw cotton rates have been fairly well maintained on unfavourable crop advices from the United States, but in yarn and cloth a falling market is now being experienced, and buyers believe that they can do better by waiting.

American Cotton Consumption.—Some interesting figures have been published this week relating to the exports of raw cotton from the United States during the season which ended on July 30th, writes our Manchester correspondent. The shipments to Great Britain amounted to 1,749,000 bales, against 3,326,000 bales in the previous twelve months. The decline in the takings reflect the trade depression in Lancashire, and the smaller consumption is due to the large amount of short time in the mills. Particulars with regard to Germany are rather striking, and it is stated that the shipments from America during the past twelve months totalled 1,325,000 bales, as compared with only about 420,000 bales in 1919-20. It is evident that Germany, despite her financial position, has been able to arrange imports on a free scale, and according to recent letters spinners in Germany are very busy. The takings of France do not show much change, the exports for the past year being 577,000 bales, against 584,000 bales in the previous twelve months.

Local Housing Loans.—The second report of the Ministry of Health relating to the year ended March 31st last (Cmd. 1,446, 2s), shows that up to that date the amount raised for housing purposes by 540 local authorities by means of housing bonds, Local Stock issues, &c., was as follows:—

	£
Housing Bonds	17,150,537
Saving Certificates	9,441,471
Local Stock	29,126,068
Mortgages of rates	14,709,325
	70,427,401

Among the smaller local authorities these efforts had to be supplemented, and during the year 1920-21 loans from the Local Loans Fund amounting to £58 millions were made on behalf of local authorities, with a rateable value of less than £200,000. Apart from loans for housing purposes, loans amounting to £21,885,451 were sanctioned during the year to local authorities in England and Wales, as compared with £14,819,055 in the previous year. The largest item was £5,386,191 for settlement of ex-Service men on the land, as compared with £5,432,248 in the previous year.

Enemy Debts.—The Board of Trade makes the following announcement:—The attention of British subjects resident in this country who have pre-war debts owing to them from branches outside Germany* of German undertakings whose head office is in Germany, is drawn to the fact that, apart from their remedy against the branch, they may be entitled to claim payment alternatively from the head office through the Enemy Debts Clearing Office. In the event of there being any doubt as to recovery of such debts from the branch, British creditors will be well advised to file a claim against the head office with the Enemy Debts Clearing Office, Cornwall House, London,

S.E. 1. It is essential, however, that any such claims should be received by the Clearing Office before September 30th.

Trade with South Africa.—Mr W. G. Wickham, His Majesty's Senior Trade Commissioner in South Africa, is at present in this country on an official visit, and is prepared to interview at the Department of Overseas Trade, from September 1st to September 16th, firms who desire to obtain information as to trade possibilities in the Union of South Africa. London firms who are desirous of consulting Mr Wickham should communicate immediately with the Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen street, London, S.W. 1, quoting the reference 3092/T.G., and indicating briefly the subject on which the interview is desired. Mr Wickham will subsequently visit some of the principal industrial centres of the United Kingdom.

Transvaal Output for July.—The July statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the total production of fine gold during the month amounted to 689,555 ounces, as compared with 678,490 ounces in June, and 736,099 ounces for July, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	Fine Ozs. 787,467	Fine Ozs. 782,634	Fine Ozs. 714,182	Fine Ozs. 676,059	Fine Ozs. 670,503	Fine Ozs. 651,593
February	753,594	781,321	659,769	636,728	625,330	558,137
March	796,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,123
April	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,944	686,979	681,382
May	777,681	779,385	741,317	724,995	699,041	687,776
June	761,764	759,724	727,696	702,379	715,957	678,490
July	761,087	757,839	736,199	725,497	736,099	689,555
August	731,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	..
September	771,597	738,231	708,206	698,558	682,173	..
October	792,339	751,290	679,764	723,722	662,472	..
November	783,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	..
December	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	..
Totals	9,236,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	4,618,056

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months by Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and Contractors.

	Dec., 1920.	Jan., 1921.	Feb., 1921.	March, 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.
Gold mines	159,671	165,287	171,518	174,364	172,826	170,595	168,152	166,999
Coal mines	14,263	14,541	14,697	14,906	14,908	14,510	14,704	14,688
Diamond	3,240	3,319	1,612	1,364	1,316	1,302	1,317	1,246
Total	177,274	183,147	187,827	190,634	189,050	186,407	184,173	182,933

The Outlook in Mexico.—President Obregon seems determined to show that Mexico can recover without recognition by the United States. It is now announced that payment of interest will be resumed in October on the City of Mexico Loan of 1889, guaranteed by the Federal Government, and on the External Loans of 1899, 1904, and 1910—that of 1913 being passed over for the present, as issued unconstitutionally by Huerta. The capital of these four loans, apart from the arrears of interest accumulated since the default in 1914, amounts to about £29,500,000, and a half-year's interest to about £647,000. The interest is to be paid out of the proceeds of the increased export duty on oil, which has apparently not cut off the export, as was predicted by the American oil interests. But, besides this source of revenue, it is stated by the *Financier* of August 16th that the retrenchments now taking place, chiefly in the Civil Service, will save some \$36,000,000, or about £3,600,000, annually—which is about two-fifteenths of the whole estimated expenditure for 1921. If these figures can be depended on, the prospect is encouraging; but the arrears of interest, amounting to some £9,000,000, can hardly be disposed of except through the long-predicted loan from American financiers, which will not come until Washington recognises President Obregon's Government; and even then the terms will be onerous. Moreover, Mexico is suffering, like other Spanish-American countries, from the diminished purchasing power of Europe. Still, the business outlook appears hopeful, and the efforts made to attract the attention of American commercial and financial interests are apparently meeting with some response. A statement issued by the Equitable Trust Company of New York from its agent in Mexico City—Mr John B. Glenn,

who has had 16 years' experience of the country and was U.S. Consul in Mexico City from 1910 to 1917—reports that the situation has never been so promising since the overthrow of President Diaz. Revolutionary outbreaks have ceased; the people are sick of warfare; business conditions have been improving; trains are running according to time-table, and through services are in operation from the capital to New Orleans and St Louis; railroad congestion will soon be relieved by increased rolling-stock; American business men are visiting the country and opening up trade relations; the Government is strong, friendly to the United States, and actively promoting internal reforms; and the oil clause of the Constitution will not be applied retrospectively, so that the fears of the American oil companies will be allayed. But President Obregon cannot sign a treaty unless authorised by Congress, which will approve no treaty pending recognition by the United States. We gather that his policy is to remove all American apprehensions, and thus to lead up to recognition.

The Rubber Situation.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—Efforts are being made in the rubber market, in spite of the holiday season of the year, to reach some common ground of agreement upon which the producers could consent to act together. The recent scheme propounded by the Rubber Growers' Association, upon which we commented last month (*Economist*, page 139), forms a standard around which the various interests can meet. Apparently insuperable difficulties stand in the way of the effort for harmonising differences. Ceylon, for instance, can claim that on some of the Cingalese estates rubber can be produced at a price which, even at the present figure of 8d per lb for rubber, shows a meagre profit. Certain of the Chinese producers are able, by the aid of cheap labour and food, to state a similar case, but most of the British, and many of the Dutch, companies are working at a loss, and it would seem as though nothing could save a number of rubber-producing concerns from bankruptcy unless something is done to save them. On the other hand, rubber companies more amply supplied with funds are inclined to the view that they can probably tide over the present crisis, and that, when the turn comes for the inevitable improvement in rubber trade conditions, they will be in a particularly strong position from having been able to weather a storm that has wiped out a good deal of competition. The question at issue is, bluntly, whether the rubber industry shall be allowed to drift into such a condition as will involve the complete insolvency of the weaker rubber companies, or whether any plan can be found, here and now, whereby the situation could be saved for all. The Rubber Growers' Association proposes a further drastic restriction of output. On this head there is a very general agreement. Many, if not most, of the groups would be willing to suspend tapping up to the point at which the output would be limited to a quarter of its normal production. The scheme further proposes that there shall be one central agency established for the disposal of the rubber that comes out of the estates, and that all the producers who agree to the present scheme should bind themselves to accept its provisions for the space of five years unless exceptional circumstances arise. Five years is felt by many to be too long a period for such an arrangement to run, but a more weighty objection is that which attaches to the central selling agency. Sales of rubber at present are conducted through many firms of brokers in various parts of the world, brokers who make their living out of the business, and who, naturally enough, feel a reluctance to hand over to a single agency this particular source of their income. Briefly, then, this is the position as it stands at present, and the energies of those connected with the financial, as well as the practical side of the business, are bent to discover some solution which will dissolve the difficulties and enable all the producers to meet upon the common ground for restriction of output and the control of sales. The Stock Exchange has taken up the matter, and some of the firms in the exchanges of Throgmorton street and Mincing lane have been obtaining assents to the proposal for the establishment of a Rubber Shareholders' Association. Anyone

who looks carefully into the matter will see, however, that a *sine qua non* for a practical scheme of control is the provision of capital whereby rubber outputs can be diverted from a free market, and stored away until such time as even the present small demand throughout the world will be obliged to pay a higher price than that which rules under the present scheme of uncontrolled selling to a body of well-organised buyers.

The Marconi Report.—The gross profits of Marconi's Wireless Telegraph Company for the year 1920 show a sharp decline, but a year ago £590,000 for damages for breach of contract was included. After deducting this item from the previous year's total, however, gross profits for 1920 at £564,800 show a decline of £383,200, as may be seen from the following comparative summary of results:—

	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Gross profits	£ 246,682	£ 486,650	£ 540,185	£ 766,263	£ 1,538,040	£ 564,838
Expenses	124,319	168,217	156,350	168,125	317,300	267,156
Net profit	122,323	318,433	383,835	597,938	1,220,740	297,682
Pref. dividend	42,500	30,000	42,500	55,000	117,500	30,000
Ord. dividend	150,000	183,403	244,537	305,912	617,824	391,567
To reserve	..	32,470	100,000	150,000	..	..
Balance	Dr 70,777	72,560	Dr 3,202	87,026	491,416	Dr 123,885
Brought forward	146,726	307,546	380,106	376,760	463,786	944,452
Carried forward	76,549	380,106	376,904	463,786	955,802	820,567

The directors state that there has still been no settlement with any of the Government departments in respect of claims arising out of the war, and no credit has been taken in the accounts for them. They further explain that a large amount of business was done with foreign countries, and in consequence of the unfavourable rates of exchange which obtained during the year, substantial sums of money have been retained abroad on deposit or invested in foreign government securities. "At the end of December, when the company's accounts were closed, foreign currencies showed a very considerable depreciation, materially affecting the profit and loss account for the year." The ordinary shares get 15 per cent., and the preference shares 12 per cent., the balance forward being reduced by £123,900. A year ago a 25 per cent. dividend was distributed on the ordinary shares, 22 per cent. on the preference, and in addition a bonus of 5s per share on both classes was paid without deduction of tax. The balance-sheet shows an increase of £2,751,400 in the general reserve, presumably from the premium on the last issue of shares, the ordinary capital having been raised by £1,385,700. Investments and loans are up by £1,824,800, and shares in associated companies and patents have increased by £1,018,300. The latter item stands at £2,941,500, a footnote stating that shares in associated companies are of a par value of £3,488,800. The auditors mention that they are unable to form an opinion as to the value of the item. Marconi ordinary shares are quoted at 1½.

The Ropp Report.—Our mining correspondent writes:—Special interest attaches to the results secured by the Ropp Tin owing to the fact that it is much the largest producer in Northern Nigeria, the output fluctuating around 100 tons of concentrates per month. In 1919 the company made a net profit of £55,150 on an issued capital of £67,200, and the fortunate shareholders received dividends totalling 60 per cent., besides a bonus of 1½ shares for every share held. Last year's report, however, has a very different story to tell—a trading loss of £7,600. This is more than covered by an admitted claim for return of excess profits duty, but, naturally, there is no dividend, nor can one be expected until conditions in the metal market are different from those prevailing now and during the greater part of 1920. The output for the first six months of the current year amounts to 561 tons, representing a fair increase over the total for the corresponding period of last year. In this connection it may be noted that the metal responsible for more than half the 1920 revenue was on hand or in transit at December 31st, while nothing is said as to how the yield of the current year has been dealt with. Presumably it will

not have been sold at unremunerative prices. The ore reserve position is strong, the 10,000 tons reckoned upon being equivalent to over eight years' supply. On the financial side, it is satisfactory to observe the disappearance of the balance of both the loans and the debentures.

Obersea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—GOVERNMENT'S COTTON REPORT —SMALLEST YIELD IN 26 YEARS INDICATED— LARGE CARRY-OVER—COMMODITY PRICES IN JULY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, August 5.

THE extremely unfavourable report on the cotton crop, issued by the Department of Agriculture this week, was a great surprise to the cotton trade. It was much worse than anyone had expected. The report places the condition of the crop as on July 25th at 64.7 per cent. of normal, as compared with 69.2 per cent. on June 25th, 74.1 on July 25, 1920, and a ten-year average of 75.4 per cent. The final yield, as at present indicated, will be only 8,203,000 bales—the smallest in 26 years. The acreage planted to cotton this year was 26,519,000 acres, representing a decrease from last year of 10,524,000 acres, or nearly 29 per cent. Boll weevil depredations were widespread, the insect pest having been particularly active last month, causing exceptionally heavy damage throughout the belt, with "continued and increased damage threatened," the report says. Furthermore, the lack of fertiliser is becoming an important factor; from many cotton-growing sections it is reported that heavy rains have washed out the small supplies of fertiliser which had been used. Even with such a small crop as now indicated, the addition of the large carry-over from last year's crop—reckoned by Secretary Hester of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange as 8,871,000 bales—will give an abundant supply, based on last year's estimated consumption, which is placed by some authorities at 10,500,000 bales. Under normal conditions such a sensationally short yield would be regarded almost as a calamity, but this year it is considered in the nature of a godsend to the South if it results in sustained higher prices for the staple, thereby placing cotton-growers and allied interests in better circumstances financially. The immediate response of the market to the Government's report was a rise of about \$5 a bale. On the other hand, advances in the price of cotton will add to the many problems confronting cotton goods manufacturers, who, quite generally, complain of the meagre margin of profit, if any, afforded by current prices for their products, and of the great difficulty in getting consumers to pay more. The "consumers' strike" is not yet a thing of the past, either in textiles or in many other lines.

The slight rise in commodity prices in June was accentuated in July, Bradstreet's index number as of August 1st, \$11.0576, showing an increase of 3 per cent. over July 1st, which, added to the gain in June, has resulted in an advance from the low point on June 1st of 4.1 per cent. Most of that gain has been in food products, but the rise in the latter was strongly reinforced by textiles, notably cotton goods, in July. Prices of the latter, however, are still very low in many lines, compared with the present actual cost of production; so low, in fact, that manufacturers of print-cloths, for instance, are refusing to accept contracts for deliveries very far ahead at current levels. In all, seven groups of commodities advanced last month—namely, breadstuffs, live-stock, provisions and groceries, hides and leather, textiles, naval stores, and miscellaneous products; while six groups—fruits, metals, coal and coke, oils, building materials, and chemicals and drugs—declined. Of the 106 commodities included in Bradstreet's price compilations, 96 of which are contained in the index number, 36 advanced, 27 declined, and 43 remained unchanged. Although the index number has advanced in the past two months, and the general level is above that on the first of any month since April, it is still 12 per cent. below January 1st this year, 41 per cent. below August 1st a

year ago, 44 per cent. below August 1, 1919, and 42 per cent. below August, 1918. With the last three months excepted, it is lower than any index number since January 1, 1916, but is still 27 per cent. higher than that recorded on August 1, 1914, at the outbreak of the war.

FRANCE.—FINANCIAL CONFERENCE AND GERMAN COAL PRICES — REPARATION PAYMENTS — REVENUE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, August 16.

IF the decision of the Supreme Council to refer the Upper Silesia problem to the Council of the League of Nations for settlement has proved satisfactory to France, inasmuch as it has enabled a bridge to be found over an obstacle that threatened to cause a breach between her and her nearest Ally, it cannot be said that an equally agreeable outcome has characterised the sittings of the Inter-allied Financial Conference that has been sitting here alongside the Supreme Council. The decisions arrived at by the Allied Finance Ministers who composed that conference are almost universally regarded here as seriously detrimental to this country, and concrete evidence of this feeling elsewhere has been given by a fresh sharp fall in the franc, which stood somewhere round 46.50 when the conference began, but closed this evening at a point appreciably over 47.

On one point the Inter-allied Finance Conference came to a decision plainly in favour of French interests, and that was as to the price at which France is to be debited with the coal she has received from Germany through Rotterdam and Antwerp, and which she will continue to receive through those ports down to August 31, 1922. Hitherto this coal has been debited to France at the prices charged for coal exported from Great Britain, as to which prices, it will be remembered, the French Government has protested time after time, in view of the fact that the export price of British coal was for many months (at a time when France could not do without such coal) fixed at a much higher price than those ruling in England itself for the same coal. The difficulty as to the high price of English coal exported to this country was overcome by (1) the miners' strike, which rendered those exports impossible, and (2) competitive and much lower prices offered by exporters of American coal, who placed at the disposal of this country all the combustibles that were needed. This left unsettled, however, the f.o.b. price, at Antwerp and Rotterdam, of the coal Germany was compelled to furnish to France under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, to compensate her for the loss of combustibles from which she suffered owing to the wreckage of the Northern French mines during the war. After a long discussion the Inter-allied Financial Conference decided that the coal in question is to be debited to France at the same price as that ruling in the interior of Germany. The decision, I understand, represents an advantage to this country down to the present of over 140,000,000 marks gold.

This "windfall," however, has been more than cancelled by the decisions of the Conference as to the manner in which the first 1,000 million marks gold paid by Germany is to be distributed among the Allies. This first milliard, it may be recalled, must be utilised, according to the provisions of the Treaty, to reimburse the various Allies for the cost of maintaining their respective armies of occupation. It was stipulated, however, that when the time came to settle accounts under this heading the value of the payments in kind that had been received by each of the Allies must be included in the calculation. On this basis it was found that Belgium had received between 280 and 300 million marks gold more than the maintenance of her army of occupation had cost her down to May 1, 1921, the date fixed as the basis of the account. Italy, it was contended, had received from 30 to 40

millions in excess of her expenditure under this head, while Great Britain still had outstanding claims of between 600 and 700 million marks gold to be satisfied, and France some 300 millions.

In regard to Belgium, it was specially agreed at Spa that there should be no question of her being called on to repay any of the amount she might receive in cash or kind over and above her actual expenditure on her troops in the occupied area. No such provision existed in regard to Italy, who may therefore be expected to be called upon to repay the comparatively small amount for which she is debtor. With regard to Great Britain's claim, two important factors were raised with a view to largely increasing the value of the payments that have already been made to her in kind (and consequently reducing the outstanding balance due to her). The large amount of merchant shipping that was surrendered to the Allies by Germany, and by them allotted to Great Britain, it was contended, was debited to that Power at a much lower price per ton than it ought to have been, if a proper commercial value had been fixed upon it. Figures published here insisted that merchant shipping, which ought to have been valued at £20 per ton, was actually debited to Great Britain at £8 per ton only. Further, it was pointed out that Great Britain had expended on its army of occupation a greater amount than that expended by France for similar purposes, although the French army on the Rhine is very substantially greater in number. This, it was explained, was due to the much higher cost per head for maintaining the British soldier as compared with the French.

Revised figures were ultimately adopted in regard to both shipping and the cost of the British army of occupation. On the latter account, the conference decided to adopt as a base figure the cost of maintaining the French soldier, which was taken as 16 francs per day. This figure was increased by 2 marks gold per day for the British soldier, and by 3 marks gold per day for the American soldier, owing to the greater distance of the troops of these two Powers from their respective countries. The actual figures have not yet been worked out (and will not be known, it is expected, before November 1st in any case), but it is estimated that the modification of these two factors will reduce the outstanding British claim to something in the neighbourhood of 500 million marks gold, as against between 600 and 700 millions.

There remained the question of what was due to France, and in this regard the question turned on whether the value of the coal mines in the Saar district, which have been attributed for a term of years, at any rate to France, must be included under the heading of payments in kind that have already been made to that country. France had expended, down to May 1st, 300,000,000 marks gold on the maintenance of her army of occupation, and this she claimed to be re-imbursed in cash out of the first 1,000 million marks gold paid by Germany. The Inter-allied Finance Ministers, however, decided that, under the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles, she has already received, in the shape of the Saar coal mines, value to the amount of more than she has spent on her army on the Rhine, and that consequently, assuming that the capital value of those mines is more than 400,000,000 marks gold, she must repay the balance of 100,000,000 marks gold which she has received in excess of her expenditure on the troops. It was further decided that, whatever the exact amount may ultimately be decided to be, France will be required to repay it to the rest of the Allies by ten equal half-yearly instalments, with interest at 5 per cent., during the five years beginning from November 1, 1922. By that date, it was pointed out, Belgium's preferential rights will have been exhausted, and France will find no difficulty in liquidating the amounts due every half-year from the payments to be made by Germany.

As may readily be understood, the decisions of the Inter-allied Finance Conference have caused a great deal of dissatisfaction here, and there is little doubt more will be heard of them in the future. These decisions have to be approved by the Supreme Council, in any case, and as they were not completed until two o'clock in the morning after the close of the Supreme Council's sittings in

Paris, much may occur before that august body is called upon to signify its assent. The document embodying the decisions of the Conference was approved by the whole of the assembled delegates, but in the case of France and Japan this was a pure matter of form, as both M. Doumer, the French Finance Minister, and the Japanese delegate signed under the express reserve that the document must be subject to the approval of their respective Governments. The effect of the decisions of the Conference, if they are ultimately put into force, would be that, to put it in a nutshell, France will not receive a centime of liquid cash from Germany before the end of next year, at the earliest.

The French taxation returns continue unsatisfactory. Although the Budget estimates were substantially reduced, some time ago, in view of the altered circumstances since the last Budget was compiled (particularly in regard to the disappointing tax on turnover), the yield for the month of July proved to be 137,000,000 francs less than even the revised estimates. There was a similar deficit in June of 104,000,000 francs, in May of 121,000,000 francs, and in April of 86 millions. The total deficit for the seven months since the beginning of the financial year is 597,932,300 francs. The returns for July show substantial increases in the yields from the luxury tax (which produced 2,130,000 francs, or exactly the same amount as last year, which was 1,130,000 francs more than the estimate), duties on securities (over 29,000,000 francs over the estimate), indirect taxes (over 34½ millions up), and petroleum and motor spirit. The revenue from posts, telegraphs, and telephones, doubtless owing to the increased tariffs, has fallen off nearly 8½ million francs as compared with the estimates, but is over nine millions higher than it was in July last year. The great causes of the falling off in revenue are to be found, however, in connection with the turnover tax, which is over 95½ millions less than the Budget estimates, and with the yield from Customs, which shows a falling off of nearly 72,000,000 francs on the month.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	DEBTOR.		
	Aug. 11, 1921.	Aug. 4, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1913.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital.....	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	571,813,250	572,594,747	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State.....	945,064,604	919,756,026	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	37,225,793,880	37,364,596,875	5,460,315,130
Interest on securities.....	58,062,320	59,852,983	23,534,584
Bank notes to order.....	983,016	982,204	4,197,438
Treasury account.....	39,415,408	36,284,807	310,262,232
Current accounts, Paris.....	1,613,820,567	1,698,657,582	599,436,902
Do branch banks.....	1,030,208,760	1,090,208,760	83,672,764
Dividends payable.....	7,209,211	7,782,032	3,570,508
Discounts and sundries.....	38,678,362	32,554,789	11,503,616
Re-discounts.....	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries.....	1,009,467,776	1,037,422,634	222,554,988
Total.....	42,808,636,137	43,090,993,739	6,915,570,428

	CREDITOR.		
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Cash in hand.....	5,797,545,464	5,796,820,853	4,027,418,010
Balances abroad.....	623,875,856	626,325,105	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	15,750,136	3,465,838	42,231
Discounts in Paris.....	1,591,616,684	1,735,203,746	463,931,502
Foreign bills.....	5,953,609	6,084,322	20,880,329
Treasury bills.....	249,221	254,717	159,091
Advances to branches.....	915,280,321	1,248,114,041	946,711,856
Advances to branches, Paris and branches.....	72,725,882	73,507,378	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	728,000
Do on public securities.....	407,558,367	414,000,167	198,729,220
Do on branch banks.....	1,773,337,982	1,744,652,478	533,501,095
Advances to State (ordinary).....	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war).....	25,000,000,000	25,200,000,000	..
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	6,198,000
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,508	101,859,035	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	46,086,868	46,086,868	42,503,180
Expenses and management.....	10,093,781	8,827,513	3,368,723
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,504,499
Sundries.....	2,043,841,210	1,689,045,482	251,944,142
Total.....	42,808,636,137	43,090,993,739	6,915,570,428

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount.....	%
Advances on bullion.....	5½
Advances on public securities.....	6½

GERMANY.—SILESIA — FINANCIAL REFORM—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—TRADE BOOM—PRICES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, August 15.

THE submission of the Upper Silesian question to the League of Nations has been on the whole welcomed here. A Supreme Council compromise, it was argued, could only be unsatisfactory to Germany, and it is predicted, on not entirely convincing grounds, that the French contention will be badly outvoted in the Council of the League.

Dr Wirth has published his financial reform plan in the shape of a list of 15 Bills submitted or under preparation. In some cases the rates, and in most cases the estimated yield, are not given; but the total additional revenue yield is estimated at from 32 to 36 milliards, and the whole revenue on this basis at 80 milliards. As the estimated expenditure, including reparations, is at lowest 130 milliards, there still remains a large deficit, and further taxes are being considered. The new fall in Reichsmark exchange makes the prospect still blacker by increasing both the price of foreign currency for reparations aims, and the cost of home administration.

The Bills submitted or announced as nearly ready provide both indirect and direct taxes. The new Customs Bill enacts considerably higher import duties on tea, coffee, chocolate, cocoa, and certain spices and unnecessary foods, and doubles the import duties on unnecessary or semi-necessary manufactured goods, including typewriters, cash registers, calculating machines, and talking machines. The State Spirits monopoly is to be reformed, the tax being raised from 800 to a minimum of 4,000 marks per hectolitre; the sugar tax is to be raised from 14 marks to 100 marks per 100 kilos; and the tax on artificial sweeteners increased. The additional yield from these three sources is 2 milliard marks. The matches and mineral water taxes are to be doubled; the beer and lighting materials taxes to be quadrupled, and 900,000,000 marks more is to be got from tobacco by abolishing certain partial exemptions, the whole yield from tobacco being brought up to 2.7 milliards. The motor-car tax will be raised, and there will be a new tax on racing bets, and legalisation of bookmaking. In most cases the above increases mean no very heavy *ad valorem* burden, as the old rates were fixed on quantity, and effectively they have fallen heavily owing to the price rise. The coal tax is to be raised until it yields 9.2 milliard marks, against 4.7 milliard marks in 1920. This is effected by increasing the present 20 per cent. rate on selling price to 30 per cent.; the Bill, however, gives the Government power to reduce the new rate provisionally to 25 per cent. This plan does not fulfil the Government's intention to tax coal until it reaches world-market level, but that can only be done gradually.

The Corporation Tax is to be trebled. At present this is a uniform 10 per cent. income-tax for public companies, with supplements progressively rising to another 10 per cent., according to the height of dividend. The new tax will be 30 per cent. of profits, dividends being ignored. The Sales Tax (*Umsatzsteuer*), also one of Erzberger's imposts, is to be doubled. The present rate is 1½ per cent. on all turnover in necessary goods (15 per cent. for luxuries). Certain existing exemptions, e.g., on first sales at home of imported goods, and on receipts from exports, will be abolished, and this will bring 170 milliards of new transactions under the tax, the additional yield of which (unofficial estimate) will be 12 milliards. It is further proposed to bring certain half-finished luxury goods under the luxury rate, which at present falls only on finished goods. The Stamp Duties laws, including those dealing with Bourse deals, are comprehensively reformed by a new tax on capital transactions (*Kapitalverkehrssteuer*), in which the duties on company foundations and transactions, and on stock, share and bond transfers are raised, and a new tax is imposed on dealings in foreign exchange. The last rises from one-tenth per mille on dealings in gold, bills, and cheques for trade purposes to 2½ per mille on dealings between private parties. Sales and purchases of foreign banknotes pay double these rates.

Only one entirely new direct tax on property is proposed, but the existing Emergency Levy and Property Tax (*Besitzsteuer*) are abolished, and replaced by two taxes of different character. The entirely new impost is a post-war gains tax. The last tax of this character, Erzberger's War Gains Tax, was levied on the increment of wealth between June, 1913, and June, 1919, and it took 100 per cent. of all increase exceeding about 270,000 marks. The Post-War Gains Tax is on increase of wealth between June, 1919, and June, 1921. Increases not exceeding 100,000 marks are exempted; above that limit the rate rises progressively from 5 to (when the increase exceeds 2 millions) 30 per cent. Instead of the Emergency Levy will be imposed a *Vermögenssteuer*. The levy was to yield 45 milliards, payable originally in 30 or 40 annual instalments, but as amended one-third was made payable this year. The main motive for abolishing it is the rise in nominal values caused by the currency decline; the amount of the tax, and of the instalments, was assessed on land, houses, stocks, &c., at the values of December 31, 1919, and therefore the nominal revenue yielded remains unchanged, while the effective burden on the taxpayer becomes ever smaller and smaller. The new *Vermögenssteuer* will prevent that by providing for reassessment of all wealth every three years, first on December 31, 1922. Wealth not exceeding 50,000 marks will be exempted. On December 31, 1925, and each following third anniversary, individual taxpayers will pay from ½ to 1 per cent., and corporate taxpayers 1½ per mille, to which rates during the first 15 years will be added supplements for individuals of 300 per cent. of the tax, and for corporations of 150 per cent. The yield is not stated; it depends largely upon currency developments. The abolished *Besitzsteuer* was a triennially assessed tax on increment of wealth. The *Vermögenszuwachssteuer*, which replaces it, will also be assessed triennially, and will be imposed on the increment of wealth. Tax-free will be increment not exceeding 25,000 marks, after which the rate will rise from 1 per cent. on the first taxable 100,000 marks to 10 per cent. of any increase exceeding 6 million marks.

The Government, it is stated, is again considering a Forced Loan, this time to be imposed only on productive capital in banks, industrial undertakings, &c.; and further, some new means of taxing the "gold values" is being considered. The reformed Corporation Tax practically makes the State owner of three-tenths of the assets of all public companies, and it is not clear whether this is considered as fulfilling Dr Wirth's promise that the State will "participate in industrial profits." The Ministry of Industry has prepared a memorandum, showing that the Government might acquire capital values of 382 milliards by dealing ruthlessly with the "gold values." In principle the Ministry's plan provides for imposing on all property (other than fixed-interest loans and bonds, which are paper values) State mortgages which would represent a great part of the nominal increase in value caused by the currency decline. This plan would complete the ruin of the propertied classes, as the sixfold profits and dividends have only about a third of the gold value of pre-war profits. But as the bond-holding and rentier class has been automatically expropriated by the currency decline, the owners of "gold values" have so far got off relatively easily.

The fall in the mark exchange has produced in bourse, industrial, and commercial affairs a repetition of the "Catastrophe Boom" of the winter of 1919-20. The selling rate of sterling was to-day 315.16, the highest point touched since early last year, and of the dollar 86.09, which is near the high point of last November. The mark's fall has now lasted since May, but as there has been no appreciable temporary recovery, the fall appears slow in comparison with that of early 1920, when the foreign exchanges doubled in a couple of weeks. The Reichsbank report for August 6th shows a decline of Treasury bill discounts by 4,852,105,000 marks to 75,129,862,000 marks, of private bills by 89,086,000 marks to 1,096,443,000 marks, of State deposits by 2,980,215,000 marks to 1,829,811,000 marks, and of private deposits 3,532,001,000 marks to 7,482,129,000 marks. Note circulation rose by 263,827,000 marks to 77,654,680,000 marks; Kassenscheine fell by 81,200,000

marks to 8,277,100,000 marks. The bourse boom developed last week into a buyers' panic, which continued to-day, though the close was somewhat quieter.

Reports as to conditions of industry are extremely good. Exceptions are the machine, chemicals, and ship-building branches. In all iron and steel branches except thick plates, the sale of which is checked by the ship-building depression, almost a boom prevails, in particular in bar-iron and wire. The textiles branches are enjoying sudden and quickly-increasing prosperity. For woollen goods large foreign orders from Scandinavia, Holland, and the new Baltic States have been received, and American orders have come for knitted goods. The wool spinners and weavers are sold out, and some report having orders until the end of the year. Cotton spinning and weaving are also booming; producers are rejecting orders, and wholesale dealers cannot get goods. The silk branches are improving, and prices are rapidly rising. In other branches there is a marked increase in foreign orders.

This prosperity is entirely a phase of the same "Catastrophe Boom" that sends up stocks. Foreigners buy because of the cheapened mark, and natives buy because they dread a further decline in the mark's home buying power, and hasten to get rid of their money. The Commodity Prices Index of the *Frankfurter Zeitung* for July (before the newest mark decline) show how this apprehension is justified. The index for 77 commodities (based on 100 for January 1, 1920) rose during the month from 135.4 to 156, which is also the top figure of May 1, 1920. The index which took five months (since February 5th) to drop 11 points, rose over 20 points in one month. Food has risen enormously. The wholesale foods index rose in July from 144.5 to 203, and is far above the former maximum (177) of early December.

CANADA.—THE RAILWAYS IN 1920.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, August 3.

THE preliminary report on Canadian railway operations for 1920, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, shows the heavy handicap imposed by the high wage scales, and the well-nigh impossible position occupied by the national system.

The returns, which are for steam roads only, show that the year was the most unfavourable experienced during their history. The ratio of operating expenses to operating revenues was 97.17 per cent., as compared with 92.2 per cent. for 1919, and an average of 71 per cent. for the period 1900 to 1917 inclusive, the range for these years being from 67.4 to 74.4 per cent. The Bureau of Railway Economics is authority for the statement that the operating ratio on American roads was 93.59 per cent. in 1920, and 85.25 per cent. in 1919.

Of the 56 roads reporting, 31 paid operating expenses and 25 had a deficit. Of these 31, after paying taxes, interest, rents, &c., 19 had a corporate income of \$36,581,437. The corporate loss on the other 37 roads amounted to \$79,669,825, the larger items being as follows:—

Canadian Northern	\$ 40,501,705
Canadian Government lines.....	9,432,054
Grand Trunk	4,519,809
Grand Trunk Pacific.....	17,456,359

It is significantly added that the loss on the Canadian Government lines—that is, on the Intercolonial and the National Transcontinental, does not include interest on funded and unfunded debt; the figures for the Canadian Northern, however, include interest.

Seven roads declared dividends as follows:—Canadian Pacific, \$29,227,226; Canada Southern, \$450,000; Hereford, \$32,000; Massawippi, \$24,000; Naperville Junction, \$36,000; Quebec Central, \$169,000; Thousand Islands, \$4,200.

The total revenue from operations was \$491,938,857, an increase of \$83,340,496 over 1919, but operating expenses increased from \$376,789,093 to \$478,002,823, or by \$101,213,730. The net operating revenue was \$13,936,003, a decrease of \$17,873,265.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3
Capital Authorised £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.
On **Current Accounts** interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

After paying taxes, \$9,553,990, interest on funded and unfunded debt, \$59,102,979, and with other deductions and additions to income, there was a corporate loss of \$43,088,388 as compared with \$14,928,666 in 1919. As an evidence of how the higher wages scales added to the burden of the roads, it may be said that 56 per cent. of the increase in operating expense was due to this cause, the wages and salaries bill having gone up during the year from \$233,323,074 to \$290,431,221, while the cost of fuel increased from \$52,563,334 to \$66,983,301. The number of employees increased by 11,206, or 6 per cent.

The revenue freight carried one mile increased 4,942,584,394 ton miles, or 18 per cent., but the passenger traffic fell off to the extent of 137,013,216 passenger miles, or 3.7 per cent. The decrease in passenger traffic was not caused by fewer people travelling, but by shorter journeys.

The summary of returns for all the roads gives the miles operated as 39,196, the capital stock as \$1,106,949,621, and the funded debt \$981,272,646. As already indicated, the operating revenue was \$491,938,857, of which freight brought in \$103,470,351, an increase of \$70,000,000 during the year, showing that the rate increases granted last Fall were of appreciable assistance. The increased passenger rates, however, only brought in \$6,500,000 more than in 1919. Operating expenses, which were over \$101,000,000 in excess of those for the preceding year, show heavier charges in every department. For example, maintenance of way and structures shows an increase of nearly \$18,000,000 maintenance of equipment, \$30,000,000; traffic, \$2,400,000; transportation lake and water, \$49,000,000. Taxes were \$4,000,000 in excess of those for 1919; interest on funded and unfunded debt was \$4,500,000 greater; the net corporate loss increased by \$30,000,000.

The superior management of the Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk, as compared with those on the various roads constituting the Government system, is strikingly demonstrated. The Canadian Pacific, in spite of the increased charges of \$37,000,000, had a net operating revenue \$3,000,000 larger than in 1919, and this notwithstanding the fact that it paid nearly \$2,500,000 more in taxes, \$620,000 more in interest. Its net corporate income was \$33,344,084, as compared with \$31,820,869 in 1919. The Grand Trunk, while its net operating revenue was little more than \$3,000,000 below that of the preceding year, made an infinitely better showing than that of any branch of the Government system. Its operating revenue was \$12,500,000 greater, but its operating expense went up \$15,700,000. This reduced its net operating revenue from \$8,678,366 to \$5,575,362. It paid \$77,000 more in taxes than in 1919, \$628,000 more in interest, and other deductions amounted to \$2,800,000. The increase in wages paid was \$10,696,000. In tons of freight carried this road making a particularly good showing, the increase being 3,035,000 tons, while the C.P.R.'s increase was only 106,000. Indeed, its increase in this respect was about 900,000 tons more than that on the C.P.R. and C.N.R. combined, while the Grand Trunk Pacific reported a loss of 150,000 tons. The increase of nearly \$9,000,000 in wages paid a great deal more than exceeds the corporate loss.

The Canadian Government lines—that is, the Intercolonial and the National Transcontinental—while they increased their operating revenue by nearly \$4,000,000,

had increased operating expenses amounting to \$7,000,000, of which nearly \$5,500,000 was due to increased payment for wages. Their net operating deficit was \$2,800,000 greater than in 1919. Their revenue train per mile was \$400,000 lower than in 1919, but the tons of freight carried show an increase of 1,700,000. The Canadian Northern figures show an increase of \$41,000,000 in the total capital obligations during the year. While the operating revenue was \$13,000,000 greater than in 1919, the operating expense shows an increase of nearly \$23,000,000, the operating deficit being \$9,700,000. Interest shows an increase of \$4,600,000, the net corporate loss being \$40,458,000, as compared with \$26,187,000 in the preceding year. The tons of freight carried was a little more than 2,000,000 in excess of that for 1919.

The Grand Trunk Pacific had an especially unfortunate year, operation by the Government not having, apparently, much improved its position. The operating revenue was \$2,700,000 greater than in 1919, but the total operating expense shows an increase of \$7,000,000, leaving an operating deficit of \$10,134,513, as compared with \$6,272,444 in 1919, and a net corporate loss of \$17,456,359, as compared with \$12,430,354. The increase in wages paid was nearly \$4,000,000.

ITALY.—REVENUE RETURNS—SAVING BANKS. (FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, August 13.
RECENT revenue statistics give interesting particulars of the financial results of past year. The general real revenue was 12,600 millions lire. About 1,700 millions are classified under the head of minor or miscellaneous items. The other items are classified as follows (in millions of lire):—

	1919-20.	1920-21.	Inc. or Dec.
Income-taxes	2,331.4 ..	3,993.4 ..	+ 1,662.0
Stamp and concession taxes	633.4 ..	1,107.8 ..	+ 474.4
Succession and registration taxes	665.8 ..	773.5 ..	+ 107.8
Excise and other consumption taxes	1,314.7 ..	1,608.0 ..	+ 293.3
Industrial monopolies	1,829.1 ..	2,744.1 ..	+ 915.0
Lottery	90.5 ..	151.0 ..	+ 60.5
Commercial monopolies	452.5 ..	521.9 ..	+ 69.3
Total	7,317.4 ..	10,899.7 ..	+ 3,582.3

In the income-tax category, the most interesting feature is the great increase in the yield of the excess profits tax, which goes from 1,029 to 1,991.5 millions lire. For two years this tax will still give a large yield, but its ultimate disappearance must be looked forward to with some concern. Fortunately, other taxes show signs of taking its place. First of all there is the extraordinary tax on capital, which from nothing in 1919-20, rose to 452.5 millions lire in 1920-21, and may yield during the first ten years of its existence about 1,000 millions annually. This will enable the Treasury to surmount the most difficult period in the reorganisation of the old income-taxes. The oldest of all, the tax on land income, progressed only from 114 to 115.6 millions lire in the last two years. The yield is stationary owing to the antiquated methods of valuing land incomes. Once reformed, the tax will give more important results. The tax on professional, industrial, commercial incomes and on incomes of capital and public and private employments rose from 686.4 to 935.3. This is a satisfactory rate, and full of promise. Next year the provisional super-tax on incomes above 10,000 lire will be superseded by a new complementary tax on total income, which is bound to yield a much greater sum than the paltry one of 89.4 millions lire furnished by provisional tax.

In the stamp and concession category, perhaps the most interesting items are the luxury taxes:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.	Increase.
Tax on cinematographs	14.3 ..	17.4 ..	+ 3.1
Tax on motor cars	36.2 ..	83.2 ..	+ 47.0
Tax on jewellery	17.8 ..	24.1 ..	+ 6.3
Tax on perfumeries	39.2 ..	43.1 ..	+ 3.8
Tax on restaurants	4.5 ..	5.4 ..	+ 0.9
Tax on liquor and fine wines	14.2 ..	21.5 ..	+ 7.3
Tax on sales of luxury goods	..	66.1 ..	+ 66.1
Tax on theatres	..	2.5 ..	+ 2.5

This category, which is in its initial stage, is very promising, especially if the Exchequer will resist proposals to

increase excessively the rates of tax. The increase of 293.3 millions in excise is wholly due to the new tax on wine, which from nothing in 1919-20 passed to 311.1 millions lire in 1920-21. But the wine growers are very influential in Italy, especially among the popular or catholic party. This party has secured a partial repeal of the voted increase of the rate of the tax from 10 to 30 lire per hectolitre. The tax will be increased only to 20 lire. Even so, the wine tax will give next year an increased return.

The commercial monopolies on coffee, coffee substitutes, &c., have been repealed, as I said in a recent letter, but the Exchequer will lose nothing, as coffee and coffee substitutes will remain subject to an equivalent excise tax.

The industrial monopolies continue their brilliant career:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.	Increase.
Tobacco	1,580.1 ..	2,435.4 ..	+ 855.3
Salt	125.8 ..	133.3 ..	+ 7.5
Matches	117.0 ..	167.6 ..	+ 50.5
Playing cards	6.2 ..	7.8 ..	+ 1.6
Lottery	90.5 ..	151.0 ..	+ 60.5

Tobacco and matches are closely connected, and the regularity of their consumption, in spite of heavy increases of prices, is a most interesting feature of post-war finance. It appears that common people, who before the war consumed very little of this luxury, have learned the taste for tobacco in the trenches, and are not apt to lose it.

A report on the ordinary saving banks (exclusive of postal savings bank) gives the following figures of deposits (in millions of lire):—

	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921
End of June, 1914	2,800.0							
" December, 1914	2,703.0							
" " 1915	2,785.0							
" " 1916	3,222.3							
" " 1917	3,727.4							
" " 1918	4,781.4							
" " 1919	5,841.8							
" " 1920	6,668.4							
" March, 1921	7,135.0							

The increase is following the march of the depreciation of the lire; but, nevertheless, is a proof that workers public and private employees, farmers, and the middle class of professional and commercial people, which constitutes the bulk of the saving bank clientele, are no losing their saving capacity.

SWITZERLAND.—BANK RATE AND EXCHANGE-INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, August 15.
THE Swiss National Bank has again lowered the official rate by one-half per cent. There are optimists in the country who believe that cheaper credits ruling in Switzerland will stop the unhealthy rise of the Swiss francs in neighbouring countries. The boom in Swiss francs ruling in Vienna and Berlin, and to a smaller extent in Milan, had its origin in those places, and not in a of foreign currencies in our markets. There is still very strong demand for Swiss francs in all our neighbouring countries, and if only a small part of purchases of Swiss francs transforms itself into purchases of Swiss goods, there would be an excellent industrial prosperity in Switzerland. But only a few buyers Swiss francs are would-be buyers of Swiss goods.

The annual report of Messrs Brown, Boveri, Lim the biggest Swiss industrial firm, producers of electrical machinery, is pessimistic in every respect as to the immediate future of Swiss engineering. Owing to the value of our currency we pay, according to this report too high wages to our workers. But the Swiss working class is fully justified in replying that they live no better than their comrades in countries of depreciated currencies such as France or Belgium. The Protectionist Swiss customs system has the effect that the Swiss consumer derives not the slightest advantage from the big buying power of the Swiss franc abroad. Swiss importers of cattle receive extraordinarily cheap prices for slaughter cattle from Yugoslavia, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, &c., &c., but no import licences are granted. There are also no import licences for

for cheap foreign corn, foreign butter, &c., &c. Artificially the cost of life in recent years has been maintained in order to prevent a drop in the value of agricultural land. It is true that many Swiss peasants were short-sighted enough to buy land at ridiculously high prices during the latter part of the war. But it is not the function of the State to protect gamblers against natural losses. Such a state of affairs creates a very pessimistic feeling as to the future of Swiss industry.

Letters to the Editor.

ECONOMIC TROUBLES AND THE CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I have read with interest the correspondence in your columns dealing with England's financial difficulties on the one hand, and with the difficulty of restoring stability among the international exchanges on the other hand. Most of your correspondents advocate overcoming the difficulties by some ingenious innovation. Mr Leighton Jordan and others would straighten out the national finances by a capital levy which would be ruinous to the country, while many of your correspondents would stimulate international trade and stabilise the exchanges, not by re-establishing the gold standard, but by some novel paper arrangement of their own.

The world suffers from the waste and confusion caused by the war and by the post-war boom. National finances and the national economy are subject to the same laws as private finances and private economy. In both cases loss and waste can be made up only by increased production and diminished consumption, by hard work and thrift. The American worker produces, on an average, three times as much as the English worker. By Americanising our industries we may treble production, national wealth, national income, and the yield of taxes. With a trebled income our war debt will appear small. Imaginative writers propose replacing the homely and necessary virtues of hard work and thrift by some artificial arrangement of their own, and they recommend a totally unworkable international currency. There has been an international currency up to 1914, which the wisdom of ages has established. The international business was based on gold. The only satisfactory international standard is gold, for a variety of reasons which can scarcely adequately be discussed in the present letter. "Money is gold, and nothing else," as the late Mr Pierpont Morgan used to say. No artificial standard, however ingenious, will replace the gold standard which has the confidence of mankind.

One of the ablest organisers and business men, and one of the most open-minded men in the world, is Mr Herbert Hoover. The United States are in a position not dissimilar to that prevailing in this country. On July 15th Mr Hoover stated, before the National Association of Real Estate Boards in Chicago:—

"This depression is to a great degree born of the malevolent forces we set in motion by inflating and by all booms. It is in the booms that we speculate, over-extend our liabilities, slacken down in effort, lower our efficiency, waste our surplus in riotous living instead of creation of new capital, drive our prices to vicious levels, lose our moral and business balance. We must suffer a period of duress from war and punishment for the boom, and only until we rebuild our virtues of hard work, frugal living, more saving, sober conduct, higher honesty. These things are trite enough, but they are as immutable as history, and they are the only way out. There are a few people who will not accept these hard facts, who will persist in the notion that they can by various devices avoid reaping what they have sown..... We are flooded by economic patent medicines that would evade the stern laws of economic hygiene."

Mr Hoover spoke solid common sense. Plans, however ingenious, will not re-establish national prosperity and international trade. Hard work and thrift are needed, and it is a great misfortune that the necessity of working hard and saving is obscured by the alluring plans which are unceasingly placed before the public.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
J. ELLIS BARKER.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Prices and Wages in the United Kingdom, 1914-1920. By Arthur L. Bowley. (London) Humphrey Milford. 10s 6d net.

This is one of the British series of volumes published by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, of the Economic and Social History of the World War.

Inflation et Deflation. By Yves Guyot and Arthur Raffalovich. (Paris) Librairie Felix Alcan. 10 frs net.

Workshop Committees. By C. G. Renold. (London) Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons.

Reprinted from the report of the British Association Sub-Committee on Industrial Unrest.

Yarn and Cloth Contracts. By John Taylor. (Manchester) John Heywood, Limited. 5s.

Reports on Jute and Silk. Imperial Institute Indian Trade Enquiry. (London) John Murray. 5s net.

Bulletin of the Imperial Institute. (London) John Murray. 3s 6d net.

Rivista Bancaria. August, 1921. (Milan) Direzione Presso L'A.B.I.

Législation Ouvrière et Prévoyance Sociale en Suède. Published by the Swedish Government on the occasion of the Eighth Session of the Conseil d'Administration du Bureau International du Travail at Stockholm in July, 1921.

Rubber Estate Relief. Reprinted from the *Straits Times*. (Singapore.)

The Labour Monthly. August, 1921. (London) Labour Publishing Company. 1s.

Income-Tax and Super-Tax, 1842-1922. (London) Oliver and Boyd. 1s net.

Report of Proceedings and Resolutions Adopted at the 61st Annual Meeting of the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. June, 1921.

Russian Life. A Monthly Review. Edited by the Russian Liberation Committee. (London) 173 Fleet street, E.C. 1s net.

The Development of Scandinavian-American Trade Relations. By F. C. Schwedtmann. (New York) National City Bank.

Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. July, 1921. (London) Royal Statistical Society. 7s 6d.

Lloyds Bank Monthly Financial Report. August, 1921.
Bank of Liverpool and Martins Monthly Circular. August 1921.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. August 25. ACCOUNT. August 26.

Stock Exchange markets cannot complain that they have been left this week without sensation. Indeed, the excitement has been much more marked than the volume of business, which latter, except in one or two markets, is running at about the usual holiday rate. Markets all round were unsettled by a violent slump in oil shares, which, occurring on Wednesday afternoon, spread uneasiness throughout other parts of the Stock Exchange, being regarded as traceable to forced liquidation on behalf of people with loans at Scottish banks who had asked their customers to put up more cover. The outstanding feature of strength is provided by Foreign Government bonds and South American railway stocks. The mining markets remain uninteresting.

There is not much doing in investment stocks, and although the prices of gilt-edged securities keep fairly firm, with rises on balance in corporation stocks, the amount of business doing is small. War stocks are rather easier. The Home Railway prior-charges are inclined to droop, but no particular depression developed, except in some of the Scottish stocks, these being

lowered in consequence of the unsatisfactory dividend announcements from the companies. Foreign Government bonds stand out as a bright spot. New York has been a large buyer of Brazilian Government bonds, apparently in consequence of the strengthening of the Brazilian exchange. Argentine, Chilean, Uruguayan, Chinese, and Japanese bonds are mostly better. French and German bonds, on the other hand, have gone back. A slight recovery occurred in the new Norwegian Sixes.

Home Railway stocks have not benefited by the passing into their own control of the railway companies. Where prices moved at all, the changes were irregular. Underground Income bonds advanced, but the other Tube stocks are mostly down, Metropolitan and Districts both following the example of the steam issues. Canadian Pacifics hardened, and Mexican Rails, after being better, reacted towards the end of the week. Argentine Railway stocks have gone ahead very substantially. The better appearance assumed by the traffic returns has brought in buyers, who quickly found that the amount of floating stock in the market was negligible. Pressure to buy brought about advances of several points, and with these improvements some of the other Foreign Railway stocks sympathised, San Paulos, for instance, Leopoldinas, and United of Havana.

The Rubber market is weak and dispirited, raw rubber having dropped to 8d per lb. The Oil market has been the scene of a violent slump, which demoralised a market none too well supplied with supporting orders. Furious selling of Shells, Mexican Eagles, Burmahs, and Royal Dutch led to a heavy tendency all round, and although the break brought in a good many small buyers, the result of the week's work is seen in a long list of falls. Shipping stocks started to go better at the beginning of the week, but, finding little public backing, prices soon reacted. Iron, Coal, and Steel shares are unfavourably affected by the postponement of the interim dividend announcements in several cases. Harrods gave way abruptly on the passing of the interim dividend, the price dropping to 24s, to rally sharply later on. Marconis also broke away, the dividend announcement, making 15 per cent. for the year, causing disappointment, which was emphasised by the material falling away of profits shown in the company's statement. There was, however, a smart recovery from the lowest. Dunlops have dwindled, and the effect of Harrods' dividend announcement is seen in falls amongst the shares in various other companies of somewhat similar class. Banking shares have lost part of their recent strength, P and O. Banking being more particularly affected, while the Insurance list is idle and its movements narrow. Bond of several Mexican utility companies have been quoted this week ex their arrears of interest, and this has caused a little demand for the bonds at the cheap-looking ex dividend prices. The premiums on new issues are fairly well maintained, though some of them show a tendency to relax. The whole of the Miscellaneous market is affected by the disturbance in Oil shares, and, in spite of the recovery which occurred from the worst prices touched, a good deal of uneasiness remains, inasmuch as nobody can judge whether or not there is more stock to be forcibly liquidated before the selling is finished.

Although the price of gold is well maintained, Kaffir shares attract no public attention. Professional buying, however, has helped prices. A minor feature amongst Rhodesians was a sharp rise in Lonely Reefs, in consequence of good developments. The price was run up to 2½ before it gave way under the influence of a little profit-taking. Globe and Phoenix also rose abruptly. Tin, the metal, has weakened by several pounds per ton, and this caused depression amongst shares in tin-producing companies. The well-known Ropp Company has passed its dividend, causing flatness in the shares and spreading dullness amongst others of its kind. West Australians are also easier, and the recent excitement over Russians has entirely subsided, leaving the market in a sagging condition. Burma Corporations gave way on vague gossip as to a possible new issue, and Mexican Mining shares have been dormant.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	146,859,781			

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,024,990
5½ % 1929 receipts week ended August 6, 1921	12,080,000
Week ended August 13, 1921	2,560,000
Receipts to date	14,640,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

Net Receipts into the Exchequer Week ended August 13, 1921.	£
April 1 to August 13, £1,430,000	350,000
	350,000

Shareholders only—				
Rangoon Electric Tramway and Supply, 72,999 Shares, £1.				
at par	72,999	72,999	72,999	72,999
Total offered to shareholders only	72,999	72,999	72,999	72,999
Total offered for subscription to date				
in—				
1921	£149,842,780			
1920	273,701,149			
1919	891,720,730			
1918	838,599,673			
1917	1,086,715,548			
1916	369,722,400			
1915	658,668,876			
1914	172,285,827			
Total offered for subscription for whole year—				
1921	£367,542,656			
1919	1,036,059,951			
1918	1,393,531,441			
1917	1,518,596,010			
1916	585,436,850			
1915	885,236,326			
1914	512,522,633			
1913	196,536,980			

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of the 16th ult.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War 3½%, 1925-28	86½	86½	—	Local Loans 3%	52½	52½	—
Loans 4½%, 1925-45	81½	81½	—	Aust. 5½% deb., 1927-7	95	95	—
Loans 5%, 1929-47	88½	87½	—	Canada 4½%, 1920-25	95	95	—
Loans 4%, 1929-42	96½	96½	—	India 3½% Stock	58	58½	+
Funding Loan 4%	71½	70½	—	Do 7% Stock	104½	104½	—
Victory Bonds 4%	76½	76½	—	N.S.W. 5½%, 1922-27	94	94	—
Conversion Loan 3½%	62½	62½	—	U.S.A. 4½%, 1920-25	93	93	—
Consols 2½%	48½	48½	—	Victoria 5½%, 1924-34	94	94	—
Irish Land Stock 2½%	48½	48½	—				

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, l.p.d.) 2½% ..	2½	2½	—	Nat. Bank of Egypt ..	19	19	—
Lloyds (£1, l.p.d.) 2½% ..	2½	2½	—	Nat. Bank of S. Africa ..	11½	11½	—
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with 24 paid) ..	6½	6½	—	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with 24 paid) ..	9½	9	—
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with 25 paid) 14½ ..	14½	14½	—	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with 25 paid) ..	11½	11½	—

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	46½	46½	—	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 12½ ..	12½	12½	—
B. A. & Pacific	40½	43½	+	Leopoldina	22	23½	+
B. A. G. Southern	55½	60	+	Mexican Railway	15	15	—
Buenos Ayres West.	55	60	+	Do 1st Pref.	44	41	—
Canadian Pacific	155	154	—	Do 2nd Pref.	28	26	—
Central Argentine	54	58½	+	San Paulo	121½	126	+
Grand Trunk Ord.	4½	4½	—	United Havana	59	59	—

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio ..	72	72	—	Southern	27	25	—
Erie	17½	17½	—	Do Non-conv. Pref.	62	59	—
Do 4% 1st Pref.	26	25	—				

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5%, 1886-7 ..	95	93½	—	Italian 3½% Rentes ..	25	25	—
Belgian 3%	62	62	—	Greek Monopoly 4% ..	32½	32½	—
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914 ..	59	61	+	Japanese 4½%	120	118½	—
Chilian 4½%, 1895 ..	68	69	+	Do 4%, 1910	63	64	+
Chinese 5%, 1913	72	72	—	Mexican Cons. 1899 ..	57	67	+
Egyptian 4%	65	64½	—	Peruvian Corp. Pref. ..	16½	16½	—
French 5%	45	43½	—	Russian 5%, 1906 ..	13½	12½	—
Do 4%	33	33	—	Spanish 4%	69½	69½	—

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" 17 ..	17½	17½	—	Marconi Canada	15	15	—
Eastern Telegraph	163½	163½	—	Marconi Marine	15½	15½	—
Marconi Wireless	15	15	—				

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.	83	83	—	L. and N.W.	66x	69x	+
Great Eastern	27	26½	—	L. & S. Western, Def. 18½ ..	18½	18½	—
Great Northern Def.	23½	24½	+	Metropolitan	25x	24½	—
Great Western	64x	67x	+	Metropolitan District 18 ..	17½	17½	—
London and York	45	46	—	Midland Deferred	41	43	+
London, Brighton & S. Coast ..	37	38	+	North British Def.	9½	9½	—
London, Chatham & Dover ..	53	53	—	North-Eastern	69½	69	—
Do Ab. Pref.	36	35	—	South-Eastern "A" ..	20½	21	+

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1) ..	1½	1½	—	Lipton (£1)	37½	37½	—
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) ..	16½	16½	—	Lister (£1)	37½	37½	—
Ass. Ptd. Cement (£1) ..	19½	18½	—	Lobitos Oilfields (£1) 34½ ..	34½	34½	—
B'ham Small Arms (£1) ..	8½	8½	—	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) ..	24	24½	+
Brazil Traction (\$100) ..	28½	29	+	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) ..	42	42	—
British-American	37½	37½	—	Mexican Eagle (\$10) ..	5	4½	—
Bris. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	5½	5½	—	North Caucasian (10) ..	33	33	—
Burmah Oil (£1)	2½	2½	—	Pekin (2)	15	15	—
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) ..	14	14	—	Rubber Plantations ..	43	43	—
Courtaulds (£1)	14	14	—	Shell Transport (£1) ..	53½	43½	—
Cunard (£1)	43	43	—	Smithfield & Argentine ..	48	48	—
Dorman, Long (£1)	13	13	—	Meat (£1)	75	75	—
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	12	12	—	Underground Electric ..	24	24	—
Eurestal Land (£1)	12	12	—	Do "A" (1)	75	75	—
Furness, Withy (£1)	17½	17½	—	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) 80 ..	80	80	—
Highlands and Low	17½	17½	—	United Tobacco (2) ..	4	4	—
Islands Rubber (£1) ..	1½	1½	—	United Tobacco (£1) ..	5½	5½	—
Hudson's Bay (£1)	64x	64x	—	Ural Caspian (£1)	53	53	—
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	24	24	—	Vallambrosa (2)	75	75	—
International Paint (£1) ..	8	8	—	Vickers (£1)	125x	132x	+
Linggi Plantations (£1) ..	14	14	—	Watney Def. Stk.	125x	132x	+

Mines.

Brakpan (£1)	21x	23x	+	Knights	33	3	+
Broken Hill Prop. (8) ..	2½	1½	—	Modderfontein (10) ..	3x	3½	+
Chartereds (£1)	8	8	—	Modderfont. "B" (5) 13x ..	13x	13x	—
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) ..	8½	8½	—	Modderfont. Deep (5) 2x ..	2x	2x	—
Crown Mines (10)	27x	27x	—	Premier Def. (26) ..	5	5	—
De Beers (£24)	11½	11½	—	Rand Mines (5)	24x	24x	—
East Rand Prop. (£1) ..	2½	2½	—	Rio Tinto (£5)	30	30	—
Goldfield (£1)	2½	2½	—	Spring Mines (£1) ..	21x	21x	—
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) 4x ..	4x	4x	—				

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

SATISFACTORY YEAR'S BUSINESS.

THE CHAIRMAN ON NEW ZEALAND'S INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

The ordinary general meeting of the proprietors of the Bank of New Zealand was held at the head office on Friday, June 17, 1921, Mr H. Beauchamp, chairman of directors, presiding.

With the consent of the meeting, the report of the directors and the balance-sheet were taken as read.

The Chairman, in moving their adoption, commented upon the figures in the balance-sheet.

The following are some of his remarks:—

NOTES IN CIRCULATION.

£4,741,492. Decrease, £1,023,845. When commenting upon last year's balance-sheet, I mentioned that the greater part of the increase of £2,000,000 in our circulation which was shown at that time consisted of notes in the hands of other New Zealand banks and not circulating amongst the public. The present amount contains no such item, the whole of the notes which were held in this manner having been retired by transfers of funds from London. The notes shown in the balance-sheet were actually in the hands of the public, and represent their requirements in the way of currency at the rate of the balance-sheet.

DEPOSITS.

£34,475,655. Decrease, £3,185,955. The decrease in our deposits reflects the stringent condition of the money market which existed at the date of the balance-sheet, and still exists.

In November last there was a very considerable drain upon the available funds of the community, when the Government placed upon the market a loan of £6,000,000 for the purpose of the settlement of discharged soldiers, and obtained £4,500,000 of the amount.

A further demand upon the available credits took place in February, when income-tax, amounting to about £8,000,000, became due.

Further, the reduced earnings from business, the decrease in the proceeds of the realisation of our produce, and the opportunities for investing at high rates of interest, have all been contributing factors to this decrease in bank deposits.

BILLS PAYABLE AND OTHER LIABILITIES.

£4,116,573. Increase, £408,268. This increase is largely due to our heavy sales of exchange on London, resulting from causes to which I shall allude later.

RESERVE FOR TAXES.

£426,000. Increase, £86,000. The increase in this amount, so far as the Dominion taxation is concerned, is entirely due to the employment of funds in New Zealand, where income-tax paid by the banks bears no relation to the profits made. Banks are taxed arbitrarily on the total of their assets and liabilities, and for the past year our payment of income-tax in New Zealand represents 14s 8d in the £ on our New Zealand profits.

The amount which we paid in taxation during the year now under review was as follows:—

	£	s	d
Income-tax	306,051	7	0
Land tax	17,559	3	0
Tax on note circulation	152,538	10	6
Rates	8,945	19	0
	485,094	19	6

Turning to the other side of the balance-sheet, the principal assets are:—

COIN AND CASH BALANCES AT BANKERS, GOVERNMENT NOTES, LEGAL TENDER NOTES, AND BULLION.

£6,685,738. Decrease, £2,086,547.

MONEY AT SHORT CALL, SECURITIES AND BILLS RECEIVABLE IN LONDON.

£8,324,356. Decrease, £1,959,285. The decreases in these two sets of figures have resulted from the same cause.

The requirements of our importing customers, who have had to make unusually heavy payments for goods brought into the Dominion, and the increased advances, to which I shall refer more fully later on, have brought about this considerable reduction in our London funds held at short call, and have also caused us to

draw upon the large balances which were held with our London bankers a year ago.

Our investments in London were written down to their market value at the balance date. Since that time they have appreciated in value, and are now worth more than the figure at which they stand in our books.

Investments in the Dominion	£ 3,513,102
Australian Government securities	399,316
Total	3,912,418

There are shown in the balance-sheet at their market value, except in a few cases where there is no public quotation. In such cases the securities have been written down to a figure at which they would yield such a return as buyers now expect.

LANDED PROPERTY, &c.

£337,468. Decrease, £33,640. We have again appropriated the sum of £50,000 from the year's profits in reduction of this item, although there is a very large margin of value in the assets by which it is represented.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

The net profits, you will notice, amounted to £726,900. During the past year we had the full earning power of the £500,000 of new capital furnished by the calling up of the balance of the old ordinary share capital of £3 6s 8d per share; also the benefit of unusual exchange rates.

Further, our large investments in London, which amounted at the beginning of the year to over £20,000,000, and remained in the neighbourhood of that amount for the first six months of the year, yielded handsome returns.

The "carry forward" has been increased by £214,755.

As a large portion of the year's profits were represented by exchange derived from the excessive importation of goods, and as we may look forward to a corresponding reduction in imports this year and next, it has been thought proper to provide in this manner for the expected falling off in future exchange profits.

ADVANCES.

Our advances in New Zealand have increased during the period under review by no less a sum than £10,500,000. This result arises from assistance given to our customers, caused by:—

(a) Excessive importations. (b) Very much

be a matter of months before the overdrafts of importing firms will commence to run down steadily, and that before long our advances to them will have come back to more normal figures.

I believe that traders generally now realise the necessity for reducing prices and facing losses, in order to restore the equilibrium.

In the conditions which have existed during recent months, we have naturally had to extend increased facilities to those of our customers who are engaged in the sheep and cattle industries. Their receipts have fallen far below expectation, and those who bought land at high prices and are heavily mortgaged will experience considerable difficulty in carrying on. Fortunately, there is a general disposition to face the position with courage and equanimity, and we may hope that, with industry and strict economy, the position will be gradually retrieved.

The holding of more land than the owner's capital warrants—much of which has been purchased within recent times at inflated prices and with borrowed money—is the principal cause of the financial difficulties in which many farmers are now involved.

During these years of high prices for our principal products your directors and your executive have never been persuaded that these would continue permanently, and, consequently, that it was justifiable to base the value of land upon such an expected permanency of high prices. In our lending, therefore, we have to a large extent disregarded what were considered to be current prices for farm land.

Mr Beauchamp continued:

EXCHANGE.

In the speech which was read to you on my behalf at the half-yearly meeting in December last, I referred to the difficulty in effecting remittances from Australasia to Great Britain and other parts of the world, which was at that time attracting considerable attention on the part of the community and the Press.

During the six months which have since elapsed this difficulty has not materially decreased. While traders generally have made great efforts to reduce the amount of the imports which have to be paid for in the shape of London or other exchange, goods have continued to arrive in very large quantities and representing very high values, so that for the first three months of this year (viz., January-February-March, 1921) the total imports amounted to £15,658,502. Imports are now falling off, and doubtless before long the demand for London exchange will have come back to reasonable figures.

It is interesting to note that, to meet the requirements of this Dominion, the bank has drawn no less than 16 millions from London during the past 12 months. It is fortunate for all concerned that it had such large sums available in the world's centre.

As you will see by the balance-sheet, the funds which we hold in London, although much reduced, are still of substantial amount, and we have every reason to expect that we shall be able to continue to meet our customers' requirements in the matter of exchange until conditions become normal and the question of external exchange ceases to attract the attention and to cause the interest which have attached to it during the past eight or nine months.

STAFF.

To commemorate the sixtieth anniversary of the bank, which occurs this year, and in view of the high cost of living, the members of the staff have been granted during the year bonuses aggregating more than £60,000, special provision being made for married men drawing less than £425 per annum, who received bonuses amounting to 25 per cent. of their pay.

Salaries and allowances have also been revised on a liberal basis, as we feel sure that it is your desire that our employees should receive adequate remuneration.

The last six months has been a very anxious time for the general manager and the chief executive officers, as well as for the branch managers and other senior officers, and they have not spared themselves, but have given the closest and most unremitting attention to the bank's interests.

The present strength of the staff is:—

1,121 Men.
196 Women.
1,317

CONDITIONS IN NEW ZEALAND.

The conditions in New Zealand reflect in some degree the adverse factors ruling in Britain, and disclose features peculiar to the country. The scarcity of merchandise in New Zealand, due to the transport and other difficulties arising out of the war, induced importers to send abroad orders much in excess of requirements. These orders, instead of being executed over a considerable period of time, as was anticipated, were dumped on the country in a few short months, with the result that the imports into the Dominion were on a tremendous scale. At the same time, owing to the

Imperial Government discontinuing the purchase of wool and meat, and the slump in the market value of these goods, there was a contraction in the exports. Shipping difficulties also rendered the position serious by hampering the export trade.

The imports for the year ended March 31st last, compared with the figures for the immediately preceding year, are as follows:—

Imports.	Imports.
1919-20.	1920-21
£32,162,029	£67,463,269

The imports increased by the huge sum of £35,301,240, equal to about 110 per cent. This means that we have imported in one year more than sufficient to meet requirements for two years: and the distressing fact is that most of these goods were bought at peak prices. The imports during the year under review cost more than three times as much as those of any year prior to 1916.

The principal increases during the year, as compared with 1919, were:—

Soft goods	£9,456,000
Hardware, &c.	4,702,000
General merchandise	6,428,000
Benzine, &c.	1,447,000
Motor-cars and other vehicles	1,832,000

The exports during the same period contracted, and the figures compare as under:—

1919-20.	1920-21
£50,776,650	£48,199,329

There is a decrease of £2,577,321, which is not very much. If we take the exports and imports for the year ended March 31st last we get the following:—

Exports.	Imports.
1920-21.	1920-21.
£48,199,329	£67,463,269

The imports exceeded the exports in the twelve months by the substantial sum of £19,263,940. It must be borne in mind that, besides paying for the imports, we have to pay interest on public and municipal indebtedness to Britain out of our exports, also large sums for freight, insurance, and other charges. It will, therefore, be seen that we were very much to leeward in the year under review. It must also be remembered that the total represented by the exports was not all available to provide funds for the inward trade, for it includes a good deal of produce purchased and previously paid for by the Imperial Government.

The new conditions that have arisen have brought about a scarcity of loanable credit, with the result that interest rates have materially hardened.

On first-class security, money is not very readily obtainable on mortgage at even 7 per cent., and Government bonds have recently been bought in the open market at prices which will yield the investor from 6 to 6½ per cent. As a consequence of this, the rates charged on bank advances and those allowed on fixed deposits have been increased.

Almost immediately after the Armistice, the local bodies throughout the Dominion took stock of the works needed in their respective localities, and as quickly as possible set about obtaining the authority of the ratepayers to raise loans for local public works. These authorities ran into many millions, and those who were fortunate enough to go on the market in 1919 and the first half of 1920 obtained the money they required at 5½ per cent. Later on it became difficult to obtain money at so low a rate, and local bodies had to offer the full rate then permitted by Statute, 5½ per cent. When this was found ineffective the local bodies were given authority to offer 5¾ per cent., and, in some few recent cases, to sell debentures at such a price as to yield the investor 6 per cent. But even this rate is not attractive, in view of the return obtainable from purchases of Government Bonds, and of the fact that sound commercial concerns are offering bonds at par at as high as 7½ per cent., free of income-tax.

The scarcity of credit led to another unexpected development during the short session of Parliament in March last.

When our half-yearly meeting was held in December, 1907—more than 13 years ago—a monetary crisis in the United States of America was one of the outstanding topics of the time, and was alluded to in the remarks which I addressed to the shareholders upon that occasion.

In view of the experiences through which the United States had just been passing, and their evident causes, I sounded a note of warning in connection with the action of several large trading concerns in New Zealand which were making a practice of receiving deposits from the public while holding no reserves in the shape of liquid or readily-realizable assets to meet these deposits when required.

Now that the prosperous times of the past few years, with their abundance of money, have ended, and there are many opportunities of obtaining highly remunerative investments, there has naturally

been a very considerable withdrawal of deposits held by these companies and firms.

NEW ZEALAND MORATORIUM.

The Banks of New Zealand found some months ago that they were being approached on every hand by their borrowing customers with requests for increased accommodation. These requests were assuming in the aggregate very large amounts, and it became evident that discrimination must be exercised, not so much with regard to the safety of the desired advances (as to which there was usually little doubt), but as to the objects for which they were asked.

A large number of such requests were being made in order that the applicants might repay the deposits which they had taken and which were being called for by the depositors. Had such applications been granted by the banks, they would not have been able to meet the legitimate requirements of the farming and commercial community, and the banks therefore notified their borrowing customers that the arrangements between them were not to be availed of for the purpose of repaying such deposits.

Such a step on the part of the banks undoubtedly placed many trading concerns and local bodies in a very difficult position, but it was felt by the banks, with a deep sense of responsibility to the community as a whole, that the course which they were taking was a wise and proper one.

As a consequence of this, I understand that some of the concerns which had taken deposits and could not repay them without that assistance from their bankers which they were unable to obtain, laid the position before the Government, with the result that on March 21st last, Parliament passed an Act extending the Mortgages Extension Act by declaring a moratorium until May 31st with regard to all deposits except those held by the Associated Banks and the Savings Banks, and providing that the borrowers could, by giving notice to the lenders before May 31st, and offering a higher rate of interest, postpone payment of such deposits until December 31st next.

We understand that this latter provision has been widely taken advantage of, and that most deposit-receiving companies and public bodies have notified depositors, whose money is at call or would in ordinary course be repayable before December 31st next, that repayment will not be made until that date.

It is generally believed that, when Parliament next assembles, some legislation will be introduced to compel those who accept deposits from the public, to do to some extent what banks are required to do—hold a reasonable proportion of these deposits in a form more readily available than if the money is used as business capital.

To make provision for repayment of their deposits, some companies are raising the necessary funds by the issue of bonds at from three to ten years' currency; others, no doubt, will get in uncalled capital; and some may require to issue preference shares.

Whilst a certain amount of inconvenience is being experienced by some of these depositors, it is unlikely that any of them will suffer loss, and in the long run the result will be a much-needed improvement in the conduct of the finances of these deposit-taking concerns.

During the war, and since, there has been a noticeable yearly expansion in the business of the Post Office Savings Bank, and the total amount at credit of depositors at the end of last March was £42,953,028, equal to £36 per head of the population.

DOMINION PUBLIC FINANCE.

The results shown in the national balance-sheet for the financial year ended March 31st last were as follows:—

	£
Revenue	34,192,986
Expenditure	28,058,728
Surplus	6,124,258

Both revenue and expenditure are record figures.

The annual surpluses, beginning with 1916, have been exceptionally large, but practically the whole of the realised surplus has been disbursed or allocated, and very little remains, so that, in the present and subsequent years, we must rely upon current revenue to meet each year's disbursements.

The public debt is steadily increasing, and now must be over £200,000,000. During the past financial year £7,831,593 was paid in respect to interest and sinking fund as compared with £2,871,512 charged in the year 1913-14. There was paid in pensions during the past financial year £2,812,750, as against £2,691,444 in the previous year.

NEW ZEALAND PRODUCE.

Had the Imperial Government continued purchasing our produce at the same prices as when the various commandeurs ended, we should have been still revelling in prosperity. Just what the Imperial purchases have meant to New Zealand may be realised from

the fact that the total payments made by the Imperial Government up to April 30th amounted to £158,602,725.

The outstanding feature during the past season in connection with produce was the excellent return obtained from both butter and cheese. Butter was taken by the Imperial Government during the season now ended at the extraordinarily high price of 28s per cwt f.o.b. New Zealand ports. Butter and cheese shipments and values for the year ended March 31st last, compared with the figures for the previous year, show:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.
	Cwts. £	Cwts. £
Butter	310,283 .. 2,832,991 ..	476,730 .. 6,114,464
Cheese	1,540,949 .. 7,720,366 ..	1,208,263 .. 6,514,519
	1,851,232 .. 10,553,357 ..	1,684,993 .. 12,628,983

There has been a decrease in the quantity of cheese exported, but this was due to the attractive price ruling for butter, causing factories which had the necessary plant to turn over from cheese to butter manufacture.

During the 1920-1921 season, up to the present time, cheese has been realising prices much in excess of those which were obtained under the commandeering. The present tendency is towards lower prices, as the new Canadian output is now coming on the market and being sold at a much lower price than has up to now been obtained for the New Zealand product. Still, the outlook for cheese is distinctly good.

WOOL.

Wool has apparently fallen to its lowest point—at all events for the time being—and there is now a better demand for the staple and more activity in the market. There is, however, a great mass of wool in store, and how to get this into consumption and at the same time to obtain a fair price for the clips now coming forward is a problem that has been fully and freely discussed for some months past. One outcome of this has been the formation of the British Australian Wool Realisation Association, more popularly known as "B.A.W.R.A."

New Zealand wool-growers were invited to join the Association, but, after full consideration of the proposals which were submitted to them, they—wisely, I think—declined to do so, preferring to follow an independent course. They are, however, co-operating with the Association as regards the fixation of minimum reserves and limitation of offerings, while retaining in New Zealand the full control of all matters concerning the handling of the wool clip.

At the present moment, wool is almost a drug on the market. This applies especially to coarse wool, and by far the greater part of our New Zealand product is of this class.

Apart from the large quantity in store, the European and North American clips, whatever they may amount to, are now coming in, and in the course of a few weeks Australia will be baling another clip, while there will also be Argentine, New Zealand, and South African clips to be taken into account. On the other hand, only a limited market can be found in the United States, because in that country also there is an accumulation of wool, and the new administration is expected to adopt such a high tariff as will effectually exclude most of our wool from the United States.

The proposal to uphold values by arbitrarily fixing prices does not commend itself to me, for I hold the opinion that values can be created only by the inexorable law of supply and demand, and not by any artificial means. All commodities satisfying human wants can be sold at a price, and it is for the seller, in the ordinary course of trade, to ascertain what that price is, and to meet the market as best he may, and so endeavour to stimulate the consumptive demand. Wool is one of the necessities of life—at least, to the peoples of Europe and North America and some other countries—and therefore there will always be a demand for it. Large though the accumulations are now, they would be speedily reduced if the people of Europe were able to make purchases, but they are unable to buy through sheer inability to pay for the goods. They are literally poverty-stricken, and must be accommodated in the best way possible. Until Central and Eastern Europe are able to absorb wool, the market will be in an unstable condition, zigzagging up and down and causing a great deal of trouble.

It is understood that the reserves fixed by the B.A.W.R.A. for coarse wool, in which New Zealand is principally interested, are sufficiently low to ensure that they will not deter would-be buyers from making purchases. This being so, it may be hoped that, in the course of time, the enormous stock of wool may be gradually reduced, and that, demand overtaking supply, better times may return for wool-growers.

Unless a demand can be created which will annually absorb the whole of the year's output and a portion of the previous accumulation, it is to be feared that little relief will be obtained

from the operations of the B.A.W.R.A. and the New Zealand Committee.

In experiencing a severe fall in the prices obtainable for our staple products, we are on common ground with primary producers in other countries. All markets have fallen, but some more than others, and how long this downward tendency will continue is not within the power of prediction. History shows that after the Napoleonic Wars prices sagged for a long time. Even after the American Civil War—which, compared with the Great World War, was a trifling affair—it took fourteen years for prices to stabilise, so that, if history repeats itself, as seems likely, it will be some years before the point of stabilisation will have been reached.

It would be idle for us to look for any big recovery in the prices of produce—the very circumstances of Europe make that impossible just now—consequently, we must endeavour to make production pay on the basis of present prices, and to that end there must be a contraction of profits and a contraction of wages, with greatly increased efficiency of production, thereby lessening its cost. The cost of living must be reduced, and can be reduced if all sections in the community will do their part.

COSTS OF PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORT.

In the past we have frequently seen prices for our primary products as low as, and in some cases distinctly lower than, those ruling to-day in the world's markets, but cost of production, transport and other charges have, in the meantime, advanced enormously.

SHIPPING FREIGHTS.

The rise that has taken place in freights is, of course, a serious handicap to New Zealand producers. Lately, owing to Government pressure, the companies have made some concessions which will mean a saving of approximately £250,000 per annum to the producers, but, even taking this into account, the freights remain abnormally high, having in view the greatly reduced prices that are likely to be realised for what is shipped.

SHIPPING SUPPLY.

A great increase has taken place in the world's shipping tonnage since the signing of the Armistice, and, except as regards insulated ships, the supply is now greatly in excess of the demand. Hundreds of vessels are, at the moment, laid up in Great Britain, America, Sweden, and elsewhere. It is expected that the shortage in insulated tonnage will be remedied in the near future, as there are several large vessels now in course of construction.

FUTURE OF PRODUCE MARKETS AND TRADE.

It may possibly be that, with so many causes combining to make sheep and cattle-raising less profitable than in the past, some of our farmers who own suitable land will turn their attention to the growing of wheat and other crops, for which there is a satisfactory local market. This may afford a certain measure of relief to the situation.

How long the monetary stringency and industrial depression will last depends upon a variety of circumstances, but mainly upon the rapidity with which the economic unity of the world is restored. All the Great Wars of the past immensely stimulated the economic development of the world, and invariably gave a powerful impulse to the greater use of labour-saving machinery. Probably we are on the eve of some such economic developments. After all, we must rely upon hard work and thrift and the moderation of party politicians in arranging the national affairs. There will be a continued demand for New Zealand's products; our wool, meat, butter, cheese, hemp and tallow are all wanted, and the purchasers are willing to pay up to the limit of their purchasing power. That limit just now is a low one, but it will expand, and so will the demand for the products. Our trouble just now is in adjusting the cost of production to meet the changed conditions. As soon as prices of commodities show some signs of stabilisation there will be manifest confidence in the situation, and on that confidence a new and enduring structure of trade and commerce will be built. The present is a time for the avoidance of extremes—extreme optimism and extreme pessimism. It is a time when conditions should be looked at squarely and dealt with courageously. New Zealand is not feeling the pinch as seriously as some other countries, and if all sections co-operate for the common welfare, the recovery will be speedier.

Sustained effort in production, efficiency, and economy should be the keynote of all classes of the community in these critical times.

The Chairman having replied to various questions, the motion for the adoption of the report and balance-sheet was carried, and a vote of thanks having been accorded to the directors and staff, the proceedings terminated.

FURNESS, WITHY, AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

DROP IN OVERSEAS TRADE.

NEED FOR DECREASE IN PORT AND OPERATING CHARGES.

The thirtieth annual meeting of Furness, Withy, and Co., Limited, was held, on the 18th instant, at the Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool street, London, Sir Frederick W. Lewis, Bart., presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: I have pleasure in submitting to you the accounts for the year ended April 30th last, which, while they naturally show less favourable results than those achieved last year, I hope you will regard as satisfactory.

The profit for the year, including the balance brought forward, amounts to £955,848 4s 6d, which is arrived at after making provision for all taxes payable both in this country and abroad. After deducting the dividend on the preference shares and the two half-yearly dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, on the ordinary shares, there is an available balance of £703,348 4s 6d, out of which the directors have allocated £300,000 to depreciation account, and now recommend the payment of a bonus of 5 per cent., free of income-tax, on the ordinary shares, which will leave £203,348 4s 6d to be carried forward to the current year's account.

WEST INDIAN INTERESTS.

We have continued our policy of developing and extending our organisation upon natural lines, and since we last met we have added several highly important units to our properties.

In order to round off our West Indian interests we purchased in the autumn of last year from the Trinidad Shipping and Trading Company the three steamers "Maraval," "Matura," and "Mayaro," together with the goodwill of the New York-Trinidad service, and all the auxiliary properties of that business, which include various profit-earning assets. To enable us to exercise the best possible supervision over this business we have opened our own office at Trinidad under the charge of the Hon. A. Fraser. The important feature of this acquisition is that we have been able to establish a community of interests with our Quebec Steamship Company's New York-West Indian service, which will mean more economical operation from our point of view, and more efficient service for the supporters of the two lines.

Our passenger and cargo service to Bermuda continues to give satisfaction to our friends in that delightful colony. We have kept both the "Fort Hamilton" and the "Fort Victoria" practically continually running in the New York-Bermuda service.

For the purpose of developing the Bermuda and West Indian passenger business we have recently purchased the s.s. "Fort St George," a sister ship to the "Fort Victoria," and during the usual slack season in these trades she is being employed in the Quebec and Saguenay River tourist service, in which she has already proved herself a very popular vessel.

CHAIRMAN'S VISIT TO THE MEDITERRANEAN.

In the early part of this year I visited all our organisations in the Mediterranean, where the Prince Line and Johnston Line particularly have very important interests. As you know, we already have offices in Piræus, Alexandria, and Constantinople, and it was a pleasure to me to see at first hand the efficiency of these branches and the loyal work of our representatives there.

For a long time past we have taken a special interest in the Danube trade, and to strengthen our already strong position there we have during the year acquired an interest in the firm of Watson and Youell, one of the most highly respected firms trading in the Near East, with offices at Bucharest, Braila, Galatz, Sulina, Constanza, and Oltenitza. The firm, as previously constituted, did a merchant business as well as shipping agency, but as we always make it a rule not to engage in merchant business in possible competition with our shippers and consignees, it was mutually agreed that the merchant business of Watson and Youell should be entirely separated from their shipping business, and the latter section is now operated under the style of Watson and Youell Shipping Agency, Limited, and it is in this section alone that we are interested.

Altogether, my visit to the Mediterranean was a most interesting one, and I returned with full confidence that no other company is better organised for the development of the various interests with which we are associated in those waters.

Before passing on to other subjects, I should also mention that since we last met together we have opened offices at Hong Kong and Shanghai, under the management of Mr Leonard Yates, and to round off our United States organisations we have acquired an interest in the old-established firm of W. and R. Warriner, New Orleans, from all of which we look for added business and revenue.

PANAMA CANAL TRADE.

In the shipping business we have ever to be on the lookout for changed conditions and trade development, and, in fact, shipping

more often than not plays a big part in the creation of new trade routes. One of the most important occurrences in commercial history has been the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914, but the impetus which the trade of the Pacific Coast regions might have been expected to gain from this event was very much retarded by the war. The development is, however, now making rapid strides, and a considerable export business is being built up between Canadian and United States Pacific Coast ports and the United Kingdom and European Continent, in connection with which we have inaugurated a new service of general and refrigerated cargo steamers. The first steamer on this service will leave the Pacific Coast in September, and thereafter we will maintain regular sailings.

Our United States branches have, under the able guidance of Mr H. C. Blackiston, efficiently and satisfactorily carried out the large amount of business entrusted to their charge. It will be readily recognised that these branch organisations which we possess or are largely interested in at home and abroad, amounting now to 35, in effect very much reduce our operating costs.

I mentioned in my speech last year that no new shipbuilding contracts had been entered into, and the same remarks apply to the past year, although we have not yet received delivery of some of the vessels which we had previously contracted for.

FALL IN OVERSEAS TRADE.

I need not tell you that since we last met we have experienced a very heavy drop in freights. A study of the statistics recently published by "Lloyd's Registry of Shipping" shows that of the total world's steam tonnage of 54,217,000 gross tons, there is, eliminating wooden vessels altogether, 11,703,000 gross tons of shipping afloat more than there was in 1914, notwithstanding the tonnage lost during the war. The approximate increase that would have occurred normally during this period of seven years is 15,000,000 gross tons—that is, on the assumption that there had been no war and no substantial increase in the shipbuilding plants of the United States. It will, therefore, be seen that there has been no over-production in the ordinary sense of the expression. Furthermore, these figures include a number of old vessels which, in the ordinary course of events, would have passed into the shipbreakers' hands long ago, and which have only been kept in service owing to the fact that during the war any seaworthy vessel, however old, could find employment. It is fairly safe to say that these vessels will never again be put into commission unless under exceptional circumstances, as the cost of repairs and surveys would exceed their value when completed. Vessels on the register of over 25 years of age represent 5,757,175 gross tons, of which 4,055,847 are owned abroad and 1,701,328 are owned in the United Kingdom. If for the purposes of estimating the effective world tonnage these are disregarded we arrive at an increase of 5,945,825 gross tons over 1914. Of this increase, however, 2,940,000 gross tons are represented by the increase in bulk oil carriers, and while to some extent these may displace coal carrying, for ordinary general purposes of the world's trade, it may be said there are, in effect, only 3,005,825 gross tons more of serviceable vessels afloat to-day than there were in 1914. Notwithstanding these figures, there is laid up in the world's ports an amount of tonnage which was recently estimated at round about 10,000,000 tons. It follows, therefore, that the principal cause of the decline in freights is due not so much to the over-production of tonnage as to the falling off in the world's overseas trade, and, so far as shipowners are concerned, I can only see one practical thing to be done, and that is to reduce operating costs to such a level as will help forward a revival of international trade. Seamen's wages have already been reduced by mutual agreement; we have extended our self-insurance arrangements in order to minimise the expenditure on insurance premiums, while coal has been decontrolled and has come down in price, but still not far enough.

PORT CHARGES IN THE U.K. AND ON THE CONTINENT.

There is, however, very great room for improvements and economies in ports both at home and abroad. In many cases the cost of handling vessels in port shows very little diminution from the height of the war period, and I can only say that those ports which are backward in putting their house in order will find that they will gradually be avoided by shipping in favour of other ports where more reasonable charges are made, where better despatch can be relied upon, and where there is more strict supervision by the authorities to prevent pilferage of cargo.

A comparison between Northern Continental and United Kingdom ports in respect to despatch and expenses is all in favour of the former. This means that a vessel can earn more money by trading to the Continent, and that unless the conditions are remedied sooner or later a higher freight will be asked to English ports, with a consequential effect upon the cost of living.

TRADE CONDITIONS.

I have mentioned what we as shipowners are doing to reduce costs, but still there is not nearly enough overseas business being

done to keep all our vessels fully and profitably employed. Before there can be any real industrial revival there must be increased and cheaper production at home, so that we may be able to send our coal and manufactures abroad in competition with other nations in sufficient quantities to enable us to purchase food and raw materials, and incidentally keep our ships employed, thereby creating an invisible export of service which has always helped to restore the balance between our normal excess of imports over exports. As I have on previous occasions pointed out, the Board of Trade imports are calculated upon a c.i.f. basis, whereas the exports are calculated upon an f.o.b. basis, and, therefore, to the extent that a portion of our imports have been carried by British vessels, and the freight included in the Board of Trade import figures has been earned by British vessels, the adverse balance of trade is reduced. Over and above this, however, British vessels have for many years carried on a large foreign trade, and as the earnings of these vessels are not shown in any Board of Trade statistics, they are apt to be overlooked. None the less, it is worth while recalling the fact, in view of the great bearing it has upon the value to the nation generally, of the existence of a large and successful mercantile marine. At the present time, when it is practically impossible for any purely freight vessels to earn more than a very bare profit at the best, our ships are contributing comparatively little towards the invisible exports. Two years ago, when dealing with this subject, I estimated the gross freights of British shipping at £350,000,000 to £400,000,000. Applying the same method of calculation this year, and making allowance for paid-up vessels, the earnings would be about £60,000,000 to £70,000,000, from which, however, should be deducted the coal purchased abroad during the coal strike, and the joiners' work effected abroad owing to the joiners' strike. When allowance is made for these two items, I fear there will not be much surplus. On the £60,000,000 to £70,000,000 as a contribution to our invisible exports. This figure, I would emphasise, is not profit, because expenses and depreciation have to be provided out of it.

PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

As to the outlook for the current year, the rôle of prophet is always a thankless one—never more so than under conditions now existing, when there are so many unknown factors at work. A prudent traveller across the desert has his baskets full of bread and his bottles filled with water. The policy of your board has in the past always been a conservative one, and we are well equipped to face whatever the future has in store, as you will see from our balance-sheet that we have absolutely clear decks, with no debenture or other charges upon our property.

It is no use disguising the fact that shipping has a difficult period to face, and it will take a good deal of time and patience before all our difficulties are overcome. With the wonderful natural resources which we as a nation possess, with the commonsense which has invariably triumphed over our past difficulties, and with a broad-minded understanding between Capital and Labour, I believe ultimately we are capable of regaining our erstwhile commercial supremacy which will reflect itself in our particular industry. But, to use a rowing expression, every man in the boat must pull his full weight, and the principle of *ca' canny* must be left behind as one of the spectres of the past.

It has been my custom at these annual gatherings to refer to our various associated and subsidiary undertakings. But time would fail me were I to speak in detail of the vast interests with which we are connected, most of which are known to you without mentioning them all in detail. Suffice it to say that they are all in a strong position, and have shown satisfactory results during the period under review.

Next year when we meet together I hope it will be possible to entertain you in our new offices. Building operations have been most disappointingly delayed, but we now have every hope of getting into our new home early in the new year, where most of our associated companies in London will be under one roof. This will enable us to effect concentration in management as well as increase the general efficiency of our organisation by the consolidation that will then be possible. It is again a pleasure to me to place on record the loyalty, efficiency, and zeal of all our officials and staffs, both at home and abroad.

Mr R. E. Burnett seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

It was moved by Mr W. H. Beckingham, seconded by Mr R. J. Thompson, and resolved:—"That the retiring directors, Sir Frederick Wm. Lewis, Bart., Sir John Esplen, Bart., K.B.E., Sir Osborn G. Holmden, K.B.E., and Mr R. I. Dodsworth, O.B.E., be re-elected."

The auditors, Messrs W. T. Walton and Son, were re-elected. A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff was proposed by Mr G. A. Harradon, of Liverpool, seconded by Mr Walter Lee, of Newcastle, and carried unanimously.

The Chairman having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated.

MITCHELLS AND BUTLERS, LIMITED.

TAXATION'S EFFECT ON THE INDUSTRY.

PROHIBITIONISTS METHODS TO ATTAIN THEIR END.

BISHOP OF OXFORD'S BILL CRITICISED.

The thirty-fourth annual general meeting of the shareholders of this company was held at the White Horse Hotel, Birmingham, on the 18th inst., under the presidency of Mr W. Waters Butler.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Ladies and gentlemen,—It is, I am glad to say, a very rare occurrence for the board to present, as it does this year, a balance-sheet to the shareholders showing a lower profit than that of the preceding year. I have no doubt you would like some information as to the reasons for such a result, which coincides to some extent with the experience of other brewing undertakings and industrial concerns presenting balance-sheets of a similar trading period to that covered by our accounts. The causes for the check upon our usual advancement in profit are the onerous and unexpected impositions of the Budget of April, 1920, coupled with controlled retail prices, high costs of production both from the point of view of brewing materials and labour, but mainly the general trade depression prevailing since the end of the year 1920, accentuated by the miners' strike.

1920 BUDGET'S EFFECT ON THE COMPANY.

It must be remembered that we are not only wholesale brewers, bottlers, maltsters, and wine and spirit merchants with a big turnover, but that we also carry on a huge retail business in our managed houses, which now number nearly 700, by far the largest number of directly managed licensed houses connected with any company in the United Kingdom. So that the Budget not only affected our wholesale, but also our retail profits.

Any excess profits which may have been made by the wholesalers and retailers of the licensed trade were most certainly by the Budget of 1920 wholly transferred to the Exchequer in the form of permanent taxation, so that the announcement of the abolition of the Excess Profits Duty brought no relief or gain to brewers and retailers. The present onerous duties are most unfair to the consumers of alcoholic beverages. It is a scandal that the so-called Drink Bill annually put forward by the Prohibitionist Party as representing so much wasted expenditure does not honestly set out how much of that expenditure represents taxation contributed to the revenue, and thereby lightening the burden upon abstainers. This Drink Bill, to my mind, plainly indicates that the people of this country look upon alcoholic beverages not as luxuries, but as very costly necessities, otherwise they would not expend so much upon them. Indirect taxation is always unfair in its incidence; it may be easy to collect, but to a taxpayer it is a much more costly method of making a payment to the revenue than through direct taxes.

Our total brewing costs per barrel last year were the highest in our experience.

No doubt, with depressed trade we shall have to meet with more intense competition, but our policy will be to meet that competition, not by a poor article and a reduced price list, but by appealing to the consumer through the quality of the article offered to him.

The company owns through its licensed houses nearly 1,300 distributing centres, mainly in the Midlands, in each of which the same qualities of goods are sold at uniform prices.

RETAIL PRICES AND BEER AND SPIRIT DUTIES.

Freedom from Government Control will afford an opening for giving the public better quality beverages, but not a reduction in retail prices, which is not possible in consequence of the high prices prevailing to-day being mainly made up of enormous and inequitable amounts of taxation imposed upon the consumer of alcoholic beverages.

The high beer and spirit duties, and not the costs of production, will control the retail prices of such beverages. Consumers should realise this fact, and strongly protest against such excessive and inequitable taxation. The revenue figures plainly indicate that the tax-yielding capacity of such beverages has been exceeded, and the impositions are having a prohibitive effect, although the Chancellor of the Exchequer, when imposing the duties, plainly indicated that they were not intended to do so.

As you will see from the report, we have now concentrated the whole of the brewing operations at Cape Hill, which, fortunately, we were able to do by making full use of our new brewery, which I think we can rightly claim to be the most modern in the United Kingdom.

PROSPECTS FOR CURRENT YEAR.

As to trading prospects during the current financial year, it is impossible to say with the general trade depression still prevailing what may be the results, but it is certain that with any trade improvement our rate of profit will advance at a greater pace than is usual with most brewery companies, seeing that we are not only large wholesalers, but also big retailers through our managed houses, and consequently we get an advance in the two trading profits. Here let me say that, while generally speaking, no brewery company has a better group of tenants, we have always favoured the managerial system, particularly in connection with our larger properties, for which in these days of harassing legislation suitable persons with adequate capital are not applicants for tenancies. Our preference for this policy is not because we make a retail as well as a wholesale profit, in the place of a rent and wholesale profit when a house is tenanted, but that when managing houses we can make more certain of our patrons obtaining their supplies of goods in the best condition, can regulate our trading operations so that prices and qualities are uniform, and at short notice can bring into early operation any regulations desired by the licensing justices or ourselves in connection with the proper conduct of licensed premises.

I desire that my remarks shall not be construed as casting any slur upon our tenants or those of any other brewery, but on more than one occasion I have been greatly annoyed by, and have strongly resented, the one-sided statements which have been put before magistrates in condemnation of the managerial system.

NEW LICENSING LEGISLATION.

A Licensing Bill which represented the agreed views of the wholesale and retail sections of the licensed trade as to the licensing conditions which should come into force on the termination of the Central Control Board's regulations was introduced by Colonel Gretton.

A MOVING APPEAL.

A moving appeal by the Attorney-General, framed in the most persuasive language, brought about the withdrawal of the Bill, he stating that, while the Government recognised the Bill had its good points, it was anxious to present to the House an agreed measure.

Shortly afterwards the Government set up a Committee composed of 18 members of the House of Commons, which might be looked upon as representing the contending parties, and diluted down with others who might be looked upon as holding impartial views. This Committee held several meetings, but not taking outside evidence, and finally presented a report to the Government which for some unknown reason was never made public, and, consequently, what measure of agreement among the members of the conference was arrived at is not known, but it resulted in the Government bringing forward the Licensing (No. 2) Bill, which probably will become an operative Act from September 1st next.

But one cannot help feeling that the great blot on the Act is that in Monmouthshire the inhabitants of that English county have had "Sunday closing" imposed upon them, which must result in great inconvenience to them, and inflict great loss upon the licensed traders, for whom no compensation whatever is provided.

CENTRAL CONTROL BOARD.

The Act will put an end to all the regulations of the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic), and terminate the life of that body, of which I have been a member during the past five and a-half years. I shall welcome my release, and while it has not been altogether an enviable position, I have enjoyed the work, and have gained useful experience from it. I fear there will not be many mourners at our funeral, but notwithstanding the pleasure that our approaching demise appears to afford, I have no hesitation in saying that during the Board's existence, particularly in war-time, it counteracted the clamour of the extremists of the teetotal party, who would have taken advantage of the war—as was done in America—to inflict Prohibition upon this country.

My own work on the Board has been closely connected with what are known as the Direct Control Undertakings, of which Carlisle is the chief example. I am confident that out of the so-called "Carlisle experiment" much has been learned in the direction of true temperance reform. In the face of the declarations which have been made repeatedly by the prominent citizens of Carlisle as to the good effects brought about by the scheme, one

cannot imagine that the inhabitants of Carlisle will be parties to it being "scrapped," and the properties returned to private ownership.

The new Act brings about a variation in the hours of trading, and gives the power to Licensing Justices to allocate the permitted hours in their respective districts, and it is anticipated they will fix such hours as will meet the requirements of the public.

TEETOTAL PARTY'S ACTIVITIES.

Whether the public will consider their liberties have been unreasonably curtailed time will prove, but we are already warned by the teetotal party, as plainly indicated during the discussion on the Bill, that they do not look upon it as in any way representing a compromise, but only as an instalment towards the total suppression of the consumption of alcoholic beverages—which is their ultimate object.

To attain this end a vigorous campaign, promoted by a religious body, is to be carried on during the next five years, and a big fighting fund is being raised for the purpose. No doubt all the fervour of a religious movement will be engendered, and even used in an unchristianlike manner if compliance is made to the demand of the United Kingdom Alliance as set out in its official organ of last month, where, in an article headed "The Church and the Liquor Traffic," men and women are taunted with outwardly professing the Christian faith while still consuming alcoholic beverages, and it is laid down as a duty that "every Christian minister is bound to make plain beyond all possibility of mistake to every member of his congregation the full and far-reaching responsibility which such member is incurring if he takes and continues to take 'intoxicants.'"

THE CHURCHES AND LIQUOR TRADE.

The article goes on to call attention to the fact that great Churches have closed the door to office in the Church to persons actively engaged in this trade, and appears to lament the fact that this practice—this despicable practice—is not universal.

Such views one cannot imagine are approved of by the heads of our Christian Churches, and can only be the outpouring of fanatical and hypocritical minds who appear to belong to that group of persons who thank God they are not as other men. The spirit of Christianity will certainly not be advanced by such actions, and if, as is suggested, that every pulpit on a given Sunday should be used for propagating such vile suggestions and encouraging congregations to treat a section of their fellow men and women, and even children, as social lepers, one must not be surprised if we continue to read of the decreasing attendances at our Churches, Chapels, and Sunday Schools, for no Church worthy of the name can be expected to thrive upon the foundations of such teachings.

PROHIBITIONIST PARTY'S TEMPERANCE REFORM POLICY.

It appears that the Prohibitionist party in this country is endeavouring, as it did in America, to use the Christian Churches as a cat's paw to attain its desired end, regardless of what injury it might inflict upon those Churches in so doing. There are signs that the Christian Churches are to be bullied by the Prohibitionist party when they depart from the line laid down by it. I should not be surprised that very soon we shall find that some of those Churches are banned by the United Kingdom Alliance, just as it suggests the licensed trader should be treated by the Churches, for I see in the official organ of that body a plan of agreement to secure Temperance Reform in England, issued by the Temperance and Social Welfare Committee of the Wesleyan Church, is severely criticised because the Committee do not propose the wholesale confiscation of a trader's belongings, and do not carry out what the official organ of the Alliance commands to the Christian Church to do, viz., that when it stretches out its hand to the trade it "must hold a sword and not a purse," which is an advancement upon the methods of the highwayman by demanding not only your money but also your life.

For the same reasons, it condemns the Bishop of Oxford's Bill, known as the Liquor (Popular Control) Bill, which was introduced in the House of Lords a few weeks ago, not with the object of making it an Act, for, as its author stated, his intention was not to proceed with the Bill even if it obtained a Second Reading—the motion for same was Negative,—but he introduced it for the purpose of affording the community an opportunity of understanding precisely what the proposal was, and also for securing discussion and conference with representatives of the various interests concerned, in the hope that an agreed policy might be arrived at, and the ultimate result be the production of an agreed Bill.

BISHOP OF OXFORD'S BILL EXPLAINED.

Candidly, I fear the Bishop of Oxford has a long way to go before he will get all interests concerned to agree to a Bill framed on his present proposals, and it is certain he will not get the licensed trade to be parties to such an agreement without a large measure of amendment. Still, I must candidly confess that, in

my opinion, the Bill appears to be an honest endeavour to please all the contending parties, with the usual result, I fear, of satisfying no one. It appears to me to be a conglomeration of every proposal which, as far as I can remember, has ever been put forward in connection with licensing reform, from "No Change" down to "No Licence," but the aim of the authors has been so skilfully obscured that it is difficult to find out what is the ultimate result it is hoped to attain.

The Bishop has stated that the fundamental principle which underlies the Bill is that areas should determine for themselves the manner in which, and the extent to which, the liquor trade would be carried on, which would give to localities the right to choose one of three options:—

1. "To leave the present system untouched."
2. "Prohibit altogether the issue of licences."
3. "To take the ownership and management of the trade completely out of the range of private enterprise, and entrust it to what is called 'disinterested management.'"

It is estimated that the cost of polling the whole of England, on the basis of the expenses incurred in Scotland last year, would be £250,000, which would have to be borne by the ratepayers of the various polling districts.

I will not trouble you with my views, which are well known to you, upon local veto and prohibition. It is generally agreed that prohibition does not appeal to the majority of the inhabitants of this country, and prohibition in patches, which might be brought about by a Local Veto Act in areas where drunkenness was practically non-existent, is certainly not a solution of the temperance problem, seeing that it would in such areas only cause irritation, inconvenience, and evasion of the law, and create in adjoining so-called "wet" areas conditions far more likely to bring about an increase, rather than a decrease, of drunkenness.

COMPENSATION UNDER "NO LICENCE" AND "STATE PURCHASE."

What I think, however, will interest the shareholders of brewery companies is to know, in the event of a "no licence" or "State purchase" resolution having been carried, upon what basis they would have been compensated for their loss under either resolution. In the case of "no licence" areas, no compensation in any form would have been paid if such a resolution were passed at the fifth or any subsequent poll. This was an attempt to again introduce a "time limit" to compensation for the trade, which Parliament rejected in 1908, and which all honest men ought to oppose, for if the principle of a "time limit" to ownership is ever accepted, no property of any kind would be free from spoliation. No provision was made for compensation to be paid to a brewery firm suffering loss through a number of its licensed properties having to cease trading under a "no licence" vote. One can readily realise how such severance might render a brewery practically valueless, or so cripple its trading operations that it could be carried on only at a great loss. The compensation for licences suppressed (for the buildings would not be taken over under a "no licence" resolution) was to vary from 12 years' purchase to two-thirds of the average annual net profits, or equal to eight years of the net profits, down to two years' purchase of the net profits, according to whether a "no licence" resolution is passed at the first or the fourth poll. Clubs also were to receive compensation, although not to be called upon to contribute to the compensation fund.

In the case of a "State purchase" resolution having been passed, breweries, licences, and properties could be acquired at diminishing values from 12 years' purchase, down to a minimum of three years' purchase of the average annual net profits, varying according to the poll at which it was passed.

METHOD OF ASSESSING PROFITS.

Under both resolutions the net profits would be the average of the annual net profits during a period of three years immediately preceding the passing of the "State purchase" or "no licence" resolution. From such profits would be excluded any sum which may have been paid in respect of excess profits duty, and no allowance made in either case on account of the acquisition being compulsory. Any compensation awarded would be apportioned among the persons the Commissioners decide were interested therein, and in default of agreement among the parties, the Commissioners were to determine the division of the sum awarded, and no appeal could lie from such determination. In making the division among the holders of shares, stock, debentures or other securities of a company, the Commissioners were to have regard to the annual gross income received by the respective holders during the "datum" period (generally meant to be a period of three years immediately preceding the passing of a "State purchase" or "no licence" resolution), having regard to the market value and the terms of redemption thereof, and the sufficiency of the security thereof, but were not to be called upon to give effect to the priorities subsisting under the regulations of the company or otherwise as between different classes of shares, stock, debentures, or securities.

Provisions were also made for compensating occupiers of licensed premises, and persons suffering pecuniary loss by the loss of any office or employment. Any capital sum payable by way of compensation less than £500 was to be paid in full; and, subject to the consent of the Treasury, sums in excess of that amount could likewise be paid in full, or in the form of 5 per cent. terminable annuities extending over a period of not less than 12 or more than 15 years.

PROVISION OF COMPENSATION FUND.

While the proposals in connection with the provision of compensation were totally inadequate, a most remarkable proposal was made as to how the funds for compensation were to be provided. It was suggested that the present compensation levy under the provisions of the Act of 1904 should be doubled in the case of "on licences," and that "off licences" (which to-day do not contribute) should pay an annual sum equal to the amount of their annual licence duty. These contributions to form what was to be known as a central compensation fund. To this fund were also to be contributed payments at the same rate in respect of premises in a "State purchase" area, any proceeds realised by the sale or other disposal of any property acquired by the Liquor Management Board, and the balance of the net profits of any business carried on by them. It was provided that if this sum should not be sufficient to meet all claims, the State should be called upon to find the balance, but the probability is that in the case of a deficiency the scale of charges imposed upon the trade would have been increased to meet the deficit. In fact, the Bishop in an interview seems to confirm this likely action, so that this so-called compensation takes the form of an industry being called upon to pay for its own extinction within a certain number of years, and that after a certain date it could be put an end to without even any compensation, although a huge sum may have been extracted from the trade before such date, and not made use of for the purpose for which it was raised. Because the trade contributes a sum under the Act of 1904 for the purpose, be it noted, of reducing

the licences in the area wherein the fund is raised, which, when so used, adds a varying amount of betterment to the contributors in such area, it is ridiculous for the promoters of the Bill to contend that it justifies the raising of a much larger sum without any undertaking to apply it in the area from which it is obtained, and leaving an authority free to apply it in a far remote district. It is as if the ratepayers of the City of Birmingham were called upon to contribute to a fund for street widening in Liverpool. Surely thieving does not become an honest act if the person robbed is called upon to make good his own loss. I can quite anticipate it being said that a brewer and licence holder would not have to find this money, but rather the consumer of alcoholic beverages, upon whom these charges would be passed. Even if that could be carried out, which I doubt, considering how to-day taxation forms by far the major part of the cost of such beverages, and makes them nearly prohibitive, it would be none the less wrong that such consumers should be saddled with the losses brought about by the actions of others, and for which they were in no way responsible.

I am still a believer in the "State Purchase" of the trade as a solution of the so-called temperance problem, and realise that the state of national finance is such at the present time that it is not a practicable policy to apply it to the whole of the country; but whether applied nationally or locally, I should strongly oppose any such method, as was suggested in this Bill, whereby traders would be called upon to find their own compensation, although I have at all times been prepared to support the payment of betterment which might accrue to properties brought about by the reduction of licences.

MR JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN ON TEMPERANCE REFORM.

One never appreciates merely destructive criticism, so while feeling that the Bill does not attain the Bishop's hope that it represents an agreed line of policy based upon agreed principles, and being strongly of opinion that there is much in it that must be unacceptable to the trade, yet it deserves our close scrutiny and consideration, for I feel that I can recognise in it the work of

well-known true temperance reformers, who, generally speaking, are broad-minded on this subject, and desire to attain their ideals without injustice to those interested in the licensed trade, and whose line of policy as set out in the Bill appears to exhibit so much the spirit of compromise that it may perhaps appeal to a larger body of persons than the unscrupulous methods of those to whom Mr Joseph Chamberlain referred when speaking in support of a system of "disinterested management," he said that "he had no sympathy at all with those who desired to carry out a public advantage at the cost of a private injustice, and who would be perfectly willing to be desperately virtuous provided it was at the expense of other people." Again, when speaking in Birmingham, he stated that, "so long as temperance reformers deny to a large section of the population, to all those who in one form or another are engaged in connection with this great industry, the rights of ordinary citizens, so long as they propose to take away their property without any compensation; so long the legislation of the future will be no more a success than the legislation of the past." How refreshing such words are, and how one regrets that in these days such honest and outspoken declarations are so rare.

NEED FOR DEFENCE MEASURES.

It has been plainly indicated by the supporters of the Prohibitionist Party in both Houses of Parliament that they do not look upon the Licensing Bill which has just become law as giving a satisfactory solution for the years to come, and that it is entirely inconsistent with the kind of promises which have been made with regard to the Government's intentions of legislating upon licensing matters. Therefore all connected with the licensed trade must maintain in the strongest form their defence organisations, and I appeal to our shareholders to discuss these matters with their womenfolk, as our opponents are relying upon a great accession of strength through the women's vote, which we must do our best to prevent by stating our case, and counteracting the plausible and often untruthful statements of the enemies of our industry. One must not be apathetic in condemning proposals which, if they became law, would inflict ruin on the many thousands directly and indirectly connected with this industry, which, as shareholders, it is your duty to protect to the uttermost.

I hope you will forgive me for again availing myself of our annual meeting for addressing you at such length upon trade matters. My only excuse for doing so is that my close connection with the work of our trade defence organisations—which were never stronger—enables me to fully realise the activities of our opponents, and the continued necessity for watchfulness to preserve, not only our property, but also to prevent the unreasonable curtailment of the liberty of the individual.

Ladies and gentlemen, with these remarks I have much pleasure in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet.

The resolution was duly seconded and adopted.

The formal business having been transacted, the proceedings terminated.

CITY OF SAN PAULO IMPROVEMENTS AND FREEHOLD LAND COMPANY, LIMITED.

RESULTS OF NEW CAPITALISATION SCHEME.

The ninth ordinary general meeting of the City of San Paulo Improvements and Freehold Land Company, Limited, was held, on the 16th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London.

Mr Herbert Guedalla, F.C.A. (the chairman of the company), presided.

The secretary (Mr F. S. Tompkins) having read the notice convening the meeting, and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: This is the ninth ordinary general meeting of this company, the last meeting being held on October 5th of last year. Since that date a great change has taken place. Instead of all the Ordinary capital being held by about 50 shareholders, we now have about 2,000 shareholders, because, by virtue of the scheme which has been carried out, the old shareholders have surrendered practically all their shares to the debenture holders of the company.

COMPANY'S FINANCIAL POSITION.

You will appreciate that it is difficult to compare the present balance-sheet with that issued on December 31, 1919. In 1919 we had the debenture holders and interest accrued amounting to over £3,300,000. This has now all disappeared, and we are left with an issued share capital of £2,000,000. Even of this amount 266,688 shares are held in trust, and are available for the benefit of the company. These shares, which were surrendered by the old shareholders under the scheme, were not distributable amongst the debenture holders, and are kept for the purpose of either finding additional working capital or for generally assisting in any scheme which may expedite the realisation of the company's

property. Further, our creditors at February 28, 1921, are reduced to £32,578, as against £106,032. In preparing the balance-sheet as at February 28th last we have set aside £75,000 as provision both for cancellations of purchases of land and fluctuations in the exchange value of the balance of our liquid position in San Paulo. Unless the land which has been sold falls considerably in value, there is really no necessity for such a reserve, but its existence will assist us in being able to maintain our reputation for fair dealing in these matters, so that purchasers will know that they will not be harshly dealt with in the event of their honestly not being able to carry out their engagement.

EXCHANGE.

With regard to the matter of exchange, as you are informed in the report, the liquid assets and liabilities in San Paulo are taken at the rate of 9½d to the milreis, which was the rate at the date of the balance-sheet. The present rate is just above 8d to the milreis, so that an actual realisation of this part of the position in San Paulo at that date would have involved a difference against us of about £25,000, which is amply covered by the reserve. Of course, it must be remembered that the debts are only recoverable over a course of years, and everyone is entitled to his own opinion as to what the rate of exchange may be when such payments are made. Should exchange in the future improve to better than 9½d per milreis, it will be a very good thing for the company.

Turning now to the asset side, we are enabled by this reorganisation to include the cost of our large properties at an amount of £1,754,478, as against an amount of approximately £3,275,000, at which it would have stood if we had taken the cost value as at the last balance-sheet and deducted the sales for the 14 months under review. At our general meeting in October of last year the chairman was able to state on the authority of the managing director that the value of the land remaining to be sold, according to the prices which have been and are being realised, would work out at a figure exceeding £4,000,000, so that it is clear that there is ample margin for the realisation of these lands at a good profit, even if this estimate is not ultimately attained. Land, like other security, has its ups and downs in value, but it is only right to point out that this particular property is building property, and is adjacent to the city of San Paulo, which is spreading out in our direction.

SALES AND DEVELOPMENT.

During the 14 months under review 260,331 square metres were sold, and realised milreis 2,298,325, as against sales during the preceding 12 months of 106,330 square metres, realising milreis 1,021,876. According to the reports from San Paulo, substantially higher prices were realised during this last period as compared with previous years. Since February, owing to monetary conditions, the sales have dropped by about 50 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period for the previous year, but your directors are taking steps to rectify this position by a scheme of finance, to which I will refer later. During all this period considerable progress has been made in development work, construction of roads and drains, and the provision of public utilities, such as water, gas, electric light, and sewerage.

The item for improvements, house property, plant, &c., stands at £64,561, and this figure has been arrived at on the basis of a conservative valuation. In the former balance-sheet the item stood at £114,826, but this included overhead and engineering charges, which were properly chargeable to this expenditure. These charges have now been eliminated, and only the actual value of the assets is taken. The debtors for land sold, house construction, &c., amount to £178,444, and, as I have told you before, this amount is payable over a course of years. We have taken it at the exchange of 9½d, but in the reserve on the other side full provision has been made for what we deem to be any possible fall in exchange. The investments since realised are taken at the actual realised value, £14,550. The cash at the date of the balance-sheet amounted to £95,544, and I think I may claim that, as the result of the reorganisation, we start with a very clean sheet and in a satisfactory position.

BOARD'S POLICY.

The main policy which we have to pursue is to realise our book asset of freehold land at the best price possible, and in the shortest period compatible with the attainment of this object. We do not desire to press sales in bad times, but we must be ready to take advantage of any turn in events. We possess an enormous building estate, and it is obvious that the present value of that estate will be much greater if it can be realised to advantage during a period, say, of 10 years, as against a period of 15 years. The present difference in value on this basis of realisation represents a very large amount, and it must be our endeavour to save this amount for the benefit of the shareholders. Now, it has been our past experience that the sale of land is very greatly facilitated when we have been in a position to finance the purchaser for the building or residence which he may wish to erect. Such a scheme will

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



necessitate intensive development, and absorb a great deal of our present cash, so that this would not be available for building loans, and we are, therefore, endeavouring to evolve a plan by which the cash may be provided from outside sources, leaving our company any residual profit which may result from the transaction after the loans, with interest, have been repaid. At present negotiations are proceeding with the object of securing an amount of about £250,000, to be utilised for the purpose of such loans. As the negotiations are still in progress, it is not advisable to go into further detail on the matter, but I must ask you to leave it to your directors to make the best terms possible in the circumstances.

Mr Leslie R. Vigers seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Aug. 22-Aug. 27th, were opened on Aug. 19, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £78,435,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 15s 11d will receive about 92½ per cent. and above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 3d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 14s 10.62d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Additional Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
July 22 (3 months)	50,000,000	123,005,000	4 8 3.31	4½	£98 17s 8d (Monday to Friday bills) about 80% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 11d above in full. £98 17s 5d (Tuesday to Friday bills), at 49½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 8d above in full. £98 16s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 94% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 2d above in full. £98 15s 8d (Monday to Friday bills) about 73½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d above in full. £98 15s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 92½% above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 3d above in full.
July 29 (3 months)	60,000,000	99,975,000	4 8 7.82	4½	
August 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	77,955,000	4 10 10	4½	
August 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	74,340,000	4 15 3.8	4½	
August 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,435,000	4 14 10.62	4½	

The amount to be offered next week will be £50,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Advances to Bankers.	Advances to Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
Aug. 26, 1914.	21,535	6,302	3,810	18,500	481	9.924	11,423
Dec. 30, 1915.	38,478	169	600	18,500	481	9.924	9,266
Dec. 29, 1916.	103,125	729	159	28,500	276	54,621	20,536
Dec. 27, 1917.	150,144	2,430	64	28,500	190	118,102	6,868
Dec. 26, 1918.	212,792	8,554	39	28,500	134	186,637	5,486
Dec. 31, 1919.	325,241	15,529	570	28,500	89	305,133	4,506
Mar. 26, 1920.	328,064	14,926	500	28,500	87	308,577	5,413
June 25, 1920.	342,310	17,143	350	28,500	83	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1, 1920.	335,021	16,524	250	28,500	89	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31, 1920.	356,152	17,122	250	28,500	91	337,537	2,802
Mar. 31, 1921.	335,372	15,569	195	28,500	100	315,370	2,961
June 30, 1921.	357,358	16,700	190	28,500	117	331,669	3,055
Sept. 29, 1921.	353,795	16,215	190	28,500	135	322,425	395
Dec. 29, 1921.	357,626	16,962	190	28,500	130	336,504	134
Mar. 30, 1922.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	139	311,334	141
June 29, 1922.	323,884	14,965	3,000	28,500	148	287,750	150
July 27, 1922.	325,214	14,802	3,000	28,500	147	288,736	130
Aug. 3, 1922.	329,220	14,918	3,000	28,500	146	293,038	150
10, 1922.	327,133	14,785	3,000	28,500	147	290,828	141
17, 1922.	323,241	14,896	3,000	28,500	148	287,011	116

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts	Expenditure
	£	£	£	£
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April.	£	£	£	£
Bank of England	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,203,321	..	..
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,363,097	..	..
Customs	126,800,000	45,904,000	2,635,000	2,113,000
Excise	196,200,000	62,875,000	57,094,000	2,084,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	9,000,000	2,205,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties	48,000,000	16,599,000	18,150,000	873,000
Total	281,800,000	124,577,000	873,000	679,000

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts	Expenditure
	£	£	£
Stamps	21,000,000	5,075,000	8,496,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	420,000	390,000
House Duty	..	..	..
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	106,164,000	96,631,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	23,844,000	82,379,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	3,850,000	200,000
Post Office	60,000,000	16,500,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands	650,000	210,000	..
Interest on Sundry	12,000,000	4,243,260	5,983,922
Miscellaneous	21,500,000	8,181,400	4,466,572
Ordinary Receipts	158,500,000	35,621,629	116,624,211
Special Receipts	1,216,650,000	331,693,289	456,493,705
Revenue	334,767,795	466,862,802	19,432,701
Total inc. Balance	..	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.	..	..	..
Temporary Advances Repaid:—	..	..	..
Bullion	3,000,000	1,020,000	300,000
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—	..	..	..
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	2,600,000	700,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	25,000	30,000	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	2,345,000	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—	..	..	..
By Treasury Bills for Supply	1,675,263,000	1,506,086,000	66,486,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1900-30	..	101,341	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	258,622	..
By National Savings Certificates	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	13,430,000	15,450,000	800,000
Under the Finance Act, 1920	..	950,000	..
By National War Bonds	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—	1,024,990	10,034,000	179,000
5½%, 1925-35	14,640,000	2,560,000	..
5½%, 1929	..	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	4,926,776	12,733,871	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances	466,574,000	451,141,000	20,500,000
Repayments—	..	..	..
In respect of Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	28,811	4,559	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	26,750
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	163,156	77,624	..
Total	7,520,893,633	2,463,422,195	108,458,602

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from	Issues.
	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£
Permanent Charge of Debt	24,500,000	6,302,877	6,823,893
Interest, &c., on War Debt	320,500,000	129,549,461	124,153,455
Road Fund	8,400,000	1,904,000	354,000
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	2,035,992	500,000
Land Settlement	5,000,000	1,495,968	2,839,924
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	748,475	818,041
Supply Services	758,932,000	236,447,474	240,664,549
Expenditure	1,130,204,000	376,474,147	377,307,771
OTHER ISSUES.	..	..	..
Temporary Advances—	..	..	..
Bullion	2,850,000	1,400,000	150,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904	84,909	84,909	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	2,890,000	..	315,000
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	2,600,000	700,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	40,000	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	25,000	30,000	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—	1,605,095,000	1,565,128,000	77,660,000
Treasury Bills for Supply	..	..	77,798,000
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	15,763,603	23,562,757	522,544
Principal of National Savings Certificates—	..	..	..
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	6,400,000	12,850,000	600,000
(b) Repaid otherwise	5,600,000	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—	..	2,480,000	..
5%, 1920	..	2,480,000	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	23,839,798	21,515,387	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	457,789,000	446,187,000	18,900,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	10,280,067	8,980,067	800,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4)	6,240,000	..	500,000
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	37,766	..
Balances in Exchequer—	2,518,011,224	2,490,314,257	104,437,411
Bank of England	2,024,214	Aug. 14, 1921	34,839 + 135,599
Bank of Ireland	857,591	1,108,075 + 56,000	39,300
Total	2,881,809	3,117,333 + 21,191	97,298

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in the House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, August 15, 1921.

A POLICY IN THE SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

owing to the very MODERATE RATE OF PREMIUM, is the ideal method of providing for

DEATH DUTIES

DEPRECIATION ON INVESTMENTS.

particularly in view of the Abatement of Income Tax allowed in respect of PREMIUMS PAID.

Example: Age 40 next Birthday.

The Annual Premium, limited to 25 payments, to assure £2,500, payable at death, to provide Estate Duty of £ s. d. that amount would be .. 82 7 11 Less rebate of Income Tax (at 3s. per £) .. 12 7 2

Making Net Annual Outlay £70 0 9

MAXIMUM Amount of Premiums Payable, £1,751

MINIMUM Sum Assured Payable, £2,500

Head Office: 6, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

LONDON: 3, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

WEST END: 17, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

Accumulated Funds .. £16,500,000.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square. London: 5, Walbrook, E.C.4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, August 17, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	145,034,040	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,584,040
	<u>145,034,040</u>		<u>145,034,040</u>

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities	57,740,435
Res.	3,496,908	Other securities	79,525,372
Public deposits'	17,285,264	Notes	18,798,915
Other deposits	122,546,676	Gold and silver coin ..	1,823,080
Seven-day & other bills	5,954		
	157,887,802		157,887,802

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Aug. 17, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,496,908	+ 21,295	+ 3,073
Public deposits	17,285,264	+ 973,561	+ 1,170,689
Other deposits	122,546,676	+ 8,550,129	+ 5,412,108
Government securities	57,740,435	+ 7,625,070	+ 788,940
Other securities	79,525,372	+ 1,581,725	+ 3,408,447
Reserve	30,621,935	+ 1,355,611	+ 3,935,423
Note circulation	126,235,125	+ 1,329,145	+ 1,390,215
Coin and bullion	128,407,120	+ 26,466	+ 5,325,644
% of reserve to liabilities	141%	+ 2%	+ 24%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve of Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£		%	%
May 25.	128,349,547	127,807,660	128,479,700	127,246,006	18,991,887	143	136
June 1.	128,353,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	141	135
8.	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,984,820	150,185,788	18,539,419	142	136
15.	128,375,126	127,491,195	147,029,814	145,488,015	19,333,931	143	136
22.	128,357,145	127,477,935	138,928,690	137,490,455	19,329,150	143	136
29.	128,366,727	129,006,290	147,036,431	147,030,762	17,810,437	141	135
July 6.	128,369,083	129,108,285	148,761,611	148,800,383	17,710,798	141	135
13.	128,373,661	127,955,565	154,629,219	153,615,715	18,868,096	142	136
20.	128,367,459	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,993,389	19,099,719	143	136
27.	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,809,758	121,188,923	18,536,693	141	135
Aug. 3.	128,362,661	128,693,174	125,027,712	124,027,712	18,536,693	141	135
10.	128,350,654	127,564,279	139,455,172	131,222,462	19,265,384	143	136
17.	128,407,120	129,335,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	144	137

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 30, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold	2,495,103	2,493,596	2,492,441	2,452,383	+ 1,507	221,775
Silver	623,662	623,233	627,539	602,066	+ 233	728,500
Loans and discounts	2,016,162	2,024,334	2,042,789	1,701,605	+ 8,172	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	344,475	..	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,211,375	4,204,081	4,160,065	3,982,089	+ 7,294	1,901,550
Deposits	1,060,881	1,231,302	1,030,076	970,204	+ 29,579	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

Assets.	June 28, 1921.	June 13, 1921.	June 28, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
Gold and balances abroad	1,375,129,587	1,376,343,124	1,561,542,370	- 1,213,537	- 186,412,783
Government loans and securities	1,757,596,565	1,680,442,371	798,405,604	+ 77,154,194	+ 959,190,961
Discounts and loans	776,401,596	788,185,150	671,205,414	- 11,783,554	+ 105,196,162
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,743,889,472	1,735,200,904	1,388,171,256	+ 8,688,568	+ 355,718,216
Government deposits	113,039,996	114,491,349	324,447,743	- 1,451,353	- 211,407,747
Private sight deposits	853,222,869	864,036,262	680,280,426	- 5,813,393	+ 177,942,443
Private deposits at fixed rates	816,242,461	807,000,601	466,333,250	+ 9,241,860	+ 349,909,211

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 2, 1921.	June 25, 1921.	June 18, 1921.	July 3, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1921.
Gold and silver	1,276,370	1,278,547	1,280,558	984,307	- 2,177	221,320
Discounts	57,144	38,475	33,344	324,093	+ 18,669	41,740
Advances	122,192	104,677	97,416	346,220	+ 17,515	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,173,107	1,124,169	1,073,140	1,258,380	+ 48,938	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,516,731	1,518,658	1,543,298	1,306,413	- 1,927	87,340
Private deposits	60,857	79,192	107,726	89,612	- 18,335	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 30, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold	1,091,554	1,091,557	1,091,595	+ 3	1,313,240
Silver	14,456	14,258	6,654	- 198	321,520
Treasury notes	3,900,631	5,397,594	17,648,143	+ 1,496,963	60,780
Bills discounted	76,226,535	81,117,496	42,242,412	- 4,891,191	945,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	77,654,880	77,390,853	56,060,462	+ 263,827	2,013,860
Deposits	9,571,940	15,824,156	12,975,818	- 6,452,216	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 10, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 10, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1921.
Total cash	1,339,819	1,412,359	1,235,550	- 72,540	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,222,201	3,317,563	2,856,933	- 95,362	418,400
Foreign bills	19,646	19,646	20,591	- 23	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,407,290	6,434,132	7,251,770	- 28,842	nil
Other advances	2,432,733	2,512,067	2,251,073	- 79,334	79,715
Securities	392,753	215,042	222,065	+ 177,711	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	13,982,643	13,927,035	13,854,014	+ 55,608	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,732,404	1,840,648	1,729,511	- 108,244	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 8, 1921.	Aug. 1, 1921.	Aug. 16, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold	605,963	605,963	605,963	636,339	..	163,092
Silver	11,005	10,792	10,997	15,912	+ 214	8,436
Depts. & advances	437,802	453,928	476,098	441,806	- 16,126	153,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n.	1,004,597	1,018,176	1,038,588	1,025,134	- 13,579	316,632
Deposits	57,041	59,514	63,235	97,504	- 2,473	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 16, 1921.	July 9, 1921.	July 17, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,630,222	..	..
Silver, &c.	527	515	..	+ 212	..
Discounts	108,213	68,190	23,394	+ 40,225	..
Government loan	10,170,453	10,084,160	4,100,645	- 86,293	..
Other advances	2,712,088	2,715,445	932,690	- 3,357	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,199,691	11,098,056	4,879,378	+ 111,835	..
Deposits	6,239,422	6,239,422	2,260,050	+ 16,434	..

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	544,456	544,442	544,386	542,166	+ 180	171,175
Silver	110,531	110,711	110,711	90,216	- 180	18,350
Darlehens-Kassen.	13,487	12,938	12,806	18,008	+ 549	..
Assets & advances	340,334	323,552	315,786	386,070	+ 16,782	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n.	889,331	913,601	927,041	113,859	- 24,270	275,925
Deposits	141,491	93,684	79,194	150,475	+ 47,807	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to July 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 31,778,000, of which Fr. 12,805,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 3, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	July 19, 1921.	Aug. 5, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1921.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	325,178	325,109	325,453	356,973	+ 69	332,650
Securities	595,306	581,803	567,287	586,011	+ 14,503	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n.	6,170,097	6,138,109	6,092,590	5,464,632	+ 31,988	934,150
Accounts	1,016,352	999,706	1,023,132	1,703,819	+ 16,646	112,125

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1921.
Gold	285,061	285,090	261,309	29	+ 23,752	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills	106,686	107,987	94,351	- 1,301	+ 12,355	112,172
Swedish and for. Gov. securities	14,850	12,688	45,351	+ 1,982	- 30,501	123,465
Discounts and loans	427,625	442,305	641,418	- 14,678	- 213,793	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n.	607,103	620,516	709,923	- 13,413	- 102,820	226,555
Deposits at notice	173,016	174,218	247,901	- 1,202	- 74,885	69,660

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	10,095	8,643	6,784	+ 1,452
Silver coin	5	5	2	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,130,524	1,285,576	1,309,331	- 155,082
Loans	462,895	470,554	505,728	- 7,669
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	54,107,281	51,183,028	50,435,263	+ 2,924,253
Deposits	8,380,822	9,696,290	9,168,689	- 1,305,468

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	..	..	..	..
Silver coin	182	182	184	..
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	11,786,730	11,717,780	11,597,743	+ 68,950
Loans	103,672	107,780	108,353	- 1,108
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	15,799,384	17,946,374	17,684,165	- 2,146,990
Deposits	3,532,371	1,320,524	1,547,684	+ 2,211,847

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Coin and bullion	227,564	227,564	227,840	..	76,644
Loans and discounts	306,152	326,726	361,559	- 20,574	88,470
Debtors abroad	18,741	10,209	36,809	+ 8,532	24,102
Securities	50,160	60,553	51,543	- 393	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	481,581	496,213	541,192	- 14,632	157,266
Deposits	75,256	67,910	45,752	+ 7,346	6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 7, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,292	147,295	147,379	..	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	33,136	34,233	60,200	- 97,000	28,533
Foreign bills	..	..	..	..	..
Government securities	8,707	9,095	10,499	- 338,000	8,816
Discounts and loans	415,110	440,179	430,314	- 25,069	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	420,946	418,400	448,018	+ 2,546	113,484
Deposits at notice	76,996	107,124	122,211	- 30,128	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 80 million crowns until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 22, 1921.	July 15, 1921.	July 8, 1921.	July 1, 1921.	June 24, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Govt. securities	13,18,58	13,76,19	15,24,89	14,79,32	14,43,72	+ 57,61
Other securities	1,35,59	1,35,39	1,35,24	1,35,23	1,38,43	+ 20
Loans	13,50,67	13,65,81	13,45,22	13,46,80	14,40,96	+ 15,14
Cash credits	21,90,72	21,50,36	21,41,81	22,03,14	21,03,12	+ 39,36
Inland bills	11,28,01	11,51,72	11,88,98	12,87,14	13,28,94	+ 23,71
Foreign bills	479	1,42	64	58	78	+ 3,37
Bullion	13	13	6	9	3	..
Debt stock	2,09,88	2,09,70	2,05,57	2,09,78	2,09,78	..
Sundries	28,31	31,35	33,51	58,27	52,99	+ 14
With other banks	15,24	18,05	19,29	15,12	14,67	- 3,04
Cash	35,02,33	34,02,91	33,69,16	34,69,54	30,45,27	+ 99,42
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital	10,79,00	10,73,76	10,67,72	10,65,56	10,53,36	+ 5,24
Capital paid up	5,51,00	5,49,69	5,48,18	5,47,64	5,44,59	+ 1,31
Reserve	3,71,63	3,71,37	3,71,34	3,71,21	3,71,10	+ 26
Public deposits	18,60,21	16,58,56	16,25,39	20,15,48	19,05,01	+ 2,01,65
Other deposits	69,52,45	71,14,59	72,40,69	70,83,95	67,55,33	+ 1,62,13
Loans against secs.	79,93	80,59	76,01	82,41	85,30	+ 66
Sundries	69,13	68,59	1,06,48	1,26,91	1,46,36	+ 64
The above includes—						
Deposits in London	..	£ 4,600	£ 54,000	£ 25,800	£ 21,800	+ 20,900
Advances in London	..	£ 575,300	£ 575,000	£ 509,600	£ 381,700	+ 381,700
Cash, &c., at other banks in London	..	94,903	113,463	116,443	90,649	+ 98,911

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.		Union of South Africa.	
	From August 8, 1921.		From August 8, 1921.	
	London on South Africa.		South Africa on London.	
	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.
Demand	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.
30 days	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.
60 days	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.
90 days	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.
120 days	1% dis.	1% prem.	1% dis.	par to 1% dis.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

		Par Level.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1920.	Rate, Aug. 11, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 11, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	6.25	3.97	3.98	3.82
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123.45	12.25	7.40	7.32	6.95
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	14.00	7.96	7.90	7.25
Stockholm			10.15	5.97	5.91	5.60
Christiania			14.25	9.61	9.69	9.25

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.		Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10.15	Sight London	Aug. 13	15.50
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25.25	"	Aug. 10	23.50
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	483	"	Aug. 16	87
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49.31	"	July 27	5.75
San Salvador	Pesos to £1	24.65	"	Aug. 10	7.90
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2.66	"	Aug. 13	201.65
Costa Rica	Colones to £1	10.45	"	July 16	16.70
Bolivia	Bolivianos to £1	12.50	"	July 1	14.75

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.				Australia and New Zealand on London.			
	Buying.		Selling.		Buying.		Selling.	
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sight	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cable	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
On Demand	99	99	99	99	101	101	101	101
30 days	99	99	99	99	100	100	101	101
60 days	99	99	99	99	99	99	100	100
90 days	99	99	99	99	98	98	100	100
120 days	99	99	99	99	97	97	..	..
5 months' sight ..	..	..	..	..	97	97	..	..
6 months' sight ..	..	..	..	..	96	96	..	..

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

		Rates, Aug. 2, 1921.		Rates, Aug. 9, 1921.	
		Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
London (cheque)	£1	1,485	1,495	1,485	1,495
Paris	100 Fr	3,100	3,200	3,100	3,200
New York	\$1	395	410	405	415
Stockholm	100 Kr	8,500	8,600	8,500	8,600
Copenhagen	100 Kr	6,400	6,500	6,250	6,300
Christiania	100 Kr	..	..	..	..
Berlin	100 Mk	525	530	510	515
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	650	660	630	640
Riga	100 Lrbl	85	95	95	105
Amsterdam	100 H.fl	12,900	13,000	12,500	12,650

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended August 17, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £26,466 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Aug. 17, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Aug. 17, 1921.
British West Africa	£ 26,947	United States	£ 1,318,605
British South Africa	782,458		
British India	610,015		
Total values of imports of gold	1,419,420	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	1,318,605

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write, on August 18th, as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,584,040, as compared with £126,564,510 last week. A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was taken for the United States of America. Gold to the value of \$7,500,000 is reported as having been received in New York—\$6,500,000 from France and \$1,000,000 from Uruguay. A discovery of

gold is reported in two widely distinct districts of the British Empire—namely, on Cariboo Island, on the north shore of the Great Slave Lake in Canada, and in the Australian Northern Territory. The following are the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of July last:—Imports, £4,226,266; exports, £5,686,534. From a commercial standpoint there is a gold par of more definite use than the Mint par, usually found in text-books. The latter is of academic interest, but it is not of practical utility. Take, for instance, the relation between the sovereign and the 20s gold piece. The sovereign is minted at 77s 10d per standard ounce, and the franc at 3,100f per kilo .900 fine. Hence the Mint par of the sovereign is 25.2215f. This calculation may be useful to fix a theoretical point (such as the duty under the Safeguarding of Industries Bill, should it become operative), but as a guide to exchange operations between the two countries it is irrelevant, and that for the following reasons—(our remarks refer to the normal conditions which obtained before the Great War had suspended the free export of gold from this country):—As a general rule, sovereigns only of average weight can be obtained for export—say, 3 per mille light. When sent into the French Mint a seignorage is charged of 6.70f in the kilo .900 fine—say, 2½ per mille. Therefore, an actual conversion of a sovereign into gold francs would probably only produce 25.0927f, instead of 25.2215f—the Mint par to which we have alluded. When gold coins leave a country for remittance abroad, they must be regarded as mere bullion, and any seignorage incurred when they were coined necessarily disappears. To obtain a par of real use to an exchange operator, we must find the relation between the bedrock price of gold in the London market and the bedrock price of gold in the French market (77s 9d per ounce standard, and 3,437f per kilo fine). On this basis—namely, 25.207f to the pound sterling—innumerable transactions have been carried through, and the movements of the French exchange, up or down, have been and doubtless will be governed. As exchange rises above or falls below this figure the possibility or otherwise of gold being obtainable—either from Paris at 3,437f per kilo fine, or from London at 77s 9d per standard ounce—has to be ascertained. If it were possible to buy at the bedrock price, taking the pre-war cost of transmission as 1 per mille, the gold points were 25.232 to London and 25.182 to Paris respectively. Hence, making due allowance for any premium upon the price of gold in the remitting country, this par of 25.207 affords a sound basis for calculation.

SILVER.

During the week the tone of the market has been steady. A fair inquiry has arisen from the Indian bazaars; China has operated both ways; offerings from the Continent and elsewhere have not been on a large scale; and the appreciation of the U.S. dollar exchange has militated against sales from that quarter. Imports of silver bullion from the beginning of the year to the end of June amounted to 24,933,171 ounces, and exports to 27,823,038 ounces—a net export of 2,889,866 ounces; that is to say, an average of half-a-million a month. When we approach the figures for the month of July a novel feature appears, for imports total 1,333,961 ounces, and exports 5,736,683 ounces—a net export of 4,402,722 ounces. This great excess implies a very important source of supply within the United Kingdom, the mining production of which has been negligible, and is incapable of any great expansion. If, however, it is assumed that the large supplies resulting from the reduction of the quality in the United Kingdom coinage from .925 to .500 fine are beginning to be placed upon the market and to form a considerable portion of the exports, the figures are not difficult of explanation.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA LTD.

REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL LTD.
CAPITAL AND RESERVE £4,265,000THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY
CABLED REPORT ON TRADE
CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA
COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED
ON APPLICATION

OVER 500 BRANCHES IN AFRICA

LONDON OFFICES:
CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON W.1 E.C.2
18 ST. SWITHINS LANE, E.C.4
WEST END OFFICE:
25, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W.1
NEW YORK · ANTWERP · BOMBAY · MAURITIUS

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	July 22, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,429	17,556	17,425
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,356	7,481	7,465
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,433	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,805	6,805	6,690
Securities (British Government) ..	835	835	835

The coinage during the week ending 7th instant amounted to 6 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 13th instant consisted of about 29,400,000 ounces in sycee, 25,000,000 dollars, and 470 silver bars, as compared with about 32,700,000 ounces in sycee, 27,000,000 dollars, and 670 silver bars on the 6th instant.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.		Date.	Silver.
		Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.		Cash, Per Ounce.
Aug. 13 ..	112 1	37½	37½	Aug. 25, 1915	22½
15 ..	112 0	38	37½	25, 1916	31½
16 ..	112 4	38	37½	24, 1917	44½
17 ..	113 1	38½	38½	23, 1918	49½
18 ..	112 6	38½	38	22, 1919	60½
19 ..	112 5	38½	38½	20, 1920	63½

NOTICES.

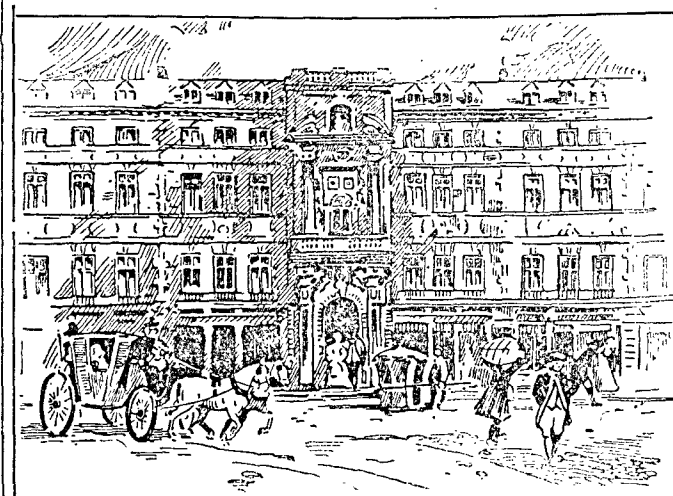
Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday next, August 22nd, a branch at 114 and 114A Queen Victoria street, E.C. 2, under the management of Mr G. F. Short.

The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, announce the opening of a sub-branch at Vrededorp, near Fordsburg, in the Transvaal, on August 1st.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Date of Div.	Final Date of Div.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	Lat'st Pre-Year, vious.
Railways.						
Cockermouth, Keswick, &c.	1*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Lanarkshire and Ayrshire	2*	Sept. 6	Less tax	..	..	..
Southern Pacific	1½%	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Southern Punjab	5 %*	Sept. 7	Less tax	..	..	..
Mining.						
Kinta Tin Mines	5 %*	Aug. 22	Tax free	..	..	..
Witbank Colliery	3/ p.s.	Oct. 4	..	..	..	..
Tea and Rubber.						
Besokei Plantations	5 %*	Aug. 25	Less tax	..	..	..
Bogawantalaya Tea	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Companies.						
Arnott and Co.	5 %*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Benn Brothers	..	..	Less tax	..	15	..
Brier Spinning	3/ p.s.	..	..	..	..	..
British-American Tobacco	4 %*	Sept. 30	Free of British tax	..	..	..
British Columbia Electric, Def. ..	3½%	Aug. 18	Tax free	..	..	..
Brompton and Kensington Elec. ..	3*	Aug. 24	Less tax	..	..	..
Caledonian Trust	25*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Coliseum Syndicate	2½%*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Consolidated Cambrian	6*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
D. Davis and Sons, Pref.	2½%	Oct. 1	..	..	..	..
Eastman Kodak	5%	Nov. 1	..	..	..	..
Do	10*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Hackney Empire	7½*	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..	..
Harrods, Pref.	1/9 p.s.	..	..	..	..	..
J. and P. Coats	6	..	..	..	18	16
John Hetherington and Sons	..	..	..	..	..	..
John Power and Son	..	..	..	..	..	..
J.P. Restaurants	4½*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Law Land	10*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Leicester Palace Theatre	1½%	Aug. 20	Less tax	..	..	..
Liverpool Gas	5%	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Maindy Shipping	10*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Manchester Hippodrome	..	..	..	..	..	..
Marconi's Wireless Telegraph	..	..	Less tax	..	15(t)	50
Do Pref.	..	..	Less tax	..	12(t)	47
Morris and Jones	..	..	..	..	5	..
North's Navigation Collieries, Pref.	10*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Penarth Pontoon, &c.	5 %*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Pim Brothers	5*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Plummer, Roddis	6	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Pullman Co.	2%	Aug. 15	Less tax	..	..	..
Royal Brewery, Breatford	..	..	..	..	15	..
Sawers	6½%†	..	..	..	10½	..
Scottish Northern Investment	10*	Sept. 5	Less tax	..	..	..
Sheffield Forge	..	Sept. 2	Less tax	..	10	7½
South of England Dairies	..	..	Tax free	..	..	..
St Augustine's Parade Hippodrome (Bristol)	10*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Style and Winch	1/ p.s.*	Aug. 22	Less tax	..	..	..
Swan, Hunter, and Co.	3 %*	..	Tax free	..	..	..
United Premier Oil and Cake Mills	12½%†	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Waste Heat and Gas	3*	Aug. 31	Less tax	..	..	..
Welsh Navigation Coal, Pref. ..	7½*	..	Less tax	..	..	..
William W. Nell	5*	..	..	..	..	..
Wilson Brothers Bobbin	..	..	..	..	15	..
Woolley, Sanders, and Co.	..	..	..	..	10	..

(t) Marconi Wireless.—Paid on a larger capital.



The Bank of England in its early days.

THE old wooden strong box for the "protection" of one's valuables—in vogue when the Bank of England was founded in 1694—has long since given place to the modern Safe and Strong-Room.

To-day THE CHATWOOD SAFE represents a degree of security far in advance of any known contingency, affording protection against Fire, Fall and Burglary, including attack by the deadly Oxy-acetylene Blow-pipe.

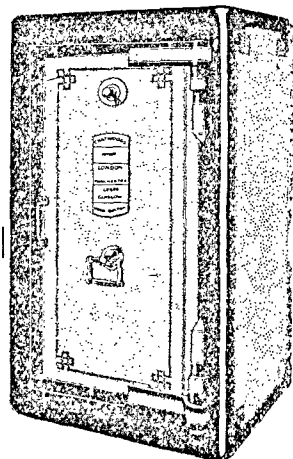
The Chatwood Safe Book should be in the hands of every intending purchaser of a Safe or Strong-Room. May we send you a complimentary Copy?

Since THE 1858
CHATWOOD
SAFE

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO., LIMITED,
BANKERS' ENGINEERS,
HEAD OFFICES AND WORKS · BOLTON, ENGLAND.

Branches:
LONDON: 56 Gracechurch Street, E.C.
MANCHESTER: Royal Exchange.
GLASGOW: 12 Greenlodge Terrace, Greenhead.

The
Modern
Stronghold



RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21.
Metropolitan District	32 weeks	Aug. 13	226,765	..	7,641,766
London Electric	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
City and South London	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
Central London	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
L.G.O.	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
Metropolitan Electric Trams	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
London United Trams	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
South Metropolitan Trams	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
Tramways (M.E.T.)	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089
Gearless Motor	32 weeks	Aug. 13	56,351	..	1,772,089

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	1,89,246	6,300
Barri L. Ry.	16 weeks	July 23	118	63,200	27,600
Bengal & N. Western	15 weeks	16	2,067	5,86,970	1,13,607
Bengal Nagpur	15 weeks	16	2,697	12,57,000	25,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	18 weeks	Aug. 6	2,871	16,02,000	1,35,000
Burma	13 weeks	July 2	1,342	5,35,838	1,07,703
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	18 weeks	Aug. 6	239	91,000	25,630
East Indian	18 weeks	6	2,772	29,03,000	35,000
G. Indian Peninsula	6 weeks	3	1,121	21,59,700	50,100
Madras & S. Mahr.	16 weeks	July 23	3,028	11,80,000	1,50,239
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	15 weeks	16	259	64,258	11,361
Do Lucknow-Breilly	15 weeks	16	302	78,765	26,748
South Indian	15 weeks	16	1,852	9,12,220	91,230
Sthn. Punjab (month)	1 mth	Apr. 30	717	8,92,857	79,688
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	6 weeks	Aug. 13	752	12,100	1,800
Argentine Trans.	6 weeks	13	1,111	1,785	295
B. A. & Pacific	6 weeks	13	3,428	142,000	5,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	6 weeks	13	3,891	165,000	30,000
B. A. Western	6 weeks	13	1,882	95,000	24,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 mths	June 30	190	25,000	14,000
Cordoba Central	6 weeks	Aug. 13	1,205	21,000	9,000
Entre Rios	6 weeks	13	811	19,700	2,200
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	6 mths	June 30	1,005	53,500	12,750
Gt. West. of Brazil.	32 weeks	Aug. 13	1,831	9,900	5,100
Leopoldina	32 weeks	13	1,533	36,402	18,223
San Paulo	32 weeks	14	1,533	32,477	23,030
State of Bahia, S.W.	7 mths	July 31	52	56,500	74,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	32 weeks	Aug. 7	838	14,110	34,070
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	500
Nitrato (2 weeks)	32 weeks	Aug. 15	366	12,077	29,663
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	31,558,630	147,980
Taitai	1 mth	July 31	180	9,173	16,350
Cuban.					
Havana Central	6 weeks	Aug. 13	1,210	10,871	2,206
United of Havana	6 weeks	14	1,210	57,435	45,986
Uruguayan.					
Central Uruguay	6 weeks	Aug. 13	273	20,828	1,302
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	6 weeks	13	311	3,665	704
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	6 weeks	13	185	2,038	905
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	6 weeks	13	211	1,953	232
Midland Uruguay	1 mth	July 31	319	12,766	4,077
North-West Urug.	1 mth	31	113	5,851	117
Uruguay North	1 mth	31	3	1,383	558
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	32 weeks	Aug. 13	33	11,000	1,000
Bilbao	7 mths	July 31	15	1,443	2,711
Bolivar	7 mths	31	136	10,111	126
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths	June 30	86	18,720	2,820
Costa Rica	12 mths	July 31	30	23,857	738
Dorada Extension	7 mths	July 31	70	24,000	4,500
Egyptian Dec.	32 weeks	Aug. 6	20	19,697	3,415
Gt. Southern of Spain	32 weeks	Aug. 6	104	1,507,112	69,978
International of G.	6 mths	June 30	Net	22,957	192
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	8,570	5,060
Mexican Railway	6 weeks	Aug. 14	403	266,000	1,000
Do	6 weeks	June 30	1,403	1,284,000	6,769,200
Nassaji Oscarhamm.	5 mths	May 31	Net	12,611	8,180
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Aug. 6	379	9,958	..
Paraguay Central	5 weeks	6	274	4,610	580
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	9 mths	Feb. 28	Net	2,311,374	414,841
Puerto Cabello, &c.	5 mths	May 31	35	4,500	500
Salvador	6 weeks	Aug. 13	100	2,371	810
Santa Fe Province	1 mth	June 30	..	132,000	48,552
Saragosa & Sanlúcar	7 mths	July 31	112	15,670	31,129
Zafra and Huelva	6 mths	June 30	112	12,630	440
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	32 weeks	Aug. 14	9,750	1,325,000	42,100
Canadian Pacific	32 weeks	14	13,402	3,745,000	238,000
Grand Trunk	32 weeks	14	3,516	351,064	12,424

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange. † Adjusted, April 30, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Argona Cent. & Hudson Bay	11 mths	May 31	Gross \$127,456	10,131	1,831,651	490,831
Canadian Nat.	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$4,606,800	242,000	30,381,800	3,770,377
Canadian Pac.	6 mths	30	Gross \$14,462,000	2,019,000	84,056,000	8,002,000
Grand Trunk	3 mths	Mar. 31	Gross \$1,278,000	95,900	3,772,200	1,522,000
Temiscouata	1 mth	June 30	Gross \$43,610	68,400	91,400	306,500

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21.
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth	May 31	810	106,776	16,593
Mid. of W. Aust.	12 mths	June 30	277	7,899	1,389
New Cape Central	29 weeks	July 23	205	2,486	511
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth	May 31	1,397	146,077	12,000
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth	July 31	..	11,529	..
Shire Highlands	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100	450
Nyasaland	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100	450

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
			1921.	1921.
Atchafalaya Topeka	5 mths	May 31	\$15,218,954	\$4,472
Baltimore and Ohio	5 mths	31	\$15,722,738	\$2,540,380
Chicago and Milwaukee	5 mths	31	\$11,059,949	\$67,822
New York Central	5 mths	31	\$25,566,190	\$682,636
Pennsylvania	5 mths	31	\$40,773,400	\$364,735
Southern Pacific	5 mths	31	\$21,345,217	\$262,332

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.	Total Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21.
Anglo-Argentine	32 weeks	Aug. 12	329	\$80,254	1,021
Burnley Corporation	1 week	13	12	\$3,407	414
Calcutta Tramways	32 weeks	13	354	\$101,839	7,327
Chatham & District	31 weeks	4	15	\$2,038	322
Egyptian Markets	5 weeks	5	..	\$1,743	331
Glasgow Corporation	11 weeks	13	99	\$43,087	347
Isle of Thanet	44 weeks	3	..	\$3,485	71
Lancashire United	32 weeks	9	39	\$3,494	389
Liverpool Corpora-	12 weeks	13	124	\$29,818	1,092
L.C.C. Tramways	20 weeks	17	155	\$98,793	7,350
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	32 weeks	15	..	\$847,984	3,584
Pernambuco Trams	32 weeks	14	..	\$3,453	2,364
Singapore Electric	26 weeks	July 2	..	\$12,748	8,711

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21.
Alabama Power	1 mth	June 30	Gross \$259,059	88,481	..
Barcelona Trac.	6 mths	30	Gross \$130,812	22,750	..
Bracon, Inptas.	6 mths	30	Gross \$2,912,556	388,558	18,100,834
Brazilian (a)	6 mths	30	Gross \$1,774,541	156,354	11,647,132
Calcutta Tramways	6 mths	30	Gross \$14,257,000	3,391,000	80,165,000
Chatham & District	6 mths	30	Gross \$7,803,000	2,007,000	40,825,000
Brisbane Electric	7 mths	July 31	Gross \$48,850	4,450	371,145
Brit. Columbia	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$750,907	40,697	9,504,071
Buenos Ayres La	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$165,948	21,534	2,471,909
Croze Trams	11 mths	May 31	51½	\$58,492	3,929
Burmah Electric	11 mths	June 30	..	..	..
Trwys & Light	11 mths	June 30	..	..	..
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	30	Gross \$51,218	3,804	..
Canadian Wstrn	9 mths	30	Gross \$825,836	14,821	692,665
Natural Gas	9 mths	30	..	..	..
Cartagena and	7 mths	July 31	12	11,936	2,228
Herrera's Trms.	1 mth	June 30	Gross \$21,900	4,400	..
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross \$3,030	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross \$1,208	..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	July 31	Gross \$658,671	1,419,248	18,503,064
Cordoba Light, &c.	3 mths	30	Gross \$23,147	3,108	68,766
Cuba Railroad	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross \$368,028	79,092	Dr 47,784
Elec. Sup. of Vict.	12 weeks	June 19	22	\$14,134	462
Havana Elec. Rl.	5 mths	May 31	Gross \$1,100,117	153,816	5,341,730
Light & Power	5 mths	May 31	Gross \$496,576	12,583	2,334,033
International	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$21,092	594	254,687
Light & Power	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$7,659	1,115	78,130
Kalgoorlie Elec.	4 mths	Apr. 30	Net \$2,398	..	7,617
Tramways	4 mths	Apr. 30	Net \$144,880	250	868,277
Keystone Tele.	6 mths	June 30	Net \$55,483	6,933	269,254
La Guaira Harbr.	1 mth	July 31	..	..	..
La Plata Electric	7 mths	July 31	..	..	..
Lima Light, Pwr	5 mths	May 31	Gross \$59,395	4,513	304,875
and Tramways	5 mths	May 31	Net \$20,116	823	104,284
Lisbon Electric	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross \$276,625	Escudos	1,810,051
Manila Electric	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$310,559	43,390	708,018
Railroad, &c.	6 mths	June 30	Net \$126,210	34,249	708,018
Mississippi Pwr.	1 mth	30	Gross \$192,146	9,557	..
Para Electric	8 mths	July 31	Net \$150,989	1,403	840,862
Para Electric	8 mths	July 31	Gross \$24,655	412	193,954
Rangoon Electric	6 mths	June 30	Net \$10,677	3,327	78,788
Shanghai Electric	6 mths	30	Gross \$136,635	16,933	838,676
Toronto Rly. &c.	6 mths	30	Gross \$1,225,701	11,289	954,379
United Electric T.	9 mths	July 31	Gross \$44,508	74,705	2,469,618
of Montevideo	9 mths	July 31	Gross \$42,411	2,764	418,827
Utah Securities	1 mth	May 31	Gross \$569,568	50,563	..
Victoria Falls &	1 mth	May 31	Net \$300,057	28,131	..
Transvaal Pwr.	Quarter	Mar. 31	Net \$172,390	..	..
Winnipeg Electric	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$432,894	25,269	2,790,670
	6 mths	June 30	Net \$130,515	11,712	803,819

† weeks return. † Converted at current rates of exchange. † Approximate receipts.

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month July, 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Seven Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.				
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	%	%	%	%	%
Allagar	260,400	359,250	350,450	..	..	124,500(5)	..	15	10	10	10	..
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,416,470	2,103,300	..	..	885,800(5)	215,500	15	17½	10	17½	..
Anglo-Malay	1,386,264	1,662,991	1,430,807	89,193	64,409	554,415	324,769	85	65	45	60	..
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	709,899	971,855	1,058,736	..	..	101,140(2)	70,462	20	30	30	30	..
Ayer Kuning	960,175	960,175	960,175	65,000	14,500	451,400	126,000	30	15	30	7½	..
Bah Lios (Oct. 31)	576,285	974,520	1,561,555	74,075	83,574	912,942(9)	157,065	5	10	10	10	..
Bajoe Kidool (Mar. 31)	709,515	941,776	1,026,504	7,037	64,473	223,405(4)	145,388	13½	25	20	..	..
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	230,300	18,300	1,600	..	..	25	10	5	..	..
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	445,573	474,148	614,867	46,600	11,586	515,797(12)	96,098	10	6	12½	..	..
Bantam (Java) (June 30)	965,374	749,146	913,616	..	..	607,081(10)	..	15	10	15	..	..
Batang (Selangor) (April 30)	407,196	348,145	571,712	..	..	466,691(12)	103,375	22½	10	15	25	..
Batang Consolidated	265,004	321,271	407,586	26,124	13,965	..	..	10	5	15	..	..
Batu Caves	531,504	675,534	647,153	49,504	9,167	309,515	42,373	210	180	110	150	5
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	40,500	29,500	301,000	160,500	50	35	35	35	..
Bekoh (June 30)	454,948	443,850	..	38,722	+ 21,082	..	..	20	nil	5	20	..
Bertam Consolidated (March 31)	1,007,358	1,534,416	..	127,000	13,000	..	..	27½	5	nil	35	..
Bukit Cloh	364,250	375,743	342,250	25,000	5,100	174,000	15,330	25	12½	53d p.s.	7½d p.s.	..
Bukit Kajang (June 30)	851,435	697,900	881,671	59,101	16,980	..	..	35	15	25	10	..
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	590,213	200,681	900,000	..	..	128,016(3)	101,179	15	10	12½	20	..
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	..	..	..	..	..	288,059(4)	120,059	100	50	150	150	..
Bukit Sembawang	630,289	1,060,000	1,636,320	107,000	47,604	..	..	12½	nil	10	10	..
Ceylon (Para)	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	81,598	47,336	472,421	175,992	40	25	27½	40	..
Chersonese	554,389	565,165	652,456	46,732	14,051	249,695	127,861	14½	6½	12½	20	6½
Cheviot	468,180	815,285	875,814	77,480	6,520	531,500	38,956	15	10	7½	21	5
Cicely Ordinary (March 31)	625,732	705,765	634,300	..	..	634,300(12)	64,169	140	75	75	60	..
Consolidated Malay	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	54,340	51,960	482,830	112,070	83½	50	25	37½	..
Damansara	640,882	748,935	801,897	54,402	8,598	391,968	63,197	65	40	28	32½	..
Dennistown	491,937	565,621	436,210	..	..	119,036(3)	..	12	5	5	32½	..
Djembar	329,691	451,577	650,000	..	..	327,500(8)	142,990	5	12½	5	12½	5
Dusun Durian	587,996	725,223	1,053,163	54,912	57,009	462,129	..	12	12½	7½	12½	..
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	238,518	434,740	27,000	20,000	..	..	..	..	..	1d p.s.	..	..
F. M. S. Planters	933,000	793,000	933,000	83,500	17,100	531,300	40,300	6	12½	5	25	10
General Ceylon	889,881	1,252,782	1,247,524	87,620	33,672	529,400	149,172	25	20	15	30	..
Golconda Malay	455,045	535,932	612,403	46,046	11,197	274,016	107,828	45	35	20	35	..
Golden Hope	290,571	376,849	461,824	21,917	22,975	135,901	124,633	25	20	10	25	..
Grand Central (Ceylon)	3,982,936	5,164,927	5,217,447	388,092	148,483	2,031,264	805,097	14	10	9	15	2½
Gula-Kalumpung	1,013,200	1,549,500	1,618,397	74,500	72,500	..	..	16½	16½	10	24½	..
Harpenden	315,736	423,423	454,956	34,500	..	183,700	102,358	16	10	30	7½	..
Highlands and Lowlands	1,123,778	1,504,374	1,553,919	108,000	19,959	68,283	21,616	38	17½	17½	30	..
Inch Kallang (May 31)	417,249	361,180	427,039	34,730	+ 2,540	63,440(2)	21,180	75	40	40	45	..
Java Amalgamated	663,661	937,688	932,212	55,700	32,516	516,654	123,761	15	nil	nil	40	..
Java Rubber Plantations	242,446	317,381	380,504	..	38,035	192,200	59,590	15	nil	10	10	..
Jeram (March 31)	200,219	319,403	294,240	22,500	6,932	55,750(4)	41,876	25½	10	10	25	..
Jong-Landor (June 30)	613,197	564,325	663,950	51,000	7,800	..	..	25	15	20	15	5
Jugra Land and Carey (Nov. 30)	..	2,457,721	..	..	46,522	537,035(3)	90,871	20	6	12½	12½	..
Kamuning (Perak) (June 30)	778,418	705,772	902,605	40,340	16,824	471,617	123,238	70	50	40	7½	..
Kapar Para	792,763	1,036,566	1,020,758	83,460	..	..	..	25	20	20	20	..
Kawie (Java) (March 31)	425,000	549,219	610,200	..	..	71,400(2)	35,700	10	5	2½	nil	..
Kepitella (March 31)	573,815	503,217	536,311	..	..	..	..	10	6	40	65	10
Kopong (Malay)	275,085	412,320	750,704	..	..	..	..	85	60	20	65	..
Kinta Kellas (March 31)	450,030	700,023	693,757	52,000	19,850	158,500(4)	109,752	15	10	20	..	..
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	1,627,748	1,579,662	1,709,537	116,000	12,700	..	..	45	15	20	15	..
Kuala Selangor	506,075	640,857	656,468	59,730	753	375,099	11,449	150	133½	62½	62½	25
Labu (F.M.S.)	700,200	1,133,792	1,120,230	80,300	29,400	565,520	50,680	40	5	20	25	..
Lanadron	1,121,352	1,245,745	1,451,209	97,437	32,000	606,092	173,594	10	5	20	..	..
Langen Java (Aug. 31)	639,281	700,222	812,728	20,600	..	432,576(11)	330,582	15	12½	15	7½	..
Leanghat Sumatra	635,002	467,930	520,000	30,000	12,500	..	..	30	15	12½	20	..
Ledebur	528,206	703,929	685,259	41,115	19,356	264,994	135,153	32½	20	15	35	..
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,782,052	2,804,900	2,804,217	..	..	647,689(4)	218,860	140	116½	50	25	..
London Asiatic	1,177,919	1,615,566	1,607,086	138,594	+ 1,261	889,781	115,447	45	40	25	35	..
Lumut (Sept. 30)	974,500	1,108,800	1,431,500	95,200	69,800	895,678(10)	274,272	20	12½	17½	12½	..
Malacca, Ordinary	3,250,604	4,210,746	4,084,666	..	..	1,181,940(4)	92,642	45	20	10	30	..
Malayalam	1,519,844	1,752,709	1,853,366	125,477	15,057	669,894	94,399	10	8	12½	5	..
Mendaris	543,014	1,002,567	1,416,558	65,500	79,523	155,280(2)	132,307	18½	16½	14½	19	..
Merliman	1,248,678	1,509,080	1,646,237	78,070	36,295	266,840	197,400	20	10	17	17	..
New Crocodile	525,830	625,750	625,750	43,785	32,159	175,325	175,901	13	11	5	10	..
Norland (Johore)	525,335	608,753	743,464	49,680	15,492	161,651(4)	42,850	30	15	15	25	..
North Hummock (March 31)	637,621	548,392	653,558	51,376	9,710	79,118(4)	24,513	16½	6½	10	20	..
Padang Jawa (March 31)	213,429	339,188	302,272	20,955	11,930	367,326	23,839	25	22½	12½	20	..
Panawatte	495,293	676,583	751,379	73,074	20,205	318,098	133,390	300	250	150	250	10
Pataling	507,813	725,278	707,538	48,003	41,357	435,110(10)	451,444	20	35	15	18	..
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	606,256	789,308	1,067,233	46,000	8,665	155,570(4)	44,407	37½	22½	6½	18	5
Perak Rubber (March 31)	425,796	578,480	587,101	52,062	11,529	176,470(4)	44,281	37½	22½	6½	18	..
Port Dickson-Lukut (March 31)	538,644	651,318	787,500	55,970	..	280,775	47,938	7½	6½	10	10	..
Ranpoun Para	339,443	511,142	525,355	7,725	..	..	..	16	12	6	15	2½
Rani (Batu Caves)	748,083	883,806	793,597	53,505	+ 6,373	274,697	60,891	16	12	6	15	..
Rubber Estates of Johore	538,832	677,548	722,340	46,706	12,619	291,055	126,510	20	20	12½	25	..
Rubber Estates of Krian	334,350	415,000	352,770	19,100	10,200	149,300	46,600	17½	10	5	12	..
Sampang Java	195,341	280,930	304,132	..	..	..	..	8	6	nil	10	..
Sapumalkandey	404,459	704,198	774,293	48,868	26,116	307,536	85,713	10	6	nil	10	..
Scottish Malay	434,880	701,873	691,722	39,076	17,500	290,228	101,308	60	40	30	65	..
Seafeld	800,024	1,147,553	1,116,012	80,889	20,811	463,952	231,906	65	55	35	75	5
Seaport (June 30)	401,149	397,500	506,000	42,250	1,410	..	..	12½	7	10	13	..
Selangor	683,028	888,308	810,764	57,227	19,379	373,838	131,518	216½	137½	100	10	10½
Sembilan (July 31)	471,080	463,173	630,552	..	..	391,879(9)	81,490	18	12	20	10	..
Serdang Central	282,238	432,034	404,731	18,000	22,252	177,000	79,525	15	7	5	12½	..
Seremban	812,515	1,073,723	1,105,163	47,466	60,222	482,193	140,579	17½	17½	22½	42	..
Shelford	264,053	343,279	360,915	..	..	50,134(2)	15,068	17½	15	5	15	..
Siak (Sumatra)	220,211	274,247	246,026	21,422	+ 5,510	158,768	16,537	12½	16	12½	25	..
Sialang (Jan. 31)	1,095,166	1,795,737	2,151,912	119,944	100,865	779,118(6)	285,510	18	20	12½	10	10½
Singapore Para (June 30)	561,915	486,964	567,675	46,451	+ 654	..	..	15	nil	nil	nil	..
Singapore United (June 30)	483,837	661,693	625,113	45,500	12,265	..	..	55	55	30	40	..
Straits Rubber	2,951,938	2,805,938	2,799,000	20,000	62,680	1,268,034	67,000(3)	25	5	17½	17½	..
Sumatra Para Consolidated (April 30)	704,490	544,240	1,197,000	70,000	25,000	..	..	41½	20½	20½	14½	..
Sumatra Para (June 30)	864,528	821,326	1,197,000	70,000	25,000	..	..	41½	2			

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	June, 1921.			July, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
Aurora W. United (10s shares) ..	10,640	£15,182	784	10,680	£15,823	1,284
Brakpan ..	53,700	£111,170	37,516	58,000	£121,717	44,397
City Deep ..	85,500	£201,944	60,843	84,000	£197,901	57,567
Consolidated Langlaagte ..	44,300	£67,905	16,782	42,300	£71,673	20,557
Consolidated Main Reef ..	49,200	£89,600	12,919	50,700	£98,232	19,761
Crown Mines (10s shares) ..	190,000	£54,337	14,952	201,000	£58,659	20,933
Durban Roadport Deep ..	27,000	£48,848	4,287	27,400	£52,554	6,578
East Rand Proprietary ..	123,500	£175,493	5,012	127,000	£190,423	15,091
Ferreira Deep ..	32,300	£56,420	12,646	32,300	£55,748	14,551
Geduld Proprietary ..	44,500	£79,889	26,534	45,500	£77,280	33,972
Goldenhuis Deep ..	45,600	£65,773	1,357	51,300	£74,135	7,713
Glyn's Lydenburg ..	3,385	£7,710	1,837	3,630	£7,153	1,480
Goch, New ..	17,300	£19,946	809	17,000	£20,441	1,203
Government Areas ..	129,000	£275,556	130,329	140,000	£297,622	150,286
Kleinfontein, New ..	48,900	£73,137	6,358	50,100	£75,752	8,918
Knight Central ..	28,100	£36,208	2,930	28,600	£37,531	3,787
Langlaagte Estate ..	40,200	£65,709	13,469	40,300	£69,991	17,726
Leopards Vlei ..	21,500	£26,866	3,328	22,500	£31,446	5,781
Meyer and Charlton ..	15,000	£41,056	23,671	13,500	£42,715	25,505
Modderfontein B. ..	57,500	£127,956	100,144	59,000	£183,824	107,166
Modderfontein Deep Levels ..	42,600	£127,180	80,108	42,500	£133,676	86,688
Modderfontein East ..	24,100	£53,281	12,604	26,350	£56,584	10,307
New United ..	96,000	£239,617	127,778	96,000	£251,062	141,853
Nourse Mines ..	11,200	£13,571	2,213	11,500	£13,536	2,292
Primrose, New ..	21,600	£23,814	2,671	22,000	£26,315	5,166
Randfontein Central ..	123,500	£201,427	31,322	127,000	£211,792	43,661
Robinson (E5 shares) ..	42,000	£42,002	2,494	38,000	£41,732	2,790
Robinson Deep ..	56,300	£92,242	17,764	60,200	£99,453	25,141
Roadport United ..	22,200	£24,434	4,425	22,600	£25,514	3,515
Rose Deep ..	53,500	£73,610	11,755	54,400	£73,938	13,116
Simmer and Jamieson ..	41,500	£74,873	13,851	40,000	£74,208	13,730
Spring Mines ..	41,500	£69,941	13,851	40,000	£74,208	13,730
Sub-Nigel ..	9,500	£30,127	6,419	10,000	£30,265	6,302
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates	15,590	£23,282	1,265	16,510	£25,878	2,454
Van Ryn ..	32,200	£49,225	11,170	33,400	£50,730	10,525
Van Ryn Deep ..	51,000	£144,526	75,011	49,300	£145,588	82,001
Village Deep ..	47,000	£80,695	10,721	50,000	£89,625	17,249
West Rand Consolidated ..	32,300	£48,802	4,509	32,000	£49,712	5,625
Witwatersrand Deep ..	37,400	£53,995	10,004	37,000	£52,862	10,014
Witwatersrand (Knights) ..	37,400	£53,995	10,004	37,000	£52,862	10,014
Woluter ..	32,600	£41,376	4,220	33,500	£46,049	6,824

* Loss. / Gold valuation, £5 6s 0d per fine oz net. £ Gold valuation, £5 7s 6d per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 6s 3d per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 6s 0d per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 12s 0d net per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 11s 0d net per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 11s 3d net per fine oz. £ Gold valuation, £5 12s 6d per fine oz.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR JULY, 1921.

Name of Mine.	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Mill.	Cyande Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Abantiakoon ..	7,200	..	..	..	12,476	..
Ashanti ..	7,077	..	..	..	6,085	25,852
Associated Northern Blocks ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Iron Duke ..	..	..	..	..	..	P 112
Oriental Consolidated ..	17,059	..	..	..	..	P 99,313
Victorious Leases ..	..	..	..	..	..	P 629
Associated (W.A.) ..	5,962	..	..	..	8,329	..
Balaghat ..	3,300	5,000	1,876	488	2,364	..
Blackwater ..	2,809	..	..	..	5,176	..
Cam and Motor ..	12,950	..	..	..	4,060	17,215
Champion Reef ..	12,950	17,038	3,994	809	4,713	2,878
Durban Roadport Deep ..	81,050	..	..	..	144,235	11,622
East Rand Proprietary ..	388,500	..	..	..	546,474	42,930
El Oro ..	34,500	..	..	..	£198,000	P \$50,150
Falcon ..	15,718	..	..	..	29,188	..
Ferreira Deep ..	97,300	..	..	..	168,617	46,809
Gaika ..	3,074	290	793	449	5,272	723
Geduld ..	134,500	..	..	..	238,192	82,187
Goldenhuis Deep ..	144,070	..	..	..	201,274	5,457
Globe and Phoenix ..	6,079	..	..	..	8,822	..
Golden Horse Shoe ..	10,224	..	..	..	22,906	8,853
Great Boulder Proprietary ..	9,188	..	..	..	28,712	..
Ivanhoe ..	15,106	..	..	..	5,634	..
Jumbo ..	1,500	..	..	..	483	793
Kelguri ..	2,570	..	..	..	4,298	..
Lake View and Star ..	12,550	..	..	..	12,559	Loss 726
Modderfontein B. ..	173,500	..	..	..	500,952	294,561
Modderfontein Deep ..	126,500	..	..	..	365,290	233,969
Modderfontein East ..	..	..	..	..	157,374	38,223
Mount Boppy ..	2,404	3,312	311	1,050	3,880	..
Myosore ..	17,090	42,919	6,576	3,941	689,512	390,374
New Modderfontein ..	28,000	..	..	..	217,889	22,747
North Anantapur ..	700	793	115	..	2,574	..
Nourse Mines ..	130,200	..	..	..	7,113	..
Nundydoo ..	9,048	14,272	4,581	756	11,409	4,177
Obbuss ..	901	..	..	..	212,236	P 6,181
Coregem ..	12,900	13,440	7,441	998	37,795	5,785
Oroya Links ..	1,330	..	..	..	12,982	..
Planet Areturus ..	5,840	..	1,022	1,667	12,488	Loss 106
Preston Block "A" ..	8,033	5,671	£9,720	..	£64,000	..
Rezend ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rose Deep ..	160,000	..	..	..	..	..
Santa Gertrudis ..	9,501	..	..	..	..	..
Shamva ..	54,150	..	..	..	..	..
South Kalgurli ..	7,857	..	..	..	..	..
Tombou ..	16,000	..	..	..	..	..
Transvaal and Rhodesia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tred Mine ..	1,550	..	..	..	4,400	..
Village Deep ..	141,600	..	..	..	235,401	32,465
Woluter ..	86,900	..	..	..	114,904	7,061
Quarter ended June 30th—	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brakpan ..	163,200	..	..	..	116,315	..
City Deep ..	251,500	..	..	..	566,127	203,423
Consolidated Main Reef ..	145,200	..	..	..	265,383	34,537
Crown Mines ..	570,000	..	..	..	842,925	158,707
Robinson Deep ..	176,600	..	..	..	43,530	..
Santa Gertrudis ..	..	..	..	..	2,671	..
Spring ..	127,400	..	..	..	107,665	..
Sub-Nigel ..	28,400	..	..	..	14,290	..

Tin.	Output.	Tons.	Other Notes in Return.
Bischof ..	..	35	..
Deebok ..	..	23	..
Ex-Lands Nigeria ..	..	64	..
Filani (Nigeria) ..	..	29	..
Gold Coast Consolidated ..	..	24	June, 13 tons.
Gopeng Consolidated ..	..	89	Est. value, £8,770; est. working costs, £3,350.
Gurum River ..	..	13	..
Heawood ..	..	..	Profit from tin, £12..
Idris Hydraulic ..	..	17	Value, £1,691; cost, £1,633.
Jos ..	..	22	63,900 yards worked, 635 hours working.
Kaduna ..	..	51	..
Kaduna Prospectors ..	..	13	499 lbs.
Kamuning (Perak) ..	..	74	..
Keffi Consolidated ..	..	23	Value, £3,675; gross profit, £2,100.
Kinta ..	..	35	Profit, £1,410.
Kramat Pual ..	..	53	Est. value, £5,165; est. cost, £4,283; tribute
Lower Bischof ..	..	38	profit, £181.
Malayan Tin ..	..	864	Value, £8,240; cost, £8,003; yardage, 344,000.
Mongu (Nigeria) ..	..	37	..
Naraguta Extended ..	..	20	Despatched 20 tons.
Naraguta (Nigeria) ..	..	50	..
Northern Consolidated ..	..	8	..
Northern Nigeria (Bauchi) ..	..	65	..
Pahang ..	..	203	Black tin; alluvial, 11½ tons; treated, 17,500 tons.
Pusing ..	..	..	Value, £292; gross mining profit, £117.
Rambutan ..	..	14	Est. value, £1,370; est. working costs, £860.
Rayfield ..	..	37	Shipped, 37 tons.
Renong ..	..	75	Despatched 4 tons.
Rukana (Nigeria) ..	..	4	Clean tin ore.
Siame ..	..	134	Shipped 16 tons.
South Boker ..	..	47	Est. value, £4,513; est. cost, £2,625; tribute profit, £405.
Sungei Besi ..	..	..	Est. value, £3,440; est. working costs, £1,800.
Tekka ..	..	37	Est. value, £2,740; est. working costs, £1,750.
Tekka-Taipung ..	..	29	Value, £3,150; cost, £2,625; tribute profit, £405.
Tekka Harbour ..	..	123	..
Tronoh ..	..	32	..
Yarde Kerri ..	..	6	..
Tanganyika ..	..	3,189	..
Copper.	..	..	..
Chinese Engineering ..	..	89,358	Sales of coal week ended July 30th.
Duker ..	..	34,543	..
Middleburgh Steam Coal ..	..	22,876	..
Natal Navigation ..	..	35,617	Profit June quarter, £32,000.
Northern Natal Collieries ..	..	14,615	..
Tweefontein United ..	..	87,849	Output Hlobane Colliery.
Vryheid (Natal) ..	..	31,400	Coal sales, 29,493 tons; coke sales, 14,419 tons.
Wankie ..	..	..	..
Akim Diamond ..	..	..	Washed 211 loads, yielding 148 carats.
Burma Ruby ..	..	..	58,000 loads washed, producing rubies value £5,390 0s; stones production, Rs.7,000.
Miscellaneous ..	..	..	Brick works, £5,094.
Vereniging ..	..	55,249	..

BROKEN HILL SOUTH.—Six weeks ended Aug. 13th.—“11,960 tons of crude ore and 14,832 tons of dump slime were treated, and produced 4,709 tons of concentrates, assaying 55 per cent. lead and 32 ozs silver per ton.”

CAM AND MOTOR.—Cable: “No. 11 level drive south entered ore shoot at 435 ft; average 30s per ton over width of drive 5 ft and at 440 ft 36s per ton over width of drive. Full width of lode not exposed.”

CASCALHO SYNDICATE.—Result of the clean up for the past four weeks:—“Treated 1,950 cubic yards of cascalho for a return of 387 diamonds, weighing 155 carats, and 32 ozs of gold. The diamonds have realised £775. One diamond weighing 9 carats has not been sold.”

NORTH BROKEN HILL.—Production for July:—“1,200 tons lead concentrates, averaging 65 per cent. lead, and 1,170 tons zinc concentrates, averaging 48 per cent. zinc.”

ONOVILLE DREDGING.—“Pato: Gross returns for 18 days to August 12th, £23,392 from 116,803 cubic yards.”

ROOIBERG MINERALS DEVELOPMENT.—July:—“Ore mined, 2,792 tons; total ore accumulated for crushing at a later date, 7,179 tons. Tons treated—Ore, 3,170; alluvial ground washed, 4,082. Concentrates produced, 50 tons. Expenditure, including realisation charges and exploration, £5,795; revenue, £5,184; adjustments, nil.”

SULPHIDE CORPORATION, LIMITED.—During the four weeks ended July 30, 1921, 9,995 tons of ore and 2,074 tons of slimes were milled at the Central Mine, producing 2,183 tons of lead concentrates (including 240 tons from the delecting plant) which assayed 43 ozs silver, 65 per cent. lead, together with 3,671 tons zinc concentrates, assaying 13 ozs silver, 6 per cent. lead, 46 per cent. zinc per ton. At Cooke Creek, 1,755 tons of lead concentrates and purchased ores were smelted, producing 896 tons lead bullion for treatment in the refinery. The refinery products for the same period were 1,314 tons soft lead, 138,151 ozs silver and 424 ozs gold.

THE MEXICAN CORPORATION, LIMITED.—Advices have been received to the effect that the first unit of the Fresnillo Mill, consisting of one-half of the plant, has commenced operations. It is anticipated that the remainder of the plant will be brought into operation in September.

THE MOUNT LYELL MINING AND RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.—The following cable, dated the 6th inst., has been received from the head office in Melbourne:—“From June 30th to July 27th, inclusive, ore treated by flotation plant, 5,276 tons; concentrates produced by flotation plant, 1,443 tons. A total quantity of 11,838 tons of ore was smelted, being 8,348 tons from the Mount Lyell Mine, and 3,490 tons from the North Mount Lyell Mine; also 1,072 tons concentrates. The converters have produced during the same period 450 tons of blister copper, containing: Copper, 446 tons; silver, 14,479 ozs; gold, 385 ozs. Furnace in blast 973 hours. Increased furnace hours caused by necessity running second furnace in consequence of furnace trouble early in period.”

WAHAI GOLD MINING.—Bullion Return.—For the period ended Aug. 6th, 13,950 tons of 2,000 lbs have been crushed, and 4,033 fine ozs of gold and 42,384 fine ozs of silver have been produced.

ZINC CORPORATION.—July:—“Zinc concentrator treated 33,860 tons of tailings, producing 9,195 tons of zinc concentrates, and 925 tons of lead concentrates.”

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for week ended August 10th amounted to 646 tons.

UNITED OIL AND REFINERY CO., LIMITED.—Throughout of refinery for July, 29,195 barrels.

BRITISH BURMA PETROLEUM CO., LIMITED.—A cablegram has been received from Burma reporting that the total production of crude oil by this company and the Rangoon Oil Co., Limited, amounted to 79,571 barrels for the month of July.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Amount.					Rate.
		£	£ Dr	£ Dr	£	£	%	£	£	£	£
Breweries.											
Seager, Evans, and Co.....	Mar. 31	31,777	152,607	120,830	..	10,756	5†	Dr 87,278	Dr 44,308	81,981	40†
Gas.											
Harrow and Stanmore	June 30*	7,636	5,812	13,448	525	6,247	5†	..	6,676	..	..
Leatherhead	June 30	326	Dr 297	29	..	819	1‡	..	Dr 790	1,197	3‡
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Walter Scott	June 30	49,474	32,508	81,982	18,000	20,625	7‡	32,531	10,826	105,111	12‡
Rubber, &c.											
Nirmala (Java)	Dec. 31	Dr 122	Dr 8,678	Dr 7,795	4,078(a)	..	..	2,000	Dr 14,872	6,155	..
Telegraphs, &c.											
Marconi Wireless	Dec. 31	944,452	297,682	1,242,134	{ 30,000 (12%) }	391,567	15	..	820,567	1,220,740	{ 50 Ord. 47 Pref.
Trusts.											
Rock Investment	June 30	..	5,740	5,740	4,375	..	..	..	1,365	..	..
Status Investment	June 30	12,741	21,385	8,644	..	15,000	10	..	6,385	21,010	15
Third Scottish American	July 1	22,244	31,586	53,830	..	24,500	8‡	7,000	22,350	28,265	8‡
Other Companies.											
Aberdeen University Press	June 30	1,680	2,790	4,470	414	850	12	1,000	2,206	2,493	12
Cardiff Exchange and Office	June 30	2,577	3,207	5,784	..	1,800	9†	..	3,984	..	..
Dumont Coffee	Dec. 31	27,500	14,828	42,328	{ 15,000 (3‡%) }	..	..	..	27,328	5,110	..
Manchester Hippodrome	June 30	51,147	31,866	83,013	..	7,650	10	5,000	70,363	..	..
Millars' Timber and Trading	Dec. 31	84,058	75,966	160,024	76,500	..	..	13,000	70,524	43,380	..
Sawers	Mar. 31	979	22,101	23,080	4,250	8,925	10‡	3,000	6,905	28,572	13
United Premier Oil and Cake Mills	Dec. 31	45,674	114,198	159,872	34,431	82,500	12‡	..	42,941	..	..
Wilson Brothers Bobbin Co.	July 15	5,146	49,509	54,655	..	42,750	15	5,000	6,905	38,922	15

Chilean 33s for Tawny, Canada Western 34s to 35s per 320 lbs landed. Native steady, while ranging from 32s to 42s per 336 lbs as to sample. Forward sales were of moderate extent, and prices ruled easier. Oatmeal firm, owing to small imports and temporary shortage of the raw material. Beans firmly held, but demand quieter. English Springs 70s to 80s, new Winters 55s to 60s per 52 lbs. Peas very firm, with sustained inquiries. Duns 62s to 68s, Maples 80s to 100s per 504 lbs. Lentils, No. 1 split 35s to 40s, and Egyptian 30s per 100 lbs. Homeward grain freights have ruled easier in most directions, with fair chartering transactions. The River Plate shows more interest now that a number of maize cargoes have been cleared, and steamers up river loading September 15th-October fixed at 40s, and all October 38s 9d U.K./Continent. North American grain easier. Montreal to U.K. done 55 7½d qr. and 22 cents 100 lbs Continent. Gulf done 6s 6d to 55 9d U.K./Continent, with 5s 6d accepted for a large Greek vessel. North Pacific October fixed at 62s 6d and 60s wheat-flour, with 1s 3d ton more money for barley. Eastern markets generally steady. Bombay/Karachi done 30s on dead weight. Saigon rice 62s 6d, Dalney wheat/beans done 70s U.K./Continent. From Australia a large number of steamers were taken prompt at 72s 6d, October 7½d, with current rates at 70s and 65s respectively. South Africa quotes 42s 6d for maize cargoes, while Danube barley was closed at 24s 6d September to U.K./Continent.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-21.	1919-20.	1918-19.	1917-18.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1 week to August 13	212,837	8,910	19,894	6,545
48 weeks to August 13	12,508,686	10,808,831	13,039,616	9,631,263
Average price of English wheat per	s d	s d	s d	s d
quarter	63 10	83 6	73 3	74 2
= per cwt	16 10½	20 8	17 2	17 4

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Aug. 6	21,520 6	4,693 7	9,030 7	72 2	45 9	32 2
13	49,662 3	7,117 5	14,103 0	68 10	49 3	33 3
1917	4,407 7	646 7	1,597 3	78 7	68 11	55 6
1918	1,550 5	607 0	330 3	74 2	61 4	55 11
1919	4,642 4	1,381 7	3,588 6	73 3	75 2	61 4
1920	2,074 7	463 6	4,186 1	88 6	84 7	59 10

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated August 18th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is no iron market this week on account of the local race holidays. The resumption of the manufacture of pig-iron is very slow indeed. Blast furnace owners cannot yet contract for their coke supplies except at a price which would leave them a considerable loss on pig-iron, and consequently are delaying restarting. Prices are nominal and unchanged at about last week's figures. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel works are executing old orders. New business is scarce. Steel ship-plates, £15; steel ship angles, £14 10s; iron bars, £16; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: Business cannot improve until we get a general resumption of blast furnaces making hematite pig-iron. Makers' ideas are considerably below those of sellers, but the former have no orders meanwhile.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—Business in nearly all the steel branches is as stagnant as ever, and only a limited proportion of the plant is in operation. Nevertheless, a feeling of optimism is apparent, based upon the certainty of early reductions in prices and the knowledge that buyers' stocks are becoming exhausted. On the other hand, producers have large stocks of material bought at inflated prices. A few more pig-iron furnaces have gone into blast, but more of the hematite furnaces are still idle. The Lincolnshire iron and steel works are standing with a single exception. The crucible steel trade is extremely bad, with no signs of recovery. A further examination of the United States Tariff Bill makes it quite clear that the increased duties on high-speed steel will completely shut out the Sheffield material from the American market, as it amounts to £200 per ton based on the current prices of the steel in question. The Sheffield makers also demur at the condition that all invoices must be accompanied by an analysis of the material supplied, because this would mean the disclosure of valuable trade secrets. The new duties on tungsten exceed the current price of that metal. In the absence of profitable trade local firms find it increasingly difficult to meet their financial obligations, and the economic position generally is regarded as being highly critical. Ironmasters are demanding a substantial reduction upon the best coke used for smelting hematite iron, as it remains at 42s. House coal has developed further weakness since our last report. Inland buyers of steam coal are ordering on the barest scale, in expectation of reductions in prices. The export trade continues limited. The starting of coke ovens proceeds slowly, and meantime stocks are accumulating.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Since the week began a gleam of sunshine has come into the industrial situation and sensibly changed the aspect of immediate affairs. Quite unexpectedly one of the largest steel works in the district has entered on arrangements for the starting up in the course of next week of the whole of their smelting and rolling powers. In brief, they are going on full. In the meantime, energies are to be concentrated on the production of plates and sections necessary to shipbuilding. These, it appears, have been ordered to the extent of a few thousand tons by one or two firms of builders who have work on hand which they have resolved on pushing to completion. Another leading firm of sheetmakers who have been laying down a boiler-plate rolling mill of the largest size (said to be the largest in the district) has taken measures for its prompt completion. It was the custom to roll boiler plates on the one side only, but Lloyds have now enacted that both sides should be run through, and the new mill has been designed to do so expeditiously. Plant of the description referred to is not provided on chance, and it is a fair deduction from the steps being taken that work is in prospect for the new machinery. The most cheering item of news (made known this morning) is that the prolonged dispute in the shipyards with the joiners has been settled, and that the operatives are to return to their respective shops on Monday. The deadlock has been in force from the beginning of the year, and has led to the laying-up on the Clyde alone of probably 200,000 tons of new shipping. Progress will now be made with the fitting-up of about 50 boats at least, and it is said that, hands being available, Fairfield and Clydebank are in a position to each employ over 1,000 men. Another satisfactory item is disclosed in the fact that a number of steamers which have been lying up in the docks for months for lack of freight have, last week and this week, been liberated for transport purposes in export directions. These details must not be misinterpreted, as oversanguine people may be disposed to. They do not mean that a revival of trade has set in here, and that brighter times have been entered upon. All that can be confidently said is that a conjunction of hopeful signs have appeared on the horizon and give promise of moderate expansion—thanks to the disappearance now of all serious labour disputes and to the advent of a cheap or rather cheaper material period. It is understood that the Scotch steelmakers are to meet on Saturday to discuss a price reduction, which, with coal 50 per cent. down in cost, and wages lowering, is held as due. Scotch pig-iron makers are preparing to blow in some more furnaces, only, however, for the manufacture of No. 3 foundry, a very scarce commodity, considering demand, which is general, while not active. This week the quotation for prompt has been fixed at £8 5s a ton at the producing works. Inquiries on export account are on the increase, and where sales have been made (forward) concessions on the figure named have been granted. Some respectable orders for black sheets have been given out, sufficient to keep works going comfortably, but there is no booking ahead proceeding. Pipe founders advise a better tone in their position, and tube-makers are busy again on both home and shipment contracts. Bolt, nut, and rivet makers are rather more fully engaged again. Coals weak, demand being a long way behind supplies, which consequently are glutting all the markets. Good fuel can be bought at 28s a ton, which compares with 60s prior to the strike.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The market has been affected this week by the annual holidays, but the attendance on 'Change to-day was larger than might have been expected. Generally speaking, there is more doing, and most qualities of wool and tops display a hardening tendency. Importing top-makers frankly state that values in Australia are now practically the same as those current in Coleman street last series, and the upward movement has had the effect of hardening prices all round. A somewhat sudden development has occurred in low crossbreds, some considerable weights having been sold to Germany in the scoured state, while there is a fairly satisfactory movement in 56's and upwards. Consumption in home mills is somewhat larger, but all the same the home piece trade is anything but satisfactory. This continues to be the missing link, and one fears that the discouraging news from Lancashire will more or less be duplicated in the West Riding. At the same time, wool values are firmer than for months past, and consumption is well maintained at the best point seen recently.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The principal event of the week in wool circles is the visit of Mr W. M. Hughes, Australian Premier, to Bradford, where, besides the civic reception given to him on Tuesday, and at which he said many things with which the trade largely agreed, he met the British Wool Federation on Wednesday. On the latter occasion, when the discussion took place in private, various matters were dealt with. It was agreed that Mr Hughes had rendered great service in stating the position of wool growers, though the Federation thought that the Premier had not previously recognised the present position here. The object of the conference was to bring about a better understanding, and strong hopes are entertained of closer co-operation between growers and users. At the civic reception Mr Hughes said nothing that could really be regarded as new. He emphasised the fact that almost every wool grower in Australia had lost money on his last clip, that current values for the raw material are not

sufficient to pay production costs, and that as Australian growers were in business for a profit, it was imperative that prices should take an upward turn in order to inspire every grower "down under" to renew his energies and produce the best wool possible. Mr Hughes and every Colonial wool grower no doubt recognise the present world slump, and there has been as much loss in the manufacture of wool as in its production. Mr Hughes pointed out that Australian growers sold their clips at most reasonable figures during the war; pastoralists never had a chance to line their pockets to the same extent as spinners and manufacturers in this country, which no doubt is quite true. At the same time, pastoralists have not had to face such tremendous losses as users, and the firm who has as much capital to-day as in 1914 is to be congratulated. Colossal profits were made by spinners and manufacturers during the war and 15 months after the signing of the armistice, but subsequent losses have been tragic, and it must not be forgotten that 64's tops dropped from 14s per lb to 2s 9d, all this taking place in 12 months. When the slump began every firm had big stocks of wool, tops, yarns and pieces, and to-day there are many firms who will feel the effects years hence. It is hoped that Mr Hughes will take back to Australia the full facts relating to the slump. It has been repeatedly stated in this column that wool buyers do not want lower prices, for they have never been a material source of profit to the trade; business has always been best when values have been on a paying level to growers. Mr Hughes spoke optimistically of the future. It is well known that the trade do not approve of Mr Hughes's idea of putting on one side all the old wool until Australian growers market their new clips, for that would be unfair to the British public. It may be expected that the entire trade, from the grower to the distributor of piece goods, will experience a lean year or two, but eventually business will be placed upon a sounder basis than could possibly obtain during the war, and with renewed confidence in industry and reasonable paying prices for all, growers will once more come into their own.

The cables from Australia are certainly inspiring, values apparently having risen all round 10 per cent., particularly for merinos. This is very satisfactory providing the advance can be maintained. The unfortunate thing is that the bulk of the demand is on Continental account, and the home trade still shows very little real sign of improvement.

The British-Australian Wool Realisation Association gives the following figures of stocks of wool at July 31, 1921:—

AUSTRALIAN.	U.K.	Antwerp.	Estimated in Aust'ia or Afloat.	Totals.
Merino—	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Combing	402,102	8,278	89,340	499,720
Clothing	44,094	16,241	20,234	80,569
Carbonising	38,555	15,220	21,906	75,681
Crossbred—				
Combing fine	175,532	384	80,896	256,812
" medium	99,622	235	88,049	187,906
" low	91,284	217	31,037	122,538
Clothing fine	8,449	817	29,817	39,083
" medium	4,987	386	32,276	37,649
" low	5,393	315	11,217	16,925
Carbonising fine	17,462	1,695	55,799	74,956
" medium ..	6,611	810	59,586	67,007
" low	8,547	626	20,023	29,196
Re-conditioned	1,355	..	..	1,355
Totals, Australian....	903,993	45,234	540,270	1,489,497
NEW ZEALAND.				
Merino	877	..	2,933	3,810
Crossbred—				
Combing fine	27,326	..	34,559	61,885
" medium	88,873	100	103,286	192,259
" low	108,409	115	48,616	157,140
Clothing fine	1,613	..	435	2,048
" medium	5,308	..	1,088	6,396
" low	6,415	..	653	7,068
Slipes	71,220	923	71,061	143,204
Scoured	93,604	..	52,182	145,786
Totals, New Zealand..	403,645	1,138	314,813	719,596
Grand totals	1,307,638	46,362	855,083	2,209,083

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—August 5, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	M	G	O	L	M	G	O
Brazilian.	566	641	756	846	931	1101	1994	2339	2969	1500	1865	1951
Pernambuco, &c.	Mid	M	F	G	F	G	M	F	G	M	F	G
Paraiba	566	816	1016	..	..	..	2244	2894	..	1770	2120	..
Macao	566	816	1016	..	..	..	2244	2894	..	1770	2120	..
Mossoro, &c.	566	816	1016	..	..	..	2244	2894	..	1770	2120	..
Ceara	566	816	1016	..	..	..	2244	2894	..	1770	2120	..
Maranhão	566	816	1016	..	..	..	2244	2894	..	1770	2120	..
Egyptian.	Brown	..	..	950	1100	1350	1500	..	nm	5050	..	2300
Upper	..	..	..	950	1050	1250	1300	..	nm	4850	..	2100
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	..	..	2300	2600	2900	3100	..	7500	8500	..	nm
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	..	..	900	1000	1100	..	..	4400	..	2350
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	..	675	800	925	..	..	3000	3300	..	2150
Ditto Smooth	666	966	1041	1091	1191	..	3394	3694	4494	2120	2270	2420
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
African, East, &c.	525	625	825	925	1025	1125	2350	3250	4650	2270	3310	2390
East Indian.	G	F	F	G	F	G	F	G	F	G	F	G
Surat—Mao. Ginned Surtee	..	..	..	830	855	880	..	..	2150	..	..	1860
Broach	730	755	780	805	830	..	1910	1960	2060	1710	1735	1780
M. Ginned Bhownagur ..	519	569	619	669	694	719	1444	1544	1704	1654	1629	1704
M. Ginned Comra, No. 1 ..	525	575	625	675	700	725	1450	1550	1710	1560	1635	1710
M. Ginned Khandesh	500	550	600	625	650	..	1275	1375	1535	1510	1585	1650
M. Ginned Comptah	445	495	545	570	595	..	1175	..	..	..	..	..
M. Ginned Bengal	440	490	540	565	590	640	875	950	1075	..	1135	..
M. Ginned Seinde	428	478	528	553	578	628	857	932	1057	1350	1425	1500
Tinnivelly	805	830	855	..	..	..	2135	2185	..	1785	1810	..
Madras, Western	670	695	720	745	..	..	1760	1810	..	1710	1735	..
Coconada, Red	Fr. 670	..	..	..	..	..	1475	..	..	1710	..	..
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr. 695	..	..	..	..	..	1500	..	..	1735	..	..

MANCHESTER, August 18.

The market has continued slow. Sellers have experienced a very poor week, and owing to the absence of business most spinners and manufacturers have lost ground. Prices tend to be easier, and as is usual in a falling market, buyers are holding aloof. Very little demand has been met with in piece goods for India, but there has been some improvement in exchange, and monsoon reports remain healthy. There is some expectation of more activity next month. Fewer orders have been placed for China, and leading shippers seem to have satisfied their more important wants for the time being. Not more than a sorting-up trade has been done for the several minor outlets East and West. Some manufacturers are being forced to curtail production on a larger scale. The yarn market has been flat. Only a retail turnover has taken place in both American and Egyptian counts. There is some talk of the Masters' Federation organising short time again. Scattered transactions have been arranged in export yarns for India, China, and Germany.

(1.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Aug. 18, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Aug. 11.	Price, Aug. 4.	Price, July 28.	Price, July 21.	Price, July 14.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	d 81	d 85	d 87	d 84	d 85	d 84
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	16 00	16 00	16 00	15 50	16 50	16 50
Egyptian	16 17	17 17	17 17	17 17	17 17	17 17
Yarns—32's twist	per lb	15 15	15 15	16 16	16 16	16 16
— 40's twist	per lb	15 15	15 15	16 16	16 16	16 16
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	per lb	29 30	31 31	31 31	31 31	31 31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	30 0	31 0	31 0	31 0	32 0	32 0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	29 6	30 6	31 6	31 6	31 6	31 6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	17 3	17 9	18 3	18 9	18 9	18 9
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	16 3	16 6	16 9	16 9	16 9	16 9

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up Y45,000,000
Reserve Y10,350,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office - - - - - 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kiukiang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking, Exchange Business, and takes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Deposits
\$154,911,487

Total Assets
\$190,367,409

Merchants and Manufacturers desirous of opening up in Canada are offered complete and valuable information, including particulars of Water Power, Sites, Tariffs

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Aug. 18, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American . . . per lb	8.81	26.70	18.89	24.52	19.10	9.26
—Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair						
—Egyptian per lb	16.00	69.00	29.50	30.19	30.00	11.65
Yarns—32's twist per lb	16.1	54	41.4	54	25.2	13.2
—40's twist per lb	15.1	49.1	41	53.2	25.2	13.2
—60's twist (Egyptian) per lb	29.1	96	61	65	46	21.2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	30	83	60	66	33	20
32-in. Shirts, 75 yds, 13 by 13, 32's and 40's	23	69	58	64	32	17
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.	17	47	35	38	19	10
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.	16	34	30	33	17	9

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A period of activity in the linseed market has been followed by a lull and an easier tendency of prices. Crushers' requirements appear to have been met for the present, and spot and near values have declined somewhat sharply, due to the pressure of the sellers. "For shipment" is also easier, parcels of Plate seed to Hull, July-August loading, having changed hands at £19 15s, and August-September at £20, with 20s premium paid for September-October. In view of the comparatively small quantity of Argentine linseed remaining to be shipped (about 130,000 tons), Plate shippers do not appear to be pushing sales, notwithstanding the falling off in demand. Reports from America are to the effect that a European syndicate is being formed to purchase the unsold Argentine balance. The latest figures give the estimated yield of the United States crop at 222,500 tons, against 275,000 tons last season, a rather smaller decline than at one time expected.

In sympathy with seed, values of linseed oil have eased off considerably from the highest level reached a few days ago, spot to December oil being obtainable at Hull early in the week round £35 per ton naked ex mill, second holders showing anxiety to quit. America is again reported to have been a good buyer. Cottonseed and cotton oils have shown an easier tone, with prices tending lower. A good trade has been done in soya bean oil (both crude and deodorised). Only a small inquiry is moving for rape oil. Ground nut oil has been in good request at late values. Palm kernel oil, following the erratic market for the raw material, is cheaper to buy.

Linseed cakes are difficult to dispose of, and with the arrival of huge quantities of seed at the milling centres should soon be in ample supply again. Some trade is being done in cotton cakes.

THE TIMBER TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The timber trade has been passing through a quiet period during this holiday month, but the market has had its surprises, emanating from the break-up of the Swedish and Finnish selling combines, and the resumption of f.o.b. business on free trading principles. The result has been a rapid fall in shippers' quotations for almost all descriptions of building woods, particularly of the smaller dimensions. There, however, has not been such a rush to operate as anticipated, as importers are not sanguine as to whether even present quotations, which must entail considerable losses to exporters, will be maintained.

The Canadian spruce market also shows little signs of lifting from the depressed conditions that have surrounded it for many months past. Stocks at Lancashire ports are not quite so heavy as at this time last year, but the consumption is not nearly so large, and the little forward business done has been at weaker prices. Fair quantities of spruce have been put through the sale rooms by the Associated Importers, Limited, with most disappointing results to sellers. The export trade is bad in all parts of Lancashire, which reflects itself on the poor demand for Canadian spruce for packing-cases.

There is little difference in the furniture woods market to that reported in these columns a month ago. For mahogany, prices are inclined to weaken still further for inferior logs. Stocks of States furniture woods are ample, but the slight increase in the home demand, and the fact that forward quotations are higher in America have the effect of keeping the market steady.

For native woods there is little of an encouraging nature to report, but merchants in this section regard the transport situation with more hope now that the railways are out of the hands of the Government.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Tanners must be looking forward to a revival in business, as they are still forcing the hide market up week by week. At Thursday's Bermondsey sales, best ox sold from 7½d to 10½d per lb, one class of runts making as high as 11½d. Cows also shared in the advance, and made from 7½d to 7½d per lb. On average these prices show ½d to 1d as compared with last prices. Calf also advanced, lights making as high at 16d per lb. The foreign hide market is also firmer, and quotations in the River Plate are again creeping up. The inquiry from the Continent continues good, and Germany is known to be a large buyer in Calcutta and elsewhere. The American hide market remains steady with best heavy packers selling at 14 cents and cows at 12 cents.

Although there is a better demand for sole leather, yet it does not yet come up to expectations. The call is for 12-14 lb bends in the cheaper grades, lights not being popular just now. The break in the weather has led to a demand from repairers. Shoulders are a slow sale, and big parcels have again changed hands at very low prices. Upper leather is improving, but it is disquieting to find that the demand is increasing for cheap stuff, which is entering so largely into the composition of the "stunt" advertised boots.

The shoe section reports an improvement, but there is still a good deal of anxiety in regard to the poor state of the export trade. Walsall reports an improvement, as cycle saddlers are busier, and there has been quite a rush on japanned ladies' belts of late.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 8½d to 9½d per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocement," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, August 19.

The various markets during the week disclosed quieter features on balance, though a fair amount of business was effected in some directions. Consuming demand, however, was not fast, both with regard to home and exportation.

SUGAR.—This market exhibited general quietness, demand, both on grocery and manufacturing account, being measured by wants of immediate necessity, and prices ruled lower. Tate's cubes, 6½d to 6½d 3d; granulated, 5½d to 5½d 6d; caster, 6½d to 6½d 6d; pieces, 4½d to 5½d. Lyle's granulated, 5½d to 5½d 3d; yellow crystals, 5½d. Crystallised West India sold slowly at 4½d to 5½d 6d, as to sample. American granulated, spot, changed hands at 5½d to 5½d; afloat parcels, 3½d to 3½d 6d; August, 3½d to 3½d, c.f. and i. U.K. Dutch granulated, prompt, 3½d 6d; cubes, 3½d 6d; H.U.M. granulated, 3½d 6d, f.o.b. terms. Czechoslovakian, granulated, prompt, 3½d 6d; cubes, 3½d 6d, f.o.b. Hamburg. Belgian crystals, October-December, sold, 2½d, f.o.b., Antwerp. White Brazilian, spot, 5½d to 5½d 6d; Mauritius, 5½d 6d to 5½d 6d. Cuban stocks stand at 1,340,000 tons, against 363,000 same time last year. Terminal market lower. October, sold, 17½d to 16½d 9d, new terms; and December, old, 17½d to 16½d 3d.

COFFEE.—Spot market generally steady, but general demand

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

proved quieter. In auction, fine bold Costa Rica sold up to 156s 6d; peaberry, 174s 6d. Future delivery market steadier. December, sold, 45s to 46s 3d.

COCOA quietly steady, and small sales include fine Grenada at 55s to 56s; Jamaica, 54s. Butter quiet, at 2s 1d per lb.

TEA.—Indian sales this week totalled 43,300 packages, which met with fair support. Fine qualities ruled firm, but medium and common were barely up to recent level. 24,900 packages Ceylon proved quieter and medium classes tended in favour of buyers.

RICE.—Market steady, but not much business resulted this week. Two stars Rangoon, spot, sellers, 2½s; afloat, sold, 2½s to 2½s 6d; Hamburg, No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 2½s 6d; ditto September, sellers, 2½s. No. 1 Saigon, afloat, 2½s 6d. Bran quiet. Rangoon, August-September, 18 10s per ton, ex ship. Beans quieter. Rangoon, spot, 16s; August-September, 16s; December-January, 15s 9d. Madagascar butter beans, new crop, all white, spot, sold, 36s; old, 30s. Japanese peas, crop 1921, September-November, sold, 4½s. Dutch blues, prompt, done 30s, c.f. and i. terms.

SPICE.—Pepper market opened the week steadily, but assumed a quieter tone. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4½d; August-October, steamer, sold, 4½d; Aleppy, spot, 4½d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, 9½d; Muntok, 9½d; ditto, August-October, done 9½d to 8½d. Zanzibar cloves sold on the spot at 1s 2½d to 1s 2d. Pimento, spot, 2½d. Tapioca, after being dearer, ruled quiet and easier. Fair flake, spot, sold, 2½d per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, London, 18s 6d to 17s. Fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 2½s 6d; ditto, September-November, London, done 22s 6d to 20s 6d; Hamburg, 23s to 21s 6d. Small fair sago, spot, 27s; sago flour, August-October, Liverpool, 16s 9d. Dried coconut, spot lots, sold, 5½s; August-September, 5½s; and September-October, 5½s. Ginger quiet, but steady. Japan limes, spot, 45s.

FRUIT.—The market for currants ruled steady, and a moderate demand was experienced. Dates steadily held. Siar, 15s 9d. Valencia raisins and sultanais steady, quiet.

JUTE is dearer on the week, and quite a good volume of business resulted in the early part, but the market is since quieter. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £31 10s to £32 10s, as to quality; ditto, spot, Dundee, sub M-D/E, £31 10s; old crop subs, August-September, £27 to £27 10s; lightning subs, old, August-September, £22 10s to £23 10s; afloat, £23 10s to £24; ditto tops, £25 5s. Calcutta hessians steady, and to oz, spot, sold, 22s.

HEMP.—Manila steadily held, but there was not much response from buyers. J grade, August-October, £38; K, £35 15s; L, sold, £35 15s; M, quoted £31. New Zealand slow, and fair quality, August-October, quoted £34 10s, with high points ditto, £37 10s.

SHELLAC firm. Fair T.N., spot, 300s; August, sold, 270s to 290s; October, 275s, 290s, and 285s.

COPRA.—A fair amount of business was effected during the week, at irregular and lower prices. F.M.S. Straits, August-October and

September-November, Rotterdam, sold down to £32, then £34 5s; Ceylon, August-October, London, £34 5s to £34 15s; Cebu, to Hamburg, £31 10s to £32 5s, and £33 5s; South Sea Islands, to London, £31 10s. Palm kernels, spot, sold, £21; and September-November, at £21 10s to £22 15s.

MENTHOL.—Spot, sold, 23s 6d; Japanese peppermint oil, spot, 4s; aniseed, 2s 4½d per lb.

RUBBER remained in a dull state for standard qualities, but there was a fair demand for dark and clean specky, from 6d to 6½d. Standard crepe, spot, sold, 8d to 8½d and 8½d; October-December, 9d to 9½d and 9½d; January-March, 9½d to 10d and 9½d; April-June, 10½d to 10½d. Standard sheet, spot, sold, 7½d to 8½d and 8d; October-December, 8½d to 9d and 8½d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted 15½d; and caucho ball, 7d.

OILS.—Linseed irregular and easier. Spot, net, naked, 37s; September-December, 36s. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 62s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 43s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 52s. China wood firm. Hankow, spot (barrels), 102s; and shipment, 75s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 55s; August-September, 53s; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya quiet, Oriental, barrels, ditto, nominally 44s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 25s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 52s; deodorised, barrels, 63s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 64s; September-December, 61s 6d. Rosin weak. American, grade B, 16s; F, 16s 6d; G, 16s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum easier. American, refined, 1s 4d; standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market quiet and easier. Calcutta, August-September, sold, £23 5s. Plate, spot, Hull, £20 5s; afloat, sold, £19 15s to £20; July-August, sold, £19 15s to £20; August-September, £20 5s; September-October, £20 10s to £21. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, July-August, sold, £22 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, August, sold, £14 5s; and white, £13 15s. Bombay, August-September, £11 5s. Gingly firm. Chinese, August-September, Continent, sold, £28 10s; ditto September-October, sold, £31 to Italy. Castor, Bombay, August-September, £19. Ground nuts easier. Coromandel, machine-dried, August-September, £27 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., afloat, sold, £26 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin occupied quiet attention until last Tuesday, the tendency being easier, when cash changed hands down to £155, and three months' to £156 5s. Values declined further during the middle of the week on a good deal of selling, cash fluctuating to £151 5s and three months' to £152 10s, while since registered at £151 15s and £152 15s respectively. At Thursday's meeting cash realised £150 15s to £151 10s, and three months' £152 to £153. A firmer tone prevailed at Friday's session. Cash sold at £152 to £152 10s, end of

Continued on page 324.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS.		INDIA RUBBER.—lb.		PROVISIONS.—		SPICES.—Pepper, per lb.	
COCOA—Duty, British grown	55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Aloe, fine E.L., p.cwt.150	0 180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 04 0 0	Butter—per cwt.	245 0 263 0	Singapore, fair white	0 9 0 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	56 0 62 0	Cape, good to fine.	40 0 65 0	Plantation crepe	0 84 0 0	Do factory	210 0 270 0	Black Singapore	0 42 0 0
Granada	42 0 55 0	Balsam Peru . . . per lb	8 6 9 6	INDIGO—per lb		White Blam	200 0 249 0	White Blam	1 10 0 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 85 0	Cajuput	2 0 2 6	Benzal, good red vio.		Argentine	215 0 233 0	Pimento	0 24 0 28
Guayquil	70 0 85 0	Japan, refined	4 14 0 0	Met to fine	13 0 11 6	Dutch	nom	Cinnamon—1st sort.	2 3 0 0
Bahia, finest	56 0 60 0	Cardamoms, Ceylon.	1 6 0 0	Mid. ord. vio. to good	8 0 8 6	New Zealand	264 0 266 0	Do 2nd	1 8 0 8
COFFEE—British grown		Cantharides . . . per lb	1 6 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Bacon, smd.—Irish	175 0 210 0	Do 3rd	0 10 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.		Castoreum	5 0 5 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 0 0	Danish	150 0 193 0	Do 4th	0 10 0 0
Do good to fine	81 0 112 8	Gum, Benjamin, Sum.		Kurpah, gd. mid. to gd.	6 0 7 3	Canadian	153 0 160 0	Chilpe	0 34 0 0
Do good to fine	125 6 156 6	Oilbanum, drops	0 0 0 0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	American	125 0 150 0	Cassia, India	35 0 0 0
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Jalap.	2 0 0 0	HEMP—per ton	2 0 0 0	Hams—Irisa	nom	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 3 0 0
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Musk pod, China .oz	85 0 0 0	St. Petersburg, layer	nom	Canadian	nom	Pensacola	2 6 3 6
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Oil, Cassia . . . per lb	4 6 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	40 10	American	158 0 205 0	Ginger—per cwt.	150 0 130 0
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Aniseed	2 3 0 0 0	JUTE	2 0 0 0	Lard—Irish bladder	nom	Cochin, cut	35 0 0 0
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Peppermint, H.G.H.	45 0 0 0	Native first marks.		American boxes, sold	79 0 81 9	Do washed	42 0 0 0
Do good to fine	130 0 122 6	Rhubarb, China, fr to fa	5 6 0 0	Aug. Sept. subs.	27 15 0 0	Pork—per 8 lbs	8 8 10 4	Japan	0 6 0 0
CHEMICALS—		DYE STUFFS, &c.		Do do 10/12	2 2 3 3	Beef—Frozen, per lb	1 8 6 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Acid, citric per lb	2 5 2 6	Galls, China, per cwt	75 0 80 0	Sole Bends 6/10 lb.	1 3 2 3 3	Scotch	8 10 10 10	Mace	0 13 0 1
Nitric	0 24 0 0	Turnmeric, Bengal.	14 0 23 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Cheddar	150 0 168 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 14 0 5
Oxalic, net	0 10 1 0	Madras, finger	15 0 23 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Eng. Cheddars	150 0 168 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 13
Tartaric, English . .	1 54 1 1	Gambler, block	31 0 32 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Cheshire	100 0 168 0	Chillies—per cwt.	130 0 140 8
Do do, mid	1 1 6 1	Cutch, ord. to fair.	35 0 45 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Dutch	100 0 168 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	48 0 0 8
Do do, to fine	120 0 122 6	DYEWOODS		Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Good mutton	48 0 0 8
Columbian, ordinary	55 0 60 6	Brazil	18 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Beef	47 0 0 8
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Guaiacum, Jamaica.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	0 2 0 2
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Guaiacum, Brazil.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Lima Wood	20 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Logwood, Campeachy	14 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Honduras	14 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Jamaica	14 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Red Sanders	12 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Sapang Ceylon	20 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
CHEMICALS—		FLAX—spot—c.f.	2 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Acid, citric per lb	2 5 2 6	Riga ZK	105 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Nitric	0 24 0 0	Pernau LD	85 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Oxalic, net	0 10 1 0	Slanetz U/A Medium	100 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Tartaric, English . .	1 54 1 1	FRUIT—New	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do do, mid	1 1 6 1	Oranges, Val. selected	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do do, to fine	120 0 122 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Columbian, ordinary	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases	8 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 3	Do do 12/14	100 0 168 0	Do do 12/14	23 0 27 0
Do gd. ord. to low md	55 0 60 6	Do do 4 cases							

Continued from page 323.

October £153 10s, and three months' £153 10s to £154 10s, while finally done at £154. English ingots, £151. Copper continued a quiet market at the opening of the week, cash being sold at £69 17s 6d to £70, three months' £70 7s 6d. A lower range characterised price movements until Wednesday, when these dates changed hands down to £68 5s and £68 15s respectively, with business on a fairly large scale. At Thursday's meeting cash sold at £67 2s 6d to £67 7s 6d, three months' £68 5s to £67 12s 6d, improving since to £67 17s 6d. At Friday's session cash changed hands at £67 2s 6d, early October £67 10s, and three months' at £68 to £67 10s, while subsequently placed at £67 15s. Electros, £71 10s to £73; best selected, £67 5s to £69 5s; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £72 to £73. Lead easier, at £23 7s 6d to £23 17s 6d, as to position. Spelter lower, at £24 12s 6d to £25 5s, according to position. Antimony remains steady. English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, £115.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on August 17th as follows:—The tallow market was quieter during the week, several parcels offering for re-sale. At to-day's auctions there was less competition, and prices showed an advance of 1s on good mixed only. Shipments of tallow from Australasia in July amounted to 3,000 tons. At auction to-day 1,616 casks tallow were offered, and 762 were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 48s 6d; good to fair, 48s to 47s; dull to dark, 42s 9d to 39s; hard, 48s. Australian beef: Fine, 48s; good to fair, 47s to 43s 3d; dull to dark, 42s 6d to 38s; sweet, 50s. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs.; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, 44s 6d. The market letter is unchanged for tallow, stuff is dearer. Town tallow, 37s 6d per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, 2½d; melted stuff, 2½s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town, 38s 6d, net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 38s; home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, none; fair to dull, 39s 6d to 37s. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 32s; melted stuff, 31s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—AUGUST 18.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	q
Beasts—Herefords	10	8	11 4
Shorthorns	10	4	11 0
Devons	11	0	11 6
Norfolks	10	8	11 4
Scottish	..	..	..
Irish	..	..	..
Sheep—Downs (clipped)	11	8	12 4
Longwools	..	..	..
Crossbred	11	0	11 8
Scottish	..	..	..
Lamb—Downs	12	9	14 8

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—AUGUST 18.

Per Cwt.			
	s	d	q
Epiqueures	12	0	13 0
Kent	11	0	12 0
Essex	11	0	12 0
Dutch	11	0	12 0

Banks, &c.—Continued.**BANQUE FRANCAISE POUR LE COMMERCE ET L'INDUSTRIE, 17, rue Scribe, PARIS.**

Established 1901.

Capital ... Fr. 100,000,000 fully paid
Reserve Funds ... Fr. 17,300,000
Deposits (31st July, 1920) Fr. 525,000,000

Transacts General Banking Business.

Correspondents in England:

LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK, LTD.,
Head Office and Branches.

For Conditions and Particulars application can be
made to the London Representative, 7, Lothbury,
E.C.2.

THE LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

Established 1892.

AFFILIATED WITH LLOYDS BANK, LTD.

PAID-UP CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND £4,140,000.

Established at—
ARGENTINA. Buenos Aires and Sub-Branches,
Bahia Blanca, Concordia, Cordoba, Mendoza,
Paraná, Rosario, Tucuman.
URUGUAY. Montevideo, Calle Rio Negro (Monte-
video), Paysandu, Salto.
BRAZIL. Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, Curitiba,
Maceio, Santos, Para, Pelotas, Pernambuco,
Porto Alegre, Rio Grande, Santos, Sao Paulo,
Victoria.
CHILE. Valparaiso, Santiago, Antofagasta.
PARAGUAY. Asuncion.
COLOMBIA. Bogota.
U.S. AMERICA. New York, 51, Wall St.
FRANCE. Paris (16 Rue Halévy).
BELGIUM. Antwerp (22 Place de Meir).
PORTUGAL. Lisbon (32, Rua Aurea).
Agents throughout the world.
Letters of Credit, Drafts, and Cable Transfers
issued. Bills negotiated, advanced upon or sent
for collection.—7 PRINCES STREET, E.C.2,
Manchester, 89 Cross street;
Bradford, 43 Hustlergate.

Foreign Exchange Fluctuations

MERCHANTS importing goods from abroad for sale in this market may eliminate the uncertainties of exchange which affect the selling price of their commodities by securing with us contracts for forward exchange covering fixed periods. Similarly, exporters selling abroad in foreign currencies may protect their sterling proceeds by forward contracts.

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York is prepared to make quotations for forward exchange embracing all the main currencies of the world as well as the United States dollar.

Our Officers will be glad to explain in detail how merchants and others may eliminate the uncertainties of exchange in their transactions.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

A Complete International Bank

LONDON OFFICES

50 Pall Mall, S.W.1 29 Kingsway, W.C.2

LIVERPOOL OFFICES

27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street

NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE CONSTANTINOPLE

Paid-up Capital, Surplus and Undivided

Profits (June 30, 1921) \$55,545,372

Total Assets (June 30, 1921) \$729,006,336

The annual premium for a man aged 30 is about £27 for each £1,000 payable at death; and at age 40 about £34. Such a policy shares in profits and, for over a Century, the Claims paid under whole-life policies have, on the average, been more than doubled by addition of bonuses.

Equitable Life Assurance Society

MANSION HOUSE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

W. PALIN ELDERTON, Actuary and Manager.

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK.

Established 1841

Paid-up Capital ... £250,000 0 0
(25,000 Shares of £10 each)
Reserve Fund ... £725,000 0 0
Reserved Profits ... £20,562 0 0
Reserve Liability of Shareholders, £250,000.

Drafts issued, Remittances cabled, Bills negotiated or collected, Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained on application, and all banking and exchange business connected with Western Australia conducted through the London Agents, The Bank of Adelaide, 11 Leadenhall street, E.C.3.

NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE—17 MOORGATE STREET, E.C.3.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL ... £3,000,000

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ... £3,000,000

PAID UP CAPITAL ... £1,000,000

RESERVE FUND ... £1,040,000

UNCALLED CAPITAL ... £2,000,000

Receives Deposits of £50 and upwards for 1, 2, or 3 years, at rates to be ascertained on application.

Drafts, Letters of Credit and wire Remittances granted and Bills on New Zealand purchased or sent for collection.

ARTHUR WILLIS, Manager.

The Great Alternative

Saner Politics or Revolution.

By LEONARD J. REID, M.A.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"His indictment of the criminal folly of Bolshevism is most effective."—*Morning Post*.

"A sound and rational contribution to political controversy. . . . We recommend every thinking politician to read it."—*Saturday Review*.

"An able plea for a great New Liberalism."—*Scotsman*.

"To unsettled and troubled Liberals we would heartily commend it. It is a finely suggestive discussion of certain vexing questions with the solution whereof Liberalism is vitally concerned."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.

"Studiously moderate."—*Economist*.

"Sane and thoughtful writing."—*Daily News*.

Crown 8vo. 6/6 net.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO.,
39, Paternoster Row.

The Economist, WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1921.

No. 4,070.

Bergens Kreditbank
Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated
with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS

HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED

AND

BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business
transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000



Branches as Under.

82 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27b, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up ... 348,796,000
Reserve ... 176,000,000
Deposits ... 5,000,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	325	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets.....	342
Monetary Policy	327	New Issues	343
The Control of Shipping ..	328	Active Securities.....	344
Growth of Foreign Trade		Company Meetings	345
of Chief European Nations	329	Government Returns—	
Latin-American Notes	330	Currency Notes Account ..	348
Brewery Shares and Results	331	Treasury Bills by Public	
The Revival in "Kaffirs" ..	332	Tender	348
Business Notes—		Public Income and Expen-	
Census of England & Wales	333	diture	348
Manchester and "Safe-		Bankers' Gazette—	
guarding of Industries" ..	333	Bank of England	349
The Railway Deficit	333	Clearing Returns	349
Agricultural Wages	333	Overseas Bank Returns ..	350
Inter-Allied Finance Con-		Loan and Discount Rates..	351
ference	334	Overseas Bank Rates.....	351
Rubber Developments	334	Rates of Exchange.....	352
American Cotton Supplies..	334	Indian Treasury Bills	352
Salvador Railway Scheme ..	334	Bullion	352
Conditions in Japan	334	Imports and Exports of Gold	
Latvia's Trade	335	and Silver Prices	353
Export Credits	335	Company News—	
Federation of British In-		Oil Output	344
dustries.....	335	Dividend Announcements..	353
Brazilian International		Mining Output Statistics..	353
Exhibition	335	Railway & Tramway Traffic	
Oversea Correspondence—		Reports and Notices	355
United States	335	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	356
France	336	Commercial Reports—	
Germany	338	Corn Trade	355
Sweden	339	Iron and Coal Trade	356
Spain	339	Wool Trade	357
Letters to the Editor—		Cotton Trade	358
The Gold Standard.....	339	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	
The Currency Problem	340	Linen Trade.....	359
Economic Troubles and the		Hide and Leather Trades ..	359
Currency	341	Portland Cement	359
Post-War Troubles.....	341	Overseas Produce Markets	
Books and Publications—		Price Current	360
Reviews.....	342		
Books Received	342		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £3 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the
Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at
Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons,
5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6
Fenchurch Buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle
and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall
Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.
Paris: Calignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's,
37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad
Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

SCANT supplies of credit have been noted on several days, and on Thursday borrowers occasionally paid up to 5 per cent. for loans over night, until the situation was relieved by purchases of short Treasury bills by banks. The market is still apprehensive about the effect of repatriation payments, and it is possible that the indirect effects of them are already being felt, if, as seems likely, the increase in departmental Ways and Means Advances, which enabled the Government to reduce those from the

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Current accounts, Paris	1,685,777,135	1,613,820,667	589,942,304
Do branch banks	975,977,602	1,028,025,343	97,921,350
Dividends payable	6,907,252	7,209,211	3,335,338
Discounts and sundries	41,318,223	38,678,362	12,178,944
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,019,677,593	1,009,467,776	235,892,304
Total	42,615,440,173	42,808,636,137	6,946,093,982
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,798,061,679	5,797,545,464	4,048,898,603
Balances abroad	624,081,691	623,875,866	712,536
Commercial bills overdue	1,967,739	15,750,136	442,914,618
Discounts in Paris	1,482,434,258	1,591,616,681	18,103,075
Foreign bills	4,421,839	5,953,609	167,982
Treasury bills	199,241	243,211	964,827,918
Discounts in branches	955,568,311	915,280,321	728,000
Advanced payments, Paris and branches	71,799,099	72,725,882	195,211,837
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	529,974,024
Do on public securities	408,543,582	407,558,367	200,000,000
Do on branch banks	1,760,521,553	1,773,337,982	200,000,000
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	..
Do (for the war)	24,900,000,000	25,000,000,000	..
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern-ments	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	12,980,750
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	99,579,294
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	100,000,000
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	47,100,925
Premises and furniture	47,100,925	47,095,568	10,693,781
Expenses and management	12,492,258	10,693,781	8,304,499
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	270,823,360
Sundries	2,050,120,247	2,048,841,214	..
Total	42,615,440,173	42,808,636,137	6,946,093,982

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5½
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6½

GERMANY.—CAPITAL LEVY — MARK'S BUYING POWER—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—COAL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, August 20.

THE texts of the new taxation Bills as to-day published agree with the official memorandum summarised by me last week, but many of the details are new. The increase of import duties includes some foreign fruits; the coffee (unroasted) duty is raised from 130 to 200 marks per 100 kilos; the cocoa beans duty is doubled; the tea duty raised from 220 to 350 marks. Among other wares on which import duties are doubled are perfumes and cosmetics, ivory goods, precious stones, luxury-automobiles, and certain textiles products. The new beer tax is progressive according to individual brewers' production, rising from 41 marks per hectolitre on a brewery's first 2,000 hectolitres production to 50 marks on production over 100,000 hectolitres. The motor-car tax is progressive according to horse power, the present rate on the lowest horse power being nearly trebled, and on the highest horse power increased about eightfold. Thus the tax on the first horse power is raised from 27 marks to 75 marks; on 30 horse power from 450 marks to 3,450 marks. In the sales tax (Umsatzsteuer) only the present 1½ per cent. rate on turnover in necessary goods is doubled, not the 15 per cent. tax on luxuries; but the 15 per cent. may be imposed each time a half-finished luxury article is transferred to a new department of the first maker's concern—a measure directed against evasion by the "Vertical Trust" system, and a new luxury tax of 10 or 5 per cent., according to class, is imposed on food and drink served in the dearer hotels and restaurants. The stamp duties on all kinds of insurance contracts are raised, sometimes eightfold, and duties are imposed on certain insurances (livestock, accident, &c.) which are at present stamp free. The tax on bets is 10 per cent. of the sum staked. Book-makers will be licensed and taxed; but the existing legal totalisator system remains. The additional yield of the reformed tax on capital transactions (company registration, stock transfers, &c.) is stated as 881,400,000 marks. Several of the new indirect taxes were yesterday sanctioned by the Reichswirtschaftsrat, but the new tobacco tax as a whole has been rejected. The memorandum, summarised last week, on the proposed levy on "gold values" has been published. The Government does not propose to claim voting power in the industrial and trading companies in which it is to take a 20 per cent. share. Execution of the levy plan, says the memorandum, would cause a decline in the currency inflation through the purchase by the public of the State's mortgages on land

and houses, and of its shares in companies; the State's mortgages could form a basis for conclusion of foreign gold loans, and the mark exchange would gain support. The plan is severely attacked in many newspapers. Its execution would do a great deal to restore the State finances if at the same time the Budget, including Reparations Expenditure, were balanced; but if the Budget is not balanced (and at present there is small prospect) the capital yield to the State would largely go on current expenditure, or be used to raise money for current reparations, a result of which would be that in a few years a very great part of the national capital wealth would pass into foreign hands, after which there would be little surplus income left from which to meet later Reparations payments. On a greater scale would be repeated what happened with Herr Erzberger's Emergency Levy, which was designed to pay off State debt, but was finally used to cover a very small part of the current deficit.

The exchange and stock markets are in a state of violent agitation as result of the mark's drop to a new low point, and its sudden partial recovery. The Reichsbank statement for August 15th shows the usual mid-month pressure, Treasury bill discounts rising by 3,849,069,000 marks to 78,978,931,000 marks. Private discounts fell by 92,504,000 marks to 1,003,939,000 marks; State deposits rose by 1,895,393,000 marks to 3,725,204,000 marks; private deposits by 1,676,966,000 marks to 9,159,095,000 marks. Note circulation fell by 258,540,000 marks to 77,396,140,000 marks, and Kassenschein circulation by 157,900,000 marks to 8,119,200,000 marks. On the 16th sterling sold at 348.85, the dollar at 91.10, and the Swiss franc at 1501.50, the highest points since February, 1920; rates yesterday were 309.35, 84.59, and 1431.45. The exchange market was in a state of confusion. The director of Bremen Statistical Amt publishes statistics to show that, contrary to belief, the buying power of the German mark since 1914 has mostly been lower at home than abroad. His price basis is living-cost, not commodities. Only in the second half of 1914 and since the first quarter of 1919 has the home buying power been higher. The greatest disparity was in February, 1920 (the month of the heaviest mark exchange fall), when the mark was worth 14.5 pfennigs in Germany and only 4.6 pfennigs in Amsterdam. The disparity has since decreased, the mark in June, 1921, being worth 10.6 pfennigs at home and 7.2 pfennigs in Amsterdam. These figures show that during actual hostilities the mark exchange held relatively well. The agitation for higher wages and official salaries is very active. The officials demand that the temporary "high prices supplements" paid on salaries be converted into permanent salary increases. The Association of Trades Unions condemns the proposed taxes on consumption and the new increase of bread prices, demands an increase of old-age and other social pensions, and declares that further price rises can only be prevented by Socialisation of the instruments of production. The price of the standard 1,900 gramme loaf has been raised from 5 marks to 6.95 marks. The Government has rejected a Bavarian demand for independence in matter of breadstuffs, declaring that Bavaria is not under but over supplied, and that the Republic must be an economic unit.

On the first day of the week the bull movement in stocks reached its highest point, the outside public buying recklessly, though it was known that experienced speculators were realising. The recovery in mark exchange duly produced a very sharp reaction, which most of all affected mining and iron stocks, that is, the stocks which had risen most rapidly. The reaction, however, was not homogeneous, as the banks and brokers had large numbers of unfilled buying orders, and there was heavy buying of certain stocks, even on the reaction days. Owing to suggestion the Berlin Bourse had to be closed on Wednesday, and it will be closed next week on Thursday, in addition to the customary closing on Tuesdays and Saturdays. The Bourse buildings, hours, and system are not suited to the new conditions caused by the enormous increase since 1914 in the quantity of quoted stocks and shares, and by the growth of private speculation. Measures under discussion are restriction of quotation of certain securities to two or three days weekly; lengthening of hours; settlements every ten days; and increase in the

number of licensed stockbrokers. Yesterday, with a new slight rise in foreign exchanges, stocks were again firm, under leadership of Phoenix (iron), which touched 1,280. The following are yesterday's quotations of leading stocks:—

Deutsche Bank	323	Harpener Mining	721
Disconto Bank	266	Hirsch Kupferarwen	460
Dresdner Bank	237	Hohenlohe	299
Hamburg-America	178	Howaldt	444
Norddeutsche Lloyd	172½	Ise Bergbau	730
Hamburg South America	390	Aschersleben (Potash)	410
Otavi Mines	648	Laurahütte	440
Schultheiss-Patznerhofer	595	Linke-Hofmann	530
Aachener Leather	601	Mannesmann	821
All-Elektricitet	359	Nd-Deutsche Wool-Combng	998½
Badische Anilin	500	Orenstein and Koppel	700
Bochumer Gusstahl	610	Phoenix	1,244
Buderus (Iron)	656	Rhein Stahlwerke	685
Concordia Chemicals	970	Sarotti Chocolate	1,560
Daimler Motors	254½	Siemens and Halske	434½
Deutsch-Luxemburg	482	Thale (Iron)	998
Felt and Guillaume	495	Varziner Paper	609
Gelsenkirchen	500	Verein. Glanzstoffe	1,295
Glabach Textiles	605		

War Loan was yesterday 77½, 4 per cent. 78.40, 3½ per cent. 68, 3 per cent. 76½, Colonial 4 per cent. 69.20, and Savings and Premium 80.

The Ruhr coal production in July was 7,782,676 metric tons, or 299,334 tons per working day, as against 7,753,350 tons, or 307,063 tons per working day in June. There is still a deficit as compared with February, the last month in which the miners observed the agreement of 1920 for three extra half-shifts weekly; then output was 8,174,606 tons, or 340,609 tons per working day. Output in July, 1921, was 10,150,347 tons, or 375,939 tons per working day. A report estimates that the Ruhr field contains 213,600,000,000 tons of workable coal; the Upper Silesian field, 166,000,000,000 tons; Saar fields, 16,500,000,000 tons; rest of the Left Rhine coal districts, 10,500,000,000 tons; Lower Silesia, 2,900,000,000 tons; and rest of Germany, 480,000,000 tons. The brown coal supply in the former German area, excluding Anhalt, Brunswick, Mecklenburg, and Thüringia, was estimated before the war at 13,400,000,000 tons. In 1900 the brown coal output was (in weight) only one-fifth of that black coal output; to-day it is four-fifths.

New capital raised in July, 1921, for all purposes was (Frankfurter Zeitung's compilation) 1,506,670,000 marks, of which 340,700,000 marks was for new foundations, 702,270,000 marks for capital increases, and 463,700,000 marks for fixed-interest securities. In June was raised 2,237,980,000 marks new capital, and in January-July inclusive 13,104,800,000 marks, which is little short of the (gold) capitalisation of all private companies in 1913.

SWEDEN.—BANK FIGURES—THE PREMIUM BOND ISSUE—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, August 13.

THE last monthly review of the balance-sheets of 11 of the largest Swedish private banks indicates several important changes. The position is now similar to that on May 31st last, viz., loans 1,984 million kr, bills 1,320 and letter credits 1,448 million kr. With regard to debts due abroad, the 11 banks had on May 31st last 124, on June 30th 147, and July 30th 130 million kr due to them. It is evident that there is no actual relaxation in the position generally, and under such circumstances the further lowering of the discount rate so much hoped for must be accounted unlikely. The new premium bonds will be issued on the 16th inst. During 1918 we had in this country a similar loan taken up, which was not absorbed to its full extent. Energetic preparations have, however, this time been made all over the country to interest the public, and a novelty has been introduced. After 10 annual lotteries the bonds are exchangeable for one 5 per cent. State bond at 50 kr par, thus combining gambling with investment. Thus after having provided 10 annual chances of winning a prize the premium bonds automatically change into 5 per cent. State bonds, which under normal circumstances ought to be valued at par. There is no material change in the industrial position. Some strikes, amongst them the sailors' and stokers'

strikes, have been finished with defeats to the men, who have to be content with 20 per cent. reduction in wages, but otherwise there is more cutting down in operations. Now and then works restart, but it is often only in order to execute occasional orders. The timber exporters are having a difficult time, and have applied to the Government for assistance in the way of postponed payments for timber which they have bought from the State. This will probably be granted them for another month or two. The last two weeks have been marked by strong fluctuations in foreign exchanges, most of them tending downward. In particular the dollar quotation has caused surprise by steady dropping. Sterling has moved more slowly, and the general belief is that this rate is abnormally low, and that only a very slight stimulus is wanted to send it up. There was a loss of 34 million kr in values on the Stock Exchange last week. There was further a drop in wholesale prices during July last of 1 per cent. Vegetable foodstuff, coal, oils, building material and woodpulp were lower, whereas animal foodstuff, textiles, hides, and leather increased in price. As the British prices for fuel are steadily falling, consumers are stubbornly holding off, and will probably not buy until the last minute. The Swedish Government has decided to take an active part in assisting starving Russia. An expedition is being prepared in conjunction with the Swedish Red Cross, the expenses of which will be paid by the State. It is, however, pointed out that all will be done jointly with other European powers. A reconnoitring expedition will proceed, before the large expedition starts to prepare the ground. Generally speaking, Sweden cannot complain very much of the drought. Of course, there are some parts in the south which are very hard hit, but the rest of the country will probably be in a position to deliver a satisfactory harvest.

SPAIN.—WAR CREDITS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRID, August 21.

THE Madrid Gazette publishes a Royal decree granting a number of supplementary credits to the War Office—one credit of 7,072,800 pesetas, and another 1,800,000, the first for military supplies and the second for air services. In connection with action in Morocco, the War Office is granted 55,551,150 pesetas for artillery, 19,285,700 pesetas for engineering services, 6,000,000 for commissariat services, 7,288,200 for sanitary services, 10,000,000 for the military breeding stud and riding establishment, and 5,700,000 for aeronautic services. These extraordinary war credits amount to 112,637,850 pesetas. By another Royal decree the naval department is granted a credit of 298,146 pesetas for salaries of ship employees, and another of 5,500,000 for naval repairs. With minor items, the naval war credits amount to 6,131,346 pesetas. The total amount of these supplementary credits, military and naval, therefore, reaches the sum of 118,769,196 pesetas.

Letters to the Editor.**THE GOLD STANDARD.**

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Mr Mason's admission in your issue of July 30th, that the gold standard will not "prevent crises from occurring," should be—one would think—a sufficient reason for him to question the wisdom and safety of such an institution. What would be said of an engineer who advocated the employment of a certain metal for bridge-building after admitting that this metal would not prevent the bridge from occasionally collapsing? But when he says that "under its operation they are less likely to occur," one can only marvel at his lack of financial history. The fact is that no single financial crisis has ever been created by paper money where such money has been issued for productive purposes.

The classical instance always cited of the French Assignats—to which will now, of course, be added the Russian Soviet Currency—are merely cases of currency madness

in which money was issued to meet political ventures, or solely for speculative or destructive purposes. In the case of Russia, we now know that Lenin purposely flooded the country with paper money in order to render it valueless and so destroy the capitalistic system. Had he possessed a mountain of gold, and issued the same quantity of roubles, the results would have been much the same. Where crises have occurred have been the result of governments attempting to "redeem" paper money with gold and silver, a practical illustration of attempting to make a camel pass through the eye of a needle! This happened after the Napoleonic wars in this country and the United States after their Civil War. Mr Mason speaks of the need of greater elasticity. But surely this can only be obtained by the use of paper money or its equivalent—credit. A gold currency is certainly not elastic. Mr Mason says that my statement that gold disappeared from circulation in 1914 before even a shot was fired is an exaggeration. Anyone who remembers the last two days of July and beginning of August will corroborate my statement. Why did the banks close their doors and proclaim a holiday during those eventful days if gold was available?

Mr Mason says, to-day we are paying the price for the lack of foresight in having failed to provide for gradually redeeming the emergency paper money. This is indeed a curious assertion. In the first place, the Treasury Notes have been redeemed again and again. If I give a promissory note to a merchant for a certain sum payable at a given time, and in the interval supply the same merchant with goods to the value of the note, by taking back the note in payment of the goods I have redeemed the note. Now, the Government issued Treasury notes which became legal tender for the payment of taxes, and by receiving these in settlement they redeemed them. And this process of issuing and redeeming these notes has been repeated again and again.

But if Mr Mason thinks that the Government should have provided a gold reserve fund of £400,000,000 for redemption purposes, again I ask him to point out where the gold was to come from? As to the price we are paying, the only difficulties I know of are those engendered by the attempt to revert to the pre-war standard. The six years' experience from the autumn of 1914 to the spring of 1920, during which we employed the so-called "inflated" currency, was the most prosperous ever known as far as trade and the general well-being of the masses of the people were concerned. Our industrial troubles only started after Mr Austen Chamberlain announced the Government's intention of pursuing the fatal policy of deflation. The high prices were not the direct result of an excessive supply of Treasury notes. They were mainly due to the destruction of munitions of war which had cost thousands of millions of money to manufacture. Instead of destroying them, supposing we had adopted the attitude of America up to her entrance into the war (as recommended by certain Radical journals) and had sold all these munitions to the belligerents. Would not the results have been the creation of a vast fund of wealth instead of an irredeemable national debt? And would Mr Mason then have claimed that these notes were inflated? Up to November, 1916, a period of over two years of war, our legal tender was no greater in volume than in pre-war days. Treasury notes had merely replaced golden coins, and yet prices had risen 100 per cent. This was due to the shortage of goods. Dr Shaw pointed this out in an able article in the *Quarterly Review* for January, 1919. I have cited Germany as an example of a nation that is deliberately pursuing the financial policy which Mr Mason and his friends believe to be ruinous. Money is merely a token, a convenience, a tool, and if Germany's financial tools enable her to turn out goods of every description, and undersell all her rivals, the sooner we follow her "ruinous" policy the better for this country. No! cheap currency is not the only means for producing wealth. The creation of paper money is not the creation of wealth. To cite Poland and Russia as competitors, as Mr Mason does, is not argument. Russia's currency was produced to destroy wealth, and the system by which it has hitherto been produced. If Poland could add to her cheap currency an unlimited supply of the three other factors, labour, raw material, and capital, then she would prove

a dangerous competitor. Here in England and in America we are witnessing poverty and want in the midst of an abundance of all these three prime factors, which remain stagnant because of an insufficiency of the necessary tools of exchange, which the Governments and banks of both countries have deliberately destroyed. The Gresham law cited by Mr Pawle was announced in an age when all trade was barter, and is not particularly instructive. Under the barter system gold may be considered as better—weight for weight—than silver or copper. And hence it might have been correct in a sense to say that "bad money drives out good money." Properly expressed, Gresham's law is merely a truism, viz., the cheap drives out the costly. But this is the law of progress, the survival of the fittest. And if paper money drives out gold it is not because paper money is "bad" and gold "good," but because of the higher natural law, viz., that mankind always seek to satisfy their wants with the least expenditure of energy. It is the line of least resistance. Cheap money will always drive out dear money, just as cheap cotton machine goods have driven out expensive hand loom goods. But this doesn't mean that the cheap goods are necessarily "bad." The fit will always drive out the unfit—under free conditions. And this is why the employment of gold for monetary purposes can only exist under a protective system. To talk of free trade in a country where the tool of trade is highly restricted and protected by Parliamentary laws is to talk nonsense!—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR KITSON.

12 St James's square, London, S.W.,
August 15th, 1921.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—That portion of Messrs Albert and Percy Wallis's letter dated August 6th, replying to my letter of August 4th, reveals a difference of method in the interpretation of historical facts. Messrs Wallis complain of a want of "exact" knowledge, and that is just the trouble. One cannot prove that the addition to-day of a stated quantity of gold coin to the currency will cause prices of commodities to rise to-morrow and to forecast exactly the degree of the rise. It must be borne in mind that there are other factors—such as the quantity of commodities produced and the quantity of demand—which are no more static than the quantity of currency. It is really a question of relativity, but the whole scheme is thrown out of gear when one factor, (for example, the currency) is increased or decreased out of proportion to the others. All that an economist can say is that the continued increase in a country's currency will cause a rise in prices over approximately the same period as the increase lasts, and, conversely, a continued diminution in a country's currency will cause a fall. One cannot say that the price of this or that particular commodity will rise or fall, but one can say that prices of commodities in general will rise or fall. And, similarly, one cannot say of a period of years that there will be a steady yearly rise or yearly fall in prices; but one can say that the general trend of prices during the period will be up or down. The general trend of prices during a period may, indeed, be interrupted by temporary movements in the opposite direction, but such movements will only be temporary, and the ultimate result will reflect the general trend of the period.

Thus Messrs Wallis say that, notwithstanding the inadequate supply of metallic money during the period 1873-1896, prices "went up considerably about 1883, and went up very high indeed in 1890." The facts are that these rises were only of a temporary nature, and even then not sufficient to wipe out the declines which had preceded them, as the following table will show:—

WHOLESALE PRICES IN PERCENTAGES OF FIGURES FOR 1913.					
Date.	England.	Rise or Fall.	U.S.	Rise or Fall.	
1873.....	130	.....	137	.....	
1878.....	100	— 30	100	— 37	
1880.....	105	+ 5	110	+ 10	
1883.....	100	— 5	110	.....	
1887.....	85	— 15	88	— 22	
1890.....	88	+ 3	84	— 4	
1895.....	75	— 13	70	— 14	

That is why I based my arguments on a review of a long period (1790-1921), divided broadly into sub-periods, when the increases or decreases in the currencies of England and the U.S. were continuous. The principal factors which I mentioned as affecting the amount of metallic money available were the discovery of gold in California and Australia (1848-49—increase), the demonetisation of silver (1873—decrease), and the discovery of gold in Klondyke and South Africa (1896—increase). And the information upon which I based those arguments is as follows:—

The figures for British prices are made up from an index prepared by W. Stanley Jevons for the years 1782 to 1817, and the Sauerbeck-Statist index for the rest of the period. The index for prices in the U.S. is a combination of indices published in the quarterly of the American Statistical Association by Alvin H. Hansen for the years from 1801 to 1840, and by Carl H. Jurgens from 1825 to 1863; and index published by Roland P. Falkner in the report of the Senate Committee on Finance (1893) for the years 1840 to 1891; and the current index of the United States Bureau of Labour Statistics.

It is noteworthy that the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, commenting in its Review of June 1st on these statistics, remarks:—"The fact that index numbers compiled by different methods from varying numbers of commodities show such close correspondence is evidence of the stability and accuracy of price index numbers as well as of the intimate relation between price changes in the two countries."

The problem now before us is to get back to a relatively stable standard of value.

I have suggested the issue, intelligently directed, of credit on easy terms to producers for the express purpose of facilitating the production of goods wherewith we may redeem our paper obligations. What applies to us of course applies to every other impoverished belligerent, but the nation which first gets down to work in a serious endeavour to balance its Budget and redeem its debts will have the advantage. I should be interested to know to what extent this view is gaining ground.—Yours very truly,

W. J. COOK.

20 Bracken gardens, Barnes, S.W.,
August 16th, 1921.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I congratulate Mr Mason on having arranged a conference on the currency question, and I hope that it will be able to throw light on this extremely important but difficult problem.

Mr W. J. Cook's account of price movements since 1790 is masterly, but there seems to be an at least apparent contradiction between his insistence on the need of reducing outstanding issues of paper, and his suggestion that fresh bank credit should be issued to producers. Surely bank credit and currency are substitutes, and it is difficult to see the gain of creating the one to extinguish the other. If, as Mr Cook supposes, mankind are firmly wedded to gold and silver as standards of value, in spite of the fluctuations in their value, which he describes, and are unwilling to adopt a more scientific standard (I hope this is not so), it should be possible for a country which has checked further inflation to get right back to a gold standard without delay by adopting a new and reduced gold equivalent for its depreciated paper currency.

The labour of giving these tokens a greater value than they now possess is not likely to be faced, and the desirability of doing so is at least questionable.

The very fact that money is becoming more valuable stops trade and new construction work, and is the principal cause of the ridiculous position of going in want in the midst of plenty, pointed out by "Observer."

"Observer's" account of how the war debt was built up by the creation of fictive credit is true enough, and although this does not justify repudiation, we can at least refrain from adding to our burdens by magnifying the unit in which they are expressed.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.

Apollo House, 4 Bunhill row, London, E.C. 1,
August 8th, 1921.

ECONOMIC TROUBLES AND THE CURRENCY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Under the above heading in your issue of to-day Mr Ellis Barker says: "Loss and waste can be made up only by increased production and diminished consumption, by hard work and thrift."

Please allow me to say that I am in agreement with him on that point: I do not propose a "capital levy" in substitution for that course, but as supplemental to it.

Bluntly put, my contention is that war debt is properly a charge on capital, not on revenue; and therefore the debt ought to be distributed *pro rata* among us, making each man responsible for an equitable share.

The Government would neither receive nor pay cash on account of capital; but each man would have to pay his *pro rata* of bonds into a clearing-house and be liable for 6 per cent. per annum interest on it until paid, so that the Government would be getting 1 per cent. per annum profit on all uncanceled debt; and the charge of £450,000,000 which the Chancellor has determined to get from our pockets every year for 50 years would vanish like a bad dream.

If the Chancellor's course is persisted in capital will gradually find its way to countries in which industrial enterprise is not subject to that heavy tax.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

WM. LEIGHTON JORDAN.

Royal Societies Club, August 20th, 1921.

POST-WAR TROUBLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Allow me to thank your correspondents for their courteous treatment of my epistle, although my objective does not seem to be quite clear to them.

For instance, I would like "E. H. B." and Mr C. S. Pawle to appreciate this point: Mr J. Bull (let us say) last year owned actual goods to the value of £10,000, and this year has increased his store to the value of £15,000. In his account books he has, however, entered a sum of £8,000, which he says he owes to himself, and, treating this as an ordinary debt, he claims to be actually £3,000 poorer than he was last year!

Your correspondents will admit that Mr Bull is really better off, because the £8,000 debt is no debt at all.

What appears to me to be the great outstanding fact (which our business men either overlook or refuse to see) is that we have borrowed the National Debt from ourselves. They admit it was "our" war, but will not see that the debt is also "ours." It is only in fancy that a man can owe goods to himself. Our business men being apparently convinced that it is a quite proper proceeding, and suiting their actions to that belief, we consequently get the trouble we are going through now, and shall get more of it, without a shadow of a doubt. "Observer A" (to whom I apologise for unwittingly stealing his pen-name) sees something of what is going to happen if, and when prices get back to normal. (For instance, income-tax at twice 6s in the pound, with a crushing burden of indirect taxation and worse horrors to follow.) He should also see that his No. 1 remedy is as impossible of adoption as No. 2. How can values and prices be rendered permanently stable? Perhaps (I say perhaps) under some Socialistic régime, but not under a competitive system.

Business men, in this problem of paying for the war, remind me of a balking horse which has to be driven along a narrow path threading a dangerous marsh. Each time he is brought to the path he plunges to left or right and is bogged. The narrow path that we have to follow is that of getting rid of the distended fraud known as the National Debt—the sooner the better, for, as prices fall, the job will become more and more difficult. The task at present lies in persuading the business world that it will be (1) a benefit to be rid of the debt, and (2) that it can be immediately cancelled without reducing the total amount of real capital. It is unfortunately true that many business men look upon the debt as a good investment, and think its existence is beneficial.

If the readers of the *Economist* can agree that the debt is a piece of financial sleight-of-hand, and that its immediate cancellation (not repudiation) is the way out

of our troubles, there would be hope of bringing over the rest of the community. That is my point for the present. It would be useless attempting to state a remedy unless there is agreement in the diagnosis of the complaint.

In conclusion, I would say (1) if the debt continues to be cancelled in the same way and on the same terms as now, it will cost the nation's producers and their children forty thousand million pounds or more, and, if prices fall, it will cost a sum larger in proportion to the fall. (2) A continuance of the attempt to deal with the debt in this way, however, will probably bring ruin to business or an upheaval on the Russian model. (3) The war was waged for us all, and we all ought to have paid for it in proportion to our ability to pay.

"Observer A" says:—"It is common knowledge that the whole of the nation is responsible for the creation of same (the debt) by tacitly agreeing in 1914 to fight German militarism." The nation agreed to fight, but did not agree that it should get into debt to itself. Those who produced the munitions of warfare and existence did practically pay their share in life and work, and produced a surplus. Why, then, should we find ourselves in debt to ourselves? This is the vital fact which we have to spike down in our minds so that it does not escape us. From that we may go on to find a way out of the trouble.—Yours faithfully,

OBSERVER B.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"A Digest of British Economic History." By F. H. M. Ralph, M.A. and W. J. N. Griffith, B.A. London: John Murray. 1921. 5s net.

"ECONOMIC history is the story of the fight of the human race with Nature, and of the social organisation brought about by the struggle for life. Economics is not the fine flower of history; it is the root." Accordingly the authors summarise British economic development from the Stone Age to the present time. Their information is admirably condensed and comprehensive, and seems to be fully on a level with the latest results of research. Moreover, and in contrast to some other books on this subject, the recent periods and the present are quite as accurately described as the remoter past. Perhaps a little more might have been said of the influence of the screw propeller and the compound engine in transforming oceanic freight traffic, of the influences that led to the collapse of the old Poor Law system, and of the limited liability principle; and the date of the failure of the City of Glasgow Bank is placed four years too late. But such things do not lessen the value of an admirable little book.

"American Economic Life in its Civic and Social Aspects." By Henry Reid Burch, Ph.D. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1921. 9s net.

This volume is designed for use as a text-book of elementary applied economics in American secondary schools. Starting from the position that the end aimed at by the study is not wealth, but welfare, it sets forth the fundamental ideas of the science in respect of consumption, production, exchange, and distribution successively, with both force and clearness, and applies them in each department to the actual conditions in the United States to-day. Hence it gives much valuable economic information which every student of American conditions should bear in mind—and usually remembers inaccurately—on irrigation, forest conservation, inland navigation, water-power, immigration, labour problems, railroad and trust regulation, large-scale production, and other features of contemporary America. The only thing we miss is a reference to dry farming. It closes with a summary of the chief problems of economic reform. It would be an excellent model for a similar text-book applicable to conditions in England, and the danger of dogmatism, always imminent in dealing with current problems, is averted by a treatment which is strictly impartial and by the suggestion of topics for free discussion. It may be cordially recommended both for consideration by educationists and for use by students of American politics and society.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Imperial Taxation. An Outline of the Tax System of the United Kingdom. By A. B. Cliff. (London) The Estates Gazette, Limited.

A Short Fiscal and Financial History of England (1815-1918). By J. F. Rees. (London) Methuen and Co., Limited. 6s net.

Income-Tax Guide. By Herbert W. Palmer. 1921 Edition Revised. (London) The Financial Times, Limited. 1s net.

Tolley's Complete Income-Tax, Excess Profits Duty, Corporation Profits Tax, Super Tax, &c. (London) 4 Great Winchester street, E.C. 2. 2s 6d net.

Die Sanktionen der Ruin des Rheinischen Wirtschaftslebens. (Köln) Buchdruckerei von J. B. Helmann.

Issued by the Verband Kölner Grossfirmen to show the effects of the "sanctions" in damaging industry and business.

The Round Table. A Quarterly Review of the Politics of the British Commonwealth. September. No. 44. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 5s.

French Points of View. Being Letters (published and unpublished) to the British Press and others. By Henri Brenier. Published by the "Comité de Relations Internationales, sous le patronage de la Chambre de Commerce de Marseille." (Marseille) Barlatier, Rue Venture.

Fuel Economy Review. Vol. I. No. 2. August, 1921. (London) Federation of British Industries, 39 St James's street, S.W. 1. 1s.

La Roumanie Economique, 1921. (Bucarest) Ministère de l'Industrie.

Iron and Steel in Sweden.

Sweden as a Producer of Wood Goods, Pulp, Paper, Tar and other Forest Products.

The above two books, which form illustrated guides and directories relating to these industries, have been forwarded to us by the Swedish Consulate General in London, Bank Chambers, 329 High Holborn, W.C. 1.

The Indian Importer. No. 1. Vol. I. August, 1921. (Allahabad) Pioneer Press. 6 annas.

Bulletin of the Central British Chamber of Commerce. No. 1. Vol. 1. August 1, 1921. (Mexico City) The Board of Managers.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
September 13.	September 14.

Investment this week has been playing second violin to speculation. The volume of orders for purely investment stocks has been smaller than of late, while revival of a speculative spirit is noticeable amongst Kaffir shares, and in a few of the industrial sections. That investors are by no means unmindful of their opportunities, the prompt closing of the Southland Electric subscription lists on Wednesday morning, after those lists had been open for a few hours, is ready evidence. But so far as the War Loan and its immediate circle of British Government stocks is concerned, there is a noticeable falling away of business. The 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan, dealings in which began on June 6th, was quoted ex dividend yesterday morning, and, allowing for the deduction, the price is practically the same as it was when the market started. The 6 per cent. Corporation stocks continue to advance. Home Railway prior-charge descriptions have scarcely moved during the week.

One of the features in the foreign market is the way in which Brazilians have been rising, owing to the improvement in the milreis. Part of the demand emanated from Paris, and as soon as the exchange showed signs of wavering, bonds came to market, from which the inference is drawn that a proportion of the buying was speculative. Danish and Scandinavian municipal bonds have been taken at substantially better figures. Germans have fluctuated according to the movements in the mark, but the French issues are neglected for the time being. Uruguay bonds have held the greater part of their rises. There has been the usual amount of investment business in Chinese and Argentine; the Norwegian 6 per cent. scrip gained a small fraction.

Prices in the Home Railway market have been moving wildly. One afternoon the price of North-Westerns rose a couple of points in less than five minutes. Public inquiry has been stimulated by the handing back of the companies to their own proprietors, while the advertisements of pre-war travelling facilities have undoubtedly contributed to revival of interest in Home Railway stocks. The market, however, proved too narrow to sustain its strength, and it required little profit-taking to bring about a reaction from the best. Canadians are very quiet, and Mexican Railway stocks have gone back a trifle. The Argentine Railway market, after a show of buoyancy, eased off on the statement that the companies may be required to hand back to their customers the extra charges for freight which, through some misunderstanding, the companies have been collecting during the past few months. Brazilian railways have declined on the drop in the milreis.

Rubber shares are weaker, in consequence of the continued flatness of the raw material and the fact that some rubber shareholders are selling their shares at this time of crisis in the industry. Last week's forced selling of oil shares has not been repeated, and there has been a general recovery in values, notwithstanding rumours of difficulties in the oil trade due to general conditions. Textiles were a little cheered by the Calico Printers' Company declaring a small dividend where none had been expected. The death of the chairman of Courtaulds caused a slight dullness in the price. Shipping shares are easier under the leadership of P. and O. deferred and Indo-China deferred. Gentle depression characterises the market for iron, coal, and steel shares, but Vickers have gained a few pence. Marconis rallied after the meeting on Wednesday afternoon, at which statements were made to the effect that the Imperial Commission had asked the Marconi company to co-operate in the work of the Wireless Chain. The hotel and catering list is uninteresting. Amongst banking investments, P. and O. banking shares, after a drop to 11½, recovered to 12 again, and the recent heaviness shown by some of the London banking shares; although it brought in a few buyers, is still noticeable in the prices. There is nothing doing in the insurance group.

The Kaffir market is the liveliest part of the Stock Exchange. Various reasons have contributed to the growing activity. For one thing, there is a hope that agreement has been reached between the Public Trustee in this country and the Custodian of enemy-held shares in South Africa, on the point of disposal of South African shares taken over from ex-enemies. Lower working costs on the Rand are freely prophesied. Both Cape and Paris have sent a sufficient number of buying orders to bring about fairly substantial rises in the leading shares. The public are beginning to observe the animation, and a gentle amount of speculation has been noticeable during the past few days. The expected profit-taking at the end of the week left prices below the top. The Rhodesian market participated to a milder extent in the attention paid to Kaffirs, and diamonds are also better. Modest improvements in Mexican mining shares balanced dullness in Broken Hills. The various tin groups continue to reflect the disappointment felt with the manner in which tin, the metal, fails to recover. Indian and Russian copper mining shares have attracted no attention, owing to the interest that is centred upon South Africans. Business round the markets gives some degree of indication that there may be better things to come after the holiday season is over.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	149,842,780			
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				£ 1,021,990
5½% 1929 receipts week ended August 13, 1921				14,640,000
Week ended August 20, 1921				1,355,000
Receipts to date				15,995,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED AUGUST 20, 1921.

April 1 to August 20, £1,230,000..... Dr200,000 .. Dr300,000

To the Public—	£	£	£	£
County of Southland (Dominion of New Zealand), £750,000 6½% Debts. guar. by New Zealand Government at 96, red. at par on or after Sept. 15, 1926 (Aug. 24).....	750,000	720,000	37,500	682,500
Keelings Oxides, £5,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at 13s 4d (Aug. 21).....	45,000	30,000	5,000	24,375
Do 90,000 10% Cum. Pref., £1, at 13s 4d	90,000	60,000	11,250	48,750
Nuneaton Gas Company, £7,800 8% Red. Second Deb. Stk. at par (Aug. 20).....	7,800	7,800	1,560	6,240
Cauldon Potteries, £40,000 5% Cum. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (Aug. 26).....	140,000	140,000	17,500	122,500
Total offered to public.....		957,800	73,435	884,365
To Shareholders only—				
Liebig's Extract of Meat, 120,000 Ord. Shares, £5, at par	600,000	600,000	120,000	480,000
Low Temperature Carbonisation, 50,000 "A" Pref. Shares, 10s, at £1	25,000	50,000	6,250	43,750
Warrilows, 50,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at 21s	50,000	52,500	6,250	46,250
Total offered to shareholders only.....		702,500	132,500	570,000

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921.....	1920.....
£152,658,080	£387,549,656
274,718,416	1,036,059,951
592,917,750	1,393,381,441
919,033,872	1,318,596,010
1,090,168,650	585,436,850
375,218,500	685,236,326
658,668,876	512,522,633
172,585,827	196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of the 16th ult.

Dominion of New Zealand (County of Southland Electric Power Board Debentures).—This is an issue at 96 per cent. of £750,000 in debentures to bearer of £100 each, and carrying interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, principal and interest unconditionally guaranteed by the Government of New Zealand. The principal will be repayable at par on September 15, 1934 (for which a sinking fund will be provided. The right is reserved to redeem the debentures at par on or after September 15, 1936. The loan is issued to provide funds for the erection and equipment of the County of Southland electric power station, and it stated that "most of the plant for which has been, or will be, purchased in this country." The County of Southland, having for its capital the town of Invercargill, is the southernmost county of the South Island, New Zealand. The Southland electric power district comprises the whole of the County of Southland, together with a large portion of the counties of Tuapeka and Clutha and the borough of Tapanui. The population of this district is 65,450. The improved value of the property in the County of Southland Electric Power Board district is £22,000,030, and the unimproved value £13,600,471—total value £35,600,501. The board has taken power to borrow up to £1,500,000, but £750,000 is estimated to cover the cost of development for nearly two years. The board has no capital indebtedness other than the present issue. The estimated cost of the initial development of 8,000 horse-power, its transmission and distribution over 1,750 miles of road lines, is £1,100,000. The balance of £400,000 will only be provided or borrowed as and when required by the extension of the board's activities. A well-secured investment, which was quickly over-subscribed.

Liebig's Extract of Meat Company, Limited.—In accordance with previous announcements, 120,000 ordinary shares of £5 each are offered at par to holders of ordinary shares in the proportion of one new share for every share held on August 17th. The profits of this company were slightly down for its last published financial year, but the directors maintained the 25 per cent. distribution on ordinary shares and placed £59,228 to reserve, as compared with £92,000 in the previous year (see the *Economist* for July 9, 1921, page 49). The company appears to be in an excellent financial position. In July the £5 existing ordinary shares were quoted at £18½. These are now marked at 10½ to 12½, ex dividend, bonus, and rights. This later quotation leads one to suppose that the shares are firmly held.

Cauldon Potteries, Limited.—Authorised capital, £500,000 divided into 150,000 8 per cent. cumulative preference and 350,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each. All the ordinary shares have been issued, and are held by the directors and employees, and apparently 10,000 preference shares have been already issued; the remaining balance of 140,000 preference shares are now offered at par. The advertised prospectus states that the company was formed in April, 1920, to acquire and amalgamate the business of eight china and earthenware manufacturers in the pottery district. Net assets.

of combined undertakings are valued at £500,046. No sum is payable for goodwill, but it should be noted that in assets the miscellaneous item of £62,263 includes the word "designs." Profits are shown for two years only, which is rather surprising when it is considered that some of the businesses were established many years ago. And, further, these profits are described as "trading profits," it being explained that depreciation, interest, &c., have not been taken into account. Preference shareholders have limited voting powers. It may be that this is an excellent undertaking, but the absence of information about past profits in the advertised prospectus renders a subscription to its shares something in the nature of a speculation.

Low Temperature Carbonisation.—50,000 of the "A" preference shares of 10s each recently created are now offered at £1 per share to shareholders in the proportion of one new share for every 15 complete shares held. We summarised particulars of this company in the *Economist* for July 3, 1920, on page 18. We should be interested to know the reasons which led the directors to the conclusion that these 10s "A" preference shares should be offered to shareholders at a premium of 10s each.

Keelings Oxides (1921), Limited.—Authorised capital £250,000, divided into 100,000 10 per cent. cumulative preference and 150,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each. Applications are invited for 90,000 10 per cent. preference and 45,000 ordinary shares at par. The prospectus states that "the directors and their friends have applied for at par, and will have allotted to them on the terms of this prospectus £45,000 in shares of this issue," also that the holders of preference shares have on a poll one vote per share at general meetings of the company, and holders of ordinary shares one vote for every two shares. We quote in full the following interesting variation of the company promoters' art:—"The shares now offered will be allotted in the proportion of two preference shares to one ordinary share, or in corresponding multiples. Offers for one class only of shares will not be entertained. Under Article 6 of the company's articles of association, as recently amended by special resolution, the directors are empowered to pay a commission not exceeding 35 per cent. of the nominal amount of any shares offered for public subscription. And they hereby offer to every person who subscribes for shares of this issue in the above-mentioned proportions a commission in cash of 33½ per cent. of the nominal amount of the shares allotted to him. Such commission will either be paid by the company in cash or it may be deducted by the allottee from the final instalment due from him on September 30, 1921." The company has been formed to acquire as a going concern the business of the manufacture of zinc and other metallic oxides now or lately carried on by Keelings Oxides, Limited, of Stoke-on-Trent. The manufacture of zinc oxide was commenced early in 1914 as a branch of the established chemical business of Keeling and Walker, Limited, of Stoke-on-Trent. In the year 1918 Keelings Oxides, Limited (the old company), was incorporated as subsidiary to Keeling and Walker, Limited, to carry on and develop the process of manufacture, which had then been "perfected," and after erection of the first instalment of plant production begun upon a commercial scale in July, 1919. The purchase price has been fixed at £122,500, payable as to £58,000 in cash and £64,500 in shares, and it is stated that the vendor makes a profit of £17,500 out of the sale. Profits are given for one year as £17,399. The terms of this offer (as quoted above) brings the question of issuing shares at a discount once again to the forefront. It is difficult to see what advantages can be claimed for this method. It will be noted that goodwill, "rights, processes, and trade marks," are to be acquired at a comparatively substantial amount, and issuing the shares at such a heavy discount will only place a further burden in paying dividends on what can only be described as "inflated" capital.

Nuneaton Gas Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament. Issue of £12,300 8 per cent. "redeemable" second debenture stock at par. The stock will be repayable at par on March 25, 1942, but the company reserves the right to redeem it at 102 per cent. in any year after March 25, 1922, subject to six months' notice. This issue of debenture stock will constitute a charge on the assets and undertakings of the company, and will rank next after the existing issue of £12,300 4 per cent. debenture stock. The company was incorporated under the Nuneaton Gas Acts, 1886, and the capital of the company consists of—1,969 original shares of £8 each, 3,573 new shares of £8 each, and £12,300 4 per cent. debenture stock. Profits are shown for the past 10 years, and these reveal the fact that interest on the debentures is well covered. The net proceeds of this sale of stock will be applied in the reduction of the company's overdraft at the bank and in providing for further necessary expenditure on capital account. Subject to the usual objection of small issues—namely, the difficulty of selling in case of need in the absence of a free market—the issue is not without attraction.

ACTIVE SECURITIES.

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War 3½%, 1925-28 .. 86½	86½	86½	0
Loans 4½%, 1925-45 .. 81½	81½	81½	0
4½%, 1929-47 .. 81½	81½	81½	0
4½%, 1929-42 .. 96½	96½	96½	0
Funding Loan 4% .. 70½	70½	70½	0
Victory Bonds 4% .. 76½	76½	76½	0
Conversion Loan 3½% .. 61½	61½	61½	0
Consols 2½% .. 48	48	48	0
Irish Land Stock 2½% .. 48½	48½	48½	0

Banks.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £24 paid) .. 6½	6½	6½	0
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) .. 14½	14½	14½	0
Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10) .. 19	19	19	0
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10) .. 11½	11½	11½	0
Nat. Prov. & Union of England & Wales (£20 with £4 paid) .. 9	9	9	0
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) .. 11½	11½	11½	0

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Antofagasta Cons. .. 46½	46½	46½	0
B. A. & Pacific .. 43½	43½	43½	0
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 60	60	60	0
Buenos Ayres West. .. 60	60	60	0
Canadian Pacific .. 154	154	154	0
Central Argentine .. 58½	58½	58½	0
Grand Trunk Ord. .. 4½	4½	4½	0
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. .. 12½	12½	12½	0
Leopoldina .. 23½	23½	23½	0
Mexican Railway .. 15	15	15	0
Do 1st Pref. .. 41	41	41	0
Do 2nd Pref. .. 25	25	25	0
San Paulo .. 126	126	126	0
United Havana .. 59	59	59	0

American Railroads.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Chesapeake & Ohio .. 72	72	72	0
Erie .. 17½	17½	17½	0
Do 4½ 1st Pref. .. 25	25	25	0
Southern .. 26	26	26	0
Do Non-cum Pref. .. 59	59	59	0

Foreign Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Argentine 5%, 1886-7 .. 93½	93½	93½	0
Belgian 3% .. 62	62	62	0
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914 .. 61	61	61	0
Chilian 4½%, 1895 .. 69	69	69	0
Chinese 5%, 1912 .. 72	72	72	0
Egyptian 4% .. 64½	64½	64½	0
French 5% .. 43x	43x	43x	0
Do 4% .. 33	33	33	0
Italian 3½% Rentes .. 25	25	25	0
Greek Monopoly 4% .. 32½	32½	32½	0
Japanese 4½% .. 118x	118x	118x	0
Do 4%, 1910 .. 64	64	64	0
Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 57	57	57	0
Peruvian Corp. Pref. .. 16½	16½	16½	0
Russian 5%, 1906 .. 12½	12½	12½	0
Spanish 4% .. 69½	69½	69½	0

Telegraphs.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Anglo-American "A" .. 17½	17½	17½	0
Eastern Telegraph .. 163½	163½	163½	0
Marconi Wireless .. 11½	11½	11½	0
Marconi Canada .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Marconi Marine .. 1½	1½	1½	0

British Railways.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Great Central Pref. .. 8½	8½	8½	0
Great Eastern .. 26½	26½	26½	0
Great Northern Def. .. 24½	24½	24½	0
Great Western .. 67x	67x	67x	0
Lancs. and Yorks. .. 46	46	46	0
London, Brighton & S. Coast .. 41	41	41	0
London Chatham .. 53	53	53	0
Do Arb. Pref. .. 35	35	35	0
L. & N.W. .. 69x	69x	69x	0
L. & S. Western, Def. .. 18	18	18	0
Metropolitan .. 24½	24½	24½	0
Metropolitan District .. 17½	17½	17½	0
Midland Def. .. 41	41	41	0
North British Def. .. 9½	9½	9½	0
North-Eastern .. 69	69	69	0
South-Eastern "A" .. 21	21	21	0

Miscellaneous.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1) .. 17½	17½	17½	0
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 15½	15½	15½	0
Ass. P. Ind. Cement (£1) .. 18½	18½	18½	0
B'ham Small Arms (£1) .. 8½	8½	8½	0
Brazil Traction (£100) .. 29	29	29	0
British-American Tobacco (£1) .. 3½	3½	3½	0
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) .. 5½	5½	5½	0
Burnham Oil (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Coats (J. & F.) (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Courtaulds (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Cunard (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Forestal Land (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Furness, Withy (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Highlands and Low- land (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Hudson's Bay (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Imperial Tobacco (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Imperial Paint (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Linggi Plants (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Lipton (£1) .. 8½	8½	8½	0
Lister (£1) .. 3½	3½	3½	0
Lobitos Oilfields (£1) .. 3½	3½	3½	0
Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 4½	4½	4½	0
Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 4½	4½	4½	0
North Caucasian (10) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Pekin (2) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Rubber Plantations Investment (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Shell Transport (£1) .. 4½	4½	4½	0
Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Underground Electric (£10) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Do "A" (1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Do Inc. Bds. (£100) .. 80	80	80	0
United Serdang (2) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
United Tobacco (£1) .. 5½	5½	5½	0
Ural Caspian (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Vallambrosa (2) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Vickers (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Watney Def. Stk. .. 132x	132x	132x	0

Mines.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Brakpan (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Chartered (Sir R. P.) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Crown Mines (10) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
De Beers Def. (£2½) .. 11½	11½	11½	0
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Eduld (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4½	4½	4½	0
Knights .. 3½	3½	3½	0
Modderfontein (10) .. 3½	3½	3½	0
Modderfont. "B" (5) .. 1½	1½	1½	0
Modderfont. Deep (5) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Premier Def. (2½) .. 5	5	5	0
Rand Mines (5) .. 2½	2½	2½	0
Rio Tinto (£5) .. 30	30	30	0
Spring Mines (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	0

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, August 17, 1921, amounted to 659 tons.

HEAD OFFICE:

1 Dale Street,
LIVERPOOL.



LONDON:

Chief Office,
1 Cornhill, E.C.3

TOTAL ASSETS exceed - £20,000,000
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID over - £102,000,000

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity Guarantee, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Personal Accident, Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of Profits, &c.

OFFICES IN ALL THE CHIEF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

ANCHOR LINE (HENDERSON BROTHERS), LIMITED. TRADE SLUMP AND ITS REMEDY.

NEW METHODS NEEDED FOR SETTLING INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES.
The twenty-third ordinary general meeting of this company was held at Cunard buildings, Liverpool, on the 23rd instant. Mr Francis Henderson presided, in the unavoidable absence of Sir Alfred Booth, Bart. (chairman of the company).

DIRECTORS' REPORT.

The report of the directors for the year ended April 30, 1921, states that:—

The various services of the company, consequent on a return to more normal conditions, have been more satisfactorily maintained than during the previous year. They are, however, still below their pre-war standard, owing to the difficulty in replacing tonnage lost during the war.

Both the freight and passenger business have continued good during the year under review. Since then, however, the freight situation has suffered a severe collapse, whilst the steerage passenger business on the North Atlantic is now adversely affected by the U.S. Act limiting immigration. The directors hope that a revival of the freight business, especially in the Eastern trade, may take place during the current year.

The "Cameronia" was delivered by Messrs William Beardmore and Co., Limited, on March 10, 1921, and has since that date completed three voyages. She is proving herself a most satisfactory addition to the fleet.

Owing to the delay in delivery of new tonnage, the directors have purchased during the year the ex-German steamers "Ypiranga" and "Kigoma," which have been renamed "Assyria" and "Algeria" respectively.

The directors desire to record, with very sincere regret, the death of Mr James Gardner on July 24, 1921. Mr Gardner was a valued servant of the company for upwards of 50 years, latterly as secretary, and finally as general manager and secretary.

The profits for the year which ended on April 30, 1921, after providing for depreciation and special reserves against income-tax, war taxation, and contingencies, amounted to £205,245 13 3. Add balance brought forward from April 30, 1920... 141,398 17 3

Out of which there has been placed to reserve account... £200,000 0 0
And there has been paid dividend on preference shares for year ending April 30, 1921, less income-tax... 12,512 10 0

Leaving a balance of £134,132 0 6
Which the directors recommend should be applied as follows:—

To payment of dividend on ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent., free of income-tax... 25,000 0 0
Leaving a balance to carry forward to next year of £109,132 0 6

Sir Alfred Booth, Bart., Mr J. Fred. N. Graham, and Sir Aubrey Brocklebank, Bart., retire at this time, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

Messrs McClelland, Ker, and Co., the company's auditors, retire, but are eligible for re-election.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The secretary (Mr John Binnie) read the notice calling the meeting and the auditors' certificate.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—I fancy it is a disappointment that we have not got the chairman with us on this occasion, but, as you know, Sir Alfred Booth has had a strenuous time lately, and is taking a much-needed rest. The 12 months through which we have passed since we last met have been characterised by exceptional difficulties for all those who had to do with the import or export business of the country, but more particularly for those who were, like ourselves, engaged in the carrying trade. The enormous cost of new vessels, the delay in getting delivery of them, the almost prohibitive price of coal, and the difficulty for many months of getting coal at all, not to speak of the increase of wages to all classes of men employed, both ashore and afloat, were surely handicaps enough with which to contend, but to all these was added a collapse in trade unprecedented in its suddenness, and quite unforeseen even by the most experienced.

It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that the accounts which we present to you to-day are not quite so satisfactory as some of those you have seen in recent years, but we think it will be admitted that shareholders have little to find fault with in view of the singularly intricate and perplexing condition of affairs with which we had to deal. The directors have been much assisted throughout a trying and arduous year by the earnest and zealous co-operation of all our agents at home and abroad, and by the unremitting energy of the managers and staffs at the different offices of the company.

WARNING TO TRADE OPTIMISTS.

At the moment there seems to be a lightening of the clouds which have overhung the country for months past, and those who know—or think that they do—prophecy that we shall soon see a return of our former prosperity. While it is far from my wish to throw cold water on any such hopeful suggestions, I am firmly convinced that we shall not regain the position we occupied in 1913 until the people of this country not only believe in the gospel of hard work, but practise it. The people of Belgium and Germany have had this salutary truth hammered into them by their tragic experiences since 1914, and are now showing us an example which we would do well to follow.

Much has been said at meetings in Liverpool and elsewhere of the burden of taxation, and how it hangs like a millstone round the neck of industry, and cramps all our efforts at reconstruction, but the only remark I would make here is that one of the worst results of the coal strike is to make it impossible to anticipate any reduction of taxation for several years to come. The Committee of Business Men that we see talked about in the papers may, and no doubt will, give the Chancellor of the Exchequer much good advice, but they cannot alter the circumstances in which we are placed. The fact of the matter is that if we wish to regain our lost trade and compete successfully with other nations, all of us, employers and employed, will have to be content during the years that lie before us with a smaller return on our capital and lower wages for our work than we received in the years 1917 to 1920. If we attempt to take more out of an industry than it can afford to pay, the inevitable result will be a cessation of the industry, and examples of this are all around us to-day, as is shown by the numbers of our unemployed.

COAL STRIKE AND ITS LESSONS.

The splendid way in which our industrial classes endured the privations brought about by the recent unfortunate strike has frequently been commented upon, but the mortifying suggestion occurs to one that there need not have been any strike at all had reasonable counsels prevailed. What the coalowners and miners entirely overlooked was that without cheap coal our industries and our shipping cannot live, and unless we export about 70 million tons of coal per annum we cannot pay for the food we require, and many of our steamers will be lying idle for lack of cargo, so that in allowing a strike to take place all those concerned were doing their utmost to ruin their own country.

Gentlemen, it seems to me that unless the statesmen of this country can devise some better methods of settling an industrial dispute than by a four months' strike, bringing ruin and misery upon millions of people, then, to use the sailors' simile, our rudder is jammed, and we are heading straight for the rocks of national disaster. The welfare of my native country is very dear to me, and if there are any—I do not care to what class they belong—who through stupid, selfish obstinacy would retard or prevent the recovery of the prosperity of this country, I hope their ways will be dark and slippery, and their end confusion.

This is the twenty-third annual meeting of the company, though

some of us have been engaged in the shipping business for much longer than that, and have witnessed many periods of depression similar to that which we are experiencing now, but they have invariably been followed by periods of prosperity. I am convinced, therefore, that if we have learned aright the lessons of the past two years, we may look forward to the future with confidence, relying upon the innate common-sense of our people and their indomitable industry and perseverance to bring us eventually to better times.

THE DIVIDEND.

I have much pleasure in proposing that the report of the directors and statements of accounts be hereby received and adopted, and, as recommended by the board, a dividend of 10 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the year ending April 30, 1921, be and is hereby declared.

Mr A. J. P. Henderson seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors (Sir Alfred Booth, Bart., Mr J. Fred N. Graham, and Sir Aubrey Brocklebank) were re-elected, and the retiring auditors (Messrs McClelland, Ker and Co.) were reappointed.

The proceedings then terminated.

UNITED PREMIER OIL AND CAKE COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

CURRENT YEAR'S SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

The second ordinary general meeting of the members of the United Premier Oil and Cake Company, Limited, was held, on the 23rd instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London.

Mr Herbert Guedalla, F.C.A. (the chairman), presided.

The secretary (Mr. F. S. Tomkins) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Gentlemen,—In the first place, I must apologise to you for, and explain, the long delay in issuing the accounts. The periods to which our various subsidiaries take their accounts do not exactly coincide, and important points have arisen with reference to the proper treatment of the accounts for the purpose of settling excess profits duty with the revenue authorities. This has all taken a great deal of time. There were many most complicated questions to settle, and both our accountants and the revenue authorities must have been overwhelmed with work of this character. We had to be most careful to make all the adjustments that we could fairly maintain in our favour in arriving at this last and final settlement. I note we are not the only ones to suffer in this respect, and one of the results of this wretched form of taxation has been to occupy so much time of those in charge of a business, which should have been more properly employed in actual administration.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

With your permission I shall take the report and accounts as read, and if we turn now to the balance-sheet you will note that the ordinary capital has been increased by £250,000, which shares we issued on April 30, 1920, at the price of 25s each to the ordinary shareholders of the company. We have redeemed during the year, in accordance with the trust deed, £5,750 nominal of the 6 per cent. debenture stock. The item of £41,137 for sundry creditors and credit balances includes a liability of £24,000, which was payable at the date of the balance-sheet on account of a contract entered into for the acquisition of a further small business. We received on account of premium on the share issue £62,500, and to make sure of the success of the issue we paid an underwriting commission of 1s per share, or £12,500, leaving a net reserve on account of share premiums of £50,000. On the asset side of the balance-sheet our investments stand at £1,344,858, being an increase of about £22,000, and in dealing with this asset perhaps it might be more convenient also to take the loans against securities and advances to subsidiaries, amounting to £371,106. Of this amount at the date of the balance-sheet about £114,000 represented loans at interest which could be called in at any time, the balance of £256,000 being advances to subsidiary companies for the purposes of their business. Our subsidiary concerns are Wray, Sanderson, and Co., Limited, J. L. Seaton and Co., Limited, the Premier Oil Extracting Mills, Limited, Sowerby and Co., Limited, and the Universal Oil Company, Limited. We have various other businesses which we work in conjunction with these larger concerns. During the period under review these businesses have been under the able management of our Hull executive. The accounts only display the general results of the work performed, but, as you can imagine, the various businesses have their ups and downs. The period under review has been most difficult for this particular industry, and it

has required the closest and keenest attention to business to steer a safe course for the various concerns. For the last nine months of 1920 there was a continuous drop in the price of our products, and we had to legislate accordingly.

IMPROVEMENTS IN PLANT COMPLETED.

During this period our subsidiaries have been engaged in making considerable additions, and the extensions and improvements in plant mentioned in my last year's speech are now about completed, and have proved to be quite up to expectations in regard to output and efficient and economical working of the mills and refineries, so that we can fairly claim to have as up-to-date plant and buildings as any similar concerns in this country. The railway sidings in connection with the Premier Oil Mills are now in part working order, and will prove to be a valuable acquisition to this property. We have about 4½ acres of spare land on this site, and this land is being laid out as a sports field for our staff and workmen. The charge for repairs and renewals, mainly due to war conditions, has proved exceptionally heavy, owing to the high cost of labour and materials, but the mills have now been brought up to very good order and condition, and at the lower cost of material and labour we can look forward to this charge being much lighter in the future. Our research department have carried out some good work, and their investigations prove of great value in the efficient working of the mills. The amount of seed and nuts treated during the year was in excess of any previous 12 months. Our stocks of seed, nuts, oils, cakes, &c., at the end of the year were taken at cost or market price, whichever was lower, and this, together with the trading for the first six months of this year, has worked out with satisfactory margins of profit. The item of sundry debtors and debit balances represents, for the most part, dividends declared by subsidiaries and not received at the date of the balance-sheet. We have written a further amount of £9,675 off preliminary expenses, but we do not touch the item for discount on debenture stock, because that will automatically disappear as redemption proceeds.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

Turning now to the revenue account, we have taken dividends from our subsidiary companies to the amount of £156,521, and we have received in interest £15,188, so that with transfer fees our total receipts for this period have been £172,038. This compares with the amount of £247,093 received for the previous 7½ months, but I would point out that the previous period was one of remarkable prosperity, and I am sure that in all the circumstances we can congratulate ourselves on the results achieved. Considering the broken period, the expenses are much the same, but you will observe an item of £2,502 in respect of a West African proposition written off. This was a proposition to acquire an estate producing palm kernels, and *prima facie* on reports received it looked like a scheme in which this company might fairly take an interest. It was arranged, therefore, that one of our executive committee, Mr O'Brien, should proceed to West Africa to examine the business on the spot. His report was unfavourable, and so the matter was dropped. After writing off £9,675 on account of preliminary expenses, providing interest on debenture stock and also instalment of sinking fund for same, there remains a balance of £114,108. To this has to be added the net balance brought forward from last year of £45,673. We have then a total of £159,872 to dispose of, and after payment of £34,434 on the dividend on the preference shares for the year, and £56,250, being the interim dividend of 7½ per cent., less tax, on the ordinary shares paid in December last, there remained a balance of £69,191. I have already explained to you the long delay in settling taxation questions with the revenue authorities, but we thought that in the circumstances we should not wait for the general meeting, and we accordingly at the end of June last declared a further interim dividend of 5 per cent., less income-tax, on the ordinary shares, which absorbed £26,250, and this amount deducted from the above balance will leave to be carried forward £42,941, which is subject to the percentage of profits due to the directors under the articles of association. This 5 per cent. was really a final dividend, but we had to wait for the general meeting to confirm it as such.

TRADE CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS.

We have gone a long way into the current year, and I am glad to inform you that the results so far as we know them are quite satisfactory. This is the more gratifying when we consider the unfortunate position in which the general trade of this country stands to-day. With so many adverse factors, it is impossible to see daylight yet. The whole root of the evil has been the policy of deflation which has been so rigidly enforced. In this country it must be appreciated that we have two classes of capital, one which employs productive labour, and the other which employs money only, and it has been unfortunate that the advice of the latter has predominated in the policy to be pursued. The trade of the country is short of working capital. It is an acknowledged fact that for any single business to maintain the pre-war turnover

RAPHAEL TUCK AND SONS, LIMITED.

THE WORLD'S ART SERVICE.

The twentieth annual general meeting of this company was held on the 24th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, Sir Adolph Tuck, Bart. (the chairman), presiding.

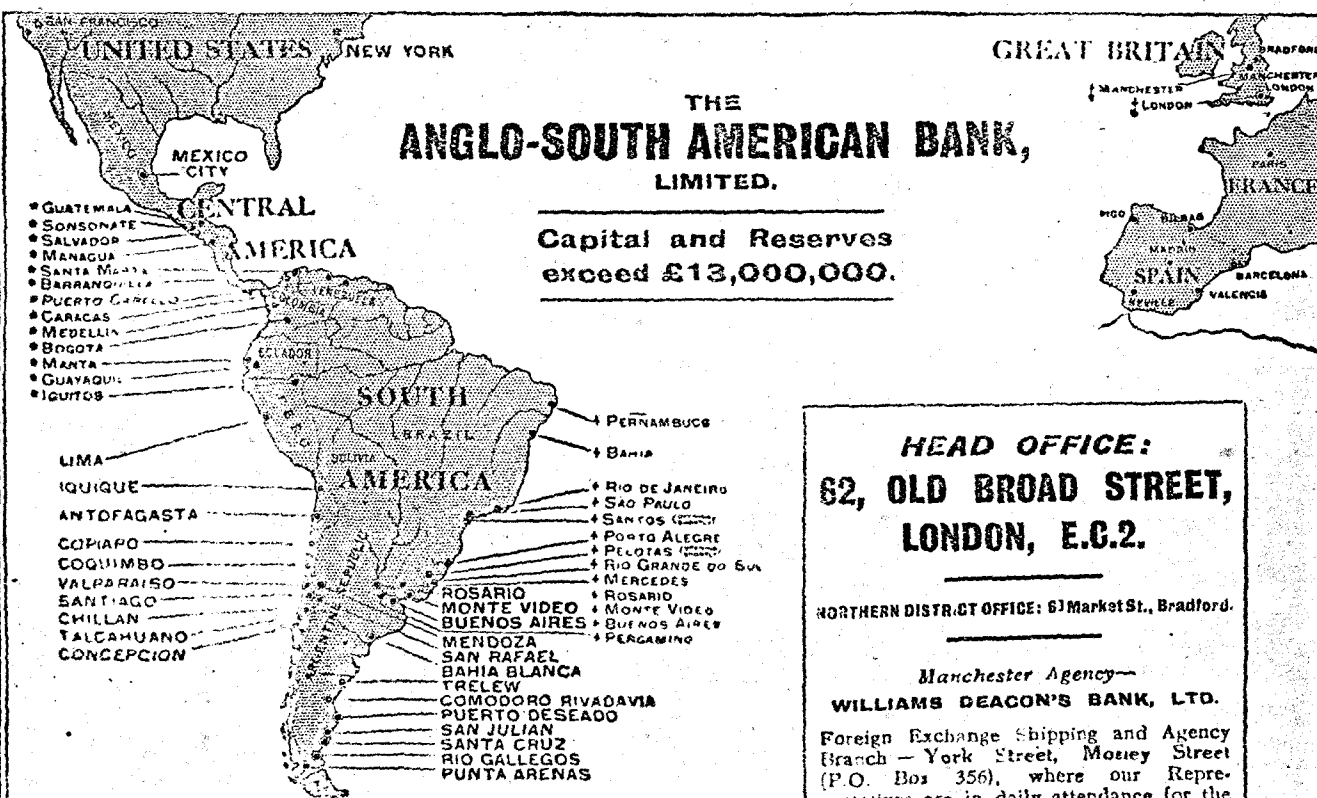
The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the company had entered on its majority year. Commencing operations on May 1, 1901, although actually incorporated in October of that year, it was now well in its 21st year, and, adding the 35 years during which the business established by his late father in 1866 was carried on as a private undertaking during the first 30 years, and afterwards as a private company, the business had now completed the 55th year of its existence in one unbroken line. This was cause for congratulation not merely to the shareholders of this company, but to the country at large. It must be to the art-loving propensities of the people of the United Kingdom in the first instance to which the success of such an undertaking was due, and it was only these which could have enabled the founders to lay such firm foundations to the structure, add art department after art department to the business, and, extending its ramifications in every civilised country, create what was now acknowledged as "the world's art service."

RECORD TURNOVER.

So far as volume was concerned, he was glad to say that the past year's trade was the largest in the history of the company, being actually above last year's figures, which were then the highest on record. He wished it had been possible to make the same gratifying statement with regard to the net profit derived from this large turnover. The expenditure during the 12 months under review, from May 1, 1920, to April 30, 1921, was abnormally high. In common with almost all other business corporations, it was practically impossible to call a halt to its continuous increase.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



INCREASED POSTAL RATES.

Referring to the increased postage on picture postcards to 1½d, he said it would be remembered that it was first threatened by Mr Chamberlain in his capacity of Chancellor of the Exchequer last year. As chairman of a representative committee formed without loss of time by the picture postcard industry to combat this increase, he (the speaker) introduced an important deputation to the then Postmaster-General, Mr Illingworth, whose reply gave some hopes of further consideration, and, on his retirement to the House of Lords before the question was settled, he led a second deputation in June of this year to Mr Kellaway, who had been appointed to the position of Postmaster-General. The practical arguments they brought forward against this proposed increase appeared unanswerable. All that they were asking was that picture postcards might be treated in the same way as in France and other countries, that was separate from the ordinary correspondence postcard, and that 12 words of any general character be allowed on the address side only at the penny postage rate.

Surely this was a modest enough request, and one which with such limitations could not possibly compete with the twopenny letter post, while, on the contrary, the recipient of a picture postcard often enough sent a grateful acknowledgment by letter. He could only hope that the common sense which, with his usual insight, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, when presiding over the recent dinner of the Chamber of Commerce, rightly claimed was the characteristic of the British people would ultimately prevail, that a promising British industry would not be permitted to languish through any false notion of official etiquette, and that this limited penny postage on picture postcards would be restored at an early date.

SPLENDID TURNOVER IN CHRISTMAS CARD, &C., DEPARTMENT.

Again it was the Christmas and New Year card, birthday card, and greeting card department generally which, true to its traditions of the past 50 years, continued its great lead. Raphael House was to the fore this season with one of the finest collections of new publications in all its varied art departments which had ever left its studios, and the "world's art service" would be found to be completely maintained by the wide-world dissemination of this year's marvellous array of art productions. The art stationery and printing journals, which occupied a deservedly high position in the trade, were one and all emphatic on this point.

Coming to the profits for the year, these, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, depreciations, income-tax, and all expenses, amounted to £47,363. The directors recommended the payment of a final dividend on the ordinary shares for six months to April 30, 1921, at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, making, with the interim dividend already paid, a dividend for the year of 10 per cent. There was transferred to special dividend reserve fund, as provided by the articles of association, £2,586, the remaining £5,136 being carried forward to next year. The total reserves, if the shareholders approved of the directors' proposals, would stand at £86,008.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors), FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts (31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments in Government Securities.	Advances to		Redemption Account.						
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.		
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£		
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	18,500	..	48.1	9,924	11,423		
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	..	..	..	..	9,285		
1915.											
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536		
1916.											
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868		
1917.											
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,486		
1918.											
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566		
1919.											
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413		
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271		
Oct. 1.....	355,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589		
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,162	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802		
1920.											
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981		
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	3,05		
Sept. 29.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385		
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134		
1921.											
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141			
June 29.....	323,894	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150			
Aug. 3.....	329,220	14,918	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.6	293,038	150			
10.....	327,133	14,785	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.7	290,827	141			
17.....	323,241	14,836	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,071	116.			
24.....	320,362	14,602	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.0	283,888	126.			

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £50,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Aug. 29th-Sept. 3rd, were opened on Aug. 26, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £75,145,000. Tenders for Monday and Tuesday bills at £98 16s 4d will receive about 9 per cent. and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 16s 7½d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 13s 0.38d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate-for Addition ¹ Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
July 29 (3 months)	60,000,000	99,975,000	4 8 7/82	4½	£98 17s 5d (Tuesday to Friday bills), abt 49½%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 8d, above in full.
August 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	77,955,000	4 10 10	4½	£98 16s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), abt 94%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 2d, above in full.
August 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	74,340,000	4 15 3/8	4½	£98 15s 9d (Monday to Friday bills), abt 93½%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d, above in full.
August 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,435,000	4 14 10/62	4½	£98 15s 11d (Monday to Friday bills), abt 92½%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 4d, above in full.
Aug. 26 (3 months)	50,000,000	75,145,000	4 13 0.38	4½	£98 15s 4d (Monday and Tuesday bills), and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 16s 7d, abt 9%, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £50,000,000.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note).	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		Receipts.	
		to Aug. 20, 1921.	to Aug. 21, 1920.	Week Ending Aug. 20, 1921.	Week Ending Aug. 21, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.		3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
Customs.....	128,800,000	47,360,000	50,456,000	1,456,000	2,617,000
Excise.....	196,220,000	75,153,000	68,310,000	12,280,000	11,216,000
Motor Vehicle Duties.....	9,000,000	2,205,000	1,650,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	17,414,000	18,791,000	815,000	641,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	5,179,000	9,190,000	103,000	694,000
Land Tax.....	..	..	..	..	..
House Duty.....	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	113,124,000	101,844,000	6,960,000	5,213,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	24,024,000	88,102,000	180,000	5,723,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	4,010,000	160,000	..	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	17,500,000	17,250,000	1,000,000	1,600,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	210,000	190,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	4,243,260	5,983,922	..	..
Miscellaneous—					
Ordinary Receipts....	21,500,000	8,687,400	6,962,572	506,000	496,000
Special Receipts....	158,500,000	36,635,029	116,624,211	1,013,420	..
Revenue.....	1,215,650,000	356,166,689	484,093,705	24,473,460	27,600,000
Total inc. Balance ..	..	359,241,195	493,462,802	..	..

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, August 24, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	145,036,435
Government debt	11,015,100
Other securities	7,434,900
Gold coin & bullion	126,586,435
	145,036,435

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000
Rest	3,511,022
Public deposits	17,706,354
Other deposits	116,186,287
Seven-day & other bills ..	5,503
	151,962,166

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Aug. 24, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,511,022	+ £ 14,114	+ £ 13,124
Public deposits	17,706,354	+ 421,690	+ 2,342,407
Other deposits	116,186,287	+ 6,360,389	+ 15,956,078
Government securities	52,415,435	+ 5,325,000	+ 10,859,973
Other securities	78,658,583	+ 865,789	+ 2,775,442
Reserve	20,888,148	+ 266,153	+ 4,302,841
Note circulation	125,964,555	+ 270,572	+ 1,071,005
Coin and bullion	128,402,703	+ 4,417	+ 5,372,846
% of reserve to liabilities ..	158%	+ 7%	+ 18%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
June 1.....	128,363,389	129,095,280	149,766,080	149,815,500	17,718,109	11.7%	12½
8.....	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	12.4%	12½
15.....	128,375,126	127,491,195	147,029,914	145,488,015	19,333,931	13.4%	12½
22.....	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,630	137,400,455	19,329,150	13.6%	12½
29.....	128,366,727	129,006,290	147,036,431	147,036,431	17,710,738	11.7%	12½
July 6.....	128,373,661	127,955,565	154,629,219	153,615,715	18,868,096	12.4%	12½
13.....	128,367,451	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,993,389	19,099,719	11.4%	12½
20.....	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,809,758	121,188,923	18,536,693	15.4%	12½
27.....	128,382,461	128,693,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14.4%	12½
Aug. 3.....	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	14.4%	12½
10.....	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	14.4%	12½
17.....	128,402,703	125,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	15.8%	12½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Aug. 23, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Aug. 27, 1919.	Aug. 25, 1920.	Aug. 24, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,880,665	£ 28,933,380	£ 79,800,445	£ 124,893,550	£ 125,964,555
Public deposits	8,070,267	19,014,809	23,260,881	15,363,947	17,706,354
Other deposits	43,546,744	41,248,964	94,918,355	100,591,409	116,186,287
Government securities	14,967,286	11,046,570	23,784,756	41,555,460	52,415,435
Other securities	25,223,051	41,461,280	79,569,477	75,883,141	78,658,583
Reserve of notes and coin	29,503,397	25,463,980	26,893,648	16,585,307	20,888,148
Coin and bullion	40,933,462	35,947,360	88,244,935	123,028,097	128,402,703
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	57½%	42½%	22½%	14½%	15.8%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	5½%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	2½	2½	3½	6½	4½
Price of Consols	78½	74½	51½	46½	47½
Price of silver per oz.	24½d	26½d	73s 10d	90s 7d	66s 9d
Average price of wheat	31s 6d	33s 0d	33s 8d	50s 9d-52s 3d	47s 5d-75
Exchanges { Paris	£4 8/8	£4 7/8	£4 20/21	£3 54/59	£3 66/62
New York	12-2-24	12-05-10	11-36-38	11-30-32	11-81-85
Amsterdam	20-49	20-49	87-00-88-00	176-182	304-317
London					
Clearing house return	220,390,000	199,913,000	536,095,000	676,664,000	603,211,000

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to August 20.			
BIRMINGHAM	125,662,000	84,535,200	-42,066,800
Bristol	58,715,000	49,615,000	-9,100,000
DUBLIN	292,329,100	239,170,000	-53,159,100
HULL (28 Weeks ended August 20)	30,779,300	30,779,300	—
LEEDS	58,718,300	37,781,700	-20,936,600
LIVERPOOL	42,797,430	25,521,200	-17,276,230
MANCHESTER	545,618,700	283,812,700	-261,806,000
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	1,027,105,700	464,503,000	-562,602,700
NOTTINGHAM	105,228,700	61,490,200	-43,738,500
SHEFFIELD	39,289,900	23,580,300	-15,709,600
	56,064,000	39,234,100	-16,829,900

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 19, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Aug. 16, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve	2,600,300	+ 24,400	1,977,360
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	145,170	+ 220	155,530
Bills discounted for member banks	1,512,120	+ 14,540	2,589,010
Bills bought in open market	41,910	—	320,620
Government obligations owned	245,280	+ 14,460	304,720
All other resources	53,730	+ 710	30,410
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	19,010	- 16,590	11,620
Other deposits	1,652,240	+ 25,360	1,680,830
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,503,640	- 17,100	3,169,180
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	114,500	- 3,800	196,910
All other liabilities	19,130	+ 680	57,800
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits	316,720	+ 300	261,300
Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	65.0%	+ 0.8%	43.9%

CANADIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Jan., 1921.	Dec., 1920.	Nov., 1920.	Month's Movement.
Reserve fund	133,344	133,049	132,782	+ 295
Note circulation	206,176	206,176	206,176	—
Demand deposits	644,625	657,497	686,754	- 17,471
Time deposits	1,313,094	1,293,007	1,292,009	+ 9,998
Deposits outside Canada	318,623	355,771	351,781	- 3,988
Current account	85,118	82,688	86,211	- 3,523
Domestic notes	186,590	177,489	190,641	- 13,152
Deposits Central Gold Reserve	89,703	113,353	114,903	- 21,550
Call loans in Canada	112,474	114,703	108,471	+ 6,232
Call loans outside Canada	191,854	211,443	218,183	- 6,740
Current loans in Canada	1,264,490	1,301,804	1,359,973	- 58,169
Current loans outside Canada	173,380	184,540	169,678	+ 14,862
Total liabilities	2,642,380	2,708,309	2,835,579	- 127,270
Total assets	2,926,867	3,056,979	3,116,896	- 159,917

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 25, 1921.	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,522,132	5,521,869	5,591,239	+ 263	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278	—	1,370,625
Silver coin and bullion	276,752	276,193	254,704	+ 559	632,650
Discount and advances	4,683,468	4,683,486	4,353,394	- 18	2,321,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	36,783,000	36,983,253	37,904,507	- 200,253	5,811,875
Government deposits	61,822	44,329	64,229	+ 17,493	183,700
Private deposits	2,687,141	2,661,754	3,202,813	+ 25,387	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 20, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 21, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	2,496,074	2,495,103	2,493,596	2,452,378	+ 971	728,600
Silver	625,633	623,466	623,233	601,654	+ 2,167	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,997,036	2,016,162	2,024,334	1,705,071	- 19,126	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	344,475	—	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	—	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,182,506	4,211,375	4,204,081	3,960,502	- 28,869	1,901,550
Deposits	1,061,165	1,060,881	1,031,302	971,933	+ 284	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	July 13, 1921.	June 28, 1921.	July 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,367,465,387	1,375,129,587	1,525,906,851	- 7,664,200	- 158,441,464
Government loans and securities	1,829,115,886	1,757,596,565	685,805,429	+ 71,519,321	+ 114,331,045
Discounts and loans	760,718,154	776,401,596	660,371,061	- 15,683,442	+ 100,347,093
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,758,440,673	1,743,889,472	1,394,549,497	+ 14,551,201	+ 363,891,176
Government deposits	119,410,103	113,039,996	119,946,029	+ 6,370,107	- 535,926
Private sight deposits	855,349,079	858,222,869	711,459,062	- 2,873,790	+ 143,890,017
Private deposits at fixed rates	838,077,054	816,242,461	475,967,448	+ 21,834,593	+ 362,109,606

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 9, 1921.	July 24, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,275,190	1,275,512	1,275,755	1,007,444	- 322	221,320
Discounts	35,203	35,489	34,930	212,892	- 286	41,740
Advances	86,345	87,887	93,700	290,984	- 1,542	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,048,783	1,048,964	1,059,566	1,117,790	- 181	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,316,283	1,337,718	1,344,013	1,305,961	- 21,435	87,340
Private deposits	146,490	128,094	104,719	95,565	+ 18,396	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	1,091,551	1,091,554	1,091,591	—	1,313,240
Silver	14,622	14,456	6,944	+ 166	321,922
Treasury notes	3,452,186	3,900,631	17,964,366	- 448,445	60,760
Bills discounted	79,982,870	76,226,305	44,550,576	+ 3,756,565	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	77,396,140	77,654,680	56,461,863	- 258,540	2,013,860
Deposits	12,884,299	9,371,940	15,572,929	+ 3,512,359	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

	July 17, 1921.	July 10, 1921.	July 20, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash	1,338,230	1,339,819	1,259,506	- 1,589	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,220,510	3,222,201	2,810,430	- 1,691	418,400
Foreign bills	19,660	19,660	20,665	- 14	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,424,546	6,407,296	7,710,635	+ 17,210	—
Other advances	2,351,365	2,432,733	2,146,896	- 81,368	79,175
Securities	395,907	392,753	221,744	+ 3,154	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	13,816,304	13,982,643	13,706,133	- 166,339	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,754,198	1,732,044	1,708,950	+ 21,794	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 22, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 8, 1921.	Aug. 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	605,969	605,969	605,969	636,339	—	163,022
Silver	10,681	11,006	10,792	16,214	- 325	8,436
Depts. & advances	423,468	437,802	453,928	450,476	- 14,334	153,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n.	993,146	1,004,597	1,018,176	1,008,041	- 11,451	316,632
Deposits	52,570	57,041	59,514	108,320	- 4,471	6,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 24, 1920.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Gold	3,859,722	3,859,722	1,650,227	- 203
Silver & coins	324	324	227	—
Discounts	198,252	108,213	34,134	+ 90,039
Government loan	10,202,978	10,170,453	4,100,645	+ 32,525
Other advances	2,786,912	2,712,088	933,095	+ 74,854
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	11,355,138	11,999,891	4,936,402	+ 155,247
Deposits	6,292,244	6,239,422	2,229,865	+ 52,822

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	544,456	544,442	544,586	542,165	+ 14	171,175
Silver	110,531	110,711	110,711	90,216	- 180	18,350
Darlehens-Kassen	13,487	12,938	12,806	18,008	- 549	—
Assets & advances	340,334	323,552	315,786	386,070	+ 16,782	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n	899,331	913,601	927,041	913,859	- 24,270	275,925
Deposits	141,491	93,684	79,194	150,475	+ 47,807	35,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to July 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 31,778,000, of which Fr. 12,803,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	285,061	285,090	261,309	- 29	+ 23,752	104,918
Balance abr. and foreign bills	106,686	107,987	94,351	- 1,301	+ 12,335	112,172
Swedish and for Gov. securities	14,850	12,868	45,351	+ 1,982	- 30,501	39,465
Discount and loans	427,625	442,303	641,418	- 14,678	- 213,793	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'n	607,103	620,516	709,993	- 13,413	- 102,820	226,555
Deposits at notice	173,016	174,218	247,901	- 1,202	- 74,885	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 11, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	Aug. 19, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	324,505	325,178	325,109	356,943	- 673	332,650
Securities	603,533	596,306	581,803	579,356	+ 13,227	697,600
Notes in circula'n	6,173,134	6,170,097	6,138,109	5,504,260	- 3,037	934,150
Deposits at notice	1,014,549	1,016,352	999,706	1,655,058	- 1,803	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 7, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion, bills	11,532	10,095	8,643	+ 1,437
Silver coin	5	5	5	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	1,105,619	1,130,524	1,285,576	- 24,905
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	54,682,196	54,107,281	51,183,028	+ 574,915
Deposits	7,739,212	8,390,822	9,696,290	- 651,610

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	July 31, 1921. Krone.	July 23, 1921. Krone.	July 15, 1921. Krone.	Week's Movement Krone.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion, bills				
Silver coin	.. 182	.. 182	.. 184	..
Bills discounted, warrants				
and drafts	11,786,730	11,717,780	11,597,743	+ 68,950
Loans	105,672	107,780	108,353	- 1,083
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	15,793,384	17,946,374	17,684,165	+ 2,245,989
Deposits	3,532,371	1,320,524	1,547,684	+ 1,215,847

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, August 27, 1920.	Rate, August 19, 1921.	Rate, August 26, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25.224	51.15-20	47.37-40
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20.43	175-178	300-311
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24.02	785-800	2900-3200
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24.02	210-225	235-304
Warsaw	zloty to £1	T.T.	20.43	750-780	900-920
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25.224	150-160	295-300
Constantinople	piastre to £1	T.T.	110	540-560	1550-570
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25.224	185-195	400-450
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25.224	80-90	155-158
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12.107	11.09-12	11.79-81
Brussels	franc to £1	T.T.	25.224	48.10-15	48.28-33
Christiania	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	25.20-25	28.04-06
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	17.63-66	17.13-16
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	25.20-25	22.30-35
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25.224	114-117	247-249
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25.224	32.75-33.00	661-664
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25.224	76.90-77.10	841-85
Switzerland	franc to £1	T.T.	25.224	21.68-73	21.64-66
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25.224	23.79-84	28.25-28
Lisbon	escudos to £1	T.T.	53.4	61-62	61-62
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97.4	97.4-97.4	97.4-97.4
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4.864	3.58-58.1	3.651-65.1
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4.864	4.03-04	4.05-06
Buenos Ayres	pesos to £1	T.T.	47.584	561-564	431-434
Rio de Janeiro	pesos to £1	T.T.	16	131	71-74
Manila	pesos to £1	T.T.	51	561-571	421-431
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	T.T.	13.33	121(a)	36-20
Calcutta	rupees to £1	T.T.	10	10 1/2	10 1/2
Bombay	rupees to £1	T.T.	10	10 1/2	10 1/2
Madras	rupees to £1	T.T.	10	10 1/2	10 1/2
Hong Kong	dollars to £1	T.T.	48.34-48.44	28.84-28.94	28.84-28.94
Shanghai	dollars to £1	T.T.	58.04-68.24	38.84-38.94	38.84-38.94
Singapore	dollars to £1	T.T.	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44
Yokohama	dollars to £1	T.T.	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44
Manila	dollars to £1	T.T.	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44
Mexico	pesos to £1	T.T.	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44	28.34-28.44

† Rate for previous day. § Sellers. (a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	July 28, 1921.	Aug. 4, 1921.	Aug. 11, 1921.	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.
Call money	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral)	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Bank acceptances	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days	6	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	6	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1920.	Rate, Aug. 11, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1921.
London—					
60 days		3.6350	3.6250	3.6225	3.6625
Cable		3.60	3.6225	3.6650	3.7062
Cheques		3.5925	3.6575	3.66	3.70
Paris	Dollars for £1	4.8666	3.6350	3.6250	3.6625
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19.30	114.15	7.650	7.8050
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19.30	114.15	7.650	7.8050
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19.30	121.40	4.40	4.375
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23.83	2.09	1.23	1.2050
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20.26	0.43	0.1250	0.12
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19.30	15.08	12.95	13.07
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	40.195	31.875	31.10	31.06
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	26.80	14.16	15.78	16.40
Stockholm	Cents for 1 krona	26.80	14.16	15.78	16.40
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	19.30	11.00	5.75	5.68
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	100	89.00	90.25	89.99
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49.85	51.15	48.20	48.35
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	78.75	50.25	50.90
Shanghai	Cents for 1 shang. tael	..	111.00	68.25	69.50
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	103.65	33.90	23.70	26.00
Bombay	Gold pesos for \$100	32.42	19.13	11.80	11.95
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	20.60	19.25	11.00	10.50

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
Demand	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
30 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
60 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
90 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
120 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1920.	Rate, Aug. 11, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	6.30	3.98	3.82
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	125.45	12.30	7.324	6.95
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	14.40	7.903	6.96
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	14.40	7.903	6.96
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	14.40	7.903	6.96

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10.15	Slight London	Aug. 20 15.20
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25.25	"	Aug. 17 23.00
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £1	48d	"	Aug. 23 88
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49.31d	"	Aug. 19 3.60
San Salvador	Pesos to £1	24.65d	"	Aug. 18 7.85
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2.64d	"	Aug. 20 222
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10.45	"	July 30 15.75
Bolivia	Bolivianos to £1	12.50	"	July 8 14 1/2

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	101	102 1/2
Sight	101	102 1/2
Cable	101	102 1/2
On demand	95 1/2	95 1/2
30 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
60 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
90 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
120 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
5 months' sight	95 1/2	95 1/2
6 months' sight	95 1/2	95 1/2

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
London (cheque)	£1	1.485	1.475	1.480
Paris	100 Fr	3.100	3.200	3.100
New York	\$1	405	415	395
Stockholm	100 Kr	8.500	8.600	8.450
Copenhagen	100 Kr	6.250	6.300	6.200
Christiania	100 Kr	510	515	495
Berlin	100 Rmk	630	640	635
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	95	105	115
Riga	100 Lbl	12.500	12.650	12,500
Amsterdam	100 H.fl	12.500	12,650	12,500

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,75,55,000	Rs. 32,16,40,000
In paper currency reserve	Rs. 61,26,00,000	Rs. 60,00,00,000
Total	Rs. 104,99,55,000	Rs. 92,16,40,000

India Office, August 24, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended August 24, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed a decrease of £4,417 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

	Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
	Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
	Week Ended Aug. 24, 1921.	Week Ended Aug. 24, 1921.
Straits Settlements	£11,677	£2,244,015
Other Countries	£1,090	£4,270
Total values of import of gold	£12,767	£2,248,645

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on August 25th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,586,435, as compared with £126,584,040 last week. A fair amount of gold came into the market, and was taken for the United States of America. Gold to the value of \$14,850,000 is reported as being received in New York—\$8,000,000 from France, \$4,000,000 from Sweden, \$2,800,000 from Germany, and \$50,000 from London. We are informed from Bombay, under date 6th inst., that there had been a drop of one rupee in the gold price during the week caused by the advance in sterling exchange. With the price falling continually, the banks had been heavy buyers, and had purchased about 300,000 tolas of gold. The stock at that date was 100,000 tolas, and the up-country arrival 35,000 tolas per day. The closing prices were Rs. 32.4 for ready and Rs. 32.4 August settlement. In view of the recent high premium (over

105 per cent.) on sovereigns in India, to which we have drawn attention lately, it is not surprising to learn that the Australian Federal Treasurer has stopped the issue of sovereigns to outgoing travellers. Passengers have transacted profitable business in exchanging the coin at ports en route, especially at Colombo. The output of British Columbia seems to be improving. The Rossland Mines are expected to produce £375,000 this year, as against £150,000 last.

SILVER.

Business has not been on a large scale during the week. China has been inactive, and India has been a moderate buyer for both cash and forward delivery. The price of silver in the bazaars has fallen heavily in correspondence with the very sharp advance in the sterling value of the rupee. This rise, probably, is connected with the Indian trade balance moving in favour of that country. The June total was minus 167 lacs, and that for July plus 135 lacs. The export of wheat from India has been prohibited owing to the recent rise in local prices, but this is of minor importance. Continental and other supplies have been slight. In view of the erratic and speculative tendency of exchange generally, the prospects of the silver market are obscure. The prospects of Mexican silver production, especially in the above district, depend upon a settled condition of affairs. The agent in Mexico City of the Equitable Trust Company of New York, who has had 16 years' experience of the country and was U.S. Consul in Mexico City from 1910 to 1917, reports that the situation has never been so promising since the overthrow of President Diaz. Revolutionary outbreaks have ceased; the people are sick of warfare; business conditions have been improving; trains are running according to schedule, and through services are in operation from the capital to New Orleans and St Louis; railroad congestion will soon be relieved by increased rolling-stock; American business men are visiting the country and opening up trade relations. It is reported from India that the accumulation of silver rupees in the Indian note reserve has become so large that some difficulty is experienced in storing them. The total of 747,600,000 silver rupees now held by the Treasury is equal to over 255 million ounces. Each week for some time past a fresh record is created of the total silver holding.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,556	17,425	17,438
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,481	7,465	7,476
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,435	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,805	6,690	6,692
Securities (British Government) ..	835	835	835

No rupees were coined during the week ending the 15th inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 20th inst. consisted of about 29,100,000 ounces in sycee, 25,500,000 dollars, and 2,100 silver bars, as compared with about 29,400,000 ounces in sycee, 25,000,000 dollars, and 410 silver bars on the 13th inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 8d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.
Aug. 20 ..	112 5	38 1/2	38	Sept. 1, 1915 23 1/2
22 ..	112 3	37 1/2	37 1/2	1, 1916 32 1/2
23 ..	112 4	38	37 1/2	Aug. 31, 1917 46
24 ..	111 11	38 1/2	38	30, 1918 49 1/2
25 ..	111 4	38 1/2	38	29, 1919 58
26 ..	111 6	38	37 1/2	27, 1920 61

NOTICES.

A new branch of Lloyds Bank, Limited, is now open at Wyre Dock, Fleetwood, under the management of Mr B. H. Edrups.

Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, Limited, announce that a branch of this bank is now open at 20 Rue De La Gare, Roubaix.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday, August 29th, a branch at 39 Fleet street, Torquay, under the management of Mr C. O. Boning.

A branch of the Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited, has been opened at Longford (Tasmania).

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new offices at Wyre Dock, Fleetwood; Fore place, Beaminstor; 532 Mansfield road, Nottingham; Crosshills, Kippax; Llanharan (Glam); Lower street, Tingswick.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div.	Final Div.	Method of Payment.	Lat'st Pre-vious.
Railways.					
Darjeeling Himalayan	Rs. 7.9 s.	12	Oct. 1	Quarter	..
Dominion Bank (Canada)	..	..	..	Less tax	5
Hochstetter Dock Branch	..	..	..	..	..
Mymensingh Bhairab Bazar	..	..	..	..	43
Guar. and Rebate	..	..	..	..	41
Sara-Sirajganj	..	..	..	..	..
Shropshire Union Railway	2 1/2	Sept. 10	..	Less tax	..
Union Pacific	2 1/2	Oct. 1	..	Less tax	..
Banks.					
Banco Espanol del Rio de la Plata	4 1/2	Aug. 26	..	Less tax	8
British Bank of S. America	5 %	Sept. 23	..	Less tax	7
British Linen Bank	16	Sept. 15	..	Less tax	..
Mining.					
Zinc Corporation, Pref.	2 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 14	..	Less tax	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Royal Tea	10 %	..	..	Less tax	10
Tara Tea	10 %	..	..	Less tax	15

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	33 weeks	Aug. 20	231,068	£ 7,872,834	£ 7,872,834
London Electric	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
City and South London	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
Central London	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
L.G.O.	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
Metropolitan Electric Trams	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
London United Trams	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
South Metropolitan Trams	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
Tramways (M.E.T.)	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547
Gearless Motor	33 weeks	Aug. 20	57,458	£ 1,829,547	£ 1,829,547

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246 + 6,300	Rs. 1,95,546
Barsi Lt. Ry.	17 weeks	July 30	118	19,100 + 37,900	57,000
Bombay & N. Western	16 weeks	July 23	2,067	5,56,340 + 1,10,690	6,67,030
Bombay Nagpur	15 weeks	July 16	2,697	12,57,000 + 25,000	12,82,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	19 weeks	Aug. 13	2,871	16,82,000 + 55,000	17,37,000
Burma	16 weeks	July 23	1,342	5,89,327 + 1,31,883	7,21,210
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	19 weeks	Aug. 13	939	84,000 + 17,000	1,01,000
East Indian	20 weeks	Aug. 13	2,772	25,92,000 + 38,000	26,30,000
G. Indian Peninsula	19 weeks	July 30	1,321	12,12,700 + 1,01,900	13,14,600
Madras & S. Mahr.	17 weeks	July 30	3,028	11,50,000 + 1,87,824	13,37,824
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	17 weeks	July 30	259	61,154 + 19,680	80,834
Do Lucknow-Breilly	17 weeks	July 30	302	69,135 + 22,232	91,367
South Indian	16 weeks	July 30	1,852	8,84,566 + 103,045	8,94,611
Sthn. Punjab (month)	1 mth	Apr. 30	717	8,92,857 + 79,688	9,72,545
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	7 weeks	Aug. 20	752	12,700 + 800	13,500
Argentine Trans.	7 weeks	Aug. 20	111	1,190 + 290	1,480
B.A. and Pacific	7 weeks	Aug. 20	3,428	133,000 + 4,000	137,000
B.A. Gt. Southern	7 weeks	Aug. 20	3,891	148,000 + 10,000	158,000
B.A. Western	7 weeks	Aug. 20	1,882	15,000 + 3,000	18,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 weeks	June 30	190	49,858 + 12,999	62,857
Central Argentine	7 weeks	Aug. 20	3,305	183,000 + 15,000	198,000
Cordoba Central	7 weeks	Aug. 20	1,205	64,000 + 9,000	73,000
Entre Rios	7 weeks	Aug. 20	811	20,000 + 2,700	22,700
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths	July 31	1,005	Ms 56,000 + 17,300	Ms 73,300
Ge. West. of Brazil	33 weeks	Aug. 20	1,005	5,300 + 8,900	14,200
Leopoldina	33 weeks	Aug. 20	1,005	36,291 + 12,977	49,268
San Paulo	33 weeks	Aug. 20	1,005	32,478 + 16,403	48,881
State of Bahia, S.W.	7 mths	July 31	52	Ms 56,000 + 74,000	Ms 130,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	33 weeks	Aug. 21	838	14,830 + 35,790	50,620
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000 + 500	12,500
Nitrato (2 weeks)	32 weeks	Aug. 15	366	12,077 + 29,663	41,740
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	81,358,630 + 147,980	81,506,610
Talca	1 mth	July 31	180	9,173 + 16,350	25,523
Cuban.					
Havana Central	7 weeks	Aug. 20	1,025	10,925 + 2,268	13,193
United of Havana	7 weeks	Aug. 20	1,210	58,883 + 44,684	1,03,567
Uruguayan.					
Central Uruguay	7 weeks	Aug. 20	273	21,066 + 1,828	22,894
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	7 weeks	Aug. 20	311	4,044 + 665	4,709
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	7 weeks	Aug. 20	185	2,265 + 359	2,624
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	7 weeks	Aug. 20	211	1,501 + 445	1,946
Midland Uruguay	1 mth	July 31	319	12,766 + 4,077	16,843
North-West Urug.	1 mth	July 31	113	5,851 + 117	5,968
Uruguay North	1 mth	July 31	3	1,383 + 558	1,941
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	33 weeks	Aug. 20	33	Ps 13,000 + 1,000	Ps 14,000
Bilbao	7 mths	July 31	15	1,048 + 2,711	3,759
Bolivar	7 mths	July 31	136	10,111 + 126	10,237
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths	June 30	186	18,720 + 2,820	21,540
Costa Rica	12 mths	July 31	50	738 + 2,579	3,317
Dorado Extension	7 mths	July 31	70	24,000 + 4,500	28,500
Egyptian Delta	17 weeks	Aug. 13	559	10,418 + 4,246	14,664
Gt. South. of Spain	33 weeks	Aug. 13	104	Ps 46,685 + 45,215	Ps 91,900
International of Central America	6 mths	June 30	Net	65,383 + 463	65,846
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	(b) 8,570 + 5,062	(b) 13,632
Mexican Railway	7 weeks	Aug. 21	403	\$ 288,600 + 26,500	\$ 315,100
Do	6 mths	June 30	403	\$ 128,000 + 1,024,300	\$ 1,152,300
Nasajo Oscarshamn	5 mths	May 31	..	12,611 + 8,180	20,791
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Aug. 13	379	7,100 + ..	7,100
Smyrna to Aidin	7 weeks	Aug. 20	274	4,420 + 620	5,040
Paraguay Central	9 mths	Feb. 28	20	\$ 2,311,374 + 414,841	\$ 2,726,215
Piraeus Athens, &c.	5 mths	May 31	35	4,500 + 500	5,000
Salvador	7 weeks	Aug. 20	100	2,051 + 1,517	3,568
Santo Fe Province	1 mth	July 31	..	141,064 + 11,743	152,807
Samana & Santiago	7 mths	July 31	..	15,670 + 31,129	46,799
Zafra and Huelva	6 mths	June 30	112	(a) 12,630 + 440	13,070
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	33 weeks	Aug. 21	9,750	\$ 1,266,000 + 65,700	\$ 1,331,700
Canadian Pacific	33 weeks	Aug. 21	21,130	\$ 3,494,000 + 401,000	\$ 3,895,000
Grand Trunk	33 weeks	Aug. 21	3,616	\$ 350,417 + 11,075	\$ 361,492

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange. † Adjusted, May 31, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 202,590 + 42,455	2,034,240 + 533,285		
Canadian Ntn*	6 mths	30	Gross \$ 4,606,800 + 242,000	30,381,800 + 3,770,377		
Canadian Pac.*	6 mths	30	Gross \$ 14,462,000 + 2,019,000	81,056,000 + 8,002,000		
Grand Trunk	3 mths	Mar. 31	Gross \$ 3,105,000 + 474,000	12,950,000 + 1,522,000		
Temiscouata	1 mth	June 30	Gross \$ 1,278,700 + 95,900	3,772,200 + 593,200		
			Net \$ 1,122,900 + 68,400	91,400 + 306,500		

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth	May 31	810	106,776 + 16,593	123,369
Mid. of W. Aust.	12 mths	June 30	277	7,899 + 1,389	9,288
New Cape Central	30 weeks	July 30	205	2,390 + 312	2,702
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth	May 31	1,397	146,077 + 12,000	158,077
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth	July 31	..	11,529 + ..	11,529
Shire Highlands	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100 + 450	2,550
Nyassaland	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100 + 450	2,550

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
Acheson Topeka	6 mths	June 30	14,850,226 + 1,471,738	89,200,128 + 10,291,940
Baltimore and Ohio	6 mths	June 30	16,316,024 + 1,268,883	96,230,951 + 3,555,771
Chicago and Milwaukee	6 mths	June 30	12,353,001 + 1,491,178	67,769,580 + 8,504,754
New York Central	6 mths	June 30	27,866,455 + 2,029,456	157,526,612 + 5,556,126
Pennsylvania	6 mths	June 30	43,268,215 + 702,287	248,584,923 + 14,334,628
Southern Pacific	6 mths	June 30	17,131,779 + 949,159	91,967,338 + 2,154,108

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.	Total Receipts.
Anglo-Argentine	33 weeks	Aug. 19	329	£ 80,101 + 3,856	£ 2,611,340 + 134,096
Burnley Corporation	1 week	20	12	£ 3,641 + 530	£ 4,171
Calcutta Tramways	33 weeks	20	354	Rs 95,853 + 1,370	Rs 3,257,771
Chatham & District	32 weeks	11	15	£ 1,827 + 288	£ 2,115
Egyptian Markets	32 weeks	12	..	£ 1,803 + 365	£ 2,168
Glasgow Corporation	20	99	..	£ 45,426 + 1,151	£ 524,178 + 33,638
Tramways	12 weeks	17	..	£ 3,420 + 21	£ 48,171 + 1,225
Isle of Thanet	33 weeks	16	39	£ 3,681 + 251	£ 113,404 + 758
Lancashire United	33 weeks	20	124	£ 30,886 + 2,895	£ 918,058 + 43,395
Liverpool Corpora- tion Tramways	33 weeks	24	155	£ 99,510 + 12,530	£ 2,109,615 + 314,651
L.C.C. Tramways	21 weeks	15	..	Rs 47,984 + 3,584	Rs 587,534 + 146,187
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	32 weeks	21	..	£ 23,033 + 2,736	£ 124,725 + 10,850
Pernambuco Trams	33 weeks	21	..	£ 13,237 + 6,541	£ 373,777 + 230,146
Singapore Electric	29 weeks	July 23	..	..	..

‡ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
Alabama Power	1 mth	June 30	Gross \$ 259,059 + 88,481	Net \$ 130,812 + 22,750	..
Barcelona Traction	6 mths	30	Gross 2,912,556 + 388,558	Net 1,774,541 + 156,354	18,100,834 + 2,255,543
Brazilian Traction	6 mths	30	Gross 14,257,000 + 3,383,000	Net 7,803,000 + 2,007,000	80,199,000 + 19,155,000
Brisbane Electric	7 mths	July 31	Gross 248,850 + 4,450	Net 175,907 + 40,697	4,826,000 + 7,769,000
Brit. Columbia	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 750,907 + 40,697	Net \$ 165,948 + 21,594	9,504,071 + 766,939
Buenos Ayres La Crosse Trams	11 mths	May 31	51½	£ 58,492 + 3,929	629,444 + 67,765
Burmah Electric	12 mths	July 31	..	£ 43,764 + 8,525	.. + 53,421
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	June 30	Gross £ 31,218 + 5,857	Net ..	..
Canadian Wstrn. Natural Gas	9 mths	30	Gross \$ 25,836 + 14,821	Net ..	692,665 + 167,844
Carthage and	7 mths	July 31	12	11,936 + 2,228	16,219 + 16,551
Herrera's Wareh.	1 mth	July 31	Gross £ 22,100 + 1,900	Net ..	..
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross £ 3,030 + 1,208	Net ..	..
Chillagoe	12 mths	July 31	Gross \$ 638,671 + 1,419,248	Net ..	18,503,064 + 3,989,165
Cities Service Co.	3 mths	30	Gross \$ 656,017 + 1,406,962	Net ..	17,878,378 + 3,922,088
Cordoba Light &	3 mths	30	Gross \$ 1,606,385 + 448,284	Net ..	8,997,481 + 1,017,244
Cuba Railroad	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross \$ 368,028 + 79,092	Net ..	Dr 447,784 + 2,558,393
Elec. Sup. of Vict.	12 weeks	June 19	22	£ 4,134 + 462	13,824 + 1,546
Havana Elec. Rl.	5 mths	May 31	Gross \$ 1,100,117 + 153,816	Net ..	5,341,730 + 754,353
Light & Power	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 496,576 + 12,583	Net ..	2,334,033 + 13,118
International	12 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 21,092 + 594	Net ..	254,687 + 19,656
Light & Power	4 mths	Apr. 30	Gross \$ 7,659 + 1,115	Net ..	78,130 + 15,122
Kalgoorlie Elec.	7 mths	July 31	Gross \$ 143,177 + 127	Net ..	1,011,454 + 5,953
Keystone Tele.	1 mth	July 31	Gross \$ 59,394 + 16,222	Net ..	328,648 + 19,635
La Guaira Harbr.	1 mth	31	Gross £ 6,723 + 2,523	Net ..	..
La Plata Electric	7 mths	31	Gross £ 5,425 + 72	Net ..	33,317 + 5,180
Lima Light, Pwr.	5 mths	May 31	Gross \$ 59,395 + 4,513	Net ..	304,875 + 17,622
and Tramways	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross \$ 20,116 + 823	Net ..	104,284 + 14,543
Lisbon Electric	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 510,559 + 43,390	Net ..	1,810,051 + 207,981
Manila Electric	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$ 126,210 + 34,249	Net ..	708,018 + 160,020
Railroad, &c.	1 mth	30	Gross \$ 192,146 + 9,557	Net ..	..
Mississippi Riv. Pwr.	1 mth	30	Gross \$ 150,989 + 1,403	Net ..	840,862 + 23,842
Para Electric	8 mths	July 31	Gross \$ 24,655 + 412	Net ..	193,954 + 4,154

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.	Rate.				
		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
Breweries.											
Royal Brewery, Brentford	June 30	31,140	30,769	61,909	4,200	10,500	15	..	47,209	53,294	15
Gas.											
Barnet District	June 30*	28,130	5,665	33,795	..	10,383	..	..	23,412	14,343	..
Hastings and St Leonards	June 30*	36,460	3,950	40,410	..	5,692	..	..	34,718	3,669	..
Wolverhampton	June 30*	45,606	Dr 3,827	41,779	1,039	3,635	{ 3 1/2 1 1/4 }	725	36,380	6,231	{ 3 1/2 1 1/4 }
Hotels, &c.											
Bournemouth Imperial, &c.	June 30	4,155	8,111	12,266	6,000	..	..	5,000	1,266	11,268	..
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Henry Briggs, Son, and Co.	June 30	13,442	52,199	65,641	..	49,181	7 1/2	..	16,460	48,190	10 1/2
Pettars	Mar. 31	20,219	Dr 11,050	9,169	4,900	3,163	5 1/2	..	1,106	..	..
Rubber, &c.											
Cicely	Mar. 31	10,543	1,721	12,264	300	..	..	..	11,964	36,429	60
Heawood Tin and Rubber	Dec. 31	2,015	5,488	7,503	..	..	..	5,000	2,503	13,972	7 1/2
Northern Tjiliwoeng	Dec. 31	Dr 3,994	Dr 3,619	Dr 7,613	..	..	..	..	Dr 7,613	Dr 631	..
Tjiliwoeng Java	Dec. 31	693	Dr 3,322	Dr 2,629	1,200	..	..	..	Dr 3,822	8,782	..
Shops and Stores.											
Boots Cash Chemist (Eastern)	Mar. 31	25,228	38,262	63,490	23,000	5,000	10	..	35,490	32,001	12 1/2
Tea.											
Maleber	Dec. 31	512	1,433	1,945	..	..	..	..	1,945	..	..
New Sylhet	Dec. 31	8,007	Dr 15,880	Dr 7,873	(b) 360	..	..	Dr 7,513	..	3,066	10
Textiles.											
Patons and Baldwin's	April 30	36,283	104,937	141,220	61,854	55,975	5	..	23,391	146,302	12 1/2
Tramways, &c.											
Tyneside	June 30*	488	2,761	3,249	601	2,008	3	500	140	1,222	5
Trusts.											
Dailuaine-Talisker Distilleries	June 30	6,150	25,780	31,930	5,218	10,696	10	8,000	8,016	17,745	8
Glasgow-American	June 30	232	8,109	8,341	2,520	3,780	7 1/2	1,000	1,041	8,749	7 1/2
Kay's Atlas	June 30	24,824	15,848	40,672	2,772	10,937	12 1/2	..	26,963	18,792	12 1/2
Waterworks.											
Luton	June 30*	4,482	4,178	8,660	..	3,474	4	..	5,186	2,036	4
Other Companies.											
E. and T. Pink and Plaistowe	June 30	..	45,703	45,703	19,726	..	..	..	25,977	..	..
Raphael Truck and Sons	April 30	4,965	41,508	46,473	13,750	25,000	10	2,586	5,137	56,553	12 1/2
Timber Fireproofing	Mar. 31	700	6,448	7,148	..	2,861	7 1/2	..	4,287	..	..

* Half-year.

† Free of Tax.

(b) New Sylhet Tea, Prof. dividend for six months.

generally quiet, and prices the turn in buyers' favour. The demand for home milled is chiefly confined to best grade, patents being quoted at 68s, town households 61s, and London straight run 64s, while all English flour offers at 58s 6d per sack delivered. Imported quiet. Canadian export patents 68s, straights 65s, Kansas top patents 65s, Australian 60s-61s, and Chinese 50s to 51s per 250 lbs ex store. Forward business quiet. Kansas top patents, September seaboard, quoted 58s, Canadian patents 64s, straights 61s, Australian 54s c.i.f. Maize generally quiet, and prices easier in sympathy with lower c.i.f. offers. La Plata, also yellow round African, quoted 41s 6d to 42s, white flat African 43s 6d landed, American mixed 38s ex ship per 480 lbs. On c.i.f. terms a moderate trade resulted in cargoes at generally easier rates. Plate steamers loading sold at 41s, ditto September 2 40s. Of European, Dan-Gal-Foxanian afloat 41s 6d, and a part cargo Moldavian afloat 41s 3d per 480 lbs. Barley quiet, but generally steady. New English malting quoted 65s to 85s, ditto grinding 60s to 65s, Californian ex ship 54s to 60s, Morocco landed 46s per 448 lbs. No. 4 Canada Western 48s, ditto ex ship 46s, Canadian feed ex ship 43s 6d, American feed landed 43s per 400 lbs. Only limited sales occurred in the forward section. A cargo of Dan-Bess-Kustendji afloat sold 42s 6d, and a part cargo ditto 43s 3d, while parcels of No. 4 Canada Western October-November were dealt in at 41s 6d per 400 lbs. Oats quiet and easier. English quoted 32s to 40s per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate f.a.q. 31s 6d, ditto clipped 32s, Chilean tawny 32s to 32s 6d, No. 2 Canada Western 34s 6d, No. 3 ditto 34s, and No. 1 Canada feed 32s 6d, all landed, per 320 lbs. Forward positions easier, and Plate f.a.q. afloat and August-September sold 28s 6d. Beans quiet, and tendency easier. English springs 70s-80s, new winter 55s to 60s per 532 lbs. Peas quiet. English duns 60s-65s, maples 85s to 95s per 504 lbs. Oatmeal quietly steady. Scottish £26 to £27, London made £24, American £23 10s, rolled oats £24-£25 ton. Offals steady. Middlings £14, broad bran £10 10s to £12 10s ton ex mill. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 34s to 39s, and Egyptian 30s per 100 lbs. Homeward freight markets generally quiet with regard to heavy grain, and rates weak. From the River Plate 32s 6d was done for a spot steamer, with 30s now indicated, and 32s 6d backward loading up river U.K./Continent. Montreal chartered several steamers on the basis of 5s 3d to 5s 9r U.K. and 22 cents per 100 lbs Antwerp/Hamburg, while Gulf to Continent done 22 cents, Mediterranean 25 cents, and Baltimore 19 cents 100 lbs, Continent. North Pacific 60s wheat/flour and 61s 3d barley per ton. Eastons quiet. Bombay/Karachi 30s

dead weight. Saigon rice 60s-62s 6d, Dalry beans/wheat paid 70s, and Australian wheat October at 70s to U.K./Continent. South African maize quiet at about 42s 6d U.K./Continent. Danube inactive, and other markets generally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to August 20	Cwts. 368,335	Cwts. 17,950	Cwts. 39,520	Cwts. 6,269
49 weeks to August 20	12,877,021	10,826,781	13,073,137	9,637,532
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 66 9	s d 90 7	s d 73 10	s d 74 8
= per cwt	15 7	21 1 1/2	17 3	17

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.						
Aug. 13	49,662 3	7,117 5	14,203 0	s d 68 10	s d 49 3	s d 33 3
20	85,944 6	11,241 0	21,669 6	66 9	56 5	32 1
1917	4,403 4	1,322 3	1,352 1	76 7	70 7	54 7
1918	1,462 7	637 6	1,447 3	74 8	62 6	56 9
1919	9,180 1	4,829 1	10,127 2	73 10	83 4	62 0
1920	4,188 4	2,376 2	10,209 3	90 7	77 10	57 10

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated August 25th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Makers continue to delay restarting their blast furnaces with the object of getting fuel prices down to an economical basis, and indications point to them succeeding, as prices of coke have been further reduced. There are still no orders for pig-iron, and prices will have to be further

CUMBERLAND IRON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

reduced if foreign competition is to be met. The nominal price of No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron is 135s per ton, and for East Coast mixed numbers hematite 160s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel works cannot see more than a week or two ahead, and may be obliged to stop at any time. Steel ship plates and angles have been reduced £1 per ton, and the following are the quotations:—Steel ship plates, £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s.; iron bars, £16; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: Trade in foreign ore is quite idle. Hematite makers have good stocks and are not using any ore.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—No appreciable change in the condition of the local industries has taken place on the week, and all of them are experiencing the most acute depression in the history of the city. Opinion is sharply divided on the prospects of an early revival, but the proportion of pessimists has been increasing rapidly of late. The building of four battle-cruisers will bring a substantial amount of work to Sheffield in armour-plate, steel castings, and many kinds of tools, and relieve the unemployment, but alone the work will not suffice to restore trade to anything like its normal level. The chief problem confronting manufacturers to-day is the comparative collapse of the export markets. There is a little revival of trade with Russia, but Eastern Europe generally cannot buy from the outside, nor can much be done with France, Italy, and Germany. The last-named country was Sheffield's best overseas customer for high-grade steels. Pig-iron prices are easier, with little doing. Belgian foundry pig is off the British market at present in consequence of German underselling to the extent of 10s per ton. English foundry pig costs about £7 10s at works, and German about £6. The demand for steam coal continues poor, as users are buying as little as possible, and the output of the pits has been reduced in consequence of the depression of the market. Not much export business is being done. Stocks of small fuels at the pits have increased. The demand for household coals has fallen off considerably, and the volume of trade is far below what is usual at this period of the year. Sellers scout the idea of prices coming down.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The main factor of industrial interest in this district this week was the return to work yesterday of the carpenters and joiners, who have been on strike since the end of last year. A good beginning was made, no fewer than 85 per cent. of the men having put in an appearance. It is pretty certain that the full quotas will be in attendance by Saturday. In some cases the hands to be employed will considerably exceed the old staffs, for there is an enormous amount of delayed work to overtake. It is calculated now that there are nearly 100 vessels lying at various ports in the Clyde in need of fitting out, including some three or four great Atlantic liners for the Cunard and the Canadian Pacific companies. In addition to the joiners, respectable groups of engineers and general artificers will be employed, so that there is prospect, when things get into full swing, that sensible reductions in the numbers of unemployed generally will be effected. It is of good augury for the coming winter that one or two of the bigger shipbuilding firms have new boats to lay down whenever certain vessels on the stocks are launched. While nothing definite has yet transpired as to the allocation of the new Admiralty work that has been authorised, those presumed to be in the know are satisfied that a couple of orders will come to the Clyde, in which event conditions for the winter will not be so bad as threatened only recently, even though no account is taken of the possibility of private firms proceeding with additions to their fleets. Altogether the outlook for trade on the river is regarded more hopefully this week, and relatively those for steel and iron have been described as brighter. But that has to be seen; and experts still hold that there is a bit of road to travel before conditions can possibly reach normal state again. Last Saturday Scotch steelmakers intimated a drop of 20s per ton on their list prices for ship and boiler plates and for angles, making them respectively £19, £14, and £13 10s, with extras in each case, and extras, it seems, occasionally mount up to £5 a ton. Consumers are very sore over extras, the fixing lying wholly in the hands of the makers; and as to the £1 break just determined, they look upon it as wholly inadequate to existing circumstances. It was anticipated that the cut would reach up to several pounds a ton, and therefore no expansion in steel consumption is looked for. At the same time, it cannot be overlooked that several steel establishments are steadily adding to their outputs of plates and sections, and that arrangements are completed for starting more rolling mills, indicating that the managements must have orders, and by no means light ones, on their books, or in negotiation. It would be most unprofitable business to prosecute the lines they are following on any other hypothesis. As a prominent authority puts it: they don't do these things for fun. In various circles it is common talk that shoals of inquiries for steel and iron material and manufactures thereof are in circulation—chiefly from India, our different colonies and South America, and largely for railway undertakings. These are not materialising as could be wished, solely because our quotations are out of range. The one encouraging feature is that our buyers are well-inclined towards us, and prepared to stretch points in our favour provided our producers are reasonable. Continental competition in certain grades of hematite is very keen—Belgium, Germany and France are all sellers of basic, and that at £5 a ton, against which Scotch makers named £9 a ton. One steelmaker in the West is lighting up a few furnaces to turn out basic, and good results are expected. By next week-end the manufacture of Scotch foundry iron should again be entered on, and the production of Scotch ordinary may be revived in a few days at several places, where repairs have been fully executed. Coals a drug, and prices weakening.

The condition of the coal trade offers the surest hopes of a revival of activity in the Cumberland and North Lancashire hematite pig-iron industry in the course of six or eight weeks' time. The collieries, with the bottom gone out of the Irish demand for landsale coal, and with little or no demand at all for their smalls, are now working short time, and sidings at yards and at docks are filled with accumulations of supplies for which there is no outlet. And this, in spite of reductions in price varying from 3s to 1s 6d per ton. It cannot be long, therefore, before smelters will be able to command fuel at a figure at which they can make iron that is readily marketable. Whether coke will come down to between 30s and 35s per ton, delivered before the winter, is a moot point, but certainly there will have to be a further substantial fall in coal values if the occasion for the resumption of coking at the local ovens is to arise. Meanwhile, signs multiply that costs all along the line are to descend to a level at which smelters will be enabled to fight some of their furnaces. The iron ore miners have already signified their willingness to waive the present wages scale agreements, and it is evident that the price of fuel alone bars the way to the hematite pig-iron industry meeting the competition from the Continent. Not a great deal of importance can be attached to the restarting of furnaces at Cleator Moor, North Lonsdale and Millom, for here low phosphorus iron only is being made, and as even at the figure quoted, it is being smelted at a loss, the conclusion must be drawn that the iron is being produced mainly, if not entirely, to oblige customers whose business must be retained at all costs. But, of course, this small beginning, springing from whatever cause it may, engenders a feeling among others that the lead must be followed, and if conditions continue to grow favourable, there is little doubt that before the advent of winter, furnaces may also be blown in by the companies which turn their iron into steel. The steelmakers, it is true, do not at the present time hold orders representing more than a week or two's rolling. With iron, however, in the neighbourhood of £6, the figure to which it will have to fall before the market shows much sign of animation, steelmakers believe that they could soon secure such business as would warrant operations on a fairly extensive scale. It is certain that until there are ten or a dozen furnaces in draught again, the coal trade must continue in a bad way, and that not more than one-half of the by-product coking plants can draw full loads. The chemical industry, it is scarcely necessary to say, is idle.

THE BY-PRODUCTS TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

This market shows signs of waking up; prices are very firm, while there are many foreign inquiries about. Pitch is quoted in the neighbourhood of 85s per ton, but with the approach of the shipping season traders are diffident about making contracts very far ahead as present conditions rather point to an advance in quotations. Solvent naphtha is not too plentiful, and despite the very small demand from rubber manufacturing industries, prices show a tendency to advance; latest value about 3s 2d per gallon. Carboic acid dull so far as crude is concerned, but improving slightly in crystals (now 7d per lb) on a small inquiry from Japan. Crude naphthalene also wanted at £8 per ton for the firelighter industry. Beyond a small improvement in export trade, there is little fresh in sulphate of ammonia.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—A considerable amount of business has been done during the past week in wool and tops, orders having been booked for the home trade and also for America and Japan. The increased demand is apparently due to the small stocks in hand rather than to increased consumption in the mills, and the strength of the primary markets has also had a hardening influence on quotations in this country. Merinos and low crossbreds appear to be most wanted, and top-makers have advanced their quotations for merinos about 1d per lb. Probably business will slacken a bit until the real position of the raw material is again established at the London auctions, which open next Tuesday. Some topmakers report being booked up for the next two months, and in the circumstances they are not willing to add to their commitments. Average 64's tops may be quoted at about 3s 3d per lb, and a really good warp will command 1d or 2d more. There is more inquiry for yarns, though prices offered are in many cases too low. The demand for coloured and mixture yarns continues, and spinners are well employed on these. Unfortunately, there is not much improvement in the piece goods trade. This department is always slack at this time of the year, and it is hoped that trade will develop on better lines towards the end of September. The export section is better employed than the home trade, though the volume of business for overseas markets is not large.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The trade is now looking forward to the forthcoming series of Colonial sales, which are due to begin in Coleman street next Tuesday. There is to be available 70,000 bales of "free" wools, and 60,000 bales of B.A.W.R.A. wools. Fully half the latter will con-

sist of New Zealand crossbreds, and altogether there should be a good offering of both merinos and crossbreds. It remains to be seen whether the "slating" which Mr W. M. Hughes, Australian Premier, gave the officials of the Wool Section of the Ministry of Munitions whilst he was in Bradford last week, will have any effect, but the fact remains that he strongly condemned the policy of the said officials in not selling the Government's surplus at the right time. If this had been done British taxpayers' money would have been saved to the extent of millions of sterling. It is to be hoped good competition will be witnessed at the forthcoming sales leading to a recovery of the ground lost last series, but that will depend entirely upon Continental demand, particularly Germany. Some seem to think that the home trade will be a bigger buyer, and it is to be hoped that will be the case. Still, the fact remains that on home trade account there is little or no improvement at the piece end of the industry, though this is the section in which improvement will have to commence before topmakers and spinners can begin to buy as they would like on home trade account. Some improvement has taken place during the interval, this being entirely the outcome of considerable buying on export account. As was stated a week ago, Australian selling centres have come up to the level of prices ruling in Coleman street last series, and it now remains to be seen whether any higher level will be established in the latter centre. The home trade needs to-day all the inspiration it can get, for then wholesale fabric buyers will feel that it is policy on their part to start buying at least reasonable quantities of fabrics for next spring. If reports are correct, and there is no reason to doubt them, financial pressure upon woollen merchants in particular is still serious, and it is doubtful whether the general public have any conception of the extent of the private arrangements which have to be made for paying accounts on the extended time principle. We believe the worst is past, but all the same, business is far from being good, and it remains to be seen whether competition will be strong enough to lift prices higher than the close of the last series.

The strike among the textile workers of the mills in Northern France is not very inspiring to French buyers as another series of sales opens. An equally untoward circumstance is the depreciation in the German mark, and many are afraid that this will seriously curtail German competition at the forthcoming auctions. There will certainly not be the same encouragement to operate as there would have been if the mark had improved in value, hence it is not likely that values in London, for the time being, will be any more than firm. Then, too, B.A.V.R.A. has published figures giving the stocks of old wool on hand last July 31st, and the fact that there are 2,209,083 bales of this wool, is quite sufficient to show the entire consuming world that nobody is going to be short for a long time to come. All the same, there does not appear to be any reason why competition should not be good, with values on a full parity with the close of last series.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—August 19, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.	Same Period 1919.
American.	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G O L M	Mid	GM	MF	G O L M	GM	G O L M
Brazilian.	Mid	MF	Fr.	G	F	MF	Fr.	G
Pernambuco, &c.	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Paraiba	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Maceio	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Mossoro, &c.	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Ceara	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Maranhão	5-67	8-17	10-17	...	...	2009	2657	1785
Egyptian.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brown	...	9-00	10-50	13-00	14-50	...	nm	2300
Upper	...	8-00	10-00	12-00	13-50	...	nm	2150
West Indian—Sea Island ..	...	23-00	26-00	29-00	31-00	...	7500	8500
Peruvian—Rough	...	...	9-00	10-00	11-00	...	...	2950
Ditto Mod. Rough	...	7-00	8-25	9-50	...	...	2900	3800
Ditto Smooth	6-67	9-67	10-42	10-92	11-92	31-57	34-57	41-07
Ditto Sea Island	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2300
African, East, &c.	5-25	6-25	7-25	8-25	9-25	27-50	30-50	44-50
East Indian.	G F	For	Gd.	F	G	For	Gd.	F
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	...	8-30	8-55	8-80	...	...	2060	1910
Broach	...	7-30	7-55	7-80	8-05	8-30	1810	1860
M. Ginned Bhownuggar ..	5-19	5-69	6-19	6-69	6-94	7-19	1344	1444
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	5-25	5-75	6-25	6-75	7-00	7-25	1350	1450
M. Ginned Khandeish	...	5-00	5-50	6-00	6-25	6-50	1175	1275
M. Ginned Comptah	6-45	...	6-95	...	...	...	1635	...
M. Ginned Bengal	4-40	4-90	5-40	5-90	6-15	6-40	7-75	8-50
M. Ginned Beinde	4-28	4-78	5-28	5-78	6-03	6-28	7-57	8-32
Tinnivelly	8-05	8-30	8-55	...	...	...	2035	2085
Madras, Western	6-70	6-95	7-20	7-45	...	...	1660	1710
Cocoonada, Red	Fr.	6-70	...	...	...	...	1375	...
M. Ginned Cocoonada, Red ..	Fr.	6-95	...	...	...	...	1400	...

MANCHESTER, August 25.

There has been a slight improvement in the tone of the market during the past week. Prices have hardened, chiefly in sympathy with the stronger tone in raw cotton circles, and to some extent inquiry in yarn and cloth has been stimulated. Most of the demand in piece goods for India has been unworkable, but the turnover, especially in light fabrics, has been rather larger. The

trade outlook is improved by the favourable monsoon advices and the stiffening in exchange rates. Inquiry for China has been fairly persistent, and some useful lines have been booked in miscellaneous goods. A few more orders have been placed for the Near Eastern outlets. Certain home trade buyers are now taking rather more interest in prices. The yarn market has been firmer. In both American and Egyptian qualities for home use more business has been offering, without the total sales being at all important. Scattered transactions have been put through in shipping counts for Eastern and Continental outlets.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Aug. 25, 1921.	Price, Aug. 18, 1921.	Price, Aug. 11, 1921.	Price, Aug. 4, 1921.	Price, July 28, 1921.	Price, July 21, 1921.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	9-68	8-81	8-95	8-78	8-34	8-65
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	16-00	16-00	16-00	16-00	15-50	16-50
Egyptian	17-1	16-2	17	17-1	17-1	17-2
Yarns—32's twist	16	15-1	15-2	16-1	16-1	16-1
— 40's twist	29-1	29-1	30	31	31	31-1
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	30	30	31	31	31	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	30	0 30	0 31	0 31	0 31	0 32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	29	6 29	6 30	6 31	6 31	6 31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	17	3 17	3 17	3 18	3 18	3 19
39-in. ditto, 37-1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8-1/2 lbs	16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Aug. 25, 1921.	1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	9-68	23-22	19-74	26-03	18-25	9-47
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	16-00	66-00	30-00	30-19	28-25	12-65
Egyptian	17-1	51-1	41-1	55-1	25-1	14
Yarns—32's twist	16	47	40-1	55-1	24-1	14-1
— 40's twist	29-1	90	61	65-1	44-1	23
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	30	80	60	70	32	6
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	30	0 30	0 31	0 31	0 31	0 32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	29	6 29	6 30	6 31	6 31	6 31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	17	3 17	3 17	3 18	3 18	3 19
39-in. ditto, 37-1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8-1/2 lbs	16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16	3 16

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Very much quieter conditions are ruling in the market for vegetable oils. The prices of raw linseed oil are barely maintained, notwithstanding that a fair business has been done on consumptive account at the lower level of values ruling in the past fortnight. About £35 10s for spot to December delivery remains the value ex Hull mill, with 20s premium quoted for January-April, the easier tone reflecting the weakness in linseed to a large extent. Plate seed on spot at Hull has receded to £20, with seed afloat and for shipment rising on a progressive scale to £21 5s

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits

\$37,500,000

for October-November loading. A rather steadier tone has manifested itself this week in consequence of firmer Argentine markets, poor crop reports, and smaller shipments, but buyers are showing but little interest. A firmer feeling for Indian linseed is also reported.

With regard to cottonseed and cotton oil, a slight favourable reaction in prices from the recent decline is in evidence, though the ground lost has not been recovered. Crude Egyptian cotton oil is now quoted round £40 per ton naked ex Hull mill. English soya bean oil is firm on scarcity, but only a small trade is reported in rape oil. Ground nut oil is a steady market, but palm kernel oil is cheaper. Castor oil has been reduced by £4 per ton, "first pressure" now being quoted by manufacturers at £55 per ton (barrels free) ex Hull mill.

The demand for oilcakes has fallen off owing to improved weather conditions and the cancellation of foreign contracts.

LINEN TRADE.

BELFAST, August 24.

Flax.—There was less flax offered for sale in the Irish markets this week, as some of the markets have closed for a month, and other markets, which were held weekly, will only be held fortnightly for some time. The quality of the flax was unchanged, but selection was not quite as good. On the Continent Ghent and French spinners are now buying, and as supplies are small this additional demand has made prices sharper all round. Yarns.—Prices remain steady, and business has been on a moderate scale. Weavers.—A steady business is being done. Buyers are continuing to operate with more confidence. Manufacturers are having to pay advanced rates for active numbers, and this gives a consequent steadiness to the market. Orders have been placed during the week for crases, checks, dress goods, and damasks. Merchants.—Merchants report that business is coming forward in small quantities. Once the tariff in U.S.A. is settled, buyers will probably be prepared to place forward orders in a normal way, even though quantities may not be up to pre-war requirements.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The scramble for hides seems to have been arrested, as prices in London and the provinces have this week been steady. Best ox made in Bermondsey from 7-1/2d to 10-1/2d, and cows 7-1/2d to 7-1/2d, showing practically no alteration over last rates. Calf were, however, slightly firmer, and most classes advanced 1/2d to 1/2d per lb. There is more activity in foreign hides, and advances are recorded in South Americans, Argentine frigorific ox selling at 9-1/2d c.i.f. Dry hides are not moving very freely, and holders find it difficult to maintain recent quotations. Cables report the condition of the American market as firm, with best heavy Chicago packers now selling at 14 cents, and Bogota drys at 13 cents.

Trade in sole leather seems uncertain, some merchants reporting a fair business, others a quiet one. The optimistic tone, however, still prevails, as large stocks of boots and shoes have been cleared off, and orders are coming in in consequence. Medium-weight bends are the best sellers, as the wet weather is leading to a demand from repairers. Rough leather is also selling better, indicating that carriers are again obtaining orders. Waxed butts are moving off, whilst waxed splits are quite a good sale. Glacé kid and box calf are wanted in good grades, and prices are very firm in view of the limited stock arriving from America. This week, however, a very large sale is announced of American kid returned from Russia, which will probably again upset the market.

The shoe trade seems improving, and longer hours are being worked. Makers, however, are still complaining that retailers are holding up prices of the better grades, and that this prevents an expansion of the trade. Export is still dull, and it is difficult to see how an immediate improvement can be looked for in view of the state of the exchanges.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocement," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, August 26.

A quiet tone generally pervaded the markets, buying on the part of consumers being measured by wants of immediate necessity, and prices, while irregular in some cases, ruled distinctly lower in others as regards leading commodities.

SUGAR.—After opening the week very quietly, business showed some extension, as sellers were willing to accept lower prices. Tate's cubes sold, 61s 9d to 62s 9d, as to quality; granulated, 57s to 57s 6d; caster, 61s to 61s 6d; pieces, 45s to 48s. Lyle's granulated, 57s to 57s 3d; yellow crystals, 52s 6d. Crystallised West India, 44s 6d to 51s. American granulated, spot, sold, 56s; ditto, afloat, 29s, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, September-October, 23s, c.f. and i. U.K. White Mauritius, spot, 51s 6d to 52s. Belgian crystals, October-December, sold, 21s, f.o.b., Antwerp. Czechoslovakian, granulated and crystals, prompt, 28s, f.o.b., Hamburg. Dutch granulated, prompt, 30s, f.o.b. terms. Cuban stocks, 1,310,000 tons, against 335,000 at corresponding period last year. Terminal market quiet. December sold, 16s 9d.

COFFEE.—Moderate quantities were catalogued in auction, and met with fair support, while all the finer descriptions were readily saleable at full to dearer rates. Nicaragua bold colour, sold, 11s 1/2 to 12s 6d. Future delivery market steady quiet. December, sold, 45s 6d to 45s; March, 46s 6d to 46s 3d.

COCOA.—Only retail sales occurred in parcels on the spot, London, but recent rates were secured. Butter quiet at 1s 11d per lb.

TEA.—During the week, the smaller quantity of 40,500 packages Indian was submitted to auction and elicited fair support, but prices on balance showed some irregularity. Common and low medium sold in buyers favour. 24,300 packages Ceylon aroused good competition, and steady prices were secured.

RICE.—Market again dull, and second-hand parcels were forced off at easier prices. Two stars Rangoon, spot, 24s; ditto, afloat, 22s. No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 21s; No. 1 Saigon, ditto, 20s 3d. Siam C 1 broken, August-September, 15s 6d; C 3, ditto, 15s. Rangoon hand-picked beans, September-December, sold, 15s to 14s 6d. Japanese peas, crop 1292, September-October, sold, 40s 6d. Dutch peas, prompt, sellers, 30s, c.f. and i.

SPICE.—Pepper barely steady, and a moderate demand was experienced. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4-1/2d; September-November, sold, 4-1/2d. Aleppo, spot, quoted 4-1/2d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, 9-1/2d; Muntok, ditto, 9-1/2d; ditto, September-November, 8-1/2d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 2d; pimento, 2-1/2d; fair flake tapioca, spot, 2d, all per lb. Ditto, September-November, London, sold, 17s; continent, 18s. Fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 22s 6d; ditto, September-November, London, sold, 21s; Hamburg, 21s 6d. Desiccated coconut, spot, sold, 54s. Sago flour, August-October, sold, 16s 6d.

FRUIT.—Market for currants ruled firm, with a good inquiry. Dates steady. Khredrowie, spot, sold, 18s and Siar, 16s.

JUTE.—There was a fairly good amount of business effected this week, and prices though inclined to show some irregularity at times, while under the influence of rates of Exchange, ruled firm on balance. Native first marks, assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £32; ditto, old crops, subs, August-September, Hamburg, £27 15s to £28 5s; ditto, September-October, £27 10s to £28; lightning subs, old, August-September, £23 15s to £24 5s; Heart subs, £17 15s. Calcutta hesians firm. 10 oz, spot, 22s 6d; 8 oz ditto, 20s. A twills, October-December, £75; B ditto, 65s.

HEMP.—Manila flat, demand showing no revival. J grade August-October, £36 10s; K ditto, £35; L, £35; M, £31. New Zealand largely nominal. Fair, August-October, quoted £35.

SHELLAC.—Market generally steady. T.N., spot, 290s; August, sold, 275s; October, 275s to 270s; December, 255s to 260s. GAMBIE quietly steady. Block, on spot, quoted 31s 3d.

COPRA.—Market ruled very unsettled, but a fair amount of business was effected. F.M.S. Straits, September-November, Rotterdam, sold, up to £35 2s 6d down to £32 15s, and later £33 15s; Ceylon, to London £34 10s to £34 15s; Cebu, to Hamburg, £33 to £32 and £32 10s; South Sea Islands, September-November, London, £32. Palm kernels unsettled. August-October, Liverpool, sold, £22 10s to £21 15s and £22 10s.

RUBBER.—Market remained in a quiet state. Crepe, spot, sold, 8-1/2d to 8-1/2d and 8-1/2d; October-December, 9-1/2d to 9d and 9-1/2d; January-March, 9-1/2d to 9-1/2d and 9-1/2d; April-June, 10-1/2d. Sheet, spot, sold, 8-1/2d to 8d and 8-1/2d; October-December, 9d to 8-1/2d and 9d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted 8s 1/2d; and ball, 7d.

OILS.—Linseed irregular and firmer. Spot, net, naked, 36s 9d; September-December, 36s 3d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 61s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 42s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 51s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 104s; and shipment, 71s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 55s; August-September, 53s; Cochin, ditto, 57s. Soya quiet, Oriental, barrels, ditto, nominally 41s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 25s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 52s; deodorised, barrels, 66s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 63s 9d; September-December, 63s; January-April, 64s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s; F, 16s 6d; G, 16s 6d; K, 18s;

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.,

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:
A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1921.

No. 4,071.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTYand
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIESissued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund Haugesund
Bergen Sandefjord
Christiania Skien
Drammen Stavanger
Fredrikstad Trondheim

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 31st December, 1920 ... Lire 4,117,617,960

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers (D. A. HORNER,
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italo credit, Cannon, London." Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	361	Company Meeting	382
Leading Articles—		Government Returns—	
Measuring the Cost of Living	363	Public Income and Expenditure	383
Census of England & Wales	364	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	383
Our Index Number	365	Currency Notes Account	383
Other People's Money	365		
Workshop Committees	366		
Business Notes—		Bankers' Gazette—	
The Railway Deficit	367	Bank of England	384
Coal Output	367	Clearing Returns	384
Stock Exchange Peace Tasks	367	Overseas Bank Returns	384
The German Margarine Industry	368	Loan and Discount Rates	386
Hall Marking Linens	368	Overseas Bank Rates	386
Mexico and the United States	368	Rates of Exchange	386
Anglo-Mexican Trade	369	Indian Treasury Bills	387
Bulgaria's Difficulties	369	Bullion	387
Rand Cross-Currents	369	Imports and Exports of Gold	387
British-Hungarian Debts Settlement	370	Gold and Silver Prices	388
Overseas Correspondence—		Company News—	
United States	370	Dividend Announcements	388
France	371	Oil Output	388
Germany	372	Railway and Tramway Traffic	389
Canada	373	Profit and Loss Accounts	390
Australia	374	Reports and Notices	390
Italy	375	Rhodesian Gold Output	390
Poland	376	Mining Output Statistics	390
Norway	376		
Letters to the Editor—		Commercial Reports—	
Monetary Policy	376	Corn Trade	390
The Currency Problem	377	Iron and Coal Trade	391
The Remedy	377	Wool Trade	392
A Tabular Standard of Value	378	Cotton Trade	392
Books and Publications—		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	393
Reviews	379	Linen Trade	393
Books Received	379	Hide and Leather Trades	393
Stock Exchange News—		Portland Cement	394
The Stock Markets	379	Overseas Produce Markets	394
New Issues	380	Price Current	395
Active Securities	381		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £3 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist".
Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmonds, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings; Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

MONEY has been becoming increasingly easy as the week has progressed. Supplies of credit proved ample for end-of-the-month requirements, and on Thursday, the 1st, some £23 millions were released for Victory Bonds and other dividend disbursements by the Government. More over, no disturbance was caused in the market by the German reparation payment, and superabundant order of the day yesterday and on Thursday the plethora of money and to the scarcity of Treasury bills was still more marked. The rate for three months' bills was about 4 1/2 per cent.

M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 15s; H, 15s; WW, 18s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, refined, 1s 4d; standard white, 1s 4 1/2d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market quiet. Calcutta, August-September, quoted, £22. Plate, spot, Hull, £20; afloat, sold, £19 15s to £20; July-August, sold, £19 15s to £20; August-September, £20 5s to £20 10s; September-October, £20 10s to £20 15s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, July-August, quoted, £22 5s; real bold Ferozepore, quoted, £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed easier. Egyptian black, August, quoted, £13 10s; and white, £13. Bombay, August-September, £11 5s. Gingelly firm. Chinese, August-September, Continent, quoted, £29. Castor, Bombay, August-September, £19. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, August-September, £27; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, £26 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin slightly firmer last Monday, fair dealings being effected in cash at £152 to £152 15s, three months' £153 10s to £154 7s 6d. Prices declined until Thursday's meeting, when cash changed hands at £148 10s to £149 and three months' at £150 10s to £151. At Friday's session rates advanced. Cash sold up to £152 5s, October dates £151 5s to £154 5s, and three months' from £151 10s to £154 5s, while finally done at £154. English ingots, £151. Copper continued lower during the early part of the week, standard cash declining to £66 and three months' to £65 15s, ultimately improving to £66 15s. Better support was accorded during the middle of the week, cash rallying to £66 10s and three months' to £67 5s. The market manifested a lower tendency at Thursday's meeting, cash being sold at £66 12s 6d to £66 5s, three months' at £67 10s to £66 15s, and since at £67. At Friday's session the market hardened. Cash sold at £67, and three months' up to £68 5s. Electros, £70 10s to £72 10s; best selected, £67 10s to £69 10s; strong sheets, £101. Wire bars, £71 to £72 10s. Lead easier, at £23 5s to £23 15s. Spelter quiet, at £24 15s to £25 2s 6d, as to position. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, quoted at £122; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—August 25.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	8 d	10 d	12 d	14 d	16 d	18 d
Shorthorns	9 4	10 0	10 6	11 2	11 8	12 4
Devons	9 10	10 6	11 2	11 8	12 4	13 0
Norfolks	9 4	10 0	10 6	11 2	11 8	12 4
Scottish	9 4	10 0	10 6	11 2	11 8	12 4
Irish	9 4	10 0	10 6	11 2	11 8	12 4

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—August 25.

Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
King Edwards	11 0 to 15 0	Eclipse	10 0 to 11 0
British Queen	10 0 to 11 0		

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
Cocoa—Duty, British grown		Para, fine, hard, spot		Butter—per cwt.		Singapore, fair white	
55s foreign 42s, cwt. 56 d		Plantation crepe		Irish creamery		Black Singapore	
Trinidad, per cwt. 56 d 62 0		INDIGO—		Do factory		White Blam	
Granada		Bengal, good red		Australian		Pimento	
Ceylon, plantation		lot to fine		Argentine		Cinnamon—1st sort.	
Guaymas		Mid. ord. vici to good		Dutch		Do 2nd	
Bahia, finest		Low to good ord.		New Zealand		Do 3rd	
COFFEE—British grown		Madras, dry leaf, good		Danish		Do 4th	
55s foreign 42s, cwt.		Do low to ord.		Bacon, engd.—Irish		Chilips	
E. India (uncut), and 91		Kurpah, ad. mid. to gd.		Canadian		Cassia Lignea	
Do good to fine		Low to mid.		American		Cloves—Zanzibar	
Costa Rica, ord. to mid		HEMP—		Hams—Irish		Penang	
Good to fine		St. Petersburg, layer		Canadian		Ginger—per cwt.	
Central American, gd.		Manila, July, Sept.		American		Do small rough	
ord. to mid		N. Z. spot, high fair		Lard—Irish bladders		Do washed	
Mid. to fine		JUTE—		American boxes, 50 lb		Japan	
Colombian, ordinary		Native first marks		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do per lb	
Do gd. ord. to low md		Arg. Sept. sales		Beef—		Nutmegs, good to fine	
Do mid. to fine		LEATHER—		Scotch		Do 2nd	
CHEMICALS—		per lb		Cheese—		Do 3rd	
Acid, citric		Sole Bends		New Zealand		Do 4th	
Nitric		per 10 lb.		Cheshire		Do 5th	
Oxalic, net		Do do 12 1/2		Dutch		Do 6th	
Tartaric, English		Do do 14 1/2		Eggs, pr 123—English		Do 7th	
Foreign		Do do 16 1/2		Irish		Do 8th	
Alum lump		Do do 18 1/2		Flour—		Do 9th	
Do ground		Do do 20 1/2		Eng. straight ex mill		Do 10th	
Ammonia, carb. lb		Do do 22 1/2		RICE—		Do 11th	
Muriate, White, ton		Do do 24 1/2		per cwt. c.i.f.		Do 12th	
Sulphate		Do do 26 1/2		Rangeon No. 2		Do 13th	
Arsenic, lump, per ton		Do do 28 1/2		Broken 1a		Do 14th	
Powder		Do do 30 1/2		ROBIN—		Do 15th	
Asbes, pot.		Do do 32 1/2		per ton		Do 16th	
Pearl		Do do 34 1/2		American		Do 17th	
Beaching, island		Do do 36 1/2		French		Do 18th	
Bran, East, 60		Do do 38 1/2		SAGO—		Do 19th	
East Indian.		Do do 40 1/2		Pearl, per cwt		Do 20th	
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee		Do do 42 1/2		Broken Orange		Do 21st	
Do "Broach"		Do do 44 1/2		SHELLAC—		Do 22nd	
Do Ginned Bhownagar		Do do 46 1/2		per cwt—		Do 23rd	
Do Ginned Omra, No. 1		Do do 48 1/2		Orange, first marks		Do 24th	
Do Ginned Khandeish		Do do 50 1/2		Second, fair to fine		Do 25th	
Do Ginned Comptah		Do do 52 1/2		TV Orange		Do 26th	
Do Ginned Bengal		Do do 54 1/2		Garnet, Lanc. AG		Do 27th	
Do Ginned Scinde		Do do 56 1/2		Blocky		Do 28th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 58 1/2		Button—Pure		Do 29th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 60 1/2		Blocky (TN)		Do 30th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 62 1/2		SLK—		Do 31st	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 64 1/2		China—Blue Elephant		Do 32nd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 66 1/2		Seal, pale		Do 33rd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 68 1/2		Tissah		Do 34th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 70 1/2		Re-recol		Do 35th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 72 1/2		Itain—Raw, fr. Milan		Do 36th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 74 1/2		SHILLS—		Do 37th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 76 1/2		M—o-P. per cwt		Do 38th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 78 1/2		Manila, bold		Do 39th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 80 1/2		Macassar		Do 40th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 82 1/2		Edney		Do 41st	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 84 1/2		W. Australian		Do 42nd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 86 1/2		Bombay		Do 43rd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 88 1/2		SUGAR—		Do 44th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 90 1/2		per cwt duty 25s 8d		Do 45th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 92 1/2		per cent. polarisation		Do 46th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 94 1/2		B.W. I. muscovado		Do 47th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 96 1/2		Crystallised		Do 48th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 98 1/2		Java, spot		Do 49th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 100 1/2		Kayman		Do 50th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 102 1/2		Yellow Crystals		Do 51st	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 104 1/2		C		Do 52nd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 106 1/2		Cubes		Do 53rd	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 108 1/2		Crushed		Do 54th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 110 1/2		Granulated		Do 55th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 112 1/2		Crystals, white		Do 56th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 114 1/2		C		Do 57th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 116 1/2		Pieces		Do 58th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 118 1/2		C		Do 59th	
Do Ginned Malaga		Do do 120 1/2		C		Do 60th	

command such general acceptance that they can be no longer questioned or usefully discussed.

But the fact is that men of affairs make such a sharp distinction between theory and practice that the management of other people's money remains an art for which no corresponding science has yet been evolved. Economy and economics have both suffered from the existence of this deep cleavage between the professionals and the professors, and there is all the more reason for welcoming any attempt to express in general terms the principles that govern—or should govern—the administration of money.

As soon as any attempt of the sort is made, one realises the inchoate condition of the subject. With special reference, it must be admitted, to his fellow trustees, the author of "Other People's Money" apologetically makes a "solemn catalogue of platitudes" with regard to investment policy. Some of them are so far from being platitudes as to appear at first sight to be highly contentious; and others, in spite of being indisputably valid, appear in practice to offend the most fundamental instincts of the human race. It is a self-evident truth that "there is no real difference between holding on to a stock which you could sell for a certain price, and buying that stock at the same (or approximately the same) price"; and it is almost equally self-evident that "a loss is sustained when the market price of a stock falls below the price at which it was bought. You do not escape that loss by refusing to sell." But it is perhaps a good thing that we shall never know what quantity of investments is held by the managers of other people's money in defiance of one or other of these principles. "These two classes of unwilling sellers—those who will not sell in a rising market for fear of missing a better price, and those who will not sell because of the alleged 'loss on realisation'—seem to comprise a very large proportion of the population of the British Islands."

In such a little book it was, of course, not possible to do more than glance at the great variety of general questions which are raised in passing, and a critic should perhaps be less inclined to carp at partial statements than to be thankful that these broad questions were raised at all in a practical form. To what extent, for example, is it really good policy to spread one's risks? The theory, we are told, that in investing one should not have too many eggs in the same basket was always of doubtful validity. "If one is making risky investments, it may be prudent to spread the risks as widely as possible, just as an underwriter spreads his risks; not in the hope of escaping loss (for the more widely spread the risks the greater the probability that some loss will be incurred), but in order to minimise the possibility of any single loss proving disastrous. But when one is making investments in which the risk of loss is negligible, nothing is gained by extending the area over which they are spread."

On the other hand, there are certain risks which no amount of ingenuity can avoid. The irredeemable securities favoured by trustees give an assured income over a long period at the cost of a speculation in commodity prices; and short-term loans give security against capital depreciation at the cost of a speculation in the course of interest rates. The theory of "spreading one's risks" is, as a rule, only one of the many specious devices for avoiding—or appearing to avoid—this necessary choice. For managers of other people's money the responsibility of taking a position, or forming a view, and backing it, is great; but it is a mistake to think that to decline to make a choice, even if it is Hobson's choice, is to conform to the principle of "safety first." One wonders how much of the depreciation in investments, of which those who have money to entrust to others read nowadays with monotonous regularity, is attributable to risks which, if they had not been "spread," might have been avoided altogether.

Before the war, when price movements were neither wide nor sudden, and when the foreign exchanges were for the most part stable, the management of a business often required no very deep knowledge of the wider principles of finance and investment. Since the war, success in the narrower and more specialised field has often been jeopardised or more than offset by losses resulting purely from financial management. In fact, in these days the

general principles on which other people's money is administered by those who take charge of it threaten to be far more important than the particular uses to which it is put. Those general principles, so far from having been established and universally accepted, are often little understood by the specialists and practitioners who in times past have been able to neglect them without having a very heavy penalty to pay. Now that the necessity is upon us of having to give close attention to them, we find that the means of learning them are few and that, in fact, the theory of the subject has scarcely been worked out at all. "A Trustee" has found that, in order to arrive at any practical conclusions as to the best policy for private people to pursue in the interests of *cestui que trust*, he has had to go back to first principles. It now remains for someone to attempt the more ambitious task of building up a theory of financial administration which meets the needs of those whose profession it is to control other people's money.

WORKSHOP COMMITTEES.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

SAID the Greek sage: "The people ruling—the very name is beautiful." And for a good two thousand years humanity has been thinking on and off that it would be nicer to see the thing than to hear its beautiful name. A little further meditation has lately begotten the conclusion that, after all, what we call politics is, or ought to be, the least part of the ruling as it concerns Tom, Dick, and Harry—the men in the workshop. Thus it came to pass that a body as august as the British Association brought forth in 1918 a sub-committee's report on Industrial Unrest, embodying a chapter on Workshop Committees, or the people ruling in the workshop. So rapidly are our conditions changing that the republication of this chapter, only three and a-half years later, already gives the author, Mr C. G. Renold,* opportunity to chronicle many new developments and throw out many new suggestions.

To grant the case for capitalism is not to deny the case for workshop committees. Taking what would generally be called a "moderate" view, and, in fact, believing that the industrial world will continue to wag more or less in its present way, with an appreciable transference of power and responsibility from the people who own the money to the people who do the (manual and mental) work, Mr Renold outlines what he believes to be the scope and the right constitution of workshop committees.

Such committees are required, in the first place, for the interpretation of agreements of all kinds made by representative bodies of wider scope—trade unions and employers' associations, or Joint Industrial Councils. The making of an agreement about wages, or hours, or dilution, or trade union practices, or what not, is no more a finished process than is the passing of a statute. For the interpretation of the latter there are lawyers and the courts; but the successful application of the former to the individual workshop requires, if needless friction is to be avoided, some kind of workshop committee with a recognised status. Secondly, Mr Renold argues that a committee of the workers ought to have a voice in those matters of shop regulation and discipline which compose, according to the manner in which they are treated, the raw material of either corporate spirit or petty tyranny. Nor are questions of wider importance, such as apprenticeship, education, and promotion necessarily the exclusive business of the management. And the existence of workshop committees affords an opportunity, which is by no means to be despised, of directing the attention of aspirants to the control of industry towards some of the larger problems of business policy. Finally, the social activities which grow up round a big works are best managed by those for whose recreation they exist.

It is apparent that in any but the smallest works a single "omnibus" committee cannot appropriately deal with all these matters. The purely social activities, Mr Renold suggests, may well be left to an autonomous social union, preferably under the virtually complete control of the employees, and, if possible, financially self-supporting without assistance from the firm. In this union will be federated the various clubs dealing with the football and

* "Workshop Committees." By C. G. Renold. Pitman and Sons.

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758,

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.

City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

picnics and pastoral plays which are the modern adjuncts of the business of getting a living. The rest of the ground then falls (at any rate at first) into two broad divisions—matters of welfare and matters of bargaining. Welfare is everybody's affair. A welfare committee may therefore advantageously include on the one hand nominees of the management, and on the other hand elected representatives of all grades of workers (including the office and technical staffs), both unionist and non-unionist also, if such there be. It will discuss questions "in which there is no clash of interest between employer and employedincluding all questions of general shop conditions and amenities, and the more purely educational matters." Subjects, however, the discussion of which necessarily partakes of the nature of bargaining, must be reserved to a shop stewards' committee, representing the unionist workers alone, and possibly only the better organised amongst these. The precise composition of this committee is a trade union affair, and so long as the committee functions properly, the wise firm will abstain from all interference with its mode of election. The line of demarcation between the shop stewards' committee and the welfare organisation is not easily drawn, and we rejoice that Mr Renold's experience in his own works leads him to the belief that it will eventually be found possible to combine the two bodies without general amenities swamping particular matters of bargaining or *vice versa*.

A word may be said about the position of the "higher management." Especially where there is a strong workshop organisation representing the manual workers, the technical and higher clerical staffs come to feel themselves to be between the devil and the deep sea. Since it has become proper to add the formula "by hand and by brain" to the term "worker," organised labour has begun (if somewhat theoretically) to recognise the importance of the technician and the industrial administrator, and the existence of a considerable measure of community of interest with these persons. The name of the people ruling can only be completely beautiful when the status of the staff and their due measure of responsibility and self-government are as clearly defined as are those of the better organised manual workers. A Marxian who, believing his employer to be Mammon, gives his energies to the service of the god of class war is not (whatever he may tell you) himself an unhappy person. But the higher staffs, with a less fervid belief in Mammon and no god to serve, may be very unhappy indeed.

In practice, there are all sorts of conditions of workshop committees in existence. Progress in establishing the joint works committees of employers and employed proposed by the Whitley Report has been slow, much slower than in the establishment of joint councils for whole industries. The explanation possibly lies in the fact that industrial organisation must be built quite as much from the small unit upwards as from the large unit downwards. On the other hand, the shop stewards' movement has made rapid advances, particularly in the engineering industry. It is a striking testimony to the common sense of British trade unionism and British industry generally that this movement, which originated in a rank-and-file rebellion against official trade unionism on the Clyde in 1915, should so soon have found constructive work to do within the framework of recognised trade unionism. Both the engineering employers and the engineering unions now recognise the shop stewards, elected by the shop and themselves working in the shop, as the spokesmen of the shop's interests.

Thus a sense of the difference in outlook between the whole-time trade union bureaucrat and his nominal master, the ordinary worker—a difference which does not, incidentally, consist entirely in the more advanced views of the latter—was an important first cause of early works committees. Moreover, in the engineering industry, where members of different unions frequently work in the same shop, it might sometimes happen that there was no representative, official or other, qualified to act as spokesman for the interests peculiar to the whole workshop. Workshop committees are thus partly based on dissatisfaction with representative institutions as we have known them in industry. They are a reversion to the primitive form of democracy, in which the people ruling does not mean that some people make a whole-time profession of ruling

on behalf of the rest of the people. For that very reason extravagant expectations of their future are foredoomed to disappointment. In an age of large scale, nation- or world-wide undertakings, vast issues cannot be settled nor vast businesses conducted by the admixture of a few hours' committee meetings into each week's work. Few corruptions, however, are as quick as the degeneration of an unvoiced desire, even if it is only the desire to have a particular window open or shut, into a grievance. We welcome the growth of workshop committees as a safeguard against poisons of this character, and as a contribution to the publicity, the straight-forward dealing, and the recognition of the human factors in industry which are the first essentials of industrial progress.

Business Notes.

The Railway Deficit.—The statement issued by the Ministry of Transport of the claims of the railway companies against the State shows a substantial increase in the receipts during July. Total passenger train revenue amounted to £11,242,800, as compared with £7,809,600 for June, while goods train receipts were £20,534,600, against £13,974,700. Expenditure for July was £20,448,900, as against £19,828,100 in June, the net balance being £110,200 on the right side. The Government guarantee was £4,878,000, leaving a net Government liability of £4,767,800, as compared with £9,880,000 for June, when there was a debit balance on working of £6,181,000. The debit balance for the first four months of the current financial year is £17,171,200, and the net Government liability £33,286,200.

Coal Output.—The production of coal in the mines of Great Britain for the week ended August 20th amounted to 4,334,000 tons, which, as will be seen from the figures below, shows a reduction on that of the previous week:—

1921.	Tons.	1921.	Tons.
April 4th to July 4th ..	179,100	Week ended—	
July 9th	2,352,700	July 30th	4,592,500
July 16th	3,935,200	August 6th	3,623,200
July 23rd	4,334,200	August 13th	4,536,600
		August 20th	4,334,000

A reduction is shown in every district for the last week. The output for the week ended August 21, 1920, was 4,697,200 tons.

Stock Exchange Peace Tasks.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—It is natural enough that the Stock Exchange should be discussing with lively interest the position as it stands in regard to the pre-war account, now that the time has come at which the borrowers of money and bulls of stock have not more than 12 months in which to make up their minds as to the manner in which their liabilities must be liquidated. The subject has been discussed in the *Economist* many times during the past few years, and in the absence of any reliable data upon which to base an opinion of the actual amount of stock open, the only clear conclusion that can be reached at the present moment is that a certain amount of hardship, and probable suffering, will have to be faced in the course of winding-up the old account. There are people who have been paying interest on the pre-war making-up prices of shares which, since July, 1914, have dwindled

away to next to nothing. In the Home Railway market some of the prices are practically halved as a result of the seven years' work, and yet bulls of stock who have not closed their pre-war position are liable, of course, for the securities at the former prices. The Stock Exchange Committee set before themselves the necessity, after war broke out, for upholding credit by every fair means which could be devised. The Committee went out of their way in order to assist in the staving off of failures, and the maintenance of confidence as far as possible. The ordinary Stock Exchange rules that apply in cases of failure were abrogated. The Committee acted in flat defiance of the tradition that anything in the shape of financial weakness should be treated in a manner which, to the outsider, had always sounded austere to the point of harshness. The effect of this war-born leniency has been remarkably successful, and has assisted, in conjunction with the system of cash dealings, in raising the credit of Stock Exchange members to a point as high as, if not higher than, that current at any other time in the history of the House. The Committee are now considering the steps which they shall take in the direction of getting back to pre-war conditions upon the completion of the year allowed from last Wednesday for fulfilment of pre-war bargains. There is much spade work to be done, and the Stock Exchange Committee, who may be credited with the sincere intention of conscientiously shouldering their responsibilities, are not likely to burke the difficulties which loom in the path of the next 12 months. They have to settle the hotly-disputed point as to whether it will be to the advantage of the public, and of the Stock Exchange, for carry-over facilities to be re-introduced; whether periodical settlements could be re-instituted in order to afford greater flexibility to markets, without at the same time increasing the risk attendant upon dealing both on the side of the community and of the Stock Exchange member. The Stock Exchange is left, as a legacy from the war, with a book of rules and Treasury regulations which contain masses of prolixity and, in some cases, of contradiction in terms. A good many of the rules date back to the middle of the last century. Some are older still. Others have been grafted into the book within the past half decade. The Stock Exchange Committee may well shrink from taking in hand such a formidable task as that of revising the rules, giving them a co-ordinate character, and stripping them from the overlay of confusing complexities. The Stock Exchange has to thank the war for having provided the opportunity for proving beyond a shadow of doubt that it is master in its own house, and therefore the Committee can undertake such a codification of the rules such as could stand without challenge from outside interference. Those who are called upon to deal with Stock Exchange affairs are well aware of the anomalies, anachronisms, and confusions which exist in the present book of rules and regulations, and without pressing the claims of modernity to extreme lengths, it may well be suggested that the first work which calls for the hand of the Committee, in these early days of official peace, is to make preparation for a revision of the rules which shall bring them up to date.

The German Margarine Industry.—A correspondent writes:—It is estimated that there are at present about 170 margarine works in Germany, but this includes several small ones. It is generally known by now that a great part of the German margarine industry is in the hands of the two Dutch firms, Jurgens and Van den Bergh, who control at least 75 per cent. of the output. Some new works are being erected, and several considerable increases in capital of existing firms have been notified recently, mostly of firms under Dutch control—e.g., Jurgens and Prinzen, of Herford, have increased from 2 million to 10 million marks and S. and G. Müller from 2.8 to 5.6 million marks. This latter firm paid a dividend in 1920 of 20 per cent., plus a bonus of 10 per cent., equivalent to 15 per cent. on the increased capital. The output of margarine at the beginning of this year was about 35,000 tons per month, and the amount of raw material allotted to the German Margarine Association was increased to 10,000,000 tons per annum, although it is

not stated whether this means oil or oil-bearing material. In either case it would be, of course, inadequate for an output of 35,000 tons per month. It is, as a matter of fact, largely supplemented by animal fats—of which a considerable amount is used in German margarine—and also to a certain extent by home-grown oilseeds. Serious attention is now being given to the possibility of extending the area and yield under home-grown oilseeds, notably linseed, rapeseed and sunflower seed; and the matter is being vigorously taken up by the rejuvenated Oils and Fats Research Institute (Wissenschaftliche Zentralstelle f. Öl u-Fettforschung). This same institute also includes in its programme a thorough study of processes of oil-refining for edible purposes, fat-splitting, and fat-hardening or the hydrogenation of oils whereby liquid oils are converted into hard white fats. The firms under Dutch control will also have the advantage of drawing on the vast supplies of oils and oilseeds and nuts in the Dutch East Indies, which are largely under the control of Messrs Jurgens. The ramifications of this great firm, one of the largest in Holland, reach far and wide. It has a capital of 186,000,000 florins, and paid a dividend of 15 per cent. in 1918, and 25 per cent. for each of the three previous years. Another large firm, with headquarters in Holland—namely, Van den Bergh—in conjunction with Jurgens, is also extending its activities in Germany and adjacent countries, including Czecho-Slovakia. Their works in Germany include two large factories at Cleve and Mannheim; and in co-operation with their associate firm at Tetschen they are opening a new factory in Czecho-Slovakia, with a daily output of 50 tons. A still more important move in the direction of unified control in the whole of the German margarine and edible fats industry is the formation of one single association, representing the interests not only of the Dutch group, but also of the firms outside. A meeting of the representatives of the various groups recently took place in Berlin and provisional agreement was reached as to the constitution of the new association. There was some difficulty in connection with the question of proportionate representation and voting power; but it is understood that this difficulty has been successfully negotiated. Hitherto there has been keen competition between the firms in the Dutch combine and those outside, but it seems that this will now be removed.

Hall Marking Linens.—A Belfast correspondent writes:—A revival of the spirit of the ancient guilds in maintaining the standard of workmanship and the good quality of the goods manufactured is now being introduced by the Irish Linen Society, the representative body of that industry. Henceforth, it has been determined that an official seal, guaranteeing the fabric to which it is applied, shall be displayed on all linen goods emanating from members of the society, and "made from pure flax" and "true Irish linen." As a matter of fact, this course has been rendered essential by reason of the exceedingly high standard achieved by many cotton and union goods and also as a protection alike to both sellers and buyers of Irish linens. Moreover, it cannot be overlooked that not the least of its purposes will be to give these flaxen fabrics a distinguished prestige in the world's markets. Singularly enough, this sealing policy is but a revival of a practice much in vogue during the eighteenth century, when the institution of official examinations and sealing by the then Linen Board evoked greatly increased prosperity to the Irish linen trade.

Mexico and the United States.—The decision of the Mexican Supreme Court in the case of the Texas Oil Company should go far towards obtaining the recognition by the United States of President Obregon's Government. The Carranzist Constitution of 1917 confines concessions of mineral and oil lands to natives of Mexico and to such foreigners as will agree to be treated as Mexicans—i.e., to refrain from invoking the protection of their own Governments in any dispute with that of Mexico. It also provides that no foreigner, even under the above condition, shall acquire direct ownership of lands within 100 kilometres of the frontier or 50 kilometres from the coast, or bordering on navigable rivers. Such lands and concessions had been acquired previously by American com-

panies. Another clause of the Constitution provides that no law shall be given retroactive effect to the prejudice of any person whatever; but the United States Government demanded that the rights of the companies should be established by treaty, and President Obregon naturally felt unable to promise that Congress would ratify one. The Carranzist Government had taken steps to clear up the legal position by denouncing the concessions in question, and President Obregon had prohibited drilling upon them pending a legal decision. Apparently the judgment of the Supreme Court implies that they are protected by the prohibition of retroactive legislation. Should this be so, we may expect an early settlement of the other differences between the two Governments, followed by American and British recognition of President Obregon's Government. In his Message to Congress on Thursday, the President is stated to have rejected explicitly all idea of a treaty, on the ground that it would create special privileges for citizens of the United States. But such privileges are not demanded, and the decision gives hope that all that can reasonably be expected may be obtained otherwise.

Anglo-Mexican Trade.—Since the termination of the war the British Chambers of Commerce in oversea countries have taken over from the Trade Boards the function of informing importers as to British sources of supply of the goods formerly obtained from German or Austrian firms. To this end the British Chamber of Commerce in Mexico City began last month to issue an eight-page Bulletin, shortly to be enlarged and published weekly, and also to be supplemented by a 30-page monthly magazine. The first number states that the Chamber is forming a permanent exhibition in Mexico City of British products, and requests British firms to send samples, or, in the case of machinery, catalogues and photographs, and to register with the Chamber the names and addresses of their representatives in Mexico. It mentions also that the value of the exports to Mexico from the United Kingdom in the first three months of the current year amounted to £1,753,288, as compared with £681,155 in the corresponding period of 1920—an increase of nearly 157 per cent., and almost three-fourths of their value for the whole year preceding the fall of President Diaz. Even after allowing for the rise of prices since 1910, these figures indicate the growing confidence in the stability of the new order felt by the commercial world.

Bulgaria's Difficulties.—French financial interests in Bulgaria are considerable, and are preponderant in the External Debt, so that French opinion is naturally alarmed at the two problems set by Allied action to the Bulgarian Government. The Treaty of Neuilly requires Bulgaria to disband her conscript army, but permits her to raise 20,000 men by voluntary enlistment for a twelve years term of service—this period being fixed in order that the war strength may not be raised considerably beyond the limit by rapidly training successive classes of recruits. In addition, she is allowed to maintain a force of 10,000 gendarmes and 3,000 frontier guards. From the first her Government has predicted that the recruits would not be forthcoming, the mass of the population being, like all peasants, determined to stay on the land. But the Allies have insisted, and the disbanding is to be completed by October 1st. Meanwhile, the recruits for the new army number about 300, the non-commissioned officers who have re-engaged about 1,300. Now, there are possibilities of internal disorder—not so much from Bolsheviks or the native Communists or intrigues of pro-German ex-Ministers, as from the unemployed Bulgar refugees who have flocked in from Thrace and Macedonia, and are said to be taking to brigandage. Again, though the country is on good terms with Roumania, and is even drawing closer to its late enemies in Jugo-Slavia, the movement is motivated by their common jealousy of the Greek Kingdom, which, having obtained Thrace, whose population is largely Slav, thereby depriving Bulgaria of a coastal seaboard, is alleged to be hampering the trade of both countries through its natural outlet at Salonika. Further, it is stated that the

Greek delegate on the Frontier Commission has demanded the inclusion in Greek territory of certain points in the Rhodope district, which might be of strategic importance for Bulgaria. "Frontier incidents" are always possible; if they occur Bulgaria cannot deal with them, and so they may be turned to the profit of Greece. Besides this, there is a financial problem. The Allies have lately accorded Bulgaria a delay of a year in beginning to pay reparations, on condition that the Sobranje repeals the Budget recently passed and substitutes another to be approved by the Inter-Allied Commission at Sofia. This body is stated to disapprove of the tax recently imposed on war profits, and to demand heavier taxation on land. But a peasant electorate will not accept this or tolerate a Ministry that proposes it. A settlement of the arrears of interest on the Foreign Debt has recently been effected with the French bondholders and accepted by the English, except as regards the loan of 1910, on which negotiations are still in progress. But unless the problems in question are solved satisfactorily the future service of the Debt may be endangered.

Rand Cross-Currents.—Our mining correspondent writes: It really seems as though the gold industry of the Witwatersrand is fated never to sail in smooth waters for any appreciable length of time. A week ago the barometer appeared to be at set fair; within the past few days an intimation has appeared that, owing to the restriction of demand, the explosives manufacturing companies will be compelled to raise their charge for dynamite. The restriction of demand, it may be noted, arises partly from the suspension of operations by several of the low-grade main reef propositions, but mainly through the severe curtailment of work at the diamond mines; and the advance in the price of the explosive comes about automatically under the somewhat unusual terms upon which the commodity in question is supplied, namely, co-operative contracts at cost, plus a fixed charge on the capital employed. The difference is stated at a few shillings per case: if 4s be assumed, the amount involved would represent about £100,000, the Rand consuming somewhat over half a million cases annually. This additional expenditure may be regarded as swallowing up some two-fifths of the sum to be saved by the recent reduction in the wages of the white miners, or, alternatively, of neutralising in part the economies in other stores. Such is the extent of its importance. On the other hand, rumours have been current as to a new treatment process calculated to effect a great saving in both capital cost and working expenses. These statements appear to be founded on the departure which has just been made at the Springs Mines, whose reduction capacity is being extended 25 per cent. by the installation of four tube mills, with no addition to the stamp battery—to which they are usually supplementary. During the past ten years or so the work of the stamps on the Rand has been increased enormously, as much as 15 tons per day being now dealt with, against an average of about 7½ tons in 1910, and less than 5 tons in 1903. The expansion arises from two causes—growth in the weight and efficiency of the stamps, and a less complete reduction of the ore, the remainder of the task being performed by the improved subsidiary processes. It is obvious that if the preliminary crushing of the ore can be adequately performed without the service of the stamp battery, a large capital cost will be avoided, and while a company would scarcely find it worth while to scrap an existing installation, the new method might be adopted for extensions, or in the case of new works. Other favourable points consist in the rapidity of the modified process, and in the lessened liability to theft; the whole of the gold recovery being effected by means of the cyanide solution, there is no amalgam of quicksilver and gold to be stolen by a dishonest operator. Simplicity and speed naturally make for economy. As a matter of fact, the "new" process is largely an adaptation of the "direct-cyanide" method devised in connection with the Western Rand about a quarter of a century ago. The furore then aroused was not justified by results; but conditions are now different in several respects. Experiments on the part of the Minerals Separation Company are also in progress. As

the special feature of the company's process consists in its applicability to complex ores, there seems no great field for its employment on the free-milling Rand banket.

British-Hungarian Debts Settlement.—The Board of Trade announces that under the Treaty of Trianon the Mixed Arbitral Tribunal between the British Empire and Hungary has been constituted, and is about to commence work in London. The president is Mr B. C. J. Loder, LL.D., judge of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands, the British member is Mr Heber Hart, K.C., LL.D., and the Hungarian member Mons. Bela de Zoltan, formerly Minister of Justice in Hungary. An important part of the work of the Tribunal will be to decide upon claims in respect of debts under the Treaty where a difference arises between British and Hungarian nationals or between the British and Hungarian Clearing Offices. By the Treaty the High Contracting Powers have agreed that their courts and authorities shall render to the Tribunal direct all the assistance in their power, particularly as regards transmitting notices and collecting evidence, and they have also agreed to regard the decisions of the Tribunal as final and conclusive, and to render them binding upon their nationals. The British Government has provided headquarters for the Tribunal in Winchester House, 21 St James's square, S.W.1. Mr Claud Mullins, barrister-at-law, is the British secretary.

Obersea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—STEEL WAGES REDUCED—PIG-IRON PRODUCTION—TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, August 20.

THE United States Steel Corporation's announcement this week of another cut in wages had long been expected, in fact ever since the Corporation reduced its prices of steel products some time ago. The reduction, which will become effective on August 29th, is the third made since the decline in steel prices began, and will amount to 7 cents an hour for unskilled labour, lowering the wage to 30 cents an hour, or to the scale which prevailed on May 1, 1917. The low selling prices of steel as compared with costs of production, Judge Gary, chairman of the Board of Directors, explained, made it necessary to lower wages; other wages and salaries are to be equitably adjusted to the new basis. At the reduced rate, unskilled labourers will receive \$3 per day for a ten-hour day, which is 50 per cent. above the wage paid at the beginning of 1915, but approximately 40 per cent. below that in effect February 1, 1920, when the pay was \$5.06 for a ten-hour day. The latter was the highest point reached, and represented an advance of 153 per cent. over the \$2 per day wage that was in force in 1915. On May 16th of this year a cut of 20 per cent. was made, which brought the daily wage down to \$4.05; that was followed on July 16th by the elimination of time and a half for overtime work over eight hours, which reduced the daily wage of unskilled labourers to \$3.70. The cut announced this week amounts to a reduction of 18.9 per cent. About the only surprising feature of the corporation's action is that it has been delayed so long, for various independent proof that a have been lowering wages, and some are now in the rates, it is understood, that are lower than those of Van the Steel Corporation will put into effect cent. of the out- of this month. Just what saving to be effected, and several con- result from the wage cuts cannot be ascertained, since existing firms have been with any degree of accuracy, since under Dutch control— upon the rate of operations, at Herford, have increased rendered more difficult by the marks and S. and G. Müller authorities, however, calculate. This latter firm paid a similar to those of 1920, 10 per cent., plus a bonus of 10 per a proportionate readjustment. The cut at the beginning of this year was In 1920 the Corporation paid 10 per cent. per month, and the amount of raw approximately in the German Margarine Association 10,000 tons per annum, although it is

per ton of finished steel averaged \$40.80 in 1920, \$39.95 in 1919, \$32.64 in 1918, \$23.24 in 1917, and \$16.74 in the year before the war, 1913. According to a reliable authority, the wage cuts announced this year, including the current reduction, together with the increased efficiency of the employees, will bring the average labour cost per ton down to about \$25, or close to the 1917 average. Whether or not the further wage reduction, just announced, foreshadows still lower prices for steel is problematical, because many other factors must be taken into account, such as the possibility of lower freight rates, and the reduction of overhead expenses through increased operations. Unless freight rates are reduced, and unless competition becomes keener, no drastic cuts in steel prices are expected in the near future. Wage reductions alone, as indicated, cannot be taken as presaging such a development. The Steel Corporation's policy is to lower prices before reducing wages; therefore the present wage cut is regarded as the result of the recent reductions in prices of finished steel, rather than as a forerunner of any immediate lowering of the latter. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that pig-iron this week has advanced, some former speculative sales at \$18.50 having been covered at \$20 a ton.

In this connection it is interesting to note that recent returns of pig-iron production in this country seem to indicate that the 1921 output will be extremely small. For the first half of the year, production, according to statistics of the American Iron and Steel Association, totalled 9,530,981 tons, as against 18,166,413 tons in the second half of 1920 and 18,435,602 tons in the first six months of last year. The figures show a reduction of about 48 per cent. from the first half of 1920, a percentage of decrease not witnessed in any corresponding period since the decline in the first half of 1908 from the first six months of 1907. The actual production this year for the first six months is the smallest recorded in any half-year since the second half of 1908, and with the exceptions of the first and second halves of that year is the smallest since the last half of 1905. During the last six months of 1921 pig-iron production will have to reach 27,395,006 tons in order to bring the year's total up to that of last year; such an output has never been recorded in any six months. The nearest approach to it was 29,826,914 tons in the second half of 1918.

Trade and industry still show irregular conditions and tendencies. Business, upon the whole, is somewhat more active than at the beginning of the current month; but the improvement has not been general. In a few lines, such as silk piece goods, shoes, canned goods, iron and steel, and raw wool, the volume of sales has lately increased to a considerable extent, although it has not reached really large proportions. Buyers, as a rule, have continued to operate in a very conservative fashion, taking merchandise or commodities only in quantities sufficient to meet present or nearby needs. Notable exceptions are found in a few textile and wearing apparel lines where substantial forward buying has developed. Men's wear woollen and worsted fabrics for Fall and for next spring have been well patronised, but trade in dress goods for the approaching Fall season is extremely dull, so much so that manufacturers have been asked to withhold deliveries until distributors can see an outlet for the goods they have ordered. Broadcloth manufacturers are confining their attention of official examinations and sealing in Patne then Linen Board evoked greatly increased prosperity to the Irish linen trade.

Mexico and the United States.—The decision of the Mexican Supreme Court in the case of the Texas Oil Company should go far towards obtaining the recognition by the United States of President Obregon's Government. The Carranzist Constitution of 1917 confines concessions of mineral and oil lands to natives of Mexico and to such foreigners as will agree to refrain from interfering in the internal affairs of Mexico. It also provides that no concession shall be made to a foreigner who has not yet been re- operating at about 50 with manufacturers. prices lately have consumers are ng of shoes ale, while an more crops larger on

way. Reports to the National Automobile Chamber of Commerce from plants producing 75 per cent. of the total output indicate that shipments of automobiles in July were 61 per cent. of July last year, and 7 per cent. less than in June, 1921.

FRANCE. — SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET — THE FINANCE COMMISSION AND THE FINANCIAL CONFERENCE—BANK OF FRANCE—NEW ISSUES—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, August 30.

THE Minister of Finance has now issued the text of his supplementary Budget for 1922, known as the Budget for Recoverable Expenditure—recoverable, that is, through the medium of payments that will be made to this country by Germany during the more or less long period that will be covered by the reparation payments. The expenditure provided for in this Budget is solely connected with matters that come under the control of the Allied Reparations Commission, and may be described in general terms as being expenditure necessitated for the restoration of the devastated area and for pension charges. No provision, as I have more than once explained, is made for obtaining this money by means of taxation.

It is estimated that the amount to be expended on restoration work and pensions during 1922 will be 7,158,620,742 francs, made up as follows:—

	Francs.
Ministry for the Liberated Regions	1,146,508,977
Interest on Credit National Loans	556,703,295
Interest on other loans in respect of compensation for war losses	300,000,000
Cost of Ministry of Pensions	405,988,970
Pension allowances	3,656,887,660
Ministry of Finance:—	
Cost of payment of war losses	4,341,340
Other expenses	1,322,000
Expenditure by other Government departments	1,086,868,500

The preamble to the Budget calls especial attention to the difficulties connected with the drawing up of such a Budget owing to the fact that it has necessarily to be based on the amount which it is hoped will be recovered from Germany. According to Article 4 of the scheme of payments that has been accepted by Germany, the latter will pay over to the Reparations Commission every year an annuity consisting of a fixed sum of 2,000,000,000 marks gold, plus a variable sum equivalent to 26 per cent. of the value of the German exports. Under the Spa agreement France will receive 52 per cent. of the total amount that will thus be paid by Germany. In these circumstances it is impossible to arrive at anything more than an approximate idea of the amount Germany will pay during 1922. The total amount of the annuities will be subordinated, in fact, to the total figure of the German exports during the current year. So far as it is possible to arrive at any conclusion in these difficult circumstances, the Finance Minister estimates that Germany's contribution to the Allies during 1922 will amount to something in the neighbourhood of 4,500,000,000 marks gold, of which France should receive 52 per cent., or 2,340,000,000 marks gold. In any case, M. Doumer asserts, the Budget of Recoverable Expenditure for 1922 will not provide for this expenditure to be met by any loan, but is drawn up on the basis that the money required will be obtained out of the payments that will be received from Germany, plus such sums as may be obtained by further issues of Credit National bonds or from special loans that may be issued by certain categories of sufferers from war damages. (Loans, it will be remembered, have already been issued by certain cities in the devastated area, such as Rheims, Soissons, and Verdun, while the mining, the beet sugar, and other industries have also successfully appealed to the public for money for reconstitution purposes.) The only loan to be issued by the Treasury, he repeats, will be for the purpose of consolidating the floating debt.

The Finance Commission of the Chamber, notwithstanding that the House is on its holidays, has resumed its examination of M. Doumer's Budget proposals, and is sitting daily at the Palais Bourbon for that purpose. These sittings have an exceptional importance at present in

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3
Capital Authorised £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.
The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.
Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.
On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

view of the very close relation between the Budget proposals and the decisions arrived at by the Inter-Allied Financial Conference that recently met in Paris, simultaneously with the Supreme Council. These decisions, which were signed by the French Finance Minister under all reserve, have yet to be ratified by the Government, and it was in view of this fact that the Finance Commission yesterday decided to call before it both M. Briand and M. Doumer, in order that the whole effect of the Paris decisions will have on the French national finances may be thoroughly threshed out before the decisions of August 13th come before the Ministerial Council (possibly during the present week) for ratification or rejection.

On one of those decisions the Finance Commission has found no reason for anything but entire satisfaction, and that is connected with the price at which the coal delivered to France by Germany is to be debited to this country. The British view, it is asserted, was that the price France should pay should correspond to the price of British coal sold for export to France. The assembled Finance Ministers, however, decided that this coal should be debited to France at the price at which German coal is sold in Germany. The effect of this decision, according to the latest estimates of the Finance Commission, is a saving to the French Treasury to date of about 400,000,000 francs.

There are three important points, however, on which the Finance Commission is by no means satisfied with the decisions of the Inter-Allied Conference. The first is based on the fear that it may ultimately be found that France's 52 per cent. share in the 132 milliards which Germany will have to pay, will be reduced owing to claims put forward by Italy and certain of the smaller Allies with regard to claims in respect of their expenditure for the purpose of carrying on war against Germany's allies, Austria and Turkey. A second question that may vitally affect France arises out of the decision that was taken for the 1,000 million marks gold, due in cash from Germany on August 21st, to be divided between Belgium and Great Britain, the former receiving 550,000,000 marks gold, and the balance going to the latter in repayment of the expenditure incurred by her in respect of her army of occupation on the Rhine. The Finance Commission is anxious to know if Belgium will be prepared, out of the 550,000,000 marks gold she is to receive, to pay off the debt she owes to France, or if she proposes to liquidate this by means of long-term bonds.

The fourth and most serious question raised by the Finance Commission, however, is in regard to the decision that, instead of receiving any portion of Germany's first milliard, France must regard herself as having been largely repaid the cost of maintaining her troops on the Rhine by reason of having received the Sarre coal mines, and, further, that not only will she receive any sum in cash, but she will be required to repay to the rest of the Allies the difference between the value of those mines and the amount her army of occupation has cost her. The Commission argue that there is nothing in the Treaty of Versailles that justifies the view that the attribution of the Sarre coal mines to France must be regarded as a factor in connection with the repayment to her of the cost of maintaining her army of occupation. Much, of course, depends on whether M. Briand will be able to persuade the Finance Commission that it is necessary for France,

in the interest of the maintenance of the Entente, to accept the decisions of the Inter-Allied Conference, but as matters stand at the present moment it is regarded as quite possible much of the work of that conference may have to be done over again.

The balance-sheet of the Bank of France continues to show a very satisfactory improvement, both in respect of reduced note circulation and of a progressive diminution in the amount owing by the State to the Bank. The total note issue, which on August 26th last year stood at 37,904,500,000f (compared with 35,090,400,000f on August 28, 1919), and which reached its maximum of 39,649,000,000f on November 4th last, is now only 36,782,000,000f, or approximately where it stood at the end of October last. The reduction in the notes in circulation amounts to 2,864,000,000f, as compared with November 4th last. The amount owing by the State to the Bank, which reached 26,000,000,000f a year ago and reached 26,700,000,000f on May 6th last, has been brought down to 25,100,000,000f, a reduction in three and a-half months of 1,600,000,000f. On the other hand, the issue of short-term bonds is progressing remarkably. The latest available figures show that during June two-year 6 per cent. Treasury bonds and National Defence bonds and obligations were absorbed by the public to a total amount of 6,023,639,100f.

New issues in this country during the second three months of 1921 were as follows:—

	Francs.
Treasury issues	11,005,898,300
Railways (French)	416,589,332
Municipal loans	25,000,000
Various French companies	2,499,764,000
French companies operating abroad	31,850,000
Foreign companies	42,160,000
	14,021,261,632

The average rate of interest offered during the period was 6.71 per cent., as compared with 6.67 per cent. during the previous three-monthly period.

The Bourse this last week has been notably in better shape. Buying has been more active and a number of sales have been cancelled. For the last two months there have been no serious issues, and in consequence French thrift has been looking for outlets. Three per Cent. Rentes have been rather better at 56.45, as against 56.30, and foreign Government securities have been considerably more in demand. Banking shares advanced during the week; Banque de Paris, for instance, starting at 1,350, reached 1,375, to finish at 1,363; l'Union Parisienne, opening at 840, touched 880, to finish at 868, and others similarly. Transports are in advance, Metro improving from 390 to 405, and Omnibus from 627 to 637. Shipping has shared in the movement, Chargeurs Réunis fluctuating between 635 and 610, after having been at 595, Chargeurs Français varying between 1,000 and 975, as against 900, and Messageries Maritimes moving up from 233 to 238. Electrical undertakings are more in demand, Thomson advancing from 850 to between 880 and 870, and others similarly. Metallurgical undertakings are also well supported. Acieries de France has risen from 545 to 575, Micheville from 960 to 1,000, and Peugeot from 400 to 470. It is hoped that the reduced price of coke may improve still further the metallurgical industry. Petrol has been hesitating, and various rumours have been set about, to which, however, no great attention has been paid. All the same, Royal Dutch is down from 18,800 to 18,400, Shell is stationary at 299, but Mexican Eagles, after various fluctuations, gained a few points, to finish at 221.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Aug. 25, 1921.	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 28, 1913.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Capital of the Bank	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918)	570,689,317	570,886,467	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	959,197,391	950,713,928	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918)	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,782,999,925	36,983,752,830	5,410,289,415
Interest on securities	62,309,565	65,324,703	22,601,230

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Bank notes to order	1,014,924	977,797	3,762,163
Treasury account	61,821,914	44,329,833	338,552,118
Current accounts, Paris	1,672,328,016	1,685,517,135	708,250,968
Do branch banks	1,014,813,126	975,977,562	114,508,060
Dividends payable	6,613,366	6,907,262	3,218,178
Discounts and sundries	43,669,395	41,318,923	13,092,200
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,050,014,122	1,019,677,593	247,340,685
Total	42,495,787,269	42,615,440,173	7,092,169,651
	CREDITOR.		
Cash in hand	5,793,884,325	5,793,884,325	4,080,854,354
Balances abroad	626,563,487	624,081,691	..
Commercial bills overdue	307,700	1,967,733	205,719
Discounts in Paris	1,524,765,256	1,482,431,236	499,004,577
Foreign bills	4,347,973	4,421,839	17,130,863
Treasury bills	928,821,363	955,568,311	962,765,989
Discounts in branches	..	..	1,215
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	70,601,949	71,799,099	728,000
Advances on bullion	12,374,000	12,874,000	194,317,101
Do on public securities	409,969,482	408,543,582	528,179,644
Do on branch banks	1,743,783,055	1,760,521,553	200,000,000
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	..
Do (for the war)	24,900,000,000	24,900,000,000	6,198,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,062,000,000	4,062,000,000	12,980,750
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	95,579,294
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	100,000,000
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	42,971,112
Premises and furniture	46,100,983	46,100,983	4,603,571
Expenses and management	14,346,441	12,499,258	8,407,394
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	334,241,598
Sundries	1,926,995,277	2,050,120,247	..
Total	42,495,787,269	42,615,440,173	7,092,169,651

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5%
Advances on bullion	5%
Advances on public securities	5%

GERMANY.—POLITICS — FINANCES — REICHSBANK POLICY — EXCHANGE AND BOURSE — EMPLOYMENT — SHIPBUILDING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, August 29.

The conclusion of peace with the United States has not had any visible effect upon business or exchange conditions, and little upon the Bourse. The first practical question opened is the fate of the sequestered German property, which is stated by an American authority to reach the value of \$314,179,000, and is probably largely exceeded by American claims against Germany. The restoration of this property or any part of it would need a special American law. German home politics have been seriously disturbed by the Erzberger murder, by conflicts at Potsdam between Royalists and Republicans, and by a Socialist agitation in Bavaria against the exceptional measures in force for maintenance of order, as against the extreme Left. The ferment is aggravated by a new general wages movement, caused by the rise in cost of living. The Federal Government, under pressure from the trades unions, has promised to use its influence in favour of restoration of the Constitutional guarantees in Bavaria; but it has itself been obliged, as against the extreme Right, to limit drastically the right of free speech and assembly all over the Republic. The threats of counter-revolution from either side ought not to be taken too seriously; the new disturbances are probably only one more transitory reaction against a general movement towards greater political stability. The Government has conceded increases of official salaries and allowances equivalent to between 13½ and 20 per cent., and it has been obliged to decide for further increases of railway rates and fares (probably 25 per cent.) and postage rates. The new price rise and exchange fall have again had the effect of upsetting State financial estimates.

Revenue in the first quarter (April-June inclusive) of the financial year 1921 developed satisfactorily. Receipts totalled 17,263,151,609 marks, which is 13,574,785,785 marks more than in the same quarter of last year. The estimated receipts for all 1921 are 42,425,500,000 marks, and of this 39.88 per cent. has already been received. The largest yields were:—

	April-June, 1921.	Excess Over April-June, 1920.
Emergency levy	4,317,141,434	4,135,498,465
Sales tax, 1919	2,776,433,214	2,754,882,585
Increment of wealth	1,448,024,982	1,425,667,411
Income-tax	3,305,860,813	2,360,747,142
Coal tax	917,227,414	25,662,276
Tobacco tax	715,755,264	323,828,797

The large increases are mainly due to the fact that a year ago the new property taxes had hardly begun to come in. Of the above income-tax receipts 1,088,751,700 marks belong to the financial year 1920. The receipts from posts and telegraphs, not included in the above total, were 1,385,271,238, or 689,554,234 marks more than in the first three months of last financial year, and from railways, also not included above, 5,696,422,000 marks, or 2,008,907,000 marks more. The floating debt on July 31st totalled 219,205,707,540 marks, of which 190,674,900,300 marks consisted of discounted Treasury bills, these including 9,600,000,000 marks Prussian Treasury bills taken over in connection with the transfer of Prussia's railways to the Republic.

The Government has accepted a recommendation of the Reichswirtschaftsrat Reparations Committee that the full sum lost by retention of the sanctions levy in England should be guaranteed to the exporter. This means that where the goods are invoiced in foreign currency the exporter will be repaid sufficient paper marks to buy the lost amount of foreign currency at the exchange rate of the day of repayment, not at the rate on the day of issue of the reparations bond. In the case of exports invoiced in marks, the British Government is to be requested to state the mark price on which its sterling deduction is calculated.

The Reichsbank report for August 23rd shows a decline in Treasury bill discounts by 3,947,784,000 marks to 75,031,147,000 marks, an increase of private discounts by 27,760,000 marks to 1,031,609,000 marks, a decrease of State deposits by 1,582,206,000 marks to 2,142,998,000 marks, and of private deposits by 1,662,617,000 marks to 7,496,478,000 marks. Note circulation fell by 205,565,000 marks to 77,190,575,000 marks, and Kassenscheine by 262,100,000 marks to 7,857,100,000 marks. The total of outstanding Darlehenskasse Loans has now fallen to 11,536,400,000 marks, which is around a third of the maximum reached. A Socialisation Commission inquiry into methods of Reparations payments has raised several questions of Reichsbank policy. Regarding means of meeting the continuing deficit in the foreign payment balance, the Commission held that the Reichsbank's gold reserve no longer plays any important rôle as cover for note issue, that the reserve should not in principle be considered inalienable, and may occasionally be used for checking panic falls of the mark's foreign exchange. Plans to export art treasures were rejected as undesirable, and plans to expropriate and realise jewellery as impracticable. On the question whether the Reichsbank discount rate, which has remained at 5 per cent. since 1914, should not be raised, the Commission's experts agreed that a discount increase would not attract foreign money, as the slight gain would count for nothing compared with the prospects and risks of exchange fluctuations. Only with a relatively stable exchange would the discount rate play any international rôle. The Reichsbank's gold on August 15th, at the pre-war valuation at which it is booked in the weekly statements, covered only 1.4 per cent. of the note issue; at the rate at which the Bank pays for gold, in paper marks, it covered, however, 23.8 per cent.

Stocks again rose rapidly last week, although the foreign exchanges slightly fell. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* Bourse index for the 26th shows 19,475 for the sum of quotations of 25 dividend-bearing and 10 fixed interest securities, against 18,782 on the 19th and 18,273 on the 12th. Until the end of September the Berlin Bourse will be closed on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, but official foreign exchange rates will continue to be published on the first two of these days. Stocks of concerns interested in sequestered property in America were in demand, as were also various Rhenish-Wesphalian stocks, these in connection with fusion and capitalisation reports, which led to rises in the week of 100 and more points. The chief gainers were Phoenix and Rhenish Steel, which are about to fuse with the Gutehoffnungshütte, an iron concern interested together with the Hamburg-America Line in the Deutsche Werft, Germany's newest and biggest shipyard. Mannesmann Tubes, the smelting concern, Thale, which rose over 200 points, and the Hoersch iron and steel stock, which rose about 150 points, were also in demand.

Business conditions continue to improve, prices to rise, and unemployment to decline. The number of publicly supported unemployed on August 1st was 269,424, as against 315,458 on July 1st. As compared with March, the worst month of this year, the unemployed have fallen by 143,000. The close way, in which, as often reported from here, manufacturing conditions follow the foreign exchanges, is shown in a diagram newly published by the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, in which the curve of unemployment runs almost exactly parallel to, but always naturally a little behind, the mark's exchange value; in January-February, 1920, the mark's exchange and the unemployment figure fell rapidly, rose together rapidly up to the early summer, and have since been on the whole downward, with a slight brief rise in November-February. The Leipzig Technical Fair has opened very successfully, shows a great abundance of new inventions, and illustrates, particularly in the exhibits of Krupp's, the speed and skill with which armaments producers have adapted their plant and methods to peace exigencies. Prices are still rising, and the home public and foreigners are buying heavily. The price of American cotton on August 27th was 31 marks a kilo, against 18½ marks at the beginning of April, of cotton yarn 54-65 marks per kilo, against 39-52 marks; cotton cloth, 7.80-10 marks per metre, against 6.5-8 marks; silk (organdie), 1,200 marks per kilo, against 770 marks; sole leather, 65-85 marks per kilo, against 50-65 marks; ox hides, 10.50-16.85 marks per lb on August 25th, against 8.5-16.40 marks on April 20th; boots (production cost), 130-200 marks a pair on August 27th, against 125-200 marks on July 21st. Eggs have risen from 1,250-1,350 marks per thousand, wholesale, in April, to 1,600-1,800 marks; rice from 4-6 marks a kilo to 6.75-8.75 marks. Other imported foods have also risen.

An unofficial compilation as to German shipbuilding in January-July, inclusive, shows (counting only vessels of over 1,000 tons), that nearly 400,000 tons have been added to the merchant and passenger fleet. The largest vessels launched, of which there have been seven, are of 12,000 tons; in addition there have been launched 20 vessels of over 5,000 tons; and in all about 55 vessels of over 1,000 tons. There have been bought or bought back from abroad 31 vessels of over 1,000 tons. The present condition of shipbuilding is bad, owing to the exhaustion of the State compensation paid for 1921 to the ship-owning companies.

CANADA.—CROP FORECASTS—INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, August 17.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics in its preliminary crop forecast places the yield of wheat for all Canada at 288,000,000 bushels, these figures being based on the condition of the crop as at July 31st. As this is 25,000,000 bushels in excess of the 1920 yield, it is very satisfactory. While the estimate is based on the best information obtainable, the co-operation of the provinces in its preparation imparting to it a more than ordinarily reliable character, still there is a disposition to think that possibly the figures may be rather high. Owing to rains, harvesting operations in Saskatchewan, which will produce more than 50 per cent. of the wheat for all Canada, have been delayed, and the general effect will probably be to reduce the yield, for black rust is working in a number of districts. On the whole, however, this province seems to have been less adversely affected than any of the others.

For all Canada the yield of grains other than wheat is forecasted as follows:—Oats, 457,544,000 bushels, as against last year's record crop of 530,000,000 bushels; barley, 58,027,000 bushels, as against 63,310,000 bushels; rye, 11,707,000 bushels, as compared with 11,306,000 bushels; flaxseed, 6,930,000, as compared with 7,997,000 bushels; potatoes, 99,937,000, as against last year's record-breaking crop of 133,831,000 bushels. The total yield of fall wheat is definitely placed at 15,473,000 bushels, or 4,000,000 bushels below that of 1920; the average yield per acre being 21½ bushels, while last year

it was 24. The total yield of hay and clover for all Canada is put at 10,374,000 tons, as against 13,338,000 tons in 1920, and 16,348,000 tons, the record-breaking crop, in 1919. Owing to the prolonged drought in Eastern Canada the yield of hay and clover per acre is the lowest on record, being only one ton, as compared with an average of 1.30 tons last year, and 1.50 tons for the last ten years. A little over 280,000,000 bushels of wheat should easily be worth \$400,000,000 to the country, and there is no doubt about securing a ready market for it this year. Coarser grains will also yield another very large sum. The effect of this on the general commercial situation should be decidedly beneficial. From a business standpoint, the prairie provinces are the hope of the country this year.

While the drought in Europe is creating a strong market for all the wheat that Canada has for export, and has delivered the farmers this year from the ill-effects that seemed likely to follow the closing of the American market to this cereal, the livestock industry has felt the full force of the dreaded blow. Alberta, which has been hit especially hard, is doing her utmost to persuade the Dominion Government to assist in working out a solution of the problem, and has succeeded in enlisting the hearty support of the other prairie provinces. But while public opinion is eager to do all in its power to relieve the situation, there seems to be little that either it or the Dominion Government can do. The best expert opinion in the West is that the real solution lies in gaining access to the United States market, and that even the removal of the British embargo would only afford temporary relief. It is too much to expect that a Government supported mainly by the forces that defeated Reciprocity in 1911 would yield to the request that it approach Washington with a view to securing a partial reciprocal trade arrangement. So it looks as though the livestock interests will have to work out their own salvation. During the last month they have received a measure of relief in the reduction of freight rates on stock, but it is little use shipping if a market is not available.

The Western crop will have the usual effect of improving business during the fall, but there are no indications of a genuine revival in commercial activities. On all sides there are signs that the forces working for the adjustment of conditions are far from having completed their work. The trade returns for July contain strong evidence of this. As compared with the same month last year there was a decrease of 50 per cent. in the value of the total trade, the figures being \$234,180,201 and \$118,846,033 respectively. Imports and exports have been affected to almost the same extent, the former having fallen from \$127,268,811 in July, 1920, to \$62,405,890, while the total exports are given as \$107,900,000 and \$56,400,000 respectively. During the first four months of the current fiscal year the value of the total trade was \$474,804,739, as compared with \$825,267,761 for the same period last year. Imports declined from \$473,572,589 to \$253,862,462, and total exports from \$351,700,000 to \$221,000,000. The unfortunate feature of the situation is that the trade figures will continue to shrink during the remainder of the year, for outside of wheat there is little hope of finding in other quarters new markets for what has been lost in the United States, or will be lost when the new Fordney Bill becomes law.

The truth is that the pains of the readjustment process are only now being felt in this country; that they will be quite severe is undoubted, though they will not be of anything like a fatal character. Canada is sound at heart, but post-war conditions are practically certain to result in a partial reshaping of her fiscal policy. During the last 15 years the manufacturing industries have been expanded out of all proportion to the needs of the country. To some extent this was due to other causes than the definite shaping of policy, the war, with its demands for munitions, having stimulated some industries far beyond all dreams. Many of these cannot now be readily converted into plants producing saleable peace-time products. During the war, and for some months after, a considerable export trade in certain manufactured products was built up, but the rate of exchange, to say nothing of the competition of certain low-cost production countries, has checked this in all lines except those of pulp and paper.

In the meantime, the home market grows but slowly, and through the marked fall in the prices of native products the demands of the home market are much below normal. To make matters worse, the railway problem, which is much more acute in Canada than in most other countries, shows no signs of real improvement. During April the operating deficits on the Government lines proper were approximately \$1,000,000 greater than they were during the same month last year. On the other hand, the net operating revenue of the C.P.R. was nearly \$400,000 greater.

Growing realisation that the main dependence of the country for some years to come must be on agriculture accounts very largely for the support that the Agrarian or National Progressive party is receiving, not only in the rural districts, but in a number of the towns and cities too. In the city of Medicine Hat, Alberta, the Agrarian candidate defeated his opponent, who is a resident with a long record of civic service. It is the insistent demand for an outlet for the main natural products of the country that is forcing Reciprocity again to the front. The pressure of circumstances is also drastically reshaping the system of Federal taxation. Before 1914 90 per cent. of the revenue was obtained through the tariff; this year not more than 25 per cent. will be. So the total of these influences is likely to produce drastic changes in policy.

AUSTRALIA.—COMMONWEALTH LOAN—TARIFF—LIFE ASSURANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, July 29.

THE Commonwealth Government has issued the prospectus of its 6 per cent. loan of £10,000,000 for war and repatriation purposes, applications closing on September 5th. The price of issue is £96, the terms giving no accrued interest, and the loan being repayable on December 15, 1930, the yield to the investor, including redemption, is about £6 12s per cent. The price of issue is above the current market rate for the 6 per cent. stock, 1930, previously issued, the Melbourne quotations for which on July 28th were 93½-93¾, but the Government looks for support on the ground of the objects of the loan. There is, however, a critical feeling as to the scale on which the Government is still spending money, and those who subscribed on previous occasions with a view to reselling, even at a loss, for the purpose of supporting war efforts, are now less willing to continue doing so. On the other hand, the supply of money available for investment has recently been increasing, and the stock exchanges in Sydney and Melbourne have been showing buoyancy during the last few weeks as regards first-class securities. Since internal war borrowings by the Commonwealth Government began in 1915, the total amount raised (exclusive of the present issue) has been £239,852,770, of which £232,759,880 was outstanding on March 31, 1921. The gross public debt of the Commonwealth Government for all purposes on June 30, 1921, according to a statement in Parliament by the Treasurer, Sir Joseph Cook, was £401,595,000, of which £70,000,000 is represented by interest-bearing indebtedness of the States to the Commonwealth for soldier land settlement, war service homes, and advances for public works, &c. These figures do not include the direct debts of the six States.

The Customs Tariff, which was introduced last year, is now practically out of hand so far as Parliament is concerned, and will henceforth rest on a strictly legal basis, after having been based practically upon resolutions of Parliament during the various modifications which have been made from 1914 onwards. During the Parliamentary discussions of the last few weeks the tariff has undergone criticism from some of the country members to the effect that it is burdensome upon rural production, but the Government has had the support of the Labour Opposition for its proposals. The Labour Party, which largely represents the working classes in the cities, does not object to the maintenance of high prices on manufactured goods if in the interests of those classes. On the other hand, increasing attention is being directed to the small amount of progress made by the country, as evidenced by the Census returns, which so far as they are yet published

show that nearly all the increase in population during the past ten years has been in the capital cities and provincial towns, and that little increase has taken place in the purely rural population.

The annual reports of the life assurance offices, with head offices in Australia and New Zealand, show a large increase in the new business transacted, a comparison for the last few years being as follows:—

	Ordinary. £	Industrial. £	Total. £
1916.....	16,681,194	5,010,561	21,691,755
1917.....	18,440,602	5,751,926	24,192,528
1918.....	23,844,289	6,674,077	30,518,366
1919.....	29,869,266	7,717,165	37,586,431
1920.....	35,466,756	8,800,000*	44,266,000*

* Approximate.

For some years the mortality experience of the offices was affected, first, by war claims, against which the policies issued before the war usually contained no condition, and, secondly, by post-war influenza claims. The war claims paid by the various offices aggregated nearly 4½ millions sterling, and the influenza claims over £800,000. During 1920, however, with the cessation of these adverse influences, the mortality experience was favourable, and between the reduction in claims and the increased income from premiums and interest the funds of the life offices have been growing at a faster rate, the excess of income over expenditure in the ordinary department alone being over £5,300,000 in 1920, against 3½ millions in 1919 and about 3 millions in 1918. The net interest return, after deducting taxation, has risen to about 5.07 per cent. for 1920. The funds of the ordinary and industrial departments at the end of 1920 amounted to about 87½ millions, and adding the figures appertaining to other classes of business in a few cases, together with capital of proprietary companies, investment reserve funds, and current liabilities, the total is represented by assets of about 98 millions, of which 57 millions consists of Government and municipal securities and loans on rates and about 22½ millions consists of mortgages. Government securities held by the life offices have increased considerably since 1914, owing to the support given to War Loans, but mortgages have declined during the same period by about 5½ millions.

ITALY.—REVIVAL IN THE STOCK EXCHANGE—NEW REGULATIONS ABOUT CONFISCATION OF WAR PROFITS—SUSPENSION OF THE COMPULSORY INSCRIPTION OF PRIVATE SECURITIES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, August 28.

AFTER mid-August holidays, the Stock Exchange reopened with a better tone in regard to industrial securities. It is too soon to say whether the movement will be a short-lived one, but the undertone is distinctly improved. Two facts stand out to explain the more roscate vision of the bourse. The first is the partial surrender of the Finance Minister in the face of the strong opposition encountered in financial and trade circles against the too severe interpretation of the law of September 24, 1920, which confiscated all war profits from August 1, 1914, to June 30, 1920. Several criticisms were formulated as to consequences of the law of confiscation, the first and most important of these being the fixation at June 30, 1920, of the end of the war period. At that date prices touched in Italy their highest mark. Suppose an industrial concern, at August 1, 1914, had a stock of, say, 1,000 tons English coal, valued at 40 lire per ton, or a total value of 40,000 lire; if at June 30, 1921, the same company had the same stock, at 700 lire per ton, was to suffer a valuation of 700,000 lire, with a war-profit of 660,000 lire, to be confiscated. The same thing happened to all stocks of raw materials, machinery, &c. If, after June 30, 1920, prices of assets went down, the taxpayers may be ruined, having to pay the confiscation tax on values very much higher than the present. A recent order of the Finance Minister prescribes that the valuation shall be made only after December 31, 1921, when the prices will have perhaps settled down. When made, valuation shall take account not only of the prices current at June 30, 1920, but of the possibility for the taxpayers of utilising the various assets. And so, machinery, of the value of

100,000 lire, at June 30, 1920, will be valued only at 30,000 lire, if its future utilisation is capable only of this minor capitalisation. Various other devices are prescribed, so that the confiscation of war profits may not result in the ruin of taxpayers.

The Stock Exchange heard even more gladly the announcement that the Government had resolved to suspend the by-law regulating the compulsory inscription to the name of the possessor of all private securities. This was one of the principal planks of the Giolitti Cabinet's platform. The fundamental reason for compulsory inscription or registration of securities, in a country like Italy, where nine-tenths of securities were to bearer, was that the bearer securities made it very easy for taxpayers to evade the succession taxes, capital tax, and income surtax. All these taxes have a progressive rate, increasing with the increase of the capital or income of the recipients, so that it is imperatively necessary to know the name and the total fortune or income of the taxpayer.

Protests were in vain. The law of September 24, 1920, made compulsory the inscription or registration of all State or private securities, excepting only Treasury bills (Buoni del Tesoro). The consequences were rapidly felt. The issue of State loans was made impossible, the war loan 5 per cent. tumbled down from 82-83 to 67 lire, and stands to-day only at 75 lire. The Treasury was obliged to have recourse to short-dated bills. At the close of the financial year 1920-1921, of a total external debt of 84,000 millions lire, only 50,000 are funded debt, 25,000 millions lire being Treasury bills at short dates, and 9,000 paper notes, issued by the banks for Government account. Last spring, when the Government sought to float a loan of 1,000 millions lire for the reconstruction of invaded provinces, banks advised the Treasury Minister that the public would not touch a loan liable to compulsory inscription. For this reason, the loan was launched under the nominal disguise of seven-year 5 per cent. Treasury bills. As "Treasury bills," they were exempted from inscription or registration, and the issue was therefore rapidly absorbed. One may add that the Treasury was wholly unprepared to the gigantic task of inscribing and transferring 90 billions lire of funded debt, apportioned among a million at least of individual possessors. For these two reasons, the by-law which should have regulated the inscription of State securities was never published. The section of the law of September 24th is thus suspended, and no one knows when and if it will be put into execution.

The other section, relating to private securities (stocks and shares of joint-stock companies, land bonds, loans of local authorities, &c.) seemed, at one moment, to be ready for institution. In the last days of the Giolitti Cabinet a by-law was published in the *Gazzetta Ufficiale* of July 2, 1921, which purported to give the rules under which all private securities were to be compulsorily inscribed before January 2, 1922, and all issues of bearer securities were forbidden. Feeling ran high in financial circles; in the Senate a sort of revolt took place. The impending economic crisis, which was developing somewhat late in Italy, made doubtful of the wisdom of the abolition of bearer securities in a country where no other kind of securities can easily find a market, even those men who, for fiscal reasons, were favourable to the inscription system. The bourses, which had been for many months very apathetic, went down. The new Minister of Industry, Signor Belotti, who, during Parliamentary debates, in July and August of last year, was among the few members who opposed the Bill, took the opportunity of suspending the by-law with the consent of the Cabinet. That is how things stand at present. The law of September 24, 1920, is not repealed, but the by-laws, which are necessary to its practical application, do not exist. The one relating to State securities, was never published; the other, relating to private securities, was first published, and afterwards suspended. The bourses, which had always been fiercely opposed to the inscription system, hailed the suspension as a token of the final repeal of the law. Perhaps the law will not be repealed, for we in Italy are apt to follow the dictum of our greatest poet, Dante Alighieri: *Le leggi son, ma chi pon sweno ad elle?* There are the laws; but they are not applied if they prove a nuisance.

**POLAND.—INFLATION — EXCHANGES — STRIKES —
OPENING OF THE WARSAW CORN EXCHANGE
—CUSTOMS UNION WITH DANZIG.**

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, August 26.

The last return of the Polish National Bank for July shows a fresh record as regards the increase of paper money. During this month 12.5 milliards of new paper marks have been put in circulation, or nearly 4.4 milliards more than during June. The table below illustrates the progress of inflation since the beginning of this year:—

(Milliards Polish Marks.)

1921—	Notes in Circulation.	Increase in Comparison with Previous Month.
January 31.....	55.1	5.7
February 28.....	62.6	7.5
March 31.....	74.1	11.5
April 30.....	86.8	12.7
May 31.....	94.6	7.8
June 30.....	102.7	8.1
July 31.....	115.2	13.5

Neither the conclusion of peace with the Bolsheviks nor the policy of economy pursued by Mr Steczkowski was able to bring the expenditure of the Government within the limits of the revenues. The printing press works without interruption with an increasing speed.

The effects of such a state of affairs are disastrous. The economic life of the country is being disorganised by a permanent crisis, which is becoming every day more acute. This is reflected by the total collapse of the exchanges illustrated in the table appended:—

	English Pounds.	American Dollars.	French Francs.	German Marks.
End of April.....	3,300	815.0	60.50	12.90
" May.....	3,970-4,075	1,020.0	88.50-89.25	17.00
" June.....	6,390	1,690.0	136.0	23.00
" July.....	7,325	2,020.0	161.50	26.65
August 25th.....	9,500	2,500.0	200.0	30.00

During the last four months the quotation of the English pound has risen from 3,300 to 9,500, and the other foreign exchanges have moved in a similar direction. The decline of the Polish mark has entailed a rise of prices exceeding 200 per cent., so that the whole economic system has been thrown out of gear.

In nearly all branches of industry strikes have broken out. In Posnania and Pomerelia the railway employees have abandoned work, and only a limited number of trains are run by the military authorities. In Warsaw the tramway servants have gone on strike, and fears are expressed that this movement might be extended to other public undertakings. All these strikes have a purely economic character. They are caused by the abnormal rise of prices.

The situation has been aggravated by the economic unification of the different provinces. Hitherto the former Prussian Poland was divided by a frontier barrier from the rest of the country. In particular the export of food products from Posnania and Pomerelia to the other provinces was prohibited. Thanks to it prices in the former Prussian Poland were kept at a comparatively low level. While in Posen only 20 marks were paid for one kilogram of bread, in Warsaw the price for the same quantity was five times as high. The abolition of the barrier entailed a rise of prices in the former Prussian provinces. In the course of a few days they reached the Warsaw quotations. In different towns riots of a serious character have broken out, directed partly against the Warsaw authorities. The abolition of the food control and of the maximum prices for agricultural products has necessitated the reopening of the Warsaw Corn Exchange, which has been idle since the outbreak of the war. A new statute based on the organisation of similar exchanges in Berlin and Vienna has been approved by the authorities. The general assembly of the exchange is composed of 16 members, of which one quarter is elected by the producers. The first meeting of the exchange took place on August 20th. The negotiations between Poland and Danzig have been brought to an end. According to the agreement which

has been signed the Free State will form from January 1, 1922, a common Customs union with Poland. The import duties will be paid in German or Polish marks. The two States will have a separate Customs administration.

**NORWAY.—NOTE ISSUE—TRADE CONDITIONS—COST
OF LIVING—CROPS.**

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, August 26.

As will be remembered by the readers of the *Economist*, the Bank of Norway, according to an Act passed last year, was authorised to make an extraordinary issue of notes up to a certain amount (the ordinary amount being 250 million kroner) in excess of its stock of gold. This extraordinary amount until July 25th was 80 million kroner. On that date, by an Order in Council, the amount was reduced by 30 millions to 50 million kroner.

The reduction of the note circulation last week was 2 million kroner, to 416.5 millions, being about 8 millions less than the average for last month. Business generally is still very dull, though some improvement may be perceptible in some quarters; the canning industry, more particularly, has experienced some encouragement lately. Labour unrest is still rife; at present there is a strike of the workmen in the wood-pulp and paper industry, owing to disagreement as to wages, &c., after the previous tariff matured on the 15th instant.

According to *Farmand*, the cost of living during the month of July increased by 6.8 per cent. A great deal of the rise must be ascribed to the rise in the sterling and dollar exchange, which went on all through the month, until a culmination—for the present, at least—was reached by the middle of the present month, since which time there has been a constant fall.

The rains that have lately fallen all over the southern part of the country have, although they came late, done a great deal of good. The cereals, but still more the potatoes and the pastures, have benefited greatly from them, and the harvest outlook is much better than it was a month ago. The Stock Exchange is not very active, but most values are steady, and lately an upward tendency has been felt. Norway, just as England and some other countries, has now arranged a commercial agreement with Russia, which will be signed shortly. It is stated that the agreement leaves for special treatment the question of Norwegian property in Russia, said to aggregate 100 million kroner.

Letters to the Editor.

MONETARY POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I have read with very great interest your article on monetary policy in last week's *Economist*. May I say, however, that I do not think it quite fair to attribute to Mr Kitson a desire for a limitless issue of notes à la Lenin, when he has repeatedly declared that these notes should only be issued for the purpose of assisting production.

You end your article by saying: "What we want is a monetary policy which will give genuine producers a chance, without setting us off again round the vicious circle of rising prices." There I think we can all agree with you. My viewpoint is that the policy of reverting as soon as possible to the "complete and effective gold standard" involves starting a vicious circle of falling prices and falling wages, which will end with 10 millions on the bordering line of starvation; for such was the result of 70 years' pre-war experience of the Bank Charter Act. In addition, it would mean such an increase in our national debt that would be impossible to bear.

On the other hand, the unrestricted issue of currency notes, such as took place during the war, ends in a vicious circle of ever-rising wages and prices, the rising prices being largely accelerated by speculation. Between these two extremes it ought to be possible to find some mean. This is why I think it so important to have a further inquiry.

In his last speech to the shareholders of the London City and Midland Bank, the late Sir Edward Holden said emphatically that the Bank Charter Act should be repealed, and that the cover for notes should be gold, plus bills of exchange. This has always appealed to me as being a sound and practical suggestion, and one that could be introduced with the least possible disturbance to our present system. This would give an elastic currency, expanding and contracting as production expanded and contracted, and as the goods would first have to be made and sold there could be no question of inflation.

There are, of course, many other suggestions for the control of currency with the object of keeping prices steady, all with more or less to be said in their favour. If the inquiry suggested by the Federation of British Industries is set up, and a committee is formed, comprised not only of bankers, but of representatives of industry, commerce, and labour, with a statesman of weight and authority as chairman, a thoroughly exhaustive examination of these various suggestions could be made. Mr Darling's scheme of an Empire unit of account is most attractive, and such an inquiry would give it full publicity. I hope, Sir, you will use your powerful influence in support of the suggestion of the Federation of British Industries.

The ideal currency is paper, but this paper must be controlled. The problem is to find the best method of control. —Yours truly,

T. B. JOHNSTON.

Bristol, August 29th.

P.S.—I see in the *Daily Telegraph* of August 22nd a letter from Mr Moreten Frewen, in which he quotes Mr Skelton Williams (the late Comptroller of Currency in America) as follows:—

"I say, and the record proves, that the Board was abundantly warned by the leaders of public opinion in many parts of the country, by able members of both houses of Congress, and by me, as Comptroller of Currency, of the necessity for a revision of their policies before the resulting losses should become irreparable. For example, on October 18th last I pointed out to the Board some of the appalling shrinkages in value which had already taken place; for instance, the loss of 500 million dollars in wheat, of 2,000 million dollars in maize, of 1,000 million dollars in cotton."

This statement bears out Mr Kitson's remarks as to the result of deflation in the States.

THE CURRENCY PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your issue of August 27th, Mr Cook points out that the difference between his view of the effect of quantity of money on prices and our view of the same question reveals a difference in the interpretation of historical facts. We feel this to be a very true recognition of the controversial difficulty, and believe it is of the greatest importance that we should try to appreciate each other's difficulties of interpretation, because history is useless as evidence unless we can agree about its interpretation.

Mr Cook thinks we can only expect to find a broad agreement between price level and quantity of gold over long periods of review, because there are local disturbances from contributing causes that may greatly affect any short period. If this view is true it is very unfortunate, because it is the particular periods of trade boom and depression that matter; they are what we are discussing. Our view is that the price movement of these all-important "sub-periods" can be analysed with considerable exactness if we compare price level with the labour cost of money instead of its quantity.

The ordinary index number compares prices with a standard weight of gold, not with a standard cost of gold; the ounce of gold varies in cost, but the sovereign is always one sovereign's worth. Therefore, it may be questioned whether the index numbers quoted by Mr Cook really show the variations of price between 1873 and 1895, or only obscure them. These figures show a net fall of price of 42 per cent. in England between 1873 and 1890, and a fall of 53 per cent. in America. Now, the only figures we have for actual wages paid during that period in Great Britain show that wages rose 23 per cent.,

and the American census figures show that from 1869 to 1889 wages rose 46 per cent. It is very hard to see how the price of labour could rise 46 per cent. while the value that labour produces falls 53 per cent.

If this comparison is extended to the long period reviewed by Mr Cook, it will be found that prices have fallen over 100 per cent., while wages have risen more than 100 per cent., a grotesquely contradictory result that leaves it very questionable whether the index number method of investigating prices is any use at all. Our price indexes, based on cost of gold, show for this period in England a rise of prices by 63 per cent., and in America from 1885 (only) to 1890 a rise of 61 per cent. This agrees much better with the record of wages paid, and shows it is very necessary to reinvestigate our interpretations of historical facts.—Yours faithfully, ALBERT AND PERCY WALLIS.

Westacre, Kettering, August 28th, 1921.

THE REMEDY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I have chosen a new heading for this correspondence, because Mr Craies, in his letter of the 8th inst., bringing to bear a keen and analytical mind, has very considerably advanced the subject. To sum up "The Currency Problem," it appears that most of your correspondents are agreed, though they may express themselves in varying ways, that the trouble with the currency is that it consists for the most part of paper which cannot be exchanged for metal, but only for other paper. Mr Craies points to the apparent contradiction of urging the reduction of outstanding issues of paper, and yet advocating the issue of fresh bank credit to producers, and goes on to say that bank credit and currency are substitutes.

This is, however, not quite the case. Bank credit and currency are not brought into being simultaneously, and on an equal footing, but rather the creation of bank credit precedes the issue of currency. At present currency circulates among the population to a great extent without any definite aim or object. Holders of currency exchange it for what they will, necessities or luxuries, and a good deal of what they buy is consumed, and the paper is left in other hands without any backing. This tendency is accentuated when currency is freely issued and is easily come by. There is, in short, very little control over the uses to which our currency is put, but with bank credit it is quite a different matter. If bank credit is only to be created on certain conditions, the banks issuing it will have a very real control. The person who then avails himself of the creation of this bank credit is under the obligation of delivering the equivalent in goods at a later date, and consequently, although the bank credit gets converted into currency, the first taker of the credit is now impelled towards some useful occupation. This impulse begins to permeate the population, and production is set going. Not the hectic production of war, but the more economic, though not less energetic, production of peace. I say advisedly "more economic," because the commodities now to be produced are for sale, and must be produced at prices which will make them attractive to foreign buyers.

Everything must be done by all parties of the transaction to ensure success. Firstly, the issue of this fresh credit must be intelligently directed through the medium of the banks, and it must be issued upon easy terms. The taker of the credit must not abuse his new privilege, but must honourably deliver the goods.

Out of the proceeds of the sales of our new production our unbacked paper will be gradually extinguished. That is what I had in mind as a reduction of outstanding issues of paper, a reduction of the present outstanding and unbacked paper. If we can find a means of backing it either with gold or commodities probably no one will object whether it is actually reduced in quantity or not.

At any rate, this point is not so urgent as the question of setting the machine going again. I am aware that this letter does not deal with many difficulties which lie in the way of the issue of fresh bank credit, but I do not believe these difficulties to be insuperable.—Yours very truly,

W. J. COOK.

20 Bracken gardens, Barnes, S.W., August 30th, 1921.

A TABULAR STANDARD OF VALUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Before the fatal August 4th seven years ago the average business man fixed his attention on the changes in the prices of the articles in which he dealt, and looked upon money as the one thing which did not vary in value. The experience of the last seven years has brought home to all of us, what has long been a commonplace to students of economics, that variations in the price of an article depend on circumstances affecting the supply and demand, not only of the article in question, but also of money. There is nothing in a change of price of one article, or even of several articles, to tell us from which side the change comes. It is only by constructing an index number of the ratios of the price changes of a considerable number of commodities that the variation in the value of money can be ascertained. In this way the fluctuations in price which are due to circumstances affecting the different commodities cancel one another out, and the broad movement due to variations in the supply and demand for money is shown.

Index numbers of prices may be calculated in many different ways. It is not possible within the scope of this letter to discuss the complicated and difficult questions which arise both as to the method of calculating the ratios of price changes and as to what commodities should be included. For practical purposes the changes of the value of money are well shown by an index number which includes the wholesale prices of the principal standardised commodities, a weight being given to each commodity proportional to the value of the average annual consumption.

The war has also made us familiar with the quantity theory of money. We have watched prices go up in many countries roughly in the same ratio that the printing press has added to their currencies. We know that a certain quantity of money and bank deposits with a certain velocity of turnover can suffice for a certain volume of trade at a given price level, and that the velocity remaining the same an increase of money relative to trade tends to higher prices and a decrease to lower prices.

A general rise or fall of price, if it were evenly spread, would make no difference to real wages and real profits. Variations in the purchasing power of money are important only in relation to debts and contracts, through which great injustice and disturbance of trade are caused. For instance, a merchant who borrowed £1,000 in April, 1920, might well have to realise 70 per cent. more of his stock than he originally contemplated in order to repay his loan now.

A rising price level injures persons with fixed incomes, but encourages trade. A falling price level is a far more serious thing for the mass of the population, because it discourages enterprise, checks trade, and creates unemployment. Periods of falling prices, such as the first 40 years of the nineteenth century, have been marked by slow trade and great misery among the working population, while the real value of fixed interest securities has greatly increased.

After the recent vagaries of uncontrolled paper currencies (which only confirm past experience), it is not unnatural that we should set our minds on restoring the gold standard, which is comparatively reliable, and has behind it the authority of age-long tradition. Nevertheless, the fluctuations in the purchasing power of gold have been very serious, and over long periods of time a necessary foodstuff like wheat is a much better standard of value. The fluctuations in gold prices since the beginning of the nineteenth century may be roughly summarised as follows:—

1809-1849 gold prices fell about 50%.
1849-1873 gold prices rose about 30% (gold discoveries: California, 1849; Australia, 1851-2).
1873-1896 gold prices fell about 20% (adoption of gold standard by many countries).
1896-1914 gold prices rising (South African gold mines).

Gold production has been falling since 1912, and had there been no war prices would probably have been on the down grade.

The problem which faces us to-day is to get away from the vagaries of uncontrolled paper currency without going

through a long period of falling prices, depressed trade, and unemployment, and without increasing the burden of war debt by magnifying the unit in which it is expressed.

In this connection it is well worthy of careful study whether a satisfactory tabular standard of value can be constructed, as first proposed by Joseph Lowe in 1822, and subsequently developed by W. S. Jevons and J. Irving Fisher.

The first form of this proposal was that an index number of the prices of commodities used in the household should be used as a table of reference for adjusting payments under contracts, just as wages are adjusted under sliding scales according to the Board of Trade Index Number of the cost of living. Professor Irving Fisher has brought this proposal a step further by suggesting that the purchasing power of money should be kept steady by regulating the circulation of a token currency, to the end that the same sum of money should always buy the same average quantity of commodities.

Besides its importance in avoiding injustice in regard to debts and money contracts (which affect the richer classes principally), this plan would have a still more important result in preventing periodical trade slumps and unemployment due to variations in the purchasing power of money. The knowledge that currency and credit could expand freely so long as the price level did not advance would promote industry and discourage speculation.

The adoption of such a principle would not make any outward difference visible to the man in the street. To carry such a proposal into practical effect would mean simply to hand over the Treasury note issue to the Bank of England, remove the limit, and that the Bank of England should regulate the expansion and contraction of currency and credit by a new principle.

The construction of an index number intended as a guide for preventing variations in the purchasing power of money presents less technical difficulty than in the case of an index number intended to exhibit such variations, where no attempt is made to control them. It is important that the method of computation should be so simple as to be readily understood and checked by all. A list of the principal standardised commodities, such as foods, textiles, minerals, timber, &c., would be taken, and a quantity of each article included in the standard proportionate to the average value of the average annual consumption. The whole parcel, having been priced at a base date, would be repriced at regular intervals, and the totals calculated. Currency would be controlled so as to keep the total price of the parcel steady, while the prices of the individual items might vary according to the laws of supply and demand. In this way fluctuations in price due to purely monetary causes would be eliminated.

If prices were to show a rising tendency, currency and credit would be contracted in any of the following ways:—

- (1) By raising the rate of discount, and by restricting and calling in loans so as to put pressure on holders of commodities.
 - (2) By the sale of gold and securities held in reserve and holding the currency received in payment.
 - (3) By borrowing from the market.
- If prices were falling currency could be expanded—
- (1) By reducing the rate of discount and granting loans more freely.
 - (2) By purchasing gold or other valuable securities.
 - (3) By paying off floating debt.

The curve of prices in the past shows a number of surface ripples, some of which are strictly periodical, such as quarterly movements and the usual autumnal squeeze. These could easily be anticipated and met. The main object of a tabular standard of value would be to counteract the big tides of expanding and contracting credit known as trade cycles and the large permanent changes in price level due to increased or decreased gold production.

Foods and materials are a better basis for checking the variations in the value of money than manufactured goods, for the price of manufactured goods is liable to fall so much by improved methods of production as to completely obliterate any trace of the influence of money on the price. Some persons who make loans or enter into contracts are more interested in the prices of securities and capital goods than in those of commodities. These persons do not need

protection against loss, for they are well able to weigh the circumstances before entering into a contract. The main object aimed at by the tabular standard is steadiness in trade.

One of the principal causes for desiring the restoration of the gold standard is the use of gold as an international currency. The mobility of gold, which levels up prices in different countries, is only a special case of the general mobility of merchandise. Even under inconvertible paper currencies exchanges tend to purchasing power parities. Therefore, if all countries successfully steadied their price levels there would be steady exchanges.

Under a tabular standard gold would be a mere commodity, but could be used all the same as a reserve, as a regulator of exchanges, and as a means of paying trade balances. Instead of having fixed gold equivalents for various currencies, variable equivalents could be adopted. At the base date the price of gold could be fixed in every currency on the basis that for unit currency would be given that weight of gold which possessed the purchasing power fixed for unit currency. This price would remain unchanged until the purchasing power of gold changed. Thereupon the price of gold could be altered by a simultaneous percentage increase or decrease made by international agreement. There could be a small difference between buying and selling prices to discourage speculation in gold. In this way gold could perform its function as a regulator of exchange without upsetting trade by its fluctuations in value.

The exact composition of a tabular standard and the base to be taken are admittedly extremely difficult problems, which can only be decided by a careful discussion between experts. The possibility of such a tabular standard as a solution for the present currency difficulties of the world certainly deserves investigation. The proposal is backed by economists of world-wide fame, and rests on the firm moral basis of fair dealing. It seeks to create honest money.—I am, &c., C. CRAIES.

4 Bunhill row, E.C. 1, August 10th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Reflections of a Financier." By Otto Kahn. Publisher's Hodder and Stoughton. 10s 6d net.

MR OTTO KAHN is a financier, and a good many other things as well; so that his reflections range from business and economics to war and foreign relations, and even Art. Part of what he has to say is intended chiefly for American ears, and part of it relates to a period which is now, happily, past history. But with the help of a little judicious skipping, this collection of essays, rather loosely knit together, will be found to be suggestive and stimulating reading. The best thing in the book is 10 years old, and comes quite near the end—an address delivered in 1911 on Edward Henry Harriman. This brilliant study, printed some years ago, but never very accessible, is worth having at all times, and especially to-day, when the aims and motives of "big business" are habitually and systematically traduced. Just as America, we are apt to think, has something yet to learn from us about the treatment of labour by capitalism, so we in this country have a good deal to learn from America about the social value of big men in industry and commerce. "For better or for worse, the people appear determined to put limits and restraints upon the exercise of economic power." Mr Otto Kahn believes it is better so, "unless we go too far and too fast." But his essay is a powerful refutation of this belief—so long as there are men to be found like Edward Henry Harriman; and admittedly there are few.

"Imperial Taxation." By A. B. Cliff. (London) Estates Gazette, Limited.

THOUGH primarily intended for students for professional examinations, this volume of 300 pages or so should be useful to a wider circle. The author summarises the history and system of taxation, and explains the origin and scope of various duties. Voluminous notes, appendices, and tables are given, the information is up to date,

and the book includes a serviceable index. While controversy is, so far as possible, excluded, a final chapter on present problems of public finance contains some shrewd comment on the economy question. Mr Cliff makes the statement that "there has not been a single instance in the last twenty-five years when the House of Commons, by its own direct action, has reduced, on financial grounds, any estimate submitted to it." A few pages are devoted to considering desirable reforms in the financial administration of the country, on the lines of the 1918 report of the Select Committee on National Expenditure.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Income Tax, Super Tax, and Corporation Profits Tax. By Ernest Evan Spicer and Ernest C. Pegler. Seventh Edition. Revised and enlarged. (London) H. Foulks Lynch and Co., Limited. 18s net.

Unemployment: The Cause and a Remedy. By Arthur Kitson. (London) Cecil Palmer. 5s net.

The Cotton Industry in France. By R. B. Forrester, with an introduction by D. H. MacGregor. (Manchester) University Press. 10s 6d net.

Obtainable from Messrs Longmans, Green and Co., London.

Law and Business. Volume I. By William H. Spencer. (Chicago) University Press. \$4.50.

British Association for the Advancement of Science, Edinburgh, 1921. Eighty-ninth annual meeting, September 7th to 14th. Journal of Sectional and other proceedings. (London) Spottiswoode, Ballantyne and Co., Limited.

Dividends for All. Being an explanation of the Douglas Scheme. By W. Allen Young. (London) Cecil Palmer. 6d.

Monthly Journal of the British Empire Chamber of Commerce in the United States of America. July, 1921. (New York) 120 Broadway.

Svenska Handelsbanken 1871-1921. A Retrospect. (Stockholm) Offices of the Bank.

A review of the activities of this undertaking since it first opened its doors—now fifty years ago.

The Fifty-Third Annual Co-Operative Congress, 1921. (Manchester) The Co-Operative Union, Limited, Holyoake House, Hanover street.

Annual Conference of Incorporated Accountants, to be held at Liverpool, September 28, 29, and 30, and October 1, 1921. (London) 50 Gresham street, E.C.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
September 13.	September 14.

Anticipation proved correct which presumed that the fixing of the day for the end of the war would not bring in any large amount of selling from Germany and Austria. So far as the actual amount of business is concerned, it can scarcely be said to have benefited or suffered from the fact of the war having concluded, officially, last Wednesday night. The markets during the past week may be described as placid, showing a slightly increased breath of speculation that, in some quarters, is hailed as precursor to the return of more activity to the Stock Exchange now that the holiday season is nearly over. Indian securities gave way at first on the news of the riots, but most of the decline was recovered.

Quotation of Victory Bonds ex dividend led to an improvement on balance in the price. Prompt subscription of Southland Electric and Thames Valley (N.Z.) Electric 6 per cent. debenture issues, both offered at 96, served to strengthen the market for such securities, in that it was regarded as indicative of the public's willingness, and capacity, to take good stock at reasonable prices. The War Loan and its attendants have moved within narrow limits, and amongst foreign Government bonds the features have been confined to reaction in the prices of Japanese "dollar" securities, and to substantial rises in most of the bonds connected with Denmark and Scandinavia. Uruguay bonds are lower, after their recent rapid advance, and Brazilians have wavered owing to the slight decline in the milreis. Mexican bonds are good.

Home Railway stocks are inclined to go better. Were there to be any public support, the market, it is safe to say, would certainly improve. But as things are, the meagreness of public interest leads to fairly sharp fluctuations brought about by a mere handful of orders. The undercurrent is described

as firm. Grand Trunks are a little better on the expectation that the award will be made known at the end of this month. Grand Trunk Pacific debentures eased off, upon the announcement that the Dominion Government is not going to pay, at present, the interest due this week. The market regards this as continued postponement. Mexican Railway stocks advanced. Argentines are a very erratic market. It is now declared that the companies are not likely to be put to any particular loss by reason of the reported mistake which they made by increasing freight charges in advance of the proper time for so doing. On this statement there was a sharp rally in values, and the market being none too well supplied with floating stock, prices firmed up. Indian Railways show a few unimportant falls.

Rubber shares remain heavy, with the exception of Rubber Trusts, where the expectation of the imminent report continues to act as a prop to the price. A third meeting of the organising committee of the new Rubber Shareholders' Association was held yesterday (Friday); active steps are being taken for launching the new body. The oil market enjoyed a spurt late in the week, on buying which started from Paris, and was continued by the bears in the London market, public interest in oil shares, from the active market point of view, being comparatively small. A few of the shipping shares are firmer, and further progress has been made in the advance of gas companies' stocks, owing to the impression, already mentioned, that the companies will gradually return to a pre-war basis of dividends. Improved conditions in trade are responsible for a fair sprinkling of rises amongst iron, coal, and steel shares. This has affected the armament group also, where Vickers and Armstrongs both improved. The London banking group is dull, and certain of the Indian banks went back in consequence of the Moplah rising. Excitement in cotton gambling led to a further rise in the shares of the textile companies both in London and Manchester, the market proving volatile and difficult to gauge. Cable and wireless shares are steady; catering, hotel, and stores uninteresting. Brewery stocks are a little better, owing to the coming into force of the new Licensing Act. Egyptian stocks and shares have benefited by the rise in the price of cotton.

The semi-professional animation in Kaffir shares is being kept alive by the efforts of its promoters, though it cannot be said that the public are showing any great inclination to take a hand in the market so far. There still seems to be a certain amount of labour trouble on the Rand, though not of a serious order. The price of gold has drooped. Next week's returns from the producing mines are awaited with unusual interest, owing to the greater activity displayed by the market during the past fortnight. De Beers provided a spectacular feature of strength, on Paris purchases, and, incidentally, it may be observed that Rio Tintos were taken in hand by Paris at the same time; the price advanced briskly. Other copper shares have strengthened. Various Cornish tin counters are a trifle better, but Malayan tin shares exhibit no vitality. West African have hardened.

The passing hence of D.O.R.A. raises interesting points in connection with what facilities can now be claimed by speculation. The Stock Exchange is bound, of course, under Treasury Regulations, which remain unaffected by D.O.R.A. considerations.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	£	£	£	£
152,658,080		152,658,080		

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£
5½% 1929 receipts week ended August 20, 1921	1,621,990
Week ended August 27, 1921	15,995,000
Receipts to date	1,125,000
17,120,000	

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED AUGUST 27, 1921.	£
April 1 to August 27, £1,030,000	Dr200,000 .. Dr200,000

To the Public—	£	£	£	£
Samuelson Transport Company, 100,000 10% Tax Free Cum. Pfr. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (Aug. 29)	100,000	100,000	12,500	87,500
Thames Valley Electric Power Board 6% Loan (Guar. by N.Z. Government), £350,000 Debts. to Bearer (rep. at par 1936- 54), issued at 96 (Aug. 31) ..	350,000	336,000	17,500	318,500
Total offered to public	450,000	436,000	30,000	406,000
To Shareholders only—				
Matthew Brown and Co., 48,000 Shares, £1, at 26s	48,000	62,400	7,200	55,200
Total offered to shareholders only	48,000	62,400	7,200	55,200

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921	1920
1922	1921
1923	1922
1924	1923
1925	1924
1926	1925
1927	1926
1928	1927
1929	1928
1930	1929
1931	1930
1932	1931
1933	1932
1934	1933
1935	1934
1936	1935
1937	1936
1938	1937
1939	1938
1940	1939
1941	1940
1942	1941
1943	1942
1944	1943
1945	1944
1946	1945
1947	1946
1948	1947
1949	1948
1950	1949
1951	1950
1952	1951
1953	1952
1954	1953
1955	1954
1956	1955
1957	1956
1958	1957
1959	1958
1960	1959
1961	1960
1962	1961
1963	1962
1964	1963
1965	1964
1966	1965
1967	1966
1968	1967
1969	1968
1970	1969
1971	1970
1972	1971
1973	1972
1974	1973
1975	1974
1976	1975
1977	1976
1978	1977
1979	1978
1980	1979
1981	1980
1982	1981
1983	1982
1984	1983
1985	1984
1986	1985
1987	1986
1988	1987
1989	1988
1990	1989
1991	1990
1992	1991
1993	1992
1994	1993
1995	1994
1996	1995
1997	1996
1998	1997
1999	1998
2000	1999
2001	2000
2002	2001
2003	2002
2004	2003
2005	2004
2006	2005
2007	2006
2008	2007
2009	2008
2010	2009
2011	2010
2012	2011
2013	2012
2014	2013
2015	2014
2016	2015
2017	2016
2018	2017
2019	2018
2020	2019
2021	2020
2022	2021
2023	2022
2024	2023
2025	2024
2026	2025
2027	2026
2028	2027
2029	2028
2030	2029
2031	2030
2032	2031
2033	2032
2034	2033
2035	2034
2036	2035
2037	2036
2038	2037
2039	2038
2040	2039
2041	2040
2042	2041
2043	2042
2044	2043
2045	2044
2046	2045
2047	2046
2048	2047
2049	2048
2050	2049
2051	2050
2052	2051
2053	2052
2054	2053
2055	2054
2056	2055
2057	2056
2058	2057
2059	2058
2060	2059
2061	2060
2062	2061
2063	2062
2064	2063
2065	2064
2066	2065
2067	2066
2068	2067
2069	2068
2070	2069
2071	2070
2072	2071
2073	2072
2074	2073
2075	2074
2076	2075
2077	2076
2078	2077
2079	2078
2080	2079
2081	2080
2082	2081
2083	2082
2084	2083
2085	2084
2086	2085
2087	2086
2088	2087
2089	2088
2090	2089
2091	2090
2092	2091
2093	2092
2094	2093
2095	2094
2096	2095
2097	2096
2098	2097
2099	2098
2100	2099
2101	2100
2102	2101
2103	2102
2104	2103
2105	2104
2106	2105
2107	2106
2108	2107
2109	2108
2110	2109
2111	2110
2112	2111
2113	2112
2114	2113
2115	2114
2116	2115
2117	2116
2118	2117
2119	2118
2120	2119
2121	2120
2122	2121
2123	2122
2124	2123
2125	2124
2126	2125
2127	2126
2128	2127
2129	2128
2130	2129
2131	2130
2132	2131
2133	2132
2134	2133
2135	2134
2136	2135
2137	2136
2138	2137
2139	2138
2140	2139
2141	2140
2142	2141
2143	2142
2144	2143
2145	2144
2146	2145
2147	2146
2148	2147
2149	2148
2150	2149
2151	2150
2152	2151
2153	2152
2154	2153
2155	2154
2156	2155
2157	2156
2158	2157
2159	2158
2160	2159
2161	2160
2162	2161
2163	2162
2164	2163
2165	2164
2166	2165
2167	2166
2168	2167
2169	2168
2170	2169
2171	2170
2172	2171
2173	2172
2174	2173
2175	2174
2176	2175
2177	2176
2178	2177
2179	2178
2180	2179
2181	2180
2182	2181
2183	2182
2184	2183
2185	2184
2186	2185
2187	2186
2188	2187
2189	2188
2190	2189
2191	2190
2192	2191
2193	2192
2194	2193
2195	2194
2196	2195
2197	2196
2198	2197
2199	2198
2200	2199
2201	2200
2202	2201
2203	2202
2204	2203
2205	2204
2206	2205
2207	2206
2208	2207
2209	2208
2210	2209
2211	2210
2212	2211
2213	2212
2214	2213
2215	2214
2216	2215
2217	2216
2218	2217
2219	2218
2220	2219
2221	2220
2222	2221
2223	2222
2224	2223
2225	2224
2226	2225
2227	2226
2228	2227
2229	2228
2230	2229
2231	2230
2232	2231
2233	2232
2234	2233
2235	2234
2236	2235
2237	2236
2238	2237
2239	2238
2240	2239
2241	2240
2242	2241
2243	2242
2244	2243
2245	2244
2246	2245
2247	2246
2248	2247
2249	2248
2250	2249
2251	2250
2252	2251
2253	2252
2254	2253
2255	2254
2256	2255
2257	2256
2258	2257
2259	2258
2260	2259
2261	2260
2262	2261
2263	2262
2264	2263
2265	2264
2266	2265
2267	2266
2268	2267
2269	2268
2270	2269
2271	2270
2272	2271
2273	2272
2274	2273
2275	2274
2276	2275
2277	2276
2278	2277
2279	2278
2280	2279
2281	2280
2282	2281
2283	2282
2284	2283
2285	2284
2286	2285
2287	2286
2288	2287
2289	2288
2290	2289
2291	2290
2292	2291
2293	2292
2294	2293
2295	2294
2296	2295
2297	2296
2298	2297
2299	2298
2300	2299
2301	2300
2302	2301
2303	2302
2304	2303
2305	2304
2306	2305
2307	2306
2308	2307
2309	2308
2310	2309

DOMINION STEEL CORPORATION AND CONSTITUENT COMPANIES.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1921.

To the Shareholders:—

I believe in view of the conditions which prevailed in all branches of industry during the period covered by the report and statements, that you will regard the results as reasonably satisfactory. The volume of business was less than previous years, and this is particularly true as regards the British market, the contraction having been brought about by the serious depression in Great Britain, and by the keenness of Continental European competition.

Nevertheless, during all these trying times your company, the Dominion Steel Corporation, as one of the greatest industrial institutions in Canada, has endeavoured to maintain operations at the largest capacity possible, recognising its obligations to the country and to its employees, and you can more readily appreciate this when I tell you that the Dominion Steel Corporation disbursed in wages and salaries last year the sum of \$21,839,285.25.

HARMONIOUS INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS.

One of the most important branches of your company's operations is, of course, the mining of coal. The employees of your mines are members of the United Mine Workers of America, and with this organisation your company has entered into wage agreements for the past few years. The Dominion Coal Company had an agreement which should have extended until February 1st this year, but we were compelled in November, 1920, to negotiate a new contract. Had we been able to continue under the agreement until February 1st of this year, our men would undoubtedly have realised the condition into which the country was rapidly drifting, and unquestionably a contract much more satisfactory to the company would have been arrived at. Your officials realise that the contract would be a great hardship on the company, particularly in connection with the production of steel, and a burden also upon the industries of Eastern Canada, but every pressure was brought to bear upon us, by the Government, by the railroads, and other interests, insisting that under no condition must we permit a stoppage of the production of coal. Consequently a new contract was entered into effective until November 30th of this year, and I may say that our relations with our employees under the contract are most harmonious. It must be recognised, however, that wages are too high to enable us to produce coal at a cost that will permit profitable operation of the steel plant under existing conditions.

For the last sixty days operations have been materially assisted by sale of our coal in England and Scotland, and the reports from gas plants and railroads using it in those countries are very satisfactory. I do not expect that we will be able to hold the British market, but I am in hopes that gradually our coal will find a market in some of the other European countries.

In this connection I wish to call to the attention of the holders of preferred shares the fact that the statement for the past fiscal year shows that the dividends on your shares for the three companies named were earned five times over. I need not, of course, emphasise the fact that business conditions are most unsatisfactory at present, and in view of this it is all the more gratifying to be able to say to you that for the first quarter of the current fiscal year ending June 30th the Dominion Steel Corporation, after providing for depreciation, sinking funds, and bond interest, has earned at the rate of over three times the amount required for payment of the combined dividends on its preference shares, and on

the preferred shares of its constituent companies. I believe that we should be very well pleased with the results, particularly as I have just stated in view of conditions during the past three months.

On August 1st the British Empire Steel Corporation will deposit its 7 per cent. first preference stock with Prudential Trust Company for the purpose of effecting this exchange, and after that date any holders of 6 per cent. preference shares of this corporation, or of the 7 per cent. preferred stock of the coal and steel companies who desire to exchange may forward their certificates to the Prudential Trust Company and receive certificates of British Empire in exchange for them.

PERIOD OF READJUSTMENT.

Business the world over has been passing through a period of very strenuous readjustment. While perhaps some of us may have anticipated a year ago that something of this nature would occur, not even the most farseeing expected that anything quite so drastic would take place. Undoubtedly, however, this was the most effective manner of bringing costs down to a basis that would restore confidence, and the results are already becoming evident in that our extravagant habits are slowly but surely giving place to economy and hard work, and I believe that in many industries the readjustment of prices is already practically complete.

Many of our Canadian industries are in need of additional financing, and this is always to be expected in a growing country possessing vast natural resources awaiting development. Present world conditions and national needs render such industrial financing exceedingly difficult of accomplishment, and the taxes imposed on Corporation earnings and upon the incomes of individuals have diverted into the national treasury funds ordinarily available for investment in new securities, and for the extension of the extent of industrial operations in this country, are discouraging new development, thus reducing employment, and at the same time they are unfortunately failing to obtain the purposes for which they were imposed, that is, the elimination of individual waste and a return to pre-war economies.

Fundamentally, conditions are more satisfactory in Canada than in most other countries. I am, however, of the opinion that additional protection granted to our industries so as to hold the business of this growing country to our own manufacturers for the next few years would bring remarkable results in the future.

NEED FOR STRICTEST ECONOMY.

It is most essential that we should all realise that the situation throughout the world and in this country demands the practice of every economy; we must recognise also that wages are gradually being reduced, and that the cost of labour will further decrease, both through increased efficiency, and by further reductions from the very high scale that has been put into effect during recent years. Concurrently with this will come further reductions in the cost of living, and at the same time the income of the wage-earner should maintain approximately an equal purchasing power.

Finally, we must recognise that in meeting these new conditions, Canadian industry must be satisfied with smaller margins of profit, and aim at greater production.

For the Board of Directors.

R. M. WOLVIN.

President.

TIMBER FIREPROOFING COMPANY, LIMITED.

LARGE DEMAND FOR COMPANY'S PRODUCT FOR SHIPS.

The tenth ordinary general meeting of the Timber Fireproofing Company, Limited, was held, on the 30th instant, at Cannon street Hotel, London, Sir Richard V. Vassar-Smith, Bart., D.L., J.P. (the chairman of the company), presiding.

The secretary (Mr A. A. Welsh) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and the payment of a dividend of 7½ per cent., less tax, on the ordinary shares for the year, said that the present accounts, although for a period of 12 months, really only included five months of actual work. The company had been moving their works to Market Bosworth, and were not ready to commence work until the beginning of October.

There were one or two matters in connection with the company which he desired to mention as being interesting and likely to result in increased prosperity for the company. Shipping companies were now making use of the "Oxylene" process on board their ocean-going liners. They had orders on hand to fireproof the woodwork for some 500 doors for two ships now building for the Canadian Pacific ocean services, and from inquiries they were receiving from other shipping and shipbuilding firms they had every reason to believe that the use of the process would extend very largely in that important direction.

He had referred to America at the previous meeting when they were about to establish some works there, but owing to financial and business conditions in America they had done practically nothing during the year except to make their arrangements for commencing operations. He thought it was a good thing that they had not gone too hastily into that business, because the state of affairs there had not been such as to lead them to expect profits. However, they had come to an agreement there, as a result of which they were not spending very much money in connection with arrangements they were making for the formation of an American company to purchase their rights for that country.

They were dealing with an English firm established in Japan, and had asked them £30,000 for their Japanese rights. That firm had

recently cabled asking for an option for 12 months, to which the directors had agreed upon payment of £500. The agreements were now being exchanged with that firm's British representative, and the directors expected to receive a cheque for £500 in the course of the post.

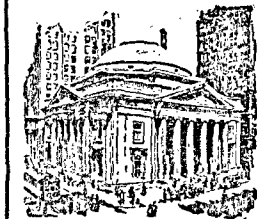
In conclusion, he drew attention to the fact that the net profit for the year under review was £6,448, which, with the balance brought forward, made an available amount of £7,148, out of which they proposed to pay a dividend of 7½ per cent., less tax, on the ordinary shares, leaving a balance to be carried forward of £4,287.

Mr H. Flude seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

The formal business was duly transacted.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		Receipts.	
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Aug. 27, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Aug. 28, 1920.	Week Ending Aug. 27, 1921.	Week Ending Aug. 28, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,321	..	..	..
	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	50,671,000	53,978,000	3,311,000	3,522,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	76,516,000	70,175,000	1,563,000	1,865,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,374,000	169,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	19,000,000	19,816,000	1,586,000	1,025,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	5,483,000	10,049,000	304,000	859,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	117,378,000	106,667,000	4,254,000	4,823,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	24,024,000	91,338,000	3,236,000	..
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	4,370,000	..	360,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	18,500,000	18,250,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	280,000	240,000	70,000	50,000
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	4,243,260	5,983,922	..	..
Miscellaneous.....	21,500,000	9,131,503	7,512,573	444,103	550,001
Ordinary Receipts.....	158,500,000	37,310,029	120,124,211	675,000	3,500,000
Special Receipts.....	1,216,650,000	369,699,732	504,523,706	13,533,103	20,430,001
Total Inc. Balance.....	..	372,774,298	513,892,803	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	3,300,000	1,180,000	200,000	100,000	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	2,000,000	700,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1915.....	27,500	..	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	25,000	30,000	..	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	2,345,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply.....	1,820,971,000	1,659,136,000	89,187,000	73,578,000	..
By 4½ Funding Loan, 1920-21.....	..	101,341	..	..	..
By 4½ Victory Bonds.....	..	258,622	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates.....	..	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....	..	16,850,000	..	750,000	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920.....	14,930,000	..	700,000	..	..
By National War Bonds.....	5	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—					
5½ Year, 1925-35.....	1,024,990	10,399,000	..	210,000	..
5½ Year, 1929.....	17,120,000	..	1,125,000	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	4,926,776	12,733,871	..	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances.....	517,174,000	478,891,000	25,350,000	16,500,000	..
Repayments—					
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919.....	3,000,000	..	1,000,000	..	..
Do issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.....	28,811	4,559	..	..	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	1,677,000	..	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	163,156	..	..	..	..
Total.....	2,761,487,536	2,694,177,196	131,095,103	111,568,001	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		Issues.	
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Aug. 27, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Aug. 28, 1920.	Week Ending Aug. 27, 1921.	Week Ending Aug. 28, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	6,373,452	6,823,893	..	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	140,627,662	130,205,723	2,537,737	4,224,495
Road Fund.....	8,400,000	1,904,000	1,534,116	..	1,504,116
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	2,540,632	2,517,909	..	..
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	1,565,386	3,050,070	..	..
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	748,475	818,041	..	..
Supply Services.....	758,932,000	255,530,474	267,371,299	10,653,000	13,437,000
Expenditure.....	1,130,204,000	409,290,081	412,291,651	13,190,737	19,165,611
OTHER ISSUES.					
Bullion.....	2,900,000	1,550,000	50,000	..	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....	61,909	84,909	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	3,930,000	..	600,000	..	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	2,600,000	700,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1915.....	27,500	40,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	25,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.....	1,774,845,000	1,699,759,000	100,470,000	67,565,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....	16,888,929	26,337,555	769,115	1,579,507	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates.....	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	6,400,000	14,100,000	900,000	650,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	7,500,000	..	..	..	..

Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from

Apl. 1, 1921, to Aug. 27, 1921.

Apl. 1, 1920, to Aug. 28, 1920.

Week Ending Aug. 27, 1921.

Week Ending Aug. 28, 1920.

	£	£	£	£
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—	..	2,480,000	..	..
6%, 1920 ..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	23,839,898	21,515,987	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	490,639,000	501,287,000	14,250,000	21,550,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....	11,640,089	9,980,067	500,000	1,000,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....	6,915,000	..	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.....	61,200	137,766	..	100,000
	2,757,587,606	2,690,293,335	130,729,852	111,610,118
Balances in Exchequer—				
Bank of England.....	Aug. 27, '21.	Aug. 28, '20.	Inor Dec. for Week.	
Bank of Ireland.....	2,098,288	1,999,536	+ 43,251	13,117
Total.....	1,801,642	1,884,325	+ 322,000	29,000
	3,899,930	3,883,861	+ 365,251	42,117

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, August 23, 1921.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £50,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Sept. 5th-Sept. 10th, were opened on Sept. 2, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £83,540,000. Tenders for Monday to Saturday bills at £98 18s 1d will receive about 80½ per cent. and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 7s 1.53d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Additional Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
August 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	77,955,000	4 10 10	4½	£98 16s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 99½, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 17s 2d, above in full
August 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	74,340,000	4 15 38	4½	£98 15s 9d (Monday to Friday bills), about 73½, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d, above in full
August 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,435,000	4 14 10.62	4½	£98 15s 11d (Monday to Friday bills), about 92½, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 3d, above in full
Aug. 26 (3 months)	50,000,000	75,145,000	4 13 0.38	4½	£98 16s 4d (Monday and Tuesday bills), and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 16s 7d, about 9%, and above in full
Sept. 2 (3 months)	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1.53	4	£98 18s 1d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), about 80½, and above in full

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.					
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.	
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	48½	9,924	11,423	
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	..	..	9,286	
1915.										
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27½	54,621	20,536	
1916.										
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19½	118,102	6,868	
1917.										
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13½	186,637	5,486	
1918.										
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8½	305,133	4,566	
1919.										
Mar. 25.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8½	308,577	5,413	
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8½	327,321	3,271	
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8½	317,536	5,589	
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	320	28,500	4,000	9½	337,537	2,802	
1920.†										
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,300	10½	313,370	2,981	
June 30.....	357,356	16,707	..	190	28,500	13,400	11½	331,660	305	
Sept. 29.....	*353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13½	328,425	385	
Dec. 29.....	*367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	15½	336,504	134	
1921.†										
Mar. 30.....	*343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.		28,500	19,450	13½	311,334	141	
June 29.....	*323,834	14,965	3,000		28,500	19,450	14½	287,750	150	
Aug. 10.....	*327,133	14,785	3,000		28,500	19,450	14½	290,827	141	
Oct. 1.....	*323,241	14,896	3,000		28,500	19,450	14½	287,071	116	
Nov. 24.....	*320,362	14,602	3,000		28,500	19,450	15½	283,888	126	
Dec. 31.....	*319,254	14,679	3,000		28,500	19,450	15½	282,782	201	

The OCEAN ACCIDENT and GUARANTEE CORPORATION, Limited.

ASSETS £7,472,880
CLAIMS PAID £25,000,000

Accidents and illness. Employers' Liability, Fidelity Guarantees, Fire and Burglary, Motor Cars, Public Liability, Inspection and Insurance of Boilers, Engines, Electrical Plant and Lifts. Executorships and Trusteeships.

Head Office: MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, MARINE.

Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.
London: 5, Walbrook, E.C.4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, August 31, 1921.
ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Notes issued	145,036,960
Government debt	11,015,100
Other securities	7,434,90
Gold coin & bullion	126,586,960

145,036,960
BANKING DEPARTMENT.

£	£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000
Reserve	3,531,829
Public deposits	13,800,576
Other deposits	122,975,708
Seven-day & other bills ..	10,600

154,871,713
*Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Aug. 31, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,531,829	+ 2,807	+ 2,819
Public deposits	122,975,708	+ 3,905,778	+ 2,632,699
Other deposits	122,975,708	+ 6,789,421	+ 9,636,142
Government securities	55,101,744	+ 2,686,309	+ 2,306,385
Other securities	79,800,459	+ 1,141,876	+ 4,333,441
Reserve	19,969,510	+ 918,638	+ 4,970,200
Note circulation	126,586,960	+ 925,170	+ 357,205
Coin and bullion	128,409,235	+ 6,532	+ 5,327,405
% of reserve to liabilities	14%	+ 1%	+ 3%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
June 8	128,369,554	128,280,135	150,945,823	150,185,788	18,539,419	12.6	4
15	128,375,126	127,491,195	145,488,015	149,333,931	13,800,576	12.6	4
22	128,357,145	127,477,995	138,928,690	137,400,455	19,320,150	12.6	4
29	128,366,727	127,006,290	147,036,451	147,810,437	17,810,437	12.6	4
July 6	128,369,083	129,102,285	148,761,611	148,900,383	17,710,793	12.6	4
13	128,373,661	127,955,569	150,615,715	150,615,715	18,969,096	12.6	4
20	128,367,459	127,717,740	166,222,777	161,893,589	19,099,719	12.6	4
27	128,370,063	128,283,570	121,802,758	121,188,923	18,536,693	12.6	4
Aug. 3	128,382,461	128,693,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	12.6	4
10	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	12.6	4
17	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,935	12.6	4
24	128,402,703	125,944,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	12.6	4
31	128,409,235	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	12.6	4

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Aug. 30, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Sept. 3, 1919.	Sept. 1, 1920.	Aug. 31, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	23,980,190	28,933,380	80,797,805	126,532,520	126,586,960
Public deposits	10,792,779	19,014,809	24,515,939	16,433,275	13,800,576
Other deposits	42,811,936	41,248,964	102,333,592	113,339,566	122,975,708
Government securities	14,597,524	11,046,570	37,491,056	57,408,122	55,101,744
Other securities	26,831,234	41,461,230	81,536,756	75,467,018	79,800,459
Reserve of notes and coin	32,202,276	25,463,290	25,463,290	34,999,310	19,969,510
Coin and bullion	41,732,464	35,947,360	63,292,131	123,081,630	128,409,235
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	11.1%	11.1%	11.1%	11.1%	12.6%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	2 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2	6 1/2	4 1/2
Price of Consols	78 1/2	78 1/2	78 1/2	78 1/2	78 1/2
Average price of wheat	31s 8d	31s 8d	31s 8d	31s 8d	31s 8d
Exchanges	25-25 1/2	25-25 1/2	25-25 1/2	25-25 1/2	25-25 1/2
on New York	45-45 1/2	45-45 1/2	45-45 1/2	45-45 1/2	45-45 1/2
on Amsterdam	12-2 1/2	12-2 1/2	12-2 1/2	12-2 1/2	12-2 1/2
on London	20-48 1/2	20-48 1/2	20-48 1/2	20-48 1/2	20-48 1/2
Clearing house return	211,423,000	192,913,000	537,599,000	738,496,000	622,022,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1-August 24	20,633,999,000	2,000,830,000	22,634,829,000
August 31	574,282,000	47,740,000	622,022,000
Total to date 1921	21,208,281,000	2,048,570,000	23,256,851,000
Do 1920	23,868,449,000	2,782,522,000	26,650,971,000
Increase or decrease in 1921	- 2,660,168,000	- 733,952,000	- 3,394,120,000
11.1%	- 26.3%	- 12.7%	
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
39.6%	- 20.2%	- 39.4%	

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to August 27.	£	£	£
BIRMINGHAM	129,381,100	86,214,600	- 43,166,500
BRISTOL	51,032,200	60,191,000	+ 9,158,800
DUBLIN	299,686,600	245,234,400	- 54,452,200
HULL (29 Weeks ended August 27) ..	31,742,600	31,742,600	
LEEDS	60,484,900	58,702,700	- 1,782,200
LIVERPOOL	43,751,900	26,130,100	- 17,621,800
MANCHESTER	560,810,700	291,220,400	- 269,590,300
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	1,051,304,100	476,530,100	- 574,774,000
NOTTINGHAM	108,399,600	63,087,000	- 45,312,600
SHEFFIELD	40,119,800	24,087,800	- 16,032,000
SHEFFIELD	57,338,300	39,915,600	- 17,422,700

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 26, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Aug. 23, 1920.
RESOURCES.	\$	\$	\$
Total gold reserve	2,619,080	+ 18,780	1,966,350
Legal tender notes and silver reserve ..	147,080	+ 1,910	155,490
Bills discounted for member banks	1,499,350	- 16,770	2,619,430
Bills bought in open market	35,210	- 6,700	320,600
Government obligations owned	238,770	- 6,510	304,040
All other resources	54,090	+ 350	30,080
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	31,480	+ 12,470	54,960
Other deposits	1,642,150	- 10,090	1,644,360
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation ..	2,485,910	- 17,730	3,174,730
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation ..	112,810	- 1,690	198,560
All other liabilities	19,130	- 130	61,870
Capital and surplus	316,850	+ 130	261,500
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined ..	66.5%	+ 1.5%	43.5%

CANADIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Jan., 1921.	Dec., 1920.	Nov., 1920.	Month's Movement.
RESERVE FUND	\$	\$	\$	\$
Note circulation	135,344	133,049	132,782	+ 295
Demand deposits	206,176	228,759	234,340	- 22,583
Notice deposits	584,926	657,497	657,497	- 73,471
Deposits outside Canada	1,311,091	1,293,007	1,292,009	+ 20,087
Current coin	318,623	356,771	351,781	- 38,148
Domestic notes	85,118	82,688	86,211	+ 2,430
Deposits Central Gold Reserve	186,590	177,489	190,641	+ 9,101
Call loans in Canada	89,703	113,353	114,903	- 21,650
Call loans outside Canada	112,474	114,703	108,471	- 2,229
Current loans in Canada	191,854	211,443	218,183	- 19,589
Current loans outside Canada	1,201,800	1,359,973	1,359,973	- 73,140
Total liabilities	2,642,380	2,778,309	2,835,579	- 135,929
Total assets	2,926,867	3,056,979	3,116,896	- 130,112

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 1, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 23, 1914.
ASSETS.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold coin and bullion	5,522,383	5,522,132	5,591,670	+ 251	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278		
Silver coin and bullion	276,831	276,752	254,527	+ 79	632,650
Discount and advances	4,748,129	4,583,468	4,580,462	+ 64,661	2,327,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	37,024,735	36,783,000	36,333,160	+ 241,735	5,811,875
Government deposits	40,733	61,822	64,892	- 21,059	183,700
Private deposits	2,795,463	2,687,111	3,041,163	+ 168,322	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 26, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Gold	2,497,204	2,496,074	2,495,103	2,452,380	+ 1,330	521,775
Silver	629,676	625,633	625,466	604,360	+ 4,043	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,964,870	1,997,036	2,016,162	1,688,573	- 32,166	800,725
Spanish gold stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	344,475		344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000		150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,160,601	4,182,506	4,211,375	3,949,802	- 21,905	1,901,550
Deposits	1,959,774	1,961,165	1,969,881	975,695	- 1,591	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	July 13, 1921.	June 23, 1921.	July 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.	Drachmae.	Drachmae.	Drachmae.	Drachmae.	Drachmae.
Gold and balances	1,367,465,387	1,375,129,587	1,525,906,851	- 7,664,200	- 158,441,464
Government loans and securities	1,829,115,886	1,757,596,565	685,805,429	+ 71,519,321	+ 113,331,045
Discounts and loans	760,718,154	776,401,596	660,571,061	- 15,683,442	- 100,347,093
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,758,440,673	1,743,889,472	1,394,544,497	+ 14,551,201	+ 363,891,716
Government deposits	119,410,103	113,039,990	119,946,029	+ 6,370,107	+ 135,926
Private sight deposits	855,549,079	858,222,869	711,459,062	- 2,873,790	+ 143,890,017
Private deposits at fixed rates	838,077,054	816,242,461	475,967,448	+ 21,834,593	+ 362,109,606

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 9, 1921.	July 24, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Gold and silver	1,275,190	1,275,512	1,275,555	1,607,444	- 322	221,320
Discounts	35,203	35,483	35,430	212,892	- 286	41,740
Advances	86,545	87,987	93,700	230,984	- 1,542	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,048,783	1,048,964	1,059,566	1,117,790	- 181	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,316,283	1,337,718	1,344,013	1,305,561	- 21,435	87,340
Private deposits	146,490	128,031	104,719	95,565	+ 18,396	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 23, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position
--	----------------	----------------	----------------	------------------	----------

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold.....	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	37,075	+ 217
Silver.....	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,890	16,910	+ 3,673
Treasury notes.....	216,700	244,535	258,839	263,735	268,671	+ 27,835
Bills discounted.....	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	+ 52
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	+ 23,102
Deposits.....	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,236	1,236,438	+ 44,401

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold.....	19,100	14,300	13,500	13,400	+ 4,800
Silver.....	40,300	39,700	38,900	39,500	+ 600
Foreign coin.....	39,700	39,200	38,900	39,500	+ 600
Foreign banks.....	1,004,900	893,900	950,100	1,243,800	+ 105,000
Advances to the Govt.....	140,625,000	130,625,000	117,625,000	106,625,000	+ 10,000,000
Private loans and discounts.....	8,795,600	6,863,800	6,374,200	5,921,400	+ 1,931,800
Other assets.....	9,594,600	10,336,500	13,675,400	9,714,200	+ 741,900
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	115,242,300	102,697,300	94,575,800	86,755,300	+ 12,545,000
Government accounts.....	16,975,300	33,969,000	28,822,000	8,893,200	+ 16,937,000
Other accounts.....	15,895,200	33,969,000	28,822,000	8,893,200	+ 16,937,000
Reserve.....	68,900	68,900	68,900	16,400	+ 16,400
Other liabilities.....	13,007,600	12,089,100	15,752,600	12,200,700	+ 918,500

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Total cash.....	141,473,133	121,536,184	150,654,960	+ 19,612,949
Discounts and loans.....	826,377,753	805,914,807	663,237,299	+ 20,462,946
LIABILITIES.				
Deposits.....	467,272,453	462,819,679	707,918,283	+ 4,452,7740

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 23, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchequer bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.....	9,528,807	9,528,779	9,528,772	+ 28
Discount and advances.....	3,105,279	3,209,875	3,376,720	+ 104,596
Gold.....	1,446,353	1,125,830	1,125,830	+ 320,523
Other assets.....	1,451,036	1,440,809	2,195,035	+ 10,227
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation.....	10,962,482	11,013,963	11,056,183	+ 51,481
Deposits.....	1,972,733	1,880,304	1,658,538	+ 92,499
Other liabilities.....	2,596,260	2,411,026	2,385,806	+ 185,234

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 22, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 8, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold.....	75,329	75,324	75,273	75,182	+ 5
Other coin and notes.....	20,274	20,016	18,865	17,554	+ 258
Foreign credits.....	339,369	331,586	337,236	342,018	+ 4,783
Bills.....	228,777	208,155	189,900	185,648	+ 20,642
Govt. advances.....	4,232,559	4,232,559	4,227,342	4,227,905	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	4,085,984	4,071,279	4,047,593	4,001,849	+ 14,705
State credits.....	371,688	371,688	375,296	375,296	..
Deposits.....	368,654	364,844	367,638	409,626	+ 3,810

LONDON RATES.

Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921.)	Aug. 26, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 28, 1921.	Aug. 29, 1921.	Aug. 30, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1921.
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
3 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
4 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
6 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount (Treasury Bills):—							
3 months'.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Loans:—Day to day.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Short.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Deposit allowances: Banks.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount houses at call.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
At notice.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
1921.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
June 17.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	7
24.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
July 1.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
8.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
15.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
22.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
29.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Aug. 5.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
12.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
19.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
26.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Sept. 2.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount.....	5	July 21, 1921	6 1/2	June 23, 1921
Deposit.....	5	June 23, 1921	3 1/2	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate Changed.	Bank Rate Changed.
Amsterdam..... July 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2	Madrid..... Nov. 4, 1920 .. 6
Athens..... May 15, 1920 .. 6 1/2	Paris..... July 28, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Berlin..... Dec. 23, 1914 .. 5	Prague..... May 12, 1920 .. 6
Brussels..... May 19, 1921 .. 5	Rome..... May 11, 1920 .. 6
Bucharest..... Sept. 4, 1920 .. 6	Sofia..... June 14, 1919 .. 6 1/2
Calcutta..... July 5, 1921 .. 5	Stockholm..... July 5, 1921 .. 6
Christiania..... July 5, 1921 .. 5	Swiss Bank..... Aug. 11, 1921 .. 4
Copenhagen..... July 5, 1921 .. 5	Tokyo..... Nov. 18, 1919 .. 8
Helsingfors..... Nov. 8, 1920 .. 7	Vienna..... Apr. 15, 1921 .. 6
Lisbon..... Sept. 3, 1920 .. 7	Warsaw..... .. 6
New York Federal Reserve..... July 20, 1921 .. 5 1/2	

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Sept. 3, 1921.	Rate, August 26, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 2, 1921.
Paris.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	51-35-45	47-80-90
Berlin.....	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	176-378	326-329
Vienna.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	780-800	3000-3150
Prague.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	210-220	300-313
Warsaw.....	P.marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	725-775	9000-9200
Bukarest.....	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	153-160	305-308
Budapest.....	forints to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	185-200 nom	425-475
Constantinople.....	piastres to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	95-100	160-170
Sofia.....	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	11-14-18	11-82-83
Belgrade.....	dinars to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	48-52-55	49-50-49
Amsterdam.....	guilder to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	24-10-20	27-58-54
Brussels.....	franc to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	17-67-72	17-68-08
Stockholm.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	18-159	24-63-68
Copenhagen.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	103-112	252-254
Helsingfors.....	F.marks to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	33-05-15	661-664
Greece.....	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	76-60-80	86-861
Italy.....	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	21-62-67	21-74-76
Switzerland.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	23-80-85	28-38-40
Madrid.....	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	53-4	114-12
Lisbon.....	pence to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2-97 1/2
Alexandria.....	piastres to £1	Sight	4-88 1/2	3-55-56 1/2	3-69-69 1/2
New York.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4-88 1/2	3-91-92	4-08-09
Montreal.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4-88 1/2	57-57 1/2	44-44 1/2
Buenos Ayres.....	pence to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	13	73-73 1/2
Rio de Janeiro.....	pence to £1	90 days	51	57 1/2-57 1/2	44-44 1/2
Montevideo.....	pence to £1	T.T.	51	12 1/2(a)	138-20
Valparaiso.....	pence to £1	90 days	13-33	10 1/2 prem.	12% prem.
Lima.....	Eng.to Per.£1	90 days	Par	10 to	1s 10d-1s 10d
Calcutta.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10d-1s 10d	1s 4d-1s 4d
Bombay.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10d-1s 10d	1s 4d-1s 4d
Madras.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 10d-1s 10d	1s 4d-1s 4d
Hong Kong.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	4s 11d-4s 2d	2s 8d-2s 8d	2s 8d-2s 8d
Shanghai.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	5s 10d-1s 1d	3s 8d-3s 9d	3s 7d-3d
Singapore.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	2s 3d-4s 2d	2s 3d-4s 2d	2s 3d-4s 2d
Yokohama.....	ster. to yen	T.T.	2s 3d-4s 2d	2s 3d-4s 2d	2s 3d-4s 2d
Manila.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24-06 1/2	12s 6d	12s 6d
Mexico.....	pence to £1	T.T.	134	134	134

† Rate for previous day.

§ Sellers.

(a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Sept. 2, 1921.	Aug. 11, 1921.	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.
Call money.....	6	6	6	6	6
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral).....	9	6	6	6	6
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days.....	6 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days.....	8 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days.....	8 1/2	6	6	6	6
Commercial acceptances, 90 days.....	Nom.	6	6	6	6

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 2, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 1, 1921.
London—					
90 days.....	Dollars for £1	4-86 1/2	3-50	3-6225	3-7018
Cable.....			3-57	3-6250	3-7062
Cheques.....			3-5625	3-66	3-7387
Paris.....	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*14-39	7-7550	7-8050
Brussels.....	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*13-52	7-60	7-625
Switzerland.....	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*6-080	16-94	17-06
Italy.....	Cents for 1 lire	19-30	121-45	4-3375	4-3075
Berlin.....	Cents for 1 mark	23-83	1-010	1-2050	1-1850
Vienna.....	Cents for 1 krone	20-26	0-460	0-12	0-1175
Madrid.....	Cents for 1 peseta	19-30	14-95	13-05	13-07
Amsterdam.....	Cents for 1 guilder	40-195	31-95	31-06	31-25
Copenhagen.....	Cents for 1 kroner	26-80	14-37	16-40	17-16
Christiania.....	Cents for 1 kroner	26-80	14-37	16-40	17-16
Stockholm.....	Cents for 1 kroner	26-80	14-37	16-40	17-16
Athens.....	Cents for 1 drachma	19-30	10-80	5-68	5-64
Montreal.....	Cents for Can. \$1	100	91-00	89-99	90-125
Yokohama.....	Cents for 1 yen	49-85	51-00	48-25	48-35
Hong Kong.....	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	75-50	50-90	50-70
Shanghai.....	Cents for 1 Shng. tael	..	105-00	69-50	69-125
Calcutta.....	Cents for 1 rupee	..	33-50	25-30	26-125
Buenos Aires.....	Gold pesos for \$100	103-65	117-00	150-50	147-00
Rio de Janeiro.....	Cents for 1 milreis	32-42	19-00	11-95	11-55
Valparaiso.....	Cents for 1 peso	20-60	19-25	11-00	10-50

* Francs for \$1.

† Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

		Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 1, 1920.	Rate, Aug. 18, 1921.	Rate, Aug. 25, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 1, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	6-32½	3-82	3-77	3-67
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	12-27½	6-95	6-85	6-75
Copenhagen			14-65	7-26½	6-96	6-81
Stockholm			10-05	5-50	5-43	5-33
Christiania	Kroners to 100 marks	88-88	15-20	9-95	8-90	8-70

the Law became effective in April, 1918, is said to have been \$22,123,000, according to *Financial America*.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Aug. 7, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 22, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,425	17,438	17,521
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,465	7,476	7,559
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,435	2,435	2,435
Gold coin and bullion in India	6,690	6,692	6,692
Securities (Indian Government) ..	835	835	835

The coinage during the week ending 22nd ult. amounted to 8 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 27th ult. consisted of about 29,300,000 ounces in sycee, 25,500,000 dollars, and 1,900 silver bars, as compared with about 29,100,000 ounces in sycee, 25,500,000 dollars, and 2,100 silver bars on the 20th ult. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 7d the tael. Statistics for the month of August are appended:—

Bar Silver.

	Cash.	Forward.	Bar Gold.
	Per Oz. Std.	Per Oz. Std.	Per Oz. Fine.
Highest price	38½	38½	115 5
Lowest price	36½	36½	110 4
Average price	38.096	37.711	112 6.6

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.
Aug. 27 ..	111 6	38	37½
29 ..	111 4	38½	37½
30 ..	111 1	38	37½
31 ..	110 4	37½	37½
Sept. 1 ..	110 4	37½	37½
2 ..	109 8	38½	37½
Sept. 8, 1915			23½
8, 1916			32½
7, 1917			49
7, 1918			49½
5, 1919			58½
3, 1920			59

NOTICES.

The new Antwerp office of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York, at 36 rue des Tanneurs, was opened on Thursday, under the management of Mr J. B. Avegno, formerly manager of the Havre office of the company.

The Eastern Bank, Limited, announce that Sir Percy Wilson Newson, Bart., a partner in the firm of Messrs Jardine, Skinner, and Co., Calcutta, has been elected to a seat on the board of the bank.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday next, September 5th, a branch at 19-20 High street, Dorking, under the management of Mr R. M. George.

THE

NATIONAL BANK

OF SOUTH AFRICA

REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL

LTD.

CAPITAL AND RESERVE £4,265,000

THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY

CABLED REPORT ON TRADE

CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED

ON APPLICATION

OVER 500 BRANCHES IN AFRICA

LONDON OFFICES

CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON WALL, E.C.2

18 ST. SWITHINS LANE, E.C.4

WEST END OFFICE

25, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W.1

NEW YORK · ANTWERP · BOMBAY & MAURITIUS

The London Joint City and Midland Bank announce the opening of new branches at 1, 2, and 3 Middle row, East Grinstead, and Market square, St Neots, Hunts, under the management of Mr H. S. Lawson and Mr H. G. Hodge respectively, and at 213 High road, Streatham, S.W. 16 (Mr A. R. Crimp, manager); High street, Towcester (Mr Robert Bruce, manager); 247 Halesowen road, Old Hill, Staffs (Mr J. A. James, manager).

We regret to announce the death, following an operation for appendicitis, of Mr Henry Chalmers, general manager (and a director since June, 1920) of the National Bank of India, Limited. He had been in the service of the bank for 44 years. For many years he was manager at Bombay, and subsequently was appointed inspector of branches, and later London manager. On the withdrawal of Mr J. A. Toomey from active management at the beginning of 1914 he was appointed general manager.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div. or Final.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Lat/Pre-vious.	Dividend for Whole Year.
Railways.						
Buffalo and Lake Huron	4/9 p.s.	1½	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..
Exeter, "A" Deb.	13*	Sept. 30	Tax free	..	..	..
Banks.						
Bank of Athens	Dr 5 p.s.	Sept. 1	Free of Greek taxes	..	..	..
Bank of Australasia	13*	Sept. 30	Tax free	..	..	..
Ionian	6*	Sept. 20	Tax free	..	..	..
National of Egypt	8/ p.s.	Sept. 5	..	..	..	..
Insurance.						
London Guarantee Accident	4/ p.s.	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..	..
Mining.						
Nechi Mines, Pref.	1/3 p.s.	Sept. 29	Less tax	..	..	..
Oroville Dredging	9 p.s.	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..	..
Ouro Preto Gold, Pref.	10	Sept. 24	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..	..
Pato Mines	7/ p.s.	Sept. 27	Less tax	..	..	..
Tea and Rubber.						
Peimadulla Rubber	5 %	Sept. 2	Less tax	..	..	..
Ragalla Tea	5 %	Aug. 31	Tax free	..	..	..
Rajmah Tea	..	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Rupai Tea	..	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Other Companies.						
Artizans', Labourers', & General Dwellings	4	Sept. 10	Less tax	..	..	..
Bagots, Hutton, and Co.	6*	Aug. 30	..	..	..	..
Brazilian Traction, Light, and Power, Pref.	11½	Oct. 1	..	..	..	..
British Workman Public House Burgons, Ord.	9 p.s.	Sept. 1	..	..	..	..
Do Founders	..	..	..	..	..	..
Calcott Brothers	..	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Canada Landed Investment	2½	Oct. 1	..	..	..	..
Canadian General Electric	2 %	Oct. 1	..	..	..	..
Civil Service Supply	14 per 10	Oct. 1	..	..	..	..
Cropper and Co.	24½	Sept. 1	..	..	..	..
Dalmeiding Iron	9 p.s.	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..	..
Direct Spanish Telegraph	18*	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..	..
Dominion Glass	1½	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Dublin Granaries	2½	Sept. 1	..	..	..	..
Goodlass, Wall	10%	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Hastings and St Leonards Gas, 5% Con.	3½	..	..	..	..	..
Do 3½ Con.	3½	..	..	..	..	..
Do 5% Additional	5	..	..	..	..	..
Key's Atlas Brewery	4½	(bonus)	5 % Less tax	..	..	..
Lincoln Wagon and Engine	3 %	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Linoleum Manufacturing	2½ p.s.	Sept. 30	Tax free	..	..	..
McBirney and Co.	3 %	..	..	..	..	..
Merchants' Warehousing	8*	Sept. 29	Less tax	..	..	..
Nicholsons	2½	Sept. 15	Less tax	..	..	..
North British Locomotive, Pref. N. Y., Pennsylvania, and Ohio	4	Aug. 31	Less tax	..	..	..
First Mortgage Trust	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oban and Aultmore Glenlivet Distillery	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Patons and Baldwins	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Quin and Axtens	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scottish Assets	8	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Sheepbridge Coal and Iron	6½	..	..	..	..	..
Smith, Garrett, and Co.	10	..	..	..	..	..
Staveley Coal and Iron, Fully pd.	1½ p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Do Part paid	1½ p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Stephen Smith and Co.	5½	(and 5% bonus)	Tax free	..	..	..
St James's Buildings	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sunderland and South Shields Water, 10 % Ord. & 5 % Pref.	4½	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Do 7 % Additional	3½	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Do 5 % Additional	2½	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Swindon United Gas	3½	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..	..
Switzer and Co.	2%	Sept. 1	Tax free	..	..	..
Thomas Dockrell, Sons, and Co.	4	Aug. 29	Less tax	..	..	..
West of Scotland American Investment	5 %	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Woking District Gas, "A" and "B" Ord.	5½	..	..	..	..	..
Do Pref.	5½	..	..	..	..	..
Woking Water and Gas	4½	..	Less tax	..	..	..

(a) Tax free. (b) And 50 % in fully paid preference shares.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combine production for the week ending Wednesday, August 24, 1921 amounted to 1,372 tons.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	34 weeks	Aug. 27	227,951	..	8,100,785
London Electric	..	..	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	34 weeks	Aug. 27	55,570	..	1,885,217
London United Trams	..	..	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Trams	..	..	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..	..	..
Geareless Motor	..	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	1,89,246 + 6,300	11,63,233
Barsi Lt. Ry.	17 weeks	July 30	118	19,100 — 37,900	4,73,200
Bengal & N. Western	16 weeks	23	2,067	5,56,340 + 1,10,630	97,06,120
Bombay Nagpur	16 weeks	23	2,697	11,69,000 + 1,55,000	204,16,058
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	20 weeks	Aug. 20	2,871	17,08,000 — 30,000	4,66,69,000
Burma	16 weeks	July 23	1,342	5,89,327 + 1,31,883	93,63,779
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	19 weeks	Aug. 13	239	84,000 — 17,000	19,20,177
East Indian	21 weeks	27	2,772	28,91,000 + 3,17,000	6,15,72,000
G. Indian Peninsula	20 weeks	20	5,121	19,94,300 — 1,71,500	5,13,44,935
Madras & S. Mah.	17 weeks	July 30	3,028	11,50,000 — 1,87,824	2,26,07,587
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	17 weeks	23	259	61,154 + 19,680	1,29,14,176
Do Lucknow-Breilly	17 weeks	23	259	61,154 + 19,680	1,29,14,176
South Indian	17 weeks	23	259	61,154 + 19,680	1,29,14,176
Bthn. Punjab (month)	1 mth	Apr. 30	717	8,83,597 + 102,305	14,56,610
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	8 weeks	Aug. 27	752	11,800 — 700	94,900
Argentine Trans.	8 weeks	27	111	992 — 582	12,438 + 204
B. A. and Pacific	8 weeks	27	3,428	128,000 — 2,000	1,094,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	8 weeks	27	3,591	143,000 + 7,000	1,258,000
B. A. Western	8 weeks	27	1,882	82,000 + 3,000	700,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 mths	June 30	190	49,858 — 12,999	594,834
Central Argentine	8 weeks	Aug. 27	3,305	190,000 — 5,000	1,537,000
Cordoba Central	8 weeks	27	1,205	62,500 + 32,500	564,200
Entre Rios	8 weeks	27	811	22,200 + 500	167,000
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths	July 31	33	Ms 56,000 + 17,300	327,900
Leopoldina	34 weeks	Aug. 27	1,005	10,400 — 3,800	412,600
San Paulo	34 weeks	27	1,831	35,555 — 11,815	1,122,223
State of Bahia, S.W.	7 mths	July 31	52	Ms 56,000 — 74,000	497,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	34 weeks	Aug. 28	838	15,820 — 36,480	776,685
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	64	12,000 + 500	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	32 weeks	Aug. 15	366	12,077 — 29,663	..
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	S1358,630 + 147,980	14,428,740
Taltal	1 mth	July 31	180	(b) 9,173 — 16,350	..
Cuban.					
Havana Central	7 weeks	Aug. 20	1,210	10,925 — 2,258	79,821
United of Havana	8 weeks	28	1,210	56,423 — 53,480	482,901
Uruguayan.					
Central Uruguay	8 weeks	Aug. 27	273	19,923 + 1,708	176,953
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	8 weeks	27	31	3,899 — 552	34,712
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	8 weeks	27	185	2,458 — 176	20,605
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	8 weeks	27	211	1,744 — 731	16,047
Midland Uruguay	1 mth	July 31	319	12,766 — 4,077	..
North-West Urug.	1 mth	31	113	5,851 — 117	..
Uruguay North	1 mth	31	3	1,383 — 558	..
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	34 weeks	Aug. 27	33	Ps 13,000 + 3,000	536,900
Bilbao	7 mths	July 31	15	1,048 — 2,711	13,428
Bolivar	7 mths	31	136	10,111 + 126	72,178
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths	June 30	86	18,720 — 2,820	114,480
Costa Rica	12 mths	June 30	190	23,857 + 738	293,674
Dorado Extension	7 mths	July 31	70	24,000 + 4,500	131,750
Egyptian Delta	17 weeks	31	559	110,418 — 4,216	111,466
Gt. Southern of Spain	33 weeks	Aug. 20	104	Ps 9,561 — 37,223	1,661,298
International of Central America	6 mths	June 30	Net	22,957 + 192	136,391
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	(b) 8,570 — 5,060	50,110
Mexican Railway	7 weeks	Aug. 21	403	\$288,600 — 26,300	2,170,600
Do	6 mths	June 30	403	\$1284,000 — 6,769,200	..
Naasjo Oscarshamn	6 mths	30	..	15,304 — 8,523	78,524
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Aug. 29	379	6,320 — 7420	..
Paraguay Central	7 weeks	27	274	4,420 — 620	33,230
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	9 mths	Feb. 28	21	\$2,311,374 + 414,841	16,380,765
Puerto Cabello, &c.	5 mths	May 31	35	4,500 — 500	22,750
Salvador	8 weeks	Aug. 27	100	2,280 — 1,097	19,694
Sante Fe Province	1 mth	July 31	..	141,064 — 11,743	..
French Railways	7 mths	31	112	15,670 — 31,129	75,480
Samana & Santiago	7 mths	31	..	15,670 — 31,129	75,480
Zafra and Huelva	7 mths	31	..	15,670 — 31,129	75,480
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	33 weeks	Aug. 21	9,750	\$1266,000 — 65,700	39,825,200
Canadian Pacific	21	13,402	\$994,000 — 401,000	110,231,000	110,960,000
Grand Trunk	33 weeks	21	3,616	\$350,417 — 11,075	9,701,588

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange. ‡ Adjusted, May 31, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.
-------	---------	---------

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	%
Gas.										
Bognor	June 30*	3,361	1,679	5,040	..	1,455	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	3,585	..
Woking District	June 30*	1,710	1,257	2,967	805	707	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	1,455	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Rubber, &c.										
Emerald Rubber and Coconut	Jan. 31	5,842	15,823	21,665	..	..	..	6,000	15,665	22,918
Tea.										
Majuli	Dec. 31	7,465	Dr25,101	Dr17,636	1,200	..	..	Dr 18,000	Dr 836	4,343
Moabund	Dec. 31	11,534	Dr26,862	Dr15,328	2,500	..	..	Dr 20,000	2,172	6,010
Rajmai	Dec. 31	4,070	Dr22,534	Dr18,454	..	5,600	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Dr 5,000	Dr19,054	9,242
Waterworks.										
Woking Water and Gas	June 30*	2,224	2,880	5,104	..	3,575	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	..	1,529	..
Other Companies.										
Merchants' Warehousing	June 30	19,518	17,762	37,280	..	3,465	10	3,000	30,815	..

* Half-year.

† Free of tax.

Reports and Notices.

Baring Brothers and Co., Limited, notify that the transfer books of the Commercial Cable Company sterling 4 per cent. 500-year debenture stock will be closed from the 20th to the 30th instant, both days inclusive, for the preparation of the warrants for the interest due October 1, 1921.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT OF VENEZUELA, 1905.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, being the moiety of the second fortnightly instalment of the Debt Service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

MINES.

NATIONAL MINING CORPORATION, LIMITED.—The question of the corporation's uncalled capital, which was raised at the last annual meeting, has since received most careful consideration, and has been discussed at various times with some of the largest shareholders. The directors see no reason to alter their opinion that the uncalled capital is of the greatest importance to the corporation's future, and that the idea of its cancellation must be dismissed as fatal to any future development of the business of the corporation. At the present moment the directors do not intend to proceed to the calling up of further capital; in fact, under present financial conditions, they desire to avoid doing so unless circumstances should arise which would render such a step desirable or necessary.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SPANISH RIVER PULP AND PAPER MILLS.—Net earnings for year ended June 30th amounted to \$4,836,001, and after providing for depreciation, interest charges, contingencies, and taxation, there was available, including \$1,060,948 brought forward, \$4,023,948, out of which dividends amounting to 7 per cent. have been paid on common stock, \$304,097 transferred to bond sinking fund reserve, and \$2,349,796 has been carried forward.

RHODESIAN GOLD OUTPUT.

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	253,807	211,917	211,851	293,794
February	232,023	220,885	250,020	288,225
March	239,023	225,808	199,881	134,932
April	239,916	213,159	208,934	282,396
May	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June	225,447	214,215	194,194	238,199
July	251,740	214,918	313,126	279,269
August	257,036	207,339	231,220	..
September	247,885	223,719	231,220	..
October	136,780	204,184	248,085	..
November	145,458	186,462	282,237	..
December	192,870	158,835	272,470	..
Total Gold	2,652,250	2,499,492	3,056,549	..

NOTE.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR AUGUST, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.			Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Total.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Frontino and Bolivia	2,160	..	..	..	..	8,608	..
Nechi (Aug. 3rd to 22nd) ..	..	..	..	..	..	\$21,978	..
Pato (Aug. 12th to 24th) ..	..	..	..	..	..	\$29,557	..
Quarter ended June 30th:—							
Shamva	164,150	163,547	7,720	16,346	24,066 (a)	126,346	38,962
(a) Gold at £5 5s per ounce.							
Coal.	Output.		Other Notes in Return.				
Chinese Engineering	Tons.	73,465	Week ended Aug. 20th.				
New Vaal River	..	..	Diamonds registered 637 carats, valued at £5,316.				

BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY.—Report for four weeks ended August 17, 1921.—Coke ovens produced 19,657 tons of coke; 15 new ovens added. No. 1 blast furnace produced 3,835 tons. No. 2 blast furnace produced 14,036 tons; latter furnace created weekly record of 3,715 tons. No. 3 blast furnace lighted up 15th inst.; first cast 17th inst. under very satisfactory conditions. Open hearth produced 23,322 tons. Blooming mill produced 21,478 tons. Rail mill produced 11,961 tons. 18-in. mill produced 6,873 tons. 12-in. mill produced 2,280 tons. 8-in. mill produced 1,478 tons. New heating furnace at 8-in. mill commenced operations on August 1st will assist materially production. Rod mill produced 2,158 tons. Iron Knob: Operations continuous; shipped 44,132 tons. Broken Hill: Unchanged.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions have been somewhat unsettled, but fairly favourable, and the later portions of the grain harvest are being secured slowly. Prospects for autumn and winter fodder have improved by recent rainfalls, but in Southern localities more moisture is needed. Native wheat is in liberal supply at the principal distributing centres, and, with only moderate interest displayed by millers, prices declined somewhat sharply, 55s to 60s being quoted per 504 lbs, free on rail. Imported quiet but generally firm. No. 1 Northern Manitoba 94s 6d, No. 2 ditto 93s, Australian 75s 6d, ex store, per 496 lbs, and Plate 79s 6d, landed terms. In the forward market there was only a small demand for cargoes, and prices were somewhat irregular in sympathy with fluctuating American advices, sales being confined to white Walla and hard Pacific October at 65s 6d per 480 lbs, while only a moderate business transpired in parcels, chiefly North American grades, at generally firm rates. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, September 15th, sold 81s 3d to 78s 6d, October 68s 6d, October-November 67s 6d to 68s per 480 lbs. Crop prospects in the Southern Hemisphere continue fairly satisfactory, though Argentina is in need of rain, while the outlook in India is satisfactory, but reports as regards North America are somewhat conflict-

ing. Ploughing is proceeding in the United States winter wheat belt, and first estimates of acreage indicate an area about equal to last year. Flour trade generally quiet, the inquiry for home-milled being chiefly for best grades. London straight run quoted 64s, town households 61s, patents 68s per sack, delivered. All English straights 57s 6d, delivered. Country flour 50s, 52s, f.o.r. Imported sorts slow. Canadian export patents 68s, straights 65s, Kansas patents 65s, Australian 61s, and Chinese 50s per 280 lbs, ex store. On c.i.f. terms, Australian arrived quoted 56s, September 52s, Kansas straights, August, seaboard, 58s, Manitoba export patents, August, 59s 6d, Pacific, September, 50s 6d, per 280 lbs. Maize generally quiet, but prices fairly steady. Plate, ex ship, quoted 39s 9d, landed 41s 3d, yellow round African 40s, ex ship, and 41s 3d landed, American mixed, ex ship, 39s 6d per 480 lbs. The cargo market ruled quieter, and rates weak for near positions, but forward firm. A steamer of yellow La Plata September 25th-October sold at 41s 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Parcels were quietly dealt in at irregular prices. Barley generally quiet, with an easier tendency. English malting quoted 68s to 90s, grinding 52s to 56s, Californian ex ship 52s to 60s, Morocco landed 45s to 46s per 448 lbs. No. 4 Canada Western ex ship 43s 6d, Canada feed 42s 6d ex ship, and American feed 43s landed per 400 lbs. Forward market inactive, and tendency of values in a downward direction. Oats quiet, and occasionally the turn easier. English 32s to 38s as to sample per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate quoted 31s to 31s 6d, Canadian 34s to 34s 6d, Chilean 32s to 32s 6d, all landed, per 320 lbs. Forward parcels easier; afloat sold down to 28s, and forward 28s 6d. Oatmeal quiet and rather easier. London made all cuts £23 10s to £24 10s, American £22 10s to £23, flaked oats £27 10s to £28 10s per ton ex store. Offals quiet. Middlings £12 10s-£13, broad bran £10 10s to £11 10s per ton ex mill. Beans firm to rather dearer. English old crop 63s to 67s, new crop 52s to 55s per 532 lbs. Peas dull, and prices tended in buyers' favour. English maples 95s to 105s, small blues 95s to 105s, split 115s to 125s, Duns 65s to 70s per 504 lbs. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 38s to 39s, and Egyptian 30s per 100 lbs. Homeward grain freights ruled quiet, the demand being chiefly on Continental account. River Plate upper ports to U.K./Continent October done 35s, with 30s indicated for near loading. Montreal to U.K./Continent rules at 45 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 5s per qr, and Gulf 5s 6d, option Mediterranean 6s 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, while Baltimore to Rotterdam paid 18 cents per 100 lbs. North Pacific easier at 57s 6d wheat/flour, and 1s 3d extra barley. India quiet, Bombay/Karachi 27s 6d dead weight. Saigon rice paid 57s 6d. Australia chartered several steamers at 68s 9d one and 70s two discharging ports October-November, with slightly lower rates now current. South African maize done at 41s 3d September U.K./Continent. Danube slow, and other departments quiet, unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1920-21, contrasted with 1919-20, 1918-19, and 1917-18.

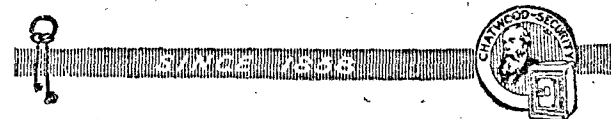
	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.	1917-1918.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to August 27	Cwts. 397,128	Cwts. 66,174	Cwts. 56,359	Cwts. 6,209
10 weeks to August 27	13,274,149	10,892,955	13,135,496	9,637,532
Average price of English wheat per quarter	s d 64 10	s d 90 11	s d 73 3	s d 74 8
= per cwt	15 2	21 2	17 1	17 5

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past two weeks, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Aug. 20	85,914 6	11,241 0	21,669 6	66 9	56 5	32 1
27	92,663 1	24,013 2	19,400 7	64 10	59 9	32 2
1917	12,063 4	2,062 5	2,343 3	72 1	60 4	49 0
1918	2,754 1	1,856 4	5,154 5	74 8	60 1	57 11
1919	13,150 4	6,172 6	10,549 3	73 3	86 7	61 10
1920	15,440 5	7,155 2	14,416 1	90 11	78 5	55 4

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated September 1st, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There are actually only 14 blast furnaces blowing on the North-East coast, chiefly making basic pig-iron, but it is expected that three more will start shortly. Fuel prices are greatly retarding a general resumption, and although the price of coke has fallen, it is still at a price which, in many



THE CHATWOOD SAFE

Since 1858

THE custodian of treasure who relies for security on a cheap safe and the inefficiency of a Burglar's attack, rather than on the power of resistance offered by his Safe or Strong Room, is in very much the same position as an Army Commander who relies for the defence of his position on small arms in the fond hope that the enemy may not possess artillery.



The Squirrel guards against what may happen and carries a store of nuts against a possible scarcity of food in the future.

Both in the design and in the construction of THE CHATWOOD SAFE every conceivable contingency of both Fire and Burglary has been effectually provided against. Neither the intense heat of a raging fire nor the desperate attacks of the most scientific Burglars can penetrate the

invulnerable defences of THE CHATWOOD SAFE.

Holders of the **HIGHEST AWARDS** throughout the world.

The Chatwood Safe Book, containing fullest particulars and striking testimony to the superiority of THE CHATWOOD SAFE, gratis and post free upon request.

B 6.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED
BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: **BOLTON, ENGLAND.**
Branches: **LONDON** 55 Gracechurch St., E.C. **MANCHESTER** Royal Exchange **GLASGOW** 12 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

cases, prevents economical working. Business in pig-iron is not active, and present quotations are:—135s per ton for No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B., and 100s per ton for East Coast hematite mixed numbers. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel works cannot see more than a couple of weeks ahead, and the outlook, in view of foreign competition, is still very precarious. Steel ship plates, £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s; iron bars, £16; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: Business in imported ore is stagnant. Best Bilbao Rubio is quoted generally at about 28s per ton, but consumers say they have offers at a lower figure.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Following upon the recent declines in the quotations for steel materials, Scotch makers of black sheets on Monday lowered their prices by from 20s to 30s a ton, bringing their reductions since the beginning of the year up to from £6 to about £8 a ton. The new rates are therefore:— $\frac{1}{2}$ gauge, £14 15s; $\frac{3}{4}$ gauge, £15; 16 gauge, £16; 20 gauge, £17; 24 gauge, £17 10s; and 27 gauge, £18 10s. Producers are not fully employed, yet they are turning over a good tonnage and have promise of more orders, which are in that market mainly from India, China, and Japan. Makers here are particularly well situated in competition with other countries, notably America, from the fact that they can import almost any quantity of half products from the Continent at quite £5 a ton below what is usually named at home. Steel makers are a good deal busier than they were a week ago on all kinds of plates and sections, which are in request from bridge and ship constructors. In the latter connection, an impetus has been given to operations through the return of the joiners to duty; indeed, several of the yards are quite busy, and will be well engaged for the remainder of the year. This, however, on old contracts, some booked over a year ago. There are, so far as understood, no new orders being placed, though it is said one or two big liners are in the planning. But, as for tramps, the state of the freight market and the high cost of building put them for the moment out of consideration. Official returns show that in the course of last month Clyde shipbuilders launched 34 vessels of 34,616 tons, raising the aggregates for the year to date up to 165 boats of 299,864 tons. In all the circumstances, these figures are satisfactory. It is interesting to note that a couple of large steamers—9,500 and 7,000 tons—were of the motor type, which is attracting great attention from engineers, who are also busy devising new methods for the utilisation of oil in the engine rooms. Experiments, it is stated, are proceeding in nearly all the large yards on the river. It transpires to-day that a heavy order for military tanks has been given out to a West of Scotland steelmaker—in the interest of a foreign Government. Pig-iron makers have been lighting up some additional blast furnaces these last few days—for the production of foundry iron, which is in growing demand. There is still a good deal of ordinary pig-iron and basic iron being landed at East Coast ports from the Continent, at pounds a ton under what Scotch makers quote. Sweden is now sending in lots of hematite at exceedingly cheap rates. Bar-iron makers are not getting more than half-time business, but they have resolved to maintain list prices—at least, until coal reaches even a lower level than obtains, and it is fully 40 per cent. under what ruled prior to the late strike. Coal miners are only getting from two to three days a week, and the expense of operating in existing conditions is inducing certain owners to consider the advisability of shutting down altogether. In engineering circles a respectable volume of work is in hand, and the outlook is fairly encouraging.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The sharp advance in values at the London wool sales this week has occasioned some surprise in the consuming centres. A slight rise in prices was generally expected in view of the strength of the primary markets, but few anticipated quite such a decided movement as that recorded in Coleman street Wool Exchange. It is significant that home trade buyers have been active—more so than at any series this year—yet it is difficult to find any material expansion in machinery consumption. The obvious conclusion is that some topmakers and spinners have been forced to cover. It remains to be seen whether the new level can be maintained, and on this point there is some doubt among users. However, topmakers have mostly put up their quotations to a protective level, and this has tended to check business somewhat. Spinners report a little more inquiry on home trade account, but many are still cutting prices; and business is being taken at unremunerative prices. The export section is the most active, though Germany has been much quieter during the week. In the piece-goods trade a small amount of business is being done, much of it from stock, and values show no change.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The event of the week in the wool trade is the opening of the seventh series of sales, Coleman street Wool Exchange being thronged last Tuesday with a large number of buyers, all sections except America being fully represented. There was at times as much enthusiasm as was seen in the earlier days of 1920, when a veritable struggle took place to secure wool. The series opened more auspiciously than any that have been held during the past 12 months, practically the whole of the catalogues being cleared. The offerings consist of 70,000 bales of "free" wool, and 60,000 bales of B.A.W.R.A. wool, and everything points to ready clearances being made. On the opening day the merinos were a somewhat scrappy lot, but the crossbreds made an excellent show, and, rather unexpectedly, a sharp advance of 5 to 10 per cent. took place on medium and coarse qualities. I must admit being surprised at the sudden burst of enthusiasm and the sensible advance in values, good-conditioned merinos appreciating 7½ to 10 per cent., ordinary and faulty merinos 5 per cent., while fine crossbreds advanced 10 to 15 per cent. These are sensible advances, and clearly indicate a strong market. One of the most satisfactory features in connection with the sales this week has been the increased eagerness on the part of the home trade to operate. Germany is not so active, but French buyers are operating as freely as anyone could reasonably expect in face of all their mills being standing on account of a strike. Everybody seemed pleased with the opening results, except those Bradford topmakers who have been selling forward at 3s for 64's, and unless they are well covered out of Australian purchases they stand to lose considerably. After Tuesday's sale it looks as if warp 64's are going to cost in the neighbourhood of 3s 6d, and a commoner top 3s 4d. The upward movement in crossbreds is indeed significant, and clearly shows that there is returning confidence in these. This is all the more surprising in view of the tremendous stocks of old crossbred wool which are to be marketed, fully 75 per cent. of B.A.W.R.A.'s stocks consisting of crossbreds of one sort and another. In addition, a new clip will shortly be shorn in New Zealand and South America, and we hope that developing trade in textiles will pave the way for a big consumption of crossbred wools.

In their comment on the future, Messrs H. Dawson and Co. make some most significant remarks. They call special attention to the state of the home trade. "The improved inquiry in semi-manufactured goods," it is stated, "is chiefly a reflection of Continental activity rather than home consumption, and the more advanced sections of the home industry show little improvement." Practically everyone will agree with that expression of opinion; and, after referring to growing confidence in raw material, Messrs Dawson say that "at the cloth end the financial pressure is still severe, and the general position not sufficiently clarified, to allow of more than a hand-to-mouth turnover." These facts are far from being inspiring, but we believe that firm and advancing wool markets will inspire more confidence at the piece end of the industry—a factor which has been very much wanting during the past 12 months.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL SALES.

Messrs Dalgety and Co. have received the following cablegram from their Brisbane branch under date August 30th:—"Wool sales opened. Attendance of buyers is large. Competition animated. Yorkshire buyers are the principal operators, more especially greasy wools of medium quality. Greasy wools of fine quality, strong demand from Japan and from the Continent; scoured wools, poor demand, as compared with last sales. Sydney prices par, all qualities. Splendid clearance."

THE COTTON TRADE.

MANCHESTER, September 1.

Business in the market this week has been thoroughly disorganised by the violent fluctuations in raw cotton rates. Traders have not displayed any confidence in the recent rise in values, and a waiting policy is being adopted pending more settled conditions. In cloth for abroad there has been an increased inquiry, but dealers on the other side are very slow in raising limits. Only retail lots have been sold for India and China, and cable advices from those outlets are

"ALL-IN" POLICY

affords the Householder the most complete cover yet devised. The method of covering household risks by a diversity of Insurance is wasteful, to say the least. By covering all your household risks by the "All-In" Policy, you are economising in the true sense of the word—5/- per £100 per annum (Minimum Premium, 7/6) will cover practically every serious risk in respect to the contents of your home. List of risks and full particulars post free. Address:—"All-In" Policy Dept.

EAGLE, STAR AND BRITISH DOMINIONS INSURANCE CO., LTD.,
41 THREADNEEDLE ST., LONDON, E.C.2.
ASSETS EXCEED - - £19,000,000.

not encouraging. A rather larger turnover has taken place for the Near Eastern markets, especially Egypt. Manufacturers have reported an increased inquiry in home trade fabrics. Buying in American and Egyptian yarns for home use has been very irregular. There has been considerable variation in prices when tested. Spinners are doing very badly, and continue to lose ground. Only occasional transactions have been mentioned in export yarns.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Sept. 1, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Aug. 25.	Price, Aug. 18.	Price, Aug. 11.	Price, Aug. 4.	Price, July 28.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American . . . per lb	10-76	9-68	8-81	8-95	8-78	8-34
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	18-00	16-00	16-00	16-00	16-00	15-50
Yarns—32's twist per lb	18	17½	16½	17	17½	17½
— 40's twist per lb	16½	16	15½	15½	16½	16½
— 60's twist (Egyptian) per lb	31	29½	29½	30	31	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31	30	30½	31	31	30
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	38	36	36	36	36	36
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	18	17	17	17	18	18
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	17	16	16	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Sept. 1, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American . . . per lb	10-76	22-60	19-21	25-90	17-60	9-48
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	18-00	67-00	30-00	30-19	27-75	12-70
Yarns—32's twist per lb	18	51	41	55½	24½	14
— 40's twist per lb	16½	46½	40½	55½	24½	14½
— 60's twist (Egyptian) per lb	31	90	61	66½	43½	23
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31	78	69	71	63	20
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	38	67	67	69	31	17
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	18	45	64	61	18	7½
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	17	37	63	35	9	10½

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—August 26, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
						Med.	Good Med.	Extra Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Extra Fine.
American	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	M	Mid	G	M
Brazilian	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	Fr.	G	Fr.
Pernambuco, &c.	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Paraiba	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Maceio	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Mossoro, &c.	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Ceara	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Maranhão	681	931	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131	1131
Brown	9-25	10-75	13-25	14-75	15-25	15-25	15-25	15-25	15-25	15-25	15-25
Upper	9-25	10-25	12-25	12-75	13-25	13-25	13-25	13-25	13-25	13-25	13-25
West Indian—Sea Island	23-00	26-00	29-00	31-00	33-00	33-00	33-00	33-00	33-00	33-00	33-00
Peruvian—Rough	9-00	10-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00	11-00
Ditto Mod. Rough	7-75	9-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	10-00
Ditto Smooth	7-61	10-81	12-26	13-06	13-26	13-26	13-26	13-26	13-26	13-26	13-26
Ditto Sea Island	6-25	7-25	9-25	10-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25
African, East, &c.	6-25	7-25	9-25	10-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25	11-25
East Indian	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	8-05	8-30	8-55	8-80	9-05	9-05	9-05	9-05	9-05	9-05	9-05
— Broach	5-94	6-44	6-94	7-44	7-94	7-94	7-94	7-94	7-94	7-94	7-94
M. Ginned Bhownagar	6-00	6-50	7-00	7-50	8-00	8-00	8-00	8-00	8-00	8-00	8-00
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1	5-75	6-25	6-75	7-00	7-25	7-25	7-25	7-25	7-25	7-25	7-25
M. Ginned Khandesh	7-20	7-70	8-20	8-70	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20
M. Ginned Comptah	5-15	5-65	6-15	6-65	7-15	7-15	7-15	7-15	7-15	7-15	7-15
M. Ginned Bengal	5-03	5-53	6-03	6-53	7-03	7-03	7-03	7-03	7-03	7-03	7-03
M. Ginned Seinde	8-80	9-05	9-30	9-55	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20
Tinnivelly	7-45	7-70	7-95	8-20	8-45	8-45	8-45	8-45	8-45	8-45	8-45
Madras, Western	Fr.	7-45	7-70	7-95	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20
Coconada, Red	Fr.	7-45	7-70	7-95	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20
M. Ginned Coconada, Red	Fr.	7-45	7-70	7-95	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20	8-20

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up Y45,000,000
Reserve Y10,350,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

London Office - - - - - 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Fochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kluikiang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c. &c. and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa. Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

LINEN TRADE.

BELFAST, August 31.

Flax.—There is no change to report in the Irish markets this week. Some lots of new flax were sold, and these are more favourably reported on than the old crop. On the Continent there is no change to report. Yarns.—Without material change, the market has been steadily maintained during the week. Tow yarns have again been the chief feature. The figures for the month now ending are not yet available, but without doubt will show a further reduction in stocks, with a corresponding increase in orders. This process has gone on steadily since March 1st. Weavers.—More business is being done, and quite respectable quantities have been booked by manufacturers. The strength of cotton will undoubtedly help union goods; altogether, the feeling is decidedly better in this section of the trade. Merchants.—Merchants have experienced a quiet week; if anything, housekeeping goods show most life.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A somewhat firmer tone has developed in raw linseed oil, which has been in fairly active demand at advancing prices, both America and the Continent apparently taking advantage of the lower level of values ruling. Oil on spot and for delivery to December has thus appreciated about 25s per ton naked ex mill; at Hull to £36 15s, and London £38. January-April oil is at about 20s premium, with some inquiry on speculative account.

Cotton oils have continued a very quiet market, with spasmodic appearances of interest. Values of both crude and refined are lower. The demand for soya bean oil continues, but stocks of English crude are about exhausted, and are being supplemented by arrivals of Oriental. A fair demand is reported for palm kernel, ground nut, and rape oils at about unchanged prices.

The market for linseed is nervous, and prices generally are slightly lower. There is a fairly good demand for seed afloat, and full cargoes of La Plata have been secured at £20 10s to £21, due to arrive in the latter half of September; while about £21 2s 6d for September-October and £21 7s 6d for October-November represents current values. Calcutta has been done at £22 10s for August-September. Egyptian cottonseed is more or less inactive. More disposition on the part of shippers of soya beans to meet the market, but buyers are scarce.

Oilcakes of all descriptions are meeting with a very poor demand.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hide market retains its steady position, as alterations in price at the auctions in Bermondsey on Thursday were of no importance. Best ox sold again from 7½d to 10½d per lb, one class only showing a slight reduction of ½d. Cows were firmer, and best at 7½d to 8d were ½d to ¾d up. Calf were steady, although best light at 16½d showed a slight advance of ½d. Business is better in foreign hides, and the home tanner has bought Rio Grandes at higher rates. Frigorifics have sold from 9½d to 10d. This week's cables report the Chicago market as steady, with best packer hides remaining at 14 cents.

The trade in sole leather is of moderate dimensions, although not quite up to the standard expected. Both shoe manufacturers and repairers pursue a very cautious policy in view of the very firm market for leather, and only order immediate requirements. Ten to 12 lb bends are most wanted, although manufacturers are calling for lighter weights in view of the necessity for turning out lower-priced footwear. Pinned offal is very firm, and prices are advancing. In upper leathers business has improved, and a demand is at last springing up for waxed and russet kip butts. Semi-chrome is dull and prices depressed. Chrome leathers are selling fairly well, and it is a surprising fact that American importing houses are selling leather freely, in spite of the severe loss on the exchange.

Orders for boots and shoes are more numerous, and samples for the spring trade are already being talked about. The export section is still a cause for anxiety, and normal conditions cannot be looked for unless this improves, as the British output cannot be absorbed in this country.

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Deposits
\$154,911,487

Total Assets
\$190,367,409



Merchants and Manufacturers desirous of opening up in Canada are offered complete and valuable information, including particulars of Water Power, Sites, Tariffs, etc. Saving Bank Department at London Office and throughout all Branches in Canada.

400 BRANCHES IN CANADA. COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE.
LONDON OFFICE: J. B. DONNELLY, D.S.O. 53, CORNHILL.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 87s 6d to 93s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 80s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 20s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, September 2.

There was a moderate amount of business doing during the week in some directions, but in a general sense the markets disclosed a quiet tone, with business largely governed by wants of immediate necessity.

SUGAR.—With a decided improvement in demand trade proceeded with fair animation, and a very steady state of affairs prevailed. Tate's cubes sold, 61s 9d to 62s 9d; granulated, 57s to 57s 6d; caster, 61s to 61s 6d; pieces, 45s to 48s 6d. Lyle's granulated, 57s to 57s 3d; yellow crystals, 52s 6d. Crystallised West India sold from 45s to 50s 6d, as to sample. White Mauritius, spot, 52s to 53s. American granulated, spot, sold, 55s 9d to 56s; ditto, afloat, 28s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. Canadian, spot, done 56s 3d. Czech granulated, and also crystals, prompt, changed hands at 27s 6d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Belgian crystals, October-December, sold, 21s 3d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Dutch granulated, spot, realised 56s; ditto, prompt shipment, sellers, 30s, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Brazilian basis, 80 per cent., September, sold, 22s, c.f. and i., U.K. Cuban stocks stand at 1,255,000 tons, against 327 same time last year.

COFFEE.—Moderate quantities were brought forward at public sales this week, and with fair competition steady prices were realised for the part sold. Nairobi fine bold sold up to 110s 6d; Nicaragua-Maragipe, 126s 6d. Future delivery market firmer. September, sold, 46s 3d; December, 46s 6d to 46s 9d.

TEA.—In auction this week some 39,000 packages Indian were catalogued, and, apart from medium qualities showing irregularity and slight weakness, a firm tone predominated, with active biddings. Nearly 27,000 packages Ceylon were brought forward, and general run of quality showing an improvement, full prices were secured.

COCOA steady, though quiet, and small transactions this week include Trinidad at 60s to 62s. Butter quiet at 1s 11d per lb.

RICE.—A steadier tone prevailed, and fair inquiries were reservedly

met. Rangoon, two stars, spot, 24s; ditto afloat, 23s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, sold, 22s 6d; ditto, September-October, quoted 24s; No. 1 Siagon, afloat, sold, 20s 3d; and ditto, September-October, 19s 3d. Broken steady, but firmly held. Rangoon, No. 1 A, September-October, 17s; 2 A, 16s 6d; Siam C 1, August-September, 16s; C 3, 15s 6d. Saigon 1 and 2 mixed, afloat, sold, 15s 9d. Bran quiet but firm, and Rangoon, September-October, held for 9p per ton, ex ship terms. Beans, after being dull and depressed, became steadier. Rangoon, spot and forward, sold 114. Madagascar butter, all white, spot, sold, 33s 9d and 29s, for new and old crops respectively. Japanese peas, crop 1921, September-November, sold, 38s 6d. Dutch hand-picked peas, spot, changed hands at 35s.

FRUIT.—A good demand continued for currants, and prices ruled firm. Pyrgos quoted 50s to 52s; Amalia, 54s to 58s; Gulf, 62s to 68s. Cape sultanas range from 98s to 135s. Cape new crop raisins, 75s to 85s; and Australian, 87s to 96s. Dates remain firm. Khredrowie, 18s 6d; and Siar, 16s 3d.

SPICE.—There was a moderate amount of business doing in pepper, and market ruled steady. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 44d; ditto, August-October, 44d; September-November, 44d to 44d 1/2; Aleppy, spot, 44d; Tellicherry, 54d; white Singapore, 91d; Muntok, ditto, 93d; ditto, September-November, steamer, sold, 84d to 84d 1/2. Cloves stronger, and Zanzibar, spot, sold, 1s 3/4; August-October, steamer, 1s 3d, and September-November, 1s 3d. Pimento, spot, sellers, 24d. Tapioca steadily quiet. Fair flake, spot, sold, 2d per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, London, also Havre, 17s 6d to 16s 6d; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, quoted 22s 6d; ditto, September-November, London, 20s 6d. Hamburg, sold, 21s 6d. Small sago, spot, 28s. Sago flour quiet. Afloat lots to Liverpool, sold, 14s 6d; September-November, 16s 14d; October-December, quoted 16s 4 1/2. Ginger steady, quiet. Japan, limed, spot, 43s 6d. Dried coconut, fine cut spot, sold, 52s 6d; medium, 53s to 52s; afloat, London, 50s 6d to 48s; and Hamburg, 51s cwt.

JUTE.—A fairly good amount of business was concluded during the week, and with reserve on the part of sellers, owing to stiff advices from Calcutta, the general tone of the market proved very firm. Native first marks, assortment, substitutes, old crop, August-September, sold, 128 1/2 to 129 1/2; ditto, spot, Hamburg, 132; lightning assortment, old crop, substitutes, afloat, 125 1/2 to 127; substitutes, August-September, old crop, 124 1/2 to 125; Hearts assortment, substitutes, August-September, sellers, 118 1/2 to 120. Calcutta hessians quiet. 8 oz, spot, sold, 19s 6d.

HEMP.—The market for Manila disclosed firmer features this week, buyers interesting themselves with more freedom, probably due to the fact that the period bringing the elimination of grade from J quality downward has now arrived. Forward positions in particular ruled firm. J grade, July-September, sold, 137; ditto, August-October, quoted 137; K, 136; L, 135 1/2; M, 131 1/2. New Zealand steady, but generally quiet. High point fair, on spot, changed hands

at 142; fair ditto quoted 138. Italian firm in local markets on increased purchases by German spinners, but as far as the U.K. is concerned, the position of this fibre is quite a nominal one.

SHELLAC.—Market firm, and fair T.N., spot, sold, 290s to 300s; October, 295s to 300s and 295s; December, 285s to 282s 6d.

GOPRA steadier, and a fair demand was reservedly met. F.M.S. Straits, September-November, Rotterdam, sold, 134 1/2 to 134 1/2 and 134 1/2 to 134 1/2; Ceylon, September-November, London, quoted 136; Cebu, ditto, to Hamburg, sold, 133 1/2; South Sea Islands, to London, September-November, quoted 133 1/2. Palm kernels firmer. September-November, Liverpool, sold, 123 to 122 1/2, then 123.

RUBBER.—Market remained generally quiet and featureless. Standard plantation crepe, spot, sold, 84d; October-December, 91d; January-March, 93d; sheet, spot, sold, 84d; October-December, 84d; January-March, 93d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted 105d.

OILS.—Linedseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 38s; September-December, 37s 6d; January-April, 38s 6d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 61s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 42s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 51s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 95s; and shipment, 69s to 70s. Coconut steadier. Ceylon, spot, 55s; September-October, 53s 3d; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya quiet. Oriental, barrels, ditto, nominally 41s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 25s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 52s; deodorised, barrels, 66s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 62s; September-December, 62s; January-April, 63s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s; F, 16s 6d; G, 16s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 15s; H, 15s; WW, 18s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, refined, 1s 4d; standard white, 1s 4 1/2; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linedseed: Market unsettled. Calcutta, September-October, sold 123 1/2. Plate, spot, Hull, 120 1/2; afloat, sold, 120 1/2; July-August, sold, 120 1/2; August-September, 121 1/2; September-October, 121 1/2 to 121 1/2; October-November, 121 1/2 to 122. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, July-August, quoted 122 1/2; real bold Ferozepore, quoted 122; brown Cawnpore, 121. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, September, quoted 113 1/2; and white, 113 1/2. Bombay, August-September, 111 1/2. Gingelly firm. Chinese, August-September, Continent, sold, 129; ditto, September-

October, Italy, 131. Castor, Bombay, September-October, sold, 119. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, August-September, 129; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, 128 1/2 per ton.

METALS.—Tin firmer on good supporting orders. Cash last Monday changed hands up to 153 and three months' to 155 1/2, while prices continued to move in an upward direction until the middle of the week, these dates fluctuating to 157 1/2 and 159 1/2 respectively. A decline followed at Thursday's meeting, cash sold at 155 1/2 to 156 1/2, early November 157 1/2, and three months' down to 156 1/2. At Friday's session cash advanced to 156 1/2, early November being sold at 158 1/2; three months', 159 to 159 1/2, and again at 159. English ingots, 155 to 156. Copper steadier at the week's opening, business being done in standard cash at 167 1/2 to 167 1/2, three months' 168 to 168 1/2. The tendency was rather easier on Tuesday, but improved during the middle of the week, cash being done at 167 1/2 to 167 1/2 and three months' to 168 1/2. Thursday's market manifested no material change, these rates being closed chiefly at 167 1/2 and 168 1/2 respectively. At Friday's session cash improved to 168 1/2, and three months' to 169 1/2, the demand being fair. Electrolytic, 171 1/2 to 173 1/2; best selected, 169 to 171; strong sheets, 170. Wire bars, 172 to 173 1/2. Lead steady 123 1/2 to 122 1/2 as to position. Spelter quiet, at 124 1/2 to 125 1/2, according to position. Antimony remains unchanged. English regulus, 137 to 140.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—SEPTEMBER 1.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	10 4 to 11 0	Sheep—Downs (clipped)	11 0 to 11 8
Shorthorns	10 0 to 10 8	Longwools	10 0 to 10 8
Devons	10 6 to 11 0	Crossbred	10 4 to 11 0
Norfolks	10 0 to 10 8	Scottish	10 0 to 10 8
Scottish	9 10 to 10 2	Lamb—Downs	11 0 to 13 0
Irish	9 10 to 10 2		

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—SEPTEMBER 1.

Per Cwt.	s	d	Per Cwt.	s	d
King Edwards	11	0 to 14	Eclipse	10	0 to 11
British Queen	10	0 to 11	Epicures	8	6 to 9

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.			DRUGS—			INDIA RUBBER—			PROVISIONS—			SPICES—					
COCOA—Dutch, British grown			35s. foreign 42s. cwt.			Aloes, fine E.I., p.cwt			Para, fine, hard, spot			Butter—per cwt.			Pepper, per lb.		
Trinidad, per cwt.			56 0 0			Cape, good to fine			Plantation crepe			Irish creamery			Singapore, fair white		
Granada			44 0 0			Balsam Peru			Indigo—per lb.			Do factory			Black Singapore		
Ceylon, plantation			70 0 0			Capivi			Bengal, good red vilo			Do washed			White Siam		
Guayquil			68 0 0			Cardamom, Ceylon			Low to good			Argentine			Pimento		
Bahia, finest			68 0 0			Cardamom, India			Madras, dry leaf, good			Dutch			Cinnamon—1st sort		
COFFEE—British grown			35s. foreign 42s. cwt.			Cardamom, Java			Low to good			New Zealand			Do 2nd		
E. India fine good d. r. d.			90 0 0			Gun Benjamin, Sum.			Low to good			Bacon, sugar			Do 3rd		
Do good to fine			115 0 0			Olibanum, drops			Kupang, good, mid. to good			Ham—per cwt.			Darling		
Costa Rica, ord. to mid			80 0 0			Drecaeanha			Low to good			Canadian			Chips		
Good to fine			120 0 0			Must per lb.			Hemp—per ton			American			Cassia Lignea		
Central American, gd.			156 0 0			Oil, Cassia			St. Petersburg, layer			Penang			Cloves—Zanzibar		
Ord. to mid			75 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 1st			Manila Aug. Oct.			Ginger—per cwt.			Do 2nd		
Mid. to fine			117 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 2nd			N. Z. spot, high fair			Do small rough			Do washed		
Columbian, ordinary			55 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 3rd			JUTE—			Port per 8 lbs			Japan		
Do good to low mid			55 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 4th			Native first marks			Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb			Mace		
Do mid. to fine			95 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 5th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Scotch			Nutmegs, good to fine		
CHEMICALS—						Pepper, milled, H. G. 6th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Cheese—per cwt.			Small to medium		
Acid, chloric			2 5 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 7th			Aug. Sept. subs.			New Zealand			Chillies, per cwt.		
Nitric			0 2 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 8th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Cheshire			TALLOW—per cwt.		
Oralic, net			0 9 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 9th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Eggs, pr 120—English			Good mutton		
Tartaric, English			1 5 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 10th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Irish			Beef		
Foreign			1 4 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 11th			Aug. Sept. subs.			LEATHER—per lb.			TAPIOCA—per lb.		
Alum lump, per ton			17 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 12th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			E. I. Flake, fair, spot		
Do ground			17 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 13th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Pearl		
Ammonia, carb. p. lb.			0 4 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 14th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			TEA—duty 10d, British		
Muriatic, white, ton			70 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 15th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Foreign 1s per lb.		
Sulphate			25 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 16th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Indian and Ceylon		
Arsenic, lump, per ton			25 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 17th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Pekoe		
Powder			42 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 18th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Broken Pekoe		
Ashes, pot., per cwt			195 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 19th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Orange Pekoe		
Pearl do			nom			Pepper, milled, H. G. 20th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Broken Orange		
Bleaching pwr., p. lb.			17 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 21st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Pekoe Souchong		
Borax, crystals			31 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 22nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			TEA—Timber & Hewn wood		
Do powder			32 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 23rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			E. I. Teak (load)		
Cream Tartar			130 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 24th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Kauri Pine cubic ft.		
32% powder			130 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 25th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Saltwood cubic ft.		
Calomel			5 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 26th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Condar cubic ft.		
Iodine, dry			1 0 1			Pepper, milled, H. G. 27th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Japanese Oak		
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton			21 0 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 28th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			American Ash		
Potash—						Pepper, milled, H. G. 29th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			TOBACCO—		
Chlorate, net			0 5 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 30th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Duty 8/2—10/4 per lb.		
Prussiate			1 3 1			Pepper, milled, H. G. 31st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Virginia leaf		
Do Foreign			1 3 1			Pepper, milled, H. G. 32nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Common to fine		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 33rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Strips		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 34th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Kentucky leaf		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 35th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Common to fine		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 36th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Strips		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 37th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			China		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 38th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Borneo nut		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 39th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Seedling		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 40th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Havana		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 41st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Greek		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 42nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			East Indian		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 43rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Cigar, duty 15/7 per lb		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 44th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			TURPINE, p. cwt		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 45th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			WOOL—per lb.		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 46th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			English, Southdown, washd.		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 47th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Lincoln hwy		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 48th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Queensland, scd. sup. combg.		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 49th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			N. S. W. greasy, super. crim.		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 50th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Granulated		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 51st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Crystals, white		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 52nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Castor		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 53rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do			Pieces		
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 54th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 55th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 56th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 57th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 58th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 59th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 60th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 61st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 62nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 63rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 64th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 65th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 66th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 67th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 68th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 69th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 70th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 71st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 72nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 73rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 74th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 75th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 76th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 77th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 78th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 79th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 80th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 81st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 82nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 83rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 84th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 85th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 86th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 87th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 88th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 89th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 90th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 91st			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 92nd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 93rd			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 94th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 95th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 96th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 97th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 98th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 99th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					
Sulphate			3 3 0			Pepper, milled, H. G. 100th			Aug. Sept. subs.			Do Eng or WS do					

Nearly 6 per cent. for eight years on a Government Security

THIS WEEK'S DIVIDENDS

Interest is payable
this week on
National War
Bonds, 3rd Series,
3½% War Loan
(1914); 4% Victory
Bonds.

HOLDERS of securities on which dividends are payable this week, and Bank Depositors with money available for investment, should buy 5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.

The yield on these Bonds, including redemption, is £5 19s. 6d. per Cent. There are few investments affording equal security which give you so large a return on your money. You can count on getting substantial dividends every six months for the next 8 years, and at the end of that period you will be repaid £100 for every £97 invested now.

Your interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax, and you will have the right to exchange your Bonds for 3½ per Cent. Conversion Loan next year, at the rate of £146 of Conversion Loan for every £100 of Treasury Bonds.

The purpose for which the Bonds are issued is to provide money, *not* for any fresh expenditure, but solely to meet existing national obligations as they mature.

Buy
5½%
Bonds

with your September Dividends

On sale daily through Banks, Stockbrokers and Money Order Post Offices. Bank Issue: £50 Bonds and upwards. Post Office Issue: £5, £20, £50 Bonds.

Buy Savings Certificates also.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1921.

No. 4,072.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated
with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

**CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.**

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business
transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000



Branches as Under.

82 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27b, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up ... " 348,788,000
Reserve ... " 176,000,000
Deposits ... " 5,000,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	397	Books and Publications—	
Leading Articles—		Reviews.....	414
Holiday Tasks.....	399	Books Received	414
Overseas Trade in August..	400	Stock Exchange News—	
The Thirteenth Census of		The Stock Markets.....	415
Scotland	401	New Issues	415
The Railways Act—Rates..	402	Active Securities.....	416
America's Population Policy	403	Government Returns—	
Financial Reform in		Treasury Bills by Public	
Hungary	404	Tender	416
Business Notes—		Currency Notes Account ..	416
Coal Output.....	405	Public Income and Expen-	
Safeguarding of Industries	405	diture	417
The Crops.....	405	Bankers' Gazette—	
Port of London	405	Bank of England	417
Grand Trunk Trouble	406	Clearing Returns	418
Raw Cotton	406	Overseas Bank Returns ..	418
Cotton Cloth Export		Loan and Discount Rates..	420
Statistics	406	Overseas Bank Rates.....	420
Calico Printing and Bleach-		Rates of Exchange.....	420
ing Charges	406	Bullion	421
South African Trade	407	Imports and Exports of	
Transvaal Statistics	407	Gold	421
Queer Far Eastern Finance	407	Gold and Silver Prices	422
The New Era in Meso-		Company News—	
potamia	407	Mining Output Statistics..	422
Conditions in Japan	408	Oil Outputs	422
Chile	408	Dividend Announcements..	423
Guest, Keen, & Nettlefolds	408	Analysis of Balance-sheets	423
The "British Industry"		Reports and Notices	423
Ship	408	Railway and Tramway	
Leipzig Exhibition, 1914 ..	409	Traffics	424
Overseas Correspondence—		Profit and Loss Accounts ..	425
United States	409	Commercial Reports—	
France	410	Corn Trade	425
Germany	411	Iron and Coal Trade	426
India	412	Wool Trade	426
Sweden	413	Cotton Trade	426
Switzerland	413	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	427
Letters to the Editor—		Hide and Leather Trades ..	427
A Tabular Standard of Value	414	Portland Cement	427
Monetary Policy.....	414	Overseas Produce Markets	427
		Price Current	428

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 6d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the
Proprietors of the "Economist,"
Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at
Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons,
5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, East India avenue, and 6
Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle
and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall
avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's,
37 Avenue de L'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad
street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

As was inevitable, owing to the big creation of fresh credit for the payment of interest due on September 1st, money has been extremely abundant; balances were dealt in at 1 per cent. last Saturday, and have been placed at rates ranging down to 2 per cent. on several days this week; weekly fixtures have been lent by some of the banks at 3½ per cent. Discount rates were consequently depressed, and attempts to place December maturities at 4 per cent. were not altogether unsuccessful. The

market, however, was by no means voracious at this level, remembering that on previous occasions similar conditions have quickly been cured by quicker sales of Treasury bills, enabling Ways and Means advances to be cancelled; and yesterday the tendency was a shade firmer, on the result of the sale of the week's batch of Treasury bills.

	Sept. 9, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1921.	Aug. 26, 1921.	Aug. 19, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	5½	5½	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount Call	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses Notice	3½	3½	3½	3½	4½ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½*	4*	4*	4*	..
Market rate (3 months' bills)	4½	4½	4½	4½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return ought to be good for trade if deflation is really the cause for depression. The stock of gold increased by £1,000, and the circulation declined by £457,000, so that the Reserve is £458,000 higher. Against this small deflationary symptom, however, we can set an increase of 19 millions in the Government securities, and a consequent expansion of 19½ millions in the total deposits, of which 17½ went to Other. The circulation of currency notes fell by £85,000 to £319,168,900, which includes £1,925,300 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £269,293,600, which is £48,261,600 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended September 3rd:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	16170	Supply Services	11775
Taken from Exchequer Balances	691	Interest on Debt	17787
Amount borrowed	12173	Sundries	72
	29034		29034

These operations increased the National Debt by the sum of £12,172,703, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 620	Treasury Bills	- 14389
Advances by Public Depts. ..	+ 5400	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 686
Bank of England Advances ..	+ 21000	Depreciation Fund	- 500
Civil Contingencies Fund ..	+ 1000	Other Debt	- 242
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 209		
Sundries	+ 958		
	+ 29188		- 16417

Customs and Excise added £3,521,000 to the revenue, and Property and Income-tax produced £6,818,000. The Floating Debt was increased by £11,135,000 to £1,358,131,000.

In the foreign exchange market the most striking feature has been the further rapid depreciation of German marks, which from 328½ on the 2nd have moved up to 372 on Thursday, but came back on Friday morning to 360 on the sudden springing up of a strongish Continental demand. It has been suggested in some quarters that the Germans have been deliberately weakening their exchange, partly in order to demonstrate the impossibility of reparation on the present scale, and partly to counteract the threatened anti-dumping legislation in England. There is little likelihood of truth in this suggestion. The certainty alone of labour difficulties on further depreciation is enough to frighten the German Government off such a policy, and there are certainly enough other explanations for the movement. Although the first reparation instalment has now been made, this has been achieved only by straining existing resources to their very limit, and, in addition, by short-term borrowing through Holland, which will have to be redeemed in the near future. The note circulation continues to increase, and there has been a

recrudescence of the movement to convert internal savings into some foreign currency at almost any cost. The continual discussion of reparation settlements is also having its effect, and even in France doubts are growing as to Germany's solvency in the near future. All this talk has naturally influenced the many holders of marks abroad, and it is significant that a large part of the selling during the last week has come from New York. The rate for dollars has moved relatively little during the week. After falling from 3.72½ on Saturday last to 3.71½ on Tuesday, it has climbed up quietly again to 3.73½ yesterday morning. At the same time, there is a considerable feeling of uncertainty as to future movements. The rate for futures stands at ¼ cent per month, a further narrowing on last week. Paris at 49.10 yesterday shows a more rapid rise than has taken place recently from 47.95 a week ago, and the rate is expected to go higher. Brussels at 50.05, as compared with 49, has again drawn a little closer to Paris. Italy, after its recent recovery, has again started to depreciate, being yesterday 85½ as compared with 83½ a week ago. One adverse feature in this exchange, of which perhaps not sufficient note has been taken, is the heavy falling off that has taken place in emigrants' remittances as the result of trade depression in America. Amsterdam at 11.75 has gone about 3 cents. in our favour, Switzerland at 21.75 about 9 centimes against us. Spain at 28.62 seems to have got steadier after its recent rise. Scandinavian rates have again been erratic, and Christiania has ended the week over half a krone higher at 28.40, Stockholm about 8 ore higher at 17.25, and Christiania, after being up to 21.90, about the same at 21.05. Helsingfors at 270, a little below the highest, is moving up again rapidly. In spite of excellent harvests, the disintegration of the Polish mark, due very largely to the muddled policy of the Government and the impossibility of extracting taxes from the peasants, continues its disastrous course, the rate being now about 14,750, as compared with about 10,700 on the 2nd. The London rate for Viennese Auslands-kronen has also reached a new high level at 3,550, and the assistance promised through the League seems as far away as ever. The Viennese (Inlands-kronen) rate on the 6th was 4,925, as compared with the London rate of 3,250. Prague at 310 is pretty steady, but shows an upward tendency. Budapest at 1,600 shows no signs of the recovery promised on good harvests and a restricted note issue. Belgrade, too, at 180 continues to rise more rapidly than of late, while Sofia is about 35 higher at 480. Bucharest also is continuing to disappoint those who expected an improvement following the harvest, and has moved up still more rapidly from 317 to about 362. To some extent the harvest has been worse than was expected, but the main difficulty remains, that of moving crops with an inadequate and grossly mismanaged transport system. Athens recovered a little during the week, but at 66.12 has lost most of this again. In South American exchanges there has been a slight but general movement against this country. The rupee has remained unchanged at just over 1s 4½d, while the yen at 2s 7d is just a little cheaper. Silver has been more active with bear covering and a good Indian demand, and although there was a slight weakening at the close, it is anticipated that China will be able to absorb sufficient to keep prices steady for a little time to come. Hong Kong and Shanghai are both rather higher than a week ago.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO SEPTEMBER 3, 1921.

	£		£
Total spent	438,324,253	Raised by revenue ..	385,870,267
Inc. in balances	134,430	Net borrowings	52,588,416
Total	438,458,683	Total	438,458,683

ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.

	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000		1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	..	..	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,941
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358
3½% Conversion Ln.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,151
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Nat'l Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,117
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	207
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,751
Total Liabilities	57	57	49	46	46	47	47	48	48
Total	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,799

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Sept. 4, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Sept. 3, '21.	Week ended Sept. 3, '21.
Outstanding	..	..	..	..
Advances by Bank of England ..	46,250,000..	..	..	54,000,000..+21,000,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	151,691,000..	154,489,000..	153,424,000..	+ 5,400,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,059,009,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,150,707,000..	+15,265,000
Total Floating Debt	1,266,950,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,358,131,000..	+11,135,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

SEPTEMBER 3RD.—Mr Lansbury arrested.
SEPTEMBER 4TH.—Mr De Valera's reply published.
SEPTEMBER 5TH.—Trades Union Congress opened at Cardiff.
SEPTEMBER 6TH.—Unemployed riot at Dundee.
SEPTEMBER 7TH.—British Cabinet meets at Inverness. Grand Trunk Arbitration Board decides that 37 millions of stock is valueless. Retail coal prices reduced.
SEPTEMBER 8TH.—Cabinet's reply to Mr De Valera published. Price of flour reduced.
SEPTEMBER 9.—Informal conference between Chancellor of the Exchequer and French Finance Minister.

In the stock markets the principal event of the week was the violent fall in Grand Trunk stocks on Thursday, owing to the decision of the arbitrators that preference and ordinary stocks are valueless. Other markets have been steady, although inclined to dullness, with the exception of oils, in which there was a sharp reaction at the end of the week. Fluctuations in raw cotton prices disorganised business in yarn and cloth, and the outlook continues to be uncertain. Conditions are unsettled in the wool trade, and there is some difference of opinion over the continued maintenance of to-day's market price for wool, although quotations at this week's London sales have been firm. There is still some competition from France and Germany, despite the strike of textile operatives in the former country. There is little change in the iron and steel trades. It is stated that more open hearth steel works are about to restart, but the price of coke is not favourable for smelting. Works are still short of orders for manufactured iron and steel for export, although in some sections works are busy on home orders. There is still no business in foreign ore. Prices for hides and skins were inclined to advance slightly, but boot and shoe makers are only buying for immediate requirements. The oil and linseed market is inactive, large stocks arriving and big quantities being announced afloat, which cannot be absorbed until trade improves. Details of movements and full reports on the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

HOLIDAY TASKS.

It must be admitted even by the most virulent critics of our present rulers that at least they get little peace or rest. With the Cabinet meeting in the Highlands to wrestle with the Irish problem at a time when most of us are or have been enjoying holidays under exceptionally pleasant weather conditions, we may surely spare some sympathy for Ministers in the Titanic task that they have to handle. It is only too true that they have done those things that they ought not to have done, and *vice versa*, but few will envy them the enjoyment of the "sweets of office," involving such continuous and terribly trying effort in the face of difficulties which grow up incessantly. Even the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who might have been thought to have secured a short spell of ease by handing over his most pressing problem to his Business Committee, amid a howl of derision which, we hope, may prove to have been too hasty—even he has to rush first to Inverness, to attend the Cabinet meeting on Ireland, and then to London, to confer with M. Doumer on the question of the division of the first German milliard of marks received on account of occupation expenses and reparations. In a later page our Paris correspondent describes once more the consternation with which French public opinion has received the idea that England should "divide with Belgium" this first milliard of marks, and tells us that this consternation was almost as great in the French Cabinet as in the public mind. We have every confidence in our correspondent's accuracy on this point, but it seems to show that the French Cabinet has been almost as dangerously unenlightened on the subject of the real nature of the agreement arrived at as the French public. It ought to have been clear to all who had given the proper amount of attention to this most important question, that Belgium had a prior claim on the German payments, and that if Belgium chooses to use part of her receipts in repaying advances received from this country, it is hardly correct on that account to describe England and Belgium as "dividing" the German payment. It ought also to have been clear that expenses of occupation had priority over reparation claims, and that under the terms of the Treaty and of the Spa agreement, the value of the grant of the Saar coal mines to France had to be considered as a payment in kind. It is true that this payment has not put any cash into the French Treasury, but it is surely possible for it to be made to do so, if the French Treasury so wishes, by a sale or lease of the right to work the coal mines. Moreover, it must be remembered that the French have received from Germany very considerable payments in coal which were certainly the equivalent of cash. In view of the very substantial assets which our Ally has thus received, it is clear that the keen perception of the French people only has to have the facts put before it plainly,

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	- £38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	- 10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	- 10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	- 371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

and will quickly recognise that its "consternation" has been unfounded. In the meantime it is somewhat amusing to find that French public opinion, which not long ago was convinced that Germany was being let off much too lightly, largely owing to the lukewarm support given by England to the French view on the indemnity, is now taking Mr Keynes as its "guide, philosopher and friend" on the subject of Germany's possible bankruptcy in the near future, and so is eager to secure as much as possible of any payments that are now forthcoming. Its uneasiness, also reported by our correspondent, owing to Mr Crammond's contention that the German indemnity ought to be restricted to a point that will not upset the world's economic equilibrium, evidently refers to an address delivered by him at the end of June, and referred to in the *Economist* of July 2nd. In it Mr Crammond was careful to point out that any attempt to re-open the indemnity question, because of its effects on our trade, would have to provide for the divergence of French and British interest on this point; and he urged that the whole problem should be reconsidered by France, the United States, and this country, on the understanding that Great Britain and America would cancel the French war debts. At the same time, it may be observed that the agreement lately made by the French with Germany for reconstruction work on the devastated areas certainly tends to reduce Germany's power to make reparation to the other Allies. This country can well afford to see France thus taking a prior lien on Germany's productive capacity with an indulgent and sympathetic smile, in view of France's much greater losses through the war; and every arrangement that helps to make French and German statesmen meet and talk amicably is a step in the right direction. But the Italians may not feel quite so philosophically on this point, and in any case, this French achievement must surely not be forgotten by France when she thinks herself wronged because the first cash payment by Germany brings her nothing. If she has to have coal and the Saar district and reconstruction goods, and cash to boot, some of her poorer Allies may begin to grow restive. All this will be very evident to France if once it is made clear, but in all countries there has been much too much reticence about the facts of the economic position. It is pleasant, however, to note that the tone of the French Press is admirable, and in this country, at least, the desire to do the fullest justice to France in this and all other matters is certainly universal.

At home the question of unemployment during the coming winter is necessarily engaging the attention of Ministers, and the inevitable new committee is getting to work with a view to stimulating relief schemes. With regard to the grant of relief to the unemployed, the Ministry of Health has issued a circular which will restrain those boards of guardians whose enthusiasm on the subject has been excessive. The chief principle enunciated is that relief, though sufficient to relieve distress, should be calculated on a lower scale than the earnings of a workman. Clearly this limitation is essential, as long as human nature is what it is, and might be more vigorously expressed. Most of us, if we could earn by idling anything near the reward of our labour, would prefer to cultivate the *dolce far niente*. The Trades Union Congress has been resolving that work or adequate maintenance should be provided by the State for every willing worker. The principle has long been recognised that it is a public duty to maintain those who cannot find work, so the resolution of the Congress will be accepted by all, with much variation in opinion on the definition of the word "adequate." But the terms in which it was discussed are significant. Mr Tillett was quoted by the *Times* as saying that "Parliament is in the hands of a financial gang without heart and without soul," and that we are living in a Paradise of rogues, murderers, and fools. This sort of rhetoric answers itself, but we have to remember that the present depression is causing a terrible amount of suffering among people who have no responsibility for it, and that this spectacle naturally inflames the tempers of those who face it.

OVERSEAS TRADE IN AUGUST.

THE figures of our overseas trade for last month are not such as to inspire enthusiasm, but taking into account the holiday season there is some ground for satisfaction in the improvement shown over the July figures. Imports are nearly £8 millions higher than in July, while British exports have risen by over £8 millions, and re-exports show a slight increase. As compared with August, 1920, however, the decline is very heavy, but allowance must be made for the fall in prices, which is without doubt largely responsible for the big discrepancy. The figures for August and the eight months are compared with those of the corresponding periods of 1920 in the table below:—

MONTH OF AUGUST.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in August, 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	153,343,305	88,581,040	-64,762,265	-42.3
British exports	114,903,335	51,346,307	-63,557,028	-55.2
Re-exports	13,368,347	9,997,779	-3,370,568	-25.2
Total exports	128,271,682	61,344,086	-66,927,596	-52.0
Excess of imports over total exports ..	25,071,623	27,236,954	+2,165,331	+8.6

EIGHT MONTHS ENDED AUGUST 31.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	1,349,045,419	740,881,573	-608,163,846	-45.0
Exports	889,822,123	463,413,733	-426,408,390	-48.0
Re-exports	167,107,877	69,045,024	-98,062,850	-58.8
Total exports	1,056,929,997	532,458,757	-524,471,240	-49.8
Excess of imp'ts ov'r total exports ..	292,115,422	208,422,816	-83,692,606	-28.5

The import excess is over £2 millions higher than in August, 1920, but it is nearly a million less than in July last, and is not much over the average for the previous seven months. The total adverse balance for this year to date still shows a substantial reduction over the corresponding period of 1920, but this is due to the good figures of the first three months, for which a total reduction of £107 millions was shown.

The drop in imports as compared with last year has occurred as to £11½ millions under food, drink, and tobacco, £31½ millions under raw materials, and £21½ millions under manufactures. Practically the whole of the decline in first category occurs under wheat, imports of which from America fell by £5½ millions, from Argentina by £4½ millions, and from Canada by over £2 millions. Imports of meat increased by £2½ millions. The only group to show an increase under the raw material heading is coal, the value figures of which were £592,800. This compares with £4,885,450 for July. Heavy declines are registered for timber, cotton, and wool. Declines in manufactures are general, the largest being shown by machinery.

On the export side there was a substantial recovery in coal as compared with July, but as compared with August, 1920, the value figure is £2,372,400 lower at £5,668,600, although the volume exported, namely, 3,103,200 tons, compares with 1,847,400 tons twelve months ago. The bulk of the decline in total exports as compared with last year again occurs under the head of manufactured goods. Cotton yarns and manufactures alone account for a drop of nearly £25 millions. This is again partly a matter of price. The value of cotton piece goods, for example, fell from £28½ millions to £7½ millions, while the quantity dropped from 366½ million square yards to 212½ million square yards. Woollen and worsted manufactures dropped by nearly £8 millions to £3,633,100, while iron and steel and manufactures thereof fell from £12,164,300 to £2,796,600, the quantity declining from 276,100 tons to 74,500 tons.

The Board of Trade figures of the volume of trade show that the total tonnage imported in July was 4,050,000 tons, as against 4,195,000 tons in July, 1920, while exports amounted to 1,350,000 tons against 3,657,400 a year ago, and 8,702,900 tons in July, 1913. Some

interesting trade figures are given in the monthly review of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, the object of which is to show the internal as well as the external trade of the country. The tonnage of merchandise carried by the railways, is given, as affording the best available guide, and from this, together with the figures of exports and retained imports, it is deduced that, whereas during 1920 the tonnage of external trade other than re-exports and coal was only 80 per cent. of the total for 1913, the tonnage carried by the railways was practically the same as for the pre-war year, omitting coal in each case. During the first half of the current year, however, conditions changed considerably, and, as compared with the December quarter of 1920, the fall in railway freight has been very much greater than the fall in tonnage of the external trade, coal being omitted. The general trade of the country, it is shown, during the June quarter of 1921 bore the same proportion to the 1913 level as did the tonnage figures of exports and retained imports. The general inference drawn from the figures is that the decline in the tonnage of internal trade during the current year has been more rapid than the fall in the country's overseas trade, and that the tonnage of trade as a whole, other than coal, is only about half what it was in 1913.

Imports of gold coin and bullion were £6.2 millions in August against £3.7 millions in August, 1920, and £34.3 millions for the eight months, against £29.9 millions last year. Exports for August were £6.3 millions, against £4.7 millions a year ago, and £41.6 millions for the eight months against £51 millions. This year the United States has so far taken £39.4 millions. The import and export value figures for August this year and last and for the eight months are appended:—

IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).

	Month August.		Eight Months Ended August 31.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	24,530,819	14,188,277	140,952,243	91,488,179
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	549,589	555,520	5,838,478	4,241,610
C. Meat	10,510,000	12,990,977	95,133,761	98,171,128
D. Animals, living, for food	254,735	254,735	1,894,651	1,894,651
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable ..	12,441,317	13,875,274	116,819,364	117,835,301
F. " " " " dutiable ..	11,305,796	6,568,018	125,118,920	64,218,019
G. Tobacco	2,536,232	2,150,917	28,125,991	16,828,801
Total, Class I.	61,873,753	50,583,718	511,988,757	394,677,889
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	..	592,779	..	12,056,145
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like ..	792,390	378,355	6,278,481	4,727,505
C. Iron ore and scrap	2,282,485	102,478	14,395,548	3,839,093
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	1,339,056	378,455	11,824,952	5,233,804
E. Wood and timber	11,019,656	2,530,655	52,401,249	17,941,645
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste ..	10,146,652	2,882,648	203,176,755	39,067,357
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	8,011,893	3,387,366	69,919,546	30,318,614
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	289,551	32,463	2,947,669	475,363
I. Other textile materials	1,969,996	302,847	26,619,726	6,754,179
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, & gums ..	6,187,639	3,979,460	58,257,742	23,490,986
K. Hides and skins, undressed	1,489,003	842,972	25,979,611	5,812,634
L. Paper-making materials	3,823,691	2,830,368	21,368,539	9,339,182
M. Rubber	2,556,325	578,490	19,646,747	7,913,824
N. Miscellaneous, raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	1,360,151	769,631	14,055,286	4,717,116
Total, Class II.	51,268,490	19,588,977	527,471,751	171,716,427
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	..	15,890	..	225,866
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c. ..	923,476	562,475	7,339,219	4,745,362
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,696,867	1,594,393	14,735,861	16,814,116
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	3,213,950	1,530,676	28,111,879	12,820,246
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	909,492	532,597	7,345,409	4,699,188
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	147,844	91,972	884,576	1,444,574
G. Machinery	2,091,212	676,400	12,996,074	8,528,072
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	897,523	319,663	5,269,532	3,679,731
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	908,102	476,349	6,735,372	3,687,219
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	1,433,557	577,863	13,154,757	5,925,085
K. Silk and silk manufactures	3,040,440	1,194,208	26,262,069	13,024,921
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	2,188,752	560,748	17,790,185	5,327,827
M. Apparel	1,104,773	715,071	11,450,227	5,880,844
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	3,257,012	760,897	22,840,087	9,000,700
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured ..	6,542,640	4,340,074	46,451,695	42,961,636
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	970,050	621,736	15,651,445	4,782,271
Q. Paper and cardboard	3,512,695	1,106,317	21,208,796	7,813,659
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	2,639,753	467,636	19,282,803	5,222,076
S. Rubber manufactures	712,983	454,666	4,765,078	2,857,818
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	2,824,962	1,594,512	24,295,318	12,800,679
Total, Class III.	40,016,083	18,194,143	307,476,135	172,245,810
IV.—Animals, not for food	80,328	23,045	279,936	239,338
V.—Parcel post, non-dutiable articles ..	104,651	191,157	1,828,840	2,002,309
Total	153,343,305	88,581,040	1,349,045,419	740,881,573

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month of August.		Eight Months Ended August 31.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	155,261	225,096	2,093,716	2,365,443
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	45,882	175,620	644,521	848,366
C. Meat	41,878	68,937	575,069	499,955
D. Animals living, for food	600	2,747	960	30,946
E. and F. Other food and drink	2,520,947	2,218,972	23,731,034	16,830,205
G. Tobacco	738,293	432,522	6,294,570	3,344,344
Total, Class I.	3,502,861	3,123,894	33,339,870	23,919,259
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	8,041,037	5,668,594	71,869,961	22,661,803
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like ..	359,666	38,063	1,482,616	618,413
C. Iron ore and scrap	47,915	16,333	514,964	105,687
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	111,077	41,256	1,264,028	421,981
E. Wood and timber	24,011	77,133	775,013	268,018
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste ..	183,909	38,710	2,565,804	320,038
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	356,918	376,044	7,138,778	2,884,172
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	4,126	1,769	82,046	13,388
I. Other textile materials	23,980	50,502	543,228	393,609
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums	719,915	536,300	8,841,811	3,299,091
K. Hides and skins, undressed	175,396	99,043	3,464,924	927,353
L. Paper-making materials	168,033	51,724	1,786,019	419,846
M. Rubber	29,699	6,124	359,806	81,049
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	168,430	109,844	4,142,814	2,297,197
Total, Class II.	10,467,234	7,058,317	104,831,812	34,711,645
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	2,251,676	379,999	14,148,805	1,938,510
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c. ..	1,692,589	664,223	11,250,640	8,049,650
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	12,164,321	2,796,653	84,529,445	43,801,260
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	1,999,354	782,444	18,031,817	8,012,279
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	1,182,562	727,382	8,402,103	6,652,381
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	888,030	875,320	7,099,936	3,704,806
G. Machinery	5,530,697	5,152,705	36,697,687	52,403,812
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	271,922	131,329	1,686,743	1,841,122
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	36,029,869	11,218,006	271,476,494	115,749,361
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	11,625,213	3,633,070	94,758,045	39,285,949
K. Silk and silk manufactures	443,735	170,845	3,711,155	1,577,181
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	3,263,135	1,296,302	31,795,061	12,223,027
M. Apparel	4,451,577	1,337,117	31,585,592	12,814,953
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	3,244,714	1,171,241	26,648,200	13,276,231
O. Oils, fats, & resins, manufactured ..	988,455	459,052	10,421,245	3,290,133
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	822,757	449,190	8,910,651	2,916,188
Q. Paper and cardboard	1,114,044	514,277	6,883,497	5,599,662
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	6,416,532	5,780,955	32,322,689	35,730,078
S. Rubber manufactures	1,011,697	293,885	7,949,079	3,152,799
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	4,282,584	2,101,032	31,593,750	18,447,786
Total, Class III.	99,645,443	39,935,627	740,302,704	395,870,168
IV.—Animals, not for food	388,691	307,749	2,728,637	2,460,567
V.—Parcel Post	899,106	920,720	8,619,100	6,452,094
Total	114,903,335	51,346,307	889,822,123	463,413,733

THE THIRTEENTH CENSUS OF SCOTLAND.

THE publication of the Census of Scotland has followed close upon that for England and Wales. The population of Scotland on June 19, 1921, was found to number 4,882,288, of whom 2,348,403 were male and 2,533,885 were female. The total population is 121,384 more than that of the previous Census on April 2, 1911, and the intercensal increase is equivalent to 2.5 per cent. of the 1911 figure. The first official census of Scotland was taken in 1801, and at that time the population was found to be 1,608,420. Since then a census has been taken every ten years, and each successive census has shown an increase of population. The population first exceeded two millions in 1821, and three millions in 1861, and four millions in 1891. It is now fully three times what it was in 1801, and fully twice what it was in 1831.

The intercensal increase, 121,384, is the smallest found to date, the previous smallest being 173,552, which was that of 1861. The largest intercensal increases were those of 1901 and 1881, being 446,456 and 375,555 respectively. The intercensal rate of increase, 2.5 per cent., is the smallest yet shown in Scotland. From 1811 to 1851 the intercensal increase was in each case more than 10 per cent.—the maximum of 15.8 per cent. being that of 1821. In 1861 the increase was only 6 per cent., in 1871 it was 9.7, and in 1881 it had risen to 11.2 per cent. In 1891 it fell to 7.8, but in 1901 it had risen to 11.1, and in 1911 it had again fallen to 6.5.

TABLE SHOWING POPULATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NEIGHBOURING BRITISH ISLANDS.

	1911.			1921.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
England.....	34,045,290	16,421,298	17,623,992	35,678,530	16,984,087	18,694,443
Wales.....	2,025,202	1,024,310	1,000,892	2,206,712	1,098,133	1,108,579
Scotland.....	4,760,904	2,308,839	2,452,065	4,882,288	2,348,403	2,533,885
Isle of Man.....	52,016	25,937	26,079	60,238	27,321	32,917
Jersey.....	51,898	24,014	27,884	49,494	22,338	27,156
Guernsey and ad- jacent islands.....	45,001	22,215	22,786	40,120	18,926	21,194
Ireland.....	4,390,219	2,192,048	2,198,171	4,470,000?	?	?

The table shows increases in the numbers of persons, males and females, except in the cases of the Channel Islands, which show decreases at the recent Census under each heading:—

TABLE SHOWING INTERCENSAL INCREASES AND DECREASES OF PERSONS PER CENT.

Census.	England.	Wales.	Scotland.	Great Britain.	Isle of Man.	Jersey.	Guernsey and Adjacent Islands.
1901.....	+ 12.1	+ 13.3	+ 11.1	+ 12.0	+ 1.5	+ 3.6	+ 14.1
1911.....	+ 10.5	+ 17.7	+ 6.5	+ 10.4	+ 5.0	+ 1.3	+ 7.6
1921.....	+ 4.8	+ 9.0	+ 2.5	+ 4.7	+ 15.8	+ 4.3	+ 10.8

The considerable percentage increase at the late Census shown in the case of the Isle of Man is probably due to an influx of holiday visitors, a cause which showed abnormal increases in the population of Southend-on-Sea and Blackpool and other seaside resorts in England, and which is specially referred to by the Registrar-General for Scotland in connection with the great percentage increases shown in certain places in the counties of Bute, Ayr, and Argyll. In Bute the two burghs of Millport and Rothesay are shown to have increased by 261.5 and 63.7 per cent.; in Ayr the population of the burgh of Largs rose by 153.8 per cent., that of Prestwick by 74.5 per cent., and that of Girvan by 62.6 per cent.; whilst in the burgh of Dunoon, in Argyll, the percentage increase was 114.8. These increases are shown to have taken place in districts to which town populations go for summer quarters. The disadvantage of the delay of the date of the Census from April 24th to June 19th is thus clearly shown:—

TABLE SHOWING the INCREASES or DECREASES PER CENT. of the COUNTIES OF SCOTLAND.

Census of 1921.	Inc. %	Increase = +, Decrease = -.	Dec. %
Bute.....	85.4	Dumfries..... + 3.5	Moray (Elgin)..... 4.3
Ayr.....	11.5	Kinross..... + 1.9	Roxburgh..... 4.7
Dumfries.....	10.9	Perth..... + 0.9	Inverness..... 5.6
Haddington.....	9.8	Peebles..... + 0.5	Nairn..... 5.7
Fife.....	9.4	Stirling..... + 0.5	Banff..... 6.7
Argyll.....	8.4	Midlothian..... - 0.3	Orkney..... 6.9
Renfrew.....	7.1	Kirkcudbright..... - 3.2	Selkirk..... 8.1
Kinross.....	5.8	Aberdeen..... - 3.6	Ross and Cromarty..... 8.5
Linlithgow.....	4.7	Forfar..... - 3.7	Shetland..... 8.6
Clackmannan.....	4.6	Wigtown..... - 3.8	Caithness..... 11.6
Leven.....	3.6	Berwick..... - 4.2	Sutherland..... 11.8

Of the 33 counties, the table shows that 16 recorded an increase upon the Census of 1911, and 17 showed a decrease. To what extent the considerable percentage decrease in certain of the counties is due to the recent extension of deer forests remains to be explained.

The publication of the table showing the population of the burghs of Scotland enables us to construct a table showing the cities and towns of Great Britain with populations exceeding 100,000:—

London (City and Administrative County).....	4,483,249	Salford.....	234,150	Middlesbrough.....	131,103
Glasgow.....	1,034,069	Plymouth.....	209,857	Derby.....	129,836
Birmingham.....	919,438	Cardiff.....	200,262	Leyton.....	128,432
Liverpool.....	805,118	Croydon.....	190,877	Coventry.....	128,205
Manchester.....	730,551	Bolton.....	178,678	Walthamstow.....	127,441
Sheffield.....	490,724	Dundee.....	168,217	Blackburn.....	126,630
Leeds.....	458,320	Widnes.....	165,659	Gateshead.....	124,514
Edinburgh.....	420,281	Whiston.....	162,729	Stockport.....	123,315
Bristol.....	377,061	Southampton.....	160,997	Norwich.....	120,653
West Ham.....	300,905	Sunderland.....	159,100	Preston.....	117,426
Kingston-on-Hull.....	287,013	Aberdeen.....	158,969	South Shields.....	116,667
Bradford.....	285,979	Swansea.....	157,561	Huddersfield.....	110,120
Newcastle-on-Tyne.....	274,955	Tottenham.....	146,695	Southend-on-Sea.....	106,021
Nottingham.....	262,658	Birkenhead.....	145,592	Burnley.....	103,175
Portsmouth.....	247,343	Oldham.....	145,001	St Helens.....	102,675
Stoke-on-Trent.....	243,304	East Ham.....	143,304	Wolverhampton.....	102,373
Leicester.....	234,150	Brighton.....	142,427	Blackpool.....	99,640

The population of London is less than it was in 1911, and the populations of Bradford, Bolton, Oldham, Blackburn, Norwich, and Burnley are also lower. Probably the holiday season accounts for the diminution in the Census returns for the northern cities. The area of Birmingham was extended in 1911, after the date of the Census, and the area of Glasgow was extended in 1912. In 1911 the

highest populations of our colonial cities were those of Sydney (629,503), Melbourne (588,971), Montreal (470,480), Toronto (376,538), and Johannesburg (237,104). The cities of Adelaide, Brisbane, Perth, Auckland, Winnipeg, Vancouver, and Cape Town also had populations exceeding 100,000 in 1911.

A glance at the Parliamentary constituencies of Scotland shows that for Montrose district the female voters outnumber the male voters, and that for South Edinburgh the numbers of male and female voters are nearly equal.

THE RAILWAYS ACT—RATES.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

It will be difficult to appraise at its proper value the arrangement aimed at in the third part of the Railways Act, which is occupied with the problem of rates, without fully realising the importance and significance of the new Rates Tribunal. It may be useful, therefore, to see what machinery other countries are employing to control railway rates. In America, as in England, there is a rooted jealousy from time immemorial towards an executive department. So great has been the force of this tradition that it has now grown into a habit. In France, on the other hand, they shook off this hatred of the Administration as soon as the day of popular institutions dawned on that country.

This confidence of the French people in the Executive resulted naturally in entrusting the regulation of rates to a Department of the Government—the Public Works Department. Parliament there, as in England, had the right to fix the maxima. But below this maxima the Minister could sanction or refuse any changes proposed by the companies. The defective part of the arrangement was that the Minister could only allow or disallow a rate *en bloc*. He had no power to substitute another in its place. In other words, he had no power to initiate rates. The above statement is, however, subject to a reservation that he could introduce an exceptional rate, needed in the interests of the nation. According to the new Bill which is pending before the French Parliament, all rate-making power has been assumed by the Minister, who will be advised in these matters by the Conseil Supérieur, the final word resting with the Minister of Public Works.

The experience of America is a more valuable guide to this country. It has not only been alike in its hereditary jealousy of the Executive, but it has shown the same partiality towards the judiciary. Force of circumstances led the people at last to recognise the necessity of creating the Inter-State Commerce Commission in 1887. Not the least of its powers were those for regulating rates. But the decisions of the Commission were subject to a broad judicial review. For a long time judicial interpretation of these powers virtually “emasculated” the Commission. Congress was forced every time to come to its aid in order to see that its aims were not frustrated by the law courts. Four Acts have been passed in 1903, 1906, 1910, and 1920 respectively to amend the earlier Act and to strengthen its administrative arm to deal effectively with matters of rate regulation. It can now prescribe just and reasonable, or maximum or minimum, or maximum and minimum, rates. It can now suspend of its own motion any new rate or regulation for four months until it has determined upon its lawfulness. Rate changes are therefore no more possible without determination of their reasonableness in advance.

The decided preference of the English people for the judiciary led to entrusting the powers of rate regulation to the Railway and Canal Commission. It had powers of adjudicating upon cases of undue preference. The Railway and Canal Traffic Act, 1894, which further limited the powers of the companies, at the same time increased the powers of the Railway Commissioners. It provided that in the event of any complaint being made of any increase

of rates, direct or indirect, since December, 1892, “it shall lie upon the company to prove that the increase is reasonable.” The complaint, in the first place, was to go to the Board of Trade, and, failing settlement, the trader could appeal to the Commission. The main remedy of the people was, therefore, before a judicial body, and not an administrative one. It is true that the Parliament had, and still retains, the right of statutory maxima; but hardly three years had elapsed after that elaborate scheme of maxima had been prepared when it was found necessary to pass the Act of 1894 (reference to it has been made above), which virtually confessed the uselessness of the maxima as a means of protecting the public.

To summarise briefly, the problem of rates concerns two main interests: (1) The companies; (2) the public, who act through their accredited leaders in Parliament. The latter has attempted to safeguard the interests of the public by two methods: (1) By the exercise of legislative functions—*e.g.*, prescribing the maxima; (2) partially delegating its own powers to an agency, either a judicial or an administrative body. In France it was clear to the people from the outset that the Executive was the most fitted to protect the public. But the Parliament there has clung until to-day to the right of fixing the maxima. The new Bill, however, withdraws that power from the Houses, and authorises the Minister to go beyond the maxima.

American experience of rate regulation has an object-lesson for England. The only escape from the desperate plight in which judicial control had landed the country lay in the strengthening of the Commission. Professor Ripley points out three main objections to judicial control: (1) “The only remedy for an unjust rate is not to continue an unfair one, but as speedily as possible to substitute a reasonable charge.” (2) “Correction can be applied only by an expert body, possessed of the same sort of knowledge had by those who issued the tariff.” (3) “Judicial control in contradistinction to administrative regulation is necessarily intermittent than steady and constant.” To these may be added the difficulties of form and procedure necessarily attendant upon a court of law. As for its legislative power, Congress had early in 1906 empowered the Commission to fix the maximum rates. The new Act of 1920 authorises the Commission to prescribe any rate which it considers just and reasonable. This delegation of power has been made on the following ground:—“There may be such delegation where the purpose in the original conferring of the powers can be subverted only by delegation to an agent. Obviously Congress cannot spend time and labour upon rate-making, were it economically competent to do so. If the power is to be executed at all, practically it can be done only through an agency like the Commission.”

The above reasoning leaves no doubt that the creation of the Rates Tribunal will go to satisfy the most crying need of the country. The Railway and Canal Commission is constitutionally unsuited to handle and decide upon matters concerning the complex problem of rates. Parliament, by allowing the Rates Tribunal to fix the maxima beyond which Parliamentary sanction will be needed, has cut its own hands off. The Rates Tribunal can fix these at a limit, as will make the necessity of the sanction of Parliament very remote. The powers of the Railway and Canal Commission have been transferred to the Tribunal. Its powers have been further extended to include the power of rate-making.

Despite its designation, which may mislead people into a belief that it is a legal tribunal, it is nothing of the sort. It is pre-eminently an administrative arm of the Executive, as it ought to be, with both judicial and legislative powers added to it. That this combination of powers in the hands of the Tribunal is necessary has been abundantly proved by events in this country and others. Promptness to deal with the rate questions has been the guiding aim in constituting the Tribunal. How far the above object has been adhered to will be clear from the statement of the Minister in the House:—“What we want is not a body representing particular interests or with a very large number of co-opted members. We think if we have a judicial body of three—one a lawyer, one a man with railway experience, and one a man of commercial experience—you will get a suitable body. Are we to have a judicial Tribunal or a sort of Conciliation Conference?”

AMERICA'S POPULATION POLICY.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE United States have been singularly blessed by Providence with vast and varied resources. They possess an extraordinarily fruitful soil, an excellent climate, more than half of the world's coal and iron, more than half of the world's water-power, &c. They dominate the world's markets with their wheat, meat, petroleum, cotton, and many other commodities too numerous to mention. However, one of their most precious resources consists not in dead natural products, but in men. The vast natural wealth of the United States could be developed only owing to the rapid increase of the inhabitants. That increase has not taken place fortuitously, as is widely believed, but it is due to the farseeing policy of successive American Governments. Colbert and Frederick the Great taught that the greatest wealth of nations consists in well-occupied men. The extraordinary expansion of America's wealth is due to the fact that the Great Republic has received for many decades more than half of the overseas emigrants of the world.

Progress is a matter of comparison. During the last hundred years the population of the United Kingdom and of the United States has increased as follows:—

United Kingdom.		United States (without Outlying Possessions).	
1821.....	21,272,187	1820.....	9,638,453
1841.....	27,036,450	1840.....	17,036,353
1861.....	29,321,288	1860.....	31,443,321
1881.....	35,241,482	1880.....	50,155,783
1901.....	41,976,827	1900.....	75,994,575
1921 (estimated)....	47,500,000	1920.....	105,683,108

A century ago the population of this country was more than twice as great as that of the United States. The United Kingdom was far ahead of the United States in population, wealth, and power. Even in the age of Cobden England's supremacy in men and means was maintained. The opening up of the United States by railways, and the bridging of the Atlantic by the steamship, brought about the peopling of the Western States of the Republic, which was effected chiefly by millions of European emigrants. Never in the history of the world has there been so gigantic a transference of population as that which has taken place from Europe to the United States. The great stream of migrants, and even of British migrants, has flowed, not to the British overseas possessions, but to the United States. A few millions wisely spent by British Governments might have completely changed the balance of political and of economic power throughout the world. Before long the United States may have twice as many white inhabitants as the British Empire, which possesses a territory that is four or five times as large as that of the Great Republic.

The founders of the Republic believed that the position of the new State was very insecure because of the vastness of its territory and the sparseness of its population. They encouraged immigration by every means in their power. That may be seen from numerous statements of Abraham Lincoln and other leading statesmen. The first law establishing federal control over immigration was passed in 1882, but its aim was not to discourage immigration in general, but to exclude undesirable immigrants who were likely to be a burden to the country. Only quite recently that old-established policy of encouraging immigration has been reversed.

The American immigration statistics have not been kept very satisfactorily. For many decades the American authorities recorded the number of immigrants without taking note of the number of those who temporarily or permanently left the United States. Consequently the American immigration figures must be considered with great reserve. Only a few years ago the immigration figures were supplemented by emigration statistics, so that we are now able to find out how many people on balance migrate per year to the United States. According to the defective statistics existing, the United States received from 1820 to 1920 33,630,104 immigrants. Up to 1844 the number of arrivals increased slowly from 8,385 in 1820 to 78,615. Then a rapid increase took place, owing to the failure of the harvest in Ireland and on the Continent, and owing to political commotion. By great waves the number of yearly immigrants reached 427,833 in 1854,

458,803 in 1873, 788,992 in 1882, and 1,285,349 in 1907, which is the largest figure on record. The full meaning of these figures may be gauged from the fact that immigration from 1776 to 1820 is estimated to have come to 250,000. During the first 44 years of the Republic immigration per year came only to a little more than 5,000.

While the immigration figures are not very reliable, the decennial censuses are trustworthy. We learn from them that the number of foreign-born inhabitants of the Republic has increased from 4,138,697 in 1860 to 13,515,886 in 1910. At present the number of foreign-born people in the United States should exceed 16,000,000. Naturally, the full effect of America's population policy cannot be gauged from these figures, for we must add to the foreign-born inhabitants of the Republic their offspring. At the census of 1910 it was found that there were in the Republic 13,345,543 foreign-born whites, 12,916,311 native white Americans who were the children of a foreign-born mother and a foreign-born father, while there were 5,981,526 native whites possessing one foreign-born parent. It follows that fully one-third of the present white population of America consists of foreign immigrants and of the children of foreign immigrants. Not unnaturally, foreign immigrants and their children are in the majority in many towns and country districts. At the census of 1910 New York contained only 921,318 people of native white parentage, while there were 1,927,703 foreign-born whites in the town and 1,820,141 whites of foreign or of partly foreign parentage. In Chicago and many other places the position is similar to that of New York. That great town owes its importance to foreign immigrants. It is supposed to contain more than 1,000,000 Jews, a number three times as large as that of the United Kingdom. There were in 1910 in New York 484,189 people of Russian birth, 340,765 native Italians, 278,114 German immigrants, 252,662 people of Irish birth, 190,237 migrants from Austria, 103,023 people from Great Britain, &c. One cannot wonder that one sees on the American bookstalls newspapers in dozens of languages.

The character of America's immigrants has changed very greatly. For decades the United Kingdom and Germany were almost the only sources which filled the human reservoir of the Republic. In the 'sixties Scandinavia and Austria-Hungary became important, and in the 'seventies Italy, Russia, and the countries of South-Eastern Europe came to the fore, while German and British migrants declined rapidly in number. Of late years the vast majority of immigrants into the United States consisted of illiterate Italians, Poles, Russians, Roumanians, Greeks, Turks, &c. Not unnaturally, many American patriots became alarmed at the change in the character of the millions arriving from abroad, and the demand to "put up the bars" against the illiterate and largely unamalgamable people from Southern and from Eastern Europe and from Asia Minor became more and more insistent. Besides, organised labour looked upon immigration with an unfriendly eye. Foreign immigrants readily undertook unskilled work at wages which native-born Americans declined to accept. Foreign immigrants became habitual strike-breakers. Certain unskilled occupations became the monopoly of foreigners. One never meets in America a native-born servant, waiter, shoemaker, navvy, or unskilled miner. All the rough and unpleasant work is done by immigrants. Patriotic considerations and labour pressure combined the passing by the House of Representatives of a Bill restricting immigration by the overwhelming majority of 276 to 33 votes on May 19th of this year. By that Act immigration is restricted up to July 1, 1922, to 3 per cent. of the aliens resident in the United States in 1910. The platform of the Republican party demands the restriction of immigration "such as to ensure that the number of foreigners in the country at any time shall not exceed that which can be assimilated with reasonable rapidity, and to favour immigrants whose standards are similar to ours." It seems not unlikely that drastic restriction of immigration will become a permanent feature of America's population policy. Such a change would obviously seriously affect the growth of the Republic, which is largely due to the liberal immigration policy pursued in the past.

Painstaking investigations have revealed the fact that the foreign-born are far more prolific than the native-born

Americans. The important Report on the Natural Resources of the United States, published during the Presidency of President Roosevelt, contained a most interesting forecast of the future growth of the population of the Republic. During the decennial periods the increase of population had been slackening from 35 per cent. between 1790 and 1800 to 21 per cent. between 1890 and 1900. Assuming that that increase should continue declining progressively at a similar rate, it was estimated that the United States would contain 150,000,000 in 1950, 249,000,000 people in the year 2000, and 500,000,000 people in the year 2100. Such an increase seems quite possible in view of the vastness of America's natural resources. If peopled as densely as Spain, the Republic should have room for 300,000,000 people, and if peopled as densely as Germany or Italy, it should have room for 1,000,000,000 people. However, the estimate was based on the assumption of unrestricted immigration. The reversal of that policy may falsify the forecast completely.

FINANCIAL REFORM IN HUNGARY.

(BY OUR WARSAW CORRESPONDENT.)

ONE of the most noteworthy events in the financial situation of Central Europe in the course of this year has been the rise of the Hungarian krone. At the end of December the quotation of Budapest at Zurich was 1.15. In May the Hungarian krone rose to 2.20, and though it has declined since, it stands actually at about 50 per cent. higher than at the end of the last year. During the same time the currencies of the other Succession States declined, with the exception of the Czecho-Slovakian krone. The Polish mark lost about 75 per cent. of its value, Agram fell from 4.10 to 3.20, Vienna from 1.35 to 0.65.

The rise of the Hungarian krone is due in the first instance to the financial policy of Mr Roland de Hegedüs, who since the end of last year is at the head of the Ministry of Finance. His programme of financial reform is based on two very simple devices—economy and taxation. Though this remedy for all monetary evils connected with a debauched currency is generally known to all Ministers of Finance, Mr Hegedüs' merit consists in having forced the patient to swallow the bitter pill. He accepted the post of Minister of Finance only under the condition that he could exercise an absolute dictatorship over the expenses of all departments of the State. In this respect he has been merciless. He abolished Hungarian embassies in neutral countries, sold a part of the motor cars which were at the disposal of higher officials, and refused the credits to all departments which he considered as superfluous.

At the same time he increased the taxes considerably. Mr Hegedüs had to overcome, in shaping his financial programme, the same difficulties with which all other Ministers of Finance, especially in Central Europe, have to cope. The public wealth has passed during the war to a considerable extent from persons whose income could be easily ascertained into the hands of speculators, who without great difficulty can hide it from the tax gatherer. Mr Hegedüs gave in one of his speeches an interesting illustration of the methods actually used by reluctant taxpayers. One of his friends since the Armistice four times changed his citizenship according to rumours of a capital levy which was to be introduced in one of the Succession States.

Under such conditions the financial policy must find new methods of distributing the burden of taxation according to the paying power of the contributors. Mr Hegedüs obliged all joint-stock companies to issue shares to the value of 15 per cent. of their subscribed capital. This new issue is to be handed over to the Government, which has the right to sell the shares at the market price. The companies, however, have a right of pre-emption. This reform caused a panic among the shareholders. By this means, however, the unscrupulous capitalist who hid his funds from the financial authorities was obliged to contribute his share to the expenses of the State.

Besides the taxes mentioned, other taxation bills have been worked out by Mr Hegedüs. The most important are:—

1. A tax amounting to the total income of the contributors during the last three to five years will be levied. This tax will be introduced instead of a capital levy.

2. The Government is taking 20 per cent. of all foreign stocks and currencies. The banks are obliged to give the names of all persons who, according to their knowledge, have acquired since the beginning of the war foreign shares, bonds, &c.

3. Certain taxes on articles of consumption are introduced, as, for instance, a matches tax, a wine tax, a cigarette paper tax, &c.

4. A turnover tax.

It is certainly too early to pass a final judgment on Mr Hegedüs' financial reform. But it may be said already that the Hungarian Minister of Finance succeeded where most of his colleagues in other Central European countries failed. In March Mr Hegedüs could make before the Diet the announcement that during that month the expenses of the country were covered by the revenues. It was not necessary for balancing the Budget to resort to the printing press. Mr Hegedüs promised that beginning with May 1st the Hungarian currency would not be further debauched by new paper issues. In this respect he was not able to keep exactly his promise, as shown by the figures below:—

	Notes in Circulation. Millions of Kronen.
April 30, 1921	13.1
May 31, 1921	13.7
June 30, 1921	18.1
July 31, 1921	15.8

In June the circulation increased by 4.4 milliards. Though it has declined since, the actual level is higher than that at the end of April. Nevertheless, if compared with the inflation in other Central European countries—Czecho-Slovakia excepted—this result can be considered favourable. Mr Hegedüs' financial reform is a proof of the great power which can be exercised even under the most unfavourable conditions by a firm hand.

Business Notes.

Coal Output.—The production of coal from the mines of Great Britain for the week ended August 27th shows a further decline, the total of 4,102,300 tons comparing with 4,327,800 tons in the previous week, 4,526,600 tons for the week ended August 13th, and 4,590,600 tons in the corresponding week of last year. The only districts to show an increase on the previous week are Northumberland and Scotland.

Safeguarding of Industries.—Under Section 1 (5) of the Safeguarding of Industries Act, 1921, which provides that for the purpose of preventing disputes arising as to whether any goods are or are not any goods chargeable with duty under Part I. of the Act, the Board of Trade may from time to time issue lists defining the articles which are to be taken as falling under any of the general descriptions set out in the Schedule to the Act, the Board of Trade have prepared lists defining the articles which are to be taken as falling under the following general descriptions set out in the schedule, viz.:—Optical glass and optical elements whether finished or not; optical instruments, scientific glassware, laboratory porcelain, scientific instruments, gauges and measuring instruments of precision of the types used in engineering machine shops and viewing rooms, whether for use in such shops or rooms or not; compounds (not including ores or minerals) of thorium, cerium and the other rare earth metals; synthetic organic chemical (other than synthetic organic dyestuffs, colours, and colouring matters imported for use as such, and organic intermediate products imported for their manufacture), analytical re-agents, all other fine chemicals (except sulphate of quinine of vegetable origin), and chemicals manufactured by fermentation processes. The lists will, it is hoped, be published about the beginning of next week, and will be obtainable either directly or through any bookseller from H.M. Stationery Office.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary, Ltd., established throughout Australasia.)

Eastern and General Merchants.
Commercial Agents for Sale of Produce.

Agents for Engineering and Estate
Supplies and Hardware generally.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

The Crops.—The monthly report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries states that the long drought was broken during August, and in the north and west there was a good deal of rain, though in the south-eastern half of the country the rainfall was comparatively small. The corn harvest was not hindered to any appreciable extent, except in the north and west, and throughout the greater part of the country practically all the corn was secured in good condition by the end of the month. Where there was more rain, however, progress was slow, and in the extreme north very little corn had been carted by the end of August. Some sprouting is reported from the north and from parts of Wales. Wheat is generally of good quality, though a certain amount of damage by smut is reported. The crop is now estimated to be heavier than was anticipated a month ago. Winter oats and early spring crops of barley and oats are generally fairly satisfactory, but, on the whole, crops are light. The quality of the oats is generally good, but much of the barley is reported to be variable. Both beans and peas are light crops. The former were damaged by fly, and the latter filled badly during the drought, and maggots did some damage. Summarising the returns it would appear that wheat, barley, and oats have turned out to be rather heavier crops than appeared likely when standing, but all crops except wheat will be under average. Expressing an average crop by 100, the probable yields per acre are indicated by the following percentages:—Wheat, 104; barley, 89; oats, 89; beans, 85; peas, 86; potatoes, 81; turnips and swedes, 70; mangolds, 82; and hops, 89.

Port of London.—The report of the Port of London Authority for the year ended March 31, 1921, shows a further substantial recovery in the trade of the Port, the net tonnage of vessels arriving and departing with cargoes and in balance in 1920 amounting to 32,758,604 tons, as compared with 26,335,191 tons in 1919 and 14,654,008 tons in 1918. The net register and deck cargo tonnage of shipping increased by 3,420,672 tons, or 16.4 per cent., of which 2,612,088 tons were in the foreign and 808,584 tons in the coastwise trades. A comparison of financial results with those of previous years is given below:—

For Year Ending March 31.

	1914.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Total revenue	£ 3,434,453	£ 4,567,426	£ 4,407,846	£ 5,723,690	£ 8,305,801	£ 10,043,731
Total expenditure ..	£ 2,217,822	£ 2,786,946	£ 2,910,599	£ 3,532,604	£ 5,531,726	£ 7,101,691
Balance of rev.....	£ 1,216,631	£ 1,780,480	£ 1,497,247	£ 2,191,086	£ 2,774,075	£ 2,942,130
Fixed charges	£ 932,786	£ 1,159,140	£ 1,226,917	£ 1,264,567	£ 1,600,323	£ 1,944,166
Surplus revenue	£ 283,845	£ 621,340	£ 270,330	£ 926,519	£ 1,173,752	£ 997,970
Brought forward	£ 69,637	£ 232,059	£ 340,465	£ 341,953	£ 349,384	£ 383,347
Written off, &c.	£ 373,482	£ 853,399	£ 610,795	£ 1,268,472	£ 1,523,136	£ 1,381,317
Carried forward	£ 281,578	£ 512,934	£ 268,842	£ 919,088	£ 1,139,789	£ 485,273
	£ 91,904	£ 340,465	£ 341,953	£ 349,384	£ 383,347	£ 896,044

The amounts written off include £250,000 for expenditure on works other than general repairs and renewals and £150,000 to general reserve, which now stands at £983,337. Port stock issued amounts to £28,090,459, out of an authorised total of £32,647,156. The table below shows the recovery made by the principal ports

as regards values of total imports and exports (excluding coastwise goods):—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	Inc. in 1920.
London (including Queenborough).....	£541,909,302..	£819,875,330..	£1,005,276,386..	22.6%
Liverpool	682,997,302..	827,986,112..	1,091,657,022..	31.8
Hull	90,398,722..	148,023,115..	172,951,919..	16.8
Manchester (including Runcorn)	107,082,759..	146,890,745..	207,683,045..	41.4
Southampton	39,715,812..	41,046,404..	88,509,359..	115.6
Glasgow	96,536,848..	110,248,762..	158,126,941..	43.4

During the 12 months ended March 31, 1921, the Authority landed or received 2,872,903 tons of import goods for warehousing or for immediate delivery, an increase of 173,722 tons, or 6.4 per cent., as compared with the previous 12 months.

Grand Trunk Trouble.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—The dramatic event of the week in the Stock Exchange markets has been a violent fall in Grand Trunk stocks. A telegram was received by the company on Thursday morning to the effect that two of the arbitrators found that the first, second, and third preference stocks and the ordinary stock were "valueless," though the third arbitrator, Mr Taft, took the view that these stocks have a value, and he placed such value as slightly more than the maximum fixed by the Act. In spite of the dissentient opinion, Grand Trunk prices melted rapidly. The first preference fell 22 points, seconds 16½, thirds 7, and the ordinary stock, which had been 5½, dropped to a somewhat nominal 2½. The prices of the senior stocks gave way a little, though Grand Trunk 4 per cent. debenture stock remained at 61, the 4 per cent. guaranteed, which has been standing at 61, went back to 58½, and Grand Trunk Pacific 4 per cent. debenture at 46½ showed a fall of a couple of points. It is not too much to say that the market was paralysed by the unexpected character of the arbitrators' award. Accustomed as they have been in the past to bitter disappointments, proprietors of Grand Trunk stocks had been nursing a hope, especially during the past few days, that the award of the arbitrators would justify the stocks in standing substantially higher than those from which the declines already enumerated took place. There was a little modest buying, and Trunk firsts, for instance, had gone up from 42 to about 47. The crash befell not so much as the result of a rush to realise, but as a precautionary measure against the possibility of holders trying to get out. There is something peculiarly sweeping in the word "valueless," and this disorganised the market. To deal at any prices became a matter of great difficulty. Grand Trunk first preference changed hands on Wednesday night at 46½, and the first bargain recorded on the following morning was at 24. Other markings were somewhat similar. It was taken for granted that the company would at once lodge an appeal against the findings of the arbitrators, and once more, as on previous occasions, opinion became very vocal on the point that confiscatory action on the part of the Dominion Government was inconceivable, in the light of the necessity for the Dominion to maintain its credit in the London money market. Such considerations, it must be confessed, do not appear to have weighed with Canada very much in recent years. The United States, it is understood, provided capital where necessary, and Canada has been able to finance her main obligations without much difficulty by internal loans. There is accordingly so much the less strength in the argument that the Dominion is bound to act generously towards Grand Trunk proprietors through the lowest standpoint of retaining her reputation from the credit point of view. The majority arbitrators refer to a "consideration" which might be paid to the Grand Trunk stockholders by way of a compassionate allowance, but this sounds far from hopeful to those who had been looking forward to what they regarded as a reasonable sum being allocated to the service of the preference and ordinary stocks. The Grand Trunk market is one of the few in which prices have failed to rise to the pre-war making-up prices of July, 1914. Grand Trunk firsts now stand about 66 points below that figure, and the second preference at 18 is some 53 points less than the pre-war contango price. It is already declared that the Trunk collapse will cause distress and trouble in other markets,

and a sharp reaction amongst oil shares was at once attributed to selling on behalf of those who saw themselves enormous losers over the Grand Trunk arbitration decision.

Raw Cotton.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—Since the beginning of this month the raw cotton markets of the world have been very excited. There has been a larger turnover in futures than for a few years back. At the end of last week the official report of the United States Government on the crop confirmed the previous private, unfavourable advices. The condition was given as 49.3 per cent., against 64.7 per cent. a month previously, and 67.5 per cent. at the end of August, 1920. On the basis of these figures it is estimated that the output will only be about 7,000,000 bales, against 11,377,000 bales last season. The spot quotation for fully middling American cotton in Liverpool, on September 1st, was 10.76d. On the following day there was a rise of nearly 1d per lb, the figure being 11.70d. Monday brought an advance of 56 points, followed by a further rise of 62 points on Tuesday, whilst on Wednesday all recent records were broken by prices being put up 182 points, the official rate being 14.70d. Late on Wednesday afternoon there was a break in futures, and on Thursday the spot quotation was reduced 160 points to 13.10d. The changes in the Egyptian staple have been even more remarkable. On September 1st the price for fully good fair Sakellaridis on the spot in Liverpool was 18.00d. By Monday the quotation had advanced to 20.00d, and on Wednesday there was a smart rise of 4½d a lb to 24.50d. A reaction occurred on Thursday, there being a reduction of 3d a lb to 21.50d. It may be mentioned that the lowest quotation for American cotton this year was on February 28th, the figure being 7.13d, and on the same day 13.00d was posted for Egyptian cotton. It is almost unnecessary to state that there has been tremendous gambling in the article. Some traders were caught short at the beginning of the week, and rushed to cover, but most of the operations in futures have been of a speculative character. Business in yarn and cloth for the time being is demoralised, and the tone in New York and Liverpool will have to be much steadier before any trade of importance can be done. For many months Manchester merchants have been seriously handicapped by the steady fall in the value of stocks of manufactured goods. This tendency has now been checked, and supplies on hand have appreciated. The financial position of some leading concerns will undoubtedly be improved by the recent developments.

Cotton Cloth Export Statistics.—At the beginning of last year the Board of Trade made a change in compiling the statistics relating to exports of cotton cloth. Formerly the returns were made in linear yards, but it was decided to make an alteration to square yards. At the time, writes our Manchester correspondent, protests were made from Manchester traders against this change unless the authorities were prepared in addition to publish linear yards for several years in order that business people might have the advantage of comparative figures. On representations being made by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade offered to supply the statistics required on the payment of a fee of £12 10s for each monthly return. This charge was considered excessive. This week the Chamber has decided to request the Custom House to supply the figures for the six months ended June 30th for a fee of £39. The position of affairs has been placed before the Board of Trade, and the Chamber has urged the Government to consider carefully the details to be provided relating to the trade in 1922. It may be mentioned that Manchester merchants have felt very keenly the disorganisation of the statistics relating to shipments of cotton cloth as a result of the Board of Trade action.

Calico Printing and Bleaching Charges.—For some time there has been expectation in the Lancashire cotton industry of a reduction in the prices for calico printing and bleaching, but according to statements made this week there seems to be little probability of lower rates in the

near future. The Bleaching Trade Advisory Board has notified customers that having given the question of a reduction in charges careful consideration, they have decided that it will not be possible to make any further concession for some time to come. They are prepared, however, to enter into contracts with a falling clause to the effect that should a reduction take place, cloth which was under order but had not passed into the hands of the bleacher would be charged at the revised price. As a result of inquiries made amongst calico printers, there seems to be no possibility of lower rates at present. One of the chief standing charges for calico-printing concerns is coal, and industrial fuel will have to be cheaper before a concession can be granted to customers. The wages of the operatives in the calico-printing industry vary according to the cost-of-living index figure of the Ministry of Labour, and in view of the trend of events, there is a possibility of an increase in the wages of the workpeople before very long.

South African Trade.—The Standard Bank of South Africa have received a cablegram from their general managers intimating that during August the Union of South Africa imported approximately £3,888,000, and exported approximately £4,665,000. The exports included £2,780,000 native gold. Mr W. G. Wickham, his Majesty's Senior Trade Commissioner in South Africa, is engaged on an official tour of this country for the purpose of discussing with firms the possibilities and conditions of United Kingdom trade with the Union of South Africa. The first part of his tour includes Leicester, Nottingham, Sheffield, Leeds, and Bradford. Firms in these centres desiring to interview Mr Wickham should communicate immediately with the Secretary of their local Chamber of Commerce.

Transvaal Statistics.—The report for 1920 of the Transvaal Chamber of Mines contains, as usual, a large amount of statistical and other information reflecting the progress of the mining industry. So far as the former relates to the gold section, it has already been published in part, but can now be scanned with the assistance of supplementary particulars. For example, there is a table showing that although last year's output of the precious metal scored a further decrease in actual quantity, it represented a record proportion of the world's total—practically one-half. Appended is a contrast of the salient figures for the past two years with those of 1913—the last complete pre-war period:—

	1913.	1919.	1920.
Gold output, Witwatersrand	35,812,600	34,454,480	33,767,690
Yield per ton	27/9	28/7	*35/3
Costs per ton	17/11	22/11	25/8
Transvaal percentage of world total ..	39.3	47.2	49.9
Rock drills at work in December ..	5,753	6,207	5,716
Transvaal coal output	5,253,040	6,622,500	7,180,120
Value at pit's mouth	4/4	5/1	6/1
Diamond output	2,156,900	673,960	905,300
Value per carat	25/28/-	61/07/-	79/54/-
Silver output	952,930	891,260	892,190
Value	115,150	228,790	224,760
Copper ore sold	5,290	5,210	3,000
Value	138,330	273,480	163,110
Tin ore sold	3,600	1,600	2,450
Value	427,860	272,920	433,370
Mortality—Whites per 1,000	17.16	20.50	14.10
Coloured	26.79	16.95	18.23

* Including gold premium.

The mortality statistics show the effect, more particularly in the case of the native workers, of the measures taken to improve the conditions of living and working; in 1911 the Kaffir rate was practically 33. Then the figures as to the percentage of dust in the different portions of the mines indicate a vast improvement. Last year's wages and salaries to gold mine employees totalled £17,370,000, as against £13,476,000 in 1913, when the tonnage crushed was larger.

Queer Far Eastern Finance.—Our mining correspondent writes:—During the past year or so, owing to the prevailing financial conditions, companies desirous of raising further capital have been under the necessity in all cases

of offering generous terms, and in some of resorting to curious expedients. It has been left for the Southern Van Ryn Reef Gold Mining Company to eclipse all others in both respects. This concern owns an area in the Heidelberg district of the Transvaal, and at one time enjoyed the co-operation of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa. After much flourishing of trumpets, production commenced at the end of 1920, although the ore reserve position was far from being such as to inspire confidence. Not until the middle of April was the first return published, and the results then shown were unsatisfactory. A profit was confidently promised as the outcome of operations during April, but failed to eventuate. It was stated that certain adjustments to the plant had been found necessary; production on the scale of 2,000 tons per month would be resumed in June. Actually, however, the mine remains shut down. These events constitute a sad commentary upon the flamboyant advertisements published in South Africa in the autumn of 1920. In these announcements the Southern Van Ryn was described as "unique in the world's greatest goldfield"; stress was laid upon the existence of two pay reefs, and investors were urged to buy for the rise while the market was low, or better still, to hold for dividends in the "coming great mine of the Far-East Rand!" Unfortunately, in lieu of the payment of dividends, offers were made of £50 six-year notes, carrying 10 per cent. interest, and redeemable at par at the end of the period with what was described as £50 "deferred interest." Now a fresh scheme is afoot for the provision of further working capital. Instead of undergoing reconstruction, the Southern Van Ryn Reef Co. is selling the bulk of its assets to the New Southern Van Ryn Gold Mining Company for 1,205,000 shares of 2s 6d each, payment of the debts of the parent company (estimated at £7,500), and assumption of the liability in respect of the six-year notes—which, it appears, brought in no more than £3,500. Under this scheme the shareholders in the old company will receive one and a-half shares for every one now held, and will be offered 430,000 shares at par, subject to a scrip bonus of one share in respect of every two subscribed, and an option at par until the end of 1922 over a like number. The guarantors are to be given an option upon 600,000 shares at par until December 31, 1922, and upon a further 350,000 at 5s until the end of the following year. They are also—if a semi-official summary of the scheme is to be relied upon—to be "paid" 345,000 shares. On the question of what the guarantors undertake, the prospectus is delightfully vague; the shareholders are merely told they "may feel assured that the £243,000 cash which the scheme provides for will be obtained within a comparatively short time." The idea is gradually to bring the mine production up to 15,000 tons per month.

The New Era in Mesopotamia.—A correspondent writes:—With the coronation of King Feisal at Baghdad on August 23rd the three Turkish vilayets comprised in Mesopotamia begin their national life as the Arab kingdom of Iraq, under the supervision of Great Britain as mandatory Power until it can stand alone. The draft mandate, now awaiting revision and approval by the Council of the League of Nations, vests the control of foreign relations in the mandatory, and, while abolishing the capitulations, safeguards the rights of foreign residents, and a Council and an elective Assembly is to frame a Constitution. Competent observers in Baghdad describe King Feisal as a broad-minded man with high ideals, and his sympathies are avowedly British. Great Britain may maintain troops for the defence of the country, and the native Government may contribute to the cost, and, pending the establishment of the Constitution, Great Britain may raise native forces, which are now being trained by British officers and recruited in the towns. Tribal recruits, though physically better, would be less amenable to discipline and more exposed to the pressure from disaffected elements which caused the native levies to desert during the siege of Kufa. The great military and economic difficulty is that the population, some 3,000,000, is inadequate to defend the long frontiers or to cultivate all the land that improved irrigation will open

up, and the tribal Arabs would not tolerate immigration. But the wealthy non-tribal landowners and the richer sheikhs were thoroughly alarmed by the rising last year, and see the value of railways and roads. By tribal co-operation in irrigation works and flood banks cultivation may be extended greatly, and tribal labour on these is mostly unpaid. Finance, however, is becoming a problem. An external loan is at present impracticable, though some day it may be raised on the security of export duties on grain and oil, and the chief source of revenue is now the land tax, which increases in yield with the production, being essentially rent paid to the State as supreme landlord. An income-tax was levied by the Turks, with many abuses, but there are no data adequate for its reimposition. The conjunction of British advisers with native heads of Departments has increased the expenditure, and new Customs duties are to be imposed on sugar, tea, coffee, groceries, fruits and vegetables, and tobacco, but, except the first three, these will fall mainly on the foreign residents and the town dwellers. Tobacco growing is to be fostered, but the curing and packing must be improved before an export can arise. It is stated that the oil rights granted by the Porte before the war have been divided, the Anglo-Russian Company taking half and the Shell and a French group one-fourth each, so that the production should soon increase. There is a great future probably for cotton, and certainly for grain, oil seeds, fruit, leather, and wool. The salting of soil by irrigation, a danger made much of by some British observers, was investigated by the Provisional Administration, and is curable by proper control. The prospect of internal disturbance is slight, and independent Arabia is friendly. The only real frontier danger is now in the north, through Bolshevik agitation or Persian or Turkish unrest. But the mandate permits Great Britain to organise local autonomy for the Kurd areas, and so provides to some extent against these dangers.

Conditions in Japan.—According to telegraphic advices from Tokyo, the money market was rather firm, owing to the settlement according to the old calendar, demands by silk manufacturers and farmers, and the payment of Government loans, although there was an easy tendency just after the customary settlement. Short loans were quoted from 5 to 5½ per cent. per annum, and there was an unexpected demand by the city banks on the Bank of Japan, and the discount rate hardened. The Stock Exchange was steady, and the cotton yarn market very firm. The rice crop is estimated at 57,000,000 koku, and is considered poor, but the price of rice was rather lower. The note issue of Bank of Japan is 1,192,000,000 yen, against 1,217,000,000 yen a year ago.

Chile.—Our Latin-American correspondent writes:—The somewhat gloomy reports reaching this country in regard to the condition of Chilean finances should be read in conjunction with the efforts made to economise all unnecessary expenses in the various departments of public service. At the beginning of the year funds in the Treasury were at a very low level, amounting to no more than 7,000,000 pesos, while pending obligations amounted to \$36,000,000. The best part of the year's revenue is usually realised towards the autumn months. The more difficult period for Chilean national finances is the months of May, June, July, and part of August, when Treasury obligations have to be covered by ordinary revenue. Such period this year has been remarkable for the falling-off of the export trade, while no improvement has been manifested in imports. Bank credits have continued restricted, collection being very slow, in spite of efforts made upon the part of merchants to sell stocks at a considerable reduction. According to the statement made at the end of March last, by the then-Chilean Minister of Finance, before the Chamber of Deputies, the national income for 1921 had been calculated at 419,229,900 in terms of paper pesos, including the item of 31,000,000 paper pesos estimated as the extra revenue to be obtained from an increase in stamp-taxes and import duties, while the expenses were taken at 419,238,539 pesos, leaving a deficit of about 8,000 paper pesos. On the other hand, the expected income from export duties on nitrate, which had been based on an estimated export for the year of

55,000,000 Spanish quintals, has not been realised, a deadlock in the nitrate industry having since occurred. According to the Association of Nitrate Producers, the probable exports for the current year, owing to the slackening in the foreign demand for nitrate, will not be more than 40,000,000 Spanish quintals, and, if this is so, the decrease would lower the returns to the Chilean Treasury by about 46,650,000 paper pesos. The statements made to the Houses of Deputies and Senate by the Minister of Finance (Dr. Daniel Martner) in May and July last to the effect that "the Budget deficit for 1920-21 would be covered by the revenue accruing from nitrate taxes," has doubtless to be revised by his successor in office, Señor Victor Gelis, who succeeded him in August. It is clear that steps will have to be taken to ensure a greater revenue to the State in order to make-up both previous and existing deficits. With this object, the fiscal system of the country is being revised, the general consensus of opinion being in favour of direct taxation. It is suggested that the present taxes on properties and inheritances should be increased, in addition to a tax on incomes and upon the profits of business and industry. According to advices, the taxes at present paid in Chile average 30 paper pesos (at present rates of exchange approximately 18s) per inhabitant, which, if accurate, cannot be regarded as at all excessive.

Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds.—After a spectacular rise a year ago, the profits of Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds, Limited, for the year ended June 30th last show a slight decline, but are still well over double the average for the six years 1913 to 1919, and so small a drop is remarkable in view of the depression in the iron and steel industry. The results are compared with those of previous years in the table below:—

	1913-14.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Gross profits	£ 401,722	£ 424,480	£ 433,453	£ 446,645	£ 417,141	£ 934,530	£ 884,121
Debit interest	69,548	74,020	74,020	74,020	74,020	74,020	74,020
Net profit	332,174	350,460	359,433	372,625	343,121	860,510	810,101
Brought forward	239,016	357,319	377,029	405,712	173,316	235,687	261,605
Available for distribution	571,190	707,779	736,462	778,337	516,437	1,096,197	1,071,706
Preference dividend	86,000	86,000	86,000	86,000	86,000	200,756	200,756
Reserve	70,000	100,000	100,000	130,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Ordinary dividend	144,750	144,750	144,750	144,750	144,750	633,836	516,686
Rate	15 %	15 %	15 %	15 %	15 %	15 %	10 %
Carried forward	270,441	377,029	405,712	417,587	235,687	261,605	264,098

No allocation is made to reserve, and the ordinary dividend is reduced from 15 to 10 per cent., free of income-tax. During the year 1919-20 the preference capital was increased by £3,625,200, and the ordinary by £3,925,900. A further addition of £670,400 to the preference and £276,000 to the ordinary has been made during the past year, and it will be seen that the ordinary dividend of 10 per cent. requires £371,900 more than the 15 per cent. distribution two years ago. The more important changes in the balance-sheet include a reduction in creditors, which cover special taxation liabilities, from £2,641,200 to £1,395,000, and in debtors from £2,043,600 to £410,400. The report mentions that controlling interests were acquired during the year in three kindred companies, and also that 394,425 preference shares in John Lysaght, Limited, were obtained in exchange for an equal number of the company's 5 per cent. second preference shares. The directors state that they had decided to make up the accounts in future as at March 31st, but that it has been found impossible to carry out the arrangement this year.

The "British Industry" Ship.—We are informed that according to present plans a specially designed exhibition ship, under the title of "British Industry," will set sail from the Thames in the summer of 1923 for the chief ports of the world. During a voyage of 18 months 43,000 miles will be covered and 34 important trade centres visited. The table allows for a stay of from a week to a fortnight at each place, showing a total of 346 days during which the exhibition will be open. The ship will be specially constructed for the purposes of an exhibition, and every detail of her equipment, from the engines to the fittings and furniture, will itself be an exhibit of British workmanship at its best. A company called the British Trade Ship, Limited, has been formed, with registered

offices at 12 Grosvenor gardens, S.W. 1, and among the directors are Earl Grey, chairman, Sir G. B. Hunter (chairman of Messrs Swan, Hunter, &c.), vice-chairman, the Duke of Northumberland, Commr. R. W. Day, Major G. P. Denton, Sir Maxwell Hicks, Messrs J. W. Beaumont Pease, Noel E. Peck, T. E. Thirlaway, and Edmund Hill (general secretary of the Federation of British Industries). Arrangements will be made for forwarding fresh samples to meet the ship at any particular spot, so keeping the exhibition both up to date and appropriate to the countries visited.

Leipzig Exhibition, 1914.—A report received from the Department of Overseas Trade states that of the exhibits displayed in the British Pavilion and the Graphic Arts Building, no less than 98 per cent. have been returned. "It is gratifying to record that up to the present time the only claims for damage and missing objects amount approximately to £650 only. In the unique circumstances these results are as gratifying as they are surprising, and most creditable to all concerned."

A LECTURE conference for welfare supervisors, at Balliol College, Oxford, organised by the Industrial Welfare Society, is to be held on September 15th to 20th. The secretary is Mr C. Cullen, 51 Palace street, S.W. 1.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—NEW LAWS TO REGULATE GRAIN EXCHANGES AND PACKING HOUSES, AND TO FACILITATE AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS—RAILROAD REFUNDING BILL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, August 26.

CONGRESS adjourned this week for a 30-day recess, leaving unfinished a great deal of work that it was expected to accomplish. But in the five months' session just ended some legislation was enacted that is of more far-reaching importance and significance than is generally realised. The outstanding feature of the past session is the number of new laws passed at the request, and presumably in the interest, of farmers. Among such measures is the Bill regulating grain exchanges, which authorises the Secretary of Agriculture to watch the business activities and operations of all grain brokers, and to regulate them, although his decisions are subject to appeal to a Commission. Another law seeks to regulate the packing industry in the same way. In short, supervision of the grain exchanges and packing houses is to be much the same as that exercised by the Interstate Commerce Commission over the railroads. Singularly enough, these two measures have been passed by an Administration which from the beginning has preached "less government in business." In addition to the foregoing legislation, a Bill was passed authorising the use of Government credit and funds, through the War Finance Corporation, to assist bankers and others in the export of agricultural products, although loans are not to be made direct to farmers. Still another measure in the interest of the agricultural community is the new statute which adds \$35,000,000 of Government funds to the farm loan banks.

Considerable disappointment is felt over the failure of Congress to enact legislation for the relief of the railroads. The Administration's Railroad Refunding Bill was passed by the House of Representatives, but not in time to be acted upon by the Senate. It is expected that strong pressure will be brought to bear, if necessary, upon the latter to secure prompt action when Congress reconvenes; but that will not be until a month hence, and present indications are that it will be late in the autumn, and perhaps not until the close of the calendar year, before the railroads will receive the benefit which the measure is designed to afford, even should the Senate acquiesce without delay in the Bill as adopted by the House. As it now stands, the measure authorises the War Finance Corporation to buy or sell securities of the railroads to the amount of \$500,000,000. It contains a provision that the securi-

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President

JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



ties which were pledged with the Federal Railroad Administration, during the period of Government control and operation, for improvements and equipment shall not be bought or sold at less than their original cost. The War Finance Corporation has \$400,000,000, but a part thereof must be devoted to other purposes. With its available funds, however, and the amount in the hands of the Railroad Administration, it is thought that the total will be sufficient to purchase the securities. If not, the corporation is authorised to sell some of its own bonds for that purpose. One section of the Bill prohibits any of the funds being used to pay the railroads for the alleged inefficiency of labour during Government control.

Developments in the railroad situation are being very closely watched; some are favourable and encouraging, while others have created fresh uncertainties. The Pennsylvania Railroad, for instance, has finally taken issue with the United States Railroad Labour Board over two recent decisions by that body. It has asked the Board to set aside its recent decision upholding and extending for the most part the operation of the shop crafts rules, affecting 137 carriers, which were established by the Federal Railroad Administration during Government control. The Pennsylvania avers that the Labour Board has no power or authority in law to extend the so-called national agreements, entered into with various labour unions, but which were terminated on July 1st of this year. It has also requested the Board to vacate its recent order for a new election of representatives of employees on the Pennsylvania system to confer with the management for the purpose of framing new working agreements. The Board had decided that the previous election was improperly conducted and therefore null and void, and set aside the rules and regulations adopted and put into effect by the Pennsylvania as a result of the conference held with employee representatives chosen at that election. The company claims that the election was in all respects legal and fair. The vast majority of the men themselves have since expressed the opinion that the election was fair, and that the working conditions agreed upon were satisfactory.

Meanwhile strike ballots are being prepared by leaders of the "Big Four" brotherhoods and the Switchmen's Union for submission to the 400,000 members of those organisations, including trainmen, firemen, engineers, conductors, and switchmen. The ballots, it is understood, call attention to the unsatisfactory negotiations with railroad managers at conferences as to whether or not the carriers intended to ask for further wage decreases, in addition to the 12 per cent. average reduction effective July 1st, and to seek the elimination of time and one-half for overtime. Members are to be asked if they are satisfied to continue to work under such conditions. The voting is to begin September 1st, but fully a month will probably be required to complete the referendum. This movement plainly indicates that union labour leaders are seeking a virtual guarantee that wages and working rules will not be changed to their detriment, regardless of possible developments in the future, which might make such readjustments necessary. That, at least, is how their latest move, in calling for a strike ballot, is generally construed. As there are some four or five million men out of employment in this country, if recent estimates are correct, perhaps union railway employees will think twice, however, before they quit their jobs.

July railroad earnings statements now coming to hand continue to show the result of the wage reduction which became effective July 1st. The Pennsylvania Railroad, for example, shows gross income for July of \$41,231,622, a decrease of \$9,978,199 as compared with the corresponding month of last year. Nevertheless, the company shows net operating income of \$4,880,247, an increase of \$4,349,191 over the amount reported for July, 1920. That favourable result was due largely to a reduction of \$6,000,000 approximately in maintenance of equipment, and a reduction of some \$6,000,000 also in transportation expenses. Total operating expenditures were \$33,537,337, a decrease of \$14,795,238. Southern Pacific's gross earnings for July, \$22,627,508, were \$1,180,636 less than in the like month a year ago, but net operating income of \$3,453,454 was \$462,890 larger. Similarly good results are reported by other railroads.

FRANCE.—THE FINANCIAL AGREEMENT—RECORD CROPS—NEW CAPITAL FOR BANQUE DE PARIS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, September 6.

ONE subject is interesting the French financial world to the exclusion momentarily of all others, namely, the famous Inter-Allied Financial Agreement of August 13th. M. Doumer, the Finance Minister, it will be remembered, signed this agreement for France, but the signature was only to be valid if it was approved by the French Cabinet. The idea that England should divide with Belgium the first milliard of marks was received by the French Cabinet with almost as much consternation as it was received by the general public. Matters were made all the more critical here by the publication of M. Keynes' article in the *Sunday Times* as to the probability of Germany becoming bankrupt. A further thing that has increased uneasiness is the publication of M. Edgar Crammond's view on the thesis that Germany ought only to pay in so far as the payment made by her did not upset the economic equilibrium of the world. Consequently the fear is very generally felt here that France may be faced in the comparatively near future with a bankrupt Germany. In this event she would receive nothing of the amount due for reparation. On the invitation of Sir Robert Horne, M. Doumer is visiting London on Friday, and will discuss this and certain other points on the agreement with him. Considering how keenly it is felt here that the allocation of the milliard would constitute a great injustice to France, the tone of the Press is admirable. The leading journals all write with very great restraint, expressing the hope that an agreement can be reached that will prove satisfactory to both parties.

The Reparation Commission has issued a statement to the effect that subject to the final adjustment of the accounts, the payment of the milliard of marks gold due under Article Five of the Schedule of Payments has been

effected. It will be remembered that under this Article it was communicated to the German Government, on May 5, 1921, that Germany should pay within 25 days from the notification contained in the Schedule a sum of one milliard gold marks in gold or approved foreign currencies, or approved foreign bills, or in drafts at three months on the German Treasury endorsed by approved German banks. Germany had, on May 31st, paid to the Reparation Commission approximately 160,400,000 gold marks in approved foreign currency, and had supplied drafts at three months on the German Treasury, endorsed by approved German banks, for the remainder of the milliard gold marks. The Reparation Commission has received in approved foreign currencies from the German Government a total of approximately 770,000,000 gold marks in redemption of these drafts. The German Government has, moreover, shipped gold specie to New York to complete payment of the one milliard gold marks due under the provisions of the Schedule of Payments referred to above.

Despite the Jeremiahs of the farmers as regards the deplorable effects of the drought—a set of sluice gates in Paris has not been touched for 15 months, though within the recollection of the gate-keepers the longest previous period of idleness has been three months—the harvest returns constitute records from several points of view. There has never been a year when the yield of wheat to the hectare has averaged 12.70 quintals, and the total harvest of 87,843,770 quintals, which shows an increase on last year's crops of 23,361,590 quintals, approaches very nearly to the best previous record for France. The result is extremely satisfactory, as it makes France nearly independent of foreign grown wheat, an important fact when it is remembered that she has to pay a heavy penalty on all such purchases owing to the exchange. The following are the figures as published this week provisionally in the *Journal Officiel* :—

Wheat: Surface cultivated 5,329,830 hectares; yield 87,843,770 quintals, average weight of the hectolitre 78.32 kilogrammes, mean yield to the hectare 16.48 quintals.

Millet: Surface cultivated 108,220 hectares; production, 460,880 quintals; mean weight to the hectolitre, 74.72 kilogrammes, mean yield to the hectare 13.49 quintals.

Rye: Surface cultivated 874,270 hectares; yield 11,302,030 quintals, mean weight to the hectolitre 73.91 kilogrammes, mean yield to the hectare 12.92 quintals.

Details of the new issue of capital by the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas have been issued to-day. The Banque has decided to increase its capital from 150 to 200 million francs, and proposes to issue 100,000 new shares of nominal value of 500f. The shares will be reserved by preference to the present shareholders, who will have a right to take up the new shares in the proportion of one new to three old shares. The price of issue has been fixed at 750f, that is, at a premium of 250f a share; 375f are payable on subscribing, and the balance is payable by the end of the year. The shares will pay 5 per cent. interest after September 25th, and interest thus earned will be deducted from the sums payable by the end of the year. As it is pointed out below, the issue has had a very stimulating effect on the Bourse, because the Banque de Paris is well known as one of the leading commercial banks in Paris. Consequently, it is hoped that the long-expected trade revival may really be at hand.

The general tendency towards a rise that has been typical of the last few weeks has entered on a new phase characterised by a very brisk advance. The reasons for the improved position are clear and unmistakable. For some time past there have been no considerable issues of capital, and in consequence the effects of French thrift have been able to make themselves felt. The situation was consequently such that the market was ready to react to any cause that might stimulate speculation. This cause has been given by the Banque de Paris, which has announced an increase of capital. Buyers have all interpreted this news as meaning that there will be a trade recovery at an early date, and consequently stocks of all sorts have shared in the upward movement. Banks are notably in demand, Banque de Paris moving up from 1,363 to 1,435. Crédit Lyonnais has improved from 1,422 to 1,495, Comptoir National d'Escompte from 966 to 990,

Union Parisienne from 868 to 898, while the Société Générale has held its own at 703. Petrol securities have shared in the general optimism, Royal Dutch strengthening from 18,400 to 19,000, Shell from 229 to 240, and Mexican Eagles from 221 to 243. Transports have been well supported, Metro being up from 405 to 414, Chargeurs Réunis from 595 to 639, and Messageries Maritimes from 238 to 245. Metallurgical undertakings still remain depressed, and improvements in value are only trifling. Acières de France have advanced from 575 to 585, Gnome from 420 to 430, and Peugeot from 470 to 525, while Micheville have dropped from 1,060 to 982. In electrical undertakings Thomson is stronger at 890 as against 880, and the Compagnie Générale d'Electricité at 1,000 as against 980. Despite the low price of metals some mining securities are higher. Thus Tintos have moved from 1,440 to 1,500, Boléo from 370 to 400, and Penarroya from 1,050 to 1,080.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	DEBTOR.		
	Sept. 1, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 4, 1913
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	570,413,090	570,689,317	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	976,441,278	959,197,391	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,024,735,420	36,782,939,925	5,658,521,815
Interest on securities	59,467,329	62,509,565	28,319,282
Bank notes to order	40,729,526	1,034,924	4,200,442
Treasury account	40,732,974	61,821,914	268,333,993
Current accounts, Paris	1,708,617,538	1,672,328,016	599,291,708
Do branch banks	1,086,845,880	1,014,813,126	107,035,796
Dividends payable	6,242,686	6,613,366	3,093,568
Discounts and sundries	47,523,435	45,669,305	14,340,016
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,028,713,522	1,050,014,122	328,829,095
Total	42,821,008,978	42,495,787,269	7,242,522,957

	CREDITOR.		
	Sept. 1, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 4, 1913
Cash in hand	5,799,214,138	5,793,884,325	4,081,153,372
Balances abroad	627,337,189	626,563,487	..
Commercial bills overdue	45,781,261	307,700	78,675
Discounts in Paris	1,433,966,837	1,524,765,286	487,350,761
Foreign bills	4,615,216	4,347,978	18,725,409
Treasury bills	53,858	179,194	..
Discounts in branches	1,086,360,735	928,821,363	1,138,020,845
Advanced payments, Paris and branches	71,325,721	70,601,949	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	728,000
Do on public securities	420,232,039	409,969,482	210,694,352
Do on branch banks	1,731,575,367	1,743,783,055	529,015,023
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,300,000,000	24,900,000,000	5,793,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,070,000,000	4,062,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,983,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	47,101,177	47,100,983	42,985,141
Expenses and management	15,381,976	14,346,441	5,601,527
Special reserve	8,407,439	8,407,438	8,407,384
Sundries	1,730,942,783	1,926,995,277	301,403,904
Total	42,821,008,978	42,495,787,269	7,242,522,957

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

	%
Discount	5
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	5

GERMANY. — WAGES AND PRODUCTION COST — EXCHANGE AND BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, September 5.

THE German price level cost of living and wages, which are attracting so much attention in England, are not difficult to treat independently as a matter of statistics. They are less clear and less enlightening when treated from the standpoint of present English interest, that is, as indications of Germany's ability to undersell competitors in international trade. On the first point there are accurate records and indexes. But the second question is complicated by numerous factors which by their nature cannot be adequately recorded or indexed. One can give German nominal wages, real wages, gold wages, and wages expressed in sterling, gulden, or crowns (which are not gold wages), compare these with wages in the assumed competing countries, and find summarily that they mean exceedingly cheap production and export. But

AKTIEBOLAGET UNIONBANKEN I FINLAND.

Amalgamation of:
WASA AKTIE BANK, establi. 1879.
ÅBO AKTIEBANK, " 1896.
LANDTMANNABANKEN, A.B., " 1910.
Head Offices: WASA, ÅBO, HELSINGFORS.
57 Branches.
Capital Paid Up and Reserves:
Fmk. 235,000,000.
Telegr. Address: "Unionbank."
Every description of Banking business transacted.

a non-German manufacturer who in his particular branch adopted this easy method of ascertaining whether he could compete with Germans would find himself very far from the truth. To be correct, he would first also have to calculate the proportion of wage outlay in total production cost of the particular article, and, secondly, to calculate the cost of raw material, here distinguishing between German-produced raw material, which is usually cheap, and German-imported raw material, for which the Germans at a given exchange must pay the same price as their competitors. By this means, and by estimating rent, taxes, and other secondary factors, he might get an apparently trustworthy estimate of German production cost. But as German wage indexes are mostly based on hour, day, or week work, and as an international comparison of piece pay rates is impossible, the estimate would still be wrong, because the relative productivity of labour would not be taken into account. On this point there are no reliable data. It follows that the summary method of comparing German and foreign production cost is misleading, and in practice it would never be applied by a foreign manufacturer desirous of ascertaining German production cost in a particular branch. By the summary method he might find, as appears in some letters to English newspapers, that German average production cost in all branches is in gold about the same as before the war, but in particular branches he would find that German paper-mark production cost has risen between tenfold and fortyfold, that is, that gold production cost varies roughly between 50 per cent. below and 100 per cent. above pre-war cost. Finally, even exact knowledge of the production cost of a German article does not settle the competition question, because Germans, certain goods excepted, are not allowed to export at home sale prices when these are materially below those of high exchange countries. The real competing price of German goods is in most cases the minimum export price fixed by the Foreign Trade Boards (Aussenhandelsstellen), which has nothing to do with home production cost, but is based upon the selling prices of competing high exchange countries.

Were export pricing free, German wages, with the above important qualifications, would be a safe enough guide to production cost. As it is, they have only statistical value. Nominal (paper mark) wages rose about elevenfold between 1914 and the end of July, 1921. This figure refers to Frankfurt-on-Main, and is taken from the *Frankfurter Zeitung's* monthly report, which is most up to date. For ten important trades the wages index (100 in 1914) is 1,103. In some trades the increase is much greater—up to sixteenfold. Absolute wages in pfennigs per hour at different dates were:—

	1914.	Jan., 1920.	Jan., 1921.	July, 1921.
Bricklayers and carpenters	65	300	680	700
Metal workers	62	287	660	660
Soap workers	45	284	590	630
Food-products workers	44	275	580	708
Boot factory workers	63	270	470	600
Wood workers	63	265	675	675
Decorators	61	260	630	690
Rubber workers	50	235	600	640
Chemical workers	48	220	600	640
Miners (per shift)	449	2,700	4,860	5,410

This list does not contain textiles wages, because here only wages since the beginning of 1920 are available. The weaver wage (Augsburg) is given as 326 pf an hour

in January, 1920, and 514 pf since November 1st last. The tables in general show that wages increased most rapidly in the first months of 1920, when, after a heavy mark exchange fall, the cost of living rose rapidly. Between 1914 and January, 1920, the wage index rose from 100 to 450, thereafter until end of July this year to 1,103. The index for 28 trades is: 100, January, 1920; 180, July 1st; 207, January, 1921; and 220 end July, 1921. The cost of living fell considerably in the first months of this year, but wages did not decline in any of the 28 trades, and were stationary only in four. Outside Germany, at least in the high exchange countries, wages tended to fall, but the foreign price levels began to fall long before the German, and fell more. Three months back, before the German price fall had gone far enough to cause a reduction of wages, began a new heavy drop in mark exchange, with a sharp increase in the general price level and in the cost of living. Since early in August there has been a general demand for higher wages, which in some cases has succeeded. At present the wage movement is upward.

German gold wages, or (what is not the same thing) sterling wages, can be calculated from the above figures, and very different results will be obtained, according to the date and exchange taken, but the gold wage at any date was much lower than in England. To-day this gold wage is considerably lower than at the beginning of the year. So are, in gold, German commodities prices and cost of living, because in this matter the mark exchange leads, and when the mark falls the adjustment in shape of higher commodities prices and cost of living follows. The real wage of German workmen, which is sometimes confused with the gold wage, does not directly concern German production cost and ability to compete internationally; but it is interesting because on it are based certain theories as to German standard of living, and in particular as to the willingness of German workmen to bear, in shape of a harder life, the reparations liabilities and other war burdens. Facts about this were lately given in the *Economist*. The main fact is that the cost of living has not risen so rapidly as wages; the buying power of the present average wage is higher than before the war, and the real wage has risen. The increase in real wage varies materially from month to month, and is ultimately governed, like everything else, by the mark exchange, but only considerable changes in the exchange, maintained for a considerable time, have any visible effect. The cost of food in the world market plays a secondary rôle. When the mark exchange is falling the real wage also at first falls, because on the exchange fall follows an increase in living cost, and wages do not go up until workmen have had time for agitation. When the mark exchange is rising the real wage increases, because the cost of living falls, and the nominal wage does not fall, though it no doubt would fall were the higher mark level and the lower living cost to last sufficiently long. This has never been the case in the last 20 months.

The cost of living indexes vary materially. The average of six indexes, all beginning with January, 1920, shows the following movement, besides which I put the nominal wage index for 10 trades:—

1920.	Cost of Living.	Wages.
January	100	100
March	132	120
May	154	164
July	150	180
September	138	182
October	147	186
December	165	196
1921.		
January	161	207
March	157	..
May	153	216
June	156	..
July	168	220

These figures prove that the real wage has increased in the last two years. The figures for January and March, 1920, show how, when a particularly heavy fall takes place in mark exchange with corresponding rise in living cost, the real wage, not keeping pace at first, declines.

As compared with 1914, the real wage has also risen. In January, 1921, the official cost of living figure for all Germany reached a high point (100 in 1914) of 924. In that month the wage index for nine trades was 1095.

After that followed a drop in the cost of living to a new low point of 880 (May), but wages continued slowly upward, so that the real wage increased. With the latest mark exchange drop, cost of living rose rapidly, wages lagged behind, and the real wage declined; but it remains higher than before the war. At the end of July the official cost of living index figure was 963, as against 1103 for wages; but at end of August the cost of living figure was 1045, the wage index being not yet reported. The new wage increase agitation of August is on the basis of this new increase in cost of living; and a general wage rise is inevitable, the State having already led the way with its employees. There is, therefore, yet no sign of the real wage falling to the pre-war level. The real wage has been kept high mainly by the State policy of paying price-cheapening subsidies on food, enforcing maximum prices, and keeping dwelling rents practically at pre-war level, so that part of the industrial wage has been really paid by the State, the food-producers, and the house-owners. Maximum prices and subsidies have now practically come to an end, and the Government, as already reported, is considering an all-round increase of rents, the yield of which is to go to the State in shape of interest on State mortgages. These measures, apart from coming taxes and the exchange fall, must send up the cost of living; but, judging from the past, Labour will compensate itself in shape of higher wages; and the question who is ultimately to bear the burden will remain unsolved.

Stocks last week again rose, and the market was very active. To-day, with sterling exchange rising to 338.60, and the dollar to 91.10, there was a wild buying panic, and some papers rose 100 points. Preferred last week were Westphalian mining and metal stocks, and certain engineering stocks, and one chemicals stock rose 435 points. Bank stocks were mostly weaker. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* Bourse index shows 20,193 for September 2nd, against 19,475 a week earlier, 13,438 on March 5th, and 17,013 at the high point of January. Average quotations in this index are 133 per cent. higher than on January 1, 1920. To-day, War Loan quoted 77.50, 4 per cent. Federal 77.60, 3½ per cent. 67.40, 3 per cent. 75.60, Colonial 4 per cent. 66.10, and Savings and Premium 79.80. The Reichsbank statement for August 31st shows a new heavy demand for State credit. The holding of discounted Treasury bills rose by 9,012,774,000 marks to 84,048,891,000 marks. State deposits increased by 2,707,845,000 marks to 4,850,843,000 marks, and private deposits by 802,278,000 marks to 8,798,756,000 marks. Note circulation increased by 2,882,146,000 marks to 80,072,721,000 marks; Kassenscheine fell by 20,200,000 marks to 7,836,900,000 marks. From the gold reserve, which has been practically constant of late, 68,000,000 marks was parted with for the one milliard gold mark reparations payment on August 31st. Of new capital for all purposes was raised in August, 1,227,780,000 marks, against 1,506,670,000 marks in July. Total new capital raised in the first eight months of the year was 14,332,580,000 marks, of which 2,432,130,000 for new foundations, 8,357,150,000 marks for capital increases, and 3,543,200,000 for bonds.

INDIA.—THE BOYCOTT OF FOREIGN GOODS— FIRMER EXCHANGE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, August 13.

THROUGHOUT this Presidency during the past fortnight there has reigned a condition of political unrest and Non-co-operationist activity, directly attributable to the presence of Mr Gandhi and his followers in Bombay. Mr Gandhi has now instigated a boycott of foreign cloth. On the first anniversary of the death of Mr Lok. Tilak, English- and Japanese-made caps and coats, and other items of wearing apparel of foreign manufacture, were publicly burnt on the Chowpatty sands here. Foreign cloth in the eyes of Mr Gandhi is tainted, and the "dumb millions" of Indians who are cringing beneath the iron heel of our "Satanic Government" (a favourite expression of Mr Mohammed Ali) are being persuaded to cleanse themselves by destroying all clothing not spun in India. The movement is but a passing phase of irritation. The

Government and police authorities are ignoring it; the cloth merchants and general importers have no intention of observing the boycott, and a natural death to the movement is predicted with confidence.

Counter-activities of a constitutional order are also taking place in the city of Bombay in connection with the coming visit of the Prince of Wales. An influential reception committee, with the Governor at its head, has been formed, and a subscription list opened. Many well-known Indians have already come forward with amounts varying between Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 25,000 each.

The rupee exchange has remained unusually firm of late, owing mainly to our export of gold and the absence of demands for remittances. It has been suggested that the Gandhi boycott of foreign cloth is responsible for the firmness, and a belief has gained ground in certain quarters that there will be a great decrease in the imports of Lancashire goods, and that within a short period the balance of trade will again swing round in favour of India. If the boycott was to prove a success, such a state of affairs would tend to materialise; but by some just a little too much faith is being placed in the powers of the Non-co-operationist leader. Telegraphic transfer has reached 1s 3¼d during the past week, and the three months' buying rate is gradually improving, now standing at 1s 4½d.

Two bank dividends of 14 per cent. per annum have been declared within the last two days, the concerns being the Central Bank of India, Limited, with a net profit for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, of Rs. 7,52,286; and the Bank of India, Limited, with a net profit for the same period of Rs. 11,13,028. The average Bank rate for the six months was 6.18 per cent., as compared with 6.98 per cent. for the corresponding period of 1920. The Imperial Bank of India has issued its report of its first five months' activities—viz., January 27 to June 30, 1921. A net profit of Rs. 58,14,793 was returned, and a 16 per cent. income-tax, free dividend, declared. In the case of the Imperial Bank, the average rate for these five months is put at 6.038 per cent.

SWEDEN.—DEPRESSION—ORE EXPORTS—CURRENCY CONTRACTION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, September 1.

UNDER ordinary circumstances a revival of trade is always felt at this time of the year, but this can hardly be said at present. The daily papers try to encourage the public by giving accounts of business transacted, but these newspaper reports refer to very limited quantities, and, of course, hideously low prices, at which enormous losses are brought on the sellers, and maybe also on buyers, because everything is still falling, except taxes and rents. Talking of the former, the Swedish Taxpayers' Union has recently strongly criticised the way in which the Board of Domain Administrators are financially working. The receipts of this institution amounted during the first six months of this year to 11 million kr and the expenses to 17 million kr, as against the corresponding period last year 21.6 million kr and 12.6 million kr respectively, and while last year there was a net surplus of 8.9 million kr, the first half-year 1921 has left a loss of 6 million kr. What is specially criticised is the fact that while the receipts this year are far less the expenses have exceeded those of 1920, and that sums which have been granted are spent notwithstanding the deterioration in trade and industry. It is regretted that the policy which is adopted by this department in attending to its affairs is one of extreme bureaucracy, and totally devoid of sound business principles. The depression in the iron and steel industry is more accentuated than ever, and the production and exports of pig-iron show a substantial falling off. At the meeting of the Ironworks Association recently it was reported that of 134 furnaces registered only 20 were working at the end of July last, as against 50 furnaces at the end of the first quarter this year. At the same time the exports of iron ores from Sweden show better figures, showing during the first seven months this year a total of 2.56 million tons as against 1.9 million tons last year. The



"The Swedish Bank
of Commerce"

bulk of ores goes to Germany, *via* Holland, and it seems that there is still a considerable demand for Swedish ore with the German works. The prices for Swedish high-grade ores have gone down to the extent of almost 30 per cent., but deliveries are mostly made on old long-standing contracts. It is the same thing with iron ores as with ready-made or half-finished iron and steel products, prices are below cost of production. The contemplated fusion between two of the leading concerns in the telephone industry—the L. M. Ericson Company and the Cedergeren Industrial Company—has been completed, and the deal will no doubt contribute to a strong consolidation of the Swedish telephone industry for the production of telephone and telegraph apparatus and accessories. Financial reports show that lately the circulation of notes has declined and that the lowest figure on record has been reached, viz., 585.2 million kr, as compared with 694.6 last year at this time. A steady decrease in the amount of domestic bills in the Riksbank is also to be noted, the total amount of this portfolio having gone down to 375.9 as compared with 598 million kr at this time last year. Activities on the Stock Exchange are more restricted than ever, with a total turnover during last month of 9.3 million kr, which is also a fresh bottom record. We expect a better and quieter tone in the labour market after the settlement of the shipping strikes, and undoubtedly the negotiations for fresh agreements, which will be taken up at the end of the year when a number of agreements expire, will go smoother. The Baltic shipping season has still some months to go until the ice will close up probably one of the worst trade campaigns in history.

SWITZERLAND.—THE BANKERS' CONGRESS— REDUCED CLEARING TURNOVER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, September 6.

THE annual meeting—held on September 3rd and 4th in St Gall—of the Swiss Bankers' Union approved the point of view of Mr de Haller, late manager of the Swiss National Bank, now managing director of the Basle Commercial Bank, namely, that every attempt at inflation in Switzerland must be fought with the utmost energy. All endeavours to help Swiss export industry by the means of printing fresh banknotes, in order to open for Swiss goods a ready market in countries with depreciated currencies, are to be considered as wrong means of fighting against the present industrial crisis. In the discussion there was nobody who defended the project of export premiums such as proposed by the Union of Watch Manufacturers. On the contrary, the present manager of the Swiss National Bank underlined that there is still in Switzerland ruling a certain inflation, which causes a depreciation of the Swiss franc in the United States, the markets of which country are of utmost importance for the Swiss supply of raw materials and foodstuffs. It is to be expected that this unanimous view of the Union of Swiss Bankers will influence the attitude of Swiss authorities, who unfortunately are only too often inclined to accept short-sighted Protectionist proposals, such as export premiums to watch manufacturers.

The commercial crisis ruling in this country had the effect that in August, 1921, the turnover of the Swiss clearing houses amounted to only 959.7 millions as

against 1,132.9 millions in August of last year. Up to February, 1921, the turnover in Swiss clearing houses was steadily increasing, in spite of the serious industrial crisis felt since August of last year. But this was chiefly due to the considerable transactions in foreign exchanges. In recent weeks there is a visible recovery in Stock Exchange transactions, but a very sensible decline in transactions in foreign exchanges. Thus since April of this year every month shows a sharp reduction of turnover in clearing houses in comparison with the previous year. In the same proportion the amount of transactions in banking business are declining.

Letters to the Editor.

A TABULAR STANDARD OF VALUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Most of your correspondents whose interesting views upon trade depression and currency have appeared in the *Economist*, whether they favour a gold standard or not, seem to think that trade could in some way be kept flourishing by some form of financial policy. Those who favour a gold standard still think that credit can be founded upon the value of goods or other securities, and constitute increased purchasing power, which may be controlled in some measure to keep prices steady. So that Mr Craies' "tabular standard" seems to sum up most of the suggestions for getting a satisfactory form of currency.

Mr Craies' learned presentment of the proposal is certainly picturesque, but it is to us a little unconvincing. All such schemes seem to involve a mysterious process of basing a standard of value upon the price of a number of commodities, the prices of which are to be determined by the very standard which they are to determine. This seems a complete circle of each depending upon the other, and could Mr Craies explain where the circle starts?

Then there is the difficulty that this artificial standard is to be based on index numbers, which we pointed out last week are of doubtful value, because they do not show any change in the price of labour. All these schemes are based on index numbers which leave out the price of labour (usually considered by economists the most important commodity of all). How are we to know the value of this most important commodity? It is hard to see how we can fix the price of anything, or base anything on that price, without first knowing the price of labour.

So far as we know, the only test of the real money value of labour is to find how much gold it can produce in a given time. If it can produce one ounce, its value is £4 (approximately); and can never be anything else but what it has produced. Unless we can find some new standard, and can express our prices in that standard (*i.e.*, go into a shop and ask for, say, 60 wheat grains' worth of pins), it is quite useless to invent grand schemes for measuring prices in terms of gold while basing the measure of that price on the price of things other than gold. It would be exactly like selling coal by the bushel, the size of the bushel to be fixed by the average size of all the other things in the shop.—Yours faithfully,

ALBERT AND PERCY WALLIS
(ALBERT WALLIS).

Westacre, Kettering, September 5th, 1921.

MONETARY POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The concluding sentence of your leading article of August 27th, and Mr W. J. Cook's letter published in the same issue, encourage the hope that a workable plan is emerging from this controversy. That is, that sufficient credit should be granted to producers on easy terms to restore our full production, with strict precautions against speculation, the expansion of currency and credit to be regulated by the guidance of an index number of prices, so as to keep the price level steady. Thus the

question of the restoration of the gold standard would be postponed, and, if the new system worked well, might eventually be quietly dropped.—Your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.

4 Bunhill row, London, E.C. 1., August 31st, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Sweden as Producer of Wood Goods, Pulp, Paper, Tar, and Other Forest Products." (Stockholm) A. B. Svenska Teknolog Förenigens Förlag.

"Iron and Steel in Sweden." (Same publishers.)

THESE handsome volumes are published under the supervision of the associations representing the respective trade associations, and are themselves an excellent sample of the products of the paper manufactures of Sweden. The industries dealt with in the first comprise wooden goods, joinery, wood pulp, cellulose, paper, and wood distillation, and their sub-divisions, and the seeker after any one of more than 500 of their products, or of more than half that number of kinds of iron and steel goods, can instantly find the postal and telegraphic addresses of firms who will supply anything from pit props and turpentine to greaseproof paper and dolls' furniture, or from pig-iron to steel for watch springs, the most convenient port for shipment, and, in many of the more important branches, the average output of the leading firms during the three years before production was upset by the war. Then there are illustrated descriptions of some of the more important undertakings, several of which, beginning as mining companies, date back to the seventeenth century, and one even to the fourteenth. The illustrations show how fortunate the industry of Sweden is in its natural surroundings, and there are also useful maps, and accounts of the services of the Svenska Handelsbank to the wood industries, and of the Jernkontor, or Iron and Steel Institute, to the iron trades. The indices are in English, French, and Spanish, and the books, while excellent for trade purposes, form interesting contributions to commercial geography and history.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

British Labour Replacement and Conciliation, 1914-21. Being the Result of Conferences and Investigations by Committees of Section F of the British Association. (London) Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Limited. 10s 6d net.

Economic Sophisms. By Frederic Bastiat. Translated by Patrick James Stirling, with an Introduction by the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith. New Impression. (London) T. Fisher Unwin, Limited. 7s 6d net.

Consumers' Co-operative Societies. By Charles Gide. Translated from the French by the Staff of the Co-operative Reference Library, Dublin. (Manchester) Co-operative Union, Limited. 7s 6d net.

Foreign Exchange and Foreign Bills in Theory and in Practice. By William F. Spalding. Fourth Edition. (London) Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Limited. 7s 6d net.

Currency and Prices in Australia. The Joseph Fisher Lecture in Commerce. By D. B. Copeland. (Adelaide) G. Hassell and Son.

Transvaal Chamber of Mines. Thirty-first Annual Report. Year 1920. (Johannesburg) Offices of the Transvaal Chamber of Mines.

Monthly Review. August 31, 1921. (London) Offices of London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.

Monthly Review. September, 1921. (London) Offices of Barclays Bank, Limited.

Cabled Reports from Branches. September 6, 1921. Vol. I., No. 30. (London) Offices of the Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, 62 Old Broad street, E.C. 2.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. ACCOUNT.
September 13. September 14.

The principal event of the week in the Stock Exchange markets has been the violent fall in Grand Trunk stocks brought about by the decision of two out of the three arbitrators that the Grand Trunk preferences and ordinary stocks are valueless. The effect of this decision was to shake Grand Trunks severely, and several other markets are involved in the débacle which has fallen upon the stocks. It is said, for instance, that Liverpool operators have been badly hit, and that this accounts for a fresh outburst of oil selling from the North. Business has been tolerably active in some of the markets round the House, and investment stocks are well maintained.

National War Bonds, Bank of England stock, India Government securities and War Fours all stand higher on the week. The colonial list is steady without showing further improvements, but Home Railway preference stocks have advanced, in spite of the Stock Exchange theory that the outlook is still uncertain, and that this week's speeches at the Trade Union Congress at Cardiff do not point to any appreciation on the part of some of the Labour leaders that hard work and extra production must be regarded as essentials at the present state of affairs.

German bonds have given way, in consequence of the depreciation in the mark. There is nothing much doing in the French issues. Brazilians and other South Americans are rather better, while Uruguay descriptions are inclined to droop.

Home Railway ordinary stocks, after a decline, braced up towards the end of the week, though the jobbers admitted that there was not much public business at the back of the movement. Some of the Grand Trunk prices have fallen almost in half as compared with the prices ruling earlier this week. The debenture and guaranteed issues are not much affected, of course, but the announcement of the arbitrators caused a cataclysm in the market for the first preference and other junior stocks. Mexican Rails are dormant. Brazilians have improved in most cases, though United of Havana and Argentine Rails are what the Stock Exchange calls droopy, the Argentine traffics being regarded as disappointing.

Rubber shares continue weak, but the Oil market has given a fresh taste of its quality for meteoric movement by violent rises and equally rapid falls. The bulls took their stand upon the agreement that is supposed to have been reached between the United States and the Mexican Governments, paving the way, it is claimed, to recognition of the latter by the former. This brought about the rise already mentioned, but Liverpool sold heavily on the advance, and a swift reaction followed. Shipping shares are better, thanks to the improved prospects that are declared to have opened in the trade during the past week. The excitement in the raw cotton market brought about slight improvement in textiles, though it was accompanied by no animation worth mentioning so far as the London market was concerned. The rise in Egyptian cotton exercised an important effect upon most Egyptian stocks and shares, prices advancing buoyantly. Rumours of amalgamation in the insurance market caused a little animation here. The brewery market is firmer. Iron, coal, and steel shares, after being better, became somewhat dull on the speeches at the Cardiff Congress. The wireless group is a little better. Gas stocks have boomed, some 50 prices adding to their quotations this week. Following in the wake of this improvement, electricity shares are also hardening, although the manufacturing shares of the group remain heavy, by reason of the fears that have arisen in regard to possible German competition.

Kaffirs pursue an uneven and erratic path. Their progress is dictated mainly by Cape and Paris orders, the public on this side doing comparatively little. The August returns served to cheer the market, and on balance prices are better on the week. Chartered moved up again, on the hopes of what General Smuts may be able to do in connection with Southern Rhodesia. Two or three Rhodesian mining shares are better, by reason

of good developments that have been reported. De Beers and Jagers have risen sharply on Paris purchases, yet the market was always somewhat nervous. Copper shares are again harder, and a few West African tin shares are better, thanks to the idea that the price of the metal is on the eve of recovering. Esperanzas have once again risen above 20s. Other mining sections are uninteresting.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	154,081,480	..	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,024,990
5½ 1929 receipts week ended August 27, 1921	17,120,000
Week ended September 3, 1921	620,000
Receipts to date	17,740,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 3, 1921.

April 1 to September 3, £1,180,000

To the Public—					
Kingdom of Iceland, £500,000 7% 30-year Sterling Loan of 1921, Bonds to Bearer (red. at par 1923-1951), issued at 91%	500,000	..	455,000	..	50,000 .. 405,000
Total offered to public	..	..	455,000	..	50,000 .. 405,000

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921	£367,549,656
1920	1,036,059,951
1919	1,393,381,441
1918	1,318,596,010
1917	885,436,850
1916	685,232,336
1915	512,522,633
1914	196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of July 16th.

British Guiana.—The Government of British Guiana on July 20th issued a prospectus inviting applications for \$5,000,000 6 per cent. debentures at par. These debentures are for a term of 50 years, with the option to the Government to redeem at any time after the expiration of 10 years from date of issue, but subject to 12 months' notice. Clause 3 of the prospectus states that "a sinking fund of such equal annual proportion of the capital sum of the bonds as with interest will be sufficient in the aggregate to pay the same as and when they become payable will be provided for the repayment of the bonds."

Kingdom of Iceland.—This is an offer at 91 per cent. in this country of £500,000 of Kingdom of Iceland 7 per cent. 30-year sterling bonds, to be redeemed by a cumulative sinking fund, beginning in 1923. It is stated that complete redemption will take place by 1951. Power is retained to redeem bonds on giving six months' notice at 103 per cent. These bonds, it is stated, are a direct obligation of the Kingdom of Iceland, and will further be secured by a specific charge on Customs receipts. Average imports for the past six years work out at just over £2 million per annum, and the average annual imports are about the same. Customs receipts for four years to 1920 averaged £148,000 per annum, while the service of this loan costs approximately £41,000 per annum. The total debt of Iceland is given as £1,090,000, including this loan, the value of State properties as £1,450,000, the population as 95,000, and the debt per head £11 10s. Apparently it is intended to apply for a London Stock Exchange quotation at some future date. This is an interesting issue, and those interested in developing trade with Iceland may probably give it support. For the small investor, however, a subscription is somewhat in the nature of treading a pioneer path.

New Southern Van Ryn Gold Mining Company, Limited.—Registered capital £204,375, in shares of 2s 6d each with provision in the articles of association for increasing to £350,000. To make provision for additional working capital the directors of the Southern Van Ryn Reef Gold Mining Company, Limited, are disposing of a portion of its assets to a subsidiary undertaking, with the above title. The consideration is (a) 1,205,000 fully-paid shares of 2s 6d each, (b) £7,500 in cash, (c) and the new company to take over 10 per cent. six-year notes amounting to £3,500, and pay licences

and claims as from July 1, 1921. The following ingenious scheme is proposed to obtain fresh capital:—"Shareholders will retain their shares in the original company, and will receive out of the purchase consideration 1½ shares for every one share held by them in the parent company, the Southern Van Ryn Reef Gold Mining Company, Limited. This will absorb 645,000 shares. Of the balance, 215,000 shares will be given as a bonus to those who subscribe for the new capital, amounting to 430,000 shares, to be offered to the present shareholders at par, and 345,000 are to be paid to the guarantors and promoters of the new company." Our mining correspondent comments upon this flotation in this issue under "Business Notes."

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War 4½, 1925-28 .. 86½	87½	87½	+	Local Loans 3% .. 52½	52½	52½	+
Loans 4½, 1925-45 .. 81½	81½	81½	+	Aust. 5½ debts. 1922-7 .. 95	95	95	+
4½, 1929-47 .. 88½	88½	88½	+	Canada 4½ 1920-25 .. 95	95	95	+
4½, 1929-42 .. 97½	98½	98½	+	India 3½ Stock .. 57½	57½	57½	+
Funding Loan 4% .. 74½	74½	74½	+	Do 3½ Stock .. 102½	102½	102½	+
Victory Loan 1922-27 .. 94	94	94	+	N.S.W. 5½ 1922-27 .. 94	94	94	+
Conversion Loan 3½ 1921-22 .. 62½	62½	62½	+	U.S.A. 4½ 1920-22 .. 93	93	93	+
Consols 2½ .. 47½	47½	47½	+	Victoria 5½ 1924-34 .. 92½	92½	92½	+
Irish Land Stock 2½ .. 48½	48½	48½	+				

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, l.p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10) .. 19½	19½	19½	+
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£20) .. 10½	10½	10½	+
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £24 paid) .. 6½	6½	6½	+	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) .. 8½	8½	8½	+
London County West-minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) .. 14½	14½	14½	+	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) .. 11½	11½	11½	+

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons. .. 46½	46	46	+	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 13 .. 7	7	7	nom.
B. A. & Pacific .. 44½	43½	43½	-	Leopoldina .. 22½	23½	23½	+
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 63	64½	64½	+	Mexican Railway .. 15	15	15	+
Buenos Ayres West. .. 62	62½	62½	+	Do 1st Pref. .. 41	41	41	+
Canadian Pacific .. 49	49½	49½	+	Do 2nd Pref. .. 27	27	27	+
Central Argentine .. 60	60½	60½	+	San Paulo .. 122	122	122	+
Grand Trunk Ord. .. 43	43	43	nom.	United Havana .. 57	55½	55½	- 1½

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio .. 71	72	72	+	Southern .. 26	27	27	+
Erie .. 17	17	17	+	Do Non-cum Pref. .. 61	61	61	+
Do 4% 1st Pref. .. 24	25	25	+				

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentina 5%, 1886-7 .. 94	94	94	+	Italian 3½ Rentes .. 24	24	24	+
Belgian 3% .. 62	62	62	+	Greek Monopoly 4% .. 33½	33½	33½	+
Brazil 5% Fund. 1914 .. 63	63	63	+	Japanese 4½ .. 116	116	116	+
Chilian 4%, 1895 .. 68	68	68	+	Do 4% 1910 .. 65	65	65	+
Chinese 5%, 1912 .. 72½	72½	72½	+	Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 59	59	59	+
Egyptian 4% .. 65	65	65	+	Peruvian Corp. Pref. .. 17	17½	17½	+
French 5% .. 43	42	42	-	Russian 5%, 1906 .. 114	114	114	+
Do 4% .. 33	32	32	-	Spanish 4% .. 71½	71½	71½	+

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" .. 17½	17½	17½	+	Marconi Canada .. 1½	1½	1½	+
Eastern Telegraph .. 163½	162½	162½	-	Marconi Marine .. 1½	1½	1½	+
Marconi Wireless .. 143½	143½	143½	+				

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. .. 9½	9½	9½	+	L. and N.W. .. 71½	71½	71½	+
Great Eastern .. 23	23	23	+	L. & S. Western, Def. 20 .. 15½	15½	15½	+
Great Northern Def. 26 .. 26	26	26	+	Metropolitan District .. 25	25	25	+
Great Western .. 70½	71½	71½	+	Midland Deferred .. 17½	17½	17½	+
London & Yorks. .. 50	51	51	+	London, Brighton, "A" .. 41	41	41	+
London, Chatham & Dover .. 64	64	64	+	North-Eastern .. 72	72½	72½	+
Do Arb. Pref. .. 39	39	39	+	South-Eastern "A" .. 23	23	23	+

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Lipton (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 18½	18½	18½	+	Lobitos Oilfields (£2) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Ass. Pulp. Cement (£1) .. 17½	18½	18½	+	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
B'ham Small Arms (£1) .. 9½	8½	8½	-	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 5	5	5	+
Brazil Traction (£100) .. 272	272	272	+	Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 5	5	5	+
British-American Tobacco (£1) .. 3½	3½	3½	+	North Caucasian (10) .. 12	12	12	+
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) .. 5½	5½	5½	+	Pekin (2) .. 12	12	12	+
Burmah Oil (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Rubber Plantations .. 12	12	12	+
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Shell Transport (£1) .. 4½	5	5	+
Courtauld's (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Smithfield Argentine Meat (£1) .. 7½	13	13	+
Canard (£1) .. 8½	8½	8½	+	Underground Electric (£10) .. 21	21	21	+
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Do "A" (1) .. 7½	7½	7½	+
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) .. 76½	76½	76½	+
Forestal Land (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	United Serdang (2) .. 5	5	5	+
Gurness, Witby (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	United Tobacco (£1) .. 5	5	5	+
Highlands and Lakes .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Urul Caspian (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
lands Rubber (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Vallambrosa (2) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Hudson's Bay (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Vickers (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Imperial Tobacco (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Wattway Def. Siks. .. 13½	13½	13½	+
Int'l Mat'l Paint (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+				
Linggi Plants (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+				

Mines.

Brakpan (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Knights .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Broken Hill Prop. (8) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Modderfontein (10) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Chartered (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Modderfontein "B" (5) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 1½	1½	1½	+	Modderfontein Deep (5) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Crown Mines (10) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Premier Def. (26) .. 5½	5½	5½	+
De Beers Def. (23) .. 13½	13½	13½	+	Rand Mines (5) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Rio Tinto (£5) .. 31	31	31	+
Geduld (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+	Spring Mines (£1) .. 2½	2½	2½	+
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4½	4½	4½	+				

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £50,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Sept. 12th-Sept. 17th, were opened on Sept. 9, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £73,835,000. Tenders for bills at £98 19s 6d will receive about 50 per cent. and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 1s 6.36d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
August 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	74,340,000	4 15 38	4½	£98 15s 9d (Monday to Friday bills) about 73½%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 1d, above in full.
August 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,435,000	4 14 10.62	4½	£98 15s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 82½%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 16s 4d (Monday and Tuesday bills) and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 16s 7d, about 9%, and above in full.
Aug. 26 (3 months)	50,000,000	75,145,000	4 13 0.38	4½	£98 18s 1d (Monday to Saturday bills), about 80½%, and above in full.
Sept. 2 (3 months)	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1.53	4	£98 19s 6d bills about 50% and above in full.
Sept. 9 (3 months)	50,000,000	73,835,000	4 1 6.36	3½	

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance.	Bank of England.
1914.	21,535	6,302	3,810	18,500	481	9,924	11,423			
Aug. 26, 1917.	38,478	169	600	28,500	276	54,621	20,536			
Dec. 30, 1917.	103,125	729	249	28,500	134	186,637	5,486			
Dec. 27, 1917.	150,144	2,430	64	28,500	190	118,102	6,868			
Dec. 26, 1917.	212,782	8,554	39	28,500	89	305,133	4,566			
Dec. 31, 1917.	323,241	15,529	570	28,500	87	308,577	5,413			
Mar. 26, 1918.	328,064	14,926	500	28,500	83	327,321	3,271			
June 23, 1918.	342,310	17,143	360	28,500	89	317,536	3,589			
Oct. 1, 1918.	335,021	16,524	250	28,500	91	337,537	2,802			
Dec. 31, 1918.	356,152	17,182	250	28,500	100	313,370	2,981			
1920.	335,372	15,569	190	28,500	117	331,660	305			
June 30, 1920.	357,356	16,700	190	28,500	133	322,425	385			
Sept. 29, 1920.	353,795	16,215	28,500	18,700	130	336,504	134			
Dec. 29, 1920.	367,626	16,962	28,500	19,450	139	311,334	141			
1921.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	148	287,756	150			
June 29, 1921.	323,844	14,965	3,000	28,500	148	287,071	116			
Aug. 17, 1921.	320,362	14,602	3,000	28,500	150	287,782	126			
31, 1921.	319,254	14,679	3,000	28,500	150	287,782	126			
Sept. 7, 1921.	319,169	14,496	3,000	28,500	150	282,559	156			

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors), FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts (31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Sept. 3, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Sept. 4, 1920.	Week Ending Sept. 3, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 4, 1920.
		£	£	£	£
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
		3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	53,267,000	56,430,000	2,596,000	2,452,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	77,440,000	71,497,000	925,000	1,322,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,374,000	2,374,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	19,548,000	20,399,000	548,000	583,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	5,593,000	10,332,000	110,000	283,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....				..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	124,196,000	112,488,000	6,818,000	5,821,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	24,674,000	94,409,000	650,000	3,071,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	4,590,000	220,000	..	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	18,500,000	18,250,000	..	..
Crown Lands.....	650,000	280,000	240,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	4,305,703	5,983,922	62,443	..
Miscellaneous.....	21,500,000	9,677,180	8,509,995	545,677	997,422
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	41,005,384	121,624,211	3,695,355	1,500,000
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	385,870,267	520,553,128	16,170,475	16,029,422
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	388,944,773	529,922,225	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....		3,350,000	1,240,000	50,000	60,000
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....		2,000,000	700,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....		27,500	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..		25,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....		3,930,000	..	1,585,000	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..		1,886,087,000	1,722,844,000	65,116,000	63,708,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90.....		..	101,341	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....		..	258,622	..	..
By 5½% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..		..	89,777	..	89,777
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....		..	17,600,000	750,000	750,000
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..		15,680,000	..	..	..
By National War Bonds.....		5	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—					
5-15 year, 1925-35.....		1,024,990	10,579,000	..	..
5½%, 1929.....		17,740,000	..	622,000	180,000
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919 ..		5,902,049	14,781,064	975,273	2,047,193
(d) Ways and Means Advances ..		567,024,000	529,391,000	49,850,000	30,500,000
Repayments—					
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919 ..		4,000,000	..	1,000,000	..
Do issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.....		34,538	4,981	5,727	422
Do issues under Section 69 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....		1,677,000	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....		163,156	..	..	..
Total.....		2,897,610,011	2,807,542,010	136,122,475	113,364,814

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Sept. 6, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Sept. 10, 1919.	Sept. 8, 1920.	Sept. 7, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	29,763,470	28,933,880	23,077,995	125,908,565	126,432,535
Public deposits	9,924,742	19,014,809	23,077,995	16,500,595	15,479,410
Other deposits	41,923,899	41,248,964	89,363,777	116,388,625	140,730,389
Government securities	14,597,534	11,046,570	21,657,056	59,628,129	74,046,744
Other securities	25,348,811	41,461,280	83,297,031	76,340,750	79,327,413
Reserve of notes and coin	30,150,599	25,463,980	25,587,765	17,618,752	20,427,771
Coin and bullion	41,464,069	35,947,360	83,265,260	123,077,317	128,410,306
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	58.1%	42.1%	22.1%	11.2%	13.3%
Bank rate of discount	3%	3%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	3 1/2	2 1/2	3 1/2	6 1/2	4 1/2
Price of Consols	74 1/2	74 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2	80 1/2
Price of silver per oz.	21 1/2	26 1/2	61 1/2	59 1/2	47 1/2
Average price of wheat	31s 7d	35s 0d	73s 4d	90s 8d	62s 7d
Exchanges on	25-25-27 1/2	25-17-20	34-70-35-00	52-15-53-00	48-55-80
London	84-8 1/2	84-7 1/2	84-17-18	83-55-55	83-70-74 1/2
Amsterdam	12-1 1/2	12-05-10	11-16-20	11-19-25	11-13-76
Berlin	20-46	20-49 1/2	102-0-107-0	185-190	343-352
Clearing house return	299,059,000	199,913,000	574,143,000	714,071,000	581,628,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—August 31	21,208,281,000	2,048,570,000	23,256,851,000
September 7	524,512,000	57,316,000	581,628,000
Total to date 1921	21,732,593,000	2,105,886,000	23,838,479,000
Do 1920	24,495,357,000	2,765,042,000	27,260,399,000
Increase or decrease in 1921	-11.2%	-26.6%	-12.9%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to September 3.			
BIRMINGHAM	134,755,850	88,795,200	-45,960,650
BRISTOL	61,983,000	52,537,000	-9,446,000
DUBLIN	397,810,900	251,932,100	-145,878,800
HULL (29 Weeks ended Sept. 3)	33,182,000	33,182,000	0
LEEDS	62,482,300	40,153,600	-22,328,700
LIVERPOOL	44,719,200	26,858,900	-17,860,300
MANCHESTER	573,043,000	299,503,700	-273,539,300
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	1,079,593,200	431,484,700	-648,108,500
NOTTINGHAM	112,073,400	65,203,200	-46,870,200
ROTHAMPTON	41,228,300	24,932,400	-16,295,900
SHEFFIELD	60,383,400	41,060,600	-19,322,800

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Aug. 26, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Aug. 23, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve	2,619,080	+ 18,780	1,966,350
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	147,080	+ 1,910	1,569,900
Bills discounted for member banks	1,495,350	+ 1,910	2,619,430
Bills bought in open market	35,210	+ 6,700	320,600
Government obligations owned	238,770	+ 6,510	304,040
All other resources	54,090	+ 360	30,080
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	31,480	+ 12,470	54,960
Other deposits	1,642,150	+ 10,090	1,644,360
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,485,210	+ 17,130	3,174,730
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	112,810	+ 1,690	198,560
All other liabilities	19,130	+ ..	61,870
Capital and surplus	316,850	+ 130	261,500
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	66.5%	+ 1.5%	43.5%

CANADIAN BANK.

	Jan., 1921.	Dec., 1920.	Nov., 1920.	Month's Movement.
Reserve fund	133,344	133,049	132,782	+ 295
Note circulation	206,176	228,759	234,340	+ 22,583
Demand deposits	584,025	657,497	686,754	+ 73,471
Notice deposits	1,313,094	1,235,007	1,232,009	+ 20,067
Deposits outside Canada	318,623	356,771	351,791	+ 38,148
Current coin	185,118	177,459	185,211	+ 2,430
Deposits Central Gold Reserve	89,703	114,303	114,303	+ 9,101
Call loans in Canada	112,474	114,703	108,471	+ 23,560
Call loans outside Canada	191,854	211,443	218,163	+ 19,569
Current loans in Canada	1,264,490	1,301,804	1,295,975	+ 57,314
Current loans outside Canada	173,380	181,540	189,678	+ 11,169
Total liabilities	2,642,330	2,778,309	2,835,579	+ 135,923
Total assets	2,926,867	3,056,979	3,116,896	+ 130,112

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,522,592	5,522,383	5,570,655	+ 209	3,750,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278	..	352,650
Silver coin and bullion	276,832	276,831	254,324	..	2,327,775
Discount and advances	4,612,552	4,748,123	4,432,696	+ 135,577	5,811,875
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	37,253,988	37,024,735	36,622,449	+ 229,253	5,811,875
Government deposits	38,317	40,733	39,983	+ 2,416	183,700
Private deposits	2,448,488	2,795,463	3,259,494	+ 346,975	845,550

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Sept. 3, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	2,498,622	2,497,204	2,496,074	+ 1,418	521,775
Silver	627,831	629,676	625,633	+ 1,845	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,993,244	1,964,870	1,997,036	+ 28,374	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	..	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	4,186,457	4,160,601	4,182,506	+ 25,856	1,901,550
Deposits	1,021,832	1,059,774	1,061,165	+ 37,942	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	July 13, 1921.	June 28, 1921.	July 15, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,387,465,387	1,375,129,587	1,525,906,851	- 7,664,200	-158,441,464
Government loans and securities	1,829,115,886	1,757,596,665	685,805,429	+ 71,519,321	+ 114,331,047
Discounts and loans	760,718,154	776,401,596	660,371,661	-15,683,442	+100,347,093
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,758,440,673	1,743,889,472	1,394,549,497	+ 14,551,201	+ 363,891,176
Government deposits	119,410,103	113,033,996	119,946,029	+ 6,370,107	- 535,926
Private sight deposits	855,349,079	858,222,869	711,459,662	+ 2,873,796	+143,890,017
Private deposits at fixed rates	838,077,054	816,242,461	475,937,448	+ 21,834,593	+ 362,109,606

BANK OF JAPAN.

	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 9, 1921.	July 24, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,275,190	1,275,512	1,275,755	1,007,444	+ 322	221,320
Discounts	35,203	35,489	34,936	212,892	+ 286	41,740
Advances	86,345	87,887	93,700	239,284	+ 1,542	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,048,783	1,048,964	1,079,566	1,117,790	+ 181	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,316,283	1,337,718	1,344,013	1,305,981	+ 21,435	87,340
Private deposits	146,490	128,094	104,719	95,565	+ 18,356	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	Aug. 23, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	1,023,708	1,021,543	1,091,585	- 67,835	1,313,240
Silver	16,848	16,564	7,090	+ 284	321,920
Treasury notes	3,044,863	3,644,332	18,636,476	+ 599,444	60,780
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	80,072,721	77,190,575	58,401,203	+ 2,882,146	2,013,860
Deposits	13,649,599	9,639,476	15,771,766	+ 4,010,123	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

	Aug. 10, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash	1,345,335	1,346,218	1,196,878	+ 833	1,221,675
Inland bills	2,987,118	3,136,364	2,804,294	+ 139,246	418,400
Foreign bills	19,525	19,575	20,484	+ 50	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,362,662	6,362,036	7,774,753	+ 26	..
Other advances	2,449,747	2,477,777	1,094,608	+ 28,030	79,175
Securities	388,480	391,451	222,495	+ 2,971	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	13,870,341	14,005,103	13,805,126	+ 134,762	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,705,028	1,765,665	1,686,189	+ 60,637	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

	Sept. 5, 1921.	Aug. 29, 1921.	Aug. 22, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	605,967	605,969	605,969	+ 2	163,092
Silver	10,283	10,566	10,681	+ 283	8,436
Discounts and advances	447,812	430,347	423,463	+ 17,465	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,021,031	1,004,129	993,116	+ 16,902	316,632
Deposits	43,425	48,927	52,570	+ 5,502	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	3,963,722	3,889,722	1,710,222	+ 80,000	..
Silver, &c.	388	423	232	+ 35	..
Discounts	2,299,996	2,299,996	37,202	+ 33,348	..
Government loan	10,327,463	10,259,823	4,100,645	+ 67,640	..
Other advances	2,681,799	2,752,235	893,516	+ 70,436	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	11,641,485	11,550,138	5,048,818	+ 91,347	..
Deposits	6,235,247	6,239,737	2,171,483	+ 3,490	..

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	Aug. 24, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	544,511	544,491	544,456	539,964	+ 17	171,175
Silver	110,531	110,531	110,531	92,645	..	18,350
Discounts	14,370	13,975	13,487	19,355	+ 397	..
Assets & advances	352,758	351,229	340,334	353,775	+ 18,529	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	927,134	878,218	899,331	951,865	+ 48,916	275,925
Deposits	109,861	135,504	141,491	122,344	+ 25,643	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenkasse) shows that up to August 31, 1921, total issue were Fr. 31,614,000, of which Fr. 14,370,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted).						
	Sept. 3, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Sept. 4, 1920.	Week's Movement	Year's Movement	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.
Gold	284,932	284,997	261,255	+ 65	+ 23,677	104,918
Balance abn. and foreign bills	108,620	108,226	87,114	+ 394	+ 21,566	112,172
Swedish and for Gov. securities ..	20,063	19,765	45,351	+ 307	+ 25,288	32,465
Discount and loans ..	446,166	398,684	661,206	+ 47,482	- 215,010	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'tn	648,880	585,254	758,624	+ 63,638	- 109,774	226,555
Deposits at notice	143,777	163,594	210,504	- 19,817	- 66,727	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	June 30, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	3,364	3,360	3,357	+	1,571
Government securities	36,644	38,966	62,453	2,322	2,084
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	31,205	32,859	46,394	1,654	2,400
Government deposits	2,322	2,415	4,812	93	2,315
Other deposits	12,831	13,656	20,647	825	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	42,625	42,625	42,620	1	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	383,211	373,231	136,709	+	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Government securities	887,931	896,938	1,096,934	9,007	21,826
Discounts and loans	382,200	361,252	222,579	+	105,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,336,960	1,343,760	1,209,161	6,800	123,941
Deposits at notice	131,517	95,971	105,969	35,546	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 3, 1921.	July 27, 1921.	July 20, 1920.	Aug. 4, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Coin and bullion	27,810	27,810	27,757	27,283	29
Of which gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	300
Balance abroad	3,639	3,339	1,823	7,554	712
Discounts	116,549	117,261	117,258	126,075	2
Government loans	608,109	608,111	608,111	360,122	7
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	649,221	645,621	650,293	507,561	3,600
Deposits	54,560	59,750	58,315	14,694	5,190

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Gold	37,461	37,461	37,150	37,092	37,075	217
Silver	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,890	16,910	3,673
Treasury notes	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	27,835
Bills discounted	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	32
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	23,102
Deposits	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	1,236,438	44,401

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	April 30, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold	19,100	14,300	13,500	13,400	4,800
Silver	40,300	39,700	38,900	39,500	600
Foreign coin	39,700	39,200	38,900	39,500	500
Foreign banks	1,004,000	899,900	899,900	1,243,800	105,000
Advances to the Govt.	140,250,000	130,625,000	117,625,000	106,625,000	10,000,000
Private loans and discounts	6,835,000	6,863,900	6,374,200	5,921,400	1,931,800
Other assets	9,594,600	10,336,500	13,675,400	9,714,200	741,900
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	115,242,300	102,697,300	94,575,800	86,755,300	12,545,000
Government accounts	18,975,300	33,969,000	28,522,000	8,893,300	16,993,700
Other accounts	15,895,200	15,895,200	15,895,200	15,895,200	0
Reserve	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	0
Other liabilities	13,007,600	12,089,100	15,752,600	12,200,700	918,500

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Total cash	141,479,133	121,836,184	150,654,960	19,642,949
Discounts and loans	826,377,753	805,914,807	663,237,299	20,462,946
LIABILITIES.				
Deposits	467,272,453	462,819,679	707,948,283	4,452,774

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 23, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 8, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office	9,623,847	9,528,807	9,528,779	9,528,779	95,040
Discount and advances	3,209,779	3,105,279	3,209,779	3,209,779	104,500
Gold	1,433,543	1,446,353	1,446,353	1,446,353	12,810
Other assets	1,429,143	1,451,036	1,451,036	1,451,036	21,893
LIABILITIES.					
State notes in circulation	11,455,175	10,962,482	11,013,963	11,013,963	492,693
Deposits	1,685,408	1,972,733	1,880,304	1,880,304	287,325
Other liabilities	2,555,729	2,596,260	2,411,026	2,411,026	40,531

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENS.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 22, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1921.	Aug. 8, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold	75,329	75,329	75,329	75,329	5
Other coin and notes	20,274	20,016	18,865	17,554	258
Foreign credits	339,369	334,586	337,256	342,018	4,743
Bills	228,777	208,135	189,200	185,648	20,642
Govt. advances	4,232,559	4,432,559	4,227,342	4,227,305	47
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	4,085,984	4,071,279	4,047,593	4,001,849	14,705
State credits	371,688	371,688	375,296	375,296	3,608
Deposits	368,654	364,844	367,638	409,626	3,810

LONDON RATES.

	Sept. 2, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.	Sept. 5, 1921.	Sept. 6, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921)	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
3 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
4 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
6 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
Discount (Treasury Bills)—							
3 months'	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Loans—Day to day	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Short	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Deposit allowances: Banks	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Discount houses at call	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
At notice	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

	Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
		3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
1921.							
June 24.....	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
July 1.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
8.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
15.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
22.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
29.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
Aug. 5.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
12.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
19.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
26.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
Sept. 2.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
9.....	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	5%	July 21, 1921	5%	June 23, 1921
Deposit	3	June 23, 1921	3 1/2	April 20, 1921

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate Changed.			%	Bank Rate Changed.			%
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915	..	49	Madrid	Nov. 4 1920	..	54
Athens	May 15, 1920	..	63	Paris	July 23, 1921	..	58
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	..	5	Prague	May 12, 1920	..	6
Brussels	May 19, 1921	..	5	Rome	May 11, 1920	..	6
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	..	6	Sofia	June 14, 1919	..	63
Calcutta	July 2, 1921	..	6	Stockholm	July 5, 1921	..	6
Christiania	July 5, 1921	..	63	Swiss Bank			
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921	..	6	places	Aug. 11, 1921	..	4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	..	9	Tokio	Nov. 18, 1919	..	8
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	..	7	Vienna	Apr. 15, 1921	..	6
New York Federa-				Warsaw	..	..	6
	July 20, 1921	..	51				

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Sept. 10, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 2, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 9, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	52-40-45	47-80-90
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	187-189	326-329
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	810-830	3000-3150
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	225-230	308-313
Warsaw	zloty to £1	T.T.	20-43	795-825	10500-10500
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	318-323	375-380
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	24-02	164-169	1400-1500
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	560-580	562-582
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	195-205	430-460
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	90-95	160-170
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-18-21	11-71-74
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	49-25-30	48-90-49
Christiania	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	24-82-87	27-75-80
Stockholm	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-54-58	17-25-30
Copenhagen	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-54-58	17-25-30
Helsingfors	krone to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	109-111	257-278
Göteborg	drachman to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	32-90-33-10	65-75-66-25
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	80-50-75	83-83
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	21-63-58	21-83-88
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	23-91-96	28-58-63
Lisbon	pence to mils	T.T.	53-1/2	11-1/2	6-6-1/2
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97 1/2	97 1/2	97 1/2
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-85 1/2	3-73-4	3-72-3 1/2
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-85 1/2	3-73-4	3-72-3 1/2
Buenos Ayres	pence to mils	T.T.	47-58 1/2	56 1/2-57 1/2	43 1/2-44
Rio de Janeiro	pence to mils	T.T.	16	12 1/2	12 1/2
Manila	pence to mils	T.T.	51	56 1/2-57 1/2	43 1/2-44
Valparaiso	pence to mils	T.T.	13-13	11 1/2(a)	38-20
Lima	Eng. to Per. £1	90 days	Par	12 1/2	12 1/2
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	1s 10d-10 1/2d	1s 4d-5d	1s 4d-5d
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	1s 10d-10 1/2d	1s 4d-5d	1s 4d-5d
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	1s 10d-10 1/2d	1s 4d-5d	1s 4d-5d
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	4s 2d-3d	2s 8d-2s 8 1/2d
Shanghai	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	5s 10d-11 1/2d	3s 7d-3 1/2d
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	2s 10d-11 1/2d	2s 3d-3 1/2d
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	24-30 1/2	2s 10d-11 1/2d	2s 3d-3 1/2d
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24-30 1/2	2s 10d-11 1/2d	2s 3d-3 1/2d
Mexico	pence to mils	T.T.	24-30 1/2	12s 6d	12s 6d

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

money and exchange rates in New York:—					
	Aug. 11, 1921.	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.
Call money.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral).....	6 1/2	6	6	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible 90 days.....	6	6	6	6	6
Commercial acceptances, 90 days.....	6	6	6	6	6
Note.—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.					

The coinage during the week ending August 31st amounted to 7 lacs of rupees. The stock in Shanghai on the 3rd inst. consisted of about 27,900,000 ounces in sycee, 26,000,000 dollars, and 1,380 silver bars, as compared with about 29,300,000 ounces in sycee, 25,500,000 dollars, and 1,900 silver bars on the 27th ult. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 8d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.		Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.
		Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.			Cash, Per Ounce.
Sept.	3 ..	109 8	38 1/2	37 1/2	Sept. 15, 1915	23 1/2	38 1/2
	5 ..	110 10	38 1/2	38 1/2	15, 1916	32 1/2	38 1/2
	6 ..	110 9	38 1/2	38 1/2	14, 1917	51	38 1/2
	7 ..	110 10	38 1/2	38 1/2	14, 1918	49 1/2	38 1/2
	8 ..	110 1	38 1/2	38 1/2	12, 1919	60 1/2	38 1/2
	9 ..	110 1	38 1/2	38 1/2	10, 1920	59	38 1/2

NOTICES.

Mr R. A. Thurburn is retiring from the position of managing director of the London and River Plate Bank, Limited, on September 30th, after 54 years' service, but will retain his seat on the board.

The British Bank of South America has opened a new agency at Cordoba, Montevideo.

The Merchants' Bank of Canada has opened a branch at Moscow, Ontario. Mr Archibald Park has been appointed assistant manager, and Mr A. Aitken has been appointed accountant of the London branch.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that a branch will be opened, on September 12th, at Market place, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire, under the management of Mr John Porter.

Lloyds Bank, Limited, announce that a sub-branch of the bank is now open at Rowlands Gill, under the supervision of the Chopwell branch.

Barclays Bank announce that a branch will be opened, on September 12th, at 29 Fore street, Kingsbridge, Devon, under the management of Mr E. C. Weston.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR AUGUST, 1921.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.	Tons.	
Bisichi	36	..
Deebok Dredging ..	24 1/2	..
Gold Coast Consolidated ..	89	..
Gopeng Cons.	19 1/2	Est. value, £8,400; est. costs, £2,570.
Iris	19 1/2	Est. value, £1,750; est. costs, £1,785.
Ipho	19 1/2	..
Jos	6	..
Kinta	35 1/2	Value, £3,325; gross profit, £1,756.
Kramat Pulai	..	Profit, including tribute, £1,107.
Lahat	43 1/2	Est. value, £3,932; est. costs, £3,933; tribute, £233.
Malayan	83 1/2	Value, £7,537; cost, £7,830.
Mongu	45	..
Naraguta Ext.	24	Despatched, 18 1/2 tons.
Pahang Cons.	203	Black tin; alluvial, 138 tons.
Pusing	..	Revenue, £233; gross profit, £58.
Rambutan	15	Est. value, £1,340; est. costs, £250.
Rayfield	26	Shipped 26 tons.
Ropp	128	..
Rukuba	5	Despatched, 6 tons.
Siamese	121	..
Sungei Besi	48	Est. value, £4,430; est. cost, £2,930.
Tekka	37	Est. value, £3,220; est. costs, £1,230.
Tekka-Tapiing	36	Value, £3,220; est. costs, £2,000.
Tronoh	30	Value, £2,685; cost, £2,625; tribute profit, £700.
Coal.		
Clydesdale	21,342	Coalbrook; 28,975 tons Blackhill.
Dundee	40,477	..
East Kent	2,715	Week ended Sept. 3th.
Middleburg Steam ..	26,119	..
Natal Navigation ..	33,603	..
Northern Natal	16,000	..
Twelfteen United ..	91,486	..
Vryheid (Natal)	39,087	..
Wankie	27,520	Coke sales, 10,905 tons.
Miscellaneous.		
Burma Ruby	..	Rubies valued at Rs.58,000; royalties Rs.9,000.
Rhodesia Broken Hill ..	1,569	Lead.

THE BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY.—Report for four weeks ending June 22, 1921:—Coke ovens: The production for the period was—coke, 20,560 tons; tar, 207,800 gallons; sulphate of ammonia, 348 tons. Blast furnace department: Produced 9,331 and 12,765 tons of pig iron respectively. Open hearth plant: Production totalled 20,727 tons. Blooming mill: The production amounted to 18,967 tons, consisting mainly of blooms and billets for the 28-ins. and 18-ins. mills. Rail mill: Total production of 7,769 tons. Merchant mills: The production was 18-ins. mill, 7,752 tons; 12-ins. mill, 2,101 tons; 8-ins. mill, 961 tons. Rod mill: Produced 1,781 tons of wire rods. Steel and direct metal foundries: The output amounted to 405 and 463 tons respectively of castings. Iron Knob: The tonnage of iron ore shipped to Newcastle amounted to 51,134 tons. Melrose Quarry: Shipments of limestone from this source amounted to 6,200 tons.

Gold.	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cy. Works.	Mill.	Cy. Works.		
Ashanti.	7,356	..	..	..	7,760 (a)	32,950
Associated N. Blocks:—						
Iron Duke	327	..	..	..	2,065	177
Victorious	1,926	..	..	..	3,463	293
Associated of Western Australia	6,217	..	..	..	(a) 8,313	..
Balaghat	5,300	5,300	1,862	499	2,361	..
Champion Reef	1,127	1,737	3,986	836	4,822	..
Cons. of New Zealand:						
Blackwater	2,805	..	..	..	5,405	883
Ivanhoe	16,126	..	..	..	6,185	..
Kalgurli	2,175	..	..	..	(b) 9,070	1,092
Lake View and Star	5,765	..	..	..	11,450	..
Mount Boppy	4,405	5,135	372	1,148	1,520	..
Mysore	17,313	43,724	6,143	4,355	10,098	..
North Anantapur	700	700	786	116	902	..
Nundydroog	9,160	15,934	4,622	748	5,370	..
Ooregum	12,900	13,500	7,471	1,072	8,543	..
Oriental Cons.	..	..	..	..	£75,500	..
South Kalgurli	7,862	..	..	..	(c) 12,700	..
St John Del Rey	..	..	..	..	43,000	..
Tomboy	18,000	..	..	..	£69,000	..

(a) Par value. (b) Including premium.

OIL OUTPUTS.

APEX (TRINIDAD) OILFIELDS.—The secretary intimates that the estimated production of crude oil for August was 94,398 barrels, equal to approximately 13,480 tons. In addition there were approximately 6,000 barrels in the dam.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED.—The total production during August amounted to 96,062 barrels, or approximately 13,723 tons, including 44,574 barrels from the properties of the St Helens Petroleum Company, Limited.

LOBITOS OILFIELDS.—The production for August is cabled as 9,169 tons.

TRINIDAD LEASEHOLDS.—Oil produced during August, 11,800 tons. In addition, purchases of crude oil from other companies during the month amounted to 12,150 tons. The corresponding figures in July were 11,000 and 6,000 tons respectively.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, August 31, 1921, amounted to 984 tons.

THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

(with which is incorporated the AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION, LTD.)

Bankers to the Government of the Union of South Africa in Cape Province; to the Imperial Government in South Africa; and to the Administration of Rhodesia.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL ...	£10,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...	£8,916,660
PAID-UP CAPITAL ...	£2,229,165
RESERVE FUND ...	£2,893,335
UNCALLED CAPITAL ...	£6,687,495
	£11,809,995

Board of Directors.

William Reiersen Arbuthnot, Esq. Solomon B. Joel, Esq.
Sir David M. Barbour, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G. Horace Peel, Esq.
Edward Clifton Brown, Esq. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G.
Stanley Christopherson, Esq. William Smart, Esq.
Robert E. Dickinson, Esq. Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.
James Fairbairn Finlay, Esq., C.S.J.

Senior General Manager in South Africa—J. P. Gibson.

Joint General Managers in South Africa { Noel Jennings, John Jeffrey, James S. Shiel.

Asst. Gen. Managers in South Africa—G. F. Le Sueur, W. K. Robertson.
London Manager—Francis Shinton. Secretary—Herbert G. Hoey.

Head Office: 10, CLEMENS LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.4

London Wall Branch: 63, London Wall, E.C.2.

West End Branch: 17, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.

NEW YORK AGENCY: 68 WALL STREET.
ROTTERDAM BRANCH: 15 COOLSINGEL.
AMSTERDAM BRANCH: 69 ROBIN.

HAMBURG AGENCY: Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., 49-53 SCHAUENBURGER-STRASSE.
Over 420 Branches, Sub-branches and Agencies in CAPE PROVINCE, NATAL, ORANGE FREE STATE, TRANSVAAL, RHODESIA, NYSALAND, BASUTOLAND, KENYA COLONY, KENYA PROTECTORATE, UGANDA, ZANZIBAR, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA, SOUTH WEST AFRICA, TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, BELGIAN CONGO.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION transacted at all Branches and Agencies.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened on the usual terms, and **DEPOSITS RECEIVED** for fixed periods at rates which may be ascertained on application.

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS opened on terms, particulars of which may be obtained at Branches.

BILLS NEGOTIATED AND COLLECTED.

DRAFTS issued, **MAIL AND TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES** made. **LETTERS OF CREDIT** and **COMMERCIAL CREDITS** established.

TRAVELLER'S LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available in all parts of PURCHASE and SALE of Stocks and Shares effected. [the world.]

DIVIDENDS, ANNUITIES, ETC. received and **COUPONS COLLECTED.** **STRONGROOMS** provided for the safe custody of Securities and Valuables of Customers.

ASSAY DEPARTMENT.—Gold, etc., and all Mineral Ores assayed and **EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE** business undertaken. [realised.]

The Officers of the Bank are bound not to disclose the transactions of its customers.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.			Dividend for Whole Years.	
	Interim or Final.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.		
Banks.					
Banco Espanol de la Plata.....	4%†	..	..	8	7
Chartered Bank of India, &c.....	14*	Sept. 16	Tax free	..	..
Commercial of Australia.....	..	..	..	15	..
Commercial Banking of Sydney ..	..	..	..	10	10
Mercantile of India ("A," "B," and "C") ..	8%*	..	Less tax	..	..
Molson's Bank, Montreal	3%*	Oct. 1	..	..	..
National Bank of India	20*	Sept. 20	Tax free	..	..
National of Egypt	8%*	Sept. 5	..	..	..
Northern Banking Co., "A"	17%*	Sept. 15	Less tax	..	..
Do "B"	8%†	Sept. 15	Less tax	..	..
Insurance.					
British General	16 p.s.*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
State	25*	Oct. 7	Subject to tax	..	..
Railways.					
Horncastle	7	Sept. 15	Less tax	..	..
Manila, Pref. and Ord.	5%*	..	..	..	..
Nizam's Gtd. State	2 1/2†	(&bonus	2%) ..	7	7
Sidmouth	4	..	Less tax	..	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Mayfield (Dumbula) Tea, Pref. ..	6	Sept. 9	Less tax	..	..
Mocha Tea of Ceylon	..	..	..	7 1/2	..
Mining.					
Balaghat Gold, Pref.	1/6 p.s.	Sept. 22	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Do Ord.	1/6 p.s.*	Sept. 22	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Mysore Gold	1/6 p.s.*	Oct. 7	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Nipissing	15c p.s.	Oct. 20	..	..	..
North Anantapur Gold, Pref. and Ord.	1/6 p.s.	Oct. 4	Less tax	..	..
Nundydroog	6d p.s.*	Sept. 29	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Other Companies.					
Alliance and Dublin Consumers' Gas	£3/6/3	..	Less tax	..	..
American Telephone, &c.	2 1/2%	Oct. 15	Less tax	..	..
Arkwright (Rochdale)	15 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Barnsley Brewery	9 1/2%	..	Less tax	12 1/2	12 1/2
Bedford and Mill Lane (Leigh) ..	1/2 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..
British Gas Light	5 1/2	Oct. 7	Less tax	10	10
British Tobacco (Australia)	3%*	Sept. 30	..	..	..
Calcott Brothers	..	..	Tax free	40	25
Champdany Jute	..	..	..	30	80
City Offices	7/ p.s.*	Oct. 15	Less tax	..	..
Clayton Wagons	8	..	..	..	..
Clover (Rochdale)	13 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Cockshutt Plow Co. Pref.	1 1/2%	Nov. 1	..	..	..
Croft (Rochdale)	13 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Davis and Timmins	6%*	Sept. 14	Tax free	..	..
Duchess (Shaw)	1/6 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Eastern Extension Telegraph	5/ p.s.*	Oct. 15	Tax free	..	..
Eastern Telegraph	2 1/2%*	Oct. 15	Tax free	..	..
Frederick Goringe	7%*	..	Less tax	..	..
General and Commercial Invest-ment, Ltd.	4	Sept. 30	..	..	..
Gladstone (Falls)	1/3 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds	5%†	..	Tax free	10(a)	15
Ibbotson Bros.	6/ p.s.†	Sept. 30	Tax free	10	10
Illinois Car and Equipment	1/6 p.s.	Sept. 30	Subject to tax	..	..
Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada ..	1 1/2%	Sept. 29	..	..	..
Jones and Higgins	7%*	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Koffyfontein Estates	2/ p.s.	Aug. 31	Less tax	..	..
Leigh Mills	16 p.s.*	..	..	5	15
Liverpool Exchange	7/ p.s.*	..	Less tax	..	..
Metropolitan Gas (Melbourne) ..	6/6 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Murrayfield Real Estate	5%†	..	Less tax	4	..
North Shipping	5%†	..	Tax free	10	..
P. and W. Maclellan, Pref.	3%*	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..
Palmer's Shipbldg. and Iron, Prf.	4%*	..	Less tax	2 1/2	12 1/2
Patent Victoria Stone	4%*	Sept. 1	Less tax	..	..
Pearson and Knowles	5%†	..	Less tax	10	10
Reckitt and Sons	5 p.s.*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
Rutland (Shaw)	5/ p.s.*	..	..	..	..
Samuel Webster and Sons	5%*	Sept. 19	Less tax	..	..
Smedley's Hydropathic	6 1/2%†	..	Tax free	12 1/2	12 1/2
South African Real Estate	2 1/2%	Nov. 7	..	..	..
Stewarts and Lloyds, Pref. Ord. ..	10%*	Sept. 30	..	..	..
St James's Buildings	7%*	..	..	..	..
Tarapaca Waterworks	4%*	Oct. 3	Tax free	..	..
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane	8%*	..	..	10	10
T. Lyons and Co.	8%*	Sept. 1	..	..	..
Turkey (Middle)	13 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Wallaseid Shipway and Eng.	3 1/2%*	..	Tax free	..	..
Western and Hawaiian Invest.	..	Sept. 28	Less tax	16	..
Western Telegraph	5/ p.s.†	Sept. 29	Tax free	10	10
William Whiteley	8%*	..	Less tax	..	..

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.				
Name.	Period.	Ending.	Week's Rec'ts, 1921.	Aggr. Rec'ts, 1921.
Metropolitan District	35 weeks	Sept. 3	237,103	8,337,888
London Electric				
City and South London				
Central London				
L.G.O.				
Metropolitan Electric Trams	35 weeks	Sept. 3	57,936	1,943,153
London United Trams				
South Metropolitan Trams				
Tramways (M.E.T.)				
Gearless Motor				

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	6 weeks	May 14	993	Rs. 1,89,246	+ 6,300	Rs. 11,63,233	+ 53,141
Barsi Lk. Ry.	19 weeks	Aug. 13	118	18,800	+ 14,500	5,11,600	+ 1,45,900
Bengal & N. Western ..	18 weeks		6,207	4,79,530	+ 18,430	1,06,75,300	+ 14,34,581
Bengal Nagpur	18 weeks		6,267	10,03,000	+ 2,000	2,34,34,753	+ 1,95,650
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	21 weeks		27,871	17,29,000	+ 7,000	4,23,98,000	+ 25,87,000
Burma	18 weeks		6,134	5,39,975	+ 95,492	1,04,22,279	+ 5,51,389
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka ..	21 weeks		2,739	94,000	+ 3,786	2,01,01,177	+ 1,54,919
G. Indian Peninsula	22 weeks	Sept. 3	2,772	27,05,000	+ 6,000	61,277,000	+ 12,89,000
Madras & S. Mahr.	21 weeks	Aug. 27	3,121	21,49,000	+ 5,70,800	5,34,93,935	+ 18,70,086
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	18 weeks		6,302	11,06,000	+ 1,59,608	2,37,13,587	+ 31,073
Do Lucknow-Breilly	18 weeks		6,259	58,268	+ 7,018	12,12,276	+ 1,00,878
South Indian	17 weeks	July 30	6,302	62,639	+ 10,099	13,88,989	+ 2,41,755
Sthn. Punjab (month) ..	1 mth	Apr. 30	1,852	8,83,597	+ 102,305	1,45,26,640	+ 2,56,580
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	9 weeks	Sept. 3	752	12,200	+ 300	107,100	+ 12,800
Argentine Trans.	9 weeks		1,111	1,389	+ 378	13,827	+ 174
B. A. & Pacific	9 weeks		3,428	117,000	+ 2,000	1,211,000	+ 163,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	9 weeks		3,891	140,000	+ 1,000	1,398,000	+ 59,000
B. A. Western	9 weeks		3,182	15,000	+ 1,000	149,000	+ 47,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 mths	June 30	1,831	83,000	+ 16,000	783,000	+ 86,000
Central Argentine	9 weeks	Sept. 3	190	Net 18,000	+ 12,999	12,000	+ 1,200
Cordoba Central	9 weeks		3,305	49,858	+ 19,999	594,834	+ 36,712
Entre Rios	9 weeks		3,120	180,000	+ 14,000	1,717,000	+ 201,000
Entre Rios	9 weeks		3,125	51,000	+ 3,100	615,200	+ 59,950
Entre Rios	9 weeks		3,811	20,300	+ 900	187,300	+ 20,900
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths	July 31	1,005	Ms 56,000	+ 17,300	327,900	+ 4,050
Gt. West. of Brazil.	35 weeks	Sept. 3	1,831	11,000	+ 2,200	453,600	+ 308,200
Leopoldina	35 weeks		1,533	36,931	+ 9,007	1,159,154	+ 713,000
San Paulo	35 weeks		4,153	37,265	+ 11,864	1,057,283	+ 576,644
State of Bahia, S.W.	8 mths	Aug. 31	52	Ms 72,000	+ 83,000	569,000	+ 187,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	35 weeks	Sept. 4	838	15,920	+ 37,230	792,605	+ 852,565
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	+ 500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	34 weeks	Aug. 31	366	13,335	+ 35,015	..	+ 293,511
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	813,580	+ 147,980	14,428,740	+ 56,795
Taltal	1 mth	July 31	180	(b) 9,173	+ 16,350	..	..
Cuban.							
Havana Central	9 weeks	Sept. 3	1,210	9,984	+ 2,926	100,005	+ 23,158
United of Havana	9 weeks		3,120	54,452	+ 52,936	537,353	+ 456,509
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	9 weeks		3,273	24,696	+ 4,043	201,649	+ 21,789
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	9 weeks		3,111	3,925	+ 1,311	38,637	+ 6,889
C. Urug. (North Ext.) ..	9 weeks		3,185	2,627	+ 951	23,232	+ 4,218
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	9 weeks		3,211	2,144	+ 289	18,191	+ 3,151
Midland Uruguay	1 mth	July 31	319	12,765	+ 4,077	..	..
North-West Urug.	1 mth	July 31	313	5,851	+ 117	..	..
Uruguay North	1 mth	July 31	31	1,383	+ 558	..	..
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	35 weeks	Sept. 3	33	Ps 13,500	+ 3,500	550,400	+ 84,100
Bilbao	8 mths	Aug. 31	15	866	+ 1,846	14,292	+ 12,896
Bolivar	8 mths	Aug. 31	136	9,424	+ 1,790	81,662	+ 4,414
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths	June 30	86	18,720	+ 2,820	114,480	+ 6,404
Costa Rica	12 mths	June 30	190	23,857	+ 738	293,674	+ 23,579
Dorado Extension	7 mths	July 31	70	24,000	+ 4,500	131,750	+ 13,572
Egyptian Delta	19 weeks	Aug. 20	5,594	19,674	+ 4,866	131,722	+ 43,868
Gt. Southn. of Spain	34 weeks		27	Ps 64,853	+ 30,311	1,726,151	+ 1,241,938
International of	6 mths	June 30	203	Gross 65,383	+ 463	448,976	+ 8,775
Central America	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	Net 22,957	+ 192	196,391	+ 5,775
La Guaira & Caracas	8 weeks	Aug. 31	403	(b) 8,570	+ 5,060	50,110	+ 21,720
Mexican Railway	1 mth	July 31	1	\$ 146,300	+ 40,900	2,663,400	+ 474,000
Do	1 mth	July 31	1	\$ 135,100	+ 434,000	..	..
Nassau Oscarsham.	6 mths	June 30	30	\$ 221,900	+ 104,500	..	..
Ottoman Railway	1 mth	July 31	1	13,304	+ 8,523	78,524	+ 49,708
Smyrna to Aidin	1 week	Aug. 27	379	6,842	+ 660	37,640	+ 5,780
Paraguay Central	8 weeks	Aug. 27	274	4,410	+ 660	37,640	+ 5,780
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	9 mths	Feb. 28	274	\$ 2,311,374	+ 414,841	16,380,765	+ 5,299,660
Puerto Cabello, &c.	8 mths	Aug. 31	35	4,750	+ 500	37,500	+ 6,500
Salvador	9 weeks	Sept. 3	100	2,045	+ 646	21,739	+ 9,384
Santo Fe Province,	1 mth	July 31	1	141,064	+ 11,743	..	..
French Railways	7 mths	July 31	31	15,670	+ 31,129	75,480	+ 34,619
Samana & Santiago	7 mths	July 31	112	(a) 13,512	+ 2,090	99,157	+ 14,305
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	34 weeks	Aug. 31	9,750	\$ 1,772,000	+ 56,100	41,597,200	+ 3,916,577
Canadian Pacific	34 weeks	Aug. 31	31	\$ 1,402	+ 57,350	54,000	116,476,000
Grand Trunk	34 weeks	Aug. 31	31	\$ 524,059	+ 1,621	10,225,417	+ 191,000

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange, $\frac{1}{2}$ Ten days' return. $\frac{1}{2}$ Adjusted, May 31, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggr. Rec'ts, 1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	1 mth	July 31	Gross \$117,875	+ 45,200		
Canadian Ntn*	6 mths	June 30	Gross \$4,606,800	+ 242,000	30,381,800	+ 3,770,377
Canadian Pac.	7 mths	July 31	Gross \$15,773,000	+ 1,602,000	99,823,000	+ 9,604,000
Grand Trunk	3 mths	Mar. 31	Gross \$2,054,000	+ 435,000	15,004,000	+ 1,956,000
Temiscouata	1 mth	July 31	Gross \$1,278,700	+ 95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,200
			Gross \$122,900	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500
			Gross \$41,074			

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth	June 30	810	£ 102,513	+ £ 4,263		
Mid. of W. Aust.	1 mth	July 31	277	7,494	+ 73		
New Cape Central	32 weeks	Aug. 13	205	2,208	+ 180	82,894	+ 13,437
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth	June 30	1,397	156,189	+ 17,093		
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth	July 31	..	11,529			
Shire Highlands	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100	+ 450		
Nyassaland	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100	+ 450		

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	End- ing.	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
			1921.	+ or —	1921.	+ or —
			\$	\$	\$	
Atchison Topeka.....	6 mths	June 30	14,850,226	-1,471,738	89,200,128	-10,291,940
Baltimore and Ohio	6 mths	June 30	16,316,024	-1,268,883	96,230,951	-3,555,771
Chicago and Milwaukee ..	6 mths	June 30	12,353,001	-1,491,178	67,769,580	-8,504,774
New York Central	6 mths	June 30	27,865,455	+2,029,456	157,536,612	+5,558,126
Pennsylvania	6 mths	June 30	43,268,215	+702,287	248,584,923	+14,334,828
Southern Pacific.....	6 mths	June 30	17,131,779	+949,159	91,967,338	+2,154,108

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Anglo-Argentine	35 weeks	Sept. 2	329	£ 79,091	+ 2,022	2,771,814	+ 140,552
Burnley Corporation	1 week	3	12	£ 3,665	+ 144		
Calcutta Tramways	35 weeks	Sept. 2	354	Rs 95,667	+ 3,708		
Chatham & District	34 weeks	Aug. 25	15	£ 1,758	+ 197	56,297	+ 1,965
Egyptian Markets	34 weeks	25	..	£ 1,472	+ 674	68,151	+ 10,234
Glasgow Corporation	14 weeks	Sept. 3	99	£ 46,528	+ 165	614,011	+ 38,021
Isle of Thanet	46 weeks	Aug. 17	..	£ 3,420	+ 21	48,171	+ 1,225
Lancashire United	35 weeks	30	39	£ 3,771	+ 331	120,900	+ 1,375
Liverpool Corporation	35 weeks	Sept. 3	124	£ 30,540	+ 1,792	1,008,841	+ 46,980
L.O.C. Tramways	21 weeks	7	155	£ 101,864	+ 12,307	2,310,508	+ 338,001
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	34 weeks	Aug. 31	..	Rs 50,962	+ 5,493	638,296	+ 151,683
Pernambuco Trans.	35 weeks	Sept. 4	..	£ 13,695	+ 2,236	131,560	+ 115,664
Singapore Electric	23 weeks	July 23	..	£ 13,237	+ 6,641	373,777	+ 290,146

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Alabama Power..	1 mth	June 30	Gross Net	\$259,059 \$130,812	+ 88,881 + 22,750	..	..
Barcelona Trac. repts. instps.	7 mths	July 31	Gross Net	2,844,138 1,635,681	+ 301,356 + 123,967	20,944,972 13,340,813	+ 3,598,188 + 2,848,810
Brazilian Trac. repts. in mil.	7 mths	July 31	Gross Net	15,477,000 8,871,000	+ 3,732,000 + 2,753,000	99,676,000 49,697,000	+ 2,881,000 + 10,520,000
Brisbane Electric Brit. Columbia Electric, &c.	7 mths 12 mths	July 31 June 30	Gross Net	.. \$750,907 \$165,948	.. + 40,697 + 21,534	.. 9,504,071 2,471,909	.. + 766,939 + 5,502
Buenos Ayres La Croze Trams ..	11 mths	May 31	5 1/2	\$58,492	+ 3,929	629,444	+ 67,765
Burmah Electric Trways. & Lightg.	12 mths	July 31	..	\$43,764	+ 8,525	..	+ 53,421
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	July 31	Gross Net	\$32,086 \$6,483	..	..	..
Canadian -Wstrn. Natural Gas ..	9 mths	June 30	Gross	\$825,836	+ 14,821	692,665	+ 167,844
Carthagena and Herrerias Trac.	8 mths	Aug. 31	12	11,775	+ 1,948	17,992	+ 18,499
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	July 31	Gross	\$22,100	+ 1,900	..	..
Chillagoes	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	\$5,030	..	..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	July 31	Gross Net	\$698,671 \$656,017	+ 1,419,248 + 1,406,362	18,503,064 17,878,378	+ 2,989,165 + 3,922,008
Cordoba Light&c.	3 mths	July 30	..	\$23,147	+ 3,108	68,766	+ 9,200
Cuba Railroad ..	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross Net	\$1,606,385 \$368,028	+ 448,284 + 79,092	8,497,481 2,458,331	+ 1,017,244 + 2,538,331
Elec. Sup. of Viet. Havana Elec.Rl.	16 weeks	July 17	22	\$3,842	+ 152	17,666	+ 1,698
Light & Power	6 mths	June 30	Gross	\$1,062,286	+ 91,721	6,404,016	+ 846,075
International Light & Power	12 mths	June 30	Gross Net	\$28,618 \$21,092	+ 8,638 + 594	2,816,052 781,350	+ 5,072 + 19,522
Kalgoorlie Elec. Tramways ..	5 mths	May 31	20 1/2 Net	\$7,659 \$2,362	+ 1,115	78,150	+ 15,122
Keystone Tele. ..	7 mths	July 31	Gross Net	\$143,177 \$59,349	+ 127 + 16,222	1,011,454 328,648	+ 5,953 + 19,635
La Guaira Harbr. La Plata ..	1 mth	Aug. 31	..	\$6,531	+ 2,193	..	..
Lima Light,Pwr and Tramways	8 mths	July 31	Gross	\$28,810	+ 97	39,128	+ 5,088
Lisbon Electric..	5 mths	May 31	Net	\$59,395	+ 4,513	304,875	+ 17,622
Manila Electric Railroad, &c.	1 mth 6 mths	Mar. 31 June 30	Gross Gross Net	\$20,116 \$10,559 \$126,210	+ 823 + 43,390 + 34,249	104,284 1,810,051 708,018	+ 14,541 + 207,981 + 160,026
Miss'ippi Riv.Pwr.	1 mth	July 31	Gross Gross Net	\$192,146 \$195,989 \$24,653	+ 9,557 + 1,403 + 412	.. 840,862 193,954	+ 23,844 + 4,157 + 6,554
Para Electric	8 mths	July 31	Gross Gross Gross Net	\$1,067 \$276,985 \$276,985	+ 3,327 + 23,435 + 23,435	78,778 1,701,706 1,701,706	.. + 240,577 + 240,577
Rangoon Electric	6 mths	June 30	Net	\$136,635	+ 16,963	838,676	+ 124,28
Shanghai Electric	7 mths	July 31	Mex.	\$174,800	+ 21,600	1,129,179	+ 110,68
Toronto Rly., &c.	6 mths	June 30	Gross Net	\$1,295,701 \$444,508	+ 168,462 + 74,705	7,648,618 2,469,184	+ 602,43 + 74,48

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated September 8th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is very little change in the position with regard to the production of pig-iron here. In some cases it is reported that open hearth steel works are being restarted, in addition to those already in operation, but the price of coke is not yet sufficiently favourable to permit a number of our consumers on the North-East Coast to resume smelting on an economical basis, as if they once start they will have to continue, and the initial expenses of starting are very great. Prices are nominally as follows:—No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron, 135s per ton, and East Coast mixed numbers hematite, 140s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Works are still short of orders, and are running practically from "hand to mouth." Quotations for foreign steel are considerably lower than the home prices. Steel ship plates, 14; steel ship angles, 13 10s; iron bars, 16; steel rails, 14, net. Iron ore: There is still practically no business at all in foreign ore, and the resumption, of course, will depend upon the hematite furnaces going in. The price of best Rubio is approximately 28s per ton, on a 50 per cent. basis, for prompt cargoes.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—In iron, steel, and coal trade circles this week the tone has been to the quiet side, consumers in the several relations speculating for a lower level of prices, and therefore acting conservatively in the matter of covering requirements. These, at the same time, are not of an unsatisfactory character, so far as immediate needs are concerned, but considerable uncertainty, and therefore dubiety, obtains as to the future, and induces caution at least on the part of buyers. Steelmakers are fairly well employed on the rolling of plates and of building sections, and are likely so to remain for a month or two to come; but that only applies to home business. On export account there is next to nothing doing actually, yet hope is strong that, from the variety of inquiries in circulation, a better condition of things will prevail ere long. India, China, Japan, Australia, and South America are each and collectively in the market for manufactured material—at a price, however, which unfortunately is under what our producers can conveniently face. For most of the new work offering the Continent seems capable of successfully competing, if the stories thereabout from Germany and Mid-Europe can be relied upon; but it remains that the divergence of quotations between us and other countries is gradually narrowing to a point that should tell in our ultimate favour. It is largely a case of waiting and seeing. Report has it these last few days that Beardmores, Limited, have booked four orders for plates (ship and boiler), and that they have also secured a line for war material for Spain. Black sheet makers are busier again on home orders. Galvanised sheet makers are doing better. There is more activity recognised in the shipbuilding yards, which are employing thousands more of joiners. Engine builders and machinery engineers are doing well, mainly on export order. Tubemakers are increasingly employed, and are benefiting from free imports from Germany and Belgium of half products—slabs, blooms, &c. Bolt, nut and rivet makers are busy, as are nail makers, rail makers, and wagon builders. The whole industrial position promises to gain in due course from the easier tendency of coals, which have fallen during the month from 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. below recent pre-strike level.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Things are not moving at the same rate as they are in Coleman street, the market being sharply divided into classes. There are those who are feeling the impetus of London sales, and who are protecting themselves by naming higher quotations than a week ago. At the same time it is with difficulty that 42d can be made for really good 64's tops, and they have been sold to-day as low as 3s 4d for good average tops. Nobody is now disposed to sell heavily on forward account, preferring to see if to-day's standard of values is maintained. There is a good deal of scepticism over the permanence of to-day's market price for wool, users pointing to the fact that the home trade is heavily handicapped by large stocks of dear piece goods. Practically all the trade recently done has been on export account, and with the further sensible depreciation in the German exchange, the majority are at a loss to understand the sensible rise that has taken place in wool and tops. In the case of yarns, spinners are quoting botanies about 3d per lb more, but are unable as yet to make it. At the same time there is evidence of increasing confidence, and if London finishes firm, it should do much to galvanise the home trade into renewed activity.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The London sales have continued to show all the sound features of the opening week, and at the time of writing there has been no evidence of an easier market. In fact, if anything, merinos have somewhat hardened since the opening, and the demand seems to be insatiable. The offerings have not been anything like as good

as during previous series, and it almost looks as if there is a scramble for 60's and upwards. Crossbreds predominate at the current auctions, reminding one of a May and July series in pre-war days. The daily offerings of New Zealand wool have provided Bradford topmakers with an opportunity to acquire good desirable stock, and there is no gainsaying the fact that the bulk of crossbreds is anywhere from 1d to 3d per lb dearer compared with June rates. This certainly is a sensible advance, and those who have been heavy sellers of 40's tops on forward account at 11d cannot feel very comfortable. However, the demand is there, and I take it that a good deal of covering is being done by Yorkshire in particular. It seems at the moment as if London is by far the dearest market for crossbred wools, for even B.A. crossbreds are to-day procurable at less per clean scoured lb than the prices now ruling for similar quality wools in Coleman Street Wool Exchange. Germany continues to give commendable support to these wools, the purchases of fair weights of crossbreds having entirely removed the depression which was in evidence in July.

The way merinos are selling clearly shows a very strong market. According to Kreglinger and Fernau, the clean scoured cost per lb shows an advance of about 4d compared with the close of the July series, which means a considerable increase in good topmaking wools. A cable received last Friday from Melbourne stated that 64-70's good top-making fleece wool was selling on a clean basis of 30d, c.i.f. London, and that market seems to offer an inducement for users operating abroad. The bulk of the merino offerings is more suitable for Continental requirements than for the home trade, and anything well grown and shaggy is the turn against the buyer compared with the opening night. Considering the conditions prevailing in France and Germany, competition from that quarter is causing some surprise, the strike of textile operatives in the former country not yet having been settled. Cape merinos have also advanced, which augurs well for the advent of the new clip, which should begin to arrive at the various selling centres in South Africa at the end of the month. All average Cape merinos are 10 per cent. above last series. On the whole, the sales are making excellent progress, and a firm finish is already in sight.

The interview which Sir Arthur Goldfinch has given to the *Yorkshire Post* has made interesting reading; but it has fallen very flat with the trade. To a very large extent it is an apology for the error of judgment of the Wool Section of the Ministry of Munitions last year in refusing to sell at shillings per lb more than can be made to-day when only 2d to 1d divided sellers and buyers.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—September 2, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G O L M	Mid	G M M F	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M
	8-75	9-50	10-50	11-30	12-15	13-85	15-24	18-69	25-24	15-70	17-35	20-20
Brazilian.	Mid	M F	Fr.	G M	Gd.	Fne.	M F	Fr.	Gd.	M F	Fr.	Gd.
Pernambuco, &c.	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Paraiba	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Macao	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Mossoro, &c.	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Ceara	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Maranhão	..	8-50	11-00	13-00	..	..	18-26	24-74	..	17-90	21-90	..
Egyptian.	..	..	11-75	13-25	15-75	17-50	..	nm	54-50	..	23-00	29-50
Brown	..	..	12-00	13-00	15-00	16-00	..	nm	41-50	..	22-00	28-50
Upper	..	..	23-00	26-00	29-00	31-00	..	75-00	85-00	..	..	nm
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	..	..	9-75	10-75	11-75	..	..	41-00	..	..	29-50
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	8-75	10-00	10-75	..	..	27-00	36-00	..	21-50	25-50
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	9-50	12-50	13-25	13-75	14-75	28-24	32-74	21-98	24-48	24-98
Ditto Smooth	..	..	..	nm	nm	nm	..	..	nm	..	23-00	27-50
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	7-75	8-75	10-75	11-75	12-75	25-50	28-50	23-20	23-60	24-40
African, East, &c.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
East Indian.	G F	For	Gd.	F G	Fne	S'In	For	Gd.	Fne	For	Gd.	Fne
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	..	..	10-30	10-55	10-80	..	..	19-85	..	..	19-35	..
Broach	..	9-30	9-55	9-80	10-05	10-30	17-35	17-85	18-85	17-85	18-10	18-60
M. Ginned Bhowanagar ..	7-19	7-69	8-19	8-69	8-94	9-19	12-69	13-69	15-29	16-29	17-04	17-79
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	7-25	7-75	8-25	8-75	9-00	9-25	12-75	13-75	15-35	16-35	17-10	17-85
M. Ginned Khandeish ..	..	7-00	7-50	8-00	8-25	8-50	11-00	12-00	13-60	15-85	16-60	17-35
M. Ginned Comptah	7-95	..	8-45	..	..	..	..	15-60	..	..	18-10	..
M. Ginned Bengal	5-93	6-40	6-90	7-40	7-65	7-90	7-00	7-75	9-00	..	..	..
M. Ginned Seinde	5-78	6-28	6-78	7-28	7-53	7-78	6-82	7-57	8-82	14-25	15-00	15-75
Tinnivelly	10-05	10-30	10-55	..	..	..	19-60	20-10	..	18-60	18-85	..
Madras, Western	8-20	8-45	8-70	8-95	..	..	15-85	16-35	..	17-85	18-10	..
Cocconada, Red	Fr.	8-20	..	..	..	..	13-00	..	..	17-85	18-10	..
M. Ginned Cocconada, Red ..	Fr.	8-45	..	..	..	..	13-25	..	..	18-10	..	..

National Provident Institution.

Three good points

in favour of a Life Assurance policy.

1. It will show you a good return for your money.
2. It will give you no anxiety as to depreciation.
3. It will enable you to save Income Tax.

Full detailed particulars will be sent post free on application to—

49, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

Telephone: 1773 Avenue.

MANCHESTER, September 8.

The excitement in the raw cotton market has thoroughly disorganised business in yarn and cloth, and the whole conditions have been very unsettled. It has been quite impossible to arrange a basis on which to do trade. As usual, some operators have been caught short, and there has been a rush to cover, but Manchester traders, as a body, have refused to follow the rise in values. Poor advices have been received from India and China. Despite the advance, cases have been mentioned of dealers in Calcutta cancelling contracts owing to late delivery. There has been a fair amount of activity in stock lots for the Near Eastern outlets. Supplies in the hands of merchants and producers are worth much more to-day than a month ago, and this development should facilitate clearances of dear stocks. The outlook is very uncertain, and most people are adopting a waiting policy until the tone is steadier. Buying in American and Egyptian yarns has been very irregular, and here and there very fair orders have been put through. Prices, of course, are distinctly dearer.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Sept. 8, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Sept. 1.	Sept. 8.	Aug. 25.	Aug. 18.	Aug. 11.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	13-10	10-76	9-68	8-81	8-95	8-78
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	..	..	..	..	..	..
Egyptian	21-50	18-00	16-00	16-00	16-00	16-00
Yarns—32's twist	20	18	17	16	17	17
— 40's twist	18	16	15	15	15	16
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	36	31	29	29	30	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	33	31	30	30	31	31
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	33	30	29	29	30	31
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	19	18	17	17	17	18
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	18	17	16	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Sept. 8, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	13-10	23-41	18-20	25-73	16-90	9-54
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	..	..	..	..	..	..
Egyptian	21-50	65-50	30-00	30-19	27-75	12-95
Yarns—32's twist	20	50 1/2	40 1/2	55 1/2	24 1/2	14 1/2
— 40's twist	18	46	39 1/2	55 1/2	24 1/2	14 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	36	85	61	67	43	24
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	33	67	63	68	61	60
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	33	74	68	69	60	58
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	19	64	50	61	31	41
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	18	63	50	59	31	40

VEGETABLE OILS AND OIL SEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The market for both linseed and linseed oil continues in an inactive and hesitating condition, the overshadowing factor being the enormous quantities of seed arrived, and afloat both for this country and the Continent, and the doubt as to whether conditions of trade will improve sufficiently to conveniently absorb these big supplies. Very little, or hardly any at all, business has been done in seed in the past few days, but quotations are only slightly lower, there being no pressure to sell in the near positions. Consequently, it may be said that the undertone is good. With regard to the oil product, trade has been on very quiet lines, with sellers maintaining prices at perhaps a shade over late rates. The demand for cotton oils appears to have been satisfied for the time being, and crushers do not seem inclined to restore their stocks at present prices of Egyptian cottonseed and in view of the poor inquiry for cakes. Trade in rape oil continues of a hand-to-mouth description, and only a small business is reported in English-made soya bean oil, Oriental now competing at a lower level. Palm kernel and ground nut oils are in only moderate request. The trade in oilcakes of all descriptions is very poor indeed, despite lower quotations.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Prices for market hides and skins were firm to a slight advance at the auctions held in Bermondsey on Thursday, best and second ox and heifers selling at the previous week's figures. Cows and bulls made higher prices, the advances ranging from 1d to 5d per lb. Keen interest was again displayed in regard to calfskins, and most classes made from 1d to 3d per lb more money. Considerable activity has been noticed in regard to foreign hides, and quite an appreciable amount of the business put through during the week has been at higher figures. The demands of the home trade have been well in evidence, and interest has been mainly centred around middle and better-class hides.

Consumers of sole leather are only buying just sufficient to cover immediate requirements, as there is a feeling abroad that the present range of values have no stability. Tanners in most cases, however, are holding out for full asking prices, as with the hide market in its present condition there appears to be little prospects of any fall in the price of leather so long as hide values are on

the up grade. In bonds the heavy weights are mostly in request, and anything from 12 lbs and up usually finds a buyer. Light weights are not so much sought after, as is also the case with middle weights in bellies and shoulders. The lights and heavies in the latter classes of goods, however, are a satisfactory sale.

Upper leathers are selling steadily, and some fair-sized parcels have changed hands during the week. Manufacturers of boots and shoes report very little change in the position. In some quarters one hears of a few more orders coming to hand than has been the case of late, while other firms report the demand as having fallen off slightly.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mining Lane, Friday, September 9.

Business in most directions pursued a quiet course, demand being confined to wants of immediate necessity, but prices on the whole proved steady. Jute was an exception, while showing increased firmness under very reserved offers from Calcutta and larger buying orders being in circulation.

SUGAR.—There was a moderate amount of business concluded this week, and prices for spot goods ruled steady without particular change. Tate's cubes 61s 9d to 62s 9d; crushed, 58s 6d; granulated, 57s to 57s 6d; Lyle's granulated, 57s to 57s 3d; yellow crystals, 52s 6d. Crystallised West India, 45s to 50s 6d, as to quality. American granulated, spot, sold, 56s; Canadian, ditto, 56s; Dutch, 56s, duty paid. American granulated, September, sold, 28s to 27s 6d; and white Java, August, 24s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. Belgian crystals, November-December, changed hands at 21s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Dutch granulated, prompt, 28s, f.o.b. Amsterdam. Czecho granulated, prompt, 27s 3d, October-December, 25s 9d f.o.b., Hamburg. Terminal market steady. December, 96 per cent., old terms, sold, 17s; and white, November, 23s 6d; December, 22s 9d. Cuban stocks stand at 1,225,000 tons, against 314,000 same time last year.

COFFEE.—A good demand continued, especially for the more attractive qualities, and market ruled firm to occasionally dearer. Some Blue Mountain Jamaica was eagerly competed for, and realised extreme rates. Midding to fine middling, sold, 157s 6d to 181s; bold sizes, 186s to 220s; peaberry, 150s to 223s. Good bold Nairobi, sold, 96s to 103s. Future delivery market firm, and dearer. December, sold, 48s 6d; March, 49s 3d.

COCOA.—Only a small business transpired, but prices ruled nominally unaltered. Butter quiet at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—In auction some 40,500 packages Indian were offered, and met with active and well distributed competition at full to dearer rates. Some new season's Assam sold well when quality was satisfactory, but in certain instances prices bid were not up to importers' ideas. 26,400 packages Ceylon were soon disposed of under active biddings, at full to rather dearer prices.

RICE.—Business in this market came quite to a standstill during the week, and quotations, also for broken descriptions, ruled quite nominal and difficult to define. Rangoon beans quiet, but steady. Hand picked, spot, 15s 3d; August-September, 14s 6d; September-October, 14s 3d, and October-December, 14s. Madagascar butter beans, all white, spot, sold, 33s 6d, new crop, and 28s, old. Dutch peas, hand picked, prompt, 27s, c.f. and i., and Japanese peas, crop 1921, September-November, 38s.

SPICE.—A quiet tone governed the market for pepper. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 42d to 43d; September-November, ditto, 42d; October-December, 42d to 43d; Aleppy, spot, 42d; Tellicherry, 52d; white Singapore, spot, 92d; September-November, 83d; Muntok, spot, sold, 92d, and September-November, 83d. Zanzibar cloves, on spot, quoted 1s 3d; pimento, spot, 25d; flake tapioca, spot, 12d, all per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, London, sold, 16s 6d to 16s 9d; October-December, Havre, 17s 3d. Fair Penang, seed

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £2550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

pearl, spot, 22s 6d; ditto, September-November, steamer, sold, 20s 3d, c.f. and i. terms, London. Sago flour, September-November, 16s 3d. Japanese farina, October-December, sold, 28s 6d. Desiccated coconut, spot lots, sold, 52s; afloat, 50s.

JUTE.—The market steadily hardened under very reserved offers from Calcutta and steady buying orders in circulation from spinners. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg and Dunkirk, sold, £32 to £32 10s; ditto, in dock, £30 to £31 10s; ditto, subs, old crop, August, declared steamer, £31 10s; ditto, August-September, up to £30 15s to £31; ditto, September-October, £30 15s. Lightning subs, old crop, August-September and September-October, done £26 15s; and heart subs, ditto, August, £19 10s; September, £19 5s to £19 10s. Calcutta hessians firmer; 10-ounce, spot, sold, 24s 6d; October-December, 26s; 8-ounce, spot, 21s 6d; October-December, 22s. A twills, spot, 78s; B ditto, sold, 65s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila continued in a very slow state, and rates ruled quite nominal. J grade, September-November, quoted £37; K ditto, £36; L, £35 10s; M, £31 10s. New Zealand quietly steady, and fair August-October changed hands at £35. Italian firm in local market, but nominal as far as the United Kingdom is concerned.

SHELLAC.—Market firm, and a fair demand prevailed for forward positions. Fair T.N., spot, 300s; October, sold, 297s 6d; and December, 287s 6d.

COPRA.—Market unsettled, though a fair amount of business was effected. F.M.S. Straits, July-September, Rotterdam, sold, £34 15s; August-October, £34 5s to £33 15s and £34 10s; September-November, £34 to £33 10s, and £34 5s; Ceylon, September-November, London, sold, £35 5s to £35 15s; Cebu ditto, Hamburg, £32 10s to £33; South Sea Islands, September-November, London, £32 15s. Palm kernels, October-December, Liverpool, sold, £22 17s 6d to £23 5s.

RUBBER. remained in a quiet condition, and without particular change in prices. Standard crepe, spot, sold, 8½d; October-December, 9½d; January-March, 9½d. Sheet, spot, sold, 8½d; October-December, 8½d; January-March, 9½d. Fine hard Para, spot, sellers, 1s 0½d; and Caucho ball, 7d.

OILS.—Linseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 39s; September-December, 38s 6d; January-April, 39s 6d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 55s; refined, 61s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 45s 6d; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 53s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 93s; and shipment, 69s to 70s. Coconut steadier. Ceylon, spot, 55s; September-October, 53s 6d; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya firmer. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 45s. Japan fish steady. July-August, cases, 23s. Cod steady. English, spot, 29s to 31s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 55s; deodorised, barrels, 66s. Turpentine firmer. American, spot, 65s 9d; October-December, 66s 6d; January-April, 68s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 17s; F, 17s 6d; G, 17s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 15s; H, 15s; WW, 18s; extra pale, nominal.

Petroleum quiet. American, refined, 1s 4d; standard white-1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market unsettled. Calcutta, September-October, £23. Plate, spot, Hull, £20 10s; afloat, £20 10s; September-October, £21; October-November, £21 5s; November-December, £21 10s; January-February, £21 15s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, September-October, quoted £22 5s; real bold Ferozepore, quoted £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed firmer. Egyptian black, September, quoted £14 10s; and white, £14. Bombay, August-September, £12. Gingly firm. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £30 10s. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £20 10s. Ground nuts firmer. Coromandel, machine-dried, August-September, £29 10s; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, £28 10s per ton.

METALS.—Tin continued active and firmer during the first part of the week, cash fluctuating to £161 5s, and three months' to £164 5s. After exhibiting a further advance last Wednesday, a set-back in prices followed under selling pressure, these dates being sold at £163 5s to £162, and £166 5s to £164 10s respectively. The downward movement was prolonged at Thursday's meeting, while cash eased to £159, and three months' to £161 10s. At Friday's session, cash relapsed to £156, and three months' to £158 5s, while finally done at £158 15s. English ingots, £154 to £155. Copper occupied steady attention, the market being rather firmer until last Tuesday, when standard cash changed hands at £69 5s; three months' at £70. A slightly easier tendency prevailed during the middle of the week, with business in September at £69 5s, three months' £70 to £69 12s 6d. At Thursday's meeting cash relapsed to £67 5s, and three months' to £68 5s, while finally registered at £68 10s. At Friday's session, late September sold at £67 5s, and three months' at £68 7s 6d to £68 5s. Electro, £72 to £74; best selected, £68 5s to £70 5s; strong sheets, £70 3. Wire bars, £72 10s to £74. Lead steady at £23 7s 6d to £22 17s 6d, as to position. Spelter firmer at £25 7s 6d to £25 17s 6d. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—SEPTEMBER 8.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	q
Beasts—Herefords....	10	0	10 8
Norththorns.....	9	8	10 4
Devons.....	10	2	10 8
Norfolks.....	9	8	10 4
Scottish.....	9	6	9 10
Irish.....	9	6	9 10
Sheep—Downs (clipped) 11 0 to 11 8			
Longwools.....	10	4	11 0
Crossbred.....	10	4	11 0
Scottish.....	11	0	13 0
Lamb—Downs.....	11	0	13 0

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—SEPTEMBER 8.

Per Cwt.			
	s	d	q
King Edwards.....	11	0	13 0
British Queen.....	10	0	11 0
Ellipse.....	8	6	10 0
Blacklands.....	8	6	10 6

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.			
COCOA—Duty, British grown	55s	foreign 42s	cwt. 54
Trinidad, per cwt.	56	0	62 0
Granada.....	44	0	56 0
Ceylon, plantation.....	70	0	85 0
Guayaquil.....	58	0	77 6
Bahia, Brazil.....	59	0	60 8
OFFEE—British grown	35s	foreign 42s	cwt. 54
E. India fine, 42s, cwt.	0	112	0
Do good to fine.....	0	115	0
Costa Rica, ord. to fine.....	0	120	0
Good to fine.....	0	130	0
Central American, gd.	0	115	0
ord. to fine.....	0	122	6
Mid to fine.....	0	117	0
Columbian, ordinary.....	0	65	0
Do good to fine.....	0	110	0
Do good to low mid.....	0	90	0
Do mid to fine.....	0	95	0
CHEMICALS—			
Acid, citric.....per lb	2	5	6
Nitric.....	0	24	0
Oxalic, net.....	0	9	0
Tararic, English.....	1	5	0
Foreign.....	1	4	0
Alum lump.....per ton	17	0	0
Do ground.....	17	0	0
Ammonia, white, p.tn.....	0	4	0
Muriate, white, p.tn.....	0	7	0
Sulphate.....	0	26	0
Arsenic, lump, per ton.....	0	100	0
Powder.....	0	42	0
Alum, pot.....per cwt	10	0	0
Pearl do.....	0	10	0
Bleaching p.wdr. p.tn.....	0	18	0
Borax, crystals.....cwt	31	0	0
Do powder.....	32	0	0
Cream Tartar.....	0	0	0
53% powder.....	130	0	135 8
Coloidal.....per lb	5	3	6
Iodine, dry.....per oz	1	1	1
Nitrate of Soda, p.tn.....	20	0	21 0
Potash—			
Chlorate, net.....	0	6	7
Crusiate.....	1	3	1
Do foreign.....	1	2	1
Sulphate.....per ton	25	0	30 0
Sal-acetone.....per lb	1	1	0
Sal-Ammoniac.....	0	1	0
Soda-Bicarb., per ton.....	12	0	12 0
Crystals, ex ship, p.tn.....	27	0	0
Alkali.....	8	15	0
Caustic.....	23	0	25 0
Sugar of lead white, ton.....	0	0	0
Foreign white.....	0	55	0
Sulphate Quinine.....	0	0	0
English Brand.....	0	0	0
Foreign do.....	4	1	0
Sulphate Copper, p.tn.....	31	0	32 0
Zinc, cut.....	0	0	0
Sulphur Flour.....	18	0	19 0
Do Roll.....	17	0	18 0
Vermilion, Chinese, p.tn.....	9	5	0
English.....	4	9	0
COPRA—per ton, f.f.....	0	0	0
Malabar, Sept./Nov.....	0	0	0
Ceylon.....	35	0	0
F.M.S. Singapore.....	34	5	0
F.M. Straits.....	32	5	0
COCHINEAL—per lb	2	0	3 6

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XXIII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 1921.

No. 4,073.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund	Haugesund
Bergen	Sandefjord
Christiania and S.	Skien
Dræmmon	Stavanger
Fredrikstad	Trondhjem

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 31st December, 1920 ... Lire 4,117,617,960

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italo credit, Cannon, London." Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	429	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets.....	447
A Financial Symposium ..	431	New Issues	448
The Position in Russia	432	Active Securities.....	449
The Cardiff Congress	433	Government Returns—	
Index Numbers of Shipping		Currency Notes Account ..	450
Freights	434	Treasury Bills by Public	
Tea Plantation Companies		Tender	450
in 1920	435	Public Income and Expen-	
Business Notes—		diture	450
The Bank Statements	436	Bankers' Gazette—	
Iron and Steel Production..	436	Bank of England	451
New Serbian Loan	436	Clearing Returns	451
Russo-Norwegian Trade		Overseas Bank Returns ..	451
Agreement	437	Monthly Statement of	
South African Conditions ..	437	London Clearing Banks..	452
Mexican External Debt....	438	Loan and Discount Rates..	454
Argentine Railway Rates ..	438	Overseas Bank Rates....	454
Cotton Dispute Settled	438	Rates of Exchange.....	454
Lancashire Cotton Dividends		Bullion	455
Bolckow, Vaughan	438	Imports and Exports of	
Trust Houses	438	Gold	455
Union Cold Storage	439	Gold and Silver Prices ...	455
Mount Morgan	439	Company News—	
The Finances of the Falcon		Oil Outputs	455
The "Safeguarding" Panel		Railway and Tramway	
London School of Economics		Traffics	456
Transvaal Output for August		Rubber Outputs	457
Oversea Correspondence—		Dividend Announcements..	458
United States	440	Mining Output Statistics..	458
France	441	Transvaal Gold Outputs ..	458
Germany	442	Reports and Notices	458
Canada	443	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	459
Italy	444	Analysis of Balance-sheets	
Poland	445	Commercial Reports—	
Letters to the Editor—		Corn Trade	459
Monetary Policy	446	Iron and Coal Trade	460
Unemployment, Credits,		Cotton Trade	460
and the Currency	446	Wool Trade	462
A Tabular Standard of Value		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	
446		Hide and Leather Trades ..	462
Books and Publications—		Portland Cement	463
Reviews	447	Overseas Produce Markets	
Books Received	447	Price Current	463

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £2 18s 0d. Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist," Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galvani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

MONEY has been rather less plentiful, thanks to the reduction of Ways and Means advances from the Bank of England, but the supply was amply comfortable, and the tendency of the discount market has remained weak. There was much talk in the middle of the week of a substantially higher rate for Treasury bill tenders, but three months' bills could be placed fairly

easily at 4 per cent. Six months' bills were wanted in some quarters at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and it is suggested that Treasury bills of this usance might find a ready market.

	Sept. 16, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1921.	Aug. 26, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount / Call	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses / Notice	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{2}$	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a marked improvement. A decline of £1,225,000 in the note circulation left the Reserve higher by that amount, and since Government securities were reduced by $12\frac{1}{2}$ millions, the deposits were $11\frac{1}{2}$ millions lower, chiefly at the expense of "Other." The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £1,133,000 to £318,036,500, which includes £1,916,000 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £268,170,600, or £49,384,600 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended September 10th:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	14,343	Supply Services	10,260
Less—		Interest on Debt	901
Added to Exchequer Balances	401	Sundries	333
		Debt Reduction	2,808
	14,302		14,302

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £2,807,637, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bills	+ 860	Bank of England Advances ..	— 5,000
Treasury Bonds	+ 2,250	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 578
Advances by Public Departments ..	+ 650	Depreciation Fund	— 1,160
Civil Contingencies Fund	+ 1,000	Sundries	— 1,130
National Savings Certificates	+ 300		
	+ 5,060		— 7,868

Property and Income-tax yielded £4,351,000, while Customs and Excise brought in £4,331,000. The floating debt now stands at £1,354,676,000, having been reduced by £3,455,000. It will be noted from our table that Treasury bonds were sold to the satisfactory extent of $2\frac{1}{2}$ millions.

In the foreign exchange market the main interest of a busy and exciting week has been concentrated on the movements of the mark and the franc. From 361 on the 9th the mark moved up rapidly, but with wide fluctuations, to about 405 on Monday. On Tuesday it reached 412, but ended slightly lower at 402. Since then it has moved spasmodically up and down, but yesterday morning was again quoted at 402, forward rates being about one mark per month below spot. The main causes for this movement, which were discussed last week, continue to operate, and there is at present no reason to expect an improvement, although the statement that the leading bankers have met the Government and given it assurances as to the provision of funds necessary for the next reparation payment (on November 15th) may go some way towards allaying uneasiness. There is much talk in Germany as to the reimposition of exchange control in order to counteract the present wild speculation, but it is unlikely that this will be introduced. The depreciation of the mark would seem at last to be having a direct effect on the value of the franc, which has risen much more rapidly than of late, from 49.82 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 9th to 51.82 $\frac{1}{2}$ on Monday. There was a slight recovery on Tuesday, but rates again rose on the following day to 52.77 $\frac{1}{2}$ on Thursday. Yesterday morning there was again a slight reaction to 52.70. It is reported that the demand for sterling from Paris has been heavy, both there and in New York. The Brussels rate has, as usual, moved in sym-

pathy from 50.74 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 53.30, but it will be seen that the spread between the two is some 32 centimes narrower than last week. The forward rate for French francs is about one centime per month over spot; for Belgian about five per month below. Italy has also depreciated on the week from 86.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 87, after having on Monday been over 88. The New York rate has been difficult to understand, having risen at first from 3.72 $\frac{1}{2}$ to as high as 3.74 on Monday. Since then it has tended to be weaker, having at times been well below 3.70; but yesterday morning again it was up to 3.71. There is a general feeling that the position is hardly stable, and that a demand for dollars may spring up at any time. The quotation for futures is $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. per month above spot. Among the neutral exchanges Amsterdam, which is feeling the strain of the heavy depreciation in the mark, has moved up from 11.75 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 11.80, after having been as high as 11.82 $\frac{1}{2}$ in the earlier part of the week, futures being $\frac{1}{2}$ cent. per month above spot. Madrid, after going up to 28.80, has improved considerably again, and at 28.50 is only 11 points above the previous week. Switzerland at 21.53 has moved about 20 centimes against this country. The Scandinavian rates have moved irregularly, and both Stockholm and Copenhagen have increased in value, while Christiania has again depreciated. Helsingfors, at over 300, would seem, in spite of the relatively favourable position of the country, to be unable to escape the phase of collapse through which all the new States of Europe are passing. Among the Central European States both Austria and Poland have established new high levels. The London rate for Vienna (Auslandskronen) is now about 4,200, as compared with 3,650 on the 9th, when the Vienna or Inlandskronen rate on London was 4,800. The main reason for this further fall is the unfavourable report by the Finance Minister of the results of his recent visit to London and Geneva. Warsaw, after showing some recovery at the beginning of the week, has moved up again to 15,500, and now to the other difficulties of Poland there has been that of finding a new Cabinet to replace the very unsuccessful Witos régime. Budapest, in spite of real attempts at financial reform, shows a further depreciation to about 2,000, the result of the unfortunate complications in West Hungary, which may lead to very serious troubles with the neighbour States of Czechoslovakia and Jugoslavia. In Prague the rate has remained very nearly steady at 310, in Belgrade there has been further depreciation from 180 to 210, and it is unlikely that much money will be found abroad for the new loan now being floated in Serbia. The Bulgarian rate has also continued to move up from 470 to 580, while Bucharest, after a rapid rise to 500, is showing a slight tendency towards recovery. Constantinople has moved very little at 385, but Athens has again depreciated. The rupee, at 1s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, is beginning to show a distinct upward tendency, and the yen is also somewhat dearer at 2s 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Among the South American currencies, Buenos Ayres and Montevideo are rather dearer, while Rio and Valparaiso have depreciated a little. There has been a distinct upward movement in silver on good demand from India, prices having reached their highest since the end of January, and although there has been a slight reaction, the tendency seems firmer. Shanghai and Hongkong have both become dearer in sympathy.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO SEPTEMBER 10, 1921

	£		£
Total spent	449,818,840	Raised by revenue ..	400,212,987
Inc. in balances	174,926	Net borrowings	49,780,779
Total	449,993,766	Total	449,993,766

ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.

	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Sept. 11, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	..	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,939
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	358	358	358
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % Conversion Ln.*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,121	1,152
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	949	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,117
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	244
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,749
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,796

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Sept. 11, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Sept. 10, '21.	Sept. 10, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	43,250,000..	..	49,000,000..	5,000,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	153,691,000..	154,489,000..	154,074,000..	650,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,065,875,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,151,620,000..	895,000
Total Floating Debt	1,262,814,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,354,676,000..	3,455,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

SEPTEMBER 10TH.—Trade Union Congress ended.

SEPTEMBER 11TH.—Death of Lord Milford Haven.

SEPTEMBER 12TH.—Mr De Valera accepts invitation to Inverness Conference. Heavy rainstorm in London. Unemployed riots in Liverpool.

SEPTEMBER 13TH.—Cabinet Committee on Unemployment meets. Two Sinn Fein couriers confer with Premier in Scotland.

SEPTEMBER 14TH.—Disposal Board agrees to sell all remaining stocks of surplus textiles to syndicate for £3 millions. Last meeting of British Association at Edinburgh.

SEPTEMBER 15TH.—Premier cancels proposed Irish Conference. Royal Commission advises the admission of Canadian store cattle.

The gilt-edged section of the stock markets has been almost alone in showing any firmness, other departments being dull and inclined to weakness.

Business in the cotton trade has been irregular. Inquiry for cloth from overseas markets has been on a small scale. The London wool sales closed on Thursday with prices at their highest point, competition being keen. Yorkshire mills are now running longer hours. Inquiry from abroad for piece goods is more encouraging. The high price of fuel is delaying the restarting of blast furnaces, and there is not much life in the steel trade yet. Glasgow reports speak of increasing activity on the Clyde. The vegetable and oilseeds trades are irregular. Inquiry is better in the leather trade, but boot and shoe manufacturers do not find much improvement in business. Detailed trade reports from special correspondents will be found in later columns.

A FINANCIAL SYMPOSIUM.

VERY good work was done, under the able chairmanship of Mr W. L. Hitchens, at the Economic Section of the British Association at the Edinburgh meeting, which has just concluded its labours. On the strictly financial aspect of its problems, Section F had the benefit of a report on the "Effects of the War on Credit, Currency, Finance, and Foreign Exchanges," issued by a committee consisting of Prof. W. R. Scott (chairman), Mr J. E. Allen (secretary), Prof. Bastable, Sir E. Brabrook, Dr J. H. Clapham, Dr Hugh Dalton, Mr B. Ellinger, Sir Drummond Fraser, Mr A. H. Gibson, Mr C. W. Guillebaud, Mr F. W. Hirst, Prof. A. W. Kirkaldy, Mr F. J.

Lavington, Mr D. H. Robertson, Mr E. Sykes, and Sir J. C. Stamp. These names are enough to show that a great deal of varied experience and ability was brought to bear on the problems dealt with by the committee, but it appears to have been further reinforced, since the report is brightened by observations from Dr Cannan, Messrs Hilton Young, Bernard Shaw, and others. It is an unusual document, since no attempt has been made to arrive at unanimous conclusions—that fatal process which generally takes all the pith and savour out of committee reports—but extracts from the answers of the various pundits to questions put to them are skilfully edited and brought together. So we get what reads like a racy discussion by these distinguished experts. For example, among the answers to the question, whether a capital levy or a forced loan offer any escape from the dangers of national insolvency, we get the following:—

"Mr Gibson maintains that 'No country is nationally bankrupt until it cannot pay, within a reasonable time, the interest on its external debt by exports or other form of settlement. Last year we had a net trade balance in our favour, taking invisible exports into account, and a net favourable balance is likely to be maintained in future years. I see no present necessity for a forced loan. A capital levy directed solely against war-fortunes I support if practicable.....'

"Sir J. C. Stamp replies: 'It is a nice balance. It all depends upon the prevailing psychology in financial circles at the time when it is introduced. It is not enough to prove that mathematically or actuarially the effect should not follow. It is what people imagine that will rule the issue, and not what they ought to think.'

"Dr Dalton also does not take seriously 'the dangers of national insolvency.' He adds: 'But I favour a capital levy sufficiently productive of revenue to wipe out at least half the National Debt within the next few years. Unless the business world is successfully bamboozled into unreasonable panic, I believe that no appreciable shock to private credit need result from such a levy.....'

"On the other side, Mr Shaw writes: 'A capital levy is utter nonsense economically; it is the delusion of "the practical business man," who thinks that because he can sell an income of £5 a year for £100 down, the whole income of the world could be sold for twenty times its figure. There is nothing to be got out of capital by way of taxation except the income it produces. As to a forced loan, why not a forced gift? All taxation of the interest on a loan to the State is repudiation. The War Debt is already repudiated to the extent of 11s in the £ in the case of the very rich. How far the repudiation should go, and what form it should take, are matters of expediency.'

"Mr Lawrence replies: 'Yes. Capital levy, complete

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

revision of peace treaties, Free-trade, limitations of paper currency, and many other steps....."

Again, on the question whether it was possible to prevent expansion of credit and currency during the war: "Dr. Dalton answers: 'Yes; by heavier taxation (or alternatively, to some extent, by offering higher rates of interest on voluntary loans). This policy, if it had been adopted in this country, would have prevented the greater part, if not the whole, of the rise in prices and money wages, and of the depreciation of the American and other exchanges. Especially in the early part of the war, it was a gross error of policy not to impose heavier taxation.' Mr Hirst, Commander Hilton Young, Mr Mason, and Mr Bernard Shaw also answer Yes. Sir J. C. Stamp answers: 'Theoretically Yes, but psychologically No, the stimulus given to profit-making by the expansion is too important an ingredient for waging the war to have been left out.' Dr Dalton comments: 'This doesn't say much for the patriotism of the business community.' Mr Allen observes: 'A Napoleon may be compelled to mislead his countrymen, a self-governing community ought to face a war with a full knowledge of its costs and dangers. To take a classical analogy, the choice was between the policy of Pericles and that of Cleon; and Cleon's won.'Professor Cannan holds that the expansion of credit could have been stopped 'by not issuing it.' He adds, 'Of course, this might have stopped the war; but that isn't economics, but politics.' So far the discussion, as quoted, has had a somewhat academic flavour, but the report comes to more practical questions when it asks whether the taxable capacity of a nation can be ascertained and whether ours has been passed, and seems to show a small majority of negative answers to both questions. It also seems, on the whole, to incline to the view that, if the principle of ability to pay be accepted, it follows that the greater part of the national income should be raised by income-tax. On the very important question whether we wish prices to be steady or to rise or fall, stability seems to have received most support, but, nevertheless, the balance of opinion seems to have been in favour of working back to the old gold parity, Dr Cannan remarking that "the fixed-income people will have been robbed of a good deal even then."

In the daily papers a less scientific discussion is being carried on concerning the urgent and practical question of the measures to be taken for dealing with unemployment. A statement issued early in the week by the Ministry of Labour showed that the number of wholly unemployed had fallen from 2,170,000 on July 1st to 1,527,000 on September 2nd, and of those on short time from 988,000 to about 400,000. It is thus clear that the country is slowly recovering from the effects of the coal strike, but that the situation is still grave. It is understood that the Cabinet is determined not to continue the system of doles, but to give pay for work to be provided to meet the crisis. With all its obvious economic disadvantages, this course appears to be the best. It is suggested by the National Alliance of Employers and Employed that all local authorities and public utility companies should be required by the Government to prepare schemes of public utility, and that the Government should guarantee loans to them to the extent of 75 per cent. of the total cost, at a proper rate of interest. Presumably, since the Government is only to guarantee, the money would actually be raised by public subscription, and it is rather hard to see why utility companies should be "required" to embark on work which is almost certain to involve loss, so specially taxing their shareholders for a purpose for which they are no more liable than their neighbours. Mr Harold Spender, in a letter in Thursday's *Times*, urged the Government to turn their backs on the whole policy of loans, and "pay the cost of these relief works as they go along out of the National Exchequer." These are brave words, but unless fresh taxation is imposed any money so used will necessarily reduce the already attenuated balance available for debt reduction, and so will really be

found out of loans. Does Mr Spender suggest fresh taxation, and if so, what? In the *Daily Mail* of the same date Sir Robert Hadfield urges that the United States must "distribute her gold, and so equalise the exchanges." If America would lend freely to the rest of the world, other countries' position would temporarily be more comfortable; but would they cease to outrun the constable, and is America likely to do so in view of its recent experiences? Sir Peter Rylands, through the same medium, proposes to remedy the situation by minting sovereigns with a lower standard of gold parity, "say, 25 per cent. less." As sovereigns do not now circulate, this seems to be a somewhat ineffectual measure; but presumably Sir Peter really means that we should write down the pound sterling by 25 per cent., and so "stabilise" it at the present rate of exchange. This proposal is hardly relevant to the present problem, since it would not have any effect on the erratic course of Continental currencies. In fact, there is much too much talk about depreciated exchanges, and too little thought about the evils which cause them, such as "Safeguarding of Industry" measures, economic "sanctions," continued after Germany has begun to pay the indemnity, and other such foolishnesses.

THE POSITION IN RUSSIA.

(BY A RECENT VISITOR.)

It is very difficult to discuss the present economic position of Bolshevik Russia, both on account of the ruin of Russian industry, due to innumerable causes during the last seven years, and also owing to the lack of any definite and permanent policy on the part of the Bolsheviks. There is no need here to go into details with regard to the break-up of Russian industry. The facts are sufficiently well known to everyone who is interested. Still, a few remarks about the actual appearance and condition of industrial centres in Russia may be of some interest.

The whole position has been changed by the new economic policy of the Bolshevik Government, which is supposed to have been decided upon last April, and is only now being put into effect. This policy affects different kinds of industries in different ways. I have not read all the decrees bearing on the subject—no human person could unless he had the whole day to devote to them—but I have been assured by a prominent member of the Government—a Minister, in fact—that the position is as follows.

In the case of big factories, these may be leased to foreign concessionaires, who take over these enterprises from the Government, to whom they are to pay a large proportion of their profits. So far, of course, there is no difference between this practice and that of any backward capitalist State in the world. But the Bolsheviks claim that their workmen and their workmen's trade unions will determine the conditions of their labour in these enterprises leased to foreign concessionaires. The other day, however, I heard that one of the most prominent English concessionaires in Moscow said that, conditions or no conditions, he had got back his concession on better terms than he had ever had it before under the old régime. This applies only to big enterprises controlled by foreigners. Such leases are not going to be extended to native Russian manufacturers; the best that these can hope for under the new economic régime is to be invited back as so-called "technical advisers" to their own factories. Needless to say, this prospect has no very great attraction for the average Russian manufacturer.

The first concession that was granted was that for the Great Northern Telegraph Company; and Mr Leslie Urquhart is also in the field, and has, I believe, been quite successful. The hope of the Government is that they will be able to lease factories and other enterprises to trade unions, and other groups of workers who, in return for taxes in kind to the State, and a sharing of profits with it, will conduct their industry according as

THE CARDIFF CONGRESS.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

It is difficult to glean from the daily Press any clear impression of such a gathering as the Trades Union Congress. Yet it is a representative assembly of sufficient importance to merit the attention of all who take an interest in public affairs. The nine hundred delegates who attended the Congress at Cardiff last week represented about six and a-half million organised workers. They were met to consider the annual report of the Parliamentary Committee of the Congress and a long series of resolutions and amendments tabled by various affiliated trade unions. But the weighty agenda does not exhaust the activities of Congress week. The opportunity is taken of arranging other business meetings, and local labour bodies invariably take advantage of the presence of prominent leaders to address public meetings. From the broad public point of view, the main interest of the Congress lies in the indication which it gives of the temper of organised labour, and the decisions taken on matters of policy.

The Congress met under the shadow of an unemployment crisis which had created graver apprehension than any previous trade depression within living memory. There was not a union represented at the Cardiff Congress which has not at the present time a long list of unemployed members. There was hardly a union represented whose members had not suffered substantial reductions of wages. The hopes of "reconstruction" have receded into the background before the ugly spectre of unemployment and the widespread policy of wages reductions. It is not surprising, therefore, that the predominant note of the Congress should have been one of deep seriousness. The general impression of a Trades Union Congress as an exhibition of fireworks by irresponsible delegates never was true, but it was more than ever untrue of the gathering at Cardiff.

The subject which aroused the deepest interest was a resolution on unemployment, submitted by the Parliamentary Committee. It is no exaggeration to say that there is no question on which the Congress feels more strongly than unemployment. The great majority of the delegates have suffered the experience of walking the streets in search of work; they know what unemployment means, and the havoc wrought by it. When the resolution came up for discussion at the Congress, the spectator in the balcony must have realised something of the seriousness with which the delegates regarded the question, and of the sense of injustice and bitterness underlying many of the speeches. Perhaps he would detect a feeling of impotence, which rendered the situation all the more tragic. It is probable that, as a result of the Congress discussion, organised labour will formulate detailed proposals for enabling the country to face the winter months.

As regards the general policy of the trade union movement, two questions call for comment. In the first place, there has never been any real central trade union organisation. The Congress is an annual gathering, the decisions of which are carried out by the Parliamentary Committee, the name by which the executive of the Congress was known, far back to the days when there was no political Labour Party, and the political and Parliamentary sides of its work have diminished in recent years. Last year the annual pilgrimage to Ministers of the Crown to consult with them on questions raised at Congress was discontinued. The industrial activities of the Parliamentary Committee in the meantime tended to expand, but it has never really grappled with the growing number of problems which lay to its hand. The development of trade unionism, the increasing scale of industrial disputes, and their inevitable reaction upon non-combatants, the need

seems best to them, subject, of course, to the innumerable economic decrees, and the advice, tantamount to commands, issued by the Government. Already a certain number of enterprises have been restarted in this manner—a leather factory here and a soda water factory there—but it is not until we get down to the smallest kind of industry that we shall find the position in Russia to-day much changed from what it has been for the last two or three distressful years.

Factories employing less than 20 labourers—the number is apparently not clear even to the originators of the project—may be worked according to the old ideas of *petit bourgeois* economy; in ordinary words, you may open a shop now in Moscow and elsewhere if you are prepared to take the risk that the local officials either may not understand or may not approve the new economic policy of the Government, in which case they are likely to close the shop as soon as it has been opened, giving as their excuse the well-worn accusation of speculation.

Every day the position in Moscow is different. You walk down the street one day and notice with surprise that a restaurant has opened—I call it a restaurant, but perhaps a tea-room would give a better idea of it to the English reader. Next day one discovers that a provision shop has opened next door. Next day one discovers with amazement that a window near by has three or four furs in it, and that the owner obviously expects you to go inside and ask the price of them—a thing that has been equivalent to suicide during the last few years on account of the Bolshevik suppression of "speculation"—i.e., private trading. It is the same thing in the markets. Until recently, I am told, one bought and sold in the street markets with a certain amount of hesitation, knowing that one was infringing a law which at any moment might be put into force at one's expense. Now, however, you may buy and sell in the markets as much as you please, and there is great activity there. I am told that you can buy anything in Moscow if you have got the money to pay for it, but with the exchange at 120,000 Soviet roubles to the English £ in the North—though I am told that it is 400,000 in the Caucasus—it is clearly only foreigners and foreign speculators who are in a position to pay the prices demanded.

I have tried in this letter to give a certain idea of the general economic position as it is. To turn now to the prospects in the future, I am afraid that most of the boomed Bolshevik schemes of industrial and electrical enterprises, exist mostly only on paper; and I am not at all sure that quite a number of the offers of concessions that they announce that they are prepared to make will not also remain in the same position for some considerable time. It is not enough for the Bolsheviks to offer a mill, let us say, to its previous owners, no matter on what favourable terms the offer is made; because the owner has got to put the machinery of the mill into condition again, has to rebuild the houses and buildings connected with it; and he has, in fact, all, or nearly all, of the expenses connected with starting an industry—for everything that was left in Russia is in a very bad condition. Most people to whom concessions are being offered are, I believe, very doubtful about taking them until they can be sure that they will not be interfered with by the Government.

My own impression is that the Bolshevik Government is perfectly sincere and definite in its desire to see Russian industry re-established by foreign capital and foreign capitalists. I do not believe, therefore, that such industrialists would have anything serious to fear from the malice of the Government; but, unfortunately, the incompetence of so many of the major and minor Bolshevik officials is so great that the danger of interference, warranted or unwarranted, from the Bolshevik point of view, is undoubtedly a great drawback to the re-establishment of foreign industry in Russia.

for a common policy on common questions, the tendency towards trade union federation and amalgamation—these factors called for an executive different from the Parliamentary Committee, which was constituted when the affiliated membership of the Congress was but 118,367. Last year the Congress agreed to the appointment of a large body, to be called the General Council, on which various industrial groups would be represented.

This body will be the industrial Cabinet of organised labour, or, as the newspapers prefer (quite erroneously) to call it, "the general staff." This change will involve the much-needed development of the administrative machinery of Congress.

But events have shown that the reorganisation of the central executive of the Trades Union Congress is not in itself sufficient. Industrial questions have a political bearing, and experience has proved the need for a co-ordination of the industrial and political sides of the Labour movement. A scheme was, therefore, evolved for this purpose. It was proposed that, with a view to securing common action and a common policy, a national joint committee should be appointed representing the general council of the Trades Union Congress, the executive committee of the Labour Party, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. Further, it was suggested that there should be established four joint departments, dealing respectively with research, publicity, legal questions, and international affairs, under the joint control of the general council of the Congress and the Labour Party executive. This scheme, which was adopted by the Labour Party Conference at Brighton in June, was also ratified by the Trades Union Congress at Cardiff. These new developments are clearly of great importance, and with their acceptance the history of the Labour movement has entered upon a new phase.

The second question to which reference should be made is that of the education of trade unionists. Last year the Workers' Educational Association and the Iron and Steel Trades' Confederation, a trade union affiliated to the association, worked out a scheme for the provision of educational facilities (of a non-vocational kind) for members of the Confederation. The results of the first winter's work amply justified the experiment, and the Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee, which represented the work of the Confederation and administered the scheme, called a conference of trade unions to consider the whole question of the education of trade unionists. A committee was appointed to draft proposals. Its report was adopted by the Conference, and subsequently blessed by the Parliamentary Committee. A resolution was passed at the Cardiff Congress instructing the new general council to consider the steps to be taken to carry the report into effect. The result already has been to stimulate interest in the question. The Union of Post Office Workers has recently come into the scheme of the Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee; and it is probable that other unions will sooner or later follow the same course. The movement is not a new one, but the report will give it a new impetus. In this respect, also, the Cardiff Congress marks a new stage in the development of the Labour movement.

There was, of course, a bewildering succession of resolutions at Cardiff—both important and trivial—but real significance attaches to the debate on unemployment and to the decisions regarding co-ordination and education. The importance of the first of these lies in the indication it gives of the mood of Labour. The decisions on co-ordination and education show the new vision of Labour.

INDEX NUMBERS OF SHIPPING FREIGHTS.

PROVIDED always that the limitations of index numbers are realised, and that they are recognised to be illustrations of a movement rather than an exact measure of that movement, their use is to be encouraged, and their application to other things than prices to be commended. Formerly the plaything of ingenious statisticians, index numbers have become a serious factor in our daily lives. Civil Service bonuses, and the rates of wages under many trade agreements, now move in accordance with the famous "cost of living" index of the Board of Trade (subse-

quently taken over by the Ministry of Labour), and housewives comparing wholesale and retail index numbers, acquire heavy ammunition for the bombardment of their profiteering grocers and butchers. There is nothing more difficult to challenge than an index number with a good authority behind it, and in controversy it is a most effective half-brick to hurl at the heads of one's opponents. Always regarded with suspicion by their creators or calculators, index numbers are now in danger of too ready acceptance by the general public. Tabloid statistics can be almost as dangerous a popular diet as tabloid drugs. They should not be absorbed except "by direction of a physician." Nevertheless, in skilful hands they have much value.

The earnings of national shipping, by far the largest contribution to a maritime country's "invisible exports," have come in for careful examination on both sides of the Atlantic. In February of this year the Board of Trade explained in their official Journal the bases on which they estimated the total contribution of British shipping in 1920, at 416 millions, against 110 millions in 1913. It was a most convincing exposition, which inspired the statisticians of the Federal Reserve Board to estimate and publish in April the corresponding shipping balance of America. In the course of that inquiry the Division of Analysis and Research of the Federal Reserve Board accumulated much data on ocean freight rates, which they now, greatly daring, have employed to build up monthly index numbers for 1920, and the first half of 1921, of freight rates in the trades between the United States and European ports. The very competent statisticians of the Federal Reserve Board know how rapidly index numbers deteriorate in quality as they pass from the particular to the general. It is not more difficult to compile trustworthy index numbers of the freight rates on specific cargoes in a selected trade than it is to frame index numbers of the wholesale prices of a particular commodity, say, wheat or rubber. The difficulties and the unreliabilities begin when one seeks to combine a series of specific index numbers into a general comprehensive number illustrative of movement of prices as a whole, or of freights as a whole. The Division of Analysis and Research*, therefore, took the public into their confidence, and explain precisely what they have ventured to do, and why they have done it. They have in the first place limited their survey to the United States Atlantic-Europe trades—leaving South American and the Far-Eastern trades to separate and possibly future examination—and in the second place, have confined the index numbers to the weekly freight rates on grain, provisions, cotton, cottonseed oils, and sack flour. General cargo freight rates have been deliberately omitted. European ports have been classified into five trade regions—United Kingdom, French Atlantic, Netherlands and Belgium, Scandinavia, and the Mediterranean. We, therefore, have an inquiry limited to the freights on five specific classes of commodities carried from the United States to five specific regions in Europe.

The basic number selected as "100" is an average of the freight rates in January, 1920, before any large drop had occurred in the rates ruling during 1919. From this month as a base have been calculated the average monthly rates of 1920 and the first half of 1921, and the averages expressed as percentages of the basic "100." The selection of five commodities and five regions brought the number to be calculated of separate series down to 25. Two systems of "weighting" the series averages had to be thought out and determined. The average freight rates on the five commodities were weighted mainly in accordance with the actual number of pounds weight of the commodities exported during 1920; and the five trade regions of Europe were assessed in importance according: (1) to the total value of the export trade of the United States with each European region in 1920, and (2) to the net tonnage of vessels clearing American ports for each European region in 1920. We have here definite systems of weighting—always the most anxious task of the calculation of index numbers—and systems which are at once intelligible and reasonable. Mr H. W. Van Pelt, of the Division of Analysis and Research, who directed the survey, and explains the results, is clearly a

* See the "Federal Reserve Bulletin" for August, 1921. Government Printing Office, Washington.

The New York Trust Company

with which is consolidated

The Liberty National Bank of New York

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions.

Buys and sells American and foreign securities

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Ltd.

gentleman who commands our confidence in return for his own.

We may now give the results arrived at. The average monthly freight rates on each commodity were arithmetical averages, but a weighted geometric mean was employed whenever percentages had to be averaged.

INDEX NUMBERS OF OCEAN FREIGHT RATES.

Month.	United States Atlantic to—					
	United Kingdom.	French Atlantic.	Netherlands and Belgium.	Scandinavia.	Mediterranean.	All Europe.
1920.						
January	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
February	96.5	86.9	83.3	90.1	91.1	90.3
March	91.2	78.5	78.0	84.6	79.5	83.4
April	90.2	87.2	78.9	82.7	72.2	83.5
May	96.2	85.9	87.3	82.5	75.2	87.5
June	101.2	87.1	89.5	82.1	76.5	90.0
July	96.0	85.6	82.1	82.0	75.3	86.3
August	85.7	77.9	80.4	82.1	73.2	78.5
September	86.7	73.7	66.9	82.1	71.6	76.9
October	84.9	68.9	70.9	75.3	69.6	75.4
November	77.8	51.6	59.9	59.6	59.2	63.8
December	72.3	38.5	47.0	51.6	49.2	53.6
1921.						
January	60.7	30.2	34.1	42.9	43.2	43.3
February	54.7	27.7	29.2	30.9	43.8	38.5
March	49.3	24.6	28.3	30.8	42.2	35.9
April	50.1	32.6	36.6	29.4	35.7	39.0
May	50.6	35.0	38.2	31.3	34.6	40.1
June	42.7	34.7	38.3	31.3	34.0	37.6

We need not discuss these index numbers in detail. They all show an enormous reduction from the high level of January, 1920, though the rates from the United States to the United Kingdom fell less than those in the other groups. As a general illustration of freight movements the index numbers are extraordinarily interesting. For example, one sees at once reflected the strong position of the North-Atlantic United Kingdom Conference, which during the first half of 1920 was able to withstand the European fall. We see, also, the effect in February and March last of the rate war between the Compagnie Générale and the French Conference lines, and the upward movement in April which followed upon a settlement. Good index numbers smooth out small movements, but tend to emphasise those which are really significant. Our first impression of these shipping index numbers is that they are most promising, and may become of great value. We should like to see Mr Van Pelt tackle in the same thorough fashion the freight rates to South America and the Far East, and we suggest that the Board of Trade—even in these days of economy—should consider whether a beginning cannot be made with a series of freight rate index numbers on our side of the Atlantic. Once a trustworthy system has been worked out, it is only the beginning which is costly or difficult.

TEA PLANTATION COMPANIES IN 1920.

In reviewing the activities during the season of 1920 of a group of companies representative of various types of tea-growing concerns, it may be as well if our readers first of all take a glance at the general statistical position of the industry. With this end in view, we extract from the Board of Trade Returns the following figures, which will be found to act as a useful comparative guide between pre-war and post-war trade:—

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF TEA.

From—	1913.	1919.	1920.	1913.	1919.	1920.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	£	£	£
India	203,359,657	286,932,201	248,582,932	7,833,223	19,152,219	15,441,044
Ceylon	110,936,427	137,332,872	124,704,524	4,179,462	9,064,551	7,994,029
China	16,272,548	26,755,017	15,927,535	613,147	1,939,474	1,101,688
Dutch Indies	32,052,717	37,146,096	40,190,736	1,072,515	2,436,806	2,273,748
Other countries	2,322,115	6,227,280	1,192,189	78,558	415,762	118,444
	365,043,464	494,353,466	431,717,976	13,782,905	33,050,853	26,928,953
Re-exports	57,555,651	29,536,461	41,280,187	2,808,940	2,702,931	3,432,671

Imports considered in weight follow an interesting line. For 1919 imports from most tea-producing countries show a big increase on the figures given for 1913. But for 1920 some marked changes are recorded. A big falling off is shown on imports from India and Ceylon when compared with those for the previous year, although still well over the figures for 1913. Imports from China are actually below 1913 figures, but Dutch Indies continues to show a steady growth. Exports show considerable expansion, although not in such volume, perhaps, as those interested in the industry could have wished; for tea stocks in bond at December 31, 1914, were approximately 101 million lbs. In 1919 these had increased to 153½ millions, while in 1920 a total of roughly 171 millions is recorded.

Unfortunately, these figures do not fully reveal the chaotic conditions which prevailed in the industry during this period, and the full extent of the havoc wrought by a combination of adverse circumstances can be seen after an examination of the table which we give below. This records the crop and net financial results annually of a selected group of tea plantation companies for the past three years:—

	Crop.	Net Profits.	Crop.	Net Profits.	Crop.	Results.
	1918.	1918.	1919.	1919.	1920.	1920.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
Amalgamated Estates	5,973,565	88,852	6,184,410	144,644	5,442,184	89,423 Loss
British Indian	1,877,963	24,301	1,675,414	13,587	1,650,987	24,178
Ceylon Plantations	4,477,738	84,090	4,692,616	147,602	4,829,788	65,811 Profit
Chavola Association	2,384,383	29,876	1,670,202	9,944	2,085,991	40,896 Loss
Chubwa	2,745,104	30,908	2,817,955	50,950	2,491,521	32,563
Cort. Tea and Lands	19,805,671	213,289	19,619,964	445,232	17,689,878	240,598
Doonars	4,950,194	42,295	5,955,271	112,383	4,978,093	46,347
E. I. Tea and Produce	2,396,028	1,012	2,340,745	*8,708	2,327,970	57,747
Eastern Produce	6,005,893	48,621	5,781,045	64,802	5,320,659	34,839
Jhazlie	2,545,410	26,064	2,841,292	49,782	2,811,693	18,949
Jokai	8,308,643	123,958	7,984,354	86,113	7,643,926	30,502
Lungla	2,683,845	28,239	2,821,828	24,313	2,661,689	73,112
Nadeera	6,606,479	64,552	7,408,708	113,057	5,356,834	21,212
Yatiantola	504,665	11,596	478,452	19,578	620,161	30,559

* Loss.

The Ceylon Tea Plantations—the only company which shows a profit in our list—also grows rubber and coconuts; to what extent the company has profited by these other crops it is difficult to determine. The cause at work to produce such unfortunate results as those recorded above may be briefly summed up as follows:—(a) The big stocks accumulated during the period of Government control. (b) The loss of European and Greater Russian markets. (c) Higher costs of production. (d) Producers paying too much attention to quantity production as against the quality of the produce, perhaps mainly owing to the Government's equalisation of the price of tea; and (e) the rise in the rate of exchange.

It has been authoritatively stated that many gardens which under ordinary conditions could produce tea at 7d per lb landed in London found their costs increased to 1s 3d per lb. These higher costs of production were chiefly caused by the high price of rice for feeding "coolies" and the excessive charges for freights.

The summary analysis given below of these selected companies shows the balance-sheet position of each undertaking:—

	Capital including Debit- ures.	Reserves and Undivided Profits.	Creditors and Bills payable.	Assets and Property.	Plant and Stocks.	Debtors and Ad- vances.	Cash and Invest- ments.
Amalgamated Estates..	898,350	295,656	413,755	772,650	288,997	55,207	490,907
British Indian	77,325	28,700	26,368	58,367	23,298	20,332	17,774
Ceylon Plantations ..	470,000	103,876	188,927	407,841	92,334	146,002	116,639
Chargola Association ..	163,017	51,994	37,145	153,000	5,784	52,237	35,893
Chubwa	106,000	37,500	76,837	123,371	85,766	947	10,622
Consol. Tea and Lands	2,550,000	751,297	581,329	2,026,644	738,013	265,058	854,699
Doors	348,000	40,529	95,898	312,913	92,496	14,635	60,315
East Indian Tea and Produce	249,250		208,641	232,642	92,019	30,878	10,849
Eastern Produce	405,000	144,215	97,236	411,837	113,521	56,321	
Jhansia	100,000	73,081	58,989	100,000	86,872	20,145	24,664
Jokai	350,000	151,921	235,945	384,444	226,502	21,803	74,215
Lungla	375,000		102,459	277,645	82,131	13,501	50,730
Neddeem	540,000	23,986	119,869	456,061	141,329	14,943	27,139
Yatiantota	202,500	17,500	30,552	201,360	23,487	9,767	506

In the three last-mentioned companies increases of capital have taken place during the year. Lungla raised £75,000 by the issue of 10 per cent. debentures, convertible into ordinary shares at par. Neddeem capitalised £135,000 of reserves, which was "distributed in shares to the ordinary shareholders"; and the Yatiantota also capitalised £52,500 of reserves, and issued 52,500 shares *pro rata* to existing shareholders.

As far as the actual financial position of companies is concerned, the only bright spot in an otherwise depressing picture is the substantial sums which companies recover for amounts overpaid in excess profits duty. In many cases these sums are of such a considerable amount, which, when taken together with the amount brought forward, enable many companies to pay dividends, and in some cases to start the new financial year in a condition at least as good as they were before this disastrous season began.

Our final table shows a record of dividends, share prices, and yields:—

Company.	Am't of Share	Divi- dend for Year 1920.	Divi- dend for Year 1918.	Divi- dend for Year 1919.	Price End of July, 1914.	Price Sept. 21, 1920.	Price Sept. 1921.	Present Yield.
Amalgamated Est	10	% Nil	% 10	% 10	9½	9	7½	8 s d
British Indian ..	5	% 5	% 12	% 10	6½	5½	3½	6 13 3
Ceylon Plantat'ns	1	12½	35	15	5½	2½	2½	4 8 9
Chargola Asso't'n	£1	Nil	20	5	2½	1½	14½	Nil
Chubwa	5	% 5	% 45	% 45	17½	20½	14½	1 14 0
Cons. Tea & Lands	10	Nil	20	22½	15	17	14½	Nil
Doors	1	Nil	27½	22½(b)	3½	1½	1½	Nil
East Indian	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	7	7	7	Nil
Jhansia	5	% 6	% 13	% 15	15	15	15	4 19 0
Jokai	10	% 6	% 16	% 10	16	14½	14½	4 19 9
Lungla Sylhet ..	1	Nil	20	7½	2½	1½	1½	Nil
Neddeem	1	Nil	25	12½(b)	3	1½	1½	Nil

(b) On new capital.

The tea share market experienced a pronounced depression when the news of these troubles first began to be spread abroad and prices rapidly fell. But as the results for 1920 of a number of leading companies began to appear it was gradually realised that these adverse conditions were probably of a temporary nature, and the share market enjoyed a partial recovery. It is true values are still low when compared with the heights which they climbed in past years, and holders generally will probably take the view that matters have been so bad during 1920 that the 1921 record can scarcely fail to show

some improvement on the year under review. One prominent tea share broker with whom the writer discussed prospects is very enthusiastic over the outlook for the future, and points to the fact that several companies having already sold their next season's crops at remunerative prices, as a reason for anticipating good dividends next year. However, recent advices show that in some quarters the "serious loss of labour" arising out of the "non-co-operation" agitation may have ill-effects on future profits.

Business Notes.

The Bank Statements.—The monthly statement of average weekly balances of the London clearing banks for August, as issued from the Bankers' Clearing House, is set out in full elsewhere. In the table below we compare the averages for the nine English banks in recent months:—

	(Million £s.)					
	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.
Capital and reserves	115.4	115.6	115.8	115.9	115.9	115.9
Acceptances	88.4	63.0	63.0	57.7	52.2	49.4
Deposits (including un- divided profits, &c.)	1,810.1	1,709.9	1,729.3	1,768.4	1,785.4	1,764.0
Total liabilities	2,013.9	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3
Coin, notes, balance at bank, and cheques in course of collection, &c.	256.2	249.6	250.3	265.1	252.1	250.3
Money at call	98.9	91.9	96.5	98.0	103.6	100.0
Investments	341.3	333.7	331.2	335.9	336.3	326.3
Discounts	361.9	275.1	304.0	346.2	372.6	379.9
Loans and advances	845.1	852.2	839.9	815.4	812.2	798.7
Cover for acceptances, pre- mises, &c.	110.5	86.0	86.2	81.4	76.7	74.1
Total assets	2,013.9	1,888.5	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3

There is a reduction in all items on the credit side, with the exception of discounts, which show a further increase of £7½ millions. Loans and advances are down by £13½ millions, and cash and money at call by over £5 millions, while investments have dropped by exactly £10 millions. These changes are balanced by a reduction of nearly £21½ millions in deposits.

Iron and Steel Production.—The National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers states that the production of pig-iron in August amounted to 93,600 tons, compared with 10,200 tons in July. The output in March, the month immediately preceding the coal stoppage, was 386,000 tons, and in August of last year 752,400 tons, which was the record monthly total since the war. The production of steel ingots and castings in August amounted to 432,600 tons, compared with 117,200 tons in July, 359,100 tons in March, and 709,200 tons in August, 1920. The number of blast furnaces in operation at the end of August was 46, as against 15 at the end of July. The number in operation immediately before the coal stoppage was 109, and in August of last year 303. Of the pig-iron produced in August 30,200 tons were hematite, 24,400 tons basic, 28,500 tons foundry, 8,500 tons forge, and 2,000 tons of "other qualities."

New Serbian Loan.—The Banque Franco-Serbe, London announces that a new Serbian loan is on issue for 500,000,000 dinars at par at 7 per cent., "redeemable" in 50 years by drawings or repurchase. Interest will be payable half-yearly. Interest and bonds are free of all taxation, present and future, and no conversion can take place within 10 years. The Government guarantee to reimburse holders at face value should any conversion be made at a later date. This loan is to be utilised primarily for the repair and construction of railways, ports, and roads, &c., "throughout the realm," a necessity for this country, which has suffered so much during the Great War. "The loan is guaranteed by mortgage on the undertakings benefiting." For the moment only small

supplies are sent. The rate of exchange is, it is stated, "the least depreciated exchange of Central Europe and the Balkans." The loan is being largely taken up in Jugo-Slavia, especially by the banks in the new provinces, and a Belgrade paper predicts that the whole amount will be covered by subscriptions within the kingdom. The proceeds are to be apportioned by a Commission among the various public works on which the money will be spent and secured, but it is expected that they will be devoted partly to improving the ports of Antivari, Ragusa, and Senj, or some other outlet supplementing that through Fiume, and to the improvement of their communications with their respective hinterlands. Jugo-Slav traffic has rights of way through Trieste, Fiume, and Salonika, but independent routes are obviously desirable under full national control. The new kingdom has great natural resources in grain, timber, cattle, and minerals, and abundant coal, lignite, and undeveloped water-power. Arrangements are being made for an extensive export to Northern and Western Europe of poultry, eggs, and prunes, and the Serbs showed considerable enterprise in finding oversea markets in the days when the Dual Monarchy commanded, and occasionally blocked, their trade. Labour and many small rivulets of capital will probably be provided to develop the country by returning immigrants from America. The financial system is still in the melting-pot; a reform in the Serbian Kingdom was overdue before the war, and it remains to be seen how the taxation will be apportioned between the provinces and the central Government. With an area of 95,000 square miles and a population of 11 or 12 millions, the credit of the new kingdom should soon be good.

Russo-Norwegian Trade Agreement.—We have received a copy of a preliminary agreement concluded by the Government of the Russian Socialist Federative Soviet Republic and the Royal Norwegian Government, who are both desirous that—pending the re-establishment of normal diplomatic relations—trade and commerce between the two countries should be forthwith resumed. Each Government grants free admittance to a delegation of the others, the heads of the delegations of both countries having full power to act in the name of their Governments, and the official delegation of the R.S.F.S.R. in Norway being regarded as the only representative of the Russian State. Both Governments declare that they will not initiate nor support any steps with a view to attach or take possession of any funds, goods, or movable or immovable property, belonging to the other party or its nationals, lawfully imported into or acquired in the respective countries after the conclusion of this agreement. As long as the present agreement is in force, property belonging to the Russian Government shall in Norway enjoy the immunity extended under international law to the property of friendly Governments, and shall especially not be subjected to Norwegian jurisdiction or sequestration by Norwegian authorities. The previous stipulation does not, however, apply in the case of legal actions arising in connection with contracts, acts, and events taking place under this agreement. The Russian Government gives a corresponding guaranty as regards property belonging to the Norwegian Government. The official representatives enjoy the right to grant visas and passports, and to certify documents, and all other rights of that kind which belong to official representatives of other foreign Governments in the country in question. The members of the delegations and their staffs engage themselves to abstain from any political propaganda, and not to interfere with the internal affairs of the respective country. The delegations of both parties shall abstain from entering into any service or receiving any commission from any Government, firms, or private persons of any other country than their own. Russian and Norwegian merchant ships, crews, and cargoes shall in ports of Russia and Norway respectively receive the privileges and protections which are usually accorded by the established practice of commercial nations to ships visiting their ports. The commercial agreements and transactions between the two countries "should" be based on the following principles, viz.:—

(a) The monopoly of the foreign trade—as far as Russia is concerned—belongs to the Government of the R.S.F.S.R., which works through the Commissariat for Foreign Trade and its organisations.

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.

City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,

in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

(b) Every commercial agreement and transaction which has been made with some private persons or groups who are not working on behalf or with the consent of the Government of the R.S.F.S.R. will be regarded as a violation of such monopoly, with all consequences arising out of the Russian law in the matter.

(c) The monopolisation of the foreign trade by any party cannot be regarded by the other party as a reason for imposing any Custom duties or claiming any compensation.

The present agreement shall not prejudice any existing claims for the payment of compensation or the effecting of restitution of either party or of its nationals against the other party. This agreement shall enter into force as soon as ratified by both Governments.

South African Conditions.—The National Bank of South Africa has received the following cable from their Cape Town office stating that for the half-year ended June 30th imports at £33,810,877 show a decline of 14½ million pounds compared with the corresponding 1920 period, and exports at £29,832,000, a decline of 21½ million pounds, the marked decreases being wool, £10,750,000; diamonds, £6,500,000; hides and skins, nearly £3,000,000. A gratifying feature of the exports is that food and drink increased by about 120 per cent., the principal items being maize, maize meal, sugar, and fresh fruit. Imports from the United Kingdom amounted to £16,000,000, or 53.8 per cent. of total, as compared with £22,500,000, or 56 per cent., in the 1920 period. Imports from the United States amounted to £5,500,000, or 18.3 per cent., as compared with £7,000,000, or 17 per cent. Total imports from British Empire amounted to £18,750,000, or 63.4 per cent., as compared with £27,500,000, or 68 per cent. Generally trade remains stagnant, and forced liquidations of general merchandise at auctions are again becoming a feature. Johannesburg reports severe competition on commercial exchange. In the building trade a grave labour dispute is threatening. Employers have notified wage reductions to take effect September 16th, and to revert to a 48-hour week, to which the men refuse to agree, but submit counter proposals unacceptable to masters. It is hoped that the Government will intervene, and bring about a conference between the parties, as housing and unemployment problems remain acute. Iron and steel business continues restricted, with very few enquiries. Electrical goods: Trade is quiet, and prices display a falling tendency. Stocks are arriving steadily, American wares being slightly cheaper than British. The latter are 30 to 40 per cent. dearer than Continental goods. Agricultural machinery: Business quiet, with restricted demand, owing to the diminished purchasing power of farmers. Maize: Official estimate of current season's crop is 12,000,000 bags, leaving approximately 2,250,000 bags available for export. The tonnage exported during the five months ended May exceeded the average annual quantity shipped in the past five years. Freight is scarce, and market unsettled. Twos are nominally quoted 9s 6d per bag; sixes, 9s 3d per bag. Wool: A strong market is anticipated for super wools on better news regarding London sales. Mohair: A fair demand exists for super firsts. Dealers report the receipt of a few bales of new season's winter kids of excellent style, character, and length. It is anticipated that the new winter clip will be exceptionally good. Considerable interest has been aroused as the result of a conference recently held at Port Elizabeth to consider the erection of a factory for the

purpose of converting mohair into yarns and tops on a co-operative basis, the object being to force more mohair into consumption. It is essentially a self-help project on the part of growers, who will find the necessary capital, and the Government are asked to underwrite the capital on the security provided by the export tax. Hides and skins: More active tone, apparently eager competition for sheepskins. Ostrich feathers: Sales closed, dull and weak. Wattle bark: Market steady. Chopped pressed, £8 12s 6d per ton; ground, ditto, £9 5s per ton, Durban. Asbestos: Rhodesian production for six months ended June was 13,980 tons, an increase of nearly 100 per cent. compared same period, 1920.

Mexican External Debt.—Messrs Morgan, Grenfell, and Co. announce that the International Committee of Bankers on Mexico has requested its acting chairman, T. W. Lamont, to accept the invitation extended some time ago by the Mexican Government officials, and at his early convenience to proceed to Mexico for the purpose of discussing there the status of the outstanding external obligations of the Mexican Government. Mr Lamont has been asked by the other sections of the International Committee—namely, the British, French, Swiss, Dutch, and Belgian—to represent their interests during the pending discussions in Mexico City. The Department of State at Washington is cognisant of the fact that the International Committee's representative will shortly visit Mexico.

Argentine Railway Rates.—The following cable has been received from the Buenos Ayres branch of the Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, under date of September 9th:—With regard to the increased railway tariff which has been sanctioned as from the 1st instant, it may be noted that livestock and livestock products are exempted from the higher rates. The increase in rates averages about 20 per cent. In addition to the advance in ordinary freight rates, the companies have been authorised to charge higher passenger fares as from the 15th instant.

Cotton Dispute Settled.—There was some alarm at the end of last week in Lancashire cotton trade circles, writes our Manchester correspondent, when it was announced that the Master Spinners' Federation had threatened to bring about a general lock-out owing to the action of the trade union officials in issuing strike notices at the Anchor Mill at Oldham. The dispute had arisen as a result of some of the cardroom operatives being "played off" during a change in the machinery from coarse to fine counts, and on behalf of the workpeople it was claimed that wages should be paid during the interval. The Masters' Federation stated that a precedent of this kind could not be entertained for one moment, and they proposed to take the advice of their members as to what action should be adopted should the mill be put on strike. This week some correspondence has passed between the Card and Blowing-room Operatives' Amalgamation and the Master Spinners' Federation, and on Wednesday last the secretary of the trade union announced that, acting on the suggestion of the federation, the strike notices had been withdrawn. Although a possible crisis has rather adversely affected the market for textile shares on the Manchester Stock Exchange, in leading trade circles there has not been any fear of such a trifling matter bringing the industry to a standstill.

Lancashire Cotton Dividends.—Mr Frederick W. Tattersall has just issued his usual monthly analysis of the stocktaking returns of Lancashire cotton spinning companies. For three months' trading to the end of August 22 companies, with a total paid-up ordinary share capital of £2,440,682, have paid an average dividend per company of 8.56 per cent. per annum. Of these 22 companies seven were unable to make a distribution to shareholders, but four companies paid 5 per cent., five 10 per cent., five 20 per cent., and one 25 per cent. per annum. The previous average dividends for the same 22 companies were: quarter ended May, 1921, 8.95 per cent.; quarter ended February, 1921, 27.24 per cent.; quarter ended

November, 1920, 47.45 per cent.; and quarter ended August, 1920, 51.23 per cent. per annum.

Bolckow, Vaughan.—The report of Bolckow, Vaughan and Co. for the year ended June 30th last states that the accounts between the company and the various Government Departments are still unsettled. Provision has been made for such liabilities, however, in the accounts, which show a profit, after writing off £77,700 for depreciation, of £364,000, as compared with £696,900 a year ago, when £108,400 was written off for depreciation. A comparison of results for a number of years is given below:—

	Gross Profit.	Depreciation and Extensions, &c.	Deb. Int. and Pref. Div.	Balance.	Written Off Cap. Expenditure.	Ordinary Div.	Rate.
1905-7	£ 683,010	£ 135,734	£ 45,545	£ 501,731	£ 150,000	£ 274,630	10
1907-8	444,201	140,523	48,220	285,458	80,000	164,778	6
1908-9	322,035	173,740	51,311	96,984	nil	137,315	5
1909-10	390,485	135,317	55,477	198,691	nil	164,778	6
1910-11	403,664	173,472	56,618	123,574	nil	164,778	6
1911-12	318,861	159,887	56,119	101,855	nil	137,315	5
1912-13	642,235	161,850	54,368	436,017	160,000	274,630	10
1913-14	371,261	146,432	51,551	173,278	nil	164,778	6
1914-15	338,119	132,413	50,759	154,947	nil	164,778	6
1915-16	623,631	272,967	58,099	292,565	nil	302,903	11
1916-17	771,408	371,382	54,091	345,935	nil	329,556	12
1917-18	715,100	324,011	46,696	344,163	nil	329,556	12
1918-19	696,785	207,050	42,796	446,939	nil	397,687	12
1919-20	805,364	308,415	40,197	456,752	nil	450,677	12
1920-21	441,641	77,664	72,513	291,464	nil	300,451	8

* After allowing for War taxation.

The debenture capital has been increased, and interest now requires £48,900, as against £16,600 a year ago. No allocation is made to reserve, as against £200,000 last year, and after reducing the rate of dividend by one-third the balance forward is £9,000 lower at £203,500. Capital expenditure for the year was £471,100, as compared with £425,300 in the previous year. The balance-sheet shows a reduction of £815,000 to £506,200 in sundry creditors, of £427,000 to £1,599,400 in stocks on hand, and of £542,000 to £481,700 in debtors.

Trust Houses.—The directors in submitting to shareholders the 18th annual balance-sheet of Trust Houses, Limited, admit that "for the first time in the history of the company it presents unsatisfactory features," a sentence which will be endorsed by most people who read the report and study the accounts. The report states that, "owing to the number of new houses acquired and arranged to be acquired in the year ending March 31, 1920, and the excessive cost of building operations and labour difficulties in the ensuing spring and summer, the directors found in the autumn of last year that the estimates upon which their financial arrangements had been based were not reliable, and that their capital commitments were largely in excess of the provision which had been made to meet them and of any figure which had been put before them." The admission that they—the directors—"had been insufficiently informed as to the capital commitments of the company" is candid but surprising. With that part of the report which seeks to apportion the blame for the conditions set out in the balance-sheet we are not greatly interested. It is sufficient for us to know that a drastic policy of reform is being undertaken, that weak spots are to be remedied, and that the board is to be strengthened by the addition of certain shareholders who have experience in the trade. According to the report, the accounts show a net loss of £57,509 for the year ended March 31, 1921, but the figures and explanations which follow cannot be very intelligible to shareholders. However, when the accounts themselves are carefully examined the position is made more clear. If we call the net loss £60,079, and take the surplus balance of profits brought forward from last year's accounts at £52,409 (which sum includes £28,070 for Excess Profits Duty reclaimed), the difference shows a small debit balance of £7,670 remaining. But as an interim dividend had already been paid amounting to £36,541, the reserve fund, amounting to £35,000, was absorbed, which practically squared matters, leaving a further small debit of £1,541 to be added to £7,670, making the total debit carried forward to next year's accounts £9,211. Probably at the meeting the directors will shed some further light on the various items in Capital and Loan Issue expense account. There is a sum

of £15,000 to be paid in settlement of a claim, and a commission of £31,250 paid on the sale of 250,000 shares, concerning which further particulars might usefully be given. Information as to the basis on which stocks of wine, spirits, &c., have been valued also might not be out of place. In view of the distinguished names on the "council" and directorate, which undoubtedly influenced subscribers in taking up shares in the undertaking, and the eminently well-meant purpose of the enterprise, the results recorded in the report can only be described as disastrous. We believe, however, that efficient measures are being taken to put things right in the future.

Union Cold Storage.—The report of the Union Cold Storage Company for the year ended December 31, 1920, shows a substantial increase in profits. Out of earnings £54,127 of debenture stock has been purchased and cancelled, and outstanding mortgages have been reduced by £20,800. In addition, as will be seen in our table below, £87,939 has been set aside for "Depreciation." Our table shows profits and their distribution in each of the past five years, and in 1913:—

	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Gross profits ..	£ 137,094	£ 242,213	£ 289,922	£ 293,424	£ 306,360	£ 467,333
Deb. int., &c. ..	31,727	47,333	66,637	62,333	58,133	72,118
Net profit ..	105,367	194,880	223,285	231,091	248,227	395,275
Brought forward	20,806	31,993	45,014	45,454	51,066	71,717
	126,173	226,873	268,299	276,545	299,293	466,992
Res. and depr. ..	43,185	59,459	75,048	76,679	78,777	87,939
Pref. dividends ..	46,109	92,400	117,797	118,800	118,800	261,556
Ord. dividend ..	..	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000
	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)	(10 %)
Carry forward	36,879	45,014	45,454	51,066	71,716	87,497

Dividends on the increased preference capital, which now amounts to £4,480,000, take £261,556. As the preference dividend a year ago only took £118,800, practically the whole of the increase of profits goes in this direction. But the premiums received on the new issue of 10 per cent. "A" preference shares, amounting to £210,000 in all, have been placed to the credit of the depreciation reserve. This brings the grand total of depreciation reserve to £860,693. The ordinary dividend is still maintained at 10 per cent., which absorbs only £30,000, and £87,497 is carried forward as compared with £71,717 brought into the accounts. The auditors' report draws attention to the fact that "no provision has been made for the amount, if any, payable by the company in respect of excess profits duty (1914-20)." The balance-sheet will be found analysed in another column.

Mount Morgan.—In the prevailing conditions it is unfortunate for the shareholders that the title of the Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company, of Queensland, should be a misnomer, the bulk of the revenue having for some time past been derived from copper. During the war period large profits were made, but recently the undertaking has suffered not only from the relapse in the price of the red metal, but also from a fresh spasm of labour trouble—that perennial bugbear of Australian mining. The company has hitherto followed the somewhat curious practice of issuing a report and accounts for the half-year to November 30th, also a statement covering the following six months and the whole year—thereby creating some confusion. Appended is a comparison of the salient figures for the past three financial periods ended about May 31st:—

	1918-1919.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Blister copper, &c.	959,382 ..	999,043 ..	1,024,029 ..
Working surplus and interest ..	216,974 ..	254,003 ..	225,869 ..
Net profit ..	111,641 ..	131,816 ..	120,158 ..
Dividends ..	100,000 ..	150,000 ..	..
Brought forward ..	98,736 ..	110,376 ..	92,192 ..
Carried forward ..	110,376 ..	92,192 ..	212,350 ..
Smelter output—			
Fine copper..... tons	6,268 ..	5,880 ..	5,149 ..
Gold..... ozs	92,983 ..	80,578 ..	76,463 ..

It will be seen that the net profits have failed to keep pace with the expansion in revenue. This, so far as last

year is concerned, arises mainly from a large increase in the depreciation allowance; but there is the important point that the surplus shown was due to the realisation of products on hand at prices greater than those at which they had previously been taken into account. Sale of the present metal stocks at current prices would, it is stated, result in a substantial loss; hence the action of the directors in making no distribution for the past year is easily apprehended. The various labour unions having refused to agree to such a reduction in wages as, in conjunction with the rebate of £1,000 per week offered by the Government, would enable the concern to pay its way, work was not resumed after Easter. Evidently the Australian miner is no believer in the axiom that half a loaf—or even four-fifths—is better than no bread.

The Finances of the Falcon.—Our mining correspondent writes:—The Falcon Mines enjoys the distinction of being responsible for almost the entire copper output of Rhodesia. It has, however, only succeeded in paying one dividend during an existence of about a dozen years—20 per cent. in respect of 1916-17, a period including the greatest degree of inflation in the metal markets. Moreover, the financing of the company has presented considerable difficulties. A debenture issue of £250,000 was made in August, 1912, and at the date of the last balance-sheet—June 30, 1920—a further £50,000 had been issued as security for a loan. By April of the current year the loan had been reduced to £5,000, but the company's liabilities for income-tax, and for debenture redemption shortly accruing, again amounted to about £50,000. The report for the half-year to June 30th last, issued this week, shows that those in control have taken drastic measures to deal with the situation, resulting from the drop in the price of copper. Expenditure has been reduced to the minimum by utilisation of the stores on hand to the fullest possible extent, as well as by the stoppage of development, the retrenchment of staff, and other economies. As a result, the liabilities existing in April have been "substantially diminished," and it is hoped that the company will be clear in a few months. This, of course, presages no material alteration in the prices of copper or gold in the meantime. With development in abeyance for about one-quarter of the year, the ore reserves naturally show a decrease; the present estimate of 417,000 tons of good-grade ore represents, however, more than two years' supply for the mill. It is satisfactory to find that the realised value of the output for the December half-year so far exceeded the valuation as to give a working surplus of £11,400 in place of a deficiency of £7,400. In all probability the estimated result for the June six months—a profit of £800—will also prove under the mark. All this is well, so far as it goes, but part of the economies recently effected will have to be made up for when operations are once again proceeding normally. Another point is that the balance of the debenture debt—about £7,000—falls due for repayment at the end of July next year. It certainly looks at present as if this will have to be financed by some method or other. Such an improvement in the price of the red metal as would provide the necessary surplus is hardly within the bounds of possibility.

The "Safeguarding" Panel.—In accordance with Section 7 of the Safeguarding of Industries Act, the President of the Board of Trade has appointed the following to be members of the permanent panel, from which committees, consisting of five persons, will be selected from time to time to consider and report upon complaints referred to them by the Board under Part II. (Prevention of Dumping) of the Act:—Sir W. M. Acworth, Sir William Ashley, Sir George S. Barnes, Sir John N. Barran, Bart., Sir Cecil L. Budd, Sir James C. Calder, Dr J. H. Clapham, Sir E. C. K. Gonner, Sir George R. Lowndes, Professor D. H. Macgregor, Sir Douglas Newton, Sir Henry Rew, Sir Charles Stewart, Sir Edwin F. Stockton, Sir Frank Warner, and Messrs J. A. Aiton, Arthur Balfour, J. T. Brownlie, T. P. Cook, F. R. Davenport, A. K. Davies, F. P. Dorizzi, Rayner Goddard, Stanley Machin, G. A. Moore, J. W. Murray,

Owen Parker, R. G. Perry, Arthur Pugh, C. A. Russell, Arthur Shaw, H. L. Symonds, G. Vile, and Sir Frank Warner, K.B.E.

London School of Economics.—The new building at the London School of Economics and Political Science, the foundation stone of which was laid by H.M. the King on May 28, 1920, is now available for occupation. The address of the school in future will be Houghton street, Aldwych. The calendar for the coming session (beginning October 3rd) shows a great extension of work, made possible by the increase of accommodation. The courses for the third year of the commerce degree provide advanced instruction in many new branches. Special features in the lecture list are courses on "English Composition and Style," by Mr Robert Lynd, Mr J. C. Squire, and others; "New Lights on Unemployment," by the Director (Sir William Beveridge); "The Co-operative Movement," by Professor Sidney Webb; "Shipping Documents," by Mr L. C. Harris; and "Ships in Relation to their Work," by Sir Westcott Abell, K.B.E. The following public lectures have been arranged:—"Economics and Happiness," by Sir Arthur Steel-Maitland, M.P., on October 3rd, at 5 p.m.; "Indian Economics," by Mr G. Keatinge, late Indian Civil Service, on October 5th, at 3 p.m.; "New Methods of Long Distance Communication and their Probable Economic and Political Effects," by Sir Halford Mackinder, on October 6th, at 5 p.m.; "Foreign Relations and International Law," by Professor Pearce Higgins, on October 12th, at 5 p.m.; "The Administrative Factor in Government," a course of four lectures, by Sir J. C. Stamp, on Tuesdays, at 6 p.m., in Lent term, beginning February 14th. Admission free by ticket.

Transvaal Output for August.—The August statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the total production of fine gold during the month amounted to 711,526 ounces, as compared with 689,555 ounces in July, and 702,083 ounces for August, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January.....	787,467	782,634	714,182	676,059	670,503	651,593
February.....	753,594	781,321	659,759	636,728	625,330	558,137
March.....	756,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,123
April.....	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,844	686,979	681,382
May.....	777,681	779,385	741,317	724,995	699,041	687,776
June.....	761,764	759,724	727,656	702,379	715,957	678,490
July.....	761,087	757,839	735,199	725,497	736,099	689,555
August.....	781,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	711,526
September.....	771,587	738,231	708,206	698,558	682,173	..
October.....	792,339	751,290	679,764	723,722	662,472	..
November.....	785,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	..
December.....	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	..
Totals.....	9,296,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	5,329,582

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months by Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and Contractors.

	Jan., 1921.	Feb., 1921.	March, 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.
Gold mines.....	165,287	171,518	174,364	172,826	170,595	168,152	166,999	169,008
Coal mines.....	14,541	14,697	14,906	14,908	14,510	14,704	14,688	14,446
Diamond.....	3,319	1,612	1,364	1,316	1,302	1,317	1,246	1,207
Total.....	183,147	187,827	190,634	189,050	186,407	184,173	182,933	184,661

The Central Y.M.C.A., 186 Aldersgate street, E.C., announces a course of addresses on "Banking" and "Insurance," at 6 o'clock, as follows:—September 20th, Sir Herbert Hambling, "Banking and Foreign Trade"; September 21st, Sir William Schooling, "The Importance and Influence of Saving"; September 22nd, Sir John Ferguson, "Banking as a Profession"; September 23rd, F. E. Steele, "Bankers and Borrowers"; September 28th, Sir Charles Hobbhouse, "Banks and Budgets"; September 29th, S. G. Warner, "Life Assurance." Admission tickets free.

The executive committee of the Naples Fair, which takes place from September 15th-30th, having offered H.M. Government free space for a propaganda bureau, it has been arranged that the local British Chamber of Commerce shall make the necessary arrangements. There

will be no charge to British firms desiring to show trade catalogues, leaflets, or other printed trade propaganda, and firms interested should despatch their parcels as soon as possible, addressed to the British Chamber of Commerce, 31, Via Agostino Depretis, Naples.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—THE SHORT COTTON CROP—ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECT—OTHER CROPS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, September 2.

PRIVATE reports on the condition of the cotton crop had indicated considerable deterioration during August, but this week's Government report was far worse than any one expected. The crop's condition as of August 23rd—namely, 49.3 per cent. of normal—is the lowest ever reported since condition estimates were begun in 1870. It represents a decline of 15.4 points from the previous month's figure—a percentage of deterioration exceeded only once in the past during August—and compares with 67.5 a year ago, and with the 10-year average of 67.7. The indicated yield, 7,037,000 bales, is the smallest in 33 years, and compares with last year's production of 13,365,754 bales; the decrease in the prospective production amounted to 1,116,000 bales since last month's forecast. In announcing its forecast, the Department of Agriculture remarked that "everything seemed to have gone wrong with the crop." For the country as a whole the yield per acre is given as only 127 lbs, the lowest in the last 56 years. The area planted this year was only 26,519,000 acres, a decrease of 10,524,000 acres, or about 28 per cent., from that of last year. Fertiliser was used very sparingly throughout the cotton belt. Ravages of the boll weevil were chiefly responsible for the great deterioration in August, and other pests are numerous. In North Carolina and Virginia the prolonged drought has caused almost as much deterioration as the weevil has elsewhere.

Naturally, the Government's condition estimate and forecast of the yield occasioned wild trading in all cotton markets here. Extraordinarily heavy buying, reflecting not only covering of speculative sales, but purchases by mill interests who had held off in anticipation of some reaction from the recent upturn, caused a violent rise in prices, ranging from 129 to 145 points in futures and 145 points for spot cotton at New York. Further advances have carried the market five or six cents a lb above prices current when the July 25th report was made. The complete change in the cotton market during the past month or two, and especially in the last fortnight, has created a much better feeling throughout the South, where trade and industry have been greatly depressed. Cotton growers can now market their crop without sacrificing it at prices below cost of production, as many have been obliged to do with the old crop. More optimism prevails also among Southern bankers, since at current prices many of them will be able to come out even on cotton loans made some time ago. Cloth and yarn markets have been greatly unsettled by the advance in the staple, which in the past two days has amounted to about \$11 a bale. With few exceptions, Eastern and Southern mills have withdrawn temporarily all their lines of grey goods, particularly print cloths and sheetings, pending an upward revision of prices, and similar action has been taken by cotton yarn spinners, despite sensational advances already made in yarn prices before this week's violent rise in the raw material. Similarly, nearly all large handlers of branded cotton goods have withdrawn their offerings, and refuse to quote prices for any delivery. Throughout the country buyers, who have been pursuing a hand-to-mouth policy in purchasing, have suddenly awakened to the fact that such cotton goods are going to cost a great deal more. Finished cottons generally have not been advanced in recent weeks in keeping with the rise in the staple, but selling agents have now been forced to withdraw from the market or to place their lines "at value," in compliance with manufacturers' demands for higher prices. Ordinarily, such a short crop as is now promised would be considered little short of a calamity, but the belief is grow-

ing that, in view of well-known conditions in the cotton industry and in the cotton goods trade, it may prove to be more of a constructive development than otherwise. Much depends, of course, upon the attitude of buyers towards the higher prices which must be asked, or, rather, upon the extent of their purchases at the higher levels.

With respect to other crops, hot, forcing weather has placed the corn crop out of danger from frost. In Western Nebraska some injury is reported in a few sections, but the outlook is still for a yield close to the record. Wheat and other small grains are turning out better than anticipated, and some North Dakota counties will produce yields second only to the big totals of 1915. In this connection, it is noteworthy that for the week ending September 1st wheat, including flour, exports from the United States and Canada, as reported to Bradstreet's, aggregate 15,285,578 bushels, the largest total on record. For the nine weeks ended September 1st exports were 89,915,617 bushels, against 90,216,762 in the corresponding period a year ago.

FRANCE.—CONFERENCE BETWEEN M. DOUMER AND SIR ROBT. HORNE—THE FALL IN THE FRANC—TAXATION RETURNS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, September 13.

THE financial world has received the news of the conversations between Sir Robert Horne and Monsieur Doumer much more calmly than seemed probable in the early part of last week, a fact that is undoubtedly largely due to the tact and courtesy shown by Sir Robert Horne, and the public is now patiently waiting for the decision to be arrived at by the experts. The reports that reached Paris from London were conspicuous for the emphasis that was laid on the cordiality of the meeting, and the following extract from the *Agence Havas* merits quotation as indicative of the general tone adopted:—"To show once again the harmony of the conversations on Friday, it should be added that by a *délicatesse* that is worth noting Sir Robert Horne made no allusion to the actual cause that brought about the interview with M. Doumer, and that he never spoke of the non-ratification by the French Government of the agreement conditionally signed by the French Finance Minister."

While the meeting between Sir Robert Horne and Monsieur Doumer has been valuable in relieving the tension, it has not, unfortunately, been able to prevent a further depreciation of the franc. At the beginning of the week it stood at 47.58, but by Saturday 51.50 was being given for sterling. An even higher figure was reached on Monday, but the rather better price of 51.20 was quoted last night (Tuesday). Naturally the fall has aroused considerable comment, and the whole question has been reviewed by the *Situation Economique et Financière*. The public had not unnaturally hoped that as a result of the magnificent harvest there would have been a tendency in the opposite direction, but, unhappily, there are so many causes working other ways that depression has ensued. A point that has to be remembered is that, looking back over the rates, the franc is very notably stronger than it was early in the year, when it reached the rate of 61.59. Since then, owing to the economic crisis, France has had to restrict imports, and the franc has been in demand on the international market, because it had been anticipated that Germany would be obliged to buy francs to meet her indebtedness to France. This last cause has had considerable effect, but recently there has been the reduction of the amount of the French claim on Germany, and more particularly there has been the widely spread suggestion that Germany may declare herself bankrupt. This belief has operated against the franc. Further, it has to be remembered that since the Armistice France has had vast stocks of materials of all sorts in the country. These are gradually becoming exhausted, with the result that France will be forced to come into foreign markets, and pay for what she purchases in sterling dollars and foreign currencies. Such in economic circles here are considered the chief reasons for the decline in value of the franc.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application. On **Current Accounts** interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

The taxation returns issued this week for the month of August again show a deficit on the Budget estimates, and this despite the fact that the latter were revised last March in order to compensate for the deficit that experience had shown must be expected in the tax on business turnover. The deficit for August amounts to 118,395,300f, and the total revenue received is 1,016,389,500f. On the first eight months' working the deficit amounts to 716,327,600f. The chief items where there is a serious discrepancy between the estimates and the returns are stamp duties (46 millions), Customs (60 millions), and tax on business turnover (95 millions). In the original Budget the yield on business turnover had been estimated at 415,666,500, but this in March last was reduced to 241,666,500 millions; but the amount actually recovered, 146,615,000, appreciably the same as that brought in May, June, and July, falls short of the estimates by 95 millions. Stamp duties are 8 per cent. under the estimates, the reductions being marked chiefly in dues received from the sale of furniture and real property, death duties, mortgages, and Bourse operations. There has been some compensation in the returns from sales of businesses, from sporting licences, and from the tax on income from capital. The whole situation is, of course, due to the steady persistence of the economic crisis. This same factor accounts to some extent for the deficit of 15 per cent. in Customs. There has been a large falling off in imports of iron and steel, of machinery, of wool and cotton tissues, and of foodstuffs, notably cereals. This falling off has, to some extent, been compensated for by an increased importation of sugar, undertaken to counterbalance the anticipated poor harvest.

The Bourse has continued firm, the tendency having been particularly marked during the first part of the week. Towards the end there was a certain realisation of profits, and the upward tendency was somewhat checked. The belief prevails, however, that the market will remain firm until the end of September, when large calls will be made for capital, and in consequence there will be less funds available for investment on the Bourse. Apart from other factors to which attention has been drawn in previous weeks, the profits made in the country during the holiday season have helped on the movement, for a considerable part of these have come into Paris for investment. French Rentes have remained unchanged. Banks were firm and in demand in the early part of the week, but fell back as a result of sales. Thus Banque de Paris declined from 1,445 to 1,382, Union Parisienne from 915 to 890, and Crédit Lyonnais from 1,545 to 1,525. Transports are generally stronger, P.L.M. rising from 770 to 780, and Nord from 850 to 873. Metro, however, was calm at 405, after having reached 411, while Est-Parisien rose from 72 to 78. Owing to the uncertainty of freights, shipping has shown hesitation. Chargeurs Réunis are at 620, as against 639, and Transatlantique at 279, as against 283. Electrical undertakings have been well in demand, Compagnie Générale d'Electricité has attained 1,020, Electricité et Gaz du Nord has advanced to 310, Téléphones have improved from 615 to 640, but Thomson is back from 910 to 885. Metallurgical undertakings are in great demand. Thus, Acieries de France have risen from 582 to 690, Longwy from 1,125 to 1,555, Micheville from 982 to 1,000, and most others similarly. Mines, for the most part, are stronger, Tintos having improved from 1,495 to 1,530, and Utah from 640 to 692. Boléo, however, has dropped from 400 to 390.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	DEBTOR.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 11, 1913
	France.	France.	France.	
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000	
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	30,297,689	
Reserve	22,105,756	22,105,756	22,105,756	
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444	
Sinking Fund account (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	569,813,776	570,413,090	569,813,776	
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,005,329,503	976,441,278	1,005,329,503	
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	7,595,711	
Notes in circulation	37,253,887,830	37,024,735,420	37,253,887,830	
Interest on securities	58,765,594	59,467,329	58,765,594	
Bank notes to order	822,197	979,576	822,197	
Treasury account	38,316,663	40,732,974	38,316,663	
Current accounts, Paris	1,500,808,837	1,708,617,538	1,500,808,837	
Do branch banks	947,678,780	1,086,845,890	947,678,780	
Dividends payable	6,090,766	6,242,686	6,090,766	
Discounts and sundries	52,027,801	47,523,435	52,027,801	
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	15,389,701	
Sundries	1,022,414,517	1,028,713,522	1,022,414,517	
Total	42,726,352,564	42,821,008,978	42,726,352,564	
	CREDITOR.	France.	France.	France.
Cash in hand	5,799,224,221	5,799,224,138	5,799,224,221	
Balances abroad	627,043,348	627,337,189	627,043,348	
Commercial bills overdue.....	1,357,177	45,781,201	1,357,177	
Discounts in Paris	1,426,791,888	1,433,966,837	1,426,791,888	
Foreign bills	5,838,884	4,615,216	5,838,884	
Treasury bills	897,399,272	1,086,360,735	897,399,272	
Discounts in branches	70,726,408	71,325,721	70,726,408	
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	12,874,000	
Do on public securities	419,546,106	420,232,029	419,546,106	
Do by branch banks	1,792,251,128	1,731,575,367	1,792,251,128	
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000	
Do (for the war)	25,100,000,000	25,300,000,000	25,100,000,000	
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern-ments	4,071,000,000	4,070,000,000	4,071,000,000	
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750	
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	101,858,558	
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000	
Premises and furniture	47,096,621	47,101,177	47,096,621	
Expenses and management	18,239,548	16,381,976	18,239,548	
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,438	
Sundries	2,015,517,200	1,730,942,783	2,015,517,200	
Total	42,726,352,564	42,821,008,978	42,726,352,564	

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	% 6
Advances on bullion	% 2
Advances on public securities	% 6 1/2

GERMANY.—POLITICS—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—PRICES—LABOUR MOVEMENT—TRADE—INDUSTRY—CROPS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, September 12.

No settlement has yet been reached on the two most important domestic questions. The negotiations with Bavaria concerning the Republic's objection to the Kahr Cabinet's suspension of Constitutional guarantees and Bavaria's objection to the Republic's similar suspension have so far only led to Dr von Kahr's resignation. The other question concerns reconstruction of the Prussian Cabinet on a more progressive basis. Herr Stegerwald, the head of the Cabinet, like the head of the Federal Cabinet, is a Centre politician, but he belongs to the right wing of his party, and as a supposed reactionary has had to survive more than one attack from the Socialists. Dr Wirth desires to have a Prussian Cabinet with a policy more in line with his own, which means with Socialist support. The Centre and Democrats desire that the new Prussian Cabinet should also include the German People's party; but this plan is rejected by the Socialists. The Reichswirtschaftsrat has passed a resolution demanding a more homogeneous policy in direct taxation. At present five big property taxes exist in law or in shape of Bills: the Emergency Levy, the Increment of Wealth Tax of 1920 (*Besitzsteuer*), the new Property Tax, which is to replace the levy, the new permanent Increment Tax, and the non-recurring Post-War Increment (1919-21) Tax, in addition to which is the not yet fully paid 1913-19 Increment Tax. The real subject of all these taxes is the growth of nominal wealth, caused by the currency depreciation, compared with which vast fictitious growth the variations in the real wealth of individuals is insignificant. The differentiation

between the taxes is mostly meaningless, and causes needless collection costs. Behind the Reichswirtschaftsrat's resolution is the theory that it would be better to abandon all five taxes, and substitute a single permanent Property Tax.

State finance, industry, trade and labour are all under the influence of the exchange fall of the mark, which has now reached the lowest point of January-February, 1920. For long past Berlin's valuation of the mark has closely followed New York quotations; but in the present downward movement Berlin has sometimes taken the lead; and it is complained that frightened Germans are hoarding foreign currency, and that mark bear speculations have become merely a supplement to the universal bull speculation in stocks. The public ignores warnings that no great movement in either direction can proceed without reactions. The Reichsbank statement for September 7th shows a decline of 3,540,895,000 marks in discounted Treasury bills to 80,502,996,000 marks—this large drop is explained by the abnormally heavy month-end increase shown in the statement for August 31st. Private discounts declined by 39,428,000 marks to 963,069,000 marks; State deposits by 1,957,462,000 marks to 2,875,381,000 marks; private deposits by 2,156,328,000 marks to 6,642,428,000 marks. Circulation of notes increased by 654,805,000 marks to 80,727,526,000 marks; Kassenscheine fell by 44,100,000 marks to 7,792,800,000 marks. The total clearings in the Bank's Clearing Offices in 1920 are reported at 695,776.2 million marks, against 182,767.8 million marks in 1919, and 73,634.2 million marks in 1913. The increase against 1919 is 281 per cent., number of clearings being 22,464,365 against 16,661,291, an increase of only 34.8 per cent., so that the 281 per cent. rise is mainly due to currency depreciation. The average value of cheques cleared increased nearly threefold.

Stocks continue to rise rapidly, and activity was so great that the whole apparatus—Bourse, stockbroking establishments, and securities departments of the private banks—broke down; and the Bourse had to be closed altogether in the second half of the week. Bourse working hours have now been lengthened, and changes have been made in hours for fixing official quotations. Heavy business in stocks continued on the closed days. The Bourse quotations have entirely ceased to reflect the sentiment of the day for which they are issued. Orders to buy and sell are often executed a day or even two days after they have been given, and prices are, therefore, still moving violently in one direction when orders are being given in another direction. Stocks have therefore several times risen long after the beginning of bear moves by dealers. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* Bourse index shows 21,191 for end of the week, against 20,193 a week before; the stocks and bonds used in the index are 162 per cent. above the figure of January 2, 1920. Nearly all stocks gained. Textile stocks rose as much as 400 points, mining and metal mostly between 100 and 350, engineering between 50 and 200. Bank ing stocks were active, and rose considerably; potash stocks moderately. One stock, Adler und Oppenheimer, rose 600 points, and with 2,975 is to-day the highest native stock quoted. The exchange decline is sending stocks up, not only because of the "Flight from the Mark" movement, but also because the export prospects of industrial companies is much improved, and because the decline in the mark's buying power makes necessary fresh increases of capitalisation, which usually bring privileges to existing stockholders. That capitalisations have not kept pace with the currency decline is shown by the fact that 5,658 companies (*Aktiengesellschaften* only) had capital on December 31st last of 29,026,800,000 marks, whereas on September 30, 1909, 5,222 companies had capital of 14,722,800,000 marks. Loan quotations to-day:—War Loan, 77.50; 4 per cent., 76½; 3½ per cent., 67; 3 per cent., 77.25; Colonial 4 per cent., 66.99; Savings and Premium, 79.75.

The upward move in prices is still marked, though in August the rise was smaller than in July. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* wholesale index for September 2nd shows 164 for 77 commodities, against 159 on August 6th, and 135.4 on July 2nd. The food index in August-September fell from 214 to 210; textiles and leather rose from 84 to 96; minerals from 117 to 125; and miscellaneous from 186 to 193. This index is based on 100 for January 1,

1920. Taking 100 as the last peace price level, prices on September 2nd were 1,777 (1,083 in January, 1920). The agitation for higher wages continues. Coal miners have been granted an increase of from 7½ to 10 marks a shift, as a result of which Ruhr coal has been raised 21 marks a ton, the price of best quality anthracite being now 418.20 marks a metric ton, and of best quality "fat coal" (Nuss I.) 340.50. There have been partial strikes in Berlin. A Bill providing for the compiling of official wage statistics, to serve as a basis for collective agreements, has been submitted, also an Eight Hours Labour Bill. The eight hours' working limit first became law provisionally (in November, 1918) under a decree of the People's Delegates, which expires next spring. The essential innovation in the renewing Bill is a clause forbidding employees to work extra hours in a second factory or workshop in their regular branch of industry after they have worked the full eight hours for their chief employer. Hitherto this practice has been very common, not only in Germany, but in Sweden, Finland, and other countries where eight hours is the legal maximum. Reports of the German Control officials show that many workmen consider limitation of hours a grievance, and therefore either work after hours for second employers, for themselves at home, or in petty factories and workshops of their own. This is objected to by employers on the ground that men come exhausted to work in the morning; by trades unions on the ground that it deprives men of employment; by independent handworkers on the ground that it causes competition; and by eight hours' advocates on the ground that it foils the specific social aim of the law. Opposition to the law is very strong among individual workmen, but the trades unions, including the anti-Socialistic and the Left parties, are solid for the law.

The foreign trade report for May (January-April inclusive not having yet appeared) shows a heavy decline both in volume and values as compared with December, 1920. The decline in exports is partly ascribed to the Sanctions and partly to the reduction in Upper Silesia's output, caused by the disorders. Imports in May were 15,342,700 double centners, against 20,073,500 double centners in December (values not reported), and exports were 11,386,600 double centners, against 17,582,100 double centners, of value 4,511,600,000 marks paper, against 7,863,000,000 marks. Of exports, 80 per cent. of values, or 3,600,000,000 marks, went to Europe, and 7.1 per cent. to the United States. Chief buyers were Holland, 735,900,000 marks; Denmark, 282,000,000 marks; Austria, 279,600,000 marks; and Switzerland, 268,600,000 marks. Great Britain bought for only 189,100,000 marks. Sales to the United States were 319,200,000 marks, and to South America 230,000,000 marks. Chief export groups were:—

	Millions of M. Paper.
Metals	1,088.2
Machines and vehicles	911.1
Textiles	624.4
Food, fodder, wood	305.1
Chemicals, dyes, fertilisers	302.2
Mineral raw materials and oils	216.2
Arms, clocks, instruments	188.6
Paper and cardboard	182.3

The exports of metals were little more than half those of December, exports of machines and vehicles little more than two-thirds. The Prussian Ministry of Trade's report on industry for August shows an improvement in nearly every branch. Extreme activity prevails in some branches of iron and steel, and in textiles, clothing, and leather. The chemicals and dyes market shows improvement.

Crop reports are favourable, with the exception of oats and hay. The yield per hectare of this year's harvest, as estimated at the beginning of September, shows for winter wheat 19.4 double centners, against 17.1 in 1920; spring wheat, 18 against 17; spelt, 13.9 against 11.2; winter rye, 15.5 against 12.4; spring rye, 11.2 against 10.5; winter barley, 20.9 against 17; spring barley, 16.5 against 16.2; oats, 14.9 against 15.5. The area under bread crops increased, as a result of which, and of the higher yield per acre, the harvest of wheat, spelt, and rye is estimated at 6,350,000 metric tons, against 5,200,000 tons last year. The area under barley and oats has declined, and the crop is estimated at 4,510,000 tons, against 4,760,000 tons.

CANADA.—THE RAILWAY PROBLEM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, September 1.

MUCH has been said and written on the Canadian Government railway problem during the last 10 years, but undoubtedly the most constructive contribution to the subject is the report of Sir Joseph Flavelle, which has recently been made to Premier Meighen. Sir Joseph points out that if Parliament in 1903 and after had not made possible the separate schemes of both Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern promoters, but had told them that in their Western projects they must get together, the present trouble would have been prevented. With this view there is very general agreement. But, as he says, the country is confronted with the actual results of Parliament's policy. Of the nearly 20,000 miles of road embraced within the Government system in Canada no less than 4,600 miles are, on Sir Joseph's authority, "not actually needed for the business of the country."

After being reminded that the deficit on the Government roads last year, including the Grand Trunk, was \$69,564,176, the information is given that this did not include interest charges on loans by the Government, amounting to \$353,000,000. At 5 per cent. this would have brought the total deficit up to \$86,000,000. Sir Joseph states that the estimate of \$8,377,000 loss on operation during 1921, submitted to Parliament, which with fixed charges would bring the total estimated loss up to \$45,375,981, will be exceeded, returns for the first six months having shown that this figure for operating loss is not large enough. He further says that additional capital expenditure ranging from \$125,000,000 to \$175,000,000 will have to be made if the system is to compete with the Canadian Pacific for business.

Aside from other considerations, Sir Joseph points out that one of the chief causes of the poor showing made by the Government system is to be found in lack of business through the country served, and he further points to the fact that, as compared with the Canadian Pacific, the company has a much shorter haul, with a greatly reduced earning power. Above all other things, immigration must be secured. On this point Sir Joseph emphatically says: "The railways in Canada have been developed in advance of the requirements of the country. Apart from better operating conditions, incident to the consolidation of the national lines into one system, the chief remedy will be found only in increased population, and consequent increased tonnage of commodities for movement by the railways, and increased passenger, express, and other revenues. Canada must secure this increase through settlers who will occupy the unoccupied lands in the West."

The capital investment in the Government system, including the Grand Trunk, is placed at \$1,652,107,965 for 19,433 miles owned, being an average of \$85,000 per mile, as compared with \$83,117 for the Canadian Pacific. The statement of fixed charges that will have to be met makes the net total a little over \$66,000,000 per annum, as compared with \$15,910,516 for the Canadian Pacific. "Manifestly," concludes Sir Joseph, "the Canadian National system, with its second transcontinental line that is not immediately required, plus the burden of the National Transcontinental and Hudson's Bay Railways, cannot possibly bear fixed charges of such magnitude."

Sir Joseph recommends the writing down of the capitalisation to \$750,000,000. He also proposes that a new National Railway Company be formed with a nominal capital of 5,000,000 common shares, and, say, 2,500,000 of 6 per cent. preference shares, each with a par value of \$100, the total authorised capital being thus \$750,000,000. It is further proposed that the Government take common shares at par in payment of the existing advances to the various systems, these at December 31st being \$320,000,000 of loans and \$33,000,000 of G.T.P. debentures. "The Government would turn over to the company the equity in the system, subject only to the bonds and debentures and guaranteed stock issued to the public, and to the fixed charges that may result from the Grand Trunk arbitration. Thus the existing Government advances, excluding the capital cost of the Intercolonial and Transcontinental, would be represented by common-stock

ownership only, and no part of the interest on it would be a fixed charge or would be cumulative." As for the future, it is suggested that any expenditure that should be charged to capital be provided by the Government from year to year, and be capitalised by an issue to the Government of a preference stock at par in respect of the capital advances. Any annual deficit that has to be met by the Government, plus fixed charges to the public, should be met by an issue to the Government of common stock at par.

After observing that "the abundant resources of the country and the character of the people will enable the country to meet every obligation," Sir Joseph finally says: "I do not venture an opinion as to what will happen to these great properties if politics will not permit, and Parliament and the Press will not allow, the necessary freedom, and will not give the necessary support to the administration of publicly owned railways."

ITALY.—SUBSIDIES TO SHIPBUILDING, AND LEGISLATION BY DECREES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, September 11.

AN interesting constitutional and financial problem has been debated this week in the Press and political circles. It is a residue of our D.O.R.A. war methods, which, by the way, were much more arbitrary than in your country. By a law of May 22, 1915, the Government was empowered to legislate and to act freely on the basis of the old dictum *salus publica suprema lex*. All the governments after May, 1915, freely used the machinery of Royal legislative decrees. Bureaucracy was substituted for Par-

liament. Not a single budget after 1915 was laid in the ordinary way before Parliament and subjected to a regular debate before the beginning of the financial year. Even to-day taxes are laid and expenditure effected on a vote of provisional authorisation for the first six months of the financial year, which vote was given by Parliament after a perfunctory general debate. Signor Giolitti promised in his Cabinet programme that he would put an end to the system of legislative decrees, but on the eve of his fall he did not refrain from publishing, on June 30, 1921, a Royal decree enacting a new protectionist custom tariff, thus breaking a solemn promise made to the Chamber that no new tariff would be enacted without the consent of the Parliament.

The slowness with which legislation by Royal decrees is dying is due to its being much more easy thus to impose taxes and make expenditure. Bureaucracy felt supreme during the war and armistice, and is to-day sorely grieved to renounce any of her privileges. Industries dependent for life on the patronage of the State obtained subsidies and favours without embarrassing public debates. Ministers were satisfied with their almost absolute powers.

The Shipping Subsidies Bill furnished at last a test case. June 30, 1921, was the day after which ceased to be effective the decrees of August 18, 1918, and March 30, 1919, giving new ships various subsidies amounting in all, for a 8,000 D.W. tons ship, to the nice sum of 17,000,000 lire. There were, at the date of June 30, 1921, in course of construction, a number of from 50 to 73 ships which, for various reasons, were not completed before the fatal date, and had not a legal claim to the State subsidies. Shipbuilders began to cry on the damage which would be done if ships remained unfinished on the yard, and if thousands

of men were put out of employment. Signor Alessio, who was Minister of Trade in the Giolitti Cabinet, felt that a continuation of the subsidies on the old scale was unbearable. Parliament would not have consented to an expenditure of from 850 to 1,240 million lire merely for the sake of shipbuilders, who were well aware that ships unfinished at June 30, 1921, had not the right to receive a single farthing from the Exchequer. But he believed that on the ground of equity a partial subsidy could be given to those ships which were already laid on the yards at June 30, 1921, and for which constructional materials were already on the spot on April 30, 1921. For this sort of ships it may be assumed that shipbuilders had done all their might for completing the construction at the prefixed date, but were impeded by some external cause. A Bill was accordingly laid by Signor Alessio on the table of the House on June 20, 1921. The subsidies were fixed on a new scale, and for a total sum of 300 million lire.

The fall of the Giolitti Cabinet and the political debates on the programme of Bonomi Cabinet were not favourable to an immediate discussion of the Alessio proposals. Moreover, the new Minister of Industry, Signor Belotti, dropped the Alessio Bill, substituting it with two new Bills, laid on the table of the House on July 26, 1921. Soon afterwards, however, the House rose for recess, and it is not probable that it will meet before November next.

Shipbuilders began again clamouring against the imminent closing of the yards; Socialist deputies insisted that Government should give some aid against unemployment. Signor Belotti took an extraordinary course. As it was impossible to obtain the consent of Parliament before November or December, and as he was afraid to legislate by Royal decrees without some sort of authorisation, he laid the Bills before the two committees of the House, those on finances and on transports, which, according to our legislative methods, are bound to report on Bills to the House as a whole.

Committees of the Italian Chamber of Deputies are composed in exact proportion to the respective importance of various political parties—Liberals, Catholic, and Socialist parties being exactly represented in each committee. If, then, argued Signor Belotti, the special committees of the House give an advice favourable to the Bills, he would be authorised to enact them by Royal decree. The committees, in effect, reported favourably to the first of the Bills, which granted a subsidy of 750 lire per D.W. ton to those ships which, however unfinished at June 30, 1920, had reached at that date a 30 to 40 per cent. stage of completion. The financial burden for the State was estimated at 125 million lire. The decree was accordingly enacted.

On the second Bill, one of the committees felt at first unable to reach a conclusion. The Bill stated that a sum of 200 million lire could be spent by the Ministry of Industry for buying for State account a certain number of ships from among those unfinished at June 30, 1921, if from 500 D.W. tons upwards, and if built to carry men in addition to goods. The Bill was open to various technical objections. Above all, a keen debate arose in the Press about the legitimacy of the new legislative method of enactment after the advice of a House Committee. Committees, it was observed, have not the authority to legislate and of advising Government when Government thinks it urgent to legislate during the recess of Parliament. The legislative authority is only enjoyed by the Chamber as a whole. Moreover, the Italian Parliament is composed of two branches—the elective Chamber of Deputies and the nominated (for life) Senate. Legislation by decree after advice of a Committee of the Chamber of Deputies amounted, in fact, to a practical abolition of the Senate. Grants of sums to be spent are the most jealous privileges of Parliament; they cannot be transferred to a single committee of a single House.

The debate was not without influence on legislators. The Finance Committee of the House re-examined the matter, and after a lengthy debate refused its assent to the Bill. There matters stand at present. It appears that Government has felt the lesson, and that it will abstain in future from legislation by decrees, as everyone is feeling that it is a short cut to absolute government by bureaucracy.

POLAND.—BUDGETARY DEBATES—CABINET CRISIS—EXCHANGES—CORN FOR EXPORT—PRE-WAR DEBTS OF THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, September 9.

THOUGH the official session of the Diet has been closed, the Financial Committee is actually discussing the budgetary estimates for the current year, which we reproduce below:—

(Million Polish Marks.)

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1. President of the Republic	13.0	
2. Diet	222.9	
3. Board of Control	138.6	
4. Cabinet	819.2	
5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,788.6	3,601.4
6. Ministry of War	4,892.7	61,033.3
7. Ministry of Finance	64,453.6	12,150.8
8. Ministry of the Interior	1,516.4	7,203.2
9. Ministry of Justice	187.0	2,647.5
10. Ministry of Industry and Trade	450.7	7,374.4
11. Ministry of Railways	26,142.6	42,095.8
12. Ministry of Agriculture	4,394.8	8,149.7
13. Ministry of Education	74.4	11,404.7
14. Ministry of Posts and Telegraph	3,693.1	3,200.3
15. Ministry of Food	5,575.1	19,879.7
16. Ministry of Public Health	601.7	2,275.9
17. Ministry of Art	1.3	122.6
18. Ministry of Public Works	325.5	10,842.5
19. Ministry of Labour	639.0	1,411.4
20. Board of Liquidation	207.6	392.2
21. Rural Board	1,067.2	1,103.0
22. Ministry of the former Prussian Poland	18,980.5	12,879.0
	135,166.7	208,961.2

The Budget closes with a deficit of 73.8 milliard marks. Mr Steczkowski hoped to be able to cover this huge deficit by Treasury bills, a new internal loan, and a lease of the forests of Bialowiesha to a foreign concern, &c. These plans have been partly thwarted by the delay in the decision relating to Upper Silesia. According to declarations made by Mr Steczkowski, a final settlement of the Polish frontiers is a necessary condition for a conclusion of the agreement between the Government and the foreign syndicate which has the intention to exploit the forests of Bialowiesha. This, however, is only a secondary factor. In the first instance, Mr Steczkowski's calculations have been entirely upset by the decline of the Polish mark during the last weeks. It has been necessary to increase the salaries of the officials, and this will necessitate during this year an extra expenditure of 28 milliard marks. It can be hardly expected that this process has attained its climax. The prices of all necessities are rising by leaps and bounds, and already at the present moment the increased salaries are hardly sufficient for the maintenance of a family.

The opposition took advantage of this situation by attacking in the Financial Committee the whole Government policy. Mr Steczkowski, feeling that he had not a sufficient and reliable majority behind him, tendered his resignation at the end of last week. A few days later his example was followed by the whole Cabinet. From this a political deadlock has ensued, because all efforts at forming a Parliamentary Government are at the present juncture almost vain. It seems that there is only one way out of the present crisis—the appointment of a non-party business Cabinet. This solution, however, cannot be considered satisfactory.

During the two last weeks there has been hardly a day without a fresh decline of the Polish mark. The English pound, which stood on August 25th at 9,500, has reached on September 7th 14,250. The respective quotations for American dollars were 2,500 and 4,050, for German marks 30.00 and 42.00. This collapse of the exchanges is happening in a moment when a record crop has just been bought in from the fields. According to official data this year's corn crop is by 234,000 wagons greater than the previous one. It is estimated that of this 100,000 wagons can be easily exported, the remaining quantity being quite sufficient for home consumption. This can be considered as a proof that the foundations of the economic life of the country are healthy, and that only the financial superstructure is rotten. All Ministers of Finance have hitherto failed in the very difficult task of bringing the revenues and the expenditure of the country

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.

THE
ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK,
LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 67 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.
Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

* BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
 † BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
 ‡ BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA LTD.

into equilibrium, and this lack of a strong and able hand is principally responsible for the actual state of affairs.

It has been reported already in a previous letter (*Economist*, August 6th, page 226) that the Lodz manufacturers, whose pre-war debts for cotton imported from England are estimated at 2 million pounds, declared themselves unable, at the present rate of exchange, to meet their obligations. They have addressed now a circular to their foreign creditors, in which they draw from Part IV. of the Treaty of Versailles the conclusion that their obligations have been taken over by the Polish Government. They point out that the creditors should claim, through these respective Governments, from the Polish State the repayment of the pre-war debts. The manufacturers add that they would be able to settle directly their debts in the case of a payment by the German Government of the sums which they have to receive for textile goods requisitioned during the occupation. The total amount of this debt exceeds several times the foreign pre-war obligations of the Lodz district.

Letters to the Editor.

MONETARY POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your article about "Monetary Policy" in the *Economist* of August 27th you related that the report of the Netherlands Bank shows that in Holland the rationing policy succeeded without any increase in the discount rate.

I beg to observe that the contention that the rationing system has succeeded in Holland is not by any means generally admitted in that country. I wish to place in the foreground that the Netherlands Bank, speaking of its rationing policy, does not make a distinction between the credit granted to the public (trade and industry) and the credit granted to public corporations (municipalities and the State). It is obvious that with regard to the latter refusing credit is the most effective method of curtailment, as spendthrift municipalities do not pay much attention to the rate of interest. But what is interesting for your readers is the question, if the rationing policy succeeded with regard to the credit granted to the public. And that, I think, cannot be affirmed. The figures of the annexes of the report of the Netherlands Bank suggest that the amount of credit granted to the public (chiefly trade and industry) increased during the report year, and also since the beginning of the armistice (the figures of the operating capital of the Rotterdam head branch and of the agencies increased during the report year by 41 per cent.). A substantial decrease of the loans granted by the bank on securities is to be seen from the very moment the rate for loans was increased from 4.5 per cent. to 5.5 per cent., not from the moment a circular was addressed to the public.

As for the amount of banknotes and deposits at the Netherlands Bank, it did not decline substantially by the rationing policy all in all during the report year. The total amount was fl 1,142 millions on April 3, 1920, and fl 1,105 millions on April 3, 1921, and in the meantime the transfers (giro) by the Netherlands Bank increased from fl 15 to 23 milliards, which equals with an important increase of currency. On the other hand, trade is dull now, which means that the same amount of currency on April 1, 1921, was relatively bigger than a year before.

Nor was the effect of the rationing policy on the depreciation of the florin favourable. The dollar equalled 2.69 fl on April 1, 1920, 3.37 fl on November 8th, fell to 2.77 fl on May 19, 1921, and rose again to 3.28 fl on August 4th last. Prices are declining in Holland, but much slower than in England and America. So there is no reason at all for the contention that the rationing policy has had any favourable effect.

Moreover, that policy tends to arbitrariness, giving credit too cheap to people who plead their cause cunningly, and refusing credit to other people who tell the truth and nothing else; it also may lead to eye-service. Therefore, it never can take the place of the well-tested system of increasing the discount rate.—Yours truly,

A DUTCH PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS.

UNEMPLOYMENT, CREDITS, AND THE CURRENCY

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The Press, and even your own columns, are filled with proposals to abolish unemployment by arranging Government credits and by tampering with the currency. Both measures are, of course, hopeless. Business has come to a standstill because British and foreign buyers find British goods too dear, and no granting of credits and no juggling with our monetary arrangements will improve matters. Buyers will buy the goods which they want in the cheapest market, and if they are unreasonably dear, owing to the short-sighted attitude of British labour, they will either employ foreign labour or go without. No juggling can improve matters. Germany, Belgium, and other countries, where labour is reasonable, suffer little from unemployment, while over here it is unprecedentedly large. Meanwhile, a million men might be employed for years to come in the building trade. There is a need for hundreds of thousands of new houses in this country, and about 5,000,000 of existing houses require repairing and re-painting. However, property owners cannot afford to employ labour at existing rates. The manipulation of credits and of the currency will not improve matters, nor will doles and the "creation" of work by the Government and the local authorities. There is work for all. Let the workers work well for reasonable wages, and unemployment will disappear. The policy of high wages and low output is at the bottom of our troubles, and tampering with credits and with currency can make matters only worse.

In the United States the position is very much as it is over here. The *Commercial and Financial Chronicle* of New York of August 27th, which has just come to hand, stated editorially, with excellent good sense:—

"The irony is that wages kept up means trade kept down and labour kept out of work. Reduced wages would mean greater employment, increased production, lower prices, lower cost of living for everybody—labour, of course, included—increased buying power, and therefore increased consumption and a return to normal prosperity. Labour stands in its own light. Retail prices are still high, but they have had to come down somewhat. The chief trouble is high labour costs everywhere."

It would lead too far to show in detail why the watering of the currency, while bringing about prosperity on paper, would be ruinous to the nation as a whole. The advocates of dilution tell us that the credit of the Government is better than gold as a security. All the terribly depreciated currencies of the Continent have the Government guarantee behind them. It is, of course, no security whatever. Credit is destroyed if the men who lend money for three months may get only half the money back they have lent owing to the depreciation of the currency. Besides, the dilution of the currency is most demoralising both to employers and employed.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

J. ELLIS BARKER.
Albion Lodge, Fortis Green, N. 2.

A TABULAR STANDARD OF VALUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I will endeavour to clear up the interesting points raised by Mr Albert Wallis in his letter published in your issue of September 10th. He writes: "It is quite useless to invent grand schemes for measuring prices in terms of gold, while basing the measure of that price on the price of things other than gold." I thought that I had made it clear that under a tabular standard prices would not be measured in gold, but in ideal units of value analogous to the yard as a measure of length. Under the gold standard prices are measured in gold, but the value (purchasing power) of gold is measured by a weighted average of the quantities of the principal commodities which can be got in exchange for a given quantity of gold from time to time. There is no circle involved in leaving out the gold altogether and expressing the price of each commodity in the terms of a weighted average of the quantities of the principal commodities for which a given quantity of it will exchange. In fact, there is no other intelligible way of expressing the general exchange value of an article. Under a tabular standard each unit of currency would be

maintained at parity with an aliquot part of the total parcel of commodities which formed the standard.

Mr Wallis is concerned because under a tabular standard there is no automatic means of ascertaining the money price of labour, which he imagines to exist under a gold standard. I do not see any reason to doubt the accepted doctrine that the real wages of labour do not depend upon any system of currency, but on the produce of labour, and upon the share in that produce secured by the labourer. This share again depends on the amount of capital employed in industry, and upon the number of labourers and their degree of organisation. Money wages are adjusted accordingly. Under a tabular standard money wages and real wages would coincide and would advance with improved methods of production, and also as workmen secured a larger share of the output.

As supporters of the gold standard appear convinced that the value of gold is fixed by nature, I would like to point out in what a very great degree this value is affected by the arbitrary action of Governments, banks, and the trading community generally. If gold were the sole means of exchange its value would vary according to the supply from the mines and the growth of trade. As the increase in trade forced up the value of gold poorer and poorer mines would be worked. Actually gold is supplanted in 97 per cent. of transactions by credit instruments, which keeps down its value. If credit bore a fixed ratio to gold, gold would still control prices, but it is known that the tides of expanding and contracting credit cause fluctuations in prices quite unconnected with gold. The adoption of a gold standard by Germany and other countries in 1873 and after caused gold to appreciate, and the substitution of paper for gold during the war in many countries caused gold to depreciate in spite of the falling production. If many countries return to gold standard gold will thereby gain in value.

Currency and credit are but contrivances for "clearing" the exchange of goods. The reason for believing the present stoppage of trade is due to the contraction and freezing of credit is as follows:—The demand for goods consists ultimately of other goods. General over-production of all commodities is impossible. When you get the appearance of general over-production as now, and as has happened in other crises, the explanation must be that the machinery for exchanging goods has got out of gear, owing to a sudden contraction of credit and falling prices. The crisis ends when credit again expands and prices cease to fall. These periodic crises should not occur under a tabular standard of value.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

C. CRAIES.
4 Bunhill row, London, E.C. 1.,
September 13th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Le Système Monétaire et le Change Anglais Depuis la Guerre." Par Alfred Mawas, Docteur en Droit. (Paris) Marcel Giard et Cie.

M. ALFRED MAWAS, a pupil of Professor Charles Rist, to whose help and influence he pays an affectionate tribute, begins his introduction to this most interesting work by observing that he publishes it with some apprehension. His fears are groundless. As he says, a study of England under a paper money system is a subject of the highest importance, and though it is too early as yet to give a complete review of it—since light has still to be thrown on much that is obscure in the story—this eminently sane and clear account of our monetary history during and since the war will be a timely help to all those who are trying to find the way out of the chaos in which our rulers have landed us. It is all the more valuable as being the work of an intelligent and critical, though sympathetic, foreign observer, who has evidently taken an immense amount of trouble to master his facts, and with surprising success. Among the few mistakes that we have noticed is the statement on p. 287, that the 3½ per cent. War Loan of 1914 "fut un succès et le Chancelier en était, a juste titre d'ailleurs, très fier"; and his remark that issues of Treasury bills were not accompanied by the

danger of inflationary creations of bank deposits seems to need qualification. Naturally and inevitably M. Mawas finds much to criticise in the monetary measures taken here during the war—especially the rising of Bank rate to 10 per cent. in August, 1914, the unnecessary (in his view) general moratorium then declared, the dear money policy that culminated in 1916, and the pegging of the American exchange. The after-war measures, such as the limit imposed on the currency note issue and the dear money policy of 1919 and 1920, meet with his approval, and he ends his study on a hopeful note concerning our financial future, and a quotation from Professor Shield Nicholson in favour of hard money and hard thinking. His 400 odd pages of closely-reasoned comment and criticism should help us towards both these objects.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Political Economy of War. By A. C. Pigou, M.A. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 8s 6d net.
British Finance During and After the War, 1914-21. Being the Result of Investigations and Materials collected by a Committee of Section "F" of the British Association. Co-ordinated and brought up to date for the Committee by A. H. Gibson. Edited by A. W. Kirkaldy. (London) Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons, Limited. 15s net.

Winding-Up the E.P.D. Provisions of the Finance Act, 1921, fully explained by H. E. Seed. (Manchester) The Manchester Guardian, Limited. 1s.

Administration des Monnaies et Médailles. Rapport au Ministre des Finances. Vingtième Année. Opérations de 1915 et 1916. (Paris) Imprimerie Nationale.

Robertson's Universal Method. Q.E.D. For Export and Import Trade. By James Robertson. (London) Scott, Armstrong, and Co., 79 Coleman street, E.C.2. 2s 6d.

The author claims that with the aid of this manual one can "compute and convert all the commercial trade quotations and exchange of the world direct from the currency, and of weights and measures of one country to those of another in one straightforward appropriate multiplication sum," and we are assured that the "problem of understanding foreign quotations will lose its terrors" if the method is once mastered.

Calendar for Twenty-Seventh Session, 1921-22. (London) The London School of Economics, Houghton street, Aldwych, W.C. 2.

Inland Trade (Rail and Riverborne) of India, 1919-20. (Calcutta) Department of Statistics.

The Rhodesia Chamber of Mines (Incorporated). Twenty-Sixth Annual Report. 1920. (Bulawayo) P.O. Box 166.

Reports From Austria. August, 1921. (Vienna) Association of Austrian Banks and Bankers, 4 Rockhgassee.

Report on Economic Conditions in Germany. September 1, 1921. (Berlin) Disconto-Gesellschaft.

Arguments About Upper Silesia. (Breslau) East Europe Institute.

Monthly Financial Report. September, 1921. (London) Offices of Lloyds Bank, Limited.

Monthly Circular. September 13, 1921. (Liverpool) Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.

Armstrong, Whitworth Locomotives. (London) Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co., Limited.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
September 28.	September 29.

Stock Exchange markets were inclined to look for a fall in the Bank rate on Thursday, and there was a good deal of banter when the electric indicators flashed their message on Thursday morning to the effect that the rate was to be left unchanged at 5½ per cent. A few minutes previously, the War Loan had risen to 89½, being an advance of practically a point in a day. The Bank's announcement caused a decline to 88½, but other stocks in the Consol group show noticeable strength, the Funding Loan in particular being prominent. A number of Colonials have gained a point or so. New issues fully maintain their premiums. The Ipswich (Brisbane) Water Supply 6½ per cent. 20-year debentures, to be offered at 96, were easily underwritten, and there was also a brisk demand for under-

South Africans benefited from some idea that the ex-enemy shares, in the hands of the Custodians, had been disposed of, although the statement was received with caution. Previously, Paris has been dominating the Kafir Circus, and the weakness of the franc became reflected in the prices of South Africans generally. De Beers, which touched 13½ last week, gave way to 12½. Most of the gold-producing shares went easier. There seemed to be no special reason for the dulness, other than the refusal of the public on this side to lend any support to Kaffir shares, added to disinclination on the part of the Cape to take any active hand in the market. Copper shares have fallen, on account of the general factors. The Indian mining shares, and St John Del Rey's, stand out with refreshing prominence, as having secured rises on the week. Tin shares, however, came off with the rest.

April 1 to September 10, £1,480,000	£ 300,000	..	£ 300,000
---	-----------	----	-----------

The Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway Company, Limited.—Issue of £600,000 $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. five-year secured convertible notes. These notes will constitute a direct obligation of the above-mentioned company, and will be specifically secured by a trust deed "providing for the deposit of £1,200,000 of that company's 5 per cent. (Bolivia) debenture stock" with the trustees of the noteholders. The notes "will be repayable" on November 1, 1926. The notes are convertible into the company's 5 per cent. (Bolivia) debenture stock in the ratio of £675 of debenture stock for every £500 of notes. The company was incorporated on November 27, 1888, and operates lines of railways in Chili and Bolivia. The authorised share capital is £8,000,000, divided into £2,000,000 5 per cent.

The Brompton, Chatham, Gillingham, and Rochester Waterworks Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament, 1860. Issue at par of £40,000 7 per cent. debentures, to be redeemed at par on July 1, 1931. The total authorised share capital amounts to £242,500, of which £180,017 has been subscribed. The authorised loan capital is £93,000, and of this £14,750 has been issued, exclusive of the present issue. The net average annual revenue of the company for the four years 1911-14 amounted to £12,257, while the average for the war period 1915-18 worked out at £12,622. But, unfortunately, owing to increased costs of labour, coal, &c., the net revenue for the 12 months ended June 30th fell to

The Rangoon Electric Tramway and Supply Company, Limited.—The London secretaries have received cable advice from the company in Rangoon that the balance of the ordinary capital of the company, amounting to 72,999 ordinary shares, recently offered for subscription at par, has been duly allotted.

Banks.

Barclays B (£1.1 p.d.)	2½ ..	2½ .. + ½	Nat. Bank of Egypt		
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½ ..	2½ .. + ½	(£10)	197 ..	20 .. + ½
London Joint City			Nat. Bank of S. Africa		
& Midland (£12 with			(£10)	10½ ..	10½ .. — ½
£2½ p.d.)	6½ ..	6½ .. + ½	Nat. Prov. & Union of		
London County West-			England (£20 with		
minster and Parr's			£3 p.d.)	8½ ..	8½
(£20 with £5 p.d.)	14½ ..	14½	Standard of S. Africa		
			(£20 with £5 p.d.)	11½ ..	11½ .. —

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Station	Price Last Week	Price	Rise or Fall
Antofagasta Cons.	45	45	1
B. A. & Pacific	42	42	1
B. A. G. Southern	64	64	3
B. A. G. West.	62	60	2
Buenos Ayres West.	151	151	1
Canadian Pacific	59	55	4
Central Argentine	59	55	4
Grand Trunk Ord.	24	2	2

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio	72	74	2
Erie	17	17	3
Do 4% 1st Pref.	25	25	1
Southern	27	27	2
Do Non-cum Pref.	61	63	2

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentina 5%, 1895-7	94	95	1
Belgian 5%	62	62	1
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914	60	62	2
Chilian 4%, 1895	68	68	1
Chinese 5%, 1912	72	69	3
Egyptian 4%	65	64	1
French 5%	42	41	1
Do 4%	32	31	1
Italian 3% Rentes	24	24	1
Greek Monopoly 4%	33	33	1
Japanese 4%	116	114	2
Do 4%, 1910	65	65	1
Mexican Cons. 1899	59	60	1
Peruvian Corp. Pref.	17	16	1
Russian 5%, 1906	11	11	1
Spanish 4%	71	71	1

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A"	17	17	1
Eastern Telegraph	162	163	1
Marconi Wireless	11	11	1
Marconi Canada	1	1	1
Marconi Marine	1	1	1

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.	29	28	1
Great Eastern	26	25	1
Great Northern Def.	18	18	1
Great Western	71	69	2
Lancs. and Yorks.	51	49	2
London, Brighton, "A"	40	40	1
London, Chatham	39	39	1
Do Arb. Pref.	39	39	1
L. and N. W.	71	69	2
L. & S. Western, Def.	18	18	1
Metropolitan	25	24	1
Metropolitan District	17	17	1
Midland Deferred	45	43	2
North British Def.	11	11	1
North-Eastern	72	72	1
South-Eastern "A"	22	22	1

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Armstrong (Sir W. G.)	18 1/2	18	1/2
Ass. Pind. Cement (£1)	18	18 1/2	1/2
Ass. Pind. Cement (£1)	8 1/2	8 1/2	1/2
Brazil Fraction (£100)	29 1/2	29 1/2	1/2
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	3 1/2	3 1/2	1/2
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	3 1/2	3 1/2	1/2
Burmah Oil (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Coats (J. & P.) (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Courtauld (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Cunard (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Dorman, Long (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Forestal Land (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Furness, Withy (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Highlands and Low.	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
lands Rubber (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Hudson's Bay (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Imperial Tobacco (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
International Paint (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Linggi Plants (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Lipton (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Lobitos Oilfields (£1)	3 1/2	3 1/2	1/2
Lyons (J. & Co.) (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Mexican Eagle (£10)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
North Caucasian (10)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Pekin (2)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Rubber Plantations	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Investment (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Shell Transport (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Smithfield & Argaine	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Meat (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Underground Electric	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
(£10)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Do "A" (1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Do Inc. Bds. (£100)	75	75	1
United Herdang (2)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
United Tobacco (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Urul Caspian (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Vallambrosa (2)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Vickers (£1)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Watney Def. Stk.	132	132	1

Mines.

Brakpan (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Broken Hill Prop. (8)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Chartered (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Dons. Gold Fields (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Crown Mines (10)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
De Beers Def. (£2)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
East Rand Prop. (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Geduld (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Gov. Gold Areas (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Knights	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Modderfontein (10)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Modderfont. "B" (5)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1/2
Modderfont. Deep (5)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Premier Def. (2)	5 1/2	5 1/2	1/2
Rand Mines (5)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2
Rio Tinto (£5)	31	29	2
Spring Mines (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1/2

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date	Notes and Certificates Outstanding	Investments Reserve Account	Advances to Bankers	Redemption Account
1914.				
Aug. 26	21,535	6,302	3,810	
Dec. 30	38,478	169	60	18,500
1915.				
Dec. 29	103,125	729	159	249
1916.				
Dec. 27	150,144	2,430	64	40
1917.				
Dec. 26	212,782	8,554	39	675
1918.				
Dec. 31	323,241	15,529	570	28,500
1919.				
Mar. 26	328,064	14,926	500	28,500
June 25	342,310	17,143	500	28,500
Oct. 1	335,021	16,524	250	320
Dec. 31	356,152	17,182	250	340
1920.				
Mar. 31	335,372	15,569	190	28,500
June 30	357,356	16,700	190	28,500
Sept. 29	353,795	16,215	190	28,500
Dec. 29	367,626	16,962	190	28,500
1921.				
Mar. 30	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500
June 29	323,884	14,965	3,000	28,500
Aug. 24	320,362	14,602	3,000	28,500
Sept. 31	319,254	14,679	3,000	28,500
Sept. 7	319,169	14,496	3,000	28,500
14	318,036	14,325	3,000	28,500

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Sept. 19th-Sept. 24th, were opened on Sept. 16, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £71,075,000. Tenders for bills at £98 19s 9d will receive about 14 1/2 per cent. and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 0s 6.33d. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
August 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,435,000	4 14 10 62	4 1/2	£98 15s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 92 1/2%, above in full, and for Saturday bills at £98 15s 3d, above in full. £98 16s 4d (Monday and Tuesday bills) and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 16s 7d, about 9%, and above in full.
Aug. 26 (3 months)	50,000,000	75,145,000	4 13 0 38	4 1/2	£98 18s 1d (Monday to Saturday bills), about 80 1/2%, and above in full.
Sept. 2 (3 months)	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1 53	4	£98 19s 6d bills about 50% and above in full.
Sept. 9 (3 months)	50,000,000	73,835,000	4 1 6 36	3 1/2	£98 19s 9d bills about 14 1/2% and above in full.
Sept. 16 (3 months)	45,000,000	71,075,000	4 0 6 33	3 1/2	

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from April 1, 1921, to Sept. 10, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Sept. 11, 1921, to Sept. 16, 1921.	RECEIPTS. Week Ending Sept. 10, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 11, 1921.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
REVENUE.	126,078,000	56,078,000	59,676,000	2,811,000	3,246,000
Excise	196,200,000	78,960,000	73,147,000	1,520,000	1,650,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	9,000,000	2,488,000	2,488,000	114,000	..
Estate, &c., Duties	48,000,000	19,876,000	20,210,000	308,000	511,000
Stamps	21,000,000	6,593,000	11,629,000	1,000,000	1,297,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty	..	..	..	..	..
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	128,547,000	116,246,000	4,351,000	3,758,000
Excess Profits Tax, &c.	120,000,000	21,874,000	98,234,000	200,000	3,925,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	4,820,000	230,000	..	..
Post Office	60,000,000	19,500,000	19,050,000	1,000,000	800,000
Crown Lands	650,000	280,000	240,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans	12,000,000	4,305,703	5,985,984	..	2,062
Miscellaneous—	..	..	..	..	..
Ordinary Receipts	21,500,000	10,235,900	8,514,222	558,720	4,230
Special Receipts	158,500,000	43,255,394	127,173,181	2,250,000	5,548,970
Revenue	1,215,650,000	400,212,947	541,195,340	14,342,720	20,642,262
Total, inc. Balance	..	403,287,493	550,564,487	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.	..	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances Repaid:—	..	..	..	..	..
Bullion	..	3,430,000	1,440,000	80,000	200,000
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	..	2,000,000	700,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	..	27,500	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	..	25,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	..	3,930,000	..	..	..
(c) For other issues:—	..	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bills for Supply	1,960,592,000	1,773,830,000	74,505,000	50,986,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1950-90	..	101,341	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	258,622	..	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925	..	89,777	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—	..	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	..	18,400,000	..	800,000	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920	..	16,580,000	..	900,000	..
By National War Bonds	..	5	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—	..	..	..	..	..
5-15 year, 1925-35	..	1,024,990	10,723,000	..	150,000
5 1/2% 1923	..	19,990,000	..	2,250,000	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	..	5,902,049	14,781,064	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances	..	585,374,000	531,391,000	18,350,000	22,000,000
Repayments—	..	..	..	..	..
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919	..	5,000,000	..	1,000,000	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	..	34,538	4,981	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	..	1,677,000	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	..	178,666	..	15,510	..
Total	..	3,009,053,241	2,902,320,272	111,443,230	94,778,262

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from April 1, 1921, to Sept. 10, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Sept. 11, 1921, to Sept. 16, 1921.	ISSUES. Week Ending Sept. 10, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 11, 1921.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt	24,500,000	6,518,104	7,133,452	144,652	309,559
Interest, &c., on War Debt	320,500,000	159,072,683	150,933,592	756,720	2,436,390
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,073,000	1,504,116	260,380	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	2,801,012	2,528,289	..	..
Land Settlement	5,000,000	1,698,956	3,315,207	72,558	40,902
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	759,659	828,964	10,260,277	12,534,405
Supply Services	758,932,000	276,965,426	290,469,479	11,494,587	15,321,256
Expenditure	1,130,204,000	449,818,842	456,715,099	..	..
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—	..	3,050,000	1,750,000	150,000	100,000</

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF LONDON CLEARING BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

1921.—August.	Bank of Liv'rop' and Martins, Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	Coutts and Co.	Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westm'r. and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provin- cial and Union Bank of Engl'nd, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Willm's Deacon's Bank, Limited.	Total.
ASSETS.											
Coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England.....	8,308	35,904	1,424	2,322	36,760	55,141	31,966	29,621	3,953	4,513	209,912
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom.....	2,023	7,223	408	866	7,619	10,780	7,521	7,013	149	864	44,466
Items in transit.....	6,478	21,348	2,996	7,788	13,516	12,792	18,686	13,527	9,050	2,822	109,003
Money at call and short notice.....	11,189	77,298	2,704	829	89,921	60,186	88,485	45,633	3,375	3,660	383,280
Bills discounted.....	11,560	56,386	4,670	6,349	63,936	52,680	53,568	46,743	13,579	6,005	315,476
Investments.....	40,142	146,788	7,668	5,762	135,331	187,035	122,792	133,778	18,001	19,427	816,724
Advances to customers and other accounts											
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	3,191	5,837	295	829	7,013	15,179	12,442	3,599	533	1,068	49,986
Bank premises account.....	1,297	4,490	346	370	5,156	4,489	3,994	3,907	495	645	25,189
Investments in affiliated banks.....	..	8,229	..	..	7,642	3,258	2,991	2,240	..	..	24,360
	84,188	363,503	20,511	25,115	366,894	401,540	342,445	286,061	49,135	39,004	1,978,396
LIABILITIES.											
Ratio of cash to current, deposit, and other accounts.....	10.7	10.75	7.6	10.2	10.9	15.1	10.2	11.2	9.16	12.8	11.6
Capital paid up.....	2,348	15,592	800	1,000	14,373	10,861	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,662
Reserve fund.....	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,861	9,004	8,878	980	1,000	51,673
Current, deposit, and other accounts.....	77,248	333,824	18,616	22,635	335,508	364,639	311,979	264,275	43,124	35,062	1,806,910
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	3,192	5,837	295	829	7,013	15,179	12,442	3,599	533	1,067	49,986
Notes in circulation.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,014
Reduction of bank premises account.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	151
	84,188	363,503	20,511	25,115	366,894	401,540	342,445	286,061	49,135	39,004	1,978,396

CANADIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Jan., 1921.	Dec., 1920.	Nov., 1920.	Month's Movement.
Reserve fund.....	135,344	133,049	132,782	+ 295
Note circulation.....	205,176	228,759	224,340	- 22,583
Demand deposits.....	584,026	657,497	686,754	- 73,471
Notice deposits.....	1,313,094	1,293,007	1,292,009	- 20,087
Deposits outside Canada.....	318,623	356,771	351,781	- 38,148
Current coin.....	85,118	82,688	86,211	+ 2,430
Dominion notes.....	186,590	177,489	190,641	- 9,101
Deposits Central Gold Reserve.....	89,703	113,353	114,903	- 23,650
Call loans in Canada.....	112,474	114,703	108,471	- 2,232
Call loans outside Canada.....	191,354	211,443	218,183	- 15,829
Current loans in Canada.....	1,264,490	1,301,804	1,359,973	- 37,314
Current loans outside Canada.....	173,380	184,540	169,678	- 11,160
Total liabilities.....	2,642,380	2,778,309	2,835,579	- 135,929
Total assets.....	2,926,867	3,056,979	3,116,896	- 130,112

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion.....	5,522,592	5,522,383	5,570,665	+ 209	3,730,695
Of which held abroad.....	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278	..	632,650
Silver coin and bullion.....	276,832	276,832	254,824	+ 1	632,650
Discount and advances.....	4,612,552	4,748,129	4,432,696	- 135,577	2,327,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes.....	37,253,988	37,024,735	38,622,449	+ 229,253	5,811,875
Government deposits.....	38,317	40,733	39,983	- 2,416	183,700
Other deposits.....	2,448,488	2,795,463	3,259,494	- 346,975	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	2,493,630	2,498,622	2,497,204	+ 1,008	521,775
Silver.....	628,523	627,831	629,676	- 5,302	728,600
Loans and securities.....	1,976,854	1,993,244	1,964,870	- 16,388	800,725
Spanish 4% stock.....	344,474	344,474	344,474	..	344,475
Treasury bills.....	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation.....	4,206,204	4,186,457	4,160,601	+ 19,747	1,901,550
Deposits.....	1,016,366	1,021,832	1,059,774	- 5,466	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Aug. 13, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	Aug. 15, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad.....	1,364,561,491	1,357,280,197	1,527,339,060	+ 7,281,294	-162,777,569
Government loans and securities.....	1,978,699,524	1,893,946,838	754,792,527	+84,662,686	+122,381,6997
Discounts and loans.....	746,331,094	764,032,905	659,618,208	-17,701,812	+ 86,712,886
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	1,816,221,262	1,796,856,295	1,394,619,165	+19,364,967	+421,602,097
Government deposits.....	134,929,138	116,024,881	107,072,983	+18,904,250	+ 27,856,155
Private sight deposits.....	915,363,482	863,231,251	765,802,047	+ 52,132,231	+149,561,435
Private deposits at fixed rates.....	853,663,521	846,181,180	501,899,640	+ 7,482,341	+351,763,881

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

	July 30, 1921.	July 23, 1921.	July 16, 1921.	July 31, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver.....	1,275,964	1,275,190	1,275,612	1,015,045	+ 774	221,320
Discounts.....	42,587	35,203	35,483	226,265	+ 7,184	41,760
Advances.....	42,377	86,345	87,887	315,009	+ 3,668	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes.....	1,142,628	1,048,783	1,048,964	1,202,433	+ 93,845	362,270
Govt. deposits.....	1,299,393	1,316,283	1,337,718	1,290,303	- 16,890	87,340
Private deposits.....	66,440	146,490	128,094	86,118	- 80,050	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 7, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	1,023,708	1,023,708	1,091,583	..	1,313,240
Silver.....	16,722	16,848	6,743	- 126	321,920
Treasury notes.....	3,119,006	3,044,888	18,649,521	+ 74,118	60,780
Bills discounted.....	81,466,065	85,046,388	44,860,201	- 3,580,323	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	80,727,526	80,072,721	58,752,267	+ 654,805	2,013,860
Deposits.....	9,517,809	13,649,599	12,074,488	- 4,131,790	842,340

BANK OF ITALY

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 10, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash.....	1,345,335	1,346,218	1,196,878	- 883	1,221,875
Inland bills.....	2,997,118	3,136,364	2,804,294	-139,246	418,400
Foreign bills.....	19,525	19,575	20,484	- 50	81,300
Advances to the Treasury.....	6,362,062	6,362,036	7,774,753	+ 26	..
Other advances.....	2,449,747	2,477,777	1,994,608	- 28,030	79,175
Securities.....	388,480	391,451	222,495	- 2,971	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	13,870,341	14,005,103	13,805,126	-134,762	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts.....	1,705,028	1,765,665	1,686,189	- 60,637	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 12, 1921.	Sept. 5, 1921.	Aug. 29, 1920.	Sept. 15, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold.....	605,969	605,967	605,969	636,339	+ 2	163,092
Silver.....	10,168	10,283	10,566	17,096	- 115	8,438
Drafts & advances.....	427,146	447,812	430,247	455,109	- 20,666	155,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	1,608,197	1,021,031	1,004,129	1,026,295	- 12,834	316,632
Deposits.....	39,322	43,425	48,927	73,966	- 4,103	5,018

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 7, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Aug. 23, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold.....	544,626	544,626	544,626	540,111	+ 115	18,350
Silver.....	110,531	110,531	110,531	91,666	..	..
Darlehens-Kassen.....	14,025	14,370	13,973	20,059	- 345	..
Assets & advances.....	352,080	352,758	334,229	378,156	- 678	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	916,178	927,134	878,218	933,422	- 10,956	275,925
Deposits.....	124,072	109,861	135,504	127,765	+ 14,211	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to August 31, 1921, total issues were Fr.31,614,000, of which Fr.14,370,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.	Sept. 11, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold.....	284,889	284,932	261,248	+ 43	+ 23,641	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills.....	109,011	108,620	93,079	+ 391	+ 15,932	112,172
Swedish and for Govt. securities.....	20,310	20,663	45,351	+ 247	- 25,041	32,465
Discount and loans.....	421,926	446,266	645,948	- 24,240	- 224,022	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	618,000	648,880	741,044	- 30,880	- 123,044	226,555
Deposits at notice.....	149,052	143,777	215,233	+ 5,275	- 66,181	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Gold.....	3,969,722	3,893,722	1,710,222	+ 80,000
Silver.....	388	423	232	+ 35
Discounts.....	262,996	229,648	37,202	+ 33,348
Government loan.....	10,327,453	10,259,823	4,100,645	+ 67,640
Other advances.....	2,681,799	2,752,235	898,676	- 70,436
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	11,641,485	11,550,138	5,048,818	+ 91,347
Deposits.....	6,236,247	6,239,737	2,171,483	+ 3,490

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 8, 1921. Franks.	Sept. 1, 1921. Franks.	Aug. 25, 1921. Franks.	Sept. 7, 1920. Franks.	Movemen't. Franks.	Position May 28, 1914. Franks.
ASSETS.						
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	323,827	322,146	322,823	358,105	+ 1,681	332,650
Securities	591,997	594,700	611,219	571,601	- 2,703	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation...	6,206,740	6,216,234	6,125,046	5,620,202	- 3,494	934,150
Current accounts...	978,090	996,829	1,034,137	1,508,445	- 18,739	112,123

LONDON RATES.

	Sept. 9, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 12, 1921.	Sept. 13, 1921.	Sept. 14, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 16, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21 1921)	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
3 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
4 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
6 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
Discount (Treasury Bills):—							
3 months	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Loans—Day to day	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Short	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Deposit allowances: Banks	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Discount houses at call	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
At notice	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

Comparison of the present week with the previous week.									
		Short Loans,	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.			
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	
1921.		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
July	1.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	8.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	15.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	22.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	29.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Aug.	5.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	12.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	19.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	26.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Sept.	2.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	9.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	16.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	6	July 21, 1921	6 1/2	June 23, 1921
Deposit	5	June 23, 1921	5 1/2	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Changed.	Changed.
Amsterdam	July 1, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Athens	May 15, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914 .. 5
Brussels	May 19, 1921 .. 5
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920 .. 5
Calcutta	June 2, 1921 .. 5
Christiana	July 5, 1921 .. 6 1/2
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921 .. 6 1/2
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920 .. 7
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920 .. 9
New York Federal Reserve ..	July 20, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920 .. 5 1/2
Paris	July 28, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Prague	May 12, 1920 .. 5 1/2
Rome	May 11, 1920 .. 5 1/2
Sofia	June 14, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Stockholm	July 5, 1921 .. 6 1/2
Swiss Bank	Aug. 11, 1921 .. 4
Tokyo	Nov. 18, 1919 .. 8
Vladivostok	Apr. 15, 1921 .. 8
Warsaw	Apr. 15, 1921 .. 8

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Sept. 17, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 9, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 16, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	52-70-75	49-50-55
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-23	1210-220	358-360
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	750-770	338-400
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	250-270 nom	300-310
Warsaw	P. marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	840-860	14300-14800
Bucharest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	170-175	390-395
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	24-02	1550-1650	1800-2000
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	562-582	590-610
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	190-210	440-480
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	90-95	175-185
Amsterdam	florins to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-26-28	11-73-75
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	49-67-72	50-40-45
Christiana	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-65-70	28-60-65
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-33-38	17-25-30
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	21-21-26	21-00-05
Helsingfors	P. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	113-115	275-278
Greece	drachmes to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	32-80-33-00	66-66 1/2
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	81-25-50	85-86
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	21-65-70	21-75-80
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	23-97-24-02	28-58-63
Lisbon	pence to mils	T.T.	53-3	10-1 1/2	97-1 1/2
Alexandria	piastres to £1	T.T.	97-1 1/2	97-1 1/2	97-1 1/2
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-8 1/2	3-51-3 1/2	3-72-73 1/2
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-8 1/2	3-88-89	4-16-17
Buenos Ayres	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	47-58	56-57	44-44 1/2
Rio de Janeiro	pence to mils, 90 days	T.T.	16	112-6	84
Montevideo	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	51	57-58	42-43
Valparaiso	pence to £1, 90 days	T.T.	15-13	112-6(a)	35-40
Lima	Eng. to Per. £1 90 days	Par	10-10	18-10-11	11% prem.
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Shanghai	ster. to tael	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11
Mexico	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	10-10	18-10-11	18-10-11

† Rate for previous day. § Sellers. (a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Aug. 18, 1921.	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.
Call money	6	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral)	6	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	6	6	6	6	6

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 1, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 8, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1921.
London—					
60 days	Dollars for £1	4-8666	3-7018	3-6785	3-6662
Cable			3-7450	3-7252	3-7062
Cheques			3-7450	3-7252	3-7012
Paris	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*15-20	7-87	7-03
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*14-35	7-65	6-94
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	*6-20	17-16	17-09
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19-30	123-35	4-5650	4-38
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23-83	1-51	1-1675	0-9175
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20-26	0-45	0-12225	0-95
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19-30	14-60	13-10	13-02
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	40-195	30-95	31-92	31-70
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	13-75	17-80	17-72	17-59
Christiana	Cents for 1 kroner	26-80	13-80	13-65	13-20
Stockholm	Cents for 1 kroner	20-35	21-75	21-65	21-63
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	19-30	10-62	5-70	5-72
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	100	90-00	98-75	103-75
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49-85	51-00	48-40	48-20
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	100	75-50	50-75	51-50
Shanghai	Cents for 1 Shing. tael	100	106-50	69-125	70-75
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	100	33-00	76-125	28-375
Buenos Aires	Gold pesos for \$100	103-65	122-00	146-00	143-75
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	32-42	17-45	12-00	12-25
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	20-60	17-20	10-50	11-50

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 1, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 8, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	5-20	3-67	2-93
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	10-05	6-75	6-22 1/2
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	12-10	6-51	5-83 1/2
Stockholm			8-00	5-35	4-90
Christiana			11-85	8-70	7-15

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Sept. 10 14-00
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	Sept. 8 22-90
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	48-4	"	Sept. 12 87-00
Nicaragua	Colonias to £1	49-51d	"	Sept. 7 3-60
San Salvador	Colonias to £1	24-65d	"	Sept. 13 7-70
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-66d	"	Sept. 10 205-46
Costa Rica	Colonias to £1	10-45	"	Aug. 13 18-25
Bolivia	pence to Boliviano	"	"	July 22 14 1/2

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
London (cheque)	£1	1-450	1-440	1-450
Paris	100 Fr	3,000	3,100	3,050
New York	\$1	390	395	390
Stockholm	100 Kr	8,560	8,600	8,500
Copenhagen	100 Kr	6,700	6,800	6,850
Berlin	100 Kr	460	465	450
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	590	595	580
Riga	100 Lrbl	100	105	90
Amsterdam	100 Hld	12,300	12,400	12,300

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
London on South Africa.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.
Demand	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.
30 days	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.
60 days	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.
90 days	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.
120 days	1 1/2% dis.	1 1/2% dis.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.								
	London on Australia and New Zealand.				Australia and New Zealand on London.			
	Buying.		Selling.		Buying.		Selling.	
	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.
T.T.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sight.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cable.....	..	..	99	99½	101	..	102½	102½
On demand	96½	96½	par	par	100½	100	101½	101½
30 days	95½	95½	..	..	99½	99½	101½	101½
60 days	95½	95½	..	..	99½	99	100½	100½
90 days	94½	94½	..	..	98½	98	100½	100½
120 days	..	..	..	..	97½	97½	..	..
5 months' sight	..	..	..	..	97½	..	..	..
6 months' sight	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,73,55,000	Rs. 29,02,40,000
In paper currency reserve	Rs. 61,26,00,000	Rs. 60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	89,02,40,000

India Office, September 9, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended September 14, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £408 compared with the previous return.

GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

Statement showing the form in which the balance of the reserve was held on August 31, 1921:—

	£
In India	Nil
In England—	
Cash at the Bank of England	302
British Government securities—	
Value as on March 31, 1921	11,525,636
British Government securities since purchased (cost price)	28,103,531
	39,629,469

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Metropolitan District	36 weeks Sept. 10	245,965	..	8,583,853	..
London Electric	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
City and South London	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
Central London	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
L.G.O.	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
London United Trams	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
South Metropolitan Trams	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..
Gearless Motor	36 weeks Sept. 10	60,977	..	2,004,130	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	17 weeks July 30	933	Rs. 18,500	Rs. 18,500	Rs. 18,500
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.	22 weeks Sept. 3	2,871	18,19,000	24,000	24,000

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
Argentine Trans.	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800
B. A. and Pacific	10 weeks Sept. 10	752	15,800	200	15,800

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050
Brazil Gt. Southern	7 mths July 31	Ms 56,000	17,300	327,900	4,050

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Chile and Peru.					
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250
Chile and Peru.	36 weeks Sept. 10	838	16,845	32,685	885,250

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600
Alcoy and Gambia	36 weeks Sept. 10	35	Ps 15,500	5,500	89,600

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777
Canadian Northern.	35 weeks Sept. 7	9,750	\$142,900	43,020.00	4,058,777

* May 15 to July 30. † Adjusted, May 31, 1921.
 (a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Beira and Mashonaland	1 mth June 30	810	102,513	4,263	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	1 mth July 31	277	7,494	73	..
New Cape Central	33 weeks Aug. 20	205	2,458	202	85,352
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth June 30	1,397	156,189	17,093	13,295
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth July 31	..	11,529	..	..
Shire Highlands	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	450	1,450
Nyassaland	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	450	1,450

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name	Period	Endg.	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Atchafalaya	6 mths June 30	14,850,226	1,471,738	89,200,128
Baltimore and Ohio	6 mths June 30	16,316,024	1,269,885	96,230,951
Chicago and Milwaukee	6 mths June 30	12,353,001	1,491,178	67,763,680
New York Central	6 mths June 30	27,866,455	2,029,456	157,526,612
Pennsylvania	6 mths June 30	43,268,215	702,287	248,584,923
Southern Pacific	6 mths June 30	17,131,779	949,159	91,967,338

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Week	Total Receipts
Anglo-Argentine	36 weeks Sept. 9	329	\$84,811	4,607	2,856,625
Burnley Corporation	1 week 10	12	\$3,901	12	..
Calcutta Tramways	36 weeks 10	35	Rs 59,548	43,543	532,699
Chatham & District	36 weeks 1	15	\$1,975	67	58,273
Egyptian Markets	36 weeks 2	..	\$1,649	407	69,800
Glasgow Corporation	36 weeks 10	99	\$47,707	1,874	661,718
Tramways	15 weeks 7	..	\$13,038	281	57,839
Ile de Thanet	49 weeks 6	39	\$1,824	234	124,724
Lancashire United	36 weeks 10	124	\$31,578	3,561	1,040,424
Liverpool Corporation	36 weeks 10	155	\$100,547	8,407	2,411,349
L.C.C. Tramways	24 weeks 11	..	Rs 50,962	5,496	638,296
Madras Elect. (Trams)	34 weeks Aug. 31	..	\$83,671	1,935	135,231
Pernambuco Trams	36 weeks Sept. 11	..	\$13,394	6,142	400,608
Singapore Electric	30 weeks Aug. 6	..	\$13,394	6,142	400,608

‡ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Endg.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Alabama Power	1 mth June 30	Gross \$259,059	88,481	..	..
Barcelona Traction	7 mths July 31	Gross \$130,812	22,750	..	..
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188
Brooklyn Ind. Pw. & L.	7 mths July 31	Gross \$2,844,138	301,936	20,944,972	3,598,188

4 weeks return. † Converted at current rates of exchange. ‡ Approximate receipts.

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month Aug. 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Eight Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.				
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916. %	1917. %	1918. %	1919. %	1920. %
Allagar	Lbs. 260,400	Lbs. 359,250	Lbs. 350,450	Lbs. ..	Lbs. ..	Lbs. 124,500(5)	Lbs. ..	1916. 15	1917. 15	1918. nil	1919. nil	1920. nil
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,416,470	2,193,300	67,933	20,552	885,800(5)	215,500	35 17 1/2	35 17 1/2	40 17 1/2	40 17 1/2	40 17 1/2
Anglo-Malaya	1,586,264	1,662,991	1,430,807	45,312	51,872	642,348	345,321	35 30	35 30	40 30	40 30	40 30
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	790,899	771,865	1,058,736	67,933	12,000	144,496(3)	122,835	60 30	60 30	70 30	70 30	70 30
Ayer Kuning	593,360	321,271	945,803	65,407	81,035	518,000	235,345	5 10	5 10	10 10	10 10	10 10
Bah Lias (Oct. 31)	698,585	974,520	1,061,555	1,279	32,074	981,168(10)	180,016	13 5	13 5	25 20	25 20	25 20
Bajoe Kidol (Mar. 31)	709,515	941,776	1,056,504	1,279	32,074	224,684(5)	4,750	10 15	10 15	12 15	12 15	12 15
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	230,300	18,150	3,150	36,450(2)	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	448,573	474,148	614,867	34,900	20,823	..	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Bantam (June 30)	965,374	749,146	913,616	..	..	607,081(10)	103,375	22 1/2	22 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2
Banteng (Selangor) (April 30)	407,196	348,145	571,712	26,754	13,673	466,691(12)	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Batang Consolidated	265,004	591,500	407,153	49,877	15,514	..	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Batu Caves	593,644	675,534	607,563	49,877	15,514	354,332	57,967	210 50	180 35	110 35	150 35	150 35
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	41,000	24,000	342,000	184,500	20 5	20 5	25 5	25 5	25 5
Bekoh (June 30)	454,948	443,860	..	31,857	1,170	70,579(2)	..	20 5	20 5	25 5	25 5	25 5
Bertam Consolidated (March 31)	1,007,358	1,534,416	152,000	23,000	..	..	..	27 1/2	27 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2
Bukit Choh	364,250	375,743	342,250	22,000	8,000	196,000	23,380	25 12 1/2	25 12 1/2	30 12 1/2	30 12 1/2	30 12 1/2
Bukit Kelang (June 30)	851,435	897,900	881,671	58,829	21,498	115,930(2)	127,326	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2	20 12 1/2	20 12 1/2	20 12 1/2
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	590,213	200,681	900,000	62,463	14,906	254,231(5)	238,059(4)	100 50	100 50	150 50	150 50	150 50
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	630,289	1,060,000	1,636,320	93,000	53,050	..	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Bukit Sembawang	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	88,548	11,411	560,969	217,433	14 1/2	14 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2
Ceylon (Para)	554,389	665,165	652,456	49,954	11,519	..	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Chersonese	468,180	815,285	875,814	67,810	..	593,310	18,275	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Cheviot	626,732	705,765	635,300	..	..	191,224(4)	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Cicely Ordinary (March 31)	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	72,700	18,500	555,530	130,570	83 1/2	83 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2	90 1/2
Consolidated Malay	840,822	748,935	801,897	53,300	18,700	445,268	81,897	12 5	12 5	20 5	20 5	20 5
Damansara	491,537	565,621	436,210	36,535	..	224,532	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Dennistown	329,631	451,570	550,000	..	..	327,500(8)	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Djember	587,996	752,228	1,053,163	59,196	44,585	521,325	187,579	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2	20 12 1/2	20 12 1/2	20 12 1/2
Dustin Durian	225,183	338,504	454,740	..	..	27,000(1)	20,000	.. 6	.. 6	.. 6	.. 6	.. 6
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	378,000	793,000	933,000	71,500	14,900	602,800	25,400	25 10	25 10	30 10	30 10	30 10
F. M. P. Planters	889,881	1,252,782	1,247,524	92,360	29,874	621,760	179,046	25 20	25 20	30 20	30 20	30 20
General Ceylon	485,845	535,932	612,403	48,363	538	322,760	108,366	25 20	25 20	30 20	30 20	30 20
Golconda Malay	390,571	376,849	461,824	14,879	23,997	157,350	143,560	25 20	25 20	30 20	30 20	30 20
Golden Hope	3,925,536	5,164,927	5,217,447	56,871	78,091	2,470,135	881,188	16 1/2	16 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2
Grand Central (Ceylon)	1,013,920	1,549,592	1,631,987	66,000	7,000	..	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Gula Kalumpung	315,736	423,423	454,966	29,500	7,000	215,200	109,358	128 90	128 90	170 90	170 90	170 90
Harpen	1,123,799	1,504,374	1,533,919	100,500	29,960	..	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Highlands and Lowlands	417,249	361,180	427,033	34,000	..	97,440(3)	..	75 40	75 40	80 40	80 40	80 40
Inch Kenneth (May 31)	663,661	937,688	932,212	65,000	6,801	581,654	116,960	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Java Alamgated	242,446	317,381	380,504	..	26,384	192,300	86,424	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Java Rubber Plantations	200,219	319,403	294,240	20,035	9,905	75,785(5)	51,473	22 1/2	22 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2	25 1/2
Jeram (March 31)	613,197	564,325	663,950	60,000	1,200	111,000(2)	6,600	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Jong-Landor (June 30)	778,418	705,772	902,605	43,500	..	537,635(3)	90,671	20 6	20 6	25 6	25 6	25 6
Jugra Land and Carey (Nov. 30)	792,763	1,036,566	1,020,758	85,315	4,420	556,932	127,658	70 25	70 25	75 25	75 25	75 25
Kampong (Perak) (June 30)	425,300	549,219	610,200	..	..	71,400(2)	35,700	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Kapar Para	557,815	503,217	536,311	..	..	..	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Kepong (Malay)	275,085	412,300	750,704	36,179	..	..	..	85 60	85 60	90 60	90 60	90 60
Kinta Kelias (March 31)	450,030	700,023	693,757	54,850	25,220	213,350	135,972	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	1,627,748	1,579,652	1,709,537	97,000	31,700	213,000(2)	44,400	150 133 1/2	150 133 1/2	160 133 1/2	160 133 1/2	160 133 1/2
Kuala Selangor	506,076	640,857	656,468	..	..	375,097(7)	11,449	40 30	40 30	45 30	45 30	45 30
Labu (F.M.S.)	702,000	1,133,792	1,130,230	75,590	..	641,110	..	10 5	10 5	10 5	10 5	10 5
Landanor	1,211,362	1,245,745	1,451,209	80,424	39,224	732,516	212,818	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2	15 12 1/2
Langen Java (Aug. 31)	698,281	700,222	812,728	22,400	27,170	454,861(12)	357,867	32 1/2	32 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2
Langkat Sumatra	403,000	467,900	500,000	31,400	10,600	222,800	67,300	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Ledbury	528,206	703,399	685,259	37,222	25,282	302,216	160,435	140 114 1/2	140 114 1/2	150 114 1/2	150 114 1/2	150 114 1/2
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,782,052	2,804,900	2,804,217	190,400	..	1,373,438	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
London Asiatic	1,277,919	1,615,565	1,607,086	107,096	22,667	1,026,116	128,875	45 20	45 20	50 20	50 20	50 20
Lumut (Sept. 30)	1,108,000	1,108,000	1,431,580	37,040	37,040	989,436(11)	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Malacca Ordinary	3,156,624	4,210,796	4,084,666	290,830	..	2,386,360	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Malayan	1,519,844	1,752,709	1,853,366	140,600	76,564	810,444	170,953	10 8	10 8	12 8	12 8	12 8
Mendaris	543,014	1,002,567	1,416,558	78,475	56,025	719,629	207,058	18 16 1/2	18 16 1/2	20 16 1/2	20 16 1/2	20 16 1/2
Merlimau	1,248,678	1,509,080	1,646,327	100,034	..	710,025	..	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
New Crocodile	494,830	625,790	782,070	49,610	16,930	516,450	214,330	15 11 1/2	15 11 1/2	15 11 1/2	15 11 1/2	15 11 1/2
Nordanal (Johore)	523,435	608,753	743,464	50,181	14,170	273,325(7)	175,901	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
North Hummock (March 31)	337,621	548,392	655,558	22,021	31,418	211,832(5)	75,128	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Padang Jawa (March 31)	53,743	339,188	302,272	22,021	31,418	101,141(5)	39,859	25 22 1/2	25 22 1/2	30 22 1/2	30 22 1/2	30 22 1/2
Panawate	429,283	676,283	676,283	41,584	26,591	353,682	159,981	300 250	300 250	350 250	350 250	350 250
Peahing	507,813	725,778	761,538	41,584	26,591	353,682	159,981	300 250	300 250	350 250	350 250	350 250
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	606,256	789,308	1,067,238	44,000	47,439	479,110	498,883	20 12 1/2	20 12 1/2	25 12 1/2	25 12 1/2	25 12 1/2
Perak Rubber (March 31)	425,796	578,480	587,171	51,611	10,221	207,190(5)	54,623	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Port Dickson-Lukut (March 31)	538,644	851,318	787,500	53,480	..	229,950(5)	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Rangoon Para	390,543	511,142	532,365	..	..	280,775(7)	47,938	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10	15 10
Rani (Travancore)	748,083	883,806	793,597	67,357	29,386	340,054	90,277	16 12 1/2	16 12 1/2	18 12 1/2	18 12 1/2	18 12 1/2
Rubber Estates of Johore	535,832	677,548	722,240	45,465	5,206	338,522	129,200	20 10	20 10	22 10	22 10	22 10
Rubber Estates of Krian	335,280	435,000	522,770	7,310	174,550	..	43,910	17 1/2	17 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2
Sabumpara	195,341	280,900	304,123	10,750	9,556	..	..	8 6	8 6	10 6	10 6	10 6
Scotch Malay	404,459	704,198	774,293	50,800	25,218	558,336	110,931	10 6	10 6	12 6	12 6	12 6
Seafeld	434,840	701,873	691,722	39,900	21,310	330,128	132,618	60 40	60 40	65 40	65 40	65 40
Seaport (June 30)	800,024	1,147,553	1,116,012	70,040	32,337	533,992	264,243	65 55	65 55	70 55	70 55	70 55
Selangor	401,149	397,500	506,000	31,500	12,083	73,750(2)	13,493	12 1/2	12 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
Sembilan (July 31)	669,408	888,830	868,764	47,261	30,871	421,099	162,389	216 1/2	216 1/2	250 1/2	250 1/2	2

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.			Dividend for Whole Years.	Lat'st Pre-Year.	Previous
	Interim Div.	Final Div.	Method of Payment.			
Railways.						
Dublin and Kingstown	8	Oct. 1	Less tax			
Isle of Man	5*	Sept. 15	..			
Banks.						
Bank of Victoria	4½%	..	..	9	7	
Insurance.						
Consolidated	10%	Sept. 30	Less tax			
Eagle, Star, & British Dominions	30*	Oct. 1	Tax free			
Mining.						
Globe and Phoenix	1/4 p.s.*	Oct. 13	Tax free			
Knight's Deep (in liquidation)	4/4 p.s.*	Oct. 27	..			
Shamva	7½%	Oct. 13	Less tax 3/7 in £			
Utah Copper	0 p.s.	Sept. 30	..			
Tea and Rubber.						
Doom Dooma Tea	5%	..	Less tax	10	15	
Hanipha (Ceylon) Tea & Rubber	5%	Sept. 30	Less tax			
Highland Tea of Ceylon	7½%	..	Less tax	20	25	
Mount Austin (Johore) Rubber	10%	..	Less tax	25		
Mount Vernon (Ceylon) Tea	15%†	..	Tax free	12½	12½	
Ulu Pandan (Singapore)	..	..	Less tax			
Upper Assam Tea	..	..	..			
Other Companies.						
Albany Spinning	16 p.s.†	Sept. 30	..			
American Investment, &c., Prefd.	5*	Sept. 30	..			
Do Defd.	5*	Sept. 30	..			
Ben Evans and Co.	..	Sept. 30	..	17½	17½	
Benrines-Glenlivet Distillery	4%†	..	Less tax	8	12	
Bolekov, Vaughan	..	..	Less tax	10	10	
British Aluminium	5%†	Oct. 1	Less tax	10	10	
British Gas Light	4%*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
Browett, Lin Jey, and Co.	4%*	Oct. 1	..	..		
California Petroleum Corp., Prfd.	12%	Oct. 1	..	..		
Canada Permanent Mortgage	3%	Oct. 1	..	..		
Clarke, Chapman, and Co.	5%*	Sept. 14	Tax free	8	12½	
Claudius Ash, Sons, and Co. (Old)	3%†	..	..	10		
Do (New)	..	..	..	..		
Crosswell's Cardiff Brewery	..	..	Less tax	7	5	
Dungee, Broughty Ferry Tram-ways	..	..	Less tax	3/4 p.s.	3/4 p.s.	
Elliott's Metal	..	..	..	..		
Foreign, American, and General Investment, Prefd. and Defd.	5*	Sept. 30	..	..		
Fullers	6*	Sept. 16	Less tax	..		
G. D. Peters and Co., Pref.	3%*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
General Investors and Trustees	3/4 p.s.*	Sept. 20	Less tax	..		
Globe Telegraph and Trust, Prfd.	5/4 p.s.*	Sept. 30	Tax free	..		
Do Ord.	..	..	..	..		
Harrisons and Crosfield, Cum. Pref.	6	Sept. 30	Less tax 6/ in £	..		
Howard and Bulloah	1/4 p.s.*	Oct. 9	Less tax	..		
Hugon and Co.	5%*	..	Less tax	..		
Imperial Tobacco (Canada)	1½%	Sept. 29	..	10	(b) 20	
International Coal	2½%†	Sept. 14	Tax free	..		
Irrawaddy Flotilla	5/4 p.s.*	..	Less tax	..		
J. Mandelberg and Co.	5%*	..	..	..		
John Barker and Co.	10*	Oct. 15	..	2½	10	
Kestell Steamship	..	..	Tax free	..		
King Line	6	Sept. 16	Less tax	..		
Lancashire Dynamo and Motor	9 p.s.*	..	Tax free	10		
Leeston Shipping	..	..	Tax free	..		
Liebig's Extract of Meat, Pref.	5 p.s.	Oct. 1	Less tax 6/ in £	..		
Lodge Mills Spinning	1½%	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
Mackay Companies	6*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
Mappin and Webb	2½%*	Oct. 1	..	..		
Municipal Trust, Defd.	5%†	..	Tax free	10	(a) 10	
New Moncton Collieries	5*	Sept. 15	Less tax	..		
Parker, Winder, and Abchurch	2½%*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
Plymouth Breweries	9%*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
Reckitt and Sons	3%*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..		
River Plate Trust, &c., "A"	10%†	Oct. 20	Less tax	..		
Do "B"	10%†	..	Less tax	..		
Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth	1/4 p.s.*	..	..	..		
Tennant Brothers	1/4 p.s.*	..	..	..		
Thornham Spinning	1/4 p.s.*	..	..	..		
Venesta, Limited, Pref.	7	Sept. 30	Less tax	10	10	
Union Cold Storage	5%*	Oct. 1	Tax free	..		
United Tobacco Companies	..	..	..	..		

(a) And capitalised bonus of 50%. (b) Plus bonus shares.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR AUGUST, 1921.

Gold.	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Mill.	Cyanide Works.		
Abmontiakoon	8,000	..	..	..	(a) 13,853	
Abosso	6,239	..	..	..	2,458 (b) 13,603	
Cam and Motor	13,000	..	..	..	4,355 (a) 18,470	4,057
El Oro	10,750	..	..	..	\$195,000	17,100
Golden Horseshoe	10,512	..	..	..	5,483 (c) 23,605	*824
Great Boulder Prop.	9,438	..	..	..	(a) 29,494	
Loneley Reef	5,170	..	..	..	4,901	(d) 13,857
Mining Corporation of Canada (July)	..	..	..	..	125,915	
New Chuquibambilla	1,800	..	..	..	1,250	300
Obbuassi	800	..	..	..	739	3,440
Oriental Cons. (June)	18,820	..	..	..	\$95,192	10,424
Orville Dredging (10 days to Sept. 1st)	..	..	..	..	\$21,014	
Oroya Links	1,633	..	..	..	8,146	
Plymouth Cons.	8,200	..	..	..	6,913	
Prestea Block "A"	8,094	5,668	..	..	(a) 15,507	
Rezende	5,900	543	..	..	2,650 (a) 11,469	6,596
Santa Gertrudis	11,114	..	..	..	7,594	
Do El Bordo	17,548	..	..	..	8,633	
Taquah	3,340	..	..	..	2,065 (b) 11,254	
Transvaal & Rhodesian	1,450	..	..	..	(c) 4,641	

* Loss. (a) Par value. (b) Gold at 109s per oz. (c) Standard basis. (d) Gold at 110s per fine oz.

Tin.	Output.	Other Notes in Return.	
		Tons.	..
Aramayo (Bolivia)	174	..	tin: 110,000 ozs silver.
Berenguela	28	..	Black tin, average 63 % fine tin.
Briset	10	..	Black tin.
Heawood	..	..	Profit from tin £6.
Kaduna Prospectors	73	..	..
Kaduna Syndicate	131	..	..
Lower Bisichi	41	..	..
Nigerian Cons.	9	..	..
N. Nigeria (Bauchi)	82½	..	..
Renong	111	..	..
Tin Fields of N. Nigeria	11	..	..
Tongkah Harbour	113	..	..
Yarde Kerri Group	7	..	..
Copper.			
Chino	..	..	567,248 lbs for quarter ended June 30th.
Nevada Cons.	..	..	238,243 lbs for quarter ended June 30th.
Pilbara	90	..	Copper ore, 24 % copper.
Ray Cons.	..	..	1,546,535 lbs for quarter ended June 30th.
Tanganyika	2,952	..	..
Utah	..	..	1,480,697 lbs for quarter ended June 30th.
Coal.			
Chinese Engineering	85,446	..	Week ended Sept. 3rd.
East Kent	2,040	..	Week ended Sept. 10th.
Vereniging	54,463	..	Brick works, £6,495.
Miscellaneous.			
Akim Diamonds	2,935	..	175 carats.
Broken Hill South	..	..	Concentrates assaying 55 % lead and 29 ozs silver per ton.
Casualty	..	..	343 diamonds, 131 carats, and 19 ozs gold; est. value, £800.
Keeley Silver	..	..	32,987 ozs silver, 7,029 lbs cobalt.
North Broken Hill	1,200	..	Lead concentrates, 65 % lead; zinc concen- trates, 47 % zinc.
Zinc Corporation	9,805	..	Zinc concentrates and 967 tons leady concen- trates.

BURMA CORPORATION.—Bawdwin Mines:—Cable: 540 ft level, east crosscut, 20 ft north, from 0 to 145 ft, 1 oz silver, 2 per cent. lead, 3 per cent. zinc; from 145 to 150 ft., 20 ozs silver, 28 per cent. lead, 15 per cent. zinc.

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	July, 1921.			August, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
Aurora W. United (10s shares) ..	Tons. £	£	£	Tons. £	£	£
Brakpan	10,680	15,823	1,264	11,050	16,100	1,406
City Deep	58,000	121,717	44,397	58,600	123,260	48,399
Consolidated Langlaagte	84,000	197,901	67,167	90,000	207,151	73,568
Consolidated Main Reef	42,300	101,673	20,557	44,000	102,502	21,163
Crown Mines (10s shares)	50,700	138,232	19,161	46,000	97,732	18,008
Durban Roodepoort Deep	201,000	132,659	80,853	196,000	131,059	71,263
East Rand Proprietary	127,400	130,428	15,091	126,500	133,494	18,057
Ferrel Deep	32,300	155,748	14,551	34,500	162,303	17,680
Geuld Proprietary	45,300	108,780	33,972	44,500	106,047	34,772
Geldenhuis Deep	51,387	174,115	3,713	50,697	174,129	5,543
Glyn's Lydenburg	3,630	17,153	1,480	3,446	17,121	1,498
Goch, New	17,000	120,441	1,208	17,500	121,390	1,550
Government Areas	140,000	129,622	150,286	145,000	137,665	175,206
Kleinfontein, New	50,100	175,752	8,948	49,900	174,913	12,629
Knight Central	28,600	137,313	3,787	29,200	139,757	5,486
Langlaagte Estate	40,300	169,931	17,726	41,500	170,320	17,355
Langlaagte Estate	22,600	131,484	5,781	22,515	128,265	4,375
Meyer and Charlton	13,500	142,715	25,505	14,500	145,544	27,237
Modderfontein B.	59,000	183,824	107,166	60,000	192,987	97,269
Modderfontein Deep Levels	42,500	113,676	85,186	44,400	113,583	89,136
Modderfontein East	26,350	156,584	10,307	27,300	166,873	20,489
Modderfontein, New (£4 shs.)	96,000	1251,622	141,855	100,000	1264,791	153,174
New Unified	11,500	113,536	2,292	11,500	113,892	2,399
Nourse Mines	43,400	171,102	7,366	45,000	180,661	9,535
Primrose, New	22,000	126,315	5,166	22,800	127,927	6,565
Robinson Central	127,600	211,792	43,661	135,500	218,405	40,039
Robinson (£5 shares)	38,000	141,732	2,790	40,000	141,961	2,306
Robinson Deep	60,200	199,453	25,141	61,600	198,291	21,199
Roodepoort United	22,600	125,514	315	22,500	124,931	1,637
Rose Deep	54,400	173,438	13,116	56,200	173,924	15,233
Simmer and Jack	57,500	174,208	13,730	57,700	175,748	14,020
Spring Mines	40,000	130,236	45,525	41,500	139,856	40,568
Sub-Nigel	10,000	130,265	6,301	10,200	130,203	6,903
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates	16,010	125,878	2,554	15,600	127,271	5,414
Van Ryn Deep	33,400	150,750	10,525	33,400	153,016	11,096
Van Ryn Deep	49,300	144,568	82,001	55,300	165,428	95,008
Village Deep	50,000	189,625	17,249	50,000	190,728	17,296
West Rand Consolidated	32,000	149,712	5,623	32,500	149,909	5,267
Witwatersrand Deep	31,759	151,096	7,685	31,050	151,874	9,085
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	37,700	153,862	10,014	41,300	158,779	14,832
Woluter	33,500	146,049	6,824	32,300	145,195	7,184

* Loss. j Gold valuation, £5 12s 0d net per fine oz. k Gold valuation, £5 11s 0d net per fine oz. l Gold valuation, £5 11s 3d net per fine oz. m Gold valuation, £5 12s 6d net per fine oz. n Gold valuation, £5 11s 6d net per fine oz. o Gold valuation, £5 10s 0d net per fine oz. p Gold valuation, £5 9s 0d net per fine oz.

Reports and Notices.

We are informed that Mr Robert Grant, junior, of the firm of Messrs Higginson and Co., has been appointed a director of Richard Thomas and Co., Limited, to take the place of Lord Bledisloe, who recently left the board.

Messrs Coutts and Co. will pay on and after October 1st the coupons of the Peruvian Corporation, Limited, first mortgage 6 per cent. bonds at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

BULGARIAN 5 PER CENT. GOLD LOAN, 1902.—The Bulgarian Government announces that it is prepared to pay to French, British, and Belgian bondholders the coupon No. 38 of the above loan maturing on September 14, 1921, at French francs 12.50 each, and the bonds drawn for redemption on that date at French francs 500 each. Holders of bonds which have been in British ownership since August 1, 1914, who are desirous of availing themselves of the offer thus made by the Bulgarian Government should present the above-mentioned coupons and drawn bonds (to which all coupons due after

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Debenture Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Dividend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount	Amount.					Rate.
		£	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%	
Banks.											
Bank of Victoria.....	June 30	22,040	234,866	256,866	£7,508	95,512	9	88,000	35,846	149,441	7
Queensland National.....	June 30	6,165	17,540	123,705	..	79,746	10	27,000	16,959	104,673	10
Gas.											
British Gas Light	June 30	68,759	34,601	103,360	6,702	39,900	10	..	56,758	..	..
Hotels, Restaurants.											
Romano's	June 30	9,986	Dr 2,319	7,667	..	..	..	..	7,667	9,278	7½
Trust Houses	Mar. 31	52,409	Dr60,079	Dr 7,670	..	36,541	3½	Dr 35,000	Dr 9,211	71,917	7½
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Bolekow, Vaughan.....	June 30	212,495	315,068	527,563	23,604	300,451	8	..	203,508	680,357	12
Cowie Harbour	Dec. 31	11,593	Dr6,700	4,893	..	..	..	..	4,893	21,899	7
Tea.											
Upper Assam	Dec. 31	81,100	Dr 2,911	78,189	..	7,765	12½	..	70,424	22,571	12½
Other Companies.											
Bath and Portland Stone.....	Jne. 30*	9,515	15,260	24,775	..	12,119	10	..	12,656	..	..
Union Cold Storage	Dec. 31	71,717	395,275	466,992	261,556	30,000	10	87,939	87,496	299,293	10

business occurred for heavy grain, and rates weak. Montreal to U.K. rules at 5s per qr, with 18c per 100 lbs to Continent, and 5s 9d paid to West Italy one port, 6s qr two discharging ports. Northern Range, 5s per qr U.K., and 16c 100 lbs Continent. Gulf inactive. Fair interest was displayed from North Pacific, and business concluded at 57s 6d to 56s 3d wheat flour, as to size, U.K.-Continent. River Plate weak, with 27s 6d paid September up river U.K.-Continent, though 26s 3d is now the nearest value per ton. Easterns quiet. Bombay-Karachi quoted 30s dead weight; Saigon rise, 55s; Australian wheat, 69s 9d, early loading, while Beira maize paid 40s, October-November, to U.K. Danube inactive, and other departments nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat— 1 week to September 10.....	Cwts. 362,275	Cwts. 291,830	Cwts. 89,467	Cwts. 410,542
Average price of English wheat per quarter.....	s d 58 0	s d 90 6	s d 73 5	s d 72 5
= per cwt.....	13 7	21 1	17 1	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Sept. 3.....	102,678 1	38,394 0	23,509 4	62 7	60 3	32 1
1917.....	27,955 4	8,971 0	8,082 6	70 7	57 2	45 0
1918.....	95,793 2	29,250 1	10,342 5	72 5	60 1	49 2
1919.....	20,875 5	26,288 0	8,239 4	73 5	92 5	62 4
1920.....	68,093 6	41,639 7	27,020 5	90 6	80 6	54 5

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated September 15th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Blast furnace owners still delay re-starting their furnaces, as coke at 40s, or even at 35s, is much too dear to use in making pig-iron which will compete with imported iron. 120s is now the official price for No. 3 Cleveland foundry pig-iron, but only one firm is producing this grade at present. Although the price of East Coast mixed numbers hematite has been reduced to 135s for export, the price is not yet sufficiently low to secure foreign orders. There are at present only six blast furnaces making hematite on the North-East Coast, and next week it is expected that two more will be blowing. Manufactured iron and steel: There is no life in the steel trade yet. Competition is severe for the few orders there are about, and our steel works have difficulty in keeping going. Steel ship plates, £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s; iron bars, £10; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: No buying yet. An occasional cargo comes forward on old contracts, which are generally heavily in arrear. Nominally, the price of best Rubio is about 28s 6d per ton.

Our Glasgow correspondent writes:—Though there has been no positive departure or improvement in the industrial position this week, reports bear out the conclusion that in the past eight days or so there has been an expansion in the volume of business passing in iron, steel, and coal connections, while the actual tonnage dealt with still falls far short of what could be desired, and is, indeed, essential to the lifting of the cloud of depression that overhangs the district. Several shipbuilding yards are much busier than they were, thanks to the change for the better in the carpenters' position, and there is no reason to fear for an adverse movement in that relation—for months at least to come. There are 50 steamers waiting on refitment and overhauling on the upper reaches of the Clyde, and a fair number of new boats are on the slips. There is a lot of marine engine building on hand, and, beyond all, the extensive dock extensions designed by the Clyde trustees—to take up over seven miles of space. These factors and influences are bound to make for good in steel-making, iron-founding, and constructional work in general. There are none of these departments overwhelmed with work at the moment, but more than one of the larger establishments have fair contracts in operation and promise of additions, especially and immediately if further price concessions are granted. These, experts contend, are not only possible, but due, because of the reductions in wages effected of late and of the drop of over 40 per cent. that has taken place recently in coals. It may be here mentioned that boiler plates continued to be listed at £19, ship plates £14, and sections £13 10s, delivered Glasgow stations. A contributory influence thereto promises in the information that Continental competition in raw materials is slackening, prices easing and deliveries slowing down. At the same time, it cannot be ignored that there are substantial quantities of semi-refined steel being landed at Grangemouth and Glasgow. But these are largely wrought up by our manufacturers in the production of finished goods, which, again, are exported to Colonial, Far Eastern, and South American markets, which we could not otherwise successfully enter. The imports of semi-refined materials, therefore, are not wholly a black feature in the picture. It is advised that tube-makers are well engaged on export orders, that black sheet makers and crane builders are

doing better, that wire rope makers are fully employed, but that bar iron makers are poorly off, with crown bars neglected at £16 a ton, delivered Glasgow. A moderate inquiry is felt for foundry iron, which the blast furnaces are producing at an increasing rate. No. 1 is quoted £8 5s, No. 3 at £8, and Scotch hematite at £7 5s. Coals continue in over-supply, and are easier in tendency. It is calculated that there are 10,000 miners idle in Lanarkshire, and that 25 per cent. of the Fifehire staffs are in the field. Foreign demand is extending, and if that progresses, the general fuel position will certainly be ameliorated.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—September 9, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.....	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island.....per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto.....	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American.....	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	O	L	M	G	O
Brazilian.....	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F
Pernambuco, &c.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Paraiba.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Maceio.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Mossoro, &c.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Ceara.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Maranhao.....	9-61	1211	1411	1411	1411	1411	1826	2474	1790	2190	1790	2190
Egyptian.....	1425	1575	1825	2000	2000	2000	2300	2953	2200	2350	2200	2350
Brown.....	1450	1550	1750	1850	1850	1850	2200	2350	2200	2350	2200	2350
Upper.....	2300	2600	2900	3100	3100	3100	7500	8500	7500	8500	7500	8500
West Indian—Sea Island.....	1175	1300	1375	1375	1375	1375	4100	4100	4100	4100	4100	4100
Peruvian—Rough.....	1025	1150	1200	1200	1200	1200	2700	3600	2150	2550	2150	2550
Ditto Mod. Rough.....	1086	1386	1461	1511	1611	1611	2824	3274	2198	2348	2198	2348
Ditto Smooth.....	1086	1386	1461	1511	1611	1611	2824	3274	2198	2348	2198	2348
Ditto Sea Island.....	1000	1200	1300	1400	1500	1500	2550	2850	2320	2600	2320	2600
African, East, &c.....	9-00	1000	1200	1300	1400	1500	2550	2850	2320	2600	2320	2600
East Indian.....	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee.....	1105	1130	1155	1180	1230	1235	1735	1785	1885	1785	1810	1860
M. Ginned Bhownuggar.....	8-44	8-94	9-44	9-94	10-104	10-104	1269	1369	1529	1629	1704	1779
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1.....	8-50	9-00	9-50	10-00	10-25	10-25	1275	1375	1535	1635	1710	1785
M. Ginned Khandeish.....	8-25	8-75	9-25	9-50	9-75	9-75	1100	1200	1360	1585	1660	1735
M. Ginned Comptah.....	9-70	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20	10-20	1560	1560	1810	1810	1810	1810
M. Ginned Bengal.....	6-90	7-40	7-90	8-40	8-65	8-90	7-00	7-75	9-00	1425	1500	1575
M. Ginned Seinde.....	6-78	7-28	7-78	8-28	8-53	8-78	6-82	7-57	8-82	1425	1500	1575
Tinnivelly.....	1180	1205	1230	1230	1230	1230	1960	2010	1860	1885	1860	1885
Madras, Western.....	9-95	10-20	10-45	10-70	10-70	10-70	1585	1635	1785	1810	1785	1810
Coconada, Red.....	Fr. 9-95	10-20	10-45	10-70	10-70	10-70	1300	1300	1785	1810	1785	1810
M. Ginned Coconada, Red.....	Fr. 10-20	10-45	10-70	10-70	10-70	10-70	1325	1325	1810	1810	1810	1810

MANCHESTER, September 15.

The market continues to present an unsettled appearance. The fluctuations in raw cotton rates have not been quite so violent as last week, but many ups and downs have taken place in New York and Liverpool. Trade cannot flow freely until there is increased confidence in the current level of values. Cloth advices from India have not been encouraging, but most of the inquiry has been for early delivery, and this indicates that supplies are not heavy in the bazaars. Some buying has been reported for China in bleaching descriptions, but standard grey makes have attracted no attention. White goods and printing and finishing styles have been in moderate request for the Straits Settlements, Egypt, and the Levant, and fancies for the home trade are now moving off rather more freely. Most of the business done in piece goods has been in stock lots. Quotations in American and Egyptian yarns have been very irregular. There has been a slow offtake in home counts, and not much activity in shipping numbers.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Sept. 15, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Sept. 8.	Sept. 1.	Aug. 25.	Aug. 18.	Aug. 11.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American.....per lb	15-69	15-10	10-76	9-68	8-81	8-95
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair.....per lb	22-00	21-50	18-00	16-00	16-00	16-00
Egyptian.....per lb	21	20	18	17	16	17
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	19	18	16	15	15	15
— 40's twist.....per lb	37	36	31	29	29	30
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	34	33	31	30	30	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's.....	34	33	30	29	29	30
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's.....	20	19	18	17	17	17
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	19	18	17	16	16	16
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	19	18	17	16	16	16

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Sept. 15, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American.....per lb	15-69	23-73	19-07	24-87	17-42	9-54
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair.....per lb	22-00	62-00	30-00	30-19	26-75	13-30
Egyptian.....per lb	21	50	41	55	24	14
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	19	45	40	55	24	14
— 40's twist.....per lb	37	80	61	68	42	25
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	34	76	58	72	32	20
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's.....	34	74	56	61	31	18
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's.....	20	64	50	34	17	11
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	19	63	50	36	16	10
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	19	63	50	36	16	10

The Chatwood Safe survives 4 days in burning debris after falling through 3 floors!

RIPOLIN LIMITED.
3/9, Drury Lane.
223, LITTLE PORTLAND-ST.,
LONDON, W., 29th July 1921.

TELEGRAMS:
RIPOLIN, LONDON.
TELEPHONE:
Messrs. The Chatwood Safe Co.
56, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Dear Sirs,

We are very pleased to be able to testify to the wonderful fire and fall resisting qualities of your Standard Quality Safes, which when opened today were found to have preserved their contents in perfect condition.

As you are aware the disastrous fire on the 2nd instant which entirely gutted our premises (including the warehouses containing stocks of paint and oil situated under our offices) was of a very severe character.

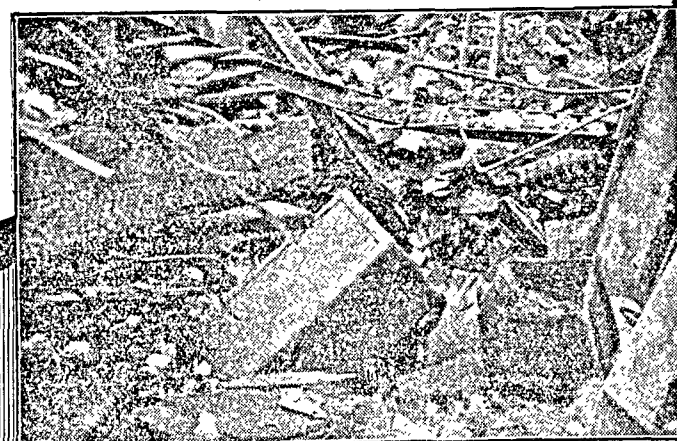
Your safes were subjected to the fiercest heat and one fell, on the collapse of the floors, from the 2nd floor into the basement but after being opened with their own keys we were happy to find the above result, although safes not of your make were burst open in the fall and their contents destroyed.

We consider ourselves fortunate to have been the possessors of your safes, which enabled us to save all our principal books and documents. The Salvage Corps stated that the safes must be of exceptional merit to withstand a test of this nature, when steel girders were knotted and cast iron structures melted by the heat.

We bought your safes because we believed them to be the best; we are now assured of this, and will continue their use in the future.

Yours faithfully,
for RIPOLIN LIMITED.
R. Osorio
Manager

SOME idea of the terrific heat of this fire may be gained by examining the condition of the giant steel girder (shown in the foreground) under which THE CHATWOOD SAFE is buried.



THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The strength of the raw material markets continues to excite much comment, especially as it is difficult to find any corresponding movement in the demand for piece goods. The sharp rise in the price of wool has caused topmakers to advance their quotations, and in many cases it is obvious that protective rates are being quoted. The real fact is that it is almost impossible to make to-day's prices in the ordinary way of business, yet wool cannot be bought either in the colonies or in London to make tops at prices below those now quoted. Average 64's are offered at about 3s 6d per lb, and for a good warp top 2d more is wanted; in both cases these prices show an advance of 2d on the week. Spinners have also advanced their quotations in keeping with the higher rates for tops, but here also it is difficult to make to-day's prices. There is a fairly good demand for merino and fine crossbred yarns, and hosiery spinners are well employed. The export section is by far the most active, and Germany continues to lead the way as the principal customer. The financial position of that country, however, is causing a good deal of uneasiness, and many firms are adopting a policy of extreme caution. There is not much change in the piece goods trade, but inquiry from overseas markets is rather more encouraging.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The London sales have finished with values at the highest point, the attendance being well maintained to the end. The number of buyers present throughout the whole series has surprised everyone, even American interests having been in evidence. There has not been a slack night throughout the entire series, and although towards the finish German buying was hardly so pronounced, values have been well maintained, and the series closed on Thursday in a splendid way. Competition could not have been better. Selling brokers in particular, and even B.A.W.R.A., cannot but feel pleased with the response they have had. The marvel is that the Continent should have operated so freely in face of the greatly depreciated exchange, and it is a surprise to everyone how Germany could keep on day after day operating fairly extensively with the mark in the neighbourhood of 400 to the £. On the lips of everyone is the question: Where is the sterling coming from to pay for the wool? Evidently buyers are finding the cash from somewhere. No doubt German spinners and manufacturers are doing a fairly extensive export business, which is one way of finding money to pay for wool. It was stated this week in London that Leicester hosiery firms were purchasing fair big weights of yarns, such as were bought before the war, from Germany, and the British money paid was being used to pay for London sales purchases on German account.

The auctions have had no equal since April, 1920. America has paid the highest price for Australian and South African greasy combing wool, the super combing Western Province Cape wool sold last Monday presumably going to that destination. America will need to buy the best class of merinos, no matter what the import duty may be. Most selling brokers quote merinos 15 per cent. dearer compared with the close of the July sales, but the advance was often 20 per cent. No class of merinos dragged, even faulty carbonising wools being disposed of most readily. Home trade buyers have been keen to secure merinos, paying quite as much as their Continental rivals. The change is certainly marvellous, and many are wondering what is the real cause. It is certainly not due to any materially increased demand on home trade account, and many fear that Bradford top-makers in particular have to cover large sales of tops at little prices. The advance in fine and medium classes of crossbreds is 10 to 12½ per cent., while coarse crossbreds are 7½ per cent. dearer. Slipes have often appreciated 10 per cent., and the same can be said of scoureds. A particularly satisfactory feature of the sale of these wools is the incoming of Scottish and West Riding firms, which is taken as evidence that more is being done in tweeds and blankets. Crossbred fleece wools have been readily absorbed by Bradford top-makers, but Germany has been by no means silent.

The permanence of the rise in values appears to depend upon Germany. Many are forecasting a smash, but I cannot help thinking that the demand for wool throughout the series has been brought about by a real consumptive demand, speculation being absent.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed - - - - - Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up - - - - - Y45,000,000
Reserve - - - - - Y10,380,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office - - - - - 58 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Fochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kiukiang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking Exchange Business, and takes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

No doubt the present low value of the currency in France and Germany creates a critical position on the Continent. The strike of textile operatives in Roubaix-Tourcoing is also another adverse factor. Still more business is being done everywhere, and though the home trade is not awakening as one would like, consumption is greater, mills throughout Yorkshire running longer hours. A really speedy revival is not likely to take place, but there is more confidence in the future, with a disposition to buy both hosiery and piece goods, lower values not now being expected.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Market conditions are somewhat irregular. On reports of adverse weather conditions regarding the new crop in Argentina, a much firmer tone developed, and the loss last week was more than recovered. The firmness was also contributed to by a fair inquiry for raw linseed oil from America, the Continent, and the home trade, since when, however, easier conditions have set in, and the advance in both seed and oil has not been maintained. Spot oil rallied to £40 in London and £38 10s ex Hull mill, with a premium of 10s to 20s paid for January or April delivery. Notwithstanding heavy arrivals of linseed in the past fortnight, these have been pretty well absorbed, and about 20s more money wanted for shipment. The quantity of linseed (Plate and Indian) on passage to the U.K. is now slightly over 100,000 tons, and to the Continent 75,000 tons, the aggregate being nearly three times what it was a year ago.

Egyptian cotton seed has continued a strong and rising market, but buyers have been reluctant to follow the advance, and consequently little actual business has been done. Bombay has also been firm in sympathy, and transactions concluded in new crop round £12 for January shipment. Cotton oils are scarce, and a sharp advance in values has taken place, crude Egyptian at Hull moving up £6 at £46 per ton, and edible refined £3 to £4 dearer. A large business was put through at something less than these figures.

Large quantities of Soya beans have come to hand at Hull, and will relieve the scarcity of oil to some extent. For shipment, Soya beans are inactive, but £15 10s has been paid for 1,000 tons on passage from Hull. Rape oil shows no change, and only a small trade is reported in palm kernel, and ground nut oils at unchanged values.

The inquiry for oilcakes continues very disappointing, and sellers are disposing of their holdings at a discount.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ox and heifer hides were practically unchanged at the auctions held in Bermondsey on Thursday last, the exceptions being 59 lbs and under in both first and second class, these making more money. Second-class cows advanced ¼d per lb in value, while bulls made from ¼d to ½d per lb more money. Best kips were ¼d per lb up, seconds unchanged, and thirds ¼d per lb down in price. Calfskins were a strong market, and made further advances of from ½d to ¾d per lb. Lambs realised from 1s 4d to 5s, and pelts from 2s 3d to 4s per skin. A good demand has been experienced for imported hides on both home and foreign account, and I understand that during the week some decent sized parcels have changed hands at full asking prices.

In the sole leather market much more optimism is apparent, and factors and merchants report a steady inquiry for most classes. Tanners are firm on the recent advanced quotations and do not hesitate to hold out for full figures, especially in regard to heavy bends. As a matter of fact, the brighter outlook has caused some tanners to think seriously of increasing their output, although opinions differ as to the wisdom of this policy. In many quarters it is stated the present demand does not warrant such action, as any accumulation of leather stocks would only cause another collapse in prices.

The demand during the week has mostly consisted of inquiries for heavy weight bends, of which supplies are small and prices, generally speaking, firmer. The lighter averages are not so much sought after, and here prices do not show the same tendency to appreciate. Shoulders and bellies in extreme heavy and light

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Deposits
\$154,911,487



Total Assets
\$190,367,409

Merchants and Manufacturers desirous of opening up in Canada are offered complete and valuable information, including particulars of Water Power, Sites, Tariffs, etc. Saving Bank Department at London Office and throughout all Branches in Canada.

400 BRANCHES IN CANADA. COMPLETE BANKING SERVICE.

LONDON OFFICE: J. D. DONNELLY, D.S.O. 53, CORNHILL.

weights are a good sale; medium weights, however, are not going into consumption very freely.

Upper leather is only sought for in grades suitable for low-priced and very high-priced boots and shoes—the middle trade taking very little interest in the market. Prices on the whole are inclined to be firmer, particularly in regard to willow calf and glacé kid. Boot manufacturers continue to find business somewhat on the slow side, although in some instances I hear travellers report a little more doing.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van for motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, September 16.

The market in most instances presented a very quiet appearance, demand on export account being considerably reduced, due to the question of rates of exchange, movements in which formed a barrier to anything like general trade with near Continental countries.

SUGAR met with quiet support, and prices on the week are lower for all descriptions. Tate's cubes sold, 58s 9d to 59s 9d; crushed, 55s 6d; granulated, 54s to 54s 6d; caster, 58s to 58s 6d; pieces, 42s to 47s 6d. Lyle's granulated, 54s to 54s 3d; yellow crystals, 49s 6d. West India crystallised sold, from 43s 6d to 48s, as to sample. Muscovado quiet, but fine grocery lots still scarce. American and Canadian granulated, on spot, changed hands at 53s. American, September, 25s, c.f. and i. terms U.K. White Java, September-October, quoted, 22s, c.f. and i. Belgian crystals, October, sold, 22s 9d to 21s 9d; and November-December, 20s 3d, f.o.b. Antwerp. Czech crystals, prompt, 27s, f.o.b. Hamburg. Dutch granulated, prompt, 27s, f.o.b. terms. Brazilian basis, 96 per cent., October-November, sellers, 18s; and business done in basis 80 per cent. ditto at 11s 6d, c.f. and i. London. Terminal markets quiet, and basis 96 per cent., December, sold, 16s 4½d to 15s 3d; and white, November, at 22s 6d to 20s 3d; with December, from 22s to 19s 9d.

COFFEE.—The market on spot ruled very steady, but trade moved quietly, while offerings in auctions were far from attractive upon the point of quality. Of East India, bold Mysore sold, 110s 6d to 117s 6d; good mid hard grey Vera Paz, 132s. Future delivery market steady, and sales include December at 49s 6d, and March, 50s 3d.

COCOA.—Only a retail amount of business was effected during the week at previous quotations. Butter quiet, at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—The smaller supply of 38,000 packages Indian offered in auction this week, and with active competition for all qualities possessing character, full recent rates were secured. Ordinary plain lots, however, sold quietly at barely late values. 25,000 packages Ceylon soon cleared to a brisk demand at full to occasionally dearer rates. Some choice new season's Assam, sold, 6s 7d to 7s 2d per lb, in bond.

RICE.—This market remained in a nominal state, with quite a dearth of buyers throughout the week, owing to adverse rates of exchange in near Continental countries. Beans quiet, but steadily held.

FRUIT.—A generally quieter tone governed the market for currants, but rates maintained a steady level. Pyrgos, quoted 51s to 52s; Patras, 56s to 63s; Vostizza, 85s. Australian raisins range from 87s to 100s. Dates firm. Siar, spot, quoted 17s 6d cwt.

SPICE.—Pepper met with slow support. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 4½d; ditto September-November steamer, 3½d; Aleppy, spot, 4½d; Tellicherry, 5½d; white Singapore, 9½d to 9d; Muntok, ditto, 9½d; ditto September-November steamer, 8½d to 8½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold, 1s 3½d to 1s 3d; pimento, spot, 2½d, sellers. Tapioca quiet. Fair flake, spot, sold, 1½d per lb; ditto September-November steamer, London, 16s 3d; fair Penang, seed, spot, 21s 6d; September-November, London, 20s 3d. Small sago, spot, 28s. Sago flour, afloat, sold, 14s 9d; September-November, 16s. Desiccated coconut, spot, sold, 52s to 51s 6d; afloat, 50s to 49s.

JUTE.—There was a fair off-take of spot lots at full prices, but forward positions ruled rather quiet though steady in value, closing dearer on crop estimate of 4 million bales. Daisee 2 to 3, spot, Dundee, sold, £26 10s; Daisee No. 3, ditto, £23 to £25; native firsts, assortment, old crop, subs., September-October, Hamburg, £30 15s to £31 10s; lightning subs., old crop, ditto, £26 15s to £27 10s; and heart subs., at £19 10s. 10 oz hessians, spot, sold, 27s; 8 oz, ditto, 23s. A twills, spot, quoted 80s, and B, ditto, 68s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila proved steady though quiet. J grade, September-November, quoted £37; K, ditto, £36; L, £35 10s; M, £31 10s. New Zealand dull, unaltered. Fair, September-November, nominally £35 per ton.

SHELLAC.—There was a fair trade effected this week, and market showed firm features. Fair T.N., spot, sold, 310s; October delivery, 300s; December, 295s.

COPRA.—Market unsettled and easier on balance. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, Rotterdam, sold, £34 to £32 10s; September-November, £33 10s to £32; Ceylon, September-November, £34; South Sea Islands, September-November, London, sold, £31 15s to £32 and £31

ros; Cebu, ditto, to Hamburg, £32 15s to £31 5s. Palm kernels, October-December, Liverpool, sold, £23 to £22 10s.

MENTHOL.—Spot lots sold, 22s 6d; and shipment parcels, 19s 6d. Japanese peppermint oil, spot, quoted 4s 9d; aniseed, 2s 3½d; slab camphor, Japanese, spot, 3s 11d; Chinese, 3s 10d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 105s per cwt.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market very quiet, and quotations largely nominal. Liquid yolk, spot, 115s cwt; and albumen, spot, 3s lb.

RUBBER in quiet request, and market very featureless. Standard plantation crepe, spot, sold, 8½d to 8½d; October-December, 8½d to 8½d; January-March, 9½d; standard sheet, spot, sold, 8d to 8½d; October-December, 8½d; and January-March, 9d to 9½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 6½d; Caucho ball, ditto, 7d per lb.

OILS.—Linseed lower. Spot, net, naked, 37s 9d; September-December, 37s; January-April, 38s. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 55s; refined, 57s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 47s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 53s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 90s; and shipment, 69s to 70s. Coconut steader. Ceylon, spot, 55s; September-October, 54s 6d; Cochiti, ditto, 58s. Soya firm, Oriental, barrels, ditto, 45s. Japan fish steady. September-October, cases, 24s. Cod firmer. English, spot, 30s to 32s. Groundnut firm. English crushed, naked, spot, 55s; deodorised, barrels, 68s. Turpentine very unsettled. American, spot, 66s 6d; October-December, 66s 6d; January-April, 68s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 17s; F, 17s 6d; G, 17s 6d; K, 18s; M, 18s; WW, 24s 6d; French, F/G, 15s; H, 15s; WW, 18s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market unsettled, and easier on larger estimates of Argentine exportable surplus. Calcutta, afloat, sold, £22 10s to £22 5s; September-October, £23, value. Plate, spot, Hull, £20 7s 6d paid to £19; afloat, £20 7s 6d paid, to £19; September-October, £20 5s to £18 15s paid; October-November, £16 10s value; November-December, £20 5s; January-February, £20 15s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, September-October, quoted £22 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £22; brown Cawnpore, £21. Cottonseed firmer. Egyptian black, September, quoted £15 5s; and white, £14 15s. Bombay, September-October, sold, £12 10s. Gingelly firm. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £31. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £20 10s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, September-October, £28 10s to £29; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, £28 to £28 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin, on a fair amount of selling, continued an easier market at the week's opening, cash fluctuating down to £156 and three months' to £158 5s. The tendency was rather better at Tuesday's meeting, these dates improving to £156 15s and £159 10s; but prices again declined on Wednesday, cash relapsing to £155 15s, with three months' to £157 15s, and £158 since registered. At Thursday's market cash further receded to £155 5s, three months' being done at £157 10s to £157, and subsequently at £158 to £157 10s. At Friday's session cash sold at £155 to £154 10s, and three months' £157 to £156 10s. English ingots, £152 to £153. Copper: The standard market manifested a steadier tone until last Tuesday, cash moving to £67 12s 5d, and three months' to £68 17s 6d, business being moderate, while during the middle of the week these dates changed hands at £68 7s 6d to £68 2s 6d and £69 5s to £69 respectively. A rather easier tendency prevailed on Thursday. Cash changed hands at £67 12s 6d, and three months' at £68 12s 6d. At Friday's session business was confined chiefly to three months' at £68 10s to £68 12s 6d. Electros, £72 10s to £74; best selected, £69 to £71; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £73 5s to £73 15s. Lead slightly easier, at £23 2s 6d to £22 15s, as to position. Spelter rather lower, at £24 17s 6d to £25 7s 6d, according to position. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, £120; export, £125.

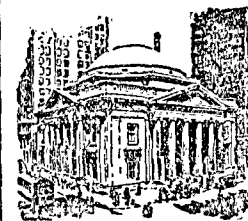
METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—SEPTEMBER 15.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Shorthorns	9	6	10	2	10	2	10	2	10
Devons	10	0	10	6	10	6	10	6	10
Norfolks	9	6	10	2	10	2	10	2	10
Scottish	9	0	9	8	9	8	9	8	9
Irish	9	0	9	8	9	8	9	8	9
Sheep—Downs (clipped)	11	0	11	8	11	0	11	8	11
Longwools	10	4	10	6	10	4	10	6	10
Crossbred	10	4	10	6	10	4	10	6	10
Scottish	11	0	11	8	11	0	11	8	11
Lamb—Downs	11	0	11	8	11	0	11	8	11

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—SEPTEMBER 15.

Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
King Edwards	11	0	12
British Queen	10	0	11
Ellipse	9	0	10
Blacklands	7	6	10

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—lb—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—Pepper, per lb—	
Cocoa—Duty, British grown	55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt.	150 0 180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 0 0 0	Butter—per cwt.	186 0 210 0	Singapore, fair White	0 9 0 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	56 0 62 0	Cape, good to fine.	40 0 55 0	Plantation crepe	0 80 0 0	Irish creamery	151 0 180 0	Black Singapore	0 4 0 0
Granada	56 0 62 0	Balsam Peru	8 6 9 6	INDIGO—per lb—		Australian	156 0 204 0	White Siam	0 9 0 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 85 0	Camphor	2 0 2 6	Bengal, good red vio.	11 6 12 0	Argentine	170 0 185 0	Pimento	0 24 0 28
Guyana	59 0 77 6	Japan, refined	4 14 0 0	Mid. ord. vio. to good	9 6 10 9	Dutch	nom	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 2 0 0
Bahia, best	59 0 60 6	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 6 0 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 0	New Zealand	210 0 222 0	Do 2nd	0 11 0 0
COFFEE—British grown		Cantharides, per lb	0 0 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Danish	225 0 230 0	Do 4th	0 9 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.		Castor-oil, cwt	85 0 95 0	Kurpah, gd. mid. to gd.	6 6 8 0	Bacon, engd.—Irish	175 0 182 0	Chips	0 34 0 0
E. India fineord. gd. ord.	97 0 112 0	Gum Benjun, Sum.	7 10 0 11 10 0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	Danish	167 0 173 0	Cassia Lignea	35 0 0 0
Do good to fine	115 0 135 0	Oilbanum, drops	0 0 0 0	HEMP—per ton—		American	120 0 130 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 3 0 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid.	80 0 120 0	Ipecacuanha	2 9 0 0	St. Petersburg, layer	nom	Canadian	115 0 125 0	Pennang	2 6 0 0
Good to fine	130 0 155 0	Jalap	8 0 0 0	Manila, Aug./Oct.	27 0	Hams—Irish	nom	Ginger—per cwt—	
Central American, gd.		Musk pod, China	0 85 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	42 0	American	125 0 145 0	Cochin, cut	120 0 130 0
Ord. to mid	75 0 91 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	JUTE—		Leard—Irish bladders	nom	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Mid. to fine	117 0 122 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Native first marks,		Pork—per 8 lbs	8 8 11 4	Do washed	50 0 55 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 0 65 0	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Sept./Oct. subs.	30 15 0 0	Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	1 8 6 2	Japan	45 0 0 0
Do gd. ord. to low mid	70 0 93 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 10/12	1 6 2 6	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 4	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Do mid. to fine	95 0 110 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/16	2 2 3 4	Do do 12/18	2 2 3 4	Mace	10 0 10 0
CHEMICALS—		Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/20	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/22	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
Acid, citric	per lb 2 5 2 6	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/24	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/26	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
Nitric	per lb 2 5 2 6	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/28	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/30	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Oxalic, net	per lb 1 4 0 10	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/32	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/34	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
Tartaric, English	per lb 1 4 0 10	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/36	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/38	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
Foreign	per lb 1 4 0 10	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/40	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/42	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Alum lump	per ton 217 10 0 17 10 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/44	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/46	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Do ground	per ton 217 10 0 17 10 0	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/48	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/50	1 10 5 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	0 4 0 44	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/52	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/54	1 10 5 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/56	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/58	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
Sulphate	per ton 225 0 26 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/60	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/62	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
Arsenic, lump, per ton	95 0 100 0	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/64	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/66	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Powder	per ton 42 10 45 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/68	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/70	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
Asbes, pot.	per cwt 190 0 195 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/72	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/74	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
Pearl do	nom	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/76	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/78	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	17 0 0 18 0 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/80	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/82	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Borax, crystals	per cwt 31 0 0 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/84	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/86	1 10 5 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Do powder	per cwt 32 0 0 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/88	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/90	1 10 5 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
Cream Tartar	per lb 1 4 0 10	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/92	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/94	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
33% powder	per lb 1 4 0 10	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/96	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/98	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
Calomel	per lb 5 3 5 6	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/100	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/102	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Iodine, dry	per oz 1 0 1 1	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/104	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/106	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	20 0 0 22 0 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/108	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/110	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
Potash	per lb 0 6 0 7	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/112	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/114	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Chlorate, net	per lb 1 5 1 4	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/116	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/118	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Prussiate	per lb 1 5 1 4	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/120	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/122	1 10 5 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Do Foreign	per lb 1 5 1 4	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/124	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/126	1 10 5 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
Sulphate	per ton 25 0 30 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/128	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/130	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
Sal-Acetone	per lb 1 10 2 0	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/132	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/134	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
Sal-Ammoniac, per cwt	75 0 80 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/136	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/138	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Soda Bicarb. per ton	210 0 0 210 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/140	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/142	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton	27 0 0 27 0 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/144	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/146	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
Sulphur	per ton 12 0 0 12 0 0	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/148	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/150	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Alkali	per ton 8 15 0 8 15 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/152	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/154	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Caustic	per ton 25 0 0 25 0 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/156	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/158	1 10 5 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Sugar of lead white ton	0 0 0 0 0 0	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/160	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/162	1 10 5 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
Foreign white	per ton 247 19 0 0 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/164	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/166	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
Sulphate Quinine	per lb 4 9 0 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/168	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/170	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
English Brandy	per lb 4 9 0 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/172	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/174	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Foreign do	per lb 4 9 0 0	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/176	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/178	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
Sulphate Copper, p. ton	31 0 0 31 0 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/180	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/182	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
Zinc, cut	per ton 18 0 0 18 0 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/184	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/186	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
Sulphur Flour	per ton 18 0 0 18 0 0	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/188	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/190	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Do Roll	per ton 17 0 0 17 0 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/192	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/194	1 10 5 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb	9 0 0 9 0 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/196	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/198	1 10 5 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
English	per lb 4 9 0 0	Peppermint, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/200	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/202	1 10 5 0	Nutmeg, good to fine	1 14 1 54
COPRA—per ton c.i.f.	£ 4 s d	Rhbarb, China, fr to in	5 6 8 0	Do do 12/204	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/206	1 10 5 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 94
Malabar, Sept./Nov.	£ 4 s d	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		Do do 12/208	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/210	1 10 5 0	Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Ceylon	per ton 34 0 0 0	Galls, China, per cwt	72 6 77 6	Do do 12/212	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/214	1 10 5 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	69 0 0 0
FMS Singapore	per ton 32 0 0 0	Guaiacum, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 12/216	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/218	1 10 5 0	Good mutton	58 0 0 0
FM Straits	per ton 32 0 0 0	Hamamelis, H. G. Y.	15 0 0 0	Do do 12/220	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/222	1 10 5 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
COCHINEAL—per lb	2 0 3 6	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	Do do 12/224	1 10 5 0	Do do 12/226	1 10 5 0	Japan	45 0 0 0

A Survey of the World's Markets

THE Guaranty Trust Company of New York issues a monthly publication entitled "The Guaranty Survey," which summarises the current financial and business situation of the various countries of the world, with particular reference to those factors which affect international trade.

The London Office of the Company will be pleased, upon request, to forward the publication, without charge, to individuals and firms of standing.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

A Complete International Bank

LONDON OFFICES
32 Lombard Street, E.C. 3
50 Pall Mall, S.W. 1
29 Kingsway, W.C. 2

LIVERPOOL OFFICES
27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street

NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE
Paid-up Capital, Surplus and Undivided
Profits (June 30, 1921) : : : \$55,545,372
Total Assets (June 30, 1921) : : : \$729,006,336

At less than the cost of ONE new SUIT we will keep your whole wardrobe in order for ONE YEAR

To maintain a smart, well-dressed appearance gentlemen should avail themselves of Eastman's Tailor-Valet Service.

This service, besides offering great convenience to all who take a pride in their personal appearance, saves the cost of constantly buying new Suits.

Suits and Overcoats are Dry Cleaned, Repaired, Shaped and Pressed to look like new. Raincoats reproofed without extra charge.

Post Card brings List.
EASTMAN & SON,
Dyers & Cleaners, LTD.,
for over 100 years the
London Dyers & Cleaners,
Acton Vale, London, W.3.

EASTMAN'S
THE
TAILOR-VALET
SERVICE

The Economist, WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:
A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1921.

No. 4,074.

Bergens Kreditbank
Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated
with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business
transacted.

BANGO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000



Branches as Under.

32 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up " 348,786,000
Reserve " 176,000,000
Deposits " 5,000,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.
BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C. 2.

Manager: E. CONSOLLO.
Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	465	Company Meetings	482
Leading Articles—		Government Returns—	
Money and Trade	467	Treasury Bills by Public	
Obstructing Industry	468	Tender	484
The Trade Boards	469	Currency Notes Account	484
Law and Business at the Hague	470	Public Income and Expenditure	485
Business Notes—		Bankers' Gazette—	
Employment in August	471	Bank of England	485
Cost of Living	471	Clearing Returns	486
Coal Output	471	Overseas Bank Returns	486
Cotton-Growing in Brazil	472	Loan and Discount Rates	487
International Cotton Statistics	472	Overseas Bank Rates	488
Rates of Exchange	488	Rates of Exchange	488
Home Railways and Local Rates	472	Indian Treasury Bills	488
Co-operative Trade & Losses	473	Bullion	488

disappointment was felt in Lombard Street when the Bank of England made no change, for reasons which we try to analyse on a later page.

	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 16, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	5½	5½	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount, Call	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses, Notice	3½	3½	3½	3½	4½ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	4*	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	4 ½	4 ½	4 ½	4 ½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a further marked improvement. An increase of £6,000 in the stock of gold and a decrease of £801,000 in the note circulation left the Reserve £807,000 higher, and at the same time there was a decrease in the total securities of 16½ millions. Government securities ran off by no less than 21½ millions, but some other borrowers (possibly in order to pay for Treasury bonds) had added 5½ millions to "Other." Deposits thus declined by nearly 15½ millions, most of which came off Other. The circulation of currency notes declined by £2,124,000 to £315,912,400, which includes £1,896,300 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £266,066,100, or £51,489,100 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended September 11th:—

Receipts.	Mln. £	Expenditure.	Mln. £
From Revenue	20'233	Supply Services	10'700
Less—		Interest on Debt	1'018
Added to Exchequer Balances	1'152	Sundries	3'364
		Debt Reduction	6'999
	19'081		19'081

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £6,998,946, and caused the following changes, which are reflected in our table of National Debt, given in another column:—

	Mln. £		Mln. £
Treasury Bills	+ 12'426	Bank of England Advances ..	— 18'750
Treasury Bonds	+ 4'420	Advances by Public Depts.	— 5'050
Civil Contingencies Fund ..	+ 1'000	Telegraphs	— '700
National Savings Certificates	+ 3'500	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— '645
		Sundries	— '050
	+ 18'196		— 25'195

Property and Income-tax yielded £4,207,000, while Customs and Excise brought in £10,745,000. The floating debt now stands at £1,343,196,000, having been reduced by £11,480,000. It will be noted from our table that Treasury bonds were sold to the extent of nearly 4½ millions.

In the foreign exchange market, though movements have not been as sensational as those of the preceding week, the period under review has been most awkward and disturbing. Uncertainty and depression has gained ground rapidly. Financial collapse in Germany is now being openly canvassed, increasing doubt is being felt as to the position of France, in spite of assuring semi-official statements as to the prospects of next year's Budget and the proposed issue of a large consolidation loan in January next. In Central Europe Hungarian activity in West Hungary contains a threat which may involve most of the surrounding States, while Serbia's Ultimatum to Albania is also big with possibly very disturbing consequences. To those who are demanding some panacea for exchange difficulties the report of the Financial Committee of the League of Nations—a committee of experts whose opinion should carry the greatest weight—brings a cold douche by confessing that it can discover no remedy beyond those already suggested by the Brussels Conference over a year ago; that is to say, reduction in Government expenditure, the balancing of budgets, and deflation.

Almost without exception movements have been irregular and uncertain. The dollar, which began at 3.71, has, after moving up and down, showed a decidedly firmer tendency, and yesterday morning opened at 3.73½. It is doubtful, however, whether this improvement will continue. It is true that New York is showing an increased interest in foreign securities, and that the amount taken off the London market now reaches a considerable figure. But there is an uncomfortable feeling that America may be a bull of sterling, and there is the certainty that a good deal of cotton must still come on the exchange this autumn for which provision has not yet been made. The quotation for futures has widened again to ½ cent per month over spot. The Paris rate has been even more irregular, having been down to 51.10 and up to 53.50. Yesterday morning it was quoted at 52.55. The Brussels rate has at last recovered, having at some times during the week been actually below Paris again. Yesterday at 52.65 it was slightly higher. The forward rate in Paris has widened to 2 centimes per month above spot, in Brussels to 8 centimes per month below. Italy, after some hesitation, has moved up again rather rapidly, being quoted yesterday at 90½ as compared with 87½ a week ago. The German mark, after a rapid recovery on the 17th to as low as 380, rose again on more and more gloomy reports as to German prospects to about 409, but is now back at 403. The rate for futures has moved to one mark per month below spot. Amsterdam, after rising to above 11.80, has fallen back again somewhat, and is rather steadier than usual at 11.77½. Future dealings are at par for one month and after that at ½ cent. higher per month. Switzerland at 21.62½ is considerably higher than last week, although lower than the 21.65½ reached on the 22nd. In spite of this movement it still remains surprising that the value of the Swiss franc should be so high, in spite of the very serious decline in Swiss exports and the increase in note circulation. The explanation generally accepted is the persistent removal of funds from other countries to Switzerland, a movement which is creating great uneasiness among the Swiss themselves. Madrid at 28.65 is some 20 points higher than a week ago. Among the Scandinavian group the chief feature is the continued rapid rise of Christiania, which on Wednesday was up to 29.89, and, although there has been some improvement, still stands at 29.62½. Shipping depression, and the serious effects on new industries of German competition, goes far to explain this movement. Stockholm, on the other hand, has moved equally sharply in the opposite direction, being at times on Wednesday below 17, and at 17.07½ yesterday, well below last week's quotation. In Helsingfors, a real grip seems at last to have been obtained on the exchange, which has now sunk again to 240, as compared with 300 a week ago. Among the Central and Eastern European States depreciation continues unchecked. Vienna was quoted yesterday in London at 4,100 (Auslandskronen), after some slight improvement earlier in the week. On September 16th the rate in Vienna (Inlandskronen) was 6,025, the London rate on that day being 4,100. Warsaw is about 18,500, as compared with 15,500 a week ago. Prague has moved up some 10 points to about 318, Budapest is considerably higher at 2,400, and Bucharest, after a recovery down to 367, is up again to about 412. Sofia, on the other hand, is a good deal better at 525, while Belgrade at 200 has also improved. In the bullion market an unexpectedly heavy demand from India has brought up the price of gold well above the New York parity. At the same time the Indian demand for silver has continued strong, so that the price of 41½d is now higher than at any time since the first week of the year. This movement, together with the rise in the price of the rupee to 1s 5½d from 1s 5½d a week ago, has had no satisfactory explanation, as the Indian position prospects, although better, are hardly sufficiently good to justify it, and there is a fear that speculation is playing too large a part if the demand for bullion is not put down to other reasons. Shanghai is slightly dearer, Hong Kong so far unchanged. Among South American rates, Buenos Ayres, Valparaiso, and Rio have gone slightly against us, while Montevideo is a little cheaper.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.			
FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO SEPTEMBER 17, 1921.			
Total spent	£ 461,901,054	Raised by revenue ..	£ 420,446,338
Inc. in balances	1,327,117	Net borrowings	42,781,833
Total	463,228,171	Total	463,228,171
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.											
(Million £.)											
	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Sept. 17, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19	19
4½% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,938	1,938	1,938
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441	1,441
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358	358
4½% Conversion Ln.*	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	22	22	22
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,121	1,121	1,121
Treasury Bills	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292	292	292
Exchequer Bonds ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	283	283	283
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,117	1,117	1,117
Other Debt	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	..	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	180	180	180
Temporary Advances	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unfunded Debt	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,596	7,596	7,596
Other Capital Liabilities	57	57	49	46	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,644	7,644	7,644

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.					
Way and Means Advances	Sept. 18, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Sept. 17, '21.	Sept. 17, '21.	Movement Week-ended
Outstanding—	£	£	£	£	
Advances by Bank of England ..	31,000,000..	..	30,250,000..	— 18,750,000	
Advances by Public Departments	144,441,000..	154,489,000..	149,024,000..	— 5,050,000	
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,083,099,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,163,922,000..	+ 12,320,000	
Total Floating Debt	1,258,540,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,343,196,000..	— 11,480,000	

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

SEPTEMBER 17TH.—British note to Soviet.
SEPTEMBER 18-19TH.—Communications pass between Prime Minister and Mr De Valera.
SEPTEMBER 20TH.—Departure of Afghan mission from London.
SEPTEMBER 21ST.—Mr Clynes appeals to the Speaker of the House of Commons on unemployment. Disastrous explosion in Rhine aniline factory.
SEPTEMBER 22ND.—Prime Minister receives deputation of London Labour Mayors on unemployment. Death of Sir Ernest Cassel.

Stock markets have been very dull, and there has been some selling of gilt-edged issues. A feature has been the strength of Mexican Government bonds, on hopes of a resumption of interest payments. Chinese bonds have recovered a little, but elsewhere prices have drooped. The cotton market shows a further improvement, and demand has been on broader lines. Confidence is gradually returning in the wool market, the principal obstacle to progress being the lack of outlet for fully manufactured goods. In the Middlesbrough district there is no improvement in the iron and steel trades, but trade and employment are better in the West of Scotland. Glasgow iron makers have reduced prices by £2 a ton, but foreign competition is still severe. The Sheffield steel industry is working barely one-third of its capacity. Heavy shipments from Argentina have caused a further decline in the linseed market, but Egyptian cottonseed is firmer. There is a better tone in the leather trade, and shoe manufacturers are rather busier. Detailed reports from special correspondents will be found in later columns.

MONEY AND TRADE.

This week was generally expected to be marked by some indication that would make clear the policy of those who rule our monetary destinies. With Treasury bills being sold week by week at a level out of all touch with the official rate, with money generally comfortable and sometimes extremely abundant, and with a trade crisis that calls loudly for the freest encouragement being given to the producer and the merchant, the case for a lower Bank rate has for some time been strong. Moreover, it was known that the Governor of the Bank of England was due to return to his post after a "holiday" in America, where, it was generally assumed, he had found opportunities for exchanges of views with the great ones on the other side of the water. In the early part of the week inspired cables began to hint at a reduction in the New York Federal discount rate, and this change was announced in Thursday's papers. And yet, though the Stock Exchange seems to have expected a decline in our Bank rate with some confidence, the best informed opinion in banking circles did not, and it did not happen, in spite of a highly favourable Bank return and a further considerable reduction in the circulation of currency notes. If our monetary policy has thus been made clear, it seems to be based on the principle that the conditions calling for a fall in Bank rate must not only be strong, but overwhelming before they are allowed to prevail; and with all deference to the wise heads that give so much thought to these problems, and have so much more information to work on than the rest of us, this seems to be a somewhat curious policy at this time, when languishing industry, just convalescent after a serious seizure, needs every tonic that it can get, and perhaps even a little mild stimulant. Explanations that have been given, *viva voce* and in print, for nailing the rate to the 5½ per cent. point, have been plentiful and unconvincing. Some said that the Bank was holding its annual Court on Thursday, and that the task of preparing and uttering the Governor's speech was always recognised as enough for one day. Others avowed that to follow New York too closely would be undignified, and that we must wait awhile. But the explanation that appears to have been most successfully inspired was perhaps at the same time the most astonishing. It said that the Government will have to borrow heavily in the next few months; that inflation is therefore inevitable, and that Bank rate consequently had to be kept up. This chain of reasoning may be logical, but it is logic that is baffling to a commonplace mind. If the Government and local authorities have to borrow to meet the unemployment crisis, it does not seem a good reason to keeping money dear at a time when other considerations point to its being cheaper. It is doubtful whether the maintenance of Bank rate will have any effect on the price at which the Government will sell Treasury bills, and if it makes financing dearer for local authorities, that will not check their demands, and will only make them more expensive to the ratepayers or taxpayers. And it will be most unfortunate if an impression should arise that the City is anxious, by keeping money dear, to make measures for dealing with unemployment expensive and difficult. Then one heard again the good old story of the bad effect of cheaper money in

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS: S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.
OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES
OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

stimulating Stock Exchange speculation and a flood of new issues, with a subsequent collapse and losses. But surely if people choose to buy securities for which they cannot pay, and then lose money that they might have spent to better purpose, they have only themselves to thank. If the banks find it necessary to grant credits for these purposes, as in practice they do, they ought surely to be able to protect themselves by arranging for proper security against any possibility of bad debts; and in the meantime it is at least possible that these purchases of securities may have enabled debtors to meet liabilities. It is not easy to see why trade and industry should be denied the very moderate drop of comfort that a half per cent. fall in Bank rate brings with it, lest a few speculators should disport themselves too gaily in Capel Court. And so the week ends in bewilderment, with our monetary policy clear enough in one sense, and very puzzling in another to the plain man.

In the meantime some of the daily papers call on the Government or on the financial machine to stabilize the foreign exchanges, a task which would involve controlling the finances of the most impoverished countries of the world. The Finance Section of the Provisional Economic and Financial Committee of the League of Nations has told us, through Sir Henry Strakosch, its chairman, that "no international agreement could at this juncture advance the matter of the stabilisation of exchange. The fundamental bases for such action are lacking almost completely." On this point some very pertinent sentences were contained in an address given by Sir Herbert Hambling last Tuesday to the Y.M.C.A. on the subject of Banking and Foreign Trade. "You may say," said Sir Herbert, "that it is for bankers to find some way out of a difficulty, which is obstructing trade in every direction. In point of fact, many solutions have been put forward for stabilising the foreign exchanges, but although certain of them might possibly be helpful, I say, without hesitation, and with all the emphasis at my command, that no scheme can be effective unless it is based on the observance by the nations concerned, not the bankers, of certain cardinal principles. Amongst these, I regard as the most important the establishment of concord amongst the various countries, and the establishment of a genuine peace and a genuine desire to be helpful the one to the other. We must also have the realisation that no nation can base its prosperity on the poverty of other nations. Trade is, before everything else, a question of mutual advantage. We buy goods because we want them, not to oblige the other man. The operation is just as beneficial to the buyer as it is to the seller, and if we could only remove all artificial obstructions from international trade for five years, I feel certain the world's position at the end of that period would be better all round than it was even in 1914." Our own Government's effort to remove artificial obstructions from trade is discussed in our next article.

OBSTRUCTING INDUSTRY.

It is a sound legal principle that men are held to be responsible for the reasonable and probable consequences of their actions. Last session the Government forced through Parliament the Safeguarding of Industries Act—avowedly as political payment for a political bargain made in December, 1918, between Mr Bonar Law and the Prime Minister—and the reasonable and probable consequences are about to develop. It is alleged that an inspired printer of the Order Papers one morning rendered the title of this Act as "The Safeguarding of Interests Bill"—the ingenuous copies were hastily suppressed—but we are beginning to doubt whether the hungry interests, to whose clamour the Act was mainly due, will not lose more by official obstruction arising out of legislation than they will gain by the protection of their so-called key industries.

For the moment we confine our attention to Part I. of the Act relating to key industries. A panel of respectable gentlemen, "mainly persons of commercial and industrial experience," has been set up under Part II. to provide "dumping" courts of first instance, but we shall have to wait until the machinery of Part II. begins to turn

round before we can examine the effects of its working. Part I., on the other hand, starts right away—on October 1st to be precise—and imposes a Customs duty of 33⅓ per cent. on imports of all those goods scheduled by the Board of Trade as coming within the general categories of key industries as laid down in the Act.

The Board of Trade is charged with the statutory duty of framing lists of the articles which fall within the general descriptions of optical glass, optical instruments, scientific glass ware, scientific instruments, synthetic organic chemicals, and so on. The officials of the Board have obliged with lists containing 6,500 items (H.M. Stationery Office, price 9d net). They had no choice other than to make these lists as exhaustive as possible. Theirs not to reason why, theirs but to smile and try—to collect trade catalogues and to weigh in with items. There are a great many duplicates and triplicates, so that the number of distinct articles which on October 1st would be subject to 33⅓ per cent. duty at our ports probably does not exceed 3,000. Yet as a first crop of protection the lists are evidence of statutory fertility.

We cannot in a single article review these lists in detail, but, as is appropriate at the close of summer, we will consider as a typical example how they will affect that popular favourite, the Kodak Girl, when she equips herself for next year's photographic operations at the sea coast.

The enormous expansion in amateur photography in this country is due to the Americans and the Germans. The Americans have built up the trade in cameras, plates, films, and papers; the Germans have evolved the synthetic developers and the silver salts which go to coat the plates, films, and papers. On and after October 1st the Kodak Girl will pay one-third more for her camera and lenses and such accessories as view finders and spirit levels. All the American Kodaks imported will have to pay duty, and the British makers of cameras—whose output cannot be one-tenth of the American production—will try to put up their prices. If they use American or German lenses, they will have to pay duty on them, and in so far as they make their lenses from German glass, they will have to pay duty on the glass. The Kodak Girl's camera equipment for 1922 is certainly going to cost her more. Amateur photography will be less popular to take up and to keep up.

Now we come to the upkeep—the outlay in plates, films, papers, and chemicals for development and printing. And here, as always with these legislative attempts at protection, the comedy begins. American plates, films, and papers are not chargeable with duty. They do not come within the key industry schedules, and hence are omitted from the Board of Trade's lists. The Kodak Girl can still get her Kodak plates, films, and papers free of duty. But the British makers of plates, films, and papers who wish to compete with what is almost an American monopoly—a practical monopoly gained by sheer merit and business enterprise—will have to pay duty on the imported silver salts which make the sensitive emulsions. In so far as American films, plates, and papers are duty free, and British makers have to import, and pay duty on, the silver salts, the Act helps to maintain the American monopoly. The Kodak Girl, whether she does her own development and printing, or whether she puts them out with those chemists who seek to confine her energies to looking charming and pressing the button, will have to pay duty on the imported developers and printing salts in the production of which the German chemical factories are pre-eminent. Taken as a whole the Act and its schedules are certain to add to the costs of amateur photography, and are not going to help materially the British competitors with American and German specialities.

So much for photography. In many other ways the Act will add to the daily burden of life which presses upon our people. It will increase the cost of some of their necessities, and hamper their indulgence in recreation. The short-sighted and the long-sighted will pay more for their spectacles—the imported glass is charged with duty and so are the imported lenses. Expensive German field glasses and cheap French opera glasses will be dutiable at 33⅓ per cent. The refined chemicals which form the basis of high-grade disinfectants will be dutiable; all the

household remedies made up in the form of "tabloids" (a trade mark) or competitive tablets—aspirin, phenacetin, and so on—will be charged with duty when the chemicals are imported. Mathematical instruments, slide rules, "T" squares, compasses are all within the Board of Trade's lists. And human nature being what it is, the British makers of all the 3,000 or so of articles scheduled as key industries, will do their utmost to add one-third to the selling prices of their home productions. We, the consumers, shall in these hard times, on and after October 1st, have a first taste of the blessings of protection, and the British producers will also find that official protection carries with it official obstruction, and that attempts to take advantage of duties on imports will drive away customers for goods which rank as amusements and not as necessities. This is not the time to encourage retailers to add to the cost of living.

THE TRADE BOARDS.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE attack upon the Trade Board system is creating a good deal of feeling in Labour circles. A concerted attempt is being made to undermine the legal minimum wage machinery, and the Minister of Labour appears to be yielding to the pressure which is being exerted by opponents of the Trade Boards. Viewed from the Labour angle, the active efforts which are being made to weaken or destroy the present Trade Boards and to prevent the extension of the legal minimum wage are seen to be part of the great onslaught on wages. What is causing grave apprehension is that the attack on Trade Boards is actually an attack on the basic wages of labour, and that if the generally accepted minima are lowered wages as a whole will tend to fall still further. The issue is therefore one of the greatest importance for the Labour movement.

It was generally thought that the principles of the legal minimum wage as embodied in the Trade Boards was universally accepted nowadays. The gloomy forebodings of those who opposed the Act of 1909 were never realised, and the incalculable benefits of the legal minimum wage were obvious. But it appears that there are still back-woodsmen amongst the employers who hate Trade Boards as much as the devil is reputed to hate holy water. According to the *Times*, Dr Macnamara's statement the other day to the Grocers' Federation that "there were plenty of people up and down the country who said 'why don't you abolish Trade Boards altogether?'" was met with cheers.

Arguments are now being adduced against Trade Boards which were brought against the Bill of 1909. It is being urged that the machinery of the Trade Boards is "inelastic." Apparently the desire of the employers in certain industries is to give the Boards an elasticity which really destroys the minimum wage. The Act makes provision for the payment of rates less than the legal minimum to workers who cannot earn the minimum rates. But some employers want more than this. They wish to have the advantages of delay in raising wage rates during times of prosperity and of rapid action in reducing them during periods of trade depression. As the law now stands, minimum rates fixed by a Trade Board operate for four months, at the end of which period they may be revised. It is obvious that this cannot be shortened to meet the wishes of employers who desire to reduce wages during periods of bad trade, unless it is shortened to enable workers during times of good trade to force frequent increases of minimum rates. In the past, however, employers have pressed for long-term wages agreements with the unions in order to be rid of the uncertainty which would otherwise prevail. It now appears that a section of employers are anxious to give the Trade Boards greater elasticity in order to secure reductions without delay when trade falls off. The period of four months seems reasonable, and any reduction of it would merely mean more frequent revision of rates in both good and bad times, and it is difficult to see where the employers would gain.

It is also urged that the Trade Board machinery is inelastic, because it fails to take into account local circumstances. The effect of the adoption of a system of district

minimum rates would obviously be to increase the complexity of Trade Boards administration, a consequence which the foes of "bureaucracy" would deplore. There are, of course, local variations in the cost of living, but they are insignificant compared with the variations of wages in certain trades which fear the application of the Trade Boards Act. It is not clear that the economic circumstances of employers and their ability to pay certain wage rates vary as between district and district any more than they do as between individuals in the same town. The employers who plead this argument do not appear to have made any proposals as to how "local circumstances" should be taken into account. One thing, however, is clear; the greater the number of areas into which the country is divided for the purposes of the Trade Boards Acts, the more the minimum wage becomes a farce. The critics overlook the fact that the Trade Boards Acts provide for the establishment of district committees with the object of taking "local circumstances" into account. It cannot be denied that real difficulties may arise when minimum rates cover wide areas, but in the absence of concrete proposals, and in view of the experience of the attempts to deal with the question in the past, the Labour movement must make a stand against the overthrow of national minimum scales in order to satisfy "local circumstances."

Another criticism which is laid against Trade Boards is that they ignore the effects of the legal minimum wage on foreign competition. As the present agitation against the Trade Boards has arisen mainly out of the attempts of the distributive trades to avoid coming under the Act, this criticism is amusing. In manufacturing industries, no doubt, ability to meet competition depends *inter alia* on wages costs; but what the critics ignore is that minimum rates are not laid down by an external authority. A Trade Board consists of employers' and workers' representatives in equal numbers and a minority of independent "appointed members," who are men and women of education and experience, and often include economists and lawyers who, it is reasonable to suppose, are able to weigh evidence. If the employers and workers do not agree, a decision, in effect, rests with the appointed members who will obviously base their conclusions on the facts and arguments adduced by both sides. In these circumstances, it is unlikely that the factor of foreign competition (where it exists) will be overlooked. If due weight has not been given to it in any particular case, the fault must rest with the employers' representatives.

A good deal of stress has been laid on the criticism that the operations of the Trade Boards are creating unemployment. Cases of individual firms have been published where it is said that after the establishment of legal minimum rates sweeping reductions of staff took place. But the information available regarding these cases is insufficient to justify the conclusion that Trade Boards are in any appreciable degree a cause of unemployment, though it is sufficient to warrant the conclusion that before the appointment of a Trade Board the wages in the firms who have since discharged workers must have been shockingly low. If, as is alleged, a firm reduced its staff from 2,500 to 700 workers when legal minimum rates began to operate, it must either have paid sweated rates before, or the Trade Board rates must have been fixed so high as to put the trade as a whole out of business. The latter explanation does not square with the facts; if it did the Trade Board critics would not have been driven to quote individual firms. The truth is that the unemployment argument merely amounts to a plea that a whole industry should be allowed to continue to pay sweated wages, because otherwise a minority may become unemployed. This contention clearly cannot be accepted by the Labour movement, for its acceptance would condemn the most helpless section of the workers to inadequate wages. Nor will it endorse the view that low wages are a cure for unemployment.

For months past these and other spurious arguments have been paraded in the columns of the Press. The Trade Boards have been misrepresented, and the impression created that they are bureaucratic institutions conducted at enormous expense to the taxpayer. The campaign has been conducted by certain groups of employers and by the Association of British Chambers of Commerce. It must

be said, however, that the movement has not met with universal approval from employers. It has, indeed, been engineered by employers in trades and industries with an evil tradition of low wages. They are of the type which dislikes trade unionism and clings to the notions of days long past.

Unfortunately, however, some of them have resorted to "direct action." They have taken the law into their own hands. In the recent Portsmouth case several drapery firms were summoned for paying wages below the legal minimum rates for the trade, and for not exhibiting the official notice of the legal rates. For the latter offence the local magistrates imposed a nominal fine, but they dismissed the more serious case under the Probation of Offenders Act. Loyal citizens are presented with a pretty spectacle. A number of Portsmouth drapers defy the law and are aided and abetted by the local Bumbles, with the approval of a section of the Press. One can imagine how different it would have been if the drapers' assistants had flouted the law. The magistrates would have regarded the offences in a serious light, newspapers would have commented on the pernicious Bolshevik tendencies of the shop assistants, and Mr Lloyd George might even have declared that such a challenge to the Constitution would be met by the whole resources of the State. If the employers up and down the country are going to adopt the tactics of the Portsmouth drapers and cast aside the constitutional methods which are open to them of seeking to attain to their ends, a serious situation will be created.

The Minister of Labour, however, is seeking to mollify the critics by the appointment of what is called "a strong committee" to advise him as to the modifications and improvements which should be made in the machinery of the Trade Boards Act. The trade unions specially interested in the Trade Board industries view the proposed Committee with alarm. They fear that the "modifications and improvements" suggested by a supposedly impartial body may be in the direction of weakening the Trade Board system. They regard the appointment of the Committee as a surrender to the employers, and they cannot dissociate the campaign against Trade Boards from the general policy of wages reductions. They will not tamely submit to the virtual destruction of the legal minimum wage system. There seems to be no room for compromise. The Association of Chambers of Commerce is apparently irreconcilable; the trade unions concerned with the worst paid workers will fight to retain the one safeguard which these workers possess. The issue is one which must be finally decided by public opinion; but, as on all other questions affecting the workers, the difficulty will be to get the facts fairly before the public.

LAW AND BUSINESS AT THE HAGUE.

THE International Law Association held its thirtieth conference at the Hague from August 30th to September 3rd. Many international law questions were discussed, but perhaps the most important was the drawing up by the Maritime Committee of a draft treaty defining the risks to be assumed by sea carriers under a bill of lading. In the opinion of the association international trade and commerce would be promoted and disputes avoided or the settlement thereof facilitated if the rights and liabilities of cargo owners and shipowners respectively were defined at an early date by rules of a fair and equitable character with regard to bills of lading, which shall be of general application. The association approved, under the name of "The Hague Rules, 1921," the rules as to carriage by sea framed by its Maritime Law Committee, which had been settled during the conference after consultation with representatives of the interests concerned from numerous maritime States, and recommended the same for international adoption. In the opinion of the association the use of shipping documents, known as "received for shipment" bills of lading, and like documents has become in many cases a necessity of commerce, and therefore the interests concerned should co-operate to remove difficulties which at present attend the use of such documents in the cases in which the necessity for their use is generally recognised. Whereas special legislation on the subject dealt with by these rules exists

in various States and is proposed in other States, and whereas it will only be possible in such States to bring these rules into operation if they be in accord with national legislation, it is in the opinion of the association desirable, in order to secure uniformity, that such legislation, or proposed legislation, should be brought into harmony with these rules. The most important point in these rules is that limiting the shipowner's liability for loss or damage to goods to £100 per package or unit, unless the nature and value of such goods have been declared by the shipper before the goods are shipped, and have been inserted in the bill of lading.

Professor Suyling, of Utrecht, dealt with the question of double taxation in the British and Dutch Income Tax Acts. He said that in taxing incomes States are accustomed to show a greater or less amount of reserve. Every Income Tax Act declares the power of taxation dependent upon the existence of some relation between the income taxed and the taxing State. If residence is generally regarded as a safe basis for taxing the total income of the resident, on the other hand the States do not think it always fit to tax all income, accrued or received within their borders. At least the right of taxing income on account of the place of its origin is exercised in some countries with more discretion than in others. Every remedy against double taxation demands a sacrifice from the States concerned, as its application diminishes the yield of the tax. Both the English and Dutch systems of taxation lay the income-tax upon income of residents as well as upon that of non-residents. In one respect, however, the Dutch law treats the British resident better than the British law does the Dutch resident. If the British resident happens to hold shares or bonds issued by a Dutch company he will not suffer from double taxation, because the Dutch law does not know the taxation by "deduction at the source," which characterises the British system. The Dutch company pays, therefore, the British holder of its shares or bonds his dividends and interests to the full. Incorporated companies are not assessed under the income-tax law; they are liable to another tax, the dividends tax. As the name indicates, it is due by the companies on account of the dividends distributed among the shareholders. The burden of the tax is really borne by the shareholders, but the Dutch law considers the dividends tax as a special duty quite different from the income-tax. It makes, therefore, the shareholders themselves—at least, those who reside in Holland—pay income-tax in respect of their dividends, on account of which the companies have already been assessed under the Dividends Tax Act. Non-residents who possess Dutch shares or bonds are treated more liberally in Holland than non-residents owning British shares or bonds are treated in the United Kingdom. The hardship caused by double taxation is strongly felt in both countries. Taxes have reached such a high point that double taxation has ceased to be a matter of mere individual complaint. The States demand so great a part of the income of the taxpayers that the process of production risks to be imperilled by the strain laid upon the saving power of the nations. Social progress depends upon the continuous supply of new capital. But out of what sums is the indispensable renewal of plant and factories to be paid for, when the States take from their subjects too considerable a part of their income? If people are not sure of being allowed to keep a reasonable portion of their profits and gains a weakening of their energy is to be feared, for, strong as the altruistic tendencies in modern society may be, they do not warrant, as do the egoistic motives, that the ordinary individual will exert himself to the utmost.

The tax rates nowadays are so high that double taxation tends to approach the line which separates taxation from confiscation. This fact makes double taxation a danger, whether the taxpayer is charged for the second time in a colony or in a foreign State. And the danger is so great that it must be averted, even if the remedy applied would encourage the export of national capital. Moreover, one can doubt whether double taxation constitutes an appropriate remedy against the exodus of capital. And the national industry does not necessarily suffer when the national capital seeks employment abroad. By controlling foreign enterprises the exported capital may be able to open to the national industry new fields of

action. At all events, it seems better to allow the national capital which does not give adequate returns at home to leave the country under reasonable conditions, than to expose it to partial annihilation by double taxation. The interests of nations which are accustomed to invest a part of their capital in each other's concerns will therefore be served if an agreement can be arrived at about the charges laid by both Governments on the incomes of non-residents. The United Kingdom and the Netherlands entertain intimate commercial and industrial relations. In either country capital of the other is to be found. By alleviating the burden of double taxation, both States may thus hope to remove impediments which bar for the time being the way to the free development of each other's industry and commerce.

Another matter which was briefly touched upon, but which is of considerable commercial importance, is that of "domicile and bankruptcy jurisdiction." It is a well-recognised part of the comity of nations that the Bankruptcy Courts of one country will assist those of another. But will the courts of one country always recognise a judgment in bankruptcy in another country provided that, in obtaining that judgment, the laws of the latter country have been properly applied? It is an established principle of international law that if a man is domiciled in a country, and proceedings are properly instituted against him in that country, he is amenable to the jurisdiction, although he does not appear or take any part in the proceedings. It was suggested that it has been established as a principle in international law, to be recognised by those who have to deal with bankruptcy, that for the purposes of the exercise of jurisdiction a mere commercial domicile obtained by (a) residence, or (b) the carrying on of business, whether personally or by agent, or (c) being a member of a firm carrying on business, should be regarded as sufficient to give the domestic tribunals of all countries such jurisdiction in bankruptcy, that a decree pronounced, even in the absence of the debtor, will be recognised in other countries.

Business Notes.

Employment in August.—Employment was still bad on the whole in August, but some improvement is reported in many industries, and particularly in pig-iron, tinplate and sheet steel manufacture. In the brick and pottery trades, in agriculture, and in the building trades employment generally was fairly good. The monthly figures of the *Labour Gazette* show that the percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received was 16.5, as compared with 16.7 at the end of July, while the percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act fell from 14.8 at July 29th to 13.15 at August 26th. The total number of workpeople registered at the Employment Exchanges as unemployed at August 26th was approximately 1,573,000, of whom 1,190,000 were men, 275,000 were women, and the remainder were boys and girls. In this connection, it should be noted that at that date about 209,000 persons who were wholly unemployed had exhausted their unemployment benefit, of whom 104,000 had ceased to register at the exchanges. At July 29th the number on the Live Register was 1,780,000, of whom 1,351,000 were men and 317,000 were women. In addition to those unemployed, 218,600 males and 189,200 females were registered as working systematic short time at August 26th in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At July 29th the corresponding figures were 278,000 males and 256,000 females. There were also 13,600 persons working systematic short time whose unemployment benefit was exhausted. The trade union percentages month by month for a number of years are shown below:—

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary Ltd., established throughout Australasia.)

ISSUED CAPITAL ... £1,844,986.

Agents and Secretaries of Tea and Rubber Estates.
General Exporters and Importers.
Shipping, Banking and Insurance Agents.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.
With BRANCHES and Associated Companies
throughout the EAST and elsewhere.

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.

End of—	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	2.2 ..	0.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.0 ..	2.4 ..	2.9 ..	6.9 ..
February ..	2.0 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	1.6 ..	8.5 ..
March	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	1.2 ..	2.9 ..	1.1 ..	10.0 ..
April	1.7 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	0.9 ..	17.6*
May	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.9 ..	2.1 ..	1.1 ..	22.2*
June	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.7 ..	1.7 ..	1.2 ..	23.1*
July	1.9 ..	0.4 ..	0.4 ..	0.6 ..	2.0 ..	1.4 ..	16.7 ..
August	2.0 ..	0.4 ..	0.5 ..	0.5 ..	2.2 ..	1.6 ..	16.5 ..
September ..	2.3 ..	0.4 ..	1.3 ..	0.5 ..	1.6 ..	2.2 ..	..
October	2.2 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.4 ..	2.6 ..	5.3*	..
November ..	2.0 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.5 ..	2.9 ..	3.7 ..	..
December ..	2.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.4 ..	1.2 ..	3.2 ..	6.0 ..	..

* Excluding coal miners.

Changes in rates of wages reported as having come into operation in August in the industries for which statistics are compiled by the Department affected nearly 3,160,000 workpeople, of whom 3,070,000 sustained decreases, while nearly 90,000 received increases. The net effect of all the changes was a reduction in weekly full-time wages of about £690,000.

Cost of Living.—The *Labour Gazette* statistics show that during August the cost of living fell by 2 points. The monthly movement since January of last year is given below:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.

1920.	Per Cent.	1921.	Per Cent.
January 1st	125	January 1st	165
February "	130	February "	151
March "	130	March "	141
April "	132	April "	133
May "	141	May "	128
June "	150	June "	119
July "	152	July "	119
August "	155	August 2nd	122
September "	161	September 1st	120
October "	164		
November "	176		
December "	169		

Food prices alone declined by 1 point in August, declines in the price of potatoes, meat, flour, bread and fish being mostly offset by upward movements in eggs, butter, cheese, and margarine. The current number of the *Labour Gazette* contains a detailed reply to the criticisms of the official Cost of Living Index Number made in a report by a joint committee representing the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party, the Co-operative Union, and other Labour organisations. Reference to this report was made in the *Economist* of September 3rd.

Coal Output.—The production of coal from the mines of Great Britain for the week ended September 10th declined to 3,940,400 tons from 4,141,900 tons in the previous week. Small increases were shown in Durham, Scotland, and South Wales. The weekly output since the resumption of work at the beginning of July has been as follows:—

Week ended—	Tons.	Week ended—	Tons.
July 9th	2,352,700	August 13th	4,536,600
July 16th	3,935,200	August 20th	4,327,800
July 23rd	4,334,200	August 27th	4,101,700
July 30th	4,592,500	September 3rd	4,141,900
August 6th	3,623,200	September 10th	3,940,400

In the week ended September 11, 1920, the output was 4,606,800 tons.

Cotton - Growing in Brazil.—In 1919 a commercial mission from Brazil visited England. It received an invitation from the International Cotton Federation to present to its committee a report on the possibilities of cotton-growing in Brazil. The report suggested that a delegation from the International Federation should visit Brazil. The delegates, led by Mr Arno S. Pearse, the general secretary, arrived in Brazil in April last. Mr Pearse has just returned, writes our Manchester correspondent, and he will present to his committee in Paris next month a statement of the work of the mission. It is understood that the investigation reveals the fact that the area suitable for cotton cultivation in Brazil is larger than that of the United States of America, and the conditions of climate and soil are probably more favourable to cotton cultivation than in any other part of the world. Brazil, however, does not produce more than about 700,000 bales of cotton, against 12,000,000 to 16,000,000 bales in the United States. One of the hindrances to progress in Brazil is the scarcity of labour, but it is anticipated that as a result of impending immigration from Europe this disadvantage will be somewhat reduced. In Sao Paulo and the North-East of Brazil the yield per acre is larger than in any other country of the world. Besides the scarcity of labour there are various factors which have prevented Brazil from occupying that place which Nature destined for her as a world supplier of cotton. There is without exception a complete absence of uniformity of fibre amongst Brazilian cottons. The work of producing pure strains of seed appertains to the scientific branch of agriculture, and for this reason it is only in rare cases that the ordinary planter can undertake this work successfully. It is very important that seed farms should be established. A large loss to the grower and to the country at large results from the careless picking of the cotton crop. One of the greatest evils to which Brazilian cotton is subjected is ginning, which in most cases is carried out in a most unsatisfactory manner. Brazil possesses all the natural possibilities for growing cotton on a large scale. It is believed that if the development of cotton-growing is taken in hand by the authorities, good results will accrue in a few years.

International Cotton Statistics.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—This week the half-yearly statistics of the International Cotton Federation have been published, particulars being given of the consumption of raw cotton during the six months ending July 31st, and stocks in spinners' hands on August 1st. Mr Arno S. Pearse, the general secretary, has published with the tables a most interesting report on the extent of short time throughout the world. It is evident from the figures that curtailment of yarn production, especially in Europe, during the half-year has been very extensive. The restriction of output in Great Britain is equal to nearly 13 weeks, and short time in Belgium has been on a similar scale. In France the amount is given as nearly 7 weeks, Germany 5½ weeks, Italy over 3 weeks, Spain 9 weeks, and Switzerland 3½ weeks; whilst in Denmark the short time has been equal to over 15 weeks. In a summary dealing with the position of affairs in England, it is pointed out that more than 2,000,000 spindles have gone out of existence during the past year. It is evident that firms have reduced their machinery, and there has not been any replacement. The consumption of raw cotton throughout the world during the six months totalled 7,357,212 bales. Of this amount, Great Britain used 630,230 bales; France, 251,935 bales; Germany, 457,257 bales; Italy, 289,044 bales; Spain, 117,529 bales; Belgium, 82,286 bales; India, 904,181 bales; Japan, 971,654 bales; and the United States of America, 2,540,000 bales. Stocks of cotton in the hands of spinners throughout the world on August 1st amounted to 3,926,619 bales. Of this amount, Great Britain held 296,997 bales; France, 84,642 bales; Germany, 176,287 bales; Italy, 170,780 bales; Spain, 85,573 bales; Belgium, 59,673 bales; India, 845,369 bales; Japan, 700,846 bales; China, 186,128 bales; and the United States of America, 1,102,000 bales. There are now in Great Britain 56,140,738 spinning

spindles, and the Federation has obtained returns from the owners of 49,740,631 spindles. These consist of 38,961,707 mule and 10,778,924 ring spindles. Throughout the world there are 152,317,054 spinning spindles, and the Federation has obtained returns from the owners of 129,458,472 spindles.

Home Railways and Local Rates.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—The home railway market has sunk into a state of coma, and scarcely a flicker of interest disturbs the stillness of its lists from day to day. Money continues to flow steadily into the prior-charge stocks, on the assumption that trustees can afford to take a comparatively low rate of interest on debenture stocks available at prices which are sufficiently low to render it probable that, in years to come, when money grows cheaper, the prices are likely to mount in a manner which will justify purchases being made at the present moment at quotations which offer 6 per cent., or even less, on the money. In the market for ordinary stocks, every occasional gleam of public interest is succeeded by a deeper gloom of stagnation as the effect of a little buying wears off. The amount of floating supply of stock in the market is negligible, but if there is no one to take what comes on offer, prices are bound to go down on what may be a mere handful of selling orders on behalf of deceased accounts, and of people who want the money for other purposes. Had it not been for this paucity of public interest, it is likely that the Great Northern's example in appealing against its present assessments for rates and taxes would have aroused widespread attention. Sir Frederick Banbury, the Great Northern's chairman, has the reputation of being sufficiently energetic to leave no stone unturned that is likely to weigh down upon the success, not only of his own company, but of the railway industry generally, and the letter sent out a few days ago from the Surveyor's Department of the Great Northern, addressed to various local authorities, certainly opens up a very important question for railway stockholders and ratepayers alike. The text of the letter runs as follows:—

The question of finding a means of enabling railway assessments to be readily adjusted during the abnormal period in which the railway companies and the assessment committees find themselves, was discussed with a sub-committee of the National Conference of Assessment Committees of England and Wales during the progress in Parliament of the Railways Bill, but, unfortunately, it was not found possible to come to a final agreement.

It is necessary, therefore, for each railway company to approach the matter direct.

In order that the assessment committees may be in a position to discuss matters, it is necessary, in the present state of the law, that notices of objection should be given as a preliminary, and instructions for this to be done have been issued. The serving of notices throughout a railway system is abnormal, and the company will have to rely on the co-operation of the assessment committees in obtaining the adjournment of the hearing of cases where the dates fixed for the different committees' meetings coincide.

The general situation is that, although there has been power to increase railway charges, the working expenses have been increased in far greater ratio. In addition, the value of the equipment necessary for earning the receipts has very largely increased, and another item of reduction, viz., local rates, has also increased. The excess in this latter respect averages, on this railway, 134 per cent.

It is obvious, therefore, in the foregoing circumstances, that the company cannot continue to pay rates on the existing bases, but every effort will be made, so far as this company is concerned, to come to a mutual arrangement as to what the future assessment of the company's property should be.

The question of future poundage is a vital one to all ratepayers, and particularly to railway companies who have such heavy assessments, and no doubt you, in common with all local authorities, are endeavouring to restrict expenditure.

We understand that the rates, at all events, of some of the parishes which have been circularised by the Great Northern Railway, run for the six months from March to September and from September to March, so that the present appeal will cover the period which finishes with the end of this month. Such a period as this will embrace four months of the time during which the railways remained under Government control, and the somewhat remarkable spectacle is presented of the Great Northern appealing against payment of rates, two-thirds of which in respect of the current six months fall to be discharged by the Government under their control of the companies up to the beginning of August.

Co-operative Trade and Losses.—Some reflex of the world's trade position appears in the operations of the Co-operative Wholesale Society for the first half of the present year. A correspondent informs us that the sales were £42,341,576, a decrease of £8,884,292, or 17 per cent., on the corresponding period of last year. There was also a decline of 12 per cent. in the supplies from the various productive factories, the output being only £14,182,684. The fact that much of the stock was purchased at high values, and has had to be written down to serve the societies, is responsible for the heavy loss incurred by the society. But the directors, by charging £3,434,600 against reserve fund, are able to pay all expenses of distribution and production, interest on share and loan capital, and depreciation of property according to rule. Thus the loss of practically 3½ millions has been met and the total reserves maintained at £1,500,000, while the fact that most of the land and buildings have been depreciated till they stand at very little in the accounts is an element of added security. The sales have been about equally decreased at the Manchester, Newcastle, and London centres, the greatest declines being over 55 per cent. in drapery, woollens, ready-mades, and boots, and 36 per cent. in furniture. Despite the coal strike, the sales of groceries in the North of England were only down 3 per cent.—owing to the coupon system which was introduced by several societies. The C.W.S. Bank operations have also been affected owing to the many more trade unions now banking with the C.W.S.

British Capital in Canada.—We have received a letter from the secretary of the Halifax Graving Dock Company giving its experience. This English company was formed for constructing a dry dock at Halifax, N.S. The dock was opened in 1889, and for nearly 20 years was unprosperous, and shareholders have never received a dividend. About 1911 the dock became a paying proposition, and years of prosperous business seemed opening before it. During the war it was fully employed on Government work, but in December, 1917, the explosion at Halifax nearly wrecked it, and for three months put it out of commission. By an Order in Council, dated January, 1918, the Canadian Cabinet undertook to bear the cost of repair. In May, 1918, after the company had spent over \$200,000 in repairing the dock, which had been reopened in the previous March, the Order in Council was revoked, and the company has received no part of that money from the Canadian Government. "Meanwhile, a group of Canadian speculators approached the Canadian Government with a proposal to establish a shipbuilding yard in Halifax if the graving dock were handed over to them. This fact only became known to my company later. In June, 1918, acting under the powers of the Canadian War Emergency Act, the Government commandeered the dock for compulsory purchase, and immediately thereafter transferred it to the new shipbuilding company on a lease for one year, with the option of purchase at a fixed price. In this way a profitable business and a valuable goodwill were confiscated by the Government by an abuse of the Emergency Act, and my company was awarded by the Exchequer Court a sum of \$1,400,000 as the bare value of the dock as it stood. It is true that the company is a small one, but it was formed with English capital, and for 30 years the shareholders received nothing. Yet, just as prosperity was on the point of being achieved, the company's business is confiscated." From a speech made by the chairman in 1920 it appears that the company's contention is that "if the Dominion Government desired to expropriate the dock as a war measure, the company was certainly entitled to receive a fair value for the dock as a going concern, after it had been reinstated, and a fair value for the property alone would certainly not be less than three million dollars."

The Financial Difficulties of China.—It is not surprising that the uncertainty of the political and financial situation in the Chinese Republic should have caused a fall in Chinese bonds. The Peking Government controls only a few of the provinces, the Southern Government only Kwangtung; and the Southern provinces, which might be

expected to support it, apparently prefer an autonomy which practically means independence. Hupeh and Hunan are the scene of civil war: the rival armies are living on the country, and the Northern provinces are threatened with a conflict between rival leaders. The Peking Government cannot raise an internal loan of 30 million Mexican dollars, or about £3,750,000; and until the Northern and Southern provinces come to an agreement there will be no loan from the revived Consortium. Some months ago an association of Chinese bankers was preparing to make fresh loans to the Peking Government, on condition that it assigned certain revenues to the liquidation, under the supervision of the Inspector-General of Maritime Customs, of existing domestic obligations. But the arrangement seems not to have been carried out. Then an attempt was made to form an association of British and Chinese bankers to advance money to the Peking Government. This also, we are informed, is not likely to succeed. Finally, it has been announced this week that a syndicate of Canadian bankers, which, we understand, originated in British Columbia, has offered a loan of \$3,000,000 for one year, to be secured on the surplus of the salt revenue, on terms yielding 20 per cent.; but this arrangement will also break down, in view of the disapproval of the Canadian Government. As regards the great mass of the loans quoted in London, however, there is no reason whatever for anxiety. Broadly, they fall into three groups. (1) The 5 per cent. loan of 1896 is secured on the Maritime Customs; the 5 per cent. Reorganisation Loan of 1913 on the surplus of the Customs after certain other charges are paid; the 5 per cent. loan of 1912 on half the salt revenues; the 5 per cent. loan of 1908 on certain provincial revenues, with a provision for the deposit of funds for its service six months in advance. The Customs and the salt tax are collected under the supervision of European officials, and the Customs revenues for this year constitute a record. (2) The various railway loans are secured on the revenues of the respective lines, and in some cases also on those of other railways, or on the lines themselves. The railway receipts are known to be entirely adequate. (3) The 8 per cent. Treasury bills and the 8 per cent. sterling Treasury notes, known respectively as "Marconis" and "Vickers," and amounting to £600,000 and £1,803,300, are not secured on any specific revenues. The "Marconi" coupon is in arrear since August; the "Vickers" coupon is due next week; but there is no doubt the Chinese Government will pay when it can. The immediate outlook is improved by the liberal offer made by Japan to renounce her rights in Shantung under the Versailles Treaty on condition of the open door in Kiao-chao, the establishment of new Treaty ports, and the joint working of the railway to Tsinan-fu, and still more by the certainty that Chinese affairs will be discussed at the Washington Conference, with the probable result that co-operation will take the place of competition among the Powers interested in China.

Conditions in Japan.—Cable advices state that the money market was firm in the beginning of the month, but eased owing to the recall of funds from the country. A new issue of 5 per cent. Exchequer bonds, amounting to 50,000,000 yen, is being well subscribed. A rumoured determination of the bankers to refuse money for speculative demands took the Stock Exchange by surprise. All shares went down, cotton mill wool shares especially declining sharply. Some recovery set in after all-round liquidation, but the general tone is still very dull, and the improving tendency of the leading commodity markets is at present checked. The steady tone of the cotton yarn is ascribed to dearer raw cotton and silver, the decreased home stock, and the approaching export season for China. Cotton spinning companies, who had cut down 40 per cent. of their labour following the depression, increased their work to 70 per cent. of their full working capacity on September 15th. Rice had a strong tone, but the silk market was quiet with higher prices. The note issue of the Bank of Japan is 1,077,000,000 yen, against 1,043,000,000 yen a year ago. Exports in August were 105,000,000 yen, against 175,000,000 yen; imports, 131,000,000 yen, against 123,000,000 yen.

Trade Boards.—The following Committee has been appointed to inquire into the working and effects of, and to report any changes which may be necessary in the Trade Board Acts:—Viscount Cave (chairman), Lord Weir of Eastwood, Dame Adelaide Anderson (late his Majesty's Chief Woman Inspector of Factories), Dame Edith Lyttelton, Mr J. Bell, M.P. (secretary Oldham Weavers' Association), Mr W. T. Layton (director of the National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers), Sir Arthur Pease, Mr E. L. Poulton (chairman of the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress), Mr A. Pugh (secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation), and Mr A. MacCallum Scott, M.P. Mr H. D. Hancock, of the Ministry of Labour, will act as secretary to the Committee, and all communications in respect of it should be sent to him at Montagu House, Whitehall.

Anglo-Bulgarian Tribunal.—The Board of Trade announces that the Mixed Arbitral Tribunal between the British Empire and Bulgaria has been constituted. The president is Mr B. C. J. Loder, Judge of the Supreme Court of the Netherlands; the British member is Mr Heber Hart, and the Bulgarian member is Mons. Alexander Ludskanoff, formerly Secretary of State in Bulgaria. As the system of clearing offices has not been adopted between the United Kingdom and Bulgaria, claims in respect of disputed debts due by Bulgarians to British subjects will be dealt with directly by this tribunal. The rules of procedure which have been adopted by the Tribunal may be obtained (price 5d) on application to the Secretariat in Winchester House, 21 St James's square, S.W. 1, where the British Government has provided headquarters for the Tribunal.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—GOVERNMENT'S CROP REPORT—RAILROADS SHOW MARKED GAIN IN NET OPERATING INCOME IN JULY—COMMODITY PRICES IN AUGUST—DECREASE IN STEEL CORPORATION'S UNFILLED TONNAGE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, September 12.

THE Department of Agriculture's latest estimates are:—Winter wheat, 544,000,000 bushels, against 577,763,000 harvested last year; spring wheat, 210,000,000, against 209,365,000; all wheat, 754,000,000, against 787,128,000, and corn, 3,186,000,000 bushels, against 3,232,367,000. This total is only 48,000,000 bushels less than the record crop of last year, and is 388,000,000 greater than the five-year average. The oats crop, on the other hand, promises to be 436,000,000 bushels less than last year's, and 343,000,000 below the five-year average. Late potatoes were helped by rain, the estimated production being increased 7,000,000 bushels. The present forecast, however, of 322,000,000 bushels is extremely small, as compared with the five-year average of 371,000,000 bushels, and with last year's crop of 428,000,000 bushels. The condition of the principal crops on September 1st, or at time of harvest, is given as follows:—Spring wheat, 62.5 per cent. of a normal; all wheat, 72.6; corn, 85.1; oats, 61.1; barley, 68.4; buckwheat, 85.6; white potatoes, 63.7; sweet potatoes, 80.7; tobacco, 70.5; flax, 62.3; rice, 83.8; sugar beets, 90.4. Private reports received within the past few days indicate that corn is maturing rapidly; late corn has improved materially in Ohio and in the central Mississippi valleys, and the bulk of the crop is no longer in danger from frost. Throughout the greater part of the corn belt cutting is well advanced. The latest returns show that Minnesota and South Dakota have the best crops in years. The threshing of small grain is practically finished, haying is about over, and Fall ploughing is well under way in the Central States, but from the East, South, and South-West come complaints of the ground being too dry. Further damage to cotton from boll weevil, leaf worms, and high temperatures is reported, especially from Texas and Oklahoma.

Not since last October have the railroads made such a good showing in earnings as they did in July. The net operating income of the 203 class 1 carriers as \$69,485,000, an increase of approximately \$17,000,000, as compared with June. On the basis of the tentative property valuation fixed by the Commerce Commission, the July earnings would be at the annual rate of 4½ per cent., or \$23,782,000 for the month less than the railroads should have earned as the normal July proportion of a 6 per cent. annual return (allowed by the Transportation Act). The results have been awaited with unusual interest, because they show the effect of the average 12 per cent. reduction in wages which was put into force on July 1st. The monthly saving as a result of the wage reduction has been variously estimated at \$30,000,000 to \$35,000,000. Total operating revenues for July were \$462,953,000, a decrease of \$66,000,000, or 12½ per cent., as compared with July, 1920, although freight and passenger rates are higher. Operating expenses were \$362,776,000, showing a reduction of \$151,000,000, or 29.4 per cent. The net operating income of \$69,485,000 compares with a deficit of \$11,878,000 in the corresponding month of last year. For the eleven months since September 1, 1920, when the Government guaranty period expired, the net operating income of all class 1 railroads in the United States was \$438,000,000, which, on the basis of the tentative valuation is \$570,000,000 short of the amount they were expected to earn in order to show a 6 per cent. annual return.

The stabilisation point in commodity prices as a whole appears to have been reached in August, according to Bradstreet's, whose index number, as of September 1st, was \$11.0868, representing a gain of only three-tenths of 1 per cent. over that of August 1st, although it is the third consecutive rise in the past three months, and occurred notwithstanding the fact that individual decreases exceeded increases, while one group—namely, textiles—advanced sharply owing to the pronounced strength in raw cotton and the consequent upturn in prices of cotton cloths. The rise in the textile group, plus fractional gains in provisions and groceries, coal and coke and naval stores more than offset fair declines in livestock and one grade of leather and very slight decreases in six other groups. In the list of commodity price changes during August, the outstanding feature is the steadiness or strength shown by the great majority of prices. Out of 106 articles, 50 were unchanged on the month, 22 advanced and 34 declined, most of the latter showing very small changes.

All markets for cotton cloths and cotton yarns, as well as cotton knitted goods—especially underwear and hosiery—are still extremely unsettled by the further violent advances in the staple and the moderate reactions of the past few days from the highest levels recently established. Practically all eastern and southern manufacturers of gray goods are still out of the market, and refuse to name definite prices at which they will accept orders for goods to be made. The wild fluctuations of raw cotton have made it impossible for mills to figure out any trading basis. In the past week or so their calculations have frequently been completely upset over-night. Such business as has been transacted lately has covered stock goods or goods in second hands, and such offerings in most cases have been, and continue, very limited. The same conditions prevail in the cotton yarn trade and industry, and in other lines directly affected by the sensational rise in raw cotton, which is greatly benefitting the South in many ways, but is adding to the problems of cotton goods manufacturers, who are much concerned over the prospects for distribution at the higher prices which must be named if cotton stays anywhere near its present level.

The report of the United States Steel Corporation this week showed a much larger decrease in unfilled tonnage last month than had been expected. On August 31st unfinished orders on the corporation's books stood at 4,531,926 tons, the smallest since May, 1919, and representing a decrease of 298,398 tons for the month. At the close of July unfinished business amounted to 4,830,324 tons, and at the end of August a year ago, 10,805,038 tons. The heavy falling off is attributed to increased mill operations during the latter part of August,

when output was about 4 or 5 per cent. greater than at the beginning of the month. The slow rate at which new business developed was also a factor. Steel men quite generally, however, express confidence that conditions in the industry have made a turn for the better, and that gradual improvement from now on may be expected.

FRANCE.—THE HARVEST—EXCHANGES—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, September 20.

FURTHER figures are now available as to the remarkable character of the cereal harvest this year in France. Barley and oats have proved to be as abundant as the wheat crop, to which I recently drew attention. I have just returned from a visit to the North of France with some 50 British mayors, several of whom were representatives of agricultural districts in England, and there was not one of them but was deeply impressed on the one hand with the intensive cultivation of the land, and on the other hand with the way in which the farmer in the devastated area had seen to the housing of his crops before taking any serious thought as to his own accommodation. Obviously, the French Government has been to some extent responsible for this attitude of mind, because peasants and farmers have found the State a friend when it was a question of reconstituting barns and a somewhat stern stepmother if the farmer wished to rebuild a comfortable farmhouse that would give him the comfort to which he had been accustomed before the war. The fact, however, remains that the Government policy has not been disastrous, as is shown once again by the figures for barley and oats that have just been issued by the Ministry of Agriculture in the *Journal Officiel*. The figures are so eloquent, in view of what France has suffered, as to need no commentary:—

BARLEY.

Years.	Hectares Sown.	Hectolitres Yield.	Mean Weight Per Hectolitre in Kilos.	Quintals.
1921	669,000	12,909,060	63.76	8,230,980
1920*	663,910	13,086,410	63.85	8,356,880
1919	561,180	7,951,170	62.88	4,999,840
1918	554,860	9,333,430	64.09	5,982,000
1917	687,420	12,828,230	63.24	8,331,890
1913	760,205	16,251,250	64.40	10,437,600

OATS.

Years.	Hectares Sown.	Hectolitres Yield.	Mean Weight Per Hectolitre in Kilos.	Quintals.
1921	3,358,170	76,332,730	46.62	35,591,900
1920*	3,350,260	89,810,330	47.10	42,297,820
1919	2,855,350	53,442,330	46.65	24,935,840
1918	2,719,850	55,386,250	46.25	25,619,760
1917	2,957,550	66,976,360	46.43	31,099,940
1913	3,979,270	109,651,110	47.26	51,826,010

* Including Alsace and Lorraine.

As I pointed out last week, the question of the foreign exchanges is of very vital interest to France, and the situation has so exercised public opinion that the Ministry of Finance has given a semi-official interview on the subject to the *Journal*. Before summarising this, it may be of interest to recall in tabular form the most notable movements of the pound and the dollar in the last few months. They are as follow:—

	£	\$
January to May	Highest.. 61.59 (Jan. 10th) .. 17.18 (Jan. 4th)	
	Lowest .. 45.455 (May 19th) .. 11.315 (May 19th)	
June to April	Highest..... 47.68 (Aug. 26th) .. 13.16 (Aug. 2th)	
	Lowest 46.11 (June 17th) .. 11.91 (June 1st)	
September	Highest..... 53.14 (Sept. 15th) .. 14.33 (Sept. 15th)	
	Lowest 47.585 (Sept. 1st) .. 12.73 (Sept. 1st)	

The Finance Ministry shows extreme discretion as to the agreement of August 13th, but it does point out that under it France secured solid advantages as to the rate of exchange at which Belgium's priority claims were to be discounted and as to the material benefits gained in regard to coal. It refuses seriously to consider the possibility of Germany going bankrupt, though it recognises that there may be a monetary crash. As against this it

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



argues that the wealth of Germany is such that the Allies are quite capable in such a contingency of taking their own guarantees. There has been so much public interest taken in the exchange question, that the Ministry has taken the trouble to analyse the situation. It recognises that speculation is a factor to be counted with, but it considers that this can only accentuate and exaggerate movements based on natural economic causes, and contends that it can have only a very limited effect. It considers that the fall in value of the franc is due in the main to the following governing causes—the rise in price of American cotton, the need of the reconstitution by France of her stocks of raw material, and to the confidence of dealers that there will be a trade revival that has induced them to place large orders abroad, with the inevitable corollary that they have had to cover their commitments by purchasing in advance sterling and dollars to meet their obligations.

Under the influence of the textile strikes in the North of France, that at the moment of writing show no signs of settlement, and as a result of the widespread information that there will be very shortly a number of interesting appeals to the public, the Bourse this week has been somewhat more restrained, though foreign securities: owing to the exchange have been in demand. In commenting on the situation of the Bourse, the *Situation Economique et Financiere* strikes a rather new note when it writes that France should follow the example of England and of the United States in seriously undertaking a reduction of wages. This point of view has already been raised, and has had its effect in depressing the Bourse. The result in general terms has been that home securities: are somewhat under the weather, while foreign values, owing to the exchanges, remain, and probably will remain, in demand. French Rentes have been unchanged, but Crédit National has dropped from 474 to 466. Most of the foreign Government stocks have registered notable improvements. Thus Argentine Fives are at 935, as against 883, Brazilian Fours at 107, as against 95, and

Chinese Fours at 168, as against 156. Banks generally have dropped owing to holders realising profits, and railways have been irregular. Thus, P.L.M. has fallen from 780 to 770, Nord has been well in demand at 873, and Midi has been rather stronger in improving from 700 to 720. Shipping securities are still suffering from uncertainties as to freight charges. Chargeurs Réunis, after fluctuating between 620 and 605, settled down at 615; Transatlantique dropped from 279 to 274, and Havraise Peninsulaire made no change at 1,351. Certain railway returns have been issued for the first eight months of the year. Paris-Lyons, on over one and a-quarter milliards, shows as against last year an improvement of some 80 million francs, Orleans is up nearly 25 millions, Est some 95 millions, and Midi some 21 millions. Electrical undertakings have been rather under a cloud, and there has been a general slight drop in the group. Metallurgical shares are lower, though not to any very marked extent, and mines, except when saved by the exchange, have generally dropped back.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 18, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	569,900,997	569,813,776	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	1,020,530,116	1,005,329,503	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,127,808,905	37,253,987,830	5,521,234,065
Interest on securities	55,921,382	58,765,594	25,835,588
Bank notes to order	809,630	822,197	3,947,509
Treasury account	41,636,704	38,316,663	238,625,389
Current accounts, Paris	1,520,417,564	1,500,868,837	583,966,983
Do branch banks	916,915,354	947,678,780	86,508,757
Dividends payable	5,947,201	6,090,766	2,871,018
Discounts and sundries	54,997,223	52,027,801	16,864,461
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,048,541,154	1,022,414,517	229,515,628
Total	42,632,822,989	42,726,352,564	6,959,921,433
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,799,851,790	5,799,424,231	4,087,246,507
Balances abroad	626,782,338	627,043,343	..
Commercial bills overdue	309,899	1,357,177	78,600
Discounts in Paris	1,444,497,910	1,426,791,888	447,564,082
Foreign bills	5,239,501	5,636,884	17,917,395
Treasury bills	58,996	..	..
Discounts in branches	953,123,162	897,399,272	943,274,049
Advances on bullion	69,813,628	70,726,408	..
Do on public securities	12,874,000	12,874,000	728,000
Do by branch banks	420,294,588	419,546,106	194,241,235
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	1,780,650,767	1,792,251,128	535,278,772
Do (for the war)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Treasury bonds in respect of advances to Foreign Govern-ments ..	24,900,000,000	25,100,000,000	5,798,530
Government stock reserve	4,083,000,000	4,071,000,000	..
Do disposable	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Rentes indisponible	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Premises and furniture	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Expenses and management	47,121,940	47,096,621	43,030,395
Special reserve	20,002,725	18,239,548	5,866,764
Sundries	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Total	42,632,822,989	42,726,352,564	6,959,921,433

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	% 6
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6½

GERMANY.—INDUSTRY AND REPARATIONS—TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—INDUSTRY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, September 20.

THE failure to carry out the promised removal of the economic sanctions is a sharp disappointment to Germans. As has been pointed out from here, this measure has had a very bad effect on industry and trade. Technical difficulties are no good reason for maintaining the system in force; the technical difficulties in creating the new Customs frontier did not—though they led to serious confusion and traffic congestion—stand in the way of its creation. Negotiations are proceeding between the Chan-

cellor and the banks, here representing industry, to determine whether industry cannot voluntarily help the Government to obtain gold for improvement of the foreign payment balance. It is suggested that industry should pledge its credit. The lowest of several sums unofficially mentioned as to be raised in this way is one milliard gold. The initiative came from industrial circles, whose plan, it is understood, is an alternative to the Reichswirtschafts Ministry's plan to appropriate one-fifth of the real substance of industry, land, and city house property.

The position of foreign holders of German property and of foreigners resident in or carrying on business in Germany under the proposed taxation reform is now clear. First, as regards the three new direct taxes on wealth. These are the property tax (*Vermögenssteuer*), which replaces the emergency levy, the permanent triennial property increment tax, which replaces the *Besitzsteuer*, and the tax on post-war increment of wealth, between June, 1919, and June, 1921, which is a non-recurring tax. These taxes fall on all property in Germany, regardless of citizenship or residence; foreign-owned land, for instance, will pay the first and second taxes, and under the third tax it will pay on the increase of its nominal (paper mark) value between the two above dates. This liability is on German property as such. As regards personal liability, the first tax is severer to foreigners than the abandoned emergency levy. For the emergency levy foreigners were liable "who reside permanently (*dauernd*) in the German Republic for sake of gain." Under the new property tax foreigners are liable "who have a dwelling in Germany, or who reside in Germany for gain, or who have their ordinary residence in Germany for longer than six months." It seems that under the emergency levy a foreigner could not be taxed on his foreign property merely because of a short residence if his lasting residence and business interests were abroad. In the property tax, however, the German income-tax personal qualification is applied almost literally, and on this qualification the foreigner will be taxed "on his entire taxable property with the exception of foreign-situated working capital and land." It follows (the point was developed in detail lately in the *Vossische Zeitung*) that a foreigner with a dwelling in Germany, which is not his chief dwelling, and in which he may reside only a few weeks in the year, is liable for property tax on all his property everywhere, with the two stated exceptions. The personal qualification for the recurring triennial increment tax is the same. The third tax (non-recurring 1919-21 increment tax) is not so important for British subjects, as relatively few resided in Germany or held German property in the two years in question. The personal qualification here is the same, with the difference that it reads: "permanently (again *dauernd*) reside in Germany for gain," which means "resided." The first two taxes affect materially the interests of foreign residents or business men with their main businesses or branches in Germany. The foreigner is in principle to be compelled to pay the taxes on all his wealth everywhere, foreign working capital and land excepted, which means that a rich person with, say, one-fiftieth of his wealth in Germany in shape of a dwelling—a seaside villa or shooting box—might have to pay on the other forty-nine fiftieths. A minor taxation official in the Bavarian Alps would be responsible for assessing and collecting perhaps on the whole wealth of an American millionaire. In practice this tax could not be enforced, but in strict law (and officials are required to enforce the law) the defaulting foreigner's whole property in Germany would be seized to meet the taxes on his wealth elsewhere. Further, as the tax is progressive, a person relatively poor in pounds or dollars is taxed at a high rate as a very rich man in German marks. The increment of wealth taxes only recognise marks. Under the permanent increment tax a foreigner who invested a given sum in pounds in a German factory, and who lost half his (pound) capital, would nevertheless be compelled to pay on a possible increase in his mark capital caused by a fall in mark exchange. The proposed amendment of the company income-tax (*Körperschaftsteuer*) affects foreign holders of German dividend-paying securities. This tax is to be

increased from 10 to 30 per cent. of company profits. Under the gold values levy, which is so far only an official plan, foreign owners of company stocks, land or house property, would be compelled to cede a fifth of their interests to the State. The official Memorandum does not mention foreigners, but the levy would be imposed on property, not on any personal qualification.

The foreign exchanges on Saturday had a considerable recovery, apparently under the influence of the offer by industry. The Bourse last week was undecided; and many of the more active stocks had slight recessions; but the *Frankfurter Zeitung's* index shows 21,852, against 21,734 at the close of the preceding week. The stock market remained very active; according to a newspaper statement, given in default of official statistics, the Berlin banks receive daily about 200,000 buying and selling orders for stock parcels of between 1,000 and 100,000 marks nominal. From October 1st the Bourse will be open at 11 a.m. daily, but the so-called "Einheit" stock quotations will be fixed only on three days of the week. The banks last week tried to bring pressure on their clients in direction of reserve, and terminated some credits. There was a good deal of realisation, mostly followed by fresh buying. Upper Silesian stocks sharply rose, Bismarckhütte by 700, Oberdorf by 100, Caro by 64, and Hohenlohe by 31. These stocks had, however, lagged considerably behind the general upward movement. Most of the Western Heavy Industry shares declined, but lost only a fraction of their big rises in preceding weeks. Shipping securities fell; and banking and brown coal stock rose. War Loan quoted yesterday 77½, 4 per cent. 75½, 3½ per cent. 68½, 3 per cent. 77½, Colonial 4 per cent. 69, and Savings and Premium 79½. The Floating Debt on August 31st was 219,061,306,492 marks, of which 202,776,170,300 marks consisted of discounted Treasury bills here in 9,600,000,000 marks Prussian Treasury bills taken over by the Republic in connection with the transfer of Prussia's State railways.

The condition of industry continues to improve, though the only cause is still the decline in mark exchange. The iron and steel market is very active; delivery terms are being prolonged; and for certain qualities the demand exceeds the supply. Latest prices and lowest prices of June are as follows, it being noted that the September prices are partly nominal, as producers refuse to sell at these rates:—

	Per Metric Ton.—	June.	Mid-Sept.
Bar iron	Marks.	1800	3000
Construction forms	Marks.	1750	2900
Thick sheets	Marks.	1700	2500
Medium sheets	Marks.	1750	3100
Thin sheets	Marks.	1850	3500
Rolled wire	Marks.	1850	3000
Zinc wire	Marks.	2950	4350

The wire market is the most active of all. According to the *Bergwerks-Zeitung*, the price rise is mainly accounted for not by the increased demand, but by a great increase in production cost. Since June the known increases in cost factors would, regardless of selling conditions, raise the bar-iron price from 1,800 to 2,740 marks a ton, main factors being the increases in coal prices, railway freights, and wages. Speculation in and hoarding of iron and steel are again common; accusations in this respect are made against the biggest and most reputable electrical concerns, one of which, according to the *Bergwerks-Zeitung*, lately held 100,000 tons of iron, worth 300,000,000 marks. The Upper Silesian smelting industry, which depends upon Swedish ore, is badly hit by the mark exchange fall, as home sale prices for pig-iron have not yet been correspondingly raised; while the zinc companies, which use local ore, are affected by the heavy price fall of zinc in the world market. Silesian production has considerably increased since order was restored; *per capita* production is more than double that of May, but it is still slightly below that of the first four months of the year. The sulphuric acid industry's production cost is above the sale price. The hide and leather market is active; the output of all German tanneries is estimated at 60-65 per cent. of pre-war figure. At present there is a heavy demand for hides and for leather. Reports from the textiles centres continue good.

POLAND.—CABINET CRISIS—FINANCES AND POLITICS—TRADE WITH THE EAST—INCREASE OF THE RATE OF DISCOUNT—CONSTRUCTION OF ROLLING-STOCK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, September 18.

DURING nearly a fortnight the Diet tried in vain to form a new Parliamentary Cabinet, and so it was necessary to resort to a business Cabinet. The peasant Premier has been replaced by a member of the *intelligentsia*. Mr. Ponikowski has the intention of selecting his colleagues not among party politicians, but among those who are considered to be especially fit for directing the affairs of the different departments. The present Cabinet crisis may be considered as a consequence of the collapse of the Polish mark. Mr. Steczkowski, being unable to keep the expenditure within the limits of his Budget, was obliged to tender his resignation, and the whole Cabinet followed his example. In consequence, the principal task of the new Government will consist in a reform of the existing financial system. It may be said that the whole public opinion is realising the dangers which the country must face at the present moment. Different leading organs of the Press are comparing the present situation with that which existed one year ago, when the country was menaced by a Bolshevik invasion. Drastic measures, which would put the revenues of the country in equilibrium with the expenditure, are demanded.

In Government circles, a plan of forming a Financial Board, with dictatorial power, is discussed. In the case of the formation of such a board, there exists the intention of inviting a foreign expert as one of its members. Among the projects which are put forward for saving the finances of the country, one which has been put by Mr. Steczkowski before the Budgetary Committee of the Diet is worth mentioning. The Union of Landlords has made an offer of putting at the disposal of the Government, gratuitously, large stretches of land. In exchange, they demand a postponement of the agrarian reform. It is estimated that by selling these lands to the peasants at the actual market price the Government could easily obtain 100 milliard marks.

During recent weeks different events have taken place which prove that the efforts of Polish industry to enter the markets of the East have been successful. Roumanian merchants have visited Lodz, and have ordered there large quantities of textile goods. Hitherto the Roumanian market was principally supplied by Austrian, Czechoslovakian, and Italian fabrics. Before the war Russia was the principal, and almost exclusive, customer of Lodz. During more than six years this connection has been entirely severed, and only now the first step towards the resumption of the traditional relations has been taken. According to reports from Lodz, the Economic Committee of the Soviet Delegation in Warsaw has placed there an order for 15 million metres of cotton goods. The payment will be made in American dollars and Polish marks. The actual production of Lodz amounts to 50 per cent. of the pre-war level. This quantity could be easily increased if the difficulties in obtaining the necessary credits and raw materials did not hinder development.

The Polish National Bank has increased its rate of discount by 1 per cent. The rate amounts actually for three months' bills to 7 per cent., for bills running from three to six months to 7½ per cent.

The building of rolling-stock is rapidly progressing in Poland. There are now three factories constructing locomotives for the State railways, and five factories are occupied with the building of passenger cars and wagons. These undertakings have obtained from the Government orders for 2,970 locomotives and 7,800 passenger cars and 70,000 wagons. The orders are extending over a period of 10 years. This year the Polish factories will put at the disposal of the State railways 18 engines, 150 passenger cars, and 2,625 wagons. This production will be increased every year, and it is intended to reach in the near future a yearly production surpassing many times this quantity.

SWEDEN.—RUSSIAN GOLD SHIPMENTS—TIMBER TRADE—WAGES FALL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, September 14.
DURING the past week the foreign exchanges have been exceedingly restless, moving up and down, mostly downwards, and interfering sadly with business. As for pounds and dollars, an explanation is suggested to be found in increased export of gold from Russia *via* Sweden. The fact is that considerable consignments of gold have arrived lately in Swedish ports, and are being melted down for transshipment to America. Now the American buyers of this gold have, of course, to pay in dollars; but business between America and Sweden being exceedingly slack, there is little demand for dollars in this country, and consequently it has been found more advantageous to offer the dollar payments for sale in the London market. But more marked has been the drop in German and Finnish marks, both currencies having established bottom records. German marks have been down during the week in the open market at 4.10 and the Finnmarks 5.85. On the Stock Exchange prices are sagging, and the tendency is anything but reassuring. The last record shows a loss of over 50 million kr in all values. It is suspected that the tax-paying term has something to do with the stringency, and many speculators are forced to sell out to get ready cash. The term for special war taxation payments has been postponed until the end of the year, thereby relieving many commercial and industrial undertakings. There is a much better tone in the timber trade, and sales of late have been quite considerable. The turnover hitherto amounts to between 200,000 and 300,000 standards, and it is fully expected that there will be a slight rush as the year is tending to its close from buyers who have to fill in stocks for the winter. The Swedish timber mills have large stocks to go on with even for next year, and no cutting will be undertaken this winter. The report of the Swedish Shipowners' Union at their last board meeting describes the year as the worst in the annals of the union since its formation 15 years ago. For the shipowners it is now simply a question of calculating whether least loss will be caused by laying up or keeping ships running. The report inspires no faith in the future, as the surplus of tonnage will affect rates and tonnage prices for a good long time to come. Wages in Sweden have, it is estimated, gone down on the average 17 per cent. For the paper industry, which employs 10,000 workmen, the decrease is 20 to 30 per cent.; for the furniture makers, 6,500 workmen, 25 per cent.; in the textile industry, with 23,000 hands, 20 per cent.; for 1,200 miners, 20 to 25 per cent.; for 5,000 sailors, firemen, and engineers, 20 per cent.; for woodpulp workers, 18,000 to 19,000, 15 per cent.; and for 24,000 hands in the sawmill industry likewise 15 per cent. The smallest reductions have taken place for 6,000 printers, 10 per cent., and for 4,600 tailors only 5 per cent. For the last category of workers another decrease of 5 per cent. will come into effect on the 1st prox. and another 5 per cent. after that before the year closes. The strongest reduction has taken place for 3,000 workers in the iron and steel industries, with 30 to 40 per cent., but in the manufacturing industry 54,000 men have accepted 17 per cent. reduced pay. In general, it is reckoned that the reduction in wages has kept pace with the fall in living costs, but it is difficult to say what the development will be in future. There are many factors to be taken into consideration, not the least the high position of the Swedish krona, which makes it imperative for Swedish employers to get costs down in order to be able to compete successfully with foreign competition. So far no negotiations have been opened from Swedish side for the renewal of a trade agreement with the Soviet. Most business done with Russia consists of grain exports, and a good deal of rye has lately been shipped to Russian Baltic ports.

SPAIN.—FINANCE AND MOROCCO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRID, September 19.

THE new Minister of Finance, Señor Cambó, stated in the Council of Ministers that, though he has found the

financial situation of Spain in a deplorable condition, he does not think it necessary at present to advise the issue of a loan, though most likely toward the end of the year it might be unavoidable. At present he expects to face the extraordinary expenses of the situation in Morocco from the margin of the Treasury account in the Bank of Spain, which amounts to 400 million pesetas. Señor Cambó expects also to obtain a large balance from November's financial collection, his firm intention being to force payments and taxation of all the large concerns and influential individuals who hitherto have been able to avoid contribution. This is more than necessary when Morocco costs the nation 50 millions a month.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"The Cotton Industry in France." By R. B. Forrester, M.A., M.Com. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 10s 6d.

THIS volume contains the report of Mr Forrester to the electors of the Gartside Scholarships. He deals with his subject in a very comprehensive manner; but the value of the book is somewhat lessened by the fact that the inquiry was practically completed before the outbreak of war, and only minor reference is made to the destruction of machinery and changes in the conditions since 1914. The cotton industry in France has made steady progress, as in 1870 there were 4,500,000 spindles and 55,000 looms, whereas according to the latest statistics the spindles now number 9,400,000 and the looms 121,000. The future of the trade rests very largely upon the rapidity of reconstruction during the next few years. The character of goods produced are chiefly specialties, and compared with England spinners and manufacturers are at a disadvantage owing to the mills being more scattered. The chapters dealing with the Working Conditions and Industrial Organisation, the Position of Labour, and Wages and Trade Unionism are full of interest, and the volume is probably the best history which has so far been written on the cotton industry in France.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Australia. Economic and Political Studies. By Various Writers. Edited by Meredith Atkinson. (Melbourne) Macmillan and Co., Limited.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London. 12s 6d net.

Rural Organisation. Proceedings of the Third National Country Life Conference. (Chicago) University of Chicago Press.

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics. No. 8. League of Nations. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 1s 6d.

International Labour Review. September, 1921. (Geneva) League of Nations, International Labour Office. 3s.

A View on the Policy of Great Britain in the Near East and Central Europe. By Pantcho Doreff, Former Bulgarian Deputy in the Imperial Turkish Parliament. (London) Waterlow and Sons, Limited.

Bulletin of the Central British Chamber of Commerce. September, 1921. (Mexico City) Plazuela del Colegio de Ninas, No. 4.

State Technology. The Journal of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants. September. No. 6. Vol. I. (London) 92 Victoria street, S.W. 1.

The current number of this journal contains an article by Mr T. A. O'Donahue, dealing with the question of the future profits of the coal mining industry.

Cardiff: The City of Golden Opportunities for the Manufacturer. (Cardiff) Development Agent's Office, City Hall.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Commercial Letter. September, 1921. (Toronto) The Canadian Bank of Commerce.

Economic Conditions, &c. September, 1921. (New York) The National City Bank of New York.

Mail Advice from Branches. Nos. 74 and 75. (London) The British Bank of South America, Limited.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.
September 28.

ACCOUNT.
September 29.

THE course of Stock Exchange business is not running very smoothly. What hopes had been entertained of a general improvement coming after the holiday season has been damped by the reluctance of the public to deal in stocks and shares. Even the investment markets are quiet. There has been a certain amount of selling amongst gilt-edged issues, and some fairly large lines of stock have come to market, but the expectations of a fall to 5 per cent. in the Bank rate led to no such supporting orders being placed as might have counteracted the slightly depressing effect produced by the sales. New issues of good stock, however, continue to go well. The Lancashire Power Company closed the subscription lists, for its new 7½ per cent. debentures, within three hours of their opening. It is said that half-a-dozen of the leading gas companies contemplate new issues of debenture stock in the near future, and that there will be a lively demand for underwriting of whatever good stock may be offered from these undertakings, it is safe to prophesy in advance.

The tragical death of Sir Ernest Cassel has had no effect upon any of the Stock Exchange markets.

The Consol market lies under the influence of the selling just mentioned. The various forms of Government borrowing are out of favour for the time being, and the recent strength of the Funding Loan, for instance, has given way under the pressure of quiet sales. National War Bonds suffered a fall, a movement exciting curiosity as to its reason. Surmises suggest that the holders may require the money for ordinary living purposes, or for the payment of taxes, seeing that so many people are receiving less dividends than usual, and, at the same time, are making but little money in their usual business. The Home Railway prior-charge stocks suffer from the same tendency, yet Colonials in a number of cases have hardened on the week, the gains being mostly confined to about a point.

The feature amongst foreign Government bonds is the dramatic way in which Mexican 5 per cents. have been rising. A mild gamble has sprung up in the bonds, partly owing to insistent buying from New York, whence has proceeded hopes of Mexico making an early start—some say next month—with the resumption of interest payments on the country's debts. These anticipations are regarded by many as being over-sanguine, but they have had the effect of keeping alive interest in the bonds. German and French issues are lower, on the exchange movements. Chinese bonds, which had fallen heavily on the fears aroused by internal conditions reported from the country, have recovered in the cases of those issues which enjoy specially hypothecated revenues for their service. Brazilians move irregularly, but Argentines are firmer. Russians are not particularly affected by the latest note of Lord Curzon, protesting against the manner in which the Soviet Government is disregarding its obligations in respect of British trade facilities.

Home Railway stocks are weak throughout, for no reason other than that the public are doing nothing except to realise in a small way. Railway stocks generally are in a depressed condition, Grand Trunks having further fallen, Argentines being lower, and Mexican Rails failing to derive any benefit from the firmness shown by Mexican Government Bonds. A market started on Thursday in the new 7½ per cent. Notes recently issued by the Antofagasta Company at 97½, the price being about 1 premium.

With a better tendency for rubber, prices of rubber shares exhibited a further tendency to improve, with Anglo-Dutch and Rubber Trust, the leaders of the market, distinctly better on the week. The August Board of Trade returns show that both America and Central Europe are beginning to take rubber in more substantial quantities than has been the case for some

time past. The oil market is neglected. People are a little nervous, owing to the latest reports regarding salt water intrusion into the Mexican wells, while in the Dutch East Indies the prospect of further heavy taxation does not encourage enterprise in the way of fresh purchases. The Trinidad shares are also heavy, and the oil market as a whole has lost its previous magnetic charm for the speculator. Amongst shipping issues, P. and O. deferred continues to advance, owing to dividend anticipations. The iron, coal, and steel market is disposed to sag, taking armament shares with it, and Dunlops have further given way, the protracted delay in any announcement with regard to the company's payment of its preference dividends being one cause of the dulness. Maypoles have been a lively market, showing a fall on the week by reason of the reduction in the interim dividend. The gamble in Low Temperature shares subsided, and the price has reacted after its previous jump. The textile group has no special characteristic other than that of a sagging market; the same description will apply to catering shares and a number of the minor departments connected with industrials. Marconis have fallen back, but Radios responded to a little New York inquiry, and moved upwards, after having been a dead market for months past. There is very little doing, either in banking or in insurance shares. At the same time, it is no easy matter to buy sound stock that has found a permanent home, and in the list of trust companies, for instance, would-be buyers find themselves confronted with the fact that there is hardly any stock on offer. Good preference shares in other markets are equally difficult to obtain.

The Kaffir market continues to be the favourite field for the circulation of rumours, of which the majority are not worth repetition, owing to their transparent impossibility. Apart from a little professional and semi-professional dealing, it must be said that Kaffirs attract no attention, a circumstance which, as usual, tends to lead prices gently downwards where they move at all. Rhodesian shares are coloured by Kaffirs. Diamond shares, together with Rio Tintos and others in the copper group, remain under the somewhat depressing influence which Paris is exerting at present. A rise to 3s 4d per ounce in the price of silver failed to galvanise activity in shares of the Mexican and other silver-producing companies. In the tin markets there is nothing doing. Russians have given way, because of Lord Curzon's note, to which reference has been made above.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	159,570,230 ..	..	..
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,990
5½%, 1929 receipts week ended September 10, 1921				19,990,000
Week ended September 17, 1921				4,426,000
Receipts to date				24,416,000
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHANGERS WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 17, 1921.				
April 1 to September 17, £1,830,000	£	350,000 ..	£	350,000
To the Public—				
Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), £250,000 10% Conv. First Mtge. Deb. Stk. (rep. June 30, 1924, at 105%), issued at par (Sept. 19), 250,000 ..	250,000	..	25,000	.. 225,000
Lancashire Electric Light and Power, £400,000 7½% Prior Lien Deb. Stk. (rep. at 105%), issued at 95% (Sept. 19)	400,000	..	380,000	.. 40,000
Manchester Brewery Co., £500,000 7½% First Mtge. Deb. Stk. (rep. at 105%, Dec. 31, 1921), issued at 95% (Sept. 19)	500,000	..	475,000	.. 25,000
Manchester and District Picture House Co., 559,830 Ord. Shares, 2s, at par	55,983	..	55,983	.. 27,992
Dreamland (Margate), Ltd., 15,000 8% Pfg. Cam. Pref. Shares, £1, at par	15,000	..	15,000	.. 3,750
Do, 2,000 8% Pfg. Red. Debts, £20, at par	2,000	..	2,000	.. 500
Nickel-Chromium Alloys, 25,000 Pref. Shares, £1, at par	25,000	..	25,000	.. 6,250
Winter Gardens Picture Theatre (Manchester), 26,999 Ord. £1, at par (Sept. 20)	26,999	..	26,999	.. 3,375
Mengkibol Rubber Co., £65,000 7-year 10% Conv. Deb. Stock (rep. at par June 30, 1928), issued at par (Sept. 20)	65,000	..	65,000	.. 8,125
Henley and Son's Cyder Co., 25,000 Pref. Shares, £1, at par	25,000	..	25,000	.. 6,250
Do 23,657 Ord. Shares, £1, at par	23,657	..	23,657	.. 5,914
High Wycombe Theatre Co., 30,000 Shares, £1, at par	30,000	..	30,000	.. 30,000
Total offered to public	..	1,373,639 ..	152,156 ..	1,221,483
To Shareholders only—				
Glen Fervie Rubber, 25,000 Shs., £1, at par	25,000	..	25,000	.. 6,250
Staveley Coal and Iron Co., 463,773 Ord. Shares, £1, at par	463,773	..	463,773	.. 115,943
Total offered to shareholders only	..	488,773 ..	122,193 ..	366,580

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921.....£166,202,642	£367,549,656
1920.....290,810,788	1,036,059,951
1919.....900,639,363	1,395,381,441
1918.....1,002,778,331	1,318,536,010
1917.....1,033,324,860	1,585,436,850
1916.....394,527,500	685,526,326
1915.....658,773,676	1,522,522,633
1914.....172,634,447	596,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. Interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Full particulars of these bonds, together with comments, will be found in *Economist*, July 9th, see page 43, also in our issue of July 16th.

Government of India Rupee Loan.—Subscriptions in India and London to the Indian Government's 6 per Cent. Rupee Loan (free of Indian income-tax) amounted to Rs. 45,90 lakhs up to September 10th. This figure does not include the final results of the conversions of 1921 and 1922 Indian War Bonds. Conversions of 1922 War Bonds ceased on September 15th, but holders of 1921 War Bonds may convert into the new loan up to October 29th, either in India or in London.

Manchester Brewery Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £395,000, of which £375,392 has been issued. Exclusive of first mortgage bonds, to be redeemed out of proceeds of present issue, the existing loan capital authorised and issued is £450,000, all of which is irredeemable. This is an issue of £500,000 7½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at £95 per cent., repayable at £103 per cent. "on or before" December 31, 1931. This debenture stock is limited to £500,000, and will be secured by a trust deed between the company with Walker and Homfrays, Limited, as guarantors, and the Royal Exchange Assurance as trustees, by specific first mortgages on 216 licensed and other properties, and a floating charge on all the company's other property and assets, subject, of course, to prior floating charges in favour of perpetual debenture stocks, mentioned above. The company undertakes not to create any charge ranking in priority to or *pari passu* with these debentures. The assets of the company shown by the certificate of its auditors available for security of this debenture stock amount to £1,091,318, or, without deducting trade liabilities, to £1,330,043. The net excess of assets over liabilities of Walker and Homfrays, Limited, the guarantors, as shown by their last balance-sheet, is (subject to excess profits duty and corporation tax for 1920) £1,059,916. The 216 licensed properties specifically allocated have been valued, under date of September 9, 1921, at £800,350. These, however, are probably taken at only a little under boom values. Profits of both the issuing and guaranteeing companies are set out from 1913. The issue has been underwritten for 3 per cent., and an overriding commission of ½ per cent. The prospectus is fairly full and informative, but we should like to have seen a detailed statement of Walker and Homfrays' balance-sheet. During the past few years there has been but little competitive struggle between brewery undertakings, and for this reason the cautious investor will probably pay more attention to 1913 figures than war and post-war results. These debentures are not without attraction, but the announcement of the early closing of the subscription list is surprising.

Staveley Coal and Iron Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £2,500,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. The authorised capital of this undertaking is to be increased to £3,000,000, and it is intended to issue 463,773 shares, which will be offered to existing shareholders at par, in the proportion of one for each five fully-paid shares held. As the present market price of existing shares is round about 31s each, the offer is in the nature of a substantial bonus to shareholders.

The Lancashire Electric Light and Power Company, Limited.—Issued share capital £689,838. This is an issue of £400,000 7½ per cent. prior lien debenture stock at 95 per cent. (of which £150,000 has been applied for firm, and will be allotted in full). A further £135,000 of this stock will be issued at par to the holders of £135,000 prior lien bonds of the company now outstanding. This prior lien debenture stock is limited to a total issue of £700,000, and will be secured by trust deeds constituting such stock a specific first mortgage on the whole of the debenture and share capital issued by the Lancashire Electric Power Company (the Parliamentary Company) and a floating charge on the undertaking and all other assets of this company. Prior lien debenture stock will be repayable by means of a 2 per cent. cumulative sinking fund on or before April 1, 1948, and the fund will be applied in redemption of the stock, either by annual drawings at 105 per cent., or by purchase at or below 105 per cent. Redemption will begin in the year 1924, but the company reserves the right to redeem at any time on giving three months' notice at 105. In addition to the above

7½ per cent. prior lien debenture stock, and "ranking behind it," there is £150,000 5 per cent. debenture stock, the interest on which will be increased to 6 per cent. The company was formed in 1903 under the name of the Lancashire Power Construction Company, Limited, and owns all the issued debenture and share capital of the Lancashire Electric Power Company. The latter has up to December 31, 1920, outlaid £1,209,406 by way of capital expenditure. Net earnings are given from 1913, but the table could have been made more informative as to the amount of interest paid, and on what amount, dividends paid, and sums placed to reserve, if any. The Stock Exchange official list shows that the 6 per cent., free of tax, convertible first preference shares are changing hands at from 17s 6d to 17s 6d, which cannot be very encouraging to subscribers for that issue. We were not favourably impressed by this issue when it was made (see the *Economist*, December 13, 1919, page 1098). In the supplementary list of the London Stock Exchange dealings were effected in the 5 per cent. prior lien bonds of the Lancashire Power Construction Company at 84½ and 84 on March 21, 1921. Including the overriding commission, the issue was underwritten for cash at 3½ per cent., which appears to be reasonable enough. The company, possibly, and even probably, has a profitable future in front of it, but we do not think that the terms are sufficiently attractive to tempt the opulent investor, for whom it might otherwise have been suitable. The issue was quickly oversubscribed, which is somewhat astonishing, considering the terms offered and the lack of clarity of the prospectus.

Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), Limited.—Authorised share capital, £2,000,000, of which £1,440,000 has been issued, and £600,000 is to be issued by agreement. This is an issue of £250,000 10 per cent. convertible first mortgage debenture stock at par, repayable on June 30, 1924, at 110. £55,000 of this stock has been subscribed in India on the terms of this prospectus, and the remaining £195,000 is now offered for subscription. Each stockholder will have the right in any year up to June 24, 1924 (on giving seven days' notice), to exchange an equal amount of fully-paid stock at par into fully-paid shares of the company at par. The stock is secured under a trust deed in favour of the trustees by means of a specific mortgage on the oil mining properties and fixed plant, and a floating charge on the remaining assets and undertaking of the company. The company was incorporated in February, 1920, for the purpose of acquiring and developing certain oil properties in Burma. The assets of the company are given as £1,557,942, but mention is made of a liability to a bank for £29,700. The company has still to prove that it can produce oil as a commercial proposition. We would refer our readers to our criticism of this undertaking when it made an issue of ordinary shares (see the *Economist* for February 14, 1920, page 326). Dealings in the £1 shares, according to the Stock Exchange Supplementary List, are being effected at round about 8s 7d. This somewhat reflects the opinion of the market on the enterprise.

Dreamland, Margate.—Authorised share capital £75,000 divided into 8 per cent. cumulative participating preference shares of £1 each, and 100,000 ordinary shares of 5s each. This is an issue at par of 15,000 participating preference and 2,000 8 per cent. debentures of £20 each. Preference shareholders will participate in further profits up to a total dividend of 12 per cent., while debenture-holders have also the right to participate in profits up to a sum which would equal a further 2 per cent. on their debentures, or 10 per cent. in all. The debentures will be secured by a specific first mortgage on the freehold property and a floating charge upon other assets. They will be "redeemable" at 105. We have before called attention to the vagueness of the term "redeemable" in cases such as this. The company is an amusement undertaking, and has been formed to purchase certain premises and assets at Margate. The purchase price has been fixed at £77,440, which will be satisfied by the issue of £35,000 in shares, and balance in cash, the latter at the option of the company. An independent valuation of the property and assets is given at £75,000, and an accountant's certificate for profits in periods in 1920 and 1921 appear in the prospectus. It is stated that the vendor makes no promotion profits. This is a speculative enterprise, which will probably appeal to many local people. For this class of undertaking the prospectus is unusually informative, and to that extent must be commended, with the exception mentioned.

Manchester and District Picture House Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £80,000, divided into shares of 2s each, of which 92,170 shares have been issued for cash. This is an issue of 559,830 shares at par. The company was registered in August, 1920, to acquire cinema theatres. Certain properties to be acquired are independently valued at £36,650. The advertised abridged prospectus is not very clear to us, as it states that "the said purchase prices are payable as to £36,000 in cash and as to £26,150 in shares or partly in cash and partly in shares." Later on it states that "in the year 1920 52,700 ordinary shares of £1 each were offered for public subscription, 9,217 were allotted for cash, and are fully paid up,"

which reads curiously, and further, we are informed that 8,800 shares were issued in part payment of purchase consideration. The information given is not sufficient for us to offer an opinion upon the flotation.

The Winter Gardens Picture Theatre, Limited.—Authorised share capital £30,000, divided into shares of £1 each. Issue of 26,999 ordinary shares at par. The company has been formed to acquire the Tivoli Theatre, Manchester, and run it as a cinematograph house. The purchase price has been fixed at £50,000, payable in cash, of which the sum of £30,000 is being left on mortgage by the vendor. We cannot find any valuation of the theatre, independent or otherwise, in the prospectus. The board of directors is the same as the Gaiety Cinema, Manchester. A speculative proposition, with possibilities of success, but we have before pointed out in these columns that we do not care for the method of finance where the total capital of a company is the marginal difference of the purchase price and a loan from vendors.

Mengkibol (Central Johore) Rubber Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £150,000, divided into shares of £1 each, of which 100,000 ordinary and 8,349 8 per cent. convertible preference shares, all of £1 each, have been issued. This is an issue at par of £65,000 seven-year 10 per cent. convertible debenture stock. Applications have already been received from existing shareholders for £16,251 of this issue, and from a creditor of the company for £20,000. The loan will be repaid at par in June, 1928, but the company has the option to redeem after September 24, 1924, at 105 per cent. on giving three months' notice. Holders may convert this stock during its currency into ordinary shares at par values, on giving one month's notice. This issue is secured by a trust deed, and the trustees are acting without remuneration. If existing shareholders in rubber companies have a margin of capital to spare for speculative purposes, and are convinced that their companies have been economically and efficiently conducted in the past, there is no reason why fresh capital should not be subscribed on the generous terms offered from time to time by rubber-growing undertakings.

Glen Bervie Rubber.—Issue *pro rata* to shareholders registered on August 31st, of 25,000 £1 shares. It is stated that "allottees" will be entitled to the right to be exercised on or before September 30, 1926, to subscribe at par for one share for every ten shares allotted. The new shares have been underwritten, and others to the extent of 8,000 shares for a commission of 5 per cent. in cash, together with option rights at par on the same basis as the rights given to the subscribers of this issue, "to the extent of 15 per cent. of the shares underwritten." As the existing £1 shares have been dealt in at 15s, it is good for shareholders to know that the underwriters had such faith in the future of the company.

The Cronite Foundry Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £36,000, divided into 35,000 8 per cent. participating preference and 20,000 founders' shares of 1s each. Holders of preference shares are entitled to receive out of profits of each year, in addition to the 8 per cent. dividend, 50 per cent. of "surplus profits." This is an issue of 25,000 preference shares at par. The company was formed in November, 1919, for the purpose of developing a process for producing an alloy "largely composed of nickel and chromium, and preference shares for £10,000 were offered and subscribed." Freehold property is valued at £24,250, but this carries a 7 per cent. £15,000 debenture. £5,000 of this issue is reserved for the Mond Nickel Company, which nominates a director. This is an issue suitable only for those with inside knowledge of the flotation.

South Kent Water Company.—Incorporated by special Act of Parliament. This is an offer to shareholders by tender at a minimum par price, of 189 7 per cent. preference shares of £10 each. A good lock-up investment, but with difficulties of finding a ready market in case of need, however, attached.

The North British Publishing Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £5,000, divided into 3,000 preference shares of £1 each, and 20,000 ordinary shares of 2s each. This is an issue of 3,000 12½ per cent. preference shares at par. Applicants for preference shares have the right to apply at par for two ordinary shares in respect of each preference share. The circular issued and general information offered is not sufficiently attractive to tempt the cautious investor, and it is an issue which should appeal only to opulent people who consider that the publications of this company deserve financial support.

Yorkshire Electric Power Company.—We are informed that the whole of the £130,000 5½ per cent. debenture stock has been taken up, and no further stock is available.

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½%, 1925-28) .. 88½ .. 88½ .. —			
Loans (4½%, 1925-45) .. 81½ .. 81½ .. —			
5%, 1929-47 .. 82½ .. 82½ .. —			
6%, 1929-47 .. 86½ .. 86½ .. —			
Funding Loan 4% .. 73½ .. 73½ .. —			
Victory Bonds 4% .. 75½ .. 75½ .. —			
Conversion Loan 3½% .. 62½ .. 62½ .. —			
Consols 2½% .. 48½ .. 48½ .. —			
Irish Land Stock 2½% .. 48½ .. 48½ .. —			
Local Loans 3% .. 52½ .. 52½ .. —			
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (1910) .. 102½ .. 102½ .. —			
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) .. 82½ .. 82½ .. —			
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) .. 11½ .. 11½ .. —			

Colonial and Foreign Railways.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Antofagasta Cons. 45 .. 45 .. —			
B. A. & Pacific .. 42 .. 42 .. —			
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 60½ .. 60½ .. —			
Buenos Ayres West. 60 .. 60 .. —			
Canadian Pacific .. 151 .. 149 .. —			
Central Argentine .. 55½ .. 54½ .. —			
Grand Trunk Ord. 2 .. 2 .. —			
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 5½ .. 6 .. +			
Leopoldina .. 22½ .. 22½ .. —			
Mexican Railway .. 15 .. 15 .. —			
Do 1st Pref. 41 .. 42 .. +			
Do 2nd Pref. 27 .. 27 .. —			
San Paulo .. 120 .. 120½ .. +			
United Havana .. 54½ .. 54 .. —			

American Railroads.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Chesapeake & Ohio .. 74 .. 72 .. —			
Erie .. 17½ .. 17 .. —			
Do 4½ 1st Pref. 25 .. 25 .. —			
Southern .. 27 .. 27 .. —			
Do Non-cum Pref. 63 .. 61 .. —			

Foreign Government Securities.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Argentine 5%, 1886-7 .. 95 .. 94 .. —			
Belgian 3% .. 62 .. 62 .. —			
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914 .. 62 .. 60 .. —			
Hillman 4½%, 1905 .. 68 .. 68 .. —			
Chinese 5%, 1912 .. 69 .. 70 .. +			
Egyptian 4% .. 64½ .. 64½ .. —			
French 5% .. 41 .. 40½ .. —			
Do 4% .. 30½ .. 30½ .. —			
Italian 3½% Rentes .. 24 .. 22 .. —			
Greek Monopoly 4% .. 33½ .. 33½ .. —			
Japanese 4½% .. 114 .. 115 .. +			
Do 4½%, 1910 .. 65 .. 65 .. —			
Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 66 .. 69 .. +			
Peruvian Corp. Pref. 163 .. 163 .. —			
Russian 5%, 1906 .. 11 .. 11 .. —			
Spanish 4% .. 71½ .. 71½ .. —			

Telegraphs.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Anglo-American "A" .. 17½ .. 17½ .. —			
Eastern Telegraph .. 163½ .. 163½ .. —			
Marconi Wireless .. 14½ .. 14½ .. —			
Marconi Canada .. 2½ .. 2½ .. —			
Marconi Marine .. 13½ .. 13½ .. —			

Railways.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Great Central Pref. 9 .. 9 .. —			
Great Eastern .. 28½ .. 28 .. —			
Great Northern Def. 25½ .. 25 .. —			
Great Western .. 69½ .. 68 .. —			
Lancs. and Yorks. 49 .. 48 .. —			
London, Brighton, & S. Coast .. 38½ .. 38 .. —			
North British Def. 11 .. 11 .. —			
North-Eastern .. 72½ .. 71½ .. —			
South-Eastern "A" .. 22½ .. 21½ .. —			
Do Arb. Pref. 39 .. 39 .. —			
L. and N. W. 69½ .. 68 .. —			
L. & S. Western, Def. 18 .. 18 .. —			
Metropolitan .. 24½ .. 23 .. —			
Metropolitan District 17 .. 16½ .. —			
Midland Deferred .. 43½ .. 42 .. —			
North British Def. 11 .. 11 .. —			
North-Eastern .. 72½ .. 71½ .. —			
South-Eastern "A" .. 22½ .. 21½ .. —			

Miscellaneous.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1) .. 13½ .. 13½ .. —			
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 18½ .. 17½ .. —			
Ass. Phos. Cement (£1) .. 13½ .. 13½ .. —			
Bham Small Arms (£1) .. 8/9 .. 8/6 .. —			
Brazil Traction (£100) .. 29½ .. 29 .. —			
British-American Tobacco (£1) .. 3½ .. 3½ .. —			
Erit. & Arg. Meat (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ .. —			
Burmah Oil (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ .. —			
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ .. —			
Courtauld (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Cunard (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 4½ .. 4½ .. —			
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Forestal Land (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Furness, Withy (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Hudson's Bay (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ .. —			
Imperial Tobacco (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ .. —			
Int'l Paint (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Linggi Plants (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. —			
Lipton (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Lister (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Lobitos Oilfields (£1) .. 3½ .. 3½ .. —			
Lyons (J. & Co. (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 4½ .. 4½ .. —			
Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 4½ .. 4½ .. —			
North Caucasian (10) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Pekin (2) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Rubber Plantations Investment (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Shell Transport (£1) .. 4½ .. 4½ .. —			
Smithfield Argentine Meat (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Underground Electric (£10) .. 2½ .. 2½ .. —			
Do "A" (1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Do Inc. Bas. (£100) .. 76 .. 76 .. —			
United Serdang (2) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
United Tobacco (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ .. —			
Ural Caspian (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Valambrosa (2) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Vickers (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Watney Def. Sdk. 132½ .. 132½ .. —			

Mines.			
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Brakpan (£1) .. 21½ .. 21½ .. —			
Broken Hill Prop. (5) .. 11½ .. 11½ .. —			
Chartereds (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Crown Mines (10) .. 24 .. 24 .. —			
De Beers Def. (£2½) .. 12½ .. 11½ .. —			
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. —			
Geduld (£1) .. 24½ .. 24½ .. —			
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4½ .. 4½ .. —			
Knights .. 31½ .. 31½ .. —			
Modderfontein (10) .. 32 .. 32 .. —			
Modderfont. "B" (5) .. 18½ .. 18½ .. —			
Modderfont. Deep (5) .. 24 .. 24 .. —			
Premier Def. (2½) .. 5½ .. 5½ .. —			
Rand Mines (5) .. 24 .. 24 .. —			
Rio Tinto (£5) .. 29 .. 29 .. —			
Spring Mines (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ .. —			

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

PEARSON AND KNOWLES COAL AND IRON COMPANY, LIMITED.

June 30, 1921.			
LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	Inc. or Dec.		Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares .. 1,108,500 ..		Properties .. 853,655 ..	+ 106,653
6% pref. shares .. 250,000 ..		Investment acct. .. 522,409 ..	+ 3,305
Chartereds (£1) .. 820 ..		Mine rents suspense account .. 15,925 ..	+ 1,209
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 14½ ..		Stock .. 416,655 ..	+ 264,137
Crown Mines (10) .. 24 ..		Sundry debtors .. 673,572 ..	+ 359,801
De Beers Def. (£2½) .. 12½ ..		Cash and bills .. 205,486 ..	+ 89,773
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 1½ ..			
Geduld (£1) .. 24½ ..			
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4½ ..			
Total .. 2,687,702 ..	+ 425,416	Total .. 2,687,702 ..	+ 425,416



HEAD OFFICE:

1 Dale Street,
LIVERPOOL.

LONDON:

Chief Office,
1 Cornhill, E.C.3TOTAL ASSETS exceed - £20,000,000
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID over - £102,000,000**FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.**Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity
Guarantee, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Personal Accident,
Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of
Profits, &c.

OFFICES IN ALL THE CHIEF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at
Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager
of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.**COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.****GUEST, KEEN, AND NETTLEFOLDS, LIMITED.****PAST YEAR'S TRADE CONDITIONS AND PRESENT PROSPECTS.**

The ordinary general meeting of Guest, Keen, and Nettlefolds, Limited, was held, on the 15th instant, at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, Mr Edward Steer (chairman and managing director) presiding.

The secretary (Mr J. H. Jolly) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman, in the course of his speech, said:—

The most important event which has occurred has been the acquisition by us of a controlling interest in the important coal distribution business of L. Guéret and Co., Limited, of Cardiff. They are one of the largest shippers of coal in South Wales, and are the selling agents, solely or jointly, for some of the most important collieries in that district. We have made a satisfactory arrangement with them for the sale of the output of coal from our Dowlais and Cwmbran Collieries, and from the Cyfartha Collieries of Crawshaw Brothers, Limited, and they will purchase for us our requirements of pitwood, which represent a very large annual expenditure. Another important matter in connection with our business has been the acquisition by us of a considerable proportion of the preference shares of John Lysaght, Limited, in which we hold over 99 per cent. of a total issue of 2,000,000 ordinary shares. Since our last annual meeting we have secured a large interest in the Crown Preserved Coal Company, Limited, who take considerable quantities of the small coal which we have for disposal, and we have also availed ourselves of an opportunity of increasing our holding in the firm of Brevillier, Urban, and Co., of Vienna, who, like ourselves, are large manufacturers of screws, bolts, and nuts and similar goods. In connection with our subsidiary companies, the Orconera Iron Ore Company, in which we have a very large interest, has recently acquired the San Salvador, a neighbouring mine to their Obregon property, which will add considerably to the minerals at our disposal in years to come. I have now referred to all the extensions of our trade associations made during the 12 months. We are not looking for worlds to conquer, but we shall not let any opportunity pass of carefully considering the acquisition of other works or interests which might conduce to the advantage of our operations.

PAST YEAR'S CONDITIONS.

The conditions which have obtained during the 12 months under review have been the most difficult this company has ever had to contend with, as those of you who are engaged in business will readily appreciate. Although the coal settlement was arrived at towards the end of June, it took some time before our collieries were in full working order again. Needless to say, the strike has caused a great set-back to the coal industry, and here we look for much assistance from Messrs Guéret's organisation in our endeavours to regain our overseas trade. With the arrangement which has now been agreed I sincerely trust that we may look forward to an era of peace, so far as our coalfields

are concerned. Another, and by no means the least, of the difficulties we have had to contend with during the year has been the altogether unforeseen collapse in the prices of all classes of our goods, for which I consider the coal strikes responsible to a great extent, but which is also largely due to Belgian and French competition. It may be asked why British manufacturers are not able to meet this competition, but the answer is not far to seek. After the signing of the armistice there was a short period of good trade, and while this demand continued, and prices remained high, employers could pay the very heavy wages which the war had brought into existence. Sellers, however, had to contend with rates of exchange which enabled Continental makers to sell their goods in our markets well under, in many cases, our cost of production, and yet obtain a fair margin of profit, and at the same time to pay their workmen satisfactory wages.

NECESSITY FOR CHEAPER PRODUCTION.

I do not believe that any artificial scheme of regulating European rates of exchange would be of lasting benefit, and the true remedy is, I think, obvious. If we are to maintain our position in the markets of the world, there will have to be such a substantial fall in the prices of the chief necessities of life as will warrant substantial decreases in wages without entailing hardship on the workers, and, above all, greatly increased production will have to take place. It is a very satisfactory indication that in some of our great industries employers and employed have come together, and, by frank discussion and consultation, have arrived at agreements which have avoided stoppages of work, and in nearly all cases reductions have been accepted with an admirable spirit of compromise. Unfortunately, industry is handicapped by ever-increasing burdens. During the year there has been an increase in the contributions of employers to the health and unemployment insurance funds. In reference to the future, it is more than usually difficult to prophesy. Bad times alternate with good seasons, and we must take both as they come and make the best of them. If there are plenty of unfavourable symptoms, there are others which encourage us not to abandon ourselves to pessimism. We are thankful to be at last rid of excess profits duty and mine control, which have been so terrible a burden to all manufacturers and colliery proprietors. I trust that their evil effects on industry may gradually disappear, and that we may now look forward to a return to more or less normal times. The Chairman moved the adoption of the report and accounts and the declaration of a final dividend on the ordinary shares, making 10 per cent., free of tax, for the year.

Mr F. W. Keen seconded the motion, which was supported by Mr H. Seymour Berry, and carried unanimously.

GENERAL MINING AND FINANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.
SATISFACTORY RESULTS—INCREASED PROFITS.

Report of the proceedings at the twenty-first annual general meeting of shareholders, held in the board room, General Mining Buildings, Johannesburg, on Thursday, August 25, 1921.

Mr Leopold Albu presided, and in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:

Gentlemen,—Your chairman, Sir George Albu, who is at present in Europe for health reasons, asked me before leaving to preside at this meeting. As you are aware, I returned to South Africa only a few months ago after an absence of over 15 years. The changes which have taken place in that comparatively short time in the history of this vast country are truly amazing. Agriculture, then in its crudest infancy, has in the interval blossomed out into a great industry. It is quite amazing, too, to see what strides South Africa has made in industrial development during my absence. Who would have believed it possible that iron, steel and cement factories would spring up in so short a time, or that in the coal trade South Africa would so soon have become an exporter of considerable magnitude? On the other hand, the gold industry, which should have profited more than any other by the war, has, I regret to see, come off very badly indeed through it. Whilst the price of gold, in contrast to any other commodity, remained stationary during the war, the cost of production continually mounted up, owing to colossal increases in wages, material, plant and everything in connection with mining.

LABOUR DIFFICULTIES.

But this is not all; the efficiency of the workers has, I am sorry to say, gradually deteriorated, and we find to-day the existence of many mines threatened as a result of this fatal combination of high costs and low efficiency. There can be no doubt about the seriousness of the position in which the gold mining industry as a whole finds itself, and unless wages are forthwith considerably reduced and pre-war efficiency at least is restored, you will witness within a short period the gradual closing down of mines which to-day are producing in the aggregate something like 250,000 ozs

of gold per month, and employing about 9,000 white men and 80,000 natives.

I hope the leaders of labour will recognise in time the hopelessness of the position created since the war, and will without delay urge their unions to accept the inevitable reduction of wages and especially to give that efficiency without which neither the gold industry, nor, indeed, any industry, can be successfully carried on. They must in their own interest cease to insist on maintaining conditions which are rendering a very large number of mines quite unremunerative, and will force them sooner or later to close down. It is not the shilling or two per shift more or less which will resuscitate the comparatively low grade mines of the Rand, but a drastic improvement in the efficiency of the miners. That to my mind is the real crux of the situation, which is sapping the life-blood of an otherwise well-organised, sound and progressive industry.

The net profit for the year at £53,913 represents a considerable advance on the operations for 1919, the enhanced earnings being due to the fact that our share transactions for the period under review resulted in a surplus on balance of £44,672, as compared with £17,798 from this source in the previous year, while an increase in dividends on investments, amounting to nearly £14,000, made a further welcome addition to our income.

I hope, however, that the depreciation in values of mining shares is only a temporary phase, and that with the advent of more normal conditions we shall be able to show our investments at a much higher realisable value than we were able to do at the close of last year. Indeed, since the closing of the accounts the values of some of our holdings have appreciated, and if costs can only be reduced and efficiency raised, there is no doubt that a much more prosperous state for the whole of the gold industry can be achieved; a result which would be to your great benefit in every respect.

DWARSFONTEIN AND BRAKFRONTEIN DEVELOPMENTS.

Judging from the developments so far accomplished, both on Dwarsfontein and Brakfontein, I have no hesitation in saying that in these two mines alone the Transvaal Silver Company has an asset of great possibilities, and that we may reasonably and confidently look forward to the eventual fulfilment of the great expectations we have all entertained in connection with this venture. I may mention that, in order to complete the plant and bring the property to the producing stage, the capital of the company was increased in May from £140,000 to £300,000 by the creation of 160,000 additional shares of £1 each. This new capital was guaranteed by your corporation at 21s per share; 140,000 shares of this were offered to existing shareholders at the same price, and nearly 100,000 shares were taken up by them. Since I last addressed you we have had to deal with quite a number of minor differences between the industry and its employees. On the whole, however, I am glad to say we have reason to believe that the spirit of "give and take" is gaining ground, and that the men are beginning to realise that the counsels of the extremists are not for the ultimate benefit of the rank and file.

It is a hard economic fact that no industry can continue unless value is received by employers for wages paid.

The motion adopting the report and accounts was seconded by Mr J. V. Blinkhorn and carried unanimously.

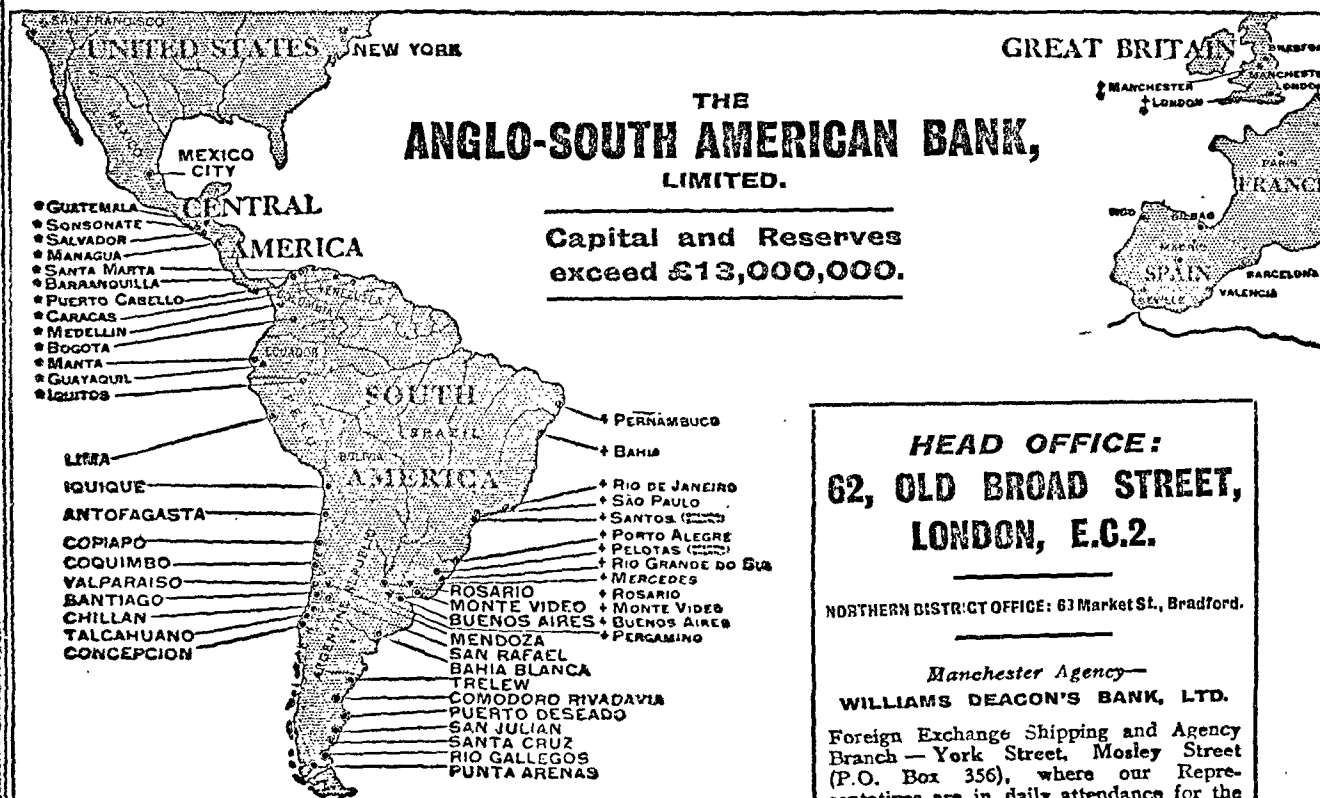
UNION GOLD STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.
SPLENDID RESULTS OF PAST YEAR.

The twenty-fourth annual general meeting of the Union Gold Storage Company, Limited, was held, on the 21st instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, Mr Roger P. Sing (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr E. Hinchliffe) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and **THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,**
are established.



Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

The Chairman said:—Ladies and Gentlemen,—I know you will take pleasure in joining me in tendering to Sir Edmund Vestey our congratulations upon the honour of the baronetcy recently conferred upon him—it is a fitting reward for the energy and industry rendered to the commercial world generally. We of the Union Cold Storage Company, Limited, know how largely his industry and ability have contributed to the success of our business.

In moving the usual resolution for the adoption of the report, I will ask you to give me your attention for a few minutes, so that I may briefly bring to your notice such matters as deserve to be specially mentioned. Progress with the Union Cold Storage Company has become habitual, and the year 1920, which is now under review, compares favourably with the years which have gone before, and I have no hesitation in stating that the results attained are, under all the difficult circumstances that prevailed during the year, wonderfully good. Such results can only be achieved by constant care and close application to business, and in this respect I can claim that the Union Cold Storage Company is second to none in the energy of its directors, in the efficiency of its management, and in the whole-hearted and untiring co-operation of the whole staff throughout all our branches.

The capital increase made in the early part of 1920, to which I was able to allude at our last annual meeting, now appears for the first time in our balance-sheet. You will remember that this took the form of a further issue of 700,000 10 per cent. cumulative "A" preference shares and the issue of 2,000,000 7 per cent. preference shares of £1 each. The assets acquired exceeded considerably the amount of the new capital raised, and this is reflected in the amount of outstanding creditors and loans. Personally, I do not like an overspent capital account, and I am glad to tell you that we are in process of carrying out certain arrangements which will reduce these outstanding debts to a very much smaller figure. No new capital issue is contemplated at the moment.

REVENUE AND DIVIDEND.

If you will turn now to our revenue you will see that as a result of the year's working, and including the amount brought forward from last year, there is a balance available of £539,110. After paying debenture interest, dividends on all classes of preference shares, interest on specific mortgages, and making the usual reserve for depreciation, there remains a balance of £117,496, which will permit of the payment of the usual dividend of 10 per cent. paid on the ordinary shares, which is what we recommend, and will enable us to carry forward £87,496 to 1921, as compared with £71,716 brought in from the previous year. You will notice that for the year 1920 we have purchased and cancelled £54,127 debenture stock, and have reduced the specific mortgages by £20,800. The total amount of debenture stock which has been redeemed and cancelled to date is £535,333, and the total amount repaid to date on specific mortgage account is £98,750. These reductions in the amount of our indebtedness improve the position of the company materially. I do not think there is anything further in the accounts which calls for special attention.

From what I have already said, both to-day and on previous occasions, you will realise that year by year our progress has been both consistent and material; at the same time, I do not wish you to think that we do not have our difficult times, and I can assure you that the successful conduct of your world-wide business requires at all times quite exceptional care and foresight on the part of the management.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS
CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

I can claim that we have established a reputation, and the "Union" is thereby able to attract by its known superior conduct of its business those trades which require the most reliable refrigerating facilities, and we all feel that it is one of our first duties to maintain and to further that reputation.

CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS.

Having now reviewed our report and balance-sheet, and given you a few comments on our aims and methods, it only remains for me to add a few words concerning the current year. Ever since last autumn a pronounced depression has prevailed throughout the business world generally, which, as far as this country is concerned, was gravely accentuated by the industrial troubles of the early summer. It seems now at last as if wiser counsels are to prevail, and we all devoutly hope to see our domestic affairs settle down, and that business may revive and a real and lasting improvement may be established throughout the country generally. In spite of all the depression to which I have referred, I have pleasure in telling you that for the year 1921 to date our business continues to make the usual progress, and if it should again be my privilege to meet you next year and to preside at your annual meeting, I look forward with every confidence to being able to present to you satisfactory accounts for the year 1921.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the formal business was duly transacted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Sept. 26th-Oct. 1st, were opened on Sept. 23, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £83,985,000. Tenders for Monday bills at 98 1/8 1/2 and above in full. Tuesday to Saturday bills at 98 1/8 1/2 and above in full. The average rate of discount was 3 1/8 1/2. The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Aug. 26 (3 months)	50,000,000	75,145,000	4 13 0-38	4 1/2	£98 1/8 1/2 (Monday and Tuesday bills) and above in full, and for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £98 1/8 1/2 and above in full.
Sept. 2 (3 months)	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1-53	4	£98 1/8 1/2 (Monday to Saturday bills), about 80 1/2%, and above in full.
Sept. 9 (3 months)	50,000,000	73,835,000	4 1 6-36	3 1/2	£98 1/8 1/2 bills about 50% and above in full.
Sept. 16 (3 months)	45,000,000	71,075,000	4 0 6-33	3 1/2	£98 1/8 1/2 bills about 14 1/2% and above in full.
Sept. 23 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,985,000	3 19 11-31	3 1/2	£98 1/8 1/2 (Monday bills and above in full). Tuesday to Saturday bills £98 1/8 1/2, about 39 1/4%, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £50,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Advances to Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£ 1,535	£ 6,302	£ 3,810	£ 15,500	£ 481	£ 9,324	£ 20,536		
Aug. 26, 1921.	38,478	169	600	28,500	276	54,621	20,536		
Dec. 30, 1921.	103,125	723	159	249	28,500	118,102	6,868		
1915.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	186,637	5,486		
Dec. 29, 1915.	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	305,133	4,566		
1916.	323,241	15,529	570	28,500	8-9	305,133	4,566		
1917.	328,064	14,326	500	28,500	8-7	308,577	5,411		
Mar. 31, 1917.	342,310	17,143	360	28,500	8-3	327,321	3,271		
June 25, 1917.	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	317,536	3,588		
Oct. 1, 1917.	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	91	337,337	2,802
Dec. 31, 1917.	335,372	15,569	190	28,500	10-0	313,370	2,981		
1918.	357,356	16,700	190	28,500	11-7	331,660	308		
June 30, 1918.	353,795	16,215	28,500	18,700	13-3	322,425	38		
Sept. 29, 1918.	367,626	16,962	28,500	19,450	13-0	336,504	134		
1919.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	13-9	311,334	141		
Mar. 30, 1919.	323,884	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	148	287,756	156	
June 29, 1919.	319,254	14,679	3,000	28,500	19,450	150	282,782	201	
Aug. 31, 1919.	319,169	14,496	3,000	28,500	19,450	150	282,559	156	
Sept. 7, 1919.	319,036	14,325	3,000	28,500	19,450	151	281,265	146	
14, 1919.	315,912	14,146	3,000	28,500	19,450	152	278,968	140	

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Sept. 17, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Sept. 18, 1920.	Week Ending Sept. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 18, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
	..	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	57,684,000	60,541,000	1,606,000	865,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	88,095,000	86,352,000	9,135,000	13,205,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,488,000	2,488,000	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	20,776,000	21,553,000	920,000	643,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	6,627,000	12,047,000	34,000	418,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	132,754,000	119,198,000	4,207,000	2,952,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	24,974,000	101,696,000	100,000	3,462,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	5,200,000	5,200,000	380,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	20,500,000	20,250,000	1,000,000	1,200,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	280,000	240,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	4,305,703	5,985,984	..	..
Miscellaneous—					
Ordinary Receipts...	21,500,000	10,586,240	9,224,225	350,340	710,000
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	45,756,395	133,854,234	2,501,011	6,681,053
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	420,446,338	571,331,443	20,233,351	30,136,053
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	423,520,844	580,700,540	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	3,530,000	1,590,000	100,000	150,000	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	2,000,000	700,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	..	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	25,000	30,000	..	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	3,930,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	2,023,983,000	1,832,728,000	63,391,000	58,898,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-30 ..	..	101,341	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	258,622	..	..	..
By 5½% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	89,777	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	17,430,000	19,200,000	850,000	800,000	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	5	..	..	..	..
By National War Bonds	1,024,990	10,919,000	..	190,000	..
By Treasury Bonds—	24,410,000	4,420,000	..	..	..
5-15 year, 1925-35	..	..	..	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	5,902,049	19,675,282	..	4,894,218	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances	588,424,000	536,991,000	3,050,000	5,600,000	..
Repayments—					
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919 ..	6,000,000	..	1,000,000	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	34,538	4,981	..	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	178,666	..	..	..	..
Total	3,102,097,592	3,002,988,543	93,044,351	100,668,271	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supple- mentary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		Issues.	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Sept. 17, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Sept. 18, 1920.	Week Ending Sept. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 18, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	6,569,090	7,133,452	56,986	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	159,970,084	152,194,807	967,401	1,261,215
Road Fund.....	8,400,000	2,073,000	1,534,116	..	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	3,164,839	3,316,963	363,827	788,674
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	1,698,956	3,315,207	..	..
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	759,659	835,150	..	6,186
Supply Services.....	758,932,000	287,665,426	308,179,479	10,700,000	17,710,000
Expenditure	1,130,204,000	461,901,254	476,479,174	12,982,214	19,766,075
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion	3,200,000	1,900,000	150,000	150,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....	84,909	84,909	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,805,000	..	..	..	..
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	1,400,000	700,000	700,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	40,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply	1,979,561,000	1,856,916,000	50,965,000	41,734,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	18,797,077	29,471,553	644,946	1,384,489	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	8,100,000	15,800,000	500,000	500,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	7,500,000	..	..	..	..

	Total Issues out of to meet Payments from		Issues.	
	Apr. 1, 1921, to Sept. 17, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Sept. 18, 1920.	Week Ending Sept. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Sept. 18, 1920.
	£	£	£	£
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off— 1921-22. 1920-21. £ £	..	2,580,000	..	100,000
6%, 1920 2,580,000				
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	25,056,743	35,636,926	..	7,952,770
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	563,639,000	566,437,000	26,850,000	27,100,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	13,300,112	12,140,089	..	500,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certi- ficates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4)	8,065,000	..	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	137,766	..	..
	3,097,695,969	2,999,053,417	91,892,160	99,897,334
Balances in Exchequer—	Sept. 17, '21.	Sept. 18, '20.	In Dec. for	for Week
Bank of England.....	2,007,956	2,004,118	+ 47,018	+ 43,768
Bank of Ireland	2,393,667	1,931,008	+1,105,173	+ 727,172
Total	4,401,623	3,935,126	+1,152,191	+ 770,937

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, September 19, 1921.

HEAD OFFICES. LIVERPOOL, AND LONDON.

ROYAL
INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, September 21, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

|--|

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Sept. 20, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Sept. 24, 1919.	Sept. 22, 1920.	Sept. 21, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills).....	28,955,915	28,933,380	81,610,645	125,486,130	124,406,495
Public deposits.....	11,901,074	19,014,809	19,396,366	16,707,309	14,960,111
Other deposits.....	45,554,393	41,248,964	97,457,386	105,447,908	115,203,773
Government securities.....	14,097,524	11,046,570	26,229,213	35,518,129	39,690,329
Other securities.....	29,080,887	41,461,280	83,706,067	88,722,611	85,120,124
Reserve of notes and coin.....	32,572,834	25,463,980	25,035,726	16,028,516	22,460,804
Coin and bullion.....	43,078,749	35,947,360	88,196,371	123,093,370	128,417,297
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	56.3%	42.1%	21.3%	13.1%	17.3%
Bank rate of discount.....	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills.....	3 1/2%	2 1/2%	3%	6 1/2%	4 1/2%
Price of Consols.....	75 1/2	74 1/2	50 1/2	45 1/2	48 1/2
Price of silver per oz.....	24 1/2	26 1/2	63 1/2	60 1/2	40 1/2
Average price of wheat.....	32s 0d	33s 0d	73s 4d	57s 1d	52s 8d
Exchanges on.....					
Paris.....	25.18 1/2	25.17 1/2	34.90 3/5	51.63 1/2	52.80 1/2
New York.....	84 3/4	84 1/2	84 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2
Amsterdam.....	12 1/2	12 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
London.....	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/2
Clearing house return.....	275,959,000	199,913,000	559,350,000	659,655,000	627,685,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—September 14.....	22,228,350,000	2,154,964,000	24,383,314,000
September 21.....	574,462,000	53,223,000	627,685,000
Total to date 1921.....	22,802,812,000	2,208,187,000	25,010,999,000
Do 1920.....	25,675,795,000	3,013,315,000	28,689,108,000
Increase or decrease in 1921.....	-2,872,983,000	-805,128,000	-3,678,109,000
	-11.1%	-26.7%	-12.8%
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919.....	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920.....	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.	%
Aggregate Totals to September 17.				
BIRMINGHAM.....	140,709,820	92,255,600	-48,454,220	34.4
BRISTOL.....	65,372,000	55,654,000	-9,718,000	14.8
DUBLIN.....	325,652,400	266,799,200	-58,853,200	18.0
HULL (31 Weeks ended Sept. 17).....	35,506,000	35,506,000		
LEEDS.....	26,238,500	41,872,800	+15,634,300	35.8
LEICESTER.....	46,902,700	28,287,400	-18,615,300	39.6
LIVERPOOL.....	602,959,200	320,110,200	-282,849,000	46.9
MANCHESTER.....	1,127,795,900	518,483,800	-609,312,100	54.0
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.....	11,711,800	68,310,000	+56,598,200	481.7
NOTTINGHAM.....	43,316,100	26,076,000	-17,240,100	39.8
SHEFFIELD.....	62,971,800	42,589,700	-20,382,100	32.3

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 16, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Sept. 13, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve.....	2,681,500	+ 28,120	1,972,630
Legal tender notes and silver reserve.....	150,000	+ 3,120	155,020
Bills discounted for member banks.....	1,428,160	- 80,330	2,675,200
Bills bought in open market.....	40,710	- 4,210	316,980
Government obligations owned.....	241,410	- 360	359,300
All other resources.....	54,520	- 500	33,440
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits.....	49,220	- 11,480	30,980
Other deposits.....	1,656,610	- 760	1,648,440
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation.....	2,491,650	- 25,910	3,295,180
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation.....	103,080	- 4,880	209,080
All other liabilities.....	19,880	- 300	70,560
Capital and surplus.....	316,810	- 90	261,940
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined.....	67.5%	+ 1.3%	42.8%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances.....	476,811,646	520,557,603	526,309,260
Bank balances abroad.....	65,128,352	67,919,535	78,775,577
Call and short loans.....	283,443,419	276,644,823	318,406,103
Securities.....	385,571,399	388,496,442	365,247,626
Loans in Canada.....	1,338,883,309	1,362,621,732	1,478,821,220
Loans abroad.....	155,238,085	155,846,239	190,914,052
Other assets.....	106,207,018	107,522,258	111,326,448
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation.....	193,339,095	195,675,217	231,534,233
Deposits.....	128,777,843	145,544,242	196,534,899
Public in Canada.....	1,820,311,934	1,870,972,789	1,925,585,468
Foreign.....	274,231,912	282,158,779	348,008,546
Bank balances—			
Canadian.....	10,300,260	12,675,118	12,199,695
Foreign.....	39,029,582	41,677,919	44,942,126
Bills payable and acceptances.....	40,429,404	42,810,118	49,596,151
Other liabilities.....	2,815,632	3,033,652	3,313,344
Capital and rest.....	264,326,315	264,318,599	256,079,103

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion.....	5,522,592	5,522,385	+ 207	3,730,625
Of which held abroad.....	1,948,367	1,948,367		1,948,367
Silver coin and bullion.....	276,832	276,831		276,831
Discount and advances.....	4,612,552	4,748,129	+ 135,577	6,327,775
LIABILITIES.				
Notes.....	37,253,988	37,024,735	+ 229,253	5,811,875
Government deposits.....	33,317	40,733	+ 39,983	183,700
Other deposits.....	2,448,488	2,795,463	+ 346,975	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 18, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.				
Gold.....	2,500,659	2,499,630	+ 1,029	521,775
Silver.....	622,751	622,529	+ 222	728,600
Loans and discounts.....	1,960,712	1,976,856	+ 16,144	800,725
Spanish 4% stock.....	344,474	344,474		344,475
Treasury bills.....	150,000	150,000		150,000
LIABILITIES.				
Circulation.....	4,204,411	4,206,204	- 1,793	1,901,550
Deposits.....	1,024,189	1,016,366	+ 7,823	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Aug. 13, 1921.	July 28, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad.....	1,364,561,491	1,357,280,197	1,527,339,060	+ 7,281,294	-162,777,569
Government loans and securities.....	1,978,609,524	1,893,946,838	754,792,527	+ 84,662,686	+122,381,697
Discounts and loans.....	746,531,094	764,032,306	659,618,208	-17,701,812	+ 86,712,886
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	1,816,221,262	1,796,856,295	1,394,619,165	+19,364,967	+421,602,097
Government deposits.....	134,929,138	116,024,888	107,072,983	+18,904,250	+ 27,856,155
Private sight deposits.....	915,363,482	863,231,251	765,802,047	+52,132,231	+149,561,435
Deposits at fixed rates.....	853,663,521	846,181,180	501,899,640	+ 7,482,341	+351,763,831

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	July 30, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position Jan. 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold and silver.....	1,275,765	1,275,803	1,033,635	- 38	221,330
Discounts.....	44,325	42,958	42,387	+ 1,367	41,740
Advances.....	81,786	81,638	82,377	+ 148	70,540
LIABILITIES.					
Notes.....	1,105,943	1,076,601	1,142,628	+ 29,342	362,270
Govt. deposits.....	1,364,356	1,346,376	1,299,393	+1,318,641	87,340
Private deposits.....	42,264	82,417	66,440	+ 71,348	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 14, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Sept. 14, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	1,023,707	1,023,708	1,091,581	- 67	1,313,240
Silver.....	16,649	16,722	6,630	+ 73	321,920
Treasury notes.....	2,505,156	3,119,066	18,949,145	+ 613,850	60,780
Bills discounted.....	88,075,788	81,466,065	49,719,815	+ 6,609,723	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	81,469,930	80,727,526	58,927,894	+ 742,164	2,013,860
Deposits.....	14,314,155	9,517,809	17,205,870	+ 4,796,346	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

	Aug. 10, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash.....	1,345,335	1,346,218	1,196,878	- 883	1,221,875
Inland bills.....	2,997,118	3,136,364	2,804,294	+139,246	418,400
Foreign bills.....	19,525	19,575	20,484	- 50	81,300
Advances to the Treasury.....	6,362,062	6,362,036	7,774,753	+ 26	nil
Other advances.....	2,449,747	2,477,777	1,994,608	- 28,030	79,175
Securities.....	388,480	391,451	222,495	- 2,971	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	13,870,341	14,005,103	13,805,126	-134,762	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts.....	1,705,028	1,765,665	1,686,189	- 60,637	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 19, 1921.	Sept. 12, 1921.	Sept. 19, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	605,969	605,969	605,967		163,092
Silver.....	10,267	10,168	10,283	- 99	8,436
Discounts and advances.....	419,170	427,146	447,812	- 7,976	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	999,361	1,008,197	1,021,631	- 8,836	316,632
Deposits.....	35,305	39,322	43,425	- 3,017	50,166

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	544,670	544,626	544,511	+ 44	171,175
Silver.....	110,531	110,531	110,531		18,350
Darlehens-Kassen.....	14,450	14,025	14,370	+ 425	425
Assets & advances.....	349,319	352,080	352,758	- 2,761	103,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	903,808	916,178	927,134	- 12,370	275,925
Deposits.....	139,801	124,072	109,861	+ 15,729	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to August 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 31,614,000, of which Fr. 14,370,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 18, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold.....	284,778	284,889	263,055	- 111	+ 21,723	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills.....	108,672	109,011	98,966	- 339	+ 9,706	112,172
Swedish and for Gov. securities.....	20,477	20,310	45,351	+ 167	+ 24,874	32,465
Discount and loans.....	419,075	421,926	650,496	- 2,851	- 231,421	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	612,878	618,000	733,437	- 5,122	- 120,559	226,555
Deposits at notice.....	157,744	149,052	243,947	+ 8,692	- 86,203	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

	Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
		3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
1921.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
July 8.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
12.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
15.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
22.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
29.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Aug. 5.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
12.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
19.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
26.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Sept. 2.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
9.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
16.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
23.....	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Changed.	Date.	Previous Rate.	Changed.	Date.
Discount	6	..	July 21, 1921	6 1/2	..	June 23, 1921
Deposit	3	..	June 23, 1921	3 1/2	..	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate			Bank Rate		
Changed.	%		Changed.	%	
Amsterdam	July 1, 1921	.. 4 1/2	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920	.. 5 1/2
Athens	May 15, 1920	.. 6 1/2	Paris	July 28, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	.. 5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Brussels	May 19, 1921	.. 5	Rome	May 11, 1920	.. 6
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	.. 6	Sofia	June 14, 1919	.. 6 1/2
Calcutta	June 2, 1921	.. 5	Stockholm	July 5, 1921	.. 6 1/2
Christiania	July 5, 1921	.. 6 1/2	Swiss Bank	Aug. 11, 1921	.. 4
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921	.. 6 1/2	places	Nov. 18, 1919	.. 4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	.. 9	Tokio	Apr. 15, 1921	.. 7
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	.. 7	Vienna	Sept., 1921	.. 6
New York Fed- eral Reserve ..	Sept. 21, 1921	.. 5	Warsaw	..	..

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Sept. 24, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 16, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	52-00-05	52-35-40
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	221-223	398-400
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	780-800	4100
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	240-260	307-312
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	24-03	875-900	18500
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	175-180	390-395
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	24-02	1800-2000	2500
Constantinople ..	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	590-610	615-635
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	190-210	540-580
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	95-100	217-227
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-22-25	11-75-77
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	45-30-35	53-45-50
Christiania	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-90-95	28-78-83
Stockholm	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-41-44	17-12-17
Copenhagen	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-60-65	21-00-05
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	124-127	270-280
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	33-30-60	72-73
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	83 1/2-84	87 1/2-88
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	21-60-65	21-52-57
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	23-70-75	28-63-68
Lisbon	pence to £1	T.T.	53 1/2	97 1/2-97 3/4	97 1/2-97 3/4
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	4-86 1/2	3-48 1/2-48 3/4	3-70 1/2-70 3/4
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-48 1/2-48 3/4	4-15-17
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-48 1/2-48 3/4	4-15-17
Buenos Ayres	pence to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	58-58 1/2	44-44 1/2
Rio de Janeiro ..	pence to £1	T.T.	16	12 1/2	8 1/2
Montevideo	pence to £1	T.T.	51	58-59	42-43
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	T.T.	13-13	35-80	34-10
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	25-25	4% prem.
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	25-25	4% prem.
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10-10	25-25	4% prem.
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	4s 3d-4 1/2d	2s 8 1/2d-9 1/2d	2s 10 1/2d-10 3/4d
Shanghai	ster. to tael	T.T.	5s 11d-6s 0d	3s 9d-10 1/2d	3s 10 1/2d-10 3/4d
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	2s 3 1/2d-4d	2s 3 1/2d-4d	2s 3 1/2d-4d
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	24 1/2d	2s 11 1/2d-11 3/4d	2s 7d-7 1/2d
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24-06 1/2	12s 6 1/2d	12s 6 1/2d
Mexico	pence to £1	T.T.	..	132d-34d	132d-34d

† Rate for previous day. § Sellers. (a) Pence to peso.

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	..	Sept. 17	14-00
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	..	Sept. 14	23-00
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	..	Sept. 19	86-00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	..	Sept. 19	3-60
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	..	Sept. 20	7-75
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	..	Sept. 10	205-46
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	..	Aug. 13	16-25
Bolivia	pence to Boliviano	..	July 22	14 1/2

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Aug. 25, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.
Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral) ..	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 30 days	6	6	6	6	6
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	6	6	6	6	6

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 8, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 22, 1921.
London—					
60 days	Dollars for £1	4-86 1/2	3-4375	3-6785	3-662
Cable			3-5050	3-72525	3-7062
Cheques			3-4975	3-7125	3-7012
Paris	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	14-65	7-6250	7-03
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	13-95	7-49	6-94
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	14-65	7-6250	7-03
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19-30	123-30	4-38	4-25
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23-83	1-64	1-0250	0-9175
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20-26	0-45	0-95	0-89
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19-30	14-75	13-02	13-05
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	40-195	31-05	31-70	31-75
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	13-25	13-20	12-86	12-62
Christiania	Cents for 1 kroner	20-20	21-65	21-60	21-89
Stockholm	Cents for 1 drachma	19-30	10-50	5-72	5-05
Athens	Cents for Can. \$1	100	90-00	103-75	107-5
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49-85	51-25	48-35	48-20
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	75-50	51-50	52-75
Shanghai	Cents for 1 shing, tael	..	105-50	70-75	72-75
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	..	32-75	26-125	26-375
Buenos Aires	Gold pesos for \$100	103-65	119-00	144-00	143-75
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	32-42	17-06	12-25	12-80
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	20-60	19-25	11-00	11-75

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 22, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 8, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	5-35	3-29	2-89
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	10-40	6-22 1/2	5-30
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	12-25	5-83 1/2	5-21
Christiania			12-25	8-00	7-15

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

		Rates, Sept. 3, 1921.		Rates, Sept. 10, 1921.	
London (cheque)	£1	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
Paris	100 Fr	1,440	1,450	1,400	1,420
New York	\$1	3,000	3,050	2,750	2,850
Stockholm	100 Kr	385	390	375	382
Copenhagen	100 Kr	8,400	8,500	8,150	8,250
Berlin	100 Rmk	445	450	395	400
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	555	560	505	510
Riga	100 Lrbl	90	105	90	100
Amsterdam	100 Hfl	12,300	12,400	11,950	12,050

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.		Union of South Africa.	
	From August 8, 1921.		From August 8, 1921.	
	London on South Africa.		South Africa on London.	
	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 % prem.	1 % dis.	1 % prem.	1 % dis.
Demand	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %
30 days	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %
60 days	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %
90 days	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %
120 days	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %	1 1/2 %

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.		Australia and New Zealand on London.	
	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.	Aus- tralia.	New Zeal'nd.
T.T.	..	..	..	..
Sight	..	..	..	..
Cable	..	..	..	..
On demand	96 1/2	96 1/2	101	102 1/2
30 days	95 1/2	95 1/2	100 1/2	101 1/2
60 days	95 1/2	95 1/2	99 1/2	100 1/2
90 days	95 1/2	95 1/2	98 1/2	99 1/2
120 days	95 1/2	95 1/2	97 1/2	98 1/2
5 months' sight ..	..	..	96 1/2	..
6 months' sight ..	..	..	..	..

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.
Outstanding with public	43,73,55,000	27,32,60,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	87,32,60,000
India Office, September 22, 1921.		

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended September 21, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £6,583 compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Sept. 21, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Sept. 21, 1921.
British W. Africa	31,644	United States	660,000
British S. Africa	718,678	Bombay, via other ports	15,000
British India	278,465		
Total values of import of gold	1,028,787	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	675,000

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on September 22nd as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,594,805, as compared with £126,591,545 last week. There was a strong demand for India this week, and quite a large proportion of supplies was taken for that country; the remainder was reserved for the United States of America. After this week there will be no more supplies of South African gold in the market until October 3rd. Gold to the value of \$23,085,000 has been received in New York—\$12,000,000 from Germany, \$5,885,000 from France, and \$5,200,000 from London. Reuter states that the export of gold from the Transylvanian and Roumanian mines has been authorised by the Roumanian Government for a period of one month, provided a deposit in lei for an equivalent sum is made at the Roumanian Customs or at one of the Roumanian Legations abroad. The Chilean Minister of Finance has decreed that importation duties, warehouse rent, lighthouses and buoys, and consular fines will have to be paid in the future in the following way:—In July, 65 per cent. in gold and 35 per cent. in currency, with the corresponding recharge, and an extra 5 per cent. in gold each month till January, 1922, when 95 per cent. will be payable in gold and 5 per cent. in currency. In February and onwards the total will have to be paid in gold coin.

SILVER.

Reports and Notices.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Milage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Belra and Mashona- land	1 mth	June 30	810	102,513	— 4,263	..	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	1 mth	July 31	277	7,494	— 73	..	..
Mid. Cape Central.	34 weeks	Aug. 27	205	15,205	— 153	87,556	— 13,435
Rhodesia Railways ..	1 mth	June 30	1,397	156,489	+ 17,093	..	..
Rhodesia Katanga ..	1 mth	July 31	..	11,529	..	..	..
Shire Highlands, ..	2 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,100	— 450	..	+ 1,450
Nyasaland							

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	End- ing.	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
			1921.	+ or —	1921.	+ or —
Achison Topeka.....	6 mths	June 30	\$ 14,850.226	-1,471.738	\$ 89,200.128	-10,291.944
Baltimore and Ohio.....	6 mths	30	16,616.021	-1,268.883	96,230.951	-5,555.777
Chicago and Milwaukee	6 mths	30	12,353.004	-1,491.178	67,769.580	-8,504.754
New York Central.....	6 mths	30	8,766.455	-2,029.456	57,526.110	-5,556.128
Pennsylvania.....	7 mths	July 31	43,131.522	-1,800.539	228,720.845	-4,556.623
Southern Pacific.....	7 mths	31	22,627.508	-1,180.535	152,875.873	-3,506.433

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Percent Mileage.	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Anglo-Argentine . . .	37 weeks	Sept. 16	323	£81,017 +	1,681	2,937,642 +	146,840
Burnley Corporation . .	1 week	17	12	£3,463 +	312	..	..
Calcutta Tramways . .	37 weeks	17	35½	Rs 92,180 +	8,160	..	540,859
Chatham & District . .	36 weeks	8	15	£1,862 -	96	60,134 -	2,128
Egyptian Markets . .	37 weeks	16	..	£1,726 +	173	73,346 +	11,175
Glasgow Corporation . .	16 weeks	17	99	£45,803 -	1,757	707,528 +	36,680
Isle of Thanet	50 weeks	14	..	£2,650 +	188	60,489 -	77
Lancashire United . .	37 weeks	13	39	£3,636 -	852	128,410 -	2,358
Liverpool Corpora- . .	37 weeks	17	124	£30,039 +	1,239	1,070,463 +	51,790
L.C.C. Tramways . . .	25 weeks	21	255	£99,533 +	9,405	2,511,019 +	359,316
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	35 weeks	15	..	Rs 50,965 -	4,997	689,926 -	156,680
Perambuco Trams . .	37 weeks	18	..	£43,610 -	2,074	138,841 -	119,671
Singapore Electric . .	51 weeks	Aug. 13	..	£13,859 -	5,926	144,467 -	309,064

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Alabama Power..	1 mth	June 30	Gross	\$259,059 +	88,481	..	..
			Net	\$130,812	22,750	..	..
Barcelona Traction Co., Ltd.	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$244,138 +	301,935	20,944,972 +	3,598,181
			Net	1,633,685	123,967	13,133,313 +	2,248,611
Brazilian Traction Co., Ltd.	7 mths	31	Gross	15,477,300 +	2,732,000	95,676,300 +	2,229,000
			Net	8,871,000	967,000	49,697,000 +	1,052,200
Brisbane Electric Tramway Co., Ltd.	8 mths	Aug. 31	Gross	\$50,675 +	4,025	377,820 +	10,231
			Net	\$840,155 +	51,753	..	..
Buenos Ayres La Plata Electric Co., Ltd.	1 mth	July 31	Gross	\$204,136 +	3,807	..	..
			Net	..	..	..	..
Croze Tramway Co., Ltd.	11 mths	May 31	Gross	\$58,492 +	3,923	623,444 +	67,761
			Net	..	..	..	..
Burnham Electric Tramway Co., Ltd.	1 mth	Aug. 31	Gross	\$55,168 +	6,615	..	..
			Net	\$31,742	..	..	..
Cape Eleo. Trams	1 mth	31	Gross	\$5,658	..	..	..
			Net	..	..	..	..
Canadian Western Electric Co., Ltd.	20 mths	July 31	Gross	\$320,506 -	4,322	713,171 -	172,116
Cartagena and Herrerias Trams	8 mths	Aug. 31	Gross	11,773 -	1,948	17,992 -	18,493
Catalinas Warehouse	1 mth	31	Gross	\$21,211 +	4,500	..	..
			Net	\$3,030	..	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	\$1,203	..	..	..
			Net	..	..	..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	July 31	Gross	\$698,671 -	1,419,248	18,503,064 -	3,991,161
			Net	\$656,017 -	1,406,962	17,878,378 -	3,922,068
Cordoba Light & Co.	3 mths	30	Gross	\$22,147 +	3,108	68,766 +	9,201
			Net	\$1,806,385 +	448,284	8,497,481 +	1,017,241
Cuba Railroad ..	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross	\$368,028 -	79,992	Dr447,784 -	2,258,395
			Net	\$1,834,842 +	152	17,666 +	1,691
Eleo. Sub. of Viot.	16 weeks	July 17	Gross	\$1,005,000 +	6,079	7,409,439 +	852,195
			Net	\$8,849	16,522	3,963,261 -	11,491
Havana Eleo. Rl. Co.	7 mths	31	Gross	\$22,003 +	2,020	..	..
			Net	\$8,375 +	1,751	..	..
Informa-tional Light & Power	1 mth	31	Gross	\$2,308	..	12,288	..
			Net	790	..	..	..
Kalgoorlie Electric Tramways ..	6 mths	June 30	Gross	\$143,177 +	127	1,011,454 +	5,951
			Net	\$59,394 +	16,222	328,648 +	19,631
Keystone Tele. ..	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$25,311	2,193	..	..
			Net	\$5,810 +	37	39,128 -	5,081
La Guaira Harbor Lighting, Pwr & Tramways	5 mths	May 31	Gross	\$59,339 +	4,513	304,875 +	47,661
			Net	\$20,116 -	823	104,284 -	14,642
Lisbon Electric Co.	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	276,625	Escudos	..	..
			Net	\$305,126 +	22,866	2,115,267 +	231,331
Manila Electric Railroad, &c.	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$128,862 +	33,379	834,929 +	194,711
			Net	\$22,940 -	1,631	216,894 -	5,778
Pana Electric ..	9 mths	Aug. 31	Gross	\$8,001 +	86,789	..	6,351
			Net	\$23,750	..	..	..
Rangoon Electric Tramway Co., Ltd.	1 mth	July 31	Gross	\$1,022 +	32,828	..	..
			Net	Rs 10,122	..	..	..
Shanghai Electric Tramway Co., Ltd.	7 mths	31	Gross	\$174,850 +	21,600	1,123,179 +	110,661
			Net	\$1,223,483 +	40,168	8,877,669 +	642,661
Toronto Rly. & Co.	7 mths	31	Gross	\$326,857 +	120,502	2,796,475 +	194,991
			Net	..	..	..	..
United Electric T. of Montevideo	10 mths	Aug. 31	Gross	\$44,672 +	1,901	463,493 +	33,775
			Net	\$569,568 +	50,563	..	..
Utah Securities...	1 mth	May 31	Gross	\$300,067 +	28,131	..	..
			Net	..	..	..	..
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	Quarter	June 30	Gross	\$203,041	..	..	..
			Net	..	..	..	..
Winnipeg Electric	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$390,109 -	1,600	3,180,779 +	144,331
			Net	\$119,693 -	12,938	923,512 +	140,001

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algonia Cent. ^a						
Hudson Bay	1 mth	July 31	Gross \$117,875 +	45,200	..	..
Canadian Nit ^a	7 mths	July 31	Gross \$556,900 +	338,400	35,888,700 +	4,108.
Canadian Pac. ^a	7 mths	July 31	{ Gross \$15,773,000 -	1,602,000	99,829,000 -	9,604.
			{ Net \$2,034,000 +	435,000	15,004,000 +	1,956.
Grand Trunk.	3 mths	Mar. 31	{ Gross \$1,878,700 +	35,900	3,772,800 +	553.
Temiscamits	1 mth	July 31	{ Net \$120,900 -	38,400	91,400 -	386.
			{ Gross \$41,074	..	..	..

* Net earnings before deducting taxes

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.		Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	
	* Interim div.	† Final div.		Latst Year.	Pre-vious Year.
Railways.				%	%
Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe	1½	Dec. 1	(and bonus 4%)	12	12
Barsi Light	3½†	Sept. 22	Less tax	..	..
Bilbao River	3½*	..	..	..	..
Hudson and Manhattan, Inc.	2½	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
Bonds	1½	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Manila Electric	11½	Oct. 15	..	..	..
Minneapolis, St Paul, &c.	3½	Nov. 1	..	..	..
New York Central	1½	..	..	6	6½
North-Eastern of Uruguay	3½†	..	Less tax	..	..
Banks.					
Eastern	4½ p.s.*	Oct. 3	Less tax	..	..
Guaranty Trust of N.Y.	4½	Sept. 30	..	1¼ p.s.	..
International Banking Corp.	5	Oct. 1	..	..	..
National City Bank, New York.	2	..	Less tax	9	8
Royal Bank of Ireland	10†	..	..	..	..
Insurance.					
Atlas	5½ p.s.*	Oct. 27	Tax free	..	..
New Zealand	18 p.s.†	Oct. 21	Tax free	..	..
Yorkshire, 10s paid	2½ p.s.*	Oct. 21	Tax free	..	..
Do fully paid	5½ p.s.*	..	..	..	..
Mining.					
Ferreira D'Almeida	7½	Nov. 4	Subject to tax	..	..
Guyana Consolidated	13 p.s.	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..
Ivanhoe Gold	16 p.s.*	Nov. 1	Less tax 3/5 in £	..	..
Johannesburg Cons.	10½	Sept. 20	Tax free	..	..
Ken Lake Mines	12½	Oct. 15	..	..	..
Kramat Pulai	1½ p.s.*	Sept. 30	Less tax	..	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Alliance Tea of Ceylon	5½*	..	Less tax	..	..
Dumbara Valley Tea	5	Sept. 30	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Kamoharok Rubber	7½*	..	Less tax	10	32½
Poonagala Valley, Ceylon	6	..	Less tax (for 18 months)	..	..
Scottish Ceylon Tea, Pref.	6	..	..	..	..
Other Companies.					
Asbestos Corporation of Canada	1½	..	..	..	..
Bath and Portland Stone Firms	10*	..	..	..	..
Belfast Shipowners	19 p.s.*	..	Less tax	..	..
British and Argentine Meat	1½ p.s.*	..	Less tax	..	..
British Insulated and Helsby Cables	19 p.s.	Sept. 29	Less tax	..	..
Chas. Baker and Co.	6*	Oct. 10	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Cons. Waterworks (Rosario)	3*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
Court Line	10	Oct. 3	..	..	..
Cressington Steamship	10	Oct. 3	..	..	..
D. H. Evans	5½*	Oct. 19	Less tax	6	6
Direct West India Cable	3½†	Sept. 17	Tax free	17½	15
Dobson and Barlow	10½†	..	..	..	..
Dumarton Tramways, Pref.	10	..	..	10	12½
Dundalk & Newry Steam Packet	7½	..	Less tax	10	10
Enfield Cycle	10	..	Tax free	10	10
Equitable Trust	4	Sept. 30	..	5	..
F. Steiner and Co.	1½ p.s.	..	Tax free	10	15
Gandy Belt Manufacturing	5½†	..	Tax free	6	6
Goldsbrough, Mort, and Co.	5½†	Sept. 17	Tax free	..	..
Hallifax and Bermudas Cable	5	..	Tax free	..	..
Henry Tomlinson	4	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
House Property and Investment	8*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
James W. Cook and Co.	19 p.s.*	..	Less tax	..	..
John Milligan and Co.	4½*	..	..	2½	12
Joseph Nathan and Co.	4½*	..	..	6	9
Joshua Buckton	3½†	..	..	10	17
Leach's Argentine Estates, Ord.	4½†	..	..	10	17
Do Pref.	4½†	..	..	10	17
London and Thames Haven Oil.	5½†	..	..	10	17
Manvers Main Colliery	13 p.s.*	Oct. 8	Less tax	..	..
Maryle Dairy, Defd.	5½*	Oct. 10	Less tax	..	..
Mazawattee Tea, Cnm. Pref.	3	Oct. 10	..	..	..
Mexican Petroleum, Com.	2½	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Do Prefd.	4	Oct. 15	..	..	..
Midland Electric Corporation	1½	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Mississippi River Power, Pref.	5*	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
Montevideo Waterworks	4½*	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Owen Owen	2	Oct. 1	..	..	..
National City Company	3	Oct. 10	..	..	..
Pan-American Petroleum "A" and "B"	3	Oct. 10	..	..	..
Parke's Drug Stores, Pref.	5	Sept. 20	Less tax	10	10
Partington Steel and Iron	5½†	..	..	10	10
Pearson and Knowles	1½	Oct. 31	Less tax	10	(b) 11
Philadelphia Company	6*	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Price Jones	5*	..	..	..	..

MACFARLANE AND ROBINSON.—The directors have declared an interim dividend on the two classes of preference shares, viz., 7 per cent. preference and 8 per cent. "B" preference, both less tax, for the half year to June 30, 1921 (payable September 30th), but have decided to pay no interim dividend on the ordinary shares at this time, but to await the result of the final accounts. Interim dividend paid to the ordinary shareholders last year was at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, less tax.

THE IMPERIAL COAL STORAGE AND SUPPLY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Coupon No. 36 of the 5 per cent. first mortgage debentures will be paid at the London office, Threepenny House, 31 Bishopsgate, E.C. 2, on the 1st day of December 1921, at 16s in the £, and British income-tax at 4s 6d in the £ on the gross amount of the interest.

THE STERLING TRUST, LIMITED.—£240,000 "C" (Income) Debentures.—On and after October 1, 1921, upon surrender of coupon No. 61 and 62, he debenture, after October 1, 1921, upon surrender of coupon No. 63, ending December 31, 1921, will be paid at the office of Messrs. Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co., 16 Lombard street, E.C. 3, at the rate of 85 per cent., less income-tax, by the company's bankers.

Mr Harry Kahn has accepted a seat on the board of the Cardinal Investment Trust, Limited.

We are informed that the firms of Blades, East, and Blades, of Abchurch lane, E.C. and Finsbury, and W. W. Sprague and Co., of Bread street hill, E.C., have arranged a fusion of interests as from October 1st next, and the two businesses will be converted into private limited companies under the titles of Blades, East, and Blades, Limited, and W. W. Sprague and Co., Limited.

Messrs McAuliffe, Davis, and Hope, chartered accountants, have removed their offices from 34 Bishopsgate to Winchester House, Old Broad street, E.C. 2. Telephone, London wall 718.

It is announced that the offer made by the Forestal Land, Timber, and Railways Company, Limited, to the shareholders of Messrs H. Renner and Co., of Hamburg, for the purchase of their shares, has been accepted.

To fill the vacancy on the board of the Phoenix Assurance Company, Limited, caused by the death of the late Mr John Large, Lt.-Col. E. R. A. Kerrison, C.M.G., has been appointed a director, that gentleman having been nominated by the board of the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society, Limited, in accordance with the terms of the fusion between the two companies.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT 5 PER CENT. GOLD LOAN OF 1912.—The coupons due September 30, 1921, will be paid on and after that date in England at Lloyds Bank, Limited, 74 Lombard street, E.C.: Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, 38 Bishopsgate, E.C.: or at the British Bank for Foreign Trade, Limited, 48 Bishopsgate, E.C.

BANKS.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION (NEW YORK).—A cable has been received from the International Banking Corporation, New York, to the effect that a dividend for the half-year ended June 30th last has been declared at the rate of 24 per cent. per annum, payable September 30th next, while U.S. \$213,867.37 has been added to the amount of undivided profits, which will then stand at \$4,229,013.08.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRITISH ELECTRIC TRANSFORMER COMPANY, LIMITED. — The profit for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, amounted to £51,983 as compared with £35,344 for the same period of 1920, and £21,415 for the first half of 1919.

PEARSON AND KNOWLES COAL AND IRON COMPANY, LIMITED.
The profits for the year ending June 30, 1921, after making all necessary provisions, amount to £78,919, and the balance brought forward from last year is £101,300, making a total available balance of £180,219. An interim dividend of 3 per cent. on the first preference, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the second preference shares, and 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, all less tax, amounting to £49,735, has been paid. The directors now recommend that a final dividend be paid of 3 per cent. on the first preference shares, $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the second preference shares, and of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares, all less income-tax, making a total distribution of £99,470 for the year, leaving a balance of £80,750 to be carried forward.

ROVER COMPANY.—The report and accounts to July 31, 1921, show a net profit of £102,320, to which must be added £24,928 brought forward, making £127,248 available. A dividend is being paid of 10 per cent., less tax, absorbing £73,500, while £10,000 is put to reserve and £10,000 is being utilised to write off part cost of employees' canteen and sports club, while £33,748 is being carried forward.

SHEEPSBRIDGE COAL AND IRON.—The report to June 30, 1921 shows that the net profit amounted to £109,138. The balance brought forward from previous year was £33,561, making £142,699 available for disposal. Dividends of 7½ per cent., free of income-tax, are being paid on the ordinary and preference shares, absorbing £100,389, thus leaving £42,310 to carry forward. The report states that "the company's operations during the financial year have been seriously interfered with by the stoppage of the collieries on two occasions, one in October last, when the miners stopped work for three weeks, and the other from April 1st to July 1st. The second stoppage ensued on the cessation of Government control on March 31st, the men having refused to accept the terms offered by the coal owners. During the year, the rapid diminution in the volume of trade in the country was accompanied by heavy falls in prices. Not only was the demand for coal for export reduced to very small proportions, but other industries consuming large quantities of coal were seriously affected, and coal prices have fallen in consequence."

STAVELEY COAL AND IRON.—The report and accounts for year ended June 30, 1921, shows a net profit, including part of coal award of £232,740. The amount brought forward from previous year was £40,425, making £279,165 available. A dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbed £231,887, leaving £47,278 to be carried forward to next account. The report states that "the whole of the plant and machinery has been maintained in good working order. Production has been seriously interfered with by labour troubles."

STOLL PICTURE PRODUCTIONS.—The net profit of Stoll Picture Productions for the period ended June 30, 1921, was £35,858, less dividend paid on preference shares up to March 31st, leaving £29,321, which the directors propose to carry forward. The purchase of property at Cricklewood was duly carried out, and the building has been converted into a perfectly equipped studio for production of first-class pictures. With regard to an item in the balance-sheet "amounts receivable in respect of contracts, £215,485," the directors have taken into account only actual contracts booked against which they have debited the whole cost of production relating thereto, although in many cases further bookings will be made.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Debenture Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
					Amount.	Amount.	Rate.			Dividend.
Banks.		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	%
Australian Bank of Commerce	June 30	28,813	139,578	168,391	..	78,000	6½	60,000	30,391	118,391
Royal Bank of Ireland	Aug. 31	6,883	50,165	57,048	..	18,900	9	32,299	5,849	48,293
Breweries.										
Tennant Brothers	June 30	8,754	48,750	57,504	8,319	35,547	12½	5,000	8,638	55,501
Financial, Land, &c.										
Goldsbrough, Mort, and Co.	Mar. 31	36,549	61,410	97,959	..	84,493	10	2,000	11,466	100,000
Gas.										
Alliance and Dublin Consumers	June 30*	4,317	26,977	31,294	..	25,703	3½	..	5,591	26,429
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
Pearson and Knowles Coal and Iron	June 30	101,301	78,919	180,220	21,878	77,592	10	..	80,750	228,318
Sheepbridge Coal and Iron	June 30	33,561	109,138	142,699	..	100,389	7½	..	42,310	184,039
Staveley Coal and Iron	June 30	46,425	232,740	279,165	..	231,887	10½	..	47,278	290,466
Motor and Cycle.										
Rover Company	July 31	24,928	102,320	127,248	..	73,500	10	20,000	33,748	94,239
Rubber, &c.										
British Borneo Para	April 30	6,560	Dr 2,748	3,812	..	..	..	..	3,812	12,760
Kalidjereok	Mar. 31	5,459	5,271	10,730	..	6,250	10	..	4,480	18,295
Lendu	Mar. 31	11,117	Dr 5,621	5,496	..	..	..	..	5,496	9,015
Seaport (Selangor)	June 30	15,476	6,222	21,698	..	..	..	..	21,698	21,135
Sialang	Jan. 31	19,442	5,268	24,710	..	..	..	1,121	23,589	79,297
Sengei Rampah	Dec. 31	3,159	Dr 11,824	Dr 8,663	..	..	..	..	Dr 8,663	5,860
Shipping.										
Dundalk and Newry Steam Packet	July 31	20,131	7,488	27,619	..	4,935	10	15,000	7,684	25,363
Tea.										
Chargola	Nov. 30	37,375	Dr 42,596	Dr 5,221	..	..	..	..	Dr 5,221	9,067
Southern India Estates	Feb. 28	5,771	Dr 12,993	Dr 7,222	..	..	..	Dr 7,500	278	..
Telegraphs, &c.										
Direct West India Cable	June 30	91,437	8,214	99,651	..	3,600	6½	..	96,051	15,892
Halifax and Bermudas Cable	June 30	48,595	15,961	64,556	..	3,000	6½	..	61,556	21,532
Other Companies.										
Magadi Soda	Dec. 31	Dr 197,732	Dr 159,327	Dr 387,059	..	..	..	..	Dr 387,059	Dr 96,832
Stoll Picture Productions	June 30	..	35,858	35,858	6,537	..	..	..	29,321	..
Theatre Royal, Drury Lane	June 30	5,013	31,405	36,418	..	9,400	10	1,608	25,410	..

* Half-year. † Free of income-tax.

VICTORIA FALLS POWER.—The net profit of Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power Company for 1920, after providing for interest and premium on debentures, £183,892, and for depreciation and income-tax, &c., £409,940, was £173,161, plus £94,320 brought forward, making £267,482. A dividend of 5 per cent., less tax, on ordinary shares for the year was declared, and as the preference shares are entitled to share *pro rata* with ordinary shares in surplus profits distributed, the directors also declared further and final dividend of 4 per cent., less tax, on preference shares, carrying forward £92,481.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Favourable weather conditions have prevailed over the United Kingdom during the past week, so that good progress has been made in preparing the land for the new crops. Latest threshing returns confirm the good yield of wheat, while late-sown fodder crops are doing well, and in Eastern districts grass is fairly plentiful as a result of recent rains. Offerings of native wheat are coming forward less freely, consequently prices are inclined to harden on holders becoming more reserved. There is a good demand for best quality, also for seed purposes, fancy prices being paid for suitable samples, but as a rule values range from 59s to 65s per 504 lbs free on rail. Imported descriptions were dull and rates easier in sympathy with lower c.i.f. offers. No. 1 Northern Manitoba ex ship quoted 93s, No. 2 ditto 91s 6d, No. 2 hard winter 66s, ex ship per 480 lbs. Australian to arrive 74s per 496 lbs ex store terms, and Egyptian feed 70s per 480 lbs landed. In the forward market a slow demand prevailed, and prices were reduced, following lower advices from North America. Shipments were again on a liberal scale, principally from the United States and Canada, while imports into the United Kingdom were in excess of estimated requirements. Crop reports from the chief exporting countries continue satisfactory. Further rains have fallen in Argentina, India, and Australia, while the official estimate of the Canadian crop has been raised, and harvest reports are very favourable. The flour market remains quiet, and prices generally easier. London straight run was reduced to 61s, town households 59s, patents 65s, all English straights 54s, per sack delivered. Country straights 49s to 51s delivered on rail London. Im-

ported dull and lower. Canadian export patents 64s, ditto straights 60s, Kansas patents 61s, Australian 58s, and Chinese 50s per 280 lbs ex store. On c.i.f. terms, Canadian patents September seaboard offered at 55s, straights 51s, Kansas patents 58s, and Australian 53s per 280 lbs. Offers quiet and easier. Broad bran quoted 9 15s to 10, ordinary bran 8 15s to 9, middlings 12 to 12 10s per ton ex mill, bags included. Maize dull, and values on a lower basis owing to reduced forward offers. Yellow La Plata, ex ship, quoted 35s, ditto, landed, 37s, yellow African, landed, 37s to 37s 6d, white flat ditto 39s, landed, and American mixed 36s 6d, ex ship, per 480 lbs. In the cargo section a dull tone prevailed and rates appreciably lower. Plate cargoes, loading, sold 36s 6d, September 15th-October 35s, October-November 38s, part cargo Moldavian, afloat, 37s per 480 lbs. Barley dull and weak. English steady and malting ranges from 65s to 90s, grinding sorts 60s to 65s, Californian, ex ship, 47s to 55s, Morocco 43s to 44s, landed, per 448 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western, ex ship, 43s, No. 4 ditto, landed, 43s 6d, Canadian feed, landed, 40s, and American feed, landed, 38s 6d per 400 lbs. Scotch pearl barley 22 to 26 per ton. On c.i.f. terms a part cargo of Dan-Bess-Kustendji, afloat, sold at 39s per 400 lbs. Parcels of superior Californian, arrived, sold 44s to 43s 6d and 45s, afloat 44s to 44s 6d per 448 lbs. Oats quiet and values weak. English ranges from 30s to 38s as to quality and description per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate quoted 27s 9d to 28s 3d, Canadian 32s to 33s, Chilean 29s to 29s 6d per 320 lbs, landed terms. Oatmeal in moderate request, and English reduced by 30s per ton. English all cuts 22 to 23, American 23 to 23 10s, ordinary Scotch 25, American rolled oats 24, and flaked oats 26 to 27 per ton. Beans quiet. English springs 60s to 85s, new winter 53s to 56s per 532 lbs. China horse beans 9 to 11 per ton. Peas slow. English Maples 80s to 95s, Duns 60s to 65s, split 118s to 120s per 504 lbs. New Zealand blue 26s to 27s, and Dutch blue 27s to 30s per cwt. Homeward grain freights dull, and rates moved in a further downward direction. From the River Plate 22s 6d was paid up river, October 1st-20th to United Kingdom-Continent, with 30s indicated for December. Montreal to United Kingdom quotes 4s 9d to 5s, Northern Range 4s 6d to 4s 9d per qr, with proportionate increases to Continent and West Italy. North Pacific paid 56s 3d to 55s wheat, October-November, to United Kingdom-Continent. India dull, and 30s the nominal rate on dead weight. Australia quotes 67s 6d, with 65s the nearest obtainable. South African maize paid 37s 6d one, and 38s 9d two ports discharge United Kingdom-Continent. Danube dull, and rates weak at about 17s 6d ton United Kingdom-Continent, with Mediterranean discharge at 5s ton less money. Other markets nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to September 17.....	Cwts. 469,141	Cwts. 396,208	Cwts. 167,145	Cwts. 328,932
2 weeks to September 17.....	831,416	688,038	351,569	818,282
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter.....	s d 57 1	s d 90 5	s d 73 4	s d 72 6
= per cwt.....	13 4	21 1	17 1	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.						
Sept. 10.....	qrs bsh 84,530 6	qrs bsh 61,750 7	qrs bsh 28,165 3	s d 58 0	s d 63 6	s d 31 1
17.....	109,466 2	44,778 1	25,365 6	57 1	62 9	30 1
1917.....	51,088 4	23,424 4	11,305 1	70 8	56 10	45 8
1918.....	76,764 7	30,813 3	10,777 1	72 6	60 4	49 11
1919.....	39,000 5	84,907 1	16,210 3	73 4	94 7	61 3
1920.....	92,448 6	61,308 3	35,025 0	90 5	80 7	54 11

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Glasgow correspondent writes:—While not wholly unexpected, the action on Tuesday of Scotch bar iron makers in reducing their quotations for all sizes and qualities by £2 a ton came somewhat as a surprise to consumers, who, however, will substantially benefit, as they have no stocks in hand. The basis price will now be £14 a ton delivered Glasgow, and that for both home and export business, the latter being "freed" (for the first time for many months), but, for the time being, the common selling figure may also be taken as £14. With this latest decline of £2 a ton, the fall in crown bars since the year came in amounts to £13 a ton, and the comparatively low rate now fixed may be looked for to help business; but on that point opinion is not very sanguine, for Continental competition remains very keen, with values some pounds sterling a ton under even the new level. Advices from Belgium, especially, encourage the expectation that competition from that market is easing—from the facts that producers there have sold heavily ahead, that they cannot give general deliveries as promptly as was the case only recently, that they are beginning to be seriously inconvenienced by labour troubles, chiefly in relation to wages, and that the rate of exchange is moving in our favour. But too much reliance cannot be placed on these features. At the worst, it may be taken that under the new conditions our bar makers should be nearer the mark than they have been since the trade reaction set in, at which they can successfully hold their own in export markets, without which we really cannot get along. It is currently expected that steel-makers will at once make a "cut," more or less substantial, in their productions—as it cannot well continue that bars and ship plates should stand at an equality of price, £14. At the same time, steel-makers are strongly protesting that they are losing money at present rates for material. An inquiry into the position of the Scotch steel trade, as to its ability to bear an increased measure of local taxation, is this week proceeding in Glasgow, and at the sitting of the court on Tuesday it transpired that the latest quotation for Continental steel plates was £9 per ton, delivered into works in the Clyde area. The home manufacturers' price is, as already stated, £14, "on which there is a loss." This statement discloses a serious state, and how the difference of £5 a ton is to be overcome baffles those directly interested. Expert authorities argue that a reasonable adjustment may prove possible through a stiffening of the adverse influences (already specified) working on the Continent and from further reductions on this side of costs—in operating, in wages, and in coals. Home conference on the subject between employers and employed are to be held in the course of a week or so, with what result falls to be seen. There is a big volume of trade doing in the West of Scotland, thanks to the multifarious character of its business undertakings. The employed far outstrip the numbers of unemployed, and the distress, while acute, is not so widespread as in many other parts of the nation. Idleness and trouble is most pronounced in shipbuilding and some engineering relations; but even their prospects are not desperate, and will spin out fairly favourably for a period. Locomotive engineers are said to have secured some few fresh orders, and so have tube-makers, founders, and sheet makers. Pig-iron makers have been selling special brands for home account, and inquiries are in circuit for a big catalogue of material. A strong and hopeful feature disclosed in inquiry

circles is that buyers the world over are short of material, particularly raw, which means that a very moderate increase in consumption would tell immediately and favourably on the general trade and industrial situation. Fortunately fuel is plentiful.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated September 22nd, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is no change in the policy of our ironmasters to delay restarting their plant until raw material, fuel especially, has become cheaper. On the other hand, coal owners have not lowered their price of coke. Unemployment is acute. Prices are nominally as follows:—No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron, 120s per ton; East Coast mixed numbers hematite, 140s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Rather more enquiry for steel, but few actual orders. Foreign pig-iron and steel is still being imported, and has a paralysing effect on our local iron and steel industry. Steel ship plates, £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: No sign of any revival in business. The few hematite furnaces running are getting deliveries on account of old contracts with an occasional fresh purchase.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—A recent survey of the local industrial situation shows that little or no progress towards recovery of normal conditions has taken place during the past six months. In fact, the volume of business to-day is rather less than before the strike. The steel industry is operating barely a third of its capacity. A good deal of business available in colonial and eastern markets is being lost because makers here are not in a position to finance large orders, a condition of which are credits of from six to twelve months. The assistance proffered by the Government in such cases proves to be more or less illusory. The financial difficulties of large concerns who have been running their works at a loss for nine months become more acute every week, and there is no present sign of an early revival of buying. The building of four battle cruisers will, however, bring a lot of valuable work to Sheffield, and owing to this prospect the outlook for the winter as regards unemployment is less threatening. A few firms are able to report the receipt of new business in crucible and mining steel, machine knives, and files, but the orders are individually inconsiderable. Goods are badly wanted in all parts of the world, but the question of payment checks trade. Makers of plate and cutlery are experiencing a lean time, as the customary revival in connection with the Christmas season trade has failed to materialise this year. Owing to the approach of winter there is increasing activity in the house coal market, and stocks are by no means large. Prices are steady. There is a rather better enquiry for steam coal and cobbles for inland consumption, but the aggregate sales are still relatively small. Export trade continues at a low ebb. The heavy stocks of slack coal are being reduced by lighting up of more coke ovens and the lessened production at the collieries. Prices are steady at the lower level.

CUMBERLAND IRON.

(FROM OUR WORKINGTON CORRESPONDENT.)

The process of recovery in the Cumberland hematite pig-iron trade is very slow, the reason, of course, being that the cost of production is too high to permit iron to be sold at the price at which users want it. Several reductions have taken place since the coal stoppage was ended, but iron is still considerably above the figure at which it is believed it will be readily saleable, and until, in fact, iron comes down to £6 per ton at works there is little hope that business will be forthcoming in such volume as to justify the lighting of as many furnaces as were in blast in February of this year. It is satisfactory to note, however, that one by one the obstacles in the way of an improvement in the position of affairs being brought about are being overcome. Wages readjustments are being arranged, both as regards the iron-ore miners and the blast furnace, and the former, after having been out of employment for over eight months, have accepted iron selling at £7 10s as the basis on which their scale will be calculated. And there is scarcely any doubt that fuel will shortly be cheaper. In Cumberland itself many of the collieries are standing idle, or are working short time because they cannot get rid of their smalls, the coking plants, of course, being unnecessary while so few furnaces are in operation on ordinary iron. East Coast coke is used almost exclusively for the low phosphorus iron which is being smelted at four of the furnaces that are in draught, and so the coal industry is doomed to inactivity as long as the depression hangs over the iron trade. It should be said that not all the special iron now being made is going into consumption. Some of it is being stocked, and the remainder is being absorbed by high-class steel makers in the Midlands. As for the ordinary iron, that is all required for the steel works at Workington, which are executing practically their first orders for basic steel rails. Steel-makers are far from well off for orders, but there is a prospect that the mills may be kept going three or four shifts a week for some time to come. There is only partial employment for the iron-ore miners, and those only of them who work at the pits which raise the low phosphorus ores.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—September 16, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto		nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G O	L M	Mid	G M	M F	G O	L M	G M	G O	L M	G M
	1063	1138	1243	1333	1438	1608	1410	1755	2485	1638	1803	2098
Brazilian.												
Pernambuco, &c.		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Paraiba		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Maoelo		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Mossoro, &c.		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Ceara		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Maranhão		1028	1278	1478			1685	2335		1878	2278	
Egyptian.												
Brown		1475	1625	1875	2055		nm	2250		2300	2950	
Upper		1500	1600	1800	1900		nm	3150		2200	2850	
West Indian—Sea Island ..		2300	2600	2900	3100		7500	8500		nm		
Peruvian—Rough		1225	1350	1425			3400			2850		
Ditto Mod. Rough		1125	1250	1300			2000	2900		2150	2550	
Ditto Smooth		1203	1503	1578	1628	1738	2485	2935	3585	2328	2478	2628
Ditto Sea Island		nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	2300	2750	
African, East, &c.		950	1050	1250	1350	1450	2200	2500	3900	2390	2430	2510
East Indian.	G F	For	Gd.	Fae	S'ns	For	Gd.	Fae	S'ns	For	Gd.	Fae
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee			1255	1280	1305		1865			1920		
Broach		1155	1180	1205	1230	1255	1610	1650	1760	1770	1795	1845
M. Ginned Bhownaggar ..	8-69	9-19	9-69	10-19	10-44	10-69	1269	1369	1529	1539	1614	1714
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1. .	8-75	9-25	9-75	10-25	10-50	10-75	1275	1375	1535	1545	1620	1720
M. Ginned Khandeish	8-50	9-00	9-50	10-00	10-25	10-50	1100	1200	1360	1495	1570	1670
M. Ginned Comptah	9-70		10-20				1435			1795		
M. Ginned Bengal	7-15	7-65	8-15	8-65	8-90	9-15	7-60	8-25	9-50	1334	1410	1510
M. Ginned Seinde	7-03	7-53	8-03	8-53	8-78	9-03	7-32	8-07	9-32	1270	1795	
Tinnivelly	1230	1255	1280				1380	1910		1845	1870	
Madras, Western	9-95	10-20	10-45	10-70			1410	1460		1720		
Coconada, Red	Fr.	9-95					1175			1720		
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	10-20					1230			1745		

MANCHESTER, September 22.

The tone of the market during the past week has improved. The turnover in yarn and cloth has not been distinctly larger, but demand has been on broader lines, and the outlook for spinners and manufacturers is brighter. India merchants are still harassed by the effects of the Gandhi agitation, but more requests have been received from Calcutta and Bombay for cloth quotations to be cabled out, and occasional orders have been booked. For China substantial contracts have been arranged in a well-known make of grey shirtings and sheetings. Considerable activity has prevailed for the Near-Eastern outlets in printing and bleaching styles, and inquiry of a more encouraging character is now coming through for South America. Goods in the home trade section have moved more freely. Prices have hardened in the yarn market, especially in fine counts, and an increased turnover has taken place in qualities suitable for home consumption. Business continues to be done in bundles for China, and cops are now attracting more attention for the Continent.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, Sept. 22, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Sept. 15.	Sept. 8.	Sept. 1.	Aug. 25.	Aug. 18.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	15-18	13-69	13-10	10-76	9-68	8-81
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair						
Egyptian	26-00	22-00	21-50	18-00	16-00	16-00
Yarns—32's twist	22 1/2	21	20	18	17 1/2	16 1/2
— 40's twist	21	19 1/2	18 1/2	16 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	43	37	36	31	29 1/2	29 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	36	0	34	6	33	3
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	36	0	34	6	33	0
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	22	0	20	6	19	6
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	21	0	19	6	18	6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, Sept. 22, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	15-18	23-28	20-15	24-58	18-62	9-51
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair						
Egyptian	26-00	57-50	30-00	30-19	27-00	13-60
Yarns—32's twist	22 1/2	49 1/2	42 1/2	36 1/2	25 1/2	14 1/2
— 40's twist	21	45	41 1/2	36 1/2	25	14 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	43	75	61 1/2	69	43	26
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	36	0	34	6	33	3
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	36	0	34	6	33	0
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	22	0	20	6	19	6
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	21	0	19	6	18	6

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The tone of the market is very well maintained, and unless anything unforeseen occurs to destroy the gradually returning confidence, steady progress should be made during the next few weeks towards an all-round revival in trade. At present the weakness of the position is seen in the lack of an adequate outlet for fully manufactured

goods, and it is hoped that the continued strength of the raw material market will induce wholesale fabric buyers to operate with a little more freedom. There are, however, some heavy stocks of pieces in manufacturers' and merchants' hands, and the low prices that have been accepted in recent months seem to have demoralised this section of the industry. Some fair weights of fine crossbred and merino tops are changing hands, and quotations are very firm, with average 64's quoted at about 3s 7d per lb. Worsted spinners are also finding more business, and most firms are now in a position to run machinery about four days a week. The bulk of the business is on export account, and Germany is by far the best customer. Prices of yarns are steady, and there is less disposition on the part of sellers to cut rates. Some manufacturers are finding more inquiry from overseas markets, but the home trade is quiet. In most cases orders can be executed from stock, and prices are much below to-day's cost of production. Home-grown wools are moving more freely, and in most qualities of fleece and skin prices are firm. The mohair trade is quiet, and only small weights of alpaca are passing into consumption.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The firm finish of the Colonial sales seemed to please everybody, providing no reason for users in consuming centres to bring forward reasons for lower prices. Often an easy finish leads to a very unsatisfactory vacation, but this time there is nothing to lead anyone to look forward to an immediate set-back in values. There are those who are already emphasising the big weight of raw wool which is to be catalogued between now and the end of the year, and while there is bound to be some slight up-and-down movement, I am not looking for any serious setback in values, unless German trade and finance collapse. That seems to be the only doubtful quantity, many strongly asserting that the present artificial boom will eventually mean a collapse, after the order of that which took place in Japan, the United States, and this country last year. The fact should be remembered that Germany is not handicapped with big stocks bought at extremely high prices, as was the case in the three countries named, and the collapse in Germany would not mean anything like the serious loss that the slump has meant to the commercial world in this country and elsewhere. Dealing specifically with wool textiles, the slump caught everyone in this country, from the wool merchant to the wholesale and retail distributor of textiles, loaded with stock, whereas Germany has no stocks, her manufacturers rushing out to retailers everything produced with the utmost speed possible. There are still huge numbers on the Continent wearing paper suits whose wardrobe has not been replenished for years, while the state of the population of Russia and the Balkan States is one which words are utterly incapable of conveying to the average reader's mind. I am not, therefore, pessimistic in regard to the future course of trade in Germany, and while nobody likes to see the value of the mark in the neighbourhood of 400 to the £, Germany will still be a force to reckon with in the wool markets of the world in the near future.

The publication last week-end by the directors of B.A.W.R.A. of a comparative statement of stocks of wool at August 31st from 1918 to 1921 proved of real interest to the trade. They show clearly that during the past three years slightly more merino wool has been consumed than the quantity grown, while in medium and low-combing crossbreds, and in slined and scoured crossbreds, there has been a substantial increase in the world stock as compared with 1918. That is what one could reasonably expect.

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

Directly the war finished there was naturally a cessation in the tremendous consumption of crossbred wool, which was being used in the production of khaki, blankets, &c., the entire consumptive world swinging at one stroke on to merinos. At the same time, I think that in the aggregate there is to-day a larger consumption of crossbred wool than at any time since the war, and, given better conditions in Europe, consumption of crossbred wool will continue to expand. I see across the Atlantic that the tendency is in this direction, and there certainly is a larger production of crossbred yarn in Bradford and district than at any time since the armistice.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A very marked change has come over the linseed market in the past few days. The easier tendency noted last week has become accentuated, and values both of spot seed and for shipment have declined rather sharply, the contributing causes being heavy shipments from and general rains in Argentina, coupled with a sluggish demand for oil.

In addition, the market has been taken somewhat by surprise by the Argentine export surplus being officially reported at 252,000 tons on September 12th, which is at least 100,500 tons more than importers on this side had calculated upon. Approximately 979,800 tons had been shipped from Argentina between January 1st and September 17th, as follows:—To the United Kingdom, 408,800 tons; Continent, 417,000 tons; and North America, 154,000 tons. The yield was estimated at a million or more tons, so that it is evident that either the estimate has been exceeded or the carry-over from last crop was fairly substantial, or both. Plate linseed, in the absence of support, was marked down to £18 10s spot and September-October, and £19 for later shipment, without finding buyers. Largely in sympathy with seed and the failure of demand, raw linseed has declined to £35 for spot to December, and £36 January-April, ex Hull mill, and at these figures the market was weak and inclined lower.

Egyptian cotton seed, owing to few offers from Egypt, is firm, and, if anything dearer. Recent arrivals of cottonseed have relieved the scarcity of oil, values of which are slightly below last week's highest. Soya beans have also come to hand in large quantities after a long interval, and the oil product is now competing with cotton oil. Rape, ground nut, palm kernel, and castor oils are only in poor request, but quotations are generally upheld.

Oilcakes continue a poor trade. Linseeds are in better supply, but there is no disposition to press sales.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hide market remains very firm, and tanners regard the position with anxiety, as they consider values of raw stock are not on a sound basis. Best ox sold from 8½d to 10½d at the Thursday's Bermondsey auctions, and cows at 8d—showing no change on last high prices. Calf were again firmer, heavy selections showing ½d to ¾d advance, and lights ¾d to ¾d advance. The strong position of domestic hides is reflected in foreign; stocks are now getting lower, as tanners have been buying freely of late at advanced rates. South Americans have been selling from 10½d to 12d, and higher rates are expected. The American market is cabled as stronger, with best heavy packers still selling at 14 cents.

There is a better tone in the leather trade, and quite a good business has been done this week in Bermondsey. Advanced prices for 12-14 lb bends have been obtained, tanners standing very firm on quotations in view of the firm prices of hides. Low-grade stock is also demanded for the "stunt" footwear now so freely advertised at low prices. Upper leather is selling better, but in low grades for the same reason. Some stir has been caused this week in trade circles by the news that the Government are offering the 27,000 bales of E.1 kips they hold to factors. I hear that about 1,500 bales are already sold on a basis of about 16d per lb. The remaining stock is of low grades, but the sooner this block of leather is absorbed the better for the trade.

Shoe manufacturers are rather busier, although I regret to state that orders received are mainly for the cheap and nasty kind of footwear. Makers of football boots are very busy, but the fine weather seems checking the demand for stout boots. Unemployment is still prevalent in the shoe centres, and all sorts of schemes are being considered by the authorities for dealing with the question.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van, or motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in

River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, September 23.

Taking the markets as a whole, there was some increase in the amount of business doing, and while prices for some commodities suffered a further decline, more steadiness was observable in others. The question of rates of exchange, however, still proves troublesome to traders in general. In the case of jute, a marked advance is registered, with quite an extensive business effected in manufactured goods during the week. This is the outcome of the final estimate of the crop being from 4,000,000 to 4,100,000 bales, or in other words, only half a normal outturn.

SUGAR.—Market again lower for all descriptions, and trade at the moment moves rather quietly, while pressure to sell American granulated during the greater part of the week formed a feature. Tate's cubes sold 57s 3d to 58s 3d; crushed, 54s; nibs, 54s 6d; granulated, 52s 6d to 53s; caster, 56s 6d to 57s; pieces, 41s to 45s. Lyle's granulated, 52s 6d to 52s 9d; yellow crystals, 48s. Crystallised West India ranges from 40s to 47s, as to quality. American granulated, spot, sold, 52s to 51s 6d and 51s 9d; ditto, afloat, 24s 6d to 24s, c.f. and i. terms; white Java, arrived, steamer, at 23s to 22s 6d, c.f. and i. Belgian crystals, November-December, done, 19s 6d to 20s, f.o.b. Antwerp. Dutch granulated, prompt, 24s; and Czechoslovak granulated and crystals, prompt, 24s, f.o.b. terms. Brazilian, basis 96 per cent., October-November, sold, 16s 6d; and ditto, basis 80 per cent., at 11s, c.f. and i., United Kingdom. Cuban stock stands at 1,205,000 tons, against 301,000 tons same time last year. Stocks in the three chief ports of the United Kingdom, 135,000 tons, against 127,400 tons same time last year.

COFFEE.—There was a steady inquiry, all the finer parcels being chiefly favoured and prices ruled steady. Some Blue Mountain Jamaica, sold, small sizes, 90s to 118s 6d; medium, 135s to 202s 6d; bold, up to 210s; good bold Honduras, sold, 116s 6d. Future delivery dull, and December, sold, 49s 3d.

COCOA. In quiet support, though price changes are not of much importance. Butter steady at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—During the week offerings in auction totalled 41,160 packages. Indian. With active and well-distributed competition, prices ruled firm to rather dearer. New season's Assam brought stiff rates. Of Ceylon 26,100 packages were submitted, and here again firm to slightly higher rates were secured under brisk biddings. New season's Assam broken orange, sold for fine, from 7s 11d to 8s 2d per lb in bond.

RICE.—Market dull and featureless. Two stars Rangoon, spot, 22s 6d; ditto, afloat, 21s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 21s 6d; No. 1 Saigon, September-October, 17s 9d; Burma broken, 1A., October-November, quoted, 16s 6d; 2A., 16s; Siam C1, October-November, 15s; C3, 14s 6d. Beans quiet. Rangoon hand-picked, spot, 14s; October-November, 13s 6d. Madagascar butter beans, all white new crop, spot, 27s; old, 24s. Japanese peas, October-November, sold, 35s.

SPICE.—Pepper market rather unsettled in forward positions, and trade ruled quiet. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 4d; ditto, October-December, steamer, 3½d to 3¾d; Aleppy, spot, quoted, 4½d; Tellicherry, 4½d; white Singapore, spot, 8½d; Muntok, ditto, 9d; ditto, October-December, sold, 8½d to 8¾d and 8¾d. Cloves quiet. Fair Zanzibar, spot, sold, 1s 3d; October-December, steamer, 1s 2½d to 1s 2d. Pimento, spot, quoted, 2½d. Tapioca generally slow. Fair quality flake, spot, sold, 1½d per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, London, 15s; September-November, Havre, 16s 6d. Fair Penang seed, spot, 21s; September-November, London, 18s 6d. Small sago, spot, 27s to 28s; sago flour, September-November, Liverpool, sold, 15s 3d; and ditto, Rotterdam, 16s 9d. Desiccated coconut slow. Spot lots sold, 51s 6d to 51s; and afloat, 48s. Nutmegs firm, and a moderate demand prevailed this week, while stocks on hand are very small.

FRUIT.—The market for currants remained quietly steady. Pyrgos, 51s to 52s; Patras, 56s to 64s. New Cape sultanas, 102s 6d to 110s. New crop Valencia raisins, on spot, 134s to 135s for halves. Cape, new, 80s to 100s. Dates firm. Hallowee, spot, 34s; Khredrowie, 22s; Siar, 17s 6d.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.,

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1932 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1921.

No. 4,075.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTYand
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIESissued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund	Haugesund
Bergen	Sandefjord
Christiania	Skien
Drøbak	Stavanger
Fredrikstad	Trondheim

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 30th June, 1921 ... Lire 4,683,270,156

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.

F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italo credit, Cannon, London."

Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market 497	Books and Publications—
Leading Articles—	Reviews..... 513
The Gaps in the Machine.. 499	Books Received..... 513
Indian Railways..... 500	Stock Exchange News—
The Quarter's New Capital 501	The Stock Markets..... 514
Unemployment 502	New Issues 514
The South Wales Coal	Active Securities..... 515
Middle 503	Company Meetings 516
A "Corner House" Mine	Government Returns—
Quartette 504	Currency Notes Account .. 517
Business Notes—	Treasury Bills by Public
Savings Certificates & Local	Tender 517
Loans 505	Bankers' Gazette—
The Australian Budget 505	Bank of England 518
The Stock Exchange and	Clearing Returns 518
Pre-War Accounts 505	Overseas Bank Returns .. 518
South African Imports and	Loan and Discount Rates.. 520
Exports 506	Overseas Bank Rates..... 520
THE REVENUE 506	Rates of Exchange..... 520
Liverpool Cotton Associa-	Indian Treasury Bills 521
tion 507	Bullion 521
Cotton Trade Research 507	Imports & Exports of Gold.. 521
Proposed Copper Property	Gold and Silver Prices ... 522
Sales 507	Company News—
The Prospect in Mexico.... 507	Dividend Announcements.. 522
British-American Conti-	Railway & Tramway Traffic 523
mental Bank..... 507	Profit and Loss Accounts .. 524
British Glass Industries,	Analysis of Balance-Sheets 524
Limited..... 508	Reports and Notices 524
Johannesburg Consolidated	Mining Output Statistics.. 525
Investment 508	Commercial Reports—
Overseas Correspondence—	Corn Trade 525
United States 508	Iron and Coal Trade 526
France 509	Cotton Trade 527
Italy 510	Wool Trade 527
New Zealand 511	Timber Trade 528
India 511	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds 528
Holland 512	Hide and Leather Trades .. 528
Sweden 512	Portland Cement 528
Norway 512	Overseas Produce Markets 528
Switzerland 513	Price Current 530

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the
Proprietors of the "Economist,"
Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at
Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons,
5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6
Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle
and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall
Avenue, and 43 Finsbury Pavement.
Paris: Galiniani Library, 24 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's,
37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad
Street (Room 1709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

OWING to the end of the quarter, and the further reduction in the Bank of England's holding of securities, money has been in keener demand, and applications to the Bank were found necessary on Thursday for loans at 6 per cent. Discount rates remained easy, with a general expectation that money will be very plentiful again after the turn of the month, when interest payments and the meeting of maturing Exchequer bonds are likely to necessitate a further creation of credit. An announcement, however,

JUTE.—The market steadily hardened during the week in face of very reserved offers, and which chiefly consisted of secured parcels. Final estimate totals 4,052,000 bales. Condition in Northern and Eastern Bengal fairly satisfactory, but Daisee district poor. Native first marks assortment, old crop, subs, September-October, sold, £33 10s; lightning subs, ditto, £29 10s; native firsts, spot, Dundee, £33 to £34 10s; tops of ditto, £37; Daisee No. 2, spot, Bremen, £35; heart subs, natives, September-October, £17 5s; new crop, first grade, November-December, Dundee, £36 5s. Grey Daisee No. 2, spot, Dundee, £50; 10-ounce Calcutta hessians, spot, London, 31s; 8-ounce, 25s 6d; A twills, 85s; B ditto, 73s.

HEMP.—Manila quietly steady. J grade, September-November, sold, £37 10s; K, £35 10s to £36; L, £35 5s; M, £31 10s. New Zealand nominal. Fair, September-November, quoted £35 15s.

SHELLAC.—Market rather irregular forward. T.N., spot, 330s; October, sold, 330s to 320s, and 325s; December, 330s to 322s 6d to 327s 6d.

COPRA.—Steadier, with sellers more reserved this week, and afloat parcels were well absorbed. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, Rotterdam, sold, £32 15s to £33 5s; September-November and October-December, £32 10s to £32 15s. Ceylon, September-November, London, quoted £35. South Sea Islands, afloat, sold, £32 to £31 5s, as to position. Cebu, September-November, Hamburg, sold, £32. Palm kernels, October-December, Liverpool, sold, £22 12s 6d to £22 5s.

RUBBER.—In better demand, partly on American account, and prices are steadier. Plantation crepe, spot, sold, 8½d to 9½d; October-December, 9½d; January-March, 10½d. Sheet, spot, sold, 8½d to 9½d; October-December, 9d to 9½d; January-March, 9½d to 10½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 1d. Caucho ball, 7d per lb.

OILS.—Lined lower. Spot, net, naked, 34s; September-December, 34s 3d; January-April, 35s 3d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 61s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 46s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 52s. Chinawood, Hankow, spot (barrels), 90s; and shipment, 69s. Coconut steady. Ceylon, spot, 55s; September-October, 54s 6d; Cochin, ditto, 58s. Soya dearer. Oriental, barrels, ditto, sold, 44s 6d. Japan fish steady. September-October, cases, 24s. Cod firm. English, spot, 30s to 32s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 55s; deodorised, barrels, 68s. Turpentine firmer. American, spot, 68s; October-December, 69s; January-April, 71s. Rosin firm for common grades. American, grade-B, 17s; F, 17s 9d; G, 17s 9d; K, 18s 6d; WW, 23s; French, F/G, 16s; H, 16s 6d; WW, 17s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Lined: Market very unsettled, and prices on balance appreciably lower for Plate. Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, arrived, sold, £19; September-October, £20 10s, value. Plate, spot, Hull, £17 15s; afloat, £17 15s; September-October, sold, £17 to

£16 10s and £18; October-November, £17 5s to £16 15s and £18 5s; November-December, £18 10s; January-February, nearest, £18 15s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, September-October, quoted £22; real bold Ferozepore quoted £21 15s; brown Cawnpore, £20 15s. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, September, quoted £15; and white, £14 10s. Bombay, September-October, sold, £12. Gingly firm. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £31 10s, paid. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £21; ditto, to New York, August-September, sold, £20 5s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, September-October, £28 10s to £29 10s; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, £28 to £29 per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market exhibited slight irregularity forward last Monday, while cash changed hands at £154 10s to £154 5s, three months' £157 to £156, since improving to £156 12s 6d. An upward tendency prevailed until the middle of the week, dealings being on a fair scale, these positions settling down, however, below the best at £156 and £158 5s respectively. Thursday's market opened firmer, but a setback in prices followed under selling desire, cash being sold at £156 15s to £156 5s, and three months' £159 to £158 5s. At Friday's session cash realised £156 15s to £156 5s, early October £157, and three months' £158 10s to £159, while finally sold at £158 5s. Copper opened rather dearer at the week's commencement, but the points were not maintained as business proceeded, standard cash being registered at £68 7s 5d to £68 2s 6d, and three months' £69 5s to £68 17s 6d. A gradual downward movement subsequently ensued, while these dates by Wednesday left off at £67 17s 6d and £68 12s 6d, Thursday's market manifested no material change. At Friday's session business continued on a limited scale. Standard cash changed hands at £67 15s, early November £68 5s, and three months' £68 12s 6d. Electros, £72 to £74; best selected, £68 10s to £70 10s; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £73 to £74. Cash realised £67 17s 6d and three months' £68 10s. Lead easier, at £22 15s to £22 10s, as to position. Spelter firmer, at £45 7s 6d to £45 10s. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, quoted at £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—SEPTEMBER 22.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Horned	8 d	8 d	8 d	8 d
Short-horned	9 4	10 0	10 8	11 4
Devons	9 8	10 2	10 0	10 8
Northfords	9 2	9 10		
Scottish	8 10	9 6		

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—SEPTEMBER 22.

Per Cwt.	8 d	8 d	8 d	8 d
King Edwards	11 0	10 10	10 0	10 0
British Queen	10 0	11 0		

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				INDIA RUBBER.—lb—s d s d				PROVISIONS.—s d s d				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb—s d s d							
COCOA. —Dutch, British grown				Alcoba, fine E.L., p.cwt150				Para, fine, hard, spot				Butter—per cwt.				Singapore, fair White			
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	42	42	42	Balmora, per lb				Plantation crepe				Irish creamery				Black Singapore			
Trinidad, per cwt.	56	0 22	0 0	Cape, good to fine				0 95 0 0				Do factory				White Siam			
Granada	44	0 56	0 0	Balmora, per lb				0 95 0 0				Australian				Pimento			
Ceylon, plantation	70	0 85	0 0	Caviri				2 0 2 6				Dutch				Cinnamon—1st sort.			
Guayaquil	58	0 77	0 0	Camphor								New Zealand				Do 2nd			
Bahia, finest	58	0 60	0 0	Java, refined				14 0 0				Danish				Do 3rd			
COFFEE. —British grown				Cardamoms, Ceylon				1 6 5 0				Bacon, smgd.—Irish				Chips			
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	42	42	42	Cantharides, per lb				0 0 0 0				Canadian				Castilla Ligne			
2. India fine good rd. 90	112	8		Castor oil, cwt				85 0 0				American				Cloves—Zanzibar			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Hams—Irish				Penang			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Ginger—per cwt.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Cochin, cut			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Hams—Irish				Do small rough			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Do washed			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Japan			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Mace			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Nutmegs, good to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Small to medium			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Chillies—per cwt.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TALLOW—per cwt.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Good mutton			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Beef			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				TAPIOCA—per lb—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				E. I. Flake, fair, spot			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Pearl			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Foreign 1st lb			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Indian and Ceylon			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Pekoe			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Broken Pekoe			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Orange Pekoe			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Broken Orange			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Pekoe Souchong			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				TIMBER.—Timber & Hewn Wood			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				E. I. Oak (load)			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kauri Pine cubic ft.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Gedar cubic			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Japanese Oak			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				American Ash			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				TOBACCO—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Duty 82—10/4 per lb.			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Virginia leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Kentucky leaf—			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Common to fine			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Strips			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				China			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Borneo and Sumatra			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Seedcat			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				American				Havana			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0	Gambier, Sum. cwt				7 10 0 10 0				Canadian				Satinwood super			
Do good to fine	115	0 125	0																

that the Treasury bond issue is to be replaced by a new series, offered at 98 instead of 97, will certainly have stimulated the sale, which has already been very large, owing to intelligent anticipations by investors and stags; and the need for the manufacture of fresh credit will to that extent have been reduced. On the other hand, the Government's intentions with regard to unemployment measures seem likely at least to stimulate the kite-flying industry. Money was plentiful again yesterday, but the high rate at which the Treasury bills were allotted was rather a shock to the market, which quoted $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., very nominal, for January bills.

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 16, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount, Call	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	..
Market rate (3 months' bills)	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	4	4	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a further improvement. Quarterly needs had expanded the note circulation by £566,000, and with a small decrease in the gold stock, reduced the Reserve by £569,000. But Government and Other securities declined by £6,330,000, and £4,626,000 respectively, and so the total deposits were reduced by 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions, 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ of which came off Other. The circulation of currency notes declined by £1,530,000 to £314,381,900, which includes £1,880,700 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £264,551,200, or £53,004,000 below the maximum.

Revenue for the half-year ended September 30, 1921, amounted to £456,163,160, as compared with £619,299,498 in the corresponding period of 1920. This is a net decrease of £163,136,338. Customs show a decrease of £4,516,000, while Excise records a gain of £4,579,000. Stamps show a decline of £5,340,000. Property and income-tax at £140,057,000 is an increase of £13,702,000, but Excess Profits Duties, &c., are £82,336,000 lower. Under "Miscellaneous" a decline of £96,274,483 is recorded. Expenditure amounts to £497,993,849, as compared with £541,671,530, the total estimated expenditure for the current year being £1,130,204,000. The floating debt on September 30, 1921, stood at £1,320,590,000, an increase of £45,260,000 since the commencement of the financial year on April 1, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended September 24th:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	14,986	Supply Services	7,700
		Interest on Debt	1,826
		Sundries	284
		Taken from Exchequer Balances ..	911
		Debt Reduction	4,465
	14,986		14,986

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £6,268,312, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bills	+ 4,404	Bank of England Advances ..	— 21,750
Treasury Bonds	+ 14,750	Advances by Public Departments ..	— 1,241
Civil Contingencies Fund ..	+ 1,250	Depreciation fund	— 500
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 150	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 513
		Sundries	— 650
		Other Debt	— 2,118
	+ 20,554		— 26,172

Savings Certificates to the extent of £650,000 were issued for housing. Property and Income-tax yielded £3,083,000, while Customs and Excise brought in £7,802,000. It will be noted from our table that Treasury bonds were sold to the extent of 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ millions.

Interest in the exchange markets during the week has been largely focussed on the German mark, which has undergone violent and rapid fluctuations, from round 408 last Saturday to 490, which figure was touched on Wednesday. A better tendency was, however, evident on Thursday, when the closing quotation was 458. The

position remains very obscure, and the abolition of the sanctions which is now announced appears to throw an interesting light on how the German position is viewed by France. Apart from other factors, the removal of restrictions in the Rhine area should be reflected in German trade recovery, with a consequent temporary steadying effect on the mark, but in considering future movements, the general position and heavy weight of reparation payment must remain the ultimate important factors. The quotation at the time of writing is 437, with a falling tendency, while forward quotations are 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ marks per month below spot. Dollars opened the week at 3.73, and remained a fairly firm market round this rate until Thursday, when the rate broke to 3.71, closing at 3.71 $\frac{1}{2}$. There was a recovery from this figure, yesterday's midday quotation being 3.72 $\frac{1}{2}$. New York futures are now quoted $\frac{1}{2}$ cent, as compared with $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per month over spot last week. The Paris position is fraught with possibilities, and the steadiness of the rate fractionally over 52 does not reflect the nervousness with which the market regards future movements. To the uncertainty of political influences has been added the disturbing influences of the heavy speculations which have been disclosed. The rate yesterday was round 52.05, with future quotations 4 centimes per month above spot. Brussels, though still influenced by the French movements, shows more sign of independent fluctuation. The spread between the two rates, which at one time last week had practically run off, has again increased to about 90 centimes at 52.95. The forward rate is unchanged at 8 centimes. Movements in Dutch florins have been irregular, last Saturday's quotation of about 11.74 $\frac{1}{2}$ falling away to 11.57 $\frac{1}{2}$ on Wednesday. A sharp reaction followed on Thursday, when the closing quotation was 11.68, and the rate yesterday was round 11.71. Futures were quoted round the same rates as last week. The Italian lira has continued its gradual depreciation, the rate 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ at the time of writing showing a rise of 3 lire on last week's figure. Contrary to what might be expected in view of existing conditions, the Swiss rate at 21.50 has moved slightly against this country. This movement may be largely accounted for by the fact that the nationals of less favourably situated countries appear to be using Switzerland as a custodian of their reserve wealth. Spain, though slightly irregular, has moved against this country on balance, yesterday's rate showing a fall of 7 centimes. In the Scandinavians, Norway has now gone over 30, and the tendency seems still towards rising rates. On the other hand, both Swedish and Danish kronen have appreciated slightly in value at 16.78 and 20.88 respectively. Escudos, after dipping to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d last week, have shown considerable recovery. The rate has risen steadily, and is now once more round 7d. Among the countries with heavily depreciated currencies, Austria and Poland again show heavy tumbles. The Vienna rate reached 6,000, while Warsaw touched the new record of 25,000. There was an improvement yesterday, however, when the quotations were 5,600 and 23,000 respectively. Prague and Helsingfors have to a less degree moved in a similar direction, and are now quoted round 340 and 260 respectively. The silver exchanges have responded to the increased price of silver, Hong Kong at 2s 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d and Shanghai at 4s both showing an increase of almost 2d on the week. The tone of the South American market has been generally firm, Buenos Aires and Valparaiso especially being quotably higher on the week at 46 $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 33d.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.			
FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1921.			
	£		£
Total spent	497,993,849	Raised by revenue ..	456,163,160
Dec. in balances	262,082	Net borrowings	41,568,607
Total	497,731,767	Total	497,731,767
ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	23	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % War Stock	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4% War Stock	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,936	1,936
National War Bonds ..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,278	1,278
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358
3 $\frac{1}{2}$ % Conversion Ln.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	265	265
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,159
Treasury Bills	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	292	292
Exchequer Bonds ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	286
Natal Savings Certs. ..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
War Expend. Certs. ..	..	..	944	1,341	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,136	1,113
Other Debt	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	..	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	161
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,737
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,787

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Sept. 30, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Sept. 30, '21.	Sept. 30, '21.
Outstanding—	£	£	£	£
Advances by Bank of England ..	7,750,000	—	22,500,000	—
Advances by Public Departments ..	143,114,000	154,489,000	153,433,000	+ 4,409,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,138,794,000	1,120,841,000	1,159,407,000	+ 4,515,000
Total Floating Debt	1,281,508,000	1,275,330,000	1,320,590,000	+ 22,606,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

SEPTEMBER 24TH.—Mr Churchill at Dundee on trade depression.

SEPTEMBER 26TH.—President Harding opens unemployment Conference at Washington.

SEPTEMBER 27TH.—Publication of Soviet reply to Lord Curzon.

SEPTEMBER 28TH.—Prime Minister's reply to Mr de Valera published.

SEPTEMBER 29TH.—Budget speech in House of Representatives of Australian Commonwealth. Prime Minister to consult bankers and economists on foreign credits and exchange.

Prices on the Stock Exchange were unaffected by Thursday's decision to make no change in Bank rate, though a lowering had been expected earlier in the week. The gilt-edged market has been heavy. Foreign bonds were irregular, and Home Rails more depressed than ever. Further liquidation in oil shares has lowered prices.

The cotton market has shown a hardening tendency, and the trade outlook is said to be improving. Wool prices rose at the Liverpool sales, but the piece-goods section remains quiet. There is no improvement in the iron and steel trades reported from Middlesbrough and Sheffield, and there has been a check in the placing of new orders in Glasgow, owing to the threatened revival of labour trouble. The hide and leather trades both show an improvement, and the timber market has shown more activity, but the oils and oilseeds markets have been dull.

Reports on the various markets from special correspondents will be found in later columns.

THE GAPS IN THE MACHINE.

We have to wait till next week to hear what the Government means to do about unemployment, and we must wait, as usual, with hope tempered by apprehension. Every allowance must be made for a set of not very great men struggling with enormous difficulties, even though we must admit that these difficulties have largely been created by their own actions. The core of the whole problem lies in Central Europe's inability to produce and consume as of yore, with the result that the world's economic machine has a gap in its working which puts it out of gear. For this gap the action of the Supreme Council is largely responsible, for it arises chiefly out of the long delay in arriving at a peace settlement, and out of the terms of that settlement when finally hatched. Central Europe was necessarily impoverished, but if we had had a real peace

and a quick peace, the task of recuperation would have been infinitely easier. As a member of the Supreme Council, the Government certainly had an extremely difficult task, but it had helped to increase its difficulty by its fatuous promises to the country during the General Election of 1918. These promises also helped to produce the obstinate resistance of the manual workers to the necessities of the economic position, which is the second great cause of the dislocation which has resulted in the unemployment with which the Government is now going to try to struggle. It is reaping its own harvest of tares, and it has to do so with the help of a nation that is over-taxed both by the State and by local authorities, and is thoroughly disgusted by the manner in which the Government has spent, and is spending, its money. As to the schemes to be expected, we can only hope that it is not true that the Prime Minister means to try to solve unemployment by "beautifying" the outskirts of London with a circle of garden cities. It would evidently take many months before such a scheme could be started, and its effects would almost certainly be most unpleasant. In the meantime, experts are being dragged up to Gairloch for week-end discussions concerning the need for credit expansion. Not long ago the banks were lectured by Mr Chamberlain for creating credit and so defeating the Government's efforts at deflation. Now it seems they are to be asked to expand. If inflation is to provide the means for meeting unemployment, it is perhaps better that it should be the comparatively mild variety that the ordinary banks produce rather than the strong and heady vintage that the Bank of England uncorks. But the credit schemes so far officially organised have failed almost completely to stimulate our exports, and Mr Leaf, chairman of the County Westminster and Parr's Bank, was reported in the *Daily Mail* of last Thursday to have told it that though the banks are quite anxious to extend their loans, "the opportunity does not present itself," so that there seems to be already more credit available than is wanted. In an article on a later page our Labour correspondent quotes a suggestion that the Government should "place orders with British manufacturers for staple commodities for which there is an ascertained demand and export these goods abroad on credit terms." But how long would it take to get such a scheme to work? Mr Winston Churchill told his constituents at Dundee last Saturday that what is immediately needed is "a medium of international exchange which would be unbiased by war obligations, and would secure, at any rate temporarily and during the period of recovery, sales of goods between nations on a natural and normal basis." Perhaps Mr Churchill knows what he means, but the ordinary mind is left wondering whether he is really asking for a League of Nations' note issue, and, if so, on what it would be secured, who would take it, how its issue would be regulated and apportioned, and how it would solve the real difficulties of the position. Sir Edward Mountain has made a suggestion for a syndicate of bankers and insurance companies to grant credits, on behalf of the Government, charging a small premium to exporters. It is possible that such a scheme might be more expeditious and successful than the Board of Trade's, but,

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

like the other proposals mentioned, it does not strike the true knot of the problem, which is to revive real, not spooned, buying power.

All the suggestions so far made, as far as we have been able to master them, leave out the real need for encouraging the trade of impoverished Europe by freeing it from fiscal and political shackles. This need was urged a year ago at Brussels, has been acknowledged by the Supreme Council, and emphasised by a memorial signed by our leading bankers. But the Government has recognised it by the Reparation Recovery Act and the Safeguarding of Industry Act, and has now been a party to checking Germany's trade and so helping the depreciation of the mark, by insisting that though the economic sanctions are to be dropped—as common honesty demands, since they were imposed to force Germany to accept the indemnity ultimatum, which she has done—yet an inter-Allied Commission is to supervise the granting by Germany of export and import licences. The amount of delay, friction, and hindrance to trade involved by this stipulation is as obvious as the fact that until Germany recovers Europe cannot do so, and the gap in the machine that is the great international cause of unemployment will continue to yawn. In the meantime it has been announced that there is to be no new Committee to revise the work of Lord Cunliffe's, but the Sound Currency Association is organising an International Monetary Conference to be held in London early in October, and it was hinted by Mr Churchill that a conference on the "establishment of normal exchanges" may possibly follow the one which is to discuss disarmament at Washington.

Besides these international difficulties, there is the jarring of the economic machinery due to the belief of labour that it does not get a fair share of the goods that it helps to produce. It has suspicions that are, in view of the past attitude of many employers, natural enough, and can only be dispelled by fair argument and demonstration, based on facts that are beyond dispute. Company accounts as now presented do not give these facts. In this connection some very interesting remarks were made by Sir Josiah Stamp, in a speech delivered yesterday, to a conference of incorporated accountants at Liverpool, on the relation of Accountancy to Economics. After an amusing description of the difficulties encountered by those who try to apply economic abstractions to practical life, Sir Josiah brought the following "serious indictment" against accountants:—"Scientific accountancy has now been developing for some 50 years, but I cannot trace that it has yet made a single substantial contribution to economic science over its own field of the analysis of the results of industry, although it has practically a monopoly grip of the required data. Can any of us at present hazard a guess as to how many marginal businesses there are in a trade, and as to how far profits over and above economic interest arise through disadvantages in situation, excessive capital expenditure, excessive distribution costs, and inferior organisation respectively? This is only one of the immense additions that might be made in applied economics, if accountants, as the trustees of valuable economic data, would free themselves from their present doubtless inadvertently 'dog-in-the-manger' position. They have the figures; other people cannot use them, and if accountants will not, then we get nothing: economics continues its abstract deductions, and business blunders on by individual instinct. The only considerable body of facts of which I am aware in this country relating to the results of businesses and aggregated on a sufficiently wide scale to justify any inference is the *Economist's* quarterly summary of industrial and trading results. Here a gallant struggle is made, working on such intractable material as the final published balance-sheets, to reduce the results to comparable form to aggregate them and extract the facts of general application. The series is extremely valuable, but every accountant will appreciate that it is a task undertaken in the face of the greatest difficulties. I fully realise that the great majority of those in your society over, say, 40 years of age will scoff at my suggestions as 'highbrow,' Utopian, and unpractical for a hard business world, but I am content to make my appeal to the rising generation and to pray for a co-operation between accountancy and economics in the future that will be fraught with the highest advantages to both."

INDIAN RAILWAYS.

THE Report of the Committee appointed by Mr Montagu last November to investigate Indian railway affairs has now been published in full [Cmd. 1,512, 1s 6d net]. Of the ten members three, namely, the chairman, Sir William Acworth, and two others, the one an experienced railway man, the other an experienced banker, had no previous connection with India. Four were Anglo-Indians, three of them railway men with experience both of State and company railways, while the fourth was a merchant. The remaining three were Indian gentlemen, two of them merchants, while the third was Mr Sastri, now a Privy Councillor, who since he joined the Indian Railway Committee has represented India both in the Imperial Cabinet of last summer and in the Assembly of the League of Nations at Geneva. The Committee spent several months in India, travelling over the country from Bombay to Calcutta and from Madras to the Punjab. They sat for 50 days and examined 142 witnesses, of whom 67 were either railway men or Government officials. Of the non-official witnesses 45 were Indian and 30 were Europeans.

The "entire inadequacy" of the Indian railway system to meet the needs of the country is wholly due, in the opinion of the Committee, to the failure of the Government either to provide itself, or to permit private enterprise to provide, adequate funds. Such money as has been found has been spent prudently and economically. But much more money could have been provided and could have been profitably spent. The Report ascribes "the policy which has been persistently pursued of starving the development of Indian railways" to one main cause: the fact that railway accounts, both revenue and capital, have always been treated as a part of the general Budget of the Indian Government. It describes at length the system under which it is assumed that the railways go out of business on March 31st of each year, and recommence the following day, with all its appalling complications of "Forecasts," "Programmes," "Provisional Grants," "Final Allotments," and "Lapses." The Committee's comment is that "on the face of it it does not look businesslike." And they give, as an instance of actual working in practice, the case of a railway begun in 1908 and expected to be opened for traffic in 1926 at a capital cost of 4½ crores of rupees, of which 1½ crores will represent interest on capital during the 18 years of the construction period. The remedy, in the eyes of the Committee, is the entire separation, as in Switzerland, in South Africa, in Japan, and elsewhere, of the railway budget from the general Budget of the country. The Committee propose that in future the railways shall have an independent budget of their own, that, subject, of course, to the general control of the Government and the Legislative Assembly on broad matters of policy, the Railway Department shall manage its own finance, being responsible to the Finance Member only for the provision of funds to meet the interest on the money borrowed by the Government for railway purposes.

The remaining portion of the unanimous recommendations of the Committee are of less general interest. They are largely concerned with proposals as to administrative reorganisation. One recommendation deals with the establishment of a Rates Tribunal on the lines of that provided in this country by the new Railways Bill. But the Committee are evidently in full sympathy with the underlying principles of what we may call the Montagu policy. They recommend the immediate establishment of Central and Local Railway Advisory Councils; that greater facilities should be provided for training Indians for the superior posts, and that the process of their employment in such posts should be accelerated. Further, they say that the utmost efforts should be devoted "to stamping out the very serious and widespread abuses in connection with the allocation of railway wagons," which they say "have grown into a system of organised blackmail"; and that everything possible should be done to redress, or, at least, mitigate, the hardships to which third-class passengers are at present subjected.

We now come to the portion of the report which will naturally arouse controversy both in England and in India. Out of the 36,000 miles of railway in India, about 25,000

are included in 11 major undertakings; and of the 25,000 roughly one-third is worked directly by the State, and the remaining two-thirds by English guaranteed companies. But the whole 25,000 miles belong absolutely to the State. The companies own nothing, not even, apparently, the furniture of the London board rooms. Their share capital is invested in beneficial financial contracts with the Secretary of State, terminable in each case at a fixed date, if not renewed, and is then repayable at par, the company apparently being then wound up. Even the debentures issued in the name of the X.Z. Company have no charge on the physical assets of the property called by the company's name. Their security is the unconditional guarantee by the Secretary of State of both principal and interest—ample, no doubt, but not a debenture security in the ordinary acceptance of the word. It is common ground with the Committee that the State-operated lines shall continue to be so worked; and that, in deference to the unanimous Indian opinion, the management of the guaranteed companies' lines shall be transferred to India, the several contracts of the existing English companies being terminated in each case at the first due date. These dates, in the case of the two most important companies, the East India and the Great India Peninsula, are 1924 and 1925 respectively. So the matter presses. The Committee have found themselves sharply divided on the question whether these two undertakings shall be operated directly by the State, or handed over to the management of new Indian companies. Five members, three English and two Indian, recommend the former alternative. Five members, one Indian and four Anglo-Indian, recommend the latter. The divergence of opinion between the two sections of the Committee does not rest on any point of principle. The majority, for so presumably it may be called, as the chairman is one of the five, agree that a company "usually conducts its business with more enterprise, economy, and flexibility than a State organisation," and add that "most of us have approached the question with a strong prepossession in favour of private enterprise as a general proposition." They rest the case for State management on the practical ground that the existing guaranteed companies are not owners, and that the actual owner has always refused to leave any real initiative to them; while, on the other hand, the Government, having delegated the actual management, cannot itself initiate. After giving instances of the manner in which the companies are hampered by meticulous Government control over every detail of expenditure, they conclude that "the guaranteed companies do not possess the essential attributes which belong to ordinary companies. To claim that because ordinary companies possess the advantages of energy, enterprise, and so forth, therefore companies of the nature which we have described may be expected to possess these advantages, is to be misled by a mere name." They refuse to believe that it would be possible to set up in India new companies substantially independent, on the ground that Indian public opinion is so strongly in favour of direct State management that the Government would be forced to refuse to part with its property; and that even if it were prepared to do so, the necessary private capital could not be raised. And they further add that all the evidence supports the unanimous opinion of the Indian Government, expressed as recently as 1917, that "so far as efficiency is concerned, there is really nothing to choose between a company-managed line in this country and one under State management." They accept the implication of their policy, that all the money required for Indian railways must in future be raised directly by the Government. But they are of opinion that this will present no difficulty, provided the Government are prepared to accept the view that loan money is a commodity with a variable market price.

The other section of the Committee rest their case on the belief that the Government cannot, or at least will not, find the necessary money, and that private companies with a sufficient degree of independence can be formed in India. The company which they propose for the management of the East India Railway should, they say, invest in the undertaking a capital increasing year by year from one-twenty-seventh to five-twenty-sevenths, and possibly ultimately to ten-twenty-sevenths of the total sum invested in the undertaking, the balance continuing to be owned by

the Government. This share capital should be guaranteed by the Government a dividend of 1 per cent. less than the current interest on Government loans, and be entitled also to a certain share in further profits. It should be managed by a board of directors—of whom one-half, including the chairman with a casting vote, would be nominated by the Government—with a right to appeal by the elected directors against the decision of the Government nominees to the Government itself. For this scheme its advocates do not claim that it is more than "an experiment certainly worthy of trial." We may leave it with the comment made upon it by the other section of the Committee, that they are satisfied that, "as a matter of practical politics, companies substantially independent cannot be formed in India, and that without such independence the advantages of private enterprise are lost. The fact that our colleagues can only propose the formation of companies in which the State would own the great bulk of the stock, appoint half the directors, and nominate the chairman, with an ultimate appeal in case of disagreement on the board to the Government itself, has confirmed us in our belief that we have correctly understood the position."

THE QUARTERS NEW CAPITAL.

THE past quarter has been an exceptionally quiet one in the new capital market, July and August being unprecedentedly slack months. In July the total of new capital raised, including Government borrowing on Treasury bonds and Savings Certificates, was £10½ millions and in August £13½ millions, but in September the total rose to £33½ millions. The last figure owes its size principally to the fact that in the fortnight ended September 24th sales of Treasury bonds have amounted to over £19 millions. The new capital applications for each quarter since 1904 are set out in the table below:—

New Capital Applications.					
Year.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total for Whole Year.
1904.....	£ 19,905,000	£ 50,654,000	£ 9,547,000	£ 42,913,000	£ 123,019,000
1905.....	67,301,200	36,915,500	22,854,100	40,116,600	167,187,400
1906.....	30,264,800	55,059,800	10,835,800	24,012,800	120,173,200
1907.....	49,428,600	40,304,600	15,631,400	18,265,400	123,630,000
1908.....	45,287,900	64,385,600	31,541,800	50,988,400	192,203,700
1909.....	64,238,400	56,835,200	27,694,400	33,588,800	182,356,800
1910.....	99,355,600	88,721,400	28,111,600	51,250,500	267,439,100
1911.....	61,245,000	56,238,800	14,914,500	59,361,100	191,759,400
1912.....	47,966,100	62,377,500	40,687,100	59,819,300	210,850,000
1913.....	50,344,700	70,014,900	29,961,800	46,216,000	196,537,000
1914.....	97,610,200	54,739,100	20,265,200	339,908,100	512,522,600
1915.....	46,313,500	25,693,200	586,772,500	26,462,500	685,241,700
1916.....	156,251,200	131,022,500	111,578,000	186,584,700	585,436,400
1917.....	825,925,200	221,254,300	57,054,400	214,362,100	1,318,596,000
1918.....	475,258,700	220,921,500	329,674,000	367,527,200	1,393,381,400
1919.....	291,901,400	93,879,000	536,502,200	113,776,800	1,036,059,400
1920.....	135,094,500	98,011,700	61,195,600	73,247,800	367,549,600
1921.....	63,292,600	65,281,900	57,890,600	..	..

These figures include Government borrowing with the exception of Treasury bills and Ways and Means Advances. During the past quarter up to September 24th 5 per cent. Treasury bonds were sold to the extent of just over £39 millions, while repayments of National Savings Certificates exceeded sales by £100,000. Of the £58 millions raised in the quarter, therefore, less than £19 millions was issued by borrowers other than the British Government. The latter has raised over £59 millions in the nine months out of a total of £186½ millions. From the following analysis of the destination of new capital it will be seen that a much larger proportion has gone abroad than in the corresponding period of 1920, when British industrial issues were on a very heavy scale:—

	First Nine Months.				
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom.....	£ 22,104,300	£ 35,533,400	£ 25,595,200	£ 264,582,900	£ 118,101,400
British Possessions..	39,433,500	35,501,800	56,948,100	25,002,600	46,478,800
Foreign countries..	70,860,500	78,995,500	67,778,200	4,716,300	21,884,900
Total	132,398,300	150,030,700	150,321,400	294,301,800	186,465,100

The amount required for domestic purposes this year is considerably below last year's total, but very much in excess of the pre-war average. New capital for British

Possessions and foreign countries, on the other hand, though more than double the amount shown a year ago, is very much lower than it was in pre-war years.

An analysis of the purposes for which the capital was issued gives the following results:—

Description.	Total, First Half-year, 1921.	Third Quarter, 1921.	Total Nine Months to September 30.	
	£	£	1920.	1921.
British Government Loans	20,067,000	39,092,300	22,054,000	59,159,300
Colonial Government Loans	27,609,600	4,800,000	7,970,000	32,409,600
Foreign Government Loans	5,450,000	455,000	nil	5,905,000
British Municipal and County Loans	16,586,200	nil	39,525,000	16,586,200
Colonial corporations	1,490,000	3,016,000	nil	4,506,000
Foreign railways	nil	nil	1,116,000	585,000
Australian mines	nil	53,800	54,700	387,500
South African mines	333,700	60,000	2,818,800	159,900
Other mines	90,900	43,800	13,522,800	1,831,300
Exploration, financial, & investment trust	1,787,500	537,400	1,400,700	1,057,400
Breweries	520,000	nil	1,469,300	300,000
Merchants, importers, &c.	300,000	nil	61,753,600	19,619,000
Manufacturing	19,242,000	377,000	4,137,800	3,500,000
Stores and trading	3,500,000	nil	1,444,500	818,900
Estate and land	798,900	20,000	5,307,800	1,104,900
Rubber	649,900	455,000	5,307,800	1,104,900
Oil	14,601,500	252,500	11,433,500	14,864,400
Iron, coal, steel, and engineering	3,340,000	463,800	18,287,000	3,803,800
Electric lighting and power	2,041,000	1,608,000	5,022,000	3,643,900
Tramways, omnibus, &c.	647,500	126,500	34,300	774,000
Motor traction and manufacturing	605,000	300,000	8,122,700	905,000
Gas and water	1,465,600	831,500	366,700	2,297,100
Hotels, theatres, and entertainments	1,915,300	414,600	5,367,000	2,329,900
Patents and proprietary articles	66,200	50,000	1,068,200	115,200
Docks, harbours, and shipping	2,243,200	2,940,000	17,819,000	5,183,200
Banks and insurance	2,052,000	250,000	15,616,400	2,302,000
Miscellaneous	1,171,100	1,148,400	47,950,000	2,319,500
	128,574,500	57,890,600	294,301,800	186,465,100

So far as the past quarter is concerned, Colonial Government and Corporation loans account for nearly £8 millions, leaving very little over £10 millions for other issues. This week's South African loan is the only issue under Colonial Government loans, but there have been four issues by Colonial Corporations—the Port of Calcutta, £1,000,000, the County of Southland (New Zealand), £720,000, Thames Valley Electric (New Zealand), £336,000, and Metropolitan and Ipswich Sewerage Board (Queensland), £960,000. Most of the industrial issues have been in the form of debenture stock, a significant sign of the times. There have been five issues in the Electric Light and Power group, four of which were in the form of 7 or 7½ per cent. debenture stock. The largest was an issue of £470,000 this week by the County of London Electric Supply Company. The Eagle Oil Transport Company's issue of £2,940,000, which appears under the Docks and Shipping group, was in the form of 12-year 7 per cent. notes, issued at 98 at the end of July. In the Miscellaneous section the principal issues were £375,800 in 8 per cent. debentures by the Pullman Car Company in July, and £600,000 ordinary shares to shareholders only by Liebig's Extract of Meat Company in August.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

It may be argued that unemployment is a tough nut to crack, but no one can say with truth that the Government has made any real attempt to grapple with the problem. The economic consequences of the peace, for which the Allied Governments must share the responsibility, are regarded by the Labour movement as the prime cause of our present difficulties. But the situation has been intensified by the aimlessness of British domestic policy and by the Government's apparent indifference.

Early in 1919, at the express request of the Government, a Joint Committee of employers' and workers' representatives met to consider the industrial situation, and one of the subjects on which the Prime Minister, in most feeling terms, asked for guidance was unemployment. It was significant of the temper of those early post-war days that the Joint Committee presented a unanimous report, which included recommendations regarding unemployment. But the Report, save for an overdue extension of the Unemployment Insurance Act, remains a dead letter, notwithstanding the undertaking given by Mr Lloyd George that agreed recommendations from the Joint Committee would be put into effect. This and other bitter experiences destroyed every vestige of faith in the Government's sincerity. Consequently the Prime Minister's approach to

Labour ten months ago was rejected. The Labour leaders had no intention of being used as a "smoke screen" behind which the Government might hide.

The Government did not proceed with the appointment of its proposed Committee, nor did it formulate a policy of its own. It merely allowed matters to drift until it became panic stricken by the cries of the "anti-wasters," when it plunged wildly into a campaign of economy. The need for economy is not disputed; the criticism of Labour is directed against the unenlightened, short-sighted, and indeed stupid manner in which the policy was applied.

It was not until the question could be no longer ignored that the Government was driven to set up a Cabinet Committee on Unemployment. Its very appointment at this stage is a damning criticism of Government inactivity and opportunism. So far as this body has made known its proposals to the world, its first thoughts are to saddle the local authorities with the main expenditure involved in local schemes of work. Naturally enough, municipal and county authorities, already staggering under a load of taxation, have condemned the Mond Committee's proposals as utterly inadequate. Now, after the London Labour Mayors have succeeded in compelling Mr Lloyd George to realise something of the gravity of the situation, he talks airily and vaguely of calling in bankers and business men for a great pow-wow.

In the meantime the Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party executive have submitted proposals, which have met, as usual, with a good deal of uninformed and rather stupid criticism from the daily Press. The Labour attitude towards the problem of unemployment is easily defined. Work is far better than maintenance allowances, whether through the Unemployment Insurance Acts or the Poor Law. But all work which is made available for the workless should contribute to the restoration of normal industry, and should be of some social utility. Organised Labour has declared against "relief works," as generally understood, on the ground that they are "wasteful for the community and demoralising for those they (are) intended to assist."

Work may be made available by embarking upon or accelerating schemes of development, national and local. But such schemes vary in the extent to which they create what might be called a secondary demand for labour. Useful as schemes of road making and improvement are, they do not lead to the same ultimate demand for labour as building operations or tramway extensions. Hence it is that the recent Labour Manifesto suggests that the national and local schemes should be placed "roughly in the order of the extent to which their operation will create a further demand for labour," and that preference should be given "to those most calculated to stimulate the revival of industry."

So far as local schemes are concerned, generous financial assistance must be provided. It is suggested that in the case of approved schemes for revenue-producing works the Government should make a grant of 75 per cent. of the necessary expenditure, and lend the remaining 25 per cent. to local authorities free of interest for three years, after which the rate of interest might be, say, 3 per cent., arrangements being made for repayment at stated intervals. In the case of schemes of a non-revenue-producing character, 90 per cent. of the initial cost should be provided by the State, the remainder being lent to local authorities free of interest for five years, after which the rate suggested above should be charged. The Government's proposal is to put almost the whole burden on local authorities. The Labour Manifesto puts the major portion of the burden on the State.

The Joint Labour Committee on Unemployment, in its report issued at the beginning of the year, put forward the view that "the root problem lies in the revival of industry and commerce abroad," and schemes of public utility, however valuable they may be, will not directly assist in this direction. The suggestion now put forward is that the Government should place orders with British manufacturers for staple commodities for which there is an ascertained demand, and export these goods abroad, on credit terms. Woollen goods, agricultural machinery, railway equipment—to mention a few items—are necessary if the productive capacity of certain European countries is to be restored. But credit is essential, and it is sug-

gested that the British Government should provide the credit necessary.

In the proposals made by the Labour movement, the main financial responsibility is placed upon the Government, which plaintively asserts that its pockets are empty. It is clear that we shall not worry through the cycle of bad trade without paying a pretty stiff price in one way or another. We can pay for it by expenditure on insurance benefits, poor relief, and "relief works," by absorbing the scanty savings of the working class and sending furniture and clothing to the pawnshops, and, finally, by reducing the vitality and efficiency of the workers and their families. Or we can pay for it in the most efficient way by devoting our resources to measures which will hasten the return of normal times. The latter is obviously the wiser course, and the "money" can be found. Labour men argue that if Mr Lloyd George were to declare a war on Ireland in order to maintain the integrity of the British Empire, the means would be found. He might have to pay a stiff price for the sinews of war, but "money" would be forthcoming. If this be so, the "money" can be found for an unemployment policy.

But critics of the Labour Manifesto hold up their hands in horror at what they believe would be the cost of adopting the Labour policy. They do not in the least realise the importance which the Labour movement attaches to a bold attack on unemployment, and they over-estimate the cost of its proposals. We do not forget that even in the worst of times it is only a minority which is unemployed, and that relatively small additions to the total demand for goods and services may be the means of turning the curve of employment steadily upward. The British Government set aside £26,000,000 for its Export Credit Scheme, and owing to the restrictions and conditions imposed by the Treasury on the utilisation of the fund, the bulk of it still remains in the Government's hands. This fund could be used for the purposes of the scheme outlined above. As for the cost of national and local schemes of public utility, it may be pointed out that every scheme, once it is put into operation, diminishes the number of people in receipt of unemployment benefit and outdoor relief, and that these schemes will tend to enlarge the volume of employment amongst those not directly engaged upon them. The Government cannot allow men, women, and children to starve.

The Labour programme contains a reasoned policy. The Government is beginning to grope after something which will serve for a policy. As the *Manchester Guardian* expressed it, referring to "the niggardly stupidity of the Mond Committee" and the Labour proposals, "the most obvious difference between the two is that the Labour men really want to get as many of the unemployed at work as possible, and the Mond Committee are concerned with getting themselves and the Government out of a hole. To the Government Committee unemployment is a tiresome encumbrance; to the Labour men it is a spectre of want and misery. And if the Labour men have their way the spectre would be laid."

THE SOUTH WALES COAL MUDDLE.

(BY OUR CARDIFF CORRESPONDENT.)

AN extraordinary situation has been created in the South Wales coal trade under the operation of the national coal strike agreement of last July. One of the conditions of that strike settlement was that the wages liability of the owners should vary with the capacity of the industry to pay, and that no district should receive any assistance out of the £10,000,000 subsidy if the earning capacity of such district was large enough to pay the maximum wage reductions determined by the Government. Under the Government wage scheme the workmen were to receive their March wages less 2s per day in July, less 2s 6d per day in August, and less 3s per day in September. In some of the coalfields the earning capacity of the collieries has been sufficient to meet the cost of this graduated scale of reduced wages, and since August those few coalfields have drawn nothing out of the £10,000,000 subsidy. In the coal export districts, however, and particularly South Wales, the proceeds of the industry have fallen very short indeed of the amount required to meet the wages fixed by

the Government. In some weeks since July South Wales has been drawing upwards of £450,000 per week to pay the wages bill.

The wage liability of the South Wales owners in July and August last was determined by the earning capacity of the industry in that district, judged by the March trading results. In that month the results showed a pit-head loss of 23s 4d per ton exclusive of capital charges. In that situation the employers could only carry the weight of the minimum wage cost, and accordingly the wage for which they were liable in July was fixed at 29.5 per cent. on the standard wages of 1915. The wage liability of the owners in September, however, was to be determined under the conditions of the strike settlement by the trading results in July, and, as in that month the position of the trade was very much better than it was in March, the liability of the owners to pay wages increased. In the report of the joint auditors of the South Wales Coal-Owners' Association and the South Wales Miners' Federation that increased wage liability was given at 46.34 per cent. on the 1915 standard rates, and on September 1st the colliery owners in South Wales were informed by their secretary that that would be their liability during the whole of the month of September. This figure of 46.34 per cent. seems to have been arrived at by the application of the permanent clauses of the strike agreement under which the owners are entitled to a minimum standard profit, and to a fixed proportion of the surplus profits of the industry.

It now transpires, however, that a serious blunder was committed in the ascertainment of the wage liability of the owners under the permanent part of the agreement instead of under the clauses relating to the working of the agreement during the temporary period. Clause II of the strike settlement agreement deals exclusively with this temporary period of three months, and under that clause the owners agreed to surrender the whole of the profits as a district in so far as the wages paid were assisted out of the £10,000,000 subsidy. The South Wales coalowners made a nominal profit of £325,000 in July, but that was because their wage liability in that month had been limited to 29.5 per cent. on the standard rates of 1915, whereas if they had paid the whole of the percentage involved in the Government guarantee of a maximum reduction in July of only 2s per day below the March wage, their liability would have exceeded 100 per cent. on the standard rates of 1915. Under the profit-disabling provisions of Clause II. these nominal profits had to be surrendered, but by some inexplicable oversight these provisions appear to have been entirely overlooked, and accordingly the South Wales collieries went on working for more than three weeks in September on the assumption that their wage liability would be limited to 46.34 per cent. on the 1915 rates. Their astonishment and anger can easily be appreciated when at the end of last week they were told that their liability would not be 46.34 per cent. but 97.57 per cent. on the 1915 standard rates. It was the Mines Department of the Board of Trade which discovered the discrepancy, and the immediate effect of the discovery of the discrepancy was the withholding on the part of the Government of any assistance to South Wales in September out of the subsidy till the new percentage figure had been definitely agreed to. In these circumstances business in South Wales was almost entirely suspended. Most of the important collieries withdrew their quotations, and many collieries were temporarily closed. The increase in the liability of the owners of from 46.34 per cent. to 97.57 per cent. represented approximately 6s 6d per ton extra working cost on disposable coal, and as a great majority of the collieries had been throughout September either working at bare cost or at a loss, this extra charge became prohibitive.

The Monmouthshire and South Wales Coalowners' Association do not question the right of the Mines Department under the agreement to deprive the district as a whole of any profits in the temporary period so long as the district has been in receipt of aid from the subsidy, but they disagree as to the exact figure of the percentage for which they are liable in September. They state that that liability is 72.6 per cent. on the 1915 standard rates, and not 97.57 per cent., but the Mines Department are ad-

hering to their figure, although they have offered that the point in dispute might be referred to arbitration. The South Wales coalowners are delaying a reply to this offer of arbitration pending a meeting in Cardiff on Monday, but it may be of interest to point out that whether the lower or higher percentage is eventually agreed to, it will mean the denial to the South Wales mining industry as a district of a single penny profit on the output during the three months ending September. In that period there will probably be several individual collieries which will have made and retained profits by virtue of the fact that they have been able to pay the guaranteed wage out of their own proceeds and without any assistance from the subsidy, but the district as a whole will have been entirely profitless in the quarter, while the losses of the less efficient and costly pits will be considerable. It is estimated that the losses of the district as a whole in September under the 97.59 per cent. wage liability will amount to between £500,000 and £600,000.

A "CORNER HOUSE" MINE QUARTETTE.

(BY OUR MINING CORRESPONDENT.)

OF the four mining companies under the control of the Rand Mines-Central Mining group whose reports for the year ended June 30th have been issued this week, the New Modderfontein, of course, is by a long way the most important. For the past eight years in succession this Far-Eastern Rand proposition has put up fresh records in earnings, and while this has not invariably been accompanied by increased dividends—a good proportion of the profits being devoted to capital expenditure—the rate has, nevertheless, during that period expanded from 30 per cent. to 100 per cent. The mine being a rich one, its results during the last few years have been less affected by the gold premium than those of low-grade properties; still, of the 1920-21 earnings, 44.2 per cent. was represented by the excess obtained for gold over the standard price. The policy of milling ore in excess of the average value of the reserves was continued, but not to the same extent as before, last year's yield averaging 9½ dwts, as against over 10½ dwts in 1919-20. The policy in question, although unsound as a rule, is in this particular case justified by the nature of the developments. It tends, however, to prevent increase in the value of the ore reserves. Although an increased footage was performed, the estimated tonnage of ore blocked out, at 8,884,600 tons, shows a small decrease. Examination elicits this to be due mainly to increase in the tonnage milled with a shrinkage in the percentage of payable development. Allowing for sorting, the latest estimate represents 5½ years' work for the mill at the capacity to which it has been raised by the recent addition of eight Nissen stamps. On the basis of the latest dividend total, the yield afforded by the shares is about 13½ per cent., which, although attractive, makes some allowance for the potentialities of the future, others of the Modder group giving a higher return. Appended is a summary of the results for the past three years of three of the companies; the fourth—the Modder East—did not commence crushing until the early part of last year:—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
NEW MODDER—			
Ore crushed	920,500	868,500	1,083,000
Yield per ton	43/10	52/9	54/10
Working costs per ton	20/2	21/11	23/5
Profit per ton	23/8	30/10	31/5
Total working profit	1,089,891	1,493,845	1,699,052
Dividends	875,000	1,155,000	1,400,000
Rate per cent.	62½	82½	100
Carried forward	255,867	344,026	306,849
NOUVEAU MINES—			
Ore crushed	457,800	477,300	508,700
Yield per ton	27/1	33/1	35/6
Costs per ton	26/7	29/5	30/10
Profit per ton	6	3/8	4/8
Total working profit	11,292	87,970	118,347
Dividends	..	62,086	62,088
Rate per cent.	..	7½	7½
Carried forward	155,337	134,037	116,267

	1919.	1920.	1921.
CONSOLIDATED MAIN REEF—			
Ore crushed	570,710	557,500	561,800
Yield per ton	29/6	37/3	39/4
Working costs per ton	26/3	29/2	32/3
Profit per ton	3/3	8/1	7/1
Total working profit	93,715	227,035	199,125
Dividends	62,380	155,950	155,950
Rate per cent.	5	12½	12½
Carried forward	174,178	193,563	188,462

The Nourse Mines has now attained an interesting stage in its career—the completion of the sinking of the shaft designed for the exploitation of the deep level area secured mainly by the absorption of the South Nourse in 1909. During the past two years the outlay upon this shaft, with some additional pumping plant, has swallowed up a large proportion of the profits; hence, if the company can continue to earn on anything like the recent scale, the shareholders should receive increased dividends. This prospect, however, depends for its realisation mainly upon the maintenance of the gold premium, a reduction in working costs, or a balance between the two. The point is startlingly brought out by the fact that but for the surplus realised above the standard price of gold, last year's work would have resulted in an operating loss of £110,600. Development was attended with a small increase in the quantity and decline in the value of the ore reserves, which, at 1,589,000 tons, represent somewhat less than three years' supply for the mill. Much importance attaches to the outcome of work from the new shaft. The showing made by the latest report of the Consolidated Main Reef must be frankly written down as disappointing and the indications disquieting. With a large expansion in revenue, both total and per ton, the working profit fell somewhat short of that for 1919-20—owing to a further jump of 3s 1d per ton in costs. Maintenance of the dividend at the previous year's rate entailed a moderate draft upon the carry forward. Despite the performance of a slightly increased footage, the ore reserves have again shrunk in quantity, as well as in value. Nor does the consulting engineer hold out any hope of improvement. On the contrary, he expresses the opinion that the prospects of encountering considerable bodies of ore which would be payable under present conditions do not appear promising. In these circumstances, the question of putting down a new deep level shaft has been postponed, the existing incline shafts being extended as a makeshift.

The Modderfontein East is an ambitious undertaking which so far has not succeeded in making good. It was floated in 1917 for the purpose of amalgamating various properties, including an area leased from the Union Government. In September, 1919, additional funds were provided by the issue of £300,000 debentures, while at various times shares have been taken up under options and otherwise. On June 30th last the share capital stood at £1,215,600, and the debentures outstanding at £410,760, a portion of the latter having been converted into shares. The balance of the bonds fell due for redemption on July 31st. To enable the company to meet its liability in this respect, the Central Mining and Investment Corporation advanced £400,000 on first mortgage, carrying 8 per cent. interest, redeemable at par on December 31, 1922, and meantime convertible into shares at par. By the beginning of 1920 the company had accumulated a substantial ore reserve. On account of the financial position and the expensiveness of everything, the erection of a reduction plant was deferred, an arrangement being made for the use of the mill of the Apex Company, which had ceased to figure as a gold mining enterprise. Naturally, in these circumstances, the returns have been comparatively small and expenses high. Last year the joint works of two companies in liquidation were purchased, but for the same reasons as before their removal and re-erection was deferred. At about 1½ million tons value over 7 dwts, the ore reserves represent many years' work on the present restricted scale. The consulting engineer emphasises the point that the mine is still in a transition stage, but it is evident that the shareholders will need to exercise much patience.

ALL BRANCHES OF INTERNATIONAL BANKING BANKERS TRUST COMPANY

16, WALL STREET NEW YORK

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$ 31,250,000
DEPOSITS \$ 267,176,974
RESOURCES \$ 337,107,773

PARIS OFFICE : 3 & 5, PLACE VENDOME

TÉLÉGRAPH ADDRESS : BANKTRUST-PARIS

Business Notes.

Savings Certificates and Local Loans.—Lord Islington, chairman of the National Savings Committee, at a Savings Conference held in Birmingham on Tuesday, announced that, in future, much wider facilities were to be given to local authorities in obtaining loans from money invested in National Savings Certificates. Loans from this source had hitherto been restricted to purposes of subsidised housing schemes. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had now given instructions, however, that, from October 1st next, local authorities might obtain loans from certificate money for any of the purposes for which the Public Works Loan Commissioners had power to lend. In this extension of the scheme, the basis of the loans would still be the same as when they were made for housing purposes only. A local authority could claim from the Public Works Loan Board loans of an amount up to 50 per cent. of the gross proceeds of the sales of Savings Certificates in its own area, while the Treasury would still undertake to meet repayments to investors out of the remaining 50 per cent. Lord Islington pointed out that this scheme would be made to play a very large part in local finance. Indeed, he had been told by several borough treasurers that, on the basis of their local sales during the war, enough money would be forthcoming to meet all their local needs for borrowing. The total number of certificates already sold was nearing the five hundred million. During the present year, in spite of industrial depression and the coal stoppage, sales had averaged a million a week. It was, therefore, clear that if local authorities gave active co-operation to the savings organisation in stimulating sales, a very substantial and steady stream of capital would be forthcoming for purposes of local finance. It would be capital of the right kind, created by thrift and real saving, and the amount realised should be the greater for the fact that the investor was offered an opportunity to benefit his own locality through an investment which was guaranteed by the State.

The Australian Budget.—We are informed that a cheerful outlook, expressing full confidence in the status of the Commonwealth, was the dominant note in the Federal Treasurer's Budget speech, delivered in the House of Representatives on Thursday last. Certain abnormal factors and the general economic strain are easing, and there are favourable omens in the general situation indicating that Australia is turning the financial corner. The mountain of wool is being reduced, and the demand has increased at better prices, the quality being excellent. Sir Joseph Cook emphasised the economic importance of, and the need for, disarmament, and pointed out that disarmament meant for Germany a financial and economic relief amounting to well over £300,000,000 per annum. The actual revenue for the year ended June 30th last was £65,517,608, an excess on the estimate of £2,152,908. The expenditure out of revenue was £64,624,007, being less than the estimate by £4,248,000. This saving of almost £4,250,000 was effected notwithstanding the very heavy expenditure for basic wage and increased cost of living allowances which

was not provided for in the estimates. The surplus on the year's transactions was £893,521, the accumulated surplus to June 30th last being £6,618,000. For the year 1921-22 the estimated revenue is £61,787,000, a decrease of £3,730,000. The expenditure out of the revenue is estimated at £64,604,000, being £19,600, less than last year's sum. The estimated deficiency for the current year is £2,817,000, leaving an estimated accumulated surplus of £3,801,000 at June 30, 1922. It is anticipated that the aggregate Commonwealth expenditure for this year will be £11,476,000 less than last year. The principal items of proposed expenditure out of War Loan are for soldier land settlement, £7,000,000; for War Service Homes, £4,000,000; and for forestry and reserve employment allotments to the States, £196,000. The estimated expenditure out of works loan totals £5,597,000, against £4,101,000 for last year. Some concession with a view to the readjustment of the incidence of taxation having been proposed, the Commonwealth will adopt the scheme recommended by the Sub-Committee of the British Royal Commission on Income-tax for the elimination of double taxation within the Empire. As a special consideration to primary producers it is proposed to tax incomes at a rate of tax that will be applicable to the average income over a period of five years. The total direct and indirect taxation of the States and Commonwealth amounts to £12 18s 11d, as against £24 2s 6d in the United Kingdom and £18 11s 1d in New Zealand. The gross Public Debt at June 30th last was £401,720,025, including the war debt of £359,606,719. This shows an increase during the year of £20,410,121. The net Public Debt at June 30th last was £332,009,032, being an actual reduction of £8,800,872. The Commonwealth's war indebtedness included £234,800,000 owing to Australian bond holders, and £92,480,000 to the British Government. For purposes of the war and for repatriation £256,000,000 were raised in Australia, and of this amount £11,598,590 have been redeemed.

The Stock Exchange and Pre-War Accounts.—The petition recently circulated in the Stock Exchange, praying the Committee to take such steps as may be necessary for repealing the prohibition against dealings for fortnightly settlements, is answered by the issue of a circular letter addressed by the Secretary of the Stock Exchange Committee to all members of the House, in which Colonel Satterthwaite sets out the position as it stands to-day, together with the Government's suggestions for helping business in the House. The Committee approached the Chancellor with reference to a possible return to fortnightly accounts before the expiration of the full 12 months fixed by the Government as the term allowed, after the termination of the war, to borrowers for settling up their loans. The Chancellor replied that he is most desirous of doing anything that he can to encourage business in the Stock Exchange, but that he is not able to deal with the repeal of the regulation governing loans to the Stock Exchange under the schemes of 1914. He thinks, however, that the Committee may profitably obtain returns of what stock and shares, together with loans, still remain open as a legacy from the 1914 account, and the Committee, acting upon his suggestion,

now call upon all members having such accounts and loans open to make a return of them by the end of next week. Particulars are asked in respect of about 250 stocks, and the total amounts are to be communicated to the Committee and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, although whether the results will be generally published is not stated. A further return is required to be made at the end of next January, from which the inference may be drawn that the Committee will be requested to put quiet pressure on their members to get as much as possible of the account closed down within the next four months. We

may take it that the amount of stock open, and the total of the loans which are still running, in respect of the 1914 obligations will be announced, for the figures have an application to public interest of a far wider circle than that confined by the walls of the Stock Exchange.

South African Imports and Exports.—The Standard Bank of South Africa advise us that the trade figures for British South Africa for the seven months ended July were as follows:—Imports, £38,143,840; exports, includ-

THE REVENUE.

I.—An ACCOUNT of the TOTAL REVENUE of the UNITED KINGDOM in the undermentioned periods of the Year ending March 31, 1922, as compared with the corresponding periods of the preceding Year.

	Quarter from July 1 to September 30, 1921, compared with the corresponding Quarter of the preceding Year.				Period from April 1 to September 30, 1921, compared with the corresponding period of the preceding Year.			
	Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1921.	Quarter ending Sept. 30, 1920.	Increase.	Decrease.	Period ending Sept. 30, 1921.	Period ending Sept. 30, 1920.	Increase.	Decrease.
Customs	£ 34,975,000	£ 34,533,000	£ 440,000	£ 2,210,000	£ 63,318,000	£ 67,834,000	£ 4,516,000	£ 4,516,000
Excise	48,529,000	50,739,000	1,067,000	2,560,000	93,425,000	88,846,000	4,579,000	2,488,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	1,067,000	1,067,000	..	2,560,000	2,488,000	2,488,000	..	1,847,000
Estate, &c., Duties	11,466,000	14,026,000	..	2,412,000	22,390,000	24,237,000	..	5,340,000
Stamps	4,689,000	7,101,300	..	..	7,386,000	12,726,000	..	..
Land Tax and House Duty	30,000	20,000	10,000	..	420,000	390,000	30,000	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Min. Rights Duty)	76,157,000	72,617,000	3,540,000	43,082,000	140,057,000	126,355,000	13,702,000	82,336,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	9,950,000	53,032,000	..	..	27,064,000	109,400,000	5,590,000	..
Corporation Profits Tax	3,570,000	8,950,000	1,450,000	..	5,590,000	16,100,000	1,650,000	200,000
Postal Service	10,400,000	1,500,000	..	250,000	17,750,000	2,700,000	..	1,200,000
Telegraph Service	1,250,000	2,300,000	..	10,000	2,500,000	4,200,000	..	..
Telephone Service	2,100,000	170,000	..	..	3,000,000	2,000,000	10,000	..
Crown Lands	160,000	2,274,781	2,399,042	..	290,000	6,100,515	528,145	..
Interest on Sundry Loans	4,673,823	..	..	1,693,784	6,628,660	11,198,408	440,997	96,715,480
Miscellaneous	4,770,741	6,464,525	..	12,376,529	52,217,095	148,932,575	..	..
Ordinary Receipts	38,209,211	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Special Receipts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	251,994,775	304,313,046	12,476,042	64,794,313	456,163,160	619,299,498	29,018,142	192,154,480
			Net Decrease, £52,318,271				Net Decrease, £163,136,338.	

II.—An ACCOUNT showing the RECEIPTS into and ISSUES out of the EXCHEQUER in the Period ending September 30, 1921, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding Year.

RECEIPTS.	Period ending Sept. 30, 1921.		ISSUES.	Period ending Sept. 30, 1921.	
	£	£		£	£
Balances in Exchequer on April 1—			Expenditure—		
Bank of England	2,591,051	7,159,773	Permanent Charge of Debt	7,486,550	7,972,222
Bank of Ireland	483,455	2,209,324	Interest, &c., on War Debt	163,773,395	157,013,933
	3,074,506	9,369,097	Road Fund	2,073,000	1,943,116
Revenue, as shown in Account I.	456,163,160	619,299,498	Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	3,550,358	3,516,963
Temporary Advances Repaid—			Land Settlement	1,729,728	5,492,249
Bullion	3,680,000	1,690,000	Other Consolidated Fund Services	865,799	942,370
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	150,000	..	Supply Services	318,515,019	366,990,677
Money Raised by Creation of Debts—			Total Expenditure chargeable against Revenue	497,993,849	541,671,530
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues—			Temporary Advances		
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	703,000	Bullion	3,600,000	2,100,000
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	..	Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904 ..	84,909	84,909
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921 ..	4,805,000	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921 ..	4,655,000	..	Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—		
(b) For other Issues—			Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 & 1920 ..	3,561,474	2,500,000
By Treasury Bills for Supply	2,117,452,000	1,953,545,000	Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913 ..	27,500	40,000
By 4 per Cent. Funding Loan, 1950-90	..	101,341	Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000
By 4 per Cent. Victory Bonds	..	258,622	Redemption of Unfunded Debt	2,077,531,000	1,922,556,000
By 5 per Cent. Exchequer Bonds, 1925	..	89,777	Treasury Bills for Supply		
By National Savings Certificates—			War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	20,022,241	33,079,856
Under War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	18,980,000	20,400,000	Principal of National Savings Certificates—		
Under Finance Act, 1920	5	..	(a) Repaid by issues under Sec. 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	8,700,000	16,950,000
By National War Bonds	..	..	(b) Repaid otherwise	8,500,000	2,580,000
By Treasury Bonds—			Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off		
5-15 Year, 1925-35	1,024,990	11,144,000	6% 1920	2,580,000	..
5% per Cent., 1929	50,410,000	..	Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	30,513,659	35,887,877
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	6,990,529	19,737,283	Ways and Means Advances Repaid	660,263,000	701,063,000
(d) Ways and Means Advances	666,957,000	639,290,000	Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	14,300,112	13,300,112
Repayments—			Proceeds of National Savings Certificates—		
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919	7,250,000	..	Issued under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	9,490,000	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	34,538	4,981	Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11—		
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	Issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	197,766
Interest—					
Received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	178,666	..			
	3,342,301,368	3,275,659,599			

MEM.	£	
	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1920.
Floating Debt outstanding March 31, 1921	1,275,330,000	..
Ways and Means Advances outstanding—		
Advances by Bank of England	7,750,000	..
Advances by Public Departments	153,433,000	143,114,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,159,407,000	1,138,794,000
Total Floating Debt outstanding	1,320,590,000	1,281,908,000
Net increase	45,260,000	..

* Includes £54,000, the proceeds of which were not carried to the Exchequer within the period of the account.
Treasury, September 30, 1921.

ing re-exports, £35,631,378. The figures for the corresponding period of 1920 were:—Imports, £58,807,958; and exports, including re-exports, £57,725,754.

Liverpool Cotton Association.—This association has published its annual circular relating to the season ending July 31st last. The average price of fully middling American cotton during the 12 months was 12.93d per lb, against 26.32d per lb in 1919-20. With regard to Egyptian cotton, the average quotation for fully good fair Sakellaridis during the past year was 30.24d per lb, as compared with 60.34d per lb in the previous season. The highest price of American cotton during the season was on August 6, 1920, when fully middling was quoted at 28.60d per lb, and the lowest point was on February 28, 1921, when the figure was 7.13d per lb. The American crop amounted to 11,355,000 bales, as compared with 12,218,000 bales in 1919-20. The total import of raw cotton into Great Britain compared with the preceding year shows a decrease of 1,551,453 bales American, 64,680 bales Brazilian, 370,939 bales Egyptian, 91,901 bales Peruvian, 3,953 bales West Indian, 107,387 bales East Indian, and an increase of 28,842 bales African, the total decrease being 2,160,571 bales. There was a marked drop in the consumption of raw cotton in Great Britain, the total being 1,065,713,488 lbs, against 1,726,011,159 lbs in the previous season. The table in the circular relating to the proportional distribution of the American crop is always of great interest. The exports last year to Great Britain were very small, the percentage of the total being only 15.86, against 21.29 in the period 1915-20 and 41.23 in 1885-90. Although there was a small decline in the proportion consumed by spinners in the United States, there has during recent years been a steady increase. Last season the amount taken by American spinners was 49.22 per cent., against 56.49 per cent. in the period 1915-20, and 32.83 per cent. in 1885-90.

Cotton Trade Research.—The second annual meeting of the members of the British Cotton Industry Research Association has been held this week in Manchester. The association has now 1,466 members, and it has the support of 90 per cent. of the trade. There has been considerable delay in the building and equipment of the Shirley Institute at Didsbury, near Manchester, which is the headquarters of the association. Notwithstanding difficulties, a good deal of useful work has been accomplished. Members of the staff have visited various works, and generous help has been afforded by the University of Manchester. As soon as the laboratories are complete the programme of research will be pushed forward. The ordinary expenditure during the year has been £16,700, leaving a credit balance of about £3,000. The amount spent on building and equipment during the year has been £51,000. It is expected that in another year the staff at the Shirley Institute will be hard at work on questions relating to research.

Proposed Copper Property Sales.—Our mining correspondent writes:—By a curious coincidence the surprising announcement of the provisional arrangement for sale of the Arizona Copper undertaking to the Phelps-Dodge Corporation has been followed by an intimation on the part of the directors of the Mason and Barry that negotiations are proceeding which may lead to the disposal of the company's property in Portugal. Space does not permit an exhaustive discussion of the first-named scheme, but the whole position is such as to give the shareholders ground for both anger and disappointment. The negotiations were initiated some 18 months ago. It is understood that an offer equivalent to 70s per share was made, but the directors stood out for a few shillings more. In the meantime the slump has taken place, and the present offer represents less than 25s. On the basis of the dividends paid by the respective companies, and in view of the value of the assets as set out in the last balance-sheet of the Arizona, the offer seems inadequate. Moreover, a time when the condition of the metal market is about as bad as it is likely to be is scarcely a time to carry through such a deal. If, however, the shareholders refuse assent, they must be prepared to face the alternative—the pro-

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.
Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.
Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake
FOREIGN BANKING
transactions of every description.
Correspondents in all parts of the world.
COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

vision of the money necessary to extinguish the losses and to provide the plant required for the treatment of the low-grade ores. In the case of the Mason and Barry further information must be awaited.

The Prospect in Mexico.—The hopes of a speedy settlement in Mexico are increasing. On Monday the Supreme Court unanimously confirmed its decision in the case of the Texas Oil Company that Clause 27 of the Carranzist Constitution, making oil lands the property of the Federal Government, is rendered inoperative as regards lands acquired before the enactment of the Constitution by the provision of Clause 14 that no legislation shall have retrospective effect. The pronouncement of the Court could not be more definite, and it removes the chief obstacle to the recognition by the United States of General Obregon's Government. Washington demanded that the American companies' rights should be recovered by a Treaty; but it would have had to be ratified by Congress, and, as President Wilson's experience has demonstrated, no President of a non-Parliamentary Republic can venture to presume on the support of a Legislature which, like all corporate bodies, is jealous of its own privileges, and can oppose the Executive without risking dissolution. The principal aim of the Treaty being now secured otherwise, the United States Government has one reason the less for insisting on the Treaty as a preliminary to recognition, which is stated officially at Washington to have become more probable, and will certainly be followed by similar action on the part of Great Britain and France. Meanwhile, Mr Lamont's mission to Mexico on behalf of the International Committee of Bankers has strengthened the hopes of a partial resumption of the service of the Foreign Debt. The means are to be provided out of the revenue from the export of oil, and the gross yield of the oil taxes and export duties for July alone is stated to exceed £250,000, though the increased export duty has diminished the export by about 50 per cent., as compared with the total for June. Even allowing for the reduction to be noted presently, there must be an ample margin on the annual yield permitting at least a payment on account of the interest on the three external loans of 1899, 1904, and 1910, which, with the City of Mexico Loan of 1889, are recognised as Federal obligations by President Obregon's Government, and it is even predicted that a payment will be made on account of the arrears on the 5 per cent. loan of 1899. Purchases of the external bonds, as well as of some railway stocks, are stated to have been made on orders from New York. An agreement with Washington has yet to be reached regarding the claims of American citizens for damage during the ten years of revolution, and on the revision of the export duties on oil; but the first difficulty is being adjusted by a Commission; the oil taxes for August and September have been modified to the average extent of nearly 50 per cent.; and, when recognition comes, Mexican revenue from other sources should be largely increased. The railway services appear to be improving, the country is quiet, and the business outlook continues good. The people are tired of revolution, and experience has shown that the danger of fresh outbreaks can be largely averted by agrarian reforms.

British-American Continental Bank.—It is announced by the Liquidator of the British American Continental Bank that a second dividend of 1s 3d in the £ is payable

on and after October 3rd. This makes a total return of 6s 3d in the £. During the period January 7th to July 25, 1921, realisations have taken place, mainly derived from the collection of book debts, aggregating £156,963; outgoing in respect of Board of Trade and Court fees, salaries, rent, &c., have absorbed £6,695; and payments have been made to preferential and secured creditors of £2,673. The dividend of 5s in the £ to unsecured creditors absorbs £57,737; leaving a balance, in cash and Treasury bills, at July 25th last of £89,857. An estimate has been made of the ultimate realisable value of the assets, and it is probable that claims will exceed these by about £82,000. Having regard to all the circumstances, the Committee consider that, in order to provide the estimated deficiency of £82,000, a call of £1 per share should be made.

British Glass Industries, Limited.—The second annual report of the British Glass Industries, Limited, will probably prove a disappointment for shareholders. The balance-sheet for the year ended March 31, 1921, records a net loss of £23,216, and a debit suspense item of £28,263 was written off. An interim dividend, moreover, of 2s per share had been paid on September 30, 1920, which required £245,000. To provide for these outgoing £387,616 was transferred from a premium on share account, and the result is a credit at profit and loss of £91,136. A fresh liability makes its appearance in the shape of an item of £605,233 for debentures and secured loans. Investments, loans, patent rights, and goodwill are lumped together in one item as "acquired at cost, less reserve," £3,050,334, but we should imagine that shareholders would feel more comfortable if they knew what the amount of this reserve really is. It would be interesting also to know the amount represented by patent rights and goodwill. Figuring amongst assets we find that preliminary expenses, including £120,500 for underwriting, are given as £161,860, which instead of showing signs of reduction records an increase. In the previous balance-sheet this item amounted to £127,623. The authorised capital of this undertaking is £5,000,000, in £1 shares, of which 3,659,709 shares have been issued, and bargains have lately been effected in them at round about 3s 6d each. Perhaps the directors will take shareholders into their confidence at the ordinary general meeting which is to be held next week, and give a few particulars as to the progress of subsidiary companies, together with some details of their assets. Meanwhile we would suggest that the trading position might be made a little clearer if a more informative profit and loss account could be issued. The balance-sheet will be found analysed in our usual column.

Johannesburg Consolidated Investment.—Our Mining correspondent writes:—The financial statement of this important South African undertaking for the year ended June 30th last is not up to its immediate predecessor—and probably not up to market expectations. The reduction in the dividend from 12½ per cent. to 10 per cent., tax free, presaged reduced profits. At £388,000, the latter are £111,200 below the 1919-20 total, and scarcely cover the distribution. The decline arises mainly from the changed fortunes of the diamond industry, in which the company is so largely interested. The more or less readily available cash assets of £1,444,600 are slightly exceeded by the creditors item. Once again the portfolio has expanded, reflecting the participation taken in coal enterprises, whose equipment is approaching completion. A portion of the advances made to subsidiary undertakings has been paid off. The position of the company's chief Rand gold mining interests was dealt with at the time of the issue of the reports for 1920.

The next Swiss Sample Fair will be held at Basle from April 22nd to May 2, 1922.

The Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, President of the Board of Trade, has appointed Mr C. Patrick Duff his principal private secretary, vice Mr Cecil Litchfield, who

has been appointed Secretary of the Ministry of Commerce under the Government of Northern Ireland; and Mr E. W. Reardon his second private secretary.

The first general meeting of the Society for Constructive Birth Control and Racial Progress will be held on October 13th, at 8 p.m., at the Lecture Room, Hotel Cecil. The presidential address by Dr Marie Stopes will be entitled "Anecdotes of the Past, Present, and Future of Birth Control."

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—IMPROVEMENT IN MANY DIRECTIONS — FOREIGN COMMERCE INCREASED DURING AUGUST—THE SOUTH GREATLY BENEFITED BY THE RISE IN COTTON; "FROZEN CREDITS" IN THAT SECTION BEING LIQUIDATED.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, September 16.

DURING the past month or two there has been a decided change for the better in several directions. In July net operating income of the railroads was by far the largest of any month since they were returned to private ownership. Pig-iron production last month showed an increase for the first time since the depression began about a year ago. The general decline in commodity prices, so long in progress, was halted in August. The South, it might almost be said, has been given a new lease of life by the higher price which cotton now commands. With the steady improvement in the banking position the credit tension has further relaxed in all sections, and money rates, especially within the past week, have become distinctly easier. To these significant developments is now added the fact that in August the decline in our foreign commerce, which had been under way almost continuously since last December, was arrested. According to the statement issued this week by the Department of Commerce, our exports increased approximately \$54,000,000 and imports about \$17,000,000 during August as compared with July. The increase in exports last month is all the more striking since outward shipments in August ordinarily decrease. The gain was due largely to the heavy grain and cotton movement. We shipped overseas about 8,000,000 bushels more of wheat than in August of last year, and approximately 250,000 bales more of cotton, and the total of each was considerably larger than in recent months. Exports during August totalled \$375,000,000 in value as against \$321,000,000 in July and \$578,000,000 in August, 1920, and reached the highest total of any month since March, when exports aggregated \$387,000,000. Imports for the month were \$194,000,000 as compared with \$177,000,000 during July and with \$513,000,000 in August of last year, and was the largest total since May of this year, when imports were valued at \$387,000,000. Although August imports exceeded those of July by \$17,000,000, the greater increase in outward shipments made the excess of exports \$181,000,000 for the month, or much greater than in any month since February, and nearly three times as large as the excess of exports in August, 1920, notwithstanding the great shrinkage in the total value of our foreign commerce as compared with last year. Gold imports for August, totalling \$86,000,000, were the highest of any month for the current year with the exception of March, when they reached \$87,000,000; in fact, the August total has been exceeded by only six other months in our history. From January 1st to August 31st gold imports into this country amounted to more than half a billion dollars, as compared with \$158,000,000—the largest amount brought in during any calendar year before the war. Silver imports in August were \$8,000,000, against \$4,000,000 in the corresponding month of 1920. For the eight months ended with August exports of merchandise and commodities amounted in value to \$3,230,000,000, compared with \$5,475,000,000 in the like period of 1920, while imports aggregated \$1,693,000,000 as against \$3,995,000,000.

The recent rise in cotton prices from around 11 cents to about 20 cents a pound is enabling the South to pay its

debts. New York bankers who deal largely with banking institutions in the cotton belt report that there has been a decided change in the attitude of those institutions which have been heavy borrowers in this market. Southern banks, which have repeatedly asked extensions of loans which have been carried for over a year, are now paying off such loans. The amounts thus far actually paid are small when compared with the total of such frozen credits, but many southern institutions have informed New York lenders that if cotton holds around its present levels they expect to be able to cancel their indebtedness much sooner than anticipated at the end of the cotton season. Heretofore southern borrowers have been compelled to ask extensions of maturing obligations, owing to their inability to collect from cotton customers. The situation in that respect has now completely changed, however, and the payments that are being made to lenders here are regarded as tangible evidence of a disposition to liquidate cotton at current levels to meet debts outstanding against it, instead of endeavouring to hold for still higher prices. The beneficial effect in the South of the advance in cotton is being reflected in many other ways, notably in the freer purchasing by southern buyers of merchandise and commodities in New York and other markets.

FRANCE.—THE "MATIN" AND SECRET AGREEMENTS — COST OF OCCUPATION — COST OF LIVING—RECONSTRUCTION OF MINES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, September 28.

THE publication by the *Matin* of the secret agreement entered into between M. Clemenceau and Mr Lloyd George has caused a certain amount of bitter comment here. So much was spoken during the Peace Conference about open covenants openly arrived at that it has come as somewhat of a shock to financial opinion to find that the decision reached at the Peace Conference was thus modified by the two Premiers in secret consultation. The agreement, it will be remembered, dealt with several points affecting reparations, and the *Matin* complains bitterly that it was the existence of this document that tied M. Doumer's hands at the recent financial conference in London. As illustrating financial opinion on the subject, the following quotation from *La Situation Economique et Financière* is interesting. It writes:—"Since 1919 new texts have completely modified the spirit and the letter of the treaty, and they have never been submitted to Parliament..... The most sacred interests, the renaissance to life of a whole mutilated region, the prosperity of the public finances thus appear to be at the mercy of the often changing humour and the sometimes unequal competence of a few uncontrolled politicians. The fact should be proclaimed for it is not the least cause for the feeling of bitterness, disillusion, and insecurity that is manifested in France."

The Reparations Commission has published approximately the cost of occupation of German territory by the allied armies for the period from the armistice until May 1, 1921. The cost for the United States is 278,067,610 dollars, for France 2,304,850,470f, for Great Britain £52,881,298f, for Belgium 378,731,390 Belgian francs, and for Italy 15,207,717 French francs. The cost per day per man for each of the armies is: U.S.A. 4½ dollars, France 15.25f, Great Britain 14s, Belgium 16.50f, and Italy 22f. The total amounts to some three milliards of marks gold, though the exact sum has not been officially determined. Approximately one milliard is owed to the United States, one milliard to France, 900 millions to Great Britain, 175 millions to Belgium, and five millions to Italy. In connection with the figures it may be noted that on May 1st the French had some 70,000 soldiers on the Rhine, the British some 18,000, and the Americans only a trifling number of troops.

The Union des Industries Minières et Métallurgiques has embodied in a table some of the most interesting results of the investigations into the cost of living in France that have been arrived at by the various regional, departmental, and local commissions that were appointed

under the decree of February 19, 1920, to undertake this work. The index figures are based on the figure of 100 as representing the prices of 1914, and are valuable as indicating the fall that has taken place in commodity prices since the commissions began their work last year. I extract merely a few of the localities cited:—

		1920.		1921.	Decrease
Paris	4th quarter..	370	2nd quarter..	307	17.0
Marseilles	October	415	June 30	310	25.3
Dijon	April	394	June	291	26.1
St Brieuc	November ..	417	June	323	22.5
Nîmes	October	464	May	388	16.4
Bordeaux	Year 1920 ..	388	June	303	21.9
Grenoble	October	439	April	367	16.4
St Etienne	October	404	June 1	352	12.9
Lille	September ..	415	June	336	19.0
Lyons	August	316	June 1	250	20.9
Rouen	October	376	April 9	330	12.2

The Regional Commission for the Paris area has published some striking figures, which show a marked fall in the cost of living during recent months. Foodstuffs are shown to have fallen 7.7 per cent. between the first and second quarters of the present year, and 17 per cent. between the last quarter of 1920 and the second quarter of 1921. Heating and lighting fell 11.7 per cent., between the last quarter of 1920 and the second quarter of 1921, and clothing 11.3 per cent. between the first and second quarters of 1921 and 20.7 per cent. between the last quarter of 1920 and the second quarter of 1921. On the other hand, rents increased 10 per cent. between the first and second quarters of the current year. On the whole, as shown above, the cost of living in Paris has fallen 17 per cent. during the nine months from Michaelmas, 1920, to June 30, 1921.

The reconstitution of the Northern coalfield is making good progress, and there is every reason to be satisfied with the results disclosed by the latest available figures. Much work, of course, remains to be done, for it must not be overlooked that, in addition to the complete reconstitution of the overhead and underground equipment, the coalowners have had to reconstruct, since the armistice, the whole of the miners' dwellings, to get together complete technical and working staffs (which has proved an almost insurmountable task, in view of the devastations that transformed the whole region into a veritable inferno), and to reinstall all kinds of motive power, &c. Quite apart from the damage wrought in the Department of the Nord, the damage done to the mines in the Pas de Calais (which in 1913 produced 11,847,000 tons of coal, or more than a quarter of the whole French output) is estimated at over 707,000,000f (pre-war values). To enable the mining companies to reconstitute their properties a loan of 1,200 million francs, it will be remembered, was issued for public subscription a few months ago.

With the aid of this money some 736,000,000f had been expended on reconstruction work, down to the end of July, on the Pas de Calais mines. What proportion of the sum actually required is represented by this amount may be gathered, perhaps, from the fact that on the mines in the Vimy district, where the total damage at 1914 values was estimated at 2,876,221f, over 7,300,000f have already been expended in reconstruction work. On the great Courrières mine, where the 1914 value of the damage was estimated at 149,000,000f, the sum of 174,000,000f has so far been spent, which has sufficed to bring many of the levels back to their pre-war producing point. At Lens, where the damage was estimated in pre-war figures at over 262 million francs, 217 millions have been expended, but have sufficed only to restore to production a few of the levels exploited before the war.

The clearing away of the wreckage has been completed in the whole of the Pas de Calais mines, but in the majority of the pits the deeper levels are still full of water, as only the higher ones have as yet been pumped dry. The overhead works are still of a purely provisional character in practically every case, while the restoration of the underground galleries has scarcely been begun. Thus in the Courrières mine only 25 kilometres of underground roads

out of 275 have been restored to service, and 37 kilometres out of 231 in the Dourges mine. In the smaller Ostricourt mine, however, 71 kilometres of roads out of a total of 92 kilometres are again in service, while the whole mine has been pumped dry. Coal getting has been resumed to a substantial extent in most of the pits, in spite of the poverty of the means available. Courrières is producing 2,000 tons a day, or just over 20 per cent. of its pre-war total; Lens only 220 tons a day, Carvin about 20 tons daily, Liévin and Drocourt nothing at all. Ostricourt, on the other hand, is producing more than its pre-war output. To sum up, if the present progress continues, it is hoped that the combined output of the mines in the Nord and the Pas de Calais combined will amount to over 9,000,000 tons in 1922, and about 11,250,000 in 1923. This will still leave the total output far behind that of 1913, when the mines of the Pas de Calais alone, as already stated, produced nearly 12,000,000 tons.

The Bourse during the week has fluctuated from strength to weakness, and in fact has reacted to the general feeling of uncertainty that prevails owing to the many doubtful factors, such as the fluctuation in exchange, the state of political finance, and the evolution of the industrial crisis. The market is also to some extent under the influence of the many new issues that are expected, as these will be made at higher rates than previously, and in consequence holders of stock have been realising with a view of having capital free for investment. It is now known that the three milliards of 6 per cent. Crédit National loan will be followed by other large operations of a similar sort. French Rentes have been somewhat depressed, the three per cents. standing at 51.15, as against 51.50, and the Crédit National five per cents. at 450, as against 466. Argentines, under the influence of exchange, have been stronger; Russians remain heavy, but Turkish bonds have improved owing to the news of the Greek reverses. Banks generally have declined owing to heavy sellings.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 25, 1913
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve	22,105,756	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	568,566,341	568,900,997	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,033,261,351	1,020,530,116	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,920,973,025	37,127,408,905	5,519,344,345
Interest on securities	56,932,430	55,921,582	23,250,893
Bank notes to order	874,183	809,690	3,714,137
Treasury account	26,947,624	41,636,704	286,228,679
Current accounts, Paris	1,478,101,354	1,520,117,964	569,320,064
Do branch banks	911,444,492	916,915,354	78,255,784
Dividends payable	5,746,981	5,947,201	2,790,963
Discounts and sundries	58,882,194	54,997,223	17,920,368
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,011,992,923	1,048,541,154	231,773,920
Total	42,344,069,204	42,632,822,989	6,963,141,384
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,800,065,428	5,799,851,790	4,091,893,733
Balances abroad	622,149,587	626,782,338	..
Commercial bills overdue	693,126	309,899	80,916
Discounts in Paris	1,375,889,335	1,444,497,910	453,410,832
Foreign bills	4,377,869	5,239,301	15,362,996
Treasury bills	336,134	55,996	193,499
Discounts in branches	911,929,934	953,123,162	925,520,010
Advances on bullion	69,479,072	69,813,628	..
Do on public securities	12,874,000	12,874,000	728,000
Do by branch banks	415,608,536	420,294,588	191,701,895
Advances to State (ordinary)	1,781,875,731	1,780,650,767	538,484,906
Do (for the war)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Government	24,900,000,000	24,900,000,000	5,798,500
Government stock reserve	4,083,000,000	4,083,000,000	..
Do disposable	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Rentes indisponible	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Premises and furniture	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Expenses and management	47,119,942	48,121,940	43,050,395
Special reserve	21,740,893	20,002,723	5,897,123
Sundries	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Total	42,344,069,204	42,632,822,989	6,963,141,384

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	%
Advances on bullion	5½
Advances on public securities	6½

ITALY.—PUBLIC REVENUE—DECREASE IN THE CONSUMPTION OF LUXURIES—COST OF LIVING AGAIN INCREASING.

TURIN, September 26.

THE official statistics on public revenue are good:—
(In Millions of Lire.)

	Fiscal Year. 1920-21.	July and August 1920.	1921.
Income and capital taxes	4,067.1	450.7	794.4
Succession and registration duties	773.6	115.1	116.0
Stamp duties	1,107.8	195.3	315.7
Excise, Customs, and other consumption taxes	1,608.0	191.2	214.7
Industrial monopolies	2,744.1	406.7	487.5
Commercial monopolies	521.9	59.0	118.8
Lottery	151.0	21.7	26.9

All categories give an interesting yield; and if we multiply by sixfold the yield of first two months of the current fiscal year, we obtain figures sensibly higher than those relating to the whole of the fiscal year 1920-21. But there are not wanting signs of the economic crisis, especially in those taxes which are liable to feel more immediately the effects of decreasing transactions. In the succession and registration duties category, apart from the succession tax, which is stationary, the registration taxes diminished from 66.8 to 59.4 millions lire in the two months considered, and the yield is much lower than the sum which would be necessary to come up to the 491.7 millions obtained during the whole of last year. Stamps yield 110.2 millions lire more in 1921 than in 1920, but of that increase 76.1 millions lire are due to stamp duty on the increased notes issue and 25.3 millions to the new tax on luxury sales. As in France, this tax is a little disappointing. The tax is exacted by means of stamps to be put on double notes of sale, of which a part is given to customer and a part is retained by the selling party. As the tax is very high—from July 1, 1921, it has been increased from 10 to 11.50 per cent. of the sale price—it appears that very frequently sellers and buyers conspire together, to the loss of the Exchequer, for evading altogether the tax, or inscribing in the note a sum notably less than the true sum paid. A symptom of the economic crisis may be seen also in the lessened yield of taxes on cinema palaces (from 1,897,970 to 1,848,501 lire), on gems and other jewellery (from 3,967,775 to 2,490,465 lire), liquors and fine wines (from 3,859,400 to 1,697,150 lire).

The diminished consumption of luxuries is probably explained by the persistence of the high cost of living in the face of decreasing opportunity of employment, and more or less severe cuts in wages of the working class. The decrease of retail prices was short-lived, as may be seen from the following table compiled by the Turin municipal bureau of labour statistics of the cost of living of the working family (father, mother, and three sons of 10 to 15 years). The basis is fixed in the first half of 1914:—

	Food.	Clothing.	Rent.	Fuel and Light.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
Year 1914 (first semester).....	100	100	100	100	100	100
1920—January	351.0	347.2	100	406.5	344.5	318.5
1921—January	513.1	547.3	110	527.3	513.6	467.4
February	509.5	547.3	110	446.5	513.6	460.9
March	536.5	496.7	110	428.4	543.9	472.2
April	534.4	496.7	110	416.9	543.9	470.3
May	521.2	465.2	110	378.0	542.6	455.7
June	485.4	433.4	110	358.8	538.7	429.6
July	446.2	411.4	120	354.2	537.1	404.7
August	461.1	410.6	120	366.9	537.1	413.9

As rent is subject to legal maximums, the variations are those authorised by royal decrees. New occupiers, in fact, are obliged to pay very much higher rents if they desire to secure a house for their family. The increases of rent above the legal maximums are unlawful, even for new occupiers, and house owners are liable to refund them at the request of the occupier. But, in fact, the restitution is never claimed, as the excesses above the maximum are frequently veiled as entrance fee, price of furniture, and so on.

NEW ZEALAND.—FINANCE—INCOME-TAX—REASSURING SIGNS IMMINENT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND, August 16.

So far, the New Zealand Government has not formulated any definite policy with regard to the deflation of the currency. The local bank rate for sight drafts on London is about 2 per cent. The Post Office has raised its rate for small remittances to 2½ per cent., and in view of the uncertainty of the financial position it is feared there may be some difficulty in maintaining the parity of exchange with English currency.

There have been many changes of Finance Minister during the last few years, and another change is now announced. When Parliament meets the portfolio of Finance will be taken by the Hon. W. Downie Stewart until Mr Massey's return. The principal charges made against the Finance Department are extravagance, undue incidence of taxation and of expenditure, and a want of lucidity and preciseness in rendering accounts. This latter criticism is even made by papers which support the Government, though it is strenuously denied by the Finance Minister.

The first issue of War Loan Certificates matures this week. Arrangements have been made by the Treasury for payment in cash or renewal, at the option of the holder, into Post Office investment certificates, bearing interest at 6 per cent., for a period of either five or ten years. New certificates will also be issued on similar terms. The original certificates were issued at 4½ per cent., free of income-tax, and at 5½ per cent., subject to tax, both issues being practically compulsory, and made in the form of bearer bonds.

The increase of income-tax on companies to 8s 9d in the £1 (in reality the amount in some cases is greater owing to the manner in which the tax is levied) has had the effect of greatly depreciating Stock Exchange quotations, which have fallen on an average of from 15 to 25 per cent., and show little sign of recovery. Although some of the companies may continue to pay fair dividends, the increased cost being passed on to the public as far as possible, the crushing taxation has had the effect of discouraging the investment of fresh capital in any industrial undertakings, and owing to numerous complaints with regard to the consequent dislocation of industry, it is not improbable that the Government will be compelled at no distant date to modify their legislation in this direction, especially as public bodies (such as tramway lines run by city councils) escape this form of taxation altogether.

While the income-tax on companies is 8s 9d, the tax on debentures is only 3s in the £1. Consequently, many large companies, instead of issuing new capital, have found it more advantageous to issue debentures, which are being freely offered at 7½ per cent. to 8 per cent. interest, the former quotations being free of income-tax.

The present indications are that New Zealand's recovery from the financial effects of the war will be slow. The most reassuring signs are the absence of labour troubles, which were very marked about a year ago, the mildness of the winter, which has proved very favourable for the dairying industry, and the gradual fall in the price of articles of general consumption. On the other hand, the fall in wool, hides, meat, and other farm produce has hit the farming industry very severely, although so far this has not applied to any extent to the dairying industry.

INDIA.—THE MUNITIONS BOARD CASE—FOODSTUFF PRICES—EXCHANGE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BOMBAY, September 10.

WHILST Mr Gandhi is exhorting the Marwaris at Calcutta to burn their foreign cloth—an exhortation they have resolutely decided to ignore—moderate and constructive political activities in the country have been revived by the

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.
On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

re-opening of the Legislative Assembly at Simla, where His Excellency Lord Reading delivered his first representative address as Viceroy. He covered much ground—the Prince's visit, racial feeling, the question of the status of Indians within the Empire, and the Munitions Board Case.

The Munitions Board Case, as it is termed, has so engaged the attention of the public that for the past three weeks it has been the most important matter before the country. Its commercial aspect is also full of interest. Briefly, the funds of the Board have been cheated of Rs.1,49,000. Two contractors were prosecuted. Suddenly Government withdrew the charges, although the Law Officers asserted that they could prove the case up to the hilt. The official reason for the withdrawal was that by proceeding with the trial many *Swadeshi* firms would be injured, if not ruined. There was an immediate outcry in the Press and by commercial associations all over the country. The continuance of the trial was demanded. An official statement was then issued. It appeared that the charges were withdrawn at the instance of Sir Thomas Holland, the Commerce and Industries Member of the Council, without the Viceroy's cognizance. Sir T. Holland has resigned, and H.E. Lord Reading deprecating the "error of judgment" of his Minister, declared the withdrawal irrevocable. He added, however, that steps have been taken to prevent a recurrence of such an error. The outcry continues, nevertheless, and it is the opinion of thinking India that this unfortunate business has somewhat impaired general confidence in official methods of procedure.

The prices of Indian foodstuffs continue to rise. As a preventative in one direction, Government has extended the ban on the export of wheat until at least March, 1922, although firms importing wheat may export fine flour. It may be safely reckoned that we are dealing, compared with early 1914, with a four-anna rupee, although our local Labour Bureau states that the cost of living is 80 per cent. above that of July, 1914. Meat is scarce and prices rule high. This is in the main attributable to the huge exports of cattle to Africa and South America during the war for breeding purposes. Vegetables are limited in supply owing to the difficulty experienced last year in obtaining seeds from Europe, and owing to the bad rains. Bread, too, is very dear.

Since my last letter, exchange has moved upwards, and has closed firm at 1s 4½d. Bills are beginning to appear in small quantities, which is a helpful sign. Our gold receipts, however, have fallen off, and our waywardness, after a purchasing period, keeps the metal at a point considerably above which banks can export it. An exchange at over the 16d mark and a decrease in gold imports may be taken, even at this stage, as an indication that produce is gradually re-assuming its position as a pointer in matters monetary so far as the rupee is concerned, and that slowly, very slowly—considering our financial standing as a whole—we are returning to the normal. Silver touched 39½d during the week, but has closed at 38½d.

HOLLAND.—THE BUDGET—ROYAL DUTCH EXPORT DUTIES—THE CRISIS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, September 25.

THE Budget was 154,000,000 fl in 1900, 258,000,000 fl in 1914, and is now 800,000,000 fl. The only chapter of the eleven chapters which together make up the Budget, and which does not show any increase, is the "Household of the Queen," costing 900,000 fl annually. The "National Debt" requires 74,000,000 fl, against 38,600,000 fl before the war, the Ministry of Finance 194,000,000 fl, against 39,000,000 fl. (Half of this amount is destined for advances in connection with the building of dwelling-houses.) The Department of Agriculture required 21,000,000 fl in 1914, against 150,000,000 fl now. The ratable income over 1919-20 was 2,250,000,000 fl, and the taxes absorb already 40 per cent. hereof. In 1915-16, however, the ratable income was 1,290,000,000 fl. If expenditure is maintained on the same level, the result will be that when the ratable income should again recede to the figure of five years ago the Government would require nearly all of this. It is evident that this cannot go on. The newly-appointed Minister of Finance, Mr de Geer, has appointed a Committee for studying measures of economy, and his inaugural speech in Parliament gives hope that drastic curtailing of expenses will take place.

The Royal Dutch have addressed a letter to the Ministry of Colonies, dated August 23rd, in which they complain of the contemplated increase of the export duty in Netherlands India on derivatives of petroleum. They state that in May last the duties have already been increased, and as a consequence hereof the Royal Dutch have to restrict their activities in our East Indian colonies. The export duty has the same effect as the protection of foreign competition. When prices of petroleum were relatively high the export duty was not so much felt, but as the world production at present is far in excess of the consumption and competition fiercer than ever, the disadvantageous consequences of such a measure are severely felt. Already the Royal Dutch-Shell have stopped production in such fields where the cost price, plus export duty and freight to the places of sale, exceeds the price which has to be paid in such places on oil produced elsewhere. The Dutch Constitution excludes privileges in the matter of taxes, but the selection of some special industry with the purpose of taxing such industry abnormally high should consequently likewise be intolerable. As an example of the magnitude of such a body as the Royal Dutch, an address from a totally different group of industrials, merchants, and shipping companies has just been sent to the Government. This address, which has been signed, among others, by the Furness-Stokvis group, Philips Incandescent Lamps Factories, and PHS van Ommeren, supports the request for the abolition of export duties on petroleum in Netherlands India on account of the pernicious effect which the reduction of the action of the Royal Dutch in our colony has on the industry of Holland. The signatories openly avow that their request is inspired by egotism, but they point out that where the interests of so many important firms are concerned a general interest is at stake. Orders aggregating millions of florins have already been cancelled by the Royal Dutch, and whereas Dutch industry, trade, and shipping have already to face the extreme difficulties of foreign competition, the influence of such an arbitrary measure as an increased export duty on petroleum reaches much farther than one should judge at first glance.

The crisis in Holland has now come to a very critical stage, which is illustrated by the fact that leaders in the banking and navigation and trading world, which played a prominent rôle in war time and during the period of upward movement of prices, lose their position and disappear from the firmament where they were glittering. The Royal Dutch Lloyd Navigation Company is in a very bad condition—the chief manager withdraws. Van Nierop's Trading Company has lost heavily—several managers retire. The Insulinde Oil Factories' shares quoted about 200 per cent. not long ago and 8 per cent.

at present. The Netherlands Indian Trading Bank financed this enterprise—its chief manager has withdrawn. And the Compania Mercantil, of the well-known Kröller concern, have lost their reserves of 15,000,000 fl, but the stock capital of 20,000,000 fl will emanate unimpaired from the crisis, as the directors ascertain. It is a fact that the crisis is very much accentuated in Holland in these last weeks, and a period full of alarming rumours, in which it will be good to keep cool heads, is certainly before us.

SWEDEN.—THE ELECTIONS—ACUTE DEPRESSION—A GLOOMY OUTLOOK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, September 26.

ELECTIONS to the Diet are at present in progress, which will finally decide the new Government. The results so far obtained are strongly in favour of the Socialist party, that is, the Right Socialist party, whereas the Bolsheviks and Communists have not scored any remarkable success. Undoubtedly election results have somewhat influenced the financial situation, and a marked slump in values on the Stock Exchange has been recorded, quotations now approaching the worst previous records in June. The general outlook in business and industry is, however, the strongest moving factor for this drop, and it must be admitted that the prospects are anything but rosy. The position of the German mark, which has long ago beaten its previous bottom record, makes it impossible for Swedish manufacturers to compete, and were it not for the fact that many German works, particularly in the steel and iron trades, are now well booked ahead and cannot, or do not care to, enter into further business for the moment, the position would have been even worse. Already it is as bad as it can be, and therefore there may seem to be very little to lose, but it is remarkable that in these days business, however small, is able to stimulate people. Thus some sales in the timber market, which in normal times would have been considered comparatively small, have brought about a firmer tone, and the mills are hopeful of being able to reduce their stocks before the season closes. The increase in timber sales has, however, not brought about any relief in shipping, where conditions are becoming more ruinous than ever. If things continue like this there will be a big smash in the shipping trade, because many owners cannot hold their fleets indefinitely, especially with the dwindling prospects there are of making a remunerative start again. As a sign of the depression the number of bankruptcy cases from January to August inclusive this year were 3,169, as against 1,415 during the corresponding period last year. As a foretaste of what is coming this winter, one of the leading banks, the Mälarprovinsernas Bank and the financing concern, the Svenska Emission A.B., report that there will be no dividends this year. The Alb. Söderberg and Co. A.B., a financing concern, which expanded considerably during the war, has decided to liquidate. The liquidation of the Söderberg concern brought about a substantial fall in the shares of the Sydsvenska Kredit A.B., but a pacifying announcement from the board caused the shares to improve again. A sensational case is at present fought between the State Railways and the Trafikaktiebolaget Grängesberg-Oxelösund, one of the largest industrial concerns in Sweden, owning mines in the North and Central Sweden. It concerns an amount of 50 millions kroner, which the railways claim as due to them on the strength of an old agreement in connection with the transport of ores on the Ofoten Railway. The company pleads *force majeure*.

NORWAY.—CONTRACTING TRADE—STRIKE DIFFICULTIES—THE HARVEST.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, September 20.

THE Sample-Fair just held in this town proved a success. All the most considerable manufacturers had stalls there, and a considerable number of buyers attended.

The Fair was visited by over 100,000 people. This is the second fair, and probably will be made a permanent institution.

General trade is contracting, as is also manifested by the decreasing note circulation of the National Bank. The strike in the pulp, paper, and timber trade which has been going on for a month seems far from a solution. While the workmen may be inclined to accept the reduction in the wages proposed by the employers, their leaders will not give up the 14 days' holiday which they carried through during the boom last year. The employers maintain, however, that the industry cannot subsist by so little work being done—48 hours weekly, quite a number of extra holidays, and then a fortnight vacation besides. The struggle is likely to be a hard one, for the principals think eight days the utmost they can concede.

The weather is very mild and mostly dry. Practically the harvest, excepting that of the potato crop, now is finished, and the average yield is perhaps not much under the medium.

The foreign exchanges are breaking all previous records. To-day sterling was kr 29.70, far above anything hitherto known, and very near the kr 30 to the £ which has been predicted as probable.

SWITZERLAND.—PLENTIFUL INVESTMENT FUNDS—NESTLE FINANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, September 23.

THE Cantonal Government of Vaud has issued a loan of 12.5 million francs. This was, after a long period of 6 per cent. loans, the first which yielded merely 5½ per cent. The purpose was productive, namely, the increase of the share capital of the Banque Cantonale Vaudoise, the State bank of that Republic. Within three days only no fewer than 412 millions of francs were subscribed, a quite extraordinarily high sum. The ease in the money market, which hitherto existed only in the Swiss discount market, seems now to extend to the investment market.

The Swiss Nestlé concern, which was always to a certain extent an international milk trust, has now absorbed the three leading independent Australian condensed milk companies, and paid the price for their shares with scrips of a loan of 820,000 English pounds at a percentage of interest not yet published in this country. After having issued last spring preference shares in British currency, now there are issued bonds also redeemable in English currency. From the balance-sheet point of view this means no danger, for the eventual increase of the liabilities, reckoned in Swiss francs owing to a rise of value of the British pound, will be counterbalanced by an increase of the value of assets in England and her colonies in such a case. This issue in England is considered as the outcome of an industrial policy, namely, that of transferring systematically the commercial and industrial centre of this concern from Switzerland to London. No doubt the centre of the chocolate production of this concern (Peter-Cailler-Köhler brands) will remain in Switzerland, but export of condensed milk is obviously losing importance in the Swiss commercial balance. The first seven months of 1913, before the war, Switzerland exported 22,651 metric tons of condensed milk; in the first seven months of the current year of 1920—a year when fodder of all kind was rather cheap—the Swiss export amounted only to 10,210 metric tons. As in the same period from 1913 to 1920 the Swiss export of cheese sank by even 90 per cent., this reduction of Swiss export of dairy products cannot be considered the consequence of any incapacity of the Swiss leaders of the Nestlé concern. The war brought for Swiss agriculture such high prices of land and tools, labour and artificial manures, that Switzerland cannot remain a country exporting agricultural products.

Books and Publications.**REVIEWS.**

"Inflation et Déflation." By Messrs Yves-Guyot and Arthur Raffalovich. (Paris) Felix Alcan. 10 fr net.

THIS work, by two doughty champions of sound money, sound finance, and sound fiscal policy, provides plenty of powder and shot for those who are trying to combat the theory that the way to economic salvation now lies through depreciating the currency. It gives a very interesting historical survey of the effects of inflation in France, England, America, Italy, and elsewhere in the past, and then deals with the financial policy of the world since 1914. As an exposure and criticism of inflationary evils and illusions the book is full of interesting matter. On the question of deflation we gather that its distinguished authors see no halfway house between the present chaos and a return, for all countries affected by it, to the pre-war gold parities; and this uncompromising view seems to be somewhat out of touch with practical politics.

"Australia: Economic and Political Studies by Various Writers." Edited by Meredith Atkinson. (Melbourne) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 1921.

It would require a very lengthy review to deal adequately with these 13 essays by as many authors on Australian politics, history, geographical conditions, colonial and external policy, and social and economic life. Together they confirm the impression left by the first. Australia *farà di sé*; her people believe her destined to become an ideal commonwealth, and mean to take their own way to make her so. It leads through high organisation of labour, extensive nationalisation of public services, the New Protection, and the exclusion of the unassimilable races; and they intend to work in unfettered association with the other British Commonwealths with full liberty of self-determination. More British than any other part of the Empire, the nation seems to us characteristically John-Bullish in its mental limitations; and its outlook is further restricted by its geographical remoteness, and is not yet broadened by its system of higher education. If (as these writers tell us) the resultant narrowness is conspicuous on both sides in labour conflicts, and the nationalised services might be much better organised, it may fairly be said that the policy of Australia in Papua and other dependencies is notably free from exploitation of the natives, that the case for a "White Australia," as here set forth, is strong, and that in diffusion of wealth, standard of comfort, and social and economic equality, the nation unquestionably stands first in the world. The essays are a mine of varied and valuable information; we may specially note the accounts of the Labour movement (showing, *inter alia*, the defects of compulsory arbitration), of land legislation, and of the Australian attitude to Imperial politics. But much might be said in praise of them all. The book is indispensable to all students of contemporary history.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A History of the Peace Conference of Paris. Vols. IV. and V. (London) Henry Frowde and Hodder and Stoughton. 42s per volume.

The Economic Journal. The Quarterly Journal of the Royal Economic Society. September, 1921. (London) Macmillan and Co. 6s net.

Includes "The Internal Purchasing Power of the German Mark," by Herr Moritz Elsas; and "The Taxable Capacity of Ireland," by Sir Josiah Stamp.

Annuaire Statistique, 1919-1920. (Paris) Ministère du Travail.

Financing Foreign Trade. (Montreal) The Royal Bank of Canada.

Brief Notes on the Situation of the Budget and of the Treasury. Provisional Administration of the Budgets, 1921-22. (Rome) Ministry of the Treasury.

Verslag Van Den President Van de Javasche Bank, 1920-1921. (Amsterdam) Offices of the Bank.

The Economic-Geographical Foundations of the Upper Silesian Question. By Professor Dr Wilhelm Volz. (Berlin) Georg Stilke.

Arguments about Upper Silesia. (Breslau) East-European Institute.

From Private to Field-Marshal. By Field-Marshal Sir William Robertson, Bart. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 21s net.

The Chilean Review. August, 1921. No. 1. Vol. I. (London) Chilean Consulate, 94 Gracechurch street, E.C. 1s net.

An interesting development of State trade propaganda.

Conquest. The British Magazine of Popular Science October, 1921. (London) The Wireless Press Limited. 1s.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Market Review. No. 14. August, 1921. (Constantinople) The National Bank of Turkey.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. ACCOUNT.
October 12. October 13.

For another week the Stock Exchange remained on the tenterhooks of expectation in regard to a possible fall in the Bank rate. With the unemployment question entering into the question, it was considered probable that financial factors might be relegated to a second place in the matter of the Bank's decision. Gilt-edged stocks failed to derive any benefit from the expectation, owing to the fact that the Union of South Africa, with a five million pounds loan, followed closely by Ceylon with a three million pounds issue, were two of the substantial borrowers, who have been accompanied by others during the week, and who attracted money that otherwise might have gone into previously existing securities. The County of London Electric achieved swift success with half-a-million pounds of 7 per cent. debenture stock, offered at 94. The new Union of South Africa scrip is $\frac{1}{2}$ premium. No particular surprise followed the Bank's announcement of an unchanged rate.

Consols have been up to 48 $\frac{1}{2}$, but failed to maintain their best price, and the pressure from new issues led to the senior stocks being somewhat heavy in tone. Ceylon Sixes fell $\frac{1}{2}$ on the day that the underwriting of the new loan proceeded, and this affected other similar stocks. The foreign market witnessed a sharp fall in the three German issues, as marks became worth two a penny. Chinese bonds are better upon news that the coupon due to-day on the 8 per cent. Treasury Notes (Vickers) will be duly met. Argentines and Brazilians have appreciated, but there was some disposition shown to sell French bonds. Russians have given way still further.

The Home Railway market has got into that dismal condition in which the only movements are downwards. There is not a single section of the market free from a depression which has deepened into flatness. Grand Trunks are lower, the announcement from the company as to an appeal to the Privy Council on the question of the arbitration award having no favourable effect. Mexican issues of all kinds went timidly better on a jump in the price of silver, but there was no support worth mentioning, and prices quietly sagged back. Argentine Railway stocks dropped, because of the latest edict respecting fares, and Brazilian Railways are flat on a modicum of selling.

Rubber shares have shown a little activity so far as the leaders are concerned. The price of the raw stuff rose at one time from 8d to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per lb, but as it eased off the share market took on a dull tone, and part of the previous rises became lost. The oil group is dominated by the movements in Mexican Eagles, where acute weakness occurred, owing to sales from New York, declared to be based upon the news of fresh intrusions of salt water into Mexican oilfields. But Paris and this country also sold lavishly. The Continent has done nothing to support Royal Dutch, and these, together with Shells, Burmahs, and the rest of the oil market have been lowered. Kern Rivers stand out as a bright exception on the declaration of bonus and dividend. The banking market is inclined to heaviness, although two or three of the Eastern shares are a little better in consequence of the improvement in silver. Insurance shares exhibit a firmer tendency. The shipping market is very quiet. Electric manufacturing shares have taken a turn for the better, apparently on the assumption that the Safeguarding of Industries Bill will prevent the market for their wares being swamped by German competition. Electricity supply descriptions are also firmer, and one or two gas stocks advanced on the serio-humorous idea that, with "summer-time" past, more attention will be directed to shares in illumination companies. The iron, coal, and steel market, together

with that for armament shares, became unsettled by the misunderstanding which has risen between the Board of Trade Mines Department and the coalowners of South Wales over a matter of wages, a misunderstanding which, according to rumour, may cost the companies anything up to half-a-million pounds. Dunlops have further fallen on sales by people tired of waiting for improvement. Marconis are dull on the impression that the company is probably sharing in the general trade depression. Some of the shares in industrial companies, stores, catering, &c., are lower for the same reason, and the textile market is only comparatively steady. Cook, Son, and Co. shares have been depressed, owing to the uncertainty felt in regard to the dividend payment on the preference shares, due yesterday. Levers preference shares are flat, and Harrods, both of London and Buenos Ayres, also gave way.

The South African market is not assisted by a couple of good reports, one from the Modderfontein and the other from the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment companies. There is not sufficient business on the part of the public to keep alive any interest in Kaffirs, and prices accordingly sag. In the diamond group the passing, for the second time in succession, of the dividend on Jagersfontein excited no surprise or change in price. Copper shares are heavy. Arizonas, which came down from 32s 6d to exactly half that price on the circular issued last week, recovered to about 18s. Russian mining shares remain depressed, and in the tin groups nothing of fresh interest has happened.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	166,202,642			
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,990
5 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1923 receipts week ended September 17, 1921				24,410,000
Week ended September 24, 1921				14,750,000
Receipts to date				39,160,000
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 17, 1921.				
April 1 to September 17, £1,980,000		150,000		150,000
To the Public—				
Union of South Africa, £5,000,000 Cons. 6% Stock (red. at par, 1930-40, issued at 96% (Sept. 26)	5,000,000	4,800,000	250,000	4,550,000
Andover Theatre, Hotel, and Shops, 50,000 Shares, £1, at par	50,000	50,000	6,250	43,750
Globe Kinema, Limited, 42,405 Ord. Shares, £1, at par	42,405	42,405	10,601	31,804
County of London Electric Supply Company, £500,000 7% Red. Deb. Stock (red. at par, 1931-51, issued at 94% (Sept. 29)	500,000	470,000	50,000	420,000
Total offered to public		5,362,405	316,851	5,045,554
Total offered for subscription to date in 1921	£186,465,047	1920	1,267,549,656	
1920	294,301,839	1919	1,036,059,951	
1919	903,538,300	1918	1,393,381,441	
1918	1,025,395,237	1917	1,318,596,010	
1917	1,104,327,560	1916	585,436,850	
1916	398,851,300	1915	685,236,326	
1915	658,988,006	1914	512,522,635	
1914	173,023,446	1913	196,536,980	

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Issued at 97 per cent. interest payable half-yearly on April 1st and October 1st. The bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. The first series of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Treasury bonds will be brought to an end to-day. Receipts (including conversions) have exceeded £135,000,000. A second series of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Treasury bonds will be issued as from Monday, October 3, at 98 per cent.

Union of South Africa Consolidated 6 per Cent. Stock, 1930-1940.—This is an issue of £5,000,000, at £96 per cent. The principal is repayable in London, at par, on November 1, 1940, the Government of the Union of South Africa having the option to redeem the stock at par on or after November 1, 1930, on giving three months' notice. Trustees may invest in this stock, subject to the provisions of the Trustee Act, 1893. The loan is to be raised for railways, harbours, irrigation works, land settlement, and other public works. Union of South Africa debenture stock interest, issued and payable in London, the property of persons not domiciled there, is not subject to any taxes in that country. The prospectus states that "the sinking funds established in connection with specific loans amount to over £10,000,000. In addition, it is provided that any surplus revenue of the Union shall be handed over to the Public Debt Commissioners for the extinction of debt, and the amount of debt so extinguished since the Union was constituted in 1910

October 1, 1921]

is over £15,000,000." The stock will be "inscribed" in the books kept by the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited—and will be transferable without charge and free of stamp duty at that bank, either by the stockholders personally or by their attorneys. Interest of 6 per cent. will be payable on behalf of the Government of the Union of South Africa at the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, Lothbury, on May 1st and November 1st in each year. The Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock or of the dividends. Subject to this point, these debentures are an excellent trustee investment, yielding £6 7s 5d per cent., allowing for redemption in 1940. The loan was quickly oversubscribed.

The County of London Electric Supply Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £3,000,000, of which £1,405,780 has been issued. The authorised loan capital amounts to £2,000,000, of which £1,000,000 has already been issued. This is an issue of £500,000 7 per cent. debenture stock at 94, to be redeemed at par on October 1, 1931, or at the option of the company at any time after April 1, 1931, on giving six months' notice. A cumulative sinking fund of 1 per cent. will accrue from October 1, 1922, and will be applied in the purchase of debenture stock of this issue "at or under par." This debenture stock will be secured by means of a trust deed made between the company and the Trustees Corporation, Limited, giving a general floating charge on the company's undertaking and properties, other than "The Barking Supply," as defined by this company's Act of 1921, subject to the existing charges in favour of the £500,000 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. first debenture stock and £500,000 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. second debenture stock. The company was registered in June, 1891, for the purpose of supplying electricity, mainly in the County of London, and started active operations in 1895. An excellent and instructive table showing gross revenue, net profits, and how profits have been allocated, is given in the prospectus, which we would recommend to the notice of the directors of other utility undertakings when they are issuing prospectuses. Although the issue is only secured by a floating charge, net surplus assets, including the proceeds of this issue, after deducting the £1,000,000 of existing debentures, amount to approximately £2,314,811. The proceeds of the issue are required to repay bankers' advances and other purposes. The issue has been underwritten at 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., plus an overriding commission of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The prospectus is a clear statement of affairs, succinctly worded. These may be considered good debentures in their class, and thoroughly deserved the remarkable reception accorded by the investing public.

Peter Walker (Warrington) and Robert Cain and Sons, Limited.—Authorised share capital £5,000,000, divided into 2,000,000 8 per cent. preference and 3,000,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each. All the preference and, including the amount of present offer, 2,270,000 ordinary shares have been issued. Debentures for £2,500,000 are authorised, of which £2,000,000 7 per cent. first mortgage debentures are now offered at 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., together with 1,500,000 ordinary shares at par. The debentures are to be secured by a first mortgage on properties, and on "the ordinary share capital of Peter Walker and Son," and a floating charge upon other assets. The charge is to be effected by a trust deed, and the debentures "will be repayable at par" on December 31, 1964, by means of a sinking fund, "to be applied in the redemption at par." The company has been formed to amalgamate two big brewery concerns. Apparently the purchase consideration is £5,420,000; Robert Cain and Sons being acquired for £3,000,000, payable £2,000,000 in preference, £720,000 in ordinary shares, and the balance in cash. The whole of the ordinary capital of Peter Walker and Son is being acquired for £2,420,000. Gross assets of Robert Cain are given as £2,378,000, with liabilities of £690,879, and the profits of the concern are shown from 1917. These show remarkable variations, as, for instance, £454,268 for 1920, as against £267,820 for 1921. Assets of the associated Peter Walker companies are given as £4,307,054. This is presumably the net figure, but it should be noted that this sum includes goodwill. Profits are recorded from 1916. These jumped from £368,006 for 1916 to £749,651 for 1917, since which date they have remained steady round the latter figure. Part of the specific security for debenture holders is properties valued at £1,830,281 in the balance-sheet of Robert Cain and Sons. These are stated, if considered in the light of to-day's building costs, to be worth twice this figure—a not unreasonable contention, although falling building costs will affect boom values in the course of a few years. The pledge of ordinary shares as security opens up a difficult question. It would be interesting to know to what extent this company is to be allowed to pledge its assets, and thus affect the value of its ordinary share capital. Most holders of brewery securities are of opinion that the prospects of the industry are much brighter than in 1914. If this is so, then these debentures should be a reasonable investment of their class. But the ordinary shares must be considered speculative, especially as profits have to be maintained at a good round amount to pay comfortable dividends.

Globe Kinemas, Limited.—Authorised capital £100,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 57,595 shares have been issued and 42,405 are now offered for subscription at par. This company was incorporated as a private company in June, 1919, to build and carry on the Globe Kinema Theatre at Acton, and has now been converted into a public company. An independent valuation for £171,344 is given, but this, we notice, is dated January 5, 1921. Mortgages for a total of £58,575 are outstanding on the property. The usual generous estimate of future profits appears, but it is perhaps a pity that actual results from the day of opening (March 26th of this year) could not have been shown. Application is to be made for a Stock Exchange quotation for the shares. The enterprise is too speculative for us to recommend the shares.

Andover Theatre, Hotel, and Shops, Limited.—Authorised capital £50,000, divided into shares of £1 each, the whole of which are now offered at par. This company has been formed to build a theatre, shops, and flats, &c. Apparently certain property is to be acquired for £13,500 which cost £10,250. Some interesting estimates are given, but the prospectus fails to convince us that the promoters will make a financial success of the undertaking. We find no suggestion of making an application for a Stock Exchange quotation mentioned in the prospectus.

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.									
	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		
War (3½, 1925-28)	88½	88	—	Local Loans 3%	52½	52½	—		
Loans (4½, 1925-45)	81½	81½	—	India 3½ Stock	57½	57½	—		
India 3½, 1925-45	96½	96	—	Do 7% Stock	103	103	—		
Funding Loan 4%	72½	71½	—	N.S.W. 5½, 1922-27	94	94	—		
Victory Bonds 4%	75½	75½	—	U.S.A. 4½, 1920-25	93	95	—		
Conversion Loan 3½	62½	62½	—	Victoria 5½, 1924-34	92	92	—		
Consols 2½	48½	48½	—						
Irish Land Stock 2½	48½	48½	—						
Banks.									
Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.)	2½	2½	—	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10)	20	20	—		
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½	2½	—	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10)	10½	10½	—		
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2 paid)	61½	61	—	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	8½	8½	—		
London County Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14½	14	—	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	11	11	—		
Colonial and Foreign Railways.									
Antofagasta Cons.	45	43	—	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 6	5	5	—		
B. A. & Pacific	40½	38	—	Leopoldina	21½	19½	—		
B. A. Gt. Southern	58½	56	—	Mexican Railway	15	15	—		
Buenos Ayres West.	58½	55	—	Do 1st Pref.	42	41	—		
Canadian Pacific	149	151	—	Do 2nd Pref.	27	27	—		
Central Argentine	54½	52½	—	San Paulo	120½	116	—		
Grand Trunk Ord.	2	1½	—	United Havana	54	51½	—		
American Railroads.									
Chesapeake & Ohio	72	74	—	Southern	27	27	—		
Erie	17	18	—	Do Non-cum Pref.	61	62	—		
Do 4½ 1st Pref.	25	25	—						
Foreign Government Securities.									
Argentine 5%, 1886-7	94	94	—	Italian 3½ Rentes	22	22	—		
Belgian 3%	62	62	—	Greek Monopoly 4%	33½	33½	—		
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914	60	62	—	Japanese 4½	115	115	—		
Chilian 4½, 1895	68	68	—	Do 4½, 1910	65	65½	—		
Chinese 5%, 1912	70	70½	—	Mexican Cons. 1899	69	69	—		
Egyptian 4%	64½	64	—	Peruvian Corp. Pref.	16½	16	—		
French 5%	40½	40	—	Russian 5%, 1906	11	7½	—		
Do 4%	30½	30½	—	Spanish 4%	71½	71½	—		
Telegraphs.									
Anglo-American "A"	17½	17½	—	Marconi Canada	1½	1½	—		
Eastern Telegraph	163½	164½	—	Marconi Marine	1½	1½	—		
Marconi Wireless	14½	14½	—						
Miscellaneous.									
Aerated Bread (£1)	11½	11½	—	Lipton (£1)	7	7	—		
Armstrong (Sir W. G.)	17½	17½	—	Lister (£1)	4	4	—		
and Co. (£1)	17½	16½	—	Lobitos Oilfields (£1)	3	3	—		
Ass.Pulp.Cem. (£1)	8½	8	—	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1)	2½	2½	—		
B'ham Small Arms (£1)	29	28½	—	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.)	4½	4½	—		
Brazil Traction (£100)	29	28½	—	Mexican Eagle (£10)	4½	4½	—		
British-American Tobacco (£1)	3½	3½	—	North Caucasian (100)	7½	7½	—		
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	5½	5½	—	Pekin (2)	7½	7½	—		
Burmah Oil (£1)	5½	5½	—	Rubber Plantations Investment (£1)	4½	4½	—		
Costs (J. & P.) (£1)	2½	2½	—	Shell Transport (£1)	4½	4½	—		
Courtaulds (£1)	1½	1½	—	Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1)	7½	7½	—		
Cunard (£1)	7½	7½	—	Underground Electric (£10)	2	2	—		
Dorman, Long (£1)	1½	1½	—	Do "A" (1)	7½	7½	—		
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	1½	1½	—	Do Inc. Bds. (£100)	76	74½	—		
Forestal Land (£1)	1½	1½	—	United Serdang (2)	5½	5½	—		
Furness, Withy (£1)	1½	1½	—	United Tobacco (£1)	5½	5½	—		
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1)	1½	1½	—	Ural Caspian (£1)	11½	11½	—		
Hudson's Bay (£1)	5½	5½	—	Vallambrosa (2)	11½	11½	—		
Imperial Tobacco (£1)	24½	24	—	Vickers (£1)	132½	132½	—		
Int'nal Paint (£1)	1½	1½	—	Watney Def. Ssk.	132½	132½	—		
Linggi Plants (£1)	1½	1½	—						

British Railways.			
Great Central Pref.	9	8 1/2	1
Great Eastern	23	27	1
Great Northern Def.	25	24	1
Great Western	68	66 1/2	1 1/2
Lancs. and Yorks.	48	46	2
London, Brighton, "A"	38 1/2	37	1 1/2
London, Chatham	51	53	1
Do Arb. Pref.	39	38	1
Mines.			
Brakpan (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
Broken Hill Prop. (8) 1/4	1 1/2	1 1/2	1
Chartered (£1)	1 1/2	1 1/2	1
Cong. Gold Fields (£1) 1	1	1	1
Crown Mines (10)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
De Beers Def. (£2 1/2) 1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1
East Rand Prop. (£1) 1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1
Geduld (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) 4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	1
L. and N.W.	68	66 1/2	1 1/2
L. & S. Western, Def.	18	17 1/2	1
Metropolitan	23	23	1
Metropolitan District 16 1/2	16 1/2	16 1/2	1
Midland Deferred.	42	40 1/2	1 1/2
North British Def.	101	104	1
North-Eastern	71 1/2	70	1 1/2
South-Eastern "A"	21 1/2	20 1/2	1
Knights	3 1/2	3 1/2	1
Modderfontein (10)	3 1/2	3 1/2	1
Modderfont. "B" (5) 1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1
Modderfont. Deep (5) 2 1/2	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
Premier Def. (2 1/2)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
Rand Mines (5)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1
Rio Tinto (£5)	28	27 1/2	1
Spring Mines (£1)	2 1/2	2 1/2	1

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

THE SHEEPBRIDGE COAL AND IRON COMPANY, LIMITED. RESULTS OF THE COAL STRIKE—NEED FOR MINERS' CO-OPERATION.

The fifty-seventh ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company, Limited, was held, on the 26th ultimo, at Sheffield.

The Right Hon. Lord Aberconway presided, and other directors present were the Right Hon. Sir Henry Norman, Bart., M.P., Mr W. H. McConnel, Mr R. W. Fowler, Mr M. Deacon (managing director), Mr W. B. M. Jackson (general manager), together with Mr T. E. Haslam (secretary).

The Chairman referred to the recent death of Mr Frederick Fowler, who was one of their most valued and useful directors, and was associated with the company for 47 years.

WORKING THE NEW AGREEMENT.

The Chairman went on to say that they were meeting under the new régime—the national agreement between the owners and

the miners, which was to operate for 12 months, and which provided a standard wage. The owners also were to receive a standard profit. Any surplus remaining after payment of standard wages, the working costs, and the provision of the standard profit was to be divided in the proportion of 17 per cent. to the owners and 83 per cent. to the men. That, of course, constituted for the first time in the coal trade a big profit-sharing system. The men were now directly interested in the success of the collieries, and he was in hopes that if that agreement was loyally worked—and the owners intended to work it loyally—the owners and men might agree to sink all petty differences, and strive together to make the trade a success.

Pits that were losing money—and there would be pits losing money at this time of bad trade—must certainly close down, and unprofitable districts in good collieries would have to be closed too. It was no use the men going to the owners and asking them to work unprofitable districts. That would only be depriving the great body of the miners of profits they were entitled to share.

RESULTS OF RECENT STRIKE.

The owners were now really trustees for the men, and he hoped it would be understood by every section of the men that they must work the pits on those lines. Their answer, when the men asked them to work unprofitable districts, would simply be: "You joined in smashing the coal trade during the last three months; you allowed the safety men to be taken out, and you did nothing to prevent the flooding of the pits, and now you will have to abide by the result." The result was that we lost temporarily the whole of our foreign markets. Depots in France and Italy and other foreign countries had been filled during the strike with American and German coal, and not only that, but we had paid five millions of money during the strike for American and other coal. Not only did those who supported the coal strike smash the coal trade, but they smashed all trade dependent on the coal trade. Blast furnaces, rolling mills, iron

foundries, steel foundries, steel rolling mills, shipyards, engineering works, if not at a standstill, had been badly hit, and probably, taking them all together, they were not working more than a quarter of their normal capacity, and hundreds of thousands of skilled men were walking about the streets idle, simply as a result of the strike which smashed the trade by which they earned their living. We could not compete to-day in price with the foreigner owing to the high price of coal. That high price was again reacting adversely upon the coal trade, and we were not only sending less coal abroad, but we were selling vastly less for home consumption. He did not see much prospect of improvement for many months to come unless the men came to their assistance by agreeing to modifications on all existing customs, price lists, and restrictive conditions which had hampered them in the past, and let them consider together what they could do to improve matters.

WARNING TO THE MINERS.

Lord Aberconway then went on to quote from a recent speech of Mr Herbert Smith, in which he commented upon the error that had been made by the withdrawal of the safety men. That, commented his lordship, was a pretty strong thing for one of the miners' leaders to say, but it was perfectly true. He knew perfectly well that the miners as a body were sensible men and good citizens. "Then why don't they shake out those Bolsheviks and Communists from their ranks, and why did they elect such men on their Executive Council who showed such cruel and heartless indifference to the lot of their fellow workmen in their own trade?"

The owners were the trustees for the miners; it was they who had established the collieries, who studied prices and foreign markets, and who worked night and day in bringing business to their pits in order that the men might get wages. They had struggled for years to improve the position of the miner, and by establishing the coal trade on a firm basis to give him security of employment. What had happened? These men had kicked away the ladder the owners had been slowly mounting, and unless the men made it certain that it would not be kicked away again, he saw very little prospect for the future of the coal trade in this country.

COMPANY'S POSITION.

Dealing with the Sheepbridge Company's affairs, Lord Aberconway said that the output of the Sheepbridge group of collieries fell during the year by 712,000 tons owing to the strike, and the men lost in wages £700,000, enough for the men to have bought a controlling interest in Sheepbridge and its subsidiary companies. The coal-getters' wages at June 30, 1921, were 23s, as compared with 12s in 1913, and the output per man for all men employed was 158 tons in 1921, as against 322 tons in 1913.

The collieries had suffered but little from the strike. The sinking at Glapwell had been hindered, but operations had been resumed. He referred to the high railway rates and the handicap of the Midland collieries by a rate of 8s per ton, as compared with North-East collieries or South Wales.

With regard to the iron trade, he stated that in the hope that matters would improve they were lighting up one of the large blast furnaces at Sheepbridge. They were doing it partly in the hope of setting a good example and of being able to get coke at a cheaper rate, and also in an effort to relieve the distress. The outlook was very serious, and they wanted to keep men in employment as far as possible.

He thought the shareholders would agree with him that, having regard to all the circumstances, the balance-sheet was fairly satisfactory. He then moved the adoption of the report and the balance-sheet.

Mr M. Deacon seconded, and it was passed unanimously.

The final dividend of 5 per cent., making 7 1/2 per cent. for the year, free of income-tax, was agreed to.

Lord Aberconway and Mr W. H. McConnel, the retiring directors, were re-elected.

Messrs Alfred Tongue and Co. were re-appointed auditors to the company.

TRANSVAAL AND RHODESIAN ESTATES, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN ON POSITION AND PROSPECTS.

The annual general meeting of the Transvaal and Rhodesian Estates, Limited, was held on the 30th ult., at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, Mr H. G. Latilla, presiding.

The secretary (Mr H. J. Holt) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: The item "dividends and interest" again showed an increase, but revenue from estates and profit on sales showed a decrease of some £1,700 due to decreased sales, but having regard to the times through which they had been passing, the net figure of £8,751 was not unsatisfactory. The net profit was £23,402, or within £400 of last year.

The chief revenue producer had again been the Fred Mine. The position with regard to the mine was encouraging with regard to the immediate future, although not without elements of doubt if one took a longer view. The ore reserves were slightly lower in point of tonnage, but appreciably higher in gold contents. The working profit for the year was £25,369, as against £27,892 for 1919, and £20,479 for 1918. The result was satisfactory, bearing in mind that they crushed 10 per cent. less than in the previous year owing to a breakdown in the electric hoist.

In Nigeria results had of late been consistently disappointing, partly owing to labour difficulties, but mainly because of the fall in the price of tin and all metals. The progress of the silver lead areas had not been unsatisfactory in view of the difficulties encountered. In Trinidad their interests were represented by their holding in the Globe Oilfields, Limited. On neighbouring properties good results were being secured, and in due time they might hope to do well. As regarded their interest in Maraisdrift on the Far-Eastern Rand, this area contained the most profitable gold reef in the world to-day, and they could well afford to wait until times improved to raise capital to equip the property. As regarded the land sales, considering the commercial and financial depression, they must consider themselves fortunate in having been able to effect sales to the amount of over £24,000 at higher prices. The building programme at Salisbury, which they contemplated, must be postponed. If the outcome of the deliberations and negotiations now going on was a decision to enter the Union of South Africa there could be little doubt that a large accession of prosperity would result. By this time next year the question would probably have been settled, and the decision was bound to affect their policy and outlook.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business transacted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.				
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£ 21,535	£ 3,810	£ 6,302	£ 3,810	£ 18,500	£ 18,500	100	£ 11,423	£ 11,423
Aug. 26.	21,535	3,810	6,302	3,810	18,500	18,500	100	11,423	11,423
Dec. 30.	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	18,500	48 1/2	9,924	9,286
1915.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dec. 29.	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	28,500	27 1/2	54,621	20,536
1916.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dec. 27.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	28,500	19 1/2	118,102	6,863
1917.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dec. 26.	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	28,500	13 1/4	186,637	5,486
1918.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dec. 31.	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	28,500	8 1/2	305,133	4,566
1919.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mar. 26.	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	28,500	8 1/2	308,577	5,413
June 25.	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	28,500	8 1/2	327,311	3,771
Oct. 1.	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	28,500	8 1/2	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	28,500	9 1/2	337,537	2,802
1920.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mar. 31.	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	28,500	10 1/2	313,370	2,981
June 30.	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	28,500	11 1/2	331,660	305
Sept. 29.	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	28,500	13 1/2	322,425	385
Dec. 29.	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	28,500	13 1/2	336,504	134
1921.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mar. 30.	343,826	15,599	..	139	28,500	28,500	13 1/2	311,334	141
June 29.	323,884	14,965	..	3,000	28,500	28,500	14 1/2	297,750	150
Sept. 7.	319,169	14,496	..	..	28,500	28,500	15 1/2	282,559	156
..	318,036	14,325	..	3,000	28,500	28,500	15 1/2	281,265	146
..	315,912	14,146	..	3,000	28,500	28,500	15 1/2	278,968	140
..	314,382	14,830	..	3,000	28,500	28,500	15 1/2	278,119	143

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,203.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Sept. 2 (3 months)	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1 1/2	4	£98 18s 1d (Monday to Saturday bills), about 80 1/2%, and above in full.
Sept. 9 (3 months)	50,000,000	73,835,000	4 1 6 3/4	3 1/2	£98 19s 6d bills about 50% and above in full.
Sept. 16 (3 months)	45,000,000	71,075,000	4 0 6 3/4	3 1/2	£98 19s 9d bills about 14 1/2% and above in full.
Sept. 23 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,985,000	3 19 11 1/2	3 1/2	£98 19s 8d (Monday bills and above in full), Tuesday to Saturday bills £98 19s 10d, about 39 1/4% and above in full.
Sept. 30 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,755,000	4 9 2 3/4	4 1/2	£98 16s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 87 1/2% above in full, Saturday bills £98 17s 3d, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.

GREAT BRITAIN

MANCHESTER LONDON

THE
**ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK,
LIMITED.**

Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
**62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.**

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Oct. 3rd-Oct. 8th, were opened on Sept. 30, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £83,755,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 16s 11d will receive about 87.2 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bills at £98 17s 3d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 9s 2.34d.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.
ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.
Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.
London: 5, Walbrook, E.C.4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.

The OCEAN ACCIDENT and GUARANTEE CORPORATION, Limited.

ASSETS £7,472,880
CLAIMS PAID £25,000,000
Accidents and illness.
Employers' Liability. Fidelity Guarantees.
Fire and Burglary. Motor Cars. Public Liability.
Inspection and Insurance of Boilers, Engines,
Electrical Plant and Lifts.
Executives and Trusteeships.
Head Office: MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, September 28, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£	Government debt	£
145,044,950		11,015,100	
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	126,594,950
145,044,950			145,044,950

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital	£	Government securities	£
14,553,000		33,360,329	
Reserve	3,529,568	Other securities	80,494,440
Public deposits	12,231,323	Notes	20,072,370
Other deposits	105,420,935	Gold and silver coin	1,819,417
Seven-day & other bills	11,730		
	135,746,556		135,746,556

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Sept. 28, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,529,568	— 16,083	— 13,274
Public deposits	12,231,323	— 1,728,788	— 3,908,144
Other deposits	105,420,935	— 9,782,838	— 5,606,479
Government securities	33,360,329	— 6,330,000	— 11,472,200
Other securities	80,494,440	— 4,625,714	— 28,818,325
Reserve	21,891,787	— 569,015	— 2,818,325
Note circulation	124,972,580	— 566,085	— 2,818,325
Coin and bullion	128,414,367	— 2,930	— 5,299,652
% of reserve to liabilities	18%	— 1%	— 7%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
July 6	£ 128,369,083	£ 123,103,285	£ 148,761,611	£ 148,900,383	£ 17,710,798	11.6	11.6
13	128,373,661	127,955,565	154,629,219	153,615,715	18,868,096	12.1	12.1
20	128,367,459	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,993,389	19,097,719	11.2	11.2
27	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,809,758	121,188,932	18,536,693	15.1	15.1
Aug. 3	128,382,461	128,699,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14.4	14.4
10	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,344	14.4	14.4
17	128,407,120	128,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	14.4	14.4
24	128,402,703	128,964,555	135,892,641	134,074,018	20,888,148	14.4	14.4
31	128,409,235	128,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.4	14.4
Sept. 7	128,410,306	128,432,535	156,205,793	155,204,793	20,427,711	14.4	14.4
14	128,410,714	128,207,555	144,600,215	144,051,700	22,460,802	17.2	17.2
21	128,417,297	128,406,495	129,163,884	128,410,483	21,891,787	18.3	18.3
28	128,414,367	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.3	18.3

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Sept. 27, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Sept. 31, 1919.	Sept. 23, 1920.	Sept. 28, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,064,070	£ 28,933,380	£ 84,142,440	£ 127,490,935	£ 124,972,580
Public deposits	12,170,653	19,014,809	35,862,662	16,139,467	12,231,323
Other deposits	43,711,175	41,248,964	121,200,060	111,027,419	105,420,935
Government securities	14,097,524	11,046,570	70,735,213	21,888,129	33,360,329
Other securities	29,157,772	41,461,280	81,990,018	109,312,765	80,494,440
Reserve of notes and coin	30,945,503	25,463,980	22,466,759	14,073,780	21,891,787
Coin and bullion	41,559,573	35,947,360	88,159,199	123,114,715	128,414,367
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	55.3%	42.1%	14.1%	11.4%	18.3%
Bank rate of discount	4%	5%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4	6 1/2	4 1/2
Price of Consols	77 1/2	74 1/2	51 1/2	46 1/2	48 1/2
Price of silver per oz.	24 1/2	26 3/4	64 1/2	59 1/2	43 1/2
Average price of wheat.	25s 4d	33s 0d	73s 0d	96s 5d	57s 1d
Exchanges					
Paris	25-13-16 1/2	25-17-20	35-30-75	52-00-25	52-20-75
New York	84-8 1/2	84-7 1/2	84-18-19 1/2	83-49-10	83-72-1 1/2
London	12-2-3	12-0-10	11-13-15	11-18-24	11-5-6
Clearing house return	217,972,000	199,913,000	583,120,000	694,924,000	585,196,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1-September 21	£ 22,802,812,000	£ 2,208,187,000	£ 25,010,999,000
September 22	535,817,000	49,379,000	585,196,000
Total to date 1921.	23,338,629,000	2,257,566,000	25,596,195,000
Do 1920	26,300,678,000	3,083,364,000	29,384,042,000
Increase or decrease in 1921.	- 2,962,049,000	- 825,798,000	- 3,787,847,000
	- 11.2%	- 26.7%	- 12.5%
Total for 1920.	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920.	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to September 24.			
BIRMINGHAM	£ 143,061,400	£ 93,803,700	- 49,257,700
BRISTOL	66,916,300	57,031,000	- 9,885,300
DUBLIN	334,228,700	273,094,900	- 61,133,800
LIVERPOOL (32 Weeks ended Sept. 24)	66,468,300	42,755,500	- 23,712,800
LEICESTER	47,782,900	28,968,200	- 18,814,700
LIVERPOOL	617,406,200	327,432,500	- 289,973,700
MANCHESTER	1,150,205,100	531,251,800	- 618,953,300
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	119,870,900	69,805,600	- 50,065,300
NOTTINGHAM	44,048,100	26,613,800	- 17,434,300
SHEFFIELD	63,918,900	43,268,400	- 20,650,500

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Sept. 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Sept. 20, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve	2,711,130	+ 26,630	1,973,130
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	151,970	+ 1,970	160,020
Bills discounted for member banks	1,387,240	- 40,920	2,509,200
Bills bought in open market	33,510	- 7,200	322,610
Government obligations owned	231,530	- 9,880	420,350
All other resources	54,480	- 40	31,950
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	74,180	+ 24,960	135,180
Other deposits	1,617,430	- 39,180	1,443,110
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,474,670	- 16,980	3,289,630
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	103,590	+ 510	212,220
All other liabilities	20,990	+ 1,110	73,660
Capital and surplus	316,840	+ 30	262,110
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	68.7%	+ 1.2%	43.8%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances	£ 476,811,646	£ 520,557,603	£ 526,509,260
Bank balances abroad	65,128,352	67,919,535	78,776,577
Call and short loans	268,443,519	276,644,829	318,446,103
Securities	38,571,399	38,496,442	36,247,626
Loans in Canada	1,338,883,309	1,362,621,732	1,475,881,220
Loans abroad	155,238,085	155,846,239	190,914,052
Other assets	106,207,018	107,522,258	111,322,448
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	193,339,095	195,675,217	231,534,233
Deposits			
Government	128,777,843	145,544,242	196,534,899
Public in Canada	1,820,311,934	1,870,972,783	1,692,585,468
Foreign	274,231,912	282,158,779	348,008,545
Bank balances—			
Canadian	10,300,260	12,675,118	12,199,695
Foreign	39,029,582	41,677,919	44,942,126
Bills payable and acceptances	40,429,404	42,810,118	49,596,151
Other liabilities	2,815,632	3,033,632	3,313,344
Capital and rest	264,326,315	264,318,599	256,079,103

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Gold coin and bullion	5,523,096	5,522,913	5,475,550
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278
Silver coin and bullion	277,324	277,153	256,306
Discount and advances	4,704,873	4,559,499	4,763,385
LIABILITIES.			
Notes in circulation	37,129,459	36,920,973	39,207,943
Government deposits	35,025	26,948	55,918
Private deposits	2,474,075	2,389,545	3,251,403

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Sept. 24, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	2,501,836	2,500,659	2,499,630	2,452,676	+ 1,177	521,775
Silver	624,417	622,751	622,529	594,361	+ 1,666	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,938,495	1,960,712	1,976,856	1,731,764	+ 22,217	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	344,475	..	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,207,052	4,204,411	4,206,204	4,045,928	+ 2,641	1,901,550
Deposits	1,018,550	1,024,189	1,016,366	923,246	+ 5,629	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,391,598,778	1,364,561,491	1,516,977,160	+ 27,037,287	- 125,378,382
Government loans and securities	2,015,419,740	1,978,609,525	809,726,628	+ 36,810,215	+ 120,569,3112
Discounts and loans	738,630,261	746,331,094	655,482,861	- 7,700,833	+ 83,147,400
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,831,843,293	1,816,221,262	1,415,820,916	+ 15,622,031	+ 416,022,377
Government deposits	135,386,735	134,923,138	115,349,507	+ 457,597	+ 20,037,228
Private sight deposits	977,429,773	915,363,482	757,928,957	+ 62,066,291	+ 219,500,805
Private deposits at fixed dates	858,244,881	853,663,521	510,908,468	+ 4,581,360	+ 347,336,413

BANK OF JAPAN.

	Aug. 20, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 6, 1921.	Aug. 21, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,275,420	1,275,765	1,275,803	1,033,982	- 345	221,320
Discounts	31,852	44,325	42,958	178,354	- 12,473	41,740
Advances	90,074	81,786	81,638	284,490	- 8,288	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	1,096,414	1,105,943	1,076,601	1,085,533	- 9,529	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,369,641	1,364,356	1,346,376	1,397,575	- 5,285	87,340
Private deposits	57,075	42,264	82,417	50,675	+ 14,811	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Movement	Position
Gold	42,625	42,625	42,620	..	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	424,743	398,049	135,946	+ 26,694	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Government securities	876,284	896,528	1,131,543	- 20,244	21,826
Discounts and loans	390,371	397,835	280,561	- 7,465	105,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,401,880	1,389,167	1,262,759	+ 12,713	123,941
Deposits at notice	89,938	99,659	135,650	- 9,721	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Aug. 24, 1921.	Aug. 17, 1921.	Sept. 1, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold and bullion	27,890	27,825	24,841	27,307	+ 65
Of which gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,577	..
Balance abroad	4,581	4,022	4,154	7,631	+ 559
Discounts	114,408	115,865	115,865	125,050	- 1,457
Government loans	608,109	608,109	608,109	360,120	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	656,927	648,004	649,102	517,223	+ 8,923
Deposits	54,231	57,046	52,926	16,453	- 2,815

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Gold	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	37,075	+ 217
Silver	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,890	16,910	+ 3,673
Treasury notes	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	- 27,835
Bills discounted	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	- 32
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	- 23,102
Deposits	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	1,236,438	+ 44,401

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold	19,200	19,100	14,300	13,500	+ 100
Silver	40,800	40,300	39,700	38,900	+ 500
Foreign coin	43,600	39,700	39,200	39,200	+ 3,900
Foreign banks	772,500	1,004,900	893,900	893,900	+ 232,600
Advances to the Govt.	158,000,000	140,625,000	130,625,000	117,625,000	+ 17,375,000
Private loans and discounts	11,602,500	8,795,600	6,863,800	6,374,200	+ 2,866,700
Other assets	14,976,000	9,594,600	10,336,500	13,675,400	+ 5,381,400
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	133,734,200	115,242,300	102,697,300	94,575,800	+ 18,491,900
Government accounts	17,081,500	16,975,300	17,081,500	17,081,500	+ 106,200
Other accounts	17,567,100	15,895,200	13,396,900	28,582,200	+ 1,591,900
Reserve	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	..
Other liabilities	17,576,000	13,007,600	12,089,100	15,752,600	+ 4,568,400

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	June 30, 1921.	May 31, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Total cash	141,836,184	121,836,184	150,654,960	+ 19,649,949
Discounts and loans	826,377,753	805,914,807	663,237,293	+ 20,462,946
LIABILITIES.				
Deposits	467,272,453	462,819,679	707,948,283	+ 4,452,774

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Bank to the Bank of the Austro-Hungarian Bank from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office	9,798,394	9,623,867	9,623,847	+ 174,527
Discount and advances	3,373,581	3,281,436	3,209,779	+ 92,085
Gold	1,396,976	1,451,715	1,433,543	+ 54,739
Other assets	1,260,974	1,324,050	1,429,143	- 63,076
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation	11,253,828	11,456,917	11,455,175	- 203,089
Deposits	2,011,999	1,706,121	1,685,408	+ 305,878
Other liabilities	2,564,058	2,518,090	2,555,729	- 46,008

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 8, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Aug. 22, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold	74,463	74,427	75,346	75,329	+ 36
Other coin and notes	17,656	17,036	20,123	20,274	+ 620
Foreign credits	341,033	342,287	344,353	339,369	+ 1,254
Bills	384,878	344,534	294,522	228,777	+ 40,344
Govt. advances	4,254,704	4,248,612	4,234,813	4,232,559	+ 6,092
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	4,294,782	4,287,234	4,193,556	4,085,984	+ 7,548
State credits	369,987	369,987	371,688	371,688	..
Deposits	323,194	295,778	303,343	368,654	+ 27,416

LONDON RATES.

	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 21, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1921.	Sept. 19, 1921.	Sept. 18, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 16, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921)	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Market rates of discount—								
60 days' bankers' drafts	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
3 months' do.	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
6 months' do.	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount (Treasury Bills):—								
3 months'	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Loans—Day to day	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Short	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Deposit allowed: Banks	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Discount houses at call	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
At notice	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.								

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
1921.		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
July	15.....	4 1/2	5	5 1/2	5 1/2	6	6 1/2	6 1/2
	22.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	29.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Aug.	5.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	12.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	19.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	26.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Sept.	2.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	9.....	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	16.....	3 3/4	4	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	23.....	4	4	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
	30.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	6	July 21, 1921	6 1/2	June 23, 1921
Deposit	3	June 23, 1921	3 1/2	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate			Bank Rate		
Changed.			Changed.		
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915	.. 4 1/2	Madrid	Nov. 4 1920	.. 5 1/2
Athens	May 15, 1920	.. 6 1/2	Paris	July 23, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	.. 5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Brussels	May 19, 1921	.. 5	Rome	May 11, 1920	.. 6 1/2
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	.. 6	Sofia	June 14, 1919	.. 6 1/2
Calcutta	June 2, 1921	.. 5	Stockholm	July 5, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Christiania	July 2, 1921	6 1/2	Swiss Bank		
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921	6	places	Aug. 11, 1921	.. 4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	9	Tokio	Nov. 18, 1919	.. 8
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	7	Vienna	Apr. 15, 1921	.. 6
New York Federal Reserve	Sept. 21, 1921	.. 5	Warsaw	Sep., 1921	.. 7

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Oct. 1, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 30, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	51.85-90	52.18-23
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20.43	212-215	404-405
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24.02	810-820	4150-5100-5500
Prague	kroner to £1	T.T.	24.02	260-270	3150-3200
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20.43	900	2200-2300
Budapest	forint to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	180-185	410-415
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	24.02	..	2500
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	110	615-635	620-640
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	200-220	550-580
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12.107	11-17.19	11-17.75
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	49-30.35	52-65.70
Christiania	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	24-55.65	29-60.65
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	17-50.54	17-50.54
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18.159	24-75-80	20-95-21.00
Helsingfors	forint to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	124-128	237-242
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	33-80.34-00	78-78
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	83-50-70	90-90.4
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	21-66.74	21-64.69
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	23-69.74	28-63.68
Lisbon	pence to mils	T.T.	53.1d	11-11 1/2	6-6 1/2
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97 1/2	97 1/2-97 3/4	97 1/2-97 3/4
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4.86 1/2	3-48.49	3-74.74
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4.86 1/2	3-48.49	3-74.74
Buenos Ayres	pesos to £1	Cable	47.58 1/2	57-57 1/2	44-44 1/2
Rio de Janeiro	pence to mils	90 days	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Montevideo	pence to mils	90 days	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Valparaiso	pence to mils	90 days	12 1/2	12 1/2	12 1/2
Lima	Eng. to Per. £1	90 days	22 1/2	dis.	4% prem.
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1	1s 5 1/2d-4d	1s 5 1/2d-4d
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1	1s 5 1/2d-4d	1s 5 1/2d-4d
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1	1s 5 1/2d-4d	1s 5 1/2d-4d
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	4s 3d-4d	2s 10d-10 1/2d
Shanghai	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	4s 3d-4d	2s 10d-10 1/2d
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	4s 3d-4d	2s 10d-10 1/2d
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	24 1/2d	2s 11d-11 1/2d	2s 11d-11 1/2d
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24 1/2d	2s 11d-11 1/2d	2s 11d-11 1/2d
Mexico	pence to mils	T.T.	24 1/2d	12s 6 1/2d	12s 6 1/2d

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 15, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 29, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	5.10	2.93	2.55 1/2
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123.45	9.90	5.30	5.32 1/2
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.83	11.45	5.21	5.17
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	88.83	8.02 1/2	4.25	4.10
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	88.83	11.25	7.15	7.25

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.		Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Sept. 24	14-20
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	Sept. 21	23-00
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	48 1/2	"	Sept. 21	86-00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31 1/2	"	Sept. 26	5-60
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24-65	"	Sept. 20	7-00
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-66d	"	Sept. 24	199-80
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	"	Aug. 13	16-20
Bolivia	pence to Boliviano ..	..	"	Aug. 19	14-10

ways; some sales have been made from the Continent. On the other hand, a certain amount of bear covering has been effected. So much speculation exists in connection with the Indian and Chinese markets that it is risky to forecast movements from day to day. For the same reason an attempt to diagnose the more distant future is almost as hazardous, owing to the possible entry of factors as yet unknown. The "Times" correspondent at Simla wired on September 21st that the recent rain in Bombay and the Deccan had removed the last trace of anxiety in regard to the monsoon. Meanwhile, the monthly balance of trade for August, as cabled by the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence, Calcutta, is plus 234 lacs, as against plus 135 lacs for July. In these circumstances, it is not surprising that a considerable bull account in silver for cash and forward delivery should exist in London, and that the sterling value of the rupee should be fairly well maintained. Yesterday the price of silver per 100 tolas at one time touched 100 rupees, though it afterwards receded a couple of points.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Sept. 7, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,588	17,639	17,712
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,627	7,678	7,751
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,434	2,434	2,434
Gold coin and bullion in India ..	6,692	6,692	6,692
Securities (Indian Government) ..	835	835	835
Securities (British Government) ..			

No coinage was reported during the week ending 22nd inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 24th inst. consisted of about 26,400,000 ounces in sycee, 25,500,000 dollars, and 2,330 silver bars, as compared with about 26,600,000 ounces in sycee, 26,000,000 dollars, and 1,720 silver bars on the 17th inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 11d the tael. The silver quotations to-day for cash and forward delivery are each 1½d above those fixed a week ago.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	1920.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.
Sept. 24 ..	110 9	41 1/2	Oct. 6, 1915	23 1/2
26 ..	110 11	41 1/2	6, 1916	32 1/2
27 ..	110 11	43 1/2	5, 1917	46 1/2
28 ..	110 11	43 1/2	5, 1918	49 1/2
29 ..	111 4	43 1/2	3, 1919	63 1/2
30 ..	111 0	42 1/2	1, 1920	59 1/2

NOTICES.

The opening is announced of a branch of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, at Mayfield, Sussex, under the management of Mr W. D. Simpson, with Mr H. R. Holloway as clerk-in-charge. Hours of business, daily 10—3, Saturdays 9—12.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of a new branch at 299 Brockley road, London, S.E. 4, under the management of Mr A. W. H. Hickman.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that on Monday next October 3rd, their office at 155 Fortess road, N.W. 5, will be closed, and the business transferred to new premises at 158 Fortess road, N.W. 5; manager, Mr H. S. Sayers.

THE
NATIONAL BANK
OF SOUTH AFRICA
REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL LTD.

CAPITAL AND RESERVE £4,265,000

THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY
CABLED REPORT ON TRADE
CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA
COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED
ON APPLICATION

OVER 500 BRANCHES IN AFRICA

LONDON OFFICES
CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON W.1
18 ST. SWITHINS LANE, E.C. 4
WEST END OFFICE
25, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W. 1
ALSO AT
NEW YORK · ANTWERP · BOMBAY & MAURITIUS

The Bank of Taiwan, Limited, have removed to 25 Old Broad street (Gresham House), E.C. 2.
We are informed that a new branch of the Crédit Foncier d'Algérie et de Tunisie has been opened at Castiglione, Algeria.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Date of Final Payment.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Year.	Lat'st Pre-vious Year.
Banks.					
Colonial, "A" and "B"	5 %	Oct. 18	Less tax	..	..
London and Brazilian	14 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 18	Less tax	..	..
Insurance.					
Eagle, Star, and British	30*	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..
Licenses and General	5 %	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..
World Marine and General	2 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 5	Tax free	..	..
Mining.					
Central Provinces Prospecting ..	10 %	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..
Johannesburg Cons. Inv.	5 p.s.	Oct. 20	Tax free	..	..
Talisman Cons. (in Liquidation) ..	10 %	Oct. 20	Tax free	..	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Ceylon Tea Plantations	10 %	Nov. 1	Less tax	..	..
Dekhari Tea	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Kalidjereok Rubber	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Mount Austin (Johore) Rubber ..	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Other Companies.					
Aird and Coghill	2 1/2	Oct. 14	Subject to tax	..	..
Alliance Trust	1/6 p.s.	Oct. 21	Less tax	..	..
Bells' United Asbestos	1/6 p.s.	Oct. 21	Less tax	..	..
Bobby and Co., Prefd. Ord.	1/6 p.s.	Oct. 21	Less tax	..	..
B. S. T. (Manchester)	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Burnley Paper Works	9 p.s.	Oct. 4	..	..	..
Canadian Cottons	2 %	Oct. 4	..	..	..
Cian Line Steamers	4 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 15	Tax free	..	..
Cuba Submarine Telegraph	5 %	Oct. 13	Tax free	..	..
Dalmellington Iron	9 p.s.	Oct. 1	Tax free	..	..
Dominion Textile	3 %	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Dundalk & Newry Steam Packet ..	1/2	..	Less tax	..	..
Edinburgh Invest. Trust, Defd. ..	10*	Sept. 29	Less tax	..	..
English Marine Works, Prefd.	3 1/2	Sept. 29	Less tax	..	..
Equitable Trust of New York	4 %	Sept. 30	..	..	..
General Electric (U.S.A.)	8 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 15	..	..	..
H. Holdron	5	..	Less tax	..	..
Home and Colonial Stores, Cum. Ord.	15	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Imperial Continental Gas	3 %	Nov. 15	Less tax	..	..
International Linotype	2 1/2 %	Oct. 31	Less tax	..	..
John Dickinson and Co.	2 1/2 %	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
J. Stone and Co.	..	..	..	..	..
Kern River Oilfields	12 1/2 %	Oct. 29	Less tax	..	..
London and Provincial Trust	3	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
London Trust, Defd.	8*	..	..	..	..
Madras Electric Tramways, Prefd.	6*	Sept. 30	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Manchester Liners	..	..	Tax free	..	..
Manvers Main Colliery	5 %	..	Tax free	..	..
Marlborough (Spinning)	2 1/2 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Martinez, Gassiot, and Co.	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Middle West Utilities, Prefd.	1 1/2	Nov. 15	..	..	..
Natal Land and Colonization	5*	..	Less tax	..	..
Ogilvie Flour Mills	8 1/2 p.s.	Oct. 1	..	..	..
Rio Negro Land	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Rossendale (Spinning)	4 1/2 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..
Rover Co.	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Sir J. I. Hulet and Sons	..	..	..	..	..
Stagg and Mantle	10	Oct. 1	Less tax	..	..
Traction and Power Securities	3 1/2 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..
United National Collieries	1/6 p.s.	Sept. 30	..	..	..
Vulcan Foundry	10 1/2	..	..	..	..
Wentley Park Estate	10*	Oct. 12	Less tax	..	..
Winterbottom Book Cloth	2 %	..	Less tax	..	..

(a) Tax free on smaller capital. (b) Increased capital. (c) Also bonus 20 % (less tax) is to be paid on account of the profits accruing from the McLeod lease.

Newcastle Electric Supply Company announces that owing to the adverse effects caused by the stoppage of the coal mining industry, profit for six months ended June 30th last is not such as to justify the payment of an interim dividend on either the ordinary shares or the 5 per cent. preference shares. Last year 2½ per cent. was paid on the ordinary.

The Argentine Iron and Steel Company announce that while the trading for the financial year ended February 28, 1921, resulted in a net profit of £106,389, the heavy stocks on hand and the great fall in steel prices necessitates transferring the whole of this profit to reserve for contingencies, from which the sum of £210,000 has been appropriated and applied in writing down the value of stocks as at February 28, 1921.

TRANSVAAL GOLD MINING ESTATES.—The Chairman announced that there would be no dividend for the period ending September 30th, but that, since the desired financial reserves had now been attained, dividends would be resumed for the next half-year and onwards as permitted by the profits earned.

COOK, SON, AND CO. (ST. PAUL'S).—Having regard to the unprecedented fall in value of stocks this year, they regret they are unable to declare the half-yearly dividend on the cumulative participating preference shares due on September 30th. In the meanwhile the shareholders may be assured that the company is obtaining its full share of business, having regard to the conditions existing, and that the accounts will be laid before the shareholders as soon as possible after the completion of the financial year.

MAN, BYARS, AND CO. (1920), Limited, state that owing to the reasons given at the general meeting held recently, it is considered necessary that the deficit of the past year should be made up before any further preference dividends are paid. Accordingly, the dividend on the preference shares for the past half-year will be postponed. This dividend is cumulative, and will consequently be made good out of the first available profits of the company.

Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron Company for the year ended June 30th, recommend a payment of the final dividend on the preference shares. An interim dividend of 2½ per cent. was paid on the ordinary shares, but no final dividend is proposed. For 1919-20 the ordinary shares received 12½ per cent.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, September 21, 1921, amounted to 2,014 tons.

UNITED OIL AND REFINERY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Throughput of refinery for August, 18,942 barrels.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	38 weeks	Sept. 24	241,591	9,057,528	..
London Electric	..	..	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Tramways	38 weeks	Sept. 24	56,533	2,115,159	..
London United Tramways	..	..	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Tramways	..	..	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..	..	..
Geatless Motor	..	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	19 weeks	Aug. 13	993	1,53,386	15,44,945
Barisi Lt. Ry.	21 weeks	27	18	16,200	6,300
Bengal and N. Western	20 weeks	20	2,067	5,33,270	87,359
Bengal Nagpur	21 weeks	27	2,697	10,01,000	1,64,000
Bombay, Dar. & C.	24 weeks	Sept. 17	2,871	16,70,000	2,03,000
Burma	20 weeks	Aug. 20	1,342	5,18,462	59,230
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	24 weeks	Sept. 17	239	19,117	23,76,177
East Indian	25 weeks	17	2,772	30,17,000	2,03,000
G. Indian Peninsula	24 weeks	17	1,121	19,03,800	2,41,409
Madras & S. Mah.	21 weeks	Aug. 27	3,028	12,30,000	40,702
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	20 weeks	20	302	46,995	830
Do Lucknow-Breilly	20 weeks	27	1,852	60,047	11,801
South Indian	21 weeks	27	1,852	7,91,907	1,609
8thn. Punjab (month)	2 months	May 31	717	8,16,055	44,915
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	12 weeks	Sept. 24	752	13,800	700
Argentine Trans.	12 weeks	24	111	1,680	503
B. A. and Pacific	12 weeks	24	3,428	107,000	8,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	12 weeks	24	3,891	145,000	7,000
B. A. Western	12 weeks	24	1,832	76,000	1,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	12 weeks	June 30	190	49,858	12,999
Central Argentine	12 weeks	Sept. 24	3,305	165,000	43,000
Cordoba Central	12 weeks	24	1,205	42,500	17,300
Entre Rios	12 weeks	24	811	17,900	4,900
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	8 mths	Aug. 31	1,005	Ms 56,250	15,250
Gt. West. of Brazil	38 weeks	Sept. 24	1,831	37,547	6,051
Leopoldina	38 weeks	24	153	35,035	14,568
San Paulo	38 weeks	Aug. 31	52	Ms 72,000	83,000
State of Bahia, S.W.	38 weeks	Sept. 25	838	14,420	28,675
Chile and Peru	1 mth	Apr. 30	64	12,000	500
Antofagasta	36 weeks	Sept. 15	366	10,297	38,265
Arauco	12 mths	June 30	1,059	81,358,630	147,980
Peruvian Corp.	2 mths	Aug. 31	180	(b) 9,263	24,247
Taital	12 weeks	Sept. 24	1,210	9,598	2,976
Havana Central	12 weeks	24	1,210	48,079	69,253
United of Havana	12 weeks	24	273	19,823	2,598
Central Uruguay	12 weeks	24	311	3,955	322
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	12 weeks	24	185	2,107	353
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	12 weeks	24	211	1,823	538
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	2 mths	Aug. 31	319	12,128	5,826
Midland Uruguay	2 mths	Aug. 31	113	6,063	39
Uruguay North	2 mths	Aug. 31	31	1,574	716
Other Foreign.					
Alcy and Gandia	38 weeks	Sept. 24	35	Pa 18,000	5,000
Bilbao	8 mths	Aug. 31	15	868	1,846
Bolivar	8 mths	Aug. 31	136	9,424	1,790
Colombian Nat. Ry.	6 mths	June 30	86	18,720	2,820
Costa Rica	1 mth	July 31	190	17,837	11,073
Dorado Extension	7 mths	Aug. 31	70	24,000	4,500
Egyptian Delta	22 weeks	Sept. 10	559	110,325	6,212
Gt. Southn. of Spain	37 weeks	Sept. 17	104	Ps 65,602	4,611
International of Central America ..	8 mths	Aug. 31	Net	11,835	760
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	232	(b) 8,570	5,060
Mexican Railway	11 weeks	Sept. 21	403	\$ 322,900	53,700
Do	1 mth	July 31	Net	\$ 135,500	434,000
Nasajo Oscarhamn	7 mths	..	..	12,882	8,995
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Sept. 24	193	16,873	..
Smyrna to Aidin	17	..	274	4,000	1,450
Paraguay Central	11 weeks	Feb. 28	D	2,311,374	414,841
Prague-Athens, &c.	9 mths	Aug. 31	35	4,750	500
Fuero Cabello, &c.	12 weeks	Sept. 24	100	1,885	2,448
Salvador	1 mth	Aug. 31	..	150,128	10,823
Santa Fe Province	8 mths	Aug. 31	..	9,280	2,687
French Railways	8 mths	Aug. 31	..	112	(a) 15,338
Samana & Santiago	8 mths	Aug. 31	..	..	638
Zafra and Huella	8 mths	Aug. 31	..	..	..
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	37 weeks	Sept. 21	9,750	\$ 165,740	255,400
Canadian Pacific	37 weeks	Sept. 21	13,402	\$ 498,000	375,000
Grand Trunk	37 weeks	Sept. 21	3,516	\$ 371,402	9,926

† 10 days. ‡ Adjusted, May 31, 1921.

(a) Converted at par.

(b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggreg'te Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	1 mth	July 31	Gross \$117,875	+ 45,200	35,888,700	+ 4

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.	Dividend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Rate.				
Financial, Land, &c.		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	..	£	%
Leach's Argentine Estates	Mar. 31	4,058	81,726	85,784	30,000	30,000	6	20,000	5,784	171,959	12 Ord 29 Def.
Wembley Park Estate	June 30	610	4,012	4,622	..	2,985	4	500	1,137	610	..
Iron, Coal, &c.											
Argentine Iron and Steel	Feb. 28	..	106,390	106,390	..	..	..	106,390	..	103,837	4
Jobson and Barlow	June 30	21,752	80,127	101,879	11,000	35,000	17½	35,000	20,879	77,752	15
Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron....	June 30	30,306	85,376	115,682	10,000	31,336	2½	40,000	34,346	225,019	12½
Rubber, &c.											
Jhembong Malay	Mar. 31	..	6,699	6,699	..	..	..	..	6,699	..	..
Padang Jawa	Mar. 31	6,083	Dr 4,505	1,578	..	..	..	..	1,578	24,039	20
Sumatra Consolidated	April 30	813	632	1,445	..	..	..	..	1,445	29,843	17½
Sumatra Proprietary	April 30	1,779	Dr 11,776	Dr 9,997	..	..	..	..	Dr 9,997	9,844	12½
Sungkai and Chumer	June 30	21,308	2,741	24,049	..	..	..	2,500	21,549	30,255	20
Panah Datar	Dec. 31	2,750	Dr 2,707	43	..	..	..	..	43	16,147	20
Tenasserim Hevea	May 31	1,992	Dr 799	1,193	..	..	..	..	1,193	1,307	..
Shipping.											
Manchester Liners	June 30	14,316	160,333	174,649	22,886	66,780	15½	16,136	68,847	190,071	15½
Tea.											
Jetinga Valley	Dec. 31	7,943	Dr 18,852	Dr 10,909	..	..	..	Dr 10,000	Dr 909	18,621	15½
Panora	Mar. 31	Dr 376	Dr 20,366	Dr 20,742	..	..	..	..	Dr 20,742	Dr 2,928	..
Other Companies.											
Aird and Coghill	June 30	4,516	8,915	13,431	1,039	1,050	7½	3,000	8,342	8,485	7½
British Glass Industries	Mar. 31	Dr 28,263	Dr 23,217	Dr 51,480	..	245,000	10	Dr 387,616	91,136	..	..
Claudius Ash, Sons, and Co.	Dec. 31	41,264	58,024	99,288	19,250	32,660	8	10,000	37,378	89,937	12½
Doeuillet	June 30	1,841	12,284	14,125	..	..	..	9,953	4,172	27,591	9
J. Stone and Co.	Dec. 31	125,774	101,890	227,664	15,000	60,030	7½	..	152,634	162,253	20

† Free of tax.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

BRITISH GLASS INDUSTRIES.			
March 31, 1921.			
LIABILITIES.	Amount.	ASSETS.	Amount.
Ord. shares	3,659,709	Investments, &c.	3,050,334
Prem. on shares	..	Expenditure on land, &c.	420,646
Debs. & secured loans	605,233	Sundry debtors.	125,413
Liabilities on acct. of uncompleted purchs.	..	Sundry share-holders' bines.	..
Sundry creditors	95,587	Stocks	48,371
Profit and loss	91,136	Cash	12,049
		Preliminary expenses	161,860
		Revenue expenditure on expenses	..
Total	4,449,665	Total	4,449,665
PALMER'S SHIPBUILDING AND IRON COMPANY, LIMITED.			
June 30, 1921.			
LIABILITIES.	Amount.	ASSETS.	Amount.
5% cum. pf. shares	200,000	Properties	2,330,563
Ord. shares	1,252,905	Work in progress, stocks, &c.	904,397
Premium on new issue	151,699	Book debts	331,326
Deb. stocks	1,283,206	Cash and bills	116,048
Creditors	610,940	4% Govt. Funding Loan	..
Deb. redemption account	36,955		..
Working reserve	67,284		..
Profit and loss	79,345		..
Total	3,682,334	Total	3,682,334
ARGENTINE IRON AND STEEL COMPANY, LIMITED.			
June 30, 1921.			
LIABILITIES.	Amount.	ASSETS.	Amount.
Prof. shares	500,000	Properties	784,744
Ord. shares	350,138	Goodwill	146,833
6% debentures	242,300	Land, &c.	13,915
First mort. debs.	8,960	Stocks	620,759
Deb. interest	5,250	Debtors	702,264
Bills payable	656,939	Cash	23,299
Bank overdrafts	97,006		..
Creditors	195,316		..
Unclaimed int.	1,432		..
Depreciation acc.	154,535		..
Contingencies res.	70,783		..
Undivided profits	5,215		..
Profit and loss	..		..
Total	2,297,874	Total	2,297,874

Reports and Notices.

Mr A. J. Fransella, London representative of the Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging, has removed to 36 New Broad street, E.C. 2. It is announced that Sir Henry Bell, Bart., desiring more leisure, has retired from the boards of the Central Uruguay Railway Company of Monte Video, Limited, and Allied Companies, and that Mr Henry J. Bell has been elected to fill the vacancy.

We are informed that Mr L. H. Kiek, one of the general managers of the Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, has resigned that position as from September 30th, in order to join the firm of Messrs Erlangers, 8 Crosby square, E.C.

The coupons of the Chinese Imperial Government 5 per cent. Gold Loan of 1896 for £16,000,000, and the Imperial Chinese Government 5 per cent. Tientsin-Pukow Railway Loan (1908), due October 1, 1921, will be paid on and after that date at the offices of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, 9 Gracechurch street, E.C.

A partnership is announced between Sir Charles Bright and Mr A. Hugh Seabrook, Mr A. J. Stubbs and Lieut.-Col. H. W. Woodall, C.I.E., under the style of Sir Charles Bright and Partners, at 146 Bishopsgate, E.C. 2.

The Lamson Agency have removed to 12 St Mary Axe, E.C. 3.

BANKS.

BANCO DI ROMA.—Balance-sheet at December 31, 1920.—			
LIABILITIES.	Lit.	ASSETS.	Lit.
Paid-up capital	150,000,000	Cash in hand	132,960,842
Reserve fund	11,714,266	Portfolio and Treasury bills	768,552,308
Deposits, current, and saving accounts	642,768,295	Bills for collection	95,325,571
Securities deposited in current account	476,580,640	Investments	96,288,834
Cheques in circulation	152,891,214	Securities in deposit	476,580,640
Balances due to correspondents	1,567,427,953	Banking participations	11,291,441
Sundry creditors	119,089,312	Sundry participations	44,932,299
Unclaimed dividends	58,646	Contango loans	195,949,752
Rediscunt	5,327,418	Bank premises & properties	25,768,514
Acceptances	28,725,545	Advances against securities	97,785,443
Guarantees for third parties	75,303,692	Balances due by banks and correspondents	1,090,859,755
Undistributed profits	21,527,893	Sundry debtors	111,390,238
Sundry depositors of securities	925,417,701	Acceptances	25,725,546
Securities deposited	667,933,420	Liability of customers for guarantees	75,303,692
	4,842,065,995	Office furniture and safes	1
		Securities deposited	925,417,700
		Deposit securities	667,933,420
			4,842,065,995

MISCELLANEOUS.

PALMER'S SHIPBUILDING AND IRON.—The net profit for the year ended June 30, 1921, amounted to £85,376, to which is to be added £30,306 brought forward, making £115,682 available. Preference dividend absorbed £10,000, while the ordinary dividend of 2½ per cent. for the year amounted to £31,336. The sum of £40,000 is put to reserve against investments, leaving £34,346 to be carried forward. The directors state "the financial year under review began with and for some time continued to yield excellent results in all departments. Unfortunately labour upheavals brought about and, in conjunction with other disturbing circumstances, accentuated the general paralysis of industry from which the country is now slowly emerging. The operations in the docks and repairing department, although extensive, were restricted owing to the trade depression. In consequence of the miners' strike in October, 1920, and the later strike extending over the last quarter of the year, combined with the serious depression in trade, operations at the iron and steel works were curtailed, particularly during the second half of the year. The profits shown in the balance-sheet have been arrived at, not only after providing the usual depreciation on capital account, but also after writing down all stocks to present day values.

ARGENTINE IRON AND STEEL COMPANY.—The report for the year ended February 28, 1921, states that "during the first half of the financial year the company's sales showed remarkable increases. The great development of the business induced the local management to

place proportionately large orders for goods in advance. Unfortunately, these goods were long delayed in shipment, and when they were suddenly delivered in large quantities the world crisis had overtaken Argentina and the sales of the company had greatly fallen off. The trading results of the year are considered good, but, on account of the heavy fall in the prices of steel, there has been a corresponding depreciation in the value of stocks on hand as at February 28th last and of orders then outstanding for materials which have since been delivered. In these circumstances the directors have reluctantly decided that they would not be justified in recommending the payment of the preference dividend, and they have deemed it prudent to transfer the credit balance of the profit and loss account, viz., £106,389 16s 4d, to the reserve for contingencies, thus increasing that reserve to £280,782 7s 2d. For the reasons given above, the sum of £210,000 has been appropriated from the reserve and applied in the writing-down of stocks on hand and in transit as at February 28, 1921. The balance of the reserve for contingencies, £70,782 7s 2d, will be carried forward against possible loss on goods for which orders were outstanding at the beginning of the current financial year.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR AUGUST, 1921.

Gold.	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Mill.	Cyande Works.		
Esperanza	1,780	..	..	..	7,536	..
Frontino and Bolivia	..	..	..	..	..	..

Tin.	Output.		Other Notes in Return.	
	Tons.	Ozs.	Tons.	Ozs.
Tin Fields of N. Nigeria ..	11	..	..	..
Chinese Engineering	84,651	..	Week ended Sept. 17th.	..
East Kent	2,541	..	Week ended Sept. 24th.	..
Witbank	98,00	..	..	..

BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY.—Report for four weeks ending September 14, 1921:—Coke produced 22,828 tons; No. 1 blast furnace produced 10,976 tons; No. 2 blast furnace, 13,151 tons; No. 3 blast furnace, 8,454 tons; open hearth, 23,377 tons; blooming mill, 21,834 tons; rail mill, 10,390 tons; 18-inch mill, 9,032 tons; 12-inch mill, 2,411 tons; 8-inch mill, 1,960 tons; rod mill, 2,813 tons. Operations at Iron Knob: 49,341 tons ironstone shipped to Newcastle (N.S.W.). Broken Hill: Decided to restart various plants for treatment of dump material.

BROKEN HILL SOUTH.—Six weeks ended August 13th:—11,960 tons of crude ore treated, assaying 14½ per cent. Pb., 76 ozs Ag., and 156 per cent. Zn., produced 2,146 tons concentrates, assaying 64½ per cent. Pb., 28½ ozs Ag., and 84 per cent. Zn. Of the foregoing, 1,836 tons came from the lead concentrating mill, assaying 66½ per cent. Pb., 24½ ozs Ag., and 8½ per cent. Zn., and 310 tons were produced from current slime, assaying 56½ per cent. Pb., 41 ozs Ag., and 10 per cent. Zn. 14,832 tons of dump slime were treated, assaying 11½ per cent. Pb., 7-8 ozs Ag., and 134 per cent. Zn., and produced 2,563 tons of concentrates, assaying 47½ per cent. Pb., 35½ ozs Ag., and 15½ per cent. Zn. Despatches of zinc tailings were as under:—To Zinc Corporation, 40,433 tons net; to Amalgamated Zinc (De Bary's), 5,607 tons net.

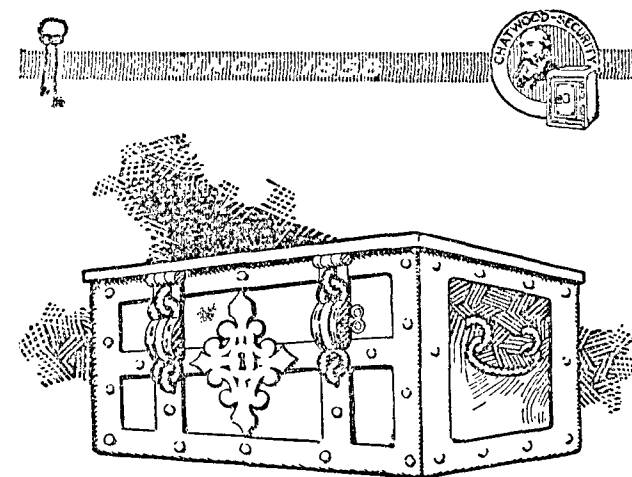
MOUNT LYELL MINING AND RAILWAY.—Cable:—"From Aug. 25th to Sept. 21st, inclusive, ore treated by flotation plant, 6,446 tons; concentrates produced by flotation plant, 1,636 tons. A total quantity of 10,251 tons of ore was smelted, being 6,576 tons from Mount Lyell, and 3,675 tons from North Mount Lyell mine, also 1,248 tons concentrates. Converters produced 607 tons of blister copper, containing—copper 602 tons, silver 20,152 ozs, gold 412 ozs. Furnace in blast 672 hours."

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Fine and open weather has continued during the past week, and farmers have made good progress in preparing the land for the new seed bed. In late districts clearing up the harvest is proceeding favourably, while excellent yields of wheat continue to be reported. Threshings are on a liberal scale, so that ample supplies of wheat in good condition are coming forward at the principal distributing centres. Prices, however, show a weaker tendency, and here fair to good milling samples offer at 58s to 60s per 504 lbs f.o.r. Imported grades ruled quiet, and rates easier in sympathy with lower c.i.f. offers. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted 91s, No. 2 hard winter 63s ex ship, Australian to arrive 70s ex store terms, and Egyptian feed 68s 6d landed per 480 lbs. In the forward market a very quiet demand prevailed for cargoes, and prices were reduced rather sharply for North American grades in accordance with lower markets on the other side. Parcels of No. 1 Northern Manitoba, October-November, sold down to 62s 6d, and No. 2 hard winter, afloat, 59s per 480 lbs. Imports of wheat and flour continue in excess of estimated requirements, and port stocks have increased, while the American and Canadian visible supply is also larger. Crop reports from the chief exporting countries are generally maintained, and the outlook for harvest favourable. The flour market is again weaker, though the demand for home-milled shows slight improvement at the reduced rates current. London straight run quoted 59s, town households 57s, patents 62s, all-English straights 53s per sack, delivered. Country straight run 49s to 51s, free on rail London. Of imported, Kansas top patents rule at 59s, Manitoba export patents 63s, straights 59s, Australian 57s 6d, and Chinese 50, per 280 lbs, ex store. On c.i.f. terms



THIS crude, brass-bound, oaken chest, in which, generations ago, simple folk entrusted their Treasure, is eloquent of the age when the thief's chances of robbery were measured merely by the strength of his arm.

Times have changed, but for ever the warfare between the possessors of Treasure and those who seek to rob them has carried on. As a natural consequence we find, as the years have passed, more scientific attempts to rob and still more scientifically protected receptacles for valuables.

To-day, after these years of evolution, the crude, brass-bound, oaken chest is replaced by THE CHATWOOD SAFE—a triumph of steel and ingenuity—proof against Fire, proof against Fall, and proof against the most up-to-date scientific burglar, equipped with the finest Drills, Cutting tools, High Explosives or the deadly Oxy-acetylene low-bpipe.

SINCE 1858
THE CHATWOOD SAFE

THE CHATWOOD SAFE BOOK
46 pages, containing ample evidence of the superiority of THE CHATWOOD SAFE, gratis and post free upon request.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED
BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: BOLTON.

Branches: LONDON, MANCHESTER, GLASGOW
56 Gracechurch St., E.C. Royal Exchange 12 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

parcels of Kansas top patents, October seaboard, quoted 63s, Canadian patents 56s, straights 51s, and Australian September 52s per 280 lbs. Offals quiet and easier. Broad bran, 49 5s to 49 10s, ordinary 48 5s, middlings 41 10s, per ton ex mill, bags included. Maize in slow request and prices much lower. Plate, ex ship, quoted 32s, ditto landed 33s, yellow round African 33s, white flat ditto 35s, all landed, per 480 lbs. On c.i.f. terms, business was more or less at a standstill, and quotations appreciably lower, with pressure to sell near positions. Cargoes of Plate afloat sold 34s 9d, and South African white flat on passage at 30s per 480 lbs. Parcel trade also slack, and rates easier. On the spot, white African maize meal rules at 49 per ton. Barley dull and values weak. New English malting ranges from 65s to 90s, according to sample, and grinding sorts 59s to 65s per 448 lbs. Morocco landed 43s per 448 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western ex ship 43s, No. 4 ditto landed 44s, Canada feed landed 40s, and American feed landed 38s per 400 lbs. Forward market weak, and parcels of No. 4 Canada Western, October-November, sold at 33s 9d to 33s per 400 lbs. Oats dull and values showed a further decline. Native ranges from 30s to 40s per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate f.a.q. quoted 25s 6d, ditto clipped 27s, Chilean tawny, 29s, No. 2 Canada Western 32s 6d, and No. 3 ditto 31s 6d landed per 320 lbs. Oatmeal quiet and rates weak. English all cuts 22 to 23, American 22 to 22 10s, ordinary Scottish 22 to 23, rolled oats 23, flaked oats 22 to 27 10s. Beans neglected. English Spring 60s to 65s, new Winter 51s to 54s per 532 lbs. Peas remain quiet. English maples 70s to 80s, and Duns 60s to 65s per 504 lbs. Dutch blue 27s to 30s, and New Zealand blue 26s to 27s per cwt. Only a moderate chartering business occurred in homeward grain freights, and rates were weaker in all directions. From the River Plate heavy grain Upper ports to U.K./Continent indicates 23s 9d, with 22s 6d the best obtainable for October, and October-November quoted 26s 3d ton. Montreal to U.K. done 4s 6d, Northern Range ports to Continent 4s per qr, and to Greece 6s 3d one, 6s 6d two ports discharge, with India at 8s 9d, Gulf to Continent quoted 17 cents per 100 lbs. North Pacific quiet at 55s ton U.K./Continent, with Indian options at same rate. India quiet, as grain is now being imported from Australia and America, and Bombay nominally 30s on dead weight. Australia in moderate request. Wheat to U.K./Cont./Mediterranean 65s, with Indian options at 45s, and Bombay/Karachi direct 40s ton. South African maize quotes 35s, October-November loading. Danube grain dull and weak, while 15s is named for Barley Tunisia to U.K. October. Other markets dull, and nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to September 24.....	Cwts. 449,295	Cwts. 392,441	Cwts. 231,555	Cwts. 279,508
3 weeks to September 24.....	1,280,711	1,080,480	583,124	1,097,790
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter.....	s d 57 1	s d 50 5	s d 73 0	s d 72 7
per cwt.....	13 4	21 1	17 0	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Sept. 17.....	109,466 2	94,778 1	25,365 6	57 1	62 9	30 1
21.....	104,835 4	117,547 5	23,544 2	57 1	63 3	29 6
1917.....	58,606 6	49,084 0	14,559 1	70 6	58 5	44 7
1918.....	65,218 5	34,422 1	12,244 3	72 7	60 3	50 3
1919.....	54,029 4	159,966 5	18,297 7	73 0	95 2	60 2
1920.....	91,569 6	63,915 7	36,965 4	90 5	80 2	55 5

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Glasgow correspondent writes:—The business tone this week has been, if anything, quieter than has been the experience for some time. Not that any material or positive change has really taken effect in the industrial and trade positions, but a check has been noticeable in the giving out and placing of new orders in iron and steel, especially in the finished state. It does not follow in evidence that there are fewer fresh contracts available; but the buying disposition has been modified adversely by the threatened revival of labour troubles in the railway and engineering circuits—that over the movement initiated by the several employers' organisations to wipe off certain wage bonuses presently paid to the men. The reductions are substantial, probably running to fully 16 per cent., and are being resisted, not unnaturally, yet certainly unreasonably in existing circumstances. In the event of matters not being adjusted, a serious crisis, involving many thousands of artisans, will result, and that is a contingency which cannot be complacently faced. As indicated, it has already weighed against the placing of new orders—some good lines in engineering have been withdrawn, at least temporarily, from the market; others have been indefinitely cancelled, and not a few which were well forward in negotiation have been diverted to the Continent. This, which goes without saying, is

most unfortunate, for there were gradually growing signs in force here and there that prospects were moderately on the mend. One particularly satisfactory feature was the indication of a recovery of life in shipbuilding, in respect (as one report has it) that half-a-dozen or so of leading shipowners (large "liners") had issued instructions to constructors to proceed at once with the prosecution, to a finish, of orders they have had in hand and which have been hung-up since the collapse of the boom of last year. It is now stated that, owing to the troubles referred to with labour, these instructions have been partially withdrawn. A few days should determine how conditions are likely to develop in this connection. Rumour has it that some shipbuilders have had inquiries lately as to the cost of laying down modern tramp tonnage, for which, however, the state of the freight market does not hold out much encouragement. Still, if shipbuilders are successful in their present efforts to get costs reduced, there might be some expansion realised in the building of boats. Currently, it appears, builders are asking from £16 to £17 a ton deadweight for new vessels, while intending owners are meantime indisposed to pay more than £10 a ton, leaving a disparity that will not be easily bridged. In fact, the gap will be impossible of negotiation unless steelmakers make a further break in prices and an all-round concession in wages is acquiesced in. The downward course of coal is altogether favourable for action on the part of steelmakers, who recognise that their existing rates are not encouraging consumption, especially in the export connections. Inquiry for pig-iron lacks animation, and that circumstance, coupled with an increase in production, has rather flattened quotations. Scotch hematite exceptionally remains firm at £7 15s, but No. 1 foundry is down 5s at £8, and No. 3 5s at £7 15s. Ferro-manganese is £2 a ton lower at £16 per ton for 75 per cent. Textile, agricultural, and general machinery makers are fairly well engaged. A big business, in the aggregate, is being put through by motor builders—in carriages, lorries, &c. Though foreign trade is of limited amount, an active inquiry exists for innumerable descriptions of material, which buyers would like to get in before the recovery sets in, and yet are afraid to anticipate the lowest level.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated September 29th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: The recovery from the effects of the coal strike moves very slowly, and so long as the imports of cheap foreign pig-iron continue, as at present, there is a poor prospect of more blast furnaces going in on this coast. Coke costs 35s delivered at the furnaces, and this is considerably more than consumers can afford to pay if they want to avoid a loss. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. is 120s per ton, and mixed numbers East Coast hematite 130s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel orders are still very scarce, and rolling mills can only keep going with difficulty. Steel ship plates (home), £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £14 net. Iron ore: Business is limited to an occasional prompt cargo. The few blast furnace works which are operating have old contracts for ore which are mostly in arrear.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The local industrial situation is rather worse on the whole, although cases of individual revival are to be met with. Recent movements of the national currency exchanges has increased the obstacles to overseas trading, and the home demand for steel materials is restricted owing to the large amount of idle plant in the country. About a third of the milling plant in the heavy steel section is working. Unfortunately, the orders being booked do not suffice to keep the furnaces running, and several are being stopped until business comes forward. Although competition from the Continent continues severe, it shows signs of waning. Prices of foreign steel and iron indicate an upward movement, nor is it possible to get such prompt delivery as in the past. The depression in the crucible steel department is as profound as ever. Business is also quieter than of late in saws, files, and quite a variety of hand and engineers' small tools. There is, on the contrary, a good demand for mining steel from the goldfields, and machine knives are in request. Having regard to the season, the cutlery and plate branches must be described as slack. Germany and France are supplying the

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: 54, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.
And over 1,500 Branches in England and Wales.

TRUSTEE DEPARTMENT.

The Bank has power to act as EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE under Wills and Settlements, and as Trustee for Debenture Holders. Full particulars can be obtained from the Managers, Trustee Department, 3, Bank Buildings, Lothbury, E.C.2.

Every description of British & Foreign Banking Business Transacted

bulk of the razors, scissors, and pocket-knives now being sold, while Sheffield makers are doing well in table knives. Trade with Australia has fallen flat, and no recovery is looked for this year. Some revival in the buying of house coal is reported. Consumers having little or nothing in their cellars, and the cold weather being at hand, they are under the necessity of getting in their winter supplies. There is also rather more doing in steam coal and export, and the market for small fuels is firmer. Blast furnace coke can now be bought at 22s 6d, and steel melting coke has been reduced to 45s. Coke is selling rather better.

BY-PRODUCTS TRADE.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The market remains inactive, and there is very little fresh business passing; until the coke ovens get properly going, the quantity of materials available is small, and it is consequently difficult to see how prices are to be maintained when full production is the order of the day. Pitch, meantime, is nominal at between 80s and 90s per ton. A demand has sprung up for crude naphthalene for the firelighter trade at £5 10s to £8 per ton. Refined is only moderately active at £17 10s. Supplies of solvent naphtha have been increased, though there is a fair demand for good quantities at 2s 9d and 3s per gallon. Cresylic acid is quiet at about 2s 4d per gallon on rail, and carbolic acid is a dead market at 1s 8d per gallon. Crystals are almost unsaleable at 6d per lb. It is certain that it does not pay to extract the carbolic acid at this price. Benzol is scarce, 90s being quoted at 3s per gallon in the London area; pure is 3s 6d per gallon on rail. A fair inquiry continues for intermediate products, with moderate business passing. Salicylic acid has an upward tendency at 1s 4d per pound for technical grade. Aniline oil and salt are wanted on the Continent, and make is 7d and 1s 8d per pound respectively. Technical resorcin makes 6s and beta-naphthol 2s 6d per pound. There is a fairly good demand for sulphate of ammonia for export, the price being firm in the neighbourhood of £16 per ton. France has lately come into the market as a substantial buyer. For home uses, prices have been advanced for November and December deliveries. Subject to orders being received prior to October 15th, the following are the prices quoted:—Neutral quality, 25½ per cent. ammonia, November, £14 18s; December, £15 13s. Ordinary quality, 25½ per cent. ammonia, November, £13 15s; December, £14.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—September 23, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island.....per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto.....	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American.....	Ord	G O L M	Mid	G M	M F	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G M
	1190	1265	1370	1480	1600	1770	1410	1755	2485	1638	1803	2098
Brazilian.	Mid	M F	Fr.	G F	Gd.	Fne.	M F	Fr.	Gd.	M F	Fr.	Gd.
Pernambuco, &c.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Paraiba.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Macao.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Mossoro, &c.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Ceara.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Maranhao.....	1255	1455	1605	1805	1955	2155	1685	2335	2875	1878	2278	2878
Egyptian.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Brown.....	1875	2025	2275	2455	2655	2855	1875	2025	2275	2455	2655	2855
Upper.....	1900	2000	2200	2300	2500	2700	1900	2000	2200	2300	2500	2700
West Indian—Sea Island ..	2600	2900	3200	3400	3600	3800	2600	2900	3200	3400	3600	3800
Peruvian—Rough.....	1300	1425	1500	1600	1700	1800	1300	1425	1500	1600	1700	1800
Ditto Mod. Rough.....	1225	1350	1400	1500	1600	1700	1225	1350	1400	1500	1600	1700
Ditto Smooth.....	1405	1685	1805	1955	2155	2355	1405	1685	1805	1955	2155	2355
Ditto Sea Island.....	1100	1200	1400	1500	1600	1700	1100	1200	1400	1500	1600	1700
African, East, &c.....	1100	1200	1400	1500	1600	1700	1100	1200	1400	1500	1600	1700
East Indian.	G F	For	Gd.	F G	Fne	G F	For	Gd.	F G	Fne	G F	For
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee ..	1330	1355	1380	1405	1430	1455	1330	1355	1380	1405	1430	1455
" " Broach.....	1205	1230	1255	1280	1305	1330	1205	1230	1255	1280	1305	1330
M. Ginned Bhowanagar.....	919	969	1019	1069	1119	1169	919	969	1019	1069	1119	1169
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1.....	925	975	1025	1075	1125	1175	925	975	1025	1075	1125	1175
M. Ginned Khandesh.....	900	950	1000	1050	1100	1150	900	950	1000	1050	1100	1150
M. Ginned Comptah.....	1045	1095	1145	1195	1245	1295	1045	1095	1145	1195	1245	1295
M. Ginned Bengal.....	765	815	865	915	965	1015	765	815	865	915	965	1015
M. Ginned Seinde.....	753	803	853	903	953	1003	753	803	853	903	953	1003
Tinnivelly.....	1330	1355	1380	1405	1430	1455	1330	1355	1380	1405	1430	1455
Madras, Western.....	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195
Coconada, Red.....	Fr.	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170	Fr.	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195	Fr.	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195

MANCHESTER, September 29.

We have experienced a firm and hardening market during the week. Without there being any decided increase in the turnover, inquiry has broadened, and the trade outlook is improving. More orders have been booked in piece goods for China. Bids for India still lag behind, but dealers in the bazaars are displaying more interest in Lancashire goods. The grain crops in our Dependency are said to be in splendid condition. Active buying has again occurred in a variety of cloths for Egypt and Turkey, and an increased inquiry has been met with for South America. Goods in the home trade are moving off more freely, and manufacturers have secured a fair amount of new business. The general outlook for the weaving section is brighter. Prices in American yarns have hardened, and towards the end of the week the turnover has been better. Export numbers have been in active request for China. Operations in Egyptian spinings have been patchy, and many users do not seem able to pay the higher rates required.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Sept. 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Sept. 22.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 8.	Sept. 1.	Aug. 25.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	15-71	15-18	13-69	13-10	10-76	9-68
Egyptian Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	28-25	26-00	22-00	21-50	18-00	16-00
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	23	22½	21	20	18	17½
— 40's twist.....per lb	21½	21	19½	18½	16½	16
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	45	43	37	36	31	29½
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37 0	36 0	34 6	33 6	31 0	30 0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37 0	36 0	34 0	33 0	30 6	29 6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	22 6	22 0	20 6	19 6	18 0	17 3
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	21 6	21 0	19 6	18 6	17 0	16 3

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Sept. 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	15-71	20-90	20-02	25-24	20-37	9-95
Egyptian Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	28-25	54-00	30-00	29-40	33-00	14-45
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	23	47	42½	56½	27	14½
— 40's twist.....per lb	21½	43	41½	57	26½	14½
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	45	70	61½	69	44	28½
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37 0	72 0	59 0	74 6	34 6	21 3
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37 0	72 0	57 6	71 3	33 6	19 0
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	22 6	43 0	35 0	42 0	20 3	11 6
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	21 6	34 0	30 6	35 3	18 3	10 5

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—When members of the trade met on 'Change to-day they were soon made aware of the significant news which had been received by telegraph from Liverpool. The reports from that centre emphasised that a record attendance of home and Continental buyers were keenly bidding for Colonial wool, and that prices were going even higher than those ruling at the close of the last series of auctions in London. Most of the messages agreed in placing the advance in merinos at 7½ per cent., while crossbreds were reported about 5 per cent. higher. The effect of this further advance in the price of the raw material was at once seen in higher quotations for tops, and as the market is extremely bare of spot merinos, topmakers are in a position to make their own terms where urgent delivery is essential. The rise in prices may check demand to some extent, though it must be noted that spinners are finding more inquiry, and quotations for Botany yarns have again been advanced. Most of the yarn business is on export account, but there is certainly more doing in crossbreds for the hosiery trade. It cannot be said, however, that the piece goods section of the industry shows much movement, and the lack of an adequate outlet for the finished article, combined with the possibility of a collapse in the German industry, tends to make many traders view the future with some apprehension.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

It is plain to be seen from cables and private mail advices that Australian pastoralists and those responsible for selling wool at the different centres are looking forward with confidence to the forthcoming season, believing that an altogether higher level of values will obtain than during the earlier part of this year. The auctions at all the selling centres during the past two months have given considerable encouragement to pastoralists. Any advance in wool that is not based upon actual consumptive needs is soon lost, and after the terrible experience of the past 18 months the textile trade of this country needs just the tonic which steady, firm values for wool is capable of giving. The contention of many is that the advance in wool started at the wrong end of the trade, that the tale is wagging the dog even to-day, wool markets trying to force the pace in fully manufactured textiles. I must admit having a desire to see the order of things reversed, but an improvement in pieces has often been forced from the raw material end of the trade. The mountain

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

of piece stocks which merchants and export houses are carrying to-day will be difficult to move, but if wool moves freely and spindles run longer hours, an effect is bound to be produced upon wholesale fabric buyers. Nothing will do the wholesale fabric end of the trade so much good as steady, firm prices for the raw material, and there are undoubted evidences of confidence increasing where it is most wanted.

It would appear that Germany holds the key to the future of wool values. I believe for the time being that even merino prices have advanced as far as commonsense and the trade of the world warrants. Almost the whole of the users, both in the West Riding and Northern France, are of opinion that German trade and finance are riding for a serious fall, that the present boom is largely artificial, and that sooner or later there will be a slump after the order of what was seen in this country last year. It is to be hoped that no such catastrophe will happen, and I think that if there should be a slump in the textile trade in Germany, the effects cannot be as tragic as they have been in this country during the past 18 months. German spinners and manufacturers, as well as wholesale fabric buyers, are not handicapped with dear stocks, and whatever they are carrying to-day is out of wool bought at the lowest point of the market. I certainly desire to see consolidation of to-day's market values in preference to any further advance, for not until the trade of both England and France improves can there be any justification for any further improvement in wool values.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

With Plate linseed offered freely by shippers owing to the continued depression in Argentine options, prices on this side fell at an extraordinarily rapid rate, till at one time last week October-November shipment was offered at as low as £16 5s. At this figure consumers were in the market, and bought readily, with the result that an appreciation of 30s or more per ton followed. Demand for a time appears to have been satisfied, and crushers are not disposed to add to their commitments at the figures now quoted by shippers. Very little interest is taken in Indian linseed.

In sympathy with seed, raw linseed oil suffered a severe reaction in the latter part of last week, down to £31 15s being accepted for near positions and £32 10s for January-April. On better inquiry, prices improved 40s per ton, but have failed to maintain the advance, demand being very moderate, and consumers, home and export, holding aloof.

Cottonseed continues a dull market, owing to the absence of offers by Egyptian shippers. Spot values are again higher, but very little business can be done at the figures quoted. The oil product has continued firm, with rising quotations, crude Egyptian having reached £47 10s, and edible refined £51, ex Hull mill; but next to no business is doing. Practically all available soya bean oil for near delivery has been absorbed, and prices are tending higher. Soya beans, however, are quoted above buyers' ideas, though £15 is reported paid for September Manchurian to the Continent.

Rapeseed is firmly held by Indian shippers, but no business is passing to this country, buyers being amply supplied to meet the poor trade in oil. Palm kernel oil neglected; ground nut oil steady.

Oilcakes are moving off fairly well, but fresh orders for linseeds are few. Cottons, however, are in slightly better demand.

THE TIMBER TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The market for foreign timber for building construction and general work showed much more life in September than was experienced during the previous eight months. Free-on-board quotations have fallen about 50 per cent. on the most favoured sizes, compared with those in the early part of the year, and more for narrower widths.

Forward buying has shown a decided improvement at the lower rates, the gradually decreasing prices attracting importers who had previously held aloof. Even now importers are not committing themselves too freely, but they can find consolation in the fact that shippers' quotations cannot get much lower. As a matter of fact, the f.o.b. market has shown a slight stiffening for good Swedish stocks of favoured sizes. A fair average price f.o.b. for 3 by 9 deals is from £18 to £22 a Petrograd standard, £14 to £16 for 8 in.; £13 to £15 for 7 in.; and £12 to £13 for 6 in. wide battens. Finnish timber is about £2 to £4 a standard cheaper, and for some time has been creating keen competition with the Swedish productions. Floorings are not meeting with a good market, Sweden asking £16 to £17 10s a standard, c.i.f.

As regards the spot market, this has also shown more life during September, but the demand has not been large, nor can it be while the industrial position is so bad. The fair call for deals, battens, and floorings for house and large building work has been the mainstay of the trade, but it is not expected to increase now that the winter is coming on and building work likely to slacken.

For packing-case work the demand for timber has been decidedly slow over the month, reflecting the condition of those trades, particularly in Lancashire and Yorkshire towns, which use wood containers. Timber for that class of work can now be obtained very cheaply, prices being little, if any, above those ruling before the war.

Timber consumers are now benefiting not only from cheaper wood but cheaper transport, the freight market being very depressed. Charterers are preferring the smaller-sized sailers and steamers, which are fetching higher rates than the large vessels. Rates are now about 60s Gulf to East Coast U.K. for steamers of large capacity, the smaller boats making from 5s to 7s 6d more a standard.

The fancy wood market shows little change from the dull conditions that have been ruling for so long. Mahogany of good quality is keeping steady in price, both for logs and converted wood, but the low-grade stock, which is large, is not attracting much attention.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hide market is again advancing, and best ox hides sold at Thursday's Bermondsey auctions from 8½d to 10½d per lb—showing an average advance of ½d. Cows at 8½d also advanced ½d, whilst calf skins showed advances of ½d to ¾d, as against last prices. Tanners are in a quandary, and seem unable to control the price of raw material, although the demand for their finished product is at the best uncertain. Foreign hides are also in a strong position, stocks of best hides now being very low. South American fregorifics are again dearer, and the Continental demand seems improving. Dry hides share in the improved demand, and higher rates are demanded by owners. The American market is cabled as strong, with best heavy packers now selling at 14½ cents.

There is a better tone to the leather trade, and fair-sized deliveries of sole leather have been made during the past week at advanced prices. The position is uncertain, however, as merchants hold in some cases stocks of leather which they can afford to sell at below tanners' prices for the new output, and this naturally checks business. Cheap offal seems wanted for low-grade boots, and a trade is doing in shoulders from 8d to 10d per lb. Upper leather is decidedly firmer in price, and importers and tanners of glazed kid and box calf have been doing quite a fair business. Carriers are a shade better off for orders for waxed kips and semi-chrome kips, chiefly for the lower grades. Much is expected at the Shoe and Leather Fair, which opens at the Agricultural Hall on Monday next. Many overseas buyers are, I know, coming over, and the exchange of opinion on international conditions will be of benefit to all sections of the trade.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocement," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, September 30.

With one or two exceptions the markets remained in a quiet state, as export requirements do not extend, and the bulk of business stirring at the moment is on home account.

SUGAR.—A steady tone governed this market, and business was on a fair scale. Tate's cubes sold 57s 3d to 58s 3d; crushed, 54s; nibs, 54s 6d; granulated, 52s to 52s 6d; caster, 54s 6d to 55s; pieces, 38s 6d to 43s. Lyle's granulated, 52s to 52s 3d; yellow crystals, 47s 6d. Crystallised West India sold rather quietly at 42s to 46s, according to quality. Muscovado ranges from 38s to 42s. American granulated, spot, sold, 51s 9d to 52s and 51s 6d; ditto, afloat, 24s 3d; white Java, spot, 49s; ditto, September, 21s, c.f., and i. terms, United Kingdom.

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

Dutch granulated, prompt, 24s; and Czecho granulated and crystals, 23s 6d; and Belgian crystals, October, 21s; November-December, 19s 6d, f.o.b. terms. Terminal market steady. December raw quoted 16s 6d; white, December, sold, 20s to 19s 9d; March, 19s 6d to 19s. Cuban stocks total 1,195,000 tons, against 303,500 at corresponding period last year.

COFFEE.—There was a moderate inquiry this week, the market being rendered somewhat quiet, owing to general run of quality offered in auction showing but little attractiveness. For future delivery the market continued steady, and December sold, 50s.

COCOA.—Market still quiet, but prices for the chief part unaltered. In auction, some 4,272 bags were brought forward, and about 1,200 sold: good to fine Trinidad, 59s to 61s; Grenada, 53s to 55s 6d; selected West Coast African, 45s to 49s; fine Samoa, 104s 6d. Butter steady, at 1s 10½d per lb for English.

TEA.—The smaller supply of 35,700 packages Indian offered in auction this week experienced quieter competition, but all grades possessing quality went off at steady rates. Inferior, however, only saleable at a slight decline, and a good many lots were bought in. 23,500 packages Ceylon were submitted, and these met with active and well-distributed competition at full to slightly higher prices.

RICE.—Market still very dull, and quotations for the chief part nominal. Two stars Rangoon, spot, 21s; afloat, 20s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 20s 6d; No. 1 Saigon, September-October, 17s 9d to 18s; Burma I.A., broken, September-October, 15s 6d; No. 2, A, 15s; Siam, C 1, broken, ditto, 14s; C 3, 13s 9d. Rangoon bran quiet, and parcels to arrive quoted 8s 5s per ton, ex ship. Beans very dull. Rangoon hand-picked haricot, spot, sold, 13s; and October-December, 13s. Madagascar butter beans, all white, new crop, spot, 27s; old, 23s. Japanese peas, October-November, 35s, c.f. and i.; and arrived parcels, 44s landed.

FRUIT.—The market for currants ruled quietly steady. Patras quoted 70s to 74s for new crop; Vostizza, 80s to 84s. Cape new crop sultanas, 103s to 110s. Dates remain firm.

SPICE.—Pepper quiet, and forward positions disclosed some irregularity. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4d; ditto, October-December, 3½d; November-January, sold, 3½d. Aleppy, spot, quoted 4½d; Tellicherry, 4½d; white Singapore, 8½d; Muntok, 9d; ditto, October-December, sold, 7½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold, 1s 4d; September-November, steamer, 1s 3d; October-December, 1s 3½d. Pimento, spot, sold, 2½d per lb. Tapioca steady, quiet. Fair flake, spot, 18d per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, London, 15s; fair Penang seed, spot, 21s; September-November, London, 17s 9d; small sago, spot, 27s; sago flour, September-November, 15s 6d, London. Japanese farina, September-November, London, 27s. Desiccated coconut, spot, sold, 50s 6d; afloat, 48s; and September-October, 50s. Ginger steady. Japanese limes, spot, 45s. Nutmegs firm, quiet, with only small spot stocks.

JUTE.—The market continued very steady, though general trade ruled quieter as demand from the near Continent was adversely affected by rates of exchange. Native first marks, spot, Hamburg, sold, £35; ditto actuals afloat, Hamburg, £35; ditto subs, old crop, September-October, £33 10s to £32 15s; lightning subs, old crop, spot, Hamburg, £29 10s; ditto September-October, £29 10s to £29; heart subs ditto, £21 5s; Gooti circle D, spot, Dundee, £70; 10 oz Calcutta hessians, spot, London, sold, 30s; 8 oz ditto, 24s 6d; A twills, spot, 84s; B, 74s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila is slightly dearer on the week, and there is a moderate inquiry. J grade, September-November, sold, £38 to £39; K ditto, £36 10s to £37; L ditto, £36 10s to £37; M, £32 10s; and streaky threes, September-November, at £42 10s to £43. New Zealand high points, January-March, sold, £38 10s; fair, October-December, £36 10s; August-October quoted £35 15s.

SHELLAC.—Market unsettled and easier on balance. T.N., spot, 330s; October, sold, 325s to 310s, and later at 315s; December, 330s to 315s, and 320s.

COPRA.—Market declined steadily on lack of buying orders and some pressure shown to sell. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, Rotterdam, sold, £32 10s to £30 10s and £31 5s; September-November, £32 5s to £30 2s 6d and £30 7s 6d; October-December, £32 to £30 and £30 15s. Ceylon, September-November, London, £34 5s to £33; South Sea Islands, £29 10s; Cebu to Hamburg, £29 10s; F.M. Straits, August-October, Marseilles, £31 10s to £30. Palm kernels, October-December, Liverpool, sold, £21 10s to £20 5s and £20 12s 6d.

RUBBER.—Market steadily hardened in the early part of the week, but soon relapsed on increased selling orders. Standard crepe, spot, sold, up to 9½d and then 9d; October-December, up to 10d then 9½d; January-March, 11d to 9½d and 10d; standard smoked ribbed sheet, spot, sold, up to 9½d then 9d; October-December, 9½d then 9½d; January-March, 11d then 9½d, but later 10d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 1d. Caucho ball, 7d per lb.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market still very quiet and featureless. Liquid yolk, spot, 11s for prime quality; and September-October, steamer, 95s per cwt. Albumen, spot, 3s; and ditto, to arrive, 2s 10d per lb.

MENTHOL.—Spot, 23s. Japanese peppermint oil, spot, 4s 7½d; aniseed, 2s 3d per lb.

OILS.—Linseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 32s 3d; September-December, 31s 6d; January-April, 32s 6d. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 61s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 48s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 57s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 85s; and shipment, 69s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 55s; September-October, 52s; Cochin, ditto, 57s. Soya steady. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 44s 6d. Japan fish steady. September-October, cases, 24s. Cod firm, English, spot, 30s to 32s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 55s; deodorised, barrels, 68s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 71s 3d; October-December, 70s 6d; January-April, 71s 6d. Rosin firm for common grades. American, grade B, 17s; F, 17s 9d; G, 17s 9d; K, 18s 6d; WW, 23s; French, F/G, 16s; H, 16s 6d; WW, 17s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market very unsettled, and prices again appreciably lower for Plate. Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, arrived, sold, £18 5s to £16 5s; September-October, £17 10s, value. Plate, spot, Hull, £16; afloat, sold, £16 2s 6d to £15 10s, £16; September-October, sold, £16 5s to £15 10s, £17 and £16; October-November, £16 10s to £15 15s, £17 and £16 5s; November-December, £16 15s to £16, £16 10s; January-February, nearest, £16 5s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, September-October, quoted £20 15s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £21 10s; brown Cawnpore, £20 10s. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, September, quoted £15; and white, £14 10s. Bombay, September-October, £11 10s. Gingelly firm. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £31 10s, paid. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £21. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, September-October, £29 10 to £29 10s; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, £28 10s to £29 per ton.

METALS.—Tin exhibited a rather firmer tendency at the week's commencement, a good business being done in cash at £157 10s to £157 15s, three months' £159 to £159 15s, but a quieter feeling prevailed until Wednesday, when cash changed hands at £156 15s to £156 5s, and three months' at £159 to £158 5s, while £158 15s was since registered. At Thursday's meeting these dates settled down at £156 5s and £158 10s respectively, dealings being on a limited scale. At Friday's session the limited dealings included cash at £156 10s, and three months' £158 5s to £158 10s, setting down at £158 7s 6d. English ingots, £154 to £155. Copper opened rather dearer, standard cash being sold at £68 to £68 2s 6d, and three months' £68 17s 6d. No material change characterised Tuesday's movements. During the middle of the week, cash sold at £68 10s to £68 7s 6d, and three months' £69 5s to £69 17s 6d. Thursday's market manifested a quiet tone, cash realising £68 10s to £68 5s, and three months' £69 10s to £69 5s. At Friday's session cash changed hands at £68 5s, and three months' £69 7s 6d, business being restricted. Electros, £72 10s to £74 10s; best selected, £69 10s to £71 10s; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £73 10s to £74 10s. Lead slightly steadier, at £23 2s 6d to £23 17s 6d, as to position. Spelter firmer, at £26 7s 6d to £26 15s. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, quoted at £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—SEPTEMBER 29.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

	s	d	s	d		s	d	s	d
Beasts—Herefords....	8	8	8	4	Sheep—Downs.....	9	4	10	8
Shorthorns.....	8	8	8	0	Longwools.....	8	8	10	0
Devons.....	9	6	0	0	Crossbreds.....	8	8	10	0
Norfolks.....	8	4	9	0	Scottish.....	10	0	11	0
Scottish.....	8	0	8	4	Lamb—Downs.....	10	0	11	0
Irish.....	8	0	8	4					

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—SEPTEMBER 29.

	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
King Edwards.....	11	0	13	0
British Queen.....	10	0	11	0
Eclipse.....	9	0	10	0
Blacklands.....	7	6	10	9

International Banking Service

THE Guaranty Trust Company of New York offers a complete and direct banking service to all parts of the world.

Its chief functions and facilities are:

Opening current and deposit accounts
Dealing generally in foreign exchange and collecting foreign bills

Issuing documentary credits and discounting approved acceptances

Issuing letters of credit and travellers' cheques
Supplying credit information to responsible firms and companies

Buying and selling foreign and domestic securities for customers' account
Safe-keeping of securities

Acting as executor and trustee under wills, etc.

The Company issues a series of booklets which explain the wide range of its services and also contain commercial and financial information of current interest.

A list of "Publications of Current Interest" will be sent on request.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

A Complete International Bank

LONDON OFFICES

32 Lombard Street, E.C.3

50 Pall Mall, S.W.1

29 Kingsway, W.C.2

LIVERPOOL OFFICES

27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street

NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPTOS—Pepper, per lb—	
COCOA—Duty, British grown		Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt. 150	0 180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 1 0 0	Butter—per cwt.		Singapore, fair white	0 82 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	0 62 0	Cape, good to fine.	42 0 15 0	Plantation crepe	0 9 0 0	Irish creamery	175 0 195 0	Black Singapore	0 82 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	56 0 62 0	Bakam Fern, per lb	35 0 9 0			Do factory	142 0 150 0	White Siam	0 82 0
Granada, plantation	70 0 85 0	Capivi	2 0 2 6	INDIGO—per lb—		Argentine	150 0 165 0	Pimento	0 24 0
Ceylon, plantation	68 0 77 6	Camphor—		Bengal, good red vio-		Dutch	nom	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 2 0 0
Guayaquil	59 0 60 8	Japan, refined	4 14 0 0	let to fine.	11 0 12 0	New Zealand	275 0 280 0	Do 2nd	1 1 0 0
Bahia, finest	59 0 60 8	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 6 5 0	Mid. ord. vio. to good	9 6 10 9	Danish	0 0 0 0	Do 4th	0 9 0 0
COFFEE—British grown		Cantharides, per lb	0 0 0 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 3	Bacon, engd.—Irish	150 0 167 0	Chips	0 34 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.		Castor-oil	85 0 95 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Danish	170 0 176 0	Cassia Lignea	42 0 0 0
E. India fine ord. g.d. m.d.	91 0 112 6	Ipocastanea	0 0 0 0	Do low to ord.	1 5 4 0	Canadian	120 0 130 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 4 0 0
Do good to fine	115 0 135 0	Oilbunum, drops	0 0 0 0	Kurpah, g.d. m.d. to g.d.	6 6 8 0	American	95 0 115 0	Penang	3 3 0 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	80 0 120 0	Jalap.	2 9 0 0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	Hams—Irian	nom	Ginger—per cwt—	
Good to fine	130 0 156 6	Musk pod, China	75 0 85 0			Canadian	nom	Oochin, cut	120 0 130 0
Central American, g.d.		Oil, Cassia	4 9 8 0	HEMP—per ton—		American	110 0 125 0	Do small rough	40 0 55 0
ord. to mid	75 0 116 0	Aniseed	2 24 0 0	St Petersburg, layer	nom	N. Z. spot, high fair	42 10	Do washed	50 0 55 0
Mid. to fine	117 0 122 6	Peppermint, H.G.H.	45 0 0 0	Manila Aug./Oct.	39 0			Japan	45 0 0 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 0 65 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fn	5 6 8 0	Sept./Oct. subs.	33 0 0 0			Jamaica	125 0 130 0
Do g.d. ord. to low mid	70 0 83 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.—		LEATHER—per lb—				Mace	0 19 1 3
Do mid. to fine	95 0 112 6	Galls, China, per cwt.	75 0 85 0	Sole Bends 6/10 lb.	1 6 2 6			Nutmegs, good to fine	1 14 1 3
		Turmeric, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Do do 10/12	2 0 2 9			Small to medium	0 8 6 9
CHEMICALS—		Madras, finger	18 0 24 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 4			Chillies—per cwt	130 0 150 0
Acid, citric	2 5 2 6	Cutch, ord. to fair	35 0 34 0	Do do 14/16	2 2 3 4			TALLOW—per cwt	
Nitric	0 24 0 4	DYEWOODS—		Do do 17 lb cup	1 10 3 0			Good mutton	57 0 8 0
Oxalic	0 7 0 0	Brazil	14 0 0 0	Bark Tanned Sole	3 0 4 0			Beef	53 0 0 0
Tartaric, English	1 44 1 5	Fustic, Jamaica	14 0 0 0	Shidra fm DS Hides	0 9 0 11			TAPOCA—per lb—	
Foreign	1 44 1 5	Cuba	20 0 0 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 11 1 6			E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 18 0 13
Alum lump, per ton 15/0 17/0 0		Lima	20 0 0 0	Bellies fm DS do	0 74 0 9			Pearl	21 0 26 0
Do ground	217/0 17/0 0	Logwood, Campeachy	12 0 0 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 9 1 2			foreign 1s per lb—	
Ammonia, carb. p. lb 0 4 41		Honduras	15 0 0 0	Dressing Hides	1 9 2 6			Indian and Ceylon	
Muriate, White ton 70 0 75 0		Jamaica	12 0 0 0	Ro. Eng. Calf. 20/30 lb	4 0 1 7			Pekoe	0 74 1 12
Sulphate, per ton 5 0 25 0		Red Sanders	12 0 0 0	Australian Sides	1 1 1 0			Broken Pekoe	0 74 1 12
Arsenic, lump, per ton 43 0 42 0		Sapang Ceylon	20 0 0 0					Orange Pekoe	0 104 1 8
Powder	43 0 42 0	FLAX—spot—c.f.f.						Broken Orange	0 62 0 11
Asbes, pot., per cwt. 190 0 195 0		Riga ZK	115 0 0 0					Pekoe Banchong	0 62 0 11
Pearl do do	nom	Pernau HD	115 0 0 0					TIMBER—Timber & Heavy Wood	
Bleaching pwr. p. ton 19/0 20/0 0		Siatica U/A Medium	123 0 0 0					E. I. Teak (load)	20/0 55/0 1
Borax crystals	31 0 0 0	FRUIT—New						Kauri Pine cubic ft.	9 0 16 0
Do powder	32 0 0 0	Oranges, Val. selected	0 0 0 0					Satinwood super	1 6 6 0
Cream Tartar	127 6 130 0	Do 4-cases	0 0 0 0					Cedar cubic	0 7 1 2
33% powder	127 6 130 0	Do Malaga cases	0 0 0 0					Japanese Oak	0 8 1 2
Calomel	5 3 5 6	Do Naples boxes	0 0 0 0					American Ash	0 44 0 10
Iodine, dry	1 0 1 1	Do Sicilian boxes	9 24 0 0					TOBACCO—	
Muriate of Soda, p. ton 19/0 20/0 0		Do Malaga boxes	14 23 0 0					Duty 8/2-10/4 per lb.	
Potash—		Almeria	27 0 41 6					Virginia leaf—	
Chlorate, net	0 6 0 7	HIDES—Westeled						Common to fine	1 3 2 3
Prussiate	1 0 1 2	Australian	0 5 0 7					Strips	0 2 0 6
Do Foreign	1 0 1 2	West Indian	0 5 0 7					Kentucky leaf—	
Sulphate	25 8 30 0	Cape	0 54 7 7					Common to fine	1 8 1 6
Sal-Acetos	1 12 0 0	Libon	0 57 0 6					Strips	1 3 1 9
Sal-Ammoniac, per cwt. 75 0 80 0		Refined	nom					China	0 8 1 3
Soda Bicarb., per ton 12/0 12/0 0		Lard, American	64 0 0 0					Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 7 3
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton 15/0 15/0 0		Petrolm. Oil, per 8 lbs	1 44 0 0					Seedleaf	1 6 4 6
Alkali	815/0 9/5 0 0	Water-White	1 5 0 0					Havanna	0 10 1 0
Quartz	83/0 25/0 0	Oil Cakes, Lnsd., Eng.	15 0 0 0					Greek	0 10 1 0
Sugar of lead white ton 0/0 0/0 0		Oil Seeds—Linsed—						East Indian	0 6 2 0
Foreign white	247 18 50 0	La Plata Sept./Oct.	216 0 0					Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 up
Singhata Quinine	nom	Bombay, p. ton, Sept./Oct.	19 10 0					TURPTINE, p. cwt	70 3 0 0
English Brands	nom	Calcutta, p. ton, Sept./Oct.	18 10 0					WOOL—per lb—	
Foreign do	4 1 0 0	PORTLAND CEMENT—						English, Southdown, whsd.	17
Sulphate Copper, p. ton 31/0 32/0 0		Best, per ton delv.	83 6 89 0					Lincoln hog	84
Zinc, cut	nom							Queensland, sed. sup. cubg.	34
Sulphur Flour	18/0 19/0 0							N. & W. greasy, super	20
Do Roll	17/0 18/0 0							Castor	54 6 55 0
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lb 9 5 0								Pieces	38 0 44 0
English	4 9 5 0								
COPRA—per ton, c.f.f.	4 8 d								
Malabar, Sept./Nov.	nom								
Ceylon	35 5 0								
FM Singapore	31 0 0								
FM Straits	29 15 0								
COCHINEAL—per lb. 2 0 3 6									

SOUTH-NORWAY.

FREDRIKSSTAD
PRIVATBANK,

Fredriksstad.

Paid-up Capital
and Reserves:
Kr. 23,000,000.Banking and Exchange
Business
of every description.London Bankers:—Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited;
London County Westminster & Parr's Bank, Limited; London Joint
City & Midland Bank, Limited; Cox & Co.CONSOLIDATED MAIN REEF
MINES AND ESTATE, LTD.

(Incorporated in the Transvaal.)

Extracted from the Annual Report for the year ended
30th June, 1921.

Capital, £1,247,802 in 1,247,802 Shares of £1 each (all issued).

DIRECTORATE.

C. S. GOLDMAN,	M. HONNET (Chairman),	P. DREYFUS,
A. A. AURET,	E. J. RENAUD,	F. RALEIGH,
SIR EVELYN	J. MUNRO,	J. H. L. MANISTY,
WALLERS, K.B.E.	SIR ABE BAILEY, Bart.	K.C.M.G., M.L.A.

Tonnage Milled, 561,800.

Total Working Revenue	£1,105,077	0 11	Per ton milled.
Total Working Costs	905,952	3 15	£1 18 4
Working Profit	£199,124	17 6	£0 7 1

Total Profit for the year	£204,945	5 4
Balance unappropriated at 30th June, 1920	193,562	19 5
Unclaimed Dividends forfeited	192	16 5
	£398,701	1 2

This amount has been dealt with as follows:—

Expended on Equipment	£24,513	5 8
Government and Provincial Taxes	29,775	13 0
	54,288	18 8

Dividends declared during the year:—	£344,412	2 6
No. 25 of 82 per cent. and No. 26 of 82 per cent.	155,950	5 0
Leaving a balance unappropriated of	£188,461	17 6

ORE RESERVES—The ore standing in reserve in the mine at the end of the financial year was estimated to be as follows:—

	Tons.	Dwts. per ton.	Average Value.	Average Width.
Main Reef Leader	1,171,800	7.5	49	
South Reef	4,700	8.7	48	
Total	1,176,500	7.5	49	

The full Report and Accounts (with plan of workings) may be obtained from the London Secretaries, A. MOIR AND CO., No. 1, London-wall-buildings, London, E.C.2.

PETER WALKER (WARRINGTON) & ROBERT
CAIN & SONS, LIMITED.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL:

3,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, Issued and being Issued	£2,270,000
2,000,000 8% Cum. Pref. Shares of £1 each	2,000,000
2,500,000 7% 1st Mortgage Debenture Stock	2,000,000

The prospectus of an issue of

£2,000,000 7% 1st Mortgage Debentures at 92½

and

1,500,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each at par

will be published to-morrow.

SECURITY FOR THE 1st MORTGAGE DEBENTURES.

Freehold and Leasehold properties stated
by the directors to be of a replacement
value of £3,600,000The whole of the ordinary shares of Peter
Walker & Sons, Ltd., acquired by this
Company for 2,420,000

£6,020,000

The Earnings will show that the Interest and Sinking Fund on the 1st Mortgage Debentures on the average profits for last 5 years are covered more than four times, whilst, after paying all fixed charges and deducting all expenses, an amount is left over equal to 17% on the issued Ordinary Shares of the Company.

Prospectuses and application forms may be obtained from The London Joint City & Midland Bank, Limited, 5 Threadneedle street, London, E.C.2, and all branches; Belfast Banking Company, Limited, Belfast, and all branches; Clydesdale Bank, Limited, Glasgow, and all branches; Messrs. Haes & Sons, 24 Throgmorton street, London, E.C.2., and Messrs. Horsfall Bros., Liverpool and London Chambers, Liverpool.

JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT CO., (Incorporated in the Transvaal.) LIMITED.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS to be submitted to the Shareholders at a Meeting to be held in the Board Room, Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, Consolidated Building, Fox Street, Johannesburg, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of November, 1921, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

ACCOUNTS.

1. The Company's Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Accounts for the financial year ended 30th June, 1921, are submitted herewith.

PROFITS.

2. After providing for depreciation, English and Colonial Income Tax, and other charges, the profit for the year, including £191,453 8s. 4d. brought forward, amounts to £579,411 13s. 8d.

DIVIDEND.

3. On the 23rd June the Directors declared a Dividend of 10%, free of Income Tax, payable to Shareholders registered as at 30th June, 1921. This distribution (excluding provision for Income Tax) absorbs £395,000, leaving a balance of £184,411 13s. 8d. to be carried forward to next account.

VALUE OF SHAREHOLDINGS.

4. The Company's shareholdings have (where necessary) been written down to their market value as at 30th June.

FINANCIAL POSITION.

5. The financial position of the Company continues to be very satisfactory, and as opportunity occurs the Company's interests are being extended and developed.

MINING INTERESTS.

6. The usual Reports issued by the various Gold Mines under the Company's control afford all necessary detail as to their position. The following general information may however be of interest to this Company's Shareholders.

Government Gold Mining Areas (Modderfontein) Consolidated, Limited. This property continues to make excellent returns. The tonnage mined for 1920 amounted to 1,515,000 tons, which was an increase of 154,000 tons, and the number of fine ounces of gold recovered was 503,239, an increase of 33,857 fine ounces when compared with the previous year. In view of the Company's large ore reserves, amounting to over ten million tons, the policy of the Company is to maintain the ore reserves at this figure.

Van Ryn Deep, Limited. The ore reserves are over three million tons of an average value of 9.7 dwts. over 72 inches; both tonnage and grade showing an improvement as compared with the previous year. The development of the Western Section of the mine shows improvement.

Randfontein Central Gold Mining Company, Limited. The scheme for the re-organisation of this mine is now nearing completion, but progress has been retarded by strikes and other obstacles beyond the control of the management. It should be borne in mind that the work which required to be undertaken has been practically equivalent to the opening up of a new deep level proposition at the bottom of the former workings. There is every reason to anticipate that substantial benefits will shortly accrue from the re-organisation of this property.

The taking over of the Randfontein Deep, Limited, property, referred to in last year's Report, has been completed, and mining operations in this area have been carried on for the last twelve months. It is anticipated that ore from the Randfontein Deep section will be sent to the mill at an early date.

Randfontein Estates Gold Mining (Witwatersrand) Limited. In the Company's previous Report reference was made to an Action successfully brought by the Randfontein Estates Company against Sir Joseph B. Robinson, which resulted in the Randfontein Estates Company being awarded £215,000 plus interest at 6 per cent. as from February, 1907. In respect of this judgment a payment of £391,155 11s. 6d. on account has been made to the Randfontein Estates Company. The latter's Solicitors have since been served with a notification that Sir Joseph B. Robinson has applied for permission to appeal to the Privy Council against this judgment.

New State Areas, Ltd. The work of sinking the two shafts on this property is now completed, the South Shaft having been sunk to a final depth of 4,071 feet and

the North Shaft to a final depth of 3,768 feet. The reef intersected by the South Shaft gave the extremely high average value of 89.3 dwts. over 18.9 inches. The reef intersected by the North Shaft was found to be faulted and disturbed by numerous quartz intrusions, and therefore no reliable assay value has yet been possible. Development is rapidly proceeding and there is every reason to anticipate that the New State Areas will prove a most valuable property.

WORKING COSTS.

7. It has for some time been obvious that existing circumstances no longer justified a continuance of the high scale of wages paid to the miners in South Africa. It is therefore satisfactory to report that an amicable arrangement has been concluded between the Transvaal Chamber of Mines and the Trade Unions concerned resulting in an immediate reduction of wages with the probability of further reductions in the near future.

GOLD PRODUCTION.

8. The value of the gold produced by the Company's Group of Mines during the year under review amounted to £9,926,943, the average price obtained being approximately £5 11s. 0d. per fine ounce.

COAL INTERESTS.

9. As mentioned by the Chairman on the occasion of the Company's last Annual Meeting, the Company has acquired considerable coal interests in South Africa. The equipment of the mines is nearing completion, and they will be capable of producing a large quantity of coal. Your Directors are hopeful that the Company will eventually derive material benefit from this new enterprise, more particularly when the necessary railway facilities have been obtained.

DIAMOND MINES.

10. Regarding your Company's interests in the leading Diamond Mines in South Africa, it may be mentioned that during the period under review the falling off in the demand for stones has been met by a drastic curtailment of production. This is no new feature in the history of the diamond industry, and it is confidently anticipated by those who control the policy of the diamond mines that an improvement in the position may be expected in the near future, and of such improvement indications are already apparent.

ESTATES AND TOWN PROPERTY.

11. Sales of building sites on the Company's residential estates continue to be effected.

VISIT OF THE PERMANENT CHAIRMAN TO SOUTH AFRICA.

12. Early in the year Mr. S. B. Joel, the Permanent Chairman, went out to South Africa on the Company's business. His visit was very valuable, as it enabled him, in consultation with the Directors, to deal with many matters of considerable importance and urgency.

DIRECTORS.

13. In terms of the Articles of Association, four of the Directors, viz., Sir John S. Parcell, K.C.B., J. Emrys Evans, C.M.G., J. Friedlander and Isaac Lewis retire by rotation, and offer themselves for re-election.

ELECTION OF AUDITORS.

14. Messrs. W. Fergusson and S. Thomson, the Auditors of the Company in Johannesburg, and Messrs. Kemp, Chatteris, Nichols, Sennell & Co. the Auditors in London, retire from Office and offer themselves for re-election.

By Order of the Board,

THOMAS HONEY, } Secretaries.
W. H. MARDALL, }

28th September, 1921.

Dr.	BALANCE SHEET, 30th June, 1921.				Cr.	
CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Authorised Capital— (Under Resolution of 23rd November, 1905)	4,500,000	0	0			
of which £4,345,000 is Registered Capital.						
Capital Issued	3,950,000	0	0			
Reserve Fund	250,000	0	0			
Sundry Creditors	1,449,104	11	4			
Dividend (No. 24) of 10 per cent., free of Income Tax, declared 23rd June	395,000	0	0			
Profit Appropriation Account— Balance	184,411	13	8			
Contingent Liabilities— Uncalled Capital on Investments, etc.	349,635	0	0			
	£5,228,516	5	0			

Dr.	PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30th June, 1921.		Cr.		
	£	s. d.	£ s. d.		
To Directors' Fees, Salaries and other Expenses, less Amounts received from other Companies.....	34,340	5 5	By Profits realised on Stocks and Shares, Dividends and Sundry Receipts, less provision for Income Tax and Amounts written off.....	422,298	10 9
To Balance being realised profit for the year carried to Appropriation Account.....	387,958	5 4			
	£422,298	10 9		£422,298	10 9

PROFITS APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.			
		£	s. d.
To Dividend No. 24 of 10%, free of Income Tax, declared 23rd June, 1921.....	395,000	0	0
To Balance carried to Balance Sheet.....	184,411	13	8
	<u>£579,411</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>
By Balance of Profit and Loss Account at 30th June, 1920.....	191,453	8	4
By Balance of Profit and Loss Account at 30th June, 1921.....	387,958	5	4
	<u>£579,411</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>

We report to the Shareholders that we have audited the accounts of the Johannesburg Office of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, dated 30th June, 1921, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. The Balance Sheet of the Johannesburg Office of the Company is in our opinion properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs in Johannesburg according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books of the Company in Johannesburg. We have also verified the securities in South Africa.

SAM'L. THOMSON, } Chartered Accountant. } Auditors.
W. FERGUSSON, } Registered Public Accountant. }

Johannesburg, 6th July, 1921.

THOMAS HONEY, Secretary.

We report to the Shareholders that we have audited the Accounts of the London Office of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, dated the 30th June, 1921, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. The Audited Accounts of the Johannesburg Office have been properly incorporated in the above Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account, and in our opinion the Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Company. We have also verified the securities in London.

KEMP, CHATTERIS, NICHOLS, SENDELL & CO., } Chartered Accountants } Auditors.

London, 5th August, 1921.

OCTOBER 8, 1921.

The Economist, WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1921.

No. 4,076.

Bergens Kreditbank Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated
with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business
transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000



Branches as Under.

82 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up " 348,786,000
Reserve " 176,000,000
Deposits " 5,000,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.
BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.
Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	533	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets	547
The Premier's Prescriptions	535	New Issues	548
A New Tax System	536	Active Securities	549
Our Index Number	537	Company Meetings	550
The Harvest Year	538	Government Returns—	
Latin American Notes	539	Currency Notes Account ..	551
Business Notes—		Treasury Bills by Public	
Coal Output	539	Tender	551
American Cotton Crop	539	Bankers' Gazette—	
The Rubber Shareholders' Association	540	Bank of England	551
Japanese Trade & Finance	540	Clearing Returns	552
The Future of the Philippines	540	Overseas Bank Returns ..	552
National Welsh Slate Quarries, Limited	540	Loan and Discount Rates..	554
Rubber Plantations Investment Trust	541	Overseas Bank Rates	554
North Broken Hill	541	Rates of Exchange	554
United Steel Companies ..	541	Indian Treasury Bills	555
A Tin Trio	541	Bullion	555
Arizona Shareholders' New Interests	542	Imports & Exports of Gold..	555
Sound Currency Association—A Correction	542	Gold and Silver Prices ...	555
Overseas Correspondence—		Company News—	
United States	542	Mining Output Statistics ..	549
France	543	Analysis of Balance-Sheets	549
Canada	544	Dividend Announcements..	556
Australia	545	Rhodesian Gold Output ..	556
Letters to the Editor—		Reports and Notices	556
Payment of Indemnities and Unemployment	546	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	557
Books and Publications—		Railway & Tramway Traffic	558
Reviews	546	Commercial Reports—	
Books Received	547	Corn Trade	559
		Iron and Coal Trade	559
		Cotton Trade	560
		Wool Trade	561
		Linen Trade	562
		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	562
		Hide and Leather Trades ..	562
		Portland Cement	562
		Overseas Produce Markets	562
		Price Current	563

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £2 18s 0d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."
Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

CONTRARY to expectations, Saturday's dividend payments did not produce easy conditions on Monday, and the market had to go to the Bank for a fair amount at 6 per cent., the absence of Treasury Bill maturities being partly responsible. Supplies of money became distinctly easier on Tuesday, and thanks to further creation of credit by the Government to meet Exchequer bonds maturing on Wednesday, there has since been an abundance of short credit. A moderate amount due to the Bank was repaid

on Thursday. The discount market has been easier, the working rate being about $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent., there being a slight hardening on Thursday's decision to make no change in Bank rate. A fair amount of business was done in the various usances of Treasury bills, with a small inquiry from the banks for December bills. Yesterday money was again easy. The three months' bill rate was called $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent.

	Oct. 7, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 16, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	$5\frac{1}{2}$	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount Call	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	..
Market rate (3 months' bills)	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	$4\frac{1}{8}$	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank statement reflected Government borrowing for October 1st dividend payments, and the repayment of maturing Exchequer bonds on Wednesday. The circulation expanded by £694,100, and the reserve was reduced by a similar amount. Government securities rose by over £25 millions, and Other by nearly £4½ millions, so that deposits were increased by over £29 millions, £22½ millions of which went to Other. The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £1,035,000 to £313,347,400, which includes £1,875,100 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £263,522,300, or £54,032,900 below the maximum.

In the foreign exchange market conditions have been even more confusing and difficult than before, and the feeling of uncertainty which hangs over the whole position has been intensified. Mr Lloyd George's recent reference to the necessity of stabilisation of the exchanges shows at least a recognition of the evils with which we are oppressed, but he gives no indication that the Government is prepared to tackle the main underlying causes of instability—reparation and inter-Allied debts. The most unexpected feature was a sudden rise in the dollar quotation, which went up to just below 3.80. From this it reacted somewhat, but yesterday morning it had again risen to 3.78½, as compared with 3.72½ a week ago. The only explanation so far afforded for this movement is a sudden and strong demand for sterling in New York, which fits in ill with the generally expected tendency at this time of the year. The rate for future dollars has narrowed again to ½ cent per month over spot, as compared with ¼ cent a week ago, and ½ cent a fortnight ago. Paris has been irregular, and after having been up to 52.80 on Monday has ended, at 52.25, about 20 centimes higher than the previous week. The provisional arrangement of the special reparation agreement with Germany may do something to help the French position, but the dispute over next year's budget betrays the real seriousness of the outlook. The Brussels rate, at 53.15, shows the same difference on Paris as the week before. Future quotations in Paris and Brussels have moved to 2 and 7 centimes respectively, as compared with 4 and 8 the previous week. The lira, after rising a little, has steadied somewhat, and at 94½ is 1 lira higher than last week's quotation. Amsterdam has again moved against us from 11.71½ on September 30th to 11.67 yesterday morning. Madrid is slightly higher, while Switzerland has fallen again from 21.50 to 21.30. Stockholm and Copenhagen have both improved in value, the former to 16.65, the latter to 20.25. Christiania, on the other hand, has further depreciated from 30.18 to 31.35. Berlin, after its last week's recovery, moved up again sharply to just below 470 on Wednesday. On Thursday it recovered to 458½, but yesterday it was back again to 461, reports from Germany being increasingly gloomy. Helsingfors, after its recent relapse, shows signs of recovery again, and has fallen to 252½, as compared with 260 last week. Among the Central European exchanges Warsaw shows signs of some re-

covery from its recent débâcle, being back again at 16,000, as compared with last week's figure of 25,000. Vienna, however, continues to depreciate, the London (Auslands-kronen) rate being well over 6,000. On October 3rd the Viennese (Inlandskronen) rate was 9,900, as compared with the London rate on the same day of 5,800. Prague has risen to over 350 from 335 a week ago, Belgrade is up to 215 as compared with about 197, Budapest is over 2,500, as compared with 2,400. Bucharest has moved up again from 410 to over 430, Sofia alone remaining more or less stationary at about 550. In Athens depreciation continues its rapid course, the drachma having now risen to about 90 from 78.40 last week. Among South American exchanges Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, Rio, and Valparaiso have all gone slightly in our favour. The rupee, in spite of favourable reports, is also rather cheaper, while the yen has also gone about ½d in our favour. The silver market has been much more uncertain with India and China, both as sellers and buyers, and the price has dropped during the week more than 1d. On the whole, however, the reaction from the recent upward movement has been less than might have been expected. Hong Kong and Shanghai rates have not yet reflected this downward tendency.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 to SEPTEMBER 30, 1921.

Total spent	£ 497,993,849	Raised by revenue ..	£ 456,163,160
Dec. in balances	262,082	Net borrowings	41,568,607
Total	497,731,767	Total	497,731,767

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
4½% War Stock	..	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,971	1,836
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,441	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358
3½% Conversion Ln.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	22	72
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,159
Exchequer Bonds	20	57	32	384	323	315	292	292	292
Nat'l Savings Certs. ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	283	286
War Expend. Certs. ..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,164	1,164	1,136	1,113
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	..	..	..
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	155	161
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,106	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,596	7,737
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,644	7,787

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Sept. 30, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Sept. 30, '21.	Movement 13 days ended Sept. 30, '21.
Outstanding	£ 7,750,000.	£ 7,750,000.	£ 22,500,000.	..
Advances by Bank of England ..	143,114,000.	154,489,000.	153,433,000.	+ 4,409,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	1,138,794,000.	1,120,841,000.	1,159,407,000.	- 4,515,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,281,908,000.	1,275,330,000.	1,320,590,000.	- 22,666,000.
Total Floating Debt	..	..	..	..

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

OCTOBER 1ST.—First conference at Gairloch on plans for revival of trade.

OCTOBER 3RD.—Welsh coal-owners accept arbitration.

OCTOBER 4TH.—Premier's speech at Inverness on unemployment and foreign exchanges. Demonstration of unemployed in London.

OCTOBER 5TH.—Prime Minister consults General Council of Trades' Union Congress.

OCTOBER 6TH.—Cabinet discusses unemployment. Premier not to attend Washington Conference.

OCTOBER 7TH.—Labour Conference on Premier's invitation.

On the Stock Exchange the gilt-edged market remains the only centre of any real activity. Consols have touched 49, and the first series of 5½ per cent. Treasury bonds have risen to 97½. Elsewhere in the markets the chief feature has been somewhat heavy selling of oil shares. The Ceylon Loan and several other new issues have been rapidly oversubscribed.

Rather more activity than of late is reported in the cotton trade, home buying being of fair extent. But towards the end of the week business was checked by the easier tendency of raw cotton rates. In the wool trade the price of the raw material is well maintained, and holders of piece goods are able to dispose of stocks at slightly better prices. Competition was keen at the recent sale of colonial wool at Liverpool. The demand for pig-iron remains in abeyance, and there is little sign of improvement in the iron and steel industry as a whole. The markets for hides and leather are firm. Linseed continues a weak market. More activity is reported in the Belfast linen trades.

Details of news and movements in the principal markets will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE PREMIER'S PRESCRIPTIONS.

It was not to be expected that the Prime Minister would say anything very definite or illuminating in his speech at Inverness, on Tuesday, on the subject of unemployment, but he certainly improved the occasion by enunciating some very sound principles, and pointing some very obvious morals. It is much to be regretted that the admirable copybook headings that are now brought forward by Mr Lloyd George have been so often ignored by the policy of his administration during the last three years. If we could be certain that he and the Government were now going to adopt them as principles to be acted on, and not merely formulas to be unctuously uttered, there would be good hope for the future. But, unfortunately, similar statements have been made before, and even more emphatic stress has been laid by official spokesmen on the need, as a basis of prosperity, for co-operation between the nations and the freeing of commerce from all restrictions on the international exchange of goods. In spite of these declarations the Government has forced through the House by the use of its subservient majority, and amid a chorus of criticisms from all parties, its Safeguarding of Industry Act. In the light of this record one can only read the Prime Minister's admirable sermon with the suspicion that it was only meant for Sabbath day consumption, and is not to be used as a basis for practical action in the workaday world.

Mr Lloyd George spent a good deal of time in demonstrating that what he called "the yawning chasm of unemployment" has been produced by no ordinary cause. Most of us were aware that there has been a war which lasted quite a long time, and caused a very serious amount of damage. It was hardly necessary for the Prime Minister to lay stress on the fact that "practically every great empire in Europe has been spending gigantic sums of money in the great conflict," with the result that they are all impoverished. This was indeed a fact that is only too well known, and another one that is almost equally obvious, about which the Prime Minister was perhaps naturally reticent, was this—that the impoverishment due to the war has been enormously increased by the delay on the part of the Allies in arriving at the terms of Peace, and the action taken by the Allied Governments, including our own, in imposing a huge indemnity upon Germany, and then taking measures which thwarted Germany's economic recovery, leaving Central Europe without economic leadership. It is most certainly true that "this is not an ordinary trade depression"; it has been brought about by bad politics and bad leadership at home and abroad; by the policy of hanging the Kaiser, and making Germany pay, accompanied by cheap promises of a "land fit for heroes to live in," which naturally produced a state of mind which made the work-

ing classes unwilling to face the facts of the economic position when the inevitable reaction came. They were deluded into the belief that they only had to strike and go on striking in order to secure a comfortable life with high wages, short hours and an easy time while at work. On these factors in the position the Prime Minister was eloquently silent, preferring to dilate on the question of fluctuations in exchange, and the impossibility of doing business while these fluctuations continue. "When," he asked, "will these conditions be stabilised?" and he answered that he was hopeful, and thought that things are improving. "These conditions," he said, "will stabilise first of all when nations learn that concord and co-operation with their neighbours constitute the only real, firm basis for their own national prosperity—they are beginning to learn it." Let us hope so, but we have had this very week a particularly flagrant example of the fatuous working of our Aliens Restriction Act, which can hardly be called a good example of international concord and co-operation. On the subject of the actual measures which the Cabinet proposes to take against unemployment, the Prime Minister was only able to tell his audience that the schemes of Ministers have not been formulated, and can only be determined by meetings of the Cabinet; but he put forward three or four general considerations which must, as he said, apply to any sound scheme which any Government can submit to the House of Commons. First, that if there are men willing to work, but for whom no work can be found, "they cannot be allowed to starve as long as there is a crust in the national cupboard"; second, that in considering the making of provision for those who cannot provide for themselves and for their children we have to remember that "myriads of these men have willingly placed their lives at the disposal of this country," and are consequently more than ever entitled to demand that their children shall not be allowed to starve; thirdly, that the country cannot give more than it can afford; fourthly, that does unduly prolonged are demoralising, and it is much better to provide work; fifthly, that it is infinitely better, if you can, to find work for a man in the ordinary operations of his own trade; and, finally, that the "best thing of all, of course, would be if you can restore normal conditions." This last is certainly a very illuminating diagnosis, but it is rather like telling a patient whose temperature is 104 deg. that the best thing, of course, would be if it could be brought down to 98.6 deg. We should certainly be only too glad if we could make any approach to getting back to normal conditions. But when the Prime Minister proceeds to prescribe the means to that end we find that they consist of another copybook heading reading very like the Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform to which our happier ancestors once paid more than lip service, and thereby built on sure foundations the national strength and wealth which even the war and its consequences have not been able to destroy. "To expedite the return to normal conditions," says the Prime Minister, we must promote "an atmosphere of peace throughout the world. It will have to be done by the sternest and strictest economy on the part of everybody. The Government, local authorities,

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 100 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

private individuals, nations, must not only live within their means—they have to do more than that. We used to trade with foreign countries on our savings. We lent those savings to countries who bought from us. That is an element which deserves the most careful consideration on the part of the Government and municipal authorities, and private individuals." It certainly does. In last Saturday's *Economist* we called attention in our article on the quarter's capital issues to the small amounts which we are, now and during the past two years, lending overseas, compared with our pre-war record on that account. Export of capital means export of goods, and would be the best remedy for unemployment that we could devise. But the Government, by its own protective policy and its wanton extravagance, makes it difficult for us either to save or to trade. High taxation, high rates, and a growing schedule of protected goods, already 6,700 strong, check the saving power of the individual, and so prevent us from lending to our former foreign customers, while at the same time they keep the cost of production in this country so high that, even if we were to lend money abroad, the borrowers would be almost forced to spend it in the cheaper markets that are open to them. The Prime Minister concluded with an eloquent appeal in favour of complete co-operation between all classes, and urged that consideration should be given to the projects which the Government proposes to put before the country in a spirit "not of class criticism, not of class advantage, but in a spirit of seeing what is best for all is best for each class," and so forth. We can assure him that the proposals, when they are published to the world, will be considered by us in the spirit that he desires. But if, as is whispered by those who ought to know, these projects include a widened credit exports scheme, under which raw materials and reconstruction goods may be sold to impoverished countries to stimulate their productive power, may we ask the Prime Minister to let us know, when he publishes this part of his scheme, what can be the use of administering with one hand these artificial stimulants to the productive power of our neighbours, while with the other we bolt and bar the door of our markets against their goods?

A NEW TAX SYSTEM.

(BY A TAX-GATHERER.)

MR P. D. LEAKE has a deservedly high reputation for his published work upon such accountancy questions as the proper treatment of depreciation and goodwill, and his views are always likely to obtain a respectful hearing. His latest thoughts upon taxation* will probably excite considerable discussion at a time when there are people who will clutch at any straw of betterment, and rather than suffer the ills they have, will fly to others unrealised.

Mr Leake holds that the present methods are breaking down, and causing indescribable complications, and he points to the "only practicable principle of taxation under present-day conditions." His proposal is a "production tax," and he claims that the principle is clear, the tax is "simple, just, and comparatively very easy to levy." The principle is indeed clear. "The true foundation of the taxable capacity of a nation is the amount of its annual production arising from the work of its nationals....." and accordingly it is proposed to tax, not "turnover" or "sales," with their duplication of charge upon all goods sold for further manufacture or resale, but what the Census of Production calls "net produce." This represents in the case of any given business the whole difference between goods bought and goods sold, and thus covers the fund out of which wages, all fees for services, interest, rent, and profits are paid, and this whole sum would be chargeable under his scheme at a flat rate. He does not provide for the tax reaching every element equally by way of deduction, and, therefore, he assumes that it will be "shifted" by economic forces, so as to make a *pro rata* reduction of the several shares going to the wage-earner, rent receiver, &c. It is as if someone came along in the night and secretly extracted the Government's require-

ments from the national heap of production, leaving the population to ignore the abstraction, and divide the remainder in the proportions that would have obtained if the actual national production had been restricted to the smaller amount. Mr Leake is under no delusions whatever upon the question of principle; he is, like many others, gravely concerned with the fact that the increasing spread of progressive taxation had depleted those funds of the wealthy classes out of which formerly came the greater part of the 350 to 400 millions of the nation's annual savings. Those classes who have been relieved from that burden of taxation, which would otherwise have fallen upon them, are not, in turn, performing the obligation of saving the amount which the wealthy classes are now unable to save owing to the higher taxation. Thus there is a tendency for the success of progressive taxation to dry up the funds of future development. For this reason, and for others touched on above, Mr Leake proposes in effect to throw the whole of our present system of taxation, principles and all, on the dustheap. He has no sympathy with the economic and psychological grounds upon which progressive taxation is based, and regards it as fundamentally unsound. He says: "Our methods are based on a misconception of the foundation of taxable capacity." For he regards taxation not as a thing to be borne by individuals—though paid by them as agents—but as first charged upon the aggregate production of the nation before any incomes are thought of. He boldly proposes, therefore, to tax the income of the poorest by 2s 6d or 3s, or whatever may be necessary, in the £, just as he taxes the income of the millionaire to the same degree. There is no minimum of subsistence, no allowance for family conditions, no difference between earned and unearned incomes. We are back to the early days of the income-tax, when the burden was, indeed, a light one, except for the important fact that the minimum of subsistence is omitted. He realises that the income-tax and super-tax go by the board, but he does not seem to realise that logically, also, all the indirect taxes should go too. The indirect taxes are already, admittedly, much heavier upon the lower classes, and only justified when viewed in relation to the whole scheme of taxation on the ground that they are compensated for by the much lower rates of income-tax on the lower levels of income. It has been shown that this compensation is not complete, and, viewing the taxation as a whole (especially taking in local rates), that our system is regressive still on the lower levels, in spite of the apparent heavy taxation of the wealthier classes. To leave the lower classes where they are in the matter of indirect taxes, and to charge them a flat rate by a production tax, is, virtually, to turn our progressive system upside down, and to charge the lower classes at a substantially higher rate than the middle classes. How far this is likely to commend the scheme will be left to the average reader to judge, and whether anything so subversive of our present ideals of justice would be acceptable to the majority of our people need not be discussed here. Assuming, however, that the new production tax replaces indirect taxes as well as direct taxes, it is clear that the total sum at a flat rate must be some 3s or 4s in the £.

Now there are two ways of working this tax. Either the payer of the duty—say, the management of a business—has the right to deduct a flat rate from all the distributions of the produce, so that it reaches the wage-earner, the rent receiver, &c., exactly, or he has no such right. Whichever course is chosen leads immediately to such practical dilemmas that Mr Leake should address himself to the subject again before describing the system as easy. Take the case, first, where there is no such right of deduction. What happens with all the long-dated obligations, debenture and preference interest, service agreements for salaries, lease rents, and every description of fixed contractual payment at the present time? These, unless repudiated, cannot be affected by economic forces, and you would have side by side for many years the two classes of payments. To make businesses responsible for the payment of 4s in the £ on the whole net produce, and to give them no rights to reduce these payments, would, of course, ruin many of them. Suppose that they have the right to reduce those that are in existence at the time of the change by an amount equal to the flat rate of

The New York Trust Company

with which is consolidated

The Liberty National Bank of New York

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions.

Buys and sells American and foreign securities

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Ltd.

tax. What happens in a later year when the rate of tax is changed?

Mr Leake's system seems to assume that there is always a profit. In the case where the net result of the business is a loss, it seems impossible to discover how the fund of taxation, which economic forces are presumed to have put into the hands of the payer of the tax, can properly reach the Revenue.

Definitions of services required to be made. Would the payments to lawyers for business advice be part of the net produce or not? Presumably they should be, under Mr Leake's scheme. Then the receipts of a lawyer would consist partly of payments from businesses which had been subjected to the tax, and partly payments from private individuals legally advised and not subject to such automatic reduction. For if I receive £1,000 instead of £1,300 as my reduced share or salary under the new scheme, I proceed to use it by paying domestic servants, doctors, gardeners, and lawyers for their services to me, and there seems to be no way in which these are reduced by economic forces, unless they, too, are included in the "net produce charge" at the source. Mr Leake's system leads to the most hopeless confusion when the ultimate effects of it are traced to the recipients of rewards for services. We seem thrown back, therefore, to make it practicable, upon the kind of flat rate reduction with which we are familiar under income-tax, with the exception that wages and fees will now be charged by deduction like interest, and there will be no rights of repayment to exempt persons. Such a scheme of deduction seems to destroy the merits claimed for Mr Leake's proposal, but he has not shown that anything else is practicable. One last type of case may be put. The net produce of a given business cannot be taxed until the amount is known and realised at the end of a trading period. The total shares in wages, &c., for the ensuing period are quite unknown, and may be quite different from the period for which the tax has been paid. It is quite possible that the economic forces which regulate what that business can do in the way of total production and total wage payments depend upon a knowledge of the tax burden, and this burden is not known until after the forces are presumed to have acted.

Mr Leake should make it clear whether he is prepared to face the consequences of "deduction at the source," and, if so, how he proposes to overcome the very obvious difficulties that will fall upon the immediate agents for the payments of his new tax.

OUR INDEX NUMBER.

A FURTHER upward movement is recorded in our Index Number as at the end of September, the advance amounting to 105 points. This brings the total up to 4924, which is practically the same as at the end of April last. As will be seen from our usual table below, the whole of

this rise is due to movements in the textiles group, cotton being chiefly responsible:—

Date.	Cereals and Meat.	Other Food Products (Tea, Sugar, &c.).	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous (Rubber, Timber, Oils, &c.).	Total.	Percentage Change.
Basis (avg. 1901-5)...	500	300	500	400	500	2200	100.0
Jan. 1, 1914....	563	355	642	491	572	2623	119.2
April 1 "....	560	350½	626½	493	567	2597	118.0
July 1 "....	565½	345	616	471½	551	2549	115.5
End July "....	579	332	616½	464½	552	2565	116.6
" Dec. "....	714	414½	509	476	686½	2800	127.3
" Dec., 1915....	897	446	731	711½	848½	3634	165.1
" Dec., 1916....	1294	553	1124½	824½	1112	4908	223.0
" Dec., 1917....	1286½	686	1684½	839½	1348½	5845	263.2
" Oct., 1918....	1271	780	1889	878½	1391½	6210	282.6
" Nov. "....	1289	782½	1848	903	1389½	6212	282.6
" Dec. "....	1303	782½	1805½	866	1337	6094	277.0
" Mar., 1919....	1285	782½	1502	844½	1294	5708	259.4
" June "....	1338	800	1741½	937	1371½	6188	281.3
" Sept. "....	1399	817½	1797½	1047	1344	6587	299.4
" Dec. "....	1441½	881½	2442½	1145	1453½	7364	334.7
" Jan., 1920....	1461	857½	2702½	1211½	1535½	7768	353.1
" Feb. "....	1454	846½	2951½	1253½	1614½	8160	370.9
" Mar. "....	1508	914	2974½	1246	1709½	8352	379.6
" April, 1920....	1498½	908	2938½	1232½	1654½	8232	374.2
" May "....	1484	981½	2819	1295½	1619	8199	372.7
" June "....	1511	929½	2562	1289	1555½	7847	356.7
" July "....	1499	934	2594	1308	1541	7876	358.0
" Aug. "....	1438	927	2521	1302½	1554½	7743	352.0
" Sept. "....	1504	928	2362½	1311	1539½	7645	347.5
" Oct. "....	1560½	900½	1951½	1316½	1446	7175	326.1
" Nov. "....	1478	869½	1651	1259½	1336	6594	299.7
" Dec. "....	1344	805	1284	1216	1275	5924	269.3
" Jan., 1921....	1295½	797	1187	1128½	1209	5617	255.3
" Feb. "....	1176½	771	1038	1053	1137½	5176	235.3
" Mar. "....	1212	727	1030	1003	1125	5097	231.7
" April "....	1196	723	1031	936	1043	4929	224.0
" May "....	1195	691	996	963	1065	4910	223.2
" June "....	1174½	665½	973½	973	1023½	4810	218.6
" July "....	1165	707½	958½	937	1030	4798	218.1
" Aug. "....	1184	716½	998	920½	1000	4819	219.0
" Sept. "....	1119½	688	1258	871	987½	4924	223.8

The textiles group is now higher than at any time this year, the rise as compared with the end of August amounting to no less than 260 points. Each of the other groups shows an appreciable decline, the largest being that in cereals and meat. Apart from a slight rise in barley, all commodities in this section are lower. Liberal supplies of home-grown wheat are coming to market, while imports of wheat and flour are still in excess of requirements, and port stocks have increased. Among subsidiary foodstuffs, tea is higher, but sugar and butter show a substantial decline.

In the textiles group a sharp advance in cotton and cotton yarn and cloth is the feature. The bulk of this took place in the early part of September. The movement started on the publication of an unfavourable crop report by the United States Government, which resulted in a large amount of wild speculation. During the first fortnight fully middling American rose from 10.76d to 13.69d, and Sakellaris fully good fair Egyptian from

* "The Taxable Capacity of a Nation." By P. D. Leake. An article published in "Business Organisation and Management" for October, 1921. (London) Pitman. 1s 6d.

18d to 22d. Messrs Robt. Barbour, in their monthly report, state that—

There has certainly been little attempt from customers abroad to follow the advances, and such offers as have been received from the principal markets have for the most part borne no relationship whatever to current values. India has done scarcely anything, but the rate of exchange has further appreciated, and cable reports from Calcutta are encouraging in so far as they indicate good clearances, advanced selling prices, and a relaxation of the Gandhi agitation. Fighting, looting, and pillaging in the Yangtze Valley still hampers trade with China, but Singapore has been rather more active, and both Java and South America have done something. But it is the Near East only that has been actually prominent as a buyer, and quite a respectable business has been transacted for Egypt or its immediate neighbours. The month closes with an increase in inquiry and general activity. The tone of the market is firm, and whilst some still consider the cotton scare very much overdone, and bound to be followed by a sharp reaction, opinion for the most part is content to accept a higher level of prices as inevitable, subject, however, for actual business, to a liberal discount on quotations, and coupled with a very free exercise of caution.

Wool prices are higher, and rises are also recorded in other textiles. The jute market, according to Messrs Wigglesworth and Co.'s fortnightly report, has been more active, and an advance in prices has followed the final forecast, which estimates the present crop as 4,152,000 bales for all Calcutta and Madras districts. A great scarcity of jute is expected this season. Messrs W. F. Malcolm and Co.'s flax report states that a larger volume of business has been done than at any time since the decontrol of the trade. "With the exception of Belfast, all buying centres have participated in the business, but the great bulk of the sales have been made to France and Belgium."

In the minerals section, pig-iron and iron bars are lower, and coal has fallen, but the minor metals are all a little higher. In the miscellaneous group there are no outstanding changes.

We show below how the present levels compare with those of July, 1914, the latter being taken as 100:—

End of—	Cereals & Meat.	Other Food.	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
July, 1914	100	100	100	100	100	100
Dec., 1914	124	117	82	103	124	109
June, 1918	220	220	294	186	250	238
Dec., 1918	226	222	293	186	241	236
June, 1919	231	227	284	202	247	241
Dec., 1919	249	250	396	247	263	287
March, 1920	261	260	484	269	309	325
June, 1920	261	263	415	278	281	305
Dec., 1920	233	229	209	261	230	231
March, 1921	209	206	167	216	203	198
June, 1921	203	188	158	210	185	188
July, 1921	202	200	156	201	186	186
Aug., 1921	205	203	162	198	180	188
Sept., 1921	193	195	204	189	178	192

Textiles, thanks to last month's sharp upward movement, have reversed their position, and show the largest increase over pre-war prices, while minerals are well down.

THE HARVEST YEAR.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

WHEN the returns of a harvest year are completed and a new campaign is before us, efforts to estimate the farmers' position become of interest, and therefore it has long since in this country been necessary to study the fortunes of grain importers and of those who make up the formidable food deficiencies left by home production. The price of wheat probably paid the farmer for ten months out of the twelve, but the fall in July and August was serious, and the new harvest year thus far has resulted in heavy losses on sales. Barley sold fairly well on the average, but the mean price of 62s represented very great oscillations. Those who sold in the late autumn of 1920 did best, and there was a notable recovery in August of this year. On the other hand, the spring sales were at most depressed prices. Oats fell steadily in price after November, the cause being the increased supplies of maize. In July and August large arrivals of Argentine oats completed the rout of the British farmer. Beef sold very well in the winter months, and the dry summer with consequent heavy expenses of food to replace grass has compelled farmers to charge a

higher price than would otherwise have been taken. Wool is a most depressing survey, for the enormous competing sales of Government imported wool have reduced prices far below profit level. The Government selling against the home producer represents a state of things against which agriculture struggles in vain. Hay was dear, as usual, in mid-winter and up to March. It would have been reasonably cheap from April to August but for the extraordinary drought which set in with May. The shortness of the new crop has prevented farmers from making money by their hay, despite the good price paid.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Beef.	Wool.	Hay.
	s	s	s	s	d	s
September, 1920 ..	90	80	55	124	64	160
October " ..	90	92	54	128	54	165
November " ..	90	86	54	140	50	170
December " ..	87	73	43	160	46	180
January, 1921 ..	85	70	40	170	42	175
February " ..	80	60	38	165	44	170
March " ..	85	55	37	165	36	140
April " ..	88	48	37	156	36	130
May " ..	87	46	36	145	30	130
June " ..	90	41	39	132	20	125
July " ..	83	45	37	128	18	160
August " ..	70	55	33	125	16	170
Year	85	62	42	145	38	156

In the above table wheat, barley, and oats are per quarter, wool is per lb, and beef and hay per cwt. After January 1, 1923, all returns of dry produce will, under the new Statute, be per cwt, a great convenience. The imports of wheat for the past 12 months have been rather small, but those of flour large. The desire of overseas producers to keep the manufacturing profit is a somewhat serious matter, and causes British mills to be worked short hours. This in turn creates a singularly evil economic condition, uniting a high rate of wages with discontented labour. The machinery standing idle is also to be considered.

IMPORTS

(Thousands of Cwts.)

	Wheat.	Flour.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.	Rice.
September, 1920....	14,545	1,021	1,731	1,647	1,500	213
October " ..	11,476	1,091	1,901	657	4,486	105
November " ..	6,884	1,490	1,865	423	4,060	59
December " ..	4,410	1,041	1,284	484	3,635	331
January, 1921....	3,741	858	990	557	1,891	1,040
February " ..	3,021	996	851	397	2,280	495
March " ..	5,224	1,206	1,247	622	2,365	121
April " ..	5,868	1,111	922	537	3,251	444
May " ..	7,538	1,512	576	819	2,786	418
June " ..	10,750	1,366	519	1,454	2,630	517
July " ..	5,087	1,228	1,051	1,128	2,649	540
August " ..	8,695	1,865	1,171	818	4,783	435
Year	86,839	14,785	14,078	9,546	36,326	4,718

It will be seen that wheat arrivals are heaviest in September and October, after the new harvests of the United States and Canada. This year there were also heavy arrivals of Australian in June. Barley, like wheat, is controlled largely by new crop shipments from North America, but in oats Argentine supply dominating June and July is a very leading feature. Maize is a very steady supply from abroad, though in January, February, and March there appears to be a lull. The imports of rice are large at the beginning of a new cereal year as a rule, but for the present new season the embargo on Indian and Burmese shipments imposed on July 1st is bound to cause many changes. Supplies of grain on passage are thus returned for 1920-21:—

	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.
	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.	Quarters.
September, 1920	2,400,000	350,000	250,000	900,000
October " ..	2,200,000	500,000	150,000	1,100,000
November " ..	2,100,000	400,000	105,000	1,500,000
December " ..	1,450,000	460,000	120,000	1,600,000
January, 1921	1,010,000	475,000	200,000	1,235,000
February " ..	1,295,000	385,000	295,000	730,000
March " ..	1,705,000	325,000	245,000	695,000
April " ..	2,240,000	260,000	120,000	710,000
May " ..	2,590,000	200,000	190,000	660,000
June " ..	3,200,000	140,000	460,000	860,000
July " ..	2,700,000	200,000	280,000	690,000
August " ..	2,465,000	190,000	290,000	1,350,000

The new harvest year 1921-22 came in with 2,390,000 qrs of wheat, 150,000 qrs of barley, 240,000 qrs of oats, and 2,100,000 qrs of maize on passage, but wheat arrivals in the first three weeks of September have reduced the quantity of wheat afloat to 2,110,000 qrs. The other totals are not much changed. The large total of wheat in June was mainly due to Australian cargoes which accumulate on that long voyage. The colossal quantities of Indian corn now coming represent an Argentine rush to clear the large surplus of the April crop

LATIN AMERICAN NOTES.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE exceptional situation in Brazilian domestic financial circles is proved by the comparative failure which attended the flotation of the internal loan for 25 million milreis, offered by the State of Rio Grande do Sul for the purpose of paying off the indebtedness contracted by that State for the purchase of the lines of the Compagnie Auxiliaire de Chemins de Fer au Brésil. Generally speaking, investments of this character are readily absorbed in the Republic, and the fact that this loan should have missed fire has caused considerable uneasiness among financial interests of the State, largely in the hands of the Portuguese and Pelotense banks which have acted as underwriters. Scarcely one-tenth of the total amount offered was subscribed publicly, and, owing to the failure of the issue, it is highly improbable that the contemplated reconstruction and extension of the railway referred to can now be entered upon at present. While the State of Rio Grande do Sul has no foreign debt, its internal obligations exceed 5,750,000 milreis, and the obligations contracted in connection with the acquisition of the lines of the Compagnie Auxiliaire exceed 37,000,000 milreis. The budget for the present year provides for revenues to total 34,300,000 milreis, and ordinary expenditures of 31,509,000 milreis. It is still likely, however, that the revenues of the State may show a better result towards the end of the autumn, when most of the productive months of the year will have been realised.

Financial conditions in Pará remain unsatisfactory, but the Federal Government has not replied favourably to the suggestion put forward by the State Congress and Municipal Council of the Province for a moratorium.

There can be no doubt that most South American commodity markets have been considerably over-stocked; Colombia, for example, has been glutted to an extent approaching conditions in Cuba. The congestion and the general condition of trade depression may be attributed, to a wide extent, to transportation troubles in the first-named Republic, and to reckless speculation in sugar and building in the other. Until the summer of 1920, foreign commerce had been active; the extension of credit to Europe and the purchase of European bonds diminished South American gold supplies. The result was the paralysis of international trade, and the realisation of the necessity to reduce to a minimum the importation of foreign goods.

Venezuela has been in almost as bad a position. But the process of readjustment, amounting at one time almost to the verge of a panic, has proceeded without many large failures, while the banks report a better feeling, and even some slight encouragement. Notwithstanding the disquieting condition of affairs, the only Latin-American States to resort to a moratorium have been Paraguay and Cuba. South America has likewise had its share of other economic disturbances and specific labour troubles. The most conspicuous have been at Buenos Ayres, but late reports prove that in the majority of cases these drawbacks to industrial progress have come to an end.

The long-continued depression existing in Nicaragua, caused by the unfortunate situation in the local coffee market, has not, at the time of writing, been appreciably relieved. An important factor in the situation was the termination by France of the 1902 Convention, whereby it was provided that certain French products could be imported into Nicaragua at a reduction of 25 per cent. of the ordinary duty, while, on the other hand, Nicaraguan products entering France enjoyed concessions. Up till recently a large proportion of the Nicaraguan coffee crop

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary Ltd., established throughout Australasia.)

ISSUED CAPITAL £1,844,986.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches in Ceilon, F.M.S., India, Dutch East Indies, Canada, Japan, and elsewhere.

Agents and Secretaries of TEA, RUBBER AND OTHER PRODUCE ESTATES.

Selling Agents for Manufacturers in London and Abroad.

found its way to France, so that the seriousness of the loss of the concession becomes evident. While there is some hope that the French Convention of 1902 may be restored, shippers are faced with the fact that the last consignments sent by them to France brought little but heavy losses owing to the heavy depreciation of the franc. Thus it may be doubted whether, even with the restoration of the French Convention, the position of Nicaraguan coffee shippers will be much improved. The United States now remains the only possible market for Nicaraguan coffee. It is hoped that better prospects for the new coffee crop will be experienced with the coming month, since the *temporal* (heavy rainstorm at the end of the rainy season, lasting for a week or more) will set its seal upon a bumper crop. The coffee should ripen about the month of November, and if the *temporal* arrives late the heavy rains wash away a large proportion of the ripe berries, causing losses which materially reduce the quantity of the crop. In other directions, the prospect for crops in grain, rice, beans, &c., are not unpromising, much depending upon these for the supply of native food. Some disappointment has been occasioned by the lack of financial support from American bankers which was looked for, it having been hoped that an arrangement could have been made for the advance of from \$200,000 to \$300,000 for a period of four months, in order to enable the coffee growers to gather the new crop when ripe. So far, this assistance has not been forthcoming.

Business Notes.

Coal Output.—The production of the coal mines of Great Britain in the week ending September 24th was 4,273,900 tons. This compares with 4,161,700 in the previous week, and 3,939,800 tons in the week ending September 10th, but is well below the figure of 4,834,000 tons in the week ended September 25, 1920. The weekly output since the resumption of work at the beginning of July has been as follows:—

Week ended—	Tons.	Week ended—	Tons.
July 9th	2,352,700	August 20th	4,327,800
July 16th	3,935,200	August 27th	4,101,700
July 23rd	4,334,200	September 3rd	4,141,900
July 30th	4,592,500	September 10th	3,940,400
August 6th	3,623,200	September 17th	4,161,700
August 13th	4,536,600	September 24th	4,273,900

The number of workpeople employed in and about the coal mines at the end of August was 1,078,900, as compared with 1,043,400 at the end of July, and 1,197,765 at the end of March last, just before the stoppage began.

American Cotton Crop.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—The United States Government has this week published two important reports on the cotton crop for the season 1921-22. In the first place, it has been stated that the amount of cotton ginned up to September 28th was 2,907,000 bales, as compared with 2,250,000 bales at the same time last year, and 1,835,000 bales in 1919. The amount ginned was not quite equal to expectations, as the growth has matured quickly, and the material is coming forward earlier than usual. The condition of the crop has been given on September 25th as 42.2 per cent., against 49.3 per cent. in August and 59.1 per cent. in September last year. In trade circles a figure of about 40 per cent. was anticipated, and on the report being pub-

lished prices gave way, but owing to active buying the decline was soon recovered. It is now realised that the American crop this season has met with disaster, and on the basis of the official figures available the yield is likely to be only 6,500,000 bales, against 11,377,000 bales last season. The Agricultural Bureau of the United States states that the present condition is the worst on record. There will be little middle crop and practically no top crop. The record extremes of heat and dryness have forced unprecedented early maturity of the plants. The deficiency of fertilisers has shortened the fibre, thus lessening the yield. Boll weevils are said to be swarming over almost the entire belt. Since the beginning of July prices in Liverpool have advanced from 7d to 15d per lb. The worst is now known about supplies, and future values very largely depend upon the trade demand.

The Rubber Shareholders' Association.—On Monday last a meeting was held, at Winchester House, of the members of the Rubber Shareholders' Association, the body just formed to institute propaganda work in connection with extending the uses of rubber, and at the same time to do whatever is possible to lift the industry out of the slough of despond into which it has fallen. There were about 150 people present, including ladies, and Mr D. F. L. Zorn, a member of the London Stock Exchange, occupied the chair. His speech outlined the objects of the association, and frankly stated the intention of the body to put into the forefront of its programme the interest of the industry as a whole. This meeting was in the nature of a preliminary to a larger gathering which is to be held at the end of the month or early in November, and to which are invited those who are interested in the rubber-planting industry. Mr Devitt, a partner in a well-known Mincing lane firm, supplied a practical illustration of the way in which rubber can be utilised by mentioning the matter of soleing of sports shoes, and various other methods were mentioned at the meeting whereby the use of the material may be largely increased through its employment in various ways at present little known. It is certainly true that the rubber industry stands in need of leaders imbued with a missionary spirit for spreading the knowledge of rubber's availability. The new Rubber Shareholders' Association has made an excellent start in arousing enthusiasm and willingness to work on the part of its members, who, if they can do nothing else at the moment to push the uses of the material, can assist by getting as many members as they can to join the association, the value of which must depend very largely upon the amount of public support to which it can point in its membership. Meanwhile, the Rubber Growers' Association has issued a circular announcing that insufficient support has been forthcoming for their attempt to form a Rubber Producers' Corporation to regulate the production and sale of plantation rubber. The circular says:—"In view of the experience of the past 12 months (the history of which has been briefly recorded in the foregoing) the council of the Rubber Growers' Association are regretfully forced to the conclusion that it is impossible to get sufficient support to establish the proposed Rubber Producer's Corporation, and they have accordingly abandoned the scheme. Whilst the council are alive to the importance of enlarging the channels for the consumption of rubber, and have used, and will continue to use, their best endeavours to achieve this end, they remain of the opinion that it is disastrous to continue to produce rubber which can only be sold at less than cost of production."

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo report that, after a quiet period in the money market there, a strong demand arose at the end of the month on account of unexpectedly large remittances to the country, the rate for day-to-day loans being raised to 2 sen 8 rin. The continued rise in the price of silver served to maintain cotton yarn prices at a high level, while rice quotations quickly increased, owing to the bad weather conditions, the quotation for futures reaching 43 yen per koku. In the last few days of September European and American buyers were active in the silk market. The Formosa sugar crop was good, and sugar remains a dull market. The tone of the stock markets retains its firmness, but a rise in quotations is held back

by such influences as an adverse trade balance, industrial slackness, troubles between capital and labour, and the continued rise in commodity prices. The note issue of the Bank of Japan is 1,232,000,000 yen, as compared with 1,170,000,000 a year ago, discounts and advances being 133,000,000 yen, against 285,000,000 yen.

The Future of the Philippines.—Eight years ago Filipino politicians were excited and American opinion sharply divided by the Democratic promises of independence for the Filipino Republic as soon as it is fit to stand alone. The promises were confirmed by President Wilson's Message to Congress in December, 1913, and by the preamble of the Jones Act passed three years later, a measure which abolished the system of American administration, tempered by a native Assembly, and substituted almost complete self-government. It is now announced that General Leonard Wood, the Governor-elect, and Mr W. Cameron Forbes, Governor from 1909 to 1913, who have been sent out as a Commission of Inquiry, have confirmed the promise, stating, however, that its fulfilment must be deferred till it is certain that the Filipino Government can adequately safeguard its relations with other Powers, and till the defences of the islands are satisfactory. The defensive preparations await the results of the Pacific Conference; meanwhile General Wood begins his term of office next week, and his record in Cuba gives promise that he will effectively promote the general welfare of the islands, especially public health. The repetition of the Democratic promises by representatives of a Republican Administration puts the islands in much the same position as the first class of mandatory States under the Versailles Treaty; and the Filipino State seems to be making good. The numerous linguistic barriers between the various peoples are being overcome by the spread of education conducted in English; the Moslem and Pagan races, the former until lately fanatical and militant, form about 9 per cent. of the total population of rather more than 10,000,000, and are quieting down under the influence of their own schools and of their special representation in the island legislature; the administration is largely in Filipino hands; native municipal government appears to be satisfactory; and great progress has been made with roads, railways—of which the mileage, under American rule, has been multiplied sixfold—and sanitation, which under Spanish rule simply did not exist. The railways are in the hands of the Government. Since 1913 a financial deficit has been replaced by a recurring surplus; foreign trade has more than doubled, the great bulk of the exports going to the United States, though here Great Britain came second in 1919 with about one-seventh of the total; a native bank and insurance company have been established, and the coastal shipping is said to be largely in native hands. Agriculture of all sorts was greatly stimulated during the war, and is being furthered by rural co-operative credit societies and modern machinery; the cultivated area has increased in ten years by 45 per cent., the yield per hectare 25 per cent., and the various kinds of cattle, in spite of much disease, by amounts varying from 79 to 178 per cent. Before the war the American opponents of Filipino independence laid stress on the unfitness of all but a few of the inhabitants, and those Eurasian, to govern either themselves or their barbarian subjects; on the existence of peonage, and practically of slavery; and on the danger that the islands, if independent, would be seized by Germany or Japan. The first objections are being met by the moral and intellectual progress of the islanders under American protection; as to the last, Germany is no longer an Imperialist Power, the Japanese residents are few, and it is doubtful if the race can prosper in a tropical climate. Further light, however, may be thrown on Japanese aspirations at the coming Conference. The projected defensive preparations in the islands include a militia raised by universal compulsory service.

National Welsh Slate Quarries, Limited.—When this undertaking issued a prospectus in March, 1920, there were several points about it which appeared to be unfavourable. Assets were valued at £87,141, and these, apparently, were to be acquired for £180,000, of which

£50,000 was payable in cash. The promoters estimated that the "immediate output" would, with a capital of £280,000, yield a profit of £133,200 per annum. It was further impressed upon intending investors that "there is no preliminary or experimental stage to be undertaken. Work, on a highly remunerative basis, can be commenced at once." The first annual report and statement of accounts has been recently issued. This records a loss of £9,274. The item freehold land, &c., is taken "at cost" as £180,000, to which another item is added under the heading of "additions to date" at £9,564. Preliminary expenses are given as £11,961. After a perusal of the prospectus and balance-sheet, the following sentences extracted from the auditors' report are instructive:—"The whole of the development expenditure has been charged against revenue, and in view of this fact, no amount has been specifically provided during the period under review for depreciation of capital outlay. A list of missing vouchers has been supplied to your secretary. The heavy cost of the Belle Walk property does not coincide with an independent architect's valuation, and the contractors have been asked to account for the apparent overcharges. The preliminary expenses are very much in excess of the estimate given in the prospectus. No sinking fund has been created."

Rubber Plantations Investment Trust.—The accounts of this company for the year ended March 31, 1921, show a loss of £12,150, as compared with a profit of £174,922 a year ago. Trading profit is down from £151,066 to £88, and although dividends and interest brought in as much as £49,632 (which compares with £58,384 for the previous year), the accounts are saddled with a loss of £42,202 on revaluation of rice stocks in Sumatra, and general expenses are also a little higher. Recent years' results are compared below:—

	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Dividends, int., &c.	£ 57,302	£ 46,550	£ 44,299	£ 29,652	£ 58,384	£ 49,632
Produce account, &c.	15,139	74,526	31,820	Dr. 106,630	152,216	749
Expenses and interest	72,441	121,076	76,119	Dr. 76,968	210,600	50,381
	24,487	8,734	15,344	37,107	35,678	£2,531
Brought forward	47,954	112,342	60,775	Dr. 114,075	174,922	Dr. 12,150
	109,309	16,592*	56,600†	117,375	3,300	106,471
Dividend	157,263	128,934	117,375	3,300	178,222	94,321
	32,754	63,361	..	..	62,782	..
	(3 %)	(6 %)	..	..	(6 %)	..
Directors	3,276	8,448	nil	nil	..	..
Carried forward	121,233	57,125	117,375	3,300	106,471	94,321

* £121,233, less £104,641 transferred to reserve.
† £57,125, less £525 in donations to war charities.

The net result of the year's operations is that last year's carry forward of £106,471 is reduced to £94,321, which sum is carried to the current year's account. This year, presumably, the loss on rice will not recur, but it cannot, on the other hand, be assumed that receipts, dividends, and interest will be maintained at last year's level. The accounts and report were rather better than market expectation, but the shares have been marked down on the idea that the company requires more capital. The chairman's speech at the meeting on Monday will be awaited with special interest on this account. The balance-sheet position is set out in a later column of this issue.

North Broken Hill.—Our mining correspondent writes:—At the moment, when so much is heard of unemployment, a vivid light on one of its chief causes is thrown by the report for 1920-21 of this important Broken Hill undertaking. Early in 1919 the Miners' Union presented a new "General Log of Wages and Conditions of Employment." The main stipulations consisted in the payment of £1 per shift for all men and boys, whether working on the surface or underground; six-hour shifts, operating only five days per week; the abolition of both night shifts and the contract system. The companies concerned offered to submit the dispute to the Federal or State Arbitration Courts, but the Miners' Association would have none of it, and the property remained closed down until towards the end of 1920, after the award of the Special Tribunal. The award in question, although falling short of the demands, was such as to render production scarcely profitable, except under a high range of metal prices; however, operations were resumed on a

small scale. Then came the fall in lead, and the fire at the Port Pirie works of the Associated Smelters. It is consequently not surprising to learn, from the cabled summary of the report to June 30th last, that although the profit and loss account included £70,400 received for concentrates produced in preceding periods, the working surplus amounted to only £8,100, and this without any provision having been made for depreciation, taxes, and royalty. The said surplus is applied towards new plant; a debenture sinking fund reserve of £13,300 is apparently brought in and carried out again. The surplus liquid assets are stated at £397,400. This works out at the equivalent of about 13s per share, or nearly half the current market price. Sight should not be lost of the fact that there were outstanding on June 30, 1920, some £141,000, balance of a debenture issue. On the other hand, no credit has been taken for the company's large holding in two associated undertakings—200,000 shares in the Broken Hill Smelters, and 150,000 in the Electrolytic Zinc—with other smaller interests. The last ore reserve estimate available is that of December, 1918, which placed the quantity of material opened up at 2,600,000 tons—sufficient to last many years with operations in progress at full scale. The North Broken Hill is a well-managed undertaking; but, obviously, it cannot earn profits in times of all-round adversity.

United Steel Companies.—The report of the United Steel Companies, Limited, for the year ended June 30th last, shows a substantial decline in net profits. The company was incorporated in March, 1918, as an amalgamation of several important iron and steel companies in the North of England, including the Workington Iron and Steel Company, and the report shows that net income from associated companies amounted to £705,258, as against £915,477 in the previous year. Results for the past three years are compared below:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Gross revenue	£ 1,164,585	£ 930,521	£ 711,146
Administration expenses and income-tax	48,133	38,007	81,485
Interest	209,820	146,853	146,254
Net profit	906,632	745,661	483,407
Brought forward	..	64,674	80,381
Reserve and written off	906,632	810,335	563,788
Preference dividend	41,822	119,369	32,021
Ordinary dividend	79,024	79,051	55,336
	721,112	507,042	168,138
	(10 %)	(10 %)	(3 %)
Carried forward	64,674	104,873	308,293

A year ago preliminary expenses amounting to £91,487 were written off, and £27,881 was transferred to reserve for sinking fund. The latter receives the same amount this year, and £4,140 is written off new issue expenses. An interim dividend of 3 per cent. was paid on the ordinary shares in March, but no further distribution is made, "having regard to financial and general conditions." The directors state that due provision has been made for depreciation and for writing down stocks to a value enabling the company to compete in the market when trade revives. The balance-sheet shows an addition of £413,865 to the ordinary capital, which now stands at £8,006,549. Creditors show a reduction of £882,200, but a new item—advances by associated companies—of £1,196,250 makes its appearance. The credit side of the balance-sheet has been considerably expanded, and comparison becomes a somewhat complicated matter. Investments last year stood at over £10 millions. They now figure at £8,934,025, and new items, land and minerals, &c., £2,324,685, and goodwill £253,369, appear for the first time, the report explaining that the liquidation of the Rothervale Collieries branch has now been completed.

A Tin Trio.—One of various undertakings which relinquished the convenience of a London office in order to escape the inconvenience of British taxation is the Aramayo Francke Mines, the company being re-registered in Switzerland. Consequently we have the complication of a company conducting operations in Bolivia, with its

office in Geneva, issuing to British shareholders an annual report drawn up in the French language, and with the financial results set out in Swiss francs! Converting the latter into sterling at 22.50 to the £, the net profits for the 12 months ended December, 1920, amounted to £234,500, as compared with £663,900 in the preceding 19 months. The heavy decline shown, after allowing for the difference in the two periods, arises, of course, from the slump in tin and the decline in silver. Here it may be noted—although the report does not supply the information—that last year's output included over 2,000 tons of the first-named and 1,000,000 ozs of the last-named metal. In view of the difficult financial conditions, the dividends for each of the past two sessions—20 per cent. and 45 per cent. respectively—have been kept below half the net earnings. No less than £574,600 is now carried forward—locked up in stocks and stores. The most noteworthy change in the balance-sheet is the expansion in the buildings and machinery entry, due chiefly to the expenditure on the new silver concentrating plant. The undertaking—now known as the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie—owns large groups of mines and treatment works; the output includes bismuth and wolfram, as well as the metals already named. Last year the shares were at one time well over £5. A cable announcing the closing down of the famous Mount Bischoff Tin Mine in Tasmania "owing to the unfavourable conditions in the tin market" has been interpreted to mean the end of this wonderful property, which has paid dividends exceeding £210 per £5 share. The Tronoh South, whose report for 1920 has just been issued, is in a transition stage. Last year's operations resulted in a small loss, but it is stated that during the current year fair profits have been made from the new property.

Arizona Shareholders' New Interests.—Influenced largely by the stocks of the metal on hand, future financial requirements, and the anomalous position of the "A" preference shares, the shareholders of the Arizona Copper Company decided to throw in their lot with those of the Phelps Dodge Corporation. In these circumstances, some brief particulars relative to the latter will be *apropos*. The Corporation—originally registered in 1885 as the Copper Queen Consolidated Mining Company—now has an issued capital of \$45,000,000, and owns various groups of claims in Arizona with treatment plants; also 11,000 acres of coal lands, and the shares in a number of subsidiaries, including a mercantile and store business. In 1917—the "boom" year—the output reached its record figure of 204,868,300 lbs, falling away to not much more than half that quantity in 1919, and to 95,652,500 lbs last year. Some of the properties also yield gold or silver and lead. In respect of 1920 the net earnings rose to \$35,930,200. Practically the whole of this was absorbed by allowances for depletion, depreciation, &c.; nevertheless, dividends totalling \$4,500,000 were paid on the same scale as for the preceding year, when there was also an over-distribution. For 1918 the deductions ruled on a small scale, absorbing only about one-third of the net earnings, and \$10,800,000 was paid to the proprietors. These amounts are irrespective of distributions from depletion reserve. The last balance-sheet total stood at \$215,693,800. An extensive programme of additions to property and plant is now approaching completion, and the corporation will be able to take full advantage of any improvement in the copper market.

Sound Currency Association.—A Correction.—Last week, on page 500, we mentioned that the Sound Currency Association were organising an international conference to be held in London early in October. The association now officially inform us that an International Monetary Conference will be held on December 6th. Mr F. C. Goodall is the secretary of the Sound Currency Association, and the address is 115 Cannon street, London, E.C. 4.

THE Lord Mayor has kindly allowed a meeting on behalf of the Great Northern Central Hospital, Holloway, to be arranged at the Mansion House on October 17th, at 3 p.m.

Oberzee Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—REDUCTION IN NEW YORK RATE—MONEY EASIER—GOVERNMENT SELLING RAILROAD EQUIPMENT TRUST CERTIFICATES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, September 23.

THIS week's reduction in the New York Federal Reserve Bank's rediscount rate from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent. was something of a surprise to the financial community generally. Reports had been current that the Federal Reserve Board in Washington was considering the advisability of a lowering of rates by the central reserve institutions, but such action was not generally expected at this time, when autumn activities ordinarily cause increased demands upon the banks. The reduction plainly reflects the marked improvement that has taken place in the banking position not only in the New York district, but throughout the country; it is, perhaps, all the more significant because it occurred at a time when call money on the Stock Exchange was ruling above 5 per cent., and private bank discount rates for commercial paper were higher than the New York Reserve Bank's $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. rediscount rate, which has just been cut. The bank's action, it is thought, was also prompted to a considerable extent by a desire to encourage and assist the recovery in trade and industry. As heretofore, the reduction applies to three classes of paper—namely, advances on commercial paper for a period not exceeding 15 days; advances not exceeding 15 days on Liberty bonds, Victory notes or United States certificates of indebtedness, and customers' notes secured by those issues, and for the rediscount of customers' notes so secured for periods not exceeding 90 days; and advances not exceeding 15 days, secured by bankers' acceptances, and for rediscounts of the same not exceeding 90 days. The Federal Reserve Bank at Boston also cut its rediscount rate from $5\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 per cent., and similar action is expected to be taken in due course by central reserve institutions in other parts of the country, which heretofore have followed the New York bank's reductions. Some of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks are now maintaining a 6 per cent. rate, while the Minneapolis bank still has a $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. rate—the only Federal Reserve institution that has not lowered its rediscount rate in recent months. The lower Bank rate here has not yet been reflected in any pronounced drop in the open market discounts for commercial paper, although an easier tendency is noticeable. Recently prime names have been discounted quite generally at 6 per cent., with exceptionally choice business paper of short maturity moving at $5\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. Time money rates are also relaxing. Funds for 30 to 60 days are now available at $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and for the longer periods at $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.; the 6 per cent. rate has virtually disappeared. The following summary of the New York Federal Reserve Bank's statement last week and for the corresponding week of 1920 shows the very striking changes that have taken place in its position in the year:—

	1920.	1921.
Total gold held by bank.....	\$ 148,273,000	\$ 395,714.85
Gold with Federal Reserve agent.....	268,711,000	501,598.17
Total reserves	581,819,000	972,388.58
Bills discounted	267,203,000	190,142.32
Bills bought in open market.....	103,702,000	23,334.03
Total bills on hand	863,412,000	340,051.10
Surplus	51,307,000	59,318.36
Deferred availability items.....	129,807,000	107,906.33
Federal Reserve notes in circulation ..	861,597,000	639,847.18
Ratio of total reserves to deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	39.5%	75.7%

This week the New York institution, as well as the entire system, reported a remarkable increase in reserve per centages. Owing to heavy transfers to this centre by other reserve banks of credits in the central gold fund at Washington, the New York bank's gold reserve was increased by \$106,000,000, bringing the total above the billion-dollar mark for the first time in its history. There was also a further heavy reduction in its rediscounts, it

holdings of member bank reserves, and in note circulation, with the result that its ratio of reserve to note and deposit liabilities showed an extraordinary advance from $75\frac{3}{4}$ to $84\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Similar changes caused a rise in the reserve ratio for the entire Federal Reserve system from $67\frac{1}{2}$ to $68\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

The Railroad Administration has recently effected a number of sales of railroad equipment trust certificates, given to the Government by the carriers during the period of Federal control in payment for equipment then purchased by the Director-General of Railroads. Such notes in the hands of the Government aggregate about \$313,000,000, less a total of \$33,000,000, approximately recently disposed of, mostly to bankers, insurance companies, or others, presumably for investment purposes. The first public offering of such securities, however, was made by a syndicate of New York bankers, who offered some \$12,000,000 equipment 6 per cent. gold notes for public subscription at prices to yield investors from 5.75 to 5.80 per cent. The offering represented the larger portion of a block of such notes which the syndicate purchased from the Railroad Administration at par (as required by law), and consisted of the following:—

	Amount.	Yield
Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fé	\$ 1,346,400	5.75
Central Railroad of New Jersey.....	783,000	5.75
Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy	831,000	5.75
Atlantic Coast Line	2,551,800	5.80
Louisville and Nashville	4,223,400	5.80
Great Northern	1,145,200	5.80
Norfolk and Western	1,158,000	5.80

The notes are dated January 15, 1920, and mature between 1930 and 1935, with two exceptions—namely, the Great Northern notes, which mature from 1928 to 1935, and the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy obligations, part of which mature from 1933 to 1935. This offering is attracting a great deal of attention in financial circles, where it is regarded as a test of the investment market, which has not been called upon to absorb what are practically new issues at such a low yield since the war ended. In many quarters the relaxation in money rates and the recent upward tendency of bond prices have been taken as foreshadowing a smaller yield than heretofore to investors in new financing involving securities of the highest standing. The result of this week's offering will test that theory, although it should be borne in mind that, while these notes carry no Government guarantee of any kind, they are exceptionally attractive. Thus far there has been a very good response from investors.

FRANCE.—FINANCE COMMISSION AND DEPARTMENTAL ESTIMATES—OCCUPATION COSTS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, October 4.

THE Finance Commission of the Chamber has been sitting frequently throughout the Parliamentary recess, for the purpose of giving detailed consideration to the Budget proposals for 1922, in order that its recommendations may be ready for submission to the Chamber on its re-assembly, and that the new Budget may come into operation at the beginning of the coming financial year. A very serious hitch has now occurred, however, which will probably render it impossible for this desirable programme to be carried out. It may be recalled that the Finance Minister, M. Paul Doumer, has submitted proposals which involve a deficit of 2,500,000,000 of the estimated expenditure for the year, and the estimated revenue. This deficit the Minister proposes to meet by doubling the present tax on turnover, which now stands at 1.1 per cent. on all sale transactions other than those subject to the 10 per cent. *taxe de luxe*. In view of the fact that there is a general opinion in opposition to the imposition of any fresh taxation, and also against the issue of any further national loan to meet budgetary deficits, the doubling of the *taxe sur le chiffre d'affaires*, in the Minister's opinion, is the only way in which the deficit of 2,500 millions can be met.

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



These views the Finance Minister adhered to when he appeared before the Finance Commission of the Chamber to-day. He was rather pressingly questioned as to whether it would not be possible to reduce the various departmental estimates to a substantial extent by suppressing the extra allowances made to public servants in respect of the high cost of living. These allowances, which take the form of an extra payment of 720f a year to all persons in the public employ, amount to a total of 714,000,000f a year, and it was contended that the reason for them had now ceased to exist, in view of the substantial reduction in commodity prices during the past ten or twelve months. The Minister explained that he had decided, as far back as last July, on the suppression of these allowances, but that he had been unable to issue the necessary decree for their suppression owing to the economic conditions due to the recent harvest having been so seriously affected by the drought, and to the fact that commodity prices have not yet been sufficiently reduced.

After the Minister had retired an animated discussion took place, as the result of which it was resolved to leave the Chamber to decide whether the deficit should be met in the manner proposed by the Finance Minister. The Commission agreed unanimously not to recommend either the imposition of fresh taxation, or the doubling of the tax on turnover. Eventually, on the proposal of M. Herriot (who is both the leader of the Radical party in the Chamber, and, as Mayor of Lyons, one of the ablest local government officials in France), it was decided by a large majority that it will be impossible to accept the estimated deficit of 2,500 million francs "without peril for the economic and financial restoration of the country." After insisting that "the time has come to add to the economies already effected, still more profound economies arising from the simplification of the suppression of certain services," the resolution referred back the whole of the estimates to the Government, in order that the proposed expenditure may be brought within the limits of the esti-

mated revenue. This means, of course, that the estimates put forward by each Government department must, in the opinion of the Finance Commission, be respectively reduced to such an extent as to wipe out the estimated deficit of 2,500,000,000; in other words, the work of drawing up the Estimates for 1922 must be begun all over again. Whether the Chamber will accept such a recommendation remains to be seen, but that it will be more than probable, in view of the importance with which the Parliamentary Finance Commission is usually regarded in this country.

The difficulties set up by present day exchange problems have never perhaps been more strikingly exemplified than in connection with the payment by Germany of the cost of the Allied Armies of Occupation. The Reparations Commission recently issued figures showing the total amounts respectively expended by the five Allied and Associated Powers in this regard, from the date of the armistice down to May 1, 1921. The figures have excited much attention here, owing to the high rate of pay prevailing in the British and American Armies of Occupation, and to the enormous discrepancies between the total number of men in each army and the cost of maintaining them. The following table shows the total amount expended by each Allied country on maintaining its troops (expressed in its own currency), the actual daily pay of the private soldier in each army, and the relative total expenditure if calculated in French francs, on the supposition that the troops of each country were paid at the same rate as the French soldier:—

	Total Expenditure.	Soldier's Daily Pay.	French Soldier.
United States.....	\$278,067,600	\$4.50	981,235,600
France.....	Frs.2,304,858,500	15 frs. 25 c.	2,304,850,500
Great Britain.....	£52,881,300	14s	1,230,906,300
Belgium.....	Frs.378,731,400	16 frs. 50 c.	376,053,300
Italy (in French frs.)..	Frs.15,207,700	22 frs.	12,152,200

If calculated on this basis, as one commentator points out, "the total amount to be paid by Germany under this heading would amount to about 5,000,000,000. In reality, by reducing the figures to gold marks, the amounts work out approximately at 1,000 millions for the United States, 1,000 millions for France, 900 millions for Great Britain, about 175 millions for Belgium, and about five millions for Italy, or a total of 3,000 millions of gold marks." Still more edifying, says the same writer, is the fact that on May 1st last there were 70,000 French soldiers on the Rhine, and only 18,000 British, while the less said about the number of Americans the better, while the proportion of French soldiers in the plebiscite and other areas was still greater. The Reparations Commission, by the way, has now decided that the conversion into gold marks of the cost of the Armies of Occupation down to May 1st last "shall be effected at the average rate for the quarterly periods during which the expenses had been incurred."

The bourse this week has, as was to be expected, been comparatively idle owing chiefly to the attractive offers of the new loan issued by the Crédit National. The fluctuation of the exchange has also caused hesitation, and the fall of the mark, more particularly with the great stimulus that it gives to German industry, has been a depressing factor. France, England and America, during the war very greatly developed their powers of production, but with no outlet in Central Europe or elsewhere, the allied economic situation is inevitably regarded with anxiety. French Rente has shown no serious change, but the Five per Cents. Crédit National have dropped from 450 to 444. Foreign Government securities have merely reacted to the exchanges. Banks have shown signs of depression, and both railways and shipping descriptions have been weaker. Electrical undertakings have shared in the general depression, Thomson dropping from 850 to 845, and the Compagnie Générale de l'Electricité from 1,000 to 970. In metallurgical undertakings Acieries de France are back from 630 to 600, Longwy from 1,110 to 1,090, and Acieries de la Marine from 1060 to 1031. In mining securities Tintos dropped during the week from 1,450 to 1,430, but recovered. Utah, under the influence of the exchange, rose from 707 to 727, but Boléo dropped from 400 to 390.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1912 are as follows:—

DEBTOR.			
	Sept. 29, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Oct. 4, 1921.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,14
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,75
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,00
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,44
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	568,351,838	568,566,341	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,039,619,461	1,033,261,351	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,129,458,260	36,920,973,025	5,740,085,02
Interest on securities	55,967,455	56,982,430	49,963,78
Bank notes to order	875,532	874,189	3,407,48
Treasury account	35,024,955	26,997,624	185,081,78
Current accounts, Paris	1,478,101,354	1,478,101,354	480,229,91
Do branch banks	1,007,622,261	911,444,492	135,596,86
Dividends payable	5,523,481	5,746,981	2,631,78
Discounts and sundries	60,901,674	58,882,194	19,602,82
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,81
Sundries	992,591,479	1,011,932,923	392,733,01
Total	42,632,683,957	42,344,069,204	7,240,006,762
CREDITOR.			
	Sept. 29, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Oct. 4, 1921.
Cash in hand	5,800,424,278	5,800,065,428	4,094,594,550
Balances abroad	622,236,048	622,149,587	..
Commercial bills overdue	3,847,029	693,126	865,745
Discounts in Paris	1,422,105,698	1,375,889,335	525,969,582
Foreign bills	4,581,499	4,377,869	16,880,372
Treasury bills	61,396	356,154	155,593
Discounts in branches	1,033,521,353	911,939,934	1,107,966,270
Advanced payments, Paris and branches	69,264,470	69,479,072	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	728,000
Do on public securities	413,638,287	415,608,536	206,567,005
Do by branch banks	1,761,701,936	1,781,875,731	531,589,416
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	24,900,000,000	24,900,000,000	5,798,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern-ments	4,084,000,000	4,083,000,000	12,980,750
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	99,579,294
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	100,000,000
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	43,031,671
Premises and furniture	47,200,446	47,119,942	7,445,482
Expenses and management	23,611,511	21,740,893	8,407,394
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	277,471,148
Sundries	2,010,280,255	1,875,622,966	..
Total	42,632,683,957	42,344,069,204	7,240,006,762

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

	%
Discount	5½
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6½

CANADA.—IMPENDING GENERAL ELECTION—TARIFF ISSUE—GRAND TRUNK ARBITRATION—CANADIAN TRADE RETURNS—CROP REPORTS—TREND OF PRICES—STOCK MARKETS AND INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS—REPORT ON HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION—PLANS FOR CATTLE EXPORT TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, September 15.

PREPARATIONS are now under way for a General Election; it will probably take place in the early days of December. Mr Meighen's recent utterances and the tone of the Government Press make it plain that he intends if possible to make the tariff the main issue of the campaign, and paint in lurid colours the probable effect upon Canadian towns and cities of the fulfilment of the tariff programmes of the Opposition parties. The contest will be complicated by the presence of a third party, the Agrarians or National Progressives, who are now seriously challenging the monopoly of the two historic parties, and outside Quebec have shown themselves capable of meeting them on equal terms. The next Parliament will maintain three groups of more or less equal strength, with a score of Labourites and a fresh Coalition of some sort will be inevitable.

The award of the arbitrators in the Grand Trunk case caused little surprise to people who had been closely following the evidence and arguments. The hopeless financial situation in which the Grand Trunk had stood for years was patent long ago to many people in Canada, and once evidence about physical valuation, for whose rejection the action of the railway's own officers was largely responsible, was vetoed, there was scarcely room for any other decision. It is not expected here that the Privy Council can alter the decision, and the shareholders would be well advised to study the evidence before they incur further expenditure. Nor are

hopes of some compassionate allowance from the Canadian Parliament to be encouraged, for the next House will be dominated by people even less friendly to railway corporations than the present.

The sharp decline in Canadian trade figures continued during the month of August. For that month the total trade of Canada amounted to a value of \$127,510,299, as compared with \$238,085,409 for August, 1920. Imports fell from \$124,318,014 to \$65,147,301, and exports from \$112,278,064 to \$61,485,993. The respective figures for the five months of the current fiscal year ending August 31st are 1921, \$602,315,038; 1920, \$1,063,358,170. These represent a decline of 40 per cent. in value, but Professor G. E. Jackson, of Toronto University, as well as the statistician of the Bank of Commerce, agree in pointing out that the volume of exports at least has not seriously diminished. On the basis of values the declines visible in the first and second quarters of this year, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1920, are respectively 29.1 and 32.1, but adjustment of the figures to the terms of the price level of January, 1920, shows that, while there was a decrease in volume of 10.5 per cent. for the first quarter, there was an actual increase in volume of 2.7 per cent. for the second quarter. Canada is evidently selling in undiminished quantities, but has been compelled to meet the prices of the foreign buyer.

The latest bulletin of the Bureau of Statistics, issued September 15th, strikes a more optimistic note than its precursors about the wheat crop. It calculates an average of 15½ bushels per acre for spring wheat as against 14 last year, and a total volume of fall and spring wheat of 294,387,800 bushels, as against 263,189,300 last year. The rye crop is estimated to have increased from 11,306,400 to 11,847,500 bushels, but there is considerable decrease both in the average return per acre and the total volume of the oat and barley crops. Late-sown crops have been improved by recent rains, and clover and pasturage have also benefited. The harvest is a week or ten days earlier than usual, and the threshing stage has already been reached in many Western districts. Wheat from the new crop is moving freely to the seaboard, and there is such a congestion at some of the Lake ports and Montreal that the Department of Trade and Commerce has been compelled to institute a permit system as a means of restricting the influx of American wheat which has been seeking this outlet.

The fall in the cost of living which has been in progress since the beginning of the year has been checked, and the figures of the Department of Labour show that the average price of the weekly food budget for a family of five rose from \$10.96 on July 1st to \$11.41 on August 1st; the figure in August, 1914, was \$7.68. However, practically the whole increase is accounted for by rises in the price of potatoes and butter, for which the phenomenal drought of the summer is responsible. The total budget for food, fuel, and rent on August 1st was \$21.95, as compared with \$26.60 in August, 1920. The subjoined table gives a more extensive picture of the trend of trade and industry in Canada:—

	Aug., 1920.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.
Wholesale prices*	274.4	176.8	169.8	167	165.4
Family budget	\$26.60	\$22.84	\$21.74	\$21.53	\$21.95
Volume of Employment.....	106.7	89.5	88.1	89.0	89.0
Average price of 12 Canadian securities	122.9	108.6	103.9	103.6	103.0

* Base (equal 100) refers to period 1900-09.
† Base (equal 100) refers to the week ending January 17, 1920. Subsequent figures refer to the second week in each month.

After a hearing by the Railway Commission, it is settled that there will be no immediate reduction in railway rates. The chairman of the board and Mr Nantel recommended a general reduction in freight rates of 10 per cent., and a 25 per cent. reduction in Pullman and parlour car rates. But the remaining three Commissioners dissented from this judgment on the ground that pending the decision of the special tribunal appointed to investigate the question of railway wages, the application for rate reduction should be refused.

In recent weeks there has been a slight improvement in the tone of the Montreal and Toronto Stock Exchanges. It took the form of a broadening of the active list, with a definite trend in the direction of price appreciation. It



has not assumed the dimensions of a bull movement, but it was noticeable that attention was bestowed upon stocks which have been dormant for months. The Riordan corporation is still labouring under difficulties, but some of the other paper companies find their situation improved. Industrial stocks generally have little ground for improvement. The disposal of the crop will set in circulation large sums of money, and stimulate business in the rural districts, but hopes of a broad industrial revival this autumn have now waned. Price adjustment must proceed still further before a satisfactory basis which will prove a stimulus to trade is reached. The largest farm implement factory in Toronto is almost completely shut down through lack of orders, and it is obvious that the volume of unemployment in the cities will during the coming winter reach very serious proportions. Harvest work has temporarily absorbed many of the urban unemployed, but the West now reports that it has a surplus of labour for farm work, and as soon as the harvest ends the discharged workers will flock into the towns to aggravate the situation there.

The Commission appointed by the Drury Government in Ontario to investigate the projects of the Hydro-Electric Commission has presented a report which is very critical of many of the Commission's plans, and has strongly recommended against any further expenditure on the scheme for a network of electric railways in Western Ontario.

The report of the British Commission on the cattle embargo is awaited in Canada with keen interest, but meanwhile a committee of the Canadian Council of Agriculture which has been investigating the situation in Britain has made a report recommending that the farmers of Western Canada proceed to the organisation of a co-operative export company to handle their export trade in cattle. The committee find that proposed schemes for the development of a traffic in chilled meat are not feasible.

AUSTRALIA.—A YEAR'S TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, August 19.

THE returns of Australian trade for the financial year ended June 30th compare with those for the previous year as follows:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.	Inc. (+) or Dec. (—).
Imports—			
Merchandise.....	£ 98,925,302	£ 163,322,642	+ 64,397,340
Gold	48,990	10,862	— 38,128
Total imports	98,974,292	163,333,504	+ 64,359,212
Exports—			
Merchandise	144,275,428	126,596,882	— 17,678,546
Gold	5,548,081	5,328,236	— 219,845
Total	149,823,509	131,925,118	— 17,898,391

In 1919-20 exports exceeded imports by £50,849,217, but in 1920-21 imports exceeded exports by £31,408,386, the large increase in imports having produced the difficulty in exchange which prevailed from last October onwards. This difficulty has been alleviated by the good wheat harvest, which has enabled wheat and flour to be shipped to the value of over 3½ millions sterling between

January 1st and June 30th this year, in addition to the exports of butter at the extremely high price paid by the British Government, and the more active shipments of free wool since the demand improved last April, these factors being supplemented by the various Government borrowings in London during the last few months. As it is, however, the exports of £131,925,118 during 1920-21 do not entirely represent fresh payments to Australia, as they include a quantity of wool and wheat previously purchased by the British Government, and paid for in anticipation of shipments. The reduction in imports which has been shown by the monthly returns for May and June indicates that the period of excessive importations is now over. The gold exports shown above include premium.

The area under wheat in Australia for the new season is estimated at about 15 per cent. more than last year, but as the average yield per acre was then exceptionally large the result to be expected will not necessarily increase in the same proportion, even under ordinarily favourable circumstances. The crops have made good progress so far, but the critical period will be in October, when showery weather is necessary to assure the harvest. The average price obtained this year for export has been in the neighbourhood of 9s per bushel f.o.b., but so far as can be estimated at present only 6s can be calculated upon for the new season. A good butter export is hoped for during 1921-22, and the outlook is now for better pieces than were expected a short time ago, the market having hardened in consequence of the drought in Europe. For pastoralists the season has shaped well, and the lambing has been favourable.

Letters to the Editor.

PAYMENT OF INDEMNITIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Some of our leading statesmen appear to be under the impression that the payment of the indemnities is going to cause great unemployment at home and certain leading organs in the Press share their view. Are they conversant with the flow of trade currents? It seems rather odd that the payment of a debt to a nation should be a disaster which the individual generally welcomes. Let us examine this profession.

We owe the United States one thousand millions, and other countries owe us a much larger sum. We have no bullion or specie wherewith to pay, so must export commodities or services—but not necessarily to our creditor direct. The U.S.A. possess a high tariff whereby our manufactures are practically excluded. Their principal imports are sugar, rubber, hides, skins, Egyptian cotton, wool, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, tea, copper, and tin. We import all these ourselves as we cannot raise them. Let us trace what I understand to be the mechanism of debt reduction. Assume our Government to have a million to spare out of taxation. The million will find its way to a discounting bank. The object is to cancel some debt owing by the traders of America indirectly to us, and that can only be done by the establishment of a credit in that country. The bank holds bills for a million secured on machinery, cotton, and woollen cloth exported by us to India. India pays by a shipment of indigo or jute to the Straits Settlements. The Straits pay by the export of a million's worth of tin and rubber to the U.S.A. The credit has now arrived. The proceeds of the sale of the tin and rubber are paid to the Government by the agent of the discount bank, and the accounts are squared. It is perfectly true that there has been a transfer of wealth from England to the United States, and England's wealth is so much less, but she has reduced her liability for debt and interest thereon, and if her capital were exhausted the demand for labour would be diminished accordingly. But an effort must be made by industry to recreate wealth to fill the gap, and just as in the first instance the export of machinery, cotton and woollen cloth is a demand for labour, so the repair of the breach is likewise. Taking the indebtedness of other countries to us, this

may be also mainly liquidated through the agency of the United States. The exports of our debtor countries, France, Italy, Germany, &c., will be effected by their shipping, directly or indirectly, to the countries whose exports consist of raw materials, which will be shipped to the United States on our account, and the proceeds reach our shores in the form of raw cotton, wheat, and other foodstuffs, which for so many years before the war constituted the excess of America's imports to us over our exports to her. These represented the world's payment to us for freights, profits, interest, and capital repaid. The motive power to drive this mighty engine must be effective production at low costs. Boom profits, trades union wages at fancy rates, trade boards, cost of living ideals must be scrapped or we cannot compete with our rivals, for our exports must be manufactured articles with the exception of coal and china clay. I venture to say that the payment of international debt will result in the greatest demand for Labour's efforts the world has ever seen, if Labour will settle down to reasonable wages and peace be maintained.

This liquidation can be accomplished without the importation of so much as a teaspoon into this country, but our Government must learn that obstructive legislation and wasteful administration only check that creation of wealth from which alone the one million pounds and its successors can proceed.—Yours, &c.,

ALFRED E. LEAF.

Manchester, October 3rd, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Economic Sophisms." By Frederic Bastiat. Translated by Patrick James Stirling, with an Introduction by the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith. New impression. (London) T. Fisher Unwin, Limited. 7s 6d net.

THE reissue of this work, first published in 1909, is welcome now that the sophisms of Protection are presented under a new disguise. As Mr Asquith says in his introduction, they will always have a vogue so long as there are people who think confusedly, and so Bastiat's exposure of them will never be out of date. That "Protection concentrates on one point the good that it produces, while the evils that it inflicts are spread over the masses," and so visible only to the eye of the mind; that its goal is scarcity produced by artificial obstacles; that it rejects the gifts of nature in order to make work for certain labourers and monopoly profits for their employers; and that these characteristics are obscured by the mechanism of exchange, by misapplied metaphors from warfare, and by the unavoidable but misleading personification of nations as individuals trading with and seeking to overreach each other, are truths which every successive generation forgets, and which Bastiat set forth once for all. The translation occasionally contains gallicisms. "Gentlemen Protectionists" is no more English than the "Men, brethren, and fathers" of the Authorised Version of the Acts; and the allusions to the controversies of Bastiat's day might be cleared up by notes. But these blemishes do not detract appreciably from the value of the book.

"Rubber Producing Companies, 1921." Official Guide for Investors in Rubber Shares. (London) Office of the *Financial Times*, Limited. 9s.

THIS useful handbook on rubber companies is issued by the Mincing Lane Tea and Rubber Share Brokers' Association. In the present difficult position of the rubber industry, up-to-date and comprehensive information is of the utmost importance, and investors will find in these pages details concerning almost every rubber company whose shares are dealt in on the London Exchanges. These statistics embrace directorate, capital, acreage, tenure, when planted, purchase price, crop yields, and net price per lb for last seven years, synopsis of accounts for last seven years, investments, and estimates. Finally, all recent reorganisations and amalgamations are recorded.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Purse and Politics. By Robert Sencourt. (London) George Allen and Unwin, Limited. 7s 6d net.
Principles of Political Science. By R. N. Gilchrist. (Bombay) Longmans, Green, and Co.

Obtainable from Messrs Longmans, Green, and Co., London. 18s net.

Taxation: Yesterday and To-Morrow. By Robert Jones. (London) P. S. King and Son, Limited. 3s 6d net.

The Revival of American Business. September, 1921. (Philadelphia) American Academy of Political and Social Science.

Industrial Fatigue and Efficiency. By H. M. Vernon. (London) George Routledge and Sons, Limited. 12s 6d net.

City of Birmingham Financial Statement, 1920-1921. (Birmingham) The City Treasurer, the Council House.

Jute in Bengal. By N. C. Chandbary. New edition (Calcutta) W. Newman and Co., Limited. 5s.

Recollections by Sir Charles W. Macara. (London) Cassell and Co. 7s 6d net.

Delegated Legislation. Three lectures by Cecil T. Carr. (Cambridge) University Press. 7s 6d.

Debentures: The Purpose They Serve, and How They Are Issued. By Herbert W. Jordan. Ninth Edition. (London) Jordan and Sons, Limited. 1s 6d net.

Silver Ores. Prepared jointly with H.M. Petroleum Department. 5s net.

Silver Ores. 6s net.

The above two monographs are prepared under the direction of the Mineral Resources Committee of the Imperial Institute, and published by Mr John Murray, of Albemarle-street, London.

History of the New York Times, 1851-1921. (New York) New York Times.

Statistics of the District of New York. Contained in Part II. of the Annual Report of the Chamber of Commerce of the State of New York, 1920-1921. (New York) Official Publication.

Il Fallimento Della Politica Annonaria. Umberto Ricci. (Firenze) Soc. An. Ed. La Voce.

Russian Information and Review. Vol. I. No. 1. October 1, 1921. (London) Russian Trade Delegation, Soviet House, 43 Moorgate street, E.C. 2. 6d.

Particulars and Statistics Concerning Foreign Securities. (London) George Kitchen and Co.

An instructive list of foreign investments.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Review. September 30, 1921. (London) London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.

Monthly Review. October, 1921. (London) Barclays Bank, Limited.

Monthly Review. August 31, 1921. (Cape Town) Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.

New England Letter. September 15, 1921. (Boston) First National Bank of Boston.

Monthly Review. September, 1921. (Rotterdam) Rotterdamsche Bankvereeniging.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
October 12.	October 13.

The second half of the Stock Exchange year has begun without any noticeable increase in the general volume of business. Markets are quiet, and even those parts of the House in which violent fluctuations have occurred cannot be said to have attracted any large amount of public dealing. That there has been considerable liquidation, more especially in the oil market, the Stock Exchange agrees, but the only section where any real activity prevails is that for gilt-edged securities. New issues command varying success. The County of London Electric 7 per cent. debenture stock, issued at 94, was ten times over-subscribed in less than three hours, and the price rose to 3 premium. The Mersey Power Company's offer of 7½ per cent. debenture was promptly accepted. The feature amongst gilt-edged issues is the way in which Treasury 5½ per cent. bonds "A" series have risen from 97, their issue price, to 97½, the improvement being due to the withdrawal of the "A" series by the Government and replacement by a "B" series offered at 98. Consols have again touched 49, and the War stocks have been a good market throughout the week. In the case of the 5 per cent. War

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business. Trade is interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

Loan, the price will go ex dividend in a fortnight's time, and this consideration brought in a fresh supply of buyers. Union of South Africa scrip, after being over 1 premium, came on offer at ½ premium, in consequence of the preparations for the latest New South Wales issue. The Ceylon 6 per cent. subscription lists were closed well in advance of the advertised time. Home Railway prior-charge stocks are a slack market.

German Government bonds provided mild excitement for the gamblers in the foreign market. The investor will take more stock of the manner in which the 8 per cent. bonds of the Chinese "Vickers" and "Marconi" loans have appreciated sharply, on the announcement that a special security is to be given to the Vickers section. South Americans have been dormant. Salvador and Columbian bonds continue to improve. There is nothing much doing in the French loans, which is not surprising in view of the new issue of three milliards of francs, in bonds of 500f each, to be offered at 49½, in a fortnight's time.

Home Railway stocks, after being flat, recovered from the worst of the depression, though the only feature of strength is Metropolitan Consolidated, where buying was stimulated by the increased facilities which the company is offering to its passengers. Grand Trunks are no better, and Mexican rails have sagged. Argentines are flat, the Central Argentine, Buenos Ayres Great Southern, and Buenos Ayres Western companies declaring interim dividends of 2 per cent. actual. Brazilians are very weak, owing to reduction in the San Paulo dividend, and to the passing of the interim dividend on Leopoldinas preference. Foreign rails throughout are thoroughly depressed.

The rubber market is uninteresting. The new Rubber Shareholders' Association received a good send-off on Monday, but this had no effect upon prices in the market. The Rubber Plantations Investment Trust report makes a poor showing. The Rubber Growers' Association has notified that its proposed scheme for the control of production and prices has to be abandoned for lack of sufficient support. The oil market continues to be the theatre of wild and erratic movements. Liquidation poured in from all parts early in the week, and prices have had but spasmodic recoveries. The oil shareholder looks on with mingled bewilderment and anxiety at the way in which prices are slumping. The shipping market is heavy, and amongst textiles further falls occurred, although Cook, Son and Co. ordinary and preference rallied after giving way on the announcement that the interim preference dividend would not be paid. Dunlops have dropped on rumours of possible reconstruction. The company's report is almost due, and people who profess to have inside knowledge declare that, although the figures will be very bad, reconstruction will not be proposed. The weakness in Courtaulds is surmised to be due to the selling of a few shares in the estate of the late chairman. In the brewery market, the new Manchester Breweries debentures have given way to 2 discount. Electrical manufacturing shares are weak, and the only feature in the gas market is a substantial rise in Imperial Continental ordinary. The various stores' shares are keeping tolerably steady. Marconis have eased off, though Radio Corporations again received a little support from America. Iron, coal, and steel shares, together with those of the armament companies, show a disposition to weaken on account of recent dividend disappointments. Taken as a whole, the industrial market is inclined to be heavy, with business running on very retail lines.

South Africans are a melancholy market owing to a fall in the price of gold. This took all the heart out of prices, and the weakness in Kaffirs was communicated to diamonds and Rhodesians. Russian issues of all kinds have declined—mining, municipal, and Government. The Mexican mining group is a little lower, and there is no business doing in any of the tin groups.

The Stock Exchange has declared a dividend of £2 2s per share net in respect of the first six months of the current year, and the price of the shares is unchanged at 84½. The dividend is the same as that of a year ago.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	£	£	£	£
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,990
5½% 1929 receipts week ended September 24, 1921				39,160,000
Week ended September 30, 1921				11,250,000
Receipts to date				50,410,000
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1921.				
April 1 to September 30, £1,780,000.....	Dr200,000	Dr200,000		

To the Public—				
Clyde Valley Electrical Power Co., 50,000 £ % Cum. 2nd Pref. Shares, £10, at par (Oct. 5).....	500,000	500,000	50,000	450,000
Peter Walker (Warrington) and Robert Cain and Sons, Ltd., £2,000,000 7% First Mtg. Deb. (red. at par 1922-24), issued at 92½% (Oct. 3)	2,000,000	1,850,000	200,000	1,650,000
Do 1,500,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par (Oct. 3)	1,500,000	1,500,000	150,000	1,350,000
Ceylon Government, £3,000,000 6% Inscribed Stock (red. at par 1936-51), issued at 97% (Oct. 3)	3,000,000	2,910,000	150,000	2,760,000
Roneo, Limited, 160,000 10% Cum. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (Oct. 4) ..	160,000	160,000	20,000	140,000
Joshua Hoyle and Sons, £1,500,000 7% First Mtg. Deb. Stock (red. at par 1922-1950), issued at 94% (Oct. 5)	1,500,000	1,410,000	150,000	1,260,000
Mersey Power Co., £300,000 7½% Mtg. Deb. Stock, red. by the Salt Union (rep. Dec. 31, 1946, at 102½%), iss. at 97% (Oct. 6) ..	300,000	291,000	30,000	261,000
Total offered to public	8,621,000	750,000		7,871,000
Total offered for subscription to date in—				
1921.....	£206,136,047			£367,549,656
1920.....	301,112,169			1,036,059,951
1919.....	927,088,282			1,393,381,441
1918.....	1,050,108,518			1,318,596,010
1917.....	1,111,706,360			585,436,850
1916.....	421,991,900			612,236,326
1915.....	658,988,076			512,522,633
1914.....	175,141,036			196,536,980

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. The principal and interest of the bonds are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom. The interest on the bonds will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. Bonds of this issue may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

Ceylon Government 6 per Cent. Inscribed Stock 1936-1951.—Issue of £3,000,000 at £97 per cent. The loan is the second instalment of a loan for £6,000,000, raised to repay to the general balance of the Colony sums advanced to the Municipal Council of Colombo for the construction of the Colombo drainage works and the extension of the Colombo waterworks, and also to meet the cost of the Batticaloa-Mahoe and Trincomalee Light Railway, the duplication of the main line, and other railway and public works in the Colony. The loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of Ceylon, "which is a Colony not possessing responsible government, and the administration of which is under the control of the Secretary of State for the Colonies." The principal will be payable at par on July 1, 1951, by a sinking fund of £1 16s per cent. per annum, to be formed in this country under the management of the Crown Agents, who are appointed trustees; but the Government of Ceylon will have the option of redemption at par on or after July 1, 1936, on giving six calendar months' notice. The revenues of Ceylon alone are liable in respect of the above stock and dividends, and the prospectus states that "the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock." Subject to geographical considerations, this is a good trustee stock. The issue was oversubscribed.

Joshua Hoyle and Sons, Limited.—Authorised share capital £5,000,000, of which £1,793,978 has been issued and subscribed. This is an offer for sale of £1,500,000 7 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at 94 per cent. The present issue is limited to £1,500,000, but may, on conditions set out in the trust deed, be increased to £3,000,000. The remaining £1,500,000 can only be issued on terms which adequately protect the interests of those who will be the holders

of the present issue. This first mortgage debenture stock will be constituted by a trust deed, and secured by a first specific charge on property and plant and a first specific charge on the land, buildings, plant, &c., of subsidiary companies, also by a general floating charge on the undertaking and assets, including uncalled capital, of Joshua Hoyle and Sons, Limited. The company is precluded from creating any charges upon the assets included in the floating charge, ranking in priority to, or *pari passu* with that charge, except for the purpose of securing bankers' advances, made in the ordinary course of business. The trust deed contains provisions for preventing subsidiary companies from creating any further mortgages or charges upon any part of their property. The stock will be repayable by means of a cumulative sinking fund, beginning in 1922, which provides for repayment by December 31, 1950, by annual drawings at par or by purchase in the market at or under that price. Profits are shown from 1911 to 1920, and it is stated that results for 1921 are not yet available. As the financial year of the company ends on September 30th, it would have been thought that some idea of the past year's results could have been shown, especially as the period covers a term which has been unfavourable to many companies. Apparently, however, the directors anticipate a good year. According to the statement of assets and liabilities, there is, excluding the proceeds of the present issue, an excess of assets over liabilities of £3,084,141. As the latest financial period is recently ended, it seems a pity that some estimate of 1920-21 results is not given. But the prospectus is clean, clear, and informative, and the offer may be regarded as a very fair one in its class. The debentures have been bought *en bloc* at £88 per cent. by the present vendors, B.S.T., Limited, who, in turn, pay an underwriting commission of 2½ per cent., with an overriding commission of ½ per cent. and the expenses of the issue.

The Mersey Power Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £250,000, in ordinary shares of £1 each, of which all have been issued. This is an offer for sale of £300,000 7½ per cent. mortgage debenture stock at £97 per cent., repayable on December 31, 1946, at 102 per cent., or earlier by means of an annual cumulative sinking fund beginning in 1922. The sinking fund will be applied in the purchase of the stock in the open market, or privately, at or below 102 per cent., or by drawings at 102 per cent. These debentures will be secured by a trust deed constituting a mortgage upon the fixed property of the company and a floating charge on remaining assets, subject to a fixed and floating charge in favour of the Minister of Munitions to secure the sum of £300,000, of which £280,000 has been received. The company was formed in April, 1911, and has apparently made rapid progress as regards the supply of electricity. Net assets of the Mersey Power Company are given, including proceeds of the present issue, as £557,213, and profits are set down from 1915, together with rates of dividend paid. As further security the debentures are guaranteed both for payment of interest and repayment of capital by the Salt Union, Limited. Net assets of the latter company are recorded as £1,919,958. These debentures, therefore, may be considered to be well covered, both for interest and capital. The price paid by the British, Foreign, and Colonial Corporation, the present vendors, to the Mersey Power Company, Limited, is £92½ per £100 debenture stock, "the company bearing the charges in connection with this offer." The British, Foreign, and Colonial Corporation pay an underwriting commission of 2½ per cent., and an over-riding commission of ½ per cent., on the nominal amount of the debenture stock offered in this sale. A good offer in its class. We are informed that the offer has been "largely oversubscribed."

The Clyde Valley Electrical Power Company, Limited.—Incorporated by Act of Parliament.—Authorised share capital £1,900,000, of which £900,000 has been already issued. The issued capital consists of £600,000 in ordinary shares of £10 each and £300,000 in 6 per cent. preference shares of £10 each. A further £500,000 in 8 per cent. cumulative second preference shares of £10 each at par is now offered for subscription. The prospectus states that "the company's borrowing powers on mortgage of their undertaking are limited to one-half of the nominal amount of the shares for the time being subscribed, and on which at least 50 per cent. has been paid up." The directors have also power to borrow on temporary loan. At December 31, 1920, the company had borrowed £90,000 from the Traction and Power Securities Company, £241,137 from the Government, and £299,695 from bankers. The Clyde Valley Electrical Power Company was incorporated in 1901 with power to supply electricity within the industrial districts of the counties of Lanark, Renfrew, Dumfries, and Stirling, representing an area of about 735 square miles, with a rateable value of approximately £5,000,000. An informative table of past profits from 1911 is given, also a statement is submitted which shows a sum of £1,611,193 as representing net surplus assets for the security of the present issue. But in view of the company's borrowing powers on mortgage, the value of these

figures is somewhat problematical. The issue, however, is a fair one in its class.

Roneo, Limited.—Authorised capital £610,000, of which £547,437 has been issued. This is an offer for sale of 160,000 10 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each at par. These shares rank after £90,350 issued 6 per cent. preference capital and before £297,087 issued ordinary capital. The prospectus states that "the articles of association of the company are in course of alteration so as to secure that the company shall not be at liberty to issue any debentures or any other security charging any part of its assets (except to secure bankers' or other loans temporarily not exceeding £150,000 at any one time), or any shares ranking in priority to or *pari passu* with the 10 per cent. cumulative preference shares, except with the sanction of holders of the 10 per cent. preference shares. A useful table is submitted showing profits from 1912, while, according to figures extracted from balance-sheet and accounts, including the proceeds of the present issue, and excluding the value of goodwill, patent rights, &c., net surplus assets are valued at £638,688, as against an issued capital of £547,437. In this "offer for sale" we cannot discover what the voting rights attached to these 10 per cent. preference shares are. At the present time this is rather an important point. The Imperial and Foreign Corporation, Limited, in consideration of a commission of 25 per share, agreed to subscribe at par for the shares now offered. Roneo, Limited, is a progressive concern, with a good record of past earnings, and the attraction of the shares is commensurate with the degree of risk denoted by the 10 per cent. yield.

To complete our record of new issues, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½% 1925-28)	88	88½	+
Loans (4½% 1925-45)	81½	81½	+
5½% 1929-47	88½	89½	+
4% 1929-42	96	96	+
Funding Loan 4%	71½	72	+
Victory Bonds 4%	75½	76½	+
Conversion Loan 3½%	62½	62½	+
Consols 2½%	48½	48½	+
Irish Land Stock 2½%	48½	48½	+
Local Loans 3%	52½	53	+
Aust. 5½% debts. 1922-7	96	96	+
Canada 4½% 1920-25	95	95	+
India 3½% Stock	57½	57½	+
Do 7% Stock	103	103½	+
N.B.W. 5½% 1922-27	94	94	+
UofS.A. 4½% 1920-25	95	95	+
Victoria 5½% 1924-34	92	92	+

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, l.p.d.)	2½	2½	+
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½	2½	+
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid)	6½	6½	+
London County & Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14	14	+
Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10)	20	20	+
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10)	10½	10½	+
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	8½	8½	+
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	11	11	+

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	43	43	+
B. A. & Pacific	38	35	-
B. A. G. Southern	55	52½	-
Buenos Ayres West.	55	52½	-
Canadian Pacific	151	149	-
Central Argentine	52½	49½	-
Grand Trunk Ord.	13	14	+
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref.	5	5	+
Leopoldina	19½	17½	-
Mexican Railway	15	14	-
Do 1st Pref.	41	38	-
Do 2nd Pref.	27	25	-
San Paulo	116	101½	-
United Havana	51½	49½	-

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio	74	72	-
Erle	18	17	-
Do 4% 1st Pref.	25	25	+
Italian 3½% Rentes	22	22	+
Greek Monopoly 4%	33½	33½	+
Japanese 4½%	115	112	-
Do 4% 1910	65½	66	+
Mexican Cons. 1899	69	68	-
Peruvian Corp. Pref.	16	16	+
Russian 5½% 1906	7½	7½	+
Spanish 4%	71½	71½	+

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A"	17½	17½	+
Eastern Telegraph	164½	164½	+
Marconi Wireless	11½	11½	+
Marconi Canada	1½	1½	+
Marconi Marine	1½	1½	+

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.	84	84	+
Great Eastern	27	26½	-
Great Northern Def.	24	24½	+
Great Western	66½	65½	-
Lancs. and Yorks.	46	47	+
London, Brighton, "A" 37 ..	37	38	+
London, Chatham	58	58	+
Do Arb. Pref.	38	38	+
L. & N.W.	66½	67	+
S. & S. Western, Def. 17½ ..	17½	18	+
Metropolitan	25	24½	-
Metropolitan District 16½ ..	16½	16½	+
Midland Deferred	404	404	+
North British Def.	104	104	+
North-Eastern	70	70	+
South-Eastern "A"	20½	21	+

Mines.

Brakpan (£1)	23	24½	+
Broken Hill Prop. (8)	14	15	+
Chartered (£1)	14	14	+
Cons. Gold Fields (£1)	24	24	+
Crown Mines (10)	24	24	+
De Beers Def. (£2½)	11½	11½	+
East Rand Prop. (£1)	24	24	+
Geduld (£1)	24	24	+
Gov. Gold Areas (£1)	4	4	+
Knights	3	3	+
Modderfontein (10)	34	34	+
Modderfontein "B" (5)	14	14	+
Modderfontein, Deep (5)	24	24	+
Premier Def. (2)	54	54	+
Rand Mines (5)	24	24	+
Rio Tinto (£5)	27½	28	+
Spring Mines (£1)	24	24	+

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1)	113	113	+
Armstrong (Sir W. G.)	17½	16½	-
Ass. Phos. Cement (£1) 17/9 ..	15	15	+
Bhamo Soda (£1 Ord.)	8½	8½	+
Brazil Traction (£100) 29	28	28	+
British-American	37½	37½	+
Tobacco (£1)	37½	37½	+
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	18	18	+
Burmah Oil (£1)	58½	48	-
Coats (J. and P.) (£1)	21½	22½	+
Courtauld (£1)	11½	11½	+
Conard (£1)	18	18	+
Dorman, Long (£1)	18	18	+
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	18	18	+
Forestal Land (£1)	14	14	+
Furness, Withy (£1)	14	14	+
Highlands and Low-lands Rubber (£1) ..	14	14	+
Hudson's Bay (£1)	54	54	+
Imperial Tobacco (£1)	24	24	+
Int'l Paint (£1)	14	14	+
Ling's Plantas (£1)	14	14	+
Lipton (£1)	7	7	+
Lister (£1)	18	18	+
Lobitos Oilfields (£1)	4	4	+
Lyons (J. & Co. (£1)	24	24	+
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.)	18	18	+
Mexican Eagle (£10)	44	44	+
North Caucasian (10)	32	32	+
Pekin (2)	32	32	+
Rubber Plantations	8	8	+
Investment (£1)	4	4	+
Shell Transport (£1)	44	44	+
Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1)	33	33	+
Underground Electric (£10)	2	2	+
Do "A" (1)	14	14	+
Do Inc. Bds. (£100) 74½ ..	74	74	+
United Serdang (2)	4	4	+
United Tobacco (£1)	54	54	+
Ural Caspian (£1)	14	14	+
Vallambrosa (2)	14	14	+
Vickers (£1)	14	14	+
Watney Def. Stk.	132½	132½	+

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1921

	Tons Crushed.	Gold Recovered.	Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Mill.	Cyanide Works.
Gold.				
Ashanti	7,685		7,263	£ 30,586
Consolidated of N. Zealand: Blackwater	3,159			6,372
Lake View and Star	6,550			(a) 11,587
London and Rhodesian: Jessie	1,900			2,468
Radnor	573			586
Orville Dredging: Pato (8 days to Sept. 21st) ..				\$26,027
St John del Rey				39,500

(a) At par. * Loss.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.	Tons.	
Gopeng Cons.....	89	Est. value, £8,050; est. cost, £2,415.
Idris Hydraulic.....	203	Est. value, £1,925; est. cost, £1,458.
Kinta	353	Value, £3,290; gross profit, £1,633.
Lahat	473	Value, £4,388; cost, £4,636.
Malayan	773	Value, £7,213; cost, £7,576.
Mongu (Nigeria)	473	
Rambutan	153	Est. value, £1,400; est. cost, £935.
Ropp	165	..
Siamese	102	..
Sungei Besi.....	46	Est. value, £4,520; est. cost, £2,800.
Tekka	39	Est. value, £3,500; est. cost, £1,635.
Tekka-Taiiping	30	Est. value, £2,685; est. cost, £1,750.
Tronoh	17	Value, £1,562; cost, £2,180; tribute profit £700.
Coal.		
Chinese Engineering	83,519	Week ended Sept. 24th.
Clydesdale	22,574	Coalbrook; 22,547 tons Blackhill.
Dundee	34,441	..
Natal Navigation.....	29,452	..
Northern Natal.....	14,282	..
Twefontein United	96,718	..
Vryheid	34,221	..
Wankie	29,406	Coke sales, 9,956 tons.
Miscellaneous.		
Cascalho	..	213 diamonds, weighing 69 carats; 123 ozs gold; est. value, £560.
New Vaal River	..	Diamonds registered, 620 carats; value £4,977.
Rhodesia Broken Hill	1,431	Lead; 1,004 tons sold and delivered.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

ARGENTINE IRON AND STEEL COMPANY, LIMITED. BOARD'S CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

The ninth ordinary general meeting of the Argentine Iron and Steel Company (Pedro Vasena é Hijos), Limited, was held, on the 6th inst., at Winchester House, London, Baron Emile B. d'Erlanger (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, dealt first with the balance-sheet. He explained that the bills payable, bank overdrafts, and creditors and credit balances—the three important items of quick liabilities—with certain small items added, totalled £965,000, while the quick assets, consisting of stocks after being written down, moneys owing to the company and cash in hand, totalled £1,352,000, leaving a balance to the good of nearly £387,000. If the debenture debt of £242,000 were deducted from this surplus it still left a balance of £145,000, which, added to the fixed assets of £784,000, gave a figure in excess of the total share capital, and provided a margin of some £425,000 over and above the preference capital. Their secretary (Mr Yaxley), who had paid a long visit to the Argentine, had been greatly impressed with the value of the company's fixed assets, and confirmed the directors in their belief that those assets stood in the books at far below their intrinsic value. The stock in hand, standing in the balance-sheet at the cost value of £830,000, had been written down to £620,000. The trading profit for the year was the highest on record since the formation of the company, and although they had increased the depreciation fund by £26,000, as against £19,000 in 1920, the net profit showed an increase of £3,000.

Up to well in the summer of the year 1920 the difficulties of obtaining iron and steel products were very great, the buyer being almost entirely at the mercy of the supplier, and the only source of supply at that time was the United States of America. In the autumn of 1920 the position of the steel industry became suddenly reversed, and though prices did not fall severely or rapidly at first production overcame demand, and the North American steel producers suddenly dumped upon their customers all the delayed and current orders. These accumulated deliveries coincided with the arrival of the wave of trade depression in Argentina. In these circumstances it behoved the board to take drastic measures, and they had added the net profit of the past year to the contingency reserve, thus raising it to £280,000, and applied £210,000 to writing down stocks, leaving £70,000 to be applied to reducing the value of such stocks as had been delivered since February, 1921. They could congratulate themselves upon having been extremely conservative in their financial policy in the past and having built up an important contingency reserve, for to that was due the unstinted support that had been vouchsafed to them by the South American banks. He was certain that the courageous way in which they had faced the situation created by the world crisis could but strengthen the confidence of all those directly or indirectly concerned in the welfare of the company, and that they would feel that the management would leave no stone unturned to liquidate the company's indebtedness to third parties and to their preference shareholders for the arrears of dividend and to resume the regular dividends as promptly as possible.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

LEACH'S ARGENTINE ESTATES, LIMITED. ADVERSE FACTORS IN ARGENTINE CANE INDUSTRY.

The ninth ordinary general meeting of Leach's Argentine Estates, Limited, was held, on the 7th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, Baron Ferdinand A. d'Erlanger, vice-chairman, presiding.

The secretary (Mr W. F. Yaxley) having read the notice calling the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in the course of moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: I am sorry to say that the profit and loss account does not compare favourably with that of last year, as the profit on trading amounts to £171,581 against £268,792 for 1920. The balance carried to the balance-sheet is £61,727, against £121,958 last year. This result is due to various causes, which I will endeavour to put before you as briefly as possible. At our last meeting I referred to two important points, namely, the occurrence in the middle of July of very severe frosts, and the efforts of the Argentine Government to pass a law for the expropriation of 200,000 tons of sugar, at the same time prohibiting exportation. With regard to point number one the effects of the frosts had a most disastrous result, as the crop, which had originally been calculated to produce about 20,000 tons, ultimately produced only 13,132 tons of sugar. In addition, great damage was done to the roots of the cane already cut at the time of the frosts, reducing very materially the number of lines available for the following (that is, the current) crop. Further, the banana plantations, from which great results were expected, were adversely affected, so that our profits, instead of being increased, were reduced from £12,000 to £5,000.

As to the second point, the threat that special sessions would be held to discuss the Expropriation Bill again, hung over the market for several months, unsettling the minds of commercial people and interfering with the freedom of sales. After the turn of the year the market took a firmer trend and prices gradually improved, without, however, giving cause for either the consumer or the Government to complain. In a word, we have produced far less sugar than we expected; the cost of production has been abnormally high, and the average price obtained for output below what it would have been had the market been allowed to follow its natural course.

As a result of the frost last year a large number of lines of cane had to be thrown away, and to replace these a special effort has been made during the current crop to lay down about 60,000 lines of new cane.

As to the current crop the total production of sugar in the Argentine is calculated at 183,000 tons, of which 11,450 tons corresponds to our factory. I regret that I have again to report serious frosts in the early part of the cropping season. By the date the frost occurred we had manufactured 2,000 tons more sugar than at the corresponding date in the previous year. These successive blows are very disheartening, and the oldest inhabitants wonder at the phenomenal change in the climate.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business transacted.

OIL OUTPUTS.

APEX (TRINIDAD) OILFIELDS.—Estimated production of crude oil for September was 48,380 barrels, equal to, approximately, 6,900 tons.

LOBITOS OILFIELDS, LIMITED.—The production for September is called as 8,631 tons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday September 28, 1921, amounted to 1,661 tons.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT. (000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.				
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,322	3,810	..	..	48.1	9,924	11,425
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	..	..	9,286
1915.									
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536
1916.									
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868
1917.									
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	6,486
1918.									
Dec. 31.....	325,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,415
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305
Sept. 29.....	*353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385
Dec. 29.....	*367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30.....	*343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	..	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141
June 29.....	*323,884	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150
Sept. 19.....	*318,036	14,325	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.1	281,265	146
Oct. 1.....	*315,912	14,146	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,968	140
28.....	*314,382	14,830	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	143
Oct. 5.....	*313,347	15,929	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.3	278,182	143

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Oct. 10th-Oct. 15th, were opened on Oct. 7, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £134,390,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £98 18s 10d will receive about 63.9 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bills at £98 19s 1d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £4 3s 0.81d.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition ¹ Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Sept. 9 (3months)	£ 50,000,000	£ 73,835,000	£ s d 4 1 6.36	3½	£98 19s 6d bills about 50% and above in full.
Sept. 16 (3months)	45,000,000	71,075,000	4 0 6.33	3½	£98 19s 9d bills about 14½% and above in full.
Sept. 23 (3months)	60,000,000	83,985,000	3 19 11.31	3½	£98 19s 8d (Monday bills and above in full, Tuesday to Saturday bills £98 19s 10d, about 39.4% and above in full.
Sept. 30 (3months)	60,000,000	83,755,000	4 9 2.34	4½	£98 16s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 87.2% above in full, Saturday bills £98 17s 3d, and above in full.
Oct. 7 (3months)	60,000,000	134,390,000	4 3 0.81	3½	£98 18s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 63.9% above in full, Saturday bills £98 19s 1d and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, October 5, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes Issued	£ 145,045,285	Government debt	£ 11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,595,285
	145,045,285		145,045,285

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	£ 14,553,000	Government securities ..	£ 58,540,907
Reserve	3,084,656	Other securities	84,948,639
Public deposits*	19,266,387	Notes	19,378,595
Other deposits	127,772,217	Gold and silver coin ..	1,818,556
Seven-day & other bills ..	10,437		
	164,686,697		164,686,697

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: **HELSINKI (Helsingfors), FINLAND.**

Capital and Reserves - - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.

ROYAL

INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Oct. 5, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£3,084,656	—	+ 444,912
Public deposits	19,266,387	+ 7,035,064	+ 1,983,368
Other deposits	127,772,217	+ 22,351,282	+ 6,990,473
Government securities	58,540,907	+ 25,180,578	+ 5,248,348
Other securities	84,948,639	+ 4,454,199	+ 11,070,355
Reserve	21,127,151	+ 694,636	+ 7,355,672
Note circulation	125,656,690	+ 694,110	+ 2,137,285
Coin and bullion	128,413,841	— 526	+ 5,218,387
% of reserve to liabilities	143%	— 41%	+ 51%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulating Bank Post Bills.	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
July 13, 1921.	£128,373,661	£127,955,565	£154,629,219	£153,615,715	£18,868,096	124.6	5 1/2
20.	128,367,459	127,717,740	165,222,777	164,993,389	19,099,719	124.6	5 1/2
27.	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,809,758	121,888,921	18,536,693	124.6	5 1/2
Aug. 3.	128,362,461	128,694,175	125,027,112	124,878,424	18,133,686	124.6	5 1/2
10.	128,390,654	127,564,172	131,222,462	130,266,384	19,266,384	124.6	5 1/2
17.	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	124.6	5 1/2
24.	128,402,703	125,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	124.6	5 1/2
31.	128,409,235	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	124.6	5 1/2
Sept. 7.	128,410,306	126,432,535	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	124.6	5 1/2
14.	128,410,714	125,207,555	144,600,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	124.6	5 1/2
21.	128,417,297	124,406,495	129,163,884	124,810,483	22,460,802	124.6	5 1/2
28.	128,414,367	124,872,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	124.6	5 1/2
Oct. 5.	128,413,841	125,666,690	147,038,604	143,489,546	21,197,151	124.6	5 1/2

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Oct. 4, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Oct. 8, 1919.	Oct. 6, 1920.	Oct. 5, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	29,620,550	28,933,380	84,405,790	127,803,975	125,666,690
Public deposits	11,322,405	19,014,809	23,151,037	21,249,755	19,266,387
Other deposits	42,867,726	41,248,964	120,331,701	134,762,490	127,772,217
Government securities	15,536,084	11,046,570	57,231,015	63,789,255	58,540,907
Other securities	28,537,286	41,461,280	81,707,450	96,018,591	84,948,639
Reserve of notes and coin	27,893,681	25,463,980	22,170,904	13,841,479	21,197,151
Coin and bullion	39,064,231	35,947,360	88,126,694	123,195,454	128,413,841
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	51 1/2%	42 1/2%	15 1/2%	8 1/2%	14 1/2%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	5%	7%	5 1/2%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	3 1/2%	2 1/2%	4 1/2%	6 1/2%	4 1/2%
Price of Consols	77 1/2	74 1/2	51 1/2	46 1/2	48 1/2
Price of silver per oz.	24 1/2d	26 1/2d	63 1/2d	56 1/2d	42 1/2d
Average price of wheat	32s 6d	33s 6d	78s 4d	96s 7d	56s 10d
Exchanges { Paris 25-18 1/2	25-18 1/2	25-18 1/2	35-30-40	52-30-52	52-00-52-55
on { New York 84-8 1/2	84-8 1/2	84-7 1/2	84-18 1/2	83-50-84	83-74-77 1/2
Amsterdam 12-23	12-23	12-05-10	11-12-14	11-25-28	11-65-69
London 20-50 1/2	20-50 1/2	20-49 1/2	104-106	222-226	465-475
Berlin 20-50 1/2	20-50 1/2	20-49 1/2	104-106	222-226	465-475
Clearing house return	£47,289,000	£199,913,000	£590,436,000	£883,379,000	£790,403,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£23,338,629,000	£2,257,566,000	£25,596,195,000
January 1—September 28	729,298,000	61,105,000	790,403,000
October 5	24,067,927,000	2,318,671,000	26,386,598,000
Do 1920	27,090,660,000	3,176,751,000	30,267,411,000
Increase or decrease in 1921..	+ 3,022,733,000	+ 358,080,000	+ 3,380,813,000
	+ 11.1%	+ 27.0%	+ 12.9%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,366,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920..	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.	%
Aggregate Totals to October 1.	£147,277,200	£95,721,800	— 51,555,400	35.0
BIRMINGHAM	68,966,000	58,497,000	— 10,469,000	15.1
BRISTOL	34,034,800	27,927,700	— 6,107,100	18.7
DUBLIN (33 Weeks ended October 1)	37,583,800	—	—	—
LEECHES	68,734,900	43,921,900	— 24,813,000	36.0
LIVERPOOL	48,789,500	29,672,300	— 19,117,200	39.1
MANCHESTER	635,135,900	337,216,800	— 297,919,100	46.9
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	1,178,818,400	546,943,600	— 631,874,800	53.6
NOTTINGHAM	45,127,200	17,786,400	— 27,340,800	41.8
SHEFFIELD	66,471,600	44,204,500	— 22,267,100	33.4

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.
UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.
(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Sept. 27, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve	2,725,970	+ 14,840	1,989,840
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	152,720	+ 750	161,760
Bills discounted for member banks	1,402,900	+ 15,580	2,704,460
Bills bought in open market	38,890	+ 5,380	307,620
Government obligations owned	224,260	+ 7,270	297,500
All other resources	54,210	— 270	31,690
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits	57,250	— 16,930	45,490
Other deposits	1,660,150	+ 42,720	1,611,980
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,457,200	+ 17,470	3,280,600
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	101,370	— 2,220	214,180
All other liabilities	21,330	+ 340	78,530
Capital and surplus	316,870	+ 5,190	262,150
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	69%	+ 3%	43.6%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances	476,811,646	520,557,603	526,309,260
Bank balances abroad	65,128,352	67,919,535	78,776,577
Call and short loans	268,443,419	276,644,829	318,406,103
Securities	385,571,399	388,496,442	365,241,626
Loans in Canada	1,358,883,309	1,362,621,732	1,476,881,229
Loans abroad	155,238,085	155,846,239	150,914,052
Other assets	106,207,018	107,522,258	111,326,448
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	193,339,095	195,675,217	231,534,233
Deposits—			
Government	128,777,843	145,544,242	196,534,899
Public in Canada	1,820,311,934	1,870,372,789	1,892,585,468
Foreign	274,231,912	282,158,779	348,003,545
Bank balances—			
Canadian	10,300,260	12,675,118	12,199,695
Foreign	39,029,582	41,677,919	44,942,126
Bills payable and acceptances	40,429,404	42,810,118	49,596,151
Other liabilities	2,815,632	3,033,652	3,313,344
Capital and rest	264,326,315	264,318,599	256,079,103

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Oct. 6, 1921.	Sept. 29, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,523,304	5,523,096	5,481,108	+ 208	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,943,367	1,978,278	— 5,000	632,660
Silver coin and bullion	777,619	777,328	777,328	— 291	2,327,775
Discount and advances	4,618,917	4,704,873	4,889,390	+ 85,956	5,811,875
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	37,792,329	37,129,459	39,567,316	+ 662,870	183,700
Government deposits	35,037	35,025	45,601	+ 12	845,950
Private deposits	2,326,330	2,474,075	3,156,484	+ 147,745	—

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Oct. 1, 1921.	Sept. 24, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Oct. 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	2,503,117	2,501,836	2,500,659	2,452,884	+ 1,281	521,775
Silver	625,262	624,417	622,751	591,383	+ 845	728,600
Loans and discounts	1,974,460	1,938,495	1,960,712	1,800,636	+ 35,965	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,474	344,474	344,474	344,475	—	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	—	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,246,321	4,207,052	4,204,411	4,113,770	+ 39,269	1,901,550
Deposits	1,033,249	1,018,560	1,024,189	908,823	+ 14,669	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,391,598,778	1,364,561,491	1,516,977,160	+ 27,037,287	— 125,378,382
Government loans and securities	2,015,419,740	1,978,609,525	809,726,628	+ 36,810,215	+ 120,693,112
Discounts and loans	738,630,261	746,331,094	655,482,861	+ 7,700,833	+ 83,147,400
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,831,843,293	1,816,221,262	1,415,820,916	+ 15,622,031	+ 416,022,377
Government deposits	135,386,735	134,929,138	115,349,507	+ 457,597	+ 20,037,222
Private sight deposits	977,429,773	915,363,482	757,928,957	+ 62,066,291	+ 219,500,806
Private deposits at fixed dates	858,244,881	853,663,521	510,908,468	+ 4,581,360	+ 347,336,411

BANK OF JAPAN.

	Aug. 27, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1921.	Aug. 13, 1921.	Aug. 28, 1920.	Move- ment.	Position June 30, 1919.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,278,169	1,275,420	1,275,765	1,041,060	+ 251	221,320
Advances	93,985	91,882	94,325	230,750	+ 28,133	41,740
Discounts	101,832	90,074	81,786	331,945	+ 11,758	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,126,582	1,096,414	1,105,943	1,202,344	+ 30,168	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,384,701	1,369,641	1,364,356	1,386,629	+ 15,060	87,340
Private deposits	47,964	57,075	42,264	53,653	+ 9,111	11,446

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	1,023,704	1,023,705	1,091,577	— 1,151	1,313,241
Silver	16,064	17,215	19,861,355	+ 497,368	60,780
Treasury notes	3,128,791	3,676,153	54,995,623	+ 15,968,425	943,460
Bills discounted	99,564,355	83,959,330	—	—	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	86,384,285	82,178,940	61,735,489	+ 4,205,346	2,013,860
Deposits	19,980,295	10,563,153	20,053,596	+ 9,417,142	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

BANK OF ITALY.					
(000's omitted.)					
	Aug. 10, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1920.	Move- ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash	1,345,335	1,346,218	1,136,878	+ 883	1,221,875
Inland bills	2,997,118	3,136,364	2,804,294	+ 139,246	418,361
Foreign bills	19,525	19,575	20,484	+ 50	81,111
Advances to the Treasury	6,362,662	6,362,036	7,774,753	+ 26	19,111
Other advances	2,449,747	2,477,777	1,994,608	+ 28,030	79,777
Securities	388,840	391,451	222,495	+ 2,971	205,111
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	13,870,341	14,005,103	13,805,126	+ 134,762	1,566,111
Deposits and drafts	1,705,298	1,765,665	1,686,189	+ 60,637	192,111

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.
(1000's omitted.)

Assets.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Bank to the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.	10,067,603	9,798,394	9,623,867	+ 269,209
Discount and advances	3,448,444	3,373,581	3,281,496	+ 74,853
Gold	1,176,903	1,396,976	1,451,715	+ 220,713
State notes in circulation	1,333,920	1,260,974	1,324,050	+ 72,946
Deposits	11,138,974	11,253,828	11,456,917	+ 114,854
Other liabilities	1,950,683	2,011,939	1,706,121	- 61,316
	2,937,213	2,564,098	2,518,090	+ 373,115

LONDON RATES.

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Oct. 2, 1921.	Oct. 3, 1921.	Oct. 4, 1921.	Oct. 5, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921)	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
60 days' bankers' drafts	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
3 months' do.	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
4 months' do.	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
6 months' do.	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount (Treasury Bills):—								
3 months'	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Loans:—Day to day	3 1/2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Short	3 1/2	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Deposit allowances:—Banks	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Discount houses at call	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
At notice	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
July 1921.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
July 22.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
29.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Aug. 5.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
12.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
19.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
26.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Sept. 3.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
10.....	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
16.....	3 1/2	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
23.....	4	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
30.....	4	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Oct. 7.....	4	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date.	Previous Rate.	Date.
Discount	6%	July 21, 1921	6%	June 23, 1921
Deposit	3%	June 23, 1921	3%	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

	Bank Rate	Changed.		Bank Rate	Changed.
Amsterdam	July 1, 1921	.. 4 1/2	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920	.. 6
Athens	May 15, 1920	.. 5 1/2	Paris	July 23, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	.. 5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Brussels	May 19, 1921	.. 5	Rome	May 11, 1920	.. 6
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	.. 6	Sofia	June 14, 1919	.. 6 1/2
Calcutta	June 2, 1921	.. 5	Stockholm	July 5, 1921	.. 6
Christiana	July 5, 1921	.. 5 1/2	Swiss Bank		
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921	.. 5 1/2	places	Aug. 11, 1921	.. 4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	.. 9	Tokio	Nov. 18, 1919	.. 4
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	.. 7	Vienna	Apr. 15, 1921	.. 6
New York Federal Reserve	Sept. 21, 1921	.. 5	Warsaw	Sept. 1, 1921	.. 7

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 30, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 7, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	52-18-23	52-28-33
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	221-223	434-437
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	950-975	5100-5500
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	265-270	340-350
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20-43	940-970	22000-23000
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	182-185	410-415
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	24-02	..	430-435
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	620-640	670-690
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	200-220	500-550
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	95-100	197
Amsterdam	guilder to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-73-75	11-64-67
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	49-85-90	53-33-38
Christiana	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-00-25-30	31-35-40
Stockholm	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-61-66	16-71-76
Copenhagen	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	24-95-25-00	20-35-39
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	123-123	257-262
Geneva	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	78-78	90-90
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	88-25-50	94 1/2
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	21-85-90	21-28-33
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	23-90-95	23-70-75
Lisbon	pence to £1	T.T.	53 1/2	101-3	64-8
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97 1/2	97 1/2-97 3/4	97 1/2-97 3/4
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-51-51 1/2	3-72 1/2-72 3/4
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-51-51 1/2	3-72 1/2-72 3/4
Buenos Ayres	pence to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	55 1/2-57 1/2	46 1/2-47 1/2
Rio de Janeiro	pence to £1	T.T.	16	12 1/2	8 1/2
Montevideo	pence to £1	T.T.	16	12 1/2	8 1/2
Valparaiso	pence to £1	T.T.	13-13	13-13	32-30
Lima	soles to £1	T.T.	13-13	13-13	32-30
Calcutta	ster. to rupees	T.T.	10-10	16 1/2-18 1/2	16 1/2-18 1/2
Bombay	ster. to rupees	T.T.	10-10	16 1/2-18 1/2	16 1/2-18 1/2
Madras	ster. to rupees	T.T.	10-10	16 1/2-18 1/2	16 1/2-18 1/2
Hong Kong	ster. to dollars	T.T.	..	4s 10d-5s 7d	2s 11d-3s 0d
Shanghai	ster. to tael	T.T.	..	5s 6d-5s 7d	3s 11d-4s 0d
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	2s 3 1/2d-2s 3 1/2d	2s 3 1/2d-2s 3 1/2d
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	24 1/2	2s 10 1/2d-1s 11 1/2d	2s 6d-6s 6d
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24-06 1/2	12s 6d	12s 6d
Mexico	pence to £1	T.T.	..	132d-34d	132d-34d

† Rate for previous day. § Sellers. (a) Pence to peso.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 7, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	5-10	2-89	2-55 1/2
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	9-24	5-32 1/2	4-73
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	11-7 1/2	5-17	4-58
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	..	11-55	4-20	3-66
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	..	..	7-25	6-60

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Oct. 1 14-50
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	Oct. 5 23-30
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	43d	"	Oct. 3 90-00
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31 1/2	"	Sept. 24 3-60
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24-65 1/2	"	Sept. 28 7-75
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-66 1/2	"	Oct. 1 202-50
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	"	Aug. 13 16-25
Bolivia	Pence to Boliviano	..	"	Aug. 19 14 1/2

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Sept. 8, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.
Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral)	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 30 days	6	6	6	6	6
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 7, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.
London—					
50 days	Dollars for £1	4-86 1/2	3-41 1/2	3-69	3-67 1/2
Cable			3-40 1/2	3-74	3-72 1/2
Cheques			3-40 1/2	3-750	3-716 1/2
Paris	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	14-99	7-13	7-23
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	14-99	7-13	7-23
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	14-99	7-13	7-23
Italy	Cents for 1 mark	23-83	1-59	0-93	0-82 1/2
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	20-26	0-39	0-90	0-60
Vienna	Cents for 1 krona	19-30	14-68	13-05	13-13
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	40-195	31-062	31-76	31-85
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	14-05	17-78	17-78	18-75
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	12-30	12-62	12-30	12-03
Christiania	Cents for 1 kroner	12-30	12-62	12-30	12-03
Stockholm	Cents for 1 kroner	12-30	12-62	12-30	12-03
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	100	91-875	98-750	91-25
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	49-85	51-00	37-875	47-562
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	..	72-00	54-75	56-25
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	98-50	75-50	80-00
Shanghai	Cents for 1 shing. tael	..	29-50	27-75	27-375
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	103-65	121-50	145-50	139-00
Buenos Aires	Gold pesos for \$100	32-42	17-25	12-80	13-05
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	20-60	17-50	11-75	11-50
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	..	..	..	..

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates as below:—

	Rates, Sept. 17, 1921.	Rates, Sept. 24, 1921.
London (cheque)	£1 1,425	1,445
Paris	100 Fr 2,700	2,750
New York	\$1 380	385
Stockholm	100 Kr 8,500	8,400
Copenhagen	100 Kr 6,700	6,800
Berlin	100 Mark 400	410
Helsingfors	100 Lrbl 90	100
Riga	100 H.S. 12,000	12,100
Amsterdam	100 H.S. 12,000	12,100

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
Demand	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
30 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
60 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
90 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.
120 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % dis.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	..	..
Sight	..	..
Cable	..	..
On demand	96 1/2	96 1/2
30 days	95 1/2	95 1/2
60 days	94 1/2	94 1/2
90 days	93 1/2	93 1/2
120 days	92 1/2	92 1/2
6 months' sight	91 1/2	91 1/2
6 months' sight	90 1/2	90 1/2

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,73,55,000	Rs. 24,66,20,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	84,66,20,000

India Office, October 5, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended October 5, 1921, the stock of

Mr W. C. Potter has been chosen president, to succeed Mr Sabin, and Mr Sabin has been elected chairman of the board of the Guaranty Trust of New York. Two new directors have been elected—Mr Edward R. Stettinius and Mr George Whitney, both of J. P. Morgan and Company.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	Lat'st Pre-vious Year.
Railways.					
Buenos Aires Great Southern	2 1/2%	Oct. 27	Less tax 6/ in £	4	7
Buenos Aires Western	2 1/2%	Oct. 27	Less tax 6/ in £	4	7
Central Argentine, Cons. Ord.	2 1/2%	Oct. 25	Less tax	4	6
Central Uruguay Eastern	10/ p.s.†	Oct. 25	Less tax	7 1/2	9
Central Uruguay Northern	6 p.s.†	Oct. 25	Less tax	5	8
Pondicherry	15%†	Sept. 30	Tax free	30	40
Samana and Santiago, Pref.	6%	Nov. 2	Tax free	..	..
San Paulo (Brazil)	2 1/2%	Nov. 2	Tax free	..	..
Banks.					
Alliance Bank of Simla	7% (18b)	Oct. 17	Tax free	17	17
Bank of Scotland	16%	Oct. 17	Less tax	..	..
International Banking Corp'n.	24	Sept. 30	..	..	..
Italo-Belgian Bank	..	..	..	12	..
Insurance.					
Marine	£12/6p.s.	Nov. 1	Less tax	..	..
Phoenix	6 p.s.	Nov. 1	Less tax	..	..
Mining.					
Ooregum Gold	9 p.s.†	Oct. 28	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Balijian Tea	..	..	Less tax	10	20
Eastern Produce and Estates	5%	Oct. 31	Less tax	..	..
Other Companies.					
Alliance Investment, Ltd.	4%	Nov. 1	..	..	..
Anglo-Greek Magnesite	5%	Oct. 3	Less tax	..	..
Asia Spinning	14 1/2 p.s.	..	Tax free	10	..
Bath Grand Pump Room Hotel	2%	Oct. 15	..	10	..
Bell Telephone of Canada	..	..	Less tax 3/7 in £	10	..
Bengal Iron	9 p.s.†	..	Tax free	..	..
Benger's Food	5	Oct. 11	Less tax	..	..
Do "B" Pref.	6	Oct. 11	Less tax	..	..
Borax Consolidated, Prefd.	6	Nov. 1	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Burns Ring Spinning	18%	Oct. 15	..	..	..
Canadian Explosives, Prefd.	10 1/2	..	..	8	15
Carlton Hotel	6	..	..	..	..
Coltess Iron	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Crown Spinning	2/6 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Durban Spinning	..	..	Less tax	10	10
Eastern Chemical, Ptg. Ord.	..	..	..	..	..
Ensor Spinning	16 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Equitable Trust	4%	Sept. 30	..	..	..
Fernhill Collieries	..	..	Less tax	10	(b) 20
Fleming and Ferguson	..	..	Tax free	10	10
Fox Spinning, Ord.	1/6 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Do Pref.	1/3 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Furness, W. & Co.	5	Oct. 31	Tax free	..	..
Glenboig Union, Fire Clay	..	..	Tax free	..	..
Golden Cotton Manufacturing	10%	..	Tax free	20	20
Henry Boot & Sons (Lon.), Cm. Pl.	7 1/2	Oct. 3	Less tax	..	..
Henry Hodder and Co.	5 1/2%	..	..	15	15
Hope Spinning	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Hurst, Nelson, and Co.	15 1/2%	..	..	20	15
International Harvester	1 1/2	Oct. 15	..	..	..
Jabez Johnson, Hodgkinson, and Pearson, Pref.	7 1/2%	..	Less tax	..	..
James Collinge and Sons	1/ p.s.	..	..	10	(b) 10
J. Hepworth and Son	16 p.s.†	..	Less tax	..	..
John Clegg	2%	Nov. 15	..	..	..
Kamistiquia Power	5	Nov. 1	Tax free	..	..
Kimberley Waterworks	2/6 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Lowfield Spinning	1/1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Mersey Spinning	9 1/2	..	Tax free	7	7
National and Foreign Securities	6 p.s.†	..	Tax free	..	..
New Hunknall Colliery	10*	..	Less tax	..	..
North British Canadian Invest.	2 1/2%	Oct. 6	Less tax	..	..
Northern General Transport	3%	Oct. 31	..	..	..
Pacific Loan and Investment	12 1/2%	..	Tax free	20	25
Parson's Marine Steam Turbine	..	..	Tax free	10	10
Port of Manchester Warehouses	..	..	Less tax	7	15
Rio Negro (Argentina) Land	6	Nov. 1	..	..	..
Robert Simpson Co., Pref.	..	..	Tax free	10	10
Scottish Malt Distillers	1/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Shaworth Spinning and Mig.	13 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Slack Mills Spinning	5%	..	Tax free	6 1/2	(a) 15
St Just Steamship (15 months)	£2/2 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Stock Exchange	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Stockport Ring Mills	5%	..	Tax free	10	(b) 10
Tempus Shipping	..	..	..	8	8
Thompson and Shackell	..	..	Less tax	10	10
Trafford Park Estates	..	..	..	..	..
Trafford Park Cold Storage	6 p.s.	Oct. 4	..	..	..
United Spinning	7 1/2	..	..	..	..
United States of S. Amer. Invest.	10 1/2%	..	..	15	15
Vine Spinning	15	..	Tax free	..	..
Vulcan Foundry	1/ p.s.	..	Tax free	15	15
Walker and Homfrays	1/ p.s.	..	Tax free	15	15
Waltham Main Colliery	1/ p.s.	..	Tax free	15	15
W. Hartlepool Steam Navigation	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Wren Spinning	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Also distribution of 300 per cent. in bonus shares. (b) Also capitalised bonus. The directors of Tankers have decided to defer consideration of the payment of a dividend on the preference shares until the final results of the year's working are ascertained.

UNITED STEEL COMPANIES state that, having regard to the financial and general conditions, they do not propose that a further dividend for the year under review should be paid on the ordinary shares.

CENTRAL URUGUAY RAILWAY OF MONTE VIDEO.—Net revenue account for the year ended June 30, 1921, does not admit of the recommendation of a dividend on the ordinary stock of the company, but the warrants for dividend on the 5 1/2 per cent. preference shares will be posted on October 25th.

THE LEOPOLDINA RAILWAY COMPANY.—We are officially informed that "In consequence of the low rate of exchange that has been ruling in Brazil for the past

nine months the board do not consider it advisable to make an interim payment in respect of the 5 1/2 per cent. preference shares of the company, as has been customary in October. Although the gross receipts from January 1st to September 24th amount to Rs.36,416,000—and are the highest in the history of the company—comparing with Rs.30,955,000 for the corresponding period in 1920, the sterling equivalent amounts to only £1,271,587 as compared with £2,013,104 last year, a decrease of £741,517, or 36.83 per cent. Had the exchange during the current year averaged that for 1920 (15 1/2d) the gross receipts would have been £2,385,058. The recent improvement in the exchange encourages the directors to hope that it may be possible for the dividend on the preference shares to be paid after the annual accounts have been presented to the shareholders in May next."

THE PARENT TYRE COMPANY.—The directors announce that the yearly dividends on the company's 5 per cent. cumulative preference and 8 per cent. cumulative ordinary shares to August 31, 1921, will be paid after the annual general meeting. A distribution at the rate of 25 per cent. per annum on the company's deferred shares will be recommended, to be paid after the receipt by the company of the dividends accrued to August 31st last on its holding of Dunlop "C" cumulative preference shares. The directors desire to state that important negotiations, of a nature advantageous to the company, are in progress, and as these cannot be concluded until the end of October, the holding of the annual general meeting will be postponed until then.

RHODESIAN GOLD OUTPUT.

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January	253,807	211,917	211,851	293,794
February	232,023	220,885	250,020	288,225
March	239,023	225,808	199,881	134,932
April	239,916	213,159	208,934	282,396
May	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June	225,447	214,215	194,194	258,199
July	251,740	214,918	313,125	279,269
August	257,096	207,339	241,270	236,151
September	247,885	223,719	231,226	..
October	136,780	204,184	248,085	..
November	145,458	186,462	282,237	..
December	192,870	158,835	272,470	..
Total Gold	2,652,250	2,499,492	3,056,549	..

NOTE.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

Reports and Notices.

Mr Charles S. Blackwell, retired, formerly president of Matthews, Blackwell, Limited, packers, now chairman of the board of the Toronto General Hospital, has been elected a director of the Dominion Bank.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, announce that a branch of the bank is now open at 81 Omberstone street, Droitwich, Mr H. T. Meredith being the resident officer.

We are informed that the firm of Nelke, Phillips, and Co., of 6 Angel court, Throgmorton street, E.C. 2, is being dissolved by agreement as from Friday, September 30th, and Mr P. Nelke, who is retiring from active business, has been entrusted with the duty of liquidating the firm's affairs. All communications relative to the liquidation of the firm's business should be addressed to Nelke, Phillips and Co., c/o Cull and Co., 11 Throgmorton avenue, E.C. 2 (Mr H. Marx is becoming partner in Cull and Co.). Mr J. Stern will continue business on his own account at 9 Drapers' gardens, E.C. 2.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT 8 PER CENT. TREASURY NOTES, 1925-1929.—Holders of the above notes are informed that, according to cable advices received by Messrs Vickers, Limited, from their representative in Peking, the Chinese Minister of Finance has instructed the Salt Administration to pay out of the surplus salt revenues available after meeting all prior charges on such revenues, and subject only to such prior charges, the sum of 100,000 Mexican dollars a month, commencing in January, 1922, and continuing until the whole of the above notes are paid off. These payments are to be made to a fund which is to be applied in or towards payment of the interest on the notes falling due in April, 1922, and the subsequent half-yearly interest payments.

REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA GOLD BONDS, 1909.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders have received a telegram from the bankers in New York notifying the payment of the September instalment of the Debt Service in accordance with the arrangement of May 25, 1921.

VENEZUELA (3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT).—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4 1/2d, being the moiety of the fourth fortnightly instalment of the debt service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

GREEK DEBT.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders issues the following information, compiled from figures published by the International Financial Commission at Athens, with regard to the revenues assigned under the Law of Control for the service of the Greek Debt

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.			Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.		Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefere.	Ordinary.			
					Amount.	Amount.	Rate.		Dividend.
Banks.									
Colonial Bank	June 30*	£ 39,015	£ 75,601	£ 114,616	..	45,000	5	40,000	29,616
Breweries.									
Scottish Malt Distillers	July 31	4,515	16,472	20,987	7,646	7,913	10 1/2	1,500	3,928
Financial, Land, &c.									
Trafford Park Estates	June 30	130,922	56,681	187,603	..	52,000	8	..	135,603
Rio Negro (Argentina) Land	June 30	16,296	18,713	35,009	..	21,000	7	..	14,009
Iron, Coal, &c.									
Bengal Iron	Mar. 31	8,158	310,553	318,711	37,497	157,403	10	98,432	25,379
Coltess Iron	July 31	16,763	62,190	78,953	25,750	31,500	6	2,000	19,703
Parson's Marine Steam Turbine	June 30	21,097	42,581	63,678	..	42,256	20 1/2	..	21,422
United Steel Companies	June 30	80,381	479,266	559,647	27,664	168,141	3	27,881	335,961
Rubber, &c.									
Bukit Selangor	Mar. 31	..	9,356	9,356	..	..	..	..	9,356
East Java	Dec. 31	10,725	Dr 9,744	981	..	..	..	..	981
Laras (Sumatra)	Mar. 31	592	Dr 5,162	Dr 4,570	..	..	..	..	4,570
Rubber Plantations Investment Trust	Mar. 31	106,471	Dr 12,150	94,321	..	..	..	..	94,321
Textiles.									
Robinson and Cleaver	July 31	52,090	Dr 57,137	Dr 5,047	7,000	..	..	Dr 20,000	7,953
Other Companies.									
Eastern Chemical	Mar. 31	12,245	10,362	22,607	..	9,900	10	..	12,707
Glenborg Union Fireclay	Aug. 31	17,848	32,324	50,172	..	21,000	20	10,000	19,172
J. Hepworth and Son	July 31	9,443	53,971	63,414	6,000	36,308	10	11,863	9,243
United Indigo and Chemical	June 30	11,716	26,947	38,663	..	29,688	(12 1/2 Ord. & Pref.)	..	8,975

* Half-year. † Free of income-tax. (k) United Indigo and Chemical.—Ordinary and preference dividends absorbed £26,125.

from January 1, 1921, to July 31, 1921 (new style, January 14 to August 13, 1921):—

	Monopolies, Tobacco, Stamps, Stamped Paper, Naxos Emery.	Piræus Customs.
Gross receipts, July, 1921	5,893,253.67	6,074,712.35
Do do 1920	5,222,312.71	4,102,654.65
Estimated receipts for seven months (Law of Control)	16,858,333.33	6,241,666.67
Actual receipts for 1921 seven months	39,498,349.04	31,768,977.15
Actual receipts for 1920 seven months	36,232,582.00	34,074,508.70
Difference between estimated and actual receipts for seven months	1921 + 22,640,015.71 1920 + 19,374,248.67	+ 25,527,310.48 + 27,832,842.03

NOTE.—Of the surplus over the estimated receipts from monopolies, tobacco, stamps, stamped paper, and naxos emery, 49 1/2 per cent. is applied towards increasing the minimum rates of interest and sinking fund on the External Gold Loans of 1881 to 1893. The products of the sales of naxos emery have been paid in paper drachmæ since August, 1920. In the case of the Piræus Customs the receipts in gold are included in the above statement at par.

CONSOLIDATED EXTERNAL DEBT OF COLOMBIA.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders have received the October instalment of the Debt Service in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

BANKS.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.—Average weekly position during September, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£	Ratio to Curr't. Deposit & Other Acc'ts. %
Capital paid up	10,860,852	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balances with the Bank of England ..	54,613,723	14.8
Reserve fund	10,860,852	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom	9,588,710	2.6
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account)	368,316,332	Money at call and short notice	12,269,214	3.3
Acceptances and engagements on account of customers	15,758,041	Investments	52,591,374	14.3
		Bills discounted	69,044,609	18.8
		Advances to customers and other accounts	184,182,986	50.0
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements	15,758,041	
		Bank premises at head office and branches	4,488,755	
		Shares of the Belfast Banking Co., Ltd., and the Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.	3,258,665	
	405,796,077		405,796,077	

MISCELLANEOUS.

BENGAL IRON COMPANY.—The second report for the year ended March 31, 1921, shows a net profit, including £8,157 18s 6d brought forward from last account, of £318,710, from which is deducted depreciation and colliery sinking fund, £28,264; transfer to taxation reserve, £54,000; transfer to general reserve, £16,168, making available £220,278. Preference share dividends absorbed £37,496, leaving £182,781, which the directors recommend be applied in payment of 10 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares, making £157,403, leaving a balance to carry forward of £25,378. As already reported to the shareholders in the circular dated March 7, 1921, floods on the railways interfered severely with the supplies of raw material during the last six months of 1920, and caused a large reduction in output. Working costs have also

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Metropolitan District	39 weeks Oct.	1	245,737	..	9,303,265
London Electric					
City and South London					
Central London					
L.G.O.					
Metropolitan Electric Trams	39 weeks Oct.	1	57,793	..	2,172,938
London United Trams					
South Metropolitan Trams					
Tramways (M.E.T.)					
Gearless Motor					

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
INDIAN					
Assam Bengal	22 weeks Sept. 3	993	1,58,825	Rs. 58,517	Rs. 27,43,481
Barsi Lt. Ry.	23 weeks	10	118	12,200	5,900
Bengal & N. Western	22 weeks	3	2,087	5,45,820	1,34,743
Bengal Nagpur	22 weeks	3	2,697	9,95,000	1,67,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	24 weeks	17	2,871	19,70,000	2,03,000
Burma	24 weeks	17	1,342	5,72,663	1,23,127
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	24 weeks	17	239	91,000	19,117
East Indian	25 weeks	17	2,772	30,17,000	2,03,000
G. Indian Peninsula	25 weeks	24	3,121	20,49,000	2,52,000
Madras & S. Mahr.	22 weeks	3	3,028	12,00,000	53,582
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	22 weeks	3	259	51,716	6,107
Do Lucknow-Breilly	22 weeks	3	302	61,559	15,198
South Indian	22 weeks	3	1,852	8,16,067	23,200
Bihar, Punjab (month)	2 mths May 31	717	8,16,067	44,915	17,08,912
Argentine (a)					
Argentine N.E.	13 weeks Oct.	1	752	12,600	400
Argentine Trans.	13 weeks	1	111	2,131	647
B. A. and Pacific	13 weeks	1	3,428	110,000	6,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	13 weeks	1	3,891	151,000	2,000
B. A. Western	13 weeks	1	1,882	69,000	6,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	1 mth July 31	120	49,840	4,776	2,000
Central Argentine	13 weeks Oct.	1	1,205	163,000	47,000
Cordoba Central	13 weeks	1	1,205	40,000	19,400
Entre Rios	13 weeks	1	811	16,700	4,800
Brazilian (b)					
Brazil Gt. Southern	8 mths Aug. 31	..	Ms 56,250	15,250	384,150
Gt. West. of Brazil	39 weeks Oct.	1	1,005	15,400	3,300
Leopoldina	39 weeks	1	1,331	40,270	6,893
San Paulo	39 weeks	1	1,534	34,969	19,533
State of Bahia, S.W.	9 mths Sept. 30	52	Ms 86,000	68,000	655,000
Chile and Peru					
Antofagasta	39 weeks Oct. 2	838	16,095	34,775	854,955
Arauco	1 mth Apr. 30	644	12,000	500	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	39 weeks Sept. 30	366	8,224	30,877	..
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths June 30	1,059	81,538,630	147,980	14,228,740
Talca	2 mths Aug. 31	180	(b) 9,263	24,247	18,436
Cuban					
Havana Central	13 weeks Oct.	1	1,210	9,650	2,610
United of Havana	13 weeks	1	1,210	46,774	47,892
Uruguayan					
Central Uruguay	13 weeks	1	273	22,436	1,413
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	13 weeks	1	311	3,810	1,658
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	13 weeks	1	185	2,375	734
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	13 weeks	1	211	1,810	1,048
Midland Uruguay	2 mths Aug. 31	319	12,128	5,826	24,894
North-West Urug.	2 mths	31	6,063	39	11,914
Uruguay North	2 mths	31	3	1,574	716
Other Foreign					
Aloy and Gandia	39 weeks Oct. 1	33	Ps 11,750	750	610,650
Bilbao	9 mths Sept. 30	136	9,424	1,790	81,662
Bolivar	6 mths June 30	86	18,720	2,820	114,480
Colombian Nat. Ry.	1 mth July 31	190	17,837	11,073	131,750
Costa Rica	7 mths	31	70	24,000	4,500
Dorado Extension	24 weeks Sept. 20	559	110,327	5,016	163,487
Egyptian Delta	39 weeks	24	104	Ps 67,262	37,286
Gt. Southern of Spain	2 mths Aug. 31	319	12,128	5,826	24,894
International of Central America	8 mths Aug. 31	Net	11,335	769	237,603
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths Feb. 28	403	(b) 8,570	5,069	60,110
Mexican Railway	12 weeks Sept. 30	403	(b) 8,570	77,800	412,900
Do	2 mths Aug. 31	Net	1,300,300	32,000	2,655,400
Nassjo Oscarshamn	7 mths July 31	..	12,832	8,965	91,406
Ottoman Railway					
Smyrna to Aidin	1 week Sept. 24	193	16,873	..	53,700
Paraguay Central	12 weeks	24	274	3,570	1,850
Pirassua-Athens, &c.	9 mths Feb. 28	35	2,311,374	414,841	16,380,765
Fuente Cabello, &c.	8 mths Aug. 31	35	4,750	500	37,500
Salvador	13 weeks Oct. 1	100	2,032	635	30,734
Santa Fe Province					
French Railways	1 mth Aug. 31	..	150,128	8,823	84,760
Samana & Santiago	8 mths	31	..	9,280	2,687
Zafra and Huella	8 mths	31	112	(a) 13,538	638
Canadian					
Canadian Northern	38 weeks Sept. 30	9,750	\$2314,200	330,000	48,654,600
Canadian Pacific	38 weeks	30	13,402	\$5915,000	934,000
Grand Trunk	38 weeks	30	3,516	\$481,514	46,055

(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange. † Adjusted, May 31, 1921.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Receipts for Month	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	1 mth July 31	Gross	\$117,875	+ 45,200	35,888,700	+ 4,108,777
Canadian Ntn.	7 mths	Gross	\$5,506,900	+ 338,400	116,893,000	+ 10,536,000
Canadian Pac.	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$11,064,000	+ 931,000	17,580,000	+ 2,332,000
Grand Trunk	3 mths Mar. 31	Gross	\$2,278,700	+ 95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,200
Temiscouata	1 mth Aug. 31	Gross	\$122,900	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Gross Receipts for Week or Month	Total Gross Receipts
Beira and Mashona	1 mth June 30	810	102,513	4,263	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	2 mths Aug. 3	277	8,574	211	16,068
New Cape Central	36 weeks Sept. 10	205	2,344	39	92,095
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth June 30	1,397	156,189	+ 17,035	..
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth July 31	..	11,529	..	..
Shire Highlands	..	..	..	..	..
Nyasaland	2 mths Feb. 28	..	2,100	450	1,450

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Atchafalaya Topeka	7 mths July 31	15,422,787	2,558,168	134,682,913
Baltimore and Ohio	7 mths	3	16,537,775	2,534,649
Chicago and Milwaukee	7 mths	31	12,197,540	3,009,834
New York Central	7 mths	31	26,295,230	6,407,797
Pennsylvania	7 mths	31	41,231,622	9,978,199
Southern Pacific	7 mths	31	24,627,508	1,180,635

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Receipts for Week	Total Receipts
Anglo-Argentine	39 weeks Sept. 30	329	\$81,839	+ 3,595	3,100,625
Burnley Corporation	1 week Oct. 1	12	\$3,473	110	..
Calcutta Tramways	39 weeks	1	Rs 100,673	+ 17,036	..
Chatham & District	37 weeks Sept. 15	15	\$1,755	215	61,900
Egyptian Markets	38 weeks	23	\$1,855	207	75,201
Glasgow Corporation	18 weeks Oct. 1	99	\$48,114	501	832,383
Isle of Thanet	52 weeks Sept. 23	..	\$1,539	203	64,178
Lancashire Corp.	39 weeks	27	\$5,639	561	135,527
London Tramways	39 weeks Oct. 1	124	\$30,602	+ 1,879	1,131,486
L.C.C. Tramways	21 weeks	5	\$102,42	+ 1,853	2,715,251
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	39 weeks	30	Rs 45,129	5,579	734,390
Pernambuco Trams	39 weeks	2	\$43,858	1,446	146,498
Singapore Electric	31 weeks Aug. 13	..	\$13,859	5,926	414,467

‡ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name	Period	Ending	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month	Total Receipts
Alabama Power	1 mth June 30	Gross	\$259,059	+ 88,481	..
Barcelona Trac.	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$130,812	+ 22,750	..
Calcutta Trac.	7 mths July 31	Gross	2,923,804	+ 208,784	23,868,776
Brazilian Trac.	7 mths July 31	Gross	1,672,945	+ 88,959	15,013,758
Brisbane Electric	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	15,477,000	+ 3,732,000	95,676,000
Brit. Columbia	1 mth July 31	Gross	8,871,000	+ 2,755,000	49,697,000
Electric, &c.	1 mth July 31	Gross	450,675	+ 4,025	377,820
Buenos Ayres La	11 mths May 31	Gross	\$204,155	+ 3,807	..
Croze Trams	11 mths May 31	Gross	\$58,492	+ 3,929	629,444
Burnham Electric	1 mth Aug. 31	Gross	\$55,168	+ 6,615	..
Trwys. & Lightg.	1 mth Aug. 31	Gross	\$31,742	..	..
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	Gross	\$5,638	..	..
Canadian - Wstrn.	10 mths July 31	Gross	\$20,506	+ 4,322	713,171
Natural Gas	9 mths Sept. 30	Gross	14,244	+ 1,971	22,235
Carthage and	1 mth	Gross	\$21,300	+ 4,300	..
Herreras Trms.	1 mth	Gross	\$3,030	..	..
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	Gross	\$1,208	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth Mar. 31	Gross	\$73,040	+ 1,283,184	17,219,881
Cities Service Co.	12 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$685,698	+ 1,271,176	16,606,200
Cordoba Lightg.	5 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$2,851	+ 2,823	116,216
Cuba Railroad	7 mths Jan. 31	Gross	\$1,606,355	+ 448,284	8,497,481
Eleo. Sup. of Viet.	16 weeks July 17	Gross	\$368,028	+ 79,092	Dr 447,784
Havana Elec. Rl.	7 mths	Gross	\$1,035,423	+ 6,079	7,409,439
Light & Power	7 mths	Gross	\$435,849	+ 16,322	3,263,251
International	1 mth	Gross	\$21,003	+ 2,020	..
Light & Power	1 mth	Gross	\$6,375	+ 1,701	..
Kalgortie Elec.	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$2,508	..	12,288
Tramways	6 mths June 30	Gross	\$142,486	+ 1,433	1,153,940
Keystone Tele.	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$56,186	+ 16,243	384,835
La Guaira Harbr.	1 mth Sept. 30	Gross	\$5,747	+ 275	45,058
La Plata Electric	9 mths	Gross	\$24,777	+ 25,005	412,178
Lima Lightg. & Trm.	7 mths July 31	Gross	\$13,519	+ 7,304	131,385
Lisbon Electric	1 mth Mar. 31	Gross	\$76,625	+ 8,000	..
Manila Electric	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$29,128	+ 4,710	2,412,119
Railroad, &c.	8 mths Aug. 31	Gross	\$110,897	+ 13,142	945,827
Para Electric	9 mths	Gross	\$22,940	+ 1,631	216,894
Rangoon Electric	1 mth July 31	Gross	\$286,750	+ 35,528	..
Shanghai Electric	9 mths Sept. 30	Gross	\$19,924	+ 32,824	..
Toronto Rly. &c.	7 mths July 31	Gross	\$1,223,483	+ 40,164	8,777,669
United Electric T.	11 mths Sept. 30	Gross	\$44,927	+ 3,111	508,426
of Montevideo	11 mths Sept. 30	Gross	\$569,568	+ 50,563	..
Utah Securities	1 mth May 31	Gross	\$300,057	+ 28,131	..
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	Quarter June 30	Gross	\$203,041	..	..
Winnipeg Electric	7 mths July 31	Gross	\$390,109	+ 1,600	3,180,779

14 weeks return. † Converted at current rates of exchange. ‡ Approximate rec.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions have remained favourable for ploughing and sowing operations, and good progress has been made in preparing the ground for new cereal crops. Large offerings of native wheat were on sale at most of the chief distributing centres during the week, and with pressure to sell prices gave way, owing chiefly to the decline in imported varieties. Farmers are very dissatisfied with the low prices ruling for their produce, and which may have an adverse effect on the acreage laid down under the all-favoured cereal this season. Prices generally show a decline of 2s to 4s per quarter, fair to good milling samples selling at 52s to 55s, with inferior down to 45s per 504 lbs, free on rail. Imported descriptions marked a sharp decline, especially for Manitoba grades, due chiefly to lower advices from North America, and much cheaper Canadian offers on c.i.f. terms. Values at the moment are very irregular and difficult to gauge. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, ex ship, nominally 58s to 60s, ex ship, as to position; No. 2 hard winter, 57s to 59s, all ex ship, and Egyptian feed, 53s per 480 lbs, landed. In the forward market, prices marked a substantial decline, with a moderate business passing in parcels, the position being governed by weakness in Canada and the United States, with free offers from those countries, also pressure to sell Australian, including new crop. It would appear that the matter of finance weighs very heavily in most producing countries, growers being unable to hold, and thus forced to market their produce, while in some instances Government assistance is being sought. The flour trade is also very dull, and prices tend lower in sympathy with the wheat situation, general course of trade being affected by the abnormally small bread consumption for the time of year, a further spell of warm weather tending against any improvement in this respect. London straight run nominally quoted at 60s, town households 58s, patents 63s, all English straight run 53s per sack delivered, while country straight run sold down to 45s per sack, on rail London stations. Imported grades also in slow request, and lower prices are necessary in order to sell. Manitoba export patents 61s, straights 57s, Kansas patents 58s to 59s, and Australian 54s to 55s per 280 lbs ex stores. On c.i.f. terms Canadian parcels are offered at 50s to 55s October seaboard, Kansas top patents 56s per sack. Maize market again very depressed, and values continue decline, owing chiefly to lack of demand, financial difficulties prevailing in most European countries, together with weak Argentine advices. Spot business is almost at a standstill, due to abnormally hot weather. Yellow La Plata 32s, African quoted 32s 6d, and white flat African 34s landed per 480 lbs. In the cargo market business was confined to Plate steamers arrived at about 34s, with affloat sellers now at 32s, November-December 33s 6d per 480 lbs. Barley inactive, and rates again easier for all descriptions. English malting good to fine quoted 68s to 73s, with very choice samples up to 80s, and poor qualities down to 50s, feeding bulks selling at about 45s per 48 lbs. Grinding sorts 40s to 48s per 48 lbs. Of imported, No. 3 Canada Western ex ship 36s, No. 4 Canada Western 36s, Canada feed 35s, American feed 34s 6d, all landed per 400 lbs. On c.i

prices in the future. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. can be bought at 120s per ton. The position with regard to East Coast hematite is not good. The supply exceeds the present demand. The price of mixed numbers is nominally 130s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Orders very scarce. Only a few works are operating, and most of those are not working full time. Steel ship plates, home, £14; steel ship angles, £13; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £12 10s. Iron ore: Best rubic is about 28s per ton, c.i.f. East Coast, and business is limited to an occasional cargo.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—In spite of public utterances to the effect that a revival of trade has begun, the actual position of the steel industry remains as bad as ever, and there are fewer heavy furnaces in operation than a month ago. The depression in the crucible department also shows no sign of lifting. At the same time, a partial revival during the next few months is by no means improbable, owing to the narrowing margin which separates the prices of British and Continental iron and steel. Foreign competition, and particularly Germany, appears to have reached its apex, and now tends to decline. Prices are advancing in Germany, and no new business will be accepted for early delivery. On the other hand, there has been further deflation in British prices. British steel is preferred to foreign, and the latest quotation shows only £1 per ton difference in the cost of the two makes. British foundry pig has dropped to £6 15s or £6 10s, delivered. A good deal of British steel material is now therefore in the market, and but for the financial stringency orders would be placed on a substantial scale. Local armament firms are buying material in readiness for the construction and armament of the battle cruisers which the Government are about to order. The departments making railway axles, tyres, and springs have not been working to a fourth of their capacity for a long period. The arrangement with the makers of cast-iron pipes for gas, water and sewerage mains has been dissolved, so that competitive quotations in this important industry are restored again. In consequence of the lower foreign offers for pipes lately, local authorities when buying have had to decide between economy and patriotism. Other organisations to maintain uniform selling prices are showing signs of weakness. The absence of overseas buying continues to be the most prominent feature of the situation, and two-thirds of the local productive resources are standing idle. Although the demand for house coal is more active, it is phenomenally small for the time of year. The inland demand for steam coals expands slowly, and the same remark applies to the export trade. Overseas buyers appear to be holding off the market with the object of forcing lower prices. The glut of small fuel is being reduced by the gradual restarting of coke ovens.

Our Glasgow correspondent writes:—There is no marked change to note this week in the trade and industrial positions of this district. If anything, there has been less buying in evidence, and the general tone, therefore, in iron and steel connections has been quieter, but this, in great measure, has been due to the atmosphere that has been created over the question of unemployment, and the uncertainty that obtains as to what will come of the various policies propounded for dealing with that important and vexed problem. Until the course of events in that relation are more clearly defined than they are at present, those interested are moving warily. As a consequence, it is understood, quite a lot of inquiry is being hung up—inquiry on export account for finished material chiefly. The easier tendency of coal prices has enabled Scotch iron masters to intimate further reductions in foundry qualities, No. 1 now standing at £7 10s, and No. 3 at £7 5s (f.o.b. makers' works), or 10s a ton less than was the case a week ago. Scotch hematite remains firm at £7 15s (f.o.t. makers' works). Conditions at the steel works lack substantial improvement. At the Steel Company of Scotland's Hallside section a couple of rolling mills have been re-started, and at one or two large establishments preparations are in hand for various developments; but all over order books are light, and much plant is idle. Official statistics show that during last month there were 15 vessels of 50,000 tons launched on the Clyde, bringing up the totals for nine months of the year to 181 steamers and 350,000 tons. The figures for the corresponding period in 1920 were 166 and 488,000 tons respectively, representing a drop of 132,000 in tonnage. So far as disclosed, there are few, if any, new boats being laid down in the vacant slips, yet there are a good many steamers which stand in need of completion before they can take the water, and the finishings will afford fair employment in several yards for months to come. Some light on mercantile marine prospects was forthcoming at an Anchor Line launch from Fairfield on Tuesday. It was stated that the cost of constructing a new steamer to-day was three times greater than it was in 1914; that ship builders were quoting for boats at figures that took no note of profits; that others were

laying down vessels on speculation (to keep their places running), knowing that for every 20s spent they would receive in return not more than 10s; and that many owners were instructing procedure with the overhauling and finishing of vessels, aware of the losses involved—from a desire to modify the out-of-work position. Though general conditions, as stated, have been quiet, a fair volume of constructional business has been put through by machinery engineers, particularly marine, by bolt and nut makers, boiler-makers, electrical engineers, bridge builders, and tube makers, yet it goes without saying that one and all could have comfortably faced additional orders. Locomotive engineers are unexpectedly getting short of contracts again, and are cutting operations down. Several big schemes for roads and bridges are in contemplation locally, and these, when further advanced, should benefit steel and iron producers. Coals have fallen off by 2s to 3s a ton; still demand is indifferent, though in the last few days a good many inquiries for foreign purchases have been received, and it is just possible that these may materialise.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—September 30, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.												
Sea Island	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Florida ditto	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	O	L	M	G	O
	1182	1257	1362	1472	1582	1762	1192	1573	2267	1598	1783	2098
Brazilian.												
Pernambuco, &c.	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	Gd.	F	Fr.	Gd.	F	Gd.
	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Paraiba	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Maceio	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Mossoro, &c.	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Ceara	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Maranhã	1267	1467	1617	1767	1917	2067	1277	1477	1627	1777	1927	2077
Egyptian.												
Brown	1925	2075	2225	2375	2525	2675	1935	2085	2235	2385	2535	2685
Upper	1900	2050	2200	2350	2500	2650	1910	2060	2210	2360	2510	2660
West Indian—Sea Island	2600	2750	2900	3050	3200	3400	2610	2760	2910	3060	3210	3410
Peruvian—Rough	1400	1550	1700	1850	2000	2150	1410	1560	1710	1860	2010	2160
Ditto Mod. Rough	1325	1475	1625	1775	1925	2075	1335	1485	1635	1785	1935	2085
Ditto Smooth	1417	1567	1717	1867	2017	2167	1427	1577	1727	1877	2027	2177
Ditto Sea Island	1900	2050	2200	2350	2500	2650	1910	2060	2210	2360	2510	2660
African, East, &c.	1100	1200	1400	1500	1600	1700	1300	2200	3600	2370	2410	2490
East Indian.												
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	G	F	Far	Gd.	F	G	F	Far	Gd.	F	G	F
	1255	1280	1330	1355	1380	1485	1265	1290	1340	1365	1390	1495
" " " Broach	1255	1280	1330	1355	1380	1485	1265	1290	1340	1365	1390	1495
M. Ginned Bhowanuggar	9-69	1019	1069	1114	1169	1219	9-79	1029	1079	1124	1179	1229
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1.	9-75	1025	1075	1150	1175	1225	9-85	1035	1085	1150	1185	1235
M. Ginned Khandeish	9-50	1000	1075	1100	1125	1175	9-60	1010	1075	1100	1125	1175
M. Ginned Komptah	1045	1095	1145	1195	1245	1295	1055	1105	1155	1205	1255	1305
M. Ginned Bengal	8-15	8-65	9-15	9-30	10-15	10-40	8-25	8-75	9-25	9-50	10-25	10-50
M. Ginned Seinde	8-03	8-53	9-03	9-78	10-03	10-28	8-13	9-03	9-78	10-03	10-28	10-53
Tinnivelly	1350	1400	1450	1500	1550	1600	1360	1410	1460	1510	1560	1610
Madras, Western	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195	1080	1105	1130	1155	1180	1205
Coconada, Red	Fr.	1070	1095	1120	1145	1170	Fr.	1080	1105	1130	1155	1180
M. Ginned Coconada, Red	Fr.	1095	1120	1145	1170	1195	Fr.	1105	1130	1155	1180	1205

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

MANCHESTER, October 6.

There has been more activity in the market than for some time, but towards the close of the week business has been checked by the easier tendency in raw cotton rates, and buyers have been afraid to commit themselves to large lines, owing to the possibility of a slump in values. In cloth for abroad the feature of interest has been the larger turnover for China, and encouraging transactions have been arranged for Shanghai and Hong Kong. An increased inquiry has come through for India, and occasional sales have been put through, but most of the bids have been too low. Owing to the Jewish holidays, rather fewer orders have been booked for the Near Eastern outlets. Manufacturers as a body rather tend to improve their position, and better reports are being received from the chief weaving centres. Home trade buying has been of a fair extent. In American and Egyptian yarns for home use a healthier business was done last Tuesday, but since then demand has been rather quieter. Stocks in the hands of producers have recently been reduced. Export yarns continue to be sold for China, but most of the demand for India has been impracticable.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Oct. 6, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Sept. 29.	Price, Sept. 22.	Price, Sept. 15.	Price, Sept. 8.	Price, Sept. 1.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American...per lb	14-07	15-71	15-18	13-69	13-10	10-76
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	28-50	28-25	26-00	22-00	21-50	18-00
— Egyptian.....per lb	22-3	22-3	22-3	21-1	20-1	18-1
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	22-3	21-3	21-1	19-3	18-3	16-3
— 40's twist.....per lb	22-3	21-3	21-1	19-3	18-3	16-3
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	45	45	43	37	36	31
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37	0	37	0	34	6
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37	0	37	0	34	6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	22	6	22	6	20	6
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	21	6	21	6	19	6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Oct. 6, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American...per lb	14-07	19-87	21-40	23-84	20-27	10-15
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	28-50	52-00	39-00	29-40	32-20	15-30
— Egyptian.....per lb	22-3	46	43	55	27	15
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	22-3	42	42	56	26	14
— 40's twist.....per lb	22-3	42	42	56	26	14
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	45	67	62	69	44	28
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37	0	61	0	73	6
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37	0	59	0	70	6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	22	6	41	0	55	9
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	21	6	32	0	31	3

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Although some members of the trade assert that they have no confidence in the current level of values for raw wool, the fact remains that the strength of the raw material market is exceptionally well maintained. At Liverpool last week there was a particularly keen demand, and reports from Antwerp to-day indicate that B.A.W.R.A. wool is selling exceedingly well at that centre at prices showing a rise of 15 to 20 per cent. in merinos and fine crossbreds, and 10 per cent. in coarser grades, compared with the rates at the June auctions. Up to the present prices of tops and yarns have responded fairly well to the higher price of raw wool, but there is very little indication of the improvement spreading to the piece goods trade, and it is this absence of movement in the finished article that is causing a certain amount of apprehension in the trade. Topmakers' quotations are very firm, and a good warp 64's is now generally quoted at about 4s per lb, though cheaper lots may be found here and there. There is also some improvement in fine crossbred tops, but medium and low sorts are not particularly active. Worsted spinners are much better employed, and some firms will have to refuse foreign orders where prompt delivery is essential unless the operatives agree to organised overtime. This question is now before the Industrial Council. Most of the yarn business is on export account, and while Germany has not been so prominent, America and Japan have been active buyers. There is also a good

demand for hosiery yarns. The advance in the price of raw wool is helping holders of piece goods to dispose of stocks at slightly better prices, but values in most cases are well below the current cost of production.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Since writing last a sale of colonial wool has taken place at Liverpool, at which there was a record attendance of buyers, competition being very keen. Not even the most sanguine expected to find such a strong sale, the competition of some leading Bradford topmakers giving clear evidence of their position. Unless the majority in the trade are greatly mistaken, several who were caught severely in the slump are going to be caught on the rebound, for the big sales of 64's tops which took place at from 2s 6d to 3s mean that wool must be bought at the level of last March-April in order to avoid loss. Since August there has been a scramble to cover in London, Liverpool, and Australia, and there is every indication of another brisk time at the forthcoming London sales. It may be interesting to the B.A.W.R.A. to learn that wool was bought last March-April that produced 70's tops at 2s 5d. Wool was bought in July that produced warp 64's tops at 2s 10½d, but last series the cost was in the neighbourhood of 3s 8d to 3s 9d for good 64's tops. Many feel that out of last week's Liverpool sales such an article will cost 4s, and this is evidence of prices having materially risen since B.A.W.R.A. decided to reduce their limits to last March level of values, which proved to be low-water mark. Both French and Belgian buyers bought keenly in Liverpool last week, and although German interests were present, not a great deal was taken for that quarter, due undoubtedly to the state of the exchange. Crossbreds appreciated 5 to 7½ per cent., fine crossbreds and come-backs in particular being in keen request.

Next Tuesday will see the opening of another series of London sales, and as far as one can see there should be a good time. Some disappointment has been expressed with B.A.W.R.A. deciding to offer such a small quantity of merino wool in view of her present stocks, but apparently crossbreds are going to be put on to the market very liberally while the buying fever is on. Many seem to think that the Liverpool standard of values will be repeated; certainly the level of the close of last London sales should be easily established. During the interval some very big orders for merino yarns have been placed among West Riding spinners, the result being that many firms are now running a full 48 hours week. Several could do with running 5½ hours, and operatives having been out of work for months, it is most desirable that an arrangement should be made which is more in harmony with present needs. Anything in reason to reduce costs of production should be encouraged on the part of the union leaders. There is to-day no justification for a 48 hours week being continued if operatives are willing to work 5½ hours, and can do so without undue strain. This would help to bring costs down, and so enable spinners and manufacturers to compete with Continental firms in the markets of the world. It would also help to bring down the cost of living, for everyone is persuaded that cheaper production costs will be an important factor in rehabilitating the whole textile trade. Taking a broad view, we think that last London sales values should not be exceeded at the forthcoming auctions, for all the business the West Riding is doing is on export account, chiefly to the Continent and Japan, the number of looms running on home trade orders showing very little improvement.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd., 24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1392 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

LINEN TRADE.

BELFAST, October 5.

FLAX.—The Irish markets last week were well supplied, and all flax was quickly bought up at unchanged prices. On the Continent, French, Belgian, and German spinners are buying freely, especially in lower class of flax, and consequently prices are tending higher.

YARNS.—Buying has broadened during the past week. Tow yarns have sold freely, and advanced prices have been secured without difficulty. Line wefts in coarser end have moved off in quantity. Warps, also, though not so largely. A considerable business has been done in shear qualities. A few more mills have commenced work, but on a very restricted production.

WEAVERS.—The more confident tone noted for some time past in this section continues. More machinery has been started. Orders placed are for the most rapid delivery possible, indicating bare shelves. Manufacturers are finding yarns stiffer in price all round. It is much more difficult to find material for immediate delivery, which up to the present it has been necessary to do in order to give goods in the time required. The higher cotton rates will mean a struggle for better prices in unions, and some orders have had to be referred back for price revision.

HOUSEHOLD LINENS.—The merchant section is finding more inquiries all round. The United States continue to operate on household goods where delivery can be made promptly. The handkerchief section finds good demand for Christmas trade. Many American buyers are visiting the market.

DRESS LINENS.—Since last report there has been a steady demand from the U.S.A. for coloured dress linens, especially medium and heavy weight goods. Deliveries are wanted up till end of December, and in some cases January shipment has been arranged.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Market hides are still advancing, and best ox sold from 83d to 103d at Bermondsey auctions on Thursday, two classes making more money. Cows were also dearer, advancing 1d, prices being 84d to 83d for best selection. Calf shared the firmness, and advanced 1d to 1d per lb over last week's prices. Trading in foreign hides is brisk, at advancing prices. Frigorifics ox are selling well at 103d c.i.f., and Liebig's at rs. Dry and dry-salted are also now held for full prices, and all classes have shared in the demand. The American market is cabled as firm, and best heavy Chicago packers are now selling at 14½ cents. The leather market has this week been transferred to the Shoe and Leather Fair at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. The attendance has probably beaten all records, and buyers from all parts of the world have been in evidence. The heat has been terrific in the Hall, but there is no doubt the fine weather has had a good deal to do with the success of the function. All the leading tanners have leather on view, and so far have firmly held out for higher prices in bends and offal. Large blocks of cheap bends have been cleared, and so great has been the demand for shoulders that many tanners and factors have cleared their stock. This class of leather has been bought, however, to make the low-grade "stunt" rubbish so freely advertised. Sellers of upper stock have done a good business, and both box calf and glacé kid have sold well at firm prices. Some big buyers have, however, been "shopping around," and are waiting until the end of the week for a break in prices, which at time of writing seems very unlikely.

Foreign buyers of machinery and shoes have been well in evidence, but the exchange difficulty has been a bar to several deals which might have been put through.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Linseed has continued a weak market, and although there have been slight rallies, prices are again substantially lower on reports from Argentina of depression in options and good weather outlook for the new crop. Re-sellers have been very nervous, and though most of these have cut their losses, the market is lacking in support, and quotations have a decidedly lazy tendency, with Plate seed down to £15 for September-October loading.

There is still a considerable surplus in Argentina for shipment. On September 12th the figure was cabled 252,000 tons, since when 67,500 tons have been exported, leaving on October 1st approximately 184,500 tons on hand. The total shipment from Argentina from January 1st to October 1st are:—To the United Kingdom, 421,800 tons; Continent, 447,000 tons; and to North America, 155,000 tons—in all 1,023,800 tons, against 792,200 tons a year ago. Including Indian linseed this year's world shipments are 1,090,125 tons, against 931,150 tons. The quantities on passage are sensibly less than a few weeks ago, having been reduced to 69,600 tons to the United Kingdom and 76,500 tons to the Continent. The dis-

position at the beginning of the week was inclined to be optimistic, but immediately succeeding events did not confirm it.

In sympathy with seed, raw linseed oil has further declined to under £30 per ton for spot and near delivery at Hull, and this in spite of a fair trade on export account, chiefly American, encouraged by the lower range of values. For January-April delivery £31 to £31 10s has been accepted.

Following easier markets in Egypt, cotton-seed has declined about 20s per ton, but buyers are not active. Crude oil is scarce and firm for September-October deliveries, but quotations are slightly below highest of last week. Soya beans are inactive, and re-sellers of crude oil more inclined to meet the market. Palm kernel oil is about 40s down. Little trade is reported in ground nut oil, and rape oil in poor demand.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (30 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, October 7.

The markets in most instances during the week furnished very little for comment, trade being reduced to limited proportions both for raw and most manufactured goods.

SUGAR.—Actual transactions in this market were confined to a moderate compass, but prices on balance were not materially altered, though tending in buyers' favour. Tate's cubes, sold, 57s 3d to 58s 3d; crushed, 54s; granulated, 52s to 52s 6d; caster, 54s 6d to 55s; Lyle's yellow crystals, 47s 6d; and granulated, 52s to 52s 3d. Crystallised West India in but retail request, and ordinary to fine colour, sold, 41s to 45s 6d. American granulated, spot, changed hands at 51s to 51s 3d; ditto, afloat, 24s 6d; October, 24s, c.f. and i. U.K. White Java, October, to U.K., quoted, 21s, c.f. and i. terms. Belgian crystals, November-December, held for 19s 6d, f.o.b. Antwerp. Dutch granulated, prompt, 24s; cubes, 29s, f.o.b. terms. Czechoslovakian granulated and crystals, prompt, 23s 6d, f.o.b. Hamburg. Terminal market quiet. White, November, sold, 20s 3d to 20s 13d; December, 19s 9d to 19s; and March, 19s to 18s 9d. Cuban stocks, 1,700,000 tons, against 311,000 same time last year.

COFFEE.—A rather quiet tone prevailed on the spot, though all the finer descriptions realised steady prices. Jamaica, mountain grown, good to fine bold, sold, 157s to 188s 6d; peas, 165s to 192s 6d. The market for future delivery presented a quiet and easier tone. December delivery, sold, 49s 3d to 48s 9d and 49s 3d.

COCOA market generally steady, though quiet. Butter easier on the week at 1s 9d per lb.

TEA.—At public sale, 37,600 packages Indian were offered, and with rather quieter competition recent rates were barely maintained, particularly for broken medium qualities. Ceylon offerings totalled 20,300 packages, and while all the finer descriptions cleared readily at full rates, inferior ruled quiet, with plain the turn in favour of buyers.

RICE.—Market still largely nominal, with quite an absence of support. Two stars Rangoon, spot, quoted 21s; afloat, 20s 9d; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 21s 6d; No. 1 Saigon, October-November, 20s 6d. Rangoon bran, October-November, sellers, 90s per ton, ex ship terms. Beans very slow, and Rangoon hand picked, October-December, sold, 12s to 11s 6d and 12s. Madagascar butter beans, new crop, all white, spot, quoted 20s to 22s; and old crop, 15s. Japanese peas, October-November, 24s 6d.

SPICE.—Pepper market generally steady, and a fair demand prevailed, chiefly forward. Fair black Singapore, spot, quoted 4d; ditto, October-December, sold, 3½d; Aleppo, spot, quoted 4½d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, 8½d; Muntok ditto, 9d; and ditto, October-December, sold, 7½d to 7½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold, 1s 3½d; ditto, October-December, steamer, 1s 3d. Pimento, spot, changed hands at 2½d. Flake tapioca, spot, sold, 1½d; fair Penang, seed, spot, 20s; sago flour, October-December, 15s 3d. Japanese farina, October-November, 28s; desiccated coconut, spot lots, sold, 49s 6d to 49s, near 45s. Ginger steady, quiet.

FRUIT.—The market for currants remained in a quiet state. Amalia, new, quoted 58s to 62s; Patras, 64s to 68s; Vostizza, 82s to

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS.		INDIA RUBBER.		PROVISIONS.		SPICES.—Pepper, per lb.	
COCOA.—Duty, British grown	100 0 0	Aloes, fine E.L., p. cwt	180 0 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 0 0	Butter—per cwt.	173 0 195 0	Black Singapore	0 8 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	56 0 0	Cape, good to fine.	45 0 53 0	Plantation crepe	0 9 0 0	Do factory	155 0 184 0	White Siam	0 8 0 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	45 0 56 0	Balsam Peru	6 0 9 0	INDIGO—per lb.	11 0 12 0	Argentine	155 0 150 0	Pimento	0 24 0 28
Granada	70 0 89 0	Camphor	4 1 0 0	Benzal, good red vio.	11 0 12 0	Dutch	155 0 150 0	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 2 0 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 89 0	Japan, refined	4 1 0 0	Mid. ord. vio. to good	10 0 10 0	New Zealand	274 0 28 0	Do 2nd	0 11 0 0
Guayquil	68 0 75 0	Cardamom, Ceylon	1 6 0 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 0	Danish	228 0 230 0	Do 3rd	0 11 0 0
Bahia, finest	59 0 60 0	Cantharides	0 0 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	6 0 6 0	Bacon, smgd.—Irish	150 0 170 0	Chips	0 34 0 0
COFFEE.—British grown	112 0 0	Caster-oil	85 0 95 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 0 0	Canadian	150 0 172 0	Cassia Ligna	42 0 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	112 0 0	Gum Benim. Sum. cwt	7 10 0 11 10 0	Kurpah, gd. mid. to gd.	6 0 6 0	American	95 0 115 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 4 0 0
India fine good yd rd 91	112 0 0	Olibanum, drops	0 0 0 0	Low to mid.	0 0 0 0	Hams—Irish	nom	Penang	2 10 3 3
Do good to fine	115 0 135 0	Jalap.	2 0 0 0	HEMP—per ton	2 0 0 0	Canadian	110 0 115 0	Ginger—per cwt.	120 0 130 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid 80	120 0 0	Musk pod, China	0 85 0 0	St Petersburg, layer	nom	Lard—Irish bladders	nom	Cochin, cut	40 0 45 0
Good to fine	133 0 156 0	Oil, Cassia	2 24 0 0	Manila Aug. Oct.	42 10 0	American boxes, 5lb	74 0 76 0	Do washed	50 0 55 0
Central American, gd.	75 0 116 0	Peppermint, H.G.H.	45 0 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	42 10 0	Pork—per 8 lbs	5 4 10 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Mid. to fine	117 0 122 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fn	5 6 0 0	JUTE.	2 0 0 0	Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	1 8 4 0	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
Do gd. ord. to low mid 70	90 0 0	Galva, China, per cwt	75 0 83 0	Native first marks,	51 5 0 0	Scotch	7 4 9 4	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1 54
Do mid. to fine	95 0 142 0	Turmeric, Bengal	17 6 0 0	Sept. Oct. subs.	31 5 0 0	Cheese—Cwt.—Canadian	100 0 108 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 0
CHEMICALS.		Madras, finger	18 0 22 0	LEATHER—per lb.	2 0 0 0	Eng. Cheddar	112 0 143 0	Chillies—per cwt.	130 0 150 0
Acid, citric	2 54 2 6	Gambler, block	34 0 35 0	Sole Bends 6/10 lb.	1 6 2 6	Cheshire	nom	TALLOW—per cwt.	57 0 60 0
Nitric	0 24 0 0	Cutch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Do do 10/12	2 0 2 0	Dutch	86 0 144 0	Good	57 0 60 0
Oxalic, net	1 5 1 6	DYEWOODS.	35 0 45 0	Do do 12/14	2 0 2 0	Essex, pr 12½—English	32 0 35 0	Beef	55 0 60 0
Tartaric, English	1 5 1 6	Brazil	18 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	FLLOUR—250 lb.	29 0 31 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	1 1 1 54
Foreign	1 54 1 6	Fustic, Jamaica	18 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Eng. straight ex mill 59	0 0 0 0	E. L. Flake, fair, spot	0 13 0 16
Alum lump, per ton 21/10/17/0	17 0 0 0	Lima Wood	20 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	RICE—per cwt. c.i.f.	21 0 21 0	Pearl	0 13 0 16
Do ground	17 0 0 0	Logwood, Campeachy	20 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Rangoon No. 2	21 0 21 0	Indian and Ceylon	4 0 0 0
Ammonia, cwt. lb 4 0 44	4 0 44	Honduras	15 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Broken lb.	15 0 0 0	Pekoe	0 7 1 84
Muriatic, White ton 70 0 75 0	70 0 75 0	Jamaica	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Standard	15 0 0 0	Broken Pekoe	0 7 1 84
Sulphate	225 0 25 0	Red Sanders	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	SHELLAC—per cwt.	40 0 425 0	Orange Pekoe	0 7 1 84
Arsenic, lump, per ton 75 0 80 0	75 0 80 0	Sapang Ceylon	20 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Orange, first marks 400	0 425 0	Broken Orange	0 112 2 54
Powder, per ton 41 0 42 0	41 0 42 0	FLAX—spot—c.i.f.	2 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Second, fair to fine 400	0 410 0	Pekoe Souchong	0 74 3 11
Ashe, pot., per cwt 190 0 195 0	190 0 195 0	Riga ZK	115 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	TN Orange	323 0 325 0	Timber—Timber & Hewn Wood	20 0 0 0
Pearl do do	nom	Perman ID	3 5 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Garnet, Lac, AC	0 0 0 0	E. L. Teak (load)	20 0 0 0
Bleaching pwr. p. ton 190 0 200 0	190 0 200 0	Slanetz U/A Medium	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Blocky	285 0 0 0	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	9 0 16 0
Borax, crystals	31 0 0 0	FRUIT—New	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Satinwood cubic	0 5 1 0
Do powder	32 0 0 0	Oranges, Val. selected	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Standard, cash	155 0 155 5	Cedar cubic	1 6 6 0
Cream Tartar	130 0 132 6	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Japanese Oak	0 8 1 0
Colony	1 0 1 1	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	American Ash	0 8 1 0
Lodine, dry	1 0 1 1	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	TOBACCO.	0 0 0 0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton 190 0 200 0	190 0 200 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Duty 8/2—10/4 per lb.	0 0 0 0
Potash	0 6 0 7	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Virginia leaf	2 0 2 3
Chlorate, net	0 6 0 7	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Common to fine	2 0 2 3
Prussiate	1 0 1 2	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Strips	0 8 1 0
Do Foreign	1 0 1 2	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Common to fine	2 0 2 3
Sulphate	25 0 30 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Kentucky leaf	1 0 1 6
Sal-Acetone	1 10 2 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Common to fine	2 0 2 3
Sal-Ammoniac	75 0 80 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Strips	0 8 1 0
Soda Bicarb., per ton 410 0 420 0	410 0 420 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	China	0 8 1 0
Crytals, ex ship, p. ton 270 0 300 0	270 0 300 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 2 0
Alkali	8 15 0 9 15 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Seedling	1 6 6 0
Gaustic	8 15 0 9 15 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Havana	0 10 1 0
Sugar of lead white	0 0 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Greek	0 6 2 0
Foreign white	47 19 50 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	East Indian	0 6 2 0
Sulphate Quinine	nom	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 up
English Brands	nom	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	TURPENTINE, p. cwt	63 0 0 0
Foreign	4 1 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	WOOL—per lb.	0 0 0 0
Sulphate Copper, p. ton 32 0 32 0	32 0 32 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	English, Southdown, whsd.	174
Zinc, cut	nom	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Lincoln hog	34
Sulphur Flour	18 0 19 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	Queensland, sd. sup. cng.	20
Do Red.	17 0 18 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	N.S.W. greasy, super	14
Vermillion, Chinese	17 0 18 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	N.Z. grey, hlf-brd. (50-56s)	14
English	4 9 5 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5	crossed, (40-44s)	7
COPRA—per ton c.i.f.	2 0 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		
Malabar, Sept. Nov.	nom	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		
Ceylon	33 0 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		
F.M. Singapore	29 10 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		
F.M. Straits	29 10 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		
COCHINEAL—per lb.	2 0 3 6	Do	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0	Do do bars	184 15 154 5		

At less than the cost of ONE new SUIT we will keep your whole wardrobe in order for ONE YEAR

To maintain a smart, well-dressed appearance gentlemen should avail themselves of Eastman's Tailor-Valet Service.

This service, besides offering great convenience

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1921.

No 4,077.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market unsettled, and prices again lower Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, arrived, sold, £16; September-October, £17 10s, value. Plate, spot, Hull, £15; afloat, sold, £15 to £14 10s; September-October, sold, £15 to £14 15s; October-November, £15 12s 6d to £15 5s; November-December, £16 5s to £15 12s 6d; January-February, nearest, £16 10s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, September-October, quoted £20; real bold Ferozepore quoted £19 15s; brown Cawnpore, £19. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, October, quoted £14 5s; and white, £13 10s. Bombay, September-October, £10 10s. Gingelly quiet. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £29 to £30 paid. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £21. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, September-October, £29 to £29 10s; Chinese decorated, f.a.q., ditto, £28 10s to £29 per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market exhibited a firmer tendency last Monday, cash being sold at £157 5s to £157 7s 6d, and three months' £159 to £159 15s, but prices moved in an easier direction until the middle of the week under a fair amount of selling, while these dates changed hands down to £156, and three months' to £158 respectively. Little change occurred on Thursday, cash changed hands at £155 10s, middle of December £157 to £157 5s, and three months' at £158. At Friday's session dealings were on a limited scale. Cash changed hands at £155, end of November £156 15s, and three months' at £157 15s to £157 5s, while since registered at £157 12s 6d. English ingots, £153 15s to £154 5s. Copper continued slightly steadier during the early part of the week, standard cash by Tuesday realising

£68 12s 6d, three months' £69 10s, with cash at Wednesday's session reaching £69 10s, and three months' £70 7s 6d. The tendency was rather lower on Thursday, standard cash being sold at £69 15s to £69 2s 6d, and three months' £70 12s 6d to £70. At Friday's meeting cash sold at £69 10s, late November £70, and three months' £70 12s 6d, settling down at £70 7s 6d. Electros, £74 10s to £76 10s, best selected, £70 to £71 10s; strong sheets, £103. Wire bars, £74 10s to £75 10s. Lead steadier at £23 2s 6d to £22 17s 6d, as to position Spelter rather firmer at £26 12s 6d to £27. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium, home trade, quoted at £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—OCTOBER 6.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
Beasts—Herefords	8 8 to 9 4	Sheep—Downs	9 4 to 10 8
Shortboms	8 4 to 9 0	Longwools	8 8 to 10 0
Devons	9 6 to 10 0	Crossbreds	8 8 to 10 0
Norfolks	8 4 to 9 0	Scottish	10 0 to 11 4
Scottish	8 0 to 8 4	Lamb—Downs	10 0 to 11 4

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—OCTOBER 6.

Per Cwt.			
King Edwards	10 6 to 11 0	Evergoods	7 6 to 8 0
British Queen	10 0 to 10 6	Blacklands	7 0 to 10 6

Banks. &c.—Continued.

THE BRITISH & NORTH EUROPEAN BANK, LTD.,

31 & 33, Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2.

H. Guedalla, Chairman.
A. Kiaer, Managing Director.

The Bank transacts every description of Banking business and extends facilities for trade between Great Britain, Russia, Scandinavia, France, Italy, America, etc.

THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.

Incorporated by Russian Government Decree.
Capital, Authorised RbIs. 65,000,000
" Subscribed RbIs. 55,000,000
" (Subscribed by the Chinese Government) Kouping Tails 3,500,000
Reserve Funds RbIs. 26,361,423
" Couping Tails 1,707,033

" HEAD OFFICE AT PETROGRAD.
Branches at all the principal towns in Russia, Manchuria, Siberia, Central Asia, and China, also at Paris, Bombay, Hongkong and Yokohama.
Interest (paid quarterly) allowed on Fixed Deposit and on Current Accounts, at rates to be learned on application.
Banking business transacted of every description.
CHANTREY INCHBALD, London Manager.
64 Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

THE BANK OF ADELAIDE.

(Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1865.)
Authorised Capital .. £2,000,000
Subscribed Capital .. 625,000
Paid-up Capital .. £625,000
Reserve Fund .. 620,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders .. £1,245,000
Reserve .. £1,870,000

Head Office: ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
Sydney Office: 105, PITT STREET.
Melbourne Office: 267, COLLINS STREET.
Bills on Australasia purchased or collected.
Drafts issued and Remittances cabled.
Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained on application.
LONDON OFFICE—11 LEADENHALL ST., E.C.3
PERCY ARNOLD, O.B.E., Manager.

THE ROBERT SIMPSON COMPANY, LIMITED.

PREFERENCE SHARE DIVIDEND NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that a DIVIDEND has been DECLARED upon that portion of the Capital Stock of the Company consisting of Preference Shares, being a half-yearly dividend at the rate of Six per Cent. per annum upon the said Preference Shares, and that the same will be payable at the London Joint City & Midland Bank, Limited, 5 Princes Street, London, E.C.4, England, or at the option of the holder at the office of The Union Trust Company, Limited, Toronto, Canada, on and after the first day of November, 1921, to shareholders who appeared on the register on the 15th day of October.
The Transfer Books will be closed from October 17th to October 31st, both days inclusive.
FRANK HAY, Secretary.
Toronto, 19th September, 1921.

CENTRAL ARGENTINE RAILWAY LIMITED.

Notice is hereby given that the TRANSFER BOOKS for the 4½% Preference Stock and Consolidated Ordinary Stock will be CLOSED from the 7th October to the 22nd October, inclusive, for the preparation of Warrants for dividends.
F. FIGHERA, Secretary.
2a Coleman Street, London, E.C.2.
6th October, 1921.

BELDING, PAUL AND CORTICELLI SILK COMPANY, LIMITED, FIVE PER CENT. FIRST CONVERTIBLE DEBENTURES.

Belding-Corticelli, Limited, announces that the COUPONS falling due 1st November, 1921, on the above mentioned Debentures may be PRESENTED on or after the 17th inst., between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock (Saturdays excepted), at the Bank of Montreal, 47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2. Three clear days required for examination. Lists may be obtained on application at the Bank.

CITY OF SASKATOON FOUR-AND-A-HALF PER CENT. DEBENTURES.

The City of Saskatoon announces that the COUPONS falling due 1st November, 1921, on the above mentioned Debentures may be PRESENTED on or after the 17th inst., between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock (Saturdays excepted), at the Bank of Montreal, 47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2. Three clear days required for examination. Lists may be obtained on application at the Bank.

ST. JOHN AND QUEBEC RAILWAY COMPANY FIRST MORTGAGE FOUR PER CENT. DEBENTURE STOCK, 1902.

For the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants due 1st December, 1921, the BALANCES will be STRUCK on the evening of the 9th November, after which date the Stock will be transferred ex-dividend.—For Bank of Montreal.
G. C. CASSELS, Manager.
No. 47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.
1st October, 1921.

BANKER, young, with wide and varied international banking experience in London, Continent, and overseas in every phase of commercial banking, foreign exchange, and securities, at present holding high executive position with leading international bank, involving participation in shaping of foreign policies, would welcome offer of post with high-class concern affording greater opportunity for more direct application of individual experience, energy and initiative, combined with conservatism; salary not main consideration, but consistent with past record and present income; highest references and fullest information will be supplied.—Replies to "International Banker," Box 5, THE ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.2.

DOMINION OF CANADA FOUR-AND-A-HALF PER CENT. BONDS, 1920-1925.

The COUPONS falling due 1st November, 1921, on the above-mentioned Bonds may be PRESENTED on or after the 17th inst., between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock (Saturdays excepted), at the Bank of Montreal, 47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2. Three clear days are required for examination. Forms for listing coupons may be had on application at the Bank.
For the Bank of Montreal, Financial Agents of the Government of the Dominion of Canada,
G. C. CASSELS, Manager.
47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.
1st October, 1921.

DOMINION OF CANADA THREE AND A-HALF PER CENT. LOAN, 1909-1934.

For the purpose of preparing the Interest Warrants due 1st December, 1921, the BALANCES will be STRUCK on the evening of the 1st November, 1921, after which date the Stock will be transferred ex-dividend.
Coupons must be left for examination between the hours of 10 and 2 o'clock (Saturdays excepted), three clear days prior to payment being made.
Forms for listing Coupons may be had on application on and after 14th November, 1921.
For the Bank of Montreal, Financial Agents of the Government of the Dominion of Canada,
G. C. CASSELS, Manager.
47 Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.
1st October, 1921.

FINANCING

of businesses to or from Finland.

THE BANKERS

EMISSIONSAKTIEBOLAGET

at HELSINGFORS.

Telegrams: "Emission."

Own Capital about 40,000,000 Fmk.

Bankers: London Joint City and Midland Bank, London.

THE THREAT OF PROTECTION.

This pamphlet, which is a collection of articles from *The Economist* on Imperial Preference and the danger of a Tariff, should be read by all who are interested in preventing the threatened revolution of our Fiscal System.

Post Free 6d.

Published by *The Economist*, 3 Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.2.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund Haugesund
Bergen Sandefjord
Christianssand S. Skien
Drammen Stavanger
Fredrikstad Trondhjem

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... .. Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid Lire 300,000,000
Reserve Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 30th June, 1921 Lire 4,683,270,156

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italocredi, Cannon, London." Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	565	Letters to the Editor—	
Leading Articles—		A New Tax System	584
The Task Before Us	567	The Trade Boards	585
Industrial Profits	568	Payment of Indemnities	
Nine Months' Overseas		and Unemployment	586
Trade	569	The Exchanges and Un-	
Governments and the Re-		employment	586
vival of Trade.—I.	571	Stock Exchange News—	
Oil Market Troubles	572	The Stock Markets	588
Lancashire Cotton Trade ..	572	New Issues	588
Business Notes—		Active Securities	590
The Bank Statements	573	Company Meetings	590
The Crops	574	Government Returns—	
The Quarter's Shipbuilding		Treasury Bills by Public	
Finance Accounts for 1920-		Tender	594
21	574	Public Income & Expendi-	
Railway Amalgamation ..	574	ture	594
Iron and Steel Production		Currency Notes Account ..	594
German Customs Duties ..	575	Bankers' Gazette—	
Queensland Loan in New		Bank of England	595
York	575	Clearing Returns	595
Lancashire and Inter-Alled		Overseas Bank Returns ..	595
Debts	575	Monthly Statement of	
Cotton Cloth Exports	575	London Clearing Banks	
The Fate of Upper Silesia		Loan and Discount Rates ..	597
Anti-Trust Legislation in		Overseas Bank Rates	598
Norway	576	Rates of Exchange	598
U.S.A. Rubber Trade	576	Bullion	598
Greek Currants	576	Imports & Exports of Gold ..	598
A Nitrate Agreement	576	Gold and Silver Prices	599
The Clerical, Medical and		Company News—	
General's Valuation Re-		Analysis of Balance-Sheets	
port	577	Reports and Notices	599
Indian Mines Finance	577	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	600
Transvaal Output for Sep-		Mining Output Statistics ..	600
tember	577	Railway & Tramway Traffic	
The Russo-Asiatic Surprise		Rubber Outputs	602
Harrisons and Crosfield ..	578	Dividend Announcements ..	603
The Salvage and Towage		Transvaal Gold Output	604
Company, Limited	578	Commercial Reports—	
British Empire Exhibition		Corn Trade	604
(1923)	578	Iron and Coal Trade	604
Overseas Correspondence—		Cotton Trade	605
United States	578	Wool Trade	606
France	580	Linen Trade	606
Canada	581	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	
Poland	582	Hide and Leather Trades ..	606
Sweden	583	Portland Cement	607
Switzerland	584	Overseas Produce Markets	
Spain	584	Price Current	608
Books and Publications—			
Reviews	587		
Books Received	587		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."
Office: Granville House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.
Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings; Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall Avenue, and 43 Finsbury Pavement.
Paris: Galvani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

AN increased desire to employ funds in Treasury bills and short loans has been discernible this week. So money has been plentiful, and the Bank was easily repaid on Monday. Second-hand Treasury bills, too, were dealt in at 4 per cent., the market having missed most of those they

point. The narrow Protectionist attitude is exactly the wrong attitude from which to approach the world's difficulties to-day. What is wanted, what is essential, is a broad, generous outlook which realises the interdependence of nations and the common interest of all the countries of Europe. We have fallen into our present distress mainly because our statesmen have persisted in looking at things from a selfish national standpoint, and thought to improve the condition of their own people by impairing the condition of their neighbours. Lord Hugh Cecil's recent attack on nationalism has an economic as well as a political bearing, and a change of heart in the politicians would be the best augury for an improvement in our commerce and industry.

On the question of remedial measures for trade, the medicine that the patient ought to be given, the Cabinet, by all accounts, is still divided and uncertain. Among their outside advisers, the president of the Federation of British Industries, anticipating the Federation's Memorandum to the Prime Minister, has suggested this week in Scotland that the right course is not merely to jettison the policy of reducing debt, but to start incurring fresh debt, and so relieve the overburdened taxpayer. His scheme, if he is reported aright, is for the Government to come into the market again as a borrower, and restore the debt which has already been cancelled. So deeply is he impressed with the crushing burden of taxation that he would have us follow the example of Continental nations, allow our revenue to fall below our expenditure, and make good the deficiency by loans, the only qualification being that the money so raised must not be wasted by Government Departments—a stipulation that might apply as well to tax revenue as to the product of loans. Here, surely, is a counsel of despair. To ease the burden that the business man is carrying, and give him fresh energy and confidence, we are to proclaim our inability to pay for what we buy.

In our view, there was never a time in which it was more important than now to make revenue cover expenditure. Owing to the working of the three years' average—which admittedly is a burden to the taxpayer in lean years—the slump in income-tax has scarcely started. The real pinch for the revenue is due when the prosperous years 1918 and 1919 no longer come into average, and the tax will be collected on the miserable results of 1920, 1921, and (we fear we must add) 1922. When the contributing profits are the profits of the present depression we must expect a shilling in the £ to produce far less than it does to-day, and to lower the rate of tax just as we approach the time when the tax must automatically become less productive seems to be courting disaster. How can we, for the sake of a temporary respite from taxation, afford to increase the debt charge in the next few years, and throw an increased burden on to income-tax as the yield of the tax becomes progressively thinner?

INDUSTRIAL PROFITS.

We ventured to predict in our last quarterly article on the subject of the profits of industrial companies that the effects of the depression in trade would soon be reflected in our figures. From the statistics set out below it will be seen that these anticipations have already been borne out, for never before since these statistics were first compiled has so sharp a decline in profits been recorded. Before proceeding to a detailed examination of the figures, we may be permitted to give our usual explanation of the method in which they are compiled. There is published each week in the *Economist* a table summarising the profit and loss accounts of the company reports which have appeared during that week, railways, mines, insurance companies, and banks being omitted. The companies are grouped under their appropriate headings, and the previous year's net profits are given for comparison. At the end of each quarter the figures are combined, and statistics obtained which enable us to compile the tables which follow. It should be added that the figures given for the various quarters do not represent the profits earned in that particular quarter, but the profits disclosed during the quarter. They are not necessarily the profits earned in the previous twelve months, for company directors do not all display the same alacrity

in presenting accounts. The reports analysed during the past three months, for example, cover a variety of periods, the majority referring to the year ended March 31st last. The number of reports analysed was 232, and these show aggregate net profits, after payment of debenture interest, &c., of £13,912,771, as compared with £24,157,772 earned by the same companies in their previous financial year, a decrease of no less than £10,245,001, or 42.4 per cent. The comparison of the third quarter's figures of 1920 with those of 1921 may be shown thus:—

1920	£ 24,157,772
1921	13,912,771
Decline	10,245,001

A comparison of these figures with those of the four previous quarters is given below:—

NET PROFITS (after PAYMENT OF DEBENTURE INTEREST, &c.).

	No. of Cos.	Reports Published in		Increase.		Decrease.	
		1919-20.	1920-21.	£	%	£	%
1920.							
Third quarter	252	19,045,351	27,332,462	7,987,111	41.9	..	..
Fourth quarter	334	21,726,731	27,633,839	5,907,108	27.1	..	..
1921.							
First quarter	412	41,915,998	43,387,538	1,471,540	3.5	..	..
Second quarter	355	44,173,294	40,467,496	..	..	3,705,798	8.4
Third quarter	232	24,157,772	13,912,771	..	..	10,245,001	42.4

As we have explained above, these figures do not reflect present trade conditions, but rather those of six or more months ago. Taking this into consideration, and reading the figures above in conjunction with the next table, the course of the trade boom and the ensuing depression can be clearly traced:—

NET PROFITS (after PAYMENT OF DEBENTURE INTEREST, &c.).

	Number of Companies.	Reports Published in Year Ended June 30.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		1918-19.	1919-20.	£	%	£	%
1919.							
Third quarter	259	17,439,117	16,843,142	2,157,457	10.5	595,975	3.4
Fourth quarter	292	20,503,429	22,666,886	..	..	..	..
1920.							
First quarter	500	34,590,797	43,926,134	9,335,337	26.9	..	..
Second quarter	355	25,974,556	35,778,799	9,804,243	37.8	..	..
Third quarter	1,406	98,507,899	119,208,961	20,701,062	21.0	..	..

Thus two years ago our quarterly article showed a decrease in the profits of 259 companies of 3½ per cent. From that time onwards increases were shown, until at this time last year an expansion of nearly 42 per cent. was shown. Since then the decline has been clearly marked down to the past quarter's 42½ per cent. decrease. A year ago the average profit per company worked out at approximately £107,300. For the past quarter the average has dropped to £60,000. A year ago each of the various groups showed an increase. For the past quarter, with the solitary exception of the nitrate group, which passed through a depression rather earlier than other industries, all groups show a substantial decline:—

NET PROFITS (after PAYMENT OF DEBENTURE INTEREST, &c.).

	Number of Companies.	Reports Published in Quarter Ended Sept. 30.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		1920.	1921.	£	%	£	%
Breweries	19	5,132,177	4,192,192	..	..	939,985	18.2
Gas	9	67,347	54,925	..	..	12,422	18.5
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	7	299,083	15,992	..	..	283,091	94.8
Iron, coal, and steel	20	4,562,714	3,245,391	..	..	1,317,323	28.8
Land mortgage, &c.	14	1,346,376	896,845	..	..	449,531	33.3
Nitrate	4	1,140,921	141,133	99,922	205.1	..	..
Rubber, &c.	43	1,766,105	1,365,905	..	..	400,200	22.6
Shipping	6	319,310	282,161	..	..	37,149	11.6
Shops and stores	5	675,474	583,855	..	..	91,619	13.6
Tea	24	1,467,773	438,164	..	..	1,029,609	70.0
Telegraph, &c.	5	1,597,791	Dr 665,643	..	..	2,263,434	141.5
Textiles	6	754,051	595,841	..	..	158,210	20.9
Trust companies	9	4,982,399	3,757,389	..	..	1,225,010	24.6
Miscellaneous	61	24,157,772	13,912,771	..	..	10,245,001	42.4

The tea and textile groups are conspicuous with an aggregate net loss, while the rubber and hotel groups show very heavy declines. It is perhaps significant that the section most concerned with retail trade—namely, shops and stores—shows the smallest decline.

With profits falling heavily, the apportionment between

ALL BRANCHES OF INTERNATIONAL BANKING

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY

16, WALL STREET NEW YORK

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$ 31,250,000
DEPOSITS \$ 267,176,974
RESOURCES \$ 337,107,773

PARIS OFFICE : 3 & 5, PLACE VENDOME

TÉLÉGRAPH ADDRESS : BANKTRUST-PARIS

shareholders and reserves is of more than usual interest. Here is a comparison of the figures of the past three quarters:—

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.

	Net Profits.	Ordinary Dividend.	Preference Dividend.	Reserve, &c.
1921.				
First quarter	£ 43,387,538	£ 24,377,364	£ 6,357,529	£ 12,652,645
Second quarter	40,467,496	23,732,561	8,028,662	8,706,273
Third quarter	13,912,771	10,646,266	2,834,956	431,549
	97,767,805	58,756,191	17,221,147	21,790,467

The last line but one shows that in the past quarter reserves have been the first to suffer. The last column includes, in addition to amounts specifically allocated to reserve and other funds, the differences between amounts brought in and carried forward. As will be seen from the next table, which gives the distribution of profits in the past quarter for each group, reserves and balances brought forward have in many instances been heavily drawn upon in order to pay dividends:—

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.

	Net Profits.	Ordinary Dividend.	Preference Dividend.	Reserve, &c.	% of Profits.
Breweries	£ 4,192,192	£ 3,027,848	£ 530,777	£ 633,567	15.2
Gas	54,925	68,334	1,844	15,253	27.9
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	15,992	59,663	372.9	108,871	670.4
Iron, coal, and steel	3,245,391	2,412,803	74.2	479,350	14.8
Land mortgage, &c.	896,845	690,213	76.9	228,097	25.5
Nitrate	141,133	71,010	50.2	70,123	49.8
Rubber, &c.	1,365,905	649,839	47.5	87,898	6.4
Shipping	282,161	118,414	42.0	33,948	29.6
Shops and stores	Dr 583,855	53,654	39,420	Dr 676,929	..
Tea	438,164	614,854	140.4	Dr 176,690	40.4
Telegraph, &c.	Dr 665,643	515,793	..	Dr 1,345,675	..
Textiles	595,841	444,923	74.6	104,130	17.5
Trust companies	3,757,389	1,720,674	45.6	993,367	26.6
Miscellaneous	13,912,771	10,646,266	76.6	2,834,956	20.3

Notable exceptions are the nitrate and shipping groups, the latter reserving over 46 per cent. of profits. It should be added that the six shipping companies do not include any of the small concerns floated at the time of the boom. The hotel group is prominent. Profits were less than £16,000, but dividends to the extent of over £124,000 were distributed to shareholders at the expense of the reserves and balances in hand. The textile and tea groups have also depleted reserve funds to pay dividends.

The next table shows the ratio of profits and of reserve allocations to total ordinary and preference capital:—

	Total Ord. and Pref. Capital.	Net Profits.	Carried to Reserve, &c.
1920.			
Third quarter	£ 163,024,500	£ 27,032,462	£ 8,422,345
Fourth quarter	182,215,000	27,633,839	10,127,723
1921.			
First quarter	365,534,600	43,387,538	12,652,645
Second quarter	336,719,100	40,467,496	8,706,273
Third quarter	1,047,493,200	138,521,335	39,908,992
	166,443,500	13,912,771	431,549

Both ratios have been dwindling rapidly, and the past three months' figure compares very unfavourably with the average for the four previous quarters. We next show the average rates paid on debenture, preference, and ordinary capital:—

	Debenture Capital.	Debenture Interest.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1921.				
First quarter	£ 86,124,600	£ 3,831,042	4.43	4.25
Second quarter	76,243,900	3,538,103	4.61	4.40
Third quarter	35,707,800	1,589,573	4.45	4.12
	198,076,300	8,958,718	4.51	4.25

	Preference Capital.	Preference Dividends.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1921.				
First quarter	£ 128,124,800	£ 6,357,529	5.0	5.1
Second quarter	144,065,100	8,028,662	5.6	5.0
Third quarter	56,733,200	2,834,956	5.0	4.9
	328,923,100	17,221,147	5.2	5.0

	Ordinary Capital.	Ordinary Dividend.	Average Rate.	Average Rate a Year Ago
1921.				
First quarter	£ 237,409,800	£ 24,377,364	10.3	11.2
Second quarter	189,654,000	23,732,561	12.6	13.7
Third quarter	109,710,300	10,646,266	9.7	14.2
	536,774,100	58,756,191	11.0	12.8

The principal feature is the decline in the past quarter in average dividend on ordinary capital to the lowest figure recorded for several years. The average rates in each group for the past quarter were as follows:—

	Debenture Capital.	Rate of Interest.	Preference Capital.	Rate of Dividend.	Ordinary Capital.	Rate of Dividend.
Breweries	£ 12,629,931	3.9	£ 10,015,161	5.3	£ 22,632,025	13.4
Gas	477,759	4.5	12,500	14.8	1,651,027	4.1
Hotels, restaurants, &c.	1,915,000	4.7	1,170,000	5.6	2,910,881	2.0
Iron, coal, and steel	6,100,194	5.1	10,411,861	4.6	24,161,339	10.4
Land mortgage, &c.	4,486,986	4.6	4,862,955	4.7	5,593,356	12.4
Nitrate	..	..	55,400	12.0	5,064,071	3.9
Rubber, &c.	255,670	6.0	2,282,720	3.8	6,240,700	10.4
Shipping	..	..	1,315,000	6.4	1,066,481	11.2
Shops and stores	398,060	5.7	1,203,507	3.3	2,744,287	1.9
Tea	146,370	5.2	..	..	4,488,001	13.6
Telegraph, &c.	1,374,694	4.2	3,383,527	4.9	5,097,699	10.1
Textiles	682,250	4.1	1,828,680	5.7	4,394,569	10.1
Trust companies	7,240,871	5.0	20,191,837	5.6	23,298,840	7.4
Miscellaneous	35,707,785	4.5	56,733,151	5.0	109,710,326	9.7

Ordinary shareholders in tea and rubber companies have had their rate of distribution very much reduced, and small decreases are general, with the exception of the shipping, brewery, and nitrate groups.

NINE MONTHS' OVERSEAS TRADE.

THE September trade returns may be regarded as deplorable to the point of despair by those who make comparison with the figures of a year ago, without allowing sufficiently for the great fall in prices which the past twelve months have seen. Looked at from any point of view, their chief feature is the immense room for improvement which they suggest. Nevertheless, if the figures be carefully examined, they disclose some degree

of progress, which should not be overlooked. As a result of the coal strike, British exports dropped in June to the low level of £38.2 millions. Since then they have risen in successive months to £43.2 millions, £51.3 millions, and £55.2 millions—the September figure. Whatever may be the effect of price changes here and there, one way or the other, the recovery of the export value figures must be taken to denote steady and progressive, if slow, recovery in the volume of exports of British produce and manufactures. The recovery is very much slower than was at one time hoped, but it is at least something that the movement is in the right direction.

The value figures for September and the nine months ending September 30th compare as follows with the value figures for the corresponding periods of 1920:—

MONTH OF SEPTEMBER.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in September, 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	152,757,136	87,118,507	- 65,638,629	- 42.9
British exports	117,455,913	55,267,578	- 62,208,335	- 53.0
Re-exports	13,350,608	8,594,644	- 4,755,964	- 35.6
Total exports	130,806,521	63,842,222	- 66,964,299	- 51.2
Excess of imports over total exports..	21,950,615	23,276,285	+ 1,325,670	+ 6.0

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH.				
	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec. in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	1,501,412,239	827,678,470	- 673,733,769	- 44.6
British exports	1,007,278,036	518,661,311	- 488,616,725	- 48.5
Re-exports	180,458,482	77,639,668	- 102,818,814	- 57.0
Total exports	1,187,736,518	596,300,979	- 591,435,539	- 48.6
Excess of imp'ts over total exports ..	313,675,721	231,377,491	- 82,298,230	- 26.3

In the past nine months, in spite of all adverse influences, £82 millions have been knocked off the adverse balance shown by the published figures. Had it not been for the coal stoppage, the reduction might have been substantially larger. September's import excess of £23 millions is rather more than double the average monthly balance of pre-war times, and, when the change in values is taken into account, represents a visible monthly balance which, if there is any stirring in international trade, should be easily translated by invisible exports into a favourable balance of useful dimensions. Under the present conditions of depression, an estimate of how the real balance of trade stands is a very difficult task. But, obviously, the semi-official estimates put out at the beginning of the year must be subjected to severe revision. Since a comparison of value figures with those of last year is so far vitiated by price changes, the volume figures accessible in the official returns demand careful study. Here are some examples of how the volume of important exports in the nine months compare with that of the corresponding period of 1920 and 1913:—

BRITISH EXPORTS. January 1st to September 30th.			
	1913.	1920.	1921.
Coal	54,517,788	19,851,555	13,351,554
Coke, &c.	2,380,420	3,185,089	898,734
China-ware and earthenware, &c.	3,065,631	2,907,393	2,013,071
Cement	587,353	454,596	231,282
Pig-iron and ferro-alloys, tons	850,859	498,775	99,937
Railway material	593,515	231,883	217,217
Agricultural machinery	60,185	8,278	4,748
Textile machinery	130,525	35,816	111,637
Total machinery	513,697	316,121	586,856
Cotton yarn	154,761,750	118,447,700	90,592,600
Cotton piece-goods*	5,350,278,900	3,540,677,100	1,886,341,100
Wool tops	331,141	163,982	257,184
Woolen tissues*	81,997,400	151,721,800	55,449,900
Linen piece-goods*	142,307,300	81,827,400	24,720,900
Jute yarn	32,656,200	30,479,900	17,364,500
Jute piece-goods*	129,668,700	120,587,900	47,185,900
Jute sacks and bags	3,117,385	2,423,623	1,330,257
Boots and shoes	1,089,120	623,816	234,964
Soap	1,359,716	1,599,589	596,285
Fur skins, dressed	3,150,495	2,310,201	872,515

* Yards in 1913, square yards in 1920 and 1921.

Declines in quantities exported as compared both with 1920 and 1913 are in most cases very impressive. The most satisfactory items in the list are textile and other machinery and wool tops. In the first nine months of this year, as compared with last, increased quantities of textile machinery have been sent to the following countries:—India, 33,000 tons; Japan, 11,300 tons; China, 9,853 tons; France, 6,441 tons; U.S.A., 3,491 tons; and South America, 3,176 tons.

The Ministry of Transport has issued the following estimate of the weight of imports and exports in August, as compared with August, 1920 and 1913:—

Month of August.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Tons.	Per Cent. Inc. or Dec. in August, 1921.	Tons.	Per Cent. Inc. or Dec. in August, 1921.
1921	3,389,000	..	3,901,000	..
1920	4,302,000	- 21.2	3,184,100	+ 22.5
1913	4,898,000	- 30.8	7,395,900	- 47.3

The increase in the weight of exports in August as compared with a year ago is a good deal more than accounted for by increased coal shipments. Increase in the latter is welcome, but makes the figures a little misleading. Leaving coal out of account, August exports, judged by weight, were over 500,000 tons below those of August, 1920.

The shipping figures show that the tonnage engaged in foreign trade clearing with cargoes from ports of the United Kingdom during the nine months was 24,389,472, compared with 27,630,643 for the corresponding period of 1920. The coal stoppage is in itself sufficient to account for the difference. The latest figures are more encouraging, the September clearance being 4,103,575 tons, against 3,016,720 tons in September, 1920.

The bullion and specie account for the nine months reads as follows:—

	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
Gold	38,903,831	47,062,507
Silver	7,476,773	8,114,211

Of the gold exported, £44,385,390, or rather more than twice as much as in the first nine months of 1920, went to the United States.

The following tables show the value figures of principal imports and exports for September and the nine months of 1920 and 1921 classified under 43 heads:—

IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).				
	Month Ended September 30.		Nine Months Ended September 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	23,211,879	15,550,123	170,164,122	107,038,302
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	678,434	536,598	6,516,912	4,778,208
C. Meat	10,578,096	11,465,739	105,711,857	109,656,867
D. Animals, living, for food	231,306	231,306	2,125,957	2,125,957
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable ..	12,530,846	10,677,887	129,350,210	128,513,188
F. " " dutiable ..	12,253,303	8,476,208	136,993,417	72,372,617
G. Tobacco	2,081,394	1,472,550	30,195,875	18,301,351
Total, Class I.	67,333,952	48,410,411	578,932,393	442,766,490
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	..	59,652	..	12,115,807
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	872,472	443,308	7,150,953	5,170,813
C. Iron ore and scrap	1,900,520	242,465	16,295,868	4,081,558
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	1,412,748	967,606	13,237,700	6,300,410
E. Wood and timber	9,676,130	2,680,333	62,007,379	20,521,978
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	9,108,303	4,261,619	212,285,058	43,328,976
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	6,640,715	2,933,046	76,560,264	33,251,660
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	307,741	83,022	3,255,412	558,455
I. Other textile materials	1,582,99	425,918	28,202,819	7,180,097
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins & gums ..	5,216,087	4,651,099	63,473,829	28,192,085
K. Hides and skins, undressed	1,519,668	1,021,774	27,499,279	6,834,408
L. Paper-making materials	2,906,047	1,226,174	24,874,586	10,565,336
M. Rubber	2,085,149	468,040	21,731,896	8,411,864
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	1,398,271	1,000,608	15,453,557	5,717,724
Total, Class II.	44,556,847	20,464,744	572,028,598	192,181,171

	Month Ended September 30.		Nine Months Ended September 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	1,214	12,622	6,973	239,488
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	901,299	514,658	8,140,518	5,260,020
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	3,143,704	1,829,800	17,879,565	18,643,916
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	3,490,262	1,373,646	31,602,141	14,193,892
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	844,450	618,289	8,189,859	5,317,477
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	180,780	123,715	1,065,350	1,569,207
G. Machinery	1,675,794	546,731	14,671,868	9,074,803
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	750,064	342,249	6,019,596	4,021,980
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	955,439	528,231	7,700,811	4,215,450
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	1,514,518	306,630	14,669,275	6,231,715
K. Silk and silk manufactures	2,230,763	1,475,494	29,492,832	14,500,415
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	1,789,830	632,183	19,580,015	5,960,010
M. Apparel	1,113,159	820,323	12,563,386	6,701,167
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	3,179,217	984,030	26,019,704	9,984,730
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured ..	7,723,619	3,391,857	54,175,314	46,355,493
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	1,261,244	645,373	17,912,689	5,427,644
Q. Paper and cardboard	2,806,282	889,535	24,015,078	8,703,194
R. Vehicles (including loco motives, ships, and aircraft)	2,822,977	410,211	22,105,710	5,632,287
S. Rubber manufactures	642,658	649,008	5,407,736	3,506,826
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	2,535,400	1,810,759	26,830,718	14,611,438
Total, Class III.	40,572,603	17,905,342	348,048,738	190,151,152
IV.—Animals, not for food	70,452	22,682	350,388	262,020
V.—Parcel post, non-dutiable articles ..	223,282	315,328	2,052,122	2,317,637
Total	152,757,136	87,118,507	1,501,412,239	827,678,470

EXPORTS OF PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month Ended September 30.		Nine Months Ended September 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	125,332	307,371	2,219,048	2,672,814
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	103,200	148,127	747,721	996,493
C. Meat	58,733	70,563	633,802	570,518
D. Animals living, for food	5,148	4,418	6,108	35,364
E. and F. Other food and drink	3,214,734	2,362,688	26,945,768	19,192,893
G. Tobacco	803,637	406,978	7,098,207	3,751,322
Total, Class I.	4,310,784	3,300,145	37,650,654	27,219,404
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	6,622,515	5,194,356	78,492,476	27,856,159
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	312,760	157,916	1,795,376	776,329
C. Iron ore and scrap	41,913	24,471	556,877	130,158
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	342,865	85,187	1,606,893	507,168
E. Wood and timber	72,603	26,199	847,616	294,127
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	146,784	46,755	2,712,588	366,793
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	443,022	372,577	7,581,800	3,256,749
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	4,163	4,532	86,209	17,920
I. Other textile materials	12,534	56,487	555,762	450,096
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums	836,560	762,336	9,678,371	4,061,427
K. Hides and skins, undressed	86,203	51,053	3,551,127	79,406
L. Paper-making materials	211,086	64,805	1,997,105	484,651
M. Rubber	59,667	9,595	419,473	90,644
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	322,428	140,675	4,465,242	2,437,872
Total, Class II.	9,515,103	6,996,854	114,346,915	41,708,499
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	2,236,030	338,354	16,381,835	2,336,864
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	1,747,730	915,162	12,998,370	8,964,812
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	10,965,281	4,081,988	95,494,726	47,883,248
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	1,962,970	836,684	19,994,787	8,848,963
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	1,200,472	586,833	9,602,575	7,239,214
F. Electrical goods and apparatus ..	888,237	924,767	7,967,233	10,629,573
G. Machinery	5,547,702	5,197,917	42,455,389	57,601,729
H. Manufactures of wood and timber ..	289,928	162,344	1,976,671	1,346,466
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures ..	37,859,668	13,311,211	309,336,162	129,060,572
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	10,886,564	3,664,983	105,644,609	42,950,332
K. Silk and silk manufactures	432,134	173,651	4,143,289	1,750,832
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	3,642,638	1,376,253	35,437,699	13,599,280
M. Apparel	4,661,772	1,295,654	36,648,364	14,110,607
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours ..	3,942,946	1,372,853	30,591,146	14,649,084
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured ..	865,149	447,058	11,286,394	3,737,191
P. Leather and manufactures thereof ..	695,751	430,734	9,606,402	3,346,922
Q. Paper and cardboard	1,260,757	524,782	8,144,254	6,124,444
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	7,751,728	5,782,398	40,114,427	41,512,476
S. Rubber manufactures	926,668	361,053	8,875,747	3,513,852
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	4,411,870	2,224,334	36,005,620	20,672,120
Total, Class III.	102,215,995	44,009,013	842,518,699	439,879,181
IV.—Animals, not for food	506,513	246,754	3,235,150	2,707,321
V.—Parcel Post	907,518	694,812	9,526,618	7,146,906
Total	117,455,213	55,247,578	1,007,278,036	518,661,311

GOVERNMENTS AND THE REVIVAL OF TRADE.—I. (FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

As war is a teacher of geography, so hard times may be a great school of economics, the fallacies and false hopes that flourish in days of easy profits withering away in the bleaker atmosphere of trade depression. The past 18

months have done much in this respect to educate both public opinion and the politicians; there is to-day in the public mind a general anxiety, not visible two years back, to attack evils at their roots, and there is less disposition in the political world to despise and reject the accepted doctrines of old-fashioned political economy which in 1919 were believed to have nothing of value for the modern statesman. The Prime Minister himself has called into consultation some very capable economists, and whatever may result from his conferences with them, it is something

because Europe is impoverished by war and bad government, and whatever we may do in our own domestic affairs, however much we lower the standard of living here and reduce the sterling cost of production, we cannot regain our prosperity until our customers abroad can buy from us once more. That is a truism which is everywhere accepted in theory but is easily forgotten in practice. It is a vital truism, and it provides the touchstone by which every proposal for reviving trade is to be tested. "Does it help to increase the purchasing power of the impoverished countries?" This test, if applied, would have demolished most of the measures adopted by Governments in the last three years, and would knock out not a few of the schemes floating about to-day. Every selfish sectional remedy goes. Bills for safeguarding industries and checking the flow of such exports as the poorer countries have to offer go. The perpetration of old feuds and the enforcement of too burdensome obligations on former enemies go. The spirit that delights in keeping your enemy down goes. All these things go not because of the moral objection to them, but because they check the recuperative power of the people with whom we must buy and sell if trade is ever to be restored.

Taking this as the acid test, we may in a further article try to consider the scope and the limitations of Government action, setting out a few of the things that Governments can do to help the revival of trade, and *per contra* a few of the things that they will probably be tempted to do, but would be very much wiser to leave undone.

OIL MARKET TROUBLES.

(BY A STOCK EXCHANGE CORRESPONDENT.)

THE oil market is very much in the limelight owing to the drama, amounting to something of a tragedy, which is being fought out upon its boards. To understand dimly the widespread character of the interest, even in a few companies, it may be mentioned that the issued capital of the Shell Transport is nearly £20,000,000 sterling in ordinary shares; the Burmah Oil Company has an issued capital of nine million pounds in ordinary and preference, while of Mexican Eagle shares there are over ten millions issued. At the present time it is difficult to form any accurate idea of the number of shareholders in the "Big Four"—Burmah, Shell, Mexican Eagle, and Royal Dutch—but an estimate of 100,000 people is probably conservative. Apart from this quartette of companies, there are, of course, many other oil concerns, the prices of whose shares are largely dependent upon those of the leaders. Within the last six months the shrinkage in sterling value of Burmah, Mexican Eagles, and Shells comes to something over fifty million pounds sterling. Burmah Oil six months ago stood at 7½. During this October they have been down to 4½, recovering to 5½ before another slight reaction occurred. Mexican Eagles were nearly 7 in the early part of May; they have been down to less than half that price within the past few days, while Shells have fallen from 6¾ to 4¾. The oil market slogan, that no home is complete without some Shells, received exemplification in the extraordinary confidence manifested in the company by its vast proprietary, which includes many thousands of ladies. Consequently, the *débâcle* in the market, as illustrated by the depreciation figures we have quoted, has caused, and still causes, a widespread apprehension verging upon positive alarm. The latter feeling proved too much for some of the holders, and led them to sell their shares during the recent slump, so adding to the depression brought about by extrinsic as well as intrinsic causes. The trouble in the market is of old standing, going back to the time when people went mad over oil shares, and when no imaginary price seemed too absurd for oil shares to reach. Coal was to be superseded by oil, and, in spite of the warnings from the more cautious counsellors, the world and his wife went as wild over oil as ever they did over rubber 11 years back. From time to time during the past 12 months unpleasant reports have reached this country, mostly *via* the United States, to the effect that salt water was making rapid incursions into the Mexican oilfields and ruining part of the field. Five months ago these reports assumed very definite shape in a statement made by a New York expert, whose conclusions were

promptly challenged on this side, and who was declared, in some directions, to be a pessimist put up for the express purpose of depreciating Mexican oil investments at the instigation of the Standard Oil Company of New York. The Mexican Eagle Company, after some little pressure, issued a guarded but cheerful statement, which had the effect of stopping the then slump and inducing a return of hopefulness to the shareholders. Later on, however, the oil market became suddenly swamped by selling of lines of shares from various quarters. Glasgow contributed some of the blocks, Paris more, New York sent its quota, and, as already mentioned, the thoroughly alarmed shareholders turned out their investments upon a market far from willing to take lines of shares at a time when trade depression is rife, and when the prospect of dividends being maintained is at least problematical. The Mexican Eagle has been paying 60 per cent., the Shell 35 per cent., free of tax, and the Burmah 30 per cent., also tax free. Loth as the optimists were to admit the likelihood of these dividends being reduced, the strong probability of "cuts" being made is now forced home upon everybody, except upon the still incurable believers in oil as an exception to the other industries that are suffering from world depression. From the lowest prices reached during the slump of last week there has been a decided recovery, but it is no use blinking the fact that the market is in an excited and a very nervous condition. It would require little selling to bring about another sharp fall. The American policy in regard to the price of crude oil is difficult to understand, for, while this is put up in one week, it may be reduced once or twice shortly afterwards. In the circumstances, it is natural enough that a cry should arise as to the Americans being bent upon securing control of the world's oil industry, through the acquisition of Mexican oilfields lying so conveniently contiguous to their own wells, which under any substantial pressure of demand might run dry. The fight, if it be indeed a fight, is one of the biggest which even the Americans have taken on in the commercial world. Looked at calmly, however, it would appear as though the demand for oil should be sufficiently widespread, as soon as more normal conditions of trade prevail, for powerful corporations to work side by side in the same harmony as that which prevailed during the boom period of the war. It is impossible to say that there will be no further fall in the prices of leading oil shares. What effect the inevitable cuts in dividends will have upon shareholders nobody can foresee, but people who are prepared for quotations to go lower, and who are content to wait for better times ahead, will probably decide that it may be as well not to be scared out of good-class oil shares when prices, notwithstanding the reaction from the worst, are still so flat.

LANCASHIRE COTTON TRADE.

(BY OUR MANCHESTER CORRESPONDENT.)

THERE has been an improvement in the Lancashire cotton industry during the past quarter compared with the previous three months. The outstanding feature of the period has been the marked rise in raw cotton rates. Spinners and manufacturers have been forced to put up their quotations to meet the additional cost of the raw material, but in all instances it has not been possible to secure adequate advances. The higher values, however, have stimulated demand for manufactured articles. Although the conditions are more favourable, production is not yet in full stretch, and large numbers of the operatives are still unemployed. A most satisfactory development has been the appreciation in the value of stocks, and this feature has undoubtedly prevented financial difficulties. Exchange rates throughout the world are still disorganised, and politically there are disturbing factors in the situation; but there is ground for believing that better times are near at hand for Lancashire, and there seems to be no probability of the trade slipping back into a depression similar to that prevailing in the early summer.

There has been a remarkable rise in raw cotton prices. On June 30th the quotation for fully middling American cotton on the spot in Liverpool was 7.85d. By July 18th the rate had advanced to 8.83d. After a slight decline to 8.33d on July 29th, an upward movement showed itself, and on August 8th the quotation was 9d. The higher prices were

fairly well maintained, and towards the end of August another rise took place to 11.05d on the 31st. Fresh high records were established early in September, the figure on the 7th being 14.70d. Violent fluctuations were registered from day to day, but the tone of the market was stronger than ever towards the end of September, the rate on the 26th being 15.34d and on the 29th 15.71d. Since then there has been a rather easier movement, the quotation on Wednesday last being 13.81d. The striking change in the situation has been due to a continuance of very adverse reports with regard to the growing crop in the United States. The official statements issued by the Government have established fresh low records relating to the condition, and the latest estimate of the yield is 6,500,000 bales, exclusive of linters. This means that the probable output will only be about 7,500,000 bales, against 11,355,000 bales in 1920-21. A much larger business has been done in raw cotton. Lancashire spinners have bought more freely, especially in the better grades, which are expected to be scarce, and extensive purchasing has also occurred for Continental and American interests. An important advance has also taken place in Egyptian cotton, partly in sympathy with the rise in the American staple, and partly owing to less satisfactory advices relating to the crop in Egypt. On June 30th the quotation for fully good fair Sakellaridis on the spot in Liverpool was 15.50d. At the end of July the price was about the same, but August brought rather higher rates, the figure on the 31st being 17.75d. Since then a striking upward movement has shown itself, until 30.75d was registered on October 4th. During the last few days there has been a decline, the figure on Wednesday last being 27.50d. The growth in Egypt is said to have been unfavourably affected by insect pests, and owing to the smaller acreage it is not anticipated that the output will be more than 3,800,000 cantars against 4,876,000 cantars in 1920-21.

There was a partial revival of demand in piece goods during July, chiefly for India, but the buying was not general, and before very long the requirements of our customers seem to be satisfied for the time being. In August, when prices began to harden, buyers did not believe in higher values, and they were slow to operate. Since then, however, there has been distinctly more inquiry with an increased turnover, and many manufacturers have been enabled to clear stocks and add to their order lists.

The following is a comparative table of our shipments of cloth for the nine months ended September 30th:—

	1913	1920	1921
yards	5,350,278,900	3,540,677,100	1,866,341,100
sq. yards	73,659,119	242,732,477	100,045,277

So far this year on last we are shipping more freely to Roumania, Mexico, Morocco, and British East Africa, but there is a big decrease in the takings of Bombay, China, Turkey, Egypt, British West Africa, and the United States.

During the last week or two there has been decidedly more inquiry for India, and the turnover has improved. A big business, however, cannot be expected until the political situation abroad is clearer. It is no use disguising the fact that the Gandhi agitation is having a serious effect upon Lancashire trade with dealers in Calcutta and Bombay. Merchants are in no mood to speculate, and indent orders are few and far between. The monsoon season has been excellent, and apart from the uncertain political situation the trade outlook in our Dependency may be described as healthy. For several weeks there has been quite an encouraging turnover in cloth for China. The buying has covered standard makes and fancies, and many producers are now more deeply sold. Distinctly more activity has also shown itself for the Near Eastern markets, especially Egypt. Inquiry has also been better for South America. Clearances in the home trade have improved, but developments for the winter season are being checked by the warm weather. Looms that have been standing idle for many months in Blackburn, Burnley, and Preston are now being restarted, and unemployment amongst the weaving operatives is being reduced.

Organised short time, which had been in force since the end of last year in the spinning section of the trade, was abandoned in July. It cannot be said that this decision was reached owing to any distinct improvement

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

in trade, but it was felt by the Masters' Federation that individual members should be allowed to run their machinery as they thought fit. In both American and Egyptian yarns more business has been done in home counts during the past month. Prices in most instances have been very unsatisfactory, but cheap stock lots are now more difficult to be found, and, given a steady demand, there is every probability of producers being in a stronger position in the near future. This section has derived considerable support from the larger off-take in qualities suitable for shipment abroad. A big business has been done for China in two-fold descriptions. More trade is now coming round for India. The turnover for certain Continental countries, such as Holland, is broadening.

The following is a comparative table of our foreign trade in yarn for the nine months ended September 30th:—

	1913	1920	1921
Lbs.	154,761,700	118,447,700	90,592,600
£	11,022,055	37,656,977	15,987,327

The prospects for the industry are brighter than for a long time back. Demand for most outlets abroad is much more encouraging. So far the business done has not been sufficient to strengthen spinners and manufacturers, but cheap goods are in reduced supply, and there is every likelihood of the prices ruling being more profitable before the end of the year. The uncertain political situation in India is an adverse factor; but if this trouble can be removed there should be an extensive trade with our Dependency. In China and the Near East supplies are not excessive, and although no trade boom can be expected, it is reasonable to anticipate that by Christmas there will be much less unemployment in Lancashire. In view of the facts known relating to the raw cotton situation, lower values are not likely.

Business Notes.

The Bank Statements.—The monthly statement of average weekly balances issued by the joint-stock banks shows no striking changes in September. The statement is set out in detail on a later page, and in the table below we give a comparative summary of the totals for the nine English banks:—

(Million £'s.)

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.
Capital and reserves	115.4	115.8	115.9	115.9	115.9	115.9
Acceptances	88.4	63.0	57.7	52.2	49.4	47.2
Deposits (including undivided profits, &c.)	1,810.1	1,729.3	1,768.4	1,785.4	1,764.0	1,771.4
Total liabilities	2,013.9	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3	1,934.5
Coin, notes, balance at bank, and cheques in course of collection, &c.	256.9	250.3	265.1	252.1	250.3	250.4
Money at call	98.9	96.5	98.0	103.6	100.0	98.9
Investments	341.3	331.2	335.9	336.3	326.3	332.7
Discounts	361.9	304.0	346.2	372.6	379.9	394.3
Loans and advances	845.1	839.9	815.4	812.2	798.7	786.2
Cover for acceptances, pre-mises, &c.	110.5	86.2	81.4	76.7	74.1	72.0
Total assets	2,013.9	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3	1,934.5

Deposits have risen again, while acceptances are slightly lower. Discounts show another substantial increase, which is partly offset by a decline in loans and advances. The increase in investments may be partly due to purchases of Treasury Bonds. The figures should serve to dissipate fears that rapid deflation is in progress.

The Crops.—The monthly report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries states that the weather during the greater part of September was dry, and the corn harvest was completed by the middle of the month in the later districts. During the second week of the month there were good rains in most parts of the country, which had a beneficial effect on pastures, roots, and catch crops, but the subsequent dry period counteracted the advantage to a great extent, especially in the east of the country. Practically all the wheat was secured in good condition, though in the North some crops were damaged by rains. The grain is generally of good quality, but smutty samples are to be found in most parts of the country. Barley and oats were also well secured as a rule. In the North and West, however, some crops were in stock for a long period, and became discoloured, and there was some sprouting. Winter oats are a good sample, but the quality of spring oats and barley is variable. Early crops are generally good, but later sowings have given small, thin grain. In many districts in the South of England the lifting of main crop potatoes is well advanced, but in other parts of the country this work as a rule is only beginning. The tubers are generally small and second growth is prevalent, but disease is practically non-existent. In the East crops are lifting even lighter than was anticipated a month ago, but in the North and West a better yield is now expected. On the whole, the probable yield per acre is now estimated at 20 to 25 per cent. below average. Mangolds have freshened up since the rains, and prospects are slightly more favourable than a month ago, but crops generally will be light, the plant frequently being patchy and the roots rather small. The probable yield per acre is now estimated at 15 to 20 per cent. below average. Turnips and swedes are much less promising than at the beginning of September, and the probable yield is now estimated at about 40 per cent. below average. All root crops appear to have done better in the North of England and in Wales than in other parts of the country. The apple crop is heavy, but the fruits are generally undersized, although larger than was at one time expected. Apple rot is very prevalent, and is developing in the store. Pears are scarce. The rains of the latter part of August and second week of September improved the pastures, and in the North and West there were good supplies of grass during September, and cattle and sheep made good progress in consequence. Owing to the early harvest, good progress has been made with autumn cultivation, and this work is much more forward than usual.

The Quarter's Shipbuilding.—*Lloyd's Register* shipbuilding returns for the quarter ended September 30th last show that the merchant tonnage returned as under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of September, 1921, amounts to 3,282,972 tons. This represents a reduction of about 247,000 tons as compared with the total at the end of the previous quarter, but under the present conditions the figures can only be regarded to a large extent as nominal. As in the previous quarter, the total includes a considerable amount of tonnage on which work has been suspended owing to the decline in the demand for tonnage, and also a large quantity of tonnage the completion of which has been postponed owing to abnormal causes. The tonnage on which work has been suspended amounts to 731,000 tons and the tonnage which has been delayed in completion amounts to about 457,000 tons. These two totals, amounting to 1,188,000 tons (equal to 36 per cent. of the whole of the tonnage under construction), must be deducted in order to enable a comparison to be made with the figures for normal times, and we thus arrive at a reduced total of 2,095,000 tons under construction in the United Kingdom. As compared with the figures for the quarter ended June 30, 1921, there has been a reduction of about 14,000 tons in the tonnage launched during the past quarter. Attention

was called in recent quarterly returns to the fact that, although the total tonnage returned as under construction was so large, the amount completed compared very unfavourably with pre-war times. In 1913 the average tonnage completed during each quarter was over 23 per cent. of the total work in hand at the beginning of the quarter; the corresponding figures for 1920 fell below 13 per cent. There is still a further reduction during 1921, the average output for the first three quarters having fallen as low as 8½ per cent. There is a continued reduction in the tonnage commenced. In the March quarter the decrease amounted to 113,000 tons in the June quarter there was a further reduction of 324,000 tons, and for the quarter under review the tonnage commenced only amounted to 51,343 tons, or a decrease of 455,000 tons as compared with the last quarter of 1920. This is perhaps the most significant figure in the return as indicating the very unfavourable outlook for the immediate future. The total merchant tonnage building abroad is 2,260,006 tons, but this includes about 375,000 tons (equal to 16.6 per cent. of the total) upon which work has been suspended, leaving 1,885,000 tons actually under construction. The countries where the largest amount of work is suspended are Italy and the United States. Apart from the United States, the leading countries abroad are:—Italy, with 397,544 tons; France, 350,681 tons; Holland, 349,122 tons; and Japan, 186,782 tons. The total for Italy shows an increase of about 87,000 tons, as compared with the previous quarter, but, as stated above, the total includes a very considerable tonnage on which work is now suspended.

Finance Accounts for 1920-21.—The final accounts for the financial year ended March 31st last have just been published. Total gross liabilities on that date amounted to over £757½ millions, and our estimate of National Debt, given in another column, has been adjusted accordingly. Amongst assets we notice that there is a recorded decline of £3,828,000 through the fall in the market quotation of Suez Canal shares. This is the more interesting as other investments made by the Government are taken at cost. For instance, the item Anglo-Persian Oil Company shares and debenture stock is recorded at £4,250,000, with no fall in values for the year. This is followed by shares in British Dyestuffs Corporation at cost £1,700,001, and French 4 per cent. Rentes at cost £3,604,306. To special receipts, which totalled over £286½ millions, the Food Ministry contributed practically £35 millions, while £155 millions came from the Ministry of Munitions, sales of surplus stores yielding £141½ millions of this amount. Gold saved from ss. "Laurentic" brought in practically £12,000 for the Treasury during the period, while sales of dyestuffs delivered by Germany under the Treaty of Versailles are recorded at £188,000.

Railway Amalgamation.—Viscount Churchill, chairman of the company, has issued to shareholders in the Great Western Railway a circular with regard to grouping and amalgamation. The Railways Act provides for the division of the railways of Great Britain into four groups, namely—(1) the Southern group; (2) the Western group; (3) the North-Western, Midland, and West Scottish group; (4) the North-Eastern, Eastern, and East Scottish group. The Western group comprises, besides the Great Western, the Barry-Cambrian, Cardiff, Rhymney, and Taff Vale railways, and the Alexandra (Newport and South Wales) Docks and Railways. It also embraces 26 subsidiary companies. After setting out these, the circular concludes:—"A clause was introduced into the Bill during its progress which provides that the Great Western Railway Company is to be the Amalgamated Company for the Western group, without change of name, and that the other constituent companies shall be amalgamated with, and the subsidiary companies absorbed by, the Great Western Company. With the view to obtain as early as may be practicable the advantages in the direction of economy, working and management to be brought about by the formation and operation of the group, negotiations are already in progress with certain of the above-named companies, and will at once

be taken in hand with the remainder, for the settlement of terms for their amalgamation or absorption, as the case may be, and if a scheme be agreed it will, in pursuance of the provisions of the Act, be submitted for the approval of the proprietors and debenture stockholders prior to its submission to the Minister of Transport and its reference by him to the Amalgamation Tribunal for confirmation. In case of failure to agree terms with any of the companies concerned, it is provided by the Act that the Amalgamation Tribunal shall prepare and settle a scheme for the amalgamation of the constituent companies, and also a scheme for the absorption of any subsidiary company with respect to which an agreed absorption scheme has not been framed."

Iron and Steel Production.—The National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers states that the production of pig-iron in September amounted to 158,300 tons, compared with 94,200 tons in August, 386,000 tons in March, and 741,000 tons in September, 1920. Of the pig-iron produced, 47,400 tons were hematite, 48,100 tons were basic, 49,100 tons foundry, 10,700 tons forge, and 3,000 tons other qualities. The number of blast furnaces in operation, which had been 15 at the end of July and 47 at the end of August, was 67 at the end of September. The number in blast at the end of September, 1920, was 300. The production of steel ingots and castings in September amounted to 429,300 tons, compared with 434,100 tons in August, 359,100 tons in March, and 884,700 tons in September, 1920.

German Customs Duties.—The Board of Trade makes the following announcement:—"The German Minister of Finance has issued an Order increasing from 900 to 1,900 per cent. the premium or "agio" which is leviable when the "gold" duties of the Customs Tariff are paid in paper currency. The effect of the Order is to double the paper currency duties by requiring 2,000 paper marks to be paid for each 100 marks "gold" duty leviable, instead of 1,000 paper marks as hitherto. The new Order is to take effect on October 20th.

Queensland Loan in New York.—Queensland has this week floated a loan of \$12,000,000 in New York. The loan bears interest at the rate of 7 per cent., and was issued at the price of 99. Cabled news indicates that the issue was successful. In view of recent controversy over Queensland legislation, the news of the issue of a loan in New York caused little surprise in the City. According to a cable from Sydney which appeared in yesterday's *Morning Post*, Mr Theodore, Premier of Queensland, stated in the Brisbane Parliament on October 12th:—"The Government intended to offer the Imperial Government first call upon the loan, Queensland accepting sterling in London for dollars, and would arrange that the loan be invested in London and drawn upon as required."

Lancashire and Inter-Allied Debts.—This week the directors of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce have passed a rather important resolution. The board has had under consideration the effect of the Inter-Allied War Debts upon the trade depression and unemployment. After discussion at some length it was decided to adopt the following resolution for submission to the Government:—"That this board urges upon the British Government the expediency of endeavouring to arrange for the cancellation and/or remission (wholly or in part) of Inter-Allied indebtedness arising from the war as one of the most practical steps which can be taken to ameliorate the existing chaotic condition of foreign exchanges, which, in their opinion, is largely responsible for the prevailing stagnation in trade and consequent unemployment."

Cotton Cloth Exports.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—"At the beginning of last year the Board of Trade started to publish particulars relating to the exports of cotton cloth in square yards instead of linear yards, and since then Manchester merchants have been much confused, as it has not been possible to compare satisfactorily the figures with preceding years. Strong repre-

sentations have been made to the Board of Trade in favour of both sets of statistics being issued, but up to now it has not been possible to get the Government to meet the wishes of Manchester. The Chamber of Commerce has not allowed the matter to drop, and in order to get over the awkward position of affairs details have recently been secured from the Customs authorities in linear yards of the exports during the six months ended June 30th. Some comparative figures, therefore, are now available, and it is of interest to mention that for the period referred to linear yards are given as 1,301,913,300, and square yards 1,211,021,700. It is apparent from the particulars supplied that the average width of cloth shipped from Great Britain is about 33½ inches. Certain markets abroad absorb comparatively wide goods, these being Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, and Switzerland; but, on the other hand, narrow widths are sent chiefly to Bombay, China, the Dutch East Indies, Turkey, the Argentine Republic, and Egypt. It is hoped that from the beginning of next year the Board of Trade in the monthly returns will give the shipments in both linear and square yards.

The Fate of Upper Silesia.—With a strict impartiality secured by every imaginable provision, the Select Committee appointed by the League of Nations has produced a scheme for the partition of Upper Silesia in accordance as far as possible with the wishes of its people taken by communes, as expressed at the plebiscite last March. The exact particulars are not yet announced officially, but according to the forecasts, Poland is to receive not only Pless and Rybnik, as was expected, but the eastern half of the so-called "industrial triangle," including Königshütte and Kattowitz, together with the rural section of the Beuthen district, and also the eastern parts of Tarnowitz and Lublinitz, in the north-east of the Province; while Gleiwitz, Hindenburg (or Zaborze), and Beuthen town form the German share of the "triangle." Racial minorities are inevitably left insulated among alien majorities, but their rights are safeguarded by provisions of which the operation will be under the supervision of the League. The industries of the region are also protected for a term of years against severance by the new political frontier from their present sources of supply of coal (or water), most probably electric power, and possibly even of their workers' food, and also, it would seem, against interruption of their transport; and these provisions are to be made effective by a committee consisting of Poles and Germans, with a neutral chairman, and responsible to the League. The only puzzling feature of the arrangement is the assignment to Poland of Königshütte, and on this the Commission is said to have had much difficulty in reaching a decision. The district as a whole opted for Germany in March by a majority of three to one; but several of its communes gave Polish majorities, and the local steel industry will depend in the near future on Pless and Rybnik for its coal. In the rural communes the Polish majority votes are the outcome of nationalism; in the industrial districts, where they are comparatively rare, they are said by the Polish labour leaders who have been before the League Committee at Geneva to be due partly to resentment at the long hours and low wages in Silesia as compared with Westphalia. In Germany the decision has been received with dismay; partition, it is contended, was not contemplated by the Peace Treaty, and will ruin the industrial region. The reparation payments are said to be endangered, and the mark has fallen very heavily. It remains to be seen what the safeguards are exactly; but it seems quite possible that, however carefully they may be devised, nationalist "patriotism" or racial hatred may find means of evading them. However, the scheme looks as if it might be workable; it has been constructed with great care and much labour, witnesses have been heard from both sides, the Committee that produced it comprised the representatives of four absolutely disinterested Powers—Belgium, Brazil, China, and Spain; no member had previously spoken on the question; the expert sub-committee which went through all the evidence afresh, was Swiss; the text of the Treaty has been strictly followed, and the League

and the Supreme Council have practically accepted the decision in advance.

Anti-Trust Legislation in Norway.—We have received from the Department of Overseas Trade a sketch, translated from a Norwegian newspaper article, of the legislation devised by the Royal Commission appointed in 1916 to check the abuses of Trusts and cartels. Presumably a Bill embodying it will be submitted to the new Storting. The Commission finds that cartels, usually in the form of price agreements, exist in more than 30 trades or groups of trades concerned with food, clothing, timber, paper, matches and cellulose, building, steel and iron goods, goldsmiths' work, the electro-chemical industry, oils and colours, printing and bookselling, cinema films, hairdressing, watchmaking, banking, insurance, and sea transport; and that Trusts also exist and are developing. But it holds that total prohibition would be ineffective—the State should aim merely at protecting the public. The chief check proposed is publicity, secured by a system of registration and reports to a council of five members, holding office for an indefinite period, and appointed by the Crown. Unfair modes of competition will be prohibited—e.g., boycotting, exclusive agreement, and the elimination of competitors by sales below cost price. Where these checks fail, the Commission will have power to regulate prices, and even to require the sale of goods held back; such goods may be acquired by the State or municipal authorities by compulsory purchase at an official expert valuation. In extreme cases, monopolist organisations may be dissolved—companies by the decision of a court of law, cartels by the Crown. It is not stated whether the reports to the Commission are to be made solely by the companies and cartel syndicates, or also by Government inspectors, nor whether the officials of the organisations are to be compelled to give evidence on oath; but, assuming that the publicity expected is really attained, it will be far more effective in a small country like Norway than it could be in Great Britain or the United States. The other provisions of the proposed legislation are more or less paralleled in Canada and Australia. In Canada, a Commission of Inquiry may be appointed on the application of six citizens; in Australia, provision is made both for special inquiries and for investigation by a permanent body, the Inter-State Commission; but the Norwegian proposal is more comprehensive through the wide power it gives of fixing prices without an appeal to the law courts, and even in cases where the prices are kept up merely by a tacit understanding between the vendors. The traders' criticisms are yet to be heard. Commissions are far from infallible, and State action is not favoured by recent experience; but "if the State can fix a minimum wage, it can also fix a maximum price." A simpler method of dealing with monopoly prices might be the temporary suspension of the import duty on the commodity in question. But it is possible that this might extinguish the weaker among the native producers, and so lessen the probability of future competition. Free-trade, the most effective of all weapons, is apparently not contemplated; and the weapon of publicity seems the most effective of those to be provided by the scheme.

U.S.A. Rubber Trade.—Exports of rubber goods from the U.S.A. for the fiscal years ending June 30th have been as follows:—

Year ended June 30,	1915.....	\$
" " "	1916.....	14,767,513
" " "	1917.....	35,153,374
" " "	1918.....	31,105,075
" " "	1919.....	33,343,181
" " "	1920.....	43,856,782
" " "	1921.....	69,226,716
" " "	1922.....	59,565,572

The first half of the fiscal year 1921 gave promise of a record total for the year, the half-year figures being roughly 42,000,000 dollars, but the second half (January-June, 1921) only added another 17,000,000 dollars. The markets showing the least decline were in North America, including Canada, Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies. Mexico, in fact, showed an increased demand. The greatest decline was in the South American markets, but this, as in other countries, was partly due to

lower prices. A considerable reduction was made, for example, in tyre prices in the early summer. Beside the world-wide causes of declining trade, overstocking at high prices, restricted credit, and low exchanges, there is the additional factor of increasing foreign competition, and American manufacturers of rubber goods will have to meet this with greater vigilance than heretofore. Exports of motor-car tyres constitute about 55 per cent. of the total exports of rubber goods, but it is admitted that British competition is becoming more severe in the British Colonial market, whilst the French tyre makers are trying hard to extend their sales in South America. American manufacturers hope to meet this competition successfully through the high quality which they claim for their goods, and also by an extension of their special "tyre service" in garages and tyre stations, offering accessories and repairs, which they have found so successful in their home trade. On the other hand, the policy of offering mileage guarantees and adjustments appears to be declining in favour—at least, so far as the export trade is concerned. The American makers are expecting great things, in the way of increased export trade, from their special type of straight-side cord tyre, since they are now exporting cars fitted with these straight-side rims and tyres in increasing numbers. The U.S.A. Department of Commerce, which has lately been reorganised and expanded, is to co-operate vigorously with the rubber goods manufacturers in extending trade.

Greek Currants.—Burlumi's Annual Report on Currants states that last season's Greek crop was 89,000 tons, as compared with the estimate of 90,000 tons given in the last annual report. This crop of 89,000 tons is lowest yield since 1900. Exports from Greece for the 1919-20 and 1920-21 seasons were distributed as follows:—

To—	1919-20.	1920-21.
	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom	70,000	55,000
U.S.A. and Canada.....	28,000	16,500
Holland and Germany	6,000	12,500
France and other countries	6,000	3,500
	110,000	87,500

The new crop is estimated at 125,000 tons. At the beginning of last season "the prospects of a successful season appeared rosy," but prices began to fall owing to poor demand and exchange depreciation, and the fall was accentuated in November last, when the Food Minister reduced the price of his stocks from 75s to 45s per cwt. The report continues:—"The market continued flat and lifeless all through the winter months, buyers adopting the hand-to-mouth policy for their requirements. Early in March a syndicate of speculators bought the entire Government stock of currants, some 7,000 tons, at an average price of 30s per cwt duty paid, and this event infused some life into the article. The major part of these old currants were exported to Germany, Holland, and America. A better tone prevailed, but prices remained practically stationary all through the spring and summer months, with occasional fluctuations within narrow limits. The season ended disastrously, as the fall in prices has been severe, thereby causing incalculable losses to the dried fruit traders generally." The privileged company distributed for the year ended August 22, 1920, an ordinary dividend of 34.50 drachmas per share, equivalent to a little over 12½ per cent., while founders' shares received 34.50 drachmas per share, equivalent to 5 per cent.

A Nitrate Agreement.—Messrs Henry Bath and Son inform us that news has been received by cable from Chile that a definite agreement has been signed between the Nitrate Producers' Association and the pool, under the terms of which the association withdraws its recent selling prices of 14s per quintal f.a.s. Chile, for delivery to March 31, 9s 9d April, and 9s 3d May-June, 1922, and substitutes the following:—10s 6d October, 11s November, 1921-April, 1922, 10s 9d May, 10s 3d June. At the same time, the association undertakes to compensate the pool and other buyers of association nitrate from June, 1920, by reimbursing to them a minimum of £1,500,000 (in proportions to be decided by the President of Chile), which will be collected from producers on all new association sales at the rate of 1s 8d per quintal on quantities

shipped to March 31st, 1s on shipments in April 1-June 30, 1922, and 4d for July 1, 1922-June 30, 1923, the latter rate to continue for a longer time, if this is necessary to make up the minimum amount. Upon this news Messrs Henry Bath and Son comment:—"Now that the association has fixed 11s per quintal for season shipment, consumers will have faith in the maintenance at least of the new and much-reduced scale of European prices lately introduced by the pool, which is materially below the f.a.s. parity, and as an earnest of this it may be mentioned that the pool has sold about 100,000 tons since the reduction first came into force on the 3rd instant."

The Clerical, Medical and General's Valuation Report.—Three months ago the directors of the Clerical, Medical and General Life Assurance Society announced that they would be able to maintain in the 1921 distribution of profits their rates of bonuses to participating policyholders of 1911 and 1916, while retaining the severe standard of 2½ per cent. in their calculations. We have now before us the detailed valuation report, showing how this remarkable result has been achieved. The chief factors in the production of a surplus have been a considerable increase in the net rate of interest earned on the funds and a very favourable mortality experience. Depreciation did not fall to be dealt with in the bulk at the valuation because the society during the past two years has been cutting its losses, selling its depreciated long-dated investments, and shifting over to short-dated securities redeemable at par or a premium. The amount written off for depreciation and losses on realisation was £291,651, and the funds then amounted to £6,940,603. The book value of the redeemable securities is now £212,000 below the redemption value; over three-quarters of this amount will fall into the divisible profits of the next ten years. The net interest earnings, after deducting tax, were £4 6s 2d last year, as compared with £3 16s 7d in the previous year, and is the highest net rate which the society has ever earned. The mortality experienced has been very light indeed. During the five years ended June 30th last covered by the valuation the death claims, including war casualties, were only 65 per cent. of the amount expected, and last year the death claims were no more than 48 per cent. of the expectation. The net result is a fund of £6,940,603, and liabilities of £6,243,187 on the severest basis of calculation known to actuarial science. The reserves set aside are reckoned to exceed by more than £330,000 what would be required on a 3 per cent. valuation basis. The total profit, including interim bonuses, was £756,244, of which the directors have decided to distribute £754,850. The participating assured receive nine-tenths, and the amount now divisible among them is £645,537. Since the losses in the funds due to war depreciation had been cleared out of the way the assets have increased in value by £66,574; a contribution of £45,000 has also come to hand from the Employers' Liability Corporation (the owners of the society's share capital) under the agreement of last year. A life assurance society which can weather a world war in this fashion is evidently proof against any conceivable financial tempest.

Indian Mines Finance.—Our mining correspondent writes:—"The scheme of reconstruction on the part of the Champion Reef Gold Mining Company, foreshadowed as far back as July, was approved by a considerable majority at the meeting held this week. It is certainly framed on drastic lines. In place of every four existing 2s 6d shares the holders are to be offered one 10s share, credited 4s paid; in other words, there is to be an assessment equivalent to 60 per cent. It is not surprising that some of the shareholders commented upon the onerous nature of the demand; what is perhaps a little surprising is that others queried whether the £150,000 contemplated would be sufficient. To this question the chairman replied that the board were guided by their experts, both at home and in India. Provision of the amount in question depends, of course, upon the whole of the shares being taken up. It is for those interested to decide whether they are disposed to risk so considerable a sum on the chances of the future. It is true, of course,

that developments in the bottom levels of the Champion Mine are hopeful so far as values are concerned, although the ore bodies are narrow; also that good values are being obtained at a corresponding depth in the adjoining Ooregum Mine. But are the profits likely to be such as to return the additional capital with adequate interest? Another point around which considerable discussion centred consisted in the reason for reconstruction, seeing that at the date of the last balance-sheet—September 30, 1920—the company had considerable cash resources on hand, stated by one speaker at approximately £170,000. This, however, is a misapprehension, there being liabilities to the tune of £68,000. The chairman took the line that the disappearance of the balance was fully accounted for by the failure of the gold yield during the current year to reach the expected total. The explanation scarcely carries conviction. Doubtless the issue of the accounts for 1920-21 will be awaited with much interest for light on this matter.

Transvaal Output for September.—The September statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the total production of fine gold during the month amounted to 691,096 ounces, as compared with 711,526 ounces in August, and 682,173 ounces for September, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.
January	787,467	782,634	714,182	676,059	670,503	681,593
February	753,594	781,321	659,759	636,728	625,330	558,137
March	796,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,123
April	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,944	686,979	681,382
May	777,681	773,385	741,317	724,935	699,041	687,776
June	761,764	759,724	727,636	702,379	715,957	678,490
July	761,087	757,839	736,199	725,497	736,099	689,555
August	781,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	711,526
September	771,587	738,231	708,206	698,558	682,173	691,026
October	792,339	751,290	679,764	723,722	662,472	..
November	783,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	..
December	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	..
Totals	9,296,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	6,020,608

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months by Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and Contractors.

	Feb., 1921.	March, 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.
Gold mines....	171,518	174,364	172,826	170,595	168,152	166,999	169,008	171,912
Coal mines.....	14,697	14,906	14,908	14,510	14,704	14,688	14,446	14,244
Diamond	1,612	1,364	1,316	1,302	1,317	1,246	1,207	1,219
Total	187,827	190,634	189,050	186,407	184,173	182,933	184,661	187,375

The Russo-Asiatic Surprise.—At the time of the return to Moscow, some two months ago, of Mr Leslie Urquhart, chairman of that big combine the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated, there appeared every prospect that the negotiations with the Soviet Government for the return of the company's properties, which had been initiated in May, would be carried to a successful conclusion. On the strength of this prospect a lively little gamble took place in the shares. For some weeks past the price has been sagging away, indicating that there was "something wrong somewhere"; nevertheless, the news as to the rupture of the pourparlers came distinctly in the nature of a surprise. The reasons for this drastic step are set out with the utmost clearness and in great detail; they will not fail to carry conviction. In brief, agreement was reached as regards 18 out of the 27 clauses in the draft agreement, and "in certain other clauses but slight disagreement existed." The trouble arose in connection with a proposed supplemental agreement with the so-called "All-Russian Council and Professional Unions," a department and organ of the Soviet Government to which workers of both sexes and all classes are compelled to belong. As unfortunately happens to some extent in our own country, the extremists are in control, and the stipulations of this organisation with respect to wages, conditions of employment, the provision of food, clothing, &c., at cost were so tyrannical in their nature, and so hopelessly impracticable, as to render operations out of the question. Mr Urquhart's conclusion is that, "as long as the Communist party controls the Soviet Government, the Third International, the Che-Ka, and the professional unions, any one of these instruments of the Communist party may render in-

operative any agreement which may be come to with the Soviet Government." There can be no doubt that in the prevailing political conditions in Russia—of which the document under discussion provides a trenchant exposure—the Russo-Asiatic has taken the correct course in resuming its position as a claimant against the Bolshevik Government. Sooner or later Russia will return to sanity. Meantime, it is satisfactory to learn that the information as to the condition of the combine's properties is reassuring, and that its relations with its employees continue harmonious.

Harrisons and Crosfield.—The report of Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited, the well-known merchants and promoters of rubber and tea plantation companies, shows a substantial decline in profits for the year ended June 30th last. The directors point out that owing to the very heavy fall in the prices of rubber, tea, and nearly all classes of merchandise in which the company deals, and to violent fluctuations in exchange, business has been carried on in the face of adverse conditions. "From the stocks held large amounts have consequently had to be written off..... The stocks stand in the balance-sheet at replacement values." Below is a summary of results since 1913-14:—

	1913-14.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Net profit.....	£ 134,269	£ 154,251	£ 187,181	£ 212,190	£ 200,571	£ 249,204	£ 164,466
Brought forward.....	23,873	42,345	42,290	37,340	37,530	36,147	37,873
Preference dividend ..	158,148	196,596	229,471	249,530	238,101	285,351	202,339
Prof. ord. div. (10 %) ..	27,500	32,035	39,875	33,000	36,165	37,230	37,800
Management shares ..	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	37,500	80,000	100,000
Reserves &c.....	30,030	37,500	52,500	60,000	37,177	45,344	5,941
Deferred ord. shares ..	35,118	54,771	69,756	74,000	41,024	24,922	14,073
Carried forward.....	35,530	42,290	37,340	37,530	36,147	37,873	44,525

The full dividends of 6 and 10 per cent. are paid on the preference and preferred ordinary shares respectively. The deferred shares get 7½ per cent., whereas last year £59,982 was paid on a capital of £182,966. The management shares get £5,941 on a capital of £25,000. The balance-sheet shows an increase of £140,100 in the property item, and of £145,412 in investments. The report states that "the investments show some considerable depreciation as compared with their cost to the company; but market prices have for some months been largely nominal, and the directors believe that the investments will again show appreciation over the balance-sheet figures when the present crisis is passed." Stocks are £35,000 lower and debtors have fallen by £229,700, while cash stands at £25,000 as against £104,200. Creditors are £319,600 higher at £553,600. A detailed analysis of the balance-sheet will be found elsewhere in this issue.

The Salvage and Towage Company, Limited.—The committee appointed at the annual meeting of the Salvage and Towage Company, Limited, has now made its report, and it is hoped that "the loss shown in the balance-sheet of £28,000 will be very considerably reduced." Many recommendations are made, and the report concludes:—"The speculative nature of this company's work is such that, taking into account the doubtful prospects of trade generally, the restriction in overseas traffic, and the enormous drop in the value of shipping, we are unable to make any reliable forecasts as to the future." This company was registered in October, 1919, and has an issued share capital of £800,000 in £1 ordinary shares, dealings in which have lately taken place at 6s each. The report mentions that the assets of the company "should be worth" considerably more than the present market value of the shares. The prospectus which was issued at the time was a reasonable statement of affairs, and made no extravagant claims.

British Empire Exhibition (1923).—Up to October 1st of this year guarantees, chiefly from London firms, to a total of approximately £450,000 (including the Government guarantee) have been secured. The purpose of the guarantee fund is to provide security upon which advances for the construction and organisation of an exhibition for fostering Imperial trade can be obtained from the bank until such time as revenue begins to accrue. A sum of £1,000,000 is required in all.

A HUNGARIAN-BRITISH Chamber of Commerce has recently been established at Budapest under the auspices of the Hungarian Government and of the British High Commissioner for Hungary. The chairman is Count Albert Apponyi.

An address will be delivered to the members of the London Chamber of Commerce on "The Petroleum Problem as Affecting British Industry," by Mr A. Beeby Thompson, O.B.E., M.I.Mech.E., M.Inst.M.M., F.G.S., on Monday, October 17th, at 2.30 p.m., Mr Stanley Machin, J.P. (president), in the chair.

RUBBER SHAREHOLDERS' ASSOCIATION.—A public meeting will be held under the auspices of the Rubber Shareholders' Association, Limited, at the Great Hall, Cannon street Hotel, E.C., on Wednesday, October 26th, at 12 o'clock noon, when the policy of the association will be explained and discussed.

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—COTTON CROP—GAIN IN RAILROAD INCOME—ARGENTINE LOAN AND OTHER NEW ISSUES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, October 3.

THE condition of the cotton crop as on September 25th, according to the Government report made public to-day, is the worst ever recorded, being estimated at 42.2 per cent. of normal, as compared with 49.3 per cent. a month ago. The present condition is 12.2 per cent. below the lowest previous record as of that date, while the decline during the month of 7.1 points compares with an average loss of 5.3 for that period. The deterioration, attributed principally to the ravages of the boll weevil, brings the indicated yield, as officially estimated, down to 6,537,000 bales, as against last month's estimate of 7,037,000, representing a loss during the past month of virtually half a million bales. The prospective crop compares with last year's actual production of 13,439,606 bales, and will be the smallest since 1887. The Department of Agriculture's statement that there will be no top crop and little middle adds to the bullish character of the report, for that means that the production will probably be less than 50 per cent. Further improvement in the crop, it is added, is not possible, and any change before picking is likely to be for the worse. Premature ripening has hurried picking, and the crop is now probably half gathered. The Department remarks that nothing more can be expected from undeveloped bolls; in short, the entire crop is now in sight. The South, it is figured, still holds about 5,000,000 bales of last year's crop, which, added to this year's crop, as indicated by the Government's latest report, would give a total of only 11,500,000 bales approximately of unsold cotton, or about 2,000,000 bales less than last year's yield. A wild cotton market preceded and followed the publication of the report. Just before the issue of the report, December advanced to 21.95 cents, or 15 points above the season's previous high record. The list soared 119 to 130 points above last Saturday's close, broke violently to the extent of 150 to 195 points, or about \$5 to \$10 a bale, and then recovered some 40 to 90 points before the close, when details of the supplementary report had been digested. It is a rather singular fact that the immediate effect of the report upon the cotton cloth markets was negligible. Prices of gray goods to-day were not influenced one way or the other.

The railroads made a much better showing for August than in any month for more than a year, so far as net operating income is concerned. Reports filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission by 178 of the 203 Class 1 carriers show total net operating income of \$85,653,000. It is believed that the returns yet to be made by 25 roads will bring the aggregate up to \$90,000,000 approximately. The net operating income for July, according to revised figures, was \$69,298,521.

A Bank Statement that any Man or Woman can Understand

THE CORN EXCHANGE BANK

NEW YORK

Statement of October 1, 1921

The Bank Owes to Depositors \$197,119,192.76

A conservative banker always has this indebtedness in mind, and he arranges his assets so as to be able to meet any request for payment.

For this Purpose We Have:

[1] Cash \$33,146,579.15

[Gold, Bank Notes and Specie] and with legal depositories returnable on demand.

[2] Checks on Other Banks 15,441,125.47

Payable in one day.

[3] U.S. Government Securities 58,210,372.28

[4] Loans to Individuals and Corporations 33,346,349.06

Payable when we ask for them, secured by collateral of greater value than the loans.

[5] Bonds 21,369,032.31

Of Railroads and other corporations, of first quality and easily saleable

[6] Loans 48,050,227.39

Payable in less than three months on the average, largely secured by collateral.

[7] Bonds and Mortgages and Real Estate 877,656.50

[8] Twenty-four Banking Houses 3,884,036.91

All located in New York City.

Total to Meet Indebtedness \$214,325,379.07

[9] This Leaves a Surplus of \$17,206,186.31

Which becomes the property of the Stockholders after the debts to the depositors are paid, and is a guarantee fund upon which we solicit new deposits and retain those which have been lodged with us for many years.

OUR listed resources, enumerated in this statement do not and can not include those assets of friendliness and helpfulness which this bank has in the personnel of its board of directors, its officers and employees. These are assets which pay dividends to our patrons in service and satisfaction.

*The Corn Exchange Bank Supplies Banking and Trust Service
Only Through Its Forty-six Offices Located in Greater New York*

On the basis of \$90,000,000, the carriers would show earnings of a little more than 5 per cent. on the property valuation tentatively fixed by the Commerce Commission for rate-making purposes. In order to have earned 6 per cent., as contemplated by the Transportation Act, net operating income of \$104,000,000 would have been necessary. The good exhibit made for last month was again due to economies and the decrease in wages, rather than to a gain in gross earnings, which, as a matter of fact, were 8.8 per cent. below those for August, 1920. Total operating expenses showed a decrease of about 44 per cent., as compared with August of last year, a portion of that decrease being represented by the 12 per cent. reduction in wages, which became effective July 1st. Furthermore, large sums in back pay to workers greatly increased operating expenses in August, 1920. The extent to which maintenance and repair work has been deferred is indicated by the fact that there are now some 374,000 bad order cars, or about 16 per cent., in need of repair on the various railroads. Before the war the number of such cars was only around 5 per cent., and later it increased generally to about 7 per cent. The large total in need of repair will necessitate heavy expenditures as traffic increases. As maintenance and repair work is paid out of current earnings, such expenditures will cut heavily into future revenues. It is evident, therefore, that railroad managements, in an effort to reduce operating expenses to a minimum, have undertaken only such work as was absolutely necessary to the safe operation of the lines.

The Interstate Commerce Commission has made public its tentative plan for the consolidation of all railroads of the United States into 19 groups or systems for rate-making purposes, as contemplated under the Transportation Act of 1920. Public hearings are to be held in the near future, at which representatives of the carriers and shippers will be given an opportunity to present their views before the Commission submits any final recommendations to Congress in the matter. The consolidations suggested by the Commerce Commission are based on a report made some time ago by Professor William Z. Ripley, of Harvard University, and efforts have been made to preserve, so far as possible, the identity of large systems as they now exist; but various modifications of the tentative plan are expected to be made as a result of the hearings. While much interest is being manifested in the contemplated groupings or consolidations, the discussion is purely academic, and it will probably be a long time before any definite steps are taken to put into actual effect such a plan, the adoption of which is not made obligatory by the Transportation Act.

The past week has witnessed purchases and public offerings by bankers on a larger scale than heretofore of railroad equipment trust notes which had been held by the Railroad Administration since 1920. The different issues were offered for subscription at prices yielding from 5.50 to 5.85 per cent., and met with an excellent response from investors. The really significant fact established by such offerings is that investors have readily absorbed high-grade securities of that kind at prices affording yields below 6 per cent. for the first time since the armistice. Recent offerings of new securities also included \$50,000,000 two-year 7 per cent. notes of the Argentine Republic, priced for public subscription at slightly below par, to yield investors approximately 7.20 per cent. That new financing, it is understood, was arranged to establish a dollar credit in the United States, which, in the opinion of Argentine authorities and of the bankers here who underwrote the notes, will materially improve business conditions in the South American Republic, and will tend to promote international trade with this country by bringing about more normal conditions in Argentine exchange.

FRANCE.—REPARATIONS AGREEMENT—MATERIAL FOR DEVASTATED AREAS—PAYMENT—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, October 11.

THE agreement that was signed at Wiesbaden last Thursday between M. Loucheur and Dr Walther Rathenau, respectively Ministers for Reparations for France and

Germany, is regarded here as the most important and significant incident that has occurred since the signing of the Treaty of Versailles, so far as the direct relationship of France and Germany is concerned. The agreement consists of a memorandum, in which are set forth the principles of the convention, and of an appendix, in which the details are worked out. The first article of the former provides for the constitution in Germany of a private company or similar organisation "charged with the duty of carrying out the delivery of material and materials that may be demanded by French victims of devastation, constituted in groups in forms to be subsequently determined by the French Government." It is specially stipulated that the material so furnished is to be applied only to the reconstruction of the devastated regions. In the Appendix to the Memorandum Germany undertakes to deliver all material that France may demand, up to the limits of her capacity for production, and subject to the satisfaction of her own domestic necessities and to the quantities of raw materials at her disposition, as from October 1, 1921. The agreement provides that the total value of the reparations in kind thus furnished by Germany to France, between October 1, 1921, and May 1, 1926—a period of just over 4½ years—shall not exceed 7,000 million marks gold. The products specified in Appendices 3, 5, and 6 of Part VIII. of the Treaty of Versailles (shipping, coal, dyestuffs and chemical drugs) are excluded from the new agreement, but their value is to be included in the total of 7,000 million marks gold just mentioned. "The price of current material and of articles manufactured in series will be determined by the arbitration committee, and applied to French orders to Germany, unless the parties agree to enter into direct relations with each other." "The price of special material, such as machinery or manufacturing plant, will be fixed by direct agreement between the party ordering and the party supplying." The total value of the material Germany is called on to furnish for the special requirements of the devastated regions (that is, in addition to the coal, &c., directly provided for in the Peace Treaty itself) is limited to 1,000 million marks gold per annum.

No payment in cash will be made by France in respect of the materials furnished under this agreement, the value of which will be deducted from the amount owing to France by Germany in respect of reparations. The materials required by the victims of German devastations will be ordered through the medium of a French organisation which will correspond to the German organisation on the other side, and the value of the goods so ordered and delivered will be credited to Germany as against the amount she owes to France for reparations. France is not limited, however, to ordering and receiving materials up to the amount of what her share in the German reparation payments for any one year may be. If she orders more than the equivalent value of her share, the surplus will be carried forward and set off against future payments. Under the agreement now in force, for instance, the amount Germany is required to pay to the Allies as a whole in 1922 is 3,200 million marks gold, of which France is entitled to 52 per cent., or 1,664 million marks gold. Should France, during that year, order and receive from Germany materials to the value, say, of 2,100 million marks gold, or 436 millions more than the amount of her 52 per cent. share, she will be debited with only 1,000,000,000 marks gold of this amount, she will receive the balance of her share of 1,664 million marks gold (or 664,000,000 marks gold) in cash, and the debit balance of 436,000,000 marks gold will be carried forward to the next year's account. In sum, France would in these circumstances receive value in cash and kind during 1922 to the extent of 1,100 million marks gold over and above her 52 per cent. share in the year's instalment due from Germany during that year (representing, at the present rate of exchange, a benefit to the French Treasury of something like 3,300 million francs), which as matters would work out, would constitute a veritable payment in advance.

It has been agreed, used figu. that the prices of the materials furnished by in no case be higher

than French domestic prices for similar merchandise, after taking into consideration French Customs duties (on the basis of the 1914 tariff, multiplied by a certain coefficient) and the cost of transport as far as St Quentin (which has been selected as the basis of calculating transport cost, in virtue of the fact that it is the administrative centre of the devastated area through which all the materials covered by the Wiesbaden agreement will pass).

The advantage to France of the Wiesbaden agreement may be summed up in the fact that it will enable the restoration of the devastated regions to be accelerated by at least two years. France will also be able to avoid the greater part of the difficult and costly task of having to find money for the restoration in question, and will be able to devote herself to the development of her natural resources and the many important national works, such as the electrification of her railways, the improvement of her roads, the revolutionising of her telegraph and telephone systems, the carrying out of the great combined navigation, irrigation, and power scheme based on the transformation of the Rhone into what will probably be one of the most important transport arteries of Europe, &c., &c. She will also by this agreement be able to obviate much of the inconvenience that she would otherwise experience from the delay that will occur in carrying out the mobilisation of the German war indemnity bonds when the latter have to be transformed into liquid cash for the benefit of Germany's creditors. Moreover, by devising such means for securing payment in kind—and in advance—from Germany during the difficult earlier years of the indemnity term, France apparently has been able to place herself in an obviously superior position to the rest of the Allies, so far as the reparation payments are concerned, and can now feel much less nervous than has hitherto been possible in regard to the possibility of Germany declaring herself insolvent. Finally, the conclusion of this direct agreement between the two countries whose mutual antipathies have been a danger to Europe for over half-a-century is regarded here as offering a substantial guarantee for the maintenance of peace.

In addition to the principal agreement, referred to already, four supplementary agreements were also signed at Wiesbaden concerning respectively the restitution of industrial material, railway rolling stock, animals, and coal removed from France by Germany during the war. Under the first of these it is decided that the restitution of industrial material as provided for under Article 238 of the Treaty shall come to an end on December 6, 1921, and that after that date Germany shall retain in her possession all misappropriated French industrial material installed in her territory which its legitimate owners have not asked to be restored to them by that date. In substitution for the material thus abandoned by its French owners, Germany has agreed to deliver during the eight months following the signature of this new agreement 120,000 tons of other new or second-hand material, selected by France from the stocks and depôts of the German Government. Germany agrees further to recognise herself debtor in respect of such industrial material to the sum of 158,000,000 marks gold, with interest at the rate of 5 per cent. from December 7th next. The capital and interest of this debt will be repaid in five equal annuities from May 1, 1926. As regards railway material, Germany undertakes, in addition to the rolling stock already restored to France under Article 238 of the Treaty, to hand over without delay 6,200 French railway carriages and goods wagons in good serviceable condition, 4,500 newly-built vehicles (including 500 40-ton 18½-metre wagons on bogies) of standard French type. With the delivery of these additional vehicles Germany will be considered as having satisfied the stipulations of Article 238 of the Treaty as regards rolling stock.

Activities on the Bourse have been still further slackened this week owing to the prospect of the issue of fresh capital, and there has been a general drop in prices owing to the realisations of holders. It is now known that the Crédit National is not only issuing its capital at 6 per cent., but is also adding the attraction of a lottery scheme. The Alsatian group of industrials that are also coming into the market are making their appeal to the public on a basis of 6½ per cent. exempt of all taxation. French 3 per Cents. have again dropped from 56.10 to 55.70. Banks

have again declined, Union Parisienne dropping from 825 to 805 and 814, and Crédit Lyonnais from 1,435 to 1,415. Transports have fluctuated, Nord remaining at 850, P.L.M. falling from 760 to 745, and Midi improving at 724 as against 711. Shipping has continued depressed, and has showed some further decline. There has been extensive realisation in electrical undertakings, and Thomson is back at 830 after 845. The same is true of metallurgical undertakings. Mines have also shared in the downward tendency.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913, are as follows:—

	Oct. 6, 1921.	Sept. 29, 1921.	Oct. 9, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital.....	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	567,432,915	568,351,838	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	1,080,892,812	1,039,619,461	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	37,792,328,875	37,129,458,260	5,760,180,835
Interest on securities.....	69,424,815	55,967,455	35,090,171
Bank notes to order.....	1,317,897	873,532	3,703,799
Treasury account.....	35,037,031	35,024,955	165,460,312
Current accounts, Paris.....	1,409,445,983	1,466,451,260	467,545,129
Do branch banks.....	917,884,037	1,007,622,261	80,176,135
Discounts payable.....	5,313,326	5,523,481	2,574,463
Discounts and sundries.....	66,436,800	60,901,674	21,551,719
Re-discounts.....	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries.....	1,021,710,000	992,591,479	248,649,703
Total.....	43,236,520,790	42,632,683,957	7,015,484,682
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand.....	5,800,922,482	5,800,424,278	4,095,202,585
Balances abroad.....	621,576,034	622,295,048	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	5,930,011	5,847,029	100,287
Discounts in Paris.....	1,385,329,270	1,422,105,098	484,847,478
Foreign bills.....	6,709,275	4,581,499	16,504,101
Treasury bills.....	61,356	56,753	143,884
Discounts in branches.....	882,314,133	1,033,521,353	947,303,010
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches.....	68,345,547	69,264,470	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	..
Do on public securities.....	427,501,236	413,638,287	196,024,293
Do by branch banks.....	1,849,362,723	1,761,701,936	551,974,530
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war).....	25,400,000,000	24,900,000,000	45,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,092,000,000	4,084,000,000	..
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	47,221,364	47,200,446	43,183,083
Expenses and management.....	25,642,279	25,611,511	7,537,844
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,834
Sundries.....	2,188,188,933	2,010,280,255	248,841,649
Total.....	43,236,520,790	42,632,683,957	7,015,484,682

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

	%
Discount.....	5½
Advances on bullion.....	2
Advances on public securities.....	6½

CANADA.—THE GRAND TRUNK APPEAL—THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN—GRAIN MARKETING—FEDERAL FINANCES—AMERICAN TRAFFIC FOR CANADIAN RAILWAYS—THE TREND OF BUSINESS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, September 28.

THE announcement that the Grand Trunk shareholders have decided to appeal to the Privy Council has not excited any surprise in Canada, and persons of good experience and judgment are to be found who think the appeal has a reasonable chance of succeeding. Ex-President Taft made considerable alterations in his final judgment from the original draft, and the case which he sets up for equitable treatment is exceedingly strong. For some years past there has been raging in Canada a controversy over the system of the hearing by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council of Canadian appeals. A strong and growing body of opinion regards this right as an archaic badge of Colonial subservency and demands its abolition, arguing that if Canadian legislatures are good enough to make laws for the country, Canadian courts should be good enough to interpret these laws. But they meet with determined opposition from people who favour the retention of the legal powers of the Privy Council, and regard them as a most vital link between

the units of the Commonwealth. Undoubtedly, if the Judicial Committee sitting in London were to give a decision unpopular in Canada, the opportunity would not be lost by the critics of the Privy Council.

The date of the general election has not been definitely announced, but it will probably be held either on November 28th or December 5th. However, both the Premier and the Liberal leader, Mr Mackenzie King, have opened their campaigns, and Mr Crerar, the Progressive leader, is expected to make a start next week. In his opening speech, delivered to a Western audience in his home town, Mr Meighen devoted considerable time to the tariff question, but the most important part of his speech lay in a pronouncement upon Governmental policy in regard to the grain trade. Last session Government supporters from the West asserted in Parliament that there existed gross abuses in the grain trade, at which the trading companies, organised by the farmers, connived, and by which they profited, and the Government appointed a Royal Commission of Inquiry. The members of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and the farmer's companies joined forces in applying for an injunction to restrain the Grain Inquiry Commission from holding further sessions. Their counsel took the ground that the grain trade was not enumerated in the British North America Act as a subject for Dominion jurisdiction, that it was a matter for provincial control, and that, therefore, the legislation passed by the Federal Parliament in connection with it was *ultra vires*. Nor, it was contended, did the Inquiries Act, by virtue of which the Commission was appointed, give the Federal Government power to investigate the grain trade. Mr Justice Curran, of Manitoba, granted the injunction, and the Commission had to cease operations. The Government, whose plans had been considerably upset by this unexpected move, have appealed, and the case will eventually go to the Privy Council. But if the appeal fails, and the grain trade is declared to be within the provincial sphere, all the legislation under which it has been carried on for the past thirty years will be null and void. Its organisation will be in the melting pot, and new plans will have to be devised. Mr Meighen, however, knows that the problem is of vital interest to the Western farmer, and evidently thinks the Federal Government is within its rights. In his latest speech he announced that if returned he would establish a new marketing system on the basis of a voluntary pool, not merely for wheat, but for all the principal grains. It will be handled by a Government board, and will follow roughly the plan adopted by the Canadian Wheat Board during the war years. It would not seek any monopoly, but would merely offer the farmer an alternative method to the present channels. This announcement opens up a wide vista of possibilities. An inevitable corollary will be State control of banking credits, or a Federal Bank, and obviously if the Government of Canada can make a success of the grain trade, it will be faced with demands to extend its beneficent activities to other spheres of business.

The position of the Federal finances is far from satisfactory. Owing to a change sanctioned last session in the methods of collecting income-tax, which brings in the major portion of it during the early months of the fiscal year, the real situation is somewhat obscured, and the revenue returns are much less satisfactory than they look. While there was a decrease of about 13 million dollars in the net debt during August, it has increased during the past twelve months by no less than \$90,465,652. The fall in Customs returns is very marked and illustrates the futility of depending upon a tariff for revenue. In the five months of the present fiscal year, which ended August 31st, collections from Customs amounted to \$43,833,613, as against \$84,839,868 for the corresponding period of last year. This decline suggests the possibility that Customs returns for the whole fiscal year will be cut in half, and show a total decrease of \$100,000,000. The Finance Minister anticipated a decline of \$30,000,000, and the other sources of revenue show not the slightest sign of being able to make good the deficiency. The deficits on the National Railway system show little sign of abatement, and it is quite certain that during the coming winter the Federal Government will have to disburse con-

siderable sums either in public works or direct doles for the relief of unemployment.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and this year the high rate of exchange in the United States against Canada, which is such a source of grievance to the Canadian traveller and merchant, has brought some welcome grist to the mill of Canadian railways, particularly the C.P.R. The exporter of grain and other commodities in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and the rest of North-Western States has discovered that by shipping his stuff down the Canadian routes he can settle the bills for the major part of his freight charges in Canadian funds, and make a handsome saving of the extra sum which he would have to pay for the privilege of patronising his own railways. Most of this American traffic has been coming from ports on the Great Lakes to Port McNicoll on Lake Huron, whence the C.P.R. convey it to Montreal. The other Canadian lines have also benefited, and this new traffic has proved a perfect godsend in a year when domestic trade is exceptionally bad. But it has caused a tremendous strain upon the port facilities of Montreal, which has this autumn been visited by a record number of grain ships. Elevator accommodation has been taxed to the limit, and the Department of Commerce was in the end compelled to restrict the influx of American grain. Obviously, it is now to the interest of the American railways to see exchange between the two countries brought near to a parity, and it is not improbable that they are joining in the pressure now being exercised from many quarters for the postponement of the Fordney Tariff Bill.

There have been some indications recently of a more hopeful nature regarding the future in industry and business. Some industries which have already faced drastic readjustments see a possibility of a resumption of a greater measure of activity. By reducing the costs of their raw materials and labour, they feel they are able to market their products at a price which the public can afford to pay. Two large agricultural implement firms in Ontario have lately announced a general reduction in the price of implements ranging from 15 per cent. to 30 per cent. It is hoped that the farmers, who have resolutely declined for months past to buy new machinery, will now begin to purchase, and the two firms are planning to resume manufacturing on a fair scale. The mining industry in Northern Ontario shows some signs of revival, and retail business in the rural districts is more or less active in meeting the usual autumnal needs of the farming community. The railroads have lately made substantial voluntary reductions in the rates on grain, which encourage the movement of the crop to the seaboard. The stock markets have relapsed into dullness, and many securities have fallen into complete lethargy. Nor is there any activity in the Canadian bond market, but in a month when Mr Meighen has been pleading that Canada must maintain her economic independence by keeping up her tariff, various Governments and authorities have borrowed over \$60,000,000 in the United States.

POLAND.—THE NEW FINANCIAL PROGRAMME— INCREASED PRODUCTION—EXCHANGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, October 8.

MR MICHALSKI, the new Minister of Finance, explained his financial programme in his speech on October 4th before the Diet. He gave a very dark picture of the financial situation of the country. "The roof is burning over our heads," he said; "the catastrophe is nearer than is generally believed." The Budget deficit is steadily growing. For 1919 it amounted to 1.7 milliards, for 1920 to 52.8 milliards, and during the first eight months of this year it has reached already 103 milliards. Probably for the whole year it will be hardly kept below 180 milliards. The relation of revenue to expenditure is as one to ten. During the first eight months only 11 milliards have been collected by the tax-gatherer, while 101 milliards have been expended by the State. The production of paper money has risen from 6 milliards in January of this year to 13 milliards in June, and to nearly 18 milliards

in September. The Minister's new programme may be divided in two parts: an economic and a financial one. As far as economic policy is concerned, increase of production is his principal aim. He demands a temporary suspension of the eight hours' day. The increase of the hours of labour from eight to ten should be left to the discretion of the employers and of the workmen. In connection with this it may be interesting to quote the results of an inquiry published recently by the Polish League of Labour, according to which the Polish workman works 23 days less than the German and 28 days less than the English. This is due to the great number of holidays which exist in Poland. Mr Steczkowski frequently drew attention in his speeches to the Agrarian Reform Bill's depressing influence on the productivity of agriculture. The landlords who were kept in an uncertainty as to the moment of expropriation of their estates avoided all investments, and in consequence the agricultural production could not be increased in accordance with its productive capacity. The execution of this reform entailed also an expenditure which was beyond the resources of the Government. Mr Michalski demands a change of the methods which have been hitherto applied by the Rural Board, and a revision of the Agrarian Bill. He is opposed to all measures which are hampering free trade. With the exception of the tobacco monopoly, all other monopolies must be abolished.

The financial programme of Mr Michalski can be classified under two heads: economy and taxation. It is generally known that Poland suffers from an overdevelopment of bureaucracy. According to Mr Michalski, Poland, with 30 million inhabitants, has 400,000 officials, while England, with a population of 44 millions, is administered by a staff of 312,000 civil servants. Poland has 21 Ministers and 25 under-secretaries, while the respective figures for France are ten and four. "If we continue to administer the country in such a manner," said Mr Michalski, "the bankruptcy of our State is unavoidable, and the increase of taxes and tariffs cannot save us from such a fate." A reduction of the number of officials is the first step which must be taken. Special Committees of Economy, composed of one member of the Diet, one representative each of the Ministry of Finance and of the Board of Control, have been formed already, and will shortly start their work. Motor cars, which hitherto were freely used by all higher officials, will be abolished, with a few exceptions; the number of legations abroad will be diminished. The new Minister claims also for himself the right of veto of all credits demanded by the other Departments. Economy, however, is insufficient alone to put the Budget of the country into equilibrium. An increase of taxes is necessary for covering the great deficit. The two predecessors of Mr Michalski were in favour of a forced loan. They did not take, however, the decisive step in this direction, and the measure, which was only a menace to all capitalists, did very much harm by the uncertainty which it produced. Mr Michalski considers this forced loan as inopportune at the present moment, and he replaces it by a capital levy. This tax will be prepared with great haste, and the new Minister hopes that in the course of this year during four weeks 80 to 100 milliards will be gathered. It may be feared that in this respect Mr Michalski is rather too optimistic. About 100 to 120 milliards paper marks are now in circulation in Poland, and 30 milliards abroad. If we take into account the fact that payment by cheques is without any real importance here, it is difficult to imagine how a capital levy of 80 to 100 milliards can be collected in such a short interval.

A great increase of all other taxes is projected. In this respect, however, Mr Michalski intends to base his system on the most simple and primitive methods. In this respect he is certainly right. Experience has shown that the country does not possess a financial administration which can successfully cope with complicated financial problems. The distribution of income which has passed to a great extent into the hands of speculators is equally a great obstacle, which renders an even and just distribution of taxes very difficult. The income-tax, which was introduced two years ago, has given results which are not very encouraging. In the Budget for this year it is estimated that the revenue from the income-tax will

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3
Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits ... 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS,
CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.
On **Current Accounts** interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

amount to 7,275 millions. During the first four months 103 millions, or 1½ per cent., have been collected. It is difficult to imagine that during the rest of the year the remaining 98½ per cent. will be gathered.

The tax system of the country is suffering from another evil. The taxes are paid in a paper money which is steadily losing its value. One million marks, which one year ago enabled the Government to maintain 200 civil servants during one month, is now not sufficient for paying their salaries for five days. For the taxpayer the burden of taxation becomes every day lighter, but the State is suffering from it in kind. Mr Michalski proposes that the rate of taxes should vary with the fluctuations of the currency. A system of this kind existed in Russia after the Napoleonic wars from 1812 to 1839. Paper money was during this period legal tender, not according to its nominal, but according to its real value.

By economy and taxation Mr Michalski hopes to stabilise the rate of exchange. Only after having achieved this aim he intends to decrease the amount of marks in circulation. Stabilisation must precede deflation—that is his programme of currency reform. In the future the issue of bank-notes will be put into the hands of a joint-stock bank formed with the help of national and foreign capital.

It is too early to pass a judgment on the whole programme. One thing, however, can be put already to-day to the credit of the new Minister. Instead of speaking of vague generalities, as his predecessors, he presented a clear and carefully-thought-out programme. It has been favourably received by almost all parties. Only the Socialists attack him very vehemently for his campaign against the eight-hours' day.

Industrial and agricultural production has increased in comparison with last year by 17 per cent. in coal mining, by 40 per cent. in the salt industry, by 75 per cent. in agriculture, by 80 per cent. in the iron industry, by 50 per cent. in the textile industry, and by 34 per cent. in the sugar industry. Polish factories are employing actually 340,000 workmen, against 260,000 a year ago.

Quotations of the Polish mark have moved spasmodically during the last four days. The English pound, which last week reached 26,000, is quoted now at 17,000. All other exchanges have moved in the same direction, as shown by the figures below:—

	English £.	American Dollars.	French Francs.	German Marks.
September 28	...	6,800	485	57
October 5	23,500	6,200	445	51
October 7	19,300	5,000	355	42

SWEDEN.—CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT—RUSSIAN GOLD AND KRONA EXCHANGE—LIVING COSTS LOWER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, October 10.

THE political crisis has not yet been definitely solved, but in all likelihood its outcome will mean a return of the Socialist Cabinet which sat before the one which has now resigned. The task which is set before the new Government is a huge one. In one respect the position here is identical with that in England. The first measures must be directed towards solving the unemployment problem. Secondly, industry needs assistance to surmount its

immediate troubles. The high position of the Swedish krona is worrying exporters beyond description. An explanation of the abnormally high position of the Swedish currency, which becomes still more unnatural if the turnover of the country's exports and imports are taken into consideration, is found in the Russian gold exports. The Soviet gold is carried over to Sweden for eventual exchange into dollar and sterling values. It remains in the big banks here, where the Soviet is said to have enormous amounts deposited, Sweden being evidently considered a quite safe place. In the trade between Sweden and Soviet Russia there is a deadlock at present pending a new Treaty. The Soviet leaders are placing much hope on the new Socialist Government, trusting to obtain concessions and to become ultimately recognised. Statistics show a drop in the cost of living of 2 per cent. during the last quarter, and a similar reduction in wholesale prices up to September 1st. Nearly all classes of commodities show a reduction, whereas taxes are stationary and rents higher. The housing question has in some parts of the country become easier, but in general there is no change. It is taken for granted that top rents have now been reached, and the next year will show a substantial decline. The building trade is stagnant in view of the approaching winter season. It is expected that the coming Socialist Government will prevent further export of tonnage from Sweden, about 70,000 tons having been transferred already. The crops are this year excellent. The wheat harvest alone has realised about 300,000 tons. The total consumption of wheat in Sweden is about 400,000 tons annually, and consequently 30 per cent. will have to be imported. A general revision of wages is going on, and employers have given notice of termination of trade agreements affecting over 300,000 workmen. It is expected that there will be a great many conflicts at the end of the year when the terms are to come up for discussion.

SWITZERLAND.—SWISS SHAREHOLDERS AND GERMAN ASSETS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, October 12.

THE latest depreciation of the German mark is causing fresh unrest among the shareholders and bondholders of the Swiss mortgage banks with so-called gold mark assets in Germany. The German Government undertook last year to guarantee these societies at the rate of 20 centimes for each mark, on condition that the Swiss creditors did not ask for the return of their money for 15 years to come. With the present depreciation of the German mark the German debtors of gold marks in Switzerland have to pay an annual interest of 30 per cent. These Swiss assets are chiefly first-class mortgage loans on buildings in towns. There exists in Germany a very complicated legislation for the protection of tenants, the effect of which is that rents for flats are as a rule on the pre-war basis, so that the owner of a house who is a gold mark debtor of a Swiss bank is materially incapable of paying interest on five times the original debt. Where the debtor is a manufacturer the case may be simplified. It is generally considered that the extraordinary rise in the quotations of German securities which has taken place in the German stock markets during the past few weeks will in many cases counterbalance the depreciation of the German currency for the Swiss pre-war shareholder. The pre-war share of a company which has not considerably increased its capital can easily be sold at present in Germany at a premium of 2,500 per cent. of its face value. Unfortunately, the bulk of Swiss investors took care to purchase, not shares, but bonds of German companies.

SPAIN.—INTRODUCTION OF FOREIGN STOCK—MOROCCO EXPENDITURE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRID, October 2.

In answer to a question put by the Minister of Finance, the Spanish Banking Association has pronounced it to be inexpedient to close the door entirely to the importation of foreign stock, because it is in Spain's interest to maintain her creditor position in relation to other countries.

The association advises the repeal of the Royal decree of 1916, which prohibits the introduction of foreign stock into Spain. At the same time, if this Royal decree should be rescinded, the Spanish bankers consider that some measures of restriction ought to exist to enable the Direction-General of Debt to know the amount and class of stock introduced with a view to preventing anything that might be to the national disadvantage.

Spain's activities in Morocco in the present year have already cost 65.60 millions, as compared with 49.83 and 36.18 millions in the corresponding periods of 1920 and 1919 respectively.

Letters to the Editor.

A NEW TAX SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I would like to reply shortly to the interesting questions raised in the review, appearing in your current issue, of my paper, "The Taxable Capacity of a Nation."

The proposed production tax—at the current rate—would be deducted by the payer from all annual interest and fixed contractual payments. Such payments represent that part of taxed production which is distributed in the form of lease rents, debenture and preference share and loan interest, and long-term service agreements for fixed salaries, &c. The balance of taxed production would fall to be equitably divided between all those members of the several classes of co-operators who are entitled to share in production in a form other than by fixed contractual payments.

These represent, of course, the main body of co-operators, including wage-earners, salary-earners except fixed contractual, principals, and the owners of capital employed except fixed contractual. No specific deduction of production tax would be made from such payments, which represent a distribution of already taxed production. I suggest that the different classes of co-operators will find themselves better able to agree on the equitable division of this balance of taxed production without the intervention of the Government. At present the Government attempts the thankless and invidious task of regulating the amounts of individual incomes by means of levying disproportionate tax burdens, a task which must fail if only by reason of the vast detail and complexity involved. But the urgent need is to stop at once the present process of industrial exhaustion by saving the nursery of industrial capital from destruction by the tax-gatherer under our present misconceived system of taxable capacity. This is a matter upon which the nation should be wisely instructed and guided.

Production—the artificial supply of all required for man's wants—cannot itself be a loss: hence the apparent assumption in my paper that there is always a profit is correct. The kind of accounting loss which could arise would be due to the fall in value of assets held by an undertaking and to expenses represented by payments made to others than the co-operators. Such an undertaking might also have paid annual interest and rent and wages and salaries which would be included in the accounting loss. The principal would be bound to pay the production tax at the current rate on the annual interest and rent and wages and salaries. Part of this he would recover by deduction from the fixed contractual payments. No production tax would be specifically deducted by the principal in paying the wage-earners and salary-earners, except fixed contractual, but the payment of these co-operators for their services to an undertaking—unable to make any payment for the services of the other co-operators, i.e., the principal and capital, except fixed contractual—must evidently be a lean one. The accounting loss—excluding payments to co-operators—might be carried forward over a period of, say, six years, if necessary, to be set off against future available production.

The question is asked, Would the payments to lawyers for business collected be part of the net produce or not? The answer is, I expect, would be. Those receipts of a lawyer's paper money have not been taxed twice because the

payments made by a business to a lawyer would be allowed as a deduction in computing the production of that business. Again, if a man receives £900 instead of £1,000 as his reduced share or salary under the new scheme, and proceeds to use it by paying domestic servants, doctors, gardeners, and lawyers for their services to him, these various services exercised in supplying that man's wants are taxed in the following way:—The recipient of the £900 will himself have to pay a tax of 10 per cent. on the total effective wages of his domestic servants and gardeners. This will operate no doubt to cause him to reflect whether he can afford to continue to enjoy so much domestic satisfaction of this kind. An alternative may be that his staff will agree to accept less pay, but this will be a matter for arrangement with him. The fees paid to the doctors and the lawyers will be taxed in the hands of the doctors and the lawyers.

I have not overlooked the fact that if the principle of a production tax is adopted, then not only will the income-tax and super-tax go by the board, but also all the indirect taxes should go, too. I did not wish to "bite off" too much at one time. If, however, the just and simple principle of a production tax is once adopted, I see no reason why it should not become the sole instrument for raising the whole amount of the necessary national revenue. It is probable that, even now, a tax at the rate of 15 per cent., or 3s in the £, would enable all the troublesome Customs and Excise duties to be dropped, with much administrative saving and great benefit to the country. I believe the scheme is complete and wholly logical, and that it deserves full examination.—Yours, &c.,

London, October 13th, 1921.

P. D. LEAKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—If the country desires to discourage extravagance and speculation, and to encourage the saving of money for sound industrial enterprise, the remedy is not far to seek.

Maintain—or even raise—the rate of income-tax and super-tax, grant liberal allowances for a reasonable standard of maintenance and education, and allow a large rebate on savings invested in sound industrial undertakings.

Every company wanting to raise money or to obtain a market for its shares would need to get itself on the list of such. Executive officers would decide in the first instance, but a right of appeal to the Courts could be allowed, and powers given to the Courts to order such reconstruction as might be necessary.

Sums placed to a specially constituted reserve in any sound industrial business should be allowed a similar rebate, provided that no application should be considered until accounts were presented in such a form as to leave little or no room for evasion, and that fraud could be penalised by the refusal to allow any such application for a term of years.

All individuals claiming rebates on savings invested and all businesses claiming a rebate on profits passed to the special reserve would have to show in their accounts the whole of their operations on capital account, as well as revenue, in such a way as to ensure that money so passed to capital account was not afterwards made available for distribution. This would incidentally involve that all persons claiming the rebate would have to pay tax on casual profits.

Some small respectable firms might at the commencement be unable to obtain rebates for want of a proper system of bookkeeping, but the stimulus given to improve this would be a real advantage to them and to the country.

There seem to be great possibilities in such a scheme, apart from the relief of taxation.—Believe me, &c.,

October 9th, 1921.

H. O. C.

THE TRADE BOARDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your issue dated September 24th there was a contribution from your Labour Correspondent upon "The Trade Boards," and I should appreciate the hospitality of your columns to make a few observations thereon, and to state in equally concise terms the point of view of employers.

It must first of all be conceded that the Trade Boards Act of 1909, when applied to certain "sweated" industries, achieved very satisfactory results. At the time the only doubt expressed was the introduction of the principle of State regulation of wages, which, if not conducted on proper lines, might have serious effects on industry. It is frequently necessary to give a little poison to cure a disease, but to increase the dose means disastrous effects on the patient. The complaint against the Trade Boards began when it was realised that the passing of the Amending Act of 1918 gave unlimited power to the Minister of Labour to apply the Trade Board to any "unorganised" industry. An industry may be unorganised for many reasons. Speaking for the distributive trades, we can only say that the alleged unorganised state of distribution is due largely to the fact that the trades still give unlimited scope for the ambition of the individual; every salesman hoping to become a buyer, every buyer a manager, and every manager a director. The big merchants of to-day are men who have mostly risen through every department of their business. Given these advantages, the efficient and ambitious employee does not desire any coercive restrictions from outside organisations, or anything which will tend to produce a levelling-up in position or remuneration.

Under the Amending Act of 1918, the Minister of Labour applied the Trade Boards to such industries as the dressmaking and light clothing, the hat, cap and millinery, toy trades, corset trade, and many other small manufacturing and "making-up" trades. The Ministry then turned its attention to the distributive trades, and threatens distributors with any number of Trade Boards up to fifteen.

It will be obvious from this brief outline of the application of the Acts that large stores, such as Messrs John Barker and Co., Limited, Harrods, Limited, Selfridge and Co., Limited, and Wm. Whiteley, Limited, &c., &c., may be affected by minimum rates of wages fixed by from 25 to 30 Trade Boards covering the manufacturing, making-up, and distributing side of their business. Nor is this all, for a Trade Board has power to make recommendations on many matters apart from wages, and it is possible to foresee varying sets of regulations being issued by the Home Office for different departments of the same business.

A modification of the Minister's proposals to one Trade Board for the distributive trades, or at the most three, was at one time acceptable to the great majority of employers in the distributive trades, but this the Minister turned down, on the plea that he could not legally define these Boards under the Act.

It would be interesting to summarise briefly the employers' objections:—

1. The large number of Trade Boards proposed for small and comparatively unimportant industries and trades does, in some cases, and will ultimately in all cases, lead to chaos in administration and to discontent amongst employees employed in different departments through wage rates being varied at different times.

2. That employers will be involved in heavy non-productive costs in order to keep the staff side of their business within the law.

3. That recently the tendency has been for Trade Boards not to fix minimum rates, but standard rates.

4. That in many cases the rates decided have been arrived at without complete consideration of the economic factors governing the trade concerned.

5. That when it is not possible for the employers and the employees' representatives on the Board to reach agreement, the ultimate decision is left in the hands of the appointed members who represent the Minister of Labour, who are usually excellent people who have no technical knowledge of the trade concerned.

6. That the application of the Trade Boards Acts to industry and commerce adds considerably to the burden of the taxpayer, and is a very costly method of achieving the desired end.

Your correspondent suggests that minimum rates are not laid down by an external authority, but by representatives of the trade itself, but, as in the case of certain Trade Boards recently, it has been the appointed members who have made the decision after a long period of discussion.

and disagreement, and in one case the rates were sent to the Minister for confirmation after the whole of the employers' side had left the room.

It is recognised that labour would have a just cause for grievance if there was no alternative proposal which would achieve the object much more economically, and with no irritating effects on trade. Employers who demand the abolition of the Trade Boards without stating a constructive alternative do lay themselves open to the charge of a desired return to "sweated" conditions. Employers themselves must be protected against the employer who, given the liberty, would return to the old conditions. The powerful body of distributors which I represent, and also a considerable number of other National Organisations of Employers, have definitely accepted the decision that the Government should be called upon to pass into law a National Minimum Wage Bill, upon the lines proposed by the National Industrial Conference of representatives of employers and employees, which was convened by the Government, and addressed by the Prime Minister in the spring of 1919. This proposal is only one of the many which the Government have very carefully shelved, with the result that the organisation of that Joint Conference on a permanent basis has fallen through.

The proposal is that a Royal Commission should be established to report at the earliest possible moment upon—

(a) The method whereby the cost of living index figure issued by the Minister of Labour is at present obtained, and propose a method whereby a more truly indicative figure can be secured, based upon the standard of life, and the general rates appertaining at the end of the war.

(b) Fix a minimum wage, or wages, below which no male or female employed in any industry in a given district should be paid.

If this proposal were adopted a definite minimum rate for an adult male worker of 21 years, and a female worker of 21 years, would be fixed, and all higher rates would continue to be fixed as at present in accordance with experience and efficiency by mutual agreement between employer and employee. A definite standard of life would be secured, employers would know exactly what they had to face as absolute minima, and would be able to estimate their cost of production or distribution so accurately that they could contract well ahead, and be sure of delivering the goods. The uncertainty in this direction is one of the principal causes of our inability to revive trade rapidly. When the new cost of living figure was determined, it would then be definitely embodied in an Act of Parliament, and the minimum rate in a given district would rise or fall by a certain fixed amount per week for each five or ten points rise or fall in the cost of living.

It is difficult for anyone outside the trades affected to appreciate what this State interference in industry involves. The writer in one week received a visit from, and valuable time was occupied with, four different representatives of the Ministry, who it happened were making similar enquiries about the same proposed Trade Board. Time and expense both of employers and of the State are involved in the large number of preliminary conferences which are apparently necessary before a Trade Board definition can be made and the representatives of the two sides selected. Even when the selection of representatives is made, it is very often of an arbitrary and unrepresentative character. In these times drastic economy is needed in every branch of life, the cutting of State expenditure to the last penny, and the costs of production and distribution to the lowest point per cent. We have to overhaul, and possibly slaughter, some of the drastic social experiments which a grandmotherly Government imposed upon us during the days of national prosperity before the war.

Surely it is worth while to examine the alternative to the Trade Boards if a reasonable standard of life can be secured by other means. It is admitted that the alternative set out above has many difficulties which have to be overcome, but in any case it can be done with far less cost to the State, and with greater benefits to those employed in industry.—I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

T. ERNEST JACKSON (Secretary)

(Incorporated Association of Retail Distributors).
125 Pall Mall, S.W. 1, October 5th, 1921.

PAYMENT OF INDEMNITIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—This subject, which Mr Alfred E. Leaf very properly deals with as including repayment of debt, calls for very clear thinking, and I believe it will be found that his reasoning is faulty.

In the second paragraph of his letter he shows that to pay our debt to the United States we must export commodities or services to that country either directly or indirectly. When, however, later on in the paragraph he says that "the object is to cancel some debt owing by the traders of America indirectly to us," I think he must really mean that the object is to cancel some debt owing to her traders by us, for it is obvious that a debt owing by them would only be increased if we sent them more goods. If I am correct in my supposition his explanation of what takes place in the instance he deals with is correct.

But I cannot believe that leading statesmen and organs in the Press hold the view that in such a case unemployment would be caused, and it has no bearing on the real issue at stake, which is whether, as other countries owe us a much larger sum than we owe the United States, our receipt of the indemnities and debt repayment will cause unemployment here, bearing in mind that some portion would be a set-off to our payments to America.

Mr Leaf shows quite rightly how the set-off would be made, so that indirectly we should pay what we owe to the United States "by the exports of our debtor countries, France, Italy, Germany, &c." When, however, he says that the proceeds will reach our shores in the form of raw cotton, &c., he again makes a curious slip, as, of course, when we pay a debt previously incurred we shall not receive anything in return.

This, however, is a minor matter, the real point being that exports which would normally have gone from Great Britain would have gone from France, Italy, Germany, &c., instead, so that unemployment for our own people seems the inevitable result of the payment of indemnities, &c., to us. Even were we to limit such payments to the amount due to the United States from us, the fact would still remain that every such payment, made in effect as a free gift to the United States, would tend to restrict the demand for similar goods to be supplied indirectly by us. Even, therefore, if it be agreed that we should still want to send in raw materials to the United States, so that the proceeds might "reach our shores in the form of raw cotton, wheat, and other foodstuffs," it must be remembered that we should be doing so in the face of acute competition in a market which our debtors were being forced to keep heavily supplied.

I am convinced that the sound course for us will be to remit all war debts due to us, leaving other nations free to adopt whatever course seems politic with regard to debts due to them. Statements that have appeared in the Press show that a feeling is growing up in the United States to remit such debts. Their difficulty is probably as great as ours, and the dignified way will be to leave them to solve it for themselves. If they decide to require repayment, they, too, will have to face the situation, which, I agree with Mr Leaf, seems odd, but which I am convinced for them and for us is an odd fact "that the payment of debt to a nation should be a disaster." The reinstatement of devastated areas in France, Belgium, &c., is quite another matter.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MARK B. F. MAJOR.

London, October 13th, 1921.

THE EXCHANGES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—May I be permitted to make the following suggestions for dealing with unemployment, and the present industrial situation:—

1. Reduce the Bank rate to 5 per cent., and keep it there.

2. Abolish the restriction on the issue of currency notes. If the automatic check which the gold standard provides against inflation is thus given up, we must have some other method of regulating prices. I suggest, therefore, that—

3. Every important industry should be compelled by

law to form itself into a kartel, governed by a joint body of employers and employed, on the lines of the Whitley Councils, but with statutory powers. These kartels to be co-ordinated in a Central Council.

4. By means of these kartels control prices of everyday commodities right through to the ultimate consumer, with full publicity as to the average costs of production, profits, wages, &c.

5. Adopt Professor Cassel's suggestion for an International Conference on the question of the exchanges.

This question of exchanges is perhaps more important than anything else at the present moment.

I have just received a verbatim report of the evidence given before the American Tariff Commission on behalf of the pottery trade. Mr Burgess, the witness for the American potters, in his evidence, said as follows:—

"It has been definitely stated that on all pottery sales the German manufacturer is required by his Government to add 150 per cent. to the price at which he would otherwise be willing to sell to the American buyer, and that the Government in turn levies a tax of 90 per cent. on this added 150 per cent."

This means that the German Government gets a revenue of about 134 per cent. on all the export trade. At that time the mark had not depreciated to anything like its present figure, and as recently instructions have been sent to the various kartels to increase their export prices in correspondence with the recent depreciation of the mark, there is no question that the German Government is getting a huge revenue on the export trade, and notwithstanding the 150 per cent. tax, they can still undersell us.

This shows how absolutely futile it is to suppose that merely by a reduction of wages in this country we can meet the German competition, for they have this 150 per cent. or more to play with. Therefore one of the first things that ought to be done is to tackle this question of exchange.

This policy of the Germans is quite intelligible, and if by this means they can equate their budget I am not so sure about the crash so confidently predicted by our economic professors and financiers. If we can find some means of regulating the exchanges, thus depriving them of their anticipated revenue, the German Government will be checkmated; they would have to give up their policy, and I think would be compelled to deflate, in which case they would go through all the difficulties from which we are now suffering.—Yours faithfully,

T. B. JOHNSTON.

Fishponds, Bristol, October 12th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"The Political Economy of War." By A. C. Pigou, Professor of Political Economy in the University of Cambridge. Macmillan. 8s 6d net.

By a curious oversight Professor Pigou has taken as his title one that was used by Mr F. W. Hirst for a book published early in the war. This work is much more comprehensible by the ordinary reader than the monumental tomes that the Professor has hitherto given to the world, and it need not be said that his subject is of the highest importance, and is elucidated by wide knowledge and earnest thought. Among the titles of its chapters are "Resources Available for War," "Government Commandeering," "Taxes v. Loans," "Finance by Bank Credits," "Price Control," "The Aftermath in Currency and Exchanges," "The Aftermath of Internal Debt"; and these and other subjects are discussed with a fullness that makes the book a noteworthy addition to economic literature. The Professor is occasionally somewhat dogmatic, as when he says that "when a man knows that out of every extra £1 that he succeeds in making the Government will take 5s 5d, he will tend to stop working a little sooner than he would do otherwise." This may be true often—perhaps generally; but many men are still at work who would have been in a position to retire if it had not been for the high taxation, which has obliged them to prolong their years of labour. The subject of a capital

levy is dealt with at length, and the Professor produces as convincing a case as can be made for it.

"Recollections." By Sir Charles Macara, Bart. (London) Cassell and Co., Limited. 7s 6d net.

THE book market is notoriously flooded with reminiscences and recollections, but Sir Charles Macara's long and prominent identification with the cotton industry serve to make parts at least of this volume of interest to the student of affairs. As president of the International Cotton Federation, Sir Charles has laboured on behalf of the industry in many countries, and relates many interesting experiences. A lifelong Free-trader, Sir Charles has by no means surrendered his faith in these days of fashionable compromise. He denounces the key industry and anti-dumping campaign as "the most recent, and certainly the most insidious, of the attempts to infuse life into Protection, that political snake-in-the-grass which we all imagined had been effectively scotched in 1910." Sir Charles combated Mr Joseph Chamberlain's campaign from the start, and retains his belief that a departure from Free-trade would imperil the great Lancashire industry. He is optimistic with regard to the future of the industry, and remarks: "Tariff Reform is an appeal to timidity. It does not fit the temper of Lancashire."

"History of the New York Times, 1851-1921." By Elmer Davis. Published by the New York Times.

THE history of a great newspaper is always interesting. The story that Mr Davis writes to celebrate the seventieth year of the *New York Times* and its quarter of a century under the management of Mr Adolph Ochs is no exception to the rule and loses nothing in the telling. Newspaper enterprise in America differs, perhaps, in some respects from newspaper enterprise in this country. But English readers cannot, at any rate, fail to read with interest of the many great "scoops" (or "beats," as our American friends call them) achieved by the *New York Times*. Their attention will also be aroused and held by the record of the way in which this famous journal championed the Allied cause in the great war, and from its embryo days, the League of Nations. According to statistics given the paper's circulation has increased over fifteenfold since 1896. This is a notable achievement. But circulation figures will interest the average reader less than the manifold stories of newsgathering and the sidelights on contemporary events which Mr Davis's readable volume contains.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Economic Development of the United States. By Isaac Lippincott. (New York) D. Appleton and Co. 18s net.

Principles of Government Accounting and Reporting. By Francis Oakey. (New York) D. Appleton and Co. 25s net.

The above two volumes are obtainable in London from Messrs D. Appleton and Co., at the prices quoted.

The Principles and Arithmetic of Foreign Exchange. By S. Evelyn Thomas. (London) Macdonald and Evans. 7s 6d net.

Den Danske Landmandsbank Hypothek-og Vekselbank Aktieselskab, 1871-1921. (Copenhagen) Offices of the Bank.

The Principles of the Law of the Sale of Goods. By Henry Aitken, K.C. (Edinburgh) E. and S. Livingstone. 10s 6d net.

Cours d'Economie Sociale. Par Ch. Antoine. Sixième Edition. (Paris) Librairie Felix Alcan. 25f net.

British Policy and Opinion During the Franco-Prussian War. By Dora Neill Raymond. (New York) Columbia University.

International Labour Conference. Third Session: Reports. (Geneva) International Labour Office.

These are reports III. to VIII. of the third session of the International Labour Conference.

Bankers' Magazine. Diamond Jubilee Number. September, 1921. (New York) The Bankers' Publishing Company. 50 cents.

Customs Tariff in Latvia. Regulations and Duties for Export. (Riga) Ministère des Finances.

Copies of this tariff may be obtained from the Latvian Government's representatives and consular offices. Price 2s each.

Oil Fuel. An Account of its Employment by Cadbury Bros., Limited. (Bourneville) Cadbury Bros., Limited.

A Note on a Matter of International Importance. (London) Walter Judd, Limited.

A pamphlet on current matters relating to China.

BANK'S CIRCULAR.

Circular for October, 1921. (Montreal) Royal Bank of Canada.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch - Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.

October 27.

ACCOUNT.

October 28.

Business in the Stock Exchange shows more than ever a disposition to concentrate in the market for purely gilt-edged stocks. The movement is somewhat restricted, in that it has scarcely reached Home Railway prior-charges and Indian Railways, but the various British Government issues, together with those of the colonies and home municipalities, attract increasing attention. The War Loan has been over 90 during the past few days, the rise being assisted by the fact that the stock will be quoted ex dividend in 10 days' time. Various new issues, such as those of Ceylon and New South Wales, have gone well. The action of Queensland in going to America for a 7 per cent. loan, at 95 net, aroused lively attention. The result of this excursion is not considered to be favourable enough, from the point of view of the Colony, to render probable the extension of the practice to other Colonial borrowers, of whom some had been approached, it is said, by American financiers during the past few weeks.

German bonds have given way on the mark going to 550 to the £. Japanese dollar securities, together with others of similar class, fell back on the movement in the New York exchange. Brazilians have been hesitating, and Argentine bonds move narrowly. The observance of the Jewish Day of Atonement on Wednesday provided a noticeable lull in Stock Exchange business, more particularly in foreign bonds. Developments in connection with the loans that are to be raised in America by some of the South American States are watched with interest.

Home Railway stocks continue to crumble, there being no public demand to meet the automatic realisations which go on daily, for the account of executors and of holders who are becoming weary of their investments in this market. Grand Trunks have dropped on pressure to sell by proprietors dismayed at the prospect of another protracted period of waiting before anything definite is likely to become known of the appeal which the company has lodged against the recent decision of the arbitrators. Argentine railway stocks are flat, by reason of the uncertainty in regard to the question of freight charges, while other foreign rails show acute depression by reason of the passing of the interim dividends on Leopoldina preference, Antofagasta ordinary, and the reduction of the distribution of San Paulo ordinary. Taltal shares gave way in sympathy with Antofagastas, and the nitrate market is dormant, the recent spark of animation in this section having been quenched by public indifference.

After the meeting of the Rubber Trust shareholders, a slight recovery occurred in the price of the shares, and this served to strengthen the list as a whole, though it cannot be said that there is any accession of general support. The oil market, after its profound flatness, rallied from the worst. Numbers of small buying orders were received from people who hold shares at considerably higher prices, and who regard the present as affording an opportunity to average their more expensive purchases. The Trinidad issues were pro-

minent in the recovery in the medium-priced group, but the whole market moved down again on Thursday's exchange demoralisation. The shipping market is undistinguished save by a fall in Royal Mail, with a certain contraction of willingness to take other shipping shares offered for sale. Banking and insurance markets are equally quiet. Better reports from the textile industry served to create a little improvement in some of the leading cotton and thread descriptions. The tobacco share market is a trifle easier. The iron and steel group reflect, in their dullness, the depression produced by most of the reports and dividend declarations that are now forthcoming.

Amongst new issues, County of London Electric debentures, after giving way to 2½ premium, recovered a full point. Peter Walker and Sons' shares were left with underwriters to the extent of nearly 90 per cent., and, on the opening of the market, the shares, 8s paid, were offered at nothing. This was followed by a recovery to about 4s discount. The debentures, which were said to have been subscribed by the public, stand at 2½ discount. Mersey Power debenture stock stands at a premium of about a point, and the new Clyde Valley second preference, where a market started in Glasgow before it began in London, are quoted at a small discount, the underwriters having been left with 25 per cent. of their liability. Several new issues are projected in the near future, and the appetite of the public for sound stock is by no means satiated by the liberal manner in which fresh emissions have recently been provided.

Cable stocks and shares are amongst the few that show strength on the week. Dunlops preference dividends have been passed; the company's report is anxiously awaited, and market anticipation looks for a possible cutting in half of the ordinary share capital under a reorganisation plan. The passing of the Army and Navy Stores interim dividend sharply depressed the price, and this had its effect upon other shares in the Stores industry, though Lipton's are something of an exception to the prevailing heaviness.

Further falls in the price of gold have caused Kaffirs to give way in most sections of the market. Shares in the producing companies, the deep levels, the development and land concerns are equally affected, and neither Paris nor the Cape appears anxious to afford any kind of support. Diamond shares hold up fairly well; the market in these is, of course, extremely limited. Russo-Asiatics gave way abruptly, on the chairman's announcement that it is impossible, under present conditions, to enter into trading relations with the Soviet Government. Columbian Mining shares experienced a brisk rise on very vague rumours as to developments on the company's gold-producing area. West African Tin shares are weaker. The Mexican mining market is practically stagnant. Esperanzas fell back, on the latest cable from the property, but a little bear purchasing served to rally the price. The Broken Hill and other sections of the Mining markets show no new points of interest.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	206,136,047	..	..
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,990
5½, 1929 receipts to September 30, 1921				50,410,000
8 days to October 8th				6,325,000
Receipts to date				56,735,000
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER 8 DAYS ENDED OCTOBER 8, 1921.				
April 1 to October 8, £2,330,000		550,000	..	550,000
To the Public—				
New South Wales, £3,000,000 6% Inscribed Stock (rep. at par 1930-40), issued at 95½ (Oct. 10) 3,000,000 ..	2,865,000	..	150,000	.. 2,715,000
Southend Waterworks Company, £50,000 7% Red. Deb. Stock (red. at par 1936), issued at par (Oct. 11) ..	50,000	..	50,000	.. 2,500
Rosario Drainage Company, Limited, £200,000 7% Prior Lien Deb. Stock (red. at 105% 1922-41), issued at 90½ (Oct. 11) 200,000 ..	180,000	..	10,000	.. 170,000
National Benefit Assurance Co., Ltd., 125,000 9% First Cum. Pref. Shrs., £1, at p.p. (Oct. 13) 125,000 ..	125,000	..	15,625	.. 109,375
Total offered to public	..	3,220,000	..	178,125
To Shareholders only—				
General Oilfields, 77,000 Ptg. Pref. Shares, 5s, at par ..	19,250	..	19,250	.. 17,325
Napavina Oilfields of Trinidad, 50,000 New Shares, £1, at par ..	50,000	..	50,000	.. 37,500
Still Engine, £25,000 7% Debts, £1, at par ..	25,000	..	25,000	.. 12,500
Do 25,000 "A" Sh. ares, 1s, at par ..	1,250	..	1,250	.. 625
Total offered to shareholders only	..	95,500	..	27,550

Total offered for subscription to date in—	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921	1921
1920	1920
1919	1919
1918	1918
1917	1917
1916	1916
1915	1915
1914	1914
1913	1913

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

New South Wales 6 per Cent. Inscribed Stock, 1930-1940.—Issue of £3,000,000, at 95½ per cent., interest payable May 1st and November 1st. Six months' interest payable May 1, 1922. Principal repayable at par on November 1, 1940, the Government of New South Wales having the option to redeem the stock in whole or in part, at par, on or after November 1, 1930, on giving three months' notice. The loan is raised for public works and services and for other purposes. Interest and principal of New South Wales Government Debentures and Inscribed Stock issued and payable in London, the property of persons not domiciled in New South Wales, are not subject to any taxes of that State. This is a trustee investment, and subject to geographical considerations, an attractive issue of its class. The loan was quickly oversubscribed.

Rosario Drainage Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £494,000, of which £489,200 has been issued and is outstanding. Debentures have been authorised for £700,000, and exclusive of the present offer, £407,970 has been issued. This is an issue at 90 per cent. of a further £200,000 7 per cent. prior lien debenture stock forming part of a total authorised issue of £250,000, of which £33,750 has already been issued. This prior lien debenture stock is limited to a total issue of £250,000, and is secured by trust deeds in favour of the River Plate Trust, Loan, and Agency Company, Limited, constituting the prior lien debenture stock a first floating charge on the company's whole undertaking and property, and ranks before £374,220 of other debenture issues. It will be redeemed by means of a cumulative sinking fund of 1½ per cent. per annum, and the stock will be all redeemed by July, 1941, at latest, either by drawings or purchase at a price not exceeding 105 per cent. The company was formed in the year 1897 to take over and operate a drainage and sewerage system in the City of Rosario de Santa Fé, in the Argentine Republic, under a concession granted by the Municipality of that city dated December, 1896. The prospectus states that "the company's income is derived from a rate on all house property within the drainage area, for the payment of which the owners of the properties are responsible. The company has the right to avail itself of the *Via de apremio*, or right of summary process employed by the Municipality for the collection of rates, but the company has agreed to waive the *Via de apremio* as soon as the Municipality has obtained the passing of a law prohibiting the transfer of property (not being vacant lands) whilst any drainage rate in respect of the properties remains unpaid." A useful table of profits and results is given from 1913, and subject to reasonably stable political conditions, there is no reason why revenue should not be sufficient to show a substantial margin over and above the proposed and existing interest and sinking fund charges.

National Benefit Assurance Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £500,000. On the shares of various denominations issued, £128,283 has been paid up, while £119,068 remains as uncalled capital. This is an issue at par of 125,000 9 per cent. first cumulative preference shares of £1 each, the proceeds being partly required to provide deposits with Governments of certain colonies and foreign countries in which the company proposes to carry on business. The shares rank for dividend and capital repayment in priority to £10,000 6 per cent. preference, £364,000 ordinary, and £1,000 founders' shares. But these are authorised amounts only, the total paid up being as stated above. Established in 1890, the company now transacts all classes of insurance. The prospectus states that "a dividend of 10 per cent. has been paid on the ordinary shares for each of the past 23 years; dividends for the last four years being paid free of income-tax, the equivalent being £14 5s 8d per cent. gross." Income from premiums and investments are given from 1912. But a statement like this cannot be considered a satisfactory substitute for actual past profits. Total assets are given as £1,697,913. It is, however, difficult to understand why these figures are offered instead of a clear balance-sheet. In December, 1919, when

26,000 ordinary shares of £5 each were offered, we pointed out that "it is possible that the undertaking is in a sound position, but the prospectus would have been more attractive if a balance-sheet or clear statement of the financial position had been given." On the figures contained in the prospectus before us, it is impossible to gauge the value of the shares.

Southend Waterworks Company.—Issue of £50,000 7 per cent. debenture stock at par, to be redeemed at par on September 29, 1936. The company was incorporated by special Act of Parliament in 1879, and serves an area of approximately 160 square miles, with an estimated population of 135,000. The gross rental value of Southend-on-Sea (a portion only of the company's area of supply) is approximately £879,820. The issued share capital of the company amounts to £832,812, and loan capital stands at £200,252. An interesting table of meter rents, profits and dividends is shown from 1909. The issue is well secured, both as to capital and interest, but regard should be paid to the smallness of the issue, and the consequently restricted market.

New Delabole Slate Quarries, Limited.—This is an offer for sale at par of £7,500 10 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock, free of income-tax up to 6s in the pound, being part of a total authorised issue of £15,000. The stock will be secured by a trust deed constituting a first specific charge upon what is apparently a 21-years lease and some "other assets." It is "redeemable" on October 1, 1930. The offer for sale states that "applicants for debenture stock will obtain as a bonus one fully-paid share of 10s with every £10 debenture stock." Intending investors, before subscribing to these debentures on the terms set out in this offer for sale, should ask themselves the following questions:—(1) What is the value of the 21-years lease which is offered as security; (2) what was the actual cash purchase consideration for the granting of the lease (if any); (3) what is the past financial record of this particular quarry, and why is it not set out in the offer for sale; (4) what is the authorised and issued share capital of the company; (5) why is it necessary to offer a 10s ordinary share to each subscriber for a £10 debenture; (6) and finally, why is the offer for sale undated?

Odams Press, Limited.—Authorised capital £1,500,000, of which 513,007 8 per cent. cumulative preference and 522,180 ordinary shares have already been issued. This is an issue at par of 225,000 10 per cent. cumulative "A" preference shares of £1 each, ranking after the 8 per cent. preference issue. The printing business of Odams, Limited, was founded in 1847, and was amalgamated with its "offshoot," Odham Brothers, Limited, in 1898. Odams Press, Limited, was incorporated in 1920, and the businesses of Odams, Limited, and John Bull, Limited, were acquired. The company owns some well-known publications. Net profits are shown from 1913. According to a statement in the prospectus, net surplus assets are valued at £1,231,400, which compares with a total issued capital of £1,260,187. But in net assets is an item of £390,334 for copyrights. According to the Stock Exchange Supplementary List for Thursday, October 13th, dealings were being effected in the £1 eight per cent. cumulative preference shares at prices between 15s 9d and 17s 6d per share, while the £1 ordinary shares are marked 10s 3d-9s 7½d. This is a speculative proposition with a high yield of interest, which carries with it the full proportionate risk of capital.

Chilean Loan in New York.—The Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, has received the following cable from its Valparaiso branch, dated October 7th:—"The Government has authorised the Chilean Minister at Washington to accept a proposal by New York bankers for a loan of 25,000,000 pesos gold of 18d and \$10,000,000 (U.S.), which will be principally used for the payment of expenses in connection with the electrification of the railways. We understand that bonds of this loan are for five years, and carry interest at 8 per cent., and that they are being offered at 99 per cent."

Associated British Commerce and Industry, Limited.—We are informed that particulars have recently been filed at Somerset House showing the increase of the capital of this company to £250,000, divided into 150,000 10 per cent. cumulative participating preference shares of £1 each, 50,000 ordinary "A" shares of 10s each, and 75,000 ordinary "B" shares of £1 each. 50,000 of the participating preference shares and 50,000 of the ordinary "A" shares have been subscribed and paid up. The objects of the company set out in the memorandum and articles of association include those of general trading, merchant banking, underwriting, and issuing.

Municipality of Pelotas.—We are informed that Messrs F. J. Lisman and Co., of New York, are offering £100,000 Municipality of Pelotas 5 per cent. Sterling Loan of 1911 unconditionally guaranteed by the State of Rio Grande do Sul.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price This Week.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½, 1925-28) .. 82½ .. 82½ .. +			
Loans (5%, 1929-47) .. 89½ .. 89½ .. +			
4%, 1929-42 .. 96 .. 96½ .. +			
Funding Loan 4% .. 72 .. 72½ .. +			
Victory Bonds 4% .. 75½ .. 75½ .. +			
Conversion Loan 3½ .. 48½ .. 48½ .. +			
Consols 2½ .. 48½ .. 48½ .. +			
Irish Land Stock 2½ .. 48½ .. 48½ .. +			

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.)	2½..	2½..	..	Nat. Bank of Egypt			
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½..	2½..	..	(£10)	20	..	19½ .. -
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid)	6½	..	6½	Nat. Bank of S. Africa			
London County Westminster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14	..	14	(£10)	10½	..	10½ ..
				Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	8½	..	8½ ..
				Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	11	..	11 ..

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons. 45 .. 41½ .. -1½	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. .. 5 .. 4½ .. -½
B. A. & Pacific .. 35 .. 34½ .. -½	Leopoldina .. 17½ .. 17½ .. +
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 52½ .. 52 .. -½	Mexican Railway .. 14 .. 14 .. +
Buenos Ayres West. .. 52½ .. 51 .. -1	Do 1st Pref. 38 .. 37 .. -1
Canadian Pacific .. 149 .. 145 .. -4	Do 2nd Pref. 25 .. 25 .. +
Central Argentine .. 48½ .. 48½ .. +	San Paulo .. 99½ .. 99½ .. +
Grand Trunk Ord. 1½ .. 1½ .. +	United Havana .. 49½ .. 47 .. -2½

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio ..	72	..	69	..	- 3	Southern	26	..	25	..	- 1
Erie	17	..	16	..	- 1	Do Non-cum Pref...	61	..	57	..	- 4
Do 4% 1st Pref.....	25	..	23	..	- 2						

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5%, 1886-7 .. 94 .. 94 .. +	Italian 3½ Rentes .. 22 .. 22 .. +
Belgian 3% .. 62 .. 62 .. +	Greek Monopoly 4% .. 33½ .. 32½ .. -1
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914 .. 62 .. 62 .. +	Japanese 4% .. 112 .. 109 .. -3
Chilian 4½, 1895 .. 65 .. 65 .. +	Do 4%, 1910 .. 66 .. 66 .. +
Chinese 5%, 1912 .. 65 .. 65 .. +	Mexican Cons. 1899 .. 68 .. 67½ .. -½
Egyptian 4% .. 64 .. 64 .. +	Peruvian Corp. Pref. .. 15 .. 15 .. +
French 5% .. 40½ .. 39½ .. -1	Russian 5%, 1906 .. 7½ .. 7½ .. +
Do 4% .. 30½ .. 30 .. -½	Spanish 4% .. 71½ .. 71½ .. +

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" .. 17½ .. 17½ .. + 1	Marconi Canada	18½ .. 19 .. + 1
Eastern Telegraph .. 164½ .. 165½ .. + 2	Marconi Marine	19½ .. 20 .. + 1
Marconi Wireless 1½ .. 1½ .. + 1		

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. ...	8½	8	½	L. and N. W.	67	66½	½
Great Eastern ..	26½	26	½	L. & S. Western, Def. ..	18	17	1
Great Northern Def. ..	24	24	0	Metropolitan ..	24½	24	½
Great Western ..	65½	65	½	Metropolitan Dist. ..	16½	16½	0
Lancs. and Yorks.	47	46	1	Midland Deferred ..	40½	39½	1
London, Brighton, "A" ..	37	36½	½	North British Def.	102	101	1
London, Chatham ..	58	58	0	North-Eastern ..	70	69	1
Do Arb. Pref.	38	38	0	South-Eastern "A" ..	21	20½	½

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ .. +	Lipton (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) .. 16/9 .. 16/3 .. -6	Lister (£1) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Ass. Phos. Cement (£1) .. 15 .. 15 .. +	Lobitos Oilfields (£1) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
B'ham Small Arms (£1) .. 8 .. 7/6 .. -2	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +
Brazil Traction (£100) .. 28 .. 29 .. +1	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
British-American .. 3 .. 3 .. +	Mexican Eagle (£10) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Tobacco (£1) .. 3 .. 3 .. +	North Caucasian (10) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) .. 3 .. 3 .. +	Pekin (2) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Burmah Oil (£1) .. 4 .. 4 .. +	Rubber Plantations .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +	Investment (£1) .. 4 .. 4 .. +
Courtaulds (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Shell Transport (£1) .. 4 .. 4 .. +
Canard (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Smithfield & Argentine .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Meat (£1) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Underground Electric (£10) .. 2 .. 2 .. +
Forestal Land (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Do "A" (1/4) .. 2 .. 2 .. +
Furness, Withy (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Do Inc. Bd. (£100) .. 74 .. 72 .. -2
Highlands and Low- .. 1 .. 1 .. +	United Siam (2) .. 5 .. 5 .. +
lands Rubber (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	United Tobacco (£1) .. 5 .. 5 .. +
Hudson's Bay (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Ural Caspian (£1) .. 5 .. 5 .. +
Imperial Tobacco (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +	Vallambrosa (2) .. 1 .. 1 .. +
Internat'l Paint (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Vickers (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +
Linggi Plantations (£1) .. 1 .. 1 .. +	Watney Def. Stk. 132½ .. 132½ .. +

Mines.

Broken Hill Prop. (8) .. 2½ .. 2½ .. +	Knights .. 8 .. 8 .. +
Chartereds (£1) .. 9 .. 9 .. +	Modderfontein (10) .. 3 .. 3 .. +
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) .. 9 .. 9 .. +	Modderfont. "B" (5) .. 1 .. 1 .. +
Crown Mines (10) .. 2 .. 1½ .. -½	Modderfont. Deep (5) .. 2 .. 2 .. +
De Beers Def. (£2½) .. 11½ .. 10 .. -1½	Premier Def. (2/6) .. 5 .. 5 .. +
East Rand Prop. (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +	Rand Mines (5) .. 2 .. 2 .. +
Geduld (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +	Rio Tinto (£5) .. 28 .. 27 .. -1
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) .. 4 .. 4 .. +	Spring Mines (£1) .. 2 .. 2 .. +

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

HARRISONS AND CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Prof. shares .. 630,000 .. +		Properties .. 1,074,849 .. + 140,078	
Prof. ord. shares 1,000,000 .. +	610	Plant .. 3,113 .. + 6,958	
Def. ord. shares .. 189,986 .. +	7,020	Furniture .. 20,921 .. + 7,593	
Management shs. .. 25,000 .. +		Sundry stocks .. 503,738 .. - 34,996	
Reserves .. 473,000 .. + 13,922		Loans receivable .. 261,927 .. - 39,646	
Unclaimed divs. .. 130,000 .. + 23,938		Bills receivable .. 48,416 .. - 70,060	
Mortgages .. 167,210 .. + 218,643		Sundry debtors .. 455,235 .. - 229,745	
Sun. depositors .. 192,730 .. + 138,137		Acceptances .. 311,033 .. - 138,137	
Bills payable .. 311,033 .. + 138,137		Investments .. 1,413,065 .. + 145,412	
Acceptances .. 311,033 .. + 138,137		Cash .. 25,016 .. - 79,172	
Sundry creditors .. 386,093 .. - 220,543			
Bank overdrafts .. 553,648 .. + 319,601			
Prof. dividends .. 41,615 .. + 41,615			
Profit and loss .. 44,525 .. - 52,546			
Total .. 4,145,313 .. - 291,715		Total .. 4,145,313 .. - 291,715	

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

SOCIETY'S POSITION AND PROSPECTS.

The ninety-seventh annual general meeting and the extraordinary general meeting for the declaration of the nineteenth bonus of this society were held at the chief office, 15, St. James's square, London, on the 14th instant, Mr Francis E. J. Smith (chairman) presiding.

Mr Arthur Digby Besant (general manager and actuary) read the notice and the minutes of the last meeting. The annual report, which had been circulated amongst the proprietors, was taken as read.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said the new assurances amounted to over £1,170,000 net. A few years ago they congratulated themselves when they exceeded a million. Last year they exceeded a million and a-half, but that figure included a belated crop of life assurance belonging to the years of the Great War. During the past 12 months they had had to face abnormal trade conditions, and therefore new business of nearly a million and a-quarter was a very fine achievement. Interest receipts had grown by £34,843, and the premium receipts by £7,134. The growth in the interest income was remarkable. In a single year the net yield, after deduction of tax, had risen from £3 16s 7d to £4 6s 2d. In normal times they used to measure variations of interest in pence. This year they could measure it in shillings.

The mortality claims were very light—only 48 per cent. of the sum expected—and that was a record. The expense ratio was £16 7s 2d, a rise of 3s 7d. There was also a welcome appreciation of nearly £65,000 in the investments. The surplus income of the year's transactions amounted to over £500,000, far the largest increase in the history of the society, the previous highest total in any one year having been £311,000. The Life Assurance Fund was thereby raised to within £60,000 of seven million pounds. This was a fitting prelude to the quinquennial report.

The report was unanimously adopted.

An extraordinary general meeting was then held to declare the 19th bonus. Mr F. E. Smith again presided, and in the course of his address said: We stand alone among the 2½ per cent. offices in maintaining our valuation and our bonus, and welcoming new with-profit entrants.

A year ago we were doubtful if we could maintain the 2½ per cent. basis of valuation for our non-profit business, but for 30 years a 2½ per cent. valuation rate has been the sheet anchor of our business here, and the secret of its success, and the present board would have been loath to undermine the work of the late Sir John Mowbray as the chairman, and of Mr Newbatt and Mr Whittall his actuaries. Fortunately, the last year of the quinquennium has been extremely profitable as you have just heard, and we have found ourselves in the gratifying position of once more being able to make the entire valuation of our liabilities on a 2½ per cent. basis.

The liability under our contracts, after making a substantial reserve of nearly £35,000 for immediate payment of claims, and the permanent reserve of £50,000 required by our constitution, works out as set out in the valuation report at just under 6½ millions, and we are left with a realised surplus of over £697,000, which, added to the interim bonuses paid, becomes over £756,000 for the quinquennium. This is a marvellous result considering that our war claims and our losses on securities in this quinquennium alone have exceeded £400,000. You may well ask how this has been done. The explanation is very simple. It is a literal fact that the foundation of our achievement lies far back in the past. I cannot, of course, be certain what will be the net rate of interest earned in the next quinquennium, but we are to-day earning 36 shillings net above our valuation rate of 2½ per cent.

I now beg to move in the somewhat quaint language which has stood us in good stead for nearly 100 years: "That the accounts and calculations now produced, and the report of the directors declaring a total divisible surplus of £754,850 in respect of the five years ending June 30, 1921, be received by this meeting and recorded."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

RUBBER PLANTATIONS INVESTMENT TRUST, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S SOUND POSITION—PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

The twelfth ordinary general meeting of the Rubber Plantations Investment Trust, Limited, was held, on the 10th inst., at the Cannon street Hotel, London, Mr H. J. Welch (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, after referring in detail to the accounts and to the properties owned by the trust, said: Before closing, I should draw your attention to the improvement in one respect of the financial position of the trust. If you deduct the amount of the

liabilities from the assets shown in the balance-sheet (excluding properties and investments) you will see that the trust's liquid position at March 31st last was over £200,000 better than at the date of the previous balance-sheet, the deficit of over £180,000 having been converted into a surplus of £20,000. In addition to this surplus there is included under the expenditure on properties a sum representing our estates' working capital and advanced expenditure on account of 1921 of over £250,000. Although our liquid resources are not as good as we should like, the position is better than it has been for some years. In view of rumours which have been circulated to the contrary, I perhaps should state that the board see no necessity for raising any further capital in the near future. The planting programme, which was originated in better times, has been countermanded, and the board are only sanctioning such fresh plantings of a small extent which, in their opinion, are proved to be economically justified, having regard to expenditure already incurred. In such times as these, and with such incalculable factors affecting the future of all industries, we regret we cannot give you any reliable forecast for the current year. The great bulk of our crops has yet to be realised, and we have no forward sale contracts at present outstanding. I may say, however, that, taking all the circumstances into account, the board are not dissatisfied with the position up to the present. . . .

During the past year the rubber plantation industry has encountered the most serious crisis in its history. In common with the majority of other industries in all parts of the world, we have had to face an excess of stocks and falling prices.

WORLD RUBBER STOCKS AND CONSUMPTION.

Among the questions which all producers of crude rubber would like to have answered are: What stocks actually exist and how much are they in excess of the world's normal requirements? What will be the total production and consumption for 1921? What is the future potential production from existing sources of supply, and what is the future potential consumption? Unfortunately, the industry is very inadequately supplied with reliable statistics, and all estimates have to be considered with great reserve. Recently I have personally made an extended and detailed investigation of the figures relating to the production and consumption of crude rubber and the increase in the "visible" stocks existing. I have examined them with great care with the object of forming an opinion of what policy should be adopted by the trust and by other companies of which I am a director. Part of the results of this investigation and of the opinions I should otherwise have expressed here this morning were published in the Press so recently as September 2nd last, in a letter from Harrison and Crosfield, Limited, to which I refer any shareholders who may not already have perused it. Shortly, it may be said that the known facts do not justify the extreme pessimism which existed when that letter was published. The industry of rubber production now rests upon the surest of all foundations—the permanent, unavoidable, and growing needs of the whole world for its product. It is estimated that over £150,000,000 is now invested in it, and probably not less than £400,000,000 in the rubber manufacturing industry. Their present depression is similar to that existing in most other industries, and is concurrent with the deepest and most widespread depression in trade and finance in living memory. The fact that even in this bad year the rest of the world, outside America, will in all probability collectively consume at least the same quantity as in 1920 is very encouraging, and I do not accept the suggestion that the shortage of consumption in America this year will amount to so much as 70,000 tons. Owing to the restriction of output which has taken place, there is good reason to anticipate that the world consumption of crude rubber this year will at least equal the production.

RUBBER CONSUMPTION DEFINED.

In connection with the consumption of rubber, perhaps attention may usefully be drawn to the fact that the term "consumption" may have different meanings. Producers generally refer to it as the rubber sold in any given period to manufacturers or dealers, and which ceases to form part of the "visible" stocks. Other meanings are also given to it. The real consumption, however, is the amount of rubber actually used up by consumers over any given period. If, as many believe, the consumption by actual use of rubber has not been much reduced as a consequence of the trade and finance conditions, then the increase of the "visible" stocks of crude rubber may be partly caused by the depletion to an abnormal extent of manufactured articles, and this may have a rapid effect upon the position of "visible" stocks as soon as prices rise and trade improves. Personally, for what it is worth, I may say, after a careful consideration of all the facts and estimates available to me, that, in my opinion, the surplus stocks of crude rubber as compared with the world's needs are much less than is generally supposed, and that in all probability the stocks of manufactured rubber goods in the hands of manufacturers, distributors and consumers are now comparatively low.

POTENTIAL PRODUCTION AND DEMAND.

Questions are often asked as to the future potential production from existing sources of supply, and as to the future potential world's consumption of crude rubber. As to the future production of plantation rubber, it is sometimes stated that it will shortly amount to 500,000 tons per annum. This estimate, however, refers to production in six years' time, and assumes an average production of 344 lbs per acre from all rubber in bearing, which is greater than the average yet attained. With regard to the world's future potential consumption, I think there is considerable danger of this being underestimated. During the present year the raw rubber content of the goods actually worn out will doubtless be greater than the total amount of raw rubber used by manufacturers. The great development of the use of motor-cars in America and their potential development in other places of the world is a very encouraging factor. I will not trouble you with the figures, but in 1920 the total number of cars registered in America exceeded those registered in 1918 by 50 per cent., and this year it is estimated that no less than 1,500,000 new cars will be built there. During the first eight months Ford's alone turned out 680,000 new cars. Against these figures, however, must be set the natural wastage of American cars, estimated at about 750,000 for this year. The continued growth of the use of the motor lorry in America, in this country, and elsewhere, is also exceedingly promising. In this connection, too, one might mention the new Peachey process for vulcanising rubber at ordinary temperatures with inexpensive and non-corrosive chemicals, which will permit the use of rubber in hundreds of directions not possible until this discovery was made. Another promising feature exists in the development which it taking place of the use of unvulcanised rubber in various forms, which I am told for many purposes will prove cheaper and more effective than vulcanised rubber. The principal adverse factors, in my opinion, do not include over-planting, having regard to the world's needs. The real trouble is the general trade and financial depression affecting the world's purchasing powers. In these days, when the opinion of the wisest of men upon the cause of the depression of trade and finance is of little value, it would be foolish of me to attempt to predict how long these depressed conditions will continue, and, consequently, how long they will affect the rubber market. When trade revives, however, and credit and the circulation of goods become more normal, in my opinion, the excess stocks will be liquidated, and the whole production of the present planted area will find a market at a reasonable profit for average estates.

THE REMEDY.

The shareholders may ask, what is the remedy for the present position? My answer is, restriction or complete cessation of tapping, organised and unorganised, and well-thought-out efforts to increase the demand by new uses or the development of existing uses. In our opinion, it would be a grave error for companies to increase outputs or to postpone restriction, otherwise advisable, because of the recent small rise in the price of rubber and the better tone in the share market. "Safety first" should be the motto for all companies who wish to survive, and until it is fairly clear that the recent renewal of demand will be continuous and increasing, and that prices will be remunerative, producers should continue to adopt a conservative and cautious attitude as to output.

To conclude, it is obvious that, in considering the record, the present position, or the prospects of the trust we cannot ignore its relation to and dependence upon the great industries in which it is directly interested, and also upon the fundamental and world-wide movements of trade and finance. Irrespective of efficiency of management, all our efforts, plans, and forecasts may be affected, disastrously or beneficially, by what may be called the underlying tidal movements of these larger interests. For some time we and our industries have been suffering from an ebb tide in trade and finance, which has brought universal calamity. But the tide must turn. Some most competent observers believe it has already done so. Its progress toward a full tide of prosperity may be long and slow. But as we have suffered in the common adversity, so I think we may reasonably hope to benefit from the general prosperity of the incoming tide. The Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts.

No questions were asked by the shareholders, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

COMPAGNIE ARAMAYO DE MINES EN BOLIVIE.
(ARAMAYO MINES IN BOLIVIA COMPANY.)

MR F. A. ARAMAYO ON COMPANY'S POSITION AND PROSPECTS.

The first ordinary general meeting of the above-named company was held, at 15 Quai de l'Île, Geneva, on October 5, 1921. Mr F. A. Aramayo, chairman of the company, presided. A quorum being present, the Chairman spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen,—It is with great satisfaction that I have the honour

to preside at this general meeting of our company, which takes place for the first time in Geneva.

It is my duty to begin by recording that our company was incorporated on August 3, 1916, with a capital of 50,000f Swiss fully paid, and that on August 4, 1916, by a new general meeting duly convened the agreement entered into between the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie and the Aramayo Francke Mines, Limited, domiciled in London, was approved in accordance with which agreement the latter company ceded to the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie all their assets and liabilities in exchange for 598,000 shares fully paid of Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie.

That in consequence of this transaction the capital of the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie was raised from 50,000f to 15,000,000f by the issue of 598,000 shares of 25f each, to be handed over to the shareholders of the old company in payment of their assets.

That the delivery of such assets was interrupted by circumstances of the war and the opposition of the British Government, and that it is only after protracted claims and negotiations on the part of the board of directors that at the end of December, 1920, the Compagnie Aramayo Mines en Bolivie managed to enter in legal and material possession of the properties of the Aramayo Francke Mines, Limited.

Since the incorporation of the company and until the end of December, 1920, the capital of the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie consisted exclusively of the sum of 50,000f paid up in cash at the time of its formation.

The accounts referring to this portion of the capital of the company, namely, a balance-sheet and a profit and loss account, have been made up to December 23, 1920, and deposited at the seat of the company more than eight days before to-day's meeting.

Presently I will ask the secretary to read the report of Messrs. Tribe, Clarke, Painter, Darton, and Co., chartered accountants, of London, referring to these accounts, which will be the object of your first resolution.

GENERAL ACCOUNTS.

Now, referring to the general accounts, I have the honour to state that every shareholder has received, together with the notice convening the meeting, a balance-sheet showing the state of affairs on January 1, 1921, with the financial result obtained by the Aramayo Francke Mines, Limited, during the year 1920, all the properties of the said company, which is now dissolved, being actually incorporated with those of the Compagnie Aramayo de Mines en Bolivie.

As you will have had occasion to see by the report, the balance-sheet closed on December 31, 1920, which has been sent to us by the local administration in Bolivia, shows as the result of the year a profit of 5,621,366f 70c (£249,838 10s 5d), against 9,480,543f 75c (£421,339 18s 5d), corresponding to 12 months of the previous financial account, which covered 19 months. This result has been modified as shown by the profit and loss account by various other entries, reducing the net profit of the year to 5,275,967.08f (£234,487 8s 6d). The shareholders would have some difficulty in understanding the exact position of affairs if we were to give them to-day a great number of comparative figures as we have been in the habit of doing in the past, and one of the principal reasons is that the variable exchange between Bolivian, English, and Swiss money leads to confusion. Besides, the agenda for the day is a long one, and it is preferable that all details should be left, as they are, at the disposal of any shareholder who may wish to look into them. In order that the balance-sheet may be more easily understood, we must inform the shareholders that the floating accounts, such as stock, credits, and debts, have been calculated at the rate of 22.50f Swiss per pound sterling, which was the current exchange at the end of the financial year, while the fixed assets, such as mines and landed properties, remain at the parity of 25f per £1, as well as the capital of the company, such having been the parity of exchange at the moment of the sale agreement.

It will be sufficient for the present to state that the sale of black tin, wolfram, copper, and bismuth amounted to 10,253,381.43f (£455,705 16s 10d) still left an appreciable profit during the year 1920, the great fall in the price of metals having only been felt during the latter part of the year, but the valuation of stocks at reduced prices to close the accounts has absorbed the greater part of the profit obtained. It is only the sale of mineral, sulphide, and cement of silver amounting to £281,040 1s 4d, added to interest, differences in exchange, and other minor accounts, which have given the result which the balance-sheet shows. It must also be borne in mind that the writing off of the value of stocks which existed in Germany, to which our auditors refer, has absorbed the sum of 1,145,901.65f (£50,928 10s 3d), which they represented in the previous balance-sheet, without counting the corresponding profit, which is also lost for the present.

METAL MARKET POSITION.

It was only during the last quarter of the year that the want of activity of the metal market became apparent, prices gave way, and

a great accumulation of minerals followed. Then we took all the necessary precautions to reduce work in the mines and limit the expenses in order to meet the crisis. But this operation was not realised without serious protest on the part of the working population, a great many of whom are born in our establishments and deeply attached to the mines as their only support. The situation is still unimproved, the price of metals continuing at their lowest, and the cost price remaining high on account of the necessity of keeping up exploration work and supporting our mining population, while the production remains reduced, and it is but prudent to proceed cautiously. Besides, we remain responsible for any claims which may be made in England in respect of the agreement for purchase by this company of August 4, 1916.

In these circumstances, if we add to the net profit of the year 5,275,967.08f (£234,487 8s 3d), the balance of 10,789,962.84f (£479,553 18s 1d) brought down, less dividends paid, amounting to 2,686,905f (£119,418), there remains the sum of 13,379,024.92f (£594,623 6s 7d) as balance of the present account of profit and loss.

Your board proposes that the interim dividends paid by the old company be confirmed, that the sum of 600,000f (£26,666) be passed to statutory reserve in order to complete the 10 per cent. of the capital provided by the articles of association, and to carry over the balance of 12,779,024.92f (£569,117 8s 1d) brought down from the previous year.

QUESTION OF BONUS.

Consequently, gentlemen, if your board of directors does not propose to declare at once a bonus in proportion to the apparent available balance of profit, it is not only on account of the measures of prudence already recommended, but also that we have great development works in hand, such as the Telamayu plant, including an important branch of railway, and, above all, that the capital of the company, as well as most of the balance of profit and loss account, is invested in the great stock of minerals, merchandise, machinery and implements required for the regular working of the business of the company, and that it is more advisable thus to proceed than to recur to the issue of debentures. Under the circumstances we prefer to await the end of the present crisis, and we ask you to leave us the choice of the right moment to renew our interim dividends, which we hope will not be now too long delayed.

I will later on request the secretary to read the auditors' report, which will be the object of your second and third resolutions.

In deference to the wishes of the English shareholders, your board proposes in future to issue a leaflet with the report and accounts, giving the principal items in sterling, so that the figures of the balance-sheet may be compared with past accounts.

PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORK.

Before proceeding to the vote, allow me to give you some information of the general course of our mining affairs. The production of black tin during the year 1920 amounted to 2,011 tons, compared with 2,236 of the year before. The production of wolfram was totally stopped, and that of bismuth reduced by 57 tons. The production of silver in export ores, sulphide and cement amounted to 973,038 ounces, against 701,554 ounces the year before. During the first six months of the present year the output of black tin has been reduced by 52.5 tons compared with the same period of the previous year, and that of bismuth by 25.27 tons, but the production of silver has been increased by 72,860 ounces, or nearly 15 per cent.

Concerning the development of the mines, I have the pleasure to inform you that it has continued satisfactory. During the year 1920 we have run 3,883 metres in preparatory work. During the first six months of the present year we have completed a new gallery 207 metres long at the 150 level of the Chocaya mine. There remains 143 metres more to develop in depth before coming to the level of the Socavon Oploca, which has drained all this mining region, and if the mineral continues as hitherto the life of the mine will be assured for many years. We may reasonably hope for the renewal of good results when the metal market revives, and we shall want it, because salaries, transport, materials, and, above all, taxes, have increased in such proportion that it is impossible to produce at present prices.

The motion for the adoption of the report and accounts was put to the vote, and declared to be unanimously carried, as also the motion for the re-election of the auditors.

CHAMPION REEF GOLD MINING COMPANY OF INDIA, LIMITED RECONSTRUCTION OF CAPITAL.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Champion Reef Gold Mining Company of India, Limited, was held, on the 10th instant, at Cannon street Hotel, London, to consider resolutions for the voluntary winding up of the company with a view to its reconstruction. Sir J. D. Rees, Bart., K.C.I.E., C.V.O., M.P., presided.

The Chairman, in the course of moving the resolutions, said: For 27 years the history of this mine has been one of uninterrupted prosperity. The directors derive some comfort from the fact that the prospects in depth are reported to be encouraging, though we cannot, in the immediate future, provide out of profit for the large expenditure necessary for further developments underground and for other connected expenses.

It is additionally unfortunate that, just at the time when there is great general depression, our returns of gold should have fallen, mainly due to the restriction of the stoping area following upon the heavy rock-bursts at the end of last year, the effects of which are, of course, being particularly felt during the months of this year.

In these circumstances, as soon as we were convinced that we could not carry on without more money, we announced the fact to the shareholders. As regards the board, we wish now, as always, to share and share with our shareholders, and we have decided to reduce the sum of £3,000 hitherto divisible among the directors to £1,500. We also think that another director should be appointed for the further immediate representation of the shareholders. The impression evidently prevails, and even in well-informed quarters, that shareholders are asked under the scheme to provide 6s per share. The fact is that they are asked to put up 1s 6d per each share of 2s 6d, which does amount to 6s in respect of four shares of 2s 6d each or one share of 10s, into which the shares are now to be converted.

It is essential for the future success of the mine that development operations underground should be actively pursued, and considerable work has to be done upon the surface. The present available resources of the company are quite insufficient for these purposes. The company has a dividend-paying record of 26 consecutive years, and we have not raised any capital for 18 years. That is because the mine has been so rich that we have been able to supply what was required for capital purposes and development out of appropriations from the returns from the mine.

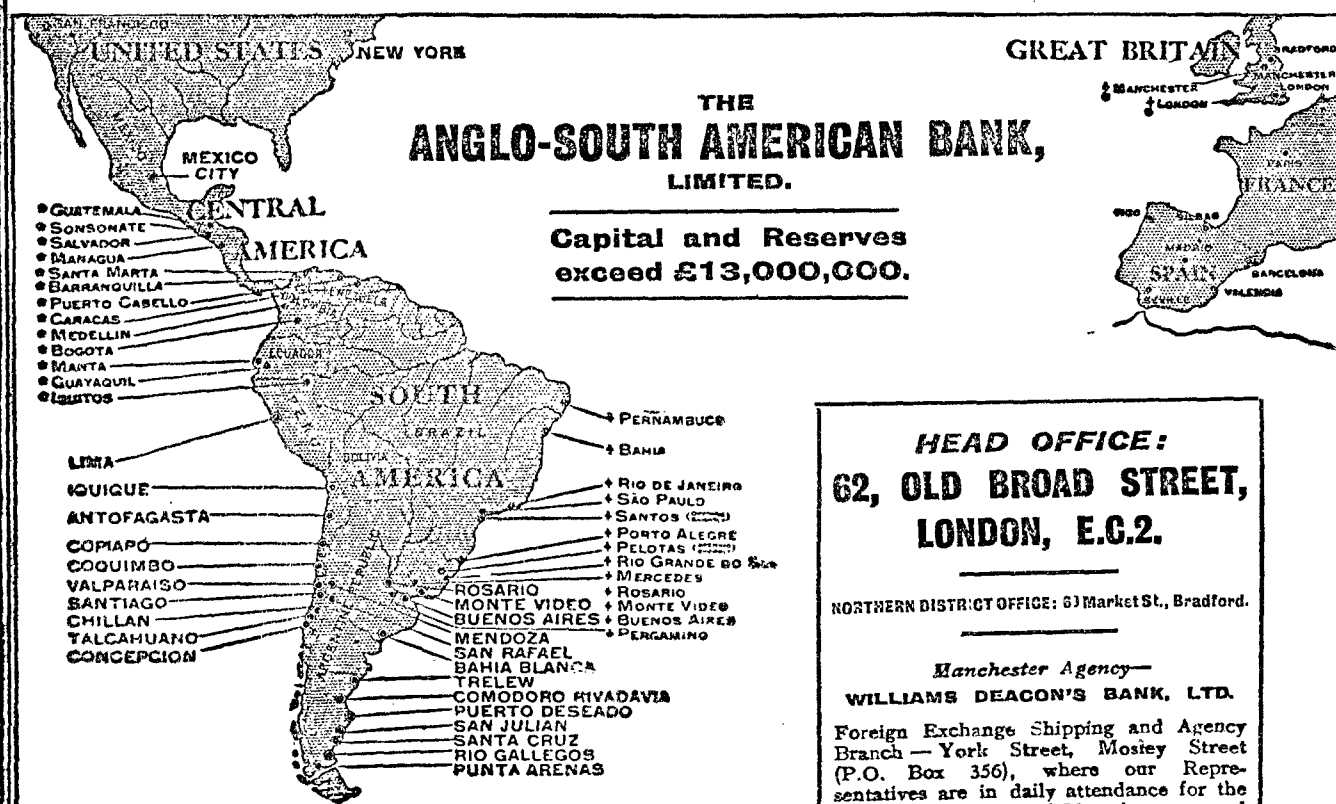
We believe that the fall in the gold returns to be only a temporary phase in the history of the mine, and we look forward with confidence to the results to be attained if the necessary development is provided for. Indeed, the monthly returns have been slowly creeping up since March last.

As to our actual proposals, there are, of course, alternatives to reconstruction. You might raise money by issuing debentures or preference or ordinary shares, but under present financial conditions in the market we could not get the money without such underwriting as would make it a far more expensive proposition than the reconstruction which we recommend for your approval. Then we think you will agree that there is a very considerable advantage in keeping the nominal capital of the company within moderate dimensions. Reconstruction, no doubt, does bring pressure to bear, but the point we have to consider is the general interests of the company as a whole, and that the shareholders as a whole approve of our recommendations is evident from the exceedingly large number of proxies which we have received in favour of the scheme. We propose to revert to the 10s share, which denomination is now usually adopted upon the Mysore field. For every four half-crown shares now held, one 10s share, credited with 4s as paid up, will be allotted to existing shareholders, leaving a liability of 6s upon each 10s share, which is equivalent to an assessment of 1s 6d on each half-crown share now held. Shareholders will also be given an opportunity of applying for allotments of additional shares, which may not be taken up—if there be any such—by those who have a right to take them up. We propose to call up this money by easy instalments—is on application, nothing further until March of next year, when 2s will be due; and then two instalments of 1s 6d each at intervals of three months.

Mr Edgar Taylor seconded the resolutions, and after some discussion they were carried, and the proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and **THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,**
are established.



HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 61 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Oct. 17th-Oct. 22nd, were opened on Oct. 14, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £127,825,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £99 os 2d and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 os 4d about 63.8 per cent. and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 18s 3.13d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Sept. 16 (3 months)	£45,000,000	£71,075,000	4 0 6.33	3½	£98 19s 9d bills about 14½% and above in full.
Sept. 23 (3 months)	£60,000,000	£83,985,000	3 19 11.31	3½	£98 19s 8d (Monday bills and above in full). Tuesday to Saturday bills £98 19s 10d, about 39.4% and above in full.
Sept. 30 (3 months)	£60,000,000	£83,755,000	4 9 2.34	4½	£98 16s 11d (Monday to Friday bills) about 87.2% above in full, Saturday bills £98 17s 3d, and above in full.
Oct. 7 (3 months)	£60,000,000	£134,390,000	4 3 0.81	3½	£98 18s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 63.9% above in full, Saturday bills £98 19s 1d and above in full.
Oct. 14 (3 months)	£60,000,000	£127,825,000	3 18 3.13	3½	£99 os 2d (Monday to Friday bills) and above in full, Saturday bills at £99 os 4d about 63.8% and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from April 1, 1921, to Oct. 8, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from April 1, 1920, to Oct. 9, 1920.	Receipts, Oct. 1, 1921, to Oct. 8, 1921.	Receipts, Oct. 1, 1920, to Oct. 9, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs	126,800,000	66,440,000	71,591,000	3,122,000	3,757,000
Excise	196,200,000	95,297,000	91,130,000	1,872,000	2,284,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	9,000,000	2,617,000	129,000	..	..
Stamp, &c., Duties	48,000,000	23,380,000	24,988,000	990,000	751,000
Stamps	21,000,000	7,536,000	13,636,000	150,000	910,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	420,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	147,297,000	131,771,000	7,240,000	5,416,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	28,644,000	115,137,000	1,580,000	5,737,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	5,940,000	..	350,000	..
Post Office	60,000,000	24,000,000	24,000,000	750,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands	650,000	290,000	280,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans	12,000,000	6,664,826	6,100,515	36,166	..
Miscellaneous	21,500,000	13,840,047	11,937,235	2,200,542	738,827
Ordinary Receipts	158,500,000	52,417,095	155,039,824	200,000	6,107,249
Special Receipts	1,216,650,000	474,782,968	646,000,574	18,619,808	26,701,076
Revenue	..	477,857,474	655,369,671	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion	3,930,000	2,040,000	250,000	350,000	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	320,000	..	170,000	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues: Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 to 1920	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	1,800,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	40,000	..	40,000	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,655,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues: By Treasury Bills for Supply	2,211,463,000	2,059,514,000	94,011,000	105,969,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90	..	101,341	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	258,622	..	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925	..	89,777	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates	..	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	19,980,000	20,400,000	1,000,000	850,000	..
By National War Bonds	..	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—5-15 year, 1925-35	1,024,990	11,314,000	..	170,000	..
5-15 year, 1925-35	56,735,000	..	6,325,000	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	6,990,529	21,237,283	..	1,500,000	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances	711,207,000	721,040,000	44,250,000	81,750,000	..
Repayments—In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919	7,250,000	..	..	..	..
Do issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	35,888	5,524	1,350	543	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	178,666	..	..	..	..
Total	3,506,928,526	3,494,790,218	164,627,158	219,130,619	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from April 1, 1921, to Oct. 8, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from April 1, 1920, to Oct. 9, 1920.	Issues, Oct. 1, 1921, to Oct. 8, 1921.	Issues, Oct. 1, 1920, to Oct. 9, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt	24,500,000	9,622,463	10,287,928	2,135,913	2,315,706
Interest, &c., on War Debt	320,500,000	188,589,857	182,435,599	24,816,462	25,421,666
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,073,000	1,943,116	..	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	3,820,738	3,577,343	273,380	260,380
Land Settlement	5,000,000	1,809,070	3,507,677	79,342	15,428
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	882,799	1,176,850	17,000	234,480
Supply Services	758,932,000	333,540,031	375,202,441	15,025,012	8,211,764
Expenditure	1,130,204,000	540,337,958	578,130,954	42,344,129	36,459,424
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—Bullion	3,800,000	2,250,000	200,000	150,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1921	84,909	84,909	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,805,000	..	..	..	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	65,000	..	25,000	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—Treasury Bills for Supply	2,169,403,000	2,088,431,000	91,872,000	165,875,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	20,297,358	34,132,894	275,117	1,053,038	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	9,150,000	17,550,000	450,000	600,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise	8,500,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—1921-22	17,704,490	2,580,000	17,704,490	..	..
6% 1920	2,580,000	..	..	..	..
5% 1921	17,704,490	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	30,513,659	37,387,877	..	1,500,000	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	671,163,000	714,563,000	10,900,000	13,500,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	15,300,112	13,800,112	1,000,000	500,000	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4)	9,490,000	..	..	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	197,766	..	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—Oct. 8, '21	3,504,234,660	3,491,703,512	164,745,716	219,662,462	..
Oct. 8, '20	2,012,325	2,009,850	23,558	132,541	..
Bank of England	681,541	1,076,856	95,000	399,302	..
Bank of Ireland	..	..	..	..	..
Total	2,693,866	3,086,706	118,558	531,843	..

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, October 10, 1921.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates in Circulation.	Advances to Bankers.	Redemption Account.
1914.			
Aug. 26	21,535	5,302	5,810
Dec. 30	38,478	169	16,500
Dec. 29	103,125	729	28,500
Dec. 27	150,144	2,430	28,500
Dec. 26	212,782	8,554	28,500
Dec. 31	323,241	15,529	28,500
Mar. 26	328,064	14,926	28,500
June 25	342,310	17,143	28,500
Oct. 1	335,021	16,524	28,500
Dec. 31	356,152	17,182	28,500
Mar. 31	335,372	15,569	28,500
June 30	337,576	16,700	28,500
Sept. 29	353,795	16,215	28,500
Dec. 29	367,626	16,912	28,500
Mar. 30	343,826	15,599	28,500
June 29	323,834	14,965	28,500
Sept. 21	314,382	14,830	28,500
Oct. 5	313,347	15,929	28,500
Dec. 12	313,593	13,961	28,500

Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1824.
ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.
Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.
London: 5, Walbrook, E.C.4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, October 12, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£145,045,530	Government debt	£11,015,100
		Other securities	£7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	£126,595,530
	145,045,530		145,045,530

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital	£14,553,000	Government securities	£64,850,907
Rest	£3,116,155	Other securities	£80,371,836
Public deposits	£15,015,758	Notes	£20,431,910
Other deposits	£134,789,538	Gold and silver coin	£1,826,057
Seven-day & other bills	£6,259		
	167,480,710		167,480,710

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Oct. 12, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£3,116,155	+ 31,499	- 12,486
Public deposits	15,015,758	+ 4,250,629	- 3,185,059
Other deposits	134,789,538	+ 7,017,321	+ 10,818,782
Government securities	64,850,907	+ 6,310,000	+ 1,143,016
Other securities	80,371,836	+ 4,576,803	+ 1,304,012
Reserve	22,257,967	+ 1,050,816	+ 7,776,893
Note circulation	124,513,620	+ 1,053,070	+ 2,509,720
Coin and bullion	128,421,587	+ 7,746	+ 5,267,173
% of reserve to liabilities	14½%	+ 3%	+ 4½%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
July 20	128,367,459	127,717,740	166,222,777	164,993,389	19,099,719	14½%	11½
27	128,370,063	128,283,570	121,809,758	121,188,923	18,536,693	15½	5½
Aug. 3	128,382,461	128,699,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14½	11½
10	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	14½	11½
17	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	14½	11½
24	128,402,703	125,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	15½	11½
31	128,409,235	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14½	11½
Sept. 7	128,410,306	126,432,535	156,009,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	15½	11½
14	128,410,714	126,406,495	144,600,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	15½	11½
21	128,417,297	124,006,495	129,163,884	124,810,483	22,460,802	17½	11½
28	128,414,367	124,972,880	117,652,258	114,854,769	21,891,787	18½	11½
Oct. 5	128,413,841	125,666,690	147,038,604	143,489,546	21,197,151	14½	11½
12	128,421,587	124,613,620	149,805,296	145,222,743	22,257,967	14½	11½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Oct. 11, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Oct. 15, 1919.	Oct. 13, 1920.	Oct. 12, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,180,175	£ 28,933,380	£ 62,996,800	£ 83,705,095	£ 124,613,620
Public deposits	6,430,990	19,014,809	34,257,747	2,225,497	15,015,758
Other deposits	45,987,621	41,248,964	134,664,581	99,851,919	134,789,538
Government securities	14,536,034	11,046,570	60,765,054	34,345,213	64,847,300
Other securities	28,296,644	41,461,280	94,180,408	82,662,531	80,171,336
Reserve of notes and coin	27,227,922	25,463,980	28,650,090	22,837,277	22,257,567
Coin and bullion	37,958,103	35,947,360	74,496,890	68,682,372	128,421,587
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	51½%	42½%	17%	18½%	14½%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	5%	5%	5½%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	7½%	7½%	6½%	4½%	4½%
Price of Consols	77 7/8	78 1/8	63 1/4	52 1/2	48 1/2
Price of silver per oz.	24 1/2	26 1/2	72 1/2	65 1/2	52 1/2
Average price of wheat	25-18½-21½	33s. 0d.	72-2s. 6d.	72-1s. 6d.	52s. 12s. 6d.
Exchanges					
{ Paris	12-23 1/4	25-17½-20	26-07-08	36-55-70	52-65-53-15
{ New York	£4-8-1/2	£4-7-9	£4-7-6 1/2	£4-17-18 1/2	£3-84-86
{ Amsterdam	12-23 1/4	12-05-10	11-05-21	11-00-04	11-49-65
{ London	20-5 1/2	20-49 1/2	11-11-25	20-23-25	48-15-51
{ leaving house return	252,376,000	199,913,000	456,425,000	634,861,000	613,132,000

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF LONDON CLEARING BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

Average Weekly Balances, 1921.—September.	Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	Coutts and Co.	Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Willis's Deacon's Bank, Limited.	Total.
ASSETS.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Joint bank and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England.....	8,265	39,290	1,447	2,172	36,167	54,614	31,933	30,814	3,896	4,661	213,259
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom.....	1,855	6,628	344	801	7,772	9,589	7,278	5,872	112	869	41,120
Items in transit.....	7,585	21,776	2,653	6,359	12,710	12,269	17,610	14,311	9,339	3,661	108,273
Money at call and short notice.....	4,621	76,126	2,440	746	96,534	69,045	91,386	49,316	3,315	4,038	397,567
Bills discounted.....	17,360	55,804	4,655	6,603	65,378	52,591	54,022	46,321	13,723	5,575	322,032
Investments.....	39,438	140,736	7,682	6,207	135,274	184,183	121,256	132,399	18,127	19,069	804,371
Advances to customers and other accounts	2,940	5,969	294	826	6,140	15,758	10,920	3,353	536	1,004	47,740
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	1,299	4,488	346	370	5,207	4,488	4,037	3,914	495	653	25,297
Bank premises account.....	..	8,231	..	..	7,642	3,259	2,990	2,240	..	..	24,362
Investments in affiliated banks.....	83,363	359,048	19,861	24,084	372,824	405,796	341,432	288,540	49,543	39,530	1,984,021
LIABILITIES.	10.77	11.93	8.05	10.05	10.56	14.82	10.21	11.54	8.96	13.07	11.75
Capital paid up.....	2,348	15,592	800	1,000	14,372	10,861	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,661
Reserve fund.....	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,861	9,004	8,878	980	1,000	51,673
Current, deposit, and other accounts.....	76,675	329,237	17,968	21,607	342,312	368,316	312,490	267,000	43,454	35,651	1,814,710
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	2,940	5,969	293	826	6,140	15,758	10,919	3,353	536	1,004	47,738
Notes in circulation.....	..	..	..	151	..	..	15	..	3,073	..	3,088
Reduction of bank premises account.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	151
	83,363	359,048	19,861	24,084	372,824	405,796	341,432	288,540	49,543	39,530	1,984,021

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold.....	1,023,699	1,023,704	1,023,704	5	1,312,240
Silver.....	7,200	7,200	7,200	6	321,920
Treasury notes.....	2,850,678	3,128,791	19,949,399	278,113	60,780
Bills discounted.....	90,563,763	99,564,355	48,840,296	9,000,592	93,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	87,461,651	86,384,285	62,078,494	+ 1,077,365	2,013,860
Deposits.....	11,266,875	19,980,295	13,172,487	- 8,713,420	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Aug. 10, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Aug. 20, 1921.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1921.
Total cash.....	1,345,335	1,345,335	1,196,878	- 883	1,221,875
Inland bills.....	2,997,118	3,136,364	2,801,294	- 139,246	418,400
Foreign bills.....	19,525	19,575	20,484	50	81,300
Advances to the Treasury.....	6,362,662	6,362,662	7,774,753	+ 26	nil
Other advances.....	2,443,747	2,477,777	1,394,608	- 28,030	79,175
Securities.....	388,480	391,451	222,495	- 2,971	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation.....	13,870,341	14,005,103	13,805,126	- 134,762	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts.....	1,705,028	1,765,665	1,686,189	- 60,637	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 10, 1921.	Oct. 3, 1921.	Sept. 26, 1921.	Oct. 11, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold.....	605,969	605,969	605,969	636,348	163,092	163,092
Silver.....	9,252	9,538	10,327	18,269	8,436	8,436
Depts. & advances.....	453,164	459,721	408,501	481,074	153,504	153,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	1,030,513	1,040,476	996,095	1,061,807	9,963	316,632
Deposits.....	39,230	39,635	32,857	83,984	405	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROUMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 24, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 25, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold.....	4,159,722	4,159,772	2,600,222	55
Silver.....	385	330	315	+
Discounts.....	356,955	356,384	22,386	571
Government loan.....	10,707,470	10,699,438	6,207,199	8,032
Other advances.....	2,459,110	2,466,070	2,457,715	6,960
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	12,249,504	12,232,842	7,670,357	+ 16,662
Deposits.....	7,233,958	6,232,585	4,056,909	+ 1,001,373

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold.....	544,785	544,744	544,690	540,554	41	171,175
Silver.....	124,025	124,025	110,495	100,248	17,175	18,350
Darlehens-Kassen.....	15,694	15,338	15,020	22,159	356	..
Assets & advances.....	348,687	353,395	355,211	397,446	4,708	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	946,950	970,883	903,303	969,068	23,933	275,925
Deposits.....	105,132	92,452	129,556	116,793	+ 10,680	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to September 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,595,000, of which Fr. 15,388,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 27, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Oct. 2, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1921.
Gold.....	276,012	275,937	280,176	75	4,239	104,918
Balance abn. and foreign bills.....	117,473	110,552	87,044	- 6,921	+ 23,508	112,173
Swedish and for Gov. securities.....	20,276	20,661	45,351	+ 385	- 24,690	32,465
Discount and loans.....	401,260	436,150	670,661	+ 34,890	- 24,511	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	598,497	689,780	787,599	+ 91,283	- 97,819	226,555
Deposits at notice.....	146,435	110,628	205,357	- 36,408	- 95,329	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Sept. 29, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Move-ment.	Position May 28, 1921.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion).....	327,041	326,708	325,355	358,324	+ 333	332,650
Securities.....	423,097	467,973	497,236	564,046	+ 44,876	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	6,232,898	6,212,237	6,132,502	5,743,863	+ 20,661	934,150
Current accounts.....	767,804	821,237	932,588	1,386,552	- 53,433	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills and drafts.....	9,373	11,833	7,265	2,460
Loans.....	1,696,408	1,127,477	932,222	+ 568,931
Notes in circulation.....	64,179,432	61,322,646	59,344,905	+ 2,856,786
Deposits.....	6,142,471	6,342,043	7,614,899	- 199,572

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills and drafts.....	4,940	4,736	4,426	+ 204
Loans.....	20,993,903	19,890,350	19,068,897	+ 1,103,553
Notes in circulation.....	1,194,091	1,196,530	1,197,179	+ 2,439
Deposits.....	1,407,530	1,403,640	1,477,311	+ 3,890
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	20,844,750	19,561,539	18,754,320	+ 1,283,431
Deposits.....	2,407,253	2,488,854	2,614,748	- 81,601
Other liabilities.....	349,405	446,553	380,010	- 97,148

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Coin and bullion—Gold.....	147,293	147,293	147,352	..	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills.....	30,794	32,226	49,209	- 1,432	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities.....	8,545	8,545	10,499	..	8,816
Discounts and loans.....	425,977	409,793	466,778	+ 16,184	78,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	415,885	402,443	478,097	+ 13,442	113,484
Deposits at notice.....	84,579	82,074	110,936	+ 2,505	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 50 million crowns from July 25, 1921, until further order.

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Joint and bullion.....	227,564	227,564	227,840	276	76,644
Loans and discounts.....	306,152	326,726	361,559	- 20,574	88,470
Depts. abroad.....	18,741	10,209	36,809	+ 8,532	24,102
Securities.....	50,160	50,553	51,543	393	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	481,581	496,213	541,192	+ 14,632	157,266
Deposits.....	75,256	67,910	45,752	+ 7,546	6,696

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 16, 1921.	Sept. 9, 1921.	Sept. 2, 1921.	Aug. 26, 1921.	Aug. 19, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Govt. securities.....	14,01,84	13,84,84	14,19,27	13,44,24	13,58,76	+ 17,00
Other securities.....	1,35,51	1,38,62	1,35,25	1,35,51	1,35,51	..
Loans.....	20,52,64	15,51,35	11,43,68	12,25,82	12,65,62	+ 5,01,29
Cash credits.....	22,55,08	22,41,21	22,25,01	22,20,81	22,38,57	+ 13,87
Foreign bills.....	7,70,72	7,95,64	8,62,17	8,47,69	8,74,12	+ 24,35
Indian bills.....	1,66	84	56	39	57	+ 82
Bullion.....	20	3	7	7	8	+ 17
Dead stock.....	2,11,79	2,11,60	2,11,31	2,11,55	2,11,42	+ 19
Sundries.....	28,96	28,91	29,07	21,77	25,67	+ 5
With other banks.....	17,60	16,89	16,75	17,25	17,92	+ 71
Cash.....	28,90,60	30,30,33	32,50,66	33,05,94	31,41,13	- 1,39,73
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital.....	11,05,48	11,05,48	11,04,80	11,04,80	11,04,72	..
Capital paid up.....	5,57,62	5,57,62	5,57,45	5,57,45	5,57,43	..
Reserve.....	3,83,56	3,83,56	3,83,55	3,83,55	3,83,53	..
Public deposits.....	9,00,66	9,09,41	9,36,25	11,82,01	12,51,95	+ 1,75
Other deposits.....	77,88,57	74,20,42	72,81,65	70,81,47	69,50,89	+ 3,68,15
Loans against secs.....	75,68	77,37	77,66	77,37	78,25	+ 1,69
Sundries.....	60,51	58,92	57,23	49,39	47,32	+ 1,59

The above includes—	1921.	1921.	1921.	1921.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposits in London	29,000	25,500	26,600	25,700	31,800
Advances in London	575,300	576,500	575,800	576,100	579,200
Cash, &c., at other banks in London	117,058	113,418	105,513	109,307	113,751

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate	Changed.	Bank Rate	Changed.
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915 .. 4 1/2	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920 .. 6
Antwerp	May 15, 1920 .. 6 1/2	Paris	July 28, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Brussels	Dec. 23, 1914 .. 5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921 .. 5 1/2
Bucharest	May 19, 1921 .. 5	Rome	May 11, 1920 .. 6 1/2
Calcutta	Sept. 4, 1920 .. 5	S. Africa	June 14, 1919 .. 6 1/2
Christiana	June 2, 1921 .. 5	Stockholm	July 5, 1921 .. 6
Copenhagen	July 5, 1921 .. 5 1/2	Swiss Bank	Aug. 11, 1921 .. 4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920 .. 6	Tokyo	Nov. 18, 1919 .. 8
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920 .. 7	Vienna	Apr. 5, 1921 .. 6
New York Federal Reserve ..	Sept. 21, 1921 .. 5	Warsaw	Sept., 1921 .. 7

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Sept. 15, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.
Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral) ..	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Ineligible, 30 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 14, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.
London—					
60 days		3.4425	3.6712	3.73	3.81
Cable		3.4812	3.7237	3.7787	3.8550
Cheques		3.4737	3.7162	3.7737	3.85
Paris		15.22	7.1250	7.23	7.2150
Brussels		19.30	* 14.40	7.03	7.18
Switzerland		19.30	* 6.27	17.31	17.75
Italy		19.30	* 125.0	4.0350	3.8550
Berlin		23.83	1.45	0.8275	0.82
Vienna		20.26	0.36	0.60	0.550
Madrid		19.30	14.42	13.04	13.34
Amsterdam		40.195	31.00	31.85	33.40
Copenhagen			13.75	17.78	18.75
Stockholm			13.65	12.30	12.15
Athens			19.65	22.19	22.74
Montreal			9.50	4.85	4.40
Yokohama			90.250	91.25	91.00
Hong Kong			49.85	50.90	47.50
Shanghai			71.25	56.25	58.50
Calcutta			95.00	80.00	81.00
Buenos Aires			29.00	27.375	8.25
Rio de Janeiro			103.65	121.00	139.00
Valparaiso			32.42	17.00	12.80
			20.60	17.00	10.75

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 14, 1920.	Rate, Sept. 23, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.
Amsterdam		59.26	4.70	2.55 1/2	2.53 1/2
Switzerland		123.45	9.25	4.73	4.64
Copenhagen			10.50	4.58	4.36
Stockholm			7.45	3.66	3.62
Christiania			10.65	6.60	6.80

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10.15	Sight London	Oct. 1 14.50
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25.25	"	Oct. 11 23.75
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	48.41	"	Oct. 10 89.00
Nicaragua	Corobas to £1	49.31d	"	Oct. 10 3.60
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24.65d	"	Oct. 12 8.00
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2.66d	"	Oct. 8 196.73
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10.45	"	Aug. 13 16.25
Bolivia	pence to Boliviano ..	"	"	Sept. 2 14 1/2

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
London (cheque)	£1	1.450	1.465	1.465
Paris	100 Fr	2.700	2.750	2.800
New York	\$1	380	390	390
Stockholm	100 Kr	8,450	8,550	8,700
Copenhagen	100 Kr	6,700	6,800	6,900
Berlin	100 Rmk	370	375	365
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	580	610	575
Riga	100 Lrbl	95	105	105
Amsterdam	100 H.fl.	12,000	12,150	12,300

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
	London on South Africa.	South Africa on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.
Demand	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.
30 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.
60 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.
90 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.
120 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 % prem.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	101	101
Sight	101	101
Cable	101	101
On demand	101	101
30 days	101	101
60 days	101	101
90 days	101	101
120 days	101	101
5 months' sight ..	101	101
6 months' sight ..	101	101

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended October 12, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £7,746, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

	Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
	Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
	Week Ended Oct. 12, 1921.	Week Ended Oct. 12, 1921.
Belgian Congo	£6,309	£5,800
Argentina	2,322	1,214,379
British West Africa	42,601	272,500
British South Africa	758,144	
British India	77,379	
Total values of import of gold	926,755	1,492,679

GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

Statement showing the form in which the balance of the reserve was held on September 30, 1921:—

In India	Nil
In England—	£
Cash at the Bank of England	4,013
British Government securities—	
Value as on September 30, 1921	40,322,868
	40,326,881

R. G. JAQUET, Accountant-General.

India Office, October 11, 1921.

Messrs Samuel Montague and Co. write on October 13th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,595,530, as compared with £126,595,285 last week. Of the considerable amount of gold which came on offer (including part of last week's double shipment), only a small proportion was acquired for India. The remainder was taken for the United States. The arrival of gold to the value of \$8,029,000 is reported from New York, \$5,000,000 from France, \$1,144,000 from India, \$800,000 from Egypt, \$985,000 from London, and \$100,000 from Holland. The following are the figures relative to the United Kingdom imports and exports of gold during the month of September, 1921:—Imports, £4,038,107; exports, £5,490,466.

SILVER.

The market has not been active during the week, partly owing to the incidence of holidays in India, China, and the United States. The principal buying came from China, where the stocks, though ample for legitimate trade, have not sufficed to provide for the sudden calls which may be made on account of the large speculative commitments that are made from time to time. All the operations on China account have not been to buy—there have also been sales. India, too, has transacted business both ways. The Continent has been a good seller. The sudden depreciation of the American dollar was not accompanied by important sales of silver from that country, as might have been expected. A strong bullish feeling exists in the States as to the prospects of the market. The following figures indicate the quantity of United Kingdom

silver coin shipped to West Africa which may be available for reduction in quality from .925 to .500 fine:—Total amount of Imperial silver coin issued to West Africa from 1872 to 1919, according to last report of Royal Mint, £8,320,405; repatriated coin, £162,791; net issue, £8,157,614. Imperial silver coin repatriated by the West African Currency Board since 1913 up to the present time, approximately £1,500,000; balance, £6,657,614. This sterling amount, if repatriated, could be converted into .500 fine coinage with a surplus of 10,289,000 fine ounces. We are informed from New York that purchases by the U.S. Treasury Department under the Pittman Act up to September 29th total 73,475,866 fine ounces. The production of Mexico now appears to be on a firm basis. That for the current year may prove to rival that of 1911-12, which was returned as 80,175,250 ounces. The full effect of the improving production has not been felt because of the large amount of new coins which had to be minted when the redundant paper currency ceased to possess legal tender. We understand that so many silver pieces have been put into circulation that the Mint is refraining from fresh coinage. The stock in Shanghai on the 8th inst. consisted of about 25,000,000 ounces in sycee, 24,000,000 dollars, and 1,690 silver bars, as compared with about 25,000,000 ounces in sycee, 24,500,000 dollars, and 2,340 silver bars on the 3rd inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 4s 1d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

	Gold.	Silver.		Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.
1921.				
Oct. 8 ..	108 8	42 1/2	42 1/2	Oct. 20, 1915 23 1/2
10 ..	107 5	42 1/2	42 1/2	20, 1916 32 1/2
11 ..	106 8	42 1/2	42 1/2	19, 1917 42 1/2
12 ..	Holiday	42 1/2	42 1/2	19, 1918 48 1/2
13 ..	107 2	42 1/2	42 1/2	17, 1919 63 1/2
14 ..	106 5	42 1/2	42 1/2	15, 1920 53 1/2

NOTICES.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce the opening of a sub-branch on Tuesday, October 18th, at Cattle Market, Chester, under the management of Mr W. G. David.

On and after October 17, 1921, the address of the Sumitomo Bank, Limited, will be 67 Bishopsgate, E.C. 2.

Reports and Notices.

Mr B. J. Redman has resigned his position as director and chairman of the Rock Investment Company, Limited.

Sir Vesey Holt, who is now chairman of the Anglo-American Debenture Corporation, Limited, has been elected chairman of the Railway Debenture and General Trust and the Railway Share Trust and Agency Company, and Mr R. S. Guinness will act as deputy chairman of the three companies. Sir Reginald MacLeod, K.C.B., Mr L. E. Chalmers, and Mr T. G. Scott have joined the board of the Anglo-American Debenture Corporation, and Mr Alfred Shepherd and Mr Owen H. Smith have been elected directors of the Railway Debenture and General Trust and the Railway Share Trust and Agency Companies. Mr A. H. Wynn has been appointed manager and Mr A. Waller Hall and Mr T. Morris joint secretaries of the three companies. The offices of the Anglo-American Debenture Corporation will be transferred from 20 Birch Lane, E.C., to 3 Bank buildings, Lothbury, E.C.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT OF VENEZUELA, 1905.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4 1/2d, being the moiety of the fifth fortnightly instalment of the Debt Service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

BANKS.

ALLIANCE BANK OF SIMLA.—The profit and loss account for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows gross profit for the year, after making full provision for bad and doubtful debts, writing down investments and allowing for rebate on current bills, of Rs.47,94,394; expenses of management at head office and branches absorbed Rs. 35,58,902, the balance being net profit for the year, of Rs.12,35,492. The dividend and bonus on the ordinary shares is 17 per cent., free of tax, for the year. Transfer to reserve against depreciation of Government paper and other investments amounted to Rs.2,00,000 and transfer to staff pension fund to Rs.1,00,000, leaving balance to be carried forward Rs.3,31,154. The authorized capital of the bank is Rs.3,00,00,000. Issued and fully paid, Rs.88,87,500. Reserve fund, Rs.42,00,000. Reserve against depreciation of Government paper and other investments, Rs.11,00,000.

ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.—At the meeting of the shareholders of the bank, to be held on the 25th inst., the directors will submit the accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, showing a profit, including £393,116 9s 7d brought forward, of £1,136,291 3s 3d. They will recommend that £275,102 2s be applied to the payment of a final dividend of 9s per share, less tax, payable on the 31st inst., making a total distribution for the year of 15 per cent.; that £150,000 be added to the reserve fund, making the total amount thereof £4,000,000; that £50,000 be applied in reduction of bank premises account; that £25,000 be added to the staff pension and guarantee fund; that £50,000 be applied in payment of a bonus to the staff, and that the balance of £402,785 7s 4d be carried forward. The transfer books of the company will be closed from the 15th to the 29th inst. inclusive.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.—The first interim dividend for the year ending December 31, 1921, will be paid on and after October 10, 1921, of 6 per cent.—i.e., 5.40 escudos per share of 90 escudos. Coupon No. 19 of bearer shares must be lodged at the London office of the Banco Nacional Ultramarino, 278 Throgmorton street, between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Saturdays excepted), three clear days for examination prior to payment, and will be paid at the current rate of exchange of the day, less income-tax at 6s in the £.

SINO-SCANDINAVIAN BANK.—According to advices received from Peking, the Chinese Government has granted a special charter for the Sino-Scandinavian Bank, with a nominal capital of \$10,000,000 and a minimum paid-up capital of \$2,500,000. The bank has the right to issue paper currency. Mr Chang Tien-tao, former Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, has been elected president, and Mr Harold Skappel (Norwegian) vice-president. It is expected that the bank will be soon open for business in Peking, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

INSURANCE.

GENERAL REINSURANCE.—We are officially informed by the General Reinsurance Company, Limited, that the two calls of 5s per share, payable on the 15th inst. and on January 15th next respectively, not being required, have been cancelled, and a circular to this effect is being issued to the shareholders. The directors announce that an agreement has been concluded with "Tariff Reinsurances, Limited," with a view to a material reduction in the working expenses. Henceforth the offices and staff of "Tariff Reinsurances, Limited," will be shared by this company, and the management of the business, other than marine, will be transferred to them. The arrangement provides for effective direction by the board of all matters pertaining to the company, and in addition to the economy effected a considerable extension of business is anticipated.

MISCELLANEOUS.

AFRICAN CITY PROPERTIES TRUST, LIMITED.—The directors have declared an interim dividend of 6d per share on the ordinary shares for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, payable, less income-tax, at the rate of 4s 3d in the £, on November 1st next. The transfer books will be closed from Tuesday, October 18th, to Tuesday, November 1st, both days inclusive.

ALBY UNITED CARBIDE.—We have received a communication from the company with reference to a statement from Norway which has appeared in the press relative to negotiations for a certain scheme of reconstruction of the Alby United Carbide Factories, Limited. They desire to point out that preliminary arrangements have now been arrived at for the transfer of the Odda assets to the English Syndicate, who have purchased the control of the Tyssefaldene Power Company, and had, originally, made proposals for the reconstruction referred to. As soon as these preliminary arrangements are completed it is the intention of the directors to call the shareholders together and to submit the proposals to them for their consideration and approval.

GRAMOPHONE COMPANY.—The report and accounts for year ended June 30, 1921, show that the result of the trading is a credit balance of £26,191, to which add War contingency fund, £46,048; reserve fund for equalisation of dividends, £50,000; and balance from last account, £152,564. From which the following must be deducted—Debt interest, £15,000; debenture sinking fund instal-

THE
NATIONAL BANK
OF SOUTH AFRICA
REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL LTD.
CAPITAL and RESERVE £4,265,000.

THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY
CABLED REPORT ON TRADE
CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA.
COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED
ON APPLICATION.

The Bank has Branches and Sub Branches in the principal Towns in the Union of South Africa, South West Pr. Protectorate, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Portuguese East Africa, Kenya Colony and Tanganyika Territory.

LONDON OFFICES:
CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON WALL, E.C.2.
18 ST. SWITHIN'S LANE, E.C.4.
WEST END OFFICE:
25 COCKSPUR STREET, S.W.1.
ALSO AT

NEW YORK . ANTWERP . BOMBAY & MAURITIUS.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Amount.					Rate.
Banks.		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	..	£	%
Northern Banking	Aug. 31	47,105	134,099	181,204	..	64,318	{ 17 1/2 A 8 1/2 B }	29,429	87,457	146,764	{ 17 1/2 A 8 1/2 B }
Financial, Land. Caledonian Property Investment ..	July 31	..	1,854	1,854	..	844	3	1,010	..	1,028	2 1/2
Motor and Cycle. Enfield Cycle	Aug. 31	45,604	66,155	111,759	1,225	30,000	{Ord.&B Pf. 15 1/2 }	37,704	42,830	53,447	{Ord. Pf. 1 }
Rubber, &c. Beaufort Borneo	April 30	2,636	1,209	3,845	..	..	..	3,384	461	9,916	7 1/8
Hong Kong (Selangor)	Dec. 31	1,515	Dr 4,644	Dr 3,129	..	..	..	..	Dr 3,129	1,834	..
Kuala Pergau	Feb. 28	2,826	Dr 4,929	Dr 2,103	..	..	..	..	Dr 2,103	19,658	15 1/2
Martapoera	Mar. 31	975	Dr 1,456	Dr 481	..	..	..	..	Dr 481	2,186	5 1/2
Victoria (Malaya)	June 30	14,293	1,914	16,207	..	..	..	..	16,207	21,888	25 1/2
Waterfall (Selangor)	Mar. 31	..	Dr16,102	Dr16,102	..	..	..	..	Dr16,102	..	..
Shipping. West Hartlepool Steam Navigation..	Mar. 31	16,544	52,283	68,827	11,000	31,500	15 1/2	10,000	16,327	170,147	15 1/2
Tea. Kurugama	June 30	3,045	5,759	8,804	..	4,800	12	2,000	2,004	..	..
New Dimbula Co.	June 30	9,118	22,031	31,149	..	19,739	25	..	11,410	26,458	25 1/2
Trusts. Rubber Securities	June 30	6,861	Dr 3,373	3,488	..	..	..	..	3,488	4,588	5 1/2
Other Companies. Elder Smith and Co.	June 30	167,906	104,561	272,467	..	109,650	12 1/2	10,000	152,817	143,975	12 1/2
Gramophone Co.	June 30	40,064	Dr 2,659	37,405	5,000	45,000	6	Dr 96,048	83,453	11,662	15 1/2
Harrisons and Crosfield	June 30	37,874	164,466	202,340	37,800	120,015	..	..	44,525	249,204	..

† Free of tax.

ment, £7,800; directors' remuneration and tax, £5,978; dividend on preference shares for the year ended June 30, 1921, £5,000; dividend of 10 per cent. and bonus of 5 per cent. on ordinary shares for the year ended June 30, 1920, £112,500; leaving a balance of unappropriated profits of £128,453. The paid-up capital now stands at £1,190,000, as compared with £850,000 last year, £340,000 having been received in respect of the "B" ordinary shares. In addition, £85,000 has been received on account of the premium payable on such "B" ordinary shares. The amounts standing at the credit of War contingency fund and reserve fund for equalisation of dividends in the last account have been transferred to the credit of the profit and loss account, showing unappropriated profits of £128,453 as at Dec. 31. The directors recommend that out of such unappropriated profits there be paid a dividend of 6 per cent. on the 750,000 ordinary shares, less income-tax. The total assets of the company, as shown by the balance-sheet (irrespective of patents, trade marks, and goodwill), and of the foreign branches and factories at June 30, 1921, amounted to £1,948,989. Deduct—Liabilities and debenture stock, £453,496; leaving net tangible assets of £1,495,493. Depreciation at adequate rates has been written off buildings, machinery, plant, office furniture, and fittings. The whole of the stock has been written down to market values at the date of the balance-sheet.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Mill.	Cyanide Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Abbotiakoona	6,850	..	..	..	(a) 13,395	..
Abosso	6,397	..	..	..	(b) 14,020	1,757
Associated N. Blocks—						
Iron Duke	219	..	..	..	1,363	15
Victorious	1,918	..	..	..	3,797	281
Associated W.A.	5,789	..	..	..	(a) 7,512	..
Balaghat	3,206	5,000	1,854	709	2,563	..
Champion Reef	11,650	17,043	4,142	706	4,848	..
Cons. of New Zealand—						
Blackwater	3,159	..	..	..	6,372	1,521
El Oro	34,250	..	..	..	\$201,000	\$27,500
Globe and Phoenix ..	6,013	..	..	..	(d) 10,135	..
Golden Horseshoe ..	10,128	..	..	..	(a) 22,925	575
Ivanhoe	14,804	..	..	..	6,041	..
Lonely Reef	4,950	..	..	..	4,418	(e) 11,102
Mysore	17,417	40,553	6,748	3,783	10,531	..
New Chuquibambilla ..	1,600	..	..	..	..	(b) 800
North Anantapur	700	700	782	116	898	..
Nunddydroog	8,771	16,255	4,673	645	5,318	..
Oregun	12,900	13,520	7,396	1,088	8,484	..
Oriental Consolidated ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oroville Dredging	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nechi (22 days to Oct. 1st)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pato (12 days to Oct. 3rd)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oroya Links	1,541	..	..	..	(a) 7,618	..
Plymouth Cons.	8,500	..	..	..	10,082	..
Prestea Block A	8,122	..	..	..	(a) 14,594	6,708
Rezende	5,700	517	..	..	2,607	(a) 11,264
South Kalguril	7,610	..	..	..	(a) 13,522	1,040
Tagash	3,300	..	..	..	(a) 8,377	2,947
Tomboy	18,000	..	..	..	..	..
Transvaal & Rhodesian ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fred	1,620	..	..	..	(a) 4,981	..
Vaihi	14,236	..	3,540 (gold)	35,141 (silver)	..	..

(a) Par value. (b) Including premium.

* Loss. (d) Gold at 84s per oz. (e) Gold at 107s net. (f) Gold at 108s per fine oz.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Copper.	Tons.	
Pilbara	75	Averaging 25% copper.
Tanganyika	2,783	..
Tin.		
Berenguela	32	Black tin, average 63% fine tin.
Bisichi	40	..
Chenderiang	75	Quarter ended Sept. 30th.
Deebok Dredging	30	..
Ipos	18	..
Jos	61	..
Kamunting	74	Quarter ended September 30th.
Kramat Pulai	..	Mine profit, including tribute, £993.
Naraguta Ext.	..	Despatched 13 tons.
Nigeria Cons.	73	..
Pahang Consolidated ..	203	Black tin; alluvial, 17 1/2 tons.
Renong	901	..
Rukuba	5	Despatched 5 tons.
Tongkah Harbour	84	..
Yarde-Kerri	7	..
Coal.		
Chinese Engineering	65,056	Week ended Oct. 1st.
East Kent	2,709	Week ended Oct. 8th.
Middleburg Stearns	25,361	..
Vereniging Estates	51,747	Brickworks, £5,207.
Miscellaneous.		
Broken Hill South	2,949	Concentrates, ass. 56% lead and 28 ozs silver.
Burma Ruby	..	Rubies valued at Rs. 86,000; royalties, Rs. 11,000; sluices, Rs. 20,000.
Keeley Silver	1,200	100,050 ozs silver.
North Broken Hill	1,369	Lead concentrates, av. 66% lead, 29 ozs silver. Zinc concentrates, av. 47% zinc.

SULPHIDE CORPORATION.—Four weeks ended September 24th:—"9,189 tons of ore and 1,861 tons of slimes were milled at the Central mine, producing 1,922 tons of lead concentrates (including 225 tons from the de-leaching plant), which assayed 44 ozs silver, 62 per cent. lead, together with 3,230 tons zinc concentrates, assaying 11 ozs silver, 6 per cent. lead, 47 per cent. zinc per ton. At Cockle Creek 3,505 tons of lead concentrates and purchased ore were smelted, producing 1,875 tons lead bullion for treatment in the refinery. The refinery products were 1,415 tons soft lead, 121,350 ozs silver, and 94 tons antimonial lead."

BURMA CORP.—Burmese—Bawdwin Mines—Lead production for the month of Sept. 3,876 tons gross. Refined lead production, 2,534 tons. Refined silver production approximately, 234,102 ozs. Base bullion produced, but not refined, during month, 430 tons, containing approximately 41,000 ozs silver.

THE BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY COMPANY.—Report for four weeks ending Aug. 17, 1921: Coke ovens: The average number of ovens in operation throughout was 151, and the production for the period was—Coke, 19,657 tons; tar, 221,746 gals.; sulphate of ammonia, 344 tons. Blast furnace department: Nos. 1 and 2 furnaces produced 9,835 tons and 14,036 tons of pig iron respectively. No. 2 furnace—a new weekly record of 3,715 tons attained. Open hearth plant: Production, although curtailed by lack of adequate hot metal, totalled 23,322 tons. Blooming orders. Merchant mills: The production was 18 in-mill, 6,873 tons; 12 in-mill, 2,280 tons; 8 in-mill, 1,478 tons. Shortage of steel at the 18 in-mill prejudicially affected its output. Rod mill: Production amounted to 2,158 tons. Steel and direct metal foundries: The output totalled 404 tons and 558 tons respectively of castings. Iron Knob: The tonnage of iron ore shipped to Newcastle amounted to 44,132 tons. Melrose Quarry: Shipments of limestone amounted to 7,762 tons. Tare: 959 tons of limestone were shipped to Newcastle.

The "ALL-IN" POLICY

affords the Householder the most complete cover yet devised.

The method of covering household risks by a diversity of Insurance is wasteful, to say the least. By covering all your household risks by the "All-in" Policy, you are economising in the true sense of the word—£1 per annum (Minimum Premium, 7/6) will cover practically every serious risk in respect to the contents of your home. List of risks and full particulars post free. Address:—"All-in" Policy Ltd.

EAGLE, STAR AND BRITISH DOMINIONS INSURANCE CO., LTD.

41 THREADNEEDLE ST., LONDON, E.C.2.

ASS' TS EXCEED £19,000,000.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

			Week's Rec'pts, 1921.	Aggregate Rec'pts, 1921.
			£	£
Metropolitan District	40 weeks Oct. 8	250,509	..	9,553,774
London Electric	..	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams	40 weeks Oct. 8	58,929	..	2,231,867
London United Trams	..	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Trams	..	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..	..
Gearless Motor	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	23weeks	Sept.10	993	Rs. 1,89,722	Rs. 40,349	Rs. 29,73,203	Rs. 17,14,916
Barsi Lt. Ry.	24weeks	17	118	12,400	900	5,84,600	1,60,500
Bengal & N. Western	23weeks	10	2,067	5,30,880	1,52,860	1,33,95,385	19,81,514
Bengal Nagpur	23weeks	10	2,697	10,54,000	1,51,000	2,73,42,139	8,59,139
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	1week	Oct. 8	2,871	19,66,000	2,24,000	22,50,000	2,41,000
Burma	23weeks	Sept.10	1,342	5,75,886	93,260	1,31,05,020	9,69,007
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka ..	8 days	Oct. 8	239	1,54,858	22,377	26,02,883	1,50,900
East Indian	26weeks	Sept.30	2,772	34,85,000	47,000		
G. Indian Peninsula	27weeks	Oct. 8	3,121	21,44,700	52,290	6,57,64,653	22,05,113
Madras & S. Mah.	24weeks	Sept.17	5,028	11,35,000	88,911	3,12,09,156	5,52,104
Robt'k'd & Kumaon	23weeks	10	259	43,013	3,977	14,89,354	1,49,136
Do Lucknow-Breilly	23weeks	10	302	57,409	17,983	17,05,824	3,02,909
South Indian	23weeks	10	1,852	8,91,207	30,641	1,94,33,020	1,45,753
Shim. Punjab (month)	3 mths	June 30	717	7,93,188	904	25,08,100	33,839
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	14weeks	Oct. 8	752	11,500	600	171,800	11,800
Argentine Trans.	14weeks	8	111	2,090	886	22,965	3,748
B. A. and Pacific	14weeks	8	3,428	111,000	6,000	1,771,000	127,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	14weeks	8	3,891	125,000	24,000	2,126,000	34,000
B. A. Western	14weeks	8	1,882	53,000	18,000	1,145,000	81,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	2 mths	Aug. 31	190	Net Dr. 11,000	11,000	167,000	33,000
Central Argentine	14weeks	Oct. 8	3,305	147,000	53,000	2,557,000	358,000
Cordoba Central	14weeks	8	1,205	46,500	10,500	374,700	39,200
Entre Rios	14weeks	8	811	17,100	5,300	279,800	39,200
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	8 mths	Aug. 31	..	Ms 56,250	+ 15,250	384,150	+ 11,200
Gt. West. of Brazil	40weeks	Oct. 8	1,005	16,500	3,600	523,900	329,700
Leopoldina	40weeks	8	1,831	37,269	8,990	1,349,126	757,400
San Paulo	40weeks	8	1,553	32,379	15,223	1,230,641	643,461
State of Bahia, S.W.	9 mths	Sept. 30	52	Ms 86,000	68,000	655,000	255,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	40weeks	Oct. 9	838	13,355	38,490	853,320	1,016,865
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	+ 500		
Nitrate (2 weeks)	38weeks	Sept. 30	366	8,224	30,877		362,656
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	51,538.630	+ 147,980	14,428,740	56,793
Talca	3 mths	Sept. 30	180	(b) 9,375	18,488	278,111	59,038
Cuban.							
Havana Central	14weeks	Oct. 8	1,210	9,761	3,945	149,179	38,995
United of Havana	14weeks	8	1,210	48,682	45,567	787,979	697,522
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	14weeks	8	273	22,461	+ 4,163	310,774	+ 37,360
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	14weeks	8	311	3,873	509	58,463	10,118
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	14weeks	8	185	2,605	314	35,118	5,936
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	14weeks	8	211	1,947	575	27,852	6,363
Midland Uruguay	3 mths	Sept. 30	319	13,404	3,549	38,831	12,911
North-West Uruguay	3 mths	30	113	5,851	+ 290	17,765	+ 211
Uruguay North	3 mths	30	3	1,596	200	4,616	1,411
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	40weeks	Oct. 8	33	Ps 11,000	+ 2,000	621,650	+ 100,855
Bilbao	9 mths	Sept. 30	135	1,629	1,811	16,920	19,288
Bolivar	9 mths	30	138	1,111	1,044	93,011	28,790
Colombian Nat. Rly.	1 mth	Aug. 31	86	21,827	1,173	157,707	5,299
Costa Rica	7 mths	July 31	190	17,837	11,073		
Dorado Extension	7 mths	31	70	24,000	+ 4,500	131,750	+ 13,577
Egyptian Delta	24weeks	Sept. 30	5593	110,327	5,016	163,487	57,666
Gt. Southn. of Spain	39weeks	Oct. 1	104	Ps60,631	36,943	2,041,376	1,443,077
International of Central America	8 mths	Aug. 31	232	55,602	4,611	586,284	13,747
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	133	11,835	760	237,603	5,377
Mexican Railway	14weeks	Oct. 7	403	(b) 57,000	5,500	50,110	
Do	2 mths	Aug. 31	107	\$133,300	+ 13,000	443,320	756,800
Nassif Oscarshamm, Onitoma B. Rly. & Y.	7 mths	July 31	..	\$174,300	179,600	2,655,400	466,000
Paraguay Central	13weeks	1	274	Net 12,882	8,965	396,200	75,100
Piraeus-Athens, &c., &c.	9 mths	Feb. 28	..			16,380,755	+ 5,229,660
Puerto Cabello, &c., &c.	8 mths	Aug. 31	35	4,750	500	37,500	6,500
Salvador	14weeks	Oct. 8	100	1,786	1,934	32,520	15,833
Santo Fe Province, French Railways	1 mth	Aug. 31	..	150,128	10,823		
Samaea & Santiago	9 mths	Sept. 30	112	8,450	78	93,210	37,260
Zafra and Huéla	8 mths	Aug. 31	112	(a) 13,538	638	112,695	14,934
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	39weeks	Oct. 7	9,750	\$1834,200	+ 101,500	\$0,483,800	+ 4,934,977
Canadian Pacific	39weeks	7	13,402	\$483,000	973,000	10,456,000	123,700
Grand Trunk	39weeks	7	3,616	\$268,548	18,369	12,182,187	91,580

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.																			
Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month Sept., 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Nine Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.											
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.							
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	1916.	1917.	1918.	%	1919.	%						
Allagar	260,400	359,250	350,450	31,000	+ 700	246,900	- 334,600	15	10	10	10	10	10						
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,416,470	2,103,300	115,300	+ 15,300	1,297,900	- 484,936	35	17½	17½	17½	17½	17½						
Anglo-Ma ay	1,386,264	1,662,991	1,430,807	32,196	- 78,034	666,319	- 166,143	85	65	45	60	30	nil						
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	790,899	771,865	1,058,736	51,34	- 43,308	195,560(4)	- 323,375	50	30	20	15	30	10						
Ayer Kuning	609,360	960,175	943,803	65,150	- 10,850	1,049,280(11)	- 213,573	5	5	10	15	20	10						
Bah Lias (Oct. 31)	576,285	974,520	1,561,555	68,112	- 88,030	240,657(6)	- 35,847	10	6	12½	10	5	..						
Bajoe Kidool (Mar. 31)	709,515	941,776	1,026,504	15,973	- 32,362	52,100(3)	- 76,300(2)	25	10	10	10	10	..						
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	231,300	15,650	- 15,024	76,300(2)	- 103,375	10	6	12½	10	15	..						
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	446,573	474,148	614,867	41,400	- 15,024	466,691(12)	- 210	180	110	150	5	5	..						
Bantam (Java) (June 30)	965,374	749,146	913,616	..	- 17,720	94,586(3)	- 73,297	210	180	110	150	20	..						
Batang (Selangor) (April 30)	407,196	348,145	571,712	24,007	- 15,310	399,643	- 215,500	50	35	35	20	20	..						
Batang Consolidated	265,004	321,271	407,586	45,251	- 31,000	373,000	- 70,579(2)	20	10	15	25	20	..						
Batu Caves	593,644	675,534	647,153	37,000	- 31,000	70,579(2)	- 210	180	110	150	20	20	..						
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	37,000	- 31,000	70,579(2)	- 210	180	110	150	20	20	..						
Bekoh (June 30)	454,948	443,860	..	93,000	- 27,000	218,000	- 34,380	25	15	15	10	10	..						
Bertam Consolidated (March 31)	1,007,358	1,531,416	342,250	22,000	- 11,000	218,000	- 34,380	25	15	15	10	10	..						
Bukit Cloh	364,250	375,743	881,671	50,911	- 17,834	166,844(3)	- 58,350	100	50	150	150	10	..						
Bukit Kajang (June 30)	851,435	697,900	50,911	40,737	- 43,837	291,958(6)	- 173,271	100	50	150	150	10	..						
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	590,213	200,681	900,000	..	- 17,834	433,415(6)	- 659,999	12½	10	10	10	10	..						
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	630,289	1,060,000	1,636,320	84,500	- 57,000	659,999	- 226,295	14½	15	10	12½	10	..						
Bukit Sembawang	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	99,030	- 8,862	659,999	- 226,295	14½	15	10	12½	10	..						
Ceylon (Para)	554,389	665,165	652,456	41,099	- 19,497	665,880	- 18,090	15	10	12½	10	10	..						
Chersonese	468,180	815,285	875,814	66,570	- 27,676	245,724(5)	- 21,476	140	75	75	37½	37½	..						
Cheviot	626,732	705,765	631,300	62,850	- 44,150	618,380	- 174,720	83½	50	25	37½	37½	..						
Cicely Ordinary (March 31)	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	61,545	- 9,875	506,793	- 91,772	55	40	28	32½	32½	..						
Consolidated Malay	640,882	748,935	861,897	61,545	- 9,875	506,793	- 91,772	55	40	28	32½	32½	..						
Dannansara	491,937	565,621	436,210	35,083	- 8,365	327,500(8)	- 867,374	12½	10	10	12½	10	..						
Djember	329,691	451,577	550,000	..	- 31,487	580,178	- 219,062	15	12½	7½	12½	10	..						
Dugun Durian	587,996	752,228	1,053,163	58,853	- 31,487	580,178	- 219,062	15	12½	7½	12½	10	..						
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	225,183	338,504	454,740	30,500	- 14,500	79,500(3)	- 56,500	..	..	..	..	..	..						
F. M. S. Planters	378,000	793,000	933,000	56,000	- 29,600	658,800	- 4,200	6	12½	5	25	10	..						
General Ceylon	889,881	1,252,782	1,247,524	104,300	- 7,418	726,060	- 186,464	25	20	15	30	10	..						
Goleonda Malay	455,045	535,932	612,403	29,999	- 14,111	352,378	- 122,477	45	35	20	35	10	..						
Golden Hope	290,571	376,849	461,824	14,599	- 26,777	172,483	- 177,974	25	20	10	15	10	..						
Grand Central (Ceylon)	3,982,936	5,164,927	5,217,447	483,126	- 13,814	2,953,261	- 867,374	14	10	10	12½	10	..						
Gula-Kalumpang	1,013,200	1,549,500	1,618,987	73,000	- 61,000	114,758	- 114,758	12½	10	10	12½	10	..						
Harpender	315,746	423,423	454,966	26,500	- 5,400	239,700	- 114,758	12½	10	10	12½	10	..						
Highlands and Lowlands	1,123,799	1,504,374	1,533,919	88,000	- 44,381	125,200(4)	- 4,770	75	40	40	45	10	..						
Inch Kenneth (May 31)	417,249	361,180	427,039	27,760	- 2,030	659,454	- 117,200	15	10	10	20	10	..						
Java Amalgamated	663,661	937,698	937,698	72,100	- 752	659,454	- 117,200	15	10	10	20	10	..						
Java Rubber Plantations	242,446	317,381	380,504	28,100	- 2,624	220,300	- 89,048	15	10	10	15	10	..						
Jeram (March 31)	200,219	319,403	294,240	22,732	- 6,297	99,317	- 56,370	22½	10	10	15	10	..						
Jong-Landor (June 30)	613,197	564,325	663,950	57,700	- 2,839	168,700(3)	- 3,701	25	15	20	15	10	..						
Jugra Land and Ceylon (Nov. 30)	2,457,721	902,605	46,910	- 42,561	- 130,750(3)	- 129,870	- 20	6	12½	12½	10	10	..						
Kamuning (Perak) (June 30)	778,418	705,772	902,605	46,910	- 42,561	130,750(3)	- 129,870	20	6	12½	12½	10	..						
Kapar Para	792,763	1,036,566	1,020,758	72,565	- 23,683	629,497	- 151,341	70	70	50	40	7½	..						
Kawie (Java) (March 31)	425,300	549,219	610,200	40,200	- 9,500	191,800	- 127,700	10	25	20	20	10	..						
Keptigalla (March 31)	557,815	503,217	536,311	37,807	- 31,693	330,702	- 206,257	85	60	40	65	10	..						
Kepong (Malay)	275,085	412,320	750,704	37,807	- 31,693	330,702	- 206,257	85	60	40	65	10	..						
Kinta Kelias (March 31)	450,030	700,023	693,757	50,900	- 24,900	254,306(6)	- 160,872	15	10	10	20	10	..						
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	1,627,748	1,709,562	1,709,562	75,000	- 64,500	288,000(3)	- 108,900	45	15	20	15	10	..						
Kuala Selangor	506,075	540,857	554,668	31,313	- 3,049	489,448	- 19,951	150	133½	62½	62½	25	..						
Labu (F.M.S.)	1,121,362	1,245,745	1,451,209	71,509	- 48,907	704,810	- 120,690	40	30	22½	25	5	..						
Landan	698,281	700,222	812,728	18,800	- 37,574	804,025	- 261,725	10	5	6	20	10	..						
Langen Java (Aug. 31)	403,000	467,900	500,000	35,000	- 7,500	257,801	- 75,400	32½	15	12½	15	7½	..						
Langkat Sumatra	528,200	703,929	685,259	30,238	- 28,024	232,454	- 198,459	32½	20	15	35	10	..						
Lebri	1,782,052	2,804,900	2,804,217	172,210	- 91,759	1,545,648	- 594,856	140	116½	50	25	35	..						
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,177,919	1,615,566	1,607,086	73,960	- 70,321	1,080,076	- 203,467	45	40	25	35	10	..						
London Asiatic	974,500	1,108,000	1,431,500	72,230	- 36,770	1,061,668(12)	- 348,282	45	20	12½	17½	12½	..						
Lumut (Sept. 30)	3,250,804	4,210,746	4,084,666	277,800	- 119,190	2,664,160	- 318,282	45	20	10	30	10	..						
Malacca, Ordinary	1,519,844	1,752,709	1,853,366	99,800	- 127,062	910,144	- 298,115	10	8	8	12½	10	..						
Malayalam	543,014	1,025,507	1,416,558	88,323	- 50,478	816,218(9)	- 249,556	10	8	8	12½	10	..						
Mendari	1,248,678	1,579,080	1,646,217	101,131	- 36,087	811,216	- 454,237	18½	16½	14½	19	10	..						
Merlimau	494,830	625,700	782,070	42,650	- 26,435	359,100	- 240,765	20	10	10	17½	10	..						
New Crocodile	523,435	608,753	743,464	35,124	- 23,134	354,222	- 226,752	13	11	5	10	10	..						
Northern (Johore)	637,621	548,392	653,558	49,158	- 18,180	260,990(6)	- 93,308	30	15	15	25	10	..						
North Hummock (March 31)	213,429	339,188	302,272	23,786	- 5,807	124,927(6)	- 36,855	16½	6½	10	20	10	..						
Padang Jawa (March 31)	495,293	676,583	751,379	67,361	- 4,121	501,594	- 35,738	25	250	150	250	5	..						
Panawatte	507,813	725,278	761,538	41,796	- 24,176	401,478	- 184,157	300	20	12½	20	10	..						
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	606,256	789,308	1,067,238	48,000	- 41,245	527,112(6)	- 540,128	20	10	10	35	10	..						
Perak Rubber (March 31)	425,736	578,480	587,171	44,032	- 16,052	251,224(6)	- 79,299	12½	10	6	10½	10	..						
Port Dickson-Lukut (March 31)	538,543	851,318	787,500	45,															

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	August, 1921.			September, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
Aurora W. United (10s shares) ..	11,050	116,100	1,406	10,800	115,445	1,276
Brakpan	58,600	123,260	48,399	57,500	119,416	46,060
City Deep	90,000	207,151	73,586	89,000	193,431	69,526
Consolidated Langlaagte	44,000	97,502	21,163	44,000	97,502	21,163
Consolidated Main Reef	48,000	97,732	18,008	50,000	96,125	19,399
Crown Mines (10s shares)	196,000	318,059	71,263	193,000	319,988	71,797
Durban Roodepoort Deep	27,000	52,845	6,170	24,350	51,349	7,797
East Rand Proprietary	126,500	185,494	18,037	124,000	182,560	19,607
Ferreira Deep	34,500	66,303	17,680	32,200	65,857	16,068
Goldfield Proprietary	45,500	86,047	34,772	45,000	88,738	38,225
Goldenhuis Deep	50,697	97,419	5,543	49,526	96,717	3,564
Glynn's Lydenburg	3,446	7,124	1,498	3,675	7,162	1,314
Goch, New	17,500	21,390	1,550	17,000	20,280	1,467
Government Areas	145,000	327,665	175,206	140,000	318,760	170,053
Kleinfontein, New	10,900	74,913	12,629	49,700	127,302	9,990
Knight Central	29,200	63,977	5,486	27,600	63,118	3,566
Langlaagte Estate	41,300	70,320	17,355	41,600	68,912	15,641
Langlaagte Vlei	22,515	46,265	4,367	22,200	47,020	3,523
Meyer and Charlton	60,000	117,997	97,269	59,000	116,745	92,289
Modderfontein Deep Levels	44,400	136,583	89,136	43,000	132,995	80,443
Modderfontein East	27,300	66,873	20,489	25,000	63,034	11,087
Modderfontein, New (24 shs.) ..	100,000	264,793	153,174	101,000	264,942	142,939
New Unified	11,500	13,892	2,329	10,900	13,958	2,997
Nourse Mines	45,000	80,661	9,535	41,200	81,712	11,888
Primrose, New	22,800	27,927	6,565	20,700	25,715	4,951
Randfontein Central	135,500	218,405	40,039	130,000	202,792	32,730
Robinson (25 shares)	40,000	64,361	2,306	40,000	64,780	2,599
Robinson Deep	61,600	98,391	21,199	63,600	100,752	24,341
Rosendel	23,000	44,931	11,637	22,600	43,188	11,720
Rosendel United	56,200	73,924	15,293	54,000	74,193	15,445
Rose Deep	53,700	75,748	14,028	55,200	72,458	11,657
Simmer and Jack	41,500	99,856	40,568	36,250	87,086	30,721
Sub-Nigel	10,200	30,203	6,903	10,200	30,278	7,609
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates ..	15,600	27,271	5,414	15,445	27,998	6,609
Van Ryn	33,400	55,016	11,096	31,630	50,287	8,017
Van Ryn Deep	55,300	116,428	95,008	46,400	114,960	78,005
Village Deep	50,000	90,728	17,296	48,100	92,941	14,042
West Rand Consolidated	32,500	49,209	9,267	32,000	48,092	5,314
Witwatersrand Deep	31,000	51,874	9,085	33,630	52,715	10,347
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	41,300	58,779	14,833	40,000	56,758	14,247
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	32,300	64,195	7,184	32,200	64,071	5,956

* Loss. j Gold valuation, £5 12s 0d net per fine oz. k Gold valuation, £5 11s 0d net per fine oz. l Gold valuation, £5 11s 3d net per fine oz. m Gold valuation, £5 12s 6d net per fine oz. n Gold valuation, £5 11s 6d net per fine oz. o Gold valuation, £5 10s 0d net per fine oz. p Gold valuation, £5 9s 0d net per fine oz. q £5 8s 6d net per fine oz. r £5 8s 3d net per fine oz. s £5 10s per fine oz.

OIL OUTPUTS.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED.—The total production during September amounted to 97,119 barrels, or approximately 13,874 tons, including 49,628 barrels from the properties of the St. Helens Petroleum Co., Limited. Production effected by strike.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, October 5, 1921, amounted to 1,747 tons.

BRITISH BURMAH PETROLEUM CO., LIMITED.—A cablegram has been received from Burmah reporting that the total production of crude oil by this company and the Rangoon Oil Co., Limited, for the month of September amounted to 74,940 barrels.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions continue favourable for agricultural pursuits, and autumn cultivation is making satisfactory progress. Ploughing is well advanced, and rain is now needed to soften the seed-bed and assist germination. General market conditions continue depressed, and trade almost at a standstill, while prices display an easier tendency for all cereals. Native wheat is still coming forward in excess of the consumptive demand, and prices have again fallen sharply. Good milling qualities are selling at 47s to 48s 6d per 504 lbs delivered, while inferior sorts are almost unsaleable. Imported descriptions also move off slowly, though best Manitoba grades attracted more attention at the decline, the greatest loss being on near at hand parcels. No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted 58s to 59s, No. 1 red winter 53s, No. 2 hard winter 54s, Australian 57s, all ex ship, and Egyptian feed 50s, landed per 480 lbs. Visible supplies in the United States show a slight decrease, which, however, will probably be more than made good by an increase in Canadian figures, while the quantity afloat continues on a fairly liberal scale. The United States crop has been officially reduced by 13,000 bushels, but there are prospects of an increase in the winter wheat acreage. Crop news from other exporting countries remains favourable, so that the outlook with regard to future supplies must be considered as satisfactory by European importers. Flour again experienced a quiet trade, and prices disclosed further weakness in sympathy with the recent sharp declines in wheat. London straight run now quoted at 59s, town households 57s, patents 62s, All English straights 52s per sack delivered. Country straights ranges from 42s to 44s per sack delivered London. Imported descriptions dull and easy. Manitoba export patents 61s, straights 56s, Kansas top patents 58s, Australian 53s, and Chinese 50s per 280 lbs ex store. Business continues difficult on c.i.f. terms, and rates continue weak. Canadian patents October seaboard quoted 54s-55s, straights 50s, and Kansas top patents 55s to 56s, and Aus-

tralian held for 51s 280 lbs. Maize dull owing to selling pressure of forward parcels, but a steadier tone prevailed at the close. Plate ex ship quoted 31s, ditto landed 32s 3d, yellow South African 32s 6d, and white flat ditto 34s 6d, both landed per 480 lbs. On c.i.f. terms business remains at a standstill, and with free offers of La Plata descriptions, prices were on a lower basis, though steadier later. Parcels of Plate November-December sold 32s 6d. Cargoes arrived done 32s 6d, November-December 33s. Barley steady with a fair demand for choice samples of new English malting, which realise up to 80s, with lower grades down to 50s; grinding sorts range from 40s to 50s per 448 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western ex ship 35s, No. 4 ditto landed 34s 6d, Canada feed landed 33s 6d, and American feed ditto 33s per 400 lbs. Parcels of superior Californian afloat sold at 38s per 448 lbs, c.i.f. terms. Oats remain extremely dull, and rates easy on lack of demand, but imported steadier later. English ranges from 27s to 31s per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate f.a.g. 25s 6d, ditto landed 27s, Chilean tawny 26s to 29s, No. 2 Canada Western 31s, No. 3 ditto 30s, and Canada feed nominally 29s per 320 lbs. Oatmeal lower, but a good business passing at the decline. English all cuts £19 10s to £20 10s, ordinary Scottish £20 10s, American £20 to £20 10s, and flaked oats £23 10s to £24 10s per ton. Millers' offals dull. Broad bran £8 10s to £9 5s, ordinary £7 15s to £8 5s, middlings in good demand at £11 10s to £11 15s ton ex mill. Beans inactive. English winters 47s to 51s, springs 54s to 63s per 532 lbs. Peas neglected. English Duns 54s to 60s, Maples 65s to 74s per 504 lbs. Imported difficult to move at lower prices. Homeward grain freights continue weak, with chartering on a limited scale. River Plate upper ports nominally 20s October to U.K./Cont., and 22s 6d November. American Northern Range ports paid 4s per quarter U.K./Bordeaux-Hamburg range, 5s 3d Mediterranean, not East of West Coast Italy, and 22 cents per 100 lbs Greece. North Pacific nominally 50s. Eastern markets stationary. Bombay nominally 30s on dead weight, while Australia paid 58s 3d new season's wheat to U.K. Danube grain quiet at 17s ton U.K./Continent, and 5s less Mediterranean. South Africa is represented by 3s for maize home, but easy thereat. Other markets quiet and without new feature.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-22.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1918-19.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to October 8	Cwts. 462,332	Cwts. 375,586	Cwts. 188,385	Cwts. 309,014
5 weeks to October 8	2,178,357	1,851,787	992,524	1,721,341
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 55 6	s d 90 7	s d 73 1	s d 72 6
= per cwt	12 11	21 12	17 0	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Oct. 1	101,864 7	147,755 1	20,408 1	55 10	61 10	28 10
8	107,877 3	164,816 0	24,934 7	55 6	58 4	27 6
1917	57,529 2	77,304 5	16,864 6	71 0	58 5	44 5
1918	71,877 4	58,483 0	13,915 5	72 6	60 3	51 6
1919	43,956 5	117,566 6	12,991 7	73 1	95 5	58 10
1920	87,635 4	103,928 3	33,092 3	90 7	86 0	56 0

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated October 13th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is still no sign of revival in the market for pig-iron. Even with the present severely reduced output, makers are obliged to put some iron into stock. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. is quoted 120s, and East Coast hematite can be bought as low as 125s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: No improvement as far as steel is concerned, buyers holding back in expectation of lower prices. Steel ship plates, £14; steel ship angles, £13 10s; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £12 10s net. Iron ore: Consumers have plenty of stock, and there is no disposition to buy anything.

Service that counts

Anything that comes within the province of Banking is included in the Service offered its customers by The Merchants Bank. If you want disinterested advice on any business subject or first-hand information concerning trade conditions in any part of Canada—this Bank is in a position to help you.



A banking service of practical value to your business.

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Assets - \$190,367,409
LONDON OFFICE - 53, CORNHILL.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The outlook in the iron and steel trade has become brighter. British pig-iron and semi-steel has now a chance in the market owing to the evening of foreign and home prices, and British makers are now beginning to book orders. For some qualities of material the home prices are within £1 a ton of Continental quotations, and their material is superior in quality and reliability. There is rather more confidence in local trade circles, although no increase of work is apparent up to the present time, and only a fourth of the productive capacity of the district is in operation. Huge shops of vast quantities of plant are idle most of the week. Those traders who are confident that the worst of the depression has been seen only expect a partial revival during the next three, or even six, months, as the state of the exchanges prohibits buying in the Continental markets. Any improvement is likely to be confined to British colonies and dependencies and South America. The steady deflation of prices at home is a hopeful feature of the situation. The members of the Sheffield mission which recently visited the United States with the object of persuading the American Senate to modify the excessive duties on steel contained in the new Bill, have returned, and report the success of their efforts. The whole of the clauses of the Bill are to be re-written and the duties modified, and any alteration of the existing tariff is postponed until February, and possibly May. Hostile feeling to increasing tariffs has been roused to such an extent, however, amongst the American public that the measure may be dropped altogether. The continuance of the warm weather militates against the demand for home coal. Buyers are holding off for lower prices. Inland consumption of steam coal is only small, and does not show any sign of expansion. Export trade is quiet and business in small fuels steady. There is a fairly good home and export demand for coke.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The week is closing with a quiet and rather anxious tone ruling in most industrial circles, but particularly in those associated with coal, iron, and steel. There are threats of active trouble (over wages' questions) with the miners and the shipbuilding engineers and wrights, who all, without doubt, are being called upon to face some very drastic pay reductions between now and the end of the month. In the existing state of employment conditions a big strike should be unthinkable. And yet this seems possible. There is time enough for a way to be found out. Presuming that matters are satisfactorily fixed up—and that can only be by a cutting down of costs and a cheapening of materials—there would be ground, it is affirmed in informed quarters, for hope of trade expansion. Such evidence as is available does not quite justify this conclusion—that is to say, there is no rush of actual business to report in any connection; but during the week there has been a marked improvement in inquiry in relation to export trade. These inquiries indicate that there was business of a kind behind, and which will come along in due course, provided that values harmonise with buyers' views. And they are tending closer that way every day. It is rumoured that a further substantial "cut" in steel quotations is being negotiated, and concessions in black sheets, bars, pig-iron, hematites, &c., are spoken of as certain. The inquiries referred to mainly related to steel plates and sections, bolts, nuts and rivets, tubes, corrugated sheets (largely for India), textile machinery, oil-consuming engines, wire work, valves, cranes, and structural sections, as well as plant. It should be added that authorities are satisfied, from the tenor of their correspondence, that practically all outside (export) markets are short of stocks and that customers are growing nervous as to getting in before the tide turns. That fear is making not a little progress at home. Then the current course of events on the Continent is not so distinctly in favour of steel and iron producers there as was the case lately. There are still substantial quantities of material being landed in the Clyde and in the North from Germany and Belgium; but these countries are not as free sellers of half-finished stuffs as they were, for the very good reason that they have over-committed themselves and cannot now give the deliveries necessary to business. These little elements collectively represent a change in our favour, which, if carefully handled and nursed, may ere long be translated into something tangible. Steel mills here and there in Lanarkshire have been able to make a re-start on plates and sections this week. Although no shipbuilding yards have added to their order books, many establishments are fairly busy on old contracts, and have a goodly lot of keels to lay down, while ship repairers are pretty well employed. As has been indicated, machinery builders (in specialties) are busy, with reasonably good prospects. It will be nothing short of disastrous if the slightly more favourable indications visible fail to materialise from a breakdown of working co-operation in the coal, shipbuilding, and marine engineering branches of industry.

THE COTTON TRADE.

MANCHESTER, October 13.

The market during the past week has continued to present a firmer tone, and the larger inquiry has been well maintained. Business, however, has been patchy, and spinners and manufacturers have not been able to make any general progress. Despite the boycott of foreign goods in India, rather more cloth sales have occurred for Bombay and Calcutta, and demand tends to broaden. Operations for China have been irregular, but standard makes and fancies have attracted a fair amount of attention. Some of the minor outlets of the Far East, such as Java and Singapore, have given moderate support. Less activity is now showing itself for

Egypt, but some useful lines have been booked for the Levant. Heavy goods for the home trade are being adversely affected by the open weather. There is still a tendency to re-start idle looms. A fair business has been done in home American yarns at irregular rates. Demand in export bundles for Eastern markets keeps up fairly well. Egyptian spinnings have been rather quieter.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Oct. 13, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Oct. 6.	Oct. 29.	Sept. 22.	Sept. 15.	Sept. 8.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	13-64	14-07	15-71	15-18	13-69	13-10
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	27-50	28-50	28-25	26-00	22-00	21-50
— Egyptian .. per lb	22 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2	22 1/2	21 1/2	20 1/2
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	45	45	45	43	37	36
— 40's twist .. per lb	45	45	45	43	37	36
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	45	45	45	43	37	36
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37 0	37 0	37 0	36 0	34 0	33 0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37 0	37 0	37 0	36 0	34 0	33 0
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs ..	22 6	22 6	22 6	22 6	20 6	19 6
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs ..	21 6	21 6	21 6	21 6	19 6	18 6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Oct. 13, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	13-64	17-02	22-81	23-80	20-92	10-61
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	27-50	46-00	31-50	29-40	32-80	15-75
— Egyptian .. per lb	22 1/2	42	44 1/2	55 1/2	27 1/2	15 1/2
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	45	22	39	43	56	27 1/2
— 40's twist .. per lb	45	22	39	43	56	27 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	45	22	39	43	56	27 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	37 0	67 0	63 0	73 0	35 0	22 3
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	37 0	68 0	61 0	70 0	34 0	20 3
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs ..	22 6	39 0	36 0	41 0	21 0	12 0
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs ..	21 6	30 0	32 3	35 9	18 9	10 9

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—October 7, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island .. per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto ..	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American ..	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	O	L	M	G	O
1116	1191	1306	1421	1516	1696	1696	1074	1394	2099	1694	1879	2194
Brazilian.	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	Mid	F	Fr.	G	F	G
Pernambuco, &c.	1161	1411	1561	..	..	..	1349	1999	..	2044	2444	..</

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The all-round advance in wool values was not unexpected in the consuming centres, though few users are able to suggest any adequate explanation of the keen demand for raw material. Apparently home trade buyers are making the running in Coleman street Wool Exchange, and the strength of that market is reflected in a very strong tone here. Compared with a week ago, topmakers' quotations have been advanced from ½d to 1d in the case of low and medium qualities, 1d to 2d in fine crossbreds, and 2d to 3d per lb in merinos. In some cases quotations are purely protective, and there is no doubt that the higher values are checking business. Firms are operating with the greatest caution, and the opinion is freely expressed that values are again on an entirely artificial basis. In some quarters it is feared that a reaction will set in in the course of a few weeks, in which case confidence which was gradually returning will be severely shaken. The market, to-day, however, is exceedingly strong, and 4s 3d is regarded as the ruling price for a good warp 64's top. Spinners are busy on orders recently booked, and it is a matter for extreme regret that the Labour representatives on the Industrial Council have refused to sanction the employers' request to be allowed in certain cases and for a limited period to work "protected" persons 5½ hours a week instead of the 48 hours agreed upon some time ago. Spinners have offers of good export business, but unless they can give prompt delivery these orders will be lost to this country. There are signs of a slight improvement in the piece goods trade, but manufacturers are quite unable to do business on to-day's prices for yarns. Stocks, however, are being liquidated at rather better prices than those paid in recent months.

COLONIAL WOOLS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The opening of the eighth series of London sales last Tuesday revealed a very strong situation, there being an advance in practically all qualities of wool with the exception of slipped crossbred wools from New Zealand and faulty carbonising Australian merinos. The initial sale revealed an exceedingly satisfactory market, and epitomises what has taken place in manufacturing circles during the interval. There was a particularly big attendance of buyers, all of whom seemed to have thrown on one side all reserve. The good selection of merinos, no doubt, helped materially to call forth the best buying power of the trade, and when 3½d is paid for grease combing wools from West Victoria, it is evident that the days of high values are by no means past. Several lots made from 29d to 3½d, and it is doubtful if these wools would have made above 23d last July. This all indicates what a great change has come over the situation, and that the various sections of the trade are prepared to buy the best classes of merinos, apparently having an outlet for them. In the case of Queensland scoureds, the highest price paid last series was 3½d, whilst last Tuesday 38d was realised several times. The knowledge that there are available big quantities of faulty carbonising wools may have had something to do with these selling at no more money, but I think that this is primarily due to the greatly depreciated value of the mark and franc, compelling Continental buyers to put their sterling into those wools which are moving most freely. Then the drought at Verviers may also be another adverse factor. Apart from this, the advance in merinos was 10 per cent., with all sections active buyers. In the case of crossbreds, the most conspicuous feature was the extraordinary call for Australian and New Zealand half-breds, these advancing 10 to 15 per cent. Medium and coarse qualities appreciated 5 to 7½ per cent., the very fact of all descriptions of crossbreds advancing showing a radical change in this class of staple. In the case of slipes and scoured crossbreds, the advance was not so marked, though we certainly think that fine half-bred lambs went the turn in favour of the seller. The opening revealed a very satisfactory state of affairs, and indicated that a changed spirit has come over the entire trade.

I see that Messrs. H. Dawson and Co. call attention in their opening circular to the "undoubted nervousness regarding the stability of values for next year's commitments," due largely to the "fall in the value of the mark and the general disquietude regarding German finance." I share these views entirely, it being significant that the revival of trade in Yorkshire manufacturing circles is due entirely to the export demand for semi-manufactured materials. That is the disturbing factor. The improvement has not extended to the piece end of the industry, and very few extra looms have been got to work. That is the worst feature of all, and those doing trade with Germany need to be careful. Everybody will regret very much to see a collapse in Germany, but after the experience of this country last year firms in this country cannot afford to run risks, and therefore caution should be exercised. Some of those doing German trade have already found themselves involved in loss, and as the present position in that country reflects upon others on the Continent, particularly further East, a word of warning may be all the more necessary.

AUCTION OF B.A.W.R.A. WOOL AT HULL.

The Committee of London Wool Brokers announce that, by instructions of the British-Australian Wool Realisation Association, Limited, a public sale of about 35,000 bales Australasian wool will be held at the Metropole Hall, West street, Hull, on Thursday and Friday, November 3 and 4, 1921, at 10.30 a.m. The sale will be conducted on behalf of the Committee of London Wool Brokers by Messrs. H. Irwell and Co., of 24 Coleman street, London, E.C. For this auction the prompt will be 21 days, to meet the requirements at present existing at this port. The wools will be on show at the National Avenue Wool Sheds, and the Albert Dock, Hull, from the morning of Monday, October 31st, until time of sale. Catalogues to be obtained on and after Monday, October 21st, from the office of the Committee of London Wool Brokers, 3, and Aust-street, Hull, and at the warehouses.

LINEN TRADE.

BELFAST, October 12.

FLAX.—The Irish markets were well supplied last week. The quality of flax offered is unchanged, and all bought up at firm prices. On the Continent there is no change to report, the upward tendency of value seems to have stopped, and some of the flax offered last week was unsold.

YARNS.—Demand is well maintained, and very considerable quantities passed into manufacturers' hands, both lines and tows. Prices, on the whole, stiffer. Contracts will, in many cases, take a considerable time for delivery. A few Continental orders are coming in, but exchange still bars the way.

WEAVERS.—There has been a stronger market for cloth this week than in any period since the improvement was first noted. Unfortunately, whilst this better demand has affected the majority of manufacturers, there is still poor business in some sections of the industry, notably for those looms affected by the competition of aeroplane stocks. With the gradual disappearance of these stocks and the lower level of prices, better trade should not be far off for these looms.

MERCHANTS.—Orders in all lines are coming in freely. Damasks at present are making best showing, but most other lines in general housekeeping goods are in good demand. In canvas, holland, and buckrams more business has been received, and stocks are moving off more freely. All orders placed are for prompt delivery. Sheer linens have been booked in some cases for several months ahead.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Raw linseed oil has been a very fluctuating and irregular market, with prices for prompt and near delivery ranging between £28 10s to £31 and over, ex Hull mill, with a premium of 20s for January-April. A good business, however, has been done for both home consumption and export, the low level of values apparently forming sufficient inducement to many who have been holding off. Demand having been satisfied and speculative holders anxious to take profits, prices have taken an easier turn. Plate linseed, after a period of firmness, has again lost the advantage, and at Hull spot and afloat was on Tuesday down to £15, with October-November quoted £16.

Cotton oils have been in moderate demand, and in sympathy with lower seed values prices are inclined easier. Soya bean, rape, and palm kernel oils are cheaper, but ground nut and castor oil values are about sustained.

The imports of oil seeds and oil nuts in September give the highest monthly total this year, viz., 187,657 tons, against 75,019 tons in September last year, the increase of over 112,000 tons being due to the heavy arrivals of linseed (88,381 tons), cotton seed (43,437 tons), and nuts and kernels (33,175 tons). The aggregate for the nine months January-September is 1,016,094 tons, an increase of 19,868 tons over a year ago. Linseed, chiefly from Argentina, totalled 368,549 tons, against 260,270 tons, and cotton seed 283,404 tons, against 334,495 tons. Nuts and kernels at 303,350 tons were 29,000 tons down.

Advices from Alexandria state that the arrivals of cotton seed at that port in the cereal year ended August 31st were 340,150 tons, the quantity exported 267,400 tons, and that used for local consumption 66,500 tons.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Hides were a shade weaker at Bermondsey sales on Thursday, and heavies at 10½d were an ½d down as compared with last prices. Cows followed suit, and showed a drop of ½d. Calf held firm, and heavy grades advanced ½d, lights being unchanged. The foreign hide market is firm, and tanners are still in the market for South Americans; frigorifics of September kill are quoted at 11d c.i.f., and Anglos, September kill, at 11d for the Continent. Liebig's have sold as high as 12½d, re-weights ex store. The American position is cabled as strong, with best heavy packers at 14½ cents, and light cows advanced to 12½ cents.

Trading in sole leather has been rather quieter this week, following on the hectic time at the Shoe and Leather Fair. The demand is still running on 12-14 lb bends of the cheap grades, and anything from dry hides which looks cheap finds a buyer at once. Cheap shoulders are also wanted of 7s 9d iron substance, the conclusion being that the demand for cheap footwear is still a feature of the position. Upper leathers are wanted in low grades for the

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1899)

Capital Subscribed - - - - - Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up - - - - - Y45,000,000
Reserve - - - - - Y11,080,000

Head Office - - - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office - - - - - 25 OLD BROAD STREET
(Gresham House), E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kiangsu, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking Exchange Business, and takes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co. (Limited). Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

same reason, and glacé at about 1s a foot seems very popular. Imports of upper leather for the first nine months of the current year have dropped to £3,364,263 from £10,634,376 for the corresponding period of 1920.

The shoe trade is improving, and it is stated that several manufacturers took enough orders at the Shoe and Leather Fair to keep them employed for a few months. Exports of leather boots, however, for the first nine months of the current year have dropped to £1,722,070 from £5,396,861 for the first nine months of 1920, the greatest fall being in the South African demand.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van for motor loads to site, 8½d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.

"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, October 14.

General quietness governed the markets throughout the week, export requirements counting for little owing to the question of rates of exchange, while buying on the part of the home trade was largely measured by wants of immediate necessity.

SUGAR.—Only a moderate amount of business was effected on balance, and prices without exception are lower on the week. Tate's cubes sold, 55s 9d to 56s 9d; crushed, 53s; granulated, 50s 6d to 51s; castor, 53s to 53s 6d; pieces from 37s to 42s, and whites up to 47s; Lyle's granulated, 50s 6d to 50s 9d; yellow crystals, 45s 6d. West India crystallised varies from 40s 6d to 45s, as to quality; muscovado, 34s to 37s; American granulated, spot, sold down to 49s; ditto October, steamer, 21s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, spot, sold, 48s to 47s 6d; white Mauritius, 45s to 45s 6d, as to sample. Belgian crystals, October, sold, 19s 6d; and November-December, 18s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Fine Czech-Slovakian granulated, first week November, sellers, 20s, f.o.b., Hamburg. Dutch granulated, prompt sellers, 23s, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Terminal market quiet, and sales include white, December, at 18s 10½d; March and also May, 18s 7½d to 18s 6d.

COFFEE.—A steady tone governed the spot market, and a fair inquiry was experienced, especially for the better descriptions. East India, fair to good bold sizes, sold, 115s 6d to 120s; Vera Paz, ditto, 121s to 130s. Future delivery market generally steady, and moderate transactions this week include December, at 50s 6d to 50s 3d; March, 51s to 51s 6d and 51s 3d.

COCOA remains in a quiet state, but price changes were not of much importance. Cocoa-butter, spot, quoted 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—Indian sales during the week embraced some 36,200 packages. Brisk competition prevailed for all the finer liquoring parcels, but inferior changed hands quietly, and for these slightly easier prices had to be accepted in order to clear. 17,500 packages Ceylon aroused active biddings for all the better qualities at firm rates, while under-grades fetched steady rates.

RICE.—Market very dull, and prices lower during the week where business transpired. 2,000 tons No. 1 garden Siam, arrived, steamer "Mangalore," sold, 16s 10½d; and 1,300 tons Siam C.3 broken ditto, at 10s c.f. and i. terms. Forward positions purely nominal. Beans quiet. Rangoon, arrived, sold, 8s 6d, c.f. and i.; and afloat, sold, 9s to 8s 3d, c.f. and i. Madagascar butter beans, all white, spot, sold, 20s for new crop and 14s old import.

SPICE.—Pepper generally quiet, and forward positions weaker. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4½d; ditto, October-December, steamer, sold, 3½d to 3½d; Aleppy, spot, sellers, 4½d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, 8d; Muntok, ditto, 8½d; ditto, October-December, sold, 7½d to 7½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 4d; October-December, steamer, 1s 2½d. Pimento, spot, sold, 2½d. Tapioca quiet, steady. Fair flake, spot, sellers, 1½d per lb; ditto, September-November, steamer, 15s; fair Penang seed, spot, 19s 6d. Sago flour, September-November, steamer, 15s 4½d; October-December, 15s 3d. Japanese farina, September-November, 27s. Desiccated coconut dull. Spot lots, sold, 46s; near steamer, 44s; and October-November, 46s. Ginger slow, but steadily held. Japanese limed, spot, 45s. Nutmegs steady, quiet.

FRUIT.—The market for currants, though generally quiet, ruled steady in value. Pyrgos quoted 48s to 52s; Amalia, 52s to 54s; Patras, 56s to 64s; Vostizza, 70s to 80s. Sultanias steady, and new Smyrna, fair, sold, 108s to 110s; good to fine, 120s to 135s; choice, 140s. Figs steady. New layers, 120s to 135s; lacouns, 17s to 18s. The first auctions of the season regarding Valencia raisins were held on Tuesday last, when 385 tons were offered. About half this quantity found buyers. There was a good demand for the finer qualities at firm rates, but inferior went off rather slowly at a decline of 3s to 4s per cwt, as compared with recent private values. Quarter boxes, sold, fair, 125s to 130s; good, 132s to 140s; fine, 141s to 152s; and choice, 157s to 165s, with seedless, 170s to 175s; choice, 235s; rather quietly. Fine clusters went at 155s to 170s; choice, 235s; and some fancy trays, 265s, with seedless, 70s. Dates in steady request. Khedrowie, spot, sold, 22s, and Siar, 17s 6d.

JUTE.—A generally quiet tone ensued this week, though a slight advance in the early part was subsequently recovered, while

reserved offers came to hand from Calcutta. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £33; lightning assortment, same position, at £29; bottom numbers of native first marks, spot, Dundee, £29; top numbers of ditto, spot, Barcelona, £38; heart subs, old crop, afloat, Hamburg, £20 10s; ditto, on spot, Hamburg, £22; native first marks assortment, old crop, substitutes, October-November, Hamburg, £31 10s; lightning subs, ditto, £27 10s; new crop first grade assortment, October-November, Hamburg, £35; lightning grade, ditto, £30. Calcutta hesians and twills quiet. 10 oz by 40, spot, London, sold, 28s; 8 oz, ditto, 23s; A twills, spot, quoted 84s; and B, 73s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila kinds ruled steady though quiet, and sales include J grade, October-December, at £40; K ditto quoted £38; L, £37 10s; M, £33 10s. New Zealand firm, and fair quality. October-December, sold, £37 10s.

SHELLAC.—Market steady, quiet. T.N., spot, 330s; October, sold, 335s to 330s; and December, 330s. A.C. garnet, spot, quoted 290s; G.A.L., ditto, 270s.

COPRA.—Market presented quiet features, and prices were irregular and easier. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, sold down to £28; September-November, £28; and October-December, £28. Ceylon, September-November, quoted £30; South Sea Islands, ditto, to London, £27; Cebu, ditto, to Hamburg, £27. Palm kernels, November-January, Liverpool, sold, £18 15s to £18 2s 6d.

RUBBER.—Market quietly steady. Standard Plantation crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 9½d; November-December, 9½d to 9½d; and January-March, 10½d to 10½d; with April-June, 10½d to 11d, and 10½d to 10½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 1½d; ball, 7½d.

OILS.—Linseed easier. Spot, net, naked, 29s 6d; November-December, 29s; January-April, 30s. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 54s; refined, 58s. Cotton quieter. Crude Egyptian, 47s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 56s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 72s; and shipment, 68s to 69s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 53s 6d; October-November, 47s; Cochín, ditto, 54s. Soya easier. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 42s. Japan fish quiet. September-October, cases, 22s to 23s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 27s to 28s. Ground-nut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 55s; deodorised, barrels, 67s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 67s 6d; October-December, 68s 3d; January-April, 69s 6d. Rosin steady. American, grade B, 17s; F, 17s 9d; G, 17s 9d; K, 18s 6d; WW, 23s; French, F/G, 16s; H, 16s 6d; WW, 19s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market unsettled, and demand very slow. Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, afloat, sold, £16; September-October, £17, value. Plate, spot Hull, £15; afloat, sold, £14 10s to £14 15s; September-October, sold, £14 15s; October-November, £15 5s; November-December, £16 5s to £15 15s; January-February, nearest, £16 5s. Rapeseed weak. Toria, October-November, quoted £19; real bold Ferozepore quoted £19; brown Cawnpore, £18 5s. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, October, quoted

International Banking Service

THE Guaranty Trust Company of New York offers a complete and direct banking service to all parts of the world.

Its chief functions and facilities are:

Opening current and deposit accounts
Dealing generally in foreign exchange and collecting foreign bills

Issuing documentary credits and discounting approved acceptances

Issuing letters of credit and travellers' cheques
Supplying credit information to responsible firms and companies

Buying and selling foreign and domestic securities for customers' account

Safe-keeping of securities
Acting as executor and trustee under wills, etc.

The Company issues a series of booklets which explain the wide range of its services and also contain commercial and financial information of current interest.

A list of "Publications of Current Interest" will be sent on request.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

A Complete International Bank

LONDON OFFICES
32 Lombard Street, E.C.3
50 Pall Mall, S.W.1
LIVERPOOL OFFICES
27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street
NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1921.

No. 4,078.

£13 10s; and white, £13 Bombay, December-January 1921. Gingly quiet. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £30. Castor, Bombay, September-October, £21. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, October-November, Hull, £26; new crop, December-February, Continent, £26; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £27 to £28 per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market manifested a quiet tone at the week's commencement, forward positions being rather firmer. Cash changed hands at £156 to £155 15s, and three months' £157 15s to £158 10s, settling down at £158. A slightly steadier feeling prevailed until Wednesday, with dealings on a moderate scale, when the above dates were registered chiefly at £156 and £158 10s respectively. At Thursday's meeting cash sold at £155 15s, end November £157 5s to £157 10s, and three months' at £158 5s to £157 17s 6d. At Friday's session, cash changed hands at £155, late December, £156 10s to £156 15s, three months' at £157 15s to £157 5s, and again at £157 15s. English ingots £154 to £155. Copper generally steady, but quiet, with business in standard cash last Monday at £69 10s to £69 7s 6d, and three months' £70 10s to £70 7s 6d. Little change characterised movements until the middle of the week, cash realising £69 7s 6d, three months' £70 7s 6d. Values declined at Thursday's meeting, the chief business being con-

fined to late November at £69 5s, and three months' at £70 5s to £69 10s. At Friday's session, cash sold at £68 middle of November £68 10s down to £68 2s 6d, and three months' at £69 5s to £68 15s. Electro, £76 10s to £76 10s, strong sheets £103. Wire bars £75 10s to £76 10s. Lead firmer at £23 17s 6d to £23 10s, as to position. Spelter steady at £26 10s to £26 17s 6d. Antimony: English regulus quoted at £37 to £40. Aluminium unchanged.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—OCTOBER 13.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

	s	d	s	d		s	d	s	d		
Beasts—Herefords....	8	0	to	8	8	Sheep—Downs.....	8	8	to	10	0
Shorthorns.....	7	8		8	4	Longwools.....	..	..		..	..
Devons.....	8	4		9	0	Crossbreds.....	8	0		9	4
Norfolks.....	7	8		8	4	Scottish.....	..	..		..	..
Scottish.....	..	..		..	..	Lamb—Downs.....	10	0		11	4
Irish.....	7	0		7	8						

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—OCTOBER 13.

Per Cwt.				Per Cwt.					
s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d		
King Edwards.....	10	0	to 11	0	Evergoods	7	0 to 8	0	
British Queen.....	9	6	to 10	6	Blacklands	6	0	to 10	0

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
COCOA—Duty, British grown	55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt.	150 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 14 0	Butter—per cwt.	175 0	Pepper, per lb.	1 10 0
Terinadu, per cwt.	56 0	Cape, good to fine, 40	50 0	Plantation crepe	0 94 0	Irish creamery	0 195 0	Singapore, fair White	0 24 0
Granada	45 0	Balsam Peru, per lb.	8 0	INDIGO—per lb.	1 14 0	Do factory	0 184 0	Black Singapore	0 4 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0	Capivi	2 0	Bengal, good red vio-	11 6 12 0	Anstralian	0 155 0	White Siam	0 84 0
Guayaquil	58 0	Campion	2 0	Mid. ord. vio. to good	9 6 10 9	Argentine	0 175 0	Pimento	0 24 0
Bahia, finest	59 0	Japan, refined	4 14 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 0	Dutch	0 155 0	Cinnamon—1st sort.	1 2 0
COFFEE—British grown	55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 6 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Do 2nd	0 24 0	Do 3rd	0 11 0
55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	91 112 8	Cantharides, per lb.	85 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 4 0	Bacon, smgd.—Irish	0 155 0	Do 4th	0 9 0
Do good to fine	115 0	Castor oil	85 0	Kurpah, mid. to good	6 6 8 0	Danish	0 155 0	Chips	0 34 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	80 120 0	Gum Bulim, Sum. 7/10/0	11/10/0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	Danish	0 155 0	Cassia, Linn. mid. to good	0 42 0
Ord. to fine	130 156 0	Oilbanum, drops	7 0 0	HEMP—per ton	2 8 0	Canadian	0 125 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 4 0
Central American, gd.	75 116 0	Ipecacuanha	2 9 0	St Petersburg, layer	nom	Hams—Irian	nom	Penang	2 10 3 3
Mid. to fine	117 122 6	Musk pod, China, os	75 0	Manila Aug./Oct.	39 15	Canadian	nom	Ginger—per cwt.	120 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 65 0	Aniseed	4 9 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	42 10	American	0 110 0	Cochin cut	0 130 0
Do gd. ord. to low mid	70 93 0	Rhbr, China, fr. to fin	5 6 8 0	JUTE—	5 10 0	Do small rough	40 0	Do washed	50 0
Do mid. to fine	95 142 6	DYE STUFFS, &c.		Native first marks,	5 10 0	Cheese—Canadain	0 104 0	Japan	45 0
CHIEF CATTLE—		Galls, China, per cwt	75 0	Oct./Nov. subs.	5 10 0	New Zealand	0 102 0	Jamaica	125 0
Acid, citric, per lb.	2 54 2 6	Turner, Bengal	17 0	LEATHER—per lb.	1 6 2 6	Eng. Cheddars	0 150 0	Mace	0 120 0
Nitric	0 24 0 4	Madras, finger	20 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 3 4	Cheese	0 138 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1 54
Oralic, net	0 7 0 9	Gambier, block	34 0	Do do 12/16	2 2 3 4	Eggs, pr 12½—English	37 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 9
Tartaric, English	54 1 6	Cutch, ord. to fair	35 0	Do do 14/16	2 2 3 4	Irish	32 0	Chillies per cwt	140 0
Foreign	54 1 6	PEPPER—per ton	13 0	Do do 17/16	1 10 3 0	Cheshire	0 138 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	54 0 0
Alum lump, per ton	17/0 17/0	Fustic, Jamaica	14 0	Bark Tanned Sole	3 0 4 0	FLUOR—per ton	0 138 0	Good mutton	0 13 0 0
Do ground	17/0 17/0	Cuba	15 0	Shirts fm DS Hides	0 9 11 0	Eng. straight ex mill	58 0 0	Beef	50 0 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb.	0 4 0 4	China	15 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 11 0 0	RIOR—per cwt. c.i.f.	0 0 0 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 13 6 12
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0	Logwood, Campechy	12 0	Bellies fm DS do	0 9 1 0	Broken 18	15 0 0	Pearl	0 20 0 25 0
Sulphate	225 0 26 0	Honduras	13 0	Do Eng or WS do	0 9 1 0	Rangoon No. 2	19 0 0	TEA—duty 10d, British,	
Arsenic, lump, per ton	75 0 83 0	Jamaica	12 0	Dressing Hides	1 9 2 0	Broken 18	15 0 0	foreign in per lb.	
Powder	per ton 43 0 42 0	Red Sanders	20 0	Ro. Eng. Calif, 20/30lb	4 0 7 0	ROBIN—per ton	17/0 0	Pekoe	0 74 1 64
Ashes, pot., per cwt.	190 0 195 0	Benang Ceylon	20 0	Australian Sides	1 1 7 0	French	16/0 0	Broken Pekoe	0 84 0 94
Pearl do do	nom	FLAX—spot—c.i.f.	2 8 2 8	METALS—B. Copper	2 8 2 8	SAGO—Pearl, per cwt	25 0 0	Orange Pekoe	0 84 0 94
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	19/0 20/0	Pina ZK	115 0	Beat selected	63 10 7 13	SHELLAC—per cwt—	4 8 4 8	Pekoe Souchong	0 74 0 11
Borax, crystals	cwt 31 0 30 0	Pernau HD	115 0	Standard	67 12 6 7 15 0	Orange, first marks	400 0	TIMBER—Timber & Hewn Wood	
Do powder	32 0 0 0	Blanet UJA Medium	125 0	Lead—Eng. Pip. ton 24 15/0	0 0 0 0	Second, fair to fine	400 0	E. I. Teak (load)	20/0 50/0
Cream Tartar	130 0 132 6	FRUIT—		Do do 25 10/0	21/7 6	TN Orange	325 0	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	9 0 16 0
Salomel	per lb 5 5 5 6	Oranges, Val. selected	4 0 0 0	Sulphur G.O.B.	28 0 29/17 6	Garnet, Lac G.	2 0 0 0	Satinwood super,	0 6 6 6
Iodine, dry	per lb 1 0 1 1	Do Malaga cases	0 0 0 0	Tin—English Ingots	154 0 155 0	Blocky	290 0 0 0	Cedar	0 5 1 0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	16/0 18/0	Lemons, Naples, cases	0 0 0 0	Do do bars	155 0 155 0	Button—Pure	280 0 0 0	Japanese Oak	0 8 1 0
Potash—		Do boxes 12	63 0 0	Standard, cash	155 5 15 19	Blocky (TN)	31 0 0 0	American Ash	0 4 0 10
Chlorate, net	0 6 0 7	Do Stilian boxes	8 25 0 0	OILS—Fish, per ton—£	4 2 5 4	SILK—per lb.		TOBACCO—	
Prussiate	1 0 1 2	Do boxes 12	63 0 0	Seal, pale, selected	29 10	China—Blue Elephant	39 6 0 0	Duty 8/2—10/4 per lb.	
Do Foreign	1 0 1 2	Do Malaga boxes	15 24 0 0	net, naked	58 0	Canton	29 6 34 0	Virginia leaf—	
Sulphate	per ton 25 0 30 0	Grapes, Lisbon, boxes	12 25 0 0	Refined	54 0	Tussah	16 0 12 0	Common to fine	1 3 2 6
Sal-Acetic, per lb	4 10 0 0	Almeria	0 35 0 0	Crude	54 0	Re-refined	0 0 0 0	Strips	2 0 2 6
Sal-Ammoniac, per cwt	75 0 83 0	HIDES—Wet-salted		Cotton-seed, crude	47 0 0 0	Japan	31 0 35 0	Kentucky leaf—	
Bol-Bicarb, per ton	210/0 12/0 0	West Indian	0 5 0 7	Edible refined	55 0 62 0	Italm.—Raw, fr. Milan	38 0 40 0	Common to fine	1 0 1 6
Crystals, exshp. p. ton	27/0 8/0 0	Cape	0 6 0 8	Cocoa-nut, crude	54 0 68 0	Manila, bold	210/0 14/0 0	Macassar	0 8 1 9
Alkali	8/150 9/5 0	Lisbon	0 6 0 8	Refined	nom	Sydney	9/10 0 14/0 0	China	0 8 1 9
Caustic	per lb 2 0 2 0	Opoca	0 4 0 7	Palm	38 0 41 0	W. Australian	9/0 0 14/0 0	Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 1 0 0
Sugar of lead white, ton	0/0 0/0 0	Dry & Dry-salted Cape	0 4 0 7	Lard, American	63 0 0 0	Bombay	5/10 0 6/10 0	Seedleaf	1 6 6 6
Foreign white	247 10 50 0	Madagascar	0 4 0 7	Petrolm. Oil, per lb	1 44 0 0	SUGAR—per cwt	25 84	Havana	0 6 6 6
Sulphate Quinine	nom	Central American	0 10 0 15	Water-White	1 5 0 0	per cwt. polarisation	4 8 4 8	Greek	0 10 1 0
English Brands	4 1 0 0	Penang	0 6 0 15	Oil Cakes, Linsd., Eng.	0 43 0 0	B.W. I., muscovado	33 0 37 0	East Indian	0 6 2 0
Foreign do	4 1 0 0	E. I.	0 8 0 8	per ton	212/15/0 13 15 0	Crystallised	33 0 43 0	Cikara, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 0 0
Sulphate Copper, p. ton	32/0 32/0 0	Market Hides, London	0 103 0 0	Oil Seeds—Linsd.		Java, spot	47 0 0 0	TURPINE, p. cwt	67 6 0
Do do	18/0 18/0 0	Beachy, ox & heifer	0 104 0 0	La Plata Sept./Oct.	215 0 0	Yellow Crystals	45 0 0 0	WOOL—per lb.	
Sulphur Flour	17/0 18/0 0	2nd ox, heavy	0 98 0 0	Bombay, p. ton, Sept./Oct.	18 10 0	Cubes	55 0 56 0	English, Southdown, wshd.	174
Do Roll	17/0 18/0 0	Do light	0 9 0 0	Calcutta, p. ton, Sept./Oct.	17 10 0	Crushed	52 6 0 0	Lincoln rug	94
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lb	4 9 5 0	Best cow	0 94 0 0	PORTLAND CEMENT—		Crystals, white	51 6 51 0	Queensland, scd. sup. cng.	38
English	4 9 5 0	Best calf	0 178 0 0	Best, per ton delivd.		Castor	53 0 53 6	N.S.W. greasy, super	15
COPRA—per ton c.i.f.	2 8 2 8	2nd do	0 15 0 0	in London area.	83 6 89 0	Pieces	37 0 46 0	N.Z., grey, hlf-brd. (50-55s)	7
Malabar, Sept./Nov.	nom							" " crossbrd. (40-44s)	7
Ceylon	33 0 0								
FMS Singapore	28 0 0								
FM Stralia	27 0 0								
COCHINEAL—per lb.	2 0 3 6								

The Great Alternative

Saner Politics or Revolution.

By LEONARD J. REID, M.A.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"His indictment of the criminal folly of Bolshevism is most effective."—*Morning Post*.

"A sound and rational contribution to political controversy. . . . We recommend every thinking politician to read it."—*Saturday Review*.

"To unsettle and troubled Liberals we would heartily commend it. It is a finely suggestive discussion of certain vexing questions with the solution whereof Liberalism is vitally concerned."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.

"Studiously moderate."—*Economist*.

"Sane and thoughtful writing."—*Daily News*.

"An able plea for a great New Liberalism."—*Scotsman*.

Crown 8vo. 6/6 net.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO.,

39, Paternoster Row.

NEW ZEALAND

A Wealthy Country, Splendid Climate, Fertile Soil, Plenty of Water.

An Ideal Country for the Farmer, the yield of grain and percentage of lambs being phenomenally high. New Zealand, a country as large as the United Kingdom, with a population slightly over one million, exports annually products up to the value of Thirty Millions Sterling.

NEW ZEALAND IS RICH IN COAL, IRON, TIMBER, GUM, GOLD AND SILVER.

Total yield of minerals, over One Hundred and Thirty Million pounds.

The Government has advanced over Twenty-One-and-a-Half Million Pounds to Farmers and Workers, at a low rate of interest, for Improvements and Buildings, and is empowered under the new "Housing Act" to set apart Crown Lands and make advances up to One-and-a-quarter Million Pounds annually for the same purpose.

Railways (3,000 miles), Telegraphs and Telephones (216,742 miles of wire) are State owned and operated.

To those desirous of making a home in the new country New Zealand offers solid advantages.

Excellent Steamship Services are run direct to New Zealand by the Shaw, Savill and Albion Company, Limited, New Zealand Shipping Company, Limited, and the Federal and Shire Lines.

Full information is supplied free by

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND, 413-416, Strand, W.C.2

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted.

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON. Established 1864.

Capital (paid up): Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds: Esc. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

32 offices in Portugal.

9 " " East and West Africa.

5 " " Brazil.

5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.

New York Office—93, Liberty street.

Paris Office—5, Rue du Helder.

London Office—27b, Throgmorton street.

EQUITY AND LAW

Life Assurance Society.

ESTABLISHED 1844.

NEW SCHEME OF WHOLE-LIFE ASSURANCES

WITHOUT PROFITS

At Exceptionally Low Rates of Premium.

Specially applicable for Family Provision and to meet

DEATH DUTIES.

PREMIUMS FOR £1,000.

EXAMPLES—

Age next Birthday.	Payment throughout Life.	Limited to 20 Payments.	Limited to 15 Payments.
30	£17 5 10	£25 9 2	£30 16 8
40	24 0 10	31 19 2	38 5 10
50	35 10 0	42 1 8	49 3 4

For Full Prospectus, or Prospectus of New Scheme, write to:—

THE MANAGER, 18 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.2.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	609	Letters to the Editor—	
Leading Articles—		Germany's Export Policy..	625
Remedies and Limitations	611	Real Wages in Germany ..	625
Growth of Foreign Trade of the British Empire	612	Stabilisation of Exchanges	625
The Position of the Agricultural Workers	613	Payment of Indemnities and Unemployment	626
The Railways Act: Exceptional Rates	614	A New Tax System	626
Governments and the Revival of Trade.—II.	615	Books and Publications—	
Stock Market Troubles	616	Reviews	627
Business Notes—		Books Received	627
Employment in September	617	Stock Exchange News—	
Cost of Living	618	The Stock Markets	729
The World's Harvests	618	New Issues	729
Receipts from Germany	618	Active Securities	730
The Fate of Upper Silesia	618	Company Meetings	731
The Bulgarian Loan Settlement	618	Government Returns—	
Greek Politics and Finance	618	Public Income & Expenditure	734
Cotton Trade in Japan	619	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	735
Japanese Trade and Finance	619	Currency Notes Account	735
Argentine Railway Results	619	Bankers' Gazette—	
Uruguayan Railways	619	Bank of England	735
Scottish-American and Tankers	619	Clearing Returns	736
Labour Trouble on the Rand	620	Overseas Bank Returns	736
Mexican Corporation's Revised Agreement	620	Loan and Discount Rates	738
The Foreign Trade of Russia	620	Overseas Bank Rates	738
Mersey Docks and Harbour Board	620	Rates of Exchange	738
Polish Banks Progress	620	Bullion	739
London Housing Bonds	621	Imports & Exports of Gold	739
Federation of British Industries	621	Gold and Silver Prices	739
International Monetary Conference	621	Company News—	
Overseas Correspondence—		Mining Output Statistics	6
United States	621	Oil Outputs	
France	621	Dividend Announcements	
Germany	623	Reports and Notices	
Italy	624	Railway & Tramway Traffic	
Norway	624	Profit and Loss Accounts	
		Commercial Reports—	
		Corn Trade	
		Iron and Coal Trade	
		Cotton Trade	
		Wool Trade	
		Vegetable Oils and Oilseed	
		Hide and Leather Trades	
		Portland Cement	
		Overseas Produce Market	
		Price Current	

	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	5½	5½	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount, Call	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	4½ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	4½	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	3½	4½	4½	4½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return bears the marks of further creation of credit. The stock of gold was reduced by £4,500 and the circulation by £929,500, so that the Reserve was £925,000 higher. Government securities increased by £14½ millions and Other securities by £6 millions, so that deposits were £21½ millions higher, more than the whole of which went on to Other, Public being reduced by a quarter of a million. The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £988,900 to £312,603,700, which includes £1,850,146 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £262,803,500, or £54,751,700 below the maximum.

The State Bank of Sweden reduced its rate of discount from 6 to 5½ per cent. on October 19, 1921. It had stood at 6 per cent. since July 5, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended October 15, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	13,404	Supply Services	8,830
Taken from Exchequer Balances	128	Interest on Debt	2,564
		Sundries	558
		Reduction of Debt	1,580
	13,532		13,532

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £1,580,576, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 1,140	Treasury Bills	- 11,525
National Savings Certificates	+ 200	Depreciation fund	- 660
Bank of England Advances	+ 9,500	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 721
Public Department Advances	+ 1,750	Exchequer Bonds repaid	- 715
		Sundries	- 915
	+ 12,590		- 13,671

National Savings Certificates to the extent of £500,000 were issued for housing. Property and Income Tax yielded £3,577,000, while Customs and Excise brought £4,764,000. Exchequer bonds amounting to £750,000 were repaid. Receipts from sales of Treasury bonds amounted to £1,140,000.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

There has been no respite to the difficulties of the foreign exchange situation, marks and dollars again presenting the chief problem. After its sensational rise of a week the mark continued to move up with increasing cordity, until, when on Monday the rate for a time reached about 750, it seemed for the time that the collapse had completely broken bounds. After this leap, however, there came a somewhat steadier tendency, and the rate closed for the day at about 715. Between Monday and Thursday the rate fell steadily to about 588, yesterday morning an upward tendency was again wing, and the rate at 615 was some 73 marks higher than the previous week. For the time it is impossible to hazard a guess at the future. Germany itself the holders of German marks abroad have been roughly frightened, and any sudden acceleration of action as happened recently, or any move on the part of the parties of the Right would almost certainly cause another rush to sell. On the other hand, it now seems clear that, as Germany is said to have met already by deliveries in kind the £15 million gold odd which fall due for reparation payments on November 15th, there will be no pressing reparation problem for some months to come. In addition, the recent collapse would already appear to have had some effect in making the Powers concerned consider very seriously the effect of their reparation claims, while there is always some possibility of an attempt to steady the German position in the interests not of Germany, but of the world as a whole. The spread between spot and future marks is about two marks per month. New York, which on the 14th stood

at 3.87, rose steadily to 3.94½ on the 17th, and after a reaction to 3.92 on the following day has moved up again to 3.96 yesterday morning, almost entirely from pressure from the other side. The reason for this rapid appreciation in the value of sterling remains obscure, there being, beyond the falling off in our imports, little to explain the movement, except the growing tendency in America to easier banking conditions, and so to a certain amount of inflation. It is possible that Mr Lloyd George's unemployment schemes, which have apparently been misunderstood in America and have been unfavourably criticised there, may do something to weaken this growing confidence in sterling. Forward rates are very slightly wider at ¼ cent per month over spot. In sympathy mainly with the mark, and partly perhaps as the result of continued Budget troubles, the Paris rate has moved up from 53.27½ to 54.05 yesterday morning, after being 54.47½ on the 18th, while Brussels has risen from 53.90 to 55.05, showing a considerable widening in the spread. Forward rates for one month are one centime in Paris and 10 centimes in Brussels, showing a slight widening of the margin on the week. Italy, which on the 18th was over 100, has also recovered a little to 99½, but is still more than 1½ lira above last week's quotation. Among neutral exchanges Amsterdam, on very heavy selling of shares in the early part of the week, moved somewhat sharply against us, but has risen again to 11.58½, slightly above last week's quotation. Switzerland, however, which yesterday was 21.55, has reversed its recent movement and gone in our favour again, partly owing to a slowing down in the German demand for Swiss francs, and partly owing to the heavy despatch of coupons to Switzerland for encashment. Spain at 29.80 is some 90 points higher, and Portugal has depreciated to 5½d, and, with renewed political troubles, may go lower. Among North European rates, Christiania at 30.55 is slightly better, but Stockholm at 17.02½, and Copenhagen at 20.67½, have moved well in our favour. Helsingfors, however, at 250 has appreciated somewhat. In Central Europe Vienna Auslands Kronen at 6,600 show a reaction after the recent collapse. The latest available rate for Inlands Kronen was 10,000 on the 17th, when the London rate was 7,150. Warsaw at 16,500, however, is again worse, in spite of the Polish acceptance of the Silesian settlement. Prague at about 370 shows a further rise of some 15 kronen. Belgrade is again some 30 dinar higher at 265, in spite, or perhaps as the result, of new exchange regulations which are not yet properly understood on this side. Bucharest, after rising to above 550, shows at 545 a slight movement towards recovery. Sofia remains nominally unchanged at 525. Budapest is some 500 kr higher at 3,000, while Athens, after its recent slight recovery, is again up to 90½. Contrary to expectation, the rupee has had a sharp relapse to about 1s 4½d as the result, it is suggested, largely of the collapse of the mark, which is bound to have an unfortunate effect on India's exports to Germany. At the same time, offerings from India, resales by China, and the effect of Germany's position on China also, has brought a rapid fall of about 2d in the price of silver, although it is not expected that this downward movement will go much further at present. Hong Kong and Shanghai have got cheaper in sympathy, and the price of yen is also slightly lower. In South America, Rio is decidedly cheaper, Montevideo and Buenos Ayres unchanged on balance, and Valparaiso slightly dearer.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO OCTOBER 15, 1921.

Total spent	£ 552,289,591	Raised by revenue ..	£ 488,186,724
Dec. in balances	509,093	Net borrowings	63,593,774
Total	551,780,498	Total	551,780,498
ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	19	19	19	19	19
War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,063	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,934
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	405	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	348	358
5½% Conversion L'n.	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	23	79
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,150
Treasury Bills	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	289	273
Exchequer Bonds	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	285	288
Nat'l Savings Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,113
Other Debt	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	154	205
Temporary Advances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	57	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,754	7,760
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,810

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Oct. 16, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Oct. 15, '21.	Oct. 15, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	63,000,000..	46,750,000..	46,750,000..	9,500,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	184,614,000..	154,489,000..	159,033,000..	1,750,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,072,804,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,150,030,000..	11,490,000
Total Floating Debt	1,320,418,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,355,813,000..	240,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

OCTOBER 15TH.—Threat of U.S. railway strike.

OCTOBER 17TH.—Parliament reassembles. Resignation of Sir Eric Geddes announced. Mark drops from 564 to 750. General Pershing at Westminster Abbey. Irish Conference adjourned. London coal prices reduced.

OCTOBER 18TH.—New Government formed in Portugal. Viscount Grey at Mansion House on League of Nations. Chancellor of the Exchequer dines with City bankers.

OCTOBER 19TH.—Government proposals on unemployment announced by Premier in Commons. Lord Weir addresses British Engineers' Society.

OCTOBER 20TH.—Text of Silesian award issued. Motion to admit women to limited membership of Cambridge University defeated.

OCTOBER 21ST.—Irish Conference resumed.

The stock markets have had a week of nervous excitement, disturbance being caused by the demoralisation of the mark, wild rumours in the oil market, and heavy liquidation by British and Dutch holders of securities. Gilt-edged stocks, however, have held their ground fairly well, and the end of the week saw some improvement in the tone in markets where the decline had been most severe.

Activity in the cotton markets has been checked by the easier tendency in raw cotton rates and the decline in the Eastern exchanges. Home trade is held back by the unseasonable weather. In the woollen manufacturing industry home trade remains unsatisfactory, but the value of the raw material is well maintained. 'Topmakers' quotations remain firm. Little improvement is reported from the iron and steel trades. Drastic cuts in steel quotations have been made, but have not so far produced a revival of orders. The hide market is slightly weaker. Tanners are holding out for higher prices. In the shoe trade orders are held up by the fine weather. The markets for vegetable oil and oilseeds have been quiet and depressed.

Details of news and movements in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

REMEDIES AND LIMITATIONS.

The most hopeful point about the Prime Minister's speech on trade and unemployment is that it completely disappoints those who looked for a promise of a patent Government panacea for the economic ills of the country. It is a distinct gain that the days of illusory promises are past. The make-believe atmosphere of 1918—when Ministers on the hustings promised to establish the permanent reign of universal prosperity—is dissipated, and it is surely a first and necessary stage towards the

practical handling of economic problems when the Prime Minister, instead of appearing with Aladdin's lamp in his hand, devotes a large portion of his speech to the limitations of the capacity of a Government to revive trade or cure unemployment. A certain flamboyancy in Mr Lloyd George's description of the preparations that the Government had already made against a rainy day may be pardoned on the ground of political exigency. Nor could it be expected that he would draw public attention to the contributions which his Government have made to present economic troubles through such ill-considered measures as the Safeguarding of Industries Act and the Reparations (Recovery) Act. "Trade recovery," said the Prime Minister, "is what we have got to look to for the ultimate solution of unemployment. That does not depend on Governments. I will give the measure in which these things do depend on Government, and I will give it quite sincerely. Here, in the main, there is nothing that can be done by this House, or any other House, upon which trade recovery in the main depends." It is with these limitations in mind that the Government's actual proposals for providing relief and encouraging trade must be judged. These proposals fall under several heads. The export credits scheme, which has so far proved a dismal failure, is to be amended and extended. It is proposed that the Government shall guarantee exporters to the extent of 100 per cent., with recourse on the trader for 57½ per cent. The scheme is to apply not only, as before, to impoverished Continental countries, but to other foreign countries and British Dominions as well. A maximum is to be fixed for the amount of credit established for each individual firm. The next measure consists of the proposal to guarantee the payment of interest and principal in respect of borrowings by Dominions, Colonies, foreign Governments, public bodies, or corporations, where the Government are satisfied that the proceeds are to be "applied towards the carrying out of any capital undertaking or in the purchase of articles to be manufactured in the United Kingdom, required for the purposes of any such undertaking." The Government is to provide a sum not exceeding £25 millions for the purpose of such guarantee. Further proposals are concerned with the more immediate question of relief of distress. A sum of £10 millions is to be allocated towards assisting works of relief already undertaken. Money will be allocated for forestry, land drainage, and roads in respect of which negotiations are pending with local authorities. A fund is to be established to grant relief to the dependents of unemployed workers, while in necessitous areas, where the Guardians find it impossible to cope with the difficulties, a Government loan is to be made to enable them to tide over the emergency. A sum of £300,000 is to be added to the grants already made to enable ex-Service men to emigrate to the Dominions.

Even in the absence of multitudinous details which remain to be filled in, it is easy enough to riddle these proposals with criticism. It may, for instance, be argued that the degree of Government expenditure or liability immediately to be incurred merely adds to the difficulties of the situation; that the export credits scheme, with its committee to fix the limit of credits for the individual firms, will not work

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 100 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

smoothly; and that there is danger in compelling those who raise loans here to spend the proceeds within the United Kingdom or in tampering in any other way with the new capital market. Many other weaknesses in the proposals will be obvious to the careful observer. But it must, at least, be recognised that no Government at this juncture could refuse to spend money on immediate relief, and, as regards the wider schemes, the Prime Minister himself has fairly warned the country of the limited results that can accrue. They do not, and cannot, go to the root of the matter. The crux of the trade problem, as Mr Lloyd George pointed out, lies in the united endeavour of worker and employer at home to put goods on the market at a competitive price, and still more in the harmonious efforts of statesmen to provide the world with a real peace and a sense of security that the world has looked for in vain since the Armistice. As regards the former, it is satisfactory to find Mr Clynes propounding the doctrine of a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. "The fallacy of diminishing the quantity of goods produced," said Mr Clynes, in following the Premier, "in the belief that the less work one man does the more work is left for another, must give place to a standard of production consistent with the certainty of attracting markets to take what we have to sell..... Scarcity is the shield of the profiteer, and the workman is just as bad a profiteer if he deliberately refrains from doing a fair day's work for a fair day's pay." As Lord Weir has pointed out this week in a speech to the British Engineers' Society, reduction in wages does not in itself of necessity bring about lower production costs. What a lowering of production costs essentially entails is that for every week's wage paid a fair week's work is done. To find Lord Weir and Mr Clynes emphasising this point with equal energy on the same day surely may be taken as a sign of hope that at the domestic end of the problem hard truths are at last being faced. As regards public retrenchment, also, Mr Lloyd George's words suggest a new and more adequate recognition of the urgency of the question. The extent of the new liabilities now to be faced enormously enhances that urgency. If, as the Premier foreshadowed, the Government proves itself courageous enough to come forward with ruthless economy proposals, it is to be hoped that the House of Commons, whose record on economy is notoriously bad, will on this occasion rise above the temptation to obstruct them piecemeal.

But if real and lasting progress is to be achieved, no degree of advance towards solving domestic problems can be effective unless accompanied by harmonious effort in the international sphere. The Premier's peroration was eloquent of the crying need for peace and stability, and for a clearing away of bickerings and racial suspicion. "Let us," he said, "get out of the atmosphere that if you talk about a German without a frown on your brow you are not a patriot." With his departure for the Washington Conference drawing near, Mr Lloyd George will find in the sensational fluctuations of the German mark an arresting reminder that the urgency of the European problem is increasing, and that the need for concerted international effort to restore security and confidence is beyond the power of expression even in his most brilliant perorations.

THE GROWTH OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

In a previous article* we have seen that in 1912 three of the chief European countries showed a higher value of foreign trade per head of their populations than that done by the United Kingdom. Among the chief countries of the British Empire there are also three, viz., New Zealand, Australia, and Canada, that showed higher values than the £29 10s 6d per head of its population shown by the United Kingdom. But as in the case of the countries of Europe, so also in the case of her colonies, the United

Kingdom largely profited by carrying an immense proportion of the overseas trade of her outlying Dominions.

TABLE SHOWING the ACTUAL and PERCENTAGE INCREASES in the FOREIGN TRADE of the CHIEF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES and of OUR DOMINIONS in 1912 OVER 1901.

European Countries.	Actual Increase.	Per Cent.	British Dominions, &c.	Actual Increase.	Per Cent.
United Kingdom	473,703,000	54.5	British India	159,700,000	97.5
France	331,700,000	76.6	Canada	143,600,000	180.6
Germany*	260,100,000	24.8	Australia	65,200,000	70.8
Holland	242,300,000	77.8	British South Africa†	42,900,000	64.3
Belgium†	232,300,000	84.4	New Zealand	19,300,000	78.1
Italy	131,400,000	104.5	British West Africa..	17,400,000	220.2
Denmark	32,200,000	63.0	British West Indies..	7,400,000	56.1

* Increase in 1912 over 1907.

† Increase in 1911 over 1901.

‡ Increase in 1912 over 1904.

The great percentage increase (104.5) in the value of Italy's foreign trade in 1912 upon that of 1901 was largely due to the timely check to her ambitions in the direction of colonial expansion, which led her to concentrate on the development of her internal resources. None of the other chief countries of Europe showed so rapid a development, although, as we see from the table, both Canada and British West Africa made more rapid progress. The trade of British India almost doubled in value, and that of Australia approached the percentage increase seen in the cases of France and Holland, the percentage increase of New Zealand's trade (78.1) being even higher, whilst that of the fertile West Indies exceeded even the percentage increase of the United Kingdom. The very rapid increase in the foreign trade of our tropical possessions in West Africa has lately come to a standstill, and the warning uttered by the Earl of Selborne, as chairman of the Bank of British West Africa, deserves the serious consideration of the Colonial Office. He said, "Everyone connected with West Africa must recognise that the power to purchase depended upon exports, and it was clearly to the interest of manufacturers in the United Kingdom, as well as of the African producer, that no impediments other than those which were unavoidable should be put in the way of West African trade."* The removal of the export duty upon West African produce has become of urgent importance.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of CANADA from 1901 to 1912.

CANADA.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports. Min. £.	Ex- ports. Min. £.	Total Trade. Min. £.	Per Head of Population.								
					Im- ports.			Ex- ports.			Total Trade.		
					£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
1901	5,371,000	39.1	40.4	79.5	7	5	7	7	10	5	14	16	0
Average, 1902-1906 ..		52.2	45.7	97.9									
Average, 1907-1911 ..		86.5	59.8	146.3									
1912	7,343,000	142.3	80.8	223.1	19	7	7	11	0	1	130	7	8

Whilst the population of Canada increased by 1,972,000, or 36.7 per cent. upon that of 1901, the value of the imports rose by 264 per cent., and that of the exports by 100 per cent. The percentage increase of her total trade was 180.6, or nearly three times that of 1901. The value of her total trade per head of her population rose from £14 16s to £30 7s 8d. Whereas the value of her exports slightly exceeded that of her imports in 1901, in later years the reverse has been the case, and in 1912 the exports were not much more than half the value of the imports.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of AUSTRALIA from 1901 to 1912.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports. Min. £.	Ex- ports. Min. £.	Total Trade. Min. £.	Per Head of Population.								
					Im- ports.			Ex- ports.			Total Trade.		
					£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
1901	3,774,000	42.4	49.7	92.1	11	4	8	13	3	5	24	8	1
Average, 1902-1906 ..		39.7	55.2	94.9									
Average, 1907-1911 ..		56.0	71.3	127.3									
	4,750,000	78.2	79.1	157.3	16	9	3	16	13	1	133	2	4

Between 1901 and 1912 the population of the Commonwealth rose by 976,000, or 25.8 per cent. Her imports and exports increased by 84.3 per cent. and 59.15 per cent. respectively, and her total trade rose from 92 millions to 157 millions, or at the rate of 70.8 per cent. Until 1912 the value of the exports was much higher than that of the imports, but in that year the value of the imports per head of the population was within a few shillings of that of her exports.

* See page 106 of the *Economist*, July 16, 1921.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of NEW ZEALAND from 1901 to 1912.

NEW ZEALAND.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.								
		Min. £.	Min. £.	Min. £.	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.						
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
1901.....	773,000	11.8	12.9	24.7	15	5	8	16	13	3	31	18	11
Average, 1902-1906		13.1	15.4	28.5									
Average, 1907-1911..		17.4	19.5	36.9									
1912	1,020,000	21.0	23.0	44.0	20	11	9	22	11	0	43	2	9

From 1901 to 1912 the population rose by 247,000, or 24.2 per cent., the value of the imports rose by 78 per cent., and that of the exports by 78.3, the exports being each year rather higher than the imports. The value of the total trade per head of the population rose from £31 18s 11d to £43 2s 9d, and stood third to the values of Holland and Belgium, considerably exceeding the values of Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of the BRITISH WEST INDIES from 1901 to 1912.

BRITISH WEST INDIES.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.		
		Min. £	Min. £	Min. £	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.
					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
1901	1,578,000	6.9	6.3	13.2	4 7 6	4 0 0	8 7 6
Average, 1902-1906		7.2	6.3	13.5			
Average, 1907-1911		9.2	8.3	17.5			
1912	1,700,000	11.0	9.6	20.6	6 9 5	5 12 11	12 2 4

It will be seen that the value of the imports rose more rapidly than that of the exports, the percentage increases in the eleven years being 59.4 and 52.4 respectively, and the value of the total trade per head rising from £8 7s 6d to £12 2s 4d.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of BRITISH WEST AFRICA from 1901 to 1912.

BRITISH WEST AFRICA.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population		
		Min. £.	Min. £.	Min. £.	Im- ports.	Ex- ports.	Total Trade.
					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
1901	16,207,000	4.6	3.3	7.9	0 5 8	0 4 0	0 9 8
Average, 1902-1906		5.7	5.0	10.7			
Average, 1907-1911 ..		9.4	8.9	18.3			
1912	20,500,000	12.6	12.7	25.3	0 12 3	0 12 5	1 4 8

Whilst the increase in the population of British West Africa was at the rate of 26.5 per cent., the value of her imports rose by 174 per cent. and of her exports by 285 per cent., the increase in the value of her foreign trade per head of the population being from 9s 8d to £1 4s 8d, an amount considerably exceeding the value of the total foreign trade per head of our Indian Empire.

TABLE SHOWING the GROWTH of the FOREIGN TRADE of BRITISH INDIA from 1901 to 1912.

BRITISH INDIA.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports. Min. £.	Ex- ports. Min. £.	Total Trade. Min. £.	Per Head of Population.		
					Im- ports. £ s. d.	Ex- ports. £ s. d.	Total Trade. £ s. d.
1901	294,317,000	72.9	90.9	163.8	0 5 0	0 6 2	0 11 2
Average, 1902-1906		92.2	112.2	204.4			
Average, 1907-1911		114.9	132.3	247.2			
1912	317,000,000	152.3	171.2	323.5	0 9 7	0 10 10	1 0 5

In the eleven years the population of British India increased by 23 millions, or 8 per cent., the value of the imports by 109 per cent., that of the exports by 88.3 per cent., and the value of the total foreign trade per head of the population rose from 11s 2d to £1 0s 5d.

British South Africa in 1904 comprised the four self-governing colonies of the Cape, Natal, Orange Free State, and the Transvaal, which were united by the South Africa Act of 1909 into the Union of South Africa, and of Swaziland, Basutoland, the Bechuanaland Protectorate, and Southern and Northern Rhodesia. The growth of the trade of British South Africa is shown in the following table:—

BRITISH S. AFRICA.	Popula- tion.	Im- ports. Min. £.	Ex- ports. Min. £.	Total Trade. Min. £.	Per Head of Population		
					Im- ports. £ s. d.	Ex- ports. £ s. d.	Total Trade. £ s. d.
1904	6,980,000	35.7	31.0	66.7	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Average, 1904-1907		32.8	39.8	72.6	5 2 4	4 8 10	9 11 2
Average, 1908-1911		34.3	53.2	87.5			
1912	8,200,000	43.0	66.6	109.6	5 4 11	8 2 5	13 7 4

The population was estimated in 1901 at 6,980,000. It rose to 8,200,000 in 1912, showing an increase of 1,220,000, or 17.5 per cent. The exports are far more in

value than the imports, and the value of the total trade in 1912 per head of the population was £13 7s 4d. The resources of British South Africa are being rapidly developed, and her place in the list of countries supplying other lands with agricultural and pastoral products will soon rival her position as the producer of gold and precious stones.

THE POSITION OF THE AGRICULTURAL WORKERS.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WHEN the Government, with the inconsistency to which the public has become familiar, swept away the Agricultural Wages Board, which a few months previously it had made "permanent" by legislation, it was generally realised, at any rate in Labour circles, that the farm workers were in for a bad time. The Wages Board had given them a new sense of security. Wages were improved and hours of labour reduced. Broadly speaking, the policy of the employers was determined by the most enlightened section, and consequently the operations of the Board resulted in manifest benefits to the land worker. And though there were a large number of farmers who were bitterly opposed both to legal wage machinery and trade unionism, nevertheless the employers as a whole were becoming accustomed to the working of the Wages Board, if they were not actually reconciled to it. Then the Government, in order to get rid of the subsidy to the farmers, suddenly decided that both the guarantees and the Board were to be abolished. It was urged that conditions were such that without the protection of the Board the standard of life of the farm workers would be beaten down. The Government, however, refused to retain the machinery which it had created, but the Minister of Agriculture was put up to say that the industry could have Conciliation Committees which were "just as good" as the real article.

These Committees are now at work in many areas, and are turning out much as the Labour critics anticipated. The new Committees consist of representatives of workers and employers, without the "appointed members" who formed part of the Wages Board and the District Wages Committees. They may cover either a larger or a smaller area than the District Committees which they have displaced. There appears to be a tendency in some districts for the farmers to press for smaller areas, and thereby to break up the country amongst a larger number of bodies. The policy behind this tendency is to destroy the possibility of national wage rates and to revert as nearly as possible to individual bargaining.

The functions of the Committees when fully stated have an air of importance. A Conciliation Committee may agree upon rates of wages for any class of persons employed in the district or in any part of the district for which the Committee is formed. It may fix special rates of wages for special classes of workers. It may provide for the exemption, on account of special circumstances, of particular workers from the rates agreed upon. It may agree upon the period for which rates of wages shall operate. It may deal with hours and conditions of labour. Briefly, a Conciliation Committee may do what any body of representatives of employers and workers set round a table may do—agree upon wages, hours, and conditions. What, however, on the face of it, gives a real importance to the Conciliation Committees is that, if they so decide, agreements arrived at may be submitted to the Minister of Agriculture for confirmation. If the Minister confirms an agreement, he will then cause the particulars to be advertised in the district to which it applies, specifying the date from which the agreement will become operative. When an agreement has been confirmed and published, the wages and conditions laid down in it become applicable to all farms in the district when the agreement comes into force.

Superficially, the machinery of the Conciliation Committees bears a certain resemblance to that of the Agricultural Wages Board or a Trade Board. But whether the Minister of Agriculture takes the steps outlined above depends upon the Conciliation Committees. A Committee which has arrived at an agreement must by resolution decide to submit it to the Minister for confirmation, and it is obviously possible for the farmers' side of a Committee

* See the *Economist*, page 330, August 27, 1921.

to thwart any such decision. Moreover, there is no central body co-ordinating wages and other agreements, and there may, and probably will be, under this system a multitude of wage scales in operation in the country, most of them bearing no relation to each other or to the employers' ability to pay. Nor when agreements have become operative is there any responsibility upon the State for enforcing them, as there was in the case of the Agricultural Wages Board, and as there still is in the case of the Trade Boards. Lastly, in districts where an agreement has been put into operation, it is possible for an individual worker to contract out of it. If a farm worker is content with a lower wage, or accepts a lower wage in order to keep his job, or because he is afraid to ask for more, he and his employer may evade the intention of the agreement. It is obvious that this provision strikes at the root of district agreements and collective bargaining, and is a menace to trade unionism. The Conciliation Committees, it will be seen, are working under conditions which militate against successful working, as no doubt they were intended to do. Already there is evidence that the provisions for the registration of agreements will remain almost a dead letter, and that it will be difficult to secure agreements.

The operation of the legal minimum wage came to an end on October 1st, and where new wages agreements were not reached by that date the farmers were entitled to pay what wages they chose. In some parts of the country, as for example, Cheshire, Durham, Lincolnshire, and Nottinghamshire, the Wage Board rates are continuing to be paid pending early meetings of the Conciliation Committees, though an understanding in this sense is not binding. In other cases, the employers have formulated demands for lower wages and longer hours of labour, which, in the majority of cases, have not been accepted by the men. In a few instances agreements have been arrived at by the two sides. There are some places, such as Merioneth and Montgomery, where there will be no agreements at all, as the farmers have flatly refused to work on Conciliation Committees. There is at present confusion in the agricultural industry.

This confusion does not augur well for the landworker. There is a prospect of widespread reductions of wages, judging by the new suggested rates which are being put forward by the farmers. Before the Wages Board came to an end there was a minimum wage in most districts of 42s for a 48-hour week. In Bedfordshire and Huntingdonshire the employers have proposed a wage of 38s for a week of 50 hours. The Berkshire farmers have offered 36s for a 50-hour week, from October 1st to December 1st, and will not agree to the registration of the agreement. In South Cambridgeshire the farmers have proposed a wage of 37s 6d a week for the next two months. The offer made by the Devonshire farmers is that the farm workers should be paid 39s per week of 51 hours. Herefordshire employers propose a reduction by instalments, and offer 39s for 50 hours during October and thereafter 36s per week. The Wiltshire farmers have laid it down that 36s per week is their final and only offer, and that under no circumstances will any agreement to which they are parties be registered. It will be seen from these typical cases that the wages offered range from 36s to 39s for a longer working week. The increase in working hours means, in effect, a further reduction in wages. It may be noted that many of the offers made by the employers hold good for very short periods, which suggests that further reductions of wages and increases of hours are contemplated in the near future.

The dice are loaded against the agricultural workers. Trade unionism amongst land workers has peculiar difficulties, and notwithstanding the great strides which have been made during the past few years, the agricultural unions do not possess the influence which many unions in other industries enjoy. The harvest is over, and the demand for labour is not strong. There are a good many land workers at present unemployed, and as they are not covered by the Unemployment Insurance Acts, their position is desperate. In such circumstances it is impossible to avert drastic wages reductions. There is little doubt that the wages in agriculture will be driven below the pre-war level. A wage of 36s is roughly the equivalent of 16s before the war. Even if allowances and perquisites are added, the

wage remains miserably low. Now, though the farmer has become free from any restrictions, and may therefore offer what wages he chooses, he cannot compel his workers to accept them. They may, if they are so disposed, betake themselves to the towns. The migration to the larger centres of population was, of course, a marked feature in the years before the war. The agricultural worker, owing to his experience during the war, whether in the Army or on the land, is far different from the land worker of pre-war days. He will either seek occupation elsewhere or remain on the land as a discontented and unwilling worker.

It is unfortunate that the farm workers must suffer as a result of the narrow-mindedness of the farmers. Agriculture, the largest industry in the country, is the only one which has not realised the advantages of collective bargaining. In the manufacturing and transport industries national agreements are common, and in 1919 the National Industrial Conference representing employers and workers unanimously recommended to the Government the passage of legal minimum wage legislation to cover all workers. The country has nothing to gain by inadequate wages, and if the general public were aware of the policy which is being pursued by the farmers, the latter would receive very little support. The Labour view is that the farm worker is paying the price, as he has always done, for the inefficiency of agriculture. A full inquiry into the industry would be a good thing.

THE RAILWAYS ACT: EXCEPTIONAL RATES.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE public mind has been much agitated on the question of exceptional rates. In France, the Commission of Public Finances which examined the advisability of making a departure from the principle of equilibrium between receipts and expenditure, in recognising exceptional rates, made the following pertinent remarks: "Nothing can be laid down with absolute rigidity; and it is certain that an 'automatism' applied too sternly, not only to machines but commercial transactions, will falsify the very function of an industry. Excellent as a principle for fixing general tariff, it can be harmful if applied too rigorously to the transport services which have demanded 'special' rates from the very commencement. We are, therefore, constrained to recognise them." No thinking man will question the reasonableness of the above statement. The necessity of exceptional rates has therefore been fully and readily recognised by the Act.

Controversial ground is only reached when the question arises as to the measure of control that the Government should exercise over exceptional rates. The companies contended that they were the best judges of their interests, and that if they agreed with a trader to grant him exceptional rates the Government ought to have no voice. There are, however, obviously many reasons why an independent tribunal like the Rates Tribunal should have a final say in the matter. Foremost amongst these is the relativity of charges between traders. Cases of this sort are met by the provisions in the Act of 1888, against "undue preference." But the trading community is not satisfied as to its effectiveness. Such cases are hard to prove in a court of law. It is difficult to prove that any two cases are alike "in respect of the same or similar circumstances." The trading classes had for a long time, therefore, demanded the institution of an impartial body.

Curiously enough, when it had been created they joined hands with the companies in demanding that no reference be made to the Rates Tribunal in the making of exceptional rates. But we have not to go far to search for an explanation. An exceptional rate is made for the benefit of some traders; those that are favoured by it will naturally desire no searching examination of any outside body. One cannot resist the impression left on the mind that, while the small trader clings to the protection offered to him by an independent tribunal, the powerful trader disdains its intervention and advocates freedom to the companies. The large trader hopes to gain by this freedom, whereas the weaker one goes to the wall. On this point, American railway history supplies us with a parallel, and confirms us in our opinion that the large trader stands by the companies in their demand for full freedom for

manipulating rates, with the object that he will be able to bring pressure upon them for a reduction of charges in his favour. By the way, it may be mentioned that the railway companies in America had ultimately reason to thank the Commission for protecting them from extortionate demands of large corporations. Although the forces of trading corporations in England have never been comparable to those in America, the lesson which the American railway companies learnt may not be wholly lost to their sister organisations in England.

There is, besides, a question of discrimination between markets, which needs careful consideration. Exceptional rates often give rise to unnatural distribution of industries. Such rates ought therefore to be submitted to stringent control. The results of granting exceptional rates ought to be reckoned in a broader light than the mere choice of railway companies.

By this control the traders have everything to gain rather than to lose. Until to-day the complaint has been just the other way: that a Governmental body is more accessible to pressure for lower rates than the railway companies. No one can deny that the thoroughly scientific arrangement of exceptional rates by the German Tariff Commission went a long way in helping the export trade of that country. There should be no fear that the Rates Tribunal will not recognise a necessary amount of elasticity by permitting exceptional rates where necessary.

The above reasons are sufficient to warrant a strict control over exceptional rates. To these may be added the difficulty of estimating the income to be derived from exceptional rates, if the companies are left alone to manipulate them as they please. Unless the tribunal can approximately calculate the income from exceptional rates it will be at a loss in fixing the standard or class rates, so as to make the aggregate income from the two sources equal to the standard revenue. The remarks of the Rates Advisory Committee in this connection may be borne in mind. ".....but from the time that the principle is accepted that the rates generally are to be so fixed as to secure the railways a specified net revenue, the whole trading community is interested in proper provision being made that an individual trader or one or more classes of traders do not obtain advantages at the expense of the general body.....there is no corresponding advantage to the general body of traders in seeing traffic transferred from one railway to another by reduced rates being charged to certain traders or classes as well able to pay the class rates as those who do not participate in the reduction. It is, therefore, of importance that the new tribunal shall keep a jealous eye upon exceptional rates in all cases where there is any ground for suspecting that the reason for granting the proposed exceptional rates is competition with an adjoining railway company or group."

The compromise of the companies with the Government as reflected in the amended Clauses 35, 36, and 37 are certainly more satisfactory than the attitude which the companies adopted at the beginning. The upshot of this compromise is that all exceptional rates 5 per cent. below the standard rates will cease to operate; the other existing rates may continue by agreement with the trader; in future exceptional rates shall not be less than 5 per cent. or more than 40 per cent. below the standard rates. As for new exceptional rates, they may be fixed by the tribunal on the application of traders; they may be made and continued by the company, unless suspended by the tribunal. Any variations in exceptional rates continued or granted by the company may be made if the reduction is not more than 40 per cent. below the standard rate, unless the exceptional rate has been fixed by the tribunal. There is no material difference between the original clauses as were submitted to Committee A and B and the amended clauses except in the right of a company to fix new exceptional rates. A company can now put into operation a new exceptional rate without getting a formal sanction or waiting a prescribed period. This was conceded in order to make a special rate come into operation promptly. To our mind the American and the French method, which is also the one as proposed by the original clauses, is more logical. It is always best to determine the reasonableness of such a rate in advance, unless exceptional circumstances warrant an immediate grant.

Harm may have been done to a shipper who has been discriminated against, before the tribunal suspends this rate. A railway company ought to satisfy the tribunal before it fixes a new exceptional rate.

It will not be proper to leave the problem of exceptional rates without so much as alluding to the provision that no exceptional rate more than 40 per cent. or less than 5 per cent. below the standard rate will in future be allowed unless permitted by the Rates Tribunal limit. The upper limit of the difference between an exceptional rate and a standard or class rate is justified on the principle of "net additional cost." By this is meant the cost to the railway company of merely handling the goods, apart from the expenditure which is constant and regardless of the amount of traffic, e.g., interest charges on capital invested. Every railway manager does, in fact, submit the reasonableness of an exceptional rate to this test. It may be presumed that the remaining 60 per cent. of a standard rate is the average "net additional cost" in England. In America a provision which nearly approaches this is, that no rate should be allowed as will not compensate for the services rendered. The lower limit of 5 per cent. is presumably based on the ground that a rate which is only 5 per cent. below the standard rate is not wanted by trade necessities as making any difference in the cost of an article to either the shipper or the consumer, but is an outcome of artificial differences between shippers or markets.

GOVERNMENTS AND THE REVIVAL OF TRADE.—II.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

"Does it help to increase the purchasing power of the impoverished countries?"

In a former article it was suggested that this is the crucial test to which all schemes for reviving foreign trade should be brought, and that, according as they stand the test, they should be adopted or rejected. There are in the air at present many suggestions and proposals for Government action which must be either ineffective or actively mischievous, and the first step to be taken by Governments and their advisers is to winnow them out. In a matter so complicated as this, all kinds of remedies are certain to be put forward, and there is a danger that the man who shouts the efficacy of his panacea loudest will get it accepted, irrespective of its true merits. The surest way of killing the unsound schemes is public discussion, and in this article it is proposed to set out a few of the things that Governments will be asked to do, but cannot, in our opinion, do with advantage.

1. *They cannot stabilise the exchanges by direct action.* It ought not to be necessary to emphasise this point, but even among business men and merchants whose daily trade is with the exchanges there survives a notion that something can be done by the Governments, through an international currency or similar device, to prevent exchanges from fluctuating, and to fix them at the desired point. The Brussels Conference laid it down that every Government ought to abandon artificial measures which conceal from the people the true economic situation, and, more expressly, that attempts to limit fluctuations in exchange by imposing artificial control on exchange operations are futile and mischievous. That is undoubtedly true. The problem of the exchanges cannot be solved by a frontal attack, and temporary expedients designed to prevent them from moving with the balance of international indebtedness only stave off the evil day, and make it all the more evil when it does arrive. The history of the war and the transition from war to peace put that fact beyond dispute.

2. *It is not possible for Governments to remedy the mischief by diverting the course of trade and trying to make new markets take the place of old.*

There seems at present to be rather a strong current of opinion running in favour of some heroic cure of this kind, some swift transference of our energies from Europe to distant lands within or without the Empire. Europe, the argument runs, is effete and hopeless; let us turn our eyes away from it, and regard the glorious possibilities of Africa, Australia, and Canada. There lies the hope of the future—not in the war-stricken regions of an im-

poorish Continent. A correspondent of the *Times* recently put this argument into concrete form as follows:—“The pre-war trade world has passed, and British trade policy is compelled to an entirely new orientation. England cannot subsist by lending Australian wool, New Zealand mutton, Uganda cotton, and Welsh coal to industrial Europe in the hope of ultimate interest and sinking fund payable in competitive German rails, Belgian cement, Austrian piece-goods, and French wines. Surely it is wiser to lend Sheffield rails, Gravesend cement, Manchester piece-goods, and Birmingham wire to Africa, in the certainty of continuing and increasing dividends of complementary raw cotton, hides, flax, sisal, coffee, oil-seeds, maize, and rice.”

Developing his argument, the correspondent proposed a loan of £1,000,000,000 to the Dominions, in convertible notes, to enable them to develop their resources, and declared that within six months there would be no unemployment in any of the basic industries, and within ten years the Empire would be a complete and self-sufficient economic organism.

This is exactly what a Government cannot do. It cannot unwrite the history of centuries or pull trades up by their roots and bed them out in the soil of its own choice. The trade we did with Europe before the war amounted to nearly £200,000,000 per annum; there is no possibility even of unfettered private enterprise replacing that trade by sales of corresponding size to the Dominions within ten years; there is absolute certainty that if Government tries to force all this trade towards the Dominions it will waste a good deal of money and make a botch of the whole business. We are far too closely tied up with Europe to turn our backs on it, and we must not allow any Imperial enthusiasm or political interest to mislead us into making the experiment.

3. Our Government cannot do any good by trying to control the course of investment.

As the Imperialist wants to remedy things by Government control of trade, so apparently the Socialists are itching to do good by Government control of new investments. They seem to be taking as their war cry “stop foreign investments,” on the principle that any money invested abroad robs the working man of employment at home. This demand for protection is no more reasonable than the cry for protection in other forms, and it is based on altogether mistaken notions of the form investment at present is taking. The trouble is not that British capitalists are sending too much of their money abroad, but that conditions abroad are frightening them into keeping their money at home. If our fundamental thesis is correct that the key to better employment lies in foreign trade and increased purchasing power of our customers overseas, then to tell the capitalist that even when he can invest abroad with safety, he must not do so, is simply to perpetuate the present evils. We want international communications to be opened up, not choked.

4. Governments cannot set things right simply by adopting a scheme of export credit insurance or credits without recourse.

As an adjunct to other wider reforms a Government scheme of insurance may have considerable value, but the advocates of this proposal have pitched their claims far too high, and the belief they have encouraged that credit and insurance can do everything is highly dangerous. Credit insurance does not, in the language of advertisement, touch the spot. It has been carried on in the past, and is still carried on by private enterprise, with varying degrees of success, but there is no branch of insurance in which the selection of risks has to be made with greater judgment and caution, and more offers of business have to be refused by the careful underwriter. The Board of Trade's present scheme is on a comparatively small scale, and hedged about with stipulations hitherto considered essential to that prudent underwriting which ought to mark even a Government scheme of guarantee. Before insurance can be satisfactorily carried on there must be a certain standard of security, without which neither Government nor individual can afford to launch out. That standard has in most of the countries with which we are directly concerned not yet been reached, and until it has been reached the usefulness of credit

insurance must be limited. To start a machinery for guaranteeing credit, non-selective, comprehensive, Government-aided, while the fundamental evils remain and the credit itself grows constantly worse, is simply to pour water into a leaky bucket. A guarantee does not turn a bad risk into a good one.

5. Our own Government, at any rate, cannot safely interfere between employer and employed for the reduction of wages.

It is generally admitted now that, however distasteful the step may be, the level of wages in this country must be lowered to reduce our cost of production, and lessen the difference between our own industries and those of the foreign countries. But the change should be left to the ordinary course of negotiation, since Government intervention breeds suspicion and tends to delay instead of speed. The mistrust with which the Prime Minister is to-day regarded by Labour is due very largely to his past interference between masters and men, the promises given hastily and never redeemed, and the part which he is believed to have taken during the past 18 months in stiffening the backs of employers against their own workmen. At the present time, the less our politicians have to do with disputes over wages the better.

6. It is not possible to exert much direct influence on the exchanges by cancelling our Allies' war debts to ourselves.

To cancel a big international debt which people believe will be paid must materially affect the exchanges, but unless there is a serious prospect of payment, cancellation can bring little relief. Wiping out German indebtedness to the Allies would have an enormous influence on exchange, because all present calculations are based on the belief that reparations will be exacted. As nobody believes that we shall exact payment from our Allies, the act of cancellation as between ourselves and our Allies in Europe, though the political effect of it would probably be admirable, could do little directly towards restoring the Continental exchanges.

7. No Government acting alone can solve the problem of bad trade.

This is perhaps the most important consideration of all, and one that is apt to be overlooked. The task of bringing order out of chaos, which is the condition precedent of a permanent trade revival, cannot be accomplished by the United States or by Great Britain or by France, and no legislation that any one of them may enact can restore the prosperity of the world or of any single country in the world. At a time when our Prime Minister is introducing the Government Bills for helping trade, this truth ought to be constantly emphasised. To restore trade, we must have the co-operation of all the great Powers of Europe, and we must shape our policy in such a way as to make co-operation possible. The difficulties are far too great for any but concerted action, and on the concert of the Great Powers hangs not merely the recovery, but the survival of trade, even at its present miserable volume.

STOCK MARKET TROUBLES.

(BY A STOCK EXCHANGE CORRESPONDENT.)

THE slump in Stock Exchange securities has affected practically every market in the House, with the exception of that for gilt-edged issues. The reason why these latter have escaped from the effects of the crisis is that investment attention confines itself so exclusively to the best-class stocks that there is a continual demand to counteract the realisations which take place. In no other parts of the Stock Exchange is this the case. The weakness is most evident in those departments where speculation has been all too popular during the past few years. Another cause, however, for the flatness comes into the picture in the shape of sales to meet obligations, open at the end of July, 1914, which will have to be discharged by the beginning of August next. The fixing of the official date for the end of the war happened to come at a most inopportune moment for those who still carry pre-war liabilities in the shape of stocks and shares continued at the end of July, 1914. During August, the holiday month, those who were nursing “cold storage” stock were content to do little or nothing in the direction

of reducing their commitments. In September, however, the continued chaos in foreign exchange and the growing difficulties surrounding unemployment, together with the outlook for trade throughout the world, combined to start a selling movement that has been gathering fresh impetus with every successive drop in prices. The Stock Exchange Committee called for a return of pre-war loans and outstanding stocks which had not been discharged or closed, and, although the list of stocks was limited in a manner which rendered the return very inconclusive, the step gave the signal for efforts to be made in the direction of clearing up some of the pre-war legacies. Financial trouble has developed already. The Stock Exchange has learnt, with profound regret, of difficulties that are known to have befallen some of the leading City firms. Part of the open accounts has been arranged, but the knowledge that there must be others to follow is a menace to every market concerned. The falls in Home Railway stocks, for instance, Argentine Rails, Grand Trunks, Mexicans, and certain others, have been extremely heavy during the past seven years, nor has there been, throughout the period, any chance for the stale bulls to get rid of their stock on the periodical rises which have occurred. Some of the Argentine issues touched their pre-war figures, and two or three in the Home Railway group were similarly fortunate, but the bulk of the stocks enumerated have shrunk steadily, until the gaps between to-day's prices and those of 1914 are literally enormous, as a few examples suffice to illustrate:—

Stock.	Prices		
	July, 1914.	Now.	Fall.
Great Eastern	45½	26	19½
Great Northern Deferred ..	48½	24	24½
Great Western	113½	63½	50
Hull and Barnsley	57	36	21
Lancashire and Yorkshire ..	80	45	35
South-Western Ordinary ..	111	55	56
Brighton Preferred	120	58	62
North-Western	125½	65½	60
Midland Deferred	68½	39	29½
North-Eastern	120½	68½	51½
South-Eastern Ordinary....	70	35	35

Grand Trunk first preference at 15 is 76 points below the end-July, 1914, making-up price, and the second preference at 7 is 65 points down. Trunk ordinary, which was worth 13½ then, now stands at a nominal 30s. Great Western of Brazil shares at 1½ compare with 8½ when war broke out, and Leopoldina at 17 is not much more than one-third of its pre-war level. Mexican Firsts from 104 have dropped to 35, the Seconds from 65 to 24. The list might be extended almost indefinitely, and, although the Stock Exchange throughout the past two or three years has claimed that the rump of the pre-war account is comparatively trifling, in days of a financial slump the legacy takes on formidable proportions. Had the markets been active and buyers plentiful, as they were 18 months ago, the liquidation of the account, even at substantial losses, could have been effected without great difficulty, but in these latter days it is difficult to sell stock at all in many of the markets. The holders, therefore, faced with the certainty that they must close their accounts within the next nine or ten months, are throwing out other securities in order to provide cash against their liabilities. With the trade gloom so deep many people decline to hold ordinary shares of any sort. A position has arisen in which everybody wants to sell at the same time, and the demoralisation of foreign exchanges, particularly the mark in Germany, seems to be the last or, at all events, the penultimate straw that has broken the back of the Stock Exchange markets. The days will come, of course, when financial affairs begin to mend, but it is useless to cry Peace in markets which at present seem to be far removed from peace. To attempt selling now of any stock which has so much as a sporting chance in the future is to add fresh burdens to a position already over-loaded with trouble. It is safe to say that there are many stocks to-day standing at prices which time will show to be most unduly depressed; but candour compels the admission that it is no easy matter to indicate what can be regarded as likely to appreciate most quickly when the present fury of liquidation shall have blown itself out. That the flatness may go too far is manifest from the manner in which prices, in some markets, rapidly rally

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LTD.

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary Limited, established throughout Australasia.)

Issued Capital, £1,844,986.

Eastern and General Merchants.

1-4 Great Tower street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches throughout the East.

directly the immediate pressure to sell is withdrawn. The better tendency, however, confines itself more to sentiment than to buying orders. The fundamental troubles of the stock markets are not removed by an improvement from the worst in oil or Kafir shares.

Business Notes.

Employment in September. — The *Labour Gazette* reports that employment during September showed further improvement in some trades, but was still generally bad. The percentage of unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received fell from 16.3 per cent. at the end of August to 14.8 per cent. at the end of September. How the percentage stood in 1913, and how it has moved month by month for the past five or six years, is shown by the following table:—

	TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.											
	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.					
End of—	%	%	%	%	%	%	%					
January ..	2.2	0.6	0.3	1.0	2.4	2.9	6.9					
February ..	2.0	0.5	0.3	0.9	2.8	1.6	8.5					
March	1.9	0.5	0.3	1.2	2.9	1.1	10.0					
April	1.7	0.5	0.3	0.9	2.8	0.9	17.6*					
May	1.9	0.5	0.4	0.9	2.1	1.1	22.2*					
June	1.9	0.5	0.4	0.7	1.7	1.2	23.1*					
July	1.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	2.0	1.4	16.7					
August	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	2.2	1.6	16.3†					
September ..	2.3	0.4	1.3	0.5	1.6	2.2	14.8					
October	2.2	0.3	1.1	0.4	2.6	5.3*	..					
November ..	2.0	0.3	1.1	0.5	2.9	3.7	..					
December ..	2.6	0.3	1.4	1.2	3.2	6.0	..					

* Excluding coal miners. † Revised figure.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act fell from 13.15 at August 26th to 12.2 at September 30th, but these calculations exclude those persons who have removed their unemployment books after exhaustion of benefit. The total number of workpeople registered at the employment exchanges as unemployed at September 30th was approximately 1,405,000, of whom 1,078,000 were men and 229,000 were women, and the remainder were boys and girls. In this connection it should be noted that at that date about 366,500 persons who had exhausted their unemployment benefit had ceased to register at the exchanges. In addition to those unemployed, 177,000 males and 145,000 females were registered as working systematic short time at September 30th in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At August 26th the corresponding figures were 218,600 males and 189,200 females. There were also 41,400 persons working systematic short time whose benefit was exhausted, compared with 13,600 at August 26th. The Prime Minister stated in the House of Commons, on Wednesday, that the total unemployment figure for men, women, boys, and girls is 1,750,000. Changes in rates of wages reported as having come into operation in September affected over 2,040,000 workpeople, of whom nearly 1,680,000 sustained decreases, while over 360,000 received increases. The net effect of all the changes was a reduction in weekly full-time wages of over £240,000. Since the beginning of 1921 changes in rates of wages reported to the Department have resulted in a net reduction of over £3,800,000 in the weekly wages of nearly 6,600,000 workpeople, and a net increase of over £25,000 in the wages of about 150,000 workpeople.

Cost of Living.—According to the calculation of the *Labour Gazette* the cost of living figure fell 10 points in September, and was at October 1st 110 per cent. above the level in force at July, 1914. How the percentage has moved in 1920 and 1921 is shown below:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.			
1920.	Per Cent.	1921.	Per Cent.
January	125	January	165
February	130	February	151
March	130	March	141
April	132	April	133
May	141	May	128
June	150	June	119
July	152	July	119
August	155	August 2nd	122
September	161	September 1st	120
October	164	October	110
November	176		
December	169		

As regards food alone the fall was even greater in September, the food cost percentage declining from 125 per cent. to 110 per cent. above July, 1914. A cheapening is reported in retail prices of meat, bread, butter, cheese, sugar, and potatoes.

The World's Harvests.—The Statistical Bureau of the International Institute of Agriculture at Rome has published the yields of the 1921 harvests of the principal countries of the Northern Hemisphere, with the exception of Russia and the Serb-Croat-Slovene State, from which we have compiled the following table:—

	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
	1,000 Tons.	% on 1920.
Wheat	67,832.5	+ 5.6
Rye	18,105.9	+ 27.0
Barley	19,391.0	+ 5.5
Oats	39,390.1	- 15.8

The yield of wheat in Germany at 2,623,500 tons shows an increase of 18 per cent. over 1920, of rye at 6,608,000 tons is 33 per cent. more, of barley at 1,792,900 tons is 0.4 per cent. less, and of oats at 4,715,700 tons shows a decline of 3 per cent.

Receipts from Germany.—In answer to a question in the House of Commons on Tuesday relating to money received by the British Exchequer from Germany, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury replied as follows:—"The sums received by this country up to the 30th ultimo under the Financial and Reparation Clauses of the Treaty of Versailles (including cash received from the Reparation Commission, the proceeds of the German Reparation (Recovery) Act, and the proceeds of the sale of ships and dyestuffs, amount to (1) £5,444,000 in repayment of the advances under the Spa Coal Deliveries Agreement, and (2) £38,704,000 on account of this country's claim of approximately £50,000,000 for cost of occupation. A further sum of £4,368,000 is receivable in respect of ships sold. A considerable part of the sums received from the Reparation Commission are held, subject to adjustment of the final settlement of the question dealt with in the Financial Agreement signed at Paris on August 13th last. Germany has also defrayed the cost of the British section of the Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission, and part of the local mark expenditure of the Army of Occupation, and the Inter-Allied Commissions of Control. It will be seen that nothing has yet been received on account of Reparations (which ranks after the cost of occupation), but a Royal Commission under the chairmanship of Lord Sumner was appointed on August 15th last, to make recommendations for *ex gratia* awards to individuals within a total of £5,000,000, to be provided out of the first receipts by the Treasury of the United Kingdom on account of reparation. The claims of merchant seamen or their dependents for compensation for suffering and damage caused by enemy action will be dealt with by this Commission."

The Fate of Upper Silesia.—The recommendation of the Council of the League of Nations, published on Friday, corresponds fully with the forecasts summarised in our issue of last week. It will become operative one month

after the delimitation of the frontier has been completed, by which time the Joint Commission charged with its enforcement and responsible to the League of Nations will have been set up. The political frontier divides the industrial triangle precisely as was expected, but the industries are safeguarded during a period of 15 years from dislocation. The German State Railways in the plebiscite area are to be administered by a Joint Commission and preserved as a single system; the systems of water and power supply, in the absence of special agreements to the contrary, are to remain intact; the Customs barriers at the new frontier are not to interfere with the transit of coal, raw material, goods finished or to be finished, or other produce of the respective zones of the plebiscite area, or with the movements of their inhabitants between them. The German mark is to be the only legal currency in the area, and the branches in it of the German Reichsbank are to be maintained. These last two provisions, however, are modifiable by agreement between Germany and Poland. The labour unions and the workers' insurance system are also preserved from interruption during the transition period. With goodwill among the subordinate officials on both sides the safeguards should be effective, but the German attitude has not, so far, been encouraging. There is no doubt, however, that the decision is final.

The Bulgarian Loan Settlement.—It is understood that the holders of the Bulgarian loans of 1892 and 1909, which were issued in London, have agreed to a settlement of the arrears of interest since 1915 on the same lines as that effected with the French holders of Bulgarian bonds, who have accepted payment in French francs; and the date of payment and other particulars will be announced shortly. The sum requisite for the first payment has been remitted by the Bulgarian Government. The remainder, judging from the settlement with the French bondholders, should follow before the end of the year.

Greek Politics and Finance.—The visit of the Premier and the Foreign Minister of Greece to Paris has intensified the rumours which for some time have been current of fresh and startling developments in the situation in Asia Minor and in the Greek kingdom. The Greek campaign in Asia Minor has failed; the cost of continuing it is prohibitive; the army and the people are becoming weary of it, and Crete is said to be almost openly in revolt. The Ministry recently obtained a vote of confidence, but was only supported by 227 members out of a total of 371, and the whole of the Venizelist party and some other groups abstained. Negotiations have been proceeding for some time between a French emissary and the Kemalists at Angora, and they may result in a proposal by France, stating a revision of the Peace Treaties, to restore Myrina and Thrace to Turkey, together with the control of the Dardanelles and Bosphorus, subject to guarantees of their free passage by the shipping of all nations, and also to give the Porte a free hand with regard to its Customs duties, now under international control. In return, it is stated, the Porte will grant special privileges to France in Asia Minor, including the control of the Baghdad Railway. It seems to be hinted that King Constantine will be required by France either to support this programme or to abdicate, and it is clear from other indications that his position is insecure. The other Entente powers, and the representatives of the Turkish bondholders, will have a good deal to say whenever such proposals are put forward; meantime, the financial situation of the Greek kingdom is described in Paris as alarming. According to a correspondent of the *Temps*, the whole of the finances of Greece at present are insufficient to meet the service of the national debt—though it is impossible to see how the figures given are arrived at; and the underspend states that the Greek Government has same of the deficit by repeated borrowings from the National Bank, and that the Governor of the Bank is now on his way westward in order to attempt to raise a loan on his way terms in Holland or in London. All these

alarming rumours may be considerably discounted, though no doubt there are French "expansionists" who have an interest in circulating them and in supporting them by exaggerating the financial difficulties of the Greek Government, and who would gladly see them come true. But it may be pointed out that the holders of the Greek external loans have no special cause for alarm. These loans, it is hardly necessary to remark, are stringently secured on certain assigned revenues controlled by an International Financial Commission; the yield of these revenues last year was the highest on record, and according to the figures for the first seven months of the present year, published in the *Economist* of October 8th, the actual receipts this year are largely in excess of the estimates under the Law of Control, and in the aggregate are greater than those for the corresponding period of 1920—a decline in the Piræus Customs revenues being more than counterbalanced by the increased yield of the remainder. Financially and politically the situation in Greece is doubtless critical, but there seems no reason to suppose that it will seriously affect the bondholders.

Cotton Trade in Japan.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—The Overseas Trade Department of the British Government has just received a report from Messrs E. F. Crowe and G. B. Sansom on the cotton industry in Japan. Last March about 50 companies were in operation, the number of spindles working being 3,043,775. It is stated that the average production during the year was 13.37 ounces per ring spindle per day, against 11.7 ounces in the previous year. Of the 141,184 operatives employed 35,289 were women or girls. The working hours were 19½ per day (double shift), and the mills on an average worked 25½ days per month. At the current rate of exchange the wages paid were equal to about 3s 7d per day for males and about 2s 6d per day for females. At the end of last year the looms in Japan numbered 44,040, and were owned by 30 companies. The daily output is given as about 47 yards per loom, the number of operatives being 47,000, of which 39,000 were women. The average wages were about 3s 9d per day for men and 2s 9d per day for women and girls. Compared with the cotton industry in Lancashire many more workpeople have to be employed in both spinning and weaving to attend to the same amount of machinery. Although wages are low labour is not really cheap.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo stated that bank deposits have recently displayed a decreasing tendency. Payment of subscriptions to the new Exchequer bonds, heavy tax gathering, and increasing demand upon the rice crop fund have stiffened the money market. Exchange banks have been obliged to call in short loans. The Tokyo Stock Exchange is dull, speculations being less since the news of the Emperor's illness. The price of rice rose early in the month on speculation, but has relapsed on an improvement of crop prospects. The cotton yarn market is firm, but other commodity markets are dull, and the silk yarn market is experiencing a lack of inquiry. The note issue of the Bank of Japan, on October 15th, was 1,126,000,000 yen, as compared with 1,066,000,000 yen a year ago, while discounts and advances on that date were only 78,000,000 yen, against 193,000,000 yen on October 15, 1920.

Argentine Railway Results.—The "big four" Argentine railway reports are now available. The two following tables show the dividend records of the companies since 1914-15, and a comparison of receipts in the past two years:—

Company.	1914-15	1915-16	1916-17	1917-18	1918-19	1919-20	1920-21
B.A. and Pacific, ord.	% nil	% 1	% nil	% nil	% 2	% 5	% nil
Do 5% 2nd. non-cum. pref.	£2/16/6	5	1½	5	5	5	nil
B.A. Great Southern ..	4	4½	4	2	3	7	4
B.A. Western ..	5	5	3	2	4	7	4
Central Argentine, ord.	5	4	1	2	2	6	4
Do deferred ..	5	nil	nil	nil	nil	6	nil

	Gross Receipts.		Net Receipts.		Wrking. Perents.	
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Buenos Ayres & Pacific	8,200,227	6,853,624	2,487,990	981,397	19.66	15.68
Buenos Ayres Gt. Sthn.	9,539,786	8,722,527	2,338,813	1,354,254	24.51	15.33
Buenos Ayres Western ..	1,603,156	1,603,156	377,884	377,884	23.55	23.55
Central Argentine ..	9,763,755	9,746,664	3,164,808	1,966,865	32.41	20.19

We hope to devote an article in a future issue to a detailed examination of the results.

Uruguayan Railways.—The year ended June 30, 1920, was the best in the history of the Central Uruguay Railway Company of Monte Video and its three extension systems, but results for the year ended June 30th last are very disappointing. There was a slight decline in the gross receipts of the combined system, but expenditure increased by 20.8 per cent. and net revenue was 42.1 per cent. lower at £374,635. Results of the combined system for the past nine years are shown below:—

Year.	Gross Receipts.	Expenses.	Profit.	Percentage of Expenses to Receipts.
1912-13	£ 1,243,393	£ 669,008	£ 574,385	53.81
1913-14	1,103,229	622,727	480,502	56.44
1914-15	946,767	562,684	384,083	59.43
1915-16	1,088,956	669,208	419,748	61.45
1916-17	1,178,602	771,433	407,169	65.45
1917-18	1,542,320	1,010,288	532,041	65.50
1918-19	1,792,804	1,219,680	573,113	68.03
1919-20	1,892,902	1,245,944	646,958	65.82
1920-21	1,879,630	1,504,995	374,635	80.07

Tariffs have been revised, the new rates having come into force on the parent line on January 1, 1921, and on the extension lines on March 15th and May 15th for passengers and goods respectively. The profit on exchange in making remittances from Monte Video to London was returned a year ago as £184,123. For the past year, owing to the depreciation in the exchange, there is a loss of £25,742 under this heading. The fuel bill at £507,496 shows an increase of £96,914. The average issue price of coal was £6 19s 6d per ton, as against £5 6s 1d. The general manager states in his report that oil fuel was used to a limited extent during the last four months of the financial year, and the consumption per engine mile as compared with coal was 35.6 per cent. less. The separate figures for the main line and the extensions for the past year are shown in the following table:—

	Gross Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Profit.	Percentage of Expenses to Receipts.
Central Uruguay ..	£ 1,277,953	£ 1,210,035	£ 67,918	94.69
Eastern Extension ..	302,486	139,634	162,852	46.16
Northern Extension ..	165,017	78,383	86,634	47.50
Western Extension ..	134,174	76,944	57,230	57.35

There is an increase in the ratio of expenses to receipts in each case, but the rise is most pronounced for the parent line, the ratio a year ago being 75.93 per cent. In order to meet the fixed and other charges of the main line company £100,000 is transferred from the general reserve fund, and after paying the 5½ per cent. preference dividend a balance of £37,504 is carried forward, as against £74,174 brought in. A year ago the ordinary dividend was raised from 6 to 7 per cent. The Eastern Extension pays 7½ per cent. on the ordinary share capital as against 9 per cent. last year, and the Northern Extension pays 5 as against 8 per cent.

Scottish-American and Tankers.—The proposed scheme for merging the Scottish-American Oil and Transport Co., Limited, into Tankers, Limited, is briefly as follows:—(1) Surrender of shares of Tankers, Limited, held by the Scottish-American, upon which £1,271,515 has been paid up in cash, leaving £224,385 owing, which latter amount is "to be forfeited by Tankers." (2) Tankers £1 ordinary shares to be reduced "to a denomination of 5s each," and 4,771,455 ordinary 5s shares of Tankers to be allotted fully paid to the Scottish-American. (3) Present restriction on voting rights of preference shareholders in Tankers to be removed, and on a poll to have three votes

for every share. (4) And finally the chartering contract to be cancelled. Approximately, Scottish-American shareholders will get one 5s share in Tankers for each one of their existing £1 ordinary shares. These proposals may give rise to some discussion and variations may be suggested, but the broad principles laid down appear to be a reasonable way of settlement of the trouble. In the balance-sheet of the Scottish-American Oil and Transport Company, Limited, for the year ended March 31, 1921, investments in the Southern Oil and Transport Corporation are given as £2,792,075. The auditors, however, in their report pointed out that "the investments appear in the balance-sheet at cost. The shares held in Southern Oil and Transport Corporation.....are not quoted in the market, but in our opinion their present value is under cost." Now that the companies are undergoing a process of reconstruction a little more light on the matter appears to be desirable. If the scheme goes through, the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited, will act as managers "under a modified contract determinable on either side at short notice."

Labour Trouble on the Rand.—Our mining correspondent writes:—A rather disconcerting sequel to the apparently amicable arrangement between the Transvaal Chamber of Mines and the Miners' Union in July last, took the shape of the discovery that the ballot showed a very narrow majority in favour of the acceptance of the scheme. Cables to hand from Johannesburg this week intimated that certain of the labour organisations desire to repudiate the settlement; the executive had decided upon an immediate strike ballot, although the date for the return of the papers had not yet been fixed. While the resolution was communicated to the Chamber of Mines without any supporting arguments, it transpired that the workers contend that although the retrenchment applies also to officials, their salaries have not been reduced, notwithstanding the decrease in the cost of living. Following this general item came the threat on the part of the white workers at the East Rand Proprietary, to come out as a protest against the employment of a non-unionist. Finally, a demand has been put forward on the part of a certain class of engine-drivers, who were excluded from the stabilisation agreement, which holds good until the end of the year. While naturally exerting some adverse effect upon the share market, these threats of a fresh outbreak of labour trouble were taken rather philosophically. Indeed, in some quarters the view was expressed that a strike would be an absolute "bull point" for the Transvaal gold industry. It is an open secret that the white personnel is largely in excess of actual requirements for superintending the work of the natives. That such a condition of affairs should exist, and that no serious attempt should be made to deal with it, constitutes a striking illustration of the extent to which South African mining is subject to influences other than economic. But in the event of a strike, of course, the employers would be placed in a position to frame re-engagements according to their actual needs. The case seems one in which the workers concerned would do well to realise when they are well off. The East Rand trouble has found an easy solution in the resignation of the recalcitrant official.

Mexican Corporation's Revised Agreement.—This undertaking, which was floated by the Camp Bird group, holds a large interest in the Tezultlan copper and the Fresnillo silver properties—the former equipped with treatment works. Under the original arrangement, 37½ per cent. of the profits of the copper concern were to go to the Mexican company through which it is held, and 62½ per cent. to the mine-owners. In the case of the Fresnillo, 60 per cent. of the profits were to be taken by that company and 40 per cent. by the Mexican Corporation. As consideration for the provision of certain additional reduction plant, which will raise the treatment capacity to 75,000 tons per month, it has been agreed that the Corporation shall retain 20 per cent. of the net earnings until the extra expenditure has been amortised, the remaining surplus being divisible equally between the two undertakings until \$5,000,000—including the estimated cost of the plant—has been paid. The estimated cost of the plant is \$150 million marks. Plans are on foot for

excess of \$800,000—has been received by the Mexican Corporation, when the old arrangement is to be resumed. The new mills should be installed by the beginning of December, and the general manager looks for profits of \$75,000 per month on the basis of silver at 62½ cents per fine ounce. Recent developments on the copper property are reported to be favourable. The capital of the Mexican Corporation is £1,000,000 in £1 shares, recently rather a poor market at about 5s. Large blocks of the shares are held by the Camp Bird and the Santa Gertrudis companies, whose shareholders may consequently be expected to keep a watchful eye upon the progress of affairs. Crushing with the first unit was started at the Fresnillo in August last.

The Foreign Trade of Russia.—We are informed that the British Agent at Moscow has reported to the Department of Overseas Trade that as the result of a special agreement with the Commissariat for Foreign Trade of the Russian Soviet Government a company known as the "Russian Export and Import Company" (Rossiskoe Eksportnoe-Importnoe Tovareeshchestvo) has recently been formed in Moscow to do business with foreign countries on behalf of the Soviet Government on a commission basis. The founders of the company were formerly leading merchants in Moscow, and were in close business relations with important British and foreign firms. The formation of this company, which is the first step towards removing the foreign trade of Russia from the direct management of the Commissariat for Foreign Trade, is for the purpose of exporting Russian produce abroad and importing foreign goods into Russia. The goods offered to the company for disposal abroad include flax, goat skins, horsehair, bristles, caviare, and scrap iron. Particulars of these goods, as well as details respecting the composition of the company, can be obtained on application to the Department of Overseas Trade.

Mersey Docks and Harbour Board.—In the accounts of the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board for the year ended July 1, 1921, just published, attention is drawn to the fact that the coal dispute and "consequent serious trade depression fall within the period covered by these accounts." Receipts for the year amounted to £3,322,395, of which "rates and dues" yielded £2,156,890. Amongst expenditure, interest absorbed £1,175,519, and the engineers' department needed £787,355; rates and taxes took £308,520, while £55,405 was carried to the sinking fund account. The total of vessels paying harbour rates and lights in 1921 amounted to 15,813,126 tons, which compares with 16,521,373 tons for 1920. In 1913 total tonnage is given as 18,433,269 tons.

Polish Banks Progress.—Our Warsaw correspondent writes:—Polish banking is rapidly developing. In 1920 18 new joint-stock banks, with a capital of 436 million marks, were opened. Actually there are in Poland 55 joint-stock banks, distributed as follows:—

	Number of Banks.	Number of Branches.	Subscribed Capital. Million Marks.	Reserve. Million Marks.
Former Russian Poland	29	116	998.5	373.3
Former Prussian Poland	13	50	552.5	240.6
Former Austrian Poland	13	42	483.6	94.2
Total	55	208	2,034.6	708.1

Before the war there were in the three parts of Poland only 21 Polish banks, with a capital of 200 million marks. The Polish banks have taken an active part in financing industrial and commercial undertakings, but they are not able to supply the country with the necessary volume of credit. Their deposits increase much more slowly than the prices of raw materials, and this entails a capital famine, from which the whole country is suffering. There is a very marked tendency among the Polish banks to extend their activity beyond the limits of the country. Thirty branches are situated abroad, in Paris, New York, Antwerp, Rotterdam, &c. A new credit institution has been recently founded in Warsaw with the purpose of financing electrical undertakings. This "elektrobank" on almost 150 million marks. Plans are on foot for

opening a Polish-Brazilian bank for fostering the trade relations between the two countries. Recently a group of American Poles belonging to the Europe-America Exchange Corporation has acquired the Polish Industrial Bank in Poznan (Posen).

London Housing Bonds.—We are officially informed that the total amount of registered 6 per cent. Local Bonds for Housing issued by the London County Council was £3,955,605, and the amount outstanding is £3,954,370. Now that the list of applications is closed, "the Council has obtained the permission of the Stock Exchange Committee for these bonds to be dealt in on the London Stock Exchange." The bonds are transferable by deed, the books being kept at the offices of the London County Council, in multiples of £5, and the stamp duty on transfers is paid by the London County Council.

Federation of British Industries.—The Grand Council of the Federation has decided to recommend to the annual general meeting of members the appointment of Colonel O. C. Armstrong, D.S.O., to the position of president of the Federation in succession to Sir W. Peter Rylands, who has held the office for two years. After a distinguished military career Colonel Armstrong became in 1909 a managing director of Messrs William Beardmore and Co., Limited, and in 1914 resigned this position to become chairman of Messrs Greenwood and Batley (Leeds), which post he now holds. Colonel Armstrong has been vice-president of the F.B.I., chairman of the British Engineers' Association, and chairman of the Mechanical Engineering Group of the F.B.I.

International Monetary Conference.—The Executive Committee of the Sound Currency Association have fixed December 6th and 7th as the dates of the meeting of the International Monetary Conference to be held in London. Among those who have already signified their intention of being present are representatives for the United States, France, Italy, Holland, Germany, Austria, and Mexico. It is anticipated that delegates—appointed either by the several Governments or by banking and similar institutions—will be present from practically all countries. The London Chamber of Commerce has appointed a delegation composed of Sir James Martin, Lord Farrer, and Mr Henry Ruffer. Among others who have already accepted invitations are Professor Irving Fisher, Dr Rathenau, Dr Ludwig Von Misses, and Professor Schumpeter. Communications should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary, Mr F. C. Goodall, 115 Cannon street, London, E.C.

SIR EDWARD MOUNTAIN, chairman of the Eagle Star and British Dominions Insurance Company, will open a debate on "The Difficulties on Export Trade and Its Relation to Foreign Exchange, with Suggestions for Overcoming Them," at a meeting of the Royal Colonial Institute, to be held at the Cannon street Hotel on Monday next, October 24th, at 4 p.m. Sir Godfrey Lagden, K.C.M.G., chairman of the Council, will preside.

Overseas Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—TRADE MOVEMENTS—MONEY RATES—COMMODITY PRICES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, October 7.

FURTHER and rather marked improvement in the credit situation has been a noteworthy feature of the past month. In the cotton-growing regions, liquidation of credit has been made possible by the pronounced advance in the price of the staple, which has carried practically all contracts above 20 cents a pound. At the same time, improvement in wholesale and retail trade has resulted from the increased ability of the farmer to settle his accounts, both with banks and with dealers. The greater

abundance of funds in the cotton-raising districts is being reflected, especially in larger wholesale trade. On the other hand, the advance in prices, not only of cotton but of some other agricultural products, has had certain indirect results. The textile industry has not purchased cotton freely at the new price level, but such mills as possessed a stock of low-priced cotton have secured a considerable volume of orders for goods. In the grain-growing sections the output has continued to move steadily to distributing points, and has also been exported in large amounts. The grain movement, in fact, has been practically the heaviest on record. An extensive movement of livestock has also taken place, but, unlike grain, prices have declined in consequence. While attention has been concentrated largely on the agricultural side of business developments during the past month, manufacturing has also continued to show an encouraging improvement in many lines. The advance in the iron and steel trade—first noted during August—was sustained in September in some lines, particularly in pig-iron and light products, such as wire and sheets, prices of which advanced further.

A steady increase in the numbers of men employed has also occurred. In this connection, the gratifying change for the better in the railroad situation is particularly noteworthy. Following favourable earnings statements for preceding months, Class I. carriers have reported a further substantial gain in net operating income for August, amounting to about \$90,000,000 for the month, as against a deficit of \$155,000,000 in August of last year. The increase last month was due principally to the reduction of 44 per cent. in operating expenses; gross receipts showed a loss of nearly 9 per cent. compared with those of August, 1920. Textile manufacturing has been well sustained during the past month, and the boot and shoe industry has been more active. There is still, however, considerable hesitancy on the part of distributors to place forward orders, although a larger seasonal increase in certain lines of wholesale trade, together with replacement orders, have resulted in advances. The fact that building contracts have reached a record figure for this year promises larger employment in that field during the coming months. Somewhat easier money rates have resulted from the gradual liquidation in the East and South and in one section of the North-West. The Boston and Philadelphia Federal Reserve Banks have lowered their discount rate to 5 per cent., following recent similar action by the New York bank, and this week the reserve bank at Minneapolis reduced its discount rate from 6½ to 6 per cent. The shrinkage of bills held has been a natural result of the easing in the credit situation.

Commodity prices generally advanced slightly during September, according to Bradstreet's index number as of October 1st, which is \$11.1879, representing an increase of nine-tenths of 1 per cent. over September and the fourth successive gain shown in the general price level from the low point touched on June 1st. Compared with October 1st a year ago, prices are 33.7 per cent. lower, but they are 22.1 per cent. above the level set on August 1, 1914.

FRANCE.—THE FINANCE COMMISSION AND BUDGET ESTIMATES—STATE CONTROL—LIGUE DE LA REPUBLIQUE—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, October 18.

THE Finance Commission of the Chamber, which has been busily engaged throughout the Parliamentary recess, as I indicated recently, in considering M. Doumer's Budget proposals for 1922, yesterday took the drastic step, on the eve of the reassembly of Parliament, of referring back the whole of the Finance Minister's proposals for reconsideration. It may be remembered that M. Doumer's estimates involved a deficit of 2,500,000,000, which he proposed to meet by doubling the tax on turnover. The Finance Commission, on October 4th, passed a resolution declining to agree to any additional taxation, and insisting that the estimated deficit must be got rid of by a drastic cutting down of expenditure all round. The printing of the detailed esti-

mates, for submission to the Chamber, was ordered to be suspended meanwhile, until October 15th, to enable the Government to present revised and reduced estimates. In the interval, M. Briand and the War Minister, M. Barthou, have both appeared before the Commission in support of the argument that, so far from reducing the Foreign Office and Army Estimates, it is absolutely necessary, in the interests of the country's foreign policy, that these shall be increased by 30 million francs in respect of the French civil administration in Syria, and by 4,413,000 for additional troops.

In view of the resumption of the Parliamentary session to-day, the various other Ministerial departments presented their revised estimates of expenditure yesterday. Reductions ranged from 20,800,000 by the Ministry of Finance, and of 17,000,000 by the Ministry of Marine, down to 2,700 by the Ministry of Public Works. In view of the enormous difference between the reductions effected and the estimated deficit that must be met either by a further national loan or by additional taxation, the Commission unhesitatingly decided that the reductions that had been made were entirely inadequate. For some appreciable time the Commission was evidently inclined to adopt a proposal brought forward by M. Herriot, who moved that the Government should be called on formally to put forward reduced estimates that would meet the situation, under penalty of having the question laid before the Chamber with a request that the latter would allot the responsibility for the deadlock. After reflection, however, the Commission decided that it might be exceeding its powers in addressing such an ultimatum to the Government, and as an alternative it adopted a similar course to that taken under almost parallel circumstances in 1887, during M. Goblet's premiership.

On that occasion the Budget Commission called upon the Government to make substantial reductions in its estimated expenditure, which the Government, as on the present occasion, refused to do. The Commission consequently sent the Budget proposals back to the Chamber, which took the same view as the Commission, and placed the Goblet Cabinet in a minority. In similar fashion the Finance Commission yesterday forwarded, through its president, a brief letter to M. Briand, as the head of the Government, in which, after pointing out the insufficiency of the reductions already made, it declared that much more serious cutting down must be accomplished, and asked the Premier to cause fresh proposals, that will enable a balance between revenue and expenditure to be arrived at, to be laid before the Commission by next Friday. What the outcome will be it is, of course, impossible to say. The situation is complicated by the fact that M. Briand is leaving for America on October 29th to attend the Washington conference on disarmament, but much may be accomplished during the next ten days to ensure that the Chamber will be able, in accordance with the expectations of the Finance Commission, to begin the discussion of the Budget proposals early in November.

There are growing evidences that the widespread discontent which is felt throughout France against practically every form of what is known here as "etatism" is at last beginning to take something like definite shape. Hitherto the general dissatisfaction at the failure of the State to carry on the railway, telephone, postal, and other public services in a business-like manner has been voiced, as a rule, by the Chambers of Commerce and other representatives of the trading community, while the defence of State control in such matters has been almost entirely carried on by the politicians, and particularly by those belonging to the groups of the Left. The continual worsening of the public services controlled by the State, however, has now become such a serious factor in the economic organisation of the country that there is a growing call even among the politicians for a return to private administration, or at least for the "effective industrialisation" of the public services. By the latter term is meant not necessarily a return to private ownership, but that, in the case of the postal services, for instance, such an important department of the State's activities shall be placed on a similar basis to that of any other great industrial organisation, with an autonomous budget, independent of the rest of the nation's financial arrangements. Simultaneously the

movement which began some time ago for decentralisation throughout the country as a whole, and the placing of departments, cities, towns, and communes in a position of greater independence of the central authorities, more or less on the lines of the local government system in vogue in Great Britain, is also showing steady progress.

One of the most striking evidences of these tendencies is afforded by the programme of the new "Ligue de la République," an organisation headed by MM. Herriot (the Mayor of and one of the Deputies for Lyons), Painlevé (the former Prime Minister and an eminent mathematician), and other well-known men, which has been formed for the purpose of grouping several of the parties of the Left into a new fighting combination. This programme urges, among other things, that the reconstitution of the devastated area must not be allowed to become a source of wealth for the speculating class; that the national finances shall be placed on a healthy footing by the establishment of sincere budgets, the abandonment of financial expedients, the settlement of debts between the Allies, &c.; that greater elasticity should be imparted to the French banking system. In administrative matters the League urges that every commune should be given the maximum of autonomy compatible with the national unity; that the country should be divided into "regions answering to the maximum of affinities and of interests," and governed by regional assemblies; that the industrialisation of the public services should be effectively and rapidly carried out; that administrators of all ranks should be rendered effectively responsible, and that the powers of the Conseil d'Etat should be enlarged in the direction of safeguarding the rights of the individual as widely as possible.

Perhaps the most remarkable evidence of the revolt of the French public against State control is to be found in an article published this week in one of the great daily papers from the pen of M. Louis Deschamps, who was M. Clemenceau's Postmaster-General. M. Deschamps, when in office, developed many important plans with a view to placing his department on a business-like footing, but realised that no real reform is possible under the present system. In the article in question he appeals for the removal of the French telephone services from State control, and their placing in the hands of an independent private organisation. "The State is incapable," he says, "of changing its methods," and he expresses the opinion that if a referendum were taken on the question the French business community would unanimously pronounce in favour of the reform he suggests.

There is little to say this week about the Bourse. The franc has certainly been to some extent influenced by the weakening of the mark, the factor of speculation entering largely into what has occurred. French 3 per Cents. have remained at 55.70. Petrol shares are roughly where they were last week, Royal Dutch being virtually unchanged at 18,900, and Mexican Eagle being at its previous price of 205. Tintos remain unchanged despite the suppression of the interim dividend, Boléo is back from 391 to 276, and Penarroya from 1,005 to 973. Shipping descriptions are heavy, the Compagnie Transatlantique being back at 253 and Chargeurs Réunis at 536. Information from the ports is to the effect that there are very few bookings. In electrical undertakings Thomson-Houston remains depressed at 837.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 9, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital.....	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,146
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	566,463,556	567,432,915	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advances to State.....	1,099,827,230	1,080,892,812	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	37,611,632,700	37,792,328,875	5,760,180,835
Interest on securities.....	55,619,574	69,424,815	35,090,171
Bank notes to order.....	1,018,978	1,317,897	3,703,979
Treasury account.....	46,141,322	35,037,031	165,460,312
Current accounts, Paris.....	1,470,012,122	1,404,445,983	467,545,123
Do branch banks.....	915,583,704	917,884,037	80,176,135
Dividends payable.....	5,108,210	5,313,326	2,574,463
Discounts and sundries.....	70,352,273	66,436,800	21,551,719
Re-discount.....	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries.....	1,035,940,745	1,021,710,000	248,649,703
Total.....	43,148,589,015	43,236,520,790	7,015,484,682

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand.....	5,801,290,968	5,800,922,482	4,095,202,565
Balances abroad.....	619,723,913	621,576,034	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	3,418,720	5,930,011	100,287
Discounts in Paris.....	1,344,025,489	1,385,329,270	484,847,478
Foreign bills.....	6,374,461	5,709,275	16,854,101
Treasury bills.....	54,177	356,753	143,834
Discounts in branches.....	974,913,443	882,314,133	947,209,010
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches.....	67,376,178	68,345,547	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	..
Do on public securities.....	412,020,439	427,501,236	196,024,293
Do by branch banks.....	1,834,160,129	1,849,362,723	551,974,530
Advances to State (ordinary).....	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war).....	25,400,000,000	25,400,000,000	5,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,004,000,000	4,092,000,000	..
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,234
Rentes indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	47,235,775	47,221,367	43,183,083
Expenses and management.....	27,281,510	25,642,279	7,537,884
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries.....	2,080,587,044	2,188,188,933	245,841,619
Total.....	43,148,589,015	43,236,520,790	7,015,484,682

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount.....	2 1/2
Advances on bullion.....	2 1/2
Advances on public securities.....	6 1/2

GERMANY.—SILESIAN DECISION—MARK COLLAPSE — LEVY ON INDUSTRY — EXCHANGE AND BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, October 17.

THE League of Nations' decision concerning Upper Silesia has had a disastrous effect upon Germany's home condition and Reparations prospects; the manner in which the matter was handled in the last week is having a still worse and wholly unnecessary effect. On the first point, the inevitable damage from the new frontier, may be quoted the estimate of the Prussian Ministry of Trade. Of Upper Silesia's coal, says this estimate, 86 per cent., or 42.5 per cent. of all German coal lying within 1,500 metres of the surface, will be lost. Of Upper Silesia's actual coal production, 64 per cent. will be lost, or, on the basis of normal (1913) production, 28,000,000 tons annually. The mines remaining to Germany have been already heavily exploited, and their production will decrease from year to year. The zinc industry will be entirely lost. Of Upper Silesia's zinc ore production, 85.6 per cent. and of the zinc smelting works all will go to Poland. In 1913 Upper Silesia supplied 60 per cent. of Germany's zinc and 17.1 per cent. of the world's. Of Silesia's lead production, 75.4 per cent., or 27 per cent. of all Germany's, will, together with the silver therewith, be lost. Of the Upper Silesian iron and steel production, which in 1913 produced 2,680,000 metric tons, 63 per cent. will be lost.

That Germany as an industrial country and an exporter (i.e., payer of Reparations) will be irretrievably damaged, no matter what elaborate economic conditions are devised by the League of Nations, is sufficiently clear. One would think that this was a sufficient catastrophe for both Germany and the Reparations claimants. Apparently it was not. The collapse of the Reichsmark exchange is considered by some people here to be due to the blunders of the League of Nations. The condition of German finances required imperatively that if a decision unfavourable to Germany was to be come to, the paraded secrecy of the League should be a real secret, so that the necessary crisis should come and be got over as quickly as possible. For months past it has been known that an unfavourable decision might cause the Wirth Cabinet to resign, that the taxation reform would be imperilled, and that a formal repudiation of the May Ultimatum conditions, causing probably more sanctions and a general upheaval, might be the result. For a month past the public interested in German marks, including Germans them-

selves, has been nervous to the point of panic. It was a vital interest that marks should not be thrown wholesale on the exchange markets. Had the League of Nations kept its counsel until the end, and then made its judgment formally, the panic might have come; but no crisis is ever as bad as it is expected to be, and the mark collapse might not have occurred, or might have lasted only a few days; for nobody believes that even if Dr Wirth disappears all the solid substance of Germany will disappear also. The League of Nations spoiled this relatively bearable prospect by a policy of half-revelations, communiques, and hints; but as Berlin was left without any official news upon which it could act, the acute crisis was postponed, and a state of permanent, daily aggravated crisis has been substituted. That is a summary of German history in the past week.

The new and worst fall of mark exchange is entirely due to this vicious policy. Before the 12th the mark, after a heavy enough fall, had had some days of stability at around 120 to the dollar. The new collapse began immediately after the precise but unofficial news of the Silesian decision. Foreign holders and Germans alike started to realise in panic, and the result (so far) is that the mark to-day touched 195 to the dollar. Near the close of January the rate was 57. Nothing in Germany's commercial payment balance, but only dread of the great Wirth crisis, caused the last fall. To realise fairly the recklessness of the way in which the Silesian question has been handled, one must know what this mark collapse means. It means certainly (unless there is a great and speedy mark recovery) a doubling or trebling of the Budget, including the Reparations, which, however they are paid, must be ultimately expressed in paper marks. The revolution in taxation by which alone, if at all, the new expenditure can be met can take place only slowly, so that the current deficit will be enormously increased. The Wirth taxation plan, which left the sufficiently large deficit of 50 milliards, must now be considered as dead as the Erzberger plan, and for precisely the same reason: that the values basis on which it was built has summarily disappeared.

After becoming Chancellor, Dr Wirth calculated the reparations liability at about 50 milliard paper marks. That was on the basis: 14 paper marks equal one gold mark. To-day the paper mark is down to a fiftieth of a gold mark, and the paper mark burden on the Budget is increased threefold. The normal State expenditure is affected in the same way. Cost of living and of materials, and salaries and wages are rising more rapidly than even after the great mark collapse of January-February, 1920. The Federal Statistical Department's commodities index shows a rise from 1306 in May to 2067 in September. Since July the rise has been 45 per cent. These rises took place before the first mark drop had had time fully to influence prices, and before last week's collapse took place at all. The cost of flour had risen 100 per cent. since May, of colonial and textile wares over 100 per cent., of leather nearly 200 per cent. The price of raw cotton has risen since its low point of the year from 18 to 80 marks a kilo. The prices of rolling mill materials have risen just 100 per cent., and as soon as the fallen exchange fully affects imported ores must rise very much higher. The higher wage movement is insistent, and must be satisfied. For instance, in the metal industries a 170 per cent. increase is demanded. Only a few weeks back the Government was obliged to raise official salaries by an average of 30 per cent.; this was when the cost of living was 36.2 per cent. less than now. The State finances must bear the new burdens, but taxes will long be collected on the old price basis.

That Dr Wirth's financial reform is doomed is beyond doubt. The price rise has made it meaningless. The reform included considerable increases of indirect taxes assessed by weight and measure: sugar, beer, spirits, the tea and coffee duties, and so on. With the mark prices of these goods soaring the proposed rates become absurdly low, and the rates must be raised again. The income-tax (not amended in the Wirth reform) is also doomed, for it is highly progressive, and the present rates on nominally increased, but in reality not increased, earnings will be unbearable. Only a year back the rates had to be cut down because of the fall in the value of

money. For the proposed property taxes the old difficulty which killed the emergency levy and the wealth increment tax comes up again; with nominal wealth increasing rapidly the taxpayers (bondholders excepted) will escape the intended incidence, and Herr Wirth's plan to reassess every three years is futile as long as certain kinds of property are doubling in nominal value every few months. The prospect, therefore, is an increase of the Floating Debt at an accelerated rate, which, as the money market cannot take up the flood of Treasury bills, means a new aggravation of the inflation. In all this picture there is, or ought to be, nothing new. It is what happened in Austria, and what, given certain initial factors, must happen anywhere. One must ask, therefore, why no attempt at all was made to handle the Silesian question in a way which could not cause a mark collapse and a new price revolution; and why, if Silesia had to be partitioned and ruined, the damage was not confined to the inevitable minimum?

The Wirth Cabinet, one must say, has done everything possible to avoid this new catastrophe. Progress was being made in the agreement with industry without which no reparations can be paid. Before the Reichswirtschaftsrat now lies a Bill imposing a Forced Loan on Industry and Real Property. This Bill organises industry and trade, including agriculture and houseowning (here treated as a branch of industry), into a single Credit Association, which is made responsible for raising a certain, not yet stated, sum for reparations aims. All concerns in each branch of industry proper will form a group or several groups; agriculture and houseowning will form numerous locally organised groups, and each group will raise money for the State. The Credit Association, and with it the single concerns which are its base, will have a claim on the State for capital, interest, and outlay on organisation, and the president of each group will issue to every individual or corporate member a bond, which the Government will accept in payment of ordinary taxes. Foreign property in Germany, but not foreign or German-owned property abroad, will be obliged to contribute. The sum to be subscribed by each contributor will be assessed by a committee in his particular group.

The Bourse last week was undetermined; the *Frankfurter Zeitung's* index only shows a rise from 26,716 to 27,096. To-day saw a new buying storm, with great rises, and also a revived foreign tendency to buy German bonds, 3 per cent. rising from 79 on last Bourse day (13th) to 80.50. War Loan was 77.50, 4 per cent. 71.10, 3½ per cent. 64, Savings and Premium 79.50, and Prussian 4 per cent. Consols 63.

ITALY.—BANKING SITUATION—CLOSING OF SHIP YARDS AT TRIESTE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, October 10.

The following figures of the four big ordinary banks reveal interesting movements in the first half of 1921:—

ASSETS.
(In millions of lire.)

	Banca Com- merciale Italiano.	Credito Italiano.	Banca Italiano Dis- conto.	Banco di Roma.	Total.
Cash—					
December 31, 1920 ..	276.2	420.8	447.5	133.0	1,277.5
July 31, 1921	338.2	317.7	512.6	162.1	1,330.6
Inc. or dec.	+ 22%	- 24%	- 30%	+ 22%	- 11%
Discounts—					
December 31, 1920 ..	3,260.2	2,549.3	2,445.6	768.5	9,023.6
July 31, 1921	3,746.4	3,310.6	2,065.2	756.1	9,878.3
Inc. or dec.	+ 14%	+ 31%	- 11%	- 16%	+ 94%
Secured loans—					
December 31, 1920 ..	669.6	332.9	361.9	195.9	1,560.3
July 31, 1921	503.3	297.7	208.9	199.8	1,209.7
Inc. or dec.	- 24%	- 10%	- 42%	+ 19%	- 23%
Investments—					
December 31, 1920 ..	163.1	102.9	128.0	96.3	490.3
July 31, 1921	156.7	126.4	171.5	137.2	591.8
Inc. or dec.	- 3.8%	+ 22%	+ 32%	+ 42%	+ 20%
Debtors—					
December 31, 1920 ..	1,634.5	1,439.9	1,779.4	1,090.8	5,944.6
July 31, 1921	1,446.2	1,317.0	1,766.7	1,233.0	5,762.9
Inc. or dec.	- 11%	- 8%	- 0.7%	+ 13%	- 3%

LIABILITIES.					
Deposits—					
December 31, 1920 ..	770.2	877.3	939.1	642.8	3,229.4
July 31, 1921	837.8	994.7	926.2	765.5	3,524.2
Inc. or dec.	+ 8%	+ 13%	- 1%	+ 19%	+ 9%
Creditors—					
December 31, 1920 ..	4,193.5	3,240.4	3,570.7	1,567.4	12,572.0
July 31, 1921	4,562.3	3,772.9	3,542.8	1,701.6	13,579.6
Inc. or dec.	+ 8%	+ 16%	- 0.8%	+ 8%	+ 8%
Circular cheques—					
December 31, 1920 ..	193.4	161.4	307.7	105.2	767.7
July 31, 1921	129.5	102.1	194.1	100.1	525.8
Inc. or dec.	- 33%	- 36%	- 36%	- 4.7%	- 32%

As not all the items of the balance-sheets are comprised in the above statements, the totals do not balance. But the main trend is clear enough. Deposits have continued to increase. The circular cheques are diminishing, though this sort of cheque—i.e., those accepted by the banks at the moments of issue—is the most popular and practically the only sort of cheques freely accepted in Italy. The ordinary cheque is regarded with suspicion.

On the assets side, cash, secured loans, and debtors' accounts are diminishing, to the advantage of discounts and investments. This means a lessening of liquidity, but was perhaps inevitable owing to the prolonged economic crisis and difficulties of sales by merchants and producers.

The unfortunate policy of subsidies to shipbuilding, of which I wrote recently, has had a new development. When Ministers used to pledge the Government responsibility with royal decrees, Signor Alessio, Minister of Industry, wrote, as it seems, a letter to the Free Shipping Company of Trieste (Navigazione Libera Triestina), amounting to a promise to pay 267 millions lire as a subsidy to the construction of 18 steamships. The basis of subsidy was the hypothesis that ships cost 1,600 lire per d.w. ton to build. The company says that a year ago, when the binding letters were sent, the 1,600 lire basis was very favourable to the State, as prices quoted by other shipbuilders were higher. Signor Belotti, the present Minister of Industry, observed that the letters of his predecessor were not binding for the State, as they were unconstitutional, and offered to revise the stipulation, so that the State should pay a subsidy proportional to the actual cost of construction, not to the theoretical basis of 1,600 lire. After prolonged discussions the company closed its works, and the workers struck against the company in a so-called protest against reduction of wages. The company plead the impossibility of building ships under the new situation of costs and prices. Public opinion was persuaded, however, that the company resorted to the closing device so as to force the Government to maintain the promised subsidies; and many think that the workers' strike was a sympathetic move to the same end. The strike was accompanied by the usual skirmish between Communists and fascisti, which are spicing bitter at Trieste. After a keen struggle, Governme- at company found a compromise, in virtue of which of subsidy will be paid according to the effective cost, ascertained by inspection of books, and the cost of experts, provided that the said cost does not exceed a maximum sum of 1,455 lire per d.w. ton. At 253 mise saves to the Exchequer a minimum of 58 millions. From this incident the opposition to legislation remains and by letters has gained new ground. If remains between the State and Free Shipping Trieste C to be brought before the Parliament, as was last week, pre-war days, its defects would have pointed out by some member. A discussion followed, and the loss to the Exchequer would be less great.

NORWAY.—PAPE (the wood pulp) STRIKE E

(FROM THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.)

AFTER seven weeks of s not. The VIDENT.) sumed in the wood pulp were reduced by 3 kroner per krone from February 15th next required in Germany was 5,760,180 835 35,090,171 3,703,979 165,460,312 467,545,129 80,176,135 574,463 571,719 4,000,000 8,407,444

Socialist group, the Communist group, and the Agriculturalists, or what may be termed the Country group. The most salient feature in the struggle is the question of total prohibition of the importation of the stronger grades of wines and of brandies. The Storting just dissolved passed an Act to that effect; the Conservative-Liberal group have pledged themselves, if they obtain a majority of the House, to repeal that Act at once; whereas the other parties, on the whole, are disposed to maintain it.

Trade remains bad, and the trade balance is adverse—to a great extent the result of the strike in the pulp, paper, and timber trades. The exchanges are breaking fresh records against this country, though the very last days indicate an improvement.

Letters to the Editor.

GERMANY'S EXPORT POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—When a statement begins "It is well known," "It is notorious," "It is definitely stated," one may conclude that the statement, if not untrue, is at least disputable. Your correspondent, Mr T. B. Johnston, quotes Mr Burgess, the witness for American potters before the American Tariff Commission:—"It has been definitely stated that on all pottery sales the German manufacturer is required by his Government to add 150 per cent. to the price at which he would otherwise be willing to sell to the American buyer, and that the Government in turn levies a tax of 90 per cent. on this added 150 per cent."

The first part of this statement is merely inaccurate. The German Government does (through the foreign trade boards) require that when home sale prices (at a given exchange) are much lower than the prices of foreign-produced goods, the exporter shall add to his export price a supplement which roughly makes up the difference. The supplement is not 150 per cent. on the home price; it varies enormously according to the exchanges.

The second part of the statement is entirely incorrect. The German Government never levied any export tax except the export tax first imposed in May, 1920, varying between 2 and 10 per cent., the tax being assessed (not as Mr Burgess imagines) on the export price supplement, but on the whole export price. In consequence of the mark exchange recovery of early 1920 these export duties were entirely abolished on many classes of goods, and very much reduced on others. Owing to the new mark fall their reimposition, or increase, has been decided on. According to the last official publication the export duties on "fine ceramics" are entirely abolished, and those on earthenware are reduced to 2 per cent.

Mr Johnston's calculation that 134 per cent. is levied on all export trade is necessarily also incorrect. It is surprising that Mr Johnston talks about Germany's "huge revenue on the export trade," when he can get the facts from the German Budget. German exports in 1920 totalled 69,524,476,000 marks. At 134 per cent. the "huge revenue" from export taxes would be about 93 milliards, which is almost exactly double the whole German revenue from all sources whatsoever. Equally surprising is that Mr Burgess, defending his native pottery industry against dumping, should heap up "definite (untrue) statements" to prove that the German Government is doing quite impossible things in order to raise German pottery prices to foreigners.—Yours faithfully,
YOUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.

REAL WAGES IN GERMANY.

SIR,—In your issue of September 10th your Berlin correspondent repeats the assertion—which one hears quite often—that the real wages of German working men are higher now than before the war. I think the figures which he quotes should be taken with a great deal of salt—e.g., he quotes from the pamphlet on "Index Figures," published by the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, that wages of 10 groups of workers have risen from 100 in 1914 to 1103 in

July, 1921, but he fails to quote the statement following these figures (fifth edition, page 27): that "it would be erroneous if one would conclude from these figures that the income of workers has risen. In reality the rise is much less, in consequence of the reduction of working hours from about ten to eight, also on account of the 'stretching' of work which has become necessary in many industries, and which means a considerable reduction of income for the majority of workers."

As to the cost of living, it is difficult to understand how the Government's cost-of-living figure of 1045 for the end of July, 1921, against 100 in 1914, can be correct when the *Frankfurter Zeitung's* figure of wholesale prices is 1695. It is true that the Government's figure includes rents, which, on the average, have probably not risen more than 50 per cent. Assuming that rent amounted in 1914 to 20 per cent. of the cost of living (which surely is a high percentage), and that rents have risen 50 per cent., and all other items 1,500 per cent., one would arrive at a figure of 1230. I presume that the Government's figures are based on "official" prices of commodities which are or were rationed; but in many cases such prices are merely theoretical, as sufficient quantities can often be obtained only at much higher prices. Furthermore, according to a publication of the German labour unions on "The Economic Position of the German Workers" (quoted in Varga, "The Crisis of the Capitalistic System," page 40), wages have risen from 1914 to the end of 1920 from six and a-half to nine times, while the cost of living has risen during the same time 15½ times. Also, my own observations, as well as those of other people who have been in Germany recently, indicate that the standard of living, at least in those German families in which there is only one wage earner, has declined very materially as compared with the time before the war.—Very truly yours,
ALFRED LEVINGER.

New York, September 26th, 1921.

STABILISATION OF EXCHANGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The damage caused to trade by "acrobatic" exchanges has formed the theme of floods of eloquence, and from time to time financial conferences have laid down the conditions of stability in exchange rates. Nevertheless, it is difficult to detect that there exists anywhere in the world a really consistent financial policy calculated to extricate us from the present confusion.

There is a good deal of loose talk as to the necessity of cancelling inter-allied debts in order to stabilise exchanges, but it is not likely that these debts affect exchange rates when no payments are being made on account of principal or interest.

The world needs a strong lead, and circumstances throw the duty of leadership upon the United States and upon Great Britain, who owe it to humanity to co-operate closely in putting the financial machinery of the world in working order.

The strictly conditional offer of total or partial cancellation of debt, or of funding on favourable terms, would afford a very strong inducement to countries with depreciating currencies to make the necessary effort and sacrifice to balance their Budgets, and to stop the dilution of their currencies and restore their credit.

The comparatively favourable financial position of the United States and of this country makes it practicable to stabilise the commodity value of the \$ and the £, and to fix and maintain a new parity between the two currencies, thus creating a centre of stability with which other currencies may be related, as recommended by Professor Gustav Cassel.

So soon as any "low exchange" country had succeeded in stopping the printing press and in stabilising the purchasing power of its currency, new parities with the \$ and the £ (based on the then purchasing power parities) could be fixed. These new parities might be maintained by the mechanism of an "exchange standard" in the same way that the sterling price of the rupee was maintained from 1899 to 1916. That is, while the currency might remain inconvertible, the Government would be prepared to sell bills on New York and London at rates varying within narrow limits. The conditions of success would be (a) the provision of sufficient

\$ and £ credits (on suitable security) to enable the country in question to meet any temporary adverse balance of indebtedness; (b) the proper control of the internal price level so as to prevent the adverse balance of indebtedness becoming unmanageable.

The question of the German exchange is the veritable storm centre. The mark fluctuates violently, but is always quoted at a fraction of its true purchasing power parity, because of the necessity under which the German Government is placed to secure allied currencies at all costs in order to meet the instalments of the indemnity, and because the world at large and the Germans themselves distrust Germany's financial position. If the money payments can be commuted for deliveries of materials for capital works in Allied countries, as already arranged by France, a great step will be taken to restore confidence and to make the external value of the mark conform more closely to the internal value. Supposing the present activity in production to be maintained, a point may be reached at which the German Government can balance its Budget—formidable as the task appears—and then only can the internal depreciation of the mark cease.—I am, &c., C. CRAIES.

London, E.C., October 20th, 1921.

PAYMENT OF INDEMNITIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I am obliged to Mr Major for his criticisms of my letter of October 3rd. I have, however, no corrections to make, nor am I conscious of any curious slips. I think he has confused the indebtedness of individual traders to one another with the indebtedness of Governments to one another; it is quite possible for an American trader to owe a debt to an English trader, although the English Government be heavily in debt to the American Government. I quite agree with him as to the desirability of clear thinking on these matters, which, after all, are not very complicated.

As to leading statesmen and leading organs in the Press, let me quote from a speech by Mr Winston Churchill at a luncheon given to him by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce on June 8th last, reported in the *Manchester Guardian* of the following day:—"But in so far as goods from Germany come here, not as a result of natural trade between two countries, but a mere payment of a debt, undoubtedly they would exercise a depreciating influence on domestic industry and hamper in a serious manner our export trade..... Some day these simple truths will penetrate the minds of a great nation, and on that day they will, if they be wise, endeavour, as part of a gigantic operation, beneficial to all, to reduce the mutual indebtedness of nations to limits which are not incompatible with healthy trade, normal exchanges, and decent labour conditions." Our late Free Trade Member was expounding the blessings of the Key Industries Bill, of which Parliament was delivered after a much-closed labour a month or so later. The leader-writer in the *Manchester Guardian* of the same date, commenting on the speech, said: "Some day or other the nations will wake up to the necessity of cancelling the part, if not the whole, of the enormous obligation, including the indemnity, which can only be paid by complete derangement of the internal and external mechanism of their trade." This policy has been urged on many subsequent occasions, the latest is to be found in the issue of October 15th. The simple truths have now penetrated the Board of our Chamber of Commerce, which is beseeching the Government for mutual cancellation of State debts. The *Times*, also, is in a state of terror lest floods of cheap German goods should deluge our land, submerging every factory in the country.

May I examine this proposal of cancellation? Let us suppose that Mr Major has taken up £5,000 of War Stock redeemable on a certain date. He receives a letter from my Lords Commissioners of the Treasury informing him that they lent him £5,000 to Arcadia, that this country is in a very poor way, and they desire to cancel her debt if Mr Major will agree to forfeit his claim for repayment. If Mr Major assents, I have nothing more to say. He has my admiration as a benefactor—of Arcadia. But if, as is easily conceivable, Mr Major declines to fall in with this proposal, and the Govern-

ment then proceed to cancel the debt of Arcadia, I decidedly object, and I object because when the date for redemption of Mr Major's loan comes due my descendants will be taxed in order to raise the £5,000.

When we were the greatest creditor nation in the world whom did we forgive? I hope we shall never even hint to the United States that they might cancel our debt. We may want their aid again. On the other hand, while it is true that Arcadia's debt is not worth to-day 20s in the pound—perhaps not five—still, with patience, her condition may improve, and it would be something to receive the interest. As regards late enemies, they should pay every farthing; but we must give them time. We have fought a great war, and our great-grandchildren may not see the final liquidation of the resultant international indebtedness. Nature is a great restorer, and I am told already a bounteous harvest has been reaped in portions of the devastated area. And is not the payment of a substantial annual tribute, spread over many years, by our defeated enemies the best guarantee of peace?—Yours, &c., ALFRED E. LEAF.

Manchester, October 18th, 1921.

A NEW TAX SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—With further reference to the review of my paper, "The Taxable Capacity of a Nation," by "A Taxgatherer" in your issue of October 8th, the definition of production as profit is correct. It is said the meaning of the term "production" is limited to creation of values. That is so, and this means profit. The accounting term "cost of production" must be construed by reference to the question, Whose production? Production—the artificial supply of all required for man's wants in the existing system of society—is profit. But that production arises, generally, at different points or undertakings. The one shilling loaf of bread supplied to the householder is wholly profit, though not to any one undertaking. Part of this profit arises out of the work of the farmer, and other parts arise out of the work done by the miller, the merchant, the baker, and others. The term "cost of production," therefore, has reference always to cost at some point of partial production represented by a particular undertaking.

No specific deduction of production tax would be made by the owner of a business from wages and salaries (except those fixed under long-term contracts), but it is clear that if, owing to the imposition of a 10 per cent. production tax, there is less to divide among the co-operators, then each class must share fairly in what there is to divide. Suppose that there were no taxes of any kind on income, and that 100 represents the production of a certain undertaking. The owner of such a business and those who co-operate with him therein would have no uncommon difficulties in agreeing upon the division of that production. If, then, the production is reduced by taxation to 90, why should there arise any greater difficulties in agreeing upon its fair division? In considering the proposal for a production tax, one must clear one's mind of the present income-tax methods. There is no reason to think that owners of businesses will be unjust to those who co-operate with them. Those co-operators, including wage-earners, who under the present system are receiving no more than their just share, need fear no reduction under the new system. An employer is no more likely to pay less than a fair wage than he would be if there were no taxes. His capacity to pay wages must, however, be ultimately limited by the production arising at the point represented by his business. It would not, therefore, be a question of asking in what proportions, and at what rates, should an employee bear any part of the tax. All such ideas must be banished. The question of his share of taxed production should be settled directly between him and his employer, not, as now, between him, his employer, and the Government.

Production tax would be deducted at the current rate from all interest paid on British Government securities. No tax would be levied by the British Government on interest paid by Indian, Colonial, and foreign Governments. Such interest is a proper subject for taxation

by the Indian, Colonial, and foreign Governments, and, in course of time, as taxing systems are developed all over the world, it will no doubt be so taxed. This may seem somewhat startling, but it is perfectly equitable, and it is necessary to face the fact that we cannot continue to tax production arising in other countries.

In order to provide the capital required for maintaining and increasing industry and employment, the big incomes must be restored, because it is from them only that savings can flow freely as capital into industry. It is estimated that a production tax at 10 per cent. will yield an amount practically equivalent to the yield of the present income-tax and super-tax. No repayment or relief to individuals will be needed, because all questions of payment to individuals will be dealt with by agreement amongst the co-operators in each industry. This means agreement between the employee and his employer.

Admittedly there should not be taxation without representation, and representation means reasonably effective representation. It has been shown that there is now no effective representation for those who pay the taxes levied in their present form. The half-million taxpayers with the bigger incomes should pay proportionately bigger taxes, but only in proportion to their bigger incomes. This should secure equal protection for their larger property. If they are disproportionately taxed, the great source, or nursery, of industrial capital is being destroyed.

The branch of the system dealing with domestic satisfactions is strictly logical. When taxes are to be raised, it is unnecessary for that purpose to inquire whether they fall upon luxuries or necessities. Taxation for revenue should not be complicated by an endeavour to use it as an instrument for guiding and reforming the nation. As a matter of convenience, but not of equity, it is proposed that where the furniture, jewels, clothing, &c., of an individual are worth less than £200 they should be exempt from the production tax. A capital value of £200 would give an annual value of £10—and a 10 per cent. production tax would yield £1. This might be the lowest annual sum worth collecting. There would, in the majority of cases, be no need for special valuations to be made, because insurance values might be taken.

The production tax would, it is thought, cover every item of income arising in the United Kingdom, no matter how various the sources of that income. All fixed annual interest, including the interest element in annuities, would suffer deduction of the tax. Clerical and collegiate stipends would also be charged, in hands of the payers, as production. A commission agent's business is a point of production, and the principal would have to render an annual account. Ground rent is part of the annual value of capital represented by land, and would suffer deduction made by the occupier when paying the ground rent. Fixed interest on investments would suffer deduction of tax. Dividends on ordinary shares, &c., would be paid out of taxed production, and so would be net, and not liable to any further tax.—Yours, &c.,

London, October 18th, 1921.

P. D. LEAKE.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"A History of the Peace Conference of Paris." Vols. 4 and 5. Edited by H. W. V. Temperley. Published under the auspices of the Institute of International Affairs, by Henry Frowde and Hodder and Stoughton.

THERE can be very little doubt that the Institute of International Affairs, through the generosity of Mr Lamont and the industry of Mr Temperley, have succeeded in producing what will in times to come be accepted as the standard contemporary history of the Peace Conference. The sixth and last volume has still to appear; the fourth and fifth deal chiefly with the Treaties of Peace with the minor enemies of the Allies. Chapters are contributed by Colonel Peel on Reparation and Finance in the Austrian, Hungarian, and Bulgarian Treaties; by Professor A. A. Young, of Harvard, on Commercial Policy in the Treaties in general (a vigorous chapter this, and more outspoken

than some others); by R. W. Seton-Watson on Czecho-Slovakia; and by the editor on Hungary, the Treaty of London, and the principles underlying the peace terms as a whole. Enemy debts, minorities, the Plebiscites and Disarmament are among the special subjects separately treated, and the Appendices to the fifth volume contain an addition to the collection of documents which is perhaps the most useful feature of this History. General Smuts' note on Reparation, with special reference to pensions and separation allowances, is reprinted from Mr B. M. Baruch's book on the making of the Reparation Sections. A very serious injustice will be done to the reputation of General Smuts if this document continues to be reproduced and circulated without any explanation of the circumstances in which it was prepared.

"The Industrial State." By M. D. Stocks, B.Sc. Collins Clear Type Press, 1921. 4s.

This book is far above the average of its kind. While there is nothing in it which should prove a stumbling-block to the continuation school pupils for whom it is primarily intended, the book should appeal to wider circles of students and citizens who do not know all they might about the making of the industrial States in which they live. Mrs Stocks begins her survey with mediæval conditions. She has painted an admirable miniature of the manor and the guild, and goes on to sketch the break-up of these institutions, and the transition through Tudor paternalism and new finance and new trade of ever-widening range to the industrial revolution and its legacy of problems. She is optimistic in view, and believes that the benefits which the great societies created by the last century have brought in their train are more permanent than the appalling messes consequent upon their creation, which after generations, busy making worse messes of their own, are hard put to it to clear up. There are things left out of the book which we would have expected to see put in; but that is not surprising in view of the immense amount of ground covered by these 300 vividly written pages.

"A Short Fiscal and Financial History of England, 1815-1918." By J. F. Rees, M.A. Methuen and Co. 1921. 6s.

THIS is a badly-needed book. In the now considerable number of text-books dealing with nineteenth century history comparatively little attention has been paid to the public finance of the period. Mr Rees writes of the struggles of the first half of the century to bring order into the chaotic and cumbersome tariff which was a legacy of war taxation. He brings out how tremendously early progress towards Free-trade was impeded by the immediate loss of revenue consequent upon each remission of duties, and by the absence since the war of any compensatory income-tax till Peel apologetically reintroduced it in 1842. From the completion of Free-trade till the present time we see the rival claims of social reform and military expenditure making the lot of successive Chancellors of the Exchequer anything but a happy one. Mr Rees has told his story well. At times it is a little difficult to see the wood for the trees. But Mr Rees is as right in not ascribing to the history of financial policy a systematic character which is in truth lamentably conspicuous by its absence, as he is in his courageous refusal to draw superficial analogies between the end of the Napoleonic war and the present juncture.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Economics of Everyday Life. By Sir Henry Penson. Part II. (Cambridge) University Press. 4s net.

Industrial Government. By John R. Commons and other Members of the Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin. (New York) The Macmillan Company. 17s net.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London.

Progressive Co-partnership. By Ernest Walls. (London) Nisbet and Co., Limited. 12s 6d net.

The Labour Problem and the Social Catholic Movement in France. By Parker T. Moon. (New York) The Macmillan Company. 18s net.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London.

Excess Profits Duty and Corporation Profits Tax (1921 Supplement). By J. Gault. (London) Effingham Wilson. 2s net.

The Accounts of the Corporation of London for the Year Ending March 31, 1921. (London) Treasurer's Office of the Corporation of London.

The Edinburgh Review. October, 1921. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 7s 6d.

The Hague Rules, 1921, Explained. By Sanford D. Cole. (London) Effingham Wilson. 2s 6d net.

Labour Gazette. Vol. I. No. 1. September, 1921. (Bombay) The Labour Office Secretariat.

Russian Information and Review. Volume I. No. 2. October 15, 1921. (London) Russian Trade Delegation, Soviet House, 43 Moorgate street, E.C. 2.

A Complete Nautical Dictionary. English-German, German-English. By John Barten. (London) T. Fisher Unwin, Limited. 6s net.

The Soul and Body of an Army. By General Sir Ian Hamilton. (London) Edward Arnold and Co. 18s net.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Financial Report. October, 1921. (London) Lloyds Bank.

Monthly Circular. October 11, 1921. (Liverpool) Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.

Contains an interesting article on Bill of Lading Reform.

Monthly Review. October 1, 1921. (New York) Federal Reserve Bank.

Monthly Review. October, 1921. (London) London and River Plate Bank, Limited.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1921.

Compiled by the Mining Association of Great Britain, and leading statesmen and leading organs in the industry.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, October 12, 1921, amounted to 1,644 tons.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div. or Final.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	Lat'st Pre-Year.
Railways.						
Bengal Doars	3%+	Jan.	..	Subject to tax	6	..
Bombay, Baroda, and C.I.	3%+	Jan.	..	..	7	9
Madras and Southern Mahratta ..	4%+	Jan. 22	..	Less tax	8	8
South Indian	4%+	Jan. 12	..	Less tax	..	..
Banks.						
Imperial Bank of Canada	3%	Nov. 1	..	..	..	..
Merchants Bank of Canada	3%	Nov. 1	..	..	..	..
National of South Africa	3%	Dec. 20	..	Less tax 2/126 p.s.	..	..
North of Scotland Town and County	8%+	..	..	Less tax	16½	16
Royal Bank of Canada	5%	Dec. 1	..	..	..	..
Tata Industrial Bank	10 annas	as per share (interim)	..	..	..	..
Insurance.						
London and Lancashire	6/ p.s.	Nov. 1	..	Less tax	..	..
Royal Exchange	7%+	Nov. 7	..	Less tax	..	..
United British	7%+	Nov. 16	..	Less tax	..	..
Ten and Rubber.						
Anglo-Dutch Plantations	5%+	..	..	Less tax	10	17½
Do New	1%+	..	..	Less tax	2½	..
Bertam Consolidated	..	..	..	Less tax	5	30
Kinta Kelas Rubber	5%+	..	..	..	12½	20
Straits Plantations	..	..	..	Less tax	10	20
Mining.						
Amalgamated Zinc	1/ p.s.	..	..	..	..	..
Ferreira Deep	1/6 p.s.	Nov. 5	..	Less tax 3/ in £	..	..
Premier (Transvaal) Diamond ..	125%	..	..	Less tax 4/6 in £	..	..
Wolhuter Gold	3%+	Dec. 5	..	Subject to tax	..	..
Other Companies.						
Anglo-American Telegraph, Ord.	3%+	Nov. 1	..	Less tax	..	..
Do Pref. Ord.	1%+	Nov. 1	..	Less tax	..	..
Argentine Land and Investment (Ord. paid up)	5%+	Nov. 18	..	Less tax	20	..
Do	5%	Nov. 18	..	Less tax	5	12½
Baldwin's	2%+	Nov. 4	..	Tax free	..	..
Bristol Brewery	18½	..	..	..	..	..
Bristol United Breweries	1/ p.s.	..	..	Less tax	16½	15
British Canadian Trust	8%	..	..	Less tax	7	7
British Portland Cement	5%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..
..	9%	..	..	Less tax	8	..
..	..	..	..	Less tax	5	8½

arises out of the work of the farmer, tax done by the miller, tax cost of production.						
British Columbia Investment	2½%	Nov. 16	..	Less tax	..	..
Colchester Brewery	4%+	..	..	..	..	..
Consolidated Trust, Deid.	4%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Dunville and Co.	5%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Frederick Ley and Sons	5%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Hammond's Bradford Brewery ..	5%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Herbert Morris, Limited	6%+	..	..	Tax free	..	..
Highland Distilleries	..	..	..	Tax free	..	..
Hodgson's Kingston Brewery	10% (bonus 4/ p.s.)	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Hope Brothers	5%	Nov. 1	..	Less tax	..	..
Investment Trust Corp., Deid.	11%	Nov. 2	..	Less tax	..	..
Joshua Perkins and Sons	..	..	..	Tax free	2/ p.s.	2/ p.s.
Kayser, Ellison, and Co.	2/5 p.s.	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Kersley Spinning	3 p.s.	Nov. 1	..	..	20	20
Longmore-Glenlivet Distilleries ..	5%+	..	..	Tax free	8	8
Montevideo Telephone	5%+	..	..	..	..	..
Montreal Light, Heat, and Power ..	\$2 p.s.	Nov. 15	..	..	..	..
Montreal Light, & Co., Cons.	\$1.25 p.s.	Nov. 15	..	..	..	..
Nelson Brothers	6%+	..	..	Tax free	10	12½
North of England Cinemas	10%	Nov. 1	..	Less tax	..	..
Pease and Partners	2%+	Nov. 16	..	Tax free	..	..
Realisation and Debenture Corporation of Scotland, Ord.	25	(bonus 1/ p.s.)	..	Less tax	..	..
Do Deid.	5/7½ p.s.	Nov. 4	..	Less tax	..	..
Royal Mail Steam Packet	2%+	Nov. 11	..	Less tax	12½	20
S. and W. Berisford	7%+	..	..	Less tax	12	12½
Sadler and Co.	8%+	..	..	..	..	..
Second Edinburgh Investment Trust, Deid.	9%+	..	..	Less tax	15	15(a)
Second Scottish Investment Trust, Deid.	7%+	..	..	Less tax	10	10
Sir Elkannah Armitage	9 p.s.	Nov. 1	..	Tax free	..	..
South Australian Land Mortgage ..	2½%	..	..	Less tax	12½	12½
Stothert and Pitt	7%+	..	..	..	..	..
Stuttford and Co.	3%+	Dec. 15	..	Subject to tax	8½	12½
Trust and Agency Company of Australasia	1/6 p.s.	Nov. 17	..	Tax free	..	..
Tweedales and Smalley	20%	..	..	..	..	..
Val de Travers Paving Co.	1/3 p.s.	Oct. 29	..	Less tax	..	..
William Longmore and Co.	5%+	..	..	(and bonus 10%) Tax free	20	..
Wilson's Brewery	4%+	..	..	Less tax	..	..

(a) Also a bonus of stock.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

The Economist

BANKING NUMBER.

Vol. XCIII.]

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1921.

[No.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED IN 1824.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2.

Assets exceed £25,000,000.

DIRECTORS:

THE HON. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, *President.*CHARLES EDWARD BARNETT, Esq., *Chairman.*BRIG.-GENERAL H. W. DRUMMOND, C.M.G., *Deputy-Chairman.*

SIR IAN HEATHCOAT AMORY, BART., C.B.E.

LORD BEARSTED.

FREDERICK CAVENDISH BENTINCK, Esq.

THOMAS HENRY BURROUGHS, Esq.

ALFRED FOWELL BUXTON, Esq.

JOHN CATOR, Esq.

LORD DALMENY, D.S.O., M.C.

MAJOR GERALD M. A. ELLIS.

FREDERICK CRAWFORD GOODENOUGH, Esq.

THE MARQUESS OF HARTINGTON.

C. SHIRREFF HILTON, Esq.

W. DOUBRO HOARE, Esq., C.B.E.

R. M. HOLLAND-MARTIN, Esq., C.B.

CECIL FRANCIS PARR, Esq.

RIGHT HON. THE VISCOUNT PORTMAN.

H. MELVILL SIMONS, Esq.

HENRY ALEXANDER TROTTER, Esq.

RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF VERULAM.

The following are amongst the classes of Insurance Business transacted by the Company:

LIFE (with and without Profits). Special Estate Duties Policies.

Children's Deferred Assurances and Educational

Endowment Policies. Annuities.

SINKING FUND and CAPITAL REDEMPTION.

FIRE.

MARINE.

BURGLARY and THEFT.

ACCIDENT, including Personal Accident and Disease, Motor Car, Motor Cycle, Third Party, Drivers' Risks, Lift, Plate Glass and Workmen's Compensation, with Special Policies for Domestic Servants.

FIDELITY GUARANTEE.

COMPREHENSIVE POLICIES FOR HOUSEHOLDERS ARE GRANTED.

THE COMPANY IS EMPOWERED TO ACT AS EXECUTOR AND TRUSTEE.

Particulars of any of the above will be sent on request.

O. Morgan Owen, General Manager

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cy. Works.	Mill.	Cy. Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
British Platinum and Gold	15,419	..	232 (Platinum) 51 (Gold)	..	26,753	..
Falcon	4,098	125	889	484	1,373	513
Gaika	425,000	..	..	..	944,046	495,546
Government Gold Mining	1,306	650	484	20	504	766
Jumbo	123,200	..	..	..	209,223	50,722
Langlaagte Estate	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mining Corp. of Canada	..	..	..	132,521	..	6,682
(August)	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Primrose	65,500	..	..	..	79,957	16,682
New Unified	33,900	..	..	..	41,387	7,618
Obuassi	695	..	679	..	..	..
Oroville Dredging:—	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nechi (Oct. 1st to 11th) ..	5,700	..	1,142	1,469	2,611	11,077
Planet-Arcturus	392,500	..	..	..	632,989	116,430
Randfontein Central	270	..	305	..	1,601	..
Rhodesia Gold Mining	11,430	..	..	(see note below)	7,046	..
Santa Gertrudis	55,500	..	..	..	(a) 42,945	13,993
Shamva	151,000	..	..	..	458,975	256,014
Van Ryn Deep	6,280	..	1,774	..	..	..
Waihi Grand Junction (24 days, October)	119,000	..	..	..	168,399	39,093
Witwatersrand	6,393	..	..	..	18,757	..
Youanmi (four months)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Quarter ended Sept. 30th ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Consolidated Langlaagte ..	130,300	..	..	..	216,213	63,091

(a) Gold £5 5s per fine oz.

SANTA GERTRUDIS.—In addition treated 18,387 tons from El Bordo Mines for an estimated excess of revenue over expenditure of £9,954.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.	
		Tons.	Black tin cleared.
Tin.	Tons.	..	..
Briseis	13	..	..
Filani (Nigeria)	64	..	..
Gurum River	12	..	..
Kaduna Prospectors	12½	..	..
Kaduna Syndicate	17½	..	..
Keffi	21	..	..
Lower Bischi	54	..	..
Naraguta (Nigeria)	50	Despatched 32 tons.	..
Tin Fields of Northern Nigeria	14	Despatched 8 tons.	..
Miscellaneous.	..	..	..
Akim Diamond Fields	..	Washed 278 loads, yielded 202 carats, largest stone being half carat.	..

OIL OUTPUTS.

GENERAL PETROLEUM COMPANY OF TRINIDAD.—Gross production of crude oil for week ending October 15th restricted to 3,250 barrels. Wells Nos. 2 and 3 flowing well. Nos. 4 and 6 pumping.

UNITED OIL AND REFINERY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Throughput of refinery for September 20th, 357 barrels.

BANKERS AND BANKING CREDITS.

A YEAR ago, in commenting on the banking figures for the twelve months ended June 30, 1920, we headed our article the "Extension of Banking Credits," and began it by observing that we still had to use this title in commenting on the general features of the banking year. This time we might once more have used the same heading and the same first sentence, since the figures of our table show that there has, in fact, been an increase of nearly 20 millions in banking credits, as indicated by the total of current and deposit accounts; but the increase is so small as compared with those recorded in previous years that it seems hardly worth while to lay much stress on it. It really does seem, at last, that we have arrived at something like stability in the matter of bank deposits, though he would be a bold prophet who would assert with confidence that the long-expected reflux may now be about to take place. In view of the uncertainty surrounding the position of Government finance, there is at least a possibility that a good deal of official kite-flying will be necessary during the period that is before us, to say nothing of all the schemes of credit expansion which are in course of preparation in Whitehall with a view to meeting the unemployment problem.

In view of all that has been said in recent months for and against the policy of deflation, and the good or evil which its champions and opponents have alleged it to have produced, it is interesting and rather amusing to find from the figures that we have before us—which are those published by the English banks which produce balance-sheets at June 30th—that there has actually been no deflation at all, but a slight expansion in inflation, in so far as it is measured by the volume of the deposits of the ordinary joint stock banks. In the matter of currency note circulation there has, of course, been a considerable decline, and it is also notable that the bankers' clearing figures indicate a reduction in the turnover of cheques and other credit instruments. These symptoms, however, are rather an indication of reduced velocity of circulation than of actual reduction of bank credits, and seem to bear out the view that the trade depression and the extent of unemployment have been produced to a much less extent than is usually believed by any measures that may have been taken to produce deflation and restriction of credits. Credits, in fact, have not been restricted in so far as they are measured by the balances against which the general public is entitled to draw, but the public has not been drawing so much because the consuming public has been on strike, both at home and abroad, and the public has consequently been producing and distributing less. In the Bank of England's figures, a market, and considerable evidence of restricted credit. As compared with June 30, 1920, there is a reduction of £46,000,000 in the aggregate of the Government and other securities held by the Bank of England with a corresponding increase of £45,000,000 in the Public and Other Deposits, which include the deposits of banks with the Bank of England. Of course, safe to draw any very definite conclusions from the figures of the Bank of England's balance-sheet, especially at periods of a half-year, by many baffling cross-currents. It may be observed that during the year our figures the Bank of England's deposits have been expanded by £9,000,000, of which £6,000,000 went into the reserve fund. Amid all these complications, it is difficult to see what has or has not happened to the volume of legal tender and bank of England which is now the basis of the system, or as near an approach to stability as we can get. But we append the following table of the Bank of England's figures, leaving such conclusions from them as may be drawn.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
(Million £'s).

	June 29, 1921.	Comparison with—					
		July 1, 1914.	June 30, 1916.	June 27, 1917.	June 26, 1918.	July 2, 1919.	June 30, 1920.
Rest	3.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Public deposits	15.3	1.7	3.9	2.8	2.4	9.2	0.4
Other deposits	131.7	77.1	256	65	2.8	35.3	44.3
Govt. securities	61.2	50.2	190	15.9	9.5	37.5	28.9
Other securities	85.8	36.1	1.5	14.1	15.0	2.3	17.4
Notes issued	145.0	88.1	67.0	71.6	61.9	40.1	9.8
Total coin & bullion	128.4	88.3	66.9	61.5	63.1	39.8	10.5
Note circulation	123.0	99.3	93.1	89.6	75.4	49.1	9.0
Gold and silver in banking depart.	1.8	0.2	—	0.7	1.2	0.3	0.7
Reserve	17.8	11.0	26.2	18.8	12.2	9.3	1.5
Proportion	12.4%	2.8%	16.4%	10.4%	6.4%	2%	3.8%

When we look at the figures supplied by the joint stock banks themselves, we are led to the conclusion that much of the increase in the Bank of England's deposits must have appeared in accounts other than those of its banking customers, for the figures show that the aggregate decrease in the "cash in hand and at the Bank of England" of the banks in our table amounts to only 10½ millions. It is thus evident that the official endeavours to restrict credit have been successful in the case of the Bank of England, but have had rather less than no effect with regard to the other banks, which, with a slightly smaller cash basis to work on, have actually made a small addition to their deposit liabilities. The following table shows the increase in deposits of the joint stock banks included in our table year by year at June 30 during and since the war:—

INCREASE IN DEPOSITS.

	June 30, 1915.....	1966
"	" 1916.....	445
"	" 1917.....	81.1
"	" 1918.....	282.5
"	" 1919.....	406.2
"	" 1920.....	105.5
"	" 1921.....	19.8
		1,136.2

As compared with the gargantuan increase of 406 millions recorded in the year ended June 30, 1919, the 19.8 millions achieved during the twelve months under review is so minute that it may almost be described as a triumph of the deflation policy, and those who criticise our banks for continuing, even to this small extent, the process of credit expansion, must remember how very difficult a task it was to bring back the credit-using public to a state of more or less sanity after it had been demoralised by the debaucheries of the war years and the monstrous abuse of our credit system, which was then necessitated by bad war finance. It is very much easier to get the industrial and commercial public into the habit of thinking that credit is to be had for the asking, and will be given freely to anybody who thinks that he is going to be able to make profitable use of it, than to teach them, when once they have been obsessed with this delusion, that unlimited expansion of credit leads inevitably to economic chaos, and that credit is a commodity of which there is only a certain amount to go round. This task our bankers have evidently accomplished with an amount of success which was, perhaps, quite as great as was good for the welfare of the country. Between the extreme courses urged by the academic theorists who wanted to go on restricting credit and currency until we had brought back sterling to its old relation to gold—whatever might be the consequences to the commercial community in the meantime—and the practical men of business who wanted the tap of fresh credit to be kept flowing in all its war-time abundance—whatever might happen to prices—the banks have adopted the good old British system of a *via media*, gradually reducing the pace at which new credit was to be had until they have brought the increase down to an almost negligible figure. They have been assisted in doing so by the fall in prices, but to a much smaller extent than would at first sight appear, because in prices

	(In Million £.)											
	Capital and Reserves.				Acceptances and Endorsements.				Deposits (including Undivided Profits, &c.).			
June 30.	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	£ 2.3	£ 2.6	£ 2.6	£ 2.6	£ 2.6	£ 2.6	£ 2.6	£ 19.6	£ 39.5	£ 41.6	£ 43.2	£ 49.2
Bank of Liverpool and Martins	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Barclays	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
(Lon. Provincial and South-Western)	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Coutts'	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Glyn's	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Lloyds	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
(Capital and Counties) London Joint	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
City and Midland	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Lon. County West. & Farr's	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Manch. and County	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Manch. and L'pool	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Nat. Provincial and Union	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
(Sheffield Banking)	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Union of Manchester Williams, Deacon's	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Liabilities	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
% of Total Liabls.	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
	£ 70.6	£ 73.5	£ 73.5	£ 73.5	£ 73.5	£ 73.5	£ 73.5	£ 92.2	£ 92.2	£ 92.2	£ 92.2	£ 92.2
	8.7%	6.6%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	6.2%	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%	8.7%
June 30.	Cash in Hand and at Bank.				Investments.				Discounts, Loans, and Advances (including Money at Call and Short Notice).			
	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1914.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	£ 1.9	£ 5.2	£ 4.8	£ 9.1	£ 15.5	£ 8.3	£ 9.2	£ 17.1	£ 21.1	£ 20.7	£ 28.1	£ 28.1
Bank of Liverpool and Martins	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Barclays	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
(Lon. Provincial and South-Western)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Coutts'	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Glyn's	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Lloyds	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
(Capital and Counties) London Joint	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
City and Midland	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Lon. County West. & Farr's	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Manch. & L'pool	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Nat. Provincial and Union	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
(Sheffield Banking)	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Union of Manchester Williams, Deacon's	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
Assets	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
% of Total Assets	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8
	£ 110.7	£ 189.3	£ 193.7	£ 256.9	£ 341.2	£ 300.9	£ 290.3	£ 115.4	£ 559.3	£ 566.8	£ 661.8	£ 661.8
	13.5%	17.0%	16.2%	17.4%	17.8%	17.0%	17.0%	13.5%	56.9%	56.9%	56.9%	56.9%

† December 31, 1920.

* Includes Money at Call and Short Notice.

ANY FACILITY AFFORDED FOR THE TRADE WITH
PARTS OF SOUTH AND EAST AFRICA, THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA, AND THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.

has not been produced by active production, accompanied by active consumption and a consequent lessening in the demand for credit owing to the decreased money value of the goods that are held in stock, but by the buyers' strike, voluntarily and involuntarily, which for some time made goods less easy to sell the cheaper they got, because buyers were still holding off in the hope of a further fall. Thus the fall in prices very slowly affected the demand upon the banks for credit, and for some time was chiefly effective in weakening the position of producers and distributors who had to rely on the banks for help in the face of a trade deadlock such as had never been experienced since modern banking had been fully developed. It will be remembered that June 30th, which ended the year which we are reviewing, also ended the coal dispute, with its disastrous consequences to our trade position and to all our manufacturers and merchants on whose activities it depends. It may thus be hoped that the period which we are now reviewing closed the time of worst anxiety for the bankers. Since then there has been a very welcome improvement in the market for investment securities, an improvement so marked that for the first time since the war began subscribers to a security issued by the British Government have been able to snatch a small profit on their investment. This change in the position must have enabled the banks materially to lighten the burden of investments which had been forced upon them by the

war. In fact, an examination of the figures given in our tables shows that while the item of "discounts, loans, advances, &c.," has risen by 58 millions, there was a decrease of 33½ millions in the investments held. As will be seen from the following figures of the nine English banks which publish monthly statements, the process of reducing investments has made further progress since June 30th last:—

(Million £'s.)

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.
Capital and reserves	115.4	115.8	115.9	115.9	115.9	115.9
Acceptances	88.4	63.0	57.7	52.2	49.4	47.2
Deposits (including undivided profits, &c.) ..	1,810.1	1,729.3	1,768.4	1,785.4	1,764.0	1,771.4
Total liabilities	2,013.9	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3	1,934.5
Coin, notes, balance at bank, and cheques in course of collection, &c.	256.2	250.3	265.1	252.1	250.3	250.4
Money at call	98.9	96.5	98.0	103.6	100.0	98.9
Investments	341.3	331.2	335.9	336.3	326.3	332.7
Discounts	361.9	304.0	346.2	372.6	379.9	394.3
Loans and advances	845.1	839.9	815.4	812.2	798.7	786.2
Cover for acceptances, premises, &c.	110.5	86.2	81.4	76.7	74.1	72.0
Total assets	2,013.9	1,908.1	1,942.0	1,953.5	1,929.3	1,934.5

THE OUTLOOK FOR BRITISH BANKING ABROAD.

FOR the British banker abroad, as for his *confrères* at home, the year 1921 will pass into history as one of black memories. Even the most fortunately situated has been unable to claim that he has passed unscathed through the depression and the stress which has been the inexorable aftermath of the war.

The British banks operating abroad may be divided into two broad classes, the problems of each of which differ alike in their nature and complexity. In the first class we have the great overseas banks maintaining London offices, but whose business almost wholly lies outside this country, generally in one country or in one group of countries, such as the Canadian banks (Canadian by constitution, but essentially British in characteristics and tradition), the Australian, New Zealand, and South African banks, and the powerful institutions operating in the Eastern Hemisphere, in Egypt, and in South America. For all these banks the problem has been and is practically an intensified form of conditions which have had frequently to be faced before. The world-wide depression caused by the collapse of inflated prices, the weight of over-valued and unsaleable goods and raw materials, and the subversion of the customary standards in granting credit even to the strongest, are merely a repetition of problems often encountered and capable in time of solution. Such exchange difficulties as have arisen have been simple, with a remedy obvious and not impossible of application. The large losses encountered have been well within the compass of the reserves so freely made in the fat years, and the future holds no special terrors, but envisages a period of consolidation and internal tuning-up. One present difficulty will continue, for it will take some years to repair the ravages of the war in *personnel*. The rising staff on whom the burden ten or twenty years hence will fall has been largely depleted of its most promising material, and until the juniors now coming forward have trained in and matured, managers will be faced with perhaps one of the most serious difficulties with which they can be called upon to deal. Their task will, however, be simplified by the prospect of an absence of any call for extension or development on a large scale for a considerable period, which will afford them some respite from the constant anxiety as to where the bearer of to-morrow's burden is to come from.

The second category of banks comprises those institutions the vast bulk of whose business is at home, but which, for a number of reasons, have decided to

open branches or subsidiary banks abroad, chiefly in France, Belgium, and Spain, and more recently in Switzerland. The conditions which apply to these weigh with even greater force upon those banks whose business lies in the Near East and to the outposts established by such institutions as the British Trade Corporation. Here the problem has been much more complex, and though time may ultimately prove to be the only solution, it cannot be said that any clear light upon the future has yet appeared. As with their fellows further afield, losses have figured largely in the operations of the closing year. Conditions which brought about the failure of the Banco de Barcelona and the withdrawal of the advance posts planted by American bankers in Europe, have not passed over them without leaving their traces. Were the problem one of depression and impaired credit alone it could be faced with equanimity. But in the outlook which confronts them the feature which most largely looms is exchange, and that not the exchange of the London market, but of the Continental Bourses, where the violence of the fluctuations is only equalled by the madness which dictates it. With natural commercial business practically dead the highly salaried Continental arbitrageur has to fly to speculation to justify his existence, and though British banks abroad may not themselves have gone to excess in this direction, it will be easily realisable that having perforce to work in such markets the risk of serious loss must be always present to those who have to take the responsibility in the eyes of London. Added to this is the constant spectacle of the dwindling in intrinsic worth each day of the valuta which have to be dealt in, while the whole unorganised opinion of Europe's bankers, who realise the greatest root of the evil, stands by and observes powerless the ceaseless stream of notes outpoured from the printing press. It is in such a field and with such a prospect that the British banker on the Continent of Europe must face the future to-day.

It cannot be said that the outlook is such as to encourage complacency. Without doubt such banks in the eyes of their promoters serve a useful purpose, but for all their value up to now as a factor in rebuilding a desolated Europe they might as well stay at home.

And yet these banks may have in their service the men capable of saving the financial future of Europe, which is so grievously threatened. Backed by the prestige of their home associates and the immense potential power they wield, if applied with full force to

the proper spot, the local knowledge and experience of the British banker on the Continent of Europe should be able, rising superior to the extraction of profit from the passing tourist, to evolve the scheme which will alleviate Europe's present troubles, and by its soundness convince even the politicians that the problem is not insoluble. It is such an outlook that confronts them for 1922.

THE HIGHER EDUCATION OF BANKING.

(BY A BANKING CORRESPONDENT.)

No excuse need be made at the present time for reverting to a subject the importance of which has been made so clearly apparent by the events of the last few years and by the part which our banking system is now being called upon to play. The standard of education, which is equivalent to the standard of efficiency, of bank staffs comes up periodically for discussion in the Press or receives a pious benediction in the chairman's speech at some meeting of bank shareholders, and is once more allowed to be quietly forgotten. The old axiom that efficiency pays, though acceptable as theory, appears distasteful as a practice, and British banking, always conservative, seems reluctant to realise that new conditions will require a better qualified and broader visioned *personnel* than was sufficient in the past. The banks are now committed to the broad field of international business, and if they are to take the leading place at which they aim no effort should be spared in assisting their staffs to qualify themselves for the new part they will be called upon to take in our national life.

What, then, is meant by the higher education of the aspiring young banker, and what does it involve? There is, of course, no limit to the education desirable, but we may confine ourselves at present to whatever is beneficial in fitting him for whatever work he may be called upon to perform in his profession, not only in the narrow sense of an efficient machine, but with a broad knowledge of men and affairs which will enable him to fill the highest posts which banking has to offer.

Real difficulties undoubtedly must be encountered in attempting to achieve this ideal, and the co-operation of the banks on certain principles, if not absolutely essential, would be of immense value. In the first place, sound and fairly uniform educational qualifications could be demanded from applicants for clerkships in order that a certain standard could be assured, which would justify the efforts towards continuing the educational development of the individuals. Further qualifications after entering the banks should also be insisted on, not on the present take it or leave it principle, but along agreed lines and with the assistance and sympathetic encouragement of the banks. Many courses of study are now placed before the ambitious bank clerk, all no doubt excellent, but lacking not only direction of aim but the all-important official stamp of recognition. Nor is the good work of the Institute of Bankers overlooked, but here, again, although it may have the blessing and financial support of the banks, the candidate for institute honours must feel, that, though he may be supposed to pass the various examinations, his actually doing so will pass unnoticed and unrecognised. At best it seems a negative interest.

If our great banks could be induced to co-operate and agree to some defined course of educational training, not only giving it passive approval, but actually recognising it in their scheme of advancement, a great step forward would be achieved on the purely scholastic side of the problem. What this part of the banker's education should embrace need not be catalogued. The difficulty is not to know what to include, but rather what to exclude, and by carefully considered supplementary courses it would be possible to place before the more ambitious facilities for such education as only those fortunate enough to belong to the Universities enjoy.

It may be argued that all this study wants time and energy, and that the banker's life is too busy, his hours too long to permit him to continue an academic education. At the present time this is the deciding

argument with many a young man who possesses the natural abilities and desire for further culture, but from force of circumstances must resign himself to becoming one of the minor cogs in the machine.

The remedy lies in the hands of the banks. They are saved the trouble of themselves providing the educational facilities, but the responsibility of providing the means, the time, and the encouragement must remain theirs.

On them also must fall the duty of seeing to the practical business side of the training provided for the staffs, and the real success of any scheme will greatly depend on the intelligent grafting and balancing of educational and technical training.

The difficulties are not insuperable to powerful and wealthy institutions, and we venture to believe that the results would fully compensate for trouble and cost involved. But it must be tackled in a spirit of broad sympathy. The idea that the rank and file are to be turned into good machines and discouraged from all initiative or individuality must go by the board. The gulf between the manager and clerk must be bridged by a spirit of helpfulness and mutual confidence to enable the process of selection to be carried on to best advantage. Each bank, according to its size and the nature of its business, could doubtless adopt a system best suited to its needs. Some form of educational staff, whose duties would be to organise and personally supervise staff training, might be created for this purpose. Such a department need not depend on the bald and often unintelligent staff reports at present in use in many banks, but would be able from personal knowledge to select the stronger and assist the weaker.

Scholarships could with advantage be included in any scheme, and it is pleasing to note that this is already being recognised by certain banks, who have now granted such facilities in connection with their foreign business. Such scholarships need not be confined to the foreign field. They might be extended to include such course as economics, commerce, &c., and be made available for those who show special aptitude for any particular branch of study. The time required for any special study need be no obstacle, as the benefit accruing to the bank must be evident, and any dread that men after training themselves at the bank's expense would seek more remunerative employment elsewhere could be easily countered by suitable recognition of the qualifications attained.

Did space permit much more could easily be said regarding the ways and means by which the higher education of the mass of bank officials might be achieved. The first step, however, is for the banks, their staffs, and the whole trading community to realise how much it is in their interest that the matter should be seriously taken up.

It ought not to be necessary to emphasise how vital a matter this is for the banks, whose stock-in-trade is not confined to their capital and deposits, but includes to a very great degree the efficiency and goodwill of every member of the staff. The present indifference to the welfare of the staffs and leanings towards cheap labour must give place to a real feeling of genuine co-operation and mutual dependence between every official, from director to junior. That the great body of bank employees must welcome any chance of improved status is beyond doubt. Of the thousands of men who have chosen this calling a very large proportion would gladly welcome the opportunity for a higher education, which through force of circumstance had been impossible, while a considerable number, whose talents under existing conditions remain unrecognised, would qualify to take a leading part in the financial world. Bank clerks must also be alive to the fact that the demand for University men is steadily growing in most large businesses, and as these men naturally enter the field with undoubted educational advantages, they usually find little difficulty in overshadowing their less fortunate fellows. Indeed, so pressing is the subject of the higher education from the staff's point of view, that one is surprised that joint action has not already been taken through their Guild or otherwise.

Once the trading public realise that they also are keenly interested they will throw their weight of opinion in the scales. The advice of the banker is often sought, and not only on subjects which can be directly brought into the category of bank business. He is expected to be a limitless fount of information and judgment. Flattering as this may be to the present bank oracle, we feel sure he will be the first to admit that, given the opportunities, he could greatly increase his value to both employer and customer, and take an ever-increasingly important part in the home and foreign trade of the country. When we are so intent on the cry of "Anti-waste," let us see to it that we make the best of our human material.

THE AMERICAN BANKING POSITION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, October 7.

WITHIN the past year, and especially during the last four or five months, the general banking situation in the United States has shown remarkable improvement, as will be seen from a comparison of the principal items of this week's combined report of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks with the figures for the corresponding date in 1920. Total gold reserves of the system, for instance, now stand at \$2,732,599,000, a new high record, representing an increase of \$736,275,000 since last October. Bills and acceptances on hand, aggregating \$1,440,191,000, are \$1,661,170,000 less than a year ago, and Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation have been reduced from \$3,322,123,000 to the present total outstanding of \$2,482,313,000. The ratio of total reserves to deposit and note liabilities combined has advanced in the 12 months from 42.9 per cent. to 69 per cent., the latter being the highest point reached this year, while the ratio of gold reserve to Federal Reserve notes in circulation, after setting aside 35 per cent. against deposits, is 92.2 per cent., as against 46.9 per cent. a year ago. Other striking changes will be found in the following combined statement of the 12 Federal Reserve Banks for the week ending October 5th, as compared with the report at the corresponding date in 1920:—

FEDERAL RESERVE STATEMENT.			
RESOURCES.			
	Oct. 8, 1920.	Oct. 5, 1921.	
Gold and gold certificates	\$ 216,763,000	\$ 448,472,000	
Gold settlement fund—Federal Reserve Board	391,974,000	415,175,000	
Gold with foreign agencies	90,409,000	..	
Total gold held by banks ..	699,146,000	863,647,000	
Gold with Federal Reserve agents ..	1,142,412,000	1,756,582,000	
Gold redemption fund	154,766,000	112,370,000	
Total gold reserves	1,996,324,000	2,732,599,000	
Legal tender notes, silver, &c. ..	161,944,000	150,343,000	
Total reserves	2,158,268,000	2,882,942,000	
Bills discounted—			
Secured by U.S. Government obligations	1,217,098,000	495,866,000	
All other	1,578,573,000	902,255,000	
Bills bought in open market	305,690,000	42,070,000	
Total bills on hand	3,101,361,000	1,440,191,000	
U.S. bonds and notes	26,925,000	35,433,000	
U.S. certificates of indebtedness—			
One-year cfs. (Pittman Act) ..	259,375,000	167,375,000	
All other	14,576,000	19,054,000	
Total earning assets	3,402,237,000	1,662,053,000	
Bank premises	15,634,000	29,501,000	
5 % redemption fund against F.R. Bank notes	11,666,000	8,842,000	
Uncollected items	795,608,000	558,105,000	
All other resources	5,948,000	15,906,000	
Total resources	6,389,361,000	5,157,349,000	

LIABILITIES.			
	\$	\$	
Capital paid in	97,519,000	103,046,000	
Surplus	164,745,000	213,824,000	
Reserved for Government franchise tax	..	51,741,000	
Deposits—			
Government	43,365,000	59,004,000	
Member banks, reserve account ..	1,825,906,000	1,613,149,000	
All other	27,648,000	24,179,000	
Total deposits	1,896,919,000	1,696,332,000	
Federal Reserve notes in actual circulation	3,322,123,000	2,482,313,000	
Federal Reserve banknotes in circulation—			
Net liabilities	213,154,000	99,602,000	
Deferred availability items	609,980,000	488,741,000	
All other liabilities	84,921,000	21,750,000	
Total liabilities	6,389,361,000	5,157,349,000	
Ratio of total reserves to deposit and F. R. note liabilities combined	*42.9%	69.0%	
Ratio of gold reserves to F. R. notes in circulation, after setting aside 35 % against deposit liabilities	*46.9%	92.2%	
* Calculated on basis of net deposits and Federal Reserve notes in circulation.			

While the Federal Reserve system, as a whole, is in a far stronger position than it was last autumn, as a result chiefly of the enormous influx of gold from all parts of the world and the heavy decreases in note circulation and rediscounts, further improvement in various directions must take place before banking conditions in this country generally can be called really comfortable. Many member banks are carrying burdens which are gradually becoming lighter, but are still heavy. The process of readjustment from wartime conditions and of thawing out frozen credits has made greater progress in the East than in other sections, as is indicated by the comparatively higher reserve ratios of the New York, Boston, and Philadelphia Federal Reserve Banks and by the recent further reduction in their discount rate to 5 per cent. Discount rates of other banks still range from 5½ to 6 per cent., while for many months the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank maintained a 6½ per cent. rate until this week, when it was lowered to 6 per cent. In agricultural sections, particularly in the West, liquidation has proceeded slowly, and is still less than bankers had expected or would like to see accomplished. Farmers in that section of the country are hard pressed, and banks are being called on to assist them, but the problem is a difficult one, especially since the prices of many farm products are said to be unremunerative. Farmers quite generally complain that after deducting freight charges and production costs, there is not much left for them at current market quotations. The Federal Reserve Bank at Kansas City has just decided to make no reduction in its local discount rate of 6 per cent. because of the recent expansion in loans, a decline in its reserve ratio, and indications that there is likely to be little, if any, liquidation in coming months. Reports from Kansas City are to the effect that since fully 60 per cent. of this year's wheat crop has left the farms of the South-West, not much additional liquidation can be expected from wheat areas, since the remainder is likely to move in moderate volume and be absorbed in current expenses and obligations of farmers. The abundance of corn, it is pointed out, is increasing loans—temporarily, at least—since farmers are feeding it to cattle. In the area served by the Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank the cotton crop is so short that it is of little help in effecting liquidation, even at the higher prices for the staple. The accumulation of wheat in elevators in that section is also absorbing credit. There seems to be little prospect of any material improvement in the banking situation in the West and South-West until demand for livestock, corn, wheat, and other products revives. The sharp advance in the price of cotton, on the other hand, has greatly improved the financial and economic situation throughout the South, with the result that capital, long tied up, is beginning to be released, and cotton growers and others in that section are gradually paying off their obligations and calling to a less extent upon banks



THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

HEAD OFFICE: NEW YORK CITY
ESTABLISHED 1812

LONDON BRANCHES:

CITY OFFICE WEST END OFFICE
36, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2 WATERLOO PLACE, S.W.1

Branches of THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK

ARGENTINA
BRAZIL
BELGIUM
CHILE
COLOMBIA
CUBA
ENGLAND
ITALY
PERU
PORTO RICO
RUSSIA
(Temporarily closed)
SOUTH AFRICA
URUGUAY
VENEZUELA

FOREIGN Branches of THE
NATIONAL CITY BANK
OF NEW YORK and of the
INTERNATIONAL BANKING
CORPORATION are located in
79 Foreign Cities. This world-
wide organisation places the Bank
in a position to render, especially
to its European clients, complete
and highly developed inter-
national banking service.

The capital, surplus and
undivided profits of THE
NATIONAL CITY BANK
amount to \$106,000,000, and
its total resources exceed
\$781,000,000.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION

(Owned by The National City Bank of
New York.)

HEAD OFFICE: NEW YORK.
LONDON BRANCH
36, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2.
Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000

ITS Eastern and Caribbean branches
do a general banking and exchange
business. With ample resources and
an experienced staff, they offer an
unusually complete service to importers,
exporters, merchants and manufacturers
having or desiring to develop business
overseas.

Correspondence Invited.

Branches of the INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION

CALIFORNIA
CHINA
ENGLAND
FRANCE
INDIA
JAPAN
JAVA
DOMINICAN
REPUBLIC
PHILIPPINE
ISLANDS
REPUBLIC
OF PANAMA
SPAIN
STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS

THE NATIONAL CITY COMPANY

4, LONDON WALL BUILDINGS, LONDON, E.C.2.

THE National City Company—an affiliate of The National City Bank of
New York and of the International Banking Corporation—offers complete
facilities for the purchase and sale of investment securities.

The Headquarters of our Canadian organisation is located in Montreal, and
both that Office and our Office in Toronto are connected with the main Office
in New York by direct private wire.

Offices in all the leading Cities in the United States—linked by a system of
more than 10,000 miles of private telegraph wire.

THIS SERVICE IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

NEW YORK
MONTREAL
TORONTO



HALIFAX CAN.
TOKIO JAPAN
GENEVA

for assistance or extensions of former loans. Actual liquidation in the South has not yet assumed large proportions, apparently, but it is being reflected in the statements of Southern Federal Reserve banks, and is expected to make greater progress in the near future. The Richmond Bank's reserve ratio is now 48.1 per cent., against 43.7 per cent. last week, that of the Atlanta Bank has advanced from 40.9 per cent. to 41.7 per cent., and the Dallas, Texas, Federal Reserve institution shows a gain from 39.7 per cent. to 41.4 per cent.

The banking position at this centre, as indicated, has become exceptionally strong. It is much sounder also, since the recent and timely adjustment of the affairs of two well-known New York financial institutions—one of the first magnitude, and the other of no mean size—whose commitments in South American and various other enterprises, undertaken some time ago, did not materialise as expected, and placed them eventually in a most uncomfortable, if not critical, position. On the highest authority it may be stated there are no weak spots among large financial houses here that are causing bankers any serious concern or deep anxiety. Nevertheless, they are still confronted with big problems, the solution of which will probably require considerable time. Many merchants and corporations as well as agricultural interests are leaning heavily upon financial institutions, and the administration of the affairs of more than one corporation is virtually in the hands of bankers, because readjustment and liquidation have by no means been completed. As a matter of fact, conditions, though greatly improved, are not as rosy as the bank statements, taken alone, might seem to indicate. Reserves, it is true, have rapidly piled up. The credit tension has relaxed. Money rates have declined, and commercial paper of the better sort is now being discounted on somewhat more favourable terms generally than in recent months. But money is not easier in the sense that it has become really plentiful, or that bankers are prepared or willing to lend substantial sums, especially for the longer

periods. Many banks are still heavily indebted to the reserve institutions, and are carrying "unliquid assets," which must, and doubtless will, be thawed out eventually, and as progress is made in that direction money is likely to become easier and more plentiful at various centres.

There is a marked unanimity of opinion in financial and business circles that, as one authority remarks, "the Federal Reserve banks have rendered enormous service to the country in the emergency through which it has been passing, because confidence in their solvency and ability to meet a crisis has been sustained. If that confidence had been lost chaos would have ensued, and the losses of the country would have been enormously greater. That confidence could not be retained if the banks were conducted upon any but sound banking principles."

The necessity of providing, through private enterprise, some permanent machinery for financing foreign trade by granting long-term credits has repeatedly been pointed out by many authorities during the past year, and is again being emphasised. At this week's convention of the American Bankers' Association, for instance, it was stated that "if such financial machinery be not developed and made ready to function in accordance with the dictates of business-like vision and prudence, it may be expected that insistent demand will recur for Governmental handling of such matters, with unavoidable appeal to class interests and accompanying expense to the general taxpayer." In many quarters it is felt that the future prosperity of the United States depends very largely upon the expansion of its foreign trade to take care of its surplus products. And yet it is a singular fact that while efforts have been made to set up necessary and adequate machinery for long-term credits, not much, outside of the Government's activities, has actually been accomplished in that direction, either because of an unfortunate and short-sighted policy of aloofness which some interests have pursued and are still pursuing, or for other reasons. The most striking instance of the

failure of such efforts is found in the case of the proposed Foreign Trade Financing Corporation, the organisation of which with a capital of \$100,000,000 was undertaken months ago. It is understood that only about one-quarter of that sum has actually been subscribed to date, although no official figures have become available. One reason given for the delay in that undertaking is that the banking laws in many States did not permit State-chartered banking institutions to invest in stock of such corporations. In most of those States enabling legislation has now been passed, or legal technicalities overcome. Future developments in this connection, therefore, are awaited with much interest.

Bankers here are conservatively optimistic regarding the future, and look for continued improvement in the general financial, industrial, and railroad situation, but that improvement is likely to be gradual.

BANK SHARES.

THERE is much reason why holders of bank shares should in general be well satisfied with their position when they observe the general trend of affairs in the investment world. Banks no doubt have their share of anxieties and difficulties in these troublous times. The gravity of the trade depression has, as is shown on other pages of this issue, tended to bring deposits down and decrease the demand for credit accommodation. It has also brought embarrassment to many customers of the banks in industrial and commercial circles. Recently, too, money rates have been on the decline—a movement usually taken to be unfavourable to bank profits. The year now in progress may see some general decline in bank earnings, but it may be expected with some confidence that the comparative smallness of such declines will be such as to arouse envy in the hearts of those who hold shares in almost all types of industrial concerns. The great banks emerged from the war with their power strengthened. The stress of post-war difficulties will not bring them down. One important feature of the investment world in the present year, moreover, is very much in favour of bank shareholders. In recent times, year by year, the necessity for writing down investments has been a great drain on bank profits. This year has seen at last a check to the long-continued depreciation of gilt-edged securities. We are now near enough to the end of the year to predict that the great joint-stock banks will not be compelled to lay aside at December 31st any considerable sums on account of gilt-edged depreciation. They may, however, deem the moment ripe for substantial additions to reserve funds.

The latest accounts of the British joint-stock banks are analysed elsewhere in this issue, and the fortunes of banks operating from London in various parts of the world are also the subject of separate articles. But the following table, showing net profits and dividends for the past five years of leading overseas banks with head offices in London, provides the investor with a bird's-eye view of the recent trend of events:—

Name of Bank.	Year Ended.	Whole Year's Net Profits and Dividends.				
		1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Bank of Australia	Oct. 13	£ 405,646	£ 439,746	£ 460,768	£ 573,051	£ ..
B'k of N. Zealand	Mar. 31	17 3/4	17 3/4	18 1/4	13 3/4	17 3/4
Bank of New South Wales	Mar. 31	15 1/2	15 1/2	15 1/2	17 1/2	16 1/2
Colonial Bank	June 30	527,493	553,388	452,970	636,644	777,255
English, Scottish, and Australian	June 30	67,316	73,407	115,091	175,236	155,837
National Bank of Australia	Mar. 31	76,534	98,906	133,179	170,179	170,179
National Bank of S. Africa	Mar. 31	8 1/4	9 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4
Standard Bank of S. Africa	Mar. 31	156,468	169,482	235,194	299,781	336,610
Union Bank of Australia	Feb. 28	13 1/2	13 1/2	13 1/2	14 1/2	14 1/2
		12% (k)	14 1/4	14 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4

Name of Bank.	Year Ended.	Whole Year's Net Profits and Dividends.				
		1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Chartered Bank of India	Dec. 31	£ 381,259	£ 402,795	£ 409,222	£ 447,347	£ 676,771
Eastern Bank	Dec. 31	17 1/4	19 1/4	20 1/4	20 1/4	20 1/4
Hong Kong and Shanghai	Dec. 31	53,885	68,373	68,888	102,615	121,363
Imperial Bank of Persia	Sept. 20	7 1/2	7 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
National Bank of India	Dec. 31	\$7,138,445	\$6,653,601	\$6,597,183	\$1,637,164	\$1,448,942
Anglo-South American	June 30	292,931	445,639	511,980	949,156	..
London and Brazilian	Jan. 31	201,279	226,536	307,172	343,061	286,028
Bank of British West Africa	Mar. 31	64,760	71,514	83,767	125,147	139,903
National Bank of South Africa	Mar. 31	374,340	347,602	437,871	515,478	338,481
Standard Bank of South Africa	Dec. 31	259,823	406,712	540,358	634,075	759,377 (h)

† Free of income-tax. (k) 7 1/2% free of income-tax. (h) Accounts for 15 months to March 31, 1921.

There are exceptions as regards last year; but, as a general rule, the story is one of continued and substantial progress.

On the whole, the bank share market, which boasts of a very decorous type of *clientèle*, has maintained a steady course. There have at times been little bursts of support for shares of certain leading overseas banks, followed usually by reaction. But fluctuations have never been sudden or severe. The following table shows movements in the past year for the shares of the banks mentioned in the first table. Movements in the shares of the Bank of England and of the "Big Five" English banks are given for comparison:—

Share.	Am't of Share.	Paid up.	Price July 30, 1914.	Price Sept. 30, 1920.	Price Sept. 30, 1921.	Yield.
Bank of England	Stock	100	247 1/2	168 1/2	182 1/2	5 1/2
Barclays Bank, "A"	4	4	..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Do "B"	1	1	..	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2
Lloyds Bank	5	1	..	2 1/2	2 1/2	6 1/2
London Jnt. City & Midland	12	2 1/2	..	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Lon. County West. & Parr's	20	5	..	13 1/2	14 1/2	7 1/2
Nat. Prov. & Union of Eng.	20	4	..	6 1/2	8 1/2	7 1/2
Bank of Australasia	40	40	118 1/2	86	83	6 1/2
Bank of New Zealand	1	1	103 1/2 (b)	25 1/2 (b)	28 1/2	6 1/2
Bank of New South Wales	20	20	8 1/2	30 1/2	32	6 1/2
Colonial Bank	20	20	6 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
English, Scottish, & Austr'n	25	12 1/2	19 1/2	20	17 1/2	7 1/2
National Bk. of Australasia	8	5	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2
National Bk. of N. Zealand	7 1/2	2 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2	6 1/2
Union Bank of Australia	15	5	..	13 1/2	12	6 1/2
Bank of Montreal	\$100	\$100	..	\$46 1/2	\$49	5 1/2
Canadian Bk. of Commerce	\$100	\$100	..	\$42	\$44 1/2	6
Royal Bank of Canada	\$100	\$100	..	\$35	\$46 1/2	5 1/2
Union Bank of Canada	\$100	\$100	..	\$35	\$43 1/2	6 1/2
Chartered Bank of India, &c.	5	5	65 (t)	71 (t)	148	7
Eastern	10	5	5 (c)	7 1/2 (c)	5	9
Hongkong and Shanghai	\$125	\$125	\$80	\$118	\$96 1/2	8 1/2
Imperial Bank of Persia	6 1/2	6 1/2	7 1/2	8 1/2	5	8 1/2
National Bank of India	25	12 1/2	41	51	37	6 1/2
Anglo-South American	10	5	7 1/2	10 1/2	8 1/2	8 1/2
London and Brazilian Bank	20	10	29 1/2	24 1/2	20 1/2	8 1/2
Bank of British West Africa	10	4	7	6	5	6 1/2
National Bank of S. Africa	10	10	11 1/2	12 1/2	10 1/2	7 1/2
Standard Bank of S. Africa	20	5	11 1/2	12 1/2	11 1/2	7 1/2

† Free of tax. (b) 46 1/2 shares fully paid. (c) £10 with £4 paid. (t) £20 shares fully paid.

While Bank of England shares have gained 14 points, and the shares of each of the "Big Five" are a little higher than a year ago, it will be seen that the general tendency in the case of the overseas banks has been downwards. Present yields on the latter type of share range from 5 1/2 per cent. in the case of the Bank of Montreal to 9 per cent. on the Eastern bank shares, while a return of over 8 1/2 per cent. can be obtained on the shares of the Anglo-South American. These yields are calculated on latest dividends, which may, of course, be altered next year. Although it is not perhaps possible to predict with as much confidence as a year ago that bank dividends will be maintained—especially in the case of the overseas banks—yet the market presents very reasonably good opportunities for the investor. The high degree of security offered by the English joint-stock banks should make a stronger appeal, than it appears to, to the small investor, especially since he now has the choice of shares upon which there is little or in some cases actually no liability. A concluding table gives a list of bank shares on which the liability is small or non-existent:—

ESTABLISHED 1810

THE MECHANICS & METALS NATIONAL BANK

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Capital, Surplus and Profit \$27,000,000.

Through years of banking service the Foreign Department of this Bank has established intimate relations with all the principal cities of the world. A full range of foreign trade transactions is covered by a specialized service; and customers are assured of prompt attention and painstaking endeavour in the performance of any service entrusted to this Bank.

London Correspondents:

London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd. London County Westminster
and Parr's Bank, Ltd. Barclays Bank, Ltd.

Bank.	Denomi- nation.	Amount Paid Up.	Price, Sep. 30, 1920.	Price, Sep. 30, 1921.	Yield %
Anglo-South American ..	£ 10	5	10½	8½	8 11 3
Australian B. of Commerce	1	1	10½	8½	6 8 0
B. of New Zealand.....	1	1	..	2½	6 16 9
Barclays "A"	4	4	6	6½	6 8 0
Do "B"	1	1	2½	2½	6 8 0
British Overseas, "A" ord.	5	5	5½	5	7 0 0
Lloyds	5	1	2½	2½	6 16 9
London and Liverpool B. of Commerce	10	10	6½	5	8 0 0
London County Westmins- ter and Parr's	1	1	1½	2½	7 2 9
London Joint City & Mid.	2½	2½	7½	7½	6 0 0
Munster and Leinster...	5	2	5½	5½	6 16 3
National B. of S. Africa...	10	10	12½	10½	7 7 3
Williams, Deacons "A" ..	5	1	1½	1½	7 13 3
Do "B"	1	1	1½	1½	6 13 3

If the investor selects an overseas bank share on which liability exists, care should be taken to ascertain the exact nature of the liability. So far as the great joint-stock banks of the United Kingdom are concerned, it is difficult to picture any circumstance under which a call would be made on partly-paid shares; but the bare existence of the possibility of a call should guide the small investor's steps for preference to those shares on which the liability has been wholly or nearly wiped out.

CZECHOSLOVAK BANKING.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE tasks with which the Czech banks after the disruption of Austria were faced were by no means easy. Although within the Austrian Monarchy their importance had been, of course, considerable and steadily increasing, they were more or less provincial institutions, which now found themselves called upon to play a far more important part both in international and national finance. They had, at least during the first period after the revolution, to provide for the needs of the new State and to finance its extensive industry.

After five years of the war the economic resources of the country were exhausted, the currency was depreciated, and State credit undermined, while the new era brought with it a whole series of social tasks and problems entailing unusual financial demands. In addition to this the banks were called upon to co-operate with the State in establishing an independent currency for Czechoslovakia, distinct from that of former Austro-Hungary.

Immediately on the establishment of Czechoslovak independence, therefore, the Czech banks increased their capital and funds and strengthened their organisation so as to meet, at least partially, the great demands made upon them. The possibility of entering into direct relations with foreign countries, especially with France, England, and America, led many banks to seek the co-operation of foreign capital. In 1919 the Zivnostenska Banka, which is the most important Czechoslovak concern, raised its capital first to 160, then to 200 million crowns. The sphere of action of this bank embraces nearly all native industries. The bank holds also a large block of shares in the well-known Skoda Works. The Bohemian Industrial Bank raised its capital to 75 million crowns in 1918 and in the following year to 150 million crowns, a portion of the new capital being subscribed by a Dutch financial syndicate; the Prague Credit Bank increased its capital in 1918 to 50, in 1919 to 75 millions, the new issue of shares being taken up in part by a Franco-Dutch syndicate, which has four representatives on the board of directors. A considerable block of shares of the Bohemian Union Bank, which has 120 millions of paid-up capital, is held by the Banca Commerciale Italiana, Milan, and Lazard Frères, Paris and London.

Similarly the rest of the Czech banks increased their capital, in most cases substantially.

To facilitate commercial relations with foreign countries several banks have established branches abroad. Thus, the Zivnostenska Banka has branches in Austria, Poland, and Italy, the Prague Credit Bank in the Balkan States and Poland, the Bohemia Czechoslovak Banking Corporation in Paris and New York, the Bohemian Industrial Bank in Paris, &c. For the same purpose three Prague banks, the Czechoslovak Agrarian, Bohemian Union Bank, and the Prague Credit Bank, have founded the Commercial Association of Czechoslovak Banks, a joint stock company, with its headquarters in Berlin and a branch in Hamburg. The share capital of 25 million marks has recently been increased to 50 million marks.

As regards the branches of the Viennese banks, most of them have already been converted into independent Czechoslovak concerns or were incorporated with the existing establishments. Thus, for example, the Credit Institute for Commerce and Industry (Kreditanstalt für Handel und Gewerbe) is now amalgamated with the Bohemian Discount Bank, and the new firm is now styled the Bohemian Discount Bank and Credit Institute with headquarters at Prague. The branches of the Mercur Bank have been taken over by the Czech Commercial Bank, founded in 1920, with a paid-up capital of 50 million crowns. The Czechoslovak branches of the Wiener Bankverein will be taken over by the General Czechoslovak Banking Union with a capital of 55 million crowns. The new concern is being founded by the Wiener Bankverein, Vienna, the Moravian Agrarian and Industrial Bank, and Banque Générale de Belge, Brussels. The branches of the Landerbank have recently been absorbed into the Bank for Commerce and Industry, formerly Landerbank, with a capital of 80 million crowns. The new bank was founded by the Landerbank, Vienna, the Czechoslovak Agrarian Bank, Prague, and the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas, and has for its president M. Jules Cambon. The branches of the Anglo-Austrian Bank will, in the near future, be taken over in a similar manner, and with the help of English capital by the newly-formed Anglo-Czech Bank. In Slovakia a General Slovak Credit Bank, with 50 millions of capital, is in process of formation, and in due course it will take over the Slovak branches of the General Magyar Credit Bank (Magyar altalanos hitelbank).

At the time when Czechoslovakia was established as an independent State, Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia contained 28 joint stock banks, of which 17 were Czech and 11 German. Their total paid-up capital amounted to 551.4 million crowns, the share of the Czech concerns being 412.8 millions, as compared with 138.6 millions of the German banks. On January 1, 1920, the situation was as follows:—The paid-up capital of all banks amounted to 914.6 millions, and the reserve funds to 349.5 millions. Of these amounts 721 millions (78.8 per cent.) of paid-up capital and 281 millions of reserve funds (78.2 per cent.) belonged to Czech concerns. The respective figures for the seven German banks and two banks which are under joint Czech and German management were 193.6 millions (21.2 per cent.) and 68.1 millions (21.8 per cent.) respectively. The total increase of paid-up capital amounted, therefore, to 263.2 millions, or nearly 66 per cent.

At the end of 1920 the total deposits in the Czechoslovak banks and the Czechoslovak branches of Viennese banks amounted to 2,521 millions, as compared with 2,068 millions at the end of the first banking quarter of 1920 and 1,484 millions at the end of 1919. The amounts of deposits in savings banks were estimated at about 6 milliards, or twice as much as in the commercial banks.

All the principal banks are members of the Prague Clearing House, whose activity is steadily increasing. In 1920 it comprised 32 banks. The business transacted by the Clearing House in 1919 and 1920 amounted to 11.87 and 41.53 milliards respectively, this being an advance of 29 milliards in the short period of one year.

The amount of paid-up capital and the results of the principal banks for 1920 were as follows:—

(In Million Czechoslovak Crowns.)

	Paid-up Capital.	Reserve Funds.	The Last Dividend. %
Zivnostenska Banka.....	200	101.1	12
Bohemian Industrial Bank....	150	45.0	8
Bohemian Union Bank	120	65.0	12
Moravian Agrarian and Indus- trial Bank	120	71.7	9
Bohemian Discount Bank and Credit Institute	100	71.1	12
Prague Credit Bank	75	53.4	12½
Czechoslovak Agrarian Bank ..	60	26.3	6½
Bank of Bohemia	60	12.5	7
Czech Commercial Bank	50	8.3	8
Agricultural Credit Bank.....	50	33.1	10

On the whole, the banking situation during the last three years which have elapsed since the formation of Czechoslovakia may be described as favourable. Capital is required by the numerous branches of industry, and banking enterprise is thus provided with fresh scope for its activity. Help is being given to existing establishments to increase their capital, and new groups are being formed for the purpose of cheapening output by standardising production or restricting working expenses. Even before the war, the highly developed industries in Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia absorbed large quantities of capital. Moreover, it must be remembered that the manufactures in Czechoslovakia are designed chiefly for export, and both price and quality must be fixed with a view to meeting foreign competition. Hence arises the necessity for developing it still further, and excellent opportunities are thus offered for placing new investments. In this respect the banks are displaying the utmost energy. They are interested in the industries of the country, not only by providing them with credit, but also by initiating and participating in industrial undertakings. As they hold large blocks of shares, they often nominate their own representatives on the board of directors of those concerns which they control. The banks have also, as a rule, their own commercial departments, which dispose of the products of those industries in which the bank is interested.

EASTERN BANKING AND TRADE.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

EASTERN banking is so intimately connected with the foreign trade of the various countries that it may not be out of place to summarise some of the main factors with which the bankers have had to contend in the principal countries of the Far East. The period, October, 1920, to October, 1921, has been an exceptionally trying one for all engaged in Eastern banking and commerce, and as the Chinese, Japanese, Indians, Javanese, Filipinos, all were caught by the universal trade depression, the story of the banking is closely allied with that of trade. Most Eastern nations, and a good many of those who trade with them, seemed to think that the great era of prosperity which arose out of the war would go on for ever. In many instances, despite repeated warnings from the banks, over-trading was rampant, with the inevitable consequence that when a heavy decline in the demand for Eastern products and manufactures set in, all markets were badly affected. The export trade from the Far East came almost to a standstill, with the natural corollary that the wherewithal to pay for European imports disappeared, and merchants in all centres were soon resorting to the banks to carry them over the bad times. Requests for the extension of bills were numerous; loans and advances to enable dealers to meet their more pressing commitments until better times prevailed were required from the bankers, and in many cases facilities had to be given for storing incoming cargoes for which markets had vanished.

Japan was amongst the first to suffer from the cumulative effects of the depression in the world's markets. During the war years, and for some time after, there had been a phenomenal expansion in her foreign trade, and when the break came she was caught with large stocks of imports. These have been gradually going into consumption, and although the export trade is reviving slowly—mainly owing to the increased costs of

production in Japan—there are signs that the worst of the difficulties have now been surmounted. Nevertheless, Japan has received a financial shock, from which it will take some years to recover.

China, too, has not been happy. Up to May of last year trade was booming and very large profits were made. Then the European and American markets, already overstocked with China produce, fell away badly. Credit was curtailed, and exports from the East declined rapidly, leaving the Chinese with large stocks which soon depreciated heavily in value. The fall in exchange, which in normal times would have helped the producer, proved of little benefit, as the fall in prices in both the European and American markets outpaced the decline in exchange. The position in the import trade has been equally serious. Deliveries in many instances were belated, and goods arrived just at the period when markets were full of unsold goods. As with Japan, it has taken time to overcome the temporary embarrassment this caused, but as we write the outlook is brighter, stocks are gradually moving off, and the demand for European produce shows gratifying signs of revival.

With India the position has been no less grave. She has had the same hardships in the matter of trade to face. The heavy balance of trade in her favour entirely disappeared during the trade slump; the stabilisation of the rupee on a 2s basis has been rendered temporarily impossible, and, like China, she has had to face political troubles of a more or less grave nature. Ordinarily, the fall in the rupee exchange would have been in favour of Indian exporters, but the unprecedented rates of exchange ruling in Europe have made it practically impossible for purchasers on this side to take much interest in Indian produce. On the other hand, Indian importers have had their troubles. Many of them last year had placed large orders in the expectation of paying for them on the basis of a high rupee exchange, and when the goods arrived they were face to face with the fact that 40 or 50 per cent. more was required in local currency to meet their commitments. In the circumstances, much trouble was caused by the refusal of some Indian exporters to recognise the validity of their contracts with European shippers on the higher exchange basis. To bring all parties to reason has required much skill on the part of the banks. The severe decline in prices has seriously affected both importers and exporters, and it has taken many months of careful watching and prudent finance by the banks in order to surmount the troubles with which all have been faced.

Both Java and the Philippines have been similarly affected, though in their case exchange has not been so serious a proposition. The falling off in the demand for their produce from the United States, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom, however, has militated against the prosperity of merchants in those countries, while in the case of Java the decline in the price of sugar caught speculators and genuine traders alike.

Of Persia one can say little. The position there is uncommonly difficult, and the extremely unsettled state of the country, together with the very unsatisfactory political state, makes both trade and finance a matter of anxious care.

To sum up, then, the conditions under which the banks have had to work are these. The products of the East have been confronted with overstocked markets, falling exchange and declining prices in Europe and America. This has had an adverse effect on the purchasing power of India, China, Japan—in fact, of all Eastern countries, and in dealing with such a situation the Eastern bankers, naturally, have been obliged to proceed with caution. The needs of their financially embarrassed clients have had to be considered in the light of their duty to their depositors and shareholders.

For the rest, they have had to contend with the usual kaleidoscopic movements in the price of silver, which, in turn, have been reflected in the exchange quotations of the silver-using countries of the East. As is well known, the exchange quotations for the Shanghai tael and the Hong Kong dollar rise and fall more or less automatically with the quotation for

silver on the London market. The average price of silver for the year 1920 was 61.59d per standard ounce, the highest quotation being that recorded on February 11, 1920—89½d, and the lowest that on December 10, 1920—38½d. The highest quotation for the Shanghai tael was 9s 3d, and that for the Hong Kong dollar 6s 2d, the lowest being 3s 10½d and 2s 11d respectively, while the average for the tael for 1920 was 6s 0.86d and for the dollar 4s 3.59d. Silver during the early part of this year depreciated, and brought down exchange with it. In fact, if we compare the rates on March 1, 1921, with those ruling on March 1, 1920, we find a fall of 57 per cent. in the value of the Hong Kong dollar and of 63 per cent. in the value of the Shanghai tael. On the other hand, the depreciation in the Indian rupee, which may be ascribed almost entirely to the collapse of the Indian export market, in the same period fell only 50 per cent. Since March there have been many variations, and though not always upward, yet for some time past silver has been remarkably steady, and the price now is considerably higher than in the first quarter of the year. With the cash price of the metal at 42½d per ounce standard, the quotation for the Hong Kong dollar is 2s 11d and the Shanghai tael 4s 2d, and the demand from China during the last few weeks has been large. To some extent, this is due to the usual laying in of stocks of the metal for the China New Year; but it is also a good augury of improving trade.

There has been considerable improvement, too, in the value of the Indian rupee, all of which points to a welcome trade revival in that country.

That the Eastern banks are able to show such good results as are apparent from their last balance-sheets is, in the circumstances, remarkable. As will be seen from tabulated figures elsewhere, large increases are shown in total deposits, and while the depression of trade is reflected in the large cash balances held, the extent to which the banks have assisted traders in tiding over bad times is evidenced by the large amounts under the headings of bills discounted, loans and advances, &c. However, notwithstanding the heavy demands on their resources, the banks' balance-sheets, in most cases, reveal an extremely liquid position.

The enhanced value of merchandise of all kinds obvi-

ously entails greater calls on their resources than in pre-war years, and for this reason most of the Eastern banks have found it incumbent upon them to increase their capital; the National Bank of India, the Mercantile Bank of India, the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and the Eastern Bank, all have added to their capital by the issue of new shares, the premium on which, incidentally, has appreciably strengthened their reserves. Considering the anxious period of trade depression and stringent financial position through which we have been passing of late years, it is very satisfactory to note that profits in all cases have been increased and correspondingly higher dividends paid as compared with 1914. Just how the dividends compare with that year will be seen from the following table:—

	1914.	1920.
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (subject to tax) ..	36½	64*
Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China (free of tax) ..	14	20½
National Bank of India (free of tax) ..	12	20
Mercantile Bank of India (subject to tax) ..	8½	16
Eastern Bank (subject to tax) ..	5	9

* Taking the \$125 shares at 2s per dollar.

During the past year the ranks of the Eastern banks have been swollen by the addition of the P. and O. Banking Corporation, Limited, and the Imperial Bank of India, the latter representing an amalgamation of the three Presidency banks of Bengal, Bombay, and Madras. The Imperial Bank, although having an office in London, will not, in the ordinary sense, compete with the exchange banks, but, to the extent that it will conduct business on behalf of its own constituents, it may conceivably attract business that has hitherto come the way of the older institutions. The bank came into being on January 27th last, so that it is early yet to state what will be the precise effect of its operations. Its paid-up capital is Rs. 5,57,62,000, and reserve Rs. 3,83,55,000. The P. and O. Banking Corporation has an authorised capital of £5,000,000, of which £2,500,000 is paid up, and from its first nine months' business to March 31, 1921, has succeeded in writing off the whole of its preliminary expenses and made a net profit of £99,725, out of which has been paid a dividend of 5 per cent. per annum, less tax.

FOREIGN BANKS WITH LONDON OFFICES AND BRITISH BANKS TRADING ABROAD.

BANKS with offices in London trading in foreign countries may be classed under two headings, namely, British companies with offices in London and abroad, and foreign banking institutions with branches in London. English joint-stock banks which have opened branches on the Continent or have affiliated Continental concerns are not included in the section.

First for notice comes the little group of British overseas banking companies formed during the past few years as a result of our more intensive foreign trade development policy. Many of these undertakings are now rendering some account of themselves, and it will be interesting to observe in the next few years the extent to which they can justify their existence. In January last the British Trade Corporation announced a profit of £141,901 for the year ended December 31, 1920, as against £102,592 for the previous year. This corporation has branches at Batoum, Belgrade, and Danzig. The British Overseas Bank, although actually having no branches abroad, has substantial interests in foreign countries, and accounts submitted in December of last year showed profits for "the period" ended October 31, 1920, of £199,744, while the British Italian Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1920, recorded a profit of £62,927. The Anglo-Baltic and Mediterranean Bank revealed a profit of £24,232 at the end of last April. The British-American Continental Bank, with an authorised capital of £2½ millions and £313,590 paid up, failed to make headway against adverse circumstances and closed its doors. Satisfactory progress is reported by the British Bank of Northern Com-

merce, Limited, which, on its amalgamation with Messrs C. J. Hambro and Son, became Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited, this amalgamation at the date of the report having been in operation for five months. The chairman of the bank recently pointed out that "the retention of the words 'Northern Commerce' is prejudicial to the bank's business in Southern and overseas countries, where the impression has been created that the international position of the bank has to some extent been narrowed down. Your board have therefore unanimously decided that, in the interest of the bank, its name had better be altered and abbreviated to 'Hambros Bank, Limited.'" A scheme for dealing with its holdings of Russian securities was proposed to the shareholders of the British Bank for Foreign Trade, and it is hoped that this has been carried through.

To turn to the second group. During its past financial year the paid-up capital of the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris has been increased from 200 to 250 million francs. Special attention is paid to its seaport branches at Marseilles, Havre, and Bordeaux with a view to foreign trade business. In conjunction with the National Bank of Commerce in New York and the First National Bank of Boston, the French-American Banking Corporation was formed. The Société Générale pour Favoriser la Développement du Commerce issues some interesting statistics and charts of its progress. These show that in 1900, with a called-up capital of 80 million francs, a profit of 5 million francs was made, while in 1913, with an increased capital of 250 millions, profits improved to over 24½ million francs. These,

however, fell to 10½ millions in 1914, but from this date profits continued to climb, until in 1920 the high-water mark of 26½ millions is recorded. The Crédit Lyonnais reports interesting developments in Algeria and Tunis, also in Geneva and Mulhouse. Amongst the Crédit Lyonnais' network of world-wide affairs we note that specific mention is made of progressive movements in London, Turkey, and Spain. With the exception of its London branch the Société Générale de Crédit Industriel et Commercial apparently confines itself to French banking affairs. The Crédit Foncier d'Algérie et de Tunisie, established in 1881, is comparatively a new arrival in this country. A perusal, however, of its report shows that the directors have not only extended

its operations to most parts of Algeria, Tunis, and Morocco, but even to Gibraltar and Malta.

The Credito Italiano has just opened offices in Berlin and Paris, in addition to its recent activities in Switzerland, Austria, and China, while its great rival concern, the Banca Commerciale Italiana, shows but little slackening of its enterprise abroad, mainly developed through auxiliary undertakings in Austria, Roumania, and Bulgaria, in addition to its widespread connection in America.

The following table displays the position of Continental banks with offices in London. The figures are taken at the par value of exchange:—

CONTINENTAL BANKS.

	Capital and Reserves.		Deposits.		Cash.		Investments.		Discounts and Advances.	
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Banca Commerciale Italiana	15,038,250	18,720,000	198,779,079	218,748,942	14,929,375	11,046,958	5,905,506	14,512,936	169,834,168	243,982,153
Banco Nacional Ultramarino	10,656,000	10,866,600	115,501,580	101,415,330	11,337,691	6,970,927	1,689,374	1,918,885	85,579,652	118,782,372
Bank of Bilbao	4,471,640	4,920,000	7,054,982	7,176,649	909,876	649,857	6,167,110	6,951,331	2,997,811	6,533,852
Bank of Athens	1,944,000	2,120,000	20,220,816	22,563,310	5,804,840	8,522,768	710,496	71,284	11,920,892	11,726,638
Bank of Roumania	500,860	500,360	9,205,889	10,760,732	6,921,619	7,968,742	434,057	473,788	2,351,572	2,959,604
Banque Belge pour l'Etranger	1,911,860	2,481,146	14,025,782	24,322,713	4,247,440	7,074,744	1,530,283	2,023,931	10,666,963	17,197,224
Banque Française pour le Commerce et l'Industrie	2,843,559	3,431,231	9,499,582	21,027,348	1,633,320	6,182,750	8,745,508	1,132,663	3,957,693	7,814,542
Brit. Bank for Foreign Trade	840,000	840,000	687,303	763,186	310,360	266,293	841,414	801,328	605,379	641,235
Comptoir Nat. d'Escompte de Paris	9,785,259	12,794,709	181,040,004	141,260,846	10,561,578	15,460,823	337,184	226,458	116,279,455	127,953,178
Crédit Lyonnais	18,000,000	18,000,000	170,316,032	181,996,173	20,474,724	19,666,845	238,377	294,179	175,272,404	187,103,577
Credito Italiano	9,280,000	14,600,000	130,669,864	164,704,718	11,586,013	16,832,694	1,768,184	5,185,524	138,364,400	172,886,596
Hambros Bank of N. Com.	1,550,000	2,050,000	16,209,043	17,856,283	2,292,510	3,838,978	6,557,125	4,289,950	8,834,128	11,676,142
Ionian	610,580	615,580	6,557,284	7,087,587	1,464,443	1,809,996	974,757	785,044	9,130,689	8,076,402
Italo-Belgian Bank	919,070	2,128,024	12,190,910	26,334,563	8,896,320	9,621,972	52,902	301,225	6,669,885	23,510,884
Société Générale de Crédit Industriel	2,284,695	2,423,475	21,073,677	16,982,858	1,178,889	1,968,002	2,058,476	2,162,389	20,543,672	15,642,767
Soc. Générale pour Favoriser le Commerce	12,028,194	12,069,725	168,838,682	194,782,907	8,471,655	25,179,648	4,722,850	4,212,877	164,621,972	186,687,170
Swiss Bank Corporation	5,240,000	6,040,000	37,920,114	37,192,150	8,414,404	9,473,532	1,444,852	1,325,078	37,223,214	36,409,403

The Société Belge de Crédit Industriel, an undertaking established in 1904 with branch offices in London and Geneva, shows a called-up capital of 4,800,000f, and profits of 1,398,000f in 1920, as compared with 1,196,000f in 1919. But Belgian activities in foreign countries are undertaken on a much bigger scale by the Banque Belge pour l'Etranger, which is affiliated with the Société Générale de Belgique. This concern has established either branches, agencies, or connections in London, Paris, New York, Cologne, and Bucarest, and also in Egypt, China, and Spain. Moreover, it has further interested itself in founding at Sofia the Société Franco-Belge Kouyoumdjisky and Co. Another overseas Belgian concern worthy of mention is the Banque du Congo Belge, which is well supported at home by representative Belgian banking institutions.

The Banco Nacional Ultramarino, with head office in Lisbon and branches extending throughout Portugal and its colonies and Brazil, extends operations to British India and Belgian Congo. In recording an increase in its profit and loss account figures for 1920, the Swiss Bank Corporation points out that "commercial banks can look back on a prosperous year, although they have felt, and will continue to feel, the reflex action of the crisis in their customers' businesses." A significant action on the part of the Bank of Athens is recorded in its report.

In the previous year 5 per cent. of net profits was distributed to its staff, and this year it is stated that 657,000 drs is devoted to this purpose out of profits; during the year four new branches have been opened, namely, at Manchester, Port Said, Adrianople, and Argostoli.

The Bank of Roumania, considering the financial condition prevailing in that country during the period covered by the accounts under review, made surprisingly good progress. After paying a dividend of 5 per cent. and making provision for bad debts and pension fund, a comparatively substantial credit balance was carried forward. In July last Viscount Goschen, presiding at the annual meeting of the bank, pointed out that "the effect of the unfavourable exchanges still weighs heavily on the economic life of the country, and although the country in itself, from the fact of its being chiefly agricultural, is very prosperous, yet commercial and industrial affairs, owing to their dependence on foreign sources of supply for their requirements, are naturally very much hampered by the uncertainty of exchange." The Russian banks are still omitted from our lists, and are likely to be until the Russian Soviet Government shows a better appreciation of world trade credit.

The next table shows the position of Asiatic banks with offices in London:—

ASIATIC BANKS.

	Capital and Reserves.		Deposits.		Cash.		Investments.		Discounts, Loans, and Credits.	
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Bank of Taiwan	4,449,495	5,268,040	37,989,130	34,206,135	3,897,426	3,995,856	7,952,995	5,914,841	69,802,164	72,420,803
Imperial Bank of Persia	900,000	930,000	2,890,065	3,228,397	2,103,003	3,339,575	8,731,079	1,635,222	3,241,934	3,330,779
Hong Kong and Shanghai	10,335,937	7,995,426	82,197,189	71,418,719	19,996,645	20,648,006	6,193,561	5,125,126	37,704,976	25,615,132
Sumitomo Bank	3,260,000	5,420,000	34,835,911	35,144,113	3,381,801	5,146,710	4,477,366	5,213,702	34,770,334	31,815,069
Yokohama Specie	9,150,620	15,884,991	52,940,107	67,719,800	13,954,490	15,349,507	15,093,637	27,528,344	83,698,727	26,754,448
	28,098,052	35,498,457	210,792,402	201,717,104	43,333,365	48,374,654	37,448,636	45,317,737	178,218,134	169,936,291

Continued on page 646.

STATEMENT OF BANK ACCOUNTS IN A SUMMARISED FORM.

1 Name of Bank.	2 Date.	3 No. of Branches and sub-branches.	4 Capital Subscribed.	5 Uncalled Capital.		6 Capital Paid-up.	7 Reserve Fund.	8 Un- divided Profits.	9 Notes in Circulation.	10 Accept- ances and Bills for Collection.
				Callab.	Reserved.					
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£

COLONIAL JOINT STOCK BANKS WITH LONDON OFFICES.

AFRICAN BANKS.

1 Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Limited....	Aug 31	15	1,800,000	1,200,000	Nil	600,000	831,654	180,483	..	735,639
2 Bank of British West Africa, Lim.	Mar 31	50	3,000,000	3,000,000	1,500,000	1,200,000	625,000	93,180	..	2,895,706
3 National Bank of Egypt.....	Dec 31	22	3,000,000	..	Nil	3,000,000	2,100,000	502,864	..	732,993
4 National Bank of South Africa, L.	Mar 31	476	2,950,000	Nil	Nil	2,950,000	1,250,000	263,481	4,626,132	12,241,838
5 Netherlands Bank of South Africa	Dec 31	16	240,000	Nil	Nil	240,000	41,567	30,263	108,976	225,602
6 Standard of South Africa, L.	Dec 30	400	8,916,560	6,657,495	Nil	2,229,165	2,893,335	454,407	4,609,342	9,081,548
Total	..	979	19,921,660	8,187,495	1,500,000	10,284,165	7,741,556	1,479,168	9,244,449	25,913,386

AUSTRALASIAN BANKS.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia	June 30	53	..	..	..	3,048,324	..	..	..	Contingent Liabilities.
1 Australian Bank of Commerce, L.	June 30	139	1,200,000	Nil	Nil	1,200,000	625,000	72,391	..	..
Do Inscribed Deposits	..	..	1,372,513	..	..	1,372,683	250,000	..	..	..
2 Bank of Adelaide, Limited	Mar 28	9	625,000	Nil	625,000	625,000	600,000	73,429	7,306	632,566
3 Bank of Australasia	Oct 14	204	3,500,000	Nil	3,500,000	3,075,000	373,374	571,205	5,260,308	..
4 Bank of New South Wales	Mar 31	358	4,965,200	Nil	4,965,200	3,350,000	449,359	752,588	..	..
5 Bank of New Zealand	..	..	2,200,000	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
Do Pref.	Mar 31	211	1,123,000	Nil	Nil	3,904,989	1,801,000	726,901	4,741,492	..
Do 4% Guaranteed Stock	..	..	529,989	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
6 Bank of Queensland, Limited	Jan 31	41	450,000	Nil	550,000	450,000	25,000	62,776	..	94,446
7 Bank of Victoria, Limited	June 30	113	2,122,500	1,061,250	Nil	1,478,010	525,000	197,356	6,586	1,254,490
Do Pref. Shares	..	..	416,769	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
8 Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney	June 30	222	5,909,023	Nil	3,000,000	2,909,023	2,220,000	350,185	9,867	..
9 Commercial Bank of Australia, L.	June 30	220	95,639	Nil	Nil	..	..	66,683	55,264	317,179
Do Pref. Shares	..	..	2,117,350	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
10 English, Scottish, and Australian	June 30	206	1,594,125	1,034,077	Nil	8,052,144	600,000	179,162	1,396	..
Do Pref. Stocks	(1920)	..	2,462,966	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
London Bank of Australia, Lim. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11 National Bank of Australasia, Lim.	Mar 31	226	2,208,000	Nil	823,000	2,000,000	1,320,000	156,625	49,524	1,172,674
Do Pref. Shares	..	..	627,000	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
12 National Bank of New Zealand, L.	Mar 31	49	3,000,000	2,000,000	Nil	1,000,000	1,020,000	225,394	981,782	..
13 Queensland National Bank, Lim.	June 30	89	500,000	Nil	Nil	798,003	325,000	38,909	..	..
Do Inscribed Deposit Stock	..	..	..	..	..	3,091,669	..	..	..	..
14 Royal Bank of Australia, Limited..	Mar 31	9	1,560,000	810,000	Nil	760,000	415,000	89,421	846	131,073
15 Union Bank of Australia, Limited	Feb 29	182	7,500,000	Nil	5,000,000	2,500,000	2,750,000	270,557	676,909	..
Total (excluding Com- monwealth Bank) ..	..	2,364	46,424,257	4,903,327	18,468,200	35,715,389	18,276,000	3,322,521	7,854,756	8,862,731

CANADIAN AND WEST INDIAN BANKS.

1 Bank of Montreal	Apr 30	820	4,400,000	Nil	4,400,000	4,400,000	4,400,000	440,429	7,014,061	752,651
2 Bank of Nova Scotia	Dec 31	303	1,910,000	Nil	1,910,000	1,940,000	3,600,000	274,68	4,200,928	231,083
3 Canadian Bank of Commerce	Nov 30	531	3,082,192	Nil	3,082,192	3,082,192	3,082,192	490,677	6,311,696	2,536,522
4 Colonial Bank	June 30	58	3,000,000	600,000	1,500,000	900,000	400,000	114,611	759,120	2,046,068
5 Dominion Bank	June 30	127	1,232,877	Nil	1,232,877	1,230,000	1,400,000	200,117	1,680,229	81,743
6 Merchants' Bank of Canada	Apr 30	331	1,630,000	Nil	1,630,000	2,100,000	1,990,000	189,987	2,783,794	145,820
7 Royal Bank of Canada	Nov 30	721	4,026,802	Nil	4,026,802	4,026,802	4,026,802	309,339	8,334,595	3,445,729
8 Union Bank of Canada	Nov 30	333	1,600,000	Nil	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,200,000	105,427	2,534,729	690,102
Total	..	2,784	20,921,871	600,000	19,461,871	19,248,994	19,998,994	2,075,279	33,519,151	9,982,718

INDIAN BANKS.

1 Chartered of India, Aust., and China	Dec 31	37	3,000,000	Nil	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,500,000	709,601	2,337,818	3,720,593
2 Eastern Bank, Limited	Dec 31	10	2,000,000	Nil	2,000,000	995,780	225,696	131,213	..	1,636,631
3 Mercantile Bank of India, Lim.	..	..	750,000	187,500	187,500	..	..	..	..	..
Do B Shares	Dec 31	19	750,000	187,500	187,500	1,050,000	1,100,000	211,638	157,306	819,534
Do C Shares	..	..	300,000	Nil	Nil	..	..	..	..	..
4 National Bank of India, Limited ..	June 30	25	4,000,000	2,000,000	Nil	2,000,000	2,300,000	533,032	..	3,795,674
Total	..	94	10,800,000	2,375,000	5,375,000	7,045,780	7,125,696	1,581,534	2,995,121	10,034,497
Total Colonial	..	6,221	98,107,788	16,067,822	44,816,071	72,244,328	53,142,246	8,458,562	53,613,482	54,793,332

STATEMENT OF BANK ACCOUNTS IN A SUMMARISED FORM.

10 Miscel- laneous Liabilities.	11 Deposits.	12 Total Liabilities.	13 Cash in Hand and Money at Call and Short Notice.		14 Invest- ments.	15 Bills Dis- counted or Purchased (when shown separately).	16 Bills, Loans, and Advances.	17 Premises and Sundries (including Over for Acceptances.)	18 Total Assets.	19 Name of Bank.
			Cash in Hand, with Banks, and in Transit.	Money at Call and Short Notice.						
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	

COLONIAL JOINT STOCK BANKS WITH LONDON OFFICES.

AFRICAN BANKS.

561,518	15,542,208	18,401,569	1,965,354	..	1,464,102	(c) 8,460,106	5,681,690	830,310	18,401,562	Anglo-Egyptn.
638,080	8,018,670	13,475,636	2,532,166	..	860,524	(c) 3,202,317	3,693,686	3,196,943	13,475,636	Bk. Brit. W. A.
320,409	21,773,892	28,409,648	4,397,401	1,360,000	9,459,240	1,316,975	10,326,227	1,049,805	28,409,648	Nat. of Egypt.
2,693,511	48,045,810	71,976,772	10,185,914	2,254,500	3,766,770	8,982,332	33,332,024	13,464,232	71,976,772	Nat. Bk. of S.A.
..	1,052,403	1,698,800	400,045	..	55,589	..	..	971,176	1,698,800	Neth. B. of S.A.
1,960,333	57,235,172	77,913,302	11,180,343	1,283,000	5,266,252	7,968,947	42,191,093	10,013,667	77,913,302	Standrd of S.A.
5,563,851	151,698,145	211,874,720	30,671,223	4,897,500	20,852,477	30,430,677	96,195,896	28,826,947	211,874,720	Total

AUSTRALASIAN BANKS.

6,482,681	62,460,267	71,991,422	7,030,247	4,160,000	33,614,410	..	26,563,369	623,396	71,991,422	Comwth of Aust.
1,357,341	8,560,114	12,813,129	1,809,584	409,014	407,002	..	9,693,614	493,916	12,813,129	Aust. B. of Com.
233,488	5,384,597	8,156,386	1,460,182	686,401	1,126,981	30,355	4,659,398	162,569	8,156,386	Bk. of Adelaide
..	27,018,082	39,797,964	7,344,210	222,000	1,347,087	..	30,355,708	28,959	39,797,964	Bk. of Austrasia
14,482,905	51,692,437	75,692,489	15,416,200	7,527,967	9,107,968	..	40,470,115	3,170,233	75,692,489	Bk. of N.S.W.
4,116,574	34,475,655	49,766,611	6,685,738	..	(a) 100,272,42	2,780,754	29,935,408	337,469	49,766,611	Bk. of N. Zeal.
154,894	3,159,641	3,946,747	839,601	100,401	190,600	..	2,602,299	214,446	3,946,747	Bk. of Qnsland
224,156	9,952,617	13,628,209	2,154,758	(c) 868,646	839,366	..	9,050,196	715,243	13,628,209	Bnk of Victoria
1,600,741	31,245,205	38,335,023	7,535,466	1,065,000	6,307,333	..	22,743,258	678,961	38,335,023	Com. of Sydney
1,336,286	15,608,793	19,497,871	3,661,387	1,370,000	573,018	..	13,062,512	830,954	19,497,871	Comrl. of Aust
1,008,633	12,090,412	16,931,747	3,042,009	480,494	636,779	..	12,470,937	301,528	16,931,747	Eng. Sct. & Aust Lon. of Aust.
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
551,618	24,191,531	29,441,972	4,952,820	..	3,691,952	..	20,156,207	640,993	29,441,972	Nat. of Austrlia.
4,129,913	8,296,492	15,654,581	994,433	310,735	2,136,197	603,689	11,413,397	196,150	15,654,581	Natnal. of N.Z.
482,753	6,864,743	11,592,077	2,449,749	150,000	1,001,319	..	7,592,584	398,425	11,592,077	Qnsland Natnl.
465,240	4,707,913	6,558,491	1,297,201	..	2,357	..	4,872,460	286,473	6,558,491	Royal of Aust.
4,003,958	29,531,558	39,732,982	7,035,817	1,055,000	2,016,738	..	29,208,929	416,498	39,732,982	U. of Australia
34,150,090	278,354,790	381,546,279	66,779,155	14,245,658	39,911,344	3,414,778	248,322,522	8,872,822	381,546,279	Total (exclud- ing Common- wealth Bank).

CANADIAN AND WEST INDIAN BANKS.

1,112,660	83,320,188	101,439,989	22,882,294	16,022,038	11,571,182	..	48,860,354	2,104,121	101,439,989	Bank of Mont.
695,011	36,949,169	47,940,677	13,552,039	7,544,936	7,398,971	..	17,996,763	1,448,068	47,940,677	Bk. of N. Scotia
2,349,239	80,933,943	98,786,430	22,039,253	11,447,215	8,198,298	..	53,195,804	3,355,860	98,786,430	Can. Bk. of Cmr.
828,907	2,706,614	13,759,315	697,713	459,571	847,996	..	9,397,944	2,356,092	13,759,315	Colonial
666,074	20,055,521	25,183,687	5,146,008	2,171,203	4,033,824	..	12,442,213	1,390,439	25,183,687	Dominion Bnk
1,033,204	29,927,476	38,073,492	6,008,209	2,034,633	5,842,629	..	22,743,643	1,444,363	38,073,492	Merch. of Can.
7,787,258	91,003,477	118,934,002	34,201,877	11,572,513	10,065,152	..	57,284,324	5,810,136	118,934,002	R. Bk. of Canada
4,65,928	27,064,903	33,841,089	7,732,006	3,854,013	4,854,693	..	16,504,239	896,138	33,841,089	Union of Can.
15,168,251	377,965,484	477,958,871	112,309,449	55,106,177	52,812,744	..	238,425,284	19,305,217	477,958,871	Total

(Continued from page 643.)

That there are vast possibilities in connection with banking developments in China may be judged from the numerous banking institutions which are now represented at Shanghai. This country has the Hong-kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China. The United States, a powerful coming competitor, has seven, namely, the International Banking Corporation, Asia Banking Corporation, Chinese-American Bank, Park-Union Bank, Philippine National Bank, Equitable Trust Company, and the American-Oriental Bank. It should be mentioned that the Chinese-American Bank is operating under a Chinese charter, while the Park-Union Bank partly represents Canadian interests. The French are represented by the Banque de l'Indo Chine. The Russo-Asiatic Bank was organised under an agreement between Russia and China, but is now largely a French company,

with head office in Paris. The principal Japanese banks are the Yokohama Specie Bank, Bank of Chosen, and Bank of Taiwan. The Sino-Italian Bank operates under a Chinese charter, and is a new institution. The Banque Belge pour l'Etranger represents Belgian capital. There are two Dutch banks, Nederlandsche Indische Handelsbank and the Nederlandsche Handel-Maatschappij.

A study of the reports of Japanese banks shows that they are mainly reflections of the disturbed commercial conditions prevailing in the East. It is, however, of interest to note the method employed by the Japanese Government to combat the general trade depression which overtook the country. Relief funds were provided by the Government, acting principally through the Bank of Japan. This bank in turn advanced 50 million yen to the large semi-official banks to enable them to avoid calling in loans from smaller banks.

The principal items extracted from balance-sheets of South American banks are given in the next table:—

SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

	Capital and Reserves.		Deposits.		Cash.		Investments.		Discounts and Advances.	
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Anglo-South American	£ 8,398,347	£ 8,550,527	£ 59,275,446	£ 50,276,051	£ 27,673,935	£ 25,146,774	£ 9,657,902	£ 6,300,447	£ 47,135,434	£ 36,652,675
Banco Espanol del Rio de La Plata	13,014,596	13,059,287	43,377,730	45,759,587	10,765,203	13,083,332	749,771	783,742	36,313,048	36,867,776
British Bank of Sth. America	2,119,046	2,134,907	15,390,131	14,362,855	5,739,289	6,115,785	..	..	18,714,277	18,278,155
Commercial Bank of Spanish America	336,417	577,750	2,333,491	2,873,976	378,306	585,918	30,957	23,573	2,663,394	3,224,931
London and Brazilian	3,000,000	3,000,000	13,040,959	18,031,324	7,529,207	10,355,042	..	..	10,192,090	15,402,938
London and River Plate	3,900,000	4,140,000	36,071,239	37,051,235	16,528,989	13,832,135	..	..	30,817,313	36,930,399
	£ 30,768,406	£ 31,462,471	£ 169,538,996	£ 168,355,026	£ 68,828,105	£ 69,116,986	£ 10,738,637	£ 7,107,762	£ 145,835,556	£ 147,366,864

Foremost among South American banking institutions comes the Anglo-South American Bank. In an excellent statistical table of its past financial record from 1914 the remarkable growth of this concern can be traced. In 1914, with a paid-up capital of £2,250,000, profits are recorded as £379,056, which is in marked contrast with profits for 1921 of £743,175 on a paid-up capital of £4,366,700. This bank mentions the establishment of an interesting connection between Belgium and South America in its report. The Anglo-South American wishing to be represented in Belgium decided that the best way would be to acquire an interest in an existing bank. The directors accordingly purchased 25,000 shares in the Banque Générale Belge out of an issue of 50,000 new shares of 500 each, at a premium of 150f per share, which premium has been added to the reserve fund. The capital of the Banque Générale Belge is thus raised from 25 to 50 million francs, while the reserve fund stands at 17 millions.

The balance-sheet of the Anglo-South American includes also the results of affiliated companies in South America, viz., the British Bank of South America, Limited, and the Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited. The Banco Espanol del Rio de la Plata continues to establish fresh branches both in South America and in Europe, and announces its intention to open a branch at Antwerp in the near future. The London and Brazilian Bank has now its own office at Manchester, and it is a significant sign of the alertness of many of our older banking institutions to learn that the London and Brazilian intends to extend its articles of association to enable the bank to act as executor or administrator. The London and River Plate Bank, with its British offices in London, Bradford, and Manchester, and its close association with Lloyds Bank and the National Bank of Scotland, is showing itself to be fully alive to present-day conditions.

Our final table shows American banks and trust companies which have offices in London:—

UNITED STATES BANKING AND TRUST COMPANIES.

(\$5 = £1.)

	Capital and Reserves, &c.		Deposits.		Cash on Hand and in Bank.		Investments.		Loans.	
	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Equitable Trust	£ 5,783,938	£ 5,763,506	£ 50,822,023	£ 40,278,283	£ 17,263,146	£ 10,824,514	£ 9,614,408	£ 8,378,546	£ 27,267,981	£ 23,305,992
Farmers' Loan and Trust	3,142,670	3,385,902	32,585,388	25,267,467	7,315,631	3,969,221	9,874,929	9,297,979	13,736,545	12,132,826
Guaranty Trust	11,652,110	8,336,393	134,905,170	89,653,194	17,627,782	28,131,006	21,079,032	17,873,914	105,209,694	66,367,155
International Bkng. Cor	2,973,139	3,339,423	15,467,592	14,367,400	4,235,444	3,330,974	845,684	937,775	11,796,160	9,765,696
Nat. City Bank of N. York	16,766,984	22,769,186	159,897,966	112,395,765	69,442,255	36,445,849	8,049,336	7,287,557	123,448,330	102,739,463
	£ 30,317,841	£ 33,614,810	£ 393,678,139	£ 281,962,109	£ 115,824,258	£ 82,701,566	£ 19,463,389	£ 13,775,771	£ 281,558,710	£ 214,311,132

In London, offices of the Guaranty Trust Company of New York are now open in Lombard Street, Kingsway, and Pall Mall; and Liverpool, Paris, Brussels, Antwerp, Havre, and Constantinople are now covered by its European section, and through its membership

of the Federal Reserve system extended credit and rediscount facilities can be obtained. And also worthy of notice are the many activities of the National City Bank of New York, which, like the International Banking Corporation, has interests by way of offices or agencies in most of the great cities of the world.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Head Office : MILAN.

Branches throughout Italy

and in

LONDON NEW YORK CONSTANTINOPLE.

Associated Institutions :

Banque Française and Italienne pour l'Amérique du Sud,
Paris, Buenos Aires, Rio, San Paulo, Santos, Pernambuco, etc.
Banca Commerciale Italiana (France) - Marseilles, Nice, etc.
Banca della Svizzera Italiana, Lugano, Bellinzona, Chiasso, Chisinau.
Banca Commerciale Italiana & Romana - Bucarest, Braila, Galatz.
Banca Commerciale Italiana & Bulgara - Sofia, Varna.
Banca Ungaro-Italiana - Budapest.
Società Italiana di Credito Commerciale - Milan, Trieste, Vienna.
Banco Italiano - Lima, Callao, Arequipa, Chinchá Alta, etc.
Banco Frances de Chile - Santiago, Valparaiso.
Banco Frances e Italiano de Colombia - Bogota.
Lincoln Trust Company - New York.
Italian-American Bank - San Francisco (Cal).

Capital -	-	-	-	-	Lire 400,000,000
Reserve -	-	-	-	-	„ 176,000,000
Deposits -	-	-	-	-	„ 5,400,000,000

LONDON OFFICE : 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

WEST-END AGENCIES:

12, WATERLOO PLACE, S.W.1.

(also London Office of Italian State Railways)

30, OLD COMPTON STREET, W.1.

Correspondents to the Royal Italian Treasury.

AFRICAN BANKS.

The statistics given at the end of this and of the three following articles show the growth of banking business in the overseas Dominions, so far as can be traced from the figures of the banks which have branches or head offices in London. The figures are taken from a summary table which appears on a later page. As in the case of Australasia, heavy imports into South Africa have resulted in financial stringency, and there have been unusually heavy demands on the banking facilities of the country. In a recent report on economic and financial conditions in South Africa, Mr W. G. Wickham, British Trade Commissioner in South Africa, writes that for many months the position has been critical. General nervousness has led to incessant rumours as to the solvency of many important firms. There have been many bankruptcies, but these have been confined to small country stores and Indian dealers. The premium in favour of remittances to London not only induced importers to put funds in London, but it led to heavy sales of stocks and mining shares. This in turn involved dislocation through depreciation of the value of securities, and the putting of speculative holders in difficulties. Trading losses have been very heavy, as many importers have been unable to finance their excessive imports and have had to get rid of stocks at any price. "The tightness of money at the latter end of 1920 and in the early part of 1921 has caused enormous inconvenience and limited *bonâ fide* enterprise. It has proved very much more difficult to borrow money and obtain overdrafts against good security for sound development purposes during that period than it was a little while previous to obtain advances for purely speculative objects."

The most important banking event of the year, so far as South Africa is concerned, was the formation of the Central Reserve Bank, under the Currency and Reserve Bank Act. The new bank will not enter into active competition with the commercial banks for ordinary banking business, its principal function being the issue of currency notes, the sole right of which it will be given for 25 years. As soon as it is in a position to issue these notes the right of issue by the other banks will cease. The existing banks, the Government and industrial, commercial, and agricultural interests are represented on the board. The capital of the new bank is £1,000,000, and under the terms of the Act every South African Bank must hold stock in the Reserve Bank to the equivalent of 5 per cent. of its own capital. The commercial banks are compelled to deposit large reserves with the Reserve Bank. In respect to demand liabilities 10 per cent. of the total has to be provided, and in the case of time liabilities, including interest-bearing deposits, the proportion is 3 per cent. After

the first three years the proportion of reserve against demand liabilities is to be increased to 13 per cent. The chairman of the National Bank of South Africa, in his speech at the annual meeting at the end of June, stated that to comply with these obligations his bank had at once to deposit about £2,500,000, and foreshadowed that, in view of the new conditions, it will be impossible in future to extend banking facilities to small communities, and that possibly some of the smaller branches may have to be closed.

At the meeting of the Standard Bank of South Africa the chairman, after welcoming the shareholders of the African Banking Corporation, which had been absorbed during the year, pointed out that when the financial year opened the balance of trade was greatly in favour of South Africa. "It therefore became necessary to raise the rates of exchange in an endeavour to assist in adjusting the trade balance. Partly as a result of these high rates of exchange, imports into South Africa then increased considerably, while the rapid fall in the price of wool and other produce reduced exports to a minimum. Thus in the space of a few months the position was entirely reversed, and it became necessary to again adjust the exchange rates to meet the drain on funds in London. The steps taken by the banks had this desired effect, and it may be added that during the last few months exports have steadily increased and are now in excess of the imports."

The Bank of British West Africa, in which an interest was acquired last year by the Standard Bank of South Africa, the London County Westminster and Parr's, and the National Provincial and Union, showed an increased profit, but the chairman pointed out at the meeting that West Africa had experienced all the severity of the slump, both in produce and in goods imported. The African could not obtain the cost price of the former, and could not pay the cost price of the goods he wished to purchase. The result was that little business was being done, and heavy losses must be faced by those who decided to cut their loss and take what they could get for their commodities. Two Egyptian banks—the Anglo-Egyptian Bank and the National Bank of Egypt—are included in the table, the former having its head office in London. The accounts have naturally been affected by the abnormal conditions in the cotton market, the country's principal product. The chairman of the National Bank of Egypt, at the meeting held in Cairo in March, claimed, however, that "the general financial situation of the country is fundamentally sound."

The table below shows a sharp decline in deposits, accompanied by substantial decreases in cash, investments, and discounts and advances.

AFRICAN BANKS WITH OFFICES IN LONDON.

Year.	Banks.	No. of Brnchs.	Capital and Reserves.	% of Liabilities.	Notes.	% of Liabilities.	Deposits.	% of Liabilities.	Total Assets or Liabilities.	Cash in Hand and Money at Call.	% of Liabilities.	Investments.	% of Liabilities.	Discounts and Advances.	% of Liabilities.
1890..	2	90	2,005,800	12.0	1,081,300	6.5	10,403,600	62.4	16,672,400	3,887,700	23.3	1,582,300	9.5	10,920,700	65.4
1900..	5	165	4,684,000	13.3	1,852,200	5.2	24,424,900	69.0	35,306,300	11,511,900	32.6	4,092,200	11.6	18,559,700	52.5
1905..	8	363	8,480,500	13.4	2,038,000	3.2	45,858,400	71.2	64,277,900	16,206,600	25.1	8,805,700	13.4	36,549,000	56.9
1910..	9	444	8,289,700	13.4	2,035,300	3.3	43,623,800	71.2	61,144,200	17,755,900	29.0	6,374,400	10.4	30,509,200	49.9
1912..	7	492	8,556,100	12.3	2,387,100	3.4	49,130,700	70.5	69,694,300	14,578,800	21.0	5,085,600	7.3	41,751,600	60.0
1914..	7	502	8,935,075	12.3	2,248,113	3.2	50,145,773	70.2	71,258,938	15,693,005	22.0	5,170,950	7.3	41,670,760	58.5
1915..	6	488	8,709,895	12.0	2,619,300	3.6	53,140,570	73.6	72,214,499	19,919,467	27.5	5,912,468	8.2	38,944,792	53.8
1916..	7	547	14,117,683	13.9	2,798,684	2.7	73,560,990	72.2	101,850,210	20,369,809	20.0	14,494,301	14.2	57,253,126	56.8
1917..	7	583	14,503,493	11.9	3,796,769	3.1	90,325,713	74.2	122,199,396	23,793,758	19.5	18,849,944	15.5	68,244,346	56.1
1918..	7	704	15,023,804	10.4	5,106,119	3.5	108,783,064	75.0	145,190,299	28,384,561	19.5	19,856,968	13.6	84,415,701	58.0
1919..	7	790	15,795,555	8.4	6,639,531	3.5	143,161,850	76.0	188,192,568	33,665,939	17.8	27,650,096	14.6	108,133,879	57.3
1920..	7	873	17,046,427	6.8	8,983,619	3.6	189,892,101	76.0	249,256,327	46,066,481	18.5	37,267,885	14.9	139,946,510	56.0
1921..	6	979	17,975,721	8.5	9,244,449	4.4	151,698,145	71.8	211,874,720	35,568,723	16.8	20,852,477	9.9	126,626,573	60.0



Exact & necessary knowledge at your elbow

CONTENTS:

Alphabetical List of British, Colonial, and Foreign Private and Joint Stock Banks, Discount Houses, etc.

Alphabetical List of Directors of Banks and Kindred Companies, Telegraphic addresses of all Banks.

List of Towns in the United Kingdom and abroad, with names of Banks and Bankers in each, with their London Agents.

Transfer Days, Dividends, &c. (Bank of England).

Foreign Exchange Tables.

Income Tax Table, &c., &c., &c.

Price 42/- net.

THOMAS SKINNER
& CO.,
GRESHAM HOUSE,
LONDON, E.C.2.

The World's Banking Directory.

The Bankers' Almanac & Year Book for 1921-22

Have you all the information you require—exact and comprehensive information at your elbow?



THE BOOK that covers the Business World

AUSTRALASIAN BANKS.

The last season in Australia was a good one, but while exports showed little expansion, imports in 1920 increased by no less than £61 millions, or 70 per cent., as compared with 1919. The financing of these abnormal imports imposed a considerable strain upon the ordinary machinery and on the resources of the Australian banks in London, and the exchange situation became very difficult. In the end, severe restrictions were placed on drawings on London, a policy which, though apparently unavoidable, caused considerable inconvenience to traders. Exports of wool, wheat, and butter, however, eased the situation later on, but, owing to the fall in prices and the smaller demand for Australian products, the exchange position has not yet become quite normal. From the table below, which summarises the principal balance-sheet items of the Australian and New Zealand banks for a number of years past, it will be seen that the steady growth in deposits since 1913 has received its first check. The latest decline in deposits is comparatively a small one, and is not general, for some of the banks recorded slight increases, and the declines mostly occur among the New Zealand banks. Advances, on the other hand, show an exceptionally large increase, and this applies equally to Australia and New Zealand. This is a result of trading requirements arising from heavy importation, as well as of the support given, directly and indirectly, to Government borrowings. These disproportionate movements in deposits and advances were accompanied by the depletion of London balances. The deposits of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, whose figures are not included in the table below, show a decline owing to a decrease in Commonwealth Government balances, but savings bank deposits and Government and municipal securities have considerably increased owing to the taking over of the Queensland State Savings Bank last December. The figures of Australian trade below go some way to explain the disturbance which arose in connection with the exchange:—

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports.	Excess of Exports.
	£	£	£	£
1915	68,526,833 ..	60,519,678 ..	8,007,155 ..	..
1916	81,081,220 ..	73,363,394 ..	7,717,826 ..	..
1917	61,650,159 ..	80,795,439 ..	..	19,145,280
1918	76,596,770 ..	80,735,820 ..	..	4,139,050
1919	85,876,584 ..	133,480,167 ..	..	47,603,583
1920	147,257,075 ..	134,307,517 ..	12,949,558 ..	..

The large excess of exports in 1919 resulted in the accumulations of credit balances in London in the spring of 1920, and the British Government at the same time was making payments in advance for wool

and other purchases. The heavy imports into Australia during 1920, especially in the second half of the year, depleted London balances, and as the exports had already been partly paid for in advance by the British Government, there was not a corresponding amount of fresh payments to Australia. According to our Melbourne correspondent, the heavy volume of imports into Australia has been partly due to the unexpected rapidity with which British and American manufacturers executed orders which Australian buyers had been led to believe could not be completed until much later dates. The buyers, under this impression, had placed orders with more freedom than if they had expected to receive the goods early.

The position in New Zealand has been more stringent than in Australia; New Zealand wool suffered from the same slowness in the market as Australian cross-bred wool, and as New Zealand had no wheat for export, it missed the benefit which Australia gained from that source. At the last meeting of the National Bank of New Zealand the Hon. W. Pember Reeves, the chairman, referred to the heavy imports, much of which arose from the carrying out of orders by British manufacturers with unexpected promptitude. Current indents had been executed to the full. Orders two or three years old, regarded as obsolete by the importer, had also been fulfilled. Others, which were to be spread over months, had been sent forward in one or two shipments, until there was neither bond nor free storage in New Zealand ports adequate to hold the huge accumulation. This, naturally, had affected the business of the banks very acutely. From July of last year an unprecedented stream of bills on New Zealand had poured into the London offices, and continued without ceasing, until the banks were obliged to decline to take in bills at all except under credits or for collection. In a report on commercial conditions in New Zealand issued this week, Mr R. W. Dalton, the British Trade Commissioner in New Zealand, points out that a factor which has contributed to the increase in the banking figures has been the flotation of Government loans. Since 1915 a population of a little over a million has been successfully called upon to subscribe loans amounting to close upon £50 millions.

The principal features in the table below, apart from the decline in deposits, are the large increase in discounts and advances, and the sharp reduction in investments. The number of banks has been reduced to 15 by the absorption of the London Bank of Australia by the English, Scottish and Australian Bank. A cable received this week announces an amalgamation between the Bank of Queensland and the National Bank of Australasia.

AUSTRALASIAN BANKS WITH LONDON OFFICES.

Year.	Banks.	No. of Brnchs.	Capital and Reserves.	% of Liabilities.	Notes.	% of Liabilities.	Deposits.	% of Liabilities.	Total Assets or Liabilities.	Cash in Hand and Money at Call and Notice.	% of Liabilities.	Investments.	% of Liabilities.	Discounts and Advances.	% of Liabilities.
			£	%	£	%	£	%	£	£	%	£	%	£	%
1890..	19	1,538	24,424,100	13.2	4,821,800	2.6	138,065,900	74.7	184,931,200	26,919,000	14.6	6,808,100	3.7	145,595,900	78.7
1900..	16	1,338	30,307,100	12.1	4,948,700	2.8	107,409,600	68.4	157,299,500	33,165,500	21.1	12,831,900	8.2	102,820,200	65.3
1905..	16	1,466	27,946,400	17.6	4,247,500	2.7	119,619,900	71.7	166,453,600	43,321,400	26.3	12,534,100	7.5	103,391,100	64.2
1910..	17	1,965	33,612,300	16.3	5,198,100	2.4	152,985,400	71.9	212,615,200	54,575,000	25.8	17,105,000	8.1	132,955,900	62.5
1913..	17	2,186	38,293,700	16.3	2,093,900	0.9	170,256,600	72.6	234,100,000	66,888,400	28.8	13,687,600	5.3	146,297,600	62.5
1914..	18	2,273	42,272,449	16.6	2,040,542	0.8	185,238,136	72.9	254,338,301	73,909,526	29.0	19,406,361	7.6	153,450,596	60.5
1915..	18	2,294	43,470,675	16.6	3,187,636	1.2	192,079,038	78.1	262,167,311	79,197,043	30.1	22,208,945	8.5	153,402,635	58.3
1916..	18	2,297	44,004,748	15.8	3,640,936	1.3	199,115,161	71.3	279,112,667	72,999,234	26.1	29,359,780	10.5	167,071,064	60.0
1917..	17	2,259	44,626,507	15.6	5,367,245	1.9	209,781,668	73.0	286,793,212	78,724,117	27.4	36,862,156	12.8	162,488,312	56.4
1918..	17	2,236	45,340,848	14.5	6,624,311	2.1	229,819,071	73.3	312,496,435	79,444,434	25.4	46,950,137	15.0	177,398,316	56.3
1919..	16	2,306	46,908,553	14.0	7,564,883	2.3	245,068,552	73.5	334,012,342	72,019,515	21.6	43,941,932	13.2	208,944,051	62.8
1920..	16	2,399	51,248,171	13.4	8,511,692	2.2	231,477,007	73.4	333,470,259	88,138,890	23.2	68,491,168	17.8	214,736,390	56.0
1921..	15	2,364	53,991,389	14.1	7,854,756	2.1	273,364,790	71.8	321,546,279	81,024,813	21.3	39,911,344	10.5	251,737,300	66.0

British Italian Corporation, Ltd.

12 Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.4.

Registered July, 1916.

**AUTHORISED and Fully Paid CAPITAL,
£1,000,000**

SPECIAL RESERVE - £233,418

Principal Shareholders:

Lloyds Bank, Ltd.
London County, Westminster and Parr's Bank, Ltd.
Barclays Bank, Limited.
National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.
Glyn, Mills, Currie & Co.
Brown, Shipley & Co.
Higginson & Co.
M. Samuel & Co., Ltd.
Bank of Liverpool and Martin's, Ltd.
Union Bank of Manchester, Ltd.
Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.
Commercial Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
National Bank of Scotland, Ltd.
Anglo-South American Bank, Ltd.
Bank of Australasia.
Bank of British West Africa, Ltd.
Canadian Bank of Commerce.
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
National Bank of Egypt.
National Bank of India, Ltd.
Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.
Tata Industrial Bank, Ltd.
Prudential Assurance Co., Ltd.

*The object of the Corporation is, in conjunction with the
Compagnia Italo-Britannica, to*

**TRANSACT EVERY KIND OF
BANKING & FINANCIAL BUSINESS**

in support of Trade between the

BRITISH EMPIRE and the KINGDOM OF ITALY

Telegrams—"Britalana, Cannon, London."

'Phone—Central 4722.

AUXILIARY IN ITALY

Compagnia Italo-Britannica

1 Via Leopardi, MILAN.

3 Via Banchi, GENOA.

Registered October, 1916.

**AUTHORISED and Fully Paid CAPITAL,
Lire 10,000,000**

Telegrams—"Italbrit."

'Phone—8664 Milan. 254 Genoa.

CANADIAN BANKS.

CANADA has not escaped the grip of the world-wide economic depression, but in reading the figures presented below it must be remembered that the year 1920, which, roughly speaking, is the period to which they refer, saw a continuance, for some months at any rate, of the trade activity that marked the previous year. By the time the end of 1920 was reached business depression had become prevalent, and the trade figures for the year ended January 31, 1921, show a very remarkable change in the balance. This is brought out by the following comparison:—

	Twelve Months Ended Jan. 31, 1920.	Twelve Months Ended Jan. 31, 1921.	Increase or Decrease.
Imports	970,779,210 ..	1,305,593,895 ..	+ 334,814,685
Exports	1,291,013,187 ..	1,263,321,401 ..	- 28,791,786

The aggregate trade, measured by the value figures, increased largely, but the trade balance swung in very remarkable fashion against Canada, an export surplus of \$320 millions in 1919-20 being changed in 1920-21 to an import excess of \$42 millions. The value of Canada's field crops in 1920 was estimated at \$1,636,664,000, against \$1,452,437,000 in 1919. Mineral production was also on a high scale. At the meeting of the Canadian Bank of Commerce Sir John Aird said: "From such information as we can obtain the total value of the mineral production of Canada for 1920 is probably \$200,000,000. The production of coal, asbestos, and zinc has been larger than in any previous year." The approach of the depression, which has since developed, was not unforeseen by the Canadian banks and their directors. The year 1920 saw the demand for credit approaching its peak, and, as in other countries, the demand taxed banking resources to the utmost. But that the bankers kept their heads in this stressful period is shown by the speech of Sir Vincent Meredith at the meeting of the Bank of Montreal in January:—"Having in view the probability of a gradual recession in prices, your directors," he told the shareholders, "took early action to restrict credits to legitimate requirements, believing such a policy to be in the best interests of our clients as well as calculated to preserve the financial stability of the country. Credit," continued Sir Vincent, "not merely in Canada but elsewhere, rests on an inadequate basis, and should be contracted in conformity with the declension in commodity prices." Measured and orderly deflation was Sir Vincent's prescription, and the bank's general manager, Sir Frederick Williams-Taylor, developed the same theme, as follows:—"With reference to current loans in Canada, your directors have felt impelled for many months past, in the bank's

and the country's best interests, to follow the policy found essential in every other country, and keep within bounds our advances to merchants and manufacturers. This policy is in accordance with the views of the Dominion Government, and has been followed, more or less closely, by all Canadian banks. Naturally enough, exception has been taken in certain quarters to such restriction; but, as a rule, our customers have recognised the necessity of checking overtrading and further expansion in such times as we are now facing. There has never been a period in our experience when requests for advances for purposes out of the ordinary have been so numerous. It is safe to say that had credit been granted freely and banking resources become tied up, a serious condition would have resulted in this country."

If the composite figures presented in the table at the bottom of this page are read in the light of the above remarks, it will be seen that in one main aspect the experience of Canadian banks in 1920 resembled those of Great Britain. The policy of restricting advances to cases of demonstrable legitimacy failed, owing to the overwhelming demand for accommodation, to produce any great fall in the volume of bank credit.

The strong demand for credit rendered the conditions favourable from the point of view of profits, and shareholders in Canadian banks can look back with much satisfaction at their recent experience. The accounts for the current year must, of course, be expected to reflect to some extent the slump in business activity. The banks are, however, well fortified to meet the difficulties of the situation. They have built up strong positions, and it may be said that the strength and elasticity of the Canadian banking system is an important asset to the Dominion in facing the economic problems of the moment.

Canadian banks are paying an increasing attention to the West Indies. The Colonial Bank, in which the Bank of Montreal has acquired a large interest, has, of course, a large business in that quarter. Between them, the Colonial Bank and the Royal Bank of Canada have branches in every West Indian colony. These branches have been slightly increased in number during the past eighteen months, and during that time the Canadian Bank of Commerce has entered the West Indian field, and has established branches in Jamaica, Trinidad, and Barbados. Canadian banks are, therefore, interested in the agreement signed in 1920 between Canada and the West Indian colonies, with a view to fostering trade between them. The year 1920 saw a large increase in the value figures of West Indian trade. Imports rose from £5,254,126 in 1919 to £8,376,912 in 1920, and exports from £5,085,615 to £10,313,282.

CANADIAN BANKS WITH OFFICES IN LONDON.

Year.	Banks.	No. of Branches.	Capital and Reserves.	% of Liabilities.	Notes.	% of Liabilities.	Deposits.	% of Liabilities.	Total Assets or Liabilities.	Cash in Hand, Money at Call and Short Notice.	% of Liabilities.	Invest- ments.	% of Liabilities.	Discounts and Advances.	% of Liabilities.
1890..	4	75	£ 6,907,100	31.3	£ 1,934,700	8.6	£ 9,182,400	41.3	£ 22,200,300	£ 3,510,900	15.8	£ 1,417,500	6.4	£ 17,123,600	77.1
1900..	4	95	6,679,100	21.8	2,448,500	8.0	17,584,600	52.6	30,544,200	4,567,900	14.9	2,099,600	6.9	23,488,000	77.0
1905..	4	254	9,541,500	16.2	4,221,500	7.2	40,706,900	69.2	58,981,200	18,677,200	31.8	4,814,500	8.2	34,721,100	58.8
1910..	5	590	13,122,800	12.1	6,670,700	6.7	83,600,500	72.4	107,995,700	42,605,600	39.5	9,799,100	9.1	54,269,400	50.3
1913..	7	1,388	23,302,000	12.6	12,138,900	6.5	142,975,500	77.6	184,190,100	56,844,700	30.9	13,029,700	7.1	109,771,800	59.7
1914..	7	1,449	23,727,827	12.3	11,799,523	6.1	145,100,357	75.0	190,351,619	64,485,302	33.4	14,207,689	7.4	104,430,566	54.0
1915..	7	1,473	23,730,164	12.3	12,034,445	6.3	145,911,275	75.8	192,384,515	64,453,514	33.5	14,516,943	7.5	103,977,449	52.4
1916..	7	1,439	23,730,165	10.2	13,838,232	6.2	177,079,956	79.3	223,077,555	95,972,044	43.0	17,941,791	8.0	101,399,677	45.5
1917..	7	1,491	23,818,164	9.6	16,696,710	6.7	199,285,279	80.2	248,273,628	99,818,860	40.2	33,023,861	13.3	107,218,296	43.1
1918..	7	1,501	24,462,161	8.2	22,378,690	7.5	236,591,336	79.2	297,735,149	109,679,564	36.6	50,673,767	16.9	125,938,865	42.1
1919..	6	1,681	25,605,617	7.5	27,727,321	8.1	271,203,010	79.1	343,058,311	111,225,247	32.3	60,021,789	17.5	157,810,276	46.0
1920..	8	2,653	36,524,247	7.5	35,302,363	7.2	386,047,299	79.1	487,330,996	149,427,464	30.5	73,768,170	15.2	242,618,337	49.8
1921..	8	2,784	39,247,988	8.2	33,519,151	7.0	377,965,484	79.1	477,358,871	167,415,626	35.0	52,812,744	11.1	238,425,284	49.8



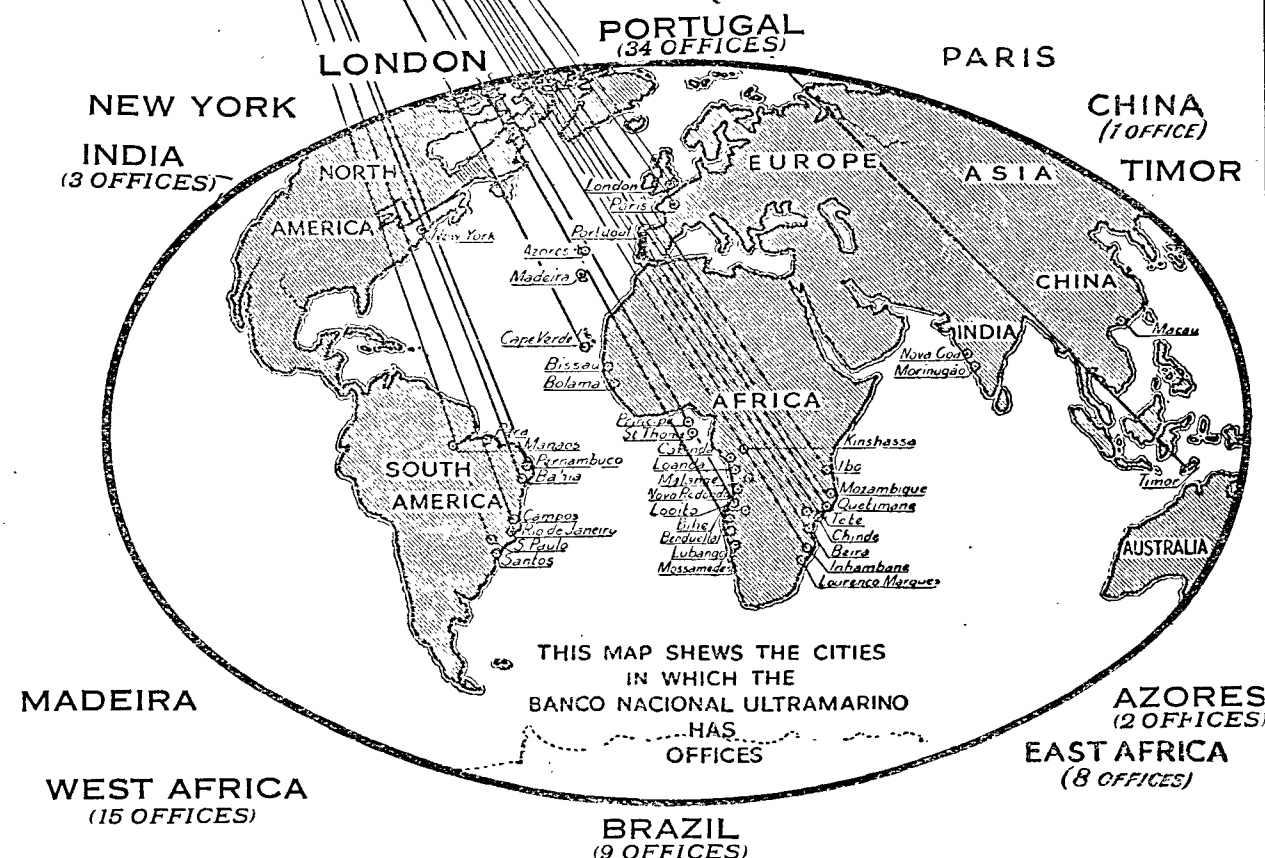
Wherever Portuguese is Spoken.

Over Fifteen Million persons use the Portuguese Language as a means of Commercial Interchange. Every country where Portuguese is spoken is reached directly through the

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

This institution maintains 78 Branches in Portugal, Azores, East and West Africa, India, China, Timor, Madeira, Belgian Congo, and Brazil, as well as in Paris and New York.

The Bank is the State Bank of the Portuguese Colonies, which have a total area of more than 800,000 square miles, and has behind it a record of 57 years of international trade.



FRANCE
PARIS.
8, Rue du Helder, IXe

LONDON OFFICE:
27b, THROGMORTON STREET, E.C.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
NEW YORK.
93, Liberty St.

Telegraphic Address: ULTRANACIO, STOCK, LONDON. Telephone No.: LONDON WALL 295.

AGENTS AND CORRESPONDENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

A General International Banking Business conducted at all Branches of the Bank

INDIAN BANKS.

THE event of the year in Indian banking has been the launching of the Imperial Bank of India, which began its operations on January 27th. This bank was formed by merging the Presidency Banks of Bombay, Madras, and Bengal, and an official announcement was made to the effect that 100 branches would be opened in India outside the Presidency towns and other places where branches of the old Presidency banks already existed. According to the first report of the new bank, which covers the period to June 30th, 12 of these proposed branches had either already started business or were about to open. At June 30th its capital was Rs. 10,65,73,000, of which Rs. 5,47,68,250 had been paid up, while reserves amounted to Rs. 3,71,21,480 and total deposits to Rs. 92,36,38,952. News from India indicates that the bank has made a good start on the road towards fulfilling the purposes for which it was formed. It was not created to compete with existing Eastern banks, and will probably not provide serious competition in ordinary lines of business. It will, on the other hand, render valuable services to the Indian Government finance, and should, if present hopes are fulfilled, prove a decided economic asset to the country; especially if, with its network of branches, it succeeds in attracting deposits from the Indian public at large, thereby assisting to diminish the extent to which hoarding is practised.

It will be seen from the table presented below that in the year under review the four exchange banks whose figures are tabulated increased their capital and reserves by over £3 millions. The premiums on new issues have been applied to strengthening reserves. How the profits disclosed in the latest reports compare with those for the previous year is shown below:—

	1919.			1920.		
	Net Profit.	To Reserve.	Dividend Rate.	Net Profit.	To Reserve.	Dividend Rate.
Chartered	£ 447,348	£ 200,000	20½%	£ 676,771	£ 235,000	20½%
Eastern	102,645	40,000	8½	121,363	40,304	8
Mercantile	215,636	85,000	16½	260,203	75,000	16
National	452,169	190,000	20*	553,398	240,000	20*

* Free of income-tax. † Including bonus of 2 per cent. free of income-tax.

The figures reveal the fact that 1920 was a year of very prosperous results. It must be remembered, of course, that the year covered by these accounts opened before the boom period was over and closed before the general trade depression developed in full force. But the year had its difficulties, and much unsettlement was caused by the dramatic fluctuations in the exchange value of the rupee. The rupee began the year at about 2s 4d, reached 2s 11d in February, and by the end of December had fallen to 1s 5½d. Early in the

current year it declined further. Some light on this apparent failure of the measures advocated by the Currency Commission is thrown by an examination of the trade figures, which show that India's large export balance of 1919 was in 1920 turned into a formidable import excess—a swing over of most disturbing suddenness and extent. In view of the unsatisfactory nature of the exchange position, another strong committee has been appointed to review the Indian currency and exchange problem in the light of certain recent happenings. The report of the original committee said:—"If a great and rapid fall in world prices were to take place, a new element of disturbance would be introduced. The costs of production in India might fail to adjust themselves with equal rapidity to the lower level of prices, and Indian exports might suffer to an extent which would endanger the maintenance of exchange at the level which we propose. In that case it would be necessary to consider the problem afresh, and take the measures which might be required by the altered circumstances." The "new element of disturbance" has certainly been introduced, and fresh investigation of the problem appears to be required.

Apart from the capital increase referred to above, the features of the figures in the appended table are a fall of over £7 millions in cash and investments together, a large increase in the notes issued, and a drop of more than £4 millions in deposits. Discounts and advances, it will be seen, were slightly higher on the year. It must, however, be remembered that the comparison with previous years is somewhat vitiated by the official fixation of the rupee at 2s, which took place during the year under review.

As regards the current year, it would be unreasonable for shareholders to expect the maintenance of profits at last year's high level. Trade depression has reigned throughout the year, and the internal position in India is not free from disquieting factors. Moreover, the monsoon has not been unsatisfactory. It is to be hoped that the epidemic of cancellation of contracts which went so far to disturb Anglo-Indian trade conditions will not be revived. The position of the banks has recently been strengthened, and shareholders' fears need not extend beyond a possible decline in dividends from their recent high level. It may, in passing, be noted that the latest dividend rates of all four banks whose figures are aggregated below are well in advance of the rates paid immediately before the war.

The Alliance Bank of Simla has opened an office in London.

INDIAN BANKS WITH OFFICES IN LONDON.

Year.	Banks.	No. of Brnchs.	Capital and Reserves.	% of Liabilities.	Notes.	% of Liabilities.	Deposits.	% of Liabilities.	Total Assets or Liabilities.	Cash in Hand, Money at Call and Short Notice.	% of Liabilities.	Investments.	% of Liabilities.	Discounts and Advances.	% of Liabilities.
1890..	5	60	£ 4,347,200	12.1	£ 1,241,000	3.4	£ 17,964,400	50.0	£ 36,003,400	£ 4,321,200	12.0	£ 2,930,500	8.1	£ 27,541,300	76.5
1900..	5	54	3,186,800	10.5	699,800	2.3	18,084,800	58.5	30,207,600	4,704,900	15.5	2,794,600	9.2	22,147,300	72.5
1905..	4	63	3,735,100	10.6	639,100	1.8	23,473,900	66.5	35,268,500	6,507,100	18.4	3,119,500	8.8	23,634,900	69.6
1910..	5	87	6,100,000	12.9	515,600	1.1	34,547,000	72.9	47,989,600	8,312,300	17.6	4,139,400	8.7	32,101,200	67.8
1913..	6	104	7,219,100	11.5	811,273	1.3	43,470,800	69.2	62,671,800	10,822,800	17.3	4,080,600	6.5	43,745,100	69.8
1914..	5	87	6,801,125	11.3	913,341	1.5	41,494,040	68.3	60,568,684	10,958,968	16.6	4,418,116	7.3	41,310,962	68.2
1915..	5	89	7,252,278	12.2	1,043,984	1.7	42,892,465	71.9	59,791,379	13,549,144	22.6	6,677,853	11.2	35,511,553	59.5
1916..	5	91	7,323,485	11.1	1,085,514	1.6	48,782,482	78.8	66,017,462	12,512,987	18.9	8,002,065	12.1	42,085,918	63.6
1917..	4	88	7,067,380	9.5	1,123,096	1.5	54,574,879	73.0	74,600,058	13,914,932	18.6	7,138,793	9.6	49,652,081	66.8
1918..	4	88	7,232,421	8.5	1,053,421	1.2	67,589,786	79.0	85,498,536	20,522,964	24.0	7,776,811	9.1	52,753,685	61.8
1919..	4	88	8,502,500	8.0	1,698,651	1.6	81,722,355	76.4	106,658,900	17,201,525	16.2	8,985,337	8.4	76,533,126	71.8
1920..	4	93	10,844,619	6.7	1,943,595	1.1	122,696,907	75.7	162,191,567	32,757,956	20.2	13,471,630	8.3	107,117,466	66.0
1921..	4	94	14,171,476	8.9	2,995,124	1.9	118,352,583	74.1	159,492,420	28,521,284	17.9	10,424,084	6.5	103,740,228	68.0

Refiners and manufacturers of the Precious Metals and their alloys and chemical compounds for the

**JEWELLERY
PHOTOGRAPHIC
ELECTROPLATING
GLASS SILVERING
CERAMIC**
[and other trades.]

Buyers of all kinds of waste materials containing precious metals.

Johnson Matthey & Co. Ltd
[THE WORLD'S CLEARING HOUSE FOR THE PRECIOUS & RARE METALS]
Telegrams Matthey Smith London: Telephone 9740 City (9 lines)

Oxide of
ZIRCONIUM
for
iron enamelling
& refractories

COLONIAL BANKS WITH OFFICES IN LONDON.

(1) AFRICAN BANKS.

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANK, LIMITED.†

ESTABLISHED 1864.

CAPITAL.			
Authorised.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.
£	£	£	£
1,800,000	600,000	1,200,000	Nil
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£15	£5	£10	Nil

The net profits for the year ended August 31, 1919 including £40,000, the balance brought forward, amounted to £173,406, which was dealt with as follows: staff provident fund, £5,483; written off premises, £12,923; dividend and bonus of 17½ per cent. for the year, free of tax, £105,000; leaving £50,000 to be carried forward.

Year Ended Aug. 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities and Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Accept- ances.	Per Cent.	Bills Pay- able, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Bills Receivable.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Ad- vances and Other Ac- counts.	Per Cent.	Buildings & Sundries, including Cover for Acceptances.	Per Cent.
1910..	10	£ 1,120,000	21.6	£ 110,254	2.1	£ 593,345	11.5	£ 607,447	11.7	£ 2,760,654	53.1	£ 5,191,700	£ 738,925	14.2	£ 1,293,853	25.0	£ 497,566	9.6	£ 2,043,011	39.3	£ 618,345	11.9
1913..	11	£ 1,284,390	23.5	£ 110,026	2.0	£ 904,917	16.6	£ 225,170	4.1	£ 2,943,374	53.8	£ 5,467,877	£ 545,707	10.0	£ 902,404	16.6	£ 396,652	7.2	£ 2,654,532	48.5	£ 968,582	17.7
1914..	11	£ 1,286,254	23.6	£ 129,591	2.4	£ 706,369	12.9	£ 293,676	5.4	£ 3,045,867	55.7	£ 5,461,757	£ 816,827	15.0	£ 976,543	17.8	£ 330,658	6.1	£ 2,547,934	46.7	£ 789,795	14.4
1915..	11	£ 1,286,318	18.0	£ 127,555	1.8	£ 527,556	7.3	£ 109,427	1.5	£ 5,145,305	71.4	£ 7,196,161	£ 1,279,658	17.8	£ 2,352,147	32.7	£ 642,589	8.9	£ 2,303,526	32.0	£ 618,241	8.6
1916..	10	£ 1,298,215	13.6	£ 122,674	1.3	£ 373,657	3.9	£ 203,163	2.1	£ 7,495,126	79.1	£ 9,492,835	£ 1,786,165	18.8	£ 4,347,124	45.8	£ 776,531	8.2	£ 2,124,363	22.4	£ 458,657	4.8
1917..	10	£ 1,320,768	12.0	£ 141,347	1.3	£ 228,186	2.1	£ 241,589	2.2	£ 9,057,654	82.4	£ 10,989,554	£ 2,128,637	19.4	£ 4,824,496	44.0	£ 1,082,568	9.8	£ 2,650,667	24.0	£ 303,186	2.8
1918..	12	£ 1,321,405	8.9	£ 203,038	1.4	£ 269,728	1.8	£ 455,244	3.1	£ 12,544,967	84.8	£ 14,794,382	£ 2,441,108	16.6	£ 7,515,761	51.0	£ 1,089,651	7.4	£ 3,388,919	22.6	£ 358,943	2.4
1919..	15	£ 1,430,361	7.3	£ 118,336	0.6	£ 466,144	2.4	£ 438,883	2.2	£ 17,113,477	87.5	£ 19,567,201	£ 3,604,709	18.5	£ 10,443,855	53.3	£ 1,938,805	9.9	£ 3,021,735	15.5	£ 558,097	2.8
1920..	15	£ 1,431,654	7.8	£ 130,483	0.7	£ 735,699	4.0	£ 561,518	3.1	£ 15,542,208	84.4	£ 18,401,562	£ 1,965,354	10.6	£ 8,460,106	45.9	£ 1,464,102	8.0	£ 5,681,690	31.0	£ 830,310	4.5

* Includes Treasury Bills.

† We are asked to point out that this bank is an English company, with head office in London.

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

ESTABLISHED 1898.

CAPITAL.				Market Value.
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
£	£	£	£	£
3,000,000	3,000,000	Nil	Nil	6,000,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£10	£10	Nil	Nil	£20

The net profit for the year ended December 31st last amounted to £827,154, which was appropriated as follows: investment depreciation, £246,722; reserve, £100,000, and dividend of 15 per cent., £450,000; leaving £172,364 to be carried forward.

Year Ended Dec. 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un-divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Acceptances.	Per Cent.	Miscellaneous Credits, Rebates, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bank.	Per Cent.	Cash at Call and Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.	Discounts Advances &c.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries, including Cover for Acceptances.	Per Cent.
1911..	..	£ 4,587,857	36.0	£ 175,108	1.4	£ 148,062	1.2	£ 352,890	2.8	£ 7,499,687	58.6	£ 12,763,624	£ 2,312,170	18.2	£ 667,000	5.2	£ 1,281,980	10.1	£ 8,077,382	63.2	£ 425,072	3.3
1912..	..	£ 4,564,849	33.9	£ 170,999	1.3	£ 159,324	1.1	£ 332,550	2.5	£ 8,254,230	61.2	£ 13,481,952	£ 2,064,019	15.2	£ 1,591,000	11.8	£ 1,037,385	7.7	£ 8,343,632	62.0	£ 445,916	3.3
1913..	..	£ 4,566,111	37.6	£ 157,056	1.3	£ 30,600	..	£ 345,821	2.8	£ 7,053,640	58.3	£ 12,153,228	£ 1,919,158	15.8	£ 306,875	2.5	£ 967,716	8.0	£ 8,646,426	71.1	£ 313,053	2.6
1914..	21	£ 4,343,700	36.6	£ 123,410	1.0	£ ..	..	£ 184,421	1.6	£ 7,166,395	60.8	£ 11,817,926	£ 1,343,470	11.4	£ 755,000	6.4	£ 887,540	7.5	£ 8,560,549	72.4	£ 271,467	2.3
1915..	21	£ 4,341,400	27.5	£ 130,524	0.8	£ 309,736	2.0	£ 454,452	2.9	£ 10,494,580	66.8	£ 15,730,692	£ 2,144,329	13.6	£ 1,160,000	7.4	£ 2,610,810	16.6	£ 9,245,317	58.8	£ 570,236	3.6
1916..	22	£ 4,411,353	20.4	£ 217,187	1.0	£ 102,378	0.5	£ 225,245	1.1	£ 16,670,635	77.0	£ 21,626,798	£ 3,694,512	17.0	£ 1,425,000	6.6	£ 5,977,327	27.5	£ 10,170,534	47.2	£ 359,425	1.7
1917..	22	£ 4,663,278	16.6	£ 289,506	1.0	£ 130,109	0.5	£ 379,238	1.3	£ 22,562,827	80.6	£ 28,024,958	£ 3,474,638	12.4	£ 2,250,000	8.0	£ 8,392,673	29.8	£ 13,630,060	48.8	£ 277,587	1.0
1918..	22	£ 5,000,000	14.3	£ 406,636	1.2	£ 477,915	1.4	£ 247,691	0.7	£ 28,734,385	82.4	£ 34,866,627	£ 2,286,052	6.6	£ 2,180,000	6.3	£ 15,506,826	44.5	£ 14,120,325	40.4	£ 773,424	2.2
1919..	22	£ 5,000,000	11.7	£ 441,932	1.0	£ 297,900	0.7	£ 110,660	0.2	£ 31,120,139	86.4	£ 42,970,631	£ 5,016,650	11.7	£ 2,435,000	5.7	£ 16,851,552	39.3	£ 18,363,092	42.6	£ 304,337	0.7
1920..	22	£ 5,100,000	18.0	£ 502,364	1.8	£ 732,993	2.6	£ 320,409	1.1	£ 21,753,882	76.5	£ 28,409,648	£ 4,397,401	15.4	£ 1,360,000	4.8	£ 9,459,240	33.3	£ 12,143,202	42.8	£ 1,049,805	3.7

BANK OF BRITISH WEST AFRICA, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1894.

CAPITAL.				Market Value.
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
£	£	£	£	£
3,000,000	1,200,000	300,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£10	£4	£1	£5	£5

In August, 1920, 200,000 new shares of £10 each, of which 100,000 (£4 paid), were allotted in equal proportions to the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, the National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, and the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.

The profit and loss account for the year to March 31, 1921, showed that after providing for current charges, rebate, and bad and doubtful debts there remained a net profit of £139,803, which, added to the balance of £30,377 brought forward, made an available sum of £170,180. The dividend for the year at the rate of 8 per cent. absorbed £80,000, £5,000 was added to insurance fund, £15,000 to premises and furniture, and £20,000 to payment of stamp duty, leaving £50,180 to be carried forward.

Year Ended March 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un-divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Bills for Collection and Liabilities on Acceptance.	Per Cent.	Drafts Issued and Rebates.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.	Bills of Exchange.	Per Cent.	Loans, Advances, Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Premises, and Cover for Acceptances and Bills.	Per Cent.
1900..	9	£ 43,560	15.0	£ 2,433	0.8	£ ..	..	£ 27,838	9.6	£ 217,092	74.6	£ 290,923	£ 106,605	36.6	£ 22,765	7.8	£ 102,293	35.2	£ 57,748	19.9	£ 1,512	0.5
1905..	11	£ 83,000	11.2	£ 4,255	0.6	£ 63,855	8.1	£ 88,442	11.3	£ 541,262	68.8	£ 785,814	£ 256,695	32.7	£ 121,813	15.5	£ 213,487	27.2	£ 113,204	14.5	£ 80,615	10.3
1910..	30	£ 280,000	17.2	£ 10,697	0.7	£ 149,146	9.2	£ 111,562	6.8	£ 1,074,793	66.1	£ 1,626,198	£ 302,449	18.6	£ 276,448	17.0	£ 563,546	34.6	£ 297,375	18.3	£ 186,390	11.6
1915..	27	£ 408,000	15.4	£ 21,329	0.8	£ 237,782	8.9	£ 187,323	7.0	£ 1,805,798	67.9	£ 2,660,232	£ 672,083	25.2	£ 349,116	13.1	£ 754,525	28.3	£ 592,583	22.5	£ 291,825	10.9
1916..	29	£ 587,000	18.6	£ 31,600	1.0	£ 309,338	9.8	£ 197,377	6.3	£ 2,025,597	64.3	£ 3,150,842	£ 830,586	26.5	£ 419,159	13.2	£ 965,656	30.6	£ 566,321	18.0	£ 369,140	11.7
1917..	31	£ 550,000	17.0	£ 25,141	0.8	£ 162,589	5.0	£ 228,804	7.1	£ 2,267,716	70.1	£ 3,235,250	£ 1,161,397	35.9	£ 527,520	16.2	£ 607,089	18.8	£ 706,741	21.9	£ 232,503	7.2
1918..	34	£ 550,000	15.4	£ 35,417	1.0	£ 164,781	4.6	£ 317,752	8.8	£ 2,523,090	70.2	£ 3,591,040	£ 1,020,712	28.5	£ 1,061,101	29.6	£ 638,259	17.7	£ 638,398	17.7	£ 232,570	6.5
1919..	38	£ 780,000	18.0	£ 36,177	0.8	£ 227,244	5.3	£ 205,311	4.7	£ 3,083,575	71.2	£ 4,332,397	£ 1,142,775	26.5	£ 498,719	11.5	£ 1,264,186	29.3	£ 1,109,570	25.4	£ 317,057	7.3
1920..	41	£ 817,500	12.6	£ 47,713	0.7	£ 712,974	11.1	£ 215,283	3.3	£ 4,668,687	72.3	£ 6,462,157	£ 1,127,144	17.4	£ 925,528	14.3	£ 2,331,830	36.2	£ 1,244,504	19.2	£ 833,151	12.9
1921..	41	£ 830,000	9.2	£ 54,580	0.6	£ 1,258,591	13.8	£ 387,599	4.3	£ 4,489,248	72.1	£ 9,000,018	£ 1,667,565	18.6	£ 1,026,821	11.4	£ 2,219,803	24.6	£ 2,706,768	30.1	£ 1,379,061	15.3
1920..	47	£ 1,200,000	7.3	£ 78,377	0.5	£ 2,605,108	15.8	£ 807,097	4.9	£ 11,810,340	71.5	£ 16,500,922	£ 2,951,334	17.9	£ 791,553	4.8	£ 4,940,678	29.9	£ 5,003,206	30.3	£ 2,814,151	17.1
1921..	50	£ 1,825,000	13.5	£ 98,180	0.7	£ 2,895,706	21.4	£ 638,080	4.7	£ 8,018,670	59.7	£ 13,475,636	£ 2,532,166	18.8	£ 850,524	6.3	£ 3,202,317	23.7	£ 3,693,686	27.6	£ 3,196,943	23.6



SECURITY - £10,051,479.

Accidents Fire Marine.

Head Offices: 45 DALE STREET, LIVERPOOL.
155 LEADENHALL STREET, E.C.3.

Chief Administration: 5 & 7, CHANCERY LANE, W.C.2.

NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1890.

Absorbed Bank of Africa, established 1879, as from January 1, 1912. Capital increased by £1,250,000.
Absorbed National Bank of Orange River Colony, Limited, established 1877. Absorbed Natal Bank, L., October, 1914.
Capital increased by £650,000.

CAPITAL.					Market Value.
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.		
£	£	£	£	£	£
2,935,000	2,965,000	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	3,224,400
Per Share.					Per Share.
£10	£10	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	£10½

The profit for the year ended March 31, 1921, after applying £50,000 in reduction of bank premises account, was £382,081, inclusive of the balance of £43,200 brought forward from the previous year. The available balance was apportioned as follows: to dividend of 8 per cent. (of which the interim dividend paid for the 6 months ended September 30th last absorbed £118,600), £237,200; reserve fund, £50,000; pension fund, £60,000; balance to be carried forward, £34,881.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Undivided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Receivable, Miscellaneous Credits, Rebates, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand at Bank, at Call & Short Notice, & Remittances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.	Bills Purchased and Current.	Per Cent.	Bills Discounted, Loans, &c.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries, including Bills for Collection.	Per Cent.
1893	26	505,783	24.9	42,503	2.1	99,372	4.9	169,170	8.3	1,216,585	59.8	2,033,413	955,180	47.0	13,664	0.7	219,598	10.8	745,090	36.6	99,881	4.9
1895	26	763,700	12.8	50,069	0.8	315,298	5.3	203,677	3.4	4,639,307	77.7	5,972,051	3,401,084	57.0	714,225	12.0	277,156	4.7	1,456,266	24.3	123,320	2.0
1900	36	1,148,900	40.5	61,932	2.2	278,558	9.8	190,132	6.7	1,156,640	40.8	2,836,161	579,867	20.5	596,700	21.0	36,344	1.3	1,407,967	49.6	215,284	7.6
1905	62	1,230,000	12.2	75,796	0.8	292,075	2.9	795,492	7.9	7,654,360	76.2	10,047,723	3,199,525	31.8	731,388	7.3	1,278,015	12.6	4,404,174	44.0	434,621	4.3
1906	75	1,240,000	13.9	49,607	0.6	262,251	2.9	773,279	8.7	6,599,883	73.9	8,925,020	2,350,415	26.3	731,388	8.2	1,201,175	13.5	3,624,533	40.6	1,017,609	11.4
1907	73	1,240,000	15.9	62,361	0.8	215,136	2.7	742,010	9.5	5,555,142	71.1	7,814,649	1,464,344	18.7	730,387	9.3	1,264,693	16.2	3,919,248	50.1	435,977	5.7
1908	68	1,240,000	15.6	67,637	0.8	245,020	3.1	812,072	10.2	5,584,576	70.3	7,949,305	2,264,468	28.4	730,228	9.1	1,212,064	15.2	3,306,936	41.8	435,609	5.5
1909	67	1,150,000	10.7	50,871	0.5	250,373	2.3	735,424	6.9	8,549,725	79.6	10,736,393	4,931,143	45.9	714,327	6.7	1,239,111	11.5	2,823,520	26.3	1,028,292	9.6
1910	119	1,150,000	8.8	128,852	1.0	458,473	3.5	1,208,423	9.2	10,135,013	77.5	13,080,761	4,029,981	30.8	663,206	5.1	1,240,074	9.5	5,570,358	42.6	1,577,141	12.0
1911	133	1,170,000	8.5	168,808	1.2	521,424	3.8	1,469,251	10.7	10,437,603	75.8	13,767,086	3,281,296	23.8	646,867	4.7	1,417,449	10.3	6,615,163	48.1	1,806,311	13.1
1912	181	2,720,000	12.0	265,334	1.2	810,245	3.6	3,155,306	13.8	15,814,576	69.4	22,765,461	4,471,614	19.6	875,870	3.8	2,773,332	12.2	11,191,546	49.2	3,453,099	15.2
1914*	181	2,850,000	11.8	328,685	1.4	793,130	3.3	3,378,154	14.0	16,675,284	69.5	24,025,253	4,993,271	20.7	1,052,709	4.4	3,159,660	13.2	11,279,217	47.0	3,540,396	14.7
1915*	208	3,307,420	11.7	114,058	0.4	1,163,741	4.1	3,495,781	12.4	20,223,422	71.4	28,304,422	7,391,029	26.0	1,378,527	4.9	2,293,874	8.1	13,406,667	47.4	3,834,325	13.6
1916*	225	3,313,040	10.2	137,935	0.4	1,246,283	3.8	4,616,796	14.2	23,157,244	71.4	32,471,298	6,032,578	18.6	3,299,550	10.2	4,462,934	13.8	14,227,832	43.7	4,448,404	13.7
1917*	243	3,375,000	8.7	334,634	0.9	1,789,387	4.6	5,872,832	15.2	27,246,501	70.6	38,618,354	7,477,844	19.3	3,292,030	8.5	5,357,203	13.9	17,158,664	44.5	5,332,613	13.8
1918*	316	3,550,000	7.7	316,236	0.7	2,585,925	5.6	7,409,472	16.2	32,138,307	69.8	45,999,940	8,555,236	18.6	4,756,491	10.4	8,003,548	17.4	18,129,107	49.3	6,555,558	14.3
1919*	329	3,715,000	6.5	387,806	0.7	3,070,263	5.3	9,775,068	17.0	40,521,779	70.7	57,469,916	10,274,446	17.9	4,774,649	8.3	9,209,711	16.0	24,369,801	42.4	8,841,309	15.4
1920*	478	4,015,000	4.6	436,625	0.5	4,327,012	5.0	16,723,051	19.2	61,323,019	70.7	86,824,707	13,761,094	15.8	12,185,351	14.0	14,429,515	16.7	32,961,033	38.0	13,487,714	15.5
1921*	476	4,215,000	5.9	263,481	0.4	4,526,132	6.3	14,925,349	20.8	48,045,810	66.6	71,975,772	12,440,414	17.3	3,756,770	5.2	8,982,332	12.4	33,332,024	46.3	13,464,232	18.8

* March 31.

NETHERLANDS BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA.

REGISTERED 1888.

CAPITAL.				
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
£240,000	£240,000	£Nil.	£Nil.	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	
£60	£60	Nil.	Nil.	

After fully providing for bad and doubtful debts and setting aside a substantial amount for depreciation of bank

premises and furniture, the net profits for the year ended December 31st last amounted to £30,253, which the directors recommended should be applied as follows: dividend of 5½ per cent. on subscribed capital, £13,500; transfer to reserve, £8,333; reserve for taxes, £2,500; pension fund, £5,000; tantièmes, £476; founders' shares, £88; leaving a balance to be carried forward to next year of £655.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills for Col- lection.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, with Bankers, and Money at Call.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries, including Bills for Collection.	Per Cent.		
1903...	6	\$ 435,393	41.5	\$ 44,048	4.2	\$ 26,380	2.5	\$ 95,240	9.1	\$ 445,247	42.7	\$ 1,046,308	174,753	16.6	\$ 26,589	2.5	\$ 707,301	67.8	\$ 137,665	13.1		
1905...	8	444,331	41.8	27,409	2.6	26,045	2.4	54,779	5.1	511,150	48.1	1,063,714	178,550	16.8	53,630	5.0	734,967	79.2	96,566	9.0		
1906...	9	444,605	40.7	21,394	2.0	22,577	2.1	48,534	4.4	554,003	50.8	1,091,113	265,316*	24.3	52,351	4.8	680,338	62.4	93,108	8.5		
1907...	8	444,643	49.8	11,096	1.2	17,622	2.0	41,811	4.7	377,580	42.3	892,752	146,618*	16.4	56,073	6.3	605,637	67.8	84,424	9.5		
1908...	8	445,722	45.5	6,752	0.7	18,037	1.8	31,926	3.3	477,714	48.7	980,151	219,174*	22.4	57,537	5.9	630,731	64.3	72,709	7.4		
1909...	8	257,000	27.7	11,962	1.3	19,194	2.1	49,050	5.3	590,077	63.6	927,283	315,442*	34.0	57,590	6.2	415,948	44.8	139,303	15.0		
1910...	8	257,000	28.1	13,287	1.4	21,434	2.3	50,006	5.5	573,942	62.7	915,669	250,174*	27.4	57,114	6.2	473,217	51.7	135,164	14.7		
1911...	8	260,000	28.5	16,689	1.8	22,629	2.5	51,017	5.6	562,364	61.6	912,699	230,872*	25.2	57,257	6.3	513,488	56.4	111,082	12.1		
1912...	8	264,000	32.5	16,162	2.0	23,110	2.8	61,741	7.6	448,010	55.1	813,023	142,623*	17.6	60,321	7.4	479,708	58.9	130,371	16.1		
1913...	8	267,000	32.5	13,785	1.7	24,147	2.9	88,443	10.7	428,940	52.2	822,315	150,061*	18.2	55,480	6.7	471,217	57.5	145,557	17.6		
1914...	8	268,400	35.0	10,257	1.3	21,857	2.9	72,518	9.5	393,295	51.3	766,327	338,197*	44.1	52,725	6.9	251,439	32.9	123,966	16.1		
1915...	12	268,400	32.8	12,690	1.5	19,677	2.4	83,875	10.3	433,143	53.0	817,785	319,329*	39.0	82,173	10.1	285,348	35.0	130,935	15.9		
1916...	12	270,400	29.8	18,497	2.0	22,357	2.5	97,980	10.8	497,383	54.9	906,617	274,321*	30.1	84,750	9.4	404,680	44.7	142,846	15.8		
1917...	12	273,733	25.5	17,911	1.7	32,154	3.0	92,298	8.6	652,392	61.2	1,068,488	312,094*	29.1	148,041	13.8	474,298	44.5	134,055	12.6		
1918...	12	276,650	24.1	17,595	1.5	50,039	4.3	126,451	11.0	677,192	59.1	1,147,927	324,910*	28.1	84,582	7.4	575,345	50.2	163,090	14.3		
1919...	16	278,566	17.9	21,359	1.4	79,662	5.1	152,063	9.8	1,026,654	65.8	1,558,304	594,030*	38.3	62,256	4.0	711,053	45.5	190,965	12.2		
1920...	16	281,567	16.6	30,253	1.3	108,975	6.4	225,602	13.3	1,052,403	61.9	1,698,800	400,045*	23.6	55,589	3.3	971,176	57.1	271,990	16.0		

* Includes remittances in transit.

THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

TRANSACTS

FIRE. BURGLARY. MOTOR CAR.
WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION. DOMESTIC SERVANTS.
PROPERTY OWNERS INDEMNITY. ACCIDENT.
MARINE. LIFE.

As well as many other classes of business.

The Company's policies combine :

- (i.) Simple conditions.
- (ii.) Minimum rates.
- (iii.) Prompt settlement.
- (iv.) Unrivalled security.

Funds exceed £125,000,000. Claims paid £190,000,000.

Chief Office : 142, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.1.

A WONDERFUL RECORD OF THE

CANADA LIFE

ASSURANCE COMPANY

DURING 1920

UNPRECEDENTED INCREASES IN

NEW BUSINESS,

FUNDS,

SURPLUS EARNED.

Write for full report to:

THE MANAGER,

15, King Street, CHEAPSIDE,

London, E.C.2.



HEAD OFFICE: 6 WATER STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Telegrams—Marfr

STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1862.

1920—Absorbed African Banking Corporation.

CAPITAL					Market Value,
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.		Sept. 30, 1921.
£	£	£	£	£	£
8,916,660	2,229,165	6,687,495	Nil.	4,989,900	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£20	£5	£15	Nil.	£11½	

The net profit for the 15 months ended March 31, 1921, was £759,377, and the balance brought forward £210,446. From the balance of £969,823 thus available a dividend and bonus of 16½ per cent. (subject to income-tax), absorbing £413,099, was paid, and £100,000 transferred to officers' pension fund, £50,000 to premises account, and £200,000 to investments depreciation, leaving £206,725 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										ASSETS.										
		Capital and Reserves.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Drafts Out- standing and Accept- ances.	Per Cent.	Customers' Bills.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Total Liabilities or Assets.	Cash in Hand, at Bank, and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Cash and Loans at Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Bills for Collection, Property, Buildings, and Sundries.	Per Cent.	
1890	70	1,635,018	12-6	861,290	6-6	103,410	0-8	2,332,651	18-0	8,041,074	62-0	12,973,443	5,099,477	23-8	1,845,000	8-7	1,292,070	10-0	8,383,675	64-7	198,221	1-5
1900	98	2,407,670	10-8	1,260,076	5-9	705,940	3-3	1,884,700	8-8	14,884,220	69-8	21,312,600	5,250,552	24-7	1,845,000	8-7	2,748,038	12-9	9,236,922	43-2	2,232,088	10-5
1905	148	3,545,572	11-4	1,077,649	3-5	1,276,969	4-1	3,025,676	9-8	21,835,265	70-5	30,934,663	5,023,310	16-2	3,391,953	11-0	4,176,434	13-5	14,993,718	48-5	3,350,248	10-8
1910	159	3,448,525	13-0	1,084,822	4-1	1,503,015	5-7	2,638,164	9-1	17,690,565	66-8	26,509,191	4,153,805	15-7	2,363,269	8-9	2,998,622	11-3	13,798,629	52-1	3,194,866	10-8
1913	190	3,538,525	11-9	1,151,110	3-9	1,102,305	3-7	2,704,953	9-1	21,058,240	71-9	29,724,123	5,024,035	16-9	1,409,033	4-7	2,716,931	9-1	17,368,190	57-9	3,205,934	10-8
1914	195	3,548,525	11-8	1,069,233	3-6	1,058,381	3-4	2,690,289	9-0	21,560,485	72-2	29,926,913	4,485,988	15-0	2,846,059	9-5	2,643,335	8-8	16,703,295	55-9	3,248,236	10-8
1915	197	3,548,525	10-8	1,221,080	3-7	1,009,991	3-1	2,300,719	7-0	24,761,236	75-4	32,841,551	5,457,828	16-6	3,722,244	11-3	3,132,031	9-5	17,584,821	53-6	2,944,627	9-0
1916	198	3,548,525	10-1	1,269,797	3-6	1,200,094	3-4	2,804,902	8-0	26,245,681	74-9	35,066,999	5,076,161	14-3	2,072,092	5-9	3,961,042	11-3	20,520,134	58-7	3,437,570	9-8
1917	211	3,548,525	8-9	1,759,422	4-4	1,420,532	3-6	3,402,350	8-0	29,596,591	74-5	39,727,420	4,276,911	10-8	2,459,371	6-2	3,755,717	9-4	25,207,800	63-5	4,028,621	10-1
1918	255	3,548,525	7-0	2,502,810	4-9	1,958,242	3-9	4,756,524	9-4	37,534,654	74-8	50,300,756	6,860,226	13-6	3,311,246	6-6	4,069,781	8-1	30,732,075	61-1	5,327,427	10-6
1919	325	3,762,500	6-1	3,119,112	5-1	1,707,214	2-8	6,330,664	10-3	46,305,933	75-7	61,225,083	8,689,936	14-1	3,829,552	6-2	4,359,140	7-1	37,471,832	61-4	6,874,623	11-2
1920	384	3,762,500	5-4	4,193,361	6-0	2,478,180	3-5	7,658,602	10-9	52,010,266	74-2	70,102,909	11,079,744	15-8	3,491,924	5-0	4,390,113	6-2	42,818,258	61-1	8,322,870	11-9
1921	400	5,122,500	6-6	4,609,342	5-9	1,360,333	1-8	9,081,548	11-7	77,739,579	74-0	77,913,302	11,190,343	14-4	1,283,000	1-7	5,266,252	6-8	50,160,040	64-2	10,013,667	12-9

* Includes cash at bankers. † March 31.

(2) AUSTRALIAN BANKS.

AUSTRALIAN BANK OF COMMERCE, LIMITED.

In 1909 acquired the business of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, founded in 1853.

In 1917 purchased City Bank of Sydney.

CAPITAL					Market Value,
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.		£
£	£	£	£	£	£
1,200,000	1,200,000	Nil.	Nil.	1,200,000	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£1	£1	£1	£1	£1	£1
120	120	120	120	120	
Inscribed deposits, £1,372,683.					
Reserve fund, £250,000.					

The balance of profit for the year ended June 30, 1921,

after deducting all expenses, taxes, interest and rebate and making ample provision for all bad and doubtful debts, was £194,486, making with the balance of £28,813 brought forward from December 31st an available sum of £223,299. Of this sum, interest on inscribed deposits absorbed £54,907, £50,000 was added to reserve, £10,000 was written off pre-mises, and a dividend at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum absorbed £78,000, leaving £30,391 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Miscellaneous Credits, Rebate, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash and Notes in Hand, at Bankers' Short Call.	Per Cent.	Bills Re- ceivable in London and Remittances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts, Loans, and Advances.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries.	Per Cent.
1910 ..	76	£ 2,817,194	52-6	£ 12,111	0-2	£ 79,447	1-5	324,001	6-0	2,145,794	39-7	£ 5,378,547	854,800	15-9	..	£ 119,700	2-2	3,966,168	73-7	437,679	8-2	
1913 ..	79	2,912,492	49-6	21,931	0-4	2,540	..	391,332	6-7	2,527,992	43-3	5,856,287	1,225,223	21-0	181,494	3-1	75,500	1-3	3,864,629	65-9	509,441	8-7
1914 ..	85	2,893,991	46-3	21,020	0-3	1,428	..	340,471	5-5	2,980,821	47-9	6,237,731	1,449,376	23-2	284,272	4-2	72,200	1-2	4,090,774	65-6	361,109	5-8
1915 ..	87	2,875,520	46-0	20,488	0-3	964	..	346,117	5-5	3,016,323	48-2	6,259,412	1,385,125	22-1	286,784	4-6	146,548	2-3	4,068,718	65-1	372,237	5-9
1916 ..	87	2,857,839	43-5	23,203	0-3	710	..	513,598	7-8	3,192,090	48-4	6,587,440	1,188,442	18-1	348,099	5-3	241,468	3-7	4,434,808	67-2	374,623	5-7
1917 ..	87	2,838,795	41-6	29,739	0-4	605	..	388,398	5-7	3,540,862	52-3	6,798,399	1,338,488	19-7	275,380	4-0	264,198	3-9	4,551,995	67-0	370,338	5-4
1918 ..	128	2,823,384	28-9	49,034	0-5	..	..	694,810	8-7	6,185,202	63-5	9,752,430	1,716,716	17-6	548,151	5-6	523,153	5-4	6,454,674	66-2	509,736	5-2
1919 ..	129	2,813,272	25-4	56,366	0-5	..	..	960,406	8-7	7,220,501	65-4	11,050,535	1,544,672	14-0	791,563	7-2	407,460	3-7	7,814,989	70-7	491,851	4-4
1920 ..	135	2,813,657	23-3	64,815	0-5	..	..	1,063,051	8-8	8,108,526	67-4	12,050,047	1,333,975	16-0	1,339,353	11-1	506,827	4-2	7,755,747	64-4	514,145	4-3
1921 ..	139	2,822,683	22-0	72,391	0-6	..	..	1,357,941	10-6	8,560,114	66-8	12,813,129	2,218,598	17-3	1,130,593	8-8	407,002	3-2	8,563,021	66-9	493,915	3-8

BANK OF ADELAIDE.

INCORPORATED DECEMBER 5, 1865.

CAPITAL					Market Value,
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.		£
£	£	£	£	£	£
625,000	625,000	Nil.	625,000		
Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£5	£5	£5	£5	£5	£5
125	125	125	125	125	

The balance to credit of profit and loss for the year ended March 28, 1921, was £104,679, including £16,571 brought forward, which was appropriated as follows: dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, £62,500; £20,000 to reserve fund; and a balance of £22,179 was carried forward.

Year Ended March 25.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Miscel- laneous Credits, Debate, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash and Notes in Hand and at Bankers.	Per Cent.	Money at Short Call and Remittances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Bills Receivable and Advances.	Per Cent.	Premises and Furniture.	Per Cent.
1894 ..	21	£43,000	21-8	£ 32,240	1-3	£ 86,891	3-5	108,069	4-3	1,728,938	69-1	2,499,138	315,627	12-6	530,859	21-3	297,266	11-9	1,288,755	51-5	£ 66,631	2-7
1895 ..	19	546,000	21-6	32,289	1-3	92,844	3-7	199,593	7-9	1,654,893	65-5	2,525,619	383,267	15-2	379,469	15-0	299,146	11-8	1,400,846	55-5	62,891	2-5
1900 ..	33	565,000	18-3	40,401	1-3	127,222	4-1	175,921	5-7	2,185,435	70-6	3,093,979	610,156	19-8	717,581	23-1	307,279	9-9	1,401,689	45-3	57,274	1-9
1905 ..	44	635,000	18-5	49,953	1-4	129,968	3-8	291,399	8-5	2,334,238	67-8	3,440,558	445,598	12-9	789,763	23-0	432,768	12-6	1,700,946	49-4	71,483	2-1
1910 ..	84	725,000	12-2	61,838	1-1	226,893	4-0	808,067	13-6	4,114,849	69-1	5,335,647	781,584	13-2	1,729,246	29-1	522,047	8-3	2,817,429	47-5	85,341	1-4
1911 ..	87	900,000	14-0	76,486	1-2	228,477	3-6	524,139	8-2	4,584,503	73-0	6,413,605	867,435	13-5	1,247,654	19-4	436,021	7-8	3,712,230	57-9	88,205	1-4
1912 ..	88	930,000	16-0	77,084	1-3	28,649	0-5	240,807	4-1	4,543,208	78-1	5,819,748	905,012	15-5	834,829	14-3	459,177	7-9	3,536,154	60-8	84,506	1-5
1913 ..	89	960,000	17-6	78,222	1-4	16,801	0-3	328,716	6-0	4,101,962	74-7	5,485,701	926,893	17-0	986,245	18-0	480,367	8-8	2,986,570	54-3	105,626	1-9
1914 ..	89	990,000	15-8	70,168	1-1	12,822	0-2	320,312	5-1	4,834,739	77-8	6,228,041	698,464	11-0	853,599	13-7	479,681	7-7	4,094,975	65-8	111,322	1-8
1915 ..	87	1,010,000	20-8	53,191	1-1	11,003	0-2	270,436	5-8	5,486,027	72-3	4,830,657	998,678	20-6	656,079	13-6	471,305	9-7	2,589,386	53-7	115,209	2-4
1916 ..	92	1,010,000	21-4	62,997	1-3	9,700	0-2	184,316	3-9	5,459,742	73-2	4,726,755	694,368	14-7	402,737	15-5	469,827	9-7	3,043,906	61-5	115,923	2-4
1917 ..	98	1,010,000	19-7	79,170	1-5	8,517	0-2	270,990	5-2	5,759,455	73-3	5,128,132	733,543	14-3	711,914	13-8	751,568	14-6	2,816,449	55-1	114,638	2-2
1918 ..	86	1,040,000	17-4	62,520	1-1	8,014	0-1	259,591	4-3	5,591,816	72-1	5,975,905	1,130,177	19-1	355,924	5-9	1,219,619	20-1	3,712,230	57-9	120,149	1-5
1919 ..	87	1,055,000	15-7	93,777	1-0	7,747	0-1	223,246	3-3	5,365,076	80-1	6,200,119	720,119	11-7	35,216	0-3	901,187	13-4	3,423,338	66-1	104,886	1-5
1920 ..	90	1,070,000	13-6	76,571	1-0	7,519	0-1	293,106	3-8	6,380,056	81-5	7,827,252	1,110,527	14-2	588,446	7-5	2,079,105	26-6	3,887,421	49-7	157,753	2-0
1921 ..	91	1,075,000	13-6	76,571	1-0	7,519	0-1	293,106	3-8	6,380,056	81-5	7,827,252	1,110,527	14-2	588,446	7-5	2,079,105	26-6	3,887,421	49-7	157,753	2-0
1922 ..	95	1,225,000	15-0	73,429	0-9	7,308	0-1	866,054	10-6	5,984,597	73-4	8,156,386	1,464,182	18-0	686,401	8-4	1,126,981	13-8	4,720,253	51-8	162,569	2-0

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.
INCORPORATED 1835.

Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	Market Value.
£ 3,500,000	£ 3,500,000	Nil	£ 3,500,000	£ 7,262,500
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£40	£40	Nil	£40	£83

The net profits for the year ended October 11, 1920.

amounted to £573,052, making, with the sum of £127,822 brought forward, a balance of £700,874. Of this £455,000 was distributed in payment of a dividend and bonus at the rate of 13 per cent. per annum, free of income-tax, and £100,000 transferred to reserve fund, leaving £145,874 to be carried forward.

Year Ended April.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Pay- able, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bank.	Per Cent.	Cash at Call and Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Pre- mises.	Per Cent.
1890..	140	£ 2,400,000	128	£ 127,043	0.7	£ 481,424	2.6	£ 2,254,793	12.1	£ 13,416,044	71.8	£ 18,679,304	2,245,471	12.0	£ 1,607,000	8.6	£ 772,230	4.1	£ 13,630,240	73.0	£ 424,363	2.3
1891..	128	2,400,000	128	126,501	0.7	473,117	2.5	2,128,619	11.4	13,554,534	72.6	18,682,771	2,464,906	13.2	449,000	2.4	767,702	4.1	14,575,644	78.0	425,519	2.3
1892..	149	2,400,000	118	109,641	0.5	462,303	2.3	2,930,272	14.4	14,413,667	71.0	20,315,883	2,536,634	12.4	1,072,000	5.3	801,587	3.9	15,464,733	76.2	440,929	2.2
1893..	148	2,400,000	113	70,729	0.3	449,819	2.1	2,755,600	12.9	15,588,513	73.4	21,264,661	3,281,014	15.4	2,022,000	9.5	899,233	4.2	14,623,445	68.3	438,909	2.6
1894..	142	2,400,000	137	59,306	0.3	428,007	2.1	2,823,650	10.4	12,846,002	73.2	17,557,565	2,772,043	15.8	1,547,000	8.8	500,000	2.9	12,294,420	70.0	444,102	2.5
1895..	143	2,400,000	136	50,495	0.3	443,004	2.5	2,129,975	12.0	12,639,708	71.6	20,020,987	3,063,263	15.3	1,885,000	9.4	823,677	4.1	13,822,940	69.1	426,107	2.1
1900..	150	2,475,000	124	84,575	0.4	530,761	2.6	2,822,374	14.1	14,108,277	70.5	22,116,444	2,959,998	13.4	2,693,000	12.2	1,112,735	5.0	15,055,970	68.1	294,741	1.3
1910..	184	3,280,000	127	113,104	0.5	514,008	2.2	2,589,632	10.9	17,000,503	72.1	23,607,337	3,848,994	16.2	3,025,000	12.8	1,561,063	6.6	15,021,437	63.8	150,843	0.6
1914..	204	4,690,000	171	264,066	1.0	195,887	0.7	3,045,714	11.1	19,259,977	70.1	27,455,644	4,836,867	17.6	2,390,600	8.7	1,683,376	6.1	18,527,117	67.5	17,684	0.1
1915..	204	4,750,000	163	283,353	1.0	258,793	0.9	3,159,819	10.8	20,699,953	71.0	29,151,918	7,137,665	24.4	620,000	2.1	1,946,617	6.7	19,427,303	66.7	20,333	0.1
1916..	206	4,810,000	159	291,759	1.0	304,645	1.0	4,132,325	13.6	20,684,773	68.5	30,223,502	5,687,677	18.8	95,000	0.3	2,946,975	9.7	21,468,529	71.1	25,321	0.1
1917..	203	4,875,000	167	292,869	1.0	335,734	1.2	3,984,337	10.2	20,643,797	71.0	29,131,737	5,324,290	18.3	3,345,000	11.4	2,086,462	7.2	18,349,327	63.0	27,058	0.1
1918..	200	4,945,000	158	296,136	1.0	410,586	1.5	3,687,741	11.8	21,664,401	70.1	31,035,666	5,015,591	16.2	1,628,000	5.2	3,228,431	10.4	21,112,192	68.1	19,645	0.1
1919..	203	5,000,000	150	297,055	0.9	761,710	2.4	3,628,425	11.5	21,934,754	69.4	31,599,944	5,565,492	17.6	20,000	0.1	2,863,242	9.1	23,123,421	73.1	18,799	0.1
1920..	204	5,000,000	150	317,823	0.9	424,100	1.3	3,670,254	10.8	24,351,904	72.0	33,664,081	6,799,967	20.0	695,000	2.1	2,664,958	7.9	23,677,840	69.9	26,316	0.1
1921..	204	5,575,000	164	373,374	0.9	571,205	1.4	5,260,303	13.2	27,018,082	68.1	37,879,964	7,344,210	18.4	222,000	0.6	1,847,087	4.6	30,555,708	76.3	28,959	0.1

* October.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES.
ESTABLISHED 1817, AND INCORPORATED 1850.

Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	Market Value.
£ 4,965,200	£ 4,965,200	Nil	£ 4,965,200	£ 7,944,320
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£20	£20	Nil	£20	£32

The net profits for the half-year ended March 31st last were £403,932, which, with the balance of £169,383 brought forward, made £573,315 available for distribution. A dividend and bonus at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum absorbed £372,117. The sum of £75,000 was added to the reserve fund, and £126,098 carried forward.

The net profits for the half-year ended March 31st last were £403,932, which, with the balance of £169,383 brought forward, made £573,315 available for distribution. A dividend and bonus at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum absorbed £372,117. The sum of £75,000 was added to the reserve fund, and £126,098 carried forward.

Year Ended	March 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabili- ties or Assets.	ASSETS.											
			Capital and Reserves.	Un- divided Profits.	Notes.	Outstand- ing Credits, Bills Pay- able, &c.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, Notes, &c.	Per Cent.	Money at Short Call Bills Receiv- able & Re- mittances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Premises & Sundries.	Per Cent.	Buildings including Cover for Acceptance.	Per Cent.	
£																									
1890..	186	2,190,000	96	149,774	0.7	650,570	2.9	1,661,786	7.4	18,141,038	79.4	22,793,168	3,375,567	14.8	..	..	445,729	2.0	18,434,958	80.9	536,914	2.3			
1891..	193	2,210,000	95	150,117	0.6	714,508	3.1	1,577,434	6.8	18,638,226	80.0	23,290,285	3,201,927	13.8	..	..	519,370	2.2	19,011,812	81.6	557,176	2.4			
1892..	197	2,230,000	89	145,623	0.6	700,394	2.7	1,779,719	7.1	20,316,677	80.7	25,142,413	3,391,094	13.4	..	..	865,467	3.4	20,302,556	80.9	583,296	2.3			
1893..	192	2,250,000	90	137,939	0.6	660,325	2.6	1,448,407	5.8	20,418,943	82.0	24,915,614	3,466,080	13.8	..	..	560,973	2.3	20,308,493	81.5	590,068	2.4			
1894..	190	2,201,875	116	110,617	0.5	851,652	3.5	2,845,795	11.8	17,421,081	72.6	24,031,020	4,117,710	17.1	..	..	634,149	2.6	18,331,884	76.4	947,277	3.9			
1895..	186	2,955,372	102	112,016	0.5	763,318	3.1	3,791,375	15.2	17,274,199	74.7	24,936,541	5,981,257	24.0	..	..	804,254	3.2	17,377,575	69.5	813,455	3.3			
1900..	196	3,246,405	114	126,249	0.4	916,176	3.2	2,948,936	10.3	21,272,199	74.7	28,510,025	6,776,801	23.7	734,004	2.6	1,639,001	5.7	18,518,758	65.1	841,341	2.9			
1905..	209	3,370,000	108	160,211	0.5	992,659	3.2	2,880,347	9.3	23,787,243	76.2	31,190,460	8,671,747	27.8	980,000	3.1	1,888,443	5.9	18,531,766	59.4	1,118,504	3.6			
1910..	279	4,200,000	125	229,642	0.6	1,149,153	2.8	5,026,030	12.3	30,348,580	74.9	40,953,405	12,370,000	28.9	2,370,000	5.8	2,791,600	6.8	25,237,199	61.6	1,401,758	3.4			
1914..	319	6,850,000	115	255,005	0.5	776,126	1.5	3,569,815	7.2	50,845,720	12.5	50,845,720	12,550,016	24.5	8,318,721	16.4	3,246,328	6.4	24,829,406	48.6	1,801,249	3.6			
1915..	321	6,000,000	112	242,636	0.5	370,918	0.7	1,192,156	15.2	38,778,055	72.4	53,533,765	15,460,830	28.9	6,077,085	11.3	4,335,065	8.1	48,125,726	91.3	484,623	3.7			
1916..	317	6,100,000	98	271,450	0.4	458,197	0.7	1,402,388	23.2	40,833,407	65.9	62,065,442	17,909,497	28.8	7,724,666	12.5	5,517,355	8.9	52,814,172	84.3	2,799,752	4.5			
1917..	312	6,100,000	98	287,203	0.5	525,239	0.9	9,818,918	17.1	40,174,670	70.0	57,426,010	14,477,124	25.2	5,776,518	10.0	7,697,460	13.4	46,265,939	80.5	2,848,969	4.9			
1918..	310	6,779,860	110	300,350	0.5	610,107	1.0	10,379,920	16.8	43,126,762	70.7	61,196,999	15,252,250	24.9	4,835,407	7.9	10,750,367	17.5	47,834,433	77.8	2,524,732	4.1			
1919..	314	6,937,440	103	310,457	0.5	1,022,254	1.8	13,688,676	20.4	44,937,044	67.0	67,075,871	13,644,854	20.3	4,978,019	7.4	9,426,845	14.0	55,848,804	82.6	3,177,349	4.7			
1920..	351	7,965,700	106	344,589	0.6	715,668	0.9	17,101,226	22.6	49,417,059	65.4	75,544,242	17,776,307	22.7	7,677,525	10.2	13,134,614	17.4	62,001,495	82.3	5,554,301	7.1			
1921..	358	8,315,200	110	449,359	0.6	752,588	1.0	14,482,905	19.2	51,692,457	68.2	75,692,437	15,416,200	20.5	7,529,967	9.0	9,107,968	12.0	40,470,115	53.4	3,170,239	4.2			

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.
INCORPORATED 1861.

Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	Market Value.
£ 2,250,000	£ 2,250,000	Nil	£ 2,250,000	£ 2,250,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£112,500	£112,500	Nil	£112,500	£112,500

The profits for the year ended March 31st last amounted to £84,455, which, with the balance of £146,520 brought forward, made a total available sum of £230,975. Interest on the guaranteed stock absorbed £21,200; dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. on the "A" and "B" preference shares, £112,500, and dividend and bonus at the rate of 13 1/2 per cent. on the ordinary shares, £300,000. The sum of £150,000 was added to the reserve fund, and £50,000 was written off premises and furniture, leaving £361,276 to be carried forward.

to £84,455, which, with the balance of £146,520 brought forward, made a total available sum of £230,975. Interest on the guaranteed stock absorbed £21,200; dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. on the "A" and "B" preference shares, £112,500, and dividend and bonus at the rate of 13 1/2 per cent. on the ordinary shares, £300,000. The sum of £150,000 was added to the reserve fund, and £50,000 was written off premises and furniture, leaving £361,276 to be carried forward.

Year Ended March 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bank.	Per Cent.	Bills Re- ceivable and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries.	Per Cent.
1890 ..	115	£ 1,125,000	9.9	£ 99,784	0.8	£53,295	3.9	£1,707,441	14.9	£8,090,653	70.5	£11,476,173	£1,572,308	13.7	£1,437,667	12.5	£	..	£8,092,757	70.5	£373,441	3.2
1891 ..	115	897,833	9.0	59,522	0.6	483,064	4.9	1,083,487	10.9	7,436,776	74.6	9,960,682	1,642,024	16.4	2,303,218	23.2	1,850,000	18.6	3,791,277	38.1	374,163	3.7
1892 ..	116	920,000	9.1	55,831	0.6	479,260	4.7	1,314,254	15.0	7,363,054	72.6	10,132,358	1,379,565	13.6	2,397,002	23.6	1,886,287	18.6	4,092,730	40.0	376,804	3.7
1893 ..	126	935,000	8.5	51,661	0.5	520,333	4.8	1,343,639	12.3	8,071,783	73.9	10,922,466	1,484,457	13.6	2,301,824	21.1	1,906,841	17.4	4,825,831	44.2	409,513	3.4
1894 ..	126	945,000	8.8	37,740	0.3	515,568	4.2	1,416,891	12.7	8,213,139	73.9	11,125,504	1,562,019	14.0	2,383,071	21.4	1,911,524	17.2	4,855,519	43.7	413,513	3.9
1895 ..	126	3,104,745	25.4	384	..	468,195	3.8	1,484,899	12.1	7,222,202	58.7	12,282,417	1,394,194	11.3	2,112,348	17.2	2,730,213	22.3	5,203,450	42.3	842,212	6.6
1900 ..	123	2,942,993	22.3	50,000	0.4	722,770	5.5	884,751	6.7	5,857,860	65.1	13,188,374	1,047,526	10.7	1,791,133	13.6	5,052,921	38.3	5,361,689	39.0	974,900	7.2
1905 ..	134	1,996,267	12.2	253,330	1.4	784,171	4.8	1,117,386	6.8	12,190,647	74.6	16,342,404	2,124,147	13.0	3,190,012	19.5	*5,417,054	33.0	5,211,098	32.0	400,093	2.5
1910 ..	155	2,650,000	13.5	270,384	1.4	919,329	4.7	1,146,917	5.8	14,687,680	74.6	19,674,311	3,258,074	16.6	3,661,019	18.6	*5,036,339	25.6	7,359,039	37.4	359,790	1.8
1914 ..	194	3,644,690	15.0	291,608	1.2	989,882	4.1	1,403,457	5.8	10,070,613	73.9	24,400,250	3,377,185	13.8	3,164,082	13.0	*6,048,920	24.8	11,360,486	46.6	449,577	1.7
1915 ..	214	4,170,235	15.7	270,395	1.1	1,676,015	6.3	1,670,101	5.7	13,471,657	70.7	26,528,441	4,827,522	18.2	3,301,302	12.4	*6,038,584	23.0	11,849,166	44.7	451,867	1.7
1916 ..	216	4,292,130	15.5	238,674	0.8	1,862,823	5.9	1,670,410	5.6	15,561,667	74.2	31,717,714	5,757,823	18.1	3,580,075	11.3	*10,053,176	31.0	11,844,767	37.4	441,867	1.7
1917 ..	216	4,342,130	11.6	316,954	0.8	2,560,325	6.7	2,007,963	5.2	19,052,731	75.7	38,280,168	6,645,608	17.4	672,147	1.8	*10,765,115	38.5	15,746,485	41.1	451,867	1.7
1918 ..	201	4,141,988	10.0	443,200	0.8	1,312,993	4.7	2,293,555	5.4	18,437,582	74.6	38,213,682	6,225,050	17.7	289,156	0.7	*15,111,920	37.0	17,786,755	43.5	425,821	1.7
1919 ..	203	4,479,989	10.4	428,724	1.1	1,728,249	8.7	2,860,391	6.4	17,716,353	73.4	43,210,765	7,179,765	16.5	638,770	1.5	*16,589,765	38.2	18,885,548	43.8	399,867	0.9
1920 ..	213	5,137,442	10.0	460,270	0.9	5,765,337	10.9	3,708,37	7.1	37,661,611	71.1	52,912,965	8,772,286	16.6	661,231	1.3	*23,686,491	44.9	19,431,819	36.5	361,108	0.8
1921 ..	211	5,705,989	11.5	726,901	1.2	1,741,492	9.5	4,116,578	8.7	44,754,655	69.2	49,766,611	6,685,738	13.4	2,209,534	4.4	*10,027,242	20.2	30,506,628	61.3	337,469	0.7

BANK OF QUEENSLAND, LIMITED.

Bank of North Queensland and Royal Bank of Queensland amalgamated January, 1917, under above title.

Authorised.	Subscribed.	Capital.	Callable.	Reserved.
£	£	£	£	£
1,000,000	450,000	450,000	Nil	550,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£10	£10	£10	£10	£10
.....				

Net profits for the year ended January 31st last amounted to £45,017, making, with £1,259 brought forward, a total of £46,276. Recoveries from debts previously written off as bad, and other recoveries now appropriated, amounted to £30,000. A dividend at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum absorbed £29,250, and £45,000 was transferred to reserve, leaving £2,026 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.						Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.					
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un-divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable, &c.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, Remittances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Premises and Sundries.

BANK OF NORTH QUEENSLAND, LIMITED.														
1910	18	120,000	14.5	8,492	1.0	59,160	7.2	641,672	77.3	829,324	206,044	24.8	22,500	3.0
1914	20	195,000	14.5	11,242	0.8	94,067	7.0	1,046,599	483,433	35.9	25,000	1.9	770,666	57.2
1915	20	197,500	14.2	9,928	0.7	41,797	3.0	1,134,157	468,192	33.9	25,000	1.8	815,190	59.0
1916	20	200,000	14.8	10,182	0.7	70,695	5.2	1,079,049	402,216	29.6	50,000	3.7	822,710	60.4

ROYAL BANK OF QUEENSLAND, LIMITED.														
1895	16	361,534	30.8	12,981	1.1	55,250	4.7	741,837	63.4	1,171,602	233,600	19.9	11,845	1.0
1900	15	431,187	31.8	10,978	0.8	60,422	4.5	855,308	62.9	1,357,895	310,186	22.9	46,135	3.4
1905	16	521,539	36.0	10,455	0.7	49,678	2.4	868,534	59.9	1,450,206	246,353	17.0	76,981	5.3
1910	21	587,132	29.7	14,038	0.7	9,554	0.5	1,324,115	67.4	1,968,439	562,694	28.5	76,977	3.9
1914	27	622,154	27.4	18,220	0.8	18,299	0.8	1,617,238	71.0	2,275,911	703,323	31.0	77,977	3.4
1915	30	625,150	27.1	19,033	0.8	19,962	0.8	1,630,287	71.2	2,300,442	570,666	24.7	87,382	3.8
1916	31	627,260	27.2	17,678	0.8	25,021	1.1	1,630,349	70.9	2,300,308	549,625	23.8	87,382	3.8

BANK OF QUEENSLAND, LIMITED.														
1917 (July 31)	46	450,000	12.8	17,220	0.5	206,074	5.9	2,864,030	3,537,324	80.8	1,054,835	29.8	150,000	4.2
1918 (July 31)	46	450,000	12.2	23,317	0.6	238,415	8.1	2,928,451	3,700,183	79.1	1,069,536	28.9	175,000	4.7
1919 (Jan. 31)	47	450,000	11.8	27,194	0.7	260,779	6.8	3,074,618	3,812,191	80.7	852,321	22.4	175,000	4.6
1920 (Jan. 31)	43	450,000	11.6	39,759	1.0	287,781	7.3	3,095,457	3,867,997	80.1	1,095,709	28.3	185,000	4.8
1921 (Jan. 31)	41	475,000	12.1	62,776	1.6	249,330	6.3	3,159,641	3,946,747	80.0	940,002	23.9	190,000	4.8

BANK OF VICTORIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1852.

Ordinary Shares.....	Subscribed.	Capital.	Callable.	Reserved.
£	£	£	£	£
£2,122,500	£1,061,250	£1,061,250	Nil	Nil
Per Share.....	£10	£5	£5	Nil
£416,760	£416,760	£416,760	£416,760	£416,760
Per Share.....	£10	£10	£10	£10
.....				

The net profit for the year ended June 30th was £234,826, which, with the balance brought forward, made an available sum of £256,866. Dividend on the preference shares at 9 per cent. per annum absorbed £37,508, and 9 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, £95,512, leaving £35,845 to be carried forward, after transferring £3,000 to officers' provident fund, £75,000 to reserve, and £10,000 to reduction of bank premises.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.						Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.					
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un-divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and at Call.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.	Bills and Remittances in Transit.	Premises and Sundries.

1890	67	900,000	10.9	48,214	0.7	180,748	2.5	271,625	3.7	6,039,988	82.2	7,340,575	1,132,800	15.4
1895	61	1,308,534	16.6	26,968	0.3	121,540	1.5	257,833	3.3	6,130,596	78.3	7,845,471	1,181,439	15.0
1900	65	1,577,477	22.6	53,290	0.8	134,291	1.9	558,100	8.0	4,646,794	66.7	6,968,952	1,353,647	19.4
1905	74	1,638,010	21.8	45,588	0.6	108,610	1.4	738,253	9.9	4,965,565	66.3	7,494,026	1,371,041	18.3
1910	87	1,718,010	19.8	58,333	0.7	116,542	1.5	827,323	9.4	6,014,441	68.8	8,735,249	1,537,949	17.6
1913	97	1,788,010	20.0	73,823	0.9	10,578	0.1	607,143	6.8	6,847,538	69.7	8,909,697	1,734,788	19.4
1914	99	1,823,010	18.6	62,681	0.8	9,139	0.1	1,067,687	10.8	6,847,538	69.7	8,909,697	1,734,788	19.4
1915	98	1,843,010	19.6	93,794	1.0	7,940	0.1	1,204,093	7.7	6,741,024	71.6	9,409,861	1,712,075	18.2
1916	98	1,878,010	20.5	75,052	0.8	7,427	0.1	737,889	8.0	6,496,034	70.6	9,194,412	1,396,280	15.2
1917	99	1,903,010	20.0	68,238	0.7	7,154	0.1	680,420	7.1	6,867,883	72.1	9,526,765	1,252,790	22.5
1918	100	1,928,010	18.7	71,884	0.7	7,029	0.1	1,039,572	10.0	7,275,880	70.5	10,322,175	1,073,016	20.1
1919	104	1,953,010	17.3	84,790	0.7	6,843	0.1	1,062,866	9.4	8,153,996	72.5	11,261,505	2,309,003	20.5
1920	114	1,953,010	14.4	6,674	0.9	6,674	0.1	1,587,313	11.7	9,883,035	73.0	13,558,803	4,618,697	34.1
1921	113	2,003,010	14.8	187,356	1.4	6,580	0.1	1,478,646	10.8	9,952,617	73.0	13,628,209	3,023,404	22.1

* Includes Treasury Bills.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

(ESTABLISHED 1912 BY SPECIAL ACT OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT.)

Owned and guaranteed by the Government of the Commonwealth, which is responsible for all the Bank's obligations.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.						Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.					
		Deposits.	Per Cent.	Savings Bank Deposits.	Per Cent.	Bills payable, Letters of Credit &c.	Per Cent.		Cash and Common-wealth Notes.	Per Cent.	Cash at Short Call in London.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.

1914	20	4,559,264	46.7	4,645,268	47.5	569,158	5.8	9,773,690	2,711,471	27.7	1,465,100	15.0	2,818,981	28.8
1915	27	8,547,526	51.0	7,420,647	44.2	798,071	4.8	16,768,466	4,986,714	29.7	2,840,000	16.9	5,479,480	32.6
1916	34	29,745,868	71.2	9,477,896	22.6	2,401,521	5.8	41,772,354	19,643,819	47.1	5,505,536	13.2	8,255,882	19.8
1917	33	36,341,502	71.9	12,442,847	24.6	1,192,521	2.4	50,503,162	15,244,004	30.3	12,780,000	25.2	11,802,881	23.4
1918	36	51,939,580	72.1	15,227,534	21.6	1,919,380	2.7	70,162,520	19,639,664	28.0	21,805,000	31.0	14,451,513	20.6
1919	32	43,672,183	66.9	17,789,423	27.1	1,937,070	3.0	63,321,646	17,967,357	27.4	9,470,000	14.5	15,646,021	23.9
1920	34	41,002,909	64.5	17,982,402	28.2	1,937,996	3.0	63,679,412	8,057,306	12.6	21,430,000	33.5	17,975,463	28.2
1921	53	27,153,311	37.8	15,306,956	49.0	6,482,831	9.0	30,483,324	7,191,422	23.6	7,030,247	9.8	4,160,000	5.8

* December 31.

The Vindication of the With Profit Policy

The Clerical, Medical & General Life Assurance Society

IS NOW DIVIDING AMONGST ITS POLICY HOLDERS A CASH SURPLUS OF

£679,365

Again MAINTAINING the SCALE of BONUS declared in 1911 and 1916 as well as the STRINGENT 2½% RESERVES.

Bonus Report and all information on application.

CHIEF OFFICE:

15, St. James's Square, S.W.1, London.

INCOME TAX

Taking into consideration: (a) Security, (b) Immunity from Depreciation, Stamp Duties, Transfer Fees and Brokerage, and that

LIFE ASSURANCE PREMIUMS

constitute one of the few items of expenditure recognised by the Government as a legitimate deduction in arriving at the net assessment for Income Tax purposes, a Life Policy effected with the

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CO., LTD.,

OFFERS A MOST EXCELLENT FORM OF INVESTMENT.

Annual Income - £2,500,000.
Funds - - - £6,300,000.

Chief Offices:

BROAD STREET CORNER, BIRMINGHAM.

ASSETS EXCEED £1,500,000.

NATIONAL BENEFIT
ASSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.
Managing Director: J. FRANCIS, O.B.E., J.P.

LIFE, FIRE, MARINE, WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION, etc.

ACCIDENTS, MOTORS, PROPERTY INVESTMENT, etc.

HEAD OFFICES: NATIONAL HOUSE, Newgate St., LONDON, E.C.1.

Marine Under-writing Rooms: 42, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.3

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION.

THE LIVERPOOL AND LONDON GLOBE
INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

ASSETS exceed £20,000,000.
CLAIMS PAID over £102,000,000.

FIRE. ANNUITIES. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity Guarantee, Motor Car, Boiler and Engine, Plate Glass, Personal Accident, Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of Profits, etc.

HEAD OFFICE: 1, Dale St., LIVERPOOL. Chief Office—1, Cornhill, LONDON.

Offices in all the Chief Commercial Centres.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1856.

1918.—National Bank of Tasmania purchased, March 1, 1918.

		CAPITAL							
		Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.				
Ordinary Shares.....	£225,515	£202,318	Nil	Nil	Nil				
Per Share.....	10s	2s 6d to 10s	Nil	Nil	Nil				
Preference Shares.....	£2,117,350	£2,117,350	Nil	Nil	Nil				
Per Share.....	£10	£10	Nil	Nil	Nil				

The net profits for the year ended June 30, 1921, amounted

to £237,772, which, with the balance brought forward, £16,258, made an available sum of £254,030, which has been apportioned as follows: dividend on preference shares at 4 per cent. per annum, £84,604; re-instatement of capital, £135,000; reduction of bank premises, £10,000; dividend on ordinary shares at 15 per cent per annum, £11,014; leaving £13,322 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Contingent Liabilities and Bills in Circulation.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bankers.	Per Cent.	Cash at Call and Short Notice in London.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts, Advances, and Bills and Remit- tances in Transit.	Per Cent.	Premises and Sundries.	Per Cent.
1890 ..	94	£ 1,160,000	15.6	£ 170,182	1.2	£ 255,479	1.8	£ 466,615	3.4	£ 10,722,159	78.0	£ 13,774,435	£ 1,961,940	14.2	£ 90,000	0.6	£ 807,450	5.9	£ 10,631,893	77.2	£ 283,152	2.1
1895 ..	87	£ 3,843,321	33.0	£ 28,449	0.2	£ 133,101	1.1	£ 159,210	1.4	£ 7,457,563	64.3	£ 11,621,644	£ 1,063,142	9.1	£ 87,100	0.7	£ 9,910,926	85.4	£ 560,476	4.8	£ 560,476	4.8
1900 ..	93	£ 3,202,323	44.1	£ 42,108	0.6	£ 157,504	2.2	£ 276,338	3.8	£ 5,572,190	49.3	£ 7,250,463	£ 1,129,747	15.6	£ 460,000	6.3	£ 889,145	12.2	£ 4,113,231	56.8	£ 68,340	0.9
1905 ..	102	£ 4,493,132	57.1	£ 50,430	0.7	£ 150,798	2.2	£ 579,743	8.5	£ 3,650,771	53.5	£ 6,840,874	£ 1,291,371	19.0	£ 520,000	7.6	£ 130,750	1.9	£ 4,287,038	62.5	£ 611,715	9.0
1910 ..	148	£ 2,042,421	13.1	£ 35,476	0.4	£ 215,622	2.3	£ 2,275,600	24.7	£ 5,495,010	59.5	£ 9,226,129	£ 1,739,007	18.8	£ 1,120,000	12.2	£ 86,756	0.9	£ 5,092,034	55.2	£ 118,332	1.2
1915 ..	146	£ 1,371,135	15.5	£ 39,436	0.4	£ 13,167	0.2	£ 1,093,798	12.3	£ 6,321,902	71.6	£ 8,839,438	£ 1,547,774	17.5	£ 1,112,000	12.6	£ 42,830	0.5	£ 5,548,968	62.8	£ 587,866	6.6
1918 ..	149	£ 1,432,038	14.8	£ 52,223	0.5	£ 21,053	0.2	£ 1,021,242	10.6	£ 7,168,789	73.9	£ 9,695,345	£ 1,619,964	16.7	£ 1,585,000	16.4	£ 75,581	0.8	£ 5,962,165	61.4	£ 452,635	4.7
1919 ..	157	£ 1,482,346	15.5	£ 51,923	0.5	£ 39,125	0.4	£ 723,147	7.7	£ 7,091,790	75.9	£ 9,538,511	£ 2,313,688	24.8	£ 688,000	7.3	£ 123,404	1.3	£ 5,563,284	59.4	£ 670,135	7.2
1916 ..	157	£ 1,487,349	15.1	£ 51,755	0.5	£ 52,394	0.5	£ 1,106,952	11.3	£ 7,139,864	72.6	£ 9,838,304	£ 2,012,173	20.5	£ 466,000	4.7	£ 240,212	2.4	£ 6,348,371	54.7	£ 771,548	7.7
1917 ..	159	£ 1,536,349	14.8	£ 51,754	0.5	£ 61,123	0.6	£ 612,764	5.9	£ 8,085,300	78.2	£ 10,364,895	£ 1,939,209	19.1	£ 1,566,000	15.2	£ 230,493	2.2	£ 5,801,544	56.0	£ 749,650	7.0
1918 ..	186	£ 1,600,349	14.2	£ 52,833	0.4	£ 69,861	0.5	£ 885,578	6.9	£ 10,251,479	79.8	£ 12,850,101	£ 2,312,155	18.7	£ 501,000	3.9	£ 849,880	6.6	£ 1,034,085	63.2	£ 1,062,980	8.0
1919 ..	199	£ 1,670,349	11.4	£ 55,407	0.4	£ 71,517	0.5	£ 829,271	6.6	£ 12,055,230	82.1	£ 14,674,774	£ 1,991,626	13.6	£ 766,000	5.2	£ 439,412	3.0	£ 10,554,273	71.8	£ 943,457	6.4
1920 ..	208	£ 1,770,349	9.0	£ 58,605	0.3	£ 68,330	0.3	£ 1,340,469	6.8	£ 16,377,133	85.6	£ 19,614,890	£ 3,771,382	19.2	£ 1,740,000	8.9	£ 1,962,272	10.0	£ 10,926,514	59.7	£ 1,214,390	6.7
1921 ..	220	£ 1,118,666	10.8	£ 66,683	0.3	£ 55,264	0.3	£ 1,653,465	8.5	£ 15,603,793	80.1	£ 19,497,871	£ 3,661,387	18.8	£ 1,370,000	7.0	£ 573,018	2.9	£ 13,062,512	67.0	£ 830,954	4.2

COMMERCIAL BANKING COMPANY OF SYDNEY, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

The profits for the year ended June 30th last amounted to £392,923, making, with the balance brought forward, £82,262, a total of £475,185. Payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum absorbed £250,000, and £140,000 was transferred to the reserve fund, leaving £85,185 to be carried forward.

CAPITAL												The profits for the year ended June 30th last amounted to											
Subscribed.		Paid-up.		Callable.		Reserved.		£392,923, making, with the balance brought forward, £82,262, a total of £475,185. Payment of a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum absorbed £250,000, and £140,000 was transferred to the reserve fund, leaving £85,185 to be carried forward.															
£		£		£		£																	
5,909,025		2,909,025		Nil.		3,000,000																	
Per Share.		Per Share.		Per Share.		Per Share.																	
£25		£12 10s		Nil.		£12 10s																	

LIABILITIES.												ASSETS.											
Capital and Reserves.		Un-divided Profits.		Notes.		Bills in Circulation.		Deposit and Current Accounts.		Total Liabilities or Assets.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and Australian Notes.		Cash at Short Call in London.		Investments.		Discounts, Advances, and Bills, and Remittances in Transit.		Buildings and Sundries.			
Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.		Per Cent.			
£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£			
1890 ..	150	1,380,000	10.8	106,960	0.8	392,439	3.1	447,532	3.5	10,365,404	81.8	12,692,335	1,999,235	15.7	..	..	863,700	6.8	9,467,900	74.7	361,500	2.8	
1895 ..	128	1,974,859	16.3	55,846	0.5	305,175	2.5	266,388	2.2	9,506,254	78.5	12,108,532	2,379,230	19.7	..	..	455,800	3.8	8,875,902	73.2	397,600	3.3	
1900 ..	137	2,010,000	13.6	76,326	0.5	427,859	2.9	1,013,952	6.9	11,134,777	76.1	14,662,914	3,538,088	24.1	..	..	1,659,731	11.3	9,045,095	61.7	420,000	2.9	
1905 ..	146	2,070,000	13.3	93,654	0.6	428,069	2.8	599,331	3.8	12,338,812	79.4	15,523,856	4,544,200	29.2	495,000	3.2	1,308,600	8.4	8,723,456	56.2	488,600	3.0	
1910 ..	186	2,840,000	12.5	156,471	0.7	568,935	2.5	823,609	3.6	18,321,058	80.7	22,710,073	5,106,622	22.5	1,571,669	6.9	2,479,375	10.9	13,666,942	57.6	485,465	2.1	
1913 ..	201	3,330,000	13.6	194,371	0.8	30,707	0.1	957,594	3.9	20,013,372	81.6	24,526,044	4,135,811	16.8	1,505,000	6.1	2,491,325	10.2	15,854,405	64.7	539,550	2.2	
1914 ..	212	3,680,000	13.5	207,113	0.8	21,804	0.1	1,113,851	4.1	22,278,511	81.5	27,301,279	6,393,276	23.4	1,831,564	6.7	2,439,525	8.9	16,068,661	58.9	688,253	2.4	
1915 ..	209	3,755,000	12.6	197,734	0.7	16,952	0.1	665,369	2.2	25,011,778	84.4	29,706,833	7,922,172	32.8	279,737	0.9	3,361,525	11.3	15,763,756	59.1	579,643	2.1	
1916 ..	208	3,805,000	13.1	209,538	0.7	14,927	0.1	773,538	2.7	24,284,844	83.4	29,087,847	6,937,802	23.8	773,035	2.7	3,624,500	12.4	17,163,567	59.1	588,943	2.0	
1917 ..	207	3,900,000	12.5	199,094	0.6	12,711	0.1	1,462,581	4.7	25,557,418	82.1	31,131,804	7,737,537	24.8	1,590,000	5.1	4,529,300	14.5	16,674,624	53.7	600,343	1.9	
1918 ..	208	4,000,000	12.3	197,243	0.6	11,830	..	1,262,746	3.9	27,109,804	83.2	32,581,623	7,629,134	23.4	770,000	2.4	4,476,700	16.8	18,099,254	55.5	606,535	1.9	
1919 ..	208	4,462,019	12.9	218,814	0.6	11,088	..	1,312,047	3.8	28,627,157	82.7	34,631,125	7,232,000	20.9	1,040,000	3.0	4,633,200	13.4	21,106,725	60.9	613,200	1.8	
1920 ..	213	4,620,000	12.6	306,676	0.8	10,233	..	1,798,283	4.9	30,017,532	81.7	36,752,724	7,494,484	20.4	870,000	2.4	4,643,338	17.6	21,312,361	57.9	632,541	1.7	
1921 ..	222	5,129,025	13.4	350,185	0.9	9,867	..	1,600,741	4.2	31,245,205	81.5	38,335,023	7,535,466	19.7	1,065,000	2.8	4,307,338	16.5	22,748,258	59.2	678,961	1.8	

LONDON BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1893.

1921.—Amalgamated with English, Scottish, and Australian Bank.

		CAPITAL					
		Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Reserved.			
Ord. Shares.....	£1,386,067	10s	£622,855	763,212	10s		
Per Share.....	£22	10s	£10	£12	10s		
Pref. Shares.....	£171,930		£171,930	Nil			
Per Share.....	£10		£10	Nil			

† Including liability prepaid by trustees.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and Money at Call & Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Investments of Exchange and other Assets in London.	Per Cent.	Discounts, Advances & other Assets in the Colonies.	Per Cent.	Premises.	Per Cent.		
1890	62	£ 1,280,000	14.2	£ 71,877	0.8	£ 269,665	3.0	£ 721,071	8.0	£ 6,656,733	74.0	£ 8,999,346	£ 1,042,901	11.6	£ 959,470	10.6	£ 6,629,809	73.7	£ 367,166	4.1		
1891	59	£ 1,320,000	14.4	£ 56,315	0.6	£ 271,556	3.0	£ 728,814	8.0	£ 6,769,633	74.0	£ 9,146,368	£ 1,175,365	12.8	£ 900,808	9.8	£ 6,692,796	73.3	£ 377,398	4.1		
1892	59	£ 1,320,000	15.1	£ 47,958	0.5	£ 218,828	2.5	£ 577,537	6.6	£ 6,588,235	75.3	£ 8,752,558	£ 1,006,670	11.4	£ 896,594	10.2	£ 6,466,428	74.0	£ 382,866	4.1		
1893	54	£ 1,555,155	19.4	£ 5,987	0.1	£ 181,302	2.2	£ 295,961	3.7	£ 6,013,464	74.6	£ 8,051,869	£ 1,316,846	16.3	£ 790,288	9.8	£ 5,560,660	69.1	£ 384,074	4.8		
1894	54	£ 1,767,054	21.8	£ 12,597	0.2	£ 163,900	2.0	£ 523,320	6.4	£ 5,652,138	69.6	£ 8,119,003	£ 1,442,731	17.8	£ 782,739	9.6	£ 5,509,544	67.9	£ 383,988	4.7		
1895	44	£ 1,754,426	22.5	£ 15,895	0.8	£ 158,025	2.0	£ 499,113	6.4	£ 5,365,946	71.5	£ 7,793,406	£ 1,415,865	18.1	£ 517,398	6.6	£ 5,476,272	72.6	£ 383,870	4.9		
1900	43	£ 915,865	14.1	£ 24,989	0.4	£ 173,336	2.7	£ 819,431	12.6	£ 4,564,790	70.2	£ 6,498,411	£ 1,033,227	15.9	£ 756,191	11.7	£ 4,327,293	66.9	£ 381,700	5.9		
1905	59	£ 547,828	9.9	£ 34,756	0.6	£ 106,336	2.6	£ 667,663	12.0	£ 4,135,690	75.6	£ 5,550,081	£ 986,131	17.7	£ 658,467	11.9	£ 4,322,296	63.5	£ 383,187	6.9		
1910	60	£ 635,790	9.6	£ 52,810	0.8	£ 171,873	2.6	£ 338,075	12.7	£ 4,903,921	74.3	£ 6,068,409	£ 1,073,421	16.3	£ 1,205,229	18.2	£ 3,943,855	59.7	£ 385,904	5.8		
1911	62	£ 668,228	9.6	£ 55,483	0.8	£ 232,226	0.3	£ 779,194	11.1	£ 5,464,363	78.2	£ 6,990,494	£ 1,269,892	18.1	£ 964,019	13.8	£ 4,374,024	62.6	£ 382,559	5.0		
1912	62	£ 718,393	9.7	£ 55,541	0.8	£ 11,208	0.2	£ 132,043	14.0	£ 5,571,753	75.3	£ 7,388,938	£ 1,264,570	17.2	£ 1,178,073	10.5	£ 4,554,301	61.5	£ 391,994	5.3		
1913	64	£ 818,393	11.1	£ 43,978	0.8	£ 8,344	0.1	£ 971,898	13.5	£ 4,902,278	75.0	£ 7,332,891	£ 1,276,385	17.4	£ 1,414,458	19.2	£ 4,358,778	59.6	£ 282,870	5.0		
1914	64	£ 968,832	14.1	£ 51,489	0.8	£ 7,151	0.1	£ 683,358	10.0	£ 5,151,571	75.7	£ 8,682,405	£ 1,292,088	18.8	£ 917,575	13.4	£ 4,378,277	63.8	£ 274,465	4.0		
1915	66	£ 999,587	13.8	£ 47,988	0.7	£ 6,249	0.1	£ 711,268	9.8	£ 4,937,148	75.6	£ 7,262,240	£ 1,345,810	18.5	£ 1,000,244	13.8	£ 4,626,631	63.7	£ 289,555	4.0		
1916	65	£ 1,024,670	13.5	£ 43,880	0.6	£ 5,874	0.1	£ 803,582	10.6	£ 5,723,590	75.2	£ 7,601,956	£ 1,600,462	21.9	£ 1,140,041	14.6	£ 4,510,883	59.7	£ 280,570	4.0		
1917	68	£ 1,054,685	12.6	£ 47,726	0.6	£ 5,625	0.1	£ 882,257	10.6	£ 5,344,838	76.1	£ 8,335,131	£ 2,066,232	27.1	£ 1,006,646	12.0	£ 4,566,843	56.7	£ 306,533	3.8		
1918	68	£ 1,062,685	11.6	£ 45,107	0.5	£ 5,107	0.1	£ 887,474	9.0	£ 4,370,362	78.1	£ 7,440,031	£ 1,779,762	18.7	£ 921,001	9.8	£ 4,366,460	67.8	£ 351,008	3.8		
1919	68	£ 1,244,785	11.4	£ 63,797	0.6	£ 5,039	0.1	£ 900,596	8.7	£ 4,743,701	79.8	£ 9,057,917	£ 2,149,944	19.7	£ 1,101,064	19.2	£ 6,305,188	57.6	£ 391,721	3.0		

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN BANK, LIMITED.

Registered 1893 under English Companies Acts.

1920.—Amalgamated with the London Bank of Australia, Limited.

1921.—Amalgamated with the Commercial Bank of Tasmania, Limited.

Subscribed.		Paid-up.		Callable.		Reserved.		Market Value.	
£	10s	£	10s	£	10s	£	10s	£	10s
1,594,125	...	560,047	10s	1,034,077	10s	Nil	...	761,600	...
Per Share.	£25	Per Share.	£12 10s	Per Share.	£12 10s	Per Share.	Nil	Per Share.	£17
£25	...	£1	...	£24	...	Nil	...	...	...

Debiture Stock	£983,547
Preferred Inscribed Deposit Stock	£289,419
Deferred Inscribed Deposit Stock	£590,000

The profits for the year ended June 30, 1920, together with the balance brought forward, amounted to £221,134; £50,000 was placed to reserve; a dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbed £53,944; the purchase and cancellation of deferred inscribed deposit stock cost £17,981; and there was added to the officers' guarantee and provident fund £5,000; leaving £94,209 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.						Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Un-divided Profits.	Notes.	Bills Payable, &c.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and at Short Notice.	Investments.	Bills receivable and Remittances in Transit.	Advances, &c.	Buildings and Land.	Securities for Loans.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1890	96	1,235,000	15-2	56,127	0-7	184,717	2-3	778,750	9-6	5,861,428	72-2	8,116,022	1,176,614	14-5	...	...	...	...
1891	96	1,210,000	14-9	50,734	0-6	203,096	2-5	917,054	11-3	5,759,459	70-7	8,140,343	1,155,798	14-2	...	...	...	...
1892	95	1,210,000	14-9	43,031	0-5	153,500	1-9	868,477	10-7	5,833,536	72-0	8,108,544	1,109,937	13-7	...	...	...	...
1893	77	...	...	...	...	...	...	In process of reconstruction.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1894	77	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1895	78	978,055	15-7	...	...	40,619	0-7	253,382	4-1	4,940,723	79-5	6,212,779	898,937	14-4	55,639	0-9	720,368	11-6
1900	86	3,372,086	54-1	36,915	0-6	33,305	0-5	481,889	7-7	2,309,330	37-1	6,233,525	899,449	14-4	39,851	0-6	983,838	15-8
1905	105	3,343,065	52-7	58,514	0-9	32,436	0-5	349,865	5-5	2,555,854	40-3	6,339,734	989,115	15-8	152,721	2-4	612,231	9-7
1910	128	3,365,807	42-1	85,822	1-1	68,071	0-9	305,150	3-8	4,164,251	52-1	7,990,141	1,730,625	19-8	150,000	1-7	1,058,830	12-2
1911	131	3,375,404	36-0	101,041	1-1	13,066	0-1	518,256	5-5	5,368,229	57-3	9,376,416	1,760,988	18-8	150,000	1-6	1,322,250	14-1
1912	134	3,376,404	33-7	114,974	1-1	5,007	0-1	548,787	5-4	5,981,583	59-7	10,026,755	1,806,183	18-0	150,000	1-5	1,577,026	15-7
1913	134	3,376,404	33-2	119,945	1-2	3,714	...	516,303	5-1	6,110,487	60-4	10,146,153	2,376,322	23-3	170,000	1-7	1,168,631	11-6
1914	147	3,430,004	31-4	119,046	1-1	2,756	...	549,546	5-0	6,857,928	62-5	10,959,280	2,682,794	24-5	182,046	1-7	1,377,132	12-2
1915	147	3,463,404	31-0	106,691	1-0	2,052	...	532,445	4-8	7,058,797	63-2	11,163,389	3,187,400	28-5	364,036	3-3	1,243,664	11-2
1916	155	3,496,404	29-4	104,847	0-9	1,873	...	625,107	5-3	7,665,487	64-4	11,893,718	3,619,378	22-0	447,975	3-8	1,310,482	11-0
1917	159	3,528,403	29-6	105,226	0-8	1,742	...	998,933	7-2	8,159,320	66-4	13,793,684	3,743,483	27-1	627,948	4-5	3,080,209	22-4
1918	173	3,560,403	28-6	127,855	0-9	1,697	...	756,655	5-4	9,388,452	68-1	15,835,062	2,729,343	19-6	992,884	7-2	1,917,937	13-8
1919	179	3,589,403	23-9	140,908	0-8	1,447	...	820,594	5-3	10,848,250	70-3	15,441,102	2,745,896	17-8	1,007,848	6-5	2,208,712	14-2
1920	1206	3,652,144	21-6	179,162	1-0	1,396	...	1,008,633	5-9	12,030,412	71-5	16,931,747	3,522,503	20-8	636,779	3-7	2,533,423	15-0

* March 31. † 1921.

NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALASIA, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED 1858.

1918.—Amalgamated with Colonial Bank of Australasia, Limited.

Subscribed.		Paid-up.		Callable.		Reserved.	
£	10s	£	10s	£	10s	£	10s
Ordinary Shares	£2,208,000	£1,380,000	...	Nil	...	£828,000	...
Per Share	£8	£5	...	Nil	...	£3	...
Preference Shares	£620,000	£620,000	...	Nil	...	Nil	...
Per Share	£10	£10	...	Nil	...	Nil	...

Ordinary, September 30, 1921 6 £1,656,000

The net profit for the year ended March 31st last, after deduction of all expenses, including £54,221 for note,

income, and land taxes, amounted to £336,610, which, with balance brought forward from previous year, £50,015, made a total available sum of £386,625, which it was proposed to appropriate as follows: transfer to reserve fund account, £120,000; reduction of bank premises, £20,000; dividend at the rate of 9½ per cent. per annum on preference shares, £58,900; dividend at the rate of 9½ per cent. per annum on ordinary shares, £131,100; leaving to be carried forward a balance of £56,625.

Year Ended March 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.						Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Un-divided Profits.	Notes.	Bills in Circulation, &c.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bank.	Investments.	Bills and Remittances in Transit.	Discounts and Advances.	Real Estate and Premises.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.
1890	143	1,670,000	13-6	103,931	0-9	372,960	3-1	1,612,254	13-2	8,554,428	69-2	12,233,573	1,942,560	15-9	307,100	2-3	1,649,681	13-5
1891	143	1,670,000	13-2	108,258	0-7	384,574	3-0	2,199,795	17-5	8,344,287	65-4	12,706,914	1,259,684	9-9	758,100	6-0	2,063,506	16-2
1892	130	1,670,000	13-0	91,378	0-7	322,170	2-5	1,971,325	15-3	8,818,549	68-5	12,873,220	1,198,968	9-3	811,100	6-3	1,686,656	13-1
1893	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	In process of reconstruction.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1894	130	1,660,642	15-7	35,690	0-3	250,127	2-3	842,180	7-9	7,856,593	73-8	10,645,232	1,773,392	16-6	591,930	5-5	924,776	8-7
1895	113	1,877,784	18-2	18,944	0-2	266,200	2-6	675,494	6-5	7,493,272	72-5	10,331,694	1,687,330	16-4	700,280	6-8	1,668,590	16-1
1900	108	2,030,174	21-6	85,870	0-9	329,222	3-5	779,352	8-3	6,185,617	65-7	9,410,235	1,556,344	16-6	736,210	7-8	645,656	6-8
1905	133	1,603,220	16-9	45,398	0-5	243,939	2-6	1,154,448	12-2	6,447,022	67-8	9,494,027	1,487,595	15-7	727,624	7-7	923,663	9-7
1910	199	1,713,220	12-9	74,983	0-6	330,987	2-5	1,523,994	11-5	9,648,583	72-5	13,291,767	2,235,979	16-8	476,193	3-6	2,078,101	15-7
1911	211	1,743,220	12-1	82,298	0-6	340,101	2-4	1,598,836	11-2	10,554,725	73-7	14,319,180	2,506,844	17-6	513,383	3-6	1,158,069	8-0
1912	211	1,783,220	12-3	127,563	0-9	64,057	0-4	1,184,234	8-1	11,392,613	78-4	14,551,687	3,065,117	21-0	444,314	3-1	1,030,761	7-1
1913	208	1,903,220	14-1	115,061	0-8	46,526	0-3	1,010,265	7-5	10,448,630	77-3	15,521,630	2,353,552	17-4	705,531	5-2	1,205,158	8-9
1914	208	1,963,220	13-4	110,910	0-8	38,981	0-3	1,316,066	9-0	11,282,330	76-5	14,611,807	2,854,452	19-5	567,852	3-9	1,451,385	9-7
1915	229	2,023,220	14-2	108,332	0-8	36,223	0-3	924,405	6-5	11,081,514	78-2	14,173,694	3,298,421	23-2	585,036	4-1	1,490,043	6-7
1916	227	2,063,220	14-2	114,538	0-8	34,690	0-2	1,123,960	7-1	11,239,288	77-1	14,575,697	3,070,983	21-1	377,518	2-6	1,359,889	9-3
1917	208	2,128,220	14-1	91,132	0-6	33,538	0-2	969,046	6-4	11,795,346	78-7	15,017,282	3,727,768	24-8	417,283	2-8	1,567,552	10-3
1918	165	2,173,220	12-4	100,740	0-6	32,576	0-2	1,480,872	8-4	13,823,320	78-4	17,610,728	4,448,101	22-9	1,405,849	8-0	1,632,672	9-2
1919	221	3,090,000	12-7	119,023	0-5	50,088	0-2	958,396	4-0	20,012,106	82-6	24,229,613	3,947,454	16-2	1,811,482	7-5	1,209,869	5-0
1920	219	3,200,000	11-5	130,015	0-5	49,810	0-2	962,908	3-5	23,398,202	84-3	27,740,935	4,544,292	16-4	6,919,615	24-9	1,431,981	5-1
1921	226	3,320,000	11-3	155,625	0-5	49,524	0-2	1,724,232	5-9	24,191,531	82-1	29,441,972	4,952,820	16-8	3,691,962	12-6	1,803,592	6-2

NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1872.

Subscribed.		Paid-up.		Callable.		Reserved.		Market Value.	
£	10s	£	10s	£	10s	£	10s	£	10s
3,000,000	...	1,000,000	...	2,000,000	...	Nil	...	2,300,000	...
Per Share.	£7 10s	Per Share.	£2 10s	Per Share.	£5	Per Share.	Nil	Per Share.	£5 2

The net profit for the year ended March 31st last amounted

to £326,821, making, with the balance brought forward, a total of £396,394. Dividends and bonus at the rate of 14 per cent. for the year absorbed £140,000, and there was reserved for depreciation of investments, £75,000; reserve fund, £20,000; pension and gratuity fund, £10,500; premises, £35,000; leaving £115,894 to be carried forward.

O. MUSTAD & SON
Christiania, NORWAY.

Established 1832.

World-known
Manufacturers and
Exporters of
Fish Hooks,
Horse Shoe Nails,
Wrought Iron Nails,
Axes,
Wool Cards, &c.,
suitable for all Markets.

From
PITMAN'S LIST.

Just Published.

BRITISH FINANCE, 1914-1921.

The result of Investigations and Materials collected by a Committee of the British Association, co-ordinated and brought up to date by

A. H. GIBSON,

Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society, Fellow of the Institute of Bankers.

Edited by A. W. KIRKALDY, M.A., B.Litt.,

Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Commerce, University College, Nottingham.

This record should prove of inestimable value, not only to contemporary investigators, but to economists, bankers, etc., for many generations to come. It sums up work that was commenced in 1915 by a Committee organized by the British Association. Throughout the war period this Committee accumulated a considerable mass of information as to the financial arrangements of the Government, and the course of events connected with Currency and the Exchanges, and the whole has been co-ordinated and brought up to date by Mr. A. H. Gibson, a well-known authority on banking matters, who was responsible for many valuable suggestions to the Government. Mr. Gibson has put into clear and chronological form a very great amount of information, some of which might have been lost, and most of which would have been very difficult to obtain. It is all in this volume readily available and easy to understand in its full significance.

"No praise could be too high for the volume on British Finance, and it is impossible in a brief review even to suggest the wealth of material . . . which has been so skilfully worked together to make this volume."—*G*

National Bank of New Zealand, Limited.—*Con.*

Year Ended March 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.										Per Cent.
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, & at Call & Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Bills Discounted.	Per Cent.	Bills and Notes in Transit and Ad- vances.	Per Cent.	Land & Property, Prom., & Furni- ture, Blanks & Sundries, in- cluding Cover for Acceptances.	Per Cent.	
1890	30	250,000	9.7	18,029	0.7	108,362	4.2	350,863	13.6	1,847,256	71.8	2,574,510	280,078	10.9	...	...	...	...	2,166,884	84.2	127,548	4.9	4.9
1891	34	260,000	9.7	13,696	0.5	114,343	4.2	360,625	13.4	1,941,458	72.2	2,690,122	320,940	11.9	...	...	...	...	2,241,679	83.4	127,503	4.7	4.7
1892	33	235,816	9.2	13,085	0.5	107,545	4.2	606,742	23.5	1,613,609	62.6	2,576,797	396,230	15.4	...	...	...	...	2,053,245	79.7	127,322	4.9	4.9
1893	35	247,384	10.1	16,928	0.7	116,439	4.8	455,265	18.6	1,605,027	65.8	2,441,043	304,075	13.2	...	...	...	...	1,963,796	80.4	126,998	5.2	5.2
1894	33	248,148	10.9	21,425	0.9	110,513	4.8	470,596	20.5	1,434,360	62.9	2,285,048	304,075	13.2	...	...	...	...	1,854,643	81.2	126,330	5.5	5.5
1895	27	249,106	11.4	25,357	1.2	109,822	5.0	265,176	12.2	1,534,641	70.2	2,184,102	358,024	16.6	...	...	...	...	1,699,836	77.6	126,242	5.8	5.8
1900	41	310,000	8.7	40,009	1.1	211,605	6.0	478,821	13.5	2,510,754	70.7	3,551,189	649,024	18.3	68,481	1.9	...	...	2,741,453	77.2	92,231	2.6	2.6
1905	34	460,000	10.5	45,810	1.0	247,126	5.6	415,309	9.5	3,218,481	73.4	4,386,726	873,037	19.9	206,388	4.7	581,275	13.2	2,645,409	60.5	80,617	1.8	1.8
1910	35	750,000	12.7	69,660	1.2	268,559	4.5	536,798	9.9	4,306,295	72.6	5,931,312	1,374,319	23.2	532,178	9.0	674,328	11.4	3,282,772	55.3	67,715	1.1	1.1
1911	39	960,000	15.4	78,004	1.3	272,680	4.4	606,773	9.8	4,296,328	69.1	6,213,785	1,331,565	21.4	443,132	7.1	789,136	12.7	3,578,260	57.6	71,692	1.2	1.2
1912	41	980,000	15.0	84,263	1.3	268,270	4.1	837,349	12.8	4,357,926	66.8	6,527,808	1,317,812	20.1	422,858	6.5	828,950	12.7	3,879,858	59.5	78,330	1.2	1.2
1913	42	1,000,000	15.0	95,756	1.4	257,985	3.9	1,058,780	16.0	4,229,440	63.7	6,641,961	1,041,201	15.6	492,708	7.4	879,973	13.2	4,141,787	62.6	82,232	1.2	1.2
1914	45	1,395,000	20.0	120,817	1.7	255,899	3.7	899,674	12.9	4,304,654	61.7	9,976,044	1,771,137	18.8	522,415	7.5	808,555	11.6	4,338,181	62.9	85,756	1.2	1.2
1915	45	1,415,000	19.0	124,530	1.7	255,899	3.7	899,674	12.9	4,304,654	61.7	9,976,044	1,771,137	18.8	522,415	7.5	808,555	11.6	4,338,181	62.9	85,756	1.2	1.2
1916	45	1,435,000	17.4	113,609	1.6	255,899	3.7	899,674	12.9	4,304,654	61.7	9,976,044	1,771,137	18.8	522,415	7.5	808,555	11.6	4,338,181	62.9	85,756	1.2	1.2
1917	44	1,450,000	16.3	114,254	1.6	255,899	3.7	899,674	12.9	4,304,654	61.7	9,976,044	1,771,137	18.8	522,415	7.5	808,555	11.6	4,338,181	62.9	85,756	1.2	1.2
1918	43	1,465,000	14.7	118,150	1.2	1,702,337	17.1	1,003,237	10.1	5,656,903	56.9	9,945,671	1,487,893	15.0	2,317,686	23.3	550,007	5.5	5,432,079	54.6	158,006	1.6	1.6
1919	43	1,480,000	14.4	144,932	1.4	1,177,271	11.4	951,394	9.3	6,481,558	63.5	10,235,155	2,173,945	21.2	1,413,264	13.8	802,109	7.8	5,705,859	55.8	139,978	1.4	1.4
1920	46	2,000,000	14.8	174,573	1.3	828,009	6.1	1,719,729	12.7	8,856,133	65.1	13,578,444	1,961,566	14.5	3,595,592	26.5	1,050,767	7.8	6,831,051	50.2	139,468	1.0	1.0
1921	49	2,020,000	12.9	226,394	1.4	981,782	6.3	1,129,913	26.3	8,296,492	53.1	15,654,581	1,305,168	8.3	2,136,197	13.6	603,669	3.8	11,413,397	73.0	196,150	1.3	1.3

* Includes discounts.

QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED 1872.

CAPITAL					Market Value.
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.		
£	£	£	£	£	£
800,000	798,003 10s	Nil	Nil	977,550	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£5	£5	Nil	Nil	£6½	

Interminable inscribed deposit stock, £3,091,669.

The net profit for the year ended June 30th last, after

allowing for rebate on bills current, interest accrued on deposits and interminable inscribed deposit stock, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, amounted to £117,541, to which was added £6,165 brought forward from the previous year, making £123,706. A dividend of 10 per cent. absorbed £79,746; £2,000 was contributed to officers' provident fund, and £25,000 was transferred to the reserve fund, leaving £16,959 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.										Per Cent.
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Bills Pay- able to the Government of Queens- land.	Per Cent.	Miscel- laneous Credits, Rebates, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bankers.	Per Cent.	Cash at Call and Short Notice in London.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts, Advances, and Bills in Transit.	Per Cent.	Premises and Sundries.	Per Cent.	
1890	68	1,285,000	12.8	64,171	0.6	*278,661	2.8	497,936	5.0	7,885,930	78.8	10,011,698	1,195,052	11.9	154,575	1.5	309,436	3.1	8,073,215	80.7	279,420	2.8	2.8
1891	68	1,285,000	12.5	56,091	0.5	*302,764	2.9	288,721	2.8	8,379,931	81.3	10,312,507	1,296,953	12.6	105,000	1.2	464,085	4.5	8,151,686	78.9	294,783	2.8	2.8
1892	66	1,285,000	12.8	57,230	0.6	*273,075	2.7	186,249	1.8	8,256,157	82.1	10,057,711	1,247,351	12.4	95,000	0.9	198,554	2.0	8,216,395	81.7	300,411	3.0	3.0
1893	66	609,943	6.3	43,593	0.5	222,000	2.3	524,906	5.4	8,272,759	85.5	9,673,201	1,625,594	16.9	100,000	1.0	42,122	0.4	7,612,468	78.7	293,017	3.0	3.0
1894	66	738,009	7.3	47,618	0.5	242,000	2.4	626,998	6.2	8,419,411	84.6	10,074,036	1,907,824	18.9	170,000	1.7	41,976	0.4	7,669,167	76.2	285,069	2.8	2.8
1895	49	541,394	4.8	12,000	0.2	2,068,326	28.2	279,762	3.8	1,432,703	19.5	7,334,185	1,381,550	18.8	390,000	5.3	4,554,795	62.2	1,007,840	13.7	137,120	1.8	1.8
1900	55	5,571,848	48.0	12,000	0.2	1,377,563	11.7	426,896	3.6	2,395,677	30.6	7,785,984	1,090,307	14.0	385,000	5.0	43,435	0.6	5,538,122	71.0	729,120	9.4	9.4
1905	71	5,589,038	39.1	25,000	0.2	430,489	4.7	476,483	5.2	4,606,614	63.7	11,277,624	1,833,134	20.8	665,000	7.3	134,900	1.5	6,205,241	68.0	285,549	3.2	3.2
1910	72	5,599,163	37.1	36,000	0.4	344,391	3.6	424,070	4.4	5,252,263	54.5	9,655,887	2,411,900	25.0	550,000	5.7	133,800	1.4	6,267,082	64.9	293,095	3.0	3.0
1911	82	3,611,260	37.3	48,159	0.5	258,293	2.7	78,388	0.8	5,700,242	58.7	9,696,342	2,127,039	22.0	365,000	3.8	118,700	1.2	6,788,475	69.9	297,128	3.1	3.1
1912	83	3,635,087	34.7	48,214	0.5	218,293	2.1	83,682	0.8	6,429,747	61.9	10,415,023	2,577,037	24.6	395,000	3.8	118,700	1.1	7,027,240	67.7	297,046	2.8	2.8
1913	83	3,725,669	35.3	50,090	0.5	86,098	0.8	162,150	1.5	6,560,809	61.9	10,584,816	2,361,980	22.4	795,000	7.5	118,700	1.1	7,004,010	66.1	305,126	2.9	2.9
1914	83	3,749,669	32.0	51,746	0.4	...	...	377,465	3.2	7,591,693	64.4	11,770,573	3,963,193	33.6	401,800	3.4	166,200	1.4	6,925,559	58.9	313,821	2.7	2.7
1915	83	3,771,669	34.1	51,398	0.4	...	...	596,921	5.4	6,631,818	60.0	11,051,806	2,290,797	20.6	175,900	1.6	838,700	7.6	7,408,752	67.2	337,657	3.0	3.0
1916	83	3,793,669	32.4	51,896	0.4	...	...	484,016	4.1	7,362,826	63.1	11,692,407	3,034,883	25.9	628,840	5.4	476,980	4.1	7,214,421	61.7	337,283	2.9	2.9
1917	86	3,793,669	29.3	53,070	0.4	...	...	498,511	5.9	8,590,196	66.9	12,935,446	3,615,326	28.0	94,340	0.7	1,343,700	10.4	7,536,405	58.2	345,676	2.7	2.7
1918	86	3,793,669	28.9	53,070	0.4	...	...	895,079	8.9	7,595,085	65.0	13,981,014	4,412,458	31.6	100,000	0.7	610,200	4.4	8,473,103	60.7	365,253	2.6	2.6
1919	86	4,130,520	28.9	53,070	0.4	...	...	895,079	8.9	7,595,085	65.0	13,981,014	4,412,458	31.6	100,000	0.7	610,200	4.4	8,473,103	60.7	365,253	2.6	2.6
1920	90	4,188,325	31.6	26,081	0.2	...	...	570,075	4.3	8,427,076	63.9	13,211,557	3,715,736	28.0	150,000	1.3	1,045,600	7.9	7,999,921	60.2	370,300	2.8	2.8
1921	89	4,214,672	36.5	38,909	0.3	...	...	483,753	4.2	6,854,743	59.0	11,592,077	2,449,749	21.1	150,000	1.3	1,001,319	8.7	7,592,584	65.4	338,425	3.5	3.5

* Notes.

ROYAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1888. London Branch opened June, 1914.

CAPITAL			
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.
£	£	£	£
1,560,000	750,000	810,000	Nil.
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£4	£1 & £4	£3	Nil.

THE UNION BANK OF AUSTRALIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1837.

Subscribed. £	Paid-up. £	Callable. £	Reserved. £	Market Value. £
7,500,000	2,500,000	Nil	5,000,000	5,000,000
Per Share. £75	Per Share. £25	Per Share. Nil	Per Share. £50	Per Share. £12

The net profit for the year ended February 28, 1921, amounted to £598,057, including £81,716 brought forward, Dividend at the rate of 15 per cent. per annum, free of tax, absorbed £375,000, £120,000 was added to the reserve fund, and £20,000 was written off bank premises, leaving £83,057 to be carried forward.

Year Ended February 28.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.																
		Paid-up Capital Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bankers, and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Money at Call & Short Notice in London.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Remitt'g's and Drafts in Transit, Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Premi- ses.	Per Cent.							
1890	89	£	120,379	0.6	£	408,652	2.1	£	2,346,510	12.3	£	13,799,044	72.0	£	19,174,585	2,725,820	14.2	£	405,000	2.1	£	829,343	4.3	£	14,794,310	77.2	£	419,112	2.2
1891	92	2,500,000	12.6	121,003	0.6	447,197	2.3	2,565,795	13.0	14,156,973	71.5	19,790,968	2,569,417	13.0	160,000	0.8	1,197,415	6.0	15,398,299	77.8	465,837	2.4							
1892	108	2,500,000	12.4	101,056	0.5	405,394	2.0	2,488,284	12.3	14,720,484	72.8	20,215,218	2,935,950	14.5	110,000	0.5	1,110,136	5.5	15,597,271	77.2	461,851	2.3							
1893	105	2,500,000	10.4	75,317	0.3	462,880	1.9	2,860,791	11.9	18,118,495	75.5	24,017,483	3,315,606	13.8	907,000	3.8	1,093,613	4.5	18,030,539	75.1	670,725	2.8							
1894	100	2,500,000	10.8	59,744	0.3	405,795	1.7	3,173,108	13.7	16,930,110	73.5	23,068,758	4,402,742	19.0	256,500	1.1	1,005,811	4.3	16,696,733	72.5	706,972	3.1							
1895	96	2,500,000	11.0	51,593	0.2	449,291	2.0	2,576,880	11.4	17,055,564	75.4	22,633,328	4,036,996	17.8	290,000	1.3	897,041	4.0	16,690,607	73.7	718,684	3.2							
1900	104	2,500,000	11.8	122,364	0.5	489,083	2.3	3,076,642	10.9	15,793,602	74.5	21,212,691	3,338,500	15.7	585,000	2.7	1,145,746	5.4	15,412,707	72.7	730,739	3.5							
1905	128	2,555,000	11.7	102,508	0.5	458,740	2.1	1,851,562	8.5	16,869,958	77.2	21,837,768	3,069,435	14.0	1,365,000	6.2	1,584,023	7.2	15,143,415	69.5	675,895	3.1							
1910	161	2,810,000	10.7	144,328	0.6	470,997	1.8	1,559,150	5.9	21,349,025	81.0	26,334,100	4,042,314	15.3	1,140,000	4.3	1,818,368	6.9	18,784,357	71.3	549,061	0.2							
1914	181	3,960,000	13.4	185,510	0.6	183,408	0.6	1,714,216	5.8	23,538,534	79.6	29,581,668	4,953,180	16.7	1,805,000	6.1	2,020,433	6.8	20,298,840	68.7	504,215	1.7							
1915	185	3,960,000	13.3	210,510	0.7	274,937	0.9	1,747,446	5.9	23,594,898	79.2	29,787,791	5,500,872	18.4	764,081	2.6	2,507,759	8.4	20,514,749	68.9	500,330	1.7							
1916	182	3,960,000	12.9	211,374	0.7	334,051	1.2	1,253,323	6.9	24,055,785	78.4	30,684,533	5,150,634	16.8	320,000	1.0	1,658,894	5.4	23,059,580	75.2	495,425	1.6							
1917	182	3,980,000	12.8	213,133	0.7	877,405	2.8	1,936,814	6.2	24,227,108	77.5	31,234,460	4,874,967	15.6	1,120,000	3.6	1,668,718	5.3	23,080,274	73.9	490,501	1.6							
1918	182	4,025,000	12.7	214,293	0.7	432,599	1.4	2,032,494	6.4	24,975,570	78.8	31,679,956	6,152,030	19.4	880,000	2.8	1,655,878	5.2	22,505,502	71.1	485,546	1.5							
1919	180	4,070,000	12.2	218,614	0.7	540,453	1.6	2,404,028	7.2	26,136,296	78.5	35,369,391	5,263,391	15.8	605,000	1.8	2,017,396	6.0	25,018,040	75.0	460,564	1.4							
1920	180	5,130,000	12.5	281,716	0.7	628,667	1.5	1,128,594	7.6	1,840,563	77.7	41,009,458	5,617,685	13.7	1,140,000	2.8	2,034,982	4.9	31,779,234	77.5	537,549	1.1							
1921	182	5,250,000	13.2	270,557	0.7	676,909	1.7	4,003,958	10.1	29,531,558	74.3	39,132,982	7,035,817	17.6	1,055,000	2.7	2,016,738	5.1	29,208,929	75.5	416,498	1.1							

(3) CANADIAN BANKS.

BANK OF MONTREAL.

ESTABLISHED 1817.

Acquired Bank of British North America, October, 1918.

Subscribed. \$	Paid-up. \$	Callable. \$	Reserved. \$
22,000,000	22,000,000	..	22,000,000
Per Share. \$100	Per Share. \$100	Per Share. ..	Per Share. \$100

Statement of the result of the business of the bank for the half-year ended April 30, 1921:—Balance of profit and

loss account, October 30, 1920, £250,370; profits for the half-year ended April 30, 1921, after deducting charges of management and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, £382,015; quarterly dividend, 3 per cent., paid March 1, 1921, £132,000; quarterly dividend, 3 per cent., payable June 1, 1921, £132,000; provision for war tax on banknote circulation to April 30th, £22,000; bank premises £40,000; balance of profit and loss carried forward, £306,385.

(Dollars converted to sterling at \$5 to £1.)

Year Ended April 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Balances Due to Other Banks in Canada, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and Due by Agencies.	Per Cent.	Cash at Call and Short Notice in G. Britain & U.S.A.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Premises and Sundries.	Per Cent.
1890..	353	698,631	38.9	283,947	3.0	1,083,963	11.4	56,826	0.6	4,357,891	46.1	9,486,258	1,023,591	10.8	..	..	272,877	2.9	8,066,502	85.0	123,288	1.3
1895..	393	698,631	31.0	291,436	2.5	875,540	7.4	1,068	..	7,004,836	59.1	11,871,511	4,296,717	36.0	..	..	476,464	4.0	6,975,042	58.9	123,288	1.1
1900..	473	904,110	24.0	211,519	1.3	1,266,092	7.8	3,195	..	10,817,592	66.9	16,202,508	1,374,385	8.5	..	..	490,892	3.0	14,194,369	87.6	142,858	0.9
1905..	674	931,508	17.8	280,699	1.0	1,686,328	6.1	8,888	..	20,857,909	75.1	27,765,302	3,845,801	13.8	5,671,544	20.4	1,672,115	6.0	16,407,095	59.2	168,747	0.6
1910..	1515	424,657	11.3	214,343	0.4	2,457,436	5.1	19,170	..	40,066,652	83.2	48,172,258	7,560,273	15.7	16,429,641	34.1	2,683,375	5.6	21,375,681	44.3	123,288	0.3
1913..	1816	400,000	12.6	290,637	0.6	2,885,899	5.7	16,732	..	41,293,741	81.1	50,887,009	8,446,732	16.6	12,776,135	25.1	2,879,549	5.7	25,984,593	51.1	800,000	1.6
1914..	1826	400,000	12.2	331,879	0.6	2,687,763	5.1	650,298	1.2	42,521,344	80.9	52,591,284	6,008,831	11.4	19,441,317	37.0	2,465,764	4.7	23,840,873	45.3	834,499	1.6
1915..	1806	400,000	11.1	362,587	0.6	2,867,699	5.0	2,103,896	3.6	46,178,353	79.7	57,912,535	12,495,486	21.6	15,558,496	26.5	3,234,813	5.6	25,058,332	43.3	1,765,408	3.0
1916..	1816	400,000	8.2	376,717	0.5	5,587,212	4.6	1,998,880	2.6	65,721,531	84.1	78,084,340	18,055,113	23.1	6,204,309	7.9	22,984,997	28.7	31,380,775	39.0	1,380,775	1.8
1917..	1836	400,000	8.2	424,032	0.5	4,378,207	5.6	755,589	1.0	65,403,469	84.7	77,361,377	19,352,370	25.2	22,831,378	29.5	11,817,137	15.2	21,943,458	28.1	1,417,034	1.8
1918..	1846	400,000	7.5	470,114	0.5	5,669,922	6.6	1,173,022	1.4	71,551,361	84.0	85,264,419	22,094,371	25.9	22,452,801	26.2	13,777,642	16.1	25,564,202	30.2	1,375,403	1.6
1919..	1858	400,000	8.2	453,731	0.5	8,202,217	8.4	1,683,300	1.7	79,514,991	81.2	97,854,239	20,710,236	21.2	17,681,043	18.2	16,308,350	16.7	40,830,280	41.5	2,324,330	2.4
1920..	3118	800,000	7.0	539,915	0.5	8,025,732	7.0	3,642,941	3.2	94,021,439	82.5	114,230,027	22,245,890	19.5	22,763,019	20.0	11,485,118	10.1	54,797,788	47.8	2,938,212	2.6
1921..	3208	800,000	8.7	440,429	0.4	7,014,061	6.9	1,865,311	1.8	83,320,188	82.2	101,439,989	22,882,294	22.5	16,022,038	15.8	11,571,182	11.4	48,860,354	48.2	2,104,121	2.1

BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA.

(Incorporated 1832.)

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital stock paid in	9,700,000	Current coin	13,002,786
Reserve fund	18,000,000	Dominion notes	21,126,075
Balance of profits, as per profit and loss account	982,595	Notes of other banks	3,469,230
Dividends declared and unpaid	390,834	Cheques on other banks	10,190,090
Notes of the bank in circulation	21,004,638	Balances due by other banks in Canada	350,000
Deposits not bearing interest	\$39,264,930	Balances due by banks and banking correspondents in the United Kingdom	3,873,993
Deposits bearing interest, including interest accrued to date	145,480,915	Balances due by banks and banking correspondents elsewhere than in Canada and the United Kingdom	2,998,271
Balances due to other banks in Canada	1,317,463	Deposit in the central gold reserves	12,750,000
Balances due to banks and banking correspondents in the United Kingdom	141,632	Dominion and Provincial Government securities, not exceeding market value	13,343,227
Balances due to banks and banking correspondents elsewhere than in Canada and the United Kingdom	1,606,231	Canadian municipal securities and British, foreign, and colonial public securities other than Canadian, not exceeding market value	20,232,227
Bills payable	409,729	Railway and other bonds, debentures and stocks, not exceeding market value	3,419,407
Acceptances under letters of credit	1,405,416	Demand loans in Canada secured by grain and other staple commodities	15,183,995
		Call and demand loans elsewhere than in Canada	16,528,512
		Call and demand loans in Canada secured by bonds, debentures, and stocks	6,012,415
		Deposit with the Minister of Finance for the purposes of the circulation fund	492,822
		Loans to Governments and municipalities	2,445,215
		Other current loans and discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest)	73,103,481
		Other current loans and discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest)	13,942,228
		Liabilities of customers under letters of credit, as per contra	1,405,416
		Overdue debts, estimated loss provided for	107,294
		Bank premises at not more than cost, less amount written off	5,202,065
		Real estate other than bank premises	133,901
		Other assets not included in the foregoing	391,655

239,704,383

239,704,383

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK,

(REGISTERED IN JAPAN.)

LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1880.

Capital Subscribed & Fully Paid - Yen 100,000,000
Reserve Fund - - - - - „ 57,000,000

Head Office - - - YOKOHAMA.

THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE.

INCORPORATED 1867.

CAPITAL.				Market Price Per Share, Sept. 30, 1921. £44½
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
\$	\$	\$	\$	
15,000,000	15,000,000	Nil.	15,000,000	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	
\$100	\$100	Nil.	\$100	

(Converted at par of exchange.)

The net profits for the year ended November 29, 1920, amounted to £972,735, including the balance brought forward from the previous account, £293,370. Dividends amounting to 12 per cent. were paid, absorbing £369,863, and a bonus of 1 per cent., £30,822; transferred to pension fund, £30,822; written off bank premises, £102,740; taxes, £71,918; leaving £366,571 to be carried forward.

Year Ended November 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Undivided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Due to Other Banks, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and Due by Agents.	Per Cent.	Call and Short Loans.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Real Estate, Premises, and Sundries.	Per Cent.
		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
1901..	66	2,000,000	14.2	106,590	0.8	1,453,255	10.3	227,559	1.6	10,335,873	73.1	14,123,277	1,486,493	10.5	1,738,286	12.3	1,940,340	13.8	8,616,271	61.0	341,887	2.4
1905..	149	2,979,452	14.7	84,067	0.4	1,795,617	9.0	72,804	0.3	15,282,224	75.6	20,214,164	3,148,579	15.5	2,312,122	11.4	1,255,706	6.2	13,212,954	65.5	284,803	1.4
1906..	173	3,082,192	15.2	113,848	0.5	1,868,248	8.1	337,018	1.4	17,908,056	76.8	23,331,362	3,459,731	14.9	1,849,602	7.9	1,362,104	5.9	16,295,184	69.7	364,741	1.6
1907..	173	3,287,672	15.0	140,292	0.5	1,897,760	8.1	314,238	1.4	17,885,149	76.5	23,359,631	3,641,754	15.6	2,608,676	11.1	1,094,113	4.7	15,631,494	67.0	383,594	1.6
1908..	191	3,082,672	13.0	74,543	0.3	1,980,996	8.0	266,464	1.0	19,828,514	77.5	25,379,985	5,627,240	20.1	1,602,616	6.2	2,333,405	8.7	16,697,372	54.7	474,974	1.5
1909..	216	3,287,671	10.7	189,975	0.6	2,122,072	7.0	258,810	0.9	26,061,833	80.8	32,271,168	5,129,786	16.0	3,012,786	12.1	1,833,753	5.6	20,688,405	64.1	706,438	2.2
1910..	230	3,493,151	10.8	110,483	0.3	2,100,607	6.5	505,094	1.6	30,500,524	81.3	37,477,394	8,290,103	22.1	3,087,394	8.2	2,469,060	6.6	22,808,139	60.9	822,698	2.2
1911..	339	4,408,582	11.8	101,579	0.3	2,466,709	6.6	—	—	40,606,328	80.1	50,665,333	9,118,533	18.0	3,654,051	7.2	3,096,394	6.1	33,748,212	66.6	1,048,143	2.1
1912..	366	5,550,685	11.2	267,741	0.5	3,374,561	6.7	766,018	1.5	41,973,303	78.6	53,430,970	9,626,114	18.0	5,294,160	9.9	4,922,839	9.2	32,261,505	60.6	1,208,352	2.3
1913..	373	5,856,164	10.9	187,438	0.4	3,214,299	6.0	2,129,566	4.1	49,603,833	80.1	59,661,833	10,058,038	16.7	6,448,321	10.7	2,723,838	4.6	33,748,212	56.1	1,872,139	3.6
1914..	379	5,856,164	11.6	338,115	0.7	3,070,389	6.1	3,856,343	7.6	37,296,331	74.0	50,417,342	11,455,898	22.3	6,448,321	12.5	2,723,838	5.3	28,596,342	56.1	1,872,139	3.6
1915..	376	5,856,165	11.4	303,343	0.4	3,369,433	6.5	2,057,106	4.0	39,970,495	77.7	51,456,542	13,479,374	22.6	7,369,822	12.4	5,727,808	9.7	30,871,757	52.3	1,817,180	3.0
1916..	376	5,856,164	9.9	273,165	0.5	3,957,400	6.7	1,940,277	3.3	47,238,935	79.6	59,265,941	15,833,176	22.5	6,891,322	9.7	11,483,016	16.2	33,853,924	47.8	2,712,596	3.8
1917..	381	5,856,164	8.3	381,591	0.5	4,930,530	7.0	2,793,957	3.9	56,799,792	80.3	70,762,034	18,130,127	20.0	8,601,791	9.5	14,808,400	16.4	44,648,617	49.8	4,285,867	4.7
1918..	380	6,164,384	6.8	404,762	0.4	6,489,800	7.2	4,848,976	5.4	72,566,880	80.2	90,474,802	20,474,802	18.1	10,127,200	10.4	16,986,310	17.2	48,930,296	49.6	4,620,582	4.7
1919..	508	6,164,384	6.3	386,658	0.4	6,174,177	6.3	4,954,037	5.0	80,877,772	82.0	98,557,028	22,089,253	22.4	11,447,215	11.6	8,198,298	8.3	53,195,804	53.8	3,855,860	3.9
1920..	531	6,164,384	6.2	490,677	0.5	6,311,695	6.4	4,885,731	4.9	80,933,943	82.0	98,786,430	22,089,253	22.4	11,447,215	11.6	8,198,298	8.3	53,195,804	53.8	3,855,860	3.9

THE COLONIAL BANK.

INCORPORATED 1836.

CAPITAL.				Market Value of "A" Shares, £650,000
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
£	£	£	£	
"A" 2,000,000	600,000	400,000	1,000,000	
"B" 1,000,000	300,000	200,000	500,000	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£20	£6	£4	£10	£6½

The net profits for the half-year ended June 30th last amounted to £75,601, which, with the balance of £39,015 brought forward, made an available sum of £114,616. A dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year was recommended, absorbing £45,000, £30,000 was transferred to provision for bad and doubtful debts, and £10,000 to staff pension fund, leaving £29,616 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabili- ties or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital Reserves.	Per Cent.	Undivided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Bills Payable, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, & at Call and Short Notice.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Bills Receiv- able, &c.	Per Cent.	Bills in Transit, Discounts, Advances, &c.	Per Cent.	Prem- ises, &c	Per Cent.
		£		£		£		£		£			£		£		£		£		£	
1890..	13	750,000	16.0	58,724	1.3	426,346	9.3	1,463,103	31.9	1,913,503	41.5	4,591,676	923,192	20.1	970,643	21.1	1,300,043	28.4	1,372,798	29.9	25,000	0.5
1895..	14	750,000	15.8	37,660	0.8	452,672	9.5	1,794,964	37.7	1,724,346	36.2	4,759,642	715,792	15.0	602,498	12.7	1,464,297	30.7	1,532,055	41.1	25,000	0.5
1900..	13	750,000	18.9	26,597	0.7	439,871	11.1	794,592	20.0	1,351,054	33.3	3,962,114	575,566	14.5	1,038,695	27.6	1,035,101	26.0	1,227,752	31.3	25,000	0.6
1905..	13	750,000	18.8	41,000	1.0	439,676	11.0	743,256	18.6	1,351,054	33.3	3,962,114	669,750	16.8	1,064,521	26.3	1,083,519	27.3	1,140,998	28.4	50,000	1.4
1910..	13	750,000	17.6	54,357	1.4	451,967	10.6	539,471	12.6	2,454,574	57.8	4,250,369	917,823	21.6	1,285,965	30.3	979,368	23.0	1,017,213	23.9	50,000	1.2
1913..	14	750,000	18.7	57,057	1.4	473,648	11.8	488,114	12.2	2,433,922	55.9	4,012,741	478,296	12.0	1,222,897	27.8	974,100	24.2	1,357,448	34.0	80,000	2.0
1914..	14	750,000	18.7	53,682	1.3	414,225	10.4	518,303	12.9	2,276,514	56.7	4,012,724	676,805	16.8	1,098,554	27.3	923,580	23.0	1,233,785	30.9	80,000	2.0
1915..	15	750,000	19.1	66,890	1.7	429,638	10.9	475,389	12.1	2,203,247	56.2	3,925,164	626,142	16.0	1,114,689	28.4	913,568	23.4	1,190,765	30.2	80,000	2.0
1916..	19	750,000	14.0	60,501	1.1	496,855	9.3	672,477	12.6	3,346,066	63.0	5,325,899	606,364	11.4	907,498	17.0	1,799,747	33.6	1,729,791	32.7	282,499	5.5
1917..	27	800,000	11.9	49,833	0.7	549,777	8.1	1,178,930	17.4	4,169,386	61.9	6,748,526	665,367	9.9	695,352	10.3	2,487,459	36.8	2,235,111	33.1	664,967	9.9
1918..	27	998,486	11.5	64,489	0.7	571,438	6.6	821,428	9.5	6,238,045	71.2	8,593,886	727,161	10.7	1,491,452	17.0	with discnts.		5,273,415		5,057,001	
1919..	51	1,250,000	11.2	93,117	0.8	706,453	6.3	1,009,743	15.2	7,411,097	65.5	11,517,588	1,316,622	10.1	1,284,512	11.5	1,284,512	11.5	6,601,810	46.0	1,383,173	12.4
1920..	58	1,275,000	7.5	116,616	0.8	1,009,743	6.6	1,009,743	6.6	3,339,405	19.8	11,131,716	1,491,053	8.7	1,610,956	9.5	1,610,956	9.5	8,060,219	47.9	2,589,602	15.3
1921..	58	1,300,000	9.5	114,616	0.8	1,178,120	5.5	2,874,975	20.9	8,710,604	63.3	13,759,315	1,157,284	8.4	847,995	6.1	3,089,901	22.4	6,308,043	46.0	2,356,092	17.1

THE DOMINION BANK.

ESTABLISHED 1871.

CAPITAL.				Market Value of "A" Shares, £1,438,356
Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	
£	£	£	£	
1,232,877	1,232,877	Nil.	Nil.	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
\$100	\$100	Nil.	Nil.	

The profit for the half-year ended June 30th last was £101,999, to which is added the balance of £133,872 brought forward from the previous year, making £235,871, out of which dividends at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum have been paid, absorbing £72,000, and leaving £163,871 to be carried forward.

(Dollars converted at rate of £1 = \$4.866.)

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes.	Per Cent.	Miscel- laneous Credits, Rebate, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand and at Bank.	Per Cent.	Loans on Call.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Buildings & Sundries, including Deposit for Note Issue.	Per Cent.
		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$			\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	
1911..	85	1,800,000	14.1	103,643	0.8	734,029	5.8	28,785	0.2	10,116,962	79.1	12,785,419	2,641,924	20.7	1,247,978	9.8	1,291,612	10.1	7,164,189	56.0	437,716	3.4
1912..	92	2,167,640	14.9	152,248	1.1	949,266	6.5	52,532	0.4	11,217,322	77.2	14,539,022	2,820,890	19.3	1,434,149	9.9	1,337,954	9.2	8,344,657	67.4	601,325	4.8
1913..	97	2,567,662	16.3	159,829	1.0	1,026,048	6.6	246,748	1.8	11,823,266	78.2	15,644,782	3,036,969	19.9	1,036,447	6.6	1,417,023	9.1	9,707,366	62.2	861,530	6.4
1914..	97	2,597,662	16.3	189,493	1.2	729,000	4.5	51,682	0.3	11,546,789	75.6	15,489,965	2,899,980	18.4	1,384,182	8.8	1,185,764	7.5	9,295,997	58.8	1,024,101	6.6
1915..	92	2,600,000	16.8	105,262	0.7	779,479	5.0	451,682	2.9	11,546,789	74.6	14,833,212	3,124,495	20.2	1,840,079	11.9	1,952,423	7.7	9,635,657	51.5	1,359,558	8.1
1916..	87	2,600,000	14.6	117,122	0.7	1,032,440	5.8	607,417	3.4	13,421,558	75.5	17,778,537	3,244,622	18.2	1,671,497	9.4	2,524,873	14.2	9,001,852	50.7	1,335,687	7.7
1917..	85	2,600,000	13.4	133,363	0.7	1,350,944	6.9	450,391	2.3	14,877,670	76.7	19,412,368	4,267,577	21.9	1,545,226	7.9	3,341,332	17.2	8,974,488	46.4	1,283,745	6.6
1917..	87	2,671,323	11.9	118,075	0.5	1,935,140	8.6	928,781	4.1	16,838,651	74.9	22,486,879	5,617,220	25.0	1,658,238	7.0	4,662,580	20.9	9,382,933	41.6	1,255,398	5.6
1917..	108	2,671,233	9.8	129,491	0.5	2,025,726	7.4	2,858,186	10.5	13,748,160	71.8	27,432,796	5,865,749	21.3	1,984,672	7.2	5,209,459	19.1	10,050,299	36.9	1,260,299	4.6
1918..	107	2,671,233	9.8	122,013	0.5	1,957,358	6.6	1,813,409	6.2	22,893,299	77.6	29,487,512	6,555,676	22.3	1,887,286	6.4	4,887,286	16.6	11,545,439	40.2	1,433,822	4.8
1920..	121	2,671,233	9.9	181,524	0.7	2,012,497	7.0	2,801,643	9.7	21,134,057	73.6	28,800,955	5,876,219	20.2	2,921,569	10.1	7,749,680	13.0	14,452,102	50.3	1,800,984	6.1
1921..	127	2,600,000	10.3	200,117	0.8	1,912,238	7.0	2,065,592	7.5	20,065,592	75.8	28,183,687	5,146,008	20.5	2,171,203	8.6	4,033,824	16.0	12,442,213	49.4	1,390,433	5.0

MERCHANTS BANK OF CANADA.

BALANCE-SHEET—April 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital stock paid in	10,500,000	Current coin	4,198,129
Reserve fund	9,450,000	Deposits in the central gold reserves	4,200,000
Dividends declared and unpaid	406,565	Domestic notes	9,571,913
Balance of profits, as per profit and loss account	233,375	Notes of other banks	1,242,754
Notes of the bank in circulation	13,918,970	Cheques on other banks	8,604,047
Deposits not bearing interest	28,733,832	Deposits due by banks and banking correspondents in the United Kingdom	6,626
Deposits bearing interest (including interest accrued to date of statement)	120,904,549	Deposits due by banks and banking correspondents elsewhere than in Canada and the United Kingdom	334,180
Deposits due to other banks in Canada	4,766,001	Deposits due by banks and banking correspondents elsewhere than in Canada and the United Kingdom	1,783,399
Deposits due to other banks and banking correspondents in the United Kingdom and foreign countries	507,108	Government securities, not exceeding market value	11,039,326
Bills payable	142,907	Railway and other bonds, debentures, and stocks, not exceeding market value	5,020,059
Acceptances under letters of credit	744,102	Canadian municipal securities and British, foreign, and colonial public securities other than Canadian	13,153,758
Liabilities not included in the foregoing	—	Call loans in Canada on bonds, debentures and stocks	7,009,031
		Call loans elsewhere than in Canada	3,164,159
		Current loans and discounts in Canada (less rebate of interest)	\$109,183,593
		Loans to cities, towns, municipalities and school districts	3,085,603
		Current loans and discounts elsewhere than in Canada (less rebate of interest)	112,269,196
		Liabilities of customers under letters of credit, as per contra	1,449,019
		Real estate other than bank premises	744,102
		Overdue debts, estimated loss provided for	612,923
		Bank premises at not more than cost (less amounts written off and after crediting amount received in respect of premises transferred to The Merchants Realty Corporation, Limited)	340,046
		Deposits with the Minister for the purposes of the circulation fund	4,220,786
		Other assets not included in the foregoing	450,000
			853,956
			190,367,409

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA.

Incorporated in 1869 as Merchants' Bank of Halifax. Name changed in 1901. Absorbed Quebec Bank, October 1916.

Authorised.	Paid-up.	Callables.	Reserved.
\$25,000,000	\$20,134,010	\$NIL	\$20,134,010
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
\$100	\$100	\$NIL	\$100

The net profits for the twelve months ending November 30, 1920, after deducting charges of management, accrued interest on deposits, full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, rebate of interest on unmatured bills, were £850,730; making with the amount brought forward a total of £1,070,013, appropriated as follows: dividend at 12 per cent. per annum and bonus of 2 per cent., £511,168; transferred to officers' pension fund, £20,000; written off bank premises account, £80,000; war tax on circulation, £36,059; transferred to reserve fund, £313,401; balance of profit and loss account carried forward, £109,385.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Year ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.
1910	180	1,640,000	14.3
1911	207	1,661,454	12.0
1912	340	1,824,000	13.4
1913	372	1,824,000	13.4
1914	381	1,824,000	13.4
1915	367	1,824,000	12.1
1916	419	1,912,000	9.7
1917	422	1,912,000	8.0
1918	568	1,912,000	6.8
1919	633	1,912,000	6.4
1920	721	1,912,000	6.8

UNION BANK OF CANADA.

Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Reserved Liability.
\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
\$20	\$20	\$20

PROGRESS OF UNION BANK OF CANADA DURING THE LAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

Year	Capital	Reserve Fund	Total Assets
May 31, 1895	1,200,000	280,000	4,904,128
May 31, 1900	2,000,000	500,000	6,573,637
May 31, 1905	2,500,000	1,100,000	16,533,876
May 31, 1910	4,000,000	2,400,000	37,409,681
Nov. 30, 1915	5,000,000	3,400,000	72,890,765
Nov. 30, 1916	5,000,000	3,400,000	89,267,789
Nov. 30, 1917	5,000,000	3,400,000	109,040,228
Nov. 30, 1918	5,000,000	3,400,000	117,876,962
Nov. 30, 1919	5,000,000	3,400,000	153,181,451
Nov. 30, 1920	5,000,000	3,400,000	174,989,057

(Dollars converted at rate of \$5 to £1.)

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Year ended November 30.	Number of Branches.	Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.
1911	285	1,000,000	7.2
1912	312	1,000,000	6.2
1913	328	1,000,000	6.1
1914	338	1,000,000	5.5
1915	357	1,000,000	4.6
1916	372	1,000,000	3.5
1917	381	1,000,000	2.5
1918	381	1,000,000	1.5
1919	381	1,000,000	0.5
1920	381	1,000,000	0.5



THE
DISTRICT BANK
The Manchester & Liverpool District
Banking Company Limited



Paid-up Capital... £1,896,000
Reserve Fund... £1,550,000

Deposits... £57,935,895
Total Assets... £61,738,332

30th JUNE, 1921.

Head Office: SPRING GARDENS, MANCHESTER.

Foreign Department: { 13, Spring Gardens, Manchester.
3, Water Street, Liverpool.

London Office: 75, Cornhill, E.C.3. Liverpool Office: Water Street.
And 340 Branches and Sub-Branches in Lancashire, Cheshire, Staffordshire,
Shropshire, Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Cumberland, Westmorland
and North Wales.

Colonial and Foreign Banking Business Transacted. The Bank acts as Trustee or Executor.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

HEAD OFFICE - SYDNEY.

Guaranteed by the Australian Commonwealth
Government.

Sir DENISON MILLER, K.C.M.G.,
Governor.

JAMES KELL,
Deputy-Governor.

BRANCHES IN

The Principal Cities and Towns of Australia
and at

36-41 New Broad Street, E.C., and Australia House, Strand, W.C.,
LONDON.

Agents and Correspondents throughout the World.

BANKING AND EXCHANGE BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION TRANSACTED.

Bankers to:

GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.
GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND.
GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.
GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF TASMANIA.

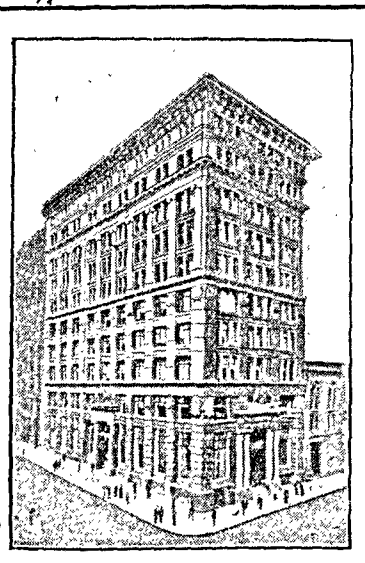
SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.

Branches in the Chief Centres and 3,085 Agencies at
Post Offices throughout Australia.

ON 31st DECEMBER, 1920:

Savings Bank balances	£35,306,956
General Bank balances	27,153,311
Note Issue Department	58,972,537
Other Items	13,527,765
Total	£134,960,569

LONDON BRANCH: 36-41 NEW BROAD STREET, E.C.
C. A. B. CAMPION, London Manager.



Head Office:
Sydney, New South Wales.

(4) INDIAN BANKS.

ALLIANCE BANK OF SIMLA, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	Rs.		Rs.
Capital—		Loans, cash credits, and demand advances	9,26,17,084
Issued—35,000 ordinary shares of Rs.100 each,		Bills receivable	1,06,84,193
fully paid up	Rs.35,00,000	Bank premises, under value	Rs.79,70,250
53,815 preference shares of Rs.100 each, fully		Saves, furniture, stationery, and stamps	6,34,362
paid up	53,81,500		86,04,612
Reserve fund—		4% Government of India paper at par	60,00,000
14% per annum to December 31, 1920,		5% War Bonds, 1923, 5%, 4%, and 3% Govern-	
Rs.2,45,000; interim dividend paid on pre-		ment paper Municipal Port Trust and other	
ference shares at 6% per annum to Decem-		debentures and stocks at or under market	
ber 31, 1920, Rs.1,61,531		value subject to special reserve per contra	2,26,28,665
		Interest accrued on above investments	5,50,534
			2,91,79,199
Fixed deposits	Rs.9,48,81,909		
Current accounts	6,79,12,661		
	16,27,94,570		
Bills payable	68,71,222		
Profit and loss account—			
Balance, as per last balance-sheet	Rs.3,13,931		
Add profit for current year	12,35,472		
	15,49,423		
Deduct—			
Interim dividend paid on ordinary shares at			
14% per annum to December 31, 1920,			
Rs.2,45,000; interim dividend paid on pre-			
ference shares at 6% per annum to Decem-			
ber 31, 1920, Rs.1,61,531	4,06,531		
	11,42,892		
	18,49,90,184		

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED 1853.

Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	Market Value.
3,000,000	3,000,000	Nil	3,000,000	8,775,000
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£5	£5	Nil	£5	£148

The accounts for the year ended December 31st last showed a net profit, after providing for bad and doubtful

debts, of £849,601, inclusive of £172,830 brought forward from the previous year. The interim dividend at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum absorbed £140,000; the directors proposed to pay a final dividend at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, together with a bonus of 6s 3d per share, making 20½ per cent. for the whole year, free of income-tax; to place £100,000 to the reserve fund; to write off premises account, £100,000; to add £35,000 to the officers' superannuation fund and to carry forward the balance of £209,601.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.												Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.							
		Capital and Reserves.		Un- divided Profits.	Notes.	Acceptances, Bills Payable, Rebate, &c.		Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Investments.	Per Cent.		Bills of Exchange.	Per Cent.	Dis- counts and Loans.	Per Cent.	Buildings and Sundries, including Cover for Acceptance's	Per Cent.		
		Per Cent.	Per Cent.			Per Cent.	Per Cent.														Per Cent.	Per Cent.
		£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%	£	%			
1890	17	1,050,000	6.6	95,105	0.6	680,373	4.3	7,215,503	45.3	6,882,216	43.2	15,923,197		2,864,396	17.9	757,334	4.8	12,238,004	76.9	63,463	0.4	
1895	20	1,125,000	9.6	74,358	0.6	542,617	4.6	2,789,773	23.7	7,237,200	61.5	11,768,948		1,849,989	15.7	879,131	7.5	4,560,303	38.7	3,900,442	33.2	
1900	22	1,325,000	9.1	111,533	0.8	734,684	5.0	3,210,267	22.0	9,175,272	63.1	14,566,756		3,594,718	24.7	1,324,966	9.0	4,424,101	30.4	4,518,358	31.1	
1905	27	1,675,000	8.7	277,112	1.4	538,752	3.0	5,045,693	26.4	11,585,691	60.5	19,122,248		3,364,867	17.6	2,143,638	11.2	5,549,672	29.0	6,841,753	35.8	
1910	30	2,800,000	12.1	276,364	1.2	647,993	3.0	6,017,118	22.0	17,128,433	59.0	27,943,396		3,688,880	16.0	2,099,239	9.1	7,148,577	31.1	8,439,197	36.7	
1913	35	2,900,000	10.6	375,254	1.4	822,591	3.0	6,017,118	22.0	17,128,433	59.0	27,943,396		3,688,117	14.7	2,130,864	7.8	6,721,637	24.7	11,394,499	41.7	
1914	35	3,000,000	11.2	396,334	1.5	911,566	3.4	3,849,742	14.4	18,617,883	69.5	26,775,515		5,903,941	22.0	2,424,806	15.8	6,125,867	22.9	8,423,851	31.5	
1915	35	3,000,000	10.1	399,205	1.3	978,137	3.3	3,719,008	12.5	21,548,506	72.8	29,644,856		5,874,967	19.8	3,222,960	14.6	9,498,469	31.9	8,443,060	28.6	
1916	37	3,000,000	9.0	427,466	1.3	1,019,069	3.1	6,240,211	18.7	22,704,096	67.9	33,330,842		5,919,707	17.8	4,048,307	12.1	12,063,093	36.2	9,601,277	28.7	
1917	37	3,100,000	8.5	476,261	1.3	925,992	2.6	3,582,031	9.9	28,042,149	77.7	36,126,433		8,739,375	24.7	4,339,977	12.0	4,337,903	12.0	16,589,602	46.1	
1918	35	3,200,000	6.7	492,483	1.2	1,568,263	3.3	8,666,526	17.9	33,777,276	70.9	47,604,548		6,748,302	14.2	4,261,264	9.0	22,244,695	46.6	12,634,653	26.6	
1919	36	4,900,000	7.1	531,830	0.8	1,806,095	2.6	13,571,600	20.0	47,932,170	69.5	68,741,695		14,607,720	21.3	6,436,330	9.4	26,535,499	38.8	17,561,394	25.3	
1920	37	6,500,000	9.2	709,601	1.0	2,837,818	4.0	12,182,991	17.2	48,702,334	68.6	70,932,744		11,126,378	15.8	4,886,091	6.9	21,131,473	29.9	28,585,931	40.1	

* Includes Treasury Bills.

EASTERN BANK, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1909.

CAPITAL		Reserve Liability		Market Value.	
Subscribed.	Called-up.	of Shareholders.			
£	£	£	£	£	£
2,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000		1,387,000	
Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.	Per Share.
£10	£5	£5	£7½	£7½	£7½

The net profits for the year to December 31, 1920, after providing for contingencies and including the balance brought forward from the last account, amounted to £151,314. Out of this sum the directors recommended the payment of a dividend for the year at the rate of 9 per cent per annum, less income-tax, absorbing £90,000; placing £40,304 to the reserve fund, and carrying forward the balance of £31,010 to the next account.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.												Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.											
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Bills Pay- able (in- cluding ac- ceptances).	Per Cent.	Miscel- laneous Credits, &c.	Per Cent.	Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Per Cent.	Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and in Transit.		Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Bills Receiv- able.	Per Cent.	Dis- counts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Sundries.	Per Cent.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£				
1980	2	400,000	17.9	4,762	0.2	182,018	8.1	480,598	21.6	1,166,190	52.2	2,233,568	418,323	18.7	140,025	6.3	493,644	22.1	1,150,535	51.5	31,041	1.4				
1911	2	400,000	13.6	25,173	0.9	279,331	9.5	430,313	14.6	1,805,776	61.4	2,940,503	362,078	12.3	170,316	5.8	619,159	21.1	1,732,212	58.9	56,828	1.9				
1912	3	400,000	11.2	42,998	1.2	421,869	11.8	546,557	15.3	2,155,212	60.5	3,566,636	459,043	12.9	277,962	7.8	849,910	23.8	1,901,936	53.4	77,785	2.1				
1913	3	415,000	12.6	47,152	1.4	551,794	16.7	610,083	18.5	1,675,267	50.8	3,299,296	393,639	11.9	297,796	9.0	1,053,318	32.0	1,474,839	44.7	79,704	2.4				
1914	4	653,653	23.9	45,123	1.6	321,376	11.7	329,875	12.0	1,396,022	50.8	2,746,049	577,916	21.0	225,990	8.2	969,629	35.4	930,697	33.9	41,817	1.5				
1915	4	654,894	17.4	51,660	1.4	534,089	14.2	603,251	16.1	1,915,883	50.9	3,759,743	782,129	20.8	274,650	7.3	928,424	24.6	1,563,405	41.7	211,135	5.6				
1916	5	654,880	12.7	60,546	1.2	496,171	9.6	842,675	16.3	3,099,801	60.2	5,154,073	1,427,319	27.7	209,023	4.1	1,914,739	37.0	1,356,236	26.4	246,763	4.8				
1917	5	669,921	9.8	77,918	1.1	503,497	7.3	544,234	8.0	5,049,972	73.8	6,845,541	2,196,107	32.0	236,089	3.4	2,154,068	31.2	1,868,001	27.7	391,276	5.7				
1918	6	690,000	9.1	62,306	0.8	552,165	7.3	487,602	6.4	5,784,900	76.4	7,576,973	1,860,919	24.5	495,531	6.5	1,992,035	26.3	3,066,894	40.6	161,594	2.1				
1919	10	944,649	5.7	99,951	0.6	1,613,850	9.7	1,497,569	9.0	16,676,409	75.0	16,676,409	5,330,337	32.0	1,323,407	7.9	3,912,957	23.4	5,482,723	33.0	626,985	3.7				
1920	10	1,221,476	9.4	121,313	0.9	1,698,631	13.0	1,452,687	11.1	8,556,281	65.6	13,050,388	3,120,441	23.9	487,678	3.7	3,919,400	30.0	4,701,318	36.1	821,551	6.3				

BANK OF LIVERPOOL & MARTINS LIMITED.



Head Office: 7, WATER STREET, LIVERPOOL.
London Office: 68, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

Capital Subscribed £18,791,120
Capital Paid Up 2,348,890
Reserve Fund and Surplus Profits 1,524,413
Deposits, etc., at 30th June, 1921 79,219,946

316 BRANCHES AND SUB-BRANCHES.

All descriptions of Banking, Trustee and Foreign Exchange Business Transacted.
THE BANK IS PREPARED TO ACT AS AGENTS FOR FOREIGN BANKS ON USUAL TERMS.

London County Westminster and Parr's Bank Limited.

ESTABLISHED IN 1836.

Chairman: WALTER LEAF.

Deputy-Chairmen: SIR MONTAGU TURNER, R. HUGH TENNANT.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£33,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	9,003,718
RESERVE	9,003,718
(30th JUNE, 1921.)	
Current, Deposit and other Accounts	£308,996,025

Head Office: 41, LOTHBURY, LONDON, E.C.2.

Chief General Managers: F. J. BARTHORPE, JOHN RAE.

Foreign Branch Office: 82, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.3.

AFFILIATED ABROAD: - London County Westminster & Parr's Foreign Bank, Limited.

FRANCE.—PARIS: 22, Place Vendôme.

BORDEAUX: 22 and 24, Cours de l'Intendance.

LYONS: 37, Rue de la République.

MARSEILLES: 29, Rue Cannebière.

NANTES: 6, Rue Lafayette.

BELGIUM.—BRUSSELS: 114-120, Rue Royale.

ANTWERP: 28-30, Place de Meir.

SPAIN.—MADRID: Avenida del Conde de Peñalver 21 & 23.

BARCELONA: Paseo de Gracia 8 & 10.

BILBAO: Gran Via 9.

VALENCIA: Alfredo Calderón 13 & Pascual y Genís 6.

AFFILIATED IN IRELAND: - Ulster Bank Limited.

The Bank is represented by Branches or Agents in all the Principal Cities and Towns of the United Kingdom and has Correspondents throughout the World.

EXECUTOR AND TRUSTEE DUTIES UNDERTAKEN.

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

REGISTERED 1892.

Absorbed The Bank of Mauritius as from January 1, 1916.

	Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.
"A" Shares ..	£750,000	£375,000	£187,500	£187,500
Per Share ..	£25	£12 10s	£6 5s	£6 5s
"B" Shares ..	£750,000	£375,000	£187,500	£187,500
Per Share ..	£25	£12 10s	£6 5s	£6 5s
"C" Shares ..	£300,000	£300,000	Nil	Nil
Per Share ..	£5	£5	Nil	Nil

The net profits for the year ended December 31, 1920, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, and including £96,430 brought forward from last account, amounted to £356,638.

From this sum was deducted £60,000, being the interim dividend of 8 per cent., less income-tax, on the "A" and "B" shares paid for the half-year ended June 30, 1920. The directors added £50,000 to the reserve fund, £15,000 to the officers' pension fund, and wrote £20,000 off freehold banking premises. They recommended a further dividend on the "A," "B" and "C" shares of 8 per cent., less income-tax, for the second half of the year (making 16 per cent. for the year), leaving a balance of £127,638 to be carried forward.

Year Ended December 31.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabi- ties or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Undivided Profits.	Per Cent.	Notes in Circulation.	Per Cent.	Accept- ances.	Per Cent.	Miscel- laneous Credits, Rebates, &c.	Per Cent.		Deposit and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.	Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and at Call.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Discounts and Advances.	Per Cent.	Buildings & Sundries, including Cover for Acceptances.	Per Cent.
		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		
1895 ..	6	562,500	19.3	20,131	0.7	..	..	240,500	8.4	548,473	18.8	1,539,779	52.8	2,911,383	14.5	283,353	9.7	1,957,164	67.3	247,434	8.5	
1900 ..	9	602,500	17.1	33,250	1.0	..	..	84,965	2.4	1,181,107	33.6	1,614,110	55.2	3,515,932	11.4	442,943	12.6	2,471,798	70.4	198,751	5.6	
1905 ..	10	697,500	15.5	33,500	0.7	..	..	178,162	4.0	921,320	20.6	2,655,616	59.9	4,486,098	17.1	510,805	11.4	2,964,476	66.1	243,147	5.4	
1910 ..	14	887,500	11.7	49,022	0.6	..	..	234,026	3.1	1,066,944	14.1	5,349,908	70.5	7,587,400	83.9	5,781,458	76.3	327,292	4.3	..	..	
1913 ..	16	1,027,500	12.6	57,103	0.7	90,750	1.1	334,270	4.1	1,374,798	16.8	5,303,064	64.7	8,187,487	17.3	342,655	4.2	5,702,017	69.7	723,828	8.8	
1914 ..	16	1,062,500	13.4	69,724	0.9	132,428	1.7	409,945	5.2	1,074,210	13.6	5,152,746	65.2	7,901,553	20.4	477,825	6.0	5,018,086	63.5	792,474	10.1	
1915 ..	17	1,112,500	12.3	65,052	0.7	107,377	1.2	307,464	3.4	1,018,072	11.3	6,413,313	71.1	9,023,778	17.1	1,098,828	12.1	5,583,716	62.0	791,777	8.8	
1916 ..	17	1,162,500	10.4	71,552	0.6	104,027	0.9	349,007	3.1	1,020,006	9.1	8,558,582	75.9	11,265,674	20.2	684,180	8.0	7,396,643	65.7	888,448	7.9	
1917 ..	18	1,212,500	9.4	103,432	0.8	127,429	1.0	411,399	3.2	1,140,860	8.9	9,812,321	76.7	12,807,941	22.7	1,024,293	8.0	8,396,189	65.5	1,116,025	8.7	
1918 ..	19	1,262,500	8.3	130,794	0.8	130,388	0.8	145,538	0.9	1,262,653	8.3	12,370,253	80.9	15,302,126	16.4	1,373,060	9.0	10,370,381	67.7	1,049,771	6.9	
1919 ..	19	1,500,000	6.7	163,930	0.7	137,500	0.6	263,131	1.2	4,680,152	20.9	15,706,214	69.9	22,450,927	4.2	1,632,619	7.3	13,932,746	62.0	2,642,353	11.8	
1920 ..	19	2,150,000	10.6	211,638	1.0	157,306	0.8	819,594	4.0	925,474	4.6	15,893,766	79.0	20,157,778	3.6	1,495,786	7.4	13,332,576	66.2	1,673,970	8.3	

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1863.

	Subscribed.	Paid-up.	Callable.	Reserved.	Market Value.
4,000,000 ..	2,000,000	2,000,000	Nil	5,920,000	
Per Share.	£25	£12 10s	£12 10s	Nil	£37

The net profits for the year ended December 31, 1920, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amount to £553,398, and adding £135,634 brought forward, the available total is £689,032. A dividend of 20 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbed £300,000, £200,000 was added to reserve, £20,000 was written off property, and £20,000 transferred to pension fund, leaving a balance of £149,032 to be carried forward.

Year Ended June 30.	Number of Branches.	LIABILITIES.										Total Liabilities or Assets.	ASSETS.									
		Capital and Reserves.	Per Cent.	Un- divided Profits.	Per Cent.	Accept- ances.	Per Cent.	Loans and Bills Pay- able.	Per Cent.	Deposits and Current Accounts.	Per Cent.		Cash in Hand, at Bankers, and in Transit.	Per Cent.	Invest- ments.	Per Cent.	Bills of Ex- change.	Per Cent.	Dis- counts, Loans, &c.	Per Cent.	Buildings & Sundries, including Cover for Acceptances.	Per Cent.
		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		£		
1890 ..	8	606,500	10.5	56,159	1.0	..	..	1,647,201	28.6	3,450,599	59.9	5,760,459	14.8	853,688	12.1	2,436,261	42.4	1,733,473	30.0	41,790	0.7	
1895 ..	14	660,000	9.9	39,937	0.7	..	..	1,105,046	18.2	4,271,898	70.2	6,075,881	16.6	1,635,011	27.5	442,985	7.3	2,285,317	37.4	1,631,948	27.0	
1900 ..	18	830,000	8.8	52,982	0.6	264,649	2.8	2,373,381	25.0	9,112,728	62.8	9,432,740	16.3	746,148	7.5	706,148	7.5	2,922,575	31.0	3,826,172	40.6	
1905 ..	20	1,125,000	9.8	91,511	0.8	489,791	4.2	839,996	7.3	8,960,241	77.9	11,506,539	24.7	2,479,643	21.6	954,925	8.3	3,179,059	27.6	4,248,011	35.9	
1910 ..	22	1,600,000	10.1	127,550	1.4	585,091	3.7	576,145	3.6	12,851,987	81.2	15,840,773	29.8	2,982,501	18.8	1,182,278	7.5	4,862,176	30.6	6,116,095	38.7	
1913 ..	26	2,040,000	11.0	158,324	0.9	921,137	5.0	1,263,051	6.8	14,086,499	76.3	18,469,011	36.1	7,074,196	19.6	905,113	4.9	5,976,171	32.3	6,923,148	37.5	
1914 ..	26	2,100,000	10.7	210,407	1.1	985,455	5.0	585,787	3.0	15,710,161	80.2	19,591,810	40.5	2,224,207	20.7	859,208	4.4	6,195,880	31.6	7,358,119	37.5	
1915 ..	26	2,175,000	10.7	227,492	1.1	910,445	4.5	727,754	3.6	16,392,710	80.1	20,433,402	52.1	2,168,979	6.7	7,066,168	34.6	5,716,070	28.0	1,065,251	5.2	
1916 ..	26	2,200,000	10.1	244,466	1.1	874,658	3.0	993,713	4.6	17,637,368	81.2	21,723,211	41.0	2,194,906	18.8	1,974,650	9.1	8,331,101	40.8	5,973,427	27.5	
1917 ..	28	2,250,000	9.1	250,460	1.0	825,038	3.0	1,251,521	5.1	20,212,400	81.5	24,789,469	54.0	2,222,138	13.1	1,928,570	7.8	9,849,704	39.6	7,964,396	30.2	
1918 ..	28	2,350,000	7.4	317,057	1.0	634,482	2.0	1,693,279	5.3	26,719,205	84.3	31,714,023	6.0	3,390	16.8	2,855,482	7.9	16,183,802	44.6	10,034,664	27.9	
1919 ..	28	3,350,000	9.3	308,722	0.9	839,579	2.3	1,887,026	5.2	29,789,926	82.3	36,175,253	4.2	366,948	9.3	3,488,957	8.2	16,530,669	39.4	11,885,665	27.9	
1919+ ..	28	3,500,000	7.9	475,634	1.1	880,052	2.1	2,496,906	5.9	35,164,358	83.0	42,366,948	8.7	690	15.7	4,079,274	7.5	18,881,747	34.6	20,810,400	38.6	
1920 ..	28	4,300,000	7.8	539,032	1.0	1,795,674	6.8	1,516,602	2.7	45,200,202	81.7	55,351,510	10.6	9,019	19.2	3,554,529	6.4	16,682,779	30.1	20,386,751	36.9	

* Includes Treasury Bills. † Dec. 31.

THE TATA INDUSTRIAL BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—March 31, 1921.

	Rs.
Paid-up capital, 1,011,647 shares of Rs.22-8 each, Rs.22,27,62,058; less calls unpaid, Rs.3,91,807—Rs.2,25,68,251; add received in respect of 1,356 shares forfeited, Rs.5,085 ..	2,23,73,336
Sums received in advance on account of future calls ..	6,416
Unclaimed dividends ..	92,201
Reserve fund ..	15,00,000
Due to agents and correspondents (of which Rs.45,00,000 is covered by securities lodged as per contra) ..	1,10,62,426
Demand and fixed deposits:—	
Current accounts ..	5,10,91,453
Savings Bank deposits ..	42,00,740
Fixed deposits ..	6,40,17,210
Staff provident fund account (securities to the value of Rs.2,50,000 have been earmarked by the bank to cover this account, as per contra) ..	2,43,763
Bills and drafts payable, and other sums due by the bank ..	10,05,816
Profits and loss account, Rs.26,05,805; less provision for income and super-tax to March 30, 1921, Rs.3,74,156—Rs.22,31,649; less amount transferred to reserve fund, September 30, 1920, Rs.3,50,000; less interim dividend of 6 annas per share, free of tax, as on December 15, 1920, Rs.3,73,365; less amount transferred to reserve fund, March 31, 1921, Rs.6,50,000—Rs.13,73,366 ..	8,52,283
	16,96,56,363

	Rs.
Cash on hand ..	1,10,29,433
Bullion on hand and in transit ..	68,08,736
Cash with bankers ..	1,86,70,507
Investments at or under market value:—Government of India securities, Rs.2,65,22,191; British Government securities, Rs.4,31,715; other securities, Rs.22,98,952 ..	2,92,52,858
Of the above securities of the face value of Rs.47,50,000 have been lodged as collateral, as per contra. The contingent liability on other securities for uncalled capital amounts to Rs.75,09,160.	
Due by agents and correspondents ..	96,442
Bills receivable ..	1,28,13,372
Bills discounted, advances, and loans receivable ..	7,51,31,426
Office furniture and fittings, Rs.3,69,554; less amount written off for depreciation, Rs.1,17,229 ..	2,52,325
Clients' liability for acceptances, guarantees, &c., as per contra ..	1,32,10,719
Landed property intended for bank premises (at cost) ..	23,90,545

THE BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK LIMITED.

31, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

Telegraphic Address:

(Inland) "SAESREVO, THREAD, LONDON."

(Foreign) "SAESREVO, LONDON."

Telephone Number:

CITY 7140

(5 lines)

CAPITAL £5,000,000
Issued and paid up £2,000,000

Established in 1919 with the object of affording increased and improved Banking facilities for Foreign Trade at Home and Abroad.

Exceptional arrangements exist with its Associated Banks in England, Scotland and Ireland, and with leading National Banks in every important centre abroad. Correspondence invited.

Affiliated Institution in Poland:

ANGLO-POLISH BANK, LIMITED (Bank Angielsko-Polski),
Krakowskie Przedmiescie, 47/49, WARSAW.



GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE & Co.,

ESTABLISHED 1753. REGISTERED WITH UNLIMITED LIABILITY, 1885.

67, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

CAPITAL ..	£1,000,000
RESERVE FUND ..	£500,000
CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS ..	£24,352,610
CASH IN HAND AND AT BANK OF ENGLAND ..	£4,200,410
MONEY AT CALL AND AT SHORT NOTICE ..	£6,886,500
INVESTMENTS ..	£6,408,243
ADVANCES, &c. ..	£7,130,799
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other Banks in the United Kingdom ..	£1,006,451

30th June, 1921.

MANAGING PARTNERS:

The Hon. A. H. MILLS. LAURENCE CURRIE.
LORD WOLVERTON. LORD HILLINGDON.
General The Hon. Sir H. A. LAWRENCE, K.C.B.

General Manager:

Brig.-General A. MAXWELL, C.M.G., D.S.O.

Secretary:

ERIC GORE BROWNE, D.S.O.

Every description of British and Overseas Banking and Exchange business transacted.
The Bank undertakes the office of Executor and Trustee.

JOINT-STOCK BANKS OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

At the half-yearly Court of the Bank of England, held on September 22nd, Mr Montagu Collet Norman, the Governor, stated that the profits of the half-year ended August 31st, after making provision for all contingencies, had been £511,129, making the amount of the "rest" on that day £3,531,828, and that after providing for a dividend of 5 per cent.; less income-tax, the "rest" would be £3,022,473.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	145,044,805	Government debt.....	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin and bullion.....	126,594,805
	<u>145,044,805</u>		<u>145,044,805</u>

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital	14,553,000	Government securities	39,690,329
Rest	3,545,651	Other securities	85,120,154
Public deposits*	13,960,111	Notes	20,638,310
Other deposits	115,203,773	Gold and silver coin	1,822,492
Seven-day and other bills ..	8,750		
	147,271,285		147,271,285

*Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss)	332,206,417	Cash in hand and with the Bank of England	50,307,625
Acceptances and endorsements, &c., for account of customers	6,619,291	Balances with other British banks and cheques in course of collection	7,974,315
Capital, viz.: 857,589 "A" shares of £4 each, fully paid, £3,430,356; 11,760,811 "B" shares of £1 each, fully paid, £11,760,811; 401,205 "C" shares of £1 each, fully paid, £401,205	15,592,372	Investments (including £740,903 securities lodged for public accounts); securities of, or guaranteed by, the British Government—the War issues taken under cost, £46,916,099; British Dominions and Colonial Government securities, Bank of England and British Corporation stocks, £5,589,798; British railway debentures and other investments, £2,789,561 ..	55,235,458
Reserve fund	8,250,000	The British Linen Bank—£1,210,299 10s 11d stock ..	3,630,899
		Union Bank of Manchester, Limited—300,000 shares of £5 each, £2 10s paid ..	2,700,000
		Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Ltd.—111,589 shares of £25 each, £5 paid	1,897,013
		Advances to customers and other accounts	146,781,011
		Liability for acceptances and endorsements	6,619,291
		Bank premises and adjoining properties	4,497,073
	362,668,080		362,668,080

COUTTS AND CO.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	800,000	Coin, Bank of England and currency notes in the United Kingdom and balances with the Bank of England	1,326,662
Reserve fund	800,000	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom, and cheques, drafts, &c., in transit	598,599
Current, deposit, and other accounts	18,739,358	Money at call and short notice	3,103,410
Liabilities for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	408,400	Investments (of which £200,000 is lodged for Queen Anne's bounty) British Government stocks £4,252,525 (the War Loans in this category are taken at or under cost), Colonial Government stocks, Corporation stocks, and other investments, £438,269	4,690,794
Memorandum.—The liability under the guarantee of £8,928 in respect of the Yorkshire Penny Bank, Limited, is not included in the above.		Bills discounted—Payable by British firms and institutions in the United Kingdom, and Treasury bills	2,561,475
		Advances to customers on current and other accounts	7,711,989
		Bank premises	346,430
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra ..	408,400
	20,747,758		20,747,758

GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE, AND CO.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	1,000,000	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balance at Bank of England	4,200,410
Reserve fund	500,000	Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom	1,006,451
Current accounts	18,288,814	Money at call and at short notice	6,886,500
Deposit accounts	6,063,796	Bills discounted	712,709
Reduction of the bank premises account	149,793	Investments—British Government securities, £5,565,736; other securities, £842,507 ..	6,408,243
Memorandum.—Liabilities on account of acceptances, endorsements, &c. (covered by securities), not included in balance-sheet, £935,438.		(The War Loans included in the above are valued at or under cost.)	
		Advances to customers and other accounts	6,418,090
		Bank premises (freehold) ..	370,000
	26,002,403		26,002,403

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	1,006,560	Cash and money at call	5,110,005
Reserve fund	900,000	Investments (War securities at under cost, others at under market prices)	6,202,297
Current, deposit, and other accounts	29,272,301	Bills of exchange	8,926,638
Acceptances and endorsements	152,754	Advances and loans	10,551,628
Notes in the Isle of Man	16,707	Acceptances and endorsements, per contra	152,754
		Bank property account	405,000
		*Including £44,000 Indian Government securities lodged against note circulation in the Isle of Man.	
	31,348,322		31,348,322

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT & CENTURY LIFE OFFICE

with which is Allied

THE CENTURY INSURANCE COMPANY, LTD.

LIFE. - FIRE. - ACCIDENT. - MARINE.

Combined Funds exceed £5,000,000.

HEAD OFFICES:

LONDON - 42, Kingsway, W.C.2. :: EDINBURGH - 18, Charlotte Square.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS

S. B. MURRAY

F. HYDE

E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital - - £38,116,815
Paid-up Capital - - - 10,860,565
Reserve Fund - - - 10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) - - 371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO., LTD.

Over 110 Offices in Ireland

THE GLYDESDALE BANK, LTD.

Over 160 Offices in Scotland

SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE (DE PARIS)

(SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME).

Subscribed Capital - - - Frs. 500,000,000
Paid-up Capital - - - Frs. 250,000,000
Reserve Fund - - - Frs. 53,070,815
Uncalled Capital - - - Frs. 250,000,000
Frs. 553,070,815

Head Office: 29 BOULEVARD HAUSSMANN, PARIS.

LONDON Office: 53 OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.

West End Branch: 65 REGENT STREET, W.

ABOUT 1,000 BRANCHES IN FRANCE AND NORTH AFRICA.

SUBSIDIARY BANKS in Belgium, Greece, Spain, and Turkey.

Correspondents in all parts of the World.

This Bank transacts every description of English and Foreign Banking business, including the sale of Drafts. Telegraphic Transfers and Circular Letters of Credit and Notes payable in Allied or Neutral Countries. It also undertakes the purchase and sale of Stocks and Shares on the London and Continental Exchanges, the collection and cashing of Dividends, Coupons, Bills of Exchange, Drawn Bonds, arrangements for Documentary Credits, &c., &c.

The West End Branch has been specially fitted with Safe Deposits for the use of Customers. This Office buys and sells Foreign Exchange and Securities.

BANK OF LIVERPOOL AND MARTINS, LIMITED.
BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up, viz.: £2 10s per share on 939,556 shares of £20 each	2,348,890	Cash in hand and at Bank of England	9,159,879
Reserve fund	1,400,000	Money at call or short notice	10,921,172
Amount due on current, deposit, and other accounts	79,344,359	Loans on stocks and other negotiable securities (partly under Treasury Minute of October 31, 1914)	218,026
Bank's acceptances	1,759,356	Investment in 5% War Stock, 1929-1947, National War Bonds, and 4% Victory Bonds, taken at or under cost	8,769,972
Contingent liability on indemnities & on credits opened, but not yet accepted against, &c., £2,582,646.		Investment in Local Loans stock, Exchequer bonds, Treasury bills, and other first-class securities	7,850,434
		Bills of exchange	4,886,370
		Loans and advances to customers, &c.	39,998,661
		Customers' liability for bank's acceptances, as per contra	1,759,356
		Bank premises—Liverpool, London, and branches—at cost, less amounts written off	1,288,735
	84,852,605		84,852,605

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.
BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Current, deposit, and other accounts	341,985,555	Cash in hand and with the Bank of England	37,382,092
Acceptances, endorsements, guarantees, &c.	8,544,485	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom	10,468,237
Capital paid up	14,372,956	Cash at call and short notice	14,421,169
Reserve fund	10,000,000	Bills of exchange	84,684,456
		War Loans, at cost or under, and other British Government securities	64,664,447
		Indian and Colonial Government securities, Corporation stocks, English railway debenture and preference stocks, and other investments* (including investments lodged with the Treasury under Scheme B)	1,752,552
		* NOTE.—There is a contingent liability for uncalled capital in respect of a portion of these investments.	
		The National Bank of Scotland, Limited, £4,856,420 (nominal) stock (£1,068,412 8s paid up) at £300 for each £110 paid up	2,915,852
		The London and River Plate Bank, Ltd., 18,099 shares of £25 each (£17 paid up) at £38 per share	1,487,762
		Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, Limited, 12,000 shares of £50 each (£20 paid up) at £20 per share	240,000
		Advances to customers, including Stock Exchange loans under Treasury Minute of Oct. 31, 1914, and other accounts	140,306,471
		Liability of customers for acceptances, endorsements, guarantees, &c., as per contra	8,544,485
		Bank premises	5,037,473
	374,902,996		374,902,996

LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER AND PARR'S BANK, LIMITED.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	9,003,718	Coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England	29,827,969
Reserve	9,003,718	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom	9,514,239
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account)	308,996,025	Money at call and short notice	20,833,595
Liabilities for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	12,588,413	Bills discounted	81,888,798
Notes in circulation in the Isle of Man	16,620	Investments	53,787,374
	339,608,494	Investments in affiliated banks	2,990,960
		Advances to customers and other accounts	124,246,449
		Bank premises account	3,930,697
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	12,588,413
			339,608,494

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	10,860,565	Coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England	55,798,300
Reserve fund	10,860,565	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom	12,505,988
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account)	371,322,381	Money at call and short notice	13,583,701
Acceptances on account of customers and engagements	16,322,155	Investments	52,771,530
	409,365,666	Bills discounted	62,243,295
		Advances to customers and other accounts	188,393,028
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements	16,322,155
		Bank premises at head office and branches	4,489,504
		Shares of the Belfast Banking Company, Limited, and the Clydesdale Bank, Limited	3,258,165
			409,365,666

MANCHESTER AND COUNTY BANK, LIMITED.

The directors declared an interim dividend of 6s per share out of the profits of the half-year.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—273,010 shares, £20 each, £4 paid	1,092,040	Cash on hand, at call, and at short notice	5,060,603
Reserve fund	725,000	Bills of exchange, less rebate	2,726,600
Reserve for depreciation of investments	125,000	Investments:	
Unclaimed dividends	1,386	Securities of, or guaranteed by, the British Government, and Bank of England stock, £3,317,250; other securities, £337,338	3,654,588
Due by the bank on current, deposit, and other accounts	25,528,599	Short loans on railway stock and other securities; and War Loan advances	368,695
Acceptances by the bank	36,795	Advances on current accounts	15,518,424
Profit and loss account—Balance brought forward, £106,233; net profit for the half-year, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, and payment of all expenses, £150,646	256,834	Liability of customers on acceptances by the bank	36,795
	27,765,705	Bank property account: premises in Manchester and branch offices	400,000
			27,765,705

Australian Mutual Provident Society

Estab. (A.M.P.) 1849.

The Largest British Mutual Life Office.

Some Figures from the Seventy-second Annual Report as at 31st December, 1920.

ORDINARY DEPARTMENT.

NET NEW BUSINESS. 28,600 Policies Assuring £10,512,136 with Annual Premiums of £331,086.

DEATH CLAIMS. £1,249,457, Including Bonus Additions of £408,809. This is 53 per cent. of the "Expected."

MATURITY CLAIMS. £923,781, Including Bonus Additions of £245,035.

THE ACCUMULATED FUND (Including Industrial) has increased by £2,720,753, and amounts to £43,847,952.

WAR AND REPATRIATION LOAN SUBSCRIPTIONS total over £13,160,000.

THE SURPLUS (after strengthening the Basis of Valuation by the application of £285,485) is £1,452,193, of which £1,324,193 is being distributed. This will provide Reversionary Bonuses of about £2,273,000. In addition, £12,209 was paid as Interim Bonuses.

THE VALUATION (on a Pure Premium Basis) has been made at 3 per cent. except for the small section of ordinary Whole-life Policies issued prior to 1891, for which 3½ per cent. was employed.

THE EFFECTIVE RATE OF INTEREST, after deducting Income Tax, was nearly £5 3s 8d per cent. There is, therefore, an Interest Margin of over 2 per cent.

THE EXPENSE RATE (excluding Taxes) was only 12.5 of the Premium Receipts.

THE TOTAL ASSURANCES Issued in 72 years amount to £207,019,782, of which £110,207,146, or over 53 per cent., are still in force.

LONDON OFFICE: 37, Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.
W. C. FISHER, Manager for the United Kingdom.



LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.

Chairman: Sir RICHARD V. VASSAR-SMITH, Bt.

Deputy-Chairman: J. W. BEAUMONT PEASE.

HEAD OFFICE: 71, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 3.

(30th June, 1921.)			
CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED -	-	-	£71,864,780
CAPITAL PAID UP -	-	-	14,372,956
RESERVE FUND -	-	-	10,000,000
DEPOSITS, &c. -	-	-	341,985,555
ADVANCES, &c. -	-	-	140,306,471

This Bank has 1,600 Offices in England and Wales, Correspondents and Agents throughout the British Islands, and a large number of Colonial and Foreign Agents.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND LTD.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LTD.

AUXILIARY:

LLOYDS AND NATIONAL PROVINCIAL FOREIGN BANK LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED IN 1833.

THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

Subscribed Capital - £43,447,080

Paid-up Capital - £9,309,416

Reserve Fund - £8,878,041

Head Office: 15 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2.

PRINCES STREET OFFICE (UNION) ... 2 Princes Street, E.C. 2.

LOMBARD STREET OFFICE (SMITHS) ... 1 Lombard Street, E.C. 3.

CORNHILL OFFICE (PRESCOTT'S) ... 50 Cornhill, E.C. 3.

The Bank has nearly ONE THOUSAND OFFICES in ENGLAND and WALES, also Agents in all parts of the World.

Every description of BRITISH, COLONIAL and FOREIGN BANKING and EXCHANGE business transacted.

Trusteeships and Executorships undertaken.

Copies of the Annual Report of the Bank, List of Branches, Agents and Correspondents, may be had on application at Head Office and at any of the Bank's Branches.

COUTTS & CO.

(Established 1892), is affiliated with this Bank.

AUXILIARY:

LLOYDS AND NATIONAL PROVINCIAL FOREIGN BANK, LIMITED.

Principal Offices:—LONDON, PARIS, BRUSSELS, COLOGNE, ZURICH.

MANCHESTER AND LIVERPOOL DISTRICT
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—632,000 shares, £15 each, £3 paid	1,895,000	Cash in hand and in the Bank of England	7,090,875
Reserve fund	1,550,000	Money at call and short notice	3,442,640
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss)	57,935,895	Bills of exchange (including Treasury bills)	10,666,655
Acceptances	356,437	British Government securities	6,754,237
		British railway debentures, Corporation stocks, &c.	437,749
		Advances in current and other accounts	32,489,739
		Liabilities of customers for bank's acceptances	356,437
		Bank property	500,000
			61,738,332

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF
ENGLAND, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	9,309,416	Coin, Bank of England and currency notes in the United Kingdom, and balances with the Bank of England	31,685,143
Reserve fund	8,878,041	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom, and cheques, drafts, &c., in transit	8,188,970
Current, deposit, and other accounts	265,610,602	Money at call and short notice	12,313,857
Liabilities for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	3,385,215	Investments (of which £209,640 is lodged for public accounts), £50,647,663; investments in affiliated banks, £2,240,000	52,887,663
		Bills discounted—(1) Payable by British firms and institutions in the United Kingdom, and Treasury bills, £36,736,824. (2) Other bills, £2,156,356 ..	38,893,180
		Advances to customers on current and other accounts	135,942,163
		Bank premises	3,887,083
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra ..	3,385,215
			287,183,274

WILLIAMS, DEACON'S BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital issued, £8,125,000, viz.:—1,562,500 £5 "A" shares, £1 paid, £1,562,500; 312,500 £1 "B" shares, £312,500	1,875,000	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balances with the Bank of England	4,863,710
Reserve fund (of which £300,000 is held against investment depreciation) ..	1,000,000	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection, on other banks in the United Kingdom	910,051
Current, deposit, and other accounts	26,041,139	Money at call and at short notice	3,148,913
Liabilities for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	1,194,035	Bills discounted	3,666,280
		British Government securities	5,164,888
		Indian and Colonial Government securities, English railway and municipal stocks, and other investments	1,186,546
		Advances to customers and other accounts	19,357,637
		Bank premises account	618,124
		Liability of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra ..	1,194,035
			40,110,174

YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Share capital—250,000 shares of £5 each, £3 paid	750,000	Cash in hand, at Bank of England, and at short notice	9,111,910
Capital paid up	750,000	British Government Treasury bills	5,050,000
Reserve fund	29,347,485	Securities repayable within one year	1,457,349
Amount due to depositors and other accounts	29,347,485	British Government 4 per cent. War stock, £746,978; British Government 4 per cent. National War Bonds, £1,911,000; British Government 5 per cent. National War Bonds, £5,189,800; other securities, £1,106,561 ..	8,954,339
Uncalled capital, £500,000 ..		Loans on security and other accounts	5,208,254
		Bank purchase account	600,000
		Bank premises	467,633
			30,847,485

PRIVATE BANKS.

CHARLES HOARE AND CO.

BALANCE-SHEET—July 6, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Amount due on current accounts	1,973,973	Cash in hand and at bankers	683,370
Amount due on deposit accounts ..	1,915,257	Cash at call	510,000
Capital and reserve	500,000	British Government securities at or below market price	1,812,349
		Other securities	232,486
		Loans, overdrafts, and bills discounted	1,251,025
		Freeholds	100,000
			4,389,230

CHILD AND CO.

BALANCE-SHEET—July 7, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Amount due customers on current & deposit accounts	3,713,823	Cash in hand and at the Bank of England	577,647
Capital	500,000	Money at call	500,000
Reserve fund	76,739	Treasury bills, National War bonds, War stock, and other approved securities ..	1,538,628
		Loans to customers	1,590,091
		Bank premises	84,200
			4,290,566

COX AND CO.

BALANCE-SHEET—March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—1,500 4 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £100 each	150,000	Cash at bankers and on hand	4,574,970
5,000 ordinary shares of £100 each	500,000	Cash at call and at short notice	867,000
Reserve fund	600,000	Bills receivable	2,794,857
Current, deposit, and other accounts	17,770,632	Documentary bills negotiated ..	1,972,917
Acceptances for customers (per contra)	910,076	Treasury bills (British and Indian)	786,106
		British Government securities (of which £8,421 5 per cent. War Loan 1929-47 is deposited with the British Government and £101,400 4 per cent. National War bonds with the Government of India)	879,835
		Indian, Colonial and other securities (of which £50,000 Colonial stock is deposited with the British Government), including 368,182 "A" shares of £1 each, 10s paid, Cox & Co. (France), Limited, and 10,000 shares of 500 fcs. each, 100 fcs paid, Banque de Commerce	463,038
		Advances to customers and other accounts	6,148,850
		Liability of customers for acceptances, per contra ..	910,076
		Bank premises, freehold, £400,705; bank premises, leasehold, £124,649	525,354
		Balance of items in transit between head office and branches and exchange adjustments	7,707
			19,930,708

National Bank of Commerce
in New YorkPresident
JAMES S. ALEXANDERCapital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000*The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.*KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C.2BARCLAYS BANK
LIMITED.

Head Office - - 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

FREDERICK CRAUFURD GOODENOUGH, Chairman.
Sir HERBERT HAMBLING, Deputy-Chairman.
EDMUND HENRY PARKER, Vice-Chairman.GENERAL MANAGERS:
WILLIAM FAVILL TUKE. WILLIAM CARRUTHERS. ROBERT WILLIAM STREET.
JOHN CAULCUTT.

Authorised Capital	£20,000,000
Issued and Paid-up Capital	£15,592,372
Reserve Fund	£8,250,000
Deposits (June 30, 1921)	£332,206,417

The Bank has over 1,500 branches in England and Wales and Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the World.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF BRITISH AND
FOREIGN BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

EXECUTORSHIPS AND TRUSTEESHIPS UNDERTAKEN.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch St., London, E.C.3.
 West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, London, S.W.1.
 Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
 Manchester Foreign Branch - Corner of York St. and Fountain St., Manchester.

Affiliated Banks:

THE BRITISH LINEN BANK, Head Office, Edinburgh.
THE UNION BANK OF MANCHESTER, LIMITED, Head Office, Manchester.
THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANK, LTD., Head Office, 27, Clements Lane, London, E.C.4.COX & Co. (France), Limited.
BANKERS.

Founders:

BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

COX & COMPANY.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE:

PARIS—33 RUE DU IV. SEPTEMBRE.

Bordeaux—4 Rue Esprit des Lois.
Boulogne—61 Rue Victor Hugo.
Havre—9 Quai Georges V.Lyons—1 Rue de la Republique.
Marseilles—5 Rue Cannebiere.
Rouen—7 Rue Jeanne d'Arc.

THE RIVIERA:

Cannes—7 Rue du Marechal Foch.
Mentone—Avenue Felix-Faure.
Villa les Grottes, Garavan.Monte Carlo—1 Boulevard des Moulins.
Nice—4 Avenue Georges Clemenceau.

ALGERIA:

Algiers—6 Rue de la Liberte.

Oran—15 Rue Alsace-Lorraine.

COLOGNE—135 Hohestrasse.

LONDON—70 Gracechurch Street, E.C.3; and 16 Charing Cross, S.W.1.

The Bank is specially organised to provide banking facilities for trade between Great Britain and France and their respective Overseas Possessions.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF BANKING BUSINESS UNDERTAKEN.

LONDON DISCOUNT COMPANIES.

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT COMPANY, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital, 10,000 £10 6 per cent. preference shares, fully paid, £100,000; 90,000 £10 ordinary shares, £5 paid, £450,000, with a reserve liability of £450,000	550,000	Cash at bankers	451,930
Reserve fund	270,000	Short-dated Imperial and Indian Government securities	1,507,160
Bills re-discounted	1,862,838	Bills discounted	16,320,958
Deposits and sundry balances, including profit and loss account	15,616,477	Loans on security and sundry accounts	19,267
	18,299,315	(Out of the above, assets of the value of £16,908,799 are held by depositors and others as cover for liabilities per contra.)	18,299,315

JOINT-STOCK BANKS OF IRELAND.

BANK OF IRELAND.

The net profits of the bank for the half-year to June 30, 1921, after meeting all charges and providing for bad and doubtful debts, interest due on deposits, and rebate on bills not at maturity, amounted to £259,544, to which must be added the sum of £42,460 brought forward from the last account, making a total of £302,004. Out of this amount the governors and directors appropriated £90,000 for depreciation of investments and other contingencies, and having transferred to the rest £50,000, recommended that a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, be declared for the half-year, which absorbed £116,308. There then remained a surplus of £45,696 to be carried forward.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up	2,769,231	Cash at head office, branches, and Bank of England	5,632,038
Reserve	1,020,000	Cash at call and short notice	1,648,744
Notes and post bills in circulation	8,577,313	British Government Treasury bills	5,400,000
Government and other public accounts	4,338,544	British Government debt	2,630,769
Deposit, current, and other accounts	33,645,045	British Government stocks, £16,304,161; Colonial Government and other securities, £2,053,373	19,263,534
Profit and loss	162,004	Bills discounted, advances to customers, &c.	15,462,294
	50,512,137	Bank premises, head office and branches at cost, less depreciation	474,758
			50,512,137

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Total expenditure of head office and branches, including rents, repairs, salaries, &c.	260,471	Balance from last account ..	42,460
Amount transferred to rest, £50,000; amount transferred to depreciation of securities and other contingencies, £90,000	140,000	Gross profits of half-year, after providing for interest on deposits, income-tax, composition, for stamp duty on notes and post bills, rebate on bills discounted, and making provision for bad and doubtful debts, &c.	520,015
Proposed dividend for the half-year at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, at 6s in £, £116,308; amount to be carried forward to next account, £45,696	162,004		562,475
	562,475		562,475

BELFAST BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—200,000 shares of £12 10s each, £2 10s paid, £500,000; reserve fund, £550,000	1,050,000	Gold and silver coin, currency notes, and cash at call	3,970,972
Balance of profit and loss account	73,853	War Loans and Victory Loans at cost	2,861,288
Notes in circulation	1,661,679	British railway and corporation stocks, &c.	176,901
Current, deposit, and other accounts	18,742,243	Bills of exchange	1,626,737
		Advances to customers still outstanding against War Loans	270,213
		Advances to customers on current and other accounts	12,555,147
		Bank premises (head office and 67 branches)	66,517
	21,527,775		21,527,775

HIBERNIAN BANK, LIMITED.

The report submitted to the meeting on July 25th states that, after providing for rebate on bills, interest on deposits, and bad and doubtful debts and contingencies, the net profits for the half-year amount to £42,506, to which has to be added balance of undivided profits from last account, £15,288—£57,794. The directors have transferred to the reserve fund £10,000, and to credit of investments account, £12,500; they recommend that the balance be applied as follows, viz.: in payment of a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum (subject to deduction of income-tax), £22,500; to next account, £12,794—£57,794.

THE DOMINION BANK.

Established 1871.

Head Office:—TORONTO.

Capital & Reserves \$14,000,000.

SIR EDMUND B. OSLER, President.
A. W. AUSTIN,
SIR A. M. NANTON, Vice-Presidents.
CLARENCE A. BOGERT, General Manager.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA.
 Agents and Correspondents throughout the World.

THE LONDON BRANCH at 73, Cornhill, E.C.3., deals in all the Exchanges and renders a comprehensive Banking Service to customers.

S. L. JONES, Manager.

Agency in NEW YORK—The Dominion Bank, 51, Broadway.

CHARTERED 1822.

The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company.

Head Office: 16, 18, 20 & 22, WILLIAM STREET, NEW YORK.

Branch Office: 475, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

Paris: 39 and 41, BOULEVARD HAUSSMANN.

LONDON: 15, COCKSPUR STREET, S.W. 1.

26, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C. 2.

Member Federal Reserve System and New York Clearing House.

Makes a speciality of the care and management of real and personal property in the United States, and will act as Agent, Custodian, Trustee or Executor.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE. CABLE TRANSFERS.

LETTERS OF CREDIT PAYABLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

United States Government Depository.

IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK

Capital - £10,000,000. Paid-up - £5,000,000.
 Reserve Fund - £1,250,000.

GENERAL COMMITTEE:

LONDON.	PARIS.
VISCOUNT GOSCHEN, C.B.E. E. W. H. BARRY. THE EARL OF BESSBOROUGH, C.M.G. THE EARL OF CHICHESTER, O.B.E. SIR W. GUY GRANET. SIR JOHN P. HEWITT, G.C.S.I., K.B.E., C.I.E.	LORD HILLINGDON. General the HON. SIR HERBERT A. LAWRENCE, K.C.B. LORD ORANMORE AND BROWNE, K.P. Lieut-Col. SIR ALBERT STERN, K.B.E., C.M.G. LE BARON DE NEUFLIZE, C.V.O. JEAN BOISSONNAS. CHARLES DE CERJAT. HORACE FINALY. GEORGES HEINE.

PARIS.
ARSENE HENRY, G.C.V.O. BARON HENRI HOTTINGUER. RAOUL MALLET. LE COMTE PILLET-WILL. FELIX VERNES.

London Office: 26, THROGMORTON STREET, E.C. 2

Manager: E. W. H. Barry.

Assistant Manager and Secretary: C. E. L. Corthorn.
 Assistant Manager and Deputy Secretary: R. S. C. Pearce.
 Assistant Manager: W. P. Sheppard.

MANCHESTER
50/60, Cross Street.

PARIS:
7, Rue Meyerbeer.

MARSEILLES:
41-45, Rue Grignan.

CONSTANTINOPLE (Galata, Stamboul & Pera).

EGYPT.
Alexandria. Cairo.
Mansourah. Minieh.
Port Said.

PALESTINE.
Caiffa.
Jaffa.
Jerusalem.

CYPRUS.
Nicosia. Larnaca.
Limassol.
Famagusta. Paphos.

Aleppo.
Alexandretta.

SYRIA.
Beyrout.
Damascus.
Hamah.

Homs.
Saida.
Tripoli.

SALONICA.

SMYRNA.

MESOPOTAMIA.

TUNIS, Africa.

(Over 80 Branches in the Near East).

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital, viz.:—100,000 shares of £20 each, £2,000,000—amount paid up, £5 per share.....	500,000	Cash in hand and with bankers.....	2,474,586
Reserve fund.....	190,000	Treasury bills.....	1,500,000
Deposits, current, and other credit accounts, including interest due on deposits.....	14,952,573	Investments, viz.:—	
Sundry agents.....	30,670	War Loans and other Government stocks.....	5,164,118
Rebate on bills discounted not at maturity.....	15,019	Colonial Government stocks, Corporation stocks, railway debenture stocks and mortgage bonds, and other securities.....	629,641
Profit and loss account, £57,794; less transferred to reserve fund, £10,000; placed to credit of investments account, £12,500—£22,500.....	35,294	Bills discounted, advances on current accounts, loans, &c.....	5,789,641
		Sundry agents.....	17,735
		Bank premises and furniture (head offices & 55 branches), written down to.....	147,835
			15,723,556
	15,723,556		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Expenses of management, including directors' fees, salaries, pensions and allowances, bonuses and grants to staff, rent, rates, repairs, inland revenue taxes, and all other outlay	98,621	Balance from last account ..	15,288
Amount transferred to reserve fund.....	10,000	Gross profits for half-year, after providing for rebate on bills, interest on deposits, and bad and doubtful debts and contingencies.....	141,127
Amount placed to credit of investments account.....	12,500		
Dividend to be paid in August, 1921, subject to deduction of income-tax, £22,500; balance to next account, £12,794.....	35,294		
	156,415		156,415

MUNSTER AND LEINSTER BANK, LIMITED.

The report presented at the meeting held on July 23rd, states that the profits of the bank, after deducting expenses, providing for interest on deposits, rebate on bills, and for all bad and doubtful debts, amounts to £84,555, to which has to be added the balance from the last account, £30,562, making a total of £115,117. The directors recommend the payment of a dividend for the half-year at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, £40,000, less income-tax at 6s in the £, £12,000—£28,000; and after transferring to staff pension fund £40,000, and applying in re-

duction of premises account £10,000, there will remain to be carried to next account £37,117—£115,117.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—200,000 shares of £5 each, £2 paid.....	400,000	Cash on hand, at Bank of England, and with other bankers.....	1,617,183
Reserve fund.....	900,000	Money at call and at short notice.....	3,645,261
Deposits, current, and other accounts.....	27,457,186	Government Treasury bills.....	4,050,000
Profit and loss—Balance from Dec. 31, 1920, £30,552; net profit for half-year ended June 30, 1921, £24,555—£115,117; less amount transferred to staff pension fund and premises account, £50,000.....	65,117	Investments:—War Loan and other Government stocks, £7,204,894; Indian and Colonial Government stocks, Corporation stocks, railway debenture and preference stocks, and debenture bonds, £150,162; other investments, £895.....	7,355,951
		Bills discounted.....	1,395,711
		Advances on securities and current accounts.....	10,616,591
		Bank premises, head office and branches.....	141,606
	28,822,303		28,822,303

NATIONAL BANK, LIMITED.

The report presented to the meeting, held on July 28th, states that the profit and loss account for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, including £27,714 brought forward from December 31st last, shows a balance of £160,871 available for distribution. The board have declared a dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, or 12s per share (£10 paid)—30th instant. The dividend absorbs £63,000, leaving a balance of £97,871 to be dealt with. During the half-year there have been further large additions to staff salaries, and pensions, and increased bonuses thereon, allowances, &c. The increase in salaries and bonuses alone forms an additional charge on this half-year of £20,000. The directors have had to make provision for increased taxation under the Finance Bill and for contingencies; and a sum of £70,000 has been set aside for the purpose. A sum of £6,083 has also had to be provided for, on account of losses at certain branches by reason of robberies by armed raiders. £27,871 has been carried forward to profit and loss new account.

"The Swedish Bank
of Commerce."

1871—1921

Time of Foundation.

Fiftieth Anniversary.

Capital and Reserves	-	Kr. 1.000.000:—	Kr. 181.046.794:—
Total Resources	-	„ 4.714.400:—	„ 1.402.765.440:—
„ „ „ in relation			
to all Swedish Banks	-	2.22%	19.13%
Total Deposits	-	Kr. 3.373.862:—	Kr. 1.059.387.206:—
Number of Depositors	-	706 (in 1873)	589.528
Offices	-	One	271

Svenska Handelsbanken
Stockholm, Sweden.



SKANDINAVISKA KREDITAKTIEBOLAGET

(Established in 1864.)

GÖTEBORG

STOCKHOLM

MALMÖ

Branches throughout Sweden.

Paid up Capital & Reserves:
Kr. 182,000,000.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION TRANSACTED.

Collections undertaken.

Foreign Exchange bought and sold.

Telegraphic Address: "KREDITBOLAGET"

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOSTON

Transacts Commercial Banking Business of Every Nature.

Correspondence Solicited.

Capital, Surplus and Profits - - \$37,500,000.

NATIONAL BANK OF TURKEY

(Affiliated to the British Trade Corporation).

ESTABLISHED 1909 BY IMPERIAL FIRMAN.

Capital - 1,000,000 Pounds Sterling.

Board of Directors:

CONSTANTINOPLE.

S. DE BILINSKI, C.B.E. (Chairman).
Sir ADAM BLOCK, K.C.M.G.
F. EDWIN WHITTALL, C.B.E.
H. E. AHMED DJEMAL BEY

LONDON.

A. G. M. DICKSON (Chairman London Committee).
Sir HENRY BIRCHENOUGH K.C.M.G.
C. S. GULBENKIAN
R. H. MACAULAY
E. N. MEYER

Head Office: CONSTANTINOPLE (UNION HAN, GALATA).

Telegrams: "Britbank, Constantinople."

Branches: STAMBOUL.

Telegrams: "Natbank, Constantinople."

SMYRNA.

Telegrams: "Britbank, Smyrna."

Agencies: PERA, CONSTANTINOPLE.
PANDERMA.

Telegrams: "Britbank, Panderma."

London Office: 50, CORNHILL, E.C.3.

Telegrams: "Natbank, London."

Transit Warehouse: STAMBOUL.

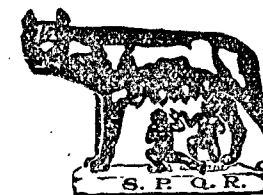
Bonded Warehouse: TUTUN GUEUMRUK, STAMBOUL.

At the PERA AGENCY a complete installation of small safes is at the disposal of clients on favourable terms. The Bank has Agents in all the principal Cities of Europe, America and the Far East, and has Correspondents throughout the World.

Every description of Banking Business, in all its Financial and Commercial branches, undertaken. Business Houses trading with Turkey can insure Foreign Exchange with the Bank. Banks, Commercial Houses and others having interests in Turkey are invited to apply for terms. Manufacturers and Merchants may address their enquiries to the Head Office for Trade Lists of Importers and Exporters.

BANCO DI ROMA

Established 1880.



Head Office: ROME.

Capital Paid up - Lit. 150,000,000.
Reserves - Lit. 20,166,861.
Deposits (30th June) - Lit. 2,330,867,541.

The Bank is prepared to transact every class of approved banking business in and connected with ITALY and COLONIES, FRANCE, SPAIN, SWITZERLAND, MALTA, RHODES, EGYPT, SYRIA, LEBANON, PALESTINE, ASIA MINOR and TURKEY.

Correspondence invited.

LONDON REPRESENTATIVE:
28, Throgmorton Street, E.C.2.

Telephones: LONDON WALL 9656-9657.

INCORPORATED 1865.

Head Office—WINNIPEG.

Paid-up Capital - = (Nov. 30, 1920) \$8,000,000
Rest and Undivided Profits (Nov. 30, 1920) \$6,527,135
Total Assets - = (Nov. 30, 1920) \$169,205,445

The BANK has over 400 Branches in Canada, and AGENTS IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL CITIES IN AMERICA.

GENERAL BANKING AND EXCHANGE BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

Letters of Credit and Travellers' Cheques issued, available in all parts of the World.

MONIES TRANSFERRED to and from Canada and the United States by CABLE, BANK DRAFTS, &c.

DEPOSITS RECEIVED at short notice or for fixed periods at favourable rates, which may be ascertained on application to:—

LONDON { **6, PRINCES STREET, E.C. 2.**
OFFICES: { **26, HAYMARKET, S.W.1.**

NEW YORK AGENCY: 49, Wall Street.

PARIS AGENTS: Park-Union Foreign Banking Corporation, 1, Rue Taitbout.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.	
LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital paid up on 150,000 shares.....	Cash on hand at head office, branches, and Bank of England.....
Rest or undivided profits (Government securities).....	Money at call and at short notice, including Stock Exchange loans, British Treasury bills, and short-dated securities.....
Special reserve for depreciation in investments (Government securities).....	National War bonds, maturing 1922/24.....
Notes in circulation.....	Government securities, including "rest" and "special reserve".....
Amount due by the bank on deposit, current, and other accounts.....	Corporation, railway, and other stocks.....
Acceptances to bankers' drafts and on security.....	Advances on securities at sundry dates, and current accounts.....
Net profits for the half-year, £153,157; brought forward from Dec. 31, 1920, £27,714	Bills discounted.....
	Bankers' guaranteed and securities held against acceptances, per contra.....
	Bank premises—London, Dublin, and branches, freehold and leasehold (at cost, less depreciation).....
48,890,567	48,880,567

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Dr.	Cr.
Total expenditure at head office and branches, including salaries, bonus, rent, taxes, maintenance of bank premises, &c., &c.	Amount brought from last account.....
Half-year's dividend to June 30, 1921, being at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, £90,000; less income-tax at 6s in the £, £27,000—£63,000; amount carried to tax and contingencies account, £70,000; balance to credit of profit and loss new account, £27,871.....	Gross profits for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, after payment of interest, income-tax, duty on circulation, allowance for rebate on bills not due, and full provision for bad and doubtful debts.....
160,871	413,068
440,782	440,782

NORTHERN BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The report to be submitted to the meeting, to be held on October 27th, states that the net profits for the year, after making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, rebate on bills discounted, and interest due on deposits, amount to £172,237; less bonus to bank's officers, £38,138—£134,099; which, with the balance brought from last year, £47,104, makes a total for disposal of £181,203. Dividends at the rate of 17½ per cent. on the "A" shares and 8½ per

cent. on the "B" shares have been paid to the shareholders, amounting in all to £91,875, less income-tax, £27,558. £9,429 has been applied in reduction of bank buildings account, £20,000 has been transferred to reserve, leaving balance of £87,457 undivided profits to be carried to next account.

BALANCE-SHEET—August 31, 1921.	
LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital paid up.....	Cash on hand, notes of other banks, and balances in London and with other banks.....
Reserve fund.....	Treasury bills.....
Officers' guarantee fund.....	Investments:—
Widows' and orphans' fund.....	War Loans and other British Government securities, £3,567,839; Indian and Colonial Government, English railway debentures and preference stocks, Corporation debentures, and other securities, £822,593.....
Officers' insurance fund.....	Bills of exchange discounted, loans on securities, advances to customers, &c.....
Balance (being undivided profits) carried forward to next account.....	Bank buildings—head office, eleven city and seventy-three country branches, £234,429; less written off, as below, £9,429.....
Notes in circulation.....	Liabilities of customers for endorsements, guarantees, and confirmed credits, as per contra.....
Deposits and credit accounts.....	
Endorsements, guarantees, and confirmed credits, as per contra.....	
334,436	4,390,432
19,878,436	19,878,436

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Dr.	Cr.
Salaries, current expenses, &c.	Balance brought forward from August 31, 1920.....
Bonus to officials.....	Gross profits for the year ended August 31, 1921, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, interest due on deposits, and rebate on bills not yet due.....
Dividend paid in March, less income-tax, £32,158; dividend paid in September, less income-tax, £32,159....	
Amount appropriated in reduction of bank buildings..	
Reserve.....	
Balance (being undivided profits) carried forward to next account.....	
460,938	460,938

PROVINCIAL BANK OF IRELAND, LIMITED.

The report presented to the meeting, held on July 27th, states that, including £24,780 brought forward from last account, there remains a profit of £77,019. Out of this the directors have declared a dividend for the half-year

UNION BANK OF CANADA

at the rate of 13½ per cent. per annum, less income-tax, which will require £25,515, they have added to reserve fund £15,000, written off bank premises account £5,000, and carried forward £31,504—£77,019.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Capital paid up	£540,000	Cash at head office, branches, and in London	£1,547,661
Reserve fund	465,000	Money at call and short notice	1,625,000
Notes in circulation	1,686,739	British Government Treasury bills	1,575,000
Deposit receipts, current and other accounts	17,506,344	Investments, viz.:—British Government and Colonial securities, £5,420,193; corporation stocks and other investments, £435,959	5,856,192
Net profits for the half-year, including £24,780 brought forward from Dec. 31, 1920, £77,019; less £15,000 added to reserve fund, and £5,000 written off bank premises, £20,000	57,019	Advances to customers and other accounts	7,832,236
		Bills discounted	1,674,214
		Bank premises, freehold and leasehold	144,799
			20,255,102
			20,255,102

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Total expenditure at head office and branches, including rents, repairs of premises, salaries, pensions, &c., for the half-year	146,592	Balance, Dec. 31, 1920	24,780
Added to reserve fund	15,000	Gross profits for the half-year, after payment of interest on deposits, income-tax, duty on notes and post bills in circulation, law costs, and providing for rebate on bills discounted not yet due, and bad and doubtful debts	198,831
Written off bank premises	5,000		
Dividend at the rate of 13½ per cent. per annum, for the half-year to June 30, 1921, payable on and after 2nd August next, less income-tax	25,515		
Carried to new account	31,504		
	223,611		223,611

ROYAL BANK OF IRELAND, LIMITED.

The report submitted to the meeting, held on September 23rd, states that the net profits of the bank for the year ended August 31, 1921, after making provision for all bad and doubtful debts, amounted to £50,165, which, with the amount brought forward from last year of £6,883, make together £57,048. From this an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum (less tax) for the first six months of the year has been distributed to the shareholders, £8,400, leaving a balance of £48,648, out of which the board have appropriated to reserve fund officers' superannuation, depreciation of investments, and other contingencies, £32,299, leaving available a balance of £16,349,

which they recommend should be appropriated as follows: a further dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum (less tax) for the six months ended August 31st last, £10,500, the balance to be carried forward to the credit of next year's account of £5,849.

BALANCE-SHEET—August 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Proprietors' capital, £1,500,000, divided into 30,000 shares of £50, on each of which £10 has been paid up	300,000	Investments—British Government securities, including War issues, at market prices, £1,408,167; Colonial Government stocks, railway debenture stocks, &c., at market prices, £166,382	1,574,549
Reserve fund	100,000	Bankers' balances and cash at head office and branches	299,989
Current deposit and other accounts, including officers' superannuation fund	4,533,060	Bills discounted, £108,972; advances on current and other accounts, £2,913,193	3,022,165
Profit and loss, balance after paying interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum (less tax) as per account below, £48,648; less appropriated to reserve fund, officers' superannuation, depreciation of investments, and other contingencies, £32,299	16,349	Bank premises	52,706
	4,949,409		4,949,409

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum (less income-tax) for the half-year to February 28, 1921	8,400	Balance brought forward from last year	6,883
Balance, carried to balance-sheet	48,648	Net profits for the year, after providing for all expenses, bad and doubtful debts, &c.	50,165
	57,048		57,048

LATEST BALANCE-SHEETS OF FOREIGN BANKS HAVING LONDON OFFICES AND OF BRITISH BANKS TRADING ABROAD.

ANGLO-BALTIC AND MEDITERRANEAN BANK, LIMITED.

The report submitted at the meeting, held on June 21st, states that after payment of all expenses and allowing for rebate on bills discounted, provision for bad and doubtful debts, and depreciation of premises, the accounts show a net profit of £24,233, which is being carried forward as a provision against past-due bills and preliminary expenses.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE - - - DAIREN.

BRANCH OFFICES - - - TOKYO, SEOUL, HARBIN, KIRIN, PEKING, SHANGHAI, AND NEW YORK.

TEL. ADD.: "MANTETSU" OR "SMRGO." CODES: A.B.C. 5th Ed.; A1; LIEBER'S, and BENTLEY'S.

ACCOUNTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1921.

General Balance Sheet on 31st March, 1921.

	Yen.
Capital authorised	440,000,000.000
Capital subscribed	380,000,000.000
Capital not yet offered for subscription	60,000,000.000

ASSETS.

	Yen.
Unpaid share Capital	70,844,000.000
Expenditure on Capital Account	430,691,247.000
Products in Stock, including Coal and other Minerals	16,189,260.290
Stores	45,002,700.740
Negotiable documents, including Shares in other Companies and others	8,702,124.490
Cash in hand	555,368.650
Foreign Coins	11,397.140
Stamps, Postal and Revenue	31,630.660
Deposits	31,040,946.010
Loans	31,317,351.210
Correspondent's Account	168,951.470
Collateral Securities	1,298,748.900
Sundry Debtors	13,323,492.670
Payments on Suspense Account	18,246,406.160
Expenditure on Engineering Account	941,809.400
Expenditure on Workshop Account	2,401,811.410
Discount on Debentures issue, less amount written off	5,466,258.610

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.
Capital subscribed	380,000,000.000
Reserve prescribed by Law	5,852,401.490
Special Reserve	33,400,000.000
Debentures Redemption Fund	14,000,000.000
Debentures	145,000,000.000
Suspense Capital Account	949.000
Stock Reserve	721,513.210
Guarantee Money	1,314,619.740
Remittance Account	57,400.790
Employees' Saving Deposits	3,248,258.660
Employees' Guaranty Money	8,342,525.800
Mutual Relief Society Reserve	1,696,409.910
Sundry Creditors	39,641,803.200
Receipts on Suspense Account	7,417,658.460
Balance brought forward from last Term	8,148,790.148
Balance for the Term	27,391,984.627

676,234,215.160

676,234,215.160

AFRICAN AND EASTERN TRADE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

MERCHANTS AND SHIPOWNERS.

Head Office:

ROYAL LIVER BUILDING, LIVERPOOL.

Telegrams: "Degama, Liverpool."

Telephone: Bank 8870, Liverpool.

And at

WEST AFRICA HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2.

Telegrams: "Afroasian, Westcent, London."

Telephone: Regent 4900, London.

AFRICA HOUSE, 54, WHITWORTH STREET, MANCHESTER.

Telegrams: "Swanzy, Manchester."

Telephone: Central 5860, Manchester.

New York Agents:

AFRICAN AND EASTERN TRADING CO. INCORPORATED, 26, BEAVER STREET.

Cables: "Afroasian, New York."

Telephone: Broad 7290.

ESTABLISHMENTS AND AGENCIES.

Canary Islands	Ivory Coast	Nigeria	Morocco	Syria
Senegal	Gold Coast	Cameroons	Turkey	Mesopotamia
Gambia	Togoland	Belgian Congo	Levant	Persia
Sierra Leone	Dahomey	Angola	Palestine	British East Africa
Liberia				

Exporters of:

COTTON PIECE GOODS, YARNS, SILKS, VELVETS, HABERDASHERY, HARDWARE, PROVISIONS, PERFUMERY, SALT, TOBACCO AND MANUFACTURED GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Importers of:

ALL PRODUCE OF THE COUNTRIES IN WHICH ESTABLISHED.

Cable Address:
"KANEYAMA, OSAKA."Codes:
A.B.C. 5th; Lieber's & Bentley's
Complete Phrase Codes.

YAMASHITA SHOTEN

IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS & GENERAL MERCHANTS.

10, KITAKYUTARO-MACHI, OSAKA, JAPAN.

BALANCE-SHEET—April 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital paid up—4,100 ordinary shares, fully paid, £20,500; 196,400 ordinary shares, £2 10s called up, £491,000—£511,500; less amounts outstanding on allotment and call, £17,512	493,988	Cash in hand and at other banks	37,445
Current deposit and other accounts	103,619	Bills receivable and collections	134,466
Acceptances and endorsements on account of customers	61,227	Loans, advances, and other accounts (including £24,000, past-due bills, the subject of litigation)	361,315
Sundry creditors and credit balances	4,120	Customers' liability for acceptances and endorsements, as per contra	61,227
Profit and loss account—Subject to taxation and provision for past-due bills and preliminary expenses	24,232	Investments in other banks at cost	21,016
		Bank premises—Lease, furniture, &c., £14,030; less amount written off, £1,000..	13,090
		Preliminary and organisation expenses (expenditure up to March 25, 1920), including underwriting commission and brokerage, £23,067	58,627
	687,186		687,186

ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

(With which is affiliated the British Bank of South America and the Commercial Bank of Spanish America.)

The report to be presented to the meeting to be held on October 25 states that the net profit, after making provision for all charges, rebate, &c., amounts to £743,175, which, together with £393,116 brought forward, makes a total of £1,136,291, of which £183,404 was absorbed by the interim dividend paid on April 19th last. There is now an available balance of £952,887, of which the directors recommend that £275,102 be applied to the payment of a final dividend of 9s per share, less income-tax, payable on the 31st instant, making a total distribution for the year of 15 per cent.; 150,000 be added to the reserve fund, making the total amount thereof £4,000,000; £50,000 be applied in reduction of bank premises account; £25,000 be added to the staff pension and guarantee fund; £50,000 be applied in distribution of a bonus to the staff in recognition of their services during the period under review, in such form and manner as the directors may determine; and that the balance of £402,785 be carried forward—£952,887.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Issued capital—375,540 shares of £10 each, £5 paid	4,366,700	Cash in hand, at bankers, and at call	25,146,774
Reserve fund	4,000,000	Bills receivable	9,472,103
Special reserve, on account of depreciation of capital in Chile	183,827	Investments—English and foreign Government, railway and other securities, £1,964,000; holdings in foreign banks and kindred companies, £1,600,059	3,564,059
Sight drafts on head office and branches	2,996,117	British Bank of South America, Limited, 99,595 shares of £20 each, £10 paid at £27 10s	2,736,388
Bills payable	7,273,933	Liability of customers for acceptances, per contra	4,323,004
Acceptances on account of customers	4,323,004	Advances, &c.	27,180,572
Current, deposit, and other accounts	49,473,164	Bank premises, office furniture, &c.	1,025,243
Bills for collection	9,598,428	Bills for collection, per contra	9,598,428
Rebate of interest on bills, &c., not due	28,511		
Profit and loss	802,887		
	83,046,571		83,046,571

NOTES.—The difference between the assets and liabilities in Chile is taken at the rate of exchange current at the date of the accounts, viz., 63d, with the exception of such portion as represents the capital employed in Chile, which is now taken at 18d.

The special reserve of £183,827 is sufficient to write this capital down to 10d per dollar.

Out of the above assets £2,077,433 have been lodged:—As guarantee to the Chilean Government for due payment of drafts issued for duties, £285,433; for other purposes (amount of lien), £1,792,000—£2,077,433.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Charges at head office and branches	1,276,760	Balance brought forward from last account	393,116
Income-tax to June 30, 1921..	120,848	Gross profits for year	2,169,294
Rebate of interest on bills, &c., not due	28,511		
Balance carried to balance-sheet	1,136,291		
	2,562,410		2,562,410

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Lire.	ASSETS.	Lire.
Capital authorised Lit. 400,000,000..		Cash in hand	276,175,940
Capital subscribed and paid up	312,000,000	Bills receivable (inclusive of Treasury bills)	3,261,029,775
Reserve funds	156,000,000	Bills for collection	113,032,750
Bills payable	396,563,917	Loans and advances	684,489,212
Acceptances against credits and securities	169,586,381	Participations in other banks	81,987,120
Deposits and current accounts	5,468,723,559	Government securities, railway and other bonds and shares	188,699,794
Pension fund	33,529,177	Current accounts	1,904,034,845
Guarantees	243,962,392	Syndicates	92,736,488
Securities deposited	5,219,510,426	Bank premises	32,237,232
Other liabilities	8,389,296	Guarantees, as per contra	243,962,392
Rebate on (including Lire Net profit (including Lire 791,741 brought forward from December 31, 1919)..	22,827,455	Securities, as per contra	5,249,510,426
	66,196,431		
	12,127,294,034		12,127,294,034

BANK OF ATHENS.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Drs.	ASSETS.	Drs.
Capital fully paid	48,000,000	Cash in hand, at banks, and Treasury bills	213,068,816
Statutory reserve	2,400,000	Balances due from banks abroad	111,138,490
Special reserve	2,600,000	Bills receivable	24,167,073
Current, deposit, and other accounts	589,534,255	Loans, advances, bills discounted, and other acts	293,165,969
Dividends unclaimed	2,445,697	Investments	1,425,685
Interim dividend	2,400,000	Premises	8,463,591
Profit and loss	9,053,948	Property	5,053,242
		Furniture	35
	656,483,000		656,483,000

BANCO DE BILBAO.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Pesetas.	ASSETS.	Pesetas.
Capital—200,000 shares of 500 pesetas each	100,000,000	Cash in hand and at banks	21,246,447
Reserve fund	60,000,000	Bills receivable	156,007,626
Provident fund	3,000,000	Investments	173,783,280
Deposit and current accounts	128,348,791	Loans against securities	7,338,683
Profit and loss account	13,542,594	Credit accounts (covered)	55,701,128
Savings bank deposits	50,567,455	Banking correspondents (debtors)	142,944,441
Banking correspondents (creditors)	205,881,216	Sundry debtors	91,366,897
Sundry creditors	131,395,275	General expenses	3,219,958
Bills payable	5,083,102	Bank premises, &c.	4,730,096
Dividends, coupons, and drawn bonds	3,953,593	Unissued capital	40,000,000
Sundry depositors of securities, as per contra	2,217,739,845	Dividend on account of 1920	5,930,470
	2,920,008,871	Sundry deposits of securities in safe custody, &c.	2,217,739,845
			2,920,008,871

BANK OF ROUMANIA, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital	300,000	Cash in hand and at bankers—London, £93,474; Bucarest, lei 196,881,715 at 25 per £, nominal, £7,875,268	7,968,742
Reserve account, old, £143,752; reserve account, new, £56,607	200,359	British Government securities and British Treasury bills	473,788
Contingency, profit and loss, and adjustment accounts	140,983	Bills receivable, loans, current, and other accounts—Sterling, £213,771; lei 68,645,839 at 25 per £, nominal, £2,745,833	2,959,604
Current accounts, bills payable, &c.—Sterling, £441,026; lei 257,994,152 at 25 per £, nominal, £10,319,766	10,760,792		
Note.—The accounts in lei from Bucarest are calculated for the purpose of the balance sheet at 25 lei per £.			
	11,402,134		11,402,134

GORDON, GRANT & CO., LTD.,

PORT OF SPAIN, TRINIDAD, B.W.I.

ESTABLISHED
—1872.—INCORPORATED
—1911.—

CAPITAL (fully paid up) - £500,000
RESERVE - £120,000

BANKERS, MERCHANTS, ESTATES, SHIP AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

Correspondents in London, New York, and Principal
Business Centres in Europe, America, Canada, and India.

Cable Transfers, Letters of Credit and all kinds of Financial Business undertaken.

Telegrams:—"GORDONIUS," Port-of-Spain.

ALL RELIABLE CODES IN USE.

THE LANCASHIRE & YORKSHIRE BANK,

ESTABLISHED 1872. LTD.

CAPITAL - - - £4,000,000.

Subscribed Capital, £2,013,120. Paid-up Capital, £1,006,560. Reserve and Undivided Profits, £1,004,046.

DIRECTORS:

The Right Hon. LORD COLWYN, CHAIRMAN.
GEORGE COMBER, Esq., DEPUTY-CHAIRMAN.

The Right Hon. Lord ARMAGHDALE.
The Right Hon. Lord EMMOTT G.C.M.G., G.B.E.
CHARLES W. KEIGHLEY, Esq.
THOMAS NORTON, Esq., G.B.E.

E. M. PHILIPS, Esq.
ALFRED WATKIN, Esq.
JOSEPH WHEATLEY, Esq.
THOS. B. MOXON, Esq. (HONORARY).

F. W. RAMSBOTTOM & J. M. McBURNIE, JOINT GENERAL MANAGERS.

Head Office—43, SPRING GARDENS, MANCHESTER.

Offices at LIVERPOOL, LEEDS, HUDDERSFIELD, BLACKBURN, BOLTON, BURNLEY, BURY, HALIFAX, OLDHAM, PRESTON,
ROCHDALE, and 118 Offices in the principal Towns in the district.

THE PHILADELPHIA NATIONAL BANK

Organized 1863.

CAPITAL, SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS ... \$16,000,000
DEPOSITS ... \$100,000,000
TOTAL RESOURCES ... \$135,000,000

PHILADELPHIA is the "Workshop of America," and the
leading Commercial Bank is the Philadelphia National Bank.

COMPLETE INTERNATIONAL BANKING SERVICE OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Deposit Accounts solicited.

Collections made on all points.

Credit Reports rendered.

Commercial and Circular Letters of Credit Issued.

Trade Information available for use of our clients wherever located.

LONDON CORRESPONDENTS:

London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.
National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd.
Barclays Bank, Ltd.

British Bank of South America, Ltd.
Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris.

British Trade Corporation.

Telegrams—"TRABANQUE, LONDON."

(INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.)

Telephones—LONDON WALL 2947-2948.

13/14, AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON, E.C.2.

CAPITAL:

AUTHORISED

£10,000,000.

SUBSCRIBED AND PAID UP

£2,000,000.

Governor

THE LORD FARINGDON.

Deputy Governor

SIR HENRY BABINGTON SMITH, G.B.E., K.C.B., C.S.I.

Manager: A. G. M. DICKSON.

London Manager: P. C. WEST.

Secretary: G. DE B. BROWNLEE.

The Corporation is prepared to assist in the development of the Trade of the British Empire in every part of the world, and offers exceptional financial facilities to British Manufacturers and Merchants for the increase of their export and import trade.

It has Agents and Correspondents in all parts of the world, and transacts Banking business of every description.

It invites enquiries, and will endeavour, where necessary, to put expert advice at the disposal of correspondents regarding the financing of their foreign and overseas business.

Moneys received on fixed deposit. Terms on application.

BRANCHES—

BELGRADE. DANTZIG.

Affiliated Companies:—THE NATIONAL BANK OF TURKEY,
Constantinople and Branches.

THE TRADE INDEMNITY COMPANY, LIMITED.
Established for the assistance of British Trade by the Insurance of Accounts

BANCO DE CHILE.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		Currency.	Gold Dollars of 18d.
Deposits—			
At sight and in current account	151,649,286		
Fixed	84,710,227		
In current account and at sight (gold of 18d.)	20,525,396		
In current account in London at 18d.	6,523,920		
Bank bills at sight	3,663,822		
Deposits of bonds and documents	215,840,427		
Savings and pension fund	690,316		
Various creditors	16,018,654		
Suspense account	155,774		
Office of Fiscal Emission	28,300,000		
Paid-up capital	100,000,000		
Reserve fund	58,000,000		
Carry forward from last account	4,011,874		
Unpaid dividends	76,005		
Profit and loss account	8,852,253		
	671,968,738		67,568,926

ASSETS.		Currency.	Gold Dollars of 18d.
Cash—			
Treasury notes	76,114,043		
Fiscal notes			
Gold disposable in Chile and London	6,088,581		
Silver	2,060,699		
Cheques and balances disposable in other banks in Chile and abroad	8,654,598		
Bonds and letters of credit	8,961,020		
Bonds and shares in custody	215,840,427		
Real estate	12,224,764		
Furniture	735,416		
Books and stationery	740,623		
Advances and other documents	316,682,401		
Do in gold in Chile and London at 18d.			33,659,115
Do (Clause 10 of Bank Act)	4,429,375		
Do (Art. 14, Law 1054 of July 31, 1898)	281,271		
Treasury notes, Law 3091	10,600,000		
Agencies and branches	12,000,842		
Suspense account			1,369,511
Interest, discount, &c.	3,233,259		
Office of Fiscal Emission			18,866,667
	671,968,738		67,568,926

BANCO ESPANOL DEL RIO DE LA PLATA.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital subscribed	8,730,158	Cash—Gold dollars	
Deposits—Current accounts		\$896,833.54 at \$0.44	13,083,332
and deposits at fixed term		Branches	3,727,093
gold dollars, \$362,727.87 at \$0.44		Shareholders (liability on uncalled capital)	94,562
Rebate—Corresponding to next half-year	45,759,585	Bills discounted and advances in current account	
Reserve fund	295,609	gold dollars, \$13,503.13 at \$0.44	36,867,776
Sundries—Gold dollars, \$537,608.80	1,894,967	Securities	783,742
Profit and loss—Less dividend of 4 per cent. distributed in January last	607,895	Bank premises	1,104,051
		Furniture and fittings	175,318
		Mortgages against credits	1,969,329
		Freehold properties received in payment of advances	2,345,906
		Sundries—Accounts in process of liquidation	1,465,234
			61,617,343
	61,617,343		61,617,343

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Interest, amortisation of furniture, fittings, and premises, general charges, taxes, salaries, &c.	842,307	Balance brought forward	28,186
Distributed in January last—Dividend to shareholders	345,530	Interest and discount—Balance, less rebate, corresponding to next half-year	1,412,126
Allocated to directors and auditors; charities as per articles of association; staff pension and benevolent fund; reserve fund	34,173	Exchange and commission	389,673
Balance	607,895		
	1,829,905		1,829,905

BANQUE BELGE POUR L'ETRANGER.

(Affiliated to the Société Générale de Belgique.)

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1920.

(Sterling equivalents taken at exchange of 25 frs to the £.)

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital	2,000,000	Cash in hand and with bankers	7,074,744
Statutory reserve fund	41,118	Loans	844,000
Special reserve fund	440,000	Sundry debtors	11,169,107
Sundry creditors	24,322,713	Liability of customers on acceptances	1,240,159
Acceptances	1,240,159	Investments	2,023,931
Obligations	216,000	Financial participations	77,958
Note issue in China	52,602	Bills receivable	6,028,117
Profit and loss account	367,049	Bank premises, &c.	221,653
	28,679,669		28,679,663

BANQUE DU CONGO BELGE.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Francs.	ASSETS.	Francs.
Capital	12,000,000	Land & buildings in Africa	677,000
Legal reserve	140,644	Furniture and fixtures	111,000
Notes in circulation	30,653,037	Shareholders' liability	8,400,000
Bills payable	12,634,378	Cash in hand and at bank	55,145,124
Deposit and current accounts	125,053,594	Government loans	9,949,513
Rebate	171,191	Bills receivable	47,940,251
Profit and loss	1,628,557	Sundry debtors	60,058,513
	182,281,401		182,281,401

BANQUE FRANCAISE POUR LE COMMERCE ET L'INDUSTRIE.

BALANCE-SHEET—July 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Francs.	ASSETS.	Francs.
Capital	100,000,000	Uncalled capital	30,000,000
Statutory reserve	3,380,777	Cash in hand and with other banks	154,568,755
Supplementary reserve	8,800,000	Government bonds	253,263,970
Depreciation fund	400,000	Bills	82,678,026
Premium on shares	3,200,000	Short loans	3,184,236
Unpaid dividends	153,301	Current accounts	84,645,557
Acceptances and bills payable	23,549,324	Acceptances	8,468,843
Exchange	50,705,000	Advances on guarantees	24,855,739
Current accounts—		Exchange	50,705,000
At sight	476,820,321	Rentes, shares, and stock	23,730,398
At notice	48,863,388	Syndicates	6,137,463
Other accounts	12,185,641	Sundries	4,903,437
Profit and loss	9,083,372	Property	10,000,000
	737,141,124		737,141,124

BRITISH ITALIAN CORPORATION, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Share capital—Authorised and issued, 50,000 shares of £20 each, fully paid	1,000,000	Cash in hand	1,763
Special reserve account	233,418	Cash at call and short notice	290,000
Sundry creditors and loans	1,539,324	Balances with bankers in London	446,436
Acceptances, guarantees, and endorsements—		Balances with bankers abroad	284,559
Acceptances	999,413	Bills receivable	396,424
Guarantees	4,501,394	Investments—	
Endorsements	829,520	3,980 shares of Lit. 500 each, fully paid, in Compagnia Italo-Britannica at cost	63,204
Profit and loss account	92,474	Other investments at or below cost	390,227
Contingent liability—To H.M. Government for amounts received under the terms of agreement dated June 8, 1916	233,418	Sundry debtors and loans	959,569
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances, guarantees and endorsements as per contra—	
		Italian banks	4,891,433
		Other customers	1,436,894
		Premises account	33,033
		Office furniture	1
	9,195,543		9,195,543

THE BANK OF CHOSEN

Subscribed Capital Yen 80,000,000
Paid up „ 50,000,000

Head Office SEOUL, CHOSEN
Foreign Department TOKYO

(All communications relating to correspondence arrangements and the Bank's general foreign business to be addressed to the foreign department.)

PRINCIPAL BRANCHES:

JAPAN PROPER—Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Shimonoseki. CHOSEN—Chemulpo, Pyengwang, Fusan, Wonsan, Taiku.
MANCHURIA—Dairen, Antung, Mukden, Yingkow (Newchwang), Changchun, Harbin. CHINA PROPER—Shanghai, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Tsinan. SIBERIA—Vladivostok, Alexandrofsky Port.

NEW YORK AGENCY—City Investing Building, Broadway 165, New York City.

Every description of General Banking and Exchange Business Transacted.

London Representative: Gresham House, 24, Old Broad street, E.C.2.

London Bankers: London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.

The National Bank of New Zealand, Ltd.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL . . . £3,000,000 PAID-UP CAPITAL . . . £1,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL . . . £3,000,000 RESERVE FUND . . . £1,040,000
UNCALLED CAPITAL . . . £2,000,000

Directors:

HON. W. PEMBER REEVES (Chairman).
CHARLES ELGAR, Esq. ROBERT LOGAN, Esq.
HENRY F. FRESHWATER, Esq. Hon. A. M. MYERS.
SIR AUSTIN E. HARRIS, K.B.E. LINDSAY ERIC SMITH, Esq.
JAMES H. B. COATES, Esq. (Honorary).

Head Office:—17, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

Manager:—ARTHUR WILLIS.

Branches and Agencies throughout New Zealand and Correspondents in all parts of the World.

The National Bank of New Zealand, Limited, issues DRAFTS and LETTERS of CREDIT, makes Telegraphic Transfers, opens Current Accounts, negotiates and collects Bills of Exchange, receives Deposits of £50 and upwards for 1, 2 or 3 years at rates to be obtained on application, and conducts every other description of banking business.

BANQUE COMMERCIALE DE BASLE

Established 1863

Capital fully paid Frs. 60,000,000
Reserves Frs. 22,000,000

Head Office: BASLE

Branches: GENEVA & ZURICH

Every description of Banking Business transacted.

Large Foreign Exchange Dealers.

Commercial Credits.

THE BANK OF NOVA SCOTIA

ESTABLISHED 1832.

General Office: TORONTO, CANADA.

Capital \$9,700,000
Reserve Fund \$18,000,000
Total Assets over \$225,000,000

London, England, Branch: 55, OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.2.
New York Agency: 52, WALL STREET.

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS IS TRANSACTED.

Particular attention is devoted to Business with Canada, Newfoundland, and the West Indies, where Branches of the Bank have been established many years.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

National Joint Stock Bank.

Established 1889

HEAD OFFICE: HELSINKI (Helsingfors), FINLAND.

BRANCHES: 123 all over Finland.

PAID-UP CAPITAL and RESERVES F.m. 270,000,000

Every kind of Banking and Exchange Business transacted at most favourable terms.

Deposits Received. Bills Collected.

Mail and Telegraphic Remittances Made.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "Kansallispankki."

LONDON AGENTS: The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.

BRITISH BANK FOR FOREIGN TRADE, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—April 30, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital issued, 240,000 shares of £3 10s each, fully paid ..	840,000	Cash in hand, at bankers in London and abroad, and at call	266,233
Current, deposit and other accounts	763,186	Investments:—	
Profit and loss account—Balance brought forward, £79,849; add profit for year, £25,761	105,610	At market price, April 30, 1920	179,808
		Russian Government and Municipal bonds, and other investments, viz., debentures, preference and ordinary shares (at market price, August 31, 1916, or at cost)	621,520
		Loans to customers	641,235
	1,708,796		1,708,796

BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital—100,000 shares of £20 each, paid up £10 per share ..	1,000,000	Cash in hand and at bankers ..	6,115,785
Reserve fund, as per balance-sheet of Dec. 31, 1919	1,000,000	Bills receivable in hand, and deposited with the company's bankers	7,353,322
Of this sum £196,620 is required to make good the depreciation in sterling value of the capital employed in South America, calculated at the rates on London ruling at the date of making up the present accounts.		Freehold and leasehold premises in London and South America at cost, less amounts written off	318,177
Pension and benevolent fund, as per balance-sheet of Dec. 31, 1919, £119,046; add amount now credited, and interest at 5 per cent., less sundry payments, £15,861 ..	134,907		
Liabilities, viz.:—			
Amount due on current and deposit accounts	14,352,855		
Bills payable	4,008,929		
Other accounts	4,002,379		
Profit and loss account	203,047		
	24,712,117		24,712,117

BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—October 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital subscribed and paid in full—		Cash in hand and at bankers ..	695,710
200,000 "A" ordinary shares of £5 each	1,000,000	Money at call & short notice ..	2,025,499
200,000 "B" ordinary shares of £5 each	1,000,000	Balances with bankers abroad ..	318,125
	2,000,000	Bills discounted	117,321
Current, deposit and other accounts	1,401,899	Government securities, National War Bonds 5% 1922 at cost	99,720
Acceptances and endorsements for account of customers (per contra)	1,621,148	Investments in foreign countries at cost	32,442
Balance of profit and loss account (subject to income-tax and other taxation) ..	199,744	Advances to customers and other accounts	212,166
	5,222,791	Liability of customers for acceptances and endorsements (per contra)	1,621,148
		Premises account	61,644
		Preliminary expenses (including underwriting commission £15,000)	39,016
			5,222,791

COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Issued capital	500,000	Cash in hand, at bankers and at call	585,918
Reserve fund	77,750	Bills receivable	338,909
Bills payable	433,891	Investments	23,575
Acceptances on account of customers		Advances, etc.	2,896,022
Current deposit and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss accounts) ..	2,873,976	Bank premises	41,469
Bills for collection	785,085	Bills for collection (per contra) ..	785,085
Rebate	274		
	4,670,976		4,670,976

BRITISH TRADE CORPORATION.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Capital issued—200,000 shares of £10 each, fully paid	2,000,000	Cash in hand and at bankers ..	254,441
Current, deposit, and other accounts (including rebate of interest on Treasury bills and bills discounted)	2,478,361	Money at call and short notice ..	700,000
Acceptances on account of customers	2,180,745	British Treasury bills	250,000
Profit and loss account—As per account	141,901	Investments (including £350,000 National War Bonds and £175,000 Exchange Bonds) at or under cost	799,265
		Bills discounted, loans, advances, and sundry debtors ..	1,977,445
		Liability of customers for acceptances as per contra ..	2,180,745
		Capital in subsidiary companies at or under cost	307,381
		National Bank of Turkey, 96,810 shares of £10 each, £2 10s paid	243,119
		Premises	64,045
		Furniture, less depreciation ..	4,566
		Stamp duty on unissued capital	20,000
	6,801,007		6,801,007

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Balance, being net profit before providing for income tax, and corporation profits tax carried to balance-sheet	141,901	Amount brought forward from 1919	22,592
		Profit for the year, after meeting current expenses, including directors' fees, salaries, rent, and other charges	119,309
	141,901		141,901

COMPTOIR NATIONAL D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

(25 francs to the £.)

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£
Current and deposit accounts	141,260,846	Cash in hand and at bank	15,460,823
Fixed deposits	1,016,549	Bills of exchange discounted and French Treasury bills	106,161,255
Acceptances	4,236,047	Credit balances with banking correspondents	7,106,170
Sundry accounts	3,404,414	Branches abroad	430,739
Reserves	2,794,703	Advances against collateral ..	7,159,954
Profit and loss account	1,143,469	Investments	226,458
Capital	10,000,000	Current accounts	21,791,923
		Liability of customers on acceptances	4,221,602
		Sundry accounts	697,110
		Bank premises	600,000
	163,856,034		163,856,034

CREDIT FONCIER D'ALGERIE ET DE TUNISIE.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Francs.	ASSETS.	Francs.
Capital	125,000,000	Uncalled capital	5,684,000
Reserves	20,000,000	Cash	48,592,594
Superannuation fund	193,621	Bills	360,304,664
Crédit Foncier de France ..	94,166,969	Investments	23,307,252
Current and deposit accts. ..	398,528,110	Premises, &c.	22,393,836
Deposits	47,530,863	Loans and advances	165,063,576
Correspondents & creditors ..	79,938,572	Correspondents	38,266,825
Acceptances	17,255,729	Current accounts	102,135,400
Exchange operations	4,455,000	Syndicates	30,167,243
Sundry accounts	26,539,603	Cover for acceptances	9,135,764
Profit and loss	359,686	Exchange operations	4,455,000
	813,968,153	Preliminary expenses	4,471,999
			813,968,153

CREDIT LYONNAIS.

BALANCE-SHEET—March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Francs.	ASSETS.	Francs.
Deposits at call	1,671,697,487	Cash in hand and at banks ..	491,671,126
Current accounts	2,823,348,994	Bills discounted & French Treasury bills	3,430,463,332
Accounts payable after collection	117,861,240	Loans and advances	168,381,610
Exchange for forward delivery	95,329,472	Current accounts	1,078,744,480
Acceptances	25,194,651	Exchange for forward delivery ..	95,329,472
Deposits for fixed periods ..	54,857,859	Investments	7,354,479
Sundry liabilities	114,804,763	Sundries	57,060,371
Profit and loss	10,910,405	Premises	35,000,000
Reserve fund	200,000,000		
Capital fully paid	250,000,000		
	5,364,004,770		5,364,004,770

FERRIER LULLIN & CIE.

GENEVA.

Established 1795.

Partners: H. FERRIER, A. LULLIN, F. BOISSIER, J. STRAESSLE.

Telegraphic Address: "FERULIN, GENEVA."

London Correspondents:

THE LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK, Ltd.
SWISS BANK CORPORATION
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA
Messrs. HELBERT WAGG & CO., Ltd.
Messrs. S. JAPHET & CO., Ltd.
Messrs. SELIGMAN BROTHERS

New York Correspondents:

NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK
IRVING NATIONAL BANK
Messrs. A. ISELIN & CO.
Messrs. HALLGARTEN & CO.

All kinds of banking business transacted.

CREDIT FONCIER D'ALGERIE ET DE TUNISIE.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

CAPITAL - - - - - Fcs. 125,000,000

REGISTERED OFFICE - ALGIERS. HEAD OFFICE - - - - - PARIS.

LONDON OFFICE : 54, GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.3.

Telegrams: Foncalton, Bilgate, London.

Telephones: Avenue 8017 & 8474.

FRANCE: Paris, Bordeaux, Lyons, Marseilles, Nantes.

ALGERIA: Algiers, Blida, Bona, Constantine, Oran, Setif, Sidi-Bel-Abbes and 58 Sub Branches.

TUNISIA: Tunis & 18 Sub Branches.

MOROCCO: Casablanca, Tangiers & 12 Sub Branches.

MALTA GIBALTAR PALMA (Balearic Islands) SMYRNA.

ALL BANKING AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUSINESS TRANSACTED. Accounts in English and French money opened at call or at short notice.

BANQUE DE L'UNION PARISIENNE

7, RUE CHAUCHAT, PARIS

CAPITAL { Authorised - - - - - Fr.200,000,000
 { Issued - - - - - Fr.150,000,000
RESERVES - - - - - Fr. 87,800,000

The Bank conducts Banking Business of every description in France and Foreign Countries

London Correspondents: London County Westminster and Parrs Bank, Limited (Lothbury); London Joint City and Midland Bank Limited; Swiss Bank Corporation; Credito Italiano; Banque Belge pour l'Etranger.

BANQUE BELGE POUR L'ETRANGER

SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME.

(Filiale de la Société Générale de Belgique.)

CAPITAL (subscribed) - - - - - Frs. 100,000,000
(paid up) - - - - - Frs. 75,000,000
RESERVES - - - - - Frs. 15,977,943

HEAD OFFICE: BRUSSELS, 86 Rue des Colonies.

Branches: PARIS (12 Place de la Bourse), NEW YORK, BUCHAREST, COLOGNE, CAIRO, ALEXANDRIA, TANTAH, SHANGHAI, TIENSIN, PEKING.

LONDON OFFICE: 2 Bishopsgate, E.C.2. Agent: MANCHESTER, 31 Mosley Street.

London Committee: Messrs. J. S. HASKELL, A. F. BUXTON, G. GRINNELL MILNE, SIR WM. GARSTIN, G.C.M.G., EMILE FRANCOU, CHEVALIER DE WOUTERS.

Affiliated Banks: In all towns of any importance in Belgium, and also Banco de Cartagena, Madrid, with branches in Spain and Morocco; Wiener Bank-Verein, Vienna, with branches in Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania, Italy (Tyrol), Yugo-Slavia, and Asia Minor; Konyoundjisky & Co., Sofia.

Correspondents in all parts of the World.

Agents in the United Kingdom for the Belgian Postal Cheque Service. Letters of Credit—Collection of Clean and Documentary Drafts. FOREIGN EXCHANGE business a speciality; FOREIGN CURRENCIES bought and sold for immediate or forward delivery, enabling traders to secure the exchange for their contracts in the currency of the country of their customers.

All kinds of Banking Business undertaken.

FOR BANKING BUSINESS IN FINLAND

USE

A/B. NORDISKA—FÖRENINGSBANKEN

(O/Y. POHJOISMAIDEN YHDYSPANKKI)

(established by amalgamation of Föreningsbanken in Finland and Nordiska Aktiebanken för Handel och Industri).

CAPITAL & RESERVES: Fmks. 260,000,000

Head Office: HELSINGFORS

FIFTY-ONE BRANCHES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

EVERY KIND OF BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Telegraphic Address: UNITAS.

CREDITO ITALIANO.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Capital	300,000,000	Cash and balances at call with banks	420,817,360
Reserve fund	65,000,000	Bills receivable on Italy, England, and other countries	2,549,336,269
Deposits and saving accounts	877,261,882	Loans against collateral securities	332,966,588
Current accounts	3,240,356,079	Current accounts	1,439,862,049
Acceptances on account of customers	21,128,916	Investments	102,907,923
Cheques outstanding	308,810,424	Participations	26,730,184
Sundry creditors	88,425,595	Freehold bank premises	12,500,000
Guarantees on account of customers	94,713,416	Sundry debtors	69,526,852
Rebate on bills receivable maturing next year	12,183,736	Customers' liabilities against guarantees	94,713,416
Net profit	41,550,620	Securities belonging to clerks' provident fund	8,695,644
Clerks' provident fund, as per contra	8,695,644		
	5,058,126,312		5,058,126,312

EQUITABLE TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 6, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	\$	Assets.	\$
Capital	12,000,000	Cash on hand and in banks	25,887,902
Surplus and undivided profits	16,817,531	Exchanges for clearing	18,948,773
Deposits (including foreign offices)	201,391,414	House	9,385,896
Acceptances (less in port folio)	26,336,578	Bonds and mortgages	1,638,600
Notes payable, secured by U.S. Government obligations	7,536,000	Public securities	13,941,426
Notes payable and rediscounts	31,375,000	Short term investments	6,259,374
Accrued interest payable, reserve for taxes, and other liabilities	7,906,458	Other stocks and bonds	20,939,333
	272,019,356	Demand loans	35,455,438
		Time loans	23,116,299
		Bills discounted	57,358,225
		Customers' liability on acceptances (less anticipations)	23,726,413
		Real estate	3,476,743
		Foreign offices	30,253,051
		Accrued interest receivable, and other assets	2,087,883
			272,019,356

FARMERS' LOAN AND TRUST COMPANY.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 6, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	\$	Assets.	\$
Deposits	126,337,337	Cash on hand and in bank	19,846,103
Accrued interest, and reserved for taxes, dividend, &c.	2,002,916	U.S. Government bonds and certificates	26,727,114
Bills payable Federal Reserve Bank secured by U.S. Government securities	1,000,000	Prime acceptances	4,288,988
Domestic and foreign acceptances	1,394,345	Bills purchased	18,575,777
Capital stock	5,000,000	Call loans—Collateral	26,111,103
Surplus and undivided profits	11,929,511	Time loans—Collateral	15,977,250
	147,664,109	Accrued interest	935,720
		Bonds and stocks	19,767,731
		Bonds and mortgages	1,491,640
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances	1,391,385
		Real estate	3,000,000
		Due from foreign branches	9,558,238
			147,664,109

GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 6, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	\$	Assets.	\$
Capital	25,000,000	Cash on hand, in Federal Reserve Bank and due from banks and bankers	140,655,043
Surplus fund	15,000,000	U.S. Government bonds and certificates	34,234,745
Undivided profits	1,131,465	Public securities	24,254,161
Accrued dividend	550,000	Other securities	30,780,662
Accrued interest payable and reserves for taxes and expenses, and other liabilities	21,324,263	Loans and bills purchased	331,835,714
Notes, bills and acceptances rediscounted with Federal Reserve Bank	50,250,463	Real estate bonds and mortgages	2,674,017
Notes secured by Liberty bonds rediscounted with Federal Reserve Bank	6,808,500	Foreign exchange	2,008,068
Accepts—New York office	19,905,203	Credits granted on acceptances	25,176,541
Accepts—Foreign offices	5,271,332	Real estate	8,658,083
Outstanding Treasurer's cheques	17,103,134	Accrued interest and accounts receivable	10,233,242
Deposits	448,265,970		
	610,610,336		610,610,336

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Paid-up capital	2,375,000	Cash (including \$15,500,000 coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against authorised and/or excess note circulation)	19,651,333
Sterling reserve fund	2,500,000	Bullion in hand and in transit	891,673
Silver reserve fund	3,082,843	British Government, Indian, Colonial, and other securities (including sterling reserve investments, £1,578,947 5 per cent. War Loan 1929-1947 at 95 = £1,500,000)	5,125,628
Marine insurance account	39,583	Bills discounted, loans and credits	25,615,132
Notes in circulation	18,102,301	Bills receivable	34,095,630
(Authorised and additional issue against securities and coin deposited with the Crown Agents for the Colonies, their trustees, and the Hongkong Government)	4,644,338	Liabilities of constituents for acceptances, per contra	1,181,402
Current accounts	53,316,418	Bank premises	1,283,994
Fixed deposits	18,102,301		
Bills payable (including call loans and short sight drawings on London office and drafts on London bankers)	1,002,227		
Acceptances on account of constituents	1,181,402		
Profit and loss account	1,600,810		

Liability on bills of exchange rediscounted, £16,276,773, of which £13,931,106 have since run off.

87,844,922

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Interim dividend:—		Balance of undivided profits, December 31, 1919 ..	516,618
Paid on August 9, 1920, £3 per share on 120,000 shares = £360,000 at 3s 8d ..	360,000	Amount of net profits for the year ending December 31, 1920, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts and contingencies, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	*1,448,942
Final dividend:—	4,750		
£3 per share on 120,000 shares = £360,000 at 3s 2d = \$2,273,584 ..	360,000		
Bonus of £2 per share on 120,000 shares = £240,000 at 3s 2d = \$1,515,763 ..	240,000		
Transfer to silver reserve ..	321,324		
Transfer to bank premises account	158,333		
Balance forward to next year	521,153		
	1,965,560		1,965,560

IMPERIAL OTTOMAN BANK.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1919.

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Capital paid up	5,000,000	Cash in hand and at bankers	11,141,087
Bank notes in circulation ..	2,443,054	Money at call and notice ..	1,195,585
Bills payable	2,175,282	Bills receivable (including £4,365,000 15s 6d British Treasury Bills and Bons de la Defense Nationale) ..	6,192,237
Current accounts of sundries ..	19,511,008	Investments (of which £124,164 17s 3d is lodged against deposits, Savings Bank Department, &c.), including £1,960,114 14s 3d British and French Government securities	3,692,897
Deposits for fixed terms	264,733	Current account of sundries ..	5,602,725
Statutory reserve	1,250,000	Advances on securities	2,621,687
Profit and loss account	206,405	Bank premises and real estate ..	404,270
	30,850,488		30,850,488

IMPERIAL BANK OF PERSIA.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 20, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Capital—99,800 ordinary shares of £6 10s; 200 founders' shares of £6 10s	650,000	Cash in hand, at bankers, and in transit	3,339,576
Reserve account	280,000	Investments in British and Colonial Government and other securities, taken at or under prices ruling on September 20, 1920	1,535,222
Notes in circulation	670,204	Bills discounted, loans and advances, including adjustments and past due bills and loans	1,738,789
Deposits	3,228,337	Bills receivable	1,591,990
Bills payable, endorsements, and adjustments	3,378,404	Bank premises, furniture, and stationery	55,420
Profit and loss account	54,051		8,260,996
Liability on bills of exchange rediscounted, £625,460, of which, up to December 18th, £493,960 has run off ..			
	8,250,996		

GOLDMAN, SACHS & Co.

60, Wall Street, New York.

BOSTON LOS ANGELES
CHICAGO PHILADELPHIA
ST. LOUIS SAN FRANCISCO

Members of

NEW YORK and CHICAGO STOCK EXCHANGES

Foreign Exchange, Commercial and

Travellers' Letter of Credit available

in all Parts of the World.

COMMERCIAL PAPER.

Securities Bought and Sold on Commission.

BORGES & IRMAO

BANKERS,

OPORTO (Portugal).

Established 1884.

Branches:

LISBON and RIO DE JANEIRO.

All kinds of Banking and
Exchange Business

Telegraphic Address: BORGIRMAO, Porto.

London Agents: The London Joint City and Midland
Bank, Limited.The Chase National Bank
of the City of New York

CAPITAL

SURPLUS AND PROFITS

DEPOSITS (Sept 6, 1921)

OFFICERS

A. Barton Hepburn, Chairman of the Advisory Board
Albert H. Wiggin, President

Vice-Presidents: Samuel H. Miller, Cashier: William P. Holly
Carl J. Schmidlapp, Assistant Cashiers: Charles C. Slade
Gerhard M. Dahl, Charles D. Smith
Reeve Schley, S. Frederick Telleen
Alfred C. Andrews, Leon H. Johnston
Robert L. Barr, Otis Everett
Sherrell Smith, George E. Schoepps
Comptroller: Thomas Ritchie, Andrew G. Campbell
Assistant Vice-Presidents: Edwin A. Lee, William H. Moorhead
Edwin A. Lee, George H. Saylor, Ernest T. Love
M. Hadden Howell

George A. Kinney, Trust Officer
Martin L. L. Henry, Auditor
Manfred Barber, Manager Foreign Department

DIRECTORS

Henry W. Cannon, Newcomb Carlton
A. Barton Hepburn, Frederick H. Ecker
Albert H. Wiggin, Eugene V. R. Thayer
John J. Mitchell, Carl J. Schmidlapp
Guy E. Tripp, Gerhard M. Dahl
James N. Hill, Andrew Fletcher
Daniel C. Jackling, Wm. Boyce Thompson
Charles M. Schwab, Reeve Schley
Samuel H. Miller, Kenneth F. Wood
Edward R. Tinker, H. Wendell Endicott
Edward T. Nichols, William M. Wood

WE RECEIVE ACCOUNTS OF BANKS, Bankers, Corporations,
Firms or Individuals on favorable terms, and shall be pleased to meet or
correspond with those who contemplate making changes or opening
new accounts.

Through its Trust Department, the Bank offers facilities as: Trustee
under Corporate Mortgages and Indentures of Trust; Depositary under
reorganization and other agreements; Custodian of securities and
Fiscal Agent for Corporations and Individuals; Executor under Wills
and Trustee under Testamentary Trusts; Trustee under Life Trusts.
FOREIGN EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT

LEU & CO.'S BANK,
LIMITED.

ZURICH :: :: Switzerland.

ESTABLISHED 1755.

Paid-up Capital - - Fr. 40,000,000

Affiliated Banks:

BANQUE COMMERCIALE DE BERNE.

BANQUE COMMERCIALE DE SOLEURE.

BANK OF ST. GALL.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY
DESCRIPTION TRANSACTED.Special facilities extended for
Trade.THE
NATIONAL PARK
BANK
OF NEW YORK
214 Broadway

Capital

Surplus and Undivided Profits

An institution with complete facilities for the handling of international commerce.

Established 1856.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.			
Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Amount due to Persian Government	4,000	Balance brought forward at September 20, 1919	27,809
Interim dividend at 3s per share, paid June 18, 1920 (free of income-tax)	15,000	Net profit, after deducting expenses of management and general charges in London, at chief office, branches, and agencies, and after making provision for income-tax, excess profits duty, corporation tax, and bad and doubtful debts....	80,242
Transfer to reserve account	30,000		
Transfer to bank premises account	5,000		
Proposed dividend at 5s per share (free of income-tax), £25,000; balance to new account, £29,051	54,051		
	108,051		108,051

IONIAN BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

(Drachmas taken at 25 per £ and £s at 97.50 per £100.)

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
£		£	
Capital—97,116 shares of £5 each, paid up	485,580	Cash in hand and at bankers—London & Paris, £148,224; branches, £51,361	199,585
Reserve fund	130,000	Notes of other banks	1,225,763
Current accounts, including accounts without interest, £4,834,626; deposits bearing interest, £2,252,961	7,087,587	Money at call with National Bank of Greece	384,648
Other liabilities and credit accounts, including outstanding advances, exchange contracts, letters of credit, documentary credits, and other credit balances	3,463,773	Investments at market prices or under (British Imperial and Colonial Government stocks, and other securities) :—London, £702,019; in Greece, £83,025	785,044
Bills payable	339,875	Bills receivable—London, Paris, and in transit	771,674
Rebate on bills not due	16,602	Bills discounted, viz.:—Commercial, £1,564,963; proprietors' and agrarian, £65,023	1,630,986
Profit and loss, balance of account as below	31,173	Advances on securities	2,496,150
Contingent liability on bills of exchange discounted, nil.		Loans and current accounts, £340,210; other assets—including outstanding advances, exchange contracts, letters of credit, documentary credits, and other advances, £3,476,727	3,816,937
		Current accounts secured by mortgages	26,849
		Advances on mortgages	105,480
		Mortgaged property taken possession of	15,536
		Freehold bank premises at Athens, Corfu, Cephalonia, Patras, Piræus, Zante, and Alexandria, and bank furniture	95,938
	11,554,590		11,554,590

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.			
Dr.	£	Cr.	£
Interim dividend for 1920, at 3s per share, free of income-tax, paid Sept. 21, 1920	14,567	Net profit brought down	39,433
Reserve fund (addition to the fund)	5,000	Balance brought forward from last account	11,307
Final dividend at 3s per share, together with a bonus of 1s per share, both free of income-tax, payable if agreed to on April 27, 1921, £19,423; balance carried forward, £11,750 ..	31,173		
	50,740		50,740

MITSUBISHI BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Yen.		Yen.	
Capital	50,000,000	Uncalled capital	20,000,000
Reserve funds	3,450,000	Advances	213,591,765
Deposits	234,550,290	Foreign bills bought	3,498,565
Bills payable	513,415	Interest-bearing foreign bills	2,858,375
Foreign bills sold	239,445	Due from other banks	320,486
Due to other banks	528,487	Acceptances and guarantees, as per contra	11,434,730
Acceptances and guarantees	11,434,730	Government bonds and Treasury bills	35,908,692
Interest accrued on deposits not yet due	1,885,697	Other bonds and securities	17,234,425
Rebate on bills discounted	2,524,709	Bullion	1,097
Stipend accounts	94,350	Office premises	3,050,000
Accounts en route	464,254	Suspense accounts	74,844
Balance brought forward from last profit and loss account	705,171	Cash on hand and in banks	22,972,598
Net profit for the current half-year	4,545,430		
	340,945,977		340,945,977

LONDON AND BRAZILIAN BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—January 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
£		£	
Capital paid up, £10 per share	1,500,000	Specie and cash at head office and branches	10,353,042
Reserve fund	1,500,000	Bills receivable	2,113,950
Current accounts and deposits in currency at branches, £17,667,070; current accounts and deposits at head office, £364,254	18,031,324	Bills discounted, loans, &c., in situ, &c.	235,152
Bills payable	5,148,284	Bills for collection, as per contra	9,587,588
Agents and sundry accounts	1,505,873	Bank premises at head office and branches	265,360
Bills for collection on account of customers	9,587,583	Furniture at head office and branches	21,686
Profit and loss, £811,647; less dividend (interim) paid to July 31, 1920, £105,000 ..	706,647		
(Staff pension and benevolent fund trust £179,196, 5% War Loan, 1929-1947)			
	37,979,716		37,979,716

THE
BRITISH LINEN BANK

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1746.

CAPITAL (PAID UP) . £1,250,000
RESERVE FUNDS . £1,350,000

Governor:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF ROSEBURY
AND MIDLOTHIAN, K.G., K.T.

Deputy-Governor:

THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF NORTHESK.

Head Office - EDINBURGH.

REES GRIFFITH THOMAS, General Manager.
KENNETH J. MORTON, Secretary.

150 Branches throughout Scotland.

LONDON OFFICE:

38, Threadneedle Street, E.C.2.

Every description of Home and Foreign Banking
Business transacted.

"BARCLAYS" GROUP OF BANKS:—

Barclays Bank Limited.
The British Linen Bank.
The Union Bank of Manchester Limited.
The Anglo-Egyptian Bank Limited.THE
MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA
LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE:

15 GRACECHURCH ST., LONDON, E.C.3.

Capital Authorised £3,000,000
Capital Paid Up £1,050,000
Reserve Fund & Undivided Profits £1,227,638BRANCHES and AGENCIES in India, Ceylon,
Burma, Straits Settlements, China, and
Port Louis, Mauritius.The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange,
issues Letters of Credit, and conducts
every description of Banking Business in
connection with the East.FIXED DEPOSIT RATES will be quoted upon
application.ON CURRENT ACCOUNTS interest is allowed at
2 per cent. per annum on Daily Balances,
provided interest for the half-year amounts
to £1.THE EQUITABLE
TRUST COMPANY

OF NEW YORK.

ALVIN W. KRECH, President.

Capital, Surplus and Undivided
Profits (Sept. 6th, 1921) \$28,817,531
(£7,485,073)

Member New York Clearing House Association.

Current Accounts opened and Deposits received.

Dollar Bills purchased.

Drafts and Cable Transfers on New York and
other important cities in the United States and
Canada issued at closest rate.Banking and Exchange Business of every
description transacted.

LONDON OFFICE:

3 KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.4.

NEW YORK.

Head Office - 37 Wall Street.

Branches: 222 Broadway, Madison Avenue at
45th Street.

PARIS: 23 Rue de la Paix.

Member Federal Reserve System.

B.W. BLYDENSTEIN & Co.,

55-56, Threadneedle Street,
London, E.C.2.Bankers and
Discounting AgentsALL BANKING AND DISCOUNT
BUSINESS TRANSACTED.Dealers in British Treasury Bills of any
Maturity.Special Facilities for Business with
Holland.FORWARD CONTRACTS IN DUTCH
GUILDERS.BANKING SERVICE
FOR THE
ENGINEERING TRADES.This Bank is prepared to finance the
distribution of all kinds of costly
Machinery Merchandise, products of
the Engineering and Allied Trades.

Enquiries and personal interviews welcomed.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS
DEPOSIT ACCOUNTSare opened for the Bank's own
customers, to whom a complete
banking service is available.CONTINENTAL GUARANTY
CORPORATION,

BANKERS,

King's House, King Street,
LONDON, E.C.2.

Telegrams: Banquithus, Cent., London. Telephone: City 2426; City 8754

FREDRIKSSTAD
PRIVATBANKFredriksstad
(NORWAY).

Established 1891.

Capital and Surplus,
about Kr. 23,000,000.General
Banking
Business

Telegraphic Address: PRIVATBANK, FREDRIKSSTAD.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Dr.	Cr.
Charges at head office and branches	435,765
Taxes at home and abroad	68,546
Dividend (interim) for the half-year ending July 31, 1920	105,000
Balance carried down	705,647
	1,315,958

HAMBRO'S BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE, LIM.

BALANCE-SHEET—March 31, 1921.	
LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Paid-up capital—£2 10s per share on 400,000 shares of £10	1,000,000
Reserve	1,050,000
Profit and loss account	123,787
Current, deposit, and other accounts	17,856,283
Acceptances	7,726,596
	27,756,666
	27,756,666

INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1921. (Exchange \$5 = £1.)	
LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital	1,000,000
Reserve fund	1,000,000
Undivided profits (dividend paid March 31, 1921, £20,000, and June 30, 1921, £50,000)	845,803
Reserve for dividends	120,000
Reserve for taxes	373,621
Deposits, time	5,577,560
Deposits, demand	8,789,840
Bills and accounts payable	1,969,210
Notes in circulation in China	756,168
Securities borrowed	131,000
Acceptances by this bank, £2,459,462; by other banks, for account of this bank, £1,820,985	4,280,447
	24,843,649
	24,843,649

ITALO-BELGIAN BANK

(Banque Italo-Belge, Société Anonyme).

Capital subscribed and paid - Frs. 50,000,000
Reserve Funds - Frs. 21,933,866

Head Office: ANTWERP.

London Office:
50 OLD BROAD STREET, E.C.2.

Branches:

FRANCE—Paris.

ARGENTINE—Buenos Aires.

URUGUAY—Montevideo.

BRAZIL—Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Campinas.

CHILI—Valparaiso.

Correspondents in all the Principal Places
in South America.

The Bank transacts every description of Banking Business. Bills and Documentary Bills negotiated, advanced upon, or sent for collection. Drafts and Letters of Credit issued and Cable and Mail Transfers effected on Branches and Correspondents. Documentary Credits opened or Confirmed. Sale and Purchase of Stocks and Shares undertaken. Coupons and Drawn Bonds collected and negotiated.

Telegrams: "Itabelban, Stock, London."
Telephone: London Wall 1157, 1158.

ITALO-BELGIAN BANK.

BALANCE-SHEET—June 30, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital	50,000,000
Reserve funds—Legal reserve fund, 983,867; extraordinary reserve fund, 23,950,000	21,933,867
Current accounts and deposits for fixed periods	655,864,210
Bankers' and correspondents' accounts	117,554,724
Bills payable	8,487,452
Unclaimed interest and dividends	143,201
Depositors of securities	272,876,396
Re-discount on bills, 646,637; interest and dividend, 2,516,895; balance carried forward to next year's account, 415,254	3,578,802
	1,130,438,652
	1,130,438,652

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 30, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital, 120,000 shares of £25 each, on which £17 per share has been paid	2,040,000
Reserve fund	2,100,000
Acceptances—account branches	3,603,603
Acceptances—customers' drafts under merchandise credits, &c.	2,843,325
Bills advised—drafts in transit	2,277,992
Current accounts, &c., and deposits in currency at branches	37,051,235
Current accounts and deposits at head office	871,894
Monte Video branch—Local currency emission	9,647
Bills for collection on account of customers, per contra	8,706,991
Rebate of interest on bills not due	140,033
Profit and loss account, as per statement below	731,740
	60,376,460
	60,376,460

Note—Contingent liability as endorers of foreign bills discounted, £500,000—
—all of which has since run off.

THE LONDON
MERCHANT BANK
LIMITED

Subscribed Capital - £1,500,000
Paid-up Capital - 750,000
Reserve Fund - 350,000

F. LUBBOCK, Chairman. A. HARTER, Manager.
F. POOLE, Secretary.

Office:

38, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Clearing Agents:

BANK OF ENGLAND: COUTTS & CO.

Telegraphic Address: "Londomerc, Thread, London."

BANCO
ITALIANO
LIMA (Peru).Capital:
Lp. 400,000.Reserve:
Lp. 336,500.BRANCHES AT
CALLAO, AREQUIPA,
CHINCHA-ALTA & MOLLEND.

London Agents:

Banca Commerciale Italiana,
30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.THE UNION BANK OF
AUSTRALIA Limited.

Established 1837. Incorporated 1880.

CAPITAL AUTHORISED ... £9,000,000
CAPITAL ISSUED ... £7,500,000
CAPITAL PAID-UP ... £2,500,000
RESERVE FUND ... £2,750,000

Reserve Liability of Proprietors ... £5,000,000

DIRECTORS:

HENRY P. STURGIS, Esq., Chairman.
The Rt. Hon. LORD CARMICHAEL, G.C.S.I.
The Rt. Hon. THE EARL OF CHICHESTER
JOHN DENNISTOUN, Esq.
HUGH D. FLOWER, Esq.
The Rt. Hon. LORD HILLINGDON.
SOMERVILLE R. LIVINGSTONE-LEARMONTH, Esq.
ROBERT C. NESBITT, Esq.
FREDERICK G. PARBURY, Esq.
The Hon. EDMUND W. PARKER, K.C.M.G.
ARTHUR C. WILLIS, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE:

71 Cornhill, London, E.C.3.

Manager—W. J. ESAME.

Assistant Manager—W. A. LAING.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT AUSTRALIA AND
NEW ZEALAND, viz.:

In VICTORIA .. 42
" SOUTH AUSTRALIA .. 14
" NEW SOUTH WALES .. 38
" WESTERN AUSTRALIA .. 20
" QUEENSLAND .. 19
" TASMANIA .. 3
" NEW ZEALAND .. 46
182

Drafts upon the Branches are issued by Head Office, and may also be obtained from the Bank's Agents throughout England, Scotland, and Ireland. Commercial and Circular Travelling Credits issued—available throughout the World. Telegraphic Remittances are also made. Bills on the Australian States and Dominion of New Zealand are purchased or sent for collection. Deposits are received at Head Office at rates of interest and for periods which may be ascertained on application.

THE NATIONAL
SHAWMUT BANK

OF BOSTON,

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.

Chartered in 1836.

Capital - \$10,000,000
Surplus & Undivided Profits over \$12,000,000

Correspondents in all large cities in the United States of America.

Transacts a general Foreign and Domestic Banking Business.

Issues Commercial Letters of Credit and Travellers' Letters of Credit.

Buys and sells Foreign Exchange.

Discounts Acceptances.

Makes Advances against Merchandise stored at home or abroad.

Check Accounts solicited.

London Agents:

London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.
Barclays Bank, Ltd. Lloyds Bank, Ltd.
Guaranty Trust Co. of New York.

Good Quality
COLLARS

—direct from the actual makers, and consequently bearing no middleman's profit—
are a Really Sound
Investment TO-DAY at

Six for

4/6

Each 9½d.

AT the new price of 9½d. each, we boldly claim this to be The Best Collar Value in the World TO-DAY. Get a sample half-dozen from Hope Brothers' nearest establishment at your earliest opportunity.

Sizes, from 14 to 18½ inches.
Depths, every quarter inch from 1½ to 2½ ins. for most shapes.

Hope Brothers
LTD.

Complete Outfitters

Chief Establishments:

44 & 46, Ludgate Hill, E.C.4.

84-88, Regent Street, W.1.

Branches throughout London and the Provinces.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	
Dr.	Cr.
Charges at head office and branches, including rent and taxes	Balance brought forward ..
Interim dividends	Gross profit, after providing for bad and doubtful debts ..
Balance carried down	
1,586,344	1,586,344

THE P. & O. BANKING CORPORATION, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—March 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital issued, 250,000 shares of £10 each, fully paid up	Cash at bankers and in hand
Current deposits, and other accounts, including rebate on bills not due, provision for bad and doubtful debts, income and corporation profits taxes, &c.	Money at call and short notice
Loans	Investments—Colonial Government securities at market value, £5,407; Corporation stocks, industrial debentures, and other investments at or below market value, £55,634; Allahabad Bank—23,178 ordinary shares of Rs.100 each, of which 14,455 are fully paid and 8,723 are paid up to the extent of Rs.50 per share, at cost, £583,916
Liabilities for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra	Bills discounted, including Treasury bills
Liabilities to customers on account bills receivable for collection, as per contra	Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c., as per contra
Profit and loss account—Net profit for the period ended March 31, 1921, £99,725; deduct—Balance of preliminary expenses written off, £26,430	Bills receivable for collection, as per contra
NOTE.—There is a contingent liability in respect of bills re-discounted amounting to £5,106,106 6s 2d, of which £1,931,285 9s 5d have run off by May 30th.	Advances to customers on current & other accounts
	Items in transit and sundry other assets, including exchange adjustment acc't
	Furniture at head office and branches
6,139,842	6,139,842

PROFIT AND LOSS.	
Dr.	Cr.
Preliminary expenses written off	Net profit, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, income and corporation profits taxes
Proposed dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for nine months ended March 31, 1921, less tax	
Balance to be carried forward	
99,725	99,725

SOCIETE BELGE DE CREDIT INDUSTRIEL ET COMMERCIAL ET DE DEPOTS.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Subscribed capital	Uncalled capital
Statutory reserve	Premises
Special reserve	Cash
Deposit accounts	Coupons for collection
Current accounts	Bills receivable
Other liabilities	Short loans
Profit and loss	Advances
	Current accounts
	Other assets
64,936,605	64,936,605

SOCIETE GENERALE.

(Pour Favoriser le Développement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France.)

BALANCE-SHEET—December 30, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	ASSETS.
Capital	Cash in hand and at bank
Reserve	Bills receivable
Drawing accounts	Coupons for collection
Deposit accounts	Short loans
Bills payable	Loans on security
Current accounts	Current accounts
Interest and dividends	Investments
Profit and loss	Syndicates
	Premises, &c.
	Uncalled capital
5,746,231,910	5,746,231,910

Telegrams: "Easportico, London."

Telephone: Avenue 2123/4.

EASTERN EXPORT CO., LTD.,
5, LLOYD'S AVENUE, LONDON, E.C.3, Eng.,
AND AT NEW YORK.

IRON AND STEEL

Pig Iron,
Hematite,
Bars,
Rods,
Angles,
Joists,
Channels,
Teels,Plates,
Sheets,
Rails,
Tubes,
Hoops,
Wire,
Nailroads,
Nails,Bamboo-
Milano-
File-
Spring-
Strip and
Shovel Steel,
C. A. Sheets,
P.C.R. & C.A. Sheets,Planished Sheets,
Tinned Sheets,
Galv. Sheets,
Blackplates,
Tinplates,
Terneplates,
Zinc Sheets,
&c.

SPECIFICATIONS SUITABLE FOR ALL MARKETS.

Weekly C.I.F. Price List and Market Report mailed to approved connections.

Brands: 'Mikasa,' 'Khaki,' 'Three Rabbits,' 'All Clear.'

THE ONE HUNDREDTH BANK, LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1878.

President: K. IKEDA, Esq.

Capital—Subscribed	25,000,000 Yen.
Paid-up	17,500,000 Yen.
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits	8,724,000 Yen.

Head Office: TOKYO, JAPAN.

Branches: OSAKA, YOKOHAMA, KYOTO, TOTTORI.

London Agents: Brown, Shipley & Company. The Lloyds Bank, Ltd.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Ltd.

New York Agents: Brown Brothers & Company. The Equitable Trust Company of New York.

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

Correspondents in all important places at home and abroad.

Every description of Banking and Foreign Exchange Business transacted. Current accounts opened on the most favourable terms. Special attention is given to Collection Business. Draft and Telegraphic transfers sold on all principal parts of the world.

THE MITSUI BANK, LTD.,
TOKYO

(The oldest Banking Institution in Japan—Founded in 1880).

Capital Subscribed ...	Yen 100,000,000.00	Reserve Fund ...	Yen 21,600,000.00
Capital paid up ...	60,000,000.00	Special Reserve Fund ...	6,400,000.00

HEAD OFFICE: No. 1, SURUGACHO, TOKYO, JAPAN.

BRANCHES:

FUKAGAWA (Tokyo), FUKUOKA, HIROSHIMA, KOBE, KYOTO, MOJI, NAGASAKI, NAGOYA, OSAKA, OSAKA NISHI (Osaka), OTARU, SHANGHAI, SHIMONOSEKI, WAKAMATSU, YOKOHAMA.

FOREIGN AGENTS:

LONDON—BARCLAYS BANK, LTD.
LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK, LTD.
NEW YORK—THE NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK.
BANKERS TRUST COMPANY. THE CHASE NATIONAL BANK. BOMBAY—NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

BALANCE SHEET.

30th June, 1921.

Dr.	LIABILITIES.	Cr.	ASSETS.
Capital	Yen 100,000,000.00	Capital unpaid	Yen 40,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	20,000,000.00	Cash in hand and at Bank of Japan	31,323,405.34
Special Reserve Fund	6,400,000.00	Money at call and short notice	30,100,000.00
Pension and Provident Funds	1,187,650.50	Japanese and Foreign Government Bonds	76,088,162.81
Deposits (current, fixed, etc.)	413,802,177.13	Debentures and Stocks	27,422,168.00
Foreign Bills of Exchange sold	705,364.52	Foreign Bills of Exchange Purchased	36,083,952.92
Due to Foreign Correspondents (including Discount)	4,593,371.49	Customers' Liabilities under L/C per contra	2,364,462.77
Liabilities under L/C	2,364,462.77	Loans and Discounts	6,253,686.05
Due to local Banks	1,187,644.92	Due from Foreign Agents and Correspondents	310,801,867.05
Dividend unpaid	4,105.54	Due from local Banks	457,919.40
Interest accrued on deposits not due	4,435,814.41	Provisional Payments	1,893,934.88
Rebates on Bills not due	2,288,502.55	Bank Premises and Real Estates	2,741,930.88
Provisional Receipts	769,948.00		
Balance from last account	1,737,399.49		
Net profit for the half year	4,555,062.12		
	565,081,494.15		565,081,494.15

Dr. APPROPRIATION OF PROFIT.

	Yen		Yen
Reserve Fund	1,000,000.00	Net profit for the half year	4,555,062.12
Pension and Provident Funds	149,000.00	Balance brought forward from last year	1,737,399.49
Bonus	887,100.00		
Dividend to Shareholders	3,000,000.00		
Balance carried forward to next half year	1,756,352.61		
	6,292,452.61		6,292,452.61

The Bank sells drafts and telegraphic transfers, buys approved inward and outward Bills, grants Commercial Credits, issues Travellers' Letters of Credit available in all important places in the World, makes collections.

THE COUNTY BANK.
THE MANCHESTER & COUNTY BANK LIMITED.

Directors:

Sir FRANK FORBES ADAM, Bt., C.B., C.I.E., Manchester, Chairman.

GEORGE HESKETH, Esq., Bolton, Deputy Chairman.

The Hon. MARSHALL J. BROOKS, Rawtenstall.

T. GILBERT DUGDALE, Esq., Blackburn.

ERNEST S. GLADSTONE, Esq., Liverpool.

Sir FRANK HOLLINS, Bt., Preston.

JOHN W. MAKANT, Esq., Bolton.

HENRY J. REISS, Esq., Manchester.

Joint Managers: J. W. NIGHTINGALE and R. B. MARTIN.

Head Office - 55, KING STREET, MANCHESTER.
Foreign Department 59, KING STREET, MANCHESTER.
Liverpool Office - 53, DALE STREET, LIVERPOOL.

(With Foreign Department Attached.)

And 150 BRANCHES in LANCASHIRE and Adjacent Counties.

Capital Subscribed -	£5,460,200
„ Paid up -	1,092,040
Reserve Fund -	725,000
Deposit, etc. (31st Dec., 1920) -	27,673,512

Current and Deposit Accounts are Opened. Interest is allowed in accordance with the current value of money.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued, and Telegraphic Transfers of funds made, to all parts of the world.

Foreign Bills and Coupons collected or negotiated.

Purchases and Sales of Stocks and Shares effected.

The Officers of the Company are bound to secrecy in respect of the transactions of its customers.

NATIONAL CITY BANK OF NEW YORK.

BALANCE-SHEET—September 6, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	\$	Assets.	\$
Capital, surplus and undivided profits	108,352,654	Cash on hand, in Federal Reserve Bank, and due from banks and bankers and United States Treasurer	182,229,246
Deposits	561,978,824	Acceptances of other banks	2,121,469
Reserves (for taxes, interest accrued, &c.)	7,593,277	Loans and discounts	513,697,317
Unearned discount	2,360,357	United States bonds and other bonds & securities	33,887,787
Circulation	1,250,598	Stock in Federal Reserve Bank	2,550,000
Due to Federal Reserve Bank	40,600,000	Banking house	5,060,000
Other bank acceptances and foreign bills sold with our endorsement..	20,878,268	Items in transit—Foreign branches	4,124,665
Acceptances, cash letters of credit and travellers' cheques	36,588,076	Customers' liability account of acceptances..	32,931,479
Bonds borrowed	2,078,000	Other assets	5,244,013
Other liabilities	2,165,322		
	781,845,976		781,845,976

SOCIETE GENERALE DE CREDIT INDUSTRIEL ET COMMERCIAL.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Deposit accounts	4,205,246	Cash in hand	1,674,862
Current accounts	11,427,102	Due from other banks	293,141
Fixed deposits	1,350,511	Coupons for collection	74,997
Acceptances guaranteed	90,400	Bills receivable, "Bons de la Défense Nationale"	13,327,266
Acceptances covered by cash	2,813	Current accounts	1,233,536
Foreign exchange business guaranteed	2,191,753	Advances guaranteed	1,083,165
Unclaimed interest and dividends	4,622	Acceptances guaranteed	90,400
Transitory and sundry accounts	475,417	Foreign exchange business guaranteed	2,191,753
Rebate	118,828	Payments made on account of interest and dividends for 1920	46,447
Reserve fund	1,120,000	Transitory accounts	117,209
Capital subscribed	4,000,000	Investments	992,850
Brought forward from 1919..	31,237	Shares of affiliated societies	1,169,539
Profit and loss account for 1920	208,561	Bank premises	240,000
	25,226,490	Uncalled capital	2,691,525
			25,226,490

SWISS BANK CORPORATION.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

(£1 = 25 Francs.)

LIABILITIES.	£	Assets.	£
Share capital	4,800,000	Cash	2,170,575
Ordinary reserve fund	*400,000	Banks and bankers	7,302,957
Special reserve funds	840,000	Bills receivable	13,297,805
Fixed deposits	5,052,342	Loans at short dates on securities	743,503
Current accounts, &c.	32,139,808	Current accounts	22,368,098
Bills payable and acceptances	3,788,549	Permanent investments	90,491
Profit	586,461	Government, railway, and other securities	1,101,789
		Syndicates	132,798
		Bank premises and other property	399,167
	47,607,180		47,607,180
* Now increased to £480,000.			
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.		Dr.	
	£		£
General expenses and taxes..	877,566	Balance from 1919	116,791
Depreciation of and reserves against securities, syndicates and permanent investments	117,482	Discounts	883,634
Provision for bad and doubtful debts (less return of amounts previously written off), and writing down furniture, &c.	92,133	Interest	220,257
Net profit available	586,461	Commissions	385,580
	1,673,442	Coupons and foreign moneys	67,180
			1,673,442

SUMITOMO BANK, LIMITED.

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920

LIABILITIES.	Yen.	Assets.	Yen.
Subscribed capital	70,000,000	Capital unpaid	30,000,000
Deposits	351,441,132	Loans, bills discounted	287,685,848
Exchange sold	2,823,555	Exchange purchased	30,464,843
Bills payable	1,039,020	Customers' liability on foreign credits, acceptances and guarantees	7,123,360
Exchange adjustment	581,682	Account with the Postal Transfer Savings Office..	680,637
Foreign credits, acceptances and guarantees	7,123,360	Government bonds	34,902,437
Due to other banks	9,118,683	Japanese Government Treasury bills	2,000,000
Due to foreign banks	745,884	Foreign Treasury bills	9,997,372
Rebate on bills not yet due	1,891,223	Municipal and other securities	6,237,215
Interest accrued on deposits	4,302,498	Due from other banks	4,007,307
Reserve fund	12,000,000	Due from foreign banks	404,673
Reserve for doubtful debts	1,500,000	Bank premises and furniture	5,293,985
Pension reserve	700,000	Foreign currency	6,450
Dividends unpaid	1,322	Bullion	8,859,057
Balance brought forward from last half-year	778,142	Call loan	12,461,949
Net profit for half-year	6,118,270	Cash in hand	30,136,644
	470,264,777		470,264,777

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.	Cr.	Yen.
Reserve fund	2,000,000	Balance brought forward from last half-year	778,142
Dividend	2,000,000	Balance transferred from reserve for doubtful debts	1,500,000
Special reserve	3,000,000	Net profit for the half-year	6,118,270
Pension reserve	300,000		
Bonus	120,000		
Balance carried forward to next half-year	976,412		8,396,412
	8,396,412		

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan.)

(YOKOHAMA SHOKIN GINKO.)

BALANCE-SHEET—December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.	Assets.	Yen.
Capital	100,000,000	Cash account:—	Yen.
Reserve fund	50,000,000	In hand	40,286,522
Reserve for doubtful debts	8,849,914	At bankers	87,305,038
Notes in circulation	7,542,950	Investments in public securities and debentures	275,283,437
Deposits (current, fixed, &c.)	577,197,997	Bills discounted, loans, advances, &c.	267,544,479
Bills payable, bills rediscounted, acceptances, and other sums due by the bank	385,975,630	Bills receivable and other sums due to the bank	439,093,221
Dividends unclaimed	14,301	Bullion and foreign money	25,903,512
Balance of profit and loss brought forward from last account	4,444,846	Bank's premises, properties, furniture, &c.	7,696,567
Net profit for the past half-year	9,093,128		1,143,118,776
	1,143,118,776		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.	Cr.	Yen.
Interests, taxes, current expenses, rebate on bills		Balance brought forward, June 30, 1920	4,444,846
Discounts		Amount of gross profits for the half-year ending December 31, 1920	134,394,303
Current, bad and doubtful debts, bonus for officers and clerks, &c.	125,301,175		
Reserve fund	3,000,000		
Dividend—6.00 yen per old share for 480,000 shares, 5.78 yen per new share (1919) for 530,000 shares	5,885,600		
Balance carried forward to next account	4,652,374		138,839,149
	138,839,149		

LONDON & RIVER PLATE BANK LIMITED
FOUNDED 1862.

OVERSEAS TRADE

Paid up Capital & Reserve Fund £4,140,000.

LONDON, Manchester and Bradford.

Branches in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay, Colombia, France, Belgium and Portugal, and Agencies in the United States.

Agents throughout South America in all important centres where Branches are not established.

THE BANK IS AFFILIATED WITH
LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.

Paid up Capital & Reserve Fund over £24,000,000.

WITH WHICH BANK IS ALSO AFFILIATED
THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND LIMITED.

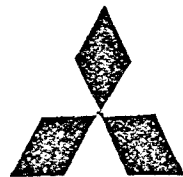
Paid up Capital & Reserve Fund . £2,100,000.

The Three Banks provide over 1,750 Branches in all the principal Trade Centres in Great Britain, South America and on the Continent.

ALL KINDS OF BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

The Branches in South America keep the London Office well informed on all local trade matters.

Correspondence invited through
HEAD OFFICE:
7, PRINCES STREET, LONDON,
E.C. 2.



THE MITSUBISHI BANK, LTD.

(Incorporated in Japan.)

Subscribed Capital - Yen 50,000,000. Paid-up Capital - Yen 30,000,000

General Banking and Exchange Business. Deposit Rates on Application.

Head Office: TOKYO.

Branches: TOKYO, OSAKA, KOBE, KYOTO, NAGOYA, SHANGHAI, NEW YORK, LONDON.

London Office: 3, BIRCHIN LANE, CORNHILL, E.C.3.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

BANKERS TO THE NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT.

CAPITAL:

AUTHORISED, £6,154,988. SUBSCRIBED, PAID UP, £3,904,988

Four per Cent. Guaranteed Stock	.	.	.	.	£529,988
"A" Preference Shares	Issued to N.Z. Government				500,000
"B" Preference Shares	Issued to N.Z. Government				625,000
Ordinary Shares	.	.	.	.	£2,250,000
					£3,904,988

Reserved Fund and Undivided Profits, £1,886,275.

HEAD OFFICE: WELLINGTON, N.Z. LONDON OFFICE: 1, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, E.C. 4.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES AT OVER 200 POINTS IN NEW ZEALAND,

And at Melbourne, Victoria; Sydney, New South Wales; Suva and Levuka, Fiji; Apia, Samoa.

THE LONDON OFFICE GRANTS DRAFTS on any of the above places; MAKES TELEGRAPHIC TRANSFERS; OPENS CURRENT ACCOUNTS for the convenience of its Colonial Constituents; NEGOTIATES AND COLLECTS BILLS payable in any part of Australasia, Fiji and Samoa; UNDERTAKES all descriptions of Colonial Banking and Monetary Business, and affords every facility to persons in their transactions with the Colonies.

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.

Registered in London under the Companies Act of 1862 on the 23rd of March, 1866.

Established in Calcutta 29th September, 1863.

Bankers to the Government in British East Africa and Uganda.

Subscribed Capital	-	-	-	£4,000,000
Paid-up Capital	-	-	-	£2,000,000
Reserve Fund	-	-	-	£2,500,000
Number of Shareholders	-	-	-	1,835

Head Office: 26 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C. 2.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

ROBERT CAMPBELL, Esq., *Chairman.* ROBERT WILLIAMSON, Esq., *Deputy-Chairman.*
SIR JOHN P. HEWETT, G.C.S.I., K.B.E., C.I.E. SIR CHARLES C. MCLEOD. J. N. STUART, Esq.
ROBERT MILLER, Esq. J. D. NIMMO, Esq. J. A. TOOMEY, Esq.

BRANCHES:

CALCUTTA	CAWNPORE	MANDALAY	ZANZIBAR	ENTEBBE	} Uganda
BOMBAY	DELHI	COLOMBO	MOMBASA	KAMPALA	
MADRAS	LAHORE	KANDY	NAIROBI	JINJA	} British East Africa
KURRACHEE	TUTICORIN	NEWERA ELIYA	NAKURU	TANGA	
CHITTAGONG	COCHIN	ADEN	KISUMU	DAR-ES-SALAAM	} Tanganyika Territory.
AMRITSAR	RANGOON	STEAMER POINT			

The Bank grants Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers on all places where it is represented; negotiates and collects Bills of Exchange; undertakes the Purchase or Sale of Indian Government and other Securities; collects Pay, Pensions, and generally transacts every description of Eastern Banking Business. The Bank receives Deposits for fixed periods, not exceeding one year, at rates to be obtained on application.

The Bank opens Current Accounts, and, provided they do not fall below £200, allows Two per cent. per annum interest on the minimum monthly balances.

DEN DANSKE LANDMANDSBANK

HYPOTHEK-OG VEKSELBANK



CAPITAL, FULLY PAID:
100 MILLION KRONER

RESERVES:
50 MILLION KRONER

COPENHAGEN (Denmark).

Telegraphic Address: "Landmandsbank."

PROVINCIAL BRANCHES:

Aabenraa	Elsinore	Grenaa	Kallundborg	Marstal	Nykjöbing S.	Skive	Skagen
Aalborg	Esbjerg	Haderslev	Kolding	Nakskov	Nysted	Slangerup	Thisted
Årskjöbing	Eskildstrup	Holbæk	Kolind	Nordby	Ørbæk	Stubbekjöbing	Tølløse
Bagsvård	Faaborg	Hurup	Korsør	Nørre Broby	Rødby	Svendborg	Tønder
Bandholm	Farum	Hørsholm	Langeskov	Nyborg	Roslev	Sønderborg	Vejle
Bramminge	Fejø	Hvidbjerg	Maribo	Nykjöbing F.	Saxkjöbing	Sønderho	Vestervig
Durup	Fredericia						

The Bank transacts every kind of legitimate Banking business.

LONDON AGENTS & CORRESPONDENTS:

LONDON COUNTY, WESTMINSTER AND PARR'S BANK, Ltd.	NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, Ltd.
LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, Ltd.	BARCLAYS BANK, Ltd.
HAMBROS BANK, Ltd.	LLOYDS BANK, Ltd.

NEDERLANDSCHE HANDEL-MAATSCHAPPIJ

(NETHERLANDS TRADING SOCIETY).

Established by Royal Charter A.D. 1824.

Capital Paid up	-	f.80,000,000	Neth. Currency	(£6,666,666)
Statutory Reserve Fund	-	f.18,979,250	" "	(£1,581,604)
Extraordinary Reserve Fund	-	f.22,660,000	" "	(£1,888,333)

Head Office: AMSTERDAM.

Branches: ROTTERDAM, THE HAGUE.

Branches in the NETHERLANDS INDIES: BATAVIA, SOURABAYA, SAMARANG, MEDAN, and further Principal Ports.

Branches in the STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, BRITISH INDIA, CHINA and JAPAN: SINGAPORE, PENANG, RANGOON, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, HONGKONG, SHANGHAI and KOBE.

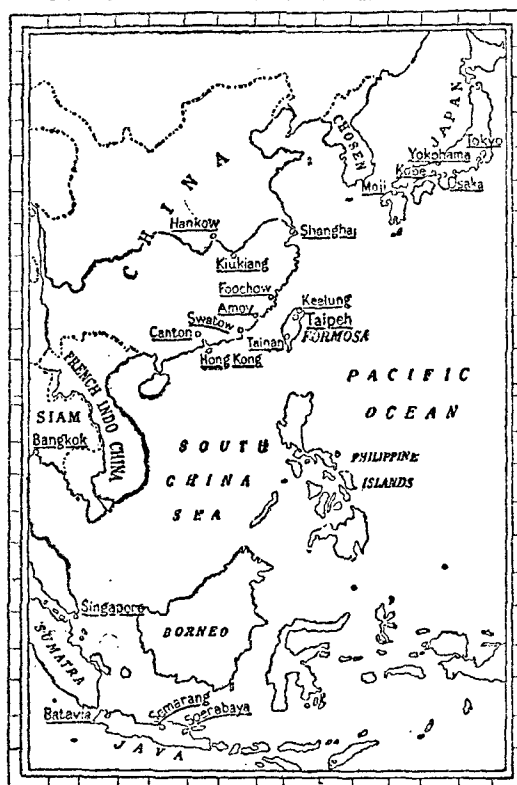
Grant Drafts and Issue Letters of Credit on all their Branches and Correspondents in the East, on the Continent, on Great Britain, Africa, America and Australia, and transact Banking Business of every description.

LONDON CORRESPONDENTS: The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Ltd., LONDON.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, Ltd.

(REGISTERED IN JAPAN, 1899.)

Head Office - - - TAIPEH, FORMOSA.

Map showing distribution of Branches in Far East.
Other Branches: NEW YORK and BOMBAY.

Capital Subscribed - - - Y. 60,000,000.⁰⁰
 Capital Paid up - - - Y. 45,000,000.⁰⁰
 Reserve Funds - - - Y. 11,080,000.⁰⁰

The Bank is incorporated by special charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, being under the special supervision of the Government.

The Bank transacts General Banking and Foreign Exchange Business, undertakes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks.

Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, Dutch East Indies, the Straits Settlements, India and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox & Co. (France), Ltd.

Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

TOKYO OFFICE: Yeirakucho, Kohjimachi-Ku, Tokyo
 LONDON OFFICE: 25, Old Broad St., London, E.C.2

Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

WILLIAM F. MALCOLM & CO.,

36, Leadenhall Street, LONDON, E.C. 3.

Merchant Shippers

FLAX, HEMP,
JUTE & GRAIN

WM. F. MALCOLM & CO. - - - { Dundee, Scotland.
Bologna, Italy.

MALCOLM & CO. - - - - - { Pskoff,
Reval, } Russia.
Riga,

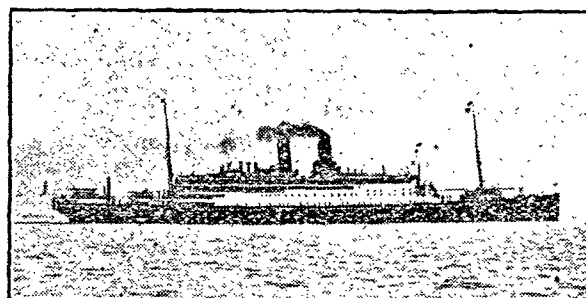
Telegraphic Address: "MALCOLM."

TOYO KISEN KAISHA

(IMPERIAL JAPANESE MAIL LINE)

GENERAL OFFICE, YOKOHAMA.

Cable Address: "TOYOKISEN."



THE COMPANY'S FLEET.

S.S.		Dis't. Tons.
"Taiyo Maru"	...	22,000
"Tenyo Maru"	...	22,000
"Shinyo Maru"	...	22,000
"Siberia Maru"	...	20,000
"Korea Maru"	...	20,000
"Persia Maru"	...	9,000
"Anyo Maru"	...	18,700
"Kiyo Maru"	...	17,200
"Seiyo Maru"	...	14,000
"Rakuyo Maru"	...	18,500
"Ginyo Maru"	...	16,000

HONG KONG-SAN FRANCISCO LINE.

Operating the finest and most magnificent triple-screw turbine steamers between above termini via MANILA, SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA and HONOLULU.

HONG KONG-VALPARAISO LINE.

Only line between the Orient and South America running First-class Passenger Steamers, calling at MOJI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES, SALINA CRUZ, PANAMA, CALLAO, ARICA and IQUIQUE.

BOTH LINES CONNECTING WITH EUROPEAN, AMERICAN AND AUSTRALIAN CITIES

AGENCIES: At all the Ports of Call and in all important Cities of the World.

SPICER BROTHERS, LTD.

PAPER MAKERS,

19 New Bridge Street, LONDON.

PAPER (HAND-MADE, MOULD-MADE AND MACHINE-
MADE), STATIONERY AND STATIONERY SUNDRIES.

CURRENCY PAPER A SPECIALITY.

MILLS:

EYNSFORD (KENT) AND SAWSTON (CAMBS).

FACTORIES:

WATER ST. (CITY) AND UNION ST. (SOUTHWARK).

AKTIEBOLAGET

GÖTEBORGS BANK

GOTHENBURG (Sweden), STOCKHOLM.

Established 1847.

72 PROVINCIAL BRANCHES.

Telegraphic Address: "GÖTABANK."

Capital (fully paid) - - - - - Kr. 42,000,000
Reserves - - - - - „ 35,000,000

Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

LONDON AGENTS:

LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER AND PARR'S BANK, LTD., Lombard Street.
HAMBROS BANK, LIMITED.

WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK

(Members of the London Bankers' Clearing House.)

LIMITED.

TOTAL ASSETS, 30th June, 1921 - - - - £40,110,174

LONDON OFFICE: - - - - 20, BIRCHIN LANE, E.C.3.
MANCHESTER OFFICE: - - - - MOSLEY STREET.
And 154 other Offices, in London, Lancashire, Yorkshire, Cheshire,
Derbyshire and Staffordshire.

The Bank is prepared to act as Trustees under Wills, Settlements, Debentures, Trusts, &c.
Trustee Departments: LONDON and MANCHESTER.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS OPENED.

Money received on deposit, bearing interest and repayable on demand.
Current Accounts conducted on agreed terms.

ACCEPTANCE CREDITS ARRANGED

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

STOCKHOLMS ENSKILDA BANK.

BANK WITH UNLIMITED LIABILITY.

Established in 1856.

— STOCKHOLM. —

CAPITAL (paid up) - - - - - Kr. 43,500,000.
RESERVE FUNDS - - - - - Kr. 41,500,000.

Banking and Exchange Business of every description.
Bills negotiated or forwarded for Collection.
Letters of Credit and Travellers' Cheques issued available in the principal
Cities of the World.
Remittances made by Telegraphic Transfer.
Deposits received for fixed periods or at notice.

LONDON AGENTS:

LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER & PARR'S BANK, LIMITED, LOTHBURY, E.C.; FREDK. HUTH & CO.
HAMBROS BANK, LIMITED.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1727.

PAID-UP CAPITAL ... £2,000,000
REST AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS (October 1920) ... 1,082,276
DEPOSITS... (Do.) ... 39,114,127

Head Office - ST. ANDREW SQUARE, EDINBURGH.

Cashier and General Manager—A. K. WRIGHT.

Secretary—J. B. ADSHEAD.

London Office - 3 BISHOPSGATE, E.C. 2.

WM. WALLACE, Manager.

Glasgow Office - ROYAL EXCHANGE SQUARE
And BUCHANAN STREET.

THOMAS LILLIE, Agent.

175 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND.

Banking business of every description transacted. Deposits received at interest, repayable at call or at notice. Drafts, Circular Notes of Credit, and Cable Transfers issued—available throughout the world. Foreign Exchange. Accounts opened, and Agency Business undertaken for Foreign and Colonial Banks and other financial establishments. Correspondence invited.

BANK OF SCOTLAND.

CONSTITUTED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 1695.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL ... £4,500,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL and RESERVE FUND ... £1,875,000
DEPOSITS and CREDIT BALANCES ... £37,000,000

Governor: WILLIAM JOHN MURE, ESQ., C.B. Deputy-Governor: The Right Hon. LORD ELPHINSTONE.

Head Office: THE MOUND, EDINBURGH.

GLASGOW, Chief Office: 2 ST. VINCENT PLACE. W. G. LEGGAT, Manager.

LONDON Office: 30 BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2. J. W. JOHNSTON, Manager.

182 Branches and Sub-Branches in Edinburgh, Glasgow, and throughout Scotland.
Every Description of British and Foreign Banking Business transacted.

GEORGE J. SCOTT, Treasurer.

Commercial Bank of Scotland Ltd

ESTABLISHED 1810.

Head Office: EDINBURGH.

Capital:—Subscribed, £5,500,000; Paid up, £1,750,000.
Reserve, £1,000,000. Deposits, £41,000,000.

ALEX. ROBB, General Manager.

MAGNUS IRVINE, Secretary.

London Office: 62 LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3.

GEORGE S. COUTTS, Manager.

JOHN F. SANDEMAN, Asst. Manager.

General Banking business, and every description of Foreign Exchange business, transacted.
Banking Correspondents throughout the United Kingdom and in the principal Cities of the World.
The Bank has 204 Branches and numerous Sub-Offices throughout Scotland, and is in touch with every District, and in an exceptionally favourable position for dealing with General Business, and with Agency Business for Colonial and Foreign Banks.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER AND ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

Capital Subscribed, £5,000,000. Paid-up, £1,100,000. Uncalled, £3,900,000.
RESERVE FUND, £1,000,000.

Head Office—EDINBURGH.

WILLIAM CARNEGIE, GENERAL MANAGER.

GEORGE A. HUNTER, SECRETARY.

London Office—37 NICHOLAS LANE, LOMBARD STREET, E.C. 3
T. C. RIDDELL, Manager. DUGALD SMITH, Assistant Manager.

Every description of banking business transacted, including the purchase and sale of Stocks, Shares, Securities, &c.; the collection of Dividends and Coupons, whether payable in Great Britain or abroad; the issue of Drafts, Letters of Credit, and Circular Notes payable in the principal Cities and Towns throughout the World; and Cable transfer of remittances to all parts. There is a specially equipped Foreign Department at the Principal Glasgow Office. The agency of Colonial and Foreign Banks is undertaken, and the Acceptances of Customers residing in the Colonies or elsewhere abroad domiciled in London are retired on terms which will be furnished on application. The Officers of the Bank are bound to secrecy as regards the transactions of its customers.

ROTTERDAMSCHER BANKVEREENIGING.

ROTTERDAM.

THE HAGUE.

AMSTERDAM.

Capital - fl. 75,000,000

Surplus - fl. 35,000,000

Equivalent at 12
Guilivers (par of
Exchange) to the
Pound.**= £9,166,666**COLLECTIONS, LETTERS OF CREDIT, FOREIGN EXCHANGE, DOCUMENTARY CREDITS.
PURCHASE AND SALE OF STOCKS AND SHARES.*Every Description of Banking Business Transacted.***BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES.**

ESTABLISHED 1817.

PAID-UP CAPITAL ...

RESERVE FUND ...

RESERVE LIABILITY of PROPRIETORS...



£4,965,200 0 0

3,425,000 0 0

4,965,200 0 0

£13,355,400 0 0

AGGREGATE ASSETS to 31st March, 1921 ...

£75,692,488 12 6

Head Office: SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.

OSCAR LINES, General Manager.

London Directors:

SIR FREDERICK GREEN, K.B.E., Chairman. H. L. M. TRITTON, ESQ. WALTER S. M. BURNS, ESQ.
H. MELDRUM, Acting Manager. J. S. CAMPBELL, Assistant Manager. D. GEDDIE, Secretary. G. S. KETT, Accountant.

The London Office issues drafts on its Head Office and branches in Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji, and Papua, and on its Correspondents in Tasmania. Makes Mail and Cable Transfers. Negotiates and Collects Bills of Exchange. Arranges Wool and other Produce Credits. Receives deposits for fixed periods on terms which may be known on application, and conducts every description of Australasian Banking Business.

London Office: 29, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LIMITED,Capital Authorised and Subscribed, £2,000,000, in 100,000 Shares of £20 each, with power to increase. Paid up Capital, £1,000,000.
Reserve Fund, £1,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE: 4, Moorgate Street, London, E.C.2. MANCHESTER OFFICE: 2, Norfolk Street.

DIRECTORS.

ROBERT JOHN ROSE, Esq., Chairman.
WILLIAM HERBERT HOLLIS, Esq.,
Deputy Chairman.
FREDERICK R. S. BALFOUR, Esq.Rt. Hon. Sir MAURICE W. E. de BUNSEN, Bart.,
G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., C.B.
RAOUL HECTOR FOA, Esq.
EDWARD GREENE, Esq.FRANK HENRY HOULDER, Esq.
FREDERIC LUBBOCK, Esq.
JOHN EDWARD MOUNSEY, Esq.

MANAGER—HENRY PROBYN ROBERTS, Esq.

SECRETARY—LOUIS GEORGE BALLY, Esq.

SUB-MANAGERS—PATRICK ERNEST O'HEA, Esq.

JOHN DEVEREUX BLACKBURN, Esq.
AUDITORS—MESSRS. TURQUAND, YOUNGS & CO.Branches at—PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, RIO DE JANEIRO, SÃO PAULO, RIO GRANDE (State of Rio Grande do Sul), PORTO ALEGRE, MONTEVIDEO,
MERCEDES (Sub-Branch to Monte Video), ROSARIO DE SANTA FE, BUENOS AYRES, PERGAMINO (Sub-Branch to Buenos Ayres).

A Branch at Santos will be opened shortly.

CORRESPONDENTS

in all the principal Cities and Towns in Europe, in the United States of America and in South and Central America. Also in Australia, Canada,
New Zealand, South Africa, India, etc.

MONTHLY TRADE CIRCULAR FREE ON APPLICATION.

Banque Marmorosch Blank & Cie.

Société Anonyme.

Capital entièrement versé: Lei 125,000,000

Reserves ... 164,600,000

Siège social à Bucarest.

Succursales et Agences:

A l'étranger: PARIS, Place Vendôme, 20. CONSTANTINOPLE: Galata; Agopian Han, Agence à Stamboul.
NEW YORK, Broadway, 31-32.En Roumanie: BUCAREST, Calea Victoriei, 42; Calea Grivitei, Piata St. Anton et Calea Mosilor. ARAD,
BRAILA, BRASOV, CERNAVA, CLUJ, CONSTANTA, GALATI, ISMAIL,
ORADEA-MARE, TARGUL-MURESULUI.

Remittances

Deposits received for

Operations de Banque:

Courants—Escompte—Change—Lettres de crédit—Chèques—Emissions—Section spéciale
marchandises pour l'exportation des produits du pays.

LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER

THE CALCUTTA INDUSTRIAL BANK, LTD.,

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ... Rs. 2,00,00,000/-

PAID-UP CAPITAL... (31-8-21) ... Rs. 79,62,870/-

RESERVE FUND ... Rs. 1,75,000/-

HEAD OFFICE - - - - - CALCUTTA, INDIA.

London Correspondents- - - - - BARCLAYS BANK, LTD.

General Banking business transacted, special facilities given for trade between Great Britain and India. Bills
and Parcels, &c., collected and proceeds remitted through London Correspondents.

A. R. DAVAR, Manager and Director, Calcutta.

BANK OF ROUMANIA

(FOUNDED 1866.)

LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: 17 Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2.

BRANCH: 11 Calea Victoriei, Bucarest.

DIRECTORS.

E. W. H. BARRY, Esq.
C. de CERJAT, Esq.

The Viscount GOSCHEN.

General The Hon. Sir H. A. LAWRENCE, K.C.B.

Lieut.-Col. Sir ALBERT STERN, K.B.E., C.M.G.

BANKERS: BANK OF ENGLAND; Messrs. GLYN, MILLS, CURRIE & Co.

A General Banking Business with Roumania is conducted, and Correspondence from those having interests in
that country is invited.**BANK OF
BRITISH WEST AFRICA,
LIMITED.**

ESTABLISHED 1894.

Authorised Capital	£4,000,000
Subscribed Capital	£3,000,000
Paid-up Capital	£1,200,000
Reserve	£625,000

CHAIRMAN:

The Right Hon. THE EARL OF SELBORNE,
K.G., G.C.M.G.

HEAD OFFICE:

17-18 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3.

GENERAL MANAGER:

LESLIE COUPER, C.M.G.

Liverpool, Manchester, Hamburg, New York, West Africa,
Canary Islands, Egypt, Morocco.

PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS:

Lloyds Bank Ltd.
London County Westminster & Parr's Bank, Ltd.
National Provincial & Union Bank of England, Ltd.
Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd.**LONDON & BRAZILIAN
BANK, Ltd.**

ESTD. 1862.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£3,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	£1,500,000
RESERVE FUND	£1,500,000

Banking Business of every Description
Transacted in**BRAZIL, ARGENTINA,
URUGUAY & PORTUGAL**

Branches.

BRAZIL—RIO DE JANEIRO, MANAOS, PARA, MARANHÃO,
CEARA, PERNAMBUCO, BAHIA, SANTOS, SÃO PAULO,
CURITYBA, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, PELOTAS, PORTO
ALEGRE.RIVER PLATE—MONTEVIDEO, BUENOS AIRES, ROSARIO,
UNITED STATES—NEW YORK, 56 Wall Street (Agency).
PORTUGAL—LISBON, OPORTO. FRANCE—PARIS, 5 Rue Scribe.

MANCHESTER: 36, Charlotte Street.

Current Accounts Opened on Usual Terms.
Deposits Received for Fixed Periods. Rates on Application
Imports and Exports Facilitated.
Bills on Places where Bank is Represented Collected or
Negotiated.
Letters of Credit and Drafts Issued.
Commercial Credits Established on all Branches and
Agencies.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE BUSINESS TRANSACTED

Head Office—7 Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2.

UNION BANK OF SCOTLAND,

ESTABLISHED 1830.

Limited.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	-	-	£5,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	-	-	£1,000,000
RESERVE FUND	-	-	£1,000,000
DEPOSITS	-	-	£33,115,382

Chairman.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ATHOLL, K.T.

Deputy Chairman.

JOHN Y. BUCHANAN, Esq., F.R.S.

Ordinary Directors.

ROBERT CLARK, Esq., Shipowner, Glasgow.
 ROBERT ELSALL FINDLAY, Esq., Merchant, Glasgow.
 ARTHUR C. D. GAIRDNER, Esq., Bank of London.
 HENRY E. GORDON, Esq., of Aikenhead, Cathcart.
 JAMES NOBLE GRAHAM, Esq., Merchant, Glasgow.
 Sir LUDOVIC JAMES GRANT, Bart., Edinburgh.
 WILLIAM HUTTON, Esq., Actuary, Glasgow.
 ARCHIBALD R. O. PITMAN, Esq., Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh.
 PETER RINTOUL, Esq., Chartered Accountant, Glasgow.
 The Right Honourable J. PARKER SMITH, of Jordanhill.
 NORMAN L. HIRD, Esq., General Manager, Glasgow.

Every description of HOME AND FOREIGN Banking Business transacted.

Letters of Credit on all places abroad, and cable remittances arranged.

Duties of Trustee and Executor undertaken.
 The Bank is closely associated with, and represents at its Scottish Branches, THE BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK, LIMITED, 31, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3, which has been SPECIALLY ORGANISED FOR FOREIGN BUSINESS.

At London Office, Current Accounts and other business conducted on the usual terms of London Banks. Deposits received at interest.

NORMAN L. HIRD, General Manager.

HEAD OFFICES:

GLASGOW—Ingram Street. EDINBURGH—George Street.

LONDON OFFICE—62, Cornhill, E.C.3. John Alexander, Manager

WITH
161 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND.

BANCO DE CHILE

94 GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.

PAID-UP CAPITAL	-	-	\$100,000,000
RESERVE FUND	-	-	58,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS	-	-	100,000,000
RESERVE FUND IN GOLD OF 18d	-	-	13,333,333
			= £1,000,000

Chilian
Dollars

Head Offices—SANTIAGO & VALPARAISO.

BRANCHES.

Santiago (Estacion), Santiago (Matadero),
 Santiago (San Pablo), Santiago (Bella Vista),
 Valparaiso (Almendra), Ancud, Antofagasta,
 Arica, Chanaral, Chillan, Concepcion, Copiapó,
 Coquimbo, Curicó, Iquique, La Calera,
 Lebu, Ligua, Los Andes, Los Angeles, Mulchen,
 Nueva Imperial, Osorno, Ovalle, Pisagua, Puerto
 Montt, Quillota, Rancagua, Rengo, San Carlos,
 San Fernando, San Felipe, Serena, Taena,
 Talca, Talcahuano, Taltal, Temuco, Tomé,
 Tocopilla, Traiguén, Valdivia, Vallenar, Vicuña,
 Vina del Mar.

The London Agency transacts every class of
 Banking business with Chile. Current Accounts
 also opened and Deposits received.

DAVID BURNS, Manager.

THE BANK OF ADELAIDE

(Established 1865).

Paid-up Capital	-	-	£625,000
Reserve Fund	-	-	620,000
			1,245,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders	-	-	625,000
			£1,870,000

Head Office—Adelaide, South Australia.

MELBOURNE OFFICE—267 COLLINS STREET.

SYDNEY OFFICE—105 PITT STREET.

LONDON OFFICE—11 LEADENHALL ST., E.C.3.

Bills on Australasia purchased or collected.

Drafts and Letters of Credit issued and Remittances cabled.

Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be
 ascertained on application, and every other description of
 banking and exchange business transacted.

THE WESTERN
AUSTRALIAN BANK.

Established 1841.

PAID-UP CAPITAL (25,000 shares of £10 each)	...	£250,000
RESERVE FUND	...	£725,000
RESERVED PROFITS	...	£28,369
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS	...	£250,000

Drafts issued, Remittances cabled, Bills negotiated or collected, Deposits
 received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained on application, and all
 Banking and Exchange Business connected with Western Australia conducted
 through the

London Agents:

THE BANK OF ADELAIDE, 11 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3

Mellon National Bank

of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.,

Offers its wide experience and com-
 prehensive services to British banks,
 merchants and manufacturers in the
 transaction of American banking
 business of every description.

Complete facilities for handling
 drafts, cheques, money orders, bills
 of exchange, letters of credit, and
 all other instruments of inter-
 national banking.

Direct connections with all parts
 of the United States.

Your correspondence is solicited.

Capital and Surplus - \$11,000,000.00
 Resources more than \$125,000,000.00

Cable Address: MELLONSON, PITTSBURGH.

London Agents: NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND
 UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LTD.

THE
RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK

(Incorporated by Russian Government Decree).

CAPITAL (Authorised)	-	-	Rbbs. 65,000,000
" Subscribed	-	-	" 55,000,000
" (Subscribed by the Chinese Govern-ment)	-	-	Kouping Taels 3,500,000
RESERVE FUNDS	-	-	Rbbs. 26,961,423
" "	-	-	Kouping Taels 1,767,033

HEAD OFFICE AT PETROGRAD.

Branches at all the principal towns in Russia, Manchuria, Siberia, Central Asia and China; also at Paris, Bombay, Hong Kong, Yokohama, and Kobe. The number and geographical position of the Bank's branches, etc., place it in an unique position for financing British trade with all parts of the World. Interest (paid quarterly) allowed on Fixed Deposit and on Current Accounts at Rates to be learnt on application. Banking and Foreign Exchange business transacted of every description.

LONDON OFFICE:
 64 OLD BROAD ST., E.C.2.

Hongkong and Shanghai
Banking Corporation

CAPITAL ALL PAID UP	...	...	\$20,000,000
SILVER RESERVE	...	...	\$21,500,000
STERLING RESERVE, held in London	...	...	£2,500,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS	...	...	\$20,000,000

Head Office - HONGKONG.
 Chief Manager - Hon. Mr. A. G. STEPHEN.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:

Amoy, Bangkok, Batavia, Bombay, Calcutta, Canton, Chefoo, Colombo, Dalny, Fochow, Hamburg, Hankow, Harbin, Hongkew (Shanghai), Ipoh, Johore, Kobe (Hiogo), Kuala Lumpur, London, Lyons, Malacca, Manila, Nagasaki, New York, Peking, Penang, Rangoon, Saigon, San Francisco, Shanghai, Singapore, Sourabaya, Sungei Patani, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Vladivostok, Yloilo, Yokohama.

COMMITTEE IN LONDON:

Sir Charles Addis, K.C.M.G., Chairman.
 Hon. Cecil Baring. C. A. Campbell.
 David Landale. Sir George Sutherland.
 A. M. Townsend. C. F. Whigham.

MANAGERS IN LONDON:

SIR H. J. STABB, O.B.E. H. D. C. JONES.
 Sub-Manager, John MacLennan. Accountant, A. Moncur.

9 GRACECHURCH STREET,
 LONDON, E.C.3.

IONIAN BANK,

LIMITED.

LONDON. GREECE. EGYPT.

The only British Bank or Financial House in Greece, originally established in London and the Ionian Islands in 1839, subsequently incorporated by Royal Charter in 1844 and registered under the Companies Acts in 1883. The Bank now has branches and correspondents throughout Old Greece, the Ionian Islands, Macedonia, and the Islands recently rejoined to Greece; and is therefore able to offer special facilities to all firms having business with that country.

In Egypt the Bank's principal office is at Alexandria; but it also has Branches at Cairo and throughout the cotton-growing districts, and specialises in all operations connected with the moving of the cotton crop.

For information as to terms of business, &c., apply to the

HEAD OFFICE:

BASILDON HOUSE, MOORGATE ST., LONDON, E.C.2

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	-	£600,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL	-	£485,580
RESERVE	-	£130,000

Alexanders Discount Co., Ltd.

24 LOMBARD ST., E.C.3

Capital Subscribed £1,000,000
 Paid-up 550,000
 Reserve Fund 270,000
 £100,000 in £10 (fully paid 6 per cent.) Preference Shares.
 £900,000 in £10 Ordinary Shares (£5 paid).

DIRECTORS.

COLIN FREDERICK CAMPBELL, Chairman.
 ROBERT ERNEST ALEXANDER.
 GEORGE CLEVERLY ALEXANDER.
 PHILIP PEMBROKE ALEXANDER.
 SIR AUSTIN EDWARD HARRIS, K.B.E.
 Manager—F. NEWCOMB.
 Sub-Manager—E. D. SPRING RICE.
 Secretary—A. K. BRUCE.

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted.
 Loans granted on negotiable securities.
 Money received on deposit at call and short
 notices at current market rates, as advertised
 from time to time in the daily papers; for
 longer periods on specially agreed terms.
 The Company deals in British Treasury Bills
 of any maturity.

BANCO CENTRAL

Capital entièrement souscrit 200,000,000 de Pésétas.

Calle Alcalá 31, Apartado No. 339.
MADRID (Espagne).PRESIDENT—Son Exc. Monsieur le Marquis d'Aldama.
DIRECTEUR—N. Vouroucla.SUCCURSALES: Arévalo; Avila; Barcelone;
Lucena; Malaga; Mora de Toledo; Peñaranda;
Puente-Genil; Talavera de la Reina; Toledo;
Villacañas.BANQUES ET BANQUIERS AFFILIÉS:
CREDITO DE LA UNION MINERA, Bilbao.
BANCO GUIPUZCOANO, San Sebastian.
BANCO CASTELLANO, Valladolid.
BANCO DE SANTANDER, Santander.
CREDITO NAVARRO, Pamplona.
BANCO DE CREDITO DE ZARAGOZA, Zaragoza.
HIJOS DE M. RODRIGUEZ ACOSTA, Granada.Correspondants à Londres:
London Joint City & Midland Bank, Limited.
Barclays Bank, Limited.Correspondants à New York:
National City Bank of New York.
The Equitable Trust of New York.S'occupe de toutes opérations de Banque et de
Bourse.**THE EASTERN BANK
LIMITED.**

Head Office:

4 CROSBY SQ., LONDON, E.C. 3.

Authorised Capital	...	£2,000,000
Called-up Capital	...	£1,000,000
Reserve Fund	...	£266,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders		£1,000,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman,
J. S. HASKELL, Esq.
Deputy Chairman,
Sir JAMES LEIGH-WOOD, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G.
JAMES H. BATTY, Esq. G. BROMLEY-MARTIN, Esq.
EMILE FRANCOU, Esq. MEYER SASSOON, Esq.
Sir PERCY WILSON NEWSON, Bart.

Branches—
BOMBAY, CALCUTTA,
COLOMBO, BAGDAD,
BASRA, AMARA,
BAHREIN, BASRA CITY,
HILLAH, MOSUL.

The Bank issues Drafts, Telegraphic Transfers and
Letters of Credit, negotiates and collects Bills of
Exchange, and transacts Banking and Agency
Business in connection with the East.Deposits are received for one year and for shorter
periods at rates which can be ascertained on appli-
cation. On current accounts interest is allowed
at 2 per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly
balances.

F. H. SUTTON, Manager.

FINLANDS BANK

HELSINGFORS.

The only Bank authorized to issue
Bank Notes in Finland.

ESTABLISHED 1811.

Governor: OTTO STENROTH.

Managing Directors:

K. BASILIER, ERNST GRÅSTEN,
A. BROBERG.**CAPITAL Fmk. 123,500,000**Branches at: Björneborg, Joensuu,
Jyväskylä, Kotka, Kuopio, St. Michel,
Sordavala, Tammerfors, Tavastehus,
Uleåborg, Wasa, Wiborg, and Åbo.**THE CANADIAN BANK
OF COMMERCE.**Paid-up Capital - \$15,000,000 (£3,082,192)
Reserve Fund - \$15,000,000 (£3,082,192)

Head Office: TORONTO.

Sir EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., President
Sir JOHN AIRD, Vice-President and General Manager.
Rt. Hon. Sir THOMAS WHITE, K.C.M.G., Vice-President.
H. V. F. JONES, Assistant General Manager.520 Branches throughout CANADA and
NEWFOUNDLAND.**FOREIGN BRANCHES:**BARBADOS, Bridgetown. CUBA, Havana.
JAMAICA, Kingston. MEXICO, Mexico City.
ST. PIERRE et MIQUELON, St. Pierre.
TRINIDAD, Port of Spain.
UNITED STATES, New York, San Francisco,
Portland (Oregon), and Seattle.AGENTS IN ALL THE PRINCIPAL
CITIES OF THE UNITED STATES.

London Office: 2 LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3.

CHARLES CAMBIE, Manager. A. R. PHIPPS, Assistant Manager.

A general Banking and Exchange business
conducted with all points in North America.**STOCKHOLMS
INTECKNINGS****GARANTI**

AKTIEBOLAG

STOCKHOLM

ESTABLISHED 1869.

Paid - up Capital
and Reserve Funds
Kr. 32,000,000

Telegraphic Address: SIGAB, STOCKHOLM

London Agents:

HAMBROS BANK, Ltd.
LAZARD BROTHERS & Co., Ltd.All kinds of Banking Business transacted.
Letters of Credit issued.**THE
Sumitomo Bank, Limited.**
OSAKA, JAPAN.ESTABLISHED 1912.
(Successors to the Sumitomo Bank.)

Capital Subscribed Yen	70,000,000.00
Paid-up Capital - Yen	40,000,000.00
Reserve Fund - Yen	20,000,000.00
Deposits - Yen	380,000,000.00

BARON K. SUMITOMO, President.
K. YUKAWA, Esq., Managing Director.
T. KANOH, Esq., " "
S. YOSHIDA, Esq., " "
N. YATSUSHIRO, Esq., " "

Home Branches.—Tokyo, Yokohama, Nagoya, Kyoto,
Kobe, Hyogo, Onomichi, Niihama, Kure, Hiroshima, Yanai,
Shimonoseki, Moji, Kokura, Wakamatsu, Hakata, and Kurume.Foreign Branches.—Shanghai, Hankow, Bombay,
London, New York, San Francisco, Seattle and Honolulu.

London Bankers.—Lloyds Bank Limited.

Correspondents in all important places at Home and Abroad.

The Bank buys, sells and receives for collection Drafts and
Telegraphic Transfers; issues Commercial and Travellers' Letters
of Credit available in all important parts of the world, besides
doing general Banking Business.

London Office: 67, BISHOPSGATE, E.C.2.

K. OHDAIRA, Manager.

Cable Address: "OKSUMITBAN, LONDON."

THE DAI-ICHI GINKO, LIMITED(FORMERLY THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK)
ESTABLISHED 1873.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	- Yen 50,000,000.00
PAID-UP CAPITAL	- Yen 29,525,000.00
RESERVE FUND	- Yen 29,500,000.00

Y. SASAKI, President.

K. ISHII, Managing Director.

Y. NOGUCHI, Managing Director.

S. SUGITA, Managing Director.

HEAD OFFICE:

No. 1, KABUTO-CHO, NIHONBASHI-KU, TOKYO.

T. AKASHI, Manager.

CITY BRANCHES:

Isecho, Shin-Osakacho, Fukagawa, Marunouchi.

HOME BRANCHES:Yokohama, Nagoya, Yokkaichi, Kyoto, Nishijin (Kyoto),
Gojo (Kyoto), Fushimi, Osaka, Nishiku (Osaka), Minamiku
(Osaka), Honmachi (Osaka), Kobe, Hyogo, Hiroshima,
Shimonoseki, Chofu, Moji, Fukuoka, Kurume, Kumamoto,
Hakodate, Otaru, Sapporo, Muroran.**BRANCHES IN COREA:**

Seoul, Fusan.

LONDON & NEW YORK BANKERS:

LONDON:	NEW YORK:
London County Westminster	The National City Bank of
& Parr's Bank, Ltd.	New York.
The London Joint City &	The National Bank of Com-
Midland Bank, Ltd.	merce in New York.
The Yokohama Specie Bank,	The Yokohama Specie Bank,
Ltd.	Ltd.

CORRESPONDENTS:The Bank, in addition to its own Branches, has numerous
Agencies or Correspondents in the principal Cities and
Towns at Home and Abroad.**NETHERLANDS BANK
OF SOUTH AFRICA.**

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	- - - - £750,000
SUBSCRIBED & PAID-UP CAPITAL	- - - - 240,000

HEAD OFFICE:

AMSTERDAM, Keizersgracht 389.

LONDON AGENT:2 Great Winchester-street, E.C.2.
London Manager: J. Cost-Budde.**LONDON BANKERS:**Lloyds Bank Ltd. (Capital & Counties Bank Branch).
Messrs. B. W. Blydenstein and Co.**BRANCHES IN SOUTH AFRICA:**Cape Town, Bethlehem, Bloemfontein, Breyten, Brits,
Bronkhorstspuit, Dullstroom, Durban, Ermelo, Harte-
beestfontein, Johannesburg, Pietersburg, Port Elizabeth,
Potchefstroom, Premier Mine, Pretoria, Witbank.The Bank is prepared to grant Drafts and Letters of Credit, and to make
Telegraphic Transfers upon its Branches as well as upon its Agencies in Cape
Colony, Natal, Orange River Colony, and Transvaal.Bills negotiated and collected, and every description of Banking Business
transacted in connection with South Africa.

Current Accounts kept and Deposits received for fixed periods.

The Bank acts in South Africa as Agents for the

PRETORIA HYPOTHEEK MAATSCHAPPY

(Pretoria Mortgage Company).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Money advanced on loan on the security of landed property.

IMPERIAL BANK OF CANADA.

Capital Paid Up - \$7,000,000.
Reserve Fund - \$7,500,000.

Head Office—TORONTO.

220 Branches in Canada.

PELEG HOWLAND, President. A. E. PHIPPS, General Manager.

With well-equipped branches in all the important centres of Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia, the Imperial Bank of Canada is in a position to give especially good banking service. Consult our agents regarding money transfers, collections, or any phase of general banking.

AGENTS IN GREAT BRITAIN:

ENGLAND—Lloyds Bank, Limited, London and Branches.

SCOTLAND—The Commercial Bank of Scotland, Ltd., Edinburgh and Branches.

IRELAND—Bank of Ireland, Dublin and Branches. Northern Banking Co., Ltd., Belfast and Branches.

AGENTS IN FRANCE:

Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, Ltd.; Credit Lyonnais.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA,

38, BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2.

Incorporated by Royal Charter.

CAPITAL - £3,000,000
RESERVE FUND - £3,600,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS.

Sir MONTAGU CORNISH TURNER, Chairman.
Sir DUNCAN CARMICHAEL, JORDAN, G.C.I.E., K.C.B., K.C.M.G.
Sir THOMAS CUTHBERTSON, Esq., WILLIAM FOOT MITCHELL, Esq.
Sir ALFRED DENT, K.C.M.G., JAMES MAXWELL GRANT
Sir WILLIAM HENRY NEVILLE, Esq., PROPHIT, Esq.
GOSCHEN, K.B.E., LEWIS ALEXANDER WALLACE, Esq.
The Right Hon. LORD GEORGE HAMILTON, G.C.S.I.

W. E. PRESTON, Chief Manager. J. S. BRUCE, G. MILLER, Managers.

AGENCIES AND BRANCHES.

ALOR STAR (Malay States)	HANKOW	PENANG
AMRITSAR	HONG KONG	PUKET
BANGKOK	ILOILO	RANGOON
BATAVIA	IPOH	SAIGON
BOMBAY	KARACHI	SEREMBAN
CALCUTTA	KLANG	SHANGHAI
CANTON	KOBE	SINGAPORE
CAWNPORE	KUALA LUMPUR	SOURABAYA
CEBU	MADRAS	TAIPING (F.M.S.)
COLOMBO	MANILA	TAVOY
DELHI	MEDAN	TIENTSIN
HAIPHONG	NEW YORK	YOKOHAMA
	PEKING	

BANKERS.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.
THE LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.
THE LONDON COUNTY WESTMINSTER AND PARIS BANK, LIMITED.
THE NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.
THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED.

The Corporation buy and receive for collection Bills of Exchange, grant Drafts payable at the above Agencies and Branches, and transact general Banking business connected with the East. Deposits of Money are received for fixed periods at terms which may be ascertained on application; interest payable half-yearly, 30th June and 31st December. On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balances provided they do not fall below £200.

DEN NORSKE CREDITBANK CHRISTIANIA, NORWAY.

Established 1857.

Branch: ARENDAL.

Telegraphic Address: "Creditbank."

Capital, Fully paid Kr. 44,000,000.
Reserve Funds Kr. 41,000,000.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED. Bills collected all over Norway. Deposits received at favourable rates. Foreign Exchange bought and sold.

LONDON AGENTS:

Hambros Bank, Limited; London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, Overseas Branch, 65/66 Old Broad Street; Messrs. Cox & Co., City Office, 38 Lombard Street.

CORRESPONDENCE INVITED.

NATIONAL DISCOUNT COMPANY, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1856.

35 CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.3.

Telegraphic Address: "NATDIS, STOCK, LONDON." Telephones: No. 1484 AVENUE (2 lines). No. 11948 CENTRAL.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL .. £4,233,325
PAID-UP CAPITAL .. £846,665
RESERVE FUND .. £500,000

DIRECTORS.

Sir SIGISMUND F. MENDEL, K.B.E., Chairman.
LAWRENCE E. CHALMERS, Deputy-Chairman.
FREDERICK W. GREEN. The Hon. Col. SIDNEY PEEL, D.S.O., M.P.
The Rt. Hon. F. LEVERTON HARRIS. CHARLES D. SELIGMAN.
WALTER J. HERIOT. PHILIP H. WADE.

Manager.—PHILIP H. WADE.

Sub-Manager.—FRANCIS GOLDSMITH.

Secretary.—CHARLES H. GOUGH.

Auditors.

FRANCIS W. PIXLEY (Jackson, Pixley & Co.).
SIR ALBERT WYON, K.B.E. (Price, Waterhouse & Co.).

Bankers.

BANK OF ENGLAND.
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL AND UNION BANK OF ENGLAND, LIMITED.

Approved Mercantile Bills Discounted.
Money received on Deposit at Call and Short Notice, and Interest allowed at the Current Market Rates; and for longer periods upon specially agreed terms.

Loans granted upon negotiable securities.
Investments and Sales of all descriptions of British and Foreign Securities effected. All communications on this subject to be addressed to the Manager.

TELEGRAMS

FOR
AUSTRALASIA, CHINA, JAPAN,
DUTCH INDIES, STRAITS
SETTLEMENTS, INDIA, AFRICA,
SPAIN, PORTUGAL, THE
MEDITERRANEAN AND SOUTH
AMERICA.

Via Eastern

STATIONS:

LONDON: 4 ELECTRA HOUSE, FINSBURY PAVEMENT, E.C. 2.
8 Leadenhall street, E.C. 3.
Market Buildings, 29 Mincing lane—26 Mark lane, E.C. 3.
"The Baltic" Exchange, Bury street Entrance, E.C. 3.
41 and 42 Parliament st., S.W. 1.
37 Holborn Viaduct, E.C. 1.
6 Denman street, Borough, S.E. 1.
115 Cannon street, E.C. 4.
BIRMINGHAM: 128 Colmore row.
BRADFORD: 4 Commercial street.
BRISTOL: 2 Small street.
CARDIFF: 33 Merchants' Exchange, Bute Docks.
DUNDEE: 50 Bell street.
EDINBURGH: 38 Frederick street.
GLASGOW: 5 Royal Bank place.
HULL: Exchange Buildings, Lowgate.
LIVERPOOL: K13 Exchange Buildings.
The Cotton Exchange.
MANCHESTER: 55 Spring Gardens.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE: K, Exchange Buildings, Quayside.
PORTHURNOW: Cornwall.

AND FROM ALL POSTAL TELEGRAPH OFFICES.
The Eastern Telegraph Company, Ltd.

VICKERS LIMITED

COMMERCIAL SHIPS. WARSHIPS. MAIL and Passenger Steamers. Floating Docks and Cranes. Icebreakers, Dredgers and other Special Craft. Aircraft. Rubber-making Machinery. Mining, Cement-making and Stone-crushing Machinery. Oil Well Percussion Drilling Tools and Drilling Derricks. Marine Engines of all descriptions. "Flexala" and "Resiline" Centrifugal Pumps for dealing with Acids, Solids and Abrasive Materials.

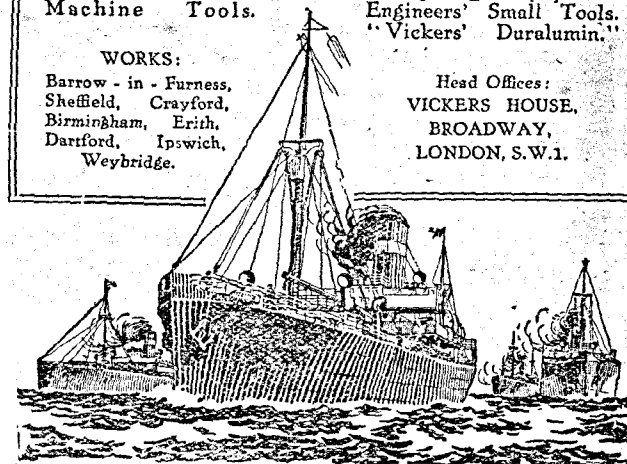
Special Steels. Drop Forgings and Stampings. Weldless Drawn Steel Tubes. Motor Car Pressings and Springs.

Motor Cars. Magneto. Sewing Machines. "Carenta" Washing Machines. Sporting and Target Rifles. Machines for the manufacture of Concrete Bricks, Tiles, Slabs, etc. Train Lighting Equipment. Machine Tools. Engineers' Small Tools. "Vickers' Duralumin."

WORKS:

Barrow - in - Furness,
Sheffield, Crayford,
Birmingham, Erith,
Dartford, Ipswich,
Weybridge.

Head Offices:
VICKERS HOUSE,
BROADWAY,
LONDON, S.W.1.



Group of Turbine Steamships for the Donaldson Fleet.

The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney,

LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1834.

INCORPORATED IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

Capital Paid Up £2,909,025 . 0 . 0
Reserve Fund £2,360,000 . 0 . 0
Reserve Liability of
Shareholders £3,000,000 . 0 . 0

Drafts payable on demand and Letters of Credit on Australasia are issued by the London Branch. Bills on Australasia negotiated or collected. Remittances cabled.

London Offices:

18 BIRCHIN LANE, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3.

F. A. SCRIVENER, Manager.

If you want
the best Tea
buy from the firm
that grows it



THE LONDON ASSURANCE

(INCORPORATED A.D. 1720)

7 ROYAL EXCHANGE, E.C.3.

FIRE MARINE
BURGLARY WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION
PUBLIC LIABILITY MOTOR



Assets
£9,286,497

Income
£3,790,924

LIFE ACCIDENT
PLATE-GLASS LIVESTOCK
FIDELITY AND GOVERNMENT BONDS, &c.

Third Century of Active Business

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. | ACCOUNT.
 October 27. | October 28.

Stock Exchange markets have passed through a week of violent fluctuation and excitement. Nervousness has been given full play. The demoralisation of the market, heavy liquidation on behalf of Dutch and British holders of securities, and the wildest rumours concerning developments in the oil industry, have served to keep the markets in a state of high tension. It may be that business was not greatly benefited by the fluctuations. The recorded number of bargains in the Stock Exchange every day remains roughly about 4,300, as an average. Possibly rather less than half the bargains actually transacted are marked in the Lists. Gilt-edged stocks hold their ground better than most, and the end of the week found a rather better tendency in some of those markets in which the slump had been felt most acutely a few days previously.

The flood of gilt-edged issues has been stayed to some extent, but the five-million Commonwealth 6 per cent. loan at 96 has made its expected appearance. The War Loan remains a little under 90, and a feature is the way in which National War Bonds have been advancing in price, owing to their steady absorption by money which continues automatically to accumulate in the hands of trustees and others. In the foreign market, the demoralisation of the market led to German Threes coming on offer at 2½ before the price recovered to 3¼. Almost without exception, foreign bonds have fallen, in some cases fairly heavy blocks of stock coming in from the Continent, where Holland is said to have been especially hardly hit by the shrinkage in the value of German currency. Hundreds of the "dollar" stocks have fallen with the rest, in consequence of the mounting of the pound in relation to the dollar. It was not until Thursday morning that any kind of improvement from the worst became manifest amongst foreign bonds generally. As it is, Mexicans are substantially lower on the week.

Further falls in Home Railway stocks came about as the result of mild pressure to sell in a market where nobody wants to buy. The Government's unemployment proposals are deemed to be favourable to the railways, inasmuch as they may permit the raising of a moderate amount of fresh capital on reasonable terms. Grand Trunks continue their downward course, and Mexican Rails sagged in consequence of the fall in Mexican Government bonds. Argentine Railway stocks fell away, on dismal reports from the Buenos Ayres Great Southern and Buenos Ayres Western companies, though the Central Argentine results are regarded as fairly satisfactory. Brazilian Railways are flatter than ever; many of the foreign railway stocks in which there is but limited market have shed several points with scarcely any stock changing hands.

The outlook for rubber appears to be brightening, without, however, bringing into the field a sufficient number of fresh buyers to have any noticeable effect upon prices. The oil market provided the hub of the fiercest excitement, Mexican Eagles and Royal Dutch being rushed down on sales, or attempted sales, of lines of shares. The Dutch holders have evidently been trying to realise their Royal Dutch, while alarmist rumours regarding the Mexican oilfields assisted the bears in hammering down the price of Mexican Eagles. As the selling blew itself out, however, a calmer tone supervened, and prices closed the week above their worst. The scheme for amalgamation of the Scottish-American with the Tankers Company led to Scottish-American losing a few more pence. Trinidad shares remain under the influence of the general market conditions, and Russian oil descriptions have shown no recovery from the weakness that overtook them upon the breakdown of trade negotiations between the Russo-Asiatic Company and the Soviet representatives.

Shipping shares have fallen in consequence of a reduction in the Royal Mail dividend. Dunlops, after being extremely flat after announcement that the three preference shares will not receive their dividends for the current year, recovered a trifle upon the notification that in any reorganisation scheme the shareholders are not likely to be asked to put up more

money. The stores and catering group is a little less weak than some of the others, and textiles gave way only to a moderate extent. A few of the nitrate shares have been inclined to stiffen, but the movements in this market are mixed. Forestal Lands dropped, on obvious liquidation. Hudson's Bays held their ground with noticeable firmness. The cable group is almost solitary in showing strength, although the wireless shares participated in the general depression. Amongst brewery stocks, the new Manchester Breweries debentures fell to 5 discount, and the new Peter Walker shares to 3s for the shares 8s paid. With other new issues, the tendency has been irregular. The County of London Electric debentures hardened to 4½ premium. Joshua Hoyle debentures gave way to 1½ discount, although the underwriters have had the opportunity offered them of cancelling their obligations if they cared to hand over the latter to the issuing house. The tobacco market is helped by the announcement that the British-American Tobacco is to receive rather over a million pounds in respect of its German claims. Banking shares tend to droop, by reason of the fear lest trade depression will make its effect felt upon profits, although dividends are expected to be maintained. Little interest has been taken in insurance shares, and the prices have varied but slightly on the week. The iron and steel market is almost uniformly weak, rumours of fresh labour trouble being rife, although they are regarded as scarcely likely to materialise at a time when unemployment is so widespread.

Various reasons have conspired to bring about fresh weakness in Kaffirs. Gold has been down at one time to less than five guineas per ounce. It is also said that, on some of the mines, labour difficulties have arisen. After a period of acute flatness, the market rallied, the process being encouraged by an improvement in De Beers and some of the other French-held shares. The copper group, however, is lower, and in none of the base-metal mining departments has there been any advance towards better prices. Malayan tin shares came on offer and Indian gold shares have fallen in sympathy with others in the miscellaneous mining market.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital. £	Cash Subscription. £	First Payment. £	Further Liability. £
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	216,326,547	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£
5½% 1929 receipts to October 8, 1921	56,735,000
Week to October 15th	1,140,000
Receipts to date	57,875,000

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 15, 1921.

April 1 to October 15, £2,530,000	£
200,000 ..	200,000

To the Public—

Nigeria Government, 6% Inscribed Stk., issued at 97% (£3,000,000), red. at par 1936 to Oct. 15, 1946 (Oct. 17)	3,000,000	2,910,000	150,000	2,760,000
Worthing Gas Light and Coke, £20,000 7% Red. Mortgage (red. at par Jan. 1, 1932), issued at par	20,000	20,000	2,000	18,000
Town of Dudley Gas Light, 7% Deb. (£32,880), red. at par Sept. 1, 1931, issued at par (Oct. 17)	32,880	32,880	3,288	29,592
Odham's Press, 225,000 10% Cum. "A" Pref., £1, at par (Oct. 17) Chester Music Hall (1921), 25,000 Ord., £1, at par	225,000	225,000	11,250	213,750
25,000 ..	25,000	25,000	6,250	18,750
Matlock Cinemas, 7,000 Ord., £1, at par	7,000	7,000	1,750	5,250
Indicators, 15,327 7% Cum. Pref. Ptg., £1, at par (Oct. 17)	15,327	15,327	1,916	13,411

Total offered to public

Total offered for subscription to date

1921

1920

1919

1918

1917

1916

1915

1914

1913

1912

1911

1910

1909

1908

1907

1906

1905

1904

1903

1902

1901

1900

1899

1898

1897

1896

1895

1894

1893

1892

1891

1890

1889

1888

1887

1886

1885

1884

1883

1882

1881

1880

1879

1878

1877

1876

1875

1874

1873

1872

1871

1870

1869

1868

1867

1866

1865

1864

1863

1862

1861

1860

1859

1858

1857

1856

1855

1854

1853

1852

1851

1850

1849

1848

1847

1846

1845

1844

1843

1842

1841

1840

1839

1838

1837

1836

1835

1834

1833

1832

1831

1830

1829

1828

1827

1826

1825

1824

1823

1822

1821

1820

1819

1818

1817

1816

1815

1814

1813

1812

1811

1810

1809

1808

1807

1806

1805

1804

1803

1802

1801

1800

1799

1798

1797

1796

1795

1794

1793

1792

1791

1790

1789

1788

1787

1786

1785

1784

1783

1782

1781

1780

1779

1778

1777

1776

1775

1774

1773

1772

1771

1770

1769

1768

1767

1766

1765

1764

1763

1762

1761

1760

1759

1758

1757

1756

1755

1754

1753

1752

1751

1750

1749

1748

1747

1746

1745

1744

1743

1742

1741

1740

1739

1738

Nigeria Government 6 per Cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-1946.—Issue of £3,000,000 at £97 per cent. The loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Government of Nigeria, and the proceeds will be devoted to construction of railway, harbour, and other public works. The principal will be payable at par on October 15, 1946, by a sinking fund of not less than £1 per cent. per annum, to be formed in this country under the management of the Crown Agents, who are appointed trustees, but the Government of Nigeria will have the option of redemption at par on or after October 15, 1936, on giving six months' notice. The Crown Agents are to be commended upon the excellent table of revenue and expenditure and imports and exports, which appears as an inset in the prospectus. It is, however, a pity that this was not included in the advertised announcement. The prospectus states that "the revenues of the Colony of Nigeria alone are liable in respect of the above stock and the dividends thereon, and the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of the stock or of the dividends thereon, or for any matter relating thereto (Act 40 and 41 Vict., c. 59)." A trustee stock.

Indicators, Limited.—Authorised share capital £35,000, divided into 33,500 7 per cent. cumulative preferred participating shares of £1 each, and 30,000 ordinary shares of 1s each. All the ordinary shares and 18,173 preferred shares have been issued. This is an offer for subscription of the balance of preferred shares, amounting to 15,327, at par. After payment of the 7 per cent. preferred dividend, the balance of surplus profits is to be equally divided between preferred and ordinary shareholders. All shares have equal voting powers. The company was incorporated in May, 1919, with a capital of £24,000, as a private company, to acquire certain patent rights, which it is hoped will bring in a substantial revenue from advertisers. The vendors of the patent rights have or will receive in satisfaction of assignment £10,000 in preference shares, 30,000 ordinary shares, and £1,000 in cash, which is a satisfactory arrangement from the vendors' point of view. It is intended to apply for a Stock Exchange quotation. The issue may appeal to some opulent investor as a speculative risk, but it is unsuitable for the small investor.

The Town of Dudley Gas Light Company.—Incorporated by Act of Parliament, 1853. Issue at par of £32,880 7 per cent. redeemable debenture stock, to be redeemed at par on September 1, 1931. The authorised capital of the company is £100,000, of which, including premiums, £93,773 is issued and paid up. Of the authorised loan capital of £50,000, exclusive of the present offer, £14,000 has already been issued. The output of gas, which in 1913 was 190 million cubic feet, had risen last year to 243 million feet. The net revenue of the company for the year ended December 31st last was £12,812, and as interest on existing loan capital, including the amount of the present offer, will amount to but £2,939, these debentures must be considered well secured both as regards capital and interest. But regard should be paid to the difficulty of finding a ready market for such a small total issue of stock with no Stock Exchange quotation.

Chester Music Hall (1921), Limited.—Authorised capital £25,000, in ordinary shares of £1 each. This was an issue of the whole capital at par. The company has been formed to acquire the Chester Music Hall, and to reconstruct the building to render it suitable for a cinematograph theatre. The property has been independently valued at £27,587. This it is to take over for £30,000, of which £27,500 is payable in cash and the balance in shares. The vendor obtained the property for £27,500. Although the music-hall is still running, no statement of actual receipts and expenses appears. In the place of these, however, we are informed that it is estimated to make £8,473 per annum, which, on a capital of £25,000, is a handsome return, which may, or may not, materialise; and even though the directors have experience in the industry, the proposition must be looked upon as highly speculative.

Matlock Cinemas, Limited.—Authorised capital £15,000 in shares of £1 each. Applications invited for 7,000 shares at par. The company has been formed to build a cinematograph theatre, and £500 is to be paid for an option upon a site to the promoters. The directors and their friends are apparently taking 8,000 shares firm. Estimated profit, as usual in cinema prospectuses, do not appear to err upon the moderate side. These are reckoned to be at the rate of £5,000 per annum, which, on a capital of £15,000, is optimistic. However, the directors have agreed to accept no remuneration until a dividend of at least 10 per cent. has been paid. A speculative proposition, suitable for those who have faith in the business capacity of the directors.

The Turf Commission Agency, Limited.—Authorised capital £10,000, in ordinary shares of £1 each, of which it is stated that "1,000 shares are already issued and paid for in cash." Applications are now invited for 9,000 shares at 20s each. This company claims to be "the first public limited liability company formed for the purpose of carrying on a Turf commission agent's business." The advertised prospectus informs us that "no part of this issue has been underwritten,"

and that there are "no promotion profits," and, further, that "no shares will be issued other than for cash." Preliminary expenses are estimated at £750. This is certainly a novelty in the way of company promotion, but the position of a "Turf commission agency" in the eyes of the law is somewhat complicated at present. The statement that bad debts "will be entirely eliminated" fails to convince us, and as a business proposition, we must strongly advise our readers to leave the issue severely alone.

English Electric Company of Canada, Limited.—Authorised capital \$2,000,000 8 per cent. cumulative preferred shares (par value \$100), and 30,000 common shares, with no par value. This was an issue at par of all the 8 per cent. cumulative preferred shares, with a bonus of 40 per cent. common stock. Provision is made for redemption at 110 per cent. on any dividend date after 60 days' notice.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price.	Change.	Price Last Week.	Price.	Change.
War 3½, 1925-28	88½	89	+	Local Loans 3%	53	+
War 4½, 1925-45	82	82½	+	Aust. 5½, 1922-7	96	+
Loans 5%, 1924-47	89½	90	+	Canada 4½, 1920-25	95	+
Loans 4½, 1924-42	96½	96½	0	India 3½, 1920-25	95	+
Funding Bonds 4%	77½	77½	0	Do 7½, 1920-25	103½	+
Victory Bonds 4%	77½	77½	0	N.S.W. 5½, 1922-27	94	+
Conversion Loan 3½	63½	63½	0	U.S.A. 4½, 1922-25	95	+
Consols 2½	48½	48½	0	Victoria 5½, 1924-34	92	+
Irish Land Stock 2½	48½	49	+			

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.)	2½	2½	0	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10)	19½	19	-
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.)	2½	2½	0	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10)	10½	10½	0
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid)	68	68	0	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	8½	8½	0
London County West- & Minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid)	14	13½	-	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	11	11	0

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	41½	41	-	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref.	4½	3½	-
B. A. & Pacific	34½	30½	-	Leopoldina	17½	17	-
B. A. Gt. Southern	52	51½	-	Mexican Railway	14	13	-
Buenos Ayres West.	51½	51	-	Do 1st Pref.	37	35	-
Canadian Pacific	145	141	-	Do 2nd Pref.	25	24	-
Central Argentine	48½	47	-	San Paulo	99½	90½	-
Grand Trunk Ord.	18½	18	-	United Havana	47	44	-

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio	69	68	-	Southern	57	54	-
Erie	16	15	-	Do Non-cum Pref.	25	23	-
Do 4% 1st Pref.	23	22	-				

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5%, 1886-7	94	94	0	Italian 3½ Rentes	22	22	0
Belgian 3%	62	61	-	Greek Monopoly 4%	324	324	0
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914	62	62	0	Japanese 4%	109	107	-
Chilian 4½, 1895	66	65	-	Do 4%, 1910	66	65	-
Chinese 5%, 1912	64	67	+	Mexican Cons. 1899	67½	63	-
Egyptian 4%	64	64	0	Peruvian Corp. Pref.	15½	16	+
French 5%	39½	37½	-	Russian 5%, 1906	71½	68	-
Do 4%	30	28½	-	Spanish 4%	71½	71½	0

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A"	17½	17½	0	Marconi Canada	8½	8½	0
Eastern Telegraph	166½	165½	-	Marconi Marine	8½	8½	0
Marconi Wireless	18	17½	-				

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.	8	73	-	L. and N. W.	66½	65	-
Great Eastern	264	26	-	L. & S. Western, Def.	17	16½	-
Great Northern Def.	24	23½	-	Lyons (J.) & Co. (L)	24	23½	-
Great Western	65	63½	-	Metropolitan District	164	164	0
Lancs. and Yorks.	46	45	-	Midland Deferred	35½	38	+
London, Brighton, "A"	36½	36	-	North British Def.	10	9½	-
London, Chatham	58½	54	-	North-Eastern	69	68	-
Do Arb. Pref.	39	37	-	South-Eastern "A"	20½	20	-

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1)	1½	1½	0	Lipton (£1)	39	39	0
Armstrong (Sir W. G.)	16½	16½	0	Lister (£1)	39	39	0
Ass. Plind. Cement (£1/15)	12½	12½	0	Lobitos Oilfields (£1)	54	54	0
B'ham Small Arms (£1)	7/6	7/3	-	Lyons (J.) & Co. (L)	24	23½	-
Brazil Traction (\$100)	29	27	-	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.)	38	38	0
British-American Tobacco (£1)	33½	34	+	Mexican Eagle (£10)	38	38	0
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	18	18	0	Pekin (2/)	18	18	0
Burmah Oil (£1)	23	23	0	Rubber Plantations Investment (£1)	48	48	0
Coals (J. and P.) (£1)	18	18	0	Shell Transport (£1)	43½	43½	0
Courtauld (£1)	18	18	0	Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1)	8	8	0
Cunard (£1)	18	18	0	Underground Electric (£10)	2	13	+
Dorman, Long (£1)	18	18	0	Do "A" (1/)	5½	5½	0
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	18	18	0	Do Inc. Bds. (£100)	72	70½	-
Forestal Land (£1)	18	18	0	United Serdang (2/)	8	8	0
Furness, Withy (£1)	18	18	0	United Tobacco (£1)	58	58	0
Highlands and Lowlands Rubber (£1)	18	18	0	Ural Caspian (£1)	18	18	0
Hindson's Bay (£1)	18	18	0	Vallambrosa (2/)	18	18	0
Imperial Tobacco (£1)	18	18	0	Vickers (£1)	18	18	0
International Paint (£1)	18	18	0	Watney Def. 8½	125½	125½	0
Linggi Plantns (£1)	18	18	0				

Mines.

Brakpan (£1)	2½	2½	0	Knights	8	8	0
Broken Hill Prop. (8/)	18	18	0	Modderfontein (10/)	33	33	0
Chartered (£1)	18	18	0	Modderfont. "B" (5/)	12	12	0
Cons. Gold Fields (£1)	18	18	0	Modderfont. Deep (5/)	27	27	0
Crown Mines (10/)	18	18	0	Premier Def. (1/5)	5½	5½	0
De Beers Def. (2½)	10½	11	+	Rand Mines (5/)	27	27	0
East Rand Prop. (£1)	18	18	0	Rio Tinto (£5)	27	27	0
Geduld (£1)	18	18	0	Spring Mines (£1)	118	118	0
Gov. Gold Areas (£1)	4	38	+				

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

HARRISONS AND CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

BOARD'S CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

CHAIRMAN ON THE POSITION AND PROSPECTS. RUBBER AND TEA INDUSTRY.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Harrisons and Crosfield, Limited, was held, on the 21st instant, in the Council Room of the Rubber Growers' Association (Inc.), 38 Eastcheap, London, Mr Charles Heath Clark, chairman of the company, presiding.

The secretary (Mr E. C. Cleveland-Stevens, D.Sc.) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in the course of his speech, said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—A year ago, when I presided over our meeting, acting for our chairman, Mr George Croll, who was then absent owing to illness, I quite expected that I was doing so for the last time. Unfortunately, Mr Croll's illness has proved of longer duration than any of us at that time imagined was at all probable, and, as he wished meanwhile to resign his chairmanship of the company, his colleagues have thought it best to act in accordance with his expressed desire, and, in view of his unexpectedly prolonged illness, have accepted his resignation of the chairmanship. As the other members of the board pressed me to continue to act as their chairman, I have consented to resume my old position for the present. At the same time, I am sure you will be glad to know that Mr Croll is getting better, and that the doctors have confidence in his complete recovery at no distant date.

THE PAST YEAR.

The past year has been the most anxious and difficult that I remember in the history of our business. We have not only had to contend with an altogether unprecedented "slump" in the prices of the produce in the production of which we are mainly interested, but, in addition, on the merchant side of our business, which is a very important part of our commercial activities, we have had to face enormously heavy depreciation of stocks, aggravated by the inability of customers to take up and pay for consignments ordered. This has, unfortunately, been a common experience of the export business of the country. We have also encountered further difficulties connected with violent fluctuations in exchange, which have rendered business in many directions practically impossible to transact. Having faced very heavy losses from these and other causes, and having written down the stocks in our balance-sheet to replacement values, we have, I think, no need to be ashamed of the final result, as shown in our profit and loss account for the year.

THE BALANCE-SHEET.

Dealing with the figures in the balance-sheet, the only change in the capital of the company is an increase to the extent of 7,020 deferred ordinary shares taken up by deferred ordinary and management shareholders.

The reserves stand at £473,000, as against £439,000 last year, and constitute a very important source of strength to the company when passing through times like the present.

The sundry liabilities have been reduced to the extent of about £260,000 since a year ago. We owe more to the banks, but have reduced mortgages on our properties by about £24,000, and the amounts owing to sundry creditors and depositors and on bills payable to the extent of £418,000. The amount of our bank overdrafts will always be liable to considerable fluctuations, as the advances on produce in process of shipment from the East are naturally affected by the shipping facilities which may be available for the time being.

On the assets side of the balance-sheet, you will see that there is an increase of about £140,000 under the heading of freehold and leasehold property. This increase is not the result of fresh purchases by the directors during the year under review, but is the consequence of our having paid for commitments previously entered into.

The items of plant, machinery, furniture, and fixtures call for no special comment.

Stocks show a reduction of about £35,000 as compared with a year ago, and are taken at replacement value, so that we should not have to anticipate further heavy losses in the current year such as we have written off from the profits of the past year.

Under the next three headings the outstandings are reduced as compared with those of a year ago. Loans to companies are £39,000 less, bills receivable are £70,000 less, and sundry debtors are £229,000 less, the reduction of the last two being the direct outcome of the stagnation in trade.

The only remaining item to which I need call special attention is that of our investments, which amount to £1,413,000, an increase of about £145,000 since a year ago. The book values have not been changed, but remain at "cost or under" as in previous years. As stated in the directors' report, the value of our investments, if measured by the Stock Exchange quotations, in cases where there are such quotations, would show a considerable amount of depreciation. But as you are probably aware, owing to the present crisis these quotations have for some time past been in most cases of a purely nominal character, and do not reflect intrinsic values. Having regard to the favourable basis upon which our holdings were originally acquired, the directors have no doubt that the depreciation is of a temporary character, and will disappear whenever the industries with which we are connected recover from the present crisis.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Turning now to the profit and loss account, including the amount brought forward from the previous year, the balance at credit of the account is £202,339 18s 8d. The dividends already declared amount to £157,814 12s, leaving an available balance of £44,525 6s 8d, which the directors recommend should be carried forward to the current year. It has been our custom to recommend further dividends on the deferred ordinary and management shares, but, under the present uncertain conditions, we think it wise to conserve the resources of the company, and to make no further distribution of profit among the holders of those classes of shares. I shall, in consequence, have later on to ask your attention to a few remarks in regard to the alteration in the articles of association which it is necessary to make in order to provide, in the future, some alternative remuneration for the management of the company's business.

THE STAFF.

Throughout the year, and in the difficulties and anxieties that it has brought us in common with the business world generally, I have had the most loyal and effective assistance, not only from my colleagues on the board, but also from the company's staff both at home and abroad. I feel that the difficulties, in which we are all sharing, have brought us nearer together than ever before in the determination to overcome them, whatever they may prove to be, and I am sure that no effort will be lacking on the part of any of us that can tend to the future prosperity of the company.

THE OUTLOOK.

You will no doubt expect me to make some reference to the prospects of the immediate future, both of our own company and of the industries of rubber and tea in which we are so largely interested. As regards our own outlook, it was never more difficult than it is at the present time to speak with any degree of certainty. Our interests are world-wide, covering America, Australia, and Japan, as well as Ceylon, India, and Malay States, the Dutch Indies, and the Continent of Europe, and they are of necessity so bound up with the world's changes and uncertainties as to make all forecasts more than usually liable to error, but I am hopeful—more hopeful than I was two or three months ago—that we have "touched bottom," and that the company's business will not prove so difficult during the present year as at one time appeared likely.

You will recognise the fact that, although we have a large and valuable merchant business, our prosperity is closely allied to that of the rubber and tea industries, and that we have consequently a vital interest in the prospects of both. My colleague, Mr Welch, in his speech at the general meeting of the Rubber Plantations Investment Trust, has recently dealt at length with many of the considerations and circumstances surrounding both industries at the present time, and, as I am largely in agreement with the views he then expressed, I shall not weary you with any prolonged examination of the position to-day.

THE TEA INDUSTRY.

The position of the tea industry has undoubtedly much improved during recent months. The fall in the value of the rupee has in itself largely reduced the production costs, and this has, in the cases of all the estates with which we are concerned, been accompanied by all possible economies in management and working. The market price for tea have somewhat improved also, so that at

present the majority of tea companies are no longer making heavy losses, and the statistical position shows material improvement.

The probable world's production of tea in 1921 will be, I think, round about 600 million pounds, as against a probable consumption of about 700 million pounds; and, during the past six months, the stocks in the United Kingdom have been eaten into just about to the extent of 50 million pounds.

It is a very remarkable fact that the consumption in our own and other markets should, during the past two or three years, have increased to an extent permitting the absorption of 700 million pounds of tea, although the great Russian market, which in pre-war days took nearly 200 million pounds per annum, remains practically closed, as well as other smaller outlets. It would appear that, when business with these countries again becomes possible, the demand must go beyond the present limits of production. At the same time, it would appear wise for tea producers to remember that that time has not yet arrived, and that, until it does, it may be possible in any season to produce a greater quantity of tea than can be marketed at a profit. Should, however, the necessary discretion in this respect be exercised by producers, and no big rise in the value of the rupee take place, prospects appear to be distinctly brighter.

THE RUBBER INDUSTRY.

The rubber industry has been, and still is, passing through a very grave crisis, owing partly to the increased production of the past two years, and still more, I think, to the financial stress and general "slump" in the trade of the world. It is, however, one of the world's great industries, and an industry which is growing in importance every year. To-day the raw product is the chief commodity which the British Empire sells to America, and any improvement in its price tends to strengthen our exchange with the United States.

I very much doubt whether the actual consumption—by which I mean the using up of rubber—has ever been going on faster than during the past year. I think that what has happened is that, owing to the abnormal financial and trade conditions, the actual consumption has been provided for very largely from the invisible stocks in the hands of manufacturers, wholesale dealers, and shopkeepers throughout the world, and that there has only been taken from the first-hand producers of raw rubber just sufficient to make up the difference between what was available from the invisible stocks and the actual consumption, leaving the balance of the year's production of raw rubber to accumulate and increase the stocks in London and other ports.

As a result of the restriction, voluntary and involuntary, it appears probable that the total production of raw rubber this year will not exceed 280,000 tons, and that the amount of raw rubber bought by manufacturers during the same period will be about 250,000 tons. I think it is safe to conclude that, by the end of this year the invisible stocks, both of raw and manufactured rubber, will have been used up to the fullest extent possible, and that next year the demand for raw rubber must again be fully equal to the actual consumption and amount to not less than 300,000 tons, and very possibly to 350,000 tons.

The motor industry accounts for about two-thirds of the consumption. It is estimated that, just previously to the war, there were about two million cars running; that in 1918 the number had increased to between seven and eight million; and that to-day it has reached a total of 12 million. This gives us some idea of the progress achieved in seven years, and of the way in which the world's real need for rubber has increased and is increasing. I know of no source of rubber consumption that can be said to be declining, but, on the other hand, there are constantly new uses being added to those already in existence, and I have no doubt as to the ultimate soundness and value of the rubber-producing industry.

To assist in meeting the crisis, the Rubber Growers' Association has done a very great amount of work, for which they deserve the best thanks of all those who have financial interests in the production of rubber. If it had not been for their taking steps to organise restriction, the position would have been much worse than it is, and I cannot help hoping that it may be possible for that association to take the lead once more in organising some simple form of temporary restriction which would assist the industry to recover more rapidly from the present extreme depression. If any large percentage of producers would agree to a cessation of tapping for a period of three months, it would force the present first-hand stocks of rubber rapidly into consumption, and if, as I believe, the demand will steadily improve, the whole industry might be once again upon a paying basis.

GENERAL TRADE SITUATION.

The outstanding feature of general trade remains what it was when I addressed you a year ago, and half the world is still starving for the production of the labour of the other half, which in its turn is starved because it cannot market the products of its labour. The means of exchange are either altogether lacking, or of

such doubtful stability as to render business more or less impossible. For any real recovery, "peace and goodwill" at home and abroad must be the necessary foundation, leading to co-operation, mutual service, and the breaking down of all unnecessary barriers and restrictions in the exchange of goods and services. It appears now that we cannot be far from the time when the necessity of the position will compel Governments to recognise that international action to secure the opening up again of the channels of the world's commerce is the first essential of the world's industry and the life of all industrial peoples.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr H. Eric Miller, the balance-sheet, made up as at June 30, 1921, and the reports of the directors and auditors were adopted.

Messrs George Croll and H. Eric Miller were re-elected directors of the company, and Messrs Price, Waterhouse and Co., were reappointed auditors, to hold office until the next general meeting.

At the close of the ordinary general meeting, an extraordinary meeting of shareholders was held, at which a resolution was passed altering the provisions contained in Article 92 of the articles of association.

A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman and directors terminated the proceedings.

COLTNESS IRON COMPANY, LIMITED. MR RUSSELL ON POSITION OF IRON INDUSTRY. NECESSITY FOR CHEAPER PRODUCTION.

The annual general meeting was held on Friday, the 14th instant, within the registered office of the company, 138 West George street, Glasgow.

Mr Robert Russell, the chairman of the company, who occupied the chair, said that the report before them showed that the past year had been a very poor one as compared with 1920, but considering the unprecedented time through which we have passed, this year's result may be regarded as not unsatisfactory.

PROFITS.

The gross profit, after taking credit for the amount estimated as recoverable under the Finance and Coal Mines Acts, amounts to £111,013, as against £248,032 in the previous year. After writing off £48,823 for redemption and depreciation, and bringing in £1,000 for appreciation in the value of the special reserve fund investments, there remains a net profit for the year of £63,190, as against £195,222 in 1920.

This year we have set aside to meet the expenses of re-lining of blast furnaces, &c., £3,000, and after deducting this sum and adding the amount brought forward from the previous year of £16,762, there is a balance left of £76,953.

Interim dividends have already been paid on the first and second preference shares, and on the ordinary shares, amounting to £28,625, leaving a balance of £48,328, which the directors recommend should be dealt with as follows:—

- (1) In payment of dividends on the first and second preference shares for the second six months of the year, £12,875.
- (2) In payment of a further dividend of 3 per cent. on the ordinary shares, absorbing £15,750, thus making a total distribution of 6 per cent. on the ordinary shares for the year, leaving a balance of £19,703 to be carried forward.

The Chairman stated here that in the last financial year, i.e., ended July 31, 1920, large profits were made, and consequently provision had to be made in the accounts to meet the Government's claim on the amount of the excess over the standard profit. This year, 1921, the profit being much under the standard, the company, on the other hand, has a claim against the Government on the amount of the deficiency under the standard profit.

QUESTION OF INCREASING CAPITAL.

He regretted that owing to the extraordinary bad state of trade during the year they had been unable—the first time for several years—to add anything to the ordinary reserve fund out of which the money required for the development and extension of the company's business had been derived, and said that the shareholders would, of course, understand that from time to time opportunities occurred of adding to the properties of the company which could not, in their interests, be allowed to pass, and while it was fortunate that hitherto the successful operations of the company had enabled the directors not only to pay satisfactory dividends, but to provide most of the money required for these additions, they may have to consider soon whether, and to what extent, this money should now be found on a permanent basis.

BLAST FURNACE DEPARTMENT.

With regard to the blast furnace department, which includes the bye-products plant, these were idle for more than half of the

year, and were still idle, with, he regretted to say, no immediate prospect of their being restarted owing to the price of coal and other raw materials, as well as labour and railway charges being still too high to permit of pig-iron being sold at an economic price. They could easily understand the serious effect of so much capital being unemployed.

He said he took this opportunity of saying that the effect of the introduction into Scotland fully two years ago of the system of three shifts per day in place of two, as has always been the case at the Scottish iron works (owing to the small production as compared with English furnaces) was to further handicap the Scottish works in their competition with England.

A Scottish coal-fed furnace produces only about one-fourth of the tonnage of pig-iron of an English coke-fed furnace. It is thus evident that the latter, with their large production, are in a position to make some profit when Scottish works are losing.

The production of pig-iron per person employed at the English furnaces is about double what it is in Scotland, and it was his opinion that if the production of pig-iron was to be successfully carried on in Scotland it would be necessary that everything possible be done by both employers and employed to reduce costs.

THE COLLIERIES.

As to the collieries, these were idle for about four months. The stoppage in April, May, and June was a most unfortunate one for all concerned, the loss caused thereby being very great, due to the injudicious orders given by the Miners' Federation that no safety men, such as enginemen, stokers, and others, were permitted to work.

In consequence of this state of matters, their loss of output for the year was nearly 300,000 tons. He was pleased, however, to inform them that the company's collieries were now nearly all back to their normal condition.

He also remarked that the present high cost of production would continue until there is a greater demand for coal, which will not

come about until the price is much reduced, and that could only be effected by greater production per annum per person employed.

To enable iron and steel works and other industrial concerns to resume operations, the cost of production must be reduced. At the meeting two years ago he said: "I wonder if there is any miner who can truly say that it is any hardship to have to work eight hours per day." He was of the opinion that the repealing of the seven hours per day Act was an urgent necessity.

KINGSHILL COLLIERY.

With regard to their new Kingshill Colliery, the output is now fully 9,000 tons per month, but with increased demand for coal the underground workings are now capable of yielding double this quantity.

There is still a good deal of capital expenditure required to fully equip the surface works, and they were handicapped here for want of houses for the workmen, but as yet there was no indication of the County Council moving in the matter.

COMPANY'S FOUNDRIES, BRICKWORKS, AND ALQUIFE MINES.

With regard to the foundries, at present they were practically at a standstill in both the iron and steel foundries. Any demand there is for steel castings is being secured by foreign competitors at prices much lower than we can produce at, and the only hope they had of securing work was that their workmen accept lower wages and work longer hours.

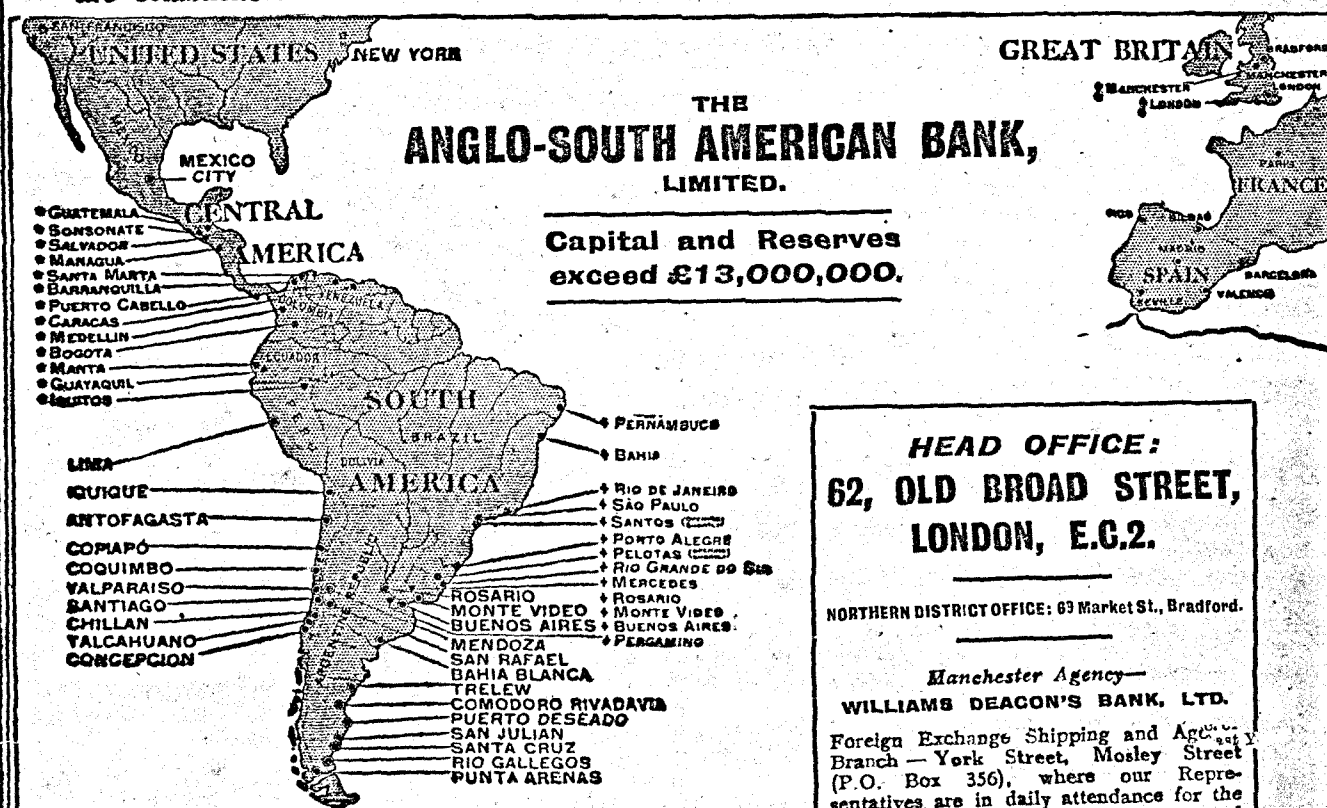
The brickworks had been fully employed all the year.

As to Alquife Mines, there was a small loss on the year's working.

We would have made a large profit, but owing to the continued failure of the railway company to transport ore in adequate quantities from the mines to Almeria the shipments were gradually reduced during the first half of the year. The railway company suspended the transport of ore entirely on January 29th last, consequently mining operations ceased on February 15th. Negotiations have been

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.



BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

carried on with the railway company, but nothing definite has yet been arranged.

The stock of ore at the mines has been gradually accumulating, until there are now 250,000 tons representing a large sum of money, and which he would be glad to see converted into cash.

WARWICKSHIRE COALFIELD.

With regard to the Warwickshire Coalfield, during the last year, owing to strikes, he said nearly six months' work was lost, a very serious state of matters for their large developing Coventry Colliery.

This place he said has suffered more than any other part of their business, due to the war causing high costs of sinking and of all machinery and plant, also high wages. The shortage of workmen also has greatly retarded development.

At the present time, consequent upon the recent miners' strike, which brought about the stoppage of other industries, the demand for coal is less than we can produce. The output is now equal to about 10,000 tons per month, but with more house accommodation for the workers this could soon be increased.

The capital already expended is capable of dealing with an output of about 30,000 tons per month, but when the output gets beyond that, some additional expenditure for screening plant and a washery, &c., will be necessary.

The underground capital expenditure yet required is for permanent pit bottom arrangements and haulages.

At present the cost of working is much above the selling price, and this will continue to be the state of matters until the output is at least double what it is now. I am glad to say the quality of the coal is excellent.

FIRST DEBENTURE DRAWING.

In December next the first debenture drawing of £15,000 will take place, but owing to the unavoidable delay caused by the war and strikes in opening up the colliery only a small sum from royalties has accumulated to meet this, and the amount must, therefore, be provided otherwise.

The directors' report and balance-sheet as at July 31st last were adopted, and the retiring directors, Mr J. Hamilton Houldsworth and Mr Thomas Russell, were re-elected.

The auditors (Messrs Kerr, MacLeod, and Macfarlan) were re-appointed, and the usual vote of thanks terminated the proceedings.

RUBBER SECURITIES, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF THE INDUSTRY'S FUTURE.

The 12th annual general meeting of this company was held on the 19th inst., at the offices, 7 Martin's lane, London, Mr W. Arthur Addinsell, the chairman, presiding.

The Chairman, in the course of his address, said that the absence of profit and dividend would occasion no surprise, having regard to the vicissitudes of the rubber industry in the last year. By far the largest proportion of the company's holdings was in companies with particularly small capitals, thoroughly well and economically managed in the East, and capable of giving a good account of themselves, given normal conditions within the next year or two. In addition to undistributed profits, the majority of the companies concerned had substantial liquid assets. The book value of the investments at the date of the balance-sheet was £92,148, and the market value showed a deficit of £370, since increased to £5,453, compared with the surplus of £42,863 a year ago.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS
CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

It was a great disappointment that rubber producers had not been able to agree upon any means of remedying the situation. When so many were apparently anxious to achieve the same result, it seemed almost incredible that ground for united action could not be found.

FALLACY OF LONG FORWARD SALES.

There was a tendency amongst some producers to sell forward the crops of the next year or so at current prices, on the ground that it secured a certain and regular income to meet estate expenditure. No doubt such sales showed profit on present cost of production; but that cost represented the effect of drastic reduction of expenses by the discharge of coolies, reduction of wages, temporary reduction of European staff salaries, and, in many cases, complete cessation of highly necessary work such as cultivation, thinning out, drainage, and measures against pests and diseases. But when trade and industry improved, increasing the demand for raw rubber, and raising its price to (say) 6d per lb, there would be a rush for labour, substantially increasing rates of pay; European salaries must return to the normal, and when the price was 1s 2d or over, the F.M.S. export duty would be reinstated. Further, freights would be increased, and estates in the Dutch Colonies were threatened with higher local taxation. Thus sales made at prices below normal average cost of production for delivery 12 to 15 months ahead might quite possibly result in loss. Moreover, forward contracts, particularly over long periods, encouraged the deplorable prevalence of speculation in rubber. He understood that the large majority of the transactions taking place in Mincing lane daily formed dealings on behalf of so-called "bulls" or "bears." Most of all, he was concerned by the fact that, in the efforts to place the industry on a sound basis again, the shadow of forward contracts had militated against combination of producers for common action. He did not hold out any hope that the company would be able to pay a dividend next year, but he was strongly of opinion that 12 months hence the market would have improved, so decidedly that the majority of the companies in which they were interested would feel that they had weathered the storm.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business was transacted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts	Week Ending	Week Ending
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Oct. 15, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Oct. 16, 1920.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 16, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England....	483,455	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland....	..	2,209,321	..	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	68,807,000	73,172,000	2,367,000	1,581,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	97,694,000	95,983,000	2,397,000	4,853,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,938,000	..	321,000	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	24,066,000	25,597,000	685,000	609,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	8,211,000	14,204,000	675,000	568,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	430,000	390,000	10,000	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	150,874,000	135,394,000	3,577,000	3,623,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	29,464,000	119,173,000	820,000	4,036,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	6,260,000	..	320,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	25,250,000	25,000,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	280,000	..	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	6,678,131	6,114,815	13,305	14,300
Miscellaneous.....	..	..	..	..	..
Ordinary Receipts.....	21,500,000	13,968,264	11,965,272	128,217	28,037
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	53,256,329	174,839,824	839,234	19,800,000
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	488,186,724	692,112,911	13,403,756	36,112,337
Total, Inc. Balance ..	..	491,261,230	691,482,008	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	..	4,130,000	2,040,000	200,000	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921 ..	..	440,000	..	120,000	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920 ..	..	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913 ..	..	27,500	40,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	..	35,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921 ..	..	4,655,000	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	..	2,284,848,000	2,169,715,000	73,385,000	110,201,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1900-90 ..	..	..	270,552	..	169,211
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	..	769,061	..	510,439
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	..	89,777	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919 ..	..	..	20,400,000	..	..

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts	Week Ending	Week Ending
	Apl. 1, 1921, to Oct. 15, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Oct. 16, 1920.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 16, 1920.
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	21,130,000	1,650,000	1,150,000	800,000
By National War Bonds	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—				
5-15 year, 1925-35	1,024,930	11,479,000	1,140,000	165,000
5%, 1925	57,875,000	..	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919 ..	6,990,529	21,237,283	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances ..	739,957,000	780,290,000	28,750,000	59,250,000
Payments—				
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919 ..	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919 ..	35,888	5,524	..	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920 ..	1,677,000	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920 ..	178,666	..	..	..
Total.....	3,625,077,282	3,701,938,205	118,148,756	207,207,987

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from	Issues.	Week Ending	Week Ending
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Oct. 15, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Oct. 16, 1920.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 16, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	9,875,161	10,403,313	252,698	115,385
Interest—					
War Debt.....	320,500,000	190,901,137	186,338,318	2,311,280	3,902,719
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,519,000	1,943,116	446,000	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	3,820,738	3,527,343	..	250,000
Consolidated Fund ..	5,000,000	1,888,495	3,573,772	79,425	66,095
Services	1,757,000	915,029	1,176,850	32,230	..
y Services	758,932,000	342,370,031	380,302,441	8,830,000	5,100,000
penditure	1,130,204,000	552,289,591	587,565,153	11,951,633	9,434,199
OTHER ISSUES.					
ary Advance ..	..	4,050,000	2,350,000	250,000	100,000
er. ton Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904 ..	..	169,818	169,818	84,909	84,909
ter the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921 ..	..	4,905,000	..	..	..
as to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
nder the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920 ..	..	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..
nder the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913 ..	..	27,500	65,000	..	..
nder the Housing Act, 1914 ..	..	35,000	30,000	..	..
lemption of Unfunded Debt—					
reasury Bills for Supply ..	..	2,254,313,000	2,204,606,000	84,910,000	116,175,000
Var Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917 ..	..	21,018,003	35,217,812	722,645	1,084,918
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920 ..	..	10,100,000	18,100,000	950,000	550,000
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	..	8,500,000	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22 ..	..	18,454,490	2,580,000	750,000	..
1920-21 ..	..	..	..	..	..
6%, 1920 ..	..	..	2,580,000	..	..
5%, 1921 ..	..	..	18,454,490	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919 ..	..	30,513,659	37,387,877	..	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915 ..	..	..	55,000,000	..	55,000,000
Ways and Means Advances Repaid ..	..	688,663,000	737,563,000	17,500,000	23,000,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917 ..	..	15,960,134	14,300,112	660,022	500,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4) ..	..	9,990,000	..	500,000	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 15 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911 ..	..	61,200	197,766	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Oct. 15, '21 ..	..	3,622,511,469	3,697,632,538	118,277,209	205,929,026
Oct. 15, '20 ..	..	1,957,702	2,082,198	54,623	72,348
Bank of England.....	..	607,711	2,283,469	73,830	1,206,613
Bank of Ireland.....	..	..	..	..	..
Tot ..	..	2,565,413	4,365,667	128,453	1,278,961

NOTE.—Agot Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921.
Treasury, October 17, 1921.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Oct. 24th-Oct. 29th, were opened on Oct. 21, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £84,160,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £99 is 3d, about 8 1/3 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 is 6d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 13s 8 3/8d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to	Redemption Account.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance of Bank of England.
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	18,500	..	11,423
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	..	49 1/2	9,288
1915.							
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	849	28,500	..	20,536
1916.							
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	6,868
1917.							
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	6,486
1918.							
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	4,566
1919.							
Mar. 30.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	5,413
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	5,271
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	..	320	28,500	1,350	3,568
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	..	250	28,500	4,000	2,802
1920.							
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	2,981
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	3,005
Sept. 29.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	3,885
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
1921.							
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
June 29.....	323,884	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
Sept. 28.....	314,382	14,300	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
Oct. 5.....	313,347	15,929	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
12.....	313,593	13,961	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134
19.....	312,604	14,008	..	..	28,500	19,450	1,134

*Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. †Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.							
July 27.....	128,370,063	128,283,370	121,803,758	121,888,923	18,536,693	15.2%	5%
Aug. 3.....	128,382,461	128,693,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14.4%	5%
10.....	128,380,654	128,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	14.4%	5%
17.....	128,407,120	128,635,123	133,831,940	132,655,807	20,621,995	14.4%	5%
24.....	128,402,703	128,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	15.2%	5%
31.....	128,409,235	128,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.4%	5%
Sept. 7.....	128,410,306	128,632,535	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	14.4%	5%
14.....	128,410,714	128,207,555	144,600,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	15.2%	5%
21.....	128,417,297	124,406,495	129,163,884	124,810,483	22,860,802	17.8%	5%
28.....	128,414,367	127,552,258	113,854,769	113,854,769	21,971,787	18.8%	5%
Oct. 5.....	128,413,841	125,695,690	147,038,600	143,489,546	21,971,787	14.4%	5%
12.....	128,421,587	124,613,620	149,803,295	145,222,743	22,287,967	14.4%	5%
19.....	128,417,061	125,684,130	171,602,456	166,131,591	23,182,931	13.2%	5%

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Oct. 18, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Oct. 23, 1919.	Oct. 20, 1920.	Oct. 19, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills).....	28,669,215	28,933,380	83,412,745	127,053,635	123,684,130
Public deposits.....	6,714,979	19,014,809	22,410,339	16,539,019	14,793,597
Other deposits.....	45,052,664	41,248,964	144,706,606	125,844,505	156,808,859
Government securities.....	14,056,084	11,046,570	78,633,813	61,619,890	79,715,907
Other securities.....	28,242,725	41,461,280	83,143,165	83,878,751	86,415,684
Reserve of notes and coin.....	27,141,706	25,463,980	23,077,650	14,540,871	33,182,931
Coin and bullion.....	37,350,321	35,947,369	88,040,395	133,148,442	128,417,061
Proportion of Reserve to liabilities.....	52.8%	42.1%	13.3%	10.1%	13.3%
Bank rate of discount.....	4%	5%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills.....	3 1/2	2 1/2	4 1/2	6 1/2	3 1/2
Price of Consols.....	78	74 1/2	52	45 1/2	49
Price of silver per oz.....	24 1/2	26 1/2	63 1/2	51 1/2	52 1/2
Average price of wheat.....	25 1/2	35 1/2	75	90 1/2	54
Exchanges.....	25 1/2	25 1/2	36 1/2	50 1/2	25 1/2
on New York.....	84 3/4	84 3/4	84 1/2	83 1/2	83 1/2
on Amsterdam.....	12 1/2	12 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2	11 1/2
on London.....	20 1/2	20 1/2	115 1/2	231 1/2	625 1/2
Clearing house return.....	281,061,000	199,913,000	630,610,000	734,546,000	632,040,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	1921.	1920.	Country Clearing.	Total.
January 1—October 12.....	24,620,062,000	2,379,668,000	26,999,730,000	632,040,000
October 19.....	571,945,000	60,095,000	632,040,000	
Total to date 1921.....	25,192,007,000	2,439,763,000	27,631,770,000	
Do 1920.....	28,375,812,000	3,336,828,000	31,712,640,000	
Increase or decrease in 1921.....	-3,183,805,000	-997,065,000	-4,080,870,000	
	-11.2%	-29.8%	-12.8%	
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000	
Do 1919.....	35,928,614,000	3,386,768,000	39,315,382,000	
Increase or decrease in 1920.....	+9,918,069,000	+685,452,000	+10,603,521,000	
	+28.4%	+20.2%	+26.9%	

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to October 15.			
BIRMINGHAM.....	153,973,800	100,028,500	-53,945,300
BRISTOL.....	72,609,200	61,481,000	-11,128,000
DUBLIN.....	362,005,800	294,161,700	-67,844,100
LIVERPOOL.....	71,516,400	45,917,900	-25,598,500
LEICESTER.....	51,053,000	31,276,000	-19,777,000
LIVERPOOL.....	665,221,600	354,582,000	-310,639,600
MANCHESTER.....	1,238,194,800	579,403,300	-658,791,500
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.....	129,172,600	74,039,100	-55,133,500
NOTTINGHAM.....	47,256,500	28,854,300	-18,402,200
SHEFFIELD.....	69,430,800	46,312,300	-23,118,500

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Oct. 14, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Oct. 11, 1920.
RESOURCES.			
Total gold reserve.....	2,728,920	+ 3,680	1,993,320
Legal tender notes and silver reserve.....	148,010	+ 2,330	161,940
Bills discounted for member banks.....	1,402,410	+ 4,290	2,795,670
Bills bought in open market.....	61,320	+ 12,320	305,590
Government obligations owned.....	215,390	+ 1,470	300,880
All other resources.....	55,530	+ 1,280	32,130
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits.....	54,270	+ 4,730	43,370
Other deposits.....	1,670,590	+ 33,260	1,666,810
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation.....	2,476,310	+ 6,000	3,322,120
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation.....	97,930	+ 1,670	213,150
All other liabilities.....	22,410	+ 660	84,920
Capital and surplus.....	316,890	+ 20	262,260
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined.....	68.5%	- 0.5%	42.9%

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion.....	5,523,686	5,523,481	5,484,280	+ 205	3,730,625
Of which held abroad.....	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,978,278	—	632,650
Silver coin and bullion.....	278,073	277,410	263,779	+ 265	2,327,775
Discount and advances.....	4,700,998	4,638,929	5,031,040	+ 62,069	
LIABILITIES.					
Notes.....	37,406,813	37,611,632	39,289,666	+ 204,819	5,811,875
Government deposits.....	29,995	46,141	82,698	+ 16,146	183,700
Other deposits.....	2,544,364	2,387,183	3,202,450	+ 157,175	845,950

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	July 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances.....	476,811,646	520,557,603	526,309,260
Bank balances abroad.....	65,128,352	67,919,535	78,776,577
Call and short loans.....	268,443,419	276,644,829	318,406,103
Securities.....	355,571,599	388,496,442	365,247,626
Loans in Canada.....	138,883,309	136,821,732	1,475,381,220
Loans abroad.....	155,238,085	155,846,239	190,914,052
Other assets.....	106,207,018	107,222,558	111,326,448
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation.....	193,339,095	195,075,217	231,534,233
Deposits.....			
Government.....	128,777,843	145,544,242	196,534,899
Public in Canada.....	1,820,311,334	1,870,972,789	1,992,583,468
Foreign.....	274,331,912	282,158,779	348,003,545
Bank balances.....			
Canadian.....	10,300,260	12,675,118	12,199,695
Foreign.....	39,029,582	41,677,919	44,942,126
Bills payable and acceptances.....	40,429,044	42,810,118	49,596,151
Other liabilities.....	2,815,632	3,033,652	3,313,344
Capital and rest.....	264,326,315	264,318,599	256,079,103

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Sept. 24, 1921.	Oct. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold.....	2,504,086	2,503,117	2,501,816	2,453,033	+ 969	521,775
Silver.....	617,359	625,262	624,417	581,884	+ 7,903	728,600
Loans and discounts.....	1,980,954	1,974,460	1,938,495	1,828,494	+ 6,494	800,725
Spanish 4% stock.....	344,475	344,474	344,474	344,475	—	344,475
Treasury bills.....	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	—	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation.....	4,306,733	4,246,321	4,207,052	4,183,153	+ 60,412	1,901,550
Deposits.....	1,947,304	1,933,249	1,918,550	807,300	+ 14,055	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Sept. 13, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Sept. 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad.....	1,394,815,156	1,391,598,778	1,493,696,681	+ 3,216,378	98,881,525
Government loans and securities.....	2,178,100,108	2,015,419,740	866,095,243	+ 162,680,368	+ 131,200,465
Discounts and loans.....	622,295,195	738,630,261	689,435,490	-116,350,666	-67,140,295
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	1,877,180,476	1,831,843,293	1,452,670,416	+ 45,337,183	+ 424,510,060
Government deposits.....	134,325,505	135,386,735	121,896,461	+ 1,061,230	+ 12,429,044
Private sight deposits.....	940,378,426	977,429,773	718,789,358	-37,051,347	+ 221,589,068
Private deposits at fixed dates.....	873,746,540	858,244,881	522,860,064	+ 15,501,659	+ 350,886,476

BANK OF JAPAN.

	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 3, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Sept. 11, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver.....	1,275,098	1,275,309	1,275,169	1,050,533	+ 211	221,320
Discounts.....	29,413	54,626	59,985	140,246	+ 25,213	41,740
Advances.....	108,852	111,419	101,832	203,412	+ 2,567	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes.....	1,085,676	1,147,917	1,126,582	1,044,908	+ 62,311	362,270
Govt. deposits.....	1,397,881	1,383,698	1,384,701	1,370,759	+ 13,583	87,340
Private deposits.....	88,235	52,634	47,964	77,642	+ 35,659	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	1,023,633	1,023,699	1,091,573	+ 66	1,313,240
Silver.....	14,932	15,996	7,020	+ 1,064	321,920
Treasury notes.....	3,193,609	2,850,678	20,434,899	+ 312,931	60,780
Bills discounted.....	96,029,034	90,563,763	51,676,188	+ 5,451,271	943,460
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	87,778,207	87,461,651	62,128,756	+ 266,556	2,013,860
Deposits.....	16,886,965	11,266,975	16,415,514	+ 5,620,030	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

	Sept. 20, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash.....	1,337,486	1,330,244	1,167,250	+ 7,242	1,221,275
Inland bills.....	2,938,398	3,003,704	2,698,959	+ 65,306	418,400
Foreign bills.....	19,512	19,452	20,484	+ 50	81,300
Advances to the Treasury.....	6,492,334	6,472,439	7,999,853	+ 20,475	nil
Other advances.....	2,566,284	2,628,900	2,196,180	+ 62,616	79,175
Securities.....	404,837	404,287	222,291	+ 550	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation.....	13,992,744	13,979,864	14,445,701	+ 12,880	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts.....	1,615,678	1,618,597	1,688,485	+ 2,919	1,927,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

	Oct. 17, 1921.	Oct. 10, 1921.	Oct. 18, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold.....	605,969	605,969	605,969	—	163,092
Silver.....	9,195	9,253	9,558	+ 57	8,436
Discounts and advances.....	451,154	453,164	459,721	+ 2,010	153,504
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	1,028,634	1,030,613	1,040,476	+ 1,879	316,634
Deposits.....	39,622	39,320	39,635	+ 392	5,

LONDON RATES.

	Oct. 14, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 17, 1921.	Oct. 18, 1921.	Oct. 19, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921)	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
3 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
4 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
6 months' do.	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4
Discount (Treasury Bills)—							
3 months'	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Loans—Day to day	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Short	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Deposit allowances: Banks	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount houses at call	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
At notice	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

	Short	3 Months	4 Months	6 Months	3 Months	4 Months	6 Months
1921.							
Aug. 5.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
12.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
19.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
26.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Sept. 2.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
9.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
16.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
23.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Oct. 7.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
14.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
21.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	3	July 21, 1921	5 1/2	June 23, 1921
Deposit	3	June 23, 1921	5 1/2	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

	Bank Rate	Bank Rate
	Changed.	Changed.
Amsterdam	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Athens	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Berlin	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Brussels	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Bucharest	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Calcutta	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Christiana	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Copenhagen	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Helsingfors	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
Lisbon	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921
New York Federal Reserve	May 1, 1921	May 1, 1921

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Oct. 22, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 14, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 21, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25.22 1/2	53.28-30	53.35-45
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Christiana	krone to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Copenhagen	krone to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Helsingfors	marks to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
London	sterling to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Lisbon	escudo to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Alexandria	piastres to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
New York	dollars to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Buenos Ayres	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Rio de Janeiro	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Montevideo	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Lima	soles to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Calcutta	rupees to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Bombay	rupees to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Madras	rupees to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Hong Kong	dollars to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Shanghai	taels to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Singapore	dollars to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Yokohama	yen to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Manila	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20
Mexico	pesos to £1	T.T.	20.43	24 1/2	54.15-20

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (d) Nominal.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 23, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.
Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral)	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Insoluble, 30 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

Note—The rates for acceptances as quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 21, 1920.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 20, 1921.
London—					
60 days		4.8666	3.3725	3.73	3.81
Cable			3.4312	3.7787	3.8550
Cheques			3.4337	3.7737	3.8525
Paris			19.30	15.45	7.25
Switzerland			19.30	14.65	7.09
Italy			19.30	12.55	4.0050
Berlin			23.83	1.42	0.82
Vienna			20.25	0.3450	0.550
Madrid			19.30	14.20	13.13
Amsterdam			40.195	13.85	18.75
Stockholm			26.80	13.55	12.03
Athens			19.30	10.00	4.35
Montreal			100	90.50	91.00
Yokohama			49.85	50.60	47.50
Hong Kong			..	69.50	56.25
Shanghai			..	9.80	79.30
Buenos Aires			103.65	..	135.50
Rio de Janeiro			32.42	..	13.05
Valparaiso			20.60	..	11.50

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 21, 1920.	Rate, Oct. 6, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 20, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.26	4.60	2.53 1/2	2.11
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123.45	9.05	4.64	3.85 1/2
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	10.50	4.36	3.73 1/2
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	..	7.30	3.62	3.05
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	..	10.75	6.80	5.84 1/2

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10.15	Sight London	Oct. 15
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25.25	"	Oct. 11
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £20	48.3	"	Oct. 17
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49.314	"	Oct. 10
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24.651	"	Oct. 19
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2.651	"	Oct. 19
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10.45	"	Oct. 13
Bolivia	pesos to Bolivianos	..	"	Sept. 2

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Revel exchange rates as below:—

	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
London (cheque)	£1	1.460	1.465	1.490
Paris	100 Fr	2.725	2.800	2.850
New York	100 Kr	8.700	8.850	8.900
Stockholm	100 Kr	6.900	7.000	7.200
Copenhagen	100 Rmk	360	365	340
Berlin	100 Rmk	560	575	585
Helsingfors	100 Lrb	95	105	110
Riga	100 H.B.	12.200	12.300	12.500

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
London on South Africa.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.
30 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.
60 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.
90 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.
120 days	1 1/2 % dis.	1 1/2 % prem.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	..	..
30 days	..	..
60 days	..	..
90 days	..	..
120 days	..	..
180 days	..	..

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.
Outstanding with public	43,73,55,000	27,09,85,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	87,09,85,000

India Office, October 20, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended October 19, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed a decrease of £4,526, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.	Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.
Countries from which Consigned.	Countries to which Exported.
Belgium	£ 708
Egypt	7,265
British West Africa	37,618
British South Africa	774,033
British India	312,083
Straits Settlements	21,644
Other Countries	447
Total values of import of gold	1,153,798
	£ 700
	1,350,500
	108
	198,147
	684
	1,550,139

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on October 20th, as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,595,820, as compared with £126,595,530 last week. A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was practically all taken for the United States of America. Gold to the value of \$7,431,000 is reported as having been received in New York—\$4,000,000 from London, \$2,350,000 from France, \$881,000 from Egypt, and \$200,000 from Germany.

CURRENCY.

The Financial Adviser to the Egyptian Government writes as follows in his note on the 1921-22 Budget:—"In 1919 the lack of fresh supplies of silver compelled the Government to resort to the issue of currency notes of small denomination. These immediately took the place of the silver coin, which disappeared entirely from circulation.....Since the end of 1920 the general contraction of purchasing power has taken effect on the circulation of token coinage, and not only has nickel coin begun to flow back to the Treasury, but silver coin has also reappeared in circulation. It will probably be feasible to withdraw the small currency notes and replace them by silver coin in the near future.....The total amount of silver in circulation, so far as this can be estimated, is as follows:—Silver—British and Egyptian, £713,100; Maria Theresa dollars, £186,700."

SILVER.

During the week the market has betrayed some uneasiness. For some time past China has borne the weight of carrying supplies, the Indian bazaars having ceased to be buyers. Cessation, therefore, of purchases from the Far East was bound to be disquieting. A reversal of the attitude of Chinese speculators, who changed from keen sellers to active buyers of sterling, brought about a fall in the China exchange, and deprived the silver market of its main support. The cash price fell 1/2d on the 18th instant, and a further 3/4d next day. Bear covering has had some share in checking the decline. To-day Chinese demand was resumed, and a sharp recovery took place of 1/2d. The week has been characterised by three notable events—a collapse of the German exchange, a heavy fall in the sterling value of the rupee, and a sharp drop in exchange with China. It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that these occurrences were connected. It is probable that the difficulty of carrying out contracts made on German account for the purchase of goods from India and China may have unsettled the exchanges of these countries. The following forecast in the issue of the *Times of India* dated October 1st last confirms the above view:—"The recent rapid fall in German exchange from 300 marks per £ sterling to 460 is disconcerting in view of Germany's vast international obligations, and may have an adverse effect on Bombay and Calcutta's reviving export trade with that country." In any case, the setback in rates from the East shows the danger of speculation in exchange (whether guided by intelligent anticipation or not) in times so prone to the entry of unexpected factors. The collapse of the German exchange had a result upon these other exchanges similar to a pinprick in a toy balloon. Trade alone is the decisive factor in exchange, whatever temporary effect may be caused by sentiment or speculation. We are informed that the rumour as to some replacement by Japan of its small emergency war notes by silver coin may be well founded, but the movement would most likely be gradual, and there is always a possibility that the fineness of the coin may be lowered. Japan holds a stock of silver—the amount of which is not known. It may be that the assent of the Japanese Parliament would be necessary before the matter could be put in hand. The amount of small notes outstanding is about 230,000,000 yen.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Sept. 22, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,712	17,837	17,788
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,751	7,876	7,814
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,434	2,434	2,434
Gold coin and bullion in India	6,692	6,692	6,705
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	835	835	835
Securities (Indian Government) ..			
Securities (British Government) ..			

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend.
					Prefce. Amount	Ordinary.					
						Amount.	Rate.				
Banks.		£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£	£	%
Anglo-South American	June 30	393,116	693,175	1,086,291	..	458,506	15	225,000	402,785	949,165	25
North of Scotland and Town and County	Sept. 30	71,785	154,519	226,304	..	75,306	16½	68,000	82,998	121,349	16
Breweries.											
Colchester	June 30	2,888	11,798	14,686	5,250	6,237	5	..	3,199	16,554	8½
Hammond's Bradford	Sept. 30	7,015	44,912	51,927	4,500	16,875	15	24,000	6,552	41,664	13
Highland Distilleries	Aug. 31	26,571	39,097	65,668	..	13,388	7½	..	52,280	27,475	15½
Hodgsons' Kingston	Sept. 30	15,609	28,383	43,992	..	19,600	14	7,000	17,392	19,332	13
Longmorn-Glenlivet Distilleries....	July 31	9,728	6,902	16,630	750	3,000	20	500	12,380	15,016	20
William Longmore and Co.	Sept. 30	2,184	22,177	24,361	..	7,000	20½	13,500	3,861	4,625	12½
Electric Lighting and Power.											
Electric Supply of Victoria	Mar. 31	32,604	30,257	62,861	10,500	..	..	8,775	43,586	27,585	..
Financial, Land, &c.											
British New Guinea Development..	Jan. 31	22,132	1,692	23,824	..	..	..	..	23,824	..	..
Clydesdale Investment	Sept. 30	37,005	26,809	63,814	9,450	11,200	8	..	43,164	26,157	7
Iron, Coal, and Steel.											
Drake and Gorham	June 30	12,235	13,433	25,668	..	7,500	6	12,400	5,768	23,017	10
Kayser, Ellison, and Co.	June 30	10,812	14,375	25,187	6,000	12,500	5	..	6,687	26,310	8½
Sadler and Co.	June 30	15,616	33,484	49,100	..	14,200	12	25,000	9,900	75,593	12
Motor and Cycle.											
E. G. Wrigley and Co.	April 30	Dr 67,021	Dr 481,309	Dr 548,330	..	..	..	Dr 355,425	Dr 191,905	Dr 144,236	5
Oil.											
Kern River Oilfields	May 31	25,796	276,134	301,930	..	149,448	20	7,500	144,982	98,805	17½
Rubber, &c.											
Bajoe Kidool	Mar. 31	31,878	Dr 2,382	29,496	..	..	..	..	29,496	92,309	20
Beranang (Selangor)	June 30	958	Dr 4,868	Dr 3,910	..	..	..	..	Dr 3,910	15,250	10
Bertam Consolidated	Mar. 31	41,498	16,393	57,891	..	..	..	..	57,891	99,182	30
Bukit Lintang	June 30	3,072	Dr 6,196	Dr 3,124	..	..	..	..	Dr 3,124	6,271	10
Inch Kenneth	June 30	7,459	Dr 4,442	3,017	..	..	..	..	3,017	18,021	45
K. M. S. (Malay)	June 30	6,638	Dr 1,269	5,369	..	..	..	..	5,369	12,703	10
Kuala Kubu	June 30	7,477	Dr 4,370	3,107	..	..	..	..	3,107	5,223	..
Port Dickson-Lukut	Mar. 31	7,488	Dr 7,354	134	..	..	..	..	134	21,409	10
Straits Plantations	June 30	4,595	15,828	20,423	..	12,000	10	..	8,423	35,478	20
Shipping.											
Walford Lines	April 30	77,086	Dr 87,480	Dr 10,394	..	..	..	..	Dr 10,394	128,626	10
Shops and Stores.											
Maynard's	June 30	160,736	54,250	214,986	3,390	28,220	30	25,000	157,376	93,508	20
Tea.											
Hornsey	June 30	680	546	1,226	600	..	..	122	504	162	..
Textiles.											
Joshua Perkins and Sons	June 30	11,346	13,005	24,351	1,800	4,000	10½	2,364	16,187	8,384	10½
Trainways.											
Auckland Electric	June 30	9,610	31,506	41,116	9,000	23,625	5½	..	8,491	36,958	6½
Trust.											
British Canadian	Aug. 21	5,648	12,491	18,139	3,937	6,125	7	2,000	6,077	15,697	7
Other Companies.											
Herbert Morris	July 31	19,663	62,070	81,733	11,439	24,000	10½	25,000	20,294	126,534	10
Wright, Bindley, and Gell	June 30	..	7,126	7,126	4,519	..	..	..	2,607	..	..

(1) Anglo-South American Bank.—Excluding £50,000 applied in distribution of a bonus to the staff. Last year the dividend of 25 per cent. included a special bonus of 10 per cent. † Free of tax.

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Oct. 8	107,877 3	164,816 0	24,934 7	55 6	58 4	27 6
15	85,927 3	130,400 5	18,117 2	52 3	54 0	27 0
1917	55,750 1	78,954 3	16,744 4	70 8	59 3	44 1
1918	76,214 7	70,806 3	10,734 6	72 7	60 3	50 9
1919	67,998 2	142,238 2	14,534 1	75 0	93 10	57 9
1920	82,654 5	121,089 4	29,019 6	90 8	89 6	55 6

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated October 20th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is no immediate prospect of any more blast furnaces going in under present conditions. Coke is still too dear. Cheaper coke and cheaper rail transport of raw materials to the blast furnaces are imperative necessities. The sale of pig-iron is so small that even the present reduced output of foundry iron can hardly be marketed. Prices are as follows:—No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron, 120s; export, 125s per ton. East Coast mixed numbers hematite, 125s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: Further cuts in steel prices have not brought out any new business. There are not even enough orders to keep those works going which had restarted after the coal strike. One large steel works has had to close down again. Steel ship plates, £10 10s; steel ship angles, £10; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £10 10s net. Iron ore: Business is quite insignificant. Consumers' ideas are some shillings below those of sellers. Best rubio nominally 27s 6d per ton, c.i.f.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The state of the local industries continues much the same as heretofore, and speaking generally, there is no relief to the depression. Some branches have, in fact, lost further ground. While the outlook is believed to be brightening, no increased work has yet come to Sheffield. Other districts are, however, more favoured in this respect, as good orders are being booked for tin plates, galvanised sheets, and several black country products, and it is fair to assume that the improvement will extend and eventually reach Sheffield. Inquiries are on hand for iron and steel works plant for India, and an order for a dozen locomotives for South America has been placed in Newcastle. The local railway departments continue exceptionally quiet in tyres, axles, and springs. The home companies have only bought on a hand-to-mouth basis for a very long time, and still refuse to place period contracts. A lot of Indian and South American work which formerly came exclusively to this country has lately gone to Belgium and Germany. A drastic cut in British quotations for steel of all kinds, ranging from £2 10s to £4 per ton, brings the home prices nearly level with Continental. The reduction has not yet stimulated buying, as neither home nor foreign material seems to be wanted just now. That foreign competition has been scotched, however, seems to be taken for granted. A number of steel materials have now dropped to one-half the highest prices recorded during the war period. Wire rods are only a third of the record. British foundry pig can now be bought delivered at rather less than £6, or the same price as Belgian, but of more reliable quality. Business is quiet for all classes of hand tools, there being little overseas trade in any part of the world. Cutlery and silver plate makers are experiencing a slight revival of buying for the Christmas season trade, but business is far from good. Prices are falling in all kinds of goods made from metals. Quietude pervades all branches of the fuel market. The protracted summer weather is encouraging householders to hold off from buying in order to force down prices. Generally speaking, the domestic cellars are empty, and a sudden cold snap might cause a rush of orders creating scarcity. The industrial demand for coal fails to expand, while exports

tend to shrink. Short time is being worked at numerous qualities. The proposal of the Government to extend the guarantee of credits on export trade has been well received here, and people are confident that it is likely to help materially in the restoration of our overseas trade. Foreign and colonial buyers need longer credits now than the manufacturers are able to finance, and for that reason valuable orders have had to be turned down even in cases where the financial stability of the buyers was satisfactory.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The week has been notable for an all-round break in the market prices named by makers for leading sections in iron and steel manufactures. The cuts range from £2 to £4, being the most substantial intimated since the reaction from the inflation of last year set in. At a joint meeting of English and Scotch steel producers last Friday, it was agreed to fix quotations for angles (as from Monday) at £12 10s a ton, a drop of 30s; joists at £10 10s, a drop of £3; tees at £11, a drop of £3; round bars at £12, a drop of £2; boiler plates at £16, a decline of £4, and ship plates at £12 10s, a drop of 30s a ton. These figures, however, did not meet with general acceptance, and finally angles and ship plates were called £10 10s a ton so far as English makers are concerned. This handicap of £2 a ton against Scotch makes is expected to divert business to south of the Border; but no doubt if buying sets in Scotch producers will meet the situation. It is reported that a Welsh firm of steel-makers is reducing prices more drastically than above indicated, and that as a consequence they have already booked orders for over 20,000 tons of ship plates. Rumour has it that the firm alluded to is offering heavy rails at £11, a concession of £3, and billets at £10, a drop of 30s. Manufactured copper has been lowered by £2 a ton at £10 10s, and black sheets by 30s at £13 15s for ½ inch, delivered Glasgow or equal. Crown bars are back to £14 per ton. Scotch hematite unchanged at £7 10s; Scotch foundry No. 1, £7 10s; No. 3, £7 5s. Both raw and manufactured material producers advise that the new quotations are without exception below cost, and cannot possibly be maintained for any length of time. The one remedy in their view is a big reduction in costs, to which cheaper coals and lower wages, they contend, must mainly contribute. It is too soon yet to say how the new list quotations will operate; but so far they have had no effect on demand. All steel and iron producing works are experiencing a very quiet time, and a lot of machinery has been thrown idle since Monday. Not a few authorities are hopeful, however, that the situation now created will speedily make for a betterment in matters industrial.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—October 14, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.												
Sea Island	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	957	1032	1147	1262	1352	1532	817	1157	1792	1837	2032	2347
Brazilian.												
Pernambuco, &c.	Mid	MF	Fr.	G	F	Gd.	Fne	MF	Fr.	Gd.	MF	Fr.
Paraiba	..	1012	1262	1412	..	..	..	1057	1617	..	2337	2737
Macao	..	1012	1262	1412	..	..	..	1057	1617	..	2337	2737
Mossoro, &c.	..	1012	1262	1412	..	..	..	1057	1617	..	2337	2737
Ceara	..	1012	1262	1412	..	..	..	1057	1617	..	2337	2737
Maranhao	..	1012	1262	1412	..	..	..	1057	1617	..	2337	2737
Egyptian.												
Brown	..	1825	1975	2225	2400	..	..	nm	3300	..	2550	3200
Upper	..	1800	1900	2100	2200	..	..	nm	2400	..	2450	3050
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	3000	3300	3600	3800	..	..	6500	7500	..	..	nm
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	1400	1550	1750	..	..	2900	..	..	2850	..
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	1325	1450	1500	..	..	1600	2500	..	2350	2750
Ditto Smooth	..	1212	1487	1612	1662	1762	1667	2117	2167	2737	2887	3037
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	1487	1612	1662	1762	..	nm	nm	..	2600	3050
African, East, &c.	1050	1150	1350	1450	1550	1650	1300	1600	3000	2615	2655	2735
East Indian.												
Sarat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	G	F	Fr	Gd.	F	G	Fne	Fr	Gd.	F	Fr	Gd.
Broach	..	1155	1180	1230	1255	1280	1210	1260	1360	1885	1910	1960
M. Ginned Bhownagur ..	8	69	9	19	9	69	104	106	1119	1279	1605	1679
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	8	75	9	25	9	75	1050	1075	1125	1025	1125	1285
M. Ginned Khandelash ..	8	50	9	60	9	75	1000	1025	7	90	1010	1550
M. Ginned Comptah	9	45	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	1910	..
M. Ginned Bengal	7	15	7	65	..	8	9	9	15	9	8	25
M. Ginned Seinde	7	15	7	65	..	8	9	9	15	9	8	25
Tinnivelly	7	15	7	65	..	8	9	9	15	9	8	25
Madras, Western	9	70	9	90	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Coconada, Red	Fr.	9	70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1835	..
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	9	95	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1850	..

MANCHESTER, October 20.

A quieter feeling has prevailed in the market than recently. Activity has been checked by the easier tendency in raw cotton rates and the fall in silver and the decline in Eastern exchanges. Buyers in all quarters have been disposed to adopt a waiting policy pending more settled conditions. The turn of events is very unfortunate, as at the end of last week there were indications of an increasing trade. Only sorting-up lots have been sold in piece-goods for India. Occasional lines of fair weight have been booked in standard goods for China. The Near Eastern outlets have given less support. Fancies have attracted moderate attention for some of our colonies and the United States. The home

trade is being adversely affected by the unseasonable weather. A slow feeling has prevailed in the yarn market. Prices have given way in sympathy with the decline in the raw material. The turnover has been very disappointing. Less demand has been met with in export yarns.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Oct. 20, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Oct. 13.	Price, Oct. 6.	Price, Sept. 29.	Price, Sept. 22.	Price, Sept. 15.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	d	d	d	d	d	d
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	12-73	13-64	14-07	15-71	15-18	13-69
— Egyptian	24-50	27-50	28-50	28-25	26-00	22-00
Yarns—32's twist	21½	22½	22½	21	21½	21
— 40's twist	21½	22	22	21½	21	19½
— 60's twist (Egyptian)	42	45	45	45	43	37
	a	a	a	a	a	a
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	36	0	37	0	37	0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	36	0	37	0	37	0
32-in. ditto, 38 yds, 16 by 16, 10 lbs	21	6	22	6	22	6
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	20	6	21	6	21	6

urgent orders are in the hands of Yorkshire spinners of fine yarn. Merino wool is, of course, needed for these, and it is felt that if larger offerings were made, it would tend to check any further rise in merino tops. Such facts as these need to be kept in mind by B.A.W.R.A. We are satisfied that higher values are undesirable, both in the interests of the home and Continental trades. Manufacturing conditions at home and abroad, measured by the purchasing ability of impoverished Continental nations, do not justify higher values. Anything of a combing character in merino wools has maintained the opening level. Crossbreds, too, have sold steadily, but faulty merino wools, as well as slipes, have met an indifferent reception, and are no dearer than last series. Capes do not show much rise, these wools missing Continental competition. However, the auctions as a whole have made good progress, and it is to be hoped that the present buying spirit and level of values will remain to the finish.

With regard to the necessity or otherwise of increased offerings in London, it needs to be recognised that at the present time the question is one of some difficulty. Obviously the position of home trade and Continental buyers are not exactly identical, and it is not surprising that the latter appear to entertain some doubts about the stability of merino values, particularly if larger quantities are offered. The depreciation in the German currency has made it necessary for all sections of the trade, both at home and abroad, to be very cautious, and it will need the best co-operation of all sections and B.A.W.R.A. to solve the problem as to how much merino wool shall be offered in this country.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Markets throughout the week have been quiet and depressed, and scarcely without exception prices have been pronouncedly on the down grade. Raw linseed oil, in sympathy with seed and in the absence of an effective demand, steadily declined to £25 at Hull and £26 London for prompt and to December delivery, with 20s premium quoted for January-April. At these figures, representing a decline of at least 60s on the week, some business was done, and this, and the reports of American inquiries, induced a steadier feeling later, and some appreciation in value, Thursday's closing price at Hull being £26 10s for spot to December. Nevertheless, the undertone is far from firm in view of the large surplus of unsold seed and the favourable reports regarding the growing crops in Argentina and India. Very little trade has passed in Plate linseed, which has been done at as low as £13 for on passage to Hull, per s.s. "Gambia River," the lowest figure recorded this year and for a long time past. Up to £14 5s for October-November and £14 15s for November-December has, however, been paid.

Cottonseed oil has fallen off in value, and demand has for some days been on restricted lines, at from 30s to 40s reduction. Prices of cotton seed have further receded, Sakellaridis, for October shipment, now offering at £11. New crop, Bombay, has been done at £8 spot and for shipment. Palm kernel oil is lower, as are also rape and Soya bean oils. Consumptive demand seems to have dried up. Oil cakes of all descriptions are in very poor demand, and quotations have again been materially reduced, without, however, attracting trade.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The Bermondsey hide market was slightly weaker on Thursday, and declines of 1/4d to 3/4d were registered, thus bearing out my prophecy of a week or two ago that prices had reached their summit. Best-ox made round about 10 1/2d and lights 8 1/2d. Cows showed a similar reduction, and calf were also a shade weaker. The increase in values has checked the home demand for foreign hides, but Liverpool reports the clearance of the remainder of the Liebig Colon hides at 12 1/2d ex store. Brazils are wanted, and trading has been done in dry B.A.'s at 11 1/2d. All other classes are firm, with stocks moderate. The American market is cabled as strong, with heavy best packers advanced to 15 cents.

Tanners are not at all happy in regard to the position, and, on the whole, are holding out for higher prices, although here and there I know of offers of big blocks of bonds at below marked quotations. Low grade sole leather is still the best selling line, and holders of first selections of 10-12 lbs average are getting anxious owing to lack of demand. The prolonged fine weather checks the demand from the repairers, and this affects the tanners of low-grade stock rather badly. Pinned offal is a moderate sale, but the demand seems here to be running on cheap stock, although there is a demand from makers of best welted shoes for high-grade bellies. The sale of the Government E.I. rough kips is progressing steadily, but there is a poor demand for direct shipment. Rough dressing leather is advancing in price, and tanners of split hides have put their prices up by about 5s per hide.

Business in upper leather is only moderate, the lower grades being most popular. Glacé kid is wanted from 8d to 14d per foot, and supplies are sorgetting low.

Theally 27s 6d ps only moderately well employed, and orders held up owing to the fine weather. The export winding away, and until the exchanges can uselessly to look for much improvement.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Co., Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 83s 6d to 89s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 76s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, October 21.

Most of the markets for raw material wore a very drab appearance during the week, slackness of demand from home manufacturers coinciding with the almost closing down of business on export account, owing to the state of rates of exchange in general, but that of the German mark in particular.

SUGAR.—After showing general quietness at opening, business became more extended as prices for case sugars were reduced 6d per cwt, and bags 4d to 4s. Tate's cubes, sold, 55s 3d to 56s 3d; crushed, 51s 9d; nibs, 52s 3d; granulated, 49s 9d to 50s 3d; icing, 53s 14d; ditto, in drums, 52s 9d; caster, 52s 3d to 52s 9d; pieces, 36s to 44s. Lyle's granulated, 49s 9d to 50s; yellow crystals, 44s 9d. Crystallised West India, sold, from 37s to 42s, as to quality. Muscovado ranges from 32s to 37s. American granulated, spot, sold, 48s; ditto, October, steamer, 20s 6d, c.f. and i., U.K. White Java, spot, 46s 6d; ditto, September, steamer, 19s 6d, c.f. and i. Belgian crystals, October, 18s 6d; November-December, 18s, f.o.b., Antwerp. Czecho-Slovakian granulated and crystals, November, 20s; cubes, 23s, f.o.b., Hamburg. Dutch granulated, prompt, 22s; cubes, 27s, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Brazilian basis 80 per cent, November-December, sold, 10s 3d, c.f. and i. A fair amount of business resulted in the terminal market at easier rates. Raw basis 96 per cent. November, old terms, sold, 14s 7 1/2d to 13s 6d; ditto, December, 14s 6d to 13s 9d; March, sold, 14s 7 1/2d to 14s. White, November, sold, 19s to 18s 7 1/2d; December, 18s 7 1/2d to 18s 1 1/2d; March, 18s 1 1/2d. Cuban stocks stand at 1,169,600 tons, against 309,400 same time last year.

COFFEE.—A steady tone prevailed on the spot, and there was a fair inquiry for all the finer qualities. Common, on the other hand, sells quietly. East India good smalls, sold, 106s; middling, 112s; bold, 119s; bold Nairobi, 90s to 110s 6d; bold Toro, 103s 6d. Future delivery market quiet and easy. December, sold, 47s 9d to 47s; March, 49s to 48s 3d; May, 49s 7 1/2d.

COCOA.—Market still quiet, but there is no appreciable change to note in prices. Small transactions effected this week include fine estate Ceylon, and which is now scarce, at 85s per cwt. Butter quiet, steady, at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—During the week the larger quantity of 51,000 packages Indian were offered in auction. There was brisk competition for all the finer qualities at full prices, but inferior and plain teas sold quietly even at a further slight concession. 18,410 packages Ceylon catalogued elicited fair support at about previous rates, allowing for general inferiority of quality.

RICE.—Market still very idle, and quotations for the main part nominal. Rangoon, two stars, spot, 19s; No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, 17s 6d. Siam C.I., broken, October-November, 12s, and C. 3, 11s. Rangoon beans steadier. Hand-picked, afloat, steamer, sold, 8s 6d to 9s, as to position; December-January, quoted 12s. Madagascari butter beans, all white, new crop, spot, 19s to 20s; old ditto, 12s. Japanese peas quietly steady.

SPICE.—Pepper market generally quiet. Fair black Singapore, spot, 4d; October-December, steamer, sold, 3 1/2d to 3 3/4d; Aleppy, spot, quoted 4 1/2d; Tellicherry, 5d; white Singapore, spot, 8d; Muntok ditto, 8 1/2d; ditto October-December, sold, 7 1/2d to 7 3/4d. Cloves firm, and Zanzibar, spot, sold, 1s 4d to 1s 4 1/2d; October-December, steamer, 1s 2 1/2d; pimento, spot, done 2 1/2d; flake tapioca, spot, 1 1/2d per lb. Flake tapioca, October-December, London, quoted 15s; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 19s; October-December, 18s; small sago, spot, 27s to 28s; sago flour, September-November, sold, 14s 7 1/2d to London; and October-December, 14s 6d. Desiccated coconut, flat and spot, sold, 44s 6d to 44s; October-November, 42s 6d. Ginger quietly, steady. Nutmegs and mace without new feature.

FRUIT.—At public sale, 368 tons Valencia raisins were offered, and while good to fine met with brisk support at 3s 10 1/2d to 4s per cwt advance, all the commoner qualities ruled quite neglected. Quarters, ordinary to fair, sold, 129s to 135s; good to fine, 139s to 158s; choice, 161s to 167s; halves, 120s; seedless, 80s to 112s. Muscatels bought in. The market for currants is steady, with fair general inquiries. New Pyrgos sold, 48s to 50s; Patras, 56s to 64s; Vostizza, 70s to 84s. Sultanias steady. New Smyrna, spot, 108s to 130s; choice, up to 140s; Cape, new, 90s to 100s. New layer figs, 125s to 138s; lacouns, 160s to 175s. Dates in fair demand, and firm. Hallowee, spot, 34s; Khredrowie, 22s; Siar, 18s.

JUTE.—Market very quiet, and where business resulted buyers claimed the advantage regarding any alteration in prices. Native first marks assortment, old crop, subs, October-November, Hamburg, sold, £30 10s to £29 10s; lightning subs, ditto, £26 5s to £25; heart subs, ditto, quoted £19 10s; heart subs, top numbers, spot and near steamer, Dunkirk and Antwerp, sold, £21; and lightning subs, afloat, ditto, £28. New crop first grade, October-November, quoted, £33 10s; lightning grade, £29. Hessians slow, 10 ounce, spot, 28s 6d; 8 ounce ditto, 23s 6d. A twills, spot, 83s 6d; B ditto, 72s 6d.

HEMP.—Manila quiet and a shade easier on the week. J grade, October-December, quoted, £39; K, £37; L, £36 10s; M, £31 10s. New Zealand dull of sale. Fair quality, October-December, quoted, £36 10s, and high points, £38 10s.

SHELLAC.—Market quiet. T.N., spot, 325s; December, sold, 322s 6d to 317s 6d.

ISINGLASS.—At periodical auctions there was a good demand, but rates disclosed irregularly. Brazilian lump declined 3d to 4d per lb; tongue, 3d to 4d dearer; honeycomb firm; West India, 2d to 3d easier. Penang and also Bombay fully steady. Saigon, 5d to 1s per lb down. Brazilian lump, 3s 6d to 4s 8d as to quality; tongue, 2s 7d to 5s 6d; Saigon, long leaf, 15s 6d to 17s 6d; Karachi leaf, 3s 2d to 4s 2d per lb.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market remained quietly steady. Prime liquid yolk, spot, 105s per cwt; albumen, spot, 2s 11 1/2d per lb.

MENTHOL.—Spot, 25s, sellers; Japanese peppermint oil, spot, 4s 9d; aniseed, 2s 3 1/2d; Japanese slab camphor, spot, 3s 11d; Chinese, 3s 10d; crude, spot, 3s 5d, all per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 107s 6d cwt.

COPRA.—The market continued very quiet at irregular and lower rates. F.M.S. Straits, August-October, September-November and October-December, sold, £28 5s to £27 10s, £28, and £27 5s; Ceylon, October-December, London, £28 15s; South Sea Islands ditto, £26 5s; Cebu, September-November, Hamburg, sold, £26 15s to £26 5s. Palm kernels, October-December, sold, £18 to £17 10s and £18.

RUBBER. after being steadier, assumed a quieter tone. Standard crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 10d to 10 1/2d; November-December, 10 1/2d to 10 3/4d; January-March, 10 1/2d to 10 3/4d; April-June, 11 1/2d to 11 3/4d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 1 1/2d; ball, 7 1/2d.

OILS.—Linseed easier. Spot, net, naked, 27s 3d; November-December, 26s 3d; January-April, 28s. Rape quiet. Crude, spot, 52s; refined, 56s. Cotton quieter. Crude Egyptian, 45s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 56s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 70s; and shipment, 68s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 53s; October-November, 46s; Cochin, ditto, 54s. Soya easier. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 38s. Japan fish quiet. October-November, cases, 22s to 23s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 26s to 27s. Ground-nut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 54s; deodorised, barrels, 64s. Turpentine easier. American, spot, 64s 6d; November-December, 65s; January-April, 66s 9d. Rosin lower. American, grade B, 16s 6d; F, 16s 9d; G, 17s; K, 18s; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H, 16s; W, 16s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4 1/2d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market easier, and demand very slow. Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, afloat, value £15; October-November, £16 10s. Plate, spot, Hull, £13 2s; afloat, sold, £13 15s to

£13 5s; October-November, £14 10s to £14; November-December, £14 15s; January-February, nearest, £14 15s. Rapeseed weak. Toria, October-November, quoted £18s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £18; brown Cawnpore, £17. Cottonseed quiet, and easier. Egyptian black, October, nominally £11 10s; and white, £11. Bombay, December-January, sold, £8 5s to £8, closing £9 5s. Gingly quiet. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £28. Castor, Bombay, October-November, £19. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, October-November, Hull, £22; new crop, December-February, Continent, £21; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £23 to £24 per ton.

METALS.—Tin was a firmer market last Monday on covering, while cash changed hands at £155 to £157 10s, three months' £158 to £160, but prices moved in a downward direction until the middle of the week under fairly free offers, which were steadily absorbed, these dates declining to £156 15s and £159s 2s 6d respectively. A rather firmer tone prevailed at Thursday's meeting, cash realising £157 2s 6d to £157 10s, early November £157 5s to £157 15s, and three months' £159 5s to £159 15s. At Friday's session a firmer tone prevailed. Cash changed hands at £157 10s to £158 5s; middle of December, £159 10s, and three months' £160 10s to £161, relapsing to £160, while since done at £160 15s. English ingots, £157 to £157 10s. Copper continued lower until last Tuesday, standard cash relapsing to £65 17s 6d, and three months' to £67. The tendency was better during the middle of the week, sellers being reserved. Early November sold at £66 10s, three months' £67 10s. At Thursday's meeting cash changed hands at £66 5s, late November £67, and three months' £67 10s. At Friday's session, standard cash realised £66 2s 6d; early December, £66 15s to £66 10s, and three months' at £67 10s to £67. Electro, £73 to £75; best selected, £67 to £69; strong sheets, £101. Wire bars, £74 to £75. Lead steady at £24 to £23 15s as to position. Spelter rather lower at £26 7s 6d to £26 15s, according to position. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium: Home trade quoted at £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—OCTOBER 20.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	8 2 to 8 10	Sheep—Downs	8 8 to 10 0
Shorthorns	8 0 to 8 8	Longwools	6 8 to 8 0
Devons	8 4 to 9 0	Crossbred	8 0 to 9 4
Norfolks	8 0 to 8 8	Scottish	10 0 to 11 4
Irish	7 4 to 8 0	Lamb—Downs	10 0 to 11 4

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—OCTOBER 20.

Per Cwt.	8 s d	Per Cwt.	8 s d
King Edwards	9 6 to 11 0	Evergoods	7 0 to 8 0
British Queen	8 6 to 9 0	Blacklands	6 0 to 9 6

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				DRUGS.				INDIA RUBBER.—lb				PROVISIONS.—				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb.							
COCOA.—Duty, British grown				Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt	50	180	0	0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1	2	0	0	Butter—per cwt.	175	0	195	0	Singapore, fair white	0	84	0	0
35s, foreign 42s, cwt.				Cape, good to fine	45	50	0	0	Plantation crepe	0	52	0	0	Do factory	120	0	160	0	Black Singapore	0	84	0	0
Trinidad, per cwt.				Best Fern, per 7	2	0	2	6	INDIGO.—per lb	1	2	0	0	Australian	170	0	180	0	White Siam	0	24	0	24
Granada				Capivi	2	0	2	6	Bataavia, 100 lb	11	6	12	0	Dutch	160	0	175	0	Pimento	0	24	0	24
Ceylon, plantation				Campior	0	0	0	0	let to fine	11	6	12	0	New Zealand	276	0	212	0	Cinnamon—1st sort	1	1	0	0
Guayaquil				Cardamom, refined	4	14	0	0	Mid. ord. v. to good	9	6	10	9	Danish	234	0	218	0	Do 2nd	0	10	0	0
Bahia, finest				Cardamoms, Ceylon	1	0	5	0	Low to good ord.	7	0	9	0	Banag, supt.—188	0	138	0	Do 3rd	0	10	0	0	
COFFEE.—British grown				Cardamoms, Java	1	0	5	0	Kadappa, dry leaf, good	1	0	0	0	Canad.	147	0	152	0	Do 4th	0	8	0	0
35s, foreign 42s, cwt.				Castor oil, per cwt	85	0	85	0	Do to ord.	1	6	4	0	Canadian	90	0	115	0	Chilpe	0	34	0	0
E. India fine good, 9 1/2				Gum Benjin, Sum. cwt	7	10	11	10	Murph, gd. mid. to gd.	6	6	8	0	American	85	0	160	0	Cassia Lignee	42	0	0	0
Do good to fine				Oilbannum, drops	0	0	0	0	Low to mid.	0	4	0	6	Hams—Irian	nom	nom	nom	0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1	4	0	0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid				Oilcassia	2	9	0	0	HEMP—per ton	2	2	0	0	Ham—Canada	nom	nom	nom	0	Ginger—	2	10	3	3
Good to fine				Jalap.	2	9	0	0	St Petersburg, layer	29	0	0	0	American	100	0	110	0	Cochin, cut	120	0	130	0
Central American, 8d.				Oilcassia	2	9	0	0	Manila, Aug. Oct.	42	10	0	0	Lard—Irish bladders	nom	nom	nom	0	Do small rough	45	0	0	0
ord. to mid				Aniseed	0	0	0	0	N. Z. spot, high fair	2	2	0	0	American boxes, belb	7	6	73	6	Do washed	45	0	0	0
Mid. to fine				Must, pod, China	75	85	0	0	JUTE	2	2	0	0	Port—Brazil, 188	1	8	4	8	Jamaica	125	0	180	0
Columbian, ordinary				Oil, Cassia	4	9	0	0	Oct. Nov. sub.	29	10	0	0	Scotch	7	8	9	9	Mace	0	10	1	1
Do gd. ord. to low md				Must, pod, China	75	85	0	0	Nov. Nov. sub.	29	10	0	0	Cheese—Cwt—Canadian	86	0	104	0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1	1	0	0
Do mid. to fine				Aniseed	0	0	0	0	LatheR—per lb.	2	2	0	0	New Zealand	84	0	104	0	Small to medium	0	1	0	0
CHEMICALS.—				Rubber, China, fr to f	6	8	0	0	Sole Bends 6/10 lb.	1	6	2	6	Cheese, Cheddar	112	0	150	0	Chin. Chest—Cwt	145	0	160	0
Acid, citric				DIET STUFFS, &c.	0	63	0	0	Do do 10/12	2	2	0	2	Chealsire	80	0	129	0	TALLOW—per cwt.	61	0	8	0
Nitric				Galls, China, per cwt	75	6	83	0	Do do 12/24	2	2	2	4	Dutch	80	0	129	0	Good mutton	61	0	8	0
Oxalic, net				Turnmeric, Bengal	20	24	0	0	Do do 14/16	1	1	10	3	Kags, pr 127—English	40	0	42	0	Beef	46	0	8	0
Tartaric, English				Madras, later	34	35	0	0	Do do 17/18	1	1	10	3	Eng. 223 lbs	35	0	36	0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	0	18	1	8
Foreign				Gambier, block	34	35	0	0	Do do 18/19	1	1	10	3	Eng. straight ex mill 57	0	0	0	0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	20	0	26	0
Alum lump				Cutch, ord. to fair	35	45	0	0	Do do 20/21	1	1	10	3	RICE—per cwt. c.l.f.	19	0	0	0	Pearl	20	0	26	0
Do ground				DIET WOODS—	18	8	0	0	Do do 22/23	1	1	10	3	Rangoon No. 2	19	0	0	0	TKA duty 16 lb.	0	0	0	0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb				Fustic, Jamaica	14	0	0	0	Do do 24/25	1	1	10	3	Am. 188	15	0	0	0	foreign to British	0	0	0	0
Muriate, white, ton				Cuba	15	0	0	0	Bark Tanned Sole	3	0	4	0	ROSLIN—per ton	15	10	22	0	Indian and Ceylon	0	74	2	9
Sulphate, ton				Lima Wood	20	0	0	0	Shldr's 18 D Hides	0	9	0	11	French	15	15	13	10	Pekoe	0	74	2	9
Arsenic, lump, ton				Logwood, Campechy	13	0	0	0	Do Eng or W8 do	0	11	1	1	BAGO—Pearl, per cwt	25	15	13	10	Broken Pekoe	0	9	3	3
Powder				Borax, 25 lb	25	0	0	0	Do Eng or W8 do	0	11	1	1	Broken	0	9	3	3	Orama	0	11	3	3
Ashes, pot., per cwt				Jamaica	12	0	0	0	Do Eng or W8 do	0	11	1	1	Shells Orange	0	11	3	3	Broken Orange	0	11	3	3
Pearl do do				Red Sanders	12	0	0	0	Dressing Hides	1	9	3	6	Pekoe Bouchong	0	7	11	11	Pekoe Bouchong	0	7	11	11
Bleaching powd.				Napang Ceylon	20	0	0	0	R. Eng. Cal. 20/30 lb	4	0	7	0	ORANGE, 1st marks	400	0	425	0	TIMBER.—Timber & Hewn Wood	0	0	0	0
Borax, crystals				FLAX—spot—c.l.f.	15	0	2	8	Australian Sides	1	1	7	0	Second, fair to fine	400	0	413	0	E. I. Teak (load)	20	0	5	0
Do powder				Panama H.D.	15	0	0	0	Best selected	67	0	68	0	TN Orange	325	0	333	0	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	9	6	6	0
Cream Tartar				Slaneta U.A. Medium 125	0	0	0	0	Standard	66	0	66	2	Garnet, cwt. A.C.	290	0	0	0	Batim wood cubic	0	5	1	0
5% powder				FRUIT—New	0	0	0	0	Lead—Eng. Pig. p. ton	24	15	0	0	Black	290	0	0	0	Good cubic	0	5	1	0
Calomel				Oranges, Val. selected	0	0	0	0	Soft Foreign	23	15	0	0	Button—Pure	330	0	0	0	Japanese Oak	0	8	1	0
Iodine, dry				Do	0	0	0	0	Spelter G.O.B.	25	7	6	25	Hiocny (TN)	322	0	0	0	American Ash	0	8	1	0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton				Do Malaga cases	0	0	0	0	Do do bars	158	0	158	0	SILK—per lb.	0	0	0	0	TOBACCO—	0	0	0	0
Potash				Do Naples, boxes	0	0	0	0	Standard, cash	158	0	158	0	China—Blue Elephant 32	0	0	0	0	Duty 8/2—10/4 per lb.	0	0	0	0
Chlorate, net				Lemous, Naples, cases	0	0	0	0	OILS—Fish, per ton	2	0	2	0	Tussah	16	0	12	0	Virginia leaf	0	8	2	3
Prussiate				Do Sicilian boxes	9	25	0	0	Scal, pale	40	0	45	0	Re-reeled	0	0	35	0	Common to fine	0	8	2	3
Do Foreign				Do Malaga boxes	32	63	0	0	Seed, Lousced, per ton	27	5	25	0	Java—Baw, fr. Milan 38	0	0	40	0	Burps	0	2	0	6
Sulphate				Do	0	0	0	0	Rape, net, naked	26	0	0	0	SHELLS—M. o' P. per cwt.	0	0	0	0	Kentucky leaf	0	1	6	6
Sul-Aloes				Grapes, Lisbon, boxes	0	0	0	0	Crude	45	0	0	0	Manila, belb	210	0	14	0	Common to fine	1	3	1	6
Soda Bicarb.				Almerica	16	0	0	0	Edible refined	56	0	61	0	Macassar	15	0	0	0	China	0	8	1	3
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton				HIDES—Wet-saled	0	0	0	0	Cocoa nut, crude	54	0	68	0	Sydney	9	10	0	0	Borneo and Sumatra	1	0	7	0
Alkali				Australian	0	5	0	7	Refined	nom	nom	nom	0	0	0	0	0	Good	1	6	6	6	
Canada				West Indian	0	0	0	0	Palm	38	0	0	0	Bombay	6	10	0	0	Seedling	0	1	6	6
Bargar oil				Cape	0	4	0	6	Lard, American	63	0	0	0	SUGAR—per cwt duty 25s	84	0	0	0	Grass	0	10	1	0
Foreign white				Lisbon	0	4	0	7	Petrol. Oil, per 8 lbs	1	4	0	0	B. V. L. muscovado	6	37	0	0	Ras Indian	0	0	6	2
Sulphate Quinine				Opio	0	4	0	7	Water-White	1	5	0	0	Crystallised	37	0	42	0	Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2	0	0	0
English Brands				Dry & Drysaltd Cape	0	4	0	11	Oil Cakes, Lond. Eng	12	12	0	0	Java, spot	46	0	6	0	TURPETINE, p. cwt 64	0	6	0	0
Foreign do				Madagascar	0	10	15	1	Oil Seed—Linsced	0	0	0	0	RAPISE—London	44	0	0	0	WOOL—per lb.	0	0	0	0
Sulphate Copper, p. lb.				Central American	0	4	0	7	La Plata Oct. Nov.	214	5	0	0	Yellow Crystals	55	0	56	3	English, Southdown, wald.	174	0	0	0
Sulphur Flour				Best hyv. ox cheifer	0	6	10	10	Bombay, p. ton, Oct. Nov.	17	0	0	0	Cubey	61	9	50	3	Lincoln hog	38	0	0	0
Do Roil				Do light	0	9	0	0	Calcutta, p. ton, Oct. Nov.	12	10	0	0	Crushed	49	9	50	3	Queensland, sup. c. embg.	22	0	0	0
Verdun Chlorine, p. lb				Best cow	0	8	0	0	PORTLAND CEMENT—	0	0	0	0	Granulated	62	62	62	9	N. W. grossy, sup. c. embg.	15	0	0	0
English				Best calf	0	17	0	0	Best per ton delv'd,	85	6	89	0	Crystals, white	36	0	45	0	A. Z., gray, ill. rif. (50/55)	25	0	0	0
COPIA—per ton c.l.f.				2nd do	0	15	0	0	in London area	85	6	89	0	Castor	36	0	45	0	N. Z., crossbred, (40/44)	74	0	0	0
Malabar, Oct. Dec.				2nd do	0	15	0	0						Pices.	36	0	45	0					
Ceylon																							
Siam Sappores																							
Fm Straite																							
COCHINEAL—per lb.																							

The "Economy" Typewriter

The reason why the Royal is economical, right through from its first cost to its second-hand trading price, is because the machine is designed on original lines in every respect, and not developed from previously existing types.

Every working part has been the subject of endless thought and experiment, consequently the finished product is a triumph of original mechanical and practical efficiency.

Test the even spacing, the clear writing, the perfect visibility, the speed and ease of handling—compare the work—you will find the Royal stands alone in perfect work, adaptability, and durability.

You can easily prove this by visiting us or letting us demonstrate the machine in your own office—we charge nothing.

"Compare the Work."

ROYAL STANDARD TYPEWRITER

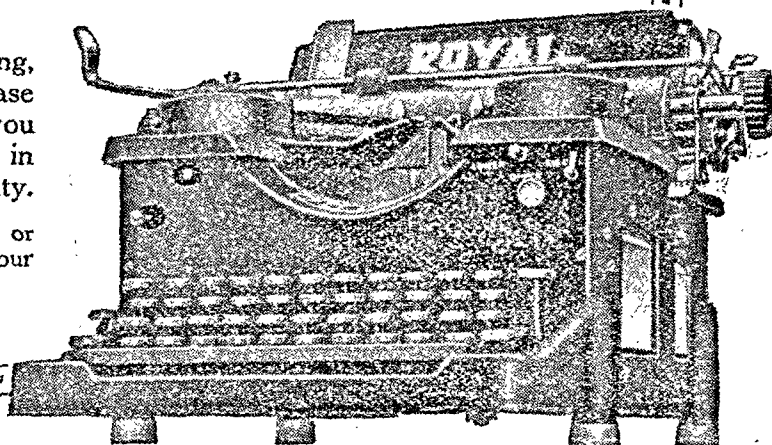
VISIBLE WRITING MACHINE CO. LTD.

Royal House, 75a, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Manchester : 10, Brown Street.

Birmingham : 19, Martineau Street.

Branches and Agencies in all cities from Land's End to John o' Groats.



Insurance.

Under-Insurance may mean Bankruptcy

Inability to replace property and goods not covered by insurance may mean bankruptcy. Complete protection can be secured by adequate insurance.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
142, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.1.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

Chief Office: OXFORD ST., MANCHESTER.

For the year ending December 31st, 1920,
ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDED £6,300,000.
ASSETS EXCEEDED £19,000,000.
CLAIMS PAID EXCEEDED £32,000,000.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

Established 1866.
The "Britannic" Prospectus covers all Ordinary Life Assurance requirements.
FUNDS OVER £6,300,000.
Branches and Agencies in all districts.

Chief Office: BROAD STREET CORNER, BIRMINGHAM.

LONDON AND MANCHESTER ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
60 Finsbury Square, London, E.C.2.
Funds exceed £3,000,000. Claims paid exceed £6,000,000. Annual Reports and Prospectuses can be obtained on application.

CITY OF LEEDS. LOANS FOR HOUSING & OTHER PURPOSES.
THE CORPORATION is prepared to RECEIVE LOANS on Mortgage of all the Properties, Revenues, and Rates of the City. The Mortgages will be repaid in full after six months' notice, to be given by either side, so as to expire on or after 5, 7 or 10 years from the date of the Loan. The Mortgages are a Trustee Security. Interest is paid half-yearly.
For further particulars apply to J. MITCHELL, City Treasurer, Leeds.

BANK OF NEW ZEALAND.

Bankers to the New Zealand Government.

CAPITAL.

Authorised, £6,154,988 Subscribed £3,904,988

PAID UP.

Four per Cent. Guaranteed Stock ... £529,988

"A" Preference Shares issued to N.Z. Government 500,000

"B" do. do. ... 625,000

Ordinary Shares ... 2,250,000

£3,904,988

Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits ... £1,886,275

London Office: 1 Queen Victoria Street, E.C. 4.

Issues Drafts and Letters of Credit, makes Telegraphic Transfers, Negotiates and Collects Bills of Exchange.

ROBERT MILL, Manager.

By Order of the HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY

AT THE COLLEGE HILL PUBLIC Sale Room, on WEDNESDAY, 26th October, 1921, at Ten o'clock.

About 2,300 Bear	350 Marten, Stone
26,500 Beaver	15,800 Mink
31,000 Ermine	286,000 Musquash
750 Fisher	1,600 Otter, Land
215 Fox, Blue	5 " Sea
800 " Cross	300 Raccoon
5,700 " Red	770 Sable, Russian
275 " Silver	1,345 Seal, Fur
7,100 " White	1,345 Seal, Salted
2,500 Kolinsky	13,800 Squirrel
19,850 Lamb, Persian	Siberian
1,800 Lynx	900 Skunk
12,400 Marten	2,200 Wolf
210 " Baam	340 Wolverine
and Sundry Skins and Furs.	

To be seen to the time of Sale at the Company's Warehouse, 1 Lime street, E.C.3.
GOAD, RIGG & Co., Brokers,
10 Mark Lane, E.C.3.

THE INVESTORS' MONTHLY MANUAL.

Publishing and Advertisement Offices:
3 Arundel St., Strand, London, W.C.2

The Great Alternative

Saner Politics or Revolution.

By LEONARD J. REID, M.A.

PRESS OPINIONS.

"His indictment of the criminal folly of Bolshevism is most effective."—*Morning Post*.
"A sound and rational contribution to political controversy. . . . We recommend every thinking politician to read it."—*Saturday Review*.
"To unsettled and troubled Liberals we would heartily commend it. It is a finely suggestive discussion of certain vexing questions with the solution whereof Liberalism is vitally concerned."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.
"Studiously moderate."—*Economist*.
"Sane and thoughtful writing."—*Daily News*.
"An able plea for a great New Liberalism."—*Scotsman*.

Crown 8vo. 6/6 net.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO.,
39, Paternoster Row.

Banks, &c.

HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

CAPITAL, ALL PAID UP ... £20,000,000
SILVER RESERVE ... £21,600,000
STERLING RESERVE held in London £3,500,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS £20,000,000
Head Office—HONG KONG.

Chief Manager—Hon. Mr. A. G. STEPHEN.
BRANCHES AND AGENCIES:
Amoy, Bangkok, Batavia, Bombay, Calcutta, Canton, Chongking, Colombo, Dairen, Pootow, Hamburg, Hankow, Harbin, Hongkong (Shanghai), Ipoh, Johore, Kobe (Hogok), Kuala Lumpur, London, Lyons, Malacca, Manila, Nagasaki, New York, Peking, Penang, Rangoon, Saigon, San Francisco, Shanghai, Singapore, Sourabaya, Sungei Patani, Tientsin, Tsingtao, Vladivostok, Yokohama.

COMMITTEE IN LONDON:
Sir CHARLES ADDIS, K.C.M.G., Chairman.
Hon. Cecil Baring, C. A. Campbell.
David Landale, Sir George Sutherland.
A. M. Townsend, C. F. Whigham.

MANAGERS IN LONDON:
SIR CHARLES ADDIS, K.C.M.G., H. C. JONES.
Sub-Managers, John MacLennan, Accountant, A. Moncur.
GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.6.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LTD.

(Established in Japan.)
Capital Subscribed & Fully Paid ... Yen 100,000,000
Reserve Fund ... 57,000,000

Head Office ... YOKOHAMA.
Branches at—

Batavia, Bombay, Buenos Ayres, Calcutta, Chang-chun, Dairen (Daire), Fookien (Mukden), Hankow, Harbin, Honolulu, Hongkong, Kai Yuen, Kobe, London, Los Angeles, Lyons, Manila, Nagasaki, Nagoya, Newchwang, New York, Osaka, Peking, Rangoon, Rio de Janeiro, Saigon, San Francisco, Seattle, Shanghai, Shimomokai, Singapore, Sourabaya, Sydney, Tientsin, Tokyo, Tsingtao, Vladivostok.

The Bank buys and receives for collection Bills of Exchange, issues Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers and Letters of Credit on above places and elsewhere, and transacts General Banking Business.
Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be obtained on application.
London Office: 7 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.
T. OKUBO, Manager.

THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

Established 1869.

Paid-up Capital and Reserve ... \$40,000,000
Total Resources ... \$568,000,000

Head Office: MONTREAL.
SIR HERBERT S. HOLT, President.
E. L. PEARSE, Vice-President & Managing Director.
C. E. NEILL, General Manager.

LONDON OFFICE:
BANK BUILDINGS, PRINCES STREET, E.C.2.

T. R. WHITLEY, Manager. L. MACKIE, Joint Manager.
333 Branches in Canada and Newfoundland: Cuba, Porto Rico, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Costa Rica, Venezuela and Colombia; British West Indies, French West Indies; British Honduras, British Guiana, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Montevideo, Uruguay; Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Sao Paulo, Brazil, Spain, Barcelona, New York Agency, 68, William Street.

FRENCH AUXILIARY:
THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA (FRANCE),
PARIS, 23 Rue du Quatre-Septembre.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

(Guaranteed by the Australian Government.)

Sir DENISON MILLER, K.C.M.G., Governor.
James KELL, Deputy-Governor.

Branches and Agencies throughout Australasia, Banking and Exchange Business of every description transacted. Bankers to the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Government of the State of Queensland, the Government of the State of South Australia, the Government of the State of Tasmania.

\$,035 Savings Bank Branches and Agencies at Post Offices in Australia. On 31st December, 1920, Savings Bank Balances ... £35,336,956
General Bank Balances ... 27,153,311
Note Issue Department ... 55,972,537
Other Items ... 13,527,765
£134,990,569

London Office: 33-41 NEW BROAD ST., E.C. C. A. B. CAMPBELL, London Manager.
Also at Australia House, Strand, W.C.

BANCO DE CHILE.

London Agency—
94 GRACECHURCH STREET, E.C.

Paid-up Capital ... 100,000,000
Reserve Fund ... 53,000,000
Reserve Liability of Shareholders ... 103,000,000
Reserve Fund in Gold of £81,000,000 13,133,333

Head Office: Santiago and Valparaiso.
Branches in all parts of Chile.

The London Agency transacts every class of Banking business with Chile. Current accounts also opened and deposits received.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED.

Incorporated by Royal Charter and Act of Parliament.

ESTABLISHED 1825.

Capital Subscribed, £5,000,000. Paid-up, £1,100,000. Uncalled, £3,900,000.

RESERVE FUND ... £1,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE—EDINBURGH.

WILLIAM CARNEGIE, General Manager. GEORGE A. HUNTER, Secretary

LONDON OFFICE—37 Nicholas Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.4.

T. C. RIDDELL, Manager. DUGALD SMITH, Assistant Manager

There is a specially equipped Foreign Department at the principal Glasgow Office.

THE ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANK LTD.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £1,800,000
PAID-UP ... £600,000 RESERVE FUND £730,000

BRANCHES—Alexandria, Cairo, Beni-Suef, Mansourah, Port Said, Tanta, Zagazig, Khartoum, Jaffa, Jerusalem, Malta, Gibraltar, Haifa, Port Sudan, Assiut, Omdurman, Nazareth.

The Bank transacts every description of Banking business in Egypt, grants Letters of Credit, and affords facilities to travellers proceeding to Egypt and elsewhere.

Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be obtained on application. Interest payable February 28th and August 31st.

On current accounts interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum allowed on minimum monthly balances, provided they do not fall below the sum of £200.

No. 27 Clement's Lane, Lombard Street, E.C.4.

BRITISH BANK FOR FOREIGN TRADE, Ltd.

48 BISHOPSGATE, LONDON, E.C.2

Telegraphic Address "Suroigna, London,"
Telephone Nos.: London Wall 3870 & 3871 (2 lines).

AGENCIES in all Parts of the World.

COUPONS AND DRAWN BONDS COLLECTED.
DEPOSITS RECEIVED.

GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

All Communications to be addressed to THE MANAGER.

BANQUE FRANÇAISE POUR LE COMMERCE ET L'INDUSTRIE,

17, rue Scribe, PARIS.

Established 1901.

Capital ... Fr. 100,000,000 fully paid
Reserve Funds ... Fr. 17,300,000
Deposits (31st July, 1920) Fr. 525,000,000

Transacts General Banking Business.

Correspondents in England:
LONDON JOINT CITY & MIDLAND BANK, LTD.,
Head Office and Branches.

For Conditions and Particulars application can be made to the London Representative, 7, Lothbury, E.C.2.

BANK OF JUGOSLAVIA Ltd.

Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Subscribed Capital ... JK 200,000,000
Reserve ... 50,000,000

NEW YORK AGENCY
25 Broadway
Cable Address "Jugobank"

Ernesto TORNQUIST & Co.

Limitada,
BUENOS AIRES.
Established 1830.

Oldest Business Establishment in the River Plate.

Fully Paid Up Capital, Reserves and Surplus \$14,937,988.95 Argentine Gold equal to £2,983,887 Sterling.

GENERAL FINANCIAL, BANKING AND COMMERCIAL BUSINESS.

BANCA ITALIANA DI SCONTO.

Capital Fully Paid up ... Lire 315,000,000
Reserve Fund ... 73,000,000
Deposits & Current Accounts at 31st December, 1920 ... 4,509,837,052

Head Office: ROME.

Chairman: Senator Guglielmo Marconi,
Managing Director: Angelo Fogliani.

160 Branches in all important towns in Italy, including Ancona, Bari, Bologna, Catania, Florence, Fiume, Genoa, Leghorn, Messina, Milan, Naples, Palermo, Rome, Trent, Trieste, Turin, Venice, Verona. Branches Abroad: Barcelona—Fontanella, 9; Constantinople (Turkey); Marseilles—Rue de Noailles, 10; Paris—Rue le Peletier, 2; Rio de Janeiro—Rua de Alfandega, 21; Santos—Sao Paulo—Rua XV de Novembro; Tunis—Post Office Box, 189. Represented in England by BARCLAYS BANK LTD., London; in Belgium by the BANQUE DE BRUXELLES, Bruxelles.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Established 1817.

LONDON OFFICE—29 Threadneedle Street, E.C.3.
Paid-up Capital ... £4,965,200
Reserve Fund ... 3,435,000
Reserve Liability of Proprietors ... 4,965,200

Aggregate Assets, 31st March, 1921, £75,692,498 12 6

The London Office issues Drafts on Demand on its Head Office and Branches in Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, Fiji and Papua, and on its Correspondents in Tasmania. Makes Mail and Cable Transfers, Negotiates and Collects Bills of Exchange, Arranges Wool and other Produce Credits, Receives deposits for fixed periods on terms which may be known on application; and conducts every description of Australasian banking business.

H. MELDRUM, Acting Manager.

CRÉDIT SUISSE

Established 1856.

Capital and Reserves - - - - - Francs 130,000,000
Head Office: ZÜRICH, SWITZERLAND.

Basle, Bern, Frauenfeld, Geneva, Glaris, Kreuzlingen, Lausanne, Lugano, Lucerne, Neuchâtel, St. Gall.

General Banking Business.

UNION BANK OF CANADA.

Incorporated 1855. Head Office: WINNIPEG.

Paid-Up Capital (30th Nov., 1920) ... \$8,000,000
Reserve and Undivided Profits (ditto) ... \$6,527,135
TOTAL ASSETS (ditto) ... \$14,527,135

The Bank has over 400 Branches in Canada, and Agents in the Principal Cities in America.

DEPOSITS RECEIVED at favourable rates, which may be ascertained on application to London Offices: 8 PRINCES STREET, E.C.2.

26 HAYMARKET, S.W.1.

New York Agency: 49 WALL STREET.

GOVERNMENT IMPERIAL DU JAPON.

BONS DU TRÉSOR 5 % DE 1913.

Notice is hereby given that the COUPONS due 1st November, 1921, will be PAID on and after that date (Saturdays excepted) between the hours of 11 and 3, at the Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd., where lists may be obtained.

Coupons must be left three clear days for examination prior to payment.—For the Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.,

T. OKUBO, Manager.
9 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2.
17th October, 1921.

CITY OF OSAKA.

5 % STERLING BONDS, £3,081,940.

Notice is hereby given that the COUPONS due 1st November, 1921, will be PAID on and after that date (Saturdays excepted) between the hours of 11 and 3, at the Yokohama Specie Bank, Limited, where lists may be obtained.

Coupons must be left three clear days for examination prior to payment.—For the Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.,

T. OKUBO, Manager.

9 Bishopsgate, London, E.C.2.

17th October, 1921.

ordinary bills still small, sellers have been able to make their own terms, though some buyers have refused to work below 3½. In fact, the stagnation of trade has at last affected banking profits. No important change is expected in the situation before the Treasury's money position alters.

	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5½	5½	5½	5½	6 (Jly. 21, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Discount, Call	3½	3½	3½	3½	4 (Jly. 21, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	4½ (Jly. 21, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	3½	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	3½	3½	4½	4½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a slight reduction in the stock of gold, and an increase of £231,700 in the circulation, the Reserve being £235,200 lower. Government securities were increased by £7,860,000, and Other securities fell by £4,212,500, so that deposits rose by £3,436,100, £4,696,300 going on to Other, while Public were reduced by £1,260,200. The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £1,028,300 to £311,575,500, which includes £1,837,800 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £261,787,600, or £55,767,600 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended October 22, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	25,804	Supply Services	14,070
		Interest on Debt	4,707
		Sundries	635
		Reduction of Debt	4,717
		Added to Exchequer Balances ..	1,671
	25,804		25,804

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £4,716,736, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 2,739	Treasury Bills	— 30,661
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 350	Public Department Advances ..	— 2,075
Bank of England Advances	+ 27,000	Depreciation fund	— 500
Sundries	+ 450	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 380
	+ 30,139	Other Debt	— 365
			— 33,981

National Savings Certificates to the extent of £875,000 were issued for housing. Property and Income-tax yielded £2,863,000, while Customs and Excise brought in £15,521,000. Receipts from sales of Treasury bonds amounted to £2,739,459.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

The position on the foreign exchange market has been as difficult as before, and the outlook is no clearer. The only satisfactory feature to be recorded is a growing recognition of the necessity for reconsideration of the whole question of inter-Allied debts and of Reparation, for until this has taken place an approach towards stability would seem hardly possible. The mark, after remaining steady for the whole week somewhere between 650 and 660, took a sudden jump on the 27th to 710, and yesterday morning had risen to 725, afterwards falling to 700. At first sight this further depreciation would seem inconsistent with the return of the Wirth Government, but the probable reason is the movement of the great industrialists towards the Right, and the improbability of the reconstructed Government being able to obtain the help from them originally promised in raising the foreign currencies required for the spring reparation payments. The spread between spot and future marks, at 1½ marks per month, is ½ mark narrower than a week ago. The dollar has moved erratically, but the rate now begins to show a slight tendency to weaken again. With the causes, however, of the recent movement still so obscure, it is quite impossible at present to make any forecast. From a quotation of 3.94½ on the 21st, the rate fell on the following day to 3.92½, but rose again steadily to

3.96 on the 25th, only to fall back again quietly to 3.92½ yesterday morning. At ½ cent over spot for one month, ½ for two, and 1½ for three, the rate for futures was unchanged on the week. One reason perhaps for the recent strength of the dollar rate may be seen in the September trade returns, which show a very striking diminution in exports, especially to Great Britain. Paris at 54.20 ends the week practically unchanged, after having been down on the 26th to about 53.90. A settlement, although not a very convincing one, would appear to have been reached as to the Budget deficit. Trade returns continue to show a satisfactory decrease in the adverse balance, but the heavy falling off in the import of raw materials suggests that the pressure for purchase will be very heavy when trade revives. At 55.35, as compared with 55.25 a week ago, the Belgian franc shows a slight depreciation as compared with Paris. Forward rates in Paris are 3c per month discount, as compared with 1c a week ago, in Brussels 9c premium as compared with 10c last week. The lira, after moving round about that figure, was yesterday at 100 slightly better than the previous week. Switzerland, which on the falling off of buying from Germany, rose from 21.20 on the 21st to 21.80 on the 25th, has fallen again rapidly, with the rise in the mark, to 21.30 yesterday. Amsterdam, mainly on continued liquidation in Holland, has declined on the week from 11.57 to 11.53½. Madrid at 29.62½ shows a slight improvement; Lisbon, as the result of the revolution, is still weaker at 5½d. Among the Northern countries, Christania at 29.82½ is again rather better, while Stockholm at 17.14½ has gone more rapidly in our favour than for a long time past, and Copenhagen at 20.66 has also somewhat depreciated. Helsingfors at 25½, after being somewhat better, is practically unchanged on the week. In Central Europe Vienna, in spite of renewed promises of help from ourselves and France, and in spite, also, of a new Government, with promises at last of effective financial reforms, has depreciated still further, the London rate (Auslandskrone) being quoted yesterday at 8,000, a new record. On the 24th, the last date for which figures are available, the Vienna (Inlandskrone) rate was 14,425, as compared with a London rate on that day of 7,250. Budapest, as the result of recent troubles, has moved up to 3,000, while Warsaw again, in spite of the Silesian settlement and a real improvement in general conditions, has again depreciated to 17,000. Prague at 380 is again higher, as also is Belgrade at 275, although this shows an improvement on the figure of nearly 300 on the 26th. Bucharest has risen again from 535 to 590, and Sofia is also considerably higher at nearly 600. Athens at 80½ is slightly better, but Constantinople shows a sudden and, up to now, unexplained rise from about 760 to nearly 860. In spite of expectations, the rupee at just over 1s 4½d is again slightly lower, and the position remains obscure, the speculative element still predominating. The yen has remained practically unchanged. Silver has been subject to considerable speculative movements, and dropped heavily during the earlier part of the week. A slight recovery, however, has brought up the price to 40d, as compared with last week's figure of 40½d. The Hong Kong and Shanghai rates have moved in sympathy, being down respectively to 2s 9½d and 3s 11d. Among the South American rates, Buenos Ayres has moved ½d against us to 44½d, as has also Rio to 8½d. Montevideo and Valparaiso, on the other hand, are slightly cheaper.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 to OCTOBER 22, 1921.

Total spent	£ 571,699,589	Raised by revenue ..	£ 513,991,168
Inc. in balances	1,168,617	Net borrowings	58,877,038
Total	572,868,206	Total	572,868,206
ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.
Funded Debt	568	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315	315	315	315	315
Term. Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
4½% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995
National War Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	358	358	358	358	358	358
5½% Conversion Lm. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,119	1,119	1,119	1,119	1,119	1,119
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	289	273	273	273	273	273
Nat'l Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	285	288	288	288	288	288
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,113	1,113	1,113	1,113	1,113
American Loan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	154	230	230	230	230	230
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	4,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,756	7,756	7,756	7,756	7,756
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,806	7,806	7,806	7,806	7,806

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Oct. 23, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Oct. 22, '21.	Movement week ended Oct. 22, '21.
Outstanding	£ 59,750,000	£ 73,750,000	£ 73,750,000	£ 14,000,000
Advances by Bank of England ..	182,514,000	154,489,000	156,958,000	+ 27,000,000
Advances by Public Department ..	1,076,004,000	1,120,841,000	1,119,330,000	— 2,075,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	..	..	..	..
Total Floating Debt	1,318,268,000	1,275,330,000	1,350,038,000	+ 5,775,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

OCTOBER 22ND.—Ex-Emperor Karl advances into Hungary. Bulgarian Minister for War assassinated. Mr Arthur Henderson speaks at Southampton. German Cabinet decides to resign.

OCTOBER 23RD.—Ex-Emperor Karl repulsed before Budapest. Lord Grey at Birmingham.

OCTOBER 24TH.—League of Nations Union asks public for one million. Miners' Federation submit proposals to Government on depression in coal industry. Meeting of Irish Peace Conference. Announcement of Committee appointed by Colonial Secretary to inquire into rubber position in British Dominions. Karl captured.

OCTOBER 25TH.—Sir Robert Horne in House on export credit schemes and economy.

OCTOBER 26TH.—Underground companies propose extension of London traffic system. Mr Asquith at Tunbridge Wells. New German Cabinet formed, with Dr Wirth as Chancellor. Mr McKenna addresses bankers at Chicago. Conference of Ambassadors in Paris to decide future of ex-Emperor Karl.

OCTOBER 27TH.—Germany formally accepts Upper Silesian decision.

Stockmarkets have been a little better this week, gilt-edged stocks being helped by the glut in the money market. The recent stream of forced selling appears to have been stemmed.

In the cotton industry there are indications that in some distributing centres dealers are growing short of stocks, but buyers remain nervous. The strength of the raw material remains the feature of the wool trade, and is responsible for supporting Bradford quotations. Spinners of hosiery yarns are active, and consumption of low qualities is increasing. Though the demand from the home trade remains poor, the piece goods trade is improving. In the coal trade household descriptions are in better demand, owing to the colder weather, but steam coal business is still on a restricted scale. Little actual change is reported in any branch of the iron and steel industry, though in some directions encouragement is derived from the prospect of work on the four battleships ordered by the Government. The London hide market is a trifle weaker, and there has been some falling off in leather business. The boot trade is moderately well employed on small orders. In the market for vegetable oil and oilseeds some improvement in tone is noticeable.

Details of news and movements in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE SUBLIME AND THE RIDICULOUS.

SENSITIVE nerves have received once again their weekly quota of shocks in the shape of an attempt by ex-Emperor Karl to regain the throne of Hungary, and a lively threat of a breakdown in the Irish negotiations. Fortunately Karl's mad escapade proved little more than a nine hours' wonder, but the affair serves once more to illustrate the complete failure of statesmen to create an atmosphere of security in Europe in which economic recovery can hope to proceed. The progress of the Irish negotiations has been placed in jeopardy by the foolish intervention of extremists on both sides—by Mr de Valera's telegram on the one hand, and on the other by the intransigence of Ulster stalwarts in the House of Commons. The Prime Minister has undoubtedly pursued the only possible course in deciding to test the strength of this group on Monday by a direct vote, the result of which, we hope, is not in doubt. Whether the obstacle created by Mr de Valera's indiscreet reference to freedom from allegiance can be as easily surmounted is a different question. But it is at least a favourable omen that Mr Lloyd George has not yet abandoned his intention to attend the Washington Conference in person. Cables from the United States suggest that there is an increasing chance that the agenda of the Conference will be expanded to include the main problems of international economics and finance. Contributions to the discussion of two of these problems have been made this week in Chicago, by Mr McKenna, chairman of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, and at Tunbridge Wells by Mr Asquith. Both developed the same theme, namely, that two of the first requisites for an approach towards international recovery are a revision of the Reparations Agreement, and the cancellation by the United Kingdom of the war debts of her late Allies. On the latter subject Mr Asquith said:—"The first thing is to get rid, as between Allies in the late war, of their indebtedness the one to the other. I do not like to use such an expression as a bad debt, because that seems to imply some doubt as to the solvency of the person who is responsible. But it is not a good asset. Wipe it off the slate. You will be none the worse in the long run. It is a speculative, shadowy, contingent possibility, to put it at the highest. Get rid of it, and set free these nations from the burden which hampers, and necessarily hampers so long as it is a contingency, their industrial development and their financial future." Mr Asquith may be over-sanguine as to the immediate effects of debt cancellation, but the step which he advocates is one that we have consistently urged. According to the cables of his Chicago speech, Mr McKenna said, "As to the amount due to the United Kingdom, I am not only not sanguine of receiving it, but if it were within my power I would cancel it.....I don't say the same of the American debts. These must be accepted in the form of commodities, as that is the only way in which foreign debts can be paid if they are to be received at all." Britain's war debt to America, in any case, is regarded by every shade of responsible opinion on this side as a definite obligation, and one which the country is perfectly capable of meeting by hard work and an increase in the supply of goods and services for export. In his second memorandum on the world's financial problems, published in full

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

this week by the *Manchester Guardian Commercial*, Prof. Cassel dwells at length in one section on the responsibility of these huge debts for the uncertainty prevalent in Europe to-day. To the Professor's main arguments we hope to refer next week.

From the sublime to the ridiculous is a short step. While experts have been discussing these vital problems the House of Commons, by question and answer, has been dragging to light a new batch of absurdities in connection with the Safeguarding of Industries Act. In this matter, as Mr Will Thorne remarked, "we get more nonsense every day." So far no more than the first part of this unhappy measure, that relating to so-called key industries, has come into operation. It was a part which the House accepted with very little discussion. Members were assured that the future safety of the Empire depended upon the establishment or maintenance in this country of certain essential or key industries, and the schedule loosely defining what they were was adopted without amendment. The Board of Trade was charged with the duty of compiling lists of goods which came within the descriptions in the schedule. We have already criticised those lists, but our criticism was mild in comparison with that which the House of Commons now hears every day at question time. The President of the Board bluntly and truly states that he has no option except to administer the Act as it is written; the absurdities are no fault of his. If members of Parliament now come along and say that they had no such intentions, the only reply is that they should have expressed more exactly what they wanted done, or should have left the Board of Trade some discretion in interpretation. The Board has none at all, and the referee who has just been appointed has none at all; both are charged mainly with the duty of administering the Act. If we get, as we do, more nonsense every day, one consolation is that it makes the fatuity of the Act more unmistakably recognisable to the public.

By question and answer in the House we are learning what are some of those essential or key industries upon which in a future war the safety of the Empire will depend. They are, among other surprising things, the glass eyes of dolls and the blown glass ornaments which hang on Christmas-trees; they include toy magic lanterns and other children's playthings, in which figure thick pieces of distorting glass, miscalled lenses; they include the tungsten wire in an electric lamp bulb, though not the bulb itself; a flat shaving glass may enter our ports without creating a national peril, but if the mirror be curved ever so slightly the foundations of the State tremble. Finally, and perhaps most ridiculous of all, lactose, which is used in the preparation of infants' foods, may come in duty free if it be crude and impure, but the lactose that is refined, and of the best quality, and best suited to building up the bodies of future defenders of the Empire, must pay a duty of 33½ per cent. As the days pass the absurdities will multiply, but they will have hard work to surpass the present inglorious eminence of lactose.

All this trouble, and the further troubles that are to come, have arisen through the insistence of the House of Commons upon the withdrawal of all discretion from the Board of Trade. This is one of the dilemmas of Tariff legislation. If it is to be workable at all, large discretionary powers must be placed in the hands of bureaucrats, and the moment such powers are largely conceded abuses tend to creep in. All the absurdities arising from the attempts to administer the Act may be amusing, but unfortunately their humour is tainted with grimness, since their effect is to trammel and congest business at the very time when encouragement of trade is the chief national requirement, and the object of other legislative efforts of the Government.

EXPORT CREDITS.

WHILE the new proposals for stimulating our export trade are under discussion, it is well to see what lessons can be drawn from the practical results of the schemes which have already been in the field. The first edition of the British export credit scheme has been in operation since September, 1919. Under this the Board of Trade was empowered to grant credits to British

exporters "in connection with the export of goods wholly or partly produced in the United Kingdom," to Finland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland, Czecho-Slovakia, Jugoslavia, Roumania, Georgia, and Armenia. The total sum authorised for such purposes was £26,000,000, available up to September 8, 1925. Results were disappointing, the accepted explanation being that importers were deterred from using it by the conditions as regards security imposed by the Board of Trade, while British exporters wanted a guarantee against loss rather than a credit. A second edition was therefore prepared, and has been in operation since June. The main innovations were: (a) that powers were added to "give guarantees" in connection with export transactions; (b) that the scheme was made applicable to the British Empire.

The working of the scheme really depends on the Board of Trade regulations. According to these Bulgaria, Austria, and Hungary were added to the list of foreign countries, but as regards British Dominions it was stated that "it is not proposed for the present to apply the scheme to British India, Ceylon, or British possessions in the Far East" (this for an interesting reason is referred to later).

As regards guarantees, these were divided into two classes: (a) Guarantees to exporters. In dealing direct with exporters the British Government was to guarantee up to a maximum of 85 per cent. of the invoice value of the goods, but to have recourse against the exporter for a half of any loss incurred by the Government, after taking into account the sum actually repaid by the importer, plus the value of the security (if any) which he put up. That is to say, supposing that the invoice value of the goods was £1,000, and that the Government guaranteed the maximum 85 per cent., or £850, then if the importer put up security which the Export Credit Office accepted as worth £400, and if in addition he repaid £250, there would be a deficit of £200. For half of this deficit, namely, £100, the Government would have a claim on the exporter. (The exporter would, of course, also lose the balance of 15 per cent. not covered by the Government guarantee; but this was supposed to represent his profit.) (b) Guarantee to banks. In addition to the above provisions for direct guarantees to exporters, the regulations provided that where business was proposed by banks or credit associations the Government could guarantee up to 70 per cent. against an agreed premium.

Without going into details, it may be said that the administrative regulations were settled after careful consultation with representatives of the business interests concerned. The scheme was, in fact, given the maximum of elasticity, and it is hard to imagine how any Government scheme for assisting ordinary export trade transactions could have been better devised. Yet, in spite of the increased elasticity and the extension to the British Empire, it has quite obviously failed to achieve substantial results. Figures of total credits granted or sanctioned are given in a Business Note.

From this two main conclusions appear to follow. First, no specially created Government Department can improvise the experience or machinery for quickly assessing the credit of any particular foreign importer. This is necessary for handling the business of normal commercial credits. Such business, therefore, is better left to private organisations which have gradually acquired through long years of personal contact and experience the necessary powers of discrimination. The Export Credits Department, with its Advisory Committee, has very wisely tried to protect the Government from non-commercial risks, and as a result its scrutiny of each case has involved such delay as to make business very difficult.

Secondly, except in comparatively few cases, the present stagnation is caused more by lack of purchasing power than lack of credit facilities. To help merchants abroad to acquire goods for which they cannot pay will involve the Government in loss, and actually retard the recovery of sound conditions. The reasons for the exclusion of India from the second edition of the Export Credits Scheme afford a good illustration of these dangers. A large number of Indian merchants were refusing to take up Manchester goods which they had ordered before the fall in the value of the rupee. Manchester exporters were wisely refusing to make further shipments until these goods had been absorbed. If the Government scheme had been used at that stage a very unsound position would

The New York Trust Company

with which is consolidated

The Liberty National Bank of New York

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions.

Buys and sells American and foreign securities

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Ltd.

have been created. The extension of the scheme to Portugal has created similar difficulties. The main need, therefore, is action which can create purchasing power in the importing countries, and which in this or possibly other ways will help to convert bad risks into good ones.

To satisfy such a need was essentially the object of the International Credits Scheme of the League of Nations (the ter Meulen Scheme), which aimed not at helping exporters to get rid of manufactured goods, but at restoring the productive power of the impoverished countries. It is, therefore, of importance to follow its practical development. The details of this scheme are now generally known* and for the present purpose it may be briefly summarised as follows. Its main idea is that: (1) The importing Government in each case should create special bonds which it would loan to its own nationals, who would then be able to deposit them as security for foreign credits for the import of raw materials and other primary necessities; (2) that these bonds should have a real value for foreign creditors, inasmuch as they would be secured on revenue producing assets, the gold value of which would have been assessed by an International Commission to be appointed by the League of Nations. The constitution of the International Commission would be such that its endorsement would command universal confidence, while, acting under the authority of the League of Nations, it would be in a specially strong position to guard the interests both of the creditors and of the borrowing Government.

Since the appointment of Sir Drummond Fraser as organiser for this scheme at the end of March, administrative details have been elaborated, and negotiations opened with all potential importing and exporting countries. We notice that Sir Drummond has this week interviewed President Harding. But the practical results to date are again disappointing. Except in the case of Austria, no country has yet applied for the right to issue bonds, and though these negative results are by no means final, certain conclusions are inevitable. (a) The difficulty of devising any satisfactory form for Government intervention in the business of normal commercial credits is again illustrated. The Governments concerned are unwilling to pledge their assets for the sake of assisting private importers, while the latter dislike the idea of having to apply to a Government Department for the securities. It is felt that the procedure would inevitably be too slow for normal commercial transactions. (b) In all the countries concerned (the Central and Eastern European States) public finance is in a far worse condition than private business. It would be impossible, without radical reforms in public financial administration, to put any reliable gold value on revenues collected in the local currency. It is doubtful whether many of these countries are yet ready to take the necessary steps.

The conclusion, in fact, reached by the organiser's office, and endorsed by the Finance Committee of the League of Nations, is expressed as follows:—"At the

* Full details are available in the explanatory pamphlet published by the organiser's office, International Credits, Trafalgar House, Waterloo place, S.W. 1.

present stage no great improvement can be expected as a result solely of providing special facilities for private commercial credits. Private traders and manufacturers of substance are apparently getting without difficulty the limited credits which they can safely handle under existing conditions. It is, therefore, necessary to ask, What is required to improve these conditions? It appears, then, that the results of the Export Credit Scheme and of the ter Meulen Scheme lead to the same conclusions, which may be summarised as follows:—(a) Machinery for stimulating the business of short term commercial credits by Government intervention is not likely to be effective. Nor is this the main requirement at the present stage. (b) On the other hand, the difficulties disclosed would not apply to Government support for special investment credits or loans for capital expenditure, directed to improve underlying conditions (transport, productive capacity, &c.). This is the real requirement at the present stage. (c) As regards the Central and Eastern European States, any assistance should be made conditional on a reform in public finance. How far the new proposals of the British Government, or the ter Meulen Scheme, can be used to meet the requirements disclosed by these conclusions will be considered in a subsequent article.

THE GOVERNMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE proposals of Sir Alfred Mond's Committee on Unemployment and the plans put forward by Mr Lloyd George complete the Government's programme for dealing with unemployment. The Cabinet Committee's published proposals related mainly to the assistance to be given to local authorities and the conditions attaching to the receipt of Government aid. The Government contribution to local schemes of work is dependent upon local authorities who directly undertake such schemes paying not more than 75 per cent. of the local rates of wages for unskilled workers to those for whom employment is found. This means that in many places workpeople employed on local schemes will be receiving less than Boards of Guardians are being driven to provide for out-relief in respect of unemployed men and their families. The absurdity of the Government's proposal is illustrated by the provision that these conditions do not apply to local schemes which are being put in hand on behalf of local authorities by private contractors, who would pay the standard rate of wages prevailing in the locality. The Government's policy regarding local schemes has created a good deal of dissatisfaction amongst both employed and unemployed workpeople.

The Government's new proposals are on a larger scale. The plan to which Labour criticism has been particularly directed is the Unemployed Workers' Dependents' Fund. This fund is to be raised by a compulsory levy upon workers and employers coming under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, assisted by a grant from the State. Men will pay 2d per week, and women, boys, and girls a penny a week.

To these contributions the employers will add an equal amount, and the State will add 3d per week in the case of men and 2d per week in the case of women and young persons. The levy is to operate for six months, and benefits will be paid in respect of the wives and children of unemployed insured persons. A married worker will receive 5s per week in addition to the 15s payable under the State insurance scheme, and 1s for each child, up to a maximum of four. A married man with four children will therefore receive under the new scheme an additional benefit of 9s per week during the time he is eligible to receive the ordinary State benefit, and when he exhausts the latter, the former will also cease.

It is clear that whatever may be the ultimate effect of schemes for the revival of trade, there will for some time—and perhaps for a considerable time—be a large number of people out of work, and for them provision must be made. The levy scheme is the only new proposal which the Government has advanced dealing with the maintenance of unemployed persons, and there is general opposition to it in Labour circles on the ground that it is inadequate and unjust.

In the first place, those who benefit under the scheme will, in all, receive their ordinary unemployment pay plus a sum varying from 1s 9d per week, the maximum benefit being 24s per week. But this sum is clearly insufficient to maintain a family even on the lowest scale of subsistence, and in consequence respectable citizens will be driven to seek assistance from the Poor Law. It is to be remembered, as Mr Lloyd George admitted in the House of Commons, that savings are being gradually exhausted. Money has been withdrawn from savings banks, and particularly from co-operative societies, in order to supplement the State unemployment benefit. To-day thousands of married men are now at the end of their resources, and notwithstanding the additional benefit from the Unemployed Workers' Dependents' Fund, they must appeal for out-relief to keep the wolf from the door. Recourse to the Guardians, quite apart from the unjustifiable burden which it places on local rates in the case of unemployed workers, is regarded as an unsuitable method of relieving hardship directly due to a trade depression.

Exception is taken to the levy scheme, because it does nothing for those unemployed workers who do not even receive the State benefit. The outstanding case is that of the agricultural workers. The Prime Minister told the House of Commons the other day that "there are some districts where there is a good deal of agricultural unemployment manifested." Workers in agriculture do not come within the scope of the Unemployment Insurance Acts, and the unemployed land worker is in a more desperate plight than those who will become eligible for benefit from the new fund. The scheme is defective also because the Bill does not have regard to the fact that a considerable number of workers have persons dependent upon them who are not their wives or children. The Government's proposal, therefore, is not sufficiently comprehensive to include those who are in dire need of assistance.

Further, though the expenditure necessary in respect of other parts of the Government's programme will be raised from the community as a whole, including both insured workers and their employers, the levy scheme has been singled out as a proposal for which special contributions are to be laid on those who are required, whether as employers or workers, to make what are now substantial contributions to the Unemployment Insurance Fund. Many employers at the present time, though their factories are at work, are losing heavily, and a further charge upon the business of 2d per man per week can only result in restricting employment.

From the workers' point of view the proposal is particularly iniquitous. The scheme is not, in point of fact, an insurance scheme. The characteristic of insurance is that the contributor will, in certain circumstances, receive benefits. But under the Government's scheme a substantial majority of the workers who pay the levy cannot in any circumstances become eligible for benefit, as the benefits are confined to the dependents of married workers. The scheme is, therefore, one which imposes a tax on a section of the community. And unfortunately those who pay the tax are not in a position to do so.

The people who will be required to pay the levy are workers who have already suffered reductions in wages. A very large number of them are working short time, and therefore receiving less than full wages. Moreover, a considerable number are trade unionists who are paying additional trade union levies in order to assist their unemployed fellows. It is not generally recognised that but for the supplementary out-of-work pay distributed by the trade unions, the burden of out-relief would have been considerably larger than it is to-day. In view of what has been done by the unions, and the contributions that their members are now making to supplement the meagre benefits of the State Insurance scheme, the Government's levy is regarded as a mean proposal. The total amount which the contributions of workers, employers, and the State are expected to reach during the six months the Act is to be in operation is £5,500,000, of which the State will contribute something over two and a-quarter million pounds. It is certain that this sum will be raised with far less hardship than the million and a-half pounds to be raised by levies upon the employed insured workers. Mr Clynes, speaking as chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, in the debate on the Government's Bill, expressed the general view when he said that it was not a measure "that the Labour Party could listen to with patience as being anything like a substantial contribution to the relief necessary to meet the bitterness of the on-coming winter."

Another of the Government's proposals—and one to which the Federation of British Industries subscribes—is that of the emigration of ex-service men. Mr Lloyd George pointed to the fact that £637,000 had already been expended on a scheme under which 60,000 ex-service men have settled in the Dominions. It is clear that the assistance given was not very substantial, and at the same rate the new proposal to devote £300,000 to this purpose will mean the emigration of about 28,000 men. The scheme, therefore, is not an heroic measure from the point of view of unemployment. But the main objection to it is that the Dominions have their own unemployment problem. The available evidence shows that at the present moment the Dominions are unfavourably disposed towards the immigration of new settlers, except perhaps, settlers with capital! This part of the Government's policy cannot be deemed to be more than window-dressing.

The capital criticism which is made by Labour is that the Government's policy does not touch some of the underlying factors in the present situation. These factors, it is true, call for international action, for obviously questions affecting the German indemnity, inter-Ally debts, national finances, and the foreign exchanges, are matters which require consideration by all concerned. But it is also true that whatever may be done by means of export credits, guarantees, and public works, the world situation will not be permanently improved until some of the leaks are stopped. Our present policy is directed to improving the pumps in order to keep the ship afloat, rather than to the more important work of stopping up the holes. The Labour movement regards the unemployment situation as a manifestation of a disease which has its roots on the Continent, and it would have welcomed a declaration by the Government that immediate steps were to be taken to deal with the larger problem.

CARDIFF SHIPPING SLUMP.

(BY OUR CARDIFF CORRESPONDENT.)

THERE is no shipping centre in the United Kingdom where investors have been so badly hit by the world depression in trade as they have been at Cardiff. Two years ago new capital was subscribed to shipping companies with the violence of a torrent, and the registrations of new companies followed on the heels of one another with unprecedented rapidity. The greater part of the capital came from people who knew little or nothing about the business of shipowning, or of the conditions which determine the profitable or the unprofitable employment of tonnage, but who had been fascinated by tales of fabulous fortunes made overnight by others, and who were deceived by the illusion that the bubble would carry them also to wealth

ALL BRANCHES OF INTERNATIONAL BANKING BANKERS TRUST COMPANY

16, WALL STREET NEW YORK

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$ 31,250,000
DEPOSITS \$ 267,176,974
RESOURCES \$ 337,107,773

PARIS OFFICE : 3 & 5, PLACE VENDOME

TÉLÉGRAPH ADDRESS : BANKTRUST-PARIS

and prosperity before it burst. Thus, for instance, in June, 1919, over 30 new companies were floated in Cardiff with a registered capital of between £3 and £4 millions, while by the end of that year some 50 or 60 more concerns were registered, involving the public subscription of several more millions. The boom was then at its height, and there were indications that it might continue. Very few, however, of the more experienced of the local shipowners acquired tonnage under these conditions of inflation; they sold far more vessels than they bought; and for what they sold they got prices ranging up to £30 per ton deadweight for vessels which they had built or bought second hand before the war on a basis of from £5 to £7 per ton. It was the shipowner's clerk, the ship store merchant, or the speculative capitalist who had previously been engaged in other industrial or commercial pursuits who led the way, took command of the market, and gave direction and stimulus to the boom. The event has justified the wisdom of the old and punished the daring recklessness of youth and the inordinate cupidity of speculative capitalists.

It is now common knowledge how the shipping bubble burst in the summer of 1920, and how these new tramp shipowning companies were involved in an economic landslide of unexpected suddenness and of unexampled magnitude. It may, however, be of interest to give a few illustrations of how the slump in the market prices of tonnage, in the rates of freight, and in the volume of overseas carrying trade has depreciated the share values of the collier class of tonnage on the Cardiff Stock Exchange. The most disastrous case is that of the Western Counties Shipping Company. This concern began its career in a very modest way with the ownership of one vessel bought in 1915 at a cost of £42,300. In 1919, however, the management launched out into big scale shipowning, absorbed the Runciman-Moor Line of 13 steamers at a cost of £1,804,000, and in February, 1920, the fleet of the Sutherland Steamship Company of Newcastle, consisting of 11 steamers for £1,825,000, and at one leap emerged from obscurity into the position of the largest shipowning company in the Bristol Channel. To finance these deals the capital powers of the company were increased to £3,500,000, of which £2,500,000 was issued in £1 ordinary shares and £1,000,000 in 6½ per cent. five-year debenture stock. Both the share capital and the loan capital were over-subscribed, and just before the purchase of the Sutherland fleet the shares were at 2s 6d premium. The whole undertaking has now collapsed; every penny of the share capital, one fears, has been lost; and of the total debenture capital of £1,000,000 it seems at the moment doubtful whether more than £400,000 (inclusive of £200,000 redeemed early this year) will be returned to the debentureholders. In the financial year ending December last the company made a gross profit of £800,000, but the default of a charterer involving the loss of £45,000, the expenditure of £170,000 in repairs, and the redemption of debentures and mortgages to the tune of £350,000 left the company with depleted resources at the beginning of the present year, and it had not the funds available to comply with the provision of the trust deed requiring the payment in advance of one year's insurance, amounting to £170,000.

The deed was altered so as to enable the company to pay the insurance money in instalments, but this arrangement only delayed the collapse, and a few months later Sir Arthur Sutherland took repossession of his fleet as a security for an undischarged liability of £325,000 in respect of the mortgage arranged at the time of the sale of his fleet, and the debenture-holders appointed a receiver. By this time practically the whole of the fleet had been laid up, and it has since been eating itself away. Sir Arthur Sutherland disposed of his own tonnage on the Baltic Exchange at an average price of about £5 10s, compared with the price of £24 10s per ton d.w. paid for it in February, 1920, while on October 12th last the managers of the Western Counties informed their shareholders that it had been found impossible to formulate a scheme of reconstruction, and that the only course open was to wind up the company. The management, however, has not yet exhausted its resources. It states that after protracted negotiations with the Government of Czechoslovakia a proposal has been made to purchase the fleet from the receiver, and run it as a trading line in conjunction with that Government which, it is alleged, has expressed its willingness to take 65 per cent. of the capital, if required. To carry through this scheme the managers propose the formation of a new company, with a capital of £450,000, which, it declares, is sufficient to purchase the remaining 15 vessels of 94,000 tons, and to provide adequate working capital. It remains to be seen what support will be given to this proposal, but the fleet is still in the hands of the receiver, and the Court has not yet given its permission to sell.

Another case is that of the Maindy Shipping Company, formed in 1915, with a capital of £25,000, and with a single vessel acquired for £36,250. This concern did very well for some years, but after the Armistice it extended its interests so considerably that its last balance-sheet, issued for the 12 months ending last March, showed tonnage assets valued at over £1 million. This company financed its operations mainly through bank loans. Its total issued capital was only £200,000, but on March 31st there was an overdraft of £411,655. The trading profits of the concern had increased year by year, and even in the last financial year they amounted to £161,321, with a fleet of eight steamers of 41,370 tons d.w. Early last year, partly out of its own reserves, and partly by new capital, the company formed a subsidiary concern known as the Maindy Transport Company, owning three steamers and trading mainly in general cargo between the Mediterranean and Antwerp. The total advances to this company amounted to £216,000. The bankers were secured by the fleet of the Maindy Company, but that fleet stood in the balance-sheet on March 31st at over £20 per ton, although the current market price of similar tonnage had fallen to considerably less than half that. Pressure was brought to bear on the company by the bankers, and by realisations the overdraft was reduced to £296,000. In these circumstances the management have informed the shareholders that they do not feel justified in advising them to subscribe any further money for the existing company, but they suggest the formation of a new company with a capital of £100,000 to repurchase

the fleet at current market prices. As it now stands the fleet consists of seven steamers of a total deadweight of 37,510 tons, in addition to which the company hold as security a charge on the four steamers of the Maindy Transport Company, bringing the total tonnage to 43,210, the market value of which the managers assess at approximately £330,000, or £7 12s per ton for a fleet with an average age of 3½ years. Against this there is a bank overdraft of £296,000, which will be increased to £306,000 on the delivery to the Maindy Transport Company of its fourth steamer. Subject to satisfactory guarantees, it is intended that the new company shall carry this overdraft, but the managers consider that with an additional £100,000 new capital their resources will enable them to reduce the bank loan and provide the necessary working capital. Meanwhile, the value of the shares of both the Maindy Shipping and the Maindy Transport is problematical, and the loss in capital is approximately between £350,000 and £400,000.

There are a large number of other companies with overdrafts considerably in excess of the current market value of the tonnage held as security for them, and out of a group of 43 shipping £1 shares not included in the official list only four are to-day quoted at a price over 10s, while approximately 20 of these shares are quoted at prices ranging from 3s to 1s, and virtually unmarketable even at these low figures. Moreover, the market value of 53 Cardiff shipping companies with a combined issued capital of roughly £10 millions, is to-day less than £3 millions. The outlook contains no indication of an improvement; on the contrary, it is the general opinion that the process of recovery will be an extremely slow one, and that in any case it will never reach a point sufficiently strong to carry the weight of the present over-capitalisation. Drastic reconstruction is inevitable, and the probable basis of reconstruction, where that will be practicable, is figured at about 25 per cent. the value of the original capital.

ARGENTINE RAILWAYS.

ABNORMAL circumstances were in a large degree responsible for the remarkably favourable results achieved by the Argentine "big four" railways in the year 1919-20. The grain traffic in that year was quite exceptional, and the companies also benefited largely from favourable exchange. It was not to be expected that these results could be repeated, and the reports for the year ended June 30, 1921, which have recently appeared, look, perhaps, even worse than they really are, because they compare with a year of swollen earnings. In 1920-21 exchange moved unfavourably, working expenses were high, and the companies were not allowed to make the additions to their tariffs which they believed themselves entitled to make under the provisions of the Mitre Law. The reduction in dividend rates, as compared with the previous year, and the dividend records of the companies in recent years are shown below:—

Company.	1913-14.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
B.A. and Pacific, ord. ...	% nil	% 1	% nil	% nil	% 2	% 5	% nil
Do 5% 2nd non-cum. pref.	5	5	1½	5	5	5	nil
B.A. Great Southern ..	5	4½	4	2	3	7	4
B.A. Western	5	5	3	2	4	7	4
Central Argentine, ord.	5	5	2	2	2	6	4
Do deferred	5	nil	nil	nil	2	6	4

B.A. and Pacific pays no dividend, either on its ordinary shares, which received 5 per cent. last year, but nothing between 1916 and 1918, or on the 5 per cent. 2nd non-cumulative preference shares. The Great Southern and B.A. Western both pay 4 per cent., against 7 per cent. a year ago. Central Argentine ordinary shares receive 4 per cent., against 6 per cent., and the deferred shares, on which 6 per cent. was distributed last year, repeat the blank experience of the years 1915 to 1919. The financial results leading to the wholesale dividend reductions are summarised in our second table.

	Pacific.	Southern.	Western.	Central.
Gross receipts	£ 6,853,624	£ 8,732,527	£ 4,145,130	£ 9,746,664
Working expenses	5,872,227	7,364,273	3,767,246	7,779,799
[Ditto for 1919-20] ..	(5,712,237)	(6,600,973)	(3,651,035)	(6,604,946)
Net receipts	981,397	1,368,254	377,884	1,966,865
[Ditto for 1919-20] ..	(2,487,990)	(2,938,813)	(1,603,196)	(3,164,809)
[Ditto for 1918-19] ..	(1,786,152)	(1,616,352)	(928,150)	(1,066,539)
Other income (less charges)	106,146	437,190	209,441	454,782
Net income	1,087,543	1,805,444	587,325	2,421,647
Fixed charges	1,674,704	805,281	414,774	836,726
Balance	Dr 587,161	1,000,163	172,551	1,584,921
Preference dividends ..	60,000	400,000	129,854	436,306
Ordinary dividends	Nil	1,163,600	589,820	1,127,479
Reserves	..	Dr 550,000	Dr 500,000	..
Inc. (+) or dec. (-) in carry forward	-647,161	-13,437	-47,123	+21,136

The Pacific figures are very doleful, and of the four lines the Central has come best out of a trying year. It will be seen that in order to pay their 4 per cent. dividends both the Western and the Great Southern have to draw very largely upon their reserves. It must, however, be remembered that both these companies added large sums to reserve a year ago. The Western placed £698,943 to reserve a year ago, and this year draws out £500,000, while the Great Southern, which this year draws on reserves for £550,000, last year set aside more than twice that sum, namely £1,230,733. The year's rise in working expenses and decline in gross receipts are analysed in subsequent tables, the first of which shows how various classes of traffic fared in comparison with the previous year:—

	Passenger Train Traffic.			Goods, Merchandise, and Live Stock.			Total (Including Miscellaneous).		
	1920-21.	Inc. or Dec.	%	1920-21.	Inc. or Dec.	%	1920-21.	Inc. or Dec.	%
B.A. Pacific	£ 1,297,905	+ 27,252	+ 2.1	£ 5,255,580	- 1,292,044	- 24.6	£ 6,553,485	- 1,346,603	- 20.4
B.A. Gr. Sthn.	3,270,449	+ 235,312	+ 7.2	4,867,101	- 838,253	- 17.2	8,137,550	- 602,941	- 7.4
B.A. Western	217,318	+ 29,685	+ 13.7	3,146,429	- 1,550,822	- 49.3	3,363,747	- 1,521,134	- 45.2
Central	12,500,201	+ 171,561	+ 1.4	7,133,081	- 164,241	- 2.3	19,633,282	- 1,389,673	- 7.1

Passenger train traffic receipts were comparatively good, especially on the Great Southern and the Central, the fall being due in every case to goods traffic, poor crops and port troubles being adverse factors. We next show how gross receipts have moved in recent years:—

PERCENTAGE CHANGES IN TOTAL GROSS RECEIPTS.

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
B.A. Pacific	-10.7	-7.0	+1.6	-5.0	+19.2	+19.0	+20.8	-15.4
B.A. Great Sthn.	-16.8	-9.6	+12.3	+3.3	+1.8	+25.6	+20.1	-8.4
B.A. Western	-13.0	-0.3	+7.6	+1.7	+14.8	+30.3	+41.0	-21.1
Central Arg.	-6.6	-5.0	-0.3	-8.5	+17.8	+12.0	+41.1	-0.2

The continuous rise in gross receipts for the three previous years gives way to a universal fall, most serious in the case of the Pacific and Western, but almost negligible in the case of the Central. It will be seen, however, from the next table that the Central, while maintaining gross receipts in so creditable a manner, could not avoid participation in the general advance in the ratio of working expenses to receipts.

RATIO OF EXPENSES TO RECEIPTS.

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
B.A. and Pacific	62.63	61.70	61.16	65.68	65.30	71.51	69.69	85.68
B.A. Great Sthn.	58.56	60.44	57.04	64.06	76.16	77.96	69.19	81.33
B.A. Western	58.82	59.67	58.22	66.88	75.68	75.08	69.48	90.88
Central Arg.	58.54	58.43	64.53	68.71	73.93	84.60	67.66	79.82

On the past year the Western and Pacific show the largest rises in the expense ratio. Compared with the last pre-war year, the ratio of expenses to receipts has risen for the Pacific by 23.05 per cent., for the Great Southern by 25.77 per cent., for the Western by 32.06 per cent., and for the Central by 21.28 per cent. These figures illustrate very clearly the difficulties of the past year.

Our next set of statistics show how the main classes of expenditure contributed to the general increase:—
(00's omitted.)

	Running Expenses.			Maintenance.			General and Miscellaneous.		
	1919-20.	% of Revenue.	% of Expend.	1919-20.	% of Revenue.	% of Expend.	1919-20.	% of Revenue.	% of Expend.
Pacific	£ 3,527,030	43.0	3.8321	£ 559,159	8.9	1.5958	£ 589,371	7.1	520.8
Great Southern	3,889,818	41.8	4.6802	536,178	8.4	1.9501	852,212	8.9	733.9
Western	2,050,439	39.0	2.7282	84,812	2.0	0.2371	354,967	6.7	361.5
Central	4,228,413	43.3	5.0218	515,173	5.1	2.0037	641,516	6.7	754.1

From these figures it is clear that the main advance in total expenditure comes under the heading of running expenses. Two items, fuel and wages, are mainly responsible. The Great Southern had to pay away about £547,000 more in salaries and wages than in the previous year, and the Central about £600,000, while the Pacific report states: "Our wages bill has been raised by over a million sterling during the last two financial years; by one-and-a-half millions during the last three years; and by £1,700,000 since the end of 1916-17." Fuel cost the Great Southern £318,000 more. The Central and Great Southern both increased their rate of maintenance expenditure per mile of road, as will be seen below:—

MAINTENANCE EXPENDITURE PER MILE OF ROAD.

	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	Average
Pacific	£ 226	.. 248	.. 295	.. 451	.. 414	.. 278
Southern	256	.. 254	.. 367	.. 464	.. 507	.. 314
Western	249	.. 312	.. 422	.. 662	.. 602	.. 339
Central	260	.. 376	.. 426	.. 525	.. 606	.. 375

There is no getting away from the generally unsatisfactory nature of the 1920-21 results, and it cannot be said that much improvement is suggested by the traffic returns for the 16 weeks, July 1st to October 22nd, which are given in our final table:—

	Gross Receipts.		Net Receipts.	
	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
B.A. Pacific	£ 1,979,000	- 129,000	£ 233,000	- 38,000
B.A. Great Southern	2,375,000	+ 8,000	235,000	+ 24,000
B.A. Western	1,265,000	+ 67,000	158,000	+ 24,000
Central Argentine	2,858,000	- 498,000	..	..

Unless the Argentine Government concedes to the companies permission to raise tariff rates, shareholders must look forward to another year of bad results. By the clause in the Mitre Law, which allows the railways to earn 6.8 per cent. on their capital—a rate of earning which none of the companies even distantly approached last year—the companies would seem to be entitled to raise rates to the extent which they desire. In August last the Argentine Director-General of Railways actually gave the desired permission, but his action was repudiated by his Government, and although negotiations are still going on, the deadlock has not as yet been removed. Lord St Davids, who was in the Argentine in the summer, gave to the B.A. and Pacific meeting on Monday a powerful résumé of the companies' case. He suggested that the Argentine attitude was due partly to the fact that the prosperous railway figures of 1919-20 were misleading. The great Argentine railways, which have played so great a part in the development of the country, have been built and run by British capital. The credit of these railways, as Lord St Davids put it, "is just as important to the Argentine ordinary citizen as is the credit of this Government." The failure to grant justice to the British investor in the Argentine would deal a serious blow at Argentine credit in London; and this aspect of the question should alone be sufficient to cause the Argentine Government to come speedily to a fair arrangement with the railway companies. But even if such an arrangement is speedily reached, shareholders must temper their expectations by remembering that an important part of the companies' current financial year has already passed under unfavourable circumstances.

LATIN AMERICAN NOTES.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PERU.—The information sent from Lima last month to the effect that the Government of Peru had laid before Congress a Bill for the establishment of a State bank, with a capital of £10,000,000, is merely a repetition of the news published exactly a year ago from another source to the effect that Señor Fuchs, the then Minister of Finance, had presented a report to the Chamber on the institution of a national bank on the lines of the Bank of France. On that occasion the proposed capital was placed at £3,000,000, or, say, 30,000,000 soles. It was suggested that the bank would centralise the State revenue, including customs' receipts. It may be remembered that last May the Government issued an official decree with the object of regulating the banks' rate of exchange, such ordinance containing, among other stipulations, the following provisions:—(1) Banks to retain in the country all capital subscribed since the coming into force of the measure; this measure to apply also to cash in savings' banks; (2) banks to be compelled to retain and apply the money deposited for national work; (3) an inspector to be appointed to supervise the carrying-out of this measure; (4) the banks in agreement with the inspector to fix the rate of exchange. It is not known whether these regulations will apply to the new State bank, but it is presumed so. Foreign banking in Peru has in the past been successful, but since the war some of the foreign-owned institutions have done less well. The German Bank (Banco Alemán Transatlántico), for instance, has had to face a very critical situation, the depositors being informed at the time of the Armistice that while their account showed a total of £510,000, there was available no more than £190,000 to meet their claims. British banks, on the other hand, have carried on a safe and cautious business, the opening of the Lima branch of the Anglo-South American Bank, in July, 1919, in order further to develop commercial relations between the United Kingdom and Peru, having proved in every respect justified. One of the soundest factors in the position of the institutions—the Anglo-South American Bank and the Banco del Perú y Londres—is the close working arrangement existing between them, the present manager of the first-named institution having previously been sub-manager of the other. Towards the end of 1918 the banks taking part in the Government Loan of £P3,000,000 were authorised to make use of the London institutions—the London City and Midland Bank, the London County and Westminster Bank, and Lloyds Bank—as places of deposits to a total amount of £600,000, to be applied to the negotiation of exporters' drafts, and of the drafts offered such banks by the Treasury. The relations existing between British monetary establishments and the Peruvian Government have always been happy, and those institutions stand high in the esteem of the commercial community.

PARAGUAY.—The long-standing depression in Paraguayan trade and commerce is showing few signs of relief, and the paper-money of the country continues to depreciate; to-day it stands at a ratio of 16 to the Argentine paper peso. The Republic depends very largely for its prosperity upon cattle-raising, the export of skins and hides figuring prominently in its business. In practically all of the South American States cattle-breeding has proved less successful than usual this year, the demand for both frozen meat and dried hides having fallen away—probably but temporarily. Another considerable Paraguayan export is the yerba maté, which grows in that favoured land as nowhere else in the world. Even there, however, depression prevails, the shipments of the herb having shrunk very heavily. Exports to the State's chief market, North America, have dwindled from a value of \$1,623,813 in 1920 to \$980,357 in 1921, while the whole of the country's trade with its northern neighbour shows a decline from \$3,058,296 to \$2,188,148 over the same period. Recognising that the economic future of the Republic lies largely in its meat-producing trade, the Government are paying special attention to this form of industry, and are passing legislation covering the free entry of machinery, equipment, and supplies for buildings.

and organisation of additional plants. Moreover, there is to be granted total exemption from export taxes on products, and by-products of these industries, as well as from shipping, navigation, port and dock taxes existing now or in the future, with the one exception of the freight-handling charge on Government wharves. Certain laws will have to be recognised by foreign interests coming into the country, such as keeping their accounts in the National language, which is Spanish, and possessing a legal domicile in the Republic.

CHILE.—While the electrification of the Chilean State Railways is expected to bring about considerable economies in the operating of the lines, commencing with that between Valparaiso and Santiago, optimism does not apparently extend to the belief that these costly undertakings can be made to pay their way. Each succeeding year sees the deficit steadily augmenting, while local critics unhesitatingly pronounce the whole administration of the State Railways to be "scandalously inefficient." It would seem that the idea mooted was to sell out the whole of the systems to a British syndicate, upon much about the same lines as the arrangement entered into with the Peruvian Corporation in January, 1890, the agreement with that company being originally for a long term of years. In the case of Chile, it was proposed to form a company under British auspices, with a capital of £10,000,000, which should take over the railways on lease and grant a loan to Chile of £4,000,000 or £5,000,000 for the purpose of purchasing railway equipment, the greater part of which would naturally have been bought in the United Kingdom. Subsequently negotiations ensued for the supply of a large amount of British railway material for the Chilean State lines against the issue of Chilean Government bonds. It is now just one year since these proposals were discussed, and it was hoped that an arrangement could be arrived at. The Chilean Senate passed a Bill authorising the President to contract a loan of £7,775,000 gold, or its equivalent, to bear interest at the rate of 8 per cent., the whole of the amount to be devoted to the railways. Negotiations went on simultaneously with bankers in London and New York, and in February of this year the Minister of Finance said that if the money were raised it would be repaid with a fund created by the setting aside of 15 per cent. of the gross revenues of the railways involved. A week or so ago it was announced that the Chilean Minister at Washington had accepted a proposal made by a New York banking house to grant a loan for 25,000,000 pesos gold, of 18d (equals £1,875,000) and \$10,000,000 (U.S.) (equals £2,000,000 at par), while the contract for the electrification of the railways would be awarded to Messrs The Westinghouse Electric International Company, at a cost of \$10,000,000. The bonds of \$100 bearing interest at 8 per cent. have been offered in New York by Messrs Blair and Co. at 99, the amount being \$9,500,000.

Business Notes.

Export Credit Figures.—In a written answer in Tuesday's "Hansard" Sir P. Lloyd-Greame gave the following details of the credits already granted under the export credit scheme:—

Countries in Respect of which Credits Have Been Granted.	Advances and Guarantees Sanctioned. £.
Finland	19,354
Baltic Provinces	101,250
Poland	120,246
Czecho-Slovakia	774,445
Yugo-Slavia	280,806
Rumania	1,575,630
Austria	105,656
Bulgaria	55,380
Hungary	354
Portugal	311,100
New Zealand	617
Australia	8,150
Cyprus	470
	3,353,458

It will be seen that of advances granted and sanctioned to date Rumania and Czecho-Slovakia account for more than two-thirds. The classes of goods for the export of which credits have been granted are also set out in Sir P. Lloyd-Greame's answer. The principal items are cotton goods and manufactures £769,966, woollen goods and manufactures £735,875, flax £730,000, coal £339,025, iron and steel and manufactures thereof £270,334.

Coal Output.—The production of coal from the mines of Great Britain in the week ended October 15th amounted to 4,237,600 tons, as compared with 4,287,900 tons in the previous week. The weekly output since the end of the dispute has been as follows:—

Week ended—	Tons.	Week ended—	Tons.
July 9th	2,352,700	September 3rd	4,141,900
July 16th	3,935,200	September 10th	3,939,800
July 23rd	4,334,200	September 17th	4,161,700
July 30th	4,592,500	September 24th	4,273,100
August 6th	3,623,200	October 1st	4,118,200
August 13th	4,536,600	October 8th	4,287,900
August 20th	4,327,800	October 15th	4,237,600
August 27th	4,101,700		

In the week ended October 16, 1920, output was recorded at 4,611,600 tons.

The Finances of Egypt.—During the war the annual reports on Egypt, which were a feature of the administration of Lord Cromer and his immediate successors, were discontinued, to be resumed last year by Lord Allenby. That for 1920 has now been published,* and may be read in conjunction with the note of the Acting Financial Adviser, Mr E. M. Dowson. Following the model stereotyped by Lord Cromer, the present report starts with a useful political and general summary, in which the opportunity is taken of resuming the relations between Great Britain and Egypt. Then follow chapters on finance and other Government activities, and the book concludes with a similar report by Sir Lee Stack on conditions in the Soudan. During the war the Government of Egypt and certain classes in the country made huge profits, which have been estimated at over 150 millions sterling, or 70 per cent. more than the Egyptian national debt. The irony of the situation, however, is that the Government has not been in a position to tax private profits except indirectly, and only to such an extent as enabled it to balance the increased expenditure due to the increased cost of materials and services. The Financial Adviser gives a table to show that the expenditure (including loss on investments) during the seven years 1914 to 1920 has exceeded revenue by two million pounds. In that period Egypt met 99 per cent. of her expenditure out of revenue. "Thanks to the armed protection accorded to Egypt by the Allies and her own co-operation therewith.....Egypt emerges from the most destructive war in the world's history with a slight adverse balance on the operation of her public finances, several years' arrears in upkeep of public works, negligently increased taxation, and considerably increased national wealth." The year under review, however, has been one of severe trial to her administrators. Egypt's external trade depends as to over 90 per cent. on the cotton plant. Not unnaturally, therefore, when cotton rose from 57 dollars a kantar (of 99 lbs) in September, 1919, to 187 dollars in February, 1920, and declined to 20 dollars by February of this year, commerce and public finance suffered severe perturbations. The estimates for 1920-21 provided for a revenue—very nearly realised—of 40½ millions of pounds, and an expenditure as follows:—

	£.
Recurring	32,616,920
New works, &c.	5,654,080
Loss on purchase and distribution of food, &c.	2,000,000

But the Government found itself forced, by the want of food for the large towns and the supposed necessity of safeguarding the fuel supply, to enter the market as heavy purchasers of flour and coal. The slump in prices found them large holders of these commodities, which had to be realised at losses of close on 9 millions and 6½ millions

* Report by His Majesty's High Commissioner on the Finances, Administration, and Condition of Egypt and the Soudan for the Year 1920 (Cmd. 1487).

respectively, with the result that total expenditure at 53 millions has exceeded revenue by some 13 millions. The reserve fund at the end of March, 1920, stood at 16 millions, and after meeting the above deficit, at 3 millions by the end of March, 1921. The revenue for the year 1921-22 is estimated at £36,701,000, and the expenditure at £38,682,000, leaving a deficit of £1,981,000 to be made good by a further draft on the reserve. Even this result has been obtained only by a most drastic reduction in expenditure. The authorities are thus seen to be alive to the needs of the situation, but they will require all their courage and resource, for the latest accounts of the cotton crop place it at a figure lower than any since 1890. This is bound to react disadvantageously on Government finances. But, as the Financial Adviser remarks, with the approval of Lord Allenby, the financial position is fundamentally healthy, and with prudence the threatening danger will be averted. A satisfactory feature is the importance that is being attached to scientific research on practical questions. The report of the Governor-General of the Soudan tells of a quiet, uneventful, progressive and prosperous year. The results of the year's working, compared with previous years, are, in thousands of Egyptian pounds:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
1917	2,195	1,902
1918	2,775	2,336
1919	2,993	2,721
1920	4,392	3,532

The Budget for 1921 is estimated to balance at £3,500,000, and a useful reserve fund of over one million sterling has been accumulated.

Payment of Bets by Cheque.—The decision of the House of Lords in the case of Briggs v. Sutters is important to all who indulge in betting transactions, and is interesting to bankers. It will be remembered that some time ago the Court of Appeal in the case of Dey v. Mayo decided that where a cheque is drawn by the loser of a bet in favour of the winner, and the winner pays the cheque into his bank, who collect for him in the ordinary course, the loser may then sue the winner for the amount of the cheque, unless he knows that the winner's bank is collecting merely as agent for the winner, and not as a holder for value, or a holder in due course. The basis of this decision was that Section 2 of the Gaming Act, 1835, gave the loser a right to sue as stated whenever he had paid the money to the "holder" of the cheque. The Court of Appeal said that "holder" meant anyone in lawful possession of the cheque except (a) the payee himself, and (b) a mere agent for the payee, known to be such. These two exceptions must, they thought, be made, because at common law a loser who has paid cash can never recover from the winner, and they assumed that the Parliament of 1835 had no intention of altering that state of affairs, but merely intended to protect holders for value and losers who had paid to such holders. The House of Lords have now decided that these exceptions are wrong; they point out that as a matter of history, in 1835 a loser who paid cash could recover from the winner; it was not until 1845 that his right to do so was abolished. The result of the case is, therefore, that whether the cheque is to bearer or order, whether crossed or not, and whether collected by the payee or his bank, the drawer of the cheque can sue for the return of his money as soon as he has paid the cheque. Unless Parliament intervenes actions by and against bookmakers in respect of their transactions during the past six years are likely to be numerous, and their position is an unenviable one. The decision also affects other species of gaming—e.g., at card games. No bookmaker can now accept a cheque safely; on the other hand, the acceptance of cash may lead to a prosecution under the Betting Houses Act. Altogether the position is an absurd one. Two logical courses seem open to Parliament. Either to make all betting a penal offence, wherever and whenever transacted, or pass an up-to-date Act repealing all the existing gaming acts, and safeguarding the position of those who bet within certain definite limits.

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.
Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.
Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.
Undertake
FOREIGN BANKING
transactions of every description.
Correspondents in all parts of the world.
COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

American Cotton Crop.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—Early this week the Census Bureau of the United States Government published its third report on the amount of raw cotton ginned this season, particulars being given up to October 18th. The amount stated was 5,477,000 bales, against 5,755,000 bales a year ago, 4,929,104 bales in 1919, and 6,811,000 bales in 1918. The figures were not quite so large as expected, and on the report being published prices advanced in Liverpool and New York. It has been contended by authorities throughout this season that the crop has been marketed very quickly, and that henceforward the ginning returns will be very small. At the beginning of this month the Government estimated the crop, according to the condition reports issued, at about 6,500,000 bales, exclusive of linters. In trade circles it is now believed that the output will be quite 8,000,000 bales. During the last week or two there has been more difficulty in maintaining the recent rise in values. It is evident all the bad news relating to supplies has now been circulated, and things cannot get worse. A great deal now depends upon the trade demand as to whether current rates will be maintained.

Rubber and Its Outlook.—An audience of between five and six hundred people, including ladies, gathered at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Wednesday morning, to hear the programme of the Rubber Shareholders' Association, as unfolded by Mr D. F. L. Zorn, a member of the Stock Exchange. The Stock Exchange was well represented; Mincing Lane also sent a strong contingent. The chairman made an admirably lucid speech, which was followed with keen attention, and in the subsequent discussion various minor points were cleared up. The programme includes the formation of a rubber manufacturing company; the provision of propaganda funds, firstly of money and secondly of rubber; restriction of output and forward sales, and a Council of various interests for reviewing rubber matters from time to time. These various proposals were carefully discussed, and the meeting dispersed with the feeling that, at last, something definite is likely to be done for the assistance of the sorely tried rubber industry. Now that the excitement aroused by the meeting is over, the association will settle down to work which is bound to be onerous, a good deal of it difficult, and all of it upheld. The trouble will be to steer between extremes. There are some theorists who advocate a doctrine of the survival of the fittest, but this will not commend itself to thousands of shareholders in companies that cannot be put into the front rank. On the other hand, numbers of the weaker brethren are in need of more money, and reorganisation in times like these, when cash is hard to obtain, savours of a counsel of despair. It will take time and money to get the industry settled once more on its legs. The most promising item in the programme is the first, viz., the formation of a manufacturing concern which shall be able to push the sale of rubber, for all kinds of purposes, into industrial circles that at present are innocent of the produce. The rubber-producing companies are asked to contribute the necessary money on an acreage basis. Here is a plan which carries with it the elements of a businesslike proposition. Of course, it will take time, probably a long time, to establish a factory, or warehouse, as a nucleus from which there shall radiate information and interest

in regard to rubber-made goods. Business experience would seem to be vital to this essential part of the scheme. There are other industries that will strongly object to being jostled by rubber competition with their products, and the association will have a hard time in popularising its goods unless it is fortunate enough to secure the services of exceptional men. That such can be found there need be little doubt. The mere fact of there being a body of something like 50,000 people interested in rubber shares is in itself a firm foundation upon which to work for the spreading of the rubber trade. The shareholder, for instance, is likely to look kindly upon the suggestion that he should use rubber floorcloth if this could be offered him at a price, and with a guarantee of durability, that would compare favourably with the present linoleum. All such progress, however, must of necessity be slow. Rubber shareholders will have to make up their minds to a period of transition before they can expect any definite return to prosperity. It may be fairly assumed, however, that share values have got down to levels at which proprietors are not likely to want to liquidate their holdings unless for special purposes. The meeting of last Wednesday may mark that turning point in the flatness of rubber shares which it has seemed from time to time would never be reached. While only a confirmed optimist would look for any immediate improvement in prices, or in the condition of the rubber industry, it is not unreasonable to see in the present state of affairs a gleam of brighter hope for the future than has been apparent for many months past.

Liquor Control Profits.—A White Paper (Cmd. 1493, price 1d) on the Acquisition and Direct Control of Licensed Premises contains a statement of assets and liabilities as at March 31, 1921, and a profit and loss account for the year ending on that date. The trading profits of the year amounted to £149,709, as compared with £203,299 in the previous 12 months. These figures are arrived at "after meeting all ordinary recurrent charges, depreciation of plant, furnishing utensils and stocks, and writing off the cost of improvements not estimated to add to the realisable value of the properties." From trading profits are deducted sums of £764 for depreciation of leasehold properties, £884 for preliminary expenses incidental to acquisition, £7,361 for London office expenses, and £1,879 in respect of various insurance payments. The actual net return on capital is £138,820. The charge for interest on Exchequer and other balances absorbs £32,321, leaving £106,499 accruing, as result of the year's operations, to the Exchequer towards the replacement of capital cost. Up to March 31, 1921, the aggregate amount accruing to the Exchequer since the commencement of the control undertakings is £541,835, or rather more than 40 per cent. of the capital employed. The White Paper concludes:—The present statement is the last for which the Central Control Board (Liquor Traffic) will be responsible, as under the terms of the Licensing Act, 1921, the existence of the Board is terminated. The Act, however, safeguards the public interests represented in the four State management undertakings by providing that, until Parliament otherwise determines, the Secretary of State and the Secretary for Scotland respectively may continue the schemes of State management instituted by the Board, and by transferring to and vesting in these new authorities the property at present vested in the Board or their trustees.

The Sea Fisheries.—The quantity of wet fish landed by British fishing vessels at the ports of England and Wales in September was 1,036,703 cwts, which, though 330,000 cwts below September last year, is the highest monthly total so far this year. The recovery made from the effects of the coal strike, with its severe limitation of bunkers, is shown by the fact that the August and September landings were each roughly 50 per cent. better than July. For the three months July-September, the third quarter of the year, the landings of wet fish aggregated 2,654,362 cwts, and had an estimated value of £3,544,207, giving an average of 26s 8d per cwt against 29s in the corresponding quarter of last year.

tember the average was only 24s 1½d, compared with 38s 1d per cwt in June during the period of scarcity and high costs of running the trawlers. The comparison of the quarter's average with a year ago, when all costs were very high, shows that prices have been fairly well maintained, and that with a 50 per cent. reduction in wages and bunkers, trawl-fishing has again reached an economic basis, and is, generally speaking, a profitable proposition for those vessels in commission. During the quarter landings by foreign fishing vessels, a marked feature during the dislocation caused by the coal stoppage, have dropped to the average of the first quarter, the September total being only 14,614 cwts. The quantity brought to port by British vessels in the nine months January-September is a long way behind a year ago—viz., 6,809,670 cwts, against 8,694,947 cwts, a decline of 1,885,277 cwts; the value being £12,221,559 (including shell fish, £409,423), against £15,168,132 (including shell fish, £441,683), a decrease of £2,946,573. Approximately half the wet fish was landed at Hull and Grimsby. Undoubtedly more fish would be caught and brought to market were it possible to dispose of it, and this can only be accomplished, and employment given to hundreds of fishing trawlers now idle, by an improvement in the means of distribution. To this end efforts are being made to induce the railway companies to restore pre-war facilities, which consisted, in the main, of special express fish trains, and the payment of carriage forward. At present fish is sent by passenger train at unnecessarily high rates, while enterprise is further stifled by the companies insisting on payment of their charges in advance. Much interest has been manifested at the Humber ports in Danish motor-boats fishing with seine nets. These boats formerly landed their catches at German ports, but find it more advantageous to come to Hull and Grimsby, the exchange, among other things, being in their favour. Their operating costs are small, and they have been commercially successful where larger boats have not. It has been suggested that they will ultimately supersede the big trawlers, but this is seriously doubted by Hull owners, who point out that they are "fine weather" vessels, and totally unsuited to the Icelandic and White Sea fisheries, and equally incapable of withstanding the heavy weather which the steam trawler encounters in the North Sea at certain seasons of the year.

Fifty Years of British Life Assurance.—Our insurance contemporary, the *Review*, has issued for 1921 its Life Chart, which shows graphically the development in the premium income of life offices during the 50 years, 1871-1920. Fifty years, a brief moment in the world's history, though a large slice out of a man's life, has witnessed a very great change in that branch of insurance business which is at once the most necessary and the most directly human. What our ancestors did without it we find it difficult to imagine. They rebuilt London after the Great Fire—there was then no fire insurance—out of the savings in their stockings. But when a young man dies untimely, his stockinged hoard must be lean; there is small provision for widow or children in them. In its development the most necessary branch of insurance has strangely been the slowest. In 1871 there were 62 companies doing ordinary life business, and the largest premium income enjoyed by any one of them was £536,899. In 1920, in spite of amalgamations, there were 86 offices, among which the largest premium income (ordinary) of any office was the Prudential's £8,800,748. It was not until 1890 that any life office collected annually a million pounds in premiums, and 10 years later there were no more than two—the Prudential and the Scottish Widows. In 1910 there were five "millionaire" life offices, and in 1920 no less than 13 sharing between them a premium income of over 25½ millions. The biggest 13 offices in 1871 had collective premiums of £3,833,132. We see, therefore, from this rough summary that the expansion in life business has been much greater during the last 10 years than in the previous decade, and greater during the first 10 years of the twentieth century than in the course of the last 30 years of the nineteenth. Of late, the growth in life assurance and in premium incomes has been accelerated by the falling off in the value of money; the future of most of us calls for a larger provision in depreciated currency than in pre-war sterling.

The Situation in Portugal.—The revolution of last week in Lisbon is the outcome of the impatience of the Democratic party, and of sections more or less outside party politics, at the failure of successive Ministries to fulfil their promises of decreasing the cost of living, and of producing a Budget made to balance by drastic retrenchment, especially in the Civil Service, and an adequate increase of taxation on the rich. For two years there has been no Budget; the latest available forecasts of the deficit for the current year vary from nearly six millions sterling to more than seven millions, taking the escudo at the current rate of exchange, and the population is only about seven millions. The External Debt, apart from the war debt to Great Britain of £18 millions, exceeds £36,287,000; the Internal Debt in June, 1920, at the present rate of exchange was £26 millions; the floating debt, on the same basis, nearly £16 millions. Since then the floating debt has been largely increased, and attempts were recently made to obtain a loan in London. Some months ago there were rumours of a loan from Belgian banks, but they were said to be under Monarchist influence, and a contract was all but concluded with an agent of certain American financiers, but the then Government rejected it because it stipulated that the proceeds should be spent entirely in the United States. Doubts were popularly entertained of the good faith of the emissary, and it was even rumoured that the whole transaction was a manoeuvre of speculators in exchange. The cost of living, formerly low, is now stated to be the highest in Western Europe; the late Ministry, having only a bare majority in the Parliament elected last summer, accepted the support of a reactionary group, rewarding it by Civil Service appointments, and, it is alleged, by illegally favouring the Disestablished Church. The efforts of the Granjo Ministry at financial reform were checked, like those of its predecessors, by obscure intrigues, and its chief declined to "be a Dictator." Revolutionary movements had been kept down for some weeks, but on October 20th a portion of the Army and Navy forced President d'Almeida to dismiss the Ministry, four of whom were murdered. The troops held in readiness to suppress the rising joined it, and the new Government, headed by Colonel Coelho, was accepted by the President and the people without further bloodshed. It contains several ex-Ministers, it is supported by Labour, it denounces the murders, and has arrested Senhor Granjo's murderers; it claims to be outside party, and promises to succeed in the task in which its predecessors have failed. The great cities and the rural districts are quiet, and the despatch of a British and a French cruiser to Lisbon secures foreign residents against danger. The outlook is very uncertain, but the revolution has had little effect, either in London or Paris, on the quotations of the External Debt. Under the arrangement of 1902 it is secured as to about eleven-twelfths on Customs duties, the remainder on the tobacco monopoly, so that its holders have no immediate cause for alarm.

The Anglo-Dutch Year.—It is pleasant to turn from the almost monotonous list of rubber company trading losses to what are under the circumstances decidedly satisfactory accounts of the Anglo-Dutch Plantations of Java, Limited, for the year ended December 31, 1920. In the table given below we set out the profits available for distribution and dividends paid during the past four years, together with the amount of issued share capital:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Share capital	£ 1,163,216	£ 1,286,780	£ 1,286,780	£ 1,930,170
Net profit	81,615	89,317	215,350	147,186
Brought forward	48,483	71,937	58,311	48,475
Available for distribution	130,098	161,254	273,661	195,661
Paid in dividends	58,167	102,943	225,187	144,763
Rate per cent.	5	8	17½	10 on old shares 2½ on new shs. 50,898
Carried forward	71,937	58,311	48,475	

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3
Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits ... 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.

On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

The capital reserve, which stood at £1,448,675, has been drawn upon during the year, £643,390 having been capitalised and issued as bonus shares. Thus the capital reserve account now stands at £792,232, while investments at cost on the other side are given as £1,303,991. Details of these investments are further supplemented by the interesting information that "the value of these investments at middle market price on the date of the balance-sheet was £1,306,375." The rubber crop amounted to 2,559,004 lbs, as compared with 2,105,195 lbs in 1919, and 1,389,332 lbs in 1918. Records of the tea crop show that 2,083,831 lbs were obtained in 1920, against 2,322,301 lbs in 1919, and 1,862,123 lbs in 1918. Cost price of rubber f.o.b. Batavia works out at 1s 0.039d per lb for 1920, an advance on the figure for 1919, which amounted to 10½d per lb, while selling price is given as 1s 6½d per lb for 1920, as compared with 1s 8d for the previous year.

Copestake, Crampton, and Co.—The report and accounts for the year ended June 30th last of Copestake, Crampton and Co., Limited, warehousemen and lace manufacturers, of London and elsewhere, have just been issued, and reveal a total trading loss of £73,776. In presenting the accounts to shareholders, "the directors wish to express their regret and disappointment that the trading should have resulted in a loss," the reason for which is mainly ascribed to "the unprecedented fall in values." The report continues:—"Under the agreement for sale to the company, the company have claimed from the vendor a proportion of the loss in respect of the period from July 1st to October 12, 1920." This sum amounted to £21,126, and has been paid by the vendor. Net losses for the year are in the circumstances reduced to £52,651. In the prospectus which was issued as recently as last October, past profits, before charging excess profits duty, were stated to be as follows:—

Year ended June 30, 1917	£ 116,974
" " 1918	279,671
" " 1919	234,006
" " 1920	299,853

In commenting upon the prospectus at the time of issue, we pointed out that "the property and plant is taken over at independent valuations, but these are presumably valued on the basis of to-day's abnormal costs.....Stock values are at the high peak of prices. The big profits of the past few years cannot be regarded as normal figures."

The first ordinary meeting of the present session of the Institute of Actuaries will take place on Monday next, 31st instant, at 5 p.m., at the Hall of the Institute, Staple Inn. Mr E. H. Lever will submit a paper entitled "An Investigation into the mortality experienced by life tenants under reversions, with some conclusions drawn therefrom."

THE 168th session of the Royal Society of Arts will be opened on Wednesday, November 2nd, at 8 p.m., when Mr Alan A. Campbell Swinton, F.R.S., chairman of the Council, will deliver an experimental address on "Wireless Telegraphy."

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—RAILROAD SITUATION— FURTHER WAGE REDUCTION PROPOSED— FREIGHT RATES—STEEL CORPORATION'S UN- FILLED TONNAGE — GOVERNMENT CROP REPORT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, October 14.

DEVELOPMENTS this week seem to foreshadow reductions in railroad rates, but whether or not the downward revision will be general remains to be seen. One thing, however, is certain: according to competent authorities, no extensive lowering of rates can or will be made unless at the same time measures are agreed upon which will assure a corresponding reduction in operating expenses, especially wages. There is a marked unanimity of opinion that lower rates would help to revive trade and industry, and relieve the unemployment situation, which has become so serious in this country. Railroad officials themselves recognise that, notwithstanding a heavy loss in traffic, economic readjustment necessitates a reduction in railroad rates. The chief obstacles to such a reduction, as one official points out, are that the carriers are powerless to reduce wages, and to change working conditions imposed on them by the Government, which are responsible for the continued high cost of operation; and that the decrease of 25 per cent. or more in traffic compared with 1920 has greatly depleted their revenues. The situation confronting the railroads is well summarised by the head of one of the biggest systems when he says that their property investment (fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission at \$18,000,000,000 for rate-making purposes), "lies largely unproductive, because the industries, the farms and citizens remain unemployed, or are working for only part of the time, or only part of their plants. New capital expenditures for road, equipment, and improvements are at a minimum; maintenance expenditures have been reduced through severe retrenchments, which recognise safety alone in making repairs to road-bed, cars or stations; and employees have been reduced in number since last Fall about 600,000, or over 25 per cent. We likewise see that dividends have been reduced, and in some cases suspended, so that hundreds of thousands of our citizens, and the institutions of saving, learning, charity, insurance, &c., which are dependent on the dividends derived from railroad stocks, have had to share in the business depression." This has resulted, he points out, from a loss of traffic which has brought many Eastern railroads down to the figures of 1912, and which, combined with heavy wages and taxes, shows a return of only about 3 per cent. per annum earned in the last 12 months on the amount invested in the property, notwithstanding the mandate of the Transportation Act, which entitles the carriers to rates that would produce a return of up to 6 per cent. While the railroads showed net operating income of about \$90,000,000 for August, as against a deficit of some \$155,000,000 in the corresponding month of last year, that result was accomplished chiefly through a drastic curtailment of maintenance and other operating costs—a policy that cannot be continued indefinitely if the lines are to be kept in proper condition, and adequate transportation facilities are to be provided.

At their Chicago conference to-day railway executives of the United States proposed an immediate further reduction in wages of all railroad employees, with a similar lowering of freight rates at the same time. It is understood that a petition will be filed with the Railroad Labour Board requesting that wages of all train service employees be reduced sufficiently to eliminate all the increases granted by the Labour Board in July, 1920—which would mean a further reduction of approximately 10 per cent.—and that the wages of all other classes of railroad labour be cut to "the going rate for such labour in the several territories where the carriers operate." The official statement, issued after the conference, declares that, with the approval of the Commerce

Commission, the benefit of such wage reduction will be passed on to the public in the reduction of existing rates. Railroad managements are not disposed to try any more experiments. For that reason they have refused to lower freight rates in the hope or expectation that perhaps increased traffic will protect them from the loss incident to such a reduction. In short, they are not in a position to take any such risk. Just what course the labour unions will now take is, at the moment, uncertain. It is also impossible to foresee what will be the effect of the railroads' move for a further reduction of wages, especially in view of the fact that about 80 per cent. of the union employees have already, through a referendum vote, authorised a strike rather than accept the 12½ per cent. reduction which became effective on July 1st of this year, that reduction having been authorised by the Labour Board. Thus far that strike vote has not been taken very seriously—probably because of the large number of men who are idle, and who could be called on to fill the places of strikers. It is conceivable, however, that the latest developments may precipitate a more or less general walk-out, unless Government authorities can effect a satisfactory readjustment of wages. The situation is complicated and rendered more acute by this week's decision of the Labour Board authorising the railroads to open negotiations with the unions for the restoration of piecework, which has been prohibited by one of the rules of the shop crafts' national agreement entered into under the former Railroad Administration. That decision is very gratifying to railroad managements, but is unsatisfactory to union shopmen, who have strenuously opposed a return to piecework.

Much importance is attached to the United States Steel Corporation's report, showing an increase of 28,744 tons in unfilled orders during September. The total amounted to 4,560,670 tons on September 30th, as against 4,531,926 tons on August 31st, and the increase is the first gain in bookings reported since July, 1920. In many quarters it is felt that the improvement indicated marked a definite turn for the better in the steel industry. Another development which promises to have far-reaching effect in relieving the unemployment situation is the action of the Steel Corporation in authorising its subsidiaries to expend \$10,000,000 for extensions, improvements, and repairs to the various manufacturing plants. This will provide work for thousands of idle men. If other large corporations follow the lead of the Steel Corporation, as seems likely, the number of unemployed will be greatly reduced in the near future.

The latest Government crop returns make a generally unfavourable exhibit. Every important crop, with the exception of beans and buckwheat, is smaller than a year ago, although it should be noted that 1920 was a bumper year. Compared with last year's harvests, corn shows a decrease of 2 per cent., wheat 5.8 per cent., oats 2.9 per cent., barley 19 per cent., all cereals 10 per cent., hay 13 per cent., potatoes 20 per cent., apples 54 per cent., tobacco 34 per cent., cotton 51 per cent., and peanuts 11 per cent. As a well-known authority remarks, "such a unanimity of reduction in yields from the preceding year has rarely been witnessed before in the country's history." Reduced areas and unfavourable weather conditions are given as the reasons for the lower yields. The smaller production, furthermore, is not offset by higher prices; statistics of farm prices as of October 1st show that white potatoes and apples are the only products that are commanding higher values per unit than a year ago.

FRANCE.—REVISED ESTIMATES—INCIDENCE OF TAXATION—LOTTERY BONDS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, October 25.

It may be taken as a promising indication that M. Briand's recent speech in the Chamber, in which he replied to some of the more pessimistic of the numerous interpellations that have been dealt with during the initial sittings of the reassembled Chambers, has acted as a

tonic to the country. The Premier stated plainly that there is now no fear of any possibility of aggressive action on the part of Germany, and that her disarmament, as a matter of proved fact, is really proceeding satisfactorily. These two statements have had the effect of removing much of the very real nervousness that has been felt throughout France since the Armistice, and of giving rise to more confidence in the future than has perhaps been felt by the mass of the French nation since the war ended. Another helpful passage of the Premier's speech was the stress he laid on the benefit that may be expected to accrue to France from the Franco-German agreement recently concluded between M. Loucheur and Dr Walther Rathenau, with which I dealt recently. It is to be noted that much of the antagonism to such a policy that was originally felt by French manufacturers has already disappeared, and that the belief is growing here that the Wiesbaden agreement may eventually be found to constitute the real corner-stone of the reconstitution of not only the devastated area, but also of France as a whole.

The conflict that has been in progress between the Finance Commission of the Chamber and M. Paul Doumer, the Minister of Finance, in regard to the Budget proposals for 1922 has now been settled, and there seems to be a likelihood that the Budget Bill for the coming financial year will now receive the approval of the Finance Commission, and will come before the Chamber in the near future. M. Doumer's Budget proposals, it will be remembered, left a deficit between revenue and expenditure of 2,500,000,000, which the Minister proposed should be met by doubling the tax on turnover. The Finance Commission, on the other hand, insisted that not only should there be no increase in taxation, but that the whole of the departmental estimates should be drastically cut down, to the extent required to get rid of the estimated deficit. As the result of much strenuous work, M. Doumer to-day presented revised estimates to the Commission, the net effect of which has been to reduce the estimated deficit to 1,200,000,000, or less than one-half the original figure. Most of this modification, however, as will be seen, has been achieved not so much by reducing projected expenditure as by increasing existing taxation. M. Doumer's new Estimates show a direct reduction of departmental expenditure amounting to 151,000,000 (including "cuts" of 107,000,000 in the Army Estimates and 25,000,000 in those of the Ministry of Health).

The bulk of M. Doumer's efforts, however, have been devoted to increasing the estimated yield from income-tax and other sources. He estimates that, by suppressing the existing right of income-tax payers to deduct from their current year's income the amount paid in income-tax in the previous year, he will be able to extract another 200,000,000 from that source, while he proposes to obtain another 191,000,000 by increasing the duties on crude oils, by readjusting Customs duties and by creating a right of control over raw materials entering the country. He proposes to obtain a further 377,000,000 as the result of modifications of other existing taxes, and, as the outcome of a new valuation of the probable yield from the tax on war profits, he now anticipates 500,000,000 more than he had previously estimated from that source. The net deficit of 1,200,000,000, which he estimates will remain after allowing for all this reduced expenditure and additional revenue, the Minister proposes shall be met by increasing the tax on turnover from 1.1 per cent. to 1.60 per cent. As an alternative, in the event of this proposal not finding favour with the Finance Commission, he proposes that a balance shall be brought about by extracting from the Estimates those items arising directly from the war and meeting them by a special loan, instead of out of current revenue.

A careful examination made by M. François Latour, Rapporteur of the Budget for the Department of the Seine as to the relative incidence of taxation for that Department for the rest of France, in so far as taxation on

income is concerned, brings out, according to the Rapporteur, the very striking fact that the Department of the Seine bears under this heading one half of the taxation of the country. The figures that he quotes are as follows:—

	1920.	
	Department of Seine.	Total for France.
	Francs.	Francs.
General tax	513,444,000	740,391,000
Tax on industrial and commercial profits..	208,158,000	456,926,000
Tax on agricultural profits.....	327,000	9,144,000
Tax on wages and salaries	47,203,000	86,411,000
Tax on non-commercial professions.....	5,890,000	13,992,000
Total	775,022,000	1,306,864,000

He argues from this analysis that the incidence of this direct taxation on income is grossly unfair, and draws attention to the uneasiness that he states is felt among the ranks of the agricultural class that is most highly privileged, and he quotes a communiqué recently issued by the National Confederation of Agricultural Associations to the effect that "the present delegates were unanimous in drawing attention to the grave danger of statistics and figures which, for the most part, are incomplete, and the interpretation of which is difficult and often gives rise to very serious error." The communiqué goes on to point out that many of the newly-voted agricultural taxes have been impossible to collect for the reason that it has only been materially practicable to issue the necessary papers to a few of those who should have been taxed. The Finance Ministry are fully aware of the unsatisfactory situation, and a memorandum has been submitted to the President of the Republic in which it is hoped to take special steps to make the recovery of the new taxes possible. The Minister argues notably that watertight compartment between departments must be suppressed.

The subscription lists for the six million new Six per Cent. 500 francs lottery bonds of the Crédit National were opened yesterday. This, it will be remembered, amounts to three milliards of francs, the bonds being issued free from all present and future taxation, both as regards interest, prizes and lottery drawings. The advantages thus offered are of obvious importance in view particularly of the present financial uncertainty that prevails. From the standpoint of negotiation the Crédit National bonds, which may be almost regarded as State funds, have also the advantage that they are easily realisable. The bonds carry two special lottery "prizes" of 500,000 francs each per annum, while the other prizes are distributed equally among the six blocks of a million 500 franc shares. By this means there is one lottery prize a year for every 833 bonds of 500 francs. The special condition that has hitherto never prevailed to this extent has already resulted in a very ready response on the part of French thrift. It may be added that the total to be distributed in prizes each year, apart from the two special lots of 500,000 francs, amounts to 13 million francs. The price of issue is 498f 50c, and the bonds are redeemable, at the latest, in 15 years.

The Bourse has not shown any great signs of brilliance, and it was only towards the end of the week that there were some sign of slight improvement. It is conceivable that this improvement may persist for some slight period, because the amount of speculation at the moment has been so greatly reduced that there is little reason to fear any violent liquidations. Furthermore, in view of the persistent dropping during the last week there have been several cases of advance sellings that will involve fresh purchases. Moreover, as has been repeatedly pointed out in the *Situation Economique et Financière* and elsewhere, money will be tight for some considerable time owing to the numerous issues of fresh capital. The French Three per Cents. mark a slight decline at 55.60, as against 55.70. Banks, after dropping earlier in the week, returned to figures approaching their former level, the Banque de Paris being typical in falling from 1320 to 1285, to finish at 1299. Railways have been irregular and weak, P.L.M. dropping from 755 to 750, Nord from 842 to 831, and Midi from 715 to 705. Shipping has been depressed, Chargeurs Réunis losing 10 points at 525, and Messageries 5 points at 211.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	566,142,667	566,463,556	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,112,634,667	1,099,827,230	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	37,405,813,170	37,611,632,500	5,670,178,090
Interest on securities.....	63,819,701	55,619,594	27,501,526
Bank notes to order.....	1,110,157	1,019,918	3,426,404
Treasury account.....	29,993,392	46,141,332	333,025,328
Current accounts, banks.....	1,631,433,230	1,470,307,712	453,044,016
Do branch banks.....	912,924,782	915,883,704	80,103,230
Dividends payable.....	4,972,260	5,108,210	2,345,473
Discounts and sundries.....	73,353,048	70,352,203	24,000,569
Re-discounts.....	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries.....	1,052,534,939	1,035,940,745	223,936,840
Total.....	43,126,036,307	43,148,589,015	7,048,143,791
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand.....	5,801,761,120	5,801,290,958	4,104,278,339
Balances abroad.....	618,023,310	619,723,913	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	1,076,681	3,418,720	85,982
Discounts in Paris.....	1,352,373,950	1,344,125,489	497,664,343
Foreign bills.....	5,978,758	6,374,461	17,206,082
Treasury bills.....	52,118	51,177	125,343
Discounts in branches.....	1,042,894,971	974,919,449	970,821,765
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches.....	67,025,298	67,376,178	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	..
Do on public securities.....	418,470,898	412,020,439	191,505,559
Do by branch banks.....	1,814,171,003	1,831,160,129	534,206,754
Advances to State (ordinary).....	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war).....	25,300,000,000	25,400,000,000	45,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,097,000,000	4,094,000,000	..
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Renties indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	47,247,537	47,247,537	43,457,572
Expenses and management.....	27,321,501	27,321,501	7,817,702
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,391
Sundries.....	2,095,023,517	2,080,587,044	254,410,350
Total.....	43,126,036,307	43,148,589,015	7,048,143,791

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount.....	5%
Advances on bullion.....	2%
Advances on public securities.....	6%

GERMANY.—CABINET CRISIS—EXCHANGE MEASURES—BOURSE—"CATASTROPHE BOOM"—FOREIGN TRADE—COAL.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, October 24.

THE Cabinet crisis is likely to be solved before this appears. The attempt, begun before the Upper Silesian decision, to create a Cabinet on a broader party basis than that of the last Coalition, seems to have failed owing to the refusal of the German People's Party to agree to negotiation with Poland as required by the Entente Note. The attitude of the Centre, Dr Wirth's own party, without which the return of the old Coalition, and probably the formation of a different Coalition, is impossible, is not yet clear. The Cabinet resignation in the form which it has taken seems unnecessary. The form and motives of the resignation threatened between the May ultimatum's acceptance and the Silesian decision were radically different from the present resignation. In May Dr Wirth not only promised to do his best to fulfil the ultimatum terms, but also declared his belief in fulfilment, on condition that industrial Upper Silesia was kept; if any material part of the industrial district was lost he would resign. The implication was that a resignation for such reasons would be accompanied by a declaration that he no longer felt able to execute the Reparations agreement. This declaration has not come, and although (whether Dr Wirth returns as Chancellor or another politician takes his place) a formal protest will certainly be made against the Silesia decision, it is not clear that the official attitude to Reparations will be formally changed. The present question at issue between parties is merely negotiations or no negotiations with Poland.

The question of regulation of foreign exchange dealings is again to the fore. Freedom to purchase or sell exchange was restored in September, 1919, and a rapid fall in the

mark followed, and did not terminate until February, 1920. This first great fall was ascribed mainly to legitimate purchasing of foreign currency by importers who had until then been rationed; but as import of food and materials on a great scale had to come, it is not clear that the exchange fall could have been prevented. The experience of other countries has in general been that the withdrawal of freedom to deal in currencies has not prevented exchange declines, and some countries have relaxed, others entirely abolished, restrictions. A new restricting Bill, not yet officially published, but in the newspapers, provides that purchase and sale of currency and coupons by non-merchants must be carried on through banks, which must report such deals to the Taxation authorities. This Bill is opposed by business men as injurious to trade, and by non-business men on the ground of unfair differentiation. In present conditions "legitimate" export and import trade is primarily an exchange speculation, and if the Bill becomes law the merchant could freely enrich himself by exchange deals in guise of trade deals, while the non-merchant could only do so under difficulties. The Foreign Trade Boards of the wood, chemicals, coarse pottery, railway car, salt, and some other exporting branches have decided only to licence exports that are invoiced in foreign currencies. This system was last year partially enforced with little success; then, as now, it was enforced when the mark was at a very low point. After very rapid falls, a recovery usually comes, and the recovery of March-May, 1920, led to numerous bankruptcies because business men failed to sell their foreign currency bills for the expected quantity of marks. That official bodies should compel business men to follow (in principle) the amateur stock gamblers' rule of buying at the top is one of numerous instances of the confusion prevailing on questions of exchange.

The Bourse last week continued very active, and prices rose almost all round, this despite the fact that the foreign exchanges at the end of the week were much lower than at the beginning, when the top point was reached. This does not mean that the Bourse has emancipated itself from the exchanges, but only that the public, which has hitherto bought stocks when the mark exchange was actually falling, is now buying them in expectation of a further fall, which would bring a further stock rise. The stock quotations index (*Frankfurter Zeitung's*), therefore, on a week which saw a mark recovery had the big rise of from 27,096 to 30,569 (lowest of 1921, 13,493 on March 5th; figure of January 2, 1920, 9,141). The Bourse week has now only three days, of which the middle one is not a full Bourse day, as on it are officially quoted only the "variable papers," which include most active stocks. The 17th witnessed considerable buying by foreigners, the foreign purchases extending for the first time for weeks to bonds, so that the favourite Federal 3 per cents. had a sharp rise. Owing to the eagerness of the public to acquire solid security for their depreciating marks, stocks have been driven far above their dividend value; stocks paying 25 or 30 per cent. sell at 1,000, 2,000 or more. While in general it is the "liquidation value" of a company's assets that attracts, the highest stock prices are brought by expected "Bezugsrechte"—right to acquire shares in new capital issues on favourable terms. These issues must take place in increasing numbers, because of the increasing disparity between turnovers and capital. Commodity prices are now 20-fold up, and where production and the ratio of profit are the same as before the war, a company's profits would be 20 times as great as before the war. As average company capitalisation has only about doubled (for all companies, from 14 to about 29 milliards), the average profit ought to be about tenfold up. Though higher taxes and the larger share taken by Labour (according to Privy Councillor Deutsch from 76.7 per cent. of the sum of wages, taxes, and profits in 1908-17 to 84.9 per cent. in 1919-20) prevent such high rise, the conditions mentioned sufficiently explain the present high dividend percentages, usually varying between 20 to 40, and occasionally rising to 60 and even more.

Last week Silesian stocks were irregular, Kattowitz, Laurahuetten, and Hohenlohe having small drops, and Oberdorf, Caro, and Bismarckhuetten having large gains.

Potash stocks were also undecided. Shipping stocks, which gained much in the former week, kept their gains. Petroleum stocks rose by as much as 600 per cent., and western heavy industry papers by as much as about 250 per cent.; iron and steel papers by 500 per cent., and some textiles and metal stocks by over 1,000 per cent. To-day, without any new exchange influence, there was a fresh wild buying movement.

The "Catastrophe Boom" in business is continuing. The home public, buying goods for the same reason for which it buys stocks, and helped by foreigners, has almost cleared out the retail houses; shopkeepers ration the remnants among claimants, refuse to quote prices for new orders until the limits of the price-rise can be seen, and often refuse to take orders at all. The buying by foreigners for export has taken great dimensions, and it means a heavy loss to Germany as a whole (though not to the individual trader), as measures nominally in force since December, 1919, to prevent "Deutschlands Ausverkauf" are not effective. So while Germany still pays the full world-market price for imports, part of her production is passing abroad at a fraction of the world-market value. A plainer *reductio ad absurdum* of the growing foreign belief in the commercial efficacy of a low exchange could not be devised. These conditions would involve a passive foreign payment balance even if the world-market value of exports equalled the world-market value of imports. The foreign trade report for July in comparison with that for June is:—

Imports.....	19,249,400 double centners, value 7,580 million paper marks.
Exports.....	15,581,837 " " " 6,208 " "
Imports.....	18,235,783 " " " 6,409 " "
Exports.....	15,089,919 " " " 5,433 " "

Details for July are:—

(Millions of Paper Marks.)

	Imports.		Exports.	
	June.	July.	June.	July.
Agricultural products.....	4,582	5,508	420	396
Mineral and fossil raw materials.....	505	533	266	311
Chemicals.....	109	103	384	502
Textiles.....	854	860	666	894
Leather and goods thereof.....	57	111	194	243
Rubber goods.....	3	5	46	56
Wood and wood products.....	10	8	149	158
Paper and paper products.....	3	6	224	235
Stone ware.....	2	3	39	42
Pottery.....	3	5	112	111
Glass.....	12	14	144	150
Base metals and wares thereof (including iron).....	224	379	1,242	1,421
Machines, vehicles.....	13	12	1,192	1,312
Firearms, clocks, toys, &c.....	11	8	205	220

A slight improvement appears in Ruhr coal production. The output in 26 working days of September was 7,853,871 tons, daily average 302,072 tons, against 8,068,065 tons in 27 days, average 298,817 tons, in August. Output is still behind that of February, the last month of extra half-shifts, which produced 8,174,606 tons in 24 days, average 340,609 tons, and materially behind that of September, 1913, with output of 9,696,397 tons in 26 days, average 372,938 tons. The number of miners and other employees is 550,052.

CANADA.—CROP CONDITIONS—BUSINESS CONDITIONS—FEDERAL REVENUE—FIRST SURPLUS ON NATIONAL RAILWAYS—THE GENERAL ELECTION—THE TARIFF ISSUE—BANK NEWS—UNEMPLOYMENT—UNITED STATES FISCAL POLICY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, October 12.

The value of the western wheat crop has been seriously diminished by the continuance of the inclement weather, which interrupted threshing operations at the middle of September. The weather continued damp, there was no wind or sun to dry the land and grain, and in many districts the latter blackened in the fields. The quality

and value of a large quantity of grain has been reduced, and as prices have been falling the returns which will accrue to the western farmer from the 1921 crop will be much less than was expected a month ago. However, its disposal is putting money in circulation, and as the farmers have to make their winter purchases, business is enjoying a welcome fillip. The northern area of Saskatchewan has enjoyed a bumper crop, and as it has fared better in the matter of weather than adjacent regions, extensive orders are coming into the cities from its merchants. On the whole, there is a brisk western demand for groceries, drygoods, and hardware, and as wholesalers are unloading their stocks, they are able to place new orders with manufacturers. Toronto wholesalers report a good demand for boots and shoes, and clothing of all kinds. In the Maritime provinces, where the harvest has been poor, and the fishing industry is labouring under difficulties, retail trade is only fair, and wholesale trade is reported light. Some manufacturing firms are finding sufficient orders to permit resumption of operations on a larger scale. The stock markets, however, remain depressed and unsettled, and any slight improvement that is recorded is almost immediately followed by a setback. The new plan of collecting the income-tax at an early date in the year puts an artificial glow upon the Federal financial statement for September. It sounds admirable that the current revenue should show a gain of more than 4½ million dollars over the returns for September, 1920, and that the net National debt, which now stands at \$2,332,668,903, should register a decrease of 12 million dollars during the month. The explanation, however, lies in the fact that while income-tax in September, 1920, only yielded \$103,770, this year it was made to yield \$8,272,803. Yet a large part of this increase was swallowed up by a decline in customs returns from \$13,973,207 to \$8,418,185. There was a slight fall in excise returns, and inland revenue sank from \$8,565,953 to \$6,268,195. Ordinary expenditure has been cut during the month from 21 to 17 million dollars, and in the extraordinary account 7 million dollars less was spent on soldiers' settlement schemes. During the first six months of the fiscal year, which expired September 30th, the revenue only declined from \$219,905,211 (the 1920 figure) to \$210,001,046, but as the income-tax returns in the second half will be comparatively small, the final figures on March 31st are likely to bear a worse aspect.

At last a faint ray of comfort has come to the Government from the National Railway system. For the first time since their co-ordination into a unified system the State railways, in which the Grand Trunk proper is not yet included for statistical purposes, showed in the month of August not net profits, a distant dream, but a surplus of gross earnings over operating expenses. The actual figures are as follows:—

Gross earnings.....	\$10,536,461
Working expenses.....	10,489,230
Surplus.....	47,231

In view of the election, the Governmental Press are making the most of this unexpected result, but there is an explanation which decidedly lessens its value. By a strange turn of fortune the depreciation of the Canadian dollar in New York, which embarrasses Canadian traders and travellers, is proving a godsend to the Canadian railways. American exporters in the North-western area of the U.S. have discovered that they can effect large savings by shipping their produce to seaboard, and importing goods via the Canadian routes, and as a result the Canadian railways are reaping a rich harvest from traffic of American origin in a year when domestic trade is very poor.

With Parliament dissolved on October 4th, and the date of the polling fixed for December 6th, the general election is now in full swing, and all the parties are engaged in active political operations. The Premier and Mr Mackenzie King have both been campaigning in the Maritime provinces, and Mr Crerar has been speaking in the West. Mr Meighen, both in his election manifesto and his speeches, has made plain his intention of making the

election a single-track contest upon the tariff issue.

The Progressives insist that the Canadian National Railways must be kept in the hands of the State, and the system given a fair trial under a reformed management. On the other, Mr R. Lemieux, an influential politician, and other French-Canadian Liberals, have come out flatfooted in favour of Lord Shaughnessy's plan for a partnership between the Government and the C.P.R. The Liberal party as a whole is hostile to public ownership, and it is noticeable that the *Montreal Star*, a Conservative paper which has persistently opposed the State system, and often speaks the mind of the financial interests of Montreal, is maintaining a strict neutrality during the campaign.

The bank statement for August shows a reduction in current loans of \$10,000,000 for the month, and a total contraction of nearly 200 million dollars in commercial loans since the peak of inflation was reached in September, 1920. Assets are now \$300,000,000 less than a year ago. In the past year circulation has been reduced about 44 million dollars, and demand and foreign deposits have fallen by 113 and 85 millions respectively. The decrease of 15 million dollars in saving deposits during August is the result of the industrial depression and unemployment, but savings deposits are still 18 million dollars higher than a year ago. The Government of Ontario has now decided to follow the example of Manitoba and enter the banking business on a limited scale in connection with its agricultural credits scheme. It will open sub-Treasury branches, which will accept deposits from the public at 4 per cent. Authority for this step was secured last session, but the Government has no intention of embarking on a general banking business. The deposits will be used primarily for financing short and long-term loans for agricultural development, but any deposits not required for this purpose can be invested in provincial or Dominion bonds or school debentures. Six offices will be opened in the immediate future.

The unemployment situation is still anxious, and immigrants have been coming into the country in large numbers all summer. As soon as the harvest is over the workless contingents in the towns and cities will be swelled by discharged harvesters. The Federal Governments are proceeding with new public works at some points, and are offering to share part of the expense of others with provincial and municipal authorities.

Fiscal legislation at Washington affects Canada's fortunes so seriously that it is being carefully watched. The Emergency Tariff which shut out so many Canadian products expires on November 27th, and meanwhile there is little prospect of an immediate passage of the Fordney Bill which was to take its place. Canadians are hopeful that sufficient opposition will develop within the Republican party to prevent its enactment in its present form, and would experience great relief if it was dropped. On the basis of the trade returns for 1920-21 the Fordney Bill set up duties on \$172,417,955 worth of products which were on the free list on the Reciprocity Agreement of 1911. The latest news is that there is a prospect of the emergency tariff being extended till February.

POLAND.—THE FINANCIAL REFORM BILL—CAPITAL LEVY—POLISH BANKS—LEASE OF THE FORESTS OF BIALOVIESHA—EXCHANGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, October 20.

Two days after his inaugural speech, Mr Michalski put before the Diet a Financial Reform Bill, which has already passed the first reading. The Bill contains the following stipulations:—(1) The Cabinet is authorised to abolish all civil and military departments which are causing too heavy expenditure; (2) the Cabinet's decisions, which entail payments by the Treasury, or monetary obligations for the State, cannot be put into execution without the consent of the Minister of Finance; (3) the Minister of Finance is authorised to lease all Government undertakings to foreign or home concerns. Only a lease of the State railways and of factories working directly

for the defence of the country cannot be effected without the consent of the Diet. (4) The Act of December 18, 1919, relating to the eight-hours day is modified. An increase of the working hours from eight to ten is left to the free discretion of employers and employees; (5) the forced loan prepared by Mr Michalski's predecessors is to be replaced by a capital levy; (6) the penalties for the export of foreign currencies, and of Polish marks without a licence, are increased to five years' imprisonment, and the fines to 10 million marks; (7) the Minister of Finance is authorised to conclude at home and abroad agreements which are intended to put the currency on a firm basis.

Some measures in the direction of the realisation of this programme have been already taken. Official motor-cars have disappeared, with a few exceptions, from the streets; the Polish Embassy in Athens has been abolished, and so on. Mr Michalski's Capital Levy Bill is now being discussed by the Financial Committee of the Diet. The assessment to the capital levy will be made according to the following plan:—The ground tax in agricultural districts will be increased in the former Congress Poland 300 times, in the former Austrian Poland 350 times, and in the former Prussian Poland 750 times. The proprietors of houses in the towns will pay a capital levy varying from 20 to 100 times the amount paid as property tax in 1920, according to the different districts. The taxes from industrial and commercial undertakings will be multiplied 20 to 70 times. Joint stock companies will pay a levy of 15 per cent. on their whole capital. Buildings, machines, &c., acquired before 1920 will be assessed not according to their original price, but their value will be multiplied from five to twenty times. Tenants in the towns will pay twice the rent for 1921. Proprietors of motor-cars contribute to the levy one million marks for motor-cars of more than 15 h.p., and 750,000 for smaller cars.

The characteristic feature of Mr Michalski's plan consists in the fact that the assessment is based on what the Minister has called "external appearances." This is certainly a very primitive method, but experience has shown that the country is not yet ripe for a more complicated system. A second innovation of Mr Michalski's plan is the co-operation of local authorities in the collection of the levy. The financial authorities are fixing the amount of the levy paid by the proprietors of rural holdings and estates not individually, but for the whole village. The parish is responsible with its whole property for the collection of the tax which is distributed among the individual members. For covering the expenses the parish receives 2 per cent. of the collected amount. The levy from the tenants in the municipal districts is gathered equally by the local authorities, who keep 25 per cent. for their own use.

According to the report of the Polish Union of Banks, 18 new credit institutions, with a capital of 436 million marks, have been created in 1920. Actually the banks are distributed as follows:—

	Number of Banks.	Branches.	Subscribed Capital. Million Polish Marks.	Reserve.
Former Russian Poland	29	116	998.5	373.3
" Prussian Poland	13	50	552.5	240.6
" Austrian Poland	13	42	483.6	94.1
Total	55	208	2,034.6	708.0

Of the 208 branches 30 are situated abroad. There is a marked tendency among the greater banks to open branches in the United States, Holland, France, and Belgium.

The Government intends to lease the forests of Bialoviesha to a foreign concern. The Ministry of Finance, which is conducting the negotiations, has received, according to the *Kurjer Polski*, three offers from an English, a Dutch-Swedish, and a German group belonging to the Stinnes concern. The former Minister of Food, Mr Grodriecki, has left Warsaw for London, with the object of bringing the negotiations to an end. In the case of a conclusion of the agreement, the Polish Government would receive, according to the reports of the Press, an advance of one million English pounds. The forests of Bialoviesha occupy an area of 90,000 hectares. The

Laro, and Bismarck

quantity of timber in this district is estimated at 34 million cubic metres.

The foreign exchanges continue to move spasmodically, as shown by the figures below:—

	English £.	American Dollars	French Francs.	German Marks.	Austrian Kroner.
October 11th	19,400	5,100	365	42.00	172.50
" 13th	15,500	3,850	300	31.00	..
" 15th	17,000	4,400	335	33.00	184.00
" 18th	16,000	4,250	300	22.50	..

A pronounced downwards tendency of the exchanges is noticeable. Since the end of last month the English pound has declined 10,000 points, the American dollar by 2,550 points. The German mark has lost more than 50 per cent. of its value. This rise of the Polish mark, accompanied by the announcement of the capital levy, had a very depressing influence on the quotations of all securities. Industrial and mining shares have declined by 25 per cent., and it is generally believed that the movement will continue in this downwards direction. The quotations of banking securities alone have been maintained.

SWEDEN.—NEW CABINET'S PROPOSALS—FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL CONDITIONS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, October 17.

SINCE my last report the country has received its second Socialist cabinet, consisting of most of the members which sat in the earlier Socialist Government. It is generally considered that the portfolio of finance is in good hands with M. Thorson back in charge, and it will no doubt require his energy and skill to bring the ship of State back to its bearings again. The first measure of the new Government was to announce its programme, the main features of which will be no increase in import duties, no encouragement of fresh inflation, temporary protection against abnormal foreign competition, probable measures to improve the sale of Swedish products in foreign markets, particularly Eastern Europe. The announcement says further that proposals are expected shortly from the committees which during the previous Socialist régime were entrusted with the investigation of the socialisation problem, industrial democracy, and control over the trusts, and that a lively discussion will no doubt follow on these proposals. For the third time during the intense depression the State Bank has lowered the discount rate to 5½ per cent., and the private banks are following suit. Practically all interest in business is centred on the exchanges. The German Reichsmark is going down at a terrific pace, and has lost all support. The general idea is that it will go down to the level of Austrian crowns or even Polish marks. To-day it changed hands in the open market at 2.35, or perhaps even lower in some instances. No doubt the new position in Upper Silesia will be indirectly felt in Sweden. Sweden has for years been an important supplier of iron ores to the Upper Silesian works. This industry is stopped for the moment, miners are idle, and shipping berths empty. Other foreign exchanges have all gone in the opposite direction. Meantime, commerce between Germany and abroad is severely hampered. The German works, as soon as the exchange moves adversely, stop the execution of all orders and raise prices. This is done from one day to another, often three or four times, and is the reason why so many Swedish firms refuse to deal with Germany. There was an improvement in foreign trade during August last, there being an export surplus of almost 10 million kroner. Particularly conspicuous are timber and paper, whereas machinery and other manufactured articles are insignificant. On the whole there is no improvement in industry, and will not be so until the new agreements have been settled after the new year. It is feared that the coming winter will be the hardest one experienced. In the North the woodcutters will be out of employment, as the yards are crowded with stocks of timber sufficient for another season at least. The Swedish sugar trust has decided to lower its dividend to 6 per cent. The production of sugar is expected this year

to exceed the home consumption by 70,000 tons, but hopes for cheaper sugar seem likely to be disappointed. The benefit will go to the beetroot growers who by State agreement are entitled to fixed prices for their products.

JUGO-SLAVIA.—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL LOANS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BELGRADE, October 12.

THE rates of foreign exchange on the Belgrade Bourse have been rising continuously and rapidly during the past few months. On June 1st the cheque on London was 128, on July 1st 140, on August 1st 158, on September 1st 168, and on October 1st 215. The currencies of Western Europe—i.e., French francs, Swiss francs, and Italian lire—show a similar increase. The currencies of Central Europe, with the exception of the Czecho-Slovakian crown, are, on the contrary, decreasing in value. Thus the German mark fell in Belgrade from 53 on June 1st to 49 on October 1st, the Austrian crown from 5.57 to 2.49 dinars per 100 crowns for the same period. Here it is not thought that the dinar is falling in sympathy with the mark or the crown. The rise of the Czecho-Slovakian crown seems to prove that the currencies of Central Europe are not necessarily bound together, and that with an increase of national production and with a good financial policy it is possible to improve the value of a currency without considering depreciating currencies of neighbouring countries.

The fall of the dinar is due to a bad harvest, which does not give sufficient surplus for exportation. Many merchants had counted on a fall in the price of foreign currencies in the autumn in consequence of heavy exports. Their hopes have been sadly disappointed. Not only have actual exportations, now at their minimum, to cover present imports, but they have to cover also those previously effected in the spring and summer which were not paid for at the time. Jugo-Slavia is an agricultural country, and a good or bad harvest is a factor which decides the fluctuation of rates. Altogether, the fall of the dinar has caused a great unsettlement, and energetic measures are required to arrest this fall.

The first measure has been to control the sale of foreign cheques to stop speculation. After having allowed complete liberty in the month of August, the Government returned to restrictions on September 23rd. Only authorised banks may buy or sell cheques. Exporters of cereals, cattle (livestock), meat and grease, leather and skin, wood, dry or conserve fruits, and eggs, have to hand over to the Government one-third of the foreign money which they receive from the sale of their goods. The export of foreign money is prohibited except for travellers, who may take with them 3,000 French francs or that equivalent in other money. The purchase of foreign bills is allowed to importers without limit as to amount, but they must engage to import merchandise to the amount of the bills bought.

Another measure which has been considered in connection with improving the value of the dinar is an external loan. The Government has requested and obtained from the Deputy Chamber permission to commence negotiations. Proposals from certain foreign groups have already been received. It appears that the Minister of Finance himself will go to London to examine the possibilities of such a loan.

A third measure relates to the clearing up of the public finances. The projected Budget for 1922, in its original form, foreshadowed an expenditure of seven milliards of dinar, as against receipts of five milliards. Means are now looked for to make up this deficit so as to avoid borrowing further from the National Bank. Some relief has been found in the issue of the 7 per cent. interior loan of 500 millions. The subscription lists opened on September 1st, and will close October 15th. It has been announced that up to date 300 millions have been subscribed by the public. Several days remain which may sensibly increase this figure. In any case, the Syndicate of the Jugo-Slav Banks has undertaken to subscribe any unsubscribed balance. This loan will be employed for the construction of new railways and the improvement

of those already existing. Consequently this expenditure will not appear in the ordinary Budget. All these measures, when carried out, should improve the value of the dinar.

Letters to the Editor.

A NEW TAX SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Referring again to my recent paper on this subject, the arguments contained therein are not intended to be advanced on behalf of the rich landlord or the retired capitalist. They are put forward with the desire to assist in the restarting of industry, and thus on behalf of all those interested in industry. One of the co-operators in industry is capital, and without a free and continuous flow of capital for renewals and extensions industry cannot be maintained and increased. It is industry, and industry only, which provides employment.

For this reason I have suggested it is a fatal mistake to pull down and destroy the big incomes. The owner of capital which is earning, say, £50,000 a year pays, to-day, in British income-tax and super tax alone about £28,000. Ten or twelve years ago he paid about £2,800, or one-tenth of that amount. At that time the owner of this capital retained, therefore, about £25,000 more in his hands than he can retain now, and this £25,000 was almost certainly re-invested in industry; the reason being that capital is never idle. Nowadays, the £25,000 additional taxation upon this particular capital-earning goes into the Exchequer, and is used for Government expenditure of various kinds. Industry has lost the benefit of the money required for maintenance and extensions which would have been supplied by the re-investment of this large sum. And is not this being repeated in thousands of cases all over the country?

The true foundation of taxable capacity is undoubtedly production—the artificial supply of man's wants—that is to say, profit arising out of the co-operation of human effort and capital. Wherever production is found, it has some capacity for taxation without doing serious harm to our great industrial system. It has been suggested to me that a business with a revenue amounting to £10,000 a year might find its production total £8,000. A 10 per cent. tax would be £800, which might be hundreds a year more than is now payable on the annual profits and on the salaries of the staff. That might be so, but I think there is something wrong with that business.

Supposing the amount of £10,000 revenue is accounted for by materials and other expenses £2,000, wages £7,000, annual profits and the salaries of staff £1,000. If this represents the fair average results of the business, the present income-tax payable might amount to no more than a couple of hundred pounds. A 10 per cent. production tax, however, on the total of the wages, annual profits, and salaries of staff would be £800. But again I say that there must be something wrong with that business. It is not paying its shot. If it cannot contribute, in common with other sources of production, to the needs of the country an amount equal to 10 per cent. of the annual value arising out of the human effort and services of the capital engaged in the business, the business is not worth carrying on. The co-operators, if they cannot make it do better, should turn their attention to something more profitable.

I am assuming, of course, that all the co-operators in that business have given good and efficient service in return for their shares, whether these be in the form of wages, salaries, or profit to principal, and that the division of the production between them is on a fair basis. It is possible, no doubt, that the business may be badly organised, or run on uneconomic lines, and if the imposition of a 10 per cent. production tax should help to bring that fact to light, it would, in that respect, be in no way detrimental to the real interests of anyone connected with the concern.—Yours, &c.,

London, October 26th, 1921.

P. D. LEAKE,

REAL WAGES IN GERMANY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Mr Alfred Levinger's criticism of my figures (not my assertion), showing that (at the time my article was written, September 5th) German real wages were higher than before the war, is based on several confusions of principle.

The chief confusion is between the real wage and the real income, which later in Mr Levinger's letter appears as confusion between the real wage and the standard of living. Mr Levinger complains that while I gave figures from the *Frankfurter Zeitung* to show that the real wage had risen, I did not quote this newspaper's comment that one must not conclude that the income of workers had risen, the reasons being the reduction of working hours from about ten to eight, and the "stretching" of work which had become necessary in many industries.

These two factors do indeed diminish the real income and the standard of living, but not the real wage. The nominal wage in the indexes used is a time wage, and the real wage calculated therefrom must be a time wage. "Stretching" means rationing work in bad-trade times between a too-numerous working staff, so that employees work only part of the day, or on less than six days a week. This is partial unemployment, and it has nothing to do with the real wage, though it diminishes the nominal income, and, therefore, the real income, and thereby lowers the standard of living. Mr Levinger's personal observation that the standard of living has declined since 1914 may therefore be correct, if he observed families whose wage-earners were only partially employed.

Mr Levinger's other arguments are equally erroneous. He says that "it is difficult to understand how the Government's cost of living figure of 1045 for the end of July, 1921, against 100 in 1914, can be correct when the *Frankfurter Zeitung*'s figure of wholesale prices is 1685." Mr Levinger should know that in a time of rapidly rising prices, wholesale indexes always keep ahead of cost-of-living indexes. The best instance is that while the price of American cotton at Bremen rose from 17 marks a kilo in April to 87.40 marks on October 17th, the price of cotton yarn rose only from 85.90m to 118.123m (October 15th), and the price of cotton cloth from 6½-7m to 14½-15½m, while the price of cotton goods in Berlin retail houses has so far hardly risen at all. Coffee is an entirely imported product, governed (apart from minor world-market price movements) by the mark exchange. The mark exchange since the beginning of April has fallen from 62 to 167 to the dollar, and the price of coffee imported to-day would be nearly three times as high as in April. But the retail (cost-of-living) price of coffee has risen since April only from 23 to 28 marks. These figures sufficiently explain what ought not to need explanation.

Mr Levinger next provides his own cost of living index figure of 2130 in preference to the German Government's 1045. He does this without any statistical basis whatever, but on the basis of certain propositions, which he introduces with the word "Assuming." Surely he must know that indexes are not compiled in this way.

YOUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.

October 24th, 1921.

PAYMENT OF INDEMNITIES AND UNEMPLOYMENT

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Whether there is confusion of thought on Mr Leaf's part or on mine does not, I think, seriously affect the main point of difference between us on this matter of payment of indemnities, so it will be sufficient for your readers to judge between us for themselves.

Failing, as I still do, to see that the confusion is on my part, notwithstanding a real desire to understand Mr Leaf's position, it seems to me that the views of leading statesmen and leading organs in the Press quoted by him are thoroughly justified. I am glad that we are in agreement in hoping that our country will not ask the United States to cancel our debt, and as far as I can see at present, in the absence of agreement on the part of our creditors, we cannot refuse to pay our home debt.

That being so, Mr Leaf is no doubt already being taxed

to pay off the debt with interest, so that if he happens to hold any of the National Debt, he is helping to pay off the debt to himself. I feel that it is unfortunate for him and for myself too, as taxpayers, that it appears it will be necessary for us to bear the whole burden of repayment of the debt we owe without any assistance from the repayment of debt to us, but if I am right in my reasoning it will be the lesser of two evils, as long as the incidence of taxation is equitable according to the capacity of the individual to bear it. In that case it will be distributed over the whole nation, and those who do not pay out of accumulated wealth will have to do so by means of work.

As, on broad lines, the principle of a living wage is accepted, the result will be more or less remunerative employment for all willing to work, but no doubt also a reduced standard of comfort for all measured by the amount of the taxation, instead of unemployment for a large section of the community, and much lighter taxation for the remainder, because of the virtually free gifts of goods and services our debtors were being forced to send to us.

A working nation would be a strong nation, and that fact, coupled with the goodwill which would be the gradual outcome of growing and mutually advantageous trade with late enemies, would be the best guarantee for the world's future peace, whereas I am convinced that the payment of a substantial annual tribute by our defeated enemies would be a sure source of growing illwill towards us, containing, therefore, a standing menace of future war.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MARK B. F. MAJOR.

London, October 24th, 1921.

GERMANY'S EXPORT POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your Berlin correspondent takes exception to the remark made by Mr Burgess before the American Tariff Commission, viz., "it has been definitely stated that on all pottery sales the German manufacturer is required by his Government to add 150 per cent. to the price at which he would otherwise be willing to sell to the American buyer, and that the Government in turn levies a tax of 90 per cent. on this added 150 per cent."

That there is this 150 per cent. added on to all pottery sales for export is without question, as Mr Burgess's evidence was confirmed by other witnesses who are dealing with these matters in the everyday course of their business. The explanation may be this: German industries are now organised into Cartels, and these Cartels are grouped under the Economic Council at Berlin. It is conceivable that the "supplement" which your correspondent admits is imposed by the German Government to make up the difference between the home price and the price of foreign produced goods works out in the case of America at 150 per cent., and has been fixed at this figure by the Economic Council. That this is possible is borne out by facts within my knowledge. I sent a representative over to the last Leipzig Fair to find out the conditions ruling in Germany. This gentleman had been for over 30 years before the war an importer of German goods, and during that period had attended nearly every Leipzig Fair; consequently he was well acquainted with the German manufacturers. He reported that in the pottery trade German workers' wages were* ten times what they were pre-war, that the cost of living was not quite nine times—figures which agree closely with those given by your Berlin correspondent recently. He further stated that articles which he used to import pre-war in large quantities for three marks per dozen were then 75 marks, or 25 times as much. As wages had gone up only 10 times, it is fair to assume that the German manufacturer could have sold at a reasonable profit at 10 times his pre-war price, for wages form by far the greatest factor in the cost of production, and as land, buildings, machinery, plant, &c., would be at the pre-war figure, the German manufacturer, if he got ten times his pre-war price, would be doing quite well. That is to say, he

* April, 1921.

could have sold these articles, which cost 3 marks per dozen pre-war, at 30 marks, but the price he was asking was 75 marks, which happens to be exactly 150 per cent. over the price at which he might reasonably be supposed to be able to sell. The exchange then was about 240 marks, and at the price of 75 marks these goods could have been sold for about 6s in England, or double the pre-war price of 3s. Our costs in England have gone up about three times, so that a 3s article will now cost about 9s. The German manufacturer, therefore, was in a position, notwithstanding he was getting 25 times his pre-war price, to undersell us by 33½ per cent.

Mr Burgess gives various examples in his evidence which pretty well bear out the above. For instance, plates which were sold pre-war in Germany at 3.50 marks per dozen, for both home consumption and for export, and which are now sold for home consumption at 49.50 marks†, can, after adding this 150 per cent., and, in addition, duty and freight, be landed in America at \$2.88, whereas the closest selling price of a similar American product is \$3.90 per dozen.

So whether you call it a "supplement" or a "tax," it comes to the same thing—that there is an enormous margin brought about by the depreciated exchanges. Your correspondent denies that the Government taxes this. It may possibly be that the Budget shows no such tax specifically, but again I say it may be collected through the Economic Council at Berlin. At any rate, it is quite incredible to suppose that the German Government would allow the German manufacturers to pocket this enormous unearned increment on their total export sales, and Mr Burgess's statement that 90 per cent. of this goes to the Government (in some way or other) may well be correct.

Mr Burgess is a very able man, and was for many years the American Consul at Stoke-on-Trent. He has recently been engaged on an exhaustive report on the pottery trade in Japan for the American Government; he is therefore a man of authority, and is not likely to make a statement which is not substantially correct.

I would point out to your correspondent that it is not a question of what the 1920 Budget shows, nor even what the Budget 1921 may show, as complicated arrangements like the above necessarily take time before their full results are apparent. How big it is possible for this revenue to be may be gathered from the figures given by your correspondent, Germany's exports in 1920 totalling 69,524 million marks.—Yours faithfully,

T. B. JOHNSTON.

Fishponds, Bristol, October 24th, 1921.

OCEAN FREIGHTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I have read with interest the article contained in your issue of September 17th, entitled "Index Numbers of Shipping Freights," from which I quote the following: For example, "One sees at once reflected the strong position of the North Atlantic United Kingdom Conference."

It will interest you to know that the ocean rate of freight at present on our shipments of provisions to all United Kingdom ports is 75 cents per 100 pounds, whereas we can ship to practically every port from Bordeaux north to Christiania for 50 cents; in fact, a little while ago the Wilson-Ellerman Line offered to carry freight for us from New York to Christiania, via Hull, for 50 cents, while to Hull proper for 75 cents.

Of course, this may be a very good thing for the shipping companies, but is it desirable for the consuming public in the United Kingdom to pay a 50 per cent. higher rate of freight for their provisions than the people on the Continent?

Furthermore, if this state of affairs is to continue, will it not transfer the entrepot trade, for which London, Liverpool, and Hull have been noted for years, to Antwerp, Rotterdam, Hamburg, and Copenhagen, which, from a British standpoint, we should think was far from desirable?—Yours truly,

GEORGE MARPLES.

Chicago, October 6th, 1921.

† August, 1921.

GOVERNMENTS AND THE REVIVAL OF TRADE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your issue of October 22nd "a correspondent," under the title of "Governments and the Revival of Trade," criticises a letter that I wrote to the *Times* suggesting that a loan of £1,000,000,000 to the Dominions to enable the Empire to complete its main arterial transport system would solve to a large extent the present problem of unemployment. Your correspondent says:—"This is exactly what a Government cannot do. It cannot unwrite the history of centuries or pull trades up by their roots and bed them out in the soil of its own choice." Surely the war has unwritten the trade history of centuries and has washed away the soil from the roots of much of our pre-war trade. If those trades are to survive, clearly their roots must be quickly re-planted. He then proceeds to state that:—"The trade we did with Europe before the war amounted to nearly £200,000,000 per annum." This is of course true, but as the result of the war the whole of this trade has to be reconsidered. The purpose of exporting to Europe was, is, and always must be, to obtain in exchange an import more desirable to the country than its equivalent export. As the result of the war, either in form of reparations from enemy Powers or interest on loans to Allies, England is in a position to import from Europe—with the exception of Scandinavian timber and Barcelona nuts—everything desirable that Europe can produce in excess of its own consumption. What possible room, therefore, can there be left for any important export from England to Europe? To attempt to force such an export is merely an absurd attempt to pay again for something which we have already paid for. A very large proportion of the pre-war imports from Europe was in the form of goods competitive with British industry. All that portion of our European trade which was represented by an exchange of English manufactures for European manufactures could have been short-circuited and eliminated from the total—possibly with benefit to both parties. We have lost our importing power from America, which before the war arose from our position as America's creditor, and are now faced with the necessity of exporting to America without being able to call any equivalent import in exchange. These two fundamental changes in our international trade position force us to concentrate at once upon the utmost possible extension of our trade with Asia, South America, and especially the British Empire. Extension of trade with the British Empire is the easiest line, because the Empire has achieved by one clumsy method or another some semblance of parity of exchange. It has this special advantage that if, as the result of competition between one portion of the Empire and another—reinforced, probably, by protective tariff systems—a manufacturing function is transferred, say, from Lancashire to Sydney, the displaced Manchester operative can move to Sydney without reducing the man-power and economic strength of the Empire as a whole.

A vital feature of the present position is not—as your correspondent suggests—the question of our turning our back on Europe, but the obvious fact that Europe has turned its back on us—a common human phenomenon where the relation between debtor and creditor is concerned.—Yours faithfully,

EWART S. GROGAN.

52 Draycott place, S.W. 3, October 27th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

D. A. Thomas, Viscount Rhondda. By His Daughter and Others. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 21s net.

In this volume Viscountess Rhondda and her collaborators present us with an intimate study of one of the most interesting careers of our times—a career in which immense business success was strangely contrasted with political failure. Mr David Evans, in a chapter on the coal industry, says:—"The story of the business life of D. A. Thomas.....is during the quarter of a century that followed his return to Cardiff to all intents and

purposes the history of the South Wales Coalfield." His record as a coal owner, Mr Evans continues, "resumes the industrial development of the period; illustrates the movement of capitalism towards combination, as well as the struggles between Capital and Labour that marked the transition. To Labour in South Wales D. A. stood for capitalism as no other man did." This man of comprehensive views was raised by his personality and unflagging industry and determination to a position in which he bestrode the South Wales coal industry like a colossus. But in politics, though for many years he devoted the whole of his energies to Parliament and platform, he never attained any office until Mr Lloyd George appointed him Food Controller in 1917. Of his administration there Mr J. R. Clynes and Sir W. H. Beveridge contribute important chapters. Elsewhere we are reminded of his fundamental belief in a stout advocacy of Free Trade. The biography is not lacking in little human glimpses of the man. "Jevons on the Coal Trade," was his Bible, but "such novels as 'The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes'" strongly appealed to him. He "skimmed" over most of the daily newspapers and the weekly reviews, but regularly read the *Economist* through. "Lord Rhondda," his private secretary writes, "simply loved statistics, and would spend long hours in the night preparing figures for some scheme or other." Then in another glimpse, we find him devouring 12 oranges at a sitting, smoking 15 large cigars a day, and consuming nearly a whole bottle of port. That from this he suddenly changed into a non-smoker and complete teetotaler is typical of the amazing will power and virility that made him what he was. "He was the happiest man I have ever known," are his daughter's concluding words.

"The Accounts of the Corporation of London for the Year ending March 31, 1921." (London) Charles Skipper and East.

This is a volume of accounts consisting of 321 pages, rendered annually by the Chamberlain of London (Treasurer). It contains much information interesting to the student of municipal affairs. The City's cash account comprised in this volume is the 288th of the series extant. The accounts earlier than A.D. 1633 were believed to have been destroyed in the Fire of London, until the discovery among the Corporation Archives of two years' accounts of the time of Queen Elizabeth. There are many quaint things to be found in these accounts. Apart from any question of interest on the capital represented, or of expired capital outlay on the structure, the Monument proves to be an income-producing property; the fees received amount to about £1,600, and the annual expenses, including repairs, to £860. The City Green Yard, on the other hand, yields in fees only £56, while the expenses, including "forage," amount to nearly £500. By the way, what is the City Green Yard? "Examination of rats" is a necessary item of expense in connection with the Administration of the Port of London Public Health Act, 1891. But to pass to weightier matters, the aggregate balance-sheet shows that loans outstanding total upwards of £10,000,000, and sinking fund investments against these amount to £1,771,648. These investments are valued at cost. The question arises—is it desirable for public authorities to retain in hand sinking fund investments? A sounder plan is to apply the annual sinking fund instalments to reduce the loans, either by purchase of the loans in the open market or by repayment of drawn bonds.

"Aspetti Sociali ed Economici della Guerra Mondiale." Achille Loria. (Milano) Vallars. 1921.

In this little volume the distinguished Professor of Economics at Turin combines a Teutonic industry and learning with a Latin vigour and terseness. It covers the whole field: the causes of the war, its effects, present and future, on currency, production, commerce, distribution, population, religion, morals, and social structure, and predicts that after a sharp reaction Central Europe will be dominated by industrialists instead of as hitherto by the landed and banking interests, while the industrialism of Western Europe will be modified in favour of Labour. Of the mass of purely economic matter discussed the treatment is

excellent; with much of the rest most Englishmen will profoundly disagree. Like his German models, Signor Loria is obsessed with the bogey of British "Imperialism." He ascribes the war (and all other social changes) to purely economic causes; the rate of profit was declining, so the great European nations sought new colonies and markets, and their capitalists invested in armament firms, and all this led up to the explosion, the guilt of which rests primarily with the landlords and bankers of Central Europe. We note with satisfaction that Professor Loria's information on economic subjects comes largely from our own columns, but he sometimes (notably in the case of Fiume) misinterprets it amusingly. On colonial questions he writes like a German, and his hopes of the League of Nations are small. But his work is a learned and stimulating exposure of the folly and destructiveness of war.

"Consumers' Co-operative Societies." By Charles Gide. Translated from the French by the Staff of the Co-operative Reference Library, Dublin. (Manchester) The Co-operative Union, Limited. 1921. 7s 6d net.

Co-OPERATION in some of its forms has been prominent in the recent economic development of Ireland, and for these and others a great field is open in the new Dominion which we hope to see established. This excellent translation, therefore, comes appropriately from Dublin. It is the first version in English of the standard work on the most fully developed part of the co-operative movement, written by the leading authority on it, a Professor of the University of Paris, and the editor has brought it up to date by the modification at his suggestion of one chapter which in the original contains much matter interesting almost exclusively to French co-operators, and by the occasional addition of brief and illuminating notes. It covers the whole field of consumers' co-operation, from that elementary form of society which enables its members to obtain their groceries at reduced prices to the more comprehensive associations, chiefly found in England, which supply all the needs of their members, up to housing and insurance, and sometimes aim at controlling their raw material by the acquisition of land. Professor Gide gives interesting and impartial accounts of the sources of friction within the movement—among them the antithesis between the interests of the societies and their employees, that between the purely economic associations and those which, as in Belgium and Italy, are distinctly political, the French conflict between the distributing and the producing societies, and the question of the place of the movement in social reform. His views are moderate and his tone judicial, and his work is indispensable to all students of social science.

"Législation Ouvrière et Prévoyance Sociale en Suède." Official 1921. (Stockholm) Swedish Government Publication.

This full and valuable summary of Swedish social and labour legislation was published on the occasion of the Stockholm meeting of the International Labour Bureau in July last. A preliminary section describes the natural resources of the country and the condition of the workers. Industry of all kinds now employs some 600,000 persons, transport work some 80,000; but, thanks to the use of machinery, agriculture (dealt with in a separate work in English) has progressed greatly both in extent and in yield. Labour and insurance legislation (the latter with a special branch for fishermen) seem well advanced; the eight-hours days is in force with certain exemptions, and real wages are higher than in Great Britain and the United States. In social legislation it may be noted that each illegitimate child is under an "adviser," who sees that the father fulfils his obligations. The inefficient "Göteborg system" of controlling the sale of alcohol has been replaced everywhere by the "Stockholm system," the sales being restricted to companies whose dividend is limited to 5 per cent., the excess going to the State, and the local authorities appointing a majority of the directors. Off-licences are confined to these companies; on-licences may be leased by them annually to restaurants, but only a limited quantity may be supplied, and only with food. Even of port and sherry the allowance per person is only about a quarter of a pint, and of spirits half that amount. For a household the normal allowance is four

litres monthly, and it may be suspended in case of abuse. Considerable provision is made for the study of social science. The book deserves the attention of all students of sociology.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations. In two volumes, with an introduction by William Robert Scott. (London) G. Bell and Sons, Limited. 6s per volume.

Annual Report of the Controller of the Currency, 1920. Vols. 1 and 2. (Washington) Government Printing Office.

War and National Finance. By the Hon. R. H. Brand. (London) Edward Arnold and Co. 15s net.

D. A. Thomas, Viscount Rhondda. By his Daughter and Others. With Illustrations. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 21s net.

The Companies' Diary and Agenda Book. Edited by Herbert W. Jordan. (London) Jordan and Sons, Limited. 5s net.

The Free Trader. October, 1921. (London) The Free Trade Union, 69 Victoria street, London, S.W. 1. 3d.

Imperial Preference. Chronological Statement of the Progress of the Movement. Published for the Tariff Commission. (London) P. S. King and Son, Limited. 6d.

Annual Statistical Report of the American Iron and Steel Institute for 1920. (New York) American Iron and Steel Institute, 61 Broadway.

Internationale Mercantile Diary and Year-Book, 1922. (London) The Syren and Shipping, Limited, 93 Leadenhall street, E.C. 3. 7s 6d post free.

Bulletin of the Taylor Society. A Society to Promote the Science and the Art of Administration and of Management. June, 1921. (New York) Engineering Societies Building, 29 W. Thirty-Ninth street.

The Geology and Mineral Resources of the Serb-Croat-Slovene State. Being the Report of the Geologist attached to the British Economic Mission to Serbia. By D. A. Wray. (London) His Majesty's Stationery Office. 3s 6d net.

It is stated that this publication is the only work on the subject in the English language, and it is thought that it should prove of considerable value to mining engineers and institutions, as well as to manufacturers of mining machinery and equipment, and to all who are interested in the development of the resources of this new State.

La France. Revue de la Press Française. (London) Evans Brothers, Limited.

This new paper is published weekly and is designed for students of French.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Review. September 30, 1921. (Cape Town) Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.

Circular No. 76. (London) The British Bank of South America, Limited.

Bulletin Mensuel. Mi-October, 1921. (Bâle) Swiss Bank Corporation.

Monthly Market Review. September, 1921. (Constantinople) The National Bank of Turkey.

Foreign News. August-September, 1921. (Berlin) Bank für Handel und Industrie.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.
November 15.

ACCOUNT.
November 16.

VARIOUS reasons have conspired to infuse a rather firmer cheerful tone into the Stock Exchange markets this week. The easiness of money contributes to the steady investment in gilt-edged stocks. The capture of Karl removed a possible cause for fresh anxiety in Central Europe. The exchange position is not quite so bad as it was, and what is perhaps more important than anything else, the stream of forced selling, from all parts, has been turned off. There was a little discussion in advance as to the possibility of a fall in the Bank rate on Thursday last, but no reduction was anticipated. Markets were chilled by the Irish development, and gilt-edged stocks affected by the news that £20,000,000 Local Loans 3 per cent. stock was to be issued at 52.

National War Bonds have been in demand, and rose to prices which invited selling, with the result that a reaction from the

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

best occurred in the market. The War Loan became ex dividend on Wednesday morning, and the deduction of £2 10s from the price led to little nett change. The Stock Exchange Committee have given permission for dealings to take place in dollar bonds of the United Kingdom three-year 5½ per cent. convertible gold notes, due 1922, and ten-year convertible gold bonds due 1929. Amongst the scrip stocks, the feature is the way in which Union of South Africa has risen to 1½ premium.

Mexican Government bonds are flat, in consequence of the breakdown of negotiations between Mexico and the United States in regard to recognition of the former by the latter, provided that Mexico will sign the treaty insisted upon by the United States as a preliminary to such recognition. German Threes have been a better market, and from 2½ there was a rise to 3½ before the price gave way a little. Brazilians are heavy, and in other South Americans no particular changes occurred, the Chinese list being also unusually quiet. Norwegian Sixes have risen to go on the approach of the first coupon date. Scandinavians generally are higher, owing to purchases based on the rate of exchange.

The Home Railway market, after acute weakness, rallied in sympathy with the firm tone which became apparent throughout the markets on Thursday. Undergrounds gave way, on the new capital proposals. Grand Trunks have sagged, and Mexican Rails fell back in company with Mexican Government bonds. Heavy falls occurred in Brazilian rails by reason of the drop in the value of the milreis. Argentine railway stocks are heavy, in spite of this week's meetings, at which the chairmen spoke with caution, but held out hopes for the future. It is noteworthy that in this market the prior-charge stocks are steadily diminishing in price week by week.

The rubber market is quiet, and the meeting of the Rubber Shareholders' Association on Wednesday had no effect upon quotations, successful as it was from the point of view of arousing interest, amounting to something like enthusiasm. The oil market fluctuated a good deal, though within narrow limits. Discussion centres upon the question of what dividends the Shell and Mexican Eagle companies will declare at the end of this year. The textile market is firm, in consequence of the brighter trade prospects that open in the North. Shipping shares are not particularly good, the Royal Mail dividend reduction still being a factor of depression. A number of insurance shares are lower, the market explanation being that people are selling what they can, in order to raise money for living and taxation purposes. Shares in the various stores and hotels lean to the lower side. The banking market is quiescent, though the tone gives promise of slightly better prices were there to be any moderate amount of support on the part of the public. The iron, coal and steel list further declined, on the argument that companies must be doing very badly, considering how grave are the unemployment conditions, but armament shares are a little firmer, now that the orders for the new battleships are placed. There is nothing doing in brewery stocks. Electrical manufacturing shares are distinctly flat, but electricity supply issues keep firm, and the new County of London 7 per cent. debenture stock, which came out at 94, has risen to 5 premium.

The Kafir market is a shade better. Some of the quarterly reports to hand this week, notably that of the City Deep, showed satisfactory results, and caused a little bear covering. Diamonds also are firmer, although De Beers are subject to spasms of weakness, as rumour toys with the idea that the company may pass the next dividend on its preference shares. Mexican mining descriptions are out of favour, owing to other Mexican developments, and Broken Hills are hesitating, because the Proprietary company has passed its usual quarterly dividend. The tin groups are stagnant, while Russo-Asiatics have eased off a trifle.

The Stock Exchange will be closed on Tuesday next, for the usual November 1st holiday.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK—	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	£	£	£	£
220,901,754	£	£	£	£
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				£ 1,024,990
5½% 1929 receipts to October 15, 1921				57,875,000
Week to October 23rd				2,739,459
Receipts to date				60,614,459
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 23, 1921.				
April 1 to October 23, £2,880,000	£	£	£	£
350,000	350,000	350,000		

To the Public—				
Government of the Commonwealth of Australia, £5,000,000 6% Reg. Stk. (rep. at par 1931-41), issued at 96% (Oct. 24)	5,000,000	4,800,000	250,000	4,550,000
Pearson and Knowles Coal and Iron, £1,000,000 7½% First Mortgage Deb. Stock (red. at 102½%, 1926-51; repayable finally at par, 1951), issued at 97% (Oct. 26)	1,000,000	970,000	100,000	870,000
Exchange Cinema and Restaurant Co., 80,000 10% Cum. Ptg. Pref. £1. at par	80,000	80,000	10,000	70,000
Walton Vale Picture House Co. (Liverpool), Ltd., 16,500 Ord. Shares, £1. at par	16,500	16,500	4,125	12,375
Worsnop and Co., £20,000 7½% 7-year Notes (rep. at 102½ Aug. 1, 1928), iss. at par (Oct. 23)	20,000	20,000	5,000	15,000
Total offered to public		5,886,500	369,125	5,517,375
To Shareholders only—				
Union Bank of Australia, 100,000 New Shares, £15 (£5 paid up), issued at £9 per share	500,000	900,000	225,000	675,000
Westralian Mines Development Syndicate, 67,000 Shares, 2s. at par	6,700	6,700	1,675	5,025
Total offered to shareholders		906,700	226,675	680,025
Total offered for subscription to date				
In—				
1921	£230,784,413	1920	£367,549,656	
1920	321,875,125	1919	1,036,069,951	
1919	955,254,373	1918	1,393,381,441	
1918	1,138,129,516	1917	1,318,596,010	
1917	1,161,723,860	1916	585,436,850	
1916	471,583,231	1915	685,236,325	
1915	660,968,076	1914	512,522,633	
1914	173,383,840	1913	196,536,980	

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

Commonwealth of Australia 6 per Cent. Loan, 1931-1941.—Issue of £5,000,000 registered stock, at £96 per cent., repayable in London on March 1, 1941, the Government having the option of redemption after March 1, 1931, on giving three months' notice. The proceeds of the loan will be used to meet Treasury bills in London, and to meet reparation and other expenditure arising out of the war. The prospectus states that "Commonwealth of Australia debentures and stock issued and payable in London and the interest thereon, the property of persons not domiciled in Australia, are not, and will not, be subject to any taxes, duties, or levies in Australia." The stock will be registered and transferable in any amount by deed, free of stamp duty, at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, London. Interest is payable half-yearly on March 1st and September 1st, by dividend warrants. This is a trustee stock.

The Pearson and Knowles Coal and Iron Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £2,500,000, of which £1,608,500 has already been issued. This is an issue of £1,000,000 7½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at £97 per cent. The 7½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock will be secured by means of a trust deed, and the stock will constitute (a) a specific first mortgage upon the properties of the company; (b) a debenture creating a first charge upon the properties of Rylands Brothers, Limited, and a first floating charge upon its undertaking and assets; and (c) a first floating charge upon the whole of the undertaking and other assets of the company, including investments in its allied companies. The trust deed also provides that no other charge shall be created to rank in priority or *pari passu* with the

floating charge created in favour of the trustees, except for the purpose of securing bankers' advances made in the ordinary course of business. It is also provided that each year the company will pay to the trustees for the debenture stockholders a sum equal to 3 per cent. of the debenture stock now offered, which will be applied in the purchase of stock if obtainable below £102 10s per cent., or in redeeming stock by drawings at £102 10s per cent. Any stock not redeemed before January 15, 1951, will be paid off on that date at par. The company has the option to pay off stock outstanding on January 15, 1926, or any subsequent date, at six months' notice at £102 10s for every £100 stock. The company was registered as a limited company in 1874, but the history of its business dates back to 1846. It owns ironworks at Warrington and collieries at Lower Ince and Coppull, together with all the shares of Rylands Brothers, Limited, and of the Wigan Junction Colliery Company, Limited, the whole of the ordinary share capital of the Partington Steel and Iron Company, Limited, and £210,100 of the total issued capital of £218,600 of the Moss Hall Coal Company, Limited. Total assets available for the security of the issue are valued at £3,617,700, which sum includes £930,000, the estimated proceeds of the present issue. Land, buildings, and plant, however, only represent £853,655 of this amount, while the item "investments (mainly in allied companies)" is given as £522,408. The basis of valuation is not mentioned, whether at cost or market value. Trade and other liabilities of the Pearson and Knowles Company on June 30, 1921, amounted to £598,716. There are also contingent liabilities, an estimate of which does not appear. Profits are given from 1912, but these are shown in table form before "providing for depreciation, National taxation, and interest on borrowed money." This is a fair offer in its class, subject to the usual industrial risks.

The Union Bank of Australia, Limited, has issued 100,000 new shares of £15 each. The price of issue of the new shares is £9, of which £4 represents premium and £5 is in respect of capital, the remaining £10 per share being callable only in the event of and for the purpose of the bank being wound up. The new shares are offered at this price to those shareholders who were registered holders of shares in the bank on October 17, 1921, in the proportion of one new share for every five existing shares held. This appears to be a reasonable offer which shareholders should accept.

The Anglo-Burma Oil Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £500,000, divided into ordinary shares of 2s each. Up to the present 200,070 shares have been issued for cash, 1,000,000 to vendors as part payment for properties, 3,000,000 are now offered for sale at par, and 799,930 shares are to remain unissued for the present. In this "offer for sale" it is stated that the company was registered in 1910, and began business in 1921. It has acquired, through the purchase of the share capital of the New Indian Petroleum Company—a private company registered in India—certain oil rights on lands which "adjoin the properties of the Burmah Oil Company, Limited, and are near those of the British Burmah Petroleum Company, Limited, which are under operation." The intending investor must assume from the information given in this "offer" that these properties are undeveloped "well sites." He might also ask himself the question how it came about that the Burmah Oil and British Burmah Petroleum both failed to acquire rights over this neighbouring territory. Properties have also been acquired in Trinidad. The purchase price of the shares in the Indian company is £120,000, of which £60,000 is payable in cash and the balance in shares. It should be noticed, however, that some part of the assets of the company is subject to a mortgage of £35,000. The purchase price of the Trinidad properties is £121,000, of which £81,000 is payable in cash and the balance in shares. It is stated that after certain payments have been made "£137,000 for working capital" will remain, which appears to be a small amount for converting oil rights into profitable commercial propositions. It is pointed out that if the production of oil was an estimated figure at so much per barrel, "profit would be equivalent to £300,000 per annum." This, if realised, would be a handsome return on £500,000 of capital. It may be observed that the British Burmah Oil Company, on a share capital of £994,579, made a net profit of £330,310 for the year ended July 31, 1920. This, of course, was one of the boom years. The price paid by the present vendors of these 3,000,000 2s shares is 2s per share, plus a commission of "14 per cent. on the nominal amount of the shares subscribed," and they (the vendors) have entered into a number of underwriting contracts paying a commission of 5 per cent. and an over-riding commission of 2½ per cent., "and are also paying all other expenses in connection with this offer." We cannot recommend this proposition on the merits of the prospectus.

Under the present circumstances in the industry the risk involved in investing in ordinary shares of a new and comparatively small oil company is great, however attractive the proposition may appear on paper.

Worsnop and Co., Limited.—Authorised capital £60,000 of which £42,903 has been issued. This is an issue of £20,000 7½ per cent. seven-year notes at par, repayable at £102 10s per cent. on August 1, 1928. The company can redeem the notes at £102 10s at any time on giving three months' notice. During their currency holders are entitled to exchange "at par" for preference or ordinary shares. The company was formed in 1896, and manufactures motor lamps. It is quite true, as the prospectus points out, that "war-time profits are not a reliable criterion of peace-time trading," and we fully appreciate the excellent pre-war dividend record on ordinary shares, but we consider that intending investors in these notes are entitled to more information on post-war working results than that offered in the statement of affairs in front of us. We are told nothing as to how note-holders would rank in claims upon assets, nor the authorised limit of note borrowings. But mention is made of "mortgage and debenture" for £5,500. The net assets are given as £51,798, but what part of these are tangible and what part represent "patents, registered designs, and trade marks," which appeared in a prospectus issued in 1919 as £5,000? Further, intending noteholders should ascertain what is the total amount of authorised debentures and mortgages which can be issued. These, be it remembered, would, if specifically secured, be prior claims upon assets. It is not stated if application is to be made for a Stock Exchange quotation. We consider the prospectus an unsatisfactory statement of affairs.

Exchange Cinema and Restaurant Company (1921), Limited.—Authorised capital £120,000, divided into 80,000 10 per cent. cumulative participating preference and 40,000 ordinary shares, all of £1 each. This is an issue of all the participating preference shares at par. After the preference shares have received their 10 per cent. and the ordinary have received 20 per cent., the preference are entitled to a further dividend "at such a rate as shall absorb 20 per cent. of the balance of divisible profits." The company, according to the advertised prospectus, has been formed to acquire the assets of a private company, "including the freehold premises known as the Exchange Cinema, Northampton." The purchase consideration has been fixed at £100,000, of which £40,000 is payable in ordinary shares and the balance in cash. The premises have been valued independently at £115,177, and it is stated that the "preference share capital is therefore covered nearly one and a half times by the estimated value of the assets." It should be, however, realised that building costs are on the fall. The statement of past profits is not lucid, and the auditors' certificate of gross receipts is not a satisfactory substitute for the usual statement of past profits which we expect to find in a clear prospectus.

Walton Vale Picture House Company, Liverpool, Limited.—Authorised capital £17,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an issue at par of 16,500 shares. The company has been formed to acquire a site in Liverpool with the object of erecting a cinematograph theatre. The purchase price of the site has been fixed at £2,500, payable in shares. "The vendors are also to receive, together with the other first directors, 100 fully-paid-up shares" in respect of their work as promoters. Profits are estimated at £6,240 per annum before paying interest on mortgage. It is stated that each of the directors is subscribing in cash for £500 of shares, and each director has further undertaken to be "responsible for placing an additional 2,500 shares." The proposition is unattractive.

Westralian Mines Development Syndicate.—The remaining 67,000 shares of 2s each have been offered to shareholders in the proportion of one new share for every four ordinary shares held. According to the *Stock Exchange Official Intelligence* for 1921, this company was registered in 1915, and "no dividend has yet been paid."

Odams Press, Limited.—We are informed that the recent issue of 10 per cent. cumulative "A" preference shares has been over-subscribed. Letters of allotment will be posted in due course.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price This Week.	Price This Week.	Price This Week.
War (3½, 1925-28) .. 83½	83½	83½	83½	83½
Loans (4½, 1925-47) .. 82½	82½	82½	82½	82½
4½, 1925-47 .. 82½	82½	82½	82½	82½
4½, 1925-47 .. 82½	82½	82½	82½	82½
Funding Loan 4½ .. 72½	72½	72½	72½	72½
Victory Bonds 4½ .. 77½	77½	77½	77½	77½
Conversion Loan 3½ .. 62½	62½	62½	62½	62½
Consols 2½ .. 48½	48½	48½	48½	48½
Irish Land Stock 2½ .. 49½	49½	49½	49½	49½

Banks.

Barclays B. (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Lloyds (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
London Joint City & Midland (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
London County West- minster and Parr's (A. L.) .. 13½	13½	13½	13½	13½

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons. .. 41	41	41	41	41
B. A. & Pacific .. 30½	30½	30½	30½	30½
B. A. & Southern .. 51½	51½	51½	51½	51½
Buenos Ayres West. .. 51	51	51	51	51
Canadian Pacific .. 141	141	141	141	141
Central Argentine .. 47	47	47	47	47
Grand Trunk Ord. .. 13	13	13	13	13

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio .. 68	68	68	68	68
Erie .. 15	15	15	15	15
Do 4½ 1st Pref. .. 22	22	22	22	22

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentina 5½, 1886-7 .. 94	94	94	94	94
Belgian 3½ .. 61	61	61	61	61
Brazil 5½, 1914-22 .. 62	62	62	62	62
Chilian 4½, 1895 .. 65	65	65	65	65
Chinese 5½, 1912 .. 67	67	67	67	67
Egyptian 4½ .. 64	64	64	64	64
French 5½ .. 37½	37½	37½	37½	37½
Do 4½ .. 28½	28½	28½	28½	28½

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A" .. 17½	17½	17½	17½	17½
Eastern Telegraph .. 165½	165½	165½	165½	165½
Marconi Wireless .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½

British Railways.

Great Central Pref. .. 73	73	73	73	73
Great Eastern .. 26	26	26	26	26
Great Northern Def. .. 23½	23½	23½	23½	23½
Great Western .. 63½	63½	63½	63½	63½
Lancs. and Yorks. .. 45	45	45	45	45
London, Brighton, & South Coast .. 36	36	36	36	36
London, Chatham, & Dover .. 51	51	51	51	51
Do Arb. Pref. .. 37	37	37	37	37

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (A. L.) .. 13½	13½	13½	13½	13½
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) and Co. (A. L.) .. 16½	16½	16½	16½	16½
Ass. Portland Cement (A. L.) .. 12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
B'ham Small Arms (A. L.) .. 7½	7½	7½	7½	7½
Brazil Traction (\$100) .. 27	27	27	27	27
British-American Tobacco (A. L.) .. 3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Brit. & Arg. Meat (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Burmah Oil (A. L.) .. 5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Coats (J. and P.) (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Courtaulds (A. L.) .. 14½	14½	14½	14½	14½
Cunard (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18
Dorman, Long (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18
Dunlop Rubber (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18
Forestal Land (A. L.) .. 1	1	1	1	1
Furness, Withy (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Highlands and Low- lands Rubber (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18
Hudson's Bay (A. L.) .. 5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Imperial Tobacco (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
International Paint (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18
Linggi Plantations (A. L.) .. 18	18	18	18	18

Mines.

Brakpan (A. L.) .. 2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Broken Hill Prop. (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Chartered (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Cons. Gold Fields (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Crown Mines (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Do Beers Def. (A. L.) .. 11	11	11	11	11
East Rand Prop. (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Geduld (A. L.) .. 1½	1½	1½	1½	1½
Gov. Gold Areas (A. L.) .. 3½	3½	3½	3½	3½

RHODESIAN GOLD OUTPUT.

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	253,807	211,917	211,851	295,794
February ..	232,023	220,885	250,020	288,225
March ..	239,023	225,808	199,881	134,912
April ..	239,916	213,159	208,934	282,396
May ..	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June ..	225,447	214,215	191,194	238,199
July ..	251,740	214,918	313,126	279,267
August ..	257,096	207,339	241,270	2-6-51
September ..	247,885	223,719	231,226	271,452
October ..	136,780	204,184	248,085	..
November ..	145,458	185,462	282,237	..
December ..	192,870	158,835	272,470	..
Total Gold ..	2,652,250	2,499,492	3,056,549	..

Note.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash. * Interim div. † Final div.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.
Railways.			
Assam Railways and Trading. "B" ..	3%†	..	5
Banks.			
Anglo-Egyptian Bank ..	10/p.s. (& bonus 2/6 p.s.)	Tax free	..
Anglo-Polish Bank ..	10	..	..
Bank of Montreal ..	5% Dec. 1	..	..
Bank of Taiwan ..	10	..	..
Canadian Bank of Commerce ..	4% Dec. 1	..	..
Commercial Bank of Spanish America ..	7	Less tax	..
Farmers' Loan and Trust, N.Y. ..	5% Nov. 1	Tax free	..
Hambro's Bank ..	6% Nov. 1	Tax free	..
Land Mortgage Bank of Texas ..	15% Dec. 1	Less tax	..
National of Australasia ..	10% Nov. 20	..	..
Royal Bank of Australia ..	10	..	..
Royal Bank of Scotland ..	10 (& bonus 2%)	Less tax	..
Insurance.			
South British ..	10/p.s.†	..	17/p.s.†
Tea and Rubber.			
Anglo-Dutch Plantations ..	5%†	Less tax	10
Do New ..	11%†	Less tax	21
Standard Tea of Ceylon ..	10%†	..	..
Mining.			
El Oro ..	1/p.s.* Nov. 19	Tax free	..
Gold Coast Amalgamated ..	2½% Nov. 24	Less tax at 5/10 in £	..
Miami Copper ..	50c p.s. Nov. 15	..	..
North Annapur Gold, Pref. ..	..	Less tax	27½
Do Ord. ..	..	Less tax	7½
Scottish Australian Mining ..	2½% Nov. 9	Less tax	..
St John del Rey ..	3d p.s.* Dec. 15	Less tax	..
Wahki Gold ..	1/p.s.* Dec. 1	Tax free	..
Other Companies.			
African Steam Ship Co. ..	8% Oct. 28	Less tax	..
A. J. Stevens and Co. ..	..	Less tax	..
Alfred Bird and Sons ..	15% (& bonus 6 p.s.)	Tax free	..
Allen, Everitt, and Sons ..	7½	Tax free	..
Angela Nitrate ..	5% Nov. 14	Less tax	..
Anglo-Chilian Nitrate ..	5% Nov. 15	Tax free	..
Auckland Electric Tramways ..	5% ..	Tax free	..
Austin Reed ..	5% ..	Less tax	..
Babcock and Wilcox ..	7% ..	Tax free	..
Barrier and General Trust ..	..	Less tax	10
Brampton Brothers ..	..	Tax free	10
Bretts Stamping ..	..	Less tax	10
British and General Deb. Trust ..	12% Nov. 9	Less tax (2 years to July 31, '21)	31
British North Borneo ..	..	..	5
Brownhill (John) and Co. ..	..	Less tax	..
Buenos Ayres Tramways ..	1/3 p.s. Nov. 16	Less tax	..
Bushell, Watkins, and Smith ..	6% ..	Less tax	10
Calcutta Electric Supply ..	8% Nov. 15	Less tax	..
Callender & Co. ..	1s 6d Nov. 2	Less tax	..
Carlton Hotel ..	10% ..	..	8
Castlebellingham and Drogheda Breweries ..	..	Less tax	8
Coral Ring Spinning ..	4 p.s. ..	..	..
Debenture Securities Trust ..	6% Nov. 1	Less tax	..
Dublin Steam Packet ..	5% ..	Less tax	..
Egyptian Markets ..	5% Nov. 23	Less tax	..
Grape Spinning ..	5/p.s. ..	..	..
Holbrook ..	8% Nov. 1	Tax free	10
Hugh Baird and Sons ..	..	Tax free	10
Ingersoll Rand ..	2½% Oct. 31	..	..
J. Hey and Co. ..	10%†	..	..
Jute Industries, Pref. ..	9 Nov. 10	Less tax 6/ in £	..
Kimberley Waterworks ..	2/6 p.s. ..	Tax free	..
Kingston Mill (Stockport) ..	1/6 p.s. ..	Tax free	..
Lambert Brothers ..	5%† (and bonus 10%)	Less tax	20
Lily Spinning ..	5 p.s. ..	..	..
London Theatre of Varieties ..	8 Oct. 28	Less tax	..
Mansell, Hunt, Catty, and Co. ..	..	..	6½
Manufactura de Tabacos Piccardo ..	..	..	7½
Melbourne City Properties ..	5% Nov. 30	Less tax 3/ in £	..
Moss Isaacs ..	..	Tax free	15
North of Scotland Milling ..	..	Less tax	4
N. Z. and Australian Land ..	..	Tax free	3
Rosario Drainage ..	5%†	Tax free	12½
Royal Sovereign Steamship ..	6 Nov. 1	Less tax	5
Scottish and Dominions Trust ..	10 Oct. 29	Tax free	10
Snayd Collieries ..	4 Nov. 4	Less tax	..
Southampton Gaslight and Coke ..	..	Less tax	7
Tecka (Argentina) Land ..	..	..	25
Transvaal and Delagoa Bay Investment ..	3/p.s. 10%†	Tax free	12½
Triumph Circle Co. ..	..	..	..
Woodward, Grosvenor, and Co. ..	13% ..	Less tax (2 yrs. to July 31, 1919)	..

(a) Also 50% in f.p. ordinary shares.

CALCUTTA TRAMWAYS.—The directors have decided not to make usual interim distribution on ordinary shares, but to leave the question of dividend to be considered after the results of the year's working have been ascertained.

BEVERIDGE DREDGING (No Liability).—A refund of 6d per share has been declared, payable on November 10th.

THE BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY COMPANY.—Referring to the declaration of a dividend for the November quarter, which in the ordinary way would have been payable on November 16th next, the directors have, after careful consideration, reluctantly decided to pass the declaration on this occasion until they can more clearly ascertain the position as to the prospects in the immediate future of the iron and steel industry, having regard to the keen outside competition at present existing.

The North Western of Uruguay Railway Company announce that the balance at the credit of the net revenue account for the year ended June 30, 1921, does not admit of the recommendation of a dividend on the 6 per cent. first preference stock of the company.

The Park Gate Iron and Steel Company have decided not to declare an interim dividend, as the works were stopped for four months during the coal strike, and owing to the high cost of coal and wages have since only partially restarted.

OIL OUTPUTS.

COMMONWEALTH OIL CORPORATION.—For the four weeks ended October 7th: Shale retorted, 2,956 tons. Crude oil produced, 272,573 gallons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, October 19, 1921, amounted to 1,507 tons.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

THE CHAIRMAN ON FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

TRADE AND FINANCIAL POSITION IMPROVING.

SOUTH AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL SITUATION.

RESULTS OF BANK'S YEAR.

The thirty-third annual general meeting of shareholders of the Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, was held, on the 25th instant, in the Great Hall of Winchester House, Old Broad street, London.

Mr Robert John Hose (the chairman of the bank) presided. The secretary (Mr E. E. Hayes) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—The past year has been one of reaction both in commodities and in securities, but although something has been effected towards restoring the general level of prices nearer to that which existed before the war, it cannot, unfortunately, be said that the movement has been an entirely healthy one. The unsatisfactory conditions referred to 12 months ago still remain in operation, though it is true that in some directions they are somewhat less prominent than before. Wholesale prices of commodities have fallen sharply, and this has had some effect upon the general cost of production of goods both here and abroad. The fall in retail prices, however, has been comparatively slight, and the reduction in the actual cost of living, so far as it can be gauged, has been small compared with the fall which has taken place in wholesale prices. As a consequence, it has been found impossible equitably to reduce wages to any great extent, but something has been done in this direction. amongst others, to cheapen production, which, it will be generally agreed, must in the long run tend to the benefit alike of labour and capital, producer and consumer.

While production costs have been reduced the fall has not been such as to place the chief industries of this country in a much better position to compete with the foreigner than they were 12 months ago, and the present process of a gradual reduction in working costs must continue for some time before this very essential position is reached. It seems useless continually to insist upon the necessity for greater individual output, for the lesson is only too evidently a very hard one to learn, but time will show that this is the prime solution of our present difficulties, and that upon it depends the prosperity not only of the country itself, but of each individual member of the community.

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE IN BELLIGERENT COUNTRIES.

This however, is only one side of the problem, the other, which is almost as important, being the impoverished condition of most of the countries which a few years ago ranked amongst our principal customers. Apart from the United States, there seems to have been little real attempt in most of the belligerent countries to bring about an equilibrium between the State expenditure and revenue, and the deficit has, in most cases, continued to be made good by a more or less constant resort to the printing press. This policy has been followed very consistently abroad, and especially in Germany, where the degree of monetary inflation is now approaching to danger point. So long as this policy is adhered to there seems to be little hope of a real recovery in trade, for in this respect countries are in much the same position as individuals, and the continued increasing debt, whether by note issues or other means, gives no encouragement for the opening up of business operations, either directly or by means of the provision of credits.

Little progress has been made with the various credit schemes which have been propounded from time to time both in this country and in America, largely for the reason indicated above, but attention may be called in passing to a point which may not be without its significance for the future, and that is the renewed discussion of various schemes in the United States recently, and also the increased attention which is being given to the problem of dealing with the war debts. For the time being these latter are largely in abeyance, in that no immediate interest payments are being made, but when the time for these payments arrives another complication will have been introduced into the situation, which, as matters stand, will act as a further bar to the restoration of freer trade between the nations. The problem bristles with difficulties, and requires the greatest amity for its solution; but the position seems to be one which calls for concerted action by those countries possessing the financial resources and the necessary experience for using them to overcome what are undoubtedly the greatest economic difficulties which the civilised world has yet been called upon to face.

However, as I have said, some progress towards normality has

been made during the year, and it can only be hoped that the process of a reduction in working costs which set in some months ago will steadily progress, and that with the additional aid of economy, national and individual, the war waste from which the world at large is still suffering will gradually be made good.

As to this latter, there are many signs that individual expenditure has been curbed during the past few months, and, as is always the case, the movement has come about rather from necessity than inclination. Indeed, it is this curbing of individual expenditure that is partly to blame for the recent stagnation in trade, but although the first effects may be unfavourable, it cannot be questioned that the circumstance of itself constitutes one stage upon the return road to prosperity.

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE AND TAXATION.

Government expenditure has also been somewhat reduced during the year, but economy in this direction still leaves much to be desired, for in the third year after the conclusion of hostilities our national outgoings are again considerably in excess of our revenue, quite apart from the exceptional payments which arise from time to time for the redemption of maturing loans. The Chancellor's anticipations have been falsified, partly as a result of the prolonged coal strike, and, as a glance at the revenue returns will show, the general yield of taxes is falling far short of expectations—a remark which applies with particular force to income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation profits tax. In spite of this fact, however, it is the general experience that the burden of taxation at the present time is more than the country can bear, and there is the danger that, if continued on the present scale, it will deprive industry of so great a proportion of its productive capacity as to seriously curtail its power to trade. Furthermore, this question of taxation is an important factor in the regulation of prices. High municipal rates undoubtedly tend to an advance in retail prices, and a heavy income-tax as certainly leads to the raising of manufacturers' and wholesale prices. A real reduction in local and in Governmental expenditure is therefore essential, and this necessity will become much more pronounced in the future, when the time comes for meeting the interest on our debt to the United States Government.

BANK RATE.

One important factor both in the financing of the Government's requirements and also in the furtherance of trade has been the reduction in the general value of money in the London market. During the whole of the latter half of 1920 the Bank rate stood at 7 per cent., and this rate was maintained until the end of April last, but since then the quotation has been three times lowered, by ½ per cent. on each occasion, bringing the rate down to 5½ per cent. Other rates have followed the course of the official minimum, and traders have consequently been able to obtain temporary accommodation on much more reasonable terms, both by means of short advances and by the discount of commercial drafts. During the last few weeks the fall in rates in the open market has been accelerated, with the result that a very wide margin now exists between Bank rate and outside quotations. It is true that to a large extent the fall in rates has been of a somewhat artificial character, having been due almost entirely to the greater degree of inflation involved by the financing of the Government's requirements, but so long as this condition of inflation exists, and so long as its evils have to be contended with, it seems only reasonable that advantage should be taken of the position to assist trade operations on sound lines and so to bring a further factor to bear in the rehabilitation of our foreign commerce. The policy of high rates was instituted partly in order to stem the increasing speculation in stocks and commodities. So far as the former are concerned, the action seems to have been entirely successful, while it has been little less so in the case of commodities, and in view of this fact the recent downward movement in the value of money would seem to have been very largely justified.

ENCOURAGING POINTS FOR THE FUTURE.

The future is difficult to forecast, for so many of the forces on which the business outlook depends are in a state of flux, but there are a few encouraging points to which attention may be called.

One of these is the fact that the stocks of goods produced on a high price basis have been steadily reduced in many directions. In order to effect this, many commodities have been sold at a loss, and this has adversely affected the immediate financial position of the industries concerned. In the long run, however, the result must be beneficial, because once these stocks of high-priced commodities have gone into consumption, it should be possible to stimulate manufacture on the lower levels now ruling, both as regards raw material and wages, and the price of goods should gradually be brought nearer to a level which, of itself, will tend to widen the area of demand.

AMERICAN LOANS.

One circumstance which may have an important influence upon trade prospects is the increasing tendency which has been shown by America to finance the requirements of the foreign borrower. During the war period the greater part of the very large loans made by the States to the Allied countries were arranged, not directly with the American investor, but under the aegis of the American Government, and with the end of 1918 such operations practically terminated. During the last few months, however, loans have been issued in New York for three of the South American States, while the Queensland Government has recently borrowed in the same market, and there is talk of a similar operation on a substantial scale for the Government of Mexico. This may appear to constitute a poaching upon the preserves which from time immemorial have seemed to be set aside for this country, but a frank view of the situation suggests that, for the time being, London is ill-prepared to lend with the old freedom of pre-war days, and that the intervention of the United States as a lender abroad is to be welcomed as tending to the abatement of the present widespread credit difficulties, and to the speedier restoration of the machinery of international trade.

Yet another favourable point in the general trade outlook is the improvement in conditions recently reported from various parts of South America. The copious rains which have recently fallen in Argentina, following the period of prolonged drought, have greatly improved the crop outlook there, and this should place the country in a better position to absorb the large quantities of goods imported during recent years, and thus clear the way for a renewal of more active trade relations with this country. Similarly, in Chile, the removal of the nitrate deadlock is promising of an improvement in general business in that country during the current year, while Peru stands to gain substantially from the recent recovery in the price of cotton. In all these cases, however, the stocks of imported goods are still at a high level, and it must take some time before they are moved into general consumption, and longer still before replacement orders are received in any important volume.

CONDITIONS IN ARGENTINA.

In common with all other countries, Argentina has suffered from the effect of deflation in values. Exports of foodstuffs have in the aggregate fallen off considerably, and values have been adjusted to the lower prices ruling, but the contraction in trade has been less apparent on the import side. Official figures for the year are not yet available, but, according to the Presidential Message read in Congress in May last, the estimated value of Argentina's exports for the 12 months ended December 31 last amounted to \$1,007,000,000 (gold) as compared with \$1,031,000,000 (gold) in 1919, or a decrease of \$24,000,000. The import figures, on the other hand, show an expansion of no less than \$197,000,000 (gold), amounting to \$853,000,000, against \$656,000,000, and the balance of trade in favour of the country therefore amounted to only \$154,000,000, as compared with \$375,000,000 in the previous 12 months. Taken by themselves, these figures are not unfavourable, in view of the general depression the world over, but from the recent movements in exchange, and other indications, it is evident that the trend of trade during the last few months has moved steadily against Argentina.

For instance, the revenue returns covering the period from the commencement of the present year up to the end of September last show that the receipts of the Buenos Ayres Customs House during the nine months amounted to \$147,000,000 (paper), as compared with \$170,000,000 (paper) in the corresponding period of the previous year. The contraction in trade has naturally had an adverse effect upon the Government finances, the Argentine national revenue being principally derived from import and export duties. In view of the falling off in the receipts from these sources, the draft Budget for the current year contained proposals for certain new taxes, the principal of which was a projected tax on incomes, from which a revenue of about \$35,000,000 (paper) was expected. The passing of this Budget, however, has been postponed from time to time, the Government introducing successive "twelfths" of the 1920 Budget for the purpose of regulating the national income and expenditure, and it was recently decided to continue the provisions of the 1920 Budget throughout the present year.

For the time being, therefore, the revenue will apparently be derived in the main from the tobacco and stamp taxes, in addition to the ordinary import and export duties, but it is expected that the proposal for a tax on incomes will be again brought forward in the Budget for 1922.

GOLD MOVEMENT AND EXCHANGES.

The stock of gold coin held by banks at June 30, 1921, amounted to \$39,457,182 (gold); that at the Caja de Conversion to \$466,476,969 (gold); and that at the Argentine Legations abroad to \$4,123,157 (gold).

The Emergency Laws passed in 1914, whereby the Caja de Conversion suspended the delivery of gold coin against the receipt of the equivalent value of currency, are still in force, as is also the prohibition of exports of gold decreed by the same laws. Consequently no gold has gone out of the Caja de Conversion during the year. There has been considerable agitation in favour of the reopening of the Caja as a means of stabilising exchange, but up to the present the Government has not seen its way to agree to this measure. The circulation of currency is practically the same as a year ago, at \$1,362,563,973, and, the gold holding being also unaltered, the proportion remains at about 78½ per cent.

In view of the falling off in exports and the increase in imports during the year 1920, referred to above, and the further contraction in trade which has since occurred, it is not surprising that the exchange value of the Argentine dollar should have weakened considerably during the period. In February of last year the sterling value of the Argentine dollar touched the record high point of 73d, but by the end of December in that year the quotation had dropped back to 51d, and in May last the rate fell to 40½d. From that level there has been a more or less sustained advance, and towards the end of September the quotation recovered momentarily to 47½d, on the announcement that arrangements had been made for the issue of a \$50,000,000 (U.S.) loan in New York for the Argentine Government, but the quotation has since fallen back slightly, the current rate being about 44½d.

Another factor which has accounted very largely for the fall in exchange has been the repatriation of Argentine securities. This movement has been in progress for some years past, but it reached its height during the early part of last year, the heavy discount on French, Belgian, German and other exchanges permitting the realisation of securities held in those countries at very favourable prices for the sellers.

POSITION OF THE BANKS.

That some progress has been made in the direction of deflation is indicated by the position of the local banks, the deposits, as is shown in the following table, having contracted moderately during the twelve months:—

	June 30, 1921. \$ (Paper).	June 30, 1920. \$ (Paper).	June 30, 1919. \$ (Paper).
Deposits	3,431,559,954	3,486,533,471	2,882,366,053
Advances	2,521,268,389	2,327,347,944	2,011,457,342
Cash holdings.	1,090,001,523	1,190,638,708	951,842,289

From the above it will be noted that the deposits are still considerably in excess of those reported at June 30, 1919. The cash holding shows a substantial decline on the twelve months, but there has been a further increase under the head of advances. The following table shows the position of our own bank at the end of June in each of the past three years:—

	June 30, 1921. \$ (Paper).	June 30, 1920. \$ (Paper).	June 30, 1919. \$ (Paper).
Deposits	136,970,384	105,418,842	78,234,641
Advances	111,286,257	92,249,226	80,223,061
Cash holdings.	60,734,040	51,093,321	27,066,082

The Clearing House figures for the year 1920 were considerably higher, the total movement being \$43,339,000,000 (paper), as compared with \$33,664,000,000 (paper) for 1919, but there has been some reaction during the first half of the present year, the aggregate for that period being \$18,785,000,000, against \$22,173,000,000 for the corresponding period of 1920. In the total movement for the six months ended June 30th the Banco de la Nacion naturally took first place, with an average of 20.26 per cent. of the aggregate, the Banco Español coming second with 10.25 per cent., and our own bank third, with 7.61 per cent. Taking the figures of this bank and the British Bank of South America together, the proportion is 12.32 per cent., which places our affiliated institutions second only to the Banco de la Nacion in this respect.

Money at the present time is cheap in Argentina owing in part to the large sums which are awaiting remittance abroad at better exchange rates, principally to New York, and in a lesser degree to London.

The credit statistics are less favourable than a year ago, the amounts involved by commercial and private failures throughout the Republic during the year 1920 aggregating \$57,800,000, as

compared with \$30,000,000 in 1919. In 1914 the total was \$430,000,000. This adverse movement has made further progress since, the total for the first seven months of the present year being \$83,900,000, which clearly demonstrates the extent to which the country is feeling the universal trade depression.

We will now proceed to examine the principal branches of Argentine trade in some detail.

CEREALS.

The price of cereals dropped substantially between September of last year and April of the present year. In the latter month wheat was quoted at \$15.80 per 100 kilos, but from that time up to about a month ago quotations steadily recovered, owing to the adverse weather conditions and, in particular, the prolonged drought, which at one time threatened serious consequences to the crop. Early last month wheat had rallied to \$18.40 per 100 kilos, but the coming of the rains has led to a renewed weakening in the market, and, as may be gathered from the following table, current quotations are not far from the lowest touched during the 12 months:—

	Oct. 20, 1920. \$ (Paper).	Oct. 20, 1921. \$ (Paper).	Highest Level Touched. 1920-21. \$ (Paper).	Lowest Level Touched. 1920-21. \$ (Paper).
Wheat	25.00	14.35	25.00	14.10
Linseed	22.20	16.60	25.00	13.45
Maize	8.60	7.35	11.20	6.75
Oats	10.20	7.60	10.30	7.00

According to the latest Government estimates, published on August 10th last, the quantity of wheat available for export was 1,262,000 tons, that of linseed 152,000 tons, and that of maize 2,028,000 tons. The outlook is somewhat obscure, but it may be hoped that, in spite of the heavy fall in prices which has already taken place and the prospect of a further decline if the new crop turns out as well as expected, Argentina may still be able to dispose of her wheat and maize at a favourable level, even though this should be less remunerative than at one time seemed probable.

With regard to flour, the exports for the present year to the middle of September amounted to 35,390 tons, as compared with 169,634 tons in the corresponding period of 1920, the reduction having been caused by the fall of prices in North America, which enabled that market to outquote Argentina.

MEAT AND SUGAR.

The fall in the price of livestock, which was apparent towards the end of last year, has steadily continued. The situation has been further aggravated by the depreciation in the value of wool, which has brought about huge offerings of sheep for slaughter. Supply to the freezers has much exceeded demand, more especially as the freezing companies are working on reduced orders on account of the falling-off in the abnormal demand created by the war.

The production of sugar in the Republic in 1920 amounted to 198,100 tons, as against 291,400 tons in 1919 and 126,800 in 1918. At the beginning of May of this year the factories commenced harvesting and crushing, conditions being reported as excellent. The recent severe frosts have, however, done some damage to the plantations, and an appreciable shrinkage in the estimated yield is now expected, one authority foreshadowing a maximum crop of only 160,000 tons.

WOOL, HIDES, AND WINE.

The exports of wool during the present season compare favourably with those of the previous year, shipments recently having been on an important scale. The prices secured, however, have been extremely low, varying from \$2.50 (paper) per 10 kilos for coarse wools to \$8.50 per 10 kilos for fine wools, which quotations compare with about \$5 and \$23 respectively a year ago. The stocks held at the Central Produce Market in Buenos Ayres at September 14th last amounted to 9,726 tons, against 21,137 tons a year ago. The exports for the season 1919-20 amounted to 305,524 bales (of 420 kilos), as compared with 283,066 bales in the previous season, while shipments from October 1, 1920, to September 5th last totalled 282,423 bales. The export movement was helped by the removal in January last of the export duties on wool, washed and unwashed.

Shipments of hides to the United States were facilitated by the high premium on the U.S. dollar, but the total exports last year showed a considerable reduction as compared with 1919. The number of salted ox hides shipped in the first eight months of the present year was 1,385,097, as compared with 1,425,889 in the same period of the previous year, and that of dried ox hides 495,793, against 725,047.

The Argentine Republic to-day holds fourth place amongst the wine-growing regions of the world. The production of the country during the past year amounted to 7,200,000 hectolitres, as against 6,071,000 hectolitres in the previous year. There is a surplus from previous years, which, together with this year's abundant harvest, has resulted in an excess supply of wine in the country, for which reason the fall in prices which set in during the latter part of the year 1920 still continues. The current price on wagon in Mendoza is 32 cents per litre, as compared with 53 cents last year and 38 cents in 1919.

BUTTER, QUEBRACHO, AND OIL.

Exports of butter during 1920 amounted to 608,720 cases, being practically the same as in the two years preceding. For the period from January 1st to September 15th last the quantity was 601,665 cases, as against 393,105 cases shipped during the same period last year. Great Britain is the principal market for Argentine dairy produce, and it was estimated at the end of April that the British Government had some 50,000 tons of butter on hand, but, owing to the recent drought in Europe, a great amount of that stock has been disposed of. The outlook at the moment is reported to be very favourable for the dairy industry.

The exports of quebracho extract from January 1st to August 31st last amounted to 75,690 metric tons, comparing with 87,084 metric tons in the corresponding period of last year.

Steady progress is reported in the operation of the State petroleum field at Comodoro Rivadavia, and the output is on an increasing scale. A company controlled by several of the railways has commenced operations on a large scale in the field. The Anglo-Persian Oil Company, and other companies representing Belgian, Chilean, Argentine, and German capital, are opening up, chiefly in the Comodoro Rivadavia district.

ENGINEERING AND METAL MARKETS.

We have just received the following cable from our manager at Buenos Ayres:—

"The engineering and metal markets report that constructional work for the present is going slowly, although there are several important contracts pending. The English metal markets are at present out of competition through inability to supply, and the North American markets are similarly placed owing to exchange rates. The greater part of our steel and iron imports are coming from Belgium and Germany, the latter offering exceptionally low prices and direct shipment. Steel, which was worth 18 cents gold per kilo a year ago, is now obtainable at 6 cents per kilo from Germany. Crop prospects continue promising throughout the Republic. It is believed that the recent Government statistics regarding cereal stocks remaining for export exaggerated the total, the balance actually available being much less than reported. Hides continue firm, and, given an improvement in exchange, good business is anticipated. The money market remains quiet, and there is little demand for capital. Owing to the forthcoming Presidential election, the political situation is obscure, but, as is frequently the case, this event may interfere with the course of general business."

URUGUAY.

As was indicated when I last addressed you, Uruguay, where prosperity had reigned for some years past, was commencing to feel a change in conditions, which was reflected in the fall in the exchange value of the Uruguayan dollar from the high level of 76d to about 57d. During the past 12 months the reaction has been accelerated, and not only has the balance of trade in favour of Uruguay entirely disappeared, but an adverse balance has taken its place. The following is a comparison of the figures for the years ended June 30, 1920, and 1921:—

Year Ended	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Exports (+) or Excess of Imports (—).
June 30th.	\$	\$	\$
1920.....	117,625,425	126,106,114	+ 8,480,689
1921.....	104,252,260	75,335,063	— 28,917,197
Decrease....	13,373,165	50,771,051	..

In the above table exports are given at real values, as shown in the official return, but the value of imports is taken on a basis 140 per cent. in excess of the official figures, which approximately represents the position at current prices.

In accordance with this position, the exchange value of the Uruguayan dollar has further depreciated, the lowest level being touched early in May last, when the sterling rate fell to about 38½d. A recovery afterwards set in, which was largely helped by the issue of a Uruguayan Government loan in the United States

for \$7,500,000 (U.S.), and the quotation is now in the neighbourhood of 40½d.

FALL IN EXPORTS AND WOOL DEMAND.

The falling-off in exports was largely attributable to the reduction in the demand from the United States, owing to the passing in that country of the Fordney Tariff Bill. As a result of this large stocks of wool remained on hand, especially of the inferior classes, but the fall in exchange to a large extent has brought its own remedy, having stimulated the demand for the better-class wools on European account. Sales of merinos and fine crossbreds have been fairly steady during the last few months, and the stocks of these in the country have now been practically exhausted. Partly owing to the unfavourable weather conditions, traders have sold ewes for slaughtering, and the next shearing is expected to produce less wool than in previous years. The severe winter and the absence of rain have adversely affected the camps, and importers of pedigree animals have suffered heavy losses, traders showing no disposition to purchase fine stock owing to the uncertain outlook and the scarcity of funds. Livestock on the camps at present is in a rather poor condition, and the freezing establishments have considerably reduced their killing, purchasing only the best classes of cattle, and these at low prices. During 1920 395,302 animals were sold to the freezing establishments, these having a total value of \$27,659,281, while, in addition, livestock to the value of \$8,812,463 was disposed of to local slaughterers. In 1919 the freezing establishments absorbed stock to the value of \$43,489,530, but the sales to local slaughterers were on a smaller scale than last year, the total value being \$7,789,434.

The import trade of the country has been passing through a difficult period. Large orders were placed in Europe and North America some months ago, before the heavy fall in exchange, and the recent depreciation of the Uruguayan dollar has placed obstacles in the way of these goods being taken into stock. As a result, a considerable congestion of goods has arisen at the ports, which has only been partially overcome at the present time.

The political situation remains satisfactory, and there have been very few labour troubles during the year. The reduction in output of the freezing establishments has naturally led to a considerable increase in the number of unemployed, and public works have been instituted by the Government with the object of providing work.

The Budget for 1921-22 showed a deficit amounting to about \$6,000,000, and a scheme for increased taxation was proposed, including a general income-tax, by which means it was hoped that the greater part of the estimated deficit would be met. This proposed new taxation, however, has not yet been passed into law, and for the time being the question appears to have been shelved, the disparity between the Government's revenue and expenditure for the current year having been met by the loan in New York already referred to.

CHILE.

With world markets dislocated and industry marking time, it is only in the natural order of things that Chile, primarily an exporter of raw materials, should have experienced a financial set-back during the past year. The principal factor in this reaction has been the falling-off in the exports of nitrate, a matter to which I will refer in greater detail later on; but Chile, like other South American countries, has also suffered from over-importation during preceding years, and from the exchange depreciation which has naturally arisen from these two circumstances.

Trade statistics are by no means complete, but such figures as are available show very clearly the falling-off in the value of Chilean exports during the period covered by the bank's financial year. The figures for the last half of 1919 are not obtainable, but a comparison of the value of Chile's principal exports during the three half-years ended June 30th last is given below:—

	1921. Jan. to June. \$ Gold.	1920. July to Dec. \$ Gold.	1920. Jan. to June. \$ Gold.
Nitrate	204,845,000	243,753,000	214,675,000
Copper	21,626,000	17,787,000	70,584,000
Cereals, &c.	13,162,000	11,038,900	21,439,000
Borax	18,353,000	13,736,000	9,495,000
Wool	5,609,000	5,905,000	22,210,000
Iodine	9,358,000	4,325,000	3,662,000
Hides	109,000	1,299,000	2,959,000
Frozen meat	2,292,000	5,057,000	2,465,000

The returns showing the total value of imports and exports are published by the Customs Authorities in Chile for complete calendar years only. The figures for the first six months of 1921

are not yet available, but those for 1920 and for the three years preceding are as follows:—

Year.	Imports. \$ Gold.	Exports. \$ Gold.	Excess of Exports (+) or Excess of Imports (—). \$ Gold.
1917.....	355,077,027	712,289,028	+ 357,212,001
1918.....	436,074,065	763,622,512	+ 327,548,447
1919.....	401,324,195	301,458,084	— 99,866,111
1920.....	455,078,934	778,885,230	+ 323,806,296

The values are in Chilean gold pesos of 18d, the figures of imports being based on invoice prices and those of exports on local market prices.

From the above it will be seen that in 1920 Chile enjoyed a favourable balance of trade amounting to nearly \$324,000,000 gold, as compared with an adverse balance of about \$100,000,000 gold in the previous 12 months, but, on an analysis of the figures, we find that, whereas in the first half of 1920 the exports exceeded the imports by over \$260,000,000 gold, the excess of exports in the six months ended December 31st was only \$63,000,000. This latter period covers the first half of the bank's financial year, and the adverse tendency in trade which was then appearing has since been accentuated with a marked effect upon the position of Chilean exchange. Quite apart from the actual trade figures, it must be remembered that there is a large amount of foreign capital invested in the country, and that the Chilean Government's external debt, which at the end of 1920 amounted to £28,350,732, has since been increased by the issue of the loan in the United States early in February of this year for an amount of \$24,000,000 (U.S.).

EXCHANGE SITUATION.

These charges involve heavy remittances abroad for interest, &c., and, when their effect is considered in conjunction with the trade position, the heavy fall in the exchange value of Chilean currency during the year is by no means surprising. The extremes touched during the Bank's financial year were 13½d on July 2, 1920, and 6½d on May 10th last, showing a fall of 50 per cent. in a period of 10 months. In August last the rate dropped to 6d, but in the past few weeks a substantial recovery has occurred, reflecting, in the first place, the improvement in the nitrate outlook arising from the new agreement between the Nitrate Producers' Association and the Nitrate Pool, and, in the second, the increase in Chile's balances abroad, resulting from the new loan recently issued in New York.

A further factor in the exchange situation during the year has been the large increase in the Treasury bills in circulation. These were issued principally as advances to nitrate producers against stocks in hand. These Treasury bills, which bear no interest, circulate as currency, and the total in issue at June 30th last showed an increase of nearly \$53,000,000 (paper) as compared with June, 1920. This increase has been offset to the extent of \$13,000,000 by a contraction in the note issue of the Caja de Emision, but on balance the total paper currency of the country increased during the 12 months ended June 30th last from \$289,460,000 to \$329,203,000 (paper).

EXCHANGE RATES AND SPECULATION.

As is often the case when exchange movements are detrimental to the general interests, the fluctuations have again been attributed largely to speculation, and the action of the Chilean Government in changing the method of quoting exchange, which was instituted in April last, was attributed in part to a desire to control this tendency. A consideration of the figures of bank deposits, however, suggests that speculation, if it has existed, has had no unfavourable effect upon the exchange position during the past year, but rather the reverse, and, in demonstration of this, it is sufficient to quote the figures for deposits in gold (including foreign currencies) in the banks at May 31st last and at June 30, 1920. They are as follows:—

	\$ Gold of 18d.
June 30, 1920	247,824,000
May 31, 1921	188,701,000
Decrease	59,123,000

This comparison indicates that some £4,450,000 sterling, bought as a speculative investment at high rates, was sold with the fall, thus checking the downward tendency in exchange, and it is probable that but for these sales and those made against the Government loan floated in the United States in February last, very much lower rates would have been touched.

As regards the currency deposits, the official returns show that the total for the whole of the banks in Chile at the end of May last amounted to \$877,755,000 (paper), as compared with \$817,868,000 (paper) at June 30, 1920, while those of our own Chilean branches in

the same period increased from \$79,013,000 (paper) to \$116,245,000. In other words, while the currency deposits of the Chilean banks as a whole increased by 7.3 per cent., those of our own branches showed an addition of about 47 per cent., indicating that the bank has well maintained its place in the general business of the country.

NITRATE INDUSTRY.

As is well known, the nitrate industry has been passing through a serious crisis during the year. Large quantities of the fertiliser were bought at the top of the boom, and held for higher prices, which, owing to the general reaction in values the world over and the competition of other fertilisers, have proved to be far beyond the inclination or the capacity of buyers to pay. Consequently, the stocks accumulated have been reduced to only a comparatively small extent, and, in order to prevent a flooding of the market with nitrate at a time when the demand was small, an arrangement was concluded by some of the principal nitrate-importing houses in this country to pool their stocks of the fertiliser, and to fix selling prices of the same. In order to assist the operations of this Nitrate Pool, the Producers' Association undertook not to sell any of the new nitrate under 14s per quintal, f.o.b., until April 1, 1922. Many attempts were made and many schemes evolved for an arrangement between the association and the Pool whereby the 14s agreement might be annulled, so that nitrate might be put on the market at a price acceptable to consumers, and at the same time fairly remunerative to most of the producers; but for a long time these were unsuccessful, and the result has been that for many months past sales by the nitrate companies have been on a negligible scale, with the natural results of reduced profits, a contracted output, and increased unemployment amongst the native population. In order to carry on their business even on a reduced scale, many of the companies have obtained large advances from the Government at low rates of interest, and, on the other hand, the Government revenue has been greatly reduced owing to the smaller exports of nitrate, on which the revenue so largely depends.

BRIGHTER PROSPECTS UNDER NEW AGREEMENT.

This interruption to the normal flow of business in Chile's principal product has naturally led to serious financial and commercial difficulties, but I am glad to say that the outlook for the present year seems to be distinctly brighter, owing to the agreement which, as was announced a few days ago, has been concluded between the Nitrate Producers' Association and the Pool. Under this arrangement the former body is released from its undertaking to maintain nitrate at 14s per quintal, the consideration being the payment by the association to the Pool and others of a minimum indemnity of £1,500,000, which would be collected by a contribution ranging from 1s 8d per quintal down to 4d per quintal on all newly sold nitrate shipped from Chile between the 1st of the present month and June 30, 1923. Following this arrangement, fixed selling prices for the association have now been established, which will remain in force up to June 30th next, after which the association will be at liberty to fix the quotations at any level they may think fit. For the current month the selling price is 10s 6d per quintal, rising to 11s for the period November to April, and falling again in June, 1922, to 10s 3d. These quotations, we think, should give the nitrate producers a fair rate of profit and enable them to compete with sellers of other fertilisers. In these circumstances, a substantial increase in the consumption of nitrate abroad may be looked for, which will not only have a favourable effect upon the finances of the producers concerned, but will greatly improve the Government's revenue receipts, reduce unemployment, and tend to a recovery in general financial and commercial conditions in the country.

The figures of the last nitrate year are given below, but it should be noted that these do not show the effect of the crisis through which the industry has been passing:—

Nitrate Year.	Production. qq.	Export. qq.	Stock in Chile at end of year. qq.
1919-20	42,549,379	47,977,483	27,548,464
1920-21	47,263,030	44,581,079	29,536,929

Of the amount exported to June last, about one-half has not been sold, and as a result there now appears to be a supply on hand in Chile and elsewhere equal to a full normal year's consumption—a fact which must be borne in mind, even in conjunction with the reduction in selling prices above referred to.

COPPER.

In common with the copper industry throughout the world, the miners in Chile have suffered by the present depression, and although the low exchange has enabled small producers of good-grade ores to resume working on a moderate scale, the total exports of the fine copper have steadily declined, the figures for the year ended June 30, 1921, being 66,584 tons, against 78,968 tons in the previous 12 months.

In addition to the other adverse circumstances which have affected Chile during the year, we have unfortunately again to report that labour troubles have been very much in evidence, especially in the coal-mining and shipping industries, and this has further aggravated the situation. It is greatly to be hoped that the Government will take a clear and long-sighted view in dealing with these labour problems, which, for the sake of the country's prosperity, call urgently for firm handling.

In view of all the circumstances, it is not surprising that commercial failures in Chile have been far more numerous than usual, and, had it not been for the action of the leading banks in uniting for the support of several large firms, the results would have been very much more serious. In this connection, however, it may be hoped that the events of the year will, in the long run, make for sounder business conditions in the future.

PERU.

Peru has also suffered from the world-wide fall in values, which has been particularly marked in its principal commodities—sugar, copper, wool, and cotton. So far as cotton is concerned, however, there has during the last few weeks been a strong rally from the lowest points touched, owing to the partial failure of the American crop and the anticipated poor yield in Egypt.

The latest available statistics of Peruvian trade are those for the year ended December 31st last, and these are distinctly favourable when compared with those of some other countries. According to the official returns, both imports and exports showed an increase, the former being valued in 1920 at £17,956,758, as compared with £12,203,840 in the previous 12 months, the exports totalling £35,322,226, against £26,899,422. The balance of trade in favour of Peru for the 12 months ended December 31st last thus amounted to £17,365,468, as compared with £14,695,582 in the previous 12 months. The figures for the first half of the present year are not yet to hand, but from the general indications it is clear that trade has fallen off considerably, and this supposition finds support in the returns of Customs revenue, which show that while the receipts from import duties during the half-year ended June 30th last marked a slight increase as compared with the previous six months, those derived from exports were reduced by over 70 per cent., the totals being as follows:—

	Yield of Import Duties. £p.	Yield of Export Duties. £p.
July 1 to December 31, 1920 ..	1,090,639	1,074,483
January 1 to June 30, 1921	1,112,746	317,009

The fall in values has naturally found reflection in financial conditions generally, and particularly in exchange, which has dropped steadily during the 12 months. In September, 1920, the discount on sterling, as compared with Peruvian currency, was 22 per cent., but in February of the present year sterling rose to par, and towards the end of the following month a premium of 12½ per cent. was touched. Since then there have been considerable fluctuations, and at the end of September the quotation was down again to 4 per cent. premium. This drop in the external value of Peruvian currency, and the fall which occurred at the same time in local prices of commodities, placed importers in a position of considerable difficulty, and many small merchants were unable to take delivery of goods ordered from Europe and the United States, with the result that the Peruvian ports became congested with merchandise, which is only now being slowly liquidated and at very reduced prices.

RESULT OF DROP IN PERUVIAN EXCHANGE.

As a result of these conditions, imports for some time past have been on a negligible scale, with a necessarily adverse effect upon that part of the national revenue which is derived from import duties. The receipts have also suffered as a result of the fall in prices of sugar and cotton, the export duty on these commodities being regulated by a sliding scale based upon market prices. At the quotations ruling a short time back cotton paid no export duty at all, while that on sugar was very slight, and it is feared that a number of sugar businesses, whose properties were acquired at very high prices, could scarcely bear any additional taxation at the present quotations of the commodity. These circumstances have evidently been under the consideration of the Government, and, in his inaugural speech to Congress, President Leguia hinted at probable changes in taxation which, it was understood, would involve a revision of the Customs tariff and the institution of a tax on incomes. At present, direct taxation in Peru is practically non-existent, but it seems probable that this may be altered in the near future.

Owing to the falling off in the national revenue, no great improvement works have been instituted during the year, though a small amount of railway and road construction has been completed.

NEW YORK DEPOSITS MOVED TO ENGLAND.

An interesting operation was recently carried out, by means of which the Government secured a substantial profit on exchange, which has been used in part further to strengthen the security for the note issue. Until recently the deposits were held in New York to the amount of about \$13,000,000, but these were transferred to London during the year at a rate of \$3.75 to the £, giving the Peruvian Government an exchange profit of approximately 23 per cent. Of this profit, £1600,000 was used for general financial purposes, and, more particularly, for the defraying of the expenses of the recent centenary festivities, while the remainder was added to the currency reserve, with the result that the note issue is now guaranteed to the extent of about 50 per cent. by gold deposits in Lima and the balance by sterling deposits in London.

The Government have in view an important project embracing the reconstruction of the port and harbour of Callao, the administration of Customs, and various sanitation works. Negotiations have been proceeding in New York for the raising of a loan based on the Customs revenue for the financing of these various undertakings. It is believed that these negotiations will be successful, and that the scheme may involve the complete rearrangement of Peru's finances.

The political situation, thanks mainly to the active measures adopted by the present administration, has continued satisfactory, though labour difficulties have made their appearance in various parts of the country. In many cases, however, a reduction in wages has been accepted by the workmen, which has partially offset the difficulties caused to Peruvian producers by the fall in the selling prices of their commodities.

Little progress has been made in the development of the oil reserves of the country, owing, in a large measure, to the present defective state of the laws on the subject. It is understood that this matter will receive the early attention of Congress, and it seems probable that, so soon as the necessary conditions and guarantees have been obtained, important foreign organisations may take an interest in the exploration and development of the oil-bearing territories of the country.

The recovery in the price of cotton, already referred to, if maintained, should have a very favourable effect upon the financial position of the country, and in the circumstances the outlook for the present year seems to be decidedly encouraging.

MEXICO.

Conditions in Mexico during the past year have not altogether fulfilled the promise of 12 months ago. The accession of General Alvaro Obregón to the Presidency was generally welcomed by business interests, but it soon became evident that the Socialistic tendencies had become too deep-rooted under previous Administrations to be easily altered. An illustration of this was afforded during the year by the passing of a Labour law in the State of Vera Cruz, under which all commercial and industrial concerns had to turn over 50 per cent. of their profits to their employees and labourers, the law to be retro-active as from 1917. Attempts were made to secure the passing of similar decrees in other States, but it now seems to be more generally realised that such legislation could only result in a general closing down of factories, and it is hoped and believed that the law will be repealed.

Labour and transportation troubles have been very prevalent during the year, and have seriously hampered general business activities. As regards the railways, the rolling-stock has been allowed to get into a very bad condition, and operations were also rendered difficult at one time by a shortage of fuel. Further, owing to the very large imports during the spring of this year, the amount of freight offering for transport was exceptionally large, and the result was a state of congestion at Vera Cruz and all other ports of entry, where from 30,000 to 40,000 tons of merchandise were lying on unsheltered wharves and even in the streets for a period of months awaiting relief in the transport situation. The national railways, however, have just placed a large order for engines, and provided no new complication arises, the railway situation should shortly be relieved. Owing to the fall in prices which occurred during this period of congestion, there has been the usual disinclination to take delivery of goods when they have at last become available, and these circumstances, in combination, have led temporarily to a credit situation which, although not alarming, needs very careful watching.

Considerable progress was made in the oil industry during the year, and new productive fields were opened up, but owing to the attitude of the Government in the matter of taxation, large interests practically closed down in order to bring the question to a head. We are glad to say, however, that, although not finally cleared up, the position in this connection now seems to be rather brighter. The fall in prices, too, has naturally had an adverse effect upon the industry, and the same factor has operated in the case of the mines. Mexico's chief metallic products include silver,

lead, and copper, all of which have fallen heavily during the past 12 months, without a corresponding contraction in production costs. Despite the fall which has taken place from the high level of a year or so ago, however, silver still commands a substantial premium on the pre-war price, and, notwithstanding the high working costs, affords a reasonable profit to the Mexican producer.

Generally speaking, it may be said that the industrial, commercial, and other enterprises of the country are still passing through a somewhat difficult period, which is probably the inevitable result of inexperienced attempts at reconstruction, but it may be hoped that this will prove to be transitory, and that Mexico will emerge from her difficulties financially sounder and potentially prosperous.

FRANCE, SPAIN, AND U.S.A.

In France progress towards more normal conditions has also been slow. The national expenditure has been maintained at a high figure, while, on the other hand, the revenue from taxation has fallen well below the Budget estimates, partly owing to trade depression and partly to the difficulty of collecting the newly-created income-tax from certain classes of taxpayers. Various loans have been issued in order to meet the Budget deficit, and for the purpose of repaying advances from the Banque de France to the Government, the total of which was reduced during the year by 1,200 million francs, the amount outstanding at June 30th last being 25,000 million francs. A satisfactory point to be noted is a reduction in the note circulation of the Banque de France during the 12 months from 37,643 million francs to 37,422 millions.

The foreign trade situation has improved considerably, for whereas in 1919 there was an import surplus of 25,000 million francs, and in 1920 one of 15,000 millions, the figures for the first six months of the present year show a small surplus of exports over imports.

On the whole, however, the exchange value of the franc shows a further depreciation. In July, 1920, the quotation was about 45.00 to the pound, and early in January of the present year high level was touched at 61.50. From that point there was a fairly steady fall in the quotation to 46.25 in June, but by the end of September the rate had risen again to 53.25.

Generally speaking, the trade situation has been affected by the large stocks of merchandise which were accumulated some time ago when prices were at about their highest. The heavy fall in the markets for all materials has brought with it a great depression in trade, as a result of which many houses have resorted to the *Règlements Transactionnels*, i.e., legalised private arrangements with creditors.

The work of reconstruction in Northern France is proceeding only slowly, and has so far been largely financed by loan issues. Main attention appears to have been given to the reconstruction of factories and to the restarting of the coal industry, the output of the damaged mines having been now restored to one-half of the pre-war figures.

SPAIN.

Spain has also suffered a severe commercial and financial crisis during the year, and exchange has been affected by the change in trade conditions, a favourable balance of 270 million pesetas in 1919 having been converted into an adverse balance of 178 million pesetas in the following year, which reactionary movement has been still further accentuated during the past few months. These various circumstances tended to undermine financial confidence, and a severe banking crisis occurred towards the end of 1920, the effects of which are still apparent. The difficulties mainly centred around the Banco de Tarrasa and the Banco de Barcelona. The first-named institution was supported by the Spanish and "foreign" banks acting in concert, which formed guarantee funds to a substantial amount in favour of the Banco de Tarrasa, our institution participating to the extent of 500,000 pesetas. The difficulties, however, subsequently proved to be more widespread, and towards the end of December the Banco de Barcelona suspended payment.

The year has been characterised by the introduction of a very onerous system of taxation of foreign institutions, which is not calculated to stimulate the movement towards financial and commercial recovery in the country, of which, we are glad to say, there are indications at the present time.

Unfortunately Spain has become involved in war with the Moorish tribes of the Riff, and it is impossible to foresee the financial consequences of the conflict, but it will undoubtedly increase the heavy deficit in the national Budget which has been characteristic in Spain for some years past.

U.S.A.

In the United States, also, the year has been one of reaction, as is sufficiently indicated in the trade returns, which show a considerable diminution both in imports and exports as compared with the previous 12 months. In one respect, however, the United

States is different from many other countries, in that she still enjoys a substantial export surplus, and in view of the favourable position in which the country has been placed by the events of the past few years, she has been able to lead the way in carrying out the policy of deflation. There can be no doubt that the United States must play an important part in the restoration of international trade relations, and in this connection it is encouraging to note the increasing tendency of the American capitalist to invest in foreign securities. Generally speaking, the year has not been altogether satisfactory from a financial standpoint. The stimulus given to the export trade during recent years has naturally led to a certain amount of unsound business, and to somewhat heavy financial losses, but the general position is too strong for these to have had more than a passing effect.

In this brief review I will not attempt to cover in detail the immense field of America's natural products, but mention should be made of the heavy fall in the price of cotton in the early part of the year and of the sharp recovery during recent months which has resulted from the partial failure of the crop.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS: EXTENSION OF INTERESTS.

A year ago reference was made to the acquisition of the greater part of the share capital of the British Bank of South America, Limited, and it may be mentioned that, in the interval, we have slightly increased our shareholding in that institution, so that we now hold 99½ per cent. of the total capital. This accounts for the small addition to our own capital during the 12 months, shares in this bank having been issued to old shareholders of the British bank in exchange for their holdings in that institution. I am glad to say that the results of the working of the latter institution during the year ended December 31st last was entirely satisfactory. The profit was approximately the same, and the dividend was maintained at the rate of 15 per cent. on the share capital.

The accounts of the Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, in which we now hold 479,496 shares of £1 each out of a total issued capital of £500,000, show a net profit for the year ended June 30th last of £70,453, as compared with £67,682 in the previous 12 months. After paying a dividend of 7 per cent., as formerly, a portion of the surplus profit is employed in writing down capital to present values, and a small sum is added to the reserve fund.

The Banco de A. Edwards y Cia., in which, as you know, we hold a 60 per cent. interest, also secured satisfactory results in the first half of the present year, the net profits for the period amounting to \$1,443,000 (paper), as compared with \$1,426,000 (paper) in the six months ended December 31st last. After paying a dividend for the period at the same rate as that on which our purchase was based, namely, 14 per cent. per annum, the reserve funds were increased by \$600,000 (paper) to a total of \$3,600,000 (paper).

INTEREST IN THE BANQUE GENERALE BELGE.

As mentioned in the report, we have during the year secured an interest in the Banque Générale Belge, in concert with the Société Anonyme Bunge, under which title the business of our esteemed friend and co-director, Mr Edward Bunge, is now carried on. By the arrangement, a more direct channel has been formed for the execution of the foreign business of the important Belgian houses with which Mr Bunge's name is associated, and we hope that this will lead to the substantial advantage of all concerned. For several years the question of securing a direct representation in Belgium has been under our consideration, in view of the importance of the international trade between that country and the various parts of the world—Argentina in particular—where we have branches. For many reasons, however, we have thought it preferable to secure the co-operation of an institution already established in the country rather than to establish branches of our own, and we therefore welcomed the opportunity of securing an important share-holding in the Banque Générale Belge, which will, we believe, result in the mutual development of business. The bank was founded in 1860 as a private firm, under the name of Messrs A. de Lhoneux, Linon et Cie., and in 1901 it was converted into a limited company. The family of de Lhoneux, to whom it had previously belonged, continued to be represented in the management, and to-day Mr A. de Lhoneux is one of the vice-presidents. The capital of the bank amounted to 25,000,000f, and by the new arrangement this was increased to 50,000,000f, 50,000 new shares of 500f each being issued, of which one-half were subscribed by your bank, and the balance by the Société Anonyme Bunge, at the price of 650f per share. At the time of this acquisition the shares were quoted in the market at about 700f, but immediately the announcement was made they advanced in price, and are to-day quoted at 750f, or 100f above the price at which our investment was made. The published reserve funds now amount to 17,000,000f, and the balance-sheet, made up to Decem-

ber 31, 1920, showed current and deposit accounts at 205,069,681f, the cash in hand and at the Banque Nationale being 33,249,548f, and the bills receivable 30,513,281f. The results for the period to June 30th last have not yet been published, but we are glad to be able to say that these are quite satisfactory.

BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK.

The first report of the British Overseas Bank, in which we have a financial interest, was distinctly satisfactory, the profit for the period ended October 31, 1920, amounting to £199,744. After paying the fixed dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the "A" ordinary shares, £49,016 was set aside to various accounts, and £81,486 was carried forward, subject to income and corporation profits taxes. The available profits would have been sufficient for the payment of a dividend on the "B" ordinary shares, which we, in common with other banking institutions, hold, but the directors of the British Overseas Bank decided, and, we think, very wisely, to give first attention to strengthening the reserve items in the accounts, a policy of which, I am sure, we shall reap the benefit in the future.

The net profits of the Banco de la Provincia de Buenos Ayres for the year ended December 31st last showed a substantial increase over that for the preceding year, the total being \$8,740,206 (paper), as compared with \$6,917,508 (paper), and we received a dividend of 8½ per cent. on our investment in that institution, as compared with one of 8 per cent. in 1919.

As regards our own branches, progress during the year has naturally been retarded by the adverse conditions generally existing; but when all the circumstances are taken into account, we have every reason to be satisfied with the business done. Naturally, however, there has been contraction in various directions, the period under review comparing with almost "boom" conditions during the greater part of the previous 12 months.

ACCOUNTS.

Last year, in referring to the increase in the figures of our balance-sheet, I remarked that this might in part prove only transient. The sudden and intensive change in business conditions during the past year and the fall in values of commodities have already caused a considerable shrinkage in many items of our balance-sheet, and the most important one of current, deposit, and other accounts has fallen from £58,458,000 to £49,473,000. This total is still nearly £8,000,000 in excess of that for the year ended June 30, 1919, and the contraction during the past twelve months is due, in the main, to the withdrawal of special accounts which at the time of their inception were known to be of a temporary character, though the general contraction in values the world over has also had its natural effect upon the figures. In regard to other items, you will note that our bills payable, including sight drafts, have shrunk very considerably, as was to be expected in the circumstances. On the other hand, our advances have increased from £26,245,000 to £27,180,000, and, when one bears in mind the extent to which all banks have been under the necessity of assisting their customers as far as was possible, consistent with safety, one cannot but regard this increase as very reasonable. The aggregate of the cash in hand, first-class investments, and bills receivable exceeds 36½ millions, which represents about 61 per cent. of our liabilities to the public under all heads. The proportion is rather less than that of a year ago, but, having in mind the contraction in our liabilities during the 12 months, I think it will be regarded as showing an ample margin.

I reminded you last year that we were undertaking very considerable rebuilding operations both in this country and at our branches abroad; one result of this is that the bank premises account now stands in our books at some £483,000 more than last year, and it will in due course show a further increase. We adhere to the opinion expressed at the last meeting that these purchases and rebuilding operations will, in the long run, prove very remunerative investments, not only because they provide us with ample accommodation for the conduct of our business at various important points, but also on account of the income which will be derived from those portions available for letting.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

The profit and loss account shows a diminution in the gross profits of about £88,000, and the expenses an increase of £234,000, so that after allowing for rebate of interest on bills, &c., the net profit is reduced from £1,024,156 to £743,175. Those who are acquainted with the condition of trade during the period covered by our accounts and the low rates of exchange at which our profits have been remitted home, will not have been surprised to see this falling-off in profits as compared with last year, but although reduced, the total is larger than that for any previous year, even allowing for the fact that we have received from the British Bank

of South America net dividend of £105,000 for the twelve months. I am glad to say, too, that the rates of exchange now ruling in the South American markets are above the lowest touched during our financial year. As regards expenses, the increase was inevitable, being very largely due to salaries and allowances, which had to be raised in order to meet the rise in the cost of living during the early part of the year, not only here, but abroad. We also have an increase in our staff, which this year numbers about 300 more than 12 months ago. This is a matter which we have well in mind, and careful consideration is also being given to the cost of living statistics with a view to making a suitable reduction in allowances when the proper moment arrives. I am sorry to say, also, that the increase in our expenses has been in great measure due to taxation, and in this connection it is a striking fact that the Government have during the past year received from our institution in income-tax, corporation tax, and excess profits duty a sum which largely exceeds the amount that is being paid to you as shareholders by way of dividend.

STAFF MEMORIAL AND SPORTS GROUNDS.

The alterations which are now being made in our head office premises have delayed the completion of an object which we have long had in mind—namely, the erection of a permanent memorial to those members of our staff who lost their lives during the recent war. The memorial itself is in being, and will, I hope, be placed in permanent position before the end of the present year. In view of the number of our shareholders, it will be impossible to send out a general invitation to the ceremony, but I should be very pleased to respond to any applications for accommodation which may reach me from those who would like to take a personal part in this tribute to our honoured dead.

In accordance with what is now becoming a general practice amongst the larger business institutions, we have recently opened a sports ground for the use of our staff, this being situated on the riverside at Teddington. The ground is well suited to its purpose, there being splendid facilities for all outdoor games, including water sports, while indoor entertainment and general accommodation is provided by the two houses on the property which formed part of our purchase. I regard the ground as an excellent investment, both from the financial and general business standpoints, for I think it should maintain and stimulate that spirit of *esprit de corps* amongst the staff which is essential to efficient working.

Gentlemen,—I have the pleasure to move the following resolution, and after it has been seconded by Sir Robert Harvey, I will ask any of you who may have any remarks to make kindly do so. The resolution is: "That the report and balance-sheet, as distributed, be adopted, and that a final dividend of 9s. per share, less income-tax, be and is hereby declared payable on the 31st instant."

Sir Robert Harvey (vice-chairman): Ladies and gentlemen,—I have great pleasure in seconding the chairman's proposition. The resolution was then carried unanimously.

Mr C. E. Gunther: I have much pleasure in moving, "That Mr Edward Eton Barclay, a retiring director in accordance with the articles of association, be and is hereby re-elected."

Mr H. W. Patrick: I have much pleasure in seconding that. The motion was put to the meeting and carried.

Mr A. Naylor: I beg to propose, "That Mr Charles Eugene Gunther, a retiring director in accordance with the articles of association, be and is hereby re-elected."

Mr A. G. Gumpert: I beg to second that.

The resolution was unanimously approved.

Mr Russell then proposed, "That Messrs Price, Waterhouse, and Co. be and are hereby reappointed auditors for the year ending June 30, 1922, at a fee of £750."

A shareholder seconded the proposition, which was unanimously approved.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF.

Mr T. Woodsend: The resolution I am about to submit to you is one which affords me very special pleasure, because I have lived many years in South America and know how there may grow up in one's mind a certain sense of detachment from the central office unless, periodically, those who work at so great a distance from home receive the stimulus of an expression of appreciation for what they have accomplished. The past year has been one of commercial depression such as, I think, has never been experienced in our time, and the setback has been the more serious because it succeeded a boom in trade almost, if not quite, equally unprecedented. Small wonder, then, if some men were unable to adapt their minds to the prevailing conditions, and to realise sufficiently what was the probable course of events. But that the continued efforts of our staff should, in such a year,

have resulted in a net profit equal to three-fourths of the earnings of the previous 12 months and in excess of those of any previous year, is, I feel, an eloquent testimony to the sagacity of our staff as a whole, and I feel confident that you will be so entirely in conformity with me that you will adopt this resolution with acclamation. I propose, "That the best thanks of this meeting be offered to the staff abroad and at home for their services during the past year," and when it has been seconded I will ask Mr Wells, our general manager, and Mr Cartwright, our manager at Mendoza, who is at present home on furlough, to respond.

Mr A. de Lantsheere: I have the greatest pleasure in seconding that resolution.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

MR WELLS' REPLY FOR THE STAFF.

Mr William E. Wells (general manager): It gives me the greatest pleasure to respond on behalf of the staff, both at home and abroad, to the very kind remarks just expressed by Mr Woodsend. It is especially gratifying to hear such words from one of Mr Woodsend's experience and knowledge of South America and its conditions. From my residence of some 20 years in South America as an officer of the bank, I can assure you that my colleagues there, as well as those in North America, on the Continent, and at home, always greatly appreciate the kindly references to their services made at the annual general meeting of our bank. I have spoken before of the spirit of loyalty which actuates the members of our staff abroad, and I can say the same of those at home, with whom I have come still more closely into touch during recent years. All have at heart the interests of the great institution we have the honour to serve, and with all confidence, I can assure you that there will be no lessening of effort on our part in the future. Once again I thank you, Sir, on behalf of my colleagues for the kind remarks contained in your resolution, while to the directors I desire also to express our indebtedness for the leadership which has given prosperity to our institution and all concerned in its working, and to the shareholders our grateful thanks for the manner in which this resolution has been received.

Mr H. S. Cartwright (manager of the Mendoza branch): Mr Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,—The kind vote of thanks which you have passed yet another year will be read by men spread over the greater part of South America, on whose behalf, in particular, I speak in support of what our genial general manager has just said. You have been assured by Mr Wells of the devotion of your staff to the bank, and, except to say that their enthusiasm has in no way abated, I shall not enlarge upon this now, but rather emphasise the cause of it. One does not have to look far for this, for, in addition to a natural loyalty to the bank, it is fully realised by the staff that the welfare of each one of us is entirely bound up with the welfare of our institution. And one of the requisites for prosperity is whole-hearted co-operation with our directors, each one of us according to his ability, and each pulling his full weight. We are proud to feel that in this manner we have a direct stake in the bank. From the cordial reception you have given to this vote it is evident that you do not regard it merely as a very formal part of the yearly proceedings, but as something genuinely felt, and it will afford me no little pleasure so to inform my colleagues in the Argentine, and elsewhere, on my return there by the next outgoing boat. In their name, ladies and gentlemen, I thank you.

VOTE OF THANKS TO CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTORS.

Señor Don Agustin Edwards: Ladies and gentlemen,—It is very late in the day to make a speech, but I think that this meeting could not possibly rise without one of the shareholders proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman and the board of directors. It is not mere custom which prompts me to propose this vote of thanks; it is a real and sincere appreciation of the work done by the chairman and the board of directors, and also of the fact that this great institution of the Anglo-South American Bank was born in my own country many years ago. It is sufficient to consider the figures of the past few years to realise what the work of the chairman and the board of directors of this bank has been. When we see that the capital since 1914 has been doubled, that the reserve fund has nearly trebled, that the current, deposit, and other accounts are sevenfold what they were in that year, we realise that all this could not possibly have been achieved without the greatest efficiency on the part of the chairman and the board of directors, and on the part of our staff. We realise that the directors of this bank have had to steer through the most difficult times within the memory of man, and we are glad to see that, in spite of all this, our institution is prosperous in the hands of those who are at present at the head of its affairs. I believe that the board have been following a policy which has laid the foundations for the future greater prosperity and the further development of this bank. Therefore, in the vote of

thanks which I am about to propose, I not only refer to the actual services rendered to the institution, but also to the wise and far-seeing policy which the board are pursuing. I now beg to propose: "That the very hearty thanks of this meeting be accorded to the chairman and directors for their services during the past year, and particularly to the chairman for his services in the chair to-day."

SIR HARRY BRITTAIN ON CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND THE BALKANS.

Sir Harry Brittain, M.P.: Ladies and gentlemen,—I am very pleased to be able to associate myself with my esteemed friend Señor Don Agustin Edwards in most heartily seconding this resolution. As a very considerable shareholder, both directly and as a trustee, I particularly appreciate this opportunity of seconding this vote of thanks. We are exceedingly fortunate in our board of directors, and especially so in our chairman, and I am sure we could not have our affairs in better hands. As a member of Parliament, and therefore interested in such matters, I sincerely congratulate our chairman on one of the most statesmanlike speeches on finance to which it has ever been my privilege to listen. I should like for only half a minute to refer to points raised by Mr Hise in his speech from the point of view of conditions in the belligerent countries. I spent practically the whole of the time of the Parliamentary recess since August on a visit to the Balkans and to Central Europe, and, of course, everything that the chairman has told you to-day is absolutely true as to the difficulty of trade in those countries. I found throughout the whole of the Balkan States, and throughout Central Europe and

Czecho-Slovakia, that never did the name of this country stand higher than it does to-day, and I also found that the people of those countries were more than ready to trade with England than with any other country in the world. They were, however, prevented from doing so by this unhappy difficulty of exchange, with its rapid fluctuations, making it impossible for orders to be given. It is by our export trade that we stand or fall, and I cannot help taking this opportunity of putting forward the humble suggestion that there is no question of more paramount importance at the present day than this question of exchange, and that an attempt should be made to stabilise the foreign exchanges. I know the question bristles with difficulties, but I should imagine that the combined acumen to be found among the great banking institutions of London will enable a solution to be found. Let me again say that it is with the greatest possible pleasure that I support the resolution so ably proposed by Señor Don Agustin Edwards. I am sure the resolution will have the unanimous approval of all the shareholders.

The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman: Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, I thank Señor Edwards and Sir Harry Brittain for what they have said—perhaps a little too flattering regarding myself, but none the less extremely kind. I thank you very sincerely for your kind reception of this resolution, and we hope that, notwithstanding the trials through which we may yet have to go—for I do not think we as a country are by any means completely out of the wood—we may on a future occasion meet you with a balance-sheet no worse than that which we present to-day.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.
Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

CITIES SHOWN ON MAP:

- UNITED STATES: NEW YORK
- MEXICO: MEXICO CITY
- CENTRAL AMERICA: GUATEMALA, SONSONATE, SALVADOR, MANAGUA, SANTA MARTA, GUAYMAS, PUERTO CASSELLO, CANCUN, MEDILLIN, BOGOTA, MANTA, GUAYACIL, SANTIAGO
- SOUTH AMERICA: LIMA, IQUIQUE, ANTOFAGASTA, COMAPO, COQUIMBO, VALPARAISO, SANTIAGO, CHILLAN, TALCAHUANO, CONCEPCION, PERAMBUE, BAHIA, RIO DE JANEIRO, SAO PAULO, SANTOS, PORTO ALEGRE, PELotas, RIO GRANDE DO SUL, MENDOZA, SAN RAFAEL, SAN JUAN, RIO GALLEGO, PUNTA ARENAS
- AFRICA: CAIRO
- EUROPE: LONDON, MANCHESTER, BRADFORD, BIRMINGHAM, GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, DUBLIN, LIVERPOOL, LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, NOTTINGHAM, BIRMINGHAM, GLASGOW, EDINBURGH, DUBLIN, LIVERPOOL, LEEDS, SHEFFIELD, NOTTINGHAM

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

BUENOS AYRES GREAT SOUTHERN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

RAILWAY TARIFFS IN THE ARGENTINE.

The ordinary general meeting of the Buenos Ayres Great Southern Railway Company, Limited, was held, on the 26th instant, at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, Sir Albert Bowen, Bart. (chairman of the company), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that in view of the unsatisfactory conditions prevailing during the year, the gross receipts at £8,732,000 did not compare very unfavourably with the previous year, the decrease amounting to £807,259. The net receipts showed the enormous reduction of £1,570,000, accounted for principally by the large growth in working expenditure. Practically every department of the railway working had contributed to this increase in expenditure, the main items of increase being in salaries and wages and in fuel.

The Chairman then dealt with the question of tariffs and the provisions of the Mitre Law. He could not do better, he said, than quote the words of his predecessor (Mr Jason Rigby) in his remarks from the chair in 1908. Mr Rigby said: "As regards the general effect of the new law (the Mitre Law), I think there is every prospect of its meeting the object it has in view, that is, the unification of railway interests and the closer and more satisfactory relationship between the railways and the Government," and that "it should prevent unfair competition on the one hand or unreasonable tariffs on the other," and "secure to the existing railways the benefit which should accrue to them as the result of their many years of patient pioneer work in opening up the country."

The Argentine Government, the Chairman continued, would think anyone mad who suggested to them the repudiation of the interest on their foreign debt, as Argentines were justly proud of the fact that through all their vicissitudes they had always faithfully carried out their engagements. It was the more strange, therefore, that the present Government could contemplate with apparent equanimity what appeared to the directors as the partial repudiation of the obligations they undertook to foreign railway shareholders under the Mitre Law, on the strength of which enormous amounts of British capital had been laid out in their country. The whole future progress of the Argentine Republic depended upon the extension of the railway system to the enormously rich undeveloped districts far away from the existing lines, and to what country could they look to find the money for those necessary extensions if their treatment of existing capital was not fair and generous. They had received a cable from their local committee giving the latest information, which stated, among other things: "As regards tariffs, we still have hope that justice will be done." The report was unanimously adopted.

BUENOS AYRES AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

GOVERNMENT'S INTERPRETATION OF THE "MITRE LAW."

The ordinary general meeting of the Buenos Ayres and Pacific Railway Company, Limited, was held, on the 24th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London. Viscount St Davids, P.C. (chairman), presided.

He said the report was an extremely bad one—of that there was no doubt. The only merit he could claim, as a director of the company, was that he gave the shareholders fair warning last November, when most people thought that the prospects were bright. Further, he told them last February, when things had more developed, that the year, in his judgment, would be a bad one—and he then detailed his reasons for the judgment he had formed. Three main factors in recent years had unfavourably altered the prospects of the company—fuel, the decrease in agriculture, and the great rise in wages. Last year fuel was costing the company famine prices, but to-day it was much cheaper. After amplifying this, he said that during the present year they ought to economise on fuel and stores to the extent of about half-a-million compared with last year, and next year they would have cheap fuel for the whole of the year; but the saving would not, he thought, be so great as half-a-million. Speaking of the decrease in agriculture, he observed that cattle ranches—which in some parts had replaced the cultivation of grain—were no good to the railways. They now noted a tendency in the other direction, and for the first time in many years they had this year 4 per cent. more under agriculture—and perhaps that percentage would prove higher. As to the cost of labour, there was no sign of diminution. Since 1917 the cost of labour to their company had gone up by £1,700,000—a prodigious charge. Without an increase in rates it was obviously impossible for any company to meet such a charge.

Referring to tariffs, he said under the "Mitre Law" the railways were allowed to earn 6.8 per cent. on its capital—that was to say,

on the whole of the capital, debenture, preference, and ordinary. If their company earned 6.8 per cent. on their capital they would be earning 12 to 14 per cent. on the ordinary. Before there could be any increase in tariffs the law provided that the Government must approve of the increases as being just and reasonable. Last summer the position was unsatisfactory. They and other railways were levying certain rates, as was believed they had the right to levy, but grave doubts were raised by the Government. He (the chairman), therefore, went out, with the result that when he left the country he believed the whole matter was settled. But on reaching Lisbon he received a cablegram that the decision of the Director-General of Railways had been repudiated by the Government, and that he (this official) had no authority to act for the Government. Whether legal or illegal—and he believed many of the increases were legal—they were ordered by the Government to withdraw them at once by *force majeure*. Their representatives had withdrawn all those increases sanctioned last August by the Director-General of Railways. As to the current year, crop prospects were most satisfactory. But they had the great increase in wages and the prospect of further increases in six months' time. Unless there were an increase in tariffs, it would be impossible for the company—good or bad crops—to present a satisfactory report for the current year. He felt the Argentine Government had been misled by the apparently good results of the previous year. Further, he would remind them of the immense services rendered to the country by the railways. What would be the result to the country if the railways were impoverished? The stock of the company was held by a large number of small capitalists. Their stock was now quoted at about 30—a tell-tale figure, evidencing that they were not sucking the country dry. The credit of the Argentine railways was the credit of the Government, and it was to their advantage that the company's credit should be high. This question of the tariffs should be settled equitably and justly—and at once. He appealed to the Government to give him that justice, and to give it him soon.

The report was unanimously adopted.

CENTRAL ARGENTINE RAILWAY, LIMITED.

QUESTION OF INCREASED RATES AND FARES.

The ordinary general meeting of the Central Argentine Railway, Limited, was held, on the 27th instant, at River Plate House, London, Mr C. H. Pearson presiding in the absence of Sir Joseph White Todd, Bart.

The Chairman read Sir Joseph's speech, in the course of which he said that while the past year's results, under all the circumstances, had not been unsatisfactory, they had proved, in a measure, disappointing, more especially if viewed from the standpoint of what the first six months had induced the directors to hope might reasonably be anticipated from the second half of the year. On the income side of the account the outstanding satisfactory feature was the expansion in passenger traffic. To summarise the results, the net earnings were £1,198,000 less than in the previous year, accounted for, in the main, by £600,000 paid away in higher wages, £297,000 in dearer fuel and other working stores, and £49,000 in higher reserve fund provisions—a total of £946,000 out of the £1,198,000. The reserve funds now aggregated over £4,000,000. During the year they had expended £701,000 on capital account.

Dealing with the increased rates and fares which the company had put into force, he described in detail the steps which had been taken by the company, and referring to a resolution issued by the Minister of Public Works declaring the increases which had been granted to the railways as null and void, and ordering the withdrawal of such increases by all companies interested, he said that up to the present the Central Argentine had not complied with that resolution, because they did not consider that it legally affected them. They had throughout scrupulously complied with the Laws and Decrees governing the operation of railways in the Argentine, and would continue to do so, feeling as they did that under those conditions justice must eventually prevail. That, at any rate, had been his invariable experience. On the face of the Mitre Law many millions of pounds had been invested in railway enterprises in the Argentine, and that enactment was passed on the principle that in an agricultural country, where there must of necessity be ups and downs in revenue, an average of three years should be the foundation for measuring income, and it was impossible, therefore, to believe that the present or any future Argentine Government would fail to comply with its side of a contract entered into by two contracting parties. In a word, he, for one, was very far from despairing that better counsels would soon prevail—for one reason, if for no other, and that was that the interests of a prosperous country were identical with those of its railways.

The report was unanimously adopted.

BUENOS AYRES WESTERN RAILWAY, LIMITED.

POSITION OF BRITISH-OWNED RAILWAYS IN THE ARGENTINE.

The thirty-second ordinary general meeting of the Buenos Ayres Western Railway, Limited, was held, on the 25th instant, at River Plate House, London, Sir Henry Bell, Bart. (the chairman), presiding.

The secretary (Mr Robert Graham) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that there had been sudden and severe variations in exchange which had affected trade all over the world, but the principal reason for the bad showing was that they had been impeded in their efforts to secure promptly rates which would enable them to earn the profits to which they were entitled under Law 5,315—the Mitre Law—or even to cover the cost of the services rendered to the public in Argentina. Thus they could only show the miserable result that, after taking into net revenue half a million from reserve and the balance brought forward, they could pay but 4 per cent., carrying forward £37,973.

Proceeding, the Chairman explained the bearing of the Mitre Law, and also the attitude now being adopted by the authorities in the Argentine. The Government in the matter of tariffs had assumed the position of both plaintiff and judge, and had awarded the penalty that the railway companies should refund all the increased rates and pay a fine of 60,000 dols. All the increased rates had been withdrawn temporarily, but the company had given notice that certain of them would be collected as from November 1st next, and the board were taking proceedings in the Courts with regard to the fine.

It had been urged that instead of applying for increased rates the railways should search for means to reduce working expenses. That comment might be of value if the companies were supported in their efforts to effect economies, though he felt sure that a reaction against the constant additions to the expenses of the railways would shortly set in, while it was clear that the recent refusals to allow adequate rates would have the most hurtful effect not only on the companies but on many thousands of railway employees. It must soon be evident to the Argentine authorities, and the people, too, that they were killing the goose that laid the golden eggs.

Though the past year had been cheerless, they could look forward to better times, even if not in the immediate future. The tariff question was the important adverse factor, but he was not without hope that they would receive the reasonable treatment they had a right to expect.

The report was unanimously adopted.

ERINOID, LIMITED.

REVIVAL AFTER TEMPORARY SETBACK.

SURMOUNTING TRADE DEPRESSION.

The sixth annual general meeting of Erinoid, Limited, was held, on the 27th instant, at the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate place, London, E.C., Mr Andrew Binnie, the chairman, presiding.

The secretary (Mr A. E. Parker) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Ladies and Gentlemen,—After five years of progressive prosperity we have had a severe setback—so severe that only a sound company could have survived and surmounted it. The reasons for this setback are given in the report, and the accounts are also drawn up so as to show what has happened. If you will look at the profit and loss account you will see that the trading profits are £16,717 as compared with £70,136 in 1920, and the former figure is on the assumption that stocks had remained on a stable footing. Even on that footing there is a serious drop in the profits, which is entirely due to the decrease in sales arising out of the general depression in trade. In 1920 the sales touched an average of £20,000 per month, equal to £240,000 per annum. In October, 1920, they were £27,000, and in the week after the last shareholders' meeting in 1920 £5,500. It was only in mid-December that business cracked, cancellations of orders poured in, and we had the lowest week (£1,400) we had had for many years. The monthly average up to August, 1921, dropped away to about £6,000, but in September last business began to revive. The sales rose to £11,000 for the month, and I anticipate they will be still better for the month of October. If the sales continue even on the present footing we ought to have a very good year indeed, having regard to the drastic way in which we have written down stock.

THE COMPANY'S BUSINESS MANAGERS.

As the accounts show, the really serious matter has been the drop this year in the value of finished stocks and raw material, and the loss on forward contracts, for which we have provided in the accounts. We were placed last year in a serious dilemma with



HEAD OFFICE:

1 Dale Street,
LIVERPOOL.

LONDON:

Chief Office,
1 Cornhill, E.C.3.

TOTAL ASSETS exceed - - £20,000,000
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID over - £102,000,000

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity Guarantee, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Personal Accident, Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of Profits, &c.

OFFICES IN ALL THE CHIEF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

orders pouring in and our raw material almost exhausted. Either we had to abandon manufacture and wait upon events or contract forward so as to cover the orders. Our business managers, Messrs Cleeve Bros. and Co., are shrewd people with wide experience of the market in milk products, and they are far and away the largest shareholders in the company. In view of the figures I have given you they thought it best to go right ahead. I think that, under the circumstances, most manufacturers would have done the same thing. In September and October they contracted to meet an increasing demand on a rising market, and sales at a rate of over £300,000 per annum means a vast quantity of raw material. Remember also that in this particular market you must contract ahead or you cannot contract at all.

Our managers could not foresee that a series of strikes, threats of strikes, and ill-judged taxation would bring business to an abrupt standstill. Let me add that in giving you this information there is no desire on the part of the directors to make a scapegoat of the managers or to shelter behind them. It is only right that you should know that the losses are not the result of speculative or ignorant buying by directors not in touch with a special market, but the considered policy of a great business house who for many years have known this market from end to end, and who had been having a perpetual struggle to get supplies. Messrs Cleeves have done well for us for many years and will do so again, and I do not think any of us wish to be wise after the event and to turn round on them now. As investors know, there are few enterprises which are not in the same boat.

GOODWILL AND CUSTOMERS.

It is one of the evils of business that while the large manufacturer, who can be shot at, has to carry out his contracts in times of depression and in falling markets, his customers make a practice of cancelling their orders. We could not insist on the orders being carried out, but we hope and believe our forbearance has added to the goodwill of the company and strengthened its connection.

CONSERVATIVE FINANCE.

The ample reserves built up in prosperous years enable us to face the situation. We have not minimised it, but have made a drastic cut so that we start the new financial year with a clean stock. You will appreciate that the stock is not brought in at its selling value, but at the reduced cost of manufacture. This leaves the usual margin of profit for the current year. If we had taken the stock at its selling value we should not have had to write down the large sum we have, but it is better to give the new year a good start. As we sell the stock we get the profit; we also get the cash. As the stock is all paid for, the proceeds, after paying current wages and expenses, are applicable to reducing the bank loan.

SHAREHOLDERS AND RIVALS.

We have been criticised by one shareholder because in the accounts we have not separated the stock from the book debts. That is quite a legitimate criticism, but it is the criticism of a shareholder who looks at these things from only one point of view. I may say that the accounts are modelled on those of a well-known manufacturing company of high repute. In lumping together stock and book debts, the object is not to give too much information to possible rivals or to customers as to the stocks we hold. That is precisely the information keen business people would like to get hold of. Moreover, the directors are aware that there are some small shareholders who are only on the register to get information. A former shareholder was the London agent of a German rival, and the... who are only here on a watching brief for other... an indication of the position, I

100, Savings Banks,
Dividend 2

may, however, add that the book debts are very much more than sufficient to meet the creditors and the bills payable—how much more I need not say. In any case, the greater part of the floating liabilities at August have since run off. We have no serious commitments, and the bank loan is reduced by £6,000. As you can see, we had recourse to our bankers in order to pay for raw material, and have given them a debenture by way of security. This, however, is only a temporary measure. With sales at the present rate and debts to come in, the loan should be quickly paid off.

As you have no doubt noticed, we have realised the War Loan and cut our loss. From the point of view of excess profits taxation it was desirable to face this loss now rather than later, as 60 per cent. of the loss is recoverable. At the same time, we are saving interest.

With regard to the factory at Yate, to which I referred last year, we were unable to get possession of the property at the time when it would have been of use to us, and I need hardly say that we are dropping that development for the present and are not taking up the property.

The reserve of £123,000, which we have applied to writing down the stocks, is made up of last year's figure, plus the premium on new shares and excess tax recoverable. At the time the issue was made the shares were standing in the market at 18s, and in view of the business we were then doing it seemed only fair to issue them at a premium. We, of course, deplore the sequel, but possibly it is some consolation to know that without the premium we could not have so successfully faced the unprecedented fall in values all round and put our house in order.

PROPOSED FRENCH COMPANY.

The question of foreign tariffs has also engaged our attention. Although the bulk of our purchases of raw material were made in France, the French Government has recently increased the tariff on Erinoid five and a-half times. That is not a tariff to raise revenue, but a prohibitive tariff designed to prevent imports. Other countries would meet a similar attack on their industries by retaliation; for example, by a prohibitive tariff on French fancy goods, and so compel fair trade. We in this country are taught to console ourselves by the supposed corresponding increase in invisible exports, and the most we can hope for by way of retaliation is a polite letter of protest. We have, therefore, to seek other means of regaining this trade, and we have been negotiating with a view to setting up a French company. According to the reports we have had conditions are favourable. If we are able to formulate a suitable scheme we shall give the English shareholders an opportunity of participating, but it will no doubt be an advantage to have a substantial part of the capital held by our French customers or in influential French hands. The setting up of a French company would enable us to transfer to France plant and machinery which might otherwise have to be idle, and also enable us to realise its value. Incidentally this shows how tariffs may be used to divert employment from one country to another. Different countries have different panaceas. The remedy in England is to increase taxation.

ECONOMIES AND DIRECTORS' FEES.

In view of the general depression of trade we have taken various steps to effect economies, but we are not restricting these measures to our employees alone. Last year, when we were so prosperous, the shareholders were good enough to increase the directors' remuneration. We propose this year to go back to the previous figure. The shareholders in the past have been very largely friends of the directors and the managers, and have backed them up in a way which adds to our regret at the unfortunate result of the past year. However, the current year opens with the most promising returns. As we were among the last to feel the depression of trade so we are the first to benefit by a revival, and considering the general conditions our trade is remarkable. There are still other fields to open up for the use of Erinoid, and there is no doubt as to the demand for the material. As to foreign competition, I may remind you of our close association with Messrs Cleaves, the largest milk producers in the United Kingdom. That puts us in a position to procure supplies of raw material at competitive prices, which, naturally, will be more favourable to us than to any foreign rivals buying abroad on a depreciated currency.

The Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and inviting remarks and questions.

RESOLUTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr F. W. Beck, seconded the motion, paid a high tribute to the services of Messrs Cleaves and stated that by cancelling contracts on generous terms they had gained the goodwill and good feeling of a large number of customers. They had suffered a setback which was a great loss to the company had before it a very bright and promising future. In reply to Mr H. B. Beck, the Chairman stated that would

arise from the establishment of a French company, and stated that they were not afraid of competition on the Continent, especially as their material was better than any other.

The resolution for the adoption of the report was carried unanimously, as were the resolutions re-electing Mr Binnie as a director and re-electing the auditors.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY YEAR'S RESULTS.

The twelfth ordinary general meeting of the Kern River Oilfields of California, Limited, was held, on the 26th instant, at Kingsway Hall, Kingsway, London, Mr William Ivey (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr Reginald H. Young, F.C.I.S.) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said that the report now submitted was even better than that of a year ago, which he had then described as the best in the history of the company. Their operations in Trinidad and in Rumania and the commencement of a more vigorous policy in Mexico were already bearing fruit. In 1920 the distributable profit was £175,654, whereas in the past year it amounted to no less than £384,454. In 1920 they paid a dividend of 17½ per cent., and this year they were paying 20 per cent. on a much larger capital, together with a special bonus of 20 per cent. Their capital was £1,200,000, and their properties stood at less than 25 per cent. of that figure. The amount of £662,966 spent on subsidiary companies to date in no sense represented the true value of those undertakings, which were worth a very much larger sum. The total of the cash assets of the Kern and St Helen Companies was £1,134,566. With regard to the Kern production, they had been able so to arrest the natural decline in production that last year they had arrived at a figure which showed a decrease of just over 1 per cent. only. To-day he was able to point to another record in that respect. Kern 33 and 19 had actually increased their production during the past year to such an extent that there was an increase of 1.03 per cent. over the 1920 figures.

With regard to the new leases during the last few weeks, the shareholders had seen news in the papers which must have been very pleasing to them. The Montebello field had really been a very great success, and also a source of much worry. In the Taylor and Puma Briana they had wells which had given a very good production, but unfortunately their near neighbours had been able to offset those wells, and so prevent their getting a long-established production such as they had had on the Macleod field. In spite of that, those two were excellent properties. Last, but not least, they had the Eggleston well, which was the subject of an announcement a short time ago, when it "blew in" with a production of 2,000 barrels of 28.7 gravity oil a day and 20 million cubic feet of gas a day. He did not wish shareholders to run away with the idea that the production was still 2,000 barrels per day. It was round about 1,000 barrels. The important point was the effect on their other properties adjoining, which totalled over 800 acres.

The report and accounts were adopted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 22, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 23, 1920.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 22, 1921.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 23, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	71,441,000	77,383,000	2,634,000	4,211,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	110,581,000	107,450,000	12,887,000	11,467,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,938,000	..	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	27,629,000	26,256,000	3,563,000	659,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	8,236,000	14,341,000	25,000	140,000
Land Tax.....	..	..	..	..	..
House Duty.....	2,500,000	430,000	390,000	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	153,737,000	137,297,000	2,863,000	1,903,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	29,714,000	123,188,000	250,000	4,015,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	6,480,000	..	220,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	26,250,000	26,250,000	1,000,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	290,000	280,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	6,877,297	9,142,807	199,166	3,027,999
Miscellaneous.....	..	..	..	..	..
Ordinary Receipts....	21,500,000	14,070,806	12,281,507	102,542	316,231
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	55,317,065	175,499,870	2,060,736	660,041
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	513,991,168	703,762,184	25,804,444	27,649,271
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	517,065,674	719,131,261	..	..

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 22, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 23, 1920.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 22, 1921.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 23, 1920.
OTHER RECEIPTS.				
Temporary Advances Repaid:—				
Billion	4,430,000	2,240,000	300,000	200,000
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	440,000	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	40,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..
b) For other Issues:—				
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	2,358,172,000	2,298,239,000	73,324,000	128,524,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90 ..	..	270,552	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	769,061	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	89,777	..	..
By National Savings Certificates	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	22,180,000	20,400,000	..	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	..	2,350,000	1,050,000	700,000
By National War Bonds	5	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—				
5½ year, 1925-35	1,024,990	11,634,000	..	155,000
5½, 1923	60,614,459	..	2,739,459	..
By other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	7,849,822	24,625,344	859,293	3,388,061
d) Ways and Means Advances	778,707,000	797,540,000	38,750,000	17,250,000
g) Persian Oil Company	..	..	..	..
Dividends on Shares acquired ..	..	3,482	..	3,482
Payments—				
in respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919 ..	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	35,888	5,524	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	178,566	..	..	..
Total	3,767,934,478	3,879,868,021	142,827,196	177,869,816

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 22, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 23, 1920.	Issues. Week Ending Oct. 22, 1921.	Issues. Week Ending Oct. 23, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	9,875,161	10,403,313	..	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	195,608,258	190,000,652	4,707,121	3,662,334
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,519,000	2,429,902	485,785	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	4,345,738	4,197,343	525,000	360,000
Land Settlement	5,000,000	1,996,372	3,758,541	107,877	184,769
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	915,029	1,176,850	..	..
Supply Services	758,932,000	356,440,031	395,637,441	14,070,000	15,335,000
Expenditure	1,130,204,000	571,699,589	607,594,042	19,409,938	20,028,889
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances:—					
Billion	4,300,000	2,450,000	250,000	100,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,805,000	..	..	..	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	3,100,000	..	600,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	65,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply	2,358,298,000	2,329,841,000	103,985,000	125,235,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c. under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	21,398,019	36,781,588	380,016	1,563,776	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	10,800,000	18,700,000	700,000	600,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise	8,500,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22, 1920-21	12,451,490	2,580,000	..	..	..
6% 1920	..	2,580,000	..	..	..
5% 1921	18,454,450	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	31,738,131	40,902,539	1,224,472	3,514,662	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915 ..	..	58,000,000	..	3,600,000	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid ..	702,488,000	760,163,000	13,825,000	22,600,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	16,460,134	14,800,112	500,000	500,000	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4) ..	10,865,000	425,000	875,000	425,000	..
Old Sinking Fund 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	61,200	197,766	..	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England	3,763,661,355	3,875,799,865	41,149,486	178,167,327	..
Bank of Ireland	1,999,154	1,963,687	41,452	118,511	..
Bank of Ireland	2,243,969	2,104,469	1,636,258	179,000	..
Total	4,243,123	4,068,156	1,677,710	297,511	..

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921, Treasury, October 24, 1921.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.				
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Silver.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	..	..	11,423
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	481	9,924	9,286
1915.									
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	276	54,621	20,536
1916.									
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	190	118,102	6,868
1917.									
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	134	186,637	5,486
1918.									
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	89	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	87	308,577	5,423
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	83	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	89	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	91	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	100	313,370	2,981
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	117	331,660	305
Sept. 29.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	133	322,425	385
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	130	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 31.....	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	..	28,500	19,450	139	311,334	141
June 30.....	323,884	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	148	287,750	150
Sept. 28.....	314,382	14,830	..	..	28,500	19,450	152	278,119	143
Oct. 12.....	313,593	13,961	..	..	28,500	19,450	153	276,473	131
19.....	312,604	14,008	..	..	28,500	19,450	153	275,530	131
26.....	311,575	14,199	..	..	28,500	19,450	154	274,670	155

*Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. †Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1821.

ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.
London: 5, Walbrook, EC4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.

Clerical, Medical & General

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

2½% Valuation
and
BONUS as BEFORE

Chief Office: 15, St. James's Square, S.W.1, London

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Oct. 26, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,127,985	—	£ 23,477
Public deposits	13,533,376	+ 1,260,221	+ 2,887,156
Other deposits	161,505,153	+ 4,696,294	+ 40,948,581
Government securities	87,575,907	+ 7,860,000	+ 23,057,998
Other securities	82,203,184	+ 4,212,500	+ 6,141,960
Reserve	22,947,697	+ 235,234	+ 8,837,117
Note circulation	123,915,830	+ 231,700	+ 3,672,730
Coin and bullion	128,413,527	+ 3,534	+ 5,214,387
% of reserve to liabilities	13½%	—	8%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Depart- ment.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
Aug. 5	128,382,461	128,699,175	125,027,712	124,878,424	18,133,286	14½	14½
10	128,380,654	127,564,270	132,455,172	131,222,462	19,266,384	14½	14½
17	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	14½	14½
24	128,402,703	125,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	14½	14½
31	128,409,235	126,889,125	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,959,510	14½	14½
Sept. 7	128,410,306	126,432,535	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	15½	15½
14	128,410,714	125,407,555	144,600,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	15½	15½
21	128,417,297	124,406,495	129,165,884	124,810,483	22,460,802	17½	17½
28	128,414,367	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18½	18½
Oct. 5	128,413,527	125,666,690	147,038,604	143,489,546	21,197,151	14½	14½
12	128,421,587	126,613,629	149,805,295	145,222,743	22,257,967	14½	14½
19	128,417,061	123,684,130	171,602,456	166,131,591	23,182,931	13½	13½
26	128,413,547	123,915,830	175,038,529	169,779,091	22,947,697	13½	13½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Oct. 25, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Oct. 29, 1919.	Oct. 27, 1920.	Oct. 26, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 28,669,250	£ 28,933,380	£ 84,455,485	£ 127,588,560	£ 123,915,830
Public deposits	7,267,753	19,014,809	22,753,017	16,420,532	13,533,376
Other deposits	44,232,154	41,248,964	116,181,719	120,556,572	161,505,153
Government securities	14,096,084	11,046,570	53,907,902	64,517,939	87,575,907
Other securities	27,905,256	41,461,280	80,714,993	76,051,224	82,203,184
Reserve of notes and coin	27,211,293	25,463,980	22,058,400	14,060,580	22,947,697
Coin and bullion	37,430,543	35,947,360	88,063,885	123,199,140	128,413,547
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	52½%	42½%	15½%	10½%	13½%
Bank rate of discount	4½%	5½%	5½%	7½%	5½%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	3½	2½	4½	5½	3½
Price of Consols	78½	74½	52	45	48½
Price of silver per oz.	25½d	26½d	66½d	52d	39d
Average price of wheat	32s 9d	33s 0d	73s 0d	90s 8d	74s 7d
Exchanges	25-15-17½	25-17-20	36-30-90	54-40-80	53-83-54-15
New York	84-83½	84-79	84-15½-16½	83-16½-17½	83-94-95½
London	12-23-4	12-05-10	10-98-11-01	11-38-42	11-53-58
Berlin	20-47½	20-49½	124-0-128-0	257-265	645-660
Clearing house return	£ 235,636,000	£ 199,913,000	£ 612,797,000	£ 683,918,000	£ 685,431,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1-October 19	25,192,007,700	2,439,763,000	27,631,770,000
October 26	632,570	52,923,000	685,431,000
Total to date 1921	25,824,577,700	2,492,686,000	28,317,263,700
Do 1920	23,396,558,000	3,408,681,000	26,805,239,000
Increase or decrease in 1921	+ 2,428,019,700	+ 814,005,000	+ 3,242,024,700
Total for 1920	23,396,558,000	3,408,681,000	26,805,239,000
Do 1919	21,545,452,000	3,086,768,000	24,632,220,000
Increase or decrease in 1920	+ 1,851,106,000	+ 321,913,000	+ 2,173,019,000

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to October 22.	£ 54,990,800	£ 62,960,000	7,969,200
BIRMINGHAM	156,869,500	101,878,700	- 54,990,800
BRISTOL	74,375,300	300,810,800	226,435,500
DUBLIN	370,762,100	4,923,202	- 365,838,898
LIVERPOOL	72,877,900	47,061,400	- 25,816,500
LEICESTER	52,032,100	31,962,900	- 20,069,200
LONDON	681,955,200	364,354,700	- 317,600,500
MANCHESTER	1,250,90,900	534,392,500	- 716,508,400
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	132,006,000	75,805,100	- 56,200,900
NOTTINGHAM	48,133,600	29,417,500	- 18,716,100
SHEFFIELD	70,671,500	47,218,500	- 23,453,000

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Oct. 21, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Oct. 18, 1920.
RESOURCES.	£	£	£
Total gold reserve	2,772,720	+ 43,800	1,992,100
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	149,040	+ 1,030	162,810
Bills discounted for member banks	1,329,770	- 72,640	2,773,870
Bills bought in open market	54,310	- 7,080	519,520
Government obligations owned	193,810	- 22,580	328,590
All other resources	56,980	+ 1,450	34,870
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Government deposits	29,370	- 24,900	13,980
Other deposits	1,688,320	- 17,730	1,680,160
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,440,860	- 35,450	3,353,270
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	92,950	- 4,980	213,530
All other liabilities	22,460	+ 50	88,490
Capital and surplus	316,880	- 30	262,340
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	70.3%	+ 1.8%	42.7%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
ASSETS.	£	£	£
Cash and bank balances	477,083,821	476,811,646	521,673,770
Bank balances abroad	68,887,493	65,128,352	83,089,570
Call and short loans	263,872,952	268,443,499	307,487,470
Securities	372,734,891	385,571,399	363,444,470
Loans in Canada	1,331,201,118	1,338,883,309	1,483,034,470
Loans abroad	150,763,865	155,238,085	200,945,470
Other assets	105,199,283	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.	£	£	£
Note circulation	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,470
Deposits	£	£	£
Government	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,470
Public in Canada	1,807,193,444	1,826,311,934	1,902,009,470
Foreign	268,088,677	274,231,912	356,570,470
Bank balances—	£	£	£
Canadian	10,078,772	10,300,260	9,554,470
Foreign	46,093,427	39,029,582	49,041,470
Bills payable and acceptances	37,202,050	40,429,404	51,202,470
Other liabilities	4,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,470
Capital and rest	264,331,734	264,326,315	256,705,470

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Oct. 27, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1920.
ASSETS.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold coin and bullion	5,523,866	5,523,866	5,485,729
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367
Silver coin and bullion	278,421	278,075	264,900
Discount and advances	4,756,534	4,700,998	5,243,978
LIABILITIES.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Notes	37,154,459	37,406,813	39,084,406
Government deposits	42,272	23,995	12,477
Private deposits	2,521,133	2,544,354	2,336,253

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.
ASSETS.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Gold	2,505,411	2,504,673	2,504,086
Loans	619,098	615,942	617,359
Silver and docs.	1,953,912	1,955,537	1,980,954
Spanish 4% stock	344,475	344,475	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000
LIABILITIES.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.	Pesetas.
Circulation	4,301,027	4,308,662	4,306,733
Deposits	1,013,099	1,031,090	1,047,304

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Sept. 13, 1921.	Aug. 27, 1921.	Sept. 13, 1920.
ASSETS.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.
Gold and balances	1,394,815,156	1,391,598,778	1,493,696,681
Government	2,178,100,108	2,015,419,740	866,095,243
and securities	134,325,505	135,386,735	121,896,461
Discounts and loans	622,295,195	738,630,261	689,435,490
LIABILITIES.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.	Drachmas.
Notes in circulation	1,877,180,476	1,831,843,293	1,452,670,416
Government deposits	940,378,426	977,429,773	718,789,358
Private deposits at fixed dates	873,746,540	858,244,881	522,860,064

BANK OF JAPAN.

	Sept. 24, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.
ASSETS.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Gold and silver	1,274,192	1,275,387	1,275,098
Discounts	30,913	29,367	29,413
Advances	97,521	101,212	108,852
LIABILITIES.	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Notes	1,123,166	1,075,541	1,085,676
Govt. deposits	1,363,791	1,398,813	1,397,881
Private deposits	70,222	97,800	88,293

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

	Oct. 23, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1920.
ASSETS.	Markas.	Markas.	Markas.
Balance abroad and foreign bills	1,023,632	1,023,632	1,091,569
Notes	16,201	14,932	7,006
surry notes	3,310,195	3,193,609	20,245,517
discounted	92,087,554	95,029,034	47,817,833
LIABILITIES.	Markas.	Markas.	Markas.
Notes in circulation	88,144,195	87,723,207	62,065,107
Deposits at notice	13,387,247	16,886,905	12,347,175

BANK OF ITALY.

	Sept. 20, 1921.	Sept. 10, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1920.
ASSETS.	Lira.	Lira.	Lira.
Balance abroad	1,337,486	1,330,244	1,167,250
Notes	2,938,398	3,003,704	2,698,959
LIABILITIES.	Lira.	Lira.	Lira.
Notes in circulation	19,512	19,452	20,484
Deposits	6,492,934	6,472,499	7,959,853
LIABILITIES.	Lira.	Lira.	Lira.
Notes in circulation	2,566,284	2,628,900	2,196,190
Deposits	404,873	404,287	222,291

NETHERLANDS BANK.

	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 17, 1921.	Oct. 10, 1921.
ASSETS.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.
Balance abroad	605,969	605,969	605,969
Notes	9,149	9,195	9,252
LIABILITIES.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.
Notes in circulation	456,472	451,154	453,164
Deposits	1,020,628	1,028,634	1,030,513

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

	Oct. 1, 1921.	Sept. 24, 1921.	Oct. 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.	Lei.	Lei.	Lei.	Lei.
d	4,189,722	4,159,722	2,760,222	+ 30,000
er, &c.	383	385	283	— 2
counts.....	192,589	356,955	21,231	+ 161,366
vernment loan.....	10,870,536	10,707,470	6,549,910	+ 163,066
er advances.....	2,438,118	2,459,110	2,327,141	— 20,992
LIABILITIES.				
ces in circulation.....	12,349,961	12,349,504	7,867,492	+ 100,457
	1,151,111	1,151,368	4,337,456	+ 1,069,640

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Assets.					
Gold.....	19,400	19,200	19,100	14,500	+ 200
Silver.....	41,800	40,800	40,500	39,700	+ 400
Foreign coin.....	37,200	43,600	39,700	39,300	+ 6,400
Foreign banks.....	1,623,400	772,300	1,004,300	899,300	+ 85,100
Advances to the Govt.....	178,000,000	158,000,000	140,625,000	130,625,000	+ 20,000,000
Private loans and discounts.....	16,115,800	11,662,300	8,795,600	6,863,800	+ 4,453,500
Other assets.....	18,120,200	14,976,000	9,594,600	10,335,500	+ 3,144,200
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	152,800,000	133,734,200	115,242,300	102,697,300	+ 19,055,800
Government accounts.....	23,764,000	17,081,500	16,975,300	33,969,000	+ 6,622,500
Other accounts.....	16,330,000	17,567,100	15,895,200	15,895,200	+ 1,337,100
Reserve.....	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	0
Other liabilities.....	22,710,200	17,576,000	13,007,600	12,089,100	+ 5,134,200

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.				
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.....	10,084,471	10,084,471	10,084,443	+ 28,903
Discount and advances.....	3,530,956	3,510,053	3,495,205	+ 20,903
Gold.....	1,439,479	1,265,764	1,148,126	+ 72,715
Other assets.....	1,247,434	1,252,220	1,303,381	+ 4,786
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation.....	11,295,219	11,534,498	11,570,881	+ 239,279
Deposits.....	2,050,522	1,746,787	1,541,562	+ 303,735
Other liabilities.....	2,956,599	2,932,223	2,916,712	+ 24,376

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.				
Gold.....	74,620	74,574	74,573	+ 46
Other coin and notes.....	18,495	18,970	18,626	+ 475
Foreign credits.....	320,540	321,543	344,019	+ 7,203
Bills.....	515,197	501,832	469,261	+ 13,365
Govt. advances.....	4,333,331	4,325,400	4,321,755	+ 7,901
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	4,419,569	4,472,694	4,476,419	+ 53,125
State credits.....	370,036	370,036	370,036	0
Deposits.....	424,094	345,501	275,709	+ 78,503

LONDON RATES.

	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 24, 1921.	Oct. 25, 1921.	Oct. 26, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 6% July 21, 1921).....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Market rates of discount.....							
60 days' bankers' drafts.....	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2
3 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
4 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
6 months' do.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Discount (Treasury Bills).....							
3 months.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Loans—Day to day.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Short.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Deposit allowances: Banks.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
Discount houses at call.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2
At notice.....	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2	3 1/2

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

		Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
Short Loans.		3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Aug. 12.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
19.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
26.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Sept. 2.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
9.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
16.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
23.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
30.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
Oct. 7.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
14.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
21.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2
28.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date.	Previous Rate.	Date.
Discount.....	6	July 21, 1921	6 1/2	June 23, 1921
Deposit.....	3	June 23, 1921	3 1/2	April 20, 1920

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

	Bank Rate.	Changed.		Bank Rate.	Changed.
Amsterdam.....	July 1, 1915	.. 4 1/2	Madrid.....	Nov. 4, 1920	.. 5 1/2
Athens.....	May 15, 1920	.. 5 1/2	Paris.....	July 28, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Berlin.....	Dec. 23, 1914	.. 5 1/2	Prague.....	Aug. 16, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Buenos Aires.....	May 19, 1921	.. 5 1/2	Rome.....	May 11, 1920	.. 5 1/2
Bucharest.....	Sept. 4, 1920	.. 5 1/2	Sofia.....	June 14, 1919	.. 5 1/2
Calcutta.....	June 2, 1921	.. 5 1/2	Stockholm.....	Oct. 19, 1921	.. 5 1/2
Christiania.....	July 5, 1921	.. 5 1/2	Swiss Bank.....	Aug. 11, 1921	.. 4
Copenhagen.....	July 5, 1921	.. 5 1/2	Tokio.....	Nov. 18, 1919	.. 8
Helsingfors.....	Nov. 8, 1920	.. 9	Vienna.....	Apr. 15, 1921	.. 6
Lisbon.....	Sept. 3, 1920	.. 7	Warsaw.....	Sept. 1921	.. 7
New York Fed- eral Reserve ..	Sept. 21, 1921	.. 5			

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

	London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Oct. 23, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 21, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 28, 1921.
Paris.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	54 15-20	54 07-12	
Berlin.....	marks to £1	T.T.	20 43	265-266	265-266	
Vienna.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24 02	1075(e)	6400-6600	
Prague.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24 02	285-295	360-400	
Warsaw.....	zlotys to £1	T.T.	22 43	1075(e)	531-535	
Bukarest.....	lei to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	215-218	16000-18000	
Budapest.....	kr. to £1	T.T.	24 02	..	2800-3000	
Constantinople.....	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	..	730-760 nom	
Sofia.....	levas to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	220-240	550-600	
Belgrade.....	dinas to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	105-115	275-285	
Amsterdam.....	florins to £1	T.T.	12 107	11 34-37	11 55-59	
Brussels.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	51 27-32	55 00-05	
Christiania.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	18 159	17 87-90	16 93-17 01	
Copenhagen.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	18 159	25 41-49	20 63-68	
Helsingfors.....	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	148-152	217-252	
Greece.....	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	36 00-36 20	90-92 nom	
Italy.....	lire to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	921-93	991-100	
Switzerland.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	22 00-22 05	21 32-37	
Madrid.....	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25 22 1/2	24 97-25 02	29 65-70	
Lisbon.....	pence to escu.	T.T.	53 1/2	91-10	97 1/2-97 3/4	
Alexandria.....	piastres to £1	Sight	97 1/2	97 1/2-97 3/4	97 1/2-97 3/4	
New York.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4 86 1/2	3 46 1/2-4 62	3 94 1/2-4 13	
Montreal.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4 86 1/2	3 83-84	4 30-32	
Buenos Aires.....	pence to dols.	T.T.	47 58 1/2	55-55 1/2	44-44 1/2	
Rio de Janeiro.....	pence to dols.	T.T.	16	12 1/2	7 1/2	
Montevideo.....	pence to dols.	T.T.	13 1/2	10 1/2	40 1/2-41 1/2	
Valparaiso.....	pence to dols.	T.T.	13 1/2	10 1/2	40 1/2-41 1/2	
Lima.....	Eng. to Per. £1	90 days	Par	12 1/2 dis.	110% prem.	
Calcutta.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1s	7 1/2-8 1/2	1s 4 1/2-4 3/4	
Bombay.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1s	7 1/2-8 1/2	1s 4 1/2-4 3/4	
Madras.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 1s	7 1/2-8 1/2	1s 4 1/2-4 3/4	
Hong Kong.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	3s 10 1/2-11 1/2	2s 10 1/2-2s 11 1/2	
Singapore.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	..	3s 10 1/2-11 1/2	2s 10 1/2-2s 11 1/2	
Yokohama.....	ster. to yen	T.T.	24 06 1/2	12s 7 1/2	12s 5 1/2	
Manila.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24 06 1/2	12s 7 1/2	12s 5 1/2	
Mexico.....	pence to dols.	T.T.	..	133-135	32 1/2-33 1/2	

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (b) Nominal.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Sept. 29, 1921.	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.
Call money.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral).....	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days.....	5	5	5	5	5
Ineligible, 90 days.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days.....	6	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

	New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 28, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 20, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 27, 1921.
London.....	Dollars for £1	4 86 1/2	3 39 1/2	3 81	3 90 1/2	3 84 1/2
Paris.....	francs for £1	19 30	15 70	7 21 1/2	7 34	7 26 1/2
Brussels.....	francs for £1	19 30	15 70	7 21 1/2	7 34	7 26 1/2
Switzerland.....	francs for £1	19 30	15 70	7 21 1/2	7 34	7 26 1/2
Italy.....	francs for £1	19 30	15 70	7 21 1/2	7 34	7 26 1/2
Berlin.....	marks for £1	23 83	1 33	0 70 1/2	0 67 1/2	0 55 1/2
Vienna.....	krone for £1	20 26	0 32	0 52 1/2	0 62 1/2	0 52 1/2
Madrid.....	pesetas for £1	19 30	13 82	13 34	13 25	13 29
Amsterdam.....	florins for £1	40 195	30 45	33 40	34 05	34 05
Copenhagen.....	kroner for £1	13 50	13 50	13 50	13 50	13 50
Stockholm.....	kroner for £1	13 50	13 50	13 50	13 50	13 50
Athens.....	drachmas for £1	19 30	9 65	4 40	4 55	4 55
Montreal.....	dollars for £1	100	90 50	91 75	91 37 1/2	91 87
Yokohama.....	yen for £1	49 85	50 70	47 37 1/2	47 62 1/2	47 95
Hong Kong.....	dollars for £1	..	67 75	58 50	57 00	56 25
Shanghai.....	dollars for £1	..	91 75	81 00	79 50	78 75
Calcutta.....	dollars for £1	..	28 15	28 25	27 37 1/2	27 12 1/2
Buenos Aires.....	pesos for £100	105 65	126 25	138 50	137 00	137 00
Rio de Janeiro.....	pesos for £100	32 42	17 90	13 10	12 90	12 95
Valparaiso.....	pesos for £100	20 60	17 00	11 50	11 00	11 50

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Oct. 28, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 13, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 20, 1921.	Rate, Oct. 27, 1921.
Amsterdam.....	Florins to 100 marks	59 26	4 42 1/2	2 11	1 82
Switzerland.....	Francs to 100 marks	123 45	8 70	3 85 1/2	3 40
Christiania.....	Kroner to 100 marks	88 88	9 80	3 73 1/2	3 29 1/2
Stockholm.....	Kroner to 100 marks	..	6 95	3 05	2 65
Christiania.....	Kroner to 100 marks	..	10 00	5 84 1/2	4 60

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.	
Ecuador.....	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Oct. 22	14-60
Venezuela.....	Bolivars to £1	25-25	"	Oct. 22	12-25
Columbia (Bogota).....	Dollars to £20	48-1	"	Oct. 21	9-13
Nicaragua.....	Cordobas to £1.....	49-31d	"	Oct. 25	5-85
San Salvador.....	Colonos to £1.....	24-5d	"	Oct. 19	8-10
Guatemala.....	Pesos to £1.....	2-6d	"	Oct. 22	198
Costa Rica.....	Colonos to £1.....	10-45	"	Aug. 14	17-25
Bolivia.....	pesce to Boliviano	1-25	"	Sept. 15	14-1

resign his seat on the board of the Bank of British West Africa, Limited. On the nomination of Lloyds Bank, Limited, Sir Austin Edward Harris, K.B.E., has been elected a director of the Bank of British West Africa, Limited.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new branches at 87 High Street, Chatham, and at Hawarden, near Chester, under the management of Mr. R. R. Hogg and Mr. T. G. Raleigh respectively. New offices have also been opened at 2 Boundary Road, Aylestone Park, Leicester; Easton (Portland); Maentwrog (Merioneth), and Market Lavington (Wilts).

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that as from Monday next, October 31st, their office at Potter's Bar will become a full branch, open daily, under the joint management of Mr. A. G. Wane and Mr. D. E. Hammond.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyants Works.	Mill.	Cyants Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Esperanza	..	..	..	..	..	\$438
Orville Dredging	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pato (8 days to Oct. 21st)	..	..	..	..	\$14,772	..
Quero Preto	6,500	..	..	..	2,375	12,388
Quarter ended Sept. 30th—						
Aurora West	32,530	..	..	..	..	3,946
City Deep	263,000	..	..	..	598,885	210,994
Consolidated Main Reef	148,700	..	..	..	292,089	60,167
Crown Mines	530,000	..	..	..	966,746	223,484
Durban Road	73,350	..	..	..	156,748	18,807
East Rand	377,500	..	..	..	556,483	49,370
Ferreira Deep	99,000	..	..	..	173,909	49,271
Geduld Prop.	134,800	..	..	..	261,334	111,531
Geldenhuis Deep	151,610	..	..	..	217,150	13,211
Knight Central	85,400	..	..	..	112,188	13,939
Modderfontein "B"	178,000	..	..	..	523,557	301,308
Modderfontein Deep	123,900	..	..	..	337,254	265,263
Modderfontein East	78,650	..	..	..	176,491	..
New Goch	11,500	..	..	..	..	4,225
Norse	129,600	..	..	..	237,474	28,237
Robinson	118,000	..	..	..	125,473	8,325
Roadport United	68,200	..	..	..	..	13,041
Rose Deep	17,000	..	..	..	222,055	..
Trafford	47,000	..	..	..	..	15,172
Van Ryn	98,430	..	..	..	..	23,638
Village Deep	148,100	..	..	..	263,291	48,987
West Rand Cons.	96,500	..	..	..	..	16,204
Witwatersrand Deep	96,449	..	..	..	..	28,606

* Loss.

	Output.	Tons.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.			
Renong	41½	..	First half October.
South Bunkers	13	..	All shipped.
Coin.			
Apex	49,014	..	Working profit, £5,797.
Chinese Engineering	93,193	..	Week ended October 15th.
East Kent	2,085	..	Week ended Oct. 15th.
Witbank	90,109	..	..
Miscellaneous.			
Rooiberg Minerals	50	..	Concentrates; revenue, £5,371.

BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY CO.—Report for four weeks ending October 12, 1921.—Coke produced 27,360 tons; No. 1 blast furnace produced 9,547 tons; No. 2 blast furnace produced 13,223 tons; No. 3 blast furnace produced 10,431 tons; Open hearth produced 24,932 tons; Blooming mill produced 21,827 tons; Rail mill produced 9,430 tons; 18 in. mill produced 8,603 tons; 12 in. mill produced 1,526 tons; 8 in. mill produced 1,309 tons; Rod mill produced 4,335 tons. Broken Hill.—Ore dressing plant produced 299 tons lead concentrates, and 2,351 tons slimes; Zinc separation plant produced 1,675 tons zinc concentrates; Slimes flotation plant produced 813 tons lead concentrates and 2,647 tons zinc concentrates. **BUNDA CORP.**—Lynchburg—Bawdwin Mines—Cable: No 5 level, North Drive, 174 ft., east, from 5 to 25 ft. 9 ozs silver, 1½ lb. lead, 12½ zinc. **MOUNT LYLE MINING AND RAILWAY.**—Cable: From Sept. 22nd to Oct. 19th, inclusive, ore treated by flotation plant, 6,407 tons. Concentrates produced by flotation plant, 1,634 tons. A total quantity of 9,799 tons of ore was smelted, being 6,199 tons from Mount Lyle Mine, and 3,600 tons from North Mount Lyle; also 1,504 tons concentrates. Converters have produced 614 tons of blister copper, containing .copper, 610 tons; silver, 17,519 ozs; gold, 382 ozs. Furnace in blast, 671 hours.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA

REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL. LTD.
CAPITAL AND RESERVE £4,265,000.

THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY CABLED REPORT ON TRADE CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED ON APPLICATION.

The Bank has Branches and Sub Branches in the principal Towns in the Union of South Africa, South West Protectorate, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Portuguese East Africa, Kenya Colony and Tanganyika Territory.

LONDON OFFICES:
CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON W1 E.C.2.
18 ST. SWITHIN'S LANE
WEST END OF ST. MARK'S
25 COCKSPUR STREET
ALSO AT
NEW YORK. ANTWERP. BO.

NEW YORK. ANTWERP. BO.

Reports and Notices.

Mr David Abramag having resigned his position as general manager of the General Reinsurance Company, Limited, has been elected a director of the company.

Mr T. McNeil, formerly agent of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company at Liverpool, has been appointed Liverpool general agent, with offices at Royal Liver Buildings, Liverpool, and Mr R. E. Swain has been appointed Liverpool passenger agent, with office at the same address.

At a meeting of the directors of Nobel Industries, Limited, held on October 27th, the board appointed Colonel G. E. Stanley-Smith, D.S.O., as a director in place of the late Sir George Smith.

We are authorised to state that Mr Hugh Sutherland has resigned from the board of the British Magachewan Gold Mines, Limited.

Mr Albert W. Claremont has accepted the seat on the board of directors of Rolls-Royce, Limited. Mr H. Royce has joined the company as buyer at their Derby works.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

CITY OF CONSTANTINOPLE MUNICIPAL 5 PER CENT. LOAN, 1909.—A meeting of the holders of these bonds will be held at 8 Bishopsgate, E.C., on Thursday, November 3, 1921, at 3.30 p.m. in the afternoon, when the present position with regard to this loan will be fully explained.

REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA GOLD BONDS, 1909.—With reference to the above bonds the Council of Foreign Bondholders have received a telegram from the bankers in New York notifying the payment of the October instalment of the Debt Service in accordance with the arrangement of May 25, 1912.

RAILWAYS.

ARGENTINE GREAT WESTERN.—Report of company for year ended June 30, 1921, states that company has received from B. A. and Pacific Company and has distributed following amounts:—Interest on first debenture stock, £68,000; second debenture, £68,000; five per cent. debenture, £180,000; interim dividend of 2½ per cent. on preferred stock, £53,125—total, £369,125. Directors propose to pay a balance dividend of 2½ per cent. on preferred stock, making 5 per cent. for year, but are unable to pay any dividend on ordinary stock in consequence of the B. A. and Pacific Company not having paid any dividend for year on its second preference stock.

BENGAL DOOARS.—Report for year to March 31, 1921, states that capital expenditure amounted to £4,579. Net earnings (less Indian tax) were £37,053, plus gain by exchange £9,843. Amount available was £69,974, less 3 per cent. interim dividend paid on ordinary stock, leaving £57,974. Directors recommend final dividend of 3 per cent. on ordinary stock (subject to tax), carrying forward £45,974.

BANKS.

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK.—The following official notice was issued on Tuesday, October 25th:—"Owing to the receipt of numerous notices of withdrawal in respect of deposits, following upon the failure of Farrow's Bank and to the present unfavourable conditions generally, it has been deemed impossible to develop a profitable business in the near future. The capital of the bank is provided by an issue of bonds to the amount of £100,000, and this is fully subscribed; £90,000 of this is uncalled, and as the net liabilities of the bank are under £15,000 there is an ample margin after paying the holders of current and deposit accounts in full. Nearly all the bonds are held by a wealthy man, whose bankers very recently reported that they consider him quite good for his engagements." According to the *Bankers' Almanac* the directors are Messrs Robert Hughes (chairman), Sidney Parry, A. H. Mackmurdo and Frederick Temple (managing). The manager is Mr J. Spink, and the secretary Mr W. G. Newman. Registered on August 29, 1912, the company has an authorised share capital of £100 in £1 shares, and in addition there are 5 per cent. redeemable bonds of £5 each for £100,000. After providing for bond interest, profits, if any, were divided among the customers of the bank. The suspension of the National Co-operative Bank does not in any way concern the banking department of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited, which latter undertaking points out that it has never had any association with it.

THE BANK OF TAIWAN.—The report of this bank for the half-year to June 30, 1921, shows that the gross profits for that period amounted to 54,716,443 yen, from which should be deducted current expenses, &c., 51,580,383 yen, making a net profit of 3,136,060 yen. The sum of 1,440,488 yen was brought in from last account, making 4,576,548 yen available. Reserve fund has been strengthened by 700,000 yen, while bonus takes 125,000 yen, and dividend of 10 per cent. per annum absorbs 2,250,000 yen, leaving 1,501,548 yen to go forward to new account. Extracts from the president's speech at the meeting held in Tokyo on September 1, 1921, are presented with the report.

BAKER, DUNCOMBE, AND CO., LIMITED.—Balance-sheet, September 30, 1921:

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
16,000 fully-paid "A" shares of £5 each	80,000	Investments—£50 National War Bonds, £765,000	755,000
4,000 fully-paid "B" shares of £5 each	20,000	Bills discounted (including re-discounts)	10,940,000
Reserve	125,000	Loans on security and sundry accounts	235,450
Liability on deposits and loans and bills re-discounted (including rebate and sundry accounts)	11,801,740	Assets to the value of £11,779,400 are held by bankers and others as cover for liabilities per contra	96,290
		Cash in hand and at bankers	12,026,740
			12,026,740

* Note.—As from October 21, 1921, £100,000 of this reserve has been capitalised and converted into 16,000 fully-paid "A" shares of £5 each, and 4,000 fully-paid "B" shares of £5 each.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.						
Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Week's Rec'ts, 1921.	Aggr. Rec'ts, 1921.	
Metropolitan District	42 weeks	Oct. 22	238,732	..	10,039,457	..
London Electric	..	..	..	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Tramways	..	..	..	..	..	..
London United Tramways	..	..	..	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Tramways	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gearless Motor	..	..	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	25 weeks	Sept. 24	993	Rs. 2,09,655	Rs. 17,110	Rs. 34,30,175	Rs. 17,23,398
Barsi Lt. Ry.	26 weeks	Oct. 30	118	22,300	200	6,06,900	1,63,300
Bengal & N. Western	26 weeks	Oct. 1	2,067	4,37,700	63,602	1,37,62,118	1,37,74,169
Bombay Nagpur	26 weeks	Oct. 1	2,697	13,37,000	1,17,000	3,07,38,298	11,23,677
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	2 weeks	15	2,871	19,14,000	1,72,000	41,46,000	4,13,000
Burma	25 weeks	Sept. 24	1,342	6,68,150	1,14,647	1,44,00,995	11,84,082
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	2 weeks	Oct. 15	239	98,000	20,169	1,99,142	44,900
East Indian	3 weeks	Oct. 22	2,772	30,25,000	2,78,000	92,78,000	2,24,000
G. Indian Peninsula	28 weeks	15	3,121	21,69,000	1,98,300	6,89,35,762	2,79,063
Madras & S. Malh.	26 weeks	Sept. 30	3,023	21,80,000	2,20,984	5,33,89,156	7,73,088
Rohilk. & Kumaon	24 weeks	17	259	41,318	3,028	15,38,757	1,60,222
Do Lucknow-Breilly	24 weeks	17	302	48,156	4,939	17,30,678	2,84,548
South Indian	25 weeks	Oct. 1	1,852	13,14,919	4,96,292	2,24,60,972	7,37,957
8thn. Punjab (month)	3 mths	June 30	717	7,99,188	904	25,68,100	33,839
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	16 weeks	Oct. 22	752	11,300	—	193,500	15,600
Argentine Trans.	16 weeks	Oct. 22	111	1,900	878	26,595	5,475
B. A. and Pacific	16 weeks	Oct. 22	3,428	103,000	2,000	1,979,000	129,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	16 weeks	Oct. 22	3,891	124,000	30,000	2,375,000	8,000
B. A. Western	16 weeks	Oct. 22	1,882	58,000	10,000	1,265,000	67,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	2 mths	Aug. 31	190	58,553	2,371	108,393	24,000
Central Argentine	2 mths	Aug. 31	3,305	153,000	53,000	2,868,000	498,000
Cordoba Central	16 weeks	Oct. 22	1,205	47,000	8,400	922,700	39,800
Entre Rios	16 weeks	Oct. 22	811	19,800	3,600	315,100	48,800
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	Ms 48,250	+ 7,500	432,400	+ 18,700
Gt. West. of Brazil	12 weeks	Oct. 22	1,005	17,200	3,400	557,800	335,900
Leopoldina	42 weeks	Oct. 22	1,831	33,371	9,243	1,421,666	779,336
San Paulo	42 weeks	Oct. 22	1,553	27,352	27,579	1,285,655	682,248
State of Bahia, S.W.	9 mths	Sept. 30	52	Ms 86,000	68,000	655,000	255,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	42 weeks	Oct. 23	838	£ 14,165	£ 31,760	898,205	1,077,485
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	40 weeks	Oct. 15	366	13,340	12,388	..	375,044
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	135,830	+ 147,930	14,428,740	56,794
Talca	3 mths	Sept. 30	180	(b) 9,375	18,488	27,811	59,085
Cuban.							
Havana Central	16 weeks	Oct. 22	..	10,972	2,219	170,499	44,483
United of Havana	16 weeks	Oct. 22	1,210	43,166	39,924	877,361	780,827
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	16 weeks	Oct. 22	273	25,996	+ 7,280	382,457	+ 52,071
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	16 weeks	Oct. 22	311	4,12	896	66,554	11,590
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	16 weeks	Oct. 22	185	2,559	+ 56	39,991	+ 6,368
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	16 weeks	Oct. 22	211	2,054	353	31,797	7,222
Midland Uruguay	3 mths	Sept. 30	319	13,404	+ 3,549	38,831	+ 12,919
North-West Urug.	3 mths	Sept. 30	113	5,851	+ 290	17,765	+ 212
Uruguay North	3 mths	Sept. 30	3	1,596	200	4,616	1,411
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	42 weeks	Oct. 22	33	Ps 14,000	+ 2,000	650,600	+ 105,800
Bilbao	9 mths	Sept. 30	15	6,229	1,811	14,922	14,707
Bolivar	9 mths	Sept. 30	136	11,265	+ 4,044	93,011	+ 2,676
Colombian Nat. Rly.	9 mths	Sept. 30	86	18,444	+ 380	176,151	+ 5,671
Costa Rica	2 mths	Aug. 31	190	13,960	+ 10,877	31,797	+ 21,950
Dorado Extension	7 mths	July 31	70	24,000	+ 4,500	131,750	+ 15,372
Egyptian Delta	27 weeks	Oct. 10	5594	115,589	+ 1,734	192,249	+ 62,242
Gt. Southn. of Spain	41 weeks	15	104	Ps 66,600	+ 1,815	2,162,502	+ 1,453,001
International of C. Am.	42 weeks	Oct. 22	170	Gross 47,034	6,008	233,318	7,739
Central America	9 mths	Sept. 30	230	Net 4,582	6,048	242,185	+ 1,669
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths	Feb. 28	233	(b) 8,570	5,060	50,110	21,720
Do	16 weeks	Oct. 21	403	\$ 350,200	+ 64,200	5,126,500	+ 849,500
Do	2 mths	Aug. 31	403	\$ 130,300	+ 32,000	5,655,400	+ 406,000
Nasajo Oscarshahn	7 mths	July 31	..	Net \$ 174,300	+ 179,600	396,200	75,100
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Oct. 15	193	11,211	..	91,406	158,673
Paraguay Central	15 weeks	Oct. 15	274	3,340	+ 1,280	63,540	+ 17,150
Piraeus Athens, &c.	3 mths	Feb. 28	D	\$ 231,374	+ 414,841	16,380,765	+ 5,223,660
Puerto Cabello, &c.	9 mths	Aug. 31	35	4,750	500	37,500	6,500
Salvador	16 weeks	Oct. 22	100	2,270	303	36,915	16,818
Santa Fe Province,	1 mth	Sept. 30	..	127,512	51,058	..	..
French Railways,	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	8,450	78	93,210	+ 37,265
Samana & Santiago	9 mths	Sept. 30	112	(a) 13,890	1,527	126,586	+ 13,417
Canadian Northern							
Canadian Pacific	41 weeks	Oct. 21	9,750	\$ 214,900	+ 334,100	54,501,500	+ 5,393,397
Grand Trunk	41 weeks	Oct. 21	13,402	\$ 262,000	+ 724,000	10,615,000	+ 1,850,000
Do	41 weeks	Oct. 21	3,616	\$ 348,148	+ 73,211	12,065,647	+ 52,669

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefe.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
					Amount.	Amount.				Dividend.
Banks.										
Commercial Bk. of Spanish America	June 30	£ 19,160	£ 65,453	£ 84,613	..	32,123	7	£ 40,880	£ 11,610	£ 60,183
Breweries.										
Denver United	June 30	Dr 30,769	Dr 4,003	Dr 34,762	..	..	..	..	Dr 34,762	1,620
J. Hey and Co.	Sept. 30	17,687	34,499	52,186	3,750	10,515	15	17,000	20,921	31,712
Financial, Land, and Investment.										
British North Borneo Co.	Dec. 31	100,323	154,743	255,066	..	55,620	3	..	199,446	114,541
Realisation and Debenture Corporation of Scotland	Aug. 31	..	56,712	56,712	2,940	37,100	30 Ord	16,672	..	73,203
Hotels, Restaurants, &c.										
Carlton Hotel	Aug. 31	12,431	46,964	59,395	11,000	16,000	8	15,061	17,334	83,665
Hans Crescent Hotel	June 30	19,886	9,435	29,321	7,200	..	..	..	22,121	14,067
Piccadilly Hotel	July 31	1,306	7,178	8,484	..	..	..	7,000	1,484	16,838
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
Bretts' Stamping	July 30	4,884	3,985	8,869	840	2,800	10	..	5,229	12,451
Motor and Cycle.										
A. J. Stevens and Co.	Aug. 31	12,809	23,562	36,371	..	9,574	12½	10,000	16,797	15,513
Brampton Brothers	July 31	8,894	18,314	27,208	3,150	5,450	10½	10,000	8,608	27,821
Rubber, &c.										
Anglo-Dutch Plantations of Java	Dec. 31	48,475	147,187	195,662	..	144,763	10 Old 2½ New	..	50,899	215,350
Bukit Rajang	June 30	27,277	Dr 12,073	10,304	..	..	..	..	10,304	40,042
Ceylon Land and Produce	June 30	19,384	Dr 10,803	8,581	2,100	..	..	..	6,481	12,890
Kamuning (Perak)	June 30	21,702	6,981	28,683	..	..	..	..	28,683	43,909
Kawie (Java)	Mar. 31	18,704	Dr 1,254	17,450	..	..	..	..	17,450	28,602
Rubana	April 30	14,410	12,139	26,549	..	..	..	5,000	21,549	43,047
Tali Ayer	April 30	19,632	2,009	21,641	..	..	..	..	21,641	39,110
Way Halim (Sumatra)	Mar. 31	6,495	Dr 579	5,916	..	..	..	..	5,916	5,651
Shops and Stores.										
Mappin Stores (Brazil)	Feb. 28	1,294	1,126	2,420	..	..	..	..	2,420	23,375
Morums Oriental Stores	June 30	..	164,333	164,333	..	..	..	Dr 9,594	154,739	..
Tea.										
Ceylon and Indian Planters'	June 30	6,828	3,259	10,087	2,250	..	..	3,436	4,401	Dr 15,968
Telegraphs, &c.										
West African Telegraph	Dec. 31	1,040	Dr 25,738	Dr 26,778	..	..	..	Dr 26,778	..	..
Textiles.										
Copestake, Crampton, and Co.	June 30	..	Dr 52,651	Dr 52,651	..	..	..	..	Dr 52,651	..
Trust.										
Stock Conversion and Investment	Aug. 31	1,948	8,867	10,815	..	..	..	..	10,815	10,681
Other Companies.										
Hugh Baird and Sons	Aug. 31	..	30,872	30,872	4,000	7,100	10½	5,000	14,172	28,667
North of Scotland Milling	Sept. 30	3,510	1,166	4,676	700	2,189	15	..	1,787	4,702
Rosario Drainage	June 30	40,054	22,578	62,632	..	11,076	3	..	51,556	..

† Free of tax.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions during the past week proved more favourable as regards agricultural operations, and although more moisture is needed generally, recent heavy rains have softened the ground and facilitated ploughing, so that prospects are more hopeful for a full wheat acreage. The present low prices, however, are not very encouraging to farmers, and in some districts it is reported that less wheat is being laid down than usual. Trading in native wheat shows no improvement, though prices were a shade steadier in sympathy with the better tone for imported. Suitable milling grades rule from 45s to 49s, with inferior samples down to 38s per 504 lbs, free on rail. Imported descriptions were somewhat irregular, and after opening at 2s 9r easier, subsequently recovered the decline. No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted 55s, No. 2 hard winter 53s 6d, and Australian 55s per 480 lbs, all ex ship to arrive. On c.i.f. terms business is still more or less at a standstill with regard to cargoes, the small inquiry being chiefly from Continental and Mediterranean ports, and a cargo of Australian shipping or shipped was sold to Italy at 51s 6d, Pacific October-November at 51s, and Argentine December at 52s 6d per 480 lbs. Limited dealings occurred in North American parcels at irregular rates. Shipments continue on a fairly liberal scale, and large quantities continue to arrive in Europe. Visible supplies in North America are increasing, while crop prospects in Argentina, Australia, and India remain favourable and point to liberal surpluses being available for export in the near future. The flour trade remains dull, and prices were reduced by 2s per sack for both home milled and imported descriptions. London straight run quoted 56s, town households 54s, patents 59s. All English straights 49s per sack delivered. Country straights 38s to 42s, free on rail London. Of imported, Canadian export patents rule at 58s, straights 52s to 53s, Kansas top patents 55s, and Australian 50s per 280 lbs ex store. There is scarcely any inquiry for forward parcels, and further concessions appear necessary in order to stimulate demand. Kansas top patents November seaboard nominally 46s, Canadian patents ditto 46s, Canadian straights ditto 42s per 480 lbs. Offals quiet and easier. Broad bran quoted £8 to £9 5s, ordinary ditto £7 15s to £8 5s, and middlings £11 to £11 5s per ton ex mill, bags included. Maize opened dull but subsequently became steadier, though demand proved quiet. Plate, also yellow round African, quoted 30s 6d, and white flat African

32s per 480 lbs, landed terms. There was rather more doing in cargoes at easier rates, but prices since displayed a firmer tendency. Two cargoes of La Plata, afloat, sold at 29s, while parcels of ditto, November-December, sold from 30s to 31s 3d. White and yellow South African maize meal, October, sold to Glasgow at £7 5s per ton c.i.f. Barley dull and featureless. English malting ranges from 44s to 70s as to sample, and grinding sorts 36s to 42s per 48 lbs. Of imported No. 4 Canada Western 34s 6d, Canada feed 31s, and American feed 31s, all landed, per 400 lbs. Oats were a shade steadier, but without improvement in demand. English varieties range from 27s to 31s per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate, f.a.q., 26s 3d, ditto, clipped, 27s 6d, Chilean tawny 25s to 28s, and Canadian 30s to 31s per 520 lbs, all landed terms. Oatmeal easier. English quoted £19 to £20, ordinary Scottish £20, American £20, English rolled oats £21 to £22, flaked £23 to £24 per ton. Beans quiet. English Springs 54s to 64s, and Winters 46s to 50s per 532 lbs. Chinese horse beans £9 to £10 ton, ex store. Peas steady. English Maples 62s to 70s, Duns 52s to 58s per 504 lbs, New Zealand blue 24s to 26s, and Dutch blue 25s to 27s cwt. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 34s to 37s, and Egyptian 29s per 100 lbs. Homeward grain freights quiet apart from fair chartering from North America. River Plate upper ports to United Kingdom-Continent, October-November, nominally 18s 9d, November-December 20s ton, Montreal to United Kingdom 45 3d qr, Continent 17 cents per 100 lbs, and Mediterranean, not East of West Coast Italy, 5s 3d to 5s 6d, with similar cargoes from Northern Range ports at 4s, 15 cents, and 5s respectively. Nitrate ports paid 38s 9d to United Kingdom-Bordeaux-Hamburg range. India quiet, and 25s indicated on dead weight January, and 40s Madras Coast kernels. There has been a fair amount of business from Australia on the basis of 52s 6d West Australia, January, to United Kingdom-Continent, and old crop, November, at 52s 6d South Australia to United Kingdom, with Indian options at 37s 6d ton.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to October 22	Cwts. 285,408	Cwts. 341,650	Cwts. 313,656	Cwts. 316,710
7 weeks to October 22	2,832,025	3,547,671	1,597,601	2,364,961
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 47 7	s d 90 8	s d 73 0	s d 72 5
= per cwt	11 1	21 1½	17 0	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Oct. 15	85,927 3	136,400 5	18,117 2	52 3	54 0	27 0
Oct. 22	66,595 1	141,047 1	16,192 3	47 7	51 5	25 1
1917	55,841 6	93,708 4	14,381 3	70 10	60 1	43 0
1918	75,593 1	78,161 1	10,832 4	72 5	60 3	50 5
1919	75,186 4	167,734 1	16,957 2	73 0	95 1	57 5
1920	83,985 0	151,001 3	27,999 6	90 8	90 11	54 9

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated October 27th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: The outlook is still dark. The cost of production is above the selling price, but the reduction of cost is a slow process. Further "cuts" in the selling price will have to be made before buyers have sufficient confidence to place substantial orders. Prices are—No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron, 120s per ton, with 5s extra for export; East Coast mixed numbers hematite, 120s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: The position is unchanged. There is inquiry, but very little business. Steel ship plates, £10 10s; steel ship angles, £10; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £10 10s net. Iron ore: Prices are barely maintained. Very little inquiry and few orders. Best Rubio is nominally 27s 6d per ton c.i.f.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—Depression still overhangs all branches of the steel trade, chiefly owing to the absence of overseas orders. Rather more orders than lately are coming in from India and several Colonial and foreign markets, but they are insignificant in value, and amount to very little in the aggregate. Preparations are being made to put into operation a large steel furnace, otherwise the number of local furnaces in commission remains at about a third of the whole. Sheffield is receiving a large share of the work connected with the building and armament of the four new battle-cruisers. Three-fifths of the armour and a number of guns will come to the city, and there will be other work in the shape of castings and forgings for the machinery, hand tools, &c. Business in tool steel continues negligible, and the position will be worsened by the accumulation of hundreds of tons of such material from war stores which the Government propose now to dispose of. In the lighter industries orders are generally on a hand-to-mouth basis, and short time at the works is universal. The house coal market has shown considerable improvement as the result of the colder weather, but the public still refuses to stock its cellars for the winter, and expects lower prices. Business in steam coal, both for home and export, continues on a restricted scale. A good number of inquiries are on hand for forward deliveries, but these fail to mature at present. Competition between the different coalfields is developing, and the high railway freights are a more important factor than formerly in the placing of coal contracts. Most of the gasworks, being well stocked, are not ordering much. The market for small fuels is decidedly firmer, owing to the shorter time which the pits are working. Coke is moving freely, with prices unchanged.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Shipbuilding and engineering circles in the Clyde area have been a good deal exercised this week over the placing of the Admiralty's contracts for war vessels, with which rumour has been busy for a time past. Some little uncertainty still exists as to the exact disposition of the work, but it may now be accepted that three boats have come to this district, one each to John Brown and Co., Clydebank, to Fairfield, Govan, and to Beardmore, Dalmuir. In the last-named instance the order is confined to a hull construction, the engine having been allotted to an English firm. But all the same, it is calculated that Beardmore's (in the form of heavy plates, castings, and armaments) has received the lion's share of the total allocations. Experts estimate that the Scotch bookings will involve a value of over £24,000,000, and lead to the re-employment ultimately of between 15,000 and 20,000 hands. Not immediately, however, and at the outset only gradually, for there is much detail in the early operations—notably in the laying of the great keels—that must be faced and executed before construction can be actively proceeded with. And it follows that not much visible progress will, therefore, be made in the respective yards this year; but all the same, a gradual absorption of manual labour will be in progress, and the ranks of the unemployed should thin out, though nothing heroic in that relation can for a season be looked for. Probably the first evidences of improvement will become manifest in the steel trade, which, once the drawings are in order, must proceed with the rolling of plates, angles, and special sections, of which an enormous tonnage is needed. How the volume will be distributed remains to be seen—because of the steelmaking and shipbuilding combines which obtain in Lanarkshire, but these should not adversely affect the workers. Outside of any business which may have been transacted in connection with the Government work, nothing of consequence has been done in iron or steel since Monday. It is rumoured that North of England producers have managed to sell several lots of steel plates here at two guineas a ton below the latest Scotch list rate, £12 10s. In reliable quarters the statement is not entertained, for it is understood that Scotch makers, while opposed to the cutting policy of North of England competitors, are prepared to meet the same and hold their own market. So far the only outcome of the most recent reduction in

steel prices—which gave makers a "free hand" in the export market—has been the receipt of an increased number of inquiries for a variety of manufactures—as to the terms on which producers are prepared to act. Some orders have gone through, but really nothing of significance. As to the home and export demand generally, the one thing evident is that buyers are not yet apparently satisfied that in respect of conditions bottom value has been touched, and that the point has not been reached when forward contracting can be safely entered into. On the other hand, manufacturers decline to commit themselves to deliveries any distance ahead. Consumers decline to look at crown bars at £14, and accordingly mills are running intermittently. Black sheet makers are experiencing a continued expansion in foreign demand, particularly that from South America. There has been some talk in the last day or two of prices being lowered by 10s a ton on the different gauges. Scotch hematite pig-iron has been reduced 2s 6d at £7 7s 6d; Scotch foundry No. 1, 5s at £7 5s.; and ditto No. 3, 5s at £7. The state of affairs in the coal trade is serious, more so than it has been for 50 years. Buyers are moving for lower prices, and coalmasters are shutting down collieries for the reason advanced that it is impossible to make ends meet at existing quotations.

CUMBERLAND IRON.
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The Cumberland and North Lancashire hematite pig-iron trade is still in a bad way, and demand is now actually quieter than it was five or six weeks ago, users being more averse than ever from placing business until they are convinced that prices have touched rock bottom. A furnace has been damped down this week, a second may be similarly dealt with in a few days, and there will remain in operation then only seven furnaces. Half of the make is low phosphorus iron for high-class steel manufacturers in the Midlands and in Scotland who cannot do without it, but are ordering only from hand to mouth, and the other half is for local steelmakers engaged in rolling railway material. The outlook is far from reassuring, and indeed smelters are now resigned to a very quiet state of affairs until the second or third month of next year. By that time it is hoped that there will be such a reduction of values as will enable consumers to come into the market and do business on a fairly large scale. Makers, of course, recognise that prices will have to come down, and not a few of them believe that the day is not far distant when ordinary hematite pig-iron will be selling at £5 10s per ton at works, but costs are too high at present to induce them to yield any further concessions, and Bessemer mixed numbers continue to be quoted at £6 8s 6d per ton at works. The steel trade is dull, such orders as makers at Workington and at Barrow possess representing little more than a few weeks' rolling. The output at Workington is principally basic steel rails, and because of this there is a better prospect than there otherwise would be of operations on the present scale being maintained for the remainder of the year.

With so few furnaces in blast no large production of native ore at the hematite iron ore mines is needed, and scarce half a dozen pits are working. Employment in the iron ore field is so intermittent that the men are chafing at the insistence by their leaders upon wages being calculated upon the basis of ordinary iron at £7 per ton, and in some districts the miners have suggested that it would be preferable to accept a lower scale and obtain more regular work.

How dull the coal trade is may be judged by the fact that only three collieries are working full time, and two of these have in operation batteries of coke ovens making for the local furnaces. The Irish demand is poor, and household and industrial needs are negligible. There are mountains of small coal all over the district, for which no use can be found until the condition of the iron trade is such as to call for a full production of the local coke. Continental orders for 8,000 tons of coke have been obtained by two plants, but this business will vanish as soon as East Coast makers care to meet the competition.

TAR PRODUCTS.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

During the past month there has been very little doing in tar products. Pitch is quite a nominal market, and now ranges from 55s to 65s per ton. Many of the South Wales briquette makers are still receiving deliveries under old contracts, and consequently are not interested in the market. Carbolic acid does not pay to extract at 1s 6d per gallon for crude and 6d per lb for crystals. Outputs are very small, and one would have expected that by this time this factor would have had some effect on the market and brought prices up to a profitable level. Cresosote is a steady market up to about 8d per gallon. Supplies are not large, and as soon as they increase it is difficult to see how even current values can be maintained. The same state of affairs is to be noted in connection with solvent naphtha, which is quoted at 3s per gallon, three times the pre-war price. This material is being sold forward very freely, and the trade is not looking for any rise. Indeed, as soon as outputs increase a considerable decline in values must be expected. Business in intermediate products has been fairly good, although buyers are only covering their immediate requirements, but, on the other hand, although foreign business is small, there are a good many inquiries about the market. Salicylic acid is 1s 4d per lb; Beta naphthol 2s 6d per lb; Resorcin 5s 6d per lb; aniline oil and salts 1s 7d and 1s 8d per lb respectively. Production of sulphate of ammonia is still on a small scale, and no difficulty is experienced in placing everything produced, particularly in foreign countries. The export price is in the neighbourhood of £16 10s per ton, but home quotations have been increased and are now as follows:—For November delivery, 4 ton lots and over, £15 8s per ton for neutral quality, in fine friable condition free

from lumps, containing 25½ per cent. ammonia, or £14 5s per ton for ordinary quality containing 25½ per cent. ammonia. December deliveries are quoted 5s per ton extra.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The continued strength of the raw material market is supporting prices in this centre at a level which would not otherwise be justified by the actual amount of business. Current rates, especially in the case of merinos, tend to restrict trade to the covering of actual requirements, but in spite of this there is a fairly good turnover, and the demand for spot merinos is in excess of the supplies. Some improvement is noticeable in the demand for crossbreds, and in this connection it is worthy of note that there is a growing demand for medium qualities in the United States. The activity of spinners engaged in the production of hosiery yarns is also contributing to an increased consumption of low qualities, and this is one of the most satisfactory features of the trade at the moment. There is a little more inquiry for botany weaving yarns, though present rates are too high for most manufacturers, who assert that the prices for cloth are greatly below cost based on to-day's quotations for yarn. The piece-goods trade, however, is gradually improving, and the higher prices of wool, tops, and yarn are helping to eliminate the extremely low prices which have been taken for stock lots. The demand from the home trade, however, is still very poor, and it is hoped that something will be done in the near future to assist firms who are burdened with dear stocks, and whose credit is curtailed. A scheme with this object in view is being discussed. Fifty men engaged in the wool textile trade, with the support of the banks, have agreed to take up £1,000 fully-paid shares, and to supplement the share subscription by entering into a guarantee to the amount of £20,000, thus making available a capital of £1,050,000. So far only the preliminary details have been discussed, but it is thought that the scheme will be brought into operation for the benefit of firms in need of financial assistance.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

There has been a very good week in Coleman Street Wool Exchange, the catalogues submitted finding buyers prepared to operate quite readily. One cannot but feel satisfied with the state of the market, there being practically no "soft spots" anywhere. The Continent has operated during the closing week of the series far more extensively than anyone ever expected, France, Germany, and Italy apparently being partially prepared to face adverse exchange rates. No matter what may be the feelings in regard to Germany on account of the war, the fact must be recognised that her purchasing power is going to be a strong factor in promoting the prosperity of the wool textile trade in this country as well as France, and the sooner exchange rates become more normal the better it will be for everyone connected with the trade from raw wool to the finished fabric. Great Britain and France can no more do without Germany's assistance than we can have wool without sheep. German manufacturers are wanting a big weight of wool, but the purchasing of sterling is a problem of so serious a nature that, in face of the forthcoming reparation payment, many feel that for the time being they cannot do otherwise than buy sparingly.

The offerings in Coleman Street this week have been very much as usual, comprising a very limited supply of merinos and a surplus of crossbreds. This has again furnished Bradford with the opportunity of buying liberally, and crossbreds have moved exceedingly well. On one or two nights prices have been paid which were not forthcoming during the opening week of the series. The sales are finishing with prices for both merinos and crossbreds at the highest point of the series, the bulk of the wools being easily a good 10 per cent. dearer than they were in September.

After the hubbub of last week, when buyers turned down the offer of B.A.W.R.A. to submit an additional 15,000 bales of merinos, that body has made a statement to the effect that a colossal weight of wool is going to be put upon the market between October 1st and the end of the year. We very much doubt the ability of the trade to lift and finance 1,000,000 bales of wool. However, if the trade clamours for more wool, by all means put it on the market. We are strongly against any higher prices for merinos, and both growers and B.A.W.R.A. are prepared to sell stocks at to-day's rates. We have never been able to see eye to eye with the demand of a certain section of the trade for bigger offerings of merinos, and unless we are greatly mistaken, wool combers have sufficient stocks of wool to keep their combs running full time

for some weeks, for arrivals are now pouring into consuming centres in sufficient weight to keep machinery fully occupied. Those in close touch with the trade know the reason for the recent demand for an extra quantity of merinos this series, and we say frankly that the weight of wool in sight cannot be cleared without the financial strength of the trade being severely taxed. Some topmakers were seriously caught with prices falling, and have again been caught in the advance, and cheaper wool is wanted. We dare say that the home piece trade would have stood a far better chance of improvement with tops at 3s than 4s 3d, but apparently there is a demand for wool at the latter basis, and we take it that when that demand falls off prices will do the same.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—October 21, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American	Ord	G O	LM	Mid	GM	MF	G O	LM	GM	G O	LM	GM
9-29	1004	1134	1254	1344	1524	1524	898	1193	1648	1888	2083	2403
Brazilian.	Mid	MF	Fr.	G F	Gd.	Fne	MF	Fr.	Gd.	MF	Fr.	Gd.
Pernambuco, &c.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Paraiba	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Maceio	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Mossoro, &c.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Ceara	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Maranhao	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Egyptian.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Brown	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Upper	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
West Indian—Sea Island ..	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Peruvian—Rough	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Ditto Mod. Rough	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Ditto Smooth	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Ditto Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
African, East, &c.	1050	1150	1350	1450	1550	1650	1200	1500	2900	2655	2695	2775
East Indian.	G F	For	Gd.	F G	Fne	S'tn	For	Gd.	Fne	For	Gd.	Fne
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Broach	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
M. Ginned Bhowanagar ..	8-34	9-9	9-44	10-19	10-44	10-94	9-69	10-69	12-29	16-29	17-94	18-10
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	8-50	9-00	9-50	10-25	10-50	11-00	9-75	10-75	12-35	16-35	17-10	18-10
M. Ginned Khandeish	8-25	8-75	9-50	9-75	10-00	10-00	7-00	8-00	9-60	15-85	16-60	17-60
M. Ginned Comptah	8-70	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	12-10	12-10	12-10	19-60	19-60	19-60
M. Ginned Bengal	7-15	7-65	8-15	8-30	8-45	8-40	7-25	7-75	8-75	14-00	14-75	15-75
M. Ginned Seinde	7-03	7-53	8-03	8-78	9-03	9-28	7-07	7-57	8-57	14-00	14-75	15-75
Timnively	12-05	12-30	12-55	13-00	13-00	13-00	13-10	13-60	13-60	20-10	20-35	20-35
Madras, Western	8-95	9-20	9-45	9-70	9-70	9-70	11-85	12-35	12-35	19-35	19-60	19-60
Cocoonada, Red	Fr.	8-55	9-00	9-00	9-00	9-00	10-00	10-00	10-00	18-85	19-10	19-10
M. Ginned Cocoonada, Red ..	Fr.	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	9-20	10-25	10-25	10-25	19-10	19-10	19-10

MANCHESTER, October 27.

The conditions prevailing in the market during the past week have not been favourable to a large turnover. Buyers are nervous as to future prices, and much uncertainty exists owing to the unsettled political situation. There are indications, however, that in some distributing centres dealers are in greater need of the replenishment of stocks. Only a miscellaneous business has been done in cloth for India. Occasional lines have been booked for China, chiefly in white goods. The minor outlets East and West have not been at all active. A little improvement continues to show itself in the home trade section. It has been a slow week for spinners of American and Egyptian yarns, and prices have been very irregular when tested. Orders in export yarns have been given out unevenly.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, Oct. 27, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Oct. 20.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 6.	Sept. 29.	Sept. 22.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	12-55	12-73	13-64	14-07	15-71	15-18
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	23-00	24-50	27-50	28-50	28-25	26-00
Egyptian	21-1	21-1	22-1	22-1	23-1	22-1
Yarns—32's twist	21	21	22	22	21	21
— 40's twist	40	42	45	45	45	43
— 60's twist	40	42	45	45	45	43
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	35	36	37	37	37	36
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	35	36	37	37	37	36
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	21	21	22	22	22	22
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	20	20	21	21	21	21

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, Oct. 27, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	12-55	18-21	25-20	22-95	22-27	11-03
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	23-00	43-00	35-50	29-40	31-95	17-70
Egyptian	21-1	41	47½	54½	29½	16½
Yarns—32's twist	21	39	45½	55½	29½	16½
— 40's twist	40	58	68	69	44	32
— 60's twist	40	58	68	69	44	32
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	35	65	67	72	38	25
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	35	68	64	69	37	21
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	21	37	38	33	22	12
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs	20	29	33	35	20	11

THE TIMBER TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The better tone prevailing in the timber trade, to which we referred in our report of a month ago, has shown still further improvement since. This firmer tendency is due largely to the fact that the heavy stocks of imported building woods (the cause of the slump in the summer) have dwindled down to moderate dimensions. A large amount of f.o.b. buying has been done with Finland and Sweden for winter requirements, but not of such considerable magnitude as to depress the market with an unwieldy stock. Indeed, so small were importations before August (due to shippers' high views) that the amount of sawn softwoods imported up to September 30th is less than half of that received during the first nine months of 1920.

Shippers of Swedish prime Upper Gulf stocks are asking about £22 for 3 x 9 unsorted deals, and £15 for battens, best Gothenburg shipments being quoted at £24 for deal sizes. Finnish shippers are accepting £3 to £4 less for deals. Though the market has firmed up for Swedish productions, the sales still leave shippers little, if any, profit; and, owing to the poor prospects of the future, production has been seriously curtailed and wages reduced.

The bad conditions of industry generally have not been conducive to a large consumption, yet spot prices have firmed up in sympathy with f.o.b. rates. The large building schemes in all parts of the country have been the mainstay of the trade, though already there is evidence of more caution amongst local authorities to build at present high rates of labour and building material other than wood. The packing-case makers particularly are quiet, and a good source of consumption is thereby restricted.

A feature of the month's trade has been the arrival of cargoes of Russian timber both from the White Sea and Petrograd, and still further cargoes are expected from Archangel before the close of navigation.

Freights have been steady over the month, with a tendency to firmness, accentuated during the past week or so by the restriction of high deck loads, which come into force on the 1st proximo. For medium-size cargoes Upper Gulf of Bothnia to London rates are about 8s a Petrograd standard of 165 cubic feet.

The furniture wood market is suffering from a quiet demand. Stocks of mahogany logs in first hands have been heavy, but auction sales in Liverpool and London have had the effect of clearing considerable parcels, though many lots have been withdrawn from auction through buyers not coming up to sellers' ideas. For mahogany cut wood prices are fairly well maintained. The demand for American furniture woods and Japanese oak are still moderate.

In the native timber market good descriptions of oak, ash, beech, and other woods find a responsive market, but inferior timber is difficult of sale. Of pitwood the poor conditions of the colliery trades prevents any business of a remunerative character.

CHEMICALS.

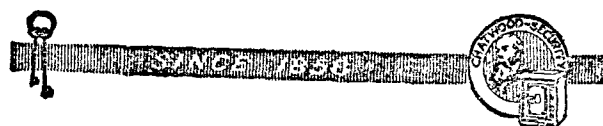
The report of Sir S. W. Royle and Co., Limited, of Manchester, dated October 26th, states that, although the improvement in demand noted a month ago has not been fully maintained, a steady volume of business has been passing during October, and consumers have also been taking increased quantities against contracts. So far the new import regulations do not appear to have affected prices, which have on the whole remained steady. There has been some falling away in the export demand for sulphate of copper, whilst business for home account has been only small, and concessions have been made in price. Green copperas is unchanged. Acetic acid and acetate of lime have been in steady request, and prices well maintained. Some heavy importations of acetate of soda have been pressed for sale, but the forward position is firm. Stocks of acetates of lead are not large; but the demand has been small. Some good business has been passing in nitrate of lead. There are fair stocks of carbonate of potash on this side, and prices are firm, Continental makers showing a disposition to ask higher figures. Caustic potash is in steady request, and price well maintained. Supplies of Montreal potashes are ample. The demand for yellow prussiate of potash has fallen away somewhat, but price has remained firm. Prussiate of soda maintains its position, and stocks are firmly held with little offering from the Continent. White powdered arsenic has been receiving more attention, and supplies being short, price is higher. Tartaric acid has been moving steadily for both early and forward delivery with values very firm. Cream of tartar also has been in fair request, but stocks are ample. The demand for citric acid has fallen away, and price is easier. Bichromates have been quiet, and values are lower. Chlorates are available only in small lots and are dearer. Oxalic acid has been little called for. Borax and boracic acid are unchanged, although foreign supplies of the former are being offered at lower figures to arrive.

LINEN TRADE.

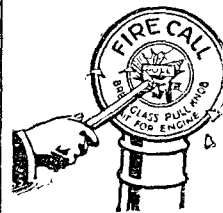
BELFAST, October 26.

FLAX.—The Irish markets are still being well supplied, and all fibre offered was bought at unchanged prices, although in some markets growers at first held for higher prices, but eventually sold. On the Continent there is very little change to report as the market has become steadier. Germans are still buying in the low end, which will keep prices firm in this class in the meantime.

YARNS.—While transactions during the week have not been so numerous, the market is firm. Tow stocks are in very small compass, and in these there is practically no competition on the



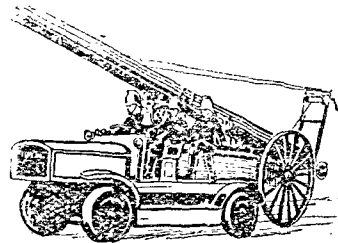
When the Fire Bell rings! . . .



WHEN it is considered that within an hour of the ringing of the Fire Bell the hundred-years-old records of a firm—records that cannot be reproduced—may be reduced to ashes, it is astonishing that the average purchaser of a Safe does not first obtain the fullest details regarding the degree of Fire protection afforded.

Numerous authentic cases are on record which afford conclusive proof of the unique Fire-resisting properties of THE CHATWOOD SAFE.

One notable instance occurred during the bombardment of Alexandria, when THE CHATWOOD SAFE, containing securities to the value of £250,000, was buried in a mountain of stone which had been reduced to lime by the tremendous heat and remained in this position during two weeks.



It was only possible to carry out excavations by continuously pouring water upon the molten debris, but when the Safe was eventually rescued the contents were found to be in perfect condition.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE

Since 1858.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE BOOK
Send a postcard to-day for a copy of
the 42-page illustrated CHATWOOD
SAFE BOOK, gratis and post free.

A.3

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED
BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: BOLTON.
Branches: ENGLAND
LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW
56 Gracechurch St., E.C. Royal Exchange 12 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

Service that counts—

Anything that comes within the province of Banking is included in the Service offered its customers by The Merchants Bank. If you want disinterested advice on any business subject or first-hand information concerning trade conditions in any part of Canada—this Bank is in a position to help you.



A banking service of practical value to your business.

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Assets
LONDON OFFICE

part of foreign spinners, whose prices even at the present exchange are higher than local yarns. The committee in charge of production have allowed a slight increase, viz., one-eleventh, making the maximum six-elevenths of a 48 hours week. Not a large number of mills will take advantage of this.

WEAVERS.—The activity noted in last week's report continues, but is checked to some extent by the upward tendency of the market. Orders have again been placed over a wide range of goods, including damasks and dress linens. Some orders of importance are held in abeyance, owing to manufacturers being unable to accept prices ruling during the month of August. If prices can be kept at the present level a steady demand for all classes of goods is likely to result.

MERCHANTS.—Merchants have received considerable new business during the past week, covering damasks, napkins, fancy goods, and handkerchiefs. All orders placed are for early delivery. Conditions show marked improvement.

DRESS LINENS.—Repeat orders have been placed during the past week for coloured linens in medium and heavy weight qualities from U.S.A. and other markets. The advance in cost of yarns and deliveries required make business somewhat difficult to arrange.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.

A rather better tone has on the whole prevailed in the market this week, prices of both linseed and linseed oil having rallied from the severe setback of a few days ago. The advances in Argentine options have had a steadying effect on linseed quotations, which have about recovered the ground lost, though buyers, on reports of larger acreage under seed in Argentina, are somewhat reserved. The market has also benefited from a revival in the demand for linseed oil, in which a large business has been done spot and forward at from £28 to £29 (London and Hull). The Continent is reported a buyer to a limited extent, while America is again taking quantities for near shipment. Shipments of seed from Argentina this year to all destinations already exceed 1,000,000 tons, and she has still seed to ship. World values it is recognised will be governed by the amount of the old crop still left and the result of the growing crops.

In the absence of demand cotton oils have reacted seriously and are £4 to £5 per ton lower on the week. Crude Egyptian ex Hull mill has fallen to £38, and edible refined to £44 10s. Egyptian cottonseed has rallied somewhat from the recent slump, but business is on restricted lines. Soya bean oil is easier, as is also ground nut oil. Palm kernel and rape oils are about unchanged and demand small.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

Although there was a slightly weaker tone in the London hide position this week, alterations in price were not important. Best heavy ox made 10½d and light 9½d, the change as against last rates being fractional in one class. Best cows made from 8d to 8½d, and were ½d down. Calf in heavy weights were firm, but lights at 15½d to 16d were from 1d to 1½d down. Wools were steady at 3s 3d to 6s 6d, and hogs sold from 2s 10d to 7s 3d each. Business in imported hides is reported quieter, although tanners are buying fregorifics at about late rates. Few hides sold at last week's auctions in Mincing lane, and prices obtained were no guide to the actual market position, as much of the stock was stale and imperfect. American cables report the Chicago position as strong, with heavy packers now selling at 15½ cents, an advance of a cent on last prices.

Merchants report a falling off in leather business, and in some directions bends are accumulating in tanners' hands. The demand is mainly for medium and heavies, and tanners are very firm on prices for these selections. Cheap bends constitute the main demand, whilst heavy shoulders and bellies are in many cases now cleared from the market. Upper leather is dull, and curriers are very slack. Waxed kips hang fire owing to the prolonged fine weather, and semi-chrome kips do not seem wanted in view of the amount of cheap chrome side offered. Glacé kid in medium selections is selling fairly well, and British glacé kid tanners seem well employed, doubtless on account of the small quantity of leather arriving.

The boot trade is fairly well employed on small orders, and of late retailers have been sending in orders for heavy goods. Prices are considered to have reached bottom, and makers are very firm on quotations.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. F 7a on above prices for the following special brands:—
"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground sl.
"Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting.
"Ferrocete," a cement prepared by specialists in ferro-concrete construction, 10s per ton.

ment, and "Red er ton.
requirements of cks to the ton),

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, October 28.

With one or two exceptions the various markets continued extremely quiet, as demand on export account is still very meagre, owing to the question of rates of exchange, while home trade buyers are largely content to restrict their purchases to wants of immediate necessity.

SUGAR.—With sustained inquiries, especially for refined descriptions, business during the week was of fair dimensions, and a very steady tone governed the market. Tate's cubes sold, 55s 3d to 56s 3d; crushed, 51s 9d; granulated, 49s 9d to 50s 3d; caster, 52s 3d to 52s 9d; pieces, 38s to 45s. Lyle's granulated, 49s 9d to 50s; yellow crystals, 44s 9d. West India crystallised sold more freely, from 38s to 43s, as to sample. American granulated firmer, with spot sales at 48s 3d to 49s. White Java, spot, nominally 47s 3d; white Natal, sold, 43s 5d to 44s; W.S.R. granulated, prompt, quoted 22s, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Czech-Slovakian granulated and crystals, October, 20s; first week November, 19s 9d; cubes, October, 25s, f.o.b. Belgian crystals, ready, sold, 19s 3d; ditto, October, 19s 1½d; and November-December, 18s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Brazilian, basis 96 per cent., November-December, sold, 14s 3d; and basis 80 per cent., ditto, at 10s, c.f. and i. terms, United Kingdom. Terminal market steady. March, raw, sold, 14s 6d; white, November, 18s 9d to 19s 6d; December, 18s 7½d to 19s 4½d; March, 18s 6d to 19s 1½d. Cuban stocks total 1,163,438 tons, against 306,666 tons same time last year.

COFFEE.—The market, on spot, ruled quiet, though really fine qualities realised steady prices. Nairobi, small common to fine, sold, 59s 6d to 89s 6d; common to fine bold, 80s to 120s. Fair bold Colombian sold, 102s. Future delivery firmer. Small sales include December at 45s 9d to 47s 9d, and March, 47s to 49s.

COCOA.—The fair supply of 9,700 bags offered in auction met with slow support, and only a restricted part sold at mostly slightly easier rates as compared with those ruling recently in the private market. Trinidad, good red, sold, 58s. Grenada, good to fine red, 52s to 55s; fair, 50s to 51s; fine bold showy red, Ceylon, 90s; fine St Lucia, 54s; Samoa, 84s. Butter sold quietly at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—The supply of Indian brought to auction this week totalled 43,000 packages. Brisk competition prevailed in which the commoner kinds participated, and a very firm tone ensued, prices in some cases ruling distinctly dearer. 18,000 packages Ceylon were also well competed for, and prices realised were on the firm side for all descriptions.

RICE.—Market still very quiet, and during the week only retail sales were effected. Two Stars, Rangoon, spot, 19s 6d; garden Siam, afloat, 20s. Burma No. 1, A, broken, October-November, 15s. Siam C.I., broken, ditto, 12s. Bran quiet, and Rangoon, October-November, quoted 12s 5d per ton, ex ship terms. Beans steady. Rangoon, hand picked, afloat, sold, 9s 6d; October-December, 10s 3d. Madagascar butter beans, all whites, spot, new crop, 20s to 21s, and old, 12s. Japanese peas, November-December, quoted 35s, c.f. and i. terms.

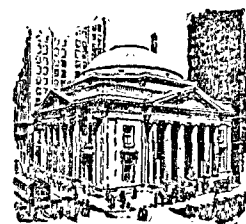
FRUIT.—There was a fair trade doing in currants during the week, and market disclosed a very steady tone. New Pyrgos sold, 49s to 50s; Amalia, 52s to 54s; Patras, 56s to 64s; Vostizza, 70s to 84s. A better demand prevailed for sultanias. Smyrna, medium to good, sold, 117s to 120s; fine, up to 145s. Figs steady. Layers range from 125s to 140s; lacouns, 160s to 175s. Dates in fair request, and Khredrowie sold, 24s; Siar, 18s. Valencia raisins have been in good demand, and really fine lots are now scarce. In auction, 47 tons offered, and mostly sold. Halves, 115s to 123s; quarters, 135s to 145s; seedless, 107s to 111s. Muscatels quiet at the high rates still current. In auction, clusters sold, 172s 6d to 192s 6d; loose, 145s to 155s; seedless, 90s; and trays, 200s to 217s 6d.

JUTE.—A dull and easier market resulted this week, though sellers were not unduly pressing. Native first marks assortment, old crop, subs, October-November, sellers, £27 10s; lightning subs, ditto, £24; heart subs, £17 15s; new crop, first grade, October-November, £29; lightning, new, £25 10s. Calcutta hessians and twills very slow, and prices lower on the week. 10 oz hessians, spot, 27s; October-December, 26s; 8 oz, spot, 22s; October-December, 21s. A twills, spot, 83s; October-December, 82s; B, spot, 70s; October-December, 68s.

HEMP.—Manila descriptions continued very idle, and market conditions nominal. J grade, October-December, quoted £38; K, ditto, £36 10s; L, £36; and M, £31 10s. New Zealand idle. High point, fair, October-December, £37; and fair, £35.

SHELLAC.—Market generally slow. T.N., spot, 340s; October, sold, 320s to 335s; December, 317s 6d to 323s 6d.

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

COPRA met with quieter support, but the undertone of the market proved steadier. F.M.S. Straits, October-December, Rotterdam, sold, £27 10s to £29 7s 6d and £27 15s; Ceylon, October-December, London, quoted £29; South Sea Islands, ditto, £27; Cebu to Hamburg sold, £28 10s to £27 5s. Palm kernels unsettled. October-December, also November-January, Liverpool, sold, £17 10s to £18 17s 6d and £18.

RUBBER steadier, with a fair demand. Standard plantation crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 9½d to 10½d; November-December, 10d to 10½d; January-March, 10½d to 10½d; April-June, 11d to 11½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 2d; ball, 7½d. London stocks of plantation amount to 68,806 tons.

MENTHOL.—Spot parcels were disposed of at 24s; ditto, afloat, 18s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. Japanese peppermint oil, spot, quoted 4s 8d; aniseed, 2s 3½d. Japanese slab of camphor, spot, 4s 3d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 105s; forward, 90s per cwt, c.f. and i. terms.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market very quiet, but sellers adhered to previous asking prices. Prime liquid yolk, spot, sold, 105s per cwt; and albumen, spot, done, 2s 11½d per lb.

OILS.—Linseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 27s 6d; November-December, 27s 3d; January-April, 28s 3d. Rape easier. Crude, spot, 50s; refined, 55s. Cotton quieter. Crude Egyptian, 45s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 55s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 68s; and shipment, 67s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 48s; October-November, 45s; Cochin, ditto, 54s. Soya easier. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 37s. Japan fish quiet. October-November, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 25s to 27s. Groundnut easier. English crushed, naked, spot, 53s; deodorised, barrels, 64s. Turpentine firmer. American, spot, 69s; November-December, 69s 3d; January-April, 70s. Rosin dull. American, grade B, 16s 6d; F, 16s 9d; G, 17s; K, 18s; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H, 16s; WW, 18s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market firmer, with an improved demand, though easier later. Indian largely nominal. Calcutta, afloat, value £16; October-November, £17 10s. Plate, spot, Hull, £14 10s; afloat, sold, £14 to £14 10s; October-November, £15 to £15 5s; November-December, £15 5s to £15 10s; January-February, nearest, £15 15s. Rapeseed irregular. Toria, October-November, sold, £17 5s to £18; real bold Ferozepore quoted £18; brown Cawnpore, £17 10s. Cottonseed quiet. Egyptian black, November, nominally £10 15s; and white, £10 5s. Bombay, December-January, £8 15s. Gingly quiet. Chinese, September-October, Continent, £27. Castor, Bombay, October-November, £18 5s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, October-November, Hull, £21; new crop, December-February, Continent, £20; Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £23 to £24 per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market manifested a quiet tone last Monday, standard cash realising £158 10s to £158 5s, and three

months', £160 15s. Selling desire followed, while prices eased by the middle of the week, values of these dates moving down £155 10s and £158 respectively. A firmer tone prevailed at Thursday's meeting. Cash changed hands at £156 5s to £156 10s, and three months' £158 10s to £159. At Friday's session a quiet tone prevailed and rates tended rather easier. Early November changed hands at £157 10s, and three months' at £159 5s to £158 10s. English ingots, £154 10s to £155. Copper: After remaining steady during the first part of the week, the standard market declined by Wednesday under less reserve on the part of sellers, cash being done at £65 5s, and three months' at £66 7s 6d. At Thursday's meeting cash advanced to £65 10s, three months' being sold chiefly at £66 10s. At Friday's session cash registered £65 15s, early December £66 5s, and three months' £67 to £66 15s. Electrodes, £72 to £74; best selected, £66 to £68; strong sheets, £101. Wire bars, £73 to £74. Lead steady at £24 to £23 15s, as to position. Spelter lower at £25 17s 6d to £26 10s, according to position. Antimony: English regulus, £37 to £40. Aluminium: Home trade quoted at £120; export, £125.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on October 26th as follows:—The tallow market continued quiet during the week, with a fair demand for inferior sorts, while the better kinds were selling slowly. At to-day's auctions there was a little more competition, and prices were quoted 2s lower for fine sorts only. Shipments of tallow from Australasia in September amounted to 6,800 tons. At auction to-day 401 casks tallow were offered, and 151 were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 50s; good to fair, 49s to 46s; dull to dark, 45s to 37s 9d; hard, 49s. Australian beef: Fine, 48s; good to fair, 46s to 43s; dull to dark, 42s to 37s; sweet, 50s. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs., 48s; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, 46s. The market letter is lower, tallow, 1s; stuff, 2s. Town tallow, 38s 6d per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, 3d; melted stuff, 25s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town, 39s net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 38s home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, none; fair to dull, 40s 6d to 38s 6d. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 30s; melted stuff, 32s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—OCTOBER 27.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	s
Beasts—Herefords.....	8	2	10
Shorthorns.....	8	0	8
Devons.....	8	4	9
Norfolks.....	8	0	8
Scottish.....	7	4	8
Irish.....	7	4	8
Sheep—Downs.....	8	8	10
Longwools.....	6	8	8
Crossbred.....	8	0	9
Scottish.....	10	0	11
Lamb—Downs.....	10	0	11

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—OCTOBER 27.

Per Cwt.			
	s	d	s
King Edwards.....	9	6	11
British Queen.....	8	6	9
Evergoods.....	7	0	8
Blacklands.....	6	0	9

SOUTH-NORWAY.

FREDRIKSSTAD PRIVATBANK,

Fredriksstad.

Paid-up Capital
and Reserves:
Kr. 23.000.000.

Banking and Exchange
Business
of every description.

London Bankers:—Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited;
London County Westminster & Parr's Bank, Limited; London Joint
City & Midland Bank, Limited; Cox & Co.

At less
than the
cost of
ONE new
SUIT we
will keep
your whole
wardrobe
in order
for ONE
YEAR

To maintain a smart, well-dressed appearance gentlemen should avail themselves of Eastman's Tailor-Valet Service.

This service, besides offering great convenience to all who take a pride in their personal appearance, saves the cost of constantly buying new Suits.

Suits and Overcoats are Dry Cleaned, Repaired, Shaped and Pressed to look like new. Rain-coats reproofed without extra charge.

Post Card brings List.

EASTMAN & SON
(DYERS & CLEANERS), LTD.
for over 100 years the
London Dyers & Cleaners,

Acton Vale, London, W.3.

Branches
Everywhere.

EASTMANS
THE
TAILOR-VALET
SERVICE

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
Cocoa—Duty, British grown	35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Aloes, fine E.L., p. cwt	150 0 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 2 0 0	Butter—per cwt.	185 0 0	Singapore, fair, white	0 8 0 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	55 0 0	Cape, good to fine	25 0 0	Plantation crepe	0 10 0 0	Irish creamery	120 0 0	Black Singapore	0 32 0 0
Granada	55 0 0	Balsam Peru, per lb	7 0 0	INDIGO—per lb		Do factory	120 0 0	White Siam	0 84 0 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 0	Capivi	2 0 0	Bengal, good red vici		Australian	150 0 0	Pimento	0 24 0 0
Guayaquil	58 0 0	Camphor		let to fine	11 0 12 0	Argentine	140 0 0	Cinnamon—1st sort	1 1 0 0
Bahia, finest	59 0 0	Camphor, refined	4 14 0 0	Mid. ord. vici to good	9 6 10 9 0	New Zealand	nom	Do 2nd	1 0 0 0
COFFEE—British grown		Cardamom, Ceylon	1 6 5 0 0	Low to good ord.	6 0 6 0 0	Danish	238 0 242 0	Do 3rd	0 10 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cantharides, per lb	0 0 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	1 6 4 0 0	Bacon, engd.—Irish	100 0 138 0	Do 4th	0 8 0 0
Do good to fine	110 0 135 0	Castor-oil	0 0 0 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 4 0 0	Do 4th	0 8 0 0	Chips	0 34 0 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	90 0 121 0	Gum Bolam, Sum. cwt	7 10 0 11 10 0	Kurpah, gd. mid. to gd.	4 6 6 0 0	Canadian	80 0 110 0	Cassia Ligna	45 0 0 0 0
Good to fine	150 0 155 0	Oilbalm, drops	0 0 0 0	Low to mid.	4 6 6 0 0	American	80 0 100 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 5 0 0 0
Central American, gd.		Jalap.	2 9 0 0 0	HEMP—per ton	8 0 0 0	Hams—Irish	nom	Penang	2 17 3 0 0
ord. to mid	75 0 116 0	Musk pod, China	0 75 0 0	St. Petersburg, layer	38 0 0	Canadian	115 0 125 0	Ginger	
Mid. to fine	117 0 120 0	Oil, Cassia	4 3 0 0 0	Nails	42 10 0	Lard—Irish bladders	65 0 75 0	Cochin, cut	120 0 130 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 0 65 0	Aniseed	2 3 0 0 0	N. 2, spot, high fair	2 0 0 0	American boxes, 50lb	74 0 0	Do small rough	45 0 0 0
Do good to low mid	70 0 91 0	Peppermint, H.G.H.	45 0 0 0	JUTE—		Beef—Frozen, per lb	1 8 4 8	Do washed	50 0 0 0
Do mid. to fine	95 0 120 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fn	5 6 0 0	Native first marks		Scotch	7 8 9 8	Jamaica	125 0 180 0
CHEMICALS—		DYE STUFFS, &c.		Oct./Nov. subs.	27 10 0 0	Cheese—Cwt—Canadian	80 0 104 0	Mace	120 0 130 0
Acid, citric	per lb 2 54 2 6	Turneric, Bengal	17 6 0 0 0	LEATHER—per lb		New Zealand	84 0 100 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1 5
Nitric	0 24 0 4	Madras, finger	20 0 24 0 0	Sole Bends 6/10 lb.	1 6 2 6 0	Eng. Cheddars	112 0 150 0	Small to medium	1 1 1 5
Oxalic	0 0 0 0	Canter, block	34 0 0 0 0	Do do 10/12	2 2 2 4 0	Cheshire	nom	Chillies—per cwt	140 0 160 0
Tartaric, English	1 54 1 6	Cut, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 2 4 0	Dutch	80 0 129 0	Good mutton	43 0 0 0
Foreign	1 54 1 6	DYEWOODS—		Do do 14/16	2 2 2 4 0	Eggs, pr 12½—English	36 0 38 0	Beef	46 0 0 0
Alum lump	per ton 217 0 0 17 10 0	Brasil	18 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	FLOUR—280 lbs		TAPIOCA—per lb	
Do ground	217 0 0 17 10 0	Fustic, Jamaica	15 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	E.L. Flake, fair, spot	0 14 0 1	E.L. Flake, per cwt	19 0 26 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	0 4 0 44	Cuba	20 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Pearl	0 14 0 1	Do 1st, 1st, 1st	0 14 0 1
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0 0	Lima Wood	20 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	TEA—duty 10d, British		foreign 1st per lb	
Sulphate	225 0 26 0 0	Logwood, Campeachy	12 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Indian and Ceylon		Pekoe	0 8 1 8
Arsenic, lump, per ton	75 0 80 0 0	Honduras	12 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Pekoe	0 8 1 8	Orange Pekoe	0 103 2 1
Powder	per ton 43 0 42 0 0	Red Sanders	12 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Broken Orange	0 94 3 5	Broken Orange	0 94 3 5
Ashes, pot., per cwt	150 0 155 0 0	Sapang Ceylon	20 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Pekoe Souchong	0 64 0 11	Pekoe Souchong	0 64 0 11
Pearl do	do	FLAX—spot—c.f.f.		Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	TIMBER—Timber & Hewn			
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	150 0 200 0 0	Rigs ZK	115 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	E.L. Teak (load)	20 0 0 50 0 0		
Borax, crystals	cwt 31 9 0 0	Pernau HD	115 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	9 0 16 0 0		
Do powder	32 0 0 0	Sianeta U/A Medium	115 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Satinwood cubic	1 6 6 6 0		
Cream Tartar		FRUIT—New		Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Cedar cubic	5 0 1 0 0		
53% powder	150 0 132 6	Oranges, Val. selected	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Japanese Oak	0 8 1 0		
Calomel	per lb 1 10 2 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	American Oak	0 4 0 10		
Iodine, dry	per oz 1 0 1 1	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	TOBACCO—			
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	150 0 160 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Duty 8/2—10/4 per lb.			
Potash—		Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Virginia leaf	4 4 4 4		
Chlorate, net	0 6 0 7	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Common to fine	1 3 2 3		
Prussiate	1 0 1 2	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Strips	2 0 2 0		
Do Foreign	1 0 1 2	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Kentucky leaf			
Sulphate	per ton 25 8 30 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Common to fine	1 0 1 6		
Sul-Acetic	per lb 1 10 2 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	China	1 3 1 9		
Sul-Ammunium, p. cwt	75 0 80 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 2 0 0		
Soda Bicarb., per ton	210 0 0 12 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Seedleaf	1 6 4 0 0		
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton	270 0 0 8 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Havana	6 6 6 6		
Alkali	230 0 0 25 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Greek	0 10 1 0		
Caustic	230 0 0 25 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	East Indian	0 6 2 0 0		
Sugar of lead white ton	0 0 0 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 0 0		
Powder	247 10 50 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	TURPINE, p. cwt	60 0 0 0		
Foreign white	247 10 50 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	WOOL—per lb.			
Sulphate Quinine		Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	English, Southdown, wahl.	174		
English Brand		Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Lincoln hog	9		
Foreign do	4 1 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	Queensland, sed. sup. embg.	38		
Sulphate Copper, p. ton	51 0 0 32 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	N.S.W. grey, sup.	22		
Sulphur Flour	16 0 0 17 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	N.Z., grey, hlf-brd. (50-55's)	15		
Do Roll	15 0 0 16 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0	crossbrd (40-44's)	74		
Sulphur	15 0 0 16 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lb	9 5 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
English	4 9 5 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
COPRA—per ton c.f.f.	8 5 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
Malabar, Oct./Dec.	29 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
Ceylon	29 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
F.M.S. Singapore	27 15 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
F.M. Straits	27 0 0	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				
CHINESEAL—per lb	2 0 3	Do	0 0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18	1 10 3 0 0				

NOVEMBER 5, 1921.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1921.

No. 4,080.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1884.

Capital (paid up):
Eso. 24,000,000Reserve Funds:
Eso. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

82 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
6 " " India and China.Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty Street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27B, Throgmorton Street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up ... " 348,788,000
Reserve ... " 176,000,000
Deposits ... " 5,400,000,000Head Office - MILAN.
BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.Auxiliaries:
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.
Manager: E. CONSOLO.
Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	801	Books and Publications—	
Leading Articles—		Reviews	817
Policy and Principle	803	Books Received	818
Export Credits—II.	804	Stock Exchange News—	
Our Index Number	805	The Stock Markets	818
Shipbuilding, Coal, and Oil	806	New Issues	819
The International Labour		Active Securities	820
Conference	807	Company Meetings	821
Australian Base Metal Mining Companies & Labour	808	Government Returns—	
Business Notes—		Public Income & Expenditure	825
Supplementary Estimates	809	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	825
Repayments to United States	809	Currency Notes Account	826
Inter-Ally Debts	809	Bankers' Gazette—	
The Liabilities of Russia	809	Bank of England	826
France and Turkey	809	Clearing Returns	826
Egyptian Cotton Crop	810	Overseas Bank Returns	826
Some Gilt-edged Yields	810	Loan and Discount Rates	828
Monthly Bulletin of Statistics	810	Overseas Bank Rates	828
Chinese Banking and Trade Development	810	Rates of Exchange	828
The Vegetable Oil Industry	811	Bullion	829
The Progress of Latvia	811	Imports & Exports of Gold	829
Japanese Trade and Finance	811	Gold and Silver Prices	830
South Africa Trade	811	Company News—	
City Life Assurance Company	812	Analysis of Balance-sheets	820
British North Borneo	812	Mining Output Statistics	820
United Dairies	812	Oil Outputs	820
Gold Fields Rhodesian Development	812	Dividend Announcements	830
Letters to the Editor—		Railway & Tramway Traffic Reports and Notices	832
Germany's Export Policy	817	Profit and Loss Accounts	834
Sliding-Scale Interest	817	Commercial Reports—	
		Corn Trade	833
		Iron and Coal Trade	835
		Wool Trade	836
		Cotton Trade	836
		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	837
		Hide and Leather Trades	837
		Overseas Produce Markets	837
		Price Current	838

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.
Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

FIVE PER CENT.

THE New York Federal Reserve Bank having reduced its re-discount rate to 4½ per cent., the Bank rate was on Thursday lowered to 5 per cent. Thus the basis of money rates remains higher in the debtor than in the creditor market, and at the same time Bank rate is more in touch with actual conditions here. Bankers' deposit rates were reduced to 3 per cent., and the maximum charge for weekly loans came down to 3½ per cent. On the other hand, the Treasury was able, earlier in the week, to pay

The "Economy" Typewriter

The reason why the Royal is economical, right through from its first cost to its second-hand trading price, is because the machine is designed on original lines in every respect, and not developed from previously existing types.

Every working part has been the subject of endless thought and experiment, consequently the finished product is a triumph of original mechanical and practical efficiency.

Test the even spacing, the clear writing, the perfect visibility, the speed and ease of handling—compare the work—you will find the Royal stands alone in perfect work, adaptability, and durability.

You can easily prove this by visiting us or letting us demonstrate the machine in your own office—we charge nothing.

ROYAL STANDARD TYPEWRITER

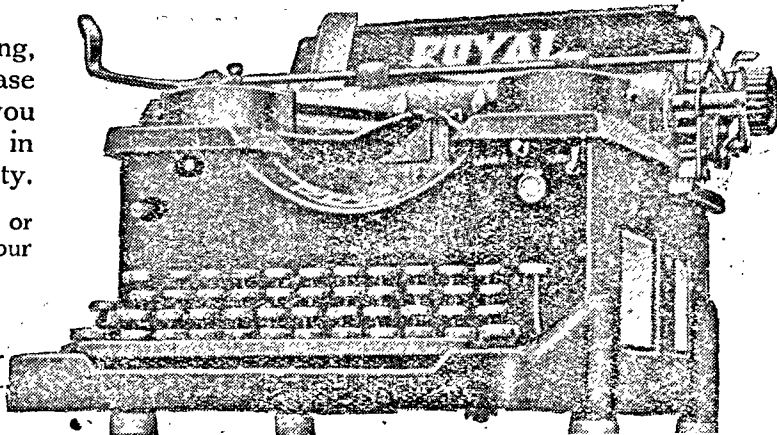
VISIBLE WRITING MACHINE CO. LTD.

Royal House, 75a, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Manchester : 10, Brown Street.

Birmingham : 19, Martineau Street.

Branches and Agencies in all cities from Land's End to John o' Groats.



off some Ways and Means Advances, owing to an increase in the sales of Treasury bonds; an increase which is likely to be maintained. Thus money has been intermittently easier to lend than it was last week, and the discount rate, after rising to $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., ended the week steady at $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., buyers being in hopes that increased offerings of Treasury bills by tender would keep the rate firm for the present. The supply of commercial paper is steady though still small, and the market was discussing the possibility of its being increased by the creation of bills endorsed by the Government under the Export Credits Scheme.

	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount, Call	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses, Notice	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Market rate (3 months' bills)	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a slight addition to the stock of gold, and the note circulation increased by £1,225,500, the reserve being £1,220,800 lower. Substantial repayments by the Government were reflected in a reduction of £30,632,200 in Government securities, and other securities fell by £1,290,600. Deposits were thus £33,136,400 lower, other being reduced by £35,853,200, while Public rose by £2,716,800. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £2,079,600 to £313,655,070, which includes £1,830,400 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £263,874,700, or £53,680,500 below the maximum.

The New York Federal Reserve Bank rate was reduced $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $4\frac{1}{2}$ on November 2, 1921. It had stood at 5 per cent. since September 21, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended October 29, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	13,728	Supply Services	9,079
		Interest on Debt	1,296
		Sundries	780
		Reduction of Debt	2,398
		Added to Exchequer Balances ..	175
	13,728		13,728

These operations decreased the National Debt by the sum of £2,397,987, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 10,930	Bank of England Advances ..	- 22,750
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 150	Depreciation fund	- 600
Public Department Advances ..	+ 5,800	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 434
Treasury Bills	+ 4,628	Exchequer Bonds Repaid	- 250
Sundries	+ 130		
	+ 21,636		- 24,034

The chief items of revenue were Customs and Excise, which yielded £4,711,000. Property and Income-tax brought in £1,877,000, and special receipts under Miscellaneous yielded £2,816,009. A noteworthy feature of the return was the £10,930,000 which came in from sales of Treasury Bonds. Exchequer Bonds amounting to £250,000 were repaid. Treasury Bill sales exceeded the maturities by £4,647,000. Advances by the Bank of England were reduced by £22,750,000, leaving £51,000,000 outstanding, but advances by Public Departments were increased by £5,800,000.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

Interest in the foreign exchange market has again centred on the mark and dollar. From 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 28th, the mark has risen with rapidly increasing momentum to about 945 early yesterday morning, after which the rate steadied again somewhat for the time. Since last week the only outstanding features have been the disappointment of the very exaggerated hopes which the Berlin

market apparently placed on the recent visit to London of Herr Havenstein, and the fact that nothing has been settled in respect to the surrender of foreign currencies by the industrialists. The main explanation for the rapid rise would appear to be the break in confidence both at home and abroad, so that the rate now is quite out of touch with real conditions, and may be driven rapidly in either direction by almost any reports. On the whole, it would appear that the quotation is higher than is justified. The rate for futures remains unchanged at $1\frac{1}{2}$ marks per month below spot. The dollar, after its fall to 3.91 $\frac{1}{2}$ on the 28th, moved up again to 3.93 $\frac{1}{2}$ at the end of the month, to fall back on the 2nd to 3.91 $\frac{1}{2}$, after which it has risen again to 3.94 $\frac{1}{2}$ yesterday morning. The future quotation has widened $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. to $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. per month above spot. The cause for the recent improvement in the value of sterling remains as mysterious as ever, and New York, where the strength lies, can offer no convincing explanation. It is true that the normal autumn drain came much earlier this year, and one view is to assume that this has been surmounted, and that we are now at a point usually only reached in early spring. Against this, however, is to be set the fact that comparatively few cotton bills have yet come forward, and though our demand this year is smaller, and at much lower prices, and though our imports in general are much reduced, the weight of these will surely tell sooner or later. On the other hand, there is to be set the undoubtedly growing interest shown by America in foreign securities, and the recent flotation in New York of several foreign loans, together with the flattering, but somewhat surprising, confidence shown in our general economic outlook. It would appear that New York is in the anomalous position of being both long and short of sterling—short in the case of those who have been caught by the recent rise, long in the case of those bankers who have old positions at a rate of about \$4, and would very much like the rate to reach that point in order to get out. The only conclusion to be drawn from these varying influences is that the prospect for the time is quite obscure, and that any forecast is more than ever dangerous. Paris, although above the best during the week, shows at 53.45 a good improvement on the 54.10 quoted on the 28th. At the same time, the thorough unsoundness of the French budgetary position, and the threat which it involves of a renewed period of inflation, is becoming increasingly realised on this side. Brussels at 55.15 shows a recovery of only about 20 centimes. Paris rates for futures remain unchanged at 3 centimes per month above spot, while Brussels has widened 1 centime to 10 centimes per month below. Italy shows a recovery to 97 $\frac{1}{2}$, Madrid to 29.12, while Amsterdam and Switzerland, the former partly on continued selling of stock, and both as the result of further German demand, have also moved against us. In the Scandinavian group, Norway, where the recent election results have been a steadying feature, is getting the benefit of an improvement in the timber trade, and shows a marked recovery to 28.85; Sweden is little changed; Denmark has slightly depreciated, and Helsingfors has recovered from 252 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 232 $\frac{1}{2}$. In Central Europe, the effect of the mark's collapse is shown in the further rapid fall in the Austrian krone, in spite of the announcement of an advance of £500,000 by Great Britain and France, the London (Auslands)krone rate being yesterday 10,500. On the 31st the Vienna (Inlands)krone rate was 17,400, as compared with a London rate of 8,750. Budapest has remained stationary, and more or less nominal at 3,150. Prague is again rather higher at 420, and Belgrade, in spite of its new exchange regulations, has now gone above 300. In Roumania, where conditions, through the difficulties of export and the hopeless overstocking of all markets, are going rapidly from bad to worse, rates have again moved up very rapidly, from about 590 to 725. Athens at 95 is also about 5 points higher. Only in Sofia at 600 and in Warsaw at 11,000, as compared with 17,000 a week ago, is any improvement shown, in the latter case through the feeling that the new Administration may at last give the real economic recovery of the country a chance to make itself felt. In South America, Buenos Ayres is a little dearer, Montevideo unchanged, Rio has gone slightly in our favour, and Valparaiso more sharply. In the East, the rupee at 1s 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d,

a little cheaper than a few days ago, is unchanged on the week, while Yokohama is also about the same at 2s 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Silver, after an unsteady week, has ended about $\frac{1}{2}$ d lower. There has been practically no Indian dealing, and although shipments to that country have been large, somewhat less purchases from China. The uncertainty of financial conditions there has been again emphasised by the omission to provide interest on some smaller American loans. Hongkong and Shanghai rates are rather lower.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO OCTOBER 29, 1921.

	£		£
Total spent	582,854,401	Raised by revenue ..	527,719,466
Inc. in balances	1,344,116	Net borrowings	56,479,051
Total	584,198,517	Total	584,198,517

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,530,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,680,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Oct. 29, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
3% War Stock	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349	349
4% War Stock	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
4 & 5% War Stock ..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995	1,995
National War Bonds ..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413	1,413
4% Funding Loan ..	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409	409
4% Victory Bonds ..	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360	360
3% Conversion L'n. ..	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Treasury Bonds	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,107
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	289	273	273	273	273	273
Natal Savings Certs. ..	138	227	267	267	274	279	279	279	279	279	279	279	279
War Expnd. Certs.	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Other Debt	944	1,241	1,306	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,164
American Loan	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances ..	1	204	455	243	205	306	154	213					
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,829	7,829	7,829	7,829	7,829	7,829	7,829
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,832	7,832	7,832	7,832	7,832	7,832

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

	Oct. 30, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Oct. 29, '21.	Movement week ended Oct. 29, '21.
Way and Means Advances	56,250,000	51,000,000	22,750,000	- 22,750,000
Advances by Bank of England ..	185,114,000	154,489,000	162,758,000	+ 5,800,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	1,084,629,000	1,120,841,000	1,123,977,000	+ 4,617,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,325,997,000	1,275,330,000	1,337,735,000	- 12,303,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

OCTOBER 30TH.—M. Poincaré arrives in London.
OCTOBER 31ST.—Vote of censure on Government Irish policy rejected by 439 votes to 43. American Ambassador speaks on Washington Conference.
NOVEMBER 1ST.—First Parliament in Malta opened by Prince of Wales. Stock Exchange holiday.
NOVEMBER 2ND.—Sir Robert Horne in the House on Budget prospects. Fresh collapse of German mark. Labour gain 44 seats at Municipal polls. Mr McKenna makes statement on Inter-Allied Debts to American Press.
NOVEMBER 3RD.—American Ambassador at Liverpool on political and industrial peace. Bank rate reduced to 5 per cent. Premier cancels passage to Washington. Marks touch 850 to £.
NOVEMBER 4TH.—Disarmament debate in Commons. Mark at 950.

The Stock Exchange was closed on Tuesday, as is customary on November 1st. Business has been on a larger scale, and the reduction in Bank rate to 5 per cent. produced a stronger tone. Gilt-edged stocks have advanced, the Bank rate decision being supported by another favourable influence in the shape of the quick success of the Local Loans issue. Russian bonds scored and held gains on the Soviet declaration with regard to recognition of pre-war debts.

From the cotton markets dull days and general nervous-

ness are reported. In the woollen markets the continued firmness of the raw material is helping holders of piece goods to sell at better prices, while a fair business is passing at Bradford in semi-manufactured goods. Prices of Cleveland pig-iron have been cut this week, but the movement towards normal production is very slow. The recent reductions in steel prices have so far failed to stimulate demand, but more confidence in the future is felt as prices approximate to those of foreign competitors. The weakness in the hide market continues, and the demand for sole leather is quieter. The position of the vegetable oil and oilseeds market has improved.

Details of news and movements in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

POLICY AND PRINCIPLE.

MR LLOYD GEORGE received from the House of Commons on Monday the vote of confidence that he wanted, and succeeded in defeating the motion of censure moved against his Irish policy by the handsome majority of 439 to 43. It is generally agreed by those who listened to the debate that the Prime Minister's speech was highly impressive, and there is little doubt that the policy of conciliation for which he pleaded is popular in the country, and would win handsomely at a General Election. Englishmen—at least, the majority of Englishmen—are sick to death of war and bloodshed; they do not want war abroad, and they do not want war at home. All that they ask is an opportunity of setting their house in order with as little disturbance as may be, and living at peace with their neighbours on both sides of them. With this public temper the speech of the Prime Minister and the present policy of the Government accord well. The alternative held up to the House of Commons—a long civil war, heavy casualty lists, guerilla fighting, great sweeping campaigns through the countryside of Ireland, big demands for money to carry on a new war at the moment that the financial burden of the last is pressing us most heavily—all these possibilities are so appalling, that Englishmen would make almost any sacrifice to avoid them. The spirit of war has been allowed already to survive too long, and the whole nation, outside a very small section, is anxious, above all things, to see the spirit of peace informing our policy not merely in the United Kingdom, but throughout the world.

And yet, though the present policy of the Government towards Ireland is in the main the right one, and the policy of the die-hards who moved the vote of censure is wrong, the honours of Monday's debate in a sense remained with the die-hards. They are fighting for a principle which, right or wrong, they have consistently fought for, and no one can doubt that the views they express in public are the views that they really hold. On the other hand, the Government and the Prime Minister, while earnestly denying any change of opinion or of policy, come forward with a plan that is in flat downright contradiction to the whole of their past policy and their old speeches, and proclaim with eloquence and enthusiasm the virtues of a scheme that with equal eloquence and equal enthusiasm they were denouncing but a few months ago. Sir Frederick Banbury

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN

The Right Hon. R. McKenna

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES
OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

and other speakers were able to quote against them speeches in which they had protested against Dominion Home Rule; speeches in which they declared that there could be no truce until the Sinn Feiners had laid down their arms; speeches in which they had proclaimed "in a voice of thunder" that the rebels were on the run and the situation well in hand. There is no reconciling these two views, no possibility of believing that without a fundamental change of opinion any man can honestly hold them both.

The citation of these contradictory policies and statements is something more than a debating point. It indicates the cardinal weakness of this Government, and illustrates that lack of moral authority which impairs their success not merely in the treatment of Ireland, but in the handling of every problem that they are called upon to solve to-day. In almost every sphere of government the Prime Minister's policy, from the declaration of the Armistice up to the present moment, has been marked by the same weakness. He has allowed his own principles and opinions to be subordinated to the popular mood, and shaped his policy at the dictation of his own keen sense of what the public at the particular moment happened to want. In foreign affairs and in finance the evil effect of his contradictory policies has been obvious, for in both his opportunism has brought him into a situation in which it is almost impossible to do the right thing.

At the present time we can watch the effects of his opportunist policy working themselves out in the sphere of international trade. In 1918 the popular cry was "Make the Germans pay," and the Prime Minister, recognising its popularity and overlooking its dangers (which must have been clear to him, as they were to all thinking men), adopted it, and made it the keystone of his campaign. To-day we are suffering from a breakdown of trade and a collapse of the foreign exchanges such as the world have never before experienced; and it is obvious that the greatest stumbling-block in the path of recovery is the existence of the claims for reparation which threaten to drain German beyond the hope of recovery. Already the indemnity cry is less popular than it was, and although it is still the fashion in public speeches to blink the unpleasant facts, it is pretty clear that before long reparations, to which the public at present is indifferent, will become definitely unpopular. There are signs in the Prime Minister's speeches that he is not unconscious of the change in public opinion, and that he is getting ready to reverse the policy which he proclaimed so ardently three years ago. We would, in fact, be prepared to prophesy that within the next two years he will have given up for good the hope of further reparation payments to Great Britain, and while declaring that his opinions and his policy are unaltered, will be scoring oratorical triumphs with the most excellent arguments for not pressing our claims too hard against the German people.

It is to be hoped that this change of policy, which sooner or later is certain, will come quickly, but how much better would it have been if the Prime Minister had had the strength to face opposition and take the right line in the beginning, even when it was unpopular. If instead of pursuing war in Ireland he had made to Sinn Fein two years ago the offer that he is making to-day, not merely would months of agony have been avoided, but the difficulty of getting the plan accepted in Ireland would have been infinitely less. If the trade of Europe and the exchanges of Europe had not been deranged in the beginning by the policy of exacting the last farthing from our former enemies and reducing them to the point of exhaustion, the present expensive and troublesome schemes for relieving unemployment and reviving trade would probably have been unnecessary, and the prospect of a recovery for the world would certainly be far brighter. Instead of pursuing a definite principle fallacies are adopted because they are popular, and discarded only when they lose their popularity. The Prime Minister will always threaten to resign rather than sacrifice principle if he knows that he has a good solid majority behind him. What the country wants is the pursuit of principle, even though it carry with it danger of unpopularity and loss of office.

EXPORT CREDITS.—II.

THE essential features of the new Government proposals fall into two distinct classes: (A) Extra facilities for short-term commercial credits for consumable goods; (B) special encouragement for loans for capital expenditure.

Under the first heading the main points are the extension of the Export Credits Scheme to all countries, the increase of the maximum Government guarantee to 100 per cent. (without, however, reducing the exporter's ultimate liability), and the power to grant to approved firms "floating" guarantees, within the limits of which they may conclude particular transactions at their own discretion. The last feature is a distinct improvement in machinery; but, for the reasons stated in the previous article (*Economist*, October 29th), it is improbable that the extended facilities will lead to a great increase in business, unless the whole policy of administration is to be changed at the cost of sacrificing ordinary principles of commercial prudence.

On the other hand, the measures for encouraging loans for capital expenditure represent a distinct advance. The measures referred to are: (i.) The extension by two years of the period for credits under the old Export Credits Scheme (*i.e.*, up to September, 1927); (ii.) the new provisions of the Trade Facilities Bill authorising the Treasury to guarantee loans for capital undertakings up to a total of £25,000,000, on the condition that the proceeds are mainly spent in this country.

Here the Government is undoubtedly on the right lines. It is constructional work—for improving transport and productive facilities—of which the world has been starved during the last seven years. At the same time, such expenditure, if carried out in countries whose economic development has been postponed or destroyed by the war, will increase their productive capacity and trading facilities, and thus increase their effective demand for consumable goods. Further, the encouragement given to the British iron and steel industries will stimulate demand in the home market, and thus improve employment in other trades. Lastly, Government intervention in propositions of this kind, each of which requires long and careful preparation, is a much more practical proposition than in the business of commercial credits, which requires quick decisions from day to day, and depends largely on personal factors.

The obvious limitations to the Scheme are:—

(1) It cannot be effective unless British costs of production are reduced. This is mainly a matter for the industries themselves to settle; but one vital factor—taxation—is under Government control. The paramount need is economy in Government expenditure, to provide a relief in the burden of taxation sufficient to encourage new enterprise.

(2) The amounts made available are too small to effect any fundamental improvement. But here Sir Robert Horne has indicated that, if the first results are satisfactory, Parliament will have an opportunity of voting extensions.

(3) The proposals as put forward by the Government are not directly aimed at attacking the fundamental cause of the present trouble—the European situation. Mr Lloyd George referred only in general terms to the necessity of international co-operation. It was disappointing to find Mr Asquith deprecating exaggeration of the importance of the European demand.

It is, therefore, necessary to re-emphasise this point. Not only did Europe before the war take more than a third of our total exports, but if Europe is unable to buy her normal share of Chilean nitrate, Indian tea and hides, Malay rubber, Australian wool, Egyptian cotton, &c., the purchasing power of these other customers of ours must be proportionately reduced. It is this aspect of the matter which is forgotten by those who argue that it is useless to worry about Europe, and that we must look for salvation in developing new outlets in the British Empire. New outlets are, indeed, necessary, because many of our pre-war channels are for ever closed; but even if we could preserve a monopoly for British products in the British Empire, how could the requirements of the sparsely-populated regions which require development replace in

the world's markets the demand based on the needs of hundreds of millions in Europe?

This is one side of the picture. The other is that, so long as the European countries, and particularly Germany, continue to pay their way by printing new currency, disparities between internal and external values are maintained, and the whole foundations of trade are disturbed by the unreal export prices thereby made possible. At the same time, as a result of the payments which have to be made on account of Reparations, the flow of German exports is further intensified, without creating an equivalent purchasing power for imports.*

In fact, Europe, on the one hand, is consuming and importing too little, and, on the other, is exporting what she does export (mainly through Germany) against an inadequate return. In both ways fundamental disturbances are set up in our own trade.

Looked at from the above point of view, the paramount requirement, for any real recovery, is a rearrangement in the form of German reparation payments made conditional on a simultaneous reform of German public finances. As this matter is outside the scope of the plans now under consideration it is not further dealt with here. But its overriding importance must never be left out of mind.

Apart from this, the main requirements are, first, that productive capacity, transport and trading facilities should be improved in the other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, so that these countries can balance their trade once more without an abnormal restriction on their imports; secondly, that their Governments should balance their Budgets, and cease meeting deficits by reckless printing of new currency.

This is the best way to seek stability of exchanges, and that improvement in underlying conditions, without which, as shown in the preceding article, no extended facilities for commercial credits are likely to be of any value.

Obviously, the new proposals of the British Government can be turned in this direction if the guarantees are given to "Reconstruction" loans for the new European States, and if the offer of these facilities is used as a lever for enforcing internal financial reforms in the borrowing countries.

Here is the place for the ter Meulen scheme. If, for example, the British Government guarantee is withheld unless security is given in the form of ter Meulen bonds, that will necessarily involve a reform in the public finances of the borrowing country, for it will be impossible to issue these bonds unless there is some substantial guarantee that the inflation of currency is to be limited. Without this no gold value could be assigned to revenues collected in the local currency. For this purpose there must be power not only to control the pledged revenues under certain circumstances, but also to enforce the necessary preliminary agreement with the borrowing Government as to the adoption of suitable financial reforms. If this control is in the hands of a Commission deriving authority from the League of Nations, this may overcome possible objections by the borrowing country, while, from the point of view of the lenders, political difficulties, which would otherwise arise, would be avoided. This is the real argument for using the machinery of the ter Meulen scheme.

To sum up. The new Government proposals are to be welcomed as a start in the right direction, but they admittedly only cover a small part of the field. Reforms of taxation at home and a regulation of German reparation payments and inter-Allied debts are necessary to complete an adequate Government programme. As far as the present proposals go the maximum effect will be obtained if they are directed to loans for constructional purposes in disorganised European countries, to be given against proper security only (*e.g.*, ter Meulen bonds), and conditionally on financial reform.

Although, according to the Government proposals, as explained in the debate on the Trade Facilities Bill, it will be within the power of the Advisory Committee, which is to be appointed, to control the granting of guarantees in the manner recommended above, it is obviously unfair to throw on this Committee the onerous task of initiating

* The full effects of this are not yet apparent in the German trade returns, because till now sales of German marks to speculators abroad have given Germany a temporary and artificial purchasing power.

policy in this way. So far as the Government proposals give any guidance, the Committee can only look to the commercial soundness of the propositions put before them, and their probable immediate effect on employment in this country. Under these circumstances, and as the amount which can be guaranteed is a very small one, it is almost inevitable that the wider questions of improving European conditions and the world economic situation will be left out of consideration. This is a serious defect, and it is to be hoped that the Government will undertake responsibility for a more definite policy in this respect. Though Europe can only be put right by the international co-operation for which the Prime Minister pleaded, it is the British Government which must give the lead.

OUR INDEX NUMBER.

AFTER a slight rise in August and September, wholesale prices, as reflected in our Index Number, have sharply reacted in October, and the total has fallen to 4588, the lowest point touched since September, 1916. The latest figure compares with 4924 at the end of September, a decrease of 336 points, with 7175 at the end of October, 1920, and 2565 at the outbreak of war. As will be seen from our usual table below, all groups show a decline as compared with the previous month, the fall being most pronounced in cereals and meat:—

Date.	Cereals and Meat.	Other Food Products (Tea, Sugar, &c.).	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous (Rubber, Fertilisers, Oils, &c.).	Total.	Percentage Change.
Basis (avg. 1901-5)...	500	300	500	400	500	2200	100.0
Jan. 1, 1914....	563	355	642	491	572	2623	119.2
April 1 " "....	560	350½	626½	493	567	2597	118.0
July 1 " "....	565½	345	616	471½	551	2549	115.5
End July " "....	579	352	616½	464½	553	2565	116.6
" Dec. " "....	714	414½	509	476	686½	2800	127.3
" Dec., 1915....	897	446	731	711½	848½	3634	165.1
" Dec., 1916....	1294	553	1124½	824½	1112	4908	223.0
" Dec., 1917....	1286½	686	1684½	839½	1348½	5845	263.2
" Oct., 1918....	1271	780	1889	878½	1391½	6210	282.6
" Nov. " "....	1289	782½	1848	903	1389½	6212	282.6
" Dec. " "....	1303	782½	1805½	866	1337	6094	277.0
" Mar., 1919....	1285	782½	1502	844½	1294	5708	259.4
" June " "....	1338	800	1741½	937	1371½	6188	281.3
" Sept. " "....	1399	817½	1979½	1047	1344	6587	299.4
" Dec. " "....	1441½	881½	2442½	1145	1453½	7364	334.7
" Jan., 1920....	1461	857½	2702½	1211½	1535½	7768	353.1
" Feb. " "....	1454	886½	2951½	1253½	1614½	8160	370.9
" Mar. " "....	1508	914	2974½	1246	1709½	8352	379.6
" April " "....	1498½	908	2938½	1232½	1654½	8232	374.2
" May " "....	1484	981½	2819	1295½	1619	8199	372.7
" June " "....	1511	929½	2562	1289	1555½	7847	356.7
" July " "....	1499	934	2594	1308	1541	7876	358.0
" Aug. " "....	1438	927	2521	1302½	1554½	7743	352.0
" Sept. " "....	1504	928	2362½	1311	1539½	7645	347.5
" Oct. " "....	1560½	900½	1951½	1316½	1446	7175	326.1
" Nov. " "....	1478	869½	1651	1259½	1336	6594	299.7
" Dec. " "....	1344	805	1284	1216	1275	5924	269.3
" Jan., 1921....	1295½	797	1187	1128½	1209	5617	255.3
" Feb. " "....	1176½	771	1038	1053½	1137½	5176	235.3
" Mar. " "....	1212	727	1030	1003	1125	5097	231.7
" April " "....	1196	723	1031	936	1043	4929	224.0
" May " "....	1195	691	996	963	1065	4910	223.2
" June " "....	1174½	665½	973½	973	1023½	4810	218.6
" July " "....	1165	707½	958½	937	1030	4798	218.1
" Aug. " "....	1184	716½	998	920½	1000	4819	219.0
" Sept. " "....	1119½	688	1258	871	987½	4924	223.8
" Oct. " "....	956	685	1171	816	960	4588	208.5

Both foreign and home grown wheat prices show a very sharp decline. In the case of the former it is largely due to the disclosure of larger wheat reserves in the United States and favourable crop prospects in the Southern Hemisphere. Other cereals are lower, while flour has been reduced from 59s to 55s. Potatoes are lower, beef and mutton have eased a little, and there has been a larger decline in pork. Among subsidiary foodstuffs, butter has risen, but this has been more than offset by a further reduction in sugar.

In the textile group, there has been a reaction in cotton prices, after September's sudden advance, but quotations are still well above the end of August level. According to Messrs Robert Barbour and Brother, Limited, the ginning figures published at the beginning of the month showed an excess on those of the previous year, in spite

of an estimated smaller crop. "Prices for yarn and cloth have not followed to anything like the same extent the decline in cotton, but this is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that spinners and manufacturers have for long enough been working on margins actually below or barely covering the cost of production." Wool prices have moved up again a little, and silk shows a further advance, but hemp and jute have declined. In their monthly report, Messrs Hindley and Co. state that the rise in September in manila hemp was due to American buying, which has now quietened down, though opinion in America is to the effect that the reaction is only temporary.

No change is shown in quotations for pig-iron and iron bars, but further cuts in steel rails have reduced the price to £10 10s per ton, which compares with £14 per ton at the end of September. Coal prices are easier, but in the minor metals the only change of importance is a sharp drop in copper. In the miscellaneous group, timber, oilseeds and tallow have fallen, but rubber is a shade higher.

We show below how the present indices of each of the groups compare with those of the end of July, 1914, the latter being taken as 100:—

End of—	Cereals & Meat.	Other Food	Textiles.	Minerals	Miscellaneous	Total.
July, 1914	100	100	100	100	100	100
Dec., 1914	124	117	82	103	124	109
June, 1918	220	220	294	186	250	238
Dec., 1918	226	222	293	186	241	236
June, 1919	231	227	284	202	247	241
Dec., 1919	249	250	396	247	263	287
March, 1920	261	260	484	269	309	325
June, 1920	261	263	415	278	281	305
Dec., 1920	233	229	209	261	230	231
March, 1921	209	206	167	216	203	198
June, 1921	203	188	158	210	185	188
Sept., 1921	193	195	204	189	178	192
Oct., 1921	166	194	190	176	173	178

Last month's decline in cereals and meat has put that section down to 66 per cent. above pre-war level, while other foods are still nearly 100 per cent. higher. The increase of 78 per cent. in the total compares with 225 per cent. at the end of March, 1920, and 131 per cent. at the end of 1920.

SHIPBUILDING, COAL, AND OIL.

"PAST records might be searched in vain," says the *Annual Report of Lloyd's Register of Shipping*, "to discover a period in which so many adverse conditions have combined to the disadvantage of the shipbuilding industry. An immense volume of shipping was added during the past three years to the mercantile marines of the Allied and neutral nations, and a large number of ex-enemy vessels became available for international commerce at a time when employment for tonnage was decreasing." Particulars of new tonnage classed by the society during the last seven years are given as follows:—

Year.	Steam. Tons.	Sail. Tons.	Total. Tons.
1914-15.....	1,289,827	5,796	1,295,623
1915-16.....	789,688	521	790,209
1916-17.....	1,371,915	4,210	1,376,125
1917-18.....	2,552,607	16,517	2,569,124
1918-19.....	3,760,806	40,415	3,801,221
1919-20.....	4,186,882	66,641	4,253,523
1920-21.....	3,229,188	15,943	3,245,130

In view of the circumstances described in the passage quoted above, and of the great trade depression, the large decline in 1920-21 is easily understood. As regards uncompleted tonnage as at June 30th last, the report says:—"The society's returns indicate that vessels totalling 4,235,511 tons gross were being built in the world under the inspection of *Lloyd's Register*. This figure, however, includes about 704,000 tons on which work was suspended from one cause or another, so that the tonnage actually under construction at that time was approximately 3,531,000 tons gross. Unfortunately, this total is altogether illusory as a criterion of building activity in the near future, for there is a great falling off in the numbers of new orders, in evidence of which it should be noted that

the number of plans for new vessels passed by the society during the 12 months ended June 30, 1921, has dropped to 433 proposals, representing a tonnage of 1,651,650. This decline has been followed in recent months by further reductions on so extensive a scale as to indicate a slump in orders for new tonnage without precedent in the history of the society." A feature of the figures given in the report is the large increase in the tonnage of shipping using oil instead of coal. This increase is shown by the following:—

Date.	Vessels Burning Oil Fuel. Gross Tons.
July, 1914	1,310,709
" 1919	5,336,678
" 1920	9,359,334
" 1921	12,796,635

The turnover to oil in the last two years is very remarkable. The great industrial significance of this change is brought out in the following paragraph:—"Some impression of the industrial significance of the change will be obtained when it is realised that the consumption of coal, in the case of the steamers now in existence which are fitted for oil fuel, would represent something approaching 20,000,000 tons per annum, or about 8.7 per cent. of the quantity of coal brought to the surface in the United Kingdom during 1920." At first sight, it might appear from these figures that the increase in the steamers fitted for oil fuel has meant a corresponding diminution in the demand for British coal for marine navigation purposes. This impression, as our Cardiff correspondent points out, is entirely erroneous.

"Reference to the statistics given in the Board of Trade returns," he writes, "shows that the expansion in the supply of oil-driven tonnage has had very little effect on the demand for bunker coal at British ports. In the nine months ending last September the total volume of the tonnage cleared with cargoes from British to foreign ports was 50 per cent. less than the tonnage cleared in the corresponding period in 1913; the reduction in the quantity of coal supplied as bunkers for the use of vessels engaged in the foreign trade was 56 per cent. In September last the reduction in the tonnage cleared was 29 per cent.; that was precisely the percentage decrease compared with September, 1913, in the supply of bunkers. The shipments of coal from the United Kingdom to foreign coaling depôts have declined proportionately to a greater extent than the decline in the supply of bunkers at home ports; but although the official statistics are not detailed enough to enable us to determine the extent to which, if any, oil has displaced coal at those depôts, it is very doubtful whether they discredit the inference drawn from the published bunker statistics at United Kingdom ports. What is not generally realised is that it is in the American coasting and lake trades that, apart from the tonnage employed in the overseas carriage of petroleum in bulk, liquid oil-driven steamers are chiefly employed. Of the 12½ million tons of vessels burning oil fuel approximately between 9 and 9½ million tons are American-owned vessels, and in so far as these vessels are engaged in the American coasting service they may be regarded as potential consumers not of United Kingdom, but of American coal. Their coal-consuming capacity must be treated as a form of home consumption just as the coal supplied for the use of steamers engaged in the coasting trade of the United Kingdom is treated as a form of home consumption in this country. The error, however, must not be committed of assuming that the home demand in the United States has been reduced by a quantity equal to the fuel-consuming power of these oil-driven vessels. As a matter of fact, the output of coal in the United States last August was equal to the average monthly output in 1913, and about four million tons more than the average monthly quantity in 1914. Liquid fuel may supplement, but it can never displace coal, even for marine navigation, except within certain limits, for the output of oil is not one-tenth that of coal. Moreover, under normal conditions, its price is not as steady nor its supply as reliable and if we are to judge the future from the basis of existing knowledge of the available supplies of coal and oil the prospects are that an increasing quantity of oil will be obtained from coal by distillation, and that this process will lead eventually to a still greater demand for coal."

THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE third annual meeting of the International Labour Organisation, which is now being held at Geneva, recalls the foundation of this international machinery under the Peace Treaty. It was, at the time, regarded as a considerable step in advance when in Part XIII. of the Treaty of Peace international recognition was given to the claims of labour to humane treatment. The International Labour Organisation which was set up was entrusted with two duties. It was to establish humane conditions of labour in all lands and to institute and apply a system of international labour legislation, subject to the necessary safeguards. Secondly, it was to undertake "the collection and distribution of information on all subjects relating to the international adjustment of conditions of industrial life and labour." The Peace Treaty, in fact, legalised, so to say, the efforts of the International Association for Labour Legislation which for 20 years before the war had been engaged in similar work.

Of the need for a branch of the League of Nations devoted to these objects there can be no doubt. As M. Albert Thomas, the Director of the International Labour Office, has pointed out, "all the contracting States, inspired both by considerations of humanity and by fear of unfair competition, undertook to secure better and, as far as possible, equal conditions for all the workers of the world by the adoption of uniform Draft Conventions or Recommendations." Yet up to the present the achievements have not been commensurate with the needs. Nevertheless, something has been accomplished, in spite of the real difficulties inherent in the international regulation of labour conditions. Unfortunately, the leading States in the world have not lived up to their obligations. This country, for example, has not ratified the Washington Convention relating to hours of labour, though the British Government supported it at the Washington Conference. It has, indeed, gone further, and suggested to the International Labour Office that the Washington Convention dealing with hours of employment should be revised. It desires a Convention "retaining those provisions of the Washington Convention which have proved generally acceptable in the light of recent experience, and omitting or modifying those which may appear to be too inelastic for the varying needs of the different industries in the respective countries." Labour critics suggest that this change in attitude is due to the weakened power of trade unionism as a result of the trade depression. The attitude taken by France with regard to the question of agriculture—the main subject for discussion at the present conference—has destroyed the possibility of any Convention affecting agricultural workers. Notwithstanding these difficulties there is little doubt that the International Labour Organisation has been the means of securing the adoption by many countries of legislation for the improvement of industrial conditions.

The first International Labour Conference was held at Washington in 1919, when the chief subjects on the agenda were hours of labour and women's employment. Last year the second conference concerned itself entirely with the question of an international seamen's code. This subject is clearly one where international standards are desirable; but it is complicated by the existence of widely varying national standards and by racial considerations. The suggestion for an eight-hour day for seafarers was defeated because the vote of the British Government's delegate was cast against it. This year the main item on the agenda at the Labour Conference refers to hours of labour in agriculture. It is undeniable that an international Convention on this question must be a task of extraordinary difficulty, owing to the variety of land systems in the world, the different methods of agriculture in vogue, and the existence of differing standards at the present time. Owing, however, to the opposition of the French, the subject has been withdrawn from the agenda, as there was not the necessary two-thirds majority for its retention, though other agricultural questions are to be discussed.

Other subjects which are to be discussed are the prohibition of the use of white lead in painting and the disinfection of wool infected with anthrax spores. Both

questions are clearly of interest to workers. The Washington Conference two years ago made recommendations in favour of prohibiting the employment of women and young persons on certain lead processes, and strictly regulating the conditions of employment in other processes. The Geneva agenda merely carries the subject a stage further. In view of the possibility of lead poisoning many Governments have regulated the use of lead, and the average person would assume, especially with the knowledge that substitutes for lead paint have been in use for some time, that there would be no obstacle to an international agreement on this issue. The white lead manufacturers, however, have for some time been carrying on an insidious propaganda in the hope of preventing the prohibition of the use of white lead in painting. And it is by no means certain that they will not succeed.

There is, however, a likelihood that steps may be taken to deal with the question of anthrax. Workers employed in industries using wool and hair are liable to the disease. Notwithstanding regulation in this country the number of cases has increased, and a Departmental Committee, which reported three years ago, recommended the compulsory disinfection of the raw material, and an experimental disinfecting station has been built under powers conferred by the Anthrax Prevention Act of 1919. It would be a distinct gain if the International Labour Conference drafted a Convention on the lines adopted by the British Government.

But with the withdrawal of the item on the agenda dealing with hours of labour in agriculture, the Geneva Conference has lost one of the chief items of interest. It is, to say the least, unfortunate that Britain and France in different directions have taken action which might torpedo the International Labour Organisation. No doubt it can continue the useful work of collecting and collating information, a task which it is well fitted to perform; but the International Labour Office will lose its real value if every attempt to establish international minimum standards is to be defeated. The case for such standards is overwhelming; the countries who would gain most as a result of international regulation are countries like Great Britain, whose present standards are in advance of those of most other countries. The truth is that international labour legislation is suffering from the prevalent reaction. Organised Labour regards the coolness—one might say the hostility—shown by the British Government towards international labour regulation as part of a general policy, the effect of which is to destroy the workers' standard of life, or at least to postpone the improvement of working conditions.

The non-fulfilment of the Government's undertaking to give effect to the unanimous recommendations of the National Industrial Conference of 1919, the sudden determination to decontrol the coal industry; the abolition of the Agricultural Wages Board, the neglect of the unemployment problem, are all linked together in the minds of many workers, and, taken in conjunction with the Government's attitude towards international labour legislation, suggest an unwillingness on the part of the Government to honour its lavish promises, if not an actual attack upon present standards. The result will be to drive labour back upon its own resources. Efforts will be made to perfect the trade union machinery for the purpose of securing both national and international agreements. Already there are amongst the workers in many industries international organisations which aim at securing, if not uniform, at least approximating standards as regards hours and conditions of employment, the adoption of a common policy, and machinery for common action and mutual support. The miners, transport workers, and textile operatives, for example, have international federations, and though their influence is as yet relatively small, they have the advantage over the International Labour Organisation that they are under the control of the workers themselves. There can be little doubt that these international federations are growing in importance, and that they will in time become factors of some weight in the world.

This is not to say, however, that workers' organisations will cut themselves adrift from the International Labour Organisation, any more than that in this country Labour will set aside Parliamentary effort; but trade union action

will be increasingly developed as a second line of attack. The danger which confronts the Labour movement is the temptation on the part of the "left wing" to resort to direct action in desperation, owing to obvious failure of national and international government to make good promises solemnly made. The real way to avoid this danger is through effective constitutional machinery. The obvious thing to do as regards the International Labour Organisation is for Governments to utilise it to carry out the spirit of the "Charter of Labour," which was incorporated in the Peace Treaty itself and embodied in the Covenant of the League of Nations. Otherwise, the International Labour Organisation becomes a fraud.

AUSTRALIAN BASE METAL MINING COMPANIES AND LABOUR.

(BY OUR MINING CORRESPONDENT.)

THE question of the relations between capital and labour in Australia, as exemplified by the mining companies and their employees—a question to the fore on various occasions during the past few years—has just received fresh prominence in connection with several of the important base metal undertakings in which British investors are largely interested. Thus in their report to June 30th last the directors of the Broken Hill South remark that, "unless costs of production are very considerably reduced, the industry at Broken Hill, when relying upon production from crude ore as distinct from old tailings dumps, is in a precarious position with lead below £25 per ton." Both in the report and at the annual meeting of the Broken Hill Proprietary stress was laid upon the urgent importance of the absence of friction. Finally, that well-known copper and gold proposition, the Mount Morgan, after long and abortive endeavours to come to an arrangement as between itself, the miners, and the Government, has applied to the Arbitration Court for a new award granting a 20 per cent. reduction of wages. The facts of the case are quite simple. Under present conditions the cost of producing a ton of electrolytic copper amounts to fully £95 per ton; the market price is less than £75. This necessarily entails a drastic curtailment of operations. Even a wealthy company cannot indefinitely continue turning out a product at £20 below the market price. The poorer undertakings retired from the contest long ago; the few still at work are those which, besides being in a fairly good financial position, are assisted by the incidental recovery of gold, which now commands a substantial premium. The labour attitude is that if an industry cannot provide the wages and operate under the conditions laid down by the Federal Arbitration Court, it should be allowed to die. No regard is paid to economic factors, or to the interests of those whose enterprise has permitted the industry to be founded and developed. Labour seldom regards the capitalist as having any rights at all. Still, it might pause for a moment and consider whether its present policy is leading.

The news that the Arbitration Court has granted the award above mentioned, subject to a Government subsidy of 11d per man per day suggests that the logic of hard facts is now beginning to receive recognition. It is to be hoped that the spirit will spread; the refusal of the miners to return to work on the terms specified, however, scarcely encourages optimism.

As regards the undertakings which have come into prominence within the past week, the Broken Hill South is a reorganisation of a highly-successful no-liability company, which possessed a much smaller capital. Almost from the start the new undertaking experienced the "slings and arrows of outrageous fortune." Owing to labour troubles, milling was suspended in April, 1919, and at the end of the following July a large portion of the surface plant was destroyed by fire. The last dividend was 7½ per cent. in March, 1919, making a total of 15 per cent. for the financial year. Thanks to cash surpluses received in connection with the production of preceding periods, the accounts to June 30, 1920, showed a profit of £13,606, the whole of which was appropriated for expenditure on plant. In addition, £30,400 was written off special reserve. Last year the revenue again benefited

from legacies of the past, but after providing for debenture interest, administration, and the expenses due to the stoppage, there was a deficit of £56,700, which wiped out all save a small amount of the balance brought forward. Depreciation on plant (£55,200) and debenture redemption (£13,300) were met out of special reserve. Expenditure on plant reconstruction during the past three years has totalled £285,650. Like other companies in the same category, the Broken Hill South has acquired large interests in allied undertakings; the latest balance-sheet shows "shares at cost £392,300." The bulk of this amount is represented by 200,000 shares in the Associated Smelters and 150,000 in the Electrolytic Zinc Company of Australia. Following on the award of Mr Justice Edmunds, the strike at Broken Hill, which had been in progress for something like 18 months, came to an end in the autumn of 1920. A heavy decline in metal prices occurred almost simultaneously. Nevertheless, the company, in common with certain other Barrier undertakings, "decided to work on a restricted scale in order to alleviate the distress amongst the workers consequent on the strike."

In recent years the scope of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company has undergone great change and expansion, chief attention being devoted to the exploitation of the Iron Knob quarries in South Australia and the establishment of an iron and steel works near Newcastle, N.S.W. During the past 20 years, to go no further back, dividends ranging from 11s to 2s per share have been paid annually. In January, April, and July last distributions of 9d per share were announced—or at the same rate as for 1920—but the directors now intimate that owing to the uncertain outlook for the iron and steel industry they consider it inadvisable to declare the dividend due in November. The announcement came as a disagreeable surprise, and was accompanied by a fall in the price of the shares. Unfortunately, the accounts give no indication as to what proportion of the company's income is derived from the new activities, and what from the old. The report to May 31st last, the full text of which has just come to hand, shows a gross working profit of £695,200, as against £850,600 for 1919-20 and £1,010,950 for 1918-19. The amount written off for depreciation—£161,750—is more than double the allowance in respect of the preceding period; in the meantime £1,236,400 of capital outlay has been incurred. On the other hand, reserve gets £250,000 instead of £500,000. Of the reserve total of £1,315,000, no less than £1,145,000 is invested in the company's business, plus £150,000 in the shares of the Broken Hill Associated Smelters. On the date of the balance-sheet the net liquid assets amounted to £1,739,000; the issued capital was £2,455,050, while the outstanding balance of the original 6 per cent. debentures figured at £746,900, and on the 7 per cent. bonds offered in October, 1920, £1,189,500 had been received. It will be recollected that this issue, with 420,000 shares at 45s, was made for the purpose of carrying out extensions to the steel works. The company is heavily mulcted in taxation, but stands to benefit from the tariff proposals which at the date of the report were before the Commonwealth Parliament.

The Amalgamated Zinc Company, which has just provided its shareholders with an agreeable surprise in the shape of the announcement of a 1s dividend, occupies a somewhat different position from that of the companies referred to above, being purely a treatment concern, although it has also acquired large interests in associated undertakings. The last preceding distribution was 1s in April, 1919. The half-year to December 31st embraced only six weeks' work, and resulted in a loss of £16,650. The equalisation reserve was drawn upon to make up the deficiency. From the cabled summary of the report to June 30th it transpires that although the accounts show a profit instead of a loss, it is very small, and practically the whole of the dividend will be provided out of the reserve, which, on December 31st last, stood at £335,700—for the most part locked up in shares. However, the net liquid assets at the date of the latest report stood at the substantially increased figure of £94,600. The directors observe that in deciding to make a distribution they have been influenced partly by the length of time

which has elapsed since the last, and partly by the fact that the company has the necessary cash available from the realisation of dump material paid for and charged to working costs but not treated. An important factor in the position of these Broken Hill undertakings is their ability to dispose of their zinc concentrates to the British Government under the 10 years' agreement made towards the close of the war. Strangely enough, the Board of Trade has hitherto displayed great reluctance in providing home smelters with such concentrates. Shipments are, however, now to be made.

Business Notes.

Supplementary Estimates.—A Supplementary Estimate (White Paper, No. 238, price 3d) has been issued for £8,022,000 in connection with the Government's schemes to relieve unemployment. Of this sum, £330,000 goes to the Colonial Office for purposes of overseas settlement, £2,192,000 to the Ministry of Labour as the State contribution to the Unemployed Workers' Dependents Fund, and £5,500,000 to the Ministry of Health for general unemployment relief. A Memorandum accompanying the estimate states:—"The present proposals will further involve the following expenditure either from savings on existing Votes or on future Votes:—Unemployment Grants Committee in 1922-23, £630,000; State contribution to the Unemployed Workers' Dependents Fund in respect of the period after March 31, 1922, £670,000; State contribution as employer in respect of soldiers or sailors or State employees, £115,000; acceleration of Government works and contracts, £563,000. In addition to the above sum, a further sum will be available from the Road Fund for expenditure by the Ministry of Transport on roads to relieve unemployment in necessitous areas, if necessary, to the extent of £2,000,000. The sum which will be immediately provided by the State for unemployment will thus be £12,000,000." Further Supplementary Estimates for the Civil Services and the Army have also been issued for £212,100 and £6,720,000 respectively. Under the former head the Colonial Office asks for £50,000 for "Rhodesia extraordinary war expenditure," "oil exploration in Papua," "expenses of arrangements for the internment in Australia of certain Germans and Austrians resident in the Tanganyika territory." The Home Office wants £62,100 for State liquor undertakings, and the Foreign Office £100,000 for famine relief in Russia. The Army's requirement of an additional £6,720,000 is explained in a White Paper (243, price 2d) as "arising out of the coal stoppage."

Repayments to United States.—According to New York cables, the British Government has completed this week the repayment of \$300,000,000 borrowed in the New York market in 1916. The final instalment repaid this week amounted to between \$51,000,000 and \$52,000,000.

Inter-Allied Debts.—Evidence of the growth of responsible financial opinion in favour of what Mr McKenna describes as the "selfishly-wise" policy of reducing or cancelling the war debts owed to this country by Allied nations is provided by the passing of the following resolution on Wednesday by the British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce:—"The British National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce having met and considered the question of Inter-Allied Debts, resolves to bring before the British Government the desirability of negotiations in order to obtain the benefits which, in the opinion of the British National Committee, would accrue if the debts of the Allied nations to Great Britain incurred as a consequence of the war were either reduced or cancelled on terms to be agreed." The resolution was proposed by Dr Walter Leaf, chairman of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank.

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

With Branches and Associated Companies in

Australia	China	Malaya
Borneo	India	Morocco
Canada	Japan	New Zealand
Ceylon	Java	Sumatra
	U.S.A.	

The Company invites communications from British Manufacturers desirous of developing business in the above countries.

The Liabilities of Russia.—The refusal of the Brussels Conference to advise the grant of credits for famine relief unconditionally has drawn a very limited recognition of its liabilities from the Soviet Government. While repudiating any national obligation to pay debts "contracted through long centuries," it takes into account the circumstance that the creditors of Russia, especially in France, include many small holders as well as great capitalists, and promises to "consider its obligations," provided that the Powers accord it recognition, and also respect the territorial integrity of Russia. And it asks for an international Conference to discuss the position and to draw up a definite Treaty of Peace. [The Russian External Debt, so far as it is now in question, apparently begins with the year 1822.] One motive for this new departure presumably is that the position of Russia will have to be considered by the Washington Conference; another, perhaps more potent, is the conviction recently avowed by Lenin, but anticipated for some months by outside observers, that the effort to force Communism on the nation has failed. In his remarkably frank speech to the All-Russian Congress, reported this week, Lenin declares that the campaign against "capitalism" has been a disastrous failure, and must be terminated by a "strategic retreat." The levy of agricultural produce on the peasantry has been unsuccessful, and the workers in nationalised factories are deliberately idle. Russia must temporarily return to capitalism, with the aid of foreign employers and technical experts, who will compel the "workers" to work. Hereafter, when the country has recovered, the proletariat will choose between Communism and Capitalism. The reception of the offer in Great Britain and France is decidedly cool. Lord Curzon's official reply, indeed, states that the Soviet Government has taken the only path to economic co-operation with other nations, but asks whether the offer covers State debts only, or also comprises municipal and railway loans, claims by foreigners for property confiscated or damaged, and borrowings during the war by the Tsar's Government. This, indeed, is the first question asked by every critic of the proposal. The total of the pre-war State debts is just under £738 millions, apart from the direct State railway debts of slightly over £45 millions; the railway bonds with State guarantees and certain other railway bonds with apparently less specific security amount to more than £40 millions, the Land Banks' bonds to £101 millions, but it is doubtful if these latter are properly obligations of the State, and few are held abroad, except possibly in Sweden and Holland. The municipal loans known in London amount to more than £15 millions. Besides all this there is the war debt to the Allies, about £850 millions, and the foreign holdings in the internal war loans. It is clear that, whatever the Soviet Government may promise, it cannot even begin performance for many years to come. And it is very doubtful whether the real power has not passed from it to the Third International and the Counter-Revolutionary Commission.

France and Turkey.—The agreement concluded between M. Franklin-Bouillon, representing the French Government and the Kemalists at Angora, is ostensibly much less comprehensive, and also less alarming, than the forecast of it noticed in these columns a fortnight ago. Peace is concluded, the prisoners on both sides are to be delivered, the Turco-Syrian frontier (already modified last

spring by mutual agreement) is to be readjusted, and the troops on each side are to retire accordingly. The rights of racial and religious minorities are confirmed, and the new frontier is not to interfere with the access of semi-nomad populations to their usual pasturage or markets—a matter conspicuously disregarded recently in regard to Albania and in the adjustments following on the Berlin Treaty, which led up to the Dulsigno crisis in 1880. Alexandretta, of which probably about half the population are Turks, is included in Syria, but is to be subject to special administrative provisions, and the official language is Turkish. The Baghdad railway runs close to the new frontier, and largely on the Turkish side; but France is to control the whole of the Syrian and Cilician section, from a point near the eastern end of the Taurus tunnel, as far as Nisibin. Until trains are running through the tunnel—and even afterwards for all commerce except that from Central Europe—the natural access to the railway lies, not through Constantinople, but through Mersina and Alexandretta, the latter very much the better harbour. The Agreement confirms French claims to "economic expansion" in Cilicia, a region of which the potential value is indicated by the extensive German preparations for its development before the war. It is to be hoped that French influence will be able to secure that the provision securing the rights of minorities, especially the Armenians, shall be carried out. A secret convention is said to have been signed at the same time, providing, among other things, for a delivery of arms to the Kemalists and for the contingency of hostilities with King Feisal of Mesopotamia. But such provisions could hardly be consistent with the present relation between France and her Allies in Europe.

Egyptian Cotton Crop.—This week the Egyptian cotton crop for this season has been officially estimated at 3,300,000 cantars. The forecast is worse than expected, and compares with a yield for 1920-21 of 4,876,000 cantars. The estimate has caused some surprise in Lancashire, as so far this season the receipts at Alexandria are 1,504,000 cantars, against 818,000 cantars a year ago. The largest crop ever grown was in 1913-14, when the output was 7,684,000 cantars. The acreage for the current season is 1,286,000 feddans, as compared with 1,828,000 feddans last year.

Some Gilt-edged Yields.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—The striking success of the issue of the twenty million pounds Local Loans stock, the lists being closed well in advance of the full allotted time, is one more illustration of the readiness of the public to absorb sound stock. What stockbrokers find nowadays is that people send lists of shares, industrial, mining and others, which they instruct their brokers to sell for whatever can be obtained, irrespective of the original cost, which, of course, in most cases was much higher than the present value. The money lost is written off, and the shareholders make no secret of their firm determination to remain in the future in the paths of safety and first-class security. Experience in connection with Canadian railways, Argentines, Brazilians, and too many home industrials has been a bitter one, and it will take time before the recollection of the losses incurred can be obliterated. Even now, when gilt-edged stock seems to be so abundant, it is not always so easy to find the exact stock which the buyer would prefer, and every day it happens that investors send to the markets asking for particular issues of which they find there is none on offer. It may be useful to set out, as we have done on previous occasions, a list of securities in the gilt-edged market that are obtainable at the present time, giving the flat yields, and also on redemption. The list may be prefaced by the observation that the War Loan at 87½ pays 5½ per cent. on the money, or £5 19s per cent. allowing for redemption in 1947 at 100. This makes a useful criterion against which to compare other stocks, it being furthermore added that the interest on the War Stock is paid free of tax at source:—

Description.	Int. Due.	Date of Red.	Price.	Yield.	
				Int. Only.	Allowing for Red.
India 7 %	5 A. & O.	1926-31	104½	£ s d	£ s d
India 3 %	5 J.A.J.O.	...	49½	6 14 9	6 10 3
L.C.C. 5 %	30 A. 31 O.	1940-60	88½	5 13 6	5 15 6
Corp. of London 5 % ..	1 F. & A.	1945-65	89½	5 14 0	5 15 0
Birmingham 6 % * ..	1 J. and J.	1936-46	102½	5 19 0	5 18 6
Bootle 6 %	1 J. and D.	1938-50	98½	6 2 6	6 3 0
Cardiff 6 % *	1 J. and J.	1936-46	100½	6 1 6	6 2 0
Croydon 6 % *	1 J. and J.	1936-46	100½	6 0 6	6 1 0
Liverpool 5½ %	1 A. and O.	1941-61	95	5 16 0	5 17 0
Nottingham 6 % * ..	1 M. and S.	1936-51	100½	6 0 0	6 0 0
S. Shields 6 %	1 J. and J.	1938-48	100½	6 1 0	6 2 0

* Not trustee over 100.

Of colonial short-dated bonds and stocks, the following are on offer at the moment. The second part of the list contains trustee stocks:—

Description.	Int. Due.	Date of Red.	Price.	Yield.	
				Int. only.	Allowing for red.
Canada 4½ % T.B. bonds	1 M. and N.	1920-5	95½	..	6 0 0
South Africa 4 % bonds	1 J. and D.	1919-24	97½	..	6 0 0
N.S.W. 4½ % bonds....	1 J. and J.	1922-7	91	..	6 15 0
N.S.W. 4½ % stock	1 J. and J.	1922-7	91	..	6 15 0
Queensland 4½ % bonds	1 A. and O.	1920-5	98½	..	8 10 0
Queensland 4 % stock..	1 J. and J.	1924	91	..	8 5 0
Queensland 3½ % stock	1 J. and J.	1924	90	..	8 5 0
Australia 6 %	1 M. and S.	1931-41	97½	6 6 0	6 8 0
Ceylon 6 %	1 J. and J.	1936-51	99½	6 3 6	6 5 6
N.S.W. 6 %	1 M. and N.	1930-40	95½	6 6 0	6 8 0
New Zealand 6 %	1 F. and A.	1936-51	100	6 1 0	6 1 6
Nigeria 6 %	1 A. and O.	1936-46	97½	6 3 0	6 5 6
South Africa 6 %	1 M. and N.	1930-40	97½	6 3 0	6 5 6
S. Australia 4 %	1 J. and J.	1940-60	70½	5 15 6	6 0 0

The high yields offered by Queensland issues are due to political considerations. With short-dated stocks and bonds, it is manifestly needful to take the redemption yields only, as the quotations are governed by the dates of repayment more than by the rates of interest carried by the securities.

Monthly Bulletin of Statistics.—It may be remembered that the Bulletin of Statistics previously published under the auspices of the Supreme Economic Council was taken over by the League of Nations. The Bulletin is intended primarily to register industrial and commercial fluctuations, and only such figures have been selected as are considered to constitute reliable indices. Owing to the economic changes which have resulted from the war certain indices which were normally quoted before the war, as, for instance, the figures of marriage rates, have lost their validity, whereas others, previously of minor interest for most countries, as, for instance, rates of exchange, it is pointed out, have now become of first-class importance. The most interesting figures contained in the present issue are those for price movements, and these show that there has been an almost unusual slackening in the decline in prices in many countries. Messrs Constable and Co., Limited, are the authorised agents for this publication in this country, and the price is 1s 6d per copy.

Chinese Banking and Trade Development.—In a report on the commercial situation in China in June, 1921, issued by the Department of Overseas Trade,* interesting information is given about the formation last year of the Chinese Banking Group. This combination is headed by the Bank of China, and comprises 27 of the leading native banks. "The combined amount of the authorised capital of these banks is over \$150,000,000, and their paid-up capital and reserves are returned as being about \$65,000,000." It is pointed out that, "whilst it is not impossible that jealousy and suspicion of the foreign Consortium had some influence in deciding the native bankers to form this association, they undoubtedly recognise also the need of binding themselves together for mutual protection against official exactions and oppression, and they have already shown their strength by refusing further financial support to the

* General report on the Commercial, Industrial, and Economic Situation of China, (London) H.M. Stationery Office. 1s 9d net.

Government except on terms dictated by themselves. If this association can be brought to realise the expediency of working in co-operation with the Foreign Banking Groups forming the Consortium it may ultimately be destined to play a leading part in the reorganisation of China's finances." Two loans have already been made by this group to the Central Government, one of \$6,000,000 for railway development, and one of \$2,500,000 for the erection of a Mint at Shanghai, which latter loan is the outcome of a proposal by the Associated British Chambers of Commerce in China for the establishment of a central Mint at Shanghai. It was thought by these Chambers of Commerce that such an institution "would materially improve China's currency, and would ultimately lead to the substitution of a standard national dollar, in place of sycee, as the medium of trade throughout the country." Foreign merchants and bankers consider that the Chinese Government should accept some measure of foreign control over the Mint operations, which undoubtedly would secure more confidence outside China. The scheme introduced last year for the reorganisation of China's domestic loans is being pressed forward, and though the intention to write down the nominal face value of certain bonds has aroused unfavourable criticism in various foreign quarters, Chinese holders are inclined to be content. The writer of the report is optimistic on future trade prospects, and is of opinion that the Chinese "are rapidly assimilating Western customs and Western modes of living," and that in the development of this process "there will be a demand for every description of foreign machinery and mechanical appliances, which should keep British manufacturers busy for many years to come."

The Vegetable Oil Industry.—At a time when it is difficult to discern signs of trade improvement, it is somewhat encouraging to find that in at least one branch of home industry there has been a marked advance in the third quarter of the year, viz., in the exports of vegetable oils and allied products. In order to show this clearly the Board of Trade figures for each month are given as under:—

	Vegetable Oils—		Soap.	Candles.
	Unrefined.	Refined.		
	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.	Cwts.
1921—				
January	130,360	78,540	54,166	2,672
February	76,620	46,500	40,821	1,632
March	86,960	15,260	50,856	2,294
April	110,900	15,260	53,344	3,660
May	106,140	11,700	51,413	3,774
June	123,780	8,060	64,221	3,583
July	139,680	4,180	91,336	8,111
August	164,160	6,540	99,639	5,464
September	239,000	14,200	90,489	7,341

In the first six months the figures were a long way behind those of the corresponding months of last year, but in the third quarter a good deal of the leeway was made up. Exports of refined vegetable oils for the nine months aggregated 58,880 tons, against 69,134 tons in the same period a year ago, and refined oils 10,112 tons against 11,254 tons. Should present conditions be no worse, there is every probability that last year's totals will be exceeded when the twelve months are completed. The substantial increases in the exports of soap and candles in July, August, and September will also be noted. These two articles have, however, experienced a serious decline compared with either last year or the pre-war year 1913. The United Kingdom soap exports in January-September total only 596,285 cwts, whereas in the same period last year they were 1,599,589 cwts and in 1913 1,359,716 cwts; while candles at 38,531 cwts compared with 220,093 cwts in 1920 and 190,448 cwts in 1913. Paints and varnishes exported are also behind, but not in the same degree. In the nine months the United Kingdom had imported 368,549 tons of linseed, and judging from the seed to hand and shipped there seems a possibility that the total for the year will approach half-a-million tons, and that a similar quantity will be received by the Continent; in all, a million tons, equivalent to 340,000 tons of oil. This altogether apart from cottonseed, soya, and oilnuts, which provide soft oils used principally for edible purposes and in the margarine and soap industries.

The Progress of Latvia.—The Republic of Latvia seems to be progressing satisfactorily towards economic development and social stability. According to the Riga correspondent of the *Paris Temps*, the Constituent Assembly, besides accepting a thoroughly democratic constitution, has passed the law establishing a peasant proprietary by breaking up the great estates held by the "barons"—Russian subjects till the Revolution, but in race German. The doctrine of "the land for the people" was so fully accepted by the Assembly that the opponents of the law had to dwell mainly on the probable reduction of the yield under peasant proprietors. Apparently the large landowners receive compensation, and are allowed (as a compromise between the Socialist and the moderate members) to retain from 50 to 100 hectares (about 125 to 250 acres) according to the former extent of their estates. The holdings, as far as possible, have been left in the possession of their actual tenants, who now become their owners; but it is stated that 30,000 landless peasants have been provided with land. Co-operative societies were comparatively well developed before the Revolution, and the State is protecting them against a possible control by reactionary or other influences, which might draw down the peasants into "debt slavery," by organising them, including the agricultural credit banks, into a single system under Government supervision. State aid is being granted, and it is hoped will raise production to its pre-war level. Latvia, again, expects hereafter to become the chief channel of the overseas trade of Northern and Central Russia; her railways, partly Russian and partly Western in gauge, are to be extended and combined in one system with those of Estonia and Lithuania, under a joint board representing all these States, and Customs formalities at the inter-State frontiers are to be suppressed as far as possible; indeed, there are indications of a coming Customs union. It is hoped to raise a loan in Western Europe, but the prospects of this at present are not hopeful. The State has been admitted into the Postal Union, and its representatives, with those of Estonia and Lithuania, have been in conference this week with representatives of the Russian Government on the railway and postal service with Russia.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo state that since the middle of October the demand for short money by the exchange banks fell off, but the general tone of the money market remained firm, bankers being cautious, and towards the end of the month discount and short loan rates hardened. In view of the years of dear money stock exchange quotations showed a tendency to decline. The rice market was rather weak, as also was the market for cotton yarns owing to increased production. Silk yarns, on the other hand, were steady. On October 31st the note issue of the Bank of Japan was 1,225,000,000 yen, as compared with 1,192,000,000 yen a year ago, discounts and advances being 187,000,000 yen, against 243,000,000 yen at the end of October, 1920.

South Africa Trade.—A cable received by the Standard Bank of South Africa states that in October the Union of South Africa imported approximately £3,832,000 and exported approximately £4,980,000. The exports included £2,983,000 native gold. A cable from the Cape Town office of the National Bank of South Africa says that the shipping figures of Union ports for the eight months ended August compared with the like period of 1920 indicate a decrease in overseas cargoes landed of 417,300 tons, or 32 per cent., and an increase in tonnage shipped of 603,800 tons, or 34 per cent. Import values declined by £23,250,000, while exports declined £21,500,000. The wholesale trade generally is dull. Johannesburg reports considerable inquiry for soft goods, with which the market is inadequately supplied owing to cautious buying during the past months, there being a shortage in some lines. On the Commercial Exchange the volume of business is small. In the opinion of the community, however, the general position is improving gradually.

City Life Assurance Company.—The position of the City Life Assurance Company cannot be regarded as satisfactory. In 1920 the new assurances amounted to £3,293,364, and in 1919 to £2,767,007, amounts which largely exceed those of most of the strongest life offices in the country. The assuring public is not discerning; British life offices as a class are so strong that security in life assurance is taken for granted without examination. We are not concerned merely with the high rate of expenses and commissions; that is inevitable when a comparatively small company suddenly launches forth into millions of new assurances. In 1919 the ordinary life premium income was £182,645 and the total expenses and commissions properly chargeable against it were £127,410; last year the premium income was £243,461 and the expenses and commissions £140,022. What is much more important is that a substantial part of the "assets" in the balance-sheet—£202,585 in 1918, £261,748 in 1919, and now £297,748 in 1920—consists of "purchase of business and extension expenses," an item which it would be flattery to call "goodwill." Some of it appears to be expenses of management and commissions carried to the balance-sheet instead of being charged against current income. If "assets" such as these appear in the balance-sheet it will surprise no one to learn that the actuarial valuation made up to December 31, 1918, will reveal a substantial deficiency. We have not yet the figures. We understand that the valuation report was not deposited with the Board of Trade until last month, more than two years late. Much correspondence has passed between the company and the Board, and we may hope that it will be possible to include this correspondence as well as the valuation report in the annual Blue Book which is due to be published in March next. The Board of Trade has no powers to deal with a life office which shows an actuarial deficiency; it cannot do more than call public attention to the facts. In the report for 1920 the directors of the company state that "measures have been taken which already go far towards eliminating the deficiency," and that an annual valuation is to be made in future. In the interests of policy-holders, we hope that these "measures" will prove ultimately effective. There is a big gap to be filled up between liabilities and realisable assets; the sum of £110,563 has already been borrowed against the security of the assets, and there is a contingent liability (not taken into the accounts) of £30,000 in respect of a guarantee for which securities have been deposited. The situation is bizarre. There are scores of excellent life assurance offices in this country—some of them set the highest standard known to the world—and yet last year there were to be found, by the activity of agents, 8,814 people to take out life policies for £3,293,364 in the City Life Assurance Company.

British North Borneo.—The net profits of the British North Borneo (Chartered) Company for the year ended December 31, 1920, were £226,800. These, Sir West Ridgeway pointed out at the half-yearly meeting of the company, were £117,000 higher than "the surplus achieved in the record year immediately preceding the war." In a lengthy but interesting speech the position of the company was critically reviewed, and the outlook for the current year discussed, but a considerable portion of the speech was devoted to the activities of the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society. Some further light was thrown on the balance-sheet item of investments, amounting to £700,920, which were valued "at cost." "The market value of our investments," the chairman said, "at December 31st last was approximately £585,276, showing a total temporary depreciation of £115,643," but he pointed out that the reserve of £368,351 could be used for the purpose of writing these investments down if necessary. Sir West Ridgeway's speech on future prospects was somewhat gloomy in tone, and some financial critics may see inconsistency in the painting of so dark a picture and the declaration of a dividend of even 3 per cent. At the same time, it must be admitted that some present-day boards of directors, with the same results before them, would have

decided on a higher distribution. And to what extent the company should assist rubber-growing concerns within its territory is also a problem for shareholders to ponder over. These are questions, of course, quite apart from the Imperial aspect of the company's progress.

United Dairies.—The sixth annual report of the United Dairies, Limited, for the year ended June 30th last shows that on a paid-up and issued share capital of £3,451,241, a profit of £356,186 was earned, which compares with a share capital of £3,281,336 and profits of £279,668 for 1920. The ordinary share dividend of 12½ per cent. is maintained, and a slightly larger amount carried forward to next year's accounts. The principal item in assets is investments and loans in and to other companies at £3,337,268, which, the auditors point out, "are taken at or under cost price." During the year the subsidiary companies have consolidated their London wholesale milk business under the title of London Wholesale Dairies, Limited, and that of the "provincial creameries" under the title of United Dairies (Wholesale), Limited. The fact that the ordinary £1 shares are now quoted at approximately 22s 6d per share may be considered an indication that holders (who, we presume, are in many cases vendors of their businesses to the company) have faith in the future progress of the undertaking. The balance-sheet will be found analysed in another column. In connection with the purchase of new businesses 362,842 shares have been (or will be) issued.

Gold Fields Rhodesian Development.—Our mining correspondent writes:—In these times, when the passing even of preference dividends is quite a frequent occurrence, it is something for a company in a distinctly speculative line of business—mining and finance—to be able to maintain its distribution, albeit at the moderate rate of 10 per cent. Some half-a-dozen years after its incorporation this company, which is an amalgamation of a concern of the same name with the Rhodesia Exploration and Development Company, was under the necessity of writing off half its capital owing to depreciation in share interests. Dividends were then commenced with 5 per cent. in respect of the year ended June 30, 1917. Since that period the rate has ruled at a steady 10 per cent. Last year's net profit of £114,100, although £13,800 below that of 1919-20, is within a comparatively small sum of what is required to provide the dividend above referred to. Moreover, the net cash assets amounted to £268,000, representing fully one-fifth of the issued capital. The company's largest interest is in its subsidiary, the Shamva Mines—over 300,000 shares. This, of course, is a large, low-grade Rhodesian proposition which has made substantial distributions, the rate for the past two years being 7½ per cent. per quarter. Its prospects are described by the consulting engineer as "Satisfactory." Less prosperous undertakings in which large interests are held are the Falcon and the Planet-Arcturus. Crushing at the latter commenced in June, 1920, and to the end of the financial year 55,000 tons of ore yielded an average of about 48s, at a cost equivalent to 40s 3d per ton. The ore reserves payable under present conditions represent two and a-half years' supply. A new acquisition takes the shape of 1,500 shares in the De Beers Consolidated.

Hungarian Debts.—The Board of Trade announces that the Administrator of Hungarian Property (Cornwall House, Stamford Street, London, S.E. 1) has licensed direct communication between British creditors and Hungarian debtors with regard to the adjustment of accounts or settlement of pre-war debts, or debts arising out of pre-war transactions or contracts, due by Hungarian nationals. If a direct settlement is negotiated, the draft of the agreement embodying the terms must be submitted in duplicate to the Administrator for his approval, and such approval in writing obtained before any such agreement can be entered into. The Administrator has also licensed communication in writing between British debtors and Hungarian creditors with regard to pre-war debts or debts arising out of pre-war transactions or contracts, with the sole object of ascertaining par-

ticulars of indebtedness between the parties, provided that no proposal or suggestion is made for the payment or settlement of such debts except through the Clearing Offices, and that the party so communicating shall retain true copies of such communications and the original replies thereto and hand the same to the Administrator on demand at any time.

SIR CHARLES ADDIS, K.C.M.G., president of the Institute of Bankers, will deliver the inaugural address at a meeting of the Institute in the hall of the Goldsmiths' Company, Foster Lane, E.C., on Tuesday, November 8th, at 5.30 p.m.

A PAPER on "India and Some Problems" will be read by the Rt. Hon. Viscount Chelmsford before the Royal Colonial Institute in the Edward VII. Rooms, Hotel Victoria, on Tuesday next at 8.30 p.m. The Rt. Hon. the Marquis of Crewe will preside.

THE Commercial Travellers' Benevolent Institution (founded 1849) appeals for donations. With only £4,000 a year from investments, it has to find over £16,000 per annum to meet the payments to 500 annuitants, of whom over 400 are widows. Donations may be sent to the secretary at Dauntsey House, Frederick's Place, Old Jewry, London, E.C. 2.

THE Political Economy Club, founded in 1821 by the exertions of Thomas Tooke (author of the London Merchants' Petition), with the co-operation of Malthus, Ricardo, James Mill, and others, celebrated its centenary on November 2nd. Lord George Hamilton presided, supported by many members of the club, and the guests included the President of the Board of Trade, Lord Haldane, Lord Ernle, Lord Askwith, Mr. Hilton Young, Sir Maurice de Bunsen, Sir Charles Addis, Sir Donald Maclean, Sir Frederick Macmillan, Mr. Henry Bell, and the Hon. George Peel.

Oversea Correspondence.

FRANCE.—REVISED ESTIMATES—YIELD OF TAXATION—WIESBADEN AGREEMENT—GERMAN WORKERS AND DEVASTATED VILLAGES—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, November 1.

A FURTHER step towards assuring a balance for the Budget for 1922 was taken on Thursday, when the Finance Commission of the Chamber took under consideration the latest of M. Paul Doumer's revised proposals, details of which were published in the *Economist* last week. The Budget proposals, as finally (apparently) revised by the Minister of Finance, came before the Commission in the following form:—

	Francs.
Ordinary expenditure.....	21,753,000,000
Extraordinary expenditure	3,200,000,000
	24,953,000,000
Revenue from ordinary resources.....	19,778,000,000
Exceptional revenue	3,550,000,000
	23,328,000,000

thereby indicating a deficit of 1,600,000,000f, exclusive of the supplementary credits that will have to be voted, if the additional allowances of 700,000,000f granted to public officials in recognition of the high cost of living (which was suppressed in principle as from December 31st next) is to be continued, as the Finance Minister proposes.

M. Bokanowski, the *rapporteur général* of the Commission, brought forward a proposal at last Thursday's meeting to the effect that the ordinary Budget should be made to balance from the normal and permanent revenue, and the extraordinary Budget by means of the exceptional revenue that may be counted upon (from the liquida-

AKTIEBOLAGET UNIONBANKEN I FINLAND.

Amalgamation of:
WASA AKTIE BANK, establ. 1879.
ÅBO AKTIEBANK, " 1896.
LANDTMANNABANKEN, A.B., " 1910.
Head Offices: WASA, ÅBO, HELSINGFORS.
57 Branches.

Capital Paid Up and Reserves:
Fmk. 235,000,000.
Telegr. Address: "Unionbank."

Every description of Banking business transacted.

tion of war stocks and the tax on war profits). As these sources of revenue must disappear before the beginning of 1923, M. Bokanowski argued that they should be replaced, from the end of 1922 onwards, by the levying of new taxation to the extent of 1,800,000,000f. In opposition to these suggestions, M. Raiberti again brought forward a motion that had previously been discussed by the Commission, which was based on the principle that a balance must be brought about without having recourse either to additional taxation or to any further national loan. M. Raiberti proposed to meet the deficit by stricter methods of collecting the existing taxes, plus the postponement of certain amortisation arrangements until such time as France has recovered her power to produce. The Minister of Finance, for instance, in recognition of the fact that the tax on war profits is payable in scrip of the Rentes, has estimated that under this heading it will be possible during the year to extinguish debt to the extent of 1,500,000,000f. M. Raiberti proposed to the Commission that authority should be given for the Rentes in question to be replaced by short-term bonds, which would enable practically the whole of the deficit to be met. The Commission had no difficulty in recognising the value of a Treasury operation of this kind to enable the difficulty of the moment to be got over, and M. Raiberti's proposals were adopted.

The Commission decided, further, to recommend the insertion in the new Budget Bill of clauses that will have the effect, if rendered practicable, of largely increasing the yield from existing taxation by improved methods of collection. Other clauses were decided upon which will have for their object the prevention of frauds of the kind which are known in the United States as "income-tax dodging," and which have been particularly prevalent here, especially in connection with persons who derive a portion at least of their income from bearer bonds. As will be seen, the Commission has rejected the Finance Minister's proposal to wipe out the estimated deficit by increasing the tax on turnover from 1.1 per cent. to 1.60 per cent. It has also modified certain of the Minister's revised proposals, in which he urged the raising of further money by putting increased pressure on certain categories of income-tax payers. It is now generally believed that no serious difficulties will arise over the passage of the Budget Bill through the two Chambers, and there are hopes that, in view of the satisfactory manner in which the Finance Commission has handled the problem, its progress both in the Chamber and the Senate, will be much more speedy than in previous years.

As time goes on and the real potentialities of the agreement concluded at Wiesbaden between Messrs. Loucheur and Rathenau, respectively French and German Ministers for Reparations, become more fully realised, there is a growing tendency to recognise the enormous value that instrument may prove to have in connection with the economic restoration of both nations. A striking instance of this is to be found in the interview which a deputation, representing both French and German trades unions, has had with M. Loucheur. This deputation was composed of delegates from the Union Syndicale Française des Techniciens de l'Industrie, du Commerce et de l'Agriculture, of the corresponding German organisation, and of other German trade union bodies. The deputation was introduced to M. Loucheur by M. Marcel Laurent, the

assistant general secretary of the French C.G.T., who laid before the Minister the general terms of an agreement that has been drawn up between the French and German organisations with a view to the reconstitution of 11 given villages in the "red zone," or devastated area, in the Somme region, in the neighbourhood of Chaulnes.

Before their interview with the Minister in Paris, the combined French and German delegates paid a visit to the sites of the villages in question, which are amongst those that suffered the most terribly from the war. German delegates, who were headed by Herr Silberschmidt, a member of the Reichstag, and secretary of the German federation of building trade unions, were deeply impressed by what they saw, and expressed their intention of urging their fellow-countrymen to make every possible effort to assist in reconstructing the devastated area. As the result of their visit, a programme was outlined that will leave the sufferers and their architects full control over the reconstruction plans. On having these plans laid before them, with explanations as to what is necessary to enable them to be carried out, the Germans will send the necessary materials and labour direct from Germany, for application on the spot. The 11 villages selected as a beginning comprised 750 houses, with 3,740 inhabitants before the war, and their reconstitution will require the labour of about 2,500 men. The deputation informed M. Loucheur that they propose to avail themselves very largely of the stipulations of the Wiesbaden agreement. By arrangement with the Minister, the delegates agreed to meet again next week for the purpose of going further into details for carrying their plans into execution.

Apart from the fact that, as has been announced during the week, one single village in the devastated area has succeeded in bringing about its own reconstruction, it may be taken for granted that so far the thousands of villages in the war zone that were for all practical purposes destroyed during the hostilities, remain to-day in the same condition as they were when the armistice was proclaimed three years ago. The vast majority of the inhabitants who have returned to what was left of their village homes are still living in cellars or in half-ruined rooms above ground, in the hope that sooner or later some means will be found to enable their houses to be rebuilt. Most of the cities and larger towns are better situated, as they comprise a larger proportion of houses that were intact when hostilities ceased, but even in these cases the situation to-day is far worse than most people in other countries imagine. If the streets have been cleared of the debris, and many of the ruins have been definitely swept away, little or no rebuilding has yet been done for lack of the necessary funds. Even at Rheims, where a loan was issued some months ago for reconstitution purposes, funds are still urgently needed, and it was stated a day or two ago by the mayor that reconstruction is practically at a standstill for this reason. It is reported in financial circles here that negotiations are in progress between a group of Canadian bankers and the municipality of Soissons for the issue of a loan of \$10,000,000, for the reconstruction of that city. Other similar loans are also spoken of.

The Bourse this week has remained dominated by the absence of purchasers, which has resulted in keeping the market heavy. French Three per cents. have fallen from 55.60 to 53.85 as the result of sales, stated to be due to insurance companies realising to meet their obligations in connection with the Printemps fire. Banks were rather heavier, though they recovered somewhat on Thursday. Thus Banque de Paris dropped back from 1,199 to 1,185, to recover to 1,202; Union Parisienne moved similarly from 797 to 782 and 798, and Crédit Lyonnais from 1,395 to 1,385 and 1,410. Transports have been irregular. P.L.M. have remained unchanged at 750, Nord rose from 831 to 838, and Midi dropped from 705 to 703. Shipping slightly improved, Chargeurs Réunis advancing from 525 to 530, Transatlantique remaining unchanged at 244, and Messageries rising from 211 to 217. Electrical undertakings are on the whole better, Thomson rising from 825 to 845, and Havraise d'Énergie Électrique from 346 to 355, but Téléphones dropped from 618 to 610. Metallurgical undertakings are generally better, slight advances being recorded in most cases. Mines have been irregular,

Tintos dropping from 1,435 to 1,415, while Boléo remained scarcely changed at 358, as against 355.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Oct. 27, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 30, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	565,355,425	566,142,667	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	1,124,637,102	1,112,634,667	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	5,805,693,400
Notes in circulation	37,154,438,915	37,406,813,170	24,323,186
Interest on securities	54,904,815	63,819,701	3,822,950
Bank notes to order	1,001,382	1,110,157	..
Treasury account	42,271,773	29,995,386	341,744,242
Current accounts, Paris	1,573,704,553	1,631,439,230	537,400,864
Do branch banks	941,428,869	912,924,782	108,730,149
Dividends payable	4,808,195	4,972,260	2,240,623
Discounts and sundries	75,525,772	73,353,048	25,063,662
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	6,532,935
Sundries	1,068,053,081	1,052,534,939	219,662,952
Total	42,882,446,181	43,126,036,307	7,299,534,263
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,802,287,138	5,801,761,120	4,110,412,990
Balances abroad	614,478,993	618,023,310	..
Commercial bills overdue	979,765	1,078,681	98,744
Discounts in Paris	1,458,408,299	1,352,373,950	623,399,379
Foreign bills	11,007,931	5,978,758	16,928,251
Treasury bills	332,940	52,118	159,950
Discounts in branches	1,003,222,792	1,042,894,971	1,055,215,022
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	66,268,056	67,025,298	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	193,395,901
Do on public securities	415,620,337	418,470,898	522,676,019
Do by branch banks	1,801,682,740	1,814,174,008	200,000,000
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	200,000,000	200,000,000	..
Do (for the war)	25,100,000,000	25,300,000,000	45,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments ..	4,098,000,000	4,097,000,000	12,900,750
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	99,579,234
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	100,000,000
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	..
Premises and furniture	48,944,512	47,247,597	43,651,136
Expenses and management	30,145,735	28,781,301	8,445,674
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries	1,994,984,202	2,095,023,547	293,565,229
Total	42,882,446,181	43,126,036,307	7,299,534,263

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	2 1/2
Advances on bullion	3
Advances on public securities	6 1/2

GERMANY.—POLITICS—REICHSBANK AND LOAN BUREAU—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—BANKING FUSION—EXPORT DUTIES—PRICES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, October 31.

THE new Wirth Cabinet last week received a Reichstag vote of confidence by 230 to 132. This majority is due to support by the Democrats and Independent Socialists, as against the German Nationals, People's Party, and Communists; but neither of the first two parties is formally behind the Cabinet, which is a Centre and Moderate Socialist coalition, without a stable majority. The Cabinet's prospects are bad. The new decline in the currency's buying power and foreign exchange has deranged Estimates taxation plans, and calculations of the Reparation payments burden in paper marks. The Government has had to increase the salaries and allowances of 13 classes of State employees by between 25 and 30 per cent., the annual salary in the highest class being now between 53,000 and 80,000 marks. All other State liabilities, except interest on the Debt, must also increase. Dr Wirth's first speech since he again became Chancellor shows no clear programme. He promised to do something for the ruined petty rentier class. His tone sharply differed from that of his earlier speeches. In earlier speeches he did not follow preceding Chancellors in protesting against the Versailles Treaty as the chief source of evil; this time, in the manner of Dr Fehrenbach, Herr Schiedemann, and the other Chancellors, he denounced the Treaty as "the witches' hammer of European destruction policy"—which means that the Silesian decision has killed his faith that the Versailles Treaty and the Reparations ultimatum conditions might be fulfilled. The Central Association of Banks has declined an invitation to London

from the Sound Currency Association, on the ground that the recommendations of experts would be ignored by the Governments. This decision is condemned by some newspapers.

The Reichsbank statement for October 23rd shows further inflation. After entirely ceasing in the first quarter of this year (owing to easy placing of Treasury bills), and after being relatively small in the second quarter, inflation proceeded headlong in the third quarter, and is still continuing. Money is still abundant, but it is going into industrial stocks. The statement shows a decline of discounted Treasury bills to 91,271,206,000 marks, an increase of private discounts to 1,416,646,000 marks, and a decline of State deposits to 3,405,156,000 marks, and of private deposits to 9,982,091,000 marks, and an increase in note circulation by 416 millions to 88,144,195,000 marks. Kassenschein circulation fell by 104.7 million marks to 7,322,900,000 marks. The report for 1920 of the Darlehnskassen (Loan Bureau founded in August, 1914) shows outstanding loans on December 31st of 35,526,134,440 marks, which is 10.6 milliard marks more than at the close of 1919. This year the total of loans (which are secured on securities, wares, &c.) has heavily declined. Federal revenue between April 1st last and October 20th is reported at 23,075,568,000 marks (of which 5,797,827,000 marks was from the emergency levy), while 48,528,748,000 marks and 35,691,000 marks were respectively raised by increasing the floating and funded debts. Expenditure totalled 71,639,959,000 marks, of which 8,370,766,000 marks was a subsidy, making up the deficit on State undertakings, mainly railways and posts. The sum of discounted Treasury bills, which make up nearly the whole floating debt, was 214.85 milliard marks.

The violent bull movement in stocks continued up to and including to-day. A good summary of its character I take from the *Bergwerks-Zeitung*, of Essen. "An opposition between the professional speculators and the public may be observed. The professional speculators are nervous. Their anxiety increases in measure as the foreign exchanges rise. They will not follow this (bull) movement.....because, according to experience, the collapse may come any moment. But each time the fear of the professionals is proved baseless. Also the undecided movements of the dollar and other exchanges have not brought the stock rise to an end. The security markets have made themselves independent of the exchanges.....an army of small and very small persons, who formerly bought only investment papers, rush to the stock market after they have been told that 'something may be made out of stocks.' " In the past, I may comment, stocks rose only as long as the mark exchange fell, and *vice versa*; and if in the last fortnight, during which the mark exchange has held, stocks have risen more than ever, that can only be due to the public belief that it is safe to anticipate a further mark exchange fall. A mark exchange recovery of any dimensions would beyond any doubt cause a drop in stocks. Last week the Berlin Bourse had to be closed on yet one more day (Friday), but wild unofficial buying continued, and the Leipzig, Hamburg, and other provincial Bourses reported exceptional rises, one stock in Leipzig rising on a single day by 1,500 per cent. on its nominal value. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* stock and bonds index for the 28th shows 38.510 against 30.569 on the 21st, 9.141 on January 2, 1920, and 6.387 on September 1, 1919, so that the average quotation has risen about sixfold in two years. Last week shows the biggest individual rises recorded, some being of over-1,000 per cent. Shipping stocks led, Hansa gaining 201 per cent., the Hoesch metal stock rose 400 per cent., one mining coal company 660 per cent., and the Hannover Car Company 730 per cent. Upper Silesian stocks rose partly, it is stated, owing to French purchases. The bank stock market was governed by a report, since confirmed, of fusion between the Darmstadt Bank (Bank für Handel und Industrie) and the National Bank. This is the first fusion between banks of first rank, the only preceding fusion of importance being between the Commerz-und Discontobank and the Mitteldeutsche Privatbank. The new fusion is in the loose form of a "Gemeinschaft" for 99 years. The aim for choosing this form is apparently to save the great expense of a complete fusion, estimated in stamp duties, &c., at 250,000,000. The Darmstadt Bank has formed

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



a great many local branches; the National Bank has pursued the opposite policy, but in the last few years has entered into close relations with industry. The main motive of the fusion is apparently to decrease operating expenses. The Darmstadt Bank will raise its capital by 130,000,000, the National by 100,000,000, with for the first bank a further capital issue of 25,000,000 and for the second 50,000,000, of which only 25 per cent. will for the present be paid up, and will meantime be dividendless. Quotations of Federal Loans to-day were:—War Loan 77.50, 4 per cent. 70.25, 3 1/2 per cent. 64.60, 3 per cent. 84.75, Colonial 4 per cent. (no business done; preceding quotation was 95), and Savings and Premium 79.25. On the 26th 3 per cent. was 81.10, so that this loan has continued to rise.

The Government has been obliged to restore the export duties on most of those wares for which the duties were last year abolished, and to raise the duties on other wares. The export duties were first imposed under a law of December 20, 1919, aimed at checking the "Selling out of Germany" (exchange dumping). As this could only be done by compelling the producer to charge foreign buyers more than he charged natives, "social export duties" were imposed on most goods, in order that the State might reap some of the exporter's enforced extra profit. The social export duties were first imposed on May 10, 1920, at rates of from 2 to 10 per cent. By that time the mark exchange had recovered, and German home prices were near or above foreign. As this checked export, the duties were either reduced or abolished. The new mark exchange drop has again created a great difference between the export and the home price; hence the re-enforcement or increase of the duties. The new duties vary up to 10 per cent. In the new schedule no export duties are imposed on re-export of certain foreign goods of which the import price must (world-market gold price fluctuations being ignored) be as high as the export price. Most home agricultural products bear the whole 10 per cent., mineral and fossil products and mineral oils mostly bear between 1 and 8 per cent., and soap, paraffin, &c.,

5 to 7 per cent. For chemicals and dyes the rates vary much. A few products are free, and the maximum (10 per cent.) falls on oxalic acid, calcium, nitre, phosphates, &c. Woollen yarn bears 4 per cent., woollen cloth and knitted goods 5 to 6 per cent., cotton yarn 3 per cent., cotton cloth 5 per cent., leather 3 per cent., boots 6 per cent., rubber wares and furniture 6 per cent., cellulose, print paper, and cardboard 7 per cent., pig-iron 5 per cent., and machines (new) 4 to 5 per cent. These duties take for the State only a small proportion of the extra profit gained by the exporter from the mark decline; but experience has shown (1) that the mark movement may any day be reversed, (2) that if it is not reversed the home production cost will heavily rise, in both of which cases very high export duties could not be borne.

Prices are already rapidly rising. The "Eisenwirtschaftsbund" has raised pig-iron as follows:—Hematite to 2,700m per metric ton, foundry iron No. 1 to 2,200m, foundry iron No. 3 to 2,124m, Siegerland steel iron 1,903m, Spiegeleisen 2,021m, Luxemburg foundry iron 1,675m, ferro-manganese 80 per cent. 7,550m, ferro-manganese 50 per cent. 5,750m, and ferro-silicium 2,950m. The new prices are between 418m and 2,600m a ton over the old. These increases have been made necessary partly by higher coal prices and wages, but mainly by the circumstance that Swedish, Spanish, and French ore prices are all more than 100 per cent. higher than in the early part of the year. The commodity price rise continues, especially in leather and wood.

ITALY.—DECREASING NOTE ISSUES AND LIRA DEPRECIATION—TRADE BALANCE—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, October 27.

A RECENT official statement shows how the note issue in Italy has decreased this year. The following are the most up-to-date figures:—

	(In Million Lire.)		
	State.	Commerce.	Total.
December 31, 1920	10,742.7	8,988.9	19,731.6
April 30, 1921	9,601.2	8,677.0	18,278.0
June 30, 1921	8,722.2	9,436.6	18,158.8
August 31, 1921	8,351.7	9,489.9	17,841.6
September 10, 1921	8,440.0	9,438.0	17,878.0

To the above figures there are to be added two items: 1,867 million lire of State notes (currency notes of 5 and 10 lire) and 277 million lire of small 1 and 2 lire notes. The last account for the State notes relates to April 30, 1921. The total issued is less by almost two billion lire than at December 31, 1920, and the decrease is wholly due to issues on State account, industry and trade being apparently relying in increasing ratio on the bank of issue's aid. Perhaps the economic crisis and the difficulty of sale are forcing companies and private business men to search for banking accommodations; but it is probable that under the disguise of commercial circulation are comprised discounts of Exchequer bills or other loans on State paper.

Notwithstanding the reduction of notes issued, foreign exchanges go up by leaps and bounds. Sterling, which at June stood at 73.51 lire, had risen to 84.30 at July 31st, to 93.55 at September 30th, and is to-day oscillating about the 100 limit. Dollars went up from 18 to above 25 lire. We are approximating to the maximum of 100 and 30 lire respectively, reached about January and February, 1921. The figures for international trade would not seem to warrant such an evil course, as they are undoubtedly better than last year. For the first five months of the year they are as follows:—

	(In Million Lire.)		
	Imports.	Exports.	Difference.
1913	1,522.8	1,039.6	483.2
1919	7,093.9	1,635.5	5,463.4
1920	6,337.5	3,137.5	3,200.0
1921	6,528.0	2,677.6	3,850.4

The adverse balance is much greater than in the last pre-war year, but the lira has in the meantime greatly depreciated. As for the 1920 and 1921 comparison, it is to be noted that the 1920 and 1921 are, owing to

technical reasons, calculated on the basis of 1919 official values. As in 1920 the real values were much higher than the official values, the real adverse balance must be taken as notably higher than the apparent one. In 1921, however, the experience was inverted: the official 1919 values are probably a little higher than the real values, so that the real adverse balance may prove to be less than the official figure. In short, it is extremely probable that the present adverse balance is less than in 1920, and so the figures do not provide any reason for the foreign exchanges going from bad to worse.

Perhaps a partial explanation of the depreciation of lira exchange may be found, on the lines of the quantitative theory of money, in the fact that the same or slightly less quantity of paper money is performing less services. The economic crisis has diminished the wages paid and the transactions done with the aid of money. And so the present total of 17,878 million lire (exclusive of 1, 2, 5, and 10 lire currency notes) may be a more redundant quantity than the 19,731 million lire of December 31, 1920.

Probably this theory is true, as far as relates to commercial and industrial activity. But in agriculture the latest statistics published by the Department of Agriculture seem to point to better yields:—

	1912-1913.	1920.	1921.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Wheat.....	5,197,200	3,846,600	5,120,000
Rye.....	136,900	115,300	130,000
Barley.....	218,300	127,800	240,000
Oats.....	545,400	351,600	550,000
Rice.....	487,300	451,200	470,000
Indian corn.....	2,546,400	2,268,300	2,400,000
Beans.....	456,400	259,500	400,000
Potatoes.....	1,671,000	1,422,300	1,500,000
Beetroot.....	2,085,800	1,199,900	1,500,000
Hemp.....	84,100	97,800	100,000
Flax.....	2,660	2,300	2,500
Wine.....	4,633,900	4,229,400	3,300,000
Silk cocoons.....	34,100	29,700	30,660

With the conspicuous exception of wine, all other agricultural products are doing better than in 1920, and the figures of 1921 are a symptom of a return to the pre-war normal conditions. If we reflect, moreover, on the deep-rooted distrust of the farmers toward Government requisitions and maximum prices, we are led to believe that the figures for 1921 are more understated than the 1912-1913 figures, when no one dreamed that statistical reports would be utilised against the agricultural interest. It does not appear, therefore, that paper money is very much less in request than a year ago for economic transactions. Perhaps, in common with all Europe, Italy is suffering from the widespread fear that the State will not be able to restore the equilibrium in its Budget, and new paper issues will be in future inevitable. If so, only a severe policy of economy and retrenchment will at length reverse the present downward tendency of the lira.

NORWAY.—ELECTIONS—DROUGHT—EXCHANGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, October 29.

THE elections for the new Storting, which is to assemble in January, 1922, have now been finished. The reduction of the age of suffrage from 25 to 23 years, and the adoption of proportional representation, had been expected to swell the Socialist representation. But the reverse has occurred. At the last election the Socialists returned 51 members; now, with the considerably increased number of candidates, they get only 37 seats. The Conservative-Liberals in 1918 returned 50 members; this year 57 members, while the newly-formed party, the Agrarians, number 17 members, who, on the whole, may be reckoned as Conservative-Liberals.

The continued dry weather is becoming disastrous. In the country districts the farmers have to carry water from far away for the cattle. Electric light establishments and mills driven by water-power have had to stop, thus adding to commercial and industrial difficulties. The foreign exchanges are daily improving to some extent, but there is a very long way to go before a normal state is again established. The note circulation of the Bank of Norway continues to decline.

SWITZERLAND.—THE EXCHANGE PROBLEM.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, October 31.

A CONFERENCE of leading bankers is taking place to-day in the financial department of the Swiss Confederation, to discuss the exchange problem. I understand that the proposal of Government control of dealings in Swiss francs by foreign holders of deposits with Swiss bankers is practically unanimously rejected. The failure of Government control over exchange is generally admitted. On the other hand, everybody is convinced that the embargo on foreign loans still existing in this country must be abolished as soon as possible. It is essential not only to abolish the possibility of introducing new foreign loans on Swiss stock markets, but that the Swiss Government should even offer Swiss loans to countries with depreciated exchange in Eastern Europe. Such loans must not only be dependent on purchases of Swiss goods by the debtor, but Swiss francs must be placed at the disposal of the debtor country.

There is a further proposal of premature redemption of the Swiss loans made during the past few years in the United States in order to create a stronger demand for dollars in the markets of this country. It is believed that as soon as the dollar is as high above par in Geneva as it is in London, hoarding of Swiss francs, by Germans especially, would be regarded as useless. It is not to be supposed that the first attempt to facilitate foreign credits in the Swiss money market after seven years of interruption will have an immediate success. But it is generally admitted that the granting of liberal credits, not only to foreign buyers of Swiss goods but to every foreigner who is worthy of credit, might reduce the foreign value of the Swiss franc.

Letters to the Editor.

GERMANY'S EXPORT POLICY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your issue of October 29th, Mr T. B. Johnston makes further misstatements. In his earlier letter, published on the 15th, he said (quoting Mr Burgess): "On all pottery sales the German manufacturer is required by his Government to add 150 per cent. to the price at which he would otherwise be willing to sell to the American buyer, and that the Government in turn levies a tax of 90 per cent. on this added 150 per cent." (From himself): "The German Government gets a revenue of about 134 per cent. on all export trade." Both statements are inaccurate, as I showed.

In his second letter, Mr Johnston says it is "conceivable" that the 150 per cent. "has been fixed at this figure by the Economic Council." Export prices are not fixed by the Economic Council, but by the Foreign Trade Boards (*Aussenhandelsstellen*). His suggestion that the 134 per cent. "may be collected through the Economic Council" is equally incorrect, because no duties or taxes are collected through the Economic Council.

Mr Johnston says, "Whether you call it a 'supplement' or a 'tax' it amounts to the same thing." It does not; Mr Johnston's statement (see the first quotation above) is that the supplement and the tax are entirely different things. Mr Johnston says, "It is quite incredible to suppose that the German Government would allow the German manufacturer to pocket this enormous unearned increment." As a matter of fact, the German Government does allow it, exacting only an export duty, which never exceeds 10 per cent.

In the *Amliches Handbuch der Aussenhandelskontrolle* (1921) is given the text of the law governing the matter, and a full schedule of the export duties, which never exceed 10 per cent. Since I last wrote, some of these duties have been increased. The new schedule appeared in the *Reichsanzeiger* of October 29th; but again no duty exceeds 10 per cent. The new duties on pottery (with the exception of one which is 10 per cent.) are between 5 and 8 per cent.—Yours faithfully,

YOUR BERLIN CORRESPONDENT.

Berlin, November 1st, 1921.

THE BRITISH LINEN BANK.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1746.

Capital (Paid Up) - - - £1,250,000
Reserve Funds - - - £1,350,000

Head Office: EDINBURGH.

R. G. THOMAS, General Manager. K. J. MORTON, Secretary.
150 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND.

London Office: 38, Threadneedle St., E.C.2.

JAMES FORREST, Manager. J. E. FANSHAW, Manager.

Every Description of Home and Foreign Banking Business transacted.

SLIDING-SCALE INTEREST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—After the many excellent letters that have appeared in your columns on the country's financial and currency difficulties, I feel very diffident in offering any suggestions. There is, however, one possible means of alleviating—I would not say solving—they which I have not seen put forward in your paper or elsewhere.

It has been proposed to regulate the currency of the country on the basis of an index number, and one of the main advantages given in support of this suggestion is that it would prevent the hardship caused to fixed income holders by the rise in prices which seems inseparable from trade activity under the present system. Without criticising this proposal—which, however, may certainly be said to be of a revolutionary nature—it appears to me that the case of fixed income holders could be met by the issue of an irredeemable or a long-dated Government loan, the interest on which is regulated by an index number—i.e., is increased by rising prices and reduced by falling prices. Such a loan would, I think, prove a very attractive investment for trustees, and for all persons who are endeavouring to make provision for their old age or for their children, as in such cases an ensured income proportionate to the cost of living is the vital factor. It would also apparently ensure Government against an increase in the real burden of its debt, as at all times the rate of interest would approximate to the same amount of commodities.

The index number would, of course, have to be fixed by a method clear to everyone and free from any question of interested motives; but this should not be difficult. There may be other difficulties, but they have not occurred to me. The sliding scale is now a recognised feature in wages, and there seems no reason why it should not also be applicable to interest.

If, as seems possible, such a loan were successful in funding an appreciable amount of floating debt and in transferring short-dated loans into a long-dated one, it would appear that the worst of Government's embarrassments would be for the present met without further inflation.—Yours faithfully,

Madras, September 21st, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Ministère du Travail. Commission Centrale d'Etudes Relatives au Coût de la Vie. Compte Rendu des Travaux, 1920." (Paris) Imprimerie Nationale. 1921.

THIS elaborate official Report on the cost of living in France is based on the work of eight separate expert central committees, whose reports are subjoined, and whose information comes from 20 local committees of inquiry. They deal respectively with food, housing, certain raw materials (including coal, iron, and timber), manufactures, transport, trade, monetary and credit problems, and income and consumption, while a ninth committee has laid down the statistical lines of the investigation. Thus the book is a mine of information for economic students and historians. The remedy suggested for high cost of living is, as might be expected, more production and more export, using the increased manufac-

turing plant called into existence by the war. Of the means of increase specified the most notable are the analysis and reorganisation of industrial production on the effort-saving lines adopted in the United States, the provisional introduction of foreign or "colonial" (i.e., coloured) labour, encouragement of population in rural districts—which supply the towns with their workers—by State aid to mothers and children, export credits, and the funding of the floating debt. How these measures are to be paid for is outside the scope of the Report, and Customs barriers, as might be expected, are scarcely mentioned at all.

"Principles of Government Accounting and Reporting." By Francis Oakey, C.P.A. (New York and London) D. Appleton and Co. 25s net.

This is a work of particular interest and value to those concerned with the accounting methods of Governments and municipalities. It is one of a series issued under the auspices of the Institute for Government Research of Washington, an association of citizens already responsible for upwards of a dozen other useful publications. The institute subjects each of the more important technical branches of public administration to careful study with a view to making known those principles and practices which should lead to efficiency and economy in the conduct of public affairs. This book is perhaps rather unnecessarily wordy; though it is difficult to suggest any one of its 18 chapters which could be dispensed with. It contains 561 pages, but considerable numbers of these are occupied by useful recommended forms. There are here to be found many sound maxims. For instance, on the subject of what is called "fixed property": "It is when the costs of replacements that represent the year's proportionate burden are made out of the proceeds of sales of bonds that a policy is entered upon which will result in the accumulation of heavy debt and impose heavy interest charges, and finally may result in cutting off entirely the borrowing power." The science of accounting and its proper use is woefully neglected by Governments and municipalities, and the need of more attention to this matter is increasing every day. Mr Oakey has rendered a public service in compiling this volume. He has successfully handled a very extensive and complex subject, and is to be congratulated on his work.

"The History of the Canadian Bank of Commerce." By Victor Ross. Vol. 1. Toronto: Oxford University Press. Obtainable from Mr Humphrey Milford, London, 52s 6d, net.

A READER expecting to find in this substantial volume only a bald record of the foundation and more important changes in the usually uneventful career of a bank will be agreeably surprised in turning over these pages. Mr Ross has succeeded in giving us a thoroughly interesting book, the first few chapters of which amount to practically a history of early banking in Canada. Of particular interest at the present moment are details of the needy colonial Governments in North America, who flooded the land with paper currency which steadily decreased in value as the volume of output increased. "Do you think," argued one of the delegates in Congress when the revolution was in progress, "that I will consent to load my constituents with taxes when we can send to our printer and get a wagon load of money, one quire of which will pay for the whole?" The story of the origin of the pioneer undertaking—The Halifax Banking Company—introduces us to the early days of the Cunard family of shipping fame, and reveals a glimpse of the romance of commerce. The pages describing the founding of the Bank of British Columbia and the gold discoveries on the Fraser River are full of vivid incidents, as is also the history of the other representative banking institutions which were eventually merged into the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Sudan in Evolution. By Percy F. Martin. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 42s.

The Exchequer and the Control of Expenditure. By R. G. Hawtrey. (London) Oxford University Press. 2s 6d.

The Economics of Communism, with Special Reference to Russia's Experiment. By Leo Pasvolosky. (New York) The Macmillan Company.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London 22s 6d net.

Statistical Year Book of the Kingdom of Siam. 1920. Fifth Number. (Bangkok) Department of Commerce and Statistics.

Report on the Market for Paper and Paper Products in the Argentine Republic. (London) The Department of Overseas Trade, 35 Old Queen street, S.W. 1.

British Samples, Limited.

This is a scheme devised by the Federation of British Industry, of 39 St James' street, London, S.W. 1, for establishing a series of "British Sample Rooms" in foreign commercial centres. Under efficient control it should prove of considerable service to small exporters.

Home Grown Sugar. A Journal for Sugar Beet Growers. (London) 14 Victoria street, S.W. 6d.

Palestine. October 29, 1921. The Organ of the British Palestine Committee. (London) National Labour Press, Limited. 2d.

The University of the West at Bristol. (Bristol) University Appeal Bureau, 51 Corn street.

This publication is issued in the interests of the appeal now being made for funds by the University of the West, Bristol. It is stated that it is the first attempt to convey by means of illustration an idea of the worth of a modern university.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Bulletin Mensuel. October, 1921. (Rome) Banco di Roma

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.
November 15.

ACCOUNT.
November 16.

ONE day this week the Stock Exchange marking boards recorded over 5,000 bargains, and as it may be safely assumed that not more than one-third of the transactions are marked, the achievement is worth noticing as a possible indication of business broadening out in some of the markets. Gilt-edged stocks are by far the most popular. The Local Loans subscription list closed on Tuesday afternoon, instead of remaining open, as it might have done, until yesterday, and a small premium was promptly established on the new scrip. This had a strengthening effect upon other issues. The War Loan has already begun to recover part of its interest deduction. Other British Government stocks remain a good market. As previously noted, the Stock Exchange seemed to take little interest in the possibility of a fall in the Bank rate, but when the announcement of 5 per cent. came on Thursday morning, it produced volleys of cheers, and a mild exhilaration round the House.

Russian Government bonds hold most of the improvements scored by reason of the overtures made by the Soviet Government in regard to adoption of pre-war obligations, although the move is regarded as little more than a step in the right direction. German bonds have continued weak, and French bonds, moving within narrow limits, show a disposition to droop, owing to the competitive attractions of the new loan now being offered in France. South Americans are better. Chinese gave way to a slight extent on the news that China had failed to meet an obligation which has fallen due in New York. Mexicans are lower.

Home Railway stocks are not favourably affected by the extensive plans advanced by some of the railways in connection with electrification schemes. These have failed to bring in any fresh buyers, and the possibility of further capital which will be required to finance the works, even with assistance from the Government, tends to keep people away from the market. No improvement has occurred in Grand Trunks or Mexicans. Argentines, however, show a recovery after their serious falls, though it cannot be said that any particular recovery has occurred in Brazilian or other foreign rails where the shrinkage has been equally severe. United of Havana is a brilliant exception, the price gaining several points upon declaration of a 4 per cent. dividend, with a satisfactory carry forward.

Rubber shares mark time, the price of the raw produce failing to show improvement. Amongst oil shares, the tendency remained cheerful for the greater part of the week. There is not much public business doing, but, on the other hand, the acute flatness produced by forced liquidation is over for the time being, and now attention is concentrated upon the probable dividends which will be declared by the Shell and Mexican Eagle companies next month. The fall in the Bank rate is hailed as a bull point for the market. Dividend declarations by

some of the industrial companies are not stimulating. Both R. E. Jones and Dent, Allcroft and Co. have passed their dividends, the shares being weak in consequence. Reduction of dividend and absence of stock-bonus on P. and O. deferred led to a drop of some 50 points on the day when the announcement was made, other shipping shares being dull in sympathy. A number of coal, iron, and steel shares are better, in consequence of the more reasonable tone adopted by Labour in regard to wages. It is commonly declared in the Stock Exchange that cheaper coal is of the first consequence in promoting a revival of trade, and any step which tends to this end is welcomed with general satisfaction. The textile market is better, on Manchester support, most of the leading shares being harder on the week. Coats gave way, although the dividend and bonus were up to expectation. Tobacco shares have weakened, on offer of stock from America. A few banking issues improved, while the insurance market is extremely quiet. Shares in the catering, stores, and hotels groups are inclined to be heavy. Twenty of London Electric debenture stock, issued at 94, has risen to 7 premium, this being the principal feature amongst new issues. Underwriters of the Pearson and Knowles 7½ per cent. debenture issue received about 50 per cent. of their subscription.

The Kasfir market is moving on quiet lines. Here, again, the sense of liquidation enables prices to maintain a fairly even level, and with advances in De Beers, the tendency of Paris is held to have recovered stability. Russo-Asiatics have advanced, the Soviet Government's proposal. Mexican mining shares attracted a little business, though prices scarcely moved. Tin shares are again heavy, in consequence of conditions in the metal market. The only feature amongst West Africans has been a sharp fall, and partial recovery, in the shares of the Goldfields of Eastern Akklim, the company having encountered water difficulties. Chartered advanced briskly on Thursday, it being said that General Smuts has been asked to include the whole of Rhodesia in any scheme for linking that colony with the Union of South Africa.

The Stock Exchange was closed on Tuesday for the customary November 1st holiday.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital. £	Cash Subscription. £	First Payment. £	Further Liability. £
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	230,784,413	..	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	1,024,990
5½% 1929 receipts to October 22, 1921	60,614,459
Week to October 29	10,930,000
Receipts to date	71,544,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED OCTOBER 29, 1921.

April 1 to October 29, £3,030,000	150,000	150,000
---	---------	---------

To the Public—

Local Loans 3% Stock, £20,000,000 (red. at par), issued at 52% ..	20,000,000	10,400,000	1,000,000	9,400,000
Thomas De La Rue and Co., £800,000 8% Conv. Deb. Stk. at 98% ..	800,000	784,000	80,000	704,000
Dec. 31, 1946 (Nov. 2), 3,000,000 ..	3,000,000	300,000	75,000	225,000
Anglo-Burmah Oil Co., 3,000,000 ..	3,000,000	300,000	75,000	225,000
Graphic Cinema Co., 17,500 Shares, £1, at par ..	17,500	17,500	4,375	13,125
Total offered to public	11,151,500	1,159,375	1,034,215	

To Shareholders only—

Commercial Bank of Australia, 252,023 Ord. Shares 10s, at £1 12s 6d ..	252,023	63,006	189,017
Total offered to shareholders ..	252,023	63,006	189,017
Total offered for subscription to date ..			
1921	£253,617,936	1920	£367,549,656
1920	225,563,250	1919	1,036,059,951
1919	963,857,123	1918	1,393,381,441
1918	1,173,833,378	1917	1,318,596,010
1917	1,177,386,860	1916	585,436,850
1916	485,663,700	1915	685,236,326
1915	660,968,016	1914	512,522,633
1914	174,808,840	1913	196,536,980

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

Local Loans Stock.—Issue of £20,000,000 at £52 per cent. bearing interest at £3 per cent. per annum, payable quarterly on January 5th, April 5th, July 5th, and October 5th. The stock is redeemable at par at any time by resolution of the House of Commons on one month's notice being given in the *London Gazette*, and it is transferable in any sums which are multiples of 1 penny. It will be inscribed in the books of the Bank of England and of the Bank of Ireland, and will be consolidated with the existing Local Loans Stock. Principal and interest are charged upon the Local Loans Fund established under the control of the National Debt Commissioners, and, if such Fund is insufficient, upon the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom to the extent of any insufficiency. It can be obtained as (1) inscribed as "transferable in the Stock Transfer Books," or (2) registered as "transferable by deed." It may be converted into Stock Certificates to Bearer (in denominations of £50, £100, £200, £500, £1,000) with interest coupons attached, and such Stock Certificates may be reconverted into stock, without payment of any fee. Transfers and stock certificates are free of stamp duty. This is a trustee security yielding a flat rate of £5 15s 5d per cent., and is a gilt-edged security of the highest class. The issue was quickly oversubscribed.

Thomas De La Rue and Co., Limited.—Authorised share capital £2,000,000, in ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 640,000 shares have been issued, and are fully paid. The authorised loan capital consists of £260,000 4½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock and £1,200,000 8 per cent. convertible mortgage debenture stock. Of the latter debenture stock, £800,000 is now offered at 98 per cent. It is repayable at 105 per cent. on December 31, 1946, or earlier, by means of a cumulative sinking fund, beginning in 1922, which can be applied in purchase or drawings. The total authorised sum of £1,200,000 will be secured by a trust deed, constituting a mortgage on property and plant, and a floating charge on other assets, but the deed is subject to a "fixed and floating charge" to secure the first debenture stock of £260,000, of which £216,290 is at present outstanding. Repayment of capital and interest is jointly and severally guaranteed by Charles Goodall and Sons, Limited, and J. A. Weir, Limited, each of which companies will specifically charge their property. The stock carries with it the right to convert into ordinary shares of the company on a basis set out in the prospectus. The balance of £400,000 debenture stock "can only be issued for securing loans to or liabilities of the company, whether absolute or contingent." In this "offer for sale" it is stated that this issue of £800,000 debenture stock "is to provide the purchase price for acquiring the whole of the share capital in the old-established business of Charles Goodall and Sons, Limited, playing-card manufacturers and stationers, and all the ordinary shares of J. A. Weir, Limited." The purchase price payable by De La Rue's for the whole of the share capital in Goodall and Sons and J. A. Weir is respectively £201,050 and £394,000 in cash. An independent valuer's report shows that properties are worth £1,835,000, while total gross assets amount to £2,867,675. Liabilities are given as £1,066,722, which reduces the net surplus to £1,800,953. Investments are taken "at cost," and amount to £157,914. There is, however, an additional item, "Investment in branch undertakings," which is stated as £67,236. Combined profits of the three undertakings are given for the past five years, but these have been arrived at before providing for debenture interest, interest on loans, depreciation of plant, buildings, leases, and investments, directors' remuneration, income-tax, corporation profits tax, and excess profits duty, although "exclusive of interest received on money on deposit and investments." The present vendors paid 93½ per cent. for the issue, but the company bears "the charges in connection with this offer." The vendors, however, pay underwriting commission of 2½ per cent. and an overriding commission of ½ per cent. The valuer's report gives the "present fair value" of the property, while the plant is considered on the basis of "present fair value.....as a going concern," although one small item at £170,000 is valued on the basis of "a forced sale." We have indicated the principal points in this prospectus about which the shrewd investor will have to make himself perfectly clear before accepting the offer.

Commercial Bank of Australia.—The remaining 252,023 ordinary shares of 10s each are offered to holders of ordinary and preference shares in the proportion of one new share for every three shares held on October 25th, fractions being excluded. The shares are offered at £1 per share, and one half of each instalment is to be deemed to be on account of premium. Application may be made in excess of the *pro rata* allotment.

West African Gold Mines and Estates, Limited.—Authorised capital £300,000, divided into shares of 2s. each, of which 1,054,300 have been issued. This is an offer to shareholders of a further 200,000 shares at par. The company was registered in December, 1900, and according to the "Stock Exchange Official Intelligence" for 1921, "no dividend has yet been paid," while at June 30, 1918, there was a debit balance of profit and loss account amounting to £2,978.

roul, Damascus, Hamah, Homs, Saida, Tripoli and Zahle, in order to secure to our subsidiary the advantages of the rights and privileges previously belonging to our establishment in this part of the East. The cession of these branches naturally entails the transfer of our local *clientèle*, our record and our organisation, together with the advantages and obligations of agreements, leases, and conventions. The consideration which we are to receive for this cession is the sum of 5,500,000f, represented by shares of the Banque de Syrie of 500f nominal each. These shares will form part of a new issue to be created as an increase of the existing capital of that institution, and will rank for dividend as from January 1, 1921. We ask you to be good enough to approve this scheme of arrangement, and to confer upon the committee full powers in order that it may execute all conventions relating to the realisation of the said arrangements to the best advantage. The affairs of the new bank have assumed great importance, and it has been able to distribute for the year 1920 a dividend of 8 per cent. on its shares.

THANKS TO STAFF.

Gentlemen, in conclusion, I am convinced that I shall interpret your sentiments in addressing our warmest thanks to the Direction Generale in Constantinople, to our managers in London and Paris, and of our various branches, as well as the staff of all grades, for the efforts which they have made, and which have allowed the results which we put before you to be arrived at. The staff of the bank in Asia Minor have on many occasions been face to face with a difficult and at times dangerous situation, and I shall ask you to address to them a special message of sympathy and encouragement.

Are there any questions? If not, I beg to move: "That the report and accounts be received and adopted."

M. le Baron de Neufelize, C.V.O.: I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman: I have now to propose: "That this general meeting of shareholders hereby authorises the committee to transfer to the Banque de Syrie the branches of the Imperial Ottoman Bank at Aleppo, Alexandretta, Beyrout, Damascus, Hamah, Homs, Saida, Tripoli, and Zahle, in consideration of the price of 5,500,000f, payable in 500f-shares of the Banque de Syrie, to be issued as fully paid, and ranking for dividend as from January 1, 1921. That this meeting approves the agreements already established on this basis, and confers full powers on the committee to assure the realisation of the said agreement to the best advantage."

M. Charles de Cerjat seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously approved.

The Chairman: I beg to propose: "That Messrs le Comte Frédéric Pillet-Will, the Earl of Bessborough, C.M.G., and the Earl of Chichester, O.B.E., be and they are hereby elected members of the General Committee."

Lord Oranmore and Browne, K.P., seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

The Chairman: I have now to propose: "That Messrs le Baron Henri Hottinguer, le Comte Frédéric Pillet-Will, and General the Hon. Sir H. A. Lawrence, K.C.B., be and they are hereby re-elected members of the General Committee."

This was seconded by Sir John P. Hewett, G.C.S.I., K.B.E., C.I.E., and carried unanimously.

The Chairman: That concludes the business, gentlemen.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN, COMMITTEE, OFFICERS, AND STAFF.

Mr A. Hood: My lord, may I be permitted to propose a vote of thanks to you as chairman, to the committee, the officers, and staff of the bank both at home and abroad? We have heard what you have said about the Earl of Bessborough and Sir William Young. We on our side would like to express our regret at the loss we feel at not having them with us to-day. And it hardly needed any hint from you, my lord—to me, at any rate—that we should express our sympathy especially with the staff in Asia Minor, for they must have had a dreadful time, and we, as shareholders, wish to extend to them our most sincere sympathy. I hope somebody will second this resolution most heartily.

Mr J. Rosselli: My lords and gentlemen, I have great pleasure in seconding the resolution proposed by Mr Hood. I feel sure that we are all indebted to the staff, as Mr Hood has said, and to those working for us in the East.

The vote was unanimously accorded.

The Chairman: I am sure we are much obliged to Mr Hood and Mr Rosselli for having proposed and seconded this resolution. I can assure you that we appreciate the sentiments that you have expressed, and we will certainly convey to our staff in Asia Minor feeling which you have been good enough to express, and which I am sure will be an encouragement to them in what have really been very difficult, arduous,

COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LIMITED.

A SATISFACTORY YEAR, DESPITE DIFFICULTIES.

The seventeenth annual general meeting of this bank was held on the 2nd instant, at 9 Bishopsgate, London.

Mr L. H. Kiek, who presided, in the course of moving the adoption of report and accounts, mentioned, as indicating the growth of the business, that the total figures of the balance-sheet aggregating £4,726,000 compared with £3,392,000 last year and with only £1,730,000 on June 30, 1919. The gross profits for the year were £72,000 more than those of the preceding year, and would have been still larger but for the necessity of writing off bad debts, which, in conditions such as had been experienced shareholders would readily concede even the most careful management could not entirely avoid. On the other hand, expenses had also largely increased, partly through the additional cost of maintaining their new branches in Colombia. Including the amount brought forward, there was a net available profit of £89,613. They were placing £2,750 to reserve, increasing it to £77,750; writing off £35,030 in respect of depreciation in sterling value on capital employed in branches abroad; paying a dividend of 7 per cent., less income-tax, on the old A shares, and at the same rate on the new A shares as from September 1, 1920, placing £3,100 to pension fund; and allocating £5,000 for distribution among the staff as a bonus; leaving £11,610 to be carried forward. The chairman of the Anglo-South American Bank had, as recently as last week, dealt so exhaustively with the general conditions affecting business in South America that there was little of special interest that could be added on the subject on the present occasion.

"CAUTIOUS BUT WELL-CONSIDERED DEVELOPMENT."

In such countries as Colombia, where transport, already slow in normal times, had broken down under excessive strain, the difficulties of the situation were naturally greatly aggravated. Thus they would find almost every sea or river port throughout the South American Continent during the first half of this year congested with merchandise—especially manufactured goods—either awaiting long-delayed clearance at Custom House or accumulating in dock and warehouse—a melancholy but only too eloquent testimony to the dramatic change from abnormal and feverish activity to depression and stagnation. Everywhere, of course, this sudden reaction had produced a dislocation of exchanges and a financial strain, the more acutely felt in countries still largely dependent for their prosperity on a ready sale of one or two staple products, the demand for which had temporarily ceased. With such conditions prevailing throughout their territory, he need hardly point out that the period covered by the report had been an extraordinarily trying one for the board and management at home and abroad. In the circumstances they might express reasonable satisfaction at results which enabled them to maintain last year's dividend, after adequate provision for bad debts and writing off capital depreciation at certain branches where the exchange position had necessitated that course. The increased volume of business handled, to which the balance-sheet testified, further showed that, while "safety first" had necessarily continued to be their main consideration, they had not been deterred by these trying conditions from adhering to their programme of cautious but, they trusted and believed, well-considered development. He could assure the shareholders, from his recent personal observation—having from the end of July last year until early in June this year been engaged in a journey comprising the whole of the vast territory covered by the organisation of the controlling institution, the Anglo-South American Bank, and its affiliations—that this policy was greatly welcomed and appreciated by the best elements in the countries where they operated and where the credit and prestige of the Commercial Bank of Spanish America, as an integral part of the Anglo-South American Bank organisation, had steadily increased and was now firmly established.

Having reviewed in some detail the conditions prevailing in the countries in which the bank was established, the Chairman said it would be futile, in the present precarious state of international and political and economic conditions, to attempt any prediction as to the immediate future of business in those countries.

They did not expect any definite improvement in, say, Venezuela or Colombia, Guatemala or Ecuador, except through a genuine revival of trade and industry throughout Europe and the United States. All they might say at present was that here and there the continuous fall in prices of produce had been arrested, and that, for instance, coffee and cotton were again selling at prices which had enabled planters to move their produce. The resulting relief had enabled stocks of imported goods to be marketed—often, it was true, at heavy sacrifice. Circumstances had, during the war, given opportunities for trading with these countries to others, especially the United States, and latterly the American banking and investing community had entered the

sts by more freely granting loans to South American Governments; but the experiences and observations of his long journey had only confirmed the view that, given settled labour conditions at home and industrial peace instead of constant strife, if we but maintained true to our traditional policy of sound trading, fair dealing, good workmanship, and a respect for and sympathetic consideration of the Latin-American point of view, we should do our own against any foreign competition. The report was unanimously adopted.

ARGENTINE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

INCREASED PASSENGER AND DECREASED GOODS TRAFFIC.

The ordinary general meeting of the Argentine Great Western Railway Company, Limited, was held on the 2nd inst., at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, the Right Hon. Viscount St Davids (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr J. T. Dillon) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: This particular railway of ours is a leased line between the Buenos Ayres and Pacific, and really depends upon the fortunes of the Pacific. You may ask what would have been the effect if, instead of our line having been leased, it had been worked on our own account. Well, I am able to tell you with very great confidence that the results would have been quite as bad for you, because the cost of labour has gone up enormously in the Argentine. I have spoken of this on other occasions. It is not only that the wages of the individual worker has been increased, but that by Government regulations the railways now have to employ men whom of their own free will they would not

employ—people they consider unnecessary. Then the cost of fuel is the other great item.

Turning to the results of the past year, you will see that on our line the goods traffic decreased by 156,000 tons—that is, something over 10 per cent. The passengers increased by about 12 per cent., but from passengers we only receive gross about 2s per head, while on goods we receive something like 10s per ton, so you see the increase in passengers is nothing as a set-off to the decrease in goods. Gentlemen, there is one other item I ought to mention. On our investments there is a depreciation of 19.20 per cent. That depreciation is somewhat less than the depreciation was a year ago.

Now, you will ask me about the outlook for the current year. Well, on our own system the outlook is to this extent satisfactory—that the condition of the vineyards is satisfactory, that there is plenty of water for irrigation, and—what I am told is a very strong bull point—that there are 500,000 tons of wine in stock. I leave to gentlemen who are more expert than myself on wine matters to say whether it is possible for the residue of the 8,000,000 people to drink 500,000 tons of wine between now and next May.

Gentlemen, I have told you what the good points are as regards our own particular traffic, but, speaking generally, we must depend, as all other Argentine railways are depending to-day, upon the action of the Government as regards freights. Our new year began on July 1st; we are working under most unfavourable circumstances, with heavy increases of working expenses and without any increase in our tariffs. Unless the increase in the tariffs comes, and comes soon, it is impossible that the results of the present year can be in the least satisfactory. Gentlemen, I beg to move the adoption of the report and accounts.

The Hon. Charles N. Lawrence seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN BANKS.

This Map indicates the points at which
THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.,
and its affiliated Institutions,
THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.,
and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.,
are established.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 63 Market St., Bradford.

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

BAHIA-BLANCA AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

PATAGONES BRANCH SOLD—OIL STRIKE.

The thirty-second ordinary general meeting of the members of Bahia-Blanca and North-Western Railway Company, Limited, was held on the 3rd instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London.

The Viscount St Davids (the chairman), who presided, said in the course of his speech: The principal thing that has happened in the past year which concerns our own particular line is the sale of the Patagones branch. It was an unfinished branch. We had to break off the work some years ago, when we stopped our capital expenditure, and the line was about 40 miles short of the town of Carmen de Patagones, at which we were aiming. Carmen de Patagones is a very flourishing little town, with a good deal of irrigation, and a great deal more land that might be irrigated. There is no doubt that if this branch were finished it would be a satisfactory branch. However, there are other places where we could spend the money to greater advantage than on finishing that line, although it would be a good line. In these circumstances we sold the line to the Buenos Ayres Great Southern, who are engaged in finishing it. We were paid what the line cost us, and we were paid by a bond which we have handed over to the Pacific Company to settle our indebtedness with them, so that our floating indebtedness has been put an end to. As regards the prospects of our own line, when I was in the Argentine there was a severe drought, and it looked at one moment as if the crops might be lost, but the rains came in time, and I believe there is considerably more land ploughed on the Bahia-Blanca system than there was last year, which is a very satisfactory point. There is one other thing that will be of interest to you. You will no doubt all have heard that three of the Argentine railways—the Southern, the Western, and the Pacific—engaged together in an attempt to obtain oil at Comodoro Rivadavia, down in the south of the Argentine, and since our meeting the other day we have received further news. We had found oil before; we had been getting a certain amount of oil, and we had struck an extraordinarily good gas well; but on November 1st we received a cablegram stating that a new well had reached oil, and it was producing 84 tons a day after the flow had been controlled. That, of course, is a very satisfactory feature and very gratifying.

The report and accounts were adopted unanimously.

THE ASSAM RAILWAYS AND TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED.

QUESTION OF TARIFFS.

The ordinary general meeting of the Assam Railways and Trading Company, Limited, was held, on the 2nd inst., at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London.

The secretary (Mr S. Maclean Jack) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

Mr Sydney S. Hawkins, A.M.I.C.E., who presided, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the result disclosed was not good, but for that Lord Ribblesdale prepared the shareholders at the last general meeting when he told them that, owing to various troubles culminating in a strike, the expenses of the company had been largely increased. The large increase in expenditure was the actual reason for the poor result obtained during the year. The board had not been able to improve the earnings side of the railways account as much as had been hoped. The revised tariff, asking for the same percentage increase as all Indian railways, had been submitted to the Government of India for approval, but they understood it was not to take effect until April 1, 1922. In the previous year, also, they had been able to make up profits considerably from the exchange. In the year under review exchange had not been so much in their favour. The actual earnings of the year were admittedly not sufficient to pay the full amount of the dividends, but there were certain outside recoveries in hand, among them £15,000 recovered from the Inland Revenue under the "Stevens v. Boustead" decision, which had been previously paid in the form of income-tax, and, with other sums, this had enabled the board to bring into account £21,621, and to recommend the usual dividends to all classes of shares. With regard to the new timber concessions and colliery leases, a 30-year concession of the former had been granted and signed covering blocks which contained very valuable timber, while the Government of India had granted them not only the Lekhapani colliery lease, but a lease of additional coal areas known by the name of Tipangpani. These should prove an asset of the very greatest value. Thanks to the financial arrangements made towards the end of last year the company was now in a fairly strong financial position. In conclusion, he wished to say that while the "B" shareholders should not be that their dividends might not

have to be reduced in the present difficult circumstances, so far as the board could see at present, there was no reason to suppose they would not be able to maintain the preference dividends. Mr G. Turner, M.E., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO (CHARTERED) COMPANY. YEAR'S RESULTS AND PROSPECTS.

The seventy-seventh half-yearly meeting of the British North Borneo Company was held, on the 1st inst., at River Plate House, London, Sir West Ridgeway presiding.

The secretary (Mr Harrington G. Forbes) read a report which showed that progress had been made in almost every branch of the administration, particularly in development, forestry, education, land settlement, medical organisation, &c.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said they were eminently satisfactory from every point of view. The net profit was £226,800, which was not only the largest net profit ever recorded by the company, but was £117,000 greater than the surplus achieved in the record year immediately preceding the war. When they considered the set-back which the company, in common with all undertakings of trade and commerce, experienced in consequence of the great war, they must realise that British North Borneo must have wonderful powers of recuperation to have secured so handsome a profit so soon after its termination. The net profit was not due to some accidental and unexpected windfall, but was brought about by an increase in receipts under nearly all the usual headings of revenue. The chief increases had been in Excise and Customs, a clear indication that the population of North Borneo was generally in a very prosperous condition. Altogether the total revenue of the country in 1920 had amounted to over £425,000, an increase of £91,000. The total expenditure showed an increase of £36,632, but having regard to conditions prevailing it was gratifying to find that the increase amounted to that figure only as compared with the increase in revenue of £91,000. From the balance-sheet they would see that £14,340 of certificates of indebtedness had been redeemed, reducing the liability to £130,916.

One of the heaviest drags on the wheel of industry in North Borneo—the exceptionally high cost of rice—had now been removed. Advances to companies for guaranteed dividends had been reduced by £37,924, and the board were confident, having regard to the future of the rubber industry, that with patience of they would sooner or later receive every penny of the sum of £89,117 now standing in the balance-sheet as outstanding dividend advances. The investments at the end of 1920, £700,919—included £371,420 of War Stock, and £29,616 of colonial and foreign bonds; it also included £100,000 in the British Borneo Timber Company, and £52,182 in the Cowie Harbour Coal Company.

CURRENT PROSPECTS.

As to the current year, there was no gainsaying the fact that the revenue of 1921 was going to fall very far behind 1920. All the rubber companies within their territory were struggling to maintain themselves, and in some cases the assistance of this company had been evoked. He would not venture to prophesy as to what the future might bring forth, but he would express the hope that with the co-operation of the Government the troubles which depressed the industry might disappear within the next 12 months.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00
Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

In addition to the trials and difficulties of the rubber industry, here continued to be considerable depression in trade generally throughout the East, and from the report shareholders would see that the board had good reason for being somewhat cautious as regards the current year, though he had no doubt that there would be a handsome surplus. What caused the board most anxiety was the general depression in all branches of industry throughout the world, and more particularly in the Eastern Colonies. The board were still in the dark as to the probable effect of the general unpropitious circumstances on the territory of the company, and were not satisfied that something might not be done locally to ameliorate the situation. For that reason, with some reluctance, he had agreed to pay another visit to the territory.

Under all the circumstances disclosed they would understand that the board would not be justified in distributing a dividend such as the profit disclosed in the balance-sheet would justify. They had come to the conclusion that it was their duty to recommend no more than a dividend of 3 per cent.

Before he concluded his remarks he would like to say a word on the attacks which had been made upon the company by the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines' Protection Society. The attacks had been based on the belated evidence of three disgruntled witnesses, and the Secretary of State, Lord Milner, had been quite satisfied that they were not justified. The board would be quite glad of the co-operation of the society in the improvement of the comparatively wild tribes of the interior, and of the company's recently acquired territory on the Dutch border. As to the attack against the company which had appeared in the pages of a certain American magazine, all he could say was that Sandakan had been cruelly libelled. Whether they would take further steps for the vindication of their reputation was a matter for consideration. There was nothing rotten in the State of North Borneo. He trusted that in his desire to discourage the optimistic hopes and expectations based on the splendid results of 1920 he had not induced shareholders to take a despondent view of the situation, because that was far from his intention. He believed the clouds which darkened the sky would soon pass away.

The report was adopted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 29, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 30, 1920.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 29, 1921.	Week Ending Oct. 30, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	125,800,000	74,310,000	79,724,000	2,869,000	2,341,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	112,423,000	109,252,000	1,842,000	1,802,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	2,938,000	..	..	..
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	28,801,000	26,809,000	1,172,000	553,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	8,568,000	14,932,000	532,000	518,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	430,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	155,614,000	139,549,000	1,877,000	2,252,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	27,714,000	125,300,000	..	2,112,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	6,899,000	..	410,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	27,503,000	27,250,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	390,000	360,000	100,000	80,000
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	7,272,228	10,266,041	394,931	1,223,234
Miscellaneous.....	..	..	..	..	..
Ordinary Receipts.....	21,500,000	14,736,164	12,381,574	665,358	100,067
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	58,133,074	180,357,058	2,816,009	4,857,168
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	527,719,466	726,530,673	13,728,298	16,768,489
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	530,793,972	735,899,770	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	4,730,000	2,490,000	300,000	250,000	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	520,000	..	80,000	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	40,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	4,655,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	2,436,631,000	2,392,967,000	78,459,000	94,728,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1920-21 ..	..	270,552	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	789,061	..	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	89,777	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....	..	20,400,000	..	..	..

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 29, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 30, 1920.	Receipts. Week Ending Oct. 29, 1921.	Week Ending Oct. 30, 1920.
Under the Finance Act, 1920:				
By National War Bonds.....	23,030,000	2,900,000	850,000	550,000
By Treasury Bonds—				
5-15 year, 1925-35.....	1,024,990	11,774,000	..	140,000
5%, 1923.....	71,544,459	..	10,930,000	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	7,849,822	24,625,344	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances.....	789,107,000	814,040,000	10,400,000	16,500,000
Anglo-Persian Oil Company—				
Dividends on Shares acquired	..	3,482	..	..
Repayments—				
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919.....	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.....	35,858	5,524	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	1,677,000	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	178,666	..	..	..
Total.....	3,882,651,776	4,008,804,510	114,747,298	128,936,499

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1921, to Oct. 29, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1920, to Oct. 30, 1920.	Issues. Week Ending Oct. 29, 1921.	Week Ending Oct. 30, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	9,875,161	10,403,313	..	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	196,904,503	192,521,355	1,296,245	2,520,703
Road Fund.....	8,400,000	2,519,000	2,429,902	..	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	5,095,738	4,837,343	750,000	650,000
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	1,996,372	3,901,751	..	143,210
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	944,598	1,235,806	29,567	58,956
Supply Services.....	758,332,000	365,519,031	415,797,591	9,079,000	22,160,150
Expenditure.....	1,130,204,000	582,854,401	631,127,061	11,514,812	23,530,019
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion.....	4,550,000	2,550,000	250,000	100,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	4,205,000	..	..	..	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	3,561,474	3,100,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	65,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.....	2,432,131,000	2,415,889,000	73,833,000	86,048,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....	21,834,006	36,978,704	433,987	197,116	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	10,800,000	19,250,000	700,000	550,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	9,200,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22.....	12,704,490	2,580,000	250,000	..	..
1920-21.....	..	..	..	..	..
6%, 1920 ..	2,580,000	..	..	..	..
5%, 1921 ..	18,704,490	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	31,738,131	40,902,939	..	400	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.....	..	58,000,000	..	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	729,838,000	777,563,000	27,350,000	17,400,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....	17,060,134	15,960,134	600,000	1,160,012	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....	10,865,000	725,000	..	300,000	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.....	61,200	197,766	..	..	..
Total.....	3,882,651,776	4,008,804,510	114,747,298	128,936,499	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
Total.....	4,118,622	3,716,088	175,499	35,063	..

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921.

Treasury, October 31, 1921.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Nov. 7th-Nov. 12th, were opened on Nov. 4, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £87,405,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £99 os 7d, about 44.79 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bill at £99 os 10d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 10s 2d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Oct. 7 (3 months)	60,000,000	134,390,000	4 3 081	3½	£98 18s 10d (Monday to Friday bills), about 63.9%, above in full. Saturday bills £98 18s 10d and above in full.
Oct. 14 (3 months)	60,000,000	127,825,000	3 18 313	3½	£99 0s 2d (Monday to Friday bills) and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 0s 4d about 63.8% and above in full. £99 1s 3d (Monday to Friday bills) about 63.8% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 6d and above in full.
Oct. 21 (3 months)	60,000,000	84,160,000	3 13 838	3½	£99 1s 1d (Monday to Friday bills), about 63.8% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 4d, & above in full. £99 0s 7d (Monday to Friday bills), about 63.8% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 10d & above in full.
Oct. 28 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,445,000	3 14 563	3½	£99 0s 10d & above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 10d & above in full.
Nov. 4 (3 months)	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 26	3½	£99 0s 10d & above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 10d & above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Redemption Account.	Gold and Silver.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£
Aug. 26.	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	..	11,423
Dec. 30.	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	48.1	9,284
1915.								
Dec. 29.	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621
1916.								
Dec. 27.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102
1917.								
Dec. 26.	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637
1918.								
Dec. 31.	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133
1919.								
Mar. 25.	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577
June 25.	342,310	17,143	..	350	28,500	..	8.3	327,321
Oct. 1.	335,021	16,524	820	329	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536
Dec. 31.	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537
1920.								
Mar. 31.	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	6,900	10.0	313,370
June 30.	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,680
Sept. 29.	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425
Dec. 29.	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504
1921.								
Mar. 31.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141
June 29.	323,894	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150
Sept. 28.	314,382	14,830	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	143
Oct. 19.	312,604	14,008	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	275,530	131
Oct. 28.	311,575	14,199	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.4	274,670	155
Nov. 2.	313,655	13,937	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	276,500	142

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £390,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, November 2, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£ 145,052,255	Government debt	£ 11,015,100
		Other securities	£ 7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	£ 126,602,255
	145,052,255		145,052,255

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	£ 14,553,000	Government securities ..	£ 56,943,712
Reserve ..	£ 3,111,897	Other securities ..	£ 80,912,616
Public deposits ..	£ 16,250,223	Notes ..	£ 19,910,905
Other deposits ..	£ 125,651,915	Gold and silver coin ..	£ 1,815,989
Seven-day & other bills ..	£ 16,187		
	159,583,222		159,583,222

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Nov. 2, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest ..	£ 3,111,897	—	£ 45,856
Public deposits ..	£ 16,250,223	+ 2,716,847	+ 1,892,538
Other deposits ..	£ 125,651,915	+ 35,853,238	+ 10,516,714
Government securities ..	£ 56,943,712	+ 30,632,195	+ 7,029,197
Other securities ..	£ 80,912,616	+ 1,230,568	+ 7,042,793
Reserve ..	£ 21,725,894	+ 1,220,803	+ 8,568,739
Note circulation ..	£ 125,141,550	+ 1,225,520	+ 3,296,455
Coin and bullion ..	£ 128,418,244	+ 4,717	+ 5,272,284
% of reserve to liabilities ..	15½	+ 28½	+ 5½

The OCEAN ACCIDENT and GUARANTEE CORPORATION, Limited.

ASSETS .. £7,472,880
CLAIMS PAID .. £25,000,000Accidents and Illness.
Employers' Liability, Fidelity Guarantees,
Fire and Burglary, Motor Cars, Public Liability,
Inspection and Insurance of Boilers, Engines,
Electrical Plant and Lifts,
Executors and Trusteeships.

Head Office: MOORGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve of Liabilities.
Aug. 1921.	£ 128,380,654	£ 127,564,270	£ 132,455,172	£ 131,222,462	£ 19,266,384	14½
17.	128,407,120	126,235,125	139,831,940	137,265,807	20,621,995	15½
24.	128,402,703	125,964,555	133,892,641	131,074,018	20,888,148	15½
31.	128,409,235	126,889,725	136,778,284	134,902,205	19,969,510	14½
Sept. 7.	128,410,306	126,432,535	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	13½
14.	128,410,714	126,207,555	144,620,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	15
21.	128,417,297	124,406,495	139,163,883	124,819,483	22,460,602	17½
28.	128,414,367	124,972,558	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18½
Oct. 5.	128,413,841	125,665,690	147,038,604	143,489,546	21,197,151	14½
12.	128,421,587	124,613,622	149,805,296	145,222,743	22,257,967	14½
19.	128,417,051	123,684,130	171,602,456	166,131,591	22,182,931	13½
26.	128,413,527	123,915,830	175,038,529	169,779,091	22,947,697	13½
Nov. 2.	128,418,244	125,141,350	141,902,138	137,856,328	21,726,894	15½

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Nov. 1, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Nov. 5, 1919.	Nov. 3, 1920.	Nov. 2, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills) ..	£ 29,125,400	£ 28,933,380	£ 86,030,370	£ 128,437,805	£ 125,141,350
Public deposits ..	49,014,809	19,330,911	19,330,911	18,142,761	16,850,223
Other deposits ..	42,585,819	41,248,964	105,563,102	115,350,201	125,651,915
Government securities ..	14,096,084	11,046,570	46,225,653	63,972,909	56,943,712
Other securities ..	27,648,116	41,461,280	80,496,069	73,869,823	80,912,616
Reserve of notes and coin ..	25,743,014	25,463,980	20,449,849	13,158,155	21,726,894
Coin and bullion ..	36,418,414	35,947,360	88,036,219	123,145,960	128,418,244
Proportion of reserve to liabilities ..	51½%	42½%	15½%	9½%	15½%
Bank rate of discount ..	4½%	3½%	6%	7½%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	3½%	2½%	5½%	6½%	3½%
Price of Consols ..	79½	74½	61	44½	48½
Price of silver per oz. ..	25½d	22½d	63d	53½d	48½d
Price of silver per lb. ..	33s 1d	33s 0d	72s 9d	90s 6d	44s
Exchanges ..	Paris 25½-17½	25½-17½	37-05-05	54-05-10	53-25-1
New York ..	84-83½	84-79	84-15½-17	83-44½-45½	83-91
London ..	12-1½-2½	12-05-10	10-98-11-00	11-23-33½	11-43
Amsterdam ..	20-48	20-49½	145-153	265-278	745-½
Berlin ..	20-48	20-49½	145-153	265-278	745-½
Clearing house return ..	307,188,000	199,913,000	640,666,000	792,787,000	756,300

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—October 26	£ 25,824,515,000	£ 2,492,686,000	£ 28,317,201,000
November 2	704,826,000	51,483,000	756,309,000
Total to date 1921	26,529,341,000	2,544,169,000	29,073,510,000
Do 1920	29,708,109,000	3,481,236,000	33,189,345,000
Increase or decrease in 1921 ..	- 3,178,768,000	- 937,067,000	- 4,115,835,000
	- 10.7%	- 26.9%	- 12.4%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920 ..	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to October 29.			
BIRMINGHAM ..	£ 159,656,100	£ 101,591,500	- 58,064,600
BRISTOL ..	76,561,000	64,310,000	- 12,251,000
DUBLIN ..	378,723,000	307,218,900	- 71,504,100
HULL (37 Weeks ended October 29) ..	41,948,000	41,948,000	—
LEEDS ..	74,537,400	48,074,500	- 26,462,900
LEICESTER ..	52,847,000	32,594,100	- 20,252,900
LIVERPOOL ..	696,578,900	373,393,300	- 323,185,600
MANCHESTER ..	1,272,610,800	609,565,100	- 663,045,700
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE ..	134,150,700	56,821,300	- 77,329,400
NOTTINGHAM ..	48,941,100	30,005,300	- 18,935,800
SHEFFIELD ..	72,071,000	47,917,900	- 24,153,100

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

RESOURCES.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Oct. 25, 1920.
Total gold reserve ..	2,786,240	+ 1,520	1,994,610
Legal tender notes and silver reserve ..	150,910	+ 1,870	162,660
Bills discounted for member banks ..	1,308,750	+ 21,020	2,349,280
Bills bought in open market ..	62,330	+ 8,020	300,670
Government obligations owned ..	190,950	+ 2,860	307,730
All other resources ..	55,680	+ 1,300	33,880
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits ..	46,620	+ 17,250	15,020
Other deposits ..	1,691,530	+ 5,610	1,609,450
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation ..	2,408,780	+ 32,090	3,356,000
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation ..	88,020	+ 4,930	213,840
All other liabilities ..	22,740	+ 280	92,050
Capital and surplus ..	316,830	+ 30	262,440
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined ..	70.8%	+ 0.5%	43.3%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
Assets.			
Cash and bank balances ..	477,083,821	476,811,646	521,673,747
Bank balances abroad ..	65,887,493	65,128,352	83,089,933
all and short loans ..	263,872,952	268,443,419	307,487,168
Securities ..	372,734,891	385,571,339	363,444,692
Loans in Canada ..	1,331,201,118	1,338,883,599	1,483,034,424
Loans abroad ..	150,763,865	155,239,085	200,945,241
Other assets ..	105,199,238	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation ..	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,864
Deposits ..	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,337
Government ..	1,807,195,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,009,439
Public in Canada ..	268,088,677	274,231,912	356,570,176
Foreign ..	10,078,772	10,300,250	9,554,379
Bank balances ..	46,093,427	39,029,582	42,041,433
Canadian ..	278,610	278,421	51,202,045
Foreign ..	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Other liabilities ..	264,331,734	264,326,315	255,705,275
Capital and rest ..			

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 3, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold coin and bullion	5,523,892	5,523,866	5,438,848	+ 26	3,730,695
Of which held abroad....	1,948,357	1,948,367	1,948,367	—	—
Silver coin and bullion	278,610	278,421	264,173	+ 189	632,650
Discount and advances....	4,385,450	4,756,534	6,162,859	+ 228,916	2,327,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	37,522,085	37,154,459	39,645,897	+ 367,626	1,811,875
Government deposits	32,567	42,272	30,049	— 9,705	183,700
Private deposits	2,624,913	2,511,433	3,636,194	+ 103,810	845,950

HUNGARIAN BANK.

Assets.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	5,025	4,978	4,982	+ 47
Silver coin, &c.	598	598	599	—
Bills, warrants, drafts, &c.	22,110,104	22,032,685	21,827,167	+ 107,419
Loans	1,187,549	1,191,113	1,193,961	+ 2,848
Other assets	1,494,251	1,447,968	1,424,648	+ 46,283
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	22,882,498	21,844,627	21,500,470	+ 1,037,871
Deposits	2,237,634	2,297,638	2,507,719	+ 683,004
Other liabilities	207,808	412,899	413,597	+ 205,091

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

Assets.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Coin and bullion	228,525	227,548	227,600	+ 778	76,644
Loans and discounts	335,501	314,665	442,515	+ 22,236	59,470
Debtors abroad	29,866	31,436	29,338	+ 1,570	24,102
Securities	46,305	50,166	51,544	+ 3,861	11,988
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	481,391	480,589	559,468	+ 802	157,266
Deposits	88,623	83,405	50,995	+ 5,224	6,696

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

Assets.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
Gold	4,592	3,369	3,361	+ 1,223	1,571
Government securities	32,925	34,414	51,910	+ 1,489	2,084
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	23,248	30,123	41,444	+ 875	2,400
Government deposits	2,145	2,142	3,495	+ 3	2,315
Other deposits	13,639	13,578	18,250	+ 61	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

Assets.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 30, 1921.
Gold	42,625	42,625	42,620	—	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	416,478	411,019	192,560	+ 5,459	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Government securities	895,408	891,502	1,104,820	+ 3,906	21,826
Discounts and loans	448,246	454,123	318,519	+ 5,877	105,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,357,406	1,383,278	1,323,766	+ 25,872	123,941
Deposits at notice	166,995	124,880	140,252	+ 42,115	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

Assets.	Sept. 21, 1921.	Sept. 14, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Coin and bullion	27,939	27,931	27,914	27,537	+ 8
Of which gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	—
Balance abroad	4,989	5,221	4,882	7,716	+ 232
Discounts	115,017	112,535	113,951	123,546	+ 2,482
LIABILITIES.					
Government loans	608,109	608,109	608,109	420,120	—
Notes in circulation	665,574	632,937	660,804	525,012	+ 2,577
Deposits	51,043	48,745	51,120	19,411	+ 2,300

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Gold	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	37,075	+ 217
Silver	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,830	16,910	+ 3,673
Treasury notes	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	+ 27,835
Bills discounted	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	+ 32
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	3,193,777	3,216,873	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	+ 23,102
Deposits	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,418	1,329,258	1,236,438	+ 44,401

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 14, 1921.	Sept. 7, 1921.	Sept. 22, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Total cash	250,000,000	250,000,000	250,000,000	250,000,000	—
Discounts and loans	1,125,727,483	1,125,727,483	1,125,727,483	1,125,727,483	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	250,000,000	250,000,000	250,000,000	250,000,000	—
Deposits	741,145,127	741,145,127	741,145,127	741,145,127	—

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

Assets.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold	19,400	19,200	19,100	14,300	+ 200
Silver	41,200	40,800	40,500	39,700	+ 400
Foreign coin	37,200	43,600	39,700	39,200	+ 400
Advances to the Govt.	1,623,400	772,300	1,004,900	939,900	+ 851,100
Private loans and discounts	178,000,000	158,000,000	140,625,000	130,625,000	+ 20,000,000
Other assets	16,115,800	11,662,300	8,795,600	6,863,400	+ 4,453,500
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	18,120,200	14,976,000	9,594,600	10,336,500	+ 3,144,200
Government accounts	152,800,000	133,734,200	115,242,500	102,697,300	+ 19,065,800
Other accounts	23,764,000	17,081,500	16,975,300	16,622,500	+ 6,682,500
Reserve	16,330,000	17,567,100	15,895,200	13,369,300	+ 1,237,100
Other liabilities	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	—

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

Assets.	Oct. 23, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.	10,084,462	10,084,471	10,084,471	—
Discount and advances	5,530,435	5,530,956	5,510,053	+ 521
Gold	1,331,000	1,433,479	1,265,764	+ 78,479
Other assets	1,231,393	1,247,434	1,252,220	+ 16,041
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	11,206,312	11,295,219	11,534,498	+ 88,907
Deposits	1,991,261	2,050,522	1,746,787	+ 293,538
Other liabilities	3,009,714	2,956,599	2,932,223	+ 53,115

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVES.

Assets.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold	74,546	74,620	74,574	74,573	—
Other coin and notes	19,346	18,495	18,970	18,626	+ 3
Foreign credits	336,516	320,340	327,543	344,029	+ 1
Bills	551,736	515,197	501,832	469,261	+ 3
Govt. advances	4,343,158	4,335,591	4,325,400	4,321,755	+ 3
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	4,407,257	4,419,569	4,472,694	4,476,419	+ 1
State credits	369,827	370,036	370,036	370,036	—
Deposits	500,365	424,004	345,501	275,709	+ 76

LONDON RATES.

	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Nov. 1, 1921.	Nov. 2, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 5½% Nov. 3, 1921)	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½	5
Market rates of discount—						
60 days' bankers' drafts	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
3 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
4 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
6 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
Discount (Treasury Bills):—						
3 months'	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3
Loans—Day to day	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	2 ½
Short	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	1 ¼	2 ½
Deposit allowances: Banks.	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½
Discount houses at call	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½
At notice	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½	3 ½

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

	1921.	Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Aug.	19.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	26.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
Sept.	2.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	9.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	16.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	23.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	30.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
Oct.	7.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	14.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	21.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
	28.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2
Nov.	4.....	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	4 4 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	5 5 1/2	6 6 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	6	July 21, 1921	6 ½	June 23, 1921
Deposit	2 ½	Nov. 4, 1921	3	June 23, 1921

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Amsterdam .. July 1, 1921 .. 4½	Madrid .. Nov. 4, 1920 .. 6
Athens .. May 15, 1920 .. 6½	Paris .. July 23, 1921 .. 5
Berlin .. Dec. 23, 1914 .. 5	Prague .. Aug. 16, 1921 .. 5½
Brussels .. May 19, 1921 .. 5	Rome .. May 11, 1920 .. 6
Bucharest .. Sept. 4, 1920 .. 6	Sofia .. June 14, 1919 .. 6½
Calcutta .. July 2, 1921 .. 5	Stockholm .. Oct. 19, 1921 .. 5½
Christiania .. July 5, 1921 .. 5½	Swiss Bank ..
Copenhagen .. July 5, 1921 .. 5	Tokyo .. Aug. 11, 1921 .. 4
Helsingfors .. Nov. 8, 1920 .. 9	Vienna .. Apr. 5, 1921 .. 8
Lisbon .. Sept. 3, 1920 .. 7	Warsaw .. Sep. 1921 .. 7
New York Federal Reserve .. Nov. 2, 1921 .. 4½	

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Nov. 5, 1920.	Rate, Oct. 28, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 4, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	56-65-70	54-07-12
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	277-279	885-890
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	1120-1140	7800-8200
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	305-310	390-400
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	24-02	1130-1150	16000-18000
Bucharest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22½	218-222	2800-3200
Bombay	rupees to £1	T.T.	24-02	110	785-820
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	25-22½	220-240	550-600
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	118-123	275-285
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	11-12-34	11-53-56
Amsterdam	florins to £1	T.T.	25-22½	53-40-45	55-55-20
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	25-50-55	29-77-82
Christiania	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22½	17-18-19	17-11-16
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22½	18-15-19	25-45-50
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22½	150-154	247-252
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22½	36-60-80	88-89-91
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	98-99	99-99
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22½	21-97-22-02	21-35-40
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	24-34-39	29-53-58
Lisbon	pence to £1	T.T.	25-22½	97-98	97-98
Alexandria	piastres to £1	T.T.	25-22½	97-98	97-98
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	3-91½	3-91½
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	3-78-80	3-78-80
Buenos Ayres	pence to £1	T.T.	47-58½	55-55½	44½-44½
Rio de Janeiro	pence to £1	T.T.	16	12½	8½
Porto	pence to £1	T.T.	51	56½-57½	40½-41½
Valparaiso	pence to £1	T.T.	13-13	92(a)	34-20
Lima	pence to £1	T.T.	10 to 12	21½ dis.	13½ prem.
Calcutta	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 12	18-18½-18½	18-18½-18½
Bombay	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 12	18-18½-18½	18-18½-18½
Madras	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to 12	18-18½-18½	18-18½-18½
Hong Kong	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10 to 12	3-11½-11½	3-11½-11½
Shanghai	ster. to tael	T.T.	10 to 12	5-44-54	5-44-54
Singapore	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10 to 12	2-33½-33½	2-33½-33½
Yokohama	ster. to yen	T.T.	10 to 12	2-33½-33½	2-33½-33½
Manila	ster. to dollar	T.T.	10 to 12	2-33½-33½	2-33½-33½
Mexico	pence to £1	T.T.	10 to 12	33-35	32-33

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Oct. 6, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.
--	---------------	----------------

feature. Prices rose until 41½d and 40½d were quoted on the 29th ult. for cash and for forward delivery respectively. Cash silver fell to 40½d on the 1st instant. The premium for prompt delivery rose to ¾d on the 31st ult., but has since receded to ½d. The shipments to China this week are very large indeed. We are informed on excellent Dutch authority that no German silver is known to have been pledged with the Dutch banks. We also hear that no steps have yet been taken in Holland to reduce the quality of the coinage, though authorisation was granted. The reason for not making the change is probably because the price of silver has been on the downward grade. In 1919 the Bank of the Netherlands was asked by its Government to retain all silver coin tendered in payment. In February, 1921, however, paying out in silver coin was resumed. *Financial America* announces that on October 22nd last 1,000,000 ounces of silver were purchased by the Director of the Mint, making the total purchases under the Pittman Act 79,377,866 ounces up to that date.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Oct. 7, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,788	17,868	17,917
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,814	7,893	7,943
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India....	2,434	2,434	2,434
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,705	6,706	6,706
Securities (British Government) ..	835	835	834

No coinage was reported during the week ending 22nd ult. The stock in Shanghai on the 29th ultimo consisted of about 23,300,000 ounces in sycee, 24,500,000 dollars, and 1,460 silver bars, as compared with about 23,400,000 ounces in sycee, 24,100,000 dollars, and 1,990 silver bars on the 22nd ultimo. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 10d the tael. Statistics for the month of October are appended:—

	Bar Silver.					
	Cash			Forward		
	Delivery.			Delivery.		Bar Gold.
	Per Oz.	Std.		Per Oz.	Std.	Per Oz. Fine.
	d			d		s d
Highest price	42½	..		42½	..	110 6
Lowest price	39½	..		38¾	..	104 0
Average price	41.442	..		41.081	..	106 1.2

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.		Gold.	Silver.		Date.	Silver.
		Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.		Cash, Per Ounce.
Oct.	29 ..	s d 104 10	d 41 1/2	d 40 3/4	Nov. 10, 1915	d 24 3/4
	31 ..	104 9	40 3/4	39 1/2	10, 1916	34 1/2
Nov.	1 ..	104 9	40 1/2	39 1/4	9, 1917	43 1/2
	2 ..	104 10	40 1/2	39 1/4	9, 1918	49 1/2
	3 ..	104 7	40 1/4	39 3/8	7, 1919	66 1/2
	4 ..	104 4	39 3/4	39 3/8	5, 1920	53 1/2

NOTICES.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce the opening of a branch on Monday next, the 7th inst., at Victoria square, Holywell, under the management of Mr J. E. Evans.

The Commercial Banking Company of Sydney has opened a branch at Ungarie, in the State of New South Wales.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new branches at 99-101 High street, Chelmsford, and 1 Mount street, Diss, under the management of Mr H. D. Woodliffe and Mr E. E. Greenway respectively, and at High street, Blackheath, Staffs, under the management of Mr H. B. C. Baker. An office has also been opened at 3 Dudley Port, Tipton, under the supervision of Mr H. B. Cooke.

The opening is announced of a branch of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, at 1 Institute road, Swanage, under the management of Mr C. S. Tripp.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash. * Interim div. † Final div.			Divi- for Ye.
	Interim or Final.	Date of Pay- ment.	Method of Payment.	
Railways.				
Bengal Nagpur	3%†	Jan. 1	..	6
Mansfield	14%	..	Less tax	2½
Natal Natal	2%	..	..	8
New York Ontario, and Western	2½%†	..	..	2
South Indian	..	Nov. 18	Less tax 6s in £	4
United of Havana, &c.	10*	Nov. 17	..	..
Banks.				
Queensland National	10*	Nov. 17	..	..
Western Australian Bank	£1 p.s.	..	..	..
Mining.				
Gold Fields Rhodesian Develop- ment	1/6 p.s.†	..	Less tax	10
Loneley Reef Gold	3 p.s.	Jan. 3	Less tax 2/6 in £	6/ p.s.
Tea and Rubber.				
Ceylon Proprietary Tea	5%	Nov. 22	Less tax	..
Changkat Salak Rubber, Prefd	15%*	Nov. 25	Less tax	..
Do Defd.	5%*	Nov. 25	Less tax	..
Consolidated Estates	..	..	Less tax	5
Ellawatte Ceylon Tea	5 %	..	Less tax	..
Hunagseria Tea	3 %	Nov. 10	Less tax	..
Lanka Plantations	5%†	..	Less tax	10
Ouvah Ceylon	2½%†	Nov. 10	Less tax	..
Do Bonus	2½%	Nov. 10	Less tax	..
Spring Valley Ceylon	7½%	Nov. 10	Less tax	..
Telbedde Ceylon	10 %	Nov. 10	Less tax	..
Other Companies.				
A. and F. Pears	..	..	Less tax	20
Aberdeen Trust	..	..	Less tax	4
Aberfoyle Steel Quarries	..	Nov. 24	Less tax	5
Aerated Bread Co.	1/6 p.s.†	..	..	3/ p.s.
Andrew Knowles and Sons	2 %*	..	Less tax	..
Anglo Chilean Nitrate	1s p.s.	Nov. 15	Tax free	..
Bankers' Invest. Trust, Defd.	4*	Nov. 16	..	..
Borax Consolidated, Def.	1/ p.s.	Nov. 18	Less tax 6/ in £	..
Bowden Brake	18†	..	Less tax	6
Bristol Brewery	4 %	Nov. 11	Tax free	16
British Mannesman Tube	2/ p.s.	Nov. 1	Tax free	..
Buchanan Dewar	2%*	Nov. 10	..	..
Canada Iron Foundries, Pref.	6*	..	..	..
Chamberlins	..	..	Less tax	5
Claymore Shipping	..	..	Less tax	4
East of Scotland Trust	..	..	Less tax	5
Empire's Brewery	10	Nov. 16	Less tax	..
Fuller's Earth Union	2½ p.s.	..	..	..
Geo. H. Hirst and Co., Defd.	5%*	..	..	..
George Newnes	2½%*	Dec. 1	Less tax	..
Glenfield and Kennedy	2½%*	..	..	10
Goodwin & Co.	2/ p.s.†	Nov. 2	Tax free	..
Granite City Steam Ship	4½%†	Nov. 23	Less tax (on act. of arrear)	8
Ilans Crescent Hotel, Pref.	9%†	..	Tax free	17½
Horden Collieries	23%	..	..	10
J. and P. Coats (Bonus)	1/ p.s.†	..	Tax free	(b) 12½
J. Hey and Co.	..	..	Tax free	10
Joshua Hoyle and Sons	5 %	..	Less tax	15
Lancashire Waggon	4%†	..	Less tax	10
Leney (F.) and Sons	5%*	Nov. 15	Tax free	8
London Maritime Investment	13½%†	..	..	..
Louth (Lincs.) & Co. (Original) ..	10½%†	..	..	..
Do "A" and "B"	10½%†	..	..	..
Do New Ord.	10 %†	..	Less tax	15
Matthew, Brown, and Co.	3/7½ p.s. & bonus 1/ p.s.	..	Less tax	5
Metropolitan Indust. Dwellings ..	5%*	Nov. 15	Tax free	8
Meters, Limited	5%*	..	Tax free	8
Mitchell and Muir	5%†	..	Tax free	8
Montevideo Telephone	£2 p.s.	(on account of arrears)	..	10
Nantveto and Blaith Ironworks, Pref.	10	Nov. 1	Less tax	..
Nautilus Steam Shipping	6*	..	..	..
North of England Cinemas	1/6 p.s.	..	Tax free	12
Porter and Spencer, Lim., Pref.	6 %	Dec. 13	Tax free	12
Portfield Steamship	7½%†	..	Tax free	10
P. and O. Steam Navigation, Defd.	25% (& bonus 1/ p.s.)	..	Less tax	15
Prince Line	3/7½ p.s. & bonus 1/ p.s.	..	Less tax	8
Realisation and Debenture of Scot. Land, Ord.	12%†	Nov. 1	Less tax	15
Ritz Hotel (Paris)	5%†	..	Less tax	8
R. chdale and Manor Brewery	5%*	Nov. 10	Less tax	12½
Salar del Carmen Nitrate	7½%†	..	..	..
Second Edinburgh Investment, Defd.	9%†	..	Less tax	15
Second Scottish Investment, Df.	3 %†	..	Less tax	5
Southdown and East Grinstead Breweries	5 %†	..	Tax free	9
South Durham Steel	4%*	Dec. 10	Tax free	10
Stanton Ironworks	6	Nov. 1	..	..
Sutton Heath and Lea Green Collieries	10*	Nov. 11	Less tax	
Texas Land and Mortgage	1/ p.s.	Nov. 2	Tax free	10
Times Spinning	7½%†	..	Less tax	12½
Underted Stoker	5 %*	Nov. 30	Less tax	..
United Dairies	5	Nov. 21	Less tax	5
Victoria Cycle	5 (to r) 1916-19	..	Less tax	
Wm. Cory and Sons	..	..	..	..
William Hollins and Co., Limited, Cum. Pref.	..	..	..	..
Yates and Thom	..	..	..	..
Yorkshire Engine, Pref.	..	..	..	..

(a) Also bonus of 53% in shares. (b) Increased capital. (c) Tax free.

(c) 35 per share on old capital and 25 per share on capital as it now stands.

ALLEN, ALLEGRO, and CO. announce that, owing to the continual fall in value, the directors being further hindered by depreciation of stock, they are unable to recommend an interim dividend on the 7 1/2 per cent. cumulative first preference shares.

ALLEN and CO.—The directors have decided not to pay any interim dividend on the ordinary share capital for 1921. The interest on the same in 1920 was 7 1/2 per cent.

B. JONES announces that, owing to the business having been seriously affected by the general commercial depression, and particularly the coal strike, and to the necessity of writing down stocks, payments of final dividends on the preference ordinary shares are deferred.

THE NIGER COMPANY, LIMITED, regret that, owing to the continued depression in trade, they do not feel justified in declaring a dividend on the 8 per cent. cumulative preference shares at present. In April last a similar announcement was made.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

			Week's Rec'pts, 1921.		Aggre- gate Rec'pts, 1921.	
			£		£	
Metropolitan District						
Electric						
South London	43weeks	Oct. 29	228,148	..	10,267,605	..
London						
Metropolitan Electric Trams						
United Trans.						
Metropolitan Trams....	43weeks	Oct. 29	51,252	..	2,395,441	..
Days (M.E.T.)						

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for		Total Gross Receipts.	
				Week or Month.			
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
INDIAN.	25 weeks	Sept. 24	993	2,09,655	- 17,110	34,70,175	- 17,233
Bengal	27 weeks	Oct. 8	118	16,300	- 6,600	6,23,207	- 1,664
Ch. Ry.	26 weeks	Sept. 3	2,067	8,43,160	+ 1,38,061	1,46,05,278	+ 21,101
Ch. N. Western	26 weeks	Oct. 1	2,637	13,37,000	+ 1,17,000	3,07,38,238	- 11,234
Nagpur	3 weeks	22	8,691	17,84,000	+ 41,000	59,30,229	- 12,301
ay, Bar. & C.L.	26 weeks	1	1,342	5,63,293	+ 46,500	1,49,64,229	- 12,301
Umballa-Kalka	2 weeks	22	239	1,04,000	- 1,353	5,05,142	- 58
Indian	4 weeks	23	2,172	30,47,000	+ 1,78,000	1,23,25,000	+ 4,024
Indian Peninsula	29 weeks	22	3,028	22,60,800	- 1,85,500	7,11,94,356	- 25,533
id & S. Mahr.	26 weeks	3	3,259	13,15,000	+ 70,621	3,47,04,356	- 8,433
rd & Kumaon	26 weeks	30	252	74,551	- 12,457	16,15,311	+ 1,947
ucknow-Breilly	26 weeks	30	320	79,785	- 9,773	10,18,463	+ 2,474
Indian	26 weeks	Oct. 1	1,852	13,14,919	+ 4,96,292	2,24,60,978	- 3,374
Prinjab(month)	3 mths	June 30	717	7,99,183	+ 904	25,98,100	+ 7,340
Portuguese (a).					£	£	
Line N.E.	17 weeks	Oct. 29	752	12,400	+ 200	295,900	- 13,340
Line Trans.	17 weeks	29	111	1,930	- 848	28,255	- 128
and Pacific.	17 weeks	29	3,423	108,000	- 1,000	2,067,000	- 128,000
Gt. Southern.	17 weeks	29	3,891	129,000	- 24,000	2,50,000	- 32,000
Western	17 weeks	29	1,882	6,000	- 2,000	1,33,000	+ 58
as Ayres Cent.	2 mths	Aug. 31	190	58,553	+ 2,371	108,393	+ 27
al Argentina	17 weeks	Oct. 29	3,305	150,000	- 51,000	3,008,000	- 519,000
Ch. Central.	17 weeks	29	1,205	45,000	- 14,100	967,700	- 53,000
Rio.	17 weeks	29	811	18,200	- 4,200	333,300	- 53,000
razilian (b).							
Gt. Southern	9 mths	Sept. 30	1,005	Ms 48,250	+ 7,500	432,400	+ 18,000
est. of Brazil.	43 weeks	Oct. 23	1,005	16,800	- 6,000	574,600	- 341,000
ndina	43 weeks	29	1,831	31,609	- 20,344	1,55,275	- 73,000
aulo	43 weeks	29	1,554	27,245	- 30,543	1,37,930	- 215,000
o Bahia, S.V.V.	9 mths	Sept. 30	62	Ms 86,000	- 68,000	655,000	- 55,000
le and Peru.							
agasta	43 weeks	Oct. 30	838	19,540	- 25,360	917,745	- 1,102,000
o (12 weeks)	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	+ 500	..	- 408
an Corp.	42 weeks	Oct. 30	366	14,075	- 33,398	..	- 569
an Corp.	12 mths	June 30	1,059	81,358,630	+ 147,980	14,428,740	- 56,000
an Corp.	5 mths	Sept. 30	183	(9) 9,375	- 18,488	27,811	- 59,000

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
				£	£	£	£
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth	Aug. 31	810	104,124	+ 7,541	..	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	3 mths	Sept. 30	277	9,440	+ 1,344	25,508	+ 3,095
New Cape Central.	4 weeks	Oct. 8	205	2,467	+ 704	102,630	+ 15,228
Rhodesia Railways ..	1 mth	Aug. 31	1,397	143,543	+ 1,238	..	..
Rhodesia Katanga.	1 mth	July 31	..	11,529	..	..	..
Shire Highlands.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nyasaland	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	5,100	- 1,000	..	+ 9,350

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	End- Ing.	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
			1921.	+ or —	1921.	+ or —
Atchison Topeka.....	8 mths	Aug. 31	\$7,903,777	-2,030,843	122,591,692	-14,900,95
Baltimore and Ohio.....	8 mths	31	17,932,438	-1,210,891	130,702,162	-7,301,51
Chicago and Milwaukee.....	8 mths	31	14,381,660	+ 223,092	94,348,780	-11,231,49
New York Central.....	8 mths	31	27,635,014	-6,079,135	211,457,641	-20,043,05
Pennsylvania.....	8 mths	31	28,815,588	-3,434,126	332,653,133	-4,703,12
Poultney Pacific.....	8 mths	31	32,212,913	+ 371,648	108,786	+ 3,876,09

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Anglo-Argentine	13 weeks	Oct. 28	329	£84,055	+ 3,999	3,431,489	+ 161,63
Burnley Corporation	1 week	23	29	1,374	743	"	"
Calcutta Tramways.	43 weeks	23	35½	Rs 2,551	- 56,298	"	- 536,03
Chatham & District.	12 weeks	23	11	£1,769	"	71,193	- 2,41
Egyptian Markets ..	43 weeks	23	15	£2,548	+ 390	86,803	+ 12,92
Glasgow Corporation	43 weeks	23	99	£46,238	+ 465	989,876	+ 35,63
Tramways	22 weeks	26	51	£708	+ 187	5,319	+ 55
Isle of Thanet	4 weeks	26	39	£5,271	- 102	149,526	- 4,87
Lancashire United. .	43 weeks	25	39	£5,271	- 102	149,526	- 4,87
Liverpool Corpora- tion Tramways.....	43 weeks	23	124	£29,326	+ 4,557	1,252,839	+ 69,39
L.O.C. Tramways....	31 weeks	Nov. 2	155	£101,758	+ 773	3,123,081	+ 356,54
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	2 weeks	Oct. 31	11	Rs 45,810	+ 3,193	8,268,014	+ 1,71,12
Pernambuco Trams ..	43 weeks	Oct. 30	31	£3,762	- 1,846	161,738	- 129,92
Singapore Electric ..	35 weeks	Sent. 10	35	£14,517	+ 3,117	467,799	+ 329,50

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	or -	1920-21.	or -
Alabama Power..	1 mth	June 30	Gross Net	\$259,059 + \$130,812 +	88,481 22,750	..	..
Barcelona Trao. ropts. in pstat.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	14,471,000 + 8,634,000 +	2,428,000 2,417,003	125,891,000 \$7,770,000	+222,600 152,600
Brazilian Trao. receipts in mil.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	1,354,125 + 1,255,220 +	257,738 790	17,039,900 4,224,040	+4,063,600 85,200
Brisbane Electric Brit. Columbia Electric, &c.	2 mths	Aug. 31	Gross Net	8,844,155 + \$215,202 -	55,746 1,286	1,681,309 419,338	+11,000 2,500
Buenos Ayres La Grose Trams	11 mths	May 31	Gross Net	\$58,492 + \$58,937 +	3,992 8,739	623,444 ..	+67,770
Burmah Electric Trwy. & Light.	2 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$58,937 + \$32,232 -	8,739 ..	..	+15,330
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	30	Gross Net	\$6,616 ..	..	..	..
Canadian -Wstrn. Natural Gas	11 mths	Aug. 31	Gross	\$24,753 -	711	737,924	-172,800
Carthage and Herrerias Trms.	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$12,862 +	543	26,098	-15,900
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	Sept. 30	Gross	\$21,000 +	3,500	..	..
Chillago	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross Net	\$5,030 \$1,208	..	..	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$720,262 \$1,681,768	-1,353,816 -1,330,272	15,866,065 15,275,928	-7,920,280 -7,831,300
Cordoba Light.&c.	6 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$23,204 + \$1,606,345 +	3,607 448,284	139,450 4,937,481	+19,000 +1,012,700
Cuba Railroad ..	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross Net	\$3,568,285 \$4,241 -	79,092 22	4,474,780 ..	+1,012,700 ..
Eleo. Sup. of Vict. Havana Elec. Rly.	24 weeks	Sept. 31	Gross Net	\$1,045,548 \$1,772,259	252,351 121,020	8,454,897 3,724,160	+1,104,000 +1,104,000
Light & Power International Light & Power	8 mths	Aug. 31	Gross Net	\$220,548 \$5,287	667 268	65,860 19,250	+1,000 +1,000
Kalgoorlie Elec. Tramways	7 mths	July 20	Gross Net	\$2,350 768	..	14,638	..
Keystone Tele. ..	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$143,182 \$59,302	-6,002 9,577	1,297,122 444,137	-1,500 +500
La Guafra Harbr. La Plata Electric	1 mth	30	Gross Net	\$6,170 \$6,587	2,347 ..	51,645	..
Light, Pwr and Tramways	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross Net	\$24,770 \$276,625	25,605 7,362	412,713 131,385	+39,000 -27,000
Lisbon Electric Manila Electric	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross Net	\$322,212 + \$130,706 +	41,860 36,377	2,734,631 1,076,533	+278,000 +278,000
Railroad, &c.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$22,225 - \$7,652 +	949 81	239,119 94,441	+6,000 +6,000
Para Electric	10 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$22,225 - \$21,500 +	949 38,098	239,119 25,707,776	+6,000 +34,000
Rangoon Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$75,401 + \$179,550 +	80,249 18,792	1,277,726 1,473,468	+278,000 +278,000
Shanghai Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross Net	\$129,483 + \$56,887 -	40,168 120,502	8,871,656 2,796,475	+642,000 +194,000
Toronto Rly., &c..	7 mths	July 31	Gross Net	\$47,297 + \$569,568 +	2,681 50,563	555,723	+39,000
United Electric T. of Montevideo.	1 mth	May 31	Gross Net	\$300,057 + \$203,041	28,131	..	..
Utah Securities...	Quarter	June 30	Gross Net	\$393,823 + \$125,095 -	25,207 41,469	3,574,602 1,048,607	+161,000 +161,000
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	1 mth	Aug. 31	Gross Net	\$393,823 + \$125,095 -	25,207 41,469	3,574,602 1,048,607	+161,000 +161,000
Winnipeg Electric	1 mth	Aug. 31	Gross Net	\$393,823 + \$125,095 -	25,207 41,469	3,574,602 1,048,607	+161,000 +161,000

† 4 weeks return. ‡ Converted at current rates of exchange. § Approximate receipts.

* Corrected figures. † 10 days. ‡ Adjusted, May 31, 1921.
(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggreg'te Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay Canadian Ntn*	2 mths	Aug. 31	Gross \$157,524	— 31,849	275,400	— 76,763
	8 mths	Sept. 31	Gross \$5,708,500	— 192,200	41,597,200	+ 3,916,577
Canadian Pac.*	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross \$19,435,000	+ 514,000	136,388,000	— 11,049,000
			Net \$4,320,000	+ 411,000	21,900,000	+ 2,743,000
Grand Trunk.	3 mths	Mar. 31	Gross \$1,278,700	+ 95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,200
Manitowishong	1 mth	Sept. 30	Net \$122,900	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500
			Gross \$35,478	..	..	..

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

Reports and Notices.

Mr Oscar Berry, F.C.A., C.C., has been elected deputy-chairman of the Commercial Education Committee of the London Chamber of Commerce. He was also elected to serve on the governing body of the City of London College, as a representative of the London Chamber of Commerce.

The transfer books of the United Dairies, Limited, will be closed from November 5th to the 19th (inclusive).

We regret to announce the death on the 19th ultimo of Mr J. C. Nicholson. Mr Nicholson had been associated with the Maritime Insurance Company for a great number of years, and filled the position of secretary of the company for the past 24 years.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

BULGARIA 6 PER CENT. LOAN OF 1892.—The committee of holders of Bulgarian bonds, acting in conjunction with the Council of Foreign Bondholders, recommend the acceptance of the following arrangement for the liquidation of the coupons and of the bonds drawn for redemption corresponding to the period January, 1916, to July, 1923, inclusive, as shown below:—Coupons and drawn bonds due January and July, 1916, and January, 1917, payable forthwith; due July, 1917, and January, 1918, payable on November 1, 1921; due July, 1918, payable on December 1, 1921; due January and July, 1919, payable on January 15, 1922; due January and July, 1920, payable on July 14, 1922; due January and July, 1921, and January, 1922, payable on January 15, 1923; due July, 1922, and January and July, 1923, payable on July 14, 1923. The above payments to be made in French francs, converted into sterling at the sight rate of exchange on Paris on the day of presentation (less income-tax). Coupons and drawn bonds due January, 1916, July, 1916, and January, 1917, which have been in British ownership since October 1, 1915, may be deposited on the above-named terms with the Imperial Ottoman Bank (Coupon Office, 25 Austin Friars, E.C.), between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. (Saturdays excepted), duly listed on forms which can be obtained there, and accompanied by the declaration of ownership attached to the form. Lists of the bonds drawn for payment since November, 1915, may be inspected there, but are not available for distribution. Coupons and drawn bonds must be left seven clear days for verification.

GREEK DEBT.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders issues the following information, compiled from figures published by the International Financial Commission at Athens, with regard to the revenues assigned under the Law of Control for the service of the Greek debt from January 1st to August 31st (new style, January 14th to September 13th), 1921:—

	Monopolies, Tobacco, Stamps, Stamped Paper, Naxos Emery.	Piræus Customs.
Gross receipts, August, 1921	Drachmæ, 6,052,883.38	Drachmæ, 7,172,990.25
Do do 1920	6,506,630.27	4,362,540.20
Estimated receipts for eight months (Law of Control)	19,266,666.67	7,133,333.33
Actual receipts for 1921, eight months	45,551,232.42	38,941,967.40
Actual receipts for 1920, eight months	42,739,212.27	38,437,048.90
Difference between estimated and actual receipts for eight months	1921 + 26,284,565.75 1920 + 23,472,545.60	+ 31,808,634.07 + 31,303,715.57

NOTE.—Of the surplus over the estimated receipts from monopolies, tobacco, stamps, stamped paper, and naxos emery, 49½ per cent. is applied towards increasing the minimum rates of interest and sinking fund on the external gold loans of 1881 to 1893. The products of the sales of naxos emery have been paid in paper drachmæ since August, 1920. In the case of the Piræus Customs, the receipts in gold are included in the above statement at par.

SALVADOR GOVERNMENT LOANS.—The trustees of the 6 per cent. sterling bonds and 7 per cent. funding bonds of the Salvador Government announce that since the meeting of April 28th last they have been, and still are, in active correspondence with the Government of Salvador and with the trustees' agents in Salvador with reference to the non-payment of interest. The trustees understand that the Government of Salvador is endeavouring to carry out a financial operation in the United States which would almost inevitably affect the interests of the British bondholders, who will be advised as soon as definite information is obtained.

3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT OF VENEZUELA, 1905.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4½d, being the moiety of the sixth fortnightly instalment of the Debt Service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

RAILWAYS.

INTER-OCEANIC OF MEXICO.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, states that "no change has taken place since the date of the last report in regard to the position of the company's railway and its leased lines; these are still being retained by the Mexican Government, who have not rendered any accounts. Under these circumstances the directors are not able to present any revenue statement

for the twelve months ended June 30, 1921, nor any balance. The report shows that debit balance on June 30, 1921, was £1. This does not include provision for the liability (if any) on the company towards the Vera Cruz Terminal Company under agreement of April 6, 1908, the position with regard thereto remaining the same as at the date of the directors' last report.

CORDOBA CENTRAL.—The report for year ended June 30, shows that net receipts amounted to £294,535, as compared with £683,798 for 1919-20. After payment of fixed charges there is balance of £256,790, which has been added to the amount standing in the balance-sheet at the debit of net revenue at increasing the total debit to £653,553. The year's operations seriously affected by labour troubles, which caused frequent interruptions and suspensions of traffic with a consequent loss of revenue involved the company in heavy expense.

BANKS.

COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA.—Report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows net profit, after making allowance for rebate, &c., of £70,453, plus £19,160 brought in. Dividend of 7 per cent. on 260,075 old "A" shares, less tax, and cent. per annum on 238,583 new "A" shares, payable, less from September 1, 1920, placing to depreciation in sterling value capital employed in branches abroad £35,030, to reserve (increasing it to £77,750) £2,750, to staff pension fund £3,100 to staff £5,000, carrying forward £11,610.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.—Average weekly position during October, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£	Ratio to Current Deposit & Other Acc'ts. %
Capital paid up	10,860,852	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balances with the Bank of England ..	57,679,039	15.4
Reserve fund	10,860,852	Balance with, and advances to, customers ..	10,601,607	2.8
Current deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account)	373,796,834	Advances to customers and other accounts ..	183,597,045	49.1
Acceptances and engagements on account of customers	17,317,579	Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements	17,317,579	
		Bank premises at head office and branches ..	4,488,755	
		Shares of the Belfast Banking Co., Ltd., and the Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.	3,258,665	
	412,836,117		412,836,117	

NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK.—With reference to our notice last week, Mr M. Sidney Parry writes to us pointing out that he is no director of this bank, having resigned that position nearly two years ago.

RUBBER.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.—The report for the year 1920 shows a profit of £226,806, which, with £190,323 brought forward, makes £417,129 available. In paying 3 per cent. for the year, which will absorb £56,000, the directors state: "Shareholders will no doubt be disappointed that with such satisfactory results from the year's operations and the greater trade activity during 1920, so small a dividend is proposed." The directors explain that at the close of 1920 a severe depression in trade set in, and has continued in an acute form ever since. The directors feel bound to conserve their resources as much as possible.

JONG LANDOR.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a loss on working of £9,444. This has been transferred to profit and loss account, which, after sundry adjustments, shows a credit balance of £3,278, which is carried forward. The report states that "the heavy scale of expenditure on the estates, which was forced on producers by high wages, and loss incurred in the supply of food-stuffs to labourers, continued during the opening months of the year, but as the year progressed it was possible to effect considerable savings on the estates, while lower freights and warehouse charges have also helped to reduce working costs. These reductions will have full effect during the current year, and on the basis of actual expenditure during the months of July and August, it is hoped that the estates will now be worked without any appreciable loss."

NORTH LABIS (JOHORE).—The rubber crop harvested during year ended June 30, 1921, amounted to 362,700 lbs, against 501,715 lbs in previous year. The net profit amounts to £3,755, to which is added £17,916 brought forward, making £21,671, out of which £1,500 goes to taxation reserve, and £20,171 is carried forward. The average net sale price, including the estimated value of the unsold portion of the crop, was 1s 2.15d per lb. The cost of production f.o.b. at port of shipment, including depreciation, was 0.03d, against a corresponding cost of 10.41d per lb the previous year. The increase is due to the smaller crop harvested. The estate is reported to be in good order throughout. The restriction of crop enabled a large reduction to be made in the labour force, which is now entirely Tamil. The crop of rubber which could be harvested with daily tapping for the year to June 30, 1922, is estimated by the manager at 575,000 lbs. It has been decided, however, to continue alternate daily tapping, and restrict the crop for the present to 50 per cent. of the normal.

TANGOR RUBBER ESTATES.—The accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, show a trading profit of £5,528 and a net profit of £2,208, to which has to be added £2,944, making £5,152 available. The directors state that: "In view of the present condition of the rubber

market, the directors propose to carry the above amount forward to next year. The company will be entitled to a refund of excess profits duty paid. Owing to the restriction of crop for the first half-year in accordance with the R.G.A. scheme, and to the existing market conditions, the crop for the current year may be estimated on a conservative basis at 275,000 lbs. About 60 tons, all grades, January-December, 1922, have been sold at the equivalent of 10½d per lb, ex warehouse, Java. 30 tons, all grades, sold under previous forward contracts at 1s 10½d per lb, ex warehouse, Java, are deliverable during the current year. Although the market position is such as to cause anxiety to those concerned in the rubber industry, it will be seen that this company's cash resources are sufficient to meet the future with confidence."

TANJONG MALIM RUBBER.—The profit for the year to June 30, 1921, after providing £8,000 for taxes, amounts to £17,644, to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last year, £15,938, making a total at credit of profit and loss account of £33,583. In view of the very unfavourable conditions at present affecting the rubber-growing industry, the directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend, and they propose that the balance of £33,583 is to be carried forward. The yield of rubber during the year was 1,340,388 lbs, being 476,986 lbs less than in the previous year, and 9,612 lbs short of the restricted estimate. Of the year's crop 452,289 lbs were shipped to Europe, and realised an average gross price of 10.28d per lb, while 887,399 lbs were sold in Singapore, chiefly under forward contracts made in 1919, at the equivalent of 2s 2.45d per lb gross. The combined average gross price for the whole of the crop is thus 1s 8.97d per lb. The labour force at June 30, 1921, numbered 1,976, as against 1,977 at the close of the previous year. Health conditions have been satisfactory.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ASSAM RAILWAYS AND TRADING.—Report for year ended March 31, 1921, states that capital expenditure amounted to £11,877, making £813,572. Gross earnings were Rs.15,88,178, an increase of Rs.1,08,358, and expenditure Rs.12,59,699, increase Rs.2,11,249. Output at collieries amounted to 274,909 tons, and sales to 293,111 tons. Profit amounted to £87,045. There has been brought into account £21,621, representing recoveries of income-tax, &c., made recently. After payment of debenture interest and allowing for all preference dividends, there remained £17,498. Directors recommend final dividend on "B" stock of 3 per cent., making 5 per cent. for year, leaving £2,498 to be carried forward subject to excess profits duty (if any).

CEYLON TIMBER AND RUBBER.—The registered offices of the Syndicate have been transferred to 20 Eastcheap, E.C., and the Anglo-Ceylon and General Estates Company, Limited, are now the agents and secretaries. Arrangements have been made with that company for the immediate financial requirements of the syndicate, pending the issue of debentures, which will be made at a later date.

GEO. H. HIRST AND CO.—The net profit for the year ended August 31, 1921, amounted to £94,334, to which is added £12,166

brought forward, making £106,500 available. The fixed preference dividend absorbed £7,587, and the fixed preferred ordinary dividend took £12,800. Final dividends on preferred ordinary and deferred ordinary shares absorbed £36,000. The sum of £20,000 is put to reserve, leaving £30,113 to go forward to new account.

NEW TRANSPORT COMPANY, LIMITED.—Proposals are put forward for a clearing-house for goods transported by road, in a circular issued by the New Transport Company, Limited, of 168 Regent Street, London. It is proposed to form a separate company, to be called the New Transport Clearing-Houses (London), Limited, with a capital of £400,000.

S. AND W. BERISFORD.—The net profit for year ended September 30, 1921, after providing for income tax and corporation profits tax, amounts to £26,011, which, together with balance brought forward, makes £67,438 available. Preference dividend absorbs £4,500, and ordinary dividend of 12½ per cent. for year amounts to £18,750. Directors' remuneration was £1,453. The sum of £41,562 is carried to new account.

TECKA (ARGENTINA) LAND.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a credit £20,732, after adding £13,292 brought forward there is a credit of £34,024. A dividend of 7 per cent., less income-tax, absorbs £14,000, carrying forward £20,023.

WELDON'S, LIMITED.—We are informed that a provisional agreement has been entered into between representatives of Weldon's, Limited, and interests represented by Sir William Berry, Bart., and Mr Gomer Berry. The main points of the agreement are—(1) Dividends on preference shares to be increased from 5 to 6 per cent.; (2) ordinary shareholders to receive a cash bonus of 5s per share, free of tax, and each ordinary share to be converted into a preferred ordinary share carrying interest at the rate of 14 per cent. per annum, which rate is guaranteed for seven years by Messrs Berry; (3) the capital to be increased by the creation of 100,000 deferred shares of 1s each, to be taken up by Messrs Berry, which shares will carry one vote per share. Other matters are dealt with in the proposed agreement, and on the whole the offer appears to be a generous one.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions are more seasonable, and further rains have softened the ground. Seeding operations are making good progress in most districts, and with farmers also busy lifting potatoes, less time was given to threshings, consequently offers of native

THE THREAT OF PROTECTION.

This pamphlet, which is a collection of articles from *The Economist* on Imperial Preference and the Danger of a Tariff, should be read by all who are interested in preventing the threatened revolution of our Fiscal System.

Post Free 6d.

Published by

THE ECONOMIST, 3, Arundel Street, Strand, W.C.2.

(b) D. and W. Murray.—The sum of £125,000 of this amount represents an estimated claim for a refund of excess profits duty.
 (t) Bristol Brewery (Georges).—Net profit for nine months. Previous net profit for whole year.
 (k) Second Edinburgh Investment.—£50,000 represents a bonus issue of deferred shares.

meal in fair request at the recent decline. English, all cuts quoted £18 to £19, ordinary Scottish, also American, £19 to £20, English rolled oats £20 to £21, and flaked oats £22 to £23 per ton. Beans firm. English, new, 43s to 46s, old 52s to 58s, per 532 lbs. Rangoon, hand picked, nominally £11 10s to £12 10s. Peas sold of sale. English maples 65s to 75s, Duns 54s to 58s per 504 lbs. Of imported, Tasmanian blue £22 to £25, Dutch £22 ex wharf, Japanese marrowfats £42 to £43 ton landed. Homeward grain chartering was of fair extent and

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated November 3rd, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Makers have reduced their prices of pig-iron this week. No. 1 and No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. foundry are now 115s and 110s per ton respectively. Although this may not stimulate demand, it is a step in the right direction. The movement toward a normal output is very slow indeed, and we shall not see a full resumption this year. Fuel is still much too dear. Although East Coast mixed numbers hematite is quoted 120s per ton business could no doubt be done at a little less. Manufactured iron and steel: Recent "cuts" in steel prices have not brought out any buyers, but prices are gradually nearing those of our foreign competitors. Steel ship plates, home, £10 10s; steel ship angles, £10; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £10 net. Iron ore: Imported foreign ore is a very poor market. Nominally the price of best Buxio may be called 27s per ton c.i.f.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—A fair amount of confidence in the revival of trade sooner or later is found in local industrial circles, although not justified by the amount of work on hand or coming through. In the finished branches the volume of business appears to be contracting, while the position of the steel melting departments remains much the same as before. Recent reductions of price have failed to stimulate the buying of steel billets and other semi-material. The effect of such movements appears to be to create expectations of further cuts, and to hold off the market. It is thought that a lot of work will be placed when users are fairly satisfied that prices are stable. Acid billets have been reduced £1, and stand at about half the figures current a year ago. Continental steel is now out of market so far as this district is concerned, as nothing is to be gained in respect of price by buying out of country. At the same time, they are not ordering at home. Complete stagnation prevails in the high-speed steel branch, and with vast quantities from Government stores being unloaded there seems no prospect whatever of an early recovery. The production of a rustless iron is now occupying the attention of the metallurgical laboratories of Sheffield, and several firms are marketing the material which it is expected will eventually supersede for many purposes such tarnishable metals as copper, brass, nickel, and aluminium. The main obstacle to its general adoption is the price factor, as it costs three times as much as ordinary steel. Business with Central and Eastern Europe is limited to such oddments as are indispensable to the carrying on of the buying countries. Very little steel of any kind is being sent to the Continent. Importers of German finished goods report lengthy delays in deliveries. While there is more activity in the house coal department, the tonnage dealt with is far below the average at this period of year. The demand for steam coal for inland consumption shows little, if any, expansion; many pits are working only three and four days a week, and there is considerable selling pressure. Export business is small. A number of enquiries for forward business are coming in, and the outlook for the future seems rather better. The reduced output is relieving the slump in small fuels, stocks of which are less, and prices rather firmer. There is a fair home and export demand for coke,

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—In the last few days a rather better feeling has manifested itself in manufactured iron and steel trades circles. The tendency is not pronounced, and is not general, and is almost entirely confined to the matter of inquiry. It is something gained that makers and consumers of steel especially have got more intimately together than they have been for months over the question of prices, over the fixing of a common basis on which contracts may be placed. The latest "cuts" in quotations have given a measure of satisfaction to buyers, but trouble has arisen over the fact that under the new list the Scotch market is handicapped in competition with the North of England market by about £2 a ton, more particularly for plates. This serious difference is obstructing the placing of orders here. Many conferences have been held on the subject, but they have so far failed to bring the two markets to a common understanding as to values. The difficulty to an arrangement lying in the way is the existence in England of a number of companies not members of the steel trade combination which have been, and are, picking up the cream of such business as is offering—at lower figures than those recognised by the combine. The English branch of the association is prepared to fight the outside opposition to the bitter end, but that is a policy which does not meet with approval north of the Border, and what will come of the differences is hard to say. But for this contretemps it is felt that there would have been more real business in progress this week, for, according to rumour, shipbuilders and engineers are preparing to enlarge their stocks of sectional material. One or two of the larger bridge-builders and structural engineers advise that influential inquiries are on circuit, and would almost certainly be secured here if those concerned were accorded the price advantages ruling in the South. Of course, that remains to be seen. It is a favourable point in the outlook that the bolt, nut, and rivet trade should again be developing activity, and that a revived demand for black and galvanised sheets is in evidence from Australia, India, and Rangoon. Tube-makers are more fully employed, and bar iron makers, who have been very badly off of late, are booking some fair orders on export account. Founders are not doing well, and that is telling against the position in pig-iron, on which there are about 18 furnaces blowing. Prices are lower this week—No. 1 foundry by 2s 6d a ton at £7 2s 6d, and No. 3 by 2s 6d a ton at £6 17s 6d. Scotch hematite stands round £7 5s. Continental competition in iron and steel is off a bit, is less in force than has been the case for months; and it appears that Belgian producers have sold their output well into next year. This, if correct, should not be without favourable effect on the situation in the British market. Official figures show that 14 vessels of

(with which is incorporated the
AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION, LTD.)
Bankers to the Government of the Union of South Africa in Cape Province; to the
Imperial Government in South Africa; and to the Administration of Rhodesia.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£10,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	£8,976,680
PAID-UP CAPITAL	£2,229,165
RESERVE FUND	£2,893,335
UNCALLED CAPITAL	£6,687,495
	£11,809,995

Board of Directors.

William Relferson Arbutnot, Esq.	Solomon B. Joel, Esq.
Sir David M. Barbour, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G.	Horace Peel, Esq.
Edward Clifton Brown, Esq.	Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G.
Stanley Christopherson, Esq.	William Smart, Esq.
Robert E. Dickinson, Esq.	Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham, G.C.S.I.
James Fairbairn Finlay, Esq., C.S.I.	G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.

Senior General Manager in South Africa—J. P. Gibson.
Joint General Managers in South Africa { Noel Jennings.
John Jeffrey.

James S. Shiel.
Assist. Gen. Managers in South Africa—G. F. Le Sueur, W. K. Robertson.
London Manager—Francis Shipton. Secretary—Herbert G. Hoey.

Head Office: 10, CLEMEN S LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.4
London Wall Branch: 63, London Wall, E.C.2.
West End Branch: 17, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.

(Adjoining the Royal Colonial Institute.)
NEW YORK AGENCY: 68 WALL STREET.
ROTTERDAM BRANCH: 15 COOLSINGEL.
AMSTERDAM BRANCH: 69 ROBIN.

HAMBURG AGENCY:
Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., 49-53 SCHAUBENBURGER-STRASSE.
Over 420 Branches Sub-Branchees and Agencies in

CAPE PROVINCE, NATAL, ORANGE FREE STATE, TRANSVAAL, RHODOSIA,
 NYASALAND BASUTOLAND KENYA COLONY, KENYA PROTECTORATE,
 UGANDA, ZANZIBAR, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA, SOUTH WEST
 AFRICA, TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, BELGIAN CONGO.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION transacted at all
Branches and Agencies.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened on the usual terms and **DEPOSITS**

RECEIVED for fixed periods at rates which may be ascertained on application.

BILLS NEGOTIATED and COLLECTED.
DRAFTS issued, MAIL and TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES made.
LETTERS OF CREDIT and COMMERCIAL CREDITS established.

TRAVELLER'S LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available in all parts of
PURCHASE and SALE of Stocks and Shares effected. [the world.
DIVIDENDS, ANNUITIES, ETC., received and COUPONS COLLECTED.
EXCHANGES, and all the business of a Banker and a Traveller's

ASSAY DEPARTMENT—Gold, etc., and all Mineral Ores assayed and
EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE business undertaken. [realised]

The Officers of the Bank are bound not to disclose the transactions of its customers.

56,000 tons were launched from Clyde shipbuilding yards in the course of October, a heavy tonnage, which, unfortunately, has added seriously to the number of idle berths on the river, and that without prospect of early filling-up.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—October 28, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
						Med.	Good Med.	Extra Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Extra Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	per lb.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Florida ditto	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
American	Ord	G O L M	Mid	G M	M F	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M
...	907	982	1112	1232	1317	1497	980	1275	1905	2025	2220
Brazilian.	Mid	M F	Fr.	G	M	Fr.	G	M	Fr.	G	M
Pernambuco, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Paraliba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Macao	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mossoro, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ceara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maranhao	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Egyptian.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brown	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Upper	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Indian—Sea Island ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peruvian—Rough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto Mod. Rough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto Smooth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ditto Sea Island	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
African, East, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
East Indian.	G F	Far	Gd.	F G	Fne	8 1/2	Far	Gd.	Fne	Far	Gd.
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Broach	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Bhownagar ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Khandaish ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Comptah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Bengal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Sende	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tinivelly	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madras, Western	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cocoonada, Red	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
M. Ginned Cocoonada, Red ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

MANCHESTER, November 3.

We have experienced a dull market throughout the past week. Buyers seem to have lost all confidence, and no contracts of weight have been arranged. There is nervousness as to future prices, political events, and finance. Cloth inquiry for India has been very restricted, although according to some reports there is a possibility of the boycott of foreign goods being broken down at an early date. Miscellaneous transactions have been put through for China, chiefly in bleaching descriptions. Isolated sales have occurred for Java and Singapore. Very little has been done for the Near-East or South America. Home trade buyers have been cautious. Owing to the absence of support cloth prices are easier. All kinds of yarn have been sluggish, and spinners have been weak when tested. Only odd lots have been sold in both home counts and export descriptions.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

Description.	Price, Nov. 3, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Oct. 27.	Price, Oct. 20.	Price, Oct. 13.	Price, Oct. 6.	Price, Sept. 29.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb.	12-77	12-55	12-73	13-64	14-07	15-71
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair ..	23-75	23-03	24-50	27-50	28-50	28-25
Egyptian	21	21 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
Yarns—32's twist	20 1/2	20 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
— 40's twist	21 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	23 1/2	23 1/2	23 1/2
— 60's twist	33	40	42	45	45	45
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	35	35	35	37	37	37
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	35	35	35	37	37	37
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 32's and 40's ..	20	20	21	22	22	22
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 32 lbs	19	19	20	21	21	21

THE BANK OF TAIWAN, LIMITED.

(Registered in Japan, 1909)

Capital Subscribed : Y60,000,000
Capital Paid Up : Y45,000,000
Reserve : Y11,080,000

Head Office : TAIPEH, FORMOSA.
London Office : 25 OLD BROAD STREET.
(Gresham House), E.C.2.

BRANCHES: Amoy, Batavia, Bangkok, Bombay, Canton, Foochow, Hankow, Hongkong, Kinkiang, Keelung, Kobe, Moji, New York, Osaka, Semarang, Shanghai, Singapore, Soerabaya, Swatow, Tainan, Tokyo, Yokohama, &c., &c., and Correspondents in every principal town in the World.

The Bank is incorporated by Special Charter of the Imperial Japanese Government, and is authorised to issue notes in Formosa, conducts general Banking Exchange Business, and takes Trust Business, and acts as Business Agents for other Banks. Special facilities are available for Exchange Business on Japan, China, India, Straits Settlements, Dutch East Indies and France, where the Bank has special working arrangements with Cox and Co (France) Limited. Deposits are received for fixed periods on terms which may be ascertained on application.

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

Description.	Price, Nov. 3, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb.	12-77	17-47	25-28	23-56	21-88	11-45
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair ..	23-75	43-00	37-50	29-40	31-95	19-35
Egyptian	21	40	48 1/2	54	30	16 1/2
Yarns—32's twist	20 1/2	38	46 1/2	54	29 1/2	16 1/2
— 40's twist	21 1/2	38	46 1/2	54	29 1/2	16 1/2
— 60's twist	33	58	71	69	44	35
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's ..	35	65	69	67	39	23 1/2
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's ..	35	68	65	68	38	21 1/2
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 18, 32's and 40's ..	20	37	39	39	23	12 1/2
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 32 lbs	19	29	34	34	20	11 1/2

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The announcement of a reduction in the Bank rate to 5 per cent. was received on 'Change to-day with general satisfaction. It is taken to indicate a gradual return to more normal conditions, and in view of the general financial stringency, every move in this direction is very welcome. Quite a fair amount of business continues to be done in raw wool and semi-manufactured goods, and although the piece-goods section of the industry is still under a cloud, it is a fact that the present firm tone in the wool market is helping holders of pieces to sell at better prices. The unfortunate thing is that in the majority of cases the prices paid for cloth are well under to-day's replacement values, and current prices of yarn are tending to check inquiry from manufacturers of coatings. On the other hand, there is a very good demand for hosiery yarns, and most spinners have sold the whole of their production for at least two months ahead. While spinners do not show much disposition to place contracts with topmakers for forward delivery, there is a brisk business in spot lots of tops, and prices remain very firm. Both merinos and fine crossbreds are in short supply here, and tops are going into consumption as they leave the combs. This, combined with the strength of the Colonial markets, helps to maintain values in this centre, in spite of the restricted business in cloth. Yarn prices are steady, and as spinners are now well employed, many firms are holding out for prices more in keeping with the cost of the tops. There is a steady trade in home-grown wools at firm rates, but the local mohair trade is quiet. Small sales of alpaca continue to be reported from Liverpool, but prices do not vary to any extent.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The recent auctions in Coleman Street can be regarded as having passed off satisfactorily. In spite of any adverse criticisms which may be made, the results are a fairly reliable indication of the state of trade. It is hard to conceive that any section of the trade would purchase liberally for three weeks on end if they did not want the wool, and we fully expect values at the Hull sale to be on a parity with the rates realised in London. There is no disguising the fact that wool consumption is steadily increasing. That is the only conclusion which one can come to after a survey of the conditions in Coleman Street Wool Exchange. The most satisfactory feature of all was the large operations on home account. We understand that a recent census of stocks has been taken by one of the leading wool trade associations, and by which the somewhat alarming fact was revealed that stocks of merino wool and tops in Bradford were no more than sufficient to run machinery a month, if that. There is no wonder at the call for fine wool being so persistent, and the desire expressed for bigger quantities to be catalogued in the hope of seeing prices ease; but between now and December 22nd there should be sufficient merino wool catalogued in England and the Colonies to fully satisfy all possible requirements.

The future of wool values is being keenly discussed in manufacturing centres, interest in the matter being intensified by the fact that the home trade has been seriously caught short in practically all qualities. It is well known that several Bradford topmakers have been caught by selling for October-December delivery at around 3s. Bradford made a mistake last February to July in not purchasing much more freely when values were low, it being a fact that even 70's tops were made out of wool bought at last April series at 2s 5d, and spinners 64's were purchased in July which have come in at 2s 10 1/2d. This is a level at which all top-

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1932 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

makers would like to get in to-day, but there is no prospect of being able to buy on that level, or even in the near future. The matter of supreme concern is the state of the home trade manufacturing industry, and the apparent total inability of woollen merchants and export houses to sell pieces in harmony with to-day's market prices for merino wool. The ideas of wholesale houses will have to alter considerably if they are to resume business with manufacturers, and while they have been able to obtain all the pieces they wanted at slump prices, this giving away of stocks cannot last for ever. The time must come when the price of the fully-made article must bear some relationship to the cost of wool, and the sooner the better. I am strongly inclined to think that the missing link to-day is with the retailer, and not until his prices come into line with replacement values can the public be expected to buy wearing apparel at all liberally. As already said, notwithstanding the poor state of the home piece trade, consumption is fairly heavy, and likely to remain so. I expect a development of consumption on the Continent and America, notwithstanding exchanges are so bad in Europe.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A better position has developed in the market generally, and in regard to linseed oil in particular, in which there has been a steady recovery, business in spot to December being done round £28, with 10s premium paid for January-April. The tone of the market is fully steady, and a moderate trade appears to have been done for export, though the home demand is still only poor. The steadiness of oil has had a strengthening effect upon Plate linseed, values of which are appreciably higher for spot and near. Crushers, however, have their oil commitments pretty well covered, and show little disposition to buy more seed at present figures, or until the position with regard to the Argentine surplus clears and the industrial outlook improves.

A feature of the past day or two has been the sharp advance in Egyptian cottonseed in sympathy with Alexandria, over £14 now being asked for seed loading or November shipment. Bombay has also substantially advanced, £9 10s being paid for seed afloat to Hull. The oil product has consequently benefited, crude Egyptian having recovered 50s a ton. Soya bean oil is about 60s cheaper to buy, but rape is unchanged. Palm kernel oil is steady and dearer. First pressure castor oil has been reduced 20s per ton.

The end of the open weather has stimulated the demand for oilcakes. A good trade is reported in linseeds at 10s advance, and cottons are also firm and in good request. Meals, however, are neglected.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The hide market was again weaker on Thursday, and at the Bermondsey auctions best ox made from 9d to 10 1/2d, a drop of about 1/2d to 3/4d on last prices. Cows sold from 7 1/2d to 8d; light calf at 13 1/2d, all showing reductions on recent rates. One class of best light calf dropped 2 1/2d per lb, in fact. Tanners have held for some time that prices were on an artificial basis, but the reaction has set in sooner than was expected. So far foreign hides do not show any substantial drop in value, but tanners are getting chary of forward booking in view of the home position. The American position is still cabled as strong, with some classes showing a tendency to advance. Best packers are still offered at 15 1/2 cents, and native cows at 12 1/2 cents.

The demand for sole leather has been decidedly quieter this week, the demand still running on low-grade bends. Tanners in some cases are already meeting the market, and offers have been made of blocks of bends at lower rates. American sole leather is arriving in fairly large quantities, and is again competing with domestic tannages.

Upper leathers are still a dull sale, and in such leathers as box calf and glaced kid no offers seem low enough. Kid at 6d to 7d per foot is wanted, and it is difficult to see what class of shoes some of the rubbish is going into in view of the oncoming of bad weather.

There is a better tone in the boot and shoe section, and retailers are placing more orders than has been the case for some time. The break in the weather is an important factor, and repairs are already having plenty of the "stunt" rubbish in boots for patching up, many specimens hardly paying for the leather and labour used.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, November 4.

There was rather more tone about several markets during the week, buying in some cases being on an extended scale, with a steady level of prices, though the question of rates of exchange still forms a barrier to anything like general improvement.

SUGAR.—A moderate amount of business was effected, chiefly in white descriptions, and values on balance disclosed little or no alteration. Tate's cubes sold, 55s 3d to 56s 3d; crushed, 51s 9d; granulated, 49s 9d to 50s 3d; caster, 52s 3d to 52s 9d; pieces, 36s to 44s 6d. Lyle's granulated, 49s 9d to 50s; yellow crystals, 44s 9d. Crystallised West India sold from 38s to 42s 6d, according to sample. American granulated, spot, sold, 49s; prompt, 21s 6d; November, steamer, 21s 3d, c.f. and i. terms U.K. White Java, spot, sold, 47s; ditto, November-December, quoted, 19s 6d, c.f. and i. Belgian crystals, spot, sold, 47s 6d, November-December, 19s 3d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Czech-Slovakian granulated, December held for 19s 9d, and cubes, 24s 6d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Brazilian basis, 96 per cent., November-December, sellers, 14s 6d and ditto 80 per cent., 10s, c.f. and i. terms. Terminal market ruled quiet. December, raw old terms, sold, 14s 3d to 14s, white, December, 18s 9d to 18s 6d, March, 18s 6d, May, 18s 7 1/2d. Cuban stocks amount to 1,152,200 tons against 293,700 at same time last year. Stocks in the three chief ports of the United Kingdom, 71,000 tons against 116,500 at corresponding period last year.

COFFEE.—The market remained steady with a moderate demand for the finer and which are in very small supply, but inferior grades meet with but slow patronage. Offerings at auction this week were by no means attractive. Future delivery market stronger, while influenced by stimulating foreign advices, but eased later. March, sold 49s 9d to 48s 9d; May, 50s 3d to 49s.

COCOA.—Market still very quiet and featureless. Only retail sales were effected at recent prices. Butter steady at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—During the week 44,020 packages Indian were offered, and all the finer qualities received fair attention at generally late rates, medium being a shade easier, but inferior cleared with more freedom at a full range. Fair competition was accorded the 12,900 packages Ceylon brought forward, and rates on balance disclosed no material alteration.

RICE.—The market is steady, with reserve shown on the part of shippers, but with buyers equally indifferent actual trade is reduced to a minimum. Two stars, spot, quoted 18s 6d. Broken kinds more or less nominal. Rangoon beans dull. Afloat parcels quoted 9s for hand-picked. Madagascar butter beans, all white, on spot, 20s to 21s. Peas nominal.

SPICE.—Pepper, after ruling steady, assumed a very quiet tone. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 3 1/2d; ditto, October-December steamer, 3 1/2d to 3 3/4d; December-February, 3 1/2d to 3 3/4d; Aleppo, spot, 4 1/2d; Tellicherry, 4 1/2d; white Singapore, 8d; Muntok, ditto, 8 1/2d; December-February, sold, 7 1/2d to 7 3/4d. Zanzibar cloves steady, quiet. Fair, on spot, sold, 1s 8d; October-December steamer, 1s 6d to 1s 5 1/2d; pimento, spot buyers, 2 1/2d. Tapioca dull. Fair flake, spot, sold, 14d per lb; ditto, October-December steamer, London, 14s; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 19s; October-December, 17s 6d; smallsago, spot, 27s 6d; sago flour, October-December, sold, 13s 3d; desiccated coconut, spot, sold, 42s to 43s 6d. Ginger steady. New Jamaica firm. Fine bold, plump, sold, 177s 6d.

FRUIT.—With sustained inquiries for currants a fair business resulted, at full rates. New Pyrgos, sold, 49s; Patras, quoted, 54s to 62s; Gulph, 55s to 65s; Vostizza, 70s to 84s. Sultanias met a steady market. Smyrna, medium to good, 117s to 125s; fine to choice, 130s to 145s. Layer figs, quoted, 115s to 138s; lacouns, 150s to 175s. In auction 333 tons Valencia raisins offered attracted good support, and medium to good cleared at 3s to 4s per cwt advance. Really choice lots very scarce, and these marked a rise of 7s to 10s. Common very slow of sale. Half-boxes, sold, 118s to 124s; quarters, 138s to 148s; and extra fine, up to 172s. Seedless, 107s to 125s. Dates held firmly, and Siam, on spot, sold, 18s. Almonds meet a firm market.

JUTE.—Market steadier inclined, and more interest was shown this week by Dundee and continental spinners. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £30 10s; ditto old crop, substitutes, October-November, £27, to Hamburg; lightning substitutes, old, ditto, £23 10s; new crop first grade, October-November, £29; and new grade of lightnings, ditto, £25. New Heart grade, October-November, quoted £18 15s; and old ditto, £17 10s. 10-ounce Calcutta hessians, spot, 27s; 8-ounce, 22s; B twills, spot, 68s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila remained in a quiet state, and prices in some cases proved weaker. D grade, October-December, held for £53; E, £49; G, ditto, sold, £39 10s; J, sellers, £38; K, £36 10s; L, £35 10s; M, £31 10s. Streaky one, £45; two, £43; three, £39. New Zealand quite idle at the moment. High point, fair spot, £42; fair, £38; and October-December, £37 and £35 respectively. Italian nominal.

COPRA was dealt in quietly, and rates moved against sellers. F.M.S. Straits, October-December, Rotterdam, sold, £28 5s to £27 10s. F.M.S. Straits, October-December, Marseilles, £27 10s

National Provident Institution.

Three good points

in favour of a Life Assurance policy.

1. It will show you a good return for your money.
2. It will give you no anxiety as to depreciation.
3. It will enable you to save Income Tax.

Full detailed particulars will be sent post free on application to—

48, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.

Telephone: 1773 Avenue.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO., 25, PATERNOSTER ROW.

The Subscription List will be closed on or before the 10th day of November, 1921, for Town, and the following day at Noon for the Country.

The permission of the Committee of the Stock Exchange to deal in the Debenture Stock now offered for Sale will be applied for, and application for an official quotation be made.

THOMAS DE LA RUE AND COMPANY, LIMITED

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1893.)

SHARE CAPITAL, £2,000,000

In 2,000,000 Ordinary Shares of £1 each, of which 640,000 Shares are issued and fully paid.

AUTHORISED LOAN CAPITAL

£260,000 . . . 4½ per cent. First Mortgage Debenture Stock.
£1,200,000 . . . 8 per cent. Convertible Mortgage Debenture Stock.

OFFER FOR SALE

OF

£800,000 8 per cent. Convertible Mortgage Debenture Stock at 98 per cent

Repayable on the 31st December, 1926, at 105 per cent. or earlier by means of a Cumulative Sinking Fund commencing in 1922. The Sinking Fund will be applied in the purchase of Stock in the open market at or below 105 per cent. up to and including the year 1927, when the conversion rights mentioned below shall have ceased, and thereafter will be applied in the purchase of Stock in the open market or by drawings at 105 per cent.

The Stock, which will form part of an authorised Issue of £1,200,000, will be secured by a Trust Deed constituting a Mortgage on the Freehold and Leasehold Lands and Buildings and other immovable property of the Company, and a floating charge on its remaining assets subject only to a fixed and floating charge to secure the sum of £260,000 First Debenture Stock of which £16,250 is at present outstanding.

The repayment of Capital and the payment of Interest and Sinking Fund will be jointly and severally guaranteed by Charles Goodall & Sons, Ltd., and J. A. Weir, Ltd., each of which Companies will respectively charge their freehold and leasehold lands, buildings, and other immovable assets by way of specific charge and their remaining assets by way of floating charge to secure such guarantee.

Power is reserved for the Company to purchase the Stock in open market and to repay at 105 per cent. the whole or part to be selected by drawings by giving six months' notice in writing on any interest date after December, 1927. The Stock will carry with it the right to convert into Ordinary Shares of the Company on the following basis:—

Up to and including 31st December, 1925, . . . £112 10s. Stock for 100 Shares at £1 each.
From 31st December, 1925, to 31st December, 1927, . . . £125 Stock for 100 Shares of £1 each.

The Trust Deed provides that the balance of £400,000 Debenture Stock which is not entitled to the above Sinking Fund can only be issued for securing loans to or liabilities of the Company, whether absolute or contingent. Part of these will be used in place of certain charges in favour of the Company's Bankers and others referred to in the Accountant's Certificate.

THE BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORPORATION, LIMITED,
B.F.C. House, Gresham Street, London, E.C.2,

will receive applications for the purchase from them of the above £800,000 Debenture Stock through their Bankers.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED,
Threadneedle Street, E.C.2, and Branches,

at the price of 98 per cent., payable as follows:—10 per cent. on Application; 40 per cent. on Acceptance; 48 per cent. on 15th December, 1921.

Interest will be payable half-yearly, 1st January and 1st July. £1 5s. (less income tax) per £100 Debenture Stock will be paid on the 1st January, 1922, in respect of interest to that date.

Yield £8:3:3 per cent., without profit on redemption.

The following is taken from a letter from Mr. A. G. Gronow, Managing Director of Thomas De La Rue & Co., Ltd., addressed to the British, Foreign & Colonial Corporation, Ltd., dated 22nd October, 1921.

The object of the issue is to provide the purchase price for acquiring the whole of the Share Capital in the old-established business of Charles Goodall & Sons, Limited, playing card manufacturers and stationers, and all the Ordinary Shares of J. A. Weir, Limited, the proprietors of the well-known paper mills at Kilbagie, Scotland.

The House of DE LA RUE was established over a hundred years ago, and from the first was engaged mainly in the engraving and printing of Bank Notes, Postage and Revenue Stamps, and from 1853 onwards has executed practically all of this work for the Indian Government and from time to time for the whole of the British Empire. To-day the Company also manufactures playing cards, coloured labels, advertising material, railway tickets, etc., and it owns and manufactures the famous "Onoto" Fountain Pen. The Company's Freehold and Leasehold works, which are amongst the most important in the United Kingdom, are situated in Bunhill Row, London, E.C., are equipped with every modern convenience and the latest types of printing machinery. The Company has Branches in Paris and New York, and selling Agencies in all important centres of the world.

CHAS. GOODALL & SONS, LIMITED, was founded in 1820 and from small beginnings its trade in the famous "Goodall Playing Cards" developed throughout the world. Its Works are modern and well equipped and there is ample room for expansion. For many years this Company has been the largest manufacturer of Playing Cards in this country.

J. A. WEIR, LIMITED, Paper Makers, was established in 1870, and owns two Paper Mills in Scotland of the most modern type, producing the highest grade of paper. The freehold sites occupy 32½ acres, with valuable water rights, and the Mills are in every way suitable for producing the bulk of the paper, cardboard, etc., required by the combined Companies.

I have made a careful study of the plant and works of Thomas De La Rue & Co. Limited, Goodall's and Weir's, and have no hesitation in saying that their equipment is in almost every case up-to-date, and that a considerable portion of the machinery is of a special type which shows a distinct advance on anything procurable on the market by competitors. By co-ordinating the manufacturing and sales organisations of these Companies, their output will be largely increased and savings of some £20,000 per annum effected in overhead and administrative charges alone.

The combined organisation will be producing practically the whole of the Playing Cards manufactured and sold in this country, as there is only a small amount of competition in the cheaper variety imported from America.

With regard to the production of paper money, for which class of work Thomas De La Rue & Co., Ltd., are particularly well equipped, I would emphasise that there is no foreign competition in tendering for British Empire contracts.

The purchase price payable by De La Rue's for the whole of the Share Capital of Chas. Goodall & Sons, Limited, and for all the Ordinary Shares in J. A. Weir Limited, is respectively £201,050 and £394,000 in cash.

As shown by the Accountants' Certificate, the surplus assets over liabilities of the combined Companies is £1,800,032, to which has to be added the proceeds of the present Issue of Debenture Stock, less the purchase price of the Shares of Goodall's and Weir's. After making these adjustments the surplus assets will amount to £1,925,902, showing the present Offer of Debenture Stock covers nearly two-and-a-half times, without placing any value on the goodwill—while is considerable in view of the age and standing of the Companies.

The average yearly profits of the combined undertakings over the last five years, as shown by the Accountants' Certificate, amounted to £196,771 13s. 1d. sufficient to cover the interest on the £800,000 Debenture Stock nearly three times, but I have no hesitation in saying that as a result of the unified control of the three businesses, and after putting into execution the various economies now contemplated, these profits ought to be doubled within the next few years.

THE NORMAL PRE-WAR RATE OF PROFIT FROM DE LA RUE'S BUSINESS, ALONE, WAS ABOUT 2100,000 PER ANNUM, THE AVERAGE FOR THE LAST 30 YEARS BEING OVER 499,000.

The Company should also derive considerable advantage from the working arrangement, based on interchange of work it has entered into with Warrilows, Limited, which has extensive works in Birmingham and carries on a business similar and in many respects complementary to De La Rue's.

Orders on hand are well above the average of previous years.

71, FLEET STREET,
LONDON, E.C.4., 20th October, 1921.
To the Directors of THE BRITISH, FOREIGN AND COLONIAL CORPORATION, LIMITED,
B.F.C. House, GRESHAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

GENTLEMEN.—In accordance with your instructions I have attended the various Works and Offices of

Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Company, Limited,
Messrs. Charles Goodall and Sons, Limited,
Messrs. J. A. Weir, Limited,

and have surveyed the various Freehold and Leasehold Land and Buildings belonging to each Company, the present fair value of which is

£237,140 0 0
I have also prepared detailed Inventories of the Plant, Machinery, Engines, Boilers, Electrical Installation, etc., the present fair value of which as a Going Concern is

£27,860 0 0
In addition to the above Messrs. Thomas De La Rue and Co., Limited, are the proprietors of Freehold Land, Buildings and Plant at Walthamstow, which on a forced sale should realise, together with certain Debentures now in process of realisation, approximately

£170,000 0 0
Making a combined total of One Million Eight Hundred and Thirty-five Thousand Pounds

£1,835,000 0 0
I am, Gentlemen, Yours faithfully,

ROBT. H. RUDDOCK, Auctioneer and Valuer.

The Full Text of the above-mentioned letter from Mr. A. G. Gronow, as well as the Chartered Accountants' Certificate, and the valuation of Mr. Robert H. Ruddock, together with full particulars of the Offer for Sale, and Forms of Application may be obtained from:—

THE BANKERS, THE ISSUING HOUSE, OR THE BROKERS:

J. & A. Sornimour, 2 & 3, Hatton Court, Threadneedle St., London, E.C.2.
John Prust & Co., 37, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.2.
Fyfe & Horton, 3, Temple Row West, Birmingham.
Crichton Bros. & Townley, The Atlantic, Brunswick Street, Liverpool.
Buchanan, Gairdner & Tennant, 10, St. Vincent Place, Glasgow.
Coppock & Bratby, Star Life Buildings, 30, Cross St., Manchester.
Wise, Speke & Co., 23, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Arthur D. Maslinwaite & Co., 1, Wellington Place, Belfast.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1921.

No. 4,081.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President
The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund	Haugesund
Bergen	Sandefjord
Christianssund S.	Skien
Drammen	Slavanger
Fredrikstad	Trondhjem

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 30th June, 1921 ... Lire 4,683,270,156

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy. Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury and of the National Institution for Foreign Exchanges.

Telegrams: "Italocredi, Cannon, London."
Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	841	Letters to the Editor—	
Leading Articles—		Reparation, Allied Debts, and Exchanges	860
The Rainbow and the Fog ..	843	Sliding Scale Interest	860
Professor Cassel's Second Memorandum	844	Land and Industry	860
Overseas Trade in October ..	845	Books and Publications—	
The Railways Act: Adjustment of Charges	847	Books Received	861
The Growth of the Foreign Trade of Europe	848	Stock Exchange News—	
Business Notes—		The Stock Markets	861
The Mark Exchange and Inflation	849	New Issues	862
The World's Debt to the United States	849	Active Securities	863
The Bank Statements	850	Company Meetings	864
Another Supplementary Estimate	850	Government Returns—	
Agricultural Conditions ..	850	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	866
American Cotton Crop	850	Currency Notes Account ..	866
Cotton Trade in China	850	Public Income & Expenditure	866
Ex-Enemy Debt Clearing Office	850	Bankers' Gazette—	
New Zealand State Finance Insurance Shares	851	Bank of England	867
General Smuts and Rand Labour	851	Clearing Returns	867
Simmer & Jack Proprietary The Salvador Loan Default ..	852	Overseas Bank Returns ..	868
Bulgarian Affairs	852	Loan and Discount Rates ..	870
Dalgety's Year	853	Overseas Bank Rates	870
United of Havana	853	Rates of Exchange	870
Grand Trunk Award	853	Bullion	871
Transvaal Output for October	853	Imports & Exports of Gold ..	871
Overseas Correspondence—		Gold and Silver Prices	871
United States	854	Company News—	
France	855	Dividend Announcements ..	863
Germany	856	Mining Output Statistics ..	872
Canada	857	Analysis of Balance-sheets ..	872
Poland	858	Reports and Notices	872
Sweden	859	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	873
Switzerland	859	Railway & Tramway Traffic ..	874
Commercial Reports—		Commercial Reports—	
Corn Trade	875	Corn Trade	875
Iron and Coal Trade	876	Wool Trade	877
Wool Trade	877	Cotton Trade	877
Cotton Trade	877	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds ..	878
Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds ..	878	Hide and Leather Trades ..	878
Hide and Leather Trades ..	878	Portland Cement	878
Portland Cement	878	Overseas Produce Markets ..	879
Overseas Produce Markets ..	879	Price Current	880
Price Current	880		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d. Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist," Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings; Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Coptall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galvani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

THE demand for short loans increased daily until Thursday, when the Bank lent a small amount. The general rate for weekly fixtures was 3½ per cent., and by Thursday the same was being paid for old day-to-day loans, while lenders of fresh money occasionally obtained over 4 per cent. for it. The cause was the public demand for new Treasury Bonds, which, as anticipated, has proved more than temporary. Though the supply of commercial paper was no greater, the discount rate rose as money

became short, and on Thursday morning Treasury bills changed hands at 4 per cent., though afterwards the tendency was weaker.

	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3	3	3	3	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount, Call	3	3	3	3	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	3½	4	3½	3½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed a sensible improvement. There was a slight addition to the gold stock, and the circulation was reduced by £730,200, so that the reserve was £740,800 higher. Government securities were reduced by £19,642,000 and Other by £79,100, making deposits £18,996,300 lower. Other being reduced by £20,638,700, while Public expanded by £1,642,400. The Proportion has risen from 15½ to 18½ per cent. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £463,000 to £314,118,000, which includes £1,813,600 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £264,354,400, or £53,200,800 below the maximum.

At the meeting of the Court of Directors of the Bank of England, on Thursday, it was agreed to recommend to the proprietors in April next that Mr Montagu Collet Norman, the Governor, and Mr Henry Alexander Trotter, the Deputy-Governor, be re-elected Governor and Deputy-Governor respectively for the ensuing year. The re-election of Mr Norman to the governorship for the third year in succession is a fitting recognition of the ability with which he has fulfilled his onerous duties in a very difficult period.

The Danish Bank rate was reduced ½ per cent. to 5½ per cent. on November 5, 1921. It had stood at 6 per cent. since July 5, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended November 5, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	12,333	Supply Services	10,322
Amount borrowed	6,343	Interest on Debt	9,525
Taken from Exchequer Balances ..	924	Sundries	378
	20,225		20,225

These operations increased the National Debt by the sum of £6,342,790, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 26,055	Bank of England Advances ..	- 26,500
Nations' Savings Certificates ..	+ 300	Depreciation fund	- 300
Public Department Advances ..	+ 30,000	Surrender of Bonds, &c.	- 409
Sundries	+ 122	Other Debt	- 14,491
	+ 56,457	Treasury Bills	- 7,166
			- 49,465

The principal items of revenue were Property and Income-tax £4,115,000, Customs and Excise £4,518,000, and Special Receipts under Miscellaneous £2,035,765. The receipts from National Savings Certificates exceeded the maturities by £300,000, but the sum of £650,000 in National Savings Certificates was issued for housing. The large total of £26,035,000 was received from sales of 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, and there was a net reduction of £14,491,183 in Other Debt. Advances by the Bank of England were reduced by £26,500,000, leaving £24,500,000 outstanding, but £30,000,000 was advanced by the Public Departments, making the outstanding amount £192,758,000. Treasury Bill maturities exceeded by £7,166,000, bringing down the amount outstanding to £1,116,000. The net reduction in the floating £3,665,000.

VIGN EXCHANGES.

been the centre of interest in an From a c...ure of 92½ idly to...ffer th

was a rapid reaction to 92½, the closing rate, however, being higher at 97½. Since then the movement has again been rapidly upward to 1,170 yesterday morning, after which there was some recovery to 1,100. No new features are necessary to account for this further depreciation, which is the result of well grounded fears for the future both by people in Germany and holders of marks abroad. At the same time, should this outlook be in any way modified by a change of attitude on the part of the Allies, we may expect an almost equally sudden fall, as the present quotation is not justified by the position of Germany and the amount of inflation at the moment. The temporary reaction on Wednesday appears to have been due in part to the arrival in Berlin of Sir John Bradbury and other members of the Reparation Commission, in part to the enforcement of new regulations, under which all exchange deals must be made direct with banks, who must report each transaction. The rate for futures has moved up 1 mark to 2½ marks per month. Francs, apart from a slight recovery on Wednesday in sympathy with marks, have depreciated steadily from 53.45 to 54.37½, while the Brussels rate has moved up more rapidly from 55.17½ to 56.85. It would seem already that these movements are already influencing French opinion, and making some at least realise that the fate of French currency is very closely bound up with that of the mark. The rate for futures in Paris has widened one centime to four centimes per month, while that for Brussels remains unchanged at ten centimes. The quotation for the dollar has moved within relatively narrow limits, with, on the whole, a distinctly firm tendency, the rate early yesterday morning being 3.94½ as compared with 3.93½ on the 4th. During the morning, however, it weakened to 3.93½. The rate for future dollars has narrowed again from ¾ to ½ cent per month over spot. There may be added to the general factors mentioned last week, none of which alone are powerful enough to explain the present movement, the further one that America is buying an increasing amount of Egyptian cotton for its own needs at a time when we are taking a much less than normal amount of American cotton. After showing a rapid recovery from 96.55 to not much over 93.50, the Italian rate has hardened again to 96½, and the tendency at the moment would appear to be an upward one. Switzerland from 21.15 has moved irregularly, mainly under the influence of the mark, to 20.87½, and Amsterdam has similarly moved against us from 11.40 to 11.38. In the northern group, Helsingfors, after being as low as 200, stands at 207½, a considerable improvement on the 232 quoted last week. Stockholm has moved up from 17.03 to 17.14, and Copenhagen is some 35 points higher at 21.35. Christiania, on the other hand, has continued to fall, and now stands at 27.95, as compared with 28.90, a more rapid recovery than might have been expected. In Central Europe the London (Auslands-) krone rate on Vienna, after moving up from 11,000 to as high as 14,000 on the 9th, is now a little steadier at 12,000, but there would seem no reason why the present débâcle should not continue. On the 7th, the last day for which rates are available, the Vienna (Inlandskrone) quotation was 23,250, as compared with a London rate on the same day of 11,500. Warsaw, which improved somewhat during the week on reports of a loan obtained in France, is again at 13,000. Budapest has depreciated rapidly, and is now well above 4,000. Prague, on the other hand, at 365, shows a considerable recovery from the 420 quoted a week ago, presumably on rumours of an external loan. Belgrade also, which rose to 375 during the week, is back again at 300, and here, too, reports of an external loan shortly to be concluded have played their part. The most remarkable movements have been in the case of Roumania, which from 840 on the 4th, and 850 on the 7th, dropped on the next day to 625, and after that to 450. Since then there has been a rapid upward movement again to over 600. Bulgaria has been moderately steady, but nevertheless has moved upwards to 650. Athens at 95 is just a little better than before, and prospects of peace in Asia Minor seem slightly brighter. Constantinople at 725 has been fairly firm. In the East the rupee has moved against us, from 15 4¼d to 15 4½d, after falling to 15 4¼d. Yokohama has been steady at 25 5½d. The

silver market has been very quiet, with no Indian business, and very little demand from China, and the price is ¾d lower than before. Shanghai is 1d down, Singapore ¾d. In South America, Buenos Ayres has moved against us nearly ½d, and Monte Video is also ½d higher. Rio is down from 8½ to 7 21-32, Valparaiso up to 37.10 from 35.10.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 to NOVEMBER 5, 1921.

Total spent	£ 603,079,501	Raised by revenue ..	£ 540,678,043
Inc. in balances	420,383	Net borrowings	62,821,841
Total	603,499,884	Total	603,499,884

ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* £ 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Nov. 5, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	30	349	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	..	409	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	350	357	358	358
3½% Conversion L.N.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	119
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,121	1,117
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	273
Nat'l Savings Certs. ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	285
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	943	1,261	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,099
Other Debt	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	..	..	204	455	243	205	306	154
Temporary Advances ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	216
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574
Total Liabilities	57	57	49	46	46	47	47	50
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Nov. 6, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Nov. 5, '21.	Movements week ended Nov. 5, '21.
Outstanding	£ 51,250,000	£ 24,500,000	£ 26,500,000	- 26,500,000
Advances by Bank of England ..	187,561,000	154,489,000	192,758,000	+ 30,000,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,088,884,000	1,120,841,000	1,116,812,000	- 7,650,000
Total Floating Debt	1,333,498,000	1,275,330,000	1,334,070,000	- 3,665,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

NOVEMBER 5TH.—German and Austrian rates of exchange reach new high level. Reparation Commission decide to visit Berlin.

NOVEMBER 7TH.—Government refuses freedom from competition for Lord Ashfield's scheme of Underground development. Lord Peel appointed Minister of Transport.

NOVEMBER 8TH.—Cabinet Council on Irish problem. Sir Charles Addis' address on monetary problems as president of the Institute of Bankers.

NOVEMBER 9TH.—Prime Minister at Guildhall. Sir Robert Horne's statement in the House on the Budget outlook.

NOVEMBER 10TH.—Parliament prorogued. Ulster Cabinet arrives. Prime Minister sends statement of proposals for Irish peace to Sir James Craig. Mr McKenna says opinion in United States is against cancellation of Allied debts. London County Council Tramways Committee propose return to 1d fares for present 1½d. Mining Association urge railway companies to reduce coal traffic rates.

NOVEMBER 11TH.—Armistice Day. Ulster's decision conveyed to Premier.

Following on last week's reduction in Bank rate to 5 per cent., the stock markets show more or less general

improvement. Funding, Victory, and Conversion stocks have improved, while Home Rails and Argentine rails picked up a little. The improvement spread to the rubber and oil share markets.

Limited business and curtailment of production are reported from the Lancashire cotton trade. In the woollen industry spinners record a fair business. The demand for tops is a little easier, but there is a slight improvement in the piece goods trade. British prices for iron and crude steel are now on terms with foreign, but business is clogged by the heavy importations from the Continent in recent months. Enquiries for steel are larger, but actual business is very slow. Conditions, however, give hopes of some revival before long. Glasgow reports are decidedly more cheerful. Home demand for coal is slack, but export business a little better. In the hide market prices have dropped further, and the demand for sole leather has fallen flat. The week has been quiet in the markets for vegetable oil and oil-seeds.

Details of news and movements in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE RAINBOW AND THE FOG.

In spite of a number of fitful attempts, few gleams have succeeded this week in breaking through the fog that enwraps us—either the physical fog through which the Lord Mayor wended a weary way to the Law Courts on Wednesday, or the political and economic variety. At the Guildhall banquet on Wednesday night the Prime Minister boldly assumed the rôle of linkboy, but unfortunately his tinder-box could only produce a few sparks of hope—hope that the Washington Conference "will be the greatest event the world has seen for 1900 years," hope that the Irish Conference would bring peace, and hope that trade was now definitely on the mend. In these hopes we share devoutly. After the devastating effects of the great war it should, if the world were ruled on common-sense lines, be inconceivable that statesmen should fail to find some guarantee against its recurrence and against the ruinous preparation which the apprehension of its recurrence entails. Mr Lloyd George likened the Washington Conference to a "rainbow across the sky." We hope that home events will permit him to take a hand in securing that the rainbow ends in the land of happiness and sunshine. As regards Ireland, the Prime Minister was unfortunately unable to record any tangible progress. It would appear that extremists on both sides still bar the way to settlement. Sir James Craig and his Ulster Cabinet have been summoned to London, and pre-war memories are revived by the reiteration of the time-honoured Ulster policy of "no surrender." But it is comforting to remember that in the present state of public opinion the old cry of "Ulster will fight" will be met with no resounding echo that "Ulster will be right." Public opinion is not primarily interested in the discrepancies between the ambitions and prejudices of Ulster and Sinn Féin. What they look for is adjustment of the differences, and a sinking of the prejudices in the common pursuit of peace. Mr Lloyd George's third hope, respecting signs of trade revival, is perhaps rather more firmly founded than

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN: The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

AFFILIATED BANKS: BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 100 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

that this steady recovery in the value figures has taken place over a period when commodity prices have been falling rapidly. In October, imports at £84.7 millions were £2.4 millions less than in September, and for the month just past the visible import excess on the merchandise figures was down as low as £12.1 millions—a figure that would not have been anything out of the way in a normal pre-war month. Another welcome feature of the October figures is a recovery in the *entrepot* trade, the value of which was £1.8 millions better than in September. The value figures of imports and exports for October and the first 10 months of this year and last are compared below:—

MONTH of OCTOBER.				
	1920.	1921.	Decrease in October, 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	149,631,058	84,741,852	64,889,206	43.4
British exports	112,295,474	62,265,379	50,030,095	44.5
Re-exports	16,133,560	10,385,614	5,747,946	35.3
Total exports	128,429,034	72,650,993	55,778,041	43.2
Excess of imports over total exports..	21,202,024	12,090,859	9,111,165	42.7

TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31st.				
	1920.	1921.	Decrease in 1921.	
	£	£	£	%
Imports	1,650,812,939	912,467,645	738,345,294	44.6
British exports	1,119,573,510	580,926,690	538,646,820	48.1
Re-exports	196,592,042	88,025,282	108,566,760	55.0
Total exports	1,316,165,552	668,951,972	647,213,580	49.0
Excess of imports over total exports..	334,647,387	243,515,673	91,131,714	27.3

The visible merchandise import excess of £12.1 millions in October compares with balances of £23.3 millions in September, £27.2 millions in August, £28.2 millions in July, and nearly £36 millions in June.

In these days of critical depression it is more useful to observe movements in the trade figures from month to month than to draw comparisons, even quantity comparisons, with a year ago. If certain leading British exports for October and September are compared, it is seen that the latest figures provide some encouragement with regard to important industries. Cotton yarns and manufactures were exported in October to the value of £16.5 millions, as compared with a figure of £13.3 millions for September. In September 265 million square yards of cotton piece goods were exported; in October 342 million square yards. The figures denote a welcome improvement. Take the woollen industry. October exports of woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures were about £500,000 better than those recorded in September. Last month 7 million square yards of woollen expsures and 4 million square yards of worsted tissues were reexported, against figures of 6.1 millions and 3.3 millions respectively in September. October saw an increase over steel and over of nearly £900,000 in exports of iron and sterling in manufactures thereof, and of over half a million similar in reexports of machinery. Coal exports were

The list of imports, even lower in value than in September. considerable extension, as an import, however, is capable of continuing two months for export, if the figures of the past compared, the comparison of British manufactures be under practically every one of the items, the only notable exception being electrical goods and apparatus, which, however, is an item which congenially fits its figure up within comfortable distance of the figures of a year ago. This general increase cannot be wholly attributed to the fact that October was a slightly longer working month than September. After allowing for that fact, and for

the further fact that October in past experience has usually exhibited a seasonal export improvement, it is still possible to deduce from the official statistics that export trade is steadily, if slowly, recovering, and that the recovery, though particularly conspicuous in one or two industries, is not confined to them alone.

If we extend this method of comparison to the import accounts, we find that imports of food, drink, and tobacco were £4 millions lower than in September, while imports of the raw material class were slightly higher in value. On the same method of comparison, re-exports of raw cotton and raw wool show a substantial increase, and the rubber re-export figures are better. The coin and bullion figures for October and the ten months of this year and last read as follows:—

TOTAL of GOLD and SILVER.				
	October.		Ten Months to October 31.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
Imports	5,508,028	5,329,965	44,725,872	51,710,569
Exports	24,875,405	5,747,043	91,292,623	60,923,761

The October trade returns contain figures relating to origin of imports and destination of exports in the September quarter and the first nine months. These figures, which provide data for certain important conclusions, we propose to discuss in subsequent articles.

Below will be found tables setting out the value figures for imports and British exports in October and the first ten months of 1920 and 1921.

IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).				
	Month Ended October 31.		Ten Months Ended October 31.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	27,270,108	14,503,927	197,442,230	121,542,229
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	907,786	614,165	7,424,638	5,392,733
C. Meat	11,308,102	8,881,007	117,019,959	118,517,874
D. Animals living, for food	378,861	378,861	2,504,818	2,504,818
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable	12,882,063	10,858,823	142,232,273	139,372,011
F. " " dutiable	14,802,210	7,982,411	150,982,555	80,402,351
G. Tobacco	2,339,149	1,255,798	32,517,738	19,557,149
Total, Class I	68,909,418	44,474,992	647,611,453	487,288,805
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	..	13,603	..	12,129,410
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	766,599	393,093	7,917,552	5,563,906
C. Iron ore and scrap	1,604,363	326,385	17,900,231	4,407,943
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	1,334,894	835,029	14,572,594	7,135,439
E. Wood and timber	8,795,591	3,158,944	70,802,970	23,680,922
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	9,184,146	5,376,963	221,469,204	48,701,939
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	6,541,182	2,641,241	83,101,446	35,892,901
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	318,569	102,122	3,674,979	660,577
I. Other textile materials	1,253,608	525,032	29,456,427	7,705,129
J. Oils, seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins and gums	6,551,718	4,166,229	70,025,547	32,038,314
K. Hides and skins, undressed	1,731,913	1,302,248	29,231,212	8,136,656
L. Paper-making materials	2,815,347	928,527	27,749,933	11,493,863
M. Rubber	2,014,710	636,589	23,746,606	9,048,453
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	1,226,191	849,298	16,679,748	6,567,022
Total, Class II	44,298,851	21,256,303	616,327,449	213,437,474
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	1,465	1,740	8,428	241,228
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	979,457	570,621	9,119,955	5,830,641
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	3,621,476	1,579,872	21,501,041	20,223,788
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	2,239,995	1,730,456	33,842,136	15,924,348
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	901,015	485,935	9,090,874	5,803,412
F. Electrical goods and apparatus	235,316	105,024	1,300,666	1,674,231
G. Machinery	1,953,214	510,423	16,625,083	9,615,226
H. Manufactures of wood and timber	917,086	291,283	6,935,682	4,313,263
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures	844,196	590,359	8,545,007	4,735,803
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	1,031,009	388,833	15,700,284	6,620,554
K. Silk and silk manufactures	2,884,859	1,529,989	32,377,691	16,030,404
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	1,323,186	723,377	20,903,201	6,683,387
M. Apparel	1,031,540	934,017	13,594,926	7,635,184
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours	2,651,830	864,863	26,585,134	10,849,593
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured	6,626,729	3,914,180	60,802,113	50,269,673
P. Leather and manufactures thereof	1,011,655	800,842	18,324,344	6,228,486
Q. Paper and cardboard	2,380,305	977,418	26,395,383	16,030,612
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	2,069,345	452,822	24,175,055	6,085,109
S. Rubber manufactures	647,489	467,043	6,056,225	3,974,669
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	2,903,397	1,812,599	29,734,115	16,424,037
Total, Class III	36,266,604	18,690,502	384,315,342	208,811,654
IV.—Animals, not for food	21,024	79,594	371,412	341,614
V.—Parcel post, non-dutiable articles	135,161	240,463	2,187,283	2,558,098
Total	149,631,058	84,741,852	1,650,812,939	912,467,645

EXPORTS of PRODUCE and MANUFACTURES of the UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month Ended October 31.		Ten Months Ended October 31.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	172,915	570,035	2,391,963	3,242,849
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	125,278	191,022	872,999	1,190,575
C. Meat	75,516	112,513	707,318	683,031
D. Animals living, for food	4,271	3,545	10,379	38,909
E. and F. Other food and drink	3,564,234	2,179,163	30,510,002	21,372,056
G. Tobacco	737,391	406,608	7,835,598	4,157,930
Total, Class I	4,677,605	3,465,946	42,328,259	30,685,350
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	6,108,497	4,851,452	84,600,973	32,707,611
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	135,868	120,644	1,931,234	896,973
C. Iron ore and scrap	34,852	31,353	591,729	161,511
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	294,858	193,874	1,901,751	701,042
E. Wood and timber	47,679	19,226	875,295	313,353
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	160,522	151,061	2,873,110	517,854
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags	526,434	466,173	8,108,234	3,722,922
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils	2,647	3,364	88,856	21,284
I. Other textile materials	31,110	62,256	586,872	512,352
J. Oils, seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums	1,068,328	1,053,726	10,746,699	5,115,153
K. Hides and skins, undressed	239,645	106,544	3,769,752	1,084,020
L. Paper-making materials	237,299	98,570	2,234,395	583,221
M. Rubber	32,743	10,029	450,216	100,673
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured	743,773	190,381	5,209,015	2,628,253
Total, Class II	9,632,216	7,358,623	123,979,131	49,097,122
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel	1,493,708	376,697	17,878,543	2,713,561
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	1,799,143	1,124,887	14,797,513	10,089,699
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	12,544,199	4,972,762	108,038,925	52,856,010
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof	2,304,875	770,858	22,299,662	9,619,821
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments	1,278,454	626,144	10,881,025	7,865,358
F. Electrical goods and apparatus	1,058,773	894,196	9,046,006	11,523,769
G. Machinery	6,251,326	5,747,650	48,496,715	63,349,379
H. Manufactures of wood and timber	309,032	188,243	2,285,703	1,531,709
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures	32,306,455	16,523,873	341,642,617	145,544,445
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures	10,044,689	4,123,225	115,689,298	47,074,157
K. Silk and silk manufactures	379,245	208,239	4,522,534	1,959,071
L. Manufactures of other textile materials	3,436,821	1,534,853	38,874,520	15,134,133
M. Apparel	4,350,042	1,498,367	40,998,406	15,608,974
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours	3,520,536	1,502,967	34,111,682	16,152,061
O. Oils, fats, & resins, manufactured	941,486	536,254	12,227,880	4,273,445
P. Leather and manufactures thereof	1,404,441	488,706	10,316,843	3,836,623
Q. Paper and cardboard	1,471,954	542,807	9,616,208	6,667,251
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft)	5,822,436	5,978,012	45,936,863	47,490,488
S. Rubber manufactures	970,262	404,649	9,846,009	3,918,501
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured	4,677,194	2,284,296	40,682,814	22,956,416
Total, Class III	95,701,071	50,327,685	938,219,770	490,206,866
IV.—Animals, not for food	659,652	362,737	3,891,802	3,070,059
V.—Parcel Post	1,624,930	750,388	11,151,548	7,897,294
Total	112,295,474	62,265,379	1,119,573,510	580,926,690

THE RAILWAYS ACT: ADJUSTMENT OF CHARGES.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

ALTHOUGH the importance of the new Rates Tribunal must not be under-rated, it will be missing the purpose of the whole of the third part of the Act if too great an emphasis is placed upon it. To claim more for it than what it is purported to be will inevitably lead to disappointment. It is nothing more than a Governmental machinery constituted to see that a certain goal is kept in view. This goal is to maintain an equilibrium between receipts and expenditure of the new groups of railways. This is to be the guiding star of their policy in fixing the charges. A word must be said about the economic basis of this principle.

In setting up this principle the Government have not (as has been suggested) thrown a "sop" to the shareholders in order to win over their support to the Bill, but have the interests of the traders foremost in their minds. Only incidentally, an act of justice is done towards the shareholders. Yet curiously enough the greatest opposition was met not from the companies, but from the traders. Their criticism was based on the ground that this mechanism will lead to the establishment of rates beyond what the trade will be able to bear. In this they have been supported by some of the railway magnates, who are only anxious to let no opportunity pass without discrediting the Act. They point to instances where companies have been working at a loss, conveniently ignoring the fact that they have been re-

stricted from increasing their charges by the Governmental regulation.

It is not denied that competition in the railway field may reduce the earnings below the average return yielded in other competitive enterprises. But no one can seriously claim that this state of affairs will be anything but short-lived. It must not be ignored that railway industry cannot survive long unless a fair return is yielded to the railway capital. A struggling line may keep up for a time in the hope of being absorbed by a richer line. But if there be no hope for the railways to earn this dividend there will be a ruin of the railway industry and a consequent disaster to the whole country. The transport crisis in Russia brings home to us the consequence of such a breakdown. Fresh capital is required every time for rolling stock and the replacement of engines, &c., even if we set aside for a moment its needs for extension of railway facilities. It must be found, or else the industry must come to a standstill.

This is a prospect which no trader can afford to view with equanimity. Its appalling consequences are hardly realised by those who have been indulging in glib talk against the principle of balance of receipts and expenditure. In these remarks we are supported by Sir William Acworth. In an article in the *Times* Railway Supplement, he made the following pointed statement:—"Railways are few and far between. Even in countries well supplied with railways the proportion of the area which is served by two is very small. And consequently railways are seldom abandoned, however unprofitable they may be as commercial enterprises. In some shape or form the public is forced to come to their assistance, as has happened more than once, for instance, in French railway history."

The problem, therefore, resolves itself not into whether the railway capital should have sufficient remuneration or not, but into whether the companies should pay their way or rely on Government assistance to enable them to maintain low charges. In this connection it will be useful to see what the Government is doing in France. It may be stated at once that in France they have now definitely set their mind against throwing any charges on the general budget on account of the railways. The Commission of Public Finances, which examined the bill, discussed this problem at great length in their usual logical and graphic fashion. In a nutshell, their argument amounts to this, that besides the State, the consumer, and the companies there is also the taxpayer, whose interests have to be reconciled. "There may exist in the obscure villages of Brittany a small taxpayer who may have never used a railway." He will be called upon to pay his contribution towards making up the deficiency of the railways if the policy of low tariffs be maintained. But besides this abstract and theoretical reasoning in support of the theory of justice to the taxpayer, the actual exigencies of the moment do not permit of any aid by the Government. This policy will be particularly embarrassing when it is found increasingly difficult to balance the general budget of the country. The problem thus stated is not peculiar to France, and applies with equal force to this country.

There is, therefore, only one solution left, and that is that the companies must pay their way. The enforcement of this principle merely supplies what the public expect to achieve by forces of competition in other fields of business. It proposes to fix a limit below which even cut-throat competition cannot lead for any prolonged period of time. To expect that the railway managers will, if unregulated, charge less than this, is to make a grievous error. Railway managers may, indeed, pose as philanthropists, and induce the trader for some time to believe that they will continue to handle the goods even if they did not yield any income. But it is doubtful whether, if left uncontrolled, they will not hastily renege themselves by an increase of charges. No sensible, Kaffi believes that they will so raise the rates as will bring the traffic to such an extent as will result in a net revenue. On the other hand, the Unions, who are known better than the traders the extent to which the trade can bear a rise in rates. Exaggerated under consideration of the part which the rate regulations in such up of the cost of an article. It is made of native part, considering the average for the trouble that certain super

country. Undue reliance has been placed upon the ability of the trader to withdraw from the business as soon as rates become high. In this connection the opinion of Commissioner Staples, of the Minnetose Commission, is worthy of note: "But there is hardly a shipper who is in a position to do so (withdraw) even if fully aware of the fact that his rates are unreasonable.....This is specially true in undertakings requiring large fixed investments and equipment which cannot be used for any other purpose."

It has been found necessary to dilate upon this argument at some length, in view of the remarks of Sir William Acworth in the article above referred to: "But railway rates and fares can be avoided by the simple method of not travelling or not consigning traffic." This very general statement is likely to mislead people about the ease with which people can refuse to avail themselves of railway service. It may be well to recall that the traffic receipts on the railways have increased, in spite of the rise in fares and rates. A component part of this system is the periodical revision of charges, in order to keep to the limit intended to be set by this mechanism. This limit will, naturally, be a shifting one, varying with the costs of working on the railways. As soon as they go down the public will benefit by a lowering of the rates. They have already shown a downward tendency, and the public may well expect a lowering of the charges. No gift of prophecy is required to say that they must come down. The public will have soon a proof of the efficacy of this system. The existing rates have been fixed at a time when wages and materials were at their topmost point. With the fall in the index numbers, the wages will go down, and in their turn will react upon the working costs of the railways. The public will benefit by this diminution of costs by the almost automatic application of the principle of revision. In this connection it is well to examine the criticism that this system of revision will operate in the direction of putting up rates when trade is bad and putting down rates when trade is good. It is not intended to minimise the importance of this criticism, but, on the other hand, lest it be over-exaggerated, it is necessary to add that each amalgamated company will find it essential, and therefore will establish its own reserve fund to check sudden variations, and that with the return of normal times revisions cannot be frequent.

We cannot resist the temptation to indicate our belief with regard to another point raised by the same eminent economist in this connection. "It is not only that traffic may fall off because in railway phrase it cannot bear the rate.....but also that no one yet knows what are the potentialities of road motor competition." That there is any immediate or reasonably remote chance of the railways being superseded by some other transport industry as a more economic tool, is out of the question. That some invention may make the running of the railways more economical is possible. In this the public will have every opportunity of sharing in the economies effected by the same principle underlying the whole machinery of rate fixation and rate revision.

There is only one inevitable conclusion from the above discussion that the traders, while contending "that to charge such rates as upon the present amount of traffic would secure necessary revenue, will destroy the traffic and prejudice both the railway companies and traders" did not sufficiently realise their own interests. They were mounting a ladder with unsafe rungs.

THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF EUROPE.

It would puzzle many people to enumerate offhand the independent governments of Europe at the present time. Isor to the Great War, they numbered 18, excluding among key, Luxemburg, and Montenegro. The value of their foreign trade per head of their populations is shown in the following table for the year 1912:—

Country	Population	Imports	Exports	Total Trade	Per Head of Population
Sweden, 1901	5,175,000	25.5	19.6	45.1	£ 8 s d
Norway, 1901	2,266,000	15.4	8.6	24.0	£ 8 s d
Spain, 1901	18,657,000	36.3	30.3	66.6	£ 8 s d
Portugal, 1901	5,100,000	16.5	9.8	26.3	£ 8 s d
Sweden, 1912	5,604,000	43.5	42.2	85.7	£ 8 s d
Norway, 1912	2,439,000	28.6	18.0	46.6	£ 8 s d
Spain, 1912	19,631,000	42.1	41.8	83.9	£ 8 s d
Portugal, 1912	5,500,000	22.7	13.6	36.3	£ 8 s d

Taken in the order of the total value of their imports and exports in 1912, the United Kingdom (£1,343,600,000) stood easily first, Germany (£1,045,100,000) a good second, and France (764,700,000) third. The Netherlands (£555,300,000) and Belgium (£507,500,000) came next, followed by Russia (£284,000,000), Austria-Hungary (£262,100,000), Italy (£257,200,000), and Switzerland (£137,200,000). The other nine countries ranged in order from Sweden (£85,700,000), Spain, Denmark, Rumania, Norway, Portugal, Bulgaria, Greece, to Serbia (£7,600,000). The growth of the trade of Russia, Austria-Hungary, and Switzerland between 1901 and 1912 is shown in the next table:—

	Population	Imports	Exports	Total Trade	Per Head of Population
		Mln. £	Mln. £	Mln. £	£ s d
Russia, 1901	135,686,000	62.6	80.4	143.0	£ 8 s d
Average, 1902-1906	144,537,000	71.1	106.4	177.5	£ 8 s d
Average, 1907-11	160,692,000	103.7	137.7	241.4	£ 8 s d
1912	1,200,000	125.7	160.3	286.0	£ 8 s d
Austria-Hungary, 1901	45,838,000	68.9	78.6	147.5	£ 8 s d
Average, 1902-1906	47,012,000	84.4	89.6	174.0	£ 8 s d
Average, 1907-11	49,000,000	114.1	98.8	212.9	£ 8 s d
1912	50,237,000	148.2	115.9	264.1	£ 8 s d
Switzerland, 1901	3,341,000	44.7	34.5	79.2	£ 8 s d
Average, 1902-1906	3,472,000	54.2	39.0	93.2	£ 8 s d
Average, 1907-11	3,695,000	68.4	47.2	115.6	£ 8 s d
1912	3,825,000	81.6	55.6	137.2	£ 8 s d

The population of Russia increased at the rate of 23.8 per cent. between 1901 and 1912. Its imports rose by 97.6, and its exports by 99.4 per cent., and its total trade by 98.6 per cent. Although the value of the total trade per head of the population remained very low, it must be remembered that the great mass of the population was composed of peasants, who cultivated their holdings in a very backward condition. The imperative need of Russia is the development of transport facilities, and of trained direction and control of its enormous resources. The population of Austria-Hungary rose at the rate of 9.6 per cent., and the values of its imports and exports by 115.1 and 44.9 per cent. respectively. The value of its total foreign trade rose by 77.7 per cent. The population of Switzerland rose by 14.5 per cent., the values of its imports and of its exports rose by 82.5 and 61.1 per cent. respectively, and the value of its total trade increased at the rate of 73.2 per cent. The value of the exports from Russia are seen to have exceeded the value of the imports throughout the period. For the first six years of the century the value of the exports from Austria-Hungary exceeded that of her imports. In the next six years the value of her imports exceeded that of her exports. In the case of Switzerland the value of the imports has been higher than that of the exports throughout.

TABLE SHOWING THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF SWEDEN, NORWAY, SPAIN, and PORTUGAL from 1901 to 1912.

	Population	Imports	Exports	Total Trade	Per Head of Population
		Mln. £	Mln. £	Mln. £	£ s d
Sweden, 1901	5,175,000	25.5	19.6	45.1	£ 8 s d
Norway, 1901	2,266,000	15.4	8.6	24.0	£ 8 s d
Spain, 1901	18,657,000	36.3	30.3	66.6	£ 8 s d
Portugal, 1901	5,100,000	16.5	9.8	26.3	£ 8 s d
Sweden, 1912	5,604,000	43.5	42.2	85.7	£ 8 s d
Norway, 1912	2,439,000	28.6	18.0	46.6	£ 8 s d
Spain, 1912	19,631,000	42.1	41.8	83.9	£ 8 s d
Portugal, 1912	5,500,000	22.7	13.6	36.3	£ 8 s d

The population of Sweden between 1901 and 1912 rose by 8.3 per cent. The value of the imports rose by 70.6, and that of the exports by 115.3 per cent. The value of the total trade rose by 90 per cent. The population of Norway did not increase quite so fast, its percentage increase being 7.6, but the percentage increase of Norway's imports was higher, viz., 85.7. Norway's exports did not rise quite so rapidly as Sweden's, the percentage being 109.3, but the percentage increase (94.2) of the total trade was higher than that of Sweden.

The population of Spain rose by 5.5 per cent., the value of her imports by 16 per cent., that of her exports by

37.9 per cent., and of her total foreign trade by 26 per cent. The population of Portugal increased at the rate of 9.8 per cent. The value of her imports rose by 37.6, and that of her exports by 38.8 per cent. The value of her total trade rose by 38 per cent. Throughout the period from 1901 to 1912 the values of the imports of Sweden, Norway, Spain, and Portugal were higher than those of their exports, although the percentage increases of the exports were greater than those of their imports.

TABLE SHOWING THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF RUMANIA, BULGARIA, GREECE, and SERBIA from 1901 to 1912.

	Population	Imports	Exports	Total Trade	Per Head of Population
		Mln. £	Mln. £	Mln. £	£ s d
Rumania, 1901	6,000,000	11.7	14.2	25.9	£ s d
Bulgaria, 1901	3,750,000	2.8	3.3	6.1	£ s d
Greece, 1901	2,500,000	5.6	3.8	9.4	£ s d
Serbia, 1901	2,500,000	1.8	2.6	4.4	£ s d
Rumania, 1912	7,248,000	22.8	27.7	50.5	£ s d
Bulgaria, 1912	4,400,000	8.0	7.4	15.4	£ s d
Greece, 1912	2,700,000	6.2	5.8	12.0	£ s d
Serbia, 1912	3,000,000	4.2	3.4	7.6	£ s d

* Values for 1911. The values per head of population were, therefore, slightly higher than shown in the table.

The population of Rumania increased by 20.8 per cent., but the values of the imports and exports nearly doubled, being 94.9 and 95.1 per cent. respectively higher in 1911 than in 1901. The population of Bulgaria was 17.3 per cent. higher, but the value of her imports was nearly treble in 1911 that of her imports in 1901, having risen by 185.7 per cent. The value of her exports in the 11 years rose by 124.2 per cent., and that of her total trade by 152.4 per cent. The population of Greece rose by 8 per cent., that of her imports by 10.7, and of her exports by 52.6 per cent. The value of her total trade was 27.7 per cent. higher. Serbia increased her population by 20 per cent. The value of her imports rose by 133.3 per cent., and that of her exports by 30.8 per cent. The value of her total trade was 72.7 per cent. higher. The values of the exports of Rumania were higher than those of her imports both in 1901 and in 1911. The values of the exports of Bulgaria and of Serbia were higher in 1901 but lower in 1911 than those of their imports. The values of the imports by Greece were higher than those of her exports in both years.

Business Notes.

The Mark Exchange and Inflation.—Although, of course, the increase in note issue in Germany has much to do with the depreciation of the mark, it may be well to recall that the reaction of note issue on exchange rates is not by any means an immediate one, and that in the recent exceptional movement the part played by inflation has been relatively small. The movement in note circulation (Reichsbank notes and Loan Bureau notes) and in exchange during the last two years has been as follows:—

	1920.				1921.			
	Bank Notes	Loan Notes	Total Notes	Ex. change, Berlin-London	Bank Notes	Loan Notes	Total Notes	Ex. change, Berlin-London
End—	Mil. M.	Mil. M.	Mil. M.	M. to £.	Mil. M.	Mil. M.	Mil. M.	M. to £.
January	37,443	12,938	50,381	282	66,621	11,461	78,082	242
February	41,034	12,721	53,755	338	67,427	10,340	77,767	213
March	45,70	13,732	59,432	279	69,417	10,755	80,172	246
April	47,940	13,776	61,716	220	70,840	9,043	79,883	263
May	50,017	13,567	63,584	215	71,839	9,043	80,882	243
June	53,975	13,205	67,180	152	75,321	8,766	84,087	282
July	55,769	13,048	68,817	187	77,391	8,358	85,749	292
August	58,401	13,226	71,627	175	80,073	7,837	87,910	320
September	61,735	13,468	75,203	218	86,384	7,610	93,994	437
October	63,596	13,144	76,740	261	91,528	7,516	99,044	708
November	64,284	12,491	76,775	257	..	..	..	..
December	68,805	12,153	80,958	257	..	..	..	..

It is clear that the present movement has been due far more to fears of the future than to any actual inflation that has already taken place. Indeed, if the level of prices in Germany corresponded to the present rate of exchange there would be a serious lack of circulating medium in the country. Looked at from another angle, it might be

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758,
Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.
Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake
FOREIGN BANKING
transactions of every description.
Correspondents in all parts of the world.
COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

said that, judged on the present note circulation, and if the fear of future inflation could be disregarded, the exchange should be somewhere round 500 at the outside.

The World's Debt to the United States.—The Guaranty Trust Company of New York has compiled the following table showing the indebtedness of other Governments to the Government of the United States:—

	JUNE, 1921. Credits Granted Under Liberty Loan Acts.	Total Obligations.
Armenia	..	11,960,000
Austria	..	24,056,000
Belgium	347,692,000	375,280,000
Cuba	9,025,000	9,026,000
Czechoslovakia	61,256,000	91,180,000
Estonia	..	13,999,000
Finland	..	8,282,000
France	2,950,763,000	3,350,763,000
Great Britain	4,166,318,000	4,166,318,000
Greece	15,000,000	15,000,000
Hungary	..	1,686,000
Italy	1,648,034,000	1,648,034,000
Latvia	..	5,132,000
Lithuania	26,000	26,000
Poland	..	4,982,000
Rumania	23,206,000	135,662,000
Russia	187,790,000	36,128,000
Serbia	26,175,000	192,601,000
Totals	9,435,225,000	10,141,268,000

To this total should be added approximately \$1,000,000,000 of interest accrued and unpaid. It is pointed out that "after two centuries of foreign investment the British acquired a balance due them in 1914 from all parts of the world of about £4,000,000,000, or nearly \$20,000,000,000 at par of exchange. On these investments Great Britain realised, partly through transfer of ownership, about £1,000,000,000 during the war, which was used mainly in paying for American products. Though Great Britain required many years to reach her pre-war credit position through private investment abroad, the United States in the last six years has built up foreign credits of all sorts in excess of \$15,000,000,000. Of this amount, approximately \$3,000,000,000 is in the hands of private investors in the form of various classes of foreign securities, while more than \$10,000,000,000 is owed to our Government by other Governments." In approximate figures, at the parities of exchange, the principal inter-Government debts are estimated as follows:—Germany's reparation liabilities are about \$32,000,000,000; France owes \$2,700,000,000 on principal account to Great Britain and \$3,350,000,000 to the United States, making a total of about \$6,050,000,000; Italy owes to Great Britain \$2,312,000,000 and to the United States \$1,648,000,000, making a total of about \$3,960,000,000; while Great Britain owes the United States more than \$4,000,000,000. "Investments by Americans this year in all classes of foreign securities," it is stated, "should be approximately \$500,000,000, a part of which is for refunding purposes. This is equal to the amount of a year's unpaid interest on debts owed to our Government. This American investment abroad is essentially a new item of the greatest importance in our foreign trade balance; how important can be seen from the fact that it will offset one-fourth of the merchandise balance for the year, if that should amount to

visory work should be left to native bosses. On the ground that such a provision would intensify unemployment and increase accidents, Mr Hendriks, the miners' secretary, emphatically protested, and threatened that the miners would strike within 48 hours of the gazettement of the amendment. On the other hand, General Smuts disclaimed any intention to interfere with the colour bar, and dilated upon the dangerous degree to which the mining industry of the Transvaal was dependent upon the fortuitous accident of the gold premium. He pointed out that in the event of gold falling to £5 per ounce five mines (on the basis of actual working costs) would operate at a loss; a decline to £4 15s would rule out five others; at £4 10s a further six properties would be unpayable, and at the normal price of £4 5s per ounce six more. Thus out of the 39 mines operating to-day 24 would have to close down should the gold premium entirely disappear—as it might do in the event of the cancellation of Great Britain's war debt to the States. Even with gold around £5 5s per ounce a number of mines are on the borderland. The shutting down of the most important of this group—the East Rand Proprietary—would not only entail a great reduction in the expenditure upon labour and materials, but would involve the whole district in serious difficulties arising from the excessive accumulation of water. With regard to the amendment of the regulations, it is useless to beg the question that a partial removal of the colour bar is entailed. The hard fact which the miners have to face is, however, this. Costs require to be brought down somehow on the labour side. Either the whites employed must accept lower wages, or they must agree to the performance by natives of certain partially-skilled operations, thus enabling the number of whites at any particular mine to be reduced. Whether the latter procedure would result in any real increase of unemployment is doubtful; indeed, it might operate in the contrary direction. Crushing at several mines has been suspended prematurely owing to the fact that the high level of expenses did not permit the complete exhaustion of the properties. Various areas in both the Eastern and Western districts of the Rand are awaiting better economic conditions for exploitation. It is to the best interests of all directly or indirectly concerned with the gold industry, that costs should be on a basis which would permit the treatment of the enormous quantities of comparatively low grade ore actually available. As for a strike—this threat now has few terrors for the leaders of the industry. Indeed, such an event would probably be taken advantage of to reduce the number of supervising officials to something approaching an economic basis.

Simmer and Jack Proprietary.—A striking instance in point confirmatory of the foregoing observations is supplied by the report just to hand of that old Central Rand undertaking, the Simmer and Jack. For the year ended June 30th the working revenue totalled £890,800, including £211,800 premium on gold. The working profit came out at £119,300. Hence, but for the excess above the normal price of the product, last year's operations would have resulted in a loss of £92,500. At the figure above named, the earnings scored a small improvement upon those of the preceding period, a fresh decline in the average yield being rather more than compensated for by the crushing of an appreciably increased tonnage at the somewhat lower cost ratio of 22s. At the meeting the chairman made a special point of the latter feature as indicating a turn in the tide; from 1916, when expenses were 14s 9d per ton, they had been steadily on the up grade until 1920. By a reduction to something approaching the former standard, the life of the mine might, he remarked, be extended to six or seven years, as it would bring into the payable category ore which cannot be so classed under present conditions. In the alternative, the company will apparently have to discontinue milling at no very distant date, as only reef-bearing claims are now intact. The tonnage of ore is steadily being worked out. The reserves show

the tonnage represents no more than about a year and a half's supply. Reverting to the finances, the payment of the 2½ per cent. dividend—as before—left the substantially increased surplus of £150,000 to be carried forward. The balance-sheet shows net cash assets to the amount of some £80,000.

The Salvador Loan Default.—A meeting of the holders of Salvador Government bonds on Thursday received full information of the negotiations between the trustees of the loans and the Salvador Government since the default of February last. The original debt of the Republic was compounded in 1860, and two later loans were replaced by the 5 per cent. debentures of the Salvador Railway, as to which further arrangements will have to be made next year. The external loans now in question are the 6 per cent. loan of 1908 and the 7 per cent. funding loan of 1915, the latter representing the unpaid interest on the 6 per cent. loan for four and a-half years (1915-1919). The amounts outstanding are:—On the 6 per cent. loan, £756,900; on the funding loan, £201,388; and £86,270 for the unpaid interest on both loans during 1921. On April 28th last the bondholders met and authorised the trustees, if a settlement were not arrived at within two months, to seek the aid of the Council of Foreign Bondholders and the Foreign Office. The trustees accordingly pressed for a settlement, and learnt that the Salvador Government had not sufficient funds even for the full payment of officials, that it had been in treaty for a loan with certain financiers in San Francisco, but that these negotiations had been abandoned, and that, at the instance of Mr Minor C. Keith, "the King of Costa Rica," a group of New York financiers, with the sanction of the United States Government, had offered a loan of \$16,000,000, out of which a settlement is to be effected of the claims of the external bondholders, the Salvador Railway Company, and certain holders of internal loans. These latter loans, including interest in arrear, amounted at the end of 1919 to \$3,819,119 in silver; but the Internal Debt at that date had been increased by other items to a total in silver of \$13,568,590. On the \$16,000,000 now offered, the external loans will constitute a second charge. It appears that the loan will be secured on the Customs duties, already pledged in part to the external bondholders, and the railway and other claims will take third rank; and, moreover, the United States Government will appoint officials to supervise the collection of the assigned revenues, as in Nicaragua and Santo Domingo. (The only other revenue that can be offered as security seems to be that derived from spirits.) Mr Keith is authorised by the Salvador Government to negotiate with its creditors, and a committee of two gentlemen was appointed by the meeting to co-operate with the trustees in arranging terms of settlement. It was stated that the American financiers are not prepared to lend the money unless the rights of the British bondholders are properly protected. The Council of Foreign Bondholders will co-operate, through the committee, in effecting a settlement. Naturally regret must be felt, both at the probable sacrifice of some portion of the capital of the debt of a country which has large undeveloped resources and is only temporarily embarrassed, and still more at the passing of the chief place in financing the Central American States from British to American financiers. But the United States is now the only possible source of fresh capital for Central American enterprises, and the committee may be trusted to make the best terms that it can.

Bulgarian Affairs.—The following account of international conditions in Bulgaria has been received in London from Banca Commerciale Italiana from its associated Office in Sofia. "There is a general recognition that Bulgaria's foreign policy has so far been too much on the side of the interests to the detriment of traders and manufacture, the recent abolition of the monopoly in wheat is g—

taken as a first step in the opposite direction. This measure should certainly be of very great help in restoring Bulgaria's trade balance, and wheat exporters have been quick in seizing the occasion; very large sales of flour have been made, especially to Constantinople. Sales have also been made for delivery in Russia. There has also been a marked revival in chemicals, hides, and kindred lines. The building trade is specially flourishing; over one thousand houses are being erected, and it is hoped that the housing problem will thereby shortly be solved." The Government's action "in exempting new buildings from taxation and from Government control, also in threatening confiscation of such ground in the centre of Sofia as still remains vacant has done," we are told, "a good deal towards overcoming this difficulty." "Conditions on the Stock Exchange are, unfortunately, not quite so bright; transactions are very few and only for small amounts. The depreciation of native currency has not had the effect of stimulating dealings in stocks in Bulgaria, neither has it brought about a rise in their value. The money market has been very active, owing to the constant fluctuations of foreign currencies; the pound sterling, dollar, franc, and lira have, for the last three months, been continually on the increase. It would seem that, with the revival of trade, and for other reasons which might have been expected favourably to affect native currency, the latter should have improved considerably, but any tendency in that direction was frustrated by the constant purchase of marks, made, not for speculative purposes, but for payment of goods purchased from Germany. Owing to the fall of the mark Bulgarian traders are, of course, driven to buy once more from Germany on an ever-increasing scale, and both marks and other currencies have been bought with this view far ahead." We may add, however, that the Government has fresh financial troubles. The Reparations Commission at Sofia is stated to have advised the postponement of the first payment of reparations, in view of the heavy fall in the leva at Sofia since November 1st. This fall is attributed partly to that of the German mark, partly to the proposed new duties on exports—which are so high that they may frustrate their aim. Bulgaria has just effected a settlement with her foreign bondholders, and, unless relief is given, she may have to compound with them again.

Dalgety's Year.—The report of Dalgety and Co., Limited, for the year ended June 30th last shows a considerable reduction in profits, which is ascribed to "the persistent decline in the value of commodities of all kinds and to the financial stringency which has existed." The table below shows results since 1906:—

Year Ended June 30.	Profits.	Expenses and Taxes.	Debt-ture Interest.	Prof. Div.	Ord. Div.	Rate.	Reserve, &c.	Carried Forward.
	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
1906	371,591	148,171	114,439	..	70,000	7	40,000	55,381
1907	427,490	164,441	115,306	..	70,000	7	70,000	63,124
1908	430,746	170,328	113,230	..	70,000	7	70,000	70,311
1909	477,125	180,186	117,611	23,868	70,000	7	85,000	70,772
1910	542,534	198,362	122,364	25,000	80,000	8	110,000	77,579
1911	551,371	215,000	117,232	25,000	80,000	8	110,000	81,717
1912	546,877	216,446	112,992	25,000	80,000	8	110,000	84,155
1913	562,229	230,525	108,326	25,000	80,000	8	110,000	92,532
1914	570,510	245,434	105,593	25,000	80,000	8	100,000	197,015
1915	582,097	258,048	107,377	25,000	80,000	8	100,000	208,687
1916	643,931	322,210	107,864	25,000	100,000	10	100,000	197,544
1917	861,793	484,448	107,119	25,000	130,000	13	210,000	102,771
1918	875,369	510,304	104,065	25,000	140,000	14	85,000	113,770
1919	857,773	494,475	101,141	25,000	140,000	14	90,000	120,928
1920	957,298	566,470	98,251	25,000	150,000	15	110,000	128,506
1921	689,168	445,176	103,386	25,000	100,000	10	60,000	84,112

Expenses fell from £359,600 to £310,300. Australian taxation was £10,500 lower, and English taxation fell from £88,500 to £47,600. The ordinary dividend is at the same rate as last year, but a bonus of 5 per cent. paid for 1919-20 is now omitted. The reserve fund gets £50,000, as in the previous year, when, however, £50,000 was also written off premises. The staff benevolent fund is again credited with £10,000. The balance-sheet shows a reduction of £390,500 in creditors, but advances on land, stations, stock, &c., have increased by £398,400 to

£4,429,600. "Merchandise" is £221,700 lower, and premises £146,100 lower. The directors state that a bountiful wheat harvest in Australia and excellent returns from the dairy produce exports from Australia and New Zealand have helped materially to modify the unfavourable conditions ruling in the past financial year. The present outlook continues "highly satisfactory," and prices obtainable for wool show a substantial recovery. The directors are to be congratulated upon showing an excellent and informative balance-sheet, which reveals the fact that the company is in a fairly strong position.

United of Havana.—The report for the year ended June 30th last of the United Railways of the Havana and Regla Warehouses covers for the first time the working of the amalgamated undertakings of the United Railways of Havana, the Western Railway of Havana, and the Cuban Central Railways, the amalgamation having become effective as from July 1, 1920. Gross receipts amounted to £6,329,700 as against £5,876,100 in the previous year, and expenditure to £4,848,100 against £4,255,400, leaving a balance of £1,481,500 as compared with £1,620,700. The ratio of expenses to receipts was 76.59 per cent. as against 72.42 per cent. Profit on the working of the Regla Warehouses and other properties, gain in exchange, and other receipts brought the total balance up to £1,810,200. After payment of fixed charges and taxes a dividend of 4 per cent. is paid on the ordinary stock and shares, absorbing £262,300, leaving £239,400 to be carried forward as against £31,700 brought in. British and Cuban taxes absorb £663,000. The directors state that "it has not been possible to collect all the outstanding accounts of the company, and this together with the uncertain prospects for the current year" prompts them to adopt a conservative policy, for the net earnings under normal conditions would justify a higher dividend than 4 per cent. The general manager's report states that traffic movement was carried on under abnormal difficulties for almost the whole of the year, "but the movement of the sugar crop was handled more freely than for some years past." Higher tariffs came into force in December, and these are said to have saved the railways from a serious financial situation. "To-day, with the fall in wages and in prime materials, it is becoming necessary to reduce these tariffs, and we are now studying the best means of so doing before the movement of the next sugar crop." Prospects for the current year are said to be not too promising. Proposals have been made to limit next year's sugar crop by legislation. The general manager adds that "the future prosperity of the sugar industry of Cuba would appear to lie, not in reducing output, but in producing at a cheaper rate than any other country. The next crop will undoubtedly be produced more cheaply than has been the case for some years, and in this solution of Cuba's great problem it will be the duty as well as the interest of this railway to co-operate." Further progress was made during the year in the conversion of locomotives to fuel oil, and the report adds that but for the use of oil the total fuel bill would have been much higher than was actually the case. In 1919-20 the total fuel bill was £746,800, of which £697,700 was for coal and £49,100 for oil. Last year the total was £841,500, of which £474,100 was for coal and £367,400 for oil.

Grand Trunk Award.—An official Canadian Government publication has been issued containing the full official text of the Grand Trunk Award and the reasons for the award. The awards, and reasons therefore, of the chairman, Sir Walter Cassels, and the two arbitrators, Sir Thomas White and Mr W. H. Taft, are set out separately. The award is, of course, the subject of an appeal to the Privy Council. Those who wish, pending the Privy Council's hearing, to study the verbatim accounts of the awards and the arguments of the arbitrators are referred to this document, which is issued by the King's Printer at Ottawa.

Transvaal Output for October.—The October statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the total production of fine gold during the month amounted to

707,825 ounces, as compared with 691,096 ounces in August, and 662,472 ounces for October, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.
January	787,467	782,634	714,182	676,059	670,503	651,593
February	753,594	781,321	659,759	638,728	625,330	558,137
March	796,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,123
April	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,944	686,979	681,382
May	777,681	779,385	741,317	724,995	699,041	687,776
June	761,764	759,724	727,696	702,379	715,957	678,490
July	761,087	757,839	736,199	725,497	736,099	699,555
August	781,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	711,526
September	771,587	738,231	708,206	698,558	692,473	691,026
October	792,339	751,290	679,764	725,722	662,472	707,825
November	783,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	..
December	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	..
Totals	9,296,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	6,728,433

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months by Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association and Contractors.

	March, 1921.	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Oct., 1921.
Gold mines	174,364	172,826	170,595	168,152	166,999	169,008	171,912	175,331
Coal mines	14,306	14,908	14,510	14,704	14,688	14,446	14,244	13,936
Diamond	1,364	1,316	1,302	1,317	1,246	1,207	1,219	1,223
Total	190,034	189,050	186,407	184,173	182,933	184,661	187,375	190,490

The first ordinary meeting of the present session of the Royal Statistical Society will be held at 5.15 p.m., on Tuesday, November 15th, in the Hall of the Royal Society of Arts, John Street, Adelphi, W.C. 2, when the president, Sir R. Henry Rew, K.C.B., will deliver an address on "The Progress of Agriculture."

The annual general meeting of the members of the Industrial League and Council, of which Viscount Burnham, C.H., and the Right Hon. G. H. Roberts, M.P., are joint presidents, will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, S.W. 1, on Wednesday, November 16th, at 5 p.m. The usual banquet will not be held.

The adjourned special general meeting of members of the London Chamber of Commerce to consider "The Hague Rules, 1921, Defining the Risks to be assumed by Sea Carriers under a Bill of Lading" (as agreed upon at the conference of the International Law Association at the Hague, August 30th-September 3rd), will be held at the Cannon Street Hotel on Monday, November 14, at 2.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by the president of the Chamber (Mr Stanley Machin, J.P.).

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Sound Currency Association, held on November 9th, Mr Walter Leaf (chairman, London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited), Mr F. C. Goodenough (chairman, Barclays Bank, Limited), the Hon. R. H. Brand, C.M.G. (Messrs Lazard Bros. and Co., Limited), Mr Leslie Couper, C.M.G. (general manager, Bank of British West Africa, Limited), and Mr G. J. Scott (Bank of Scotland), were elected vice-presidents of the association. Mr Francis Shipton (London manager, Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited) and Mr R. Holland Martin, C.B. (director, Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited), were elected members of the executive committee.

Oversea Correspondence.

STEEL CORPORATION'S EARNINGS RAILROAD STRIKE AVERTED—

(CONDENT.)

YORK, October 29.

Statistics of the Steel Corporation's earnings for the month ending October 29th, 1921, are as follows:

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

The October month ending October 29th, 1921, shows a net profit of \$1,223,331, as compared with \$1,223,331 for the corresponding month of the previous year.

the corporation was able to show net earnings for the quarter of \$18,918,058, as against \$21,892,016 for the preceding quarter and \$48,051,540 for the third quarter of last year. Private estimates had ranged from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000, with most guesses nearer the lower figure. The actual result, therefore, was nearly \$4,000,000 above the most optimistic predictions. The outstanding feature of the report is the progressive improvement shown in the earnings by months. The July net earnings of \$5,157,395 were the smallest for any month since January, 1915. Earnings for August, however, increased to \$6,502,976, while for September they showed a further gain to \$7,257,687. After July operations steadily increased, until in September they were about 40 per cent. of capacity, and at the present time, it is understood, the corporation's plants are operating close to 50 per cent. of capacity. The reduction in wages, together with other economies, greatly reduced operating costs, and that fact was largely responsible, apparently, for the unexpectedly favourable showing for the third quarter. Earnings, on the other hand, were not sufficient to cover preferred dividend requirements for the quarter, which amounted to \$6,304,919. The balance available for preferred dividends was \$5,693,196, or \$611,723 short of the sum needed. In the preceding quarter the full preferred dividend was earned, besides 35 cents a share on the common stock. The common dividend for the past quarter called for \$6,353,781. After meeting both common and preferred dividends, therefore, there was a deficit of \$6,965,504, as compared with a deficit of \$4,571,668 for the quarter ended June 30, 1921, and a surplus of \$17,869,939 for the three months' period ended September 30, 1920. Should the corporation earn its full dividends in the fourth quarter, as now seems likely, it will have used from its accumulated surplus less than \$10,000,000 for the full year to meet all requirements, including common dividends. Net earnings for the nine months ending with September amounted to \$73,096,796, as compared with \$133,396,264 for the corresponding period of 1920. The balance available for dividends was \$29,255,833, equivalent to \$2.03 per share on the \$508,302,500 of common stock, after providing for preferred dividends. In the like period a year ago the balance available for dividends was \$82,995,957, and earnings on the common stock were equivalent to \$12.60 a share. For the nine months the deficit, after all deductions, allowances, and dividends, totals \$8,720,267, as against a surplus of \$45,019,857 for the same period of 1920.

While recent developments in the railroad-labour crisis here had greatly strengthened confidence that no nationwide tie-up of transport facilities would occur, even if the railroad brotherhoods carried out their threat to strike, relief is felt on all sides now that the proposed strike has been called off by the union leaders. The brotherhoods decided to cancel their strike order, issued about a fortnight ago, because of "the growing public opinion that the strike would be against the Labour Board, and consequently the Government, and not against the railroads." Public sentiment undoubtedly was largely responsible for the cancelling of the strike call, but it was not the only factor. The Labour Board's active efforts to avert the threatened walk-out, and elaborate preparations by the Government to prevent, through Court injunctions and otherwise, any "interference with the arteries of commerce," were, perhaps to a greater extent, instrumental in bringing about the result. The main features of the "satisfactory settlement" reached at the Chicago conference this week between the Labour Board, railroad executives, and union labour representatives are:—The railroad managements agreed that no changes in wages, working conditions, or rules would be sought except through the Labour Board, as provided by law. The Labour Board agreed that it would not consider any request for further wage cuts for any class of employees until it had finished with the matter of rules and working conditions for that class. All parties concerned express satisfaction with this basis of settlement. As a matter of fact, however, the only thing that has been definitely settled is that the threatened strike has been called off. The 12½ per cent. average wage reduction, which took effect July 1st, of course stands, but the two vital issues—the question of

further wage reductions and the revision of working rules and conditions—remain to be determined, and it may be many months before they are disposed of. In the meantime, freight rates can, and probably will, be reduced by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The railroads will unquestionably present petitions for wage cuts in the near future, and it is quite possible that the Board may be able to reach a decision thereon sooner than the unions expect. But the railroads will seek reductions in strict accordance with the law; they will post notices of wage cuts, discuss the proposed revisions with their employees, and then, if no agreement is reached, they will appeal to the Labour Board to settle the dispute. Pending the outcome of their efforts in that direction, it is evident that the carriers must rely upon continued curtailment of maintenance and repair expenditures and rigid economies, as well as a possible increase in traffic, to offset any freight rate reductions that may be made.

FRANCE.—INDUSTRIAL PROBLEMS—WAR SERVICE AND PROFITS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, November 8.

An interesting sketch of the measures France has taken, and proposes to take to meet the extraordinary economic situation arising from the war, has been given to-day in the Senate by M. Dior, the Minister of Commerce, in his reply to an interpellation in which the Government was attacked on the triple ground of not having any economic programme, of having projected no serious reform, and of having failed to defend what were described as "the few clauses of the Versailles Treaty that are favourable to France." Among other factors cited as inimical to French industry at present were the Eight Hours' Law, which has resulted, it was alleged, in an enormous lowering of output. Export trade, it was insisted, was becoming impossible owing to high and inequitable transport rates. The German taxpayer, according to one speaker, is paying only 15¢ in taxes, against 56¢ paid by the French taxpayer.

One of the worst faults committed by the authors of the Versailles Treaty, it was stated in the debate, was that the metallurgical plants in Lorraine had been taken from the Germans without the necessary complement of coal and coke concessions on the right bank of the Rhine, which placed the ironworks in a similar situation to corn-mills that had no wheat to grind. As to labour, an adult workman in France was paid 22¢ 60c on an average, while the German workman on the left bank of the Rhine received 7¢ 65c, and on the right bank 6¢ 44c.

The Minister of Commerce, in his reply, first dwelt on the chaos that had descended on the economic world as the result of the war, and on the measures taken by the various nations to meet the crisis. The fall of prices, he said, had been marked by a return to the most furious economic selfishness in every country. France had been wrongly accused of having taken the initiative in this movement, but as a matter of fact it had arisen simultaneously in all countries. On the other hand, nearly all the nations had taken the same steps to meet the situation, either by transforming fixed customs duties into *ad valorem* duties, by demanding the payment of those duties in gold, by establishing compensatory surtaxes, by anti-dumping measures, or by protecting key industries. Even those countries that were most marked for their free trade policy, he said, had brought into force one or the other, and often several of these methods, while France had been satisfied with adopting the first-named.

The French Government believed that its primary duty was to help the country to return to normal conditions as soon as possible, and so to act that the economic pendulum would arrive at a steady equilibrium. Their first steps in this direction had been to bring to an end the wheat, petroleum, and other monopolies, and the various controlling organisations, and to institute a customs régime that was admittedly temporary, but that would enable the nation to exist, and that would prevent the national industries from succumbing to a passing crisis. In this connection France had not fallen into protectionism à

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised ... £3,000,000

Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000

Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits ... 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application. On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

outrance. She had not, for instance, insisted on the payment of customs duties in gold, or on imposing anti-dumping supertaxes. She had merely sought to give her customs duties the same value as before the war. The new co-efficients were only temporary, and would be revised as soon as circumstances permitted. At this moment, he said, the Government was studying a new customs tariff which would be laid before the Chambers in the near future, and it was engaged in negotiations with 26 other countries for the purpose of assuring French exports the largest possible markets.

The problem of credit, which was a capital one, he said, so far as exports were concerned, was complicated by the difficulties connected with exchange and the depreciation of securities. Neither the British nor the Belgians had succeeded in solving this problem. The French Government had drawn lessons from their efforts, however, and was preparing a project to deal with credit in connection with exports. In conclusion, the Minister insisted that the situation was improving, and that it was improving through the action of the manufacturers and traders themselves, rather than through Government intervention.

Socialist agitators ever since the Armistice, and in some cases before it, have been steadily preaching to the proletariat that the bourgeoisie shirked and evaded service, while the working classes alone were the victims of the war. An engineer, M. Jean Rey, has analysed the facts of the situation, and has found it possible to determine to what extent each section of the community was actually serving at the front, and to what extent each section suffered. From this study it emerges that members of the liberal professions lost more by death than any other class, the figure being more than 100 per cent. over the normal, this class having lost in killed 55 per cent. of the numbers mobilised. The commercial classes come next, with a list of fatalities 46 per cent. above the normal, then the non-agricultural servant class, with 44 per cent., and then agriculturists, with a figure of 17 per cent. over the normal. Coming to the other end of the scale, the class that suffered least were the miners, who lost 42 per cent. less than the mean; next to them the transport workers, with 41; then industrial workers, with 28; and then State employees, with 21. Equivalent proportions are given by studying the figures of the severely wounded. M. Rey has also analysed the allocation of the profits made out of the war. Supplementary industrial profits made out of the war amounted to five milliards sixty millions, but of this the State recovered in taxes 3,280 millions, leaving to industry 1,800 millions, but against this there was in the various industries 3,900 millions of money immobilised. The State allowed a milliard compensation, and thus the position of industry was 2,900 millions loss, as against 1,800 profit, or a net loss of 1,100 millions. Orders were passed by the State during the war to the amount of about 40 milliards, and of this sum 17 milliards went to the workmen at very high rates of wages. They paid no war tax, but made large profits, which were very often unwisely spent.

The Bourse has remained weak, not only on account of the various appeals made to the market for capital, but also owing to collapse of the mark, which has spread a feeling of intense uneasiness. French 3 per cents. remained depressed at 53.95. There was a certain amount of recovery in banks, but much of the ground gained was lost. Banque de Paris, for instance, rose from 1,202

to 1,225, to drop back to 1,205; Union Parisienne showed a similar fluctuation, the figures being 798,815 and 802; for the Crédit Lyonnais they were 1,410, 1,435, and 1,415. Transports have improved; railways, owing to the feeling of security now prevailing as a result of the Chamber having voted for the new régime, are considerably stronger, P.M.L. being at 770 as against 750, Nord at 851 as against 838, and Midi at 723 as against 703. Navigation also improved, but for the most part lost what it had gained, Chargeurs Réunis rising from 530 to 540, to fall back to 530, Transatlantique closing at 248, as against 244, and Messageries closing at 224 as against 217. Thomson is typical of electrical undertakings, which have been heavy, though Thomson has declined more than most, falling from 860 to 832. The movement in metallurgical undertakings and in mines has been fluctuating, though copper has been rather harder, Tintos recovering at between 1,415 and 1,430.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Nov. 3, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.	Oct. 30, 1913
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	564,874,729	565,355,425	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,138,488,182	1,124,637,102	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	37,522,083,070	37,154,489,915	5,805,693,400
Interest on securities	52,324,508	54,304,815	24,325,186
Bank notes to order	742,424	1,001,382	3,822,950
Treasury account	32,557,264	42,771,773	341,744,242
Current accounts, Paris	1,604,224,872	1,579,701,553	537,400,864
Do branch banks	1,020,718,709	941,428,869	108,730,149
Dividends payable	4,687,327	4,808,195	2,240,623
Discounts and sundries	78,216,557	75,525,772	25,063,662
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,037,959,495	1,068,053,081	219,962,952
Total	43,327,784,737	42,882,446,181	7,299,534,263
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,802,502,149	5,802,287,138	4,110,412,990
Balances abroad	613,741,177	614,478,933	..
Commercial bills overdue	39,956,355	919,765	98,744
Discounts in Paris	1,363,926,306	1,458,400,299	623,399,379
Foreign bills	4,871,500	11,007,931	16,928,251
Treasury bills	251,090	332,940	159,950
Discounts in branches	1,340,803,407	1,003,222,792	1,055,245,022
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	65,787,360	66,268,056	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	..
Do on public securities	422,089,836	415,620,337	198,385,901
Do by branch banks	1,787,795,407	1,801,682,740	522,676,013
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	25,500,000,000	25,100,000,000	5,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,104,000,000	4,098,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Renties indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	49,062,000	48,944,512	43,651,136
Expenses and management	32,162,337	30,145,735	8,445,674
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries	1,764,793,161	1,994,984,202	233,565,229
Total	43,327,784,737	42,882,446,181	7,299,534,263

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5 1/2
Advances on bullion	5 1/2
Advances on public securities	6 1/2

GERMANY.—MARK EXCHANGE CATASTROPHE—STATE FINANCES—BOURSE—TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, November 7.

THE mark exchange collapse to-day to 1,131 to sterling and 287 (temporarily over 300) to the dollar has produced a catastrophic situation for State finances, reparations, and the general economic position. There is a sharp, specious contrast to this in the industrial boom for which one sees no end until (1) either the mark recovers, or (2) until the mark drops so low (if the drop has not already nearly reached that point) that German paper will be rejected as international currency, after which the "catastrophe boom," however wild the demand for goods, must terminate for lack of foreign raw materials and food. The question of German bankruptcy which rises in some minds after each new exchange revolution is, however, idle. As far as home liabilities, and indeed

such foreign liabilities (among these the interest on foreign-held State and municipal bonds) are concerned, no declaration of bankruptcy is needed, for the good reasons that the Reichsbank's paper will always be available, and that a State paying its creditors (at present gold exchange) about one-eighth of their claims is already bankrupt in a measure far greater than is usual after formal bankruptcy. The real question raised (and this is not new but only aggravated) is whether Germany can pay her foreign gold liabilities, chief of which is the annual reparations payment. The prospect is extremely black, for in whatever way these gold liabilities are to be paid, nothing but foreign gold loans can prevent them appearing in the Budget in their equivalent in paper marks. Dr Wirth in May, when he did not foresee that new blows were being aimed against his desperate attempt to fulfil undertakings, optimistically estimated the annual reparations liabilities at around 50 milliards, which big enough sum was to go into the Budget expenditure. That was on a basis of 14 paper marks to one gold. To-day the reparations would cost nearer 300 milliards paper, or about seven times the whole current revenue. And that is only the beginning. On the basis of the price level conditioned by the present mark exchange, and if there is no great and speedy exchange recovery, the State expenditure will soon be three or four times above the estimate of last spring. The Government only last week burdened itself with 7 1/2 milliards for additional official salaries, but already a new salary agitation has begun. That is only a fraction of the new demands. With the exception of interest on home loans (which is now a trifle) the whole State expenditure must rise with the general price level. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* Price Index for November 1st shows that prices have practically doubled since June 1st. Then the index figure (100 in January, 1920) was 128; now it is 248. On the more usual index basis of 100 in 1914 the present figure is 2,687. And this figure has been reached before the mark exchange drop of the last months had its full effect, and before the worst drop of this month had taken place. In June the expenditure, including reparations, was estimated at 150 milliards. Taking the above estimate of reparations, the Budget may easily be 500 or 600 milliards. What was long thought incredible in Soviet Russia will then have happened here. Such expenditure can only be covered by wholesale inflation. If it is at all possible to raise such a sum by taxation, the necessary taxes will be put through only slowly and collected even more slowly; meantime the floating debt will mount up, and with it the inflation; the price level will go higher, and the vicious circle which has characterised German State finance since the armistice will be unbreakable.

In all this (as long as the Entente claimants wait for their gold marks) there is no probability of sudden breakdown or formal bankruptcy. Not more probability than in Austria, or in Soviet Russia, which indeed repudiated her debt for political reasons, but which is not at all bankrupt, and meets obligations punctually with roubles of one-thirty-thousandth of their gold value. The parallel is close in other respects. Soviet Russia cannot recover because she cannot pay for foreign food, materials, and machines. That Germany will be able to pay for foreign food and materials much longer is unlikely. At present exchange even small imports of necessities cost whole budgets of paper marks. An importing firm complains that having contracted the petty debt of 15,000 Dutch guildens it is called on to pay 1,200,000 marks, which probably exceeds its whole capital. For the moment all import is barred. It seems certain that unless a very large foreign gold credit or an abandonment or indefinite suspension of the reparation claims (both are really necessary) is arranged, the complete obliteration of Germany as a positive factor in European economic life is only a question of time.

The Government has so far failed to settle the reparations credit question with industry, and the matter attracts just now very little attention, as the milliard gold marks hoped for would help very little. The Association of German Industries passed a resolution formulating its conditions, among which were greater economy, the freeing of industry from official restrictions, and the conduct of State undertakings without deficits. The last demand

is impracticable, as the expense of conducting these undertakings is again rising more rapidly than can be met by increasing charges. Dr Wirth some months back announced that the railways deficit had been reduced from 18 to 12 milliards; Dr Hermes, his provisional Finance Minister, last week announced that the deficit has returned to 19 milliards; this before the full weight of the new price revolution has been felt. The deficits on all State concerns together will total 37.9 milliards. Dr Hermes painted a black picture of the financial position. He put the maximum yield from the proposed new taxes at 42 milliards. The deficit in the ordinary Budget will be 53 milliards, a figure arrived at by estimating the reparations payments at the low figure of 55 milliards. Without reparations, the ordinary Budget shows a surplus of 2 milliards. The deficit on the extraordinary Budget is 57 milliards. The total sum to be raised by loan (i.e., floating debt increase) is about 110 milliards. For the financial year 1922 (ending March, 1923) Dr Hermes estimates 97.7 milliards revenue, ordinary expenditure 69 milliards, reparations 77.6 milliards, extraordinary expenditure 24 milliards, and clearing, &c., 12 milliards. The amount in paper of the reparations gold liability is, of course, entirely conjecture. Dr Hermes refused to reckon the depreciation of the mark to lower than 1 to 40 gold; on that basis the whole 1922 Budget deficit would be 126.9 milliards. This statement was made only on November 4th; since then the mark's depreciation has fallen to about 1 to 80.

The Reichsbank has raised its price for the 20-mark gold coin to 760 paper marks. At this low price practically no coins are delivered. The bourse again last week was active and rising. Professional speculators tended to hold aloof on the ground that a reaction must follow a possible exchange recovery, but the outside public bought hard. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* index shows a rise of only from 38,510 to 38,654, which rather under-shows the real movement. Notable was the sharp rise in fixed interest securities, the index figure for home loans rising from 822 to 853, as a result of heavy buying of loans, largely by foreigners, as exchange speculations. Properly German bonds, not stocks, are exchange speculations; the buyer of the former usually gets the full advantage of a mark exchange recovery, whereas the stock buyer loses part of his gain on the exchange, owing to the accompanying fall in quotations. The following table illustrates this point:—

Date.	Stock Index.	Dollar Exchange.
1920—January 1	7,792	(about) 50
March 1	12,311	100
June 1	8,533	39
1921—January 8	15,724	73
March 5	12,286	62
November 4	36,989	230

A decree is expected tomorrow, raising the bourse transfer duties to a maximum of 1 per cent. The Minister of Industry, Robert Schmidt, announces a Bill restricting speculation, especially in exchange; and the Bourse Committee is about to forbid official dealing in stocks in smaller parcels than 5,000 marks. The newspaper agitation against the speculation craze is strong, but not entirely reasonable, as the stock buying is merely a form of the "Flight from the Mark"; the buyer, indeed, speculates on a quotation rise, but in most cases this rise is regarded as compensation for the fallen buying power of money. The dividend yield of stocks at present quotations is practically nil—some stocks paying around 20 per cent. are quoted around 2,000. Stocks are bought merely for their "liquidation value," on the assumption that the company's assets will keep their full gold value, however much the currency depreciates; and the supposed bourse speculation is only the same prudence which leads citizens, as they are at present doing, to buy headlong in the retail shops.

Federal 3 per cent. was again heavily bought, and rose to the post-war record price of 87. War Loan 5 per Cent. was 77.50, 4 1/2 per cent. 70.50, 3 1/2 per cent. 64.30, Savings and Premium 79.50. Compared with Federal, Prussian Loans remain very low, 4 per Cent. Consols being 68.10, Staffel-Anleihe 3 1/2 58.90, ditto 3 1/2, 56.50; ditto 3 per cent., 55.50. These loans all fell sharply to-day, while 3 per Cent. Federal rose 2.10 points. As Prussian Loans



"The Swedish Bank of Commerce"

are doubly guaranteed by the Republic and by Prussia, and are further secured on valuable forests and mines, the low quotations indicate neglect by the foreign bond-buying speculator in exchange.

The condition of industry is extremely good. Only 1.3 per cent. of nearly 6,000,000 trades union members were unemployed on October 1st. The figure for November 1st will probably be even more favourable. The Prussian Minister of Trade's monthly report shows boom conditions in nearly all branches, dyes being the one important exception. In many branches manufacturers are rejecting orders, and the only limit to production is a growing shortage of materials, coal, and qualified labour.

CANADA.—BUSINESS CONDITIONS—PROTESTS AGAINST THE NEW CUSTOMS REGULATIONS—PULP AND PAPER—THE STOCK MARKETS—CENSUS RETURNS—TRADE FIGURES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, October 26.

WHILE there has been some improvement in business and industrial activity during the past month, it should rather be ascribed to seasonal influences than to any broad betterment of the fundamental situation. The business atmosphere is still highly unsettled, and while optimistic reports appear from some quarters, they are counter-balanced by others, which lead to the conclusion that the problems of readjustment and recovery are far from settled. In the main the consuming public is reluctant to buy anything beyond daily necessities, and as a result merchants continue to show great caution in placing orders with wholesalers and manufacturers, and, generally speaking, buy on a hand-to-mouth basis. One disturbing factor in the situation is the continued decline in grain prices, wheat having recently moved to record low levels for the year. Livestock prices are still slipping downward, and the outlook in the western provinces has been rendered more uncertain by the heavy rains of the past six weeks, which have lessened the value of the crop. The purchasing power of the Western farmer will be much smaller than last year, and the prospective market for manufactured goods will be curtailed. A prominent agrarian leader from the West is responsible for the statement that 90 per cent. of the Western farms will show a dead loss on their operations for the year. There is widespread complaint that the retail trade has shown an unfair reluctance to assume its proper share of the burden of readjustment.

Complaints have been pouring in upon the Customs Department regarding the effects of the new clauses in the Customs Act which ordain that imported goods must be marked with the name of the country of their origin. The more the new regulations are studied and the experiences of importers revealed, the wider becomes the impression that the legislation was conceived in haste and is provocative of more trouble than benefits. The Commissioner of Customs, for example, has recently been asked to rule how imported bricks are to be marked. Already the regulations have been partially modified, and their coming into operation postponed till January 1, 1922, but the impression is gaining ground that the legislation is cumbrous and useless, and could with profit be repealed.

Dry goods importers maintain that the effective marking of their goods is impossible and would ruin many fabrics; Manchester cloth firms are sending a strong protest to the Government. At home an influential deputation representing business houses and associations at St John, the chief winter port of the Dominion, has waited upon Mr Baxter, the new Minister of Customs, who is running as a candidate for the city, and after emphasising objections to the Act has asked the Government to defer its enforcement till opportunity for further consideration of its effects is available. Leading importers in Montreal have taken similar action, and the volume of criticism is steadily growing. If the Government were not dependent for support in the present election upon the Manufacturers' Association, at whose behest the legislation was passed last session, they would probably drop it, and if, as is probable, they are replaced by a new Administration, it is never likely to come into effect. The regulations for the levying of duties upon goods coming from countries whose exchange has depreciated is also exciting discontent in many quarters. Importers who bought goods from Germany six weeks ago and arranged for their sale on the then existing basis of the mark, now find themselves, when the goods arrive, faced with the payment of Customs duties which entail upon them a heavy loss.

Production of the Canadian pulp and paper industry continues to be well maintained even in comparison with the record year of 1920. During the first nine months of 1921 production of newsprint has decreased 82,491 tons, or only 12.4 per cent. as compared with the corresponding period of 1920. During the same period the decrease in production of the United States mills was 24.4 per cent. On the other hand, while the production is less than 13 per cent. short of last year, it does not represent 87 per cent. of the capacity of Canadian mills. During the year there has been added a fresh capacity of about 500 tons per day, and it is therefore estimated that at least 25 per cent. of the total capacity of Canadian mills is not utilised at present.

In the stock markets irregularity and uncertainty are still the prevailing features. The threatened strike of the American railway workers has had a disturbing influence, and while Canadian roads will not be directly affected they would suffer. At least one large Canadian industrial concern has passed its dividend during the past week, and others are likely to follow its example. Wages have been reduced in many industries, but the cost factor is still too high and is a serious handicap. A welcome ray of light comes from the steady improvement of sterling exchange in New York, and there has also been a slight decline in the adverse exchange on Canadian dollars.

The census returns are being disclosed by instalments, and while individual places and areas show a notable increase, they are in the main regarded as extremely disappointing. The decrease in Prince Edward Island and the meagre increases in the two other Atlantic provinces have already been noted, but now the figures for the western half of Ontario, exclusive of the city of Toronto, are far from satisfactory. They record substantial gains in industrial centres like Hamilton, London, Brantford, and N. Essex; but in 28 either rural or semi-rural Parliamentary constituencies, exactly one-half show a decline in population, in some cases as high as 14 per cent. Naturally such figures come as valuable ammunition to the critics of the existing protectionist system, who point to them as evidence that the tariff burdens are a serious handicap to farming and produce rural depopulation. But the *Montreal Gazette*, and other papers of that city, estimate the returns for it exceedingly disappointing. Local figures will only give the city

663,534. This represents 131,923 persons, or almost of the preceding census. The fact that in the decade an amazing increase of 90 from 283,021 to 531,611. isible for a partial check to of immigration, but, on the derable impetus to the growth establishments in the Montreal

area. The full returns of the census are not expected till November.

For the twelve months ending September 30, goods imported into Canada for consumption had a value of \$905,848,056, as compared with \$1,325,779,894 for the similar period of 1920. Duty collected for the period this year amounted to \$133,083,887, as against \$211,426,269 last year. During the same period this year total exports were valued at \$991,457,282, as compared with \$1,245,726,968 for last year. Exports in 1921 included foreign goods to the value of \$15,396,633. In 1920 foreign goods exported were valued at \$36,807,793. During the period under review imports from United Kingdom were valued at \$137,623,435, and \$643,625,678 from United States. Exports to United Kingdom were valued at \$285,017,699, and \$428,593,374 to United States.

POLAND.—FINANCIAL REFORM BILL—EXCHANGES—TRADE DEPRESSION—MR VANDERLIP IN WARSAW—RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA—COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, November 3.

THE Financial Reform Bill is not passing as smoothly as was hoped after the enthusiastic reception of Mr Michalski's inaugural speech. The reasons for this are manifold. First of all there is a kind of struggle for financial supremacy between the Minister and the Diet. Mr Michalski has included in his Bill a clause, according to which the Diet shall not vote any new credits without the preliminary assent of the Cabinet and without the necessary cover. Against this clause there is a strong opposition in Parliament. To avoid an open breach it has been necessary to postpone the discussion of the Financial Reform Bill and to begin the proceedings with the reading of the Capital Levy Bill, which does not contain stipulations of this controversial character.

But here, too, there is great difference of opinion. The collection of the Capital Levy makes necessary the suspension of the Agrarian Reform Bill, according to which the landlords were not allowed to dispose of their properties without a preliminary licence from the Government. Mr Michalski is demanding the abolition of this clause, because only a free disposal of their property will enable the landlords to pay the sums which are due by them on account of the levy. The peasant parties are strongly opposed to such a measure. They are also claiming an exemption of small holdings from this tax. The Socialists would like to reach in a more drastic manner the proprietors of moveable capital. For this purpose they moved an amendment, according to which the value of every bank-note should be decreased from 100 to 80. They intended to realise this plan by subjecting all notes in circulation to an obligation, and Mr Michalski declared himself against it. At present of notes which are in the possession of forges cost whole such a measure is inadmissible. He says firm complains fact that the combination of a capital levy of 15,000 Dutch currency deflation must have disastrous effects, which Michalski threatened his resignation in the event of an amendment of the Socialist amendment. A great amount of definite declaration made by the Speaker, it is said, will be terminated in the Finance Bill. It will be about 10 days, so that it may be expected in the Diet will take place in a month. It seems that it will not be as a result of the collection of the levy. According to the matter of next year, so that in the meantime the Finance Committee of the deficit to the same methods as his proposal. The Committee is not the end of the conduct of the printing press. The last demand

The foreign exchanges continue to move very irregularly, but a marked downward tendency may be noticed, as is shown below:—

	English £	American Dollars.	French Francs.	German Marks.	Austrian Kronor.
October 18..	16,250	4,250	305	22.50	170
" 22..	16,100	4,175	292	24	135
" 24..	15,100	4,000	280	24	130
" 27..	17,175	4,425	320	27.50	92.50
" 29..	14,500	3,750	270	22	97
November 1.	13,000	2,900	210	17.50	81

During the last month an unprecedented rise of the Polish mark has taken place. This sudden rise is exercising a very depressing influence on the economic life of the country. Importers are cancelling their orders abroad, and the export trade is being very unfavourably affected. The situation on the foreign exchange market is only accelerating the approach of a crisis, which seems at the present moment unavoidable. Poland is suffering from a lack of capital. The situation has been much accentuated by the announcement of the capital levy. Banks and private individuals are keeping back all loanable funds, so that it is impossible for trade and industry to obtain even small loans. In consequence, factories are being closed down, and it seems that a trade depression similar to that through which Western Europe is passing is unavoidable. Here, again, we may find a confirmation of a fact, often observed in the history of paper money, that its effects are most sensibly felt not during the process of inflation, but in the moment when measures are taken for putting the currency system on a sounder basis.

Mr Frank Vanderlip has recently visited Warsaw. In an interview with a representative of the *Rzeczpospolita* Mr Vanderlip developed his plan of founding a "Gold Reserve Bank of Europe." This bank he proposed should have a capital of one million dollars, divided into shares of 100 dollars each. The branches of this bank created in the different countries of Europe should have the privilege of extraterritoriality, and they must be free of all levies, taxes, &c. The new notes should be admitted by the respective Governments as legal tender for all new contracts. The United States, he said, are ready to contribute to the realisation of such a plan. A capital of one million dollars could be easily subscribed.

The relations between Poland and Russia were recently subjected to severe tension. The Soviets were not executing their obligations under the Treaty of Riga, while, on the other hand, the Moscow Government was complaining that the Polish authorities were tolerating the organisation of anti-Bolshevist propaganda in Warsaw. The Russian Ambassador demanded the expulsion of different leaders of this movement from Poland; and the Polish Government complied with this request. This roused a storm of opposition in the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Diet. It has been objected to the Government that the right of asylum has not been observed, and that the expulsion of political offenders at the request of a foreign Power is not compatible with the dignity of the country. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, in reply to these attacks, pointed out that Poland was only executing the obligations undertaken in the Treaty of Riga. Mr Karachan, the Russian Ambassador, now announces that in the first days of this week the first instalment due by the Soviets for rolling stock evacuated during the war by the Russian Government will be paid. It is reported that this payment will be made in gold and diamonds. It seems that the friction which existed hitherto between Poland and Russia has disappeared, and that the relations between the two countries are becoming more normal.

On October 20th a commercial treaty between Poland and Czecho-Slovakia was signed, based on the most-favoured-nation clause. It is composed of thirty articles, to which annexes relating to the transport of goods, the wa- of passenger cars on the frontier, &c. The treaty will be only ratified after the signature of a Local convention. According to the *Czas*, the two States are undertaking in this convention to maintain friendly neutrality in the case of an aggression by a 3 power.

SWEDEN.—TIMBER EXPORTS—STOCK EXCHANGE WEAKNESS—REVENUE PROSPECT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, November 3.

As the shipping season is drawing to a close, a brief summary of the timber industry is possible. Timber is the most important of Sweden's export products, and therefore an important factor in Sweden's financial position. Undoubtedly had it not been for this natural resource, the Swedish exchange would not have maintained its high level. The exports this year are about half of what they were last year and about 40 per cent. of exports in 1913, the figures for the three years respectively being 415,000, 877,000, and 1,015,000 standards. England has always taken the bulk of the timber shipments from this country, in 1913 319,000, in 1920 480,000, and this year, so far, 180,000 standards; France, Holland, and Denmark following in order of importance. As regards Germany, the position is interesting, inasmuch as that country in 1913 received 111,000 standards of Swedish timber, but last and this year only 2,000 and 4,000 standards respectively. This is due to the position of the German mark. The abnormal exchange has turned Germany into a timber-exporting country.

The position on the Stock Exchange is worse than ever, quotations having been further lowered. There exists in Stockholm a consortium formed by the leading banks, whose object is to support the quotation of shares by organised purchases. Although this organisation has repeatedly intervened this week, it has been unable to maintain values. The report that several leading industrial concerns are removing from the capital to their former headquarters in the provinces for the sake of economy has caused further alarm without any reasonable cause. The survey of the State Bank up to October 29th shows a worse position, notes in circulation having increased 27.5 mill. kr. to 629.0 mill., as against 772 mill. by this time last year. Representations made to the Government for a prolongation of the term for taxes due in December next have not met with any approval, both for practical and financial reasons. On the other hand, further postponement of the last term of war contribution taxes has been granted until May next, subject to interest being paid for the period of prolongation. The total revenue for the first half of next year is calculated at 366 mill. kr. Alarm is caused in agricultural circles owing to the heavy influx of American wheat. This is better in quality, and much preferred to Swedish wheat by bakers. It places the Swedish farmers in a precarious situation, and is causing them to appeal to the Government for emergency measures. The value of ground and real estate property has fallen immensely since the war.

SWITZERLAND.—THE FALL OF SECURITY PRICES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, November 8.

LAST week was characterised by the lowest quotations of first-class industrial securities in Swiss stock markets seen for many years. The shares of Nestlé sank to 480f, against 635f, the lowest quotation last year; the Swiss chocolate shares, Peter, Cailler, Kohler, were quoted 160f, against 222f a year ago, Basle Chemical Factory 1,000f, against 1,400f, Sandos Chemical Works 1,225f, against 1,950f. The shares of Brown, Boveri, the leading electro-technical firm, were quoted 220 as against 275, the nominal value being 500. The shares of Sulzer Bros., nominally 1,000f, were quoted 400f as against 700f a year ago. These quotations are in reality panic quotations, for everyone knows that the intrinsic value of these securities is much higher. A year ago low quotations were justified by high prices of money, but now money is cheap and abundant, and securities of fixed interest are on an average 20 per cent. higher in their quotations than a year ago. Also, with a few exceptions, banking shares, which were a year ago the object of panic, are now more or less consolidated. Therefore, the present position illustrates the general distrust of the Swiss investor concerning the prospects of Swiss industry. This distrust, somewhat deeply rooted, is now exaggerated. It may be

ex- the
aste and
The Com-
recently been
to be marked.
one, to be
ally modified, and
till January 1, 1922,
d that the legislation
with profit be repealed.
rejected
catastroph-
goods, must

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

German Threes dipped to 2 when the mark fell to less than a farthing, though a recovery in the latter caused a rally in the former. Chinese bonds have been flat, in consequence of the anxiety felt in regard to the financial condition of the country. It is thought in the Stock Exchange that the weakness of some of the specially secured loans has been carried too far, and part, indeed, of the drop was wiped out by a little support. Brazilians are better. The French issues hardly moved. Mexicans fluctuate on an erratic plane, though hopefulness is the predominant note for the moment. Various of the Scandinavian bonds, Government and municipal, are higher again. Finland 4½ per cents. shed 8 points on the trouble that has arisen in connection with cashing the coupons.

The Home Railway market is better, judged by the rises that have taken place, than any other part of the Stock Exchange this week. The Board of Trade returns, the Bank rate reduction, and trade prospects are reasons. It is safe to say that the actual amount of public business is comparatively small, but so little was the floating supply of stock on hand that the effect of a few purchases led to disproportionate rises. Next Thursday there is to be held the first meeting in connection with the amalgamation of the London and North-Western with the Lancashire and Yorkshire, and this has served to direct attention to Home Railway stocks as a whole. The Stock Exchange Committee have issued a notice to the effect that the return recently called for by them of stock, shares, and loans still open, which are left as a legacy of the pre-war account, is satisfactory; this also has helped to lighten the depression which lay so heavily upon the Home Railway market. The prior charges, however, remain neglected.

Grand Trunks showed a slightly weaker tendency, though the dollar bonds of the Grand Trunk Pacific, Canadian Northern, and several of the other Canadian lines, have gained a point or two. The strongest feature amongst Foreign Rails has been San Paulos, the price recovering sharply after its very severe slump. United of Havana, which rose nearly 10 points on the dividend announcement, failed to maintain its best figures. Argentine Rails are all substantially better. Investors who follow the stocks are inclined to regard the recent slump as having proceeded too far. Moreover, prices have fallen so low that comparatively little money is required to buy for averaging purposes.

The rubber market has gone ahead briskly under the influence of improvement in the price of the commodity, and hopefulness engendered by the better trade conditions reported in various quarters that have a bearing upon the rubber industry. Possibly the Motor Show at Olympia added an element of new optimism to a situation previously over-charged with depression. Motor and tyre shares have also strengthened a little. Growing reports of boom trade being done at Olympia in motor-cars are received with interest, tempered by caution.

The oil market has further improved, being free from any further outbreak of liquidation. Trinidad Centrals, Apex, and Burmah Oil shares are the three outstanding features of strength on the week. The iron and steel market is better, in consequence of the brighter trade outlook. The textile list is somewhat erratic, owing to the fears that some of the mills may have to revert to part-time work, by reason of the expected orders from India not having materialised. The shipping market is better. A number of insurance shares are materially higher on the week. The banking group, however, has yet to move, though the tendency here is steady, and there seem to be more buyers than sellers. The same conditions apply to various other sections of the industrial market.

The public are removing their selling limits; while, on the other hand, bargain-hunters endeavour to pick up cheap values which are no longer available. There is a disposition to see the worst of the industrial crisis is over. People say that they would prefer to "see the thing through" even at the better prices now quoted. The knowledge that many concerns are rejected with a "catastrophe" rapidly.

The Kaffir Circus was overcast by a speech of General Smuts, in which he dwelt upon the difficulties surrounding the labour position, and pointed out that if the gold premium were to vanish—say, upon cancellation by America of the debt due from this country—a number of gold-producers would have to close down immediately. Upon reconsideration of the speech, it was agreed that politics had a possible connection with the views expressed, and prices accordingly recovered. The jump in Chartered to 115 6d brought in sellers and provided the market with a little excitement. The diamond group keeps steady, and Russo-Asiatics have improved. Tin shares remain weak; no fresh developments of consequence have occurred in other mining sections.

The Stock Exchange Committee invite suggestions from members of the House in regard to the principles under which any alterations of rules shall be framed in the light of forthcoming removal of temporary regulations from the Treasury. The Committee announce that they will lay before the Stock Exchange their plans on this head not later than March 1st next.

The Two Minutes' Silence was impressively commemorated in the Stock Exchange yesterday, Armistice Day, when trumpeters from the H.A.C. sounded the "Last Post" immediately before the interval, and the "Reveille" directly afterwards, this being followed by a rendering of the National Anthem.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	253,617,935	..	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

	£
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	1,021,990
5½% 1929 receipts to October 29, 1921	71,544,459
Week to November 5	26,035,000
Receipts to date	97,579,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 5, 1921.	£	000	000
April 1 to November 5, £3,310,000	300,000	..	300,000

To the Public—	£	000	000
British East Africa (Kenya Government), £5,000,000 6% Inscribed stock (red. at par 1916-56), issued at 95	4,750,000	..	250,000
Total offered to public	4,750,000	..	250,000

To Shareholders only—	£	000	000
West African Gold Mines and Estates, 200,000 Shares, 2s. at par	20,000	..	5,000
..	20,000	..	5,000

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription to date
1921	£284,722,936
1920	333,552,670
1919	969,538,103
1918	1,232,389,718
1917	1,219,993,903
1916	515,144,053
1915	660,983,076
1914	508,535,090
1913	1,367,549,656
1912	1,036,059,951
1911	1,333,381,941
1910	1,318,596,010
1909	555,436,550
1908	685,236,326
1907	512,522,633
1906	196,536,980

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

British East Africa Colony of Kenya (late East African Protectorate).—Issue of £5,000,000 6 per cent. inscribed stock at 95 per cent. This stock is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Government of Kenya, and the principal will be payable at par on September 15, 1926, by a sinking fund of not less than £1 per cent. per annum, to be formed in this country under the management of the Crown Agents, who are appointed trustees, but the Government of Kenya will have the option of redemption at par on or after September 15, 1946, on giving six months' notice. The Government of Kenya, having complied with the requirements of the Colonial Stock Act, 1900, trustees are authorised to invest in this stock, subject to the restrictions set forth in the Trustee Act, 1893. But it should be pointed out that the revenues of the Colony of Kenya alone are liable in respect of this stock, and that the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the British Treasury are not responsible for payments. Stock will be transferable at the Crown Agents' Transfer Office, No. 1 Tokenhouse buildings, London, E.C.2, without charge and free of stamp duty. There is no public debt in this colony apart from advances made by the Treasury. An excellent

statement of revenue and expenditure and imports and exports is enclosed with the prospectus. The importance of providing funds for the task of Colonial development may appeal to wealthy patriots. But the small investor, who has to proceed with caution, can place his money better than in participating at this stage on the terms and security offered in this prospectus.

Majedie (Johore) Rubber Estates, Limited.—Authorised capital £130,000, divided into shares of 2s each. This is an issue of £5,000 debentures of £25 each, bearing interest at the rate of 10 per cent. The company was registered in 1910, and according to *Rubber Producing Companies* for 1921 has not had a very profitable career, judged from the shareholders' standpoint. It has now, however, issued a frank statement of its position, and although these debentures are only to be secured by a floating charge on the assets of the company, the issue may appeal to shareholders speculatively inclined.

Anglo-Burma Oil.—Letters of acceptance and regret have been posted.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
War (3½% 1925-28)	90 3/4	91 1/4	91 1/4	91 1/4
Loans (4½% 1925-45)	81 1/2	82 1/4	82 1/4	82 1/4
5½% 1929-47	87 1/2	88 1/4	88 1/4	88 1/4
4½% 1929-42	97 1/2	98 1/4	98 1/4	98 1/4
Funding Loan 4½%	73 1/2	74 1/4	74 1/4	74 1/4
Victory Bonds 4½%	73 1/2	74 1/4	74 1/4	74 1/4
Conversion Loan 3½%	62 1/2	63 1/4	63 1/4	63 1/4
Consols 2½%	48 1/2	49 1/4	49 1/4	49 1/4
Irish Land Stock 2½%	48 1/2	49 1/4	49 1/4	49 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Local Loans 3%	52 1/2	53 1/4	53 1/4	53 1/4
Aust. 5½% debts. 1922-7	94 1/2	95 1/4	95 1/4	95 1/4
Canada 4½% 1920-25	95 1/2	96 1/4	96 1/4	96 1/4
India 3½% Stock	57 1/2	58 1/4	58 1/4	58 1/4
Do 7% Stock	104 1/2	105 1/4	105 1/4	105 1/4
N.S.W. 5½% 1922-27	93 1/2	94 1/4	94 1/4	94 1/4
U.S.A. 4½% 1920-25	95 1/2	96 1/4	96 1/4	96 1/4
Victoria 5½% 1924-34	92 1/2	93 1/4	93 1/4	93 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Nat. Bank of Egypt	19 1/2	18 1/4	18 1/4	18 1/4
Nat. Bank of S. Africa	10 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4
Nat. Prov. & Union of	8 1/2	8 1/4	8 1/4	8 1/4
Standard of S. Africa	10 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref.	3 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Leopoldina	17 1/2	18 1/4	18 1/4	18 1/4
Mexican Railway	12 1/2	13 1/4	13 1/4	13 1/4
Do 1st Pref.	34 1/2	35 1/4	35 1/4	35 1/4
Do 2nd Pref.	23 1/2	24 1/4	24 1/4	24 1/4
San Paulo	87 1/2	88 1/4	88 1/4	88 1/4
United Havans	45 1/2	46 1/4	46 1/4	46 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Argentine 5%, 1886-7	94 1/2	95 1/4	95 1/4	95 1/4
Belgian 3%	61 1/2	62 1/4	62 1/4	62 1/4
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914	62 1/2	63 1/4	63 1/4	63 1/4
Chilian 4½%	65 1/2	66 1/4	66 1/4	66 1/4
Chinese 5% 1912	65 1/2	66 1/4	66 1/4	66 1/4
Egyptian 4%	61 1/2	62 1/4	62 1/4	62 1/4
French 5%	37 1/2	38 1/4	38 1/4	38 1/4
Do 4%	29 1/2	30 1/4	30 1/4	30 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Great Central Pref.	7 1/2	8 1/4	8 1/4	8 1/4
Great Eastern	25 1/2	26 1/4	26 1/4	26 1/4
Great Northern Def.	21 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/4	22 1/4
Great Western	63 1/2	64 1/4	64 1/4	64 1/4
Lancs. and Yorks.	45 1/2	46 1/4	46 1/4	46 1/4
London, Brighton, & A.	35 1/2	36 1/4	36 1/4	36 1/4
London, Chatham	53 1/2	54 1/4	54 1/4	54 1/4
Do Arb. Pref.	34 1/2	35 1/4	35 1/4	35 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Chesapeake & Ohio	63 1/2	64 1/4	64 1/4	64 1/4
Erie	16 1/2	17 1/4	17 1/4	17 1/4
Do 4% 1st Pref.	22 1/2	23 1/4	23 1/4	23 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Anglo-American "A"	17 1/2	18 1/4	18 1/4	18 1/4
Eastern Telegraph	164 1/2	165 1/4	165 1/4	165 1/4
Marconi Wireless	14 1/2	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Aerated Bread (L)	13 1/2	14 1/4	14 1/4	14 1/4
Armstrong (Sir W. G.)	16 1/2	17 1/4	17 1/4	17 1/4
Ass. Pulp. Cement (L)	14 1/2	15 1/4	15 1/4	15 1/4
B'ham Small Arms (L)	8 1/2	9 1/4	9 1/4	9 1/4
Brazil Traction (L)	23 1/2	24 1/4	24 1/4	24 1/4
British American	23 1/2	24 1/4	24 1/4	24 1/4
Tobacco (L)	33 1/2	34 1/4	34 1/4	34 1/4
Brit. & Arg. Meat (L)	5 1/2	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Burmah Oil (L)	5 1/2	6 1/4	6 1/4	6 1/4
Coats (J. and P.) (L)	2 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Courtauld (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Cunard (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Dorman, Long (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Dunlop Rubber (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Fine Cotton Spinners	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Forestal Land (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Furness, Withy (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Highlands and Low	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
India Rubber (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Hudson's Bay (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Imperial Tobacco (L)	2 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Int'l Nat'l Paint (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4

	Price Last Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.	Price Latest Week.
Brakpan (L)	2 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Broken Hill Prop. (S)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Chartered (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Cons. Gold Fields (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Crown Mines (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
De Beers Def. (L)	10 1/2	11 1/4	11 1/4	11 1/4
East Rand Prop. (L)	1 1/2	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4
Geduld (L)	2 1/2	3 1/4	3 1/4	3 1/4
Gov. Gold Areas (L)	3 1/2	4 1/4	4 1/4	4 1/4

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.			Dividend for Whole Years.	
	Interim div.	Final div.			
	Interim or Final.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Last Dividend.	Pre-vious.
Railways.					
Bengal-Nagpur.....	..	Jan. 2	Less tax	6	8
Burma	..	..	Subject to tax	7	8
Dorado Extension	..	..	..	5	..
Lauder Light	..	..	..	..	..
La Guaira and Caracas	3 %*	Nov. 16	Tax free	..	..
Banks.					
Union Bank of Canada	2½%	Dec. 1	..	10	12
Insurance.					
Guardian, Ord. and Staff.....	3/ p.s.	Dec. 31	Subject to tax	..	..
Tea and Rubber.					
Carolina Tea of Ceylon	..	..	Less tax	6	..
Ceylon Prop. Tea	5½%	Nov. 22	Less tax	..	..
Consolidated Estate	..	..	Less tax	5	10
Leobong Tea	5½%	Dec. 1	..	..	..
Neboda Rubber and Tea	2½%	Dec. 1	Tax free	..	..
Quava Ceylon	5½%	Nov. 10	Less tax	..	..
Mining.					
Aramayo (Bolivia)	5½%	Nov. 10	..	..	..
Galika Gold	5½% (& bonus 2½%)	..	Less tax	12½	7½
Golden Horseshoe	2½ p.s.	Dec. 14	Tax free	..	..
New Heriot Gold	5/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Other Companies.					
Albert Baker and Co.	5%	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	12½
Australian Mercantile Land	5 %	..	Tax free	4	5
Blackpool (South Shore) Pier	..	..	..	10	..
Boardman's United Breweries	..	..	..	..	..
Prof.	3 %	..	Less tax	6	..
Boyne Weaving and Finishing	..	..	Less tax	7½	..
Brampton Brewery	4½%	Nov. 19	Tax free	..	..
Bristol United Breweries	1/ p.s. + (& bonus 1/ p.s.)	..	..	16½	15
British Automatic Co.	1/6 p.s.†	Nov. 30	Less tax	12½	12½
Castleton Moor Spinning	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Consolidated Signal, Pref.	6	..	..	..	..
Coventry Movement	..	..	Subject to tax	5	..
Crompton Spinning	16 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Dalgely and Co.	5/ p.s.†	Nov. 24	Tax free	10	15
Dartford Brewery	7½%	Nov. 19	..	10	10
Dennis Brothers	7 %†	(& bonus 3 %)	..	13	20
Desford Coal	2/ p.s.*	..	Tax free	..	..
Dicken Green Spinning	13 p.s.†	..	..	..	..
Drybrough and Co.	..	..	..	7½	..
Eastman Kodak Company of New Jersey	2½%*	Jan. 2	..	..	..
Do extra dividend	7½%	Jan. 2	..	..	..
Electric Construction	6%	Nov. 30	Less tax	..	..
Empress Brewery	5%	..	Less tax	..	..
Fern Spinning	13 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Gartales Brookside Brewery	1/6 p.s.*	..	Less tax	..	..
Gieves, Limited	10*	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	..
Glend and Kennedy	2½%	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	..
Hall's Oxford Brewery	..	..	Tax free	10	10
Hardy Patent Pick	..	..	..	10	..
Hazell, Watson, and Viney	2 %*	Dec. 1	Tax free	..	..
Hovis	8%	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	..
Joseph Spink and Sons	..	..	Tax free	10	10
Kenward and Court	13†	..	..	9	9
Kerr, Stuart, and Co.	15†	..	Less tax	2½ p.s.	..
Land Mortgage of Texas	..	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	..
Lascelles, Tickner	6*	..	..	..	..
Lloyd's Packing Warehouses	5½%†	..	Less tax	10	15
Malmesbury & Parsons' Dairies	10*	..	Less tax	..	..
Meters	5*	Nov. 16	Less tax	..	..
Montevidéo Gas and Dry Dock	2½%*	Dec. 1	Tax free	..	..
Nelson Brothers	6½%†	..	Tax free	10	12½
Philip Johnston and Sons	6	(& bonus 1/2 p.s.)	Tax free	..	..
Pullman Co.	2%	Nov. 15	..	..	..
Queen's Club Gardens Estates	2%	Feb. 15	..	5	5
Reversionary Association	..	..	Less tax	4	4
Roach Spinning & Manufacturing	1/ p.s.	..	..	..	..
Sanitas, Pref.	9*	Dec. 1	..	20	20
Santa Catalina Nitrate	10 %†	..	Less tax	10	..
Scottish Trust and Loan (Ceylon)	..	..	..	..	..
Shorts, Limited, Deid.	10/ p.s.*	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	..
Siemens Brothers	1/ p.s.†	Nov. 30	Tax free	..	..
Spiers and Pond	1/ 5½%	Dec. 15	Less tax	..	..
Trust and Loan Agency, Canada	6*	(& bonus 1½ p.s.)	Tax free	..	..
Warrilows	1/ p.s.	..	Tax free	1/6 p.s.	..

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

LONDON MARITIME INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

TRADE DEPRESSION AND THE REMEDY.

COAL PRICES EFFECTS ON INDUSTRY.

The twenty-fourth annual general meeting of the proprietors of the London Maritime Investment Company, Limited, was held, on the 10th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London.

Sir Owen Philipps, G.C.M.G., M.P. (chairman of the company), presided.

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, upon rising to move the adoption of the directors' twenty-fourth annual report and accounts, I assume you will, as usual, take them as read. They are, I think, both clear and satisfactory. The net profit of the London Maritime Investment Company for the year ended September 30, 1921, is £60,710, making, with the balance brought forward, an available sum of £64,995. After paying the dividend upon the company's £500,000 5 per cent. preference stock and adding over £14,000 to the reserve fund, the board recommend the distribution of a final dividend of 4 per cent., less income-tax (making with the interim dividend 8 per cent., less income-tax, upon the ordinary stock for the year), carrying forward the slightly increased balance of £5,018. The reserve fund of £165,000 is, it will be observed from the printed accounts, invested separately, and in British Government securities. Notwithstanding the serious depreciation in the value of so many securities, I am glad to be able to state that a valuation in the aggregate of this company's investments as at September 30, 1921, showed the capital and reserve fund is intact. The company is thus in a sound position financially.

THREE ESSENTIALS FOR INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL.

The future success of this company, and all British companies that are interested, directly or indirectly, in commerce and shipping, is bound up with the restoration and development of the trade of the country, which is necessary to reduce the present dreadful state of unemployment and ensure regular work for all at reasonable remuneration. In my view, three things are absolutely necessary. First, and most urgent, is a reduction of the present burdensome taxation, which is throttling and crippling industry and causing so much unemployment. Secondly, much cheaper coal, which can easily be obtained without much, if any, further reduction in the colliers' wages, provided the nation realises that a mistake was made when the Seven-Hour Day Bill was passed into law. The Seven-Hour Day Act should be at once repealed, and if the output of coal per man per day is increased even to per cent. over the level of ten years ago (in the days before the Seven-Hour Day Act), coals could, even to-day, be sold at a price which would enable trade to revive with little or no loss of weekly wages to the colliers, who would within a few months be all fully employed, instead of so many of them being only able to secure intermittent work, as at present. Thirdly, all Britons must realise that it is only by harder work for longer hours by all sections and classes for the next three or four years that the country can quickly recover from the effects of the Great War. Reduced taxation is, of course, only possible by Government economy. Reduced Government expenditure is bound to come, and it is regrettable that this was not faced resolutely earlier. Commercially, the policy of this country at this time should be to encourage trade enterprise, and as far as possible to remove all fetters from industry. Given these things, and cheap coal, upon which the prosperity of this country is based, a great increase in the volume of the trade of the world will, I am convinced, result.

COAL PRICES AND THEIR EFFECTS.

But coal is still much too dear for peace times. The effects of cheap coal act and react, not only upon shipping but upon all British staple industries.

Dear coal entails a lessened demand for all commodities, consequent unemployment, and high costs of living. Cheap coal makes its own demand in the world's markets, brings employment in its train, reduces the costs of living, both directly and indirectly, by drawing tonnage and produce from the ends of the earth to Britain for its coal exports, provided the coal is cheap. In my opinion, the

trade depression is by no means over, although I hope that the Smuts, we have passed the worst. But a practical recognition of the labour I have just indicated would herald and also hasten the dawn of prosperous days. This company has been in existence 12 years. It has been built up on sound conservative lines, and I think we may face the future, whatever it may be, with equanimity. Before formally moving the adoption of the report, I should like to take this opportunity of publicly conveying our congratulations to Sir Vernon Thomson on the honour of knighthood conferred upon him in June last for the most excellent service he rendered to the country for some three years at the Ministry of Shipping. I now beg to propose:—"That the report and accounts for the year ending September 30, 1921, as submitted, be received and adopted, and that the dividend recommended therein be declared and paid."

Mr George Dodd seconded the motion.

MR SNELL ON COMPANY'S SOUND POSITION.

Mr M. B. Snell: Mr Chairman, first of all I should like thoroughly to endorse your remarks about Sir Vernon Thomson, who has been with us so many years. I think your remarks are quite appropriate, and will be fully endorsed by the shareholder generally. I should like just to say a very few words with respect to the report itself. I think I am an original shareholder in the company; at any rate, my holding goes back for a great number of years. The company started with very small beginnings, but has been gradually getting larger and larger, until now it has, of at the respectable capitalisation of £1,000,000 of money; and, I think, pleases me more than anything else at a time like this—a time of the greatest depression I have ever seen. 12 years of experience of the City, great depreciation in all directions—is the statement made in the report and made by you, Sir, that at the date to which the accounts are made up the capital of the company and the reserve fund also, amounting to another £165,000, were more than intact; and when I see you add the word "more," I know what it means. I am highly delighted, as I am sure my fellow-shareholders are, at the very brilliant way in which this company has been conducted. I am certain in my own mind that there can be very few—I doubt if there is one—of the big investment companies at the present time that can say they have got their capital and reserve fund more than intact. I am sure, Mr Chairman, when I say this, that I may express the good wishes of the shareholders and their congratulations to you upon arriving at such a position.

The resolution was then put to the meeting and unanimously adopted.

The Chairman proposed the re-election of the retiring director Mr George Dodd.

Mr Arthur A. Baumann seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

The auditors, Messrs Fookes, Hickman, and Co., were re-elected.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

GOODE, DURRANT, AND CO., LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF THE FUTURE.

The 23rd ordinary general meeting of Goode, Durrant, and Co. Limited, was held, on the 11th instant, at the registered office of the company, No. 27 Milton street, London, Mr Albion J. William (vice-chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the directors' report and the audited balance-sheet for the financial year ended July 20, 1921, expressed regret that the balance to the credit of the profit and loss account was only about half the amount shown for the preceding year, but he considered there was every reason for thankfulness that this result had been achieved at the end of such an abnormal year of trading.

When the 22nd annual meeting was held in October of last year the company was still enjoying a period of considerable prosperity, but in the month of November prices for all manufactured goods began to drop, and the retail trade simultaneously stopped buying except for bare necessities. Consequently, when the half year finished in January last, the company was holding very large stocks, and from that time up to the end of the year, July 20th last, there was a very serious and unprecedented fall in the value of goods held by the company, which at July 20th had to be written down to market value.

In spite of this fall in the value of goods held, the company was able to show a balance to the credit of the profit and loss account of £36,497, including the amount brought forward from last year.

Before asking the shareholders to pass the resolution, the Chairman stated that he would like to add that, according to the advice received from Australia up to the end of October, business was not going forward in a satisfactory manner, and the company looked forward with confidence to the coming year. He could not speak too highly of the efforts put forth by the company's officials, both in London and Australia, during the past year.

statement. Pennick seconded the resolution, and it was unanimously enclosed that the directors' report and the audited balance-sheets for the year ended July 20, 1921, be received and adopted; weak dividend of 6½ per cent. per annum on the preference shares paid in April and October last be confirmed, and that a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares of the company be declared and paid, making, with the interim dividend paid in April last, 10 per cent. for the year.

The Chairman proposed the re-election of the retiring directors, Messrs H. Heale and F. Simonett, and thanked them for their past services.

Mr A. T. Wreford seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Messrs. Newman Ogle, Son, and Co. were reappointed auditors for the ensuing year.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the chairman and also to the staffs in London and Australia.

UNITED DAIRIES, LIMITED.

OUR DAILY MILK.

Mr Reginald Butler, chairman of United Dairies, Limited, in the course of his address at the sixth ordinary shareholders' meeting of that company, held, on the 11th instant, at the Connaught Rooms, London, said: The report and accounts show that the net profits brought into this year's balance-sheet amount to £356,185, to which must be added the £102,509 brought forward from the previous year, giving a total of £458,694, an increase of £94,103 over the corresponding figures of last year. After payment of preference dividend and the final dividend on the ordinary shares recommended by your directors (making 12½ per cent. per annum), there will remain, subject to excess profits duty and corporation tax, £132,719 to be carried forward. In connection with the payment for the purchase of new businesses acquired during the year under review, we have issued, or shall issue, over 62,000 shares on the whole, of which we shall pay dividends or three months longer than we have brought in revenue. At the 30th your subsidiary companies had an accumulation of 10 months' profits. This is ordinarily the most profitable period of our financial year, and whilst I have no reason to believe that it has not maintained its record, I do not think it would be correct to treat the profits in any given period as realised profits independently of the total results for the year. Although trade has been declining and prices generally reduced, you will be gratified to know that our business continues to expand—the collective turnover for the year under review exceeded 8 million pounds, being more than one million pounds in excess of the previous year.

THE MILK INDUSTRY AND THE TRADES BOARD.

The directors of United Dairies, Limited, continue to devise and carry out improvements in the company's factories, creameries, and depots, recognising that reduced production costs depend very largely upon the earliest possible adoption to the newest and most efficient labour-saving machinery, and constant application of the most progressive ideas in factory design and management. Wages also largely influence production costs, and on this point let me state in a sentence what is our attitude towards the Trades Board so far as it affects the milk industry in its distributing branch. Our feeling in that respect is that the Trades Board ought to have all the support that we can give it. There are many inequalities in the labour conditions of the distributing

trade, and the aim of the Trades Board to standardise those conditions is a right one. Our position in this matter is in harmony with our general policy, which is to endeavour to ensure for everyone connected with the industry a fair recompense for the services he renders to it.

HOW THE RETAIL PRICE OF MILK IS FIXED.

The period covered by the accounts has been a difficult one both for the distributor and the producer. As distributors we have had to face the fact that the price of our raw material, milk, has been such that any milk manufactured into butter or cheese involves a loss of many pence per gallon. The disparity between the price of milk and that of milk products has never in our experience been so great as at present—taking the average cost of our milk for this winter any milk made into cheese will probably return barely one-half of its cost price—and in fixing our retail prices of milk these losses have to be estimated as closely as possible, and provided for. If we cut down our purchases so that we had no surplus, there would be times when the consumer could not obtain anything like their requirements. The producer would be discouraged, and in the course of a very few years production would be enormously decreased, to the lasting disadvantage of the public. Wages on the distributing side are still at the highest point, and agricultural wages until quite recently showed no reduction.

A SQUARE DEAL.

We are often criticised. May I become critic in my turn, and ask the consumer, is he always so mindful as he ought to be of the claim of the producer to "fair treatment"? It is an important question. We, as consumers, expect to receive our supplies of milk every day of the year, delivered at our doors at a definite hour, almost at a precise minute; we expect to get it in quantities large or small, much or little according as our domestic arrangements vary, and the day's menu for the household is adjusted. And we insist that it shall be clean and sweet, and pure—rightly so, for our health depends upon it. These requirements demanded of our home-produced milk supplies are fairly exacting if you think them over, but they are on the whole complied with. But now think: Are we consumers giving the producer a square deal or anything like a square deal, when, having saddled him with these requirements, we turn aside and spend our money, that English gold of which we are so short, on foreign milk produced under conditions which we do not and cannot control? "Clean milk" is the cry when we deal with the home producer, and to ensure that we get it we pay official inspectors galore out of public funds, besides which, as I have told you, this company employs a service of its own, costing it many thousands of pounds per annum. There is no necessity to look abroad for our milk supplies; this country can produce all the milk that it will require for many years to come, even with that greatly increased consumption of milk in the raw state, which I hold to be a national need. Then do not go outside; give the home producer that square deal.

I recall, continued Mr Butler, a forecast which I made at our last annual meeting. It was "that during the following winter months the average retail price of milk charged the London consumer (and which area the retail trade of United Dairies, Limited, is to all intents and purposes confined), would not exceed the average price paid in many provincial towns." As facts turned out, the average London price was even less than that ruling in some provincial centres. The forecast was amply justified. It is anticipated that the retail price in London this winter will be eight pence per gallon below last year.

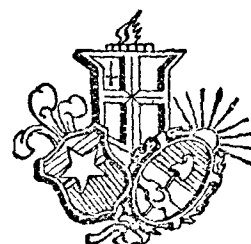
The report was duly seconded and carried.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000

Head Office:

62, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.



AFFILIATIONS:

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD., and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

NORTH ANANTAPUR GOLD MINES, LIMITED.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR COPPER CONCESSION.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the North Anantapur Gold Mines, Limited, was held, on the 3rd inst., at the offices of the company, 6 Queen street place, London, Mr V. Herbert Smith (the chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr W. L. Bayley, F.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: During the 12 months ended on June 30th last 8,800 tons of quartz was crushed, from which 9,977 ounces of gold was produced. At the cyanide works 9,800 tons of sand and slime was treated, giving 965 ounces of gold, while a further 357 ounces of gold was obtained by dump retreatment, making a total of 11,299 ounces of fine gold, worth £61,823. During the previous year 14,118 ounces of fine gold was produced, which realised £62,592. It will be seen that during the year now under review there was a decrease in the total gross return of 2,819 ounces of fine gold, but owing to the increased premium on gold received the diminution in actual money received on sales amounted only to £769. The revenue expenditure, as shown in the accounts, amounted to £31,677, and the receipts, after deducting royalty paid to the Indian Government, came to £62,031, which left a profit of £30,354, as compared with £37,980 for the preceding year. The total cash distributions for the year were 5s 6d per share on the preference shares and 1s 6d per share on the ordinary shares, in each instance less income-tax. After making provision for these payments, and the other sums shown in the profit and loss account, a credit balance still remains of £9,074 to be carried forward to the current account, which will be subject to excess profits duty (if any) and corporation profits tax. With the addition of £10,000 charged to this year's profit and loss account, the reserve account now stands at £20,000. I regret that the underground work at the mine carried out up to this time has not resulted in the discovery of any further payable ore, and therefore it cannot be many months before milling will have to cease. It is interesting to note that this mine produced, from May, 1910, up to June 30th last, 213,021 tons of ore, from which have been extracted 122,252 ounces of gold, of a value of £534,838, the average extraction from the ore having been 11 dwts 15 grs of gold per ton.

In the directors' report for the year ended on June 30, 1920, the shareholders were informed that negotiations were proceeding with a view to obtaining an option over a copper concession situate in Chota Nagpur, North-East India. The actual agreement has not yet been executed, owing to delay having occurred in the matter of the vendor obtaining the full mining titles over the property. Everything possible, however, is being done to expedite this, and we are hopeful that it will not be long now before we are in a position to start serious work on the property.

The Hon. Lionel Holland seconded the resolution.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Nov. 14th-Nov. 19th, were opened on Nov. 11, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £78,340,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £99 os 6d, about 75 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 os 9d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 17s 0.43d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
Oct. 14 (3 months)	60,000,000	127,825,000	3 18 3.13	3½	£99 Os 2d (Monday to Friday bills) and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 Os 4d about 63.8% and above in full. £99 1s 3d (Monday to Friday bills) about 81.5% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 6d and above in full.
Oct. 21 (3 months)	60,000,000	84,160,000	3 13 8.38	3½	£99 1s 1d (Monday to Friday bills), about 80.18% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 4d, and above in full. £99 Os 7d (Monday to Friday bills), about 44.79%, and above in full. £99 Os 10d (above in full). Saturday bills £99 Os 6d (Monday to Friday bills), about 75%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 Os 9d and above in full.
Oct. 28 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,445,000	3 14 5.63	3½	
Nov. 4 (3 months)	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 2.6	3½	
Nov. 11 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 12 0.43	3½	

The amount to be offered next week will be £40,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Receipts Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Govern- ment Securi- ties.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	18,500	..	49.1	9,924	11,423
Dec. 30.	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	49.1	9,924	9,282
1915.									
Dec. 29.	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536
1916.									
Dec. 27.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868
1917.									
Dec. 26.	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	188,637	5,488
1918.									
Dec. 31.	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 26.	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413
June 25.	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1.	335,021	16,524	250	330	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,902
1920.									
Mar. 31.	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,281
June 30.	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305
Sept. 29.	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385
Dec. 29.	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141	
June 29.	323,884	14,951	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,756	150	
Sept. 28.	314,382	14,830	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	243	
Oct. 26.	311,575	14,199	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.4	274,670	155	
Nov. 2.	313,655	13,937	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	276,500	142	
9.	314,118	14,016	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	277,008	176	

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from to Nov. 5, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from to Nov. 6, 1921.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 5, 1921.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 6, 1921.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs	126,800,000	77,086,000	81,944,000	2,776,000	2,220,000
Excise	196,200,000	114,165,000	110,945,000	1,742,000	1,693,000
Motor Vehicle Duties	8,000,000	3,143,000	205,000	205,000	..
Stamp Duty	21,000,000	29,451,000	28,017,000	650,000	1,208,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	440,000	390,000	10,000	..
House Duty	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	159,729,000	143,079,000	4,115,000	3,530,000
Excess Profits Duties	120,000,000	23,714,000	128,497,000	..	3,197,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	7,160,000	270,000	..	..
Post Office	60,000,000	28,500,000	28,500,000	1,000,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands	650,000	390,000	360,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans	12,000,000	7,272,228	11,266,041	..	1,000,000
Miscellaneous	21,500,000	14,810,976	14,574,977	74,812	2,193,403
Ordinary Receipts	158,500,000	60,168,839	181,857,058	2,035,765	1,500,000
Special Receipts	..	..	..	..	..
Revenue	1,216,650,000	540,678,043	744,965,076	12,958,577	18,434,403
Total, Inc. Balance	..	543,752,549	754,334,173	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Budget	..	5,030,000	2,590,000	300,000	100,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904)	169,818	62,631	189,818	62,631	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	..	520,000	..	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	40,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,655,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply	2,505,225,000	2,478,870,000	68,594,000	85,903,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1909-90	..	270,552	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	769,061	..	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925	..	89,777	..	..	..
By National Savings Certificates	..	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	..	20,400,000	..	..	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920	23,830,000	3,450,000	800,000	550,000	..
By National War Bonds	..	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—					
5-15 year, 1925-35	1,024,990	11,944,000	..	..	170,000
5% 1923	97,579,459	..	26,035,000	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	10,858,639	25,625,344	3,008,817	1,000,000	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances	839,507,000	830,790,000	50,400,000	16,750,000	..
Anglo-Persian Oil Company	..	3,482	..	..	..
Dividends on Shares acquired	..	..	..	..	..
Repayments—					
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1913	7,250,000	..	..	..	..
Do issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	38,681	6,892	2,793	1,361	..
Do issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	1,677,000	..	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	178,666	..	..	..	..
Total	4,044,920,781	4,131,775,912	162,269,000	122,971,400	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from to Nov. 5, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from to Nov. 6, 1921.	Issues, Week Ending Nov. 5, 1921.	Issues, Week Ending Nov. 6, 1921.
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt	24,500,000	9,875,161	10,403,313	..	..
Interest, &c., on War Debt	320,500,000	206,429,604	204,382,361	9,525,101	11,861,006
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,519,000	2,429,902	339,574	409,574
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	5,405,312	5,246,917	..	..
Land Settlement	5,000,000	2,055,773	3,901,751	59,401	..
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	953,892	1,235,806	9,296	..
Supply Services	758,932,000	375,840,759	427,440,129	10,321,728	11,642,538
Expenditure	1,150,204,000	603,079,501	655,040,179	20,225,100	23,913,118
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Budget	..	4,850,000	2,700,000	300,000	150,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	4,905,000	..	..	..	..
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	3,100,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	90,000	..	25,000	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply	2,507,881,000	2,497,594,000	75,760,000	81,705,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	22,239,644	38,499,307	407,638	1,520,603	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920	11,300,000	19,850,000	500,000	600,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise	9,200,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22	18,704,490	2,580,000	..	..	..
1920-21	..	..	..	..	..
6% 1920	..	2,580,000	..	..	..
5%, 1921	18,704,490	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	49,238,131	41,902,939	17,500,000	1,000,000	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915	..	59,223,221	..	1,223,221	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	776,738,000	791,063,000	46,900,000	13,500,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	17,960,134	15,960,134	900,000	..	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4)	11,515,000	725,000	650,000	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	111,200	197,766	50,000	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England	4,041,425,892	4,128,731,364	163,192,738	123,642,942	..
Bank of Ireland	2,112,346	2,030,622	34,051	46,830	..
Bank of Ireland	1,382,543	1,013,926	957,784	621,710	..
Total	3,494,889	3,044,548	923,733	671,540	..

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, November 7, 1921.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, November 9, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes Issued	145,054,635	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	126,604,635
	145,054,635		145,054,635

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities ..	37,301,750
Reserve	3,127,312	Other securities	80,833,555
Public deposits	17,892,614	Notes	20,651,445
Current deposits	105,013,211	Gold and silver coin ..	1,816,218
Seven-day & other bills ..	16,831		
	140,602,968		140,602,968

MONTHLY STATEMENT OF LONDON CLEARING BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

Average Weekly Balances. October, 1921.	Bank of Liverpool and Maritime Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	County of London and West Middlesex Bank, Limited.	Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westm'r and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Willm's Deacon's Bank, Limited.	Total.
ASSETS.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England.....	8,299	39,111	1,650	2,514	37,885	57,679	34,334	30,880	4,050	4,734	221,136
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom.....	2,030	7,477	481	1,026	9,148	10,602	8,492	6,862	150	1,353	47,621
Items in transit.....	8,386	21,442	3,171	7,687	12,678	12,101	18,083	14,933	8,825	3,338	110,644
Money at call and short notice.....	9,865	80,086	2,434	577	93,749	71,260	93,479	53,290	3,425	4,847	413,012
Bills discounted.....	11,290	56,447	4,576	6,455	68,875	52,532	54,487	46,093	14,364	5,579	320,698
Investments.....	40,050	141,931	7,532	6,377	134,328	183,597	122,032	131,867	18,049	18,763	804,586
Advances to customers and other accounts											
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	3,804	6,319	253	1,058	6,675	17,318	11,251	3,085	542	1,143	51,448
Bank premises account.....	1,311	4,487	346	370	5,509	4,489	4,079	3,919	495	671	25,876
Investments in affiliated banks.....	..	8,233	..	..	7,642	3,258	2,991	2,240	..	..	24,364
	85,035	365,593	20,443	26,064	376,489	412,836	349,228	293,169	49,900	40,428	2,019,185
Ratio of cash to current, deposit, and other accounts.....	10.71	11.65	8.87	10.76	10.96	15.43	10.73	11.35	9.24	13.0	11.9
LIABILITIES.											
Capital paid up.....	2,348	15,592	800	1,000	14,373	10,861	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,662
Reserve fund.....	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,861	9,004	8,878	980	1,000	51,673
Current, deposit, and other accounts.....	77,483	335,432	18,590	23,355	345,441	373,797	319,955	271,897	43,793	36,410	1,846,153
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	3,804	6,319	253	1,058	6,675	17,317	11,251	3,085	542	1,143	51,447
Notes in circulation.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	..	3,085	..	3,099
Reduction of bank premises account.....	..	..	..	151	..	..	..	..	..	..	151
	85,035	365,593	20,443	26,064	376,489	412,836	349,228	293,169	49,900	40,428	2,019,185

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

Resources.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Nov. 1, 1920.
Total gold reserve.....	2,800,260	+ 14,020	2,003,320
Legal tender notes and silver reserve.....	145,410	+ 5,500	164,720
Loans and discounts.....	1,260,430	+ 25,170	2,003,320
Bills discounted for member banks.....	87,500	+ 25,170	2,003,320
Bills bought in open market.....	201,530	+ 10,580	296,370
Government obligations owned.....	58,070	+ 2,390	34,550
LIABILITIES.			
Government deposits.....	59,920	+ 13,300	18,750
Other deposits.....	1,682,420	+ 9,510	1,655,800
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation.....	2,408,120	+ 660	3,351,300
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation.....	64,890	+ 3,030	214,900
All other liabilities.....	23,390	+ 650	95,320
Capital and surplus.....	316,840	+ 10	262,500
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined.....	71%	+ 0.2%	43.1%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

ASSETS.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
Cash and bank balances.....	477,633,821	476,811,646	521,673,747
Bank balances abroad.....	65,867,493	65,128,352	83,089,933
Call and short loans.....	263,872,952	268,443,419	307,487,168
Securities.....	372,734,891	385,571,393	363,444,692
Loans in Canada.....	1,331,201,118	1,338,883,309	1,483,034,424
Loans abroad.....	150,763,865	155,238,085	200,945,242
Other assets.....	105,199,238	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation.....	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,733,864
Deposits.....			
Government.....	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,337
Public in Canada.....	1,807,193,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,909,439
Foreign.....	268,088,677	274,321,912	356,570,176
Bank balances—			
Canadian.....	10,078,772	10,300,260	9,554,379
Foreign.....	46,033,427	39,025,582	49,041,433
Bills payable and acceptances.....	37,202,050	40,429,404	51,202,045
Other liabilities.....	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Capital and rest.....	264,331,734	264,326,515	256,705,275

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion.....	5,523,967	5,523,892	5,488,507	+ 75	3,730,625
Of which held abroad.....	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367	..	1,948,367
Silver coin and bullion.....	2,164,689	2,164,689	2,164,689	..	2,164,689
Discount and advances.....	4,636,555	4,636,555	4,636,555	..	4,636,555
LIABILITIES.					
Notes.....	37,376,499	37,522,085	39,619,154	+ 145,586	5,817,875
Government deposits.....	34,772	32,567	55,201	+ 2,205	183,700
Private deposits.....	2,483,362	2,624,913	3,605,817	+ 141,581	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Nov. 5, 1921.	Oct. 29, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold.....	5,507,142	5,507,142	5,507,142	..	5,507,142
Silver.....	616,485	616,485	616,485	..	616,485
Loans and debts.....	2,164,689	2,164,689	2,164,689	..	2,164,689
Spanish 4% stock.....	344,475	344,475	344,475	..	344,475
Treasury bills.....	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation.....	4,343,485	4,343,485	4,343,485	..	4,343,485
Deposits.....	1,046,197	1,046,197	1,046,197	..	1,046,197

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

ASSETS.	Oct. 13, 1921.	Sept. 28, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
Gold and balances abroad.....	1,358,936,212	1,383,819,952	1,497,542,277	— 24,883,740	— 138,606,065
Government loans and securities.....	2,174,108,464	2,177,561,112	865,860,628	+ 3,453,648	+ 130,824,735
Discounts and loans.....	650,006,287	610,256,594	642,562,211	+ 39,749,693	+ 7,444,076
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	2,050,820,776	1,950,038,170	1,489,043,288	+ 107,826,606	+ 561,777,488
Government deposits.....	144,018,854	133,209,488	127,501,055	+ 10,697,366	+ 16,515,793
Private sight deposits.....	839,468,031	879,303,961	753,478,727	+ 39,841,930	+ 85,989,364
Private deposits at fixed dates.....	901,166,854	890,970,596	544,646,451	+ 10,196,258	+ 356,520,403

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Sept. 24, 1921.	Sept. 17, 1921.	Oct. 2, 1920.	Movement.	Position June 30, 1914.
Gold and silver.....	1,269,803	1,274,192	1,275,387	1,024,028	+ 250,359	221,320
Discounts.....	94,570	30,913	39,367	151,658	+ 63,657	41,740
Advances.....	106,280	97,521	101,212	181,449	+ 6,669	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Notes.....	1,229,694	1,213,166	1,075,541	1,142,538	+ 106,528	362,270
Govt. deposits.....	1,355,234	1,363,791	1,398,813	1,323,565	+ 8,557	87,340
Private deposits.....	33,769	70,222	97,830	49,888	+ 36,453	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 25, 1921.	Oct. 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold.....	993,631	1,023,632	1,021,594	— 30,001	1,315,240
Silver.....	14,327	16,203	6,650	+ 1,953	321,920
Treasury notes.....	4,589,992	3,310,196	21,340,019	+ 1,279,796	913,460
Bills discounted.....	99,586,242	92,687,852	53,807,493	+ 6,898,390	60,780
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	91,527,679	88,144,195	63,596,445	+ 3,383,484	2,013,860
Deposits.....	16,302,663	15,387,247	17,945,359	+ 4,915,416	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1921.	Sept. 20, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Total cash.....	1,366,614	1,337,486	1,192,652	+ 29,128	1,221,875
Inland bills.....	3,053,645	2,938,398	2,879,554	+ 115,247	318,400
Foreign bills.....	19,475	19,512	20,484	+ 37	81,300
Advances to the Treasury.....	6,542,307	6,492,934	8,076,398	+ 49,375	..
Other advances.....	2,680,652	2,566,284	2,337,045	+ 114,378	79,175
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	14,322,705	13,992,744	14,903,368	+ 329,961	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts.....	1,606,347	1,615,678	1,901,414	+ 9,331	192,975

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 16, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold.....	4,339,722	4,189,722	2,800,221	+ 50,000	..
Silver, &c.....	365	365	..	..	..
Discounts.....	108,438	157,393	48,310	+ 49,555	..
Government loan.....	12,904,398	10,874,309	6,888,350	+ 30,095	..
Other advances.....	2,310,854	2,401,367	2,214,140	+ 90,512	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	12,496,256	12,401,360	8,223,444	+ 94,896	..
Deposits.....	5,971,958	6,058,460	4,316,017	+ 86,482	..

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 24, 1921.	Nov. 8, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold.....	605,969	605,969	605,969	605,969	..	153,092
Silver.....	8,623	8,921	9,149	19,354	+ 293	8,435
Discounts and advances.....	479,424	486,955	456,472	478,827	+ 7,531	155,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	1,054,282	1,056,405	1,020,628	1,090,924	+ 2,123	316,633
Deposits.....	43,722	46,684	53,586	86,953	+ 2,952	5,016

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold.....	544,896	544,870	544,850	540,875	+ 26	171,175
Silver.....	124,025	124,025	124,025	101,640	..	18,350
Discounts and advances.....	18,836	15,460	16,405	18,656	+ 376	103,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	954,984	970,013	915,779	982,094	+ 19,029	275,925
Deposits.....	73,339	131,030	92,656	110,684	+ 57,691	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to October 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,184,000, of which Fr. 16,460,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Nov. 5, 1921.	Oct. 29, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement	Year's Movement	May 24, 1914.
	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	—	Kronor.	Kronor.
Gold	275,418	275,520	282,497	- 102	7,079	104,918
Balance abt. and foreign bills	103,322	103,752	107,441	- 430	4,119	112,172
Swedish and for Gov. securities	20,749	20,751	44,964	- 5	24,215	32,455
Discount and loans	435,115	410,129	573,569	+ 24,986	138,454	112,668
Notes in circulation	640,387	629,035	760,558	+ 11,352	120,171	228,555
Deposits at notice	127,689	120,954	164,235	+ 6,735	36,546	69,660

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.	10,084,471	10,084,462	10,084,471	+ 9
Discount and advances.	4,202,631	3,530,435	3,530,956	+ 672,196
Gold.	1,224,528	1,361,000	1,439,479	+ 136,472
Other assets.	1,296,581	1,231,393	1,247,434	+ 64,988
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation.	12,127,159	11,206,312	11,225,219	+ 1,120,847
Deposits.	1,626,982	1,591,264	2,050,522	+ 364,232
Other liabilities.	2,853,870	3,009,714	2,956,599	- 155,844

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENEES.
(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold.	73,835	74,546	74,620	74,574	- 711
Other coin and notes.	20,370	19,346	18,495	18,970	+ 1,024
Foreign credits.	330,714	336,516	320,340	327,543	+ 5,802
Bills.	590,214	551,735	515,197	501,832	+ 38,478
Govt. advances.	4,423,730	4,343,158	4,333,351	4,325,400	+ 80,752
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.	4,495,432	4,407,257	4,419,569	4,472,694	+ 68,175
State credits.	369,827	369,827	370,036	370,036	-
Deposits.	372,317	500,365	424,004	345,501	- 128,048

LONDON RATES.

	Nov. 4, 1921.	Nov. 5, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Nov. 8, 1921.	Nov. 9, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 5½% Nov. 3, 1921).	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount.							
60 days' bankers' drafts.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
3 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
4 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
6 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Discount (Treasury Bills):—							
3 months.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Loans:—Day to day.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Short.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Deposit allowances: Banks.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Discount houses at call.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
At notice.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.		
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.
1921.		%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Aug.	25.....	4	4	4	5	5	5	6
Sept.	2.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	9.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	16.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	23.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	30.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
Oct.	7.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	14.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	21.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	28.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
Nov.	4.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6
	11.....	4	4	4	4	4	4	6

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Nov. 12, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 4, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 11, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	58-35-40	53-40-45
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-45	220-222	885-890
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	1210 (e)	1000-1095
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	315 (e)	11000
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20-43	1300 (e)	350-390
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22½	235-240	11500
Budapest	kor. to £1	T.T.	24-02	..	600-615
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	3150-3350	4500
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	230-250	710-750
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	120-130	305
Amsterdam	dollar to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-32-35½	360-370
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	55-70-75	11-35-38
Christiania	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-70-75	56-90-95
Stockholm	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-94-97	26-95-27-00
Copenhagen	krone to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-68-73	17-10-15
Helsingfors	marks to £1	T.T.	25-22½	153-156	21-07-12
Geneva	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	37-95-38-00	203-208
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22½	97-97½	95-96
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	22-07-12	96½-97
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	28-50-55	22-07-12
Lisbon	escudo to £1	T.T.	53½	81-83	28-30-35
Alexandria	piastres to £1	T.T.	97½	97½-97½	5-5½
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-85½	3-37-37½	3-94-94½
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-85½	3-77-78	3-93½-94½
Buenos Ayres	pesos to £1	T.T.	47-58½	53½-54	44½-44½
Rio de Janeiro	pesos to £1	T.T.	51	55-56	44½-44½
Montevideo	pesos to £1	T.T.	13-13	55-56	44½-44½
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	T.T.	13-13	55-56	44½-44½
Lima	soles to £1	T.T.	13-13	55-56	44½-44½
Calcutta	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Bombay	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Madras	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Hong Kong	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Shanghai	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Singapore	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Yokohama	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Manila	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½
Mexico	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to 10	18-8½-8½	18-8½-8½

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (e) Sellers.

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	6 .. July 21, 1921 ..	5 ..	June 23, 1921
Deposit	2½ .. Nov. 4, 1921 ..	3 ..	June 23, 1921

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate			Bank Rate		
Changed.			Changed.		
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915	2 44	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920	2 6
Athens	May 15, 1920	5 54	Paris	July 28, 1921	5 5
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	5 5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	5 5
Brussels	May 19, 1921	5 5	Rome	May 11, 1921	5 5
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	5 5	Sofia	June 14, 1919	5 6
Calcutta	June 2, 1921	5 5	Stockholm	Oct. 19, 1921	5 5
Christiania	July 5, 1921	5 6 1/2	Swiss Bank		
Copenhagen	Nov. 5, 1921	5 1/2	places	Aug. 11, 1921	4 5
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	5 9	Tokio	Nov. 18, 1919	5 6
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	7 5	Vienna	Apr. 15, 1921	6 5
New York Federa	Nov. 2, 1921	4 1/2	Warsaw	Sep. 1921	7 5
ral Reserve					

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.
Call money	6 ..	4½ ..	5½ ..	5 ..	5½ ..
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral) ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	4½ ..	4½ ..	4½ ..	4½ ..	4½ ..
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	5 ..	5 ..	5 ..	5 ..	5 ..
Ineligible, 90 days	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..	5½ ..

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 11, 1920.	Rate, Oct. 27, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 3, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 10, 1921.
London—					
Cable	48666	330	38425	39050	393625
Cheques		336	39275	39450	391125
Paris		1750	72500	73950	72550
Brussels		1650	71150	717	695
Switzerland		654	1838	1862	1880
Italy		1930	42940	39450	408
Berlin		2383	114	05500	04775
Vienna		2026	028	0525	0375
Amsterdam		1310	1900	1855	1839
Copenhagen		1310	1900	1855	1839
Stockholm		1310	1900	1855	1839
Cents for 1 kroner ..	2680	1310	1900	1855	1839
Athens		1930	905	455	430
Montreal		100	8925	9187	9112
Yokohama		4985	50625	4795	4795
Hong Kong		..	6750	5625	5540
Shanghai		..	9250	7875	7520
Calcutta		..	2875	27125	2675
Buenos Aires		10365	13175	13700	13550
Rio de Janeiro		3242	..	129	1285
Valparaiso		2060	..	1150	1150

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 11, 1920.	Rate, Oct. 27, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 3, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 10, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	5926	382½	176	138
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	12545	880	330	255
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	8838	605	260	267
Christiania			880	455	348

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quote the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Nov. 5 14-60
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	"	Nov. 2 23-50
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	484	"	Nov. 7 91
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31d	"	Nov. 3 3-85
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24-65d	"	Oct. 26 8-10
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	268d	"	Nov. 5 196-02
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	"	Aug. 13 18-25
Bolivia	Pence to Boliviano	..	"	Oct. 7 13½

LATVIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

Riga on—	Mar. 24, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Nov. 1, 1921.
London	Latvian roubles for £1	1,875	1,900
New York	"	1,460	1,470
Paris	"	3,950	4,050
Stockholm	"	11,000	11,200
Copenhagen	"	8,400	8,600
Christiania	"	7,350	7,550
Amsterdam	"	16,500	17,000
Berlin	"	820	830
Helsingfors	"	100 smk.	975
Reval	"	125	130
Warsaw	"	51	53

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates as below:—

Reval on	£1	Buying.	Selling.	Buying.	Selling.
London (cheque)	1510	1525	1510	1525	
Paris	100 Fr	2,750	2,800	2,825	2,850
New York	\$1	385	395	390	395
Stockholm	100 Kr	9,100	9,300	9,000	9,075
Copenhagen	100 Kr	7,350	7,400	7,500	7,550
Berlin	100 Rmk	265	270	275	280
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	625	630	635	640
Riga	100 Lrbl	110	115	110	115
Amsterdam	100 Hfl	13,000	13,100	13,300	13,400

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
	Buying.	Selling.
London on South Africa.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.
Demand	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.
30 days	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.
60 days	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.
90 days	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.
120 days	1 ½ dis.	1 ½ prem.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	..	..
Sight	..	..
Cable	..	..
On demand	95½	95½
30 days	95½	95½
60 days	95½	95½
90 days	95½	95½
120 days	95½	95½
5 months' sight ..	..	..
6 months' sight ..	..	..

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921. Rs.		Nov. 5, 1921. Rs.
Outstanding with public	43,73,55,000	....	30,73,10,000
In paper currency reserve.....	61,26,00,000	....	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	....	90,73,10,000
India Office, November 9, 1921.			

NOTICES.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new branches at 52 Monnow street, Monmouth, and 38 Castle street, Beaumaris, Anglesey, under the management of Mr F. V. Hammett and Mr A. Thomas respectively. An office has also been opened at Combe Martin, Devon.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce the opening of branches on November 14th, at 150 Hoxton street, N. 1, under the management of Mr H. D. C. Gibson, also at 19-21 Moorgate street and 57 Coleman street, E.C. 2, to be known as the Moorgate street branch, under the management of Mr W. L. White, who will also continue to manage the Lothbury branch, and at 91 Victoria road, Aldershot, under the management of Mr S. Miall.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce announce that a branch of the bank will be opened on 14th inst. in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at 63, 65, and 67 Avenida Rio Branco.

A branch of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Limited, has been opened at Suez.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER, 1921.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.	Tons.	
Bisichi	45	
Deeb ok Dredging	30	
El Landa Nigeria	30	
Filani	64	
Gold Coast Cons.	2	
Gopeng Cons.	92	Est. value, £8,280; est. costs, £2,500.
Iris	194	Est. value, £1,726; est. costs, £1,233.
Ipo	254	
Jos	8	
Kinla	412	Value, £3,803; gross profit, £2,473.
Kramat Pula	531	Profit, including tribute, £1,150.
Lshat	531	Value, £4,912; costs, £3,947.
Malayan	774	Value, £7,280; costs, £7,523.
Naraguta Ext.	25	Despatched 39 tons.
Nigerian Cons.	69	
N. Nigeria (Bauchi) ..	55	
Pahang Cons.	203	Black tin: alluvial, 87 tons.
Pasing	18	Revenue, £222; gross profit, £76.
Rambutan	133	Est. value, £1,635; est. costs, £750.
Ropp	4	
Rukuba	119	Despatched 4 tons.
Siamese	48	Tin ore.
Sungei Besi	39	Tin ore. Est. value, £4,592; est. costs, £2,843.
Tekka	23	Est. value, £3,500; est. costs, £1,400.
Tekka-Tai-ping	60	Est. value, £2,065; est. costs, £1,810.
Tongkah Harbour	60	
Copper.		
Chinese Engineering ..	93,431	Week ended October 29th.
Clydesdale	16,431	Coalbrook; 18,728 tons Blackhill.
East Kent	1,962	Week ended Nov. 5th.
Natal Navigation	92,289	Profit for Sept. quarter, £37,500.
Twefontein United	2,807	
Miscellaneous.		
Akim Diamond	205	carats.
Burma Ruby	233	rubies valued at Rs.54,000; royalties, Rs.11,000.
Casualty Syndicate	102,000	233 diamonds, weighing 90 carats, and 17 ozs gold.
Keeley Silver	1,240	102,000 ozs silver.
North Broken Hill	1,340	Lead concentrates, 65% lead, 23 ozs silver.
Rhodesia Broken Hill ..	1,420	Zinc concentrates, averaging 48% zinc.

BROKEN HILL SOUTH.—Cable:—"For four weeks ended November 5th, 10,500 tons of crude ore and 10,677 tons of dump slime were treated, and produced 3,627 tons of concentrates, assaying 57 per cent. lead and 28 ozs of silver per ton."

THE BROKEN HILL PROPERTIES COMPANY. Report for four weeks ending September 14, 1921.—Coke ovens: Production was—coke, 22,828 tons; tar, 2,575.33 gallons; sulphate of ammonia, 381 tons. Blast furnace department: Production of iron was—No. 1 furnace, 10,976 tons; No. 2 furnace, 13,151 tons; No. 3 furnace, 8,454 tons. Open hearth plant: Production of steel amounted to 23,377 tons. Blooming mill: Production totalled 21,834 tons. Rail mill: This mill rolled all the steel available during the period, and the total production of 10,390 tons consisted of 55, 60, 80, and 100-lb rails for current orders. Merchant mills: The production was—18 ins mill, 9,032 tons; 12 ins mill, 2,411 tons; 8 ins mill, 1,960 tons. Rod mill produced 2,813 tons of rod. Steel and direct metal foundries: The output amounted to 429.35 tons, and 573 tons of castings respectively. Iron Knob: Tonnage of iron ore shipped to Newcastle amounted to 49,341 tons. Melrose Quarry: Shipments of limestone amounted to 9,947 tons. Tarco: 1,423 tons of limestone were shipped to Newcastle.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA

REGISTERED IN THE TRANSVAAL LTD.

CAPITAL and RESERVE £4,265,000.

THE BANK RECEIVES A MONTHLY CABLED REPORT ON TRADE CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA. COPIES WILL BE FORWARDED ON APPLICATION.

The Bank has Branches and Sub Branches in the principal Towns in the Union of South Africa, South West Protectorate, Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Portuguese East Africa, Kenya Colony and Tanganyika Territory.

LONDON OFFICES:

CIRCUS PLACE, LONDON WALL, E.C.2.
18 ST SWITHIN'S LANE, E.C.4.

WEST END OFFICE:

25 COCKSPUR STREET, S.W.1.

ALSO AT

NEW YORK . ANTWERP . BOMBAY & MAURITIUS.

BURMA CORPORATION, LIMITED (Incorporated in India).—Bawdwin Mines—Cable advice received this day report:—Lead production for the month of October, 3,817 tons gross; refined lead production, 3,198 tons; refined silver production, approximately 401,300 ozs. Refined silver includes 168 tons from September production. Refined silver includes 52,000 ozs from previous month's production and general clean up of plant.

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.			Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Mill.	Cyanide Works.	Total.	£	£
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Abosso	6,275	..	..	..	2,547 (b) 13,118	..	..
Ashanti	7,537	..	..	..	7,012 (a) 29,787	..	..
Associated N. Blocks ..	2,033	..	..	..	..	3,878	373
Victorious	6,176	..	..	..	..	(a) 7,588	..
Associated (W.A.)	3,300	5,100	1,885	486	2,371	..	..
Ulaghat	13,000	..	..	..	4,823 (a) 20,454	..	..
Cam and Motor	11,766	17,729	4,201	668	4,869	..	..
Champion Reef	..	..	..	..	..	6,549	1,671
Consolidated of N.Z.—	..	..	..	..	..	\$188,000	18,000
Blackwater	3,922	..	..	..	..	5,376	23,120
El Oro Mining	33,250	..	..	..	..	..	..
Golden Horse Shoe	10,194	..	..	..	..	6,030	..
Ivanhoe	15,031	..	..	..	..	13,272	1,466
Lake View and Star	5,339	..	..	..	..	4,610	(d) 11,401
Loneley Reef	5,100	..	..	..	..	..	..
Myrtle	17,512	45,819	6,750	3,754	10,504	..	..
New Chungitambo	1,300	..	..	..	..	..	..
North Anantapur	500	800	484	118	602	..	(d) 74
Nandydroog	9,011	15,253	4,747	597	5,344	..	..
Oreogum	12,900	13,580	7,623	873	8,496	..	..
Oriental Cons.	..	..	..	..	..	\$92,870	..
South Ka'guril	7,542	..	..	..	..	13,954	1,081
St John del Rey	..	..	..	..	..	43,500	..
Taqua	3,270	..	..	..	..	(b) 10,741	..
Tomboy	18,000	..	..	..	..	\$18,500	..
Waika (24 days)	13,560	..	3,752	gold	19,838	silver	..
Quarter ended Sept. 30th—	..	..	..	..	..	40,322	..
Summer and Jack	166,400	..	..	..	..	..	36,005

* Loss. (a) Par value. (b) Gold at 103s per oz. (c) Including premium.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

DALGETY AND CO.
June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	1,000,000	Cash	820,437
Prof. shares	50,000	Bills receivable ..	126,674
Reserve	900,000	Advances on land ..	4,429,592
Staff fund	131,000	Merchandise	541,116
Irred. deb. stock ..	2,225,454	Sundry debtors	754,755
Debtors	358,831	Int. accrued	2,170
Int. accrued	2,170	Premises, plant, &c.	243,239
Prof. dividend	12,500	Reserve invest-ments	900,000
Bills payable	88,743	Investments in Gov. stock, &c.	207,558
Sundry creditors ..	2,279,325		
Produce realised ..	215,196		
Bal'ces in transit ..	91,268		
Profit and loss	194,112		
Total	8,023,371	Total	8,023,371

Reports and Notices.

Mr Wm. Moir has been appointed a director of the Lochnagar (Ceylon) Produce Company, Limited, in place of Mr Wm. Milne, deceased.

We are informed that copies of the annual report and accounts of the Sociedad Anónima Manufactura de Tabacos Piccardo y Cia., Ltd., may be obtained at the offices of Messrs Erlangers, 8 Crosby square, E.C. 3.

The directors of the Frederick Hotels, Limited, announce that as a settlement of their final claim against the Government is expected at an early date, they propose deferring the annual general meeting until the amount of compensation to be paid is agreed.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

CONSOLIDATED EXTERNAL DEBT OF COLOMBIA.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders have received the November instalment of the debt service in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

INTEREST ON 5.15 YEAR TREASURY BONDS.—The Treasury announce that the Bank of England having certified that the average rate of discount at which Treasury bills were issued to the public during the half-year ended November 31 did not exceed 5½ per cent. per annum, no additional interest will be payable upon Treasury bonds, 1935, on the next interest date, May 1, 1922.

KINGDOM OF BULGARIA 6 PER CENT. LOAN OF 1892.—Referring to previous announcements with regard to payment in francs, the Imperial Ottoman Bank (Coupon Office, 25 Austinfriars, E.C. 2), is now prepared to receive from British holders coupons and drawn bonds due July, 1917, and January, 1918.

3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT OF VENEZUELA, 1905.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4½d, being the moiety of the seventh fortnightly instalment of the debt service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

INSURANCE.

NATIONAL MUTUAL LIFE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA.—The new business completed by the association during the financial year ended September 30, 1921, exceeds £5,460,000. The branch for Great Britain and Ireland completed £1,387,000 of the association's total new business for the year.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Pay- ment of Deben- ture Interest.	Amount Avail- able for Distri- bution.	Appropriation.					Corresponding Period Last Year	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Deprecia- tion, &c.	Balance Forward	Net Profit.	Divi- dend
					Prefce.	Ordinary.					
					Amount.	Amount	Rate.				
Breweries.											
Boardman's United	Sept. 30	£ 62,709	£ 9,683	£ 72,392	£ 11,910	..	%	£ 60,482	£	£	%
Dartford	Sept. 30	22,554	31,679	54,233	7,975	20,500	10	1,500	24,258	31,038	10
Hall's Oxford	Sept. 30	36,585	25,067	61,652	10,000	10,000	10½	7,000	34,652	32,268	15
Kenward and Court	Sept. 30	1,511	8,713	10,224	..	9,000	9	..	1,224	9,112	9
Financial, Land, &c.											
Argentine Land and Investment ..	June 30	2,496	65,694	68,190	..	54,030	10 Ord. 10 Prof.	10,000	4,160	98,745	15 Ord. 10 Prof.
Australian Mercantile Land	June 30	22,282	Dr 32,725	Dr 10,443	..	60,000	10½	Dr 25,000	4,557	57,733	12½
Dalgey and Co.	June 30	128,505	140,606	269,111	25,000	100,000	10½	60,000	84,111	292,577	15½
Queen's Club Gardens Estates	Sept. 30	17,810	4,041	21,851	..	5,250	5	..	16,601	5,731	5
Motor and Cycle.											
Triumph Cycle	Aug. 31	11,532	48,050	59,582	2,275	30,000	12½	17,000	10,307	81,447	17½
Nitrate.											
London	June 30	13,176	22,554	35,730	..	15,000	7½	..	20,730	19,183	7½
Santa Catalina	June 30	1,590	30,879	32,469	..	15,800	20	10,000	6,669	25,086	20
Rubber, &c.											
Anglo-Sumatra	May 31	15,048	Dr 11,558	3,090	..	..	..	..	3,090	38,757	30
Batu Rata	June 30	13,981	3,652	17,633	..	..	..	..	17,633	20,745	7½
Bernam-Panak	June 30	11,226	Dr 7,647	3,579	..	..	..	..	3,579	11,515	10
Chimpul (F.M.S.)	June 30	8,213	Dr 2,895	5,318	..	..	..	..	5,318	11,717	6
Majedie (Johore)	June 30	Dr 772	Dr 8,595	Dr 9,367	..	..	..	..	Dr 9,367	4,484	nil
Permas	June 30	9,784	Dr 2,951	6,833	..	..	..	2,000	4,833	9,138	10
Sungei Dangar	June 30	7,537	Dr 8,212	Dr 705	..	..	..	..	Dr 705	5,519	nil
Sungei Kari (Sumatra)	June 30	13,138	Dr 15,111	Dr 1,973	..	..	..	..	Dr 1,973	8,351	5
Sungei Siput	June 30	9,297	Dr 9,356	Dr 58	..	..	..	..	Dr 58	2,960	7½
Telegraphs, &c.											
Amazon Telegraph	June 30	7,131	Dr 1,341	5,790	..	..	..	..	5,790	8,232	4½
Other Companies.											
Blackpool Pier	Oct. 31	8,680	8,144	16,824	612	6,500	13½	..	9,712	9,632	13½
British Automatic	Sept. 30	12,649	71,182	83,831	..	50,000	12½	20,853	12,978	81,966	12½
Coventry Movement	July 31	24	1,145	1,169	219	332	5	..	618	1,696	7
Stuttard and Co.	July 31	37,146	59,900	97,046	12,600	24,012	8	12,050	48,384	96,280	12½

† Free of tax.

RAILWAY COMPANIES.

GREAT WESTERN OF BRAZIL.—We are officially informed that the company's representatives in Rio de Janeiro have been in constant negotiations with the Brazilian Government in order to obtain an adjustment in tariffs to meet the terms of the new lease contract. The board have now received advice that an increase in tariffs has been authorised, to take effect on or about November 10th. This increase, however, will not be sufficient to meet the charges established under the new contract. In the opinion of the Government the present position of trade in the Northern States does not permit of a greater increase, but the board are advised that it is the intention of the Government to apply to Congress for authority to make up the deficiency from the general revenues of the country. The company's representatives are pressing the urgency of a settlement, more especially in view of the fact that the line has been worked at a loss for the first nine months of the current year.

TEMISCOUTA.—The bondholders' committee are prepared to purchase a limited amount of Temiscouta Railway Company 5 per cent. prior lien bonds for redemption. Particulars and forms of tender can be obtained on application to the secretary of the committee at 55 Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2.

RUBBER.

ANGLO-SUMATRA.—The loss on working for year ended May 31, 1921, was £6,273, to which has to be added income-tax £5,685, making loss £11,958. Deducting this from £15,048 brought in, makes £3,090 to carry forward. The restricted crop of rubber obtained during the year was 920,074 lbs. After careful consideration of all the circumstances, the directors, in common with a large number of other companies, have decided, as in the best interest of the company and of the industry, to restrict the crop meantime to 50 per cent. of the estimated normal crop for 1920-1921. If this policy is continued throughout the current year the crop to be harvested will amount to 510,000 lbs. The planted area of the estates remains as before, namely 2,357.9 acres. The estates have continued to be maintained in first-class condition, and the visiting agent's annual report is of the most favourable nature. The general health of both the European staff and the coolies has been excellent. A claim for repayment of excess profits duty has been lodged with the revenue authorities.

BATU RATA.—Report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows a net profit of £3,652, to which is added £13,981 brought in, making £17,633 available, which is to be carried forward. In December last £2,293 shares of £1 each were subscribed for at par by shareholders or the purpose of providing further funds for the development of the estate. An amount of 10s per share has been called up in respect of such shares.

CHIMPUL (F.M.S.).—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the estimated crop for the year was 350,000 lbs. The actual amount harvested was 231,970 lbs. The output was curtailed in accordance with the restriction scheme recommended by the Rubber Growers' Association. The average gross selling price was 1s 2.6d per lb. The "all-in" cost, after charging depreciation and debiting a revenue account the whole of general expenditure, amounted to 6s 1d. Important economies have been introduced which will

materially reduce the cost of production. The only forward contract now running is for standard crepe at 25 3/4d per lb, delivery three tons monthly to end of December. The balance brought forward from last year was £8,213, from which must be deducted the debit balance for the year of £2,895, leaving a credit balance of £5,318, which the directors propose to carry forward.

MAJEDIE (JOHORE).—The accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, show a loss of £8,595, which, with £722 debtor balance brought in, makes a debit of £9,377 to go forward. The directors write as follows:—"From the accounts submitted, it will be observed that the funds of the company are all but exhausted. Although very large economies have been enforced during the year, the results of which are now becoming apparent, it is still impossible to avoid losses altogether with rubber at current prices. The f.o.b. cost for the year which ended June 30, 1921, was 1s 5.63d per lb. The f.o.b. cost for July, 1921, was 6.44d per lb. The f.o.b. cost for August, 1921, was 5.77d per lb. If liquidation is to be avoided at a time when the company's assets would, if offered for sale, be practically valueless, it is essential that shareholders should now join with the directors in providing a sum of £5,000, which it is hoped may be sufficient to tide the company over the present period of extreme depression. The estate is at present unencumbered, and it is proposed that shareholders contributing funds for the maintenance of the estate shall be secured by

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21. + or -
Metropolitan District	44 weeks Nov. 5	229,190	..	10,496,795	..
London Electric					
City and South London					
Central London					
L.G.O.					
Metropolitan Electric Trams	44 weeks Nov. 5	51,514	..	2,446,955	..
London United Trams					
South Metropolitan Trams					
Tramways (M.E.T.)					
Gasless Motor					

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21. + or -
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	27 weeks Oct. 8	993	Rs. 2,29,353 + 13,847	Rs. 38,81,970	Rs. 17,12,266
Barat Lt. Ry.	28 weeks Nov. 15	118	4,84,750 - 27,717	77,40,000	1,57,740
Bengal & N. Western	27 weeks Oct. 8	2,697	13,21,000 + 1,00,000	3,20,53,298	10,23,705
Bengal Nagpur	27 weeks Oct. 8	2,697	13,21,000 + 1,00,000	3,20,53,298	10,23,705
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	4 weeks Nov. 29	2,871	18,10,000 + 67,000	77,40,000	5,21,000
Burma	27 weeks Oct. 8	1,342	5,33,691 - 6,274	1,54,97,948	12,24,308
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	4 weeks Nov. 29	239	95,000 - 24,481	3,98,142	8,739
East Indian	4 weeks Nov. 29	2,772	30,47,000 + 1,78,000	1,23,25,000	4,02,000
G. Indian Peninsula	27 weeks Oct. 8	3,122	22,80,000 - 75,800	1,33,01,154	33,81,663
Madras & B. Mahr.	1 week Nov. 8	259	47,661 - 11,896	..	..
Robiki & Kumaon	1 week Nov. 8	302	55,544 + 5,337	..	..
Do Lucknow-Breilly	1 week Nov. 8	302	55,544 + 5,337	..	..
South Indian	28 weeks Nov. 15	1,852	7,70,414 - 15,098	2,40,61,406	7,91,171
Stn. Punjab (monthly)	3 mths. June 30	717	7,99,188 + 904	25,68,100	33,839
Argentine (a).					
Argentina N.E.	18 weeks Nov. 5	752	10,400 - 2,300	216,500	15,700
Argentina Trans.	18 weeks Nov. 5	111	2,000 - 1,174	30,525	7,497
B. A. and Pacific	18 weeks Nov. 5	3,428	107,000 - 5,000	2,189,000	133,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	18 weeks Nov. 5	3,391	130,000 - 10,000	2,634,000	42,000
B. A. Western	18 weeks Nov. 5	1,382	61,000 - 6,000	1,394,000	54,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	2 mths. Aug. 31	190	58,553 + 1,000	1,50,000	26,000
Central Argentine	18 weeks Nov. 5	3,325	145,000 - 39,000	3,153,393	2,405
Corrientes Central	18 weeks Nov. 5	1,205	40,500 - 13,500	1,008,200	67,400
Eutro Rios	18 weeks Nov. 5	811	16,700 - 3,500	350,000	56,300
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	9 mths. Sept. 30	..	Ms 48,250 + 7,500	432,400	18,700
Gt. West. of Brazil	44 weeks Nov. 5	1,005	15,100 - 5,700	590,700	347,600
Leopoldina	44 weeks Nov. 5	1,831	29,886 - 18,332	1,482,261	811,612
San Paulo	44 weeks Nov. 5	1,533	21,133 - 19,648	1,344,000	39,400
State of Bahia, S.W.	10 mths. Oct. 31	52	Ms 69,000 - 81,000	724,000	335,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	44 weeks Nov. 6	838	11,250 - 19,780	928,995	1,122,625
Arauco	1 mth. Apr. 30	644	12,000 + 500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	42 weeks Oct. 30	566	14,075 - 33,398	..	408,412
Peruvian Corp.	12 mths. June 30	1,059	81,558,530 + 147,980	14,428,740	56,794
Talca	4 mths. Oct. 31	180	(b) 11,025 - 19,125	38,836	78,210
Cuba.					
Havana Central	18 weeks Nov. 5	1,267	10,267 - 3,846	191,267	54,399
United of Havana	18 weeks Nov. 5	1,210	50,315 - 27,501	972,849	84,511
Uruguayan.					
Central Uruguay	18 weeks Nov. 5	273	26,859 + 7,160	411,993	59,894
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	18 weeks Nov. 5	111	4,514 - 1,263	75,616	14,506
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	18 weeks Nov. 5	111	2,763 + 216	45,559	6,481
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	18 weeks Nov. 5	219	754 - 36,223	36,223	8,522
Midland Uruguay	4 mths. Oct. 31	319	15,717 - 1,505	54,548	14,241
North-West Urug.	3 mths. Sept. 30	113	5,851 + 290	17,765	212
Uruguay North	4 mths. Oct. 31	3	1,915 - 255	6,540	1,657
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	44 weeks Nov. 5	33	Ps 19,000 + 2,000	682,600	102,600
Bilbao	10 mths. Oct. 31	15	1,691 - 2,325	16,612	17,034
Bolivar	10 mths. Oct. 31	136	11,265 + 4,094	93,011	286
Colombian N. Ry.	9 mths. Sept. 30	86	18,434 - 380	17,151	5,671
Costa Rica	2 mths. Aug. 31	190	13,960 - 10,877	31,797	21,850
Dorado Extension	7 mths. July 31	70	24,000 + 4,500	131,750	13,572
Egyptian Delta	28 weeks Oct. 20	5594	114,816 - 3,875	207,065	66,217
Gt. South. of Spain	43 weeks Oct. 23	104	Ps 88,923 + 895	2,336,739	1,458,813
International of	9 mths. Sept. 30	..	Gross 47,034 - 6,006	633,318	7,735
La Guaira & Caracas	2 mths. Feb. 28	233	(b) 8,570 - 5,006	242,185	1,469
Mexican Railway	17 weeks Oct. 31	403	\$498,100 + 143,500	5,644,400	1,012,800
Do	3 mths. Sept. 30	403	\$1488,300 + 277,600	4,143,700	743,600
Nassjo Osearshamn	8 mths. Aug. 31	..	Net \$338,700 + 63,200	784,900	11,900
Ottoman Railway	1 week Oct. 29	193	10,089 - 1,540	73,640	22,240
Paraguay Central	18 weeks Nov. 5	274	2,311,374 + 414,841	16,380,765	5,293,660
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	8 mths. Aug. 31	35	4,750 - 500	37,500	6,500
Puerto Cabello, &c.	18 weeks Nov. 5	100	1,854 - 779	39,635	20,564
Salvador	1 mth. Sept. 30	..	127,512 - 51,058	..	..
Samana & Santiago	10 mths. Oct. 31	..	6,190 - 1,647	99,400	38,912
Zaira and Huella	9 mths. Sept. 30	112	(a) 13,890 - 1,527	126,586	13,417
Canadian.					
Canadian Northern	42 weeks Oct. 31	9,750	\$2141,130 - 192,470	56,642,630	5,221,507
Canadian Pacific	43 weeks Nov. 7	13,402	\$4443,000 - 880,000	163,124,000	14,837,000
Grand Trunk	42 weeks Oct. 31	3,616	\$4443,854 - 138,113	13,309,501	193,782

* Corrected figures. † 10 days. ‡ Adjusted, May 31, 1921.
(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algonia Cent. & Hudson Bay	3 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	\$91,711	- 135,656	366,205	- 213,324
Canadian Ntn.	8 mths. Aug. 31	Gross	\$5,708,500	- 152,200	41,597,200	- 3,916,577
Canadian Pac.	9 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	\$19,495,000	- 514,000	136,388,000	- 11,049,000
Grand Trunk	3 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	\$4,320,000	+ 411,000	21,930,000	- 2,743,000
Temiscouata	1 mth. Sept. 30	Net	\$1,278,700	- 95,900	3,772,200	- 62,200
		Net	\$122,900	- 68,400	91,400	- 306,500
		Gross	\$35,478	..	..	..

* Net earnings before deducting taxes.

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21.	1920-21. + or -
Beira and Mashona-land	1 mth. Aug. 31	810	104,124 + 7,541	..	..
Mid. of W. Aust.	3 mths. Sept. 30	277	9,440 - 1,314	25,508	3,099
New Cape Central	41 weeks Oct. 15	205	2,358 - 54	104,989	15,279
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth. Aug. 31	1,397	143,543 + 1,238	..	..
Rhodesia Katanga	1 mth. July 31	..	11,589	..	..
Shire Highlands	9 mths. Sept. 30	..	5,100 - 1,000	..	9,350
Nyassaland	..	..	..	..	..

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	End- ing.	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
			1921.	+ or -	1921.	+ or -
			\$	\$	\$	\$
Atchison Topeka.....	8 mths	Aug. 31	17,904,777	- 2,030,843	122,591,692	- 14,900,951
Baltimore and Ohio	8 mths	Aug. 31	17,933,438	- 1,210,891	135,702,162	- 7,301,311
Chicago and Milwaukee	8 mths	Aug. 31	14,381,660	+ 223,092	94,348,780	- 11,931,497
New York Central	8 mths	Aug. 31	27,635,014	- 6,079,135	211,457,856	- 18,043,058
Pennsylvania	8 mths	Aug. 31	42,818,588	- 8,691,126	332,653,133	- 4,709,125
Southern Pacific	8 mths	Aug. 31	24,212,913	+ 371,648	177,088,786	+ 3,878,081

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.	Total Receipts.
				1920-21. + or -	1920-21. + or -
Anglo-Argentine	14 weeks Nov. 4	329	£85,049 + 5,571	3,517,538	+ 167,210
Burnley Corporation	1 week Nov. 5	12	£3,576 + 1,002	..	..
Calcutta Tramways	44 weeks Oct. 27	354	Rs 6,414 - 73,681	..	615,494
Chatham & District	13 weeks Oct. 27	15	£1,620 - 39	72,813	- 2,456
Egyptian Markets	44 weeks Nov. 4	..	£2,586 + 418	89,389	+ 13,340
Glasgow Corporation	23 weeks Nov. 5	99	£46,502 + 246	1,036,379	+ 36,164
Isle of Thanet	5 weeks Nov. 5	2	£716 + 259	4,235	+ 815
Langenscheidt	44 weeks Nov. 5	139	£3,489 + 282	155,014	+ 4,510
Liverpool Corporation	44 weeks Nov. 5	124	£30,349 + 5,129	1,233,192	+ 74,523
L.C.C. Tramways	32 weeks Oct. 31	9155	£99,103 + 1,208	3,222,194	+ 357,764
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	42 weeks Oct. 31	..	Rs 45,810 - 3,193	8,260,019	1,711,123
Pernambuco Trams	44 weeks Nov. 5	..	£44,026 - 1,366	855,767	- 331,752
Singapore Electric	37 weeks Sept. 24	..	£15,312 - 1,341	495,628	- 332,123

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
				1920-21. + or -	1920-21. + or -
Alabama Power	1 mth. June 30	Gross	\$259,059 + 88,481	..	..
		Net	\$130,812 + 22,750	..	..
Barcelona Trac.	9 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	14,471,000 + 2,428,000	125,891,000	+ 292,260
		Net	8,634,000 + 2,417,000	67,770,000	+ 1,026,000
Brazilian Trac.	9 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	3,164,126 + 253,708	27,032,902	+ 4,063,680
		Net	1,995,997 + 50,174	47,003,755	+ 2,210,025
Brisbane Electric	10 mths. Oct. 31	Gross	\$47,880 + 1,570	471,920	- 12,595
		Net	\$44,154 + 35,546	1,684,309	+ 85,292
Brit. Columbia	2 mths. Aug. 31	Gross	\$215,202 - 1,286	419,338	+ 2,521
Buenos Ayres La Crosse Trams	11 mths. May 31	Gross	£58,492 + 3,922	629,444	+ 67,765
Burnah Electric Trways & Lightg.	2 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	£58,974 + 8,739	..	15,354
		Net	£32,232	..	..
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth. Sept. 30	Gross	£6,616	..	..
Canadian Wstrn.	11 mth. Aug. 31	Gross	\$24,753	711	737,924
		Net	..	..	172,871
Natural Gas	10 mths. Oct. 31	Gross	13,862 + 543	26,098	..
Carthage and	1 mth. Sept. 30	Gross	£21,000 + 3,300	..	15,981
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth. Sept. 30	Gross	£3,030	..	..
		Net	£1,208	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth. Mar. 31	Gross	\$720,269 - 1,353,816	15,866,065	- 7,952,841
		Net	\$681,768 - 1,330,272	15,275,924	- 7,843,161
Cities Service Co.	12 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	\$1,608,586 + 748,284	8,491,481	+ 1,017,241
		Net	\$368,028 + 79,092	Dr 447,784	- 2,256,339
Cordoba Light & Co.	6 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	£1,049,174 + 87,240	9,504,071	+ 1,191,741
		Net	£501,075 + 79,172	4,039,493	+ 188,741
Cuba Railroad	24 weeks Jan. 11	Gross	£20,548 - 667	65,860	+ 1,571
		Net	£5,287 - 263	19,215	+ 1,331
Elec. Sup. of Vict.	24 weeks Sept. 11	Gross	£14,231 + 39	25,706	+ 1,951
Havana Elec. Rl.	9 mths. Sept. 30	Gross	\$1,049,174 + 87,240	9,504,071	+ 1,191,741
		Net	£501,075 + 79,172	4,039,493	+ 188,741

Italian old crop shipping or shipped 49s to Spain, ditto loading 49s Italy, and ditto new crop January shipment to India at 47s 6d per 480 lbs. Visible supplies in North America continue to increase, chiefly of Canadian, but floating supplies show a decrease owing to reduced shipments. Crop prospects in the principal exporting countries are generally favourable, apart from some complaints of drought in the United States winter wheat belt. The demand for flour shows no improvement, and prices were further reduced respecting home-milled. London straight run quoted 53s to 54s, town households 51s, patents 56s, all-English straights 47s per sack delivered London district. Imported also slow of sale, and tendency easy. Manitoba export patents quoted 54s, straights 49s, Kansas top patents 49s, and Australian 46s per 280 lbs ex store. Offals steady, with a fair demand. Broad bran 59 to 59 5s, ordinary ditto 58 to 58 5s, middlings 59 15s to 59 10s per ton, ex mill, bags included, fancy Plate middlings 59 10s per ton ex ship. Maize in better demand, and prices ruled firmer in sympathy with higher c.i.f. offers. Yellow La Plata also African 34s 6d, and white flat African 33s 6d per 480 lbs, all landed terms. Forward positions were more freely dealt in, and prices firmer, with reserved sellers. Plate cargoes arrived sold 31s 9d, ditto afloat 31s 3d to 32s 3d, part cargoes November-December and December-January 31s 6d, and white flat Rhodesian on passage 28s 6d per 480 lbs. Parcel trade better, and December-January sold up to 32s 3d. Barley steadier. English malting ranges from 45s to 75s, and grinding descriptions 36s to 44s f.o.r. as to sample. Californian ex ship 38s to 56s per 448 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western ex ship 35s 6d, No. 4 ditto landed 35s, Canada feed 31s 6d, American feed 31s 3d all ex quay per 400 lbs. On c.i.f. terms a cargo of Dan.-Bess.-Kustendji shipping or shipped changed hands at 29s 7½d per 400 lbs to Continent. Oats firmer, with more inquiry. English ranges from 27s to 33s as to sample f.o.r. Imported dearer. Plate f.a.q. 26s 6d, ditto clipped 27s 3d. No. 2 Canada Western 31s, No. 3 ditto 30s, Chilean tawny 25s to 29s, New Zealand 34s to 35s per 320 lbs landed terms. Oatmeal advanced 20s per ton. English all cuts 59 to 59 10s, rolled oats 59 10s to 59 12s, flaked oats 59 10s to 59 12s, Scottish oatmeal 58 10s to 59 10s, American 58 10s to 59 10s per ton. Beans quiet. English new 40s to 43s, old 52s to 58s per 432 lbs. Peas dull of sale. English maples 65s to 75s, Duns 55s to 60s per 504 lbs. Japanese marrowfats 38s 6d to 41s, Dutch blue ex wharf 22s, and Tasmanian blue landed 22s to 25s per cwt. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 32s, Egyptian 28s per 100 lbs. Homeward grain freights ruled easier in most directions, and only a moderate chartering business effected. From the River Plate 16s 6d was accepted for a steamer, prompt loading, Buenos Ayres/La Plata to Bristol Channel; while new crop January-February ruled steady at 25s. Upper ports to U.K./Continent. American Northern range to Continent spot done at 13 to 12 cents per 100 lbs, with 5s per qt. quoted to West Italy. Eastern markets idle. Bombay on dead weight nominally 25s. Austrian easier for new season's loading, and 51s 3d paid South Australia January-February to U.K./Continent, with option of India at 36s 3d. South African maize would repeat 32s 6d, while Danube paid up to 20s 6d for barley/oats to U.K./Continent, prompt loading.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-22.	1920-21.	1919-20.	1918-19
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to November 5	Cwts. 315,167	Cwts. 371,433	Cwts. 331,242	Cwts. 315,663
9 weeks to November 5	3,491,595	4,216,856	2,258,024	2,975,596
Average price of English wheat per	s d	s d	s d	s d
quarter	44 0	50 5	72 6	72 7
= per cwt	10 3	21 1	16 11	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Oct. 25	80,360 6	145,333 7	18,039 5	44 9	49 9	24 5
Nov. 5	75,539 0	147,042 0	15,743 6	44 0	49 2	25 2
1917	56,835 4	119,246 2	16,011 4	70 3	60 2	42 11
1918	73,534 6	98,725 2	13,831 4	72 4	60 3	49 11
1919	77,289 7	145,131 1	16,171 4	72 8	97 10	55 3
1920	86,662 7	148,162 5	21,993 1	90 5	92 10	53 5

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated November 10th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: Demand for pig-iron is still lacking. The bulk of our blast furnaces on the East Coast are out, and are likely to remain so until there is a drastic reduction of coke prices. Rail transport charges will have to come down also. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron is quoted 110s per ton, and East Coast mixed numbers hematite 120s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: There is some inquiry for steel, but very little actual business. Ship plates, 110 to 105; steel ship angles, 110; iron bars, 114; rails, 110 to 103, net. Iron ore: Very little business doing.

No consumer will contract ahead, as they have no prospect of selling their products. Best Bilbao Rubio is 27s per ton, sellers.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—British prices of pig-iron and crude steel being now on a level with European, buying from the Continent has now practically ceased, but the home producers have not yet felt the benefit of the new condition because of the heavy importations of foreign material in September and October. A number of large contracts for such material have yet to be completed, and the buyers now realise that they have made a mistake, as British iron and steel is superior to foreign. Business in pig-iron and billets continues stagnant, and producers are ready to shade prices in order to secure an order. The low prices now ruling at home, however, give promise of a substantial revival of business, although the turn in the tide may not occur until the new year. Practically nothing is doing in tool steels, as the Government have still large stocks to distribute. Foreign trade remains at an unprecedently low level, and the further deflation of the Eastern and Central European exchanges has finished off the small amount of trade which was being done with the markets concerned. The open-hearth plants are still working at only a fourth of their capacity. Light rails can be bought cheaper in England than in Belgium, but the low price is made possible by the use of old heavy rails rolled down. The demand for rails by collieries is extremely small. The railway steel departments are quiet, but all the wagon repairing shops are on full time, and are likely to continue busy to the end of the year. Important enterprises for the manufacture of iron and steel in India are in progress. Hadfields, Limited, have acquired works in Australia, where in the future the company will manufacture the commodities which they have heretofore supplied to the Commonwealth from their Sheffield establishment. Firms are busy experimenting with rustless iron, which it is believed will eventually replace tarnishable metals for hundreds of purposes. It is readily pressed or stamped from the strip into ornamental parts. The demand for house coal has strengthened considerably this week, and some of the manufacturers are more disposed than formerly to book forward. Many pits, however, are on short time, and stocks are offering at some of them. Prices of best qualities are firmly held. Business in export markets keeps on a very limited basis. Blast furnace coke is moving freely, and values are steadily held.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The week is ending with a more than usually hopeful tone in evidence as to the industrial prospects in iron and steel connections. Not in all of them, but in several leading departments. It is announced to-day that the Scottish group of railways have given out orders for a respectable number of wagons, trucks, and other vehicles to local (Lanarkshire) firms, the building of which is to be at once prosecuted. And it is understood that there is a big volume of this class of work to give out to make good the wear and tear of the war, as well as the wastage that has taken place since. Then it is fairly reliably reported that there has in the last few days been quite a rush of inquiry amongst shipbuilders as to the conditions on which they are now prepared to construct new steamers, the cost of which must have been substantially reduced, consequent on the wage concessions that have taken effect of late and the lowered prices for material that currently rule. Nothing has transpired as to the class of boats embraced in the rumoured inquiries, and therefore Clyde authorities are inclined to discredit the stories, pointing out that a fleet of laid-up craft could be promptly secured at half the expenditure that would be involved in building on new keels. It is recognised, however, that granted terms are reasonable, some of the large liner companies might be led into fixing up orders for floating palaces. Whatever the issue may be, the suggestion that inquiries were on circuit has lifted the tone of things and encouraged anticipations. Amongst the features of the week—operations intended to help labour—is the statement that a firm of Port Glasgow shipbuilders has bought several old steamers from the Shipping Controller, and is bringing them round to the Clyde for breaking-up purposes, and will continue doing so should the scheme prove successful. One or two ironmasters advise a growing demand for Scotch brands of pigs for export. Last week 500 tons were shipped to South American markets. Local ironfounders are mainly covering their wants by Continental imports, which last week reached to fully 3,000 tons. There were also good quantities brought in (to Grangemouth and Leith mainly) of bars, sheets, angles, joists, and tubes; but in general there is less material coming from the Continent than was the case quite recently, and, what is more to the point, offers of material forward are almost negligible. At the various steel establishments a few mills are running, but work is far from plentiful. Preparations are in progress for turning out the heavy armour plates, which will be required in this locality for the new war vessels. Sales of ship plates have been made here at

The "ALL-IN" POLICY

affords the Householder the most complete cover yet devised.

The method of covering household risks by a diversity of Insurance is wasteful, to say the least. By covering all your household risks by the "All-in" Policy, you are economising in the true sense of the word—5% per £100 per annum (Minimum Premium, 7/6) will cover practically every serious risk in respect to the contents of your home. List of risks and full particulars post free. Address:—"All-in" Policy Dept.

EAGLE, STAR AND BRITISH DOMINIONS INSURANCE CO., LTD.,
41 THREADNEEDLE ST., LONDON, E.C.2.
ASSETS EXCEED £19,000,000.

£11 a ton, 20s a ton below the Scotch trade sale figure; that, according to rumour, by Welsh producers, who are also undercutting in other sections. This procedure is causing irritation north of the Border, and following on the representations made, an important conference of Scotch and English makers is being held to-day in London. The outcome is awaited with anxiety, for it is affirmed that if no arrangement is arrived at, no mutual price basis discovered, a break-up of the national combine may immediately follow. Such an issue will be most detrimental to the producing interests concerned. It is many years since there was a split in the steel trade, and it played havoc with the industry; but other consuming industries reaped a rich harvest. Tube-makers give their state as quieter this week, the large works only running half-time. Some black sheet-makers have fair orders in hand. Marine engineers are pretty well employed. So are bolt, nut, and rivet makers, a few boiler-makers, locomotive builders, valve makers, and malleable iron workers. Demand for coal on home account is poor. Export orders are more plentiful, while still leaving great room for improvement.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—With rather less demand for tops, the market presents a somewhat easier appearance, though most topmakers have not changed their quotations. Apparently buyers are again exercising more caution, and although really good tops can still be sold at full late rates for spot delivery, the tendency on the whole is towards a slightly lower level. A certain amount of forward buying is in progress, and it is stated that 64's for January-March delivery have been sold as low as 3s 9d, but this appears to be on the low side. A considerable weight, however, is reported sold at 3s 10d, and this may be taken as the more general figure for future contracts. No doubt a spinner in want of a really first-class 64's warp top would still be prepared to pay about 4s 3d for immediate delivery, and as most topmakers are well booked up, and stocks of fine tops are small, the buyer in need of quick delivery is not in such a favourable position as one who can place an order for later months. Spinners report a fair amount of inquiry, and although the demoralised mark is checking business with Germany, there is still a nice trade passing with other Continental markets, while America is also buying some considerable weights. Prices are steady, but manufacturers cannot do business on to-day's basis of yarns. The demand for hosiery yarns is well maintained, and delivery of new business cannot be made this year. There is just a slight improvement in the piece goods trade, but it does not amount to much, and when stock lots are sold prices are invariably below replacement costs. Home-grown wools are steady with a moderate turnover. There is no change in mohair or alpaca.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The Hull sale last week has commanded a good deal of attention, and the comedy of the alleged official refusal to report the sale can be attributed to an error on the part of somebody. If the reporters had only asked a few responsible buyers, they could have gathered information of the course of the market after Thursday's sale, but the incident passed over, and no harm was done. Those present at Thursday's sale realised that all good combing wools, both merinos and crossbreds, sold on a parity with the close of the previous London sales, but when short, somewhat tender and wasty Continental style merinos were offered, prices declined 5 per cent. Germany did practically nothing in these wools. The offerings of this description were large, and most of the lots fell to the bids of France. Bradford topmakers competed very keenly for the greasy crossbreds, but owing to the home woollen trade still being slack, slipes depreciated 5 per cent. On the whole, the sale passed off exceedingly well, some of the super West Victorian wools making very commendable figures. One missed American competition for these, but, on the whole, some excellent prices were made, and if Liverpool next week goes as well, the outlook for London will still be good.

There is no doubt that the home trade has been caught seriously short of merino wool, and tops are being absorbed in Bradford quite as fast as they are being combed. It is still possible to make 4s 3d for spot lots of good 64's, but for next January delivery 4s is about the price, and we think out of Australian-bought wool to-day a good 64's top can be made at that figure. Latest cables of clean scoured costs indicate that the market is somewhat stiffer than a fortnight ago, but even yet home trade buyers are expecting lower prices before the end of the year, which would greatly assist those topmakers who have sold cheaply for later delivery. It is now well known that several committed an error of judgment when they sold at 3s and less.

We understand that there is considerable trouble over bills of lading, the banks on this side being very stubborn in their demands. From all accounts, they are worse to deal with than shipping companies, and are apparently not prepared to take any risk. It seems as if a little competition among banks and other financial institutions would be a good thing, and one is surprised that some of the Australian banks who have done a big wool business for half a century cannot fall into line when there is practically no risk, and guarantees are given on the part of the shipping companies that everything will be straight. The matter is too complicated to go into detail, but it is high time a solution of the difficulty should be found. The business has worked smoothly in the past, and it is imperative in the interests of all sections of the

trade that it should continue to do so. I hear of a threatened stoppage of sales in Australasia if the question is not satisfactorily solved, and it only needs sound commonsense to be brought to bear upon the whole business, with a policy of give and take, for the matter to be solved to the mutual good of the entire trade.

AUSTRALIAN WOOL SALES.

Messrs Dalgety and Co., Limited, have received the following cable from their Perth branch under date of November 5th:—Wool sales opened, attendance of buyers is good, competition animated. American, Continental, and English buyers are the principal operators. 12,000 bales offered, as compared with last sales (held on August 4th). Merino wools, greasy super, 45 per cent. higher; ditto, topmaking, best sorts, 35 per cent. higher; ditto, ditto, ordinary, 30 per cent. higher; ditto, faulty, 20 per cent. higher; merino pieces, first greasy, 40 per cent. higher. Crossbred wools, fine quality greasy, 30 per cent. higher; ditto, medium ditto, 40 per cent. higher; ditto, low ditto, 50 per cent. higher. All descriptions greasy skirtings good demand; lambs' wool, greasy, poor demand, especially greasy sorts suitable for carbonising.

They have also received from their Sydney branch cables under date November 7th, as follows:—"The seventh series of wool sales commenced to-day with a large attendance of buyers. The first important instalment of the new clip was offered. Japanese and German buyers are the principal operators. The catalogue was practically cleared. Merino wools sold up to 23½d, as compared with last year's clip. The new clip is more burry, in good condition, well grown, and sound. The extension of the prompt to 21 days also applies to present series."

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—November 4, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto	Ord	G O L M	Mid	G M	M F	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G O L M	G M	G M
American	8 36	9 11	10 81	12 11	12 91	14 66	8 80	11 75	17 80	21 10	23 25	27 00
Brazilian.	Mid	M F	Fr.	G M	G d.	Fne	M F	Fr.	G d.	M F	Fr.	G d.
Pernambuco, &c.	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Pariba	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Maceio	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Mossoro, &c.	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Coara	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Maranhao	..	9 76	12 26	13 76	..	..	11 30	16 80	..	21 72	30 10	..
Egyptian.	..	..	16 25	17 75	20 25	22 00	..	nm	32 00	..	31 00	37 50
Brown	..	..	16 00	17 00	19 00	20 00	..	nm	24 00	..	30 00	36 00
Upper	..	..	30 00	33 00	36 00	38 00	..	55 00	56 00	..	..	..
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	..	..	13 50	15 00	17 00	..	..	25 00	..	..	32 50
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	..	12 50	14 00	15 50	..	..	14 00	22 00	..	26 00
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	11 51	14 26	15 51	16 51	17 01	16 30	20 50	27 50	30 10	33 10	37 10
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	31 00	35 50
African, East, &c.	10 00	11 10	13 00	14 00	15 00	16 50	12 00	15 00	27 00	29 30	29 70	30 50
East Indian.	G F	W F	G d.	F G	Fne	S'tn	for	G d.	Fne	for	G d.	Fne
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	..	..	..	11 30	11 80	12 30	..	..	14 85	..	..	22 60
Branch	..	9 80	10 30	10 80	11 30	11 80	12 35	12 85	13 85	21 10	21 35	21 85
M. Ginned Bhownuggur ..	7 55	8 40	9 15	9 65	10 15	10 65	10 19	11 19	12 79	17 29	18 04	19 04
M. Ginned Comra, No. 1 ..	7 75	8 50	9 25	9 75	10 25	10 75	10 25	11 25	12 85	17 35	18 10	19 10
M. Ginned Khandesh	..	7 75	8 50	9 00	9 50	10 00	7 50	8 50	10 10	16 85	17 60	18 60
M. Ginned Comptah	8 20	..	8 70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21 35	..
M. Ginned Bengal	7 15	7 65	8 15	8 65	9 15	9 65	7 50	8 00	9 00	..	..	..
M. Ginned Seinda	7 05	7 55	8 05	8 55	9 05	9 55	7 32	7 82	8 82	15 00	15 75	16 75
Tinnivelly	11 30	11 80	12 30	..	..	..	11 35	11 85	..	21 85	22 10	..
Madras, Western	7 95	8 45	8 95	9 45	..	..	13 35	13 85	..	21 00	21 35	..
Coconada, Red	Fr.	8 60	..	..	..	..	..	10 25	..	20 60	..	..
M. Ginned Coconada, Red ..	Fr.	8 70	..	..	..	..	..	10 50	..	20 85	..	..

MANCHESTER, November 10.

Business throughout the market has been of very limited dimensions, and owing to the absence of fresh orders, spinners and manufacturers are steadily losing ground. Production is

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals. Correspondence invited.

Chartered 1838.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

being curtailed and unemployment tends to increase. In cloth for India only small lots have been sold, chiefly in light fabrics. According to some reports, there is a possibility of the boycott breaking down at an early date. White goods have been sold in odd lines for China. Nothing worth mentioning has been done for the Near Eastern or South American outlets. Heavy goods in the home trade are now moving off rather more freely. Manufacturers are harassed at every turn, and many firms are being compelled to stop more looms. In the spinning section, the question of organised short time is being discussed; but it is doubtful whether the necessary majority of spinners will be obtained. Only a retail business has been done in both American and Egyptian yarns, and prices have weakened from day to day.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Nov. 10, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Nov. 3.	Nov. 27.	Oct. 20.	Oct. 13.	Oct. 6.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .per lb	11-23	12-77	12-55	12-73	13-64	14-07
—Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	21-00	23-75	23-00	24-50	27-50	28-50
Yarns—32's twist .per lb	19 1/2	21 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
—40's twist .per lb	19 1/2	20 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2
—60's twist .per lb	35	38	40	42	45	45
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32 6	33 6	35 0	36 0	37 0	37 0
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32 6	33 6	35 0	36 0	37 0	37 0
38-in. ditto, 55 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	19 6	20 0	21 0	21 6	22 6	22 6
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 16, 8 1/2 lbs	18 6	19 0	20 0	20 6	21 6	21 6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Nov. 10, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .per lb	11-23	16-43	24-72	22-13	22-58	11-91
—Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	21-00	41-00	39-00	27-56	31-65	15-35
Yarns—32's twist .per lb	19 1/2	38	49	52	32	17 1/2
—40's twist .per lb	19 1/2	36	46 1/2	52	31 1/2	17 1/2
—60's twist .per lb	35	56	75	68	44	34 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32 6	33 0	70 0	69 0	44 0	24 3/4
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32 6	33 0	67 0	66 0	43 0	22 6
38-in. ditto, 55 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs	19 6	34 0	40 0	38 3/4	24 6	13 3/4
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 16, 8 1/2 lbs	18 6	28 0	34 6	33 6	21 6	11 10 3/4

VEGETABLE OILS AND OLSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Market conditions have been quiet and almost featureless through the week. The demand for Plate linseed has eased off, and values have fallen 10s to 15s per ton, with October-November shipment off to Hull offering at £15. Spot maintains a slight premium, but crushers' demands to meet the increased trade in cakes appear to have been satisfied for the present. The demand for the oil product has not been quite so good, though some orders have been received from the Continent, and values are steady at about 20s less than a week ago at £26 10s. Spot to December delivery, ex Hull, mill, with business done for January-April slightly in excess of that figure.

Egyptian cottonseed for shipment has fallen to £13 to £13 5s, but spot on scarcity remains fully steady round £14, with Sakellaridis quoted 10s below these figures. Cotton oils, which gained substantially from the recent set-back, have lost some of the ground, crude Egyptian now being obtainable at £38 spot, ex Hull, mill, and at £37 for late November delivery. Common edible meets with a poor demand, and is again lower. All descriptions of castor oil have been reduced 40s to 80s a ton. Soya bean oil has rallied slightly, but very little is doing in rape, palm kernel, and ground nut oils at about unchanged values.

The shipments of Argentine linseed from January 1st to November 5th are returned at 442,000 tons to the United Kingdom, 495 tons to the Continent, and 201,000 tons to North America—in all, 1,138,000 tons against 916,000 tons' same period last year. Indian shipments to the United Kingdom and Europe are only 68,850 tons against 179,075 tons a year ago. The quantity on passage has diminished somewhat, there now being afloat for the United Kingdom about 42,000 tons and for the Continent 76,000 tons.

Service that counts

Anything that comes within the province of Banking is included in the Service offered its customers by The Merchants Bank. If you want disinterested advice on any business subject or first-hand information concerning trade conditions in any part of Canada—this Bank is in a position to help you.



The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Assets \$190,367,409
LONDON OFFICE - 53, CORNHILL.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

There was a serious drop in hides on Thursday at the Bermondsey sales; lights were withdrawn, but best heavy ox sellings at 8d per lb showed a decline of 2 1/2d as against last week's prices. Cows at 6 1/2d to 7d dropped a penny, whilst calfskins fell in value from 1d to 3 1/2d, best lights only making from 10 1/2d to 12d.

Tanners are in a serious position, as many of them rushed into the market when hides were much higher in value, and have pits full of dear stock with a falling leather market. A moderate quantity of hides of inferior selections have changed hands this week, and frigorifics have sold at 10 1/2d for arrival. The River Plate market continues firm, as American buyers have been taking up large blocks of hides of late. Dry hides have been rather neglected, as tanners' ideas are below those of importers. The American market is cabled as firm, with best heavy packers selling still at 15 1/2 cents; native cows are now making 13 cents as against 12 1/2 cents last week.

The demand for sole leather has fallen flat, and tanners are shading their prices to induce business. The demand continues mainly for low grade bends from dry hides, and tanners are working in more of the latter to meet it. American sole is also arriving, and is selling at low prices. Pinned offal is wanted in cheap selections, and some very low prices have been taken of late. Upper stock has again fallen flat, and dressers and carriers report poor business, with inquiries running on the low grades. Patent leather in sides is wanted in the women's shoemaking districts, and quite good sales of American sides at round about 1s 7d per foot are reported to have been made. Imports of leather for the first ten months of the year amounted to £5,983,044 in value, as against £18,200,802 for the corresponding period of last year.

The boot trade is slightly better, but the state of the export section is shown by the fact that the value of British export has only amounted up to the end of October to £1,893,249, as against £6,022,941 from January to end of October last year.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

The Safe-Custody of Securities

INVESTORS may avoid many of the anxieties incidental to the ownership of securities by depositing their holdings with this Company for Safe-keeping.

For a moderate charge we will undertake the entire care of a customer's holdings, detaching and collecting coupons and informing the owner in respect of rights and redemption dates. If it is desired holdings will be reviewed at intervals and any desirable changes suggested.

The Management at any of our branches will be glad to explain the nature and extent of these services.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

32 Lombard Street, E.C. 3

KINGSWAY OFFICE 29 Kingway, W.C. 2
FALL MALL OFFICE 50 Fall Mall, S.W. 1
LIVERPOOL OFFICES
27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street
NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, November 11.

The markets, almost without exception, disclosed a very quiet state of affairs, buying orders from home consumers being measured by wants of immediate necessity, while export requirements count for little owing to the question of rates of exchange. In fact, financial considerations weigh very heavily just now.

SUGAR.—Apart from a steady clearance of British refined goods, the market disclosed general slackness with regard to imported descriptions, and trend of values proved against the seller. Messrs Tate and Lyle's cubes, sold, 55s 3d to 56s 3d; crushed, 51s 9d; granulated, 49s 9d to 50s 3d; caster, 52s 3d to 53s 9d; yellow crystals, 44s 9d. Crystallised West India sold quietly, at 38s to 42s, as to quality. Only retail sales resulted in muscovado and syrups. American granulated, spot, sold, 49s; ditto, prompt shipment, sellers, 21s 6d, c.f. and i., U.K. Belgian crystals, spot, sold, 47s 3d; ditto, ready delivery, sellers, 19s 6d; November-December, 19s 1 1/2d, f.o.b. Antwerp. Czechoslovakian granulated, December, sellers, 19s 9d; cubes, 24s, f.o.b. Hamburg. Dutch granulated, prompt, 22s; and cubes, 26s 6d, f.o.b. Amsterdam. Brazilian basis, 80 per cent., November-December, sellers, 10s 3d; and 96 per cent., ditto, 14s 6d, c.f. and i. terms, London. Cuban stock, 1,105,000 tons, against 292,300 same time last year. Liquid glucose, November delivery, sellers, 26s 6d, duty paid.

COFFEE.—There was a fair demand on the spot for all the better qualities, but common met with but slow support. Good bold greenish Jamaica sold, 13s to 14s; bold greyish Colombian, 9s to 10s. Future delivery market remained quiet. December, sold, 47s 9d.

COCOA.—Business during the week was again quite retail in extent on about former terms. Butter quiet at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—Offerings of Indian by public sale this week amounted to 40,500 packages. Generally good competition ensued, and medium, also common, kinds ruled firm to dearer, but the finer invoices went off with some irregularity at prices mostly in favour of the buyer, as general run of quality marked some slight falling off. 18,000 packages Ceylon in auction engaged active support, and prices on balance ruled firm. Some golden tip sold at 10s per lb in bond.

RICE.—There has been rather more trade doing on the spot, chiefly two stars Ranocoon at 18s 6d. Beans quiet, and hand-picked Rangoon, due steamer, sold, 7s 9d. Peas quiet. Japanese, December-February, sellers, 33s.

SPICE.—There was only a moderate amount of business effected in pepper. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 3 1/2d; ditto December-February, 3 1/2d; Aleppy, spot, 4 1/2d; Tellicherry, 4 1/2d; white Singapore, 7 1/2d; Muntok ditto, 7 1/2d; ditto December-February, sold, 7 1/2d to 7 3/4d. Zanzibar cloves steady. Fair, on spot, sold, 1s 7 1/2d, and November-January, steamer, 1s 5 1/2d. Pimento, on spot, sold, 2 1/2d; flake tapioca, fair quality on spot, sellers, 1 1/2d per lb. Fair Penang seed pearl, on spot, 19s; small sago, 27s; sago flour, November-January, 13s; desiccated coconut, spot, fine cut, sold, 42s; medium, 43s to 42s.

FRUIT.—The market for currants remained generally firm, and a fair volume of business transacted this week. Pyrgos, sold, 47s to 49s; Amalia, 52s to 54s; Gulf, 56s to 71s; Vostizza, 65s to 82s. Sulianan command full prices. Medium to good Smyrna sold, 117s to 125s; fine to choice, 132s to 143s. Figs experienced a firm market. Layers range from 115s to 135s; Jacouns, 140s to 165s. Only 117 tons Valencia raisins were offered in auction, and sold readily at 5s to 10s per cwt advance, the finer qualities marking the greater appreciation. Medium to good quarters sold, 146s to 154s; fine, 155s to 163s; choice, 168s to 170s; seedless, 112s to 127s. Muscatels quiet, but steady. Clusters sold, in auction, at 150s; loose, 125s to 146s. Dates steady. Siar, on spot, sold, 18s. General trade in almonds is quiet, owing to the high prices current for same.

JUTE.—Market steadily declined under lack of sufficient support, and the general situation during the greater part of the week was more or less nominal. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £29 10s; bottom of ditto, spot, Dunkirk, £30; native firsts, old crop, subs, November-December, quoted £25; lightning subs, £21; heart subs, £15 10s; new crop, first grade, November-December, £26; lightning, ditto, sold, to Hamburg, at £23 to £22; new heart grade assortment, November-December, sellers, £16 10s. Calcutta hessians and twills remain slow. 10 oz, spot, 24s; 8 oz, 18s 6d; B twills, spot, 66s.

HEMP.—Manila steady, but trade proceeded slowly. D grade, October-December, sellers, £53; E ditto, £49; G, £39 10s; J ditto, sold, £38; K, at £36 10s; L, at £36; streaky ones, sellers, at £45; twos, £43; and threes, £40 10s. New Zealand idle. High point, fair, October-December, sellers, £37; fair, £35.

SHELLAC.—Market very steady, with a fair demand forward, Fair T.N., spot, sold, 345s; ditto, December delivery, 335s to 337s 6d; March, 315s to 320s.

COPRA.—Market unsettled, and business was confined to a moderate compass. F.M.S. Straits, October-December, Rotterdam, sold down to £25 2s 6d up to £25 15s; F.M. Straits, October-December, Marseilles, £24 15s to £25; Ceylon, October-December, London, quoted £27 5s; Cebu, ditto, to Hamburg or Holland, sold, £24 15s to £25; South Sea Islands, October-December, London, £25. Palm kernels, December-February, Liverpool, sold, £17 7s 6d to £17 15s.

RUBBER.—Market very steady, with a fair general inquiry. Standard crepe and sheet spot sold, 10 1/2d to 10 3/4d, 11 1/2d; January-March, 11 1/2d to 1s; April-June, 11 1/2d to 1s 0 1/4d. Fine hard Para, spot, quoted 1s 2d; and cauchou ball, 7 1/2d.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market quiet but steady. Prime liquid yolk, spot, sold, 110s per cwt; and albumen, spot, 2s 11d per lb.

MENTHOL.—Spot parcels sold, 22s; Japanese peppermint oil, 4s 8d sellers; anised, spot, 2s 3 1/2d; Japanese slab camphor, 4s 6d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 100s; and to arrive, 90s per cwt.

OLDS.—Linseed easier. Spot, net, naked, 27s 6d; November-December, 26s 6d; January-April, 27s. Rape dull. Crude, spot, 48s 6d; refined, 53s 6d. Cotton easier. Crude Egyptian, 42s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 51s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 69s; and shipment, 67s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 48s; November-December, 44s; Cochin, ditto, 54s 6d. Soya quiet. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 36s. Japan fish quiet. October-November, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 27s to 29s. Groundnut dull. English crushed, naked, spot, 53s; deodorised, barrels, 62s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 68s 6d; December, 69s; January-April, 69s 9d. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s 6d; F, 16s 9d; G, 17s; K, 18s 6d; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H, 15s 9d; WW, 18s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4 1/2d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OLSEEDS.—Linseed: Market quieter, and rates weak, Calcutta, November-December, sold, £17 to £16. Plate, spot, Hull, £15; afloat, sold, £14 15s to £14 10s; November-December, £15 10s to £15; January-February, nearest, £15 5s. Rapeseed steady. Toria, October-November, £18; real bold Ferozepore quoted £18; brown Cawnpore, £17 10s. Cotton-seed easier. Egyptian black, November, sold, £13 5s to £13; and white, £12 15s to £12 10s. Bombay, December-January, £9. Gingelly easier. Chinese, November-December, Continent, £23. Castor, Bombay, November-December, sold, £16 15s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, November-December, Hull, £21; new crop, December-February, Continent, £19. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £21 to £21 10s per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market exhibited a firmer tendency early in the week, cash by Tuesday reaching £158 15s, three months' £161 10s, settling down at £160 15s, but irregularity and ease characterised Wednesday's movements under moderate selling, while cash changed hands at £157 10s to £157 5s, three months' fluctuating between £159 15s and £159 5s. At Thursday's meeting a further decline was established, these dates moving down to £156 12s 6d and £158 10s respectively. At Friday's session rates hardened. Cash realised £157 to £158 5s; early December, £158 to £158 15s; and three months', £159 15s to £160. English ingots, £156 10s to £157. Copper opened lower last Monday, with a limited business passing in standard cash at £65 15s to £65 17s 6d, and three months' £67 to £66 10s. The tendency steadied on the following day, while an improved demand prevailed, cash advancing to £66 7s 6d, three months' to £66 17s 6d. A quieter feeling ensued during the middle of the week, cash being sold at £66 2s 6d to £66 5s and three months' £66 17s 6d. An improved demand at Thursday's market led to an advance. Cash registered £66 5s to £66 7s 6d, and three months', £66 17s 6d to £67. At Friday's session cash changed hands at £66 15s to £66 12s 6d; early December, £66 17s 6d; and middle of January, £67 2s 6d to £67 5s. Electrodes, £74 to £76; best selected, £67 10s to £69 10s; strong sheets, £101. Lead firmer at £24 2s 6d to £23 15s, as to position. Spelter quiet at £25 12s 6d to £26 10s, according to position. Antimony: English regulus remains at £36 to £39. Aluminium: Home trade quoted at £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—NOVEMBER 10.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal.				Sheep, per stone.			
	s	d	q		s	d	q
Beasts—Herefords....	8	2	10	Sheep—Downs.....	8	8	10
Shorthorns.....	8	0	8	Longwools.....	6	8	8
Devons.....	8	4	9	Crossbred.....	8	0	9
Norfolks.....	8	0	8	Scottish.....	10	0	11
Scottish.....	7	4	8	Lamb—Downs.....	10	0	11
Irish.....	7	4	8				

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—NOVEMBER 10.

Per Cwt.				Per Cwt.			
	s	d	q		s	d	q
King Edwards.....	10	0	11	Evergoods.....	6	6	8
British Queen.....	8	6	9	Blacklands.....	6	0	9

"THE 100 BEST INVESTMENTS"

The November 1921 Quarterly Supplement
(Price 1/- post free)

In addition to comprehensive up-to-date details of 100 specially selected securities, contains a Special Introductory Article entitled:

"THE RETURN TO SANITY,"

which states the grounds for the belief that the economic and financial outlook is now improving. Attention is drawn to certain leading industries likely to be among the first to recover from trade depression.

The volume also includes:

INVESTMENT EXCHANGES FOR TRUSTEES & others.

SAFE SCANDINAVIAN STOCKS

AND

INVESTMENT SCHEMES YIELDING 48% to 5103%.

THE NOVEMBER SUPPLEMENT (1/- post free) on receipt of remittance to the Publishers.

Apply to Dept. No. 33

The British, Foreign and Colonial
Corporation Ltd., Investment Bankers,
B.F.C. House, Gresham St., London, E.C.2.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
COCOA—Duty, British grown	55s. 6d.	Aloes, fine E.L., per cwt.	180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	11 0	Butter—per cwt.	220 0	Pepper, per lb.	1 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	52 0	Cape, good to fine.	25 0	Plantation crepe	0 11 0	Irish creamery	180 0	Singapore, fair white	0 7 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	52 0	Balsam Peru, per lb.	7 0			Do factory	120 0	Black Singapore	0 3 0
Granada,	45 0	Campor—	2 0			Australian	200 0	White Blam	0 8 0
Ceylon, plantation	55 0	Camphor—	2 0			Argentine	180 0	Pimento	1 2 0
Guayaquil	55 0	Japan, refined	11 0			Dutch	nom	Cinnamon—1st sort	1 2 0
Bahia, finest	59 0	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 0			New Zealand	198 0	Do 2nd	1 1 0
		Cantharides, per lb.	1 0			Danish	120 0	Do 3rd	1 0 0
COFFEE—British grown		Caster-oil	0 6 0			Do 4th	120 0	Chips	0 3 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	52 0	Gum Benjun, Sum. cwt.	7 10 0			Canadian	80 0	Cassia Lignea	45 0
E. India fine and good	110 0	Olibanum, drops	0 7 0			American	80 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 7 0
Do good fine	110 0	Ipecacuanha	0 6 0			Hams—Irish	nom	Pepper—per cwt.	2 11 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	120 0	Musk pod, China	0 7 0			Do American	118 0	Cochin, cut	120 0
Good to fine	130 0	Oil, Cassia	0 9 0			Lard—Irish bladders	76 0	Do small rough	62 0
Central American, gd.	115 0	Aniseed	2 3 0			Do American boxes, 50lb	76 0	Do washed	70 0
Mid. to fine	117 0	Peppermint, H. C. H.	45 0			Pork—per 8 lbs	7 4 0	Jamaica	45 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fr	5 6 0			Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	1 8 0	Do 1st	175 0
Do gd. ord. to low mid	60 0	DYE STUFFS, &c.				Do Scotch	8 0	Do 2nd	170 0
Do mid. to fine	65 0	Galls, China, per cwt.	75 0			Do Cheviot	8 0	Do 3rd	160 0
		Turner, Bengal	25 0			Do New Zealand	8 0	Do 4th	150 0
CHEMICALS—		Gambler, block	34 0			Do Eng. Cheddars	160 0	Do 5th	140 0
Acid, citric	0 24 0	Dutch, ord. to fair	35 0			Do Cheviot	nom	Do 6th	130 0
Nitric	0 7 0	Do 12 1/2	2 2 0			Do Dutch	50 0	Do 7th	120 0
Oxalic, net	0 7 0	Do 14 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. per 8 lb	50 0	Do 8th	110 0
Tartaric, English	1 5 0	Do 16 1/2	2 2 0			Do Irish	35 0	Do 9th	100 0
Foreign	1 5 0	Do 18 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 10th	90 0
Alum lump	0 17 0	Do 20 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 11th	80 0
Do ground	0 17 0	Do 22 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 12th	70 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb.	0 12 0	Do 24 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 13th	60 0
Muriate, White, ton	70 0	Do 26 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 14th	50 0
Sulphate	0 25 0	Do 28 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 15th	40 0
Arabic, lump, per ton	70 0	Do 30 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 16th	30 0
Powder	0 40 0	Do 32 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 17th	20 0
Alba, pot., per cwt.	150 0	Do 34 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 18th	10 0
Pearl do	0 150 0	Do 36 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 19th	0 0
Bleaching pwr. p. ton	18 0 0	Do 38 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 20th	0 0
Borax, crystals	0 31 0	Do 40 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 21st	0 0
Do powder	0 32 0	Do 42 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 22nd	0 0
Creosote	0 130 0	Do 44 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 23rd	0 0
Calomel	0 5 0	Do 46 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 24th	0 0
Iodine, dry	0 5 0	Do 48 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 25th	0 0
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton	15 0 0	Do 50 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 26th	0 0
Potash—		Do 52 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 27th	0 0
Chlorate, net	0 6 0	Do 54 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 28th	0 0
Prussiate	0 1 0	Do 56 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 29th	0 0
Do foreign	0 1 0	Do 58 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 30th	0 0
Sulphate	0 25 0	Do 60 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 31st	0 0
Do Acetate	0 110 0	Do 62 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 32nd	0 0
Do Ammoniac, per cwt.	75 0	Do 64 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 33rd	0 0
Soda Bicarb., per ton	210 0	Do 66 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 34th	0 0
Sulphate, ex ship, p. ton	210 0	Do 68 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 35th	0 0
Alkali	0 8 10 0	Do 70 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 36th	0 0
Caustic	0 25 0	Do 72 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 37th	0 0
Sugar of lead white, ton	20 0 0	Do 74 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 38th	0 0
Foreign white	0 247 10 0	Do 76 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 39th	0 0
Sulphate Quinine	nom	Do 78 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 40th	0 0
English Brands	nom	Do 80 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 41st	0 0
Foreign do	0 1 0	Do 82 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 42nd	0 0
Sulphate Copper, p. ton	230 0	Do 84 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 43rd	0 0
Zinc, cut	nom	Do 86 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 44th	0 0
Sulphur Flour	16 0 0	Do 88 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 45th	0 0
Do Roll	15 0 0	Do 90 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 46th	0 0
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lb.	8 0 0	Do 92 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 47th	0 0
English	0 8 0 0	Do 94 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 48th	0 0
COPRA—per ton, c.i.f.	2 0 0	Do 96 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 49th	0 0
Malabar, Oct./Dec.	nom	Do 98 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 50th	0 0
Ceylon	27 10 0	Do 100 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 51st	0 0
FMS Singapore	25 10 0	Do 102 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 52nd	0 0
FM Straits	24 15 0	Do 104 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 53rd	0 0
COCHINEAL—per lb.	2 0 0	Do 106 1/2	2 2 0			Do Eng. straight ex mill	52 0	Do 54th	0 0

Banks, &c.—Continued.

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

Established under Egyptian Law, June, 1898, with the exclusive right to issue Notes payable at sight to bearer.

Capital .. £3,000,000
(In 300,000 Shares of £10 each, fully paid.)
Reserve Fund .. £2,100,000

Governor—B. Hornsby, Esq., C.B.E.

Head Office .. Cairo.

London Committee:

E. W. P. Foster, C.M.G.

Hon. Algernon Mills

Col. the Hon. Sidney Peel, D.S.O., M.C.

LONDON AGENCY,

8 & 7 KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

Manager—J. T. Beatty-Pownall.

Assistant Manager—A. F. Gillbeo.

Accounts opened with traders and private persons.

Circular Notes Issued.

Every kind of Banking business transacted.

Offices in Egypt at Cairo (Head Office), Alexandria, Assiout, Assuan, Benha, Beni-Suef, Chibin-el-Kom, Damanhur, Fayoum, Guerga, Keneh, Luxor, Mansourah, Minieh, Mousky (Cairo), Port Said, Rod-el-Farag (Cairo), Sohag, Suez, Tantah, and Zagazig; and in the Sudan at Khartoum, El-Obeid, Omdurman, Port Sudan, Suakin, Tokar, and Sub-Agency at Wad-Medani.

THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK.

Established 1841

Paid-up Capital .. £250,000 0 0

Reserve Fund .. £725,000 0 0

Reserve Profit .. £33,752 0 0

Reserve Liability of Shareholders, £250,000.

Drafts issued. Remittances cabled. Bills negotiated or collected. Deposits received for fixed periods at rates to be ascertained on application, and all banking and exchange business connected with Western Australia conducted through the London Agents, The Bank of Adelaide, 11 Leadenhall street, E.C.3.

BANK OF JUGOSLAVIA Ltd.

Zagreb, Yugoslavia

Subscribed Capital .. JK200,000,000

Reserve .. 50,000,000

NEW YORK AGENCY

25 Broadway New York

Cable Address "Jugobank"

THE RUSSO-ASIATIC BANK.

Incorporated by Russian Government Decree.

Capital, Authorised .. Rbls. 65,000,000

Subscribed .. Rbls. 65,000,000

(Subscribed by the Chinese Government) Kouping Tails 3,500,000

Reserve Funds .. Rbls. 28,961,423

Kouping Tails 1,767,033

HEAD OFFICE AT PETROGRAD.

Branches at all the principal towns in Russia, Manchuria, Siberia, Central Asia, and China, also at Paris, Bombay, Hongkong and Yokohama.

Interest (paid quarterly) allowed on Fixed Deposits and on Current Accounts, at rates to be learned on application.

Banking business transacted of every description.

CHARTREY INCHBALD, London Manager.

64 Old Broad Street, London, E.C.2.

UNION BANK OF CANADA.

CAPITAL STOCK REGISTERS.

Notice is hereby given that the REGISTERS of the above stock will be CLOSED from the 14th day of November, 1921, to the 30th day of November, 1921, both days inclusive, for the preparation of Warrants for the quarterly dividend due 1st December, 1921.—For the Union Bank of Canada, J. WILSON, Manager.

6 Princes street, London, E.C.2.

7th November, 1921.

REQUIRED copies of the "Economist" dated January 3rd to March 27th, 1920. Address, stating price, to Box 469, Leathwait & Simmons, 5, Birch Lane, E.C.3.

Investor's Monthly Manual

(Established 1861).

Post free 1s. 6d.

Annual Subscription £1 1s. 0d.

Publishing and Advertisement Offices:

3 Arundel St., Strand, London, W.C.2

NEW ZEALAND

A Wealthy Country. Splendid Climate. Fertile Soil. Plenty of Water.

An Ideal Country for the Farmer, the yield of grain and percentage of lambs being phenomenally high. New Zealand, a country as large as the United Kingdom, with a population slightly over one million, exports annually products up to the value of Thirty Millions Sterling.

NEW ZEALAND IS RICH IN COAL, IRON, TIMBER, GUM, GOLD AND SILVER. Total yield of minerals, over One Hundred and Thirty Million pounds.

The Government has advanced over Twenty-One-and-a-Half Million Pounds to Farmers and Workers, at a low rate of interest, for Improvements and Buildings, and is empowered under the new "Housing Act" to set apart Crown Lands and make advances up to One-and-a-quarter Million Pounds annually for the same purpose.

Railways (3,000 miles), Telegraphs and Telephones (216,742 miles of wire) are State owned and operated.

To those desirous of making a home in the new country New Zealand offers solid advantages.

Excellent Steamship Services are run direct to New Zealand by the Shaw, Savill and Albion Company, Limited, New Zealand Shipping Company, Limited, and the Federal and Shire Lines.

Full information is supplied free by

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND, 413-419, Strand, W.C.2

NOVEMBER 19, 1921.

The Economist,
WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1921.

No. 4,082.

Bergens Kreditbank
Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Amalgamated Banks—KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS

HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.Every description of Banking business
transacted

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Esc. 24,000,000Reserve Funds:
Esc. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

82 offices in Portugal,
23 " " East and West Africa,
9 " " Brazil,
5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.

New York Office—93, Liberty street.

Paris Office—8, Rue du Halder.

London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE
ITALIANA.Capital, Authorised .. Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up .. " 348,768,000
Reserve .. " 176,000,000
Deposits .. " 5,400,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

Agenofes in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY

Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	881	Books and Publications—	
Leading Articles—		Reviews	899
The Way of Peace	883	Books Received	900
The Rally of Our European Markets.—I.	884	Stock Exchange News—	
The Hague Rules	886	The Stock Markets	900
The Future of Coal	887	New Issues	901
The Federation of Central America	887	Active Securities	901
Company Meetings	903	Company Meetings	903
Government Returns—		Treasury Bills by Public Tender	907
Currency Notes Account	907	Public Income & Expenditure	9

buyers of bills were unable to drive the rate above 4 per cent., and the supply of commercial paper appeared no greater than last week.

	Nov. 18, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	(Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Discount (Call)	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	4	3	3	3	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank Return showed an addition of £12,300 to the stock of gold, and a reduction of £816,200 in the circulation, so that the Reserve was £828,500 higher. Government securities declined by £1,575,900, but Other securities expanded by £3,989,400. Deposits were thus £3,199,000 higher, of which £2,174,500 went to Public and £1,024,500 to Other. The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £1,052,200 to £313,065,800, which includes £1,802,800 for notes called in, but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £263,313,000, or £54,242,200 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended November 12, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	10,150	Supply Services	8,375
Taken from Exchequer Balances	340	Interest on Debt	669
		Sundries	3,743
		Reduction of Debt	1,073
	10,490		10,490

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £1,072,735, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 14,230	Bank of England Advances ..	- 18,500
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 500	Depreciation fund	- 660
Treasury Bills	+ 5,340	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 650
Sundries	+ 2,017	Public Department Advances ..	- 3,350
	+ 22,087		- 23,160

Customs and Excise yielded £4,442,000. Property and Income-tax produced £1,400,000, while £1,000,000 came in from special miscellaneous receipts. The sales of Treasury bonds were again on a large scale, amounting to £14,730,000. The net sales of National Savings certificates were £5,355,000, but a further reduction took place in Ways and Means advances. Bank of England advances were reduced by £18,500,000, bringing the amount outstanding down to £6,000,000, and advances by Public Departments were reduced by £3,350,000, making the amount outstanding £189,408,000. The net reduction in the floating debt on the week was £16,495,000, making the outstanding floating debt £1,317,575,000.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

The outstanding feature for the week in the foreign exchange market is that the dollar rate has again gone about four dollars to the pound sterling. After being rather weak at 3.93½ on the 11th, it appreciated steadily to 3.96½ on the 14th, and on the following day jumped to 4.00. On the 17th, after falling again below 4.00, it reached 4.00½, but yesterday morning was rather weaker at 4.00. The general explanation given for this movement is the initial success of the Washington Conference, but if this is so, the market would appear somewhat optimistic. Even if the success of the Conference were assured, the resultant impetus to trade would result almost certainly, for some time at least, in a renewed demand for dollars in order to finance the purchase of fresh supplies of raw material. It is suggested from the other side that the dollar may find stability for some little time round about 4.00, and there are indications that New York for the moment has sterling to offer at this figure, and also there would appear to be a tendency on this side to make some heavy special purchases of dollars near the same price. Rates for forward dollars

have been narrowed slightly, from ½ to ¾ cents per month over spot. After the dramatic movements of the last few weeks the course of the mark has been relatively steady. Closing at 1.112 on the 11th, the rate fell to 964 on the 14th, but since that time has moved roughly between 1.040 and 1.050, the price yesterday morning being about 1.045. The quotation for futures has narrowed again from 2½ to 1½ marks per month. This apparent stability, however, is deceptive, and would appear to be due mainly to uncertainty as to the line to be adopted by the Reparation Commission as the result of its recent visit to Berlin. On the whole, opinion seems inclined to conclude that the Commission will insist on the January payments being made. If this is the decision reached, we may expect to see further wild movements. After a somewhat irregular week the franc rose quickly on Thursday, and yesterday morning was quoted at 55.35, as compared with 54.47½ a week ago, while Brussels rose from 56.90 to 57.20, thus reducing somewhat the margin between the two rates. Forward rates in both centres have narrowed one centime in Paris to 3, and in Brussels to 9 centimes per month. Italy from 96 on the 11th recovered at the beginning of the week to 94.62½, but since then has reacted again to 96½. Among neutral exchanges, Switzerland has moved somewhat rapidly in our favour, from 20.87½ to 21.30, after being up to 21.40, while Madrid has depreciated from 28.34½ to 29.07½. Amsterdam, on the other hand, has gone slightly against us, from 11.37 to 11.35. In the Northern group, Christiania, although it has reacted again from the 26.92½ quoted on the 11th to 27.72½, shows some promise of maintaining its recent improvement as both shipping and local industries are decidedly better. Stockholm, after being rather higher, is practically unchanged at 17.12½, while Copenhagen at 21.50 is some 28 points higher on the week. Helsingfors at 200 again shows some improvement. In Central Europe, the Vienna (Auslandskrone) rate at 10.500 is some 1,500 points better than last week, the result partly of a real effort at internal financial reform, involving the restriction of bread subsidies, &c., partly of renewed hope of speedy relief from outside. The last rate received for Inlandskrone, that of the 14th, was 23,550, as compared with an Auslandskrone rate on the same day of 13,500. Budapest also shows some improvement, to 3,750. Warsaw at 13,000 is unchanged after again being rather higher, and Prague also remains at about 370. Belgrade, on the other hand, mainly on rumours of an external loan, shows a marked recovery from 360 to about 250, but the position is as yet by no means clear. In Roumania a sudden embargo on foreign accounts has completely disorganised exchange transactions, and quotations are merely nominal, with no business done, at least in London, although in Paris dealings have been continued. From advices now to hand it would appear that henceforward foreign accounts can only be operated on with the permission of a Control Commission against genuine commercial transactions. Athens has risen further to 97½, while Sofia is unchanged at 650, and Constantinople roughly the same at 720. In the East the rupee at 1s 4½d is very slightly weaker, while the yen at 2s 4½d is also a little cheaper. The silver market has been quiet, with a further downward movement, but some steadiness towards the close. Shanghai is unchanged, as also is Hong Kong, after having been slightly lower. In South America, Buenos Ayres and Rio are rather cheaper, while Montevideo and Valparaiso show a more marked fall.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO NOVEMBER 12, 1921.

Total spent	£ 612,497,440	Raised by revenue ..	£ 550,828,277
Inc. in balances	79,943	Net borrowings	61,749,106

Total	£ 612,577,383	Total	£ 612,577,383
-------------	---------------	-------------	---------------

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000

Total	£ 1,216,650,000	Total	£ 1,039,728,000
-------------	-----------------	-------------	-----------------

Surplus*

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	30	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,985	1,929	1,929
National War Bonds ..	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,278	1,278
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	405	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	348	358	358
3½% Conversion Loan ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bonds	15	77	96	97	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,122	1,122
Treasury Bills	20	67	32	32	32	319	292	289	273	273
Exchequer Bonds	..	..	138	297	267	274	279	285	290	290
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	43	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,341	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,099	1,099
American Loan	..	..	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	305	306	254	195	195
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,759	7,759
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,809	7,809

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Nov. 13, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Nov. 12, '21.	Nov. 12, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	55,750,000..	6,000,000..	18,500,000..	18,500,000..
Advances by Public Departments ..	186,964,000..	154,489,000..	189,408,000..	3,350,000..
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,089,054,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,122,167,000..	+ 5,355,000
Total Floating Debt	1,331,768,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,317,575,000..	- 16,495,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

NOVEMBER 12TH.—Washington Conference opens. Mr Hughes announces American Government's proposals for Naval Disarmament. Cabinet Committee considers Ulster's reply.

NOVEMBER 14TH.—Cabinet Committee replies to Ulster Premier's letter. London Chamber of Commerce adopts resolution on Hague Rules. Price of flour reduced.

NOVEMBER 15TH.—American proposals formally accepted by the British Empire, France, Italy, and Japan. Mr Balfour addresses the Conference.

NOVEMBER 16TH.—New York exchange over \$4 to the £. Attorney-General for Ireland resigns. Council of League of Nations meets in Paris on Jugo-Slav-Albanian dispute.

NOVEMBER 17TH.—Mr Austen Chamberlain, at Liverpool, justifies Government's Irish policy. Amendment to resolution of Ulster stalwarts defeated by large majority at meeting of National Unionist Association.

NOVEMBER 18TH.—Warship contracts suspended.

Stock Exchange business fairly well maintained its better level. Government stocks again showed strength, while rubber shares made a spurt early in the week before giving way a little. A feature of the week was the quick over-subscription of the Port of London's new issue.

In the Lancashire cotton markets the week has been discouraging, business being checked by easier prices. Buyers are adopting a waiting policy, and some nervousness exists. Quieter conditions rule in the wool trade, and prices of the raw material at the Liverpool sale declined. In the woollen piece goods trade there is no material change. From the iron and steel trade no present improvement is reported, but hopes are entertained for the new year, since in many directions prices have now been cut low enough to meet continental competition. Coal export does not improve, and the domestic coal demand has not expanded as much as might have been expected in the recent cold snap. The heavy fall in prices in the hide market seems to have been arrested. Boot trade reports are a little better. The markets for vegetable oil and oilseeds have been quiet, with prices tending to lower levels.

Details of the week's movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE WAY OF PEACE.

We welcome with profound relief and thankfulness the courageous proposals with which Mr C. E. Hughes, on behalf of the United States Government, has opened the deliberations of the Washington Conference. It is perhaps difficult for any American to realise the strange mixture of hope and fear with which the Conference has been awaited in this country. In President Harding's invitation the British public could see a second chance for the world statesmen who had so signally failed at Versailles to provide the peace and security for which the world is hungering. But in view of the experience of the abortive conferences and narrow bickerings of the past three years, the hopes which the Conference aroused were not unnaturally tinged with a certain wistfulness and an involuntary touch of scepticism. Fears, on the other hand, were born of the imagination of what the world outlook would become if the Washington Conference failed in achievement. Failure there would leave Europe looking forward over a period of economic chaos, struggle, and bankruptcy to nothing but another war more horrible than the last. To those who approached the Conference in that attitude of mind the concrete proposals for naval armament reduction boldly put forward by America on the opening day came as a surprise, the more welcome the more they are contrasted with the elusive manoeuvring and ungenerous compromise that marked Versailles and the succeeding European conferences. To all unprejudiced observers America's naval proposals must be regarded as a hall-mark of the United States Government's genuine determination to omit no contribution which it is in their power to make towards guiding the feet of the world into the way of peace.

The American Government proposes that within three months of the signature of the suggested agreement the fleets of the premier naval Powers shall be reduced to the following tonnages:—

	Capital Ships.	Cruisers, Destroyers, and Auxiliary Craft.	Sub-marines.
No.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Great Britain ..	22 .. 604,450	450,000	90,000
United States ..	18 .. 500,650	450,000	90,000
Japan	10 .. 299,700	270,000	40,000

After ten years, it is proposed, replacement shall be limited by an agreed maximum of 500,000 tons each for the United States and Great Britain, and 300,000 tons for Japan. The amount of battleship tonnage to be scrapped immediately under the American proposals is as follows:—

	United States.		Great Britain.		Japan.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Under construction ..	15	168,000	4	172,000	7	289,100
Old battleships	15	227,740	15	411,375	10	159,828
	30	845,740	19	583,375	17	448,928

This means an immediate destruction or abandonment of 66 capital ships, with a total tonnage of 1,878,043 tons. For those who attach importance to figures of pre-war tonnage, we may add that in 1913, according to the *Navy League Annual*, the capital ships and armoured cruisers of the British Empire totalled 99 of 1,512,350 tons, those

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—
The Right Hon. R. McKENNA
JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—
S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital - £38,116,815
Paid-up Capital - £10,860,565
Reserve Fund - £10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) - £371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.
OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES
OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

of the United States 43 of 639,585 tons, and those of Japan 26 of 351,786 tons.

We rejoice to see that Mr Balfour, on behalf of the United Kingdom, has accepted the principle of these proposals, and that the Government, according to an announcement made yesterday, has given a practical endorsement to this acceptance by suspending the contracts for the four projected battleships of the Hood class. It is no disparagement of the proposals but merely obvious practical common sense to say that before the signature of any agreement can be approached, the position must be examined from all angles by experts, and every possible point of view raised and discussed. It is obviously a case where the old proverb, More haste less speed, is applicable. Mr Balfour, we see, has been taken to task in some quarters for the "reservations" which he made in accepting the purport of the scheme. From a study of cabled reports it appears that Mr Balfour's so-called reservations were these. He suggested the abolition of the large submarine, a highly important extension of the American proposals, and raised the question whether, instead of having a ten-years' holiday from naval construction, a scheme of current replacement might not be preferable. We cannot see how such suggestions knock the bottom out of the American programme. The question of replacement is just one of those which calls for the careful examination of experts. It might conceivably prove from many points of view—social, economic, and pacific—that instead of a ten-years' holiday, to be followed perhaps by a feverish outburst of fresh construction, steady limited replacement would better meet the aims which America, and we trust all the nations, have in view. That is essentially a question for experts. In so far as it tends to dilute the proposals, we trust that Mr Balfour's proposed amendment will prove unnecessary, but it is at any rate a point that it is right and proper to raise for discussion at this juncture.

The generosity of the proposals from the American point of view is clear from the figures of proposed destruction given above. It is true that America lacks something of Britain's veteran experience in the matter of naval construction, and it is said that she has encountered certain technical difficulties in her new programme. But the British Admiralty, which during the war reaped the benefit of ships and equipment, turned out in exceptionally short time by some of the great American armament firms, would be the first to admit that American resource is certain in the long run to overcome all such difficulties. The proposals are the more striking when we come to look at the whole question frankly and broadly. All right-minded people in this country regard war with the United States as unthinkable. But let us assume for a moment that the unthinkable came to pass. It can hardly be denied by any student of warfare that a war between this country and America would of necessity be inconclusive unless the one country or the other possessed a naval preponderance immeasurably in excess of any preponderance which the world has yet seen or dreamed of. Furthermore, even were such a mythical preponderance to favour this country, we could hardly hope either to guarantee the Dominion of Canada against American attack, or to blockade America with the degree of completeness essential to success. Were the preponderance on the side of the United States, they could hardly hope to starve us out because they could not cut off our powers of import from Europe, and through Europe from Asia and Africa. In a word Anglo-American war would be stalemate. But it should be frankly recognised that were the Washington Conference to prove abortive, and the old armaments race to be resumed, America, through her great resources, has it in her power, if necessary, to obtain a very large naval superiority over any probable or even possible combination of antagonists. No one in this country wishes to fight America now or ever. There is no reason why we ever should fight America, and in making up our minds to that attitude, sentiment and common sense should be decisively reinforced by contemplation of America's undoubted ability to outstrip us if necessary in the ruinous race of armament construction. The restriction proposals have already had a favourable reception in this country. As soon as the fact

is clearly grasped that this fair and statesmanlike scheme emanates from a nation which is the greatest potential builder of armaments we believe that the public opinion of the country will range itself solidly behind the Government and its delegates both in their tentative acceptance and in the most determined efforts they can make to translate the proposals into a definite working agreement.

The importance of America's bold initiative reaches far beyond the question even of naval armaments. The Pacific problem and land armies are two further items on the conference agenda. If naval agreement can be reached, the atmosphere in which these other questions will be approached will be infinitely the better adapted to accommodation and reconciliation. Upon the upshot of these momentous discussions depends the course of solution of most of the leading financial and economic problems which confront the world to-day. So long as there is a hope that Washington will provide an atmosphere of peace and security, and a reduction in national expenditures which will permit of budgets balancing and currency reform being seriously undertaken, it is of little use proceeding with the discussions of financial and economic policy on the basis of existing conditions. Realisation of this fact has already prompted the conveners of the International Monetary Conference to postpone their meeting. Those who are charged with the framing of economic policies the world over will now wait and watch for the possible introduction of a great and beneficent change in the world outlook. A short time ago Mr Austen Chamberlain told the House of Commons that the policy of the Government was "to seek peace and ensue it." An unparalleled opportunity is now presented for the pursuit of that policy in international affairs, as keenly as it is being pursued with, we believe, an almost equal support of public opinion with regard to the future government of Ireland. Speaking at Liverpool, on Thursday night, Mr Chamberlain said: "There are at this moment two momentous conferences meeting, one on this side of the Atlantic, and one on the other. One seeks to bring peace to the world, the other seeks to bring peace to this island. Give us your good will in both efforts." We have frequently been numbered among the vigorous critics of the present Government's sins of omission and of commission. But in these two matters we trust that the country's response to Mr Chamberlain's appeal will be wholehearted and unanimous. The present moment of high opportunity will not recur, and any attempt to put grit instead of oil into the machinery of either conference will be a crime against the human race which history will not be slow to assess.

THE RALLY OF OUR EUROPEAN MARKETS.—I.

In economic affairs as in military, there need be no despair so long as panic does not prevail. There has been, and in some quarters there still is, too panicky a tone adopted as regards our recovery from the inevitable depression and suffering caused by the disastrous losses during the war. But if nations can reach some degree of concord and agreement; if strenuous effort is forthcoming on the part of the workers of the world, and if mutual give-and-take be shown by both capital and labour, there is no reason why the indications already visible of a recovery in trade should not rapidly become more pronounced. We in the United Kingdom have just celebrated the third anniversary of the Armistice, but over the greater portion of Europe and Asia Minor peace is of a much more recent date. Many people declare that our depressed trade is largely due to the loss of our European markets. But the fact is that, except in the case of Germany and Russia, each of the nations of Europe took a larger percentage of our total exports (i.e., exports of home produce and manufactures, and of re-exports of foreign and colonial produce) in the period from January, 1919, to September, 1921, than it took in the year 1913. When we consider that Germany has lost valuable material resources in the territory ceded to France and Poland, and has lost her shipping to a very great extent, and has

The New York Trust Company

with which is consolidated

The Liberty National Bank of New York

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions.

Buys and sells American and foreign securities

100 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank of Northern Commerce, Ltd.

already made considerable reparation payments, it is very remarkable to find, from the last number (October) of the Trade and Navigation Returns, that she stands for the nine months of the current year second to France on the list of our European customers, and fifth on the list of our world customers. British India stands first, having taken 14 per cent. of our total exports, the United States second (8 per cent.), France third (6.4 per cent.), Australia fourth (6 per cent.), and Germany fifth with 5 per cent. In 1913 Germany was second on the list of our best customers, taking 9.5 of our total exports, the exports to British India having amounted to 11.3 per cent., and to the United States to 9.3 per cent.

TABLE SHOWING the VALUE of our TOTAL EXPORTS to the COUNTRIES of EUROPE, and of our PERCENTAGE EXPORTS, for 1913, 1919, 1920, and the FIRST NINE MONTHS of 1921, and of the COMBINED VALUE from JANUARY, 1919, to SEPTEMBER, 1921.

	Total Ex- ports in 1913, £634,800,000	Total Ex- ports in 1919, £634,400,000	Total Ex- ports in 1920, £1,557,200,000	Total Ex- ports from Jan. to Sept., 1921, £596,300,000	Total Ex- ports from Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921, £3,116,900,000			
To	Min. £.	%	Min. £.	%	Min. £.	%	Min. £.	%
1. France	40.9	6.4	183.3	19.0	175.7	11.3	38.4	6.4
2. Germany	60.5	9.5	23.2	2.4	51.1	3.3	29.7	5.0
3. Holland	20.5	3.2	60.6	6.3	62.1	4.0	48.9	8.2
4. Belgium	20.7	3.3	65.5	6.8	68.5	4.4	20.7	3.5
5. S. E. Europe ..	10.9	1.7	16.9	1.7	28.2	1.8	56.6	2.6
6. Italy	15.6	2.4	33.4	3.5	45.3	3.0	14.0	2.3
7. Spain	8.6	1.4	13.1	1.4	22.7	1.5	11.7	2.0
8. Norway	6.7	1.1	29.6	3.1	35.5	2.3	10.9	1.8
9. Russia	27.7	4.4	17.5	1.8	16.8	1.1	89.5	15.1
10. Sweden	9.2	1.4	29.7	3.1	44.3	2.9	18.1	3.1
11. Denmark	6.3	1.0	40.4	4.2	35.0	2.2	7.8	1.3
12. Switzerland ..	5.1	0.8	15.2	1.6	15.5	1.0	4.3	0.7
13. Turkey in Europe	2.6	0.4	12.8	1.3	13.0	0.8	3.4	0.5
14. Portugal	3.9	0.6	7.6	0.8	12.1	0.8	3.2	0.5
Total	239.2	37.6	548.8	57.0	625.8	40.4	202.6	33.8
							1,377.2	44.2

The values in the table for the years 1913, 1919, and 1920 are taken from the recently published first volume of the Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom for 1920 [Cmd. 1503], pages 143, 144, and the values for the present year to the end of September are taken from the October number of the Trade and Navigation Returns, pages 339 to 344. The countries included under "S.E. Europe" ranking fifth on the list comprise Austria-Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Servia, and Greece for the years 1913, 1919, and 1920. For 1921 the values of our exports to Czechoslovakia and the Serb-Croat-Slovene State are added, and in the case of Russia the separate values for Finland, Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are included. In 1913 Russia stood sixth on the list of our best customers, when she took 4.4 per cent. of our total exports. She also stood sixth on the list of countries whence we drew our imports. As Signor Nitti says, "Before the present economic ruin Russia was the great reservoir of raw materials where one could go with the hope of finding everything." In 1913 Russia stood third to Germany and France in the list of our European customers. The table shows that for the current year to the end of September she stands ninth. The fact that Germany has risen to the second place in our

European list of customers for the current year, and that she stands first on the list of those who purchase our re-exports, is due to the unflagging industry and dogged perseverance of her people.

Referring to the table, it will be seen by comparing the percentage values of our exports in 1913 with those in the final column of the table that each of the countries except Germany and Russia took larger percentages for the combined period January, 1919, to September, 1921, than in 1913. And in every case, excepting Italy and Switzerland in the present year, the 12 countries took larger percentages in 1919, 1920, and 1921 than in 1913. It is evident that the decline in our export trade is not due to the loss of our European markets. In 1913, out of a total value of exports of £634,800,000, our European customers took goods valued at £239,200,000, or 37.6 per cent. In the period from January, 1919, to September, 1921, the same countries took goods valued at £1,377,200,000, out of a total of £3,116,900,000, amounting to 44.2 per cent. Germany is rapidly regaining her position, and the sooner we are able to help Russia to repair her transport and restart her industries the sooner shall we see all of our European customers taking a larger proportion of our exports than ever. In the next table we show the values of our total exports to the colonial possessions of the nations of Europe:—

Our Exports to Foreign Colonial Possessions.	Total Ex- ports, 1913.	Total Ex- ports, 1919.	Total Ex- ports, 1920.	Total Ex- ports Jan. to Sept., 1921.	Total Ex- ports from Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.
	Min. £. %	Min. £. %	Min. £. %	Min. £. %	Min. £. %
Dutch	7.3 1.1	19.0 2.9	23.4 1.5	11.2 1.5	43.6 1.4
French	5.6 .9	14.9 1.5	17.0 1.1	7.3 1.2	39.2 1.3
Portuguese	2.9 .5	3.3 .3	7.3 .5	2.8 .5	13.4 .4
Spanish	2.1 .3	1.7 .2	4.0 .3	1.1 .2	6.8 .2
Belgian	.3 ..	1.2 .1	1.0 .1	.4 ..	2.6 .1
Total	18.2 2.8	50.1 3.0	52.7 3.5	22.8 3.8	105.6 3.4
Total of Euro- pean countries	239.2 37.6	548.8 57.0	625.8 40.4	202.6 33.8	1,377.2 44.2
Total	257.4 40.4	598.9 60.0	678.5 43.7	225.4 37.6	1,482.8 47.6

For the current year our exports to Syria, amounting to more than two million pounds sterling, are included in the list of French colonial possessions. Java and other possessions in the Indian seas compose the bulk of Dutch possessions. The combined value of our total exports to the colonial possessions shown in the table, which in 1913 amounted to £18,200,000, or 2.8 per cent. of our total exports, were valued at £22,800,000, or 3.8 per cent., for the first nine months of this year. For the period from January, 1919, to September 30, 1921, the nations of Europe and their colonial possessions took exports from us valued at £1,482,800,000, or 47.6 per cent. of our total exports, compared with a percentage of 40.4 in 1913. These figures are sufficient evidence of a decided rally on the part of most of our Continental markets. They illustrate with rather astonishing clearness the fatuity of the policy—so popular in some quarters—of attempting to turn our backs on Europe, and making up for European trade by extension of our commercial

dealings with other parts of the world. We hope to show in a further article how the nations of America and Asia, and our overseas dominions and colonial possessions, have progressed as our customers.

THE HAGUE RULES.

THERE is at last a prospect that the controversy which has existed for half a century between shipowners and shippers of cargo as to the conditions of carriage will be settled. Representatives of all the interests concerned have agreed on standard clauses defining sea carriers' risks to be incorporated by reference in bills of lading under the name of the Hague Rules, 1921. The terms of settlement have now been endorsed by numerous meetings of Chambers of Commerce specially convened, by underwriters, and by bankers, and it is anticipated that shipowners will make the necessary alterations in the bills of lading they issue, so that the new conditions may become effective from the date proposed, that is, in relation to all transactions originating after the end of January next.

The bill of lading, originally a mere receipt for goods shipped, has developed, with the growth of overseas trade since the introduction of steamships, into an elaborate document. Its complexities have demanded the attention not only of the parties to the contract of carriage, but also of bankers. Under the ordinary c.i.f. contract the buyer establishes a credit with his banker, whose correspondent at the place of shipment pays the seller on lodgment of invoice, insurance policy, and bill of lading. The banker must see that the shipping documents he receives are in order, and, handling large quantities of bills of lading, is interested in the simplification and standardisation of these documents. For this reason and also on the ground that the incorporation of the Hague Rules in bills of lading will conduce to the fairness of the contract of carriage, the British Bankers' Association at a recent meeting formally approved of the proposed new code of conditions.

The policy followed by shipowners in gradually extending the clauses in bills of lading so as to relieve themselves at last from almost every kind of liability in respect of goods carried was a deliberate one. If they were to continue basing the freight charged on the weight or bulk of the goods, they could not be both carriers and insurers. If they had assumed liability for risks of loss they would have had to take value also into account. Their policy was to act as carriers merely, though they exercised such care as was possible, as indeed they were bound to do to maintain good reputation. They left the cargo owner, however, to bear or insure the risks of the voyage. This policy of the shipowners involved consequences which it is not necessary here to examine in detail, but which unquestionably have been unsatisfactory to shippers, and especially to shippers of miscellaneous goods by liners. Much friction has existed, and the growth of the pilferage evil since the war made the controversy more acute than before. Shipowners have recognised that this state of things is prejudicial to good business relations with their customers, and have come to terms with them accordingly.

The terms are, in brief, that goods shall be carried on conditions closely corresponding to those contained in the American Harter Act. Since 1893 shipments from United States ports have been subject to the conditions laid down by the Harter Act. The compulsory incorporation of the provisions of that Act in bills of lading issued in American ports has made the shipowner responsible for the safe carriage of cargo, while freeing him from navigation risks, subject to his providing a seaworthy ship. More recently, Australia, New Zealand, and Canada have passed similar legislation, and, in the early part of this year, the Imperial Shipping Committee issued a Report recommending legislation for the United Kingdom and the British Empire as a whole of a kind similar to the Canadian statute. Proposals for legislation have been pending in various foreign countries, and there was

a possibility that in a matter where international uniformity is desirable, laws would be passed in the various maritime countries of the same general tenor, but differing inconveniently in points of detail. That undesirable state of things will be obviated if the Hague Rules are generally adopted, because their form is that of a self-contained code, not dependent, like legislation, on any assumed basis of national law, but capable of application anywhere without reference to local laws.

The preparation of the Hague Rules was the work of the International Law Association, which, through its Maritime Law Committee, intervened after the publication of the Report of the Imperial Shipping Committee, and brought together representatives of all the interests concerned in the question, developed the issue between the principal parties, facilitated interchange of views, and finally, at its conference in September at the Hague, settled the form of the Rules. At the Hague Conference all interests and nationalities were very fully represented. Under the chairmanship of Sir Henry Duke, the President of the Admiralty Court, jurists met business men, and completed the working out of the scheme for an international code of rules to be incorporated by reference in bills of lading in the same way as the York-Antwerp Rules of General Average are now incorporated. A number of delegates of Chambers of Commerce were present, Sir Norman Hill and others represented the shipowners, the chairman of Lloyd's attended, and the British Bankers' Association was represented by Mr. W. W. Paine, of Lloyd's Bank, and Sir James Hope Simpson, of the Bank of Liverpool and Martin's.

Since the Hague meeting the rules then formulated have been widely discussed in mercantile circles, and though they have been criticised, and have met with some active opposition, the general body of opinion is undoubtedly favourable to their adoption. The Associated Chambers of Commerce endorsed the rules at a meeting at Sheffield, and on Monday last the London Chamber of Commerce also approved them. In certain special trades where cargoes are usually carried in bulk, notably the timber and corn trades, the rules have been unfavourably received. Special conditions are usual in those trades. The rules can, however, be used as a common basis in conjunction with special clauses such as those referred to. In recent discussions some confusion has been introduced by references to difficulties in connection with the use of "received for shipment" bills of lading, but those difficulties are a separate problem, which the parties directly concerned with that form of shipping document are now endeavouring to solve. The broad effect of the rules is, as already indicated, to introduce Harter Act conditions. There are some differences, but not on main points except perhaps one, namely, that under the American law, but not under the Hague Rules, there is a loophole for the shipowner to lessen his liability by agreed undervaluation of the goods. The rules are expected to be adopted in the first place in connection with the shipment of miscellaneous goods by the liner companies, being designed primarily to meet the complaints of general shippers.

Experience of the working of the Hague Rules may disclose need for amendment, as was the case with the York-Antwerp Rules, but it seems now to be clear that they are to be put to the test of actual practice. Should legislation be proposed later, international discrepancies would be less likely to result than if the common basis of the rules had not been worked out. The adoption of the Hague Rules, it will be appreciated, will not result in the disappearance of all the small print conditions from bills of lading. The rules take the place only of those dealing with the voyage—with sea carriers' risks—but, even so, a useful step towards simplification and uniformity has been achieved. If the rules are incorporated the banker will know that no other clause lessening the sea carrier's liability lurks in the document, because the effect of the rules is an agreement that no such separate clause shall have any effect. It will no longer be necessary for bankers, in handling bills of lading for security purposes, to read them through from beginning to end to make sure that there is no clause contrary to their instructions, so that, in addition to other advantages, routine work will be simplified.

THE FUTURE OF COAL.

(BY A SHEFFIELD CORRESPONDENT.)

THIS week a new coal mining agreement has been signed, and, together with this, there falls to be recorded a striking change in the output per unit of labour. Taking the latter point first, the latest production figures are surprising, when viewed in the light of current wages, widespread short time, and much unemployment. Here are the bald results of three periods within the scope of the seven-hours system:—

AVERAGE WEEKLY OUTPUT OF COAL (in Tons).	
1920.....	4,409,000
1921, first 13 weeks (last quarter before strike)....	4,307,000
1921, last four recorded weeks, ended October 29th	4,243,000

At the present moment very nearly, if not fully, 300,000 mine workers are unemployed. Many pits are closed. Many are working with greatly reduced staffs. Nearly every pit and man at work is on short time. Yet here, with just about 25 per cent. of the man-power idle, and the rest only averaging a trifle over 3½ shifts per week, we have only a small reduction in the output of coal. The number of man-hours now being worked is barely 50 per cent. of the normal, yet we have an output only about 2 per cent. below what has recently been considered the normal. This is not only striking; it is highly significant. We are rapidly moving towards cheap coal, and are approaching a reasonable output per unit of labour actually employed and paid. We are proving that there are hundreds of thousands of miners in excess of requirements for the economical conduct of the industry and the good of the nation's trade.

There are approximately 1,250,000 mine workers. Nine hundred thousand, or less, could easily get all the coal required for all our furnaces and ships. With such a number of men, working at a reasonable rate, we could have fair wages, a fair output, and full employment. We suffer unemployment in 1921 mainly because we had far too many persons living on the mining industry in 1919-20. We obtained an output of six tons of coal per miner per week, or over 300 tons per year, away back in the early 'eighties. Recently, with vastly better appliances—with thousands of mechanical coal-cutters and face conveyors—with better lights, drainage, and ventilation—we have not been getting even four tons per week. For several years our mines have been over manned. Whilst living wages have had to be paid to an enormous number of men for a ridiculously small output, cheap coal has been out of the question.

The men now working are proving what can be done. Per man-hour worked they are getting not far short of 100 per cent. more coal than at any period since the outbreak of war. They are doing this on drastically reduced pay rates. I do not say "wages." The wages cost per ton of coal now coming out of our pits is barely 15s per ton, against 30s in the first quarter of this year. It is now clear that in the future we can have something like 6,000,000 tons of coal per week, from less than 1,000,000 miners working full time. With such an output, from such a number of men, we can have both good wages for miners and cheap fuel for industry. That is the vital point.

But we must consider the superfluous miners. The hundreds of thousands of men now idle ought not to be allowed to starve, and they ought not to be encouraged in the belief that they can return to the mines when trade revives. The hard fact is that they are not wanted. The greatest demand we can expect for coal will only be sufficient adequately to employ the men now on short time. Let the Government, which mishandled the coal trade whilst it exercised a special control, make immediate temporary provision for the superfluous miners, and then set about some schemes for absorbing these men into other occupations. Never again must we pay too many men for getting too little coal if our manufacturing and shipping trades are to prosper.

Turning now to the new agreement between owners and miners, it is possible to explain the situation by taking the South Wales area figures and conditions. The new agreement was signed on Monday. In the main it has been operative since the coal subsidy ceased at the end of September. It is now in full working order. The future

price of coal will depend largely upon how it is manipulated, if that word is permissible. The coal industry has not only reverted to the old district conciliation board system, but there is a national board for national questions, there is the new principle of basing wages on profits instead of selling prices, and there is a profit-sharing scheme.

Wages are to be the September, 1915, standard, plus 28 per cent. as a bedrock minimum, plus a percentage upon the minimum based upon the proceeds of the industry remaining after the payment of the standard wages and profits. The owners are to be entitled to profits equal to 17 per cent. of the wages paid, if and when such profits can be realised. Then, if and when there is a surplus over the standard wages and profits, such surplus is to be divided in the same proportions—83 per cent. to labour and 17 per cent. to capital. In addition to the base rate, or standard, or minimum, as the case may be, the piece workers are to receive 14.2 per cent. in consideration of the recent reduction of working hours from eight to seven per day. Workmen on the afternoon or night shift will be paid at the rate of six shifts for five actually worked. There are also special rates for Sunday and holiday duties. The agreement will remain in force until the end of September, 1922, and will thereafter be subject to termination on three months' notice. The men's contract period of service is 14 days.

All questions of differences which may arise on details "shall, in the first instance, be submitted to and considered by the board without the chairman being present. If the board are unable to agree on any question or difference so submitted, the meeting shall be adjourned for a period not exceeding 14 days, to which adjourned meeting the chairman shall be summoned, and shall attend thereat, when the question or difference shall again be discussed by the board, and in the event of its failing to agree the chairman shall give such decision thereon as he shall deem fit, which decision shall be final and binding on the parties."

Profits is an elastic term. To settle the knotty question of cost other than wages, in order to arrive at profits and surpluses, the agreement has been drawn up in great detail. Such points as income from coke ovens, by-product plants, iron works, brick works, &c., have at last been definitely settled. Expenses in connection with sales commissions, railway charges, miners' houses and coal, &c., have been arranged for. The capital costs of development work—sinkings, opening out new shafts or seams, &c.—have been separated from profit and loss accounts. In past times the miners have been suspicious that costs which ought to have been charged against capital account were charged against revenue. The new agreement, so far as it affects the relationship between employers and workmen, is all to the good, for the stipulations, the joint audits, the joint boards, and the independent chairmen tend to remove the atmosphere of suspicion and distrust which has hitherto hung over the mining industry. But the public interest side of mining—that relating to output and cost per unit of labour and capital employed—the ultimate selling price of the coal—remains somewhat obscure. Much depends upon what is done with the superfluous miners alluded to above.

THE FEDERATION OF CENTRAL AMERICA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

LAST January Costa Rica, Honduras, Salvador, and Guatemala signed a Pact to restore the Federal Union which subsisted between them, and included Nicaragua, during the six years following their severance from Spain in 1821. Provision was made for the future admission of Nicaragua, but Costa Rica has withdrawn. The remaining three, with a total territory of 101,750 square miles and an estimated population of somewhat over four millions, have gone on, and in September their delegates adopted a Federal Constitution which would be "advanced" even for the most civilised European State. It has been published in the Official Gazette of Guatemala, and its chief provisions may be summarised as follows:—

The three States are organised into a Federal Re-

public on ethnic, geographical, and historical grounds. They reserve their autonomy and all powers not delegated to the Central Government. The capital is to be Tegucigalpa in Honduras, in a Federal District, which is, however, to be represented in the Congress by one Senator and one Deputy. The Constitution is modelled on that of the United States, with one significant difference. As in its archetype, the legislative, judicial, and executive powers are, as far as possible, kept distinct. The Legislature or Congress consists of a Senate and a Chamber of Deputies, the former elected by the Congresses of the three States, three members from each who must be over 40 years of age; the latter elected by districts, one member per 100,000 population, with an additional member for fractions exceeding 50,000. Every male citizen is an elector at 21, or, if married and able to read and write, at 18, except while performing military service, which apparently is compulsory; every wife or widow is likewise enfranchised at 21, as are all spinsters of 25 who can read and write, and have means of independent support; but after seven years illiterates will no longer vote. For men voting, as in Belgium, is compulsory; for women optional. The Senate is elected for six years, the Chamber for four; one-third of the former and half the latter is renewed biennially, so there is never a general election. The quorum is two-thirds in the Senate and three-fourths in the Chamber; bills imposing taxation must originate in the latter. The Chambers meet each January without being summoned; their normal session is 60 days, but they may be convoked at other times by the Executive. Bills passed by both are sent to the Executive, whose veto may be overridden by a two-thirds majority in each. The Executive power is not concentrated in one person, but, as in Switzerland, is vested in a Council. This consists of six members, chosen by a body appointed by the electorate, and holds office for six years. None of its members can be re-elected to its immediate successor. Each takes some one department of the administration, and is assisted by an under-secretary, and they annually elect one of themselves to be Chief of the State for a year, and he acts in their name. If he commands the army, as Spanish-American Presidents almost always do, he vacates his office as Federal Chief. This provision is made against the military dictatorships characteristic of Spanish-American countries. And the tendency of their Governments to fall into the hands of a small ring of leading families is checked by a proviso that no member of either Chamber shall be a near relative of any member of the Executive Council or of the other House. Finally, in each body, as in Norway, a "suppléant"—may we say, an understudy?—is elected along with every member to attend the debates; and to vote in the absence of his chief. The judicial power is vested in a Supreme Court of seven judges and three "suppléants," elected by the Legislature from a list submitted by the Executive Council; it deals with suits between the State Governments, or between one of them and the Federal Government, keeps them to their constitutional limits, and decides whether Federal statutes are constitutional. The Federal Power deals with foreign relations, national defence, the promotion of public welfare in general and Federal finance. The trade in alcohol and tobacco is reserved to the State Governments, that in weapons and ammunition is a Federal monopoly.

The Constitution is amazingly liberal and humanitarian. It gives manhood and womanhood suffrage, the vote is secret, the death penalty, flogging, and life imprisonment are abolished, as is imprisonment for debt (is this a blow to peonage?), and laws are only retroactive "if the new law favours the delinquent." Elementary education is declared free and compulsory, but is left to the State Governments; all education is secular; freedom of speech, of the Press, of letters and telegrams from censorship, and of public meeting ("without weapons") is guaranteed, so are the eight hours' day and a weekly holiday, and a Council is to be set up to harmonise capital and labour. Property may not be "tied up" except for charitable purposes or to provide free education; monastic communities of any sort are prohibited, as are perpetual vows, but full religious toleration is guaranteed, subject to the requirements of morality and order, and there can be no established Church. (Spanish-American history

offers many examples of statutory religious intolerance.) Technical and agricultural education for the Indians is promised; the reduction of the consumption of alcohol is declared to be a duty of the State Governments, and they are authorised to substitute other sources of revenue. But where are they to find them?

If such provisions seem a counsel of perfection—especially in Central America—those concerning finance inspire more active misgiving. The existing external loans of each State are recognised, but are to be liquidated under Federal supervision. But Honduras has been in default since 1873, Salvador is compounding with her bondholders, Guatemala still owes certain promised arrears of interest, and her earlier record is bad. The loans of these two States are "secured" chiefly on export duties on coffee, but the Constitution prohibits such duties on any native product whatever. And the States are clearly not in a position to raise much by direct taxation. Then—much as under the existing Mexican Constitution—foreign concession-holders are to be on the same footing as natives, and must not ask help from their Legations till legal means of obtaining it are exhausted. Probably interference with existing arrangements may be barred by the provision against retroactive legislation. But that has not stopped the controversy as to the recognition of Mexico. Then, no State may make a contract compromising its sovereignty or independence. Will this bar the "straightening out" of their finances by aid from the United States?

But, if the working of the plan is problematical, the reasons for it are still more so. Its ethnic basis is sound, but the States have little else in common, little reciprocal trade or intercourse; their frontier regions are thinly peopled and mountainous, and previous attempts to restore the original Federation have been unsuccessful. Each has a large substratum of illiterate Indians, a small and turbulent Spanish aristocracy, and a middle class of varying degrees of mixed blood. And why should their Governments make the sacrifice of position and diplomatic representation which those of the small North German States shrank from after Sadowa, till Bismarck forced it on them by a direct appeal to the German people? Is it to avert "penetration" and control by the United States? If so, our sympathies go out to the patriots; but the Constitution seems likely to remain an ideal.

Business Notes.

America and the ter Meulen Scheme.—We are glad to hear from Sir D. Drummond Fraser, the organiser of the International Credits Plan of the League of Nations, who has just returned from a visit to America in that capacity, that he is gratified with the result of his mission. President Harding, Mr Mellon, Secretary to the Treasury, Mr Hoover, and many leading financiers and business men have given him their personal assurance that "everything shall be done to give the plan a fair trial." It only remains now for the necessitous countries requiring extended credit to apply for the issue of bonds.

The Progress of Agriculture.—In his presidential address to the Royal Statistical Society on Tuesday, Sir R. Henry Rew, K.C.B., confined his remarks to Great Britain as being a more homogeneous agricultural unit than the United Kingdom. The total land area was now 56½ million acres, of which about 3½ million acres are situated above the 1,500 feet level. Of the 52½ million acres capable of productive use, about 90 per cent. is so utilised in a greater or less degree. The area of cultivated or farm land is not capable of any material extension, and it is steadily diminished by the insatiable demands of the urban population. The proportion of arable land was 58 per cent. in 1869-78, and is now 48 per cent. The prevalent belief, however, that the output of British agriculture had declined overlooked the fact that the smaller arable area may, if devoted to other crops, produce a greater amount of food than the larger. By substituting potatoes for wheat, for instance, one-fifth the area would

give about as much food. Since 1885-9 the production of corn had decreased by 350,000 tons, while that of potatoes had increased by 775,000 tons. Fruit and vegetables have largely replaced farm crops, while the extension of glass cultivation has resulted in a great increase of output per acre. The statistics do not adequately measure this increase. As regards live stock, comparing the ten years 1869-78 with 1912-21, cattle have increased by nearly 1½ millions, and although sheep have decreased by 5½ millions and pigs by 80,000, if the figures are expressed in terms of cattle, there has been a net gain of about 750,000 beasts. Statistics were quoted which indicated that the average weight of animals slaughtered had increased before the war, though under war conditions it had decreased. There had been a progressive and substantial increase in milk production during the past 50 years, the milking herd having increased by 32 per cent., while the yield per cow had also been greatly increased. In conclusion Sir Henry Rew claimed that an examination of the statistics available points to the conclusion that a larger quantity of food was being produced at the outbreak of war than at any previous period. The food was not the same in kind, but it was greater in quantity. There was a setback in food production during the war, the amount of cereal food being increased, but other kinds of food—meat and milk particularly—were markedly reduced. Whether the pre-war standard of total output had been regained was doubtful, but if not it would be. No doubt the suggestion that British agriculture was holding its own in food production would be stigmatized as unreasonable optimism. He was content to give such facts as are accessible, and they pointed to the conclusion that the output of food had been increased, but he must not be accused of suggesting that it was sufficient or satisfactory. The agricultural land of the country was capable of producing more food, and on a larger proportion of it the output was lamentably deficient. British agriculture ought to produce more food and support more men on the land. The need for both was vital and urgent. If he was not prepared to proclaim the decadence of agriculture, still less was he willing to preach contentment with its present state. What had been done was but the earnest of what may, and should, be done.

The Iron and Steel Position.—The National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers points out that although a settlement of the coal dispute was arrived at at the end of June, by the end of October there were still only 82 blast furnaces in operation, compared with 109 before the stoppage, and 300 in September, 1920. The production of pig-iron in October amounted to 235,500 tons, of which 80,200 tons were hematite, 63,300 tons basic, 74,500 tons foundry, and 13,600 tons forge, with a small quantity of alloys and other qualities; the production of steel ingots and castings amounted to 405,400 tons. The following table compares the production in October with the average monthly production in 1920, and with the production in recent months:—

	Pig Iron.	Steel Ingots and Castings.
	Tons.	Tons.
Average monthly in 1920.....	667,300	754,700
March, 1921	386,000	359,100
April, "	60,300	70,600
May, "	13,600	5,700
June, "	800	2,700
July, "	10,200	117,200
August, "	94,200	434,100
September, "	158,300	429,300
October, "	235,500	405,400

Thus although the output of pig-iron is increasing, it is still below the very low output of March last, and little more than one-third of the average monthly output of 1920. In the case of steel, there has actually been a decrease since August—a decrease which would have been much more marked but for the remarkable recovery in South Wales, where the October production amounted to 133,100 tons, or 86 per cent. of the average monthly production in 1920. Excluding South Wales, production dropped from 369,400 tons to 272,300 tons, or by 26 per cent. between August and October. The present price of typical iron and steel products is considerably less

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary Ltd., established throughout Australasia).

1-4 Great Tower Street, LONDON, E.C.3.

EASTERN AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

Buying and Selling Agents in London and Abroad.

Colombo, Calcutta, Quilon, Calicut, Batavia, Bandoeng, Medan, Sourabaya, Kuala Lumpur, Kobe, Montreal, Tangier.

than half the maximum price ruling towards the end of last year, and in most cases no more than 30 per cent. to 60 per cent. above the average price of 1913. That drastic cuts have not been sufficient to stimulate demand is due to the fact that Continental prices expressed in sterling are even still lower than British. On account of the depreciated exchanges German prices are, of course, extremely low, but fortunately for British industry Germany cannot for the moment guarantee delivery. The vital comparison, therefore, is with France and Belgium, who, even with the addition of transport charges, are able to deliver here below the British price. Towards the reduction in price reduced wages have contributed substantially. As the current *Labour Gazette* shows, the wages of workers in the iron and steel industry have fallen in the first nine months of the year by 27s 6d per week, and have fallen more than those of any other class of worker. Fuel costs have also been reduced. "But still further reductions in cost must be made," adds the Federation, "if we are to compete, and further contributions may still have to be made in lower wages and prices of material. Steel makers are, however, of opinion that in the present abnormal conditions some special reduction in railway rates, which are an important item in costs, is essential. Representatives of the industry, therefore, submitted their views to the railway companies at a meeting which took place last week, and placed the relevant facts and figures before them. The railway companies had already recognised the exceptional position of the industry, and reductions on ore and limestone took place on November 1st. These reductions are, however, unequal and inadequate. Unequal since they afford no help at all to works whose coal has to be brought from a distance, and inadequate since a reduction on these two commodities reduces the transport bill of the industry by no more than 4 per cent. The industry feels that it is now faced with the difficulty which was foreseen when the principle of the standard revenue was put forward in the Railways Bill. At a time when all industries are working at a loss, it is obviously inimical to the country's interest that the railways should attempt to maintain their rates at a high level in order to provide a standard revenue. On the contrary, their policy should be to take the risk of loss in common with other industrial enterprises, and lower rates in the hope that by so doing they will assist to bring back trade to Great Britain."

Bankruptcy in 1920.—The expectation expressed in last year's report that 1920 would see an increase in bankruptcy business has proved to be correct, for the thirty-eighth annual report of the Board of Trade on Bankruptcy (H.C. 236) shows that the total number of cases in England and Wales under Bankruptcy and Deeds of Arrangement Acts in 1920 was 2,016, as compared with 910 in 1919, and 826 in 1918. Liabilities as estimated by debtors were £6,853,300, and assets as estimated by debtors £3,049,000, the estimated loss to creditors being £5,547,700, as compared with £1,971,900 for the previous year. The number of receiving orders under the Bankruptcy Acts increased from 745 in 1919 to 1,565 in 1920, and the estimated loss to creditors from £1,612,900 to £4,048,300. These figures compare with 3,358 and £4,494,400 in 1913. Under the Deeds of Arrangement Acts, the number of deeds was 451 in 1920, and the

estimated loss £1,499,400, as against 165 and £359,000 in 1919, and 2,411 and £1,858,200 in 1913. The failures with the largest aggregate liabilities, and showing the largest increases as compared with 1919, occurred among corn, flour, &c., merchants, with liabilities in 1920 of £293,500, as compared with £35,400 in 1919; directors and promoters of public companies £637,000, against £90,900; and miscellaneous clothing and textile trades £497,100, against £75,900. The chief decreases are shown among commission and general agents, with liabilities of £47,300, against £147,900, and financial agents £4,500, as against £233,200 in 1919. The accounts of Bankruptcy Administration for the year ended March 31st last show total receipts of £127,400, and total expenditure of £181,500, leaving a deficiency of £54,100, which compares with £63,100 for 1919-20 and £51,100 for 1918-19.

Soviet Finance: the Third Stage.—As was noted a fortnight ago in these columns, the Soviet Government has had to compromise with capitalism. Factories are to be leased to foreign or native capitalists, and money is to be reinstated as a medium of exchange, and of payments of wages and of taxation. The current number of the organ of its trade delegation in England explains the new departure as follows:—The first stage of Soviet financial policy consisted in breaking Russian capitalist power by nationalising the banks, annulling debts, prohibiting dealing in stocks and shares, taxing money, and limiting the right to draw it from a bank. The second was the creation of "a new financial apparatus closely dependent on the centralisation of control of production"; money was eliminated by destroying its value, and exchange became simply barter. This was the main object of the over-issue of currency, though incidentally, as the account gravely mentions, it was useful in enabling the Government to purchase goods. In January, 1918, the rouble was 16.3 times below its pre-war value; two years later, 167 times; on April 1st of this year, 32,360 times; so that roughly about 1,300 roubles were then the equivalent of one English penny. Passing over the consequent paralysis of production, the account proceeds to state that on April 21st last a new economic policy was adopted, permitting private trading and free markets as the sole means of rapidly improving the situation. The rouble must be stabilised, and the financial deficit reduced. But "the development of monetary taxes requires time," and the note issues can only be gradually reduced, concurrently with the progress of national production and of that from private enterprise, the latter determining the amount of revenue from taxation. The statement asserts that since August 1st prices in the Moscow free market have been comparatively stable, that between July 15th and September 30th the new railway tariff produced 68,305 million roubles, the new waterways tariff during August and September 22,157 millions; the posts and telegraphs during August, in 31 provinces, 6,090 millions; and that for next year the estimated revenue is 1,500 milliard roubles from direct taxation, and 8,000 milliards from State enterprises and services and indirect taxes, and that municipal finances are recovering. The Government is establishing a State bank in Moscow, with branches in important towns, chiefly to finance the new capitalist enterprises, and also to regulate the circulation. It will act as a State bank—this department being kept separate—and will not issue notes. From other authoritative sources we learn that five-eighths of its capital will be provided by the State, one-fourth by the co-operative societies, and the remainder by private concerns, presumably the leased factories, and that it will transact all ordinary banking business, monopolise the purchase of stocks and shares, keep the Government's accounts, and buy and sell goods. Its capital is 2,000 milliards paper, or 70 million roubles in gold—seven millions sterling. This sum—less than half the paid-up capital of Lloyd's Bank alone—is to suffice for an institution which is to finance the greater part of Russian manufactories, and to some extent the Government. There could be no clearer evidence of the effect of Soviet economics.

Egyptian Cotton Crop Decline.—In the current issue of the *Bulletin of the Imperial Institute*, Mr G. C. Dudgeon, late Consulting Agriculturist to the Government of Egypt, goes rather fully into the causes of the decline in the yield of Egyptian cotton, particularly during the last seven years. The chief causes are:—(1) Decreased soil fertility due to (a) over cultivation of cotton, (b) over-irrigation and lack of drainage, (c) insufficient manures of good quality and use of inferior substitutes; (2) insect pests and resort to inferior varieties of cotton; and (3) agrarian disturbances. Over-cultivation of cotton in the crop rotation is largely due to the fact that the land is held under tenure instead of ownership, but this excessive cultivation would not be really serious if good fertilisers were adequately used. Over-irrigation is much more serious, since, owing to the larger supplies of water available for irrigation, the tendency has been to over-irrigate the cotton lands, with very deplorable results. Good drainage is therefore now most essential, but owing to the war the necessary works were delayed. Decreased fertility is also largely due to insufficient supplies of farm-yard manure and the use of inferior and grossly adulterated artificial fertilisers. Turning to the ravages of insect pests, the terrible boll weevil was first found near Alexandria in 1911, and during the next five years it spread rapidly throughout the country. Drastic legislation was introduced, but the war interfered with the remedial measures, and the chief result was that early maturing varieties of cotton were largely grown, and these gave inferior results, except perhaps the well-known Sakellariadis. There is no need to dwell upon the third main cause—agrarian troubles—for the effect of these must be obvious to all who realise the economic and political conditions in Egypt during recent years. A table is given in the original showing the percentage cotton area, as compared with the whole cultivable area, also the yield per acre, for the years 1894 to 1920 inclusive. The percentage area has increased from 27.9 per cent. in 1915 to 43.1 per cent. in 1920; that is, about the same as it was in 1914, and considerably higher than during the years preceding 1914. But although the area has increased, the yield per acre has declined from 420 lbs—the mean of the eight years before the war—to 330 lbs in 1920. This decline has been continuous since 1915.

Cotton Trade Short Time.—The employers in the Lancashire cotton industry are again considering the question of short time on an organised scale, writes our Manchester correspondent. On Tuesday last there was a meeting in Manchester of the General Committee of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, when the state of trade was discussed. Reports were received from the several districts to the effect that it was impossible to clear the production of the mills, and the prices ruling show a big loss. It was decided to recommend short time working in the mills, using American cotton to the extent of 50 per cent. of production each week until the end of the year. A ballot of the members on this proposal is being taken, and the result of the voting will be announced on Friday next. According to the rules of the Federation, it is necessary for the owners of 80 per cent. of the spindles in any particular section to be in favour of organised short time before any scheme can be put into operation. Although the trade depression is very severe, it is not certain that the necessary majority will be obtained. Some firms have fair contracts on the books, chiefly for export, and certain spinners as a matter of principle do not believe in curtailment of production, as running the mills fewer hours each week means a relative increase in standing charges for each pound of yarn produced. It is not proposed to make any recommendation as to short time in the Egyptian spinning section. The scheme now under consideration affects nearly 40,000,000 spindles out of the 56,000,000 spinning spindles in Lancashire.

Cotton Company Dividends.—A summary of the stock-taking announcements for the quarter ended October of 62 Lancashire cotton companies, prepared by Mr F. W. Versall, of Manchester, shows a big drop in the average dividend compared with the average for the

same concerns for previous quarters. Out of the 62 companies, which are engaged solely in the production of cotton yarn, and have a total paid up ordinary share capital of £6,717,750, 39 have not been able to make any return to the shareholders. The average dividend per company for the three months is 4.78 per cent. per annum, which compares with an average for the July quarter of 5.10 per cent. In April last the average was 7.15 per cent., and in January 19.32 per cent., whilst 12 months ago the average dividend was 36.4 per cent. per annum.

Reparation and Unemployment.—In a statement published in the *Times* of the 17th inst., Sir Henry Strakosch has put forward a scheme by which we should receive reparation payments due to us by Germany in the form of capital goods, i.e., goods which do not compete with our own production of the material in normal demand. He advocates the building by Germany in Great Britain and in the Dominions of large public works, such as electricity works, the electrification of railways, &c. In addition to providing us with reparation in a form which would not interfere with our own trade, it is claimed that this would greatly relieve unemployment, indirectly as well as directly. The proposal is very much on the lines of a suggestion made by Mr F. E. Thrupp in a letter which we published on April 2nd (page 690).

Banking and Foreign Exchange in Venezuela.—In the report on the economic and commercial conditions of Venezuela,* dated September, 1921, it is stated that Venezuelan currency during the past few years has been at a premium as compared with all foreign currencies except the United States dollar. Exchange in London, which is mainly determined by the quotation of sterling in New York, there being no direct transactions, has fluctuated as follows (par 25.25 bolivares to £):—

Year.	Average for Year.	Highest.	Lowest.
	Bs.	Bs.	Bs.
1913	25.50	26.00	25.15
1914	25.80	27.00	25.26
1920	20.20	22.00	17.30
1921*	23.25	26.35	20.50

* First six months.

We are told that "under the Banking Law of June 27, 1918, any bank, whether native or foreign, may, on obtaining permission from the Federal Executive, issue notes up to double of its paid-up capital against gold or securities payable at sight or within 30 days—a third of the amount being in the form of gold coin—or up to three times its paid-up capital, the additional third being guaranteed by gold coin to an equal amount. There are at present only three banks which have availed themselves of the privilege of note issue, namely—The Bank of Venezuela, which on December 31, 1920, had Bs. 23,759,860 in circulation; the Bank of Caracas, with an issue of Bs. 1,875,000; and the Bank of Maracaibo, with an issue of Bs. 800,000. Notes in circulation amount, therefore, to a little over one million sterling. Payment of debt in bank-notes can be refused. (Article 12 of the Banking Law.) In the interior they are not generally current, and payment of debts may be, and often is, required in gold. Gold in circulation is estimated at two and a-half millions, and silver at two millions sterling. The cash reserves at the Bank of Venezuela and agencies on December 31, 1920, amounted to Bs. 87,563,454, and of the Bank of Caracas to Bs. 6,352,453. Foreign banks operating in the country are:—The Royal Bank of Canada, opened in 1915 (branches at Ciudad Bolivar and Maracaibo); the Commercial Bank of Spanish America, opened in 1914 (branch at Puerto Cabello); the National City Bank of New York, opened in 1916 (branches at Maracaibo and Ciudad Bolivar); Banco Mercantil Americano de Caracas, an offshoot of the Mercantile Bank of the Americas, New York, opened in 1917 (branches at Valencia and Puerto Cabello); and the Hollandische Bank, opened in 1920." On June 30, 1921, the note circulation of the Banco de Venezuela had increased to Bs. 26,532,570.

* "Report on the Economic and Commercial Conditions of Venezuela." September, 1921. (London) H.M. Stationery Office. 9d net.

First Mortgage Debenture Issues and Existing Mortgages.—We draw attention in a later column to the question of offering land and property as specific security for a first mortgage debenture issue when subject to an existing first mortgage. It is, of course, a point which must be looked at from many sides, and no doubt in some complicated series of debenture issues it is better to accept the position as found rather than attempt to reconcile the various conflicting interests of different classes of debenture holders by merging all loans into one big issue. But obviously the clear way to deal with a comparatively young and modest undertaking is to pay off the existing mortgage and allow the trustees for debenture holders to hold the title deeds. For it must be remembered that the title deeds will be held by the first mortgage holders, and "first mortgage debenture holders" with no title deeds in possession might have some trouble in certain circumstances if the first mortgage holders were inclined to act in sympathy with the directors of the undertaking. It may be legally correct to describe such issues as first mortgage debentures, but some investors may imagine that such a term implies that there are no prior charges on the property whatever.

Burma Corporation.—Our mining correspondent writes:—The history of this important enterprise bears a close resemblance to that of many industrial undertakings in the recent past—a big expansion programme on the strength of war conditions, followed by a drastic curtailment in view of the financial and other exigencies of the moment. The company, it may be recalled, owns a group of ancient silver-lead mines with smelting and other plant at Bawdwin in Upper Burma. The original undertaking was registered early in 1906. Subsequently the Burma Corporation was formed to provide additional working capital, and was successful in arriving at an advantageous arrangement with the Inland Revenue authorities in regard to excess profits duty. Notwithstanding this, the undertaking was last year transferred to a company registered in Rangoon with a capital of 20,000,000 rupees in 10 rupee shares, whereof 14 were given in exchange for every £1 share of the former English company. Incidentally it may be remarked that in anticipation of these developments the old shares were bid up to over £14. However, no sooner had the distribution of the new shares been made than holders began to realise, and from 15s the price has now fallen to 6s. Those who took this course of selling, or at any rate reducing their interest, were wiser or more fortunate than even they imagined. In September, 1920, the market received a nasty shock in the shape of an offer of the equivalent of £1,000,000 8 per cent. debentures, convertible into shares at par, and ultimately redeemable at 110 per cent. That matters were not proceeding with complete smoothness was indicated by the recent appointment in London of a strong advisory committee. Simultaneously a new manager was appointed to succeed the existing manager on the expiration of his agreement, and arrangements were made for a well-known consulting engineer to visit the property and advise upon the general lines of policy to be followed. The outcome of these various measures is seen in the report now in the hands of the shareholders. The programme of the new company included extensions to the works at the mine, the opening-up of a colliery at Namma, the erection of a large zinc smelter at Jemshadpur, India, in co-operation with the Indian Government and the Tata Steel Company, the installation of a modern smelter at Namtu, and the building of a new branch railway to the latter centre. It is now intimated that in view of financial conditions in general, and of the company in particular, the directors have decided to close up the construction of the zinc works in India, as neither of the other parties are in a position to carry out their engagements; to extend and improve the existing smelter instead of completing the one at Namtu, and to suspend for the time being all further expenditure upon the development of the Namma coalfield. While this restriction necessarily comes as a great disappointment to those who had pinned their faith to "big things," there can be no doubt as to the wisdom of the directors in keeping within the present financial resources of the corporation—for additional

funds could only be raised upon onerous terms. The point is stressed in the statement of the late manager, but was apparently overlooked by Mr J. A. Agnew, whose elaborate technical report of April, 1920, was the basis of the extension programme. Still, even the present programme provides for an annual output of 45,000 tons of lead and 4,500,000 ounces of silver. With regard to the results of the past year, the treatment of a larger quantity of material than in 1919 gave a working profit equivalent to £455,500. Of this, £95,000 was absorbed by depreciation on plant, &c., while the expenses in connection with the issue of debenture stock above referred to totalled £46,800. After providing for interest, taxation, &c., there is a balance of £246,800—which, as the board remark, represents only a small percentage upon the issued capital (over £9,000,000); hence no dividend is recommended. Little change is shown in the ore reserves, work having been hampered by shortage of labour; the tonnage is placed at 4,429,500, value 23.2 ounces silver, 25.3 per cent. lead, and 17.7 per cent. zinc. It is tolerably clear that the hopes of a dividend for 1921, held out at the special meeting of last April, are not likely to be realised. Consequently those who continue to hold their shares will need to exercise much patience.

The Argentine Navigation Company.—The accounts of this company, founded by Baron Nicolas Mihanovich and now controlled by a powerful group of English and Continental shipowning companies, show a heavy loss due to last year's strikes. That in the company's workshops lasted 17 months, that of the crews nearly 13; the services were paralysed, and the loss for the year amounts to £411,168. It is partly met by the transfer of the entire reserve fund, amounting to £150,000, to the profit and loss account, and the debit balance ultimately carried to next year is £259,118. The cumulative preference dividends fell into arrears during the war, but were overtaken and paid to the end of June, 1920; the debentures were entirely paid off in 1915, through the sale of the vessels built out of their proceeds. The insurance fund has been augmented, the company's property in steamers, land, buildings, shipyards, stores, &c., is worth considerably more than its £2,000,000 capital, and we believe that preparations have been made to extend its port facilities at Buenos Ayres whenever the traffic increases sufficiently to warrant such extension. Passenger traffic is said to be recovering; freight traffic is obviously kept low by the depression due to the decreased buying power of Europe, which is felt all over Central and South America; and during the long suspension of the company's services the field has been partly occupied by small barge-owners who have not yet vacated it. Moreover, it takes some time to re-start traffic, and just now it is the slack season. The company has a great field, and no doubt a prosperous future, provided it is not hampered by clumsy efforts to regulate dock labour on the part of the Argentine Government. But for the present its efforts must be directed to restoring its reserve and paying off a banking overdraft exceeding £133,000. Payment even of the preference dividends—which, however, are cumulative—is not likely to be resumed for some time.

Agricultural and General Engineers.—It may be remembered that Agricultural and General Engineers, Limited, was formed in June, 1919, with a view to obtaining controlling interests in various agricultural and other engineering concerns, mostly located in the eastern counties. The annual report and accounts for the year ended March 31, 1921, has just been issued, showing a net profit of £68,731 for the year. Out of this sum the directors have paid the 8 per cent. dividend on £999,900 first preference capital, and the 6 per cent. dividend on the second preference shares. The balance-sheet shows that assets mainly consist of shares in associated companies valued at £2,981,137, while there are also loans to these undertakings amounting to £628,257. Further, the company has guaranteed overdrafts of the associated companies to an amount of £252,000. Total preliminary expenses and commission

are given under assets as £107,867. This item, however, has been reduced to £31,388, although the remaining £76,479 has only been transferred to "cost of shares in associated companies." On a paid-up and issued capital of £3½ millions, profits appear to be somewhat meagre, and it is to be hoped that the associated companies have provided for depreciation in values before declaring dividends. But the point is not made clear in the accounts before us. The £18 per cent. cumulative preference shares are quoted at round about 10s each. At the general meeting yesterday, the suggestion of a shareholder that more details could usefully be given in the published accounts was certainly a reasonable one, which the directors might well adopt.

Oversea Correspondence.

THE UNITED STATES.—REDUCTIONS IN FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS' REDISCOUNT RATES—HEAVY INVESTMENT DEMAND FOR BONDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, November 4.

WHILE a lowering of the Federal reserve rediscount rate at New York and one or two other eastern centres had been expected, the financial community was hardly prepared to witness such a general reduction practically in all sections of the country as was announced this week. Eight of the 12 Federal Reserve banks cut their rate at the same time, and two others took similar action a day or so later. The reductions in some cases amounted to ½ of 1 per cent., and in others to 1 per cent. At New York, Boston, and Philadelphia the rate was lowered from 5 to 4½ per cent.; at St Louis and San Francisco from 5½ to 5 per cent.; at Chicago and Kansas City, from 6 to 5 per cent., and at Richmond, Atlanta, and Dallas, from 6 to 5½ per cent. For the present the rediscount rate in the Cleveland district remains at 5½ per cent., and in the Minneapolis district at 6 per cent. The banks in the two last-named cities will probably lower their rates as soon as conditions in their respective districts warrant such a step. So far as the New York bank is concerned, this week's reduction is the second made this autumn, and the fifth since last May, and it has been widely commented upon that such sweeping reductions have occurred during the autumn, because in normal times before the war open market money rates almost invariably advanced at this time of the year. The Federal Reserve system, however, has not been in existence long enough to test the normal tendency of the official rates during the Fall season. It would be more correct to say that conditions have not been normal in any autumn since the system began to function, or at least since rediscount rates were first established, at about the time when the first Liberty loan was offered. The cuts just announced were undoubtedly made for the purpose of further aiding a revival in trade and industry, although at the same time they reflect the pronounced improvement that has taken place recently in the credit situation in different centres, and the further strengthening of the banking position in such districts, as is reflected in the steady rise in the ratios of reserve to note and deposit liabilities, owing to heavy increases in gold holdings and continued reduction in rediscounts and note circulation. Last week's statement of the New York Federal Reserve Bank, giving its condition on October 26th, furnishes a very striking summary of the marked changes that have occurred since the corresponding date in 1920:—

	1920.	1921.
Total gold held by bank.....	175,996,000 ..	472,571,147
Gold with Federal agent	262,733,000 ..	545,188,678
Total reserves	606,610,000 ..	1,089,244,429
Bills discounted	515,947,000 ..	116,551,857
Bills bought in open market	88,547,000 ..	30,159,938
Total bills on hand.....	1,025,769 ..	281,440,685
Federal reserve notes in actual circulation.....	876,706,000 ..	623,872,668
Ratio of total reserves to deposit and F. R. note liabilities combined ..	39 1 %	82 3 %

The New York Bank's reserve ratio showed a further advance this week to 83.1 per cent., while the ratio for the entire system is now 71 per cent.—the highest since 1917.

The fact that the extent of this week's reductions varies in different localities, and that rates have not been made uniform throughout the country, may be taken as conclusive evidence that the Federal Reserve Board in Washington, which exercises supervision over such matters, has made no change in the policy of basing rediscount rates on the reserve position of the various Federal Reserve banks, rather than on the financial condition of the system as a whole, as has been advocated in some quarters.

The immediate effect of the lower bank rates has been more pronounced in the bond market than in other quarters. Since the reductions were announced, bonds, especially high-grade investment securities, have been unusually strong and active. In fact, the market as a whole has been more buoyant than at any time in the past two years. The buying has been exceptionally heavy in the United States war loan issues, notably the Liberty bonds and Victory notes, as well as in high-grade securities of foreign governments, particularly the United Kingdom, Canada, Denmark, Sweden, and Switzerland, which reached the highest prices of the year. The activity in United Kingdom bonds was ascribed to reinvestment of funds released by the paying off of your 5½ per cent. bonds, which matured here November 1st. Conspicuous advances were also recorded in the market for first-class railroad, industrial, and public utility bonds. The broad and active purchasing of bonds is due to the easier money situation, and to the belief that this week's reductions in rediscount rates foreshadow further relaxation in the open money market. Investors apparently realise that capital, for domestic uses, can no longer command the former high wage, and they are accordingly placing their funds in high-grade bonds which offer comparatively attractive yields. The increased demand for bonds also seems to indicate, as one authority remarks, the willingness of investors to become creditors rather than partners in many enterprises. Thus far the lowering of the bank rates has had no appreciable effect, either upon time money rates or upon commercial paper discounts. Funds for fixed periods still command 5½ to 5½ per cent., and prime business paper is being discounted at 5½ and 5½ per cent. The tendency, however, is downward, and at least a 5 per cent. basis is expected to be reached for both time money and commercial paper before the end of the year. It is noteworthy in this connection that new securities of foreign governments being offered here are still put out at prices affording relatively high yields, as, for example, the \$10,500,000 Republic of Chile external loan, 25-year 8 per cent. sinking fund gold bonds, which are being offered to investors at 99½, and accrued interest to yield approximately 8.11 per cent. if held until maturity. On the other hand, a banking syndicate is about to offer \$5,655,000 first consolidated mortgage 5 per cent. refunding bonds of the Southern Railway Company at 85, to yield 5.90 per cent.—the lowest return offered to investors in new railroad issues since the money market began to relax.

FRANCE.—FINANCE DEBATE—TAXATION RETURNS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, November 15.

PENDING the return of M. Briand from Washington, it may be taken that the Chambers will attempt little progress with the Budget Bill for 1922. In the meantime, however, the Lower House is displaying exceptional interest in the financial position of the country, and is disposing of a whole series of interpellations as to the measures the Government propose to take to meet the present exceptional circumstances. Thus to-day's sitting has been occupied entirely with a debate on financial questions. An outstanding feature of the discussion was the speech of M. Raiberti, whose text was expressed in the words, "Where are we and in what direction are we going?" M. Raiberti delivered a stinging attack on the

State as trader, whom he accused of having usurped during the war the functions that trade and commerce ought to fulfil in normal times. "The result of this policy," he insisted, amid a remarkable outburst of applause, "has been to show the incapacity of the State to take the place of private initiative, and has cost the country a deficit of 22,000,000,000 francs." The deficit on this account, which amounted to 12,000,000,000 francs on June 30th last year, had been brought down to two milliards for the present year, he pointed out, owing to drastic action by the Chamber, and would be reduced to a single milliard next year.

M. Herriot, who is the leader of the Radical Socialist Party, which ruled France for so many years (until the downfall of M. Caillaux), said subsequently that the policy of economies, postponements, and if need be, loans, which was being followed by the Government had been tried by Necker and failed. He insisted that sooner or later France will be compelled to resort to a tax on capital, which he believed would be both necessary and possible. He admitted that a better yield might be obtained from taxation, as was evident from the fact that while there were only 110,873 persons making returns for income-tax, there were 157,649 owners of touring motorcars in the country; but that would not be sufficient to meet the case. To resort to loans meant to throw the burden on future generations. Inflation of the note issue would be a temporary and ruinous expedient. Indirect taxation he described as an advance made by the poor to the rich. The only resource was a tax on capital, which already existed in Italy, Hungary, and Rumania. To insist on maintaining private wealth in face of the poverty of the State, he insisted, was a dangerous mistake. A tax on capital was not a tax merely on the wealthy, but on the whole nation, and its payment would be a patriotic duty. Criticism on M. Herriot's proposal was postponed till a later sitting.

According to figures given by the Finance Minister, M. Paul Doumer, the situation of the special tax on war profits down to September 30th was as follows:—

	Francs.
Total amount for which assessments issued ..	11,605,509,000
Total amount due to date	9,600,236,000
Total amount actually recovered	6,894,149,100

The Minister of Justice reports that down to September 15th there had been 290 prosecutions started for frauds in connection with the declaration of war profits, of which 50 have resulted in condemnations, seven in acquittals, 14 had been dropped as uncalled for, and seven others had been annulled by death or effluxion of time, leaving 212 still to be dealt with.

The taxation returns for the month of October amount to 1,305,111,000f, the total being some 20 millions less than for the similar period of last year's October returns. The reason for the decline as compared with last year is chiefly in connection with the Customs, and with the tax on the business turnover. This latter tax, while remaining below the budget estimate, shows a return that is more favourable by 10 million francs than that of last month, and the Treasury regards this as a sign that business is slowly beginning to revive. Stamp duties are rather better than the estimates, and customs, though well below the estimated yield, have brought in rather more this month than could have been anticipated, in view of the last three months' returns. The Bourse this week has been irregular. Early it showed signs of extreme weakness, but later strengthened owing to forced purchases. As has been the case for weeks past, the weakness of the situation is the absence of new buyers, and a further cause of weakness is the declining value of the German mark. This factor is so serious that the *Situation Economique et Financière* does not hesitate to suggest that if the Allies wish to be paid by Germany they must extend the principle of the Wiesbaden Agreement. French Rentes remain stationary this week at 53.95. Banks have fluctuated, Banque de Paris varying from 1,185 to 1,210, and finishing at 1,200. Union Parisienne opened at 785, rose to 805, and closed at 797, while Crédit Lyonnais advanced from 1,395 to 1,415, and closed at 1,405. Shareholders in railway transports have realised profits owing to the decision of the Chamber in their favour, and in

consequence P.L.M. has dropped from 770 to 750, Nord to 840 from 851, and Midi to 715 from 723. Shipping has been depressed, Chargeurs Réunis declining from 530 to between 475 and 480, Transatlantique at 244 has dropped 4 points, and Messagères at 217 has lost three points. Electrical undertakings have been little in demand, Thomson having declined from 832 to between 780 and 790. Metallurgical undertakings, as usual, have fluctuated, but all the time with a downward tendency. Chantiers de St Nazaire has fallen from 845 to 800, and Chantiers de la Loire from 905 to 800, and Chantiers de la Gironde from 650 to 570. Mines have remained calm.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

DEBTOR.			
	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 13, 1913.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital.....	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,115
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	563,981,841	564,874,729	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State.....	1,159,563,018	1,138,488,182	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	37,376,499,075	37,522,085,070	5,722,934,315
Interest on securities.....	59,605,252	52,924,508	26,779,573
Bank notes to order.....	1,102,131	742,424	3,844,482
Treasury account.....	34,722,045	32,567,264	268,246,221
Current accounts, Paris.....	1,569,688,098	1,604,224,872	556,497,131
Do branch banks.....	922,576,650	1,020,718,009	85,894,627
Dividends payable.....	4,599,142	4,687,327	2,130,853
Discounts and sundries.....	80,935,018	78,216,557	28,089,008
Re-discounts.....	15,389,401	15,389,701	5,532,696
Sundries.....	1,033,790,592	1,037,959,495	223,008,885
Total.....	43,077,506,170	43,327,784,737	7,153,937,330

CREDITOR.			
	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 13, 1913.
Cash in hand.....	5,802,684,180	5,802,684,180	4,161,401,212
Balances abroad.....	611,590,321	613,741,177	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	847,354	39,956,355	61,405
Discounts in Paris.....	1,345,826,530	1,363,920,306	500,527,734
Foreign bills.....	6,112,844	4,871,500	17,219,234
Treasury bills.....	165,085	251,990	8,049
Discounts in branches.....	954,849,581	1,340,803,407	989,904,089
Advanced payments, Paris and branches.....	64,894,472	65,787,350	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	4,260,000
Do on public securities.....	414,968,962	422,069,836	198,202,415
Do by branch banks.....	1,849,740,610	1,787,726,407	541,864,511
Advances to State (ordinary).....	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war).....	25,100,000,000	25,500,000,000	5,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,112,000,000	4,104,000,000	..
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	49,330,094	49,052,002	43,742,694
Expenses and management.....	33,763,738	32,162,337	9,708,178
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries.....	2,294,147,589	1,764,799,161	260,451,871
Total.....	43,077,506,170	43,327,784,737	7,153,937,330

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount.....	5 1/2
Advances on bullion.....	2
Advances on public securities.....	6 1/2

GERMANY.—REPARATIONS—INFLATION AND EXCHANGE—BOURSE—PRICE RISE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, November 14.

THE presence here of the Reparations Commission has caused a good deal of optimistic speculation, for which no precise ground is known. Up to the present, there is no ground for believing that a respite, which is highly necessary, for payment of the first regular instalment on January 15th will be granted. The negotiations with industry for the raising of a loan are not concluded, and of dealings with the foreign financiers now in Berlin nothing definite can be said. The considerable reaction of the foreign exchanges and the great rise in such loans as foreign speculators show interest in have given rise to the belief that something favourable is about to happen; but it should be noted that the mark has fallen so unreasonably far, so out of all proportion to its buying power

at home, that a recovery, according to the precedent of all sharply fluctuating exchanges, might easily occur. Further, heavy foreign buying of German loans as a form of exchange speculation began in February and March, 1920, after the mark had suffered a particularly heavy fall.

The note on "Mark Exchange and Inflation" in the *Economist* of November 12th gives a fact which is usually ignored, both here and abroad, by persons who, seeing only the great net increase in inflation and net fall of the mark over a long period, bring the two things into direct casual relation. Both the exchange and the rate of inflation have fluctuated enormously, but the heavy inflation periods do not at all coincide with the mark exchange drops. From close examination a perverse economist might even argue that inflation is good for an exchange. This year the inflation rate has been about half that of 1920; but in the whole year 1920 the mark fell only from about 50 to 73 to the dollar, whereas this year it fell from 73 to 310. Further, the six months January-June, 1920, saw beyond comparison the greatest inflation; yet in this six months the mark experienced a net rise from 50 to 38, and between the end of January and the end of May, when inflation was at its worst, it actually rose from 104 to 35. This shows that the well-advertised inflation statistics have never frightened the speculative mark interests. According to theory, there is only one other way in which inflation could depress the mark: by so raising the home price level that export would decline, and the foreign payment balance would be injured. But this process has never taken place, because the home price level has been all along, though in varying degrees, below the foreign, and export could not be checked, except in some branches for a few weeks in mid 1920, by the unwillingness of foreigners to pay German prices. In Germany inflation is caused by the mark exchange fall, acting *via* the resultant rise in prices, which price rise increases the State and private demand for credit. That inflation, once it comes, would prevent the home price level, and therefore the foreign exchanges, falling beyond the point of price equilibrium is naturally not disputed.

A concrete and actual instance is the circumstance that since the last mark collapse began State expenditure has been rapidly rising, and that plans are under way to increase taxes beyond the limits of Dr Wirth's not yet passed financial reform. This is due solely to the price rise caused by the mark exchange drop, and as the taxes will not be got in for a long time, an increase in the Floating Debt and in inflation must result. Meantime, further increases in State service charges have been decided on. Postal rates, which were to be increased another 50 per cent., are now to be increased 100 per cent., bringing the letter unit rate to 1 mark, or ten times the pre-war rate. Telephone rates are to be raised 80 per cent., making the minimum charge in Berlin about 1,300 marks a year. The Communications Ministry has recommended a 50 per cent. increase of railway rates and fares from December 1st. While severe on the public, these increases do not represent fully the decline in the buying power of the mark, so that deficits will remain. The Floating Debt on October 31st is reported at 233,102,202,437 marks, of which 217,828,620,300 marks were discounted Treasury Bills. Revenue received during the first six months (ending September 30th) of the current financial year was:—From taxes on property and business, 25,638,765,324 marks, of which 22,588,222,322 marks was from recurring taxes, and the remainder from one-time taxes. The largest items were:—Income-tax, 5,630,936,092 marks (in addition to 1,731,598,067 marks belonging to the financial year 1920); emergency levy, 6,197,981,830

marks; sales tax of 1919, 4,626,689,083 marks; corporation tax (for 1920), 901,198,346 marks; interest and dividends tax, 771,558,271 marks; and war tax on increment of wealth, 2,787,125,851 marks. Customs and taxes on consumption yielded 7,046,714,414 marks, of which 259,957,492 marks was from duties and 1,731,038,305 marks from the gold supplement on duties; coal tax, 2,301,748,941 marks; tobacco, 1,679,358,961 marks; wines, 315,219,721 marks. Receipts from posts and telegraphs and telephones were 3,228,075,495 marks; railways, passenger traffic, 3,268,290,000 marks; goods, 9,469,842,000 marks, or all sources together, 13,171,829,000 marks.

The Reichsbank statement for November 7th shows a relaxation of the credit strain, but an increase of circulation. Private discounts fell from 881,474,000 marks to 755,207,000 marks, discounted Treasury Bills from 98,704,768,000 marks to 95,339,603,000 marks, State deposits from 5,239,628,000 marks to 3,198,749,000 marks, private deposits from 13,063,035,000 marks to 10,661,619,000 marks. Circulation nearly touched 100 milliards, notes increasing from 91,527,679,000 marks to 92,609,995,000 marks, while "Kassenscheine" were 7,197,500,000 marks, a decrease of 118,900,000 marks. The low proportion of private discounts in the bank's assets has been a notable feature since the war. The bourses were again active with, on the whole week, rising prices; but the mark exchange recovery caused the usual reaction, and in general speculators realised or showed reserve, while outsiders continued to buy. To-day stocks were weak, being influenced by the exchange and by rumours of a Reparations moratorium, which might be calculated to send the mark up. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* index for the 10th, the last bourse day of the week, is 42,358, against 39,654 on the 4th. The rise is partly accounted for by home loans, which went up from 853 to 881. On May 7th the home loans index was 826, and the present figure is the highest for two years. Mortgage bonds have also risen greatly. Federal loans now stand extraordinarily high, while Prussians and Municipals have been relatively neglected. Three per cents., the foreign favourite, are to-day quoted 110, against 89.50 on the last preceding bourse day, around 66 at beginning of the year, and around 60 at beginning of 1920. Prussian Threes are, if one ignores speculative movements which might raise Federal Threes even higher, a better investment, being backed both by Prussia and the Republic, and secured on forests and mines, but they are quoted at only 60.75. They too have had a considerable rise, having been only 50 on October 20th. War Loan is to-day quoted 77.50, 4 per cent. 72.75, 3½ per cent., 66.75, Colonials 4 per cent. 174, and Savings and Premium 80.25. Bourse activity is shown by the increase of receipts from transfer stamp duties from 27.48 millions in September, 1920, to 110.65 millions last September. Many increases of capitalisation are announced—Alfred Nobel and Co. from 25 to 125 million marks, Schultheiss-Patzenhofer (the largest brewery—the two companies lately fused) to 280 millions ordinary and 50 millions preferred shares, North German Lloyd (reported) from 250 to 400 millions, and the Dresdner Bank from 330 to 550 millions. This deal makes the Dresdner Germany's largest bank, whether as regards capital or capital and reserves:—

	Capital.	Reserves.	Both.
Dresdner.....	550	335	885
Deutsche.....	400	450	850
Darmstädter.....	420	200	620
Disconto.....	400	250	650
Barmer Bankverein.....	400	115	515
Commerz und Privat.....	350	137	487
National.....	300	150	450

But the Darmstädter and National Banks, which lately concluded an "Interessengemeinschaft" without formally fusing, have together larger capital and reserves than any single bank.

Prices and the cost of living continue to rise, with, however, sharp fluctuations caused by exchange movements in commodities that are either wholly or partly imported. American cotton (fully middling at Bremen) after reaching a maximum price of 145 marks a kilo (17 marks

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C.2



in April), fell to 117 marks. Hides have risen three or fourfold since their lowest point of the year, ox hides from 6.50 marks in mid-March to 26.10 marks, cowhides 8.95 marks to 26.65 marks, bull hides 7.60 marks to 27.30 marks. Wood and oils have risen particularly rapidly. Rolling-mill products were raised only on October 20th, but are again up from November 10th, as follows, in marks per metric ton, pre-war prices and lowest prices of 1921 (end May) also given:—

	1914.	May, 1921.	Oct. 20.	Nov. 10.
Ingots.....	82.50	1.400	2.435	3.300
Blooms.....	87.50	1.475	2.655	3.600
Billets.....	95	1.550	2.725	3.700
Bars.....	97.99	1.850	3.200	4.500
Wire rods.....	117.50	1.850	3.500	4.900
Plates (thick).....	105	1.800	3.500	5.100

These are guiding, not compulsory maximum, prices. Prices of gas pipes have been raised 20 per cent. Since July 1st the prices of building materials have risen by between 50 and 100 per cent. Cotton yarn per kilo has risen from 39.49 marks at beginning of April to 130.150 marks on November 12th, cotton cloth from 6½-8 marks to 16½-20½ marks, raw silk (organdie) from 770 marks to 4,000 marks, grège 700 marks to 3,750 marks, artificial silk from 220 marks to 500 marks, eggs 1,250 marks to 3,400 marks per 1,000 (wholesale), rangoon beans 1.20 marks to 6.75 marks, rice 4-6 marks to 17½-17½ marks. The production cost of boots has risen in the same time from 125-200 marks to 320-460 marks. The exchange collapse would make the prices of imported goods impossible for most citizens, but very few import orders are being given, and there are stated to be large quantities of coffee and other colonial goods bought at a better mark exchange. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* puts the retail index for 10 foods, native and imported, at 200 on November 1st, against 130 a month before. As indication of the speed with which Germany is moving towards Russian conditions, newspapers report that contracts in dollars are being insisted on between home producers and their customers.

AUSTRALIA.—COMMONWEALTH BUDGET.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, October 8.

The Commonwealth Budget for the financial year ending June 30, 1922, shows an estimated deficit of £2,817,108, which will reduce the credit balance brought forward from £6,618,327 at June 30, 1921, to £3,801,219 at June 30th next. A comparison of the estimated Commonwealth revenue and expenditure (excluding payments to the States Governments) with actual figures for the two previous years is as follows:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22 (Est.).
Taxation	41,101,730	52,229,493	47,281,000
Other revenue	11,681,372	13,288,115	14,506,350
Gross revenue	52,783,102	65,517,608	61,787,350
Deduct payments to States	6,720,492	6,840,163	7,022,500
Net revenue	46,062,610	58,677,445	54,764,850
Expenditure	43,860,862	57,783,924	57,581,958
Surplus	2,201,748	893,521	..
Deficit	..	..	2,817,108

The reduced estimate of taxation is due to the decline in Customs revenue, which is only estimated at £16,105,000, against the exceptionally high amount of £21,731,210 received in 1920-21 as the result of excessive importations. The expenditure of £57,581,958 includes £18,910,550 for interest on and other Commonwealth debt (excluding interest on loans issued in London on behalf of the States), against £17,246,381 in 1920-21, and £15,366,700 in 1919-20. The only changes proposed in taxation are some modifications of the income-tax to give relief in certain cases. The most important change is that in the case of primary producers the rate of tax will be the rate applicable (according to the graduated scale) to the average taxable income of five years, though the actual income (if any) of each year will be taxed in full at the average rate so arrived at. In connection with double taxation within the Empire, it is proposed to adopt the scheme recommended by the sub-committee of the British Royal Commission, so that where the deduction at present allowed from the United Kingdom tax is insufficient to ensure the payment only of an amount equivalent to the higher of the two taxes, the Commonwealth will grant such further relief as will effect that end.

In addition to expenditure out of revenue, expenditure out of loans will consist of £11,196,000 for war and repatriation purposes, and £5,597,174 for public works. From a statement made before the Budget by the Treasurer, it is expected that the £10,000,000 loan just floated in Australia for the former purpose will be the last required.

The Commonwealth public debt on June 30, 1921, inclusive of £16,750,000 borrowed in London on behalf of the States, amounted to £401,720,024, since increased by the £10,000,000 loan in September.

The Budget has been much criticised, in view of the fact that the estimates for the current year show a deficit of £2,817,108, and the Country party in the House of Representatives threaten an attack on the Government in consequence. As lower prices for Australian products generally have to be anticipated than those ruling in most cases during the last two or three years, the real pressure of the change will only be fully felt during 1922, when criticism of public expenditure is expected to be even more vigorous than at present.

ITALY.—COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH FRANCE—POSTAL AND OTHER SAVINGS BANKS—THE STATE BANK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, November 13.

The notice that the treaty of commerce between Italy and France, dated November 11, 1898, and renewed in 1907, was renounced by our neighbour, took the Italian public by surprise. Some see in this act a symptom of bad political feelings between the two allies, but the Govern-

ment explained that the end of the treaty was a matter of course; that the duties of 1898, based on the older tariff of 1887, were out of date, so that it was in the interest of both parties that a new treaty should be negotiated; that France had declared itself anxious to begin at once negotiations for such a new treaty. But it is rather unfortunate that the new treaty is to be negotiated at a time when Protectionist feelings run high in both countries. French and Italian Protectionists have been successful in constructing devices of high efficiency in making war on foreign imports, so that a very difficult task will be put before negotiators.

The place of France in our international trade may be seen from the following table (in millions of lire):—

	Import from.		Export to.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
	Whole Year.	First Six Months.	Whole Year.	First Six Months.
EUROPE.				
Great Britain	2,368.3	1,315.5	884.3	417.6
France	1,333.5	801.6	1,095.3	543.7
Belgium	..	209.4	..	79.8
Switzerland	336.0	191.8	898.1	582.2
Germany	821.5	924.1	380.3	420.0
Austria	464.7	343.7	443.9	428.9
Czechoslovakia	184.0	130.1	75.1	33.2
Jugoslavia	..	194.5	..	244.2
Greece	45.2	18.6	160.5	119.6
Spain	139.6	78.3	139.9	75.5
Egypt	101.7	83.6	235.4	81.4
Tunis	81.3	110.3	50.9	19.2
Tripoli	21.8	14.1	68.4	44.3
Eritrea	..	10.1	..	16.5
British India	744.9	570.8	160.3	54.1
Argentina	1,676.7	727.7	419.1	238.1
Brazil	275.2	328.4	154.4	61.3
United States	4,788.5	5,150.9	655.1	676.8
Other countries	2,487.6	2,251.0	1,983.0	1,145.3
Total	15,870.5	13,454.5	7,804.0	5,281.7

The great increase in the figures from 1920 to 1921 is only an apparent one, as the values for 1920 are calculated on the prices of 1919, while those for 1921 were calculated on the prices of 1920, when the price-level reached a maximum. From France we took 8.4 per cent. of our imports in 1920, and 6 per cent. in the first six months of 1921, and respectively 14 per cent. and 10.3 per cent. of our exports. In 1920 of a total export to France of 1,095 millions lire 316.7 millions were silk and silk manufactures; and it is probable that silk will be a bone of contention between the negotiators.

The economic crisis has made itself felt in banking figures in Italy, only in the shape of a decline in the rate of increase in deposits of savings banks. The two years of greatest monetary inflation, 1919 and 1920, were also the years of greatest increases in the deposits of the savings banks. Unemployment and reductions of wages began to have an effect in 1921, and if it were possible to separate urban and country deposits it would be found that the urban deposits have positively decreased, while country deposits have continued in their expansion, owing to very good agricultural prices.

Postal saving deposits go to swell the budget of our greatest bank—a bank not known to the outside world, and somewhat akin to the Prussian Seehandlung, but without the connections which the Seehandlung has with other banks, and with Exchange activities. Our Cassa Depositi e Prestiti—Public Bank for deposits and loans is a State bank, which receives deposits mainly from Postal Savings Banks, public insurance institutions, individual accounts, and so on.

The principal items of the liabilities side of the last two balance-sheets for the year ended December 31st are compared below:—

	(Million Lire.)	1919.	1920.
Direct deposits		433.8	472.9
Current account of State Treasury		316.8	342.6
" " of the Bank of Italy		20.6	20.0
" " of the Postal Department		16.2	41.4
Miscellaneous accounts		143.9	183.5
Postal savings banks and insurance institutions		5,270.4	7,109.8
Trustee funds		157.7	174.0
Reserve		189.4	535.2

An interesting feature of these figures is the increase in the reserve of the bank, a useful item in these times of depreciation of securities. The bank specialises in loans to State, State institutions, provinces, and munici-

palities. We in Italy have not a market for municipal securities, and only a very few of them are quoted in the public exchanges. Municipalities do not come on the market for supplying themselves with capital, as they can claim the aid of the Cassa Depositi e Prestiti.

The following are the principal assets of the State Bank:—

	(Million Lire.)	1919.	1920.
Public securities (mainly State, but also special municipal securities)		3,917.2	5,791.4
Loans to provinces and municipalities		1,125.2	1,707.3
Loans to State Treasury		671.6	587.5
Current accounts with public authorities		522.3	614.4
Loans to public employees		11.4	22.9

The loans (by purchase of securities and direct loans) to State and municipalities reached in 1920 the huge total of 2,464.3 millions lire. It is a safe conclusion that if the deficit of State and local budget could be compressed within the limit of not over 2,000 millions lire yearly, it would no more be necessary to come on the market with new Exchequer bills or other State securities.

SWITZERLAND.—FOREIGN CREDITS—FEDERAL BUDGET—BANK FAILURE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, November 14.

THE Société Financière Suisse, formed for the purpose of granting to the Entente Powers sundry credits required during the war, has now redeemed the second half of the face value of its shares, and there is still some profit to be distributed. Thus all credits granted by Switzerland to the Allies during the war are redeemed. As to the so-called coal credits granted to Germany, part of these have been redeemed, but lately some difficulties have arisen. It was stated at the shareholders' meeting of the Basle company formed for the purposes of this credit—all coal importers became compulsory members of this company—that payments still arrive promptly, but obviously the leading German banks are no longer ready to give their signature to three months' bills of the Empire, which are to be deposited. The board asked the authority of the shareholders to accept other securities than signatures of first-class German banks, and though this authority was given, the opinion is held all over Switzerland that the signature of leading German banks means more than that of the Empire, and the shares have considerably depreciated.

The estimated deficit in the Swiss Federal Budget for the year 1922 amounts to somewhat over 100 million Swiss francs. Up to the end of 1922 the total of deficits in the Federal budgets since the beginning of the war will reach one milliard Swiss francs. Of these accumulated deficits at least four-fifths are covered by loans—the floating debt is decreasing. About 350 millions is accounted for by the Federal food importing service and the artificial cheapening of foodstuffs for the lower classes of the population which was maintained up to a year ago, and unemployment has so far cost the Treasury no less than 80 million francs. It must not be forgotten that a considerable part of the war expenses, especially the various forms of social assistance, including cheap dwellings, fall to the share of the various cantonal budgets. The accumulated deficits of the 24 cantonal budgets might amount to another milliard. The assets of the cantons, of course, increased in value during the period of the war, especially lands, forests, buildings, new electric power stations, and reserves of cantonal banks, but the situation of public finance in Switzerland is not regarded by anyone with satisfaction.

In these deficits are not included those of the Federal railways, which have separate accounts, though the State is responsible for all liabilities. It is generally thought that the increased value of the Federal railways, owing to changes in prices, the construction of electric power stations, &c., during the war counterbalances the increase of liabilities arising from losses on exploitation. But if surrounding countries cannot pay in the shape of transit freights the interest even on the pre-war value of the railways, still reckoned in Swiss francs, surely they cannot pay the post-war value, which is much greater. Thus it

is only the Swiss user of the railways who might eventually be able to supply the interest for the increased value of the Swiss Federal railways in the shape of higher rates, which is not to the advantage of Swiss commerce and industry.

The Banque Commerciale de Fribourg, a local bank with a balance-sheet total of 40 million francs, has had to close its doors. The reason, just as in the case of similar stopping of payments at Zurich, is the currency gambling of its customers. The latest losses on German marks were far greater than the value of the cover, and so the bank has to pay for the sins of its customers. The latest fall in the value of the German mark has caused more serious troubles than this, and there may yet be some disagreeable surprises among the ranks of the smaller institutions.

Letters to the Editor.

LORD ASHFIELD'S SCHEME OF UNDERGROUND EXTENSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The new scheme submitted by Lord Ashfield for the extension of the tube services of London is at present hanging fire owing to the clause in it requiring a monopoly of the omnibus services. But the importance of the scheme, which it was contemplated would not only improve the metropolis, but also diminish unemployment, merits discussion.

Apart from the efficacy of the plan in helping to relieve the acute unemployment prevailing at present, the scheme has a great deal to recommend itself from the point of view of the development of suburban London. That tramways and omnibuses must remain as "auxiliary" to the underground railways requires hardly any demonstration. It must be clear to every intelligent mind that the Underground, under the present conditions of the growth of London, must remain *par excellence* the one effective method, so far known to us, of brightening up the homes of Londoners. The fact of the high speed alone, which it is impossible can be reached by either of the street transport agencies, entitles the underground railways to the most serious consideration. Lord Ashfield in his article in the *Nineteenth Century and After*, issued in May, points out that the present average speed of the underground railways is 18 miles an hour, and by the present non-stop arrangement is raised to 25 miles an hour. If we compare this speed with the average of 9 and 10 miles per hour by a tram and an omnibus respectively, and at the same time remember that the average person does not like to spend more than 30 to 45 minutes for his journey between his home and workplace, there can be no hesitation in setting aside both the latter agencies as effective means in facilitating the spread of the metropolitan population. On the other hand, it is equally true that both the trams and omnibus services cannot be dispensed with. Both will have a place in a general transport scheme if one were devised. They are required to supplement and sometimes to act as feeders to the underground. The case put in this way is simple.

In an ideal scheme for the transport service of London it is incontestable that all the various agencies must act in accord. From the very beginning it was clear to all thinking men that disjointed attempts to provide travelling facilities in London should not be countenanced. As early as 1816 the problem of inter-relation of communications received the attention of a Royal Commission, who distinctly laid down that under no circumstances should the thoroughfares of the metropolis "be surrendered to separate schemes brought forward without reference to each other." Subsequent committees in 1855 and 1863 reaffirmed this opinion in the following words:—"The Committee are of opinion that every such system of internal railway communication for the metropolis should be under one management." The Royal Commission of 1867 record the melancholy fact that fresh schemes were sanctioned without any such consideration, and that the suggestion made remained a dead letter. The subsequent history is not far different. Whatever success the

attempts at the co-ordination of the metropolitan traffic have achieved has been due to the vigilance of the companies to preserve themselves. To-day we have to face the outstanding fact that the whole underground system and all the omnibuses are managed by one company. The process of amalgamation was inevitable, and has redounded to the public benefit. There is hardly any economist of note who will suggest that the result has been harmful to the public, and that competition should be encouraged to obviate the dangers of such a monopoly. Even Mr Beckett, secretary of the Municipal Tramways Association, confesses to "the blighting influence of disastrous competition."

Yet we are told that it is on this ground that the scheme has been abandoned. Lord Ashfield asked for a regulated monopoly of the omnibus service for ten years to come, a monopoly of a kind which, as we shall see, is far different from what it is understood to be in ordinary parlance. We may start with the prefatory premise that the ideal state would, of course, be to have a unity of management for all the three existing transport agencies, in order "to work out a scientific and accurate allocation of duties in the carrying of metropolitan traffic." At present this does not appear feasible in view of the fact that the tramways are owned and run by the L.C.C. Still, I would venture to suggest that the Underground may undertake the working of the tramways on some agreed basis. If the conflict between the Underground and the tramways must remain, that is no reason that a second disturbing element must be introduced.

I venture to inquire what is the good in introducing rival companies on the road? There are two possible grounds on which competition may be supported—(1) the development of transport facilities; (2) low fares.

As for the first, to expect competition to achieve this is to misread history and economic laws. Competitive finance must ultimately react upon the public in the raising of charges or the limitation of further development. If it comes, it will most probably take the form of a rival service on the best roads, and during the hours when the traffic is the thickest. This naturally will reduce the capacity of the existing company to carry on the service at the times and the places where the service is not particularly remunerative. The inevitable result will be the diminution of service to the public, or, as Lord Ashfield put it, the companies will be forced to conserve every effort to meet "piratical attacks" rather than go on with the development of the omnibus service.

As for the second, history is strewn with instances where unremunerative fares have ultimately led to combination amongst the rival companies and the public are then asked to pay for two capital outlays where only one was needed. Low fares under competition are a "myth" so far as its ultimate effect is concerned.

In place of the blind weapon of competition, we must have a more intelligent basis to guide us. Lord Ashfield, in suggesting that a department of the Government be instituted with authority over the company in the matter of both rates and services, has shown that interests are not opposed, but are identical with the public, and is therefore not afraid to submit to public control. A caveat is necessary. "The only principle upon the adoption of which any authority could successfully claim to exercise its powers to the full is the principle of fair compensation." It must underlie every scheme which makes any pretension to reconciling the interests of the public and the owners of the property.—I am, &c.,

London, November 17th, 1921.

REPARATIONS, ALLIED DEBTS, AND EXCHANGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The exchanges are made for man, not man for the exchanges. Mr Alfred E. Leaf is therefore correct in thinking that the transactions he suggests from the shipment of woollens from Berlin to the sale of tea in America will have no effect whatever on the exchange rates of the money of the various countries concerned.

Because of this fact, I have suggested to several firms that they should send goods they cannot sell here to Vienna, where they are wanted, but cannot be imported

in the normal course because of the exchange, sell them there, and buy goods with the proceeds and import them into this country.

It is within my knowledge that a small lot of coffee has recently been sent there without a bill of exchange being drawn against the shipment, and goods are expected back in exchange. This transaction being merely an exchange of goods, and not an exchange of money, will have no effect on the rates of money exchange.

Supposing, however, that the Vienna rate should suddenly fall from the 11,500 krone at which it was quoted on the 10th inst., to the 1,190 krone at which it was quoted on November 10, 1920, I can quite imagine it might pay the firm to sell the right to krone in Vienna for British sterling in London, instead of buying goods, but if others acted in the same way the tendency would be for the Vienna rate to rise again.

Substitute tea in America for coffee in Vienna, and Schneider and Co. of Berlin would be competing with other firms to sell dollar drafts on America. Before the war the tendency would have been for them to receive fewer marks in exchange for the dollars because of the competition to sell dollars, whereas to-day the German Government is an urgent buyer of dollars, so that holders can obtain a high rate for them. Mr Leaf suggests that Messrs Schneider would transfer their credit to their Government, but he does not explain how they would avoid the use of a bill of exchange. Even, however, if they could, the fact would still remain that a rate of exchange between the money of the two countries would have to be arranged, and I therefore do not think Mr Leaf is right in suggesting that the transaction would not "affect the mark demand for dollars in the exchange market."

I also cannot follow his suggestion "that the liability for State debt of this country to the United States has not affected the value of the pound sterling in relation to the American dollar." I admit that the fall from \$4.90-5.00 of July 30, 1914, to \$3.94½-3.94¾ of November 10, 1921, seems trivial compared with the German position, but the attitude of the public towards it does not suggest that it is negligible. Personally I should like to see the rate lower still, as it would tend to force us to buy more from our colonies and elsewhere, and to deter us from buying from the United States, while making it more worth while for them to buy from us.

In considering this question of exchanges, Mr Leaf must remember that Governments do not create credit abroad directly, but leave their nationals to do so, and then purchase the credits as an ordinary exchange transaction as far as the moneys are concerned, but as a one-sided one as far as goods are concerned, because the trade is all outward with no goods coming back in exchange.

Let the public apply this to the payment of reparations by Germany and the repayment of war debt to us by our Allies, and they will perhaps begin to understand why I urge that we ought to refuse to accept such payments.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

MARK B. F. MAJOR.

London, E.C. 4, November 15th, 1921.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Mr Leaf seems to overlook that any circumstance which affects the balance of indebtedness must have an influence on the exchange market. Even the wheeling of a barrow-load of bricks over the frontier by way of reparation payment must have its effect, for if the bricks were sold in the ordinary way of trade the Germans would command their value in foreign currency towards meeting their foreign purchases. In the case of Schneider and Co., Mr Leaf assumes that they sell their dollar credit to the German Government and cancel their order for cotton, but in reality the Germans must have cotton, and have to secure more dollars to pay for it.

It is certain that in normal circumstances a country can pay considerable sums in interest on foreign loans without disturbing exchanges or trade. Our position as a creditor country teaches us this. The conditions under which a country can meet such payments seem clear enough: there must be sufficient production for export to pay for neces-

sary imports and the interest as well. Thus, if a country becomes subject to such a burden, it must brace itself for the effort both by increasing production and cutting down consumption. Germany is capable of meeting the burden if she is given time, but her imports are still greater than her exports, and time is needed for her exports to be brought up to the required pitch. If she is pressed too hard her finances will break down before she reaches this point.

The marketing of such a large quantity of manufactured goods is sure to upset many trades in other manufacturing countries, unless special outlets for all this energy are provided. Of course, the receipt of indemnity payments would enable taxation to be reduced, so that the public would gain new buying power equal to the indemnity payments, but this might not be directed towards the trades which suffered from German competition. A painful adjustment would be necessary, which would be repeated when the indemnity payments ceased.

Would not the position be much better if we used the indemnity, and perhaps inter-Allied debts as well, for the purpose of carrying out capital works and the improvement of transit facilities all over the world? I mean that the indemnities should be paid in material for capital works, and that this material, and, if possible, cash as well should be lent by the Allied Governments to enterprises all over the world, which enterprises should pay with securities. Eventually the securities could be sold and the proceeds used to extinguish debt. As these capital works could not be carried out at all if it were not for the indemnities, the process would not interfere with ordinary trade. In this way the indemnities and debts could be made a means of increasing the world's capital wealth immensely.

The payment in kind instead of currency would probably ease the exchange market, and have a big moral effect. This concession and some reduction of the instalments in the next two or three years might be made on condition that the German Government really gets down to balancing the Budget, and stops any further printing of notes.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant, C. CRAIES.

London, E.C. 1, November 17th, 1921.

LAND AND INDUSTRY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The spread of the allotment movement during and since the war will have helped many of your readers to appreciate the letter from Mr W. G. Cass, in your issue of the 12th inst., in a way they would not have been able to do before August, 1914.

There is no doubt also that there is a growing appreciation of the serious meaning of the fact that already the nations of the world are beginning to wish to manufacture for themselves. This prompted a recent question, How many people the land of this country can support when these nations do so on a large scale, and will not take our manufactures in exchange for their foodstuffs.

Personally, I have no fear as to the reply if our people should once wake up to the needs of the situation as voiced by Mr Cass. A sound policy of land settlement here at home, making possible a combination of industry and agriculture through a wide extension of homes with houses with land attached, varying from the 10-rod plot up to a few acres in extent on the one hand, and on the other the large extensive farm run commercially on intensive lines, with a large amount of capital at command, will speedily alter the situation.

The foundation of this, as, indeed of the whole national life, is a sound currency system here, under which money will not act on prices. Given this, and economic causes will automatically determine for us and for the nations of the world to what extent we shall be self-supporting with regard to supplying ourselves with the food we need, and how far they will supply us with it in exchange for our services and manufactures.—I am, &c.,

MARK B. F. MAJOR

(Chairman, Surrey Garden Village Trust, Limited).

Croydon, November 15th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"La Vérité sur Notre Situation Financière." Par Georges Lachapelle. (Paris) Roustan. 10 francs.

HERE is an admirably lucid exposition of French financial administration from the beginning of the war until two months ago. Avoiding the obscurities of the Budget, M. Lachapelle arrives at approximately the actual expenditure by taking from the financial statements sent monthly to every Senator and Deputy the figures of the Treasury balance at the beginning of the month and of the borrowings during its course, adding those of the tax revenue, and deducting the balance at its close. During the war the total expenditure was 145,451 million francs, of which only 16 per cent. came from taxes, but ten wealthy Departments were invaded, many officials were mobilised, and France was fighting for her life. Still, the subsequent efforts to increase taxation were inadequate, and after the armistice the reckless expenditure continued, for political reasons, till the elections; "Germany would pay." M. Lachapelle explains very clearly the misconceptions on this head entertained by the framers of the Peace Treaty, and shows how the urgent appeals for economy made by the Budget Commission of the Chamber have been ignored. His own remedy is simple. Let the nation live within its income, suppress unnecessary Ministries, transfer much of the regulation of expenditure to regional Commissions, who will be more careful than the Chambers, and reject not only the plans of currency faddists for unlimited note issues, but grandiose projects of great power stations and Alpine and Pyrenean tunnels, which are speculative at best. His book is of the highest value to all students of French politics and of public finance.

Anuario Financiero y de Sociedades Anónimas de España. Director: D. Daniel Riu y Periquet. Año VI., 1921. Madrid.

AN eminent Italian economist has recently called attention to the progress made by Spain through her neutrality in the war; and, in spite of the checks set up by labour unrest, and the recent disaster in Morocco, there is no doubt that the progress is real. Evidence of it may be found in this valuable work, though the advance seems to have been most marked in the first year of the war. Many new companies have been founded, and some are still very prosperous; the indigenous banks have a total paid-up capital of 780 million pesetas; shipping is represented by 93 companies, with a total paid-up capital of 446 million pesetas, and a bond issue of 74 million pesetas; gas and electric light companies—chiefly the latter—number 485, with an aggregate capital of 1,059 million pesetas; and many newspapers have been established during the war. For them, and for other enterprises, the joint stock company seems to be favoured above other forms of partnership. The work is indispensable to all business firms concerned with Spain.

Annuaire Statistique de la Latvia, 1920. Bureau Statistique de l'Etat. Riga, 1921.

THIS is a creditable beginning of what will prove a useful series of statistical year-books of the Latvian Republic. It is modelled on the corresponding publication of the German and Swiss Governments, and, though chiefly in Lettish, is made intelligible by a French translation of the preface, and of the headings of the tables—where there is room. It has been compiled under difficulties, among them the continuance of fighting after the Armistice, the absence of regular registration of births, deaths, and marriages, and the lack of a proper analysis of the Customs return showing the actual origin of imports and destination of exports, which now pass mainly through Copenhagen, Dantzig, and British and Swedish ports, and are classed accordingly. These defects will be remedied in future issues; meantime the book gives an encouraging particulars of the work done in repairing the ravages of the war. In the 44 towns whose population exceeded 2,000 in 1914, the aggregate number has fallen from over a million to less than 380,000, and of the whole number of buildings in the country 25 per cent. were

wholly or partly destroyed, and the main crops except potatoes have fallen off heavily. Reparation loan grants amount to 20 million roubles, and at the end of last year 8,237 families had been settled on holdings, the majority ranging from 37 to 50 acres each. The fishery statistics are encouraging, and there seems good hope that production may soon surpass its pre-war level.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

History of Labour in the United States. By John R. Commons and others. With an Introductory Note by Henry W. Farnam. Two Volumes. (New York) The Macmillan Company. \$10.50.

Socialism. An Analysis. By Rudolf Eucken. Translated by Joseph McCabe. (London) T. Fisher Unwin, Limited. 9s net.

International Credits (The ter Meulen Bond Scheme). By Sir Drummond Fraser, K.B.E. (London) Harrisons and Sons, Limited.

An address delivered before the convention of the American Bankers' Association, at Los Angeles, October, 1921.

Queensland. Financial Statement of the Treasurer Made in Committee of Supply, September 13th, 1921. (Brisbane) Treasurer of Queensland.

National Federation of Iron and Steel Manufacturers. Statistical Bulletin for September, 1921. (London) Caxton House, Tothill street, S.W.1.

The Next Step. A Family Basic Income. By A. B. Piddington, K.C. (Melbourne) Macmillan and Co., Limited.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London. 1s net.

Report of the Controller of the Currency. (Calcutta) Superintendent Government Printing. R 1.8.

The Census of Egypt Taken in 1917. Vol. II. (Cairo) Government Press.

An Administrator in The Making. James Saumarez Mann, 1893-1920. Edited by his Father. (London) Longmans, Green and Co. 15s net.

Daily Mail Year Book, 1922. (London) Associated Newspapers, Limited. 1s 6d net.

The Labour Co-Partnership Association. Thirty-fifth Report, 1920. (London) 6 Bloomsbury square, W.C.1.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Economic Conditions. November, 1921. (New York) The National City Company.

Foreign News. October, 1921. (Berlin) Bank Für Handel und Industrie.

Monthly Bulletin. January-September, 1921. (Helsingfors) Bank of Finland.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. November 29. ACCOUNT. November 30.

There can be no doubt that Stock Exchange business begins to look up. The official record of daily bargains is no criterion of the actual volume of transactions, which may be taken as being at least 50 per cent. more than that of a month back. Plenty of money is available for investment in good stocks. The event of the week in the gilt-edged list was the sharp closing of the Port of London subscription-lists to the new 6 per cent. loan. The Port usually manages to score success with its new issues, and the rapid over-subscription of the latest loan adds another testimony to the popularity of these stocks. The Western Australia loan went more slowly, there being several other newcomers on the point of offering stock. Victoria, the Straits Settlements, Gold Coast, and Siam are mentioned as being four of the probable borrowers in the immediate future. In the industrial market, also, several new issues are known to be pending, the amounts in each case being fairly substantial.

Victory Bonds and the Funding Loan stand out with noticeable strength amongst the Government stocks, but the War Loan continues to be steadily absorbed, and the price has revolved round 88 for the greater part of the week. What are called the scrip stocks—that is, the partly-paid securities of Colonial and other issues recently offered to the public—

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

have given way a little, in consequence of the continual competition. Amongst foreign bonds, the movement in German Threes were as erratic as usual, following, of course, the fluctuation in the mark. French Fives are quoted ex the coupon due last Wednesday. South American bonds are better as a whole. Mexican Government issues have received little attention. Amongst Chinese the disposition is for prices to recover after their recent shake-out. The 8 per cent. issues of both dates are, however, depressed.

The Home Railway market shows no indication of improvement, and, with people taking very little practical interest in stocks, prices have mostly sagged. The Underground group is adversely affected by the forthcoming reduction of fares on the L.C.C. trams, a step which may be followed, on some of its routes, by the London General Omnibus Company. Grand Trunks have further weakened, and a fall of several points occurred in Grand Trunk Pacific debenture stock. The feature amongst foreign railways has been a violent recovery in the price of San Paulo ordinary, which advanced to 105 on permission being granted to the company to raise its rates on January 1 next. Prices in the Argentine railway market moved abruptly, under the influence first of a little buying, then a slight pressure to sell. Mexican railways are better, on the decision of the directors to resume cash payments of interest on the debenture stocks.

The rubber market became almost buoyant at one time, owing to the produce improving to 11½d per lb. The rise lacked staying power, however, and prices gave way from the best. Rubber also reacted. Amongst oil shares, a spasm of weakness seized the leading group on account of the Royal Dutch Company convening a meeting to obtain authority, by alteration of the articles, for payment of dividends in shares instead of cash. After a general shake-out, prices rallied, but the fall affected the list as a whole, and talk of financial trouble abroad caused weakness in the market. The reduction of dividends amongst industrial companies continues. Brunner Mond and Dorman Longs have both reduced their dividends appreciably, and the shares gave way in consequence. Iron, coal and steel shares generally are heavy, in sympathy with a sharp fall in armaments due to the proposals from the Washington Conference in regard to a ten-years' holiday from building battleships. The shipping market, on the other hand, is firmer, owing to the more hopeful character of the recent Board of Trade returns. Some of the best brewery stocks are a little better, the 40 per cent. dividend-and-bonus of Ind, Coope and Co. drawing attention to the list. The textile market is only tolerably steady. Wireless shares have given way a little. Fresh improvements occurred in the insurance group on the figures given in last week's *Economist*. After many months, the banking share market is beginning to move upwards. The strength of gas stocks continues unabated, on the expectation of increased dividends. The Lyons dividend helped the price of the shares, and Harrods partially recovered from their recent depression. Electrical manufacturing issues are also a shade better, following upon the heavy falls that recently occurred in this section.

Notwithstanding further shrinkage in the price of gold, South Africans are distinctly better. It is stated that an agreement has been reached on the point of labour condition on the Rand which will enable the mines to obtain eight hours per diem work from their staffs, of whites and natives alike, as against a present five hours, which is said to be the case at present. Along with Kafirs, De Beers and Rhodesians improved. Elsewhere in the mining markets, Burma Corporations are flat, owing to the issue of a disappointing report. Russo-Asiatics have gone back for want of further support. Mexican mining shares have weakened, in consequence of sales by holders disappointed at the long period of waiting for Mexican "recognition." Base metal shares, as a whole, lean a little to the dull side, on account of financial troubles said to have arisen in connection with speculation in some of the metals.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	284,722,936			

TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,930
5½% 1929 receipts to November 5, 1921				97,579,459
Week to November 12, 1921				14,230,000
Receipts to date				11,809,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHQUER WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 12, 1921.				
April 1 to November 12, £3,830,000	500,000	500,000		

To the Public—				
Western Australia, £3,000,000 6% Inscribed Stock (red. at par 1930-40), iss. at 95½% (Nov. 19) 3,000,000 ..	2,865,000	150,000		2,715,000
Port of London Authority, £2,000,000 6% Inscribed Stock (red. at par 1930-40), issued at 96% (Nov. 16) ..	2,000,000	100,000		1,900,000
Benson & Hedges (Canada), Ltd., £200,000 8½% Gld. First Mort. Deb. Stk. (red. at par 1924-36), issued at 94% (Nov. 14) ..	200,000	188,000	10,000	178,000
Pinner Gas Co., £14,550 7% Debts., at par, red. at par Jan. 1, 1932 (Nov. 18) ..	14,550	14,550	1,455	13,095
Total offered to public	4,987,550	261,455		4,726,095
To Shareholders only—				
Majedie (Johore) Rubber Estates, £5,000 10% Debts. at par	5,000	5,000	1,250	3,750
Total offered for subscription for whole year—				
1921	£304,445,486			£367,549,656
1920	341,254,043			1,036,059,952
1919	973,486,531			1,393,381,441
1918	1,232,389,718			1,518,596,010
1917	1,219,993,903			585,436,850
1916	515,144,053			585,236,526
1915	660,983,076			612,522,633
1914	508,535,090			196,536,980

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland.

Western Australia.—Issue of £3,000,000 6 per cent. inscribed stock, 1930-1940, at £95 10s per cent. The proceeds of this issue will be used for the redemption of £2,000,000 Treasury bills due January 26, 1922, which were issued mainly for railways, harbours, water supply, and for settling ex-Service men on the land, and about £1,000,000 Local Inscribed stock, due January 1, 1922. This stock, when held by persons not domiciled in Western Australia, is not subject to any taxes of that State. By the terms of "The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Act, 1910," of the Legislature of Western Australia, provision has to be made by the State for a cumulative sinking fund at the rate of ½ per cent. per annum. The accumulated sinking funds invested in the names of trustees in London now amount to about £8,000,000. The revenues of the State of Western Australia alone are liable in respect of this stock, the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury being neither directly nor indirectly liable for the debt. Subject to the provisions of the Trustee Act, 1893, this stock is a trustee security.

Port of London Authority.—Issue of £2,000,000 Port of London 6 per cent. inscribed stock, 1930-1940, at £96 per cent., repayable at par on July 1, 1940, but the Port of London Authority retain an option of redemption at par on or after July 1, 1930, on giving six months' notice. The stock now offered will rank *pari passu* with the 3½, 4, and 5½ per cent. inscribed stocks and "B" Port stock, already issued. All these stocks, including the above issue now offered, rank for security immediately after £9,379,752 "A" Port stock. The net revenue of this Port Authority for the year ended March 31, 1921, was £2,954,401, and after paying all interest and other charges, £896,044 was carried forward, as against a surplus of £383,347 brought in from the previous year's account. This is a reasonably well-secured issue, and we are not surprised that the issue was quickly oversubscribed in view of the attractive terms offered.

Benson and Hedges (Canada), Limited.—Authorised share capital \$1,500,000, of which \$555,300 has been issued and is fully paid. This is an issue at £94 per cent. of £200,000 8½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock, being part of an issue of £220,000. It is "repayable" at par on March 31, 1936, or earlier, by means of a sinking fund to be applied in purchase of stock, presumably on the open market, or redemption. The issue is secured by a trust deed in favour of the British Empire Trust Company, Limited, and constitutes a specific mortgage upon property in Canada subject to an existing mortgage. It would be interesting to know the exact degree of security which can be attached to a "specific mortgage" which is subject to first mortgage, and we refer to the matter in a "Business Note." The company was formed under Canadian laws in 1917, and is now about to acquire the business of J. Hirsch and Sons, Limited, another Canadian concern. Profits of the combined companies are given from 1918. Combined surplus assets are stated to be \$1,459,328. Of this sum "trade marks and trade names" figure in assets at \$250,556, while properties are valued at \$350,000 under date of January, 1921, subject to the small mortgage of \$87,500. Stocks work out at \$980,049, but it should be noticed that the dates when these were taken are given as September 30, 1920, and December 24, 1920. Thus for a total borrowing of £220,000 the margin of security here shown is not wide. The issue, however, is guaranteed by Benson and Hedges, Limited, of London, who have agreed with the trustees not to create any charge over their assets without the consent of the trustees, "except in the ordinary course of business." It has already been pointed out in the *Economist* (November 20, 1920, see page 901) that it would be very difficult to lay down a limit as to what extent assets could be charged in the ordinary course of business. It is noteworthy that this prospectus states that "the company had at September 30, 1921, loans in the ordinary way of banking of \$135,000, and, in addition, had borrowed on July 4, 1921, £164,000." These sums, of course, will be repaid out of the proceeds of this issue. Net profits of the London undertaking are given from 1917, but the more important facts about the guarantor company—notably its assets—are significant details lacking from the prospectus. The British Empire Trust Company, Limited, has an agreement with the concern by which the Trust Company will receive "the difference between the issue price of the debenture stock and 82 per cent. of its face value." In other words, out of every £100 of repayable debenture capital issued the company receives £82—the Trust Company taking £12 gross, out of which commissions and all expenses of the issue are paid.

The Pinner Gas Company, Limited.—Issue of £14,550 7 per cent. mortgage debentures, to be repaid on January 1, 1932. The authorised share capital is £92,800, of which, including premiums amounting to £17,183, a total of £65,718 has been issued. The authorised loan capital amounts to £46,400, and of this £18,300 has been issued, exclusive of the present offer. The net revenue of the company for the year ended June 30, 1921, was £4,940, and as the interest on loan capital, including the present offer, requires only £1,990, the present issue may be considered to be well secured. But regard should be paid to the lock-up nature of the investment.

Isis Chemicals and Dyes, Limited.—Authorised capital £30,000, divided into 300,000 shares of 2s each. The company, it is stated, has been formed to acquire secret processes for making certain chemicals in demand in the dye industry. This is an "offer for sale" of 75,000 shares in this company at par. The information given about the company in the circulars before us is exceedingly meagre. There is an estimate of a "50 per cent. dividend." But the venture is such a leap in the dark, considering the uncertainty of the industrial outlook, that we must advise our readers (in the absence of far fuller information) to leave the shares alone.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½%, 1925-28) ..	90	90	..	Local Loans 3% ..	53	53	..
Loans (4½%, 1925-45) ..	81	81½	..	Aust. 5½% debts. 1922-7 ..	94	94	..
Loans (5%, 1929-47) ..	87½	88	..	Canada 4½%, 1920-25 ..	95	95	..
Loans (4½%, 1929-42) ..	97½	97½	..	India 3½% Stock ..	563	563	..
Funding Loan 4% ..	72½	73½	..	Do 7% Stock ..	104	104	..
Victory Bonds 4% ..	79	79½	..	N.S.W. 5½%, 1922-27 ..	93	93	..
Conversion Loan 3½% ..	63½	63½	..	U.S.A. 4½%, 1920-25 ..	95	95	..
Consols 2½% ..	49	49½	..	Victoria 5½%, 1924-34 ..	92	92	..
Irish Land Stock 2½% ..	48½	48½	..				

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.) ..	2½	2½	..	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10) ..	183	183	..
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) ..	2½	2½	..	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10) ..	11	10½	..
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2½ paid) ..	6½	7	..	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid) ..	82	9	..
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) ..	14½	14½	..	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) ..	11	10½	..

With regard to the steel works to which he referred last year, he understood that considerable progress had been made in preliminary operations, and that the scheme was maturing satisfactorily. This new enterprise would result in a valuable addition to the traffic of the railway. At Vizagapatam, where they hoped to make

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BROOKS AND DOBBY announce an interim dividend of 44d per share, free of tax, together with bonus of 9d per share, also free of tax, bonus to be applied in pay paid up. Unclaimed capital to extent of 9d per share, making shares 16s 6d per share.

LARSEN THURNER—Directors propose final dividend on preference shares at rate of 5s per cent. per annum, less tax, and final dividend on second preference shares at rate of 6s per cent. per annum, less tax. Owing to prevailing economic conditions, directors do not consider it prudent to recommend dividend on ordinary shares.

THE CHANAROLA directors are unable to recommend dividend on ordinary shares. The tea industry they are unable to recommend the payment of the usual half-year's dividend on the preference shares.

(c) The board states that, it having been decided to reduce the wide margin which has hitherto existed between the interim and the final dividend, they have adjusted the first six months' distribution accordingly.

one of the finest harbours in India, they had made progress commensurate with the funds at their disposal. Land had been gazetted, and was in course of acquisition. They had also secured the services of Mr. H. Cartwright Reid, C.B., as chief engineer of the project.

INQUIRY AS TO RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION.

In conclusion, the Chairman referred to the report of the committee appointed by the Secretary of State for India to inquire into the administration and working of Indian railways, and remarked that a Commission to India was not required to tell the world that Indian railways had not been provided with all the capital for extensions or for the equipment of existing lines which was necessary for efficiency. His comment on the report was that by direct omission and by indirect imputation, the admitted and proven starvation of the railways was laid at the door of the Guaranteed Indian Railway Company. Let them join heartily in hoping that the constructive parts of the committee's report might lead to more money being found for the railways to which India was entitled.

Mr. Frederick Schooling seconded the motion for the adoption of the report and accounts, which was carried unanimously.

UNITED RAILWAYS OF THE HAVANA AND REGLA WAREHOUSES, LIMITED.

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN CUBA.

The twenty-fourth ordinary general meeting of the United Railways of the Havana and Regla Warehouses, Limited, was held, on the 17th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, Mr. C. J. Cater Scott (chairman of the company) presiding.

The London manager and secretary (Mr. W. J. Maslen) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that during the past year expenditure had become still more intensified, and in addition they had had to face very serious difficulties in Cuba, resulting in an almost complete financial breakdown. So far as the accounts for the year were concerned, he did not think they had very much to complain of. The earnings of the amalgamated companies were certainly very satisfactory. They amounted to £6,329,000, an increase of £453,000 on the previous year, but it was only fair to say that this was due to the increase in tariffs which the Government granted to help them to meet the increased working expenses. The expenses amounted to £4,848,000, an increase of £592,000, bringing up the working expense ratio to 76.59 per cent., an increase of 4.17 per cent. as compared with the previous year. The net receipts were £1,481,000, a decrease of £139,000. He ventured to think that these figures were quite satisfactory, having regard to the fact that the period had been one of exceptional difficulty.

SUGAR INDUSTRY.

They had been face to face in Cuba with a most difficult position with almost unexampled financial conditions. In May, 1920, the country was most prosperous; there were plentiful sugar crops, and prices went as high as 23 cents, as compared with something like 3 cents before the war. This absurd price for sugar could not, of course, have been maintained, and it fell as rapidly as it had risen, with the result that speculators were heavily hit. There being danger of an absolute collapse, the Government decreed a moratorium in October, 1920, their object being to save the banks, which had suffered very severe runs. The moratorium, which lasted in one form or another until June, 1921, was a very great handicap in moving the crop, and it failed to save the Cuban banks, three of the chief of which failed. The new crop opened with 350,000 tons of the old crop still unsold, and it was found impossible to get this out of the way before the new crop came in. The position of planters and of millowners was most unenviable, and it was greatly to their credit that a crop of no less than 3,900,000 tons had been made, that being nearly equal to the previous year's figure. Those two crops were, in fact, a record for the island.

If, as time went on and the crop was being moved, satisfactory sales had been possible, many of the difficult problems which the planters and this company had had to contend with would have disappeared; but, unfortunately, of this crop of 3,900,000 tons at least 1,500,000 tons—some put it at a higher figure—remained unsold, while, if they took the average price realised for what had been sold, it was very doubtful whether it had covered cost. This meant that the business had been unprofitable to the planters, and they had experienced great difficulty in paying the company's freight charges. The result was that, although the traffics were quite good and the earnings quite satisfactory, there were very large sums which had not been collected. The actual earnings would undoubtedly have justified a dividend equal to that of last

year, but the cash position was absolutely different. On June 30th this amounted to £714,000, or less than half of the previous year's figure. Having regard to this fact and to the constantly reduced traffics, together with the general position of uncertainty in Cuba, the directors had felt it right to conserve the company's resources and to recommend a dividend of only 4 per cent., carrying forward £239,000. They regretted this, but felt sure they would have the support of the shareholders.

With regard to the current year's prospects, his own opinion was that the days of bumper traffics had gone for the present, but by this reduction of expenditure to meet the diminution in receipts he hoped the directors might be able to report a not unprofitable result at the end of the year.

Referring to the question of rolling-stock equipment, the Chairman said they had provided a lot of new rolling-stock, which would be much more economical to maintain and would give a very much better service. The question had arisen how this was to be paid for. It had been impossible to think of raising any portion of the money in Cuba in view of the state of that country, and before leaving England they realised that the position here was almost equally bad. They made inquiries in New York, and, although the position there was not so favourable as they might have hoped, it was not impossible. Very lengthy negotiations took place in New York, and eventually they made an arrangement with the Cuban Rolling Stock Company—an American company—and the Commercial Trust Company, by which they purchased the equipment and leased it to this company. In order to provide the cash portion of the payment, they issued notes of the Cuban Rolling Stock Company, secured on the lease to this company, which was the usual form of the American railway purchase and hire system.

The Hon. Arthur O. Crichton seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the dividend recommended was declared.

DALGETY AND CO., LIMITED.

FINANCIAL SITUATION IN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA. CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS.

The thirty-seventh annual general meeting of Dalgety and Co., Limited, was held, on the 18th instant, at 16 Finsbury Circus, London.

The secretary (Mr. H. E. Davison) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman (the Hon. Edmund W. Parker), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that a year ago the directors had the pleasure of laying before the shareholders a statement of accounts which could not be otherwise than satisfactory, constituting as it did the high-water mark in the yearly earnings of the company during its 36 years' history. The acting-chairman's speech on that occasion, however, included a grave warning that a serious reaction in commercial affairs and a condition of steadily increasing financial stringency had already set in, which pointed to difficult times ahead and to an inevitable reduction in the company's earning power. The state of affairs described became more aggravated as the days went by, and its baneful effects were seen in the records of most commercial institutions which had been made public during the present year.

FALL IN WOOL PRICES.

The fall—or rather the landslide—in the prices of almost all commodities took a direction which seriously affected the principal branch of the company's business. He referred to the collapse which took place in the values of wool—a fall so pronounced in the case of the New Zealand clip as to bring values for some descriptions down to a level below the cost of production. And even then the clip could only be offered slowly and with a scrupulous regard for the capacity of the market to absorb the supplies available. In all probability, something in the nature of a débâcle in the wool market was only averted by wise co-operation between those concerned in handling the 1920-21 clip in Australia, New Zealand, and London, and the British-Australian Wool Realisation Association controlling the enormous stocks carried over from the British Government's purchase of the Australian and New Zealand clips during the war years beginning 1916-17 and ending with 1919-20.

The unprecedented fall in New Zealand wool and the impossibility of turning the clip into money reacted most seriously on values of sheep, cattle, and pastoral securities in that country, and led to a sudden stoppage in the flow of credit, and to a condition of financial stringency for which it was necessary to go back very many years to find a parallel. All the elements calculated to produce a monetary crisis in the Dominion were in existence, and, with the object of averting this, the New Zealand Government proclaimed a moratorium, which protected the local banks and financial institutions from any sudden withdrawal of deposits by their customers.

WARNING TO SHAREHOLDERS.

Dalgety and Co. took no advantage of this moratorium, their

clients being offered all the facilities with regard to their deposits with the company that they possessed before the enactment of the moratorium. At the same time, he thought it only right to warn the shareholders that business in New Zealand was at a very low ebb, and that the prospects of making any profits at all in the Dominion for some time to come appeared to be very problematical. To add to the difficulties of the past year, the extraordinary increase in the imports of merchandise into Australia and New Zealand—which were enormously in excess of the exports from those countries—threw the whole Australasian banking system out of gear, and in some directions, especially as regarded remittances to this side, the machinery almost ceased to function. This abnormal state of affairs caused this company no great inconvenience, but it led to their being called upon to assist many of their clients who were prejudiced by the conditions which had arisen, and they were glad to be able to do so.

ENCOURAGING FEATURES.

Happily there existed, both in Australia and New Zealand, encouraging features which had played an important part in bringing about the somewhat easier conditions which now obtained. He referred to the dairy produce exports from New Zealand, and the wheat and dairy produce exports from Australia. In both countries these largely exceeded the value of the respective wool clips, and, as they were readily saleable at remunerative prices, their help in adjusting the financial position was invaluable. During the last three or four months another favourable factor of considerable importance had come into play in the shape of a material improvement in the value of wool, especially the finer qualities. As this was concurrent with a large increase in the proportion of sales to offerings, it encouraged a brighter outlook for the future, more particularly in Australia. The pastoral, agricultural, and dairying season in Australia and New Zealand could hardly be better at this period of the year. Thus there were other grounds for greater confidence than was justified a few months ago, but it was too early yet for anything more than a very modified degree of optimism, because the situation of the market for frozen meat was extremely unsatisfactory at the present time. Not only had the demand been restricted, owing to the reduced spending power of the masses, but this state of affairs seemed likely to continue. Moreover, prices had fallen to a level which left little or nothing to the stock breeders in Australia and New Zealand after providing for the high scale of treatment charges on their side, the relatively high

rates of freight, and the greatly increased handling charges here, which were a legacy of the war years, when market prices were more in proportion to expenses. This was a very serious matter for the company's pastoralist clients, as it meant not only considerably reduced values for live stock, but a greatly restricted market for their surplus.

Since he last had the pleasure of addressing the shareholders he had, in company with the general manager, visited almost every branch of the company throughout Australia and New Zealand, and it was a source of great satisfaction to them to be able to report that the company's business was based on sound and progressive lines.

LIQUIDATION OF GOVERNMENT WOOL.

A matter of interest to all associated in any way with Australia and New Zealand or with the wool trade was the progress that was being made in the liquidation of the Government stocks of old wool which were unsold on June 30, 1920. These were taken over as from December 31, 1920, by the British-Australian Wool Realisation Association, and at that date the total stock amounted to 2,586,474 bales, including 768,000 bales of New Zealand and a small quantity of Falkland Islands wool. Considering the period of depression through which the wool market had passed during the present year, realisations had been better than might have been expected, and if selling could be maintained at its present rate the New Year would begin with the British-Australian Wool Realisation Association stocks down to about 1,900,000 bales. Out of the surplus funds arising from the sales of this wool a cash distribution of £5,005,000 was made at the end of July last, and was naturally a welcome addition to the incomes of the Australian shareholders, and a further distribution of £5,250,000 was to take place in May next year.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dealing with the profit and loss account, the Chairman said that the gross profits for the year showed a reduction of £268,129. Against this there were the reductions in expenses of £49,273, depreciation of £20,637, and taxation of £51,383. The lower cost of taxation was unfortunately merely the natural result of reduced profits, but it was satisfactory to be able to report under this head that they anticipated making a substantial recovery on account of past payments for excess profits duty. The amount recoverable was sufficient to appreciably affect the revenue for the current year. With regard to the long-standing grievance of double taxation

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 69 Market St., Bradford

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
 Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
 (P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

• BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
 • BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.
 • BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

within the Empire, as to which the British Government were at length induced to make a fair concession, the Australian Commonwealth Government had announced its intention of adopting the scheme of reciprocity recommended by the Sub-Committee of the British Royal Commission on Income-tax for the elimination of double taxation within the Empire. On the other hand, the New Zealand Government, usually the first to respond to claims of Imperial concern, had so far not seen its way to co-operate in this desirable movement.

After making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts and for all contingencies that could possibly be foreseen, there remained a net profit of £140,606, to which had to be added the amount brought forward from last year, £128,505, giving a total of £269,111. The directors recommended the payment of a final dividend of 5s per share, free of English income-tax, making, with the interim dividend, 10 per cent. per annum, the dividend to be payable on and after November 24th, the addition of £50,000 to reserve fund, thereby raising it to £950,000, and of £10,000 to the staff provident fund, leaving £84,111 to be carried forward.

Mr Stephen Fairbairn seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Sir Lionel Fletcher, C.B.E., the retiring directors (Mr R. E. Bush, Mr S. Fairbairn, and the Hon. Sir Arthur Lawley, G.C.S.I.) were re-elected.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, directors, the local boards of advice, and the staff for the services rendered to the company during the year.

The Chairman, responding to the vote, said that it might interest shareholders to know what the company had done during the past seven years, beginning with the first year of the war. The company had paid for English and Australasian taxation £1,126,378, in dividends and bonus to shareholders £840,000, had added to reserve fund £400,000, and to the provident fund £70,000, while they had written off premises, plant, and furniture £285,000, and for depreciation of investments £174,489.

The proceedings then terminated.

JAYA PARA RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED. RUBBER AND COFFEE PROSPECTS.

The tenth annual general meeting of the Jaya Para Rubber Estates, Limited, was held, on the 14th instant, in the Council Room, the Rubber Growers' Association, 38 Eastcheap, London, Mr R. J. Arnold (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr J. J. Sneddon, A.C.I.S.) having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said that the year 1920 was a very disastrous one for rubber companies, and not less so for those interested in coffee, and he was sorry to say that the company made a loss for the year. Rightly speaking, that loss was really attributable to 1919, and not to 1920, because at the end of 1919 the company had a large amount of produce on hand valued at no less a figure than £57,500. This subsequently fetched only £46,109, and in that amount was included £5,159 for produce, chiefly coffee, which was still on hand on December 31, 1920. Practically the loss—certainly the major portion of the loss—was due to the fall in coffee. Deducting the loss on stocks carried over from 1919, the company actually showed a profit for 1920, in spite of the very adverse factors they had had to contend with. Those adverse factors were the high costs of production and an adverse Dutch exchange.

The stock on hand of both rubber and coffee on December 31st last was taken in at a figure which was more likely to show a surplus than a loss. They were all thankful that the year 1920 was behind, but, as their accounts were somewhat late, he had to tell the shareholders what was to be expected for 1921 and 1922. Happily, they had taken the precaution to sanction their commercial agents' selling a substantial amount of rubber forward for the current year, 1921. On the first sales they cashed the satisfactory price of 2s 3½d per lb for eight tons monthly for the whole of 1921. A further sale of six tons per month for six months at 62 guilders cents had been made in Java by their director, Colonel the Hon. Ed. Coke. This would bring them in about a further £700 per month from July to December. As those sales absorbed less than half their production for the year, they would not do so badly with rubber. From the coffee crop, even if it fell short of the 8,000 piculs—say, to 7,000 piculs—the directors thought they were pretty certain to cash £20,000. He thought they should cash at least £12,000 further for rubber—possibly more. He could not see, therefore, the company's revenue for 1921 being less than £60,000, and, what was of equal importance, he thought that expenditure should show a very substantial reduction. In regard to the year 1922, they estimated only the same crops as for 1921—namely, about 700,000 lbs of rubber and 7,000 piculs of coffee. What could he tell them about the rubber position in 1922? Personally, he was optimistic, not that he expected to see the price back to over 2s per lb, but he thought they would gradually work up to well over 1s per lb, and possibly to 1s 3d or 1s 4d per lb.

The report was unanimously adopted.

KIMBERLEY WATERWORKS COMPANY, LIMITED. AGREEMENT WITH CITY COUNCIL APPROVED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Kimberley Waterworks Company, Limited, was held, on the 15th instant, at Cannon street Hotel, London, to consider resolutions confirming the sale of the undertaking to the Kimberley City Council, the winding-up of the company, and the appointment of a liquidator.

Mr James Jackson, the chairman, said that it was with very mixed feelings that he approached his task that day, as it was 41 years since he had joined the company, and this was the last time on which he was likely to meet the shareholders. Such facts made for a gloomy atmosphere, but fortunately that was absolutely dispipated by the gratification which he felt at the fact that the negotiations with the Kimberley City Council had resulted so favourably, and also by reason of the fine showing made by the circular accompanying the notice of the meeting. It need be no secret now that during the negotiations with the City Council they had at times been skating on very thin ice. There was a section of the community very ambitious in their schemes, who desired to have works of far larger extent than those of the company, so as to carry out their plans. There was another section that was willing to buy, but only at a scrap-iron price.

The directors knew that their works could not be constructed now at anything like the price they had paid for them, and it was quite possible that they might have asked more and possibly have got more, but the risks were tremendous. For one thing, it had been by no means certain that the city loan would be an unqualified success, and they might have had to take a large portion of the purchase price in bonds, which would not have suited them so well as cash. The directors had used every inducement during the negotiations to make the council, if possible, pay in cash, and the outcome was that the company had received £288,000 in cash. It was an intense relief to them when the matter was finally settled, because they were convinced that a sale now was of much more advantage to the shareholders than it would be to run the risks of the uncertainty of an arbitrary price in 1916, when the council had the right to acquire the property.

Mr Robert Ford seconded the resolution confirming the sale and authorising the payment of compensation to the directors and staff, and it was carried unanimously.

Resolutions were also passed authorising the winding-up of the company, the appointment of a liquidator, and the appointment of the present directors as a consultative committee, without additional remuneration, to assist the liquidator.

OIL OUTPUTS.

APEX (TRINIDAD) OILFIELDS.—The estimated production of crude oil for October was 9,124 barrels, equal to approximately 1,300 tons, produced from Well No. 7, which was on a ¾-inch choke. Delivery to Trinidad Leaseholds at the rate of 5,000 tons per month having been made in advance up to the first week in December, all the other wells remained shut down during the month.

BRITISH BURMAH PETROLEUM CO.—Total production of crude oil by this company and the Rangoon Oil Co., Limited, for the month of October amounted to 76,413 barrels.

GENERAL PETROLEUM COMPANY OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Oropuche Field.—Production of crude oil for week ending November 12th restricted to 1,500 barrels.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA.—Total production during October amounted to 106,792 barrels, or approximately 15,256 tons, including 57,016 barrels from the properties of the St. Helen's Petroleum Co., Limited.

TRINIDAD LEASEHOLDS.—Oil produced during October, 11,900 tons. Oil purchased during October from other companies, 2,250 tons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, November 9th, amounted to 1,403 tons.

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS
CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £40,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Nov. 21st-Nov. 26th, were opened on Nov. 18, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £54,365,000. Tenders for Monday to Friday bills at £99 os 3d, about 77.8 per cent., and above in full. Saturday bills at £99 os 6d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 17s 8½d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition ¹ Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
Oct. 21 (3 months)	60,000,000	84,160,000	8 38	3½	£99 1s 3d (Monday to Friday bills) about 81.5% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 6d and above in full.
Oct. 28 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,445,000	3 14 5-63	3½	£99 1s 1d (Monday to Friday bills) about 80.18% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 1s 4d and above in full.
Nov. 4 (3 months)	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 2-6	3½	£99 0s 7d (Monday to Friday bills) about 44.79% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 10d and above in full.
Nov. 11 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 17 0-43	3½	£99 0s 6d (Monday to Friday bills) about 75% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 9d and above in full.
Nov. 18 (3 months)	40,000,000	54,365,000	3 17 8-27	3½	£99 0s 3d (Monday to Friday bills) about 77.8% and above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 6d and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold Coin and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	..	9,924	11,423
Dec. 30.	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	48.1	..	9,886
1915.									
Dec. 31.	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536
Dec. 27.	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,668
1916.									
Dec. 26.	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,488
1918.									
Dec. 31.	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 26.	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413
June 25.	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	5,271
Oct. 1.	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	5,589
Dec. 31.	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31.	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,570	2,981
June 30.	357,556	16,702	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305
Sept. 29.	354,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385
Dec. 29.	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30.	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141	
June 29.	323,834	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.0	287,750	150	
Sept. 28.	314,382	14,830	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	145	
Nov. 2.	313,655	13,397	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	276,500	142	
15.	314,118	14,016	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	277,008	176	
16.	313,066	14,103	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	276,053	166	

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £30,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £37,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Nov. 12, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Nov. 13, 1921, to Nov. 13, 1920.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 12, 1921.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 13, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	79,768,000	84,461,000	2,682,000	2,517,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	115,925,000	112,786,000	1,760,000	1,841,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	3,143,000	..	..	..
Estates, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	30,161,000	29,043,000	650,000	1,025,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	9,104,000	15,870,000	456,000	335,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	440,000	390,000	..	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	161,129,000	144,330,000	1,400,000	1,251,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	29,714,000	133,651,000	..	5,154,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	7,470,000	..	..	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	30,000,000	29,750,000	1,500,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands ..	650,000	390,000	..	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	7,345,873	11,776,011	73,645	509,970
Miscellaneous.....	21,500,000	15,129,565	14,624,977	318,589	50,000
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	61,168,839	184,357,078	1,000,000	2,500,000
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	550,828,277	761,399,046	10,150,234	15,433,970
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	553,902,783	770,768,143	..	..

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Nov. 12, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Nov. 13, 1921, to Nov. 13, 1920.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 12, 1921.	Receipts, Week Ending Nov. 13, 1920.
OTHER RECEIPTS.				
Temporary Advances Repaid:—				
Bullion.....	5,230,000	2,690,000	200,000	100,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act (1904).....	169,818	62,631	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	520,000	..	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—				
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues: Under the Telegraph (Money) Act, 1913.....	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	40,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	35,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	4,655,000	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues: By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	2,577,085,000	2,558,447,000	71,860,000	79,577,000
By 4½% Funding Loan, 1900-90 ..	..	270,553	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	769,061	..	..
By 5½% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	89,777	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—				
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....	..	20,400,000	..	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	24,830,000	4,150,000	1,000,000	700,000
By National War Bonds.....	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—				
5½%, 1920.....	1,024,990	12,499,000	..	555,000
5½%, 1920.....	111,899,459	..	14,230,000	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	10,858,639	25,625,549	..	205
(d) Ways and Means Advances ..	849,057,000	843,540,000	9,550,000	12,750,000
Anglo-Persian Oil Company—				
Dividends on Shares acquired ..	..	3,482	..	..
Repayments:—				
In respect of issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919 ..	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919 ..	23,681	6,892	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920 ..	4,431,887	..	2,754,887	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	321,553	..	142,867	..
Total.....	4,154,808,769	4,241,892,087	109,887,938	110,116,175

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supple- mentary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		ISSUES.	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 13, 1920, to Nov. 13, 1920.	Week Ending Nov. 12, 1921.	Week Ending Nov. 13, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	9,875,161	10,596,399	..	193,086
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	207,038,920	205,826,315	669,316	1,443,954
Road Fund.....	8,400,000	2,842,000	2,429,502	325,000	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	5,405,312	5,246,917	..	..
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	2,106,396	4,076,938	50,623	175,187
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	953,892	1,235,878	..	72
Supply Services.....	774,851,000	384,215,759	437,410,129	8,375,000	9,970,000
Expenditure.....	1,146,125,000	612,497,440	666,822,478	9,417,939	11,782,299
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion.....		5,150,000	2,800,000	300,000	100,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....		169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....		5,095,000	..	280,000	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....		4,061,474	3,500,000	500,000	400,000
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....		27,500	90,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....		35,000	30,000	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.....		2,574,411,000	2,576,904,000	66,520,000	79,310,000
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....		22,890,111	41,228,894	650,467	2,729,587
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....		11,800,000	20,400,000	500,000	550,000
(b) Repaid otherwise.....		9,200,000	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22.....	£	12,704,490	2,986,808	..	406,800
5%, 1920 ..	2,986,808				
5%, 1921 ..	18,704,490				
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....		49,238,131	41,907,939	..	5,000,000
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.....		..	59,229,221	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid		808,138,000	805,713,000	31,400,000	14,650,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....		18,520,156	16,460,134	660,022	500,000
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....		11,515,000	725,000	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.....		111,200	197,766	..	..
		4,151,654,320	4,229,165,058	110,728,428	110,433,694
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England.....		Nov. 12, '21.	Nov. 13, '20.	In or Dec.	For Week
Bank of Ireland.....		1,351,545	784,480	283,440	88,075
Total.....		3,154,449	2,727,023	51,000	229,446
				340,440	317,515

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, November 16, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£	Government debt	£
Notes issued	145,055,635	11,015,100	
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,605,635
	145,055,635		145,055,635

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£	Government securities	£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	35,725,823	
Reserve	3,165,547	Other securities	84,822,933
Public deposits	20,067,150	Notes	21,468,605
Other deposits	106,037,703	Gold and silver coin ..	1,827,561
Seven-day & other bills	21,572		
	143,844,972		143,844,972

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Nov. 16, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,165,547	+ 38,235	£ 35,472
Public deposits	20,067,150	+ 2,174,536	+ 558,498
Other deposits	106,037,703	+ 1,024,492	+ 10,244,840
Government securities ..	35,725,823	- 1,575,867	- 28,060,190
Other securities	84,822,933	+ 3,989,567	+ 9,656,934
Notes	21,468,605	+ 828,503	+ 8,696,222
Reserve	3,165,547	+ 828,503	+ 8,696,222
Gold and silver coin ..	1,827,561	+ 816,160	+ 3,982,550
% of reserve to liabilities	18.1%	+ 1.4%	+ 4.7%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
Aug. 24, 1921.	£ 128,402,703	£ 125,964,555	£ 133,822,641	£ 131,074,018	£ 20,888,148	15.1%	5.5%
Sept. 7, 1921.	128,409,235	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
14, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
21, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
Oct. 5, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
12, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
19, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
Nov. 2, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
9, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%
16, 1921.	128,410,714	126,889,725	136,776,284	134,902,203	19,969,510	14.9%	5.5%

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Nov. 15, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Nov. 19, 1919.	Nov. 17, 1920.	Nov. 16, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 28,446,685	£ 28,933,380	£ 85,676,315	£ 127,569,380	£ 123,587,030
Public deposits	10,635,485	19,014,809	23,268,045	19,506,652	20,067,150
Other deposits	40,865,030	11,948,991	95,323,682	116,278,543	106,037,703
Government securities ..	14,438,210	11,948,991	34,789,117	63,786,073	35,725,823
Other securities	28,781,383	41,461,250	80,816,165	156,135,989	84,822,933
Reserve of notes and coin ..	26,035,324	25,463,980	20,738,476	14,599,944	23,296,166
Coin and bullion	36,032,009	35,947,360	37,964,791	123,719,324	128,410,714
Proportion of reserve to liabilities ..	50.1%	42.1%	17.3%	10.3%	18.1%
Bank rate of discount	4%	5%	6%	7%	5.5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	7%	7%	5%	4%	4.75%
Price of Consols	78 1/2	74 1/2	50 1/2	44 1/2	48 1/2
Average price of wheat	25 1/2	26 1/2	70 1/2	44 1/2	38 1/2
Exchanges on	25 1/2	26 1/2	70 1/2	44 1/2	38 1/2
Paris	25 1/2	26 1/2	70 1/2	44 1/2	38 1/2
New York	25 1/2	26 1/2	70 1/2	44 1/2	38 1/2
London	25 1/2	26 1/2	70 1/2	44 1/2	38 1/2
Clearing house return	300,659,000	199,913,000	691,184,000	683,045,000	679,282,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—November 9	£ 27,108,324,000	£ 2,607,565,000	£ 29,715,889,000
November 15	622,894,000	56,388,000	679,282,000
Total to date 1921	27,731,218,000	2,663,953,000	30,395,171,000
Do 1920	30,338,557,000	3,639,076,000	34,977,633,000
Increase or decrease in 1921 ..	- 2,607,339,000	- 975,123,000	- 3,582,462,000
	- 10.3%	- 26.7%	- 12.0%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,386,768,000	28,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920 ..	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to November 12.			
BIRMINGHAM	£ 167,479,700	£ 108,222,800	- 59,256,900
BRISTOL	79,738,000	67,045,000	- 12,693,000
DUBLIN	397,235,200	321,012,100	- 76,223,100
LIVERPOOL	77,485,200	43,977,414	- 33,507,786
LEICESTER	55,161,900	34,258,400	- 20,903,500
LIVERPOOL	724,282,420	389,619,800	- 334,662,600
MANCHESTER	1,319,487,400	642,283,100	- 677,204,300
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE ..	138,937,800	59,854,200	- 79,083,600
NOTTINGHAM	51,012,600	31,560,500	- 19,452,100
SHEFFIELD	76,207,100	49,900,100	- 26,307,000

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Nov. 11, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Nov. 8, 1920.
Resources.			
Total gold reserve	2,816,300	+ 16,040	2,001,670
Legal tender notes and silver reserve ..	144,480	- 350	168,060
Bills discounted for member banks	1,246,020	+ 14,410	2,826,830
Bills bought in open market	89,630	+ 2,130	299,770
Government obligations owned	225,720	+ 24,190	294,980
All other resources	57,870	- 200	34,170
Liabilities.			
Government deposits	30,790	- 29,130	47,380
Other deposits	1,696,070	+ 13,650	1,647,550
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation ..	2,420,830	+ 12,710	3,354,180
Capital and surplus	80,520	- 4,470	214,530
All other liabilities	21,200	+ 610	99,270
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined ..	71.4%	+ .4%	43.0%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
Assets.			
Cash and bank balances	477,083,821	476,811,646	521,673,747
Bank balances abroad	65,887,433	65,128,352	83,089,933
Call and short loans	263,872,952	268,443,419	307,487,168
Securities	372,734,891	385,571,399	363,444,692
Loans in Canada	1,331,201,118	1,338,883,399	1,483,034,424
Loans abroad	150,763,885	155,238,085	200,945,241
Other assets	105,199,288	106,207,018	111,504,470
Liabilities.			
Note circulation	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,864
Deposits—			
Government	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,337
Public in Canada	1,807,193,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,009,449
Foreign	268,088,677	274,231,912	356,570,176
Bank balances—			
Foreign	46,093,427	10,300,260	9,554,379
Bills payable and acceptances	37,202,050	40,429,040	51,202,045
Other liabilities	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Capital and rest	264,331,734	264,326,315	258,706,275

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
Assets.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,524,010	5,524,010	5,524,010	+ 43	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367	-	1,948,367
Silver coin and bullion	278,860	278,860	278,860	+ 143	632,650
Discount and advances	4,577,916	4,636,555	5,718,765	- 58,639	2,327,775
Liabilities.					
Notes	36,719,267	37,376,499	39,256,257	- 657,232	5,811,875
Government deposits	33,958	34,772	37,351	- 814	183,700
Private deposits	2,429,004	2,483,362	3,894,150	- 54,358	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

	Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 5, 1921.	Nov. 13, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Assets.					
Gold	2,507,613	2,507,144	2,505,267	+ 471	521,775
Silver	517,204	517,204	517,204	-	728,600
Loans and discounts	3,121,103	3,121,103	1,970,583	+ 956,400	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,475	344,475	344,475	-	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	-	150,000
Liabilities.					
Circulation	4,281,667	4,343,495	4,255,523	- 61,828	1,901,550
Deposits	974,714	1,046,197	1,064,611	- 72,483	477,500

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

	Oct. 13, 1921.	Sept. 28, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
Assets.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,358,936,212	1,383,819,952	1,497,542,277	- 24,883,740	- 138,606,065
Government loans and securities	2,174,108,464	2,177,561,112	865,860,628	+ 3,452,648	+ 1,302,947,836
Discounts and loans	650,006,287	610,256,594	642,562,211	+ 39,749,693	+ 7,444,076
Liabilities.					
Notes in circulation	2,050,820,776	1,950,038,170	1,489,043,288	+ 100,782,606	+ 561,777,486
Government deposits	839,468,031	879,309,961	753,478,727	+ 39,841,930	+ 85,989,304
Private deposits at fixed dates	901,166,854	890,970,596	544,646,451	+ 10,196,258	+ 356,520,403

BANK OF JAPAN.

	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Oct. 16, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
Assets.						
Gold and silver ..	1,264,488	1,267,365	1,269,803	1,103,441	- 2,877	221,320
Discounts	65,454	54,327	94,570	102,365	+ 11,127	41,740
Advances	113,193	119,349	106,280	168,484	- 6,156	70,540
Liabilities.						
Notes	1,132,528	1,141,306	1,229,694	1,068,759	- 8,775	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,422,901	1,400,432	1,355,234	1,259,829	- 22,469	87,340
Private deposits ..	37,985	42,212	33,769	114,645	- 4,227	11,400

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Assets.					
Gold	931,639	931,639	1,091,575	- 1,014	1,313,240
Silver	15,251	14,237	6,795	+ 1,014	321,920
Treasury notes	96,094,810	99,586,242	20,160,071	- 29,784	943,460
Bills discounted	55,161,900	34,258,400	20,903,500	- 20,903,500	60,780
Liabilities.					
Notes in circulation ..	92,609,995	91,527,679	63,600,113	+ 1,082,316	2,013,860
Deposits	13,850,368	18,302,663	13,292,389	- 1,442,295	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

	Oct. 10, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 10, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
Assets.					
Total cash	1,312,931	1,362,614	1,160,499	- 53,683	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,030,527	3,053,645	2,812,881	- 23,123	418,400
Foreign bills	19,522	19,475	20,484	+ 47	81,300
Advances to the Treasury ..	6,614,186	6,542,307	8,162,270	+ 71,879	nill

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	June 30, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Assets.					
Gold.....	19,400	19,200	19,100	14,300	+ 200
Silver.....	41,200	40,800	40,300	39,700	+ 400
Foreign coin.....	37,200	43,600	39,700	39,700	+ 6,400
Foreign banks.....	1,623,400	772,300	1,094,900	1,306,900	+ 212,000
Advances to the Govt.....	178,000,000	158,000,000	140,925,000	130,625,000	+ 20,000,000
Private loans and discounts.....	18,115,300	11,662,300	8,795,600	6,863,600	+ 4,453,500
Other assets.....	18,120,200	14,976,000	9,994,600	10,336,500	+ 3,144,200
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	152,800,000	133,734,200	115,242,300	102,697,300	+ 19,065,800
Government accounts.....	23,764,000	17,081,500	16,975,300	300,000,000	+ 6,682,500
Other accounts.....	16,330,000	17,567,100	15,895,200	1,237,100	- 1,237,100
Reserve.....	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	0
Other liabilities.....	22,710,200	17,576,000	13,007,600	12,089,100	+ 5,134,200

THE STATE SAVINGS AND CREDIT BANK OF LATVIA.

October 1, 1921.

	Latvia, Roubles.	Latvia, Roubles.
Assets.		
Total cash.....	49,267,789	300,000,000
Foreign banks.....	182,607,091	311,562,921
Discounts and loans.....	542,318,524	14,179,868
Other assets.....	51,549,394	
	625,742,789	625,742,789
LIABILITIES.		
Capital.....		
Deposits.....		
Other liabilities.....		

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

	Oct. 30, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Monthly Movement.
Assets.				
Total cash.....	307,256,714	236,192,219	66,743,933	+ 71,064,495
Discounts and loans.....	1,267,295,858	1,125,727,484	564,738,756	+ 141,568,374
LIABILITIES.				
Capital paid up.....	250,000,000	250,000,000	10,000,000	..
Reserve.....	10,674,155	10,674,155	184,663	..
Notes in circulation.....	250,000,000	250,000,000		..
Deposits.....	976,595,597	741,145,128	565,448,243	+ 235,450,469

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.				
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.....	10,084,471	10,084,471	10,084,462	..
Discount and advances.....	1,125,022	1,224,528	1,361,000	+ 316,665
Gold.....	1,246,580	1,296,381	1,231,393	+ 99,506
Other assets.....				49,801
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation.....	12,181,705	12,127,159	11,206,312	- 145,454
Deposits.....	1,962,774	1,626,982	1,991,264	+ 335,792
Other liabilities.....	2,830,890	2,853,870	3,009,714	+ 22,980

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 8, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.					
Gold.....	74,096	74,096	74,545	74,620	+ 261
Other coin and notes.....	17,433	20,370	19,346	18,495	+ 2,937
Foreign credits.....	335,486	330,714	336,516	320,340	+ 4,772
Bills.....	620,877	590,214	551,736	515,197	+ 30,663
Govt. advances.....	4,639,542	4,423,730	4,343,133	4,333,301	+ 215,812
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	4,559,483	4,495,432	4,407,257	4,419,569	+ 54,051
State credits.....	369,880	369,827	369,827	370,036	+ 53
Deposits.....	694,447		500,365	424,004	+ 272,130

LONDON RATES.

	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 14, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 16, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 5½% Nov. 3, 1921).....	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
3 months' do.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
4 months' do.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
6 months' do.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Discount (Treasury Bills):—							
3 months.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Loans—Day to day.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Short.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Deposit allowances: Banks.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Discount houses at call.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
At notice.....	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

Previous weeks:—									
		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.			
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	
1921.									
Sept.	2.....	4 %	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
	9.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	16.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	23.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Oct.	30.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	7.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	14.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	21.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Nov.	28.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	5.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	11.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
	18.....	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount.....	6	July 21, 1921	6½	June 23, 1921
Deposit.....	2½	Nov. 4, 1921	3	June 25, 1921

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate			Bank Rate		
	Changed.	%		Changed.	%
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915	4½	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920	5½
Athens	May 15, 1920	6½	Paris	July 28, 1921	5½
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	5½
Brussels	May 19, 1921	5	Rome	May 11, 1920	6
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	6	Sofia	June 14, 1919	6½
Calcutta	June 2, 1921	5	Stockholm	Oct. 19, 1921	5½
Christiania	July 5, 1921	5½	Swiss Bank		
Copenhagen	Nov. 5, 1921	5½	places	Aug. 11, 1921	4
Helsingfors	Nov. 8, 1920	9	Tokio	Nov. 18, 1919	8
Lisbon	Sept. 3, 1920	7	Vienna	Apr. 15, 1921	6
New York Federal Reserve ..	Nov. 2, 1921	4½	Warsaw	Sep. 1921	7

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

	London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Nov. 19, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 11, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 18, 1921.
Paris.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	57-70-80	54-45-50	55-35-40
Berlin.....	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	253-256	1085-1095	1100-1105
Vienna.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24-04	1100 (e)	11000	10000-11000
Prague.....	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	275 (e)	360-390	365-385
Warsaw.....	P. marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	1450-1500	11500	14000-15000
Bukarest.....	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22½	245	600-615	3400-3800
Constantinople.....	liras to £1	T.T.	24-02	110	710-750	695-735
Sofia.....	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	240-270	600-700	550-560nom
Belgrade.....	dinars to £1	T.T.	125 (e)	360-370	280-290nom	
Amsterdam.....	florin to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-38-41	11-35-38	11-35-38
Brussels.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	54-45-55	56-90-95	57-10-15
Christiania.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-90-95	26-95-27-00	27-65-70
Stockholm.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	18-11-15	17-10-16	17-10-13
Copenhagen.....	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-70-74	21-20-25	21-60-65
Helsingfors.....	P. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22½	158 (e)	205-208	195-202
Greece.....	drachmetes to £1	T.T.	25-22½	38-40 (e)	95-96	96-50-97-03
Italy.....	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22½	92-92½	96½-96½	95½-96
Switzerland.....	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	22-17-22	20-85-95	21-25-30
Madrid.....	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	26-28-33	28-30-35	29-00-05
Lisbon.....	pence to escu.	T.T.	53½	71-81	97½-97½	97½-97½
Alexandria.....	pounds to £1	T.T.	4-66½	4-41-4	3-93½-94½	3-93½-9400-00
New York.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	4-29-30	4-29-30	4-29-30
Montreal.....	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	4-29-30	4-29-30	4-29-30
Buenos Ayres.....	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	47-58½	51½-2	44½-45	44½-45
Rio de Janeiro.....	pence to mils.	90 days	16	11½	7½	7½
Montevideo.....	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	51	52½-53½	41-41½	40½-41
Valparaiso.....	pesos to £1	90 days	13½	13½	13½	13½
Lima.....	Eng. to Per. £1	90 days	17½	17½	17½	17½
Calcutta.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 7½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d
Bombay.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	10 to	1s 7½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d
Madras.....	ster. to rupee	T.T.	80v.	1s 7½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d	1s 4½d-4d
Hong Kong.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	3-94d-3s10d	28s8d-2s9d	2s8d-2s9d	2s8d-2s9d
Shanghai.....	ster. to tael	T.T.	5s 0½d-1½d	3s9d-3s10½d	3s9d-3s10½d	3s9d-3s10½d
Singapore.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	2s5½d-3s3d	2s5½d-3s3d	2s5½d-3s3d	2s5½d-3s3d
Yokohama.....	ster. to yen	T.T.	24½d	2s10½d-1½d	2s4½d-1½d	2s4½d-1½d
Manila.....	ster. to dollar	T.T.	24½d	2s10½d-1½d	2s4½d-1½d	2s4½d-1½d
Mexico.....	pence to dolrs.	T.T.	133d-35d	32½-33	30-32	

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (e) Sellers.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 27, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.
Call money (90 days' mixed collateral).....	4½	5½	5	5½	5
Time money (90 days' mixed collateral).....	4½	5½	5	5½	5
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days.....	4½	5½	5	5½	5
Non-members—eligible, 90 days.....	4½	5½	5	5½	5
Intelligible, 90 days.....	5½	5½	5	5½	5
Commercial acceptances, 90 days.....	5½	5½	5	5½	5

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—		Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 18, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 3, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 10, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 17, 1921.
London—						
60 days			3-3525	3-9050	3-93625	3-9537
Cable			3-44	3-95	3-94625	4-0025
Cheques			3-4125	3-9450	3-9125	3-9387
Paris—cheques	Dollars for £1	4-8666	3-3525	3-9050	3-93625	3-9537
Brussels ..	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	16-75	3-95	3-94625	4-0025
Switzerland ..	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	15-83	3-95	3-94625	3-9387
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19-30	* 6-40	18-62	6-96	7-01
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23-53	1-36	0-408	0-490	4-1750
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20-26	..	0-4775	0-36	0-3875
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19-30	..	0-37	0-375	0-3875
Amsterdam ..	Cents for 1 guilder	40-195	13-00	13-50	14-12	13-78
Copenhagen ..	Cents for 1 kroner	13-50	30-49	34-65	34-67	35-20
Christiana ..	Cents for 1 kroner	13-50	18-55	18-59	18-55	18-55
Stockholm ..	Cents for 1 krona	13-50	18-55	18-59	18-55	18-55
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	19-30	9-15	4-30	4-27	4-23
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	100	89-25	91-12	91-62	91-37
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49-85	42-5	47-95	47-95	48-00
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	65-75	55-40	54-00	54-75
Shanghai	Cents for 1 Shing. tael	..	88-50	79-23	76-20	76-50
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	103-65	28-00	27-25	26-75	27-125
Buenos Aires ..	Gold pesos for \$100	103-65	134-25	136-80	135-50	134-50
Rio de Janeiro ..	Cents for 1 milreis	32-42	..	12-80	12-55	12-65
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	20-60	..	11-75	11-50	11-00

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Metropolitan District	45 weeks	Nov. 12	224,030	..	10,723,825
London Electric	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
City and South London	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
Central London	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
L.G.O.	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
Metropolitan Electric Trams	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
London United Trams	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
South Metropolitan Trams	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
Tramways (M.E.T.)	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661
Great Northern	45 weeks	Nov. 12	47,706	..	2,494,661

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	28 weeks	Oct. 15	993	2,010,166	39,323
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381

Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381

Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381
Bombay, Bar. & C.	28 weeks	Oct. 15	1,342	5,139,328	25,381

OTHER BRITISH OVERSEAS RAILWAYS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
Beira and Mashona	1 mth	Aug. 31	810	104,124	7,541
Mid. of W. Aust.	3 mths	Sept. 30	277	9,440	25,508
New Cape Central	42 weeks	Oct. 22	205	2,531	107,532
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth	Aug. 31	1,397	143,543	1,238
Rhodesia Railways	1 mth	July 31	..	1,529	..
Shire Highlands	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	5,100	1,000
Nyassaland	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	5,100	1,000

AMERICAN RAILROADS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
Atchafalaya	9 mths	Sept. 30	17,164,878	1,235,631
Baltimore and Ohio	9 mths	Sept. 30	17,468,612	1,101,787
Chicago and Milwaukee	9 mths	Sept. 30	14,371,444	2,084,869
New York Central	9 mths	Sept. 30	28,556,729	2,715,042
Pennsylvania	9 mths	Sept. 30	41,973,173	3,890,354
Southern Pacific	8 mths	Aug. 31	21,212,913	371,688

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.	Total Receipts.
Anglo-Argentine	45 weeks	Nov. 11	329	£34,353	7,034
Burnley Corporation	1 week	12	12	£3,214	255
Calcutta Tramways	45 weeks	12	35	£64,778	9,015
Chatham & District	4 weeks	3	15	£1,601	23
Egyptian Markets	45 weeks	11	..	£2,574	413
Glasgow Corporation	24 weeks	12	99	£44,875	1,923
Isle of Man	6 weeks	9	..	£588	104
Lancashire United	45 weeks	8	32	£1,224	134
Liverpool Corporation	45 weeks	12	124	£29,174	2,561
Liverpool Corporation	45 weeks	12	124	£29,174	2,561

§ Converted at current rate of exchange.

TRAMWAY & OTHER MONTHLY GROSS & NET RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Month.	Total Receipts.
Alabama Power	1 mth	June 30	Gross	\$259,059	88,481
Barceloneta Trac.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$1,164,128	253,708
Brazilian Trac.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$1,471,000	2,428,000
Brisbane Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$17,880	1,570
Brit. Columbia	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$84,185	38,388
Buenos Ayres La	1 mth	May 31	Gross	\$58,492	3,925
Burnham	2 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$58,974	8,739
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	Oct. 31	Gross	\$35,627	47,110
Canadian Wstrn	12 mth	Sept. 30	Gross	\$42,746	5,640
Catalinas Wareh.	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$13,862	543
Chillagoe	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	\$1,203	..
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$973,813	997,914
Cordoba Light & Co.	6 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$23,204	5,631
Cuba Railroad	7 mths	Jan. 31	Gross	\$1,606,365	448,284
Elec. Sup. of Vict.	21 weeks	Sept. 11	Gross	\$1,049,174	9,504,071
Internat'l Light & Power	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$504,755	79,172
Internat'l Light & Power	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$52,387	263
Keystone Tele.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$143,182	6,002
La Guaira Harbr.	1 mth	Oct. 31	Gross	\$5,468	3,416
La Plata Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$6,587	276
Lima Light, Pwr. & Tramway	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$13,519	25,005
Lisbon Electric	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	\$26,625	1,600
Manila Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$130,135	36,571
Para Electric	11 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$21,548	1,224
Rangoon Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$21,548	1,224
Shanghai Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$191,570	22,666
Toronto Rly. & Co.	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$1,224,483	40,168
United Electric T. of Montevideo	12 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$47,297	2,681
Utah Securities	1 mth	May 31	Gross	\$69,558	60,583
Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	Quarter	June 30	Gross	\$203,041	..
Winnipeg Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$417,174	9,473

§ 4 weeks return. § Converted at current rates of exchange. § Approximate receipts.

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month Oct., 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Ten Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.				
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	%	%	%	%	%
Alagar	260,400	359,250	350,450	127,500	+ 1,400	246,900(9)	333,200	35	174	n/l	174	n/l
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,416,470	2,103,300	40,804	+ 75,513	1,425,400	493,449	85	65	45	60	n/l
Anglo-Malay	1,386,264	1,682,991	1,430,807	56,511	+ 33,287	701,123	205,430	50	30	20	30	n/l
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	790,893	771,865	1,058,735	75,000	+ 500	252,071(5)	205,430	30	20	15	10	n/l
Ayer Kuning	609,360	991,803	75,000	114,839	+ 114,839	1,123,341(12)	438,214	5	10	10	10	n/l
Bah Lias (Oct. 31)	576,285	974,580	1,561,555	56,423	+ 27,327	298,306(7)	248,685	134	10	25	20	n/l
Bakoe Kidoel (Mar. 31)	709,515	941,776	1,026,504	18,250	+ 18,250	75,350(4)	9,080	25	10	5	5	n/l
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	230,300	42,100	+ 14,150	118,400(3)	49,997	10	6	12	12	n/l
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	446,573	474,148	614,867	38,490	+ 8,676	76,125(2)	44,848	15	10	15	15	n/l
Bantam (Java) (June 30)	955,146	745,146	713,616	38,490	+ 8,676	214,330(6)	44,848	223	10	15	25	n/l
Batang (Selangor) (April 30)	407,196	348,145	571,712	25,195	+ 7,019	241,409	98,450	210	150	110	150	n/l
Batang Consolidated	265,004	321,271	407,586	41,642	+ 24,919	440,991	215,500	50	35	35	20	n/l
Batu Caves	593,644	675,534	647,153	26,713	+ 15,079	379,000(9)	215,500	20	n/l	n/l	25	n/l
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	155,500	+ 15,500	212,229(4)	275	5	n/l	n/l	30	n/l
Bekoh (June 30)	1,007,358	1,534,416	1,554,400	56,869	+ 12,331	218,000(9)	34,380	25	123	54 p.a.	74 p.a.	n/l
Bertam Consolidated (March 31)	364,225	375,743	342,250	56,869	+ 12,331	223,713(4)	70,681	35	15	25	10	n/l
Bukit Olo	364,225	375,743	342,250	56,869	+ 12,331	223,713(4)	70,681	35	15	25	10	n/l
Bukit Kajang (June 30)	591,435	697,900	881,671	56,869	+ 12,331	291,958(6)	171,163	15	10	50	150	n/l
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	200,681	200,681	900,000	..	..	433,415(6)	173,271	100	50	n/l	10	n/l
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	655,289	1,060,000	1,635,320	91,240	+ 25,155	754,239	251,450	40	25	274	40	n/l
Bukit Sembawang	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	47,210	+ 11,140	387,958	170,017	14	64	123	20	n/l
Ceylon (Para)	554,389	665,165	652,456	75,150	+ 30,250	741,630	12,160	15	10	74	21	n/l
Chersonese	468,139	815,255	875,834	75,150	+ 30,250	741,630	12,160	15	10	74	21	n/l
Cheviot	626,732	705,765	631,300	75,530	+ 32,470	245,721(5)	21,476	242	55	75	60	n/l
Consolidated Malay	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	75,530	+ 32,470	663,910	207,190	830	70	25	374	n/l
Damansara	610,882	748,935	861,997	58,001	+ 20,182	564,793	111,954	55	40	25	25	n/l
Dennistown	491,337	563,621	438,210	38,824	+ 8,508	298,439	60,735	12	5	10	324	n/l
Djember	329,691	451,577	550,000	55,593	+ 25,050	635,771	254,112	125	123	73	12	n/l
Dusun Durian	587,995	752,228	1,053,163	31,000	+ 16,000	110,500(9)	72,500	15	..	..	12 p.a.	n/l
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	225,183	338,501	494,740	76,000	+ 25,300	736,800	29,000	6	124	5	25	n/l
F. M. S. Planters	378,000	793,000	933,000	91,730	+ 23,227	820,793	209,691	25	20	35	20	n/l
General Ceylon	389,831	1,250,722	1,941,594	31,945	+ 18,596	384,323	241,073	45	35	20	15	n/l
Golden Hope	290,571	316,849	461,824	26,153	+ 18,993	187,677	204,127	25	20	10	25	n/l
Grand Central (Ceylon)	3,982,936	5,164,927	5,217,447	412,930	+ 89,735	3,366,191	957,109	14	10	9	15	n/l
Gula-Kalumpang	1,013,200	1,618,987	91,007	58,000	+ 3,200	273,200	117,958	162	164	10	224	n/l
Harpenden	315,736	424,223	454,966	33,500	+ 3,200	273,200	117,958	162	164	10	224	n/l
Highlands and Lowlands	1,123,799	1,504,374	1,535,919	96,500	+ 40,250	147,500(5)	4,070	75	40	74	30	n/l
Inch Kenneth (May 31)	427,249	561,180	610,209	22,160	+ 8,840	729,154	124,835	15	40	45	45	n/l
Java Amalgamated	655,661	937,698	932,212	69,700	+ 8,627	729,154	124,835	15	40	45	45	n/l
Java Rubber Plantations	242,446	317,381	380,504	48,600	+ 10,323	268,900	78,719	15	n/l	10	20	n/l
Jaya (March 31)	200,219	319,403	294,240	21,694	+ 8,972	121,611	65,342	224	10	10	15	n/l
Jong-Landor (June 30)	613,197	564,325	663,950	60,800	+ 464	229,500(4)	3,237	25	15	20	15	n/l
Jugra Land and Carey (Nov. 30)	778,418	705,772	902,605	53,110	+ 39,900	183,890(4)	169,770	20	6	124	124	n/l
Kamuning (Perak) (June 30)	792,765	1,036,556	1,020,758	69,315	+ 33,771	698,812	185,112	70	70	50	40	n/l
Kapur Para	425,300	503,219	610,200	44,900	+ 7,990	235,700(7)	135,000	25	25	20	20	n/l
Kape (Java) (March 31)	557,815	549,217	536,311	41,527	+ 30,973	372,229	237,230	85	60	40	65	n/l
Keptigalia (March 31)	275,085	412,320	750,704	56,150	+ 31,625	300,400(7)	284,497	15	10	10	20	n/l
Kepong (Malay)	536,266	630,232	691,750	56,150	+ 31,625	300,400(7)	284,497	15	10	10	20	n/l
Kinta Kelias (March 31)	1,627,748	1,579,662	1,709,537	75,000	+ 70,530	363,000(4)	179,520	45	15	20	15	n/l
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	506,075	640,857	656,468	68,400	+ 39,400	489,448	19,051	150	134	624	624	n/l
Kuala Selangor	700,270	1,115,792	1,120,230	86,268	+ 35,405	773,210	160,930	40	30	6	20	n/l
Labu (F.M.S.)	1,121,362	1,245,745	1,451,209	86,268	+ 35,405	773,210	160,930	40	30	6	20	n/l
Lanadron	698,281	700,222	812,728	38,106	+ 1,767	56,900(5)	280,130	15	124	15	74	n/l
Langkat Sumatra	403,000	467,500	520,000	40,200	+ 6,600	398,000	82,000	324	15	124	20	n/l
Ledbury	1,728,062	2,804,500	2,804,212	196,010	+ 28,738	1,741,665	655,036	340	20	15	35	n/l
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,177,919	1,615,595	1,607,666	105,470	+ 48,253	1,187,170	250,106	45	40	25	35	n/l
Port Dickson Asiatic	1,907,500	1,108,000	1,433,500	96,800	+ 14,600	96,800(1)	14,600	20	124	174	124	n/l
Lumut (Sept. 30)	3,250,604	4,210,746	4,084,666	270,220	+ 133,600	2,934,450	451,772	45	20	10	124	n/l
Malacca, Ordinary	1,519,844	1,732,709	1,853,366	111,800	+ 115,361	1,021,951	913,457	n/l	n/l	n/l	5	n/l
Malayalam	543,014	1,002,567	1,416,558	95,335	+ 85,012	903,457	913,457	n/l	n/l	n/l	5	n/l
Meridaris	1,509,000	1,509,000	1,509,000	1,509,000	+ 1,509,000	919,077	490,822	183	164	148	19	n/l
Mendama	1,509,000	1,509,000	1,509,000	1,509,000	+ 1,509,000	919,077	490,822	183	164	148	19	n/l
Morlanau	523,435	606,753	743,464	44,994	+ 12,727	398,316	239,479	13	11	5	10	n/l
New Crocodile	367,621	548,392	655,558	50,989	+ 8,983	311,979(7)	34,325	30	15	15	25	n/l
Padang (Johore)	213,429	339,188	502,272	24,333	+ 6,627	149,260(7)	42,882	163	62	10	20	n/l
Padang Jawa (March 31)	495,293	676,583	751,379	70,869	+ 4,786	572,463	40,824	200	250	150	250	n/l
Panawatte	507,815	725,278	761,534	43,440	+ 23,939	44,821(8)	35,096	37	224	35	10	n/l
Pataling	606,265	789,338	1,067,238	44,651	+ 35,811	44,821(8)	35,096	37	224	35	10	n/l
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	576,726	597,480	597,480	7,079	+ 7,079	301,293(7)	78,769	37	224	35	10	n/l
Perak Rubber (March 31)	538,644	851,318	787,500	61,750	+ 21,340	337,550	100,639	124	n/l	6	102	n/l
Port Dickson Lukut (March 31)	390,543	511,142	512,365	70,090	+ 5,400	357,975	35,338	74	62	n/l	10	n/l
Rani (Travancore)	748,083	883,806	773,597	104,064	+ 21,104	522,450	97,436	16	12	6	25	n/l
Rubber Estates of Johore	688,832	677,548	722,240	41,793	+ 18,063	419,366	173,710	20	20	124	5	n/l
Rubber Estates of Krian	334,350	415,003	352,770	31,600	+ 6,500	233,650	63,510	174	8	6	n/l	n/l
Sampang Jawa	195,341	228,930	394,132	10,359	+ 22,387	469,191	144,538	10	6	n/l	10	n/l
Sagumalande	404,459	704,203	704,203	704,203	+ 704,203	27,650	409,646	60	40	30	65	n/l
Scottish Malay	434,480	701,873	691,702	31,444	+ 27,162	409,646	284,851	65	55	35	75	n/l
Seafair	800,024	1,147,553	1,116,012	78,203	+ 21,826	688,684	284,851	65	55	35	75	n/l
Seapot (June 30)	401,149	397,500	506,000	43,500	+ 4,592	159,500(4)	12,300	124	137	10	50	n/l
Selangor	609,408	888,830	868,764	53,842	+ 23,806	526,959	217,605	216	18	12	20	n/l
Sembilan (July 31)	471,080	463,173	630,352	33,000	+ 7,124	391,879(9)	81,490	15	7	5	124	n/l
Serdang Central	266,228	432,004	404,711	33,000	+ 7,124	277,980	104,849	15	7	5	124	n/l
Sherford	820,215	1,015,723	1,055,162	28,212	+ 72,918	1,048,601	153,717	17	17	224	42	n/l
Shelford	200,211	274,247	246,026	41,465	+ 5,712	202,956(9)	24,956	174	15	5	15	n/l
Sink (Sungai)	1,095,166	1,735,737	2,151,912	115,708	+ 87,556	1,114,519(9)	560,984	18	16	124	25	n/l
Singapore (Jan. 31)	561,915	486,964	567,675	49,000	+ 21,842	26,551(1)	554	15	n/l	n/l	n/l	n/l
Singapore Para (June 30)	483,837	461,693	525,113	49,000	+ 21,842	1,851,656	423,084	25	55	30	40	n/l
Singapore United (June 30)	2,221,930	2,805,078	2,799,046	206,000	+ 53,081	2,000,000(3)	196,000	15	5	174	174	n/l
Straits Rubber	764,240	594,240	672,320	49,000	+ 27,000	270,000(4)	165,000	414	208	208	165	n/l
Sumatra Consolidated (April 30)	804,528	821,326	1,131,000	67,000	+ 22,057	465,636	193,088	35	30	30	85	n/l
Sumatra Para (June 30)	424,022	646,3										

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER, 1921

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Mill.	Cyande Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Ozs.	Ozs.	£	£
Abbotiokron	7,700	..	119 (platinum)	47 (gold)	(a) 11,699	..
British Platinum and Gold	..	..	898	502	1,400	(d) 7,003
Gaika	4,181	..	..	..	6,061	(a) 8,628
Globe and Phoenix	6,241	..	..	..	505	(b) 11,401
Jumbo	1,650	500	449	56	844	(c) 3,720
Lonely Reef	5,100	..	..	..	..	(a) 7,521
Obbuss	662	..	..	..	..	(d) 12,654
Oriental Cons. (September)	19,398	..	..	..	..	(a) 8,603
Oroya Links	1,415	..	..	..	..	(a) 11,953
Planet Arcturos	6,010	1,312	1,218	1,312	2,530	(e) 42,129
Plymouth Cons.	8,500	..	..	..	..	..
Prestea Block A	7,220	5,963	..	..	..	..
Resende	5,800	519	..	..	..	..
Rhodesia	..	..	..	..	..	..
Huntman	310	..	..	..	316	1,627
Santa Gertrudis	11,285	..	..	..	..	6,326
Do El Bordo	18,642	..	..	..	..	6,835
Shamva	56,600	..	..	..	..	14,102

(a) Par value. (b) Gold at 103s per fine oz net. (c) Including premium.
(d) Gold at 100s per oz. (e) Gold at 102s 6d per fine oz.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.	
		Tons.	
Copper.	Tons.		
Falcon	275	Blister copper containing 2,925 ozs gold and 5,851 ozs silver.	
Tin.			
Berenguela	29	Concentrates average 64 per cent. fine tin.	
Briseis	20	Black tin.	
Gurum River	11	..	
Heawood	..	Est. profit from tin, £24.	
Kaduna Prospectors	133	..	
Kaduna Syndicate	19	..	
Lower Bichi	38	..	
Naraguta (Nigeria)	50	Despatched 178 tons.	
Rayfield	20	Shipped 20 tons.	
Renong	84	..	
South Bukuru	11	Shipped 11 tons.	
Sungei Way	..	Est. tribute from tin, £79.	
Tin Fields of N. Nigeria	15	Despatched 8 tons.	
Tronoh	15	Value, £1,400; cost, £2,040; tribute profit, £640.	
Yarde Kari Group.	7	..	
Coal.			
Chinese Engineering	91,424	Week ended Nov. 5th.	
East Kent	2,080	Week ended November 12th.	
Miscellaneous.			
Mining Corp. (of Canada)	8,874	Produced 148,892 ozs silver.	
Zinc Corporation	9,090	Zinc concentrates, and 791 tons leady concentrates.	

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	September, 1921.			October, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
Aurora W. United (10s shares)	10,800	15,145	1,276	10,130	13,872	803
Brakpan	57,500	119,416	46,060	58,000	113,603	38,777
City Deep	89,000	193,311	69,526	90,600	188,740	66,722
Consolidated Langlaate	44,000	97,037	21,371	45,100	108,099	17,136
Consolidated Main Reef	50,000	96,125	19,399	50,000	98,129	14,541
Crown Mines (10s shares)	193,000	451,988	83,443	198,000	504,391	63,253
Durban Roodpoort Deep	24,450	51,349	7,797	27,000	54,788	429
East Rand Proprietary	124,000	262,560	19,607	127,000	269,153	3,290
Ferreira Deep	32,200	65,857	16,068	32,500	65,126	9,395
Geduld Proprietary	45,000	88,738	38,225	46,500	108,136	36,004
Goldenhuis Deep	49,526	106,717	3,564	47,321	103,830	2,713
Glyn's Lydenburg	3,675	7,162	1,314	4,003	8,069	2,435
Goch, New	17,000	20,280	1,467	17,200	31,544	886
Government Areas	140,000	318,760	170,053	141,000	309,087	160,122
Kleinfontein, New	49,700	72,302	9,990	51,000	70,223	5,500
Knight Central	27,600	55,118	3,966	28,000	53,177	2,675
Langlaate Estate	41,600	89,912	15,641	43,600	109,020	15,513
Luipaards Vlei	22,200	47,020	3,523	21,100	23,800	1,830
Meyer and Charlton	13,200	42,180	25,008	14,500	43,133	25,281
Modderfontein B.	59,000	116,745	92,289	59,000	115,990	78,541
Modderfontein Deep Levels	43,000	112,995	80,843	43,300	112,008	78,077
Modderfontein East	25,000	53,034	11,087	27,000	49,471	70,016
Modderfontein, New (24 shs.)	101,000	254,942	142,939	107,000	250,703	138,330
New Union	10,900	13,958	2,937	11,700	13,488	2,248
Nourse Mines	11,200	28,172	11,888	14,500	27,511	5,727
Primrose, New	20,700	42,575	4,951	21,000	23,326	3,569
Randfontein Central	130,000	202,792	32,730	118,500	180,810	15,293
Robinson (25 shares)	40,000	91,780	2,593	40,200	90,552	704
Robinson Deep	63,600	110,752	24,341	61,300	97,273	20,088
Roodpoort United	22,600	23,188	1,720	20,500	37,273	1,718
Rose Deep	54,000	97,413	15,445	57,700	90,985	9,789
Simmer and Jack	55,200	72,458	11,657	60,000	70,780	9,000
Spring Mines	36,250	87,086	30,721	41,400	99,032	30,550
Sib-Nigel	10,200	20,278	7,609	10,200	29,424	7,288
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates	15,445	27,938	6,603	16,040	27,659	4,303
Van Ryn	31,630	50,267	8,017	33,300	47,990	6,631
Village Reef	46,400	114,960	78,075	53,400	151,944	83,054
West Rand Consolidated	48,100	92,941	14,012	53,200	98,260	8,567
Witwatersrand Deep	32,000	48,092	5,314	34,100	96,974	4,729
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	33,630	62,715	10,347	33,170	49,779	7,283
Witwatersrand	40,000	56,758	14,247	40,500	62,266	10,062
Wolfsburg	32,200	94,071	5,956	33,200	94,031	4,512

* Loss. p Gold valuation, £5 9s net per fine oz. q £5 8s 6d net per fine oz.
r £5 8s 3d net per fine oz. s £5 10s net per fine oz. t £5 3s net per fine oz.
u £5 1s 6d net per fine oz. v £5 1s 9d net per fine oz.

Reports and Notices.

The address of the Lagunas Syndicate, Limited, now is Palmerston House, 34 Old Broad street, London, E.C. 2.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

REPUBLIC OF NICARAGUA GOLD BONDS, 1909.—With reference to the above bonds, the Council of Foreign Bondholders have received a telegram from the bankers in New York notifying the payment of the November instalment of the Debt Service in accordance with the arrangement of May 25, 1912.

CITY OF PERAMBUCO (RECIPE) 5 PER CENT. GUARANTEED LOAN.—Messrs Dunn, Fisher, and Co. announce that they have received a cable from the city authorities regarding the coupon due November 1, 1921, of which the following is a translation:—"Coupons certainly will be paid; remittance cable difficult. Will remit by 'Araguaya' November 21st. Bankers will advise you." Notification will be given as soon as the remittance comes to hand.

BANKS.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK.—An impressive ceremony was performed on Armistice Day at the head office of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, when the Right Hon. R. McKenna, chairman of the board, unveiled the war memorial erected by the directors in honour of 717 officers of the bank who lost their lives in the Great War. No fewer than 5,100 of the clerical and messenger staffs, representing 56 per cent. of the total staff, joined H. M. Forces, and of these 14 per cent.—a very high proportion—laid down their lives.

ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND AUSTRALIAN BANK.—The report and accounts for year ended June 30, 1921, show a net profit of £267,975, to which is added £94,209 brought forward from previous year, making £362,184 available. Ordinary dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbed £128,807. The sum of £28,837 is added to reserve fund, which will then stand at £1,300,000. The sum of £5,000 is allocated to the E., S., and A. bank officers' guarantee and provident fund, and £42,936 is utilised for the purchase and cancellation of deferred inscribed deposit stock, while £102,604 is carried forward. During the year the businesses of the London Bank of Australia and the Commercial Bank of Tasmania have been acquired.

JUGO GINKO (TOKYO).—Balance-sheet, June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Yen.		Yen.	
Capital	100,000,000	Capital unpaid	50,250,000
Reserve funds	19,978,266	Loans on securities, bills discounted, call loans, &c.	334,862,249
Deposits	357,885,844	Due from other banks and agents	3,749,573
Due to other banks and agents	7,080,651	Credit account (per contra)	11,035,678
Acceptances	11,035,679	Government bonds	49,810,734
Bills re-discounted, &c.	1,370,697	Other securities	21,818,516
Dividends unpaid	8,640	Bank premises	8,488,950
Rebate on bills discounted and interest unpaid	5,032,894	Account with Bank of Japan and other banks	2,426,056
Accounts on route	1,863,096	Cash	28,458,105
Profit	6,644,094		
	510,839,861		510,899,881

KAJIMA BANK.—Balance-sheet, June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Yen.		Yen.	
Various deposits	140,525,813	Various loans and advances	105,393,508
Foreign bills sold	1,979,556	Foreign bills bought and interest bills	4,962,097
Due to other banks	3,615,643	Due from other banks	2,945,955
Guarantees	7,474,574	Guarantees, as per contra	7,474,573
Capital paid up	15,000,000	Various bonds and stocks	38,527,271
Reserve fund	2,650,000	Estates and furniture	3,358,174
Reserve for taxes	100,000	Cash deposited and on hand	12,027,168
and rebate on bills not due	1,335,342		
Dividends unpaid	6,920		
Net profit for the half-year	1,562,938		
	174,688,756		174,688,756

RAILWAYS.

BRAZILIAN RAILWAY RATES.—A cable has been received by the San Paulo Railway from their superintendent in Brazil, stating that he has been informed that an increase of rates will be granted, to be put into force from January 1, 1922.

PARAGUAY CENTRAL.—The results of working for the year ended June 30, 1921, with difference as compared with the preceding year were as follows:—

	Year Ended June 30, 1920.	1921.	Difference.
Gross receipts	257,993	232,874	25,119
Working expenses	152,014	133,766	18,248
Net receipts	105,979	99,108	6,871

The balance of net revenue for the year available for meeting the service of the company's debenture stocks is sufficient, after providing for all prior charges, to pay interest at the rate of 4 per cent. on the "D" income debenture stock and to leave a surplus of £448, which has been transferred to the credit of "D" income debenture stockholders to be added to subsequent revenue available for distribution to them. The report states that, "The average gold rate of exchange during the year was 3.019 per cent., as compared with 2.284 per cent. for the preceding year. On June 30, 1921, the rate was 3.386 per cent., and since then has varied considerably, and at present stands at 3.839 per cent."

MEXICAN RAILWAY.—The company announce that, in view of the fact that its scheme of arrangement with its debenture-holders

and the holders of its deferred interest certificates will shortly come to an end, a fresh scheme is being prepared. The proposed scheme, which will be subject to the sanction of the holders of the securities in question and to the approval of the court, will provide, *inter alia*, for the payment of the current interest on the first and second debentures, and for the immediate repayment in cash of 20 per cent. of the deferred interest certificates issued in respect of the interest on the 6 per cent. perpetual debenture stock.

RUBBER.

BANTAM (JAVA).—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, states that the output of rubber for the year amounted to 713,192 lbs, against an original estimate of 992,080 lbs. As from November 1, 1920, the crop was restricted, in accordance with the Rubber Growers' Association Restriction of Output Scheme. The cost of production on the estate was 10.25d per lb, and the "all-in" cost, including depreciation, was 11.06d per lb. The average gross selling price (not including the stock unsold, valued at market price on June 30, 1921) was 11.07d per lb. Owing to the depression in the industry, the directors have taken steps to curtail all expenditure other than that absolutely required for the welfare of the estates. The visiting agent has reported to the board that he is satisfied that the plantations will not in any way suffer in consequence of these economies. The net profit amounted to £2,138, which with £11,758 brought forward makes £13,896 available. A dividend of 5 per cent. is paid, absorbing £5,250, leaving £8,646 to carry forward. Negotiations are still proceeding regarding the most complicated position arising from the company's liability for income-tax in Java, for British income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation profits tax. Estimating the situation as on June 30, 1921, the directors are of opinion that on balance there should be a credit to profit and loss account increasing the amount of divisible profits for the year, but the credit balance brought forward from previous years will be reduced.

BUKIT TAMBUN.—The net profit for the year ended June 30, 1921, amounts to £2,494, and, including the sum of £2,680 brought forward from last year, the balance to the credit of profit and loss is £5,174. The directors recommend that in view of the present condition of produce markets this sum should be carried forward. The report states that the number of nuts harvested during the year was 2,059,374, against 1,660,633 nuts obtained in the previous year; 400 tons of copra were manufactured, at a cost, f.o.b., of £19 3s per ton, against a corresponding cost of £17 13s per ton last year. The increase in cost was due to the rise in wages of coolies during the first half of the year, the heavier loss on rice, the expenses of passage on leave of the manager, and a few other incidental expenses. The average net price realised, after deducting all sale charges, was £27 15s per ton, against £27 7s per ton last year. The market quotations of the previous year were not maintained, owing to larger stocks of copra becoming available and to a somewhat smaller demand.

GAJANG BESAR.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the rubber harvested amounted to 511,178 lbs. Costs and selling price are as follows:—F.o.b. cost of production, 15.48d; "all-in" cost of production, 17.81d; average gross price realised, 18.07d. Compared with the previous year, the "all-in" cost has been reduced by 2.41d per lb. By the postponement of various improvement works and by the adoption of other measures of economy, the directors anticipate that a still greater reduction in costs will be effected during the current year. The output for the year 1921-1922 is estimated at 525,000 lbs. The balance of the combined companies brought forward from the year 1919-1920 amounted to £2,681; from which has to be deducted the net loss for the year, £2,401; leaving to be carried forward £279.

GLENN RUBBER AND TEA.—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, states that the output of rubber from Glencorse Estate was 106,820 lbs, against 103,130 lbs for 1919-20. The average gross price obtained was 10.83d per lb, against 23.173d per lb in previous year. The "all in" cost for 1920-21, including depreciation on buildings and machinery for that year, assuming that the remittances to the estate has been converted at an exchange of 15.4d to the rupee, amounted to 11.26d per lb, as against 12.77d per lb for 1919-20. Loss on exchange for the year amounted to £856 12s 7d, which is equivalent to 1.93d per lb, as against 6.29d per lb for the previous year. The loss for the year was £2,420, from which is deducted £1,715 brought forward from previous year, leaving a debit balance of £675 to carry to new account.

RINI (JAVA).—The report for year ended January 31, 1921, shows a loss of £2,267, which must be deducted from the amount brought forward from 1920, viz., £5,456, leaving £3,189 to be carried forward. Included in the receipts for the year is the sum of £62 12s 5d received from Rini Development Syndicate, Limited, being one-half share of the profits derived by the syndicate from their sales of coffee. The total amount charged to development account is £3,431 8s 2d, the whole of the London expenses being charged to revenue account. The crop for the year amounted to 120,115 lbs, against an estimate of 120,000 lbs. Restriction has taken place since November, 1920, in accordance with the recommendations of the Rubber Growers' Association. The average gross price realised was 11.53d per lb. The crop harvested for the current year to the end of September is 62,772 lbs. The coffee crop for the year was 67.10 piculs, against an estimate of 300 piculs. The output has been sold at an average gross price of 25.42d per picul. In addition, there was obtained from the syndicate area a harvest of 122.90 piculs, this company being credited with half the profits thereon. The manager estimates the output for the current year at 350 piculs from the company's portion of the estate and 650 piculs from the syndicate area. 137.60 piculs of coca were harvested, which have been disposed of at an average of 30.75 fl per picul. The estimate for coca for the current year is 250 piculs.

SINGAPORE UNITED.—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the restricted output of dry rubber was 644,958 lbs, as compared with 525,133 lbs in the previous year. Of this output

180,969 lbs has been sold in London at an average gross price of 7.06d per lb, and 463,989 lbs in Singapore at an average gross price of 9.72d per lb. The net price realised of 8.65d per lb compares with 11.39d per lb last year. The output for the first four months of the current year was 182,800 lbs. The total revenue for the year was £23,673, and the revenue expenditure £37,229, showing a loss of £13,556. The amount brought forward was £35,673, from which must be deducted corporation profits tax for 1920, income-tax in respect of 1920-21, and the above-mentioned loss, leaving £18,890 to be carried forward.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend and Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.		Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.	Dividend.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.				
					Amount.	Amount.	Rate.			
Banks.										
English, Scottish, and Australian ..	June 30	94,209	267,975	362,184	..	128,807	10½	130,773	102,604	170,179
Breweries.										
Archibald Campbell, Hope, and King	Sept. 30	14,286	23,847	38,133	(a) 11,550	3,000	5	14,000	9,583	23,713
Ashby's Staines	Sept. 30	24,225	18,624	42,849	5,250	14,000	10	1,000	22,599	18,719
Brickwood and Co.	Sept. 30	21,133	57,129	78,262	7,258	31,947	14	20,000	19,057	59,698
Noakes and Co.	Sept. 30	16,238	29,462	45,700	12,500	16,500	75	..	16,700	26,482
W. Butler and Co.	Sept. 30	33,945	78,095	112,040	18,000	30,000	10½	25,000	39,040	78,052
Financial, Land, &c.										
Cordova Land	Sept. 30	49,379	40,458	89,837	..	54,404	5½	..	35,433	105,547
London and Colonial Investment ..	Sept. 30	2,480	13,470	15,950	4,256	6,385	7½	3,000	2,309	13,831
Scottish Trust and Loan of Ceylon	Aug. 31	2,524	13,948	16,472	..	6,300	10	7,454	2,718	1,496
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
Agricultural and General Engineers	Mar. 31	21,470	68,731	90,201	57,502	..	..	..	32,699	77,095
Broomhill Collieries	June 30	43,426	73,324	116,750	7,350	8,750	5½	52,500	48,150	92,899
Head, Wrightson, and Co.	Apr. 30	19,642	55,284	74,926	9,302	15,750	7½	30,846	19,028	71,167
Horden Collieries	Sept. 30	32,370	132,292	164,662	..	120,000	8½	..	44,662	331,559
Nitrate.										
Lagunas Syndicate	June 30	4,091	10,963	15,054	..	..	..	15,054	..	16,584
Liverpool	June 30	34,075	113,843	147,918	..	51,148	100	..	96,770	126,997
Rubber, &c.										
Bantam (Java)	June 30	11,758	2,138	13,896	..	5,250	5	..	8,646	22,122
Bukit Tambun	June 30	2,680	2,494	5,174	..	..	..	..	5,174	8,275
Galang Besar	June 30	2,681	Dr 2,401	280	..	..	..	..	280	3,967
Glen Rubber and Tea	June 30	1,745	Dr 2,480	Dr 673	..	..	..	..	Dr 673	1,758
Rini (Java)	June 30	5,457	Dr 2,267	3,190	..	..	..	..	3,190	4,426
Singapore United	June 30	32,446	Dr 13,556	18,890	..	..	..	..	18,890	11,159
Shipping.										
Argentine Navigation	Dec. 31	14,051	Dr 411,169	Dr 397,118	(t) 12,000	..	..	Dr 150,000	Dr 239,118	47,682
Textiles.										
Joshua Hoyle and Sons	Sept. 30	88,476	108,837	197,313	48,827	100,000	12½	..	48,486	289,507
Tramways.										
North Melbourne	Sept. 30	..	4,882	4,882	..	..	..	4,882	..	2,878
Other Companies.										
George M. Callender and Co.	June 30	1,023	3,332	4,355	1,929	750	15	1,000	676	4,196
Irish Times	Sept. 30	11,550	15,219	26,769	15,365	..	..	1,000	10,404	31,891
Lloyd's Packing Warehouses	Sept. 30	37,294	68,338	105,632	3,805	54,500	10	10,000	37,327	147,932
Palace and Derby Castle	Oct. 31	2,598	24,753	27,351	3,000	11,000	10	10,000	5,351	30,897

† Free of tax.

(a) Including arrears.

(t) This is for half year to June 30, 1920.

cargo of Dan-Bess-Kustendji, on sample, arrived, sold 295 3d to Continent per 400 lbs. Offals steady. Broad bran £9 10s to £9 15s, ordinary ditto £8 10s to £8 15s, middlings £9 10s to £10 15s per ton ex mill, bags included. Oats steady with a fair trade passing. English ranges from 27s to 34s per 336 lbs, free on rail, according to quality. Of imported, Plate f.a.q. 26s 9d, ditto clipped 27s 6d, Chilean tawny 25s to 30s, No. 2 Canada Western 31s, and No. 3 ditto 30s, New Zealand 34s to 35s, all landed per 320 lbs. Oatmeal steady. English all cuts £20, Scottish, also American, £18 10s, English rolled oats £22, and flaked £23 to £24 per ton. Beans: English steady at 44s to 48s, and old 54s

to 60s per 532 lbs. Peas in slow request; English maples 60s to 68s, Duns 50s to 55s per 504 lbs. Japanese marrowfats 39s to 41s, landed, Dutch blue 22s, Tasmanian blue 22s to 25s per cwt, ex wharf. Lentils quiet. No. 1 split 32s to 34s, Egyptian 28s to 29s per 100 lbs. Homeward grain chartering was on a moderate scale and rates easy. From the River Plate 20s paid November and December loading heavy grain, also clipped oats, with 21s 3d unclipped oats, while heavy grain, December early January, done at 21s 3d. New seasons loading, January-February and February-March, fixed at 26s 3d, but values now easier at 23s 9d, January-February, and 23s February-March. United Kingdom-Continent North America quiet, and business chiefly to Italy. Northern Range, December, done at 19½ cents one port, 20½ cents two, and 21½ cents three ports discharge, and 24 cents Greece per 100 lbs. Bombay on dead weight paid 20s, and Dalny beans 35s, with 30s South Australia-Victoria, February, 50s United Kingdom-Continent, option Calcutta 35s, and Bombay-Karachi 36s 3d. Danube grain paid 20s 6d, prompt loading.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to November 12	Cwts. 243,505	Cwts. 333,090	Cwts. 325,369	Cwts. 308,931
10 weeks to November 12	3,735,000	4,579,946	2,583,393	3,281,527
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter	s d 44 2	s d 90 3	s d 72 7	s d 72 5
= per cwt	10 3½	21 0	16 11	16 10½

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.						
Nov. 5	qrs bsh 73,539 0	qrs bsh 147,042 0	qrs bsh 15,743 6	s d 44 0	s d 49 2	s d 25 2
12	56,917 6	142,952 6	20,715 6	44 2	49 0	25 11
1917	56,818 0	125,438 4	15,038 6	70 3	60 2	43 0
1918	72,081 0	82,231 3	10,282 4	72 5	60 3	49 10
1919	75,919 4	159,221 4	19,596 6	72 7	100 7	55 7
1920	77,721 1	189,924 1	20,632 2	90 3	91 8	52 3

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated November 17th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is no immediate prospect of any more blast furnaces going in. Foreign pig-iron still gets what little trade there is, with the exception of some local demand. The fact is, costs, principally coke and transport, are not nearly low enough yet, and no one has the slightest confidence in contracting ahead for pig-iron under present conditions. Prices are as follows:—No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B., 110s per ton; East Coast mixed numbers hematite, 115s to 120s per ton. Manufactured iron and steel: No change in the steel position. There are signs of a freer market and further cutting of prices. Present quotations are:—Steel ship plates, £10 10s; steel ship angles, £10; iron bars, £14; steel rails, £10 10s net. Iron ore: The market is in a moribund state. Prices nominal. Best Bilbao Rubio ore 27s per ton, c.i.f. sellers.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The steel trade still sags, and a steady shrinkage has been in operation for three weeks. Nevertheless, a spirit of optimism is developing, as many business people can see evidence of a partial revival in the near future, although there are no expectations of improvement during the remainder of the year. Trade with Japan, long suspended, is reviving again. The drastic cuts in iron and steel prices enable successful competition with European countries. Moreover, Germany is unable to execute her orders, and deliveries get more and more into arrears. It is reported that Germany has been compelled to buy various raw materials outside the country at enormous prices, owing to her depreciated currency. She may be able to hold her own in aluminium ware, because the ore is produced at home, but as regards manufactures of other metals it is thought that she will soon be off the market. Business in pig-iron and steel billets is on an extremely meagre scale. The motor trade is looking up, and makers are inquiring for steel material such as is produced in Sheffield. Depression is acute in the railway steel branches, as the home companies are buying next to nothing, and overseas work is going to the Continent. This department, however, is certain to improve before long. There is a slump in light rails for collieries and contractors, and prices have dropped to a low level. Orders from the shipbuilders are few in number. Trade is quiet in finished steel products, and makers are cutting prices severely to secure the limited amount of business offering. Cutlery firms have made drastic cuts in selling prices, although costs have not fallen to any considerable extent. Lower wages in this trade in the New Year are said to be inevitable. The cancellation of the contracts for the four battleships would be a serious matter for Sheffield. It was anticipated that this projected work would absorb most of the unemployed men in the New Year, while the contracting firms have spent large sums on plant and fixed up important contracts abroad for supplies of raw materials. The building of a battleship brings work to many firms in Sheffield, in addition to the actual contractors. In spite of the severe weather, the demand for house coal is not expanded as it was expected to do, and many people are still buying from hand to mouth. Best qualities are selling readiest. Inland consumption of steam coal continues on a comparatively small scale, and export business fails to expand so far as South Yorkshire coal is concerned. The inland consumption of blast furnace coke is limited, owing to the many idle plants. [Our correspondent wrote before the announcement of the suspension of warship contracts.]

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—For several years back the steelmakers of England and Scotland have worked under an agreement in which it was provided that each party should keep to its own district, north and south of the Tweed, in doing business—that in effect there should be no competition as between themselves, and that there should be one level of quotations for material, at least that falling into use in shipbuilding and structural engineering. The scheme worked well for producers. But of late, owing mainly to Continental competition and to the trade depression that the country has been passing through, the English makers have become somewhat restive, and have been holding that the competition referred to has not been adequately faced. Various conferences have been held to discuss the situation, and though from time to time prices have been cut into, the reductions have not been remedial, have not, in short, relieved the strain on the position. The old policy of dealing did not meet the changed circumstances; in fact, it fostered inside competition in England, where there have always been a number of steelmakers outside the combine. These firms have for months been underselling those in the national organisation, and have thus managed to pick up a major part of such orders as were going about. Scotch houses were not directly affected to any great extent, and therefore were not prepared to back up their English confrères in meeting the home opposition, which meant a severe break in values. Accordingly what may be called a crucial meeting of makers was held last Saturday, but, as anticipated, it came to nothing. As a result of the failure of parties to agree on a fixed general selling arrangement the hands of the trade have been freed, and throughout the United Kingdom steel producers are now at liberty to transact business wherever it happens to be offering and on such conditions as they can command. On Monday prices were marked off substantially, English terms in Scotland falling fully £2 a ton and Scotch terms by from 20s to 30s a ton. Throughout the week English ship plates have been called £10 10s and angles £10, while Scotch plates have stood at £11 10s and angles at £11. These are home market rates, the export quotations being £6 15s for plates and £9 5s for angles. It is not without interest to note that since the beginning of the year Scotch boiler plates have yielded about £16 a ton, ship plates quite £14 10s, and angles £14. So far as known no trading of consequence in material has been recorded at the new levels. English makers claim that they have effected some

sales. In that case the net price realised must be very poor, not more for home than £9 to £9 10s, for the carriage from the north-east coast to the Clyde district is given as not less than 20s a ton. Outside of these unsettling movements the industrial tone has been the turn more cheerful. At Beardmore's, Parkhead, three smelting furnaces have been relit, on the strength of certain orders having been secured, and it is reported that one or two rolling mills at Mossend are about to be put in operation. On the other hand, proceedings at the Clydebridge Steel Works have been wholly suspended. The Admiralty have placed an important order with the Motherwell Bridge Company, Limited, which with other contracts on hand will help to keep these works running full for months to come. Messrs Alexander Stephen and Sons, Govan, have received instructions to proceed with the building of a large Anchor liner, operations on which were suspended over a year ago, and it is understood that the Fairfield Company will soon be busy on a sister boat. It is felt that the new prices for steel will facilitate trade in the shipyards generally, and so lead to the employment of more men. There is rather more doing in the Scotch pig-iron export market, No. 1 being quoted £6 15s and No. 3 £6 10s. Yesterday black sheet makers lowered their quotations by 20s a ton, and now above ½ gauge is called £12 5s; ½ to 1, £12 15s; 1 to 1½, £13 10s; 1½ to 2, £14; 2 to 2½, £14 10s; 2½ to 3, £15 10s. General finishing and engineering shops are much as they were a week ago, fairly well engaged on from half to three-quarter time. [Our correspondent wrote before the announcement of the suspension of warship contracts.]

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—business has been much quieter during the past week, and the reports of an easier tendency in the Australian wool markets has had the effect of making users still more cautious. Most members of the trade are now waiting for values to be tested at the Colonial wool auctions which reopen in London next week, and many expect wool to be cheaper. Telegraphic advices received from Liverpool to-day indicate that prices at that centre are down about 5 per cent. for good wools and 10 per cent. for average and inferior sorts as compared with the closing rates at the last series in London. In sympathy with this downward movement, topmakers are quoting lower prices for tops, and a really good 64's can now be bought for about 4s spot delivery. For delivery in the first three months of next year quotations are still more attractive, and although business has been done at about 3s 8d, some spinners look forward to being able to buy at 3s 6d. The demand for yarn is less active, and although most firms are busy and have enough orders to keep machinery running to the end of the year, the outlook after that is not very encouraging. The home trade is small and patchy, and the loss of German business is being felt in the export section. Yarn prices do not show much change on the week, but the tendency is certainly in buyers' favour. There is no material change in the piece goods trade.

COLONIAL WOOL.
(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Next Tuesday another series of London sales will commence, during which 145,000 bales will be catalogued. The event is being anticipated with more than ordinary interest, largely due to the course of things during the short interval. The selection should be a good average one, and should prove to be quite large enough to meet the requirements of the trade unless something totally unexpected happens. The clamour for larger offerings of merinos has been practically coincident with distinctly lower prices for all classes of wool, and the marked weakness which has developed in Australia will probably be seen in London. The rift in the lute on this side of the equator appeared at Hull, when Continental style merinos depreciated 5 to 7½ per cent., and we shall not be very much surprised if greater weakness is seen in

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

THE CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:

6, PAUL STREET, FINSBURY, E.C.2.

Assets Exceed - £1,000,000
Premium Income Exceeds £450,000
Claims Paid Exceed - £1,600,000
Advances Made Exceed - £2,250,000

The new issues of our Ordinary Branch and House Purchase Prospectuses are now to hand, copies of which may be had on application to Head Office.

Managing Director: LEONARD ALDRIDGE

London than was shown at Liverpool. The outlook for the home trade does not appear to be as good as it was three months ago. German spinners and manufacturers are feeling acutely the demoralised state of finance in their own country, the extreme depreciation in the value of the mark leading to the cancellation of yarn orders placed with spinners in Bradford. Requests for deferred payment of accounts are also forthcoming, due to inability to buy sterling without incurring great loss. No doubt a few German firms are still favourably placed in regard to sterling, and will be in a position to continue purchasing the raw material, but generally speaking, the outlook is overshadowed. Although the majority of fine botany spinners are running full time to the end of the year, they are finding it difficult to secure new business, the sales of botany yarn during the past fortnight having become distinctly less. All this has given rise to a very cautious feeling, and some apprehension is felt regarding the future. These things are mentioned to prevent any undue optimism being entertained with regard to the sale of wool at the next London series. It is too much to expect the same buying spirit as prevailed last series. Many would be glad to see firm, steady prices; but we think the desire of Bradford topmakers for cheaper wool will to some extent be realised.

Those in close touch with the consuming end of the trade are cognisant of another important feature, which is the totally inadequate response on the part of wholesale piece merchants to the higher prices ruling recently for raw materials. The improvement recently experienced has been due almost entirely to export requirements. The utmost difficulty has been experienced in selling pieces, and the fact that the bulk of the looms in the West Riding are still standing is taken as eloquent testimony to the unsatisfactory state of the trade. The improved demand for low and medium crossbreds is largely the result of the popularity of hosiery yarns for home consumption, but in piece goods the blackness continues, and there are still big stocks to get rid of which cost nearly twice as much as they are worth to-day. However, it is possible that with a reasonable decline in wool, topmakers will become free buyers, though it is to be hoped that the decline will not be extensive, owing to the disturbance of confidence among wholesale buyers of fabrics which would follow. If there were no dear stocks of pieces to contend with the position would be quite different, and there would be much less difficulty in negotiating future business. The recent rise in wool has no doubt helped the clearance of some of the old stock, but there seems to be a general desire for a more reasonable basis of values for any new business which is put through.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—November 11, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
						Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d	d
Sea Island.....per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
Florida ditto.....	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm
American.....	7.13	7.88	9.58	10.88	11.68	13.43	8.06	11.01	17.06	20.53	22.63
Brazilian.	Mid	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr	Fr
Pernambuco, &c.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Paraiba.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Maceio.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Mosoro, &c.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Ceara.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Maranhão.....	8.58	11.08	12.58	..	..	..	10.56	16.06	..	21.03	22.53
Egyptian.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Brown.....	..	14.25	15.75	18.25	20.00	..	nm	12.00	..	33.50	40.00
Upper.....	..	14.00	15.00	17.00	18.00	..	nm	12.00	..	32.50	38.50
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	28.00	31.00	34.00	36.00	..	..	50.00	60.00	..	..
Peruvian—Tough.....	..	..	13.50	14.50	16.00	..	..	24.00	..	33.00	..
Ditto Mod. Rough.....	..	..	12.00	13.00	14.00	..	..	14.00	21.00	28.50	33.50
Ditto Smooth.....	9.33	12.58	13.83	14.33	15.33	14.06	19.06	25.56	29.53	32.53	36.53
Ditto Sea Island.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	32.50	37.00
African, East, &c.....	8.50	9.50	11.50	12.50	13.50	14.50	12.00	15.00	26.00	29.50	30.70
East Indian.	G	F	Fr	Gd.	F	G	F	Fr	Gd.	F	G
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtex ..	..	..	..	10.55	11.05	11.55	..	..	14.10	..	22.85
Broach.....	9.05	9.55	10.05	10.55	11.05	11.55	11.60	12.10	13.10	21.35	21.60
M. Ginned Bhowanagar ..	7.15	7.90	8.65	9.15	9.65	10.15	9.44	10.44	12.04	17.04	17.79
M. Ginned Omdra, No. 1.....	7.25	8.00	8.75	9.25	9.75	10.25	9.50	10.50	12.10	17.10	17.85
M. Ginned Khandeish.....	7.25	8.00	8.75	9.25	9.75	10.25	9.50	10.50	12.10	17.10	17.85
M. Ginned Comptah.....	7.45	..	7.95	..	..	..	11.85	..	..	..	..
M. Ginned Bengal.....	6.65	7.15	7.65	8.15	8.40	8.65	7.00	7.50	8.50	..	21.60
M. Ginned Seinde.....	6.55	7.05	7.55	8.05	8.30	8.55	6.82	7.32	8.32	14.75	15.50
Timnivelly.....	10.55	11.05	11.55	..	..	..	13.10	12.10	..	22.10	22.35
Madras, Western.....	7.20	7.70	8.20	8.70	..	..	11.60	12.10	..	21.35	21.60
Cocoonada, Red.....	Fr	7.85	..	..	..	..	9.50	..	..	20.85	..
M. Ginned Cocoonada, Red ..	Fr	7.95	..	..	..	..	9.75	..	..	21.10	..

MANCHESTER, November 17.

Traders in the market have experienced a very unsatisfactory week. Business has been discouraged by the easier movement in prices, and buyers have been more disposed than ever to adopt a waiting policy. There is nervousness as to financial trouble both in this country and in certain outlets abroad. Buying in cloth for India has been practically at a standstill, and local merchants have received very few cables making offers. A falling off has to be recorded in the demand for China. Some fair lines have been booked for Java and Singapore. The Near Eastern outlets remain quieter. Operations in home trade fabrics have been very irregular. More looms are being brought to a standstill in all weaving districts. The possibility of organised short time in the spinning section has not had any effect upon

yarn demand, and in both American and Egyptian qualities very little business has been done, and prices continue to favour buyers.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price Nov. 17, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Nov. 10.	Price, Nov. 3.	Price, Oct. 27.	Price, Oct. 20.	Price, Oct. 13.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	10.88	11.23	12.77	12.55	12.73	13.64
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	20.75	21.00	23.75	23.00	24.50	27.50
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	19	19 1/2	21	21 1/2	21 1/2	22 1/2
— 40's twist.....per lb	18 1/2	19	20 1/2	21	21 1/2	22 1/2
— 60's twist.....per lb	34	35	38	40	42	45
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	33	33	35	37
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32	32	33	33	35	37
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	19	19	20	21	21	22
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	18	18	19	20	20	21

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Nov. 17, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American ..per lb	10.88	14.70	24.56	22.07	22.68	12.13
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	20.75	34.00	40.50	27.56	31.95	21.85
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	19	35	49 1/2	49 1/2	34	17 1/2
— 40's twist.....per lb	18 1/2	35	47	50	33 1/2	17 1/2
— 60's twist.....per lb	34	49	78	68	44 1/2	36
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	59	67	69	64	24
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32	62	67	66	66	23
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	19	31	41	38	35	13
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	18	26	34	33	32	12

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

A quiet if not actually depressed tone has prevailed in practically all sections, and prices invariably are on a lower level. Only a small business has been in raw linseed oil on either home or export account, and a further loss of 20s on the week has to be recorded, spot ex Hull mill having receded to £25 15s, with only a slight premium of 5s quoted for January-April. Cotton oils are much easier and lower, crude Egyptian having fallen to £33 10 and common edible to £40 ex mill. Soya bean, ground nuts, and rape oils have been but a small trade, and are 20s to 40s down. Palm kernel, coconut, and castor oils are without quotable change. In the oilseed section the feature has been offerings of Indian linseed, which have affected the price of Plate, which is now quoted £15 for spot, while £14 15s has been accepted for November-December loading. Egyptian cottonseed is flat, black offering a £12 afloat and November, and £11 10s December.

The arrivals of oilseeds and oilnuts in the United Kingdom in October aggregated 146,168 tons, against 129,291 tons in October last year, the principal items being linseed (54,656 tons), cottonseed (35,230 tons), soya beans (14,876 tons), and oil nuts and kernel (36,711 tons). The aggregate for the ten months January-October is 1,165,157 tons, comparing with 1,126,395 tons a year ago. The imports of linseed alone are 423,205 tons, which will probably be increased to half a million tons by the end of the year.

The progress in the exports of vegetable oils which marked the months July, August, and September was even more pronounced in October, when the total of unrefined sent abroad was 18,123 tons (including 8,837 tons linseed oil) and refined 1,019 tons, roughly 50 per cent. increase over September, which up to then had been the best month of the year.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The sensational slump in values, which set in in Bermonds-hide market last week, seems to have been arrested. A fall over 2d per lb on heavy ox really demoralised the market, and the trade have been in a state of anxiety ever since. This week

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1632 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

heavy ox made last prices of 8d, and lights 6 1/2d to 8 1/2d, no alterations being recorded. Calf were steady also at the recent reductions, and no alterations worth recording are to be noted. The demand for foreign hides is quiet, although values at source of origin are holding up firmly. Chicago cables the market as steady, with best heavy packers still quoted at 15 1/2 cents.

The sole leather trade has been almost at a standstill, buyers feeling sure leather will drop quickly in view of the fall in hides and the poor demand. Some tanners are already weak holders, and are offering bends at 1d to 2d below recent quotations, with no result. Bends of 14/16 lbs seem wanted the most, and the supply is about equal to the demand. Rough dressing hides are a slow sale, the spurt caused by the Motor Exhibition having quickly died away. Upper leathers are wanted in the cheaper grades, but here again buyers are looking for a fall in values, and are only buying actual requirements.

The boot trade shows a slight improvement, as the wet weather is finding out the rubbish so common of late. Much has been expected of the "guaranteed boot," but I hear one large London retailers' association has thrown cold water on the idea, and have passed a resolution that the time is not opportune to put this long-wanted boot on the market. Why? one wonders.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited.—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, November 18.

There was a moderate amount of business doing this week in some cases, but as regards raw materials, certain irregularity prevailed, while the question of rates of exchange still tends to curtail operations.

SUGAR.—With steady inquiries, both on grocery and manufacturing account, business was on a fair scale, and recent prices were not only fully supported, but in some instances slightly improved upon. Messrs Tate and Lyle quote cubes, 55s 3d to 56s 3d; granulated, 49s 9d to 50s 3d, with business in London quality at 49s 10 1/2d, being 1 1/2d dearer on the week; caster sold 52s 3d to 52s 9d; crushed, 51s 9d; yellow crystals, 44s 9d. Crystallised West India ranges from 38s to 42s 6d; muscovado, 32s to 37s. American granulated, spot, changed hands at 49s; Dutch ditto, 48s 9d. Belgian crystals, 47s 3d; white Java, 47s; white Natal, 44s; Czecho-Slovakian granulated and crystals, November shipment, sellers, 20s 3d; December, 19s 10 1/2d; cubes, December, 24s 3d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Belgian crystals, November-December, sold, 19s 1 1/2d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Dutch granulated, prompt, 21s 6d, f.o.b., Amsterdam. Terminal market steady. December, white, sold, 19s 10 1/2d to 20s 3d; March, 18s 9d to 18s 10 1/2d; May, 18s 9d to 18s 10 1/2d; August, 18s 10 1/2d to 19s. Cuban stocks stand at 1,090,000 tons, against 281,000 same time last year. Liquid glucose, November delivery, 26s 6d, duty paid. Pale American syrup, prompt shipment, sellers, 19s, c.f. and i. terms.

COFFEE.—A generally quiet tone pervaded the market this week, but prices ruled steady, while really attractive qualities are in very small supply. Future delivery market steady. December, sold, 48s; and March, 49s.

COCOA remained in a quiet and featureless condition. Accra F/F, December-February, sellers, 39s 6d, ex quay terms, Liverpool. Some arrived parcels of ditto sold, 46s. Butter quiet but steady, at 1s 10d per lb.

TEA.—Public sales of Indian embraced some 41,900 packages, and the chief feature was the heavy run made upon medium and common qualities, owing to reduced quantities of same now coming to hand, and prices marked an advance of 3d to 4d per lb. The finer kinds sold with fair spirit at about previous quotations to, in some cases, slightly less. 14,700 packages Ceylon also aroused active competition for all qualities up to 1s 5d per lb, but above this figure demand proved quiet, though rates moved on steady lines.

RICE.—With a good deal of reticence on the part of buyers, the market ruled largely nominal. Two stars, Rangoon, spot, 18s 6d. Beans quiet. Rangoon hand-picked, due steamer, sold, 7s 6d. Madagascar butter beans, on spot, new crop, quoted 19s to 21s, as to sample. Japanese peas dull. December-January, steamer, quoted 32s 6d. Chinese white peas, afloat, London, sold, 8s 6d. Bran quiet. Burma, afloat, £6 15s; white Siam sold, £7 per ton, ex ship.

SPICE.—Pepper received moderate support, and fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 3 1/2d; ditto, December-February, steamer, 3 1/2d; Aleppo, spot, quoted, 4 1/2d; Tellicherry, 4 1/2d; white Singapore, 7 1/2d; Muntok, 7 1/2d; ditto, December-February, sold, 7 1/2d to 7 3/4d and 7 1/2d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, sold, 1s 7 1/2d; November-January, steamer, 1s 5d. Pimento, spot, 2 1/2d, sellers. Tapioca dull. Fair flake, spot, sold, 1 1/2d per lb. Fair Penang, seed pearl, spot, 18s 6d; small sago, December-February, 22s; sago flour, January-March, sold, 12s 6d. Desiccated coconut, spot, fine cut, sold, 4s; medium, 4s. Ceylon cinnamon, firsts, 1s 1d; seconds, 1s per lb.

FRUIT.—The market for currants continued firm, and a good steady

inquiry was experienced throughout the week. Pyrgos quoted 50s to 51s; Amalia, 53s to 55s; Patras, 56s to 63s; Vostizza, 80s to 88s. Only moderate transactions were effected in sultanas, but sellers required steady prices. Medium to good quoted 118s to 125s; choice, 145s. In auction, about 128 tons Valencia raisins offered and mostly sold at full prices for the finer qualities, and which are scarce, with undergrades about unaltered from recent level. Quarters, ordinary to fair, sold, 135s to 143s; medium to good, 146s to 155s; fine to choice, 157s to 173s; seedless, 115s to 128s; and some good half-boxes, sold, 130s to 132s. Figs command full rates. Layers range from 108s to 135s; lacouns, 130s to 150s. Almonds firm, but quiet. Dates steady. Siar, spot, 18s; Hallowee, first tide, quoted 40s; and Siar, 28s.

JUTE.—A steady tone prevailed this week, sellers adopting more reserve on spinners showing better disposition to operate, but closed easier. Native first marks assortment, spot, Hamburg, sold, £29 10s; ditto, old crop, substitutes, November-December, Hamburg, £25 10s to £25; Dunkirk, £25 15s; lightning subs, old, November-December, Hamburg, £21 15s to £21; new crop, first grade, November-December, Hamburg, £27 to £26 5s; lightning grade, £22 10s, £22. Calcutta hessians and twills quiet, but held for steady prices. 10 oz hessians, spot, 25s; 8 oz, 20s; B twills, spot, 64s.

HEMP.—Manilla quite neglected and nominal. D grade, October-December, sellers, £51; E, ditto, £48; G, £40; J, £38; K, £36 10s; L, £36; M, £31; streaky one, £44; two, £42; three, £40. New Zealand very dull. High point, fair, spot, £40; fair, £37 and £36 10s and £34 10s for October-December shipment respectively. Italian nominal, and P.C., spot, quoted £53.

SHELLAC.—Market steady. T.N., spot, fair, 345s; December, sold, 340s, 337s 6d, and March, 320s.

SHELLS (M.-O.-P.).—At periodical auctions, white shells ruled slow and prices a shade easier, but there was a good demand for yellow, regarding West Australian, and for which full values were secured. Macassar firm, but slow. Fresh imports of green snail received steady support.

MENTHOL.—Spot, 22s; Japanese peppermint oil, 4s 7 1/2d; aniseed, 2s 2d; Japanese slab camphor, spot, 4s 6d per lb; Japanese wax, spot, 10s 6d cwt.

RUBBER.—There was a moderate business in force this week, but prices exhibited slight irregularity, and weakness with realisations in attendance at times. Standard crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 11 1/2d to 10 1/2d, 11d, and 10 1/2d. December, 11 1/2d to 11 1/2d, 10 1/2d, and 10 1/2d; January-March, 1s to 11 1/2d, 11 1/2d, and 11d; April-June, 1s 0 1/2d to 11 1/2d, and 11 1/2d. Para, fine hard, spot, sellers, 1s 2 1/2d; ball, 8d.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market generally quiet, but steady. Prime liquid yolk, spot, 110s per cwt, and albumen, spot, 2s 11d.

OILS.—Linseed easier. Spot, net, naked, 26s 3d; November-December, 25s 3d; January-April, 25s 9d; May-August, 26s. Rape dull. Crude, spot, 48s; refined, 53s. Cotton easier. Crude Egyptian, 42s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 50s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 70s; and shipment, 71s. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 47s; November-December, 42s 6d; Cochin, ditto, 54s. Soya quiet. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 35s 6d. Japan fish quiet. October-November, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 29s to 31s. Groundnut dull. English crushed, naked, spot, 48s; deodorised, barrels, 59s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 69s; December, 69s 3d; January-April, 70s. Rosin firm. American, grade B, 16s 6d; F, 16s 9d; G, 17s; K, 18s 6d; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H, 15s 9d; WW, 18s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American, standard white, 1s 4 1/2d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market quiet and easier, Calcutta, November-December, sold, £16 to £15 10s. Plate, spot, Hull, £14 15s; afloat, sold, £14 15s; November-December, £15 to £14 10s; January-February, nearest, £15. Rapeseed lower. Toria, October-November, sold, £16 5s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £16 5s; brown Cawnpore, £15 15s. Cotton-seed easier. Egyptian black, November, sold, £13 to £11 10s; and white, £12 10s to £11. Bombay, December-January, £8 10s. Gingly easier. Chinese, November-December, Continent, £22 10s. Castor, Bombay, November-December, sold, £15 15s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, November-December, Hull, £20 10s; new crop, December-February, Continent, £18 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £21 to £21 10s per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market manifested an easier tendency until last Tuesday, dealings being on a moderate scale, while cash changed hands down to £157 and three months' to £159 5s. A rather fir

£159 10s to £160, settling down at £159 5s, and three months' at £161 to £162, while finally registered at £161 5s. At Friday's session, cash relapsed to £159 5s and three months' to £160 10s. English ingots, £157 to £157 10s. Copper continued dearer last Monday, standard cash being sold at £67 2s 6d and three months' £67 15s to £67 17s 6d. Rates moved in a downward direction until the middle of the week, the market being steady at the decline, with cash registered at £66 10s to £66 12s 6d, three months' £67 10s to £67 15s. The tendency was again lower on Thursday, business being on a moderate scale. Cash eased to £66 2s 6d; early December to £66 10s; and three months' at £67 2s 6d. At Friday's session, prices hardened. Standard cash changed hands at £66 5s; month £66 15s to £66 17s 6d, and three months' £65 5s to £67 7s 6d. Electros, £74 10s to £76 10s; best selected, £67 to £69; strong sheets, £101. Wire bars, £75 10s to £76 10s. Lead rather firmer at £24 5s to £23 15s as to position. Spelter dearer at £25 17s 6d to £27. Antimony: English regulus quoted at £36 to £39. Aluminium: Home, £120; export, £125.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on November 16th as follows:—The tallow market was quiet during the week, with prices in buyers' favour. There is a remarkably slow demand for the time of year. Shipments of tallow from Australasia during October amounted to 5,600 tons. At auction to-day—casks tallow were offered, and—were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 47s; good to fair, 46s to 45s; dull to dark, 43s to 40s; hard, 47s. Australian beef: Fine, 47s; good to fair, 44s to 42s; dull to dark, 40s to 37s; sweet, 48s. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs, 44s; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, 42s. The market letter is unchanged. Town tallow, 38s 6d per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, 3d; melted stuff, 25s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town, 38s net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 37s; home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, none; fair to dull, 39s 6d to 37s 6d. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 29s; melted stuff, 30s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—NOVEMBER 17.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	8 d	8 d	Sheep—Downs	8 d	8 d
Shorthorns	7 0	7 8	Longwools	8 4	9 8
Devons	7 4	8 0	Crossbred	7 8	7 8
Norfolks	7 0	7 8	Scottish	8 8	9 0
Scottish	6 4	7 0	Lamb—Downs	9 8	11 0

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—NOVEMBER 17.

King Edwards	10 6	11 6	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
British Queen	8 0	9 6	Evergoods	7 0 to 8 0
			Blacklands	6 0 to 10 0

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				DRUGS—			
2000A—Duty, British grown	50	0	0	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt	150	0	0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	50	0	0	Cape, good to fine	25	0	0
Trinidad, per cwt.	52	0	60	Balsam Peru, per lb	7	6	8
Trinidad, per cwt.	47	0	55	Capivi	2	0	2
Jeyion, plantation	70	0	89	Cassia—			
Trinidad, per cwt.	50	0	89	Japan, per cwt	4	14	0
3ahla, finest	57	0	75	Cardamom, Ceylon	1	6	5
	57	0	58	Cantharides, per lb	0	0	0
OFFEE—British grown				Caster-oil, per cwt	85	0	95
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.				Gum Binlim, Binm, cwt	7	10	0
India fine, good, w.d	70	0	112	" "			

bills, apart from some more special buying of December maturities, the demand for which saved the market from the Bank. * * *

	Nov. 25, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	(Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Discount Call	3	3	3	3	(Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	(Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	3½	(Nov. 3, '21)
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	3½	4	3½	4	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

Thursday's Bank return showed an increase of £5,100 in the gold stock and a reduction of £281,100 in the circulation, so that the reserve was £286,300 higher. Government securities rose by £14½ millions, but Other were reduced by £1¼ millions, and Deposits were thus £13½ millions higher, Other being £18 millions higher, while Public fell by £4½ millions. The circulation of currency notes was reduced by £1,378,700 to £311,687,100, which includes £1,793,700 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £261,943,300, or £55,611,900 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended November 19, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	18,140	Supply Services	8,450
		Interest on Debt	1,535
		Sundries	454
		Reduction of Debt	6,959
		Added to Exchequer Balances..	742
	18,140		18,140

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £6,958,692, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 6,940	Bank of England Advances ..	1,750
National Savings Certificates +	300	Depreciation fund	500
		Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	469
		Public Department Advances ..	9,100
		Treasury Bills	1,960
		Sundries	420
	+ 7,240		14,199

Customs and Excise yielded £14,045,000. Property and Income-tax produced £721,000, while £500,000 came in from special miscellaneous receipts. The sales of Treasury bonds, though not quite so heavy as in the past two weeks, amounted to £6,940,000. The net sales of National Savings Certificates were £300,000. Treasury bills sales fell short of the maturities by £1,960,000, and a further reduction took place in Ways and Means advances. Bank of England advances were reduced by £1,750,000, bringing the amount outstanding down to £4,250,000, and advances by Public Departments were reduced by £9,100,000, making the amount outstanding £180,308,000. The net reduction in the floating debt on the week was £12,830,000, making the outstanding floating debt £1,304,745,000.

The total amount at the credit of the Post Office Savings Banks Fund on November 19, 1921, was £342,766,518, against £342,093,393 at the corresponding period of October, 1921. At the corresponding period of 1920 the amount at credit of these Funds was £344,249,993.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

The foreign exchange market has been dominated this week mainly by political influences. The chief feature has been the depreciation of the franc, the Paris rate having risen from 55.40 on the 18th to 57.20 yesterday morning, and the Brussels rate from 57.18½ to 60. The explanation would appear to be the growing uncertainty as to Germany's position, combined with uneasiness over the reception of the French case at Washington. As the result it would seem that a lack of confidence in the franc's future is now spreading in France itself, and this feeling has been accentuated by a renewed demand for foreign currencies, owing to the inevitable recent increase in imports, as stocks of most materials are almost depleted. The quotation for futures in Paris is 1 to 4 points per month over spot, in Brussels 5-9 points per month below. Another country which has had a sharp setback is Italy, where the rate has risen from 95.75 to

97.62½, a movement very largely sympathetic with franc. The mark rate has been somewhat irregular, within closer limits than for some weeks past, a rate 1,170 yesterday morning comparing with one of 1,1 on the 18th. As yet no real progress has been made towards clarifying the position created by the reparation payments due next January, and it is doubtful what there is for the rumours of an external loan. As suggested a week ago, the dollar rate has found great difficulty in getting above \$4, and has generally been somewhat below, being yesterday morning 3.99½ as compared with 3.99½ a week ago. While it is probable that for some little time the rate will be influenced by the Washington Conference, a higher quotation can hardly be expected at present on purely economic grounds. The future rate is ½ cents per month over spot, practically the same as a week ago. Among neutral exchanges Amsterdam, for reasons not yet clear, after falling steadily in the earlier part of the week dropped suddenly on Thursday, and yesterday stood at 11.15 as compared with 11.36½ a week ago. The future quotation is 1-2 cents. per month over spot. The same sudden drop has occurred in Swiss francs, which at 21.05 compare with 22.29 a week ago. Except that the mark rate has moved relatively little, the natural assumption would have been renewed purchases on German account. Madrid, after some recovery, ends the week very little down at 29. Portugal is again cheaper at 4½d, as compared with 5½ a week ago. In the Scandinavian group, Christiania has reacted somewhat from its recent recovery, and at 28.12½ is some 40 points higher than a week ago. Stockholm on the other hand, has recovered from 17.10 to 17.04½ while Copenhagen is some 2 points better at 21.62½. Finland, after its recent recovery, has moved up again, from 199 to 208. In Central Europe, Vienna, after some recovery, has moved up again, and the London (Auslandskrone) rate at 13,000 is considerably worse than the 10,500 quoted a week ago. The last available rate for Inlandskronen is 23,600 on the 18th, as compared with the Auslands rate of 10,500 on the same day. Why the Inlands rate should have again risen so far above the Auslands quotation, and why the foreigner should continue to buy Auslandskrone are mysteries still to be explained. Warsaw, after some recovery, has moved up again, but at 13,500 is some 1,500 better than a week ago. Budapest at 3,650 shows little change. Prague is rather worse at 380, and Belgrade, after its sharp fall, is moving up again, and now stands at about 315. For Roumania quotations are still absent, as that country has not yet found a way out of the tangle in which it has got involved through its new exchange regulations. Sofia is a little better at about 700. The Athens rate has now been moved up to 99½, in order to come into conformity with the free market in Smyrna. Constantinople has again moved up sharply to 765. In the East the rupee has weakened again, and yesterday stood at 1s 3½d, as compared with 1s 4½d a week ago. Silver was well maintained during the early part of the week, but then fell away on the cessation of Chinese buying for New Year settlements, and, with India weak, the position is very uncertain. For the present, however, Hongkong and Shanghai rates are unchanged. The yen at 2s 4½d is practically unchanged. In South America Buenos Ayres is very slightly cheaper at 44½d, Montevideo is unchanged, Rio has dropped from 7½d to 7 9-32d on the 24th, while Valparaiso has also gone sharply in our favour to 38.90.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO NOVEMBER 19, 1921.

Total spent	622,936,792	Raised by revenue ..	568,968,277
Inc. in balances	821,899	Net borrowings	54,790,414

Total	623,758,691	Total	623,758,691
-------------	-------------	-------------	-------------

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000

Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
-------------	---------------	-------------	---------------

Surplus*

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Nov. 19, 1921.
Red Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
1% Annulment	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19
2% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4% War Stock	16	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 1/2% War Stock	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,928	1,928	1,928
National War Bonds	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,278	1,278	1,278
4% Funding Loan	409	409	409	409	407	405	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds	360	360	360	360	357	358	348	358	358
3 1/2% Conversion Lm.	18	18	18	18	18	18	25	25	25
Treasury Bonds	15	77	951	957	1,107	1,107	1,121	1,120	1,120
Treasury Bills	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	289	273
Exchequer Bonds	138	227	267	274	279	285	290	290	290
Natnl Savings Certs.	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,152	1,099	1,099	1,099
War Expend. Certs.	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Other Debt	52	52	52	52	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Temporary Advances	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,752
Other Capital Liabilities ..	57	57	49	46	46	47	47	49	50
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,802

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

	Nov. 20, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Nov. 19, '21.	Nov. 19, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	50,500,000..	4,250,000..	1,750,000	1,750,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	185,861,000..	154,489,000..	180,308,000	9,100,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,090,379,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,120,187,000	1,980,000
Total Floating Debt	1,326,740,000..	1,279,530,000..	1,304,745,000	12,830,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

NOVEMBER 19TH.—Herr Stinnes arrives in London.
NOVEMBER 21ST.—M. Briand defines France's attitude at the Washington Conference. The chairman of Lloyd's at the Insurance Institute of London.
NOVEMBER 22ND.—Afghan Treaty signed at Kabul. Death of Mr H. M. Hyndman. Princess Mary betrothed.
NOVEMBER 23RD.—Annual meeting of Federation of British Industries. Lord Chancellor at the Aldwych Club. Penny 'bus fares to be restored on December 1st. Irish Peace Conference resumed at Downing Street.
NOVEMBER 24TH.—Lord Curzon on Anglo-French relations. Sinn Fein delegates confer with Lord Chancellor and Sir Gordon Hewart. Mr Asquith and Sir Donald Maclean speak at National Liberal Federation at Newcastle. Belfast tramcar bombed.
NOVEMBER 25TH.—Ulster Premier at Downing Street. Present series of Treasury Bonds to end on November 30th.

The Irish outlook and the attitude of Japan and France in international discussions were influences checking Stock Exchange business this week. The feature of the markets, however, is the firmness of gilt-edged stocks in the face of large issues of high-class new capital, past and prospective.

Although there was no general increase in the volume of business, a better tone is reported from the cotton trade. In the wool trade the feature has been the decline in wool values at the London sales, which did not surprise Yorkshire. Top-makers are meeting the changed conditions with lower quotations all round. No improvement is reported from the pig-iron trade, while the steel trade and warship yards were depressed by the suspension of the orders for the four new battleships, from which a large amount of work had been looked forward to. It is, however, significant that there is increasing difficulty in obtaining delivery of iron and steel material from Germany. The consumption of household coal is a trifle brisker. Quotations in the hide markets have reacted a little after their sensational fall. The market for vegetable oils and oilseeds is restless.

REPARATION PROBLEMS.

THERE is in this country a growth of opinion amounting almost to a general agreement that the methods of German reparation payments are in need of revision. The Reparations Commission, on their return from Berlin, stated that Germany can pay the next instalments due in January and February. But even into this statement may be read the implication that after this instalment has been paid the situation will

have to be reconsidered. The memorandum issued by the Federation of British Industries this week exhibits the nervousness of industrialists in this country in regard to the effect of Reparation payments, and their concern will not be diminished by the remarks of our Berlin correspondent printed on a later page. Meanwhile, the visit of Herr Stinnes to London has given rise to a host of rumours, and the general presumption is that his visit is concerned with an attempt to arrive at some new arrangement. If no revision in the existing programme takes place, and Germany has to find the next payments by selling marks, it is fairly obvious that there must be a further collapse of mark exchange. Disconcerting though this prospect is, it is neither logical nor desirable to jump to the conclusion that instalments must therefore be immediately suspended. It is common knowledge that big German industrialists have large holdings of property and of foreign currency abroad. Indeed, all shrewd Germans have for some time past been investing to a considerable extent outside the Fatherland. To give way to panic and a policy of suspension merely through fear of another mark collapse obviously tends to play into the hands of industrialists and the wealthy classes in Germany, in whose power it is to help the German Government out of the crisis to no small extent. Probably what the Reparation Commission had in mind when they said that Germany could pay the next instalment was that they could pay if the industrialists assisted the Government by placing at its disposal the foreign currency and credit that they have accumulated. This is probably true, but it is equally probable that they could not repeat the performance and help the Government over the stile on a second occasion. For if Germany is to pay, the fundamental economic necessity is that she should establish an export surplus of large dimensions. In spite of the trade boom in Germany, the latest available figures of German trade show a large surplus of imports. In May the excess of imports over exports was 928 million marks, in June 977 millions, and in July 1,732 millions.

The events of the last two years have not helped us in any way to answer two questions which go to the heart of the reparations problem. The questions are these. Firstly, how far it is possible, assuming that other countries would permit it, to modify the economic life of Germany in such a way as to divert the applications of capital and labour into channels calculated to produce the necessary increase of certain exports. Secondly, how far it is practicable to suppose that any German Government would be politically strong enough to impose on the population—over and above the heavy post-war burdens which every Government must place on its nationals—an additional burden of taxation representing a substantially greater proportion to total national income than did the whole taxation of Great Britain before the war.

Pending a satisfactory answer to these questions, the Federation of British Industries has this week developed the reparations discussion in a different direction, and in a memorandum has suggested alternative methods and forms of payment. One suggestion is that payments should be made in kind. There is nothing new about this suggestion. France is already experimenting with it as a

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

result of the Wiesbaden Agreement, and it is difficult to see that this method possesses any advantage for Germany. Payment in kind will not prevent the danger of currency collapse. The Government can only secure commodities for delivery by obtaining internal purchasing power. The only condition on which reparation payments can be made without resultant exchange depreciation is that the funds for payment are raised by taxation. But if the method of payment in kind possesses no visible advantage for Germany, it has at least this advantage for the receiving countries. The recipients do at least know what shape German trade competition is going to take, and can use that knowledge to some extent to forestall and discount it. The second suggestion put forward by the Federation is on the lines of that propounded recently by Sir Henry Strakosch in a letter to the *Times*, namely, that Germany should undertake "capital works" in the Allied countries which would not otherwise be initiated. The Federation also has in mind works of development in backward countries, particularly in Russia and China. The obvious comment upon this suggestion is that our own Government has recently passed a Trade Facilities Act, one object of which is to finance this very type of undertaking so far as this country is concerned in order to provide work for our own unemployed workers. Perhaps the most interesting of the proposals is that Allied industrialists should acquire mortgages on German concerns. We quote from the memorandum:—"We suggest that arrangements might be made by which actual claims on industrial and other enterprises in Germany might be substituted for the present payments between Governments. For instance, all German industrial enterprises might be required to create a special class of first preference shares as a first charge on the business. The holders of real property might at the same time be required to create similar first charges up to a fixed proportion of the value of their property. Similar mortgages or first preference shares should be created and secured on such undertakings as the German railways and canals, shipping lines, &c., and possibly even on the German banks and large commercial undertakings. These securities should then be handed over by the German Government to the Allied Governments, who could dispose of them if they so desired to individuals." Even supposing that German industrialists, seeing in this method a possible avenue to lighter taxation, should overcome their natural objection to granting mortgages to foreigners—this scheme does not avoid foreign payments in the form of mortgage interest. It has, nevertheless, certain advantages. It would make payment depend to some extent on the condition of German trade, it would enable ready money to be found for the French and other Governments, and it would have the supreme merit of converting the reparations question into a business matter between commercial circles in the two countries, instead of a bone of contention between Governments giving rise to the quarterly recurrence of political crises. The difficulties and complications involved in the establishment of any such scheme are obvious enough, but the advantages are sufficient to make the Federation's ideas well worth further study and development. It must not, of course, be supposed that the system of industrial mortgages could cover anything like the whole amount of the reparations bill, or solve the whole problem.

Not the least interesting point about the memorandum is the implication which may justifiably be read into its phraseology—namely, that if innocuous means of payment of the whole reparations amount cannot be found, then the amount must be cut down and limited to a sum which can be obtained without dislocation in the recipient countries. The upshot of the whole discussion is that there are possible ways and means of getting a substantial part of the reparations bill paid, always providing that Germany intends to make an honest attempt to meet her obligations, and not deliberately to flee from present difficulties and to seek a hazardous refuge in a policy of financial collapse. One point on which expert opinion in this country is firm is that any modifications that may be conceded should be conditional upon the establishment in Germany of a Budget balance. On the whole, the Federation's memorandum reflects the opinion of the business community that while some important and

hopeful means of securing the payment of large sums reparation remained to be explored, insistence on letter of the present agreement (should these untold predicaments disappoint present hopes) must not be carried the length of serious dislocation of Allied industry trade.

THE RALLY OF OUR EUROPEAN MARKETS—II

In a previous article we showed that whereas our European customers in 1913 took £239,200,000 worth, or 37.6 per cent. of our total exports of £634,800,000, they far improved their position as markets for our products and manufactures and for our re-exports of foreign and colonial merchandise as to take goods valued at £1,377,200,000 in the period from January, 1919, to September 30, 1921, out of our total exports of £3,116,900,000. The percentage value had risen from 37.6 to 44.2. From the following table it is seen that during the last three months (i.e., from July 1st to September 30th) six of our principal European markets have still further improved their position upon that of the first six months of the year, and that only two countries took a rather smaller percentage of our goods:—

	Germany.	Holland.	France.	Belgium.	Norway.	Denmark.	Italy.	Spain.
From Jan. to Sept., 1921	29.7	5.0	26.2	4.4	38.4	6.4	20.7	3.5
From Jan. to June, 1921	17.3	4.1	16.8	4.0	25.5	6.1	13.5	3.2
Inc. or Dec.	12.4	0.9	9.4	0.4	12.9	0.3	7.2	0.3

The table shows that Germany increased the percentage value of the exports that she took from us by .9 per cent.; that Holland followed suit to the extent of .4 per cent.; that France, Belgium, and Norway increased their percentages by .3, and that Denmark increased hers by .1. Moreover, Italy and Spain only lost .1 per cent. in the value of our total exports purchased by them. In the case of Russia, Sweden, and Switzerland their percentage takings remained the same. So far, therefore, as the latest statistics go, the European markets are better than is commonly supposed. We will now consider how the other great nations of the world and our own Dominions have been purchasing our exports and re-exports since the Armistice allowed us to start on our way to resuming normal trade relations with the rest of the world:—

TABLE SHOWING THE VALUE OF OUR TOTAL EXPORTS TO OUR OVERSEAS DOMINIONS AND COLONIES AND OF THE PERCENTAGE EXPORTS FOR 1913, 1919, 1920, and the FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1921, and of the COMBINED VALUE FROM JANUARY, 1919, TO SEPTEMBER, 1921.

	Total Exports in 1913.	Total Exports in 1919.	Total Exports in 1920.	Total Exports from Jan. to Sept., 1921.	Total Exports from Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.
	£634,800,000.	£963,400,000.	£1,557,200,000.	£596,300,000.	£3,116,900,000.
1. British India	71.7	11.3	71.9	7.5	184.0
2. Australia	37.8	6.0	27.8	2.9	68.3
3. Union South Africa	24.0	3.8	19.9	2.1	51.7
4. Canada	27.3	4.3	18.0	1.5	48.8
5. Egypt	10.0	1.6	20.2	2.1	44.8
6. New Zealand	11.8	1.9	9.9	1.0	28.0
7. British West Africa	7.2	1.1	13.5	1.4	25.4
8. Straits Settlements	6.0	1.0	6.4	0.6	16.9
9. Hong Kong	4.6	0.7	4.8	0.5	13.4
10. Ceylon	4.3	0.7	2.5	0.3	6.6
11. Fed. Malay States	1.4	0.2	1.2	0.1	3.0
12. Mediterranean	2.3	0.4	6.7	0.7	10.5
13. Channel Islands	2.6	0.2	3.1	0.3	4.2
14. African Is.	2.9	0.2	4.3	0.4	9.5
15. American	4.7	0.7	3.9	0.4	10.2
Total	217.6	34.4	214.1	22.2	525.3

In the table we have grouped our total exports to Gibraltar, Malta and Gozo, and Cyprus under the head of Mediterranean. Under the head of African are grouped our exports to Rhodesia and the territories of British South Africa not included in the Union, and those to Mauritius and British East Africa generally. Our exports to Newfoundland, Bermuda, the Bahamas, British Guiana, British Honduras, and the British West India Islands are grouped under the head of American. The outstanding feature of the table is seen in the fact that, although there was a considerable rally in our exports to our chief Dominions during the first nine months of this

ar, and the percentage of our total exports rose to 38.8 compared with 34.4 in 1913, the percentage in 1919 was 32, and caused the percentage for the period from January, 1919, to September 30, 1921, to amount only 31.1. In 1913 the Continent and its colonial possessions took 40.4 per cent. of our total exports, against 44.4 per cent. taken by the British Empire, and in the period from January, 1919, to September, 1921, the Continent and its possessions increased their purchases to 47.6 of our total exports, against a diminished percentage of 31.2 taken by our Imperial Dominions and colonies. India and British West Africa will undoubtedly continue to develop their demand for our goods, and the Union of South Africa will probably soon become as good a customer as Australia now is. But Canada will draw many of her supplies from across the international border. New Zealand is reported to be glutted with our exports. The innumerable larger populations of the Continent of Europe must remain our best customers, and it is plainly to our interest to aid them by all means in our power to recover their financial stability.

TABLE SHOWING OUR TOTAL EXPORTS TO THE COUNTRIES OF AMERICA AND ASIA FOR THE YEARS 1913, 1919, 1920, and the FIRST NINE MONTHS OF 1921.

	Total Exports in 1913.	Total Exports in 1919.	Total Exports in 1920.	Total Exports from Jan. to Sept., 1921.	Total Exports from Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.
	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.
United States	595.9	9.3	65.5	6.8	131.1
Argentina	23.4	3.7	21.7	2.3	43.8
Brazil	13.0	2.1	11.1	1.1	24.9
Chile	6.4	1.0	4.9	0.5	9.9
Central America and Colombia	3.5	0.6	3.1	0.3	9.8
Panama	3.0	0.5	3.4	0.3	6.1
Uruguay	3.0	0.5	2.0	0.2	7.4
Cuba	2.5	0.4	1.3	0.1	4.6
Mexico	1.6	0.2	1.7	0.1	4.8
Venezuela, Ecuador, and Bolivia	1.6	0.2	2.3	0.2	5.6
China	15.0	2.4	21.1	2.2	44.0
Japan	14.8	2.3	14.7	1.5	28.0
Asia Minor, Persia, Siam, and the Philippines	5.4	0.8	10.1	1.0	19.5
Total	155.8	24.6	166.8	17.0	347.0

In 1913 our total exports to Asiatic Turkey were valued at £5,400,000. They rose to over 10 millions in 1919, and to 19½ millions in 1920. Then war was resumed between Greece and Turkey, with the result that in the first nine months of this year our exports amounted only to £100,000. The devastated area will be a long time in recovering sufficiently to become again a valuable customer for our goods.

The table shows that the United States and Argentina between them took 13 per cent. of our total exports in 1913, 9.1 per cent. in 1919, 11.2 per cent. in 1920, and 11.7 per cent. in the first nine months of the present year, or but little more than the percentage (11.4) taken this year by France and Germany. For the combined period from January, 1919, to September, 1921, the United States and Argentina (which took more than half of our total exports to the countries of America and Asia) purchased 10.6 per cent. of our total exports, compared with a percentage of 16 taken in the same period by France and Germany. In the same period British India and Australia purchased 15.1 per cent. of our total exports. In the next table are set out those countries which in the combined period took at least 2½ per cent. of our total exports:—

	1913.	1919.	1920.	1921.	Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.
	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.
United States	40.9	6.4	18.3	1.9	175.7
British India	71.7	11.3	71.9	7.5	184.0
Argentina	23.4	3.7	21.7	2.3	43.8
Belgium	20.7	3.3	6.5	0.8	131.1
Holland	20.5	3.2	6.0	0.6	62.1
Australia	37.8	6.0	27.8	2.9	68.3
Germany	60.5	9.5	23.2	2.4	51.1
Union South Africa	24.0	3.8	19.9	2.1	51.7
Italy	18.6	2.4	3.4	0.3	46.3
France	23.4	3.7	21.7	2.3	43.8
China	15.0	2.4	21.1	2.2	44.0
Denmark	6.3	1.0	4.9	0.5	9.9
Canada	27.3	4.3	18.0	1.5	48.8
Sweden	9.2	1.4	2.7	0.1	4.8
Egypt	10.0	1.6	20.2	2.1	44.8
Total	442.4	63.6	702.2	73.1	1,098.5

Of the 15 countries shown in the table seven are European, and they took 34.1 per cent. of our total exports between January, 1919, and September last. British India, Australia, the Union of South Africa, Canada, and Egypt altogether took 23.3 per cent., and the United States, Argentina, and China took 13.3 per cent. The 15 countries are seen to have taken from 68 per cent. in the current year to 73 per cent. in 1919. They stand out pre-eminently as our best customers. But the importance of British India and of Egypt as customers should lead our statesmen to be very wary in dealing with them. We are very near to a wonderful recovery of our world trade under wise and far-seeing statesmanship, but, unhappily, we are equally near to the brink of disaster should our rulers fail to secure peace at home and abroad.

A summary of the tables shows that we have exhaustively analysed the distribution of our exports in the period since the Armistice in comparison with the last complete year before the war:—

	1913.	1919.	1920.	1921.	Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.
	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.	Mln. £.
Total exports to Europe	239.2	37.6	548.8	57.0	625.8
European	18.2	2.8	30.1	3.0	62.7
Colonies	217.6	34.4	214.1	22.2	33.8
British Empire	155.8	24.6	166.8	17.0	347.0
America & Asia	630.8	99.4	959.8	99.2	1,550.8
Total	1,025.8	167.4	1,615.4	178.2	2,229.4

In 1913 our total exports amounted to £634,800,000; our table shows that only £4,000,000 are not dealt with. In 1919, of £903,400,000 we have dealt with £959,800,000. In 1920 we dealt with £1,550,800,000 out of £1,557,200,000. The percentage of 100 is due to our only working out the results to one point of decimals. In 1921 our analysis deals with 98.9 of our total exports, and for the whole period with 99.4 per cent.

LLOYD'S.

A hall filled to overflowing, with clerks and officials of tariff insurance offices—the chair taken by Sir Arthur Worley, of the Railway Passengers Company—all the prominent seats occupied by magnates of the fire insurance world—the vote of thanks to the lecturer seconded by the chairman of the Fire Offices Committee—the lecture itself arranged by the Insurance Institute of London—could there be a gathering more orthodox, more sure of salvation, more certainly in the apostolic line of the true insurance faith? And the lecturer, for whose sake this remarkable meeting was brought together—no other than the chairman of Lloyd's—expounding the strength, the security, the advantages of Lloyd's as an insurance market. It is as though Athanasius had presided over a congregation in which the leader of the Arians explained the strong points of his heresy to a packed audience of applauding Christians.

Whether or not this very remarkable function, which took place this week, has a special significance, and indicates the approaching end of a long feud between the fire tariffs and Lloyd's underwriters, we do not know. There was a passage towards the end of Mr Boulton's lecture which rather suggested the possibility of an arrangement to eliminate over-zealous competition, and it may be that some kind of compromise is in the air; but it is difficult to see how, so long as Lloyd's remains a free market of individual underwriters, a general formal agreement between the two competitors is to be achieved. With the marine departments of the great insurance offices, Lloyd's, though working in the same field, certainly can co-operate on a footing of very friendly rivalry; but the companies have organised themselves for fire business and for marine business on totally different lines, and a happy understanding that works well in one branch would not necessarily be feasible in the other. But, anyhow, it is not a bad sign that this friendly meeting, which would have been unthinkable ten years ago, is an accomplished fact to-day.

The meeting, so remarkable in itself, fortunately evoked from the chairman of Lloyd's a lecture of very remarkable brilliance and power. In less than an hour he sketched out the history of English insurance, and the part played by Lloyd's underwriters in its development,

recorded the ups and downs of underwriters' prosperity, the origin and the death of the famous insurance monopoly, which lasted from 1720 to 1824, the transition from the little market in Edward Lloyd's coffee house to the great corporation whose members in a year of peace had an aggregate premium income of £30,000,000, a figure said to be larger than that of any other insurance institution in the world.

When one considers the method in which Lloyd's underwriters transact their business, it appears an extraordinary fact that, in the face of the competition they have to meet, without advertising, without branch offices, without agents to bring them business from abroad, they can not merely hold their ground, but increase year by year their premium income and their general prosperity. An insurance company has a big office and a big staff in London, Liverpool, and most of the large provincial cities. It has agents in every town and village in England to feed it with premiums, and agents and offices in practically every country of the world to gather in the tribute levied from the foreigner to the skill, strength, and experience of the British insurance market. A Lloyd's underwriter's business premises are a seat at a cramped box in a noisy room at the Royal Exchange, and perhaps one small room at the top of a dark staircase in a dingy house in a back street of the City. His staff is composed of a deputy and two or three clerks to keep his books. He has no agents; if he wanted to advertise he would not be allowed to; he never comes into touch with the general public, and never asks the public for business. He simply sits at his seat in the Royal Exchange, with pen and ink in front of him, and waits for the broker to come along with his slips. He is Elijah waiting to be fed by the ravens, and the ravens from all quarters of the globe feed him to the extent of £30,000,000 a year.

How is this feat accomplished? Mr Boulton, in his lecture, indicated some of the factors that have contributed to the success of this great experiment. The name Lloyd's has in the course of centuries gathered round it a prestige and goodwill which (whether they recognise it or not) is out and away the greatest asset of Lloyd's underwriters to-day. The name Lloyd—as Mr Boulton justly claimed—is more often on the lips of business men than any other. It has been borrowed by foreign insurance companies and foreign steamship companies, who at their baptism give the go-by to their native tongue, and elect to call themselves after the keeper of a seventeenth century London coffee-house. So familiar, indeed, is the name to foreigners that many of them talk of the whole English marine insurance market as Lloyd's, and assume—sometimes to their own embarrassment—that when they send an order to a London broker they are bound to get a policy signed by Lloyd's underwriters. Mr Boulton attributed this high prestige to four causes:—

1. That a Lloyd's policy is first-class security.
2. That a reputation has been gained for prompt, just, and liberal settlement of all straightforward claims.
3. That the market is readily adaptable to new risks and the changing needs and conditions of business.
4. That Lloyd's is the centre of the finest shipping news service that the world has ever possessed, and is connected by tradition and by name with the great institution known as Lloyd's Registry.

In the matter of security, Mr Boulton's claim is well justified. It is no longer possible, even in these difficult times, to cast serious doubts on the security of a Lloyd's policy. By the system of deposits and the strict inquiries made into the position of every underwriting member before his election, by the stringent yearly audit to which all underwriters must submit their books, by the elaborate precautions for keeping all premiums in trust and preventing a premature distribution of profits, the Committee of Lloyd's has safeguarded the position of policy-holders with such success that even if a member were insolvent outside his underwriting business, his liabilities as a member of Lloyd's would still be met in full.

"It can justly be said," claimed Mr Boulton, "that Lloyd's has solved the problem of combining individual energy, enterprise, and initiative with the collective security of a corporate body." So far as security and financial strength is concerned, that claim is perfectly sound. But we are inclined to doubt whether Lloyd's

has yet solved the problem of combining with individual freedom—which is the life-blood of Lloyd's—that central control over individuals which tends to grow stronger every year. As the organisation has grown, and the sphere of underwriters' activity has widened, new methods have been adopted, which cannot but impair the freedom of individual action, the elasticity and give-and-take which should be the great distinguishing feature of Lloyd's underwriting. New situations obviously demand new methods, and the machinery which worked well enough in 1900 may be obsolete in 1921; but there is, we think, a danger of centralising management and tightening control so much that the initiative and energy of the individual will be lost in the efficiency of the machine.

The system of individual underwriting, both in marine and non-marine insurance, has proved itself to have many outstanding advantages, and those advantages Lloyd's need never sacrifice. But it has its limitations, too, for there are certain kinds of insurance to which it is not adapted, and are best left to the great insurance companies. There is room in the market both for Lloyd's and for the big offices, and there is no reason why they should not both work together in friendly competition, if only they will recognise each other's special suitability for different kinds of business. There is perhaps a danger that Lloyd's underwriters, travelling too widely from their old paths, and endeavouring to carry competition too far, may over-organise themselves, and lose something of that freedom and give-and-take which is their special contribution to the business of the world's insurance.

LABOUR AND LEISURE.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

As a result of the mass of unemployment which has accompanied the trade depression, efforts have been made to use the opportunity presented by the diminished economic power of Labour to reduce wages and increase hours of employment. At first the attack was made directly on wages, but now attempts are being made to lengthen the working day. Times have changed since Parliament, notwithstanding the reverence given to the principle of *laissez-faire*, was driven to impose legislative restrictions on the hours of labour of children and young persons. Yet until the last few years there had been very little reduction in hours of labour for a generation.

It is true that the eight-hour day had for long been a plank in the Labour programme; but until the recent reductions in working hours, hours of labour were, speaking generally, much what they were when the present generation first went to work, except in the case of the coal-miners. The hours of employment of a very large number of workpeople were regulated, directly or indirectly, by Statute. The Factory and Workshop Acts, the Shop Acts, and the Mines Acts all dealt *inter alia* with working hours. But, apart from the miners, the law regulated the hours of employment only of women, young persons and children. As, however, in many processes, men could not work without women and juveniles, the limitation of the hours of labour of the latter had the effect of restricting the hours of labour of a considerable number of men. Before the war there was no relation between the hours of labour and either the character of the work performed or the need of the workers. There was an eight-hour day for the coal-miners. Workers in non-textile factories, who were protected by the law, might work 60 hours a week and textile operatives 55½ hours per week—a difference due to a historical accident. Under the Shops Act the hours of employment, inclusive of meal-times, might be 70 per week.

In the years before the war hours of labour were not a prominent feature of Labour agitation. The period was one of steadily rising prices, and the energies of the trade unions were devoted to maintaining the standard of life of their members. Moreover, though the leaders were anxious to secure greater leisure for the workers, the first consideration of organised Labour was the establishment of wage rates which would yield a reasonable standard of life. Something was done, however, by the insistence of the trade unions upon higher

rates of pay for overtime. The reasons for demanding increased pay for additional labour are two: in the first place, it is intended as a deterrent, and, secondly, it is urged that overtime makes greater calls upon the vitality of the worker, and should, therefore, be remunerated on a higher scale. Since the war, it is interesting to record, many unions have preferred a reduction of hours to a further increase in money wages.

In many industries where the hours of labour of women, young persons and children are directly regulated by law, the law has become obsolete owing to the application of voluntary agreements establishing a shorter working day. In many manufacturing industries an approach has been made towards the eight-hour day, and in some trades it has been secured. The railway men and certain sections of the transport workers have won the eight-hour day, though it has in some cases often meant additional overtime. The agricultural workers obtained a limitation of hours through the operation of the Agricultural Wages Board.

Now, however, efforts are being made to lengthen the working day. No doubt in some trades the employers will meet with success in their new policy, but it is certain that the employers' move will meet with stubborn resistance from the unions; and it is not unlikely that in some industries it may result in stoppages, notwithstanding the prevalence of unemployment. There has been a realisation of the freedom which greater leisure gives. In the Isle of Wight, for example, whilst the agricultural workers have consented to a reduction of wages to 38s per week, they refuse to agree to an increase of working hours. No doubt, also, the movement for an annual holiday with pay will for the time being be stayed. The recommendation of the Adult Education Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction, in its interim report on "Industrial and Social Conditions in relation to Adult Education," that there should be established a statutory annual fortnight's holiday with pay, was hailed with satisfaction in Labour circles. In the North of England an annual stoppage of a week has long been an established custom in many trades, and in many areas, but as no work was done there were no wages. In some parts of the country, it is true to say that, except for the Bank holidays, there are no holidays, and there are hundreds of thousands of workers whose only "holidays" are periods of enforced unemployment.

Under the Factory Workshop Acts, holidays amounting to six days per annum must be granted on the usual public holidays, or days in lieu thereof, to all females, and to all workers under 18 years of age employed in factories and workshops. The Shops Act gives a weekly half-holiday to those who come within its scope. Here and there in industry agreements have been made under which these statutory holidays are paid for, and in some cases additional holidays are given with pay. It is not unlikely that efforts will be made to withdraw these concessions, and in any case it is fairly certain that for some time at least employers will be unwilling to enter into agreements under which annual holidays with pay be allowed to workpeople.

The Labour movement now attaches considerable importance to leisure. It is, of course, often contended that shorter hours and holidays would merely give the worker more time to spend in the public-house. Mr. G. K. Chesterton could supply an effective answer to this charge, both on grounds of the social value of the public-house and on the morality of ordering other people's lives for their own good. But it is obvious that the right use of leisure will not be learnt by those who have never enjoyed reasonable leisure. Moreover, it is to be remembered that an ever-increasing number of workpeople are taking an active part in local government and in other forms of public work, whilst the affairs of trade unions, co-operative societies, friendly societies, adult schools, and what not absorb a good deal of the leisure time of the workers associated with them. Nor should it be forgotten that year by year a larger number of workpeople are being drawn into the Workers' Educational Association and other educational movements.

There is, from the point of view of industrial efficiency, a good deal to be said for shorter hours of labour. If it were true that a shorter working day would inevitably

mean diminished production, it would be a strong argument against a further reduction of hours, though it would not necessarily be a final argument. But it is not universally true that shorter hours mean smaller production. The researches which have already been made into the question of industrial fatigue in relation to output go to show that very often a reduction of hours of labour may be followed by increased production. The whole problem of hours of employment needs full investigation. The theory has recently been advanced that regular hours of labour and steady work are not favourable to the largest production, and that better results may possibly be secured by spurts of intense activity. Further, the question is not merely one of the right number of hours of labour per day; it is also a question of the best number of hours per week and per year. It may be that the "optimum production" will be secured by a five-day week instead of a five and a-half day week, or by a long week-end holiday each month, or by a solid month's holiday per year. In other words, so far as the amount of time spent in wage-earning employment is concerned, the problem of production is one of the best distribution of working hours, and at present we are in utter ignorance of the proper solution.

One thing, however, is certain. Hours of labour in industry have been excessive, whether we regard the question from the point of view of industrial efficiency or leisure, and it is a pity that attempts are now being made to revert to earlier standards and practices without any consideration of the final results of such a policy. It ought to be possible to reconcile the claims of the community to a higher standard of life, and the claims of the worker to reasonable leisure by a distribution of working hours, which will yield the former through greater production, and make possible the latter by a reduction in the hours of labour.

LATIN-AMERICAN NOTES.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

COLOMBIA.—The present month of November is not unlikely to prove of vital importance to the financial interests of Colombia. It will be known definitely what sort of coffee crop will be obtainable, and there should also be forthcoming this month the first instalment, amounting to \$5,000,000, of the total compensation payment of \$25,000,000 due from the United States in connection with the loss to Colombia of its pet province of Panama in 1903. When the American Senate ratified last May the Colombian Treaty, it was stated that the sum of \$5,000,000 was to be paid over annually, the first payment being due six months after signature of the agreement. Should there be any delay, it will make all the difference to Colombia, whose treasury at the present time is much depleted, while there is the prospect of a still heavier deficit occurring upon the Budget. The past 12 months have proved exceptionally trying for the country, but, fortunately, it is possessed at the same time of a Government composed of statesmen both capable and patriotic men. The unfavourable economic situation has been further accentuated by a general non-observance of the Presidential decree against the exportation of gold coin or the melting of it into bars. Large amounts of the precious metal have been leaving the country for months past; and, appreciating at length that there was little chance of the exportation being controlled entirely, the Government recently considerably modified its original decree. It is now merely necessary to obtain a permit from the Mint to ship the metal abroad. As to the general conditions of trade in Colombia, the latest reports to hand are not very encouraging. A movement is at last taking place in regard to the long pent-up accumulations of merchandise at the ports of Barranquilla and Cartagena, arising from an over-ordering of goods from the United States and Europe, which arrived at the worst time of the financial crisis, with the result that the con-

signees were unable or unwilling to pay for them. Until these have been claimed and cleared, there can be no permanent or sound revival in the trade of the country.

BRAZIL.—Earnest efforts are being made to revive British trade in Brazil, where, on account of the exchange and after-war conditions, there has been a serious decline in our commerce. Another important factor has been the coal strike in England, for dear coal since the war has had far more to do with the prohibitive prices of British goods going to South America than has the abundance of paper-money. Cheap iron and steel and cheap transport are absolute essentials for an exporting country, and hardly less so for a vast State like Brazil; without them it would be folly to expect any revival in the present condition of affairs. An opportunity to assist the movement now inaugurated by those in Brazil will be afforded in connection with the great Exhibition to be held in Rio de Janeiro next September. Already merchants and manufacturers are being circularised, and pledges of active co-operation invited. It is somewhat discouraging to learn that the response, so far, has not been what might have been looked for. On the other hand, it is comprehensible that owners of factories should wish to see their way clear at home before committing themselves to large outlays abroad. Allowing for all the transport facilities that are promised, and the assistance tendered to those who will support the Rio Exposition of 1922, there must be entailed a very heavy expenditure by those who decide to participate. It may be taken for granted that be the position in Germany never so bad there will be numerous Teutonic exhibitors, while it is understood that promises of active co-operation have been received to date from Swiss, French, Belgian, and United States exhibitors, so that for the United Kingdom to be unrepresented would prove a great disaster.

CUBA.—The visit of the Cuban Mission to this country should serve to bring about the much-desired rehabilitation of British trade with the rich and well-ordered West Indian Republic at a time when it threatens to become almost negligible. After a period of depression consequent upon an unhealthy speculative fever, Cuba is fast regaining its usual prosperity. The head of the Commission, General Menocal, until a few months ago President of Cuba, sees "great possibilities" for the furtherance of trade between his country and this, possibilities which have been frequently pointed out in these columns. In the *Economist* of August 28, 1920, the position of British trade, then seriously menaced by the impending increase of the duty in connection with the tobacco trade, was discussed. It was stated that "the new duty will cripple the home trade to a considerable degree, necessitating the employment of so much capital for the payment of duty that importers will be compelled to reduce their stocks, and thereby forfeit their chance of securing the future export trade." The justice of this contention has been abundantly proved. Mr Chamberlain admitted this in his speech at a dinner given in the Strangers' Room at the House of Commons, on the 10th instant. He confessed to "the mistaken policy of putting on the extra tax," referring to the same as "a dark chapter in his career." The relief of the duty has resulted, in five months, in an increase in the sale of Havana cigars by no less than 11½ millions. It is to be regretted that General Menocal did not indicate by what means our trade with the island is to be increased in view of the heavy discriminating rebates in favour of the United States against which we have to contend. It is true that there is a substantial demand for British-made textiles, both cotton and woollens, as well as agricultural machinery, but in many other classes of exports we are handicapped by the preferential tariffs enjoyed by American shippers. The recent depression in Cuba has been felt in the United States, however, notwithstanding their favoured position, imports from the island having declined during the 12 months ending last June from a value of \$645,571,828 to \$420,399,940; but their exports to Cuba from a value of \$395,790,649, in 1920, rose to \$403,285,861 in 1921, the total decline of trade for that period being \$217,656,676, i.e., from \$1,041,362,477 in 1920 to \$823,685,801 in 1921.

Business Notes.

Employment in October.—Employment conditions did not improve in October. Any change that can be traced from official statistics was for the worse. According to the *Labour Gazette* the percentage unemployed among members of trade unions from which returns are received was 15.6 at the end of October compared with 14.8 at the end of September. How this percentage has moved month by month in recent years is shown by the following table:—

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.

End of—	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	2.2 ..	0.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.0 ..	2.4 ..	2.9 ..	6.9 ..
February ..	2.0 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	1.6 ..	8.5 ..
March	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	1.2 ..	2.9 ..	1.1 ..	10.0 ..
April	1.7 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	0.9 ..	17.6*
May	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.9 ..	2.1 ..	1.1 ..	22.2*
June	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.7 ..	1.7 ..	1.2 ..	23.1*
July	1.9 ..	0.4 ..	0.4 ..	0.6 ..	2.0 ..	1.4 ..	16.7 ..
August	2.0 ..	0.4 ..	0.5 ..	0.5 ..	2.2 ..	1.6 ..	16.3†
September ..	2.3 ..	0.4 ..	1.3 ..	0.5 ..	1.6 ..	2.2 ..	14.8 ..
October	2.2 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.4 ..	2.6 ..	5.3 ..	15.6 ..
November ..	2.0 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.5 ..	2.9 ..	3.7 ..	..
December ..	2.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.4 ..	1.2 ..	3.2 ..	6.0 ..	..

* Excluding coal miners. † Revised figure.

The percentage unemployed among workpeople insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act was 12.8 on October 28th, as compared with 12.2 on September 30th; the figures on which these percentages are based are exclusive of those persons who had removed their unemployment books after exhaustion of benefit. On November 4th the second special benefit period commenced, and persons who had exhausted benefit were able to make fresh claims, and the percentage at that date was 14.5. In addition to those unemployed, 152,000 males and 100,000 females were registered on October 28th as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At September 30th the corresponding figures were 177,000 males and 145,000 females. In the coal mining industry the rates of wages for October, which were based on the proceeds of the industry in August, were adjusted in each district to percentage advances over standard rates. In Northumberland, Durham, Yorkshire, and the East Midlands and Lancashire the adjustment resulted in increases to the higher paid workers and reductions in the case of the lower paid workers, whilst in other districts all classes of workers sustained decreases. The principal groups of workpeople, other than coal miners, affected by reductions in October included blast furnace workers in most districts except Cleveland (where there was a small increase), iron puddlers and iron and steel millmen in the Midlands, various classes of pieceworkers in shipyards, makers of light castings, hosiery workers in the Midlands, textile dyers, bleachers, &c., in Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Scotland, and workpeople in the heavy chemical and soap and candle trades. Since the beginning of 1921 changes in rates of wages reported to the Labour Ministry have resulted in a net reduction of over £4,370,000 weekly wages of nearly 6,800,000 workpeople, an increase of over £23,000 in the wages of nearly 1,000 workpeople.

Cost of Living.—According to the official calculations of the Labour Ministry, published in the *Labour Gazette*, the average level of retail prices (including food, rent, clothing, fuel, light, and miscellaneous items) was on November 1st about 103 per cent. above the level of July, 1914. This compares with 110 per cent. a month before. The November 1st figure is the lowest recorded since July, 1918—four months before the end of the war. High water mark was reached just a year ago at 176 per cent. The fall since then is traced in the following table:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.

1920.	1st	Per Cent.	1921.	1st	Per Cent.
January ..	125		January ..	165	
February ..	130		February ..	151	
March	130		March	141	
April	132		April	133	
May	141		May	128	
June	150		June	119	
July	152		July	119	
August	155		August 2nd ..	122	
September ..	161		September 1st ..	120	
October	164		October	110	
November ..	176		November ..	103	
December ..	169				

The decline in October is attributed mainly to reductions in food prices. Most principal items of food, including meat, bacon, flour, bread, butter, cheese, potatoes, sugar and margarine, fell in price during October.

Railway Borrowing.—The *Gazette* notice of a Bill to be introduced into Parliament by the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway Company contains three points of interest to the City. The company seeks power (1) to issue debentures exceeding in amount the traditional limit of one-quarter of the total capital; (2) to provide that the new debentures may be redeemable and not permanent; (3) to provide that the new debentures shall rank *pari passu* with existing debentures. As to (1), there can clearly be no objection. The present restriction, which is owing to the forceful and obstinate personality of Lord Redesdale, who was Chairman of Committees in the House of Lords half a century ago, has long been obsolete. The railways in America, where conditions are much more stable than here, have long regarded it as a counsel of perfection to raise only half their capital by bonded debt. The restriction to one-quarter here only adds to the revenue charges which traders and passengers have to meet without any corresponding advantages to anybody. As to (2), no argument is needed. There are several precedents already from other companies, and there is no objection in principle. Point (3) may possibly raise more question. Theoretically, no doubt, the security for a first charge of £1,000,000 on a property worth £20,000,000 is impaired if a second million is permitted to rank equally with it. But in the case of a great English railway the impairment of the security can hardly be more than theoretical; and as a set-off against this, the holders of the first charge gain at least some advantage in that their stock is larger, and therefore more marketable, and bought and sold at closer prices. Notices that further stock may be issued in the future to rank with stock now authorised are frequently contained in Railway Acts. But when a railway company later on seeks authority to issue new stock with this rank, holders of the existing stocks not infrequently oppose the proposal, and sometimes successfully, for the reasons we have given. We doubt whether their opposition is justifiable. Clearly, in the interest of business as a whole, what is desirable at this moment is that English railways should obtain without difficulty what new capital they need, and obtain it as cheaply as possible.

Railways and Road Transport.—Notice was also given in Tuesday's *London Gazette* that application is to be made to Parliament in the ensuing session by the London and North-Western, the Midland, and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Companies and other companies constituting the North-Western Midland group for an Act to empower the companies "to provide, own, work, and use omnibuses, motor cars, and other road vehicles to be worked by electrical, mechanical, animal, and other power for the conveyance of passengers, passengers' luggage, parcels, animals, and goods," a privilege which, it may be recalled, was not granted under the recently passed Railways Act. The proposed Bill also contains a clause "to vary and extinguish all existing rights and privileges which might in any way interfere with the objects of the intended Act and to confer other rights and privileges."

Railway Statistics.—The Railway Statistics for August, published by the Ministry of Transport, show that, although the volume of passenger and freight traffic was greater than in July, it was much less than in the corre-

sponding month of 1920. The total number of passenger journeys (excluding season ticket holders) was 115,128,469, a decrease of 30,656,575, or 21.03 per cent. compared with August, 1920; the reduction in workmen's journeys amounted to 15,669,470, or 38.09 per cent. There was considerable expansion of excursion traffic, and the number of journeys increased from 484,675 to 5,634,943. There was also an increase of 929,145 journeys at other reduced fares. While the average receipt per journey from all descriptions of passengers, except season ticket-holders, increased from 16.64d to 19.98d, the falling off in traffic caused a reduction of 5.18 per cent. in the total passenger receipts. The passenger train miles run were 765,413 more than in August, 1920, an increase of 3.86 per cent. The decrease in coal and coke was much less than in any previous month this year, but the total tonnage of freight traffic conveyed in August, 1921, showed a decline of 4,140,127 tons, or 15.28 per cent., compared with August, 1920, and the ton-miles worked of 16.86 per cent. Freight train mileage was reduced by 10.77 per cent. The average wagon and train loads were 5.30 tons and 123.30 tons respectively, compared with 5.38 tons and 132.35 tons in August, 1920, whilst the net ton-miles worked per engine hour were 423, as against 433 in the corresponding period of last year.

North British Dividends.—The directors of the North British Railway announce that they can declare no interim dividends for the current year, the appeal of the Ministry of Transport against the unanimous judgment of the Railway and Canal Commissioners ordering the payment by the Government of £430,000 of the company's compensation claim having proved successful. The directors add that the decision of the Court of Session in no way affects the company's right to recover this sum of £430,000 as part of their expenditure on the maintenance of their rolling stock in the ultimate settlement of the compensation due to the company. As the period of control ended on August 15th last, the time has now come for making up the final accounts of the company against the Government. These accounts, failing agreement, will be settled by the Railway and Canal Commission, whose jurisdiction for this purpose has been affirmed by the Court of Session and has not been disputed. In addition to the £430,000 withheld from the claim for December, 1920, the Ministry have deducted further sums, amounting to £690,000, from the company's subsequent monthly claims during the period from January 1st to August 15th. "The directors will lose no time in submitting the company's final claim to the Government, and, if need be, to the arbitration of the Railway and Canal Commission. They are hopeful that the matter will be concluded early next year."

Coal Output.—The production of coal in the mines of Great Britain for the week ended November 12th amounted to 4,372,500 tons, which compares with 4,182,400 tons in the previous week and 4,775,600 tons a year ago. It is, it may be mentioned, the highest figure since the week ended August 13th last, when the output was 4,536,600 tons. An increase as compared with the previous week was shown in all districts, the largest being recorded for Scotland.

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.

City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

Stock Exchange Settlements.—All the Stock Exchanges in the kingdom are anxiously watching the action of the London Stock Exchange in regard to reinstitution of fortnightly settlements, and restoration of conditions that shall approximate to those which prevailed at the end of July, 1914. Consequently, lively attention is aroused by every effort made in London to secure early reversion to the conditions of Stock Exchange business, under which, it is claimed, brokers and jobbers prospered in a manner which it is impossible to expect them to do with things as they are now. The Committee of the London Stock Exchange, writes a Stock Exchange correspondent, recently called for a return to be made by their members of all loans and stocks, open at the present time, which were left as a legacy from the end-July 1914 commitments. Another return is to be sent in next January. The figures, however, do not include the whole list of stocks and shares open, but only those which were dealt with by the Stock Exchange Clearing House, and accordingly are of little more than academic interest, inasmuch as they leave out perhaps half the amount of stock open in securities other than those dealt with by the Clearing House. The object of the Treasury and the Stock Exchange Committee in requiring a return which is so necessarily incomplete is not obvious at first sight. This return, however, has been duly made. The figures are not published. The Committee have issued a statement to the effect that the position is satisfactory, while they express a pious hope that efforts will be directed to reducing the amount before the next returns are sent in by the end of January, 1922. Although the official notice is so politely colourless, there is a persistent report, in the Stock Exchange, that the actual amount of stock now open in respect of the 1914 accounts amounts to something between 2 and 2½ million pounds. If this report is correct—as it is quite likely to be—the Committee are justified in describing the situation as being a satisfactory one. Apparently, no efforts are to be made to bring to bear any pressure upon the Treasury for the latter to release its regulation that all bargains must be done for cash, and, this being the case, a number of petitions are being signed in the Stock Exchange urging the Committee to be prepared with a programme for reinstitution of fortnightly settlements, re-establishment of a clearing house, and reconsideration of questions surrounding special settlements as soon as the temporary regulations in respect of cash dealings are removed. This petition is in response to the invitation of the Stock Exchange Committee that members shall put forward their suggestions for the conduct of business after the Treasury has released the House from war conditions. In taking such a step as to invite the members to contribute their views upon the subject, the Committee are evidently fired with the desire to permit members to ventilate their opinions upon a subject around which there is lively controversy and a clash of many opinions. The outsider might well have supposed that the Committee themselves would have formulated a scheme, and then asked for their fellow-members' criticisms, instead of endeavouring to get the latter first, and to bring forward their own proposals later on. They have promised to put before the House a complete statement of their intentions by next March, and having regard to the present slackness in business, the amount of spare time at most members' disposal, and the personal opinions involved, it is safe to conclude that the Stock Exchange Committee will have plenty to do during the next three months. To the outsider the paramount consideration rests in the fact that borrowers of money and bulls of stock have a maximum time of twelve months, from the date of peace, in which to settle their commitments, and until these are cleared up it would appear a matter of great difficulty to evolve any scheme which shall have the desired effect of re-establishing periodical settlements, with all the risks attaching thereto, until such time as the whole of the pre-war liabilities are fully discharged. Elimination of the risks is aimed at by a second Stock Exchange petition, which advocates contangoes on margins (from clients), following the New York Stock Exchange practice. This plan would maintain the system of cash dealings, as at present in force, but would give clients the right of contangoing stock upon a margin, presumably of cash or collateral security, being provided.

China at the Conference.—The discussion of the Far Eastern problem at Washington unfortunately takes place during an intensification of the political and financial difficulties of the Chinese Republic. The Peking Government is repudiated by its rival at Canton, and a third authority may soon arise in Central China; several provinces are virtually independent of all three; large areas are ravaged by bandits, or exhausted by the demands of troops under leaders fighting each for himself, or suffering from the effects of recent drought, pestilence, and famine; and the terms offered by Japan for withdrawal from Shantung have aggravated the friction between the Governments at Peking and at Tokyo. A banking crisis at Peking has been averted for the moment, but the Government in that city, the only authority which the Powers can deal with, has no security which can be pledged in return for foreign financial aid. It depends at present on the surpluses from the revenues collected by the Imperial Customs Service, the salt duty, also under foreign supervision, and the railway receipts; but, according to the *Times* Peking correspondent, the two former are about to be pledged for ten years as security for a new internal loan, and the railway revenues, after paying the bondholders, will have to be spent on equipment and repairs. Something may be obtained from wine and tobacco, but the collection of these revenues is still unorganised, and the Peking Government seeks leave to raise the Customs tariff (already increased in 1918 to an average of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*) to an average of 12½ per cent., and to pledge the increased revenues as security for a new External Loan. The figures of the foreign trade and the Customs revenue are exceptionally high, partly, however, through the rise in prices and in the tariff; and China, like other raw material countries, is suffering from the inability of Europe to buy. The Powers represented at the Conference have formally agreed in principle to respect her sovereignty and territorial integrity, to enable her to establish and maintain an effective government, to secure "the open door" for foreign commerce, and not to seek special privileges for any one of themselves; and the Consortium will provide a loan on adequate financial security, and on condition that the revenues assigned for its service are under proper supervision and control. But the Nationalists, and even the Chinese delegates at the Conference, avowedly resent foreign control of any kind. Moreover, there is considerable misgiving in America as to the implications of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, the exact text of which is unknown. But it is to be brought into harmony, as was officially declared last year, with the letter of the League of Nations Covenant; it was formed in 1902 avowedly to protect China's territorial integrity and independence; Germany and Russia, who were then the danger, are now powerless; it becomes operative only if one member is at war with two Powers at once; and it is unthinkable that Great Britain could join Japan in a war with the United States. The alliance seems, therefore, to be obsolete. Possibly it may be absorbed in a wider pact, including the Powers represented at the Conference. Eventually some way will doubtless be found of helping China out of her difficulties; but, as the first step, she must get nearer to internal peace.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo state that owing to delay in the return of end-of-the-month money the money market was somewhat tight at the beginning of November. But, with Exchequer Bills paid off on the 9th inst., and the demand for money by the exchange banks falling off, the market eased considerably towards the middle of the month. In view of the approach of the end of the year, bankers are adopting a very cautious attitude. After the death of the Minister, the stock markets were quiet, but the subsequent settlement of the political situation increased confidence. The second estimate of Japan's rice crop is 54,000,000 koku, or 6 per cent. less than the first, and the quotation for futures jumped to 43 yen, whereas spot price was 39.60 yen on November 15th. Silk yarns are firm, on good inquiries, but cotton yarns are weak, and spinners are going on short time. The continued large unfavourable trade balance is attracting much attention. On November 15th the note issue of the Bank of Japan

was 1,112,000,000 yen, as compared with 1,034,000,000 yen a year ago, while discounts and advances were 8,000,000 yen, against 165,000,000 yen.

British Empire Cotton Growing.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—According to some particulars published this week, a hitch appears to have occurred in the arrangements for financing the work of the British Cotton-Growing Corporation. Early last year the report of the Government Committee on Empire Cotton Growing was issued, and valuable recommendations were made for the purpose of increasing the cultivation of cotton in various parts of the British Empire. With regard to finance, it was suggested that a grant should be made by the Government, and money also raised from the trade itself. Ultimately the Government decided to make a grant of about £1,000,000, on condition that users of raw cotton in this country would consent to a levy of 6d a bale upon all raw cotton imported into the country. The principle of the levy has been agreed to by over 80 per cent. of spinners, who, of course, are chiefly in Lancashire. The proposal was made that the levy should be collected by the Liverpool and Manchester Cotton Association, but a difficulty has arisen in the fact that when the Liverpool Cotton Association took legal opinion as to the necessary alteration in their by-laws they were advised that to make such a change would not come within their memorandum of association, and would, therefore, be invalid. Legal opinion also stated that if the members agreed to alter the memorandum of association, and passed such a by-law, it would not be legally enforceable. The directors of the Liverpool Cotton Association have expressed their disappointment that so difficult a position has arisen, and have promised their cordial co-operation and help if any other scheme is evolved for furthering the object of Empire cotton growing. Many members of the council of the British Cotton Growing Corporation state that voluntary subscriptions would not prove satisfactory as a basis for the levy, and that it can only be made equitable if it is compulsory on all spinners. In the circumstances, it has been decided to approach the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations, the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Associations, and spinners who are not members of either body, informing them of the difficulty which has arisen, and asking them to obtain definite expressions of opinion as to their willingness to support legislative action to make the levy compulsory and universal. It is feared that owing to the difficulties met with there will be considerable delay in developing the work of the corporation, and it is understood that the grant of the Government will not be paid until a definite decision has been reached by spinners as to the payment of the levy by all cotton users in this country.

Burberry's Losses and Reconstruction.—In the year ended March 31, 1920, the first year of their trading as a public limited company, Burberry's, Limited, earned a net profit (subject to E.P.D.) of £378,228. The report just issued for the year ended March 31, 1921, records a net loss of £485,634. The reports states that "The year under review has been one of great anxiety for the directors, owing to the sudden and unprecedented fall in the prices of textile fabrics, and the heavy commitments which this company has outstanding for future delivery." This appears to be another of the numerous cases where the unavoidable difficulties of the period were aggravated by the failure to foresee the approach of collapse of the after-war boom. In the balance-sheet the directors have written down stocks, "both on hand and to be delivered," to market value as at March 31, 1921, and they have since decided to make a further provision of £100,000, "which will be sufficient to cover any decline which may have occurred since that date." From the analysis of the balance-sheet, which appears in a later column of this issue, it will be seen that at March 31st last stocks, after being written down, were still over £200,000 higher than a year previously, a fact which reveals the intensity of the directors' forward purchasing policy at a very unfortunate moment. The result of the writing down will be that, after utilising all reserves and accumulated

profits, a deficiency of approximately £350,000 will be shown. Capital reconstruction is, therefore, proposed. The report says: "The deficiency will have to be written off the share capital in order to place the company again in the position to pay dividends, and, subject to the consent of the Court being obtained, the vendors have agreed to surrender the necessary capital, and the other shareholders will, therefore, not be asked to face a loss in this connection." The present capital is £2,000,000, consisting of £1,000,000 7½ per cent. cumulative participating preference shares and £1,000,000 ordinary shares. Under the proposed reorganisation, the capital will be £1,650,000, consisting of £1,000,000 7½ per cent. cumulative participating preference shares, 300,000 10 per cent. "A" ordinary shares of £1 each, and 350,000 10 per cent. "B" ordinary shares of £1 each. The details of the scheme appear to be considerate to the shareholding public, but whether it will suffice without the raising of fresh funds time will show. A perusal of the balance-sheet suggests that a period of patience will be required, and when prosperity returns attention will presumably be paid to writing down goodwill, which stands at the large figure of £465,533.

Aerated Bread.—Some decline in net profits is disclosed in the report of the Aerated Bread Company for the year ended October 1, 1921, but, taking all things into consideration, shareholders have not much cause for complaint. Three years ago the company amalgamated with Buszard's, and since that time results have been more satisfactory, as may be seen from the table below, which sets out the figures since 1907:—

September.	Gross Profit.	Expenses.	Net Profit.	Depreciation, &c.	Div.	Rate.	Carried Forward.
1907-8.....	£ 276,253	£ 220,366	£ 55,886	£ 5,000	£ 50,409	22½	£ 17,375
1908-9.....	276,101	224,922	51,179	5,000	50,167	22½	17,458
1909-10.....	281,852	233,348	48,504	5,000	45,425	25	13,567
1910-11.....	283,695	236,203	46,492	5,000	40,883	22½	14,176
1911-12.....	284,319	227,801	56,518	5,239	45,424	25	17,031
1912-13.....	308,114	234,091	77,023	8,000	54,791	27½	31,265
1913-14.....	315,476	240,350	75,126	28,000	49,846	27½	28,543
1914-15.....	286,019	253,146	36,003	8,000	29,948	17½	26,598
1915-16.....	299,434	282,344	17,080	11,764	7,959	5	23,356
1916-17.....	299,199	303,682	(7,483)	8,000			1,271
1917-18.....	419,112	322,666	96,546	59,000	28,135	15	10,682
1918-19.....	587,456	435,506	151,950	62,000	80,500	30	20,132
1919-20.....	685,831	520,274	165,557	57,882	113,050	25	14,757
1920-21.....	728,376	584,381	145,995	40,001	105,777	15	14,150

* Includes special bonus to employees.

Gross profits, it will be seen, showed a further increase, and the report states that turnover has again expanded. But there was a larger increase in expenses, the ratio to receipts rising from 76 to 80 per cent. Depreciation fund gets £6,000, as against £20,000 a year ago, while £34,000 is reserved for income-tax and corporation tax, as compared with £22,500 last year. The dividend, which is reduced to 15 per cent., absorbs nearly as much as last year's distribution, owing to an increase in capital. The purchase of a site at Victoria was completed during the year, and a separate company, Wilton Road Properties, Limited (with the same board as the A.B.C. Company), has been registered with a capital of £210,000, of which the Aerated Bread Company has taken £70,000. An item, Wilton Road Properties, Limited, appearing in the balance-sheet at £135,400, represents a loan to that company secured by second charge on the property, and has been obtained from the bank. The only reserve figuring in the balance-sheet is the depreciation account of £24,000, while the property item stands at £801,900, additions during the year having been £72,300.

India Rubber, Gutta Percha's Results.—The report and accounts have been issued of the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Company, Limited, for eleven months ending August 31, 1921. These show that, after making provision for doubtful debts and excess profits duty, a net loss of £445,461 was made. The report, in stating these losses, points out that "a very large proportion is due to depreciation in the value of stock as at August 31, 1921, compared with September 30, 1920," while the remainder of the loss "is the result of the disastrous effects of the coal strike, the shorter hours of work, labour difficulties, the unsettled state of markets, and the great reduction of turnover due to the

competition of dumped foreign goods and surplus stocks arising out of worldwide overproduction." In the table shown below a record of the undertaking is set out for a number of years, which shows that the company prospered not only during the war and part of the post-war period, but in pre-war times. It is true that profits fell from £176,855 in 1913 to £101,944 in 1914, but by 1915 the position had been recovered:—

September 30.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.*
Gross profit	£176,855	£101,964	£207,117	£388,127	£357,768	£359,349	Dr £490,410
General expenses	82,435	78,814	82,001	134,773	147,666	204,790	205,907
Income-tax, directors' fees, &c.	3,008	2,115	4,563	44,956	72,257	32,370	40,632
Depreciation	23,861	23,957	24,199	44,807	44,931	23,889	30,949
Deb. interest	16,000	16,000	16,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	18,355
Net profit	50,551	Dr 18,992	80,406	143,583	71,913	73,300	Dr 445,461
Balance forward	5,904	7,455	1,032	59,855	99,355	100,368	142,418
Transfer from reserve	..	..	..	..	..	..	350,000
Total available for dividends	57,455	Dr 11,447	81,438	203,455	162,868	173,668	46,957
Reserve	..	..	..	50,000	..	..	..
Staff fund	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	12,500	11,459
Pref. dividend	37,500	25,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	18,750
Ord. dividend	(7½%)	(5%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(10%)	(2½%)
Carry forward	7,455	1,033	18,938	90,955	100,368	142,418	35,498

* To August 31.

To cover the loss the directors have withdrawn £350,000 from reserve, leaving this fund at £215,722, and after the profit and loss account has been adjusted, on account of preference dividend payments, £35,498 is carried forward to next year's accounts. It would be interesting to know the exact amount written off for depreciation. Stock-in-trade shows a reduction of £262,490 when compared with the figures in last year's balance-sheet, but shares in other companies, concerning which the basis of valuation is not mentioned, whether at cost or market value, are valued at £100,603, only a few pounds more than the previous year's figures. It may be pointed out that competition of dumped foreign goods was generally reported to have existed in 1913, when the company apparently fared quite well, and, moreover, adverse exchanges did not affect its profits in 1920. It is to be hoped, however, that once the industrial outlook has cleared, this old-established concern will speedily return to its well-deserved pre-war prosperity.

Slubbers' Loss.—The statement of results for the half-year ended September 30th last, issued by the directors of the British Cotton and Wool Dyers' Association, shows a profit of £4,629 for the period, from which has to be deducted £25,631, which includes debenture interest, fees, and an allocation of £12,500 to depreciation. A balance of £21,599 was brought forward from the previous accounts, and there thus remains a credit balance of £597. It is stated that stocks have been written down to values ruling at September 30th. For the year ended March 31st last there was a net profit of over £123,000, and in the previous year it was over £186,000, while for the past four years a dividend of 10 per cent. has been paid on the ordinary shares.

The Two Gold Fields.—Our mining correspondent writes:—About the middle of 1919 rumours as to an impending reconstruction of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa were current. They found their justification in a scheme for the sale of the assets to a new company, the purchase consideration being paid in shares. Rather to the surprise of most people concerned, the old company continued in existence as a holding concern. Thus there are two sets of accounts—a circumstance which has led to some confusion. The change was made owing to the fact that "the objects of the company as set out in its memorandum were unusually limited, and did not afford adequate scope for the remunerative employment of the company's capital." In 1919, of course, industrial undertakings in many parts of the world were enjoying a high degree of prosperity, and the acquisition of interests in a number of such no doubt appeared extremely good business. Substantial participations were secured in engineering, produce, and other enterprises in South Africa, as well as in oils, &c. Unfortunately for the shareholders, the company in this respect—as in taking up ground on the Rand many years ago—was just a little late. In the conditions of restricted trade which have

since prevailed, "little progress has been made by the South African enterprises above referred to, but the directors believe that the foundation for profitable future business is being laid." Meantime, the company is faced with further depreciation in the Rand old-stagers, in which it remains heavily committed; and the decline in market value of these and other descriptions not only wipes out the whole of the past year's profits, but leaves a debit balance of £111,200 to be carried forward. This is the position as regards the operating subsidiary, the New Consolidated Gold Fields. The holding company, having no income save a small sum as interest on loans, is under the necessity of paying the dividend on its two issues of preference shares—absorbing £109,000—out of the balance brought over from 1919-20, leaving £57,300 in hand. Consequently, unless the course of affairs is better in the current year than it was in 1920-21, the dividend on at any rate the second preference shares may have to be deferred—it is, however, cumulative. A strong financial position is disclosed by the balance-sheet of the New Gold Fields Company. The gilt-edged securities held at the end of June, 1920, have been sold, and a substantial portion of the proceeds is on hand in the shape of cash or short loans. These two items show a surplus of £357,900 over the creditors, and then there are cash advances and mortgages to the tune of £295,300. Why the company's holdings of War Bonds and the like should have been cleared out is a little difficult to understand. Sales could easily have been effected in the event of the money being wanted for the financing of fresh enterprises. It is true that the contingent liabilities are exceedingly heavy. In any case, the policy followed has proved most unfortunate: gilt-edged securities have recently enjoyed a substantial appreciation, whereas Mexican Eagles—of which more have been bought—and Steaua Romana—of which 16,000 were acquired—have fallen in value. A favourable account is given as to the progress of the American undertakings in which the company is interested—apart from the Trona Corporation, which suspended production in April owing to the decline in the demand for potash. Local criticism of the management of the last-named undertaking, it may be mentioned, is of a particularly drastic character.

Wages and Hours on the Rand.—In a "Note" a fortnight ago the view was expressed that the white miners in the Transvaal would have perforce to submit either to a drastic cut in wages or to an extension of the use of coloured labour. News since to hand, writes our mining correspondent, indicates that they have chosen the latter alternative. The unions have agreed to a compromise which will enable something like the full eight hours' work per day to be obtained from the natives, in place of only about five effective hours under past conditions; in addition, greater freedom in the employment of experienced Kaffirs has apparently been agreed to. All sorts of calculations were indulged in as to what the new regulations will represent in the way of savings per ton of ore crushed, some rather wild conclusions being arrived at. For example, a daily contemporary fathered the suggestion that an economy of 20 to 25 per cent. in costs should result. Seeing that, according to the calculations of a well-known engineer, native labour accounted for no more than 4s 6d out of a total average of 25s 11d for 1920, it is palpable that even the entire elimination of the native labour item would not save 20 per cent. of the expense. On the basis of a 40 per cent. increase in efficiency, the direct gain under this heading may be reckoned at about 1s 4d per ton milled. This, however, is not the whole of the story. There would also be a saving in supervision and other charges, making a total of possibly 10 per cent. The question of costs, being a vital or the mining industry, is dealt with at some length in a report of the manager of the New Consolidated Gold Fields, whose affairs are elsewhere discussed. An interesting tabulation contrasts the charges for certain lines of stores at date of writing and at the corresponding periods of 1920 and 1914. In the majority of items an appreciable reduction is shown by the latest rates as compared with those of 1920, although some are still more than double the 1914 figure. Two striking exceptions are furnished by cyanide and mealies. The first-named product is dearer even than last year; the latter—

used on a large scale to make a sort of porridge for the natives—costs now only 12s per bag, as against 22s 10d in 1920 and 10s in 1914. So far the fall in prices has been not slightly reflected in costs, owing to the fact that the mines are, for the most part, still using up stores purchased at a higher level. Nevertheless, the benefits will be felt, and in an increasing degree as time goes on, seeing that further reductions in charges may be looked for. Fresh light on the remuneration of the white workers is contained in a publication of the South African Mines Department, just to hand, which sets out the wages paid in nearly 150 classified occupations. It shows, for example, that the chief mechanical engineers on the gold mines get nearly £1,200 per annum; and on the Transvaal diamond mines £1,700; while the foremen average £640 and £720 respectively. Shaft-sinkers on contract receive as much as 48s per shift, and machine stoppers 49s 10d. Surface workers of various kinds average about 30s per shift. Even when allowance is made for the high cost of living, these rates are distinctly on the liberal side. That the leaders of the gold industry are by no means satisfied even with the present position of affairs may be judged from the rather disappointing tenour of Professor Lawn's speech at the meeting of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company last Wednesday.

At a meeting of the Institute of Actuaries on Monday next, 28th inst., at 5 p.m., at the Hall of the Institute, Staple Inn, a paper will be read "On the Relation Between the Course of Wholesale Prices of Commodities and the Market Value of Various Classes of Securities," by Mr S. J. Perry, F.I.A.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—CORN CROP—COMMODITY PRICES—RAILWAY WAGES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, November 14.

THE Government's latest estimate of the corn crop is 3,152,000,000 bushels, representing a decrease of 80,000,000 bushels from that of last year. The production of seven surplus States is placed at 1,554,000,000 bushels, or 152,000,000 less than last year. Farm reserves are of record proportions—namely, 281,000,000 bushels—which, together with the new crop, indicate a total supply of 3,454,000,000 bushels, or 71,000,000 larger than a year ago. Weather has been favourable for husking and cribbing, with the result that the greater part of the work has been finished. Latest reports from the winter-wheat sections are to the effect that dry weather has retarded ploughing, planting, and germination; present indications point to a slight decrease from last year.

Some further advance occurred in October in the general level of commodity prices. *Bradstreet's* index number at November 1st \$11.3514, marks a gain of 1.4 per cent. over that of October 1st, and of 7 per cent. from the low point touched on June 1st, but shows a decrease of 20.7 per cent. from November 1st of last year, of 43 per cent. from November 1, 1919, and of 40 per cent. from November 1, 1918, just before the Armistice. As compared with November 1, 1915, however, the index number is 8.6 per cent. higher, while the rise from August 1, 1914, is 30.3 per cent. Eight groups of commodities advanced during October, three declined, and two remained unchanged, but the only really sharp upturns were in provisions and textiles. Breadstuffs showed the only important decline. In all, 32 products out of 106 advanced, 27 declined, and 47 remained unchanged. The principal items in the food groups that advanced were live sheep and hogs and their products, mutton, and market pigs, butter, eggs, tea and coffee. Other lines which advanced were wool, several makes of cotton goods, crude and refined petroleum, olive oil, yellow pine, rosin, turpentine, and rubber.

In line with their policy, previously announced, Eastern railroad managements are sending notices to the various

classes of employees, calling for conferences to consider readjustments in wages and working conditions. A cut of 10 per cent. in wages is proposed. The carriers are seeking also to revise rules and working agreements, which each railroad has negotiated individually with its train-service employees, in order to bring about greater economies in operating costs. There are some 140 different items in the rules and conditions to be considered for that class of workers, and under existing contracts the carriers can make a change only after giving 30 days' notice. The conferences called for have no connection with the "national agreements" made during the war, which with some exceptions are still in force. The trainmen have never been parties to those agreements, which are to be revised by the Railroad Labour Board. Should the conferences fail to result in an acceptance of the wage reductions, the matter will then be submitted to the Labour Board for settlement, a development that now seems likely. It is thought that the Board will be able to take up the wage reduction cases, which will be filed as soon as the outcome of the conferences is definitely known, about two months hence.

FRANCE.—FRANCE AND WASHINGTON—THE TELEPHONE SERVICE—TRADE RETURNS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, November 22.

A SERIES of interpellations on the financial situation is still in progress in the Chamber, and is having a good effect in clearing the air before the discussion of the Budget Bill (which is expected to begin within the next few days) and before the return of M. Briand from America. With the Premier's return the real business of the session will be resumed, and in this the financial situation will assume an extremely prominent place. So far as French opinion is concerned, no great hopes are placed on there being any practical outcome from the Washington Conference. Unless Germany is much more effectively prevented from preparing to start another war, it is felt here, it will be impossible for this country to reduce her heavy military burden lower than at present. M. Briand has made the situation of France clear in his speech at Washington, and to that extent the gathering is satisfactory to people here. Beyond that it is felt, as may be gathered even from the non-partisan and purely financial journals, that only one of two results—and both unfavourable to this country—can be expected from the response to the American President's effort. Either the conference will not result in bringing about the disarmament asked for, in which case a fresh disappointment and apprehension as to the intentions of the nations who refuse to reduce their fleets will result in a new acceleration of armaments and renewed unsettlement in international relations; or it will have the effect, if Mr Harding's proposals are accepted, of throwing on the world's markets an enormous stock of iron, steel and other products, which, combined with the disturbance in the labour world due to the sudden shutting down of so many dockyards for a period of ten years, will make the world's economic situation very little better, if at all, than it is at present.

It is somewhat significant that a Bill, backed by the names of no fewer than 296 deputies, has been introduced to the Chamber (and referred for consideration to the Committee on Public Works), with the object of placing the French telephone system in the hands of a private company. The proposal is due not only to the chaotic condition into which the telephone system has fallen in this country, but also to the inability of the State, as is admitted on all sides, to find sufficient money, under present circumstances, to place the undertaking on a satisfactory basis. The French telephones, it may be remembered, were operated for some ten years under private control, and were then taken over by the State (as in England). The initiative in the present movement has been taken by M. Louis Deschamps, who was himself Under-Secretary for Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones in M. Clemenceau's Cabinet, and who has a thoroughly expert knowledge of the problem. Seeing that there was

a deficit on the working of the system of 6,000,000 in 1917, which rose to 60,000,000 in 1919, and last year to about 200,000,000, the framers of the Bill regard it as impossible for the State to replace the system on its feet. The Bill proposes that the whole system shall be handed over to a private company, with the obligations that the plant shall be completely renewed, the existing material being taken over at its present value; and that the State and the personnel shall participate in future profits.

The trade returns for the first ten months of the year show a marked decline in imports, accompanied by a very much smaller decrease in exports. Indeed, imports and exports nearly balance, as may be seen from the table below:—

(In Millions of Francs.)				
	First Ten Months of			
IMPORTS.	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.	
Foodstuffs	10,221 ..	4,887 ..	—	5,334
Raw materials	20,734 ..	9,095 ..	—	11,639
Manufactured goods	10,823 ..	4,078 ..	—	6,745
Totals.....	41,779 ..	18,060 ..	—	23,718
EXPORTS.				
Foodstuffs	2,083 ..	1,516 ..	—	567
Raw materials	5,072 ..	4,530 ..	—	542
Manufactured goods	14,597 ..	10,624 ..	—	3,973
Postal parcels	911 ..	952 ..	+	41
Totals.....	22,664 ..	17,622 ..	—	5,042

It should be explained that the values for 1920 are based on the scale fixed by the Permanent Commission for that year, while those for the current year are based (in view of the general fall in prices since 1920) on the scale used during 1919. Still more striking change in the whole situation of French foreign trade is shown by comparative figures for the first ten months of 1921, 1920, and 1913 respectively, which give not only the value but also the weights of the goods exported or imported:—

First Ten Months of						
		1913.		1920.		1921.
		Value in Millions of Frs.	Weight in Metric Tons.	Value in Millions of Frs.	Weight in Metric Tons.	Value in Millions of Frs.
Imports	6,832	36,426,434	41,779	40,656,754	18,060	27,615,983
Exports	5,638	17,846,271	22,664	10,228,782	17,622	11,929,289

The Civil Tribunal of the Seine has just given an important judgment in an action brought by a number of stockholders in the Banco el Hogar Argentino, which may have its repercussion in other countries. The bonds in question were issued simultaneously in the Argentine and in Paris, and were inscribed as having a value for redemption purposes of 100 pesos gold in the Argentine or 100 francs in France. The bank concerned claimed that it had a right to redeem such bonds exclusively in Paris and in francs, hence the reason for the action entered by the French holders. The Court held that the Banco el Hogar Argentino had no right to vary the terms of issue, which left it at the option of the bondholder to redeem his bond either in pesos or in francs, and gave judgment against the bank, which has been ordered to pay the amounts claimed by the plaintiffs, with interest and costs. The bank is also ordered to re-establish in both countries, as set forth at the time of issue, the method of redemption then provided for, and nominal damages of a franc are awarded to each plaintiff. The various banks through which the bonds were issued are exonerated from responsibility.

The Bourse has again proved exceptionally weak, and prices closed lower, as a rule, all along the line. The effect of Mr Hughes' disarmament proposals has been to add another reason for depressing prices, owing to the nervousness felt here that the reduction of the world's naval forces may have distinctly detrimental influences on industrial undertakings. Another bear factor during the week was M. Herriot's proposal in the Chamber in favour of a tax on capital as a means of meeting existing difficulties in the national finances. The outstanding cause of the all-round weakness of the Paris Bourse, however, is still the same as it has been for months past; buyers persistently refuse either to invest or to speculate while the outlook is still so unsettled, and particularly when so many new and important pending capital issues are being

talked about. That there is plenty of money available for investment has again been proved by the success of the latest Crédit National Loan of 3,000,000,000 francs, at 6,000,000 6 per cent. bonds of 500 francs each, issued at 498.50 francs. It is officially announced that the whole of the issue has been taken up by the public, and that the demand for the bonds exceeded the total amount offered both in Paris and in the country. The inference drawn from these facts here is that, whatever opinions may be held abroad as to the financial position of France, the French people are still quite prepared to place their confidence and their savings in securities issued against the guarantee of the State.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

DEBTOR.				
	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1913.	
Capital of the Bank	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000	Francs.
Profits in addition to capital	30,397,689	30,397,689	30,397,689	Francs.
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750	Francs.
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	Francs.
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444	Francs.
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918)	563,562,944	563,981,841	563,981,841	Francs.
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,167,755,440	1,159,563,018	1,159,563,018	Francs.
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918)	7,595,711	7,595,711	7,595,711	Francs.
Notes in circulation	36,719,267,100	37,376,499,075	5,670,247,205	Francs.
Interest on securities	55,964,273	59,605,252	26,470,414	Francs.
Bank notes to order	848,531	1,102,131	3,740,552	Francs.
Treasury account	33,957,000	34,772,045	295,577,706	Francs.
Current accounts, Paris	1,518,830,025	1,569,684,098	570,473,951	Francs.
Do branch banks	910,173,715	924,765,599	78,279,792	Francs.
Dividends payable	4,449,462	5,599,142	2,046,218	Francs.
Discounts and sundries	83,589,525	80,935,018	28,997,552	Francs.
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896	Francs.
Sundries	1,089,300,955	1,033,790,592	196,762,931	Francs.
Total	42,417,994,060	43,077,506,170	7,103,138,583	
CREDITOR.				
	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1913.	
Cash in hand	5,802,870,103	5,832,684,180	4,166,428,353	Francs.
Balances abroad	611,838,500	611,990,321	611,990,321	Francs.
Commercial bills overdue	1,058,476	817,364	73,530	Francs.
Discounts in Paris	1,268,269,745	1,345,826,530	485,583,785	Francs.
Foreign bills	5,101,082	6,112,844	15,597,222	Francs.
Treasury bills	667,233	165,085	7,484	Francs.
Discounts in branches	997,236,135	954,849,581	949,412,610	Francs.
Advanced payments, Paris and branches	64,475,546	64,891,472	64,891,472	Francs.
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	8,520,000	Francs.
Do on public securities	416,340,134	414,968,962	195,681,575	Francs.
Do by branch banks	1,825,827,565	1,849,740,610	538,762,945	Francs.
Advances to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000	Francs.
Do (for the war)	24,600,000,000	25,100,000,000	5,598,500	Francs.
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern-ments	4,115,000,000	4,112,000,000	4,112,000,000	Francs.
Government stock reserve	12,940,750	12,940,750	12,940,750	Francs.
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294	Francs.
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000	Francs.
Premises and furniture	49,385,694	49,390,094	43,860,804	Francs.
Expenses and management	35,011,255	33,763,738	9,709,633	Francs.
Sp. cial reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,438	Francs.
Sundries	2,188,791,562	2,294,147,589	260,936,700	Francs.
Total	42,417,994,060	43,077,506,170	7,103,138,583	

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5 1/2
Advances on bullion	5 1/2
Advances on public securities	6 1/2

GERMANY.—REPARATIONS—FINANCES—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—PRICES—COAL OUTPUT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, November 21.

THE visit of the Reparations Commission has terminated without any result beyond bringing out the fact, long known to more careful investigators than the Commission, that the making of further gold payments by Germany under the May ultimatum plan is entirely impossible unless a foreign gold loan or credit is first concluded, in which case not Germany but the foreign lender will be the real payer, and the trouble will be postponed, not solved. The Commission naturally could not admit that the 15th payment, the first regular fixed instalment of the ultimatum settlement, is impossible; and its attitude was to insist that the payment could and must be made, and to proclaim that German industry could give security for the necessary gold credit. The Commission, that is, approved of, without adding anything to, Germany's own plan. The Cabinet in a parting note declares that the provision of money for the recurring annuities by way of credit was not the sense of the May settlement, but adds that it is willing to try the credit way in order to give a

proof of goodwill. The impracticability of the whole reparations settlement is sufficiently shown by this. The reparations are a recurring and practically perpetual charge, and if payable at all they must be paid out of income. The May ultimatum settlement implicitly recognised this by professing to make part of the payments conditional upon Germany's prosperity—that was the ostensible meaning of the 26 per cent. on exports. This device merely had the effect of throwing dust in the eyes of the less critical part of the European public, which was led to believe that in some genuine way the weight of reparations was to be measured in proportion to Germany's ability to bear it. The device never deceived inquiring minds, which understood that Germany's absolute exports are no measure at all of her prosperity or of her ability to pay; with half her present exports she might be, were her foreign payment balance (independent of reparations) more favourable, much better able to pay than she might be with double her present export. The only reliable index based on foreign trade would be the relations, in value, of exports to imports, and even that would have to be qualified, as Germany's foreign payment balance is determined partly by other factors than trade. The system of throwing dust has, as usual, failed. The Reparations Commission, though proclaiming that Germany can and must pay 500,000,000 gold marks on January 15th, has not been able to point out any way in which she can pay—except, that is, the foreign credit device, which is Germany's own invention, which is not certainly practicable, and which at best leaves open the question of repayment of the foreign lender. In other words, the Commission was not in a position to say: If we were you, we could and would pay in the following way.

Were the Commission, or some other authority, tomorrow put in absolute control of Germany, it could devise no means of payment. The continual selling of marks abroad is impracticable, because at present exchange 500,000,000 gold marks is over 30,000,000,000 paper marks; and if the mark selling operation were entered on the present exchange would give way to a much worse one long before the half a milliard gold were raised. The application of high exchange currencies received for exports is also impracticable, as the diversion of these to reparations means a correspondingly increased selling of marks for foreign food and raw materials. The credit system, even if the credits develop into long-term loans, will not avail, because it involves a corresponding loss of income from the pledged properties, so that the payment of each instalment would make more difficult the payment of the next. If, as is probable, the failure of the ultimatum reparations plan, which from the first bore the stamp of a headstrong and demonstrative measure, is to be formally recognised in the coming year, it is not only a German but also a French interest that the recognition should come speedily. At least, then there will be speedy proof of the impracticability of the threatened French plans for solution by means of invasions, seizures, and other violent acts. Meantime, reparations has developed into a Humbert Safe affair, in which the imposture is kept up not by the owners of the safe, who truthfully proclaim that there is nothing inside, but by the claimants to the contents, who persist that there is.

Before the discussion of the Third Supplementary Estimates for 1921 the Reichsrat got a new official summary of the financial situation. This time the deficit of 1921 is put at 161.6 milliard marks. Reparations, which in the summer were estimated at, at most, 50 milliards, now appear at 112.2 milliards, of which 95.1 milliards is in ordinary and 17.1 milliards in extraordinary expenditure. The rate of mark exchange underlying this increase is not stated; the Government merely adds that a further mark decline means a further increase. The railways and posts deficit is now put at 20 milliards, the occupation costs 5.8 milliards, Inter-allied Commissions 1.2 milliards, the Reparations Commission alone swallowing up the vast sum of 800,000,000 marks. In 1922, when the full burden of reparations is felt, the reparations cost, on the same unstated exchange basis as the above, is reported to the Reichsrat at 234,200,000,000 marks. The new taxes now before the Legislature in the shape of bills will yield 42 milliards, so that even the deficit on the ordinary Budget will not be covered. In a statement to the Reich-

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.

On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

stag the whole yield from taxation of all kinds in 1922 is put at 95 milliard marks, or 1,583 marks 80 pf a head. The largest estimated yields are: Sales tax 24 milliards, income-tax 23 milliards, corporation tax 4 milliards, Customs 4.7 milliards, coal tax 10.15 milliards, all six Increment of Wealth taxes, 3 milliards, tobacco 3.5 milliards, beer 1 milliard, dividends and interest tax 1.530 millions, emergency levy 8 milliards, tax on capital transactions (Bourse and other stamp duties) 2.3 milliards, railway transport tax 2.6 milliards, export duties 700 millions, estate and succession duty 700 millions, land purchase tax 550 millions.

The mark depreciation is making itself felt in every domain of State and private life. From November 23rd the supplement to Customs duties paid in paper marks is raised from 1,900 to 3,900 per cent., so that the paper mark duty is 40 times the nominal. An official statement puts the rise in railway expenses, as compared with 1913, as follows:—Coal 26 times higher, rails 20 times, bar-iron 30 times, petroleum 24 times, wood 14 times, locomotives and freight cars 17 times, wages of regular officials 8 times, of non-official employees 10 times. The Reichsbank statement for November 15th reflects the price-rise in an enormous demand for credit, and a big increase in circulation. Private discounts increased from 755,207,000 marks to 1,323,994,000 marks, discounted Treasury bills from 95,339,603,000 marks to 103,725,700,000 marks, and note circulation from 92,609,995,000 marks to 95,186,123,000 marks. Kassenscheine in circulation dropped to 7,097,000,000 marks. On the 17th the Bourse suffered a sharp reaction, this in connection with the mark's firmness, and with various unconfirmed rumours of a reasonable handling of the Reparations question. Many leading stocks fell 200 per cent. on their nominal value, some considerably more; so that the Bourse index (*Frankfurter Zeitung's*) for the 17th shows (for the first time in many weeks) a sharp drop—from 42,358 to 38,413 for dividend payers and fixed-interest papers combined. Dividend payers fell from 39,234 to 35,432, and foreign bonds (which are purely exchange papers) from 2,243 to 2,073, while home loans rose from 881 to 908. The bond-buying movement continued during the week, and in general loans were to-day firm; but on the week Federal 3 per cent. declined from 110 to 97. To-day's other loan quotations are:—War Loan 77.50, 4 per cent. 78, 3½ 71.10, Savings and Premium 83.50. The Bourse to-day, with the mark exchange slightly bettered, was quiet but well maintained; mining, including Silesian, and machine papers being firm, textiles very firm, anilines with the exception of Badische rapidly rising, potash quiet, shipping inactive. Industrial quotations, despite a better outlook on the mark exchange, are kept firm by further increases of capitalisation and by increases in (paper-mark) profits and dividend rates. The Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft announces a capital increase from 850 to 1,100 million marks. This company is the largest capitalised single concern in Germany. The Schultheiss-Patzenhofer beer trust and the "Explosives Concern" (Nobel) also announce increases of capital. The Mannesmann Tubes Company reports for 1920-21 gross profits of 221 million marks, against 104 million marks in the preceding year.

Prices other than those of imports which follow the exchanges, and have, therefore, gone back somewhat, continue to rise; but there is no sign of the general German price level soon reaching the foreign at the present

low mark exchange. The Berlin *Boersen-Zeitung* calculates that already in October, when the mark stood considerably higher than now, English goods were in German marks 52 times dearer than in 1914, whereas German goods were only about 19-20 times dearer. Since then the disparity has much increased. Coal, brown coal, and briquet prices have been raised all round. The best bituminous Ruhr coal, which has cost 253.90 (average) per ton since August, will from December 1st cost 405 marks. The main cause of this increase is the rise in cost of materials. Prices of home wood have of late risen very rapidly. The coal output on the Ruhr in October was 8,047,353 metric tons in working 26 days, or 309,514 tons per working day, as against 7,853,871 tons, or 302,072 tons per working day in September; 8,174,606 tons, or 340,609 tons per working day in February (under the since abandoned three extra half-shifts arrangement); and 9,895,090 tons, or 366,484 tons per working day in October, 1913.

CANADA.—TARIFFS AND TRADE—BUSINESS CONDITIONS—PUBLIC FINANCE—RAILWAY IMPROVEMENT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

OTTAWA, November 11.

FOUR months' experience of the United States "emergency" tariff has sufficed to show how serious a matter it is for Canada. During the June to September 30th period the value of exports affected by it was \$10,070,000, as compared with \$33,546,000 for the same period last year. This ratio of decrease—no less than 66 per cent.—was considerably greater during September, when it went to over 70 per cent. In September of this year the value of these exports was \$2,934,000; in the same month last year it was \$11,133,000. The greater rate of decrease during the latter month was due to the falling off of grain exports, especially wheat. As these were much heavier during October, November, and December than they were in any preceding months, it is certain that the decrease in exports to the United States will be even more marked than it has been. At the same time, the value of imports from the United States has fallen off to an even greater extent than have exports thereto. During September the value of such imports was \$41,402,000, as compared with \$81,166,000 for the same month last year. It was also \$24,000,000 below the value for September, 1919. And the same was true of the other months of the June to September period. To some extent this is explained on the ground that ability to buy is conditioned on ability to sell. Certainly, Canada cannot take goods from the Republic to anything like the extent that she has done in the past, if she is to be prevented from selling over there her principal products. But it is also quite probable that imports from the United States have been affected during the last four or five months by the new Customs regulations, which provide that goods shall be valued according to the rate of exchange. This means that when the premium on American funds is 10 per cent., the collections are made on a basis of a value of \$110. As can readily be understood, this is quite an appreciable additional protection, and one is inclined to think that it is operating effectually.

A glance at the imports from the United Kingdom and other countries is, however, sufficient to demonstrate that the decline in imports is due chiefly to the decrease in purchasing power. During September the value of imports from the United Kingdom was \$9,135,000; during the same month last year it was \$19,646,000. From other countries, leaving out the United States, the value was \$9,000,000, as compared with \$15,000,000 in September, 1920. Due allowance must, of course, be made for the decline in prices. Further evidence of the decline in purchasing power is to be found in the decrease in savings, which last month, for example, declined to the extent of \$16,000,000. These returns are for chartered banks; those for the Government savings banks would slightly increase the decline.

It would be a mistake to infer from this that business conditions are rather serious, for they are not. These figures merely show that Canada is affected by untoward

influences that are world-wide in their operations. As a matter of fact, those who through travel are familiar with conditions on both sides of the boundary line are not slow to say that business seems to be better in Canada than it is in the United States. Business undoubtedly had improved during the last two months. Much of this, doubtless, is to be attributed to seasonal factors, chiefly the marketing of the large grain crops in the West. While the bumper wheat crop that some expected early in the year has not materialised, still it has been surprisingly good, the 300,000,000 bushels of wheat being the second largest crop in the history of the country. In the southern portions of the three prairie provinces the yield has been of a very disappointing nature; but in the northern districts it was very heavy.

As can readily be imagined, this has had a wonderful effect on industrial and commercial operations. For one thing, it created a strong demand for harvest hands. Then, again, it provided an immense amount of traffic for the railways that badly needed it. The net result is that a very large amount of cash has been put in circulation. Of course, the net return to the farmers has been low, for they have had to sell their grain on a rapidly falling market; moreover, the cost of many of the things they have to buy is still high. In general, business is good or bad in proportion as the farmers have money to spend. They have not had it for luxuries and other things that are in a near approach to that class, but they have had it for the necessities.

But there is another factor operating strongly to keep the wheels of industry moving—namely, the steady inflow of money from the United States. The sales of Canadian bonds in that country have not been as large so far this year as they were last; still, they have exceeded \$160,000,000, or nearly \$20 per capita. In addition there is the steady stream of money coming in with immigrants, which must run well up into the millions. But of even more importance is the amount of money that is being left by American tourists, who are visiting Canada in much larger numbers than ever before. It is difficult to secure accurate figures on this matter, but the Hon. Mr. Perron, Minister of Roads for Quebec, stated recently that these tourists would leave \$35,000,000 in that province this year. As Quebec is only one of the nine provinces, one is warranted in concluding that, if this estimate is correct, then as much more will be left in the other portions of the Dominion. It is estimated that the tourists drawn to the national parks in Alberta and British Columbia alone leave \$20,000,000 a year. Add to these figures the very large amount left in Ontario, and it is readily seen how important a factor this revenue from tourists is. And it is now coming all the year round. In so far as Quebec and British Columbia are concerned, this is perhaps partially due to the freedom permitted in the use of intoxicants, the splendid hotels of these provinces being full during the fall and winter. Montreal is putting up a palatial hotel to cost \$8,000,000.

Canada, however, has big problems, and though they may not seem to be heavy in comparison with those of the countries of Europe, still as they will be considered in the light of those of the United States, undeniably the burden of expenditure and taxation is very heavy. The compensation is that the greater part of it was incurred through participation in such a splendid cause as that of the Allies in the Great War. This burden has been made much heavier by the hostile tariff legislation in the United States; for while it is easy to say that other markets may be secured, still the fact remains that the rate of exchange and the general impoverishment of Europe has deprived Canada of several valuable markets that, under other conditions, would be available.

It is quite possible that the resulting dissatisfaction may lead to changes in fiscal policy that are necessary if the country is to prosper as it should. So one finds to-day in the rural communities an almost solid body of support in favour of freer trade relations with the United States, and it is this that gives the Agrarian, or Progressive, movement its strength. The demand is not so much for a low tariff as for a reciprocal trade arrangement with the United States, such as was negotiated in 1911. It is realised as never before that markets for the natural pro-

ducts of the country must be had, and the loss of the American market, from which the farmers have derived much benefit during the last five or six years, has driven them home.

The national revenue also constitutes quite a problem. The Customs collections this year will probably be 70,000,000 below those for 1920-21, of itself a serious matter. As yet this loss has not been much felt, for the income-tax, which, for the most part, did not come in until the end of the last fiscal period, has this year been almost all collected. So the latter part of the fiscal year is the one that will cause the most concern. Another problem is presented in the funding of the war loans. As yet no provision has been made for their retirement.

Next year the first of these, for \$190,000,000, falls due, so that with this and other capital charges it is probable that over \$300,000,000 will have to be raised by way of loan. It has been reported that this would be put out in the United States, but there has been nothing to warrant such a statement. As much of the money as possible will be raised at home. The railways have been doing much better during recent months. In this improvement the C.P.R. has taken the lead, due to its superior organisation. In September the gross earnings were \$19,494,761, the expenditure being \$15,174,632. As compared with the returns for the same month last year, the gross earnings show a decrease of \$514,525, but the expenditure shows a much larger decrease, namely, \$925,920. For the nine months ending September the net earnings were \$21,900,671, an increase of \$2,743,531 over those for the same period last year. The Government lines also report an improvement, their excess of revenue over operating expenditure for August having been \$40,000, while for September it was \$500,000. While the trade situation is so uncertain as to give rise to some concern, still, on the whole, Canadian financial, industrial, and business leaders generally are quite confident, the number of new industrial issues being put out indicating confidence in the future, and a belief that the turning-point in business is near at hand, if it has not already been passed.

JAPAN.—NINE MONTHS' TRADE—UNFAVOURABLE BALANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TOKYO, September 10.

THE steady decline which Japan's foreign trade has registered since the war still continues; and the turnover for the past nine months shows a drop of over 46 per cent. in exports and some 43 per cent. in imports. This tendency was particularly noticeable in September, when exports fell to 95,487,000 yen, as compared with 154,075,000 yen for the same month last year; while imports represented 127,878,000 yen, as against 117,361,000 yen for September last year. As a rule, the balance of trade tends to favour Japan during the last six months of the year, but this year is obviously an exception to the rule, as the decline was more marked in the later months. The total value of exports for the nine months amounted to 873,525,000 yen, while the imports for the period were valued at 1,169,097,000 yen, making a total turnover of 2,042,622,000 yen, a decline of some 43.8 per cent. on the total for the same term of last year, leaving an adverse balance of 295,572,000 yen. This is a decline of 24.8 per cent. on the adverse balance of last year. Each of the nine months showed a decline, with the exception of August and September, when there was a slight gain on totals. The decrease was therefore quite general.

In trade with Asia there was a decline of 42 per cent. in exports, and 48 per cent. in imports, while trade with Europe witnessed a fall of 80 per cent. in exports and 14 per cent. in imports. As to North America, exports fell off to the extent of 38 per cent. and imports 45 per cent. Trade with Africa experienced a decrease of 82 per cent. in exports and 87 per cent. in imports. With South America trade declined 89 per cent. in exports and 92 per cent. in imports. The general decline in trade with other countries was to the extent of 68 per cent. in exports and 55 per cent. in imports. A further analysis of the situation indicates that the only increase in exports was in shipments to Germany, trade with all other countries

having fallen off, though in the import trade the only exception to the general decline in import trade was with the Straits Settlements, Germany, Asiatic Russia, Siam, Russia, Switzerland, Canada, Portugal, Mexico, and Peru. Of the 28 principal commodities on the export list, only copper and beer registered any considerable gains, the most important declines being in cotton cloth, raw silk, silk fabrics, cotton yarns, cotton hosiery, refined sugar, braids, matches, toys, glass and glassware, waste silk, and tea. The cause of so general a decline in Japan's foreign trade is ascribed to the very general reaction in world trade since the close of the war, leading to comprehensive depression in most lines.

POLAND.—FOREIGN TRADE—FINANCES—EXCHANGES—CUSTOMS UNION WITH DANZIG.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, November 16.

FOREIGN trade statistics, recently published, show that during the first six months of this year much progress has been accomplished as compared with last year. The movement of imports and exports was as follows:—

(In Tons, 000's omitted.)

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports.
First half-year, 1920	1,908 ..	208 ..	1,700
Second half-year, 1920	1,622 ..	411 ..	1,211
First half-year, 1921	2,470 ..	878 ..	1,592

Exports increased more rapidly than imports, so that the trade balance is not in the same degree unfavourable as a year ago. The principal article of import is Silesian coal. If we deduct the quantities which have been imported from Upper Silesia, we obtain a much less unfavourable balance, as shown below:—

(In Tons, 000's omitted.)

	Imports (without Silesian Coal).	Exports.	Excess of Imports.
First half-year, 1920	450 ..	208 ..	242
Second half-year, 1920	471 ..	411 ..	60
First half-year, 1921	903 ..	878 ..	25

From this table it may be inferred that after the incorporation of the Upper Silesian coalfields the Polish visible balance of trade will lose its adverse character. Unfortunately, no figures giving the value of foreign trade are available, so no monetary estimate of the balance is possible.

The principal articles of export were rock oil, oil products, lubricants, timber, potatoes, alcohol, cement, and sugar. The export of oil and oil products has declined considerably during the first six months of this year. While during the first quarter 45,400 tons of unrefined oil were exported, only 11,500 tons were sold abroad during the second quarter. The exports of oil products declined during the same period from 45,400 to 39,100 tons. This decrease is due in the first instance to the crisis through which Western Europe is passing. The export of timber and alcohol has not been affected by this trade depression. The respective figures for the first two quarters of this year are 127,800 and 145,800 tons for timber and 4,500 and 7,000 tons for alcohol. During the first six months of this year 27,400 tons of sugar have been exported, nearly 12,000 tons more than during the whole previous year.

The revenues of the Treasury are covering only a very small percentage of the expenditure, as shown below:—

(Million Marks.)

	Revenues of the Treasury.	Expenditure of the Treasury.	Percentage of Revenues to Expenditure.
January, 1921	896 ..	6,896 ..	13.0
February, 1921	1,396 ..	12,896 ..	10.8
March, 1921	1,899 ..	18,399 ..	10.3
April, 1921	2,438 ..	15,438 ..	15.1
May, 1921	2,620 ..	13,620 ..	19.2
June, 1921	3,108 ..	16,108 ..	19.3

Though the revenue increased from 896 in January to 3,108 millions in June, it was only sufficient for covering a small percentage of the expenditure. Certainly, some amelioration in this respect is visible. While in January 13 per cent. of the expenditure was covered by taxes, in June the percentage had increased to 19.3 per cent. But, nevertheless, for the remaining 80.7 per cent.

the Government was obliged to resort to the use of the printing press.

It is clear that under such conditions the rise of the Polish mark which took place in the second half of October and in the beginning of November could not last. The movements of the foreign exchanges during the last fortnight were irregular and spasmodic:—

		English £.	American Dollar.	French Franc.	German Mark.	Austrian Krone.
October 31.....		13,000	3,125	220	18.5	81.0
November 2.....		12,450	3,000	210	17.5	78.0
" 4.....		11,400	2,925	205	13.5	66.5
" 7.....		10,200	2,600	190	10.0	47.0
" 10.....		13,150	3,200	240	14.0	62.0
" 12.....		16,100	4,040	275	14.6	65.0
" 15.....		14,500	3,680	235	15.5	64.0

On October 24th an agreement between Poland and Danzig was signed in Warsaw. The treaty is composed of 244 articles. The most important stipulation of the treaty is the abolition on January 1, 1922, of the Customs frontier which divides Poland and the Free State. In Danzig, beginning with that date, the Polish Customs tariff will be in force. The administration of the Customs will be, however, in the hands of officials nominated by the Free State under the control of Polish inspectors. From April 1st the economic barrier will also be abolished, so that the exchange of goods between Danzig and Poland will be completely free.

Letters to the Editor.

INTER-ALLIED DEBTS AND IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—During the past fortnight I have discussed the question of England's debt to America with many British economists and public men in various walks of life, and I find an utter failure to understand the American attitude on this most vital question. As an American who desires nothing more than to see cordial relations maintained between our two countries, I venture a few facts to make the viewpoint of my countrymen clear to Englishmen.

Many Englishmen have said to me that they have reason to believe that American bankers appreciate the need for a prompt refunding of the British debt to America, if not, indeed, a cancellation of the entire debt in the interest of stability of international exchange, European credit, and the revival of international trade. And they are puzzled that the official attitude of the United States Government seems to run counter to this opinion of America's business and financial leaders. They conclude that the mass of the American people are "shrewd Yankees" bent on getting the last pound of flesh, and selfishly insistent upon full payment of the foreign obligations because of this selfishness. Of course, nothing could be further from the truth. If Englishmen will remember that America cancelled the Boxer indemnity due from China from motives of pure idealism and altruism, they will see how false is the imputation of selfishness to my countrymen.

What, then, stands in the way of the funding of the British debt to America? Chiefly the Irish question. You are accustomed to consider the Irish question as one that primarily concerns Great Britain and Ireland. I assure you that nothing is further from the truth. The Irish question is also an American question to a much vaster extent than you realise here, and to a greater extent than many Americans themselves desire. But, whether we like it or not, there are in America more than ten million persons either born in Ireland or directly descended from pure Irish stock. And if you realise that the Irish in Ireland will not forget the history of their unfortunate country, pray remember also that the Irish in America are also good at remembering. And they are good at organising and politics, too. The Irish movement in America is extremely well organised—better organised, I think, than either the average Englishman or American imagines. This organised Irish vote, probably several millions strong—since women actually vote in America—

went solidly for Harding and the Republican party at the last election. It had not a little to do with Harding's vast majority of seven million votes, and indeed might easily have been responsible for this majority. The Irish were bitterly disappointed in Woodrow Wilson's failure to listen to the claims of their country at Paris.

Shortly after President Harding took office, the official spokesmen for the Administration in the Senate and the leaders of his party announced that the special session of Congress would pass three measures before the summer was over—the Refunding Bill, the new Tariff Bill, and a new Tax Bill. Congress was called into special session early in the year for these purposes. Notwithstanding a majority of more than a hundred in the House of Representatives and of a goodly one-third in the Senate, the Congress met all summer and failed to do any one of these three things. So complete was the breakdown of the Administration's programme that, had it occurred here, the Government would have been forced to resign. As a journalist and economist intensely interested in these matters, I was in Washington during almost the entire special session of Congress, and in a position to know what took place behind the closed doors where policies are determined. It was the Irish who frustrated the Administration's programme. The minute the Refunding Bill was put on its passage by reference to a committee of the Senate, literally tens of thousands of telegrams began to pour into Washington from every part of the United States protesting against the measure. Most of them were from Irish or inspired by Irish. Their burden was, "If Great Britain has money to send troops into Ireland to kill women and children and to wage a war for Imperialism, she has money to pay her debts to America." Many of these were from American citizens of Irish extraction whose near relatives were victims of the war in Ireland.

Now, it is all very well for our Admiral Sims to speak of this vote as the "jackass vote," and to declare that members of Congress who are influenced by the Irish in their constituencies are cowards. (This statement, by the way, aroused intense indignation in America, and especially in Congress, and did more to separate America and England than tons of Irish propaganda could have done.) But the fact remains that the entire membership of the House of Representatives is elected every two years and one-third of the Senate. And the elections are next year. Anyone who knows anything about politics or politicians knows that for a member of either House of the American Congress deliberately to offend a large part of his constituency is to commit political suicide. And I think that, even in England, politicians are not much given to this form of hari kari. When you reflect that in Massachusetts, for instance, the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic has upwards of a hundred thousand dues-paying members, it is no wonder that Senator Lodge of that State will go slowly before he would deliberately offend this large vote. Not to do so would be the act of a "jackass." And so the Refunding Bill was quietly shelved by being buried in committee. I believe you take care of troublesome legislation that way here in England. The plain truth of the matter is that America does not even dare discuss the refunding of the British debt so long as the Irish question remains unsettled. To do so would open up a fierce discussion of the Irish question and unloose passions and feelings that would do much to destroy the friendly relationships between our two countries.

And you must not think that only the Irish in America are interested in the Irish question from this standpoint, although the Irish interest is large enough and intense enough to stop any action. America is not resting on a bed of roses. There are 5,000,000 unemployed in America and the farmers in many parts of the country are in distress. In Iowa, for instance, farmers are actually burning corn in their furnaces for fuel because it is cheaper to do this than to sell it at the low figure it will bring in the market and buy coal at the high figure demanded for coal. In many parts of the South farmers have actually been forced to dispose of their working animals in order to get money on which to live. And they are very bitter. And so, when they are told that to remit the British debt would be to permit England to

continue a war in Ireland with American money, they join the chorus against remission of the debt. They know little or nothing about the Irish question, although I really believe America has had more information about Ireland than you have had here in England. There was a time when America was inclined to take the view that England was right in suppressing a rebellion in Ireland, just as we suppressed one in America in 1865. When Lloyd George made his speech, somewhere in Wales I believe, in which he said that soldiers could not be blamed for excesses when their comrades were shot at from ambush by men in civilian clothing, this struck a responsive chord in America, because all Americans have a passion for fair-play above everything else. This speech of your Premier was cabled in full to American newspapers, and our great journals gave most of their front page to it. Of course, we knew that our Revolutionary soldiers at Lexington had no uniforms and fired from ambush as "embattled farmers" whose shots were "heard round the world," but our Revolutionary Army got into uniform as quickly as it could. And we all quite agreed with Lloyd George that the Irish soldiers ought to wear uniforms. Then we were shocked to learn that England would not permit the Irish Army to wear uniforms, and made the wearing of a uniform an offence, and your great opportunity was lost.

We Americans like to think directly and logically as much as we can, and we were unable to understand how England could complain of guerilla warfare when she herself had chosen to drive the Irish rebellion underground. And so the Irish propaganda gained vast support from all America, even from Americans of pure English blood. And now that a High Court in Ireland has declared that a state of war exists in Ireland, and the British Government has actually recognised the Irish rebellion as a war by the present negotiations, there can never be any hope that a resumption of the war in Ireland will be thought of in America in any other way except as a war against another nation. And, believe me, America will not willingly furnish any money for such a war, directly or indirectly. We all thought we were fighting a war to end war, and we are tired of wars anywhere.

I think the English people ought to realise that most Americans desire a settlement of the Irish question as passionately as do the English themselves, or even more so. We are getting just a little tired of the Irish question ourselves. And until it is settled America will not, in my judgment, even discuss with Great Britain the refunding of the foreign debt. It is the one big question that stands between our two countries, financially and from a standpoint of better trade relations.

For example, I wonder if you realise how effectual has been the anti-British trade boycott in America, started and fostered by the Irish? I have no figures available here, but I happen to know that a large toilet goods house found it worth while to spend a vast sum of money advertising all over America that they were not an English company. They had been included in the list of firms to be boycotted by Irish sympathisers in America. From the amount of money expended on this advertising campaign they must have lost a vast amount of business. And the longer this boycott goes on the more will substitutes for English-made goods have rooted themselves in trade channels and the greater the difficulty in regaining the trade after the boycott is over.

I have tried to indicate in this letter the feeling and viewpoint of business America. I have avoided any discussion of the merits of the Irish question. The point is that this situation exists, regardless of the merits of the question altogether. I am in a position to know the feeling of America, because as a journalist I have travelled the entire country and given special study to the question of international finance and trade. It is a shame that our countries are being kept apart by the Irish question, but we ought to have sense enough to recognise that they are.

The settlement of this question will mean more to bring us together from a standpoint of finance and trade than anything else that could possibly happen, and if it is not settled I am sure we shall be permanently kept apart. I think England ought to realise that more fully than she does.—Yours sincerely,

SAM EVANS.

London, November 21st, 1921.

COAL WAGES AND PROFITS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—The perusal of the interesting article, "The Future of Coal," in your last issue, led me to apply a little elementary algebra to the terms of the wages settlement described therein. The result is that the miners' share is equivalent to 83 per cent. of the gross receipts, diminished by 83 per cent. of the cost other than wages, and increased by 2.89 per cent. of the total standard wages. So that the settlement is for all practical purposes a profit-sharing scheme, the respective shares of owners and miners being 17 and 83 per cent. Standard wages affect the result very little, and they would not have affected it at all if standard profit had been taken (as it logically should have been) at $\frac{1}{10}$ of standard wages, and not at $\frac{1}{100}$ of the same figure. The result is (to my mind) somewhat surprising.

May I also ask your contributor whether any depreciations of capital cost are charged to cost other than wages, and, if so, on what agreed basis, if any?—Yours, &c.,
London, November 22nd, 1921. B.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"The Hague Rules, 1921, Explained." By Sanford D. Coe, Solicitor. (London) Effingham Wilson. 2s 6d net.
"The Hague Rules, 1921, Discussed from the Business Side by One Who was There." By L. C. Harris. (London) Effingham Wilson. 2s net.

MUCH discussion has been roused in commercial circles by the proposals which took shape at the recent conference of the International Law Association at the Hague for modifying and standardising the clauses in bills of lading so far as they relate to the risks to be assumed by sea carriers. On the analogy of the York-Antwerp Rules of General Average, it is proposed to call the code of clauses to be incorporated by reference, "The Hague Rules, 1921." Both these booklets deal with the matter at first hand—that is, the writers were present at the Hague conference. In each case the text of the rules, which it is proposed should be adopted as from January 31st next, is given, accompanied by an explanatory statement. Mr Harris, looking at the question from a business standpoint, expresses some disappointment that merchants have not all welcomed the outcome of their own proposals. The tendency of late has been, however, as pointed out in an article in the *Economist* last week, for criticism to subside, and the indications are that the rules will be adopted in actual business. They do not improve the present conditions so far as ship-owners are concerned, but Mr Harris strongly recommends shipowners to apply the rules in practice, because they will put an end to shippers' grievances, rectify the unreasonable application of the law as to unseaworthiness, allow reasonable terms as to deviation, and prevent embarrassment from varieties of legislation in different countries. Mr Cole's booklet contains a more detailed account of the steps which led to the formulation of the rules, and fuller explanations of their provisions. Though intended for the use of commercial men, it examines the legal rather than the purely business aspect. The bill of lading is the basis of overseas trade. It is a legal document, with the terms of which bankers and underwriters are concerned, as well as shippers and shipowners. Both these small works deal with their subject in a practical way, and should appeal to a very considerable number of interested readers.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Società Italiana Per Azioni Notizie Statistiche. (Milan) Credito Italiano.

In four substantial volumes all the most vital statistics are given concerning Italian joint stock companies. This is a valuable work of reference for all interested in Italian affairs, and we understand the copies may be obtained from the London branch of the Credito Italiano, 22 Abchurch Lane.

The Property Owners' Journal, November, 1921. (London)
The Property Owners' Protection Association, Limited,
 17 South street, E.C.4. 1s.
Bank of Finland, 1914-1920. Year Book, compiled by the
 Statistical Department of the Bank of Finland. Vol.
 1. (Helsingfors) Offices of the Bank.
The Hague Rules, 1921, Discussed. By L. C. Harris.
 (London) Effingham Wilson, E.C.2. 2s. net.

BANKS' CIRCULARS.

Monthly Review. October 31, 1921. (Cape Town)
 Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited.
Monthly Financial Report. November, 1921. (London)
 Lloyds Bank, Limited.
Monthly Trade Report. September 30, 1921. (Pretoria)
 The National Bank of South Africa.
Monthly Review. November, 1921. (London) London and
 River Plate Bank, Limited.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts
 of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every
 description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to
 correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.
November 29.ACCOUNT.
November 30.

The course of Stock Exchange business has been somewhat
 interrupted by what was regarded as the increased gravity of
 the Irish situation, and the reported disagreement of the
 Japanese with the Disarmament proposals at the Washington
 Conference. Various industrial companies have published
 reports showing heavy losses on the year. Sir Robert Horne,
 in his speech on Wednesday night, took a fairly cheerful
 view of the outlook, and various trade indications are held to
 point to the fact of industry having reached the bottom of
 the slump, and being now turned towards a more prosperous
 path. Various new issues of substantial amount are declared
 to be close at hand, and the unexpected appearance of six
 million pounds Union of South Africa 6 per cent. stock
 threw something of a damper upon the partly-paid scrip stocks
 in the Consol market.

The War Loan holds very closely to 88, anticipation looking
 for the usual reinvestment of interest-money on the stock
 which will be released next Thursday. Steady demand con-
 tinues for Funding Loan and Victory Bonds, while National
 War Bonds and other short-dated securities are moving within
 narrow limits. There is something of a shortage of stock
 amongst certain of the older Colonials, and this is reflected
 in half-a-dozen improvements during the past two or three
 days, but the scrip stocks which have not yet found permanent
 homes for their full amounts are inclined to dwindle, and a
 few of them stand at discounts ranging from $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent.
 But the Port of London scrip has risen to 2 premium.

German bonds have given way, and a number of declines
 occurred in Russian Government and Russian railway bonds.
 French Fives and Fours were lowered, on the further de-
 preciation in the franc. Chinese bonds have been disposed to
 move up, though each advance brought out a certain amount
 of stock. Other issues in the foreign market keep fairly
 steady.

The Home Railway market is uncertain. The Brighton Com-
 pany is applying for powers to enable it to raise fresh money,
 and it is expected that other railways will follow a similar
 course before long. This may mean the placing of new capital
 in front of existing securities. The market is hoping, rather
 than expecting, that the dividends of six months ago will be
 repeated in respect of the current half-year; it is candidly
 acknowledged that estimates are impossible to form with any
 approach to accuracy. Grand Trunks have recovered a trifle
 after their acute flatness, and Mexican rails advanced a little
 in company with the sharp rises in Mexican Government
 bonds due to American purchases. The Argentine Railway
 market is quiet. Brazilians have further strengthened, owing
 to the permission accorded to the San Paulo Company to
 raise its rates on New Year's Day.

Rubber shares continue to attract a good deal of attention,

business being of the spasmodic order and centring upon the
 shares in a few companies, Anglo-Dutch being the most
 popular. The Rubber Growers' Association and the Rubber
 Shareholders' Association held a joint meeting of delegates
 this week, and cordiality has been established between two
 bodies that, it was feared, might come into conflict with one
 another over points of details. The price of the produce re-
 mains a little under 1s per lb. The oil market is looking
 forward with no little anxiety to the meeting of the Royal
 Dutch Company next Wednesday, whereat the directors will
 seek powers to alter the articles of association in such manner
 as will permit payment of dividends to be in scrip as well
 as in cash. The possibility of other oil companies adopting
 the same plan is exercising the minds of a good many proprie-
 tors, and the market, with fitful movements, continues to be
 somewhat wild. Imperial Continental Gas, after being up to
 155, fell back 15 points, on disappointment with the written
 offer of the German Government to pay the company
 £1,600,000 in respect of its German claims. The Shipping
 market is inclined to be heavy, with Cunards and some of
 the other lower-priced shares easier on the week. Dunlops
 have fluctuated in anticipation of the forthcoming report, which
 is expected to be a bad one, but which, according to advance
 rumours, will show that there is no necessity for share-
 holders to put up more money at present. Duff Developments
 are better, on the result of the arbitration between the
 company and the Government of Kelantan being satisfactory
 to the former. India Rubber shares fell to 11s on the report
 showing a loss of over £400,000 for the year, but buyers were
 not very successful in picking up shares at the bottom price.
 The disastrous report of Burberys led to weakness in the
 shares. The Wireless group is easier, and cable stocks have
 also given way to a slight extent. In the Brewery market,
 Allsopps rose sharply, and were the outstanding feature of
 strength in this department. Iron, Coal and Steel shares are
 lower for choice, though the Armament group is tolerably
 steady. There is little interest being taken in Hotel and Cater-
 ing issues. Sudan Plantations gave way on the issue of the
 report.

The price of gold has been falling again, owing to the
 rise of the pound sterling as compared with the dollar, and
 Kaffirs were at one time during the week in a very depressed
 condition, from which, however, they recovered a shade on
 support from the Cape. There is still labour trouble on the
 Crown Mines property, and the meeting of the Johannesburg
 Consolidated Investment Company evoked a cautious speech
 from the chairman. A slump in De Beers followed the
 announcement that the company may have to curtail opera-
 tions owing to the unsatisfactory state of the diamond trade.
 The price of lead has been rising, which proved helpful to Rhode-
 sia Broken Hills, and to some of the other companies concerned
 with this metal. Mexican Mining shares are also a trifle
 better, in sympathy with the advances established in other
 Mexican bonds and stocks. Tin shares, however, continue
 on the down grade. Russians are better, because of the
 announcement that labour is to be freed in Russia. Indian
 Mining shares show irregular movements of a few pence.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of
 opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital. £	Cash Subscription. £	First Payment. £	Further Li- ability. £
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	304,445,486	..	..
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£	1,024,990		
5½% 1929 receipts to November 12, 1921		111,809,459		
Week to November 19, 1921		6,940,000		
Receipts to date		118,749,459		
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 19, 1921.				
April 1 to November 19, £4,130,000	300,000	..	300,000	..
To the Public—				
British Thomson-Houston Co., Ltd., £1,500,000 7½% Mort. Deb. Stk. (red. at par 1922-62), Iss. at 92½% (Nov. 23)	1,500,000	1,387,500	..	75,000 .. 1,312,500
Union of South Africa Consoli- dated 6% Stk. £6,000,000 (red. at par 1930-40), issued at 96½% (Nov. 22)	6,000,000	5,790,000	..	300,000 .. 5,490,000
Herts and Essex Waterworks, £12,000 7% Red. Mort. Debts., at par, to be redeemed at par on Jan. 1, 1932 (Nov. 23)	12,000	..	12,000	.. 1,200 .. 10,800
Total offered to public	..	7,189,500	..	376,200 .. 6,813,300
To Shareholders only—				
Barraquilla Railway and Pier, £50,000 8% Second Mort. Deb. Stock (red. at par by annual drawings, 1924-1932), issued at 90%	50,000	..	45,000	.. 2,500 .. 42,500
Great Boulder Proprietary Gold Mines, 50,000 shares, 2s, at 4s 9d ..	5,000	..	11,875	.. 11,875
..	..	..	56,875	.. 14,375 .. 42,500

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1921	1921
1920	1920
1919	1919
1918	1918
1917	1917
1916	1916
1915	1915
1914	1914

Series B 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds, issued at 98 per cent., payable on application. Repayable at par on April 1, 1929. Interest payable on April 1st and October 1st. The first dividend will be paid on April 1, 1922. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, and interest will be exempt from Corporation Profits Tax. Bonds of this issue will be convertible at the holder's option as on April 1, 1922, or October 1, 1922, into £3 10s per cent. Conversion Loan at the rate of £146 Conversion Loan for each £100 of bonds converted. These bonds may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland. The receipt of applications for bonds of the present issue will terminate on the 30th instant, and a new issue will be offered on Thursday, December 1st.

Union of South Africa 6 per Cent. Stock, 1930-1940.—Issue of £6,000,000, of which £750,000 will be allotted to the Public Debt Commissioners of the Union of South Africa. This loan is issued at £96 10s per cent., and is repayable in London at par on November 1, 1940, but the Government of South Africa has the option to redeem at par on or after November 1, 1930, on giving three months' notice. The proceeds of the issue will be used for the redemption of £3,000,000 Treasury bills due December 1, 1921, and £2,000,000 due February 8, 1922, and for public works. Union of South Africa debentures and stock issued and payable in London, the property of persons not domiciled in the Union of South Africa, are not subject to any taxes of the Union of South Africa. The prospectus states that "the accumulated sinking funds (for the redemption of debt) amounted at March 31, 1921, to £10,694,000; in addition, debt has been extinguished to the extent of over £15,000,000." It is pointed out that "the revenues of the Government of the Union of South Africa alone are liable in respect of this stock and the dividends thereon, and the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for this loan." A trustee security, attractive in its class.

The British Thomson-Houston Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £4,000,000, of which £3,500,000 has been issued and fully paid. There is also in existence £152,295 of 4½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock. This is an issue of £1,500,000 (part of an authorised amount of £3,000,000) 7 per cent. mortgage debenture stock at 92½ per cent., to be repaid at par on or before May 1, 1962, either by drawings or purchase in the open market. The company reserves the right to redeem the stock at 102½ on giving six months' notice at any interest date between November, 1931, and May, 1941. The stock will be secured by a trust deed, and, subject to a first specific charge on certain specific property, for securing the £152,295 first mortgage debenture stock, will rank as "a first specific charge on the company's property and plant." The present company was formed in 1896, and manufactures electrical machinery on a large scale. Profits are given from 1915, which, of course, mainly represents the boom period. In 1920 £2,326,500 ordinary and preference shares were issued in payment of cash advances and credits to the company; £249,996 of the reserve was also capitalised and distributed to shareholders. Dividend payments have been erratic. Surplus assets available for the security of these debentures, including net proceeds of the present issue, amount to £5,101,410. This includes "patents, licences, and goodwill" at £222,853, and investments at £331,605, but it is not shown how the latter item has been valued, whether at cost or market price. The issue has been underwritten for a commission of 4½ per cent., which includes 2½ per cent. commission to sub-underwriters, ½ per cent. over-riding commission, ½ per cent. on stock taken firm, &c. This is a reasonable offer, subject to industrial risks, and was quickly subscribed.

The Herts and Essex Waterworks Company, Limited.—Issue at par of £12,000 7 per cent. mortgage debentures, to be redeemed at par on January 1, 1932. The authorised share capital of the company is £109,000, of which £68,940 has been issued, while the total authorised loan capital is £54,500, of which, excluding the present offer, £20,700 has been issued. The net revenue of the company for the year ended June 30, 1921, was £4,218, and as the interest on loan capital, including the present issue, will require £1,668, these debentures may be said to be reasonably well secured. But regard should be paid to the narrow market for the disposal of this security.

Barranquilla Railway and Pier Company, Limited.—An issue of £50,000 (part of an authorised issue of £100,000) 8 per cent. second mortgage debenture stock is offered to shareholders and debenture stockholders at 90 per cent. The stock will be secured by a trust deed, and will constitute a

floating charge on the undertaking, subject to the existing 6 per cent. first debenture stock of £100,000. The stock will be repayable by means of a 2 per cent. cumulative sinking fund, which will be applied in redemption of stock, either by annual drawings at par, or by purchase at or below par. Any stock remaining unredeemed on December 31, 1932, will be paid off on that date at par. It is doubtful if the offer will arouse much enthusiasm, but shareholders may be disposed to finance their own concern.

Great Boulder Proprietary Gold Mines, Limited.—In a circular dated November 14th Sir G. P. Doolette, the chairman of the company, stated: "The Public Trustee has approximately 65,000 shares in the company, formerly belonging to ex-enemy shareholders, unsold, and the desirability of purchasing these in the interests of the company was under consideration, but the company was advised that by law it is not permitted to purchase its own shares, whereupon I, in my private capacity, obtained an option on these shares at 4s 6d per share, with a view of offering the great bulk of them to the English shareholders in the company at 4s 9d per share (plus stamp duty and transfer fee), the difference of 3d representing the costs attending the carrying through of the transaction; 15,000 of the shares have already been disposed of, and there remains approximately 50,000 shares, which I have decided to offer to the shareholders on the terms stated."

Consolidated Gas Company of New York.—Issue of \$20,000,000 one-year 7 per cent. notes.—The London office of the National City Company has received a cable advice stating that an issue of \$20,000,000 one-year 7 per cent. notes of the Consolidated Gas Company of New York at 100½ and interest has been offered for sale in New York. The proceeds of this issue will be used to pay off the maturing Consolidated Gas Company one-year secured 8 per cent. notes due December 1, 1921.

Pacific Gas and Electric.—The London office of the National City Company announces that its New York office and associated bankers offered in New York \$10,000,000 Pacific Gas and Electric Company first and refunding mortgage 6 per cent. bonds, due December, 1941, at 98½, to yield 6 1-5 per cent. The gross earnings of the company for 1920 were \$34,586,508, and its net earnings \$11,782,023, while the surplus after payment of all charges amounted to \$6,608,314. For the first eight months of 1921 the surplus after payment of all charges is \$5,567,785. We are informed that this issue has been oversubscribed.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Price This Week.	Rise or Fall.		Price Last Week.	Price This Week.	Rise or Fall.
War 5½% 1925-28 ..	90	90	..	Local Loans 3% ..	53½	53½	..
Loans 4½% 1925-45 ..	81½	81	..	Aust. 5½% debts. 1922-7 ..	95	95	..
5½% 1929-42 ..	88	88	..	Canada 4½% 1920-25 ..	95	95	..
6% 1929-42 ..	97	98	..	India 3½% Stock ..	103	103	..
Funding Loan 4% ..	79	79	..	Do 7% Stock ..	103	103	..
Victory Bonds 4% ..	79	79	..	N.S.W. 5½% 1922-27 ..	93	93	..
Conversion Loan 3½% ..	63	63	..	U.S.A. 4½% 1920-25 ..	95	95	..
Consols 2½% ..	49	49	..	Victoria 5½% 1924-34 ..	92	92	..
Irish Land Stock 2½% ..	48	48	..				

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.) 2½ ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	..	Nat. Bank of Egypt	18½ ..	18½ ..	..
Lloyds (£5 with £1 p.d.) 2½ ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	..	Nat. Bank of S. Africa	102x ..	102x ..	..
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2 p.d.) 7 ..	7 ..	7 ..	..	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 p.d.) ..	9 ..	9 ..	..
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) 14½ ..	14½ ..	14½ ..	..	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid) ..	10½ ..	10½ ..	..

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	42½ ..	42½ ..	..	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 2½ ..	2½ ..	2½ ..	..
B. A. & Pacific	35 ..	35 ..	..	Leopoldine Railway ..	20 ..	21 ..	..
B. A. Gt. Southern ..	52 ..	51 ..	..	Mexican Railway ..	124 ..	13 ..	..
Buenos Ayres West.	52 ..	52 ..	..	Do 2nd Pref.	35 ..	35 ..	..
Canadian Pacific	145 ..	141 ..	..	Do 1st Pref.	24 ..	25 ..	..
Central Argentine ..	48½ ..	47 ..	..	San Paulo	107 ..	107 ..	..
Grand Trunk Ord.	14 ..	14 ..	..	United Havana	46 ..	46 ..	..

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5½% 1886-7 ..	96 ..	96 ..	..	Italian 3½% Rentes ..	22 ..	22 ..	..
Belgian 3%	61 ..	61 ..	..	Greek Monopoly 4% ..	31½ ..	31½ ..	..
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914-65 ..	65 ..	65 ..	..	Japanese 4%	109 ..	109 ..	..
Chilian 4½% 1895 ..	66 ..	66 ..	..	Do 4% 1910	62 ..	62 ..	..
Chinese 5%, 1912	64 ..	62 ..	..	Mexican Cons. 1893 ..	58½ ..	63 ..	..
Egyptian 4%	61 ..	62 ..	..	Peruvian Corp. Pref. ..	151 ..	153 ..	..
French 5%	36½ ..	33x ..	..	Russian 4%, 1906 ..	9 ..	9 ..	..
Do 4%	28 ..	25 ..	..	Spanish 4%	70½ ..	70½ ..	..

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

British Railways.									
	Price	Week.	Latest	Rise or		Price	Week.	Latest	Rise or
	Price.	Price.	Fall.	Fall.		Price	Week.	Price.	Fall.
Great Central Pref.	72	72	72		L. and N. W.	66	66	66	
Great Eastern	27	27	27		L. & S. Western, Def.	23	23	23	
Great Northern Def.	27	27	27		Metropolitan	23	23	23	
Great Western	67	67	67		Metropolitan District	16	16	16	
Lancs. and Yorks.	46	46	46		Midland Deferred.	40	40	40	
London, Brighton, "A"	36	36	36		North British Def.	9	9	9	
London, Chatham	53	53	53		North-Eastern	68	68	68	
Do Arb. Pref.	35	35	35		South-Eastern "A"	20	20	20	
American Railroads.									
Chesapeake & Ohio	72	72	72		Southern	23	23	23	
Erie	15	15	15		Do Non-conv Pref.	56	56	56	
Do 4% 1st Pref.	22	22	22						
Telegraphs.									
Anglo-American "A"	17	17	17		Marconi Canada	7	7	7	
Eastern Telegraph.	164	164	164		Marconi Marine	1	1	1	
Marconi Wireless	18	18	18						
Miscellaneous.									
Aerated Bread (£1)	13	13	13		Linggi Plantings (£1) ..	1	1	1	
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) ..	14	14	14		Lipton (£1) ..	1	1	1	
And Co. (£1) ..	14	14	14		Lister (£1) ..	1	1	1	
Ass. Pld. Cement (£1)	14	14	14		Lybotts Oilfields (£1) ..	4	4	4	
B'ham Small Arms (£1) ..	8	8	8		Loyons (J.) & Co. (£1) ..	23	23	23	
Brazil Traction (£100)	23	23	23		Magadi Soda (£1 Orl.) ..	3	3	3	
British American ..	23	23	23		Mexican Eagle (£10) ..	3	3	3	
Tobacco (£1) ..	23	23	23		North Caucasian (100) ..	10	10	10	
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) ..	23	23	23		Pekin (2) ..	10	10	10	
Burmah Oil (£1) ..	5	5	5		Rubber Plantations ..	10	10	10	
Costs (J. and P.) (£1) ..	2	2	2		Investment (£1) ..	10	10	10	
Courtauld's (£1) ..	14	14	14		Shell Transport (£1) ..	4	4	4	
Cunard (£1) ..	14	14	14		Smithfield & Argentine ..	10	10	10	
Dorman, Long (£1) ..	14	14	14		Meat (£1) ..	10	10	10	
Danlop Rubber (£1) ..	14	14	14		Underground Electric ..	10	10	10	
Fine Cotton Spinners ..	14	14	14		Do "A" (1) ..	10	10	10	
Forest Land (£1) ..	14	14	14		Do Inc. Bds. (£100) ..	66	66	66	
Furness, Withy (£1) ..	14	14	14		United Serdang (2) ..	10	10	10	
Highlands and Low-lands Rubber (£1) ..	14	14	14		United Tobacco (£1) ..	10	10	10	
Hudson's Bay (£1) ..	6	6	6		Ural Caspian (£1) ..	10	10	10	
Imperial Tobacco (£1) ..	23	23	23		Vallambrosa (2) ..	10	10	10	
International Paint (£1) ..	14	14	14		Vickers (£1) ..	10	10	10	
					Watney Def. Stk.	137	137	137	
Mines.									
Brakpan (£1) ..	28	28	28		Knights ..	33	33	33	
Broken Hill Prop. (£5) ..	1	1	1		Modderfontein (10) ..	33	33	33	
Chartered (£1) ..	1	1	1		Modderfont. "B" (5) ..	13	13	13	
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) ..	1	1	1		Modderfont. Deep (5) ..	23	23	23	
Crown Mines (£1) ..	1	1	1		Premier Def. (5) ..	23	23	23	
De Beers Def. (£22) ..	10	10	10		Rand Mines (5) ..	23	23	23	
East Rand Prop. (£1) ..	1	1	1		Rio Tinto (£5) ..	25	25	25	
Geduld (£1) ..	23	23	23		Spring Mines £1)	2	2	2	
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) ..	4	4	4						

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR OCTOBER, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Mill.	Cyande Works.		
Gold.	Tons.	Tons.	Oss.	Oss.	£	£
Oreville Dredging—						
Pato 22 days to Nov. 12th					\$10,696	
Nechi 34 days to					\$19,727	
Nov. 14th					11,885	
Ouro Preto	7,100			2,350		
Quarter ended Oct. 31st					129,298	20,369
Wolfsberg	97,700					
Coal.	Output.	Other Notes in Return.				
East Kent	2,116	Week ended Nov. 19th.				

BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Report for four weeks ending November 9, 1921:—Coke produced 28,410 tons; No. 1 blast furnace produced 7,590 tons; No. 2 blast furnace produced 12,554 tons; No. 3 blast furnace produced 12,392 tons; open hearth production record for period, 61,256 tons, blooming mill produced 24,704 tons; all mill produced 11,154 tons; 18-in mill produced 10,260 tons; 12-in mill produced 2,410 tons; 8-in mill produced 1,537 tons; rod mill produced 4,300 tons. Broken Hill: Ore dressing mill produced 254 tons lead concentrates and 3,111 tons slimes; zinc separate in plant produced 2,828 tons; slimes flotation plant produced 1,048 tons lead concentrates and 2,970 tons zinc concentrates.

BURMA CORPORATION.—Bawdwin Mines:—Cable: "540 ft level, north drive, 174 ft east, from 25 ft to 35 ft, 6 ozs silver, 8 per cent. lead, 6 per cent. zinc; from 35 ft to 55 ft, 16 ozs silver, 18 per cent. lead, 22 per cent. zinc.

MOUNT LYELL.—From October 20th to November 15th, inclusive, ore treated by flotation plant, 6,537 tons; concentrates produced by flotation plant, 1,731 tons. A total quantity of 10,000 tons of ore was smelted, being 6,330 tons from the Mount Lyell mine and 3,670 tons from the North Mount Lyell mine, also 1,141 tons concentrates. The concentrates produced during the same period 538 tons of blister copper, containing copper 534 tons, silver 15,345 ozs, gold 386 ozs. Furnace in blast 669 hours.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED OIL AND REFINERY COMPANY, LIMITED.—Throughput of refinery for October, 20,605 barrels.

GENERAL PETROLEUM COMPANY OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—The following cable information has been received from Trinidad:—"Oropuche Field"—Production for week ended November 19th restricted to 1,750 barrels, owing to continued lack of piping facilities."

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Production for the week ending Wednesday, November 16, 1921, amounted to 1,178 tons.

GENISAH OIL REFS., LIMITED.—Progress of No. 1 well—Depth, 650 feet; formation, limestone and shale.

Railways.					9.	9.
Barranquilla Railway and Pier..	..	Dec. 1	Less tax	5	%	..
Colombian Northern	..	..	Tax free	4	%	..
Banks.						
Anglo Egyptian Bank	10/ p.s.	(& bonus	2/6 p.s.)	Tax free	17	%
British Overseas Bank "A"	6	..	Less tax	6	%	..
Dominion Bank (Canada)	4	Jan. 3	Less tax	..	..	..
Yokohama Specie Bank	12	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Insurance.						
British Equitable	..	..	..	..	3/ p.s.	..
South British	10 p.s.	..	..	..	17/ p.s.	7/
Sun Life	3/9 p.s.	Jan. 2	Tax free	..	..	..
Mining.						
Ashanti Goldfields	25%	Dec. 21	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..	..
Pahang Consolidated, Pref.	33 1/2%	Dec. 9	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..	..
Do Ord.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pengkalen, limited, Pref.	5	Dec. 13	Less tax	..	..	..
Siamese Tin	10%*	Nov. 29	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..	..
Tekka Taping, fully paid	13 p.s.	Dec. 7	Less tax	..	..	..
Do 10s paid	14 p.s.	Dec. 7	Less tax	..	..	..
Tea and Rubber.						
Assam Frontier Tea, Prefd.	..	Dec. 1	..	..	6	%
Batak Rabbit Rubber	..	..	Less tax	..	5	%
Elmhurst (Ceylon) Tea and	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rubber	..	..	Less tax	..	8	%
Namunakula Tea	15%*	..	Less tax	..	20	%
Neboda (Ceylon) Rubber and Tea	24%*	Nov. 30	Less tax	..	..	..
Other Companies.						
Ansell's Brewery	12	..	Tax free	..	10	%
Ashton Vale Iron	..	..	..	..	2	%
Atlas Steel Foundry	..	..	Tax free	..	7 1/2	%
Barry Graving Dock	4/ p.s.	Nov. 25	Tax free	..	..	..
Blyth Shipbuilding	62%*	..	..	..	10	%
British and Chinese Corporation	..	..	Less tax	..	10	%
British Electric Traction, Cum.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pref.	3%*	Dec. 16	..	..	..	..
Callender's Share & Investment	4%*	..	Less tax	..	8	%
Cargo Fleet Iron	..	..	Less tax	..	5	%
Cassell Cyanide	8 p.s.	Dec. 15	Less tax 6/ in £	1/ p.s.	13	%
Caster-Keller Alkali	5%*	Dec. 8	..	..	13	%
Cleveland Trust	..	..	..	..	6	%
Colonial Gas Association	..	..	Less tax	..	8	%
David Brown and Sons	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dennis Brothers	10%*	Dec. 5	Less tax	..	10	%
Distillers' Finance Corporation	5%*	Dec. 1	Less tax	..	13	%
Eastern Telegraph Co.	..	..	Tax free	..	15	%
Do New Ord.	14 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Ever Ready Co., Pref.	7	Dec. 1	..	..	..	..
Falkland Islands Company	..	..	Tax free	..	4	%
Fr Spinning	7/6 p.s.	..	..	..	..	..
Frank Myatt, Limited	10	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Grand Hotel, Manchester	..	..	Tax free	..	10	%
Hull Brewery	10%	(& bonus	5/ p.s.)	..	..	..
Humber Co.	..	..	..	..	10	%
Ilford, Limited	..	..	..	..	8	%
Ingis and Co.	10	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Isle of Thanet Electric Trams,	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pref.	24%	Nov. 23	Less tax	..	..	..
J. B. Brooks and Co.	7 1/2%*	..	..	..	10	%
Jennings Bros., Castle Brewery	61	..	..	..	..	..
John Brown and Co., fully paid	16 p.s.*	..	..	..	..	..
Do part paid	14 p.s.*	..	..	..	..	..
Joseph Lucas	15	(& bonus	5%.)	Less tax	15	%
Do New	15	(& bonus	5%.)	Less tax	..	..
Langshire and Yorkshire	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waggon	12/ p.s.	..	Less tax	..	5	%
Lister and Co.	1/6 p.s.	..	Less tax	..	15	%
Liverpool Warehousing	34%	Dec. 15	..	..	..	..
Montreal Water and Power	34%	..	..	..	..	..
Morgan's Brewery	59%*	..	..	..	12	%
Nalder and Collyer's Brewery	74%*	Dec. 5	Tax free	..	..	..
New Zealand Loan & Mercantile	2%*	..	Tax free	..	4	%
Oriental Gas	4 1/2%*	..	Less tax	..	8	%
Palmer Tyre	10	..	Tax free	..	..	..
Park and Sandy Lane Spinning	6 p.s.	..	..	..	..	..
Parke's Drug Stores	10	Nov. 30	Less tax	..	..	..
Pennsylvania Water	13%	Jan. 1	..	..	..	..
Platt Brothers	24%*	..	..	..	..	..
Power Gas	..	..	Less tax	..	6	%
Premier Portland Cement	..	..	..	..	..	..
(Rhodesia)	10%	..	..	..	..	..
Robert Younger, Limited	..	..	Tax free	..	15	%
Santiago Nitrate	..	..	Less tax	..	7	%
South American Stores	..	..	Less tax	..	3	%
Scottish Australian Investment	7 1/2%*	Dec. 7	Tax free	..	10	%
South Durham Steel and Iron	..	Nov. 30	Less tax	..	10	%
Strand Hotel, Pte. Pref.	15	..	..	..	11	%
Telephone Manufacturing	2/ p.s.	..	Less tax	..	..	..
Thomas Salt and Co., Defd.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unic Motors, Cum. Pref.	..	..	Less tax	..	7	%
Variety Theatres	..	..	Less tax	..	2	%
Wm. Fison and Co.	3 1/2%*	..	..	..	5	%
Wilkes, Limited	10	..	Tax free	..	10	%
William Hancock and Co., Defd.	8*	..	..	..	..	..

The year covered by these accounts has been one of exceptional difficulty, and even of anxiety, to all carrying on the business of banking, and banking in Australia has been no exception. Indeed, Australian banking has had its full share of the difficulties and troubles which have been the inevitable aftermath of the Great War. The pastoral industry, so vital to the welfare of Australia, suffered heavily from the fall in prices, and serious diminution in sales of wool, live-stock, hides, skins, and tallow, and from severe depression in the frozen meat trade, while the mining industry has been almost at a standstill for some time.

AUSTRALIAN EXCHANGES.

An important adverse feature, however, from a banking point of view has been the condition of the Australian exchanges, which threw an unusually heavy burden on the banks, and was a cause of serious inconvenience to Australian shippers in London and to those in Australia desiring to remit to this side. Speaking generally, the trading houses have from prosperous times accumulated reserves, and are now facing their losses and pushing on realisation at reduced prices. Shipments of wool, wheat, butter, and other products have not only gradually afforded the means of remittance to this side, but by putting the Australian producers in funds have enabled them to come in as buyers, and have so expedited the reduction of these congested stocks of imported goods, and this is steadily bringing down our advances. While we regret the inconvenience caused, we cannot but recognise that this exchange imbroglio has proved a blessing in disguise to Australia, in so far that but for the barrier it interposed the congestion caused by excess of imports would have been much greater, and many serious failures would probably have been inevitable, which by the timely action of the banks were happily averted.

OUTLOOK FOR CURRENT YEAR.

The outlook generally for the current year is hopeful, and wool is at present the most encouraging feature. You are all no doubt aware on what evils days this great leading Australian industry fell towards the end of last, and in the early months of the present, year.

The large quantity of Australian and New Zealand wool in hand and in sight towards the end of last year, amounting to over 4,700,000 bales, when contrasted with the quantity of the clips of an ordinary year of Australia and New Zealand combined of, say, 2,500,000 bales, would, even in a period of normal consumption, have presented a serious problem in the financing and marketing of the product. The war, however, had so exhausted their wealth that something like half of the nations of the world were practically temporarily out of the market from inability to buy, and the disordered state of the international exchanges still further complicated the situation. Wool prices, which in the short-lived boom which followed the signing of the Armistice had risen to unprecedented heights, had begun to drop, and from the closing months of 1920 till April of this year were on a more or less rapidly descending curve.

By the incorporation of the British Australian Wool Realisation Company, with a capital of £22,000,000, in the beginning of the present year, about 2,600,000 bales of carried-over wool were transferred from the control of a Government Department into the hands of a joint-stock company. The complete collapse of the post-Armistice boom resulted in a great congestion of undelivered manufactured goods in Yorkshire, causing cessation of orders for fresh supplies and diminution almost to stoppage of orders for tops and yarns. Demand for wool continued to shrink and prices to fall, and in April last things looked very black. A little later, however, buying on a substantial scale from the Continent, and also from Japan, and to some extent from America, raised prices, and since then the upward movement, with the exception of some reaction in July, has gone steadily forward. In the sales of more recent months increased buying from Yorkshire has been a prominent feature. Since April prices have advanced approximately 35 per cent., and a large quantity of wool here and in Australia has been sold. Notwithstanding some decline at the opening yesterday of the November-December sales here, the outlook for wool has greatly changed for the better. Australia is principally interested in merino wools, and of merino there now seems to be little, if any, excess supply in the world to-day. There is difference of opinion as to the improvement lasting, and some fear reaction. Though it is never wise to be too confident as to the future, my own opinion is that there is a genuine trade revival behind the present improvement, and that with possibly occasional temporary reactions it is likely to be maintained, if not increased. The present season in Australia is a good one, and the 1921-22 clip promises well, both as to quantity and quality, the estimated total Australian clip being about 1,850,000 bales. The prospects are that the value of the shipments of wool for the current year will exceed the figure of over £33,700,000 reached last year, which included £2,000,000 for tops. A good wool clip and a strong, steady market mean much to Australia.

WHEAT AND FLOUR.

The exports of wheat and flour during the last two years, i quantity and value, were:—

To June 30, 1920, 99,600,000 bushels; value, £31,400,000.

To June 30, 1921, 84,300,000 bushels; value, £39,400,000.

The preliminary estimates of the Australian wheat crop for the current year give a total of about 139 million bushels, equal to the crop of last year, and the amount available for export is likely to be about 100,000,000 bushels. The price, however, for wheat has declined, the average price last year being over 8s 11½d. as against probably well under 5s for this year. The value, however, of the export of wheat during the current year must be very substantial.

Butter exports during the past year reached the high figure of just over £11,000,000, and the fine season enjoyed so far promises well for the current year, though it must be remembered that last year the total value was greatly helped by the high price paid by the British Government for this product.

The frozen meat trade is, I regret to say, at present in the depths of depression. Demand is poor and prices low, and there are large unsold stocks still in this country. Freight from Australia has been almost prohibitive, the chief reason for which, in addition to the high level of costs, is, I understand, that so many vessels, from scarcity of outward cargo, have to go out to a large extent in ballast, the return freight having in consequence to meet the cost of both trips. A reduction of 10 per cent. in freights has recently been announced. The loss for the time of our markets in the Continent of Europe and the competition from the Argentine are also serious adverse influences at present.

METALS.

Metals, which form so important a factor in the industry and commerce of Australia, are experiencing very trying times. During the war the output of metals in all the great producing countries was stimulated to the utmost, and the costs of production rose to record levels. On the cessation of hostilities the munitions demand, of course, disappeared, and ordinary industrial and commercial demand revived but slowly. Stocks were abnormally large, and in addition there was an enormous quantity of war scrap metal. The natural result was a heavy and continuous fall in prices, till the selling price fell much below the costs of production. In America—the largest copper producer in the world—by partial suspension of some and the total closing down of other mines, the output has been reduced to about one-third of normal. In Australia to-day only two copper mines—Mount Lyell in Tasmania, and Wallaroo and Moonta in South Australia—are working, the rest, including the important Mount Morgan Mine in Queensland, are closed down. A somewhat similar state of affairs prevails in the case of the lead, zinc, and silver mines of Broken Hill, where only one mine, I believe, the Central, is at present working full capacity. The economic effects of the situation thus created, with the lamentable resulting unemployment, will no doubt gradually bring about a more workable relation between production costs and selling prices.

In Australia, as here, the high costs of production synchronising with falling prices for the products in the markets of the world are blocking for the time real recovery. I hope I have not unduly wearied you with this presentment of the mere outline of the conditions affecting Australian overseas trade in the past and the current year, conditions, a due appreciation of which is so necessary to the successful and profitable conduct of our own business.

For the convenience of our shareholders resident in Australia, we have during the past year opened at our chief office in Melbourne an Australian share register.

Mr John Paterson (deputy-chairman) seconded the motion. Sir Frederick W. Young, M.P., referring to his recent visit to Australia, said that the balance-sheet indicated that the bank had come through the difficult period which it covered in a manner which must be gratifying to all the shareholders, and that they could face the still very disturbed condition of affairs throughout the world with quiet and prudent confidence. During his visit he had been able to initiate the negotiations leading to the purchase of the Commercial Bank of Tasmania. The prospects of that island were very hopeful, and they should reap a full share of the prosperity to be expected as its industrial possibilities were developed. His visit fully confirmed the view that the amalgamation with the London bank was particularly happy, inasmuch as outside the chief offices there was practically no overlapping. They were fortunate in their Australian staff, and he doubted if any financial institution could be so happily placed in its two head executive officers as they were, while their branch managers were second to none. The bank, its staff, and its customers were a happy family, and he was gratified at being able to report to that effect.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The retiring directors were re-elected, auditors were appointed, and cordial votes of thanks were passed to the chairman, directors, officials, and staff.

At the termination of the proceedings the deputy-chairman unveiled a portrait of Mr C. J. Hegan, the former chairman, and, in a brief speech of acknowledgment, Mr Hegan expressed confidence in the future of the bank.

SUDAN PLANTATIONS SYNDICATE, LIMITED.

CAPITAL TO BE INCREASED SHORTLY.

CHAIRMAN'S IMPRESSIONS OF SUDAN'S POTENTIAL WEALTH.

IMPORTANCE OF COMPLETING BLUE NILE DAM.

Mr The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Sudan Plantations Syndicate, Limited, was held, on the 23rd instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, Mr F. Eckstein (the chairman of the company) presiding.

The acting-secretary (Mr L. Bluen) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—In addressing you last year I ventured to sound a note of warning regarding our prospects for the coming year, and I asked you not to blame your board if our text balance-sheet was not quite so brilliant as that which I then had the good fortune to present to you. The reason why I made this statement was obvious, inasmuch as cotton prices were then unjustifiably high, and, unfortunately, events during this year proved my warning to be only too true. Not only did the market for cotton come down with a run, owing to stagnation of trade in Lancashire, but we also suffered from considerable mishaps with our crops, to which I will refer later on.

THE ACCOUNTS.

As usual, I will deal first with our accounts, which are before you. The first four items on the debtor side of the balance-sheet—viz., share capital, reserves, and share premium account—are practically unchanged. Creditors are considerably less than last year, and so is our profit. On the credit side you will find under general development a large increase, something like £120,000 for Gezira and the new Hag Abdulla pumping station, all due to new work.

Further, buildings and furniture show an increase of £34,000, canalisation Gezira areas of £12,600, and agricultural implements and plant of £17,000, and there is a new item: light railways, £21,000. Cotton and other stocks figure at £335,000, and to this I shall refer more fully later on.

Our securities and cash assets are naturally less than last year, the above-mentioned sums having been spent on the Gezira development scheme. Still, our financial position is sound, but we shall in all probability soon require further funds, and it is our intention to issue fairly soon a further 150,000 shares, and, as before, to offer these to you at a moderate premium. The profit and loss account needs no explanation, but, subject to your approval, we have again set aside a bonus for our staff and £2,500 as an addition to our staff provident fund. Both these items I recommend warmly to your acceptance.

DIVIDEND.

From the directors' report you will have noticed that we are proposing to distribute a slightly higher dividend than we had actually earned up to the close of our books. Your board has no hesitation in recommending this proposal to you in view of our very considerable carry forward. This is all I think I need say under this heading, but the point I wish to emphasise is cotton unsold at the date of closing our books—viz., June 30, 1921.

COTTON CROP.

The amount of cotton we have and had to deal with is the largest so far in our history. As not a single bale of our cotton had been sold at the time we had to close our books, we stocked it in our balance-sheet partly at cost prices and partly at the valuation we then had from our brokers. During the last few weeks we have, however, disposed of our entire Zeidab crop, as well as of a fair quantity of both the Tayiba and Barakat crops. In the sale of the Tokar cotton we are only making slow headway. The reason why we had to deal this year with so comparatively large an amount of cotton is that during my stay in the Sudan in the early part of this year I arranged to buy a good deal of the Tokar crop on joint account with the Sudan Government. I did this because I wished to help the Government to dispose of this crop, for which at that time there were not many buyers in the Sudan, and so to encourage the natives to continue growing cotton. As far as I can judge to-day, this transaction will give the two parties a fair return on their outlay and for the work done.

SITUATION AT ZEIDAB, TAYIBA, BARAKAT AND HOSH.

Turning now to our own stations at Zeidab, the crop promised to be excellent when I addressed you last year, and picking started at an unusually early date; but shortly after we suffered from a bad attack of boll-worm, to the great detriment of the yield. The Sudan Government sent Captain Bedford, one of their entomologists, to study and to report on this plague, and we hope that the careful research he made may bear fruit in the future. This

season we have 3,300 feddans under cotton, and my reports are that up to date we have picked something like 6,000 kantars, and that the quality is above the average and satisfactory. Our total yield last year from our own tenants and our water tenants was 6,876 kantars; this year we expect a considerable increase.

At Tayiba we experienced quite abnormal rains, which necessitated repeated re-sowing. This made the cotton late, which always means an unsatisfactory crop. The yield was 5,117 kantars from 1,700 feddans. This year we have planted 1,698 feddans, and we hear that our present crop is looking well, with the exception of a small area which is rather late.

At Barakat we should have had a very fine crop indeed, but during the later stages an unfortunate breakdown in the pumping station—the bursting of a boiler—caused a serious shortage of water just when the plants most needed it. So here, again, we had to be satisfied with middling results—viz., 6,704 kantars from 2,011 feddans. For this year we have planted cotton on 2,100 feddans, and our latest news is very satisfactory.

At our Hag Abdulla pumping station the work has progressed rapidly, and we have given our new cotton station the name of Hosh. The completion of the installation of the pumps and engines on this station in readiness for the present season was from first to last a race against time in circumstances of great difficulty. You will be pleased to hear that we have now 6,040 feddans under cotton, which is really record work, and reflects the greatest credit on our resident staff. The latest reports we have of this new crop are likewise good.

To sum up, all the four stations are showing up very well, but it is a little too early to form definite estimates.

BLUE NILE DAM.

Having dealt with our present stations, I feel sure you wish me to say something about the progress of the larger scheme, to which we are wedded through our agreement with the Sudan Government, and I think this is all the more necessary as there are, so I am told, all kinds of sinister rumours floating about. Gentlemen, the truth is that the Blue Nile Dam, which is to bring the water to the Gezira Plain, and which is being constructed by the Sudan Government, is costing more—in fact, a good deal more—money than the original estimates provided for, the chief cause being largely increased costs of material and higher wages, all due to the late war.

The Sudan Government has to raise more money, and naturally looks to the British Government for help in this respect in some form or another, and negotiations are going on in this sense between the two Governments. Meanwhile, within the limits of the money at present available, the work of the dam is proceeding, and we hope that by next year considerable progress will have been made. Some millions have already been spent upon this dam, and in my humble opinion it is unthinkable that its completion should be interrupted and delayed.

We, on our part, are steadily pushing on with the work before us, and you will be interested to hear that, quite apart from the areas at Barakat and Tayiba, we have developed on the Gezira Plain a further 60,000 acres, and out of these 12,000 acres are fully canalised. In addition to this, we have completed practically all the buildings required for the headquarters staff and a number of houses on the land at a cost of about £56,000. Besides this, we have in the Sudan something like £50,000 worth of stores and building materials, which are available for further extension of our operations.

All this will show you that our faith in our undertaking is as great as ever, and I am confident that our forward policy will bear corresponding fruit in time, and give you entire satisfaction.

SUDAN'S POTENTIALITIES.

My colleague, Brigadier-General Asquith, paid a visit to the Sudan in the latter part of last year, and made a thorough inspection of our various interests, and I spent several months there early this year. I came away more impressed than ever with the great potentialities of the Sudan and with the unmistakable and keen desire on the part of the Sudan Government to develop the country to its fullest extent in the best manner possible.

Amongst the countries where the British flag flies none ranks higher than the Sudan in its potentialities of wealth, in its record for efficient and economical administration, or as a field for the production of a high-class cotton. It appears to me

to be the duty of the British Government to help the Sudan—a comparatively new country—to make itself self-supporting, and this can only be done by stimulating the production of cotton. You have there the right soil, a suitable climate, and a population which is purely agricultural, and is quite ready and able to do the work under proper supervision.

In all our experience there we have had good and middling crops, but we never had an absolute failure. Further, the population is growing at a rapid pace, as I have convinced myself during my journeyings through the Sudan this year.

Syndicate's Relations with the Government.

May I just say, too, that the relationship of your syndicate with the Government in Khartoum and its officials in the provinces is all that can be desired. Likewise, our relationship with our native tenants could not be better; they know they get absolutely fair, straightforward, and sympathetic treatment, and they consequently trust us. I cannot illustrate this better than by telling you that when we wanted tenants for the new Hag Abdulla area, we had applications from more than double the number we required.

Our staff, on whose efficiency we naturally depend a good deal, is perfectly loyal and devoted to its duties. It is invidious to mention names when all are efficient and do their work well, but I would like to give a special word of praise to Mr Horne, our resident engineer at Hag Abdulla, for excellent work done under considerable difficulties.

Our managing director, Mr MacIntyre, is at his post in the Sudan, and continues to render us the greatest possible help and assistance. I now move: "That the report of the directors and statement of accounts to June 30, 1921, now laid before the meeting, be and that the same are hereby received and adopted."

BRIGADIER-GENERAL ASQUITH'S SPEECH.

Brigadier-General Arthur M. Asquith, D.S.O.: Gentlemen,—Our chairman has dealt clearly with the various aspects of the reports and accounts which are submitted for your approval.

In seconding this resolution, I propose to confine myself to certain parts of the ground which he has already covered.

I served in the Sudan as a civil servant for five years, and am consequently conversant with the language, the natives, and the officials.

Returning last year after nine years' absence, I visited the company's plantations and the Blue Nile dam with a fresh eye, and I came away confirmed in my belief in the potentialities of the Gezira as a field for the production of high-class cotton, and in the efficiency and economy with which your interests there are administered.

With regard to the potentialities of the Gezira Plain and the first 300,000 acres to be irrigated, you must imagine a plain 80 miles long by 20 or so broad—a strip of a plain of much greater extent—as flat and for most of the year as bare of vegetation as this table. The Blue Nile bounds it, and the railway runs through it for the whole of its length. It is composed of black and reddish-black earth, yards deep.

Going south from Khartoum in the train, you come first to Tayiba; next, 15 miles or so further south, to Barakat; then, 30 to 40 miles further south again, to Hag Abdulla, or Hosh as it is now called. It is a very remarkable sight in this arid plain to come across the fresh green extensions of your plantations—an actual case of the "desert blossoming like the rose." Each of these plantations, spaced out over the area to be irrigated from the dam when it is finished, forms a nucleus round which families of lives have grown up, or are growing up, with a knowledge of cotton and how to grow it. Your English staff who inspect and perintend and help them deservedly enjoy their full confidence in ours. Without these nuclei of trained cultivators and of trained British staff it would be impossible to keep pace with the strides in the extension of areas under cotton which should follow upon the heels of the completion of the dam, and this was a factor uppermost in your directors' minds when they decided on the installation of the big new pumping plant at Hosh.

REASONS FOR BRITISH GOVERNMENT'S HELP.

Our chairman has told you that the Sudan Government are negotiating for the further funds which they require to complete the dam, and with him I consider it quite unthinkable that the British Government should fail to help them.

You will remember that the British Government guaranteed the interest upon the previous loan of £6,000,000, the greater part of which was earmarked for this dam. There seems to me to be compelling reasons why the British Government should continue to help in this matter to the utmost of their power. If they do, I am convinced they will never have to act up to their previous guarantee. If they do not, they very probably will have to act up to that guarantee at the expense of the taxpayer.

But in addition to this financial aspect, there are political considerations which should weigh overwhelmingly, even if the



HEAD OFFICE:
1 Dale Street,
LIVERPOOL.

LONDON:
Chief Office,
1 Cornhill, E.C.3.

TOTAL ASSETS exceed - - £20,000,000
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID over - £102,000,000

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity Guarantee, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Personal Accident, Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of Profits, &c.

OFFICES IN ALL THE CHIEF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

dam in itself would not, as we firmly believe that it will, pay its way and show a profit.

We hear much in these days of the desirability of developing in other countries such industries as are complementary to and not competitive with those of Great Britain. Here we have a perfect instance in a country where our flag flies of a complementary industry—a means of feeding the mills of Lancashire, which in turn will sell to the Sudan increasing quantities of their finished products. We hear also of unemployment here and of money spent, largely unproductively, in relief of it. Any interruption with work on this dam means more unemployment and cancellation or postponement of contracts for sluices, ginning machinery, ploughing engines, light railway material and all sorts of engineering stores.

COMPLETION OF DAM OF VITAL IMPORTANCE.

So much for the home political aspects; but to those of us who have spent some of the best years of our lives in the Sudan there is a final and vital reason for unfaltering pursuance of our task.

In the East there must be no chopping and changing of policies. The Sudan costs the British taxpayer nothing, or next to nothing. It is inhabited by tribes of warlike traditions, and probably never in its history before has it enjoyed over 20 years of continuous peace. This country, more populous and of greater extent than Mesopotamia, the Sudan Government rules with perhaps 150 British officials and one battalion of British infantry. It is a supreme instance of good will and of mutual confidence which has been built up by 20 years of conscientious and unadvertising administration. The native has learnt that he can always depend upon this sprinkling of British officials to give patient and disinterested consideration to all his grievances, and never to go back upon promises once made. They have been led by the Sudan Government to count upon the completion of the dam. Its completion spells for them prosperity and insurance against starvation, and they have not been free from famines in the past. Any interruption of the work now might be construed by them as a breach of faith, due either to the weakness of this country or to the sacrifice of Sudanese interests to ill-informed extremist clamour in Egypt. In short, our position in the Sudan is based primarily upon the natives' confidence in our keeping faith with them, and this confidence, built up for over 20 years, must not be lightly risked.

PEACEFUL RELATIONS WITH SUDAN.

There is just one further remark I should like to make. We have all read with regret in the papers that the recent negotiations between the delegation of Adly Pasha and the Foreign Office in regard to Egyptian affairs have broken down. People in this country are apt to confuse Egypt with the Sudan, forgetting that from Cairo to Khartoum is a four days' journey, and that the Sudan has in Port Sudan an independent outlet to the sea. We must not forget that the public opinion and politics of the Sudan are entirely distinct from those of Egypt. Let us hope that there may be no serious troubles in Egypt, but let us also remember that in 1919 the grave trouble in Egypt caused no ripple or reflection on the surface of Sudanese peace.

The motion was carried unanimously, and a dividend at the rate of 15 per cent., less income-tax, was declared.

The retiring directors (Mr D. M. Hannay and Mr F. Eckstein) were re-elected, Messrs Cooper Brothers and Co. were reappointed auditors, and a vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

LONDON NITRATE COMPANY, LIMITED.

LAST YEAR'S DEPRESSING EXPERIENCE.

OUTLOOK IN THE NITRATE MARKET.

The annual meeting of shareholders of the London Nitrate Company was held on Thursday, November 24th, at Liverpool. Mr Frank Tobin, chairman of directors, presided, and was supported by Colonel Sir James P. Reynolds, Mr W. H. Hasler, and Mr E. B. Orme.

The Chairman, in proposing the adoption of the report and the confirmation of a dividend of 1s 6d per share, said no industry in the world was subject to quicker changes from prosperity to adversity than the nitrate industry, and they in all their experience had never known a period such as the past 12 months. It appeared worse because it succeeded a period of great prosperity. Their own balance-sheet showed a trading profit of over £100,000, which was the biggest thing the company had ever done, and that sum was actually made in less than six months. They had hopes at one time of an even larger profit, as prices were abnormally high at the time when they concluded contracts which ran well into this year, and they thought they would be able to show a profit of £135,000. However, the railway company which conveyed the nitrate to the coast from the Santa Laura oficina proved totally incapable of dealing with the quantities we had contracted to deliver, and the delivery of which would have meant a very large profit to the company. All the pressure we exercised on the railway company was unavailing, and in an endeavour to supply our needs we opened the Puntunchara oficina, which succeeded in supplying 163,000 quintals of the deficiency of 251,000 quintals, and in the end they had to obtain the deficiency to fulfil their contracts from another nitrate company. This represented considerable loss of profit, as also did the production from the Puntunchara oficina, which had to be got ready hurriedly at greater cost than would otherwise have been experienced. Altogether it represented a loss of £35,000 profit, which, under ordinary circumstances, they would have acquired. In spite of all, they possessed the biggest paying nitrate property.

The year's profit had been very much cut into in other ways, income-tax and corporation profits' tax swallowing up £14,800, while £10,164 had been paid in bank interest on advances. The latter item, however, would show a sensible diminution in the current year, as the bank advances were repaid two days from the end of the official year. The Santa Laura oficina, of which they had had such high hopes, had now conclusively proved to be a super-producer of nitrate, and for many years he anticipated that its output would be produced at a cheaper rate than that of any other.

MR HASLER ON TRADE OF THE PAST YEAR.

Mr W. H. Hasler, supplementing the remarks of the chairman as to the trade of the past year, said the cost of operating the Santa Laura oficina was likely to be small for some considerable time to come. It was being developed, too, with an eye to the future, and they ought to get extremely good results from it for many years to come. The anticipated consumption of nitrate in the past season was two and a-half million tons, but the sales actually realised one and a-half million, the surplus remaining in the hands of buyers who had bought from the association at high figures in anticipation of a boom in nitrate consumption. About September, 1920, the whole position changed, and it became apparent that unless something was done to help the holders of nitrate to meet the situation there would be a débâcle, and the bottom would be knocked out of the whole business, requiring many years to get over the trouble. A decision was arrived at to fix

a minimum selling price for the association, not in the hope of making new sales, but in the hope of establishing a background to the market, and giving holders a chance of realising without too tremendous a loss.

They managed to do that, but unfortunately they did not manage to expand consumption, which fell away, and this stock of about one million tons was left in the hands of the holders. This had been hanging over the market ever since. Holders claimed that the agreement of 14s selling price should extend to March next year, and there was an absolute deadlock. After long and delicate negotiations, in which the Chilean Government intervened, on the 27th of last month an agreement was arrived at between the producers of nitrate and the holders, the latter being chiefly in the consuming markets of Europe. One of the main points was that producers should contribute something to the holders' losses, and they, in turn, should lower the price of nitrate in the consuming markets, as, until present stocks are moved, new supplies cannot come forward.

BENEFICIAL RESULTS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT.

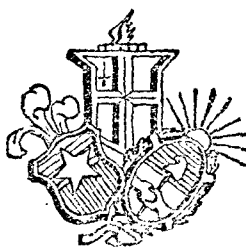
Almost an immediate result was an improved situation, as a demand for nitrate sprang up, and 180,000 tons of nitrate passed into the hands of dealers—a very good start. There had not yet been any new sales by the association, but he believed they would come along in due course. One of the objects of the association all along had been to limit, if not to stop, speculation, which had, to some extent, been successful, and there was no reason at all now why people should buy a long way in advance. There was a fixed price, people knew what the association were going to do, stocks could be got forward from Chili in six weeks now compared with three or more months formerly, and they must not look for forward deliveries on the scale that had operated hitherto. As far as he could see the outlook was satisfactory, and certainly the market for nitrogenous fertilisers of all kinds was exceedingly firm. Sulphate of ammonia was not going to be in over-abundant supply, and they could look forward to seeing these stocks in the merchants' hands which had blocked the way, being moved, and greater freedom and movement in the trade within quite a limited time.

SIR JAMES REYNOLDS ON THE PROSPECTS OF THE INDUSTRY.

Sir James Reynolds, seconding the chairman's motion, congratulated Mr Tobin on his recovery from the serious accident which befel him some months ago, and expressed pleasure in seeing him in his accustomed place at that meeting. Only people conversant with the nitrate industry could realise what a terrible period they had passed through. There had been a danger of everything being brought to a standstill, and of cut-throat competition and ruin, but by patience and tact the fabric of the industry had been maintained. Probably the nitrate industry was the only one which had gone through this crisis and yet retained some of its profit. He predicted greater activity in the sale of fertilisers. The American cotton crop had shrunk to half, mainly because of the non-use of fertilisers last year, and the beet crops of Germany and France had shown an enormous falling-off for the same reason. In America there would be a propaganda to develop consumption, and in Europe the provision of credits would no doubt stimulate those countries which needed it to the purchase of larger quantities of nitrate. The immediate future would be one of small profits, and in this connection the valuable properties of the London Nitrate Company would enable them to reap a great advantage.

The motion was carried, and Sir James Reynolds was unanimously re-elected a director of the company.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.



Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000

Head Office:

62, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATIONS:

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD., and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

JOSHUA HOYLE AND SONS, LIMITED.

AN ANXIOUS AND DIFFICULT YEAR.

The ordinary general meeting of Joshua Hoyle and Sons, Limited, was held at the registered office of the company, India Mill, Bacup, on the 24th instant, Lieut.-Colonel J. Craven Hoyle, T.D., D.L., the chairman, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Several forces had been operating which had been antagonistic to a steady and constant flow of business. The unsatisfactory state of the foreign exchanges, and in their own particular trade the serious fall in the price of cotton, and the violent fluctuations, with the uncertainty as regarded the future course of prices, undermined the confidence of the buyers of the whole world.

The points he had mentioned affected the export trade, but they had had their effect too, to a very serious degree, on the home trade of this country.

With regard to the company's recent issue of £1,500,000 debentures, the directors had decided upon that step after careful and serious consideration, and they were of opinion that the issue was made on most favourable terms. The effect had been to place the financial affairs of the company on a very substantial basis. Up to the present time there had been somewhat heavy charges for interest on bank overdrafts and loans, which in future would be paid as interest on the debentures.

The purchase of Ross Mill, Bacup, would further help the firm in the production of their several specialities by enabling them to supply their manufacturing concerns with the special yarns their products, required. The board's policy had been shown to be sound, and they had still been able to recommend the payment of a final dividend of one shilling per share, free of tax, equal to 12½ per cent. for the whole year.

A scheme was now under consideration for the grouping of the various concerns they had acquired, and the result would be a reduction in the cost of management, and what would naturally follow, a reduction in the cost of production.

There had been no further allocation to the reserve and renewal fund, which stood at £360,000. The abnormal circumstances of the year had been met out of revenue, and they were carrying forward the whole of the profit balance after payment of the dividends.

They were passing through abnormal times, but their organisation was not a mushroom organisation. It was a firm which was established on the strongest foundations, of reputation and of history. The firms they had acquired were of equal standing with the parent company, and when things got normal again they would show the wisdom of what the directors had done.

Sir William E. Berry, Bart., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Nov. 28th-Dec. 3rd, were opened on Nov. 25, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £78,155,000. Tenders for Wednesday to Saturday bills at £99 is 7d, about 27 per cent., and above in full. Tenders for Monday bills at £99 is 3d and Tuesday bills at £99 is 5d and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 14s 2½d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
Oct. 28 (3 months)	60,000,000	83,445,000	3 14 5-63	3½	£99 is 1d (Monday to Friday bills), about 80-18%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 is 4d, and above in full.
Nov. 4 (3 months)	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 2-6	3½	£99 is 7d (Monday to Friday bills), about 44-79%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 is 10d, and above in full.
Nov. 11 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 17 0-43	3½	£99 is 6d (Monday to Friday bills), about 75%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 is 9d, and above in full.
Nov. 18 (3 months)	40,000,000	54,365,000	3 17 8-27	3½	£99 is 3d (Monday to Friday bills), about 77%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 is 6d, and above in full.
Nov. 25 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,155,000	3 14 2-15	3½	£99 is 3d (Monday to Friday bills), about 27%, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £50,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Other Assets.	Balance of Bank of England.
1914.	£ 21,535	£ 6,302	£ 3,810	£ 18,500	£ 481	£ 9,924	11.42			
Aug. 26.....	38,478	169	600	18,500	481	9,924	9.22			
Dec. 31.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	27-6	54,621	20.52		
1915.										
Dec. 29.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	19-0	118,102	6.82		
1916.										
Dec. 27.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	13-4	186,637	5.48		
1917.										
Dec. 26.....	323,241	15,529	570	28,500	8-9	305,133	4.56			
1918.										
Dec. 31.....	328,064	14,926	500	28,500	8-7	308,577	5.413			
1919.										
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	560	28,500	8-3	327,321	5.271			
Oct. 1.....	355,021	16,524	520	28,500	8-3	317,536	5.58			
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,162	420	28,500	8-1	337,537	2.86			
1920.										
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	190	28,500	5-90	313,370	2.98			
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	190	28,500	11-7	331,660	30			
Sept. 30.....	353,795	16,215	190	28,500	18-70	322,425	38			
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	190	28,500	19-50	336,504	13			
1921.										
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	190	28,500	13-9	311,334	14			
June 29.....	323,834	14,965	190	28,500	14-8	287,750	15			
Sept. 28.....	314,382	14,830	190	28,500	19-50	278,119	14			
Nov. 9.....	314,118	14,016	190	28,500	19-50	277,008	17			
16.....	313,065	14,163	190	28,500	19-50	276,053	16			
23.....	311,687	13,916	190	28,500	19-50	274,482	17			

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts.	Week Ending Nov. 19, 1921.	Week Ending Nov. 20, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773			
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,324			
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,369,097			
Customs.....	126,800,000	81,732,000	1,964,000	1,524,000	
Excise.....	196,200,000	128,006,000	126,330,000	13,544,000	
Motor Vehicle Duties.....	9,000,000	3,143,000			
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	30,671,000	570,000	607,000	
Stamps.....	21,000,000	9,238,000	16,065,000	134,000	195,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	440,000	390,000		
House Duty.....					
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty).....	410,500,000	161,850,000	145,116,000	721,000	786,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.....	120,000,000	23,714,000	136,149,000		2,498,000
Corporation Profits Tax.....	30,000,000	7,840,000		370,000	
Post Office.....	60,000,000	31,500,000	31,000,000	1,500,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	390,000			
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	7,345,873	11,776,011		d
Miscellaneous.....					
Ordinary Receipts.....	21,500,000	15,429,565	14,888,322	300,000	261,000
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	61,868,839	185,857,058	500,000	1,500,000
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	568,368,277	783,566,395	13,140,000	22,160,000
Total, Inc. Balance.....		572,042,783	792,935,492		on
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	30,000	2,840,000	300,000		1,191,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904).....					
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	569,818	169,818		107,187	
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	31,361,474	2,500,000			
Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	40,000			
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	35,000	30,000			
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	4,555,000				
(c) For Other Issues:					
By Treasury Bills for Supply.....	2,630	6,615,000	2,636,112,000	53,530,000	77,665,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1900-90.....					
By 4% Victory Bonds.....					
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1920.....					
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925.....					
By National Savings Certificates.....					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....					
Under the Finance Act, 1920.....	2,573,000	20,400,000			
By National War Bonds.....					
By Treasury Bonds.....					
5-15 year, 1925-35.....	11,024,990				
5-15 year, 1925-35.....	11,879,459				
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	1,085,639	28,514,349			
(d) Ways and Means Advances.....	857,857,000	849,790,000			
Anglo-Persian Oil Company Dividends on Shares acquired.....					
Repayments—					
In respect of Issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919.....	7,450,000				
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.....	38,681				
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	4,431,887				
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	321,533				
Total.....		4,243,418,769	4,352,471,347	88,610,000	110,579,200

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from	Issues.	Week Ending Nov. 19, 1921.	Week Ending Nov. 20, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	10,282,080	10,888,393	406,919	291,994
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	323,500,000	208,226,903	208,354,902	1,127,983	3,028,587
Local Fund.....	8,400,000	2,842,000	2,805,260		375,358
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	5,655,312	5,446,917	250,000	200,000
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	2,106,396	4,279,909		202,971
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	1,258,342	1,242,489	204,450	6,611
Supply Services.....	774,851,000	392,665,759	448,140,129	8,450,000	10,730,000
Expenditure.....	1,146,123,000	622,936,792	631,657,999	10,439,352	14,835,521
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion.....	5,450,000	2,900,000	300,000	100,000	
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....					
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	5,505,000		420,000		
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure:					
(a) Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	4,061,474	3,500,000			
(b) Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	90,000			
(c) Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	35,000	30,000			
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.....	2,629,901,000	2,653,234,000	55,490,000	76,330,000	
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....	23,359,803	42,425,702	468,692	1,196,808	
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	12,400,000	20,950,000	600,000	550,000	
(b) Repaid otherwise.....	9,000,000				
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22.....	18,704,490	2,386,803			
5%, 1920.....	2,985,808				
5%, 1921.....	18,704,490				
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	49,238,131	44,805,492		2,897,556	
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.....					
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	827,788,000	818,313,000	19,650,000	12,600,000	
preparation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....	19,120,156	17,460,134	500,000	1,000,000	
Securities of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....	11,515,000	725,000			
1 Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.....	111,200	197,766			
Issues in Exchequer—					
Nov. 19, '21, Nov. 20, '20, Inc. or Dec. for Week.	1,947,862	2,033,323	+ 104,856	+ 91,374	
Bank of England.....	1,958,543	1,762,421	+ 637,000	+ 978,001	
Bank of Ireland.....					
Total.....	3,896,405	3,795,404	+ 741,956	+ 1,069,375	

Notes.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, November 21, 1921.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, November 23, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued.....	£ 145,060,100	Government debt.....	£ 11,015,100
		Other securities.....	£ 7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion.....	£ 126,610,100
	£ 145,060,100		£ 145,060,100

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital.....	£ 14,553,000	Government securities.....	£ 50,314,172
Reserve.....	£ 3,212,370	Other securities.....	£ 83,571,744
Public deposits.....	£ 15,604,969	Notes.....	£ 21,754,185
Other deposits.....	£ 124,032,261	Gold and silver coin.....	£ 1,828,265
Seven-day & other bills.....	£ 18,266		
	£ 107,468,366		£ 157,468,366

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, No. 23, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Notes issued.....	£ 145,060,100	£ 104,856	£ 91,374
Proprietors' capital.....	£ 14,553,000	£ 47,323	£ 26,005
Reserve.....	£ 3,212,370	£ 4,466,181	£ 2,388,447

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

Resources.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Nov. 15, 1921.
Total gold reserve	2,423,900	2,816,300	+ 7,600	2,000,580
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	145,570	144,400	- 1,170	171,330
Bills discounted for member banks	1,198,020	1,216,020	- 48,000	478,150
Bills bought in open market	68,130	89,630	- 21,500	287,850
Government obligations owned	215,890	225,720	- 9,830	296,240
All other resources	58,880	57,870	+ 1,010	35,460
LIABILITIES.				
Government deposits	33,100	30,790	+ 2,310	17,850
Other deposits	1,704,610	1,696,070	+ 8,540	1,656,920
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,398,220	2,420,830	- 22,610	3,328,990
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	74,790	80,520	- 5,730	215,780
All other liabilities	24,150	24,200	- 50	101,890
Capital and surplus	316,990	316,910	+ 80	263,590
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	71.8%	71.4%	+ .4%	43.6%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

Assets.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
Cash and bank balances	477,083,821	476,811,646	521,673,747
Bank balances abroad	65,887,493	65,128,352	65,089,933
Call and short loans	263,872,922	268,443,419	307,487,168
Securities	372,734,891	385,571,399	363,444,692
Loans in Canada	1,331,201,118	1,338,883,309	1,483,034,424
Loans abroad	150,763,865	155,238,085	200,945,241
Other assets	105,199,238	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,864
Deposits—			
Government	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,337
Public in Canada	1,807,193,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,000,439
Foreign	268,088,677	274,231,912	356,570,176
Bank balances—			
Canadian	10,078,772	10,300,260	9,554,379
Foreign	46,093,427	39,029,582	49,041,433
Bills payable and acceptances	37,202,050	40,429,404	51,202,045
Other liabilities	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Capital and reserves	264,331,734	264,326,315	256,705,275

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 24, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 25, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion	5,524,043	5,524,010	5,491,697	+ 33	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367	—	—
Silver coin and bullion	279,072	278,860	264,856	+ 212	632,550
Discount and advances	4,555,761	4,577,916	5,725,975	- 14,155	2,347,775
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	36,336,275	36,719,267	38,806,733	- 382,992	5,811,875
Government deposits	54,301	33,938	287,335	+ 20,343	183,700
Private deposits	2,508,797	2,423,004	5,539,893	+ 79,733	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 19, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 5, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	2,508,128	2,507,712	2,454,628	+ 515	521,775
Silver	621,520	617,204	615,485	+ 4,316	800,725
Loans and discounts	3,075,457	3,121,103	2,164,669	- 45,646	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,475	344,475	344,475	—	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	—	150,000
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	4,235,836	4,281,667	4,343,495	- 45,831	1,901,550
Deposits	985,344	974,714	1,046,197	+ 10,630	477,000

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

Assets.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1920.	Oct. 28, 1920.	Previous Year.	Last Year.
Gold and balances abroad	1,361,207,944	1,358,936,212	1,444,386,952	+ 4,271,732	- 81,179,018
Government loans and securities	2,172,576,436	2,174,108,464	1,015,708,022	- 1,432,028	+ 115,686,844
Discounts and loans	660,288,465	650,006,287	658,232,752	+ 10,282,178	+ 2,055,713
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	2,076,851,616	2,050,820,776	1,486,198,699	+ 26,030,810	+ 590,652,917
Government deposits	129,586,355	144,016,854	145,417,037	- 14,330,489	- 15,730,722
Private sight deposits	830,321,188	839,468,031	737,912,817	- 91,684,3	+ 92,408,371
Private deposits at fixed dates	910,126,972	901,166,853	554,987,874	+ 8,960,119	+ 355,139,098

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1920.	Oct. 16, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position June 30, 1914.
Gold	1,264,488	1,267,365	1,053,803	1,104,441	+ 2,877	221,320
Silver	65,644	54,327	84,570	1,102,365	+ 1,127	41,740
Loans and discounts	113,193	113,349	106,280	168,484	+ 6,156	70,540
Notes in circulation	132,528	1,141,306	1,229,694	1,068,759	- 8,776	362,270
Government deposits	22,901	1,400,432	1,355,234	1,299,829	+ 22,469	87,340
Private deposits at fixed dates	45,000,000	42,212	33,769	114,645	- 4,27	11,440

BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1920.	Oct. 16, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	1,264,488	1,267,365	1,053,803	1,104,441	+ 2,877	221,320
Silver	65,644	54,327	84,570	1,102,365	+ 1,127	41,740
Loans and discounts	113,193	113,349	106,280	168,484	+ 6,156	70,540
Notes in circulation	132,528	1,141,306	1,229,694	1,068,759	- 8,776	362,270
Government deposits	22,901	1,400,432	1,355,234	1,299,829	+ 22,469	87,340
Private deposits at fixed dates	45,000,000	42,212	33,769	114,645	- 4,27	11,440

The amount to be offered next week 288 + 2,576,128 281,860 842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 10, 1921.	Oct. 10, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Total cash	1,332,438	1,312,931	1,160,499	+ 19,507	1,221,871
Inland bills	3,322,572	3,030,522	2,812,841	- 7,950	418,400
Foreign bills	19,511	19,522	20,484	- 11	81,500
Advances to the Treasury	6,545,255	6,614,126	8,162,270	- 68,931	73,171
Other advances	250,858	2,610,126	2,336,087	- 81,268	265,704
Securities	390,128	397,982	222,393	+ 7,854	—
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	14,177,863	14,401,379	15,238,710	- 243,516	1,556,921
Deposits and drafts	1,646,769	1,577,424	1,742,646	+ 68,945	192,971

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 14, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
Gold	605,969	605,969	605,969	—	163,000
Silver	8,527	8,728	8,921	- 194	8,400
Discounts and advances	464,355	479,424	485,955	- 15,069	153,500
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,039,735	1,054,282	1,056,405	- 14,547	316,600
Deposits	40,494	43,722	46,684	- 3,224	5,010

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 29, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold	4,289,722	4,239,722	3,000,228	+ 50,000	—
Silver, &c.	333	315	292	+ 20	—
Discounts	61,899	82,591	49,122	- 20,700	—
Government loan	10,993,230	10,958,600	7,094,165	+ 34,600	—
Other advances	2,259,326	2,317,490	2,631,719	- 58,160	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	12,829,257	12,669,760	8,907,162	+ 159,490	—
Deposits	5,811,268	5,861,724	4,500,200	- 60,445	—

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Nov. 12, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold	544,952	544,896	544,870	540,908	+ 56	171,170
Silver	124,025	124,025	124,025	107,900	—	18,300
Discounts and advances	17,041	16,836	16,460	18,508	+ 205	105,000
Notes in circulation	926,290	957,984	970,013	950,474	- 24,694	275,900
Deposits	86,096	73,319	131,030	121,914	+ 12,737	33,700

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Da lehenkasse) shows that up to Oct. 31, 1921, total issue was Fr. 30,188,000, of which Fr. 16,460,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 19, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 31, 1914.
Gold	275,170	275,276	282,393	- 136	+ 7,253	104,910
Balance abn. and foreign bills	107,393	103,397	102,785	+ 3,996	+ 4,608	112,117
Swedish and for Gov. securities	20,780	20,734	44,964	+ 46	- 24,184	32,460
Discount and loans	416,113	420,769	524,068	- 4,656	- 107,955	112,660
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	607,606	622,557	729,445	- 14,951	- 121,839	225,600
Deposits at notice	149,103	132,535	143,644	+ 16,568	+ 5,459	69,000

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1920.	Nov. 18, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin gold & silver and bullion	326,292	326,883	326,881	350,964	- 591	32,000
Securities	412,158	411,544	415,322	603,361	+ 614	69,000
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	6,150,362	6,158,746	6,192,925	5,826,528	- 384	934,150
Current accounts	819,582	826,673	822,463	1,343,394	+ 8,729	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	6,412	6,330	5,380	+ 82	—
Silver coin	5	5	5	—	—
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts	8,548,336	6,186,748	6,025,679	+ 2,361,583	—
Loans	627,192	571,214	528,230	+ 55,737	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	103,128,983	95,162,099	90,904,399	+ 7,966,884	—
Deposits	9,159,615	6,834,933	6,635,669	+ 2,324,632	—

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	12,242	12,243	12,475	- 1	—
Silver coin, &c.	598	598	598	—	—
Bills, warrants, drafts, &c.	22,886,813	22,640,519	22,404,452	+ 245,064	—
Loans	1,182,790	1,183,310	1,185,018	- 728	—
Other assets	2,744,226	1,463,598	1,481,524	+ 1,280,628	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	23,795,176	23,871,322	23,642,776	- 76,146	—
Deposits	2,441,861	2,115,507	2,153,893	+ 325,364	—
Other liabilities	1,490,072	213,656	187,091	+ 1,276,416	—

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921	Oct. 31, 1920	Month's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion	228,336	224,326	227,569	+ 10	7,566
Loans and discounts	363,111	336,301	479,282	+ 26,210	88,414
Debtors abroad.	18,909	21,866	19,435	- 10,957	24,414
Securities	46,386	45,305	51,544	+ 81	11,919
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	494,380	487,391	578,045	+ 11,989	157,262
Deposits	103,393	103,393			

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Nov. 25, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 18, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 25, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	57-65-70	57-20-25
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	244-245	1168-1173
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	1100-1150	12000-13000
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	270-280	375-385
Warsaw	zlotys to £1	T.T.	20-43	1650 (c)	14000-15000
Bukarest	lei to £1	T.T.	25-22½	235-245	12500-14500
Budapest	kr. to £1	T.T.	24-02	..	3400-3800
Constantinople	piastres to £1	T.T.	110	695-735	750-780
Sofia	levas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	215-225	550-560 (nom)
Belgrade	dinas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	115	280-290 (nom)
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-42-45	11-16-19
Brussels	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	54-40-45	60-27-32
Christiania	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-80-85	27-65-70
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	18-09-13	17-10-13
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-80-85	21-60-65
Helsingfors	F. marks to £1	T.T.	25-22½	171-174	195-202
Greece	drachmas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	40-50-41-00	95-50-97-00
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22½	94½-94¾	97-98½
Switzerland	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22½	22-25-30	20-93-98
Madrid	pesetas to £1	T.T.	25-22½	26-68-73	27-73-78
Lisbon	escudos to £1	T.T.	53½d	7½-7¾	4½-5
Alexandria	piastres to £1	Sight	97½	97½-97¾	97½-97¾
New York	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	3-48½-48¾	3-99½-4-00
Montreal	dollars to £1	Cable	4-86½	3-96-97	3-97-38
Buenos Aires	pesos to £1	T.T.	47-58½	52½-52¾	44½-45
Rio de Janeiro	pesos to £1	T.T.	16	11½	7½
Montevideo	pesos to £1	T.T.	51	51½-52½	40½-41
Valparaiso	pesos to £1	T.T.	13-13	9½(a)	38-70
Lima	soles to £1	T.T.	10 to	14% dis.	10% prem.
Calcutta	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to	1s 6½d-6½d	1s 4½d-4½d
Bombay	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to	1s 6½d-6½d	1s 4½d-4½d
Madras	rupees to £1	T.T.	10 to	1s 6½d-6½d	1s 4½d-4½d
Hong Kong	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to	2s 8½d-8½d	2s 7½d-7½d
Shanghai	taels to £1	T.T.	10 to	2s 8½d-8½d	2s 7½d-7½d
Singapore	dollars to £1	T.T.	10 to	2s 8½d-8½d	2s 7½d-7½d
Yokohama	yen to £1	T.T.	24½d	2s 10½d-10½d	2s 4½d-4½d
Manila	pesos to £1	T.T.	24-06½	2s 7½d	2s 5½d
Mexico	pesos to £1	T.T.	..	33d-35d	32½-33½

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (c) Sellers.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Oct. 27, 1921.	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.
Call money	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Time money (90 days) mixed collateral	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Bank acceptances:—					
Members—eligible, 90 days	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	4½	4½	4½	4½	4½
Ineligible, 90 days	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5½	5½	5½	5½	5½

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 18, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 10, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 17, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 23, 1921.
London—					
60 days		3-3525	3-93625	3-9537	3-9750
Cable		3-44	3-94625	4-0025	3-9975
Cheques		3-4125	3-94125	3-9387	3-9937
Paris	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	18-75	18-75	18-75
Brussels	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	18-75	18-75	18-75
Switzerland	Cents for 1 franc	19-30	18-75	18-75	18-75
Italy	Cents for 1 lire	19-30	18-75	18-75	18-75
Berlin	Cents for 1 mark	23-83	1-36	0-36	0-36
Vienna	Cents for 1 krone	20-26	..	0-375	0-375
Madrid	Cents for 1 peseta	19-30	13-00	14-12	13-78
Amsterdam	Cents for 1 guilder	40-195	30-49	34-67	35-20
Copenhagen	Cents for 1 kroner	13-50	18-39	18-55	18-50
Christiania	Cents for 1 kroner	13-50	18-39	18-55	18-50
Stockholm	Cents for 1 kroner	13-50	18-39	18-55	18-50
Athens	Cents for 1 drachma	19-30	9-15	4-27	4-12
Montreal	Cents for Can. \$1	100	89-25	91-62	91-25
Yokohama	Cents for 1 yen	49-85	42-5	47-95	48-00
Hong Kong	Cents for H. Kong \$	..	65-75	54-00	54-75
Shanghai	Cents for 1 tael	..	88-50	76-20	76-50
Calcutta	Cents for 1 rupee	..	28-00	26-75	27-125
Buenos Aires	Gold pesos for \$100	105-65	134-25	135-50	134-75
Rio de Janeiro	Cents for 1 milreis	32-42	..	12-55	12-50
Valparaiso	Cents for 1 peso	20-60	..	11-50	11-00

* Francs for \$1. † Lire for \$1.

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 25, 1920.	Rate, Nov. 10, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 17, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 24, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	4-67	1-08	1-09
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	9-00	2-0	2-03
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	11-35	2-09½	2-07½
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	..	7-75	1-63½	1-67
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	..	11-15	2-70	2-56

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-15	Sight London	Nov. 19 15-80
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	..	Nov. 16 23-20
Colombia (Bogota)	Dollars to £1	48½	..	Nov. 22 90
Nicaragua	Cordobas to £1	49-31d	..	Nov. 5 3-85
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24-65d	..	Nov. 15 8-30
Guatemala	Quetzales to £1	2-66d	..	Nov. 19 205-02
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	..	Nov. 5 16
Bolivia	Bolivianos to £1	..	..	Oct. 14 13½

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates as below:—

Reval on	Rate, Nov. 5, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 12, 1921.
London (cheque)	£1	1,525
Paris	100 Fr	2,800
New York	\$1	350
Stockholm	100 Kr	9,000
Copenhagen	100 Kr	7,200
Berlin	100 Rmk	180
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	700
Riga	100 Lrbl	115
Amsterdam	100 H.N.	13,300

LATVIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

	Mar. 24, 1921.	Oct. 1, 1921.	Nov. 1, 1921.
Riga on—			
London	Latvian roubles for £1	1,875	1,900
New York	"	460	470
Paris	"	3,950	4,050
Stockholm	"	11,000	11,200
Copenhagen	"	8,400	8,600
Christiania	"	100 kr.	7,350
Amsterdam	"	100 hfl.	16,500
Berlin	"	100 rmk.	820
Helsingfors	"	100 smk.	975
Reval	"	100 smk.	125
Warsaw	"	100 pmk.	51

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
London on South Africa.	Buying.	Selling.
South Africa on London.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1% dis.	1% dis.
Demand	1% prem.	1% dis.
30 days	1% prem.	1% dis.
60 days	1% prem.	1% dis.
90 days	1% prem.	1% dis.
120 days	1% prem.	1% dis.

Plus ad valorem stamp duty.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	..	..
Sight	..	..
Cable	..	..
On demand	..	..
30 days	..	..
60 days	..	..
90 days	..	..
120 days	..	..
5 months' sight	..	..
6 months' sight	..	..

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.
Outstanding with public	43,73,55,000	31,54,85,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,99,55,000	91,54,85,000
India Office, November 18, 1921.		

BUL. LION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended November 23, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion show an increase of £5,169, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Nov. 23, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Nov. 23, 1921.
	£		£
British South Africa.....	599,033	United States America.....	694,500
British India.....	77,679	France.....	2,628
Belgium.....	356	Bombay, via other ports.....	16,100
Total values of import of gold.....	677,068	Total declared value of exports registered in the week.....	713,228

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on November 24 as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,610,000, as compared with £126,605,635 last week.

A fair amount of gold came on offer, and was taken for New York. It is reported that gold to the value of \$8,826,000 has arrived in New York—\$3,891,000 from London, \$4,300,000 from Sweden, and \$635,000 from France. The German Minister of Finance has issued an order, to take effect on November 3rd, increasing from 1,900 to 3,900 per cent. the premium, or "agio," which is leviable when the "gold" duties of the Customs Tariff are paid in paper currency. The following are the net Indian gold and silver trade movements from March to September inclusive (in lacs of rupees):—

	Gold.	Silver.
	Net Exports.	Net Imports.
March, 1921	4.80	2.98
April, "	2.57	1.65
May, "	56	1.37
June, "	2.27	94
July, "	1.86	61
August, "	3.73	91
September, "	1.60	96

CURRENCY.

Now that so many countries are desirous of placing their currency upon—or restoring it to—a gold basis, steps taken with this end in view are worth recording for the sake of comparison, and as a guide to future operations of a like character. A Press despatch from San Salvador stated some months ago that a contract providing for the establishment of a bank for the issuance of currency has been approved by the Salvadorean Congress. The institution, which is sponsored by American capital, was to be established within 90 days, and to have a paid-up capital of \$1,000,000, which may be increased to \$10,000,000. The concession will run for 50 years. Before the bank begins to operate it will import from the United States coined gold to the amount of \$5,000,000. Authorisation is given to the bank to issue paper money to an amount double that of the paid-up capital. It is believed there that the transaction will give Salvador a stable monetary system. The Times of the 12th inst. stated that the Government of the Baltic State of Lithuania had approached a London group asking its assistance to establish a State bank with a capital of £1,000,000, the Government, the public and local banks, and the British group each to provide one-third of the capital. The Bank is intended to be the State bank, and issue a new currency based on gold. At the present time grave inconvenience is caused by the currency being depreciated paper marks. Provision appears to have been made for about £3,000,000 gold reserve funds. It is suggested that a better plan would be to base the currency upon sterling funds held in London.

SILVER.

A fairly steady demand for silver on China account for prompt shipment carried the cash price to 39½d, and the two months to 38½d on the 10th inst., and held them at these figures on the 21st. The next day was the last on which shipment could be made on the s.s. "Egypt," timed to arrive in comfortable time for the Chinese New Year, which falls on January 28th next. On the 22nd inst. support was suddenly withdrawn, and a sharp fall ensued to 38d and 37½d for cash and two months' delivery respectively. The fall would not have been so sharp had the market had some premonition. Some easiness of prices was only to be expected when shipment from this country became later than convenient for the annual squaring up of debts in China. Some bear operators kept short on this account, and were quite ready to take a reasonable profit. The market, therefore, rallied ½d at once, encouraged by some China demand for forward delivery. The improvement, however, was not maintained. Obscure as the outlook is—and prone to the interposition of fresh factors—caution ought to be the *mot d'ordre*, for the absence of Indian purchases renders the market rather a one-horse affair. On the other hand, China's inquiry for silver may, in certain circumstances, prove a somewhat powerful influence in the market.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,971	17,848	17,676
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,996	7,923	7,901
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,434	2,434	2,434
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,706	6,706	6,706
Securities (British Government) ..	835	785	635

No coinage of rupees was reported during the week ending 15th inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 19th inst. consisted of about 28,800,000 ounces in sycee, 24,000,000 dollars, and 2,650 silver bars, as compared with about 25,300,000 ounces in sycee, 24,000,000 dollars, and 1,490 silver bars on the 12th inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 9d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.
Nov. 19 ..	103 0	39½	38½
21 ..	102 11	39½	38½
22 ..	103 3	38	37½
23 ..	102 11	38½	38½
24 ..	102 11	38½	37½
25 ..	102 11	37½	37½

NOTICES.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank announce the opening of new branches at 63 and 64 High street, King's Lynn, Norfolk, and Molesworth street, Wadebridge, Cornwall, under the management of Mr M. C. Cammille and Mr J. I. Clement respectively. The Canton office at 213 Cowbridge road, Cardiff, has been made a full branch, under the management of Mr Ivor Thomas.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Tuesday next, November 29th, a new branch at Market place and 20 Minister street, Salisbury, under the management of Mr O. V. Hill.

The London County Westminster and Parr's Bank announce the opening of a new branch at 87 Grey street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, under the management of Mr J. C. Knowles.

Mr P. Garelli, sub-manager of the branch at Zagreb of the Banque Franco-Serbe, has now been appointed manager of the London office, and Mr F. E. J. Pow, previously manager of the foreign exchange department of the Société Générale, London, has been appointed assistant manager.

Branches of the Merchants' Bank of Canada have been opened at Hamilton, Ont., corner of York and Locke streets; Vancouver, B.C., corner of 12th Avenue and Granville street.

The Bank of British West Africa, Limited, announce the opening of a branch at Melilla, Morocco.

The London office of the Union Bank of Canada announces that an agency of the bank has been opened at Winnipeg Agricultural College under the supervision of the Portage and Garry Branch, Winnipeg.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

BURBERRY'S, LIMITED.

March 31, 1921.

EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. stock	£ 997,405 .. + 997,405	Capital expendi-	£ 9,143,458 .. + 1,043,216
Deb. stock	2,000,000	Investments	2,215,142 .. - 1,291,754
Reserves	3,063,880 .. - 665,240	Spare cable and	826,525 .. + 178,814
Traffic and other	2,895,545 .. - 613,854	Traffic and other	2,837,567 .. - 459,925
credit balances	16,435 .. + 2,821	debit balances	8,942 .. - 26,054
Bills payable	21,926 .. - 61,108	Remittances	501,702 .. + 116,203
Deb. int. accrued	9,666 .. + 80	Cash	
Dividends	21,926 .. - 61,108		
Revenue account	316,479 .. - 99,604		
Total	15,533,336 .. - 439,500	Total	15,533,336 .. - 439,500

EASTERN EXTENSION, AUSTRALASIA, AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.

December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	£ 3,971,820 .. + 971,820	Capital expend.	£ 4,320,823 .. + 559,100
Deb. stock	752,400	Investments	2,652,996 .. - 255,364
Reserves	2,850,012 .. + 489,468	Spare cable and	259,117 .. + 183,094
Credit balances	2,510,461 .. - 217,136	stores	1,681,802 .. - 278,660
Deb. int. accrued	12,663	Debit balances	159,500 .. + 7,300
Dividends	171,509 .. - 40,751	Bills receivable	42,200 .. + 31,960
Revenue acc.	80,779 .. - 151,661	transit	636,185 .. + 207,249
		Treasury bills, &c.	597,021 .. + 597,021
Total	10,319,644 .. + 1,051,740	Total	10,319,644 .. + 1,051,740

WESTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	£ 3,110,950 .. + 659,370	Cap. expenditure	£ 5,793,633 .. + 548,056
Deb. stock	818,675	Investments	2,500,128 .. + 67,910
Reserves	2,950,831 .. - 17,635	Spare cable	275,215 .. + 168,924
Credit balances	614,306 .. - 410,712	stores	809,374 .. + 153,332
Bills payable	1,048 .. + 542	Remittances in	50,549 .. - 98,974
Deb. interest	5,900 .. - 395	transit	133,897 .. - 178,606
unclaimed	83,109 .. + 7,449	Bills receivable	146,461 .. - 444,695
Dividends	123,750 .. - 20,672	Cash	
Revenue account			
Total	7,727,617 .. + 217,947	Total	7,727,617 .. + 217,947

INDIA RUBBER, GUTTA PERCHA, AND TELEGRAPH WORKS.

August 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	£ 750,000	Properties and	£ 737,562 .. + 45,537
Deb. stock	250,000	machinery	109,441 .. - 33,491
Reserves	400,000	Stocks	30,821 .. + 8,333
Credit balances	1,000 .. - 350,000	Debits owing to	149,415 .. + 149,415
Premium on shares	65,722 .. - 4	company	20,000 .. + 25
Debts and loan	575,485 .. - 121,702	Wilton road pro-	73,609 .. - 43,502
from bank	101 .. - 93	perties	
Unclaimed divs.	35,498 .. - 106,920	Staff pensions fund	
Profit and loss		Investments	
		Issues	
		Expenses of new	
		Cash and cash	
		assets	
Total	2,224,806 .. - 578,737	Total	2,224,806 .. - 578,737

AERATED BREAD COMPANY, LIMITED.

October 1, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	£ 977,500	Property and plant	£ 801,933 .. + 72,277
Sundry creditors	82,483 .. - 6,422	Stocks	109,441 .. - 33,491
Staff pensions fund	20,292 .. + 232	Sundry debtors	30,821 .. + 8,333
Sundry reserves	35,761 .. + 24,862	Wilton road pro-	149,415 .. + 149,415
Bank loan account	135,415 .. + 135,415	Staff pensions fund	20,000 .. + 25
Profit and loss	105,469 .. - 35,595	Investments	73,609 .. - 43,502
		Issues	
		Expenses of new	
		Cash and cash	
		assets	
Total	1,356,425 .. + 118,542	Total	1,356,425 .. + 118,542

Reports and Notices.

The directors of the Great Western of Brazil Railway Company, Limited, announce that they have received cable advice from Rio de Janeiro that the Government has postponed until January 1st next the application of the increase in tariffs which should have taken effect on the 12th inst., as notified recently to the shareholders by circular.

A district office of the Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Company, Limited, has been opened at 2 George street, Croydon, Surrey, under the supervision of Mr T. C. E. Dodds.

The honour of the Freedom of the City of London has been conferred upon Mr Herbert Osborn Lewis, secretary of the West-end branch (London) of the Northern Assurance Company, Limited.

Sir Charles Eves, F.C.A., has been appointed receiver on behalf of the first mortgage debenture holders of the Frank Jones Brewing Company, Limited.

Messrs W. Elles-Hill and Co., chartered accountants, recently of Metron Chambers, 244 High Holborn, W.C. 1, have now removed to 17 Throgmorton avenue, E.C. 2, where their telephone number is London Wall 4033.

Messrs J. and A. Scrimgeour notify that on and after the 21st inst. their offices will be removed to 6 Austinfriars, E.C. 2.

Mr W. P. Sheppard has resigned his directorship of Tariff Reinsurances, Limited.

The directors of Tariff Reinsurances, Limited, state that that company has taken over the management of the fire and accident business of the General Reinsurance Company, but not the marine business.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

3 PER CENT. DIPLOMATIC DEBT OF VENEZUELA, 1905.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders notify the receipt of a sight draft for £4,390 15s 4d, being the moiety of the eighth fortnightly instalment of the Debt Service payable to the Council in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

RAILWAYS.

MISSOURI, KANSAS, AND TEXAS RAILWAY.—Particulars of the plan of reorganisation of the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway, completed by the reorganisation managers, Messrs J. W. Seligman and Co. and Messrs Hallgarten and Co., and accepted by the directors of the 18 committees representing securities dealt with under the scheme, are now available.

BANKS.

BANQUE BELGE POUR L'ETRANGER, SOCIETE ANONYME.—The report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows the following result:—Balance brought forward on July 1, 1920, £7,857; add gross profit of the business year, £955,837—total, £963,694; deduct working expenses, &c., £568,356, which leaves a balance of £395,338, which is appropriated as follows:—Statutory reserve, £19,374; special reserve, £140,000; provision for taxes, £8,000; directors' fees (rantièmes), £17,104; dividend at the rate of 9 per cent., £202,500; carried forward, £8,360. The following is a comparative table of balance-sheets (sterling equivalents taken at 25 frs to the £):—

	1919.	1920.	1921.
Net profit of the business year ..	184,600 ..	359,400 ..	387,500 ..
Dividend ..	7 ..	9 ..	9 ..
Capital—Subscribed ..	2,000,000 ..	2,000,000 ..	4,000,000 ..
Paid up ..	1,520,000 ..	1,520,000 ..	3,000,000 ..
Reserve ..	31,900 ..	41,100 ..	59,100 ..
Special reserve ..	360,000 ..	440,000 ..	580,000 ..
Sundry creditors ..	14,025,800 ..	24,322,700 ..	26,700,000 ..
Acceptances ..	2,449,400 ..	1,240,200 ..	824,400 ..
Note issue in China ..	48,500 ..	52,600 ..	61,900 ..
Cash ..	4,247,400 ..	7,074,700 ..	8,612,600 ..
Loan ..	883,900 ..	814,000 ..	788,000 ..
Sundry debtors ..	5,539,200 ..	11,169,100 ..	9,561,000 ..
Investments ..	1,422,800 ..	2,013,900 ..	2,452,700 ..
Bills receivable ..	4,152,800 ..	6,028,100 ..	9,248,400 ..
Total of balance-sheet ..	19,332,900 ..	28,679,700 ..	32,824,700 ..

* Includes £2,179,108 head office war period acceptances, now liquidated.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA.—The balance-sheet just received for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the total assets are now £140,573,808, as against £134,960,569 at December, 1920, and £63,679,412 at June, 1920, prior to the inclusion of the figures of the note issue department. The management of the whole of Australia's note issue it will be recalled, was assumed a year ago by the Commonwealth Bank, to which the relative assets of 59 million pounds sterling were transferred by the Commonwealth Treasury, including gold coin and bullion, £23,714,983; debentures and other securities, £26,115,356. Deposits in the general banking department have increased during the half-year from £27,153,311 to £34,515,485, while savings bank deposits stand at £36,190,390, as compared with £35,306,956 six months previously. Money at call and short notice in London now stands at £8,096,000, as against £4,160,000 in December, 1920, the amounts represented by coin, bullion and cash balances being now £5,371,140, while investments aggregate £34,233,516. The greater activity in the Australian exchange position is indicated by the increase in bills receivable in London to £7,174,175, as against £1,319,804 a year previously. During the same period bills discounted, loans, &c., have increased to £18,657,922, from £13,194,693. The profits for the half-year are £403,041, as against £292,219 six months previously and £392,604 in June, 1920. During the nine years of its existence, the Commonwealth Bank, which is owned and guaranteed by the Australian Commonwealth Government, has accumulated profits amounting to £3,451,365, which are held at credit of reserve funds.

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.—The gross profits for the half-year ended June 30, 1921, including yen 4,652,374 brought forward from last account, amount to yen 104,982,251, from which the sum of yen 90,227,314 has been deducted for interests, taxes, current expenses, rebate on bills current, bad and doubtful debts, bonus for directors and auditors, &c., leaving a balance of yen 14,754,936 for appropriation. The directors propose that yen 4,000,000 be added to the reserve fund, and recommend a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum, which will absorb yen 6,000,000. The balance, yen 4,754,936, will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

RUBBER.

ABOYNE-CLYDE (CEYLON).—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a loss of £16,965. Deducting £2,053 brought forward, there remains a debit balance of £14,912 to carry forward. The report states that the rubber harvested during the year amounted to 463,673 lbs. The original estimate was for 540,000 lbs, but was cut down by 25 per cent. from November 1, 1920, in accordance with the agreement with the Rubber Growers' Association. Of the quantity 377,439 lbs were sold to June 30th last, and the balance of 86,234 lbs has been sold since that date. The rubber sold in London amounted to 230,111 lbs, at an average price of 1s 0.32d per lb, as compared with 25 2.54d per lb for the previous season. The rubber sold in Colombo amounted to 233,562 lbs, at an average price of 7 11d per lb. The cost of production, inclusive of all expenditure and handling and selling charges, except debenture interest, income-tax, and depreciation, was 11.50d per lb, as compared with 1s 5.80d per lb for 1920. For the year 1919-20 the average rate of exchange was 2s 2.4d, while for the year under review the average rate was 1s 8.7d.

LANGKAPORERA (SUMATRA).—The output of rubber for the year ended June 30, 1921, amounted to 259,568 lbs, against an original estimate of 380,293 lbs. From November 1, 1920, the crop was restricted in accordance with the Rubber Growers' Association scheme. The cost of production on the estate was 1s 1.23d per lb, and the "all in" cost, including depreciation, was 1s 7.09d per lb. The average gross selling price (not including the stock unsold, valued at market price on June 30, 1921) was 1s 1.4d per lb. Tapping has improved greatly, and diseases, which are being carefully watched, are inconsiderable. The output of coffee was 1,544 piculs, against an estimate of 1,650 piculs. The coffee trees have been affected by the coffee borer, which accounts for the shortage of the crop and the poorness of the quality. The labour position is still difficult, but the health of the coolies is good. The accounts show a loss for the year of £10,388, from which must be deducted net balance of £8,463 brought forward, leaving a debit balance of £1,925 to go forward.

MORIB.—The eleventh annual report shows a net loss for year of £1,706, from which is deducted £1,052 brought in, making a debit balance of £654 to go forward. The number of coconuts harvested was 1,027,607. 238 tons of copra were manufactured during the year. The average net price realised for copra was £29 12s per ton. The rubber crop for the year was 112,410 lbs. The number of trees tapped was 33,845. The cost of production was 8.9d per lb. The average net sale price, including the estimated value of the unsold portion of the stock, was 6.4d per lb.

SENGAT.—The eleventh report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows a loss on working of £1,704, from which is deducted £1,184 brought in, making a debit balance of £520 to go forward. The company is putting in a claim for refund of excess profits duty, amounting to approximately £13,000. The crop of dry rubber secured during the season was restricted, in agreement with the Rubber Growers' Association, and amounted to 527,000 lbs, of which 487,488 lbs were sold on the London market, and 39,512 lbs in Singapore, and realised 10.93d per lb. Owing to reduced crop and heavy loss on rice supplied to the coolies, expenditure was high during the early part of the year, but this has been drastically cut down, and cost of production is now on a very moderate basis.

SINGAPORE PARA.—The twelfth annual report to June 30, 1921, reveals a loss on working of £2,440. The balance brought forward from last year was £9,566, making £7,126 to carry forward. The actual output during the year was 455,234 lbs. The "all in" cost amounted to 1s 3.84d per lb, and the average selling price for rubber actually realised was 1s 0.40d. The loss on rice during the year was £1,861 (equal to 1d per lb of rubber output), but the market is now nearly normal, and little loss is anticipated during the current year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

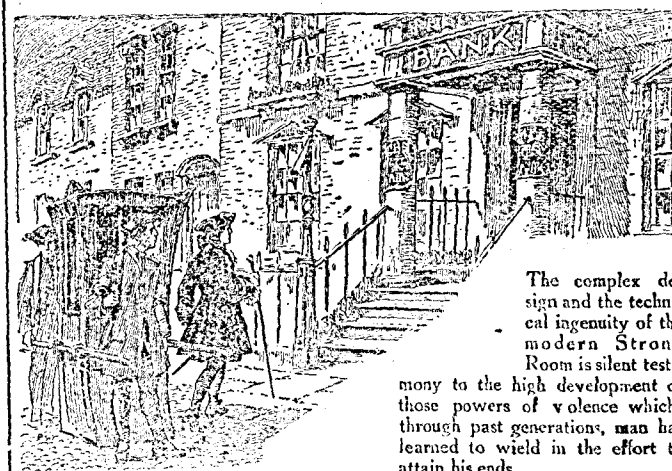
ANSELLS BREWERY.—The report and accounts for the year ended September 30, 1921, show a net profit for the year of £116,934, which with £71,596 brought forward, makes £188,530 available. The ordinary dividend for the year is 10 per cent., free of income-tax. The sum of £30,000 is placed to reserve, and £70,280 is carried forward.

DENNIS BROTHERS.—The report for year ended September 30, 1921, shows a profit of £73,449, to which is added £15,226, making £88,675 available. Reserve is increased by £5,000. Dividend and bonus of 10 per cent. absorbs £65,107, leaving £18,568 to go forward.

EASTERN EXTENSION, AUSTRALASIA, AND CHINA TELEGRAPH.—The report for the year 1920 shows that gross revenue amounted to £2,514,825, from which is deducted ordinary expenditure £744,931, and £451,307 for maintenance of cables and special expenses leaving £1,318,584. After providing £666,138 for excess profits duty, corporation tax, and income-tax payable in England, debenture interest £30,096, expenses on new capital issue £5,451, there remains a balance of £616,898, to which is added £232,440 brought forward, making £849,338 available. The sum of £450,000 has been added to reserve fund. Dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbed £318,559. The balance of £80,779 is carried forward.

EASTERN TELEGRAPH.—The report for 1920 shows that revenue amounted to £4,381,856. From this is deducted £1,629,057 for the ordinary expense, and £1,359,726 for other expenditure, leaving a balance of £1,393,073. Income-tax, corporation profits tax, and excess profits duty payable in England, interest on debenture stock, and dividends on preference stock absorbed £474,015, leaving £919,058, to which is added £416,082 brought forward, making £1,335,140 available. The sum of £500,000 is placed to general reserve fund, and £100,000 to the maintenance ships fund. A dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, for the year on the ordinary shares absorbed £400,000. There has also been paid a dividend, free of income-tax, on the new ordinary shares amounting to £18,662. The sum of £316,479 is carried to next account.

HUMBER, LIMITED.—The net profit for year ended August 31, 1921, after making due provision for excess profits duty, corporation profits tax, income-tax, directors' remuneration, &c., amounts to the sum of £103,999, to which has to be added the net amount shown on the balance-sheet brought forward from 1920, £94,429, giving a total available balance of £198,428, which the directors recommend should be dealt with in the following way:—To add to the buildings reserve fund, £20,000; to add to the general reserve fund £40,000; to place to a taxation reserve fund, £10,000; to pay a dividend of 6 per cent. on the preference shares for the year ended August 31, 1921, £19,890; to pay a dividend of 10 per cent. on the ordinary shares, £29,288; to carry forward, £79,250. The directors state that they are pleased to be able again to congratulate the shareholders upon the result of the years' working, more especially in view of the fact that export trade has dwindled to a minimum, in consequence of the rates of exchange and excessive duty in almost every foreign country. It will be remembered that reference was made in the last report to the serious fire, which destroyed a large portion of the b-d-v building and other shops. These buildings have now been rebuilt upon a larger scale, and are more efficiently arranged. The directors are glad to state that the reputation of the company's productions is still on the increase, and the company's two models having thoroughly established themselves in the favour of the public. The cycle and motor cycle departments



The complex design and the technical ingenuity of the modern Strong Room is silent testimony to the high development of those powers of violence which, through past generations, man has learned to wield in the effort to attain his ends.

Planning the Strong Room

WE shall be pleased to consult with Bankers and their Architects contemplating the design of Strong Rooms, Safe Deposit installations, and all classes of security work.

For 63 years we have confined ourselves entirely to work of the highest standard, and as a policy have incorporated every advancement made by science in the construction, irrespective of cost, and offer our services to those who really desire the best.

Wide experience has given us useful data and memoranda which is always at the disposal of the Architect, and we shall be pleased to prepare plans and specifications free of charge and without obligation of any sort.

THE CHATWOOD STRONG ROOM

The Chatwood Safe Book.

Post a card to-day for a complimentary copy of The Chatwood Safe Book, which contains full details of the various models.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED

BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works: BOLTON.

Branches: LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW
56 Gracechurch St., E.C. 4. Royal Exchange. 12 Greenock Terr., Greenock.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.							
Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	or —	1920-21.	or —
Anglo-Argentine . . .	46 weeks	Nov. 18	329	£84,269	+ 6,317	3,685,160	+ 180,561
Burnley Corporation	1 week	19 12	—	£3,182	45	..	..
Calcutta Tramways.	46 weeks	19 35	351	Rs11,986	- 2,772	—	- 772,121
Chatham & District.	14 weeks	3 15	1	£1,601	23	74,414	2,479
Egyptian Markets . .	45 weeks	11 —	—	£2,574	+ 413	91,963	+ 13,753
Glasgow Corporation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tramway	25 weeks	19 99	99	£45,126	- 1,979	1,125,180	+ 32,773
Iale of Thanet	7 weeks	16 —	—	£535	+ 44	5,156	+ 952
Lancashire United . .	46 weeks	15 39	39	£3,112	- 416	159,319	- 5,091
Liverpool Corporation	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tramways	45 weeks	19 124	124	£23,733	+ 2,776	1,541,098	+ 79,857
L.C.C. Tramways . . .	51 weeks	23 155	155	£31,431	+ 3,393	3,815,457	+ 176,615
Madras Elect. (2wks)	6 weeks	15 15	15	Rs6,287	- 2,453	8,72,285	- 1,77,705
Pernambuco Trams.	46 weeks	20 —	—	£3,552	- 2,004	172,951	- 135,797
Singapore Electric . .	33 weeks	Oct. 1	—	£14,452	+ 84	5,10,080	+ 32,039

Alabama Power...	1 mth	June 30	Gross	\$259,059	88,481	..	..
			Net	\$130,812	22,750	..	..
Barcelona Trac. repts. in pstat.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$164,126	253,705	273,932	4,063,688
			Net	1,995,397	50,174	17,009,755	1,210,025
Brazilian Trac. repts. in mil.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	14,711,000	2,428,000	12,589,100	222,600
Brisbane Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Net	\$5,417,030	617,700	..	1,926,000
Bri. Columbia Electric, &c.	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$247,880	1,570	171,920	1,593
			Net	\$45,185	38,383	2,529,949	123,687
Buenos Ayres La Croze Trams	11 mths	May 31	61½	£58,492	3,928	629,444	67,765
Burmah Electric Trwys. & Lightg.	2 mths	Sept. 30	..	Rs58,974	8,739	..	15,354
Cape Elec. Trams	1 mth	Oct. 31	Gross	\$33,627	..	..	..
			Net	\$7,110	..	..	..
Canadian - Wetrn. Natural Gas	12 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$42,746	5,640	780,670	167,538
Carthagenae and Herrerias Trams.	10 mths	Oct. 31	12	13,862	543	26,098	15,983
Catalinas Wareh.	1 mth	Oct. 31	Gross	\$21,400	2,240	..	..
			Net	\$3,030	..	..	..
Chillagoe	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	£1,208	..	..	..
			Net	\$973,873	997,914	14,868,151	9,423,868
Cities Service Co.	12 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$426,175	990,410	14,288,516	9,319,272
			Net	\$3,204	3,607	139,450	19,070
Cordoba Light, &c.	6 mths	Sept. 30	Grr	\$1,606,395	448,284	8,497,481	1,017,244
Cuba Railroad	7 mths	Jan. 31	N	\$368,028	79,092	8,447,784	2,588,391
			Net	\$4,251	39	25,706	1,958
Elec. Sup. of Vict. Havana Elec. Rly.	24 weeks	Sept. 11	Gross	\$1,019,174	87,240	9,504,071	1,191,745
Light & Power	9 mths	Sept. 30	Net	\$504,725	79,172	4,019,493	184,742
International Light & Power	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$20,548	667	65,860	1,570
			Net	\$5,287	268	19,2	1,355
Kalgoorlie Elec. Tramway	7 mths	July	Net	\$2,204	..	14,638	..
			Gross	\$143,182	6,002	1,297,122	1,482
Keystone Tele. ..	9 mths	Sept. 30	Net	\$59,302	9,377	444,137	5,983
La Guafra Harbr. La Plata Electric	1 mth	Oct. 31	..	\$5,263	3,446	..	..
Lima Light, Pwr and Tramwys.	10 mths	Oct. 31	..	\$5,587	276	51,645	4,535
Lisbon Electric...	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$84,770	25,005	442,178	39,222
			Net	\$13,519	7,322	151,385	27,507
Lisbon Electric...	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	276,625	Escudos	..	..
Manila Electric Railroad, &c.	9 mths	Sept. 30	Net	\$130,796	11,860	2,734,631	278,757
			Gross	\$25,548	1,224	261,667	239,670
Para Electric	11 mths	Oct. 31	Net	\$10,822	688	105,263	7,188
			Gross	Rs2,91,500	38,093	25,770,776	344,261
Rangoon Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Net	\$75,401	80,249	127,726	27,945
Shanghai Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Mex.	\$191,570	22,666	1,671,038	156,466
Toronto Rly., &c.	7 mths	July 31	Gross	\$123,483	40,169	8,877,663	642,636
			Net	\$36,837	120,502	2,796,472	194,396
United Electric T. of Montevideo	12 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$47,297	2,681	555,724	39,585
Utah Securities...	1 mth	May 31	Gross	\$569,568	50,563	..	..
			Net	\$300,057	28,131	..	..
Victoria Falls & Transval Pwr.	Quarter	June 30	Net	\$203,041	..	..	..
			Gross	\$417,174	9,943	3,991,776	160,121
Winnipeg Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Net	\$146,281	44,817	1,194,888	225,231

WESTERN TELEGRAPH.—The revenue for the year ended June 30, 1921, amounted to £2,073,498, and the working expenses to £1,024,445. After providing £32,747 for debenture stock interest and £306,536 for income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation profits tax, there remains a balance of £709,790; to this is added the sum of £149,410 brought forward from June 30, 1920, making a total of £859,200. The directors have transferred £350,000 to the general reserve fund, £50,000 to the maintenance ships reserve fund and £50,000 to the land and buildings depreciation fund. Further expenses of issue of new capital amounted to £1,336. Four dividends of 2½ per cent. each have been paid, amounting to £259,005, making a distribution of 10 per cent. free of income-tax, for the year ended June 30, 1921, and a dividend of 4½ per cent. free of income-tax, has been paid on 96,102 new shares, in accordance with the conditions of allotment, which amounted to £19,220, thus leaving a balance of £128,738 to go forward to the next account.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.							
Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Incr. or Decr.	Aggregate Receipts.	Incr. or Decr.	
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross \$91,711	— 135,656	366,205	— 213,337	
Canadian Nto*	9 mths	30	Gross \$7,057,400	+ 916,300	48,654,600	+ 4,833,400	
Canadian Pac.*	9 mths	30	Gross \$19,435,000	— 514,000	136,383,000	— 11,049,000	
			Net \$4,120,000	+ 411,000	21,900,000	+ 2,743,000	
			Gross \$2,478,000	95,900	3,772,200	+ 593,320	
Grand Trunk	3 mths	Mar. 31	Net \$122,900	— 68,400	91,400	+ 306,500	
Temiscamie	1 mth	Sent. 30	Gross \$35,478				

* Non earnings before deducting taxes

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Seasonable weather continues to prevail over the United Kingdom, and the recent cold snap will tend to harden the young wheat plant, which presents a healthy appearance in early districts. Sowings are not yet completed, but reports to hand indicate a fairly large area under cultivation, though it is doubtful if same reach last year's figures. Firm conditions governed the market during the period under review, with steady trading in force. Native wheat sells steadily at 49s to 52s for suitable milling samples, with inferior lots at 40s to 45s per 504 lbs, free on rail. Imported descriptions ruled firmer, while in moderate request. No. 1 Northern Manitoba, 57s 6d; No. 2 hard winter, 53s 6d, both ex ship, 480 lbs, and Australian, ex store, 53s landed per 496 lbs. More activity was noticeable with regard to forward positions, and a generally firm tone ensued. Cargoes of No. 1 Northern Manitoba arrived out to load sold 50s 6d; Australian, old crop afloat, 48s; and Baril, 62½ lbs, just sailed, at 48s per 480 lbs. Visible supplies in North America show a slight falling off, also quantities afloat, but port stocks here are on a fairly liberal scale. Crop prospects continue satisfactory in most exporting countries, apart from some complaints of excessive heat in Australia, which is adversely affecting late-sown wheat. Flour trade continues very quiet, though there is a slight improvement in demand for home milled, prices showing a decline generally of 2s per sack. London straight run quoted 49s to 50s, town households 47s, patents 52s. All English straights 43s per sack delivered. Country straight run 38s to 40s, free on rail, London. Of imported, Canadian export patents quoted 48s, straight 44s, Kansas patents 45s, and Australian 42s per 280 lbs, ex store. Forward business remains more or less at a standstill. Kansas top patents, December seaboard sellers, 43s; Canadian patents 42s, and Australian, January-February, 36s per 280 lbs, c.i.f. Offials firm, and sparingly offered. Broad bran, 19s 10s to 110; ordinary ditto 109, middlings 110 10s to 111 per ton, ex mill. Plate pollards 117 10s, ditto fancy middlings 111 10s per ton, ex ship. Barley quietly steady. English malting quoted 45s to 70s, grinding sorts 38s to 44s, free on rail. Of imported, Californian 38s to 55s, as to quality, all per 48 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western, ex ship, 34s; No. 4 ditto, landed, 34s 6d; Canada feed, landed, 31s 6d; American feed, 30s; ex quay, all per 400 lbs. Forward business included cargoes of Dan-Bess-Kustendji arrived sold 28s 9d; and ditto, on passage, at 29s 3d per 400 lbs. Parcels dull. Maize more firmly held, with a better demand. Yellow, La Plata, 35s; African quoted 35s 6d; and white flat African at 35s, all landed. In the forward market holders required firm to rather dearer prices, but only moderate sales resulted, including cargo of No. 1 and/or No. 2 white flat Rhodesian, afloat, at 30s 6d per 480 lbs. A good business transpired in white African maize meal, November-December, at 17 12s 6d, London and Southampton, and yellow ditto to Glasgow, November-December, at 17 13s 9d. Oats fully steady to rather dearer, with improved inquiries. English ranges from 31s to 37s 6d, free on rail, per 336 lbs. Of imported, Plate quoted 27s 3d to 27s 9d; Canada Western, 31s 6d to 32s 6d; Chilean tawny, 28s to 29s; and New Zealand 34s to 35s per 320 lbs, all landed terms. English beans met with rather more attention. Springs quoted 54s to 57s, and winters 47s to 50s per 532 lbs. Peas in slow request. English Maples 60s to 65s; Duns 50s to 54s per 504 lbs, free on rail. Oatmeal firm, with a good demand for all descriptions. English, all cuts, 19s to 20s; ordinary Scottish, 19 10s; American, 18 10s; English rolled oats 121 to 122; flaked oats 123 to 124, all per ton. Homeward grain chartering was on a moderate scale, but late rates generally maintained, especially for early loading. From the River Plate prompt steamers up river prompt, and December done 20s, heavy grain; and January-February, 22s 6d to 23s 9d, with option of oats and linseed at proportionately increased rates to U.K./Continent. American Northern Range ports to U.K., early December, paid 4s; and Marseilles 5s 6d per qr, with 14½ cents per 100 lbs to Antwerp/Rotterdam. India fixed at 20s dead weight, November-December, and Dalny beans to U.K./Continent at 21s, with Scandinavian options. Australia steady, quiet, with fixtures at 22s 6d, basis South Australia or Victoria to U.K./Continent, December, and 50s, January-February, with Indian options. South African maize quotes 22s 6d prompt, while Danube done at 19s 6d to 20s prompt to U.K./Continent.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to November 19.....	Cwts. 301,137	Cwts. 353,835	Cwts. 357,743	Cwts. 312,812
11 weeks to November 19.....	4,036,137	4,933,581	2,583,393	3,597,339
Average price of English wheat per				
quarter.....	45 7	40 3	42 7	42 4
per cwt.....	10 7	21 0	16 11	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past

week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Nov. 12.....	56,817 6	142,952 6	20,715 6	44 2	49 0	25 11
19.....	70,263 3	152,496 6	18,047 6	45 7	48 7	26 7
1917.....	55,220 5	142,565 3	14,828 2	70 2	59 9	43 1
1918.....	74,989 5	93,085 1	11,813 7	72 4	60 10	51 1
1919.....	83,426 7	181,262 5	19,827 6	72 7	104 11	55 11
1920.....	82,514 7	159,479 3	18,755 3	90 3	89 7	51 11

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbrough correspondent's report, dated November 24th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: There is no further development in the situation. The market is flat, and until makers get further relief in transport and fuel costs they are unable to sell at competitive prices. Hematite pig-iron is relatively very cheap, as East Coast mixed numbers can be bought at 110s, the same price as No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. Manufactured iron and steel: The stoppage of naval armament orders is an adverse factor, and affects Clyde and Sheffield steel works particularly. Orders for steel are very scarce. Steel ship plates, home, 110 10s; steel ship angles, home, 110; iron bars, home, 112 10s; steel rails, home, 110 net. Iron ore: Beyond an occasional small deal in imported ore, there is nothing doing either for prompt or forward delivery. Best Bilbao Rubio ore 27s per ton nominally.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The official intimation of cancellation of contracts for four super-Dreadnoughts acted like a wet blanket upon the spirits of the steel trade generally, since the work would have brought much valuable business to many firms in Sheffield outside the actual contractors, and sensibly diminished the local unemployment roll. The preparation of armour-making plants has now been stopped. Large quantities of Swedish pig-iron and ferro-chrome were imported for use in the manufacture of armour and guns before the decision not to proceed with the building of the ships. The outlook for some branches of iron and steel is better, and with Continental material practically out of the market the home demand should necessitate the re-lighting of some of the many blast furnaces and steel furnaces. Prices are now very low, most of them less than half those obtaining a year ago, while some have dropped by two-thirds. Things have never been so bad in the departments producing railway tyres, axles, and springs for a long period. The plants are not working a third of their capacity. The home railway companies have not yet departed from their policy of buying from hand to mouth, while South America, Sheffield's largest customer in the past, is obtaining the bulk of her requirements from Germany and Belgium. It is significant that increasing difficulties are being experienced in getting deliveries of any iron and steel material from Germany. All the steel foundries are quiet, and there is no mitigation of stagnation in tool steel. Foreign trade in tools, steel, files, and cutlery is extremely bad, and no revival this year is now possible. The demand for house coal is improving, and as consumers have little in stock dealers should soon be busy. The London demand is growing strong. Manufacturing coal is quiet, with no interest in forward supplies. Slacks are a steady market. Blast furnace coke production is going out of hand freely, and with the projected starting of more furnaces the trade should increase.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—The suspension by the Admiralty last week-end of all preparatory work on the four war-vessels placed only a few weeks before has completely demoralised the industrial position on the Clyde. There are still some people in the shipbuilding and steel trades who cling to the hope that a couple of the new vessels will yet be built, and labour influences are beginning to advocate that instead of sacrificing the four new boats, a way out of the difficulty and of the position created can be advantageously secured by scrapping four obsolete vessels and filling up the blanks with super-Hoods. Meanwhile, no fresh feature has shown itself in shipbuilding relations. No new contracts have been given out, but a good deal of progress continues to be registered in the fitting-out of "suspended" steamers. But even in that line builders are not pushing operations, for the declared reason that they look for further breaks in prices of material, chiefly because of the dispute in force between English and Scotch makers as to quotations. The latter are this week naming 110 10s a ton for ship plates and 110 for angles, and it was reported on 'Change yesterday that North-East Coast makers had sold some lots of plates here at as low as 109 15s a ton, and angles at 109 5s delivered. With 18s a ton for charges, the net sum realised works out at near 108 13s for plates. Scotch makers state that they are not disposed to follow the downward trek, either in heavy or light material, for, no matter what the figure named, buyers treat themselves to dribbles. In the home market it is felt that consumers have no bookings of consequence to work on. But there are still firmish indications cropping up in the export market, and experienced producers are satisfied that if they could only assume a slightly harder tone a good bit of accumulated work would come to light. Encouraging hopes of a better steel position is taken from the private reports from Germany and Belgium as to the position of trade influences there. German iron and steel makers are practically out of this market for a variety of products, and Belgium is holding off from commitments in a way that has not been seen for months. Of Scotch pig-iron only some 300 tons were shipped last week. In the home position quotations have been reduced 2s 6d a ton at 106 10s for

No. 1 and 106 5s for No. 3. Scotch hematite is offering at 106 10s, with no takers, East Coast terms being fractionally easier. Bar iron prices were cut by 30s a ton in the beginning of the week, so that the basic rate for crown bars is 112 10s, bringing the net drop for the year up to 115 a ton. Black sheets f.o.b. Glasgow, at which some export transactions have been effected, compare with 109 10s quoted for Belgian sheets f.o.b. Antwerp. Again Scotch bars are given as 111 10s for export, against 108 4s per ton Antwerp. And yet it is the export market which is the anchor of the hope that is largely held in industrial circles of the coming recovery in trade, and to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer pledges himself. An important element of strength—one on which a deal of stress during this otherwise drab business week has been laid—is the declared fact, gathered of current experiences, that consumers at home and abroad are unusually bare of all descriptions of material stocks, and that every day is bringing us nearer the juncture when these must be enlarged and replenished—and, therefore, the turning point in volume of trade passing. Coals plentiful for home purposes, and easier in tendency.

CUMBERLAND IRON.

(FROM OUR WORKINGTON CORRESPONDENT.)

There has come in the Cumberland and North Lancashire hematite pig-iron market the pause in business which even in the briskest times is due as the end of the year draws near, and any hopes that were entertained that production in the closing months might approximate to that being secured before the coal stoppage began in the spring have been extinguished. Makers in reducing ordinary iron to 106 per ton have made the utmost concession that can be expected in existing circumstances. That there will be a further fall in prices is certain, but it will not be due until costs drop also, and meantime users are apparently minded to wait for the lower prices. At all events, they are content to buy only such iron as they need to keep them going from one week-end to another, and this hand-to-mouth business is of such small extent that one of the furnaces has been damped down this week. No more than seven furnaces remain in full blast, and four of these are on ordinary iron for consumption at the steelworks at Workington and Barrow. The requirements of low phosphorus iron, it may be gathered, are inconsiderable. South Wales has for the time being ceased to be a user; Scotland is taking very little, and the greater proportion of the make is going to the midlands. The outlook in the steel trade here is a shade brighter. Orders for railway material are now more numerous, and it is stated confidently that Workington will be able to keep the mills rolling rails, fish-plates, sleepers, and tube steel until Christmas, and probably longer. Nothing is doing in the iron ore industry, and few mines except those raising low phosphoric ores for the furnaces on special iron are working.

The coal trade has been made brisker by an increase in the demand for household consumption. Owners are meeting the severe competition from Scotland in the Irish market, and are now "cutting" among themselves. The result is that a good deal of the lost ground has been recovered, and four of the collieries are working full time. Other collieries, however, have difficulty in getting in more than three or four days a week. There is no outlet for the smalls on account of so few coke ovens being in operation. The coking plants, of course, are idle to a large extent because of so few furnaces being on ordinary iron, for which the local coke can be used. Continental business is practically non-existent.

BY-PRODUCTS TRADE.

The position in the by-products trade does not get any better. Pitch has developed on the side of weakness, and the price is now down to between 45s and 50s per ton. Naphthol is much more plentiful, and the price has fallen to 2s 7d to 2s 9d per gallon. Naphthalene crudes are worth from 15s to 18s per ton, and refined from 15s to 18s per ton. Cresylic acid has fallen to 2s 2d per gallon for pale 97-99 per cent., and dark 95-97 per cent. is worth 2s per gallon. Carbollic acid continues its downward course, and makes 1s 5d per gallon for crude and 4½d per lb for crystals. Creosote is weaker at 7d per lb; 90 per cent. benzol is firm at 2s 9d, and pure benzol is scarce at 3s 8d. Business in intermediate products has continued quiet, although there has been fair export enquiry for some of the leading products. The position of sulphate of ammonia is unchanged. The demand remains satisfactory, and prices are maintained at 15 8s for neutral and 14 3s for ordinary quality, both for December deliveries.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The decline in wool values at the London auctions has occasioned no surprise in Yorkshire, but at the same time it has had the effect of holding up business to a considerable extent, as prospective buyers are not willing to commit themselves until they feel reasonably sure that there is to be no further depreciation. Unfortunately, increased offerings of merinos came just at the time when the fall in the German mark made it practically impossible for German firms to continue buying on a big scale, and apparently the home demand is not sufficient to absorb any increased offerings. In the circumstances, the directors of B.A.W.R.A. have curtailed the series by one day, and the Liverpool sale, which was to have been held next month, has been cancelled. This is obviously an attempt to bolster up the market, but it

remains to be seen how far it will prove successful. In the meantime topmakers are meeting the changed conditions with lower quotations all round, and it is now possible to buy a good warp 64's at about 3s 8d spot delivery. For delivery in the first quarter of next year some firms are quoting as low as 3s 6d, but wool will have to be still cheaper than it is to-day if tops are to be made at that figure and show a profit. There is not enough business passing to test values properly, and quotations must be considered more or less nominal, though there is a growing feeling that business would expand if values could be stabilised on a basis of about 3s 6d. There is less inquiry for yarn, and although most firms have enough work in hand to run machinery to the end of the year, the outlook after that is rather gloomy. Prices of yarns are again easier and in buyers' favour for practically all sorts. There is very little change in the piece goods trade, though some Huddersfield mills are better employed.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

When the last series of Colonial wool sales closed in October, merinos were firm, but crossbreds showed some signs of irregularity. Since then, however, a certain amount of weakness has developed in the raw material markets, and this has tended to shake confidence and cause a general slackening of business. Cabled reports from Australia revealed a decline in values, and the sales at Hull and Liverpool, which have been held since the last series in London, also showed a slackening of interest and a lower range of prices. In view of this hesitation on the part of buyers, the current series in Coleman Street Wool Exchange excited more than ordinary interest, and the results of the opening day were eagerly awaited in the consuming centres.

Judging from the first day's sale, the course of trade is very much on the lines expected. Both home and Continental buyers were well represented, and the former again made practically all the running. France and Germany gave some assistance, but it is obvious that German buyers are greatly crippled on account of the adverse exchange, and while the mark remains in such a demoralised state it is not reasonable to expect that much support will be forthcoming from Germany. It should be noted that the offerings were not of a very attractive character, and in merinos the new clip was generally faulty and lacking in fineness. Generally speaking, average and faulty merinos, both greasy and scoured, showed a decline of about 10 per cent. compared with the closing rates in October. The finer grades of crossbreds met with a good demand, but here, also, the prices realised were from 5 to 7½ per cent. down, while medium and coarse qualities suffered a full 10 per cent. decline. Slipes and scoureds met an irregular demand, and although short slipes were practically unchanged compared with the last sales' closing prices, full-length slipes declined fully 10 per cent. A similar decline was recorded in Puntas, but the offerings were mainly of the shabbier and wastier sorts.

It remains to be seen whether values can be maintained on the new level, but it is manifest that if any further weakening occurs it will have a bad effect on business in Yorkshire. Home trade requirements are not large, and unless buyers can be assured that prices are to remain reasonably steady, they will naturally hold off and wait for the market to become stabilised. In the meantime the fall in wool values has been largely discounted by topmakers, most of whom reduced their quotations after the Liverpool sale. Prices of spot merino tops are still well maintained, owing to the scarcity of lots for immediate delivery, but it is possible to book forward contracts at much more favourable prices than those recently quoted.

The Australian Premier (Mr Hughes) made it very clear recently that he would not sanction the continuance of the export regulations on wool. He told a deputation that he would grant an extension of a fortnight, but that as conditions to-day were so entirely different from those which prevailed when the Government imposed the regulations, he would not agree to a further extension. The time limit expired on Tuesday, and according to cabled information the Federal Government have declined to renew

THE CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:

6, PAUL STREET, FINSBURY, E.C.2.

Assets Exceed - £1,000,000
 Premium Income Exceeds £450,000
 Claims Paid Exceed - £1,600,000
 Advances Made Exceed - £2,250,000

The new issues of our Ordinary Branch and House Purchase Prospectuses are now to hand, copies of which may be had on application to Head Office.

Managing Director: LEONARD ALDRIDGE

LONDON OFFICES
32 Lombard Street, E.C.3
50 Pall Mall, S.W.1 29 Kingsway, W.C.2

LIVERPOOL OFFICES
27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street

NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

Continued from page 961.

alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton.
"Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, November 25.

A generally quiet tone pervaded the markets throughout the week, particularly with regard to raw materials, and prices almost without exception were inclined to favour the buyer.

SUGAR.—All spot parcels of refined received fair attention, but prices eased. There was not much interest shown in forward positions. Raw descriptions experienced a slow sale. Messrs Tate and Lyle quote cubes, 54s 3d to 55s 3d; caster, 51s 3d to 51s 9d; crushed, 50s 9d; pieces, 36s to 44s; granulated, 48s 9d to 49s 3d, London; also No. 2 granulated, January-March, sold, 47s 3d. Yellow crystals, spot, 43s 3d. Crystallised West India sold from 38s to 41s, as to sample; muscovado quoted 32s to 35s. American granulated, spot, 43s 3d; ditto, January-March, 20s 3d, c.f. and i., U.K. Dutch granulated, spot, 48s 6d; ditto, prompt shipment, 21s 6d; cubes, 26s 6d, f.o.b., Amsterdam. White Java, spot, 46s 6d; ditto, November-December, 19s 6d, c.f. and i., London. Belgian crystals, November-December, 19s 6d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Cuban centrifugal basis, 96 per cent., December-January, sold, 14s, c.f. and i., U.K. Cuban stocks stand at 1,055,000 tons, against 265,000 same time last year. Liquid glucose, November delivery, duty paid, sellers, 26s 6d.

COFFEE.—A steady tone prevailed with regard to spot parcels, and a fair inquiry was experienced for all the finer qualities, and which are scarce. Good bold, new crop, Costa Rica, sold, 14s; peas, 15s. Future delivery market ruled weaker. December, sold, 47s to 46s 6d; March, 48s to 47s 9d; and May, 48s 3d to 48s.

COCOA.—Only a small business was carried through at about late rates.

TEA.—Some 75,700 packages Indian were offered in auction this week, and while all medium and common descriptions sold readily at full to dearer rates good and fine disclosed some irregularity, and recent prices were not maintained in several instances. 14,000 packages Ceylon aroused active support at full to dearer prices, all undergrades showing the greater appreciation.

RICE.—Market steady, but only a moderate volume of business was effected. Two stars Rangoon, spot, sold, 18s 6d. No. 1 garden Siam, afloat, quoted 19s. Beans steady. Rangoon hand-picked, afloat, sold, 7s 9d. Japanese green peas, October-December steamer, sellers, 33s.

SPICE.—Pepper market, after being weaker, assumed a steadier tone. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 33d; December-February steamer, 33d to 35d; Aleppy, spot, quoted 4d; Tellicherry, 43d; white Singapore, 74d; Muntok, 74d; ditto December-February, sold, 74d to 76d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 74d; November-January steamer, 1s 44d. Pimento, spot, sold, 28d. Flake tapioca, fair quality spot, sellers, 13d lb. Fair Penang, seed pearl, spot, 18s; small sago, 26s; sago flour, January-March, 12s 74d. Desiccated coconut, fine cut, spot, 41s 6d; medium, 42s 6d. Ginger steady, but generally quiet.

FRUIT.—A moderate inquiry ensued for currants, and firm features governed the market. Pyrgos, sold, 57s; Amalia, 58s to 62s; Gulph, 68s to 75s; and Vostizza, 80s to 88s. Valencia raisins very firm. Half-boxes quoted 136s to 138s; quarters, 150s to 172s. Sultanias steady. Smyrna, medium to good, 117s to 125s; choice, up to 145s. Dates steady. Hallowee, first tide, quoted 40s; and Siar, 28s.

JUTE.—A quiet and easier tone prevailed during the greater part of the week. Native first marks, old crop, assortment, substitutes, November-December, Hamburg, sellers, 24; new first grades ditto, 24; new lightning grade, 20; heart sold at 16, November-December and December-January, Hamburg, Daisee, No. 2 new crop, December-January, Dundee, sold, 24 10s. Hessians dull. 10 oz, spot, 24s; 8 oz, 21s; B twills, November-January, 60s.

HEMP.—Manilla generally slow, and prices barely steady. D grade, October-December, sellers, 51; E, 48; G, 40; J, 38; K, 36; L, 35 10s; M, 31; streaky, one, 44; two, 42; three, 40. New Zealand very slow, and fair, October-December, quoted 34. Italian nominal, and P.C., spot, quoted 53.

SHELLAC.—Market quiet. T.N., spot, 345s; December, 335s to 325s paid; March, 315s to 310s, 312s 6d.

COPRA.—Market steadier this week, as sellers adopted more reserve, and a moderate demand prevailed. F.M.S. Straits, October-December, Rotterdam, sold, 26 to 26 5s; November-January, 26 5s to 26 15s and 26 5s; December-February, 26 10s to 26 17s 6d and 26 7s 6d. Ceylon, October-December, London, quoted 28; South Sea Islands, ditto, 25; and Cebu, to Hamburg, 25 5s. Palm kernels steady, quiet. Afloat parcels, also November-January, Liverpool, sold, 17 15s to 18s.

RUBBER.—Market generally quiet, and standard crepe and sheet spot sold, 11d to 10 3/4d and 10 3/4d; December, 11d to 11 1/4d; January-March, 11 1/4d to 11 3/4d; and April-June, 1s 0 1/2 to 1s. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 2 3/4d; soft fine, 1s 2d; and ball, 8d.

EGG PRODUCTS in quiet request. Liquid yolk of prime quality

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS.		INDIA RUBBER.		PROVISIONS.		SPICES.—Pepper, per lb.	
Cocoa, Dutch, British grown	180 0	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt	150 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	2 1/2 0	Butter, per cwt.	180 0	Singapore, fair white	0 7 1/2 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	52 0	Cape, good to fine, 25	0 40 0	Plantation crepe	0 12 0	Do factory	170 0	Black Singapore	0 6 2 1/2 0
Granada	47 0	Balam Peru, per lb	7 6 0	INDIGO.—per lb	0 20 0	Do do	170 0	White Siam	0 7 0 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0	Campor	0 2 0	Bengal, good red vilo	11 0 12 0	Argentine	180 0	Pimento	0 23 0 0
Guayquil	54 0	Japan, refined	4 14 0	Mid. ord. vilo	9 0 10 0	Dutch	190 0	Cinnamon—1st sort	1 2 0 0
Bahia, finest	57 0	Cardamoms, Ceylon	1 0 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 0	New Zealand	190 0	Do 2nd	1 1 0 0
COFFEE.—British grown		Cantharides, per lb	0 6 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Danish	226 0	Do 3rd	0 0 0 0
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	112 6	Gum Benjun, Sum. cwt	7 10 0	Do low to ord.	1 6 8 0	Bacon, engd.—Irish	131 0	Do 4th	0 0 0 0
Do good to fine	110 0	Olibanum, drops	0 0 0	Kruppa, good to fine	6 0 6 0	Danish	143 0	Chips	0 31 0 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	80 0	Yucca, Ceylon	0 0 0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	Canadian	110 0	Cassia Ligna	45 0 0
Good to fine	133 0	Jalap	2 9 0	HEMP.—per ton	2 8 0	American	110 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 7 0 0
Central American, ord.	75 0	Musk pod, China	0 2 0	St Petersburg, layer	nom	Hams—Irish	nom	Penang	2 11 0 0
Mid. to fine	117 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0	Manilla, Oct./Dec.	38 0	Canadian	110 0	Ginger—per cwt.	
Colombian, ordinary	60 0	Aniseed	0 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	41 0	American	110 0	Cochin, cut	100 0 120 0
Do good to low mid	70 0	Peppermint, 10 lb	0 0 0	JUTE.	2 8 0	Lard—Irish	nom	Do small rough	62 0 6 0
Do mid. to fine	95 0	Rhubarb, China, fr to fu	5 6 8 0	Native first marks	24 0 0	American boxes, 50 lb	77 0	Do washed	70 0 75 0
CHEMICALS.		DYE STUFFS, &c.		Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Pork—per 8 lbs	8 0 9 0	Japan	45 0 0
Acid, citric	2 4 2 5	Galls, China, per cwt	80 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	8 0 8 0	Jamaica	185 0 195 0
Nitric	0 22 0 4	Turmeric, Bengal	21 0 24 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Scotch	12 0 120 0	Mace	10 0 10 0
Oxalic, net	0 7 0 0	Madras, ginger	21 0 24 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Cheese—Cheddar	12 0 120 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 0 0
Tartaric, English	0 2 0 0	Gambler, block	32 6 34 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	New Zealand	82 0 110 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 0
Foreign	1 4 1 5	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Eng. Cheddars	121 0 145 0	Chillies—per cwt	175 0 0 0
Alum lump	10 0 10 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Cheeshire	nom	Good mutton	46 0 0 0
Do ground	17 0 0 17 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Dutch	84 0 142 0	Beef	44 0 0 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	4 0 4 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Eggs, per 120—English	40 0 48 0	TAPIoca	
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Irish	40 0 43 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 14 0 0
Sulphate	210 0 220 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	FLLOUR.—280 lbs	48 0 49 0	Pearl	15 0 27 0 0
Arsenic, lump, per ton	70 0 75 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Eng. straight ex mill	48 0 49 0	TEA.—duty 10d, British	
Powder	40 0 42 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	RICE.—per cwt. c.f.f.	19 0 23 0	foreign is per lb	
Asbes, pot., per cwt	110 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Rangoon No. 2	19 0 23 0	Indian and Ceylon	
Pearl do	nom	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Broken 1a	14 0 0 0	Pekoe	0 10 0 1 60
Bleaching powder, p. lb	15 0 17 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Australian Sides	1 2 1 6	Broken Pekoe	0 10 0 1 60
Borax, crystals	31 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	METALS.—B. Copper	2 8 0	Orange Pekoe	1 24 0 2 14
Do powder	0 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Best selected	67 10 69 10	Broken Orange	1 34 0 2 14
Cream Tartar	125 0 127 6	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Sheets (strong)	101 0 0 0	Pekoe Souchong	0 92 0 1 14
Calomel	5 0 5 6	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Standard	66 15 66 17	TIMBER.—Timber & Hewn Wood	
Citric, dry	1 0 1 1	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Lead—Eng. Pig, ton	26 5 0 0	E. I. Teak (load)	20 0 0 50 0 0
Nitrate of Soda, p. lb	15 0 16 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Soft Foreign	24 1 0 25 6	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	0 14 0 0
Potash		Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Silver—English	25 1 0 26 10	Bathwood super	1 6 0 0
Chlorate, net	0 6 0 7	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Tin—English	10 10 10 10	Cedar	0 4 1 0
Do Foreign	1 0 1 1	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Do do bars	160 0 161 0	Japanese Oak	0 8 0 0
Sulphate	1 10 0 2 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Standard, cash	161 10 161 15	American Ash	0 54 0 0
Sulphate of Soda, p. lb	10 0 12 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	OILS.—Fish, per ton—2 8 0			
Crystals, ex ship, p. lb	27 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Seal, pale	40 0 42 0		
Alkali	8 15 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Beed, Linseed, per ton	27 10		
Sugar of Lead, p. lb	23 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	net, taked	27 10		
Sugar of Lead, p. lb	23 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Rape, refined	53 0		
Foreign white	47 10 50 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Cotton-seed, crude	34 0 0 0		
Sulphate Quinine	nom	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Edible refined	43 0 47 0		
English Brandy	nom	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Cocoa-nut, crude	47 0 57 0		
Sulphate Copper, p. lb	28 0 0 29 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Refined	50 0 50 0		
Zinc, cut	nom	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Lard, American	38 0 41 0		
Sulphur Flour	16 0 0 17 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Petrol. Oil, per 8 lbs	1 4 0 0		
Do Roll	15 0 0 16 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Water-White	1 5 0 0		
Vermilion, Chinese, p. lb	9 0 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Oil Cakes, Lund, Eng.	13 10 0		
English	4 9 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	per ton	213 5 0 213 10		
COPRA.—per ton, c.f.f.	2 8 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Oil Seeds—Linseed	215 15 0		
Malsabar, Nov./Jan.	nom	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Do do	215 15 0		
Ceylon	23 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Bombay, p. lb, Nov./Dec.	17 15 0		
F.M.S. Straits	25 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Calcutta, p. lb, Nov./Dec.	16 15 0		
F.M. Straits	25 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	Best, per ton, delyd.	83 6 89 0		
COCHINEAL.—per lb.	2 0 3	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Nov./Dec. 1st grade	24 0 0	in London area	83 6 89 0		

spot, sold, 110s; albumen, at 2s 11d. Native dried whole egg, spot, quoted 2 1/4d; spray, 5 1/4d.

MENTHOL.—Spot, 22s. Japanese peppermint oil, spot, 4s 7 1/2d; aniseed, 2s 2d. Japanese slab camphor, spot, 4s 5 1/2d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 100s per cwt.

ISINGLASS.—At periodical auctions a fair quantity offered met with fair support, though prices disclosed some irregularity. Brazilian lump advanced 3d to 6d per lb; tongue, 6d to 1s; honeycomb steady. West India lump, 3d dearer. Best Saigon tended against the seller, but undergrades went off firmly. Indian leaf steady, with tongue and purse dearer. Penang qualities in small supply sold at high rates.

OILS.—Linseed firmer. Spot, net, naked, 27s 6d; November-December, 26s 6d; January-April, 26s 9d; May-August, 27s 3d. Rape dull. Crude, spot, 48s; refined, 53s. Cotton easier. Crude Egyptian, 34s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 43s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 69s; and shipment, 70s to 72s 6d. Coconut easier. Ceylon, spot, 47s; November-December, 42s; Cochin, ditto, 47s to 48s. Soya quiet. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 35s 6d. Japan fish quiet. October-November, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 29s to 31s. Groundnut easy. English crushed, naked, spot, 48s; deodorised, barrels, 59s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 69s 9d; December 69s 9d; January-April, 70s 6d. Rosin firm. American, grade B 16s 6d; F., 16s 9d; G., 17s; K., 18s 6d; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H., 15s 9d; WW, 18s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American standard white, 1s 4 1/2d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market quiet but firmer. Calcutta, November-December, sold, 16 to 16 1/2s. Plate, spot, Hull, quoted, 16 1/2s; afloat, 15 1/2s to 16 2s 6d; November-December, 16; January-February, 15 1/2s. Rapeseed firmer. Toria, November-December, sold, 17 1/2s; real bold Ferozepore quoted 17 1/2s; brown Cawnpore, 16 1/2s. Cotton-seed unsettled. Egyptian black, November, 11 1/2s; and white, 11 1/2s. Bombay, December-January, 18 1/2s. Gingly steady. Chinese, November-December, Continent, 22 1/2s to 23. Castor, Bombay, November-December, 15 1/2s. Ground nuts steadier. Coromandel, machine-dried, November-December, Hull, 22; new crop, December-February, Continent, 21 1/2s to 22.

22. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, 21 1/2s to 22 1/2s per ton.

METALS.—Tin continued active and firmer until last Tuesday, price fluctuating to 161 1/2s and three months to 163 1/2s. Prices declined during the middle of the week on selling desire, offers being well absorbed, while these dates moved down to 160 1/2s and 162 1/2s respectively, improving since to 163 1/2s. Dealings were on a limited scale at Thursday's market, while cash realised 160 1/2s to 161 1/2s and finally at 160 1/2s, end of December 161 1/2s to 161 1/2s, three months' 162 1/2s to 162 1/2s. At Friday's session the tendency was firmer, dealings being active. Cash sold at 161 1/2s to 162 1/2s, middle of December 162, and three months' 163 to 163 1/2s. English ingots, 159 1/2s to 160. Copper manifested a rather steadier tone until last Wednesday, standard cash reaching 66 1/2s 6d, three months' 68. At Thursday's market cash changed hands at 66 1/2s, and three months' 67 1/2s 6d to 67 1/2s. At Friday's session cash changed hands at 66 1/2s, late January 67 1/2s, and three months' up to 67 1/2s 6d. Electros 75 1/2s to 77, best selected 67 1/2s to 69 1/2s, strong sheets 101, wire bars 76 1/2s to 77. Lead firmer at 25 1/2s to 26 1/2s, as to position. Spelter firm at 26 1/2s to 26 1/2s. Antimony: English regulus, 36 to 39. Aluminium: Home trade quoted at 120; export, 125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—NOVEMBER 24.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal.		Sheep, per stone,	
Beasts—Herefords	8 10 to 8 6	Sheep—Downs	8 4 to 8 8
Shorthorns	6 8 to 7 4	Longwools	6 4 to 7 8
Devons	7 0 to 7 6	Crossbred	7 8 to 9 0
Norfolks	6 8 to 7 4	Scottish	9 8 to 11 0
Scottish	6 4 to 7 0	Lamb—Downs	9 8 to 11 0

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—NOVEMBER 24.

Per Cwt.	
----------	--

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1921.

No. 4,084.

Banks, &c.—Continued.

BANK OF JUGOSLAVIA Ltd.

Zagreb, Yugoslavia
 Subscribed Capital JK200,000,000
 Reserve 50,000,000
NEW YORK AGENCY
 25 Broadway New York
 Cable Address "Jugobank"

ENGLISH SCOTTISH AND AUSTRALIAN BANK, Ltd.
 Head Office: 5 Gracechurch Street, E.C.3.

Authorised Capital £3,000,000 0 0
 Subscribed Capital 2,639,775 0 0
 Paid-up Capital 1,319,887 10 0
 Further Liability of Proprietors 1,319,887 10 0
 Reserve Fund 1,300,000 0 0
Letters of Credit and Drafts on the Branches and Agencies of the Bank in Australia can be obtained at the Head Office, or through the Agents of the Bank, in the chief Provincial towns throughout the United Kingdom.
Remittances made by Telegraphic Transfer, Bills Negotiated, or forwarded for Collection, Banking and Exchange business of every description transacted with Australia.
 E. M. JANION, Manager.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

Head Office: Yokohama.
 London Office: 7 Bishopsgate, E.C.2.

Capital Subscribed - Yen 100,000,000
 Capital Paid Up - Yen 100,000,000
 Reserve Fund - Yen 57,000,000

The Eighty-third Half-yearly General Meeting of Shareholders was held at the Head Office, Yokohama, on the 10th September, 1921, when the Directors submitted the following Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Bank and the Profit and Loss Account for the Half-year ended 30th June, 1921, which was duly approved.

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	Y.
Capital	100,000,000.00
Reserve Fund	53,000,000.00
Reserve for Doubtful Debts	4,418,606.40
Notes in Circulation	8,152,840.76
Deposits (Current, Fixed, &c.)	501,432,234.19
Bills Payable, Bills Re-discounted, Acceptances, and other Sums due by the Bank	237,556,021.98
Dividends Unclaimed	18,635.19
Balance of Profit and Loss brought forward from last Account	4,652,374.63
Net Profit for the past Half-year	10,102,762.06
	Yen 1,019,333,275.21

ASSETS.

	Y.	Y.
Cash Account:—		
In Hand	34,630,767.48	
At Bankers	59,390,699.83	
		94,021,467.31
Investments in Public Securities and Debentures	231,606,914.19	
Bills discounted, Loans, Advances, &c.	247,729,119.87	
Bills receivable and other Sums due to the Bank	424,394,819.26	
Bullion and Foreign Money	14,392,236.15	
Bank's Premises, Properties, Furniture, &c.	7,288,724.43	
		Yen 1,019,333,275.21

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Y.
To Interests, Taxes, Current Expenses, Rebate on Bills Current, Bad and Doubtful Debts, Bonus for Directors and Auditors, &c.	90,227,314.85
To Reserve Fund	4,000,000.00
To Dividend—	
Yen 6.00 per Share for 1,000,000 Shares	6,000,000.00
To Balance carried forward to next Account	4,754,936.69
	Yen 104,982,251.54

By Balance brought forward 31st December, 1920 4,652,374.63
 By Amount of Gross Profits for the Half-year ending 30th June, 1921 100,329,876.91
 Yen 104,982,251.54

Insurance.

A Security which does not Depreciate.

Endowment Assurance provides a means of saving which for convenience and advantage is unequalled. Endowment Assurance is Life Assurance combined with Investment.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
 142, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.1.

REFUGE ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.
 Chief Office: OXFORD ST., MANCHESTER.

For the year ending December 31st, 1920.
 ANNUAL INCOME EXCEEDS £5,300,000.
 ASSETS EXCEED £19,000,000.
 CLAIMS PAID EXCEED £32,000,000.

BRITANNIC ASSURANCE CO., LTD.
 Established 1866.

The "Britannic" Prospectus covers all Ordinary Life Assurance requirements.
FUNDS OVER £6,300,000.
 Branches and Agencies in all districts.
 Chief Office: BROAD STREET CORNER, BIRMINGHAM.

DOUBLE BENEFIT POLICIES

COMBINING THE ADVANTAGES OF Whole Life and Endowment Assurance. Maximum Income Tax Rebate and Provision for Death Duties.

Apply for New Explanatory Leaflet to the

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LTD.

ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, POULTRY, E.C.2
 Founded 1848.

Payments already made to Policy holders, £37,000,000

The Gresham Fire & Accident Insurance Society, Limited.

Transacts all classes of Fire and Accident Business.
 Chief Office: St. Mildred's House, Poultry, London, E.C.

FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.,
 AUCTIONEERS, LAND AGENTS, SURVEYORS, and VALUERS.
 CITY OFFICES: 29 FLEET STREET, E.C.4.
 SHORT NOTICE OF LETTING ON BUILDING LEASE.

In the Great Financial and Banking Centre, **FAREBROTHER, ELLIS & CO.** will LET by AUCTION, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C.2, on Tuesday, 13th December, 1921, at 2.30 o'clock precisely:—

THE IMPORTANT BUILDING SITE, lately occupied by the premises No. 38, CORNHILL, prominently placed at the entrance to Ball Court. The land is admirably adapted for the erection of a bank or insurance office. Early possession will be given. Particulars, with plan and conditions of letting, may be obtained of the Auctioneers, Messrs. Coward and Hawkesley, Sons and Chance, 80 Mincing Lane, E.C.2, and of the Auctioneers.

CITY OFFICES: 29 FLEET STREET, E.C.4.
 WEST-END OFFICES: 26 DOVER STREET, W.1.

THE ECONOMIC JOURNAL.

The Quarterly Journal of the Royal Economic Society.

DECEMBER, 1921.

Contents:—

WEATHER AND HARVEST CYCLES. Sir W. H. Beveridge
 THE APPLICATION OF THE APPARATUS OF SUPPLY AND DEMAND TO UNITS OF CURRENCY. Prof. E. Cannan
 PRESENT POSITION OF INDUSTRIAL WOMEN WORKERS. B. L. Hutchins
 THE LAND SETTLEMENT OF RUSSIA. N. Gubsky
 BANK RATE AND THE MONEY MARKET IN THE UNITED STATES. A. E. Norton
 THE TER MEULEN SCHEME. A. M. Innes
 WAGE REGULATION IN NEW ZEALAND. J. B. Condliffe

Price Six Shillings Net.

Messrs. MACMILLAN & CO., LTD.,
 St. Martin's street, London, W.C.2.

NEW ZEALAND

A Wealthy Country, Splendid Climate, Fertile Soil, Plenty of Water. An Ideal Country for the Farmer, the yield of grain and percentage of lambs being phenomenally high. New Zealand, a country as large as the United Kingdom, with a population slightly over one million, exports annually products up to the value of Thirty Millions Sterling.

NEW ZEALAND IS RICH IN COAL, IRON, TIMBER, GUM, GOLD AND SILVER.
Total yield of minerals, over One Hundred and Thirty Million pounds.

The Government has advanced over Twenty-One-and-a-Half Million Pounds to Farmers and Workers, at a low rate of interest, for improvements and buildings, and is empowered under the new "Housing Act" to set apart Crown Lands and make advances up to One-and-a-quarter Million Pounds annually for the same purpose. Railways (3,000 miles), Telegraphs and Telephones (216,742 miles of wire) are State owned and operated.

To those desirous of making a home in the new country New Zealand offers solid advantages.

Excellent Steamship Services are run direct to New Zealand by the Shaw, Savill and Albion Company, Limited, New Zealand Shipping Company, Limited, and the Federal and Shire Lines.

Full information is supplied free by

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR NEW ZEALAND, 413-416, Strand, W.C.2

THE GREAT ALTERNATIVE:**SANER POLITICS OR REVOLUTION?**

By LEONARD J. REID, M.A.

CROWN 8vo. 6/6 NET.

Press Opinions.

"His indictment of the criminal folly of Bolshevism is most effective."—*Morning Post*.
 "Sane and thoughtful writing."—*Daily News*.
 "A sound and rational contribution to political controversy. . . . We recommend every thinking politician to read it."—*Saturday Review*.
 "An able plea for a great new liberalism."—*Scotsman*.
 "To unsettled and troubled Liberals we would heartily commend it. It is a finely suggestive discussion of certain vexing questions, with the solution whereof Liberalism is vitally concerned."—*Liverpool Daily Post*.
 "Studiously moderate."—*Economist*.

LONGMANS, GREEN & CO., 39, PATERNOSTER ROW.

Bergens Kreditbank
 Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF Amalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS
 HAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
 AND
 BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.

Every description of Banking business transacted

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
 Esc. 24,000,000

Reserve Funds:
 Esc. 26,000,000

**Branches as Under.**

32 offices in Portugal.
 23 " " East and West Africa.
 9 " " Brazil.
 5 " " India and China.

Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
 New York Office—93, Liberty street.
 Paris Office—8, Rue du Felder.
 London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
 Capital, Paid Up ... " 348,786,000
 Reserve ... " 178,000,000
 Deposits ... " 5,500,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.
 Agencies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxiliaries:

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY

Every description of Banking business transacted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	965	Books and Publications—	
Leading Articles—		Reviews	985
The Road to Sanity	967	Books Received	985
The Rising Wall of Tariffs	968	Stock Exchange News—	
Railway Returns for 1920	969	The Stock Markets	986
Our Index Number	970	New Issues	986
The Consolidation of Trade Unionism	97	Active Securities	988
Business Notes—		Company Meetings	989
Government Investments	972	Government Returns—	
Allocation of Railway Compensation	972	Treasury Bills by Public Tender	996
Treasury and Borrowed Securities	972	Currency Notes Account ..	996
Financial Position of Turkey "Received for Shipment"	973	Public Income & Expenditure	996
Bills of Lading	973	Bankers' Gazette—	
Housing Costs	973	Bank of England	997
Indian Securities	974	Clearing Returns	997
Rubber Output Restrictions	974	Overseas Bank Returns ..	998
Cotton Trade and Short Time	974	Loan and Discount Rates ..	999
Cotton Growing in Nigeria	974	Overseas Bank Rates	1000
J. and P. Coats	975	Rates of Exchange	1000
P. and O. Results	975	Indian Treasury Bills	1000
Castner-Kellner Alkali Co. - operative Insurance Society	975	Bullion	1000
De Beers Diamond	976	Imports & Exports of Gold ..	1000
A Batch of Tin Producers	976	Gold and Silver Prices	1001
Overseas Correspondence—		Company News—	
United States	977	Oil Outputs	988
France	978	Dividend Announcements ..	988
Germany	979	Mining Output Statistics ..	1001
Greece	980	Analysis of Balance-sheets ..	1001
Italy	981	Reports and Notices	1002
Switzerland	982	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	1003
Norway	982	Railway & Tramway Traffic ..	1004
Sweden	983	Commercial Reports—	
Letters to the Editor—		Rhodesian Gold	1005
Reparation Problems	983	Corn Trade	1005
Reparations, Allied Debts, and Exchanges	983	Iron and Coal Trade	1005
Exchange	984	Cotton Trade	1006
China at the Conference	984	Wool Trade	1007
Benson & Hedges (Canada), Limited	984	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds ..	1008
Coal Profits and Wages	985	Hide and Leather Trades ..	1008
		Portland Cement	1008
		Overseas Produce Markets ..	1009
		Price Current	1009

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
 Colonies and Abroad, £3 1s 6d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.
 Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings; Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

WHILE the turnover of money during the week was large, the market had already prepared for the demands which were made on it at the end of November. So 4 per cent. was the highest rate paid for money (except for a trifle borrowed from the Bank on Monday), and when the dividend was paid on the War Loan on December 1st, the effect of this and other Government disbursements was immediately felt. Thus the discount rate fell below 3½ per cent., and the margin between money and bills became

again very small. In some quarters an increase in the supply of bills was reported, but this experience was not general.

	Dec. 2, 1921.	Nov. 25, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3	3	3	3	3 (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount, Call	3	3	3	3	3 (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½ (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	3½	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	3½	3½	4	3½	4

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

Thursday's Bank return showed an addition of £4,000 to the gold stock and an increase of £1,807,000 in the circulation, making the reserve £1,803,000 lower. Government securities rose by £7,123,700, but other securities fell by £837,200. Deposits were thus £4,475,800 higher, other being increased by £6,327,600, while Public fell by £1,851,900. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £941,200 to £312,628,300, which includes £1,788,500 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £262,889,800, or £54,665,400 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended November 26, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	15,099	Supply Services	9,982
		Interest on Debt	1,730
		Sundries	325
		Reduction of Debt	2,417
		Added to Exchequer Balances ..	445
	15,099		15,099

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £2,417,220, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 3,720	Depreciation fund	- 500
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 250	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 676
Bank of England Advances ..	+ 4,000	Treasury Bills	- 12,871
Public Department Advances ..	+ 4,100	Unemployment Insurance ..	- 370
Sundries	+ 80	Exchequer Bonds repaid	- 150
	+ 12,150		- 14,567

The chief contributions to revenue were Customs and Excise £5,943,000, Estate duties £1,731,000, and Special receipts £4,124,918. The sales of Treasury bonds again showed a falling off, amounting to £3,720,000. The net sales of National Savings Certificates were £250,000. Treasury bill maturities exceeded the sales by £12,871,000, the total outstanding now amounting to £1,107,532,000. The total of Ways and Means advances was increased by £8,100,000, making £192,658,000 outstanding. Of this total £8,250,000 has been advanced by the Bank of England, being an increase of £4,000,000 on the week. The total Floating Debt now is £1,300,190,000, a reduction of £4,555,000 on the week.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

In the exchange market the week has been one of the most difficult of the year. On Sunday last appeared the first newspaper reports that the British Government were seriously considering a modification in German reparation payments. At first the effect was small, as the mark fell only from 1,172½ on Saturday to 1,104½ on Monday. By Wednesday, however, the reports of discussions between the Treasury and Dr Rathenau had given rise to rumours of all kinds, and the rate fell to 967½. On Thursday rates were in complete confusion, a confusion much accentuated by the virtual breakdown, owing to bad weather, of communications with France and other parts of the Continent, with the result that there was a quite abnormal disparity between the rates quoted in different centres. At one time it was almost impossible to find buyers for marks, the rate dropping to 710 or below. At another it went up again to 800, and then ended the day at 725. Prices from New York came over, if anything, still lower, but yesterday morning there was a reaction, bringing back the rate to 830. The whole position is obscure. It would seem certain that some form of discussion is in progress, but nothing definite is known either of the nature of the

proposals or their chances of adoption. On the one hand, a moratorium for reparation payments over a certain number of years is talked of; on the other, the raising of a loan in this country, and perhaps in America, to enable Germany to pay the January instalment of reparation. It would have been thought that there is nothing whatever to be said for this second alternative. Either Germany can pay or she cannot. If not, it would seem, to say the least, inadvisable that a further advance should be made by this country to our Allies, either from Government or private funds, under the cloak of an advance to Germany for reparation payments. It would have been thought unnecessary to discuss this point had it not appeared that this unsatisfactory proposal is being ventilated in a good many quarters. The effect on the franc of these alarms and excursions has been almost equally marked. The Paris rate, which a week ago was 57.40, went as high as 57.57½ on the 29th, dropped suddenly on the following day, in sympathy with the mark, to 56.95, and on Thursday ended at 55.75, after being considerably lower. Indeed, in the evening the New York parity showed the rate well below 55. Yesterday morning, however, there was a reaction here also, and the rate was again up to 55.90. The Brussels rate has shown similar fluctuations, moving from 60.50 on November 25th, to 57.75 yesterday morning. The future rates in Paris were 3 to 5 centimes per month over spot, in Brussels 4 to 7 centimes below. Opinion in Paris was at first decidedly suspicious of the reported discussions, and hostile to any change in reparation arrangements. Reflection, however, would seem to have suggested that France would hardly lose, and would probably gain, by an arrangement which allowed Germany to concentrate on deliveries under the Rathenau agreement, by freeing her for the time from other obligations. Should, in addition, an advance be made to Germany for the next payments, France would gain still more, if, as might be supposed, Belgium could be persuaded to postpone in part its right of priority. Excitement over the mark has to some extent diverted attention from the almost equally rapid movement of the dollar, which from 3.99½ on the 25th, after falling away at the beginning of the week to rather over 3.98½, rose to 4.00½ on the 30th to 4.04½ on December 1st, and yesterday morning stood at 4.03½, after being 4.07. Recent reports from the Washington Conference can hardly be taken as a bull point, and the main cause of the movement must be put down to optimism as to European conditions in view of the possibility of a settlement of the reparation question. The quotation for futures remains practically unchanged at ½ cents per month over spot. With regard to other exchanges, the lira has moved in sympathy with the franc and mark, and at 95 shows an improvement on the week of over 3 lire. Neutral exchanges on the whole have, as was to be expected, gone in our favour, Switzerland moving up from 20.97½ to 21.09½, Holland from 11.15½ to 11.30, Spain from 28.77½ to 28.82½, after being up to 28.90. The Northern exchanges, after moving irregularly, are:—Stockholm and Christiania almost unchanged at 16.98 and 28.10 respectively, and Copenhagen very slightly higher at 21.70. Helsingfors, however, after its recent recovery, is depreciating again more rapidly from 209 to 237. In Central Europe, Vienna (Auslandskrone), after being up to 14,500, showed some recovery to 11,000, but the reports of riots there are likely to produce fresh depreciation. The rate for Inlandskrone on the 28th was 29,000, as compared with an Auslandskrone rate of 14,500 on the same day, an extraordinary increase in the difference between the two rates for which an explanation has still not been received. Warsaw also is rather better at 12,000, while Budapest, Belgrade, and Prague also show slight improvements. For Roumania quotations are still unavailable, and no real alleviation has yet been received from the extremely ill-advised regulations recently imposed. In the East, the Calcutta rate at 1s 4d is slightly higher, while Japan is cheaper at 2s 4½d, as compared with 2s 4½d a week ago. The silver market has been again very dull. China has been both buying and selling in restricted amounts, the Continent has been selling, and the Indian market

is for the time being dead. After some irregularities the price on December 1st was 37½d, the same as the preceding week. Shanghai and Hong Kong, however, are both rather firmer at 2s 8d and 3s 10d respectively, after being rather higher. In South America, Buenos Ayres is more than a penny cheaper at 43½d, Valparaiso has appreciated from 38.70 to 37.70, while Montevideo, at 40½d, is practically unchanged; Rio is slightly dearer at 80.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.			
FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO NOVEMBER 26, 1921.			
Total spent	£ 635,173,842	Raised by revenue ..	£ 584,067,194
Inc. in balances	1,266,546	Net borrowings	52,373,194
Total	636,440,388	Total	636,440,388

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.			
Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.											
(Million £.)											
	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1917.	Mar. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Mar. 31, 1920.	Nov. 26, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	19	19	19	19
3½% War Stock	..	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	..	..	2,029	2,058	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,595	1,926	1,926	1,926
National War Bonds ..	..	..	549	1,536	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,278	1,278	1,278
4% Funding Loan ..	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	407	407	407	407
4% Victory Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	348	358	358	358
3½% Conversion L.n.*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	265
Treasury Bonds	..	..	561	557	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,108	1,108	1,108
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	392	384	323	319	292	289	273	273	273
Nat'l Savings Certs. ..	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	285	290	290	290
War Expend. Certs. ..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,099	1,099	1,099
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances ..	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	154	192	192	192
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,750	7,750	7,750
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,800	7,800	7,800

* By the conversion of National War Bonds into Conversion Loan about 102 millions (nominal) has been added to debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.					Movement week ended
Way and Means Advances	Nov. 27, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Nov. 26, '21.	Nov. 26, '21.	
Outstanding—					
Advances by Bank of England ..	34,000,000..	..	8,250,000..	4,000,000	
Advances by Public Departments ..	197,114,000..	154,489,000..	184,408,000..	4,100,000	
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,095,594,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,107,552,000..	12,655,000	
Total Floating Debt	1,327,708,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,300,190,000..	4,555,000	

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

NOVEMBER 26TH.—Lord Chancellor at Tunbridge Wells. London Omnibus men decide against strike.

NOVEMBER 28TH.—Dr Rathenau and Dr Simon visit London.

NOVEMBER 29TH.—Sir James Craig's statement in Northern Irish Parliament. Dr Rathenau's interview with Sir Robert Horne. Mr Churchill speaks at dinner of British Overseas Banks Association.

NOVEMBER 30TH.—Sir John Bradbury returns to Paris. Sir Henry Lambert succeeds Sir W. H. Mercer as Senior Crown Agent for Colonies.

DECEMBER 1ST.—Panic on Berlin Bourse. Sharp rise in the mark. Riots in Vienna.

The terms of the new issue of Treasury Bonds were well received in the Stock Exchange, and strengthened prices in the Consol market, which also derived some benefit towards the end of the week from the disbursement of War Loan interest. German stocks rose sharply on the improvement in the mark.

Business remains restricted in the cotton markets, for although there is evidence of depletion of stocks in some quarters, buyers are very cautious in view of the uncertainties of the outlook. In the wool trade there is little change to report. A reduction of 10s per ton has been

made in the price of Cleveland pig iron; but although these are held to be signs pointing to future improvement, little satisfactory development is noted this week in leading branches of the iron and steel industry. Coal output is improving, but demand for steam coal is slack in anticipation of lower prices, and the demand for house coal (except the best qualities) is only moderate. Prices in the hide markets are recovering, and the wet weather has helped the boot and shoe trade. In the market for vegetable oils and oilseeds a rather better tone has developed. No new features are reported in the Belfast linen trade.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents appear on later pages of this issue.

THE ROAD TO SANITY.

ONCE again this week developments in the two paramount problems of the day—the International question and the Irish question—have completely overshadowed in importance the sum total of other current news and events. The crisis in the Irish negotiations has arrived. Ulster has definitely rejected the proposals of the Imperial Government, and Sir James Craig, the Ulster Premier, stated in the Northern Parliament on Tuesday that "by Tuesday next either negotiations will have broken down or the Prime Minister will send me new proposals for consideration by the Cabinet. In the meantime, the rights of Ulster will be in no way sacrificed or compromised." Fortunately, the first assumption that this uncompromising statement meant the break-up of Irish negotiations within a week has been tempered by the action of Mr Lloyd George in putting new proposals for peace before the Sinn Fein delegates. This new move resuscitates the spark of life in the Irish Conference, and so long as there is life there is hope. A profoundly disquieting feature in the situation is the belief expressed by Sir James Craig as to the measure of support in Great Britain for an intransigent attitude on the part of Ulster. We believe Sir James Craig's estimate in this matter to be almost as erroneous as would be the belief that English opinion supports the extreme Sinn Fein attitude on the matter of allegiance. The country at large, and most of those whom Sir James describes as "all those who are worth having on our side," desire above all things Irish peace, and whatever their predilections and prejudices, frankly realise that peace can only be achieved by a temper of accommodation and a policy which admits the possibility of giving as well as of taking. Contemplation of the alternative to Irish peace should in itself be sufficient to convince patriots of every shade of political opinion of the supreme duty of exploring with unruffled persistence every avenue by which reconciliation might be reached. Nor can we afford to overlook the fact that, although in one sense of the word Irish peace or war may be a domestic question, yet it is one that has the gravest repercussions upon International problems. To the attention of those who have any doubt upon this point we commend the letter appearing in our last issue, in which Mr Evans reveals the Irish deadlock as the primary obstacle to financial co-operation between this country and the United States.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN:
The Right Hon. R. McKENNA
JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:
S. D. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

ASSOCIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

American co-operation is essential to the solution of the problems of international finance, and if the failure to reach a solution of the Irish problem is one obstacle to co-operation, another not less formidable is created by the attitude of France upon disarmament and reparation. Our Allies across the Channel may rest assured that this country has not forgotten their sufferings and sacrifices during the European war, nor is there any inclination to withhold the genuine sympathy to which France is entitled on account both of her geographical and of her budgetary position. Prosperous regions of France have been devastated, and the gravity of the financial position which the war has left behind is common knowledge. For several weeks past our Paris correspondent has described the great efforts which are being made to reduce the estimated deficit in the coming budget. It is not surprising, perhaps, that in such circumstances France should cling as long as possible to the hope of exacting from her defeated devastator the uttermost farthing, in order to recoup her losses and rebuild her financial position. Briefly, France sees in the exaction of the full indemnity the only hope of financial salvation, and can see in disarmament only the surrender of indispensable safeguards against German default or defiance. She sees, moreover, that the Treaty of Versailles has failed to produce political security. In spite of the diplomatic irritations of the moment, aggravated as they are by French policy in the Near East, and the crude asperity of Lord Curzon's recent phraseology, this attitude of mind should at least command sympathetic understanding in this country, if it cannot be shared. No one in this country wishes to pursue any policy that would not conduce to the physical security and financial recovery of France. But views differ as to the road by which that goal can be reached.

Since the wild electioneering days of 1918, enlightened opinion in this country has been engaged on what Mr Churchill describes as "a steady, remorseless march towards financial sanity." That march has been accelerated by the world-wide depression of trade and the ever-increasing chaos of the foreign exchanges, and if it has taken us three years to come down, from the politician's vision, to practical reality in matters of international finance, we need hardly be surprised that France, with the war shock still affecting the national mind, should lag somewhat behind us in the return to recognition of relentless economic law. It is now clearly realised in this country that the attempt to exact the full reparations bill according to the present system of gold payments cannot but force Germany into a financial position that will react to the gravest detriment of Allied countries. If abatements, delays, and changes of method find favour here, they are not promoted by disregard of French needs, or tenderness for Germany, but by deliberate conviction that modifications and changes are essential in the interests of the Allied countries themselves, particularly France. If you are expecting golden eggs from a goose, it is not a business proposition to pursue the intensive system so vigorously that after a short period of concentrated laying the bird will become unproductive for the remainder of its existence. Excessive pressure for the payment by present methods of approaching instalments is obviously short-sighted if it has the effect of turning the remainder of the reparations bill into a bad debt. Experts in this country are convinced that if practical courses are pursued, Germany can pay a substantial amount. But the matter is obviously an intricate one, essentially demanding long views and the willingness for accommodation and adjustment in accordance with economic wisdom and possibility. It is on such grounds, and on such grounds alone, that such plans as a temporary moratorium or a modification on certain stringent conditions are being actively discussed in official as well as in financial circles. Unless France is prepared to co-operate with Great Britain in seeking solution along purely business lines, no solution in the best interests of France as well as of ourselves seems possible. If in this country it is believed that the path to international security of financial rehabilitation lies through disarmament and international agreement on the whole financial problem, including that of German reparations, France should realise that vague and faulty though

present suggestions may be, they are at least aimed genuinely at the common benefit of all, and depend for success on her practical co-operation. Co-operation with France is as essential as co-operation with the United States, and it should not be beyond the understanding of our Allies that British views on financial and economic expediency may not be wider of the mark than theirs. The reparations problem demands from French statesmen the breadth of view and the fund of courage and common-sense which the Irish problem demands of British statesmen. Both problems are urgent enough in themselves; but the urgency of both is immeasurably enhanced by the truth that measures for the settlement of both are steps essentially precedent to the wider settlement of predominant world problems.

Mr Vanderlip has this week suggested that the United States should surrender her claims on her debtors to "humanity." Such a degree of idealism may be undesirable as well as impracticable. But, in any case, American opinion, quite naturally, is not ripe for financial quixotism so long as Europe fails to give to the world convincing proof of a genuine attempt to heal her own political and financial sores. Mr Stanley Baldwin, in a speech at the end of last week, dwelt upon signs of recovery in the trade situation, and Mr Stanley Machin, president of the London Chamber of Commerce, has corroborated his views. But it cannot be too often remembered that the wheels of international commerce cannot be set in normal and steady motion until the causes of the present insecurity and the frequent currency fluctuations are removed. Experts, after prolonged exercise in diagnosis, are at last concentrating upon prescription, and we hope and believe that we are on the eve of concerted effort in the direction of practical solution.

THE RISING WALL OF TARIFFS.

JUST at a time when the world, if it is to recover from the waste and disorganisation of war, should seek after the development of industry and the free exchange of commodities, the nations of which it is composed are doing their utmost to arrest development and to prevent exchange. The war of arms is turning into a war of tariffs. The nations are behaving as if to trade with them were the worst of injuries; they are raising walls of tariffs to keep trade away. All want to sell to export, but none, it would appear, want to buy, to import. How one can export without being paid for one's goods by imports no one stops to inquire. That feverish confusion of mind which is a symptom of diseased nationalism impels them all, or nearly all, to strive after an economic self-containment, which, if it were possible, would result in economic death.

We have been at some trouble to collect particulars of the principal tariff walls which are being now built. The more one studies and collates the weekly stream of tariff notices issued by the Board of Trade—and published in its official journal—the more bewildered one becomes. It is as if the world had gone economically mad. And unlike an ordinary attack of lunacy, which is not infectious, the disease of tariff building rages round the globe like a pestilence. From one nation it passes to another, until even sober citadels of common-sense in trade, like Belgium and the United Kingdom, become infected. At present the Dutch seem to be the one people in Europe who can show a clean bill of health.

France has a system by which the specific rates of duty per kilo, or per 100 kilos, of 1913 are multiplied by "co-efficients." There was a general revision in June last under which these co-efficients were nearly all advanced, and there is going to be a further revision in the coming winter. These co-efficients of increase run as high as ten, though usually they range between three and five. There are two tariffs—the "general" and the "minimum." The United Kingdom enjoys the benefit of the "minimum" tariff, though the Empire has to submit to the higher, "general" tariff. The co-efficients are applicable to both tariffs. The general idea of these multipliers or co-efficients is that they should move upwards with prices, but they have in practice outstripped prices. The general

effect upon our trade with France has been bad, though we, as has been mentioned, are on the most favoured minimum scale. Belgium also goes in for co-efficients of increase, and is about to make an all-round revision. So far Belgium has kept tolerably sane, and the revisions in June of last year and of April in this year still leave their tariff low, as judged by post-war standards. The Swiss tariff, which used to be quite moderate, was revised in June last, and a large number of the duties were doubled and even trebled. A new Customs law is to be introduced in the spring. Switzerland has not, so far, treated the United Kingdom badly, her chief purpose in the revision of tariffs being to stop goods coming from the countries with depreciated exchanges.

One of the worst of the tariff disease patients is Spain. There was a partial revision on protectionist lines in November, 1920, under which duties were increased by percentages from 50 to 400. It was a tariff by Royal Order, of which the legality was questioned in Spain. Then in May last comes a "provisional" tariff, which reduced some of the November duties, but imposed others on goods which had previously escaped. A draft revised tariff was published "for observations" in July, which in its completed form will be enforced early next year. In addition to the increased duties, there is now a sur-tax or "agio" imposed to bring the duties up to their gold equivalents. This "agio," which is revised every month, is based on the relation between fine gold in London and the pound sterling in Madrid. Spain has a first, or lower, column tariff, and a second, or higher, column. We and most parts of the Empire (except Australia) pay the lower rates.

Italy is another country which last June produced a new General Customs Tariff. Provision was made for the increase in the basic rates by "co-efficients," the idea being to bring rates up to a level which would compensate for the higher costs of production in Italy in comparison with those of other industrial countries. There is, however, a great deal of crude protection about the tariff which is immensely voluminous and complicated. Like those of most other European countries, the Italian duties are reckoned in gold, and there is a sur-tax or agio, as in Spain. The value of the lira in New York is the basis of the agio, and fortnightly revisions are made by the Minister of Finance.

Now we come to the United States, where the disease has broken out in a form which reveals unusual symptoms. The idea there has been not only to raise the *ad valorem* rates of duty, but to introduce an altogether new measure of value. Just as during the war we learned that there was such a thing as "German" truth distinguishable from ordinary truth, so there is to be in future at the ports of the United States an "American" value distinct from ordinary value (cost, insurance, and freight). The Tariff Bill has passed the House of Representatives, and is being critically reviewed by the Senate. The Senate Committee, while retaining the principle of an "American value," upon which duties will be charged, has made efforts to produce a definition which the Customs officers and appraisers will be able to work without blocking entirely the flow of imports. Also, the Senate Committee has shown a willingness to reduce the rates of the House Bill, and has accorded to a deputation from the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce the unprecedented courtesy of an open hearing. It is possible that the final Act will be less savagely protective and more workable in practice than the House Bill, of which the text was published in this country by the Board of Trade in August. The Senate Committee has revealed a surer sense of realities than the Committee of the House, and has at least appeared to inquire how the United States can sell oil and wheat and copper and manufactured goods and be paid the immense debts owing to them, if they close by tariffs the only avenues of payment.

Several parts of the British Empire are revising, or have revised, their tariffs, generally in an upward direction. India's new tariff came into force on March 1st last. Since then a fiscal commission has been appointed to consider, among other things, the policy of adopting Imperial Preference. Australia's new Customs Tariff dates from March, 1920, since when several amendments have been made by the House of Representatives. Canada

revised its tariff by Customs Resolutions in May last, and a complete new tariff is to be drafted by the Parliament elected this month. Newfoundland in August amended its tariff, and started upon the slippery slope of "anti-dumping" legislation. South Africa passed Customs Amendment Acts both last year and this year, and is about to investigate the question of preparing a new Customs Tariff for the Union. New Zealand's tariff is at this moment in the melting pot of discussion; the preference to the United Kingdom is being extended.

The first thing a newly constituted State appears to think of is how best it may hinder trade with its neighbours. Esthonia, Latvia, and Lithuania, those Baltic fragments split off from what once was Russia, have all set up new tariffs in the course of the past year. Roumania's latest effort in tariff revision dates from July last, as does that of the Jugo-Slav kingdom. Even the northern European countries, once comparatively sane, are going the same way. Sweden has this year increased its duties against so-called "luxury" articles of commerce, Denmark has a Bill in preparation, and Finland reveals a desire not to be left behind. In South America the same restless spirit is seen to be at work. A new Peruvian tariff is expected at the beginning of next month, Bolivia enforced a new tariff as from the middle of last year, and Chile made a partial revision, on "luxury" articles, last February. In Japan there were partial revisions in August of 1920, and in June last.

We do not claim that the rapid survey given in this article is exhaustive. To deal thoroughly with the subject would occupy many pages of the *Economist*. Our purpose has been to show that trade between nations already disorganised by the effects of war is being systematically made more difficult of recovery by the spread of a poisonous tariff fever throughout the world. The delusion that protective tariffs "safeguard" trade is one of the most persistent and dangerous of economic delusions, the more dangerous because superficially so plausible. Politicians everywhere, when confronted by depressed trade and unemployment, always fly to tariffs as to drugs, and refuse to realise that just as the human body pays in wasted vitality for drugs taken, so do "protected" peoples pay in lost efficiency for the tariffs imposed upon them.

THE RAILWAY RETURNS FOR 1920.

THE railway returns for 1920 have just been issued. Their volume, in consequence of the inclusion of the new statistics introduced by the Ministry of Transport, has, as compared with 1913, nearly doubled. But the price, in consequence of the decision to charge at commercial rates for Government publications, has increased sixfold. The cost is now 10s. We doubt the wisdom of the decision. It would be public money well spent if, at the cost of a few pounds out of pocket for paper and printing, the facts contained in these returns were brought home to the traders and manufacturers of the country. They are sufficiently remarkable to arrest attention.

The railway earnings proper—apart, that is, from steamers, docks, hotels, &c.—were in 1913 £125,000,000, and in 1920, £248,000,000, all but double. What were the services that they rendered to the public in return for these charges? Broadly, they carried the same quantity of merchandise, of minerals, and of livestock. On the other hand, they carried 600,000,000 more passengers, an increase of about 35 per cent.; but 45,000,000 fewer tons of coal, a decrease of about 20 per cent. But to carry the extra passengers, who were largely for short distances on electric railways, the companies ran nearly 20 per cent. fewer train-miles, so their work was not increased, while the reduction in the volume of coal must have implied a considerable reduction in train-mileage, though the published figures do not tell us its amount.

We may safely say, then, that the additional money extracted from the public was charged, not because more work was done, but wholly because the cost of doing it had so inordinately increased. So great was this increase that, while the receipts of 1913, after paying working expenses, left a net revenue of £52,000,000, those of 1920 left a net revenue of only £6,750,000. And to make up

the guaranteed net income of the companies the taxpayers had to provide a subsidy of £43,000,000.

The average charge made to the public per ton-mile in 1913 was not ascertained statistically, but by calculating backwards we can estimate it roughly at .88d per ton-mile. In 1920, during which year the increased rates and fares now charged had only partially come into force, the average rate was 1.673d, almost double. For 1921 it will be, according to the indications given by the current monthly returns, well over 2d. It is safe to say that British trade cannot, and will not, permanently stand rates on this level. Some traffic will simply disappear, a larger amount will be diverted to the roads. The corresponding rate which our competitors in America, where the average charge has risen 80 per cent., have to pay is not more than two-thirds of a penny, less than one-third of our rate. It is true that the American haul is more than four times as long as ours, and, on the face of it, it looks, therefore, as though the average charge the trader has to pay must be greater and not less than that which falls upon his British rival. But it must not be forgotten that, whereas the vast bulk of American business is self-contained, in other words, has to bear the cost of internal transport only, a very large proportion of British traffic has to pay not only British railway rates, but the cost of sea freight, with foreign railway charges in addition.

What the financial results will be for the current year and beyond we are not yet in a position to venture to guess. The published accounts show that for the eight months of the current year, before Government control ended on August 15th, there was a net loss on working of some £22,000,000, but this, of course, includes the three months of the coal strike. Since the companies resumed control no figures whatever have been published, and we are even told that the Clearing House, whose methods surely need speeding up, has not yet reported to the respective companies themselves the traffic divisions for the month of September. We may probably assume that the results of the last 4½ months of 1921 will differ widely between different companies, but that, as a whole, the companies will fall a good deal short of earning their pre-war net income.

We reach, then, this serious conclusion, that, though the rates, and we may add the passenger fares also, are higher than the public will or can permanently pay, they are even now not high enough to yield a reasonable return on the actual cost, still less on the replacement cost of the railways which the shareholders have provided for the public use. What is to be done about it? Wages have come down, and will come down further next January. But then they will very nearly have reached the basic standard. Coal, which cost £26,000,000 last year, will no doubt fall heavily; and the same in less degree may be said of materials, which cost roughly £29,000,000.

It would be sanguine to assume that these economies will do more than produce for the companies their pre-war net income, or, to use the phrase of the new Railways Act, their standard rate of return. Whence, then, are to come the resources to enable them to make the reductions in rates and fares which the public must have? Statistics published for the first time this year, at least suggest a line of approach. We know now for the first time the vital figures of railway operation. We know that the average net train-load is 130 tons. So far as railway working conditions are concerned, there is no reason why it should not be double. We know that the average net load of a loaded wagon is less than 5½ tons. Making all possible allowances for light merchandise, it clearly might be half as much again. We know, further, that, though the average speed of a freight train in motion is certainly not less than 15 miles an hour, these trains are subject to such delay, and the amount of shunting they involve is so enormous, that every three miles and a fraction that a freight train is moved implies the employment of an engine for an hour. And at present figures an hour's work of an engine costs something like 18s.

It is from an appreciation of the meaning of these figures that the economies of the future have to be derived. Of course, we shall be told that the thing is impossible. It is not. The American train load to-day is about 675 tons—more than five times ours. No reasoning person can suppose that under English conditions we can reach

the American figure. But when we observe that 30 years ago the American load was only 175 tons, we may ask whether a proportionate improvement is not possible here. Twenty years ago Sir George Paish estimated, from such figures as were then available, the average train-load on typical English railways at about one-half the present figure. It is to the credit of the companies that they have doubled it in the interval. It is now up to them to double it again; and the same may be said of better wagon loads and of reduction of shunting.

But it must be recognised that these economies, with their natural consequence of reduced freight rates, cannot be secured by the railway companies without the co-operation of their customers. Railways, like other traders, have to sell what their customers demand; and the English customer demands that his traffic shall be accepted in miscellaneous retail lots, despatched immediately, and carried at a high speed. The inevitable result is bad wagon loads, bad train loads, much unnecessary shunting, many unnecessary trains, a consequent congestion of lines, and then heavy capital expenditure to relieve the pressure. If the trading public will get into their heads what these railway statistics mean, and if the great traders' organisations, the Federation of British Industries, the Associated Chambers of Commerce, and so forth, will appoint a joint committee to meet the railway companies, and go seriously to work to see how economies can be effected, these returns will have justified many fold their cost of production. If only traders can be brought to understand that they have often spent a sovereign to secure extra service which is not worth to them more than 5s, we shall soon see a change in railway methods; and it is only by a radical change in methods that radical economies can be effected.

We will just add two suggestions. The Ministry of Transport published as long ago as last April, in a preliminary return of eight pages, subject to future correction, the main figures which are now issued finally in November. The form was a very useful one; and we suggest that, for those who do not need the full return, it might be republished each year in final shape. Further, these returns are now much fuller than before. Since the establishment of the Ministry of Transport they have been compiled and edited by experts, and not as heretofore by non-railway men. Next year the railway companies will be responsible for their own results. We suggest that, if the introductory report were amplified, results commented on, possibly even scales of apparent merit from top to bottom drawn up, this would be not only of great value to the railway profession, but of public interest and in the public interest.

OUR INDEX NUMBER.

A FURTHER decline in wholesale prices of commodities is recorded in our Index Number as at the end of November, the total dropping by 130 points to 4458. As will be seen from the table below, each of the five groups has contributed to the downward movement, but the most pronounced decrease has occurred in textiles:—

Date.	Cereals and Meat.	Other Food Products (Tea, Sugar, &c.).	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous (Rubber, Timber, Oils, &c.).	Total.	Percentage Change.
Basis (avg. 1901-5)...	500	300	500	400	500	2200	100.0
Jan. 1, 1914....	563	355	642	491	572	2623	119.2
April 1 "....	560	350½	626½	493	567	2597	118.0
July 1 "....	565½	345	616	471½	551	2549	115.5
End July "....	579	352	616½	464½	553	2565	116.6
" Dec. "....	714	414½	509	476	686½	2800	127.3
" Dec., 1915....	897	446	731	711½	848½	3634	165.1
" Dec., 1916....	1294	553	1124½	824½	1112	4908	223.0
" Dec., 1917....	1286½	686	1684½	839½	1348½	5845	263.2
" Oct., 1918....	1271	780	1889	878½	1391½	6210	282.6
" Nov. "....	1289	782½	1848	903	1389½	6212	282.6
" Dec. "....	1303	782½	1805½	866	1337	6094	277.0
" Mar., 1919....	1285	782½	1502	844½	1294	5708	259.4
" June "....	1338	800	1741½	937	1371½	6188	281.3
" Sept. "....	1399	817½	1797½	1047	1344	6587	299.4
" Dec. "....	1441½	881½	2442½	1145	1453½	7364	334.7
" Jan., 1920....	1461	857½	2702½	1211½	1535½	7768	353.1
" Feb. "....	1454	886½	2951½	1253½	1614½	8160	370.9

Date.	Cereals and Meat.	Other Food Products (Tea, Sugar, &c.).	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous (Rubber, Timber, Oils, &c.).	Total.	Percentage Change.
End Mar., 1920....	1508	914	2974½	1246	1709½	8352	379.6
" April "....	1498½	908	2938½	1232½	1654½	8232	374.2
" May "....	1484	981½	2819	1295½	1619	8199	372.7
" June "....	1511	929½	2562	1289	1555½	7847	356.7
" July "....	1499	954	2594	1308	1541	7876	358.0
" Aug. "....	1438	927	2521	1302½	1554½	7743	352.0
" Sept. "....	1504	928	2362½	1311	1539½	7645	347.5
" Oct. "....	1560½	900½	1951½	1316½	1446	7175	326.1
" Nov. "....	1478	869½	1651	1259½	1336	6594	299.7
" Dec. "....	1344	805	1284	1216	1275	5924	269.3
" Jan., 1921....	1295½	797	1187	1128½	1209	5617	255.3
" Feb. "....	1176½	771	1038	1053	1137½	5176	235.3
" Mar. "....	1212	727	1030	1003	1125	5097	231.7
" April "....	1196	723	1031	936	1043	4922	224.0
" May "....	1195	691	996	963	1065	4910	223.2
" June "....	1174½	665½	973½	973	1023½	4810	218.6
" July "....	1165	707½	958½	937	1030	4798	218.1
" Aug. "....	1184	716½	998	920½	1000	4819	219.0
" Sept. "....	1119½	688	1258	871	987½	4924	223.8
" Oct. "....	956	685	1171	816	960	4588	203.5
" Nov. "....	951	672	1117½	774	943½	4458	202.6

Movements in the cereals and meat group have been irregular. Foreign wheat is lower, while home-grown wheat is a little higher. Flour shows a further substantial decline, while oats have risen. Beef and mutton are a shade lower, but there was a sharp increase in pork. Among subsidiary foodstuffs, coffee, sugar, and butter have fallen a little. All quotations in the textile group, with the exception of silk, show a decline. Cotton prices have not yet receded to the end of August level, but wool quotations, after their temporary advance in October, have subsided to the figure in force at the end of September. The rise in silk prices, which has been going on for several months past, has continued, but flax and hemp are unchanged, while jute is again lower.

In the minerals section a slight increase in each of the minor metals is more than counterbalanced by a further cut in iron and steel prices. Steel rails have been reduced to £10 per ton, which compares with less than £6 at the end of July, 1914, while iron bars are quoted at £12 10s, as against £7 at the outbreak of war. Coal prices are again a little lower. In the miscellaneous section there were practically no changes beyond slight declines in timber and oil and oilseeds.

How present levels compare with those of recent months and July, 1914, may be seen from the table below, in which the indices at the outbreak of war are taken as 100:—

End of—	Cereals & Meat.	Other Food.	Textiles.	Minerals.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
July, 1914....	100	100	100	100	100	100
Dec., 1914....	124	117	82	103	124	109
June, 1918....	220	220	294	186	250	238
Dec., 1918....	226	222	293	186	241	236
June, 1919....	231	227	284	202	247	241
Dec., 1919....	249	250	396	247	263	287
March, 1920....	261	260	484	269	309	325
June, 1920....	261	263	415	278	281	305
Dec., 1920....	233	229	209	261	230	231
March, 1921....	209	206	167	216	203	198
June, 1921....	203	188	158	210	185	188
Sept., 1921....	193	195	204	189	178	192
Oct., 1921....	166	194	190	176	173	178
Nov., 1921....	165	190	181	167	170	174

Primary foodstuffs thus show the nearest approximation to pre-war level, while minerals are nearly as low. Subsidiary foodstuffs and textiles, on the other hand, are well above the average.

THE CONSOLIDATION OF TRADE UNIONISM.

(BY A LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ONE of the chief features of recent trade union history has been the movement towards federation and amalgamation. It is true that the process has proceeded further amongst, say, the banks or in the soap industry, but it is nevertheless a movement of considerable importance. The

reasons for the consolidation of trade unions, whether by federation or complete amalgamation, are to be found in the desire for greater solidarity on the part of those with common interests, and the complexity of modern industry. Before the war it used to be said in criticism of the British trade union movement that it was badly organised, that in Germany there were 60 or 70 powerful unions, but that in this country the trade union forces were divided amongst 1,100 bodies. This is still true to-day, but it gives a quite erroneous impression of the present position of trade unionism. There are several hundreds of small local societies, often of old standing, which are either composed of skilled craftsmen employed in industries which have not suffered great economic changes, or which exist to serve the need of workpeople in localised industries. The Gold Beaters' Trade Society or the Razor Blade Forgers' Protection Society have but a handful of members, but the existence of these tiny unions is not a real source of weakness to trade unionism, though, on the other hand, it is not a source of strength. The Ministry of Labour has for some years published statistics relating to the hundred chief unions, who among them represent at the present time probably five-sixths of the trade unionists in the country.

To form a picture of the British trade union movement one must think of a core of large organisations surrounded by a welter of small bodies, some of which are from time to time absorbed into the larger societies, and of the appearance from time to time of new unions established to cater for workers amongst whom there has previously been but little organisation. The last few years, for example, have seen the rise of unions of scientific workers, engineering and shipbuilding draughtsmen, church mission keepers and ticket writers—to give widely different illustrations! The modern history of trade unionism is a history of rapidly increasing membership, and of the growing importance of the "core" resulting from consolidation.

Federation is the method by which unions with certain common interests combine for the purpose of protecting those common interests without losing their individual identities. The Engineering and Shipbuilding Trades' Federation, for example, consists of a number of independent unions, catering for workers in these allied industries. The National Federation of General Workers is perhaps the largest federation in the country at the present time, including as it does practically all the general labour unions. The National Federation of Building Trades' Operatives is another important organisation. The National Association of Unions in Textile Trade, which was founded during the war, consists of 38 unions (some of them local bodies) in the woollen and worsted industry. Another recently established body is a federation of scientific, administrative, and similar workers.

Federation is a relatively simple process. Amalgamation, on the other hand, is by no means easy to achieve, though less difficult than it used to be. Under the Trade Union Act of 1876 it was necessary for a registered trade union to obtain a two-thirds majority of all the members on a vote for amalgamation before steps could be taken to merge two unions. The effect was to hamper the amalgamation of unions, as it was almost impossible to secure so large a majority. In 1917, however, new legislation was passed enabling unions to effect amalgamation if they obtained a majority of 20 per cent. in favour, on a poll of at least half of all the members. Even with this modification of the law amalgamations have been held up because of an insufficient majority. But this is not the only difficulty in the way of amalgamations. The amounts of the contributions, the character, amount, and variety of the benefits, and the total financial resources vary considerably from union to union, and these considerations have often created difficulties, whilst the vested interests of officials have occasionally stood in the way of the absorption of one union by another.

Nevertheless, substantial progress has been made. The movement has been partly in the direction of combining

local unions in the same trade or competing organisations in the same trade. But it has also consciously striven to establish "industrial unions" as distinct from craft or occupational unions. The United Garment Workers is a recent amalgamation of several sectional and local bodies. The National Union of Railwaymen, which was established in 1913 as an amalgamation of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants and two smaller unions, was an attempt to establish an industrial union catering for all railway workers. There are, however, still two important independent unions for special grades of railway employees—the engineers and firemen and the railway clerks.

One of the most important amalgamations effected recently was the establishment of the Amalgamated Engineering Union (which included the Amalgamated Society of Engineers and several other craft unions of engineering workers), with a membership of 400,000 workers. Last year the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters, Cabinet Makers and Joiners—itsself an amalgamation—and the General Union of Carpenters and Joiners formed the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers. Two years ago the National Union of Vehicle Builders took the place of four unions, whilst about the same time three unions combined to form the Union of Post Office Workers, in which, subsequently, six further organisations of post office employees were absorbed. The United Vehicle Workers' Union has taken the place of several societies. Amongst the unions of general workers the same process has gone on. The Gasworkers' and General Labourers' Union formed the nucleus of an organisation now known as the National Union of General Workers, to which several general labourers' societies have become attached. Last year the National Federation of Women Workers lost its separate identity in the National Union.

Other instances could be given to show how widespread is the tendency towards combination in the trade union movement. It is clear, however, from the examples given, that the trade union movement is working towards the substitution of national for local organisations, and of industrial for craft unions. But the change is by no means yet complete, nor indeed is it likely to become so. As a matter of fact, the problem of the future organisation of trade unionism is not a simple one. General labourers have their own organisations, to which the majority belong. Others, however, are enrolled in unions concerned with the industry in which they are employed. In a sense their fortunes are bound up with the industry in which they are working, but in another sense their interests are those of all other general labourers. Similarly, there is a National Union of Clerks. It is clear that the salary of a clerk and the conditions of his employment do not depend upon whether he is employed in woollen mill or by an engineering firm, yet he cannot altogether dissociate himself from the fortunes of the woollen or engineering industry as the case may be. Again, there are a considerable number of engineers who are employed on engineers' work outside the engineering industry, and who, therefore, have a double interest. In general terms we may say that trade unionism is feeling its way to a dual organisation which will allow for double interests. That is to say, there will be both vertical and horizontal combinations; there will be organisation by industry for the protection of industrial interests, and organisation by occupation for the protection of occupational interests. But it will be some time before such a level of organisation is attained, for the trade union movement has its conservative side, and it has in its midst unions who naturally cannot completely escape from the traditions of earlier days.

Business Notes.

Government Investments.—A White Paper (No. 250 price 2d) has been issued giving a list of Government investments in registered companies. The list of total amounts invested in various concerns, with the dates at which investments in each case were made, reads as follows:—

Name of Company.	Amounts Invested on Sept. 30, 1921.	Dates When Investments Were Made.
British Dyestuffs Corporation, Limited..	1,700,001 ..	1919
Turkish Petroleum Co.	40,000 ..	1919
British America Nickel Corporation (of Canada)	629,618 ..	1916 to 1921
Munster Flax Development Co.	33,000 ..	1920 & 1921
Chepstow Water Co.	330 ..	1918
Monmouth Shipbuilding Co.	490,000 ..	1920
The Standard Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Messrs. Edward Finch and Co. (1916), The Chepstow Property Co.	656,250 ..	1918
Suez Canal Co.	4,050,000 ..	1875
Cunard Steamship Co.	2,600,020 ..	1904-1907
Anglo-Persian Oil Co.	5,200,000 ..	1914 to 1920
Home Grown Sugar, Limited	375,000 ..	1920 & 1921
Flax Cultivation, Limited	331,000 ..	1919 & 1920
Wessex Flax Factories, Limited	36,000 ..	1919 & 1920
British Cellulose and Chemical Manufacturing Co., Limited.	1,450,000 ..	1920
Commercial Bank of Siberia.	1,198,371 ..	1918

It is stated that the return "does not include advances in connection with contracts secured on short-term mortgages or debentures. Before the war the holdings of Suez Canal shares and Cunard debentures represented the total direct Government interest in registered companies. The list is now a long one, and some of the ventures have been decidedly unsuccessful. The return would have been more interesting if it had included an estimate of the present value of the holdings. A noticeable change from the list published a year or so ago is that a holding of £325,000 in debentures of British Farina Mills, Limited, has disappeared. The principal holdings of ordinary or preferred ordinary shares are 850,000 preferred ordinary shares in British Dyestuffs, £5,000,000 of ordinary shares in Anglo-Persian Oil, £250,000 in ordinary shares of Home-Grown Sugar, and £1,198,371 in ordinary shares of the Commercial Bank of Siberia. References by the Committee of Public Accounts to this last-named investment were given in the *Economist* of August 21, 1920.

Allocation of Railway Compensation.—According to the *Railway Gazette*, £23,610,437 out of the forthcoming Government compensation payment is to be distributed among 76 companies and committees. The allocations are stated to include the following:—

Company.	£
Caledonian.....	1,126,618
Glasgow and South-Western.....	403,638
Great Central	891,637
Great Eastern	1,065,595
Great Northern	1,042,161
Great Western	2,916,546
Lancashire and Yorkshire.....	1,277,687
London and North-Western	3,065,088
London and South-Western	1,046,161
London, Brighton, and South Coast	720,971
Metropolitan	185,383
Midland	2,911,286
North British	1,192,988
North-Eastern	2,262,446
North Staffordshire	223,473
South-Eastern and Chatham Managing Committee	1,031,071

These figures will be studied with interest in view of the approach of the dividend season.

Treasury and Borrowed Securities.—We are informed that the Treasury has decided to exercise the option, under Clause 3 of Scheme B for the Regulation of Foreign Exchanges, of returning the following securities on March 1, 1922, from which date the additional allowance will cease:—Argentine Government Four per Cent. Railway Guaranteed Rescission bonds, 1897-9. Argentine Government Four per Cent. loan, 1908. Chilean Government Five per Cent. loan, 1892. Chilean Government Five per Cent. loan, 1905. Chilean Government Five per Cent. loan, 1909. Chilean Government Five per Cent. loan, 1910. Chicago Great Western Railway Four per Cent. First Mortgage bonds, 1959. Southern Pacific Company Four per Cent. Twenty-Year Conversion bonds, 1929.

The Financial Position of Turkey.—Sir Adam Block's report for 1919-20, published last Monday, is a warning to the bondholders to defer their hopes of further payments, even on account of the arrears on the Unified Debt. The figures of the gross and net receipts for the year are the highest on record—£711,782,953 and £77,766,838, an increase respectively over 1918-19 of £74,952,648 or 72.51 per cent., and £2,975,832, or 61.19 per cent.; but they are, of course, in greatly depreciated currency, and the actual increase is due to a trade revival after the armistice, since checked by events in Anatolia and Southern Russia, whence a commercial crisis may arise at Constantinople. While Greece and Turkey remain at war, and for some time afterwards, there is little prospect of recovery. The current year will show a heavy decline, and the yield of the assigned revenues has been decreased by the veto of the Allies on an increase of the spirit duty, and by the hindrances to the collection of taxes from foreigners, or those under foreign protection, resulting from the Allied control of Constantinople. But the salt tax has been tripled and the revenue augmented, the taxes on silk and fisheries, and the stamp duties, are to be reorganised, the returns from the tobacco monopoly are larger, and the surplus of the tobacco tithe has been pledged to the Debt Council. As to the Unified coupons in arrear, on which a payment of 1s 3d per coupon was made in January, the sums in hand on July 31st (including this payment) in London, Paris, Rome, and Constantinople amounted, at the then rate of exchange, to £2,943,429 sterling, and those deposited in German and Austrian banks were equivalent, at the pre-war rate of exchange, to £8,312,703 sterling, but at the rate of September 1st to only £513,006. Steps have been taken to obtain payment of these deposits at the pre-war rate, and if they succeed, the whole of the arrears can be paid; but we believe that it will be about a year before the question can be decided. Sir Adam Block explains how Turkey is paying its way at present—chiefly by good luck; but he urges the necessity of a reduction of official personnel and of the establishment of a financial council such as that provided by the Treaty of Sèvres, after which event Turkey should be accorded a greater fiscal freedom; otherwise, he maintains, it cannot take its fair share in production. Until the Treaty is ratified, he declares, the assigned revenues cannot be expected permanently to improve. Whether it will ever be ratified as it now stands is obviously doubtful; at present the ownership of large areas in the Turkish Empire is undetermined, and we believe the Debt Council still awaits accounts of the assigned revenues in Mesopotamia and Syria. The Angora Government has intercepted those from Anatolia, but gives receipts for them; and there is no sign of a resumption of the apportionment of the Debt amongst the countries to which Turkish territory has passed. For the later loans the prospect is remote, and such sums as are available for their service could only be remitted at a heavy loss on the exchange.

"Received for Shipment" Bills of Lading.—For a year or more there has been discussion, involving shippers, shipowners and bankers, on questions arising owing to the substitution in some instances of the phrase "received for shipment" in place of the word "shipped" in bills of lading. These questions are now, it is understood, being examined by the British Bankers' Association with a view to practical means being devised of overcoming the difficulties which have resulted from the introduction of the modified form of shipping document in certain trades where its use has not hitherto been customary. In Transatlantic shipping business the form is by no means new, writes a correspondent. Used in conjunction with certain established arrangements, it meets the requirements of trade and is accepted by bankers. Difficulties have arisen in Far Eastern trade. Last year the Eastern Exchange Banks took up the attitude that they could not regard a "received for shipment" bill of lading as effective. They required a document definitely certifying shipment. The objection thus raised interfered with the use of the modified form which had been introduced for the convenience of shippers, it being frequently impracticable to issue a "shipped" bill in time for the docu-

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LTD.

Issued Capital - - - £1,844,986

EASTERN & GENERAL MERCHANTS. Shipping, Banking & Insurance Agents.
Agents and Secretaries of Rubber, Tea and Produce Companies.

1-4 Great Tower street, London, E.C.3.

Branches:—					
Colombo	Calcutta	Batavia	Medan	Kuala Lumpur	Montreal
Sourabaya	Shanghai	Manila	Penang	Hankow	Tientsin
Associated Companies:—					
New York	Sydney	Wellington	Singapore	Shanghai	
Philadelphia	Adelaide	Auckland	Penang	Hankow	
San Francisco	Perth	Christchurch	McMaca	Poochow	
Melbourne	Brisbane	Dunedin	Borneo	Tientsin	

ment to arrive at the same time as the goods. The question whether the "for shipment" form is legally a bill of lading was dealt with in a judgment of the Privy Council in an Australian appeal at the end of last year. Though often referred to since as laying down that a "received for shipment" bill of lading is legally a bill of lading for all purposes, the decision of the Privy Council did not go to that extent. Though that view was indicated in the judgment, the broad point was not actually involved in the case. The Court of Appeal, however, decided subsequently that certain "received for shipment" bills of lading were a compliance with a c.i.f. contract, but a couple of days later Mr Justice McCardie took the contrary view in *Diamond Alkali Export Company v. Bourgeois*, his attention apparently not being called to the Court of Appeal decision just given. Under a contract for the sale of goods to be shipped from American seaboard c.i.f. Gothenburg the sellers tendered a document, purporting to be a bill of lading, which acknowledged receipt of the goods to be transported by a named steamer, or, failing shipment by that steamer, by a following steamer. The buyers, said Mr Justice McCardie, were entitled to reject on the ground that a proper document had not been tendered by the sellers in conformity with the contract. This last decision apparently caused bankers to look altogether askance at the new form when carrying out instructions in connection with a c.i.f. contract, and, an appeal which had been entered having recently been withdrawn, the legal question remains clouded with doubt. The subject came up at the conference of the International Law Association at the Hague in September, and a resolution was then adopted recognising that the use of the "for shipment" form has become, in many cases, a necessity of commerce, and suggesting that the interests concerned should co-operate to remove difficulties. That is what is being done. Under modern conditions it may be impracticable, if a liner calls for part cargo at several ports, and makes a stay of only a few hours, to issue, lodge with the bank, and send forward "shipped" bills by the same steamer, except by delaying departure, which is not a workable plan. The problem, therefore, is not easy of solution. Bankers, however, clearly wish to facilitate their customers' business. Shipowners doubtless have the same desire, and the question is mainly one of settling a form of shipping document guaranteeing actual shipment within a limited time, or in some other way establishing arrangements which will provide a document acceptable under c.i.f. contracts by buyers and their bankers.

Housing Costs.—According to the report issued by the National Housing and Town Planning Council, estimates for cottage building are steadily reaching more reasonable and satisfactory levels. It is now possible to hope that before the end of 1922 the cost of the cottage with three bedrooms, parlour, living-room, scullery and bath, built on land planned with 12 houses to the acre, and with simple roads of an economical kind, will not exceed £600. But this all-in price will not be reached without a further fall in the values of building material. Timber has already fallen heavily. The report points out that:—"In the case of most fittings, the scarcity of last year has completely disappeared, and two prices are now asked in the market—viz., the standard price and a price which is clearly a competitive one. The prices charged for bricks are still far too high. It is believed that the books

of not a few brick-making firms would, if examined, show that the net profit gained per 1,000 bricks is equal to two-thirds of the total cost per 1,000 delivered by rail before the war." It is interesting to observe that: "So much criticism of operatives in the building trade has been expressed that it is a pleasant duty to record the fact that the view generally held by fair-minded and considerate employers—whose considered opinions possess a thousand times greater weight than the sweeping generalisations of arm-chair critics—is to the effect that war-weariness is giving place to steady and sustained effort. Each week sees an increase in the efficiency of production, rates of wages are now governed by agreements—entered into by the Federation of Building Trades Employers and the Federation of Building Trades Operatives respectively—which provide that wages shall follow the cost of living."

Indian Securities.—The visit of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales to India, writes a Stock Exchange correspondent, has had some effect in calming the slight nervousness which was beginning to arise in the minds of holders of Indian Government securities. Quotations of stocks and shares are standing a little above the recent lowest to which they fell, but the improvement is slender up to the present, and Indian Government stocks compare well in the matter of yield with others in the trustee list. The four principal loans are as follows:

Stock.	Divs. Due.	Redemption.	Price.	Yield.	Yield with Redemption.
India 2½%	5 J.A.J.O.	1926/after	41	£ s d	£ s d
Do 3%	5 J.A.J.O.	1948/after	48½	6 1 6	..
Do 3½%	5 J.A.J.O.	1931/after	56½	6 4 0	..
Do 7% conv. bds.	5 A. 5 O.	1926-31	103½	6 16 0	6 12 6

India Sevens are available for trustees, in spite of the fact of the price being over par. The other stocks are regarded as being at present in the lists of practically irredeemable loans. It is in the railway stocks where improvement has been more marked of late. Not long ago trustees could have obtained over 9 per cent. in this list, and to-day the yields run up to 8 per cent. on the money from securities available for strict trusts. The following are included in this group. Particulars are added of the dividends for two half-years in those cases where the amounts are liable to fluctuation:—

Description.	Divs. due.	Price.	Yield.
Madras and Mahratta 3½% guar. stock and share of surplus (div. £3, July 1, 1921; £4, Jan., 1922; and 12s 9d refund for income-tax)	J. & J.	89	8 2 6
Burma Railway 2½% guar. stock and share of surplus, free of stamp (£3 10s, July 1, 1921; £3 10s, Jan. 1, 1922)	J. & J.	98	7 7 6
Bengal-Nagpur 3½% guar. plus share (£3, Jan. 1, 1922; £3, July 1, 1921)	J. & J.	87	7 0 0
East Indian "B" Annuities (£22 4s 6d in 1953)	A. & O.	14½	6 19 0
E. Bengal "B" Annuities (£24 7s 6d in 1957)	A. & O.	14½	6 16 1
Gt. Indian Peninsula 4% irred. deb. stk. 4 Feb.	J. & J.	61½	6 13 6
East Indian 3% deb. stock (red. on and after 1929)	May, Aug., Nov.	47½	6 6 0

The ordinary shares of the Indian railways pay substantially more. For instance, Barsi Light Railway £10 shares at 9½ and West of India Portuguese 4 per cent. guaranteed stock at 47 yield 12½ and 12 per cent. respectively. The latter is in receipt of 5½ per cent. dividends at present. Rohilkund and Kumaon ordinary and Southern Punjab ordinary, at 96 and 143 respectively, offer 10½ per cent., while the yield on Bengal North-West ordinary stock at 111½ is practically 10 per cent. on the money, taking into account the accrued dividend due next February. None of these ordinary stocks are available for the average trust account.

Rubber Output Restrictions.—The Rubber Growers Association has addressed to all producers of plantation rubber a plea for the continuance during the next six months of the restriction of output assented to by many

producers in the year now drawing to a close. Those who did not assent to restriction before are now invited to come into the agreement. The circular issued by the Association reads as follows:—"Notwithstanding the restriction of rubber production (both voluntary and involuntary) which has been effected during the past 12 months, reducing the output to about two-thirds of normal, the plantation rubber industry is still confronted with the fact that the consumption of rubber throughout the world is not proceeding at a rate which would justify a resumption of normal production. In the past few weeks there has been a small but welcome rise in the price of the commodity, due primarily to the restriction referred to, but the stocks in warehouses in London at November 19, 1921, were 70,259 tons, against 45,550 tons at November 30, 1920, and are only 3,000 tons less than the highest figure recorded during the year. If a full crop were produced during the next 12 months, and if consumption continues only at the rate which it has averaged during the last three years, it is estimated that the surplus of rubber would be largely increased, with most disastrous results. In these circumstances the Council of this Association strongly urge all producers who assented to the previous voluntary restriction scheme, which would otherwise terminate at December 31 next, to continue restriction by undertaking not to produce more rubber during the first six months of 1922 than they produced during the corresponding period of 1921, or alternatively than 75 per cent. of their output during the corresponding period of 1920. Producers who did not join the previous scheme are urged to undertake during the first six months of 1922 to restrict their output of rubber by 25 per cent. of the amount produced during the corresponding period of 1921, or alternatively of 1920."

Cotton Trade and Short Time.—Our Manchester correspondent writes:—"The proposal that organised short time should be adopted in the American spinning section of the Lancashire cotton trade has not been carried. A fortnight ago it was decided to take a ballot on this question, the suggestion being that until the end of the year spinners should limit their output to 50 per cent. On the votes being counted, however, it was found that the necessary majority of 80 per cent. had not been obtained, so the scheme fell to the ground, and the Masters' Federation has decided not to take any further action. Despite this decision, curtailment of production in an irregular way is being resorted to on a large scale, and it is estimated that the output at the moment in Lancashire is not more than 60 per cent. of the full capacity of the machinery. Prices for cotton mill shares continue to weaken, and certain companies are reported to be feeling the financial stringency rather severely. It is quite impossible at the moment to buy cotton and produce yarn at a profit."

Cotton Growing in Nigeria.—Although some difficulty is being experienced in financing the British Empire Cotton Growing Corporation, the Executive Council is already doing useful work. Early this year it was decided that Sir Hector Duff should go out to Nigeria and make an extensive tour in order to prepare a report on the possibilities of cotton growing in that area. He sailed last February and returned in July, and a valuable report has been published this week. The population of Nigeria is over 16,000,000, and the country covers an area of nearly 336,000 square miles. The relative density of population varies enormously. In the opinion of Sir Hector Duff, Nigeria is in many respects a peculiarly promising region for cotton growing, possessing, as it does, a sympathetic Government, intelligent native chiefs, peaceable internal conditions, and seaports within a comparatively short distance of Great Britain. It is very important, however, that the quality of the cotton produced should be improved. It is necessary that the cost of transport should be reduced, but the necessary step is so to improve the quality and value of the cotton itself that it can bear heavier charges than now. One of the worst faults in the present system of marketing Nigerian cotton is the absence of any adequate safeguard against

the passing of cotton which has been adulterated, and worst still, lumping together of all cotton, good, bad, and indifferent, and the fact that the worst class is paid for at precisely the same rate as the best. The only way to stop this sort of thing is by grading at the markets. All the facts seem to point to it being possible to cultivate cotton in Nigeria on a large scale without any pronounced economic struggle between this crop and the other chief products of the colony and the protectorate.

J. and P. Coats.—The profits of J. and P. Coats, Limited, for the year ended June 30th last have dropped to the lowest figure recorded for many years. The total amounted to £2,072,400 as compared with £4,164,900 for the previous year, the figure being struck after carrying £36,400 to depreciation "and allowing for estimated reclamation of excess profits duty." A balance of £903,100 was brought forward from the previous accounts, and this is supplemented by £250,000 withdrawn from dividend reserve fund. A comparison of results since 1906 is given below:—

Year ended June 30.	Net Profit After Depreciation, &c.	Interest.	Dividends and Bonus.	Pension, Insurance Fund, &c.	To Reserve, &c.
1906	£ 2,974,088	£ 36,642	£ 1,972,821	£ 294,629	£ 450,000
1907	3,056,125	19,680	2,206,642	175,963	500,000
1908	2,701,697	19,394	2,193,403	6,588	500,000
1909	2,917,667	19,399	2,427,402	32,522	500,000
1910	3,171,464	19,278	2,448,908	25,000	675,000
1911	3,102,952	19,096	2,453,808	42,500	525,000
1912	2,794,012	..	2,449,183	26,440	500,000
1913	2,903,239	..	2,449,183	..	500,000
1914	2,634,388	..	2,225,803	..	..
1915	2,598,966	..	2,208,347	..	30,000
1916	3,387,395	..	2,210,016	..	100,000
1917	3,360,950	..	2,294,131	..	2,000,000
1918	3,171,796	..	2,289,732	100,000	..
1919	3,995,149	..	2,850,638	400,000	750,000
1920	4,164,894	..	3,161,214	150,000	450,000
1921	2,072,449	..	2,911,263	..	Dr 250,000

The ordinary shares receive a distribution of 17½ per cent., the same as last year, the amount required being £2,581,300, and £314,200, or £588,800 less than was brought in, is carried forward. Some important changes are shown in the balance-sheet. Creditors have fallen by £4,095,100 to £2,463,600, while debtors are £2,522,700 lower, and cash has been reduced by £1,136,800 to the strikingly low figure of £57,000. Investments and advances to subsidiary companies show decreases of £1,273,000 and £91,900 respectively, while the property item, which includes investments in subsidiary companies, stands £1,811,600 higher at £13,765,700. The auditors' report draws attention to the fact that "certain assets whose value has been largely affected by war and subsequent conditions remain at book values. Against probable loss on these, however, the war contingencies fund has been established," which stands at £3,000,000.

P. and O. Results.—The "net result," after providing for depreciation, of the working of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company for the year ended September 30th last is £623,500, or nearly £87,000 less than it was a year ago. What actually has occurred it is impossible to say, for the amount deducted for depreciation is not stated, but it is mentioned that £500,000 has been added to the insurance fund. It may have differed considerably from those of previous years, and a comparison of results is therefore vitiated. We set out below, however, the published figures for a number of years past:—

	1914-15.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Net revenue ..	£ 494,160	£ 862,456	£ 882,360	£ 1,614,585	£ ..	£ ..
Reserves, &c. ..	..	100,000	100,000	1,000,000	..	..
"Net result" Brought forward.	494,160	762,456	782,360	614,585	710,430	623,531
	68,703	85,329	92,712	91,727	115,230	111,939
Deb. interest ..	562,863	847,785	875,072	706,312	825,660	735,470
Preferred div. ..	63,000	57,143	55,644	55,055	53,054	52,065
Deferred div. ..	152,000	152,000	152,000	152,000	152,000	152,000
	269,681	545,930	575,701	384,027	508,668	431,100
(15%) (18%) (18%) (12%) (15%) (12%)						
Carried forward.	78,182	92,712	91,727	115,230	111,938	100,305

The dividend on the deferred stock, the paid-up amount of which has been increased by £201,400 during the year, is maintained at 12 per cent., free of income-tax, but the bonus of 3 per cent. paid last year is not repeated, while £10,600 less is carried forward. The increase in the amount of deferred stock was due to the bonus distribution of this amount of stock at the end of the previous year, on the strength of the appreciation in value of holdings in subsidiary companies. The balance-sheet is as uninformative as ever, the precedent established in 1916 of condensing all the items of the credit side into one amount being once again followed. While there may perhaps have been some slender justification for withholding information in war time, shareholders may surely expect something more explicit now. The list of the fleet shows a slight decrease in tonnage, namely, from 566,511 tons to 565,681 tons, while the fleet of the British India Company has fallen from 912,985 tons to 905,124 tons. In their report the directors state that during the first six months of the year the steamers were able to earn more than the expenses, but that in the second half this has not been the case. Recent voyages are said to have resulted in "serious losses."

Castner-Kellner Alkali.—The report of the Castner-Kellner Alkali Company, Limited for the year ended September 30th last shows a substantial decline in the net profits to the smallest figure recorded since 1909. The table below shows the fluctuations in profits for a number of years past:—

	Profit.	Debt Interest, &c.	Renewal and Depreciation.	Reserve and Carry Forward.	Dividend.
1905	£ 52,358	£ 10,153	£ 23,205	£ 1,000	£ 18,000
1909	134,154	9,313	35,000	26,841	63,000
1910	164,554	8,986	32,500	44,318	78,750
1911	178,853	8,789	32,500	47,564	90,000
1912	177,063	8,682	32,500	45,880	90,000
1913	172,348	8,372	32,500	29,382	106,094
1914	174,150	8,275	32,500	21,917	116,458
1915	260,805	8,056	50,000	52,749	150,000
1916	262,208	7,706	50,000	23,252	181,250
1917	263,322	7,648	50,000	45,078	200,000
1918	261,339	7,598	50,000	48,819	200,000
1919	190,655	7,598	50,000	51,876	200,000
1920	283,854	7,598	60,000	48,132	220,000
1921	153,086	7,512	50,000	13,706	130,000

The depreciation reserve is again credited with £50,000, but the dividend is reduced from 22 to 13 per cent., while £34,400 less is carried forward. The balance-sheet shows a loan from bankers for £65,000 as a new item, while creditors have been reduced by £61,000. The cash item is £66,400 lower and debtors have been reduced by £159,700, but stocks are £21,600 higher, and the property item is £140,300 higher. The report gives no explanation of the drop in profits, which is doubtless to be ascribed to a considerable extent to the reaction in prices. An analysis of the balance-sheet will be found in the usual column.

Co-operative Insurance Society.—The Co-operative Insurance Society (C.I.S.) was first formed in 1867 to undertake the insurances of co-operative societies, and it very soon launched its collective life assurance scheme, under which the members of nearly 900 societies are insured at a total working expense which is said not to exceed 5 per cent. of the premiums. In the recently issued actuary's report dealing with the quinquennial valuation for the period 1915-1920, it is shown that there is a surplus in the ordinary section of £42,178, in the special section £6,374, and in the industrial section £1,903; and it is recommended that, after carrying forward a sum of £4,546 from the surplus in the ordinary section and £2,088 from the special section, a balance of £41,918 be apportioned to the policy-holders entitled to share. This yields a bonus equivalent to £1 per cent. on the sum assured for each full year's premium paid during the past ten years for holders of assurances with immediate participation in profits, and a bonus of 11s to 15s per cent. to holders with deferred participation. Progress during the five years under review has been favourable, under the circumstances. The life premiums received during

1915 amounted to only £187,204, but in 1920 they had increased to £1,065,669. At the end of 1920 there were 43,621 assurances in the ordinary life section, 95,453 in the special section, and 326,042 in the industrial section—exclusive of the collective scheme. The progress made has been greatest in the industrial section, which has increased its premiums from £5,118 in 1915 to £209,495 in 1920. This is largely due to the vigorous efforts made to push the business during the last three years, during which time more than 700 whole-time agencies have been established, and 130 district offices opened. In 1914 the C.I.S. was taken over by the two Co-operative Wholesale Societies (English and Scottish), and in 1920 its premium income, exclusive of collective, amounted to £800,000, and its invested funds to £1,330,000.

De Beers Diamond.—Within the past two years, writes our mining correspondent, the holders of deferred shares in that great diamond consolidation, the De Beers, have passed from opulence to poverty so far as their interest in this particular undertaking is concerned. Under the circumstances of a demand arising out of an artificial war and immediately post-war prosperity, in conjunction with a skilful control of the market, the price of the stones rose to such a degree that in respect of the year to June 30, 1920, the directors of the De Beers company were able to pay on the £2 10s deferred shares dividends totalling £3 apiece, besides making special appropriations on a most liberal scale. From the market standpoint the outlook appeared to be assured by the arrangement entered into on the part of the four leading producers (including the South-West Africa amalgamation). But even the most comprehensive marketing organisation is of little avail if the power to purchase be lacking, and in the present case the effect of hard times has been accentuated by the realisation of gems stolen from their unfortunate possessors by the present masters of Russia. In the autumn of 1920 a distinct lull in the demand for diamonds became apparent, and was followed by a measure of retrenchment on the part of the De Beers and other companies. The announcement has just been made that the revival of a few weeks ago proved to be merely a flicker in anticipation of the Christmas trade, and at the end of the year further large discharges of both white and native workers are to be made by the big Kimberley undertaking. There would consequently seem little prospect of resumption of dividends on the deferred shares in the near future, while the due payment of the preference interest in respect of the current half-year would appear to be more than a little doubtful—especially when the developments just referred to are read in conjunction with the results of the past year. Below is set out an analysis of the profit and loss statements for each of the past three financial periods ended June 30th:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
	£	£	£
Diamond account	5,849,553	6,761,840	2,300,581
Interest, &c.	408,205	236,060	659,448
Brought in	788,332	889,029	*1,602,307
Total	7,046,090	7,886,929	4,562,337
Mining expenditure	1,094,694	1,991,258	1,976,053
Other expenditure and charges	1,241,188	741,976	735,454
Total	2,335,882	2,733,234	2,711,507
Net profit and balance	4,710,208	5,153,695	1,830,830
Taxation	382,380	439,550	6,593
To reserves	698,799	382,070	119,505
Dividends	2,740,000	3,740,000	1,240,000
Carried forward	889,029	592,075	464,732

* Including £1,010,232 from general fund.

It will be seen that the income from sales of stones last year was not much more than one-third the 1919-20 amount, and that save for the transfer of over £1,000,000 from the general fund, not only would there have been no dividend on the deferred, but even the full rate on the preference shares could not have been met. An interim distribution of 10s per share was declared on the deferred in December last, but there was no final dividend. For 1918-19 a total of 40s per share was paid, and for 1919-20, as already mentioned, 60s. The latest balance-sheet

shows the general fund reduced to £700,000, while the further comparatively small addition to the "Reserve for Stabilisation of the Diamond Trade" raised that entry to £2,476,900. Against the reserve and debenture redemption funds there were investments to the tune of £6,092,600, whereof nearly one-half was represented by interests in other diamond concerns and the like—consequently a fixed asset. During the past year the company transferred its explosives and fertiliser factories to the Cape Explosives Works, which on June 30th owed the parent £843,000—a sum doubtless since repaid out of the proceeds of the recent successful issue of £1,250,000 debenture stock, interest and principal guaranteed by the De Beers Company. From the high-water mark of about 33, touched both in 1919 and 1920, the price of the deferred shares has sagged away until a further small decline following the issue of the report carried it under 9. He would be a bold man who would venture to predict the early course of the market, although better times will doubtless reward those who have the patience to wait.

A Batch of Tin Producers.—The effect of the heavy fall in the price of tin is strikingly exemplified in the annual statements of a number of producing concerns recently issued. The more important—the Pahang Consolidated—owns a large area in the Malay Peninsula, containing both alluvial and lode deposits; a rubber plantation formerly operated was not so very long ago transferred to the Kuala Reman Estates for 1,400,000 shares of 5s each. The capital of the Pahang comprises 100,000 participating preference £1 shares and 1,500,000 ordinary 5s shares. Upon the latter 20 per cent. was paid in respect of the year ended July 31, 1920, this carrying the maximum addition of 8 per cent. (making 15 per cent. in all) upon the preference shares. For 1918-19 the rates were 15 per cent. and 12 per cent. respectively. Last year's net earnings little more than covered the fixed 7 per cent. on the preference shares, the £10,000 which the directors considered it advisable to write off the stores in hand virtually coming out of the carry forward. An analysis of the results of the past three financial periods is given below:—

	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
	£	£	£
Gross receipts	305,481	471,887	317,535
Net profit	61,086	156,021	4,970
Depreciation, &c.	16,000	76,000	10,000
Dividends	68,250	90,000	7,000
Brought forward	34,321	*32,416	22,437
Carried forward	11,156	22,437	10,407
Black tin produced	2,030	2,359	2,412
Percentage per ton of ore	0.76	1.23	1.42

* Including excess profits duty recovered.

The heavy special appropriations of 1919-20 included £20,000 towards the cost of a new pumping plant, and £30,000 as provision for excess profits duty. A claim for repayment now arises under the latter heading. From the output statistics a marked improvement in the grade of the ore treated will be observed. No material change has occurred in the mining position, and as the ore reserve estimate of approximately 680,000 tons is subject to the price of tin being over £250 per ton, it cannot be taken very seriously at the moment. The Bisichi—a Nigerian company which during the period covered by the latest report absorbed several neighbouring concerns—during 1920 made a small loss; but development, especially on one of the newly acquired areas, was attended with very encouraging results. At the meeting held this week the chairman was able to announce that the Nigerian Chamber of Mines had been successful in securing a cut equivalent to 25 per cent. in smelting charges, and that "very substantial reductions" in the heavy railway rates on tin might shortly be expected. The chief feature of the report of the Ida H, another Nigerian, consists in the intimation as to the diversion of the company's activities to other fields. The Berenguela Tin Mines, which operates in Bolivia, for the year ended June 30, 1919, paid 15 per cent., and in respect of 1919-20 a total of 25 per cent. Last year's accounts show a net loss of £11,000; this will give ground for a claim against the Inland Revenue authorities. There is no information as to the mining position. The Rooiberg Minerals Develop-

ment (South Africa) in 1920-21 made a small loss. In respect of the preceding year 5 per cent. was paid. The prospects of tin-producing companies have, of course, been improved by the recent rally in the price of the metal.

The Garden Cities and Town Planning Association announce that a lecture on Milan and Other Italian Cities will be delivered on Thursday, December 8th, at 5.30 p.m., at King's College, Strand, by Halsey Ricardo, Esq., F.R.I.B.A. The chair will be taken by his Excellency the Noble Cavalier Giacomo de Martino (Italian Ambassador in London). Tickets may be obtained from the secretary, Garden Cities and Town Planning Association, 3 Gray's inn place, W.C. 1.

Obersea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—JUDGE GARY ON THE OUTLOOK —RAILWAY RATES REDUCED—SEPTEMBER EARNINGS—OCTOBER TRADE—NEW ISSUES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, November 18.

JUDGE GARY, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, is one of the most conservative of our "captains of industry," and one whose opinions carry great weight. He seldom makes predictions, but in his address yesterday at the annual meeting of the American Iron and Steel Institute he expressed decidedly optimistic views regarding the future, declaring, among other things, that great prosperity was near. Referring to the disarmament Conference at Washington, he urged that the Conference should not only agree on a limitation of armament, but should enter into "a final treaty which would prevent future wars"; he advocated an international understanding for the discussion of controversies between nations before resorting to arms. He predicted success for the Conference, which, in his opinion, would reduce the burden of taxation and cause a return to normal living conditions. Even a 50 per cent. cut in expenditures for war preparations, he said, would be a "prodigious saving." He doubted that there would be any decrease in steel production owing to a limitation of armament; if any, it would be small. On the other hand, world peace would "mark an epoch of the greatest business prosperity, as well as the largest measure of happiness, that the world has ever witnessed." Judge Gary said he was very hopeful about business and industry. Conditions throughout this country, he declared, have been growing better during the last six months, and the volume of business in the steel industry has more than doubled in the past 90 days. All in all, he looks for "a return to large prosperity in the comparatively near future."

This week's announcement that railroad executives had decided to make an immediate reduction of 10 per cent. in railroad freight rates on all agricultural products was quite unexpected. It had been thought that further cuts in freight rates would not be made until operating expenses, especially wages, had been reduced, because the carriers are not in a financial position to sacrifice any of their revenue. The action just taken, however, is regarded as a wise and at the same time strategic move. Ever since the period of Federal control the railroads have been struggling to get away from the standardisation of rates and wages, forced upon them during the war, and the present reduction is in line with such efforts. Furthermore, while wages have not been lowered to the extent that the carriers wish, they evidently feel sure that in due course the existing wage scale will be revised downward. At any rate, they have put the responsibility for keeping the latest freight rate reduction in force, and for granting relief from the present abnormally high wages paid to railway workers, squarely up to the Railroad Labour Board. The cut in freight tariffs on farm products, which is the first country-wide reduction since the railroads were returned to private ownership, will continue in effect for six months; during that period it is expected that the Labour Board will readjust wages as well as revise rules

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

KENNETH H. ROCKEY, Representative,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



and working conditions, which are quite as onerous, from the railroads' standpoint, as are the present high payrolls. If such relief is not granted, freight rates, at the end of that period, will be restored to their former levels—those that have prevailed to date. The lower rates will be effective throughout the country, except on traffic moving wholly within New England; many of the carriers in the latter territory are too weak to stand any reduction. It is evident that, unless there should be some revival in business, the entire immediate loss involved in the reduction would be taken from the net earnings of the carriers. It is estimated that the cut means an annual saving to shippers of approximately \$55,000,000—the amount depending, of course, upon the volume of traffic. Chairman Cuyler, of the Association of Railway Executives, explains that in making this cut "the railroads are relying upon the public for effective aid in bringing about the necessary reduction in labour and other costs of transportation, and are hoping for the co-operation of labour itself to that end. They have taken the first step in relieving existing business depression, and have given an earnest of their fixed purpose to reduce rates, and to relieve at the earliest practicable moment the transportation burden upon the public." The voluntary action on the part of the railroads has relieved the Inter-State Commerce Commission from an embarrassing position. At present the Commission really has no right, or at least would not be justified, it is pointed out, in ordering rate reductions on any commodity in any territory, because no railroad in the country has earned anything like the 6 per cent. annual return on the value of its property investment or contemplated (though not guaranteed) by the Transportation Act. The Commerce Commission granted an increase in rates over a year ago in the expectation that such increase would enable the roads to earn 6 per cent. The recent pressure upon the Commission to reduce those rates, therefore, placed it in an awkward position. As a matter of fact, the railroads themselves have from time to time substantially reduced freight rates from the levels established by the Commission in the summer of 1920. It

is estimated that such cuts in the aggregate involve a loss of revenue at the rate of \$175,000,000 to \$200,000,000 annually, exclusive of the reduction just announced. In this connection it is interesting to note that for the year ended August 31st—the first full year of operations under the increased rates granted by the Commerce Commission, and also the first full year since the termination of the Government guarantee period—the total net operating income of this country's railroads was equivalent to an annual return of only 2.9 per cent. on their property valuation as tentatively fixed by the Commission. In September of this year, complete returns from all but one small road show that operating revenues amounted to \$497,654,000, or 19.6 per cent. less than in the corresponding month of 1920, while operating expenses of \$377,106,000 were 26 per cent. less. Net operating income in September was \$87,174,000, or 9.4 per cent. greater than in the same month a year ago, but \$26,209,000 short of the amount expected to be earned under the rates fixed by the Interstate Commerce Commission. The September net operating income was equivalent to an annual return of 4.6 per cent. on the value of the property investment.

October's foreign trade returns are not favourable from the standpoint of values. While they show slight gains over September in both imports and exports, they are below those of August, and much smaller than in October of last year. Considering the year's decline in prices, however, the showing for last month is somewhat better. The volume of exports, in quantities, were fairly large, some commodities, such as raw cotton, showing a heavy gain in volume with an actual loss in value. Furthermore, while exports were still much larger than imports, the excess was only about one-third that of a year ago, a fact that has probably been responsible to a considerable degree for the recent strength in foreign exchange rates. October's exports totalled \$346,000,000, representing a gain of more than 6 per cent. over September and about the same gain over July, but a decrease to about the same extent from August. Imports for October were \$183,000,000, an increase of approximately 2 per cent. over September and July, but a decrease of 5.6 per cent. from August. Compared with October a year ago, exports were 53 per cent. and imports 45 per cent. smaller. Last month both cotton consumption and cotton exports increased. Consumption by our mills of 494,745 bales was the largest recorded since July, 1920, and represented an increase of 2 per cent. over that of September and of 23 per cent. as compared with October, 1920. Exports of domestic cotton, including linters, totalled 874,510 bales, the heaviest monthly shipment since January, 1920; they were 67 per cent. larger than in September, and 50 per cent. greater than in October a year ago. With respect to cotton mill operations, 586,000 more spindles were active in October than in the corresponding month of 1920.

In financial markets an outstanding feature is the large number of offerings of new bond issues by industrial corporations, States, and municipalities, which are taking advantage of the heavy investment demand. This week's offering of \$50,000,000 refunding mortgage 20-year 6 per cent. bonds of the New York Telephone Company was one of the most successful of recent flotations. The subscription books were opened on Tuesday and immediately closed, the total subscriptions received having been ten times the amount of the offering. As invariably happens when an exceptionally attractive offering is made, many of the applications were probably padded, but it is estimated that the total of subscriptions for amounts actually wanted by applicants reached approximately \$250,000,000, or five times the amount offered. The bonds, therefore, will have to be allotted. The new issue was offered at 97, with an interest yield of 6.26 per cent. to investors.

Among the foreign offerings this week was an issue of \$10,000,000 State of Rio Grand do Sul of the United States of Brazil 25-year 8 per cent. sinking fund gold bonds, which were priced to subscribers at 99½, and offered a yield of 8.10 per cent. on repayment at or before maturity at 105 and accrued interest. The Province of Saskatchewan has just sold here two issues, one of \$3,000,000 25-year 5½ per cent. bonds, payable in New

York and Canada, at about 95½, which approximates a 5½ per cent. basis; the other issue of \$1,500,000 25-year 6 per cent. bonds of the same province was sold to New York bankers at 99.58. While the offering price to investors has not been announced, it is considered likely that the last-named issue will be distributed at a figure to yield above 6 per cent. The prices mark new high records for this year, since former Canadian issues have been placed mostly on a 5½ to 5½ per cent. basis.

FRANCE.—THE RUMOURED MORATORIUM AND THE WIESBADEN AGREEMENT—BUDGET DEBATE—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, November 29.

THE announcement from London that Mr Lloyd George contemplates proposing that negotiations shall be opened with a view to granting Germany a moratorium of two years' duration, in respect of her reparation payments, in order that she may have time to put her financial house in order, has caused, as might have been expected, little short of consternation here. Quite apart from the fact that such an arrangement would render it impossible for this country to obtain the cash of which it is so badly in need to repair the loss caused by the war, it is feared that the effect of a moratorium would be to annul the Wiesbaden agreements on which so much faith has been placed here. If Germany is released for two years from making payments in cash, it is asked here, that she would agree to make payments in kind that would be at least equivalent to France's share in the reparation debt? Germany's principal obligation, as matters stand, is represented by the ultimatum served on her after the London conference. If that falls to the ground, the Wiesbaden agreements would apparently also become void as a matter of course. News of the step contemplated by the British Government reached here only to-day, through the medium of a semi-official statement sent out by Reuters, but already the effect has been to cause public opinion to reflect on what the possible consequences may be if, as a result of a German moratorium, the purchasing power of the franc may be sent down to the level of the mark.

The unexpected nature of the announcement may be gauged from the fact that practically every speaker in the long discussion in the Chamber on French financial policy which ended on Thursday last pinned his faith to the belief that Germany can and must fulfil its obligations in regard to reparations. This, indeed, was the keynote of the order of the day with which the debate closed, which began as follows:—"The Chamber, confident that the Government will (1) watch over the strict execution of her engagements by Germany, and take all the necessary steps for the preservation of pledges existing for the debt owing to France," &c. The motion also called on the Government (2) not to impose any new taxation before ensuring the maximum yield from that already in operation; (3) to avoid all steps tending to the increase in the fiduciary circulation; (4) to limit public expenditure to the strictly necessary minimum, and to bring about as soon as possible organic reforms for the purpose of ensuring indispensable economies; (5) to reduce the number of public officials progressively to that of 1914; and, finally (6), to take all necessary measures to encourage the economic development of France and her colonies in a régime of liberty, and to bring about as rapidly as possible, wherever the interest of the country permits, the transformation or the reorganisation of the State monopolies. Socialist speakers insisted that the financial difficulties of the country were independent of whether Germany did or did not fulfil her engagements, one speaker insisting that in the most favourable circumstances France will have to expend, before 1930, on account of reparations and pensions, 50,000,000,000 or 60,000,000,000 francs more than she will receive in any case from indemnity payments.

The Chamber has this week begun its discussion of the Budget for 1922, and sat specially on Monday for the purpose. To-day, to-morrow, Thursday afternoon, and Friday morning are also being devoted to the subject, with the ever-cherished hope that the Bill may be disposed

of by both Houses before the end of the current year, and thus the vicious practice of *douzîèmes provisoires*, or monthly Votes on Account, may at last be avoided. The Budget for the Department of Public Health was disposed of in record time yesterday, and to-day those for the Departments of Commerce, the Interior and Justice were also voted. To-morrow that for the Department of Public Works will be attacked, after the morning sitting has been devoted to the thorny question of how the financial situation that has arisen between landlords and tenants, in regard to the non-payment of rent during the war and since, shall be equitably settled.

The Bourse, for the reasons mentioned last week, has again been consistently depressed, and there is little belief in any improvement of any real value until some definite steps of an international character have been taken to pull the world out of the chaos into which it has fallen. A quite important factor in the present situation is expectation that there will be numerous series of important issues of new capital, at high interest rates, as soon as the moment appears favourable. The need for these new issues is still pressing, notwithstanding the present depression, and they must under any circumstances be carried out before long, but for the moment everything is in a state of suspense. One important issue, which is designed for the benefit of the metallurgical industry in the devastated area, is regarded as likely to materialise before Christmas. It is regarded as improbable, however, that what are described as the big issues, which will represent milliards of new capital, will be made before well into the new year. These new issues, when they come, will find the Bourse in a much healthier condition than it was a year or so ago, and they are expected—if they do not provoke too large an offering of old descriptions, for the purpose of releasing money for investment in the new and better paying scrip—to bring about a much better state of things than the market has experienced for a long while.

In spite of the general depression, French Three per Cents. have been marked up on the week from 53.75 to 54.70, and Argentines, Brazilians, Chinese, Egyptians, Japanese and other foreigners have all also taken turns for the better. Banks, on the contrary, showed an all-round drop. Railways continued irregular. In the electricity group, Thomsons were put up from 738 to 770. Sugars showed appreciable improvement, while among Oil descriptions Royal Dutch and Mexican Eagles both improved on the approach of the coming distribution of dividends. De Beers, a third favourite counter here, fell off from 592 to 527 on the reported serious depression in the diamond industry.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Nov. 24, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 27, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital ..	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve ..	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve ..	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	563,204,486	563,562,944	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State ..	1,178,717,312	1,167,755,440	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918) ..	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,336,275,435	36,719,367,100	5,648,798,070
Interest on securities ..	56,007,848	55,962,273	23,870,749
Bank notes to order ..	1,122,515	848,531	3,497,530
Treasury accounts ..	54,300,841	33,957,000	308,402,118
Current accounts, Paris ..	1,578,389,694	1,518,830,025	694,818,054
Do branch banks ..	930,405,970	910,173,715	112,707,174
Dividends payable ..	4,550,126	4,449,462	1,971,638
Discounts and sundries ..	85,747,837	83,589,525	29,863,241
Re-discounts ..	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries ..	1,051,206,311	1,089,300,945	266,907,022
Total	42,110,025,675	42,417,994,060	7,318,951,151
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand ..	5,833,115,000	5,802,870,103	4,169,128,979
Balances abroad ..	1,948,367,000	611,838,500	..
Commercial bills overdue ..	847,000	1,058,476	206,502
Discounts in Paris ..	1,300,581,008	1,268,269,745	547,911,062
Foreign bills ..	4,901,802	5,101,082	15,766,925
Treasury bills ..	407,284	667,233	1,474,374
Discounts in branches ..	981,597,732	997,236,135	1,032,667,320
Adjourned payments, Paris and branches ..	64,117,117	64,475,546	..
Advances on bullion ..	12,874,000	12,874,000	10,660,000
Do on public securities ..	403,484,513	416,540,134	197,138,826
Do by branch banks ..	1,808,650,411	1,825,827,565	525,286,377
Advances to State (ordinary) ..	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for the war) ..	24,500,000,000	24,500,000,000	5,598,500

	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Govern-ments ..	4,119,000,000	4,115,000,000	..
Government stock reserve ..	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable ..	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible ..	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture ..	50,567,169	49,385,694	43,850,804
Expenses and management ..	36,125,677	35,011,355	9,709,633
Special reserve ..	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries ..	1,988,974,319	2,188,791,562	339,899,651
Total	42,110,025,675	42,417,994,060	7,318,951,151

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

	%
Discount ..	5½
Advances on bullion ..	5½
Advances on public securities ..	6½

GERMANY.—REPARATIONS—CURRENCY—EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—PROFITS—FOREIGN TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, November 29.

THE past week witnessed uncertainty in business and financial spheres, with a vague, optimistic feeling based merely on the belief that something is being done or at least discussed to relieve the impasse as regards reparations. The missions of Herr Stinnes and Dr Rathenau, and the trip to London of the British Ambassador, Lord d'Abernon, have, though nothing definite has transpired, strengthened this feeling; and the Bourse and exchange markets reflected the sentiment, the mark exchange showing a slight improvement, and the Bourse, as always when expecting good news, being timid. A cable from London reports that a moratorium as regards reparations has been favourably proposed; confirmation of this news, even if the advice is not destined to be taken, would probably have a decisive, at least temporary, effect on exchange, stocks, and state of industry. The reported condition for a moratorium, that Germany should cease inflation, would not be easy to fulfil. German inflation is not carried on for amusement. When the estimates for 1921-22 were submitted last spring, it seemed that, reparations apart, equilibrium could have been maintained, and with that the increase of the floating debt, expressed in inflation, might have ceased; but there is no such possibility to-day, because the mark exchange collapse has created a new values-level which is altogether to the disadvantage of the Government. If a moratorium is necessary, it should have been granted simultaneously with the acceptance of the May Reparations Ultimatum—in other words, the ultimatum should not have been presented. Further inflation for mere sake of paying reparations instalments is not likely, because it seems that Germany will default rather than attempt the wild enterprise of raising even one instalment by selling paper marks. But further inflation for home deficit covering is inevitable. It is impossible to impose and collect new taxes at the rapid pace set by the growth of deficits. A command to Germany to cease printing paper money resembles the command to pay gold; both commands are reasonable only if they are accompanied by a practicable exposition of the manner of their fulfilment. The last two Reichsbank reports show, for reasons only indirectly connected with reparations, but directly connected with the new price-level, very large increases of the currency in circulation; and the last Finance Ministry report on Debt shows that in the first ten days of November the floating debt increased by 4,090,200,000 marks. That is bound to continue unless the mark exchange is greatly improved by returning confidence, so bringing a fall in prices and in general expenditure.

The report of the Federation of British Industries has made a great stir, being commented on as a British plan to exploit and enslave Germany. Some of the federation's proposals deserve comment in detail, which will be given next week. The Government has again raised railway fares, this time by an average of 80 per cent., making them between 8½ and 9½ times those which prevailed at date of the armistice. The currency depreciation continues to disturb business generally, while fostering industry. Manufacturers are demanding payment in dollars from home buyers. This system has been officially condemned; it would have further bad results for the mark

exchange. In the Reichstag the proposal has been made to put taxes on a gold-mark basis; but the Ministry of Finance has declared this to be impracticable. The Federal Supreme Court has decided that Germany is not obliged to redeem the "Kries Notes" (so called from the name of the signatory), issued in Poland by Loan Bureaux, established by Germany during the occupation. About 900 millions of these are in circulation. The Court held that Germany guaranteed the notes to the Loan Bureaux, but not to the individual holders; and the Loan Bureaux, now Polish, are redeeming them in Polish marks. Large numbers of the notes are held by Germans; and there has been heavy speculation based on an earlier contrary decision by a lower Court. After the final decision the quotation of the notes fell from 46 to 10. The Reichsbank report for November 23rd shows a decline, usual in the third week of the month, in the pressure for credit. Private discounts fell by 214,669,000 marks to 1,109,325,000 marks, Treasury bills by 3,173,509,000 marks to 100,532,191,000 marks, State deposits by 2,877,260,000 marks to 3,891,014,000 marks, and private deposits by 3,051,182,000 marks to 11,549,663,000 marks; but note circulation increased by 1,277,772,000 marks to 96,463,895,000 marks. Kassenschein circulation was 7,077,200,000 marks, showing a decline of 19,800,000 marks.

The Reichswirtschafts Ministry issues a warning of an impending collapse of the industrial boom. Predicting a return of stagnation and unemployment, the Ministry has advised local authorities to keep back their orders for this rainy day. The prediction is based on the fact that the similar "catastrophe boom" of winter 1919-20 ended in the stagnation and unemployment of summer 1920. It practically amounts to a declaration that the mark exchange is about to recover; as such a recovery in the spring of 1920 was the sole cause of the manufacturing slump. The mark cannot possibly have stabilised itself permanently at the present level, and if there is a further fall the industrial boom will certainly continue. Whether the Government has any certain grounds for its—implied—forecast of a mark recovery is not stated. Commercial journals, discussing the connection between had money and good trade, print biting contrasts of conditions in Germany, where unemployment is practically unknown, and those in Ally countries—the *Essen Bergwerks Zeitung* affirms that "the emaciated paper mark is avenging itself on the fat pound and the absurdly fat dollar." So far there is no sign of the predicted stagnation; the shortage of iron, steel, and finished goods is more marked than ever, and the only factor that prevents industrial activity going even further is the growing scarcity of fuel. The pig-iron supply is insufficient, but numerous blown-out blast furnaces, for which ore, labour, and orders are available, cannot be fired owing to lack of coke, and many industries, notably the Hagen district small iron branch, are using, and are able to afford, expensive English coal, which ought to have been used in English factories. This contrast is all the more marked because the very best Ruby coal now costs only about 400 marks, or 7s a metric ton; but the fact that the German manufacturer has to pay 1,100 marks for every £'s worth of English coal counts to him as nothing, owing to his abundance of orders and his ability to charge any price for his goods. That English industrial coal can be used profitably in Westphalia and not in England is a good illustration of the Essen doctrine that "the emaciated paper mark is avenging itself on the fat pound."

The Bourse is unsettled. The net movement last week was upward. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* index for the 24th shows 41,996, against 38,413 on the 17th. The home loan group again rose from 908 to 925, which means a rise of nearly 100 points since July 17th (then 826). This is partly due to foreign buying, but also Germans who sell out of stocks through fear of a mark exchange recovery, put the released money into loans and bonds in the knowledge that such recovery means a restoration of the gold value of fixed-interest securities. The buying so caused in turn sends up the nominal quotations of the bonds. Municipal bonds, which foreigners, in particular Americans, buy whenever mark recoveries are expected, have of late been extremely firm. Prices of leading 4 per cent. municipals have moved as follows:—

	Sept. 12.	Nov. 24.
Berlin	89	96.50
Cologne	92.75	102
Dresden	79.50	93
Frankfurt/Main	95	106
Hamburg 3½ Staatsrente	67	78

Quotations for yesterday of Federal loans were:—War Loan, 77.50; Four per Cent., 77.75; Three and a-half per Cent., 70; Three per Cent., 93.50; Savings and Premium, 84. Of late Loans have become "exchange securities" in that they are subject to sharp fluctuations, Three per Cent., though still 50 per cent. higher than at beginning of the year, having dropped about 16 points in the last fortnight. The Bourse yesterday was weak, on expectation of good news as regards Reparations. Professional speculators are said to be still realising. The profits—in paper marks—of industrial companies continue to be large. The report for 1920-21 of the General Electricity Company shows gross profits of 247,913,000 marks, against 80,205,000 marks in the preceding year; Mannesmann, 221,717,000 marks, against 104,228,356 marks; Harpener (net), 20,157,000 marks, against 11,690,548 marks; Rhenish-Westphalian Electricity, 100,674,824 marks, against 50,292,967 marks. The last-mentioned concern's prosperity is being advertised, rightly or wrongly, as proof of the superiority of private over municipal management; the company is a giant "mixed concern," founded by Herr Stinnes, in collaboration with numerous Westphalian cities, and though it covers a greater area, it is similar in character to ordinary municipal electrical works. But whereas purely municipal concerns are at present mostly showing large deficits, private management on the Stinnes system shows a great surplus. The foreign trade report for August and September shows:—

	Imports, in Million Marks.		Exports, in Million Marks.	
	Aug.	Sept.	Aug.	Sept.
Food	7,213	7,132	426	546
Minerals, mineral oils, &c.	474	1,419	414	524
Fats and oils	9	23	16	17
Chemicals and dyes	123	144	649	885
Textiles, &c.	1,003	1,163	1,064	1,297
Leather, &c.	82	107	318	379
Rubber goods	5	5	55	65
Pleated wares	5	10	12	10
Brushes, &c.	0.05	0.04	13	15
Carved wood	11	17	162	171
Paper and cardboard	18	11	275	263
Books and pictures	5	5	33	36
Stone wares	2	10	43	42
Earthenware	6	11	147	162
Glass	13	12	160	168
Precious metals and wares	35	24	47	69
Base metals and wares	390	527	1,522	1,568
Machines, vehicles	13	37	1,071	1,002
Firearms, clocks, toys, &c.	7	9	247	266
Miscellaneous	2	..	9	15
Total	9,418	10,668	6,684	7,519

Coal prices have been raised by between 40 and 50 per cent., best Ruhr from 253.90 per metric ton to 405 marks. The coal output in October showed an increase. The Pig-Iron Syndicate and the "Eisenwirtschaftsbund" will meet this week to decide on prices, and it is probable that rates for pig-iron, steel and rolling mill products will be again raised.

THE FINANCIAL SITUATION IN GREECE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ATHENS, November 20.

The Greek debt has continued to increase as a result of the prolongation of the war. It now amounts to 5,400 million drachmæ in round figures. The increase since September, 1912—the last month of peace in the Balkans—is shown in the following table:—

	(In Millions of Drachmæ.)	September 30, 1912.	November, 1921.
Funded debt—			
Loans in gold		840.1	1,227
Internal loans in drachmæ		105.4	578
Advances of the Allies		..	1,070
Floating debt in drachmæ		95.4	2,525
Total		1,040.9	5,400

Out of the amount of 1,070 dr millions, representing the advances of the Allies to the Greek Government during the European War, there have been actually paid to the Government only 342,000,000 dr; consequently, the balance of 728,000,000 dr represents a future external liability of the kingdom. There is, on the other hand, the cost of war material furnished to the Greek Government by the Allies during the war. It is yet not known what will this item amount to. Assuming, however, that it will be, roughly, equal to the non-utilised part of the allied credits, and admitting, further, that this item will not be finally cancelled, we can safely take the sum of 1,070 million drachmæ as approximately representing the actual foreign debt of Greece. Some outstanding items should also be mentioned, arising chiefly out of recent purchases for the needs of the army, which would raise the debt to between 5,500 and 5,700 million drachmæ. The service of the whole debt for the year 1921 will require a sum of 258 million drachmæ. As regards the expenditure, other than for service of the debt, and the revenue of the State for the year, no figures are available since, owing to the war, the House is closed, and no budget has been deposited. In the budget for the financial year 1920-1921, revenue, ordinary and extraordinary together, was estimated at 170,000,000 dr, and expenditure, ordinary and extraordinary alike, at 2,150,000,000 dr, leaving thus a deficit of 980 million drachmæ to be covered by loans. Considering the gradual increase of the yield of the taxes for many years past, and the raising of the income-tax in 1920, the ordinary revenue of the current year may be expected to increase. As regards the revenues assigned for the service of the debt—old and new—which are controlled by the International Financial Commission, the results of the first eight months of the year are satisfactory, showing an increase over those for the corresponding period of last year of 6,735,000 dr. Moreover, receipts from Custom duties are expected to increase considerably, pursuant to the new measure regarding the assessment and collection of Customs. In fact, gross receipts for September and October of the port of Piræus show an increase over those for the same months of 1920 as follows:—

	1920.	1921.	Increase.
September (receipts in gold taken at par)	Dr. 6,431,419	Dr. 11,216,578	Dr. 4,785,159
October " " "	6,754,337	10,927,688	4,173,351

The receipts of the remaining Custom houses must show similar increases. Income-tax, on the other hand, should regularly show an increase in yield during the current year. It is not known, however, how far the tax commissioners have pushed their efforts towards that effect, and if the state of war has not caused a relaxation in the pursuit on their part of the maximum yield of the tax. The yield of indirect taxes—other than Custom duties—which constitute the most important item of taxation, must have increased again during this period, the consuming capacity of the community having also increased.

During the last two years the Treasury has been meeting its needs with the ordinary revenue, some new taxes or increases of old taxes, with the proceeds of an internal lottery loan issued in the first half-year of 1920, and (in the impossibility of contracting an external loan, owing to the international situation) by short-term internal borrowings, chiefly from the National Bank of Greece. This, of course, cannot go on indefinitely, and the Minister of Finance will soon have to face the problem of taking more radical measures to raise the revenue. In this connection, it should be observed that taxation has been little resorted to here since 1914 for the purpose of creating the necessary revenue to meet the increasing needs of the Treasury for the civil service and the carrying out of the war. War profits and property have been slightly and inadequately taxed; luxuries have been insufficiently taxed or not at all; income-tax is not strictly enforced, and the rates are comparatively low, the highest being 10 per cent. on income from buildings, real estate, and investments, while the sur-tax, which is imposed on the total income from all sources, is charged on yearly incomes of 14,000 dr and upwards, beginning at the rate of 5 per

THE BRITISH LINEN BANK.

Incorporated by Royal Charter, 1746.

Capital (Paid Up) - - £1,250,000
Reserve Funds - - £1,350,000

Head Office: EDINBURGH.

R. G. THOMAS, General Manager. K. J. MORTON, Secretary.
150 BRANCHES THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND.

London Office: 38, Threadneedle St., E.C.2.
JAMES FORREST, Manager. J. E. FANSHAW, Manager.

Every Description of Home and Foreign Banking Business transacted.

cent., and increasing gradually and slowly up to 25 per cent. only on incomes of 614,000 dr and upwards. Moreover, no consumption or sales or turnover tax has been imposed, entertainments generally being slightly taxed, if at all. Commercial profits are taxed at the rate of 8 per cent., and wages at 1 per cent. only. Yet traders of every kind and magnitude, wholesale and retail alike, have been piling up fortunes for many years, and manual workers collecting weekly wages by far superior to what the highest officials and men of letters earn. No signs of crisis or unemployment having as yet appeared, and the tax collector not importuning them, both these two classes are spending money lavishly, and becoming, at the same time, more and more exacting to the community.

It appears from what precedes, that the financial situation in Greece, difficult though it is, is far from being alarming, as some French papers have recently been willing to present it. The Government has, of course, many problems to solve and many difficulties to overcome, which are the inheritance of the war, still continued in the Near East not by the fault of Greece. But in this Greece is not an exception. Greece, despite the cash difficulties which the continuation of the state of war creates for her, is still much better off financially than many other States enjoying the "blessings" of peace since the armistice. Indeed, a few figures suffice to give an idea of the comparatively healthy situation of Greek finances:—

PUBLIC DEBT PER HEAD OF POPULATION.*

Greece	Dr. 770	Belgium	Francs 4,000
Great Britain	Francs 4,200	Italy	Lire 2,800
France	Francs 7,000		

TAXATION (INDIRECT AND DIRECT) PER HEAD OF POPULATION.

	£ s d		£ s d
Greece	3 6 2	France	20 6 5
Belgium	9 19 2	Great Britain	22 0 0
Italy	11 8 8		

CIRCULATION PER HEAD OF POPULATION.*

	£ s d		£ s d
U.S. of America	8 0 0	France	36 0 0
Great Britain	10 0 0	Germany	100 0 0
Greece	13 12 0	Roumania	38 0 0

* November, 1921, for Greece and latest available returns for the other States.

† Total circulation Dr. 2,050,820,776.

Thus, a quick return to peaceful conditions in the Near East will find Greece less burdened than the majority of the ex-belligerent European countries, with less inflated currency, and with the taxable capacity of its people nearly full. Moreover, during the last ten years, in spite of a permanent state of war and political troubles, the country has displayed economic strength and progress.

ITALY.—FOREIGN TRADE STATISTICS—STATE RAILWAYS DEFICIT.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ROME, November 26.

OUR import and export statistics have been always belated, owing to the method employed in calculating values of goods imported (c.i.f.) and exported (f.o.b.). In 1920, for instance, the methods of compilation varied three times; in the first months of the year the values used were those for 1918; in the intermediate months those for 1919; and in the last month those for 1920. The variation was due to the fact that values were not those declared by exporters and importers, but average values

fixed by a departmental committee. As the committee meet only once every year, and sometimes very late in the year for the sake of fixing values for the previous year, it happened that figures changed twice or three times in the year, to the amazement of practical men and students in search of exact evidence on the balance of international trade and of reasons for falling or rising foreign exchanges. How great variations may be, may be seen from the following table:—

	(In Millions of Lire.)		
	1919.	1920.	1920.
	On the basis of the values for 1919.	On the basis of the values for 1919.	On the basis of the values for 1920.
Imports.....	16,623	15,862	26,853
Exports.....	6,066	7,804	11,757
Excess of imports over export	10,557	8,058	15,096

The imports have increased by 10,230 millions, although the quantities are lower. The exports have increased by 5,691, in millions lire, of which 3,953 millions are due to prices, and 1,738 to quantities. Last year was perhaps the worst in the annals of our international trade; wheat cost us 2,542 millions lire more than in the preceding year; coal, 1,668 million more; cotton, 1,162 million; wool, 524. On the export side we got 841 millions more from hemp, but the balance was sadly against us.

While in the first six months of 1921 the old method of official belated values was continued, July has seen a revolution in our trade statistics. Values will be from July 1, 1921, calculated on the basis of declaration made by importers and exporters. A committee will check those values at the end of the year; but values will now be "effective" values. The effect of the change on the statistics was instantaneous (in millions of lire):—

	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports over Exports.
January, 1921.....	1,939.0	772.9	1,166.7
February ".....	2,196.7	870.4	1,326.3
March ".....	2,498.3	871.4	1,626.9
April ".....	2,234.1	901.7	1,332.4
May ".....	1,987.9	696.5	1,291.4
June ".....	2,598.4	1,168.9	1,429.5
July ".....	556.4	441.1	115.3
August ".....	985.9	548.4	437.5
	14,996.9	6,271.2	8,725.7
Jan. to Aug., 1920....	17,870	7,575.8	10,294.8

From the table it appears that the official method of calculating values unduly increased the excess of imports against exports. For the first six months of the year, when values were calculated on the 1920 basis, a tremendous deficit had crept into our statistics, to the dismay of economists.

The deficit of the State Railways in 1920-1921 was 1,045.5 millions lire, which is the difference between 3,278 millions revenue and 4,323.5 expenditure. In the current year the deficit is decreasing: in July and August expenditure was 576, against 473.8 millions lire revenue. If things continue at the same pace, the year will close with a deficit of about 600 million lire. An ominous sign is on the revenue side, the real traffic receipts being only at the rate of 2,500 millions lire yearly, against 2,700 last year. The economic crisis, notwithstanding the rise in transport prices, is thus producing its evil effects on the railway budget.

SWITZERLAND.—THE NESTLE COMPANY.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, November 28.

THE attention of the Swiss stock markets has been concentrated during the week on the shares of the Nestlé concern. In June, when the last annual report was published, the balance-sheet did not meet with general approval. At a time when the prices of tinned milk products, and especially sugar, had a downward tendency, namely, in December last, the company had stocks of goods worth practically the share capital, whereas in 1917, when there was a quickly rising tendency in prices, the stocks were only worth 70 per cent. of the share capital. During the period the price of wheat had doubled. Everybody knew that the Nestlé had become very powerful during the war as municipalities have the world market in condensed

milk. The combine with leading American and Australian condensed milk companies, factories in England, her colonies, Scandinavia, and so on, were regarded as signifying the complete control of the international market in condensed milk. Therefore, in spite of the rather unfavourable figures of the last balance-sheet, the shares were, at the time of the shareholders' meeting, quoted at 600 Swiss francs, that is to say, 50 per cent. above par. The issue of two million pounds English preference shares was criticised in this country, but it was not the increase in capital which was the object of criticism, but merely the neglect of the Swiss market. The critics pointed out that Nestlé would have been in a position to find the money in Switzerland, and that it was not necessary for it to apply for it abroad. At the shareholders' meeting the chairman declared that the stocks at the end of December were already sold at favourable prices, but he did not mention whether the sales were made on credit terms or not. A few weeks ago the Nestlé shares began to drop, and they are now quoted at 37 per cent. below par. There are many reasons for this drop. No doubt the standstill of nearly all Swiss factories influences most shareholders. Another factor of not less importance is that in countries with good currency the consumption of condensed milk is on the decrease. The difficulties of getting oilcake and other condensed food for cattle have been overcome with the end of the shipping scarcity, and Switzerland, for example, is now full of cheese ready for export, but finding no buyers abroad. This is evidence that the manufacture of cheese and butter is decreasing, so that offers of fresh milk to industrial centres are everywhere increasing. There is, of course, still a shortage of fresh milk in the countries of bad currencies, where agriculture is boycotting the towns. But the consumers of Russia cannot offer to buy Nestlé's condensed milk. Under such conditions, the economic value of the carefully constructed international monopoly of the Nestlé Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Company becomes, to a certain extent, a "non-valeur." The economic value of a monopoly is nothing should the consumer find ways and means to do without the commodity in question. Under such conditions one may suppose that the dealers in all countries who purchased, according to the declaration of the chairman at the shareholders' meeting, the enormous stocks Nestlé's held at the end of 1920 are possibly not in a position to sell them, so that the assets of Nestlé with their customers in all countries must quickly depreciate. It must be underlined that the Swiss chocolate company of Peter Cailler, Kohler, the sales organisation of which, especially in England, is identical with that of Nestlé, is not hit by these events. The Swiss chocolate industry, 50 per cent. of the production of which is controlled by the above-mentioned concern, rather suffered from the war, and did not profit by the shortage of commodities ruling in the years 1917-18-19. Therefore their sales have not such scope for falling.

NORWAY.—TRADE, FINANCE, AND EXCHANGE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, November 16.

THE exceptional drought is continuing, and helps to augment the host of unemployed workpeople, now estimated at 100,000. There seems, however, to be a somewhat better tone in some branches of trade. Pulp and paper mills find that they do rather more business, which is also the case with the saw-mills.

A Government loan was arranged last fall for 200 million kroner, with a number of banks, &c. Part of this loan was raised to cover deficits from State transactions due to the war, and was to be repaid in eight years—was subscribed, and 20 millions were offered for public subscription. The lists were open only for a few days, but a much larger amount, no doubt, would have been taken up. The exchange problem is still troubling the minds of the trading community. After having fallen very substantially last week, the krone this week has again appreciated, and it has in both movements been followed by dollars, Swedish and Danish kroner. Marks in this country, as in other countries,

have come down so much that for some days it looked as if the value would be nil. Norwegian, Swedish, and Danish chiefs of National Banks have had a conference in Stockholm to deal with various subjects—notably the stabilisation of exchanges. They have issued a joint communiqué, in which, among other things, they repudiate official meddling with the exchanges, as matters now stand, and fall back upon the usual panacea—increased production and thrift.

SWEDEN.—BANKING LOSSES—RENTS—TRADE AGREEMENT WITH RUSSIA—TIMBER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, November 26.

THE financial world has been startled by some serious frauds committed by banking officials, one of which has inflicted a loss of over 2½ millions kroner to the Jämtlands Folkbank, of Östersund. To make the matter worse this bank has suffered a loss during the past year of 3.3 million kr., making a total loss of 5.8 million kr. The trading losses have been caused through the depression in the timber trade, in which the bank has been interested. The Jämtlands Folkbank is a fairly small bank, and its total funds, including the calculated year's profit and reserves, amount to in all 9.5 million kr. It is estimated that all reserves have gone, whereas the capital is intact.

Ever since the last years of the war there has been in operation in this country a law prohibiting unreasonable increases in rents. The question whether this law, which runs up to October 1, 1923, should still remain is now being discussed, and it is claimed that this law smothered private initiative in house-building. The housing question in Sweden is still unsatisfactory although better than it was, but rents are still high and flats scarce. For the business community an improvement has set in, inasmuch as office accommodation is now easier to obtain at lower rents, the legislation referring only to private flats.

Sweden is at present negotiating with the Soviet for a new trade agreement, and although nothing official has so far transpired regarding the result of these negotiations it has leaked out that the Soviet has suggested the combination of a new treaty with extended credit. In view of the previous experiences which Swedish business men have had in their dealings with Bolshevik Russia it is easy to understand that such a proposal has by no means been favourably received, and to judge from that section of the Press which serves as organ of the Government there is no support of a trade agreement as proposed by Litvinov.

A large transaction is reported in the timber trade covering 5 million kr worth of timber, which is said to have been bought by a consortium of Swedish saw-mills from Finnish exporters. Up to the time of writing it is not quite clear whether this deal is to be regarded more as a credit transaction connected with some scheme for a closer co-operation between Swedish and Finnish exporters next season. During the past year the co-operation has not been strong enough, with the result that the Swedes and Finns have competed with each other to the detriment of both parties.

Letters to the Editor.

REPARATION PROBLEMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your article on Reparation Problems is timely. Reparation has probably led to more economic thinking than ever before.

The methods of payment being tried, and most of those suggested, either lead nowhere or seem to promise such dislocation of the receivers' businesses that payment is not worth taking. From this conclusion the mind naturally recoils. It seems so natural in taking a payment or a gift from a man (or a nation) that you are to get something, that to be told it is only a Pandora's box is paralysing. Even hope seems to have escaped from it. Might it be that Pandora's box itself, like other ancient

allegories (perhaps like that of the Flood), told a story under this guise that could not be told in plain language? Had the ancients, in public or in private life, tried this same reparation business in some form or other, and had it been found that the recoil did more harm to the receiver than to the giver? Was it found, in fact, that magnanimity and generosity and forgiveness leading to friendship and regard are more to be desired and of more real practical value than any number of fines or exactions or reparations?

The direct payments by Germany, which can only be made in the long run in the products of their industry, are now generally regarded as two edged. While they impoverish Germany, they at the same time debilitate and impoverish us by demoralising our industries and by putting our people out of employment. Will any other means of reparation have any other effect? The most likely would seem to be the appropriation of German investments abroad, and especially in those countries which export raw material, especially such as cotton, jute, rice, coffee, &c., which do not compete with our own home products, such as wheat or wool. This might lead—especially if such products could be stipulated for—to some advantage to the trades that use these, and thereby to the country. In so far as it led to increased imports at cheaper prices of such articles as wheat or wool—home products—while this would be of advantage to the general population, it would proportionately hurt the agricultural industries. In any case, it could only be a partial payment of the debt, but it might be deemed sufficient.

It has perhaps not been very generally or sufficiently remarked that improvements of trade, of wages, and of profits in this country have been far more dependent on developments in foreign countries than on either labour organisations or capital organisations in this country. As foreign countries developed they demanded our produce, and they demanded labour to help them to carry on their own development. As these left this country more demand for goods increased the price of these and gave more employment to labour, while at the same time the emigration of labour left less competition among the labourers themselves and helped them to get higher remuneration. If we bear this in mind, we shall see that our future prosperity will depend on our ability to help foreign countries, both financially and with man power. If these foreign producing countries cannot sell their produce in their old Continental markets, we, too, shall suffer in their suffering. Generosity, magnanimity, good will, therefore, remain as the great civilisers and peacemakers. —Your willing servant, FRANCIS WEBSTER.

Arbroath, November 29th, 1921.

REPARATIONS, ALLIED DEBTS AND EXCHANGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—I am grateful to Mr Mark B. F. Major and Mr Craies for their efforts to guide me to economic truth. My difficulty is that one would lead me to the right whilst the other draws me to the left. Indeed, they differ so much, that I was hopeful your issue of November 26th might contain their letters of mutual criticism. In my contribution of November 7th the question I put was, "The whole of a country's foreign trade financed through exchange, and, if not, what other methods are used?" I gave an illustration intended to suggest another method, which, if correct, would prove that the whole of a country's foreign trade is not financed through exchange, and I then proceeded to show the manner, as I conceived it, in which a reparation would be effected, also without touching exchange. On November 11th Mr O. R. Hobson, financial editor of the *Manchester Guardian*, delivered an address to the members of the Manchester and District Bankers' Institute, in the course of which he said, "A considerably smaller portion of the world's trade was now financed by bill of exchange. A larger proportion probably was financed by *pay and After* without the drawing of bills, while *American and Co., Ltd.* taken a good deal of our accepting business."

If such a sudden approach to the problem occurred as Mr Major suggests, then, 1921. (London) Leno would, of course, benefit like all Parr's Bank, Limited. exchange profit would be!

other person. If Mr Major cannot follow my argument he may superimpose his own hypothesis, but it does not follow that his conclusion demolishes my case. I never allowed Schneider and Co. a dollar draft, so his conclusion on that point does not apply. Their dollar credit would be transferred to the United States Treasury by instructions cabled, or mailed, or both. On March 4th last the parities of the dollar and mark to our paper pound were 3.90 and 2.40 respectively; to-day they are 3.99 and 1.125. Our pound has, therefore, appreciated 10 cents and 885 marks, in spite of the fact that we have a heavy liability to the American Government. Since also Germany has a heavy liability for reparations to the victorious Powers, I asked why, if this be the reason for the severe depreciation of the mark, a similar effect has not been produced on our pound. Quite a simple question. I wonder if Mr Major has realised that in his penultimate paragraph he has granted me the whole of my case. The dollar of Schneider and Co. was created by a German national. If the American Government accepted Mr Major's view they would decline to receive these devastating indemnities from us. I only wish they would.

Now, Mr Craies disagrees with Mr Major on every point except one. They are both under the popular impression that the exchanges govern trade. I think that trade governs the exchanges—a very different thing. If I saw a long goods train I do not think I should exclaim, "What a number of trucks it takes to push that engine." He also thinks we are still a creditor country. I am not so sure, but I think the problem of the investment of the indemnities and Allied debts due to us might be postponed until we have paid off our debts to the American Government and to our stock and bond holders. Until we have wiped off the whole of our National Debt we shall have nothing to invest.

After careful study of both letters and some reflection, my conclusion is that the whole of a country's foreign trade is not financed through exchange, but that some proportion goes by way of direct and indirect credits, and, moreover (this is the object of my initiating this correspondence), that the export of commodities in satisfaction of reparations or inter-Allied indebtedness does not touch the exchange market at all. Exchange implies the transposition of two or more substances; in this case, exported and imported commodities. The payment of an indemnity or reparation is an export solely. There is in the case of Germany no external demand for marks on account of this transaction, and there is consequently no exchange. A penknife is not the same thing as a pair of scissors. Will any statesman, professor, financial magnate, or editor honour me by a contradiction?—Yours, &c.,

ALFRED E. LEAF.

Manchester, November 26th, 1921.

EXCHANGE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In a letter published last week, Mr Mark B. F. Major outlines a scheme for getting round the violent fluctuations in the exchanges. His contention appears to be that, whilst no sane man would exchange goods for Austrian paper, he could, however, safeguard himself by exchanging goods for goods. Mr Major then suggests that reimbursement of the original outlay on the export goods should be obtained by bringing home the "barter goods," exchanging them here for English money, and thus closing the deal.

This scheme would be practicable if either of two conditions existed.

The first of these conditions is that there should be no lapse of time, and the second is that English money should itself not fluctuate violently. If by some magic form of transport export goods which had been purchased in the morning for sterling could be carried to Vienna, and bartered there for company goods by noon, and the "barter" goods of capital, brought back here and sold for sterling in the afternoon, the probability is that our merchant would suffer a loss of 10 per cent. of the very much risk. But, unfortunately, the market had moved so quickly, and it is now too late to be extricated from the operation. It is as if a municipal had the water supply cut off for the purchase price of

the original consignment, will actually have a lower purchasing power, owing to the fluctuations in sterling itself. How, then, can one avoid the gamble? The magic transport of goods is out of the question; therefore, the first condition cannot be brought to pass. It remains, therefore, that we should concentrate on the second condition—namely, the return to a sound currency in this country.

By Mr Major's scheme business is possible between two countries, one of which has a sound currency and the other an unsound one, but between two countries which both have unsound currencies no safe business at all is possible.—I am, &c.,

20 Bracken gardens, Barnes, S.W. 13,
November 19th, 1921.

W. J. COOK.

CHINA AT THE CONFERENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—With reference to your article of last week on "China at the Conference," may I point out that, as so much is now being said about the decadence of China and about the unrest and its effect on trade, the following figures, which are official, may be of interest:—

	Tls.
1914—Imports	557,109,048
—Exports	345,280,874
1920—Imports	762,250,230
—Exports	541,631,300

I wish our returns were as good.

For the information of your readers I might mention that the tael is now 4s; it was 3s before the war.

There is one other little correction I would like to make. It is true that the Customs tariff was in 1918 increased to an average of 5 per cent. *ad valorem* on existing values, but a period of three years was fixed before this could come into operation, and it is not in operation now. Under the circumstances it is perhaps not surprising that the Chinese are still rather anxious, since the money at their disposal to carry on the Administration is quite inadequate.

I would also like to endorse very warmly your views with regard to the hostility of the Chinese, as a whole, to any extension of foreign control, and if the consortium is to be of any value it must be more judiciously handled than it is now.—Yours faithfully,

CHARLES WATNEY,

London Correspondent to the *North China Herald*.
December 1st, 1921.

BENSON AND HEDGES (CANADA), LIMITED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—In your note on the Benson and Hedges (Canada), Limited, new issue, in the *Economist* of November 19th, you say, "The more important facts about the guarantor company—notably its assets—are significant details lacking from the prospectus."

The prospectus states that the guarantor company holds almost all the preference and ordinary share capital of Benson and Hedges, New York, to a nominal value of \$295,100, and that these shares are all specifically pledged in the trust deed in favour of the debenture holders.

It also states that the net profits of the guarantor company, excluding its dividends from the Canadian company, have in the last four years varied between £16,602 and £20,931. These are surely "the more important facts about the guarantor," and I do not think that a valuation of the stocks and other assets owned by the guarantor company would add much to the information.

The main facts are that the net surplus assets of the Canadian company, together with the nominal value of the shares in the New York company, all specifically pledged, cover the issue twice over, apart from other assets of the guarantor company, and the profits of the issuing and guaranteeing companies averaged for the past four years a sum sufficient to cover both the interest and the redemption (1924-36) twice over. The sales of the Canadian company alone for the year 1920 amounted to a value of practically £400,000, or twice the amount of the present debenture issue, and altogether it seems to me that the prospectus sets out all that is sufficient to make

clear that, subject to ordinary trade risks, the issue is a very fair one of its class.—I am, &c.,

AN UNDERWRITER OF THE ISSUE.

[We gladly print our correspondent's letter, but see no reason for modifying our criticisms on the prospectus.—Ed. *Economist*.]

COAL PROFITS AND WAGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your correspondent "B" asks "whether any depreciations of capital costs are charged to costs other than wages" in the new coal agreement. Yes. The agreement is extraordinarily detailed. It does not seem that any conceivable point has been overlooked. Briefly, the principles laid down by the Inland Revenue authorities are accepted for calculating costs of repairs and renewals, depreciation, &c. Expenditure in exploring ground, sinking shafts, or otherwise preparing for mining, is chargeable to capital account, but the cost of following coal through a fault in a seam already opened out is chargeable to revenue.—Respectfully yours,

THE WRITER OF THE ARTICLE.

Sheffield, November 27th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"The Sudan in Evolution." By Percy F. Martin, F.R.C.S. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 1921. Price 42s.

The author is admirably qualified by his previous travels in other developing countries for his self-imposed but evidently congenial task of writing this "study of the economic, financial, and administrative conditions of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan," and it may be stated at once that, on the whole, he has done his work well. There is a mass of detail on all the varied aspects that go to make up the life of a people. At a time when the relations of Great Britain to her subject races are being called in question on every hand, it is well to possess this balance-sheet of results achieved in the Sudan, where our record is of the best. The dominant notes of British rule there are justice and common sense—the Cromer tradition of benevolent autocracy, continued in the best spirit, to which Mr Martin bears enthusiastic but not indiscriminate witness. And yet, with all its merits, the book is unfortunately marred by many blemishes. Thus on page 306 it is stated that definite plans (for the irrigation of the country to the south of Khartoum) were put forward and referred by the Sudan Government to the Public Works Ministry in Cairo, whereas on page 325 the credit for the project is given to the Egyptian authorities. The *Bahr-el Ghazal* (page 8) does not "come out of the Abyssinian hills," and does not "bring down millions upon millions of tons of valuable fertilising earth." The account of the climate, which is the key to Sudan economics of to-day, leaves much to be desired, and consequently on pages 118 and 119 the importance of rainfall for Sudanese agriculture is misunderstood. The financial relationship between Egypt and the Sudan in respect of the payment for the Egyptian Army is incorrectly summarised, and, indeed, is inconsistent with the table given on page 110; £172,000 is said to have appeared on both sides of the Budget as representing a contribution from Egypt to the Sudan receipts, and also a repayment to Egypt for the maintenance of her army in the Sudan. If this sum is deducted from both sides of the Budget, as suggested, the Sudan remains still the debtor of Egypt for the gratuitous services of the Egyptian Army there. But, in fact, this charge of a portion of the cost of the Egyptian Army to the Sudan Budget is the merest camouflage. The bulk of the Egyptian forces, which in 1912, for example, cost Egypt £950,000, is employed in the Sudan, and yet the Sudan contributed in that year only £172,000, or 18 per cent. of the whole. Again, the book contains much extraneous matter. Nearly eight pages (318 to 325), for example, treating of drainage in the Egyptian Delta, have no connection whatever with the Sudan, while the four pages of description of Anglo-Indian arrogance with

which the nineteenth chapter opens, though they add much to the raciness of the narrative, add nothing to its relevance. Perhaps in a second edition Mr Percy Martin will eliminate the blemishes. With all its faults, the book is one which deserved to be written and deserves to be read. The book will form an indispensable *vade-mecum* for the visitor to the Sudan, be he temporary tourist or more permanent administrator. It must be read, also, by all who would do business in this vast land, "half the size of undivided Russia and almost as big as Argentina." It contains a preface by Sir Reginald Wingate, than whom no man has done more for the Sudan. There is a fair index and an excellent map by the Geographical Section of the General Staff.

"The Principles of the Law of Sale of Goods." By Henry Aitken, K.C. (Edinburgh) E. and S. Livingstone, 1921. 10s 6d net. In Scotland advocates will remind you that their arguments embrace a wider field than do those of their brethren of the English bar. The citation of English cases is more common in Scotland than the reverse process in England. So this book explains both the Scottish and the English law. The Act of 1893, which codified the law of sale of goods, applies to both countries, containing alternative provisions on points where the legal rules of the two countries differ, but an English book on the subject will very often be found to confine itself almost entirely to the English view. Herein the present work has an advantage. It is intended mainly for business men and University students, but it cites authorities, and as an outline may very well serve the practising lawyer. The language is good and fairly simple, though the addition of a glossary of technical terms would possibly have been welcomed by beginners. The volume is the first of a new educational series, which is to include works on art, education, commerce and industry, forestry and agriculture.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Consumers' Co-operative Movement. By Sidney and Beatrice Webb. (London) Longmans, Green, and Co. 18s net.

Theory and Practice of International Commerce. By Archibald J. Wolfe. (New York) International Book Publishing Company.

Obtainable from the American Book Supply Company, Limited, 149 Strand, W.C.2. 25s net.

Retail Prices, 1913, to December, 1919. (Washington) U.S. Department of Labor.

Ottoman Public Debt. Special Report. By Sir Adam Block. (London) Bradbury, Wilkinson, and Co. Limited.

Physical Economics. By L. Southern. (London) The Labour Publishing Company, Limited. 2s 6d.

Under New Management. By Hugh P. Vowles. (London) George Allen and Unwin, Limited. 6s net.

Problèmes Actuels de l'Economie. (Paris) Librairie Armand Colin. 20 fr.

The Round Table. December, 1921. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 5s.

Includes an article, "Currency and Foreign Exchange Problem."

China After the War. By Hsu Shih-Chang, President of the Republic of China. Translated into English. (Peking) Bureau of Economic Information.

Journal of the Institute of Bankers. December, 1921. (London) 34 Clement lane, E.C. 1s 6d.

Contains the inaugural address of the president of the Institute of Bankers, Sir Charles Addis.

Oil Shales. By H. B. Cronshaw. With Map. (London) John Murray. 5s net.

This is a special number of the *Revue de Métaphysique et de Morale*, containing articles by various well-known writers on economic subjects.

Fuel Economy Review. November, 1921. Vol. I., No. 3. (London) Federation of British Industries, 39 St James' street, S.W. 1. 1s.

The Nineteenth Century and After. December, 1921. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 4s.

BANKERS' CIRCULAR.

Review. November, 1921. (London) London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
December 14.	December 15.

The Government's offer of a fresh set of 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds at 99 has had the effect of strengthening the prices in the Consol market, for the first and second series were offered at 97 and 98 respectively, though both of these appeared before the Bank Rate fell to 5 per cent. The Union of South Africa six million pounds loan resulted in the underwriters being left with 83 per cent. of their obligation, but the quotation, after opening at ¾ discount, rose to within a small fraction of the issue price. Distribution of the 5 per cent. War Loan interest, on Thursday, helped to stiffen the market for gilt-edged stocks, and although several new borrowers are known to be contemplating an immediate offer of stocks, it is generally supposed that no very substantial amounts will be forthcoming on this side of the New Year. Most of the recently-issued scrip-stocks have advanced in price during the past few days.

The possibility of a postponement, or modification, of reparation payments from Germany caused a sharp recovery in the value of the mark, and consequently in German Government bonds. Prussians, of course, rallied in sympathy. French bonds are also better, which is held to be a little curious in the circumstances. Chinese issues, after being sold fairly heavily, rallied upon developments at the Washington Conference. Japanese, and other dollar bonds, have been rising. Canadian Pacifics, for instance, have gained about five points during the week, the death of Lord Mount Stephen not affecting the shares. Substantial rises in Salvador bonds occurred on announcement that a meeting of bondholders will be held next week to discuss the situation. Various other Central and South American issues are firmer.

The Home Railway market is far from enthusiastic over the prospects of the dividends to be declared next month. On some of the deferred stocks, it is already agreed that the chances of a dividend are none too bright in respect of 1921. At the same time, the situation holds so many elements of uncertainty that people are afraid to sell, thinking that, should there be any unexpectedly favourable change in the situation, the rises would be extremely rapid. Grand Trunks are again a little better, and Mexican Railway stocks advanced on more encouraging advices which have arrived with regard to the gradual settlement of the country. In this improvement, Mexican Utilities have participated. Argentine Railways are moving narrowly and erratically. The sharp rise in Leopoldinas brought in a few sellers, and the price eased off from the best, although San Paulo managed to hold its improvement firmly.

Rubber is a little better, in spite of the statistical position having nominally worsened. Business in the rubber share market is quiet. Amongst oil shares, the feature of the week has been the meeting of the Royal Dutch Company in Amsterdam on Wednesday, at which powers were sought to allow of dividends being paid in scrip or cash. The chairman gave an interesting account of the company's position, and shares of the group, with Mexican Eagles leading, have been decidedly better on the week. The strength of the insurance market continues. There has also been a little buying of some of the London banking shares. Textiles were not much affected by the drop in profits shown by the Coats' report. Courtaulds have been rather more active than usual, showing an upward tendency. A sharp drop in tobacco shares has been attributed to American selling, but the fall brought in buyers, and there was a prompt recovery. The Shipping market remains under the influence of the recent P. and O. report, which was held to be disappointing. British Gas stocks are good, various of the suburban companies' issues being advanced, but Imperial Continental dwindled a few points after its late substantial advance. The Iron and Steel market is dull, with movements almost negligible; in armaments the tendency is hesitating. The stores group remains steady. Crosbie and Blackwell shares gave way; Peek Frean preference improved a trifle on the proposal to amalgamate the company with Huntley and Palmers. In the brewery section, Allsops went ahead briskly; otherwise the market is without feature. Cable stocks are inclined to be heavy, on account of the falling-off in profits shown by the Eastern companies in the year recently ended. In the wireless group, Marconis dropped for want of interest. Newcastle Electric second debenture rose 7 on the talk of the interest rate being raised 1 per cent.

The Kafir Circus is overshadowed by the labour trouble on the Crown Mines property, and by the way in which the price of gold has drooped in consequence of the American exchange. Chartered are a little better, giving Rhodesians a firmer tone, and De Beers, after flatness on the issue of the report, rallied from the worst. A little interest has revived in tin shares, West Africans—gold and tin alike—being slightly harder. Rio Tintos improved with other Paris favourites, but the mining sections, as a whole, exhibit no real activity.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	318,931,861	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,024,990
5½% 1929 receipts to November 19, 1921	118,749,459
Week to November 26, 1921	3,720,000
Receipts to date	122,469,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED NOVEMBER 26, 1921.

April 1 to November 26, £4,380,000.....	250,000	..	250,000
---	---------	----	---------

To the Public—				
African Canning and Packing Corporation, Lim., 100,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par (Nov. 28) ..	100,000	..	100,000	.. 10,000 .. 90,000
The New Ice and Cold Storage Co., Lim., 50,000 Ord. Shares, £1, at par (Nov. 28) ..	50,000	..	50,000	.. 5,000 .. 45,000
Midland Counties Electric Supply Co., Lim., £400,000 7½% Mort. Deb. Stk. (red. at 102½ by ann. dwgs. 1922-46), issued at 96 % (Nov. 29) ..	400,000	..	384,000	.. 40,000 .. 344,000
Telephone Manufacturing Co. (1920), Lim., £300,000 6½% Cum. Income Bonds (rep. at 102½, 1922-35), issued at 96 % (Nov. 30) ..	300,000	..	283,000	.. 30,000 .. 258,000
Crookes, Roberts, Ritchie, and Co., Lim., £65,000 7½% First Deb. Stk. (tax free up to 6s in £1, issued at par (Dec. 1) ..	65,000	..	65,000	.. 37,500 .. 32,500
Total offered to public.....	..	..	887,000	.. 117,500 .. 769,500
To Shareholders only—				
Colonial Gas, £21,000 8½% Red. Debts. (rep. at par Jan. 1, 1935), issued at par ..	21,000	..	21,000	.. 1,050 .. 19,950
Total offered for subscription to date ..	..	..	21,000	.. 1,050 .. 19,950

in—				
1921.....	£323,809,861	1920.....	£367,549,656	
1920.....	355,818,603	1919.....	1,036,059,951	
1919.....	1,002,887,445	1918.....	1,393,381,441	
1918.....	1,280,359,576	1917.....	1,318,536,010	
1917.....	1,248,055,226	1916.....	585,436,850	
1916.....	540,853,353	1915.....	685,236,323	
1915.....	661,162,326	1914.....	512,522,633	
1914.....	511,164,707	1913.....	196,536,980	

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Repayable at par on May 15, 1930. Interest payable half-yearly on May 15th and November 15th. Price of issue fixed by H.M. Treasury at £99 per cent., payable on application. The Governor and company of the Bank of England are authorised by the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury to receive, until further notice, applications for these bonds. Principal and interest are chargeable on the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom, while interest will be exempt from corporation profits tax. The bonds will be issued in denominations of £50, £100, £200, £500, £1,000 and £5,000, and the interest thereon will be payable half-yearly by coupon. The first dividend will be payable on May 15th, 1922, and will represent interest to that date from the date on which the relative application was lodged and payment made for the bond. Bonds of this issue may be registered free of cost in the books of the Bank of England or of the Bank of Ireland, as (1) "transferable in the Bank transfer books," or (2) "transferable by deed." Allotments may be obtained in registered form or in bonds to bearer at the option of the applicant.

Midland Counties Electric Supply Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £1,000,000, of which £750,000 has been issued. There is also an authorised issue of 5 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock, of which £343,850 is outstanding, in addition to which there are outstanding £200,000 8 per cent. notes issued in 1921, but it is intended to redeem these out of the proceeds of the present issue. This is an offer for sale of £400,000 7½ per cent. mortgage debenture stock at 96 per cent. The stock now offered forms part of a total issue of £500,000 7½ per cent. mortgage debenture stock, which will be repaid on or before December 31, 1946, by the operation of a cumulative sinking fund to be utilised either in redeeming by annual drawings at 102, or purchase in the open market. It is secured by a trust deed "upon the whole of the debenture bond and share capital," and a floating charge upon other assets of certain companies. The parent company was formed in 1912, and its revenue is derived from ownership of share and loan capital in certain electric power companies operating in Leicestershire, Warwickshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire, &c. These controlled companies have expended capital to an extent of £1,571,490, of which £815,434 has been spent by those companies whose loan and share capital, amounting to this sum, is now pledged as security for this debenture stock. This share and loan capital is divided into £187,500 of debentures and £627,934 of shares. If the market value of these securities can be safely assumed as the face value the issue is fairly well secured. Without this information, however, the

value of the security is somewhat elusive. These pledging companies covenant not to create any further charges without the consent of the trustees. Further, the trust deed provides that aggregate trading and other liabilities shall not exceed the total sum of £50,000, "apart, of course, from liabilities which may be incurred by them from time to time to this company." The agreement not to create ordinary trading liabilities beyond a total of £50,000 is an interesting sign of the trend of modern company finance, but the fact that they can incur liabilities to the parent company for an unknown amount somewhat modifies the provision. Profits are given from 1915. The price paid by the present vendors for the stock is £92 per cent., the company bearing all expenses, but the vendors pay an underwriting commission of 2½ per cent. and an overriding commission of ½ per cent. Investors who feel satisfied with regard to the points we have raised may be attracted by the issue.

African Canning and Packing Corporation, Limited.—Capital £546,775 in ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 407,591 ordinary shares will be allotted in payment of the purchase price of various properties, 39,184 shares will be held in reserve, and 100,000 ordinary shares are now offered for sale at par. This is a company incorporated in June, 1921, in the Cape Province of the Union of South Africa under the laws of that province. It was formed to acquire a packing-house factory at Port Elizabeth and certain land for growing pineapples. The first vendors, the African Canning and Packing Company, Limited, will have allocated to them 50,000 shares in payment, the second vendors, the African Realty Trust, Limited, will have 164,000 shares allocated, and 105,816 shares will be issued in payment to various small holders. According to the balance-sheet issued, net surplus assets, against the issue of 407,591 £1 shares, amount to £410,919. But these figures are too vague for the conservative investor without more information as to the basis of valuation. Landed property and buildings at £288,849 would be an item more acceptable if accompanied by an independent valuation, and the same remark applies to live stock, plant, &c., at £60,467, and stock and stores at £92,536. This, we gather, is a speculative proposition to grow, can and market pineapples, and is yet in its experimental stages. Estimated profits are dependent upon the goodwill of the elements, assuming that the company is controlled efficiently. Investors should consider these details, and pay full attention to the speculative risks attached.

The African Oil Corporation, Limited.—Registered under the laws of the Orange Free State at Bloemfontein on August 18, 1919. Authorised capital, £700,000. Registered capital, £135,000, of which there has been issued and fully paid up £118,500 in 237,000 shares of 10s each. The registered capital was originally £100,000, divided into 200,000 shares of 10s each. This has since been increased to £135,000, £118,500 being issued, of which 150,000 shares were issued as fully paid to the vendors, and 87,000 for cash at par. No underwriting or other commission was paid. The purchase consideration paid to the vendor for prospecting and option contract over certain claims was £1,200 in cash and allotment of 110,000 fully-paid shares, and an option to acquire at par within three years of the date of the registration of the company shares to the nominal value of £139,000, out of which 75,000 shares of 10s each (equal £37,500) have been called up. Additional assets were acquired on December 5, 1919, for which £500 cash and 40,000 fully-paid shares were paid. In the terms of the leases to be entered into, the company can mine oil shale and coal, subject to the payment of a royalty of 6d per ton in respect of oil shale, and 2d per ton in respect of coal, the minimum rental payable under each lease being £1,000 per annum. The borrowing powers conferred on the directors are unlimited, but up to the present no money has been raised. These details are for public information only, and are published in order to comply with the requirements of the committee of the Stock Exchange. These shares will no doubt be only held at present by those who have more knowledge than that vouchsafed in the advertisement.

The Telephone Manufacturing Company (1920), Limited.—Authorised capital £1,000,000, in ordinary shares of £1 each, of which 410,000 have been issued. This is an issue at £96 per cent. of £300,000 guaranteed 8 per cent. cumulative income bonds, repayable at £102 per cent. "in or before 1935." The bonds will be secured by a trust deed, and will constitute a first fixed charge on the shares of the various subsidiary companies. The parent company manufactures private telephones, which are purchased by various subsidiary companies and leased to subscribers. On October 31, 1921, there were, it is stated, "nearly 7,000 such agreements, securing an unexpired total revenue of £948,868, and yielding a present income of £95,335." Other figures are given in the prospectus, which brings the latter amount down to £54,221, after deducting 20 per cent. for maintenance. Out of these rentals, it is intended to form a sinking fund, and the subsidiary companies have agreed jointly and severally to pay £36,780 per annum to the trustees, and it is further agreed that they shall

not pledge their assets or future income "in priority to or *pari passu* with the service" of these bonds. This issue is limited to £300,000, but power is reserved to issue further bonds "ranking *pari passu* with the present issue," subject to the provision of the necessary sinking fund, but so that the total principal amount "shall not exceed one-third of the rentals." Profits are set out from 1917 to 1921. The high interest offered of £8 6s 8d per cent., exclusive of profit on redemption, denotes the fact that the security behind the issue is not of quite a gilt-edged nature, and intending investors should consider this aspect. On the other hand, there is no reason why hiring agreements should not be suitable documents for pledging, although in some quarters it may be considered that the necessary finance should be provided primarily by shareholders. Non-shareholders must weigh the attraction of the security offered against the nature of the security. In this particular case we regard the offer as reasonable without possessing exceptional attraction.

The New Ice and Cold Storage Company.—Authorised capital, £50,000 in ordinary shares of £1 each. Issue of the whole amount at par. The company has been formed to take over from the Hallam Syndicate, Limited, certain premises at £9,000, which are stated in independent evidence to be worth "considerably more than double that amount." Net profits are estimated at £11,000. A speculative proposition for the consideration of local investors with some knowledge of the business abilities of the directors, and the scope in Sheffield for the development of such a business on remunerative lines.

Crookes, Roberts, Ritchie, and Co., Limited.—Authorised capital £80,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an issue, presumably at par, of £65,000 7½ per cent. first debentures, tax free up to 6s in the £. The company was incorporated in November, 1921, to acquire two businesses of manufacturers of guillotine machine knives, &c., carried on at Sheffield. The debentures will be secured by a first mortgage to trustees on leasehold property and fixed plant, also a floating charge on other assets. Property and plant have been independently valued at £72,638, while total assets are stated as £129,908. Thus the margin of security does not appear to be attractive. The annual turnover of these businesses for the past three years is shown, but the prospectus is singularly reticent over giving figures of past profits, although mention is made of "the old-established firm of Crookes, Roberts, and Company." The directors have taken an unusual course in offering to debenture holders the "option of requiring the company to repay the principal on April 1st and October 1st of any year on giving six months' previous notice in writing." It would be interesting to know if this repayment is to be at par. This is not clearly stated. In any case, this might be an excellent plan for debenture holders, but viewed from the company's standpoint, the wisdom of the offer must be questioned. If the undertaking encountered a period of bad trading at the very time when it would be needing all its cash resources, it would have to face the almost certain situation of paying out debenture holders. It is not likely that some debenture holders would stand idly by and see their assets gradually wasting, while others obtained their cash. Indeed, it might be pertinent to ask how the money could be found to pay out, say, 50 per cent. of debenture holders without selling the property and plant held in trust. It is noteworthy on this point that the company agrees not to create any charge in priority to or *pari passu* with this issue. Does this mean that the company are cutting themselves off from the usual right reserved to borrow from their bankers in the ordinary course of business and pledge all assets? If the repayment is at par, it is obvious that astute speculators would purchase in the open market whenever the debentures were at a discount and present for payment. With so many points doubtful, consideration of this issue should be left to the study of those who have personal knowledge of and faith in the business and the directors.

Colonial Gas Association, Limited.—Shareholders are invited to apply not later than December 17th for an issue of £21,000 8½ per cent. redeemable debentures of £50 each at par. The debentures will be repayable at par on January 1, 1935, but the holders may, on three months' notice before that date, convert each £50 debenture into 50 ordinary shares. The additional capital is required to meet the increasing demand for gas.

The Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited.—We are officially informed that the issue of new shares has been largely over-subscribed.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

ANGLO-EGYPTIAN BANK, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY YEAR—DIVIDEND AND BONUS 17½ PER CENT.
COTTON FLUCTUATIONS AND EGYPT'S PROSPERITY.

The thirty-fifth ordinary general meeting of the Anglo-Egyptian Bank, Limited, was held, on the 29th ultimo, at the bank premises, 27 Clements Lane, London, Mr Raoul Hector Foà (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr G. H. Soul) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Gentlemen, before dealing with the affairs of the bank, it is incumbent upon me to bring to your notice the serious loss you have experienced by the death of our friend, Mr H. A. Richardson, who for 26 years was a director of this bank, and for twelve of those years was our chairman. He was a man whose sterling qualities endeared him to his colleagues, and to whose energy and intelligence much of the prosperity of this bank is due. We have also to regret the death of a former colleague, Mr J. Howard Gwyther.

You will remember that our financial year ends on August 31st, and among the articles of our association there is one which lays down that the annual general meeting shall be held in London during the month of November. I must frankly confess that had it not been for the existence of this law, I would have deferred giving myself this pleasure until later, for I only returned last week from a trip which I had undertaken to look into the business of our not unimportant branch in Gibraltar. This has left me none too much time to prepare the few words which I am now addressing to you. As regards Egypt, the chief field of our activities, the whole of the situation has been overshadowed by politics, which you will admit is not our business. The delegation headed by Ably Yeghen Pasha, which had been over here for some months to settle the relationship which is to exist in the future between Great Britain and Egypt, has, I grieve to say, left our shores without having apparently arrived at an arrangement, but I hope and trust that a *modus vivendi* satisfactory to both nations will ultimately be reached.

EGYPTIAN PROSPERITY AND COTTON PRICES.

You know that the prosperity of Egypt largely depends upon the amount of money accruing to that country from the sale of its cotton. There have been since this time last year very considerable fluctuations. At the end of November, 1920, f.g.f. Sakellarides was about \$40 a cantar; on March 4, 1921, the price was \$22; on September 30th last it was from \$56 to \$57; and on the eleventh of this month it stood at from \$37 to \$38, a cantar being equal to 99 lbs avoirdupois. Under date October 13th, our cotton manager in Alexandria wrote:—"The fellah has taken advantage of the unexpected rise in cotton, and shows the greatest good will in parting with his cotton, so that, with an average demand from outside, the end of this season should see the interior warehouses bare of the staple." It is to be remembered, however, that since the date of this letter there has been a considerable fall in cotton. During the period under review the imports of manufactured articles into Egypt have been on a very much smaller scale than in preceding years, and the warehouses in Egypt, overflowing with unsold merchandise then, now certainly contain far less of this than they did a year ago. In the Sudan business is difficult. There have been many delays in the development of the country, due to world-wide penury, and this has reacted naturally very much upon a young country. For further information on the position of cotton in the Sudan I would refer you to the report of the chairman's speech at the meeting of the Sudan Plantations, which appeared in the newspapers last week.

NEW BRANCHES.

Your directors have felt it incumbent upon them to gradually extend the number of branches, and I have to report that since we last met our bank is now working at Assiut and Suez, in Egypt, Omdurman, in the Sudan, and at Nazareth, in Palestine. We have at last been able to secure a site for premises in London large enough for our needs, and these will, I hope, be ready for our occupation within six months from to-day. Our staff has worked in London under the most unfavourable conditions conceivable for the last five years, and I am sure that in the new premises we shall be able to carry on the work in all departments much more easily than it has been in our power to do lately. Financial and other newspapers will have, no doubt, brought to your notice the extreme prominence given to the fluctuations in

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON.
ROYAL
INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED.

foreign exchanges in London. I am glad to be able to tell that, owing to the linking up of the Egyptian pound and the pound sterling, all preoccupation on that score has been spared to us. In Palestine we are proud to be able to say that we have been of considerable use to the Government in the country, but commercial development there is a plant of slow growth.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

It will be no news to you that banking profits have diminished all over the world, and from a variety of causes. We cannot expect to be an exception to the general rule. Our deposits, as you will see from the report in your hand, have been somewhat reduced. One-third of this is due to the disappearance of one Government account, which we knew was only of a temporary nature, and the rest is no doubt due to the withdrawal of money by clients who had to make good the shrinkage in commodities, or other values. You will observe that there have been very few important variations in the items in the balance-sheet. The one calling for most attention on the creditors' side is the rise in the freehold and leasehold premises from £94,000 to £161,000, which principally relates to the London premises. The totals of the two sides of the balance-sheet are down from £18,000,000 to £14,000,000, reflecting the shrinkage in business which has followed upon the inflation brought about by the world war.

THE DIVIDEND.

We have great pleasure in being able to declare a final dividend of 15 per cent., together with a bonus of 2½ per cent., both free of income-tax, but our satisfaction is to a certain extent qualified by the fact that we have had to claim back some of the excess profits duty which we had previously paid to the Government. Your directors continue to do what in their power lies to keep up the reputation which the bank has for so long enjoyed, and Sir Marshall Reid will in a few weeks be visiting most of our branches, thereby, besides exercising a supervision over the general business of the bank, being brought into close personal contact with our many good clients. I have now only to thank the managers and the staff generally for their devotion to the work which they have undertaken, and I am sure, from your side of the room, an acknowledgment of their efforts on your behalf will give them as much pleasure to receive as it gives you to make.

Sir Marshall F. Reid, C.I.E., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

WESTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

EFFECTS OF TRADE DEPRESSION AND ADVERSE EXCHANGE RATES.

The eighty-eighth ordinary general meeting of the Western Telegraph Company, Limited, was held, on the 30th ultimo, at Electra House, Finsbury Pavement, London.

Sir John Denison-Pender, G.B.E., K.C.M.G. (chairman of the company), presided.

The secretary (Mr E. Steer Hodson) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, after paying a tribute to the late Lord Balfour of Burleigh, said: Although the accounts for the year ended June 30th last, now before you, do not show such a large balance of profit as the previous year—which constituted a record in the history of the company—they are certainly of a satisfactory nature, when you take into account the state of trade generally, and the question of exchange, which is causing, not only in South America, but in other parts of the world, so much anxiety in commercial dealings.

RECEIPTS FROM MESSAGES.

Receipts from messages show a decrease of nearly £613,000. The general depression in trade and commerce is accountable very largely for this, as it has, of course, affected the business of our company, and this year the depreciation of the currency of all the countries which we serve, against an appreciation in the previous year's accounts, is responsible for very heavy loss on remittances and also forms a large part of the decrease in revenue.

The balance of sundry increases and decreases in other items of revenue—namely, interest, rents, and transfer fees—reduces the net decrease to under £610,000. On the other side of the revenue

account, the total working expenses were more by nearly £85,000, which includes special allowances given to our staff both at home and abroad to meet the exceptional times we have been passing through.

Income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation profits tax were less by over £381,000. I am glad to say excess profits duty will not appear in our next year's accounts, having terminated as far as the company is concerned in July last.

There was also relief to the extent of £6,500, expenses of the issue of the new capital and interest on instalments paid in advance on the new shares offered to, and practically all taken up by, our shareholders in the previous year.

After distributing the dividends on the increased share capital, amounting to a total of £279,125, and transferring to the general reserve £350,000, to maintenance of ships reserve fund £50,000, and to the land and buildings depreciation fund £50,000, there remains a balance of £128,738 to be carried forward.

BRAZIL TO BARBADOS CABLE.

On the last occasion when we had the pleasure of meeting you here I expressed regret that our new cable from Brazil to the island of Barbados was lying idle. You will remember that this cable was laid in conjunction with the well-known American company, the Western Union Cable Company, who laid one northward towards Florida from Barbados, at which latter place they received the requisite permission to land from the British Government.

The Western Union cable is still buoyed outside United States territorial waters, and the Western Union and our cable are still lying idle in consequence of the refusal of the Government of the United States of America to permit the landing in Florida. I am sorry to say there is no change in that state of affairs, but I hope that a decision on the matter will be arrived at shortly.

In the meantime, a valuable direct cable communication between South America and the United States is being held up, and this traffic is at present mainly passing by the lines of our competitors, the All-America Company, whose route from Brazil is south to Argentina, over the Andes, and north up the west coast of South America. Look at the map of the American Continent, and you will be able yourselves to judge which route should be selected in the interests of commerce.

RENEWALS AND ADDITIONS TO COMPANY'S CABLES.

The renewal of our older section between Lisbon and Madeira, to which reference was made at our last meeting, has been effected, and arrangements are now in progress to carry out a similar renewal of the original Madeira-St Vincent cable early next year by the cable steamer, which will, immediately after carrying out the work, continue her voyage to Brazil and lay the new cable between Pernambuco and Maranham, also other cables connecting Pernambuco with Macao, and with Victoria and Rio de Janeiro, and a third cable between Rio de Janeiro and Santos, thus materially strengthening our coast connections. The ship will also carry some further cable to replenish our stock on the coast of South America. This expedition will entail an expenditure of about £700,000, bringing our total expenditure since 1918 on new communications and on renewing older sections of our system up to no less a sum than £3,000,000.

When these operations are completed the transmission of traffic will be expedited, thereby permitting us to give a quicker cable service at ordinary rates to the commercial community.

However, it may be opportune to mention here that "urgent" telegrams carried, not only by this company, but by all the associated cable companies, only form the small percentage of 10 per cent. of the total commercial traffic. As you are no doubt aware, "urgent" telegrams are charged triple rates and have priority over messages tendered at ordinary rates.

CURRENT YEAR.

With regard to the message revenue for our current year—namely, since July 1st last—the depression continues, and we cannot hope for a reaction until exchange becomes more settled, which will, of course, mean renewed activity in international commerce and trade.

Mr E. C. Humphreys said that, although the results for the past year showed a reduction of a little over £201,000, he thought they could accept the position with equanimity in view of the general depression of trade, accentuated by the disorganisation of the exchanges. On the other hand, they had the great satisfaction of having received their full 10 per cent. dividend, free of income-tax, with a good margin over for reserve and other funds, with only a slight diminution in the carry-over. The three items—income-tax, excess profits duty, and corporation profit tax—were indicative of the very heavy toll made on their profits. He imagined that they could not hope for any relief from income-tax, but, as the chairman had stated, they had happily seen the last of the excess profits duty, but the corporation tax still remained. That

tax was radically unsound, and if maintained would undoubtedly prejudicially affect the ordinary stocks. In his view the corporation tax was much more unreasonable than the excess profits duty, and it weighed more heavily upon the ordinary shareholders of limited liability companies.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED.

A MORE EFFICIENT SERVICE.

The ninetieth ordinary general meeting of the Eastern Telegraph Company, Limited, was held, on the 29th ult., at Electra House, Finsbury Pavement, London, Sir John Denison-Pender, G.B.E., K.C.M.G., chairman of the company, presiding.

The secretary (Mr A. R. Hardie) having read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: You will find that the gross revenue for the year under review again shows an increase over that for the previous year, which at that time stood as the record year in the history of the company. It has now reached the substantial figure of £4,381,855. For the year 1919 it was £4,059,062, or an increase of £322,793. This is satisfactory as far as the gross revenue is concerned, but, on the other side, the very large increase in our working charges for the present year is relatively considerably greater; so that our net revenue, after providing for all working expenses and other revenue charges, is £352,500 less than it was last year. I am glad to say, however, that in anticipation of the further increase in expenses, and to provide for the uncertainty of future taxation, we carried forward from last year's 1919 accounts the sum of £416,082, so that our available balance for the year ending December, 1920, was £1,335,140. Out of this sum we have carried to general reserve fund £500,000 and to the maintenance ships' fund £100,000, and after meeting the dividends on the ordinary and preference stocks, there remains a balance of £316,478, which we propose to carry forward as a safeguard until affairs generally become more normal, when we hope to be able to gauge more clearly the relation between income and expenses.

I am glad to say that our staff, though reduced in numbers, responded loyally to the expansion of our business and willingly worked long hours in order to meet the demands of the Government and the public, but as this condition of affairs could not continue indefinitely, we have been making every effort to speed up the training, and I am glad to say that the additional numbers which have passed through our college and been distributed over the various stations abroad is having the effect of reducing the amount of overtime and allowing the usual well-earned home leave, thus to some appreciable extent relieving those who had to bear the brunt of the exceptionally heavy work during the last few years. Fortunately our financial resources have enabled us to deal generously with our staff. It was also a source of satisfaction that we were able to justify an increase in the rate of dividend on our ordinary stock from 8 to 10 per cent. for the year 1919, so that the interest of the proprietors and the staff, which are so closely allied, thereby benefited by the prosperity of the company.

To meet the claims of both it is necessary to maintain and improve the financial resources of the company, and this result can only be achieved by providing the Government and the public with a service equal to and, if possible, better than that which earned for us a good reputation in past years. When I last had the pleasure of addressing you on this subject, I stated that we were making every effort possible to re-establish the efficiency of our service, which had, in common with other public services, been adversely affected during the war, when it was impossible to transmit commercial traffic without very heavy delay owing to our inability to lay new cables or carry out the necessary constant renewals of our older sections. This drawback naturally prevented us from carrying satisfactorily the greatly increased volume of traffic with which we had to deal at that time; but I then informed you that an improvement had already taken place, and foreshadowed a still greater improvement when the whole work on hand was finished. This work is still proceeding, and as each section is completed the good effect is realised, and when the whole programme is finished we anticipate a cable service even more efficient and faster than that prior to 1914. These improvements will have entailed an expenditure by this company alone of about £3,750,000 sterling. So far £1,300,000 has been charged against the general reserve fund, only £1,000,000 additional ordinary capital being raised—offered to and readily taken up by our stockholders, and we at present propose to meet the balance out of reserve fund accumulations. The traffic this year has been very variable, at which no one can wonder, but when business becomes more normal I hope we may look for a traffic little short of that we have been carrying during the last two or

three years, and, if so, we may find it advisable to still further increase our carrying capacity by laying additional cables, in order to provide a larger margin of capacity in the possible event of an abnormal succession of temporary interruptions to our main line sections occurring, so that the traffic can be, even under these circumstances, carried without delay.

Sir Albert J. Leppoc Capel, K.C.I.E., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

EASTERN EXTENSION TELEGRAPH COMPANY, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY YEAR—INCREASED GROSS RECEIPTS.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Extension, Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited, was held, on the 30th ult., at Electra House, London.

Sir John Denison-Pender, who presided, said he thought the shareholders would agree that the accounts presented were highly satisfactory. The gross receipts for 1920 amounted to £2,514,825, and showed an increase of £67,960 as compared with 1919, notwithstanding the fact that the revenue for the latter year was £376,000 higher than that of 1918. Compared with the pre-war year of 1913 the past year's revenue showed an increase of over 300 per cent. During the current year the traffic had naturally been affected by the acute commercial depression which had prevailed in all parts of the world, but, in all the circumstances, the revenue was considered to be not unsatisfactory. The transmission of the greatly augmented traffic in the past year had necessarily involved a considerable addition to the working and other expenses, which amounted to £1,196,000 against £962,000 in 1919, and, adding the increased excess profits duty, the new corporation profits tax, debenture interest, &c., the total expenditure for 1920 at £1,898,000 showed an increase of £492,000. The increased expenditure was principally due to the revised staff salaries and special allowances and the exceptionally heavy cost of maintenance of cables during the past year. The balance they had now to deal with was £617,000, and with the amount brought forward there was a total of £849,000. They had transferred £450,000—or £100,000 more than in 1919—to the general reserve fund and paid £38,800 in dividend, leaving £81,000 to be carried forward. In the balance-sheet the new capital offered to and practically all

taken up by the shareholders had been added to the capital account, which had been debited with £559,824 in part payment of the new Madras-Singapore cable and the acquisition of land and staff buildings at many of the company's stations to meet pressing needs for additional house accommodation.

"WORKING NOW GREATLY IMPROVED."

At the last annual meeting he referred to the public complaints in connection with the regrettable delays in transmitting the Far Eastern and other traffics, and expressed the hope that when the cable renewals and additional new cables which the Eastern and Eastern Extension Companies had in hand were completed, the efficient working provided in pre-war days would be restored, if not improved upon. Unfortunately, this had taken longer than had been anticipated, owing to a variety of adverse circumstances arising, which had added to their troubles during the early part of the current year, but he was glad to say that the working was now greatly improved, and it was expected that ere long the public would have a faster service, even at times of exceptional interruptions in the main line sections, to which cables were always liable. The Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts and the approval of the dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, paid for the past year.

Sir Albert J. Leppoc Cappel seconded the motion.

In reply to Mr Burt, who asked whether recent developments in "wireless" would adversely affect the cable companies,

The Chairman said that shareholders had always tried to get him to prophesy with regard to this question, but he was not going to do so. He would, however, give them certain facts from which they could judge for themselves. The Germans were supposed to be well up in "wireless" before the war, and it was their only direct means of communication to the outer world during the war—a fact which ought to have tended very materially towards making it efficient, but at the present time they were entering into arrangements with the big Atlantic companies for direct cable communication with the United States. Then Italy, which was looked upon as the birthplace of "wireless," was at the present time endeavouring to get direct communication with North and South America by cable. This being so, it did not look as if the days of cables were over. If "wireless" were better than the cables it would cut them out, but it had some work to do before it got into that position.

The motion was carried unanimously.

SOUTH DURHAM STEEL AND IRON COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN ON NEED FOR CHEAPER PRODUCTION.

The adjourned twenty-second annual ordinary (1920) general meeting was held, on the 30th ultimo, at Middlesbrough, the Right Hon. Lord Furness presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: We are here to-day for the purpose of considering the accounts for our financial year, which ended on September 30, 1920. You will notice from the directors' report that, after making provision for taxation, the profit for the year was £247,364 18s 2d, which is £61,000 less than in the previous year. Allowing for the usual appropriations for debenture and preference share interest, and after placing £50,000 to depreciation, we were able to pay a dividend of 25 per cent. on the ordinary share capital, and carry forward the balance of £122,846, as against £44,481 in the previous year.

Our manufacture of plates is, as you know, very largely confined to the shipbuilding and engineering trades, and I need scarcely remind you that since we last met the shipbuilding trade, with which, of course, the engineering trade is closely allied, has experienced an unprecedented setback. A variety of causes contributed to this slump, which occurred with remarkable suddenness, and resulted in the cancellation of numerous shipbuilding orders. As a consequence, many of the steel orders upon our books have not been specified owing to shipbuilders not being in a position to take delivery.

Further to this, several large steel works have been built during recent years for plate manufacture, some of which are in operation, others having not even yet commenced; and unless the output of shipbuilding and engineering is increased, it does not appear likely that the prospective increased capacity for plate production will be profitably absorbed. In any event, the position of your company, like all other steel and iron companies, will naturally be affected by the coming competition from the new works, when these are all in successful operation.

As some of you will doubtless remember, I anticipated the possibility of this coming competition in my speech of 1918; and after giving the matter very serious thought, your directors are of opinion that it might be desirable, when conditions become more stable, to consider the advisability of entering into some other finishing trade, instead of, as we have done in the past, relying so largely on the heavy plate trade. There are other departments of steel manufacture, which will require other mills and finishing departments, but which will not affect our open hearth steel plants.

Though your directors do not consider that the present is the right time to embark upon such changes, very careful consideration is being given as to how we can later on diversify our manufacture of steel, having regard to the large additions which have been made in recent years to the heavy plate-rolling capacity of the country.

As to the prospects of a revival in trade, I have referred to this and other matters of general interest in my speech to the Cargo Fleet shareholders earlier in the day, and it scarcely seems necessary for me to go over the same ground again. But here the same general principles apply: Labour is too high, when it is transferred to the cost per ton of the products we manufacture, and there can be no doubt that, if we are to succeed as iron and steel manufacturers in this country, these tonnage costs will have to be reduced.

The railroad rates, for the carriage of both raw and finished materials, are out of all proportion, and I see it was recently stated in the Press by the railway companies that, although the pre-war wage bill of £770,000 per week rose to £2,700,000, this year, owing to the heavy wages being arranged on a cost of living basis, the reductions in labour costs have so far not been sufficient to enable them to make any adequate reductions in their freight charges generally.

If we are to regain our former position in the iron and steel industry, these reductions will have to be made to enable us to compete successfully in the markets of the world. Otherwise our industry will languish and ultimately lose the pre-eminence which it occupied in the past.

For these reasons, I regret I am unable to indicate any more hopeful outlook for the immediate future.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

The twenty-third annual meeting was then held.

The Chairman (the Right Hon. Lord Furness) said: As indicated, for our financial year ended September 30, 1921, we are unable, for reasons already stated, to present to you to-day the completed accounts for that year. Meantime, after full consideration of all the circumstances and such figures as are available, your directors have decided to pay a dividend of 10 per cent., less income-tax, for the year on the ordinary share capital.

The retiring directors and auditors were elected, and the meeting was adjourned.

CARGO FLEET IRON COMPANY, LIMITED.

BURDEN OF RAILWAY CHARGES ON COAL, IRON, AND STEEL INDUSTRIES.

The adjourned annual ordinary general meeting (for 1920) was held, on the 30th ultimo, at Middlesbrough, the Right Hon. Lord Furness presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: The reductions of working hours and the reduced output per man in the coal industry have resulted in the price of coal being too high to enable the iron and steel trade of this country to meet foreign competition. It is hoped, indeed, I think I see signs of a further fall in the cost of this commodity, which is sincerely to be wished for, as there is no gainsaying that coal is one of our principal assets, and the backbone of the iron and steel industry.

Secondly, with regard to the question of railway rates, these have been increased—so far as the commodities connected with the iron and steel industry are concerned—by an average of nearly 113 per cent. as compared with the rates ruling in July, 1913. The general increases which have taken place in railway rates are a serious handicap to all manufacture, but in no case do these affect any industry so adversely as the iron and steel trade, and this is strikingly illustrated by the following table of figures, which gives you a comparison of the railway carriage charges incurred in connection with the manufacture and delivery of one ton of finished steel in July, 1913, and October, 1921.

Commodity.	Carriage Charge July, 1913.		Carriage Charge October, 1921.		Per Cent. Increase
	s	d	s	d	
Coal and coke.....	5	4.6	11	11.06	121.43
Iron ore and limestone.....	5	3.43	10	1.21	91.07
Lime, basic bricks, &c.....	0	11.77	2	0.98	112.05
General stores, &c.....	1	0.83	3	1.66	196.18
Delivery of 1 ton of finished steel	6	11.71	14	8.42	114.53
	19	8.34	41	11.33	112.96

Delivered price of steel sections£7 10 0 ..£10 0 0 .. 33.33

To summarise the figures, this means that the total charges on the commodities I have mentioned amounted to 19s 8d in July, 1913, as against £2 1s 11d in October, 1921, representing an increase on the total charges of no less than 113 per cent.

In contrast to this exorbitant increase in railway rates actually paid at these works on our raw materials and finished products, it is interesting to note that the increase in the price of finished steel, as between the same dates, is only 33½ per cent.—our price for steel sections in July, 1913, being £7 10s per ton, as against £10 per ton in October, 1921. In other words, whilst the railway rates have more than doubled, our selling price of finished steel has only increased by one-third.

You will particularly note that, in the case of coal and coke—which form so large a proportion of the steel-makers' raw materials—the increase in the railway rates is over 120 per cent., notwithstanding the fact that coal and coke provide more ton mile rail traffic and more economical loading than any other goods.

It is true that the railway companies have announced a small reduction, as from November 1st, on ironstone, iron ore, and limestone, but this only represents a reduction of approximately 2s per ton on the raw materials required in the manufacture of a ton of pig-iron, while no relief whatever is made in respect to coal and coke, and iron and steel products.

I think I am correct in stating that the iron and steel trade, through its raw and finished materials, provides the railways of this country with approximately 25 per cent. of their total traffic, measured in tons.

In this connection, it might interest you to know that to produce a ton of finished steel seven to ten tons of raw and finished material, slag refuse, &c., has to be handled, of which quantity about six tons has to be conveyed by rail. If, therefore, the railway companies desire to see a trade revival in this industry, and thereby increase their volume of traffic, they must get nearer to the old rates. This is a question of the utmost national importance, not only to the iron and steel trade, but to all other industrial undertakings in this country.

Another serious factor is the present high level of rates and taxes, and although the position is complicated by the necessity for the relief of distress arising out of the present unemployment, it is a matter for very careful consideration by the Government, and also the local authorities, to eliminate all unnecessary expenditure with a view to diminishing the burdens which industry has to bear to-day.

In conclusion, I would like to say that, while I view the present condition of trade with concern, I am nevertheless sufficiently



THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 69 Market St., Bradford

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency Branch—York Street, Mosley Street (P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

- * GUATEMALA
- * SONSONATE
- * SALVADOR
- * MANAGUA
- * SANTA MARTA
- * BARRANQUILLA
- * PUERTO CABELLO
- * CARACAS
- * MEDELLIN
- * BOGOTA
- * MANTA
- * GUAYAQUIL
- * IQUITOS

- * LIMA
- * IQUIQUE
- * ANTOFAGASTA
- * COPIAPO
- * COQUIMBO
- * VALPARAISO
- * SANTIAGO
- * CHILLAN
- * TALCAHUANO
- * CONCEPCION

- * PERNAMBUCO
- * BAHIA
- * RIO DE JANEIRO
- * SAO PAULO
- * SANTOS (PARANA)
- * PORTO ALEGRE
- * PELOTAS (RIO GRANDE)
- * RIO GRANDE DO SUL
- * MERCEDES
- * ROSARIO
- * MONTE VIDEO
- * BUENOS AIRES
- * BUENOS AIRES
- * PERGAMINO
- * MENDOZA
- * SAN RAFAEL
- * BAHIA BLANCA
- * TRELEW
- * COMODORO RIVADAVIA
- * PUERTO DESEADO
- * SANTA CRUZ
- * SAN JULIAN
- * RIO GALLEGOS
- * PUNTA ARENAS

* BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
 * BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
 * BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

optimistic to believe that we shall surmount our present difficulties and re-establish our trade on a firm and lasting foundation, provided Capital and Labour are prepared to work harmoniously together to meet the great difficulties which confront us to-day in a spirit of mutual trust and co-operation.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted. The annual meeting (for 1921) was then held.

The Chairman (the Right Hon. Lord Furness) said: Your directors are again unable to present the balance-sheet and directors' report. In the meantime, your directors have decided to pay a dividend of 5 per cent., less income-tax, in respect of the year ended September 30, 1921.

The retiring directors and auditors were elected, and the meeting was adjourned.

ANSELLS BREWERY, LIMITED.

WHY PRICE OF BEER CANNOT BE REDUCED.

Mr Edward Ansell presided on Tuesday, November 29th, at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, at the annual meeting of Ansell's Brewery, Limited. Proposing the adoption of the report, the Chairman drew attention to the fact that the assets of the company at the time of its reconstruction were valued at £800,000, while at the end of their financial year, September 30th last, after making full provision for depreciation and deducting the only liability—namely, sundry trade creditors—the new assets stood at £1,436,467, or an increase of £636,467. This increase represented the investment of the large amounts placed to reserve from time to time, and this, he ventured to say, had been conducive to the interests of both debenture and preference shareholders in strengthening their financial holding. On the asset side, licensed properties stood at £1,144,822, as compared with £557,817 at the date of reconstruction in 1907. The short leases had been consolidated into freeholds or long leases, and new properties added, which had been carefully selected. They were now mostly freeholds, or long leaseholds, and a large number had been either rebuilt or modernised during recent years. There was no item for goodwill or mortgage security of any kind; the assets were actual and most tangible.

IMPOSSIBILITY OF REDUCING BEER PRICES.

In seconding, Mr Thomas Ansell referred to the question which was being often raised of the high price of beer. The company's balance-sheet showed a profit of £117,000. If they reduced the price of their ales to the public without any alteration of quality by one penny per pint, it would cost at least £360,000 per annum, so that the profit would be wiped out three times over. Even an attempt to reduce the price by one halfpenny per pint would involve the company in a net loss of about £60,000. He submitted the onus of lowering the price of beer lay with the Government by reducing the duty, which was thirteen times greater than it was before the war. The duty to-day was £5 per standard barrel, as compared with 7s 9d in pre-war days.

The report and accounts were approved, and Mr A. E. Wiley was re-elected a director. At a subsequent extraordinary general meeting a resolution was adopted altering the articles of association.

INDO-BURMA OILFIELDS (1920), LIMITED.

RESULTS FROM NEW WELLS.

The first annual general meeting of the Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), Limited, was held, on the 1st inst., at Winchester House, London, the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Denbigh presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Turning to the general operations of the company, you will recollect that the prospectus declared the policy of the company to be the development of its Yenangyaung Well Sites. After giving the matter the fullest and most anxious consideration, and believing it to be in the best interests of shareholders to get oil at the earliest possible date, your directors authorised work to be started at Yenamma. The first well drilled came in with a production of 6½ barrels per day at 690 feet against the prospectus estimate of three barrels. Seventeen wells have been drilled in the neighbourhood of No. 1 Well, and the results are set out in the technical adviser's report, which accompanies the directors' report. Four further wells are being drilled, and the results may be received at any time. You will note that oil has been struck in every well, the six best giving results of 12, 14, 18, 25, 30, and 45 barrels per day respectively. Results from three wells have been cabled since the report was issued: No. 20, which produced 11½ barrels per day, No. 21 producing 18 barrels, and No. 22 producing 30 barrels. Including these the average for the producing wells so far drilled is just 11 barrels initial yield per well per day against the prospectus estimate of three barrels average production.

PADAUKPIN AREA.

Coming now to the Padaukpin area, work was commenced in No. 1 well in January, 1921, and in No. 2 well some little time later. It was subsequently discovered, as the result of a large scale survey, that the centre of the dome was situated on an area of 1.8 square miles contiguous to the company's original area. This area was the property of a Burmese Syndicate, from whom the company's managing agents obtained an option to purchase at the price of £17,500, and I am glad to say that they have now turned the whole of this area over to the company at the price they paid for it, subject only to the same royalty as is payable in respect of the original area. Five sites were located on that area, and No. 3 well struck the oil at a depth of 1,414 feet, the yield being 63 barrels per day. No. 1 well was drilled to 1,950 feet, when on account of bad caving-in it was decided to abandon it. No. 2 well has now reached a depth of 782 feet, No. 4 well a depth of 1,450 feet, and may strike the oil at any time. No. 5 has reached 705 feet and No. 6 100 feet. The rig is erected on No. 7 well. This is very satisfactory, and the company is to be congratulated in owning a property of such great possibilities.

The satisfactory results which I have just mentioned from the Yenamma and Padaukpin areas fully confirmed and justified the change of programme in making the development of these areas the principal work of the company, but the directors had no intention of allowing their valuable well sites at Yenangyaung to lie dormant. As, however, the Yenamma and Padaukpin operations could be controlled easily and satisfactorily from a central base at Thayetmyo, the starting of work at Yenangyaung would have meant the duplication of staff, stores, machine shops, &c. The company had a short time before completed negotiations with the Yomah Oil Co., Limited, for the erection of a joint refinery (to which I will refer later), and as the Yomah Company were drilling at Yenangyaung, an arrangement was made with them to drill a number of the company's sites on a co-operative basis.

QUESTION OF THE REFINERY.

The next matter to which I would like to refer is the question of the refinery. On making careful search for a suitable site, it was found that the Yomah Oil Company had already acquired the best site for a refinery, which could be discovered anywhere in the neighbourhood of Rangoon. That company had already ordered a considerable amount of material, and eventually it was decided to join with them in the erection of a co-operative refinery. The first unit of this refinery is nearing completion. The refinery is laid out on the most modern lines, and is capable of extension up to 4,000 barrels capacity per day.

Referring to finance, we have been going very carefully into the figures with Colonel Harry Johnson since his arrival home, and although owing chiefly to the delay in getting the refinery going, the running expenses will have to be provided for some months longer than was anticipated, and provision made for the odds and ends of plant which are always being required on an oilfield, we think that the finance will be about sufficient. In any case, whatever additional money is required to bring the company to the revenue earning stage will be forthcoming.

Now, as to the question of profits, I hesitate to give figures because it is so easy to err on the optimistic side and give too high an estimate, while it is just as foolish to be unduly pessimistic and estimate too low. I am assured that, taking a moderate view, the company can, beginning early in the New Year, count on earning profits of £10,000 per month, which sum will be progressively increased as production increases. With regard to the future programme, work will proceed with the present plant at Yenamma and Padaukpin continuously. The company's experts have the fullest confidence in the future of the company, and so has every member of the board.

The report was unanimously adopted.

BUKIT TAMBUN ESTATES, LIMITED.

BOARD'S CONSERVATIVE POLICY.

The sixth annual general meeting of Bukit Tambun Estates, Limited, was held, on the 24th ultimo, at the registered office, 65 Bishopsgate, London, Sir Gordon B. Voules (the chairman) presiding.

The Chairman said: You will see that our profit for the year amounted to £2,494, making, with the sum of £2,679 brought forward from the previous year, an available balance of £5,174, which your directors recommend should be carried forward.

This is somewhat disappointing reading after our experience of last year, when, you will recollect, we declared a dividend of 8 per cent., but most of us who are interested in Eastern produce and similar concerns are growing accustomed under the present depression to this carrying-forward policy, and feel fairly satisfied so long as the carry-forward is not on the wrong side.

The number of nuts harvested was nearly 2,060,000, an increase

of 460,000 over the previous year's figure. This is a satisfactory result, considering that only some 50 per cent. of our planted area has reached the productive stage.

Out of this crop we manufactured 400 tons of copra (as compared with 323 tons in 1920) at a cost f.o.b. of £19 3s a ton. This was an increase of 30s a ton over the previous year, due to a rise in the wages during the first part of the year, to a heavier loss on rice supplied to our coolies, to the passage on leave of our manager, and to other incidental expenses. The copra was all sold locally. The net average price realised was £27 15s a ton, compared with £47 7s in the previous year. This falling off was due to larger stocks of copra becoming available in the market, and to a somewhat smaller demand.

Last year I had to call your attention to the difficulties we experienced in getting a sufficient number of coolies. This difficulty no longer exists, and sufficient labour was obtained, and is still obtainable, to meet all our requirements. I now move the adoption of our report and accounts.

Sir Francis Voules: Gentlemen,—The directors have asked me to second the resolution because in March last I went to Penang and spent two days on the estate, in addition to considerable time spent with your visiting agent, Mr Gillespie, and with your agents at Penang, Messrs Brown, Phillips and Stewart, and went very thoroughly into all matters in connection with the estate.

I was most favourably impressed with my visit to Bukit Tambun. You have a very fine estate, well kept up, and extremely well adapted for cocoanuts as regards soil, situation, and economic transport by water; so that it seems to me that, assuming the selling price of copra has satisfactory relation to your cost, which should be low, the future of the estate is assured.

The motion was carried unanimously.

CONSOLIDATED GOLD FIELDS OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF COMPANY'S POSITION AND PROSPECTS

The ordinary general meeting of the Consolidated Gold Fields of South Africa, Limited, was held at the Cannon street Hotel, Cannon street, London, on the 1st inst., Lord Harris (chairman of the company) presiding.

Mr H. G. Sidgreaves (one of the joint secretaries) having read the notice calling the meeting and the auditors' report,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Ladies and gentlemen,—Shall we, as usual, run through the accounts and take those of the New Consolidated Gold Fields first and the profit and loss account? The management cost of the new company this year is £51,000 odd, as compared with £39,000 odd last year. The increase is due to the increased cost for a full year of revision of salaries in 1920 and to the war bonus to the staff, accounting for £9,000, and to reduction in receipts from rents and fees in London and South Africa. Last year I intimated that the reduction in our mining interests in South Africa would, of course, entail a reduction in staff there, much to our regret, but inevitable, and that has been going on through the whole year, and has still to make itself thoroughly effective. The subscriptions and donations have decreased by £700, and the staff provident fund has increased from £4,100 to £4,300 odd. Debenture interest has, of course, disappeared.

On the other side, by dividends, profits on sales, &c., we have £430,000 this year as compared with £590,000 last year, the difference being due to the profit on sales having fallen by £181,000 odd. On the other hand, dividends have increased by £103,000 odd. Underwriting commission is £10,000 odd less, and interest is £14,000 odd less.

NEW COMPANY'S BALANCE SHEET.

Turning to the balance-sheet of the new company, the capital authorised and issued is unaltered; sundry creditors are £250,000 odd. This amount is accounted for by deposits by sub-companies as a temporary measure, amounting to about £138,000 odd, and an amount deposited by the old company temporarily. The contingent liabilities have been decreased by £44,000 odd, and more than half can be treated as negligible. The investments amount to £3,416,000 odd this year, as compared with £3,721,000 odd last year, a decrease of £304,000 odd. Purchases during the year exceeded sales (at cost) by £172,000 odd, but depreciation has had to be written off to the amount of £476,000 odd. There is a long list of purchases, the chief of which you will find in the schedule, as also by comparison with last year's schedule the principal sales. Properties and ventures show a considerable difference, an increase of £187,000 odd, but really this is a transfer from sundry debtors

to this heading owing to the purchaser of our interest in the Devonshire House having failed to complete. We are, therefore, treating it now as an investment in property, instead of, as last year, treating it as a debt which we expected would be shortly paid off. Sundry debtors are, therefore, much decreased for the same reason. Cash advances and mortgages are this year £295,000 odd, as compared with £220,000 odd last year. I can give particulars if asked for them, but none of the items are very large amounts. Real estate and buildings, £51,000 odd, as compared with £56,000 odd last year. We sold some land properties in South Africa which accounts for it.

All our gilt-edged Government securities have been sold or matured, and we arrive at the entirely novel and much-to-be-regretted item of a balance at debit of £111,000, entirely due to the system of depreciation which we have always followed, but this year producing a result which has never before happened in the experience of the company. The cash position is quite good; the combined figures are £709,000 odd, as compared with £741,000 odd last year.

OLD COMPANY'S ACCOUNTS.

The accounts of the old company call for little comment. In the absence of a dividend on the shares in the New Consolidated Gold Fields our only income is the interest on the few assets we retain, £3,600, to which has to be added the amount brought in from last year, £162,600, a total of £166,243. Against this have been charged the dividends on the two classes of preference shares, and this leaves a balance of £57,342 to carry forward to next year.

The total assets of the two companies, after deduction of liabilities, are £4,446,000, to which must be added the unrealised appreciation of share holdings, unfloat properties, stands and buildings, which we estimate to amount to a very big figure.

What I have said, I think, explains to you the position. It is very unfortunate that, notwithstanding the very large revenue we have received, you do not receive a dividend, as we are bound, much as we may dislike it, to use our profits in meeting depreciation. I would further add this: In the case of quoted securities we have, of course, no difficulty in arriving at the amount of depreciation, but in the case of unquoted securities we must use such knowledge as we have and give consideration to every factor which in our opinion governs the situation and the value of the investments, and I think I can fairly say that, in view of the unsettled state of business throughout the world, we have perhaps been more drastic than we should have been in ordinary times.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC.

I hope I have said enough to justify our contention that the net result of this year's work was to a great extent unavoidable, and I hope I have shown you that this set-back need not cause you deep concern; in fact, what has happened is that you have written down in your books many investments to such a price as will ensure in the future a sale of many of them at large profits. In the meantime, you have a substantial list of investments bringing you in a well-assured revenue, while your cash position is such that it not only need give you no anxiety, but will give you the opportunity of fresh business.

We have been very much touched by the absence of recrimination on the part of shareholders. But there have been some letters asking what the position of the preference shareholders is, and you will doubtless expect me to make some special reference to their share in the business. We have not forgotten them. It does not by any means follow that because there is a debit balance on the year's accounts that the dividend of either the first or second

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS
CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

preference shares will have to be passed, though if that should happen in either case it will not mean a loss of interest, but only a postponement of its being paid, for they are cumulative, for it will be quite possible, if profits permit, for New Consolidated Gold Fields to declare and pay an interim dividend which would enable the old company to meet its obligations at due date. I believe I am justified in assuring them that they need be in no anxiety that their dividends will ever be permanently in arrears, and the usual notification of the payment of the first preference dividend on January 1st next has been issued.

Mr. Hyman then spoke in criticism of the board's management and policy.

The Chairman answered Mr Hyman's criticisms at some length, and the resolution being then put to the meeting, 44 hands were held up in favour and none against. The Chairman, therefore, declared it carried *nem. con.*

BISICHI TIN COMPANY (NIGERIA), LIMITED.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERIES ON THE FORUM PROPERTY.

The tenth annual general meeting of the Bisichi Tin Company (Nigeria), Limited, was held, on the 30th ultimo, at the Cannon street Hotel, London, Mr James Gardiner, chairman of the company, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that at no time in the history of the company had operations been more seriously restricted by lack of a sufficient labour force. The small production for the year was largely, but not entirely, due to this cause. The other reason for the decrease was that the ground treated during the year was of low grade. This was alluded to last year when shareholders were prepared for a temporary reduction in output. This referred to the Bisichi property only, for with the larger resources resulting from the amalgamation so many points of attack were now available, both during the dry and wet seasons, that the regulation of an average and consistent output was rendered a matter of more easy accomplishment. Notwithstanding the reduced output, a profit would have been shown but for the fall in the price of tin. The tin industry had been very seriously hit, and whilst Nigeria had not suffered to the same extent as Cornwall, nevertheless there had been a forced curtailment in expenditure and in the scope of operations generally.

The Chairman then referred to the remarkable developments which had taken place since the last meeting. On the area formerly held jointly with the Forum Company, and now this company's own property, discoveries had been made which exceeded their most sanguine expectations. He felt on safe ground in stating that it was one of if not the most important discoveries ever made in Nigeria. Considerable additions had also been made to the reserves proved on other sections. There were large areas yet to be tested. The possibilities of the old leases were by no means exhausted, for already in several instances payable ground had been found to exist where it was least expected. In the statement of reserves in the report no allowance was made for ground known to be payable but not sufficiently tested to enable definite calculations to be made, and therefore the figure given might be taken as a strictly conservative one. Everything was being done to increase output, and to take advantage of any improvement in the price of the metal. As to the future, tin would be one of the first commodities to be favourably affected by any improvement that was brought about.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the usual formal business having been transacted, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the chairman and directors, and to the staff in Nigeria.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £50,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Dec. 5th-Dec. 10th, were opened on Dec. 2, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £67,640,000. Tenders for Monday bills at £99 2s 4d, about 20 per cent., and above in full. Tenders for Tuesday to Saturday bills at £99 2s 2d, and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 12s 0.7d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition of Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
Nov. 4 (3 months)	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 2.6	3½	£99 0s 7d (Monday to Friday bills), about 44.79%, and above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 10d and above in full.
Nov. 11 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 17 0.43	3½	£99 0s 6d (Monday to Friday bills), about 75%, above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 9d and above in full.
Nov. 18 (3 months)	40,000,000	54,365,000	3 17 8.27	3½	£99 0s 3d (Monday to Friday bills), about 77%, above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 6d and above in full.
Nov. 25 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,155,000	3 14 2.15	3½	£99 1s 3d (Monday bills), £99 1s 5d (Tuesday bills), £99 1s 7d (Wednesday to Saturday bills), about 27%, and above in full.
Dec. 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	67,640,000	3 12 0.07	3½	£99 2s 2d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments in Assets.	Advances to Bankers.	Advances to Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	18,500	..	48.1	11,423
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	28,500	..	27.6	20,536
1915.								
Dec. 31.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	19.0	118,102
1916.								
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	13.4	186,637
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	8.9	305,133
1918.								
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.7	308,577
1919.								
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.3	327,321
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	445	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537
1920.								
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660
Sept. 23.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425
Dec. 23.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.0	336,504
1921.								
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141
June 29.....	323,884	14,965	3,000	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150
Sept. 28.....	314,382	14,830	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	143
Nov. 16.....	313,066	14,103	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.2	276,053	166
23.....	311,687	13,916	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.4	274,482	171
30.....	312,658	14,079	3,000	28,500	19,450	15.3	275,609	148

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	RECEIPTS.	RECEIPTS.
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Nov. 26, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1921, to Nov. 27, 1921.	Week Ending Nov. 26, 1921.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—	£	£	£	£
Bank of England.....	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..
Bank of Ireland.....	..	483,455	2,209,324	..
REVENUE.	£	£	£	£
Customs.....	126,800,000	85,501,000	89,349,000	3,769,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	130,180,000	128,645,000	2,174,000
Motor Vehicle Duties.....	9,000,000	3,143,000	3,060,000	2,315,000
Estate, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	32,402,000	30,260,000	1,751,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	9,588,000	16,592,000	350,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	440,000	330,000	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty).....	410,500,000	162,555,000	145,811,000	705,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.....	120,000,000	29,714,000	139,202,000	3,053,000
Corporation Profits Tax.....	30,000,000	8,320,000	480,000	..
Post Office.....	60,000,000	32,750,000	32,250,000	1,250,000
Crown Lands.....	650,000	520,000	460,000	100,000
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	12,000,000	7,528,398	11,954,467	182,525
Miscellaneous.....	21,500,000	15,632,039	15,492,121	608,795
Ordinary Receipts.....	158,500,000	65,793,757	182,866,092	4,124,918
Special Receipts.....	1,216,650,000	584,067,194	799,271,680	15,094,917
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	584,067,194	799,271,680	15,094,917
Total, inc. Balance.....	..	587,141,700	808,640,777	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.	£	£	£	£
Temporary Advances Repaid:—				
Bullion.....	..	5,780,000	2,940,000	250,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904).....	..	169,818	169,818	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	..	520,000	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—				
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—				
Under the Telegraph (Money) Act, 1913 and 1920.....	..	3,561,474	2,500,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	..	27,500	40,000	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	..	35,000	30,000	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.....	..	4,655,000	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—				
By Treasury Bills for Supply.....	..	2,707,214,000	2,715,861,000	76,599,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90.....	..	..	270,552	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	..	769,061	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925.....	..	..	89,777	..

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, November 30, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	145,062,435	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	126,612,435
	145,062,435		145,062,435

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities ..	57,437,921
Reserve	3,220,754	Other securities	82,734,588
Public deposits*	13,749,110	Notes	19,949,475
Other deposits	130,410,891	Gold and silver coin ..	1,829,905
Seven-day & other bills ..	18,134		
	161,951,889		161,951,889

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Nov. 30, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	£ 3,220,754	+ £ 7,884	— £ 8,113
Public deposits	13,749,110	+ 1,851,859	— 7,902,283
Other deposits	130,410,891	+ 6,377,630	— 12,274,563
Reserve	57,437,921	+ 7,123,749	— 36,458,152
Other securities	82,734,588	+ 837,156	+ 7,381,964
Notes	21,779,380	+ 1,803,070	+ 8,820,239
Note circulation	125,112,560	+ 1,807,045	+ 5,565,930
Coin and bullion	128,442,340	+ 3,975	+ 5,451,049
% of reserve to liabilities ..	158%	+ 1%	+ 74%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
Sept. 7.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
14.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
21.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
28.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
Oct. 5.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
12.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
19.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
26.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
Nov. 2.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
9.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
16.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
23.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15
30.....	128,410,714	125,407,555	156,209,799	153,874,157	20,427,771	158	15

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Nov. 29, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Dec. 3, 1919.	Dec. 1, 1920.	Nov. 30, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	28,731,960	28,933,380	88,133,900	130,482,150	125,112,560
Public deposits	12,128,431	19,014,809	20,793,878	21,651,393	13,749,110
Other deposits	40,618,588	41,248,964	146,575,547	142,685,454	130,410,891
Government securities	14,337,210	11,046,570	84,300,830	93,896,073	57,437,921
Other securities	28,911,031	41,461,280	78,808,515	75,352,624	82,734,588
Reserve of notes and coin ..	25,463,980	22,106,467	12,959,141	21,779,380	20,427,771
Coin and bullion	27,357,243	35,947,360	91,790,369	124,991,291	128,442,340
Proportion of reserve to liabilities ..	51%	42%	13%	7%	15%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	6%	6%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	3%	2%	5%	6%	3%
Price of Consols	78½	74½	50½	43½	49½
Price of silver per oz.	25s 6d	25s 6d	72s 7d	90s 0d	46s 3d
Average price of wheat	25s 0d	25s 0d	39s 0d	57s 0d	56s 0d
Exchanges (Paris)	84.79	84.79	83.87	83.87	83.94
New York	12-10-10	12-10-10	11-10-10	11-10-10	11-10-10
Amsterdam	20-4-4	20-4-4	17s 17d	23s 24d	93s 1.050
Berlin	308,421,000	199,913,000	721,217,000	753,233,000	703,375,000
Clearing house return	..	..	..	..	..

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1—November 23	28,336,612,000	2,717,190,000	31,053,802,000

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to November 25.	£ 172,635,600	£ 111,510,600	- 61,125,000
BIRMINGHAM	83,071,000	69,819,000	- 13,252,000
BRISTOL	414,136,800	334,698,700	- 80,438,100
DUBLIN (41 Weeks ended Nov. 26)	79,976,200	45,916,600	- 27,959,600
HULL	56,803,000	35,691,600	- 21,111,400
LEEDS	751,464,100	406,148,500	- 345,315,600
LEICESTER	1,359,538,800	670,731,500	- 688,807,300
LIVERPOOL	144,820,600	63,188,100	- 81,632,500
MANCHESTER	52,444,000	32,726,700	- 19,717,300
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	78,465,500	51,493,400	- 26,972,100
NOTTINGHAM			
SHEFFIELD			

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 26, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Nov. 29, 1921.
RESOURCES.				
Total gold reserve	2,835,230	2,823,900	+ 11,330	2,823,920
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	143,000	145,570	+ 2,570	171,360
Bills discounted for member banks	1,205,170	1,198,020	+ 7,150	2,735,430
Bills bought in open market	69,400	68,330	+ 1,070	247,700
Government obligations owned	201,320	215,890	+ 14,570	320,610
All other resources	59,580	58,880	+ 700	36,150
LIABILITIES.				
Government deposits	32,150	33,100	+ 950	15,910
Other deposits	1,696,340	1,704,610	+ 8,270	1,697,730
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,389,920	2,398,220	+ 8,300	3,325,630
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	74,770	74,790	+ 20	214,610
All other liabilities	24,630	24,150	+ 480	107,530
Capital and surplus	317,040	316,990	+ 50	263,770
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	72.3%	71.8%	+ .5%	44.4%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances	477,083,821	476,811,646	521,673,747
Bank balances abroad	65,887,493	65,128,352	83,089,933
Call and short loans	263,872,952	268,443,419	307,487,168
Securities	372,754,891	385,571,399	363,444,692
Loans in Canada	1,351,201,118	1,338,683,309	1,463,034,424
Loans abroad	155,238,065	155,238,065	200,945,241
Other assets	105,193,238	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,864
Deposits—			
Government	121,176,339	128,777,843	178,417,337
Public in Canada	1,807,193,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,009,439
Foreign	268,088,677	274,231,912	355,570,176
Bank balances	10,078,772	10,300,260	9,554,379
Ca. adian.	46,093,427	39,029,582	49,041,433
Foreign	37,202,050	40,429,404	51,202,045
Bills payable and acceptances	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Other liabilities	264,331,734	264,326,315	256,706,275

BANK OF FRANCE.

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 1, 1921.	Nov. 24, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold coin and bullion	5,524,093	5,524,043	5,495,109	+ 50	3,730,625
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367	..	632,650
Silver coin and bullion	279,298	279,072	259,212	+ 226	2,327,775
Discount and advances	4,745,510	4,563,761	5,904,301	+ 181,749	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	36,488,846	36,336,275	38,573,306	+ 152,571	5,811,875
Government deposits	30,165	54,301	110,510	+ 24,136	183,700
Private deposits	2,625,225	2,508,797	3,921,865	+ 116,428	845,950

BANK OF SPAIN.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 26, 1921.	Nov. 19, 1921.	Nov. 27, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 30, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	2,508,783	2,508,128	2,507,613	+ 660	521,775
Silver	3,014,107	3,076,457	3,121,103	+ 61,350	728,600
Loans and discounts	344,475	344,475	344,475	..	800,725
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	344,475
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation	4,206,335	4,235,836	4,281,667	+ 29,501	1,901,550
Deposits	999,988	985,344	974,714	+ 14,644	477,000

NATIONAL BANK OF GREECE.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 13, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1920.	Previous Return.	Last Year.
ASSETS.					
Gold and balances abroad	1,363,207,944	1,358,936,212	1,444,386,962	+ 4,271,732	- 81,179,018
Government loans and securities	2,172,576,436	2,174,108,464	1,015,708,022	+ 1,432,028	+ 11,566,844
Discounts and loans	660,288,465	650,006,287	658,232,752	+ 10,282,178	+ 2,055,713
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	2,076,851,616	2,050,820,776	1,486,199,699	+ 26,030,810	+ 590,652,917
Government deposits	123,586,363	144,016,854	145,417,057	+ 14,330,489	+ 15,730,722
Private sight deposits	830,321,138	839,468,031	737,912,817	+ 9,146,843	+ 92,408,371
Private deposits at fixed dates	910,126,972	901,166,853	564,987,874	+ 8,960,119	+ 355,139,098

BANK OF JAPAN.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 22, 1921.	Oct. 15, 1921.	Oct. 8, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position June 30, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,263,978	1,264,488	1,267,365	1,111,122	+ 512	221,320
Discounts	76,708	65,454	54,327	99,627	+ 11,254	41,740
Advances	104,623	113,193	119,349	189,444	+ 8,570	70,540
LIABILITIES.						
Govt. deposits	1,133,704	1,132,528	1,141,306	1,082,015	+ 1,176	362,270
Notes	1,422,901	1,422,901	1,400,432	1,313,073	+ 15,021	87,340
Private deposits	52,084	37,985	42,212	118,416	+ 21,691	11,440

IMPERIAL BANK OF GERMANY.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Gold	933,709	933,710	1,093,570	- 1	1,313,240
Silver	14,291	15,520	7,139	+ 1,229	321,920
Treasury notes	5,014,796	5,233,273	19,953,307	+ 218,477	9,346,000
Bills discounted	101,661,516	105,049,694	49,782,289	+ 3,388,178	60,789
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	96,463,895	95,186,123	63,583,243	+ 1,277,772	2,013,860
Deposits	15,440,677	20,859,119	13,107,372	+ 5,428,442	842,340

BANK OF ITALY.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Oct. 20, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.					
Total cash	1,371,606	1,332,438	1,246,059	+ 39,168	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,153,433	3,022,572	3,129,738	+ 130,861	418,400
Foreign bills	19,489	19,511	20,484	- 22	81,300
Advances to the Treasury	6,661,007	6,545,255	8,229,329	+ 115,752	nil
Other advances	3,001,138	2,528,858	2,481,581	+ 472,280	79,175
Securities	420,844	390,128	221,926	+ 30,716	205,700
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	14,326,059	14,157,863	15,278,960	+ 168,196	1,556,925
Deposits and drafts	1,708,352	1,646,769	1,720,098	+ 61,983	192,975

NETHERLANDS BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 28, 1921.	Nov. 21, 1921.	Nov. 14, 1921.	Nov. 29, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	605,969	605,969	605,969	636,141	..	163,092
Silver	8,614	8,695	8,527	20,171	- 81	8,436
Drafts & advances	434,890	446,704	464,355	491,481	+ 11,814	155,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	1,021,065	1,023,696	1,039,735	1,078,032	+ 2,631	316,632
Deposits	31,443	40,204	46,498	87,882	+ 8,761	5,016

NATIONAL BANK OF ROMANIA.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 5, 1921.	Oct. 29, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Gold	4,349,722	4,289,722	3,050,222	+ 60,002
Silver & Co.	56,412	61,859	47,478	+ 5,447
Government loan	10,815,755	13,993,230	7,094,671	+ 177,475
Other advances	2,206,538	2,259,326	2,447,090	+ 52,788
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	13,066,892	12,829,257	9,061,919	+ 237,635
Deposits	5,757,956	5,801,268	4,220,682	+ 43,312

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Nov. 22, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	545,030	544,952	544,896	540,934	+ 78	171,175
Silver	124,025	124,025	124,025	124,101	..	18,350
Darielens-Kassen.	17,456	17,041	16,335	17,537	- 415	103,000
Assets & advances	267,760	269,603	281,310	382,916	+ 1,843	..
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	905,426	926,290	950,984	928,652	+ 20,864	275,925
Deposits	100,276	86,096	73,339	141,894	+ 19,180	33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to October 31, 1921, total issues were Fr. 30,183,000, of which Fr. 16,460,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 26, 1921.	Nov. 19, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Gold	275,058	275,146	282,393	- 82	+ 7,335	104,918
Balance abn. and foreign bills	106,309	107,393	102,785	+ 1,084	+ 3,524	112,178
Swedish and for Gov. securities	20,755	20,780	44,964	- 25	+ 24,203	32,465
Discount and loans	425,959	416,113	524,068	+ 9,846	- 98,109	112,668
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	589,227	607,606	729,445	- 18,379	- 140,218	226,555
Deposits at notice	175,557	149,103	143,644	+ 26,454	+ 31,913	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 24, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 25, 1920.	Move-ment.	Position May 28, 1914.
ASSETS.						
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	324,990	326,292	326,883	350,752	+ 1,302	322,650
Securities	418,060	412,158	411,544	630,712	+ 5,902	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	6,127,136	6,150,362	6,159,746	5,845,802	+ 23,226	934,150
Current accounts	839,869	819,582	826,873	1,357,419	+ 20,287	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 15, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion, bills	1,358,936	1,358,936	1,358,936	..
Silver coin, &c.	6,412	5,380	6,330	+ 82
Bills, warrants, drafts, &c.	5	5	5	..
Loans	8,548,336	6,025,679	6,186,748	+ 2,361,588
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	103,128,983	90,904,399	95,162,099	+ 7,995,884
Deposits	9,159,615	6,635,669	6,834,933	+ 2,324,632

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

Bank Rate	Bank Rate
Amsterdam	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Antwerp	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Berlin	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Brussels	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Bucharest	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Calcutta	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Christiania	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Copenhagen	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Helsingfors	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
Lisbon	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2
New York Federal Reserve ..	Nov. 1, 1921 .. 4 1/2

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

London on	Usance	Par.	Rate, Dec. 3, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 25, 1921.	Rate, Dec. 2, 1921.
Paris	francs to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	57-57-62	57-20-25
Berlin	marks to £1	T.T.	20-43	244-246	1168-1173
Vienna	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	1130-1160	12000-13000
Prague	krone to £1	T.T.	24-02	280-285	375-385
Warsaw	zloty to £1	T.T.	24-02	1800-1800	12500-14500
Constantinople	lira to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	238-240	nom.
Bombay	rupee to £1	T.T.	24-02	110	2400-2700
Calcutta	rupee to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	240-270	730-770
Madras	rupee to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	240-270	730-770
Shanghai	tael to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	117-124	625-675
Amsterdam	florin to £1	T.T.	12-107	11-41-42	275-295
Stockholm	kroner to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	25-25-27	11-32-34
Copenhagen	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-25-27	57-57-62
Helsingfors	mark to £1	T.T.	18-159	17-98-102	28-07-12
Reval	kroner to £1	T.T.	18-159	25-25-27	16-97-102
London	sterling to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	157-171	212-217
Greece	drachma to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	424-424	99-100
Italy	lire to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	96-96-97	93-94
Switzerland	franc to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	20-22-23	11-32-34
Spain	peseta to £1	T.T.	25-22 1/2	26-73-78	28-81-86
Lisbon	escudo to £1	T.T.	53-4	73-73	48-48
Alexandria	piastre to £1	Sight	97-97	97-97	97-97
New York	dollar to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-99-4-00	4-06-06 1/2
Montreal	dollar to £1	Cable	4-86 1/2	3-99-4-00	4-06-06 1/2
Buenos Aires	peso to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	53-54 1/2	43-43 1/2
Rio de Janeiro	peso to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	53-54 1/2	43-43 1/2
Montevideo	peso to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	53-54 1/2	43-43 1/2
Valparaiso	peso to £1	T.T.	47-58 1/2	53-54 1/2	43-43 1/2
Lima	sol to £1	T.T.	13-13	94-94	37-70
Calcutta	rupee to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Bombay	rupee to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Madras	rupee to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Hong Kong	dollar to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Shanghai	tael to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Singapore	dollar to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Yokohama	dollar to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Manila	dollar to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2
Mexico	peso to £1	T.T.	10-10	1s 5 1/2-6 1/2	1s 3 1/2-4 1/2

† Rate for previous day. (a) Pence to peso. (c) Sellers.

CURRENT RATES IN NEW YORK.

The Irving National Bank of New York cable the following money and exchange rates in New York:—

	Nov. 3, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.
Call money	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Time money (90 days) mixed collateral ..	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Bank acceptances	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Members—eligible, 90 days	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Non-members—eligible, 90 days	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Ineligible, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2
Commercial acceptances, 90 days	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2	5 1/2

Note—The rates for acceptances quoted above are selling rates.

RATES OF EXCHANGE.

New York on—	Par Level.	Rate, Dec. 3, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 17, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 23, 1921.	Rate, Dec. 2, 1921.
London	Dollars for £1	4-86 1/2	3-95-37	3-95-37	4-02-12
Paris	francs for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Brussels	francs for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Amsterdam	florins for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Stockholm	kroner for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Copenhagen	kroner for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Helsingfors	mark for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Reval	kroner for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
London	sterling for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Greece	drachma for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Italy	lire for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Switzerland	franc for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Spain	peseta for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Lisbon	escudo for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Alexandria	piastre for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
New York	dollar for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Montreal	dollar for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Buenos Aires	peso for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Rio de Janeiro	peso for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Montevideo	peso for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36
Valparaiso	peso for £1	19-30	6-07	7-23	7-36

CENTRAL AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Commercial Bank of Spanish America, Limited, quotes the following rates of exchange:—

Country.	Par Value.	Usance.	Year, 1921.	Rate.
Ecuador	Sucres to £1	10-00	Nov. 19	15-80
Venezuela	Bolivares to £1	25-25	Nov. 29	25
Colombia (Bogota) ..	Dollars to £20	48-4	Nov. 30	91
Nicaragua	Colonos to £1	49-31 1/2	Nov. 3	3-85
San Salvador	Colonos to £1	24-65 1/2	Nov. 30	8-20
Guatemala	Pesos to £1	2-65 1/2	Nov. 26	20-02
Costa Rica	Colonos to £1	10-45	Nov. 5	16
Honduras	Pesos to £1	10-45	Oct. 21	15 1/2

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

	Par Level.	Rate, Dec. 1, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 17, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 24, 1921.	Rate, Dec. 1, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59-26	4-67 1/2	1-09	1-01 1/2
Switzerland	Francs to 100 marks	123-45	9-15	2-03	1-90
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	10-75	2-07 1/2	1-93 1/2
Stockholm	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	10-75	1-67	1-53
Christiania	Kroner to 100 marks	88-88	10-75	2-67	2-56

ESTHONIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The Bank of Esthonia quote Reval exchange rates as below:—

Reval on	Par Level.	Rate, Nov. 12, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 19, 1921.
London (cheque)	£1	Buying. 1,522	Selling. 1,535
Paris	100 Fr	2,800	2,850
New York	£1	390	395
Stockholm	100 Kr	9,050	9,100
Copenhagen	100 Kr	7,200	7,250
Berlin	100 Rmk	145	150
Helsingfors	100 Fmk	730	740
Riga	100 Lrb	135	140
Amsterdam	100 H.fl.	13,300	13,400

LATVIAN EXCHANGE RATES.

Riga on—	Par Level.	Rate, Mar. 24, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 8, 1921.	Rate, Nov. 15, 1921.
London	Latvian roubles for £1	1,875	1,900	1,220
New York	£1	460	470	303 1/2
Paris	100 frs.	3,950	4,050	2,200
Stockholm	100 kr.	11,000	11,200	7,025
Copenhagen	100 kr.	8,400	8,600	5,700
Christiania	100 kr.	7,550	7,550	4,175
Amsterdam	100 h.fl.	16,500	17,000	10,725
Berlin	100 Rmk.	820	830	106
Helsingfors	100 Fmk.	975	1,000	557
Reval	100 emk.	125	130	60
Warsaw	100 pmk.	51	53	12 1/2

SOUTH AFRICAN EXCHANGE RATES.

The South African Banks quote the following rates:—

	Union of South Africa.	Union of South Africa.
	From August 8, 1921.	From August 8, 1921.
London on South Africa.	Buying.	Selling.
South Africa on London.	Buying.	Selling.
T.T.	1 1/2 % prem.	1 1/2 % dis.
30 days	1 1/2 % prem.	1 1/2 % dis.
60 days	1 1/2 % prem.	1 1/2 % dis.
90 days	1 1/2 % prem.	1 1/2 % dis.
120 days	1 1/2 % prem.	1 1/2 % dis.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND

	London on Australia and New Zealand.	Australia and New Zealand on London.
	Buying.	Selling.
London	Buying.	Selling.
30 days	Buying.	Selling.
60 days	Buying.	Selling.
90 days	Buying.	Selling.
120 days	Buying.	Selling.

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Nov. 26, 1921.
Outstanding with public	43,67,10,000	36,29,90,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	60,00,00,000
Total	104,93,10,000	96,29,90,000

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended November 30, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £3,975, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Nov. 30, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Nov. 30, 1921.
	£		£
British South Africa.....	686,938	United States America	1,258,222
British India	131,743	Gold Coast	1,272
China	2,415	Bombay, via other ports	20,000
		Other Countries	197
Total values of import of gold	821,096	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	1,279,691

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write as follows on December 1st:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,612,435, as compared with £126,610,100 last week. A fair amount of gold was again on offer, and was taken mainly for the United States of America. It is reported that gold to the value of \$7,000,000 has been received in New York—\$6,000,000 from France, \$900,000 from London, and \$100,000 from Germany.

SILVER.

The market has been again off colour. China has been working both ways—selling from that quarter preponderating. A fair amount of speculative business has been done, mostly bear covering. America has not been offering silver, but the Continent has been a free seller, and seems likely to be. The Indian bazaars have been quite inactive. This state of affairs may not continue indefinitely; indeed, it is expected that a large amount of silver will be required for the next settlement steamer, due to leave London just before Christmas. Should China reverse its attitude and pose as a buyer, when Indian bazaar purchases are made, the market may become more robust for awhile, though it should be borne in mind that without competition permanent improvement of prices is not likely to be maintained. The plenitude of cash supplies was such that on the 26th inst. the quotation for both spot and forward was fixed at the same figure, viz., 37 1/2 d; the last occasion on which prices were even was July 2nd last, when 35 1/2 d was quoted. On the 28th inst. cash silver was quoted at a discount of 1/2 d, 37 1/2 d being fixed for cash, and 37 1/2 d for forward delivery. Cash silver was last at a discount on January 7th this year, when 41 1/2 d was quoted, against 41 1/2 d for forward. Prices were again even yesterday, whilst to-day a demand for covering purposes had the effect of restoring a premium of 1/2 d for spot delivery. The Government of India have sanctioned for exports to all destinations 100,000 tons of the balance of the 1921 rice crop. In the Commercial Supplement of the *Munchener Neueste Nachrichten* (October 9th), the suggestion is made that it would be as well for Germany to have recourse as soon as possible to a new silver currency by minting silver coins of the same weight and fine silver contents—5.55 and 5 gr.—as the existing Reichsmark pieces. The new coins could be called "schillings" or "Reichsschillings" to distinguish them from paper marks. Their value in paper marks would be fixed from time to time in accordance with the price of silver in the world's markets, allowances being made for minting expenses and for a small profit to be made by the mint. The rate would be about 10 paper marks for the new coin, with a 5 gr. fine silver content. In order to attain this end, free silver coining for private individuals at the German mints would have to be allowed, as was formerly free gold coining. Home mining and trade with silver-exporting countries, e.g., Mexico, would have to be encouraged by means of preferential treatment and agreements in order that Germany's coinage system might once more have a support of specie. German mines, especially those at Mansfield, produce sufficient silver to enable the minting of such coins to be commenced at once, when the necessary formalities have been complied with. For a later date, when Germany is better consolidated politically and economically, a new gold coinage, with a 5 gr. fine gold content, might be introduced, which would consist of gold shillings or gold gulden, whose value would depend on the price of gold obtaining at the time. It does not seem likely, however, that bimetalism would be favoured by countries whose currency is based upon a gold standard alone in order to extricate Germany from the impasse to which she has brought herself by almost unrestricted issue of paper money.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

	Nov. 7, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 22, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,848	17,676	17,691
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,923	7,901	7,916
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India ..	2,434	2,434	2,434
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,706	6,706	6,706
Securities (British Government) ..	785	635	635

No coinage of rupees was reported during the week ending 22nd ult. The stock in Shanghai on the 26th ult. consisted of about 28,400,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 920 silver bars, as compared with about 28,800,000 ounces in sycee, 24,000,000 dollars, and 2,650 silver bars on the 19th ult. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 10d the tael. Statistics for the month of November are appended:—

	Bar Silver per Ounce Standard.	Bar Gold.
	Cash Delivery.	Forward Delivery.
Highest price	40 1/2	39 1/2
Lowest	37 1/2	37 1/2
Average	38-750	38-379

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.		Cash, Per Ounce.
Nov. 26 ..	102 11	37 1/2	Dec. 8, 1915	26 1/2
28 ..	103 0	37 1/2	8, 1916	35 1/2
29 ..	103 2	37 1/2	7, 1917	43
30 ..	102 11	37 1/2	7, 1918	48 1/2
Dec. 1 ..	102 7	37 1/2	5, 1919	74
2 ..	101 3	37 1/2	2, 1920	44 1/2

NOTICES.

The International Committee of Bankers on Mexico has invited Mr James Speyer, of Messrs Speyer and Co., New York, and Mr R. G. Hutchins, junr., of Messrs Hallgarten and Co., New York, to become members of the American section, and these gentlemen have been duly elected upon the committee. The British section has been enlarged by the election of Mr Frank C. Tiarks, of Messrs J. H. Schroder and Co., London, who will represent the Mexican issues of Messrs Speyer Brothers, London. These additions to the committee bring about a further community of interests representing American and European holders of Mexican securities.

CASTNER-KELLNER ALKALI.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Share capital	1,000,000 ..	Purchase of	
Debitures	166,487 ..	patents, lands,	
Creditors	634,415 ..	buildings, ma-	
Unclaimed divs ..	183 ..	chinery, &c.	1,947,857 .. + 140,316
Deprec. reserve ..	687,500 .. + 50,000	Debtors	96,524 .. - 159,675
General reserve ..	79,364 ..	Stocks	198,733 .. + 21,633
Loan from bankers	65,000 .. + 65,000	Reserve invest-	
Profit and loss ..	113,706 .. - 114,426	ments	79,364 ..
		Other investments	363,376 .. - 4,081
		Office furniture ..	326 .. - 121
		Cash	37,879 .. - 66,434
		Deb. sinking fund	22,602 .. + 3,846
Total	2,746,661 .. - 64,274	Total	2,746,661 .. - 64,274

NEW ZEALAND LOAN AND MERCANTILE AGENCY.

June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. stock	1,000,000 ..	Cash	350,131 .. - 29,206
5% pref. stock ..	1,000,000 ..	Investments	280,160 .. - 263,211
4% 1st mort. deb.	1,000,000 ..	Bills & securities	36,986 .. + 2,048
4% 2nd deb. stock	1,000,000 ..	Bills receivable	14,658 .. + 7,001
Divd. equal acct.	—	Advances on	
Bills payable ..	8,758 .. - 100,000	wool, &c.	425,314 .. + 168,416
Current acco'ts ..	671,246 .. - 135,069	Loans & adv'ces	2,764,190 .. + 339,161
Interest accrued	17,000 ..	Properties & stk.	4,377 .. + 1,583
Reserve account	600,000 ..	Merchandise ..	173,282 .. - 159,706
Revenue account	62,305 .. - 26,187	Current accounts	740,437 .. - 420,020
		Mort. deb. stock	300,000 ..
		Premises and	
		stores	259,774 .. + 22,151
Total	5,359,309 .. - 281,783	Total	5,359,309 .. - 281,783

P. AND O. STEAM NAVIGATION.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Prefd. stock	3,040,000 ..	Steamers, &c.,	
Def. stock	3,592,518 .. + 201,398	payment on ac-	
Deb. stock	1,487,560 .. - 8,320	count of new	
Reserve	1,607,350 .. - 201,345	ships, coal, naval	
Conting. fund ..	1,000,000 ..	stores, property,	
Insurance fund ..	3,000,000 .. + 500,000	worksh ps, and	
Provident fund ..	300,000 ..	machinery,	
Sundry balances, &c.	8,816,712 .. + 252,598	wharves, moor-	
Revenue balance	391,858 .. - 101,282	ings, invest-	
		ments, cash at	
		hand, and debts	
		owing to the	
		company	23,236,598 .. + 643,049
Total	23,236,598 .. + 643,049	Total	23,236,598 .. + 643,049

THE STRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
7% cum. pref. £1.	300,000 ..	Leasehold premises,	
8% cum. pref. £1.	200,000 ..	&c.	862,090 ..
£1 ptg. pref. ord.	230,000 ..	Leasehold property	596 ..
Def. ord. shares	5,000 ..	Additional prop-	
Strand Palace deb.		erties	51,214 .. + 28,889
stock	94,817 .. - 557	Stock in trade ..	22,132 .. - 4,182
Regent Palace deb.		Debtors and debt	
stock	133,517 .. - 3,148	balances	198,019 .. + 55,499
Creditors	121,362 .. + 16,083	Investments	40,110 .. - 59,645
Depreciation ..	3,339 .. + 1,044	Cash	91,289 .. + 6,480
Redemption accont.	27,075 .. + 3,666		
Reserve	50,000 ..		
Profit and loss ..	75,390 .. + 9,953		
Total	1,265,500 .. + 27,041	Total	1,265,500 .. + 27,041

Reports and Notices.

Major J. E. Franck, chairman of Zungon Tin Syndicate, Limited, has been elected to a seat on the board of East and West African Exploration Company, Limited.

Baring Brothers and Co., Limited, notify that the transfer books of the Commercial Cable Company sterling 4 per cent. 500-year debenture stock will be closed from the 21st to the 31st instant, both days inclusive, for the preparation of the warrants for the interest due January 1, 1922.

At the extraordinary general meeting of the Kimberley Waterworks Company, Limited, held on December 1st, the resolutions confirming the sale of the undertaking and the voluntary liquidation of the company were carried unanimously.

Adjourned meetings of the holders of 5½ per cent. first mortgage bonds and the 5½ per cent. income bonds of the Barcelona Traction, Light, and Power Company, Limited, will be held at the office of the Canadian and General Finance Company, Limited, 3 London Wall buildings, E.C. 2, on December 29th next, at 12.15 p.m. and 12.30 p.m. respectively.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

SALVADOR.—Salvador Government 6 per cent. Sterling Loan, 1908, and 7 per cent. Funding Bonds.—A general meeting of bondholders will be held on December 8, 1921, at 3.15 p.m., at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, E.C. 2, to consider a scheme of rearrangement which has been put before the committee. It is important that a full attendance of bondholders should be at the meeting, and all those desiring to attend must lodge their bonds with the Anglo-South American Bank, Limited, Old Broad Street, E.C. 2, or their own bankers, and produce the relative receipt at the meeting.

RAILWAYS.

ARGENTINE NORTH-EASTERN.—The result of working for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that net receipts amounted to £34,671, which compares with £143,011 for 1919-20, the decline being 75½ per cent. The sum of £41,545 is brought in, making £76,215 available. The sum of £125,798 goes to payment of debenture interest and interest on loans, leaving a debit balance of £49,583 to go forward. With regard to debenture interest the report states interest for the six months ended June 30, 1921, amounting to £27,682 6s 2d on the "B" debenture stock and "B" debentures has been provisionally satisfied by the issue of deferred interest scrip, in accordance with scheme passed July 28, 1921. The report states that "with a view to a revision of the tariffs, and of the labour regulations as applied to the railway which has a light traffic, negotiations are proceeding with the Argentine Government, and the directors look forward with confidence to the result."

ENTRE RIOS.—The results of the working for year ended June 30, 1921, as compared with the year ended June 30, 1920, are as follows:—

	Year ended	Year ended	
	June 30,	June 30,	Difference.
	1920.	1921.	Amount.
Gross receipts	1,236,371 ..	1,180,230 ..	- 56,141 .. - 4.54
Working expenses ..	989,444 ..	1,054,894 ..	+ 65,450 .. + 6.61
Net receipts	246,927 ..	125,336 ..	- 121,591 .. - 49.24

To the balance of £125,336 must be added balance brought forward July 1, 1920, £25,996, and miscellaneous receipts, interest, discounts, profits on exchange, transfer fees, &c., £30,946, making £186,279, less interest on debenture stock and debentures paid and accrued to June 30, 1921, £160,350, leaving a balance of £25,929 to be carried forward. The report states that the cash position of the company at the present time precludes a transfer from the first preference stock dividend fund to the net revenue account for the purpose of the payment of a dividend on this stock. The company is owed by the Argentine Government for transport accounts accrued the large sum of £86,082, which does not bear interest. When payments on this account are received or the cash resources of the company are improved by better earnings, the directors will be able to transfer from the dividend fund the amount necessary to provide for the payment of the arrears of dividend of 6 per cent. on the first preference stock.

RAILWAYS AMALGAMATION TRIBUNAL.—The Railways Amalgamation Tribunal announce that, in accordance with section 10 of the Railways Act, 1921, they have appointed as clerk of the tribunal Mr Henry Allan Holden Steward, barrister-at-law, who is at present the chairman of the Light Railway Commission. The offices and address of the tribunal will be at 1 Horse Guards Avenue, Whitehall, S.W. 1.

BANKS.

LONDON AND GENERAL TRADE BANK.—In the Chancery Division on November 29th, Mr Justice Astbury sanctioned a scheme of arrangement between the London and General Trade Bank and its creditors. The scheme proposed that securities held should be valued as at a certain date, and that they should be exchanged for debentures. For the unsecured part of the debt creditors would receive half payment in debentures and half in shares.

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND.—The report for the year ended October 8, 1921, shows a net profit of £377,501. The dividend of 10 per cent. and a bonus of 2 per cent. absorbed £168,000. There has been written off expenditure on bank buildings and heritable property £20,000. The sum of £30,000 has been carried to pension reserve fund, and the balance of £159,501 has been added to rest, making the rest £1,241,777. The report states that all the bank's investments are valued in the state of affairs at or under the prices ruling at the date of the balance.

ASSURANCE.

LIVERPOOL MARINE AND GENERAL.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows that in the marine account the net premiums amounted to £864,948, and the claims in respect of this and the previous years to £529,067. The expenses of management were £36,219. The amount of the marine fund at the end of the year was £542,626, against £422,964. The net premiums for the fire department were £47,038. The claims paid and outstanding amounted to £25,925; commission, £9,678; and expenses of management, £10,379. The directors have appropriated to this account £5,000 from the general reserve and £5,729 from profit and loss account, thus making the total of the fire fund at the end of the year £18,815, being a reserve of 40 per cent. of the premiums for the year. The accident department shows net premiums of £60,913 1s 2d; claims paid, £20,967; commission, £15,270; and expenses of management, £9,374. The directors have appropriated £5,000 from general reserve and from profit and loss account £5,311, thus making the total of the accident fund £35,146. The balance in the profit and loss account, after providing for income-tax and writing off depreciation on lease and furniture, the transfer of amounts to the fire and accident accounts, amount £4,307, which is subject to directors' fees.

RUBBER.

BATU MATANG.—The report for year to June 30, 1921, shows a debit balance of £5,460. The sum of £6,760 is brought in, thus leaving a credit balance of £1,300 to go forward. The report states that the output of rubber, with restriction for eight months of the year was 198,905 lbs., which compares with 211,444 lbs. in the previous year. The net average price realised for the crop was 8.865d per lb., the corresponding figure for 1919-20 being 1s 9.403d. In view of the heavy fall in price of rubber, the board have taken steps to reduce the expenditure for the current year to the minimum, consistent with keeping the property in good order.

CASTLEFIELD (KLANG).—After writing off the sum of £2,727 for depreciation on buildings, machinery, water scheme, &c., the year's

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Debenture Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.			Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.		Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.			
					Amount.	Amount.	Rate.		
Banks.									
Royal Bank of Australia	Sept. 30*	£ 30,919	£ 58,216	£ 89,135	..	37,500	10	20,000	31,635
Royal Bank of Scotland	Oct. 8	..	377,501	377,501	..	168,000	12	209,501	..
Breweries.									
Bieckert's	June 30	19,296	95,657	114,953	15,558	37,500	10	45,000	16,895
Cheltenham Original	Sept. 30	5,569	20,428	25,997	6,592	11,000	10	1,500	6,905
Ind. Coope and Co.	Sept. 30	139,613	144,732	284,345	..	168,000	40	10,000	106,345
Russell's Gravesend	Sept. 30	22,624	28,383	51,007	6,177	8,137	8	14,000	22,693
St Anne's Well	Sept. 30	9,365	5,190	14,555	3,840	4,000	10	..	6,715
Wolverhampton and Dudley ..	Sept. 30	19,497	119,567	139,064	5,250	37,500	12½	68,000	28,314
Electric Lighting and Power.									
Nairobi Electric Power	Dec. 31	2,113	2,450	4,563	..	3,900	10	..	663
Financial, Land, &c.									
Clitheroe Estate	June 23	Dr 2,019	4,890	2,871	..	..	..	4,000	Dr 1,129
New Zealand Loan and Mercantile ..	June 30	23,492	Dr 16,187	7,305	50,000	40,000	4†	Dr 100,000	17,305
Tube Investments	Oct. 31	32,991	60,433	93,424	25,428	27,831	8	..	40,165
Hotels, Restaurants, &c.									
Grand Hotel (Leicester)	Sept. 30	8,505	7,551	16,056	2,750	4,000	10	3,500	5,806
Strand Hotel	Sept. 30	15,036	92,954	107,990	37,000	50,600	11 Pft.Ord. 506 Df.	..	20,390
Rubber, &c.									
Batu Matang	June 30	6,760	Dr 5,430	1,300	..	..	..	..	1,300
Castlefield (Klang)	June 30	19,690	Dr 11,814	7,876	..	..	..	..	7,876
Mambau (F.M.S.)	June 30	8,407	Dr 6,747	1,660	..	..	..	..	1,660
Pullangode	June 30	5,388	Dr 6,641	Dr 1,253	..	..	..	..	Dr 1,253
Rassak (F.M.S.)	June 30	3,168	Dr 4,325	Dr 1,157	..	..	..	..	Dr 1,157
Shipping.									
P. and O. Steam Navigation	Sept. 30	111,939	571,466	683,405	152,000	431,100	12†	..	100,305
Tea.									
Imperial Tea Chests	Aug. 31	67	295	362	..	223	35†	..	139
Kintyre	June 30	3,925	1,818	5,743	1,000	..	..	3,297	1,446
Textiles.									
J. and P. Coats	June 30	903,059	2,072,449	2,975,508	330,000	2,581,263	17½	Dr 250,000	314,245
Tramways.									
Cape Electric	June 30	11,142	48,904	60,046	..	29,473	6	18,000	12,573
Trusts.									
Third Edinburgh Investment	Nov. 5	53,289	24,188	77,477	6,300	8,400	12	..	62,777
Other Companies.									
Bernard Hughes	Oct. 29	3,072	9,714	12,786	1,470	3,601	10½	3,000	4,715
Blyth Shipbuilding, &c.	Sept. 30	4,026	21,817	25,843	..	18,293	10	..	7,550
Castner-Kellner Alkali	Sept. 30	48,132	145,574	193,706	..	130,000	13	50,000	13,706
Hagemann's Creameries	June 30	3,841	9,424	13,265	7,201	..	..	..	6,064
Henry Bucknall and Sons	Aug. 31	6,586	Dr 3,405	3,181	18,000	..	..	Dr 18,000	3,181
Ilford	Oct. 31	10,929	41,552	52,481	11,400	24,800	8	10,000	6,281
Ingall, Parsons, Clive, and Co.	Sept. 30	5,740	6,344	12,084	4,012	3,313	10	..	4,759
John Pound and Co.	Aug. 31	..	6,927	6,927	..	5,327 11 Pft.Ord. 484 12½ Df.	..	..	1,116
Pinner's Hall (Austin Friars)	Sept. 30	3,203	11,485	14,688	..	8,430	8	2,353	3,905
Telephone Manufacturing	May 31	..	98,003	98,003	..	28,700	10	44,507	24,796

* Half-year.

† Free of tax.

(t) Tube investments year 1919-20—ordinary dividend absorbed £97,075.

working to June 30, 1921, resulted in a net loss of £11,814, which will be more than balanced by a refund of approximately £13,000 for excess profits duty paid in previous years. There is a balance of £7,875 standing to the credit of profit and loss account, made up as follows:—Brought forward from preceding year, £19,690; debit balance for 1920-21, £1

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

			Week's Rec'pts, 1921.		Aggre- gate Rec'pts, 1921.	
			£		£	
Metropolitan District						
London Electric						
City and South London	47weeks	Nov. 26	216,052	..	11,153,952	..
Central London						
L.G.O.						
Metropolitan Electric Trams						
London United Trams	47weeks	Nov. 26	46,299	..	2,538,128	..
South Metropolitan Trams						
Tramways (M.E.T.)						

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.		
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -	
Beira and Mashonaland	1 mth	Aug. 31	810	£ 104,124	£ 7,541	—	—	—
Mid. of W. Aust.	3 mths	Sept. 30	277	9 440	1,534	25,508	—	3,095
New Cape Central.	4 weeks	Nov. 5	205	3 095	864	113,615	—	13,968
Rhodesia Railways . .	1 mth	Aug. 31	1,397	145,543	1,238	..	..	..
Rhodesia Katanga . .	1 mth	July 31	..	11,559	..	..	..	..
Sh. & Highlands	1 mth	Oct. 31	..	4,800	300	..	..	9,650
Nyasaland	1 mth	Oct. 31	..	..	..	..	..	..

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Cross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Cross Receipts.	
				1920-21.		1920-21.	
					+ or -		+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	30 weeks	Oct. 29	993	Rs. 228,586	+ 13,679	Rs. 455,295	-16,877
Barri L.A. Ry.	31 weeks	Nov. 5	118	14,800	- 800	6,85,800	- 1,70
Bengal & N. Western	4 weeks	Oct. 29	2,067	4,92,490	+ 1,84	19,97,030	+ 96
Bengal Nagpur	30 weeks	29	2,697	12,42,000	+ 2,000	3,57,26,184	-10,418
Bombay, Bar. & C.I.	7 weeks	Nov. 19	2,871	19,04,000	+ 42,000	1,30,65,000	+ 2,95,000
Burma	30 weeks	Oct. 29	1,342	64,33,99	+ 9,508	1,71,81,958	+11,65,300
Delhi, Umballa Kalka	7 weeks	Nov. 19	239	96,000	- 9,616	6,97,140	- 4,82,000
East Indian	8 weeks	26	2,772	30,04,000	+ 92,300	2,36,08,000	+ 2,82,000
G. Indian Peninsula	33 weeks	19	3,121	26,52,700	+ 1,25,300	8,09,24,654	-33,13,300
Madras & S. Mah.	31 weeks	5	3,028	7,70,000	- 82,337	2,91,48,111	+ 9,69,000
Robt's & Kamaon	4 weeks	Oct. 29	82	42,185	+ 1,313	1,74,338	- 44,32
Do Lucknow-Breilly	4 weeks	29	802	53,189	+ 1,655	2,67,526	+ 13,200
South Indian	31 weeks	Nov. 5	1,852	6,99,659	+ 64,142	2,65,76,401	+10,24,600
8thn. Punjab (month)	4 mths	Nov. 31	717	82,288	-10,957	33,39,985	-1,43,44

Name.	Period.	End- ing.	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
			1921.	+ or -	1921.	+ or -
Atchison Topeka.....	9 mths	Sep. 30	17,164.878	-1,283.693	139,756.570	-16,184.64
Baltimore and Ohio.....	9 mths	30	17,468.512	-7,101.787	144,170.774	-14,403.59
Chicago and Milwaukee	9 mths	30	14,271,444	-2,084.689	560,026.223	15,376.36
New York Central.....	9 mths	30	28,565.729	+73,046.210	401,585	27,786.10
Pennsylvania.....	9 mths	30	21,174.175	-1,699.95	374,428	-27,897.78
			21,174.273	-1,068.583	200,801.954	190.50

Name,	Period,	Ending,	Present Mileage,	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts,	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
Anglo-Argentine	17 weeks	Nov. 25	329	£81,777 +	1,515	3,769,937 +	182,077
Burnley Corporation	12 weeks	12	12	£3,352	23	..	..
Calcutta Tramways.	47 weeks	26	35½	Rs 72,323	- 22,219	..	- 794,344
Chatham & District.	16 weeks	17	15	£1,435	212	77,333 -	2,933
Egyptian Markets ..	47 weeks	25	..	£2,339 +	303	96,720 +	14,181
Glasgow Corporation							
Tramways	26 weeks	25	99	£44,931 -	939	1,171,112 +	31,212
Isle of Thanet	8 weeks	23	..	£520 +	45	5,876 +	1,000
Lancashire United...	46 weeks	22	39	£3,183 -	237	162,531	5,410
Liverpool Corporation							
Tramways	47 weeks	25	124	£29,013 +	3,341	1,370,113 +	83,206
L.C.C. Tramways....	35 weeks	30	155	£91,563 -	9,839	3,507,426 +	337,808
Madras Elect. (2 wks)	16 weeks	15	..	Rs 46,251	2,453	8,72,225	1,73,571
Pernambuco Trams.	47 weeks	27	..	£3,649 -	1,540	176,610 -	137
Singapore Electric.	39 weeks	Oct. 8	..	£16,458 +	1,439	526,318	33,060

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Milage	Receipts for Month.		Total Receipts.	
				1920-21.	or -	1920-21.	or -
Alabama Power..	1 mth	June 30	Gross	\$259,059	+ 88,481	..	..
			Net	\$130,812	+ 22,750		
Barcelona Trac. repts. in psts.	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	3,185,930	+ 390,824	\$2,018,832	+ 4,451,5
			Net	1,985,906	+ 126,914	1,968,961	+ 2,336,
Brazilian Trac. repts. in mil.	10 mths	31	Gross	156,000	+ 1,574,000	149,070,000	+ 390,900
			Net	9,016,000	+ 2,221,000	75,313,000	+ 184,710
Brisbane Electric Trac. Columbia	10 mths	31	Gross	\$17,500	+ 1,570		
Electric &c..	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$845,185	+ 33,388	\$2,523,494	+ 12,5
			Net	\$238,269	+ 2,279	\$2,623,886	+ 4,

Other Foreign.									
Alcoy and Gandia	47 weeks	Nov. 25	33	P	30,000	5,000	757,600	+ 122	
Bilbao	10 mths	Oct. 31	15		1,691	2,326	16,612	- 174	
Bombay	10 mths	31	136		7,988	+ 468	101,188	+ 3	
Colombian, N. Rly.	10 mths	31	86		17,240	- 1,840	193,331	+ 34	
Costa Rica	10 mths	Sept. 30	189		25,565	- 2,135	55,352	- 24	
Dorado Extension	7 mths	July 31	70		24,000	+ 4,500	127,750	+ 17	
Egyptian Delta	31 weeks	Nov. 10	559		115,144	- 4,695	237,848	- 1	
St. Bouthin, of Spain ..	46 weeks	19	104	P	78,706	9,405	2,587,953	- 1,454	
International of Central America ..	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross 50,034		2,233		683,620	+ 5	
La Guaira & Caracas ..	2 mths	Nov. 23	Net 7,747		5,837		251,199	- 6	
Mexican Railway	20 weeks	Nov. 23	253		(8,570)	5,060	50,110	- 21	
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	Net \$31,000		+ 129,900		6,681,460	+ 1,401	
Nasajo Oscarshamm ..	9 mths	Oct. 31	Net \$37,000		+ 105,000		5,679,719	+ 1,053	
Ottoman 3 & 1/2 W.	4 mths	Sept. 30	Net \$47.00		+ 167,100		1,192,100		
Pyrrna to Aidin					13,457	- 8,819	119,090	- 25	
Paraguay Central	1 week	Nov. 19	193		8,318				
Piraeos Athens, &c.	20 weeks	Nov. 19	274		3,170	- 1,350	79,970	- 76	
Puerto Cabello, &c.	8 mths	Aug. 31	d 231,310	+ 414,841			16,380,765	+ 5,239	
Salvador	9 mths	Aug. 31	293		37,000		37,500	- 23	
Santa Fe & Princes	21 weeks	Nov. 26	100		1,951	1,876	46,564	- 23	
French Railways	1 mth	Oct. 31	11		123,024	- 37,662			
Samana & Santiago	10 mths	31	112		6,190	1,647	99,400	- 38	
Zafra and Huelva	10 mths	31	112		(15,508)	838	142,094	+ 14	
Canadian	45 weeks	Nov. 21	9,750		\$1678,800	- 127,900	61,712.13	+ 5,016	
Canadian Pacific	46 weeks	21	13,402		\$442,000	- 118,800	11,820.00	- 1878	
Grand Trunk	46 weeks	21	3,616		\$33,550.9	- 23,297	14,290.40	- 1878	

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.	Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	3 mths	Sept. 30	Gross \$91,711	135,656	336,205	- 213,494
Canadian Nat.	9 mths	Oct. 30	Gross \$7,057,400	916,900	48,654,600	+ 4,833,200
Canadian Pac.	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross \$22,090,000	- 2,711,000	153,478,000	- 13,760,000
Grand Trunk.	3 mths	Mar. 31	Net \$17,701,000	- 939,000	28,612,000	+ 1,750,000
Temiscouata	1 mth	Sept. 30	Net \$1,278,700	+ 55,900	5,772,200	+ 59,000
			Gross \$122,900	+ 68,400	91,400	+ 50,000
			Gross \$35,478			

Month.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£
January	253,807	211,917	211,851	293,794
February	232,023	220,885	250,020	288,225
March	239,023	225,008	199,881	134,932
April	239,916	213,159	208,934	282,396
May	239,205	218,057	403,255	225,841
June	225,447	214,215	194,184	338,199
July	251,740	214,918	135,126	279,263
August	251,896	207,339	241,270	266,151
September	247,885	223,719	231,226	271,452
October	136,780	204,184	248,085	363,574
November	145,458	186,462	282,237	..
December	192,870	158,835	272,470	..
		2,422,420	2,066,649	2,643,633

NOTE.—The value of the gold output fluctuates each month in accordance with the amount of premium which may be declared to the Mines Department of Southern Rhodesia in that month.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Climatic conditions continue to be generally favourable for growing cereals, the young plant in most instances being strong and healthy. Seeding operations are practically completed, while reports from some districts still point to a slight reduction in wheat acreage. Supplies of native wheat were on a larger scale at the principal statute markets, and prices at first displayed a weaker tendency, but subsequently recovered in sympathy with renewed strength of imported varieties. Suitable milling samples ruled from 49s to 52s, and inferior lots down to 40s per 504 lbs free on rail. Imported grades proved somewhat irregular, but firmer on balance, though millers were not disposed to follow the advance. No. 1 Northern Manitoba 58s 6d, No. 2 hard winter 55s, both ex ship 54s per 480 lbs, and Australian 53s 6d ex quay per 496 lbs. On c.i.f. terms prices further hardened under stimulating advices from North America and Argentina together with a better European demand. Cargoes of No. 1 Northern Manitoba just sailed sold 54s, River Plate new crop January-February 50s, hard Pacific float 51s to U.K. Pacific float 51s and Australian on passage at 50s 6d, both to Italy. The demand for flour shows no improvement despite further price reductions, home milled grades being 1s per sack lower. London straight run quoted 48s to 49s, patents 51s, town households 46s. All English straights 43s per sack delivered. Country straights on rail London 37s to 40s. Imported makes ruled steady, but quiet. Canadian export patents quoted 48s, straights 44s, Kansas patents 45s, Australian 43s ex store per 280 lbs. In the forward market American sorts were more reservedly offered at prices above the parity on this side, but Canadian parcels were put out freely. Kansas top patents December seaboard quoted 45s, Canadian 41s to 43s 6d, and Australian new crop January-February 37s per 280 lbs. There is a good inquiry for offals, which are firmly held, broad brand at £10 to £10 5s, middlings £11 ex mill, fancy Plate middlings £12 10s ex ship all per ton. English malting barley meets with fair support, choice samples realising 70s and occasionally 75s for stand out samples, with inferior lots at 45s. Grinding sorts range from 38s to 44s per 448 lbs. Of imported, No. 4 Canada Western 34s, Canada feed 31s 6d, American feed 30s, Morocco 33s to 34s, all per 400 lbs landed terms. Maize in good demand and prices firmer. Yellow La Plata 35s 6d, yellow African 36s, white flat African 35s, all landed per 480 lbs. White African maize meal £8 5s ton. The forward market was also firmer, with fair activity displayed. Cargoes of La Plata float sold 33s to 34s 3d, and white flat Rhodesian in similar position 32s 3d per 480 lbs. Oats dearer, in common with other feeding stuffs. English ranges from 29s to 34s per 336 lbs. Of imported Plate f.a.q. 27s 6d, ditto clipped 28s 6d, Canadian Western 31s 6d to 32s 6d, Chilian tawny 28s all landed per 320 lbs. Oatmeal firmer. English all cuts, £20 to £21, ordinary Scotch £19 10s, American £19, English rolled oats £22 to £23, flaked £24 to £25 per ton. Beans steadier and in fair demand. English Springs 54s to 58s, Winters 49s to 51s per 532 lbs. English peas in better request, Maples ruling at 59s to 62s, Duns 50s to 54s per 504 lbs. Dutch blue 23s to 27s, New Zealand blue 22s to 25s per cwt. A good chartering business in heavy grain took place from the River Plate, chiefly prompt loading, at firmer rates, steamers up-river being fixed at 25s to 26s 3d, and new season's loading at 25s, with options of lined oats and oats cargoes at proportionate increases. North American ports inactive, Continental and Mediterranean requirements being apparently satisfied for the time being. Northern Range to four ports Denmark December was closed at 22 cents per 100 lbs and Gulf to Continent at 15½ cents. Eastern markets dull. Bombay on dead weight prompt 20s, Madras Coast kernels to Genoa/Hamburg indicated 25s, while Dalny beans would be worked at 35s. Australia continues to place tonnage for new season's wheat at 50s U.K./Continent and 35s India, loading at usual ports. South African maize remains steady at 31s 3d, and similar cargoes from the Danube firmer at 21s paid to U.K./Continent. Other markets quite featureless.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated December 1st, is as follows:—Market: A reduction of 10s per ton has been made in Cleveland pig-iron, making the price of No. 3 G.M.B. 100s. These reductions are necessary, and bring us nearer to the point when foreign buyers may be tempted to place orders. Four more furnaces will shortly resume making hematite. Orders, however, are still very scarce. 110s is still the quotation for mixed numbers East Coast hematite pig-iron. Manufactured iron and steel: Although prospects are considered brighter, there is no improvement in actual demand. Steel ship plates, home, £10 10s; steel ship angles, home, £10; iron bars, home, £12 10s; steel rails, home, £10 10s net. Iron ore: The increase in the hematite output should mean a few orders for imported ore eventually. Meanwhile, the furnaces have stocks and old contracts. Best Bilbao rubio ore nominally 27s per ton.

THE
STANDARD BANK
OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

(with which is incorporated the
AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION, LTD.)
Bankers to the Government of the Union of South Africa in Cape Province; to the
Imperial Government in South Africa; and to the Administration of Rhodesia.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	£10,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL	£8,916,660
PAID-UP CAPITAL	£2,229,165
RESERVE FUND	£2,893,335
UNCALLED CAPITAL	£6,687,495

Board of Directors.

William Reiseron Arbutnot, Esq.	Solomon B. Joel, Esq.
Sir David M. Barbour, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G.	Horace Peel, Esq.
Edward Clifton Brown, Esq.	Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G.
Stanley Christopherson, Esq.	William Smart, Esq.
Robert E. Dickinson, Esq.	Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham, G.C.S.I.
James Fairhairn Finlay, Esq., C.S.I.	G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.

Senior General Manager in South Africa—J. P. Gibson.
Joint General Managers in South Africa { John Jeffrey,
James S. Shiel.
Assist. Gen. Managers in South Africa—G. F. Le Sueur, W. K. Robertson.
London Manager—Francis Shipton. *Secretary*—Herbert G. Hoey.

Head Office: 10, CLEMENTS LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.4.
London Wall Branch: 63, London Wall, E.C.2.
West End Branch: 17, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.

(Adjoining the Royal Colonial Institute.)
NEW YORK AGENCY: 68 WALL STREET.
ROTTERDAM BRANCH: 15 COOLSINGEL.
AMSTERDAM BRANCH: 69 ROKIN.

HAMBURG AGENCY:
Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., 49-53 SCHAUBENBURGER-STRASSE.
Over 400 Branches, Sub-Branches and Agencies in
CAPE PROVINCE, NATAL, ORANGE FREE STATE, TRANSVAAL, RHODESIA,
NYASALAND, BASUTOLAND, KENYA COLONY, KENYA PROTECTORATE,
UGANDA, ZANZIBAR, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA, SOUTH WEST
AFRICA, TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, BELGIAN CONGO.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION transacted at all
Branches and Agencies.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened on the usual terms, and **DEPOSITS**
RECEIVED for fixed periods at rates which may be ascertained on
application.

SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS opened on terms, particulars of which may be obtained at Branches.
BILLS NEGOTIATED and COLLECTED.
DRAFTS issued, MAIL and TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES made.

LETTERS OF CREDIT and COMMERCIAL CREDITS established.
TRAVELLER'S LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available in all parts of the world.
PURCHASE and SALE of Stocks and Shares effected.
DIVIDENDS, ANNUITIES, ETC., received and COUPONS COLLECTED.
STRONGROOMS provided for the safe custody of Securities and Valuables.

ASSAY DEPARTMENT—Gold, etc., and all Mineral Ores assayed and analysed. **EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE** business undertaken. *The Officers of the Bank are bound not to disclose the transactions of its customers.*

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—Business in raw steel continues to taper off, and many people have ceased to buy for the present year, except to meet the needs of the day. Pig-iron is again lower, and foundry iron can now be bought below £5 at furnaces. This compares with the highest figure last year of £14 10s. This compares with Continental pig of inferior quality; nevertheless, buying has not revived, and it is thought consumers are holding back their orders until the new year. No further furnaces are being put into commission. Owners are standing out for cheaper fuel and reduced railway rates. Foreign trade is extremely depressed, although some signs of revival are to be seen in the Far East and Australia. European competition has ceased to be formidable except in a limited number of steel commodities. The demand for high-speed steel scarcely counts. Several good orders for steel for automobile construction have come in, and there is a demand for permanent magnets for magnetos and general purposes. Wire rods have been reduced again, but the quotations are higher than Continental. The finished steel branches are less depressed than the heavy and raw material departments, but business with them is far from satisfactory. Although cutlery and plate dealers are receiving increased orders on account of the Christmas season trade, things are abnormally quiet for the time of year, and the business is unequally shared. The receipt of several good orders from Australia suggests the ending of the recent slump in that market. Unemployment and short time working continue to increase.

The house coal market is only moderately active, except in the best qualities, which are in demand. Inland consumption of steam coal continues to taper off, and South Yorkshire is not getting much export trade, for which competition is extremely keen. Buyers everywhere are expecting lower prices and cheaper railway freights. Gas fuels are more active, as the companies are adding to their depleted reserves. Small fuels are steady, and best grades sell rather freely. The production of blast furnace coke is going into consumption.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Dealing in Scotch pig-iron has been very quiet this week, and that both on home and export account; yet the situation has not been devoid of feature. The most interesting that transpired was the marked increase in inquiries from foreign markets as to the conditions on which business can now be done. As one leading house declared, if half of the negotiations initiated materialised those concerned would have reason to be satisfied with the prospects. A variety of transactions have been carried through, but they do not come up to expectations, though the tone of things is mending, and requires but a little more strengthening to assure for trade an actual expansion which would be appreciable. It is concluded that the improvement, slight though it be, which has taken place in the steel trade has given cause for thought in other departments, and has driven heads of consuming firms to consider whether—bottom not having been convincingly reached—they are acting wisely in ignoring the progress that has been made in prices towards bedrock, and the danger therefore faces them of being badly caught when the "turn" comes, as come it inevitably will some day. Authorities in the pig-iron trade position thoughtfully declare that founders and others, in respect of stocks are running as near the wind as they have ever done; and there are no reserves in makers' yards to fall back upon in a demand emergency. In somewhat similar circumstances in past years (before the war) consumers gave little heed to the matter of material (iron) supplies, as public and private stores were always full of them. To-day, if the iron and relative trades were suddenly to develop even a moderate measure of activity it could not be taken prompt or full advantage of, for the reason that the raw article does not exist in quantity, North of the Tweed, at least. The situation is a grave one, and will not be easily handled, especially if buyers as a body realise the risks to which they are exposed, and hurriedly, as usual, make effort to protect themselves. For long now Scotch users of pig-iron have been drawing for their purposes largely, if not solely, from the Continent. But that source is drying up, and should be practically shut down, owing to the drastic cut of 10s a ton by the Cleveland producers this week. As regards the steel trade, the position continues to improve, though there is a lot of ground to cover before the current state of depression can be overcome. A good many lines for ship and boiler plates have been booked this week, yet a great many mills are standing idle, and there has been a goodly tonnage for structural material given out, with more, it is confidently felt, to follow, for a big catalogue of bridge and heavy building is in contemplation. One of the larger steel works, it is reported, is purposing the laying down of plant for rail rolling, a branch that has somehow been neglected by Scotch establishments. The re-equipment of the Scotch railways alone will require a big quantity of light and heavy rails. Black sheet makers, meeting with less Continental competition, are more comfortable than they have been

over a season on home, colonial, and Indian accounts. Bar iron makers are a good bit off from full employment, but they are gradually pulling up to their old level, and have prospects of further expansion. There are said to be some large inquiries on circuit for locomotive engines, and there are also conditional inquiries about for marine engines, and for a miscellaneous assortment of machinery. Rivet, bolt, and nut makers are fairly well off, tube makers have gathered in a few more contracts, but in these and some other connections there is a disposition shown amongst purchasers to limit their dealings to the covering of requirements on to the end of December only. Clyde shipbuilding returns for November make about the poorest show on record—7 vessels and 15,850 tons bringing the aggregates for the 11 months to 202 steamers and 421,845 tons. There is still a lot of fitting-out of boats to go on with. These should be substantially reduced between now and Christmas, which must add to the number of empty berths, and there are no new contracts being given out, so far as disclosed. In some informed quarters the opinion is expressed that a departure for the better will be witnessed with the arrival of 1922.

Supplies of coal are increasing, thanks to the greater energy shown by the men in the pits. But owing to many large works being off, great difficulty all over the Scotch field is being experienced in disposing of smalls, and the accumulations are burdensome. It is reported that, in the circumstance, Fife coal owners are giving away their dross for nothing, shipping it from Burntisland to Grangemouth. The takers pay only haulage rates.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—November 25, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.												
Sea Island	a	a	a	a	a	a	nm	nm	nm	a	a	a
Florida ditto	..	..	..	..	..	..	nm	nm	nm	..	..	..
	Ord	G	O	L	M	G	G	O	L	M	G	O
	7-84	8-59	10-34	11-64	12-44	14-14	5-23	8-23	13-73	20-08	22-43	26-18
American												
	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	G	M	Fr.	G	M	Fr.
Pernambuco, &c.	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Paraiba	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Macao	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Mossoro, &c.	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Ceara	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Maranhão	..	9-54	12-04	13-54	..	..	7-73	13-23	..	20-58	23-08	..
Egyptian.												
Brown	..	..	13-75	15-25	17-75	18-50	..	nm	23-20	..	nm	46-00
Upper	..	..	13-50	14-50	16-50	17-50	..	nm	18-50	..	nm	44-00
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	..	26-00	29-00	32-00	34-00	..	38-00	48-00	..	..	40-00
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	..	13-00	14-00	15-50	..	..	22-20	..	..	34-00
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	..	11-50	13-00	13-50	..	11-00	18-00	..	29-50	33-00
Ditto Smooth	..	10-04	13-29	14-54	15-04	16-04	9-23	14-23	20-73	29-96	31-96	36-44
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	..	nm	nm	nm	..	..	nm	..	37-50	42-00
African, East, &c.	9-00	10-00	12-00	13-00	14-00	15-00	11-00	14-00	21-00	23-00	27-00	31-12
East Indian.												
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee	G	F	For	G	F	For	For	G	F	For	G	F
Broach	..	..	..	10-55	11-05	11-55	..	..	12-25	..	..	23-25
M. Ginned Bhownuggur ..	7-15	7-50	8-65	9-15	9-65	10-15	7-69	8-69	10-29	17-79	18-54	19-54
M. Ginned Omra, No. 1 ..	7-25	8-00	8-75	9-25	9-75	10-25	7-75	8-75	10-35	17-85	18-60	19-60
M. Ginned Khandeish ..	7-35	8-10	8-85	9-35	9-85	10-35	7-85	8-85	10-45	17-95	18-70	19-70
M. Ginned Comptah	6-30	7-40	7-90	8-40	8-90	9-40	6-30	7-40	8-40	..	..	..
M. Ginned Bengal	6-30	7-30	7-80	8-30	8-85	8-80	6-32	7-32	8-32	15-55	16-00	17-00
M. Ginned Beinde	10-55	11-05	11-55	..	..	..	11-35	11-85	..	22-85	23-10	..
Tinnivelly	7-70	8-20	8-70	9-20	..	..	9-60	10-10	..	21-60	21-85	..
Madras, Western	Fr.	8-35	..	..	..	..	7-50	..	..	21-10	..	..
Cocconada, Red	Fr.	8-45	..	..	..	..	7-75	..	..	21-15	..	..
M. Ginned Cocconada, Red ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

MANCHESTER, Dec'd per 1. 151-9.4

A restricted business continues to be in all parts of the market, and the outlook is too uncertain for buyers to display any enterprise. The tone, however, is not worse, and there are more indications of some of our customers being in urgent need of fresh supplies. A little more cloth inquiry has been made for India, with occasional sales. There has not been any activity for China. The Near Eastern outlets remain quiet. Quite an encouraging turnover has been reported, chiefly in printed and

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.,

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

dyed goods for our colonial markets, and increased activity continues to show itself in home trade fabrics, especially in heavy makes. The output of cloth continues to be reduced by the stoppage of more looms. In American and Egyptian yarns for home consumption prices have been very irregular, and there has been a poor offtake. Some moderate lines have been booked in bundle yarns for India, with a rather increased inquiry for certain Continental countries.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price Dec. 1, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.	Nov. 10.	Nov. 3.	Oct. 27.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American...per lb	11-29	12-18	10-88	11-23	12-77	12-55
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	20-50	21-50	20-75	21-00	23-75	23-00
Egyptian.....per lb	18½	19½	19	19½	21	21½
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	18	19	18½	19	20½	21
— 40's twist.....per lb	33	34	34	35	38	40
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	a d	a d	a d	a d	a d	a d
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	32	32	33	35
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32	32	32	32	33	35
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs.....	19	19	19	19	20	21
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	18	18	18	18	19	20

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Dec. 1, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American...per lb	11-29	12-70	26-42	d	22-68	12-19
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair	20-50	28-50	50-50	27-56	32-20	20-55
Egyptian.....per lb	18½	30	51½	43	35½	17½
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	18	28½	49	43	35	17½
— 40's twist.....per lb	33	44	93	67½	45½	35
— 60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	a d	a d	a d	a d	a d	a d
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	32	32	66	66	46	35
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	32	32	72	63	45	35
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs.....	19	19	43	37	25	13
39-in. ditto, 37½ yds, 16 by 15, 8½ lbs.....	18	18	36	32	22	12

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—Business is still being conducted on very restricted lines, and in the absence of general buying it is somewhat difficult to test values. There is not the confidence that was displayed a few weeks ago, and even for spot lots of merino tops prices are in buyers' favour. Of course, if the value of the raw material becomes stabilised on about the present basis, it should tend to bring out a certain amount of business, and in this connection it may be noted that the sales in London this week have not revealed any real weakness beyond what was recorded at the opening. In any case, tops are being quoted in Bradford for forward delivery at prices which look very low compared with to-day's price of the raw material, and it is difficult to see where wool is to be bought to bring in 64's tops at 3s 6d per lb. However, some firms are offering to

sell at that price, and they apparently trust to being able to pick up cheaper wool. There is not much change in the yarn trade; most firms are well employed, but new business is not coming to hand at all freely, and the outlook for next year is by no means bright. It is just possible, however, that if 64's tops can be stabilised on the basis of 3s 6d, manufacturers may be able to do something. In the meantime the home market is quiet, and the best export market is the Far East. There is still a fair demand for hosiery yarns, but prompt delivery is wanted.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The auctions are being continued in Coleman Street under such conditions that on some days the sale has been either abandoned or valuing has taken place in a bad light. The fact is that the progress of the auctions is being somewhat retarded by weather and manufacturing conditions, which cannot be described as of the best. Then the character of the offerings is also somewhat disappointing, particularly the merinos. Evidently B.A.W.R.A. does not see its way to offer a better selection, and those representing growers' interests are also not in a position to catalogue the wools which are most wanted. There is considerable grumbling among home trade top makers that what they want is not being put up for sale with any degree of freedom, the bulk of the merinos being on the short side, and more suitable for Continental combing purposes than for home trade requirements. On a few days the sale has been fairly good, due to the improved offerings. It is significant that the character of the wools catalogued has a good deal to do with determining both the competition and price. It is remarkable that, although the opening decline is still in evidence, wool is selling distinctly higher than top values in Bradford justify, and it is a mystery that top makers should be offering good average 64's tops at 3s 7d for spot delivery. Some spinners say they can buy at even 12 less for immediate delivery. Yet no such corresponding prices are ruling in Coleman Street Wool Exchange. It makes one wonder what market is providing raw material to bring in tops at these low prices. There must be some who expect still lower prices, otherwise they would not be prepared to sell at the figures named. However, I believe that the raw material is still wanted in fair weights by both home and Continental buyers. Germany, no doubt, needs to purchase on a liberal scale, but the state of her exchange is such that her buyers purchase only what they actually need. French buyers are operating as liberally as anyone could expect. Switzerland, too, is taking some nice lines of the best merinos.

Crossbreds are moving freely into the hands of home trade top makers and spinners, and, on the whole, these are selling at full opening prices. Coarse and medium crossbreds are moving fairly satisfactorily, the demand coming chiefly from the little boom which is being experienced in low quality hand knitting yarns. It is apparent to many that if Continental exchanges were more reasonable, there would soon be a real boom in the export of all descriptions of yarn. The present set-back is entirely traceable not to any apparent reduction in customers' needs, but to inability to pay in sterling at a price which will enable buyers to get back their own. The set-back in wool values to-day is very largely traceable to this adverse factor. In regard to the clean scoured cost of wool, it is difficult for anyone to quote the best classes of merinos with absolute certainty, the market being so irregular. I note that for good super 64's medium fleeces the clean scoured cost is quoted by Messrs Kreglinger and Fernau at 40d to 43d, ex warehouse without oil. It is not often this firm shows such a margin, but they are right. For the wools most wanted to-day, that is anything showing length of staple, buyers are very keen, the decline being no more than 7½ per cent. compared with the best of the previous series, but the lower clean scoured costs prevail for short Continental style wools. I am satisfied that a better selection of merinos would bring out better bidding, but apparently such wool is not available or owners are not prepared to sell.

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

National Provident Institution.

Three good points

in favour of a Life Assurance policy.

1. It will show you a good return for your money.
2. It will give you no anxiety as to depreciation.
3. It will enable you to save Income Tax.

Full detailed particulars will be sent post free on application to—
48, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.3.
Telephone: 1773 Avenue.

THE CITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, Ltd.

HEAD OFFICE:

6, PAUL STREET, FINSBURY, E.C.2.

Assets Exceed - £1,000,000
Premium Income Exceeds £450,000
Claims Paid Exceed - £1,600,000
Advances Made Exceed - £2,250,000

The new issues of our Ordinary Branch and House Purchase Prospectuses are now to hand, copies of which may be had on application to Head Office.

Managing Director: LEONARD ALDRIDGE

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—lb		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—		
COCOA—Foreign, British grown	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d
55s. duty 42s. cwt.	8	0	180	0	1	23	0	0	0	0
55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	8	0	20	0	0	112	0	0	0	0
Granada	42	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ceylon, plantation	47	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gaenagu	47	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bahia, Amg.	57	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
COFFEE—British grow	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d
55s. foreign 42s. cwt.	8	0	180	0	1	23	0	0	0	0
India, fine good 42s. d. r. d.	70	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Do good to fine	110	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mid. to fine	110	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Good to fine	153	0	156	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Central American, gd.	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d	s	d
ord. to mid.	75	0	116	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mid. to fine	117	0	120	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Columbian, ordinary	60	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Do gd. ord. to fine	70	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Do mid. to fine	95	0	112	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
CHEMICALS—		JUTE—		LEATHER—per lb		ROBIN—		Indian and Ceylon—		
Acid, citric	per lb	2	4	2	5	per ton—	s	d	s	d
Nitric	per lb	0	23	0	4	American	16	10	0	13
Oxalic	per lb	0	8	0	9	French	16	10	0	13
Tartaric	per lb	1	5	0	0	Sago	12	0	0	1
Foreign	per lb	1	4	1	5	Sago flour	17	0	0	2
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	0	4	0	4	0	RIHELAC—per cwt—	s	d	s	d
Muriate, White	ton	70	0	75	0	Orange	25	0	0	0
Sulphur	per lb	1	0	1	1	Orange, fair to fine	350	0	356	0
Arsenic, lump	per ton	73	0	75	0	TN Orange	335	0	343	0
Powder	per ton	43	0	42	0	Garnet Lac, AO	232	0	0	0
Ashe, pot.	per cwt	30	0	100	0	Blackish	250	0	163	0
Bleaching pwr. p. lb	15	0	15	0	0	Do do bars	164	0	164	0
Borax, crystall	cwt	31	0	0	0	Standard, cast	164	12	164	17
Do powder	32	0	0	0	0	OILS—Fish, per ton—	s	d	s	d
53Z powder	125	0	127	6	0	Scal, pale	43	0	42	0
Calomel	per lb	5	3	5	6	Seed, lused, per ton	19	10	0	0
Gallme, dry	per oz	1	0	1	1	Rape, refined	53	0	0	0
Heart of Soda, p. ton	15	0	15	0	0	Cotton-seed, crude	35	0	35	0
Potash	s	d	s	d	s	Edible refined	45	0	47	0
Chlorate, net	0	6	0	7	0	Coco-nut, crude	47	0	57	0
Prussiate	1	14	1	24	0	Refined	38	0	41	0
Sulphur, per cwt	25	0	30	0	0	Do do	38	0	41	0
Bal-Acetos	per lb	1	10	2	0	Lard, American	63	0	0	0
Bal-Ammoniac, per cwt	75	0	80	0	0	Petrolm. Oil, per 8 lbs	1	4	0	0
Soda, carb., per ton	42	0	40	0	0	Do do	1	5	0	0
Soda, ash, per ton	27	0	25	0	0	Oil Cakes, Luzn, Eng.	15	0	15	0
Alkali	8	15	0	9	15	per ton	23	15	14	0
Caustic	25	0	25	0	0	Oil Bends—Lined	1	0	0	0
Sugar of lead white	0	0	0	0						

DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES, LIMITED.

REPORT OF DIRECTORS

For the Twelve Months ended 30th June, 1921.

To be submitted to Shareholders at the Thirty-Third Ordinary General Meeting to be held on 9th December, 1921.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.—Gentlemen,—Your Directors beg to submit their Thirty-Third Annual Report, Balance-Sheet at 30th June, 1921, Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30th June, 1921, and Appropriation Account, 30th June, 1921.

The balance undistributed at 30th June, 1920, was represented by:—
Suspense Profit Account—Diamonds unsold at that date, £354,244 14s 10d; Balance unappropriated, £237,830 16s 11d ... £592,075 11 9
During the year the Diamond Account amounted to ... 2,300,580 16 11
Add to this the following:—Interest and Dividends on Investments £407,426 15s 5d; Profits realised on Investments £146,159 19s 11d; Revenue from other sources, £35,861 14s 5d ... 690,448 9 9
Amount transferred from General Fund ... 1,010,232 0 8

£4,542,336 18 8
Deduct Expenditure as follows:—Mining Expenditure £1,976,053 5s 10d; Expenditure on Farms and Landed Property and Kimberley-Alexandersfontein Railway, £143,424 17s 2d. Charges: Donations, £66,104 17s 0d; Grants to Employees leaving the Company's service consequent on trade depression, £112,731; Other Charges, £104,537 9s 7d—£343,873 6s 7d; Interest on Debentures and on Capital of Leased Companies, £164,469 19s 6d; Sinking Fund towards Repayment of Debentures, £34,185 16s 8d ... 2,711,507 5 9

Leaving a Balance of ... £1,830,829 12 11
Which has been dealt with as follows:—Union of South Africa Income-Tax, amount set aside, £6,532 19s 0d; amount appropriated for Stabilisation Reserve, £119,504 17s 0d. Dividends:—Preference Shareholders, after deduction of Tax, £740,000; Deferred Shareholders, free of Tax, £500,000—£1,240,000 ... 1,366,097 16 0
Balance undistributed carried to next year:—Suspense Profit Account—Diamonds unsold 30th June, 1921, £354,331 7s 2d; Balance unappropriated, £110,350 9s 9d ... £464,731 16 11
The stock of blue ground and lumps on the floors at 30th June, 1921, was as follows:—De Beers Mine, 48,396 loads; Wessellon Mine, 2,683,871 loads; Bultfontein Mine, 3,022,659 loads; Dutoitspan Mine, 3,173,226 loads—8,923,152 loads.
The General Reserve Fund now stands at £700,000. The Fund to redeem the De Beers Four and a Half per Cent. Exploration Debentures has been increased to £746,475 2s 4d, both funds being represented by securities which have been taken into the Accounts at market prices on 30th June, 1921. The Special Reserve Fund for the Stabilisation of the Diamond Trade has been increased from £2,357,395 1s 3d to £2,476,899 18s 3d. This fund is invested in the shares of other Diamond Mining Companies and kindred interests, and is included in the £2,926,899 18s 3d shown on the Assets side of the Balance-Sheet, which represents

in some cases actual cost and in other cases less than cost of the various items which make up the total, and your Directors consider that from the point of view of the Diamond Trade generally, they are undoubtedly of great value to the Company. The Company has paid during the year to Preference Shareholders the usual dividend of 20s per share, and to Deferred Shareholders 10s per share.

Your Directors in their report last year mentioned that there was then a lull in the demand for diamonds. Since that date the world generally has been passing through a period of severe depression, which has been felt most acutely in the Diamond Industry. For many months there was a complete cessation of sales by the Syndicate of diamonds purchased by them from the four large producers, and up to now no sales of any importance have taken place. In consequence of the stagnation in the Diamond Market and of representations by the Diamond Syndicate, meetings of the four large producers and the Diamond Syndicate were held at Cape Town in March and May of the present year, when matters were discussed and a satisfactory arrangement as to future deliveries was come to. The severe and continued depression compelled your Directors to take steps to curtail operations and to economise wherever possible, which unfortunately necessitated the retrenchment of large numbers of employees, both European and Native. All Mining work was stopped and expenditure in every department was greatly reduced.

A slight improvement in the Diamond Market has been noticeable recently, but it is still necessary to exercise patience and economy, for the depression through which the industry is passing makes the present a difficult period. The Cape Explosives Works, Limited, which is owned and controlled by your Company, has carried on its operations successfully during the year. The sales of explosives amounted to 870,760 cases, a decrease of 57,688 cases as compared with the sales for the previous year, which is mainly accounted for by the temporary closing of the diamond mines of South Africa and the base metal mines of Australia.

The Company has guaranteed payment of the interest and principal moneys in connection with an issue of £1,250,000—7½ per Cent. First Mortgage Debentures made by the Cape Explosives Works, Limited, for the purpose of extending its activities and repaying advances made to it by your Company. The South African Marine, Fire and General Insurance Company, Limited, in which your Company held a fifty per cent. interest, having fulfilled its object of providing marine insurance for diamonds during the war period, when it was otherwise unavailable the liquidation of that Company was decided upon and has been carried out.

A report by the General Manager on the operations of the Company during the year will be submitted at the Meeting. In terms of clause 84 (Sub-section C) of the Company's Articles of Association, three Directors retire, namely:—Friedrich Hirschhorn, Robert Frederic Philipson-Stow, William Pickering, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

G. W. COMPTON, R. PHILIPSON-STOW,
D. ROSS FRAMES, W. PICKERING,
D. HARRIS, Directors.

Kimberley, 21st September, 1921.

BALANCE SHEET, 30th June, 1921.

Capital:	£	s	d	£	s	d	Property: De Beers and Kimberley Mining Claims held under Government Licences, Dutoitspan, Bultfontein and Wessellon Mines, Wessellon Estate, and other Mining Interests	£	s	d	£	s	d
800,000 Preference Shares at £2 10s each	2,000,000	0	0				3,162,430	5	0				
1,000,000 Deferred Shares at £2 10s each	2,500,000	0	0										
				4,500,000	0	0							
De Beers 4½ per Cent. South African Exploration Debentures, secured by Mortgage of Assets purchased from the London and South African Exploration Company, Limited, redeemable by 1st January, 1930				1,635,495	0	0							
Reserves (per contra): General Fund, £700,000; Redemption Fund: South African Exploration Debentures, £746,475 2s 4d—£1,446,475 2s 4d; Blue Ground Stocks, 30th June, 1921, at cost, £1,719,185 19s 10d; Reserve for Stabilisation of the Diamond Trade, £2,476,899 18s 3d				5,642,560	14	5							
Liability on Stocks and Shares (per contra)				450,000	0	0							
				6,092,560	14	5							
Current Liabilities: Loans and Open Accounts, £541,194 13s; Unclaimed Dividends and Sundries, £111,746 4s 3d; Interest on Debentures accrued to date, £33,118 15s 6d; Commissioners for Inland Revenue, Great Britain, £185,900; Preference Shareholders: Dividend declared 14th June, 1921, £370,000				1,241,950	12	5							
Suspense Profit Account: Diamonds unsold at date (per contra)				354,331	7	2							
Balance Transferred from Appropriation Account				110,350	9	9							
Contingent Liability: The Company has guaranteed the repayment of, and interest on, £1,250,000 7½ per Cent. 1st Mortgage Debenture Stock issued by the Cape Explosives Works, Limited, Somerset West, Cape Province.													
				£13,934,747	4	0							

We certify that all our requirements as auditors have been complied with, and that we have relating thereto, including the audited returns of the London Transfer Office, and find the same correct.

Kimberley, 26th September, 1921.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30th June, 1921.

Dr.	£	s	d	Dr.	£	s	d
To Mining Expenditure	1,976,053	5	10	To Sinking Fund for Repayment of Debentures	34,185	16	8
.. Expenditure on Farms, Landed Property and Kimberley-Alexandersfontein Railway	143,424	17	2	.. Balance carried to Appropriation Account	2,300,580	16	11
.. Charges: Salaries, &c., Head Office, £31,473 15s 2d; General Charges, £49,094 10s 9d; Legal Expenses, £1,025 4s 0d; Donations to Public Institutions and Relief, including amount distributed in accordance with resolution of General Meeting held 22nd October, 1894, £66,104 17s; Compensation, £9,455 17s 6d; Auditors' Fees, £2,000; Directors' Fees: Service consequent on Trade Depression, £112,731; Annual Leave to Employees, £43,319 4s 3d; Provincial Companies Tax, £4,954 19s 8d	343,373	6	7				
.. Interest on Capital of Leased Companies	96,392	10	0				
.. Interest on Debentures	273,597	5	6				
.. Less Union of South Africa Normal Tax, 1s 6d in the £	5,519	16	0				

HARDING, Local Secretary.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1921.

No. 4,085.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C.2

ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President

The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund
Bergen
Christiania and S.
Drammen
Fredrikstad
Haugesund
Sandefjord
Skien
Stavanger
Trondhjem

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid ... Lire 300,000,000
Reserve ... Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 30th June, 1921 ... Lire 4,683,270,156

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C.4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having correspondents in all Countries, and is specially prepared to grant facilities for the development of trade between the British Empire and Italy.

Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury.

Telegrams: "Italocredi, Cannon, London." Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	1013	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets	1031
The Clearing Sky	1015	New Issues	1031
The Egyptian Deadlock ..	1016	Active Securities	1032
Sources of Our Imports		Company Meetings	1033
Since the Armistice	1017	Government Returns—	
Latin-American Notes	1018	Treasury Bills by Public	
The Irish Agreement	1019	Tender	1036
Business Notes—		Currency Notes Account..	1037
Overseas Trade	1020	Public Income & Expendi-	
The Bank Statements	1020	ture	1037
Coal Output	1020	Bankers' Gazette—	
Agricultural Conditions ..	1020	Bank of England	1037
The Position in Guatemala	1021	Clearing Returns	1038
Japanese Trade & Finance	1021	Overseas Bank Returns ..	1038
The Salvador Debt	1021	Monthly Statement of	
Cotton Trade Wages	1021	London Clearing Banks	1039
Royal Dutch	1022	Loan and Discount Rates	1039
British Overseas Bank	1022	Rates of Exchange	1040
Peruvian Corporation	1022	Bullion	1041
Orient Steam Navigation ..	1023	Overseas Bank Rates	1041
Dorman, Long, and Co.	1023	Imports and Exports of	
Ind. Coopers' Profits	1023	Gold	1041
Bleachers' Association ..	1024	Gold and Silver Prices ..	1042
Amalgamated Cotton Mills		Company News—	
Trust	1024	Oil Outputs	1032
Van Ryn Gold Mines	1024	Analysis of Balance-sheets	1042
South West Africa Com-		Dividend Announcements..	1043
pany	1024	Mining Output Statistics	1043
Overseas Correspondence—		Reports and Notices	1044
United States	1025	Profit and Loss Accounts..	1046
France	1026	Railway and Tramway	
Germany	1027	Traffic	1047
Switzerland	1029	Commercial Reports—	
Jugo-Slavia	1029	Corn Trade	1048
Letters to the Editor—		Iron and Coal Trade	1048
The Rising Wall of Tariffs	1029	Wool Trade	1049
Reparations, Allied Debts,		Cotton Trade	1050
and Exchanges	1029	Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	1050
"Received for Shipment"		Hide and Leather Trades..	1051
Bills of Lading	1030	Portland Cement	1051
Books and Publications—		Overseas Produce Markets	1051
Reviews	1030	Price Current	1052
Books Received	1030		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 0d; Yearly, £3 18s 0d. Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 0d per Annum.

Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2. Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, East India Avenue, and 6 Fenchurch Buildings, Sugar Loaf Court, Leadenhall Street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum Street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall Avenue, and 53 Finsbury Pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad Street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

DOUBTS whether the beginning of December would show that ease in the market which is now usual were quickly resolved. Money became very easy indeed as the result of the payment of dividends on War stock, which sales of new Treasury bonds were not enough to counteract, and remained easy through the week. Banks bought bills freely at the same rate as that charged for weekly loans. Thus discount rates were weak, and there was talk of a further fall in New York being likely.

	Dec. 9, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.	Nov. 25, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount / Call	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%
Market rate (3 months' bills)	3½%	3½%	3½%	4%	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed reductions of £8,800 in the stock of gold and of £151,100 in the circulation, making the Reserve £142,300 higher. Government securities were further increased by £12½ millions, while Other securities were reduced by £2 millions. Deposits were thus £10½ millions higher, Public being reduced by £1½ millions, while Other rose by £12½ millions. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £3,085,800 to £315,714,100, which includes £1,772,000 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £265,992,100, or £51,563,100 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended December 3, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	14,245	Supply Services	11,437
Amount borrowed	37,612	Interest on Debt	41,402
Taken from Exchequer Balances	1,410	Sundries	428
	53,267		53,267

These operations increased the National Debt by the sum of £37,611,604, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 13,535	Depreciation fund	- 700
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 250	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 378
Bank of England Advances ..	+ 19,000	Treasury Bills	- 7,232
Public Department Advances ..	+ 10,350		
Unemployment Insurance ..	+ 330		
Sundries	+ 104		
	+ 43,259		- 8,310

The principal items of revenue during the week were £3,569,356 from Special Miscellaneous Receipts, Customs and Excise £4,570,000, and Property and Income-tax £2,910,000. Sales of 5½ per cent. Treasury Bonds were on a large scale, amounting to £13,535,000. The net sales of National Savings Certificates amounted to £250,000. The sum of £340,000 net came from Advances for unemployment insurance, and £2,662,500 from repayment of housing advances. Treasury Bill sales were £7,425,000 lower than maturities, the amount outstanding being £1,100,107,000. Borrowing from the Bank of England amounted to £19,000,000, making the Government's indebtedness to the Bank £27,250,000, against £64,750,000 a year ago. Advances by Public Departments were increased by £10,030,000, the total from this source now standing at £194,438,000, against £203,664,000 a year ago. The floating debt is £21,605,000 higher on the week at £1,321,795,000; at the corresponding period of 1920 the floating debt stood at £1,395,143,000.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

In the foreign exchange market there has been another week of difficulty, under much the same influences as before. Rates have been extremely sensitive, and quite small dealings have caused disproportionate movements in one direction or another. Interest has again centred in the mark, although movements in the other chief exchanges have been this week more spectacular. Apart from a reaction up to 936 on Monday, the mark rate has fallen more or less steadily from 897½ on the 2nd to about 780 yesterday morning, on the expectation of a favourable result to the Rathenau negotiations in London, an expectation increased by the visit of M. Loucheur, by far the most sane and capable member of the French Ministry. The ill-advised idea of a loan from this country to Germany as a preliminary to a moratorium still seems to hold the field, but it is quite clear that no decision has

yet been reached. Indeed, it would seem impossible that any decision could be reached without full discussion of all the Powers concerned, as the release of German liens as a security for such a loan, which would presumably be necessary, could hardly be arranged without the consent of these Powers. In the meantime, the future rate for marks is one to three points per month below spot. New York, which on December 2nd stood at 4.05, has moved up quite steadily and uninterruptedly to 4.10½ yesterday morning. The causes for this rise would seem for the time being almost exclusively political, the Washington Conference and the possibilities of a reparation settlement having given an almost excessive feeling of confidence to the New York market, in particular with regard to sterling. The Irish decision would appear to be playing a very large part, as it is felt that the large Irish vote in America may now be prevented from exercising a persistently hostile influence on relations with this country, an even more important factor than is generally realised. The rate for futures remains about the same, at 3½ to ½ cent per month over spot. The main influence also has been political in the case of Paris, where the rate has moved from 55.60 on the 2nd, with some slight irregularities, down to 52.45 yesterday morning. On the more immediate economic outlook this recovery is not justified, and, among other factors, the adverse balance of trade is again increasing. There is, however, a general conviction, held especially strongly in New York, that a reparation settlement will ultimately be for the benefit of France, and that even its immediate interests will be safeguarded in any plan now adopted. The Belgian rate has moved, as usual, in sympathy, and at 54.40, as compared with 57.47½ a week ago, shows about the same spread as before. In Paris the quotation for futures has narrowed to 1½ to 4 centimes per month over spot from 3 to 5 centimes a week ago, while the Brussels rate remains unchanged at 4 to 7 centimes per month below. Italy has shared in the general recovery, but more erratically, the rate yesterday being 92½, as compared with 94.87½ a week ago, having been up and down on each alternate day of the period. Some hesitation has been caused in connection with the difficulties of the large Ansaldo group. Among neutral exchanges, Amsterdam, which on the 2nd stood at 11.33, went in our favour, and after a relapse on the 8th jumped suddenly yesterday in our favour to 11.44. The future rate is one to two points per month over spot. Switzerland has been rather steadier, and yesterday at 21.20 was only slightly better than the 21.15½ a week ago. A good deal of financial difficulty is being experienced among smaller banks, and an unpleasant feeling has been caused by the recent heavy fall in Nestlé's shares. Madrid, after going higher, has recovered a little, and stands at 28.77½, as compared with 28.83½ a week ago. Among the Northern States Helsingfors, after recovering sharply to 217½ on the 2nd, has fallen away again to over 220. Christiania has depreciated from 28.07½ to 28.22½. Stockholm has remained more or less steady about 17, while Copenhagen has appreciated from 21.69½ to 21.62½. In Central Europe Warsaw has been relatively steady, and has finished a little better at 13,000. For Vienna the London (Auslandskrone) rate is 12,000—about the same as a week ago. The Inlandskrone rate on the 5th, the latest available date, was 30,000, as compared with an Auslandskrone rate of 12,000 on the same day. Budapest is again depreciating, and now stands at about 3,250, as compared with 2,700 a week ago. Prague is about the same at 367½. Belgrade, after some recovery, is a little worse again at about 280. Sofia, somewhere round 600, shows signs of recovery, but for Bucharest there are still no quotations, owing to the slowness of the Roumanian Government in realising the impracticability of their recent measures of restraint. In the East the rupee at 15.3½d is somewhat dearer than the 15.4 1-32d quoted a week ago, while the yen at 25.4d is a little cheaper. The absence of demand from India, and selling both on Chinese and Continental account, has brought down the price of silver to 34½d—a figure lower than any since the half-year—and the Hongkong and Shanghai rates are both lower in sympathy. In South America Buenos Ayres has gone against us, from 43½d to 43½d, while Montevideo is unchanged at 40d. Rio is cheaper at 7 21-32, and Valparaiso has depreciated from \$37.70 to \$38.70.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 3, 1921.

Total spent	£ 688,440,966	Raised by revenue ..	£ 598,312,226
Dec. in balances....	143,942	Net borrowings	89,984,798
Total	688,297,024	Total	688,297,024

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus* £ 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £20,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT. (Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Dec. 31, 1921.	Dec. 3, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	38	28	22	22	20	19	19	18	17
3½% War Stock	39	39	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	..	..	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	..	..	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,962
National War Bonds	..	..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,201
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	..	409	409	407	405	405
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	..	360	357	358	348	356
3½% Conversion Ln.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	266
5-15 year Treas. Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18	23	24
5½% Treasury Bonds	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	234
Treasury Bills	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,100
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	332	384	323	319	292	289	218
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	138	227	267	274	279	285	292
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Debt	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,099
American Loan	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Temporary Advances	1	..	204	455	243	205	306	154	222
Other Capital Liabilities ..	654	67	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,787
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,837

NOTE.—These figures have now been revised in accordance with a recent Treasury return on internal debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

	Dec. 4, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Dec. 3, '21.	Movement week ended Dec. 3, '21.
Pay and Means Advances ..	..	..	..	..
Outstanding	..	..	..	..
Advances by Bank of England ..	64,750,000	..	27,250,000	+ 19,000,000
Advances by Public Departments	203,664,000	154,489,000	194,438,000	+ 10,030,000
Treasury Bills outstanding ..	1,126,723,000	1,120,841,000	1,102,107,000	- 7,425,000
Total Floating Debt	1,395,143,000	1,275,330,000	1,321,795,000	+ 21,605,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

DECEMBER 3RD.—Death of Mr Frederick Huth Jackson.
DECEMBER 5TH.—Anglo-Irish Conference. Sir Robert Horne at Manchester. Mr Lamont speaks in America on the Consortium and China.
DECEMBER 6TH.—Anglo-Irish Treaty signed. Coal prices reduced. Royal Commission on Local Government of Greater London opened inquiry. M. Briand on German reparations.
DECEMBER 7TH.—Lord Inchcape on need for general economy. Mr Asquith at Paisley.
DECEMBER 8TH.—Sinn Fein Cabinet divided over Peace Treaty. Labour Conference on Unemployment. M. Loucheur arrives, and discusses reparations with Sir Robert Horne. Egyptian Prime Minister resigns.
DECEMBER 9TH.—Sir James Craig confers with Prime Minister.

Although the expansion of business was not very great, the tone in the stock markets improved generally and substantially on the news of the Irish settlement. High-class investment stocks are in stronger demand than ever, while interest and support are more conspicuous in a number of industrial and semi-speculative sections. In the cotton market prices have shown little change. An improvement in inquiry for piece-goods for export is reported. Our Bradford correspondent records a growth of business and firmer conditions in the wool market, although buyers of tops and yarns are still cautious. Lower pig-iron prices have checked foreign imports. But with the possible exception of the Glasgow district, no improvement is reported in the iron and steel industry generally. Conditions in the steam coal market are unchanged, but the demand for house coal is on a better scale. Recovery continues in the hide market; the tone of the leather trade is better, and shoemakers are more optimistic. Markets for vegetable oil and oilseeds are steadier.

THE CLEARING SKY.

At last a brilliant gleam of sunshine has shot through the Irish clouds. In the early hours of Tuesday morning, at a moment when the vital spark of political hope was burning low, or almost to the point of extinction, came the dramatic ending of the Irish negotiations. At 2.45 a.m. on December 6th, the plenipotentiaries of Southern Ireland and the representatives of the Imperial Cabinet signed an agreement which virtually places Ireland upon the dominion basis as an equal partner with Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa in the British Commonwealth of Nations. It is easy perhaps to say that this great event is long overdue, and would have been achieved long since but for the folly of politicians. It is easy to say that those who take credit for the settlement must bear the blame also for the desperate conditions out of which peace has eventually come. But we hope and believe that the temper of the majority of the peoples both in Ireland and Great Britain is to forget the bitterness and miseries of the past, and to hail with unfeigned joy the opportunity that is now presented for closing finally the most disastrous and discreditable chapter in the history of British rule. The full terms of the Agreement are published on a later page, and from them it will be seen that, whether the solution of the Irish problem is really to be complete and final at this stage, depends on the decision of Ulster. Ulster is given the option to contract out of the Irish Free State, and to retain the powers accorded by recent legislation, or to join hands with Southern Ireland in the task of establishing a real and representative national régime for the whole island. Judging by Ulster utterances of the last few days, it is perhaps too much to expect that Ulster will, at this stage, join in, but there is surely ground for hope that Southern Ireland will use the opportunity now accorded to her in such a fashion that within a few years Ulster will find it to her interest and advantage to end the feud which has been the tragedy of Irish history, and lend her powerful assistance towards building up a great and composite dominion in partnership with the Mother Country, and with the British States overseas. The immense relief universally felt at the achievement of an Irish agreement should not, however, blind us to the fact that the road is not yet entirely clear of obstacles. Of the sanction of the British Parliament for the legislation necessary to establish the Irish Free State, there can be no reasonable doubt. Of the acceptance by Dail Eireann there is at least very good hope. But the recalcitrant attitude of Mr De Valera and the extreme elements of Sinn Fein threaten further anxieties, and there are questions outstanding which may yet call for an extension of that determined tact which alone has made it possible to reach the present agreement. But whatever may be the difficulties remaining to be solved, they are surely insignificant compared with those that have already been surmounted. To the plain man it would appear unbelievable that when the feat of swallowing the camel has been safely accomplished, the value of the feat should be destroyed because parties concerned in the agreement insist upon straining at gnats.

Failure in Ireland has for many scores of years been the great blot on British statesmanship. The last three

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—
The Right Hon. R. McKENNA
JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—
S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	374,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.
OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES
OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:
BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.
OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

or four years have provided perhaps the darkest chapter in the whole dark volume of Irish history, and during these last years the Irish question has been, more than ever before, a great stumbling block to British policy abroad. Wherever British statesmen preached the blessings of self-government they were met with the retort that "Charity begins at home." Now at least by a bold and generous stroke that stumbling block has been removed from the path. Whatever difficulties and hitches may yet arise it can no longer be said that either the British Government or the British people have refused to Ireland the fullest measure of self-government compatible with partnership in association of nations. Mr Asquith has warned us that we may not yet be out of the wood. The Northern Parliament may yet provoke a crisis over the boundary question; Mr De Valera may lead a revolt against the settlement; but, come what may, the fact that the British Cabinet, backed without doubt by the great majority of the people of Great Britain, have agreed to set up an Irish Free State, will clear the atmosphere of international politics as no other event could possibly have done. We have, from time to time, pointed out the rôle played by the Irish question in holding back America from the effective participation, which she alone can give, in the settlement of the world's economic and financial affairs. In his annual message to Congress last Tuesday, President Harding said:—"It is not my purpose to bring to you a programme of world restoration. In the main such a programme must be worked out by the nations most directly concerned. They must themselves turn to heroic remedies for the menacing conditions under which they are struggling. Then we can help, and we mean to help. We shall do so unselfishly, because there is compensation in the consciousness of assisting, and selfishly, because the commerce and international exchanges in trade which marked our high tide of fortunate advancement are possible only when the nations of all the Continents are restored to the stable order of normal friendship." In the Irish agreement America will find, let us hope, a genuine and signal effort to restore the "stable order of normal friendship." The bold initiative of the American proposals for Naval Disarmament lit a spark of hope which the subsequent proceedings of the Conference are rapidly fanning into flame. That flame will spurt the higher for the great news of Irish agreement. The world is still faced with problems that will tax to the utmost the concerted powers of international statesmen working in harmony, but it is at least a great thing gained that the chances of their working in harmony are now, in the light of recent events, brighter than could have been expected by the most optimistic a few months ago. If the Reparations problem is approached by British, French, and German statesmen in the same spirit of earnest goodwill and practical accommodation that Englishmen and Irishmen have devoted to the settlement of their differences, then another of the great outstanding international irritants should be allayed. The visit of M. Loucheur and the Chancellor's speech at Manchester strengthen the hope that a practical and concerted reparations policy will be evolved. There are still lions in the path, but it seems at last that we are to have a Christmas when the traditional phrases of peace and goodwill may no longer be a mockery on men's lips, and there is at least some promise that, with the "steady remorseless march towards sanity" progressing in political and economic affairs alike, there will dawn with the new year a hope of better times such as has not dared to raise its head since the failure of Versailles demolished the first visionary dreams of a war-worn world.

THE EGYPTIAN DEADLOCK.

EVER since Great Britain was constrained by circumstances to assume the sole control and protection of Egypt our statesmen have held out hopes of an eventual withdrawal. Lord Salisbury's efforts to that end in 1887 were defeated by French and Russian disbelief in their sincerity, and by the influence of those Powers on the Sublime Porte. Since then our "veiled Protectorate" has been unavoidably strengthened by habit and circumstance, until the

war compelled us to make it open and formal. The Milner Commission made a spirited effort to return as far as possible to pre-war conditions, and to prepare the way for eventual independence. That effort, like Lord Salisbury's, has now been thwarted by the distrust of the other party to the negotiations. The plan sketched in the Milner Report has since been embodied in a draft convention, necessarily more precise and specific in its terms. It formally terminates the British Protectorate, recognises Egypt as a sovereign State, and gives her the option of representation by her own diplomatic and consular agents abroad. But it establishes a perpetual treaty of alliance with Great Britain, and protects British interests by establishing a High Commissioner, with precedence over the representatives of other Powers, and a right to be consulted before the conclusion of any conventions with them. The abolition of the Capitulations with 13 other Powers, which fetter Egypt in legislation and taxation, is to be negotiated by the Government of Great Britain, which is to take over the protection of foreign interests. The interests of foreign and British residents would then be watched over by a British Judicial Commissioner, in close touch with the Egyptian Minister of Justice. The existing Financial Commission would be replaced by a Financial Commissioner, in close relations with the Egyptian Ministry of Finance, and his consent would be necessary to the issue of any external loan. British officials would gradually be replaced by Egyptian, and freedom would be guaranteed by Egypt to racial minorities, especially as to their languages and schools. Great Britain would guarantee Egyptian independence and territorial integrity, but would maintain British troops in Egypt with full right of passage over all railways and facilities for establishing military and naval stations and aerodromes. Finally, the existing partnership in the Sudan would continue, and a triumvirate, representing Egypt, the Sudan, and Uganda would secure the equitable distribution of the waters of the Nile.

From the British standpoint these conditions are reasonable, and really constitute a stage on the way to the complete achievement of Egyptian independence. But as in India and Mesopotamia, so in Egypt; Nationalist impatience blocks reasonable reform. The Nationalist representatives, enabled by the silence of the Moderates to claim a mandate from the Egyptian people, object that the Commissioners, and the control of foreign relations and of the protection of foreign residents, constitute a virtual British Protectorate. They also demand, on historic grounds, that Egypt shall have full control of the Sudan, which she could at present neither administer nor hold. But their chief objection is clearly to the garrisons, the ever-present sign of British power and control. They desire that the British troops shall be stationed in the canal zone, preferably on the eastern side of the canal; and the Milner Memorandum, by speaking of "the place" where they shall be stationed, may seem to have foreshadowed this solution. But in another passage it pointed out that a British military station in this neutral zone might cause trouble with other Powers, and that Egypt is becoming more and more a "nodal point" in British communications by land, air, and sea. On this proposal, as on the rest, the British Government stands firm, and the correspondence (Cmd. 1555) closes with a letter from Lord Allenby, as High Commissioner, declaring that reconsideration of the principle of the proposals is impossible, and pointing out that it is to British protection that Egypt owes her national existence, and that were it withdrawn other and less considerate Powers might take up the task. Every sentence of his letter is strictly true, but all foreigners, and unfortunately some Englishmen, are apt to doubt the sincerity of British official utterances, and it is not likely to mitigate the impatience of Egyptian Nationalism.

Thus there is a deadlock, and we can only hope that the refusal to reconsider the proposals may not be final. For the military provisions it may fairly be argued that the Canal might easily be blocked, so that railway transit would become imperative, that the protection of foreign residents might require British assistance to the Egyptian forces (a view strongly held by those residents themselves), and that there might even be a Mahdist or Pan-Islamic rising, excited, as in Mesopotamia last year, by Bolshevik propaganda. But these provisions might possibly be

modified by specifying a limited number of British stations and imposing conditions on the movements of troops. The need of a Judicial, and still more that of a Financial Commissioner, must lessen as Egypt develops a fully competent Civil Service. Already she is a wealthy country, and her external loans are passing to native holders. Her hopes of full nationhood depend on her prosperity and internal stability, and on an improved education which will raise up native officials in place of the Europeans retiring under a new order of things. Recent British administrative mistakes, and British aloofness, have of late given her educated classes legitimate offence. But a settlement on the lines rejected by the Nationalists would free Egypt from martial law, and give her admission to the League of Nations. Her representatives have strong motives for resuming negotiations; her upper classes contain a large Moderate element, which the influence of Adly Pasha, now out of office, may encourage to make itself felt; and nine-tenths of her population are non-political and contented fellaheen. And worse difficulties than those now blocking negotiations have been satisfactorily overcome in the case of Ireland.

SOURCES OF OUR IMPORTS SINCE THE ARMISTICE.

We have shown in previous numbers of the *Economist** that most of the nations of Europe have made an astonishing recovery since the Armistice as markets for our exports and re-exports. In the following table we have grouped the countries from each of which in 1913 we received not less than 1 per cent. of our imports, showing the values for 1913, 1919, 1920, and the first nine months of 1921, as well as for the combined period from January, 1919, to September 30, 1921:—

Imports by U.K. From—	Value of Imports in 1913, £768,700,000.	Value of Imports in 1919, £1,626,200,000.	Value of Imports in 1920, £1,932,600,000.	Value of Imports from Jan. to Sept., 1921, £827,700,000.	Value of Imports from Jan., 1919, to Sept. 30, 1921, £4,386,500,000.
U. States.	141.7	184.4	541.6	291.1	2134.4
Germany.	80.4	105.5	30.3	1.6	156.1
Bh. India.	48.4	6.3	108.2	6.7	95.7
France.	46.4	6.0	48.5	3.0	75.3
Argentina.	42.5	5.5	81.7	5.9	128.0
Russia.	40.3	5.2	16.4	1.0	33.5
Australia.	38.1	4.9	111.4	6.9	112.3
Canada.	30.5	4.0	115.2	7.1	93.0
Denmark.	23.8	3.1	9.3	0.6	31.2
Holland.	23.6	3.1	21.7	1.3	39.3
Belgium.	23.4	3.0	9.2	0.6	44.9
Egypt.	21.4	2.8	61.9	3.8	71.8
N. Zealand.	20.3	2.6	52.7	3.2	47.5
Switzerland.	15.8	2.1	21.3	1.3	17.9
Spain.	14.4	1.9	34.6	2.1	37.3
Sweden.	14.2	1.8	35.6	2.2	56.5
Union of S. Africa.	12.5	1.6	24.4	1.5	20.4
S.E. Eurp.	12.0	1.6	11.2	0.7	13.0
Switz'ld.	11.1	1.4	14.9	0.9	37.0
Brazil.	10.0	1.3	10.8	0.7	12.0
Italy.	8.1	1.1	14.6	0.9	17.9
Ceylon.	7.8	1.0	16.8	1.0	16.8
Norway.	7.4	1.0	17.1	1.1	23.8
Total.	694.1	902.2	1,379.8	84.1	1,619.2

The values in the table for the years 1913, 1919, and 1920 are taken from pages 143-147 of the first volume of the Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom [Cmd. 1503], and those for the present year from the October number of the Trade and Navigation Returns, pages 336-338. The values of our imports from the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan are included in those from Egypt. Under the title "S.E. Europe" are included Austria-Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Servia, and Greece for the years 1913, 1919, and 1920. For 1921 the values of our imports from Czechoslovakia and the Serb-Croat-Slovene State are added, and in the case of Russia the separate values for Finland, Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania are included. The table shows that whereas in 1913 we drew 21.7 per cent. of our total imports from Germany, France, and Russia, in 1919 the percentage was only 4, that in 1920 it had risen to 7.2, and for the first nine months of the present year to 7.6, or only a trifle higher than one-third of the percentage in 1913. On the other hand, our imports from the United States rose from 18.4 per cent. of our total imports in 1913 to 33.3 per cent. in 1919, falling to 29.1 in 1920, and to 25.8 per cent. in the present year. The percentage of total imports which we drew from British India in 1913 (6.3) rose to 6.7 in 1919, but fell to 4.9 in 1920, and to

* "The Rally of Our European Markets," November 19 and November 26, 1921.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING
IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY

16, WALL STREET, NEW YORK

PARIS OFFICE

3 & 5, PLACE VENDÔME

CABLE ADDRESS: BANKTRUST, PARIS

3.8 for the current year. In the case of our imports from both Australia and Canada the percentages were higher in 1919, 1920, and 1921 than in 1913. In the case of Egypt we took a higher percentage of imports in 1919 and in 1920, but a lower percentage in the present year than in 1913. New Zealand sent us a higher percentage in 1919, and a much higher percentage in the present year than in 1913. Our imports from Argentina were rather lower in 1919, but higher in 1920 and this year than in 1913. Our imports from the Straits Settlements show a steady fall in the percentage value, and although our imports from the Union of South Africa have improved in the present year, they are not yet up to the 1913 percentage. Our imports from Ceylon remain steady. The following table gives a summary of the percentage values of our imports from the countries of Europe and their colonial possessions as compared with those from the British Empire and the countries of America and Asia.

U.K. Imports From—	Imports in 1913.		Imports in 1919.		Imports in 1920.		Imports from Jan. to Sept., 1921.		Imports from Jan., 1919, to Sept., 1921.	
	Mln. £.	%	Mln. £.	%	Mln. £.	%	Mln. £.	%	Mln. £.	%
Europe	309.3	40.3	247.5	15.3	450.5	23.2	225.5	27.4	923.5	21.1
Foreign Possessions of Europe	10.4	1.3	36.5	2.3	52.5	2.7	18.2	2.2	107.2	2.4
British Empire	212.1	27.6	579.7	35.7	553.8	28.7	249.1	30.2	1,582.6	31.5
America	217.3	28.1	693.8	42.4	786.2	40.7	305.0	36.9	1,785.0	40.6
Asia	16.5	2.2	60.0	3.7	75.4	3.9	21.9	2.6	157.3	3.6
Total values ..	765.6	99.5	1,617.5	99.4	1,918.4	99.2	819.7	99.3	4,355.6	99.2

In 1913 we received 40.3 per cent. of our total imports from countries in Europe. From the Dutch possessions (mainly Java) we received .5 per cent. of our total imports. This percentage in 1919 rose to 1.4, in 1920 to 1.8, but fell to 1 per cent. for the first nine months of the present year. This increased percentage was, of course, due to purchasing sugar from Java to replace our supplies formerly drawn from Germany. In 1913 we received imports from Cuba amounting to .5 per cent. of our total imports. In 1919 the percentage rose to 1.1, and in 1920 to 1.4, but fell this year to .6. Our imports in 1913 from China (£4,700,000) and from Japan (£4,400,000), amounting in each case to .6 per cent. of our total imports, rose to 1.4 per cent. and 1.5 per cent. respectively in 1919 and 1920. But the outstanding feature of the above table is seen in the fact that our imports from Europe, which fell to 15.3 per cent. of our total imports in 1919, rose to 23.2 per cent. in 1920, and to 27.4 per cent. for the first nine months of 1921. Taking our imports in 1913 as a standard, we have constructed a table which shows how our imports from the chief countries of Europe in 1919, 1920, and for the first nine months of 1921 compare with percentages taken in 1913:—

Imports by the U.K. from—	Percentage of the Total Imports by the U.K. taken in—				Increase or Decrease Upon or From the Percentage of 1913 Taken in—		
	1913.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Denmark	3.1	0.6	1.6	3.8	- 2.5	- 1.5	+ 0.7
Holland	3.1	1.3	2.0	3.6	- 2.8	- 1.1	+ 0.5
Belgium	3.0	0.6	2.3	3.1	- 2.4	- 0.7	+ 0.1
Sweden	1.8	2.2	2.9	1.9	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.1
Spain	1.9	2.1	1.9	1.9	+ 0.2	equal	equal
Norway	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.0	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	equal
Switzerland	1.4	0.9	1.9	1.8	- 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.4
France	6.0	3.0	3.9	5.0	- 3.0	- 2.3	- 1.0
S.E. Europe	1.6	0.7	0.7	1.2	- 0.9	- 0.9	- 0.4
Germany	10.5	7.7	1.6	1.9	- 10.5	- 8.9	- 8.6
Russia	5.2	1.0	1.7	0.9	- 4.2	- 3.5	- 4.2

In face of the partial Protectionist tariff recently imposed with the main object of keeping out the manufactures of Germany, that country is slowly but steadily increasing the percentage of goods that our importers are glad to buy from her. Holland, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, and Switzerland are sending us larger percentages than they sent in 1913. France and the countries of S.E. Europe are also recovering their places in the list of those countries upon which we relied to supply us with goods which we believed we could most profitably purchase from them. Certainly we believe in Europe as a "going concern," and if the Governments of Europe (including our own) return to the path of sanity and free imports, the gaps in the machinery of international commerce will begin to be filled.

LATIN-AMERICAN NOTES.

(BY OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CUBA.—The financial position of Cuba has improved but little since I last commented upon it, and the views expressed over a year ago that the results of the sugar crisis would be felt for long have been justified. Those optimists who declared the economic troubles of the island to be merely transient, or the consequences of "too much prosperity," have been forced to concede that the evil went very much deeper than they supposed; recovery will be correspondingly slow and difficult. It has taken more than 12 months to induce North-American financiers—who are materially interested in the well-being of Cuba—to come to the rescue of the commercial community, and not then until they had been amply secured by the Government of that State. It was the hope of the Cuban Administration that the banks and their principal customers, the sugar-planters, might arrive at an arrangement without the interference of the Government. The moratorium, granted first in October, 1920, then extended upon two or three occasions, proved merely a stop-gap in the situation, which since then has steadily deteriorated. The appointment of Mr Albert Rathbone, at one time Assistant-Secretary to the United States Treasury, as Financial Adviser to the Cuban Government has proved of some value; his main efforts, however, have been devoted to the working-out of definite plans for avoiding a general collapse and the prevention of any further occurrence of the causes leading to the trouble. That the progress towards economic restoration is proceeding but slowly may be gauged from the fact that at the present time Cuban merchants owe a debt of about \$200,000,000 (= £40,000,000) to their foreign suppliers, while in the Cuban market there have accumulated something like 2,000,000 tons of sugar, which it has been impossible to dispose of, and which cost \$200,000,000 to produce. In the meantime, the price of the commodity has fallen from 23 cents at one time last year to little more than 3 or 4 cents per pound. It is estimated that if to the large sum above mentioned is added the interest and dividends which have had to be paid, or are owing, upon foreign capital invested in Cuba, there is a balance against the island of about \$500,000,000 (= £100,000,000).

PERU.—Like all other Latin-American countries, Peru has had her financial troubles of late; but the position has been materially lessened in seriousness through cautious and shrewd handling. Believing in the superiority of foreign procedure, the Government has recently appointed an American trade expert as head of the Peruvian Customs, while, at the request of Congress, a Commission, under the direction of a former Assistant-Secretary of the United States Treasury, is now in Peru assisting in the drawing up of a plan for placing the national finances upon a sound basis. One result of the new arrangement will be the placing (it is supposed without any difficulty) of a loan for £700,000 on the New York market, as part of a proposed issue in the near future of £2,000,000 (\$10,000,000). Some three years ago an arrangement was concluded whereby the Junta de Vigilancia de la Emisión de Cheques Circulares paid Peruvian bank-notes to exporters of produce to the United States against deposits made with the New York Federal Reserve Board by importers of the goods. The rate fixed was \$5.01½, plus 1-20 per cent. and cable charges, for

the Peruvian pound. This arrangement led to a considerable increase in the commercial relations of the two countries, while certain concessions granted by American shippers to Peruvian customers have still further acted in their favour, and correspondingly against those of British exporters. These latter are too much wedded to old-fashioned and nowadays impossible methods, such, for example, as stipulating for established credits in London, or that payment should be made by cash against documents in London. As a rule, the purchaser in Peru is averse to the latter method of doing business, or making payment against goods before he has had any opportunity of viewing them, which, by the existing Customs regulations, he is privileged to do. The most favourable terms that can be expected in effecting commercial negotiations with Peru are those of cash against documents in Lima, while the general terms of the market are 90 days' credit. Such concessions are now being conceded in the United States, while others even more liberal are freely offered from Germany. The financial position of Peru being inherently sound and improving, British shippers might well reconsider their determination to adhere to ancient and unpopular methods.

COSTA RICA.—Commercial conditions in Costa Rica, which depend largely upon the value of the coffee crop, appear to be more promising, and foreign trade to be reaching a more satisfactory level. The country is upon a gold basis, and since 1910 the banks have been privileged to issue gold notes up to 50 per cent. in excess of their paid-up capital, upon the stipulation that they maintain a gold reserve equal to at least 50 per cent. of their outstanding notes. It will be remembered, however, that at the outbreak of the war a moratorium was placed against the redemption in gold of these notes, and was not lifted until the commencement of last April. In the following July the power of issuing paper currency was restricted to the Banco Internacional de Costa Rica, the limit being 4,000,000 colones; the continuity of this decree is now being protested by the other banks. An improvement in the revenues of the small Central American State is to be noted, for while there was a deficit of 834,973 colones for the year 1920—both income and expenditure were in excess of the estimates—the first half of the present year yielded a substantial surplus, namely, 826,180 colones, or almost as much as the deficit for the whole previous 12 months. On the other hand, the public internal debt of the Republic has increased, while the external has decreased. In 1903-4 the amount of the internal debt stood at 29,493,374 colones, but by the end of 1920 it had amounted to 69,291,796 colones. The external debt, which in 1912 stood at 31,337,240 colones, in 1920 was reduced to 30,366,966 colones, but the internal debt advanced from 3,887,708 colones to as much as 38,924,830 colones. Allowing for the difference in exchange, the heavy expenses connected with the armed encounter with the neighbouring State of Panama, and other liabilities incurred, the total indebtedness of Costa Rica has now increased to 85,087,331 colones. This means a *per capita* charge of 200 colones. The service on the Republic's debt required last March 6,025,959 colones, while during the second quarter of this year the sum of 870,774 colones was paid in interest on the foreign debt, and 235,686 colones on the internal debt. On account of the removal of the restriction on the exportation of gold and silver in June last exchange is slowly improving. Should the coffee crop prove as profitable as hoped for, the improvement in exchange will continue. The colon, worth in the United States \$0.46536 at par, fell last July to \$0.214. The nominal premium on the American dollar is 115 per cent., which means that \$1.00 U.S. currency is usually worth \$2.15, in terms of Costa Rica currency; but when the embargo was placed upon the export of gold from the country the premium advanced from 115 per cent. to 180 per cent. Movements of this character naturally prove very injurious, and it takes a long time to overcome the adverse effects upon the trade and commerce of the country.

MEXICO.—The Mexican Government has decided to accept the recommendation of the Finance Department to coin a gold piece to the value of 50 pesos, or, £5, and to call the new coin "Contenaoio," in commemoration of the anniversary of Mexican independence achieved in the year

The New York Trust Company

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions

Buys and sells American and foreign securities.

100 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents
Barclay's Bank, Ltd.
Hambro's Bank, Ltd.

1821. At present the largest gold coin in circulation has a value of 20 pesos, equal to £2, and is called "Azteca," since it bears on one side a representation of the Aztec calendar stone. The next coin in actual size is the 10 peso (£1) piece, known as "Hidalgo," bearing a bust of the patriot martyr-priest of that name. Five, two-and-a-half, and two peso gold coins also exist.

THE IRISH AGREEMENT.

THE following is the full official text of the Irish Agreement, signed by the British and Irish delegations, on December 6, 1921:—

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

1. Ireland shall have the same constitutional status in the Community of Nations known as the British Empire as the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa with a Parliament having powers to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of Ireland, and an Executive responsible to that Parliament, and shall be styled and known as the Irish Free State.

2. Subject to the provisions hereinafter set out the position of the Irish Free State in relation to the Imperial Parliament and Government and otherwise shall be that of the Dominion of Canada, and the law, practice, and constitutional usage governing the relationship of the Crown, or the representative of the Crown, and of the Imperial Parliament to the Dominion of Canada shall govern their relationship to the Irish Free State.

3. The representative of the Crown in Ireland shall be appointed in like manner as the Governor-General of Canada, and in accordance with the practice observed in the making of such appointments.

4. The oath to be taken by Members of the Parliament of the Irish Free State shall be in the following form:—

I.....do solemnly swear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the Irish Free State as by law established and that I will be faithful to H.M. King George V., his heirs and successors by law, in virtue of the common citizenship of Ireland with Great Britain and her adherence to and membership of the group of nations forming the British Commonwealth of Nations.

5. The Irish Free State shall assume liability for the service of the Public Debt of the United Kingdom as existing at the date thereof, and towards the payment of war pensions as existing at that date in such proportion as may be fair and equitable, having regard to any just claims on the part of Ireland by way of set-off or counterclaim, the amount of such sums being determined in default of agreement by the arbitration of one or more independent persons being citizens of the British Empire.

6. Until an arrangement has been made between the British and Irish Governments whereby the Irish Free State undertakes her own coastal defence, the defence by sea of Great Britain and Ireland shall be undertaken by His Majesty's Imperial Forces, but this shall not prevent

the construction or maintenance by the Government of the Irish Free State of such vessels as are necessary for the protection of the Revenue or the Fisheries.

The foregoing provisions of this article shall be reviewed at a conference of Representatives of the British and Irish Governments to be held at the expiration of five years from the date hereof with a view to the undertaking by Ireland of a share in her own coastal defence.

7. The Government of the Irish Free State shall afford to His Majesty's Imperial Forces:—

(a) In time of peace such harbour and other facilities as are indicated in the Annex hereto, or such other facilities as may from time to time be agreed between the British Government and the Government of the Irish Free State; and

(b) In time of war or of strained relations with a Foreign Power such harbour and other facilities as the British Government may require for the purposes of such defence as aforesaid.

8. With a view to securing the observance of the principle of international limitation of armaments, if the Government of the Irish Free State establishes and maintains a military defence force, the establishments thereof shall not exceed in size such proportion of the military establishments maintained in Great Britain as that which the population of Ireland bears to the population of Great Britain.

9. The ports of Great Britain and the Irish Free State shall be freely open to the ships of the other country on payment of the customary port and other dues.

10. The Government of the Irish Free State agrees to pay fair compensation on terms not less favourable than those accorded by the Act of 1920 to judges, officials, members of Police Forces and other Public Servants who are discharged by it, or who retire in consequence of the change of government effected in pursuance hereof.

Provided that this agreement shall not apply to members of the Auxiliary Police Force or to persons recruited in Great Britain for the Royal Irish Constabulary during the two years next preceding the date hereof. The British Government will assume responsibility for such compensation or pensions as may be payable to any of these excepted persons.

11. Until the expiration of one month from the passing of the Act of Parliament for the ratification of this instrument the powers of the Parliament and the Government of the Irish Free State shall not be exercisable as respects Northern Ireland, and the provisions of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, shall, so far as they relate to Northern Ireland, remain of full force and effect, and no election shall be held for the return of members to serve in the Parliament of the Irish Free State for constituencies in Northern Ireland, unless a resolution is passed by both Houses of the Parliament of Northern Ireland in favour of the holding of such elections before the end of the said month.

12. If before the expiration of the said month an address is presented to His Majesty by both Houses of the Parliament of Northern Ireland to that effect, the powers of the Parliament and the Government of the Irish Free State

shall no longer extend to Northern Ireland, and the provisions of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920 (including those relating to the Council of Ireland), shall, so far as they relate to Northern Ireland, continue to be of full force and effect, and this instrument shall have effect subject to the necessary modifications.

Provided that if such an address is so presented a Commission consisting of three persons, one to be appointed by the Government of the Irish Free State, one to be appointed by the Government of Northern Ireland, and one who shall be Chairman, to be appointed by the British Government, shall determine, in accordance with the wishes of the inhabitants, so far as may be compatible with economic and geographic conditions, the boundaries between Northern Ireland and the rest of Ireland, and for the purposes of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, and the purposes of the Government of Northern Ireland shall of this instrument, the boundary of Northern Ireland shall be such as may be determined by such Commission.

13. For the purpose of the last foregoing article, the powers of the Parliament of Southern Ireland under the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, to elect members of the Council of Ireland shall after the Parliament of the Irish Free State is constituted be exercised by that Parliament.

14. After the expiration of the said month, if no such address as is mentioned in Article 12 hereof is presented, the Parliament and Government of Northern Ireland shall continue to exercise as respects Northern Ireland the powers conferred on them by the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, but the Parliament and Government of the Irish Free State shall in Northern Ireland have in relation to matters in respect of which the Parliament of Northern Ireland has not power to make laws under that Act (including matters which under the said Act are within the jurisdiction of the Council of Ireland) the same powers as in the rest of Ireland, subject to such other provisions as may be agreed in manner hereinafter appearing.

15. At any time after the date hereof the Government of Northern Ireland and the provisional Government of Southern Ireland hereinafter constituted may meet for the purpose of discussing the provisions subject to which the last foregoing Article is to operate in the event of no such address as is therein mentioned being presented, and those provisions may include:—

(a) Safeguards with regard to patronage in Northern Ireland.

(b) Safeguards with regard to the collection of revenue in Northern Ireland.

(c) Safeguards with regard to import and export duties affecting the trade or industry of Northern Ireland.

(d) Safeguards for minorities in Northern Ireland.

(e) The settlement of the financial relations between Northern Ireland and the Irish Free State.

(f) The establishment and powers of a local militia in Northern Ireland and the relation of the Defence Forces of the Irish Free State and of Northern Ireland respectively;

and if at any such meeting provisions are agreed to, the same shall have effect as if they were included amongst the provisions subject to which the powers of the Parliament and the Government of the Irish Free State are to be exercisable in Northern Ireland under Article 14 hereof.

16. Neither the Parliament of the Irish Free State nor the Parliament of Northern Ireland shall make any law so as either directly or indirectly to endow any religion or prohibit or restrict the free exercise thereof or give any preference or impose any disability on account of religious belief or religious status or affect prejudicially the right of any child to attend a school receiving public money without attending the religious instruction at the school or make any discrimination as respects State aid between schools under the management of different religious denominations or divert from any religious institution any of its property except for public utility purposes and on condition of compensation.

17. By way of provisional arrangement, which must elapse between the date hereof and the date of a Parliament and Government of the Irish Free State in accordance therewith, steps shall be taken for summoning a meeting of men

elected for constituencies in Southern Ireland since the passing of the Government of Ireland Act, 1920, and for constituting a provisional Government, and the British Government shall take the steps necessary to transfer to such provisional Government the powers and machinery requisite for the discharge of its duties, provided that every member of such provisional Government shall have signified in writing his or her acceptance of this instrument. But this arrangement shall not continue in force beyond the expiration of twelve months from the date hereof.

18. This instrument shall be submitted forthwith by His Majesty's Government for the approval of Parliament and by the Irish signatories to a meeting summoned for the purpose of the members elected to sit in the House of Commons of Southern Ireland and if approved shall be ratified by the necessary legislation.

Business Notes.

Overseas Trade.—The November trade returns, which appear as we go to press, show that imports for the month were valued at £89,258,000, as against £84,741,900 in October, British exports at £62,894,800 against £62,265,400, and re-exports at £9,823,200, against £10,385,600. The surplus of imports is thus £16,540,000, as against £12,091,000 in October. We postpone further examination of the statistics until our next issue.

The Bank Statements.—The monthly statement of average weekly balances of the London clearing banks for November is set out in full in a later column. Below we compare the totals for the nine English banks with those of previous months:—

(Million £'s.)

	Weekly Average.					
	Jan., 1921.	June, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1921.
Capital and reserves	115.4	115.9	115.9	115.9	115.9	115.9
Acceptances, including un- divided	88.4	87.7	49.4	47.2	50.9	59.3
Deposits, &c.	1,810.1	1,768.4	1,764.0	1,771.4	1,802.5	1,793.4
Liabilities	2,013.9	1,942.0	1,929.3	1,934.5	1,969.3	1,968.6
Balance at bank						
Coin, &c. in course of collection	256.2	265.1	250.3	250.4	264.6	247.6
Money	341.3	335.9	326.3	332.7	330.7	335.7
Investments	361.9	346.2	379.9	394.3	409.7	430.6
Discounts	845.1	815.4	798.7	786.2	786.5	774.2
Loans and advances, pre- ferred	110.5	81.4	74.1	72.0	76.2	84.8
Assets	2,013.9	1,942.0	1,929.3	1,934.5	1,969.3	1,968.6

The decline in deposits as compared with October has been offset by an advance in acceptances. On the whole there is an increase of nearly £21 millions in the resources, presumably owing to purchases of Treasury bills, and of £5 millions in investments. The Treasury, on the other hand, is £17 millions lower, and cash in the hands of banks is £6 millions lower, while advances have been reduced by over £12 millions. The ratio of cash to deposits is 13.8 per cent., which compares with 14.6 per cent. a month ago.

—A further increase is shown in the output of coal. The mines of Great Britain for the week ended November 26th. For the week ended November 5th the output was 4,182,400 tons. In the three succeeding weeks it has been 4,372,500, 4,646,300, and 4,673,600 tons. In the week ended November 27, 1920, the output was 5,176,500 tons.

Agricultural Conditions.—The monthly report of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries states that in November rapid progress was made with autumn cultivation, and the sowing of the land intended for winter corn

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.
City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

is practically completed in all parts of the country. Occasionally, the land has been too hard for satisfactory cultivation, but generally it has worked well, and a good seedbed has been secured. Wheat has germinated well and is vigorous in growth, with a good colour; in some cases growth is too forward, and sheep have been put on the crop to keep it down. Oats, rye and beans, with rare exceptions, also give good promise. The lifting of the potato crop has been completed under favourable conditions, but the frosts in the early part of the month caught a proportion of the crops still in the ground, and to a small extent also damaged those in the pit. The total production is estimated at 2,958,000 tons, or about 200,000 tons less than in 1920, but greater than in any year before 1917, the comparatively large production this year, in spite of the low yield per acre, being due to the increase in the area devoted to this crop. Mangolds made some growth during November, but crops have now mostly been lifted in good order. The roots are of small size as a rule, but quality generally is satisfactory. The total production is estimated at 6,280,000 tons, or about 1,000,000 tons less than last year. The yield per acre is estimated at 16.8 tons, or nearly 2 tons below average. The open weather has suited cattle and sheep, which are generally in fairly good condition for the season, and has enabled cattle to be kept in the pastures in which there has been a fairly plentiful supply of grass during the month in many districts. There is still a scarcity of water in some parts of the country. The supply of labour is ample for requirements, and in many districts there is a certain amount of unemployment, mostly among casual workers.

The Position in Guatemala.—The revolution early this week in Guatemala is ascribed by those who know the country to President Herrero's failure to fulfil his promises, and to the depression in trade, which, of course, was laid to the charge of the Government. The Liberal party seized power, and the support of the Army ensured their success. All was reported quiet on Thursday, and business is being carried on as usual. A later telegram reports a triumvirate of Generals, which has promised to spare the ex-President's life. In these circumstances, we do not think that the external bondholders need fear a suspension of the debt service. The funds covering the next two coupons are already in London. How far the revolution may interfere with the achievement of the federation of Central America is an interesting question, but the Federal Constitution offers no scope for an ambitious leader.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo record stringency in the money market in the latter half of November, the market being affected by big subscriptions to the new Exchequer bills, by the withdrawal of the Government railway deposit from the banks, by payments for dollars sold by the Government to the exchange banks, and by a drain on the market into the exchange banks on account of the increasing adverse balance of trade. Towards the end of the month, also, there was an increasing demand for remittances to the country, and the cash resources of bankers were reduced. Short loans were in strong demand. The Washington Conference caused sales of armament shares, which led to a spreading of uneasiness in the stock markets. The rice market is reported to be unstable, and the Government have announced the suspension of the import duty on rice from November 21st till next October. The cotton yarn market remains dull, but American buying is responsible for brisk conditions in the market for silk yarn. The note issue of the Bank of Japan on November 30th was 1,283,000,000 yen, as compared with 1,180,000,000 yen a year ago, discounts and advances being 237,000,000 yen, against 191,000,000 yen.

The Salvador Debt.—After all, the negotiations between the Bondholders' Committee and the American banking syndicate who were preparing to raise a new loan in the United States have broken down owing to the alteration

by the syndicate at the last moment of its offer of terms. Their original proposal was that the new loan, secured on the gross Customs revenue (part of which is already pledged to the holders of the existing external loans), should consist of three series of bonds. Series "A," consisting of 8 per cent. bonds to the nominal amount of \$5,000,000, would constitute a first charge, and be issued in the United States; series "B," amounting to the equivalent in American dollars of the outstanding external loans (respectively £756,900 of the 6 per cent. loan of 1906 and £201,358 of the 7 per cent. funding loan of 1915), carrying interest at 6 per cent., would be exchanged at par for the bonds of those loans; it would be a second charge on the gross Customs revenue. Series "C," to be devoted to the payment of domestic indebtedness of the Salvador Government, coffee bonds, and the arrears of the railway subsidy, £44,000, would be issued to the amount required for settlement, provided that the total nominal amount of all three series should not exceed \$16,000,000. An American official appointed by the syndicate would supervise the collection of the Customs revenue. An agent of the Salvador Government took part in the negotiations; and it was agreed that the arrears of interest on the existing external bonds would be paid in cash. But within the last few days the syndicate demanded in addition the power to issue an extra \$5,000,000 of the "A" series whenever the gross Customs revenue for three years had been thrice the amount required for the "A," "B," and "C" bonds. Thus the security for the "B" bonds was so diminished that the offer could not be accepted, and, pending further negotiations, the bondholders are requested to deposit their bonds—or at present a banker's receipt for them—with the London and South American Investment Trust, 62 Old Broad street, E.C. Meanwhile, the Foreign Office has been invited to protect their interests, threatened by the possible imposition of a prior charge on the Customs revenue.

Cotton Trade Wages.—The time is near at hand when there is every probability of the employers in the Lancashire cotton industry seeking a further reduction in the wages of the operatives, writes our Manchester correspondent. Last June wages were revised after a lock-out of three weeks. The agreement provided for an immediate fall of 60 per cent. on list rates, or 3s 10d in the £ on current wages, and a further reduction of 10 per cent. on list rates, or 7d in the £ on current wages in the last week of this year. It will be open for either side to claim a change in list rates at the end of this month, and owing to the severe trade depression which exists it is anticipated that the masters will give the trade union secretaries three months' notice of a reduction. The wages now being paid are on lists which are about 140 per cent. above July, 1914. There has recently been some discussion as to increasing the working hours which were reduced in 1919 from 55½ to 48 per week. It is doubtful, however, whether the employers will take any action in this connection. An attempt to make the operatives work longer hours will be very sternly resisted by the trade unions, and it may be taken for granted that if an application is made for a reduction in wages strong efforts will be made to make the fall as small as possible.

Royal Dutch.—Our Amsterdam correspondent writes, on December 1st:—To-day a general meeting of shareholders was held in order to consider the proposed alteration of the statutes in order to authorise the board to pay dividends in scrip instead of cash if required by circumstances. The meeting could take no binding decision, as the statutory number of shareholders was not represented. The meeting was adjourned, but Mr Deterding availed himself of the opportunity to explain this proposed alteration, giving at the same time some interesting details about the present position of the company. The financial results are such that the declaration of an interim dividend of 15 per cent., as in previous years, should be fully justified. Payment in cash, however, might, in view of certain possible contingencies, be unwise. Considerable sums have in 1921 been invested by the daughter companies in many parts of the world. More than 100,000,000 fl have been invested in Mexico, where the company now owns extensive oil-fields, pipe-lines, refining plants, and tanks, and the production there is 150,000 tons a week, while the stock may be taken at about 1,000,000 tons. Extension of the company's fleet absorbed 30,000,000 fl. Taking also into consideration the capital expenses in England, France, and elsewhere, the total amount thus spent may be estimated at 200,000,000 fl. It will be impossible to find new money if the Netherlands Indian Government pursue their course of taxing the products of the Royal Dutch in the way contemplated. Last May the export duties on petroleum products were considerably increased. Since 1905 the directors have opposed these taxes. The Netherlands Indian Government expect to draw 54,000,000 fl out of these increased taxes, which are said to be of a temporary nature, but may, of course, continue for an undefined space of time once in vigour. They are of opinion that the trade of the Royal Dutch in our Colonies may easily be burdened with the above-named sum in excess of the amount of 30,000,000 fl, which is already paid in taxes by the company and its subsidiaries in Holland and Netherlands India. In 1920 the Royal Dutch-Shell group made a profit of 200,000,000 fl, but only a small part of this was made in the Dutch colonies. Out of 19,000,000 tons crude oil produced in 1920 only 2,300,000 tons were derived from the Dutch Indies. From Mexico they derive thrice as much. The chief source of profits is not the production of crude oil, nor the manufacture of benzene, lamp oil, liquid fuel, and similar products, but the transportation, distribution, and sale of these articles. The strength of the Royal Dutch lies in the large fleet, extensive installations, and the well-organised and trained selling department. Considerable revenues are drawn from the transportation of oil, the use of pipe-lines, the buying, working, and selling of oil and oil products in various countries, and from numerous transactions in which our Colonies do not at all play any rôle of importance. Comparing the policy of our Colonial Government with that of other countries, we see that Japan protects the inland industry by means of a duty of 42 fl per ton kerosene, British India by a duty of 20 fl, while in the United States the constitution does not allow the imposition of export duties. The Royal Dutch do not ask protection, but they object to unjust taxation of their trade only. Mr Deterding said that the position of the company at present is such that there is 200,000,000 fl hard cash. The stocks on which for a considerable part freights and rights have already been paid represent another 100,000,000 fl to 150,000,000 fl. The company have no bankers' debts, they are financially perfectly independent, and all stocks are free of any charge. Whatever crisis may occur in the money market the Royal Dutch will be able to continue the exploitation and extension without having to refer to the shareholders.

British Overseas Bank.—The second annual report and accounts of the British Overseas Bank, Limited, for the financial year ended October 31st last records the steady progress made in its development. Profit for the year amounts to £102,326, to which has to be added £35,200

as surplus from the previous accounting period. The 6 per cent. dividend on the "A" ordinary shares absorbs £60,000, while £10,000 is allocated to the reserve fund, against shareholding interests in foreign banks, and £10,000 is placed to a reserve "premises account." This leaves £57,527 to be carried forward. It is of interest to observe that all taxation charges are now deducted before declaring profits. Thus the amount now carried forward is subject to no deduction, as was the case in the accounts published a year ago. The Anglo-Polish Bank, which was recently established in co-operation with Messrs A. Peretz and Co., has "had a satisfactory initial year," and the Polish undertaking is now issuing 50,000 additional shares, amounting to 25 millions Polish marks. Relations have been entered into with the Dorpat Bank at Dorpat, and a "small shareholding participation has been taken." The balance-sheet will be found fully analysed in another column. Total assets are now £4,360,584, as against £5,222,792 last year. Cash in hand at £568,826 is lower, while money at call and short notice is down to £1,395,000, as against £2,025,499. Balances with bankers abroad have increased from £318,125 to £1,098,744—significant figures—while the item "bills discounted" has fallen from £117,321 to £59,586. "Investments in foreign countries" which formerly stood "at cost" at £32,442 are now replaced by "shareholding interests in foreign banks at cost £44,943." Advances have moved from £212,166 to £385,506, preliminary expenses of £39,017 have disappeared, and premises account now assumes the respectable dimension of £238,527. Acceptances are considerably lower at £449,117, which compares with £1,621,148 a year ago.

Peruvian Corporation.—Not only have the revenues from the railways and steamers owned by the Peruvian Corporation declined during the year ended June 30th last, but the monthly instalments of the Government annuity of £80,000 have not been paid since January last. On the other hand, a sum of £36,026 has been received from the Peruvian Government in respect of guano shipped, a temporary arrangement having been made pending sanction by Congress of the agreement between the Government and the corporation for purchase by the former of the rights in respect of 762,872 tons of guano due to the corporation. The table below sets out results for the past five years:—

	Year to June 30.				
	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Railway net revenue ..	£ 372,622	£ 458,641	£ 386,364	£ 426,391	£ 379,341
Government annuity ..	110,000	110,000	95,000	115,000	46,667
Guano account.....					36,026
Interest, exchange, &c..	40,282	29,337	31,641	58,413	30,893
Total income.....	525,033	597,979	513,005	599,804	492,927
Administration.....	21,976	23,389	31,892	30,894	45,816
Balance of revenue ...	503,057	574,590	481,113	568,910	447,111
Deb. int. (4%)	206,000	216,000	216,000	216,000	216,000
Sums written off, &c. ..	84,370	72,271	48,317	92,956	37,950
Deb. amortisation	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
Available balance	148,687	232,319	162,796	205,954	140,061
To reserve					
Additional deb. int. (2%)	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000	108,000
Preference dividend....	74,573	111,861	74,576	93,225	37,294
	(1%)	(1½%)	(1%)	(1½%)	(1½%)
Year's balance	Dr 33,886	12,458	Dr 19,780	4,729	Dr 5,233
Brought forward	183,407	149,521	161,978	142,198	146,927
Carried forward	149,521	161,979	142,198	146,927	141,694

The amounts written off consist of £4,000 for Lake steamers' insurance and £33,050 for income-tax, the latter comparing with £68,306 a year ago. Additional 2 per cent. interest on the debenture bonds absorbs £108,000, and the preference dividend is reduced to ½ per cent., which leaves 97½ per cent. in arrears. After making these payments, there remains £141,694, or £5,233 less, to be carried forward. A comparative summary of the main items of the balance-sheet is given below:—

June 30.	Liabilities.			Assets.		
	Deben- tures.	Credi- tors and Bills.	Sinking Fund, Reserve, Insurance and Net Revenue.	Conces- sions, &c.	Rail- ways.	Invest- ments, Bills, and Cash.
1912	£ 5,236,750	£ 67,228	£ 1,159,121	£ 12,772,305	£ 9,682,939	£ 259,155
1913	5,176,000	71,769	1,253,291	12,772,305	9,700,667	258,741
1914	5,111,750	130,829	1,370,807	12,772,305	9,741,496	322,001
1915	5,043,850	101,634	1,331,057	12,772,305	9,674,848	286,810
1916	4,975,450	84,651	1,440,396	12,772,305	9,568,853	400,943
1917	4,903,800	89,112	1,596,049	12,772,305	9,526,033	540,631
1918	4,824,050	125,153	1,734,037	12,772,305	9,506,566	579,520
1919	4,739,700	120,001	1,770,044	12,772,305	9,506,566	566,685
1920	4,650,550	137,436	1,899,811	12,772,305	9,506,566	383,273
1921	4,556,300	306,257	1,929,906	12,772,305	9,509,988	289,157

Operations in land resulted in a debit balance of £8,759, "owing to (1) the failure of the purchaser of the 1920 coffee crops, who, in consequence of a sudden fall in prices, declared himself unable to carry out his contract, the £1,000 deposited by him being forfeited; and (2) the shortage of the 1921 coffee crop, which has been occasioned by the exceptionally cold conditions preventing the formation of the berry." Experimental boring for oil has been held up by delays in receiving the drilling apparatus, and "developments have not sufficiently advanced for a forecast to be made." Strong representations have been made to the Government with regard to its failure to pay the monthly instalments of the annuity, and the Government has promised to pay "as soon as the finances of the country improve." The directors of the corporation have for some time been pressing for a revision of railway tariffs, and their efforts have now met with success, a decree having authorised "certain modifications and adjustments" in railway rates to come into force on December 19th. The average rate of exchange for the financial year 1920-21 was 27½d to the sol, as compared with 29½d in the preceding year.

Orient Steam Navigation.—A sharp decline in profits is recorded in the report of the Orient Steam Navigation Company for the year ended June 30th last. The previous year, however, had shown an exceptional increase, and the past year's figure is slightly better than that of two years ago. A transfer of £50,000 from underwriting account raises the amount for disposal to last year's figure. A comparison of results is given below:—

June 30.	1913-14	1916-17	1917-18	1918-19	1919-20	1920-21
Profit	£ 227,454	£ 180,152	£ 166,271	£ 162,062	£ 218,699	£ 164,656
Brought forward	56,717	96,996	112,359	115,073	63,912	118,678*
Deb. int. and fees....	284,171	277,148	278,630	277,135	282,611	283,334
Reserve	23,383	24,127	22,895	22,561	21,265	18,014
Repairs and renewals.	75,000	100,000	50,000	150,000	100,000	70,440
Prof. div.	25,000		50,000			
Def. div.	10,176	14,603	14,603	14,603	14,603	14,603
	63,701	26,059	26,059	26,059	78,065	130,110
	(55%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(15%)	(12½%)
Carried forward	86,911	112,359	115,073	63,912	68,678	50,167

* Includes £50,000 transferred from Underwriting Account.

After paying debenture interest and preferred dividend and transferring £70,440 to general reserve, a dividend of 12½ per cent., free of tax (as against 15 per cent. a year ago), is paid on the deferred shares, and £50,167 carried forward. A year ago £520,440 of the general reserve fund was capitalised and distributed to shareholders, and this accounts for the fact that the reduced dividend requires £52,000 more. The balance-sheet shows reductions of £234,000 in creditors, and of £204,000 in the property item. Debtors are £99,700 lower, but cash is up by £20,300. The report states that as a consequence of the Australian Navigation Act the company has "been forced to abandon the conveyance of passengers between Australian ports." A new contract has recently been made with the Commonwealth Government for a four-weekly mail service.

Dorman, Long, and Co.—The report of Dorman, Long, and Co., Limited, for the year ended September 30th last shows reduced profits as compared with figures published



a year ago. In the table given below profits for the last two years are set out, together with details showing how these have been distributed:—

	1919-20.	1920-21.
Profit.....	£ 716,013	£ 397,711
Brought forward	205,852	248,540
Debenture interest.....	921,865	646,251
Redemption of 5% debentures..	37,371	36,286
Reserve	20,954	10,477
Preferred ordinary dividend....	200,000	
Ordinary dividend	120,000	120,000
	295,000	240,000
	(10%)	(5%)
Carried forward	248,540	239,488

The report states that "various questions between the Government and the company still remain to be settled," but "negotiations are proceeding," and it may "be possible to arrive at a settlement in the near future." Referring to industrial conditions, the report mentions that "on October 18th last year a stoppage began which lasted nearly three weeks, and again from March 31st till July 1st no coal was worked." These events, it is pointed out, "have had a most prejudicial effect on our business." Total assets are now given as £11,931,453, while share capital amounts to £7,119,900. There are debentures for £809,061 outstanding, in addition to a secured loan for £938,475. Investments and advances total £4,656,511, of which the investment part is taken at cost, with the exception of £482,836 taken "at or under cost." It is pointed out that prices have fallen heavily during the year, and "effect has been given to this in valuing the stocks, which have been taken at their present value." These are stated at £1,650,504 in the balance-sheet, as against £2,113,616 for 1919-20.

Ind, Coope's Profits.—A year ago Ind, Coope and Co. paid a 15 per cent. dividend and distributed £36,537 by way of bonus. This year the 15 per cent. dividend is maintained and the amount distributed as bonus is £105,000. As the following table shows, this increased distribution is made in spite of a decline in gross profits:—

Year Ended Sept. 30th.	Gross Profits.	Interest on Debenture Stocks and Mortgages.	Depreciation.	Ordinary Dividend.	To Reserve, &c.	Carried Forward.
1914..	£ 110,821	£ 58,332	£ 28,516	£ ..	£ ..	£ 14,290
1915..	146,238	54,300	34,375	..	40,000	680
1916..	152,906	53,625	36,084	..	50,000	2,484
1917..	204,717	58,186	34,186	14,026	50,000	23,277
1918..	392,575	55,686	29,991	20,671	185,000	57,281
1919..	474,202	55,722	39,373	49,594	285,000	103,872
1920..	415,249	53,814	45,863	91,341	85,000	139,613
1921..	375,657	53,504	49,783	168,000	10,000	106,345

Trading profits in the year ended September 30th last were over £41,000 lower at £314,079, while income from investments was £61,578, against £59,954. During the past three years allocations to reserve have been on a generous scale. This year only £10,000 is set aside—this sum to go to the debenture redemption fund—and the carry forward is reduced by £33,000. An analysis of changes in the balance-sheet will be found in a later column of this issue.

Bleachers' Association.—The half-yearly statement of the Bleachers' Association for the six months ended September 30th last shows that net profits, after deducting central charges, providing for corporation profits tax, and charging maintenance and upkeep, debenture interest, &c., amounts to £137,872, as compared with £576,404 for the corresponding period of 1920. The depreciation fund is credited with £90,000, as last year, and the preference dividend absorbs £67,994, leaving a debit balance of £20,122, or a credit balance of £317,769 when the balance brought forward from the previous accounts is included. The directors propose to pay out of this an ordinary dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, as compared with 8 per cent. for the last two years. At this time last year, after payment of the interim ordinary dividend, there remained a balance of £620,029 to be carried forward.

Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust.—In the third annual report and accounts of the Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, Limited, for the year ended October 31st last the directors state that, "with a view to conserving all available liquid resources, the board agreed with the directors of the subsidiary companies that no dividends shall be declared in respect of the company's holdings for the period under review." The revenue account is brief. Interest and receipts, £97,220, less management and other expenses, including directors' fees, £30,492, and interest, £42,352, leave a credit balance of £24,376. The amount brought forward is £117,524, preference dividends absorb £136,500, and £5,400 is carried forward. The accounts of the subsidiary companies have been made up to August 31st last, the combined results of which show a loss. The amount of this loss, however, cannot be stated until the "outstanding questions with the Inland Revenue authorities with regard to excess profits duty are settled." It is difficult to appraise the value of a paragraph in the report giving figures of liquid assets and trade liabilities without giving values of fixed assets. The balance-sheet is not particularly informative. Total assets are now £8,306,393, as compared with £8,971,643. The principal item on this side is "investments," at £7,066,873; of this sum investments in cotton mill companies are stated at £6,987,397, followed by the term "at cost" in brackets. On the last page of the report some particulars of controlled mills are given, but such interesting generalities, even when accompanied with details of liquid assets, are not sufficient to guide critical investors to a true understanding of the position of affairs. Under liabilities there is a loan outstanding against security, which, with accrued interest, figures at £176,208, while sundry loans and accrued interest amount to £337,439, and a bank overdraft is stated as £130,126. In addition to this, it should be noticed that there is a contingent liability in respect of a guarantee given for bank overdrafts of some of the subsidiary companies. Perhaps the directors will shed some further light on affairs at the annual general meeting, which is to be held on December 12th. The balance-sheet is analysed in our usual column.

Van Ryn Gold Mines.—When a Witwatersrand main reef proposition has been in the dividend list since 1895 it is a foregone conclusion that the exhaustion of the property must be within sight. Such is the position of the Van Ryn, which has distributed in all fully 2½ millions upon a capital of half-a-million. It is significant, though satisfactory, that one-third of the ore dealt with during the year ended June 30th last consisted of reclamation material from the old workings. An interesting feature of the operations consists in a large increase in the percentage of waste rock sorted out. From a trifle in 1919-20, the proportion for 1920-21 rose to 20, and at the end of the period stood at 27. Naturally, this procedure tends to expand the cost ratio, but the net gain is appreciable. The factor just named, in conjunction with higher wages and taxation, higher charges for stores, and the improved dietary of the native workers, had the effect of expanding the expense ratio by 6s 3d per ton, to 25s 9d. However, thanks partly to the extra revenue derived from the gold premium, the working profit of £112,900, or 5s 11d per ton, scored a moderate

advance both in total and average. After the payment of 15 per cent.—as for the preceding year—a somewhat larger balance remains to go forward. As usual, the year's capital expenditure was written off. Once again, to meet the abnormal conditions, the manager presents two ore reserve estimates—one based upon gold at the standard value, the other on the price at the time of writing—112s 6d per fine ounce. The current figure is about 100s. Taking the mean of the two estimates, the ore at present available may be reckoned to represent some two years' extraction, irrespective of what may be secured in the way of reclamation. Emphasis has been laid in some quarters on the point that but for the excess over the normal price of gold no profit would have been made last year. This, of course, is undeniable. But it is equally correct that as the gold premium declines costs tend to come down, although not in a corresponding degree. In this connection reference may be made to the new measures afoot with a view to bringing about a higher degree of efficiency in Rand mining. As already noted, the effective working hours of the natives have been extended. A conference is shortly to be held between the Chamber of Mines and the workers' representatives for the purpose of considering the revision of the contract system, the removal of trade union restrictions, and the abolition of the *status quo* agreement arrived at some years ago in connection with unskilled work sometimes performed by Europeans and sometimes by natives. With the paper price of gold falling away, it is coming to be recognised by all classes that drastic steps are necessary to avoid the unemployment and falling off in trade generally which must occur in the event of more mines being compelled to close down.

South West Africa Company.—Several weeks ago, writes our mining correspondent, speculative interest sprang up in the shares of this Anglo-German undertaking, and some rather optimistic stories gained currency in market circles. Endeavours to obtain confirmation or otherwise of these statements were met with the reply that all the information would be embodied in the forthcoming annual report, and could not be anticipated. In the event it transpired that in respect of sums owing, cash assets in Germany, securities sold by the German Government, and compensation, the company had since December 31, 1920, secured a total of about £590,000. Moreover, at Tuesday's meeting the chairman mentioned that no account had been taken of further sums totalling about £120,000 net which may be recovered directly or indirectly. With the money already received, plus a moderate temporary accommodation, the company is purchasing from the Public Trustee, at 11s 6d each, some 1,200,000 ex-enemy shares. An interesting and unusual position here arises. Hitherto the blocks of shares acquired by companies in similar circumstances have been almost immediately re-offered to friendly shareholders on terms constituting a bonus. In the case of the South West Africa Company, however, such a course of procedure would not be desirable, seeing that the ex-enemy shares comprise over two-thirds of the total capital, and is unnecessary, as the additional funds which could be thus provided are not required. Consequently, the 1,200,000 shares in question are to be treated as unissued capital, leaving the issued capital at £500,000 only. Against this the company holds British and other investments at to-day's prices worth about £516,000, irrespective of mortgages, buildings, and other assets; irrespective, also, of the remainder of the Damaraland concession—about 1,600,000 acres freehold. Hence there would appear to be ample ground for those computations which appraise the undertaking considerably in excess even of the current improved market valuation. Both in the report of the directors and at the meeting strong comments were made upon the action of the Union Government in confiscating the whole of the company's mineral rights apart from those relating to the Damaraland concession. As a partial compensation the said authorities have extended until November 17, 1923, the period within which the company retains the sole right to prospect for minerals within the balance of the Damaraland area. Very naturally, in the circumstances, active exploration is

now in progress. Having regard to the general tendency to depreciate Government departments, it may be noted that at the meeting a tribute was paid to the ability displayed in the negotiations by the Board of Trade and the Public Trustee.

The Corporation of Insurance Brokers announce that a lecture will be delivered by Mr B. A. Glanville, F.C.I.B., entitled "Experiences of a Lloyd's Broker During the Last 30 Years," on December 14th, at 5.45 p.m., at 59A London wall, E.C. 2.

The Board of Trade have appointed Mr H. F. Carlill to be Inspector-General in Bankruptcy, as from December 1, 1921, vice Mr J. G. Willis, C.B., retired.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—MISSOURI, KANSAS, AND TEXAS REORGANISATION—COTTON GINNING REPORT — OCTOBER EXPORTS — BAD INVESTMENT DEMAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, November 25.

AFTER being in receivership for six years, the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway Company, one of the largest systems in this country, is to be reorganised. Negotiations, which were begun shortly after the company failed, in September, 1915, to refund \$19,000,000 of short-term notes, but which were interrupted by the war and Federal control of the railroads, have finally resulted in a definite plan, according to an announcement this week by the reorganisation managers, J. and W. Seligman and Co. and Hallgarten and Co. The plan has been approved by the directors and accepted by all of the 18 committees representing the different classes of securities concerned. It will be declared operative when, in the judgment of the reorganisation managers, a sufficient amount of securities has been deposited. The stockholders' participation in the plan will be underwritten by a syndicate composed of Speyer and Co., Seligman and Co., Hallgarten and Co., and the Equitable Trust Company. The underwriting will amount to \$18,420,000. Since about \$55,000,000 of \$89,000,000 total bonds involved have already been deposited, the managers feel that the success of the undertaking is assured. Among the outstanding features of the plan are the following:—The fixed interest-bearing debt of the railroad is to be reduced from \$146,543,142 to \$100,320,913, and the fixed interest charges (including sinking fund payments) from \$7,429,376 to \$4,917,717. In addition, the new company is to have \$57,500,000 5 per cent. convertible adjustment mortgage bonds, bearing a contingent interest charge of \$2,875,000, cumulative from January 1, 1925. The total capitalisation of the old company, amounting to \$223,000,000 stocks and bonds, is to be replaced by the new company's bonds and preferred stock aggregating \$182,320,000, and 783,155 shares of its common stock without par value. Assessments of \$20 per share are to be made on the \$13,000,000 old preferred and of \$25 per share on the \$63,283,257 old common stock to provide \$18,420,000 new cash for reorganisation purposes, of which \$4,042,000 will be used to pay off receivers' certificates and bank loans, \$1,275,000, to pay deferred interest under the plan, \$1,000,000 to meet next year's equipment trust maturities, and \$4,000,000 to provide the new company with a working balance; the sum of \$8,103,000 will be reserved for additions and betterments, and for the expenses of reorganisation. The plan, if put into effect, as seems probable, will reduce 18 bond issues to two, except to the extent that holders of bonds issued under the old first mortgage, which are not foreclosed, do not elect to deposit them under the plan. Except for that contingency, the bankers explain, the new prior lien bonds will be substantially a first mortgage on the entire system, including terminals and rolling-stock. That is true of few existing railroad mortgages.

The Census Bureau's fifth ginning report of the season, issued this week, gives the amount of cotton ginned up to

November 14th as 7,270,575 bales, or 733,575 bales more than the Department of Agriculture predicted; the latter will announce its final estimate on December 12th. The quantity ginned between November 1st and November 14th was 624,439 bales, as against 1,406,000 for the corresponding period of last year. Many authorities in the cotton trade believe that the actual yield this year will prove to be close to 8,000,000 bales. But even the latter figure, if realised, would still be some 5,000,000 bales less than the previous normal production.

Details of our exports of commodities in October show that the expansion in the outward movement of cotton, mineral oils, and other exports more than offset decreases in breadstuffs and meats, and was responsible for the gain in that month's export trade over September of \$20,000,000, or 6 per cent. As compared with August, however, breadstuffs fell off \$68,000,000, and meats \$14,000,000, those losses being only partly counterbalanced by the gain of \$60,000,000 in raw cotton shipments. Compared with October of last year, breadstuffs exports dropped \$88,000,000, meats \$16,000,000, and mineral oils \$27,000,000, while cotton, which gained 50 per cent. in volume, lost a fifth of 1 per cent. in total value. The exports of five leading commodities or products fell by \$132,000,000, or 42 per cent., from October, 1920; "other products" decreased \$272,000,000, or 62 per cent., and all exports were less by \$405,000,000, or 53 per cent. The exports by groups of products for the first ten months of the present calendar year, as compared with the corresponding period in 1920, show decreases in every class, as will be seen from the following table:—

	TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER.		Decrease.
	1920.	1921.	
Breadstuffs.....	\$ 883,074,913	\$ 686,987,106	22.3
Cotton-seed oil	26,742,955	22,434,551	16.1
Meat and dairy products ..	451,995,922	306,601,367	34.3
Cotton	952,885,151	408,192,816	57.1
Mineral oils	439,568,355	328,618,138	25.2
Total above	2,754,267,296	1,752,833,978	36.3
Total other	4,076,933,926	2,145,473,755	47.3
Grand total.....	6,831,201,222	3,898,307,733	44.4

The feature overshadowing all others in financial markets here is the further pronounced strength and activity displayed by bonds. Government, State, and municipal issues, both foreign and domestic, were conspicuously strong this week. Some of the Liberty bonds and Victory notes reached new high records for the year. Railroad, industrial and public utility bonds and notes scored advances ranging from ½ to 1 or 2 points. Some idea of the remarkable improvement in the bond market in recent weeks may be gained from the fact that General Electric 5's, for instance, which were selling around 85 a short time ago, have lately sold above 97; Armour 4½'s, which could be bought at close to 70 a few weeks ago, are now selling around 86. Many similar instances of advances could be cited. Railroad and industrial bonds are up from 10 to 15 points from the low levels of the year, but they are still far below quotations which prevailed prior to the war. For the first time in a number of years the demand for seasoned, high-grade bonds exceeds available supplies in many investment houses. An interesting development this week was the unusually high price at which the State of Pennsylvania sold an issue of \$11,200,000 4½ per cent. semi-annual 15 to 30-year optional highway bonds. The entire issue was taken by a syndicate

THE BOOK OF THE HOUR! THE WORLD'S MONETARY PROBLEMS BY GUSTAV CASSEL

Paper, 3s. 6d. Cloth, 5s.
The PRIME MINISTER speaking at Inverness on October 4, said: I received in the course of the last day or two a very remarkable memorandum written by one of the most brilliant economists in the world, Professor Cassel of Sweden. He wrote that brilliant document, which attracted so much attention, on the exchanges of the world for the Brussels Conference last year, and now he has written a second.

CONSTABLE & Co. Ltd. 10 Orange St. W.C.2

of New York and Philadelphia bankers at 104.31, or on a 4.35 per cent. basis, representing a new high record for the year for securities of that class. The bonds will be re-offered at 106, or a 4.20 per cent. basis. Various explanations are advanced for the extraordinary and sustained purchases of bonds. But, whatever the cause or causes, the fact remains that a tremendous amount of capital is being invested or reinvested, not only in existing bonds and notes, but in new securities. The latter continue to be offered in heavy volume, and where yields are attractive, with reasonably safe security, they are quickly snapped up by the investing public, corporations, and institutions. This week's offerings included an issue of \$22,779,300 15-year 6 per cent. non-callable gold bonds of the Cities of Lyons, Marseilles, and Bordeaux, priced at 86½ and interest to yield about 7.65 per cent. The bonds are part of an authorised issue of \$15,000,000 for each city, the remainder of which was sold in 1919. Subscription books were opened this morning, but almost immediately closed, the entire offering having been largely over-subscribed.

FRANCE—THE RUMOURED MORATORIUM—LONDON FINANCIAL AGREEMENT—GERMAN LABOUR IN FRANCE—AN INDUSTRIAL RESTORATION LOAN—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, December 6.

THE suggestion that Germany shall be accorded a moratorium of anything from two to five years' duration in respect of her reparations payments to the Allies was received here at first with an outburst of little less than exasperation. When it became known, however, that Sir John Bradbury had denied that he was the actual author of the proposal, and it began to be assumed that, although the British Government was believed to be in favour of the idea, it was in all probability of German origin, opinion here became much less excited over the matter, and it is now considered that no great harm will be done if the suggestion is thoroughly threshed out on its merits by the experts on both sides of the Channel. The return of M. Briand from Washington since the moratorium proposal was first mooted, and the overwhelming vote of confidence which he has this afternoon received in the Senate, have contributed still further to relieve the tension caused first by Lord Curzon's comminatory Note to the French Government with reference to the Franco-Kemalist agreement, and then accentuated by the report that the British Government was directly responsible for the suggestion that time should be granted to Germany in which to pay. It is now hoped that M. Loucheur and other French experts, who are to leave for London to-morrow night, will be able to come to an agreement with their English colleagues that will enable the two countries henceforth to follow a common policy, in regard to the reparation payments as a whole, that will meet the interest of all concerned.

The two main points to be discussed during this Anglo-French technical conference, according to French opinion, are (1) the inter-Allied financial agreement drawn up in London last August, determining the manner in which the first milliard marks gold (already paid over by Germany) should be distributed among the Allies; and (2) the Wiesbaden agreement between France and Germany, under which this country would be entitled to call upon Germany to furnish her, without payment, such materials as she might require for the reconstitution of her devastated regions, and to set off their value, to the extent of 1,000,000,000 per annum, against the 1,600,000,000 a year which would in the ordinary course be France's proportion of the German reparation instalments. The inter-Allied financial agreement of last August, it will be remembered, was signed by the French Finance Minister, M. Paul Doumer, under reserve of ratification by his Government. So far the French Government has failed to confirm an agreement that

allotted to Great Britain practically the whole of the first milliard in cash paid by Germany, on the ground that France, by virtue of the benefit she draws from the control of the Saire coalfield, has already received more than her proper share from Germany, and is therefore not entitled to any portion of this first cash payment. Many people here express the opinion that Lord Curzon's Note to the French Government, calling upon it to ratify the London agreement of last August, can only be interpreted as saying, in other words, that unless France agrees to forgo any payment in cash out of the first milliard paid by Germany, the rest of the Allies will refuse to sanction the Wiesbaden agreements between France and Germany.

The Wiesbaden agreements, under which German materials and German labour may be used to bring about the reconstruction of the devastated North, are by no means popular in the eyes of French opinion, but they are regarded as an unavoidable evil that will enable this country to surmount a vital difficulty that appears to have no other remedy. The French would naturally prefer to receive the money from Germany that is due to them, and to buy the necessary materials for reconstruction in their own markets, which never stood more in need of encouragement, or at least from the other Allied countries, as she has already very largely done. It is realised, however, that Germany has already been dispensed from paying the 20,000,000,000 marks gold which should have been handed over to the Allies, according to Article 235 of the Treaty, before May 1st last. If she is now to be absolved from further payments in cash for some years, under a moratorium agreement, it will be much more advantageous to the victims of war damages that they should be given a means of recovering their damages forthwith in kind, instead of having to wait indefinitely until Germany is recognised as being able to pay her debts in cash. In a nutshell, the French argument is that it will be well worth while to sacrifice the profit that would accrue from purchasing materials in this country's own markets, if by so doing it can be rendered easy for Germany to pay more promptly.

An indication of the state of mind in the devastated regions as to the employment of German materials and German labour is to be found in a communiqué that has just been issued by the Ministry for the liberated regions. It will be remembered that some few weeks ago a project for the reconstruction from German materials, and by German labour, of 12 ruined villages in the Somme, was laid before the Ministry. Both the French and the German trade union organisations were in accord on the matter, but M. Loucheur desired that before formal sanction was given to the proposal, a referendum should be taken on the question of German labour among the inhabitants of the villages in question. The Ministry now reports that out of 400 families who have actually returned to the villages 303 (being those whose property has suffered damage) have voted on the proposal, with the result that 149 families, or 49 per cent., voted in favour of German labour being employed, while 154, or 51 per cent., voted against the proposal. The Ministry expresses the opinion that the result was due to fear on the part of many of the people of the possible disturbances that might arise if the German workmen were allowed to move freely about the villages, instead of being confined in camps. The official returns of unemployment for the week ending December 2nd show that the total number of men and women in receipt of unemployment allowances was 12,374 (9,023 men and 3,351 women), as compared with 12,645 the previous week. Of this total 8,686 were resident in the Paris area.

Following the loan issued for the restoration of the coal mining and sugar industries in the devastated areas of France, the French metallurgical group are this week offering for subscription mortgage bonds to the total of 500,000,000, for the reconstitution of the blast furnaces, forges, steel works, and iron mines that were systematically destroyed by the Germans in the North and East of France. The issue is divided into 1,000,000 bonds of 500 each, yielding 6 per cent. interest. The issue price is 475, the bonds carry interest payments as from October 15th last. The companies in whose interest the loan is made include several of the most important in France, many of which have resumed work since the war. As most of them

possess valuable ore deposits, as well as other important works elsewhere in France and abroad, and the purchasers of the bonds, moreover, are guaranteed by the instalments that are to be paid to the companies by the State, in respect of the war damages due to them, the security is generally considered as sufficiently satisfactory to leave no doubt as to the success of the issue.

Business on the Bourse during the past week showed an almost astonishing revival, and for the first time for some two or three months past there was something like real activity. Sugar and Oil descriptions were exceptionally lively, and their movements gave a fillip to other departments of the market that has led to the hope that this better state of things may continue over the end of the year. In the gilt-edged section 3 per cent. Rentes were again marked up substantially, and closed at 54.84, as against 53.70. In the foreign group, Argentines, Brazilians, Egyptians, and Japanese all fell off, losing for the most part the improvement shown a week ago, with the exception of Chinese and Spaniards, which resisted successfully. French banks were irregular, with the exception of Union Parisienne, which dropped heavily from 760 to 718, and Crédit Lyonnais from 1,395 to 1,380. Among the foreigners Banque Ottoman was bought freely, and rose from 612 to 632. French railways shared in the wave of mild optimism, P.L.M., Midi, and Nord all being marked up from two to five francs, but shipping descriptions were heavy. Among Electrics Thomsons were a bright spot, being marked up from 755 to 770 on the week. Metallurgical descriptions showed good deal of activity, but gains were largely counterbalanced by losses. Among Industrials, Galleries Lafayette, after drawing on its reserves to the extent of 5,100,000, announces a distribution of 9,000,000 as its profits for the year, the dividend being fixed at 7.95 for the ordinary shares, and 360f for the founders' shares. Bon Marché's report for the year shows net profits of 3,673,294f, against 19,911,111f last year, the dividend announced being 62.95 per share, as against 162.40 last year.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Dec. 1, 1921.	Nov. 24, 1921.	Dec. 4, 1913.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,237,689	30,237,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,105,752	22,105,752	22,105,752
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	562,351,879	563,204,486	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,197,159,847	1,178,717,312	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,488,845,745	36,336,275,435	5,909,113,140
Interest on securities	53,361,079	56,007,848	25,718,326
Bank notes to order	833,265	1,122,515	4,003,373
Treasury account	30,165,205	54,300,341	215,694,258
Current account, Paris	1,589,450,646	1,578,399,594	559,555,542
Do branch banks	1,035,774,394	930,406,970	107,865,594
Dividends payable	4,282,822	4,350,126	1,899,393
Discounts and sundries	80,473,528	85,747,537	31,214,758
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,104,635,241	1,051,205,511	380,488,565
Total	42,426,639,951	42,110,025,675	7,461,635,164
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,803,391,122	5,803,115,396	4,166,724,345
Balances abroad	610,346,466	611,039,454	..
Commercial bills overdue	33,626,023	1,320,040	178,685
Discounts in Paris	1,237,013,375	1,300,584,008	525,721,518
Foreign bills	5,467,758	4,901,802	16,854,483
Treasury bills	416,533	427,284	84,842
Discounts in branches	..	..	1,245,616,564
Adjudged payments, Paris and branches	63,264,510	64,117,117	..
Advances on bullion	200,000,000	200,000,000	14,950,000
Do on public securities	21,500,000,000	24,500,000,000	210,121,116
Do by branch banks	12,874,000	12,874,000	524,007,777
Advances to State (ordinary)	409,929,717	403,484,513	200,000,000
Do (for the war)	1,840,590,123	1,808,650,911	45,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,125,000,000	4,119,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,990,750	12,983,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisposables	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	54,929,842	50,567,169	43,863,486
Expenses and management	38,216,770	36,125,677	11,431,355
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries	1,679,488,466	1,988,974,319	278,515,036
Total	42,426,639,951	42,110,025,675	7,461,635,164

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	%
Advances on bullion	5
Advances on public securities	6

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised .. £3,000,000
Paid Up Capital ... 1,050,000
Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application. On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

GERMANY. — REPARATIONS — EXCHANGE AND BOURSE — PRICE LEVEL — EXCHANGES AND FOREIGN TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, December 6.

THE Chancellor on the 4th made a speech in relatively optimistic vein, declaring that the Reparations fulfilment policy pursued since May will be maintained; but at the same time proclaimed that the policy which he described as "squeezing Germany like a lemon" is impracticable. How the fulfilment policy will be maintained if the squeezing policy is impracticable was not explained. Dr Wirth, however, repeated that he holds to his plan to make property bear the burden. The Chancellor is being attacked for allowing the reins in negotiations to pass into the hands of private citizens like Herr Stinnes and Dr Rathenau. The Cabinet, having no resources except the note-printing press, and no security except deficit-yielding State undertakings, is in a weak position for negotiating. It is further in practice unable to impose on industry any burden which can be permanently transformed into Reparations payments. The Erzberger taxes on property, as was admitted at Brussels, are sufficiently severe, and the new Wirth taxes on property are much severer. But the increased yields in paper marks represent an ever lower buying power abroad, and a correspondingly decreased value for Reparations. Prospects of a postponement of the January gold payment are considered small; the prospect of a credit, which the Cabinet, Dr Wirth announced, is trying to get independently of the London negotiations, seems rather better. Few persons believe that January 15th will see a formal default, and the political convulsion which default, unless May plans are altered, would bring.

According to the German text, a Reparations Commission Note declares that Germany's difficulties in Reparations, being connected with the low mark exchange, are financial rather than economic, and it is implied that financial difficulties of this kind are no obstacle to the making of gold payments. This view cannot be accepted; the essential difficulty is that gold cannot be bought with marks of present exchange, and that German "economic" (real) values cannot be converted into Reparations gold payments without, in principle, buying gold with paper marks at present exchange. The whole German national economy, State finances, price-level, and industrial capitalisation, is not on a paper-money level representing the exchange depreciation of the mark. This fact is ignored in the report prepared for the Federation of British Industries. The report assumes that the latent gold value of German industries is available for payment of an actual gold debt. In fact, were, say, a third of all German industrial stocks (bonds may be ignored as they have only the old, ever-dwindling paper value, and today represent no claim worth mentioning on industry's assets) to be presented to the Reparations Commission, the dividends therefrom, or the capital if realised abroad, would be wholly trifling. Before either could represent

any material part of the Reparations claim one or two things must happen:—(1) Without any further fall in the mark's exchange, the companies' capitals must be increased until they more or less represent the gold value of the assets at a given exchange, and at the same time the dividend percentages paid on present lower capitalisation must be maintained; or (2) the foreign exchanges must fall to a small fraction of their present level, without any fall in the companies' present capitalisation, or in their present nominal profits. Either event means an economical revolution. In view of the fact that in all very low-exchange countries the levels of industrial finance and profits persistently keep far behind the exchange depreciation, such a revolution may be considered impossible. In some other matters the Federation's report shows failure to enquire into German conditions. So far from there being willingness to meet Reparations by giving foreigners "considerable influence over the development and direction of German trade," both State and private policy is in the opposite direction. Two years ago the Government formally declared for legislative measures against the so-called "Ueberfremdung"—the growth of foreign influence by purchases of stocks and real estate. A clause of the Peace Treaty makes this official plan impossible as against Ally citizens. But during these two years nearly every great industrial enterprise has, with the aim of preventing foreign influence, issued preference shares equipped with plural voting, and designed to be held by natives. The statement in the Federation's report that something like its scheme has been discussed in responsible quarters in Germany is contrary to fact. Even the Reichswirtschafts Ministry, in its plan to expropriate industrial preference shares for State, not for foreign ownership, was obliged to premise that the shareowning State would not claim the shareholder's usual right of voting on company affairs.

The Reichsbank report for November 30th shows the largest increase in inflation so far. Month-end reports, as a rule, show a rise in circulation; but as the preceding weekly reports also showed large increases, it is plain that the great rise in the price-level caused by the mark exchange fall is already having its effect. Private discounts rose from 1,109,325,000 marks to 1,445,667,000 marks; discounted Treasury bills from 100,552,191,000 marks to 114,023,477,000 marks, the largest week's rise so far; State deposits from 3,891,014,000 marks to 5,144,615,000 marks; private deposits from 11,549,663,000 marks to 20,168,499,000 marks; note circulation from 96,463,895,000 marks to 100,943,632,000 marks. "Kassenschein" circulation showed a small increase to 7,329,600,000 marks. Clearings in November were 140,493,000,000 marks, against 75,426,000,000 marks in November, 1920; clearings in the first 11 months of the year were 950,685,000,000 marks, against 621,908,000,000 marks. The net increase in savings banks deposits in January-October, inclusive, was 2,600 million marks, against 5,390 million marks in the same months of 1920.

Thursday, December 1st, brought the year's first considerable recovery in mark exchange. The dollar, which on November 8th reached 310, fell to 190. The recovery was caused exclusively by expectations based on the London negotiations, again confirming the observation that the mark's movements are governed, not by the commercial payment balance, or even by the whole payment balance, including Reparations, but by speculative sales and purchases inspired by public estimates of Germany's prospects. It is surprising in view of this that inflation, as a factor reducing the purchasing power of the mark, is almost daily in Ally official statements made responsible for the mark's decline. The inflation in the three weeks in which the mark rose from 310 to 190 was the greatest recorded. The Berlin and all other German Bourses experienced a black Thursday on December 1st. All dividend-paying papers fell violently, including certain stocks which had already dropped heavily since the mark's lowest day, November 8th; and one of these stocks sold on December 1st at 20 per cent. of its highest quotation. Very heavy losses were suffered by the outside public; professional speculators, who sold on the first hint of negotiations for a moratorium or loan, mostly escaped. The *Frankfurter Zeitung* reports that between November 24th and December 1st its stock and bond

index figure fell from 41,996 to 33,504, the fall for 25 stocks being from 38,567 to 30,876, for foreign loans from 2,504 to 1,765, and for home loans from 925 to 923. On December 1st leading stocks fell as much as 700 points; the highest-quoted, Sarotti Chocolate, fell from 3,500 to 2,500; Mannesmann lost 380, Deutsche Petroleum 625, Harpener Bergbau 585, Hohenlohe 320, Hamburg-America 312, General Electricity 248, Badische Aniline 285, Daimler 312.50, Siemens and Halske 254, Schuckert 315, Deutsche Bank 170, Disconto 110, Dresdner 145. In private dealings on Friday and Saturday and in official dealings yesterday stocks were firmer; but sentiment is doubtful, awaiting a lead from the exchanges, which in turn wait on London. War Loan yesterday was 77.50; 4 per cent., 80.50; 3½ per cent. 71.70; 3 per cent., 96; Colonial 4 per cent., 120; Savings and Premium, 84.25; Prussian 4 per cent. Consols, 75. The Bourse continues congested. Inquiry by the Reichswirtschaftsrat into the old plan for restoring monthly or fortnightly settlements brought a declaration from experts that in present conditions the risks are too great. The restriction of official dealings to stock parcels not under 5,000 marks nominal value will come into force on January 1st.

The price rise continued in November, but was proportionately slightly less than in October, probably owing to the fall in mark prices of imported goods after November 8th. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* wholesale prices index, which is based on 100 for January 1, 1920, shows for the beginning of December:—

	Textiles	Food.	Leather.	Minerals.	Miscel- laneous.	All.
	378	241	256	295	303	

the preceding movements (for beginnings of months) being:—

1914.....	11.38	3.67	7.15	12.0	9.23
April, 1920.....	131	153	140	170	147
December, ".....	176	105	118	190	152
January, 1921.....	154	97	121	189	143
May, ".....	133	78	112	195	122
June, ".....	127	77	109	191	123
July, ".....	145	79	114	191	136
August, ".....	203	84	117	186	159
September, ".....	211	96	125	193	168
October, ".....	227	120	151	308	184
November, ".....	317	173	210	251	249
December, ".....	378	241	256	295	303

Taking 100 as pre-war level, the present index figure is 3,283.

A provisional report for October shows imports of 3,000,000 metric tons, of value 13,900,000,000 paper marks; exports, 1,970,000 metric tons, value 9,700,000,000 marks. The import surplus is 4,200,000,000 marks. Import surpluses, measured by weight or by value, have been rapidly increasing; September import surplus, 3,149,000,000 marks; August, 2,734,000,000 marks; July, 1,372,000,000 marks; June, 976,000,000 marks; May, 928,000,000 marks. Whereas by weight exports in May-September rose from 1,145,200 metric tons to 1,870,700 metric tons, imports rose from 1,534,000 metric tons to 2,532,600 metric tons. A new qualification of abstract economic theory is supplied by the fact that a declining mark increased import more than export. The reason is that a declining mark causes violent home buying; so that while the mark's fall made it ever easier for Germany to undersell her competitors, she had ever less to export, export being rationed whenever home scarcity is threatened. Owing to the present scarcity, the Government last week imposed new restrictions on export of goods in 18 out of 19 sections of the Customs schedule, and export-prohibited all textiles, with the exception of lace and passementerie, while the Eisenwirtschaftsbund and other commercial bodies have also taken measures against export. A further mark recovery (if it is not big enough to throw German prices above foreign) will probably foster, instead of discouraging, export, as such a recovery will kill the home buying mania, and so free goods for export. In fact, after December 1st the rush to the shops ceased. Of the numerous anti-theoretical vagaries of the exchanges, none is more remarkable than this inability to export owing to the too rapid fall in one's own exchange.

SWITZERLAND.—HOURS OF LABOUR AND COST OF LIVING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, December 5.

THE experts of the factory inspectorate in Switzerland propose to increase the weekly labour hours in the embroidery trade from 48 to 52 by the re-introduction of the nine hours' day from Monday to Friday, and seven hours of Saturday. The resolution of the experts will probably be extended to other textile trades. Not only the labour unions, but also some of the manufacturers, are against this method of governmental cheapening of production. As a matter of fact, the trade unions agree to a systematic reduction of wages in proportion to the fall in the price of commodities, but unfortunately the import prohibitions for slaughtering cattle, meat, corn, flour, sugar, butter, and cheese practically prevent a drastic reduction in the cost of living. In view of the political power of the Peasants' League, the Government cannot reduce the cost of living for the workman, so that the cheapening of production cannot be made in any other way than by increasing the hours of labour. Many manufacturers are of the opinion that this will not be as efficient a way as reducing wages by reducing the cost of living. The Government itself, as a condition of financial assistance to the watch industry, imposes reduction of wages and no increase of the hours of daily labour. Unfortunately, so long as the prohibitionist tendency of the Peasants' League guides the decisions of the Swiss Government, any efficient reduction of costs of production is impossible. At any rate, increasing weekly hours of labour will not decrease unemployment.

JUGO-SLAVIA.—BUDGET—EXCHANGE—EXTERNAL LOAN.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BELGRADE, November 30.

THE Ministry of Finance has presented to the Chamber of Deputies the estimates of the Budget for the year 1922, according to which the Budget balances at a total of 6,257½ million dinars. However, one must take into consideration that in the plan three new taxes are introduced. If these new taxes are not agreed by the Chamber of Deputies a deficit of 1,400 millions will remain to be covered. The first is the tax on turnover. Such a tax actually exists on the basis of a Decree—i.e., by order of the Government, without authorisation of the Chamber of Deputies. In accordance with the Constitution, the Chamber of Deputies has to decide immediately whether they will pass this law or no. A discussion on this point has already begun, but no definite decision has so far been arrived at. There is a strong opposition against the tax.

The second new tax is that on capital (fortune) which has already been introduced in Germany and other countries, but it is not known whether the Chamber of Deputies and public opinion will agree with its introduction here.

The third new source of revenue must come from an additional surtax on the direct taxes already in existence. It is also a question how this proposition will be received, above all because of the inequality of the direct taxes existing in the various provinces of Jugo-Slavia. There are four different legislations for this purpose (Serbian, Bosnian, old Magyar and old Austrian) in Jugo-Slavia, and the rates of taxation are different.

If the Chamber of Deputies adopts these new taxes the effect on the value of the dinar, which is seriously depreciated at present, will be beneficial.

At the beginning of November the dinar stood at an unprecedented figure. The pound was quoted at 400 dinars, and the French franc reached 750 dinars per 100 francs. Following this an improvement has taken place. To-day the £ is quoted on the Belgrade Bourse at 288 and francs at 510. This improvement may be to a great extent attributed to the proposed Budget, the balancing of which is foreshadowed, and also to the improvement

of the general political position of Jugo-Slavia. On these factors also depends the improvement of the dinar, especially if serious steps are taken to increase ordinary revenue and to avoid further issues of bank-notes on behalf of the State.

The Minister of Finance has returned from London and Paris, but without having settled definitely an external loan. Several propositions which he has brought with him will be examined by the Council of Ministers.

Letters to the Editor.

THE RISING WALL OF TARIFFS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your article upon this subject in your issue of 3rd instant is sad reading. Sad, not only from what is apparently your contributor's point of view—as showing the innate stupidity and wrong-headedness of mankind—but doubly sad when we glance back at our own position as an exporting country, of whose producers nearly two million are still unemployed, because for various reasons the fruits of their labour cannot be marketed.

The theory of Cobden, upon which the fabric of British industry has been built, namely—to speak broadly—that we should manufacture for the world, who would in return supply us with food and raw materials, does not fit in with the facts in these days. In my view, the theory and the facts were diverging for some years before the war, when unemployment was becoming more and more a frequent and serious phenomenon. During the war, by dint of spending our capital, we employed all the workers in Great Britain who were not needed in the Army. Now, admittedly, the situation is aggravated by the impoverishment of Europe, which reacts upon the prosperity of other countries, whose buying power is in turn thereby lessened. But suppose Europe restored, we still have the curious fact—absurd as it may seem to us educated in our old theory—that every country desires to run itself as an independent economic unit, and with this object in view does, by means of tariffs and other contrivances, endeavour to exclude the products of great exporting countries like ourselves.

If this is the case, surely our great population in these small islands is in a most dangerous position, and the situation will tend to worsen, although we may hope that some alleviation will take place, at any rate temporarily, when Europe is settled.

What, then, is the remedy? In the writer's view it is the transference of a portion of our population to the unoccupied lands of the Dominions. We ought to be grateful to Lord Northcliffe for his efforts towards this end. A great scheme of emigration, coupled with training for emigrants, would no doubt be a costly affair. But it would be productive of permanent benefit in the increase of wealth and human happiness. I fear, upon the other hand, that the relief works undertaken in this island to meet the present emergency are only a temporary palliative—while the interest and sinking fund of the capital employed will constitute a further charge on the industry of the country, and no additional wealth will be created.—Yours, &c.,

December 5th, 1921.

REPARATIONS, ALLIED DEBTS, AND EXCHANGES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—At the risk of using too much space on a subject which has already received sufficient attention from correspondents, I should like to give Mr Alfred E. Leaf the contradiction which he invites in his letter published in your issue of the 3rd instant. He assumes that, since it is possible to effect a reparation payment without a foreign exchange transaction, such payments have no effect upon exchange rates. In a previous letter Mr Leaf took the simple example of Hans trundling a brick-laden barrow into France and returning empty-handed, thus making a reparation payment without an exchange operation. As Mr C. Craies has since pointed out, the German exchange

is affected, even in this instance, in an indirect and negative sense, because the bricks delivered without payment might otherwise have been exported; assuming, on the other hand, that they were used for reparations, Hans and his colleagues who made the bricks will require certain commodities which must be imported into Germany, and there will be a corresponding decline in the exchange value of German currency. Similarly, in the case of Schneider and Co.—who export woollens to India, and thus by trading operations through China to America succeed in making a reparation payment for Germany to Britain, at the same time liquidating a portion of our debt to the United States—your correspondent does not state where Schneider and Co. purchase the goods! If these or any of the means of their manufacture were imported into Germany, the effect on the external value of the mark is obvious, while even if they were produced entirely in Germany there is nevertheless an indirect effect on exchange through their disposal abroad without the ultimate creation of German credit. Whilst it will be generally conceded to Mr Leaf that the whole of a country's foreign trade is not financed through exchange, the export of commodities in satisfaction of reparations or inter-Allied indebtedness certainly does affect the exchange market, although it may not touch it directly.—Yours faithfully,
Egham, Surrey, December 8th, 1921. Stocks.

"RECEIVED FOR SHIPMENT" BILLS OF LADING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—With reference to the notes on "Received for Shipment" bills of lading on page 973 of your issue of the 3rd instant, the form usually used for shipments to the Far East by steamers loading at Manchester and Liverpool, commences with the words "Shipped or Delivered for Shipment" by a particular steamer. The Court of Appeal decision, which is referred to in your note, had reference to a similarly worded bill of lading, and with regard to that kind of bill of lading, Lord Justice Scrutton said:—

"The buyer is not the only person concerned in this contract. The ship and the shipper are also concerned in it. The ship wants to have a bill of lading beginning with the time delivered for shipment, because he wants the time delivered for shipment covered by the exceptions, and the exceptions throughout this bill of lading refer to matters which the ship wants. The shipper wants it in that form because he wants to be protected from the time he has given the goods into the hands of the ship for shipment, and so you have the usual form for this named ship."

This makes it clear that the Court of Appeal judgment, and not the judgment of Mr Justice McCardie, governs the bill of lading used in the Far Eastern trade.

In the bill of lading upon which Mr Justice McCardie gave judgment, the following words were used

"Received.....to be transported by s.s. —, now lying at the port of....., and bound for, or failing shipment by said steamer, in and upon a following steamer,"

so, as Mr Justice McCardie pointed out: "This document does not even say immediately following, nor does it indicate that the following ship may be under the control of the person who issues the bill of lading." ".....The document seems to me to be in substance a mere receipt for goods, which at some future time, and by some uncertain vessel, are to be shipped." It will thus be seen that the "shipped or delivered for shipment" bill of lading used in the outward Far Eastern trade is quite a different kind of document from the one referred to in the case upon which Mr. Justice McCardie gave judgment.

Therefore, the Court of Appeal cases should not be considered as a hint of a case tried by Mr Justice McCardie.—Yours faithfully,
JAS. S. MCCONECHY.
November 24th and 25th of Importers and Exporters,
December 6th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"War and National Finance." By the Hon. R. H. Brand. Edward Arnold and Co., 1921. Pp. 287. 15s net. It needs courage to reprint in 1921 an essay on Lombard Street and War written in 1912. But Mr Brand's courage is justified, and this collection of articles from the *Round Table* will be welcome to their original readers, as well as to others who have heard tell of them (for they were much talked about). Mr Brand has a way of writing about topical subjects *sub specie aeternitatis*, and his work loses little of its interest and freshness by the mere lapse of time. But nearly half the book deals with subjects which by no means yet belong to past history: the post-war economic position, international co-operation in finance, the problems of the Brussels Conference, and Reparation. Perhaps the most interesting pages are those which treat not of world economics or international finance, but of our own position and prospects here at home. Mr Brand has no doubts in his own mind where the main trouble lies; and if some of those who can spare twopence a day for a newspaper would find fifteen shillings to buy this book, the money would be well spent from the national as well as from the personal point of view, unless it be that Mr Brand is fighting the battle which Schiller said the gods themselves must lose.

"Delegated Legislation." Three Lectures by Cecil T. Carr, LL.D., Barrister-at-Law. (Cambridge) University Press, 1921. 7s 6d net.

THE case of Attorney-General v. Brown, decided by Mr Justice Sankey in 1919, is barely mentioned by Dr Carr. That was a case where, by the use of delegated legislation, the Executive had done something which the Court held to be illegal and invalid. By proclamation, authorised under a re-enactment of the Customs Act, 1853 (which the judge described as "the Magna Charta of Free Trade"), a system of restriction of trade was set up. By straining the language of the statute import prohibitions were enforced by the Board of Trade. Imported goods were seized as forfeited to the Crown, but, as already indicated, judgment went against the authorities when proceedings were taken for condemnation of the goods. Parliament, Dr Carr points out in a footnote, afterwards ratified the *ultra vires* use of delegated legislation, but that is all the reference he makes to the case. His book shows, with many valuable illustrative references, how much Acts of Parliament now depend for their operation upon laws subsequently made by lesser authorities. He discusses how far our liberties, if imperilled by the system, can be protected by safeguards, but, in view of the illustration with which he does not deal, he is possibly too sanguine as to the effectiveness of the safeguards. In the instance in question a whole department of the Board of Trade had been set up under delegated legislation to carry out a policy the reverse of that embodied in the Act which delegated the powers illegally used.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The World's Monetary Problems. Two Memoranda by Gustav Cassel. (London) Constable and Co., Limited. 3s 6d.

Text Book of Economics. By M. Briggs, M.A. (London) W. B. Clive, University Tutorial Press, Limited. 8s 6d.

The Calendar: Its History, Structure, and Improvement. By Alexander Philip. (Cambridge) University Press. 7s 6d net.

The Conduct of and Procedure at Public and Company Meetings. By Albert Crew. Seventh Edition. Revised and Enlarged. (London) Jordan and Sons, Limited. 5s net.

The Secretary's Manual on the Law and Practice of Joint Stock Companies. By James Fitzpatrick and T. E. Haydon. Seventeenth Edition. (London) Jordan and Sons, Limited. 7s 6d net.

Lloyd's Calendar, 1922. (London) Lloyd's, Royal Exchange, E.C. 3. 5s net.

La Crise Economique et la Baisse des Salaires. (Paris) Librairie des Sciences Politiques et Sociales.

The Anglo-Italian Review. December, 1921. (London) British Italian Commercial Association, 12 Nicholas Lane, E.C. 4. 1s net.

Includes an article entitled "Deflation and Default."

United States Revenue Act of 1921. (London) National City Company, 4 London Wall buildings, E.C. 2.

The London office of the National City Company has, in conjunction with the National City Bank of New York, prepared a pamphlet entitled "The United States Revenue Act of 1921," which contains a digest of the Act, and includes the new Income-tax provisions of the United States, and amendments to the Revenue Act of 1918, which affect holders of U.S. bank deposits and investors of American securities not resident in the United States, banks, insurance companies and other corporations. The material changes in the Act include—the repealing from January 1, 1922, of the excess profits tax, the increase of the corporation income-tax from 10 per cent. to 12½ per cent., reduction of surtaxes on individual incomes, exemption from all United States income-tax on bank deposits of those who are neither citizens of nor resident in the United States.

Lep Transport Manifesto. (London) Lep Transport and Depository, Limited, Castle street, Long Acre, W.C.2. Of special interest to motor car importers and exporters.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3.
West End Foreign Branch 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1.
Liverpool Foreign Branch 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.	ACCOUNT.
December 14.	December 15.

BRIGHTNESS illuminated the Stock Exchange markets on the news that settlement with Ireland had been reached. There was a general rise in most classes of securities. Few markets failed to benefit from the removal of a dead weight which has hung over enterprise, investment and speculative alike, for months past. Nor is the Stock Exchange greatly disappointed at the general volume of business showing no particular expansion. Money stocks have been active and strong. In other departments there is little fresh accession of orders.

People who have been wanting to sell are in many cases deciding to wait for higher prices, and have accordingly cancelled their limits, but no new buying movement, except in the gilt-edged market, can be recorded. In a sentence, the tone is better than trade, but the Stock Exchange is content to wait until the turn of the year, when money may become more willing to seek market channels, for resumption of animation. The principal feature, apart from the rises in War Loan and kindred stocks, is the remarkable manner in which scrip issues recently made by the colonies have gone ahead under the stimulus of the unexpectedly early closing of the subscription lists for the Straits Settlements 6 per cent. Loan, offered at 97. This brought about sharp rises in the existing lists. On the week, it may be noticed that nearly all the best-class securities stand higher. Irish Guaranteed stocks improved with the rest. The gilt-edged boom, as the Stock Exchange calls it, is in full swing.

Amongst foreigners, a smart recovery in Chinese bonds stands out prominently. The hope that a permanent peace may be effected between China and Japan, on Washington representations, has helped to dissipate much of the uneasiness felt in connection with the security of China. The country's loans have risen from 5 to 8 points. On the other hand, Japanese dollar bonds, in company with most of the other securities quoted in dollars, have gone back by reason of the New York exchange movements. Brazilian issues are better,

and French bonds advanced briskly, on a little demand coming on a market bare of stock. Germans, while stronger in price, have been more placid, the market hesitating because of the different views taken in regard to a possible moratorium. Honduras are amongst the low-priced stocks that have appreciated.

Home Railway stocks were hoisted at a rate which proved too fast to continue, though gains are left on balance. Under-grounds managed to hold the greater part of their advances. Grand Trunks are slightly harder as a result of the Canadian elections. Mexican Railway stocks improved in the prevailing atmosphere of optimism. Argentine Railways, fluctuating a good deal, kept to the higher side for choice, while Brazilians have remained quiet.

The rubber share market is amongst the few departments that have gone softly, there being no business to back up the more cheerful sentiment engendered by the fact of rubber rising to nearly 1s per lb. Oil shares spurted strongly. The Shell company has declared the usual 2s net cash dividend, payable in January, and the 143,000 shares held by the Public Trustee on account of ex-enemies have been placed in the hands of a syndicate at £4 6s 3d per share. These two considerations, combined with the conviction that the Mexican Eagle dividend will be 19 per cent., making 30 per cent. for the year, served to infuse strength into the list as a whole. Several of the Roumanian shares have recovered. Trinidad has given way on unfavourable dividend gossip, and their fall caused a wavering.

The speech of Lord Inchcape, at the P. and O. meeting, had no particular effect upon the market for shipping shares, which, however, is noticeably better. The insurance group has started again to advance, a number of rises being recorded on the week. The banking market is also firmer, with more money being diverted into the shares than has been the case of late. Crosse and Blackwells weakened on the dividends being passed. Speculative counters, such as Dunlops and Vickers, move somewhat erratically, and, in the textile market, the passing of the dividend by the Amalgamated Cotton Company was followed by a rise in the price, probably because a payment had been scarcely expected. Courtaulds have enjoyed more animation and rising prices.

In various departments of the industrial market, evidence of shortage of stock led to abrupt rises immediately the touchstone of buying was applied. Various new issues, more particularly those connected with electrical schemes, hold their premiums, and investment money goes steadily into good stocks which pay anything like 7½ per cent. on the money. Wireless shares are better, owing to vague rumours of developments said to be impending in the Marconi Company, but the Eastern Cable group declined, because of the falling-off of profits shown by the three principal companies.

Kaffirs were disposed to go better, on the announcement that the labour dispute on the Crown Mines had been settled. The Cape lent a little support, but this was not reinforced by buying on this side, with the consequence that the market, although firm as a whole, continues very neglected. De Beers, Rio Tintos, and other Paris favourites sympathised with the improvement in French bonds. Rhodesians are a little harder. The recovery in the price of tin, the metal, led to inquiry for shares of the Malayan tin producers; most of the prices show rises on the week. To a minor extent, West Africans have also benefited. Mexicans and Russians remain in a state of neglect, and the mining markets as a whole are left almost alone by the public, what little business there is being mainly on behalf of professional and semi-professional groups.

NEW ISSUES.

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Issued at £99 per cent. and repayable at par on May 15, 1930. Interest payable half-yearly on May 15th and November 15th. Full particulars of this issue will be found in the *Economist* for December 3rd (see page 986).

Straits Settlements Government 6 per Cent. Inscribed Stock, 1936-1951.—Issue of £5,155,000 at £97 per cent. This loan is the first instalment of an issue to produce a total of £10,000,000, and is raised for the purpose of re-loan to the Federated Malay States Government, partly to enable that Government to repay the debt due to the Government of the Straits Settlements, but chiefly to pay for railway, harbour, and other public works now in course of construction and about to be constructed during the next three years. The loan is secured on the general revenues and assets of the Government of the Straits Settlements, but an Act has been passed in the Federated Malay States pledging the repayment of the loan and the loan charges from the revenues of the latter

Government. But the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom and the Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury are not directly or indirectly liable or responsible for the payment of this loan. Principal is repayable in December, 1951, by a sinking fund of not less than one pound per cent. per annum, to be formed under the management of the Crown Agents. An inset to the prospectus contains an excellent table of imports and exports and revenue and expenditure. This is a trustee investment, and was quickly subscribed.

The British Burmah Petroleum Company, Limited.—Authorised capital 3,100,000 ordinary shares of 8s each, of which 2,491,039 shares have been issued, amounting to £996,415. There is also an authorised issue of £525,000 6 per cent. first debenture stock, "redeemable 1932," of which £269,741 has been "issued and unredeemed." This is an issue of £600,000 8½ per cent. second mortgage debenture stock at 98 per cent., repayable at 105 per cent. on or before November 30, 1936. The stock will be secured by a Trust Deed on the property and fixed assets of the company, subject to the first mortgage charge and a second floating charge on other assets. Each stockholder of this issue will have the right in any year up to November 1, 1936, to exchange fully-paid stock into fully-paid ordinary shares of the company (on giving ten days' notice in writing to the company) on the basis of £1 of stock for one fully-paid ordinary share of the nominal value of 8s. In view of past movements of the shares, this exchange offer is not without some speculative merit. In respect of the year ending July 31, 1923, and during each succeeding year up to 1936, £42,000 is to be set aside out of profits and applied in redemption of this £600,000 of debenture stock, either by drawings at 105 per cent., purchase in the open market, or by private treaty at or under 105 per cent. The company was incorporated in 1910 for the purpose of acquiring oil properties in Burma and India. It holds over 165 well sites in the Yenangaung Oil Fields and over 12 square miles in the oil territories of Singu, Minbu, Ngahlaingwin, &c., either on lease or licence from the Government. It also owns a refinery near Rangoon, and certain launches and steamers, &c., and acts as managing agents and holds 96 per cent. of the share capital of the Rangoon Oil Company, Limited. Profits are given for five years. Surplus assets work out at £2,491,958, after adding the proceeds of this issue and deducting a sum sufficient to cover sundry creditors, including holders of the first mortgage debenture issue. Apparently ordinary shareholders have had a good return on their capital for the past four years, and it may be that the proceeds of this issue can be profitably utilised. The high yield obtainable—namely, £8 13s 6d per cent., without making allowance for profit on redemption at 105 in 1936—is a warning to the cautious investor that there is a considerable amount of speculative risk attached to the security. On the whole, the risks and the yield offered appear to be commensurate.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

ISSUES OF THE WEEK.	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
Amount previously recorded....	323,809,861			
TREASURY BONDS.				
Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35				1,024,990
5½% 1925 receipts to November 26, 1921				122,469,459
Week to December 3, 1921 (including new series)				13,535,000
Receipts to date				136,004,459
NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.				
Net receipts into the Exchequer week ended December 3, 1921.				
April 1 to December 3, £4,610,000	250,000		250,000	
To the Public.				
Straits Settlements Government, £5,155,000 6% Inscribed Stock (red. at par, 1936-51), issued at 97% (Dec. 5)	5,155,000	5,000,350	257,750	4,742,600
British Burmah Petroleum Company, Ltd., £600,000 8½% 2nd Mortgage Deb. Stock (red. at 105%, 1923-36), issued at 98%	600,000	588,000	30,000	558,000
Total offered to public	5,755,000	5,588,350	287,750	5,300,600
Total offered for subscription to date				
1921	£343,183,211			£367,549,656
1920	360,703,978			1,036,069,951
1919	1,023,575,721			1,393,381,441
1918	1,334,042,470			1,318,596,010
1917	1,272,609,476			585,436,850
1916	561,324,653			685,236,326
1915	685,122,326			612,522,633
1914	513,017,633			196,536,980

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War (3½%, 1925-28)	69½	70	+
Loans (5½%, 1929-47)	81½	82	+
4%, 1929-42	98	99	+
Funding Loan 4%	73	74	+
Victory Bonds 4%	79½	80	+
Conversion Loan 3½%	64	65	+
Consols 2½%	48½	49	+
Irish Land Stock 2½%	48½	50	+
Local Loans 3%	53½	54	+
Aust. 5½% Debts, 1922-79	97	97	+
Canada 4½%, 1920-25	95	95	+
India 3½% Stock	55½	56	+
Do 7% Stock	103½	104	+
N.S.W. 5½%, 1922-27	93	93	+
U.S.A. 4½%, 1920-25	93x	93x	+
Victoria 5½%, 1924-34	93	93	+

Banks.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Barclays B (£1, 1 pd.)	2½	2½	+
London Joint Stock Bank	2½	2½	+
Midland (£12 with 2½ pd.)	6½	7	+
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with 2½ pd.)	14½	14½	+
Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10)	18½	18½	+
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10)	10½	10½	+
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with 2½ pd.)	9	9½	+
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with 2½ pd.)	10½	11	+

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Antofagasta Cons.	42	42½	+
B. A. & Pacific	53½	54	+
B. A. & Pacific	53½	54	+
Buenos Ayres West.	51	51½	+
Canadian Pacific	146	146	+
Central Argentine	47	48	+
Grand Trunk Ord.	13	13½	+
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. ..	2½	3½	+
Leopoldina	21	21	+
Mexican Railway	13½	14½	+
Do 1st Pref.	37	41	+
Do 2nd Pref.	25	26	+
San Paulo	108	103	-
United Havana	43x	44x	+

Foreign Government Securities.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Argentine 5%, 1886-7	97	97	+
Belgian 3%	60	61	+
Brazil 5% Fund, 1914	65	66	+
Chilian 4%, 1895	66	66	+
Chinese 5%, 1912	62	66	+
Egyptian 4%	61½	61½	+
French 5%	53	59	+
Do 4%	26½	31	+
Italian 3½% Rentes	22	22	+
Greek Monopoly 4%	31½	31½	+
Japanese 4%	108	107	-
Do 4%, 1910	61	62	+
Mexican Cons. 1899	64	62	-
Peruvian 4%	14	15	+
Russian 5%, 1906	70	70½	+
Spanish 4%	70½	70½	+

Telegraphs.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Anglo-American "A"	17	17½	+
Eastern Telegraph	161½	161½	+
Marconi Wireless	18½	18½	+
Marconi Canada	1	1	+
Marconi Marine	1	1	+

British Railways.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Great Central Pref.	73	8	+
Great Eastern	27½	28	+
Great Northern Def.	23	24	+
Great Western	69½	70½	+
Lancs. and Yorks.	47½	49	+
London, Brighton, & S. Coast	37	38	+
London, Chatham, & Dover	53	53	+
Do Arb. Pref.	35	37	+
L. and N.W.	68	69	+
L. & S. Western, Def.	18½	18½	+
Metropolitan	25	26	+
Metropolitan District	21½	21½	+
Midland Deferred	42	42½	+
North British Def.	9	9½	+
North-Eastern	70	71½	+
South-Eastern "A"	20½	22	+

American Railroads.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Chesapeake & Ohio	73	68x	-
Erie	15	14	-
Do 4½% 1st Pref.	22	20	-
Southern	24	23	-
Do Non-cum Pref.	60	56	-

Miscellaneous.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1)	1½	1½	+
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) and Co. (£1)	14	14	+
Ass. Ptd. Cement (£1)	13½	13½	+
B'ham Small Arms (£1)	8½	8½	+
Brazil Traction (£100)	30	30½	+
British-American Tobacco (£1)	2½	2½	+
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1)	5½	5½	+
Burmah Oil (£1)	5½	5½	+
Costs (J. and P.) (£1)	2½	2½	+
Courtaulds (£1)	1½	1½	+
Cunard (£1)	4½	4½	+
Dorman, Long (£1)	4½	4½	+
Dunlop Rubber (£1)	4½	4½	+
Fine Cotton Spinners (£1)	1½	1½	+
Forestral Land (£1)	1½	1½	+
Furness, Withy (£1)	1½	1½	+
Highlands and Low- lands Rubber (£1)	1½	1½	+
Hudson's Bay (£1)	2½	2½	+
Imperial Tobacco (£1)	2½	2½	+
International Paints (£1)	1½	1½	+
Unggi Plantins (£1)	1½	1½	+
Lipton (£1)	1½	1½	+
Lever Bros. 7% Cm Ptd (£1)	15½	15½	+
Do 8% Cm A Ptd (£1)	15½	15½	+
Do 20% Cm Ptd (£5)	7½	9	+
Lister (£1)	4½	4½	+
Lobitos Oilfields (£1)	4½	4½	+
Lyons (J. & Co.) (£1)	2½	2½	+
Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.)	4½	4½	+
Mexican Eagle (£10)	3½	3½	+
North Caucasian (10)	3½	3½	+
Pekin (2)	3½	3½	+
Rubber Plantations Investment (£1)	4½	4½	+
Shell Transport (£1)	4½	4½	+
Smithfield & Argentine Meat (£1)	4½	4½	+
Underground Electric Do "A" (1)	1½	2	+
Do Inc. Bds. (£100)	65	72	+
United Serdang (2)	5½	5½	+
United Tobacco (£1)	5½	5½	+
Ural Caspian (£1)	5½	5½	+
Vallambrosa (2)	5½	5½	+
Vickers (£1)	15½	15½	+
Watney Def. Bk.	137½	137½	+

Mines.

	Price Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Broken Hill Prop. (8)	1½	1½	+
Chartered (£1)	1½	1½	+
Cons. Gold Fields (£1)	1½	1½	+
Crown Mines (10)	1½	1½	+
De Beers Def. (£24)	1½	1½	+
East Rand Prop. (£1)	1½	1½	+
Gold (£1)	1½	1½	+
Gov. Gold Areas (£1)	1½	1½	+
Knights	1½	1½	+
Modderfontein (10)	1½	1½	+
Modderfont. "B" (5)	1½	1½	+
Modderfont. Deep (5)	1½	1½	+
Premier Def. (3/6)	1½	1½	+
Rand Mines (5)	1½	1½	+
Rio Tinto (£5)	1½	1½	+
Spring Mines (£1)	1½	1½	+

OIL OUTPUTS.

LOBITOS OILFIELDS, LIMITED.—The production for November is cabled as 8,716 tons.

TRINIDAD LEASEHOLDS, LIMITED.—Oil produced during November, 18,000 tons; oil purchased from other companies, 1,000 tons.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, November 30, 1921, amounted to 1,070 tons.

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

LORD INCHCAPE ON THE INDUSTRIAL OUTLOOK.

THE NEED OF NATIONAL ECONOMY.

The annual general meeting of the P. and O. Steam Navigation Company was held, on the 7th instant, at the offices of the company, 122 Leadenhall street, London, the Right Hon. the Lord Inchcape presiding.

The Chairman said they met that day under happy auspices, and on a really historical occasion. That morning the terms of settlement with Ireland had been published, and he thought it was their first duty to congratulate his Majesty the King and Mr Lloyd George on having at last, so far as could be seen, secured peace in Ireland after 700 years.

Continuing, he said:—

Since August last he had been engaged on the Economy Committee appointed by his Majesty's Government, under the chairmanship of Sir Eric Geddes, to inquire into public expenditure, expenditure which had reached figures that the country could no longer stand. Even, he said, if he had had time to prepare a lengthy address, he could have added but little to what he had preached from many platforms during the past few years.

NATIONAL SOLVENCY OUR FIRST LINE OF DEFENCE.

The nation had been greatly impoverished by the war, and if we were to regain our first line of defence, which was solvency, we must curtail our expenditure in every direction. We had launched out into all sorts of wild-cat schemes, and had made commitments which, if not modified, would lead us into bankruptcy. We realised now that we had no funds with which to build up the new heaven and the new earth on which we started three years ago. The multiplication of ministries was landing the nation in enormous expenditure, and the country was getting filled up with functionaries who were living on the people.

A RUINOUS HOUSING SCHEME.

Well-meaning pundits and idealists got hold of departments, and launched out regardless of cost. According to a recent statement in the House of Commons, 500,000 houses were to have been built at a cost of 500 millions, houses which would not give a return on the capital outlay at a lower rent than £75 a year, and which could not be let for more than £16. Fortunately, the Prime Minister had stepped in, and succeeded in limiting their number to the 176,000 which had been started; but even this reduced number would cost the country 176 millions, and the taxpayer would be saddled with 10 millions a year to make up the deficiency of rent for the next 60 years.

Education was now costing the country over 100 millions a year, against one-fourth of that sum before the war; teachers' salaries, based on the standard of two years ago, had been more than doubled, and the resulting pensions, if maintained, would shortly involve us in another 10 millions a year.

THE ONLY WAY TO RENEWED PROSPERITY—NATIONAL ECONOMY AND TRADE REVIVAL.

It was necessary to realise that the Government and the local authorities had no fund to draw upon except what they extracted from the people. If industrial undertakings were depleted by excessive taxation, less money was available for the expansion of industry, there was less employment in the country, and a reduced standard of living all round. Unable to increase our revenue, our only hope lay in reduction of expenditure, and to this end he did not doubt but that the common-sense of the country would come to our aid.

He was glad the shipping industry was now free from Government control, and, he continued, he had hopes that before long the trade of the country would have settled down to normal conditions, free to work out its own salvation, and to make profits out of which to contribute to the revenue. Government trading and Government interference in trade disputes had proved disastrous, and he hoped the country had learned its lesson.

440 EX-GERMAN SHIPS SOLD.

Recalling his undertaking, a year ago, of the sale of ex-enemy ships for the Government, he stated that he had so far disposed of 440 vessels for upwards of 20 million pounds. He had very few left to sell, and would be glad when this rather troublesome and thankless task was finished.

A YEAR OF DEPRESSION.

Turning to the directors' report, he greatly regretted that they had felt compelled to withhold a bonus for the past year. The dividend and bonus for the year ending September 30, 1921, totalled 15 per cent.; for the year ended September 30th last it was 12 per cent., or 3 per cent. to the bad; but, in the present condition of shipping the directors, if they had not reduced the dividend, would have been guilty of imprudence. They had to look to the future and to husband their resources; they were passing through a period of unprecedented depression; and, in lowering their distribution, they were not alone. In common with most shipping companies, they had had a wretched year; Government control of coal had caused enormous prices during the spring; then came the coal strike, which drove their ships to the Continent for coal, while the joiners' strike and the delays which it involved had driven steamers to the Continent for overhaul. They had had besides to bear enormous increases in wages, both afloat and ashore, and to crown all trade unions and Wages Boards had kept production costs in this country so high that the world had been unable to purchase from us, and steamers had been leaving this country with nothing more than ballast cargoes and often not with these, and the consequent greatly lessened demand for imported raw material had made it increasingly difficult to find homeward cargoes. Some of their cargo steamers, he continued, they had laid up; but their obligation to maintain their services had prevented the laying up of their mail and passenger steamers, which had been kept running, although at a heavy loss. As exemplifying the scarcity of cargo, the P. and O. branch line, which runs a regular service from London to Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney, had, he said, in the last financial year, despatched 11 steamers capable of carrying 101,000 tons of measurement cargo, and these had sailed with 68,000 tons of unfilled space. The board had foreseen that, after the war, the company would be faced with difficulties. They refrained from recommending any large increase in their dividend; and, instead of distributing cash resources, they suggested a small bonus in stock. That policy he thought would eventually prove to have been right. In order to pay for new ships they had had to realise their War Loan investments at a serious loss, and to write down to present market values those which they still held.

HIGH WAGES AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

Under the National Maritime Wages Board set up in November, 1917, wages had enormously increased. These increases were at that time borne by the Government, for the ships were under Government requisition, and the Government distributed the taxpayers' money with a lavish hand; but once the vessels had been discharged from Government service, and economic conditions had to be faced, it was found that these high wages could not be paid out of commercial earnings. Wages had been slightly reduced, but were still much beyond what shipowners could afford to pay, and, in consequence, 650 British ships of 1,117,092 tons were at the moment laid up in the United Kingdom, and probably as much tonnage again, if not more, in ports outside the kingdom, with the result that thousands of captains, officers, engineers, and men were unemployed, while those remaining in employment were drawing pay much above the economic rate. There was no use in mincing matters—wages afloat would have to come down if British shipping was to hold its own. In the case of their own unemployed officers and engineers, they had done what they could in granting half pay for a certain period, and although this meant a considerable charge on the company's resources, he felt sure the meeting would approve of the course adopted. Dockers' wages, fixed by a Government tribunal in May, 1920, at 16s for a day of eight hours, had lately been reduced to 14s a day, but the tonnage handled here per man per hour was much less than in former days, and while it cost 25 a ton to work cargo in Antwerp, the cost in Middlesbrough was 6s.

QUALITY OF PASSENGER SERVICES—AN APPRECIATION.

Seldom, he continued, did a day pass in which he did not receive a personal appreciative letter—some consolation in these hard times. Recently he had such a letter from Lord Northcliffe, now on his way home from a tour round the world. In that letter Lord Northcliffe said the ship on which he was travelling was run with the

punctuality of a clock, and that so far he had found nothing but efficiency in the handling of the company's ships and those of its associated lines. Such letters he invariably passed on to the captains and others concerned. He confessed to the occasional receipt of grumbling communications, and these, too, were passed on with a view, if possible, of remedying defects.

SOME GRAPHIC STATISTICS.

During the past year the steamers in commission of the P. and O. and its associates had numbered 444; they had traversed 15,345,081 nautical miles, had made port entries 25,315 times, had carried 13,236,981 tons of cargo, 188,575 animals, 2,111,564 passengers, and had employed crews numbering 45,912. They had run without serious accident and without the loss of a single life by marine casualty. With regret, he had to record the loss by death during the year of two of their colleagues, Lord Burghclere and Lord Balfour of Burleigh.

He could not, he said, conclude without expressing the appreciation of the board of the loyal and whole-hearted devotion to the company of their staff, afloat and ashore, at home and abroad. No institution, he felt safe in saying, was better served than the P. and O. and its associated lines.

He was sorry to say that Sir Thomas Sutherland, who had occupied that chair with such marked ability for 37 years, was not at all well. He had seen him the other day, and, though vigorous as ever in mind, he was suffering a good deal physically. He was sure they would join with him in an expression of sympathy for Sir Thomas Sutherland in his illness, and in the hope that he would make a good recovery. In conclusion, he moved: "That the report and statement of accounts now read, which have been circulated amongst the proprietors, be adopted."

Mr H. N. Gladstone seconded the resolution.
Mr Grinnell-Milne, in the course of some appreciative remarks, commented on the form of the report and accounts, and expressed a hope that the example of some other companies might be followed in future.

Lord Inchcape, in replying, pointed out that some years ago the form of accounts was agreed to by shareholders in general meeting, as it was considered best not to disclose to the world and their competitors the methods and details of their business.

The resolution was carried unanimously.
The Chairman moved, and Sir Montagu C. Turner seconded: "That a dividend for the half-year ended September 30th last of 2½ per cent. on the preferred stock, less income-tax, and a dividend of 6 per cent. on the deferred stock, free of income-tax, as recommended in the report, be now declared, and that payment for the same be made on and after the 14th inst."

The resolution was carried unanimously.
The Chairman moved, and Lord Kilbracken seconded: "That Alexander McLaurin Monteath, Esq., be re-elected a director of this company."

The resolution was carried unanimously.
The Chairman moved, and Sir Duncan Carmichael seconded: "That Sir Montagu Cornish Turner be re-elected a director of this company."

The resolution was carried unanimously.
The Chairman moved, and Lord Chalmers seconded: "That the Hon. Kenneth Mackay be re-elected a director of this company."

The resolution was agreed to unanimously.
Sir J. Fortescue Flannery, Bart., moved a vote of thanks to the board and the staff.

Mr Grinnell Milne seconded, and it was cordially carried.
The Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment.

AFRICAN STEAM SHIP COMPANY. INCREASE OF CAPITAL SANCTIONED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the African Steam Ship Company was held at the company's offices, 23 Billiter street, London, E.C., on Friday, December 2, 1921, the Right Hon. the Viscount Pirrie, K.P., P.C. (chairman of the company), presiding. The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting, The Chairman said:

Ladies and Gentlemen,—We have called you to attend an extraordinary general meeting of the company for the purpose of obtaining your authority to issue further capital, consisting of £500,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1.

As you know, the authorised capital of the company is £5,000,000, of which £2,000,000 has been issued in ordinary shares of £20 each, and we now propose to increase the capital of the company to £2,500,000 by the present issue of £500,000 6 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each.

REASON FOR NEW CAPITAL.

This extra capital is issued for the purpose of paying for new ships ordered to replace those lost by submarine action during the period of the war, and also to provide for up-to-date passenger vessels for the West African trade.

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS.

The company has received an offer for the whole of the proposed issue, but, in accordance with the provisions of the company's charters, the shareholders will have the right of subscribing in proportion to the number of existing shares held by them, viz., one preference share for every four shares of their holding.

SUB-DIVISION OF SHARES.

We further propose to sub-divide the ordinary shares of the company from £20 to £1. We have been urged by shareholders in the past at the general meetings to reduce the denomination of the ordinary shares to £1 each, and we consider this is a convenient opportunity to do so, especially as the voting power is now altered by the issue of the new capital.

Each £1 preference share is entitled to a vote, and as, according to the present articles of the charter, only one vote is given for 10 ordinary shares of £20 each, it is necessary, in order to give each class of share equal voting rights, to make the ordinary shares of a denomination of £1 each, and to give each ordinary and preference share one vote, and we ask you to pass the necessary resolution to effect this alteration. This is, of course, subject to the approval of the President of the Board of Trade.

The Chairman then moved, and Mr G. W. Neville seconded, the necessary resolutions authorising the issue of £500,000 preference shares and the sub-division of the ordinary shares.

These resolutions were carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

CASTLEFIELD (KLANG) RUBBER ESTATE, LIMITED. LABOUR ARRANGEMENT WITH F.M.S. GOVERNMENT.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Castlefield (Klang) Rubber Estate, Limited, was held, on the 7th instant, at the registered offices, 7, Martin's lane, Cannon street, London, Mr W. Arthur Addinsell (chairman of the company) presiding.

Mr C. Jackson, A.C.I.S., on behalf of the secretaries (Messrs Bright and Galbraith, Limited), having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—

The loss of £11,814 which has been sustained during the year under review is occasioned chiefly by the severe fall in the market value of the commodity, together with increased working expenses and the high cost of materials.

Another important factor with which every company operating in the East has had to contend is the difference between the purchase price of rice and the issued price to the coolies; this has cost us £3,025.

There is a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £7,875, which will be augmented by a refund of excess profits duty, amounting to approximately £13,000, which has been paid by the company in previous years.

The position of the company to-day is not unsatisfactory, as the cost of production for the current year to date compares favourably even with the lowest prices at which the commodity has changed hands, and more especially so with the prices ruling to-day. Therefore, I think you will agree that the outlook for the current year is encouraging.

You will no doubt be interested to know that the manager has been able to arrange for a portion of the labour force to be employed on public works, such as road-making and cleaning out a canal, by contract with the F.M.S. Government. This will enable us to retain the force so employed free of cost to the company, arrangements having been made for the return of these coolies to the estate as soon as normal conditions prevail.

A intimated in the report, the crop was restricted for this current year, in accordance with the scheme inaugurated by the Rubber Growers' Association. The voluntary agreement entered into by the majority of the members of that association expires at the end of this month, and I may add that this company has agreed to adopt the recent recommendations of the association to continue to restrict output by 25 per cent. until June 30, 1922.

Mr James Murray, our visiting agent, speaks in very high terms of the condition of the estate. He also states that "without restriction I am confident the property would show results equal to the best in the country."

The motion was passed unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

STRAND HOTEL, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY YEAR DESPITE TRADE DEPRESSION.

The fourteenth ordinary general meeting of the Strand Hotel, Limited, was held, on the 8th inst., at the Trocadero Restaurant, London, Mr Alfred Salmon presiding.

The Chairman, in the course of moving the adoption of the report and accounts, and after expressing regret at the death of Mr Isidore Gluckstein, said: The accounts show a decided improvement upon the previous business, notwithstanding the period of depression through which we have been passing. The last coal strike had very disastrous effects upon the trade of the country generally, and undoubtedly delayed in no small measure the return to the more normal conditions of trading for which we were all hoping.

That a careful attention to business, studying every point of economy and efficiency, can maintain a certain degree of prosperity, is shown by our figures. When I tell you that our present prices, if reduced only 33 per cent., would be down to pre-war rates, you will agree they are extremely moderate.

Then, as regards food, you have but to consider the condition of markets at over 100 per cent. in excess of pre-war rates, and you will agree that we are not taking any undue advantage of our customers, but, on the contrary, are giving them even better value than they had in pre-war days.

The balance from trading account, after charging all expenses, depreciation, redemption, provision for income-tax and corporation profits tax, and including dividends received, amounts to £104,313. This compares with an amount of £91,924 last year. There is, therefore, an increase in the profits of £12,389.

There remains, after payment of interim dividends, sufficient to enable us to make a final distribution on the participating preferred ordinary shares of £17,250, which is at the rate of 15 per cent., for the half-year ending September 30th, making, with the interim payment, a dividend of 11 per cent. for the year; that is, 1 per cent. more than was paid last year.

The hotels have been, notwithstanding the depressing conditions of trade, abnormally full the whole year round. We can only conclude that this is so because the public recognises that it is getting better value for its money than it can get elsewhere. We look to the future with confidence, even though the period of depression continue, for, failing a complete catastrophe in the country's affairs, travel will not cease; people will move about seeking business. London is the great centre for the business efforts of the country, and we shall be called upon to provide food and lodging for those travellers as hitherto.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA COMPANY, LIMITED. CHAIRMAN ON COMPANY'S FUTURE. SOUND FINANCIAL POSITION.

The annual meeting of the South-West Africa Company, Limited, was held, on the 6th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad street, London, Mr Edmund Davis (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr C. Launspach) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in the course of his speech, said that they now presented their report and accounts to December 31, 1920, and previous to dealing with the items set out therein and with the present position of the company and what it might possibly be when they presented their next accounts, they wished to state that the delay in calling this meeting was in no way due to the board or to official circles on this side. Their original claim in respect of amounts held on deposit in Berlin and sums which accrued to the company during the war period had been dealt with at various dates. Their concessions were a direct grant from the German Government, and covered such extensive rights that at a later date the company, agreed to some modifications, and in exchange for the rights they waived were granted a joint interest with the German Government in the mineral rights of Ovamboland, a territory covering about 20,000 square miles. It was, therefore, impossible to understand how the Union Government of South Africa—which held a mandate over South-West Africa—could justify their acts in confiscating the mineral rights covered by the company's concessions.

PROBABLE POSITION IN THE FUTURE.

The accounts presented on that occasion were up to December 31, 1920, but, of course, they in no way reflected the position as at to-day's date, nor could shareholders in any way form an idea from them as to how the accounts would be framed when they next met. Under those circumstances, the directors desired to set out what would probably be the position as soon as effect had been given to the transaction relating to payments under their claim and to the purchase of shares by the company. They might take it for granted that, at any rate, 1,200,000 of their shares would be acquired by the company, though the actual number might be slightly in excess of that figure. Those shares had been acquired from the Public Trustee at 11s 6d per share, with the formal approval of the Board of Trade, which was subject to the shareholders passing the necessary resolution adopting the new articles of association. Taking the figure 1,200,000 shares as being correct, those would be added to the unissued capital, thus reducing the issued capital to £550,000 in shares of £1 each.

ASSETS.

Against that capital they would have their British, colonial, and foreign—other than German and Hungarian—investments, which at to-day's market price were worth about £516,000. To that should be added the unpaid purchase money on farms and town lots sold and advances to settlers, the whole of which were secured by registered mortgages on the properties themselves, and which the board considered good, amounting to £40,834, buildings in South-West Africa £5,785, and furniture, plant, and farm implements £10,535. As regarded shares in other companies, the board considered for to-day's purposes that they might take the amount at which they stood in the balance-sheet, namely, £14,896, although one of those investments alone—their holding in the Otavi Mines and Railway Company—was worth, even at to-day's rate of exchange, about £20,000. Next came debtors, of which they need at the moment only take into account the balance of their claim admitted by the German authorities, and which the company should receive at an early date, namely, £28,000, and finally there was their concessions account at the book entry, £56,977. Those items alone gave a total of £673,027.

CAPITAL REPRESENTED BY CASH OR EQUIVALENT.

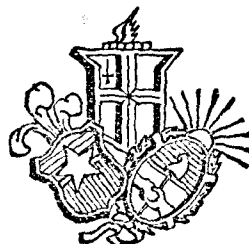
With their concessions account, though only valued at their balance-sheet figure, namely, £56,977, which included 1,600,000 acres of freehold land, which he supposed might conservatively be estimated as being worth about £240,000, the whole of the issued capital of the company as it would stand in the next accounts would be more than represented by cash or its equivalent. Of course, due consideration would be given when framing the next accounts to the land sales account, which was really a reserve account, and stood at £84,503, and the balance of profit £95,238.

The report was adopted, and the new articles of association were approved.

Mr Harris proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for his conduct in the chair, and for his very satisfactory statement, and the vote was duly accorded.

The Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings terminated.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.



Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000

Head Office:

62, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATIONS:

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD., and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

PREMIER OIL COMPANY, LIMITED.

REASONS FOR SALE TO FRENCH.

The first ordinary general meeting of the Premier Oil Company, Limited, was held, on the 9th instant, at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, Mr F. H. Hamilton, chairman of the company, presiding.

The notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors having been read,

The Chairman, after a sympathetic allusion to the death of the late chairman, Mr Frederick Walker, said that the revenue account covered 18 months, and showed a net profit of £5,321, being, in effect, the surplus of interest over the outlay for general and administrative expenses. He went on to say that when the present company was formed the Germans, or rather neutrals under German control, had physical possession of the properties in Galicia, largely through subsidiary companies or individual representatives who were entirely under their control. The old Premier Company, of which this company was the successor, was in debt to the extent of considerably over £100,000, before the war, to the German group. Subsequently this company succeeded in getting Polish sequesters appointed to carry on the business of the company, and at a meeting in June resolutions to sell to a French company were unanimously adopted. This sale had been carried into effect.

The reports on the properties in Galicia were of a very detailed character, and showed the progress made in the first three quarters of the year. The record was a highly satisfactory one, especially when it was borne in mind that it was only during this year that the French company assumed control. Production was increasing, an active drilling programme was being maintained, a large scheme of electrification, which would effect important economies, was making good progress, and for the months for which the French company had complete figures satisfactory profits were earned. Speaking from his own observations, and that of his English colleagues upon the French board, he had no hesitation in saying that the difficult task of reorganising the very intricate machinery of the company had been tackled with energy and intelligence, and that they had to-day a working organisation absolutely second to none in Galicia. A question of great importance, namely, the prolongation of lease had been settled in a highly satisfactory manner, the State Lands leases having now been extended for a further period of 20 years. The French company had extensive rights of export, wages were maintained at a low level, and the negotiations in progress for distribution and supply were on sound lines.

Proceeding to consider the results of this transfer to the French company in the light of the experiences of the last 12 months, the Chairman said that but for this having been done they would not have been in possession of the properties, which would still have been held by the sequesters representing the Polish Government, and they would not have had a shadow of right to control their policy. Had they preserved the old status they would have been deprived of the backing and influence of the French Government, which was by far the most important political factor in Poland to-day, and had been in one way and another of great service to the company. Nor would they have obtained the extension of the concession on the State Lands. Those were the factors which influenced the board in taking the line they did. It was not an easy line at the time they took it, but, looking back after nearly 12 months, they had even less doubt than they had when they had asked for the shareholders' sanction for it, that it was well worth the trouble, and that only by this means was the company saved from another and perhaps disastrous reconstruction. He thought the shareholders would agree that it must be considered far sounder and more satisfactory than they had reason to expect 18 months ago. With regard to their future policy, he thought under favourable conditions they ought, within a reasonable period, to realise some part of their interest in the French company, while retaining an important holding, to write down the capital by one-half, and distribute 2s or 2s 6d per share by way of return of capital, still leaving them sufficient funds to secure other interests. The bulk of their money was on deposit, except that they had underwritten and purchased £80,000 of 10 per cent. debentures in the Indo-Burma Oil Company.

The report was unanimously adopted.

AERATED BREAD COMPANY, LIMITED.

RECORD VOLUME OF BUSINESS.

The sixty-eighth ordinary general meeting of the Aerated Bread Company was held, on the 5th instant, at the Cannon street Hotel, London.

Mr C. E. Cottier, who presided, said that the gross profits for the past year amounted to £688,425, an increase of £20,583 as compared with the previous year, while the charges and expenses, at

£582,380, were higher by £62,106. The net profit, £145,995, showed a decrease of £19,561. The period had been one of the most difficult experienced in business for many years, not even excluding the war years.

The company's business, however, again achieved a record in the amount of turnover, the number of customers served, and the amount of gross profit earned.

Prices charged to customers had been continuously reduced during the year, lower even than costs warranted. Some items on their tariff were down to pre-war level, in spite of the fact that, according to Board of Trade figures, the average total cost of foodstuffs was still 100 per cent. above that level.

Dealing with the accounts, he pointed out that the valuation made in 1920 of the whole of the company's properties, plant, machinery, &c., by two well-known firms of London valuers disclosed the fact that they were worth over half a million sterling more than the figure at which they appeared in the balance-sheet—an appreciation in value which formed a very substantial undisclosed reserve, and strengthened the company's financial position. Moreover, no account was taken in the books for the very valuable goodwill of the business.

With regard to the acquisition of the Wilton road site, he remarked that a very substantial profit was confidently expected to accrue to both the Aerated Bread Company and the other interested parties, but in the extreme and unlikely event of a loss being made, the company was secured, Messrs Harvey, Rutter, and himself alone standing to lose over the transaction in their individual capacity. The company had on this site a most important depot, the lease of which would have fallen in within a few years, and it had been very necessary to preserve this valuable asset.

A very important development was the contemplated purchase of the well-known provincial business of Messrs Cottle, Limited, of Liverpool and Manchester, a restaurant and café business well known and esteemed in the North Country, and forming a splendid opportunity for the extension of the company's operations to important provincial centres. With the completion of the new Buzard chocolate and confectionery factory, the sale of these products in the A.B.C. depots was being developed with excellent results.

The report was unanimously adopted, and the dividend recommended was declared.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Dec. 12th-Dec. 17th, were opened on Dec. 9, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £82,850,000. Tenders for Monday bills at £99 3s 5d, and above in full. Tenders for Tuesday to Saturday bills at £99 3s 2d, about 98 per cent., and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 8s 17½d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
Nov. 11 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 17 0·43	3½	£99 6s 6d (Monday to Friday bills), about 75%, above in full, Saturday bills £99 0s 9d and above in full.
Nov. 13 (3 months)	40,000,000	54,365,000	3 17 8·27	3½	£99 0s 3d (Monday to Friday bills), about 77·8%, above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 6d and above in full.
Nov. 25 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,155,000	3 14 2·15	3½	£99 1s 3d (Monday bills), £99 1s 5d (Tuesday bills), £99 1s 7d (Wednesday to Saturday bills), about 27%, and above in full.
Dec. 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	67,610,000	3 12 0·07	3½	£99 2s 4d (Monday bills), about 20%, and above in full. £99 2s 2d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), and above in full.
Dec. 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	82,850,000	3 8 1·71	3½	£99 3s 5d (Monday bills), and above in full. £99 3s 2d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), about 98%, and above in full.

The amount to be offered next week will be £45,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Government Securities.	Notes in Circulation.	Balance of Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,502	3,810	..	..	..	11,423	..
Dec. 30.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	48·1	9,924	9,228
1915.									
Dec. 23.....	103,125	729	159	949	28,500	..	27·6	54,621	20,536
Dec. 27.....	150,111	2,111	..	..	28,500	..	19·0	118,102	6,868
1917.									
Dec. 28.....	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	12	121,637	6,486
1918.									
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8·9	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 28.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8·7	308,577	5,413
June 25.....	349,310	17,143	..	350	28,500	..	8·3	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	..	250	28,500	1,350	8·9	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	..	250	28,500	4,000	9·1	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10·0	313,370	2,981
June 30.....	357,356	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11·7	331,860	205
Sept. 29.....	*353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13·3	322,453	335
Dec. 29.....	*367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	15·0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30.....	*343,826	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13·9	311,334	141
June 29.....	*323,894	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14·8	287,750	150
Sept. 28.....	*313,382	14,830	..	..	28,500	19,450	15·2	278,119	143
Nov. 23.....	*311,687	13,916	..	..	28,500	19,450	15·4	274,482	171
Dec. 7.....	*312,628	14,079	..	..	28,500	19,450	15·3	275,603	148
Dec. 7.....	*315,714	14,116	..	..	28,500	19,450	15·1	278,702	178

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,565,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from	Receipts.	Week Ending Dec. 3, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 4, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England.....	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..	..
Bank of Ireland.....	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs.....	126,800,000	88,141,000	91,767,000	2,640,000	2,418,000
Excise.....	196,200,000	132,110,000	130,450,000	1,930,000	1,805,000
Motor Vehicle Duties.....	9,000,000	3,143,000	..	..	..
Stamps, &c., Duties.....	48,000,000	33,188,000	30,925,000	786,000	665,000
Stamps.....	21,000,000	9,939,000	16,898,000	351,000	306,000
Land Tax.....	2,500,000	450,000	390,000	10,000	..
House Duty.....	..	..	..	..	..
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax and Mineral Rights Duty).....	410,500,000	165,465,000	148,583,000	2,910,000	2,772,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c. Corporation Profits Tax.....	120,000,000	29,714,000	143,860,000	..	4,658,000
Post Office.....	30,000,000	8,890,000	..	570,000	..
Crown Lands.....	60,000,000	33,750,000	32,250,000	1,000,000	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.....	550,000	520,000	460,000	..	..
Miscellaneous—	12,000,000	7,631,172	11,955,819	102,774	1,352
Ordinary Receipts.....	21,500,000	16,007,941	16,890,527	375,902	1,398,406
Special Receipts.....	158,500,000	69,363,113	191,648,042	3,559,356	2,781,950
Revenue.....	1,216,650,000	598,312,226	816,077,388	14,245,032	16,805,708
Total, inc. Balances.....	..	601,386,732	825,446,485	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS:—					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion.....	..	6,180,000	2,940,000	400,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904).....	..	169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	..	520,000	..	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....	..	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	..	27,500	40,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....	..	35,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....	..	5,355,000	..	700,000	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply.....	2,764,822,000	2,809,673,000	57,603,000	93,812,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1920-30.....	..	..	270,552	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.....	..	..	769,061	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925.....	..	..	83,777	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.....	..	..	20,402,000	..	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920.....	..	..	6,120,000	..	..
By National War Bonds.....	..	..	..	750,000	620,000
By Treasury Bonds—					
5-15 year, 1925-35.....	..	1,024,990	15,754,924	..	2,050,000
5% year, 1925-35.....	..	136,004,459	..	13,535,000	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	..	10,859,639	23,514,349	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances.....	911,307,000	922,640,000	37,200,000	55,150,000	..
Anglo-Perian Oil Company—					
Dividends on Shares acquired.....	..	..	3,482	..	..
Repayments—					
In respect of Cunard Loan.....	130,000	130,000	..	130,000	..
Do Issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919.....	7,250,000	..	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.....	43,936	9,423	5,257	2,531	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	7,094,337	..	2,662,500	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.....	321,533	..	..	..	..
Total.....	4,483,422,475	4,633,500,871	127,105,789	168,570,239	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supple- mentary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from		-Issues-	
		Apr. 1, 1921, to Dec. 3, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Dec. 3, 1920.	Week Ending Dec. 3, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 4, 1920.
	£	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE.					
Permanent Charge of Debt.....	24,500,000	10,297,628	10,903,940	15,548	15,547
Interest, &c., on War Debt.....	320,500,000	251,343,824	254,928,103	41,386,383	44,140,279
Road Fund.....	8,400,000	2,842,000	2,805,260	..	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.....	11,115,000	6,505,312	6,257,297	350,000	460,386
Land Settlement.....	5,000,000	2,170,685	4,623,754	39,777	349,845
Other Consolidated Fund Services.....	1,757,000	1,195,558	1,252,348	38,216	9,859
Supply Services.....	774,851,000	414,084,959	482,544,329	11,437,200	20,360,200
Expenditure.....	1,146,123,000	634,410,966	763,321,031	53,267,124	65,336,116
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion.....		6,050,000	3,100,000	300,000	100,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.....		169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921.....		6,235,000	..	360,000	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.....		4,061,474	3,500,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....		27,500	115,000	..	25,000
Under the Housing Act, 1914.....		35,000	30,000	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.....		2,784,211,000	2,790,379,000	64,840,000	63,600,000
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.....		24,412,816	45,031,241	377,803	1,723,204
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.....		13,000,000	22,150,000	500,000	600,000
(b) Repaid otherwise.....		9,700,000	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22.....	18,834,490	22,646,808	..	19,660,000	..
1920-21.....	..	..	..	..	..
6%, 1920	2,586,808	..	..	..	..
5%, 1920	19,660,000	..	..	..	..
5%, 1921	18,854,490	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.....	49,238,241	44,807,495	100	500	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.....	..	59,223,221	..	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	844,108,000	859,113,000	8,170,000	17,850,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.....	20,320,156	18,620,155	703,000	660,022	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).....	11,515,000	725,000	..	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.....	112,450	197,766	1,250	..	..
	4,480,491,911	4,633,135,535	128,516,277	169,554,836	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England.....	2,019,480	1,901,922	..	55,029	18,523
Bank of Ireland.....	911,084	463,413	..	1,375,159	966,068
Total.....	2,930,564	2,365,335	..	1,410,488	984,597

Note.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921.
Treasury, December 5, 1921.

Chief Office: 15, St. James's Square, S.W.1, London

	Date.	Coin and Ballion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Depart- ment.	Reserve.	% of Reserve of Gold and Silver.
		£	£	£	£	£	%
Sept. 14.	123,410,714	125,207,555	144,600,215	141,051,700	21,653,159	10	
21.	123,417,297	124,406,495	128,163,884	140,104,483	22,460,802	17½	
Oct. 28.	123,414,367	124,372,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	17	
12.	123,413,841	125,666,630	147,038,604	143,469,564	21,197,151	16	
19.	123,421,587	126,413,690	149,825,206	143,222,203	22,257,967	17	
26.	123,417,061	123,684,130	171,602,456	166,131,591	23,182,931	13½	
Nov. 2.	123,413,527	123,915,830	175,038,529	169,779,091	22,947,697	13½	
9.	123,418,244	126,141,350	141,902,138	137,856,328	21,726,689	15½	
16.	123,420,853	124,403,190	122,935,825	118,135,305	22,467,663	18½	
23.	123,435,196	125,587,030	126,104,853	123,548,606	23,296,165	16½	
30.	123,438,361	125,305,911	139,684,120	133,885,916	21,585,505	16½	
Dec. 7.	123,442,340	125,112,965	144,160,001	140,172,506	21,779,380	16½	
14.	123,433,576	126,021,865	154,738,660	150,700,713	21,791,711	14½	

At corresponding date with the present week.	Dec. 8, 1911.	May 27, 1912.	Dec. 10, 1919.	Dec. 8, 1920.	Dec. 7, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills).....	£ 28,798,170	£ 28,835,580	£ 88,583,615	£ 136,411,655	£ 124,961,886
Public deposits.....	1,000,568	1,000,568	3,174,325	72,493,956	11,335,925
Other deposits.....	35,947,454	11,248,564	17,674,082	126,482,857	170,004,252
Government securities.....	14,437,210	11,046,970	77,805,306	80,707,702	70,064,252
Other securities.....	27,489,077	41,461,280	77,073,580	72,180,016	80,836,462
Bank notes and coin.....	26,758,214	25,463,930	21,525,033	13,916,456	21,921,771
Coin and bullion.....	37,106,384	39,927,360	91,659,648	125,877,511	128,433,519
Proportion of reserve to liabilities.....	52½%	54¼%	138%	98%	141%
Bank rate of discount.....	4%	3%	6%	9%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills.....	5½	4½	5½	6½—1½	5½
Price of Consols.....	76½	77½	50½	43½	49½
Price of silver per oz.....	25½d	26½d	72d	82½d	80½d
Average price of wheat.....	32s 10d	33s 4d	72s 7d	89s 7d	46s 10d
Exchanges.....	Paris 25·21-23½	25·17-20	42·00-45·00	53·35-80	53·80-54·40
on New York.....	84·82½	84·74	83·783-81	83·433-45	84·070-091
London.....	111½	105·10-10	95·10-10	112·26-32	111·34-35
Berlin.....	20·45	20·09	18·10-18	22·26-50	22·85-80
Clearing house return.....	302,023,000	193,311,000	697,120,000	754,810,000	730,961,000

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1—November 30	£ 28,990,352,000	£ 2,765,825,000	£ 31,757,177,000
December 7.....	728,024,000	62,337,000	790,361,000
Total to date 1921.....	29,718,376,000	2,829,762,000	32,548,138,000
Do 1920	32,909,909,000	3,862,485,000	36,772,394,000
Increase or decrease in 1921. {	3,191,533,000	1,032,723,000	4,223,256,000
	9·6%	26·7%	11·4%
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	35,028,614,000	3,368,768,000	38,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920. {	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	39·5%	20·2%	39·4%

	1920.	1921.	Ino. or Deco.
Aggregate Totals to December 3.			
BIRMINGHAM	£ 177,250,700	£ 114,405,900	£ 62,844,800
BREITOL	48,869,200	71,277,000	13,592,000
DUBLIN	423,237,800	341,731,700	81,506,100
HULL (42 Weeks ended Dec. 3)		46,922,000	
LEEDS	81,967,200	53,446,200	28,521,000
LEICESTER	57,826,100	38,413,800	21,412,300
LIVERPOOL	768,701,500	415,399,100	351,303,800
MANCHESTER	1,332,479,500	687,074,800	695,404,500
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	148,469,900	65,000,000	83,577,600
NOTTINGHAM	53,517,600	33,491,700	20,025,900
SHEFFIELD	81,106,700	52,710,700	28,396,000

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 1, 1921.	Nov. 26, 1921.	Week's Movmt.	Nov. 29, 1920.
RESOURCES.				
Total gold reserve	2,949,400	2,838,230	+ 14,170	2,624,070
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	139,750	143,000	+ 3,250	171,360
Bills discounted for member banks	1,182,300	1,205,170	+ 22,870	7,735,430
Bills bought in open market	72,350	69,400	+ 3,550	247,700
Government obligations owned	204,540	201,320	+ 3,220	320,610
All other resources	60,520	59,580	+ 940	36,150
LIABILITIES.				
Government deposits	45,910	32,150	+ 13,750	15,910
Time deposits	1,696,920	1,696,340	+ 580	1,697,730
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation	2,366,010	2,389,920	+ 23,910	3,326,630
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation	75,860	74,770	+ 1,090	214,610
All other liabilities	24,860	24,630	+ 230	107,530
Capital and surplus	316,930	317,040	— 110	263,770
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposits and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined	72.7 %	72.3 %	+ 4 %	44.4 %

	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances	\$ 477,083,821	\$ 476,811,646	\$ 521,673,747
Bank balances abroad	6,887,493	55,128,352	53,089,333
Call and short loans	265,872,535	268,443,419	307,487,739
Securities	27,734,761	38,571,399	363,444,692
Loans in Canada.	1,331,201,118	1,538,883,593	1,483,034,424
Loans abroad.	150,763,865	155,238,085	200,945,241
Other assets	105,199,238	106,207,018	111,504,470
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	183,530,419	193,339,095	227,373,864
Deposits—			
Government	121,176,339	128,777,943	178,417,337
Public in Canada.	1,807,193,444	1,820,311,934	1,902,009,438
Foreign	268,088,677	274,231,912	356,570,176
Bank balances—			
Canadian	10,078,772	10,300,962	9,554,379
Foreign	46,053,427	39,029,582	49,041,433
Bills payable and acceptances	3,202,050	40,429,404	51,202,045
Other liabilities	3,884,253	2,815,632	4,061,245
Capital and rest	264,331,734	264,326,315	256,705,272

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 8, 1921.	Dec. 1, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 191
ASSETS.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Gold coin and bullion	5,524,102	5,524,093	5,498,063	+ 9	3,730,624
Of which held abroad	1,948,367	1,948,367	1,948,367	+ "	
Silver coin and bullion	279,432	279,298	265,589	+ 134	632,680
Uncounted and advances	4,593,049	4,745,510	5,919,792	- 152,469	2,321,778
LIABILITIES.					
Notes	36,666,338	36,488,846	37,200,076	+ 177,492	5,877,761
Government deposits	62,559	30,165	152,881	+ 32,394	183,790
Private deposits	2,454,393	2,625,225	3,868,326	- 170,832	485,950

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 3, 1921.	Nov. 26, 1921.	Nov. 19, 1921.	Dec. 4, 1921.	Week's Movement	Position May 30, 1919.
ASSETS.						
Gold	2,509,587	2,508,788	2,508,128	2,455,032	+ 799	2,507,191
Silver	628,037	627,626	621,520	584,981	+ 411	728,600
Loans and discounts	3,930,186	3,034,107	3,075,457	1,906,343	+ 3,921	800,725
Spanish 4% stock	344,475	344,475	344,475	344,475	..	344,475
Treasury bills	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	..	150,000
LIABILITIES.						
Circulation	4,212,875	4,206,335	4,235,836	4,262,347	+ 6,540	1,901,550
Deposits	938,450	939,988	938,834	1,024,938	+ 11,538	377,550

ASSETS.	Oct. 28, 1921. Drachmæ.	Oct. 13, 1921. Drachmæ.	Oct. 28, 1920. Drachmæ.	Previous Return. Drachmæ.	Last Year. Drachmæ.
Gold and balances abroad	1,363,207,944	1,358,936,212	1,444,386,962	+ 4,271,732	- 81,179,016
Government loans and securities	2,172,576,436	2,174,108,464	1,015,708,022	- 1,432,028	+ 115,686,841
Discounts and loans	660,283,465	650,600,287	658,232,752	+ 10,282,178	+ 2,055,715
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	2,076,851,616	2,050,820,776	1,686,138,699	+ 26,030,840	+ 2,690,621,917
Government deposits	129,586,365	144,016,854	145,417,087	- 14,330,489	- 15,730,722
Private sight deposits	830,321,188	839,468,051	737,912,817	- 9,146,843	+ 92,408,377
Private deposits at fixed dates	910,126,372	901,166,853	554,987,874	+ 8,960,119	+ 355,139,098

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 5, 1921.	Oct. 23, 1921.	Oct. 22, 1921.	Nov. 6, 1920.	Movement	Position Jan. 30, 1914
	Yen	Yen	Yen	Yen		Yen.
ASSETS.						
Gold and silver	1,263,258	1,283,374	1,263,976	1,138,900	116	221,320
Discounts	105,785	155,241	122,708	—	49,666	41,760
Advances	86,403	93,104	104,523	217,907	6,701	70,840
LIABILITIES.						
Notes	1,156,594	1,255,800	1,133,704	1,274,293	99,206	362,270
Govt. deposits	1,391,154	1,255,422	1,407,680	1,042,732	15,732	15,732
Private deposits	47,154	38,736	59,034	65,929	8,418	11,440

(000's omitted.

Assets.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Full (Tues- day bills), Markes.
	Markes.	Markes.	Markes.	Markes.	day bills, in full.
Gold	100,948.68	935,700.	1,091,565.	—	12 in full.
Silver	12,1995	933,791	1,091,565.	—	12 usd.
Treasury notes	4,472,583	5,014,796	20,362,563	—	54,222 bills.
Bills discounted	115,469,084	101,661,596	55,574,647	—	13,807,218 ve in full.
Notes in circulation	100,943,632	96,463,895	64,284,914	+ 4,479,737	
Deposits	25,565,114	15,440,677	17,339,931	+ 5,664,937	

(000's omitted.)

Average Weekly Balances. November, 1921.	Bank of Liverpool and Martins, Limited.	Barclays Bank, Limited.	Countts and Co.	Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co.	Lloyds Bank, Limited.	London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited.	London County Westm'r and Parr's Bank, Limited.	National Provincial and Union Bank of Engl'nd, Limited.	National Bank, Limited.	Willi'ms Deacon's Bank, Limited.	Total.
ASSETS.	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Coin, bank, and currency notes and balances with the Bank of England.....	8,307	37,461	1,414	2,064	32,179	55,506	31,872	29,241	4,019	4,813	206,876
Balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the United Kingdom	2,116	6,718	415	969	7,551	10,713	8,255	7,014	155	949	44,885
Items in transit	8,791	17,674	3,243	7,722	12,730	11,470	17,677	13,107	8,532	3,311	104,257
Money at call and short notice	9,994	85,022	2,574	620	94,117	73,879	99,880	59,007	3,492	5,496	434,081
Bills discounted	11,690	55,859	4,664	6,010	75,679	51,648	54,842	45,206	14,990	5,784	326,372
Investments	38,921	140,385	7,378	6,374	132,260	181,598	119,508	129,237	18,293	18,526	792,480
Advances to customers and other accounts	5,686	6,262	224	1,185	9,702	17,836	14,129	2,926	530	1,400	59,880
Liabilities of customers for acceptances, endorsements, &c.	1,343	4,480	346	370	5,668	4,489	4,116	3,936	495	680	25,923
Bank premises account	..	8,236	..	..	7,642	3,258	2,991	2,240	..	..	24,367
Investments in affiliated banks	86,848	362,097	20,258	25,314	377,528	410,397	353,270	291,944	50,506	40,959	2,019,121
Ratio of cash to current, deposit, and other accounts	10.73	11.28	7.67	9.18	9.36	14.96	9.92	10.79	9.07	13.12	11.26
LIABILITIES.											
Capital paid up	2,348	15,592	800	1,000	14,372	10,861	9,004	9,309	1,500	1,875	66,661
Reserve fund.....	1,400	8,250	800	500	10,000	10,861	9,004	8,878	980	1,000	51,673
Current, deposit, and other accounts	77,413	331,993	18,434	23,477	343,454	370,839	321,117	270,831	44,295	36,684	1,837,537
Acceptances, endorsements, &c.....	5,687	6,262	224	1,185	9,702	17,836	14,128	2,926	530	1,400	59,880
Notes in circulation	..	..	..	152	..	..	17	..	3,201	..	3,218
Reduction of bank premises account	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	152
	86,848	362,097	20,258	25,314	377,528	410,397	353,270	291,944	50,506	40,959	2,019,121

{000's omitted.}

	Nov. 10, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 10, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 31, 1919
ASSETS.					
Cash	1,316,490	1,316,490	1,237,642	+	1,221,875
Inland bills	3,164,005	3,553,663	3,185,972	+	55,116
Foreign bills	19,496	19,489	27,830	+	10,972
Advances to the Treasury	6,665,230	5,661,007	8,260,010	+	81,300
Other advances	2,732,634	3,001,138	2,454,439	+	nil
Securities	419,794	420,844	221,929	+	79,175
LIABILITIES.					
Note circulation	14,250,976	14,308,059	15,444,651	+	1,556,993
Deposits and drafts	4,697,451	4,736,352	1,793,409	+	139,975

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 5, 1921.	Nov. 28, 1921.	Nov. 21, 1921.	Dec. 6, 1920.	Week's Movement	Position May 30, 1921
ASSETS.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.	Florins.
Gold	695,969	605,969	605,969	636,141	—	163,092
Silver	8,143	8,614	8,635	20,326	—	8,436
Depts. & advances.	455,168	434,890	446,704	490,693	+ 20,278	155,504
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circula'tn.	1,034,520	1,021,065	1,023,566	1,081,064	+ 13,455	316,633
Deposits	37,775	31,443	40,204	74,412	+ 6,332	5,016

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 19, 1921.	Nov. 12, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.	Lel.	Lel.	Lel.	Lel.
Gold.....	4,524,722	4,449,722	3,150,222	+ 75,000
Silver, &c.....	51,563	504	48,598	+ 624
Discounts.....	15,463	52,142	58,231	- 179
Government loan.....	11,042,772	11,359,218	7,217,283	+ 3,550
Other advances.....	1,975,206	2,124,845	2,310,386	+ 149,639
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	13,520,893	13,135,952	9,112,108	+ 204,941
Deposits.....	5,588,036	5,713,344	4,286,185	+ 125,314

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1920.	Week's Movement	Position May 31, 1914
Assets.						
Gold	Franks 115,105	Franks 124,025	Franks 124,025	Franks 112,733	+	9,020
silver	152,125	124,025	124,025	124,025	+	18,350
Jarlehøns-Kaasen.	175,163	174,566	174,041	171,194	+	77
Assets & advances	302,232	267,760	269,662	366,667	-	34,502
						103,000
Liabilities.						
Notes in circulation	949,068	905,426	926,290	968,604	+	43,642
Deposits	90,071	100,276	86,098	99,688	-	10,205
						275,925
						33,750

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to November 30, 1921, total issues were Fr.29,876,000, of which Fr.17,533,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

(000's omitted.)

ASSETS.	Dec. 3, 1921.	Nov. 26, 1921.	Dec. 4, 1920.	Week's Movement	Year's Movement	May 24, 1914.
	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.	Kronor.
old	274,937	275,058	282,277	- 121	7,340	104,918
new						
foreign bills	106,645	106,309	116,831	+	336	112,177
Gov. securities	20,715	20,735	33,342	-	49	32,465
discount and loans	476,209	425,959	591,373	+	50,250	112,668
bankruptcies						
outs and circulating	639,040	589,227	747,292	+	42,813	226,555
equities at notice	397,283	175,557	209,590	-	21,732	59,660

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 1, 1921.	Nov. 24, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1920.	Movement, 1914.	March May 28, 1914.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
ASSETS.						
Coin (gold & silver and bullion)	322,721	324,990	326,292	336,619	— 2,269	322,650
Securities	390,175	418,660	412,158	624,416	— 27,885	697,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.	6,265,791	6,127,136	6,150,362	5,931,621	+ 138,655	934,150
Current accounts.....	687,759	839,869	819,582	1,266,192	+ 152,110	112,125

Nov. 23. | Nov

	1921. Krone.	1921. Krone.	1921. Krone.	Movement Krone.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion, bills	6,759	6,412	5,380	+ 347
Silver coin	5	5	5	..
Bills discounted, warrants				
and drafts	11,235,511	8,548,336	6,025,679	+ 2,686,765
Loans	546,785	627,192	528,230	+ 78,407
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	108,526,312	103,128,983	90,904,399	+ 5,397,329
Deposits	10,157,698	9,159,615	6,635,669	+ 995,283

(DCU's omitted.)

	1912,	1913,	1914,	Movement,
	Krone.	Krone.	Krona.	Krone.
ASSETS.				
Gold coin and bullion, bills	12,235	12,242	12,243	—
Silver coin, &c.	597	598	598	7
Bills, warrants, drafts, &c	23,118,164	22,888,873	22,640,919	+ 231,321
Loans	1,181,377	1,182,790	1,183,310	+ 1,613
Other assets	2,802,640	2,774,226	1,463,598	+ 58,414
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	24,159,576	23,795,176	23,871,322	+ 364,400
Deposits	2,335,872	2,441,861	2,116,507	+ 105,989
Other liabilities	1,520,220	1,490,072	1,233,656	+ 30,143

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1920.	Month's Movements Kroner.	Position May 20, 1914 Kroner.
Assets.					
Gold and bullion	229,355	228,356	227,556	75,643	
Coins and discounts	379,791	365,111	462,502	+ 16,680	88,470
Debtors abroad	13,226	18,909	13,623	- 5,683	24,102
Securities	40,411	46,386	51,257	- 5,975	11,368
LIABILITIES					
Circulation	465,041	495,580	555,220	- 28,339	157,256
Deposits	103,528	103,324	60,139	+ 33,674	6,696

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 30, 1921. Kroner.	Nov. 22, 1921. Kroner.	Nov. 30, 1920. Kroner.	Week's Movement Kroner.	Position My31,1914 Kroner.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion Gold	147,293	147,293	147,296	..	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	37,098	37,565	47,269	—	467
Norwegian & Foreign Govern- ment securities	8,792	8,795	10,499	—	3
Discounts and loans Liquorized	438,616	429,203	443,526	+	9,415
Notes in circulation	395,385	388,593	453,417	+	6,790
Deposits at notice	121,334	117,308	92,865	+	4,026
					7,168

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 50 million crowns from July 25 1921 until further order.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Oct. 14, 1921.	Oct. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.						
Govt. securities ..	12,39,74	12,90,18	13,12,46	13,10,16	13,68,52	+ 50,44
Other securities ..	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,35,51	1,35,51	1,35,51	+ 1
Loans ..	24,70,63	24,65,05	24,99,25	24,99,25	24,99,25	+ 24,99,25
Cash credits ..	22,83,87	22,83,87	22,83,87	23,10,93	23,10,93	+ 17,16
Inland bills ..	6,15,09	6,15,01	6,56,00	6,56,00	6,56,00	+ 35,92
Foreign bills ..	7,98	7,25	6,15	6,63	5,09	+ 73
Bullion ..	15	15	17	16	16	+ 1
Dead stock ..	2,14,96	2,15,12	2,15,34	2,12,88	2,12,65	+ 16
Reserves ..	4,55,9	37,14	32,88	32,87	32,87	+ 6,45
With other banks ..	10,23	10,15	17,63	21,27	21,27	+ 8
Cash ..	27,12,53	29,23,67	28,55,59	26,30,49	25,85,16	+ 2,11,14
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital ..	11,08,76	11,08,76	11,08,76	11,08,76	11,08,76	..
Capital paid up ..	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	..
Reserve ..	5,83,65	5,83,65	5,83,65	5,83,65	5,83,65	..
Public deposits ..	6,66,52	9,03,69	7,29,45	7,44,91	9,62,37	+ 2,37,17
Other deposits ..	79,48,74	79,48,74	81,18,71	78,99,13	78,99,13	+ 39,14
Loans against secs. ..	70,68	71,08	72,59	68,82	69,82	+ 40
Sundries ..	1,04,24	95,12	89,13	85,76	83,18	+ 9,12
The above includes—						
Deposits in London ..	34,200	34,200	34,200	34,200	34,200	..
Advances in London ..	543,000	543,000	543,000	543,000	543,000	..
Cash, &c., at other banks in London ..	62,426	60,453	111,219	146,493	144,541	..

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
ASSETS.					
Gold ..	3,371	3,369	5,363	2	1,571
Government securities ..	36,476	32,925	52,195	3,551	2,084
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	34,722	29,248	42,931	5,474	2,400
Government deposits ..	2,150	2,145	3,594	5	2,315
Other deposits ..	13,334	13,639	19,239	305	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 31, 1921.
ASSETS.					
Balance abroad and foreign bills ..	42,625	42,625	42,621	..	35,091
Finland and Foreign Government securities ..	417,798	455,802	201,930	37,404	90,379
Discounts ..	898,329	897,250	1,049,794	1,079	21,826
Discounts and loans ..	426,877	409,184	328,816	17,693	105,161
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	1,303,548	1,333,897	1,516,964	30,349	123,941
Deposits at notice ..	184,698	185,015	121,326	377	21,225

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 2, 1921.	Oct. 26, 1921.	Oct. 19, 1920.	Nov. 3, 1920.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.					
Coin and bullion ..	27,755	27,858	27,894	27,413	103
Of which gold ..	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	..
Balance abroad ..	11,791	12,845	4,988	5,762	1,064
Discounts ..	112,534	110,575	110,896	127,461	1,959
Government loans ..	620,109	620,109	620,109	420,120	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	685,629	675,276	675,069	556,527	10,353
Deposits ..	50,423	52,374	51,414	21,482	2,551

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
ASSETS.					
Gold ..	20,200	19,400	19,200	19,100	800
Silver ..	41,600	41,200	40,800	40,300	400
Foreign coin ..	65,300	65,300	65,300	65,300	..
Foreign banks ..	2,747,200	1,623,400	45,600	93,700	28,100
Advances to the Govt. ..	108,500,000	178,000,000	158,000,000	140,000,000	1,123,800
Private loans and discounts ..	21,551,800	16,115,800	11,662,300	8,795,600	5,436,000
Other assets ..	19,813,200	18,120,200	14,976,000	9,594,600	1,693,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	182,777,300	152,800,000	133,734,200	115,242,300	29,977,300
Government accounts ..	30,555,500	25,764,000	17,081,500	16,975,300	6,491,500
Other accounts ..	14,792,700	16,330,000	17,567,100	15,895,200	1,537,300
Reserve ..	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	..
Other liabilities ..	16,977,300	22,710,200	17,576,000	13,007,600	5,732,900

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
ASSETS.						
Gold ..	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	37,075	217
Silver ..	24,398	20,723	16,876	16,876	16,876	3,673
Treasury notes ..	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	27,835
Bills discounted ..	7,002	7,034	7,038	7,185	7,246	32
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation ..	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	23,103
Deposits ..	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	1,236,438	44,401

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 7, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office ..	10,084,503	10,084,502	10,084,471	1
Discount and advances ..	4,414,798	4,466,322	4,519,236	51,224
Gold ..	1,125,080	1,090,712	1,125,092	44,366
Other assets ..	1,223,738	1,232,039	1,246,580	2,301
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation ..	11,515,945	11,850,226	12,181,705	334,281
Deposits ..	2,312,660	2,076,866	1,962,774	235,794
Other liabilities ..	3,025,514	2,936,489	2,830,890	89,029

THE STATE SAVINGS AND CREDIT BANK OF LATVIA.

	November 16, 1921.	November 1, 1921.	October 1, 1921.	Month's Movement.
ASSETS.				
Total cash ..	91,198,484	68,534,354	49,267,780	22,664,150
Foreign bank ..	37,315,168	367,429,873	182,607,091	6,888,395
Discounts and loans ..	391,498,306	389,867,553	342,318,594	1,630,753
Other assets ..	169,953,318	165,543,682	51,549,394	4,409,626
LIABILITIES.				
Capital ..	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	..
Deposits ..	410,849,503	370,060,935	311,562,921	40,798,568
Other liabilities ..	316,115,773	321,524,537	14,179,868	5,268,764

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

	Oct. 30, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Monthly Movement.
ASSETS.				
Total cash ..	307,256,714	236,192,219	66,745,939	71,064,495
Discounts and loans ..	1,267,295,858	1,125,727,484	564,738,756	141,568,374
LIABILITIES.				
Capital paid up ..	250,000,000	250,000,000	10,000,000	..
Reserve ..	10,674,155	10,674,155	184,663	..
Notes in circulation ..	250,000,000	250,000,000	..	..
Deposits ..	976,595,597	741,145,128	565,448,243	235,450,469

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 22, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 8, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Week's Movement.
ASSETS.					
Gold ..	74,125	74,127	74,096	73,835	2
Other coin and notes ..	17,749	17,777	17,433	20,370	28
Foreign credits ..	32,136	335,009	335,466	30,714	11,873
Bills ..	633,690	625,652	620,877	592,214	8,038
Govt. advances ..	4,422,699	4,422,699	4,639,542	4,423,730	..
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	4,546,021	4,567,413	4,559,483	4,495,432	21,392
State credits ..	369,880	369,880	369,880	369,827	..
Deposits ..	431,538	414,677	614,447	372,317	16,861

LONDON RATES.

	Dec. 4, 1921.	Dec. 3, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.	Dec. 1, 1921.	Dec. 30, 1921.	Dec. 29, 1921.	Dec. 28, 1921.	Dec. 27, 1921.	Dec. 26, 1921.	Dec. 25, 1921.	Dec. 24, 1921.	Dec. 23, 1921.	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 21, 1921.	Dec. 20, 1921.	Dec. 19, 1921.	Dec. 18, 1921.	Dec. 17, 1921.	Dec. 16, 1921.	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 14, 1921.	Dec. 13, 1921.	Dec. 12, 1921.	Dec. 11, 1921.	Dec. 10, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1921.	Dec. 8, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1921.	Dec. 6, 1921.	Dec. 5, 1921.	Dec. 4, 1921.	Dec. 3, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.	Dec. 1, 1921.	Dec. 30, 1920.	Dec. 29, 1920.	Dec. 28, 1920.	Dec. 27, 1920.	Dec. 26, 1920.	Dec. 25, 1920.	Dec. 24, 1920.	Dec. 23, 1920.	Dec. 22, 1920.	Dec. 21, 1920.	Dec. 20, 1920.	Dec. 19, 1920.	Dec. 18, 1920.	Dec. 17, 1920.	Dec. 16, 1920.	Dec. 15, 1920.	Dec. 14, 1920.	Dec. 13, 1920.	Dec. 12, 1920.	Dec. 11, 1920.	Dec. 10, 1920.	Dec. 9, 1920.	Dec. 8, 1920.	Dec. 7, 1920.	Dec. 6, 1920.	Dec. 5, 1920.	Dec. 4, 1920.	Dec. 3, 1920.	Dec. 2, 1920.	Dec. 1, 1920.	Dec. 30, 1919.	Dec. 29, 1919.	Dec. 28, 1919.	Dec. 27, 1919.	Dec. 26, 1919.	Dec. 25, 1919.	Dec. 24, 1919.	Dec. 23, 1919.	Dec. 22, 1919.	Dec. 21, 1919.	Dec. 20, 1919.	Dec. 19, 1919.	Dec. 18, 1919.	Dec. 17, 1919.	Dec. 16, 1919.	Dec. 15, 1919.	Dec. 14, 1919.	Dec. 13, 1919.	Dec. 12, 1919.	Dec. 11, 1919.	Dec. 10, 1919.	Dec. 9, 1919.	Dec. 8, 1919.	Dec. 7, 1919.	Dec. 6, 1919.	Dec. 5, 1919.	Dec. 4, 1919.	Dec. 3, 1919.	Dec. 2, 1919.	Dec. 1, 1919.	Dec. 30, 1918.	Dec. 29, 1918.	Dec. 28, 1918.	Dec. 27, 1918.	Dec. 26, 1918.	Dec. 25, 1918.	Dec. 24, 1918.	Dec. 23, 1918.	Dec. 22, 1918.	Dec. 21, 1918.	Dec. 20, 1918.	Dec. 19, 1918.	Dec. 18, 1918.	Dec. 17, 1918.	Dec. 16, 1918.	Dec. 15, 1918.	Dec. 14, 1918.	Dec. 13, 1918.	Dec. 12, 1918.	Dec. 11, 1918.	Dec. 10, 1918.	Dec. 9, 1918.	Dec. 8, 1918.	Dec. 7, 1918.	Dec. 6, 1918.	Dec. 5, 1918.	Dec. 4, 1918.	Dec. 3, 1918.	Dec. 2, 1918.	Dec. 1, 1918.	Dec. 30, 1917.	Dec. 29, 1917.	Dec. 28, 1917.	Dec. 27, 1917.	Dec. 26, 1917.	Dec. 25, 1917.	Dec. 24, 1917.	Dec. 23, 1917.	Dec. 22, 1917.	Dec. 21, 1917.	Dec. 20, 1917.	Dec. 19, 1917.	Dec. 18, 1917.	Dec. 17, 1917.	Dec. 16, 1917.	Dec. 15, 1917.	Dec. 14, 1917.	Dec. 13, 1917.	Dec. 12, 1917.	Dec. 11, 1917.	Dec. 10, 1917.	Dec. 9, 1917.	Dec. 8, 1917.	Dec. 7, 1917.	Dec. 6, 1917.	Dec. 5, 1917.	Dec. 4, 1917.	Dec. 3, 1917.	Dec. 2, 1917.	Dec. 1, 1917.	Dec. 30, 1916.	Dec. 29, 1916.	Dec. 28, 1916.	Dec. 27, 1916.	Dec. 26, 1916.	Dec. 25, 1916.	Dec. 24, 1916.	Dec. 23, 1916.	Dec. 22, 1916.	Dec. 21, 1916.	Dec. 20, 1916.	Dec. 19, 1916.	Dec. 18, 1916.	Dec. 17, 1916.	Dec. 16, 1916.	Dec. 15, 1916.	Dec. 14, 1916.	Dec. 13, 1916.	Dec. 12, 1916.	Dec. 11, 1916.	Dec. 10, 1916.	Dec. 9, 1916.	Dec. 8, 1916.	Dec. 7, 1916.	Dec. 6, 1916.	Dec. 5, 1916.	Dec. 4, 1916.	Dec. 3, 1916.	Dec. 2, 1916.	Dec. 1, 1916.	Dec. 30, 1915.	Dec. 29, 1915.	Dec. 28, 1915.	Dec. 27, 1915.	Dec. 26, 1915.	Dec.
--	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	------

both positions. This figure is the lowest fixed for cash since June 6th last, and for forward since June 8th last. Very large shipments are reported from San Francisco to the East, most of which is destined for China. Some portion, however, is shipped with option for India, a proviso which suggests that the bazaars may have little inducement to buy here for the February settlement in Bombay. Continental supplies can be expected to come into the market now from time to time, so that, the requirements for the Chinese New Year having been completed, and the Indian bazaars being sluggish buyers only, the immediate outlook can hardly be regarded as healthy. The net imports of silver into India during the month of September amounted to 4,065,283 ounces, valued at Rs 95,86,997. Mr Findlay Shirras, the Director of the Labour Bureau in India, stated that monsoon conditions in Bombay were satisfactory. He went on to say:—"As the monsoon is the backbone of labour conditions, this means that the next year is full of agreeable possibilities. There will be produce to be marketed and exported, and goods to be imported or manufactured and consumed. The solemn fact is that India during the space of a twelvemonth has been struggling against an overmastering depression. A change is, above everything else, to be welcomed."

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Nov. 15, 1921.	Nov. 22, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,676	17,691	17,348
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,901	7,916	7,842
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Gold coin and bullion in India	2,434	2,434	2,432
Gold coin and bullion out of India ..	..	..	..
Securities (Indian Government) ..	6,706	6,706	6,440
Securities (British Government) ..	635	635	634

No coinage of rupees was reported during the week ending 30th ult. The stock in Shanghai on the 3rd instant consisted of about 28,700,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 2,290 silver bars, as compared with about 28,400,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 920 silver bars on the 26th ult. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 7½ the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.		Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.	
		Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.			
Dec.	3 ..	s d	d	d		Dec.	15, 1915	26½
	5 ..	101 3	37½	37			15, 1916	37
	6 ..	101 8	36½	36½			14, 1917	43½
	7 ..	101 2	36½	36½			14, 1918	48½
	8 ..	100 6	36½	36			12, 1919	78½
	9 ..	100 11	34½	34½			10, 1920	38½
	9 ..	100 3	34½	34½				

NOTICES.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that they will open on Monday next, the 12th inst., a new branch at Manchester House, Criccieth, under the management of Mr D. Lewis Jones.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, announce that a branch of the bank is now open at Market place, Bourne (Lincs). Resident officer, Mr H. S. Gibbs.

A new branch of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank will be opened on Monday next, the 12th inst., at 76-77 Shaftesbury avenue, W. 1, under the management of Mr F. Robertson.

Lt.-Col. Charles Evelyn Johnston, D.S.O., M.C., has been elected deputy-chairman of the London and Brazilian Bank, Limited, for the remainder of the current year, in succession to Mr William Douro Hoare, C.B.E., who was recently elected chairman.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

DORMAN, LONG, AND CO., LIMITED.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	5,619,900	Land, buildings, &c.	1,229,287
8% pref. ord.	1,500,000	Suspense acc't	2,261,441
4% perp. deb.	400,010	Investments	1,656,510
Interest accrued ..	4,000	Stocks	1,650,504
5% deb.	400,060	Debits due	1,001,865
Interest accrued ..	5,000	Cash	231,845
Secured loan	938,475	Debits due	1,087,448
Debits due	978,710	Reserve accounts ..	742,342
Reserve accounts ..	442,965	Profit and loss	287,523
Profit and loss	742,965		
Total	11,031,452	Total	11,031,452

BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK, LIMITED.

October 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
"A" ord. shares 1,000,000 ..	..	Cash	568,826
"B" ord. shares 1,000,000 ..	..	Money at call & notices	1,395,000
Current deposit, and other accounts	1,793,941	..	630,499
Reserve against shareholders' interests in foreign banks ..	10,000	..	780,619
Acceptances, &c.	449,117	..	57,735
Profit and loss ..	107,526	..	194
Total	4,360,584	Total	4,360,584

WILLIAM BEARDMORE AND CO.

December 31, 1920.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
6% cum. pref.	1,440,000	Land, buildings, &c.	5,248,741
Ord. shares	2,050,000	Plant	444,778
4% deb.	532,500	Stocks	3,075,817
Loans	1,851,105	Investments, &c.	1,693,991
8% notes	800,000	Sundry debts	695,116
Other loans	266,353	Bills receivable	17,610
and reserves	2,214,041	Cash	15,320
Bills payable	16,945		
Prof. div. reserve	250,000		
General reserve	1,000,000		
Profit and loss	755,109		
Total	11,176,053	Total	11,176,053

AMALGAMATED COTTON MILLS TRUST.

October 31, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
7½% pref. shares ..	800,000	Invests. in cotton mill companies (at cost) ..	6,997,397
Ord. shares	4,650,000	Other investments (at mkt. value) ..	79,475
Premium on shrs.	391,482	Loans & accrued interest	1,230,198
Loan	176,208	Dividends accrued ..	9,32
Sundry loans	337,439	Sundry debtors ..	9,32
Sundry creditors ..	15,758		
Bank overdraft	130,126		
Profit and loss	5,500		
Total	6,306,393	Total	6,306,393

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
5% cum. pref.	700,000	By steamers, tugs, &c.	15,778,391
Ord. shares	957,200	..	2,318,407
4% deb. stock	1,657,200		
1% deb. stock	20,530		
Reserve fund	500,000		
Insurance fund	1,000,000		
Debts and liabilities	11,862,377		
Profit and loss	81,284		
Total	16,778,391	Total	16,778,391

ORIENT STEAM NAVIGATION.

June 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Preferred shares ..	243,380	Book value of fleet and plant after allowing for compensation for lost steamers and investments at cost ..	3,228,457
Deferred shares ..	1,040,880	Stores	104,721
Interest accrued ..	2,971	Debtors	441,867
4½% debentures ..	367,200	Insurance on steamers unexpired policies ..	34,485
Creditors and contingent acc'ts.	724,457	Cash	85,201
Freight and passage money	203,978		
Underwriting account	214,287		
Repair & renewal account	300,000		
General reserve ..	550,000		
Revenue account ..	187,578		
Profit and loss	33,533		
Total	3,894,731	Total	3,894,731

IND, COOPE, AND CO., LIMITED.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	600,000	Properties, &c.	1,814,717
5% deb. stock	508,750	Fixtures	205,556
4% deb. stock	709,800	Sundry debtors ..	355,886
4% inc. deb. stks.	421,337	Inv. in Gov. sec.	510,000
Sundry creditors ..	503,996	Trade investments ..	133,637
Beer duty	472,625	Cash	308,716
Contingent res.	450,000	Ins. premiums ..	3,549
General reserve ..	350,000		
Deb. red. fund	90,000		
Profit and loss	242,945		
Total	3,899,321	Total	3,899,321

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div. or Final.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	Lat. Pre. Year.
Railways.					
Bombay, Baroda, and C.L.	3%	Jan.	Less tax 3/7 in £	7	8
Burma	2½%	(bonus)	1%	6	8
Banks.					
British Overseas, "A" Ord.	6½	Jan.	Less tax	6	6
Crédit Foncier d'Algérie, &c.	14.50%	Jan.	Net	16	20
Guaranty Trust of N.Y.	3½	Jan.	..	10/ps.	..
Land Bank of N.Y.	7½	Jan.	..	..	..
Do Founders' Share	2½	Jan.	..	..	..
Molsons Bank	5%	Jan.	..	..	..
Sumitomo Bank	10	..	..	..	..
Insurance.					
London and Scottish	2½	Jan.	Less tax	..	..
Mining.					
Chinese Engineering	12½	Feb.	Tax free	22	..
Iranian Gold Corporation	1½	Feb.	Less tax 4/6 in £	..	..
Menzies Consolidated	..	..	Less tax	6	ps.
Natal Navigation	..	..	..	7½	..
Northern 6% Ptg. Pref.	4½	Jan.	Less tax	..	..
Oroville Dredging	9½	Dec.	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Pato	7½	Dec.	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Reindeer Corporation, Pref.	20%	Jan.	..	..	..
Sulphide Corporation, Pref.	5%	Jan.	..	..	..
Wankie Colliery	5	..	Less tax	10	..
Tea and Rubber.					
British Indian Tea	3	Dec.	Less tax	..	..
Cheely Rubber	5½	Dec.	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Dekhart Tea	5	..	Less tax	..	..
Jamnie Tea	4	Dec.	Less tax	..	..
Jokai Tea	2½	Dec.	Less tax	..	..
Neddeem Tea	2½	Dec.	Subject to tax	..	..
Rani Travancore	2½	Dec.	Less tax	..	..
Ukuvula Estates	5	..	Tax free	..	..
Other Companies.					
A. and P. Thwaites and Co.	9½	(bonus)	3/ ps.	..	..
African Lakes Corporation	..	..	Tax free	10	..
Amelia Nitrate	..	..	Less tax	7	..
American Telephone and Tele- graph	2½	Jan.	..	..	..
Anglo-Siam Corporation	12½	Jan.	(bonus) 5% Less tax	25	..
Argentine Southern Land	..	..	Less tax	5	12½
Argus Printing	7	..	..	10	13
Army and Navy Investment Trust, Defd.	16½	..	..	10½	16½
Barclay, Perkins, & Co.	£2 10	Jan.	Tax free	..	..
Bellat Mineral Water	10	..	..	..	..
Bentley's Yorkshire Breweries ..	8½	Jan.	..	12½	15
Blackpool Tower	..	..	Less tax	10	17½
Booth's Association	2½	..	..	..	..
Byth Shipping	1½	ps.	..	2½	ps.
British India Steam Navigation.	3½	Dec.	Tax free	8	13
British Oxygen	3½	Dec.	Tax free	..	..
British Steamship Investment Trust, Defd.	10	Jan.	..	..	..
Brooke, Bond, and Co.	10	Dec.	..	..	..
Brown Hayley's Steel Works	2½	..	Less tax	..	..
Buckley's Brewery	11	..	Tax free	14	25
Full Metal and Nailoid	..	..	Tax free	12½	25
Cartier's Knottley Brewery	..	..	Less tax	1½	ps.
Esel Cyanide	8	ps.	..	1½	ps.
Audius Ash, Sons, and Co., Pref.	5½	Dec.	Less tax	..	..
Blackburn Plov, Pref.	1	Feb.	..	3	..
Continental Union Gas, Pref.	..	..	Less tax	..	..
Levy Brothers	2½	..	Less tax	6	6
A. Jones, Dickinson	3½	..	Less tax	..	..
Dominion Textile	5	Jan.	..	..	..
East Surrey Water, "B" Ord.	7	Dec.	..	..	..
Egyptian Salt and Soda	3½	..	Less tax	4½	ps.
Farnham United Breweries	3½	..	..	6	9
First Garden City	6	Feb.	..	24	24
Frederick Sage and Co.	6	Dec.	Less tax	10	10
G. D. Peters, Pref.	6	..	Less tax	..	..
George and John Nickson, Pref.	5	..	..	..	..
Government and General Invest- ment, Def.	..	..	..	12	12
Hagmann's Creameries, Cn. Pref.	6½	..	Less tax (for arrears)	15	12½
Halford Cycle	7½	(bonus)	5% Tax free	..	..
Hall and Co. (Croydon), Pref.	5½	Dec.	..	..	..
Hanley Faulder and Co.	5½	..	..	..	..
Hills Dry Dock	..	..	..	..	..
Hotel York, Pref.	10	Jan.	..	..	..
Hudson's Bay	10	Jan.	Less tax	..	..
Imperial Tobacco Co. of Canada ..	19½	..	(bonus) 25%	40	25
Ind, Coope, and Co.	7½	..	..	..	..
Inglis, Parsons, Clive, and Co.	..	..	..	..	..
Irvine's Shipbuilding and Dry Docks, Pref.	8	Dec.	Less tax	10	15
John and Edwin Wright	6½	..	Tax free	25	..
John Mackintosh and Sons	17½	..	..	10	20
Khedivial Mail Steamship	5	..	..	15	15
Lady's Pictorial, Pref.	..	..	..	12½	15
Leeds City Brewery	..	..	..	..	..
Lewis and Burrows	..	..	Less tax	12½	10
London-American Maritime Trading	..	..	..	5	20
London, Scottish-American Trust, Def.	..	..	..	9	8
Manbre Sugar and Malt	15	Dec.	Tax free	10	..
Marston, Thompson, & Evershed ..	5	Dec.	Tax free	5	9
Milom & Askam Hematite Iron ..	5	..	Subject to tax	12½	12½
Newcastle Breweries	7½	(bonus)	2½% Tax free	12½	12½
Northampton Brewery, Defd.	..	..	..	12½	8
Orient Steam Navigation	..	..	..	..	..
Power Gas Corporation	..	..	..	..	..
P. Phillips and Co.	1½	ps.	Dec. 31	2½	ps.
Prince of Wales Dry Docks	7½	..	..	..	..
Provincial Landlords	22½	..	..	17½	15
Ridgway's, Limited	..	..	..	25	20
Rossleigh	15	Jan.	..	..	..
Royal Dutch Petroleum	5½	ps.	..	8	10
Railand Spinning	..	..	..	..	..
Slade and Bullock, Ltd.	5½	..	..	..	..
Smith's Dock	..	..	..	..	..
Stepney Spare Wheel	..	..	Tax free	5	..
Stale and Lytle, Ord. £1.	7½	..	Subject to tax	..	..
The Mint, Birmingham	10	Dec.	Tax free	..	..
Trust Union	5	..	..	..	..
United Discount and Security ..	4½	Jan.	..	7	..
United Indigo, Pref. and Ord.	5½	..	..	..	..

Tin.	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Ischi	45	..
Ischi Dredging	21	..
Ischi	3	..
Ischi	89	Est. value, £8,110; est. cost, £2,140.
Ischi	214	Est. value, £1,925; est. cost, £1,499.
Ischi	154	..
Ischi	8	..
Ischi	25	..
Ischi	483	Profit, including tribute, £1,278.
Ischi	..	Value, £4,581; cost, £4,946; tribute profit, £103.
Ischi	774	Value, £7,411; cost, £7,355.
Ischi	59	..
Ischi	20	28 tons despatched.
Ischi	203	Black tin; alluvial, 10.8 tons.
Ischi	..	Gross mining profit, £140.
Ischi	193	Est. value, £1,770; est. cost, £700.
Ischi	135	..
Ischi	3	..
Ischi	166	..
Ischi	54	Est. value, £5,147; est. cost, £2,738.
Ischi	38	Est. value, £3,380; est. cost, £1,830.
Ischi	24	Est. value, £2,220; est. cost, £1,870.
Ischi	60	..
Ischi	30	Value, £2,824; cost, £3,355.
Copper.	2,714	..
Copper	18,141	Coalbrook; 13,725 tons Blackhill.
Copper	37,217	..
Copper	42,261	..
Copper	27,363	..
Copper	17,377	..
Copper	94,969	..
Copper	55,571	Brick works, £6,397.
Copper	33,188	..
Copper	25,755	Coke sales, 7,443 tons.
Miscellaneous.	..	Diamonds registered, 704 carats, valued at £4,344.
Miscellaneous	1,169	Lead.

Reports and Notices.

We are informed that a war memorial to the members of the staffs of "The London and Lancashire" and allied companies will be unveiled at the office of the company at 5 and 7 Chancery lane, London, W.C. 2, on Thursday, December 15, 1921, at 3.10 p.m.

Mr Robert J. Hose, chairman of the Anglo-South American Bank, has been elected a director of the Antofagasta (Chili) and Bolivia Railway Company, Limited, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Mr A. H. A. Knox-Little.

Mr Edward Manville, M.P., J.P., has been elected on the court of directors of the Royal Exchange Assurance, in place of the late Lord Ebury.

We are informed that the address of Sanderson and Co., produce brokers, now is 23 Rood lane, London, E.C. 3.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

BULGARIAN 6 PER CENT. LOAN OF 1892.—British holders of coupons and drawn bonds are offered payment in French francs converted into sterling at the sight rate of exchange on Paris on the day of presentation (less income-tax). Coupons and drawn bonds due January, 1916, July, 1916, January, 1917, July, 1917, January, 1918, and July, 1918, may be deposited at the Imperial Ottoman Bank, Coupon Office, 25 Austin Friars, E.C., where lists and declaration of ownership forms may be obtained. Coupons and drawn bonds which are the property of foreigners, but which were deposited in Great Britain before October 1, 1915, and have remained in deposit in Great Britain since that date, may also be presented, but are subject to special arrangements, particulars of which can be obtained at the Imperial Ottoman Bank, as above.

BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT 4½ PER CENT. LOAN OF 1909.—Messrs J. Henry Schröder and Co. announce that they are prepared to receive for payment in French francs under the scheme put forward by the Bulgarian Government (conditions of which appeared in the Press on October 27, 1921), coupons and drawn bonds of the above loan due December 1, 1915, to June 1, 1919, inclusive. The offer of the Bulgarian Government having now been extended, holders, other than British subjects, whose national currency has not depreciated more than the French franc, may also present their coupons and drawn bonds, provided these have been held continuously since October 1, 1915.

CITY OF PERAMBUCO (RECIFE) 5 PER CENT. GUARANTEED LOAN.—Messrs Dunn, Fisher, and Co. announce that they have now received the funds to pay the coupon due November 1, 1921.

CONSOLIDATED EXTERNAL DEBT OF COLOMBIA.—The Council of Foreign Bondholders have received the December instalment of the Debt Service in respect of the half-year ending December 31, 1921.

BANKS.

BANK OF MONTREAL.—The statement of the result of the business of the bank for the year ended October 31, 1921, shows that the balance of profit and loss account, October 30, 1920, was \$1,251,850, and profits for the year ended October 31, 1921, after deducting charges of management, and making full provision for all bad and doubtful debts, \$3,949,796, making \$5,201,646, which is disposed of as follows:—Dividend for year of 12 per cent. and a bonus of 2 per cent. absorbed \$3,080,000; war tax on bank note circulation to October 31, 1921, \$220,000; reservation for bank premises, \$400,000; balance of profit and loss carried forward, \$1,501,646. The market

price of Bank of Montreal stock, October 31, 1921, was 208 per cent ex dividend, and bonus 2 per cent.

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK, LIMITED.—Average weekly position during November, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	£	ASSETS.	£	Ratio to Current Deposit & Other Acc'ts.
Capital paid up.....	10,860,852	Coin, bank and currency notes, and balances with the Bank of England..	55,506,590	150
Reserve fund.....	10,860,852	Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other banks in the United Kingdom.....	10,713,031	29
Current deposit, and other accounts (including balance of profit and loss account).....	370,839,657	Money at call and short notice.....	11,470,157	31
Acceptances and engagements on account of customers.....	17,835,871	Investments.....	51,647,772	139
		Bills discounted.....	73,878,676	199
		Advances to customers and other accounts.....	181,597,715	490
		Liabilities of customers for acceptances and engagements.....	17,835,871	
		Bank premises at head office and branches.....	4,488,755	
		Shares of the Belfast Banking Co., Ltd., and the Clydesdale Bank, Ltd.....	3,258,665	
	410,397,232		410,397,232	

MITSUBISHI BANK LIMITED.—Balance-sheet, June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	Yen.	ASSETS.	Yen.
Capital.....	50,000,000	Uncalled capital.....	20,000,000
Reserve funds.....	6,250,000	Advances—	
Deposits.....	177,141,003	Loans.....	158,544,649
Fixed deposits.....	39,271,818	Bills discounted.....	22,050,211
Current accounts.....	30,625,253	Call loans.....	17,330,488
Special current accounts.....	48,761,694	Overdrafts.....	13,833,564
Deposit at notice.....	1,415,854	Foreign bills bought.....	6,214,285
Other deposits.....	341,202	Interest bearing foreign bills	4,191,197
Bills payable.....	458,390	Due from other banks.....	509,831
Foreign bills sold.....	620,133	Acceptances and guarantees, as per contra.....	9,781,034
Due to other banks.....	9,781,038	Government bonds and Treasury bills.....	56,014,324
Acceptances and guarantees	2,791,570	Other bonds and securities.....	29,279,995
Interest accrued on deposits	2,000,552	Office premises.....	3,322,551
Rebate on bills discounted not yet due.....	177,325	Suspense account.....	158,811
Suspense accounts.....	666,094	Cash on hand and in bank.....	23,995,941
Accounts en route.....	1,050,601		
Brought forward from last profit and loss account.....	4,004,354		
Net profit current half-year.....	365,256,882		
Total.....	365,256,882	Total.....	365,256,882

SUMITOMO BANK, LIMITED.—Balance-sheet, June 30, 1921:—

LIABILITIES.	Yen.	ASSETS.	Yen.
Subscribed capital.....	70,000,000	Capital unpaid.....	30,000,000
Reserve funds.....	17,000,000	Loans, bills discounted, and exchange purchased.....	346,589,561
Pension reserve.....	1,000,000	Due from other banks.....	3,159,491
Deposits.....	381,343,191	Customers' liabilities on foreign credits, acceptances, and guarantees.....	10,624,765
Exchange sold and bills payable.....	4,325,470	Government bonds.....	76,586,158
Exchange adjustments.....	627,258	Municipal and other securities.....	14,044,158
Due to other banks.....	16,207,276	Bullion and foreign currencies.....	1,508,622
Foreign credits, acceptances, and guarantees.....	10,624,689	Bank premises and furniture	6,228,322
Dividends not yet paid.....	1,278	Cash in hand.....	24,392,322
Rebate on bills not yet due, and interest accrued on deposits.....	6,689,147		
Balance brought forward from last half-year.....	976,412		
Net profit for the half-year.....	4,340,179		
Total.....	513,134,901	Total.....	513,134,901

YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK, LIMITED.—An impressive service was held at the head office of the Yorkshire Penny Bank, Limited, Leeds on December 7th on the occasion of the dedication of a memoria which has been placed by the directors of the bank in the banking hall of the head office, in memory of members of the staff who fell in the war.

RAILWAYS.

MISSOURI, KANSAS, AND TEXAS.—A plan and agreement for the reorganisation of the Missouri, Kansas, and Texas Railway Company has been prepared under date of November 1, 1921, and Messrs J. and W. Seligman and Co. and Messrs Hallgarten and Co., of New York, have been appointed reorganisation managers. Holders of bonds, notes, preferred stock, and common stock are invited to deposit such bonds, notes, and stock on or before January 7, 1922, with the reorganisation managers, and we advise all interested to secure a copy of the plan and agreement and information with regard thereto, which may be obtained in London from the Equitable Trust Company of New York, 3 King William Street, London, E.C. 4, or Messrs Seligman Brothers, 18 Austin Friars, E.C.

RUBBER.

BAKAP.—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the heavy fall in the market price of rubber which commenced during last year continued and increased throughout the season, resulting in a loss of £6,036. This has been transferred to profit and loss account, and after payment of debenture interest, £2,089, and sundry adjustments, there is a balance at credit of £2,064, which it is proposed to carry forward. The crop amounted to 164,080 lbs, and realised an average price of 10.40d per lb. The expenditure at Telok Karang during the year amounted to £8,022.

BROOKLANDS SELANGOR.—The loss on the year to June 30, 1921, amounted to £2,638. After deducting this from the balance brought forward from last year, viz., £27,888, there remains a credit balance of £25,250 to be carried forward. The report states that no provision has been made in the accounts for the year for depreciation of buildings, machinery, and plant in view of the fact that these have already been written down to and stand at a figure in the company's books substantially below their replacement value. The rubber crop for the

year was 615,204 lbs. The whole of the crop was sold in the Federated Malay States, and realised an average price of 10.59d per lb. The all-in cost of production, including the administration expenses of the company, amounted to 11.32d. The coconut crop for the year was 756,285 nuts. This was sold partly in London and partly in Singapore, and realised, after taking at market valuation the portion of the crop not yet disposed of, the sum of £4,871 16s. 9d.

GAN KEE.—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that after writing off the sum of £956 for depreciation on buildings, machinery, &c., the year's working resulted in a net loss of £5,182. There is a balance of £1,799 standing to the credit of profit and loss account now. The total crop harvested during the year amounted to 199,024 lbs.

INSULINDA (SUMATRA).—The output of rubber for the year ended June 30, 1921, was 226,801 lbs, which realised an average price equal to 9½d per lb, London. The average number of trees tapped during the financial year was 60,000, giving a yield of about 3½ lbs per tree. The restricted estimate for the year ending June 30, 1922, is 360,000 lbs, of which 120,290 lbs have been harvested in the four months ended October 31, 1921. A debit balance of £4,830 was brought into accounts, and there is a debit balance of £13,295 for the past year to add to this, making a debit balance of £18,125 to be carried forward.

KELANTAN.—For the year to June 30, 1921 the rubber produced was 411,010 lbs, against 342,104 lbs in the previous year. Of that crop there was sold, prior to the close of accounts on June 30th last, 319,152 lbs, at an average gross price, at Singapore, of 9.226d as compared with 2s 1.536d per lb for 1919-20. The cost of production for the year, including selling charges and home expenses, was 1s 3.227d per lb delivered at Singapore, against 1s 3.992d per lb for the preceding 12 months. These figures do not include depreciation. The year's working has resulted in a loss of £12,228. The loss for the year falls to be deducted from the balance brought from last account, £13,751, which was further reduced by £274, being corporation profits tax on accounts for year to June 30, 1920; these deductions leave the sum of £1,249 to be carried forward. The labour available having been concentrated on the cleaning of the areas already matured and the satisfactory working of that portion of the estates, no further extensions have been made; the cultivated areas of the estates remain unchanged.

KENNY (SELANGOR).—The working for year ended June 30, 1921, shows a profit of £3,949, out of which provision of £1,279 has been made for income-tax, leaving £2,670 to carry forward. The report states that the original estimate of crop for year to June 30, 1921, was 10,000 lbs dry rubber. In consequence of the restriction of output the actual crop secured for the year (after deducting loss in weight in transit) was 276,420 lbs, which has all been sold. The gross average selling price of this crop was 1s 3.18d per lb, and the "all-in" cost of production is 0.27d per lb, giving a profit of 2.91d per lb, as compared with 8.64d for the previous year. The cost of production for the past year includes rice losses, representing 1.38d per lb of crop.

KILLINGHALL.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a balance to credit of profit and loss of £9,461. This is arrived at by a debit balance of £6,547 for the past year being deducted from the £16,008 which was brought in from previous account. It is anticipated that there will be a refund of approximately £7,500 for excess duty paid in previous years. The sum of £9,461 will be carried forward, and will be augmented by the excess profits duty refund. The amount of rubber harvested during the year was 333,130 lbs.

KUALA LUMPUR.—The report for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows a loss of £30,630, to which is added £5,923 for loss on investments realised and depreciation on those still held, making combined losses £36,553. The sum of £20,000 is re-transferred from reserves for losses, making the debit balance £16,553. Deducting this from £32,512 brought forward makes a credit balance of £15,959 to be carried forward. The yield of rubber during the year was 350,385 lbs, being 359,152 lbs less than in the previous year, and 99,615 lbs short of the restricted estimate. Of this crop 106,760 lbs were shipped to Europe, and inclusive of an estimated cure for a small portion unsold, realised an average gross price of 160d per lb, while 282,695 lbs were sold in Singapore at the equivalent of 6.72d per lb. The combined average gross price for the whole crop is thus 9d per lb.

SUMATRA PARA.—The report for year ended June 30, 1921, shows that, after writing off the usual amount of £3,000 for depreciation of buildings and machinery and making provision for taxation in the Netherlands Indies, there is a loss on the year's working of £14,737; deduct balance of profit and loss brought forward from 1919-20, £3,114, leaving an adverse balance of £11,623, which has been written off by a transfer from the reserve fund. The unfavourable result of the season's working is due to the abnormally low level of prices ruling for rubber. It was mentioned in the directors' report for 1919-20 that the rubber crop was being restricted as from November 1, 1920, in accordance with the proposals of the Rubber Growers' Association. As a consequence, the average monthly output, which for the five months of the season prior to the commencement of restriction was 106,000 lbs, dropped to under 78,000 lbs for the remaining even months. This is equivalent to a reduction of 26 per cent. on the actual output for the corresponding seven months of season 1919-20. Satisfactory declines are shown both in the estate expenditure and the "all-in" cost of the rubber. The latter is 1s 2½d per lb as compared with 1s 4d per lb for 1919-20, while estate expenditure is less by 6.129.

UNITED TEMIANG (F.M.S.).—The report for year ended July 31, 1921, shows that the extension of 313 acres on the south division has been completed during the year under review. The cultivated area in the Sungai Kaya division was increased by 19 acres. The estates are reported to be in good order, and the supply of labour is adequate or present requirements. During the year £4,794 was expended on new equipment. The f.o.b. cost (including 1 16d for depreciation) was 1s 1.16d per lb. This would have been lower but for the restriction of output and the loss incurred in supplying rice to the labour force below purchase price. Substantial economies have been intro-

duced, the effects of which should be apparent in the accounts for the current financial year. The balance brought forward from the year 1919-20 amounted to £34,373, from which there is to be deducted (after providing £4,038 for depreciation) a net loss for the year of £1,720, leaving a balance of £32,653 to go forward.

UGANDA PLANTATIONS.—The eighth annual report, to February 28, 1921, shows a loss of £6,041, to which must be added a loss of £1,304 brought forward, making a debit balance of £7,345 to be carried forward. The directors point out that the total crops for the year amounted to 26,880 lbs of coffee (clean bean), 1,904 lbs of cocoa, and 19,001 lbs of rubber. During the past year every endeavour has been made to run the estates with as little expense as possible.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRITISH INDIA STEAM NAVIGATION.—The report for the year ended September 30, 1921, discloses a balance available for distribution after providing for depreciation of £137,072. Preference stock dividend absorbs £35,000. The ordinary share dividend of 8 per cent., free of income-tax, absorbs £76,576, and £25,496 is carried forward. The report states that "freights continually declined during the year, and are still declining without an adequate reduction in expenses, many items of which, such as wages, still remain on practically a war level. The prospects for the current year are not bright, and as the future generally of shipping is uncertain and the cost of building ships continues abnormally high, the directors think it advisable to conserve the company's funds against the possibility of less prosperous years, and they therefore do not recommend a bonus for the past year."

BRITISH MERCHANTS' MOROCCO ASSOCIATION.—At the fourth annual general meeting on the 1st inst., the Right Hon. Viscount Wolmer, M.P., the president, pointed out that the trade had nearly doubled itself in the last year; that the economic position in Morocco depended to a very large extent on the economic position in Europe; that there was no royal road of return to prosperity, but that that position could only be won by patience, unselfishness, and wisdom. Mr Leslie Couper, C.M.G., the general manager of the Bank of British West Africa, said that he would like to ask the French merchants, shipowners, or bankers as to the present economic position of their tropical possessions which depended—like so many of ours—upon finding markets for their raw materials, and whether the output of recent years could be maintained, much less increased, with the limitation of markets now imposed by reason of the conditions existing in Europe to-day.

GOVERNMENT AND GENERAL INVESTMENT.—The report for year ended November 30, 1921, shows that the amount to the credit of profit and loss account is £20,989. Deducting interest paid on debenture stock, together with all expenses of administration, there remains a balance of £12,806, which is distributed as follows:—A dividend of 4 per cent. on the preferred stock, £3,486; a dividend of 12 per cent. on deferred stock, £6,325; participating certificates service fund, £2,520; undivided profits account, £475.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN CORPORATION, LIMITED.—The directors announce that they have entered into an agreement with the Parent Tyre Company, Limited, for that company to acquire a large interest in the shares of the corporation. To give effect to this it is proposed to write the assets of the corporation down to an amount agreed upon, and on account of the "large depreciation in the assets of the corporation during the last 12 months" the directors suggest that it is better "boldly to face the situation" and write off an "adequate amount of capital." It is proposed to "write off 12s per share of the nominal value of the issued preference shares, and 9s per share off the nominal value of the issued ordinary shares." The method of protecting preference shareholders is interesting. These £1 preference shares, which are now to be considered at 8s per share, are to have 15 per cent. cumulative preferential dividend rights attached, and in the event of winding-up, preference shareholders are entitled to receive 20s worth of assets for each share held, before ordinary shareholders receive any portion of the assets. Arrangements have also been made for securing to preference shareholders a preferential right to arrears of dividends out of future profits. From the preference shareholders' standpoint these proposals appear to be reasonable.

JOHN MACKINTOSH AND SONS.—The first report for year ended September 30, 1921, shows a net profit of £151,203. The directors propose to deal with this sum in the following manner:—Preference dividend at rate of 10 per cent. per annum, absorbing, with income-tax, £11,929; the ordinary shareholders will receive a dividend of 25 per cent. for the year, absorbing, with income-tax, £74,805; £12,500 will be utilised to write off part of the preliminary expenses, and a balance of £51,969 goes forward to new account.

MEXICAN EAGLE OIL.—Shareholders are reminded that definitive share warrants to bearer are now ready for delivery at the office of the London Joint City and Midland Bank, 5 Threadneedle street, London, E.C.2. The provisional receipts, dated January 1, 1921, which must have coupon No. 18 attached, may be lodged for exchange at any branch of that bank; the Belfast Banking Company, Belfast, or any of its branches; the Clydesdale Bank, Glasgow, or any of its branches. Listing forms, which must accompany the provisional receipts, can be obtained from any of the offices of the banks mentioned. It is pointed out that provisional receipts must not be transmitted to the above-mentioned banks through the post, but must be lodged personally or through a banker, and must be left seven clear days for examination.

STRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.—The fourteenth annual report to September 30, 1921, shows that the profit, after providing for depreciation, redemption, and contingencies, was £104,314, to which is added £15,036 brought in, making £119,350 available. The preferred ordinary dividend is 506 per cent., absorbing £25,300. The preferred participating ordinary dividend of 11 per cent. for the year absorbs £25,300. Preference share dividends amounted to £37,000, and debenture interest, &c., £11,360. The sum of £20,390 is carried forward to next account.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

TRAMWAY AND OTHER WEEKLY GROSS RECEIPTS.									
Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Receipts for Week.		Total Receipts.			
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -		
Anglo-Argentine	18weeks	Dec. 2	329	£81,991	+ 2,923	3,851,929	+ 18,450		
Burnley Corporation	1week	3	12	£3,189	- 33	..	..		
Calcutta Tramways.	48weeks	3	354	Rs92,517	+ 3,435	..	797,700		
Chatham & District.	47weeks	Nov. 24	15	£1,497	- 92	78,830	- 3,074		
C Egyptian Markets ..	47weeks	25	..	£2,589	+ 303	96,720	+ 14,140		
Glasgow Corporation	27weeks	Dec. 3	99	£44,634	- 2,850	1,215,746	+ 2,380		
Isle of Thanet	3weeks	Nov. 30	..	£493	+ 545	6,371	+ 50		
Lancashire United ..	47weeks	23	39	£3,077	- 45	165,607	- 2,838		
Liverpool Corpora-	48weeks	Dec. 3	124	£29,393	+ 2,628	1,393,505	+ 85,350		
London Tramways ..	35weeks	7	155	£39,800	- 12,533	3,597,376	+ 325,500		
Madras Elect. (2wks)	18weeks	Nov. 30	..	Rs43,605	+ 1,159	915,870	- 1,724		
Pernambuco Trams.	48weeks	Dec. 4	..	£23,810	- 1,487	180,429	- 130,000		
Singapore Electric ..	33weeks	Oct. 8	..	£16,253	+ 1,439	526,338	+ 33,200		

+ 4,576,107	La Gasita Harbr.	1 mth	Nov. 30	..	\$5,664	+ 2,521	..	..	..
- 1905,000	La Plena Electric	11 mths	30	..	\$6,453	+ 880	58,098	- 3	..
+ 452,915	Lima Light, Pwr & Tramways	9 mths	Sept. 32	Gross	\$57,560	+ 962	559,051	+ 40	..
				Net	\$11,116	..	157,098	- 43	..
						Escudos			
	Lisbon Electric...	1 mth	Mar. 31	Gross	\$32,703	+ 4,544	3,057,695	+ 274	..
9 days.	Manila Electric	10 mths	Oct. 31	Net	\$130,728	+ 6,629	1,207,219	+ 246	..
Exchange.	Railroad, &c.	11 mths	31	Gross	\$25,518	- 1,224	261,667	- 7	..
				Net	\$10,822	+ 638	105,263	+ 7	..
	Para Electric	9 mths	Sept. 30	Gross	\$82,591	+ 38,098	25,707,776	+ 34	..
				Net	75,401	..	1,277,723	- 27	..
	Rangoon Electric	11 mths	Nov. 30	Gross	\$181,450	+ 21,536	1,85,884	+ 189	..
				Net	\$122,483	+ 40,168	8,877,669	+ 64	..
	Shanghai Electric	7 mths	July 31	Net	\$36,857	+ 120,502	2,706,476	+ 192	..
	Toronto Ry., &c.	1 mth	Nov. 30	Gross	\$47,425	+ 3,580	..	..	..
	United Electric T. of Montevideo.	1 mth	Nov. 30	Gross	\$569,568	+ 50,553	..	..	..
- 338,686		1 mth	May 31	Net	\$300,057	..	28,151	..	..
+ 4,923,477	Utah Securities..	Quarter	Sept. 30	Net	\$205,885	..	..	..	..
- 13,760,000	Victoria Falls & Transvaal Pwr.	1 mth	Nov. 30	Gross	\$417,174	+ 9,473	3,391,776	+ 160	..
+ 1,754,000		1 mth	Nov. 30	Net	\$146,281	+ 44,817	1,191,888	+ 226	..
+ 563,200	Winnipeg Electric	9 mths	30	Net	..	..	..	..	..
+ 306,500									

+ 4 weeks return. † Converted at current rates of exchange. ‡ Approximate rates.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Climatic conditions remain generally favourable for agricultural pursuits, recent rains and frosts proving beneficial to ploughed lands. Sowings are practically completed, and reports of the young wheat plant continue satisfactory. Market conditions proved firm during the week, especially for feeding stuffs, with a fair trade in force. Native wheat sells steadily at 48s to 51s for suitable milling grades free on rail, while inferior lots realise from 40s to 45s per 504 lbs. Imported descriptions meet a fair inquiry, and rates fully maintained. No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted 58s 6d, No. 2 hard Winter 55s 6d, both ex ship, per 480 lbs, and Australian 54s 6d per 496 lbs, ex quay. On c.i.f. terms the undertone remained steady, though business proved generally quiet with regard to cargoes. Australian January shipment changed hands at 51s 6d to 51s 9d, and a sailer old crop, November bill of lading, at 51s per 480 lbs. Stocks in the United States are gradually decreasing, but Canadian quantities have become larger. Supplies on passage are also on a more liberal scale, while visible stocks in this country are maintained. Crop reports from Argentina indicate a large surplus, but the Australian estimate has been reduced owing to bush fires and adverse weather. United States crop news is still very unsatisfactory, though some rain has fallen in the droughty South-Western districts. The demand for home-milled flour shows no improvement, though prices remained unaltered. London standard straight run quoted 48s to 49s, town households 46s, patents 51s, all English straight-run 43s per sack delivered London district. All English country-strights 37s to 40s, free on rail London stations. Imported quiet, though holders required steady prices. Canadian export patents 47s, straights 44s, Kansas patents 44s 6d, and Australian 44s, all per 280 lbs ex store. Business on c.i.f. terms is more or less at a standstill. Kansas top patents, December seaboard, quoted 45s, Canadian patents 43s 6d, straights 40s, and Australian 35s to 37s 6d per 280 lbs. Offals remain firm, while sparingly offered. Broad bran £10 to £10 10s, ordinary £9 to £9 10s, middlings £10 10s, ex mill, fancy Plate middlings £11 10s, ex ship, Plate pollards £9, landed, all per ton. Maize opened firm, but quieter since in view of lower forward offers. Plate, ex ship, 35s, ditto, landed, 36s, yellow African, landed, 36s 6d, white in similar position 35s 6d. Cargo market quiet and rates eased on resellers becoming more prominent. Steamers of La Plata, on passage, sold at 34s 14d to 34s 6d per 480 lbs. There is a good business passing in African maize meal, and parcels of white afloat sold at £7 15s to £7 12s 6d, December-January £7 15s per ton. Barley quiet, and occasionally the turn easier for imported descriptions. English steady, and malting varieties range from 45s to 75s as to sample, with grinding sorts at 39s to 44s, free on rail, per 448 lbs. No. 3 Canada Western, ex ship, quoted 35s; No. 4 ditto, landed, 34s; Canada feed, 31s 6d. American feed 30s, both landed per 400 lbs. On c.i.f. terms, a cargo of Dan-Bess-Kustendje afloat sold at 30s 3d per 400 lbs. Scotch pearl barley, £20 to £22 per ton. Oats were in fair demand, but towards the close slight weakness was apparent with regard to imported descriptions. English ranges from 30s to 35s, according to sample, per 336 lbs. Of imported Plate, f.a.g., 27s 9d; clipped, 28s 6d; No. 2 Canada Western, 32s 6d; No. 3 ditto, 31s 6d; Chilian, tawny, 28s 6d per 320 lbs, all landed terms. A cargo of River Plate f.a.g., December shipment, sold to the Continent at 26s per 320 lbs. Oatmeal firm, with a good demand. English quoted £20 to £21, ordinary Scottish £19 10s to £20, American £19, English rolled oats £22 to £23, flaked £23 to £24 per ton. Beans firm. English springs 54s to 58s; winters 49s to 51s per 532 lbs. Chinese horse beans £10 10s to £11 10s per ton. Peas firm, with improved inquiries. English Maples 59s to 63s, Duns 50s to 54s, small blue 60s to 80s per 504 lbs. Of imported, New Zealand blue quoted 22s to 25s, Dutch blue 23s to 28s per cwt. Homeward freight markets were fairly active with regard to heavy grain, and rates steady for prompt tonnage. Australia continues to book space at 50s, South Australia/Victoria to U.K./Continent, with Indian options at 35s, January-February, to India dried at 37s 6d, and Japan 32s 6d; Bombay, on dead weight, prompt, paid 20s home. The River Plate opened very firm for prompt loading, and at one time as much as 37s 6d was bidding for a spot boat, which was held at 40s. Later rates gave way on quieter grain markets here, and also in view of vessels proceeding out in ballast. At the close of the week 30s was the best indicated for December, while new season's loading remained steady at 27s 6d, a fair business being effected thereat. North America generally quiet, and rates eased on freer tonnage offers. Northern States to U.K. prompt done 4s per qr, Antwerp/Hamburg 13½ cents per 100 lbs, and Mediterranean No. 1 East of West Coast Italy 10½ cents December. South African maize quiet at about 30s to 31s 3d, December-January, while similar cargoes from the Danube ruled easier, 22s being paid for a prompt steamer to U.K./Continent, with Mediterranean options at 18s 9d ton. Other markets quiet, and nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-19.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to December 3	Cwts. 387,368	Cwts. 350,303	Cwts. 426,839	Cwts. 348,413
13 weeks to December 3	5,804,282	5,661,384	3,387,115	4,287,864
Average price of English wheat per	s d.	s d.	s d.	s d.
quarter	46 3	89 7	72 7	72 4
= per cwt	10 9½	20 10½	16 11	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d.	s d.	s d.
Nov. 26	88,847 7	164,758 5	26,906 0	46 3	49 9	27 9
Dec. 3	90,385 7	136,870 7	26,885 4	46 3	48 4	28 0
1917.	47,419 0	107,519 5	16,564 6	70 7	58 7	43 5
1918.	81,237 1	101,294 3	16,858 6	72 4	62 6	51 4
1919.	99,595 7	166,364 2	23,431 3	72 7	108 11	55 10
1920.	81,737 4	158,840 4	14,729 6	81 3	81 3	45 6

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated December 8th, is as follows:—Pig-iron: The lower prices of pig-iron have stopped the importation of foreign pig-iron to Middlesbro', but with present railway rates we cannot regain the Scotch market for our foundry pig-iron. It is important that we should have this in order to restart more blast furnaces. Two of the four furnaces mentioned last week have now started the manufacture of hematite pig-iron, and the remaining two will be blown in shortly. The demand for hematite iron, however, is still very poor. No. 3 Cleveland G.M.B. pig-iron is 100s per ton, and although 110s is asked for small lots of East Coast mixed numbers hematite pig-iron, it is now possible to obtain same at 105s per ton for fairly large quantities. Manufactured iron and steel: No improvement yet in the demand for steel. Orders are scarce. Steel ship-plates (home), £10 10s; steel ship angles, £10; iron bars, £12 10s; steel rails, £10 10s n. Iron ore: Sellers' prices for best Kubio are firm, but the demand for ore is only very small, and for prompt delivery.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—Business has suffered further curtailment this week, and the year is ending with slump more pronounced than at any former time. Hopes are centred on the New Year, when it is thought substantial business will be placed with British steel works in the absence of effective competition from abroad. Scarcely any material for Great Britain is now being ordered from the Continent, but there is still a good deal to come under contracts placed some time ago, Germany being badly in arrears with her deliveries. British prices for some kinds of iron and steel are unremunerative, and probably below cost, makers having adopted this policy in the hope of stimulating business and to some extent to keep their workmen together. It is confidently anticipated that costs will soon be eased by reductions in fuel and railway carriage. Orders for tool steel and tools in France and Italy are limited to odd lots which cannot be done without. Those countries need great quantities of Sheffield's staple, but the state of the exchanges makes the cost of them prohibitive. Most firms have called in their travelling representatives on account of the unremunerative results of their journeys. The Christmas holiday at most works will be a lengthy one. The works will resume as soon as orders come forward in sufficient volume to warrant it. The demand for house coal is on a substantially larger scale, but the tonnage is considerably below the average for the time of year. It is evident that householders are using less coal than formerly. The steam coal section remains unchanged, demand being poor, whether for inland sales or export. Users refuse to buy forward owing to the possibilities of price coming down further, revised rates in the New Year now being regarded as certain. Gas fuels show more activity. More small fuels are available, with a fair demand, and coke is in steady request, exports being rather easier.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—Business reports this week are somewhat contradictory in tone. On the one hand, there is a feeling that there is more trade doing in iron and steel productions than was the case a few weeks ago, and if statements in circulation in informed quarters are to be relied on, the

The "ALL-IN" POLICY

affords the Householder the most complete cover yet devised.

The method of covering household risks by a diversity of Insurance is wasteful, to say the least. By covering all your household risks by the "All-In" Policy, you are economising in the true sense of the word—5/- per £100 per annum (Minimum Premium, 7/6) will cover practically every serious risk in respect to the contents of your home. List of risks and full particulars post free. Address:—"All-In" Policy Dept.

EAGLE, STAR AND BRITISH DOMINIONS INSURANCE CO., LTD.,
41 THREADNEEDLE ST., LONDON, E.C.2.
ASSETS EXCEED - - £19,000,000.

ances seem to point to an improvement in volume of work accomplished and offering between now and the end of the year. Inquiries are undoubtedly on the increase for nearly all kinds of material—in the raw and manufactured state—and prices and costs are still on the decline to a level which should at least help to give enterprise. This yielding of values will go far to close our doors against Continental competition, which must be effectively overcome if we are to approach a state of normal activity. Producers and consumers in iron and steel are recognising that prices of manufactures here are on a trading basis, and that at any moment the tide which has been so long on the ebb may once more begin to flow. But they are still slow to move, slow to believe that bottom has really been touched. It is necessary to recall that when the selling dispute broke out a few weeks ago between the English and Scotch steelmakers quotations for boiler plates were not touched, remaining at £15 10s. But the hands of the Scotch makers have been further forced, and boiler plates are now called £14 a ton, with ship-plates at £10 10s and angles £10. Black sheet makers have lowered their list terms by 20s a ton, so that ½-inch gauge stands at £11 15s; ¾-inch, £12 5s; 1½-inch to 6 gauge, £13; 16 to 20, £13 10s; 20 to 24, £14; 24 to 27, £15. In the beginning of the year prices were generally £17 a ton higher than they are to-day. On the week, Scotch hematite has fallen 2s 6d a ton at £6 5s; Scotch foundry No. 1, 2s at £6 2s 6d; and ditto No. 3, 2s 6d at £6. These changes, as has been indicated, have been mainly inspired by a desire to check demand for Belgian and German material, and the measure is being attended by some success. In the last day or two some fair export purchases have been concluded in Scotch iron; constructional engineers have booked a few orders for bridgework; sheet makers have sold good lines for prompt despatch to India and Australia, and have negotiations in hand for later shipment. While steel plant is running more fully there are a number of mills in different establishments standing idle. It is said to-day that a leading Scotch steelmaker has sold a substantial line of steel billets for the United States. There is no question as to this transaction being exceptional, and it could not have gone through had the rate of exchange and the high price on the other side not been favourable. But it is something to the good. An interesting general business feature has developed on the Clyde since the month came in. For months back there have been groups of vessels laid up at different points in the river. Of late a change has come over the situation—in short, all the idle tonnage has been picked up, and to-day there is not an empty berth in Glasgow harbour. It is a long time since that condition last obtained, and demonstrates, for the time being at least, the existence of a respectable increase in the volume of trade movement in the river, and gives ground for hope.

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent writes:—Although considerable caution is still being displayed by buyers of tops and yarns, there is undoubtedly rather more business passing, and the market generally is firmer than it was a week ago. The improved competition at the colonial wool sales in London has helped in no small measure to bring about a better feeling in the consuming centres, and the new basis of values appears to be fairly well established. At present spinners are not finding very much new business for the early part of next year, but it is certain that if a demand does come there will be something like a rush to buy. Stocks of tops are low and most firms are working on hand-to-mouth lines, so that any recovery in demand is sure to make itself felt on prices. During the past few weeks some considerable weights of 64's tops have been sold for delivery in the first two or three months of next year at 3s 6d, and this looks cheap when the cost of wool in London is taken into account. In order to make tops out of wool bought in Coleman Street Wool Exchange during the present series of topmakers should have at least 2d per lb more than the figure quoted above, so it is evident a good deal of speculation is being indulged in one way and another. On account of the comparatively poor inquiry for weaving yarns some spinners are again cutting quotations and offering yarns at prices which can leave nothing for the producer, and this has a demoralising effect upon quotations generally. On the other hand, the demand for hosiery and knitting yarns is still brisk, and most firms have booked all the orders they can deal with in the time allowed for delivery. The piece trade is steady, and stocks are gradually being reduced. In some quarters an improved demand is expected early next year, but that will depend on world finance.

COLONIAL WOOL.

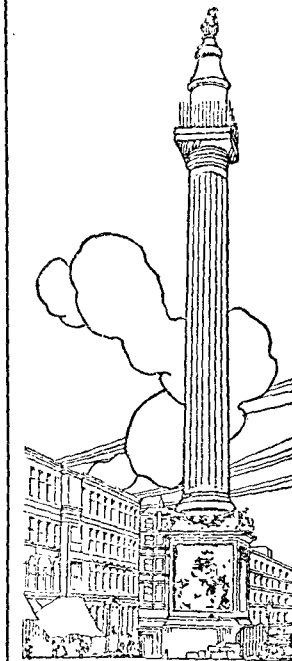
(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Little that is really new can be said about the London sales. They are due to finish at the end of the week, and there is not much change compared with the opening decline. Some regard the fall as a good thing for the trade, but it is well known that B.A.W.R.A. and importing merchants think otherwise. Naturally each section of the trade views the position from its own standpoint, and it is significant that values in Australia are to-day distinctly lower than those ruling in London. Cables from Adelaide last Friday said that good spinners' 64's warp merinos could be bought on a clean scoured basis of 32d to 32½d, and 64's ordinary top-making wools were selling clean at 29d to 30d. Even super 60's wools could be bought as low as 27d, while the very deep ordinary Adelaide 60's wools were selling on a clean basis of 25d, all descriptions landed Bradford. Such prices have not been ruling in Coleman street, and one need only study the clean scoured costs,



THE CHATWOOD SAFE

Since 1858



The Monument commemorating the Great Fire of London, 1666

THE degree of protection against Fire provided by THE CHATWOOD SAFE extends considerably beyond what is generally understood by the phrase "Fireproof."

Ample provision has also been made in its construction for withstanding a fall from a considerable height (during a big fire), or the direct fall upon it of a great weight (such as collapsing walls or massive girders) while still in its heated condition.

In the early days of 1858, when the late Samuel Chatwood laid down the high standards upon which the great name of THE CHATWOOD SAFE has been built, amongst the many unique tests which were made to ensure the utmost protection against Fire was the following:—

1. The Safe was placed upon a specially constructed coal fire for the period of two hours.
2. Whilst the Safe was in its heated condition it was raised to a height of 30 feet and dropped on to a solid concrete engine bed.
3. It was then immediately returned to the fire for a further period of two hours.

This is only one of the many ordeals which THE CHATWOOD SAFE had to successfully withstand before the words "Fire Proof" were allowed to be used in connection with this Safe.

Post a card to-day for a copy of THE CHATWOOD SAFE BOOK, gratis and post free on application.

THE CHATWOOD SAFE CO. LIMITED
BANKERS' ENGINEERS
Head Offices and Works BOLTON.

Branches: LONDON, MANCHESTER, GLASGOW
25 Gracechurch St., E.C.3. Royal Exchange 15 Greenlodge Terr., Greenhead

which will be issued at the close, to see where prices stand. The home trade throughout has been the chief buyer, although France has done some useful bidding. The improvement in the mark has not made any material difference to German buying. Germany wants wool, but the value of the mark to-day is notoriously low. It makes one feel that something must be done in order to save Germany from utter ruin, for England can no more do without Germany than Germany can do without England. Now that the political sky has become clearer in Ireland it is imperative that a real effort be made by the various Governments interested to bring about more sane conditions in regard to trade and commerce between England, America, and all Continental countries.

Turning to conditions in consuming centres, there is, on the whole, a somewhat better feeling in regard to the future. The principal of one of Bradford's leading firms said this week that he believed that in a quiet way spinners were booking a few orders, and while on the surface things were quiet, yet it would not need a great deal to see a further big buy of tops. As a matter of fact, some fair sales for next year were effected last Monday on a basis of 3s 6d for good 64's, and those who are accepting less than that figure are courting disaster. No less trade will be done than that to topmakers and spinners stand out for a reasonable price, and I do not think values are going to move much lower unless trade gets distinctly worse. I think the new year should dawn before any topmaker ought to accept less money. At 3s 3d for 64's tops there would be a very big buy, but such a price is a mere gamble, and after the experience since August topmakers should risk nothing. What Bradford needs to-day is an accession of new orders from America for high-class botany yarns. Even American mills are not too well supplied either with merino wool or really good merino yarns. Stocks of dear pieces are being gradually liquidated.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—December 2, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.		
							Med	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.
American.	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	
Sea Island .....per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	
Florida ditto	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	
American	Ord	G	O	L	M	G	M	F	G	O	L	
	6-97	7-72	9-47	10-67	11-47	13-17	5-21	7-11	12-71	20-87	23-22	
Brazilian.	Mid	M	F	Fr.	G	F	G	F	Fr.	G	F	
Pernambuco, &c.....	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Paraiba	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Macao	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Mossoro, &c.....	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Ceara	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Maranhã	..	8-57	11-07	12-57	..	..	6-21	11-71	..	21-37	31-87	
Egyptian.												
Brown	..	..	13-50	15-00	17-50	19-25	..	nm	22-00	..	nm	
Upper	..	..	13-25	14-25	16-25	17-25	..	nm	21-00	..	nm	
West Indian—Sea Island ..	..	..	25-00	29-00	32-00	34-00	..	35-00	45-00	..	nm	
Peruvian—Rough	..	..	..	13-00	13-75	15-00	..	..	20-00	..	..	
Ditto Mod. Rough	..	..	..	11-00	12-50	13-00	..	10-00	16-00	..	30-00	
Ditto Smooth	..	9-07	12-32	13-57	14-07	15-07	8-71	13-71	20-21	31-87	34-87	
Ditto Sea Island	..	..	..	..	nm	nm	..	..	..	41-50	46-00	
African, East, &c.	8-00	9-00	11-00	12-00	13-00	14-00	11-00	14-00	20-00	30-00	30-70	
East Indian.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	Fr.	G	F	
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee ..	..	..	..	9-90	10-30	10-80	..	..	11-40	..	24-10	
" " " " Broach ..	..	..	..	8-30	8-80	9-30	9-80	10-30	10-40	22-50	22-85	
M. Ginned Bhownagar ..	6-65	7-40	8-15	8-65	9-15	9-65	7-19	7-94	9-29	13-29	13-04	
M. Ginned Oomra, No. 1 ..	6-75	7-50	8-25	8-75	9-25	9-75	7-25	8-00	9-35	13-35	13-10	
M. Ginned Khandeish ..	..	6-75	7-50	8-00	8-50	9-00	..	5-25	6-00	7-35	17-85	
M. Ginned Comptah	7-20	..	7-70	..	..	..	..	9-25	..	..	22-10	
M. Ginned Bengal	6-40	6-30	7-40	7-90	8-15	8-40	6-25	6-75	7-75	..	..	
M. Ginned Seinde	6-30	6-30	7-30	7-80	8-05	8-30	6-07	6-57	7-57	15-50	16-25	
Tinnivelly	9-80	10-30	10-80	..	..	..	10-40	10-90	..	23-35	23-60	
Madras, Western	8-95	7-45	7-55	8-45	..	..	9-00	9-50	..	21-85	22-10	
Cocoonada, Red	Fr.	7-70	..	..	..	..	..	7-50	..	21-35	..	
M. Ginned Cocoonada, Red ..	Fr.	7-75	..	..	..	..	8-00	..	..	21-60	..	

MANCHESTER, December 8.

Prices in the market during the past week have not shown much change. On the whole, the tone has been rather steadier. Inquiry in piece goods for abroad has been slightly better. More cables have come to hand from India asking for quotations, and moderate lines have been booked in light fabrics and shirtings. It is believed

Service that counts

Anything that comes within the province of Banking is included in the Service offered its customers by The Merchants Bank. If you want disinterested advice on any business subject or first-hand information concerning trade conditions in any part of Canada—this Bank is in a position to help you.



A banking service of practical value to your business.

The Merchants Bank of Canada

Total Assets \$190,367,409
LONDON OFFICE - 5, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4
Sales Office - 10, Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4

that the boycott of foreign goods in our Dependency will down early next year. Operations for China have been res by the unfavourable course of exchange rates. Very little has done for the Near Eastern outlets, but steady buying has for the home trade, especially in heavy materials. While manufacturers are curtailing production, there are cases of restarting looms. A slightly improved turnover has taken place American and Egyptian yarns for home consumption, and encouraging business has been done in bundles for India.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Dec. 8, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 19			
		Price, Dec. 1.	Price, Nov. 24.	Price, Nov. 17.	Price, Nov. 10.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	d 11-13	d 11-29	d 12-18	d 10-28	d 11-23
— Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	19-75	20-50	21-50	20-75	21-00
Egyptian .. per lb	18 ¹ / ₂	18 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₂
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	17 ¹ / ₂	18 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₂	18 ¹ / ₂	19 ¹ / ₂
— 40's twist .. per lb	32	33	34	34	35
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	s d 32	s d 33	s d 34	s d 34	s d 35
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31 6	32 0	32 6	32 0	32 6
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31 6	32 0	32 6	32 0	32 6
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	18 9	19 0	19 6	19 0	19 6
39-in. ditto, 37 ¹ / ₂ yds, 16 by 15, 8 ¹ / ₂ lbs	18 3	18 6	19 0	18 6	18 6

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Dec. 8, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American .. per lb	11-13	12-54	27-10	21-40	22-84	10-
Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair .. per lb	19-75	28-00	48-50	27-56	31-95	20-
Egyptian .. per lb	18-1	29	52 1/2	41 1/2	35 1/2	1
Yarns—32's twist .. per lb	17-1	27 1/2	49 1/2	42	35 1/2	1
— 40's twist .. per lb	32	44	91	69	45 1/2	3 1/2
— 60's twist (Egyptian) .. per lb	32	44	91	69	45 1/2	3 1/2
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's	31	61	0	77	6	47
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's	31	61	0	74	0	46
38-in. ditto, 38 yds, 18 by 16, 10 lbs	18	27	0	43	6	26
39-in. ditto, 37 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs	18	22	0	37	0	26

VEGETABLE OILS AND OLSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Raw linseed oil, though it has eased off about 20s per ton from its highest point reached on better Continental outlook, has, on the whole, been a steady market round £28 10s down to £28 spot. April delivery, ex Hull mill. Trade is, however, on only moderate lines, export demand not being large and home consumers particularly active. Cotton oils, on scarcity and a good inquiry have continued to advance, Egyptian crude oil especially being firm and 30s dearer on the week. Refined is 10s to 20s more money. Soya bean oil, English make, is in moderate request, and sellers are scarce. Rape oil a better trade at the reduction, but only small business passing in palm kernel and ground nut oils. Coconut oil inactive and values unchanged.

Plate linseed retains its firmness for spot and near positions, and although English crushers bought fairly substantially of seed abroad and for shipment at prices ranging up to £17, the chief demand came from the Continent. On lower Argentine options and more pressure on the part of shippers to sell the market here has taken an easier turn, crushers' requirements having been met for the present. Indian linseed has also been firm, but little trade passing. Egyptian cottonseed, after a good trade at advancing prices, inclined easier. More interest continues to be shown in Bombay new crop.

The demand for oilcakes, both linseed and cotton, is good, and late prices are firmly held.

The quantity of linseed shipped from Argentina from January 1st to December 3rd was 456,600 tons to the United Kingdom, and 531,000 tons to the Continent—together 987,600 tons against 422,800 tons a year ago. Argentina also shipped to North America

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Chartered 1838.

Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

tons, against 554,000 tons a year ago. The total shipments for (11 months) are thus 1,224,600 tons, against 976,800 tons for the period last year. India has exported 34,000 tons to the Kingdom and 43,800 tons to the Continent—together 77,800 tons against 179,785 tons.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

recovery in the hide market after the recent slump is still a feature of the trade, and tanners seem determined to the market up. At Thursday's Bermondsey auctions best ox made 8 1/2d and lights from 6 1/2d to 7 1/2d, an advance of 1 1/2d at week's prices. Cows at 6 1/2d also show an advance of 1 1/2d. The position is made all the more peculiar by the fact that at this time of the year are about at their worst condition. Hides were erratic, heavies falling 1 1/2d, and lights at 12 1/2d, and 1 1/2d to 1 1/2d advance. Wools were cheaper, selling from 10s to 7s, and showing a slight fall of 3d each. The demand for tanned hides has improved and S.A. frigorifics are very firm, at 5 1/2d being quoted. Cables just to hand from Chicago report position as strong, with best heavy packers now standing at 16 1/2d, an advance of 1 1/2d on last week's figures.

There is a better tone to the leather trade, as both buyers and sellers seem to feel bottom in price has been reached, and that no "slaughter" price parcels of bends will be available. Low price bends from dry hides are the best sellers, and are quoted at 16d to 18d per lb. Offal is neglected, and dressing hides are in very small parcels, tanners refusing to sell further at low prices. Upper leather is dull, and glacé kid is asked for at about 8d to 12d per foot. Heavy kip upper stock is not wanted, and curriers are very slack.

Reports from the shoe centres are cast in a more optimistic tone, and makers are now fairly well employed on goods suitable for the Christmas trade. Much is also expected of the settlement of the Irish question, as formerly quite a big business in wear was done with the sister isle—especially for the better goods.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, coming with British standard specification, delivered in London in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 7s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, December 9.

The markets in most cases continued very quiet, buyers showing little or no disposition to exceed pressing requirements at this advanced period of the year, while export trade still moves within very narrow limits.

SUGAR.—There was no new feature to record, only a comparatively small amount of business being effected, at prices showing no material change. Messrs Tate and Lyle's cubes, 54s 3d to 55s 3d; crushed, 50s 9d; caster, 51s 3d to 51s 9d; yellow crystals, 3s 3d. Crystallised West India sold in limited quantities, at 38s 6d to 41s, according to quality. Muscovad and syrups in poor request. American granulated, spot, nominally 47s 6d to 47s 9d; ditto, January-March steamer, 18s 6d, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, spot, 6s; white Mozambique, 45s 6d; Natal, 44s 6d to 46s, as to sample; Belgian crystals, 45s 6d; ditto, December, 18s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Czechoslovakian crystals and ordinary granulated, December, 20s, and cubes, 23s 9d, f.o.b., Hamburg. Brazilian basis, 96 per cent., January-February, sellers, 12s 6d, and basis, 80 per cent. held for 7s 9d, c.f. and i. terms, U.K. Cuban stocks 968,000 tons, against 234,000 same time last year. Stocks in the three chief ports of the U.K. 35,000 tons, against 158,000 same time last year. Glucose quiet, and liquid, December delivery, quoted 25s 3d per cwt, duty paid.

COFFEE.—The chief feature continues to be a sustained demand for the finer qualities suitable for home-trade purposes, and with only small supplies of such extreme rates are easily secured. Up to 123s was paid for fine bold Kilimanjaro, with peaberry 135s 6d. Fine bold Colono Rica went at 158s to 167s 6d, peas up to 171s 6d. Common kinds very slow, as there is no revival whatever in export requirements. Futures steadier on stimulating advices from the Brazils, and March sold, 50s 6d to 50s and 50s 9d; May, 51s 6d to 51s 3d and 51s 6d.

COCOA.—Market still very quiet, with quotations in most cases nominally unaltered. Butter sold, 1s 8 1/2d per lb. TEA.—In auction this week some 51,000 packages Indian were submitted to auction. All the undergrades were again keenly competed for at a further advance in values, but the finer invoices disclosed slight irregularity, while about unaltered on balance. 16,000 packages

Ceylon were also offered, and all qualities up to 1s 6d per lb cleared to a brisk demand at full rates.

RICE.—Market still quiet at about previous rates. Two Stars Rangoon, spot, 18s. Bran steadier with more trade doing, and afloat Rangoon to London and Liverpool, sold, £6 to £6 5s per ton, ex ship terms. Beans unsettled and easier, with some pressure to sell from second-hands. Spot hand-picked quoted 8s 6d, and afloat sold 7s 3d to 8s 6d per cwt. Peas dull of sale.

SPICE.—After showing fair activity the market for pepper became quieter owing to some falling-off in demand on continental account. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 3 1/2d; ditto December-February steamer, 3 1/2d to 3 1/2d; Aleppy, spot, quoted 4d; Tellicherry, 4 1/2d; white Singapore, spot, 7 1/2d; Muntok, ditto, 7 1/2d; ditto, December-February, 7 1/2d, and buyers. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 6 1/2d; pimento, 2 1/2d; flake tapioca, spot, 1 1/2d per lb. Fair Penang seed, spot, 15s for fair quality; small sago, spot, 26s; sago flour, October-December, sold, 13s 6d; and January-March, 13s. Desiccated coconut, fine cut, spot, sold, 41s 6d to 41s; medium, 42s 6d to 42s. Ginger quiet, but steady. Fair Japanese, limed, on spot, 45s.

FRUIT.—A quiet tone continued for currants, and Pyrgos quoted 53s; Amalia, 58s to 61s; Gulph, 68s to 74s; Vostizza, 77s to 87s. Sultan met with but quiet patronage. Smyrna, medium to good, 115s to 125s; choice, 140s; Cape, 90s to 110s. At public sale 180 tons Valencia raisins offered experienced a very slow demand, and only a small proportion sold at a general decline of 10s per cwt. Half boxes, sold, 128s; quarters, 120s to 138s; with fine up to 151s. Seedless went off at 85s to 90s. Muscatels steady, and a moderate demand ensued at public sales. Clusters, sold, 150s to 215s; fine up to 230s. Spanish almonds sold, 190s to 215s. Dates steady Hallowee, 40s; Siar, 28s 6d.

JUTE.—A very quiet tone governed this market, but prices ruled steady as sellers were not inclined to force their sales. Native first marks, spot, Hamburg, sold, £26 10s for the assortment; new first grade, December-January, Hamburg, at £23 15s to £24 10s; Lightning grade, ditto, £19 15s to £20 7s 6d; Hearts, sellers, at £16 10s; Daisee grade, December-January, Dundee, sellers, £24; and No. 3, £20. Calcutta hessians quiet. 10-ounce, spot, 23s; 8-ounce, 19s 6d. B twills, 62s.

HEMP.—Only small transactions were effected in Manila descriptions at about unaltered prices. C grade, December-February steamer, sellers, £54; D grade, £50; E, £47; G, £39; H, £37; J, £37; K, £35 10s; L, £35; streaky, one, £45; two, £43 10s; threes, £40 10s. New Zealand dull. High point fair, spot, quoted, £38; December-February, £35 10s; fair, spot, £35; ditto, December-February, £33. Tow ranges from £15 to £17 per ton. Bristle fibre still neglected, and general position nominal. Indian hemp idle.

SHELLAC, after opening the week quietly, became firmer. Fair T.N., spot, sold, 340s; December, 315s to 335s and 330s; March, 285s to 312s 6d and 305s.

United States Income Tax Returns

NON-RESIDENT Americans and all other persons outside the United States who derive income from American sources and who have not filed United States Income Tax Returns for the years 1918, 1919 and 1920, should, if liable, file such returns within ninety days from November 14.

Assistance in the preparation of their returns will be given by this Company to its customers and others interested. Inquiries should be addressed to the Pall Mall Office of the Company.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

Pall Mall Office: 50 Pall Mall, S.W.1

CITY OFFICE 32 Lombard St., E.C.3

KINGSWAY OFFICE 29 Kingsway, W.C.2

LIVERPOOL OFFICES

27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street

NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1921.

No. 4,086.

Bergens Kreditbank

Bergen, Norway.

From 1st January 1921 amalgamated with Andresens Bank A/S, Christiania.

CAPITAL & RESERVE FUND OF
Imalgamated Banks - KR. 108,000,000.

LONDON AGENTS

IAMBROS BANK OF NORTHERN COMMERCE LIMITED
AND
BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED.Every description of Banking business
transacted

BANCO NACIONAL ULTRAMARINO.

(National Overseas Bank.)

STATE BANK OF THE PORTUGUESE COLONIES.

Head Office: LISBON.

Established 1864.

Capital (paid up):
Eso. 24,000,000Reserve Funds:
Eso. 26,000,000

Branches as Under.

33 offices in Portugal.
23 " " East and West Africa.
9 " " Brazil.
5 " " India and China.Also branches in Azores, Madeira, Belgian Congo and Timor.
New York Office—93, Liberty street.
Paris Office—8, Rue du Helder.
London Office—27B, Throgmorton street.

BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA.

Capital, Authorised ... Lire 400,000,000
Capital, Paid Up ... " 348,788,000
Reserve ... " 176,000,000
Deposits ... " 5,500,000,000

Head Office - MILAN.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

Agenies in NEW YORK and CONSTANTINOPLE.

Auxillaries:
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA (France), Marseilles, Nice, &c.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & BULGARA, Sofia.
BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIANA & RUMENA, Bucarest.

London Office - 30, THREADNEEDLE STREET, E.C.2.

Manager: E. CONSOLO.

Deputy Managers: G. COSTA, R. B. HANDLEY.

CORRESPONDENTS TO THE ROYAL ITALIAN TREASURY
Every description of Banking business transacted.OWING TO THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS, "THE
ECONOMIST" WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK
ON THE MORNING OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23rd,
INSTEAD OF SATURDAY, THE 24th.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	1053	Stock Exchange News—	
Leading Articles—		The Stock Markets	1070
Crises and Policies	1055	New Issues	1071
The Pacific Pact and the		Active Securities	1073
Anglo-Japanese Treaty ..	1056	Company Meetings	1074
Overseas Trade in Novem-		Government Returns—	
ber	1057	Treasury Bills by Public	
Irish Labour Movement ..	1058	Tender	1083
Argentine Land Companies	1059	Currency Notes Account ..	1084
Business Notes—		Public Income & Expendi-	
An E.P.D. Concession	1060	ture	1084
Iron and Steel Output	1060	Bankers' Gazette—	
Home Railway Position ..	1061	Bank of England	1084
Indian Fiscal Commission	1061	Clearing Returns	1085
American Cotton Statistics	1061	Overseas Bank Returns ..	1085
Debentures and Mortgages	1061	Loan and Discount Rates	1087
Cost of Agricultural and		Overseas Bank Rates	1087
Fishery Research Work	1062	Rates of Exchange	1087
Mexican Railway	1062	Bullion	1088
Anglo-Persian Oil	1062	Imports & Exports of Gold	1088
Vickers Year	1063	Gold and Silver Prices ..	1088
The Parent Tyre	1063	Company News—	
Wall Paper Manufacturers	1063	Oil Outputs	1073
Dividendless De Beers ..	1064	Railways & Tramway Traffic	1089
W. African Gold Producers	1064	Dividend Announcements ..	1090
Transvaal Output for No-		Mining Output Statistics ..	1090
vember	1064	Reports and Notices	1091
Overseas Correspondence—		Analysis of Balance-sheets	1091
United States	1064	Profit and Loss Accounts ..	1092
France	1065	Commercial Reports—	
Germany	1067	Corn Trade	1091
Italy	1068	Iron and Coal Trade	1093
Spain	1068	Wool Trade	1094
Holland	1069	Cotton Trade	1094
Letters to the Editor—		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds	1095
Tariff Disarmament	1069	Hide and Leather Trades ..	1095
Books and Publications—		Portland Cement	1095
Reviews	1069	Overseas Produce Markets	1095
Books Received	1070	Price Current	1096

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the
Proprietors of the "Economist".
Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at
Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons,
5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar
Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street;
Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall avenue, and 53 Finsbury
pavement.Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's,
37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad
street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

THE stagnant condition of trade was still the ruling in-
fluence in the money market. Banks lack outlet for their
funds, and so took three months' bills as low as 3½ per
cent., and though short-dated National War Bonds even
now yield considerably more, the possibility of trade
reviving within the next six months prevents their com-

MENTHOL.—Spot lots quoted 20s 6d; Japanese peppermint oil,
spot, 4s 7½d; aniseed, 2s 2d; Japanese refined slab camphor, 5s;
crude camphor, spot, 4s per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 100s per cwt.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market dull. Prime liquid yolk, spot, 110s per
cwt, and albumen, 2s 11d per lb.

COPRA.—A steadily improving market with fair inquiries experi-
enced. F.M.S. Straits, December-February, and also January-
March, steamer, to Rotterdam, sold chiefly at £28 to £27 12s and
£27 15s; Ceylon, December-February, London, £29; Cebu, ditto, to
Hamburg, quoted £26 10s; South Sea Islands, ditto to London,
£26 5s. Palm kernels quietly steady, and December-February,
Liverpool, sold, £18 15s.

RUBBER.—Market generally quiet, and standard crepe, spot, sold,
11½d to 11¼d; January-March, 11½d to 1s; April-June, 1s 0½d to 1s 0½d.
Standard smoked ribbed sheet, spot, sold, 11¼d; January-March,
1s; and April-June, 1s 0½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 2½d. Caucho
ball, ditto, 8½d.

OILS.—Linseed irregular. Spot, net, naked, 29s; December,
28s 1½d; January-April, 28s 3d; May-August, 28s 3d. Rape dull.
Crude, spot, 46s; refined, 51s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 37s;
Bombay, nominal; common edible, 44s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot
(barrels), 66s 6d; and shipment, 65s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot,
46s; November-December, 43s; Ceylon, ditto, 46s. Soya steady.
Oriental, barrels, ditto, 34s 6d. Japan fish quiet. October-Novem-
ber, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 29s to 31s. Groundnut
quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 46s; deodorised, barrels, 59s.
Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 69s 6d; December, 69s 6d;
January-April, 69s. Rosin quiet. American, grade B, 16s 6d; F,
16s 9d; G, 17s; K, 18s 6d; WW, 22s; French, F/G, 15s 9d; H,
15s 9d; WW, 18s 6d; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet.
American standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OLSEEDS.—Linseed: Market opened firmer, but subsequently
irregular. Calcutta, November-December, sold, £17 17s 6d to £17 5s
and £17 17s 6d; Plate, spot, Hull, quoted, £17 10s; alfalfa, £17 10s;
November-December, sold, £17 to £16 5s and £17 5s; January-
February, value, £16 10s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, November-December,
£18; real bold Ferozepore quoted £18; brown Cawnpore, £17.
Cotton-seed irregular. Egyptian black, December, sold, £12 15s to
£12 12s 6d; and white, £12 10s to £12 5s. Bombay, December-
January, £9 2s 6d paid. Gingly firm. Chinese, November-December,
Continent, £24. Castor, Bombay, December-January, £16 10s.
Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, December-January,
Hull, £20; new crop, December-February, Continent, £19 10s.
Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £21 10s to £22 per ton.

METALS.—Tin continued an active market during the greater part
of the week, the tendency being somewhat irregular until last
Tuesday, when cash fluctuated between £169 and £168; three
months', £171 and £169 10s. A slight decline was established on

Wednesday, under selling desire, cash being registered at £167
three months', chiefly at £169. Thursday's market was again easier
while these dates realised £166 and £168 respectively. At Friday's
session prices hardened, dealings being active. Cash changed hands
at £167 15s to £168 5s, and three months' from £169 to £170. English
ingots, £167 to £167 10s. Copper occupied good attention, and
values tended rather steadier until the middle of the week. Standard
cash changed hands to £67 10s; three months' to £68 5s. A rather
lower range characterised Thursday's movements, cash being sold
at £67 5s, and three months' at £68 2s 6d. At Friday's sessi-
standard cash realised £66 15s to £66 17s 6d, three months' £68
£67 17s 6d. Electros, £75 to £76 10s; best selected, £67 10s
£69 10s; strong sheets, £101. Lead firmer at £25 10s to £24 10s
as to position. Spelter steadier at £26 10s to £26 17s 6d. Antimony
English regulus, £36 to £39. Aluminium: Home delivery, £12
export, £12 5s.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on December 7,
1921, as follows:—The tallow was quiet during the week, and
prices show 3s decline. This brings prices for Australian tallow
to those current for South American. The stock in London on
November 30, as returned by the wharves, amounted to 17,402 packages,
showing an increase during the month of 6,967 packages. At a
to-day 2,395 casks tallow were offered, and 253 were sold. Quota-
tions are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 46s; good to fair, 42s to 40s; dull
dark, 37s to 35s; hard, 44s. Australian beef: Fine, 43s; good
fair, 41s to 38s; dull to dark, 36s to 34s; sweet, 46s. Pr
shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs.,
and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, 40s. The market letter is lo
tallow 3s, stuff 1s. Town tallow, 35s 6d per cwt. Rough fat, p
lbs, 13d; melted stuff, 23s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town, 34s
net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 30s; h
melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, none; fair to d
35s to 33s. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 28s
melted stuff, 28s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—DECEMBER 8.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	8 d	8 d	8 d	8 d
Shorthorns	7 4	7 10	8 4	8 4
Devons	7 8	8 4	8 4	8 4
Norfolks	7 4	7 10	8 4	8 4
Scottish	7 2	7 6	8 4	8 4
Irish	7 2	7 6	8 4	8 4

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—DECEMBER 8.

Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
King Edwards	10 0 to 11 0	Evergoods	6 6 to 6 0
British Queen	8 0 to 9 0	Blacklands	6 0

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—Pepper, per lb.	
COCOA—Duty, British grown	55s foreign 42s, cwt.	Aloes, fine E.I., p.cwt	10 180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 2 0 0	Butter—per cwt.	150 0 185 0	Singapore, fair White	0 74 0
Trinidad, cwt.	50 0 60 0	Cape, good to fine	25 0 40 0	Plantation crepe	0 11 0 0	Irish creamery	100 0 141 0	Do do	0 34 0
Granada	50 0 60 0	Bamboo, Peru	2 0 2 0	INDIGO—per lb.		Australian	135 0 180 0	White Siam	0 72 0
Ceylon, plantation	70 0 90 0	Camphor	2 0 2 0	Bengal, good red vici	11 0 12 0	Argentine	140 0 175 0	Pimento	0 24 0
Quayquil	50 0 75 0	Japan, refined	4 14 0 0	Mid. ord. vici to good	9 0 10 0	Dutch	170 0 182 0	Cinnamon—1st sort	1 1 0 0
Bahia, finest	58 0 60 0	Cardamoms, Ceylon	0 0 0 0	Low to good ord.	7 0 9 0	New Zealand	210 0 212 0	Do 2nd	0 10 0
COFFEE—British grown		Cantharides	0 0 0 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0 6 0	Danish	131 0 141 0	Do 3rd	0 10 0
55s foreign 42s, cwt.	110 0 112 0	Castor-oil	0 0 0 0	Do low to ord.	1 0 1 0	Bacon, smd, Irish	131 0 141 0	Do 4th	0 0 0 0
Do good to fine	110 0 130 0	Gum Benjun, Sum. cwt	11 10 0	Kurpah, mid. to good	6 0 8 0	Danish	136 0 145 0	Chips	0 34 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	8 12 0	Oilbanum, drops	0 0 0 0	Low to mid.	4 0 6 0	Canadian	130 0 132 0	Cassia Lignea	45 0 0 0
Good to fine	130 0 150 0	Ipacuanha	0 0 0 0	HEMP—per ton	2 0 2 0	American	90 0 105 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 64 0
Central American		Jalap.	2 0 0 0	St Petersburg, layer	nom	Hams—Irish	nom	Penang	2 8 0 0
ord. to mid	64 0 116 0	Musk yd, China	0 75 0 85 0	Manila Oct./Dec.	38 0	Canadian	120 0 140 0	Ginger—per cwt.	0 120 0
Mid. to fine	117 0 120 0	Oil, Cassia	4 9 0 0	N. Z. spot, high fair	39 0	American	115 0 140 0	Do small rough	0 62 0
Columbian, ordinary	60 0 65 0	Aniseed	2 0 0 0	JUTE—	2 0 2 0	Lat—Irish	6 0 0 0	Do washed	0 75 0
Do ord. to low mid	70 0 80 0	Peppermint, F.G.H.	45 0 0 0	Native first marks,		American boxes, 8 lb	7 0 7 0	Japan	45 0 0 0
Do mid. to fine	95 0 112 0	Rbbr, China, fr to fn	5 6 8 0	Jan./Feb. 1st grade	24 10 0	Pork—per 8 lbs	5 4 6 8	Jamaica	105 0 0 0
CHEMICALS—		DYE STUFFS, &c.		LEATHER—per lb.		Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	1 8 5 6	Mace	1 0 1 0
Acid, citric	per lb 2 4 2 4	Galls, China	0 0 0 0	Scale Bends	0 10 0 0	Scottish	6 8 8 0	Nutmegs, per lb 1 lb	1 0 1 0
Nitric	0 24 0 4	Madras, finger	20 0 0 0	Do do 10/12	2 2 2 0	New Zealand	94 0 104 0	Small to medium	0 8 0 0
Oxalic	0 0 0 0	Gambier, block	32 0 0 0	Do do 12/14	2 2 2 0	Eng, Cheddars	120 0 145 0	Chilies—per cwt	175 0 0 0
Tartaric	0 4 0 0	Outch, ord. to fair	35 0 45 0	Do do 14/16	2 2 2 0	Cheshire	nom	TALLOW—per cwt.	
Foreign	1 4 1 4	DYE WOODS—		Do do 17/18	2 2 2 0	Dutch	50 0 50 0	Good mutton	42 0 0 0
Alum lump	per ton 216/10/0 17/0/0	Brust	14 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Eggs, per English	50 0 50 0	Beef	41 0 0 0
Do ground	£17/0/0 17/0/0	Fustic, Jamaica	14 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	ROBIN—per ton	14 10 0 22 0 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	
Ammonia, carb.	10 0 10 0	Cuba	15 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	American	15 10 0 18 10 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 14 0
Muriate, White, ton	70 0 75 0	Lima Wood	20 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	French	15 10 0 18 10 0	Do do	0 15 0
Sulphate	£16 0 20 0	Leopold, Campeachy	15 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	SAGO—Pearl, per cwt	26 0 32 0	Pearl	0 15 0
Arsenic, lump, per ton	70 0 75 0	Honduras	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Second, fair to fine	30 0 42 0	Orange Pekoe	1 1 0 0
Powder	per ton 40 0 42 0	Jamaica	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	SHIELLAC—per cwt	3 0 4 0	Broken Orange	1 34 0
Ashes, pot.	per cwt 30 0 100 0	Red Sanders	12 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Second, fair to fine	30 0 42 0	Pekoe Souchong	0 11 0 0
Pearl do	nom	Sapang Ceylon	15 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	SHIELLAC—per cwt	3 0 4 0		
Bleaching pwr, p.tn	15 0 0 17 0 0	FLAX—spot—c.l.f.	2 0 2 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Orange, first marks	40 0 42 0		
Borax, crystals	cwt 31 0 0 0	Riga ZK	115 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Second, fair to fine	30 0 42 0		
Do powder	32 0 0 0	Pernau HD	115 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	SHIELLAC—per cwt	3 0 4 0		
Cream Tartar		Slanetz U/A Medium	125 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Second, fair to fine	30 0 42 0		
5% powder	125 0 127 6	FRUIT—New		Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	TN Orange	355 0 340 0		
Calomel	per lb 5 3 5 6	Oranges, Val. selected	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Garnet, Lac, AC	235 0 0 0		
Iodine, dry	per oz 1 0 1 1	Do Malaga cases	14 0 24 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Blacky	235 0 0 0		
Nitrate of Soda, p.tn	15 0 0 15 0 0	Do Naples boxes	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	Blacky (TN)	325 0 0 0		
Potash		Lemons, Naples, cases	0 0 0 0	Do do 17/18 sup	2 2 2 0	SILK—per lb.			

peting fully with bills. The rate for renewals of old loans remained at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., but balances were available every afternoon at 2 per cent., and often lower. Apart from bills connected with the seasonal movement of cotton, first-class commercial paper was hard to find, and the scarcity of bills from the East was again remarkable.

	Dec. 16, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.	Nov. 25, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount (Call)	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$ (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	..
Market rate (3 mths' bills)	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

Changes in the Bank Return were on a small scale. The gold stock expanded by £3,700 and the note circulation fell by £227,400, so that the Reserve was £231,100 higher. Government securities were reduced by £264,600, while Other securities were increased by £46,300. Deposits were, thus, £11,000 lower, a decrease of £1,873,200 in Other being practically offset by an increase in Public. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £2,614,900 to £318,329,000, which includes £1,763,800 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £268,615,200, or £48,940,000 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended December 10, 1921:—

Receipts.	Min. £	Expenditure.	Min. £
From Revenue	15,610	Supply Services	5,464
Taken from Exchequer Balances	551	Interest on Debt	6,518
		Sundries	980
		Reduction of Debt	3,599
	15,661		15,661

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £3,599,445, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 15,500	Depreciation fund	— 963
National Savings Certificates	+ 500	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	— 662
		Treasury Bills	— 8,652
		Bank of England Advances ..	— 7,250
		Public Department Advances ..	— 630
		Sundries	— 1,445
	+ 16,000		— 19,599

Customs and Excise yielded £5,499,000, Special Receipts under Miscellaneous £4,534,800, and Property and Income-tax £2,285,000. Treasury Bond sales were again on a large scale, amounting to £15,500,000. The floating debt was reduced £16,521,000, to £1,305,274,000. Advances by the Bank of England were reduced by £7,250,000, leaving £20,000,000 outstanding. Public Department Advances were reduced by £630,000, making the amount outstanding £193,808,000. Treasury Bill sales were £8,641,000 lower than the maturities. Treasury Bills outstanding now amount to £1,091,466,000, against £1,137,604,000 a year ago.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

In the foreign exchange market one further stage in the advance towards certainty has been reached by the announcement on Thursday that Germany had officially declared itself unable to meet the next instalment of reparation payments. Although it had become increasingly obvious that without external assistance payment could not be made, the possibility of a loan had for the time being obscured the issue which now has to be faced. Although the news was known in Paris early on Thursday, rates were little affected till the publication in the Press on Friday morning, when the mark rate fell away to 880 from a quotation of 777½ on the previous day.

During the week the quotation had moved from 800 on the 9th down to 692½ on the 12th, in sympathy with the burst of optimism emanating on that day from New York, after which it had remained round about 750. What will happen during the next week depends, of course, almost entirely on the coming conference between M. Briand and Mr Lloyd George. The quotation for future marks is 1 to 3 marks per month under spot, as last week. The franc, almost entirely as the result of American buying, fell away steadily from 53.25 on the 9th to 51.42½ on the 14th. On the following day the general decrease in confidence brought it up again to 51.90, and yesterday morning, as the news from Germany became known in other centres, the rate rose sharply to 53.50. From 55.30 the Belgian franc moved in sympathy with Paris down to 53.55, and is now up again to 55.60. In Paris the quotation for futures has narrowed again still further to par with spot, while Belgium is little changed at 4 to 6 centimes under spot. In New York sterling has had a spectacular week. Starting at 4.10½ on the 9th, and moving up about a cent on the following day it leapt up suddenly to 4.23½ on Monday on the wave of enthusiasm following on the signature of the Four-Power Agreement. From that there was a natural reaction, but on Thursday it remained at about 4.19½. The German news of yesterday morning, however, brought it down again to 4.16½. The position is a difficult one. Unless there are some undisclosed operations at work, as some suspect, the recent movement is one of sentiment alone. At the same time, the rapid decrease in America's trade balance, although it can hardly justify the present level of rates, may be enough, combined with the growing interest shown in foreign investments, to keep the dollar some where near present prices, even if the present optimism dies away. Another definitely adverse political factor, however, would probably send down rates again with a run, and any revival of trade would in itself place a heavy strain on the exchange. The rate for futures is slightly narrower at ½ cent per month over spot. Italy, after a recovery from 93.82½ on the 9th to 89.64½ on the 14th, has reacted like the other Allied exchanges, and is up again at 92½. Among neutral exchanges, Holland and Switzerland moved sharply in our favour, following New York, but the German news sent them against us again, so that yesterday morning Holland was 11.43, as compared with 11.44½ a week ago; Switzerland 21.47½, as compared with 21.25; Madrid, after moving down from 28.69 on the 9th to 27.58 on the 13th, was yesterday up again to 28.25. Among the Northern exchanges, Christiania has dropped from 28.14 to 26.75½, a rapid recovery not reflected either in Stockholm or Copenhagen, where the rates are 17.01½ and 21.55½ respectively, as compared with 17 and 21.67½ a week ago. Helsingfors, at 21.67½, is rather better than the 22.2 quoted a week ago. In Central Europe energetic measures in Austria have brought the London (Auslands-)krone quotation down from about 12,000 to 11,500, while the last Inlandskrone quotation available—26,350 for the 12th—compares very favourably with the top figure of 34,500 quoted on November 30th. In Poland, also, where the new Finance Minister is showing real capacity and determination, the rate is about 12,500, as compared with 13,000, and the relative steadiness at which it has been maintained for some little time shows that the for stability rather than rapid improvement has been realised. Budapest, at 3,000, is some 250 per cent. better than a year ago, and Prague, at 342, and Belgrade, at 270, are also lower. In Bucharest no steps have been taken to cure the present impossible position, and in consequence the lei remains unquoted. Sofia remains about 250 at 575, and Athens is a little higher at 100½. In East India the rupee, at 1s 4d, is about ½d more expensive than a week, the yen, at 2s 3½d, about ½d cheaper. There has been a good deal of business in the silver market, although China was dull, India was buying well. However, supplies were plentiful, and the price has only moved up slightly, to about 35½d. Hongkong shows little change, but Shanghai is 2d cheaper at 3s 6d. In South America Buenos Ayres has dropped from 43½ to 43¼, but Montevideo, at 40½, is ½d dearer. Rio is a little cheaper at 7 17-32, while Valparaiso has moved in our favour from 39½ to 40.60½.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 10, 1921.			
Total spent	£ 700,502,938	Raised by revenue ..	£ 613,922,388
Dec. in balances	195,197	Net borrowings	86,385,353
Total	700,307,741	Total	700,307,741

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure ..	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure ..	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000	Total	1,039,728,000

Surplus*

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Dec. 10, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	18	17
34% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
44% War Stock	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock	2,091	2,068	2,042	2,042	2,040	2,038	1,995	1,960	1,960
National War Bonds ..	693	1,636	1,593	1,593	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,201	1,201
4% Funding Loan	409	409	409	409	407	405	405	405	405
4% Victory Bonds	350	357	357	357	358	348	348	356	356
34% Conversion Loan ..	18	23	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
5-15 year Treas. Bonds ..	15	77	951	957	1,107	1,107	1,121	1,091	1,091
51% Treasury Bonds	20	67	332	384	323	319	294	289	218
Exchequer Bonds	133	227	227	227	274	279	285	293	293
Nat'l Savings Certs.	944	1,241	1,356	1,356	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,099	1,099
War Expend. Certs.	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
Other Debt	204	455	243	205	306	306	306	306	306
American Loan	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Temporary Advances	654	57	57	57	43	46	47	49	49
Other Capital Liabilities ..	57	57	49	46	46	47	47	49	49
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,834

NOTE.—These figures have now been revised in accordance with a recent Treasury return on internal debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Dec. 11, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Dec. 10, '21.	Dec. 10, '21.
Outstanding	50,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000
Advances by Bank of England ..	50,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	210,261,000	154,489,000	193,808,000	193,808,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,137,604,000	1,120,841,000	1,091,466,000	1,091,466,000
Total Floating Debt	1,397,865,000	1,275,330,000	1,305,274,000	1,305,274,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

DECEMBER 10TH.—Chancellor of the Exchequer announces E.P.D. concessions. Four-Power Pact agreed to at Washington.

DECEMBER 12TH.—Text of Anglo-Afghan Treaty published. New York exchange touches 4.24.

DECEMBER 13TH.—Four-Power Pacific Pact signed. Grand juries to be restored after December 22nd. Sir Edgar Speyer denaturalised.

DECEMBER 14TH.—King opens Parliament. Stormy debate at meeting of Dail Eireann. Ulster Parliament prorogued.

DECEMBER 15TH.—Germany asks for moratorium. Naval ratio agreement reached at Washington. Economy Committee's report handed to Chancellor.

DECEMBER 16TH.—Commons ratify Irish Treaty.

During the early part of the week stock markets were buoyant, and improvements were noticeable in most gilt-edged securities. The issue of the Indian Loan, however, checked the rise a little, while Germany's notification of default sent prices down yesterday.

In the cotton market business continues restricted, although a hopeful feeling prevails as to prospects early in the New Year. An encouraging demand is reported in yarns for India. In the wool trade a marked market change is recorded by our Bradford correspondent; depression has given way to a feeling of confidence, and prices of merinos and fine crossbreds have advanced. For pig-iron there is little change in the outlook, and the same remark applies to leading branches of the iron and steel industry. A demand for ordinary house coal is noticeable. Hides made a slight advance in London, although country markets record little change. Raw linseed oil is inclined to be easier, but prices generally in

the market for vegetable oils and oilseeds continue to keep close to previous quotations.

Further particulars of movements in the principal markets from special trade correspondents appear on later pages of this issue.

THE Proprietors of the *Economist* have appointed Mr Walter T. Layton, C.H., C.B.E., Editor of the paper, and he will take up his duties early in the New Year.

CRISES AND POLICIES.

It would be difficult to find a week more crowded with fateful events than the one which is now drawing to a close. It opened with news of the signature of the Four-Power Pact in the Pacific, an achievement that carries with it a high promise of international harmony, and closes with Germany's official statement that she cannot fulfil her obligations to the Allies maturing on January 15th and February 15th next. In the meantime, a titanic struggle has been raging at Dublin over the Irish Treaty between Mr de Valera and his supporters and the Irish signatories. The outcome of the struggle is still in doubt as we go to press, but the general trend of the forecasts is that the treaty will just win the day. In both Houses of the British Parliament sanction by a large majority is now assured, in spite of the fiery denunciation of Lord Carson, while the deliberate, if lukewarm, support of the treaty by Mr Bonar Law in the House of Commons has made it practically certain that the "die-hard" movement in this country will not assume serious proportions. Ulster, as was expected, has decided to cling to her isolation, and is in fighting mood over the boundary question. Thus, while there have been no unfavourable developments which could not have been reasonably expected, we are by no means out of the Irish wood as yet. But whatever the gravity of crises that may yet arise, the Irish problem can never again present quite the same blackness as in past days. The fact that the British Government, with the overwhelming support of the nation, has offered to Ireland a generous form of self-government, which has been accepted by large sections of Irish opinion and welcomed in America and the British Dominions, must at least colour with a brighter hue the complexion of Anglo-Irish relations. Even if, as we refuse to believe, Irish peace hopes are cheated at the eleventh hour, there has at least been built a bridge which will remain for future use.

The new reparations crisis is one that was bound to occur sooner or later, and it is as well, perhaps, that it should occur on the eve of M. Briand's visit to discuss economic policy with Mr Lloyd George, for it emphasises beyond all question the urgent necessity for a definite and united Anglo-French policy, and will provide a definite subject to next week's conference between the two Premiers. The manner in which Germany has brought about the crisis naturally causes temporary resentment among her creditors, for the letter in which Herr Wirth acquaints the Reparations Commission with his Government's decision is a *non possumus* of a somewhat blunt description. But the actual course followed in applying to the Reparations Commission formally for a revision is, of

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN: The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:

S. D. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£238,116,315
Paid-up Capital ..	10,860,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,860,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

OVER 1,500 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 65, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 150 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

course, that which is duly prescribed in the Treaty. The letter, as published in yesterday's *Times*, reads as follows:—

SIR,—As I had the honour to explain to the Reparation Commission during its visit to Berlin, the German Government has made every effort to ensure the payment of the two instalments shortly due under the terms of the schedule of payments of May, 1921. In view of the fact that the success of its efforts depended on a foreign loan, and that for a transaction of this nature the active collaboration of British financial circles was absolutely necessary, the German Government opened negotiations in England with a view to this loan.

From competent quarters, however, the reply was received that, as long as the conditions prevailed which at present determined the obligations of the German Government to the Reparations Commission in respect of payments during the coming years, such a loan could not be obtained in England either in the form of a long-dated loan or in the form of a short-dated credit.

Under these circumstances the German Government cannot anticipate the possibility of procuring the sum necessary for the total payment of the instalments of January 15th and February 15, 1922. Even by exerting every effort and without considering the requirements of its own Budget, the German Government cannot procure for the instalments apart from deliveries in kind and the credit derived from the recovery account a sum of more than 150 or 200 million gold marks (£10,000,000).

The German Government is, therefore, obliged to request the Reparation Commission to extend the time limit for the payment of the portion of the instalments of January 15th and February 15th which it cannot pay at those dates. It confines itself to this request, although it realises that similar difficulties will arise in connection with subsequent payments.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) WIRTH.

Perhaps the most serious point about the letter is that although merely a formal notification, it may arouse, especially in France, and until its true significance has been realised, public feelings calculated to obstruct cool and considered judgment upon the economic merits of the question. It comes, moreover, at a moment when, as our Paris correspondent points out on a later page, French opinion was definitely moving towards the practical point of view, and when a distinguished French audience has favourably received a considered review by Lord Derby of the British attitude. Lord Derby reminded his French hearers that Britain, too, has her devastated regions—regions devastated by unemployment, where factories are silent and millions of men seek vainly for the opportunity of earning their daily bread. But when the first impulse to exasperation is passed, it will be succeeded by the thought that Herr Wirth's crude statement may not be wide of the truth in its financial facts. Germany has raised £10,000,000 by selling marks. If she were to attempt to raise the remainder of the January and February instalments by the same methods, the collapse and dislocation caused might assume proportions that would cause widespread embarrassment.

British financial and industrial opinion may be taken as regarding trade recovery as more important than reparation receipts, but it is not unkind of France's need for ready money or of the fact that the German Government, if it can obtain the support of German industrialists, can probably pay (if innocuous methods can be devised) very substantial sums, at least without the extreme dislocation consequent upon the pursuance of present methods. It is prepared to accept liberal concessions to France in the matter of reparations priority and of France's war debt to Britain if through such concessions a strong and concerted Allied policy can be reached. There is general recognition here, and recognition has recently been growing in France, that a revision of the Reparations Scheme is essential. Germany's announcement of default may strengthen the views hitherto held as to the stringency of the conditions which Germany must accept in return for any revision of the programme; and it will stamp once more on the minds of the business communities of the Allied nations the desirability of preventing this perpetual recurrence of crises, which can only be done if the Allies can in harmony evolve a scheme based on purely business considerations. This latest crisis has come rather more suddenly than was expected. Its arrival may yet prove a blessing in disguise if it spurs statesmen to further efforts to remove from the realm of controversy, at any rate for the time being, this problem, which is the most powerful and persistent irritant of European difficulties.

THE PACIFIC PACT AND THE ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY.

LAST Saturday the four Great Powers now chiefly concerned in the future of the Far East took a long step towards provision for the amicable settlement of all future differences among them in that quarter of the world and everywhere else. The treaty agreed on between the representatives at Washington of the United States, Great Britain, France, and Japan binds these Powers reciprocally to respect their several rights over their "insular possessions and dominions" in the Pacific, and to initiate a joint conference for the settlement of any dispute between them which cannot be arranged by ordinary diplomatic means. Should any other Power threaten these rights, the signatories engage to take measures in concert to maintain them. The Treaty holds good for ten years from ratification, and may thereafter be terminated by any one of its signatories at twelve months' notice, and, on its ratification, the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is to cease. The abolition of this much-misapprehended Alliance makes for a better understanding between the Powers, clears up the Far-Eastern horizon, and opens the way for more important and comprehensive agreements, in particular for ensuring the integrity of China.

The Anglo-Japanese Alliance was originally devised to avert the partition of the decrepit Chinese Empire, which seemed likely to be set up by the unexpected victory of Japan over China in the Korean War of 1895. Japan was compelled to give up the chief fruits of her victory by the joint action of Russia, France, and Germany, and for the next seven years China was threatened with one of two alternatives—either partition into foreign possessions and "spheres of influence," or maintenance as a single State with equal opportunities of commerce for all nations alike. British policy seemed at times to hesitate between these alternatives; but to ensure the latter an Anglo-Japanese Agreement was suggested by Mr Chamberlain and other British statesmen, and brought about in January, 1902, by Count Hayashi, partly by a hint that Japan might otherwise come to terms with Russia. By it Great Britain and Japan declared that they aimed at maintaining the *status quo*, the open door, and the territorial integrity of China and Korea. They recognised that they both had special economic interests, Great Britain in China, Japan in both countries, while Japan might be threatened politically were Korea occupied by a third Power and made into a base for attack on herself. Were either ally constrained through foreign aggression or Chinese unrest to defend these interests, and thus drawn into war with one other Power, the other party to the Alliance was to remain neutral and attempt to keep other Powers from joining the aggressor. If, nevertheless, a second Power should join in the attack, the Allies would make common cause in their own defence.

Two years later the Russian "expansionists" forced Japan to defend her Korean interests in a war which brought disaster to Russia. Korea, impotent to govern herself, became a Japanese possession, and the Anglo-Japanese Alliance was renewed during the peace negotiations in August, 1905, and published on their close. Its aims were defined more precisely, and were extended to include the special interests of the Allies in Eastern Asia and India. Japan was given a free hand in Korea, Great Britain in Indian frontier defence, the provisions for joint co-operation were made more specific, and the *casus fœderis* was to operate on aggression by one Power, provided that it was unprovoked. The Alliance was again declared to aim at the preservation of peace. The Treaty was renewed for ten years certain, and thereafter might be terminated by either party on twelve months' notice; it was again renewed in 1911, with a provision precluding the contingency that it might set up war between Great Britain and the United States; and it constituted one reason for the entry of Japan into the world-war, though, as Great Britain was technically the assailant of Germany, the *casus fœderis*, strictly speaking, had not arisen. Recently the parties promised to bring it into formal accord with the League of Nations Covenant—a need now obviated by its abolition. But the implications of a Treaty, actual or hypothetical, count for more than its stipulations; and the hypothetical implications, for students

of politics, count most of all. To many publicists on the Continent and in Great Britain, Japan has seemed bent on controlling and exploiting China at once, and all Asia by and by. To American and Australasian observers she has seemed eager to flood America and Australasia with her immigrants, and to have had an eye on the Philippines and other Pacific islands as stepping-stones. A German Professor has denounced Great Britain as betraying the white races by preparing to use the Japanese army for her own ends in the Far East and India, and in return to allow Japan to gain a foothold in China which would ultimately facilitate British ruin. These suspicions, or some of them, might conceivably be justified if Japan were entirely controlled by her militarist prophets of expansion. The best proof that she repudiates their policy is her acceptance of the substitution of three Powers for one in a pact blocking a policy of expansion. The alliance has been beneficial in some respects, but of late it has been a cause of friction, owing to the interpretation placed upon it in America and elsewhere. Its supersession by the new and wider pact to which both parties enter in company with the United States and France is one of the most hopeful symptoms of world politics which has been seen since the war.

OVERSEAS TRADE IN NOVEMBER.

IN view of the amount of talk recently current about improvement in trade, the November trade returns are a little disappointing. July, August, September, and October each saw a substantial rise in export value figures, the average advance being about £6 millions per month. In November British exports at £62.9 millions were only some £600,000 better than in October, while imports declined by half a million, leaving the net gain total exports of only a trifling character. Imports, on the other hand, rose by about £4½ millions to £89.3 millions, which is the highest figure since April last, since when, of course, the decline in commodity prices has been very pronounced. A summary of the value figures for November and the first eleven months of 1920 and 1921 reads as follows:—

	MONTH OF NOVEMBER.		
	1920.	1921.	Decrease in November, 1921.
Imports	£ 144,238,100	£ 89,258,795	£ 54,979,305 — 37.4
British exports	£ 119,364,994	£ 62,894,842	£ 56,470,152 — 47.2
Re-exports	£ 13,114,859	£ 9,823,199	£ 3,291,660 — 25.1
Total exports	£ 132,479,853	£ 72,718,041	£ 59,761,812 — 45.0
Excess of imports over total exports ..	£ 11,758,247	£ 16,540,754 +	£ 4,782,507 + 40.7

In October the import excess only slightly exceeded £12 millions—the smallest balance of the year on the published merchandise figures. In November it was £16½ millions, but this is well below the average monthly import excess of the present year to date, which works out at about £23½ millions per month, against about £31½ millions per month in 1920. It was estimated in 1920 that invisible exports for that year were sufficient to fill up the gap and leave a comfortable margin on the favourable side. Certain optimistic forecasts, semi-officially put out

at the beginning of this year as to invisible exports. In 1921, must, of course, be subject to severe revision owing to trade and shipping stagnation. But that revision would have to be very drastic indeed if it were to reduce invisible exports to a sum insufficient to balance or more than balance the declining import excess in the exchange of merchandise.

Compared with October figures the feature of the import accounts is an increase of £8½ millions under the heading of "raw materials and articles mainly manufactured," imports of food and manufacturers being lower in value. The following instances are taken from the returns to illustrate the increases in takings of raw materials in November, as compared with the previous month:—

	Quantities Imported In—	
	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1921.
Raw cotton	732,771 cwt.	1,950,263 cwt.
Sheep and lambs' wool ..	571,061 cwt.	672,180 cwt.
Jute	4,730 tons	11,424 tons
Raw silk	49,710 lbs.	55,168 lbs.
Flax	874 tons	2,657 tons
Hemp	6,240 tons	6,668 tons
Dry and dyed hides	42,356 cwt.	45,043 cwt.
Pulp of wood	46,942 tons	66,232 tons

The list is capable of considerable expansion. There are, of course, examples to the contrary, raw rubber imports in particular having fallen off in November. Some of the increases in raw material imports may be due to seasonal and incidental movements. But the cumulative effect is noteworthy. A revival in trade will entail increased imports of many raw materials, and the fact that this increase appears to have begun, even if only in a small way, may perhaps be taken as a favourable sign.

On the export side coal shipments were rather larger in quantity than in October, but the export market is still slack. The value of iron and steel and manufactures thereof exported in November was over half-a-million sterling better than in the previous month. Machinery and cotton goods also show up rather better in the value figures. The textile machinery figures are remarkable. Shipments of textile machinery in the 11 months have amounted to a value of £22,908,180, the corresponding figures for 1920 and 1913 being £6,952,871 and £7,597,565. Imports and exports of coin and bullion for November and the eleven months have been as follows:—

	Gold.		Silver.	
	November.	11 Months.	November.	11 Months.
Imports	£ 3,914,073	£ 47,157,897	£ 1,490,092	£ 9,956,837
Exports	£ 4,037,349	£ 55,727,585	£ 1,786,346	£ 11,019,871

Below will be found tables setting out under their official classifications the value figures for imports and exports in November and the first eleven months of 1920 and 1921:—

	IMPORTS (Value C.I.F.).		Exports (Value F.O.B.).	
	Month Ended November 30.	Eleven Months Ended November 30.	Month Ended November 30.	Eleven Months Ended November 30.
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour	£ 19,597,030	£ 9,331,730	£ 217,031,260	£ 130,873,959
B. Feeding stuffs for animals	£ 641,875	£ 8,065,573	£ 6,042,479	£ 125,239,352
C. Meat	£ 11,033,687	£ 6,721,478	£ 123,113,646	£ 2,742,799
D. Animals, living, for food	£ 13,957,351	£ 13,402,081	£ 156,189,624	£ 152,774,092
E. Other food and drink, non-dutiable ..	£ 14,454,559	£ 9,301,508	£ 165,167,904	£ 89,619,158
F. " " dutiable	£ 1,732,748	£ 1,601,686	£ 34,184,496	£ 21,082,557
G. Tobacco	£ 61,477,250	£ 41,245,970	£ 708,753,503	£ 528,374,396
Total, Class I.	£ 144,238,100	£ 89,258,795	£ 1,490,092	£ 9,956,837
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal	£ 779,924	£ 406,707	£ 8,697,476	£ 5,975,615
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like	£ 1,201,188	£ 354,738	£ 19,101,419	£ 4,762,741
C. Iron ore and scrap	£ 1,930,704	£ 501,278	£ 16,503,298	£ 7,636,717
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap	£ 5,852,765	£ 3,390,596	£ 76,655,735	£ 27,071,918
E. Wood and timber	£ 17,171,467	£ 13,590,375	£ 238,640,671	£ 62,292,314
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste	£ 4,355,558	£ 3,519,331	£ 87,457,004	£ 39,412,232
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen tags	£ 222,688	£ 120,434	£ 3,896,667	£ 781,011
H. Silk, raw, knurled and noils	£ 1,548,170	£ 1,023,530	£ 31,004,597	£ 8,728,659
I. Other textile materials	£ 6,283,843	£ 3,090,959	£ 76,309,390	£ 35,399,273
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins & gums ..	£ 1,426,725	£ 1,266,177	£ 30,657,937	£ 9,402,835
K. Hides and skins, undressed	£ 2,780,728	£ 991,888	£ 30,530,661	£ 12,485,751
L. Paper-making materials	£ 1,765,107	£ 618,590	£ 25,501,713	£ 9,667,043
M. Rubber	£ 1,250,830	£ 1,070,577	£ 17,930,578	£ 7,637,599
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured ..	£ 46,559,697	£ 29,945,920	£ 662,887,146	£ 243,383,404
Total, Class II.	£ 144,238,100	£ 89,258,795	£ 1,490,092	£ 9,956,837

IMPORTS (VALUE C.I.F.)—Con.

	Month Ended November 30.		Eleven Months Ended November 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured:				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel.....	487	146	8,915	241,374
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	969,883	575,050	10,089,838	6,405,691
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof.....	3,337,071	1,489,094	24,838,112	21,712,882
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof.....	2,415,828	1,215,761	36,257,964	17,140,109
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments.....	744,094	473,872	9,834,968	6,277,284
F. Electrical goods and apparatus.....	243,308	132,836	1,543,974	1,807,067
G. Machinery.....	1,608,418	648,144	18,233,503	10,263,370
H. Manufactures of wood and timber.....	817,305	263,134	7,753,987	4,576,397
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures.....	704,627	563,860	9,249,634	5,299,669
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures.....	777,413	528,030	16,477,697	7,148,584
K. Silk and silk manufactures.....	2,238,021	1,574,006	34,665,712	17,504,410
L. Manufactures of other textile materials.....	1,084,474	718,397	21,987,675	7,401,784
M. Apparel.....	751,168	923,847	14,346,094	8,557,031
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours.....	3,961,062	859,075	32,644,196	11,708,668
O. Oils, fats, and resins, manufactured.....	8,934,754	3,136,324	69,736,867	53,407,607
P. Leather and manufactures thereof.....	731,509	1,151,161	19,656,853	7,379,647
Q. Paper and cardboard.....	2,166,683	884,958	28,562,066	10,565,570
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft).....	1,425,320	433,712	25,600,375	6,518,821
S. Rubber manufactures.....	524,670	543,624	6,579,895	4,518,293
T. Miscellaneous articles, mainly or wholly manufactured.....	2,468,982	1,795,771	32,203,097	18,219,838
Total, Class III.....	35,955,077	17,912,712	420,970,419	228,754,366
IV.—Animals, not for food.....	17,154	18,925	388,566	360,539
V.—Parcel post, non-dutiable articles.....	228,922	135,258	2,416,205	2,693,355
Total.....	144,238,100	89,258,795	1,794,715,839	1,001,566,061

EXPORTS OF PRODUCTS AND MANUFACTURES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM (Value F.O.B.).

	Month Ended November 30.		Eleven Months Ended November 30.	
	1920.	1921.	1920.	1921.
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—				
A. Grain and flour.....	210,041	429,854	2,600,004	3,672,703
B. Feeding stuffs for animals.....	105,142	169,084	978,141	1,359,659
C. Meat.....	71,855	88,637	779,173	771,668
D. Animals living, for food.....	388	3,623	10,767	42,532
E. and F. Other food and drink.....	3,578,630	2,442,879	34,088,632	23,814,934
G. Tobacco.....	757,187	451,874	8,592,785	4,609,804
Total, Class I.....	4,723,243	3,585,961	47,051,502	34,271,301
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—				
A. Coal.....	5,681,484	4,878,019	90,282,457	37,585,630
B. Other non-metallic mining and quarry products and the like.....	274,935	145,697	2,205,169	1,042,670
C. Iron ore and scrap.....	19,108	40,166	610,837	201,677
D. Non-ferrous metalliferous ores and scrap.....	196,421	267,988	2,098,172	969,030
E. Wood and timber.....	12,793	28,950	963,038	242,303
F. Raw cotton and cotton waste.....	141,760	145,901	3,014,870	663,755
G. Wool, raw and waste, and woollen rags.....	354,723	471,937	8,462,957	4,191,859
H. Silk, raw, knubs and noils.....	3,708	4,103	92,564	25,387
I. Other textile materials.....	32,461	60,758	619,333	575,110
J. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, resins, and gums.....	1,621,554	552,116	12,368,253	5,667,269
K. Hides and skins, unprepared.....	132,845	96,879	3,835,001	1,181,799
L. Paper-making materials.....	183,985	118,365	2,418,390	701,586
M. Rubber.....	53,588	9,762	503,804	110,435
N. Miscellaneous raw materials and articles mainly unmanufactured.....	630,701	225,226	5,839,716	2,855,481
Total, Class II.....	9,399,480	7,045,859	133,378,611	56,112,991
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—				
A. Coke and manufactured fuel.....	1,103,085	367,685	18,981,628	3,081,246
B. Earthenware, glass, abrasives, &c.	1,822,692	1,051,996	16,620,205	11,141,689
C. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof.....	11,595,701	5,509,374	119,634,626	58,365,384
D. Non-ferrous metals and manufactures thereof.....	1,974,606	964,186	24,274,268	10,584,007
E. Cutlery, hardware, implements, and instruments.....	1,472,521	560,985	12,353,556	8,426,343
F. Electrical goods and apparatus.....	1,218,038	790,895	10,264,101	12,314,664
G. Machinery.....	7,788,243	6,023,994	66,284,958	69,373,372
H. Manufactures of wood and timber.....	303,007	141,131	2,588,710	1,675,840
I. Cotton yarns and manufactures.....	35,066,543	17,440,842	376,699,160	163,025,287
J. Woollen and worsted yarns and manufactures.....	11,377,288	4,002,971	127,066,586	51,077,128
K. Silk and silk manufactures.....	378,501	170,937	4,900,835	2,130,008
L. Manufactures of other textile materials.....	3,685,746	1,902,732	42,560,226	16,936,866
M. Apparel.....	4,721,734	1,464,403	45,720,140	17,073,577
N. Chemicals, drugs, dyes, & colours.....	3,601,114	1,398,005	37,712,796	17,550,056
O. Oils, fats, & resins, manufactured.....	775,507	465,109	13,003,187	4,738,554
P. Leather and manufactures thereof.....	770,907	530,925	11,117,750	4,365,554
Q. Paper and cardboard.....	1,710,189	554,115	11,326,397	7,221,366
R. Vehicles (including locomotives, ships, and aircraft).....	8,794,500	5,446,161	54,731,363	52,936,649
S. Rubber manufactures.....	927,597	384,734	10,773,606	4,303,235
T. Miscellaneous articles mainly or wholly manufactured.....	4,616,342	2,023,223	45,229,156	21,979,639
Total, Class III.....	103,693,521	51,094,338	1,041,913,291	541,321,264
IV.—Animals, not for food.....	511,452	213,082	4,406,264	3,313,140
V.—Parcel Post.....	1,037,288	925,542	12,188,836	8,822,835
Total.....	109,364,994	62,894,842	1,238,935,504	43,821,532

THE IRISH LABOUR MOVEMENT.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

POLITICS have so dominated Irish affairs that the fact that there is a Labour movement in Ireland has been overlooked. Yet Irish Labour has been an important political factor. Though it has kept its own identity and its own organisation and formulated its own policy, its active spirits have been closely identified with the Sinn Féin movement, and there can be no doubt that much of the strength of Sinn Féin has been due to the backing of the rank and file of the organised Irish workers.

Whilst in this country the political and industrial side of the Labour movement are separately organised, in Ireland there is a single body—the Irish Labour Party and Trades Union Congress. The Irish Trade Union Congress, which was founded in 1894, was originally a body similar in its constitution and methods to the British Trades Union Congress. At the Congress in 1912, however, a motion in favour of the organisation of the Irish workers into a distinct political Labour Party was carried by a large majority, and the Congress executive was made responsible for the political activities of Labour as well as for co-ordinating trade union policy and activities. In 1918 the constitution was revised and the present name adopted. At the present time the affiliated membership is 300,000. The total number of wage-earners in Ireland over 18 years of age is about 650,000.

One-half the workers who are members of organisations affiliated to the Congress are enrolled in the Irish Transport and General Workers' Union, founded in 1909. Jim Larkin, whose name is associated with the bitter strike in Dublin in the year before the war. The I.T.G.W.U. has, from its birth, stood for the idea of "one big union" for all workers. To-day, with a membership of 150,000, it is by far the largest and most powerful union in Ireland. The remaining organised workers are distributed over a number of unions, some of them with but a small membership. A substantial portion of the Irish trade unionists are members of British unions, such as the National Union of Railwaymen, the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, and the Workers' Union. There are also about 10,000 organised workers in the Belfast area who are attached to the Irish Labour Party and Trades Union Congress, and are politically "Unionist Labour" and O. T. members. Even in North-East Ireland there are important organisations affiliated to the Congress.

Irish trade unionism possesses a degree of discipline which exists in no other country. In April, 1918, a one-day strike was called, at short notice, to protest against the imposition of conscription in Ireland. Apart from the Belfast zone, the country stood still. Again, in May the following year a general stoppage of one day was declared, and was as unhesitatingly and unanimously carried out. In April, 1920, the national executive of the Irish Labour Party declared at twelve hours' notice a general stoppage of work as a protest against imprisonment without trial, and for two days, with the exception of the telegraph and humanitarian occupations which were specially exempted, Ireland stopped work, and over a hundred political prisoners were released from Mountjoy Prison. These spectacular strikes illustrate the authority wielded by the executive of the Irish Labour Party and Trades Union Congress and the solidarity of the Irish Labour movement. The railway strike of last year failed in its object because troops, police and munitions were conveyed by Government motor transport. In the famous Dublin stoppage of 1913, the workers, judged by the results, were badly beaten, but in the struggle between Jim Larkin and W. M. Murphy, banker, draper, hotel proprietor, tramway and railway director and newspaper proprietor, Irish Labour entered on a new chapter in its history, and the Irish Transport Workers' Union became the most militant organisation in Ireland.

Out of the Dublin struggle grew the Irish Citizen Army and ultimately, largely through the influence of James

Conolly, the friendly understanding between Irish Labour and Irish Republicanism. In the rebellion of 1916, James Conolly was wounded, and afterwards executed. Since the Dublin rising many trade unionists have been imprisoned without trial or been shot, and several trade union offices destroyed by fire. It is not denied that the overwhelming majority of Irish trade unionists are Republicans. At the General Election in 1918, when the dominant issue was the Sinn Féin demand for a republic, the Irish Labour Party did not promote Labour candidates, the rank and file giving their support to the Sinn Féin candidates. In the local elections, however, Labour candidates have been put forward. In January, 1920, there were municipal elections in about 120 towns. 11,736 seats filled, 341 went to Labour Party candidates, 126 to trade unionists elected on other than "the four tickets," mainly as Republicans. In May and June, 1920, at the County Council and Rural District Council elections 513 Labour candidates were returned. In Ulster, at the local elections, of 565 seats to be filled, no less than 106 were secured by Labour candidates, by what were called anti-Carsonite Labour candidates in contradistinction to "Unionist-Labour" candidates.

Once the political problem in Ireland is settled, Irish Labour will need to adapt itself to the new circumstances. Though, as has already been pointed out, the Labour movement has its supporters in Belfast, political and religious differences have developed into open warfare at Belfast shipyards, where the Catholic, Nationalist, Sinn Féin and Labour employees have been bitterly opposed by their Orange fellow-workers. Difficulties have arisen in the Irish sections of British unions. The National Union of Railwaymen, for example, has both Orange and Sinn Féin branches in Ireland, and the feud between the two camps in Ulster has been a source of embarrassment to the British Trades Union Congress. When a political settlement is finally reached, the Irish Labour Party will look to the gradual cessation of hostilities between the workers in North-East Ireland, and efforts will be made to unify the whole movement. This is clearly a matter of time. It is equally certain that there will be a forward movement both industrially and politically. The executive of the Labour Party was instructed some years ago to work out a plan for "a single-inclusive Irish Workers' Union," which would amalgamate all sections of the organised workers in a comprehensive organisation. The idea of "one big union" of all workers lay behind the efforts of Larkin and Conolly in their work on behalf of the Transport Workers' Union; but the difficulties of war-time and since have prevented any serious attempt at its realisation. No doubt the proved organisation of the trade union movement will in the near future engage the serious attention of Irish Labour. There will also be a concerted policy for improving the economic conditions of the Irish workers. Though during the unsettled times through which Ireland has recently passed Labour conditions have not been left to take care of themselves, nevertheless, the political struggle has prevented the trade unions from giving undivided attention to the economic interests of their members.

The settlement of the question of the form of Government will result in a regrouping of political parties in Ireland. There is certain to be a strong Republican party, and as the Labour Party in Ireland is also predominantly Republican, some confusion will be created, and it may be that here and there Labour men who attach prime importance to Republicanism will throw in their lot with the Republican Party. This, however, may not weaken the political influence of the Labour movement. Its effect may be to create a bond between the Labour and Republican parties. The strength of the Labour Party on local bodies in Ireland, where they hold about four-fifths of the seats, is an indication that in the Irish Parliament Labour will occupy a prominent place, though it is difficult to say how large a Parliamentary party they will form in the early days of the new constitutional arrangements. It is, however, certain that both industrially and politically Labour is an effective force in Ireland, and that, with the settlement of the political problem, its influence will steadily increase.

ARGENTINE LAND COMPANIES.

In previous review of land companies operating in Argentina we have pointed out that these companies may be roughly grouped into two classes, the first group consisting of undertakings which farm their own land and develop its resources, and the second being more concerned with selling land or financing cultivators. The distinction, however, appears to be gradually disappearing, and companies are inclined to develop their resources in the most expedient way. Last year, owing to the rate of exchange, we showed that out of total aggregate profits, amounting to £868,315, for five of the companies' accounts analysed in our article, £149,889 represented profit arising from favourable exchange rates. This year the swing of the pendulum has brought adverse rates for the companies, and these windfalls belong to the past. Indeed, the Cordova Land shows a change over from a profit on exchange last year of £47,280 to a loss on exchange this year of £5,357. This almost leads one to ask the question as to what extent a company trading in a foreign country should reckon differences on exchange fluctuation as profits immediately available for distribution. There may be perhaps something to say for the contention that such differences should be credited to reserves, at least until erratic exchanges show some sign of becoming more stable.

An interesting picture of agricultural conditions can be gleaned from a perusal of the reports of the companies which comprise the group of representative Argentine land undertakings whose accounts are analysed in the tables given below. But first we present a summary of the gross revenue and net profits of these companies for their last three financial years:—

	Year Ended.	1918-19.		1919-20.		1920-21.	
		Trading Rev'ue.	Net Profits.	Trading Rev'ue.	Net Profits.	Trading Rev'ue.	Net Profits.
Argentine Land and Investment.....	June 30	£ 87,167	£ 59,692	£ 135,594	£ 98,844	£ 94,030	£ 65,772
Argentine Southern Land.....	June 30	144,919	54,025	224,087	94,134	172,500	33,463
Cordova Land.....	Sept. 30	156,828	61,520	214,565	125,887	131,558	40,458
Forestal Land, Timber, and Railways.....	Dec. 31	1,147,137	615,980	1,433,351	992,381	754,335	560,261
Leach's Argentine Estates.....	Mar. 31	353,516	262,069	282,870	171,959	176,245	81,727
Rio Negro.....	June 30	60,608	28,021	182,772	88,692	82,103	18,713
Tecka.....	June 30	85,529	33,671	130,614	57,703	77,951	20,731

The Cordova Land Company, whose accounts are given for the year ended September 30th last, in their report state that "the market for cattle has been in an unsettled state throughout the year; labour troubles caused a temporary cessation of shipments from the River Plate during the first six months, whilst a subsequent spell of exceptionally dry weather compelled many breeders of cattle to send heavy consignments to market, prices thereupon receding to a very low level." The average price for all classes of cattle sold by this undertaking was £10 4s 5d per head. This compares with £15 18s 6d per head for the previous year, and an average price of £12 12s 5d per head since the formation of the company. The Rio Negro points out that "the period under review has been one of great difficulty," stating that "with the exception of rains in the early winter" the year "has been one of extreme dryness, the average moisture over the 840,142 acres in the south owned and leased by the company having amounted to under 3.5 inches." The chairman of the company has stated that he would be satisfied with 8 inches of rain a year, but with less than 50 per cent. of such a minimum a satisfactory return on capital cannot be earned. The Tecka, in pointing out the combination of adverse circumstances which it had to contend with, observes that "the unprecedented position of the wool market throughout the world has seriously affected the company's main source of revenue." Leach's Argentine Estates, in its report for the year ended March 31,

1921, deploring that "Severe frosts were experienced throughout the sugar-growing district, and the total crop of the Republic yielded only 209,653 tons, but to this the company contributed 13,132 tons. It is pointed out in the accounts of the Argentine Southern Land that the development of further lands makes it difficult to compare accounts of one year with those of another, and for this reason we refrain from comment. That land sales were a rather more active feature may be judged from the fact that the Argentine Land and Investment Company announce that sales of land "in the Original Concession during the year amounted to 1,446 acres for the sum of £7,446, against 648 acres and £4,039 in the previous period."

In our next table we extract from the balance-sheets the most important items in liabilities and assets, and group them under the following headings:—

	Liabilities.			Assets.		
	Capital, Debentures, and Loans.	Reserves and Undivided Profits.	Creditors.	Land and Property.	Stocks, Produce, &c.	Investments and Cash in Hand.
Argentine Land and Investment	£ 488,075	£ 189,683	£ 68,000	£ 246,990	£ 16,063	£ 411,074
Argentine Southern Land	500,000	149,364	34,793	504,001	87,858	82,092
Cordova Land	1,494,872	116,808	62,357	1,560,377	..	80,333
Forestal Land, Timber, & Rlys	5,165,312	2,788,226	1,666,738	4,036,506	2,720,481	2,355,348
Leach's Argentine Estates	1,829,440	486,413	292,003	1,994,663	352,926	71,035
Rio Negro Land	500,000	74,579	33,111	246,109	54,762	121,054
Tecka Argentina	200,000	87,603	25,962	213,103	28,057	72,402

Leach's Argentine Estates continue to show the item "Goodwill" under assets at £132,700. This intangible asset, we would suggest, might be reduced. In Forestal Land and Timber under investments we have included holdings in associated undertakings, amounting to £978,417, "at cost," but War Loan and Bonds are taken at "market value," while other investments are mentioned as £112,892, without further information as to method of valuation. In addition to reserves shown above for this company there is a depreciation account amounting to £1,053,265, while debenture issues which appeared in the balance-sheet for the year ended December 31, 1919, at £2,224,332, are now reduced to £12,477, although it should be mentioned that preference and ordinary capital has increased from £3,606,985 to £5,152,835. In the case of the Argentine Land and Investment, mortgage loans and accrued interest totalling £188,310 have been included under investments and cash in hand. The local auditors of this company report that a large number of colonists and purchasers of town lands are still in arrear with payments. But balances outstanding for colonists' land, rent and interest amounted to but £38,609, as compared with £58,723 a year ago, while land instalments unmaturing stand at £20,359. Cordova Land lump together in one item land, buildings, cattle, horses, sheep, &c., and give "Investment at cost," £20,848.

In our next table we show how profits have been allocated for the past year, and submit similar figures of a pre-war year for purposes of comparison:—

	1913-14.			1919-20.		
	Dividends, &c.	To Reserve, &c.	Carried Forward.	Dividends, &c.	To Reserve, &c.	Carried Forward.
Argentine Land and Investment	£ 15,717	£ 25,000	£ 481	£ 54,032	£ 10,000	£ 1,664
Argentine Southern Land	19,600	..	13,775	25,000	..	8,463
Cordova Land	43,935	..	31,376	54,404	..	13,947
Forestal Land, Timber, & Rlys	356,661	22,790	5,304	525,583	300,000	265,321
Leach's Argentine Estates	21,000	..	..	60,000	20,000	1,727
Rio Negro Land	..	..	6,094	21,000	..	2,237
Tecka Argentina	..	1,000	3,490	14,000	..	6,732

Allocation to reserves are naturally not on the generous scale prevailing last year. Indeed, some companies, as our table shows, have not been able to provide further in this direction. The amount apportioned for reserve for the Forestal Land and Timber is for "Excess profits duty, income-tax, and corporation profits tax." In a statistical statement issued by this company the net addition to reserve for 1920 is stated as £691,697, exclusive of the abovementioned £300,000.

We conclude with a table showing dividends for the past three years, and a record of share prices:—

Name and Amount of Share.	Dividends.				Prices.				Present Yield.
	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	July 27, 1914.	Nov. 22, 1920.	Dec. 12, 1921.	Dec. 12, 1921.	
Argentine Land & Inv't, 10s	5	12	15	10	1	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	12 6
Argentine Southern Land, £1	10	10	12 1/2	5	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	14 0
Cordova Land Ord., £1	5	5	7 1/2	5	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	15 9
Forestal Land Ord., £1	12	18	18	12	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	16 0
Do 6% Cum. Pref., £1	12	12	12	6	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	16 0
Leach's Estates Ord., 10s.	12	12	12	6	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	16 0
Do 6% Cum. Pref., £1	22 1/2	22 1/2	22 1/2	Nil	..	..	..	..	7 9
Rio Negro Ord., £1	9	9	9	6	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	14 0
Do 6% Cum. Pref., £1	6	7	15	7	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	11 4
Tecka Ord., £1	10	10	15	7	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	1 1/2	8 0

* Free of income-tax.

That while paying interim preference dividends January next, it had been decided to propose "consideration of a dividend payment" on ordinary shares "owing to adverse trading conditions prevailing throughout the current year," was the recent announcement of Forestal Land, Timber, and Railways, which tersely apply sums up the situation.

The outlook is not without some redeeming feat. "Prospects for the current year's clip are excellent according to latest reports, "both as regards quantity and quality," and it may be that with an improvement in British and Continental demand for Argentine produce, and let us hope, foreign exchanges tending towards a degree of stabilisation, troubles will gradually away.

Business Notes.

An E.P.D. Concession.—Sir Robert Horne, speaking Newcastle last Saturday, announced a concession regard to the payment of outstanding arrears of export profits duty. The Chancellor said: "With a view assisting industry in the present difficulty I intend propose to the House of Commons, in connection with Finance Bill of next year, a scheme for spreading payment of the outstanding arrears of excess profits duty, suitable cases over a period of five years from a fixed date which I propose should be January 1st next. Payment of the duty, in those cases to which the scheme is applied, will be made in full within that period of five years, quarterly instalments each year, the first instalment being payable before March, 1922. I propose that interest payable in cash at the net rate of 5 per cent. and without allowance for income-tax, should be charged from the fixed date upon all outstanding arrears as assessed, whether falling within the scheme I have adumbrated or not. A right of appeal to the Special Commissioners of Income-tax will be afforded to any payer whose application to be allowed to come under the scheme has been refused, the decision of those Commissioners on appeal being final. In the meantime, pending the passing of the necessary legislation, effect to this proposal, should the House of Commons assent to it, I have instructed the Commissioners of the Revenue as far as possible to give effect to this proposal to many concerns. It will also reduce prospective cheque receipts from this source in the financial year 1921-22."

Iron and Steel Output.—The National Federation Iron and Steel Manufacturers states that the production of pig-iron in November showed a further slight rise, 271,800 tons (compared with 235,500 tons in October), but is still much below the production immediately before the coal stoppage and less than 40 per cent. of the production in the autumn of 1920. Or 85 furnaces were in blast at the end of the month compared with 82 at the beginning of the month, having suspended and five resumed operations during the month. Before the stoppage 109 furnaces were in blast and in the autumn of last year over 300. Of the pig-iron produced, 90,300 tons were hematite, 80,500 tons basic, 79,100 tons foundry and 15,000 tons forge. The production of steel in November amounted to 442,800 tons, the highest output attained since February, but only 50 per cent. of the production of September, 1920.

The Home Railway Position.—A Stock Exchange correspondent writes:—Stock Exchange speculation is accustoming at this season of the year to concern itself with dividend estimates in respect of the ordinary stocks of the home railway companies, and the fixing of January 15th next as the date on which it is proposed to hand over the first instalment of 24½ million pounds amongst railway companies has revived interest in the dividend calculations of the market. A month ago gloomy predictions were current in regard to dividend possibilities. Preference stocks in various home railway companies had fallen to levels at which they offered an average of 7½ per cent. on the money to those who at that time were sufficiently courageous to make purchases of such stocks. There was also a fair amount of debenture stock on offer, and the atmosphere, together with market prices, had become charged with doubts, which deepened into depression. To-day, the actual quantity of home railway debenture stock which is on offer in the market is literally negligible. The preference stocks are also being absorbed at a rate which has left jobbers' books bare of supply.

One day this week rises occurred in 65 prior-charge stocks of the home railway companies, and other days have contributed their quota to advances ranging from 1 to 3 points per diem. The market for ordinary stocks has not kept step with that of the prior-charge issues, and some of the deferred issues still languish, owing to the continued fear that they may have to go dividendless in respect of the current twelve months. The market sentiment in connection with the dividend outlook has changed, and, apart from the derided stocks, the general conviction to-day is that the companies will have no difficulty in meeting their debenture interest, nor are they likely to pass the payment of dividends on the preference stocks. The substantial amounts which the railway companies will receive under section 12 (1) (a) serve to relieve the fears that were current a month ago. The North-Western stands to get over three million pounds, both the Great Western and Midland nearly three millions apiece, the South-Western, Great Northern, Great Eastern, South-Eastern and Great Central are all down for a little over a million each, the North-Eastern for £2,375,000, while there is an extra £1 million pounds to be distributed amongst those companies which suffered abnormally from standardisation of wages and pay, hours of duty and other conditions of service. This is the first instalment, of course, of the money set aside by the Government for payment to the companies, the other moiety falling due a year after the first. Consequently, the market is ready to accept it as an almost practical certainty that the interest and dividends on the prior-charge stocks of the stronger companies will be paid next month. More obscurity lies around the chances of the ordinary stocks, though here again a mild hopefulness has taken the place of the profound pessimism in which the market was sunk quite lately, and now it is cautiously hoped that the dividends to be declared next month on the ordinary stocks may not be much less than those of a year ago. Prophecy on this point, however, wisely prefers not to enter into precise details. Several of the home railway companies are known to be contemplating new issues of capital. Holders of existing stocks are tempted to look a little askance at the likelihood of prior-charges being put in front of their present securities; but it is pointed out in the Stock Exchange that unless the railway companies can obtain the money they require for extensions and upkeep, they cannot hope to continue earning profits for distribution on the same scale as that which prevailed before the war.

Indian Fiscal Commission.—A few months ago the Indian Government appointed a commission of inquiry into the future fiscal policy of India. It is now reported the members of the Commission have started upon a tour, and visits will be made to the leading cities of the Dependency. On behalf of the Commission, a list of questions for witnesses has been compiled, and these number over eighty. The chief questions refer to the desirability of Free-trade or Protection; to the question whether a tariff provides a more or less suitable form of taxation for India than direct taxation; to the effect the existing tariff

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED.

1-4, Great Tower Street, London, E.C.3.

Branches.			
Colombo.	Calicut.	Medan.	Kobe.
Calcutta.	Batavia.	Sourabaya.	Montreal.
Quilon.	Bandoeng.	Kuala Lumpur.	Tangier.
Associated Companies.			
New York.	Adelaide.	Christchurch.	Borneo.
Philadelphia.	Perth.	Dunedin.	Shanghai.
San Francisco.	Brisbane.	Singapore.	Hankow.
Melbourne.	Wellington.	Penang.	Foochow.
Sydney.	Auckland.	Malacca.	Tientsin.

policy has had on Indian industries in the past. The Commission is also anxious to ascertain to what extent, in the opinion of witnesses, India may look forward to becoming in time independent of other countries in regard to her requirements of manufactured goods. Witnesses are also to be asked if they think that, if a protective policy is adopted, it is likely that British or foreign industrial firms will endeavour to establish themselves in India in order to get the benefit of the protective tariff. Opinions are to be ascertained as to what effect a policy of protection would have on the foreign trade of India and on the general commercial position and prospects of the country. It is understood that the question of Imperial preference is to be discussed, and inquiry is to be made as to whether a system of this kind is likely to increase or diminish the total volume of Indian imports or exports, or to alter appreciably the proportion between them, and thus effect the balance of trade.

American Cotton Statistics.—For some years the Department of Commerce of the United States Government has collected information relating to the cotton crop during the growing season, and in addition to condition reports being published, figures have been issued from time to time relating to the amount of cotton which has passed through the ginneries. It is now apparent that the statistics for this season have been very unreliable. Early in October it was stated that on the basis of the information available the growth would be only 6,500,000 bales. A little later the ginning figures showed that the forecast was quite incorrect. At the beginning of this week, writes our Manchester correspondent, the Agricultural Bureau officially estimated the crop at 8,340,000 bales, exclusive of linters, which means that the commercial yield will probably be about 9,000,000 bales. It is understood that the discrepancy in the figures is due to a miscalculation of the acreage. At the beginning of July this was forecasted at 26,578,000 acres, but the estimate has now been revised, and the area under cultivation is given as 31,427,000 acres, as compared with 37,168,000 acres in 1920. All people interested in cotton supplies have been very seriously misled by the inaccuracy of the information published. During September there was an important rise in prices on the bad crop reports, and it is of interest to mention that even farmers in the United States did not sell freely at the higher values, as it was believed that rates would go still higher before the end of the season. Lancashire traders are disgusted at the state of affairs, and undoubtedly statistics from the United States Government in the future relating to cotton will be discredited. At the beginning of July, fully middling American cotton in Liverpool was being sold at less than 8d a lb. Towards the end of August there was a distinct advance, and by September 29th the price had risen to 15.71d per lb. A little later it was apparent that there was no justification for the advance, and owing to selling pressure, a decided downward movement occurred, until 10.40d was registered on November 18th. Since then prices have varied somewhat, the official quotation on Wednesday last being 11.16d.

Debentures and Mortgages.—The propriety of describing a security as a "first mortgage debenture" when the land and other property on which it is made a specific charge is already subject to a mortgage was discussed in a recent

"Note" in the *Economist*. Though possibly legally correct, this course might, it was suggested, lead some investors to imagine that there were no prior charges whatever on the property. Debenture is not a word the meaning of which has been reduced to precision by legal definition. A debenture is a bond or other documentary evidence of a debt, owed usually by a company. The debenture may or may not charge any property as security for the debt. If it does charge property, the charge may be specific or floating. A specific charge, duly registered, definitely and at once attaches to certain property, but a floating charge, it is now well established in English law, is an equitable charge on the assets for the time being of a going concern, which remains dormant until the undertaking charged ceases to be a going concern, or the holder of the charge intervenes in pursuance of his rights. It then ceases to float, and crystallises. Though a floating charge is an immediate and continuing charge, it leaves the company free to deal with property in the ordinary course of its business, and, unless otherwise agreed, leaves the company free also to create specific mortgages ranking in priority to the floating charge. A floating charge often does restrict the power of mortgaging, but it is inferior as a security to a specific charge. Nevertheless, where a specific charge ranks after a first mortgage, the holder of the debenture which creates the specific charge (or the holders of debenture stock issued upon the basis of the debenture) may find that the investment is not very well secured. The holder of a debenture worded so as to create a specific charge ranking after a first mortgage is a second mortgagee, and his position necessarily has all the disadvantages of that of a second mortgagee. The fact that the debtor is a company does not make the case different in principle from that of a second mortgage by an individual. The disadvantages in question are shortly, that, if land is concerned, the title deeds are in the hands of the first mortgagee, and that, whatever the nature of the property, the first mortgagee may exercise his power of sale (when it arises) without consulting any but his own interests, or he may foreclose his security. The second mortgagee may then, in either case, lose his security altogether unless he is in a position to redeem the first mortgage by providing the necessary funds. If the first mortgagee and the debtor act together their arrangements may be prejudicial to the interest of the second mortgagee. If the debtor is a company, the directors may be in a position to act in the company's name in doing what would be against the interests of debenture holders entitled to the benefit of a second mortgage. Under the articles of some companies the directors hold all the powers of the company other than those required by statute to be exercised in general meeting. That was so in the circumstances which came before the Scottish Court of Session in *Bruce Peebles v. Bain* in 1918, where a provisional agreement had been entered into between the company's creditors and the directors in the name of the company, though the company had not been consulted. The practical point for an investor is that, in considering the degree of security offered on an issue of debentures or debenture stock, the position of second mortgagee is not a strong one, but, of course, a number of points must be taken into account in forming an opinion. The terms of the deed appointing trustees for the debenture holders are material. The security may be good, though there is no mortgage, as in the case of English railway debenture stock, where the power to put the property in the hands of a receiver on default in payment of interest provides the security. (Receiverships of American railroads are, of course, quite another thing.) Provision for a sinking fund is another point which may be material in a trust deed. Thus, while attention should not be restricted to the one question, it is clear that a debenture issue which depends in the main for security on the fact that it rests on a specific charge, may not be well secured if that charge ranks after an existing mortgage.

Cost of Agricultural and Fishery Research Work.—The eleventh report of the Development Commissioners for the year ended March 31st last has recently been published. The report gives in detail agricultural research, experimental and advisory work undertaken, including interesting summaries of a few rural industries. Considerable

space is devoted to activities in connection with development and improvement of fisheries. The balance a credit of the development fund on April 1, 1920, taking investments at cost, was £1,175,243. Receipts during the year amounted to £204,316, which sum included £71,247 described as "profit on investments." Payments amounted to £584,102, of which £568,852 represented advances by way of grant and loan, while administration expenses absorbed £15,250. Thus a credit balance of £795,457 is left. Against this balance there must be set estimated liabilities of £550,000 in respect of advances recommended or promised.

Mexican Railway.—The directors of the Mexican Railway Company, Limited, announce "that it is impossible in the circumstances of the Company to discharge in full the liabilities in respect of the deferred interest certificates," except "to the extent of a payment of a centage of the certificates representing interest on 6 per cent. debenture stock." It is proposed to pay 20 cent. of debenture stock interest certificates in cash, the remainder by the issue of two "new series of registered stocks," the first section payable without interest or before December 31, 1925, while holders of second debenture deferred interest certificates are offered the whole amount in stock payable without interest in 1928. Meetings of holders of the various descriptions of securities are to be held on December 21st, and "the directors strongly recommend the debenture stock and debenture holders and certificate holders to support these proposals. A Stock Exchange correspondent, however, considers that the "scheme now put before the holders of the deferred interest certificates of Mexican Railway is an extremely unfair one. Holders of both classes of deferred interest certificates have right to be repaid at par, plus accrued interest, less tax, before any interest is paid on the 6 per cent. debenture stock or the second debentures." He points out "Condition 7, printed on both classes of certificate reads: 'No interest in respect of any period is to be paid on any 6 per cent. debenture stock or 4½ per cent. second debentures until all interest for any previous period in respect of such stock or debentures as the case may require (including in the case of interest represented by certificates issued under the second scheme the interest aggregated therewith for the purposes of the third scheme) has been paid or provided for.' Our correspondent's complaint is that 'it is now proposed to reduce payments in cash on the 6 per cent. debenture stock and second debentures. But the 6 per cent. debenture stock deferred interest certificate holders are asked to accept only 20 per cent. in cash, and the balance in non-interest-bearing stock, redeemable on or before December 31, 1925, while the second debentures deferred interest certificate holders are offered no cash at all, but only non-interest-bearing stock, redeemable on or before April 1, 1928.' The writer concludes:—'I protest against this arrangement as being most unfair. I do not think it would be acceptable by the deferred interest certificate holders if there could be a clean vote, but as a large number of these certificates are held by the debenture-holders, they will readily trample upon the rights of the deferred interest certificate holders, if by doing so interest payments in cash are resumed on both classes of the debentures. deferred interest certificates have been dealt in on the Stock Exchange with the knowledge of the Board, and have been bought by investors on the assumption that the conditions printed on the back thereof would be carried out or a fair *quid pro quo* given.' No doubt these considerations will be brought to bear upon the directors at these meetings, and it is to be hoped that a speedy settlement of outstanding differences amicable to all parties will be arrived at.

Anglo-Persian Oil.—A very satisfactory report for the year ended March 31st last is presented by the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, Limited. After charging administration expenses and depreciation, the profit amounted to £5,277,600, as compared with £3,577,600 for the previous year. As will be seen from the table below, which shows the remarkable growth of the company since 1913,

he past year's increase in profits follows one of 50 per cent. in the previous year:—

March 31.	1913-14.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
Profit	£2,785	£45,918	£1,517,215	£2,287,886	£3,577,607	£5,277,627
Fees and legal expenses	8,536	18,928	11,095	9,909	10,626	15,176
Depreciation and other interest	38,960	32,022	116,560	86,575	152,500	245,312
Income-tax	..	..	126,179	126,179	430,387	500,632
Royalty to Persian Government	..	20,858	81,002	55,418	322,479	463,484
Law expenses, &c.	..	..	42,839	..	233,302	135,543
Special appropriations	..	..	175,597	..	50,000	25,000
Net profit	Dr£6,711	344,110	1,090,172	2,010,805	3,278,313	5,892,479
Brought forward	..	35,646	19,537	454,725	275,528	556,313
Excess Profits Duty reserves ..	Dr£6,711	377,756	1,109,709	2,465,528	3,553,841	5,948,792
Debenture redemption reserve ..	..	..	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Preference reserve	..	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
General reserve, &c.	..	10,000	200,000	400,000	675,000	555,000
Preference dividend	..	80,000	120,000	150,000	310,000	400,000
Ordinary dividend	..	128,219	204,986	300,000	627,863	1,215,000
Carried forward	Dr£6,711	19,537	454,725	275,528	910,978	1,648,792

* E.P.D. 1919-20, £854,665, deducted.

Debenture interest and income-tax are higher, and £141,000 more has to be paid to the Persian Government by way of royalty. The special donation of £25,000 to Birmingham University. Excess profits tax and corporation profits tax for 1919-20 absorb £47,700, and this leaves, with the amount brought forward, a total of £3,948,800 available for distribution. A general reserve fund is credited with £455,000, as against £575,000 a year ago, while £100,000 is put to provision amortisation reserve. The preference dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. absorbs £400,000. This paid on the first preference shares, which were converted last March from participating preference shares. The 9 per cent. second preference shares were issued at the same time, but do not rank for dividend until the next year. The ordinary capital was increased towards the end of the year 1919-20, and this accounts for the fact that the dividend of 20 per cent. requires so much more. According to a recent White Paper, the Persian Government holds £5,000,000 of the ordinary capital, the total paid-up amount of which is £6,075,000. The balance-sheet, which is analysed in another column, shows some important alterations. The new second preference shares stand at £1,629,500, while "deposits by associated companies" have risen from £345,300 to £482,200. On the credit side the property item is £235,200 higher at £12,012,900, advances to associated companies have risen by £1,364,700, refineries, lines, &c., by £1,047,100, stores and materials by £87,700, and debtors by £1,539,400, but investments are £438,000 lower, while Treasury bills, which stood at £945,000 in the previous balance-sheet, no longer figure in the accounts. The report states that the recovery at Llandarcy (Wales) is now nearly completed. Preliminary operations were started in July, and the full recovery will be in operation in the spring. The results obtained have "fully justified anticipations."

Vickers' Year.—In the accounts and report for the year ended December 31, 1920, the directors of Vickers, Limited, reasonably point out the adverse circumstances with which they had to contend during the period under review. Profits amounted to £541,261, of which preference dividend absorbed £395,985, leaving a balance of £145,275, to which falls to be added £846,364 brought forward, leaving £991,639 at the credit of profit and loss account. Obviously, in the circumstances, the company is taking the right course in passing ordinary dividend. A year ago accounts were issued for four years, which showed a profit of £4,493,726 for the whole of that period. Dividends on the ordinary shares in these years varied between 11½ and 12½ per cent. For 1920 it is satisfactory to learn that the fall in the value of stocks has been provided for, and it is not surprising to anyone with internal knowledge of the relations between the company and the Government during the war to find that matters have not yet been settled with various Government Departments "concerning the prices of certain contracts executed during the war." In the balance-sheet total assets at £38,321,704 are down by over four millions. Amongst assets the principal item is "interests in subsidiary and connected companies" at £18,076,591.

Stocks at £3,481,572 show a decrease £430,000, while land, buildings, plant, &c., figure at £7,570,960, an increase of just over a quarter-million. Share capital at £20,678,426, and loan capital at £2,770,175 is a gentle reminder that profits in future years will need to be on a much more substantial scale than that shown in the accounts before us. The balance-sheet is compared with last year's figures in another column.

The Parent Tyre.—The report and accounts now issued of the Parent Tyre Company, Limited, for the year ended August 31st last, show net profits to be £85,784, after including £2,314 brought forward from last year's accounts. After payment of dividends at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on preference and 8 per cent. on ordinary shares, less tax, amounting to £69,824, a balance of £15,960 is carried forward. Dividends accrued but not yet declared on Dunlop Rubber preference shares are stated to be £75,110. It is proposed to pay a dividend on the deferred shares at the rate of 25 per cent. after receipt of such dividends from the Dunlop Rubber Company. An informative circular letter to shareholders accompanies the accounts, and details of various transactions with the Dunlop Rubber Company are given. The report states that: "Owing to the depreciation which has taken place in nearly all industrial securities as a result of the general depression, the directors during the year transferred the sum of £792,627 9s 10d from the capital reserve account, and applied the same to an all-round writing-down of the company's investments, so as to bring them more nearly in accord with present prices. The directors consider that the company's investments now stand in the books at a figure which, although still above the market quotation in cases of quoted securities, is yet below intrinsic values, and a figure which in normal times should show appreciation." The directors have entered into a "conditional agreement" with the Imperial and Foreign Corporation, under which the Parent Tyre Company will for £300,000 take up 400,000 15 per cent. preference shares of 8s each and 1,000,000 ordinary shares of 1s each in that corporation. It is proposed to increase the capital of the Parent Tyre Company by the creation of 500,000 additional deferred shares of £1 each. Of these new deferred shares 281,250 will be offered to shareholders at 27s 6d each, on which the premium will be carried to reserves. The balance-sheet shows total assets as £2,647,966, of which share bonds and securities, "as re-valued by the directors," amount to £2,452,204, while issued share capital figures at £2,119,948. In another column the balance-sheet will be found fully analysed.

Wall Paper Manufacturers.—As indicated by preliminary published figures, the Wall Paper Manufacturers, Limited, made a heavy loss during its last financial year, ended August 31st last. The deficit for the year's trading, after making provision for depreciation, amounted to £878,610. After crediting the balance of £181,054 brought forward from the previous year, making transfers from reserves, but deducting interest on debenture stock and interim dividend on preference shares, a debit balance of £557,203 is shown. The directors state that the company "has a very considerable claim against the Government for an adjustment of its excess profits duty liability under the Finance Act, 1921," and "no credit has been taken for this claim in arriving at" the figures given above. The company's claim in respect of the German factory has resulted in the recovery of £46,814, but it is estimated that there is still a considerable balance to come. Total assets are valued at £6,770,647, of which £3,441,705 represents expenditure on land, buildings, plant, and goodwill. This item has, however, been reduced to £3,400,038 by allocating £41,668 for depreciation. Stock-in-trade is given as £1,167,815, and it is possible that an amount for depreciation purposes has also been applied here. A year ago this item amounted to £1,836,846. The issued share capital amounts to £4,359,453, while there is mortgage debenture stock for £1,028,445. The report is reticent over future prospects, concerning which information may be forthcoming.

at the general meeting, which is to be held on December 20th. The balance-sheet will be found analysed in the usual column.

Dividendless De Beers.—In the review of the report for last year, which appeared in these columns on December 3rd, writes our mining correspondent, reference was made to the fact that but for the transfer of over £1,000,000 from the general fund even the preference dividend could not have been paid in full, and, the "Note" continued, "the due payment of the preference interest in respect of the current half-year would appear to be more than a little doubtful." This view has been quickly verified by events. At the annual meeting of the company at Kimberley on the 10th inst. Sir David Harris announced that owing to prevailing conditions it was not intended to declare any interim dividend to either preference or deferred shareholders for the half-year ending December 31st next. It also transpired that the directors had decided not to carry into effect the project for the transfer to a subsidiary company of the industrial business (explosives, &c.). In connection with the complete suspension of productive operations, which takes effect at the end of the year, a Cape contemporary has raised the question whether the mines could not be kept going if the price of the stones were substantially reduced. There seems much force in the suggestion. It is true that the value of diamonds depends in part upon their comparative scarcity. Nevertheless, it is difficult to discover any logical reason why the price per carat should be maintained so much above the pre-war level; in 1911 it was 35s per carat, last year £5 17s, and now £4 10s. The selling values of practically all articles of luxury have come down—in some cases very appreciably. It is not easy to see why diamonds, which undoubtedly must be thus classified, should be an exception to the rule.

West African Gold Producers.—Amongst the usual end-of-the-year flood of reports now to hand (writes our mining correspondent) figure the annual statements of practically all the important gold producers of West Africa. Of these, two—the Abbontiakoon and Prestea—are distinctly belated, covering 1920; the accounts of the Abosso and Taquah companies, also the Ashanti Goldfields, are made up to June 30th last. During each of the past two years the last-named undertaking has had to contend against disadvantages in the shape of a shortage of labour and fuel. Fortunately, towards the close of the latest period an improvement occurred in both respects, and was reflected in a partial recovery in the tonnage crushed. Owing, however, to some decline in the value of the ore treated the net profit came out £40,500 less than before at £81,800. From this one dividend of 20 per cent. was paid (as against 6½ per cent. for 1919-20), leaving an increased balance to be carried forward. An interim distribution of 25 per cent. on account of the current year has recently been declared. The ore reserves—511,400 tons, estimated profit value £805,500—show no material change compared with the figures of twelve months previously. As the tonnage represents over six years' supply at the normal rate of operations, the position in this respect is a strong one. Both the Abosso Gold and the Taquah Mining companies also suffered from shortage of native labour—indeed, to such a degree that the mill could only be run part time, while development had to be restricted. In these circumstances it is not surprising that the accounts make a poor showing. The Abosso records a net loss of £5,400 after providing for depreciation. The ore reserves, however, at 301,550 tons of a mill-head value of 34s 6d per ton, score a small increase. There is the satisfactory feature that improved values are disclosed in the deepest workings. The Taquah secured a small profit—insufficient to provide a dividend—but an interim distribution of 1s per share is declared. In the case of this company the curtailment of underground work is reflected in a moderate shrinkage in the ore reserves, which now figure at 162,400 tons, value 51s 3d per ton. With expenses at something like a normal level, there is obviously a considerable margin for profit. In 1919-20 a net profit of £51,100 was earned, covering the 12½ per cent. distributed. The accounts of the

Abbontiakoon Mines indicate that the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid in November, 1920, was really for the most part provided out of the balance brought forward from the previous year, the net earnings amounting to no more than £13,600, whereas the distribution called for £33,400. Despite the shortage of native labour, the payable ore reserves were expanded to nearly 500,000 tons, the value being slightly lower than before at 9½ dwts. This quantity represents five years' work at the present rate of crushing. This gives time for the location of the reef at the 16th level—a break having occurred. The Prestea Block "A"—in which a large sum was embarked by a leading Kaffir finance house several years ago—has a deplorable story to tell. As a result of the unfavourable conditions the treatment of 115,700 tons of ore resulted in a working loss of £24,000. This was supplemented by £22,900 depreciation, while no less than £183,100 had to be written off development in consequence of the adjustment of the ore reserve estimates rendered necessary by the increase in costs and other circumstances. Thus a transfer of the reserve a debit balance of £216,150 g forward. It is not surprising that at the meeting desirability of liquidation was mooted, nor did the bo altogether oppose the idea.

Transvaal Output for November.—The November statistics of gold output in the Transvaal show that the production of fine gold during the month amounted to 704,236 ounces, as compared with 707,825 ounces in October, and 633,737 ounces for November, 1920. The following table shows the production for a number of years past:—

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.	Fine Ozs.
January	787,467	782,634	714,182	676,059	670,503	651,651
February	753,594	781,321	659,759	636,728	625,330	558,681
March	796,689	787,094	696,281	712,379	707,036	671,681
April	754,672	742,778	717,000	694,944	686,979	681,681
May	777,681	779,385	741,317	724,995	699,041	681,681
June	761,764	759,724	727,686	702,379	715,957	671,681
July	761,087	757,839	735,199	725,497	736,699	681,681
August	781,150	756,658	740,210	706,669	702,083	671,681
September	771,587	738,231	708,206	698,558	682,173	691,681
October	792,339	751,290	679,764	723,722	662,472	701,681
November	783,066	722,839	658,701	677,970	633,737	701,681
December	774,462	722,419	641,245	650,191	632,215	701,681
Totals	9,296,618	9,018,084	8,418,292	8,330,091	8,153,625	7,432,191

NUMBER OF NATIVES EMPLOYED at the End of Last Eight Months; Members of the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association Contractors.

	April, 1921.	May, 1921.	June, 1921.	July, 1921.	Aug., 1921.	Sept., 1921.	Oct., 1921.	Nov., 1921.
Gold mines	172,826	170,595	168,152	166,999	169,008	171,912	175,331	176,191
Coal mines	14,908	14,510	14,704	14,588	14,446	14,844	13,936	13,191
Diamond	1,316	1,302	1,317	1,246	1,207	1,219	1,223	1,191
Total	189,050	186,407	184,173	182,933	184,661	187,975	190,490	190,572

THE Royal Colonial Institute announces a meeting at the Edward VII. Rooms, Hotel Victoria, W.C. 2, on Tuesday next, at 4 p.m., at which a paper on "The Mandatory Provisions of the Covenant of the League of Nations," will be read by D. Campbell Lee, Esq., M.A. LL.D.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—RAILROAD LABOUR BOARD REVISES RULES AND CONDITIONS—OCTOBER RAILROAD EARNINGS—STEEL MERGER—TRADE QUIET—NOVEMBER FAILURES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, December 2.

MUCH sooner than had been expected, the United States Railroad Labour Board this week announced sweeping revisions in shopcrafts' rules and working conditions governing approximately 400,000 men employed on railroads throughout the country, including carmen, sheet-metal workers, machinists, boiler-makers, blacksmiths, and electricians. The new rules, about 150 in number, which were made effective as of December 1st, supplant the so-called national agreements entered into between

the Railroad Administration and various railroad brotherhoods and unions during the period of Federal control of the carriers. The Board estimates that the changes will mean an annual saving to the carriers of approximately \$50,000,000; the exact amount, however, can be determined only by actual operation. The revision just completed, together with one or two others recently effected, disposes of all the shopcraft cases, with the exception of minor matters that have been remanded back to the railroads and their employees for adjustment, and leaves the Labour Board in a position, it is understood, to consider applications for wage reductions in the near future; in fact, much earlier than the railway unions expected when they called off the threatened railroad strike a month or so ago.

October railroad earnings statements thus far received indicate that the complete returns for that month will show a larger net operating income for all the country's first-class roads than in any preceding month this year, or since the lines were returned to private management. Reports from 145 of the 201 Class 1 railroads give net operating income for October of \$82,654,480, representing an increase of about 23 per cent. over the \$65,972,000 reported by the same companies for the corresponding month of last year. On that basis, it is estimated that the complete returns will show a net operating income of \$92,000,000, roughly, as against \$87,174,000 in September and \$90,241,103 in August, the two preceding months with the highest records for the year, and \$86,000,000 in October, 1920. The favourable showing is again due largely to curtailed expenses, for while gross earnings fell off more than 16 per cent. from those of October, 1920, operating expenses were reduced 25 per cent.

Reports have been current for some time that plans for merging leading independent steel companies were being worked out, but the rumours lacked confirmation until this week, when it was definitely stated by interests concerned that negotiations to that end are in progress. Seven companies are mentioned in connection with the undertaking—namely, the Midvale Steel and Ordnance Company, Lackawanna Steel Company, Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, Inland Steel Company, Brier Hill Steel Company, the Steel and Tube Company of America, and the Republic Iron and Steel Company. A merger of those companies would embrace the leading independent steel producers, with the exception of the Bethlehem Steel Corporation and Jones and Laughlin. The manufacturers named as the possible members of the new combine have a total producing capacity of 7,400,000 tons of steel, and their aggregate capitalisation at present amounts to \$467,000,000. The proposed merger would rank second only to the United States Steel Corporation, and would be larger than any steel consolidation that possibly might be consummated in this country. The plans, however, are still in the preliminary stage, and may or may not be carried to a successful conclusion.

Trade and industry show varying degrees of activity or inactivity. Business, generally speaking, is very dull. Wholesale trade during the past week has been much quieter, and jobbing trade smaller, except in lines to meet holiday requirements. Retail trade has been retarded by unseasonably warm weather, with drought and storms in some sections of the country. The bituminous coal industry is depressed by the mild weather. Primary and secondary textile markets are experiencing about the quietest period of the year, although a few cotton and woollen goods mills, as well as producers of knit goods, are operating at close to capacity, while manufacturers of silk hosiery, notably full-fashioned styles, are heavily booked ahead. Demand for print-cloths, sheetings, and other grey goods, however, is extremely light, and prices have declined steadily during the past few days, partly on account of the weakness in cotton. Broad silk mills, with few exceptions, are running at a low percentage of capacity; while their supplies of raw silk are greatly depleted, they are not replenishing stocks, owing to the recent sharp advance in raw silk, and to doubts as to their ability to secure a corresponding increase in the price of silk piece-goods. Steel and lumber industries are less active. November failures, taking the country as a whole, were the largest in number since January, while the liabilities were the heaviest since last February.

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

LONDON REPRESENTATIVE.
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C. 2



FRANCE.—BUDGET BILL—M. BRIAND'S VISIT TO LONDON—A LOAN TO GERMANY SUGGESTED—FRANCO-SPANISH TARIFF—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, December 13.

THE Chamber, in its heroic efforts to get through the discussion of the Budget Bill well before Christmas, in order that it may have time to pass through the Senate and receive sanction as law before the end of the year, sat specially on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and is now well within sight of its goal. Most of the departmental Budgets have been disposed of, and the only formidable rock ahead is the discussion that must inevitably take place as to the manner in which M. Doumer proposes to bring about a balance between revenue and expenditure. This he proposes to achieve, as already explained, by (among other things) transforming into short-term bonds the 1,500,000,000 in Rentes which he expects to receive during the coming year in payment for war profits (instead of extinguishing them by redemption in the ordinary way), and by raising the tax on turnover, or "sales tax," from 1.1 per cent. to 1.60 per cent. The latter proposal and the modifications "upwards" which the Finance Minister proposes shall be applied to various details of the income-tax regulations are likely to provoke serious objections that may be far-reaching in their effects.

Meanwhile all attention is focussed on M. Briand's coming visit to London, where he is expected to meet Mr Lloyd George in direct private conversation next Monday. It is universally taken for granted here that the pending meeting of the two Premiers will be merely the preliminary to a great Allied and possibly a still greater international conference, to be convened for the purpose of dealing with the question of how best to bring about a better economic situation throughout the world as a whole. French opinion is undoubtedly to-day much more inclined to look upon the whole situation from a much more unselfish point of view than would have been possible a few months ago. It is now recognised here that if France is

burdened with a devastated industrial area in the region of her ten ruined provinces, England is no less suffering under similar distressing conditions in the form of silent factories and millions of hungry workpeople, which opinion here is more and more inclined to recognise as merely another form of a devastated industrial area. There can be no doubt that, under the hard pressure of cold economic facts, the British as well as the French aspect of the situation has now become clearly known here.

The fact that now appears to emerge more clearly than anything else, as French opinion sees the situation, is that any aid that is extended to Germany by the Allies must be based on the principle that it will be still more beneficial to the Allies themselves, and especially to France. In this connection a remarkably interesting article was published last night by the *Temps*, possibly as a *ballon d'essai*. In this article the *Temps*, whose close connection with the French Government is well known, suggested the possibility of the issue of a great "International German First Mortgage Loan, 1922-1923," of \$1,000,000,000, yielding interest at 7 per cent., and redeemable within 50 years, with half-yearly dividends payable in dollars in all the principal money markets of the world; this loan to be issued through a group of international bankers (who would receive the stock at 95½ per cent.), who would be authorised to take a certain rate of commission, and who would undertake to issue the loan in section in such a manner that the proceeds of each section would be available for distribution to the Allies as each of Germany's quarterly payments of 500,000,000 marks gold fell due. Before authorising the issue of such a loan the Allied Governments would come to a decision not to demand from Germany during 1922 and 1923 the payment in gold of anything more than the fixed instalments of 2,000,000,000 gold marks a year laid down in the present agreements. Payment of the variable annuities in cash would not be called for unless the German mark surpassed the value of the United States cent, in which case the Allies would reconsider the situation. It would be left open to any of the Allies to make direct arrangements with Germany, however, for payment in kind in respect of any country's proportionate share in the variable annuities thus held over. The loan in question would be placed under the control of the Reparations Commission, and would be secured by mortgage on all the assets and resources of the German Reich, the rights of the bondholders taking priority over even those of the Allies, and power would be given for the representative of a neutral country to sit on the commission of guaranties.

The event of the week has been the coming into operation of the denunciation of the Franco-Spanish Customs treaties, notice of which was given a month ago. Both countries since Saturday last, have withdrawn from each other the benefits of the most-favoured-nation Customs tariff, and exchanges of commodities can now be made only on the basis of the general or highest existing tariff. The Minister of Commerce, M. Dior, in the course of an interview, asserts that the denunciation of the arrangement hitherto existing became necessary owing to the fact that the Spanish Government, in reply to the recent modifications in the French Customs tariff, retaliated not only by raising the rate of duty, but also insisted on the payment of Customs dues in gold, and in imposing an additional tax to compensate for the present low situation of the franc. The French Government naturally regards this compensatory tax as the negation of the most-favoured-nation clause. French fisheries, for instance, sell some 25,000,000 of worth of produce to Spain every year, but through the compensatory tax they are unfavourably handicapped in comparison with Norway, which escapes it. In the case of cotton exports, again, both British and French goods pay Spanish duties, but the imposition of a compensatory tax on the French consignments renders competition with the more favoured British exporter impossible. The Minister remarked that France raises no objection to the Spanish demand for the payment of the duties in gold, but to impose a surtax, he insists, is an abuse. He repudiates the claim of the Spanish Government that the new duties are merely reprisals for the severe treatment accorded to Spanish wine exports, and points out in support of this that Spanish wine entering France pays only 31f 20c per hecto-

litre, where French wine entering Spain has to pay a duty of 150f the hectolitre. The French retort to the Spanish Government was taken on Sunday, when a decree was promulgated imposing *ad valorem* surtaxes varying from 10 per cent. to 80 per cent., on a large number of categories of Spanish products, in addition to the existing higher scale of duties. The Franco-Spanish rupture probably marks the opening volley in the great pending tariff battle for which most of the nations of the world have been manœuvring for many months past.

The improved conditions that characterised the Bourse during the period under review in my last letter continued throughout last week, so far as concerns, at any rate, the activity of the market, and were, if anything, even more marked than during the previous seven days. A long time has elapsed, in the Parquet especially, since such an amount of activity has been seen. The amount of capital available at present is so great that the big Metallurgical firms' issue of 500,000,000f has in no way had an adverse effect on the volume of business on the Bourse. The new issue, in fact, will absorb only a small portion of the dividends payable during the current month. Buying orders have been put forward in much more satisfactory numbers, and there is every indication that the year will now close with better prices and much more satisfactory outlook. French Three per Cents. have again moved up, and closed at 55.15, against 54.85 a week earlier. In the foreign group, however, Argentines, Brazilians, Egyptians, and Japanese funds fell away, but Turks were marked up appreciably on the report that a payment is to be made shortly on account of outstanding dividends, the 5 per cent. 1914's closing at 37, against 33.

It is announced that the loan of \$20,000,000, which the Ville de Paris arranged some months ago to issue through a group of Canadian bankers, for the purpose of buying foodstuffs for resale to the inhabitants of the city, resulted in a fiasco. The syndicate, which was under the obligation of furnishing one-half the total amount of the loan by a given date, were unable to obtain more than \$6,000,000, which was paid over to the Ville de Paris, and expended in accordance with the original purpose, the contract then being renounced.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	Dec. 8, 1921, Francs.	Dec. 1, 1921, Francs.	Dec. 11, 1913, Francs.
DEBTOR.			
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	561,426,030	562,351,879	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,226,299,827	1,197,159,847	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,666,338,469	36,488,845,745	5,699,815,380
Interest on securities	55,949,117	53,361,079	22,811,866
Bank notes to order	747,452	833,265	3,511,364
Treasury account	62,558,934	30,165,205	214,338,149
Current accounts, Paris	1,534,385,635	1,589,450,646	585,154,410
Do branch banks	920,007,504	1,035,774,394	83,046,969
Dividends payable	4,148,542	4,282,822	1,767,498
Discounts and sundries	94,013,839	80,473,528	32,935,189
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,836
Sundries	1,111,681,293	1,104,635,241	223,113,925
Total	42,507,882,593	42,426,629,951	7,094,046,885
CREDITOR.			
Cash in hand	5,803,533,829	5,803,391,122	4,160,373,504
Balances abroad	611,122,573	610,346,466	..
Commercial bills overdue	1,757,352	33,626,025	2,073,460
Discounts in Paris	1,248,020,455	1,237,018,375	464,229,039
Foreign bills	6,084,774	5,467,758	14,773,974
Treasury bills	512,974	416,533	110,455
Advances in branches Advised payments, Paris and branches	962,055,614	1,188,823,490	933,925,098
Advances on bullion	62,328,661	63,264,510	..
Do on public securities	12,874,000	12,874,000	26,670,000
Do by branch banks	413,275,817	409,929,717	200,018,982
Advance to State (ordinary)	1,500,754,054	1,840,590,123	546,753,720
Do (for war)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Treasury bonds in respect of advances to Foreign Govern- ments	21,600,000,000	21,900,000,000	5,598,500
Government stock reserve	4,135,000,000	4,125,000,000	..
Do disposable	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Rentes indisponible	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Premises and furniture	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Expenses and management	53,490,420	54,929,842	44,051,087
Special reserve	20,444,407	38,216,770	11,471,053
Sundries	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Total	42,507,882,593	42,426,629,951	7,094,046,885

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5½
Advances on bullion	5½
Advances on public securities	5½

G E R M A N Y. — REPARATIONS — FINANCES —
EXCHANGE AND BOURSE—TRADE—PORTS.
(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, December 12.

THE Reparations question, as far as is known, has made no definite progress towards settlement; but the continuation of negotiations last week fostered optimistic sentiment, and this expressed itself in a further drop of the foreign exchanges, of stocks, and of certain commodity prices. The result of Dr Rathenau's visit to London is not yet publicly known. The Chancellor is pressing the Federal Economic Council to hurry through the "Credit-Vereinigung" Bill, by which Industry, Agriculture, and Real Estate are organised into groups, each of which is to raise a fixed capital sum as loan to the State. There is considerable opposition to this in the "Heavy Industry" Press, and still stronger opposition to any measure for expropriating particular kinds of private property, such as balances held abroad.

The Ally conditions expected in exchange for mitigation of the Reparations payments are being discussed. The measures suggested by M. Briand, Sir Robert Horne, and other Ally authorities for remedying supposed German financial abuses are criticised as impracticable, and most of them, in fact, show ignorance of German conditions, which is not veiled by the fact that the remedies are expressed as categorical musts. Having no military force, and therefore no really good reasons, the Germans are unable to solve problems in this summary way, and they point out absurdities which would be at once visible also to foreigners if these foreigners had to find solutions instead of merely dictating them. Sir Robert Horne complains, as an obstacle to Reparations, that German coal is sold at about half the price paid for coal elsewhere (which system he describes as a State subsidy, though it has nothing to do with the State). This cheapness is due to the abnormal foreign exchange movements, which have thrown the whole German price-level down to a mere fraction of that of high exchange countries. It is not possible to dictate that German coal prices shall be held at world price-level as long as the foreign exchanges in Germany rise as much as 400 per cent. in six months. At the exchange of to-day the best German coal is about 10s a ton; at the exchange of early November it would be about 7s, and at the exchange of January about £2. The "railway subsidies" are also ultimately a freak of the exchanges. The Government has repeatedly raised rates and fares in hope of overtaking the increased cost of administration; but after in May last it announced a six milliards decrease in the deficit, it was obliged last month, for no cause except the mark exchange collapse, to transfer this six milliards back to the deficit side. Even in countries with high and relatively stable exchanges railways are being conducted at a heavy loss, and the paper-money system, doles system, and all other abuses which Germany is expected to get rid of summarily are the common practice of some prosperous European countries which have no Reparations liabilities. The one difference between Germany and the rest of Europe, and the chief cause of bad German finance, is that Germany is obliged to pay a great part of her foreign liabilities in gold (or gold values), whereas the rest of Europe pays in paper of value determined by itself. A command to Germany to overcome her difficulty in paying in good currency abroad by eradicating bad currency at home recalls the system of the Prussian Dr Eisenbart. The Reparations question has come up again to-day in aggravated form merely because the ultimatum system was adopted last May instead of an intelligent plan, and if the ultimatum system of commanding Germany to put her finances in order, raise her coal prices, stop her railway deficits, and do in a hurry other impracticable and in part foolish things is again adopted the question is likely to come up soon again in still more aggravated form.

The current deficits in State finance, and with them the floating debt and the inflation, are increasing headlong.

The last quarter of 1921 will show a record aggravation in these respects. The floating debt, which on January 1, 1920, was around 100 milliard marks, on the 30th of last month reached 241,939,304,997 marks, having increased by 4.1 milliard marks between November 11th and 20th, and by 5.3 milliard marks between the 20th and 30th. Of the total floating debt, 226,476,420,300 marks consisted of discounted Treasury bills, of which, according to the last weekly report, 108,338,297,000 marks are in the Reichsbank's hands. From December 1st railway fares were again increased to 8½-9½ times the normal prices in force up to March 31, 1918. A heavy increase of postal rates—the unit letter rate to be two marks, or 20 times pre-war rates—is announced for next year, while telegraphing charges will also be raised, and the telephone charges doubled. Even these increases will probably not extirpate those large deficits which to foreigners appear to be agreeable subsidies; but at times of rapidly depreciating money it is impossible to raise charges for State services with sufficient speed. A summary of the Budget for 1921, after amendment by inclusion of supplementary estimates, shows ordinary expenditure (including deficit on State services, but not their gross expenditure) 157,421,000,000 marks; extraordinary, 76,547,000,000 marks; total, 233,968,000,000 marks. The originally proposed ordinary expenditure was only 46,945,000,000 marks; but the first and second supplementary estimates added 1,535,000,000 marks, and the third 108,941,000,000 marks. Revenue is put at 61,927 million marks ordinary and 10,500 million marks extraordinary, so that 161,541,000,000 marks deficit, to be covered by loans, remains. The expenditure entered as "Contributions Budget" totals 12,276 millions, three-quarters of the deficit being due to obligations under the Peace Treaty.

The Reichsbank statement for December 7th shows further heavy inflation, note circulation rising from 100,943,632,000 marks to 102,789,634,000 marks. Circulation of "Kassenscheine" was 7,668,300,000 marks. The bank's holding of State and Darlehnskassenscheine among its assets was only 3,522,209,000, as against 20,524,898,000 marks on December 7, 1920. The Palatinat Bank last week suspended payment, owing to losses of 340 millions suffered in irregular exchange deals; and the Allgemeine Bankverein of Düsseldorf followed suit. The latter is a new bank of no great reputation; but the Palatinat Bank was an important concern, with capital and reserves of 99,685,000 marks and numerous branches. It has been taken over by the Deutsche and the Rhenish Credit Banks. It is reported that bear speculations in marks were going on headlong even after the mark had fallen to a fourth of its value of the spring, and when, according to the precedent of all sharply fluctuating exchanges, a reaction might have been expected. Industrial capital totalling 4,876,930,000 marks was raised in November, as against 1,662,010,000 marks in October, and an average of 1,400,000,000 marks in the first 10 months of the year. This, like the increased State demand for credit, is an outcome of the price-rise. The Badische Aniline Company is reported to be about to increase its capital by 100-150 millions, yielding at present Bourse quotation 700-800 millions, in order to repair the damage done by the Oppau explosion. The Linke-Hofmann Company (engineering), of Dresden, will raise its capital by 80 millions, and Krupps by an unstated amount. Krupps' capital, raised by 70 millions after the outbreak of war, is only 250 millions, or less than a quarter of that of the Allgemeine Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft, the highest capitalised of German concerns. Deposits in the Savings Banks are declining, the loss in October being 1,800,000,000 marks. The net increase in January-October, 1921, was 2,600,000,000 marks, against 5,390,000,000 marks in 1920.

The Bourse last week and again to-day recorded sharp drops in dividend-payers; but to-day home loans were active and rising, War Loan being 77.50; 4 per cent., 84.50; 3½ per cent., 73.60; 3 per cent., 105; Colonial 4 per cent., 100.25; Savings and Premium, 84.25. Further foreign buying of loans, as result of optimistic views as to the mark exchange, is reported. The *Frankfurter Zeitung's* Bourse Index shows 30,711 for December 9th, against 33,504 for the 1st, and 41,996 for November 24th. Since the last date 25 dividend-payers have

fallen from 38,507 to 28,090. The Bourse is entirely under the influence of the exchanges; and is therefore in an unsettled mood, with bear sentiment prevailing. The *Essen Bergwerks-Zeitung* estimates the losses on December 1st alone at 40 to 50 milliards; but stocks fell before that day, and have fallen since. Last week some textile stocks lost as much as 1,200 per cent., Western mining stocks as much as 860 per cent., and shipping stocks as much as 590 per cent., while the highest-quoted stock, Sarotti Chocolate, which recently touched 4,500, to-day stands at 1,600. The banks to-day, for the first time, began selling out margin-holders. The further drop of the dollar to-day to 165.57, the lowest point since October 25th, caused further heavy selling.

Details of October's foreign trade, summarised briefly last week, are:—Imports, 3,004,800 metric tons, of value 13,875 million marks, against 2,582,600 tons, value 10,668 millions in September. Exports, 1,973,100 tons, value 9,711 millions, against 1,870,700 tons, value 7,519 millions, in September. Imports of food increased from 1,054,000 tons to 1,235,600 tons; of minerals and mineral oils from 1,259,800 tons to 1,509,700 tons. Exports of minerals declined from 1,116,200 tons to 1,073,600 tons; of chemicals and dyes increased from 182,100 tons to 209,200 tons; of pottery from 34,900 tons to 40,200 tons; glass, from 9,100 tons to 10,400 tons; of base metals and wares therefrom from 235,800 tons to 258,400 tons; of firearms, clocks, toys, &c., from 5,600 tons to 8,000 tons; of textiles and goods classed therewith, from 12,500 tons to 16,100 tons. Paper exports declined from 29,100 tons to 29,000 tons, and machinery and vehicles from 41,300 tons to 38,400 tons. Coal production in January-October, inclusive, was 112,578,872 metric tons, against 107,606,340 tons and 145,559,159 tons in the same months of 1920 and 1913 respectively, Alsace-Lorraine, the Saar, and the Palatinate being in all cases excluded. Brown coal production was 101,488,914 tons, against 91,684,891 tons and 72,323,966 tons respectively. The coal shortage is being increasingly felt, and frost, it is announced, would cause a crisis. Shipping in Hamburg in the first 11 months of the year was: Arrivals, 7,898 vessels, of 8,659,632 net tons; departures, 9,150 vessels, of 8,616,416 tons; figures for the same months of 1920 being 4,296 of 3,845,641 tons, and 4,574 of 3,780,850 tons. Compared with 1919, shipping in 1921 so far increased more than sixfold, and is about two-thirds of that of 1913. Bremen's shipping in January-October, inclusive, was: Arrivals, 2,219,208 tons, against 1,033,960 tons in the same months of 1920; and departures, 2,256,169 tons, against 1,005,892 tons, this year's shipping being also about two-thirds of that of 1913.

ITALY.—THE BUDGET SPEECH.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, December 10.

On December 8th, Signor de Nava, Minister of Finance, made his Budget speech in the Chamber of Deputies. By statute he was bound to review the past fiscal year 1920-21, the current year 1921-22, and the coming year. For the year ended June, 1921, it was estimated in December, 1920, that there would be a deficit of 12,141 million lire, the difference between 22,947 million lire expenditure and 10,806 revenue. In the final accounts, the figures were greatly changed; expenditure rose to 28,783 million lire and revenue to 18,071 millions, so that the deficit was reduced to 10,712 millions. For the present year there was an estimated deficit of 10,370 million lire. But in July the Treasury Minister was able to announce to Parliament that the estimated deficit was to be only 5,000 million lire, thanks mainly to the discontinuance of the bread subsidy. The results of the first quarter of the fiscal year, from July 1st to October 30th, confirm that the deficit will be about 5,000 million lire, in spite of a rise of 1,750 million lire in revenue, which should have reduced the deficit to 3,250 million lire. But the rise in expenditure is swallowing up all increase in the revenue.

In the next fiscal year, 1922-23, the expenditure is calculated at 18,525 million lire and the revenue at 15,763 millions, with an estimated deficit of about 3,000 million lire. The Minister might have safely estimated that the deficit

will be wiped out next year, as there is no reason why the revenue should amount only to 15,763 million lire, having in the past year risen to 18,071 millions, while in the present one it will probably touch 19,000 million lire. The Minister evidently supposes that expenditure also will rise, and will absorb the surplus of effective revenue upon estimates. The situation is undoubtedly improving, as the deficit has diminished from 11 to 5 and to 3 billion lire in three successive fiscal years. A good feature, which is worth noting, is that the Treasury does not put on the revenue side any figure from war indemnities. If indemnities are paid, so much to the good. It is probable that the 11 billions deficit of 1920-21 was less than the true deficit, as various State administrations had a separate current account with the Treasury, and their deficit did not enter into the general Budget; while the Minister has assured the Chamber that the 5 and 3 billions deficit of the current and next financial years are the true net results of all public administrations, all separate accounts being from July 1, 1921, thrown, as of old into the general Budget.

The debt situation is as follows (in billion lire):—

	July 31, 1914.	June 30, 1919.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Oct. 31, 1921.
Perpetual and long-dated debts	14.8	28.4	48.9	49.3
Exchequer bills	0.4	15.0	10.7	23.0
3, 5, and 7 year bonds	..	5.7	4.6	5.7
State and bank notes	0.5	8.6	12.7	10.6
Deposit and loans State banks	..	0.5	0.6	0.6
Total internal debts	15.7	58.2	77.5	89.2
External debts	..	19.2	20.6	21.0
General total	15.7	77.4	98.1	110.2

The external debt, which was non-existent before the war, increases slowly as unpaid interest accumulates with the capital. The items are calculated at the par of exchanges; and if we estimate them at the current rate of exchanges, the figure should probably be put at about 90 billion lire, a sum equal to the internal debt, and an overpowering burden for the Italian taxpayer. Public opinion has not lost the hope that the *Economist's* thesis of the total cancellation of the inter-Allied debts will ultimately prevail; as, otherwise, all hopes of balancing budgets are lost and total confusion will prevail in our financial and monetary situation.

Notes (paper money) issued directly by the State or indirectly by the issue banks for the account of the State are less by 2.1 million, having fallen from 12.7 to 10.6 billion lire. The significance of this is, however, somewhat obscured by the rise of the so-called issues for the account of commerce, which rose from 8,230 million lire at September 30, 1920, to 9,775 million lire at September 30, 1921, a rise of 1,545 million lire. If we deduct this rise of the notes in circulation for the account of commerce from the decrease of 2,100 millions lire in the circulation for State account, we have a net decrease of 600 million lire. But the picture is marred by the great increase in the figure of outstanding Exchequer bills, which have risen during the year from 10.7 billions to the utterly unmanageable sum of 23 billion lire. As the longest dated are one-year bills, and a large amount is maturing from day to day, the State is liable at a moment's notice to convert them into cash; with the risk of a rise in the note circulation. The gist of the speech is that we are laboriously groping toward the light; that the revenue is coming on very well; but that a very great effort is to be made toward curtailing the growth of expenditure. If the Treasury should succeed in the task of checking this growth, the port of rest for our financial ship would be within easy reach.

SPAIN.—COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH FRANCE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MADRID, December 12.

THE official statement of the commercial rupture between France and Spain, though on the whole not unexpected, has caused consternation in Spanish financial and commercial circles. The Note of the French Government is in itself serious enough, stating that, in consequence of the rupture, France will from December 11th exact on all Spanish products imported into France the general tariff

rates, while many products will also be subject to an extra *ad valorem* duty. The orange trade will be the first to suffer under this severe restriction, since this is the season when contracts have been signed and the fruit already packed for the annual export to France, which is Spain's largest market for oranges. The wine trade, too, will suffer. Among other victims of the disagreements and ultra-protectionism of both countries are Spanish dealers in raw materials and French exporters of luxury goods. However, it is expected in Spanish commercial circles that this present state of affairs cannot last long, and that national interests on both sides will put an end to this tariff war between two nations that need so much from each other. It is expected that negotiations will be renewed before long, and that a new commercial treaty will be drawn up. The Spanish Government announces the immediate publication of a Red Book fully explanatory of the Franco-Spanish commercial relations. It is considered likely that, pending the establishment of more friendly commercial relations between the two countries, the new Spanish tariff that was to have come into force on January 1st will be postponed with a view to possible modifications.

HOLLAND.—TRADE BALANCE—GERMAN CREDIT—SPECULATION—FINANCES OF AMSTERDAM—PROTECTION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

AMSTERDAM, December 10.

THE unfavourable balance of trade is growing. In October it was 64,000,000 fl, as compared with 61,000,000 fl in September and 44,000,000 fl in August.

Comparing the figures of last October with those of a year ago imports declined by 158,000,000 fl, and exports by only 33,000,000 fl. Had exports receded to the same extent matters would be still worse than they are at present.

Holland was the first country to grant a credit to Germany after the war. This credit amounted to 200,000,000 fl, of which 60,000,000 fl were to be used for foodstuffs and 140,000,000 fl for raw materials. It appears that on November 7th of the first-named credit Germany had availed herself to the extent of 26,500,000 fl, leaving a balance still to be utilised of 33,500,000 fl. Of the amount taken up, however, 24,100,000 fl had already been paid back, so that only 2,400,000 fl were outstanding. Of the raw materials credit only 11,700,000 fl had been utilised. This shows that the fear of some that by this credit Holland was supporting German competition against Dutch industry had no grounds.

The losses which our country sustains owing to the fall of the mark are enormous. People have been gambling in marks ever since the beginning of its decline, and one may rest assured that at present, after the recent rise from 1 cent to 1½ cent, millions of marks are being bought again. Some estimate the total losses in this respect as nearly equalling the losses suffered on Russian bonds held in this country, and this means a good deal, as it is well known that Dutch investors have always paid much attention to Russian securities. In fact, one will find, with few exceptions, that a considerable part of every investment portfolio consisted of this sort of securities. It seems not at all impossible that about a tenth of the Dutch national wealth has been lost in Russian bonds and marks.

The financial burden of this city is vividly illustrated by the following figures:—The wages and salaries of municipal employees have increased since 1914 from 16,500,000 fl to 50,000,000 fl; taxes went up from 10,700,000 fl to 49,700,000 fl, and the income of the citizens from 257,000,000 fl to 468,000,000 fl. The previous year, however, it was 638,000,000 fl. Should the total income of the citizens go back again next year to the average of 1910-1916, and the expenditure of Government and municipalities not decrease, all incomes above 3,000 fl would have to be taxed nearly 65 per cent. by Government, province and town.

It can be understood that as industry and trade are badly suffering from foreign competition, voices are heard in favour of Protection. Last week a conference was

held between the Committee for Economic Policy and various Ministers or their delegates. It is evident that industry in Holland, surrounded as it is by countries with weakened money, has difficult times to face. In addition, monetary affairs in this country are far from what they ought to be. The unfunded debt exceeds 820,000,000 fl (before the war the total National Debt was 1,156,000,000 fl), of which amount, however, nearly half has been lent to the colonies. The impending new loan prevents liquid means from being employed more permanently, and this also hampers industry. The question was raised whether the Minister was willing to consider temporary import prohibition or temporary increased import duties. The Minister took the wisest decision in similar matters, and appointed a small sub-commission to report on this problem.

Letters to the Editor.

TARIFF DISARMAMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Your article in the *Economist* of 3rd inst. on "the rising wall of tariffs" causes me to write you a suggestion which has for a long time been germinating within me.

When one talks to Protectionists, they almost always say that if Free-trade were the general rule among nations they would also be Free-traders; in other words, they admit the correctness of Free-trade, but only if all countries adopt it. A vicious circle is thus created somewhat akin to that caused by competitive armaments, which can, it seems to me, only be broken by bold initiative, like that taken by America at the beginning of the Washington Conference on the subject of naval disarmament.

It is, however, to be feared that a similar initiative regarding "tariff disarmament" is not to be hoped for without a very exhaustive preliminary inquiry into the probable effects of such a step. My suggestion is that an attempt should be made to bring about an international conference to inquire into and to report upon the effects of international Free-trade, (1) on each of the countries which entered the conference, (2) on the trade of the world. Obviously, each country would require to make exhaustive inquiries within its own borders, and those of us who are Free-traders must be prepared to find that in a world agreement concessions would have to be made to certain geographical, climatic, ethnographic, or other natural conditions. But it can hardly be doubted that the final report of such a conference would in the main be overwhelmingly in favour of "tariff disarmament," and that the way would thereby be opened for Governments to take initiatives which at present they dare not do.

There is so much to say on the possible directions in which such a conference might work, that I must leave this till another occasion. Meanwhile, I would venture the assertion that the question is for all of us only less important than the general disarmament questions now being discussed at the Washington Conference, and that "tariff disarmament" is also in a very real way a corollary of those important discussions.—Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM OLSSON.

Stockholm, December 7th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Business Costs." By De Witt Carl Eggleston, M.E., C.P.A., and Frederick B. Robinson, Ph.D. (New York and London) D. Appleton and Co. 18s net.

THIS work deals comprehensively with the principles of cost accounting—covering industrial, manufacturing, and mercantile, and either the continuous process or the job-order type. All kinds of details, devices, and useful practices are fully set out and well illustrated. At the end of each chapter a list of practical questions on the contents of the chapter is given, and these questions will attract the interested attention of the manufacturer as well as of

the student. The authors claim that the book represents a digest of all the available literature on costing in the English language. Mechanical aids in costing are dealt with, and the use of graphic charts is explained and illustrated. Part VII. contains examples of complete cost systems. Special attention is given to the use of suitable accounting terms, and—following the recommendation of a well-known English writer—the term “expired capital outlay,” in connection with manufacturing and other plant, is officially adopted in place of the commonly used, but inadequate, word “depreciation.” The book can be well recommended to all in search of knowledge on this wide and important subject.

“City of Manchester Abstract of the Treasurer’s Accounts for the year ending March 31, 1921.” (Manchester) Henry Blacklock and Co., Limited.

THIS is an important volume of accounts, full of interesting information. It cannot be said, however, that a study of the financial position of municipalities nowadays inspires very cheerful reflections, and the accounts of the City of Manchester are no exception to this rule. The amount of the secured debt has increased on the year by about 10 per cent., to £25,994,445. More than half the increase is due to housing and public health, but large additional sums have been borrowed for electricity, gas, and tramways. Interest varies from 6 per cent. downwards, the average rate payable on £17,203,896 of the debt secured by ordinary mortgages being £5 4s 10d per cent. Manchester’s loan debt is increasing at a much greater rate than its population, which in 1911 was 714,385 and in 1921 is 730,551. During the year the loan debt per head increased from £28 os 4d to £33 19s 2d. The number of persons employed by the Corporation at March 31, 1921, was 24,568, which—assuming that one-third of the present population are workers—shows that about one in every ten of those workers is employed by the Corporation. The financial position of the tramways undertaking is particularly unsatisfactory. While the opinion is gaining ground that, owing to the rapid development of the motor-bus, tramways will soon become obsolete, Manchester has during the year increased its capital outlay on tramways plant by about 10 per cent. to £2,583,036. Mr John Williams, F.S.A.A., the city treasurer, is to be congratulated on the clear way in which he has caused the accounts to be set out.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Settlement of Wage Disputes. By Herbert Feis. (New York) The Macmillan Company.

Obtainable from Messrs Macmillan and Co., Limited, London. 12s net.

How the Hague Rules Affect Merchants. By Andrew Eric Jackson. (London) Effingham Wilson. 2s 6d net.

Le Problème Internationale Chômage. By Hector Turpin. (Paris) Giard et Cie., 16 Rue Soufflot (5e). 2 francs.

Monthly Journal of the British Empire Chamber of Commerce in the United States of America. November, 1921. (New York) 120 Broadway.

Investment Suggestions. December, 1921. (London) Offices of Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

An interesting pamphlet, giving details of a number of investments exempt from income-tax deductions to holders resident abroad. It also explains the position under existing American tax legislation of American investors holding foreign bonds.

Holland’s Import and Export Trader. November 28, 1921. (Amsterdam) 286 N.Z. Voorburgwal.

Dr Vissering writes in this number on monetary problems.

Better Business. A Quarterly Journal of Agricultural and Industrial Co-operation. November, 1921. (Dublin) The Co-operative Reference Library, The Plunkett House. 2s net.

Imperial Institute Map of the Chief Sources of Metals in the British Empire. (London) George Philip and Son, Limited. 5s 6d net.

The Central Council of English, Scottish, and Irish Railway Stockholders’ Protection Association. Report of the Council and Statement of Accounts. (London) 5 The Sanctuary, Westminster, S.W. 1.

Locomotive Coal and Ash Handling Plants. (London) The Mitchell Conveyor and Transport Company, Limited, Atlantic House, 45-50 Holborn viaduct, E.C. 1.

The company claims that this is the first publication “dealing exclusively with locomotive coaling and ash handling.”

The Blue Peter. Vol. I. No. 4. A Magazine of Sea Travel. (London) 12 St Mary Axe. 1s.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business.

Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET.
December 29.

ACCOUNT.
December 30.

THE Irish debates and the quick subscription of a new ten million pounds loan from India, in 5½ per cents. at 93½, are the two outstanding features of the week, so far as the Stock Exchange markets are concerned. After the buoyancy displayed by gilt-edged issues this month, it is not surprising that the unexpected India appeal should have put the brake on the lavish buying which had served to run up the prices in the Consol market. The uncertainty which has developed in connection with Ireland made another cause for restraint. Although prices have receded from the best, there is, however, noticeable firmness in practically every market concerned with investment securities, some of the industrial issues, for instance, having further improved their position. The County of London Electric 7 per cent. debenture stock, at 10½ premium, makes a good example. The Federal Banks were half expected to reduce their rate on Wednesday, which coloured the anticipation of a fall in the Bank of England rate. But neither minimum has been changed, although money continues on the easy side. The City of Auckland achieved immediate success with an issue of 6 per cent. debentures at 94.

The rise in the value of the £ as compared with the dollar led to a general reduction of prices of dollar stocks, several hundreds being lowered to the extent of 1 to 3 points. German Threes have been up to 3½, giving way, however, on a rush of profit-taking sales before Christmas. French issues have also been firmer, though here again a fair amount of selling caused reaction. South American bonds are better on the whole, and the more assured feeling in regard to Chinese credit finds reflection in the continued firmness of Chinese Government bonds. Russian bonds were inclined to move upward on French demand.

Amongst Home Railway stocks, several of the Undergrounds have gone ahead sharply, by reason of the proposed rearrangement of the Common Fund, to which the companies of the Underground group contribute. Hopes are revived of a dividend on Districts next year. Underground Electric Incomes kept Districts company in their rise, and various prior-charge stocks of the group participated in the improvement. In the market for steam stocks, it is the pre-ordinary issues that display the principal improvements, persistent demand being stimulated by the avid manner in which gilt-edged descriptions have been absorbed. The buying of the latter served to widen the area of inquiry on the part of purchasers, who found, however, the Home Railway prior-charge lists quickly denuded of the stocks on offer. Several scores of gains are recorded on the week, while the ordinary stocks are more or less marking time, the public being cautious on account of the uncertainty of the dividend outlook. Grand Trunks have hardened again, because of the recent political landslide in Canada. Mexican Rails, after advancing, soon relapsed, and the Argentine Railway market is dull, although some of the other foreign railway stocks were disposed to improve.

The rubber market remains what the Stock Exchange calls sticky, and almost the only item of interest during the week has been a rise in Bitings, on the statement that oil had been discovered on the property. The oil market itself underwent the usual rapid fluctuations, considerable speculation being aroused by the close imminence of the Mexican Eagle dividend announcement. The Lobitos Company has increased its interim dividend. Trinidad shares are quiet, after the disappointment aroused by the passing of the dividend on Trinidad Leaseholds.

Some of the lower-priced oil shares engaged speculative attention, without attracting much public interest. Shipping shares are better, with P. and O. deferred and Royal Mail ordinary stocks as features of strength. Further progress has been made in the steady rise in practically the whole of the gas companies’ list, owing to dividend expectations.

Insurance shares have also been mounting, and the banking market is beginning to rise, inquiry spreading from colonial and foreign banking shares to those of the London group. Anticipation looks for increased dividends from the discount companies. The dramatic rise of the past three weeks in tea shares has served to bring in a few sellers, and the boomlet, therefore, received a check. Crosbie and Blackwell shares materially recovered, after being flat, on the passing of the dividend on the two issues of preference shares. The cable group is firmer, and amongst wireless, Marconi Marines show a moderate recovery. A number of rises occurred in the shares of drapery and stores companies. Breweries are quiet. Forestals, after a dip on the not entirely unexpected passing of the dividend, rallied smartly, while, amongst other land shares, Egyptians have come in for more support, and are better on the week. The Vickers’ accounts up to the end of 1920, showing a profit of rather more than half-a-million pounds, but no dividend on the ordinary, led to bear-covering. Iron, coal, and steel shares continue to creep up quietly. Dunlops are lower, though the debenture stock, in company with most industrial debentures, gained ground.

South Africans have been under the shadow of a fall in gold to about 98s per ounce, in consequence of the decline in the value of the dollar. This influence is partially counteracted by dividend announcements now being made by the South African companies. The Cape and Paris has been doing little in Kaffirs, but French buyers are taking copper shares again, and prices of these are mostly better, with the exception of Cape Coppers, which gave way upon a very melancholy report. Rhodesian shares are quiet. Malayan tin issues stand out as the principal feature of strength in the mining markets, prices advancing day by day in connection with the rise in the price of tin. Russo-Asiatics and other gambling counters are attracting little notice. Broken Hills have benefited by the resumption of dividends on the preference shares by the Zinc Corporation. West African and Cornish tin shares received a little professional attention, without its having much effect upon prices, and Mexican mining shares continue listless, Santa Gertrudis weakening upon the report just published.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital. £	Cash Subscription. £	First Payment. £	Further Liability. £
ISSUES OF THE WEEK— Amount previously recorded.....	..	.. 343,183,211 ..	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,024,930
5½% 1929 receipts to December 3, 1921	136,004,459
Week to December 10, 1921 (new series)	15,500,000
Receipts to date	151,504,459

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 10, 1921.

April 1 to December 10, £5,130,000	£ 500,000 ..	£ 500,000
--	--------------	-----------

To the Public—

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Electric Supply Co., Limited, £750,000 6% Second Mtge. Deb. Stock (red. at par, 1949, or at 102½ and accrued interest, 1922) issued at 85¼ (Dec. 12)	750,000 ..	611,250 ..	75,000 ..	566,250
Reading Electric Supply Co., Ltd., £100,000 7½% First Mtge. Deb. Stock (rep. at 102½, 1923-51, by annual drawings), issued at 95¼ (Dec. 12)	100,000 ..	95,000 ..	10,000 ..	85,000
Llanelli and District Electric Lighting and Traction Co., £125,000 7½% Deb. Stock (rep. at 102½, 1923-52), issued at 94¼ (Dec. 13)	125,000 ..	117,500 ..	12,500 ..	105,000
Government of India, £10,000,000 5½% Loan (rep. at par, 1932), issued at 93¾ (Dec. 14)	10,000,000 ..	9,350,000 ..	500,000 ..	8,850,000
City of Auckland, £400,000 6% Loan (rep. at par Jan. 1, 1943), issued at 94¼ (Dec. 15)	400,000 ..	376,000 ..	20,000 ..	356,000
Sheffield Steel Products (Stores), 300,000 Gtd. 10% Cum. Pref. Shares, £1, at par (Dec. 15) ..	300,000 ..	300,000 ..	37,500 ..	262,500
Survey Public House Trust Co., 213,830 Ord. Shares, 5s, at par (Dec. 16)	53,457 ..	53,457 ..	10,691 ..	42,766
Total offered to public	..	.. 10,933,207 ..	665,691 ..	1,026,7516

To Shareholders only— Langkapeen (Sumatra) Rubber Estate, £25,000 Second Conv. Deb. Stock (red. at par, 1923-31), issued at par	25,000 ..	25,000 ..	2,500 ..	22,500
Total offered to shareholders ..	..	.. 25,000 ..	2,500 ..	22,500

Total offered for subscription to date	Total offered for subscription for whole year—
1920	£370,141,418
1921	362,893,297
1922	1,034,257,477
1918	1,334,039,647
1917	1,595,569,653
1916	563,460,553
1915	685,236,326
1914	612,522,633
1913	196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Issued at £99 per cent and repayable at par on May 15, 1930. Interest payable half-yearly on May 15th and November 15th. Full particulars of this issue will be found in the *Economist* for December 3rd (see page 986).

The Government of India 5½ per Cent. Loan.—This is an issue of £10,000,000 stock at 93½ per cent., repayable at par on January 15, 1932. This issue is made under the provisions of the East India Loans Act, 1910, and previous Acts. The entire proceeds will be utilised for Indian railway purposes. It may be held in the form either of stock or stock certificates to bearer (which are equivalent to bonds to bearer) at the option of the subscribers. Stock may be inscribed as “Transferable in the stock transfer books,” or may be registered as “Transferable by deed.” The books of the loan will be kept at the Bank of England. Transfers and stock certificates will be free of stamp duty. It is interesting to observe that the prospectus points out that persons or firms applying for allotments of this issue are hereby notified that, by virtue of the provisions of Acts 22 George III., Chapter 45, and 41 George III., Chapter 52, every allotment will be made subject to the express condition that no member of the House of Commons will be admitted to any part or share therein, or to any benefit to arise therefrom. The Statute does not apply to contracts entered into by incorporated trading companies in their corporate capacity.” This information was not vouchsafed in the previous prospectus, which also contained a provision omitted in this prospectus that “The entire proceeds will be utilised for the purchase of railway material in the United Kingdom.” The stock is an investment authorised by “The Trustee Act, 1893, and trustees may invest, unless forbidden by the document creating the trust.” The attractions of the issue are qualified by political and geographical considerations.

New Zealand, City of Auckland 6 per Cent. 1943 Loan.—Issue of £400,000 in debentures to bearer at £94 per cent. The principal will be repayable at par on January 1, 1943, in London, where the interest is also payable. The proceeds of this loan, forming part of a total authorised issue of £500,000, will be devoted to provide further funds for existing electric tramways, for drainage, street and other improvements. Subject to existing loans, this issue is a direct obligation of the city, and is secured by a special rate on property in and around the city. Annual rateable value for 1921 is £1,519,520, while revenue is stated as £1,077,047. The total debt of the city is £4,403,024. This is covered by an annual charge for interest of £219,883, and for sinking fund £67,410, while against debt there is an accumulative sinking fund of £499,827. For persons domiciled outside New Zealand the loan is free of taxes levied by that country. A good security in its class.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne Electric Supply Co., Limited.—Authorised share capital £6,500,000, of which £4,296,247 has been issued. Authorised debenture capital, £4,146,508, of which £2,646,508 has been issued. Messrs Lazard Brothers and Co. have been authorised by the company to receive applications for an issue of £750,000 6 per cent. second mortgage debenture stock at 85¼ per cent. The stock is to be secured by a trust deed, subject to a prior trust deed, securing the company’s 4½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock for £2,146,508 as a first charge. This 6 per cent. second mortgage stock will be repayable at par on March 1, 1949, but the company reserves the right to redeem before that date at 102½. According to the “offer for sale” for this total authorised issue of £2,000,000 6 per cent. debentures (of which the present offer is a part), there are surplus assets, after the proceeds of the present issue have been taken into the accounts, amounting to £5,769,121. As the total second debenture issue up to date, including the present offer, amounts to but £1,250,000, there appears to be a reasonable margin of security. With reference to the margin of profits available for interest service on the second mortgage debenture stock, it is well to remember that this undertaking has increased its capital rapidly in the past few years, its total called-up share capital in 1914 being £1,709,355, and the loan capital £1,087,500. In September of this year the directors announced that, “owing to the adverse effects caused by the stoppage of the coal mining industry, profit for six months ended June 30th last is not such as to justify the payment of an interim dividend on either the ordinary shares or the 5 per cent. preference shares.” Subject to these comments, the issue may be considered a well-secured industrial risk.

Sheffield Steel Products (Stores), Limited.—Authorised capital £500,000, divided into 200,000 ordinary shares and 300,000 guaranteed 10 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each. This is a new company, formed for the purpose of selling direct to the public goods handled by the Sheffield Steel Products, Limited. The parent company—the Sheffield Steel Products, Limited—has agreed to subscribe at par for the whole of the ordinary capital, of which they propose to pay 20 per cent. on application, and the balance when “required by the company.” It is provided that no prior charges can be made upon assets without the sanction of preference shareholders, except to secure loans from bankers or “to secure the purchase price of any shops which the company may not find it possible to rent.” This is an issue of the whole of the preference capital at par. Capital and dividends are guaranteed on these cumulative preference shares by Sheffield Steel Products, Limited. The net excess of assets over liabilities of the latter undertaking is stated at £2,501,969, while profits are set out from 1916 before charging several important items, but after making allowance for depreciation; stocks valued at £566,364 are included in assets, having been taken “at cost or market price, whichever was the lower,” at December, 1920. Since May last Sheffield Steel Products, Limited, has created and issued £850,000 8 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock. Of this amount, in April last, the company publicly offered £750,000, and stated that total surplus assets were £2,501,969—similar figures to those now issued. The present prospectus points out that the net proceeds of these debentures “have been used in extensions to the works and plant and in repayment of loans to its bankers.” The progress of the proposition will be watched with interest by most people, and should be certainly financially supported by those who take favourable views of the prospects of the parent concern.

The Portland Town Estate Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £40,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. There is also loan capital of £105,000 8 per cent. “A” debentures, of which £52,500 has been redeemed, and £50,000 6 per cent. “B” debentures. The company was incorporated in May, 1921, and the entire share capital is, or will be, issued against cash. The objects of the company are to acquire the property in London known as the Portland Town Estate, and develop it. Borrowing powers have been exercised to the extent of £355,000, being £200,000 on specific mortgage, secured on the company's freehold property, and the balance by debenture issue, as above. “The purchase money originally agreed upon was £350,000. The seller of the property, however, agreed to accept £300,000 for cash down instead of £350,000. It was, therefore, possible to redeem £52,500 of the ‘A’ debentures.” We extract these details from information published to comply with the requirements of the Committee of the Stock Exchange. It is not often that a company with a capital of £40,000 exercises borrowing powers to the extent of £355,000, and unless the property has been bought at much under value, the margin of security for “A” and “B” debenture holders is not very large.

The Llanelly and District Electric Lighting and Traction Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £300,000, of which £285,000 has been issued, and is fully paid up. There is, in addition, outstanding £53,331 5 per cent. debenture stock. The borrowing powers of the company are limited to amount equal to the issued and paid-up capital of the undertaking. This is an issue of £125,000 7½ per cent. debenture stock at 94 per cent. The stock will be secured by a trust deed on property and a floating charge on other assets, subject to “mortgages and charges created to secure the 5 per cent. debenture stock.” The company undertakes, however, that no further debenture stock “shall be created or issued” ranking in priority to the present issue without the consent of holders of 7½ per cent. debentures, but it should be noted that under the trust further borrowings can rank equal with the present issue. The stock will be repayable by means of a sinking fund, either by purchase in the market or by drawings at 102, while right is reserved to redeem at 102 at any time on giving two months' notice. Profits are given from 1915, and the dividends on ordinary shares display a progressive distribution. Total expenditure is stated to be £431,002 on “Plant, mains, buildings, rolling-stock, &c.” But it is significant that the word “capital” is omitted in front of “expenditure,” and in the absence of further information, it might be taken that this sum includes money spent on maintenance without a compensatory allowance for depreciation. The position would have been clearer had a balance-sheet been provided. The issue has been underwritten for a commission of 4 per cent.—a moderate rate. But the rate of cash commission paid, namely, 5s per share for the issue of 30,000 £1 preference and 77,085 ordinary shares, together with 4s 6d per share on 13,000 preference shares, during the last two years, appears to be rather high, unless there is in addition a consideration which is not vouchsafed in the prospectus.

Reading Electric Supply Company, Limited.—Authorised share capital £152,200, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each, of which £152,125 has been issued. This is an offer for sale of £100,000 7½ per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at 95 per cent., repayable on or before December 31, 1921, by means of a cumulative sinking fund in annual drawings at 102½, or “purchase below that price.” The company reserves the right to pay off the stock at any time after December 31, 1925, on giving six months' notice from any interest date. The stock will be secured by a trust deed, which will constitute a specific first mortgage on property and plant, and a floating charge on other assets. There are outstanding 6 and 4 per cent. debentures, amounting to £32,000, which mature for payment in 1922. The company was incorporated in 1892, and it is stated that net assets, as shown by the balance-sheet of December 31, 1920, together “with the proceeds of the present issue,” amount to £284,922. Net profits, “after payment of all charges other than interest on loans and provision for depreciation,” are given for the past three years. The price paid to the company by the present vendors for the issue is £90 per cent., the purchasers paying an underwriting commission of 2½ per cent. and expenses of issue. This is an attractive offer in its class, yielding £7 17s 10d, exclusive of profit on redemption, but regard must be paid to the restricted market for so small a loan.

The Mexican Corporation, Limited.—Authorised share capital £1,400,000, in shares of £1 each, of which 1,000,000 have been issued. No debentures have been issued, and neither the company nor the local Mexican concern may create charges without consent of noteholders, other than to secure bankers' loans made in the ordinary course of business. This is an announcement in the Press to comply with Stock Exchange Regulation concerning an issue of £380,000 10 per cent. seven-year convertible notes, repayable at £120 per cent., being part of a total authorised issue of £400,000. Apparently, the notes are convertible into shares at par. The company engages to pay off outstanding bonds by means of drawings in four instalments on specified dates, and undertake to set aside £35,000 per annum. These £380,000 of notes have been subscribed for at par, subject to a commission of £28,500. The bonds will hardly appeal to conservative investors.

Woking Water and Gas Company, Incorporated by Acts of Parliament.—Authorised capital £228,250, of which £168,515, including premiums, has been issued. This is an issue of £20,000 7 per cent. debenture stock, redeemable June 30, 1932, at par. The stock will rank after existing issues as regards principal, but *pari passu* with them as to interest. The existing borrowing powers of the company are £83,725, of which £41,682 has been borrowed upon perpetual debenture stock. These particulars are extracted from an advertisement in the Press to comply with the regulations of the Stock Exchange. The information given is insufficient to gauge the merit of the issue.

Surrey Public House Trust Company, Limited.—Authorised capital £100,000, divided into 399,996 ordinary shares of 5s each and 20 deferred shares of 1s each. There is a mortgage of £3,200 on one of the company's freehold properties, and an issue of £10,000 debentures. Of these debentures, £7,000 are held by bankers, together with a charge on some properties, to secure an overdraft amounting to £22,590. The maximum dividend payable on ordinary shares is 7½ per cent., and the deferred shares are held in trust. Ordinary shares for an amount of £16,542 have been issued, and 213,830 ordinary shares are now offered for subscription, presumably at par. The company began business in 1902, and, according to a statement of gross profits from 1905 in the advertised prospectus, has made on average good progress. Net profits are quoted for 1919 and 1920 only. It would have been better, perhaps, if net profits for the whole period had been given. Net surplus assets are, according to the balance-sheet, valued at £23,380, but properties reckoned by the company at £56,439 have been valued independently at £72,340. The undertaking appears to be a reasonable proposition, and the issue is a suitable industrial risk for opulent investors.

Trinidad Lands Reclamation, Limited.—Authorised capital £100,000, divided into shares of £1 each. The directors have power to borrow money up to £150,000, without sanction of a general meeting. This is an offer by Messrs Sperling and Co. at par of £100,000 5 per cent. two and a-half year bonds, repayable on June 30, 1924, at 10 per cent. premium. “Each subscriber of the bonds will be entitled to receive an allotment or a transfer from Messrs Sperling and Co. of shares of this company, credited as fully-paid up, of the nominal value of 50 per cent. of the nominal amount of the bonds allotted to him.” The following undertaking is given by the company. It “will covenant that so long as any of the bonds are outstanding, it will not, without the sanction of a resolution at a general meeting of the bondholders, passed by a majority of three-fourths in value of those holders who are present or represented at the meeting, create or issue any mortgage, charge, or other

similar security, except to secure bankers' loans incurred in the ordinary course of business.” The repayment of these bonds, also interest and premium payments, are guaranteed by the parent concern, British Controlled Oilfields, Limited. These particulars are taken from a statement “made for public information only, and to comply with the regulations of the Stock Exchange, and is not an invitation for subscription to shares or bonds.” In connection with this advertisement, however, it may be pointed out that British Controlled Oilfields, Limited, the guaranteeing company, was incorporated in Canada in 1918, and has its head office at Montreal. According to the *Stock Exchange Official Intelligence* for 1921, the authorised and issued capital consisted of \$40,000,000 in \$5 shares, divided into common and preferred issues. “The first accounts were made up to July 31, 1920, and submitted in December. No dividend was paid on either class of shares.” Dealings have recently taken place in the preferred stock at round about 6s 6d. On the information at our disposal, a purchase of the bonds could not be recommended should they be quoted.

Peco, Limited.—Authorised capital £75,000, divided into 1,500,000 shares of 1s each, of which shares have been issued and wholly or partly paid to the amount of £35,025. The company was formed in February, 1921, for the purpose of acquiring a method for the treatment of peat. This information is taken from particulars given in a public announcement in the Press, made to comply with Stock Exchange regulations. In its present stage the proposition will only appeal to those with inside knowledge.

Diamond Fields of Africa (D.F.A.) Exploring Company, Limited.—Incorporated in April, 1920, under the laws of the Orange Free State. Authorised capital £110,000, divided into 880,000 shares of 2s 6d each, of which 780,000 shares have been issued and are fully paid. The capital will be increased to £400,000 in shares of 2s 6d each, of which 1,000,000 shares will be issued in connection with agreements for amalgamation entered into with two other undertakings. These shares will be issued as fully paid to two vendor companies, and 1,420,000 shares “will be issued in the event of the exercise of” certain options. These details are taken from an announcement in the Press, made to comply with Stock Exchange regulations, and will not be considered as sufficient information to guide an outside speculator.

Langkapoera (Sumatra) Rubber Estate, Limited.—An issue of £25,000 second convertible debenture stock is offered to shareholders at par. The stock will be secured by trust deed as a second fixed charge on the leasehold estates in the Lampongs (South Sumatra), and shares and other interests in the local Netherlands Company, and as a second floating charge on the other assets, including uncalled capital, subject to the first debenture stock. The second debenture stock will be entitled to fixed interest at 10 per cent., and to 25 per cent. of the profits available for distribution among the ordinary shares, subject to provision for agreed reserves. Holders have the right to convert their stock into fully-paid ordinary shares at par at any time previous to actual redemption. The stock will be “redeemable on December 31, 1931,” but the company will have the right to repay it earlier on 12 months' written notice, expiring on any 30th June. The issue appears to be worthy of consideration by existing shareholders.

The Commercial Company of the Channel Islands, Limited.—Registered under the law of Guernsey. Authorised share capital £105,000, divided into £100,000 8 per cent. cumulative preference shares of £1 each, and the remainder in ordinary shares of 1s each, all of which have been issued or are under option. This is an offer for sale of the whole amount of preference capital at par. Applications are to be for not less than a minimum number of 50 shares, and not more than 500 shares. As an additional inducement to subscribe, shareholders are invited to stay at the company's hotels for one week free of charge. The company owns and manages two hotels in the island. In the statement before us no mention is made of past profits, and a vague reference is made to “Rente-bonds,” which, when all issued, will require an annual interest of £2,000 a year. An independent valuation of the hotels is given, but without more information of the charge, which will cost £2,000 per annum, and profits, we must advise intending investors to leave the shares alone, unless the attractions of a free holiday overcome the desire for intelligent preservation of capital.

OIL OUTPUTS.

BRITISH BURMAH PETROLEUM CO., LIMITED.—The production of crude oil by this company and the Rangoon Oil Co., Limited, for the month of November amounted to 71,049 barrels.

COMMONWEALTH OIL CORPORATION, LIMITED.—Four weeks ending December 2, 1921:—Shale retorted, 2,067 tons. Crude oil and naphtha produced, 203,404 gallons.

KERN RIVER OILFIELDS OF CALIFORNIA, LIMITED.—Total production during November amounted to 117,122 barrels, or approxi-

mately 16,732 tons, including 67,743 barrels from the properties of the St Helen's Petroleum Co., Limited.

THE GENERAL PETROLEUM COMPANY OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Oropughe Field:—Production for week ended December 10, 1921, restricted to 1,400 barrels owing to continued lack of piping facilities.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, December 7, 1921, amounted to 1,031 tons.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price	Week	Latest	Price	Week	Latest	Price	Week	Latest
War (3½%, 1925-28)	90	81	82	90	81	82	90	81	82
Loans (5%, 1929-47)	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Funding Loan (4%, 1929-42)	99	98	98	99	98	98	99	98	98
Victory Bonds (4%, 1925-27)	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	79	79
Conversion Loan (4%, 1925-27)	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
Consols (2½%)	49	50	50	49	50	50	49	50	50
Irish Land Stock (2½%)	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
Local Loans (3½%)	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
Aust. 5½% debts (1922-7)	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97
Canada (4½%, 1920-25)	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
India (3½% Stock)	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
Do 7% Stock	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103	103
N.S.W. 5½%, 1922-27	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
U.S.A. 4½%, 1920-25	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
Victoria (5½%, 1924-34)	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.)	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Lloyds (£5 with £1 pd.)	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Nat. Bank of S. Africa (f.p.d.)	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104	104
Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid)	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½	9½
Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid)	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
B. A. & Pacific	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
B. A. Gt. Southern	51	50	50	51	50	50	51	50	50
Buenos Ayres West.	51	49	49	51	49	49	51	49	49
Canadian Pacific	146	144	144	146	144	144	146	144	144
Central Argentine	48	46	46	48	46	46	48	46	46
Grand Trunk Ord.	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Grand Trunk 3rd Pref.	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Leopoldina	21	22	22	21	22	22	21	22	22
Mexican Railway	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Do 1st Pref.	41	38	38	41	38	38	41	38	38
Do 2nd Pref.	26	25	25	26	25	25	26	25	25
San Paulo	103	104	104	103	104	104	103	104	104
United Havana	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5%, 1886-7	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97
Belgian 3%	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
Brazil 5%, 1914	69	65	65	69	65	65	69	65	65
Chilian 4%, 1895	66	67	67	66	67	67	66	67	67
Chinese 5%, 1912	66	67	67	66	67	67	66	67	67
Egyptian 4%	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
French 5%	39	41	41	39	41	41	39	41	41
Do 4%	31	32	32	31	32	32	31	32	32
Italian 3½% Rentes	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
Greek Monopoly 4%	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Japanese 4½%	107	106	106	107	106	106	107	106	106
Do 4%, 1910	62	63	63	62	63	63	62	63	63
Mexican Cons. 1899	62	63	63	62	63	63	62	63	63
Peruvian Corp. Pref.	15	16	16	15	16	16	15	16	16
Russian 5%, 1906	9	10	10	9	10	10	9	10	10
Spanish 4%	70	72	72	70	72	72	70	72	72

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A"	17	18	18	17	18	18	17	18	18
Eastern Telegraph	161	161	161	161	161	161	161	161	161
Marconi Wireless	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Marconi Canada	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Marconi Marine	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Great Eastern	28	27	27	28	27	27	28	27	27
Great Northern Def.	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Great Western	70	71	71	70	71	71	70	71	71
Lancs. and Yorks.	49	50	50	49	50	50	49	50	50
London, Brighton, "A"	39	38	38	39	38	38	39	38	38
London, Chatham	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
Do Arb. Pref.	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
L. and N.W.	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
L. & S. Western, Def.	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Metropolitan	26	25	25	26	25	25	26	25	25
Metropolitan District	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Midland Deferred	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
North British Def.	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
North-Eastern	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
South-Eastern "A"	22	21	21	22	21	21	22	21	21

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio	68	66	66	68	66	66	68	66	66
Erie	14	13	13	14	13	13	14	13	13
Do 4% 1st Pref.	20	19	19	20	19	19	20	19	19
Southern	23	22	22	23	22	22	23	22	22
Do Non-cum Pref.	56	54	54	56	54	54	56	54	54

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1)	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Armstrong (Str. W. G.)	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Ass. Fund. Cement (£1)	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
B'ham Small Arms (£1)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Brazil Traction (£100)	30	32	32	30	32	32	30	32	32

COMPANY MEETINGS, &c.

BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK, LIMITED.

DEVELOPMENT OF BANK'S ORGANISATION.

BOARD'S SOUND AND CAUTIOUS POLICY.

INTEREST IN THE DORPATER BANK.

The second annual general meeting of the British Overseas Bank, Limited, was held, on the 16th instant, at the Cannon street Hotel, London, E.C., the Right Hon. Viscount Churchill, G.C.V.O., the governor, presiding.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, I will ask the secretary to read the notice calling the meeting.

Mr Escott Thorne, the secretary, read the notice accordingly.

The Chairman: I will ask the secretary to read the auditors' report.

The secretary read the auditors' report also.

The Chairman: The report and accounts are submitted, and I will ask the meeting if the same may be taken as read.

This was unanimously agreed to.

CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The Chairman:
Ladies and Gentlemen,—

The balance-sheet and profit and loss statement are before you. You will find in them evidence of the difficult times which we, in common with the rest of the world, have experienced during the last 12 months. However, I hope that you will also find evidence of the strength and capacity for progress which we have developed during the short period of our existence. We have passed from an unhealthy boom to the deepest depression, and it was inevitable under these conditions that our progress should be slow. I will not waste your time by discussing the evils of inflation, and of disorganised exchanges. All of us, and especially those who have anything to do with foreign trade, know them only too well. Nor will I attempt any general survey of conditions abroad. There is at present an almost uniform monotony of distress. On the one hand we have countries whose depreciated and fluctuating currencies make foreign trade almost impossible. On the other hand, there are the relatively stable countries which are suffering almost equally through the shutting down in this way of their normal markets. The result has been a drop in prices, and particularly a discrepancy between the prices of raw materials and finished products which has had disastrous consequences. As always in these times of crisis, bankers have had to stand as a buffer between their clients and the full force of depression. We ourselves, like other banks, have suffered, but owing to our shorter period of activity, in a somewhat different way. Our credits and advances at the end of our first year's working were, of course, small compared with older banks, and a well-grounded fear that depression would soon be upon us had fortunately made us very cautious. The result was that in this respect we were in a better position than most of our neighbours. On the other hand, the test of depression came to us so soon that we had had little time to build up our internal position, and prepare ourselves to meet such a strain; and we are thankful now that so much of our energy during our first year was directed to construction rather than to taking business which at that time was everywhere so readily offered.

SECOND YEAR'S OPERATIONS.

During our second year the turnover on individual accounts has been smaller, and business as a whole far more difficult to carry through. In spite of this, the number of our clients has steadily increased; relations with our older clients have been maintained and strengthened, and the development of our internal organisation has been substantially advanced. Our relations with banking institutions abroad have become closer, and many new friends have been added. As a result, although our network of connections is still not complete, it is considerably more widespread and efficient, and we are able to offer satisfactory services in almost every part of the world.

DORPATER BANK.

With one exception we have refrained this year from extending in other countries the form of co-operation exemplified by our interest in the Anglo-Polish Bank. Our representatives have again visited a number of centres, but a careful study of conditions convinced us that the moment for action on these lines had not yet arrived. At the same time, further useful connections have been formed which have made it possible to offer improved facilities to our clients. We continue to follow conditions very closely and the knowledge we have already gained will, we hope, enable us to act effectively at the right time. The exception to which I have referred is Esthonia, where we have acquired a shareholding

interest in the Dorpater Bank. This is a small but old-established institution of the highest reputation, which is on the point of extending its activities. Our participation is modest, as naturally the field is at present limited, but an active little business has already been established. The connection is, however, almost more interesting from the wider vista it opens up, and from the point of view of future development still further afield.

POLAND.

In Poland general conditions continue to be unsatisfactory. In spite of the real efforts towards reform which have recently been made, Government finances have continued to sink further into the morass produced by heavy expenditure, insufficient revenue and consequent rapidly increasing inflation. The result has been an exchange collapse that, for practical purposes, has made foreign trade so difficult as to be almost impossible. This state of affairs is particularly to be regretted, as within the country itself substantial progress has been made during the last 12 months. Agriculture has become almost normal and the harvests have been excellent. In railway transport, in spite of the difficulty of obtaining assistance from abroad, the improvement has been astonishing. In industry, especially in the textile area, production has until recently been rapidly increased. Unfortunately on the other hand the vast army of officials, and exaggerated military expenditure, are an increasingly heavy burden, to meet which it becomes increasingly hard owing to the difficulty of collecting the taxes imposed. The peasants especially, who are very prosperous, have proved the most difficult of all to deal with. Before Poland can be pulled together these problems of pruning down bureaucracy and militarism and of increasing the efficiency of the tax-collecting system will have to be solved.

HELP FOR POLAND.

You will have seen in the Press during the year references to a request by Poland to the British Government for assistance in providing a financial adviser in order to meet the exceedingly difficult situation now existing. We most sincerely hope that such help will be given, and that co-operation on these lines will not only prove the beginning of better things in Poland, but will tend in addition to draw the two countries more closely together. Given a reform of Government finance, we may, I think, rely with confidence on the energy of the agricultural and industrial elements to restore prosperity to Poland.

ANGLO-POLISH BANK.

In spite of the misfortunes of the country as a whole, which we hope are only temporary, the Anglo-Polish Bank has been able to record a satisfactory year. As you will have seen from the balance-sheet published a few months ago, the bank on its first year's working has been able to declare a dividend of 10 per cent., and, in addition to clearing off preliminary expenses, has established a reserve of P.M. 2,607,188. Recently a further issue of shares has been made, bringing up the capital from P.M. 25,000,000 to P.M. 50,000,000. The new shares have been taken up for the greater part by the Bank of the United Lands of Poland, whose chairman, Prince Stanislas Lubomirsky, becomes the new president of the Anglo-Polish Bank. The relations established with these new friends have been of the most cordial character, and we look forward to the future of the bank with confidence.

From the experience we have gained during the past year we are able to confirm the soundness of the general policy which the bank on its foundation had decided to pursue, that is, wherever possible to co-operate with the nationals of the countries in which we are operating rather than to establish competitive institutions. Developments have this year been slow. But I think you will agree that conditions have justified our caution in this matter. Our relations with our correspondents in all the more important centres, especially in Brussels and New York, have been increasingly satisfactory, and have given us much encouragement for the future, when better times will allow more active operations.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES AND TRADE REVIVAL.

When these better times will come we cannot say. It is difficult with justice to be optimistic enough to expect much improvement for some time to come. The root of most of our evils, as we have learnt by now, lies in the instability of the foreign exchanges; and the causes of this instability are on the one hand the bankrupt conditions of the finances of most countries in the world, and the numerous problems, still left unsolved, giving rise to international

friction. Many ingenious solutions have been proposed for the restoration of financial stability, but almost all have been marked rather by idealism than by a practical knowledge of affairs. Regrettable as it may be, it is probable that for some years longer we shall be tossed about in the trough of depression before the hard lesson has been learnt that the losses of the past must be cut, and that each nation must itself set its own house in order before stability can be reached. The only satisfactory sign to be seen at present is the growing recognition that such a disturbing element as the existing reparation scheme for Germany requires reconsideration, and must be placed upon a more practical basis. With this central difficulty adjusted, it is possible perhaps that a beginning may be made towards better times.

THE YEAR'S WORKING.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, as to the year's working. Our work this year, although less profitable than before, has been equal in volume and very much greater indeed in complexity and difficulty, and the strain on our staff has in consequence been exceptionally heavy. That it has been possible to execute this work to our clients' satisfaction and at the same time materially to advance the details of our internal organisation has been due to the energy of our staff, whose efficiency and loyalty have been thoroughly tested. It is with great satisfaction that I can bear witness to an *esprit de corps* and an interest which cannot be surpassed in the work of the bank by the staff.

CURRENT AND DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS.

Our deposits, you will see, have increased by some £390,000. For the greater part, as last year, these deposits represent balances of our foreign clients, or of home clients who are accumulating funds in anticipation of credits. By their nature such balances are subject to considerable fluctuations, but the average level has been substantially higher than in our initial year. This increase, as can well be understood from the character of the past year, has been due not to any increase in individual balances, but to an increase in the number of accounts brought about by the general growth of our business.

CREDITS.

As regards credits, acceptances and endorsements show a decline of some £1,200,000. In view of the conditions prevailing during the past 12 months this fall of some 75 per cent. will no doubt be thought natural and satisfactory.

CASH POSITION.

Our cash in hand shows little variation. The nature of our business requires a strong position, and we have felt it desirable to act with the same prudence as before. Money at call and short notice is down some £700,000, but an equivalent figure, covered, of course, by forward sales, will be found in balances with agents abroad.

INVESTMENTS.

As you will see, our investment in National War Bonds has this year been changed into Treasury bills of approximately the same amount, and a further item added of some £20,000 for other investments. Our investments in foreign banks have been increased by the purchase of further shares in the Anglo-Polish Bank.

NEW PREMISES.

With regard to new premises, our premises account has been increased by approximately £170,000. As you will remember, we acquired in 1920 the freehold interests in Nos. 33, 35 and 36 Gracechurch street. Difficulties in the way of our acquiring certain tenants' leases in No. 36 have made it desirable to defer for some years the erection of a building on the whole site. The site furnished by Nos. 33 and 35 was, however, vacant, and work is already well advanced on a building which we anticipate will be ready for occupation next summer. These premises will, we expect, give us ample accommodation until 36, Gracechurch street becomes available.

ALLOCATION OF PROFITS.

As to allocation of profits, if you will turn now to the profit and loss statement you will see that net profits amount to a figure of £102,326, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts and for all taxation for the past year.

These figures are on the surface less flattering than those of our first year, from which, however, no allowance for taxation was deducted. I think you will agree that, in view of the extreme depression through which we have been passing, and in view particularly of the caution which we as a young institution are bound to adopt, they probably give in reality more ground for solid satisfaction. It has been our policy to go slow. But nevertheless we have moved, and have moved all the time with the knowledge of being on firm ground.

A further dividend on the "A" shares is recommended by the council of 3 per cent., less income-tax, bringing up the total dividend for the year to 6 per cent., that is to say, the same distribution as in the preceding year. At present the council do not suggest a dividend on the "B" shares, and the soundness of this policy will,

I think, be generally endorsed. This self-denying ordinance of the Associated Banks must be welcomed as substantial evidence both of a desire on their part that the bank should be built up on the soundest possible footing, and further that for the present they regard as sufficient recompense the undisclosed and more intangible benefits derived from association with us and with each other.

Following the policy laid down a year ago, the council recommend the allocation of a further £10,000 towards the formation of a reserve against our investments in foreign banks. It is the intention of the council that this reserve shall ultimately correspond in amount to the purchase price of these assets. This is the ideal, but, of course, time must elapse before its complete fulfilment.

An allocation of £10,000 towards premises account is also recommended. The soundness of such a policy is so universally recognised that further words of mine, I feel, are hardly necessary on this point.

If these recommendations are adopted by the meeting, we shall be left with a carry forward for next year of £57,526 10s 2d in undivided profits, which sum is free from any known liability.

I think, ladies and gentlemen, that brings to an end the remarks with regard to our working that I have to put before you, but, of course, before I put the resolution I shall be very happy if any lady or gentleman will ask any questions that may occur to them. I now beg to move the following resolution:—

"That the report and accounts as audited and certified by the company's auditors, now before the meeting, showing the position of the company's affairs as at October 31, 1921, be approved and adopted, and that the final dividend recommended to be paid by the governing council at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the 'A' ordinary shares for the half-year ending October 31, 1921, be approved. That the dividend be paid to shareholders on the register of members at the closing of the books on December 3, 1921."

I will call upon Mr John Sampson to second the resolution.

VIEWS OF MR SAMPSON.

Mr John Sampson, C.B.E.: My lords, ladies and gentlemen, I beg to second the resolution, and I am sure that all present will be very grateful to our noble chairman for having given us such a full and clearly expressed statement of the general progress of the company's affairs during the past year. I would crave just a few moments for a word to endorse my lord's words, and express my personal appreciation of the manner in which the business of the company has been carried out by the chairman, the directors, and the board of management. As the name of the company implies, it exists for the purpose of overseas trade. Well, when you come to reflect on the instability of the Governments of the majority of countries now, the wide fluctuations of exchange, it needs very little thought to realise how difficult it is to steer the good ship on a course clear of the rocks and the shoals that lie in wait for the inexperienced and the unwary when dealing with overseas business. I think we are to be congratulated on the fact that our profits for the year are approximately the same as in the previous year, and that we have not been led into any disastrous whirlpools or pitfalls.

The Chairman: In the absence of any other remarks, ladies and gentlemen, I beg formally to put the resolution which I have read.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman: I will now call on Mr Currie to move a resolution.

Mr Laurence Currie: Lord Churchill, ladies and gentlemen, I have great pleasure in moving:—"That Sir Harry McGowan, K.B.E., and Mr John Sampson, C.B.E., who retire by rotation, be re-elected as members of the governing council." Those two gentlemen enjoy the complete confidence of their colleagues, and I hope the meeting will elect them to continue the very able service which they have already rendered to the bank.

Mr R. T. Hindley: I have very much pleasure indeed in seconding that resolution.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman: Will a shareholder move the reappointment of the auditors?

Colonel Westropp: My Lord, ladies and gentlemen, I have much pleasure in proposing:—"That the retiring auditors—Messrs A. W. Tait, C.B.E., and A. S. Macharg, chartered accountants, be re-appointed as auditors of the company for the current year at the same remuneration, viz., a collective fee of 500 guineas."

Mr G. C. Sim: I shall be pleased to second that.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman: That, gentlemen, concludes the business.

VOTES OF THANKS TO LORD CHURCHILL.

Mr Edgar Horne, M.P.: Before we separate, I feel sure we should like to express our very hearty thanks to Lord Churchill for his conduct in the chair to-day.

The vote was unanimously accorded.

The Chairman: I am very much obliged. I can only repeat what I said this time last year, that any success I have in conducting this meeting, or anything else connected with the bank, is entirely due to the keen guidance and help of my friend on my left, and my colleagues on the council and the board.

The proceedings then terminated.

LIVERPOOL MARINE AND GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THIRD ANNUAL ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.
"EMINENTLY SATISFACTORY MARINE FIGURES."

The third annual ordinary general meeting of the Liverpool Marine and General Insurance Company, Limited, was held at the Law Association Rooms, 14 Cook street, Liverpool, on Wednesday, December 7, 1921, Sir Alfred Read (the chairman of directors) presiding.

The other directors present were:—Mr Bernard Barton, J.P., Major A. S. Collard, C.B.E., J.P., Messrs H. Ernest Leatham, J.P., H. Percy Steeves and William Symington, with Messrs E. Bailey (London underwriter), A. W. Edmondson (Liverpool underwriter), W. E. Mounsey (auditor), A. E. Hewitt (solicitor), P. H. Exell (fire manager), E. Gormly (accident manager), and Andrew Hannay (secretary). Amongst the shareholders present were:—Messrs V. E. Cotton, E. Redmayne Jones, W. R. Nielson, Ernest Pelling, A. G. Steeves, E. W. Stubbs, W. Norman Thomas, Joseph Watson, R. J. Williams, E. C. Winter, J. R. Wynne, &c.

The secretary read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman: I welcome you all here to-day to hear a little of the doings of the past 12 months of the Liverpool Marine and General Insurance Company. You have before you the accounts which I presume you have all perused and studied carefully in every possible way. Referring to the marine account, the figures are before you, and I need not repeat them—I do not think you would wish me to do so—but I feel sure you will agree with me that having regard to the bad times we are all passing through, in whatever business connection we may be employed, that they are eminently satisfactory. It has involved a great amount of work on the part of our underwriters both in Liverpool and in London, and I think we can claim, as a young company, that we have done satisfactory business.

FIRE AND ACCIDENT ACCOUNTS.

The fire account and the accident account are before you, gentlemen, and your directors are satisfied with both these accounts. Rome was not built in a day, neither was any great corporation or business built in a day. You have either to purchase a goodwill or you have to create a goodwill—we are doing the latter. We are on the right road to making a huge success of both these departments. We have men appointed in various places in the United Kingdom and elsewhere whom we consider second to none, and they are assiduously working to the end of building up a business which I shall hope to present to you at some future time as a very profitable one.

THE INVESTMENTS.

The investments, which you also have before you, have proved to be very satisfactory. They are represented by a large proportion of money being invested in Government securities, which anybody who follows the market knows full well recently have appreciated, and I think in view of the settlement of one or two Imperial matters, not the least being the vexed question of our friends across in the Emerald Isle, I look forward to a further appreciation of these investments. The item of loans to other companies, &c. Those are investments in an allied company with which we are very closely connected, and your directors are perfectly satisfied with that investment, that in the future it will prove a profitable one. As I stated, I think, at our last meeting, the Liverpool Marine and General Insurance Company is a young company, and when one bears in mind the years that have passed over the heads of some of the principal insurance companies in Liverpool and London, some dating back, as many of you in this room know, to a century and more, we cannot but be satisfied with the position. I am sorry, of course, that we do not propose to pay a dividend, primarily because we want to conserve our resources. The directors have been considering for some little time the question of our financial year, and it is proposed that instead of ending on June 30th it shall be December 31st in the future, which is merely to bring it into conformity with the usual practice in the insurance world.

DIRECTORS' APPRECIATION OF THE STAFF.

I should like here to take the opportunity of expressing the high appreciation of the directors, who are very closely in touch with all affairs, of the loyalty of and the manner in which the work has been done by the employees of the company in every department. I feel sure that there is no insurance company that has a better staff, loyal to the core, never stinting in their duty or work, and having one object only in view, the success of the Liverpool Marine and General Insurance Company. Before I move the usual resolution that the accounts, &c., should be passed, I would like to answer any question that any gentleman would like to put to me. If there are none, then I shall assume that you are satisfied with the manner in which we have conducted the business.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted, the retiring directors were re-elected, and the auditors re-appointed.

ORIENT STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.
CHAIRMAN'S CRITICISMS OF GOVERNMENT COMPETITION.

The twenty-second ordinary general meeting of the Orient Steam Navigation Company, Limited, was held, on the 13th instant, at 3 and 5 Fenchurch avenue, London, Sir Kenneth S. Anderson, Bart., K.C.M.G. (the chairman of the company), presiding.

The secretary (Mr R. T. Garrett) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that the profit for the past year, after providing for depreciation, was £162,177, or some £50,000 less than in 1920, despite the fact that the number of voyages performed by the company's steamers had been greater. It was proposed to pay a dividend on the deferred shares at 12 per cent., free of income-tax, and to carry forward £50,166. With the addition this year of £70,440, the general reserve would stand at £550,000, and the underwriting account, after using £50,000 towards payment of the dividend, would stand at £274,286. He was sorry he could not prophesy smooth things for the current year. Outward freight was simply deplorable, though fortunately trading conditions were such as to favour somewhat the mail steamers. In Australia climatic conditions had assured a good season, but the collapse of the world's markets was paralysing produce exports, and the homeward steamers—although the position was much better than it was outwards—were at present leaving short of cargo. Reductions in freight had been made in order to facilitate business, but no freight reductions would have the desired result unless and until there was a general scaling down of all the costs of production and handling. Passenger prospects were better than freight, but even they were indifferent. Charges, on the whole, manifested a better tendency than revenue, but running costs were still more than double what they were before the war. The two main factors, the coal and wage bills, continued inordinately high, and unless costs in the shipping industry could be reduced, employers and employed would both be in the ditch together.

NEW MAIL CONTRACT.

It was very satisfactory to this company, and he hoped to the Commonwealth Government, that they had been able to get the arrangements for the carriage of mails regularised in the early months of this year. They had made a new contract for a four-weekly mail service terminable by either party at a year's notice. This programme had now been operative since September, and, in conjunction with a similar service of vessels of the P. and O. Company, provided a regular fortnightly delivery and despatch of mails. Despite the fact that they had had to deal with arrears of traffic held up during the war, their experience had shown the reduced service to be quite adequate to deal with all passengers during the full season, supplemented, possibly, by an occasional extra steamer, and much more than adequate in the off season, while at the present time the four-weekly despatch by itself appeared more than sufficient even for the full seasonal traffic. The policy of the Orient Company would always be to provide sufficient, and more than sufficient, facilities in quantity and quality for the traffic offering, but it was obvious that to double the service under present conditions would involve a vast excess of capacity, which must be paid for in the shape of either higher fares or bigger subsidies.

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT LINE.

It was unfortunate that at this rather anxious juncture the private British shipowner in the Australian trade should have to sustain the competition of the newly inaugurated monthly service of the Commonwealth Government Line. They were assured that there was no intention to damage the shipping interests of this country, which were as vital to Australia as to Great Britain, but even if eventually this action on the part of the Government did not result in driving the shipping interests of this country out of the Australian trade, it must, in any case, immediately and inevitably act as a strong deterrent to their development. If, therefore, the policy was designed to assure and improve communications with Great Britain, it appeared ill-calculated to produce that result. The Commonwealth Parliament had definitely decided upon the continuance of the Government Line, and it only remained to wait and see whether the experiment was more successful in Australia than it had been elsewhere. Apart from this disturbing feature, the general outlook for the Australian trade was not unfavourable. He shared the general belief that the trade of this country, and therefore the industry of shipping, the most sensitive of trade barometers, had passed the bottom of the trough.

Sir Duncan Carmichael: I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman then invited questions, and, none being asked, the resolution was put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr P. H. Devitt, seconded by Mr Greening, the auditor, Sir Nicholas E. Waterhouse, K.B.E., was re-elected for the year ending June 30th next.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, managers, and staff, which was unanimously accorded, terminated the proceedings.

DORMAN, LONG, AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN ON THE POSITION OF THE INDUSTRY.

"SCRAP" STEEL'S EFFECT ON STEEL INDUSTRY.

RAILWAY, WHARFAGE, AND SHIPPING CHARGES AND CHEAPER PRODUCTION.

The thirty-second ordinary general meeting of Messrs Dorman, Long, and Co., Limited, was held at the company's offices, Zetland road, Middlesbrough, on the 13th instant, Sir Hugh Bell, Bart., C.B., presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, explained that Sir Arthur Dorman, much to the regret of his colleagues, had been advised to undergo a slight operation to his eye. Sir Hugh was glad to say that the operation had been entirely successful, and that before undergoing it Sir Arthur had prepared his speech for the meeting, which he (Sir Hugh) would read.

The Chairman read:—"I assume you will, as usual, take the directors' report and balance-sheet, which you have before you, as read."

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

"The profit and loss account for the year 1921, after providing for estimated liabilities to the Government, and after writing down stocks to present value, shows a profit for the year of £413,799 2s 8d, which, together with the balance of £248,540 8s 5d brought forward from last year, makes a total of £662,339 11s 1d, which your directors propose to deal with in the following manner:—

"£36,285 10s is applied to the payment of interest on debentures;

"£120,000 for dividend on the 8 per cent. preferred ordinary shares for the year;

"£240,000 dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. for the year, free of tax, on the ordinary shares, *pro rata* on the amounts paid up on the respective issues;

"£11,863 8s 4d interest on calls paid up in advance on the new ordinary shares;

"£3,000 directors' fees;

"£1,225 15s 10d further expenses in respect of the issue of 3,000,000 ordinary shares;

"£10,477 for redemption of 5 per cent. debentures;

"Leaving a balance of £239,487 16s 11d to be carried forward to next year.

"I will now go through the balance-sheet in the usual way. The share capital has been increased during the year to £7,119,930 4s, due to the payments of the various calls amounting to 16s in the £ on the issue of 3,000,000 ordinary shares. The whole of the share capital of the company has been issued, and at the date of the balance-sheet was paid up with the exception of the final call, which became due on October 1st last. The final call has since been received, though some portion of it was paid in advance and consequently appears in the balance-sheet.

SIMPLIFIED SHARE LIST.

"It has been arranged that as soon as the ordinary shares are quoted on the Stock Exchange as ex-dividend, the whole of the 6,000,000 ordinary shares will rank equally—there will then be only two forms of shares, namely, the preference and the ordinary. The company's holding in their 4 per cent. first mortgage perpetual debenture stock has been increased during the year, the company now holding £55,120 stock, as against £51,765 in 1920.

"The 5 per cent. sinking fund mortgage debentures have been reduced during the year by the amounts required to be paid off and cancelled under the term of the trust deed, the total debentures cancelled up to September 30, 1921, being £99,940 in nominal value.

"The amount of the secured loan to the company by the Government stands at £938,475, having been reduced by the sum of £200,000 paid early in the year. This loan, you will remember, was made by the Government for the purpose of the erection of steel furnaces and plate mills, and rebuilding the blast furnaces at Redcar.

"The debts due by the company amount to £975,709 14s 6d, as against £2,063,157 18s 5d for the year 1920, a reduction of £1,087,448 3s 11d, largely arising in the company's liability for taxation. The reserve accounts now stand at £745,342, as against £524,388, and it is proposed to add (as I have told you) £10,477 to reserve for redemption of debentures out of the balance of credit of profit and loss account at September 30, 1921.

HUGE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

"The last item on the liabilities side of the balance-sheet is the profit and loss account, with which I have already dealt. On the assets side of the balance-sheet the amount of capital expenditure at September 30, 1920, was £1,027,955 18s 1d. An amount of

£201,330 16s 6d is added as net expenditure during the year ending September 30, 1921, making a total of £1,229,286 14s 7d.

"The suspense account now stands at £2,261,441 14s, and includes the balance of special expenditure on plant under arrangements with the Ministry of Munitions at the Redcar Steel and Iron Works and on houses and other buildings at Dormanstown. It has not been possible to close this account owing to the fact that we have not yet been able to effect a settlement with the Government departments concerned. Negotiations are now proceeding with the Government, and it is hoped that a settlement may be arrived at in the near future, when the final balance on suspense account will be transferred to capital expenditure.

"Under the heading of 'Investments' the item of £4,173,674 11s 8d, as against £3,285,407 12s 10d last year, now includes the amount of the advances to the North-Eastern Steel Company, Limited, which in the last balance-sheet—then a much smaller amount—was shown under the head of 'Debts due to the company.' The whole of the National War Bonds and Victory Bonds held on September 30, 1920, have been realised or handed to the Government in discharge of liabilities for taxation.

INVESTMENTS IN INDIA.

"The item of £482,835 19s 11d now includes the shares acquired during the year in Messrs Braithwaite and Co., Engineers, Limited, to which I will refer later. The stocks on September 30, 1921, amount to £1,650,503 19s 9d, as against £2,113,615 18s 1d at the end of September, 1920. The stocks have been written down to present value, but as the quantities of stocks held were greater at September 30, 1921, than at the same date in 1920, the difference between the two figures does not represent the full amount of the depreciation written off, which as a matter of fact amounts to approximately £650,000.

"The debts due to the company amount to £1,001,864 16s 9d, as against £1,699,894 18s in 1920. This reduction is mainly due to the restriction of trade at the end of the financial year under review in comparison with the condition of trade in 1920.

"The cash at bankers and in hand amounts to £231,844 13s 9d, as against £226,268 7s on September 30, 1920.

"I will now deal somewhat more fully with certain of these items.

"The increase in capital expenditure during the year is mainly due to the cost of the new Sheet Mills of which you were told at our last meeting. Four of the six mills are already working, and the other two mills will be completed in the course of a few weeks. I am pleased to say they are giving splendid results, and it just happens that they come into operation at an opportune time, as the demand for sheets, which was very slack the whole time the mills were under reconstruction, has revived. At the moment we have plenty of work in this department, and we hope that this will continue for some time to come.

EXPENDITURE ON N.E. STEELWORKS.

"Expenditure on the North-Eastern Steel Company's Works, to which I have referred on several occasions, and which was one of the reasons for which fresh capital was issued by us in 1920, is now nearly at an end. When the alterations and extensions are completed it will be a matter for decision how the expenditure shall be capitalised having in view the fact that the works will have been completely reconstructed and modernised without increase in the share capital of the North-Eastern Steel Company, Limited. We have provided the money, and, as I have already stated, the amount has been included this year in the balance-sheet under the heading of 'Investments.' Up to now it has been treated as a loan to the North-Eastern Steel Company. Those portions of the works which are already in operation are showing good results, and promise fully to justify the expenditure which has been carried out.

"Turning now to the investments in Messrs Bell Brothers, Limited, Sir B. Samuelson and Co., Limited, the North-Eastern Steel Company, Limited, and the Carlton Iron Company, Limited, I think it is as well to make a few remarks on the small return we have received on such considerable investments.

"We have acquired these concerns as part of a policy which we believe to be sound, namely, that a great industrial undertaking should as far as possible be self-contained, and should produce its own raw material. From time to time circumstances alter, and for relatively short periods the possession of such resources proves a burden instead of a help. We are going through such a period at present.

"One of the results of the war has been to throw on the market

large quantities of steel scrap. At the same time from causes with which we are all familiar the cost of producing coal and ironstone has risen out of all proportion. Scrap is being sold at prices pounds below the cost of pig-iron, with the result that for the moment it is better to buy scrap than to make pig-iron for use in the steel furnace. We have been constrained, therefore, to let the larger part of our blast-furnace plant stand idle, to our great inconvenience and loss, with the still more serious consequences that large numbers of our men, both at the ironworks and the ironstone mines, are thrown out of employment.

"This is, I am convinced, only a passing phrase; the supply of scrap will be absorbed, the relation between cost of production of pig-iron and its value will return to a normal state, and the soundness of our policy will be vindicated. In the long run, and apart from such accidents as those to which I have been referring, pig-iron must be the measure of the world's capacity for the production of steel. In the meantime it can readily be understood that unless we had taken advantage of the low price of scrap not only would our blast-furnaces be idle, but so would our steel furnaces and mills.

THE BLAST-FURNACES.

"The present position as regards the blast-furnaces of our several companies is that out of thirty-two only six are at work—one on hematite at Samuelson's, one at Carlton, making ferro-manganese, two at Clarence, and two at North-Eastern—all four on basic iron. I am pleased to say that they are giving very good results, particularly the last four.

"Included under the heading of 'Investments' is the amount which we have this year paid for a share in the business of Messrs Braithwaite and Co., Engineers, Limited. This is an old-established firm, with whom we have done business for many years. They possess works at West Bromwich and Newport (Mon.), and carry on a contractors' and constructional engineering business of considerable size both at home and in India. We look to the closer connection with this company to provide a further outlet for our finished material, and you will be glad to hear that already since our union with them they have obtained a valuable contract for supplying and laying some 60 miles of double pipe line for the Bombay Corporation. This means for us the supply of 70,000 tons of plates during the next three or four years, a weekly quantity of about 500 tons, when we start work on the order about six months hence.

"During the year Mr Charles Dorman paid a visit to Australia, and as a result we have decided to extend our business there by opening a constructional yard at Sydney, for which purpose we have purchased a suitable site. We are sending representatives from this country to conduct our business there, and to supervise the erection of the necessary shop and plant. I am glad to say Mr Charles Dorman found our Melbourne works busy, and the prospects for the future good.

"As regards our interest in Kent, I have little to add to what I have said in previous years. Under present conditions, and with prices as high as they are at the moment, we are limiting our expenditure to the amount that is necessary to fulfil our obligations under the leases and options that we hold in that county. Such expenditure forms part of what will necessarily have to be incurred when the development of the property really commences.

AN EXTRAORDINARY TRADE REVERSAL.

"The year under review has witnessed an extraordinary reversal of trade conditions—from great prosperity to deep depression. A year ago the price of rails and plates was £24 10s; to-day it is £10 10s or lower. Such an unprecedented fall has made our task a very trying and difficult one, as it has brought with it all sorts of complications with regard to contracts and labour. We are trying to adjust our cost to the demand of buyers, but it is not an easy matter, and it cannot be achieved without sacrifices and suffering all round.

"One thing is certain, and that is that if we are to recover our trade the cost of production must be still further lowered. So far as we ourselves can control cost, I can see that this is possible; the wages of men engaged in the iron trade are determined by a sliding scale regulated by the price of the material they produce; the settlement come to in the coal trade after the three months' stoppage, from April to July, makes the coal trade wages also dependent on the price of coal, though not so directly.

"But outside these and beyond our control are such things as railway rates and wharfage and shipping charges. I do not propose to enter into details with regard to these, but I will tell you briefly that the railway item of cost in the manufacture of one ton of Cleveland pig iron has risen from 10s 3d in 1914 to 22s 3d to-day, while the average railway delivery rate for a ton of finished steel to certain destinations, which before the war stood at 11s 3d, now amounts to 23s 5d.

"In the case of export, the cost of placing one ton of steel on

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON
ROYAL
INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED
ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED

board ship has risen from 2s 3d to 6s. This is an unfair handicap, and we look to the railway companies to help us and to bring their rates to a figure which will compare more favourably with the fall in prices which has taken place in every other direction. The point I wish to emphasise is that whereas all other classes of labour have suffered heavy reduction in wages, and while employers are working with little or no profit, railway rates remain at a figure which, if maintained, must ultimately cause a complete stoppage in the iron and steel trade.

"It makes it all the more aggravating to hear of English railway companies who possess a monopoly of our carrying trade placing orders for rails on the Continent on account of a difference in price which would be negligible had they adapted themselves to present-day conditions.

"WE SHALL PULL THROUGH."

"We have been through hard times before, and I am confident that we shall pull through our present troubles, as we have in the past, but I must say that in all my long experience of the iron and steel trade I have never known the position so difficult as it has been during the last few months.

"We have to consider our moral obligation to provide work to support our men and their families, and we have kept our works going at a time when there was little or no profit in so doing. At the same time, we have to consider the interests of our shareholders and to bear in mind that we cannot conduct our business indefinitely without profit.

"We are not yet out of the wood, but I do begin to see indications of a revival of business. The world consumed 70 million tons of iron and steel annually before the war, and it is out of the question to suppose that the same quantity is not required to-day. It is my opinion that the buyer will come into the market again as soon as he believes that a level of stability in prices has been reached. I do not think we are far off this level.

"This brings me to the end of my remarks, and I now beg to propose that the directors' report, balance-sheet, and accounts of the company submitted to this meeting be, and the same are hereby approved and adopted."

This was seconded by Mr Chas. Dorman.

The Chairman invited any questions, after which the resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

A dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, less tax, on the preferred ordinary shares, and a final dividend of 2½ per cent., free of tax, on the ordinary shares, *pro rata* on the respective issues, were declared.

Mr J. Francis Mason, Dr Arthur Cooper, Mr Arthur Dorman, and Mr Francis Samuelson were re-elected directors of the company, and Messrs W. B. Peat and Co. were re-elected auditors.

At the request of the meeting a telegram was sent to Sir Arthur Dorman of sympathy and congratulation on having successfully undergone the operation.

A vote of thanks to the managing director, staff, and chairman concluded the meeting.

AMALGAMATED COTTON MILLS TRUST.

RESULTS OF TRADE DEPRESSION AND RATES OF EXCHANGE.

The third annual general meeting of the Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust was held on the 12th instant, at the registered offices of the company, Yard Works, Stanley street, Preston. Lord Fairfax (chairman) presided.

Mr Stanley Hutchinson, F.C.A. (the secretary) read the notice convening the meeting, and the auditors' report having been read,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said: Ladies and gentlemen,—In conformity with the policy of the board announced by me at the last annual general meeting held on December 14, 1920, no further capital has been expended in the acquisition of new businesses, and our investments in cotton mill companies therefore remain the same as when I had the pleasure of last addressing you.

A year ago I had to report that for four months the trade of our subsidiary companies had slackened off considerably, but

in spite of that we, in conjunction with others well qualified to judge, had every hope that the depression was only temporary.

Unfortunately, as is now well known, the depression in trade has been of longer duration than was anticipated, and the year under review, covered by the accounts now submitted, has seen an unprecedented drop in stock values, and a stagnation of trade unparalleled in the history of Lancashire.

Since August 31st last, the date to which our subsidiary companies made up their accounts, I am glad to state that certain improvements have taken place both in stock values and trade generally. We have, however, a long road to travel before the cotton trade regains its usual prosperity, and I am afraid this will not be attained until the general condition of the civilised world, and in particular the rates of exchange between countries, become more normal. Much of the trade of our allied companies is export, and until our customers can afford to buy freely, their demands for our output must necessarily be restricted to absolute immediate requirements.

In view of the provisions of the 1921 Finance Act, all the allied companies made up their accounts to August 31st last in order to obtain, where possible, the reliefs provided for in that Act. Although, as mentioned in the directors' report, certain of the subsidiary companies have earned profits during the period under review, I regret to state that the combined results of all the companies show a loss.

E.P.D. CLAIMS DELAY STATEMENT.

I should have liked to have been able to make a frank statement to the shareholders of the amount of this loss, but I feel sure you will agree that pending the settlement of certain important questions relating to Excess Profits Duty, any figures I could give you would only be misleading, and I know you will appreciate the directors' difficulty in this matter, and will accept my assurance that everything possible is being done by the board to formulate our claims against the Inland Revenue Authorities in a manner best calculated to further the interests of the company.

I wish to point out that a very large proportion of the loss referred to has been made by the three companies owning merchant businesses, where the depreciation of values of stocks of finished

goods cannot, even if foreseen, be guarded against in the same way as in spinning and weaving companies.

Our stocks, however, are now standing at such low prices that with any reasonable recovery in trade the loss made by the subsidiary companies during the period under review should be rapidly recovered.

We, in common with others, have suffered very considerably by the fact that many of our customers have been unable to fulfil their contracts for the purchase of goods at much higher prices than those ruling at the time the contracts fell due.

After consultation with the boards of the subsidiary companies, your directors decided that it was desirable to conserve the liquid resources of the companies, and agreed that no dividends should be declared on this company's shareholdings for the year under review. The board, therefore, regret that they are unable to recommend the payment of a dividend on the ordinary shares of the company.

The directors' report and accounts, covering the financial year of the company ended October 31st last, have been in your hands for the prescribed period, and I, therefore, propose, with your permission, to take them as read.

Before closing, I should like to state that, during the year under review, we were glad to appoint Colonel N. Seddon Brown managing director of the Amalgamated Cotton Mills Trust, Limited, which office he now holds, in addition to that of supervisor of the subsidiary companies, and I can assure you he has carried out these additional responsibilities with great credit to himself and benefit to the Trust. Our board has also been strengthened by the addition of such well known and respected gentlemen in the cotton business as Sir Frank Hollins, Messrs Galloway and Beck, all of whom have had lifelong and successful experience in the textile world.

Mr William Gaunt, a man of wide commercial experience, has also joined our board. I consider these additions will be most beneficial to your company, and I am most grateful to have such gentlemen as these associated with us.

Lieut.-Colonel N. Seddon Brown seconded the resolution, which was passed unanimously, and the usual formal business terminated the proceedings.

THE
ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK,
LIMITED.

**Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000.**

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 69 Market St., Bradford

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency
Branch—York Street, Mosley Street
(P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

* BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.
 + BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA LTD.
 * BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS OF YEAR'S TRADING.
INCREASED COAL DEMAND FOR CURRENT YEAR.
COMPANY'S HUGE TAXATION FIGURES.

The ninth annual ordinary general meeting of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Limited, was held, on the 12th instant, at Winchester House, Old Broad Street, London, Mr W. F. Turner (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr Alfred W. Berry) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen,—The distinguishing feature of the report and accounts for the year ended June 30th last, which we submit to you to-day, is that while, owing mainly to the fall in the average rate of exchange, they deal with smaller figures than those of the preceding year, the net result is equally satisfactory. For the year ended June 30, 1920, we paid a dividend of 30 per cent., free of income-tax, on a share capital of £1,000,000. The balance dividend of 12 per cent. which we propose to declare to-day will make, with the interim dividend of 10 per cent. paid in May last, a total of 22 per cent., free of income-tax, on the increased capital of £1,400,000, so that we shall be distributing £308,000 in dividends, against £300,000 in the preceding year. It must be borne in mind that the 400,000 new shares did not constitute any addition to the working capital of the company. It was merely the capitalisation of profits which had accumulated during past years.

KAILAN MINING ADMINISTRATION RESULTS.

The net profit of the Kailan Mining Administration, after providing for interest on the 6 per cent. Kailan bonds, redemption of bonds for the year, reserve for depreciation, and the profit to which the Chihli Government is entitled, was £7,313,448, against a net profit of £8,917,456 for the preceding year. This result, as you will have seen from a later paragraph in the report, is due, not to any falling off in the demand for coal, but solely to difficulties in regard to railway transport, and it compares very favourably with the profit of about \$6,000,000 two years ago.

Our share of the profit amounts to \$3,850,012. We were careful to point out to you at the meeting last year that the profits of that year had been largely increased by the high rate of exchange which had prevailed throughout the year. The average rate for the past year shows a reduction of about 2s per dollar, and the amount brought to credit of our profit and loss account therefore works out, including interest in China, at £564,723. Interest in Europe is £72,221, and there are some small items which bring up the total to £641,469.

Expenses in Europe are larger than before, as I told you they would be. There is donation of £5,000 to the China Famine Relief Fund, which was reported at the last meeting; exchange amounts to £16,259, and there is a loss of £11,942 on the sale of 5 per cent. War Loan. Two of these items, amounting to nearly £17,000, will not recur. The net balance of profit on the year is £587,994.

COMPANY'S TAXATION FIGURES.

You will find a statement on pages 10 and 11 of the accounts showing the disposal of the profit balance at June 30, 1920, the chief items being the final dividend, which was £200,000, paid on December 17, 1920, and the £400,000 which was applied in making fully paid the 400,000 shares of £1 each allotted on May 12th last, pursuant to the resolutions of the extraordinary general meeting held on January 4, 1921; the £37,784 remaining is brought into the following year. We have, therefore, a total credit to profit and loss of £625,779. Income-tax absorbs £112,316, excess profits duty requires £122,304 to bring up the reserve to the required figure of £189,000, and corporation profits tax is £26,600. These three items, making a total of £261,220, form our contribution to the Inland Revenue, and, as you see, they amount to almost exactly 45 per cent. of the year's profit. The interim dividend of 10 per cent., free of income-tax, paid on May 23rd last was £140,000, so that we have a balance of £224,559 to deal with to-day.

I have already said that we propose to declare a balance dividend of 12 per cent., free of tax, payable to-morrow, December 13th. The further remuneration to which the directors are entitled under the articles of association is £9,133, and we propose to write off the whole of the expenses in connection with the increase of capital (consisting chiefly of stamp duties), amounting to £25,685, so that there will be a balance of £21,740 to be carried forward to the current year.

OVER £1,400,000 PAID IN E.P.D.

This result is more gratifying when one bears in mind that the profits have had to bear a charge of £122,000 for excess profits duty, and that the company's liability to that impost ends with these accounts. It is interesting to know that the company will have paid in all for excess profits duty over £1,400,000.

As regards the balance-sheet, there are only one or two items to which I need refer. The first is the increase of the share capital from £1,000,000 to £1,400,000. On the other side of the account you will see that our loan account to the Kailan Mining Administration has been increased from £50,000 to £152,000, a sum of £102,000 having been provided by us, and a similar amount by the Lanchow Mining Company for further working capital of the Kailan Mining Administration. It is quite likely that we may very shortly have to contribute another £100,000 of working capital.

The next paragraph of the report relates to excess profits duty and the directors' remuneration. There is a provision in the Finance Act of 1916 to the effect that a company may recover from the directors the amount of excess profits duty payable by the company in respect of any increased remuneration above a certain limit. The object of the section was to prevent salaries or remuneration of employees or directors being increased capriciously for the purpose of reducing a company's liability to excess profits duty. No consideration of that sort arises here. The effect of the section in our case would be to defeat, to a certain extent, the object of the resolutions passed by the shareholders last year, and it would operate inequitably as between the individual directors who are concerned. The amount involved is about £2,000. It is therefore proposed that the section shall not be acted upon, and I may add that a similar course has been taken in other cases of the kind.

COAL SALES.

The next paragraph deals with the business done by the Kailan Mining Administration during the year. The sales of coal amounted to 3,775,000 tons, a reduction of 235,000 tons compared with the preceding year. This is not due to any falling off in the demand for coal. It is entirely a question of railway transport. Major Nathan reports as follows:—"The reduction recorded in sales is due to the following reasons: The internal troubles which occurred in the latter part of the last financial year and the beginning of this affected the transportation of coal for nearly six months—military interference on the railway and movements of troops decreasing the number of cars available for the coal traffic. No sooner were the troubles due to these causes overcome than the famine in Central China was again responsible for a reduction in our coal traffic, owing to the demands made on the railway for the export of grain from Manchuria for the relief of famine sufferers. These two reasons alone were sufficient to cause the reduction in sales which has been experienced during the year. The actual carrying capacity of the railway has not been greatly increased, the supply of trucks and locomotives having been practically stationary during that period. At the present time conditions are still unsatisfactory, although there is an improvement on our experience in the early part of the financial year under review.

IMPROVED RAILWAY FACILITIES.

"Towards the end of the financial year a great improvement was noticeable, largely due to the use by the Peking-Mukden Railway of cars belonging to the Peking-Hankow line, and for a short period we were able to move by rail an average of about 15,000 tons per day. As a result of a traffic conference between the various lines the supply of these cars has been much reduced, and the average at the present moment may be said to be about 12,000 tons per day, including a traffic of about 1,000 to 1,500 tons per day carried by our own cars to Hsukochwang and Hianku, from whence the coal is shipped by boat to Tientsin. We were enabled to increase our traffic in this way by a purchase of 200 small cars from the railway which they had thrown out of use. The burden of my monthly reports, as will have been noticed, has practically always been the same—namely, the want of cars and consequent inability to keep pace with the demand. It has been my great endeavour to persuade the railway to double the track between the mines and Chinwangtao and to purchase sufficient rolling stock to meet our demands for transport facilities, and I am pleased to say that I have at last been successful in inducing the autho-

rities to carry out the doubling of the track and also the supply of further locomotives and cars. The effect of the latter will be seen, I hope, towards the end of the present calendar year, but that of the former, I anticipate, not before the end of 1922 at earliest."

CURRENT YEAR'S PROSPECTS.

Now, as regards the prospects of the current year, Major Nathan writes that: "Sales of coal have been limited only to our transport facilities, and therefore no comparison can be made with former years as to the possibility of increase if facilities had been available for the transport of our coal by rail to Chinwangtao to meet the demand. It can only be said that we were obliged to neglect or entirely abandon any attempts to develop our overseas market. The same condition will apply to a certain extent during the present year, but the quieter conditions now prevailing in the country will undoubtedly have the effect of allowing of a considerable increase in our sales compared with last year. At the time of writing, in the first three months of the financial year 1921-22 our sales have augmented by a quarter of a million tons as compared with the same period in 1920-21. Although these figures are not likely to be maintained throughout the whole year, there is no reason to expect that our sales will not be considerably higher than in the year under review."

The stock of coal at the latest date we have was about 370,000 tons. Our output capacity is 15,000 tons daily, and Major Nathan states that, given fair labour conditions, he has every expectation of reaching a total production of over 4½ million tons during the current financial year. The coal in sight at June 30th last is given as 24,435,000 tons. The yards at the port of Chinwangtao have been extended to allow the handling of 15,000 tons of coal per day and the storing of 260,000 tons. The sales of coal during the first 23 weeks of the current year amount to 1,841,000 tons, as compared with 1,521,000 tons for the same period last year, an increase in round figures of 320,000 tons. You have seen probably from the Press this morning that the sales for the last week, which are included in the figures I have given you, were a little over 100,000 tons. The average rate of exchange for the present financial year, so far as it has gone, is approximately 2s 9d per dollar, and does not differ materially from that of the preceding year. The business prospects, therefore, are entirely satisfactory.

IRONWORKS AT CHINWANGTAO.

At the last general meeting we explained at some length the position of matters in regard to the project for the establishment of ironworks at Chinwangtao. The matter has been followed up throughout the past year, and considerable progress has been made. Mr David Roberts, of Cardiff, who is a well-known blast-furnace engineer, went out to China on behalf of Messrs Riley and Harbord to inspect and decide upon the best available site for the proposed works. A satisfactory site has been chosen, and the necessary arrangements in regard to it are in progress. Further investigations are proceeding, especially in regard to certain deposits of iron ore and the treatment of them and the question of treatment plant generally. These may still take a considerable time, and until they are completed a definite scheme cannot be formulated and adopted. In the meantime, the prices of labour and materials are falling, and it is expected that there will be a saving of several hundred thousand pounds in the ultimate outlay for plant compared with the figures which we had before us a year ago.

I now move: "That the directors' report and accounts to June 30, 1921, be and they are hereby received and adopted, and that a final dividend be declared of 12 per cent., free of income-tax (making 22 per cent. for the year, free of income-tax), payable on December 13, 1921."

Colonel H. A. Micklem, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman next moved the re-election of the three retiring directors, Mr Félicien Cattier, Colonel H. A. Micklem, and Mr W. F. Turner.

Mr Edmund Davis seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The auditors (Messrs Annan, Dexter and Co.) were reappointed, on the motion of Mr Sledge, seconded by Mr Dixon.

The proceedings then terminated.

NEW MODDERFONTEIN GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY YEAR—WORKING PROFIT RECORD.

The twenty-fourth ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the New Modderfontein Gold Mining Company, Limited (incorporated in the Transvaal), was held in Johannesburg, on Friday, November 4th.

The Chairman (Sir Evelyn Wallers, K.B.E.) said: Gentlemen,—The position reflected in the reports and accounts for the financial year 1920-21, now submitted for your approval, must have given you the greatest satisfaction—as, indeed, it has to your directors.

You will have seen that the scale of operations and the total working profit derived from those operations are the greatest ever obtained by this company. We milled during the year 1,083,000 tons, yielding 9.741 dwts per ton, representing an increase in tonnage milled of 114,500, and a decrease in grade of .58 dwt per ton. The latter point was a desirable feature of the year's work because, although the value of the ore mined was still somewhat above the average value of the ore reserves, it was decidedly below the average value of the tonnage developed during the year. The number of fine ounces recovered was 527,477, with a total extraction of just under 98 per cent., which, you will agree, constitutes extremely good metallurgical practice. The price we obtained for our product was appreciably higher than for the previous year, namely, £5 12s 7d per fine ounce, as against £5 2s 3d for 1919-20. Obviously this factor had a very marked effect upon your profit. Working costs increased by 1s 6d per ton milled, but notwithstanding this fact, combined with the decrease in yield of .58 dwt per ton (to which I have already referred), the final working profit showed an increase of 7d per ton. The total profit for the year was £1,720,202 17s 4d, of which £751,427 was obtained from the increased price of our product above standard price.

APPROPRIATION ACCOUNT.

The appropriation account shows that we commenced the year with a credit balance of £344,025 13s, and this amount, added to the year's profit which I have just mentioned, and including a small amount of £763 12s 9d in respect of forfeited dividends, gave us for disposal a total of £2,064,992 3s 1d. The distribution has been as follows:—Dividends Nos. 29 and 30, £1,400,000; Government and provincial taxes, £297,950 9s 5d; net capital expenditure, after allowing for Bewaarplaatsen receipts, £60,193 3s 7d; balance unappropriated and carried forward, £306,848 10s 1d. Development operations during the year were carried on with activity, and show a substantial increase, as compared with the preceding year. The total footage was 20,165, of which approximately 14,000 feet developed ore, and the remaining 6,000 feet was in the nature of dead work and the various purposes connected with the handling of the ore. The results achieved by this work in all directions were entirely satisfactory as to the values exposed. We have from time to time directed your attention to the encouraging values, which, in our opinion, were likely to be met with in the western and south-western sections of the mine, and the work which we are able to do year by year confirms in a very gratifying way the opinions expressed. Thus, on the 13th level west, which can be readily followed by reference to the plan attached to your reports, good values were disclosed after passing through a dyke, and were referred to at the last annual meeting. These values have been energetically followed up during the year which we are reviewing, and resulted in the development in that locality of 302,800 tons of ore of a value of 9.7 dwts over 82 inches. On the eastern side of the mine the result of the work carried out was equally satisfactory, and, as you will have observed, the final outcome of the year's development operations is that all ore mined was replaced, and, indeed, your ore reserves at 8,884,600 tons of a value of 8.4 dwts show some little increase in tonnage when compared with the previous year.

HEALTH CONDITIONS AT THE MINE.

The health conditions of the mine are in first-class order, having been commented on by the District Inspector of Mines in very appreciative terms, and I can say with the utmost confidence that the general underground position is in most excellent shape. On the surface a similarly gratifying situation is met with. The increase to the eastern reduction plant, which brings our total capacity up to at least 105,000 tons per month, was completed during the year, at the very moderate cost of £14,000, and is now running well. The other items of importance on capital expenditure were £22,000 expended in providing additional houses for married employees, and £16,700 for extension to our water system. In regard to this latter item we have had some anxiety in the dry season owing to the fact that the number of consumers, of whom we are one, drawing water from the President Dam has appreciably increased. We therefore considered it prudent to spend this money on making the position secure by connecting up our storage reservoirs with the Rosherville Dam. For the current year no capital expenditure of any particular importance is contemplated. In order to bring your information up to date, I will briefly review the salient features of the work since the close of our financial year, i.e., during the last four months. The native labour force has continued to hold up well, and our tonnage milled has steadily progressed. In July the figure was 96,000; August, 100,000; September, 101,000; and in October we reached a total of 107,000. Working profits have been respectively £141,800, £153,100, £142,900, and £138,000. There is naturally some decrease in profit, due to the recent substantial fall in the price of gold, but the effect of the reduction in the price of our product has been counteracted in a very satisfactory way by the increase in the tonnage milled. Working costs during the last four months have shown an en-

couraging decrease; the figures for the respective months per ton milled are 22s 6d, 22s 4d, 22s 2d, and 21s, as compared with the average for last year of 23s 5-5d.

DEVELOPMENT WORK.

The development work since July last has also been very energetically pushed, and we have averaged well over 2,200 feet per month. The values exposed on the whole have been of high grade, both east and west. On reference to your plan you will notice that there are four winzes not yet very far advanced going down from the 14th level, and constituting our present lowest working—two on the west side of the circular shaft, and two on the east side; three of those winzes are exposing ore of an average value of approximately 1,000 inch-dwts. At the present footage rate practically the whole of the mine above the 14th level will be completely developed in about two years' time, and the scheme for the development of the mine below the 14th level to the southern boundary is already receiving attention, although there is ample time in which to formulate our plans. In any case, the problem is one of comparative simplicity. Considerable attention is being given to the cleaning up of the old workings, and to facilitate this work a sand-filling scheme of some magnitude is now being put in hand on the upper levels on the east of the mine; at the same time opportunity will be taken to further prospect a few isolated blocks of ground which have been left standing in the past as of doubtful payability. At the last annual meeting reference was made to the question of the enemy shares vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property. As you know, the company made an offer for those shares, which was not accepted. They, therefore, still remain in the hands of the Custodian, but you may rest assured that your directors are carefully watching the situation, and if there is any possibility of acting in your interests on a satisfactory basis the opportunity will not be lost. All that I have said indicates again in an unmistakable manner not only the extraordinary soundness and strength of position of your mine, but also the excellence of the year's work of your general manager, Mr Miles; Sharp; the underground manager, Mr Tillard; and the staff and employees generally. Mr Stuart Martin continues to act as your consulting engineer with conspicuous success. You will, I am sure, join with me in recording our very keen appreciation of their services.

I now beg to move that the directors' report, balance-sheet, and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, laid before the meeting, be received and adopted.

Mr S. C. Black seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

BOYRIL AUSTRALIAN ESTATES, LIMITED. SUGGESTION FOR VOLUNTARY HOSPITALS.

The thirteenth ordinary general meeting of Boyril Australian Estates, Limited, was held, on the 15th instant, at the offices of the company, 152-166, Old street, London. The Hon. Sir Cornthwaite H. Rason (chairman of the company) presided.

The secretary (Mr C. W. Curtis) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said that the year's net profit of £13,949 showed a reduction of £6,818. It was, however, more than sufficient to meet the debenture interest and enable the board to pay the dividends, and, considering that this result was obtained in spite of the fact that the meat works at Darwin and Wyndham were closed throughout the period, he thought the shareholders would agree that it was satisfactory. The company had an immense holding in the Northern Territory of Australia, some 10,000,000 acres, with immense potentialities. It was true that it was only leasehold, but the leases had still 21 years to run, and everything pointed in the direction of there being great developments within the next decade. If at the end of 21 years their leases were not renewed, what would happen? The company would still have their enormous herds of cattle, horses, mules, stores, and plant to dispose of, and over and above that they would have to be compensated for all improvements which they had effected. It would be seen, therefore, that they would have a tangible asset to realise in any case.

SIR GEORGE LAWSON JOHNSTON'S SPEECH.

Sir George Lawson Johnston (vice-chairman), in seconding the motion, said that the chairman had so exhaustively surveyed the actual position of the company that there was little left to be said under that head, but he wished to offer a suggestion which might have an important bearing on the future of the voluntary hospitals of the country. Speaking with the inside knowledge of one who had for over twenty years been associated with hospital work, he would say that the danger of the financial position in which our hospitals now stood could not be exaggerated. While he did not venture to claim that he could offer a complete solution of the pro-

blem, he would like to indicate a direction in which he thought a solution might be found.

In Canada and the United States, from which he had just returned, a system was in operation which brought in a steady revenue to the great hospitals of these countries; a revenue which, if it was not sufficient to meet all the costs of running them, was large enough to prove the balancing factor between income and expenditure.

The system simply consisted in the provision of private rooms for well-to-do patients, in which these could be operated on or treated by their own surgeons or doctors, and at the same time enjoy all the advantages of a well-equipped modern hospital—its operating theatre, X-Ray, pathological, and other special departments, and the attention of its skilled nursing staff. Charges were made for these rooms, which varied from £1 up to as much as £9 per day, and brought in a substantial profit to the hospitals that provided them. The doctor's or surgeon's fees were, of course, paid by the patient.

In this country only the poor ever experienced the great advantages of being nursed in a big general hospital. In Canada and America the well-to-do insisted upon sharing these advantages, and the hospitals gained accordingly. In both of these countries the system enjoyed the wholehearted support of the medical profession. It gave the surgeon or doctor the chance of treating his cases under the most favourable conditions, with the added satisfaction of knowing that medical attention was always at hand in case of emergency, and it had many other advantages for the doctor. The system had already been noted in this country, and he thought it was time its possibilities should be thoroughly explored by the proper authorities.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then proposed the re-election of the Hon. Sir Cornthwaite H. Rason, the retiring director, at the same time suggesting that a bonus of £250 should be voted to that gentleman in recognition of his great services to the company during the past year. He added that Sir Cornthwaite devoted a great deal more time to the affairs of the company than was customary on the part of a chairman.

The resolution was seconded by Mr D. Walker and carried unanimously.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

Sir James Crichton-Browne, in proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman, said that he would like to take advantage of the occasion to say how gratified shareholders in Bovril Australian Estates must be to learn that their operations in Australia were not only successful in conducting to the main object of the company—the earning of a dividend—but that they were also giving lessons, as they had learned from the remark of Sir George Lawson Johnston, in introducing the elements of nursing among the backward aborigines of the country in which their estates were situated.

The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr Walker and unanimously adopted.

The Chairman briefly acknowledged the compliment, and the proceedings terminated.

MANAOS HARBOUR, LIMITED.

RATE OF EXCHANGE AND YEAR'S RESULTS.

The nineteenth annual general meeting of Manao's Harbour, Limited, was held, on the 12th instant, at 11 Adelphi terrace, London, Mr George M. Booth (chairman of the company) presiding. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and ac-

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS
CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

counts, said: In the year under review our gross receipts in currency amounted to 1,864 contos, which compares with 2,276 contos for a year ago, a decrease of approximately 400 contos. The cost of exploration for this year amounted to 915 contos, against a cost a year ago of 1,070 contos. This reduction, the result of most rigid economy, reduces our gross decrease in earnings from 400 contos to a net decrease in earnings of about 250 contos. Our receipts a year ago were the highest currency figures reached since before the war, and at the same time we were fortunate enough to experience a fairly high rate of exchange. Unfortunately, throughout the year with which we are now dealing, the rate of exchange fell steadily, and the average for the 12 months has been just under 10d, whereas a year ago our average was about 1s 4½d. The net result is that, after the payment of all debenture charges, the year's working shows a loss of about £1,000.

You may remember that a year ago your directors expressed the view that the good results we were then recording could not be regarded as permanent, and a large sum, £15,000, was appropriated for the purpose of starting to deal with our future liabilities in connection with debenture issues. We feel that the results of the year under review have fully justified our action. Our works in Manao's have been carefully maintained, and we have spent 203 contos on this account, as against 211 contos a year ago, and, owing to the low exchange rate, this means that our expenditure for this year is approximately £9,000, against £14,000 for a year ago, although the milreis expenditure is almost identical. As regards trade conditions at Manao's, the amount of rubber exported from the district continues to decline in volume. Fortunately, Brazil nuts appear to be in constant demand, and for this commodity we have no rival producers in the East, as in the case of rubber. A good crop was gathered and shipped last season, and the forecast for the coming one is also hopeful. A new industry has recently sprung up in the Amazon in the shape of the export of cedarwood, but whether a demand for this and other valuable timbers obtainable there will continue only time will show.

Mr E. H. Tootal seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

THE ANGLO-SIAM CORPORATION, LIMITED.

SUBSTANTIAL DIVIDEND ON INCREASED CAPITAL.

The twenty-fourth annual ordinary general meeting of the Anglo-Siam Corporation, Limited, was held at the registered offices of the corporation, 2 Fenchurch avenue, London, E.C., on Tuesday, December 13, 1921, the chairman, Mr J. M. Ryrie, presiding.

After referring to the changes on the board of directors, and making reference to the loss the corporation had sustained through the resignation of Mr H. N. Gladstone, and the death of Mr Frederic S. Clarke, the chairman dealt fully with the operations of the year, and the accounts, and mentioned that, although the profit which had been arrived at before taking credit for any dividend that may be due in respect of excess profits duty, showed a serious falling off as compared with the previous record year, there was reason for congratulation that, in spite of the recent industrial crisis, it was possible to pay a substantial dividend on the increased capital.

Continuing his remarks, the Chairman mentioned that full provision had been made out of the profits for the year to meet all losses and bad and doubtful debts, and that the rates of exchange at which the assets in the East had been converted into sterling were at or below those ruling on March 31st last, and that in this as in other matters the directors had adopted a conservative policy.

ENCOURAGING PROSPECTS FOR THE CURRENT YEAR.

The Chairman further stated that, on the whole, prospects for the current year were encouraging, in view more particularly of the anticipated large rice crop in Siam, though he did not expect any sensational results from the general business in the near future.

The directors' report and the statement of accounts for the year ended March 31, 1921, were adopted, and final dividends of 3½ per cent. on the preference shares, and 1½ per cent., together with a bonus of 5 per cent., on the ordinary shares, were declared, making a total distribution of 25 per cent., less tax, on the ordinary shares for the year.

A resolution was passed increasing the borrowing powers of the corporation to £500,000.

Mr J. M. Ryrie, who retired from the board by rotation, was re-elected, and the election of Messrs H. Bateson, W. Greaves, and J. Fairclough as directors was confirmed.

Messrs Turquand, Youngs and Co. were appointed auditors for the current year.

After a vote of thanks to the directors and the staff in London and in the East had been passed, the proceedings terminated.

YAN RYN GOLD MINES ESTATE, LIMITED.

LARGE BLOCKS OF PAYABLE ORE TO BE OPENED UP.

The twenty-sixth ordinary general meeting of the Van Ryn Gold Mines Estate, Limited, was held, on the 14th instant, at Winchester House, London, Mr L. B. Burns (chairman of the company) presiding.

The secretary (Mr T. Fredk. Thorne) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that at last year's meeting he was able to refer to an increase in the value of the gold produced, as compared with the previous year, amounting to just under £100,000. For the year now under review they had to record a further increase under this heading of just over £100,000—that was to say, an increase within two years of £200,000 in the value of the gold produced. This increase was largely due to the increased price which the company was obtaining for its gold, but an improvement in the grade of ore crushed had this year also been a contributing cause. As a set-off to the increased value of the gold produced, working costs showed a substantial increase, being £92,866 more than for the year 1919-20. The net result was satisfactory, however, inasmuch as the profit from mining, at £112,855, showed an increase of £8,031 over the previous year. He could add nothing to his previous remarks as to the uncertainty which surrounded the maintenance of the gold premium, which had enabled the company to declare satisfactory dividends during the last two or three years, in spite of abnormally high operating costs, except to say that its tendency seemed to be towards a lower level. Whereas the average price received for their gold during the period under review was 10s 2d per fine ounce, it had now receded to about 9s per ounce. The extreme importance of this upon the company's operations was clearly stated by the managing director in his report, in which he pointed out that the premium on gold during the financial year represented an amount of £132,001, or £19,146 more than the total profit earned. The crux of the whole position, therefore, lay in a gradual reduction of working costs, and in this direction certain progress had already been made.

Large blocks of payable ore—estimated at about 600,000 tons—were known to exist in certain isolated sections of the mine, and the company's technical adviser estimated that for an expenditure of about £10,000 on an underground auxiliary shaft, hoisting equipment, &c., these sections could be rendered available for stopping. This expenditure would be debited to working costs.

The report and accounts were adopted.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £45,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Monday to Saturday, Dec. 19th-Dec. 24th, were opened on Dec. 16, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £66,840,000. Tenders for Monday bills at £99 4s 1d, and above in full. Tenders for Tuesday to Saturday bills at £99 3s 10d, about 87 per cent., and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 5s 3 1/4d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date and Duration of Bills, 1921.	Amount.	Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Addition'l Bills.	Tenders at Rates below receive.
	£	£	£ s d		
Nov. 18 (3 months)	40,000,000	54,365,000	3 17 8-27	3½	£99 0s 3d (Monday to Friday bills), about 77½%, above in full. Saturday bills £99 0s 6d and above in full.
Nov. 25 (3 months)	45,000,000	78,155,000	3 14 2-15	3½	£99 1s 3d (Monday bills), £99 1s 5d (Tuesday bills), £99 1s 7d (Wednesday to Saturday bills), about 27½% and above in full. £99 2s 4d (Monday bills), about 20%, and above in full. £99 2s 2d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), and above in full.
Dec. 5 (3 months)	50,000,000	67,640,000	3 12 0-07	3½	£99 3s 5d (Monday bills), and above in full. £99 3s 2d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), about 93%, and above in full. £99 4s 1d (Monday bills), and above in full. £99 3s 10d (Tuesday to Saturday bills), about 87%, and above in full.
Dec. 12 (3 months)	45,000,000	62,850,000	3 8 1-71	3½	
Dec. 19 (3 months)	45,000,000	66,840,000	3 5 3-41	3	

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.
(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Advances to Banks.	Advances to Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	21,535	6,302	3,810	16,500	481	9,924	11,423	
Aug. 26.	38,478	169	600	16,500	481	9,924	11,423	
Dec. 30.	103,125	729	169	149	276	64,621	80,538	
1915.	150,144	2,435	64	40	110	118,102	6,868	
Dec. 27.	212,782	8,554	39	675	134	186,637	4,486	
1916.	323,241	15,529	570	28,500	89	305,133	4,566	
Mar. 26.	328,064	14,926	500	28,500	87	308,577	5,413	
June 29.	335,021	16,524	250	320	89	317,536	3,589	
Oct. 31.	356,152	17,122	250	345	91	337,537	2,802	
1920.	335,372	15,569	190	28,500	100	313,370	2,981	
June 30.	357,358	16,700	190	28,500	117	331,660	305	
Sept. 29.	353,792	16,815	250	28,500	133	329,425	143	
Dec. 29.	367,626	16,962	250	28,500	130	336,504	135	
1921.	343,626	15,599	Silver Coin.	28,500	139	311,334	141	
Mar. 30.	343,894	14,965	3,000	28,500	148	287,750	150	
June 29.	343,892	14,830	3,000	28,500	152	278,119	143	
Sept. 28.	343,892	14,830	3,000	28,500	153	278,609	148	
Nov. 30.	343,714	14,116	3,000	28,500	151	278,702	175	
Dec. 14.	343,329	14,331	3,000	28,500	151	281,645	168	

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.
RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Dec. 11, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Dec. 11, 1920.	RECEIPTS. Week Ending Dec. 10, 1921.	RECEIPTS. Week Ending Dec. 11, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April.	£	£	£	£	£
Bank of England.	2,591,051	7,159,773	2,209,324	..	..
Bank of Ireland.	483,455	2,209,324	..	..	..
REVENUE.	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..	..
Customs.	126,800,000	91,395,000	94,705,000	3,254,000	2,938,000
Excise.	196,200,000	134,355,000	132,751,000	2,245,000	2,301,000
Motor Vehicle Duties.	9,200,000	3,222,000	3,125,000	139,000	139,000
Stamps.	48,000,000	34,054,000	31,425,000	865,000	500,000
Land Tax.	21,000,000	10,189,000	18,314,000	250,000	1,416,000
House Duty.	2,500,000	460,000	390,000	10,000	..
Property and Income Tax (including Super-Tax and Mineral Rights Duty).	410,500,000	167,750,000	149,685,000	2,285,000	1,102,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	29,714,000	148,057,000	4,197,000	..
Corporation Profits Tax.	30,000,000	9,270,000	..	380,000	..
Post Office.	60,000,000	35,250,000	33,250,000	1,500,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands.	650,000	520,000	460,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans.	12,000,000	7,631,172	12,404,982	..	449,163
Miscellaneous.	21,500,000	16,154,260	17,226,379	146,319	335,852
Ordinary Receipts.	158,500,000	73,897,956	192,199,788	4,534,843	551,746
Special Receipts.	1,216,650,000	613,922,388	830,868,149	15,610,169	14,790,761
Revenue.	616,996,894	840,237,246	..	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.	..	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances Repaid:—	..	..	..	..	..
Bullion.	6,430,000	3,140,000	250,000	200,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904).	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.	520,000	..	..	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debts:—	..	..	..	..	..
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:—	..	..	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.	3,561,474	2,500,000	..	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.	27,500	40,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.	35,000	30,000	..	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.	5,355,000	..	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—	..	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bills for Supply.	2,830,710,000	2,871,745,000	65,888,000	62,072,000	..
By 4% Funding Loan, 1920-21.	..	..	..	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds.	..	769,061	..	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1921.	..	258,784	..	..	169,007
By National Savings Certificates.	..	..	..	..	..
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919.	28,330,000	20,400,000	..	850,000	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920.	..	6,970,000	1,000,000	..	..
By National War Bonds.	..	..	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds.	1,024,990	16,569,324	..	815,000	..
5-15 year, 1920-25.	151,504,459	..	15,500,000	..	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.	10,858,639	28,514,349	..	..	..
(d) Ways and Means Advances.	918,157,000	930,490,000	6,850,000	7,850,000	..
Anglo-Persian Oil Company.	..	3,482	..	..	..
Dividends on Shares acquired.	..	..	..	..	..
Repayments.	..	..	..	..	..
In respect of Cunard Loan.	130,000	130,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919.	7,250,000	..	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919.	43,938	9,423	..	..	..
Do Issues under Section 39 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920.	7,094,387	..	..	..	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920.	321,531	..	..	..	..
Total.	4,588,520,637	4,722,247,639	105,993,162	86,746,768	..

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1921, to Dec. 10, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from Apr. 1, 1920, to Dec. 11, 1920.	Issues. Week Ending Dec. 10, 1921.	Issues. Week Ending Dec. 11, 1920.
EXPENDITURE.	£	£	£	£	£
Permanent Charge of Debt.	24,500,000	10,458,210	11,064,522	160,582	160,582
Interest, &c., on War Debt.	320,500,000	257,701,385	262,102,264	6,357,561	7,174,161
Road Fund.	8,400,000	2,812,000	2,966,689	..	161,429
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	6,514,651	6,257,297	9,339	..
Land Settlement.	5,000,000	2,216,746	5,062,954	46,061	433,200
Other Consolidated Fund Services.	1,757,000	1,221,015	1,280,298	24,457	27,950
Supply Services.	774,851,000	419,548,931	489,893,641	5,463,972	7,349,312
Expenditure.	1,146,123,000	700,502,938	778,627,665	12,061,972	15,506,634
OTHER ISSUES.	..	..	..	..	..
Temporary Advances:—	..	6,400,000	3,200,000	350,000	100,000
Bullion.	..	..	..	..	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904.	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.	6,735,000	..	500,000	..	..
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure:—	..	..	..	..	..
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.	4,761,474	3,500,000	700,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.	27,500	115,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.	50,000	30,000	15,000	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt:—	..	..	..	..	..
Treasury Bills for Supply.	2,858,731,000	2,841,339,000	74,540,000	50,960,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.	25,075,138	46,041,785	662,322	1,010,544	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates.	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.	13,500,000	22,700,000	500,000	550,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise.	9,700,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—	1921-22.	1920-21.	..	..	..
6% 1920 ..	2,986,808	..	..	..	..
5% 1920 ..	21,160,000	..	..	..	..
5% 1921 ..	18,854,430	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919.	49,238,341	44,807,495	100	..	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.	..	59,229,221	..	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid.	858,838,000	875,113,000	14,730,000	16,000,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.	21,280,179	19,620,156	960,023	1,000,000	..
Issues to National Debt Commissioners to Reduce Debt—Cunard Loan Repayments.	130,000	130,000	130,000	130,000	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).	11,515,000	725,000	..	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.	112,450	197,766	..	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—	4,585,641,328	4,719,692,714	105,149,417	86,557,178	..
Bank of England.	2,009,564	1,943,512	9,916	41,590	..
Bank of Ireland.	869,745	611,413	42,339	148,000	..
Total.	2,879,309	2,554,925	51,255	189,590	..

NOTE.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921, Treasury, December 12, 1921.

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, December 14, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes Issued	145,063,385	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,613,385
	145,063,385		145,063,385
BANKING DEPARTMENT.			
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities	69,799,631
Reserve	3,339,626	Other securities	80,682,795
Public deposits	13,858,179	Notes	20,328,935
Other deposits	140,869,430	Gold and silver coin ..	1,823,886
Seven-day & other bills	15,011		
	172,635,246		172,635,246

* Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Dec. 14, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,339,626	+ 28,023	+ 17,285
Public deposits	13,858,179	+ 1,823,183	+ 5,542,405
Other deposits	140,869,430	+ 1,873,230	+ 14,799,445
Government securities ..	69,799,631	+ 264,624	+ 7,253,072
Other securities	80,682,795	+ 46,335	+ 8,475,905
Reserve	22,152,821	+ 231,110	+ 8,127,679
Note circulation	124,734,450	+ 227,415	+ 6,501,940
Gold and bullion	128,437,271	+ 3,695	+ 1,625,739
% of reserve to liabilities ..	148%	+ 1%	+ 4%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
1921.	£	£	£	£	£	%	%
Sept. 21.	128,417,297	124,046,495	123,163,884	124,810,483	22,460,802	17%	5%
Oct. 21.	128,414,367	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	14%	5%
Nov. 21.	128,413,841	125,656,690	147,038,604	145,489,546	21,197,151	14%	5%
Dec. 21.	128,421,587	124,613,620	149,835,296	146,222,743	22,257,987	14%	5%
1920.	128,417,081	123,684,130	171,609,456	166,131,591	23,182,931	13%	5%
Sept. 21.	128,413,527	123,915,830	170,538,529	169,779,091	22,947,697	13%	5%
Oct. 21.	128,418,244	125,141,350	141,902,138	137,856,328	21,726,894	15%	5%
Nov. 21.	128,420,853	124,403,190	122,905,825	118,135,305	22,467,663	18%	5%
Dec. 21.	128,433,196	123,587,030	126,104,855	120,548,806	23,296,165	18%	5%
1919.	128,438,365	123,305,915	139,684,530	133,885,516	23,582,450	16%	5%
Sept. 21.	128,440,540	125,112,362	144,160,001	140,172,509	21,779,380	15%	5%
Oct. 21.	128,433,576	123,951,865	154,138,656	150,700,714	21,921,711	14%	5%
Nov. 21.	128,437,271	124,734,450	154,727,609	150,482,425	22,152,821	14%	5%

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Dec. 13, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Dec. 17, 1917.	Dec. 15, 1920.	Dec. 14, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 28,630,820	£ 28,933,380	£ 90,299,620	£ 131,256,390	£ 124,734,456
Public deposits	14,489,530	19,014,895	51,839,262	19,500,584	13,568,117
Other deposits	77,558,454	14,238,964	126,311,507	126,069,986	104,869,433
Government securities	15,237,210	11,046,570	18,388,552	77,122,702	69,999,673
Other securities	28,799,516	41,461,280	76,660,193	73,205,895	89,682,779
Reserve of notes and coin	25,713,211	25,363,960	19,649,227	12,435,142	22,152,852
Coin and bullion	55,954,031	35,947,560	14,998,947	126,811,932	128,437,371
Liabilities	493%	421%	133%	53%	142%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	5%	7%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	7 1/2	8 1/4	5 1/8	6 1/4	5 1/4
Price of Consols	7 1/2	8 1/4	5 1/8	6 1/4	5 1/4
Price of silver per ounce	25 1/2	26 1/2	78 1/2	42 1/2	35 1/2
Average price of wheat	32s 9d	33s 0d	72s 6d	83s 5d	46s 8d
Exchanges (Paris)	25 1/2	25 1/2	38 3/5 40/00	59 3/5 55	51 3/5 52 1/2
London New York	84 3/4	84 7/8	93 1/2 100	87 1/2 89	89 1/2 91
London Amsterdam	12 1/5 10	12 1/5 10	9 3/8 10 1/2	11 1/8 12	11 7/8 14
London Berlin	20 4 1/2	20 4 1/2	178 1/8	252 5/8	730 7/8
Clearing house returns	249,031,000	199,913,000	723,766,000	570,589,000	734,399,000

SWISS NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Dec. 7, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold.....	545,161	545,123	545,030	541,294	+ 41	171,175
Silver.....	115,005	115,005	115,005	115,005	—	18,350
Currents.....	17,781	17,533	17,456	17,066	+ 248	103,000
Assets & advances	307,893	302,262	267,760	353,642	+ 5,631	275,925
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	931,380	949,068	905,425	944,554	+ 17,688	373,750
Deposits.....	102,039	90,071	100,276	100,121	+ 11,958	—

The Monthly Statement of the Swiss Federal Loan Bank (Darlehenskasse) shows that up to November 30, 1921, total issues were Fr. 29,876,000, of which Fr. 17,533,000 was held by the Swiss National Bank.

BANK OF SWEDEN.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Dec. 10, 1921.	Dec. 3, 1921.	Dec. 1, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Year's Movement.	May 24, 1914.
Gold.....	274,856	274,937	282,179	— 141	+ 846	112,172
Balance abt. and foreign bills	106,504	106,645	107,350	— 241	+ 846	32,465
Swedish and for Gov. securities	23,413	20,715	34,260	+ 2,698	+ 10,847	113,974
Discount and loans	531,390	476,299	645,364	+ 55,181	+ 113,974	226,555
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	576,366	632,040	707,096	+ 55,674	+ 130,732	226,555
Deposits at notice	314,579	197,283	280,669	+ 117,290	+ 33,910	69,660

NATIONAL BANK OF BELGIUM.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Dec. 8, 1921.	Dec. 1, 1921.	Nov. 24, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1920.	Move-ment.	May 23, 1914.
Coin (gold & silver and bullion).....	325,733	322,721	321,990	323,122	+ 3,012	322,505
Securities.....	394,795	330,175	418,060	631,420	+ 4,630	637,600
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation	6,273,895	6,265,791	6,127,136	5,935,604	+ 7,694	934,150
Current accounts.....	634,823	637,759	839,869	1,204,835	+ 53,706	112,125

AUSTRIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	12,235	12,235	12,242	—
Silver coin, &c.....	6,537	6,537	6,412	+ 178
Bills discounted, warrants and drafts.....	18,385,127	11,235,101	8,548,356	+ 7,150,026
Loans.....	559,999	542,785	627,192	+ 10,214
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	120,612,825	108,526,312	103,128,983	+ 19,086,513
Deposits.....	7,148,024	10,154,898	9,159,615	+ 3,006,874

HUNGARIAN BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Gold coin and bullion, bills	12,235	12,235	12,242	—
Silver coin, &c.....	6,537	6,537	6,412	+ 178
Bills, warrants, drafts, &c	23,649,601	23,118,124	22,886,873	+ 531,427
Loans.....	1,182,868	1,181,377	1,182,790	+ 5,098
Other assets.....	2,792,789	2,802,640	2,744,226	+ 9,851
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation.....	24,741,912	24,159,576	23,795,176	+ 582,336
Deposits.....	2,353,074	2,355,872	2,441,861	+ 2,798
Other liabilities.....	1,536,953	1,520,220	1,490,072	+ 16,733

NATIONAL BANK OF DENMARK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Nov. 20, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion.....	228,335	228,335	227,586	+ 1	76,644
Loans and discounts.....	379,791	365,111	462,602	+ 16,680	88,470
Debtors abroad.....	13,226	18,507	13,623	+ 5,683	24,102
Securities.....	40,411	46,386	51,257	+ 5,975	11,998
LIABILITIES.					
Circulation.....	465,041	493,380	555,220	+ 28,339	157,266
Deposits.....	136,988	103,324	60,139	+ 33,674	6,696

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Dec. 7, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Coin and bullion—Gold.....	147,293	147,293	147,290	— 3	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills.....	37,536	37,098	57,179	+ 438	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities.....	8,792	8,792	10,499	— 8,816	—
Discounts and loans.....	444,359	438,616	427,857	+ 5,743	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	392,508	395,383	453,655	+ 2,875	113,484
Deposits at notice.....	126,672	121,334	86,238	+ 5,338	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the amount of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 50 million crowns from July 26, 1921, until further order.

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Gold.....	20,200	19,400	19,200	19,100	+ 800
Silver.....	41,600	41,200	40,800	40,300	+ 400
Foreign bank.....	65,300	37,200	43,600	39,700	+ 28,100
Advances to the Govt.....	2,747,200	1,623,400	772,300	1,004,900	+ 1,123,600
Private loans and discounts	191,500,000	178,000,000	158,000,000	140,625,000	+ 20,500,000
Other assets.....	21,551,800	16,115,800	11,662,300	8,795,600	+ 5,436,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	182,777,300	152,800,000	133,734,200	115,243,000	+ 29,977,300
Government accounts.....	30,255,500	23,764,000	17,081,500	12,875,300	+ 6,491,500
Other accounts.....	14,792,700	16,530,000	17,567,100	15,380,000	+ 1,537,300
Reserve.....	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	—
Other liabilities.....	16,977,300	22,710,200	17,576,000	13,007,600	+ 5,739,900

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Oct. 21, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Govt. securities.....	11,09,50	11,15,60	12,39,74	12,90,18	13,12,46	+ 610
Other securities.....	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,45	—
Loans.....	26,98,75	27,12,93	24,70,69	24,65,05	24,29,82	+ 14,18
Cash credits.....	22,14,22	22,11,25	22,83,87	22,66,71	22,52,43	+ 2,97
Inland bills.....	6,29,65	6,32,72	6,15,09	6,51,01	6,56,00	+ 307
Foreign bills.....	5,59	5,28	7,98	7,25	6,15	+ 69
Bullion.....	2,17,23	2,15,44	2,14,96	2,15,12	2,13,34	+ 1,79
Dead stock.....	44,91	44,37	43,59	37,14	32,88	+ 54
Sundries.....	10,54	9,43	10,23	10,15	17,63	+ 1,11
With other banks.....	23,99,74	26,31,97	27,12,53	29,23,67	28,95,59	+ 2,32,23
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital.....	11,23,84	11,08,76	11,08,76	11,08,76	11,08,76	+ 15,08
Capital paid up.....	5,62,21	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	+ 3,77
Reserve.....	3,91,79	3,83,66	3,83,66	3,83,66	3,83,66	+ 8,13
Public deposits.....	5,34,64	7,18,36	6,66,52	9,03,69	7,29,45	+ 1,83,72
Other deposits.....	77,53,79	78,73,56	79,48,74	79,87,88	81,18,71	+ 79,77
Loans against secs.....	71,91	71,63	70,68	71,08	72,59	+ 28
Sundries.....	1,09,46	1,07,95	1,04,24	95,12	89,13	+ 1,51

The above includes—
Deposits in London..... 31,300
Advances in London..... 549,100
Cash, &c., at other banks in London..... 64,044

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold.....	3,364	3,371	3,363	—	1,571
Government securities.....	41,575	36,476	49,794	+ 5,099	2,084
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	35,875	34,722	42,305	+ 1,153	2,400
Government deposits.....	2,276	2,150	3,775	+ 125	2,315
Other deposits.....	15,847	15,334	18,256	+ 513	2,660

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 16, 1921.	Nov. 9, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Gold.....	42,625	42,625	42,625	42,625	—	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills.....	396,715	417,798	208,292	— 21,083	50,379	—
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	891,346	898,329	1,063,785	+ 6,983	21,826	—
Discounts and loans.....	462,094	426,877	291,967	+ 25,217	105,151	—
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	1,327,057	1,303,548	1,332,585	+ 23,509	123,941	—
Deposits at notice.....	157,462	164,698	91,851	+ 27,236	21,225	—

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	Nov. 16, 1921.	Nov. 9, 1921.	Nov. 2, 1921.	Nov. 17, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Coin and bullion.....	27,565	27,623	27,755	27,468	+ 58
Of which gold.....	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,576	—
Balance abroad.....	11,816	11,763	11,791	11,791	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation.....	620,109	620,109	620,109	620,109	—
Deposits.....	690,138	689,465	685,629	559,885	+ 672
Other liabilities.....	55,957	50,901	50,423	25,137	+ 5,056

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

Assets.	April 30, 1921.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Gold.....	37,461	37,444	37,150	37,092	37,075	+ 217
Silver.....	24,396	20,723	16,876	16,890	16,910	+ 3,673
Treasury notes.....	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	268,671	+ 27,835
Bills discounted.....	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	7,246	+ 34
LIABILITIES.						
Notes in circulation.....	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	3,354,139	+ 23,102
Deposits.....	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	1,236,438	+ 44,401

THE STATE SAVINGS AND CREDIT BANK OF LATVIA.

Assets.	November 16, 1921.	November 1, 1921.	October 1, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Total cash.....	91,198,484	68,534,354	49,267,780	+ 22,664,130
Foreign bank.....	374,315,168	367,429,873	182,607,091	+ 6,885,295
Discounts and loans.....	391,498,306	389,867,553	342,318,524	+ 1,630,753
Other assets.....	169,953,318	165,542,682	151,949,394	+ 4,409,626
LIABILITIES.				
Capital.....	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	—
Deposits.....	410,849,503	370,050,935	311,562,921	+ 40,798,568
Other liabilities.....	316,115,773	321,324,537	14,179,868	+ 5,268,764

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

Assets.	Oct. 30, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Total cash.....	307,256,714	236,192,219	66,743,939	+ 171,064,495
Discounts and loans.....	1,267,295,858	1,125,727,484	564,738,756	+ 141,568,374
LIABILITIES.				
Capital paid up.....	250,000,000	250,000,000	10,000,000	—
Reserve.....	10,674,155	10,674,155	184,663	—
Notes in circulation.....	250,000,000	250,000,000	—	—
Deposits.....	976,595,937	741,145,128	565,448,243	+ 235,450,469

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAK REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Nov. 15, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.	Cz. K.	Cz. K.	Cz. K.	Cz. K.
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office.....	10,084,504	10,084,503	10,084,502	+
Discount and advances	4,339,486	4,414,793	4,466,332	- 75,3
Gold	1,024,004	1,125,080	1,020,714	- 103,0
Other assets.....	1,252,790	1,229,738	1,233,039	+ 23,0
Total Assets.....	11,871,647	11,515,945	11,850,226	+ 355,7
State notes in circulation.....	7,655,163	2,132,660	2,076,856	- 547,4
Deposits	3,063,974	3,025,514	2,936,485	+ 38,4
Other liabilities				

RATES OF EXCHANGE ON GERMANY.

		Par Level.	Rate, Dec. 15, 1920.	Rate, Dec. 1, 1921.	Rate, Dec. 8, 1921.	Rate, Dec. 15, 1921.
Amsterdam	Florins to 100 marks	59.25	*4.321	1.40	1.34	1.54
Basle	Swiss francs to 100 marks	123.45	*8.80	2.60	2.43	2.90
Copenhagen	Kroner to 100 marks	88.88	*6.89	2.25	2.05	2.25
Stockholm			*9.20	3.53	3.29	3.67
Christiania						

* Quite nominal.

OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.

	London on Australia and New Zealand.				Australia and New Zealand on London.			
	Buying.		Selling.		Buying.		Selling.	
	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.	Aus. tralia.	New Zealand.
T.T.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sight	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
Cable	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
On demand	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
30 days	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
60 days	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
90 days	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
120 days	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
5 months' sight	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2
6 months' sight	..	..	99 1/2	99 1/2	100	100	100 1/2	100 1/2

INDIAN TREASURY BILLS.

	March 31, 1921.	Dec. 10, 1921.
Outstanding with public	Rs. 43,67,10,000	Rs. 42,02,05,000
In paper currency reserve	61,26,00,000	57,20,00,000
Total	104,93,10,000	99,22,05,000

India Office, December 15, 1921.

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended December 14, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion showed an increase of £3,695, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Dec. 14, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Dec. 14, 1921.
Belgian Congo	£ 43,406	Norway	171
British South Africa	1,349,951	Germany	4,200
British West Africa	29,885	Straits Settlements	41,015
British India	49,265	United States America	1,454,131
Bombay, via other ports	2,036	Other countries	39,650
Other Countries		Other Countries	583
Total values of import of gold	1,474,543	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	1,539,755

GOLD STANDARD RESERVE.

Statement showing the form in which the balance of the reserve was held on November 30, 1921:—

	£	Nil
In India		Nil
In England—		
Cash at the Bank of England	£ 3,876	
British Government securities—		
Value as on September 30, 1921	25,406,137	
British Government securities since purchased (cost price)	14,816,393	
		40,226,406

R. G. JAQUET, Accountant-General.

India Office, December 12, 1921.

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on December 15th as follows:—

GOLD.

The Bank of England gold reserve against its note issue is £126,613,385, as compared with £126,612,690 last week. A substantial amount of gold was on offer, and was practically all taken for the U.S.A. The price to-day, 98s 1d—which represents a premium of only 15.6 per cent. over the Bank of England buying price—is the lowest fixed since October 8, 1919. Gold to the value of \$6,685,000 is reported as having arrived at New York—\$3,540,000 from London, \$2,045,000 from France, \$1,000,000 from Sweden, and \$100,000 from Germany. Indian gold movements during October, 1921, show a net import of 1.02 lacs of rupees. The following are the figures relative to the United Kingdom movements of gold during the month of November, 1921:—Total imports, £3,914,073; exports, £4,037,340.

CURRENCY.

The Director of the Japanese Mint, Osaka, reports that the grand total of all coins struck during the fiscal year ending March 31, 1921, amounted to 436,022,087 in number, and to 12,780,649.07 yen in face value, an increase over last year of 6,660,335.15 yen in nickel coin, and 949,647,595 yen in bronze coin. Gold and silver coins were not struck at all, which is significant.

SILVER.

Business has been active through the week. The Indian bazaars bought with freedom on several days for prompt shipment. There was, however, an absence of competition, except on the part of a few bears, and the prices did not, therefore, harden to any extent. Supplies, too, from the Continent and elsewhere were unusually plentiful. China has been inactive, and trade demand is at a standstill. A relaxation of Indian demand, therefore, would probably give ease to the market. We are informed from Bombay, under date of the 26th ultimo, that there was a better demand for the metal, but that it was mostly supplied with country bar silver, of which there was a good stock in that market. This plentiful supply of country bar silver was owing to the arrival of a large amount of silver krasans (Persian coins). Indian trade figures show a net import of silver amounting to 1.41 lacs of rupees during the month of October, 1921. The use of silver in the East for banking purposes is of great antiquity. The Berlin Museum possesses an ancient papyrus, the back bearing words which link a loan of silver with a rate of interest which would be highly attractive to a modern holder of the metal. The inscription is a draft of a due bill relating to about 850 B.C., a period far earlier than that of any previously discovered Egyptian document of like import. A priest of Amon, who was manager of a royal sub-treasury, lent 5 deben of silver (about 20s) for one year at 100 per cent. interest. The silver, it was stated, belonged to the Treasury of Harsophes, an Egyptian god, indicating its fineness. Assayers, who take just pride in their wonderful accuracy, may appreciate this suggestion of divine origin.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

(In Lacs of Rupees.)

	Nov. 22, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,691	17,348	17,236
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,916	7,842	7,729
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,434	2,432	2,433
Gold coin and bullion in India	6,706	6,440	6,440
Securities (Indian Government) ..	635	634	634
Securities (British Government) ..			

No coinage was reported during the week ending 7th inst. The stock in Shanghai on the 10th inst. consisted of about 27,900,000 ounces in sycee, 24,500,000 dollars, and 1,520 silver bars, as compared with about 28,700,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 2,290 silver bars on the 3rd inst. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 6d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.	
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.			Cash, Per Ounce.	
Dec. 10 ..	100 3	35 1/2	35 1/2		Dec. 22, 1915	25 1/2	
12 ..	98 10	35 1/2	35 1/2		22, 1916	36 1/2	
13 ..	98 2	34 1/2	34 1/2		21, 1917	43 1/2	
14 ..	98 9	35 1/2	35 1/2		21, 1918	48 1/2	
15 ..	98 1	35 1/2	35 1/2		19, 1919	78 1/2	
16 ..	98 10	35 1/2	35 1/2		17, 1920	41	

NOTICES.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new branches as follows:—2 Newmarket street, Beccles (Mr H. E. Davis, manager); 2 London road, Twickenham (Mr H. G. Budd, manager); and 28 High street, Uxbridge (Mr C. J. Allen, manager). New offices are also now open at 232 Cross lane, Farnley, Leeds; 2 Victoria road, Netherfield, Nottingham; and the corner of Parkway and the Great North road, Welwyn Garden City, Welwyn, Herts.

The National Provincial and Union Bank of England, Limited, announce that Mr Ernest Cornwall has been appointed by the directors to be a joint general manager of the bank as from January 1, 1922.

A branch of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited, has been opened at 105 Duke street, Barrow-in-Furness, under the management of Mr A. B. Barfield.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

		Week's Receipts, 1921.	Aggregate Receipts, 1921.
Metropolitan District	49 weeks Dec. 10	225,015	11,582,275
London Electric			
City and South London			
Central London			
L.G.O.			
Metropolitan Electric Trams			
London United Trams			
South Metropolitan Trams	49 weeks Dec. 10	48,898	2,680,260
Tramways (M.E.T.)			
Gearless Motor			

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.	Total Gross Receipts.
				1920-21. + or -	1920-21. + or -
INDIAN.					
Assam Bengal	32 weeks	Nov. 12	993	Rs. 2,30,720	Rs. 16,955
Barsi Lk. Ry.	33 weeks	Nov. 19	118	35,500	2,200
Bengal & N. Western	6 weeks	Dec. 12	2,057	5,09,870	52,136
Bengal Nagpur	32 weeks	Nov. 12	2,697	12,28,000	67,000
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	9 weeks	Dec. 3	2,871	18,59,000	1,000
Burma	32 weeks	Nov. 12	1,342	5,07,930	52,019
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka	10 weeks	Dec. 10	239	91,000	23,554
East Indian	32 weeks	Nov. 12	3,121	30,22,000	2,87,300
G. Indian Peninsula	32 weeks	Nov. 12	3,028	11,25,000	81,108
Madras & S. Mahr.	6 weeks	Dec. 12	259	45,680	837
Rohilk' & Kumaon	6 weeks	Dec. 12	302	50,599	8,190
Do Lucknow-Breilly	32 weeks	Nov. 12	1,852	7,94,700	75,871
South Indian	5 mths	Aug. 31	717	7,41,430	1,62,473
Sikh. Punjab (month)					
Argentine (a).					
Argentine N.E.	23 weeks	Dec. 10	752	10,900	1,800
Argentine Trans.	23 weeks	Dec. 10	111	2,450	923
B. A. and Pacific	23 weeks	Dec. 10	3,428	130,000	18,000
B. A. G. Southern	23 weeks	Dec. 10	3,891	152,000	8,000
B. A. Western	23 weeks	Dec. 10	1,882	40,000	29,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	4 mths	Oct. 31	190	12,000	6,000
Central Argentine	23 weeks	Dec. 10	3,252	170,000	18,000
Cordoba Central	23 weeks	Dec. 10	811	49,700	5,900
Entre Rios	23 weeks	Dec. 10	111	17,900	400
Brazilian (b).					
Brazil Gt. Southern	10 mths	Oct. 31	Ms 51,750	11,750	484,150
Gt. West. of Brazil	49 weeks	Dec. 10	1,005	16,900	5,000
Leopoldina	49 weeks	Dec. 10	1,831	29,200	26,984
San Paulo	49 weeks	Dec. 10	1,533	24,171	26,758
State of Bahia, S.W.	11 mths	Nov. 30	52	Me 52,000	101,000
Chile and Peru.					
Antofagasta	49 weeks	Dec. 11	838	14,255	31,355
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	64	12,000	500
Nitrato (2 weeks)	46 weeks	Nov. 30	366	20,186	26,403
Peruian Corp.	5 mths	Nov. 30	1,059	81,577	442,580
Taital	5 mths	Nov. 30	180	9,608	18,180
Cuban.					
Havana Central	23 weeks	Dec. 10	3	9,455	4,972
United of Havana	22 weeks	Dec. 10	1,210	50,825	41,523
Uruguay.					
Central Uruguay	24 weeks	Dec. 10	273	27,358	3,668
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	24 weeks	Dec. 10	311	5,608	192
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	24 weeks	Dec. 10	185	3,163	80
C. Ur. (West Ext.)	24 weeks	Dec. 10	111	2,467	628
M. Uruguay	5 mths	Nov. 30	319	17,617	1,288
Uruguay North	5 mths	Nov. 30	113	9,574	3,154
Uruguay Foreign	5 mths	Nov. 30	3	3,085	1,068
Other Foreign.					
Alcoy and Gandia	49 weeks	Dec. 10	33	Ps 20,000	5,000
Bilbao	11 mths	Nov. 30	15	1,815	450
B. var	11 mths	Nov. 30	136	8,271	266
C. C. and Nat. Ry.	10 mths	Oct. 31	86	17,210	1,340
C. C. and Nat. Ry.	4 mths	Nov. 30	190	16,710	3,151
Dor. Extension	4 mths	Nov. 30	70	17,250	1,000
Egypt S. N. Delta	31 weeks	Dec. 3	559	115,144	4,695
Gt. Southern of Spain	18 weeks	Dec. 3	104	Ps 58,660	25,638
International of	10 mths	Oct. 31	Net	50,034	2,233
Central America	10 mths	Oct. 31	Net	7,747	5,837
La Guaira & Caracas	11 mths	Nov. 30	232	68,200	5,180
Mexican Railway	22 weeks	Dec. 7	403	83,800	112,500
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	Net	4,407,200	167,100
Nasejo Oscarshamm	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	13,457	8,819
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Dec. 3	193	6,980	..
Smyrna to Aidin	22 weeks	Dec. 3	274	3,420	1,130
Paraguay Central	9 mths	Feb. 28	..	2,311,374	16,390,765
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	11 mths	Nov. 30	35	5,000	750
Puerto Cabello, &c.	23 weeks	Dec. 10	100	1,912	1,331
Salvador	1 mth	Oct. 31	..	123,024	37,662
Santa Fe Province	11 mths	Nov. 30	..	5,150	1,132
Samaoa & Santiago	10 mths	Oct. 31	112	(a) 15,508	838
Zafra and Huelva	48 weeks	Dec. 7	9,750	\$118,700	402,800
Canadian Pacific	48 weeks	Dec. 7	7,140	\$5,403,000	181,538,000
Grand Trunk	48 weeks	Dec. 7	3,616	\$289,236	96,077

* Corrected figures. † 10 days. ‡ Adjusted, May 31, 1921. § 9 days.
(a) Converted at par. (b) Converted at the current rate of exchange.

CANADIAN RAILWAYS MONTHLY STATEMENTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Receipts for Month.		Inc. or Dec.	Aggregate Receipts.	Inc. or Dec.
Algoma Cent. & Hudson Bay	4 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$90,850	132,338	456,945	338,686
Canadian Ntn'	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$7,988,030	368,030	56,642,630	5,201,507
Canadian Pac.	10 mths	Oct. 31	Gross	\$22,090,000	2,711,000	158,478,000	13,760,000
			Net	\$7,701,000	950,000	28,620,000	1,754,000
Grand Trunk.	3 mths	Mar. 31	Gross	\$1,278,700	85,500	5,712,200	1,753,200
Temiscouata	1 mth	Oct. 31	Net	\$122,900	68,400	91,400	306,500
			Gross	\$32,817	..	..	..

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim div.	Final div.	Method of Payment.	Latest Year.	Pre-vious.	%	%
Railways.								
Assam Railways and Trading, "A" Stock	8	Dec. 22	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do Pre-Pref.	8	Jan. 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Do New Pref.	8	Jan. 4	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madras and Southern Mahratta	4 1/2	Jan. 2	Subject to tax	..	7	9	..	..
Manx Electric, Pref.	5 1/2	Jan. 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Banks.								
Commercial of Scotland, "A"	14 1/2	10% bonus	Subject to tax	..	15	14	..	..
Do "B"	10 1/2	..	Subject to tax	..	10	10	..	..
Imperial of Persia	5 1/2	Dec. 29	..	..	12	15	..	..
London and River Plate	6	Dec. 23	Subject to tax	..	..	..	..	..
National of New Zealand	12	Jan. 4	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Insurance.								
Eagle, Star, &c.	7 1/2	Jan. 2	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Northern, 6% Ptg. Pref.	4 1/2	p.s.	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Mining.								
Apex	5 1/2	Feb. 16	..	..	..	..	..	..
Broken Hill	1 1/2	Jan. 25	..	..	..	..	..	..
Frontino and Bolivia Gold	2 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Geduld Proprietary	10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Great Boulder Perseverance (in liquidation)	13	p.s.	Dec. 15	..	7 1/2	7 1/2	p.s.	7 1/2
Modderfontein Deep	5 1/2	(and bonus 2 1/2)	Subject to tax	..	..	..	..	..
Natal Navigation	5 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
New Kleinfontein	7 1/2	Jan. 12	Less tax 1/6 in £	..	30	30	..	..
Sharps	7 1/2	..	..	..	5	nil	..	..
Sulphide Corporation, Pref.	1 1/2	p.s.	Jan. 20	Less tax	..	..	..	..
Taguah Mining, &c.	500	p.s.	Dec. 31	..	..	..	..	..
Utah Copper	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Van Ryn Gold	5 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Zinc Corporation, Pref.	2 1/2	Feb. 1	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Tea and Rubber.								
Baligan Tea	5 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Lunuvu (Ceylon) Tea	5 1/2	Dec. 20	..	..	..	..	..	..
Makum (Assam) Tea	5 1/2	Dec. 21	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Companies.								
Agar, Cross, and Co.	15 1/2	..	Less tax	..	15	15	..	..
Agua Blanca Nitrate	20 1/2	Dec. 21	Less tax 6/ in £	..	15	15	..	..
Alton and Co.	7 1/2	(bonus 5%)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Amalgamated Press	5 1/2	p.s.	Tax free	..	(a) 20	20	..	..
Anglo-Persian Oil	6 1/2	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	6	..	..	..
Armstrong, Whitworth Develop-ment, Pref.	6 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Arnold J. Van den Bergh's, &c.	6 1/2	(and super dividend 1 1/2)	..	..	15	20	..	..
Arnold Perret	10 1/2	..	..	..	11 1/2	11 1/2	p.s.	11 1/2
Asbestos Corporation (Canada)	14 1/2	Jan. 15	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balmuccia Glenlivet Distillery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Batey and Co.	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Belding Corticelli, Pref.	13 1/2	..	..	..	10	10	..	..
Beil and Co.	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Benn Brothers	5 1/2	Jan. 1	..	..	10	..	..	..
Birmingham Aluminium Castings	..	..	Tax free	..	7 1/2	..	..	..
Brewers' Sugar	3 1/2	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
British Tobacco (Australia)	13 1/2	Jan. 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
California Petroleum, Pref.	13 1/2	Jan. 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canada Permanent Mortgage	5 1/2	Jan. 3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Canterbury Farmers Co-opera-tive	..	..	Tax free	..	6	..	..	..
Carron Grove Paper	..	..	Tax free	..	2 1/2	10 1/2	p.s.	10 1/2
Chicago Breweries	..	..	Less tax	..	4	..	..	..
Chili Telephone	3 1/2	Jan. 16	Tax free	..	10	12 1/2	..	..
Cleveland Bridge & Engineering	7 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Do New	10 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Drake Spinning	7 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Eastern Telegraph	2 1/2	Jan. 14	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Eastern Extension, &c., Tele-graph	5 1/2	Jan. 14	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
East India Distillers, Pref.	3 1/2	Jan. 1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Electro Bleach and By-Products, Pref.	3 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Falkirk Iron Co.	5 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Finlay and Co.	7 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Do Bonus	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Do New Ord.	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Fletcher, Son, and Fearall	16 1/2	..	Tax free	..	20	..	..	..
Forestral Land Timber, Pref.	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	6	6	..	..
Friary, Holroyd, and Healey's Brewery	7 1/2	Dec. 2	Less tax	..	12	..	..	..
G. B. Kent and Sons, Cum. Ptg.	5 1/2	Jan. 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goldsbrough, Mork.	10 1/2	Dec. 23	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Grand Junction Canal	3 1/2	Dec. 15	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Greenwich Inland Linoleum	3 1/2	Jan. 2	Less tax (also 1 1/2 of arr. ears)	..	..	..	..	..
Harrowing-Teamship Co.	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Henry Gardner and Co.	5 1/2	Dec. 31	Less tax	..	7 1/2	7 1/2	..	..
Home Brewery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Howard and Bullough	16 1/2	p.s.	..	..	..	..	..	..
Imperial Property Invest., Pref.	10 1/2	Jan. 3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Investors' Mortgage Security	12 1/2	..	..	..	12	12	..	..
James W. Cook and Co., Pref.	23 1/2	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	5	5	..	..
J. W. Cameron	5 1/2	..	Tax free	..	22 1/2	22 1/2	..	..
Kapp and Peterson	5 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Leeds and Wakefield Breweries, Pref.	12 1/2	(2 years to Sept. 30, 1921).	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lobitos Oilfields	10 1/2	Jan. 14	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Madame Val Smith, Pref.	6 1/2	Jan. 2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Millon and Askam Hematite	3 1/2	..	Tax free	..	5	9	..	..
New York Breweries, Unified Stock	3 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
New Zealand Farmers' Co-operative	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
North Conesdale Iron and Steel	3 1/2	..	Less tax	..	7	15	..	..
Northern American Trust	7 1/2	..	Less tax	..	14	13	..	..
Oceana Consolidated	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Do	23 1/2	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Palatine Hotel and Buildings (Blackpool)	..	..	..	..	16	8	..	..
Parent Tyre Co., Ord.	..	..	Less tax	..	25	5 1/2	..	..
Do Defd.	..	..	Less tax	..	10	10	..	..
Phillips and Harriott	..	..	Less tax	..	16	18	..	..
Port Madryn (Argentina) Land	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Redpath Brown	..	..	Tax free	..	..	..	..	..
Rees Roturbo Manufacturing, Pref.	5 1/2	(for 1921)	..	..	..	..	..	..
Reckitt and Sons	16 1/2	p.s.	Jan. 7	Less tax	..	..	..	..
Rio Claro Railway	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Rio Claro Railway & Investment	3 1/2	..	..	..	16 1/2	p.s.	..	..
Royal B-w-e v. Buntford, Pref.	6 1/2	..	Less tax	..	5	5	..	..
Scottish American Mortgage	5 1/2	Dec. 24	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Second Industrial Trust	4 1/2	Jan. 16	Less tax	..	..	..	..	..
Security	8 1/2	..	..	..	7	6	..	..

Showell's Brewery	..	Dec. 31	Less tax	15	15	%	%
Slaters	..	..	..	5	5	25	25
Star Tea	15 1/2	..	Less tax	4	8	15	15
St. Louis Breweries, Pref.	5 1/2	(& bonus 5%)	..	10	10	10	10
Stretton's Derby Brewery	7 1/2	..	..	7 1/2	10	10	10
Tadcaster Tower Brewery	2 1/2	Jan. 16	..	12 1/2	12 1/2	5	5
Tobacco Co. of Rhodesia	..	..	Less tax	..	..	..	..
United Premier Oil and Cake	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Waterlow and Sons, Defd.	10 1/2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Western Canada Investment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Increased capital.

C. A. VANDERVELL states that the questions of E.P.D. and allowances by the Government on the war plant and buildings are not yet settled. The accounts for the year ended March 31st show a loss of £251,472. The directors have transferred from reserve account £75,000, which, added to the balance of £117,999 brought forward, makes £192,999. After allowing for the loss as above, there is carried forward a debit balance of £58,473. In the previous year a net profit of £106,266 was realised, and the preferred ordinary shares received the full dividend of 10 per cent.

D. NAPIER AND SON.—After paying the dividend on the preference shares for the year ended June 30, 1921, and deducting the debit balance of £49,574 brought forward, there remains to be carried forward £7,024.

KAYSER ELLINGTON AND CO. have decided not to pay the usual interim dividend on the ordinary shares. The exceptional trade conditions still prevailing make it necessary in the best interests of the shareholders, to conserve the finances of the company until the actual result of the year's working is known. The half-yearly dividend on the preference shares will, however, be posted on December 31st.

LUNUVU (CEYLON) TEA AND RUBBER ESTATES, LIMITED.—By arrangement with the debenture holders, the whole of the outstanding debentures will be redeemed at par on or before December 31st.

NATIONAL OMNIBUS AND TRANSPORT.—The profit of the National Omnibus and Transport Company for the year ended October 31st was £26,350, while £7,682 was brought forward. It is proposed to allocate £15,000 to the reserve of rolling-stock account, and to carry forward £19,612. In view of the necessity for conserving the cash resources of the company for the purposes of development during 1922, no dividend for the past year is being paid. In the previous year profits were £20,103, and a dividend of 8 per cent. was paid.

REPORT—WHITWORTH.—Owing to the incidence of taxation it has been decided to end the financial year on August 31st, instead of July 31st. This involves the payment of an additional dividend of one month, to August 31st, on the preference shares. At the general meeting to be held on December 19th it will be proposed to confirm the dividends paid on the preference shares to July 31st; the dividend (to be paid by warrant on December 16th), at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum on the preference shares to August 31st, less tax, and to confirm the dividend (to be paid by warrant on December 16th), at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum on the ordinary shares, free of tax.

THE AFRICAN AND EASTERN TRADE CORPORATION announces that the usual half-yearly dividend on the "A" and "B" preference shares will be paid on January 3, 1922, but they have deferred consideration of paying an interim dividend on the ordinary shares pending the adjustment of excess profits duty and the determination of the amount required for depreciation.

THE WYE SHIPPING COMPANY, LIMITED, CARDIFF.—The directors do not recommend any dividend for the year, in view of the present slump in shipping and depreciation of steamers.

TRINIDAD LEASEHOLDS is paying no dividend for the year ended June last.

VICKERS, LIMITED, report for the year 1920 shows that no dividend on the ordinary shares can be paid.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR NOVEMBER, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.	Gold Recovered.					
	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Mill.	Cyande Works.	Total.	Value.	Profit.
Gold.							
Abbotiakoona	7,100	..	..	..	..	(a) 11,571	..
Abosso	6,303	..	..	..	..	(c) 12,829	..
Akoko Main Reef	130	..	..	..	..	176	..
British Platinum and Gold	14,200	..	102 (pl. atm.)	..	28 (gold)	4,502	..
Can and Motor	31,500	..	..	..	4,970	20,975	..
El Oro	4,022	..	946	543	1,489	\$171,000	\$17,000
Gaika	5,200	..	..	..	5,024	(b) 11,678	..
Lonely Reef	13,000	..	..	..	..	\$183,700	\$332,664
Mexico of El Oro	693	..	..	..	650	2,714	..
Obbuaasi	19,338	..	..	..	..	\$86,553	7,304
Oriental Cons. (Sept.)	6,764	4,561	..	..	(a) 10,704	..	6,155
Prestea, Block A	8,850	..	..	..	..	12,266	..
Rezendé	11,244	..	..	..	..	..	3,198
Santa Gertrudis	20,774	..	..	..	..	..	8,113
Do El Bordo	60,100	..	..	..	(d) 39,692	..	11,936
Shamva	3,320	..	..	..	2,116	(c) 10,580	..
Taguah	17,000	..	..	..	..	\$76,000	..
Tomboy	1,610	..	..	..	..	..	..
Transvaal and Rhodesian	14,638	..	4,395 (gold)	..	31,311 (silver)	..	..
Walhi	6,320	..	1,391 (gold)	..	4,859 (silver)	..	..
Walhi Grand Junction	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Par value. (b) Net realisation price of £4 18s 6d. (c) 100s per ounce. (d) 97s 6d per fine ounce.

	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tin.		
Berenguela	41	Concentrates, average 64 % fine tin.
Ex Lands Nigeria	30	..
Gold Coast Cons.	2	..
Kaduna Prospectors	163	..
Kaduna Syndicate	213	..
Kinta	39	Valued £3,617; gross profit, £2,183.
Lower Bisiohi	44	..
Naraguta	55	Despatched 48 tons.
N. Nigeria (Bauchi)	60	..
Rayfield	50	Shipped 40 tons.
Renong	115 1/2	..
Yarde Kerr	7	..
Copper.		
Falcon	259 1/2	Blister copper, containing 2,882 ozs gold and 6,017 ozs silver.
Coal.		
East Kent	2,838	Week ended Oct. 10th.
South African	62,053	..
Miscellaneous.		
Burma Ruby	..	Rubies valued, Rs.69,000; royalties, Rs.11,000.
Zinc Corporation	9,735	Zinc concentrates and 842 tons leady concentrates.
Kesley Silver	..	36,000 ozs silver.
North Broken Hill	1,240	Lead concentrates (65% lead, 23 ozs silver per ton), 1,340 zinc concentrates (47% zinc, 6% lead, 7 ozs silver per

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefce.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
		£	£	£	Amount.	Amount.	%	£	£	%
Banks.										
Commercial Bank of Scotland	Oct. 31	52,171	341,896	394,067	..	166,250	15 A	170,000	57,817	302,039
London and River Plate	Sept. 30	318,140	404,184	722,324	..	244,800	12	160,000	317,524	474,815
National Bank of Scotland	Nov. 1	64,203	285,458	349,661	..	123,200	16	160,000	66,461	295,310
Breweries.										
Arnold Perrett and Co.	Sept. 30	9,884	23,608	33,492	8,400	9,000	15	6,000	10,092	32,794
Leeds and Wakefield	Sept. 30	3,829	10,113	13,942	(a) 9,000	..	..	..	4,942	16,322
Officers'	Sept. 30	44,550	15,462	60,012	2,400	6,000	10	..	51,612	18,397
Showell's	Oct. 1	15,052	28,190	43,242	13,800	12,000	15	5,000	12,442	41,614
Stretton's Derby	Sept. 30	48,491	46,911	95,402	12,600	15,000	15	10,000	57,802	34,359
Yates's Castle	Sept. 30	24,999	26,454	51,453	7,500	..	..	..	43,953	27,008
Financial, Land, &c.										
Argentine Southern Land	June 30	30,112	33,463	63,575	..	25,000	5	..	38,575	94,134
Investors' Mortgage Security	Sept. 30	14,253	74,771	89,024	21,000	33,600	12	18,876	15,548	73,744
Port Madryn (Argentina)	June 30	13,990	8,312	22,302	..	6,125	5	..	16,177	7,510
Second Investors' Mortgage Security	Sept. 30	4,165	19,688	23,853	8,400	7,840	7	2,971	4,622	16,247
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
John I. Thornycroft and Co.	July 31	53,170	60,708	113,878	11,880	18,750	17 1/2	5,000	55,748	108,747
Millom and Askam Hematite Iron	Sept. 30	12,124	79,584	91,708	25,000	37,000	5 1/2	..	29,708	145,623
Richard Thomas and Co.	Sept. 30	221,340	282,975	504,315	229,858	54,854	2 1/2	..	219,603	492,580
Vickers	Dec. 31	846,364	541,261	1,387,625	395,985	..	..	..	991,639	1,493,726
Motor and Cycle.										
C. A. Vandervell and Co.	Mar. 31	140,498	Dr 251,280	Dr 110,782	..	..	..	Dr 75,000	Dr 58,282	106,206
D. Napier and Son	Sept. 30	Dr 49,574	79,099	29,525	22,500	..	..	..	7,025	Dr 39,541
Oil.										
Anglo-Persian	Mar. 31	910,978	3,037,814	3,948,792	400,000	1,215,000	20	685,000	1,648,792	2,378,313
Trinidad Leaseholds	June 30	42,913	151,484	194,397	..	..	..	22,500	171,897	..
Rubber, &c.										
Abaco (Selangor)	Mar. 31	5,468	Dr 3,634	1,832	..	..	..	..	1,832	5,096
Asahan	July 31	20,759	Dr 9,742	11,017	..	..	..	..	11,017	29,224
Broome (Selangor)	June 30	6,619	Dr 10,038	Dr 3,419	..	..	..	..	Dr 3,419	13,500
Central Sumatra	June 30	..	Dr 8,132	Dr 8,132	..	..	..	..	Dr 8,132	5,529
Tandjong	June 30	16,307	Dr 30,905	Dr 14,602	..	..	..	..	Dr 14,602	40,887
Shops and Stores.										
Finlay and Co.	Sept. 30	1,361	25,493	26,854	747	8,612	12 1/2	15,000	2,495	41,262
Harrods (Buenos Aires)	Aug. 31	..	102,885	102,885	63,931	..	..	22,090	16,864	577,676
South American Stores (Gath and Chaves)	July 31	6,966	41,813	48,779	24,000	45,000	3	Dr 30,000	9,779	446,980
Trust.										
City General	Sept. 30	2,406	25,839	28,245	..	..	..	25,731	2,514	55,855
Northern American	Nov. 1	68,402	74,154	142,556	16,800	39,200	14	11,500	75,056	73,688
Other Companies.										
British Motor Cab.	Mar. 31	Dr 490,572	Dr 29,407	Dr 519,979	..	..	..	Dr 519,979	Dr 275,004	..
General Billposting	Sept. 30	15	9,648	9,663	1,661	3,351	6	..	4,651	6,100
Idris and Co.	Oct. 31	3,767	6,705	10,472	7,300	..	..	..	3,172	9,717
New Pegamoid	Aug. 31	2,608	Dr 51,682	Dr 79,074	..	..	..	Dr 31,000	Dr 48,074	18,461
Parent Tyre	Aug. 31	2,314	83,470	85,784	..	69,824	8 Ord	..	15,960	182,948
Tobacco Co. of Rhodesia and S. Africa	June 30	12,034	8,581	20,615	..	7,615	5 Pf.	8,000	5,000	..
Wall Paper Manufacturers	Aug. 31	181,054	Dr 919,245	Dr 738,191	(k) 28,859	..	..	Dr 209,547	Dr 557,003	652,976
Waterlow and Sons	Sept. 30	58,761	240,565	299,326	56,700	86,250	12 1/2	60,000	96,376	228,823

(a) Including arrears. (l) 5 % free of tax. (g) Vickers. Net profit for 4 years, dividend for half-year ended Feb. 28, 1921. (k) Wallpaper Manufacturers.—Preference

Northern Manitoba, ex ship, quoted 55s per 480 lbs. No. 2 hard winter landed 54s, and Australian ditto, 53s per 496 lbs. In the forward cargo market business was on a limited scale, and confined to one or two steamers of Australian afloat, and December shipment at 52s 6d to 52s to Italy. Visible supplies in North America are maintained by good receipts, chiefly in Canada. The quantity on passage, however, shows a falling off, while Port stocks have decreased owing to lighter arrivals. Yields of new crops in Argentina and the Commonwealth are somewhat erratic and disappointing so far, but Indian prospects remain favourable, while conditions in the United States South-West mark an improvement on further rains. Flour continues in quiet request, and prices were reduced by 2s per sack for home milled qualities. London standard straight run now stands at 47s, town households 45s, patents 50s, all-English straight run 43s per sack, delivered London district. All-English country straights 37s to 39s, free on rail London stations. Imported also dull and tendency weaker. Canadian export patents 46s, straights 43s, Kansas top patents 43s, and Australian 42s 6d to 43s, all per 280 lbs ex store. On c.i.f. terms, Canadian patents, December seaboard quoted 42s 6d to 43s, straights 40s, Kansas patents 44s 6d, and Australian new crop January-February 38s per 280 lbs. Millers' offers quiet and tendency easier. Broad bran £10, ordinary ditto £9 to £9 5s, middlings £10 5s to £10 10s ex mill. Of imported, fancy Plate middlings £11 10s, and pollards £9 per ton ex ship. Barley dull and rates tend in buyers' favour. English malting nominally ranges from 45s to 70s, and grinding descriptions 37s to 41s per 448 lbs free on rail. Imported easier for feed sorts Californian ex ship 38s to 52s per 448 lbs. No. 4 Canada Western 32s, Canada feed 29s 6d, and American feed 29s, all landed per

400 lbs. Maize quiet and easier. Yellow La Plata quoted 34s 6d, yellow round African 35s, white flat ditto 34s, all landed terms. In the forward market a quieter tone ensued, and with sellers more in evidence rates moved in a downward direction. Cargoes of La Plata arrived sold at 34s 1 1/2d, and ditto on passage 34s 3d, both to Continent. Oats in less request, and values tended against holders. English ranges from 29s to 34s per 336 lbs, free on rail. Imported irregular. Plate f.a.q. quoted 27s 3d, ditto clipped 27s 9d, No. 2 Canada Western (old) 32s, and No. 3 ditto 31s, Chilean tawny 28s, all per 320 lbs. Oatmeal ruled steady with a fair inquiry. English all cuts quoted £20 to £21, ordinary Scottish £19 10s to £20, American £18 10s to £19, English rolled oats £22 to £23, and flaked oats £24 to £25, all per ton. Beans steady, but demand quieter. English springs quoted 54s to 58s, winters 49s to 51s per 532 lbs. Imported dull. Peas also quieter. English Maples 6s to 68s, Duns 50s to 53s per 504 lbs. Of imported, New Zealand blue quoted 21s to 24s, and Dutch blue 22s to 26s per cwt landed. Home-ward freight markets generally steady, with moderate chartering of heavy grain. From the River Plate prompt loading now rules at 32s 6d, January 30s, and new season's loading fixed at 27s 6d upper ports to U.K./Continent, with full options. North American Range ports to U.K. was done at 4s per quarter prompt, 14 cents per 100 lbs to Antwerp/Hamburg range December, and 4s 10 1/2 quarter West Italy February, option Adriatic at 3d quarter extra. India quiet but fairly steady. Bombay on dead weight prompt done at 20s 6d, and January 21s 6d to U.K./Continent. Outports inactive and nominally unaltered. A fair amount of chartering has taken place in new season's wheat from Australia on the basis of 50s South Australia/Victoria, 51s 3d Sydney to U.K./Continent, Indian options at 35s one, 36s 3d two ports of discharge. South

African maize quiet at about 30s to 31s 3d December-January home. Danube dull, and reports from Braila and Galatz state that navigation is now closed owing to frost. Other markets remain without new feature.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to December 10	Cwts. 492,306	Cwts. 227,892	Cwts. 337,403	Cwts. 310,495
14 weeks to December 10	6,295,588	5,889,276	3,724,518	4,593,359
Average price of English wheat per quarter	s d 46 8	s d 48 5	s d 46 11	s d 47 2
= per cwt	10 10 1/2	20 7 1/2	16 11	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Dec. 3	90,385 7	136,870 7	26,885 4	46 3	48 4	28 0
10	114,871 3	113,770 4	23,976 7	46 8	47 2	28 6
1917	94,063 7	107,004 4	22,563 5	71 2	58 0	43 6
1918	72,448 7	94,878 1	12,819 0	72 3	62 7	51 4
1919	78,727 4	115,111 6	13,605 5	72 6	105 2	55 9
1920	53,174 7	120,410 6	12,820 6	88 5	75 3	43 7

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—A rather more active tone has obtained this week in industrial circles, due not so much to the booking of new business as to the concentration of effort on the clearing off of contracts in hand. This is common at this season of the year to most steel and iron branches, but particularly to shipbuilding and engineering, and invariably leads to a substantial volume of work passing through the various shops and yards. Properly speaking, there is not a big volume of work at this time in sight to handle, but such as is being attacked vigorously, and the end of the month figures will, without question, reflect an improvement on those that have of late been disclosed; and that in probably all constructive departments. In normal times it would give cause for satisfaction, say, in shipbuilding, that the tonnage launched was higher than that put into the water for preceding months, for thereby room was provided for proceeding with new undertakings. But presently there are no means of filling up the vacancies which launches leave behind, and the greater the pressure of deliveries the nearer comes the verge when there will only be bare poles to greet the eye on the river and lower reaches of the Clyde—a prospect that is lamentable and close at hand. It may be that sooner than expected, shippers will come along and place instructions for new craft, but meantime they are confining their interest to promises of good times to come, and to the old, stale, advice of living and getting corn. Opinion offers a bit as to the fact, but the story goes that in the past fortnight two or, at most, four orders for steamers have been entered to builders in the Clyde area. That's a poor showing, yet it is not unsatisfactory in existing circumstances, the financial side of them especially. Authorities argue that the immediate future movement depends largely on the course of prices for material, meaning, it is needless to remark, their downward course. And it has been very sharp of late. Ship plates are still called £10 10s a ton, and angles £10, but prompt business can be done the turn lower. At these rates steelmakers declare money is being lost on production, and that they cannot face further "cuts" unless costs are sensibly lowered, and that labour declines at the moment to face. Under the influence of the cleaning-up policy already referred to, a number of rolling mills have been put in operation at different establishments, and at one or two places, notably Mossend, they are going full strength, which possibly will be maintained till the end of the month. The subsequent state will depend not a little on how export trade develops. It is looking more hopeful in relation to India, Australia, and the East generally. Lord Invernairn has been pointing out that now that naval construction seems going by the board, steelmakers must strike out in other lines, so that their productions may be utilised, and it goes that his firm (Beardmores) is proceeding with the setting up of a large Bessemer heavy rail plant, for the output of which markets lie both at home and abroad. But after all is said and recognised, it remains that position and conditions in the steel trade are far from being what could be desired. A very favourable factor, one that will work to the advantage of general engineers, machinery builders, and others in related connections, is the pronounced easing off for Continental competition in steel half-products, and in lesser measure in finished material. There is no improvement to note in the Scotch pig-iron situation. Other three furnaces have been damped down this week, leaving only nine blowing, and none of them on hematite. Scotch foundry irons are quoted £6 to £6 2s 6d, and even less money, it is said, would be taken for a good line. There are no stocks in sight, and it is hard to see how a demand, if it were to arise in bulk, could be met. In all manu-

COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT.

ENDING THE CONSUMERS' STRIKE

IMPORTANT MOVE MADE BY SHEFFIELD COMPANY TO PROVIDE INEXPENSIVE CUTLERY AND HARDWARE.

One of the most practical moves yet made for bringing to an end the "Consumers' Strike," and thus getting the retail trade started again, is the establishment by Sheffield Steel Products, Ltd., of a chain of multiple retail shops throughout the country. This firm is an amalgamation of a group of the oldest and most important manufacturers of cutlery, tools and hardware in the Midlands. Its immense organisation, and the consequent economy possible in production enables it to sell to retailers at a price which, allowing them a reasonable profit, would permit these British-made goods to compete successfully with any foreign articles of similar quality.

RETAILERS' PRICES TOO HIGH.

The Company have found, however, that the majority of retailers, instead of passing a proper share of these economies on to the public, are either taking an average profit of from 100 to 150 per cent., or else are pushing foreign goods of inferior quality at even more exorbitant prices. They have decided, therefore, to open their own retail shops, which will be operated by a subsidiary organisation known as Sheffield Steel Products (Stores), Ltd. These stores, by purchasing direct at specially advantageous prices from the parent company, will be able to supply the British market at a very considerably lower average than is now ruling.

Within the next few weeks some 25 or 30 of the new stores will be open for business in London and other parts of the country. Cutlery will be one of the leading lines stocked, and there will be shown a wide range of table and pocket knives, trade cutlery, scissors, shears, and razors. A variety of electro-plated tableware of serviceable quality and handsome design will be a second speciality, and the stock will include an assortment of fitted cutlery cabinets, ranging from an excellent but inexpensive "Cottage Parcel" of 43 pieces, priced at 44 shillings, up to a very elaborate one costing 90 guineas. Apart from the general reduction in prices of all these articles which will be effected, one of the greatest boons to the housewife from the scheme will be the bringing of stainless cutlery within reach of practically every purse.

A REVOLUTION IN HOUSEKEEPING.

In the near future, it is designed to stock articles made of stainless iron, important patents held by the parent company now enabling them to produce this wonderful new metal at a low cost which virtually puts them beyond the reach of any competitor. Articles such as door handles, knockers, fingerplates, stair rods, fenders, fireirons, grates, stoves and all sorts of kitchen and bathroom fittings will be made of the new metal. These articles will not only be rust-proof, but unlike similar objects made of copper, brass, nickel and silver, they will neither stain nor tarnish. The saving in labour which will be effected by their use is expected to bring about little short of a revolution in housekeeping methods.

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

per cent., 500 tons, January-February, sold, 95 6d. c.f. and i. London. Peruvian basis, 95 per cent., January-February, sellers, 12s. c.f. and i. Cuban stocks stand at 951,600 tons against 234,200 same time last year. Stocks in the three chief ports of the U.K., 37,000 tons, against 170,200 at corresponding period last year. Liquid glucose, December, 25s, duty paid.

COFFEE.—A sustained demand continued for the better qualities at extreme rates. Moderate supplies in auction were well competed for. Good bold Nairobi sold up to 127s 6d; Kilimanjaro, 128s; Vera Paz, good middling grey, 127s. Future delivery stronger under the influence of higher Brazilian cables. March sold, 53s 6d.

COCOA.—Public sales were held this week, when 7,938 bags were offered, of which 5,847 bags consisted of Colonial descriptions. With buyers manifesting but little interest, only a restricted proportion sold at about late rates. Fine bold Ceylon, sold, 95s to 100s; fine Trinidad, 58s; fine washed Samoa, 85s cwt. Cocoa Butter: Market quiet at 17s 9d per lb.

TEA.—This week offerings of India totalled 50,540 packages, and with a quieter demand prices in most cases ruled weaker, as sellers showed more desire to meet the market. 15,500 packages Ceylon attracted fair competition, and prices disclosed no material alteration, with the exception of leaf kinds, which proved easier.

RICE.—Market remains very quiet, with actual trading quite retail in extent. Two stars Rangoon, spot, 17s 6d. Burma Government estimate quantity available for export from coming crop as 2,735,750 tons. Broken descriptions neglected and nominal. Beans steady, but generally quiet. Spot hand-picked Rangoon, 8s 6d; afloat, 7s 6d. Bran steady.

SPICE.—Pepper market disclosed fair activity, but slight irregularity ensued at times with regard to forward positions. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 34d; ditto, December-February and January-March, 34d. Aleppy, spot, 40d; Tellicherry, 43d; white Singapore, spot, 74d; white Muntok, 73d to 74d; ditto, January-March, 73d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 6d; November-January, steamer, 1s 4d. Pimento, spot, sold, 8d. Tapioca steadier. Fair flake, spot, sold, 14d per lb; ditto, December-February, London, 15s 3d; fair Penang seed pearl, spot, 16s; small sago, spot, 26s. Sago flour, January-March, done 13s 4d. Desiccated coconut ruled quiet. Fine cut, spot, sold, 41s; medium, 41s 6d; January-February, 40s. Ginger steady, but general trade quiet.

FRUIT.—The market for currants remained in a quiet, but steady, state. Pyrgos quoted 53s; Amalia, 56s to 60s; Vostizza, 75s to 85s. Sultanias steady, but with only a small trade doing. Valencia raisins slow. Half-boxes quoted 128s to 132s per cwt. Dates steady, with moderate inquiries.

JUTE.—Market, after ruling firm and dearer on stimulating cables from Calcutta and a better inquiry, became rather quieter, but recovered. New crop, first grade, December-January and January-February, Continental ports, sold, £25 5s to £24 15s and £26 5s.

Lighting grade, ditto, £21 5s to £21 and £21 15s. Calcutta hessians and twills steadily held, but trade proceeded quietly. 10 oz, spot, sold, 22s 6d; 8 oz, ditto, 19s; A twills, spot, 70s; B ditto, 61s.

HEMP.—Manila met with slow support, and prices tended against sellers. C grade, November-January, sellers, £54; D, £50; E, £45; G, £37 10s; J, £36 10s; K, £35; L, £34; M, £30. Streaky one, November-January, £42 10s; two, £40; and three, £38. New Zealand dull. Fair, October-December, £33; and points, £35.

SHELLAC.—Market quiet, and forward positions unsettled. T.N., spot, 33s 5s; March done 290s to 285s.

COFRA.—Market quiet, and easier. F.M.S. Straits, October-December to January-March, Rotterdam, sold, £28 to £26 10s; F.M. ditto, December-February, Marseilles, at £26 12s 6d to £26 5s; Ceylon, December-February, London, done £28 15s to £28; South Sea Islands ditto, quoted £25 5s; Cebu to Hamburg, £25 10s. Palm kernels, December-February, Liverpool, changed hands at £18 7s 6d.

RUBBER.—Market presented a quiet tone throughout the week, and prices eased slightly. Standard crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 113d to 118d, and 113d; January-March, 1s to 113d, and 1s; April-June, 1s 9d to 1s 9d, and 1s 9d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 24d; ball ditto, 83d per lb.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market very quiet, and quotations largely nominal. Prime liquid yolk, April-June, 65s per cwt. Albumen, spot, held for 2s 11d per lb.

OILS.—Linseed irregular and easier. Spot, net, naked, 27s 6d; January-April, 27s; May-August, 27s. Rape dull. Crude, spot, 46s; refined, 51s. Cotton firmer. Crude Egyptian, 37s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 45s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 66s 6d; and shipment, 65s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 46s; December-

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1933 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS—		INDIA RUBBER—		PROVISIONS—		SPICES—	
Cocoa—Duty, British grown		Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt150		Para, fine, hard, spot		Butter—per cwt.		Pepper, per lb.	
Cocoa, foreign 42s. cwt.		Balm Peru, per lb		Plantation crepe		Irish cream		Singapore, fair white	
Trinidad, per cwt.		Camphor		INDIGO—per lb		Do factory		White Siam	
Granada, 43s 0 50 0		Cajuput		Benzo, good red		Australian		Pimento	
Ceylon, plantation, 52 0 120 0		Cardamoms, Ceylon		Lard, fine		Argentine		Cinnamon—1st sort	
Guayaquil, 54 0 120 0		Caularides, per lb		Mid. ord. v. to good		Do 2nd		Do 3rd	
Bahia, 58 0 60 0		Castor-oil, per lb		Mid. to good ord.		New Zealand		Do 4th	
COFFEE—British grown		Cassia, per lb		Muras, dry leaf, good		Danish		Do 5th	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Bacon, engd.—Irish		Chips	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Danish		Cassia lignea	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		American		Cloves—Ceylon	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Hams—Irish		Penang	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Canadian		Cochin, cut	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		American		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Lard—Irish		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		American		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do washed	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Japan	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Jamaica	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Nutmeg, good to fine	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Small to medium	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Chillies—per cwt	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Tallow—per cwt.	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Good mutton	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do small rough	
Es. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cassia, per lb		Kapur, dry leaf, good		Pork—per 8 lbs		Do	

THE BRITISH OVERSEAS BANK

Established 1919.

TIMES,

Report presented to the Second Annual General Meeting of Shareholders, held
Hotel, London, E.C., on FRIDAY, 16th December, 1921.

The GOVERNING COUNCIL submits to the Shareholders the Balance Sheet of the Bank, as at 31st October, 1921, and Profit and Loss Account, together with copy of the Auditors' Certificate.

The Profit, after allowing for rebate of interest and providing for all bad and doubtful debts, Income Tax and other Taxation for the year ended 31st October, 1921, amounts to £102,325 2s. 10d., to which has to be added the sum of £35,200 7s. 4d., being the balance available from last account, after payment of Income and Corporation Profits Taxes for the previous year, making a total of £137,525 10s. 2d.

Interim Dividend on "A" Ordinary Shares at the rate of six per cent. per annum for the half-year ended 30th April, 1921, and Income Tax thereon 30,000 0 0

Leaving a Balance of £107,525 10s. 2d.

which the Governing Council recommends should be dealt with as follows:—

In Payment of a Dividend on the "A" Ordinary Shares at the rate of six per cent. per annum (less Income Tax) for the half-year ended 31st October, 1921, which together with Income Tax thereon amounts to £30,000 0 0

To Reserve Fund against Shareholding Interests in Foreign Banks 10,000 0 0

To Reduction of Premises Account 10,000 0 0

Leaving a Net Balance to be carried forward to next year of 57,525 10s. 2d.

£107,525 10s. 2d.

The Governing Council has now been able to con- practice of deducting all Taxation charges before deca year. The balance of £57,525 10s. 2d. is, therefore, not sub last year, to any deductions of this character.

The Governing Council has pleasure in reporting that no political and commercial difficulties the Anglo-Polish Bank, Ltd. 4,087. satisfactory initial year. The Bank is issuing 50,000 additional shares to P.M. 25,000,000, and the Bank Zjednoczonych Ziem Polskich (Bank of Lands of Poland), with which close relations have been established, is tak large participation in this issue.

In the latter part of the financial year close relations were established with the Dorpat Bank at Dorpat, in which a small shareholding participation has been taken, and an important increase of its activities in Estonia is anticipated.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Sir Harry McGowan, K.B.E., and Mr. John Sampson, C.B.E., retire by rotation from the Governing Council, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The retirement of Mr. A. Pilling, one of the Bank's Auditors, on account of his withdrawal from professional practice, is to be reported with regret. It will be necessary for the Meeting to appoint Auditors. Messrs. A. W. Tait, C.B.E., and A. S. Macharg, the retiring Auditors, are eligible for re-election and offer themselves for re-appointment.

By Order of the Governing Council,

ANGUS MCPHAIL, F. H. HOPE SIMPSON, Managers.

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st October, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
CAPITAL:—Authorised:		Cash in hand and at Bankers	
300,000 "A" Ordinary Shares of £5 each	£1,500,000 0 0	Money at Call and Short Notice	1,395,000 0 0
300,000 "B" Ordinary Shares of £5 each	1,500,000 0 0	Balances with Bankers abroad	1,098,744 4 0
400,000 Shares of £5 each which may be issued in whole or in part as "A" or "B" Ordinary Shares	2,000,000 0 0	Bills Discounted	59,586 6 3
	£5,000,000 0 0	Government Securities—	
SUBSCRIBED AND PAID IN FULL:		£100,000 Treasury Bills	
200,000 "A" Ordinary Shares of £5 each	£1,000,000 0 0	Shareholding Interests in Foreign Banks at cost	99,913 14 0
200,000 "B" Ordinary Shares of £5 each	1,000,000 0 0	Other Investments	44,942 11 5
	£2,000,000 0 0	Advances to Customers and other Accounts	385,505 13 10
Current, Deposit and other accounts	1,793,940 11 6	Liability of Customers for Acceptances and Endorsements (per contra)	449,116 13 1
Reserve against Shareholding Interests in Foreign Banks	10,000 0 0	Premises Account	238,527 4 6
Acceptances and Endorsements for account of Customers (per contra)	449,116 13 1		
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	107,525 10s. 2d.		
	£4,360,583 14 9		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st October, 1921.

Dr.		Cr.	
To Interim Dividend on the "A" Ordinary Shares at the rate of six per cent. per annum and Income-tax thereon		By Balance brought forward (subject to Income and Corporation Profits Taxes)	
	£30,000 0 0	Less:—Income and Corporation Profits Taxes	£81,486 11 8
			46,286 4 4
		Net Profit after allowing rebate of Interest and providing for all bad and doubtful debts, Income-tax and other Taxation for the year ended 31st October, 1921	£35,200 7s. 4d.
Balance carried to Balance Sheet	107,525 10s. 2d.		102,325 2s. 10d.
	£137,525 10s. 2d.		£137,525 10s. 2d.

CHURCHILL, Governor of Council.	ARTHUR C. D. GAIRDNER, Chairman.
JOHN SAMPSON, Member of Council.	A. MCPHAIL, F. H. HOPE SIMPSON, F. J. SULLIVAN, Managers.
	G. E. MAY, Director. A. MAXWELL, Director. Accountant.

AUDITORS' REPORT.
We have examined the above Balance Sheet and compared it with the Books of the Bank.
We have satisfied ourselves as to the correctness of the Cash Balances and the Bills of Exchange and have verified the Securities.
We have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required, and are of the opinion that the Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Bank.
London, E.C., 15th November, 1921.

GOVERNING COUNCIL.
The Right Hon. VISCOUNT CHURCHILL, G.C.V.O., Governor.
R. T. HINDLEY, Esq., Manchester.
NORMAN L. HIRD, Esq., Glasgow.
HENRY HOARE, Esq., London.
W. EDGAR HORNE, Esq., M.P., London.
J. H. JONES, Esq., London.
SIR HARRY MCGOWAN, K.B.E., London.
JOHN SAMPSON, Esq., C.B.E., London.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
A. C. D. GAIRDNER, Esq., Chairman.
N. L. CAMPBELL, Esq. Sir GEORGE E. MAY, K.B.E.
Brig.-Genl. A. MAXWELL, C.M.G., D.S.O. Hon. BERNARD ROLLO.

MANAGERS: ANGUS MCPHAIL, F. H. HOPE SIMPSON.
SUB-MANAGER: W. J. CARRIGIE.
ACCOUNTANT: F. J. SULLIVAN.
SECRETARY: A. ESCOTT THORNE.

MANAGER, INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT: DUDLEY WARD.
CHIEF OPERATORS, EXCHANGE DEPARTMENT: R. STEPHENSON.
AUDITORS: A. W. TAIT, Esq., C.B.E., C.A., London. A. S. MACHARG, Esq., C.A., Glasgow.

A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED, INCLUDING THE AGENCY OF BANKS, FIRMS AND INDIVIDUALS ABROAD.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE.
Drafts and Cable or Mail Transfers in all currencies bought and sold. Payments, whether clean or against documents, effected and Commercial Credits opened.
Freight Collections and Ships' Disbursements undertaken.
Accounts in Foreign Currencies opened on behalf of Customers.
Quotations given for Cable and Mail Transfers in Foreign Currencies for delivery at fixed future dates, or optionally over a period, thus enabling Merchants and others to eliminate the risk of fluctuation in exchange rates pending completion of transactions.

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE DEBENTURES (KAILAN BONDS).

NINTH DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, in conformity with the conditions endorsed upon the Debentures, the undermentioned numbers of Debentures of the total value of £24,000 were drawn on the Twenty-seventh day of October, 1921, at the Offices of the Company, No. 22 Austin Friars, in the City of London, in the presence of William Berry, Secretary of the Company, and John William Peter Jauralde, of 7-8 Great Winchester Street, London, E.C., Notary Public.

The said Debentures will be paid off at par on the 31st December, 1921, at either of the following places:—

In London: At the Transfer Office of the Company, No. 3 London Wall Buildings, E.C. 2.

In BRUSSELS: At the Offices of the Local Board, 13 rue Broderode, Brussels.

In CHINA: At the General Offices of the Company, Tientsin.

6 BONDS OF £400 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

70 BONDS OF £100 EACH, NUMBERED:—

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

28431 38515 38538 38563 38577 38584 38717 38763
38793 38824 38875 38887 38891 39013 39033 39122
39149 39182 39185 39322

The drawn Debentures, with Coupon No. 20 attached, must be left four clear days for examination.

By Order, ALFRED W. BERRY, Secretary.

Countersigned— J. W. P. JAURALDE, Notary Public.

22 Austin Friars, London, E.C. 2.

27th October, 1921.

NOTICE.—The following Debenture Bonds drawn at previous drawings have not yet been redeemed, and should be presented for payment without delay:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

£100 BONDS NUMBERED:—

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING AND
MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.
SIX PER CENT. FIRST MORTGAGE
DEBENTURES (KAILAN BONDS).

NINTH DRAWING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that,
pursuant to the conditions endorsed
in the Memorandum of Association
of the Company, the undersigned
Debt-holders of the total value of
drawn on the Twenty-seventh
1921, at the Office of the
Austin Friars, in the City
presence of Walter Firth,
the Directors, Alfred W.
of the Company,
Jauralde, of 7-8 C
Don, E.C. 4, Notar
The said De
on the 31st
following p

CHAIRMAN.
Cor. FRANCQUI, Minister of State, Director of the Société Générale de
Belgique, Brussels.

VICE-CHAIRMAN.
F. H. BALZAROTTI, Chairman of the Credito Italiano, Milan.

DIRECTORS.
ARTHUR BRYN, Chairman of Lloyd Royal Belge, Antwerp.
FERNAND GALLIER, Director of Crédit Mobilier de Belgique, Antwerp.
GEORGES DEPREZ, Director of Cristalleries du Val St. Lambert, Liège.

BELGIAN BANK.

Banque Italo-Belge.
(Société Anonyme.)

Frs. 50,000,000. Reserves & Undivided Profits: Frs. 24,373,739.82.

Head Office - - - ANTWERP

ARGENTINE: Buenos Aires. BRAZIL: Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Santos, Campinas.
CHILI: Valparaiso. URUGUAY: Montevideo.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

CHEVALIER DE WOUTERS D'OPLINTER, Vice-Chairman of the Banque
Belge pour l'Etranger, Brussels.
LEON ELSER, Director of the Banque d'Anvers, Antwerp.
EMM. JANSSEN, Partner of the firm Solvay and Co., Brussels.
ALBERTO LODOLLO, Director of the Credito Italiano, Milan.
CARLO ORSI, Director of the Credito Italiano, Milan.

MANAGING DIRECTOR.

HECTOR CARLIER, Antwerp.

LONDON OFFICE: 50, Old Broad Street, London, E.C. 2.
Manager—CHARLES DELBEKE.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Gentlemen,—In accordance with Art. 32 of the Statutes, we have the honour to
submit for your approval the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account of
the Company's tenth business year, ending June 30th, 1921.

During the period under review we have opened our Office in Valparaiso, where
our business is developing normally.

We have acquired an important property in that City to be used as offices for
this new Branch.

As our Office in Montevideo is at a distance from the Exchange and the Banking
centre, we have acquired new premises near the Exchange, which will better serve
the requirements of the clients and the development of the business of that Branch.

This will explain to you the increase under the item "Premises" in the Balance
Sheet.

In accordance with our policy of housing our branches in buildings of our
own, suitably arranged for our needs, we are now the owners of our Bank premises
in Sao Paulo, Montevideo, Buenos Aires and Valparaiso.

The crisis which followed the Armistice was felt very much in all South
American countries, due to excessive importation of goods, more especially from
North America. This situation has caused, particularly in the countries in which
we are established, a rapid and heavy fall in the rates of exchange, the excess of
imports having been accompanied by a reduction of the exports of all products,
even those of primary necessity. This severe drop seems at least partly attributable
to the reduced purchasing power of the European importing countries on account
of the fall of their currencies. This break in the economic balance has created
a difficult situation, immediately followed by a great stagnation of business.
However, the almost total abstention of the buyers cannot last indefinitely. There
are requirements to be satisfied; the stocks in Europe of raw material and
articles of primary necessity are almost exhausted, and as in the meantime
a heavy fall in prices has occurred in the producing South American countries, a
slight revival of business has already become noticeable. However, up to now,
Central Europe and Russia participate only to a very small extent, if at all, in the
world's trade, and this is a factor for the future the importance of which cannot be
appreciated at present.

The accounts and stocks of manufactured goods in South America are being
slowly absorbed, and one notices a slight resumption in the exports from Belgium
and Italy to South America, which exports, as you know, are the object of our
special attention. As in the past, we continue to finance this class of business to
the largest possible extent. However, sight must not be lost of the fact that the
more and more pronounced fluctuations in the rates of exchange form a great
hindrance to exports, and in many cases we are compelled to observe an extreme
reserve in the interests of the exporters as well as in our own.

The results obtained during the business year, in spite of the troubled situation
mentioned above, will enable you to realise that the Bank has passed this critical
period without difficulty. We are carefully watching the numerous political and
economic factors which are continually upsetting the daily life of the business
world, but it must be mentioned that the normal development of business at
present depends less upon private activity and initiative than upon unexpected
economic and political factors.

CAPITAL.—Since October 1st, 1920, our capital of 50 millions has been fully paid-
and, although the Bank has not had the new capital at its disposal more than about
9 months, the dividend proposed applies to the 50 millions.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—We had the great sorrow of losing Mr Born, who
died last December, and who was a collaborator from the very first. Mr Bunge
tendered his resignation a few days afterwards, for private reasons. Consequently,
in order to replace the late Mr Born and Mr Bunge, we propose to you to appoint
Director Managers our General Managers, Messrs Delaborde and Tardieu. These
gentlemen have been with the Banque Italo-Belge from the beginning. You will
realise with us that, considering our Institution's activity is devoted to South
America, it is advisable to appoint to the Board persons who have resided in those
countries and who are acquainted with the business methods prevailing there.

Mr Ed. Bunge, Junior, Commissaire residing in the Argentine, and having no
further occasion to return to Antwerp, has just tendered his resignation.

BALANCE SHEET, June 30th, 1921.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	Frs.		Frs.
Capital	50,000,000.00	Premises	6,573,036.25
Reserves		Furniture and Fittings	1.00
Legal Reserve	1,429,938.82	Cash in hand and with Banks	177,060,750.56
Extraordinary Reserve	22,500,000.00	Bills Receivable	155,501,317.71
Current and Deposit Accounts	23,929,908.82	Securities	2,466,980.74
Bankers and Correspondents	504,433,293.05	Current Accounts	
Bills payable	167,647,644.28	Bankers and Correspondents	191,967,977.87
Interest and Dividends not claimed	15,914,129.25	Clients, guaranteed and not guaranteed	255,691,401.01
Depositors	153,375.62	Securities deposited	447,659,381.88
Re-discount on Bills	362,083,876.45	Securities deposited as collaterals	181,264,489.33
Interest and dividend	649,286.12		180,819,397.13
Carried forward	6,000,000.00		362,083,876.45
	443,831.03		
	7,033,117.12		
	Frs. 1,131,345,344.59		Frs. 1,131,345,344.59

PROFIT and LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30th June, 1921.		CR.	
	Frs.		Frs.
General Expenses	7,021,450.02	Brought forward from the Business Year 1919/1920	415,254.18
Distribution of Profits:		Interest, Exchange, Commission, etc.	15,942,288.19
5 per cent. to the Legal Reserve	446,041.90		
1st dividend of 5 per cent.	2,500,000.00		
15 per cent. to the Board of Directors	836,219.45		
2nd Dividend of 7 per cent.	2,500,000.00		
Extraordinary Reserve	1,550,000.00		
Carried forward	443,831.00		
	9,336,092.35		
	Frs. 16,357,542.97		Frs. 16,357,542.97

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:

A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1921.

No. 4,087.

ALLIANCE

ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE: BARTHOLOMEW LANE, LONDON, E.C. 2
ASSETS EXCEED £25,000,000.

The Hon. N. CHARLES ROTHSCHILD, President
The operations of the Company embrace all branches of Insurance

Full Information respecting
ESTATE DUTY

and
CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL
POLICIES

issued by the Company may
be obtained on application to
the Head Office as above or to
any of the Offices or Agencies
of the Company.

O. MORGAN OWEN, General Manager.

Centralbanken for Norge

Christiania, Norway,

transacts all kinds of banking business.

CORRESPONDENTS IN:

Aalesund
Bergen
Christiania and S.
Drammen
Fredrikstad
Haugesund
Sandefjord
Skien
Stavanger
Trondhjem

and all Norwegian places of any importance.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS

1 Jan., 1920... .. Kr. 69,000,000

CREDITO ITALIANO.

Capital Fully Paid Lire 300,000,000
Reserve Lire 80,000,000
Deposits and Current Accounts at 30th June,
1921 Lire 4,683,270,156

Head Office of the Bank: MILAN.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT ITALY.

London Branch: 22 ABCHURCH LANE, E.C. 4.

Managers { D. A. HORNER.
F. N. SCHILLER.

Transacts a general Foreign Banking Business, having
correspondents in all Countries, and is specially pre-
pared to grant facilities for the development of trade
between the British Empire and Italy.

Correspondent of the Royal Italian Treasury.

Telegrams: "ItaloCredi", Cannon, London."

Telephone: 7802-7803 City.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	1101	Books and Publications—	
Leading Articles—		Reviews	1118
The Darkest Hour	1103	Books Received.....	1118
War Stock Appreciation ..	1104	Stock Exchange News—	
The Growth of Foreign		The Stock Markets	1119
Trade of the Nations of		New Issues.....	1119
America	1105	Active Securities	1120
Co-operative Societies' Re-		Company Meetings	1121
sults	1106	Government Returns—	
The Economic Position in		Currency Notes Account..	1131
Czecho-Slovakia	1107	Public Income & Expendi-	
Business Notes—		ture	1131
The Railway Rate Reduc-		Bankers' Gazette—	
tion	1107	Bank of England	1132
Employment in November		Clearing Returns	1132
Cost of Living	1108	Overseas Bank Returns ..	1133
The Cost of Pensions	1108	Loan and Discount Rates	1134
October Trade Volume ..	1109	Overseas Bank Rates	1134
Ireland's Overseas Trade..	1109	Rates of Exchange	1135
American Steel and Dis-		Bullion	1135
armament	1109	Gold and Silver Prices ..	1136
Argentine Finance & Trade		Company News—	
Peru and Chile	1110	Dividend Announcements..	1120
American Cotton Crop ..	1110	Mining Output Statistics	1136
Cotton Trade Wages	1110	Analysis of Balance-sheets	1136
Scotch Whisky Trade	1110	Transvaal Gold Output	
Japanese Trade & Finance		Statistics	1136
Grand Trunk Appeal	1111	Oil Outputs	1136
The Mexican Railway ..	1111	Railway & Tramway Traffic	1137
Mexican Eagle Oil	1111	Rubber Outputs and	
Samuel Allsopp and Sons ..	1111	Dividends	1138
Slaters' Report	1112	Reports and Notices	1139
Camp Bird Group Finances		Profit and Loss Accounts..	1139
South African Diamond ..	1112	Commercial Reports—	
Overseas Correspondence—		Corn Trade	1139
United States	1112	Iron and Coal Trade	1140
France	1114	Cotton Trade	1140
New Zealand	1115	Wool Trade	1141
Sweden	1116	The Timber Trade	1142
Norway	1116	Hide and Leather Trades..	1142
Poland	1117	Portland Cement	1142
Letters to the Editor—		Overseas Produce Markets	1143
Repayment of National		Price Current	1144
Debt	1117		

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £3 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the
Proprietors of the "Economist."
Office: Granville House, Arundel Street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

Copies of the Economist may always be obtained in the City at
Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons,
5 Birch Lane; Barker and Howard, 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar
Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street;
Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Copthall avenue, and 53 Finsbury
pavement.

Paris: Galignani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's,
37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: Economist Office, 20 Broad
street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

EXPECTATIONS of a real increase in the demand for money
were again falsified. Even on Wednesday and Thursday
surplus balances were available under 3 per cent., and in
consequence there was no recovery in the discount rate.
There was again a very slight improvement in the quan-
tity and quality of commercial bills, but the amount of
banking money seeking employment at anything above

the deposit rate is still greater than that of the Treasury and bank bills together.

	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 16, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1921.	Dec. 2, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	5% (Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount / Call	3%	3%	3%	3%	3% (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses / Notice	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)
Market rate (3 months' bills)	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½%	3½% (Nov. 3, '21)

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

Thursday's Bank Return showed an increase of £1,936,600 in the note circulation, and as the gold stock was reduced by £6,100, the Reserve was £1,942,700 lower. Government securities were reduced by £18,975,000, while Other securities rose by £4,517,300, so that Deposits fell by £16,404,700, more than the whole of which came off Other. The circulation of currency notes showed a seasonal increase of £6,099,900 to £324,428,900, which includes £1,748,300 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £274,739,600, or £42,824,600 below the maximum.

The Imperial Bank of India's rate of discount was advanced 1 per cent. to 6 per cent. on December 15, 1921. It had stood at 5 per cent. since June 2, 1921.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended December 17, 1921:—

Receipts.	Min. £	Expenditure.	Min. £
From Revenue	24,315	Supply Services	9,987
		Interest on Debt	1,752
		Sundries	249
		Reduction of Debt	11,702
		Added to Exchequer Balances ..	1,625
	24,315		24,315

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £11,701,534, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 6,538	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 730
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 550	Treasury Bills	- 7,240
		Bank of England Advances ..	- 7,000
		Public Department Advances ..	- 300
		Other Debt Repaid	- 2,154
		Unemployment Insurance	- 300
		Exchequer Bonds Repaid	- 108
		Housing	- 958
	+ 7,088		- 18,790

Customs and Excise yielded £11,350,000, Special Receipts under Miscellaneous £8,400,000, and Property and Income-tax £918,000. Treasury Bond sales amounted to £6,538,100. The floating debt was reduced £14,605,000, to £1,290,669,000. Advances by the Bank of England were reduced by £7,000,000, leaving £13,000,000 outstanding. Public Department Advances were reduced by £300,000, making the amount outstanding £193,508,000. Treasury Bill sales were £7,305,000 lower than the maturities. Treasury Bills outstanding now amount to £1,084,161,000, against £1,131,579,000 a year ago.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

After the excitement of the past few weeks the foreign exchange market since the 16th has been relatively quiet, although compared with other times movements have been still very wide. As soon as it was realised that Germany's declaration that she was unable to pay the next reparation instalments would promote no immediate crisis, the rate for marks fell away again from 82½ on Friday and Saturday to 77½ on Monday. The very absence of information as to the deliberations of M. Briand and Mr Lloyd George has been taken as a favour-

able rather than unfavourable sign, and in consequence there was a further fall by Wednesday to 737½. By yesterday morning, however, the optimists were beginning to feel the strain, and there was a reaction to about 770. As yet it is quite impossible to say which way the rate will go, but if the apparently inspired hints at "firm" treatment of Germany are correct, it is hardly possible that any improvement can be expected. The quotation for future marks remains unchanged at one to three marks per month below spot. Uncertainty as to the result of M. Briand's visit has also been the chief factor in influencing the Paris rate, which after improving to 52.02½ on Tuesday rose again on the following day, and yesterday morning was quoted at 53.15 as compared with 52.97½ on the 16th, while the Brussels rate had risen, after a similar improvement, from 55.05 to 55.35. Dealings in futures are very quiet at present, and the rates quoted for Paris vary from one to two points per month either side of spot. In Brussels the rate has widened from 4 to 6 centimes to 10 to 12 centimes per month below spot. In New York, in spite of minor fluctuations, sterling has shown a general tendency to continue its improvement, and moved from 4.17½ on the 16th to 4.21½ on the 20th. After that, however, there were signs that the bull movement had been carried too far, and by yesterday morning the rate had fallen away again to 4.20½. While sentiment has undoubtedly played, and still plays, a very large part in this appreciation of sterling, economic factors are for the moment tending in the same direction. American November trade figures show a very much smaller export surplus, and the demand by America for foreign securities has recently increased much more rapidly than before. At the same time the position remains instable, and unfavourable political news might provoke a sharp reaction. The rate for futures, at ¼ to ½ cents per month over spot, remains practically the same as last week. Italy, with some fluctuations, has depreciated, and yesterday morning stood at 93½ as compared with 91½ on the 16th. Among the neutral exchanges Amsterdam, after moving up to 11.50½ on the 19th, has gone rather rapidly against us, and stands at 11.43 as compared with 11.48 a week ago. Switzerland since the 16th, when the rate stood at 21.46½, has gone steadily in our favour to 21.52½, and the growing strain of industrial depression in that country does not augur well for the future. Madrid, on the other hand, shows some improvement from 28.48½ to 28.27½. In the Northern group the improvement in Christiania has been less marked, the rate having fallen from 27 to 26.77½. Stockholm is 16.82½ as compared with 17, while Copenhagen has gone down more rapidly from 21.37½ to 20.77½. Helsingfors is much the same as last week at 217½. In Central Europe vigorous action by the Austrian Government and the call for a return of all foreign currencies held has brought down the rate for the Inlandskrone from 27,600 on the 16th to 24,800 on the 21st. Yesterday the Auslandskrone was quoted in London at 11,500, practically unchanged on the week. Warsaw at 12,000 is again rather better than a week ago, and the report of a capital levy to be imposed at once would suggest that the financial problem is being vigorously tackled. Budapest remains unchanged at 2,750. Prague shows a sharp recovery from 342 to about 318, Belgrade, on the other hand, shows an upward tendency at rather over 270. Sofia remains about the same at 600, and Bucharest is still unquoted. In the East the rupee rate, after being up over 1s 4d, has weakened again to about 1s 3½d. Silver is slightly lower on the week at 35½d, after a temporary rise owing to buying from India. Hong Kong is rather lower at 2s 7d, Shanghai unchanged at 3s 7d. Japan is slightly weaker at 2s 3½d. In South America Buenos Ayres is 43½, as compared with 43½d on the 16th, Montevideo 40½d as compared with 40½d, Valparaiso 9.80s as compared with 40.60s. Rio, on the other hand, is unchanged at 7½d.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 17, 1921.

	£		£
Total spent	711,491,063	Raised by revenue ..	638,237,388
Inc. in balances	1,430,144	Net borrowings	74,683,819
Total	712,921,207	Total	712,921,207

ESTIMATES FOR YEAR 1921-22.

	£		£
Ordinary Receipts ..	1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000		1,039,728,000
		Surplus*	176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Dec. 17, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	318	318	315	315	315	315	315
Term. Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	18	17
3½% War Stock	349	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	...	...	16	14	13	13	13	13	13
4 & 5% War Stock ..	...	...	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,989
National War Bonds ..	...	...	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,201
4% Funding Loan	...	...	...	...	409	409	407	405	405
4% Victory Bonds	...	...	...	...	360	357	358	348	346
3% Conversion L'n ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-15 year Treas. Bonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	23	24
5½% Treasury Bonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	256
Treasury Bills	15	77	561	557	1,107	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,084
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	332	334	323	319	292	289	218
Nat'l Savings Certs.	...	...	138	227	267	274	279	285	293
War Expend. Certs.	...	...	23	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Debt	...	...	944	1,241	1,366	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,097
American Loan	...	...	51	51	51	51	...	...	...
Temporary Advances ..	1	...	204	455	243	205	306	154	207
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,764
Total Liabilities	711	1,163	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,813

NOTE.—These figures have now been revised in accordance with a recent Treasury return on internal debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Dec. 18, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Dec. 17, '21.	Dec. 17, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	50,250,000..	13,000,000..	7,000,000..	7,000,000..
Advances by Public Departments ..	212,664,000..	154,489,000..	193,508,000..	300,000,000..
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,131,579,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,084,161,000..	7,305,000..
Total Floating Debt	1,394,493,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,290,669,000..	-14,605,000..

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

DECEMBER 17TH.—Dail Eireann sits in secret. Damage at Hull through high tide.

DECEMBER 18TH.—M. Briand and Dr Rathenau arrive in London.

DECEMBER 19TH.—Dail Eireann debates in public. Angle-French conversations at Downing Street.

DECEMBER 20TH.—Conversations between Mr Lloyd George and M. Briand continued. More speakers in Dail Eireann debate.

DECEMBER 21ST.—Railway rates decision announced. Economy Committee's report circulated among Cabinet Ministers.

DECEMBER 22ND.—M. Briand returns to France.

The approach of the holiday has brought a contraction in Stock Exchange business, and a slight reaction occurred in the gilt-edged market. German and French bonds improved on the strength of the Downing Street Conference.

The cotton markets continue to present a rather firmer appearance. There is less anticipation of lower values, and an increased inquiry for cloth for Calcutta. Wool, the raw material, is a strong market, buyers having regained confidence; the demand for tops has improved, and there is rather more business doing in woollen piece goods. In the iron and steel trades conditions have not improved, but railway rates reductions will enable further cuts to be made, which, it is hoped, will stimulate business. In the Sheffield district unemployment is increasing, and the volume of work on hand is reported to be the smallest on record. But brighter hopes are entertained with regard to the new year. The year is closing with a better tone in the markets for hides and leather, and the shoe trade is improving.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

THE DARKEST HOUR.

In the records of British economic history Christmas, 1921, will probably mark the lowest point in the depression following the Great War. How feebly the vital spark has been glowing during the past year will be shown by the various indices which we shall have occasion to lay before our readers in the next few weeks. It will suffice to mention here that coal output, which amounted to 230 million tons in 1920 and 285 million tons in 1913, will barely exceed 160 million tons in the current year, while pig-iron output, which amounted to 10 million tons in 1913, will barely amount to 2½ million tons in 1921. The record of other industries and economic activities, though perhaps in some cases less startling, will confirm that national production has this year been at an abnormally low ebb, and has left us in mid-winter faced with the stupendous fact of nearly two millions of our industrial population unemployed, at a moment when we are practically free from any important industrial dispute.

Such figures are entirely without precedent since we became an industrial nation, and are indeed so large that, like all enormous numbers, they tend to be mere digits, unrelated to the facts they represent. But at this season of the year we can at least attempt to conceive their human implications in our industrial towns and mining villages, so aptly described by Lord Derby as our devastated areas. Actual hunger and want have hitherto been kept within narrower limits than might have been feared, but as month after month has gone by without appreciable improvement in the outlook, and the numbers have grown with the approach of winter, savings have melted away, while morale is threatened by those grim allies, idleness and poverty.

Colonel Armstrong, the recently elected president of the F.B.I., reminds us of another aspect of the problem in calling attention to the thankless task which the business world is faced of paying high taxes from an empty till and a large bank overdraft. In a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer he pleads the case for lower taxation in urgent terms:—"The federation desire to urge you most earnestly to consider the grave danger to the economic position of the country which will be involved by disregarding this warning a second time, and to realise that the question is not now one of mere hardship or even of possible disaster to individual firms, but whether the whole industrial system of the country can possibly withstand any prolongation of the strain to which it has been subjected." But serious as the position still is, there are features which lead us to believe that the present is the darkest hour which precedes the dawn. Apart from the technical consideration that stocks accumulated in the boom of 1919-20 have for the most part now disappeared, the year now drawing to a close has seen the passing of the political and economic illusions harboured by all peoples, classes, and parties in the last three years. Employers and employed, in their common distress,

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—The Right Hon. R. McKENNA

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital ..	£38,116,815
Paid-up Capital ..	10,850,565
Reserve Fund ..	10,850,565
Deposits (June 30th, 1921) ..	371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFILIATED BANKS: BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD. OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

are beginning to work together, and to recognise that their mutual interests are more fundamental than their differences. In certain of our most important industries workpeople have come to recognise that wages are governed not by theoretical standards, but by what the world is prepared to pay for their products. At this moment, at the close of a year in the course of which was waged the greatest coal fight in our industrial history, the coal industry has travelled so far that the output of the mines, per man per shift, is as high as it was in the "banner" year of 1913. Within a little while there is a prospect that the cost of industrial coal will so far decline that our great iron and steel industries may come within sight of revival.

But the economic illusions have not been wholly or even mainly on the side of workpeople. The legislative records of the last three years in the economic sphere are strewn with the debris of repeatedly abandoned or ineffective legislation; while employers and business men, forgetting the lessons of the past, permitted themselves to build hopes upon a fantastic level of prices. One of the main reasons for optimism is that these illusions have given way to realisation of hard facts. Prices have fallen, and we have already gone so far in the much more difficult task of readjusting wages and costs of production, that already some of our industrialists are beginning to quote in competition with Continental sellers. There is yet much to be done in this direction, and, in particular, the small reduction in railway charges announced this week is not enough to give much impetus to the reduction of prices in the new year. Nevertheless, a beginning has been made, and all concerned are now well aware of the goal. But even more important is the sign of light on the political horizon. If economic fallacies have concealed at home the necessity of limiting spending to our earning power, the illusions that we have helped to foster in international politics have prevented the restoration of international trade, and reduced the world to a condition of subnormal and ill-balanced production.

With the economic realisation that a world ravaged by war is a very hard, uncomfortable place to live in, and one which cannot be made a place of comfort except by our own very strenuous efforts, there has come also the political realisation that a world in which peace and goodwill among men and among peoples are not realities, to be striven for and cherished, must become a world in which civilised mankind will cease to exist. It is but quite recently that we have come to realise the material as well as the spiritual value of peace on earth and goodwill among men. Until we had lived through our delirium and suffered our disillusion, and achieved our realisation, it was not possible for us even to begin upon the work of true reconstruction. We in this country—happier than some other peoples—have now passed through the various stages on the road from war to peace, from insanity to reason. The Washington Conference has declared peace in the Pacific, and we have ourselves declared peace in Europe. Whatever may be the domestic tribulations of Ireland, the war between the English and the Irish has been ended. Only those who have made a study of our history during the past few centuries can appreciate the immensity of that achievement. After both Houses of the British Parliament, with the approbation of the whole English-speaking world, have declared peace with Ireland, it is no longer possible for the Irish, either of North or South, to revive a war in which the English will be morally involved. Finally, we are satisfied that in perhaps the most difficult problem of all, the French and ourselves, in spite of appearances to the contrary, are fundamentally nearer to a common view on the steps needed for the economic recovery of Europe, and in particular on the Reparation problem, than ever before, because both movements have striven to found their politics upon reality, instead of upon illusions. Hence, though a survey was realised that our trade, and our commerce preserved as unable to pay the than in any year of peace for more, did promote no immediate mas 1921 finds us with bright away again from 822½ on prospects, and we can prep 777½ on Monday. The very assurance that the night is as to the deliberations of M. George has been taken as a favour-

WAR STOCK APPRECIATION.

To the Stock Exchange and to many thousands of its clients (and to other investors who have never had a Stock Exchange transaction in their lives), the remarkable series of rises which have occurred in the prices of war stocks during the past few days will come as an acceptable Christmas present. The appreciation in prices over the past two months in gilt-edged stocks has been substantial, and the austere investor who has refused the flattering temptations to embark money upon more speculative issues will indeed feel that his virtue has been rewarded. Moreover, the course of the market, in spite of the slight reaction which has taken place this week, appears to encourage the impression that, in course of time, the issue prices of the various loans may again be recovered. After eight years of warfare and depreciation, it is timely to set out some of the details connected with the War Loans that have appeared during the interval. The first popular War Loan was the 3½ per cent. stock issued in November, 1914. The amount of 350 millions was considered at that time enormous. The price was 95, and, in spite of the sum required, it was rapidly provided by nearly 100,000 subscribers. The first really big loan, however, was the 4½ per cent. War Loan offered at 100 in June, 1915. The loan had the unusual character of being unlimited in extent. Applications for nearly 600 million pounds were received from the public through the Bank of England and the post offices. Holders of the 3½ per cent. loan had the option of converting into the 4½ per cent. upon terms which a good many embraced, and, at the same time, proprietors of Consols were given the right to convert into the 4½ per cent. stock, with the result that a large part of the existing amount of Consols became changed into the 4½ per cent. stock, leaving a comparatively small balance, which exists at the present time, of 277 million pounds in Consols. Of the 350 millions of the 3½ per cent. loan there remains £62,745,476, while of the once popular 4½ per cent. stock there is left to-day less than thirteen million pounds, the remainder having been converted into the 4 and 5 per cent. stocks. The success attendant upon the issue of these two loans was quickly eclipsed by that which attended the issue of the 5 per cent. War Loan, with its 4 per cent. supplement. This appeared in January, 1917. Over two million applicants through the banks and post offices subscribed for amounts which, added to the Treasury bills and the 4½ per cent. War Loan convertible into the 5 per cent. stock, brought the total up to 1,976 millions, with another 64 millions subscribed for the 4 per cent. stock. After the war the Treasury offered Victory Bonds and Funding stock, both carrying 4 per cent. interest, of which the amounts outstanding at the present time are respectively 356 millions and 409 millions. To summarise the details a short table is useful:—

Stock.	Red.	Interest.	Issue	Present	Rise in
War Loan.....	1925-28	3½	95	90½	7½
Do	1925-45	4½	100	83	6
Do	1929-47	5	95	91½	8½
Do	1929-42	4	100	96½	5
Funding	1960-90	4	80	75½	7½
Victory		4	85	80½	8½

These are, of course, the purely popular loans, and no account of the various National Savings Certificates, a temporary rise owing to buying Loan, and other Hong Kong is rather lower at 28 7d. The war loan of 25 3d. In South America Buenos Ayres is 43½, a compared with 43½d on the 16th, Montevideo 40½d compared with 40½d, Valparaiso 9.80s as compared with 40.60s. Rio, on the other hand, is unchanged at 7½d.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 17, 1921.			
	£	£	£
Total spent	711,491,063	Raised by revenue ..	638,237,388
Inc. in balances	1,430,144	Net borrowings	74,683,819
Total	712,921,207	Total	712,921,207

time, it probably involves the Exchequer in a good deal of leakage of income-tax on the interest payments.

The substantial advances in quotations that are exhibited by the table set out above are welcome to millions of individual holders, but their importance is even greater in another direction. For many years past banks, insurance companies, and joint-stock concerns of all kinds have seen their holdings of gilt-edged securities steadily depreciate. The gilt-edged rise recorded in 1921 is a boon to balance-sheets, while profits of banks and other great concerns will no longer be subject to the serious drain of large allocations for writing down investment holdings. Indeed, the appreciation of the past few months in gilt-edged stocks in general, and in War stocks in particular, will form a valuable hidden reserve in many company accounts.

THE GROWTH OF FOREIGN TRADE OF THE NATIONS OF AMERICA.

ALTHOUGH the chief nations of the New World cannot show so great an actual increase in the value of their foreign trade in 1912 over the value of 1901 as can the chief nations of Europe, in this respect they compare very favourably with the chief Dominions and Overseas Possessions of the British Empire, as shown in the following table:—

Foreign Trade of European Nations, in Million £.	Actual Increase in 1912 over 1901.	Foreign Trade of Dominions, &c., of the British Empire.	Actual Increase in 1912 over 1901.	Foreign Trade of Nations of America, in Million £.	Actual Increase in 1912 over 1901.
United Kingdom	437.7	British India	159.7	United States	522.2
France	331.7	Canada	143.6	Argentina	116.8
Holland	243.0	Australia	65.2	Brazil	76.0
Belgium	232.3	B. Sth. Africa	42.9	Chile	30.0
Germany	231.8	New Zealand	19.3	Cuba	28.9
Italy	131.5	B. West Africa	17.4	Mexico	20.8

* Increase in 1911 over value of 1901. † Increase of 1912 over 1906.

But in respect to the rate of increase since the beginning of the century many of the nations of America show an astonishing increase, thus indicating how vast are the potentialities of these countries awaiting development.

TABLE SHOWING THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES FROM 1901 TO 1912.

	Population.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.		
					Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
UNITED STATES.					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
1901	77,613,000	171.5	310.0	481.5	2 4 2	4 0 0	6 4 2
Average, 1902-1906	82,467,000	219.3	313.6	532.9	2 13 2	3 16 1	6 9 3
Average, 1907-1911	92,528,000	291.1	383.3	674.4	3 2 11	4 2 10	7 5 9
1912	95,411,000	344.4	459.2	803.6	3 12 2	4 16 4	8 8 6

The population of the United States rose from 77,613,000 in 1901 to 95,411,000 in 1912, showing a percentage increase of 22.9. The value of her imports rose in the same time from £171,500,000 to £344,400,000, showing an increase of 100.8 per cent. The value of the exports rose from £310,000,000 to £459,200,000, or at the rate of 48.1 per cent. And her total foreign trade rose from £481,500,000 to £803,600,000, showing an increase of 66.7 per cent., and considerably exceeding the percentage increase (54.5) of the United Kingdom, but falling short of the percentage increases shown by Italy, Belgium, Holland, and France. Throughout the 12 years the value of the exports of the United States have considerably exceeded the value of her imports. The value of the foreign trade per head of the population is higher than the value and an increased income of Italy, but is much lower than that of the raw material, is a strong factor in the nations of Europe.

gained confidence; the demand for iron, steel, and other goods and there is rather more business doing in wool, cotton, and other goods. In the iron and steel trades conditions have improved, but railway rates reductions will enable further cuts to be made, which, it is hoped, will stimulate business. In the Sheffield district unemployment is increasing, and the volume of work on hand is reported to be the smallest on record. But brighter hopes are entertained with regard to the new year. The year is closing with a better tone in the markets for hides and leather, and the shoe trade is improving.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

INTERNATIONAL BANKING
IN ALL ITS BRANCHES
**BANKERS TRUST
COMPANY**
16, WALL STREET, NEW YORK
PARIS OFFICE
3 & 5, PLACE VENDOME
CABLE ADDRESS: BANKTRUST, PARIS

imports by Argentina rose by 237.7, and those by Brazil by 196.2 per cent. Their exports rose by 187.0 and 83.7 per cent. respectively, and the value of their foreign trade by 207.4 and 122.6 per cent. The value of the total trade or Argentina per head of her population was in 1912 rapidly approaching that of the United Kingdom.

TABLE SHOWING THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF CUBA, CHILE, AND MEXICO.

	Population.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.		
					Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
CUBA.					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
1901	1,700,000	13.6	13.1	26.7	8 0 0	7 14 1	15 14 1
Average, 1902-1906		15.9	17.8	33.7			
Average, 1907-1911		20.2	24.9	45.1			
1912	2,300,000	25.0	30.6	55.6	10 17 5	13 6 1	24 3 6
CHILE.—1901	3,100,000	10.4	13.0	23.4	3 7 1	4 3 10	7 10 11
Average, 1902-1906		12.9	17.4	30.3			
Average, 1907-1911		22.0	23.2	45.2			
1912	3,500,000	25.1	28.3	53.4	7 3 5	8 1 9	15 5 2
MEXICO.—1901	13,800,000	13.0	15.2	28.2	0 18 10	1 2 0	2 0 10
Average, 1902-1906		15.8	19.2	35.0			
Average, 1907-1911		20.7	26.0	46.7			
1912	15,000,000	18.6	30.4	49.0	1 4 10	2 0 6	3 5 4

The population of Cuba increased at the rate of 35.3 per cent., the value of its imports by 83.8 per cent., of its exports by 133.6 per cent., and the value of its total foreign trade by 108.2 per cent. The value of its foreign trade per head of the population was higher in 1912 than that of Argentina. The population of Chile increased by 13.0 per cent., the value of its imports by 141.3, the value of its exports by 117.7, and the value of its foreign trade by 128.2 per cent. Mexico shows an increase of population of only 8.7 per cent. Its imports rose in value by 43.1, its exports by 100.0, and its total foreign trade by 73.7 per cent. As in the case of the United States, the tables show that the export values of Argentina, Brazil, Cuba, Chile, and Mexico exceeded the values of the imports in each country—the single exception of the year 1901 in the case of Cuba being insignificant.

TABLE SHOWING THE GROWTH OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF PORTO RICO, URUGUAY, PERU, AND BOLIVIA FROM 1901 TO 1912.

	Population.	Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.	Per Head of Population.		
					Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
PORTO RICO.					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
1901	960,000	1.9	1.8	3.7	1 19 7	1 17 6	3 17 1
1912	1,200,000	9.0	10.4	19.4	7 10 0	8 13 4	16 3 4
URUGUAY.—1901	965,000	4.9	5.8	10.7	5 1 6	6 0 3	11 1 9
1912	1,226,000	9.3	8.8	18.1	7 15 0	7 6 8	15 1 8
PERU 1901	4,700,000	2.8	4.3	7.1	0 11 11	0 18 4	1 10 3
1912	5,000,000	5.2	9.4	14.6	1 0 10	1 17 7	2 18 5
BOLIVIA .. 1901	1,750,000	1.4	3.0	4.4	0 16 0	1 14 3	2 10 3
1912	2,300,000	4.0	7.2	11.2	1 14 10	3 2 7	4 17 5

The figures for Porto Rico are somewhat misleading, as they include the values of the shipments received from or dispatched to the United States, as well as the direct trade with foreign countries. This state-Depu for the great increase in the values of the HEAD OFFICE: 5, arts, which rose respectively by 373.7 and OVER 1,550 Whilst the population of Uruguay in- OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 27 per cent., the value of its imports AFFILIA that of its exports by 51.7 per BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. alue of its total foreign trade OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND approached the corresponding

value of France. The value of the total foreign trade of Peru increased by a higher percentage—viz., 105.6 (compared with 69.2 per cent. of Uruguay); the value of the Peruvian imports rising by 85.7 per cent., and that of the exports by 118.6. The imports of Bolivia rose still more rapidly—viz., by 185.7 per cent., and her exports by 140.0 per cent., the value of her total foreign trade in 1912 being 154.5 per cent. higher than in 1901.

TABLE SHOWING THE VALUE OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF COLOMBIA, VENEZUELA, AND CENTRAL AMERICA IN 1912.

	Popula- tion.	Im- ports. Min. £.	Ex- ports. Min. £.	Total Trade. Min. £.	Per Head of Population.		
					Imports.	Exports.	Total Trade.
					£ s d	£ s d	£ s d
Values for 1912.							
Colombia	5,473,000	4-8	6-4	11-2	0 17 6	1 3 3	2 0 9
Venezuela	2,700,000	4-2	5-5	9-5	1 11 1	1 19 4	3 10 5
Central America ..	4,000,000	7-0	8-2	15-2	1 15 0	2 1 0	3 16 0

Complete trade returns are not available for Colombia before 1906. In that year her imports were valued at £1,871,000, and her exports at £2,967,000. The total value of her foreign trade was therefore £4,838,000. The increase in the value of her imports in the six years was at the rate of 152.6 per cent., of her exports 113.3 per cent., and of her total trade 128.6 per cent. The earliest figures for Venezuela are for 1903. Between that year and 1912 her imports increased in value by 281.8 per cent., her exports by 231.2 per cent., and her total trade by 253.7 per cent. The value of the imports of the five States, which now form the Federation of Central America, was in 1901 about £2,900,000, and rose in 1912 to £7,000,000, showing an increase of 141.4 per cent. The value of their exports in the same period rose by 78.2 per cent., and the value of their total foreign trade by 102.7.

In 1912 the imports by Uruguay exceeded the value of its exports by £500,000, but in the case of each of the other countries dealt with in these tables the value of the exports has exceeded that of the imports. The total value of the imports of these countries, beginning with the United States and ending with the Federation of Central America, in the year 1912 amounted to £597,000,000. The total value of their exports amounted to £774,900,000, showing an excess of £177,900,000, equal to 29.8 per cent. This excess of £177,900,000 of American exports may be compared with the excess of £437,100,000 in the value of the imports over that of the exports of the seven countries of Europe dealt with in an earlier article.*

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES' RESULTS.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE last six months have produced a series of reports from directors of public companies showing a complete reversal of the conditions that obtained a year ago. All distributive concerns dealing with foodstuffs, clothing, furniture, &c., have found difficulty in maintaining their turnover against the fall in values and the restricted buying power of the community. And the same tendency is seen in co-operative societies as in joint-stock companies. A study of the happenings in the industrial class trading organisations is interesting, and affords possibly an even clearer idea of the actual commercial position than is obtainable from the information given in the accounts of the ordinary limited liability companies.

Co-operative societies issue their reports quarterly or half-yearly. A few years ago the three-month period was the rule; but the greater extent of the business has led to the half-yearly period being generally accepted, an interim dividend on purchases being declared at the end of the quarters when no balance-sheet is presented. Examining the accounts of nine societies which present their accounts half-yearly (in London, Yorkshire, Lancashire, and Durham), we find there has been a decreased trade in six of them. At Eccles the business has fallen from £21,867 to £16,743 per week; at Liverpool the average weekly purchases per member were 11s 11½d, as against 14s 6½d in the corresponding period of 1920. During the same months the distributive wages rose from 1s 1½d to 1s 3½d

per £ of sales, and the distributive expenses from 2s 2½d to 2s 6½d per £. In eight articles of grocery (sugar, eggs, margarine, lard, butter, potatoes, tea, and bacon), falling values were responsible for a decrease of no less than £5,365 in a week's trade. And yet, despite the trade depression, heavier expenses and fluctuating markets, Liverpool would have been able to pay a dividend of 23 per cent. if the profits had been dealt with in the same way as in public companies. The society paid 5½d per cent. on capital and 5 per cent. (1s in the £) on the purchases made by the members. In studying the following analysis of societies' accounts, it should be remembered that interest on share and loan capital was paid in every case before the net profit was arrived at; that stocks were taken at the current market rate or at the cost price—whichever was the lower figure—and that the investments are, in the main, with the Co-operative Wholesale Society and the various small productive societies in the movement. In all cases the stocks were considerably less than at the previous valuation, those of the Woolwich society having been reduced from £400,368 to £336,914:—

RETURNS OF THE LAST SIX MONTHS.

	No. of Members.	Capital.	Sales.	Decrease Com- pared with Corresponding Period of 1920.	Net Profit.	Dividend on £ Purchase.	Reserves.	Stocks.	Land, Buildings, and Investments.
		£	£	£	£ s d	£ s d	£	£	£
Birtley	7,289	148,545	204,613	128,368	5,270	1 0	6,872	74,848	73,849
Liverpool	67,539	676,536	1,021,256	25,355	23,008	1 0	33,853	253,246	660,024
Stockport	15,840	330,067	545,222	85,811	10,635	1 6	11,230	70,925	266,370
Woolwich	91,320	1,113,047	1,780,855	*121,708	113,046	0 9	115,653	336,914	752,147
Barnsley	60,320	1,628,228	1,663,520	*9,558	104,248	1 4	35,233	501,789	887,177
Eccles	21,867	517,194	507,939	131,075	26,716	1 0	13,881	119,677	427,942
Enfield	16,451	275,918	345,217	*22,022	23,822	1 0	14,185	151,207	123,457
Bradford	23,793	494,831	612,277	121,351	17,548	0 9	13,647	172,608	369,249
London	100,000	959,887	1,658,951	139,444	11,331	..	37,825	356,718	654,909

RETURNS OF THE LAST QUARTER.

	No. of Members.	Capital.	Sales.	Decrease Com- pared with Corresponding Period of 1920.	Net Profit.	Dividend on £ Purchase.	Reserves.	Stocks.	Land, Buildings, and Investments.
		£	£	£	£ s d	£ s d	£	£	£
Crewe	13,461	314,952	156,528	44,900	7,516	1 0	27,444	86,631	284,552
Nottingham	23,336	381,275	202,491	36,155	7,975	0 10	19,706	107,196	296,938
Belfast	26,400	346,775	273,573	..	10,133	0 9	27,833	137,963	238,546
Soho (Bir- mingham)	12,777	102,802	77,161	49,089	5	0 6	8,922	623,334	83,434
Lancaster	15,591	403,574	118,644	31,832	5,405	1 5	15,351	56,161	346,172

* Increase.

The accounts of the five societies in the second half of the table are concerned with the trade for the last three months only. They are as representative as the others of the general tendency of things. Crewe is a railway centre, and its expenses were 2s 2½d in the £ of sales. Nottingham and Soho (Birmingham) had a decreased share capital—a feature that has synchronised with the development of the political flirtation with the advanced Socialist party; and the falling trade is observable all round.

These societies deal in grocery, provisions, bread, green-grocery, boots, drapery, clothing, furniture, hardware, and other necessities. For a score of years they have been steadily increasing their turnover. The present setback is abnormal, and as prices become stabilised and trade steadies may be satisfactorily readjusted. But the universal fall of the dividend is distinctly disturbing to the advocates of co-operation. In the south dividends of 2s were formerly regarded as excellent, and anything above 1s 6d as good. Now 1s is exceptionally good, and 4d and 5d acceptable; while the London society (a combination of the Stratford, Edmonton, and West London societies) has lost its dividend in the political wrangles that now divert its leaders from their co-operative purpose. In the north, where 3s and 4s dividends were the rule, 1s and 1s 6d have become the usual standard. Consumers are wondering whether it is better to get the immediate advantage from dealing at private traders or multiple shops, or to wait for the declaration of a declining dividend at the end of the half-year. Moreover, there has grown up a network of machinery—educational, entertainment, political, &c.—that is proving very costly. Annual congresses, quarterly conferences all over the country, frequent deputations to various societies, and scores of incidental gatherings have to be paid for out of profits. The managers of the retail societies have to secure profits for many other purposes than dividends for the consumers, in whose interests the movement was founded. The impression is growing that there is need for a Geddes axe

to lop off some of the auxiliary branches that are preventing many stores getting along real competitive avenues with their rivals. If the prevailing national conditions continue for a few months longer the problem thus indicated will require very serious discussion in the movement.

THE ECONOMIC POSITION IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

THE crisis which has prevailed for several months in various branches of industry in Czechoslovakia has recently become less acute. This is the case, in particular, with regard to the textile, timber, iron and machinery trades, which have of late been favoured with considerable orders from abroad, a circumstance which is partly reflected in the unemployment statistics. According to the latest official report, the Czechoslovak Republic contains about 26,000 persons in receipt of unemployment doles from the State. It is, of course, impossible to say yet whether this partial improvement in these industries is to be regarded as a sign of the commencement of a permanent all-round improvement, or whether it is only a passing phenomenon connected with the brisker demand which is generally observable in the autumn. Particularly in the case of textiles the rise in the price of cotton and the higher exchange value of the dollar are indications that caution is needed in drawing conclusions as to the prospects of work in this branch.

The great depreciation of the currencies of the neighbouring States, hitherto Czechoslovakia's best customers, compared with the value of the Czechoslovak crown, has a deleterious effect upon mutual trade relations; there is no need to emphasise the fact that the manufacturers of Czechoslovakia are acutely feeling the competition which Germany, as a result of the fall of the mark, is able to make. Nevertheless, the watchword of Czechoslovakia in respect of her trade policy still continues to be stabilisation of wages and stabilisation of currency, and this policy is universally acknowledged to be the soundest guarantee for the future development of trade enterprise. Not even the recent mobilisation and the expenditure involved in it has done anything to affect this standpoint, which has found a firm advocate in the present Minister of Finance, M. Augustin Novak. Wage disputes, so far as such have arisen of late, have been settled in every case in some other manner than by a rise in wages (e.g., grants have been made in return for increased production).

The Budget for the year 1922, just placed before Parliament, is also a documentary proof of the slow but sure economic development of the State. The revenue is estimated at 18,884 million crowns and the expenditure at 19,672 millions, leaving a deficit of 788 millions. The so-called "Investment Budget," which forms an independent section of the State finances and which deals with sums laid out as capital investment in buildings, railways, &c., will require a sum of 3 milliard crowns to meet its demands, and this amount it is proposed to raise, as last year, by internal loans, the works to be carried out being limited according to the funds actually raised.

It is true that the State expenditure in Czechoslovakia increases from year to year; in 1919 the Budget estimate was 8½ milliard crowns; in 1920 it increased to 10½ milliards; in 1921 to 14, and for the coming year it is 10½ milliards. On the other hand, however, the revenue figures prove the economic and financial strength of the country, and the Minister of Finance has been able to declare that the existing taxes are sufficient to meet all requirements—in all previous years they yielded very considerably more than was expected—and that there is no intention of imposing new taxation. The following table shows the amounts derived from various taxes in the last four Budget years:—

COX & CO.

ESTABLISHED 1758.

Head Office: - 16, Charing Cross, London, S.W.1.

City Office: - 38, Lombard Street, E.C.3.

Branches in INDIA and EGYPT.

Undertake

FOREIGN BANKING

transactions of every description.

Correspondents in all parts of the world.

COX & CO. (France), Ltd.,
in FRANCE and ALGERIA.

(In Million Crowns.)

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Property tax	106	178	194	214
General profit tax	49	87	125	190
Special (super tax)	48	85	96	176
Income-tax	138	199	303	634
Tax on spirits	34	150	255	491
Beer and other beverages	20	118	131	240
Coal tax	nil	nil	1,200	1,450
Transport tax	37	89	199	365
Stamps	126	128	211	381
Tax on turnover (raised from 1% to 2%)	nil	800	1,050	2,200

At the same time it is worthy of note that the State undertakings are paying their way.

The Budget for the railways, which are owned by the State, accounts for 25 per cent. of the expenditure appearing in the State Budget, but, on the other hand, it produces a surplus of 285 million crowns. The Post Office is also a paying concern, and provides a surplus of 91 millions. In the Budget for the year 1922, moreover, the hitherto existing remnant of State control will be dispensed with. During the coming year there will remain only a partial control by the State over the export of sugar. Sugar has been decontrolled for home trade and consumption, but in view of the fact that the profits on exports arising from the difference between the home price and the price on the world market is divided up between the State, which takes 50 per cent., the beet growers, who receive 43 per cent., and the sugar factories, which get 7 per cent., the State has reserved to itself a certain control over the profits derived from the sale of sugar to other countries. Otherwise no obstacles are placed in the way of sugar export. The sale of this commodity to other countries has, by arrangement between the beet growers and the refiners, been entrusted to the Czechoslovak Sugar Export Company. As regards this year's production, it is estimated that in consequence of the high percentage of sugar yielded by the beet last year's figures—500,000 tons—will be again attained.

The abolition of State control over agricultural products has proved a success; the food supply service works without a hitch, and the prices of flour and corn keep within reasonable bounds. The failure of the potato crop, however, owing to the drought which prevailed throughout the summer, is felt appreciably, and the prevailing prices amount to about 150 per cent. higher than the prices for this commodity last year. The consumption of potatoes for industrial purposes, e.g., the production of methylated spirits, starch, &c., has been restricted.

Business Notes.

The Railway Rate Reduction.—Nearly a year before the Government released control of the railways rates were raised to a general level 100 per cent. above pre-war figures, together with certain flat rate additions. This decision, taken in September, 1920, which raised rates higher than the corresponding increase in passenger fares, was made on the recommendation of the Rates Advisory Committee, and its object was to collect from the trade of the country 16 months' revenue in the 11 months of control in order that the State might recuperate itself for the loss already sustained since 1920; but it was understood that when the railways were decontrolled the trade of the country should have relief from this exceptionally high level of charges. The coal strike, however, upset these calculations, and when the railway companies

* See p. 330 of the Economist of August 27, 1921.

resumed full responsibility they found themselves faced with costs which made it difficult to fulfil the traders' expectations. During the last four months the railway companies have interviewed all the important bodies representative of British industry, who have urged upon them the necessity for reduction not only in the interests of the industries themselves, but also as one means of stimulating the recovery of trade, which means increased traffic for the companies. The result of these long deliberations was announced on Wednesday morning, and has, on the whole, proved disappointing to industry. The companies propose to reduce, as from January 1st, the rates upon coal, coke, &c., and upon pig-iron, semi-finished iron and steel, and lime. The increase of 100 per cent. is in these cases to be reduced to 75 per cent., and the additional flat rate increase of 6d is reduced to 4d. The reduction in the rate will, therefore, average about 15 per cent. on these commodities. In the case of coal, however, the concession is much smaller than appears at first sight, because by the arrangement of September, 1920, the increase upon coal was limited to 4s per ton. All coal rates, therefore, which before the war were more than 5s per ton will not be reduced at all, since 75 per cent. increase of 5s, plus 4d flat rate, yields a figure higher than a net 4s increase. This means that there will be no fall in prices of coal in the London area. We regret that the companies have not applied their reductions more universally, and have made them in such a form that they are of such limited application for even those commodities to which they apply. The times call for a bold policy, and the companies would have done well to follow the lead of those industries which have taken risks in reducing their prices in order to rehabilitate their trade, but the moment is an unpropitious one for getting joint action by the companies. Parliamentary control of rates has been removed, the Rates Tribunal which is to take its place is not yet in existence, and though the railway companies have to a great extent ceased to compete, they are not yet amalgamated under the leadership of four general managers. Pending this amalgamation, the interests of the companies on the financial side are divergent, and the unsatisfactory character of the present concessions is to no small extent due to the difficulty of harmonising conflicting interests at a meeting of from 12 to 20 companies which have responsibility but no cohesion.

Employment in November.—Employment on the whole did not improve in November. The *Labour Gazette* reports that while in some industries, including coal, iron, shale mining, tinplate, and steel sheet manufacture, and the hosiery and silk trades, an improvement was recorded, in a number of other trades, including engineering, shipbuilding, brick, cement, pottery, and building, there was a further decline in the demand for labour. The percentage unemployed among members of trade unions sending returns to the Labour Ministry was 15.9 at the end of November, compared with 15.6 a month before. How this percentage has moved month by month is shown below:—

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT PERCENTAGES.

End of—	1913.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
January ..	2.2 ..	0.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.0 ..	2.4 ..	2.9 ..	6.9 ..
February ..	2.0 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	1.6 ..	8.5 ..
March	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	1.2 ..	2.9 ..	1.1 ..	10.0 ..
April	1.7 ..	0.5 ..	0.3 ..	0.9 ..	2.8 ..	0.9 ..	17.6*
May	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.9 ..	2.1 ..	1.1 ..	22.2*
June	1.9 ..	0.5 ..	0.4 ..	0.7 ..	1.7 ..	1.2 ..	23.1*
July	1.9 ..	0.4 ..	0.4 ..	0.6 ..	2.0 ..	1.4 ..	16.7 ..
August	2.0 ..	0.4 ..	0.5 ..	0.5 ..	2.2 ..	1.6 ..	16.3†
September ..	2.3 ..	0.4 ..	1.3 ..	0.5 ..	1.6 ..	2.2 ..	14.8 ..
October	2.2 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.4 ..	2.6 ..	5.3*	15.6 ..
November ..	2.0 ..	0.3 ..	1.1 ..	0.5 ..	2.9 ..	3.7 ..	15.9 ..
December ..	2.6 ..	0.3 ..	1.4 ..	1.2 ..	3.2 ..	6.0 ..	..

* Excluding coal miners. † Revised figure.

The percentage unemployed among workers insured under the Unemployment Insurance Act was 15.7 on December 2nd, as compared with 14.9 on November 4th. The percentages for males and females respectively at December 2nd were 17.7 and 10.6. The total number of workpeople registered at the employment exchanges as unemployed at December 2nd was approximately 1,834,000, of whom 1,415,000 were men and 318,000 were

women, and the remainder were boys and girls. At November 4th the number on the live register was 1,729,000, of whom 1,332,000 were men and 294,000 were women. In addition to those unemployed, 155,000 males and 113,000 females were registered on December 2nd as working systematic short time in such a manner as to entitle them to benefit under the Unemployment Insurance Act. At November 4th the corresponding figures were 153,000 males and 99,000 females.

Cost of Living.—Another fall is recorded in November by the *Labour Gazette's* calculation of the cost of living for an average working-class family. At December 1st the figure was 99 per cent. above the level of July, 1914, as compared with 103 per cent. above on November 1st. How the decline has progressed this year may be seen at a glance below:—

ALL ITEMS: AVERAGE PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER JULY, 1914.

1920.	Per Cent.	1921.	Per Cent.
January 1st	125	January 1st	165
February "	130	February "	151
March "	130	March "	141
April "	132	April "	133
May "	141	May "	128
June "	150	June "	119
July "	152	July "	119
August "	155	August 2nd	122
September "	161	September 1st	120
October "	164	October "	110
November "	176	November "	103
December "	169	December "	99

Retail food prices alone are recorded on December 1st as being 95 per cent. above the eve-of-war level, as against 100 per cent. above on November 1st. The fall during November is attributed mainly to further reductions in the prices of meat, bread, and flour. Bacon and fish also became cheaper, but the price of eggs rose in November by nearly ½d each.

The Cost of Pensions.—The fourth annual report of the Minister of Pensions (White Paper 244, price 9d) gives the following figures of the expenditure of the Pensions Ministry in 1919-20 and 1920-21:—

Heading of Expenditure.	Comparative Total, Year Ended March 31, 1920.	Approximate Total, Year Ended March 31, 1921.*
(i.) Salaries, wages, and expenses of staff, including fees to medical referees and members of medical boards, and expenses of pensioners attending medical boards	£ 3,881,029	£ 5,403,000
(ii.) Administrative expenses of local war pensions committees	1,341,168	1,299,400
(iii.) Pensions and gratuities (officers and their dependants)	4,911,991	5,915,000
(iv.) Pensions and gratuities (nurses and their dependants)	55,023	94,900
(v.) Pensions and gratuities (men and their dependants)	69,241,282	71,927,000
(vi.) Treatment and treatment allowances	16,394,246	19,165,200
(vii.) Artificial limbs and appliances ..	739,488	1,139,900
(viii.) Training	704,345	— †
(ix.) Miscellaneous	1,666,094	715,600
Totals	98,934,666†	105,660,000†

* The final figures are published in the appropriation account for the year.

† The provision of industrial training was transferred to the Ministry of Labour in 1919; see "Third Report," para. 43. The expenses of providing concurrent treatment and training are included under heading (vi.).

‡ Of these amounts £18,986,400 (approximately) and £21,188,500 respectively were expended on behalf of the Ministry by local committees.

As regards the increase under heading (i.), the report explains that the rates of remuneration to staff were higher, in view of the increased cost of living; the cost of medical boarding was greater, because of the larger number of pensioners boarded; and there also was an increase in the cost of travelling in respect of pensioners attending medical boards. The increases under headings (iii.), (iv.), (v.), and (vi.) are accounted for by the larger number of pensioners, and by the increased rates of retired pay and pension authorised as a result of the recommendations of the Select Committee on Pensions. The transfer

of the administration of wounds pensions, referred to in paragraph 1, also contributed to the increase under heading (iii.). As regards heading (vii.), the increase arose mainly because of higher costs, the increased number of limbs and appliances supplied, and in maintenance and repair. There is a substantial decrease under heading (ix.), due to the transfer to the Service Departments as from April 30, 1920, of expenditure under the regulations of the Special Grants Committee in respect of supplementary and special separation allowances to the dependents of serving soldiers.

October Trade Volume.—The Board of Trade has compiled the following figures, showing how the volume of imports and exports passing in October compare with figures for October, 1920 and 1913, respectively. The comparison reads as follows:—

Month of October.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Tons.	%	Tons.	%
1921	3,470,000	—	4,456,000	—
1920	4,076,000	14.9	2,707,400	64.6
1913	5,517,000	37.1	8,555,600	47.9

The comparison with October, 1920, is vitiated by the fact that in that month the effects of the coal strike then in progress seriously affected export. The tonnage of coal, coke, and patent fuel exported in October, 1921, was 3,636,000 tons, or 1,971,000 tons more than in October, 1920. This, it will be seen, more than accounts for the rise, as compared with last year, in the total export tonnage.

Ireland's Overseas Trade.—The Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland has issued a report on the Trade in Imports and Exports at Irish Ports in the year 1920. This shows that with the exception of 1915 there was a substantial surplus in the value of exports for each year since 1914. For 1904, the first year for which records of Irish trade are available, there was an import surplus of £5½ millions. This figure fell fairly steadily to £590,000 in 1913. The following table gives the figures since that date, and also the values at 1904 prices:—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Excess of Exports.	
	Value at Year's Prices.	Value at 1904 Prices.	Value at Year's Prices.	Value at 1904 Prices.	Value at Year's Prices.	Value at 1904 Prices.
1914....	£ 74,125	£ 61,176	£ 77,311	£ 63,243	£ 3,186	£ 2,067
1915....	87,257	59,124	84,463	58,372	* 2,794	* 753
1916....	104,517	56,619	107,171	58,716	2,654	2,097
1917....	119,181	49,785	133,805	56,715	14,624	6,930
1918....	126,016	44,167	152,931	50,569	26,915	6,402
1919....	158,716	50,081	176,052	51,175	17,336	1,094
1920....	203,750	56,455	204,715	53,268	965	3,187

* Excess of imports.

The growth in the export surplus is attributed to a large decrease in quantities imported and a small increase in the quantities exported, and also to the slightly steeper rise in export than in import prices. The fall in the surplus of exports since 1918 is due to the fact that the recovery in the more depressed import trade was much more rapid than in the export trade. Of the total imports into Ireland in 1920 78.3 per cent. were from Great Britain, as against 83.4 per cent. and 88.1 per cent. in 1919 and 1918 respectively, while Great Britain took no less than 99.1 per cent. of Ireland's exports, as against 98.9 per cent. and 99.6 per cent. in 1919 and 1918. Shipments from Ireland represented 9.7 per cent. of Great Britain's total imports in 1920, while 9.3 per cent. of this country's exports went to Ireland.

American Steel and Disarmament.—Our American contemporary, the *Iron Trade Review* of Cleveland, produces some striking statistics which show the relatively small effect which will be produced on the steel trade of the United States by the proposed limitation of naval armaments. From June 1, 1887, the time of the first American armed line ship, it is estimated that the requirements of the United States Navy for steel plates, &c., has been 1,061,428 tons. This, together with armour plate and guns, machinery, &c., gives a total of just over two million tons for the 34 years. How this compares with the total output may be seen from the following table:—

	Net Tons
Armour plate	280,802
Finished rolled steel for hulls	1,061,428*
Guns, machinery, and outfitting (estimated)	671,115
Total all steel	2,013,845
Total output finished steel, including armour plate	555,107,301
Navy requirements approximately per cent.	0.36

* Includes relatively small tonnage of castings.

The *Iron Trade Review* further points out that, assuming that the remainder of the 10-year period of the naval holiday would see naval construction go forward at the rate of the so-called five-year programme, which might be concluded by 1924, the steel industry would be called upon to produce in all approximately 140 per cent. more steel of navy specification. This would mean an additional 723,058 tons of steel, including everything except guns, machinery and other equipment. From the spring of 1919 to the end of 1931 the steel mills and armour plants in America would produce 1,239,528 tons of steel for actual warship construction. This averages little more than 103,000 net tons per year. Again, assuming that guns, machinery, &c., required to equip all vessels in the fleet would necessitate a duplicate tonnage of steel, which is a most liberal allowance, the annual steel requirement would be approximately 206,000 tons. Against the maximum tested capacity of the industry in finished rolled product, 33,067,700 gross tons, or 37,039,380 net tons, in 1917, this is only 0.55 per cent. Compared with the average finished steel output of the past five years of 30,810,650 gross tons, or 34,507,920 net tons, it is only 0.59 per cent.

Argentine Finance and Trade.—A very full report by the Commercial Secretary of H.B.M. Legation at Buenos Ayres points out that Argentina has suffered less from the war than most countries, and in a different way. The currency is not inflated, and taxation has not increased, though this latter result is due to legislative mismanagement rather than design. Yearly deficits from 1914 to 1919 have set up a floating debt of \$600,000,000; a two-year 7 per cent. loan has been issued in New York at 97; British capital, believed in Argentina to be exhausted, would be attracted by an offer of adequate terms. Banking and insurance show progress; about half the former and two-thirds of the latter are British. The recent trade depression was due to the over-confidence of importers, coupled with increased exports; hence the appreciation of exchange on New York, and subsequently on London. To evade the increased cost of goods, many Argentine firms refused them on flimsy pretexts; but British exporters have now learnt what firms they can trust. The more enduring causes of the depreciation of the Argentine exchange do not comprise inflation, for the additional currency issued is covered by gold; nor is the balance of trade unfavourable. They are the large remittances to Europe for freights and interest on investments, and from foreign immigrants; the suspension of the flow of capital from Europe, and the prohibition—which is not likely to be removed—of the export of gold. The official view is that the remedy lies in the increase of exports and the limitation of imports to urgent necessities. The internal conditions are hopeful. The good crops have averted a commercial crisis; though the cost of living in 1919 was 72 per cent. more than in 1913, there is practically no unemployment, and the labour unrest has died down. The railways have been free from it, and the Buenos Ayres dockers have at last worn out the patience of the Government. British goods are still most in favour, but must face severe competition, especially from Germany, and buyers have now more opportunities for comparison; in Buenos Ayres and in Europe British shipping is still pre-

eminent, though the services of other countries are multiplying; and two lines, one *via* South Africa, the other *via* Panama, connect Buenos Ayres with Japan. Coastal traffic is developing with 18 (mostly very small) Southern ports. Settlement on the land is being actively promoted, mostly in the remote North and South; immigration is being resumed. The railway rates controversy is fully dealt with; of the mileage (22,140 miles) 65 per cent. is British, 16 per cent. belongs to the State, the rest is mostly French. The oil industry is being aided by State tank vessels, but the output does not cover home needs. Aviation is being promoted with the aid of various British and Continental companies. There are no adequate roads except near the towns, though a motor-car highway is talked of from Buenos Ayres to Rosario. The Report indicates that the future prosperity of the country is assured, provided that the labour difficulties are adjusted, that foreign investors are treated fairly, and that less dilatory methods are adopted in public finance.

Peru and Chile.—The Peruvian resentment against Chile for occupying the nitrate provinces has again been made acute by the offer of the Chilean Government, backed by all the chiefs of parties, to take the plebiscite of the inhabitants on their ultimate ownership contemplated by the Treaty of Antón in 1883. The plebiscite fell due in 1893, but could not be taken, Peru being then in revolution; since then negotiations for taking it have been frequent, lengthy, and fruitless. Chile now offers to carry it out on the lines suggested in 1912 by the Peruvian Government, but next year, instead of, as was then contemplated, in 1933. The offer seems liberal; but Peru maintains, with some reason from certain phases of the earlier negotiations, that this method of settlement is obsolete; that Chile has been so long in possession, and has provided so effectively for eliminating the Peruvian voters, that the result is a foregone conclusion; and that the proper method of determining the question of ownership is a reference to arbitration, preferably that of the Government of the United States. Chile appears to be ready to go to arbitration on the conditions of the plebiscite, but not on the question of holding it; and, as the export duties on the nitrate constitute nine-tenths of her whole revenue, it seems clear that she does not expect the decision to be adverse to herself. Her offer is said to be prompted by the desire to get rid of the controversy so as to leave the way open for the formation of a Spanish-American League under the hegemony of Spain, a project lately revived by the Uruguayan Government. Outside observers had best keep out of the controversy, but a final settlement is urgently needed. Chile's hold on the provinces can only be strengthened by delay; both States are planning development of their great resources, and in this direction Peru has most to do. The work can only be retarded by repeated outbursts of ill-feeling, which happily cannot under present conditions lead to a settlement by war. The nitrate share market has been only slightly affected by the reopening of the dispute.

American Cotton Crop.—The Census Bureau of the United States Government has this week published its seventh ginning report on the cotton crop for the current season. It is stated that up to the 13th inst. 7,799,000 bales had been ginned, the amount dealt with during the fortnight since the previous report being 158,000 bales. At the same time last year the total figures up to December 13th were 10,876,000 bales and 9,397,000 bales in 1919. The report just issued, writes our Manchester correspondent, was considered rather bullish in the market, and prices during the last few days have tended to harden.

Cotton Trade Wages.—The wages agreement between the employers and the operatives in the Lancashire cotton industry expires this week, and it is now open for either side to make an application for another revision of list rates. This week the situation has been considered by the masters, and it is thought in some quarters, writes our

Manchester correspondent, that owing to the unprofitable state of trade the employers will seek a further reduction. On the other hand, many people are of opinion that owing to the large amount of unemployment, and the fact that during the last six months those operatives who have not been unemployed have had to work a lot of short time, it is not advisable at the moment to press for any alteration in list rates. If any action is taken three months' notice will have to be given. The present wages are 145 per cent. above the lists, and 140 per cent. higher than the level existing in July, 1914.

Scotch Whisky Trade.—An Edinburgh correspondent writes:—After several years of great prosperity, the Scotch whisky trade appears to be entering upon a period of comparative depression. Distillation having been prohibited for quite three years during the war, the stocks of matured whiskies were depleted to an alarming extent, particularly as under the impulse of the universal inflation which the war engendered the demand was on a very large scale. The big distributors, with a world-wide connection built up at enormous expense, speedily became the holders of the major portion of the stocks of matured whiskies. Other distributors were left to pick up supplies as best they might, with the result that before the prices were officially controlled single whiskies in bond were run up from about 8s or 9s to as high as 60s per proof gallon. When distilling was resumed after the Armistice blenders, finding the demand keener than ever, and seeing little prospect of substantially augmenting their supplies of matured whiskies, rushed to fill new at high prices, and the Highland malt whisky distillers had two bumper seasons. But when the Government raised the spirit duty to the inordinately high level of 72s 6d per proof gallon, the consumption dwindled rapidly, particularly as the increase in the spirit duty, and consequently in the price of the commodity, synchronised with the collapse of the trade boom resulting in widespread unemployment and an all-round declining tendency in wages. This season the Highland distillers reduced their filling prices from 9s 6d to 5s 6d per proof gallon, and even at that figure are experiencing very great difficulty in securing orders. From present appearances, it looks as if the output of the Highland distilleries will not exceed fifty per cent. of that of the preceding season. Somewhat paradoxically, the prices of matured whiskies are again on the up grade, the fact being that, while there is plenty of comparatively new whisky, none of it can be sent out for distribution until it has lain in bond for three years. The average age at which Highland malt whisky is used may be put at six or seven years, and it is estimated that it will be 1925 at the earliest before the stocks of whisky with that degree of age are anything like adequate. Obviously, this calculation is based on expectations of a recovery in the consumption to something like normal, which in turn can only be looked for if the spirit duty is reduced to a lower figure. Some little time ago Mr William H. Ross, of the Distillers Company, Limited, who is regarded as the leader of the Scotch whisky trade, stated that the decline in the consumption as a result of the high spirit duty was already sufficient to render redundant fifty of the Highland distilleries now working. Such a state of affairs means a resumption of fierce competition, as a result of which quite a number of Highland distillery companies had to go into liquidation or face a reorganisation of their capital some twenty years ago. Since the beginning of the present Highland distilling season, about six weeks ago, the price of barley has fallen heavily, being now quite 10s per quarter cheaper than it was then. This has necessitated a revision of the prices of new whisky. The Highland distillers, through their Association, fixed the price to begin with at a flat rate of 6s per proof gallon, but it is now being generally sold at 5s 6d, and in some cases at even 5s, without attracting any substantial volume of orders. The Lowland malt distillers have also had to reduce their prices since the season began, and it is more than likely that the grain whisky distillers will shortly follow suit. One of the curious anomalies at present observable in this trade is that, whilst the demand for the cheaper classes of whisky

is being adversely affected by the high prices, the demand for really fine old whisky, sold under well-known names, particularly in England, is rapidly increasing. This makes the situation more than usually complex, as while most blenders are suffering from a scarcity of matured whiskies no relief is to be obtained by bonding new spirit, which when it reaches maturity six or seven years hence may prove to be in excessive supply.

Japanese Trade and Finance.—Cabled advices from Tokyo report stringency in monetary conditions early in December, owing to repayments to the Bank of Japan and demand for end of the year accommodation. But later on conditions became easier, owing to Government disbursements. The stock market has been quiet, but buoyancy marked the rice market owing to speculation, until sales of Government stocks came as an unexpected shock to bullish buyers. The market for cotton yarns has been weak, and the silk yarn market steady. The note issue of the Bank of Japan on December 15th was 1,185,000,000 yen, against 1,127,000,000 yen a year ago, discounts and advances being 97,000,000 yen against 187,000,000 yen. Imports in November were 151,000,000 yen, compared with 108,000,000 yen in November, 1920, and exports 121,000,000 yen against 105,000,000 yen.

Grand Trunk Appeal.—On Wednesday the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council granted special leave to appeal from the decision of the majority of the Board of Arbitration in Canada. This board, it will be remembered, was composed of three arbitrators, Mr Justice Cassells, Chief Justice Taft of the United States, and Sir Thomas White. Mr Justice Cassells and Sir Thomas White decided that the preference and common stocks of the Grand Trunk had no value, while Mr Taft dissented, and accorded to them the value of \$48,000,000. The stocks of the company improved on the news. But whatever hopes may be held as to prospects of the Privy Council decision, stockholders will have to exercise patience, for it is understood that the appeal is unlikely to be heard for several months.

The Mexican Railway.—The report for the half-year ending June 30, 1921, indicates that the expected improvement in the economic situation of Mexico is still to come. Till June 19, 1920, the line was in the hands of the Government, and comparison of the two subsequent half-years is unsatisfactory, partly because of the difference of seasons and partly because the first contains 15 days more than the second. However, gross receipts for the second half-year were \$6,759,255—a decline of \$240,438, or about 3½ per cent., while the working expenses increased by \$213,726, chiefly through a partial strike for six weeks last spring. But passenger and freight receipts, though fewer passengers were carried, increased slightly; express receipts went up by over 10 per cent.; the yield of the pulque traffic fell off by over 10 per cent., which possibly shows that the Government is really striving to reduce the consumption of intoxicants, and goods receipts declined by nearly 9 per cent., presumably (as elsewhere) through the fall in the purchasing power of Europe. The net revenue from traffic was \$1,018,828, or £101,882, which rather more than covers the payment of 20 per cent. on the deferred interest certificates under the new scheme of arrangement with the debenture holders which was before them on Wednesday last. [The modification then effected in the scheme, however, will require a considerably larger charge for interest.] Gain on exchange, interest, and transfer fees bring up the total net revenue to £130,844; after allowing for a reserve for taxation of £10,000, the remainder reduces the debit balance to £694,985, or by nearly £20,000. An increase of rates (with certain exceptions) by 25 per cent. was sanctioned by the Government on September 1st; half of this is to be credited to the compensation due from it to the company. Partly through this increase the net receipts for the first four months of the current half-year are estimated at \$1,192,100, or more than the whole of the six months preceding. Payment of interest on the first and second debentures is to be resumed respectively on January 1st and April 1, 1922. But the deficit on net revenue account

is still very heavy, and, until all liability for outstanding interest is discharged, there can be no dividend on the £5,820,000 of share capital stock. The line has been "maintained in fair state of repair, and in some instances considerably improved"; the plant and rolling stock have been "kept in the best possible working condition and repair."

Mexican Eagle Oil.—The report of the Mexican Eagle Oil Company, Limited, for the year ended June 30, 1921, shows that the profit on trading, including \$3,338,129 for interest, amounted to \$85,320,429, which compares with \$59,453,574 for the previous year. Results for the past four years are set out below:—

MEXICAN GOLD PESOS. (Par value 24½d.)				
	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
Trading profit after providing for administration expenses, interest and interest on debentures	28,235,441	37,194,427	59,453,574	85,320,429
Forward from previous year	6,503,419	2,219,054	3,543,282	3,814,189
	34,738,860	39,413,481	62,996,856	89,134,618
Transfer to field redemption and reserves accounts	19,081,009	10,061,707	7,452,318	49,615,670
	15,657,852	29,351,774	55,544,538	39,518,948
Provident fund	750,000	1,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
	14,907,852	28,351,774	54,044,538	38,018,948
Distributed in dividends	12,688,798	24,808,492	50,230,349	36,645,767
Carried forward	2,219,054	3,543,282	3,814,189	1,373,181

The reserve appropriations include transfers of \$11,279,509 to field redemption account, \$4,956,964 to depreciation reserve, \$3,379,198 to legal reserve, \$1,500,000 to provident fund, and \$30,000,000 to general reserve. The dividends on the preference and ordinary shares are at the rate of 30 per cent., as compared with 60 per cent. for the previous year. The directors point out that during the last two years capital expenditure has been exceptionally heavy. Over £6 millions has been spent in increasing tankage and pipe line capacities, and in extending refineries. The company has also advanced to the Eagle Oil Transport Company and to the Anglo-Mexican Petroleum Company over £7 millions. Towards these outlays about £7 millions has been obtained from the issues of new shares to existing holders in December, 1919, and December, 1920, and about £3 millions from the sale in September, 1921, of notes of the Eagle Oil Transport Company. In future the company's financial year is to close on December 31st, and a half-yearly report for the six months ended December 31, 1921, will be issued in May next. The report contains an interesting paragraph on the presence of salt water, which should serve to allay any alarm among shareholders.

Samuel Allsopp and Sons.—A substantial decline in profits is recorded in the report of Samuel Allsopp and Sons for the year ended September 30th last, as will be seen from the summary of past results given in the table below:—

	1914-15.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.
	£	£	£	£	£
Trading profit	120,717	307,268	355,434	346,918	251,125
Deb. int. &c.	71,201	97,915	100,058	102,365	101,160
Red. of Certs. of Rights ..	..	42,796	..	..	..
Deprec. and repairs	45,917	82,246	104,964	114,916	92,140
Net profit	3,599	84,311	150,414	129,637	57,825
Brought forward	13,048	20,930	19,324	19,324	19,324
	16,647	105,241	169,738	148,961	77,149
Reserve	..	50,000	72,061	51,871	..
Preference dividend	..	33,917	58,413	58,413	47,107
Ordinary dividend	..	..	18,148	19,016	10,030
	..	..	(5½%)	(5½%)	(3%)
Carried forward	16,647	21,324	21,116	19,661	20,013

Some saving has been made on repairs and maintenance of premises and plant, which requires £62,900, as against £78,400 last year, and depreciation of plant, casks, &c., takes £7,400 less at £25,400. The participating preference shares receive, in addition to their 5 per cent., a further 1½ per cent., as compared with 2½ per cent. for the

previous year, while the ordinary stock gets 3 per cent., as against 5½ per cent. The balance-sheet shows no very striking changes. Creditors are lower by £287,300, and stocks have been reduced by £293,100. Debtors have fallen by £149,800, but cash is £101,100 higher. At an extraordinary general meeting to be held on December 30th resolutions will be proposed for amending certain of the articles of association for converting the £315,707 ordinary stock of the company into 315,707 ordinary shares of £1 each.

Slaters' Report.—The report of Slaters, Limited, for the year ended September 30th last shows a decline in trading profits, and a still larger drop in net profits, owing to an increase of nearly £11,000 in management expenses, dilapidations, &c., &c. The table below shows the company's record since 1906:—

	Trading Profit.	Interst and Divs.	Exp'ses and Interst Ch'rges.	Net Profit.	Prof. Div.	Ord. Div.	Rate.	Balance.
1906	52,021	4,513	19,508	37,203	5,650	30,281	12½	£ 1,222
1907	52,650	4,680	20,443	37,046	5,650	30,281	12½	1,066
1908	48,502	4,718	20,756	32,385	5,650	30,281	12½	2,460
1909	41,630	4,839	21,416	25,193	5,650	19,295	8	223
1910	41,068	3,097	21,834	22,443	5,650	19,200	8	Dr. 2,317
1911	39,045	2,353	21,261	20,238	5,650	16,808	7	Dr. 2,220
1912	42,890	3,119	21,881	24,229	5,650	16,808	7	1,771
1913	44,065	2,169	22,644	23,573	5,550	16,808	7	1,215
1914	42,506	2,133	23,822	20,811	5,640	14,180	6	860
1915	12,786	1,556	20,988	Dr. 6,603	3,997	..	..	Dr. 1,861
1916	14,261	1,427	22,474	Dr. 6,786	..	..	..	Dr. 45,178
1917	18,006	2,554	27,337	Dr. 6,777	..	..	..	Dr. 61,955
1918	23,148	3,315	27,769	Dr. 1,306	..	..	..	Dr. 53,262
1919	68,612	3,193	29,858	41,947	..	..	..	Dr. 11,315
1920	81,306	4,435	31,260	46,481	22,050	7,140	4	7,976
1921	60,971	4,993	46,107	17,758	4,200	8,925	5	8,508

Last year 3½ years of arrears of preference dividend were paid off, and 4 per cent. was distributed on the ordinary shares. The 6 per cent. preference dividend for the past year requires only £4,200, and after payment of 5 per cent. on the ordinary shares the carry forward is increased by over £500. The balance-sheet, which is analysed in detail elsewhere, shows a reduction of £17,800 in stocks, but the property item has been increased by £44,500 to £409,000, while investments are £11,200 lower.

Camp Bird Group Finances.—Our mining correspondent writes:—It is seldom that investors and speculators in mining enterprises meet with greater disappointment than has been recently experienced in connection with what is known as the Baker group. At the outset it may be recalled that the Camp Bird is one of the very few United States mining concerns taken over by British interests which have turned out satisfactorily for the purchasers. From 1902 to 1913 inclusive dividends totalling 205 per cent. were paid on the ordinary shares. There being indications that the exhaustion of the original property was a contingency which might have to be faced before very long, the company (in January, 1910) purchased a controlling interest in the Santa Gertrudis group of gold and silver mines situated at Pachuca, some 60 miles from Mexico City. This concern also had a fair run of prosperity; but here again the exhaustion of the original properties came into sight, and (in June, 1918) an arrangement was made for the operation of the neighbouring El Bordo group, in consideration of receiving 40 per cent. of the profits, the ore being treated at the mill of the Santa Gertrudis company. For the next two financial years distributions totalling 10 per cent. per annum were made. In the autumn of 1919 the two companies in conjunction formed the Mexican Corporation, with a capital of £1,000,000 in £1 shares, and a board strong in both financial and technical experts. The National Mining Corporation was also registered with a capital of £3,000,000, and a directorate embracing "all the talent." These transactions, however, appeared to constitute the turning-point in the fortunes of the group. The last dividend paid by the Camp Bird on its ordinary shares was 5 per cent. in respect of 1914-15; the preference dividend is in arrears since June, 1920. The statement to June 30th last shows a deplorable financial position. Investments at par figure for £1,187,100—their market value is less than one-third that amount; Santa Gertrudis Company current account stands at £85,300; cash, War bonds, and debtors total £24,500. On the other side there is a loan of £100,000, secured by

the deposit of investments; calls, £30,100; creditors, £12,300. In the absence of any appreciable income, the credit balance of £37,400 brought forward becomes converted into a debit of £19,900. Camp Bird ordinary shares are now quoted at 3s, as against 24s 6d at one time last year; the preference at 5s 3d compare with 17s 9d. The last dividend of the Santa Gertrudis Company was 5 per cent. in July, 1920. Information as to the mining position is satisfactory, and the El Bordo group ore reserves have expanded to over 1,300,000 tons; but there is an absence of details on the important point of operating costs; indeed, the accounts of the Mexican subsidiary are not given at all. London expenses, &c., swallowed up practically the whole of the £29,900 brought forward. Investments at cost figure for £305,000—their value is indicated by subsequent remarks. The sum of £50,000 has been deposited with bankers as security for overdraft in Mexico, and £131,200 is owing to sundry creditors, besides £44,600 calls on investments. Like its associate, the Mexican Corporation also issued notes on onerous terms—£380,000 10 per cents., repayable at £120. On more than one occasion the amalgamation of these three companies has been suggested. There are difficulties in the way, of course; but the financial position of each is such that drastic measures would seem necessary sooner or later. Mexican Corporation shares are about 4s 6d in the market, while National Minings, 10s paid, are only 1s.

South African Diamond.—The changed fortunes of the industry are vividly reflected in the report of this corporation for the year ended June 30th last. In 1919-20 a net profit of £131,300 was made, and two dividends of 50 per cent. each were distributed—one on the original capital of £100,000 and one on £300,000. A large interest was taken in the National Diamond Factories, established with most praiseworthy intentions by the late Mr Bernard Oppenheimer. The accounts now in the hands of the shareholders show a net loss of £144,400, and the interim dividend of 12½ per cent. paid in January last proves to have been unjustified. It is intimated that to reduce the liabilities some of the company's holdings, particularly in Far-Eastern Rand concerns, have been sold, but at a heavy loss. Work at the diamond factory is now greatly restricted. Possibly the new interests of the corporation in South-West Africa may turn out well. All the shareholders can do at the present time is to wait and hope.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—BUDGET — SECRETARY OF TREASURY MELLON'S ANNUAL REPORT — COMMODITY PRICES — OCTOBER RAILROAD EARNINGS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, December 12.

IN line with the Administration's efforts to curtail the annual expenditures of the Government, the first Budget prepared under the new national system, which was submitted to Congress this week, shows drastic reductions in many items. The Budget is for the next fiscal year, that is, for the year ending June 30, 1923. It gives the estimated expenses for that year, as well as those for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1922, and the actual expenditures for the fiscal year 1921. A summary of the totals of receipts and expenditures for the three years, taken from President Harding's message of transmittal, is as follows, the figures excluding postal revenues and postal expenditures paid from postal revenues:—

	1921 (Actual).	1922 (Estimated).	1923 (Estimated).
Total receipts	\$ 5,624,932,960	\$ 3,943,453,663	\$ 3,338,182,750
Total expenditures, including reduction in principal of public debt	5,538,040,689	3,967,922,366	3,505,754,727
Excess of expenditures ..	..	24,468,703	167,571,977
Excess of receipts	86,892,271	..	..

Estimated receipts for 1923 show a decrease of \$2,286,750,210 from the actual receipts for the fiscal year 1921, while expenditure will be \$2,032,285,962 less than in 1921. For the year 1921 there was an actual excess of receipts amounting to \$86,892,271, whereas an excess of expenses amounting to \$24,468,703 is estimated for the fiscal year 1922 and of \$167,571,977 for 1923. President Harding points out that such discrepancies are unavoidable when authorisations of expenditures are being enacted during the process of Budget closing, but there are ways, he says, for relatively easy adjustment without additional taxation. A portion of the funds necessary to balance the Budget for 1923 can be provided, he suggests, through legislation in connection with the naval appropriation Bill for that year, whereby \$100,000,000 now held in the naval supply account would be released. With the passage of such legislation, and with continued economy in all departments, President Harding believes the balancing of total receipts and expenditures for the fiscal years 1922 and 1923 can be accomplished. Director of the Budget Dawes says that in making up his estimates for 1922 and 1923 he paid no attention to reductions in expenditures which may result from the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments.

Among the items showing the heaviest cuts expenditures for the War Department stand first. Estimates for that branch of the Government are \$712,000,000 less for 1922 than in 1921, with a further reduction of \$19,000,000 approximately for 1923. Expenditures on account of the Panama Canal are more than cut in half. The provision for the Navy Department is made more than \$171,000,000 less in 1922, with an added cut of nearly \$47,000,000 in 1923 as compared with 1921. Expenditures under the Railroad Administration and Transportation Act, which amounted to \$730,711,669 in the fiscal year 1921, are reduced to \$337,679,235 for the current fiscal year, and eliminated entirely in 1923. For the Treasury Department estimated expenditures in 1922 will be about \$306,000,000 less than in the present fiscal year, and an additional cut, though slight, will be made in 1923. The Federal Board for Vocational Education is allowed \$99,000,000 less for the 1922 fiscal year than in 1921, but its provision for 1923 is somewhat larger than for 1922. The sum set aside for the Shipping Board is more than \$80,000,000 less in 1923 than in 1921, while the provision for other branches of the Government, including the War Finance and Grain Corporations, is \$66,000,000 less. Items for the purchase of the obligations of foreign Governments and for the purchase of farm loan bonds disappear, effecting a total reduction of over \$90,000,000, and a saving of some \$108,000,000 in postal service deficiencies is made in 1923 as compared with 1921. There are a few increases. For instance, the United States Veterans' Bureau, which is not listed in the 1921 expenditures, will cost \$438,122,400 in 1922, it is estimated, and \$455,232,702 in 1923. Expenditures for good roads show an increase from \$57,400,000 approximately in 1921 to \$125,000,000 in 1923, the latter sum representing an increase of more than \$20,000,000 over the current fiscal year.

In his annual report, Secretary of the Treasury Mellon says that, while the past fiscal year was marked by pronounced economy in Government expenditure, it is imperatively necessary to continue the policy of retrenchment. New undertakings that would impose additional burdens on the Treasury should be avoided, he remarks, especially since a large amount of short-dated debt—\$6,750,000,000—will mature within eighteen months. Pointing out that, despite the reductions made, the ordinary expenditures in the last fiscal year, including sinking fund and miscellaneous fixed debt charges, still exceeded \$5,500,000,000, he says that the Administration expects to hold expenditures on the same basis in 1922 down to about \$4,000,000,000, representing a reduction of \$1,500,000,000 from those of the fiscal year 1921. That decrease reflects in some measure the liquidation of war liabilities, but to an important extent also a reduction in the cost of government; from either viewpoint, it means a lightening of the tax burden. Determined efforts for economy, he says, have resulted in cutting expenditures for the current fiscal year over \$400,000,000 below the amount originally estimated as necessary by the various spending

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

Head Office: 15 Gracechurch St., London, E.C.3

Capital Authorised £3,000,000

Paid Up Capital 1,050,000

Reserve Fund and Undivided Profits 1,227,638

Branches:

INDIA, BURMAH, CEYLON, STRAITS SETTLEMENTS, CHINA, and PORT LOUIS, MAURITIUS.

The Bank buys and sells Bills of Exchange, Issues Letters of Credit and Circular Notes, and transacts banking and agency business in connection with the East, on terms to be had on application.

Fixed Deposit Rates will be quoted upon application.

On Current Accounts interest is allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on daily balances.

departments. While the new revenue law, recently enacted, will reduce the tax burden by more than \$800,000,000 for the fiscal year 1923, as compared with the former law, our system of taxation, Secretary Mellon believes, requires further revision. He strongly opposes high surtaxes under present conditions, declaring that the higher surtaxes are rapidly ceasing to be productive of revenue. "That they are being evaded or avoided no one of any experience doubts," he says. He points out that a large and steadily increasing amount of money formerly invested in productive industry is now going into tax-exempt securities, the amount being estimated by the Treasury at approximately \$10,000,000,000. Another serious effect of high surtax rates, he declares, is the destruction of incentive—the diminished activities of individuals in trade and industry—with consequent lessening of business transactions, curtailment of production, and ultimately loss of revenue to the Government. Secretary Mellon urges a reduction of the surtax rates to a maximum of 20 or 25 per cent.; he believes the lower rates would produce more revenue than higher rates, owing to the increase in taxable transactions. The head of the Treasury Department urgently recommends, among other things, the speedy adoption of legislation for the funding of the war-time obligations of Allied nations held by the United States Government. The funding of those obligations and placing them in a business-like form, he declares, is one of the outstanding needs of the present economic situation. Figures accompanying the report show that the accumulated interest on such foreign obligations now aggregates \$1,155,502,181, of which \$509,173,742 is charged to Great Britain, \$327,917,938 to France, and \$202,279,732 to Italy. In this connection it is noteworthy that progress is being made with the Foreign Debt Funding Bill now before Congress. The Senate Finance Committee has changed the Bill, so that less discretion is given to the Commission which will have charge of the negotiations than was granted by the measure passed by the House of Representatives. The Bill as changed by the Senate Committee provides that the \$11,000,000,000 owing to the United States shall be funded into obligations maturing not later than June 15, 1947, and bearing interest at not less than 5 per cent., payable semi-annually. Just what form the final legislation will take remains to be seen.

Commodity prices, after five successive monthly advances, covering the period from July 1st to November 1st, showed a slight reaction during November. *Bradstreet's* index number as at December 1st, namely, 111.3127, marks a decline of three-tenths of 1 per cent. from that at November 1st. The December 1st index, nevertheless, is still above that of every previous index number back to and including that of May 1st, which it exceeds by 4.5 per cent., while it exceeds the low level number of the past six years, touched on June 1st, by 6.5 per cent. The decline from December 1st a year ago is 17 per cent., and from the peak of 1920, which was the high point in *Bradstreet's* record of 29 years, 45.7 per cent. Compared with December 1, 1918, just after the armistice, the decline is 40.4 per cent. Eight groups of articles, including breadstuffs, provisions, and groceries, hides and leather, metals, oils, naval stores, chemicals, drugs, and miscellaneous products, increased in price; four, including livestock, textiles, building materials, and coal and coke, declined, while one, namely fruits, remained unchanged. In all 29 out of 106 articles advanced, 29 declined, and 48 remained unchanged.

Returns from all but two small lines show that the Class I railways earned a net operating income during October of \$105,186,283, the largest total for any month since the carriers were returned to private control and management, and equivalent to an annual yield on the valuation of their property investment of 5.4 per cent., or closely approximating the 6 per cent. return allowed by the Transportation Act. Operating revenues in October were \$535,135,126, or 16.6 per cent. less than in October, 1920, while operating expenses of \$337,114,777 were 24.6 per cent. less. Although net operating income was 21.8 per cent. greater than in the corresponding month of last year, it was nearly \$12,000,000, or 10 per cent., short of the amount expected to be earned under the rates fixed some time ago by the Inter-State Commerce Commission.

FRANCE.—BUDGET BILL—LONDON CONFERENCE—TRADE RETURNS—RAILWAY RATES—BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, December 20.

THE Budget Bill for 1922 was finally disposed of—it is hoped—by the Chamber after a sitting of 23 hours' duration, that lasted until 7.45 in the morning. The final vote gave approval to the Bill by 521 votes to 75, and it now remains to be seen whether the Senate can be induced to complete their discussion of the Bill by the last day of the year. The Bill, as sent to the Senate, provides for the following expenditure and revenue:—

	Francs.
Expenditure.....	25,140,913,642
Revenue	24,827,782,047
Estimated deficit.....	313,131,595

This estimated deficit, it was decided during the final discussion, may be expected to disappear in the course of the coming year, owing to the economy that will be effected from the suppression of 50,000 functionaries (whose services the Chamber has decided may be dispensed with as opportunity arises during the coming twelve months), by increased revenue that will be derived from a modification of the formalities in connection with succession duties in the liberated regions, and by the imposition of *droits de statistique* on imports that do not pay duties on entering France.

The outstanding hope and belief held by most people here is that the direct negotiations that are being carried on this week in London between the British and French Premiers will result, above all else, in a clear and full understanding being arrived at between the two countries in a common foreign policy, and, if possible, in a definite Anglo-French alliance. Once these fundamental principles are settled the Eastern, Russian, German indemnity, and other problems, it is insisted, will fall into their proper places as merely detailed items in a plan of action that will extend to every quarter of the globe. What is feared is that Mr Lloyd George may be inclined to place too great a value on some of the numberless details to be dealt with, and decline to deal first with the basis on which, from the French point of view, everything else must rest. So far as Germany is concerned, French opinion is firmly convinced that the Government of the Reich is capable of meeting its obligations and ought to be made to do so. In this connection there is a growing body of opinion in favour of greatly strengthening the powers of the Committee of Guarantees that is supposed to function under the auspices of the Reparations Commission, and to endow it with full powers to control the German national finances. The principle of forbidding any interference by the Allied organisations in the internal affairs of Germany, it is universally felt here, has been proved to be a mistake, and it is argued that Germany will never restore her finances to order until she

is compelled to do so by pressure from outside forces, exercising direct control over her revenue and expenditure.

In view of the now generally admitted fact that the essential feature of the whole economic difficulty is that some means must be found to reduce the money debts existing between the nations to the lowest possible figure, the value of bringing the Franco-German Wiesbaden agreements into operation is more and more attracting attention here. It is argued that the principle of the system of payments in kind should be accepted by all the Allies, who should be obliged for some years to come to take a fixed proportion in kind of the value of the amount due to them. To the argument that the devastated regions could not absorb the whole of the payments in kind that Germany might be able to make, it is retorted that other outlets might be found for both German goods and German labour. In France, for instance, many public works for the benefit of future generations might be carried out in this way without being burdened with either taxes or loans. Germany, in her state of insolvency, is nevertheless planning great undertakings, such as the Rhine-Danube canal and the great electrical power scheme now before the Diet of Baden. Why should not France have the benefit of the labour and material that will otherwise be devoted to furthering the future prosperity of Germany?

The French trade returns for the first 11 months of the current year have now been published, and afford interesting comparisons, both as to value and weight, as against the figures for the corresponding period of last year. In considering the figures, it must be remembered that the valuation of the imports and exports for 1921 is based on the prices that prevailed in 1919, whereas the returns for last year are valued at the prices then prevailing. The figures show that during the 11 months the total imports have been reduced by over 25 milliards of francs in value and by over 12,000,000 tons as compared with the corresponding period of last year, but that, while the value of the total exports has also been reduced (by 5,256 million francs), they have increased in weight by over 1,806,000 tons. The outstanding feature of the returns is the fact that the balance of trade, which was favourable to this country in the earlier part of the year, is now turning against her. During the first nine months of this year there was a surplus of exports valued at 29,000,000f. This was transferred in October into a surplus of imports amounting to 438,000,000f, which during November was increased to a deficit on exports since the beginning of the year amounting to over 1,000 million francs.

In view of the serious handicap imposed on all forms of trade by the high railway rates in vogue in this country, an important "Transport Congress" sat throughout the whole of last week for the purpose of considering what steps ought to be taken to bring about a reduction of the present cost of transport. The list of resolutions adopted at the close of the Congress, at which an encouraging speech was delivered by M. Le Troquer, Minister for Public Works (which includes all forms of transport) included motions in favour of (1) a general revision of the existing transport rates in the direction of a return to the basis figures of 1914; (2) revision of the classification of merchandise, with a view to products that were subject to special rates in 1914, as well as products then non-existent, being again placed in special classifications; (3) the adaptation of transport rates to new centres of production or new industries, and to the new commercial currents (such as Alsace-Lorraine); (4) the establishment of competitive rates, with a view to certain markets, and notably, in the event of the Wiesbaden agreements being applied, with a view to the market in the Liberated Regions; (5) the institution of "relief tariffs," for the benefit of certain threatened industries; (6) adaptation of the minimum weight to the normal conditions of consignment, definite of "complete train," &c.; (7) much fuller consultation with chambers of commerce and other organisations before tariff modifications are adopted.

The French railway managers are under the obligation to send in to the Minister of Public Works, before the end of the year, their proposals for tariff revision. In consequence of the suggestions put forward by the "Semaine

des Transports," however, they have asked for further time to consider the new proposals. As a direct result of last week's Congress, however, the managers of the French railways have already informed the Minister that they are unanimously in favour of a general reduction of rates, and that their coming into operation is only a question of time.

It is reported that an agreement has been signed between the Chinese Government and the French Minister in Peking, by which the former consents to devote to the rehabilitation of the derelict Banque Industrielle de Chine the amount owing to France in respect of the Boxer indemnity. What the sum in question is it is difficult to ascertain.

The volume of business on the Bourse has again, for the third week in succession, continued to be substantial, but it is now evident that the improvement in the situation is really far more apparent than real. As a matter of fact, the better aspect of affairs that has ruled during the past three weeks has been due almost entirely to professional transactions, plus a certain amount of business by enterprising speculators among the investing classes, who have gone into the market again with the firm resolve to be content to resell at an extremely moderate profit. Genuine investment business is still lacking. The public, as a whole, is still showing itself extremely cautious, no doubt as the result of the impression left by heavy losses within recent memory, and appears to be reserving itself for the numerous new issues that are to take place during the earlier weeks of the coming year. The fortnightly settlement passed off without incident, the carrying over rate being raised from 3½ per cent. to 5 per cent. The business in hand showed a large increase in speculation for the rise. French 3 per cents. have been marked up automatically from 55.15 to 55.25, in view of the pending coupon. Among foreign funds, Argentines, Brazilians, Egyptians, and Japanese have been influenced by the fall in the exchange rate. Russian have been more active and Turks firm.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

	DEBTOR.		
	Dec. 15, 1921. Francs.	Dec. 8, 1921. Francs.	Dec. 18, 1913. Francs.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of landed property	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	560,288,647	561,426,030	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State	1,242,126,301	1,226,299,827	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation	36,407,132,475	36,666,338,460	5,697,012,870
Interest on securities	53,825,018	55,949,117	22,467,329
Exch. notes to order	738,781	747,452	3,655,743
Treasury account	42,347,826	62,558,934	202,366,662
Current accounts, Paris	1,533,617,511	1,534,385,635	589,089,621
Do branch banks	912,665,196	920,007,504	82,452,157
Dividends payable	4,024,422	4,148,542	1,674,628
Discounts and sundries	98,783,969	94,043,899	36,409,069
Re-discounts	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,532,896
Sundries	1,123,504,334	1,111,681,293	270,289,588
Total	42,249,411,409	42,507,882,993	7,135,970,562

	CREDITOR.		
	Dec. 15, 1921. Francs.	Dec. 8, 1921. Francs.	Dec. 18, 1913. Francs.
Cash in hand	5,803,570,560	5,803,533,829	4,175,430,830
Balances abroad	608,015,230	611,122,573	..
Commercial bills overdue	330,733	1,757,352	105,777
Discounts in Paris	1,297,145,096	1,248,022,455	455,197,021
Foreign bills	6,260,131	6,084,774	16,180,434
Treasury bills	415,501	512,974	314,222
Discounts in branches	1,043,694,698	962,055,614	980,448,491
Advanced payments, Paris and branches	61,201,189	62,338,661	..
Advances on bullion	12,874,000	12,874,000	25,670,000
Do on public securities	412,626,922	413,275,817	202,401,814
Do by branch banks	1,863,736,858	1,900,754,064	538,798,388
Advance to State (ordinary)	200,000,000	200,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for war)	24,500,000,000	24,500,000,000	5,598,500
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments	4,137,000,000	4,135,000,000	..
Government stock reserve	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable	101,858,558	101,858,558	99,579,294
Rentes indisponible	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture	53,754,348	53,490,420	44,051,529
Expenses and management	40,689,345	39,444,407	11,496,050
Special reserve	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries	1,984,789,947	2,234,371,310	259,504,007
Total	42,249,411,409	42,507,882,993	7,135,970,562

* Temporary advances floods.

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

Discount	5½
Advances on bullion	2
Advances on public securities	6½

NEW ZEALAND.—NEW CUSTOMS TARIFF.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTCHURCH, November 9.

ON November 3, 1921, resolutions were introduced into the House of Representatives bringing a new tariff into force on the following day. The proposals laid before the House were drawn up by a Tariff Commission composed of departmental officers, presided over by the Comptroller of Customs, and including the chairman of the Board of Trade. Previous Tariff Commissions in New Zealand have usually been composed of members of Parliament, whose investigations consisted in getting information from manufacturers as to the amount of protection needed. The present schedule appears to be workmanlike and conservative, but in both these respects it will probably be changed for the worse in its passage through Parliament. Anomalies in tariff rates are often, if not usually, the result of political compromise, and it is fairly evident that these first proposals, which leave the old tariff very little changed, represent a conservative basis from which the Government may offer concessions to the Protectionists.

It is not possible to summarise a tariff list in which 566 items are distinguished, but certain general tendencies may be noted. There are three rates of duty chargeable—general, on goods coming from all foreign countries; intermediate, on goods coming from countries with which reciprocal arrangements may be concluded; and preferential, on goods from British countries. The intermediate tariff is, therefore, inoperative at present. The duties chargeable on British goods are practically unaltered, but an outstanding feature of the new tariff is the fairly substantial and general increase in the general tariff on goods from foreign countries. Goods formerly charged 20 per cent. if British and 30 per cent. if foreign are now commonly charged in the three schedules at 20 per cent., 30 per cent., 35 per cent. Goods, such as cotton piece goods, formerly free from all countries, are now commonly free, 10 per cent., 10 per cent. In fact, new duties have been placed on foreign goods of almost every kind, and the existing handicaps have been increased. Almost the only reductions in the preferential treatment of British goods are the removal of the 10 per cent. duty on foreign dairying machinery (replaced by a 5 per cent. duty, which may be put into force by Order in Council, but which is at present suspended), and the reduction of the 20 per cent. duty on foreign printing paper to 10 per cent. Goods, such as dyes, glass, scientific instruments, which are being made in Britain and "safeguarded" there, are given a measure of preference, usually 10 per cent., and an interesting proposal is the tax of a penny per lineal foot on foreign cinema films, British films remaining free.

There has been a persistent agitation among local manufacturers for high protection on the Australian model. No effort has been too great in support of evidence given before the Commission. Newspaper and pamphlet propaganda, visits of journalists, M.P.'s, and Ministers to factories were followed by a well-staged exhibition of local products in Wellington while the session is in progress. But the present tariff proposals have left the manufacturers, in their own words, "dumb with stupefaction," and they complain that the Commission need never have sat for all the value it has been. Apart from the higher duties on foreign goods, there is no protection in the tariff except for the farmers. Although much is made of foreign competition, the real competition which local manufacturers have to face is from Britain and Australia. It was hoped that the duties on British goods would be increased, and apparently it was also desired that Australia and Canada should be put on the same footing as foreign countries. The fact is, of course, that a policy of economic nationalism, either in the Colonies or in Britain, is inconsistent with Empire-building. The Government evidently considers that it will gain the extra revenue it needs from two sources—the increased duties on foreign goods, and unprecedented additions to the taxes on beer, spirits, and tobacco. The duty on spirits is doubled (from 18s to 36s the proof gallon); imported tobacco is to pay 4s 6d per lb instead of 3s 6d per lb, and the Excise duty on beer is about doubled, being now 11½d per gallon.

It is clearly not the intention of the present Government to foster local manufactures in New Zealand. Most duties

which afford protection are left unchanged, and where specific rates have been commuted for *ad valorem* rates there is no increase aimed at. The old tariff on British boots was 15 per cent., plus specific rates from 1s 6d per pair on men's boots to 6d per pair on youths' boots. The average rate of this complicated duty varied as prices varied, and has recently been as low as 22 per cent., though in pre-war times it averaged 30-35 per cent. on the value of all boots. The new rate is 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, so that the duty has been stabilised at its lowest level. The only new protection granted is to the wheat-growing and fruit-growing industries, to some by-industries of the dairying group, and to the making of basketware and wickerware, presumably because returned soldiers are engaged in the industry. From the point of view of manufacturers and merchants in Great Britain the tariff is all that can be desired—their rivals in New Zealand are given no further advantage, and their rivals in foreign countries are burdened with extra duties. The tariff is thus an indication of the sincerity of Mr Massey's statements on Imperial Preference, and is perhaps as close an approximation as is practicable in New Zealand to what he has stated as his ideal—Free-trade within the Empire.

SWEDEN.—THE EXCHANGES—PRICES—WAGES—SHIPBUILDING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

STOCKHOLM, December 14.

In an interview, the Minister of Finance recently stated that the Government is paying attention to the exchange question, although no definite steps have been taken as yet. Swedish commerce and industry will hail some amelioration in this respect with the greatest satisfaction, as during the past year the abnormally high position of the krona has completely stopped exports and seriously handicapped Swedish shipowners in competition with such countries as Germany, Norway, and Finland. The situation has developed so that many owners find themselves compelled to part with their tonnage. The fact that so many orders for domestic consumption are placed in Germany and Finland, including the printing of books, &c., is also due to the abnormal Swedish exchange. In one way the high position of the Swedish currency has had a favourable influence on conditions, inasmuch as the cost of living has gone down considerably. Wholesale prices, which during October showed a considerable decline, continued their downward tendency during November, although to a less extent. Farm products, fuels, oils, textiles were cheaper, but metals, wood pulp, and building materials were a shade higher in price. This latter feature is undoubtedly due to the fact that old stocks have been exhausted and the new production costs are much higher. A revision of railway rates and telephone charges has begun, and will take effect from January next. There will be lower passenger and goods tariffs, but whether they will be sufficient to encourage trade it is difficult to say. The charges for telephone subscription will also be lowered, but not trunk calls or postal fees, the latter being probably the highest in Europe. It costs nearly as much to send a letter across the street in Sweden as in England to send a letter abroad. The mark has kept steady for some days round 2.30-2.40, pound sterling has improved to 17.12. The dollar exchange is now only 15 per cent. above normal. The Danish krona has shown considerable weakness of late and has receded to 78.50. The adjustment of wages in Swedish industry proceeds, but not without friction. Most trades are at present in negotiation with their workmen, including the miners, the manufacturers, and the textile and pulp mills, and considerable reductions are claimed. In the phosphate industry the employers have asked for a 40 per cent. wage reduction, but the workers will only agree to 15 per cent. Likewise in the shipping trade the owners' proposals entail in some cases reductions of up to 60 per cent. Another condition which labour claims is the right to control industrial undertakings by means of workmen's councils. This condition is strongly rejected by employers, who consider that through their trade unions the

workmen have already a certain amount of control over industry. So far very few undertakings have published their reports for the past year. A satisfactory report is furnished by the leading shipyard, the A/B Götaverken of Gothenburg, which declares a net profit of 840,000 kr., as against 930,000 in 1920, the dividend being unchanged at 8 per cent. This shipyard will be fairly well employed until the middle of next year, having four new vessels to complete. Other yards are working considerably restricted time, and nine yards are left without any work at all. Amongst them is the large A/B Oresundsvarvet at Landskrona, with which Herr Stinnes has been associated. This company is closing down entirely.

NORWAY.—SHIPPING LOSSES—INSURANCE TROUBLES—NOTE CIRCULATION—HEAVY TAXATION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CHRISTIANIA, November 30.

The Government Maritime Board have recently published statistical information about maritime casualties during 1920. During the year 21 steamers, of 24,319 gross register tons, 21 sailing ships of 28,603 tons, and 31 motor-vessels of 5,493 tons were lost. Currents, storms, fogs, &c., have been the most common causes of the accidents, but in not a few cases the cause has remained unknown. It is quite certain that two losses have been caused by drifting mines, and very likely that that has been the cause of the loss of several more of the vessels.

The war period was a great time for starting new enterprises. Hardly any branch of trade saw such a host of new undertakings as the insurance business. Numerous new undertakings were set on foot, and old companies extended their range of business, in several cases by establishing branch offices abroad, mainly in England and America. The consequences of the after-war depression of general trade are, therefore, more acutely felt perhaps by insurance concerns than by any other sort of business. No less than 22 companies have discontinued their operations. Some have decided to wind-up voluntarily and withdraw while they are still able to do so without any loss to those interested; others are being wound up compulsorily, while several companies have been merged into others, and a few have been reconstructed. It has been officially stated that, as far as is yet known, none of the insured have sustained any loss on account of these misfortunes, but, of course, the shareholders in many cases have been unable to escape unscathed. The affairs of the Norske Lloyd, a company started in 1905, with a share capital of 10 million kroner, are attracting much interest. It had one of the ablest insurance experts of this country for its manager, and embraced all the current branches of insurances. The company did very well, and distributed very satisfactory dividends—for 1919, 12½ per cent. Prudence prompted the board, however, to allot no dividend for 1920. Still the confidence in the company was so great that even towards the middle of the present month there were buyers of the shares at 600 kr., the face value being 500 kr. It is believed that when the company is liquidated the original share capital will be preserved. The future does not seem to have been definitely decided, but a plan is being considered of forming a fresh company with a capital of 5,000,000 kr., to take over, for the benefit of the old shareholders and creditors, the stock of policies of the late company. It may be stated that though there are many fine companies, the insurance trade of all the Scandinavian countries is passing through a very troublous time.

The note circulation of the Bank of Norway is being contracted at a much quicker rate than could have been anticipated, and it is now considerably over 100 million kroner below highest. The discussion of a lowering of the discount rate, which is now 6½ per cent., has begun, and if deflation should go on to any further considerable degree it is likely that the rate will be reduced. Meanwhile, the continued drought helps to increase the unemployment which is now very keenly felt all over the country. The Government and local authorities, as well

as private employers, are making efforts to mitigate the difficulties of the workmen; but this is difficult, seeing that a similar situation prevails also in other countries on which we are dependent for our exports. Unfortunately, the long strikes during the earlier part of this year have considerably added to the difficulties of our industries, as have also the crushing rates of taxation. As an instance of the present tax burden may be mentioned some figures stated by the general director of one of our largest industrial concerns, the Norsk Hydro, at the recent general meeting. Last year the wages paid were about 30 million kroner. The taxes were about 17 millions, besides 3 to 4 millions paid for the welfare of the labourers (dwellings, &c.). The consequence was a deficit for the year of 1,300,000 kr. For the present year the taxes will be about 20 millions. It is this concern which the workmen, above all others, have set their hearts on socialising. The dividend was only maintained at 15 per cent. by drawing on the accumulated funds.

POLAND.—OIL PRODUCTION AND EXPORT—RETAIL PRICES AND EXCHANGES—TRADE DEPRESSION—BANKING.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, November 30.

HITHERTO little has been known of the extent of the Polish oil deposits. No systematic survey has been undertaken by the Austrian Government in Galicia. The new Geological Department organised by the Polish Government as a branch of the Petroleum Board has now made a survey, and published the results in the last issue of the *Przegląd Naftowy* (Petroleum Review). In the Carpathian mountains two zones are distinguished, an inner and an outer. Hitherto the first has been mainly exploited. The greatest part of the outer zone is still, as far as oil production is concerned, virgin land. Though the inquiry of the geological survey has shown that there are chances of new discoveries of oil deposits in the inner zone, it may be nevertheless expected that in the future the oil production of the outer zone will grow proportionately more important. According to the estimates of Dr Nowak, the head of the Geological Department of the Petroleum Board, 7,500 new shafts could be easily sunk in Galicia. This would enable Poland to increase its oil production by 600,000 tons a year, without exhausting her deposits during the next 60 years. If these prophecies prove to be correct, the position of Poland among the oil producing countries of the world will become in the future more important.

Mr Lipinski, head of the Department of Labour Statistics, has published in the *Trybuna* (November 12th) some very interesting data illustrating the movement of the numbers of retail prices of food in Poland and abroad, which we reproduce below:—

INDEX NUMBERS OF RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD.
(July, 1914 = 100.)

	Poland.	United Kingdom.	United States.	France.	Germany.
January, 1921....	25,139	263	169	410	1,265
February, "....	31,827	249	155	382	1,191
March, "....	32,882	238	153	359	1,188
April, "....	31,710	232	149	328	1,171
May, "....	32,639	218	142	317	1,152
June, "....	35,392	220	141	312	1,175
July, "....	45,654	226	145	306	1,274
August, "....	53,100	225	152	317	1,399
September, "....	60,728	220	150	317	1,418

It is interesting to observe the movement of foreign exchanges during the same period. Taking the par of exchange as basis (100), we obtain the following results:—

MOVEMENT OF FOREIGN EXCHANGES IN WARSAW.

	English £.	American \$.	French Francs.	German Marks.				
	Ex- change.	% of Par. £1 = M.20.40.	Ex- change.	% of Par. \$1 = M.4.20.	Ex- change.	% of Par. 100frs. = M.51.	Ex- change.	% of Par. 100 = 100.
Jan., 1921....	2,685	13,143	730	17,381	44	5,432	10.2	1,020
Feb., "	3,175	15,564	800	19,050	59	7,284	13.5	1,350
Mar., "	3,490	17,082	880	20,902	63	7,777	13.7	1,375
April, "	3,280	16,080	800	19,050	58	7,150	13.3	1,330
May, "	3,600	17,783	840	20,010	71	8,765	15.0	1,500
June, "	4,475	21,904	1,180	28,109	98	12,038	20.0	2,000
July, "	6,900	31,733	1,990	45,250	152	18,255	26.0	2,600
Aug., "	8,600	42,095	2,400	57,171	186	22,953	32.0	3,200
Sept., "	17,800	87,126	4,450	105,952	360	44,440	49.0	4,800
Oct., "	16,467	80,720	4,350	103,571	327	40,350	28.3	830

In comparison with the pre-war level, the American dollar has appreciated 1,036 times, the English pound 807 times, the French franc 403, and the German mark 28 times. It seems that in September the culminating point of this process of depreciation had been reached. The foreign exchanges have decreased in October and November in a very marked degree.

At the present rate of exchange foreign products are cheaper in Poland than home manufactures. So, for instance, at the beginning of November home-made pig-iron was quoted 110,000-130,000 marks per ton, while the same product could be imported from Czecho-Slovakia inclusive of transport and customs duties, for 65,000 marks. Silesian coal, which is of a much better quality than that which is extracted in Poland, was sold for 4,500 Polish marks a ton, while the price of Dombrowa coal reached 13,000 marks, being by 200 per cent. dearer. The disorganisation of the foreign trade, which has been brought about by the rise of the Polish mark, is a big factor in the existing trade depression. But the principal cause of the crisis must be sought in the exhaustion of all available capital. The number of unemployed is growing daily. In Warsaw 14 factories, and in the surrounding rural district 15 factories, have been closed. In Lodz 120 undertakings (with 15,000 workmen) have ceased work. The total number of registered unemployed is nearly 150,000. The private banks are unable to provide industry and trade with the necessary credit, and the Polish National Bank has been obliged to assume the rôle which in other countries has been always played by the central banks of issue as supporters of the national credit system.

Hitherto the Polish National Bank was mainly issuing notes for covering the budgetary deficits of the Government. Private loans and discounts played in comparison with the advances to the Government only a very small part, as may be seen from the figures below:—

	Advances to the Government.	Private Loan and Discounts
	Milliard Polish Marks.	
July 31	140.6	8.8
August 31	158.0	11.7
September 30	178.0	16.1
October 31	198.5	21.5

From the 21.5 milliards of private loans and discounts 7 milliards must be deducted, which have been given as advances to persons subscribing to the Reconstruction Loan, and which indirectly passed into the hands of the State. So that in reality at the end of October private loans and discounts amounted to only 15 milliards, as compared with 198 milliards of advances to the Government. Actually the Polish National Bank is pursuing a more liberal policy as far as the discount of private bills is concerned. The Bank rate has been increased to 7 per cent.

Letters to the Editor.

THE REPAYMENT OF NATIONAL DEBT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ECONOMIST.

SIR,—Year after year I study my *Economist* and derive therefrom much financial wisdom. But what I am unable to understand is why neither the *Economist* nor its correspondents urge the early repayment of a substantial portion of Great Britain's National Debt—War Debt, most of it—as one of the first and most urgent duties of Government.

The little islands of Britain are quite unable to feed and clothe themselves from their own local resources, so regular imports of food and the raw material for clothes from overseas are of vital importance. These imports must be paid for, either by sales abroad of British products and services, or by transfers out of Britain of valuables in some form or another. Sales abroad of British products and manufactures are at present handicapped by, amongst other things, high prices. A contributory to these high British prices is the appallingly heavy load of interest on the National Debt (nearly a half of Government's annual expenditure), which forces everybody to try and earn sufficient to pay the taxation, direct and indirect, essential to enable Government to meet its obligations. Until the weight of this handicap be lessened,

British manufacturers will never be able regularly and continuously to compete with other manufacturers over the seas who are less heavily handicapped. *Ergo*, a substantial reduction of Great Britain's National Debt is essential to save the country from disaster.

Were the debt—over £8,000,000,000—due outside the United Kingdom, national bankruptcy would be inevitable. As, however, over three-quarters of the debt is, I believe, held by investors inside the Kingdom, its partial repayment can obviously be engineered with no greater inconvenience than bringing home to every man and woman the true position. For every man and woman in the Kingdom is at present morally responsible for a share of the debt. Let that responsibility be frankly recognised, and as far as possible be accurately determined, and then let attention be concentrated on the work of repayment. If this be any longer omitted, we die. The British horse cannot possibly continue to come in first in the great world race for manufacturing supremacy. The splendid animal is at present hopelessly over-handicapped by National Debt charges, to make no mention of other serious difficulties. I write as a practical merchant and financier who buys from Japan and America as well as from the United Kingdom and the Continent of Europe, and I claim some knowledge of what I am writing about.

—Yours faithfully,
M. DE P. WEBB.
Royal Bombay Yacht Club, November 19th, 1921.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

"Law and Business." Vol. I. Introduction. By William H. Spencer. (Chicago) University of Chicago Press. 1921. \$4.50.
"Theory and Practice of International Commerce." By Archibald J. Wolfe. (New York and London) International Book Publishing Company. 1919. \$5 (25s net).

THOUGH business cannot be learned from books alone, the study of books is a material help. One of these books (the first of a three volume work on law and business) belongs to a series of "Materials for the Study of Business." The other is a text-book of export and import. Both are intended to be used in collegiate training for business management by American students, but they are practical manuals which may interest readers on this side of the Atlantic. Mr Spencer rightly points out in "Law and Business" that a business man should know some law, not because he is going to be a lawyer, but simply because he must have some appreciation of his relation to organised society in order to carry on his business intelligently and successfully. The contents of the volume are referred to as "materials," and this is literally correct. The book is a compilation. Except for connecting links supplied by the author, the introduction is made up of extracts from Blackstone, interspersed with extracts from modern American legal writers. The "background for the study of law" thus provided rather lacks continuity. This is followed by a series of chapters composed of selected reprints of reports of law cases, briefly introduced and each followed by a set of questions. The other work is concerned in the first of its two parts with various questions of organisation in relation to international commerce, and with sale contracts. The second part—on problems of modern American export practice—is more specific. It deals with foreign credits, American banking practice (with special reference to the federal reserve system), British and German banking practice, the promotion of foreign trade, and foreign laws regulating trading by non-nationals. A great deal of useful practical information is given. In discussing "basic facts," Mr Wolfe says: "A protective tariff, it may be frankly admitted, permits the reasonable pricing of manufactured goods for home consumption, leaving the producer free to charge somewhat lower prices for exported goods." In other words, dumping abroad is paid for by home consumers. This may be excellent from the protected producer's standpoint, but when every country tries to play the game, as at present, stalemate results.

"Income-tax, Super-tax, and Corporation Profits Tax." By Ernest Evan Spicer, F.C.A., and Ernest C. Pegler, F.C.A. Seventh edition (revised and enlarged). H. Foulks Lynch and Co., Limited, 1921. Price 18s.

THIS valuable handbook, which has hitherto been known under the title "Income-Tax in Relation to Accounts," has been brought up to date with the most recent Finance Acts, and now has a chapter upon corporation profits tax. It contains an adequate description of the personal aspects of taxation relating to the returns of individual incomes and the personal allowances, but the special feature of the work is that in addition to the ordinary treatment of principles under Shedule D, it devotes much space to the actual practical computation of liability by analysis of specimen accounts. Most handbooks do not go beyond the statement of items which are respectively to be allowed or disallowed, but here every important point has a concrete illustrative example. At the outset there is a comparison between the rival methods of presenting accounts to the Revenue: (a) the ordinary account with a special account adding back the disallowed items to the net balances, and (b) the expurgated account, from which all disallowable items have been removed, so that the balance of the account shall show the balance taxable. Although both lead to the same result, the former is, rightly, preferred. Special illustrative accounts show how rent and interest must be treated, and there is more real help under this difficult head than can be found elsewhere. The allocation of tax between partners is also very well illustrated. Special paragraphs deal with the peculiar difficulties of breweries, insurance companies, schools, solicitors, stock-jobbers, and underwriting syndicates. The manual can be recommended as thoroughly sound and practical for all business accountants, as well as for individual taxpayers.

"The Bankers' Almanac and Year Book, 1921-22." (London) Thomas Skinner and Co. 42s net.

PARTICULARS of upwards of 3,000 institutions are given in this fresh edition of the "Bankers' Almanac," which is an increase of 600 over and above the undertakings detailed a year ago. This issue bears evidence of much careful revision, and considering the extensive nature of the ground covered by such a valuable work of reference, the information given has been fairly well brought up to date. In the preface it is pointed out that a year ago a Bill was being prepared by the Government to deal with the question, "What is a bank?" The Bill has been shelved, "but while the claims of business men, including bankers, to be free from governmental control must receive acknowledgment, it seems regrettable that legislation is still wanting in this country to protect the public from spurious and speculative concerns under the guise of 'bankers' or some cognate designation." It is observed that from time to time suggestions are put forward "to establish a sort of reciprocity in banking between Great Britain and other countries," and it is remarked that "any foreign bank can open a branch in London, while London banks are not permitted to establish branches in foreign countries." The writer continues "that in spite of handicaps of this nature, British banking institutions have been able to effect arrangements for international transactions which operate very effectively; on the other hand, it is acknowledged that London's position as financial centre of the world (which has been maintained in spite of the war's upheavals) would not have been so solidly established had it not been for the 'free trade' policy which permitted foreign banks to open branches here. In this connection it may be remarked during the recent crises several countries overseas have had reason to be thankful for the presence of foreign banking elements within their midst. When local institutions were embarrassed by the dramatic fall in value of commodities which had been accepted as security for advances, British and other foreign institutions have performed invaluable services."

BOOKS RECEIVED.

The Economic Journal. December, 1921. (London) Macmillan and Co., Limited. 6s.
Universal Exchange and Interest Tables. By A. J. Lawson. (London) Thomas Skinner and Co. 15s net.

Economic Consequences of the War for India. By S. G. Panandikar. (Bombay) D. B. Taraporevala, Sons, and Co., 190, Hornby road. Rs.6.
Price Changes and Business Prospects. By Leonard P. Ayres. (Cleveland, Ohio) Cleveland Trust Company.
Banque Hypothécaire Nationale. Rapport sur les Opérations de l'Année, 1920. (Buenos Aires) Ministry of Finance.

BANK CIRCULAR.

Monthly Review. December, 1921. (London) London and River Plate Bank, Limited.

BARCLAYS BANK

LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

The Bank has close working arrangements with Agents and Correspondents in all the principal towns throughout the world, and is in a position to offer complete banking facilities to merchants and others for the transaction of

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF OVERSEAS BUSINESS.

Foreign Exchange transactions arranged.

Chief Foreign Branch - 168, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C.3
West End Foreign Branch - 1, Pall Mall East, S.W.1
Liverpool Foreign Branch - 42, Castle Street, Liverpool.
Manchester Foreign Branch Corner York St. & Fountain St., Manchester.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. ACCOUNT.
December 29. December 30.

Close approach of the Christmas holiday led to contraction of business in the Stock Exchange, though in the gilt-edged market the strength of prices was maintained surprisingly well, having regard to the extent of the previous advances. Some firms of dealers are said to have done 1,500 to 2,000 bargains per diem in this market during the busiest days. New issues are not so conspicuous this week. It is known that many are being carried over for the early part of the New Year. The India 5½ per cent. scrip gained a premium of about ¾ per cent., while for the new Auckland City sixes there was a strong demand up to 1½ premium. The price of the War Loan touched 92½ before it suffered reaction. It may be pointed out that the loan is now only 2½ points below the price at which it was issued five years ago. The various scrip stocks of the new loans, Colonial and Corporation, have advanced with the rest. Scores of rises are recorded this week in the lists of Home Railway prior-charge stocks. It is interesting to recall that when the Bootle and Wallasey 6 per cent. loans came out at 95 the prices of both fell to about 5 discount, whereas at the present time they stand at 5 premium.

German bonds recovered on the political developments, and French bonds are also firmer on the week. Norwegian sixes strengthened substantially, the buying evidently based upon the fact of the first coupon payment being close at hand. South American bonds are generally steady, and the advance in Russians continues, several of the Russian Government, municipal, and railway-guaranteed loans being quoted a point or two better, upon demand said to emanate from French sources.

Home Railway stocks strengthened here and there, in consequence of the overflow of investment demand from the more gilt-edged markets. Several of the preferred stocks are better. Underground income bonds went ahead, though Districts gave way after their sharp rise of last week. Canadian Pacific and Grand Trunk prior-charge stocks have improved, while Mexicans are neglected and Argentines have been disposed to droop, owing to the issue of the new Buenos Ayres Western 4 per cent. debenture stock, for the underwriting of which there was keen competition. Brazilian Rails are better, on the assumption that the long-deferred permission to raise rates will be granted immediately.

There is nothing doing in rubber shares, owing to the lack of resilience in the price of the produce. The oil market has been busily employed with dealings in the Mexican Eagle coupons. These are payable at 3s 9½d at the company's bankers, but can be sold for about 8d per share more to people who buy them for shipment to America. The Mexican Eagle report aroused no enthusiasm, and business has been on the quiet side, the market being disposed to horseplay in order to while away the time before the holiday. The dramatic rise in tea shares of the past few weeks has brought in sellers, with

the usual effect upon prices. Shortage of stock is evident in the market for shares in the drapery and stores section, causing rises in Army and Navy, Barkers, Aerated Bread, Lyons, and several others of the same kind. Forestal Lands have more than recovered from the fall produced by the interim dividend having been passed. There is nothing much doing amongst textiles. Allsopps gave way on the report and reduction in the dividends on ordinary and preference. Some of the cable stocks are better, Anglo-Americans and the Eastern group both improving, while the interim dividend of 5 per cent. on Marconis served to stiffen the price of the company's shares. The banking market is quiescent; discount shares maintain their rises, on the hopes of increased dividends. Movements amongst insurance shares are mixed, though rises preponderate. Further improvements occurred in several of the best-known shipping descriptions.

Declaration of the usual December dividends served to keep Kaffirs tolerably steady in the face of another fall in the price of gold. The latter, however, is of sufficient consequence to check any buying which there might be otherwise on the part of the public. The Chartered report is to be issued at the end of next week. De Beers moved erratically, with the price keeping to the firmer side on balance. The rise in tin has halted, and in consequence some of the Malayan tin shares are not quite so good as they were. Mount Elliotts fell ros. on the meeting last Tuesday. A little speculation in Colombian Mining shares served to advance the price. In Mexican and other mining markets business has drifted to something like a full stop.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital.	Cash Subscription.	First Payment.	Further Liability.
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	370,141,418	..	..

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£1,024,990
Further receipts	37,327
5½% 1923 receipts to December 10, 1921	1,062,317
Week to December 17, 1921 (new series)	151,504,459
Receipts to date	6,500,740
158,005,199	

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 17, 1921.	
April 1 to December 17, £5,680,000	550,000 .. 550,000

To the Public—	
Croydon Corporation, £500,000 6% ..	
Red. Stock (red. at par, 1937-47), issued at 99½ (Dec. 19)	500,000 .. 497,500 .. 25,000 .. 472,500
Total offered to public	.. 497,500 .. 25,000 .. 472,500

To Shareholders only—	
Akoko Main Reef, 200,000 1s, at 1s 6d	10,000 .. 15,000 .. 5,000 .. 10,000
Total offered to shareholders ..	.. 15,000 .. 5,000 .. 10,000

Total offered for subscription to date ..	
Total offered for subscription for whole year—	
1921	£377,741,985
1920	365,672,862
1919	1,035,794,150
1918	1,358,840,901
1917	1,318,596,010
1916	585,436,850
1915	685,236,326
1914	685,236,326
1913	512,522,633
1912	512,522,633
1911	196,536,980

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Issued at £99 per cent and repayable at par on May 15, 1930. Interest payable half-yearly on May 15th and November 15th. Full particulars of this issue will be found in the *Economist* for December 3rd (see page 986).

Croydon Corporation.—Issue of £500,000 6 per cent redeemable stock, 1937-1947, at £99 10s per cent. The corporation has the option of redeeming the issue at par on or after January 1, 1937, on giving three months' notice, or the stock will be definitely redeemed at par on January 1, 1947. The Ministry of Health requires the corporation to make annual provision by means of a sinking fund for redemption, and the stock will rank *pari passu* with all other loans of the corporation. Total outstanding debt amounts to £2,670,852, against which the corporation holds "reproductive works" of a cost of £2,175,453. The proceeds of the issue will be applied for "water, electricity, street works, and other purposes." An excellent trustee investment.

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Date of Payment.	Method of Payment.	Lat'st Year.	Pre-vious Year.
Railways.					
Arica and Tacna.....	13%	Dec. 30	Less tax	3/ p.s.	Nil
Northern Pacific.....	13%	Feb. 1	..	..	..
Victoria Station and Pimlico.....	4 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Banks.					
Bank of New Zealand.....	1/2 p.s.*	Dec. 20	..	16	16
Bank of Nova Scotia.....	4 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Industrial Bank of Japan.....	3 %	Jan. 3	..	..	..
Molsons Bank.....	10 1/2 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Tata Industrial Bank.....	2 1/2 %	Dec. 21	..	..	..
Ulster Bank.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Western Australian Bank.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Insurance.					
National Insurance of N. Zealand.....	1/3 p.s.	(bonus)	9 p.s.	182	161
Western Alliance Reinsurance.....	2 1/2 %	Dec. 31	Less tax	..	..
Mining.					
Brakpan.....	15 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
City Deep.....	17 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Consolidated Langlaagte.....	7 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Consolidated Main Reef.....	5 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Crown Mines.....	2 1/2 %	Jan. 7	Less tax	..	..
Gopeng Consolidated.....	30 %	Feb. 12	Less tax	..	..
Government Gold Mining.....	30 %	Jan. 12	Less tax	4/ p.s.	4/ p.s.
Kalguni Gold.....	12 1/2 p.s.	Jan. 16	..	..	..
Kerr Lake.....	7 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Langlaagte Estate.....	50 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Meyer and Charlton.....	10 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Modderfontein.....	50 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
New Era Consolidated.....	7 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
New Modderfontein.....	50 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
New Primrose.....	7 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
New Unifed.....	5 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Nourse.....	3 1/2 %	Jan. 10	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Ouro Preto Gold.....	30 %	Jan. 20	..	..	..
Pontgland Silver Lead.....	60 p.s. p.s.	Dec. 20	..	..	..
Rand Mines.....	35 %	Feb. 10	Subject to tax	..	..
Rand Selection.....	12 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Robinson Gold.....	1 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Rose Deep.....	7 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
South African Coal.....	9 p.s.	Jan. 16	Less tax	..	..
South Kalguni Cons.....	7 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Springs.....	30 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Van Ryn Deep.....	6 1/2 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Village Deep.....	15 %	Feb. 3	Subject to tax	..	..
Witwatersrand Gold.....	5 %	Dec. 22	..	10	10
Tea and Rubber.					
Bogawantalawa Tea.....	5 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Darjeeling Cons. Tea.....	5 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Elmhurst (Ceylon) Tea and Rubber.....	..	..	Less tax	8	6
Galaha, Pref.....	2 1/2 %	Jan. 21	Less tax	..	..
Grand Central.....	7 1/2 %	Jan. 14	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Lumut Rubber.....	2 1/2 %	Jan. 25	Less tax	..	..
Nagolle (Ceylon).....	2 1/2 %	..	Less tax	..	..
Sembilan, Pref.....	5 %	Dec. 23	Less tax	..	..
Sungei Salak Rubber.....	..	..	Less tax	15	15
Other Companies.					
Agar, Cross, and Co.....	4 p.s.	Jan. 16	Tax free	7 1/2	10
Alexandria Water.....	3 %	..	Tax free	6	6
Anglo-American Oil.....	1 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..
Atlas Steel Foundry.....	4 p.s.	..	Tax free	..	..
Australian Pastoral.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Beal Spinning.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Bee Spinning.....	..	..	..	..	..
Beeston Brewery.....	..	..	..	..	..
Blackpool Winter Gardens.....	..	..	..	..	..
Blumen Brs.....	15 %	..	..	..	..
"Bodega," Pref.....	5 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..
Bradbury, Greatorex, Pref.....	5 %	Jan. 14	..	..	..
British Steamship.....	10 p.s.	Dec. 22	Tax free	..	..
Burmah Electric Trams, Pref.....	6 %	..	..	..	..
C. and E. Morton, Pref.....	6 %	Jan. 14	..	..	..
Charles Marnden and Sons.....	..	..	..	..	..
City and General Properties.....	6 1/2 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..
Consolidated London Properties.....	4 %	..	Less tax	..	..
Edward and John Burke.....	18 %	..	Less tax (3 years' arrears)	..	..
Ferranti, Pref.....	12 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Fox Spinning.....	..	..	..	..	..
Frank Myatt.....	7 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Halford Cycle and Croftfield, Pref.....	10 %	Dec. 31	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..
Harrisons and Croftfield, Pref.....	10 %	..	..	..	..
Hazelwood Shipping.....	1/6 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Huggins and Co.....	7 1/2 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..
Hughes-Johnson Stampings.....	5 %	..	..	..	..
Imperial Colonial Finance.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Isles Steam Shipping.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
J. and E. Hall.....	..	..	..	..	..
Kelly's Directories.....	10 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..
London Cremation.....	10 %	..	..	..	..
Manila Electric Corporation.....	19 1/2 %	Jan. 2	..	..	..
Marconi's Wireless Telegraph.....	5 %	Feb. 1	Less tax	..	..
Mexican Eagle Oil.....	19 1/2 %	Jan. 3	..	..	..
Mississippi River Power, Pref.....	1 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Newcastle Batteries.....	5 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..
New Investment.....	8 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
North-Eastern Breweries.....	5 %	..	..	..	..
Officers' Brewery.....	5 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Samuel Allsopp and Sons, Ptg. Pref.....	3 1/2 %	..	..	..	..
Do Ord.....	..	..	..	..	..
Do Funded Inc. Certs.....	..	..	..	..	..
Seabrooke and Sons.....	..	..	..	..	..
Sena Sugar Company.....	7 1/2 %	..	Tax free	..	..
South Australian Company.....	20 p.s.	Jan. 14	Tax free	..	..
South Shields Gas, Cons. & New Do Ord.....	4 1/2 %	Dec. 20	Less tax	..	..
Slaters.....	2 1/2 %	Dec. 30	..	..	..
Stag Line.....	..	..	..	..	..
Stoll Film.....	..	..	..	..	..
Stoll Picture Theatre.....	10 %	..	..	..	..
Tamplin and Sons Brewery.....	10 p.s.	..	..	..	..
Tecla, Pref.....	..	..	..	..	..
Thornton, Smith.....	..	..	..	..	..
Thornwall's Brewery.....	..	..	..	..	..
United Alkali, Cum. Pref.....	..	..	..	..	..
Victoria Falls and Transvaal Power, Pref.....	6 %	Jan. 7	Less tax	..	..
Yorkshire Dyeware & Chemical.....	2 1/2 %	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..

(a) Increased capital.

ANGLO-PERSIAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA.—It has been decided not to pay a dividend for the half-year ending December 31st. The 5 per cent. interim dividend paid on June 30th last will, therefore, constitute the dividend for the year. The corporation has agreed, if and when called upon, to afford the Consolidated Diamond Mines of South-West Africa certain financial assistance. For this reason the directors consider it advisable to conserve the cash resources of the corporation. For the previous year a dividend of 10 per cent. was paid. Nissen James Pascal, Larmer, state that, having regard to the probability of a loss on the year's trading, they have decided to postpone a decision as to the payment of the six months' dividend due January 1st on the 8 per cent. preferred ordinary shares until the accounts of the company have been made up for the year 1921, and the actual position ascertained. The dividend being cumulative, payment of any arrears will be made at the earliest possible date. PROVINCIAL CINEMATOGRAHS THEATRES.—The trading results for the year to date do not justify the payment of the dividend for the last half of the year on the 10 per cent. cumulative preferred ordinary shares.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

War	Price Last Week.	Price This Week.	Local Loans	Price Last Week.	Price This Week.
War (3 1/2 %), 1925-28.....	90 1/2	90 1/2	Local Loans 3 1/2 %.....	56 1/2	56 1/2
War (4 1/2 %), 1925-45.....	82 1/2	83 1/2	Aust. 5 1/2 % deba. 1922-27.....	97 1/2	97 1/2
Loans (5 %), 1923-47.....	91 1/2	91 1/2	Canada 4 1/2 % 1920-25.....	97 1/2	97 1/2
India 3 1/2 % Stock.....	58 1/2	58 1/2	India 3 1/2 % Stock.....	58 1/2	58 1/2
Funding Loan 4 %.....	74 1/2	75 1/2	Do 7 % Stock.....	104 1/2	104 1/2
Victory Bonds 4 %.....	79 1/2	80 1/2	N.S.W. 5 1/2 %, 1922-27.....	95 1/2	95 1/2
Conversion Loan 3 1/2 %.....	65 1/2	66 1/2	U.S.A. 4 1/2 %, 1920-25.....	93 1/2	94 1/2
Consols 2 1/2 %.....	50 1/2	50 1/2	Victoria 5 1/2 %, 1924-34.....	93 1/2	94 1/2
Irish Land Stock 2 1/2 %.....	51 1/2	51 1/2			

Banks.

Barclays B (£1, f.p.d.) 2 1/2 %.....	2 1/2 %	2 1/2 %	Nat. Bank of Egypt (£10).....	18 1/2	18 1/2
Lloyds (£5 with £1 paid) 2 1/2 %.....	2 1/2 %	2 1/2 %	Nat. Bank of S. Africa (£10).....	11 1/2	11 1/2
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with £2 paid) 7 %.....	7 %	7 %	Nat. Prov. & Union of England (£20 with £4 paid).....	9 1/2	9 1/2
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with £5 paid) 14 1/2 %.....	14 1/2 %	14 1/2 %	Standard of S. Africa (£20 with £5 paid).....	11 1/2	11 1/2

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

Antofagasta Cons.....	42	42	Grand Trunk 3rd Pref. 3 1/2 %.....	3 1/2	3 1/2
B. A. & Pacific.....	35	34	Leopoldina.....	22	23 1/2
B. A. & Southern.....	52	52	Mexican Railway.....	14	13
Buenos Ayres West.....	49	50 1/2	Do 1st Pref.....	38	36
Canadian Pacific.....	144 1/2	142	Do 2nd Pref.....	25	23
Central Argentine.....	46 1/2	47	San Paulo.....	104 1/2	107
Grand Trunk Ord.....	1 1/2	1 1/2	United Havana.....	44 1/2	44

Foreign Government Securities.

Argentine 5 %, 1886-7.....	97 1/2	97 1/2	Italian 3 1/2 % Rentes.....	22	22
Belgian 5 %.....	63	64	Greek Monopoly 4 %.....	31 1/2	31 1/2
Brazil 5 % Fund, 1914.....	65	65	Japanese 4 1/2 %.....	106	105 1/2
Chilean 4 1/2 %, 1895.....	67	67	Do 4 1/2 %, 1910.....	63	62 1/2
Chinese 5 %, 1912.....	67	68	Mexican Cons. 1893.....	63	62
Egyptian 4 %.....	61 1/2	61 1/2	Pernian Corp. Pref.....	16	16
French 5 %.....	41	40 1/2	Russian 5 %, 1906.....	10 1/2	11 1/2
Do 4 %.....	32	32 1/2	Spanish 4 %.....	72 1/2	72 1/2

Telegraphs.

Anglo-American "A".....	18 1/2	18 1/2	Marconi Canada.....	1 1/2	1 1/2
Eastern Telegraph.....	16 1/2	16 1/2	Marconi Marine.....	1 1/2	1 1/2
Marconi Wireless.....	13 1/2	14 1/2			

British Railways.

Great Central Pref.....	8 1/2	8 1/2	L. and N. W.....	69 1/2	70
Great Eastern.....	27 1/2	27 1/2	L. & S. Western, Def. 18 1/2 %.....	25	26
Great Northern Def.....	23 1/2	23 1/2	Metropolitan.....	21	21
Great Western.....	71	72 1/2	Metropolitan District 21.....	21	21
Lancs. and Yorks.....	50	50	Midland Deferred.....	42 1/2	43 1/2
London, Brighton, "A".....	38 1/2	38 1/2	North British Def.....	29	29
London, Chatham.....	5 1/2	5 1/2	North-Eastern.....	7 1/2	7 1/2
Do Arb. Pref.....	37	37	South-Eastern "A".....	21 1/2	22 1/2

American Railroads.

Chesapeake & Ohio.....	66	66	Southern.....	22	22
Erie.....	13	13	Do Non-cum Pref.....	54	53
Do 4 % 1st Pref.....	19	19			

Miscellaneous.

Aerated Bread (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Lever Bros 7 % Cmp (£1) 15/6.....	15/6	15/6
Armstrong (Sir W. G.).....	14 1/2	15	Do 8 % Cmp A Pr (£1) 15/6.....	15/6	15/6
Ass. Pind. Cement (£1) 13/4.....	13/4	13/4	Do 20 % Cmp P (Ord) (5) 8/9.....	8/9	8/9
B'ham Small Arms (£1) 8/5.....	8/5	8/5	Lister (£1).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
Brazil Traction (£100) 32 1/2.....	32 1/2	31 1/2	Lobitos Oilfields (£1).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
British American Tobacco (£1).....	3 1/2	3 1/2	Lyons (J.) & Co. (£1).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1).....	1	1	Magadi Soda (£1 Ord.).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Burmah Oil (£1).....	6 1/2	5 1/2	Mexican Eagle (£10).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
Coats (J. and P.) (£1).....	2 1/2	2 1/2	North Caucasian (10).....	3 1/2	3 1/2
Courtaulds (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Pekin (2).....	3 1/2	3 1/2
Cunard (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Rubber Plantations Investment (£1).....	3 1/2	3 1/2
Dorman, Long (£1).....	3 1/2	3 1/2	Shell Transport (£1).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
Dunlop Rubber (£1).....	3 1/2	3 1/2	Smithfield Argentine Meat (£1).....	3 1/2	3 1/2
Fine Cotton Spinners (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Underground Electric (£10).....	2	2
Forestal Land (£1).....	1	1	Do "A" (1).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Furness, Withy (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Do Inc. Bds. (£100) 76.....	76	75 1/2
Highlands and Low- lands Rubber (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	United Berdang (2).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Hudson's Bay (£1).....	5 1/2	5 1/2	United Tobacco (£1).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Imperial Tobacco (£1).....	2 1/2	2 1/2	Urul Caspian (£1).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
International Paint (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Vallambrosa (2).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
Linggi Plants (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Vickers (£1).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
Lipton (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Watney Def. Bk.	137 1/2	139 1/2

Mines.

Brakpan (£1).....	2 1/2	2 1/2	Knights.....	3 1/2	3 1/2
Broken Hill Prop. (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Modderfontein (10).....	5 1/2	5 1/2
Chartered (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Modderfontein, "B" (5).....	1 1/2	1 1/2
Cons. Gold Fields (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Modderfontein, Deep (5).....	2 1/2	2 1/2
Crown Mines (100).....	1 1/2	1 1/2	Premier Def. (2).....	4 1/2	4 1/2
De Beers Def. (£2 1/2).....	9 1/2	9 1/2	Rand Mines (5).....	2 1/2	2 1/2
East Rand Prop. (£1).....	2 1/2	2 1/2	Rio Tinto (£5).....	28 1/2	27
Geduld (£1).....	2 1/2	2 1/2	Spring Mines (£1).....	1 1/2	1 1/2
Jov. Gold Areas (£1).....	4 1/2				

REFINERY AT LLANDARCY NEARLY COMPLETED.

As mentioned in the report, the refinery of the National Oil Refineries, Limited, at Llandarcy, is now nearly completed. It has been in partial operation since July last, and I am pleased to say that the results we are obtaining are even more favourable than our anticipations.

I may take this opportunity of saying that there is no foundation whatever for the fantastic figures which have from time to time appeared in the Press as to the amount of capital we have expended on this refinery. While the refinery represents the last word in the scientific and economic treatment of petroleum—comprising, as it does, not only the best of the known processes and methods of refining, but also some entirely new and valuable ones which have been evolved by our own research chemists—the capital expenditure involved in it is only a mere fraction of some of the wild sums which have been named, and it is more than justified by the returns we are now getting.

I should like to add that the plant is running at 30 per cent. in excess of its estimated capacity, and that its capacity can be largely added to at small cost, and that the petrol and lamp oil produced from it are the best qualities now on the market.

RESEARCH WORK.

I may take this opportunity of mentioning also that we have for some years past had a research laboratory of our own under the charge of a staff of research chemists possessing high qualifications, and that this staff are constantly engaged, in conjunction with our engineering staff, in solving the numerous problems involved in the refining of petroleum and in obtaining from the crude oil products of the very best quality. The results of their research work have, I am pleased to say, been most valuable, and have led to the adoption of many improvements in our refineries.

THROUGHPUT OF REFINERIES AT ABADAN.

In the period under review the throughput of our extensive refineries at Abadan show a very satisfactory increase over that for the previous year. To give you some idea of the magnitude of Abadan, I may mention that the refinery and township cover an area of over two square miles, and that a further large area, about three miles lower down the river, is being rapidly developed for the storage and shipment of the more dangerous oils. When the extensions in hand and contemplated are completed, it will rank as one of the largest, if not the largest, single refinery in the world.

Mr Nicholas, one of our managing directors, visited Persia during the year, and has returned with gratifying accounts as to the progress of the developments and as to the great potentialities of the present producing fields.

DISTRIBUTING ORGANISATIONS.

Our two organisations in the United Kingdom—the British Petroleum Company and the Scottish Oil Agency—have been largely extended during the year, and the petrol and lamp oil now being marketed by them are largely of our own production, and before long we hope to be in a position to supply them with their entire requirements of these two products. Further augmentations are still being carried out, and when these are all completed we shall have as complete and well-equipped an organisation as any in the country, and be in a position to meet all demands.

FRANCE.

Our French organisation—the Société Générale des Huiles de Pétrole—which now has a capital of 220,000,000 francs, is proceeding rapidly with the erection of installations, and has, as mentioned in the report, recently acquired three established businesses of considerable importance, through which it has now entered the French market.

BELGIUM, DENMARK, AND NORWAY.

In Belgium, Denmark, and Norway we have also acquired interests which will enable us before long to commence trading operations in these countries, and negotiations are proceeding for acquiring similar interests in other countries.

AUSTRALIA.

As regards Australia, a suitable site for a refinery has been acquired by the Commonwealth Oil Refineries, Limited, and the building of the refinery has now been commenced.

ARGENTINE.

In the Argentine we have acquired important interests in two companies which hold large areas in the Comodoro Rivadavia, Neuquen and other fields. Six test wells are being put down in the first of these fields, and we have just received advice that one

of them has already struck oil, but the capacity of the well has not yet been ascertained owing to a temporary plugging. In the other fields two test wells are about to be commenced.

EGYPT.

In Egypt we have acquired the concession of a considerable area on the Sinai Peninsula, on which we are now putting down a test well. Although we are still a long way from the depth at which our geologists anticipated oil would be struck, we have had favourable indications in the form of gas. If this should prove a successful field, it would be a very valuable addition to our Eastern sources of supply.

PERSIAN FIELDS STILL MAINTAINING HIGH RATE OF PRODUCTION.

I have great pleasure in reporting that our Persian fields are still maintaining their high rate of production, and that further areas of oil-bearing territory have been proved.

I have often referred to our well F7, from which we have been getting our main production for a number of years. You will be interested to learn that the total production from this well during the past ten years has been 4,000,000 tons, or 26,000,000 barrels, and that it is now giving a yield of 2,000 tons, or 13,000 barrels per day, which is considerably more than the average during the period I have referred to. This increase in the daily yield is not, of course, due to an increase in the volume of oil available, but to the fact that we are not now shutting the well in as much as we did formerly. So far as my knowledge goes, no other well of equal producing capacity and continuity has ever been known in any field producing light gravity crude, and, as I have said before, we believe we have many other as good, or better, wells.

LOW COST OF PRODUCTION.

It is perhaps needless to point out that this high rate of production—and the fact that our oil is all obtained from flowing wells, or “spouters”—means a very low producing cost—probably not a tithe of the average cost obtaining in other fields yielding light gravity oil of equal quality.

This low producing cost and the unusually large proportion of the more valuable products contained in our crude—in this respect our crude is probably superior to that of any other field in the world from which large productions are obtained excepting Burmah—gives us, of course, a great advantage over other producers.

INCREASED PRODUCTION DURING THE YEAR.

With the coming into operation of portions of our extensions to pipe lines, pumping stations and refineries we were able to increase the production from our wells to some extent during the year under review. A further increase is being effected in the current year, but the full effect of our extensions will not be shown until the completion of our new 12-inch line and the necessary additions to the pumping stations, when our production will probably amount to no less than 2½ times as much as in the year for which you now have the accounts before you.

ELECTRIC POWER STATION AT TEMBI COMPLETE.

Among our many developments is a large electric power station which has been recently completed at Tembi, the electrical energy from which is now being utilised at Maidan-i-Naftun and Maidan-i-Naftek for drilling and other purposes, whereby a considerable economy in our working costs has been effected. Large new workshops, stores, &c., are also in course of erection, and mechanical transport for material and men has been greatly augmented.

Transport to and from the fields has been one of our greatest difficulties, and to overcome this the construction of a railway from the riverhead to the fields, estimated to cost £500,000, has been sanctioned, and the work is now in progress.

FLEET.

As regards our fleet, in view of the considerable decline in the cost of shipbuilding and of the much larger supply of tanker tonnage now available in the open market, we and our associated companies have deemed it wise to cancel such of our outstanding orders as can be so dealt with on satisfactory terms, so that we may be free to take advantage of the lower costs and/or time charter rates likely to be ruling in the near future. The present fleet and the boats coming into commission and to be delivered during the next twelve months will amply suffice for our requirements in the immediate future, and such further additions as may be necessary will be made from time to time as required. It will interest you to know that the total fleet owned or managed by our subsidiary and associated concerns—including river and coastal craft—now numbers 150 vessels.

POLITICAL SITUATION.

As regards the political situation, for the first time on record I regret to have to report that a difference of opinion has arisen between the Persian Government and ourselves in connection with

some concessions in Northern Persia which were acquired by us from the original concessionaire about a couple of years ago.

As you will no doubt have noticed from the references to this matter which have appeared in the Press, the Persian Government have, on quite untenable grounds, declared that these concessions, which were quite legitimately granted and acquired, and which have on many occasions since they were originally granted been recognised and acted upon by them, are now invalid, and that they have been in negotiation with another company for the grant to it of a new concession covering the same areas and also two additional provinces.

AN ILL-ADVISED ACTION.

While fully sympathising with the present financial and other difficulties which have doubtless led to this step, I must—as a well-known and staunch friend of Persia, and one who has done much to help it both financially and politically—express my most profound astonishment that the present Government should have been so ill-advised as to attempt confiscatory action of this nature; because Persia's future is dependent entirely upon financial assistance from other countries—either in the form of loans or of capital for its industrial development—and if it once establishes a reputation for repudiating contractual obligations its credit abroad will be destroyed for ever. I cannot believe that the Persian Government will deliberately commit their country to so suicidal a policy, and I am confident that they will before long see that they have no alternative, if they desire to maintain the credit of Persia in this or any other country, but to honour the signatures and commitments of their predecessors.

I may add that one of the signatures which is being repudiated is that of a former Prime Minister, who happens also to be a brother of the present Prime Minister. This gentleman, for whom I have the highest respect, was cognisant of the negotiations for the sale of the concessions to us, and was, in fact, the principal guest at a dinner, at which I also was present, given by Mr Khostaria in London to celebrate the conclusion of the negotiations. I would like to know the views of this gentleman, who is, I believe, still in London, on the action of his Government, and what steps he proposes taking to secure recognition by them of his acts and deeds and to deny the statement put forward by them that the concessions were obtained by coercion.

In the south—that is, in the area of the D'Arcy Concession—we are experiencing no trouble whatever, and our friendly relations with the various tribal chiefs remain undisturbed.

OIL RIGHTS IN MESOPOTAMIA.

Last year I referred to the misconceptions which existed, and to which some measure of publicity had been given in the Press of this country and in America, in regard to the oil rights in Mesopotamia, and also in regard to the attempts of this country to secure a more adequate share of the world's stores of oil.

As regards the question of Mesopotamia, this has, as you know, since formed the subject of diplomatic correspondence between the two countries, and it would be out of my province to deal with it here; but I would like to say that in this matter, and in regard to oil questions generally, our relations with the Standard Oil Company are of a perfectly friendly nature, and that there is not the slightest ground for suggesting, as has been done in some quarters, that these or any other questions are likely to lead to any serious dispute between the two concerns.

APPRECIATION OF THE STAFF.

Gentlemen, I would like you to again join me in expressing our great appreciation of the services of our staff. When I speak of “our staff” I mean, of course, not only the staff of the Anglo-Persian Company, but the staffs of all our associated companies—in this country, Persia, and all other parts of the world.

As I mentioned last year, we have around us the finest and most enthusiastic body of workers possessed by any oil company in the world, and their enthusiasm and readiness to sacrifice themselves for the welfare of the company grow each year with the company's success.

EMPLOYEES NUMBER FIFTY THOUSAND.

It will be a matter of interest to you to know that the company and its subsidiaries is now giving employment to something like 50,000 people, and that out of this number no fewer than 20,000 are employed in the United Kingdom alone. The latter figure is one that cannot even be approached by any other oil company trading in this country, and it is a matter of great satisfaction to us that the policy which we have been following of creating a British oil industry should not only have been beneficial to the company, but should also have provided employment for such a large body of British workers, the majority of whom would otherwise doubtless have to-day been ranked among the unemployed.

NEW LONDON PREMISES.

In London our staff has grown to such large proportions that it has been necessary to accommodate them in a number of different buildings in various parts of the City. This obviously has many disadvantages, and to meet the situation we have acquired a large site with frontages on Finsbury circus and Moorgate street on which a suitable building capable of housing our entire staff is now in course of erection.

That finishes my remarks, gentlemen, and I now beg to move: “That the report, balance-sheet, and profit and loss account for the year ended March 31st be received, approved, and adopted.” I regret that Lord Inchcape, owing to his duties on the Super-Axe Committee, has been unable to attend here to-day, as usual, to second this motion, but I have no doubt that Sir Edward Packe, the other Government representative, will be good enough to do so in his place.

Sir Edward H. Packe, K.B.E.: I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman: Before I put the motion I shall be pleased to endeavour to answer any questions any shareholders may like to ask. Well, gentlemen, there appears to be no one who desires to ask any questions, and I will therefore put the motion to the meeting.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

DIVIDEND ON ORDINARY SHARES.

The Chairman: I now beg to propose: “That a dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum, less income-tax, on the ordinary shares in respect of the year ended March 31, 1921, be declared, and that such dividend be paid on a date to be determined by the board.” I will ask Sir John Cargill kindly to second the motion.

Sir John T. Cargill, Bart.: I have much pleasure in seconding the motion.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

RE-ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

The Chairman: The next motion deals with the board of directors. No changes in the board have, I am pleased to say, taken place since we last met. The directors falling due to retire by rotation are Mr F. W. Lund, Mr Frank C. Tiarks, and Sir Trevredyn Wynne, and in view of their good services to the company I am sure it is your wish that they should be re-elected. I therefore now beg to move: “That Mr F. W. Lund, Mr Frank C. Tiarks, and Sir Trevredyn R. Wynne, K.C.S.I., who retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election, be and are hereby re-elected to the board.” I will ask Sir Hugh Barnes kindly to second the motion.

Sir Hugh S. Barnes, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O.: I have much pleasure in seconding that resolution.

The Chairman: Before I put the resolution to the meeting I would like to explain the reasons for the absence of one or two of our colleagues to-day. I have already mentioned the cause of Lord Inchcape's absence. The other absentees are Admiral Sir Edmond Slade, who has just left England on a visit to India and the Persian Gulf, and Sir Trevredyn Wynne, who has taken short leave of absence for the purpose of visiting India and Burma.

The resolution was then unanimously carried.

The Chairman: Will some shareholder kindly propose the usual resolution for the appointment of auditors?

Mr William Hayes: I have much pleasure in proposing, “That Messrs Brown, Fleming and Murray be and are hereby re-appointed auditors for the financial year 1921-1922 at such fee as may be determined by the board.”

The Hon. Bernard Howard: I have pleasure in seconding that.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman: That concludes our business, gentlemen. I beg to thank you for your attendance.

VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr Creighton: I should like to propose a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding to-day and for the very satisfactory report he has given us.

The Hon. Bernard Howard: I second that with much pleasure.

The vote was unanimously accorded.

The Chairman: I have to thank you very warmly, gentlemen, for the kind manner in which the vote has been proposed and passed, and I should like to express the great satisfaction it gives my colleagues and myself at meeting you here to-day with such an extremely satisfactory report and one that gives very great hopes for the future.

The proceedings then terminated.

MEXICAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

MR V. W. YORKE EXPLAINS SCHEME.

CONCESSION GRANTED TO CERTIFICATE HOLDERS.

SCHEME AS AMENDED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

By order of the Court, in the matter of the Mexican Railway Company, Limited, meetings were held, on the 21st instant, at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, of the holders of the 6 per cent. perpetual debenture stock, the holders of the second debentures, the holders of the deferred interest certificates issued in respect of the debenture stock, and holders of the deferred interest certificates issued in respect of interest in the second debentures, with the view of approving a scheme of arrangement. Mr Henry Parkman Sturgis presided.

The Secretary (Mr C. Tennant) read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said that there had been some comment in the newspapers and certain letters received from holders of the deferred interest certificates, and the directors felt that they had the support of the two classes of debenture-holders, and that if there was any opposition to the scheme it would come from the deferred interest certificate-holders. It was therefore thought advisable that the meeting of the certificate-holders should be first held so that Mr Yorke, the chairman of the company, could answer any questions raised before the debenture-holders' meetings were held.

This course was adopted.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he did not propose to offer any remarks upon the scheme or go into any of the questions raised, but would call at once upon Mr Yorke. He would only say as one of the trustees that the trustees had conferred with the directors and had come to the conclusion that, taking into consideration all the varied interests of the different holders of the Mexican Railway securities, they were prepared to endorse the scheme as a proper one to be put before the meeting.

MR YORKE'S STATEMENT.

Mr Vincent W. Yorke (chairman of the company) said that the Mexican Government took over the property in November, 1914, and it remained sequestered in their hands until June, 1920, except about seven months. Since that date the company had operated it themselves. The amount owing on the debenture certificates, with interest added to December 31st, was £1,044,000, and on the second debenture interest certificates £186,000. The result for the two half-years to December and June last were £147,000 and £101,000 respectively, which made the earnings £248,000 for the year, without any credit being taken for profit on exchange. Up to October this year they had earned £119,000, which made £367,000 earned from June of last year, without taking any credit for exchange. In addition, they had received by way of indemnity from the Mexican Government on account of the money they owed to the company, which amounted to £2,500,000, a sum of £100,000, which was collected by the company as an extra 25 per cent. on passenger earnings, that was allowed to be treated as payment on account of the indemnity. Since September they had had an increase in rates of 25 per cent., half of which had to be credited to the indemnity. Though small, this would be useful to them in time. The increase in rates had added very much to their earning power. The returns for September and October amounted to £80,000, or at the rate of £480,000 per annum. In addition to this, an extra 12½ per cent. might be safely estimated—if the volume of traffic was maintained—at £109,000 per annum. He could not, of course, give the slightest guarantee that the earnings would be maintained, but this was the only basis he had to go on. In other words, it was the best estimate he could make of their earning power, and, though the earnings might fall off in the future, it was quite possible they would be maintained, and even improved upon. Thus, they got prospective earnings of £589,000, without allowing for profit on exchange, which, though diminishing, was still a useful factor. Debenture interest would come to £142,000, and corporation profits tax was estimated at £35,500, and this, deducted from the £589,000, left £411,500, which should be the amount per annum available for reduction of the "A" debenture stocks. If this could be maintained, after allowance was made for 20 per cent. which the scheme contemplated should be paid in cash at once, the whole of the balance on the "A" debenture stock should be paid off in two years, and that on the "B" stocks in less than one year after that. The amount of cash in London was £370,000, and under the scheme £60,000 would go out for payment of the first debenture interest. He saw no reason why, if things went on all right, a further £100,000 should

not be paid, if the scheme went through, about March 31st next. The cash in hand might not seem much, in view of the past and present earnings, but he would like to point out that very heavy capital expenditure had been necessary, owing to the disgraceful state in which the railway was handed back to them by the Mexican Government. In considering the figures he had given, he thought he ought to sound a note of warning as to the condition of affairs in Mexico. There were many adverse possibilities in regard to political and labour troubles. There was also a prospect of trade depression.

Dealing with the scheme, he said there was an error in the circular, which stated that if the profits for the half-year only came to £25,000, that would be retained by the company and nothing would go to the trustees.

ERROR IN THE CIRCULAR.

The circular said £25,000 per annum, and he was perfectly willing to make the scheme agree with the circular. The figure chosen was perfectly arbitrary, and would not make much difference. The only idea in putting it in was that in case the Government took over the property again they might have some funds in hand to pay London office expenses. There would be a modification in the resolution to carry that into effect.

As for the rest of the scheme, he did not think much explanation was needed. There had been a great deal of criticism of it, not from debenture-holders but from certificate-holders, and that was all centred on one point, the payment of current interest henceforth on the certificates. An attempt had been made to impute bad faith to the board because of the definite undertaking inscribed on the back of the interest certificates, which restrained the company paying interest on debentures until the certificates had been discharged, but this was a guarantee only for the duration of the scheme, and was not a continuing guarantee. The words were only binding so long as the scheme was in force.

Proceeding to analyse the scheme, he said there had been a good deal of give and take on each side, and he considered the scheme absolutely fair. The position of the company was an extremely enviable one compared with other railways in Mexico. He had no hesitation in recommending the scheme.

CERTIFICATE-HOLDERS' CRITICISMS.

Mr Leigh said he had taken counsel's advice and had been advised that the scheme was a breach of the conditions on the certificate. A lot of certificate-holders bought their certificates on the face of that condition. Whatever was done at that meeting the scheme would be opposed as far as possible in the Courts.

Mr Parker said he did not see why the interest, at all events, should not be allowed to accrue.

Mr Baker, who said he represented £70,000 of stock, urged that they should receive 6 per cent. until the interest warrants were paid off.

A number of other shareholders urged that the interest should be paid, and urged the chairman to amend the scheme to that effect.

Mr Yorke said they could not do it.

An amendment was then proposed that the scheme should be adopted, subject to an amendment to the effect that interest be paid on the certificates.

On a vote, 29 voted for the amendment and 94 against. The 29 votes represented £32,789 and the 94 votes represented £143,655. The Chairman declared the amendment lost.

CONCESSION GRANTED.

Mr Yorke said that though the amendment had been lost, they recognised that a great many certificate-holders felt very strongly on the question, and they had decided to propose a concession, namely, to pay 4½ per cent. on the "A" debenture stock certificates until redeemed, and 3 per cent. on the "B" debenture stock certificates until redeemed.

Several stockholders who had voted for the amendment expressed their satisfaction at this announcement, and said that they would withdraw their opposition, the resolution, with this amendment, being unanimously carried.

The resolution for the approval of the scheme, as amended, in accordance with the statement of Mr Yorke, was then put and carried.

At the other meetings the scheme was also approved.

LONDON AND RIVER PLATE BANK, LIMITED.

BOARD'S SOUND AND CAUTIOUS POLICY.

CHAIRMAN'S SURVEY OF CONDITIONS IN SOUTH AMERICA.

The 59th ordinary meeting of shareholders of the London and River Plate Bank, Limited, was held, on the 20th instant, at the offices of the bank, 7 Princes street, London. Mr J. W. Beaumont Pease (the chairman) presided.

The secretary (Mr George H. Smith) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, I will commence my remarks to-day by asking you to go through shortly with me the figures of our balance-sheet. If you will turn to the liabilities side, the first two items of £2,040,000 and £2,100,000 for capital and reserve fund respectively, you will see no change as compared with last year. In the next item acceptances—account branches at £2,870,349, there is a difference of roughly £1,000,000; they are £1,000,000 less this year than last year. The same remark applies to the next item, merchandise credits, which stand this year at £1,215,401, and also to the following item bills advised—drafts in transit, £1,380,340. Our current and deposit accounts at branches stand at £30,001,768, and are also about £1,000,000 less than they appeared in our balance-sheet last year. The current and deposit accounts at head office are £684,328, which is about £200,000 less. The note issue at the Monte Video branch is about the same. Bills for collection, which also appear on the other side of the balance-sheet, stand at £5,847,753, and they are also £3,000,000 less than they were last year. The rebate of interest on bills not due is slightly less.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

The profit and loss account shows £599,924, which is about £130,000 less than last year. In our profit and loss account our gross profit, after providing for bad and doubtful debts, shows a balance of £1,081,785, which is about £200,000 less than last year. The net profit and loss balance you have already seen in the balance-sheet. The balance available amounts to £722,324 10s 9d, before the deduction of the interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. paid in June last. It is now proposed out of the balance to pay a final dividend of 6 per cent., making 12 per cent. for the year against last year's declaration of a final dividend of 9 per cent. That will absorb £122,400, and we propose to credit our contingency reserve account with £160,000, and to carry forward the balance of £317,524 10s 9d.

You will see that we had ample funds to pay a final dividend of 9 per cent., as we did last year, and still have a substantial balance for reserve, or other purposes, but I think you will agree with me that it is a wise and prudent policy in these days, and in conformity with the traditions of this bank, that we should err on the safe side.

The strong position of the bank is illustrated by the large amount of cash held at the different branches; as you have already seen in the balance-sheet, the figures which we have just gone through reflect fairly accurately the trend of business during the last year. They show a reduction in nearly every case, especially in this so in our acceptances and bills, but I may here remark that the comparison between our figures of this year and those of last year are greatly vitiated by the lower rates of exchange at which the figures of this year are converted into sterling. For instance, our current and deposit accounts show an apparent decrease of £7,000,000, but if last year's figures had been converted at the rates of exchange ruling at the end of September this year instead of a decrease our present balance-sheet in this item would have shown an actual increase of nearly £2,000,000.

Increased taxation and salaries, not only in this country, but abroad, are accountable for the large increase in charges of business, although in our sterling balance-sheet, owing to the difference in exchange, an apparent decrease is shown.

TRADE SLUMP AND RATES OF EXCHANGE.

It is common knowledge, however, that prices and business have been declining, culminating in a stagnation of trade which has made the year under review a period of great difficulty for all commercial transactions, and has resulted in many failures and losses. From the consequences of some of these we could not hope to be entirely immune, but our internal position has enabled us to regard our own share of these with equanimity, and the proper caution with which our business has always been conducted has again been justified.

Exchanges have fallen considerably in nearly every country in South America, and with Government restrictions introduced with the ostensible idea of preventing speculation operations have been considerably reduced—in some countries stopped altogether and profits thereby curtailed.

Rates of exchange in Argentina and Uruguay rose very rapidly in the beginning of last year, but have since fallen considerably—this we may perhaps regard as only a passing phase—as the gold held by the Conversion Office in Argentina represents 7½ per

cent. of its note issue, and in Uruguay 90 per cent. of gold is held by the Banco de la Republica against its circulation. Neither country has allowed the export of gold since war broke out.

BRAZILIAN TRADE RETURNS.

In Brazil the official trade returns for the last three years give a fair indication of the adverse balance of trade. In 1919 there was a surplus of exports over imports of £51,908,000; in 1920 that surplus had been converted into a deficiency amounting to £17,484,000; and in the first months of 1921, to July 31st, that deficiency had been reduced to £10,345,000. Since July, however, the exports had again exceeded the imports by some £3,000,000. The total digress from January to September inclusive shows exports at £42,500,000 roughly and imports at £50,000,000, that is to say, a balance against Brazil of about £7,500,000. Brazil depends principally on the value of its chief production—coffee. Recent crops are experiencing the result of heavy frosts of a couple of years ago, which did considerable damage to the plants, which are now only beginning to revive. Germany and Austria, which were large consumers of coffee before the war, and other countries as well, now take very little. In the Argentine, we understand, they have been favoured with good harvests, and prospects for the coming one appear to be good. From a telegram they had received, which was sent off on December 6th, it was estimated that there would be a surplus to export of wheat, including the balance of the old crop, of 3½ million tons, of linseed 700,000 tons, of oats 300,000 tons, and in regard to maize, the prospects are considered excellent, but it is a little too early to be absolutely definite on the point.

BRITISH WORK IN ARGENTINA.

In order to protect producers the Government in the Argentine introduced measures and fixed a minimum price for the export of wheat, which has not been advantageous to the country, as wheat has been obtainable elsewhere on cheaper terms. As a consequence of these measures, the country is left with 750,000 tons available for export, in addition to the new crop ready to be harvested in a few weeks. During the month of October only 10,000 tons of wheat were exported. Locusts have appeared in some parts of the country, but we understand that the damage done by them so far has been slight, although they may do so later on to the maize crop. When I was in Argentina last year I had the opportunity of travelling over many thousands of miles of the British-owned railways in that country. It was impossible not to be impressed with the good work that has been done by the combination of British capital, British engineers, and British management. The engineers have conquered with their railways the difficulties of the Andes, the swamps of Ibicuy, the alluvial earth of the Province of Buenos Aires, and the sands of the deserts, whilst the great Port of Bahia Blanca, with its immense grain elevators, will remain only as one of the many monuments to their skill. The service these railways provide reaches a very high standard of comfort and convenience. As a nation, we have 250 millions of money invested in these lines. An all-round return of 6 per cent. on this capital means, in the shape of interest and dividends, a yearly revenue to come to London of about £15,000,000. But this is not all. The value of coal, rolling stock, and of the thousands of articles exported from Great Britain for the working of the railways is very large, so you will see how very deeply interested are our investors and manufacturers, and as a consequence our bankers also, in their welfare and stability. We bankers are following very carefully the negotiations between the Argentine Government and the various railway companies which have been the subject of so much comment of late, and we feel assured that the outcome will be satisfactory, and that we shall be able to carry on our credit operations in connection with the Argentine in the future with the same confidence as we have been able to do in the past.

In Colombia we are satisfied with the progress made at Bogota, our branch there; and we have been encouraged to open at Medellin, where premises have been secured and a manager appointed.

CONDITIONS IN CHILE.

Chile, like most other countries, has not escaped the bad business conditions which afflict the world generally. Her main commercial movement centres in nitrate of soda, and the year that is now concluding has been one of extreme depression in the trade, following, as it did, a period of prosperity.....

Since the prices were lowered considerable progress has been made with sales, and there is reason to expect a fair consumption in Europe and elsewhere in the coming spring, in view of the more moderate prices. It is noteworthy that in spite of the large monetary values involved and the serious drop in prices, not a single nitrate contract for delivery, so far as I can learn, has failed to be implemented by the purchaser.

Other exports from Chile, such as copper, wheat, barley, oats, have taken place on a moderate scale, and these have been disposed of readily enough on this side, although in falling markets.

The important trade of Chile during the past year has been much restricted, due by much to the paralysation of the nitrate industry, and also because of the low rates of exchange that have ruled. In spite of more than one foreign loan, the rate has fallen to \$40.30 per £, or, say, to less than 6d. per peso.

You will see from our report that we are extending our operations in Chile and opening a branch at Antofagasta. We hope that this city, which is one of increasing importance owing to its position as the gateway for Bolivia, will be a useful and fruitful field for our operations.

THE PAST YEAR.

It is not only in the realms of commerce that 1921 will be remembered as a period of great difficulty. In political, financial, and social spheres the same unrest and uncertainty have prevailed, and although on many tombstones the epitaph of the ancient philosopher might truly be written: "I have lived many years and I have had many troubles, most of which never happened," yet undoubtedly men's minds have been troubled with many real perplexities, and have had to face the realisation of their fears in many respects. These problems and difficulties have affected both nations and individuals in different ways. Some have pinned their faith on wild schemes and revolutionary and undisciplined experiments, resulting in confusion, becoming worse confounded, and providing an object-lesson from which wiser men could take warning. Others have preferred to proceed cautiously on the path of progress to more normal times and with new energy and enterprise, but with the old and well-tried weapons of straight dealing and right thinking to combat the present-day problem. Needless to say, our board and our staff will endeavour to adopt the latter alternative, and if ever they find their way into our ranks—I do not suggest that any can be found—who may be tempted to try rash experiments or who have been influenced by the spirit of unrest so prevalent in the world to use it for selfish ends and to discard sound doctrines, they will not find a congenial atmosphere in this bank.

Mr Herman B. Sim seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Messrs Richard Foster, Herman B. Sim, and Robert A. Thurburn were unanimously re-elected directors of the bank.

A vote of thanks to the managers and staff terminated the proceedings.

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN BANK.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS—DIVIDEND MAINTAINED.

The one hundred and sixtieth half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Western Australian Bank was held on November 2nd at the Banking House, St. George's terrace, Perth, W.A., Sir E. H. Wittenoom, chairman of directors, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and balance-sheet, said it was gratifying to find that the directors were still able to give them the usual dividend of £1 per share, free of dividend duty; and, in addition, they would, of course, note with satisfaction that no less a sum than £33,752 was being carried forward, which was more than sufficient to give them a similar dividend at the end of the next six months. The best evidence of the popularity of the institution was reflected in its deposits, of which there were no less than £3,109,643. This sum was a little less than that of the previous meeting, but when they remembered that the Federal Government floated a £10,000,000 loan within the Commonwealth, they must consider themselves very fortunate in not having their deposits depleted to a much larger extent. They would note that advances were

some £83,000 less than the last statement, but at the same time the directors endeavoured to give all the accommodation they could on reasonable and suitable lines. Until recently the agricultural industry had been on a satisfactory basis, but late developments had altered the position for the worse, and prices for wheat were falling and unsettled. Meantime the season had been most favourable, and there was every indication of a heavy yield of grain, so that it only remained to arrive at remunerative prices and reasonable freights. The markets in connection with the pastoral industry had taken a decided turn for the better, and whilst a large quantity of wool was going into consumption, the prices were satisfactory. Unfortunately the same could not be said of meat, whether at home or abroad, especially frozen meat, which was almost unsaleable in London. As far as the gold industry was concerned, no improvement had taken place. The cost of production continued to be almost prohibitive and the output was decreasing.

The motion was carried.

THE NATIONAL BANK OF SCOTLAND, LIMITED. RESULTS OF THE PAST YEAR.

The annual general meeting of the proprietors of the National Bank of Scotland, Limited, was held, on the 22nd inst., in the Bank's head office in Edinburgh, his Grace the Duke of Montrose, K.T., Governor of the Bank, presiding.

In moving the adoption of the report, as published, His Grace said: The conditions prevailing during the year are reflected in the Bank's deposits, which show an increase of £1,616,000, and now stand at £38,590,000, as compared with £18,116,000 at October, 1914. The money at call and short notice amounts to £10,578,000, being £1,660,000 less, but the liquid position is well maintained in respect that the Treasury bills payable periodically within the next three months amount to £5,005,000.

British Government securities show an increase of almost £938,000, this being accounted for by recent purchases. These securities are entered in the balance-sheet at cost, but the depreciation since the date of purchase is provided for. Our investments in general securities stand at £114,000 less than last year, sales having been made during the period, and these are valued in the balance-sheet at or under the market price ruling at November 1 last. It is gratifying to your board that the securities show a considerable appreciation over last year's prices. The bills discounted to customers stand at £2,268,000, being £118,000 less than last year. The loans against marketable securities, £1,116,000, show little change.

Our advances to customers on current account, now £12,124,000, have fallen by £1,798,000, the lesser trade requirements explaining this decrease.

The Bank's acceptances on behalf of customers and correspondents, £861,000, show a small fall of £37,000.

As regards the Bank's property, two or three purchases were made, the amount running only to a few thousand pounds, however, but the continued high costs for work and material, where alterations were necessary, were a heavier charge. Your directors have set aside £20,000 to property account, and this more than meets the costs of these alterations.

We now come to the profit and loss account, which shows gross profit of £681,455, an increase of £41,450; but this is more than met by a large increase in administrative charges. They stand at £395,997, an increase of £51,300 over last year, and of £227,050 since 1914.

The directors, after providing for a dividend on similar lines to last year, and having made appropriations to property account,

pension fund and Bank's annuity fund, have, as stated, placed £100,000 to the credit of the Bank's reserve fund. Grants to the annuity fund have not hitherto appeared, but your directors have before them the desire to see the annuity to officers' widows and minor children increased, and have this year given tangible proof by a payment to the fund of £15,000, in addition to their usual donation of £800 a year. The capital of the fund now amounts to £223,052.

The claims on the Bank's pension fund have increased, and £25,000 has been transferred to this fund, as against £15,000 last year.

The report was adopted.

RIO DE JANEIRO LAND MORTGAGE AND INVESTMENT AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

ENCOURAGING LAND SALES.

The seventh ordinary general meeting of the Rio de Janeiro Land Mortgage and Investment Agency Company, Limited, was held, on the 21st instant, at 11 Angel court, London, the Earl of Orkney, chairman of the company, presiding.

The secretary (Mr C. N. Cook, A.S.A.A.) read the notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—The share capital of the company remains unaltered at £500,000. The next item refers to the issue of debentures made during the current year. £10,260 has been issued so far, and I should like first to complete my remarks on the balance-sheet before referring to this matter in a more detailed manner. We have next on the debit side "Sundry creditors, including loan," amounting to £26,528 6s 9d, which represents mainly temporary accommodation obtained for the general purposes of this company. The item "Exchange reserve account," £7,291 14s 5d, figures in the balance-sheet because exchange transactions, which show in our books a profit, are not finally adjusted, and we decided that it would be advisable, in view of the difference between the rate of Brazilian exchange ruling at present and the rate of exchange at which our assets stand in the books, to build up a reserve account.

Turning now to the assets side, you will observe that "shares in subsidiary land companies" are represented by the same amount as in last account. The next item, "sundry debtors and advances to subsidiary land companies," namely £41,989 4s 8d, consists mostly of advances to subsidiary companies in Brazil, to enable them to develop their properties. "Investments at cost," £744 7s 6d, represents a small participation in another land company, which promises well. "Cash at bank, at call, and in hand, including foreign currency abroad," requires no special explanation, and the same may be said with reference to the amounts standing for "debenture issue expenses" and "preliminary expenses," which latter amount is the same as last year.

With reference to "administration expenses," these are kept as low as possible, and the total under this heading, less transfer fees and interest received, comes to £4,495 19s 8d, so that there is now standing to the debit of profit and loss account, including the balance from last year, an amount of £8,492 18s 10d.

THE DEBENTURE ISSUE.

I will now refer again to the issue of debentures. I pointed out to you last year that the low rate of Brazilian exchange then ruling is not a disadvantage for us, as we had still to remit funds to Rio, and also that the cash we receive on account of sales would, for the moment, have to remain in Rio. This state of affairs still continues; in fact, the Brazilian exchange ruled during the current year at even a lower rate than at the time of our last meeting, and thus we were enabled to remit funds to provide the cost of work executed in Rio on a favourable exchange. The consensus of opinion is that the present low rate of exchange is temporary. Brazil, through the unusual conditions arising as the aftermath of the war, and in common with almost every other country, was seriously handicapped, but the enormous natural resources of Brazil will make it possible for the country to regain its economic stability. Your directors therefore felt that it would be distinctly advantageous to make use of the low rate of exchange in order to transmit funds, to the largest possible extent, to Rio. To provide these funds it was resolved to make an issue of debentures guaranteed by the whole of our assets.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTIES.

During the year covered by the report the development of the properties owned by our subsidiaries proceeded satisfactorily, and the sales of land effected to date are most encouraging. I should like to point out to you that the 34 acres mentioned in the report as sold are part of an estate of over 1,200 acres. The acreage sold represents 284 building plots purchased by a similar

number of prospective settlers on the estate. By consulting the map which we are exhibiting you will be able to see the position of the plots which have been sold up to the end of October. The position of the plots sold during November is being sent forward by mail, and has not reached us yet. We are also exhibiting a map of the Affensos estate, on which the plot which has been sold to the Brazilian Government is marked in red. You can also see from this map where about it is proposed to erect the railway station which, for the present at least, is to be the terminal point of the branch railway line the Brazilian Government has agreed to construct. The Chairman concluded by moving the adoption of the report and accounts, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman: Gentlemen, before terminating the proceedings, I wish to inform you that in the year 1922 and thereafter we propose to have our accounts prepared to December 31st in each year, and to present same to you as soon as possible thereafter during the following year. For the year 1921-22, therefore, we shall have to cover a period of 13 months. Our reasons for making this change are that we find it difficult to prepare accounts and hold our annual meeting in the short time available between November 30 and the close of the year, and with the growth of our activities this difficulty will increase.

The proceedings then terminated.

THE WALL PAPER MANUFACTURERS, LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN CONFIDENT OF THE FUTURE.

1921 FINANCE ACT UNFAIR TO THE COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the Wall Paper Manufacturers, Limited, was held, on the 20th instant, at the Connaught Rooms, 61 Great Queen street, London, Mr Edgar Smith (the chairman) presiding.

The secretary (Mr John T. Chasney) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said:—Ladies and gentlemen, you will have received a copy of the report and balance-sheet. I intend to deal with these very fully, so I may assume that it is your pleasure that we take them as read. You will have realised that we have had a very bad year's trade, and it is with great regret that the directors have to put before you such a disappointing report.

In the report now before you there is necessarily but a brief summary of the position and of the results, hence I welcome the opportunity of meeting you here to-day to give you the history of the year under review and to put before you in more detail our company's present position.

Last year was an extraordinary and an unprecedented year. When I addressed you at our annual meeting 12 months ago, your directors had before them the figures of the first two months of the year, which showed satisfactory results, and a higher margin of profits than did the corresponding months of our previous and record year.

The slump that followed was so complete as to be almost staggering.

Also at the time of our last meeting there was no hint of the coming financial legislation which has pressed so heavily and, what is more, so unfairly upon our company.

COMPANY'S E.P.D. TERMINATION DATE.

It seems almost incredible that the date at which we happen by mere chance to have been in the habit of making up our annual accounts should be one of the prime causes of the position in which we find ourselves.

I shall go fully into the details of this later, but I may mention here that if our accounts had always been made up to July 31st, a month earlier, instead of to August 31st, our position would have been better, so our auditors assure us, by some hundreds of thousands of pounds.

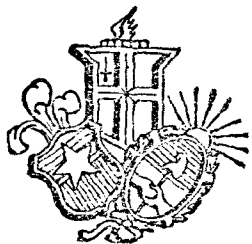
Our unsatisfactory balance-sheet is due to two things—to an unprecedented slump in trade and the 1921 Finance Act terminating our excess profits duty accounting period at August 31, 1920.

Against these two factors your directors, despite all their efforts, have been powerless, and I am sure, when you have grasped the situation, you will feel that there has been nothing done or left undone by your board which could have averted the unsatisfactory results of last year's trading.

Speaking generally, I can assure you that our company is in a sound financial position, and that there is no need for depression with regard to our prospects.

We stand to-day, as far as we can see, with our losses behind us, with our stocks written down to bedrock, with our investments written down to to-day's prices, and with confidence in the future.

THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.



Capital and Reserves
exceed £13,000,000

Head Office:

62, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.2.

AFFILIATIONS:

THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD., and THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

DISTRIBUTION CRITICISMS ANSWERED.

Before dealing with the balance-sheet, I should like, with your permission, to reply to a criticism of our recommendations in regard to last year's accounts, viz., that we made too large a dividend distribution. The facts are these. The net profit made during the year was £710,750. Out of this we paid the dividend on the preference stock and the 10 per cent. dividend on the ordinary shares. We recommended the payment of 12½ per cent. to the deferred shareholders. This last amounted to a gross sum of £240,376, from which had to be deducted income-tax, leaving a net distribution in cash of £168,264. We appropriated £65,000 to the contingency fund and carried forward £181,054. These recommendations were approved by the shareholders in general meeting.

When those dividends were recommended your directors had before them, as I have already mentioned, the figures of the first two months of the present year, which showed satisfactory results, and revealed a greater margin of profit than that of the corresponding period of the previous year.

Almost immediately after our meeting of December 9, 1920, the phenomenal trade slump set in with a cancellation of orders at home and abroad, a long coal strike and world-wide depression which gave a shaking to some of the soundest businesses in the country.

When I tell you that in the first ten weeks of the business year we sold 43 per cent. of our total sales for the whole year, you will realise how serious was the slump in our trade, and how difficult and expensive we found it to keep the mills going under such conditions.

We took steps at once to concentrate and retrench in every possible way without prejudicing our efficiency.

With regard to excess profits duty, it was not until some months after our last meeting that the Government brought forward their proposals for terminating this tax, and no one can be criticised for failing to foresee the possibility of such legislation as the Finance Act of 1921, a measure so grossly unfair in its incidence as between one taxpayer and another, and so dependent upon the elements of pure chance as to create a new departure in the annals of British taxation.

CRITICISMS OF THE E.P.D. REMOVAL.

The method of removal of the excess profits duty became a hardship to us instead of a help, and we should have been better off if the tax had continued for another 12 months, as I will explain.

The Act in a professed attempt to treat everyone alike provides that there shall be 84 months during which traders are liable to this duty.

It sounds fair enough to say that everyone must have 84 months of excess profits duty liability, but as a matter of fact, fairness does not lie in giving each taxpayer the same number of months of duty liability, but it lies in terminating the tax at the same date for all.

We have always made up our accounts to August 31st so that when excess profits duty (a war tax) was imposed our first 12 months accounting period terminated on August 31, 1924, and contained only 27 days of war.

From what I have said it is apparent that our final accounting period ended at almost the earliest possible date, at the height of the boom, and when all goods and raw materials were at their highest point.

If we had by mere chance been in the habit of making up our accounts at some date prior to August 4th, say June or July, we should like many others have terminated our liability period after the slump in values had occurred, and we should, like them, have been able to set the deficiency of duty upon our losses against previous excess profits duty payments.

As it is, in respect of last year's loss we are limited to a claim for loss due to depreciation on our stocks held at August, 1920, and to some relief on our forward contracts.

From this explanation it will be realised with what extreme injustice the incidence of the 1921 Finance Act presses upon our company.

When this Bill was still before Parliament, your directors made earnest and repeated efforts to demonstrate to the Government the great hardship and unfairness if the Bill became law that firms with an early accounting period would suffer as compared with firms which had a late accounting period, and they tried to obtain amendments to the Bill, but without success.

We realise to the full the Government's necessity of obtaining revenue, but this should not be achieved by a form of taxation which bears with undue harshness on one taxpayer and deals leniently with another.

Our claim, which is still a large one, on stocks and forward contracts is being prepared. It will be sent in as soon as it is ready, and, although we hope to obtain a substantial adjustment

of our excess profits duty liability, we cannot at this moment indicate the amount, nor would it be in the general interests of the shareholders to give them what would at the best be only a rough estimate at this juncture.

Your directors discussed the advisability of delaying the presentation of the accounts to their shareholders until they knew what the amount of the adjustment of excess profits duty would be, but they were unanimous in deciding that it was best to put the facts before you at the usual date in accounts in which all our losses are written off, and no credit is taken for our claims arising under the Finance Act.

PRESENT CONDITIONS—GERMAN COMPETITION.

With regard to our trade, the sales during the past year were very much below normal, but this was due entirely to trade depression, as our goods rank as the highest in the world, and we believe that our new sets for the current season are the best in every grade that we have ever produced.

On the falling market our customers have been working on their stocks, and only buying from hand to mouth, but when trade revives, and we feel there are signs already of a move in that direction, we shall reap the benefit of this as our customers will then have to replenish their stocks.

It has been stated that our bad year is the result of German competition, but this is not so. The Germans have naturally re-appeared, and have participated again in some of the markets in which they were strong before the war, but so far as our usual overseas markets and home trade are concerned we have not felt their competition.

BALANCE-SHEET ITEMS.

I have now told you all there is to tell, and I would ask you to turn to the figures of the balance-sheet.

On the assets side our lands, buildings and machinery stand at their pre-war figures, less the usual depreciation and the value of the property destroyed by fire.

Our investments, including War Loans, shares in our subsidiary companies, and shares in other concerns, have been written down to their present or market values.

The stock-in-trade has been taken as usual at cost or market price, whichever is lower.

The debts are taken at a conservative figure after allowing ample reserves for doubtful cases.

On the liabilities side the issued capital and debenture stock remains the same as last year.

Then we have creditors £1,370,860. As was the case last year, we have included in this item the amount we have reserved to cover any balances of outstanding liabilities for excess profits duty and corporation tax in previous years. The portion of this sum which represents trade creditors is not abnormal when the high cost of materials, as compared with pre-war values, is borne in mind.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

The profit and loss account shows that after taking credit for income-tax reserve, no longer required, £109,847, transfer from contingency fund £100,000, and last year's carry forward £181,054, there is to carry forward to the next balance-sheet an adverse balance of £557,203, against which the company has the claim for the adjustment of its excess profits duty liability already referred to.

During the year we have had a serious fire, which occurred at the Leeds branch. The warehouse and stock rooms were totally destroyed. It was only through the splendid efforts of the City Fire Brigade and of our own staff that the machine room was saved.

The rebuilding has commenced, and should be completed by the end of March. We were adequately covered by insurance.

During the year we have put a new commodity on the market called "Tacko," being a specially prepared paste powder for hanging wallpapers. This proprietary article we hope will prove a profitable undertaking.

Our Walpamur Paint Factory and the French Factory have been and are doing well, and there seems scope for considerable expansion in these two branches. Our relations with labour are very satisfactory.

I may say, in conclusion, that though we have had this bad year we have faced our losses, we have written down everything to the fullest possible extent, and we face the future with every reason for the belief that the present year's working will show satisfactory results.

I move the adoption of the report and accounts, and when this resolution is before the meeting, I shall be pleased to answer any questions which the shareholders wish to put to me.

Mr A. V. Sugden seconded the resolution.

The Chairman, in reply to questions, stated that the stock was taken at cost or market price, whichever was the lower. The directors did not anticipate that the stock would fall further. He

did not see any necessity to revalue the stock, or to write down the capital. They had sufficient money to conduct the business.

The resolution was carried *nem. con.*

The retiring directors and auditors were re-elected, and the proceedings terminated.

THE AMALGAMATED PRESS, LIMITED, COMPANY'S SOUND POSITION. BOARD'S NET SALES POLICY.

The twenty-fifth ordinary general meeting of the Amalgamated Press, Limited, was held, on the 22nd instant, at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon street, London, Sir George A. Sutton, Bart., the chairman, presiding.

Mr J. R. Sumpter, one of the joint secretaries, having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman said: Gentlemen, I assume that the report and accounts will be taken as read. It is my privilege to present to you to-day our twenty-fifth balance-sheet, and having regard to the difficult year through which we have passed, a year which has seen the shipwreck of so many industrial concerns, and began darkly with the disastrous three months' coal strike, the result disclosed in the statement of our accounts can be considered satisfactory. You will have observed that, after writing off depreciation of plant and building, and part of the cost of our new printing works and plant, the profits amount to £368,000 (three hundred and sixty-eight thousand pounds).

During the year we have issued six new periodicals and a new magazine.

I am glad to be able to say that the net sales of our publications for the financial year just concluded were considerably higher than for the previous year.

NEW PRINTING WORKS.

A subject of remark in past addresses here has been the erection of the new printing works on the Sumner street site, which was acquired for that purpose prior to the war. I am happy to say that the new building is now making noticeable headway. The printing of our various magazines and periodicals is at present carried on in no fewer than eight different factories, large and small, situated in London and Gravesend. The greatly increased cost of production resulting from high wages, shorter hours, increased taxation and the enhanced cost of material make the study of economy and efficiency more than ever imperative. Out of this pressing need our Sumner street undertaking is developing.

These new premises will be very extensive, and it is proposed to concentrate our periodical and magazine production in three large factories—Sumner street, Lavington street, S.E., and Gravesend, Kent—and thus close down the smaller works which it is no longer easy to run economically. Several valuable freeholds will then be at the disposal of the directors to deal with as expediency may dictate.

There is no doubt that such concentration will materially contribute to increased efficiency and economy in working, and will more than repay the large expenditure incurred. The printing works, when fully effective and complete with new buildings and plant, which has mostly been provided for already, will be quite the largest organisation of the kind in Great Britain, probably in the world, and will be able to deal with every demand that may be made upon it in every department of printing.

OUR NET SALES POLICY.

Passing from the subject of technical achievement, I should like to call the attention of advertisers to a matter of policy—our policy of selling space on a net sale basis. Month by month our latest net sale figures, certified by chartered accountants, are made available for all who desire to know them. We do not content ourselves with the issuing of figures privately to members of various associations; nor do we furnish our canvassers with letters to be shown discreetly to selected advertisers. We publish our certified net sales to all the world; firstly, because we believe advertisers are entitled to have them, and secondly, because we are proud of those figures.

WONDERFUL "ANSWERS."

Take, for instance, the net sales of *Answers* during the year under review. Everybody knows them, and we are proud that they should be known, as we feel confident that they are higher than those of any competing journal of the same type. Actual comparison is not possible, because of the significant fact that no other paper at all, of what advertisers usually (though wrongly) think of as the *Answers* class, has published a chartered accountant's certificate of net sales. This fact should speak for itself in the ears of advertisers.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to assure you that *Answers* has never stood higher in the estimation of responsible advertisers than it does at the present moment. It has always been a first-

rate medium; but it is now attracting an even better class of advertisement than formerly.

In addition to *Answers*, the name of which is, I may venture to say, almost a household word, I should like to call the attention of all advertisers to *Home Chat*, *London Magazine*, *My Magazine* (the net sales of which have doubled in two years), *Woman's Weekly*, *Woman's World*; our three fashion papers, *Fashions for All*, *Home Fashions*, and *Children's Dress*, and, indeed, had I the time to recite the titles, to many other of our weekly journals and monthly magazines, each pre-eminent in its particular field.

CERTIFICATES FOR ADVERTISERS.

A chartered accountant's certificate of the net sales of each and all these papers is available for any advertiser who wishes to consider the buying of space in them. Those figures show that our string of advertisement-carrying publications (40 in number), falling roughly into three groups—(1) those with a general appeal; (2) those with an especial appeal to women and girls; and (3) those that appeal to men and boys—constitute a great publicity and selling machine which stands absolutely unrivalled in this country, if not in the whole world.

I need not tell you that 1921 has been a very difficult year for advertisers, as the consequences of the "slump" are only too well known. It is therefore all the more gratifying to be able to announce that our advertisement revenue for 1921 has exceeded that of any preceding year. This highly satisfactory result is perhaps the most striking of all testimonials to the "selling" or "pulling" value of our magazines and periodicals.

Not only do we sell space on a very large scale; we buy it on a scale very nearly as large. We take a high place even among the largest and boldest advertisers in the kingdom.

APPOINTMENTS ON THE STAFF.

In previous years I have mentioned that we are always glad to give sympathetic consideration to applications from ambitious young men and women anxious to embark on a journalistic career, and I desire to repeat that statement now.

NEW DIRECTOR.

I shall ask you presently to confirm the appointment to the board of Mr William Blackwood, who has been in the services of the company for nine years, for six of which he has been editor of *Answers*, and we hope that he will still further strengthen the board of this company.

THE IMPERIAL PAPER MILLS.

The paper trade of this country has been through unfortunate times during the year. Your mills at Gravesend, in common with all others, have suffered from the heavy depreciation in the value of stocks of pulp and paper-making materials. Trade depreciation and the loss due to depreciated currencies have been contributory causes. We hope and believe the worst is over, and that the coming year will see some improvement in the industry.

The efficiency of the mills, the second largest in this country, has been maintained on the highest possible level, and your directors are satisfied that as an insurance for this company, with its magnificent equipment and large output, it stands in an unrivalled position to cope with all future developments of the Amalgamated Press.

THE FUTURE.

As to the future, you know it is never our policy to indulge in undue optimism, but this I can say, our plans for the coming year are well laid, and we hope we shall not experience any set-back in the next 12 months.

There are already signs of recovery in many industries throughout the country, though at present, there seems to be but little diminution, if any, in the large unemployment figures. Not until the country is afforded some appreciable relief from the present crushing burden of taxation will our national industries go forward and progress in accordance with their potentialities. With reduction of Government expenditure and reduced taxation, businesses would have a chance to breathe more freely, and universal prosperity, needless to say, is as helpful to this business as to any other.

I now beg to move, "That the report of the directors produced, together with the annexed statement of the company's accounts at October 31, 1921, be received, approved, and adopted, and that a final dividend for the year of 5s a share, free of income-tax, be now declared on the ordinary shares." I will ask Mr Linforth, our vice-chairman, to second that resolution.

Mr Arthur E. Linforth seconded the motion.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHAIRMAN AND BOARD.

J. H. Panting: Permit me to congratulate you, Sir George, and your co-directors, upon the success you have achieved during the past year. The difficulties you have had to contend with have been enormous. A great struggle has been going on during the year in the world of commerce as well as in the world of politics,

and in the course of that struggle many undertakings have gone under, and when this has not happened, failed to pay a dividend. In addition, there have been fluctuations in the rate of exchange, falling prices, and depreciation, labour unrest, and fierce competition. At times, indeed, it has seemed as though the very existence—the economic existence—of this Empire were wavering in the balance. All these difficulties have been overcome by you, Sir George, and your co-directors—not only so, but, as this balance-sheet shows, the foundations of this vast enterprise have not been in the least degree shaken, but solidified. That, sir, is a great achievement. As for competition, this company seems to thrive upon competition, "Come one, come all," it seems to say, and the more that come, the better it seems to like it. So far as Labour is concerned, I think that I am right in saying that this company gives employment to something like 2,500 employees, and that Fleetway House is regarded as one of the best houses in the trade to work for. I feel certain of this, that we should hear little about the cry of unemployment if there were more enterprises of this character. Once again, Sir George, allow me to say that I have the greatest pleasure in supporting the adoption of this report.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

The Chairman then moved the confirmation of the election to the board of Mr William Blackwood.

The motion was seconded by Brigadier-General William F. Milden, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., and carried unanimously.

On the proposition of Mr Charles Steel, seconded by Mr R. Pearson, Messrs Turquand, Youngs and Co., and Messrs E. Layton Bennett, Sons and Co., were re-appointed auditors.

The proceedings then terminated.

HARRODS (BUENOS AIRES), LIMITED.

CHAIRMAN OPTIMISTIC OF COMPANY'S PROSPECTS.

The eighth annual general meeting of Harrods (Buenos Aires), Limited, was held, on the 19th instant, at Harrods, Limited, Brompton-road, London, Sir Woodman Burbidge, Bart., C.B.E. (chairman and managing director), presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said his colleagues on the board had unanimously elected him to the position of chairman, rendered vacant by the death of Sir Alfred J. Newton, Bart. Continuing, he said:—"The diminution in profits is directly attributable to the fall in prices, which have dropped to an extent probably unprecedented in the history of commerce. But for the heavy decline in prices it would have been my pleasant duty to present to you very different figures to those which we are now considering, for our profits would have equalled those of last year. During the war years there was constant difficulty in obtaining supplies. After the Armistice the world hunger for all classes of manufactured goods created a period of eager buying, when the legitimate demands of traders and the operations of speculators caused a shortage of supplies and forced all prices upwards to a level they had never previously reached. As soon as the pressing demands of the world for manufactured goods had been supplied, the whole commercial aspect was changed, almost without warning, owing to the high pinnacle which prices had reached. Manufacturers were faced with a cessation of orders, cancellations, compromises and refusal to take delivery or inability to pay, and were forced to liquidate their stocks on an unwilling market, thereby forcing prices rapidly downwards.

During the first six months of our year, we (and the South American Stores) made satisfactory profits, but unfortunately were not able to maintain them owing to the fall in the prices of merchandise, which hit us very severely, especially towards the end of the financial year, when we sold goods at prices which yielded but a small margin of gross profit. Your board were of opinion that it was preferable to face an immediate loss of profit by selling goods at cost price or under rather than attempt to hold for a further period. We thus disposed of goods purchased at high wholesale prices, and the wisdom of this policy has been amply justified by after events. The stocks on hand have been written down to meet present competitive prices ruling at August 31st, and all goods in transit have been taken at replacement values. You will be interested to know that in respect to such goods in transit and commitments on August 31st, only a negligible sum was required to meet depreciation, as the orders were principally placed since the break in prices. I think we may claim to have frankly faced the unpleasant situation and placed our stocks upon a safe basis for the current year. A very satisfactory feature of the year's trade is that the sales have been maintained. We have served many thousands more customers than ever before, and our aim has always been to give them the best quality, service and value, and thereby to warrant their confidence. Though our trading profits are far from being such as we should desire, in all the

circumstances I think we may congratulate ourselves they are not worse, and that we have not had to draw upon our reserves to meet the position.

In March we opened a portion of the ground and first floors of the extension of our main building. In October, after the close of our financial year, the second and third floors were opened for business, and the remainder of the premises should be ready about March next, when we shall possess the best-equipped and most up-to-date store in the world. It will be apparent, therefore, that during the year our profits have received no benefit from the new building. Harrods continues to be the fashionable rendezvous in Buenos Aires. Mr. Griffith tells me that during the August sale our premises were crowded out. The streets surrounding the store were blocked with private cars, the entrance had to be closed from time to time, and customers let out by the San Martin doors before others could be admitted from Florida. The August sale figures compare favourably with the returns for the same sections in Harrods, London. This will give you some idea of our great possibilities and prospects when the new premises are fully developed.

I should like to give you some indication of the trade outlook in Argentina. I consider the present unfavourable conditions are only temporary. Your directors have boldly faced the position and written down stocks on hand to prices which should enable trading to be carried on at more normal rates of profit during this current year. Owing to the depreciations already made, the weekly rate of gross profit earned since August 31st has been steadily improving. Knowing the recuperative powers of the Argentine, and anticipating more stable conditions, I believe our trading will show happier results for the current year.

Mr G. L. Devan seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

ASHANTI GOLDFIELDS CORPORATION, LIMITED.

SPLENDID DEVELOPMENT RESULTS.

PRICE OF GOLD—VALUE OF STERLING IN AMERICA.

The twenty-fourth ordinary general meeting of the Ashanti Goldfields Corporation, Limited, was held, on the 20th instant, at the Holborn Restaurant, London, under the presidency of Mr Jeremiah Colman, J.P.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ended June 30 last, stated that a profit of £79,878 had been made under trying conditions, the main difficulty, as in the previous year, being a shortage of native labour. Extra gas-units to relieve the fuel situation had been delayed, but fortunately firewood supplies had increased.

Referring to the impending change to a wet-crushing process, which he briefly described, the chairman said that the dry-crushing process would be abandoned with regret, as this gave better extraction, but the final result on the profit and loss account was the chief consideration. Great advantage would accrue from steady and regular working. The new plant had been housed at the central treatment plant, so securing crushing, handling, and power plants to the best advantage. The new plant was expected to commence running in January.

The ore reserves were shown in the directors' report; it was noteworthy that development on No. 19 level (the lowest level) had, in the first 100 feet, opened up over 38,000 tons of ore. Within the last few days a cable had been received stating that a further 100 feet of the chute had been opened up; for the total length exposed the reef had a width of over 26 feet, averaging 24 dwts. Lateral development was so favourable that it was not considered necessary to continue sinking the main shaft for about twelve months.

The cocoa and mahogany "booms" had disorganised native labour, but with lower prices for these commodities conditions were considerably improving, and the latest advices reported a full staff of natives in every department.

SIR GEORGE LAWSON JOHNSTON'S SPEECH.

The Deputy-Chairman (Sir George Lawson Johnston), in seconding the motion, submitted at some length a suggestion for dealing with the gold output and fixing the price of same for the next few years. The African gold production that now comes to London and is usually sold to America would, under this scheme, be dealt with as follows:—

Germany would pay four-fifths of the gold at a fixed premium of 25 per cent. above its par value. Three-fifths of the gold would then go to France and Belgium in payment of reparation claims, and would count against such claims at 25 per cent. above gold's par value; one-fifth of the gold would go to Germany, and remain there with a view to eventually building up a reserve against their own currency. The one-fifth that remains would be taken at par by the British Treasury and added to the £28,500,000 coin and bullion that stand against our Treasury note issue. Gold from other producing countries could be dealt

with in the same way, if such countries agreed, and in each case the country of origin would be allowed to retain one-fifth of the gold at par.

As the gold output of the world last year, excluding the United States and Canada, was reduced to £52,466,000 (at 85 per fine ounce), the amount that Germany would have to pay would be only a small proportion of the total reparation amounts as at present fixed.

The gold, when produced, would be sent where it is wanted, instead of being directly added to an excessive hoard in the United States, and this diversion of a stream of gold to the right places would be a benefit to Europe out of all proportion to the reductions made on the reparation payments.

Instead of an almost daily fluctuation in price, the production would then receive a fixed premium of 20 per cent. (i.e., the 25 per cent. premium on four-fifths with one-fifth taken at par), and with a fixed price the output would be kept up.

Continuing, he said:—"Whatever method is eventually adopted of fixing the price we are to receive for our gold, nothing could be more unsatisfactory to a deserving industry than the present rapid fluctuations.

AMERICAN EXCHANGE RATE.

I do not know who has engineered the price of the pound up to \$4.20, but this ratio certainly does not represent Britain's financial position *vis-à-vis* the United States, to whom we owe over £865,000,000.

The impression I formed in America last month was that a high-priced pound sterling was a bad bargaining point, as it indicated to the average American, who is a business man, that even with the debt around our necks he can have an exchange that will enable him to export goods to us. This artificial suggestion of affluence is unfortunate, because though we have many friends in America it will be difficult to convince the others that it is wise to forgive any of their European debtors save those who are unlikely to pay. Only a wave of enthusiasm, such as the one that brought America into the war, can help in this debt matter, and I suppose we will, as usual, leave the matter to our Premier, and, fortunately, in America the favourable opinion as regards him is so universal and intense that anything might happen when he goes over. The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

SHOWELL'S BREWERY COMPANY.

CHAIRMAN ON THE CRUSHING EFFECTS OF TAXATION.

The annual meeting of Showell's Brewery Company was held at the Queen's Hotel, Birmingham, on the 20th inst., Mr James Davenport (chairman) presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said:—"They, as a company, had felt, as he expected they would feel, the decline in the spending power of the community. Their capital remained unaltered. Sundry creditors and reserves at £182,758 showed a substantial reduction. A very large part of this consisted of internal reserves which they had built up in good times for contingencies which might arise, and he was glad the conservative policy they had followed would allow them to face many severe storms with confidence. The reserve stood at £40,000 against £30,000 a year ago, and they proposed to strengthen this again by the transfer of a further £5,000. On the other side of the account their properties showed little difference at £839,741. Stock-in-trade showed a considerable reduction at £63,388. They did not consider it was either necessary or prudent to carry high stocks, and they had constantly kept their commitments to a minimum figure. In regard to their investments they still retained their large holdings in Government stocks amounting to over £125,000—a very handsome liquid reserve. The balance-sheet was good and sound.

The profit for the year amounted to £47,535, and showed a considerable falling off, which was not difficult to account for. The disastrous coal strike had a serious effect not only in the coal mining districts, where they had many good properties, but directly on the iron and steel works industry, where also they had many houses, and indirectly on trade generally. There had been widespread unemployment, with the consequent reduced spending power of the industrial classes, and as a result their sales had fallen.

In the immediate future he did not see any very hopeful signs of these adverse factors improving. Industry is stifled by the crushing load of taxation we are called upon to bear, and until this load is lightened we shall see no material diminution in the large number of the unemployed. Our great hope is economy, and the bright lining to the clouds, so far as I can see, is the hope that the Government are now serious in their determination to cut down expenditure ruthlessly and thereby prepare the way for the relief of the overburdened taxpayers of this country.

Mr H. W. Walmisley seconded the adoption of the report, which was carried.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to		Redemption Account.				
			Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio of Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 26.....	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	48.1	9,924	11,423
Dec. 31.....	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	..	..	9,288
1915.									
Dec. 29.....	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27.6	54,621	20,536
1916.									
Dec. 27.....	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19.0	118,102	6,868
1917.									
Dec. 26.....	212,782	8,554	39	575	28,500	..	13.4	186,637	5,486
1918.									
Dec. 31.....	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8.9	305,133	4,566
1919.									
Mar. 26.....	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8.7	308,577	5,413
June 25.....	342,310	17,143	..	360	28,500	..	8.3	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1.....	335,021	16,524	250	345	28,500	1,350	8.9	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31.....	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9.1	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31.....	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,900	10.0	313,370	2,981
June 30.....	357,358	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11.7	331,660	305
Sept. 29.....	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13.3	322,425	385
Dec. 29.....	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30.....	343,826	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13.9	311,334	141
June 29.....	323,884	14,965	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	287,750	150
Sept. 28.....	314,382	14,830	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.2	278,119	143
Dec. 7.....	315,714	14,116	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.1	278,702	178
14.....	318,329	14,331	..	..	28,500	19,450	15.1	281,545	165
21.....	324,429	15,250	..	..	28,500	19,450	14.8	288,590	139

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
		Apl. 1, 1921, to Dec. 17, 1921.	Apl. 1, 1920, to Dec. 18, 1920.	Week Ending Dec. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 18, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—	£	£	£	£	£
Bank of England ..	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland ..	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
	..	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs	126,800,000	92,940,000	96,003,000	1,545,000	1,298,000
Excise	196,200,000	144,160,000	146,078,000	9,805,000	13,327,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	3,282,000	..	..	..
Stamp	48,000,000	34,708,000	32,228,000	632,000	803,000
Stamps	21,000,000	11,309,000	18,474,000	1,120,000	160,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	460,000	400,000	..	10,000
House Duty	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (Including Super-Tax & Mineral Rights Duty)	410,500,000	168,668,000	151,220,000	918,000	1,535,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c.	120,000,000	23,714,000	151,417,000	..	3,560,000
Corporation Profits Tax	30,000,000	9,540,000	..	270,000	..
Post Office	60,000,000	36,500,000	34,250,000	1,250,000	1,000,000
Crown Lands	650,000	520,000	460,000	..	..
Interest on Sundry Loans	12,000,000	7,631,172	12,404,982	..	..
Miscellaneous—					
Ordinary Receipts ..	21,500,000	16,509,260	17,432,762	355,000	296,383
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	82,297,966	194,797,346	8,400,000	2,597,558
Revenue	1,216,650,000	638,237,388	855,165,090	24,315,000	24,236,341
Total, inc. Balance ..	..	641,311,894	864,534,187	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Balances	..	6,730,000	3,340,000	300,000	200,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904)	..	169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	..	520,000	..	..	..
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—					
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	..	3,561,474	4,000,000	..	1,500,000
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	..	27,500	115,000	..	75,000
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	..	35,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	..	5,355,000	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—					
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	..	2,886,755,000	2,924,744,000	56,045,000	53,990,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1920-21 ..	..	..	270,552	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	..	769,061	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	..	258,784	..	..
By National Savings Certificates—					
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	..	..	20,400,000	..	..
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	..	29,380,000	7,820,000	1,050,000	850,000
By National War Bonds	..	5	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—					
5-15 year, 1925-35	..	1,062,317	17,239,924	37,327	670,000
5%	..	158,005,199	..	6,590,740	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	..	10,951,454	33,605,939	102,815	5,091,640
(d) Ways and Means Advances ..	..	939,307,000	944,540,000	21,150,000	14,050,000
Anglo-Persian Oil Company—					
Dividends on Shares acquired ..	..	..	3,482	..	..
Repayments—					
In respect of Cunard Loan	..	130,000	130,000	..	..
Do Issues under Civil Contingencies Fund Act, 1919	..	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	..	43,938	9,423	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	..	8,785,637	..	1,691,250	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	..	321,533	..	..	..
Total	..	4,699,712,769	4,821,980,220	111,192,132	99,732,581

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

EXPENDITURE.	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1921, to Dec. 17, 1921.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1921, to Dec. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 17, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 18, 1921.
Permanent Charge of Debt.	24,500,000	10,761,732	11,538,731	303,522	474,209
Interest, &c., on War Debt.	320,500,000	259,149,988	263,554,462	1,448,603	1,452,198
Road Fund.	8,400,000	2,981,000	2,966,689	139,000	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts, &c.	11,115,000	6,624,651	6,357,297	110,000	100,000
Land Settlement.	5,000,000	2,216,746	5,062,954	..	..
Other Consolidated Fund Services.	1,757,000	1,221,015	1,280,298	8,987,000	15,835,000
Supply Services.	774,851,000	428,535,931	505,728,641	10,988,125	17,861,407
Expenditure.	1,146,123,000	711,491,063	796,489,072	..	..
OTHER ISSUES.					
Temporary Advances—					
Bullion.	6,700,000	3,300,000	300,000	100,000	..
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1921.	169,818	169,818	..	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Act, 1921.	7,035,000	..	300,000	..	..
Issues to Meet Capital Expenditure—					
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920.	4,761,474	4,000,000	..	500,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.	27,500	115,000	..	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914.	50,000	30,000	..	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—					
Treasury Bills for Supply.	2,922,036,000	2,900,299,000	63,285,000	58,960,000	..
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c., under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917.	25,804,879	47,617,424	723,741	1,575,639	..
Principal of National Savings Certificates—					
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (6) of the Finance Act, 1920.	14,000,000	23,100,000	500,000	400,000	..
(b) Repaid otherwise.	9,700,000	..	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—					
1921-22.	18,962,220	25,396,808	108,330	1,250,000	..
1920-21.	..	..	..	..	..
6% 1920 ..	2,586,808	..	..	..	..
5% 1920 ..	2,241,000	..	..	..	..
5% 1921 ..	18,962,220	..	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loans Act, 1914 to 1919.	51,493,936	49,934,548	2,255,595	5,127,053	..
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915.	..	59,229,221	..	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid	887,288,000	886,513,000	28,450,000	11,400,000	..
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917.	21,280,179	20,120,156	..	500,000	..
Issues to National Debt Commissioners to Reduce Debt—Cunard Loan Repayments.	130,000	130,000	..	..	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4).	14,165,000	725,000	2,650,000	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911.	112,450	197,766	..	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—					
Bank of England.	4,695,208,119	4,817,366,813	109,566,791	97,674,099	..
Bank of Ireland.	2,173,806	1,901,994	184,342	41,518	..
Bank of Scotland.	2,350,744	2,711,413	1,460,999	2,100,000	..
Total.	4,504,850	4,613,407	1,625,341	2,058,482	..

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, December 21, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	145,063,460	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion	126,613,460
	145,063,460		145,063,460

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities ..	50,824,630
Reserve	3,342,913	Other securities	85,200,078
Public deposits	14,116,381	Notes	18,392,435
Other deposits	124,206,562	Gold and silver coin ..	1,817,684
Seven-day & other bills ..	15,971		
	156,234,827		156,234,827

*Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS WEEK AND A YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Dec. 21, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,342,913	+	16,523
Public deposits	14,116,381	+	346,547
Other deposits	124,206,562	+	11,823,591
Government securities ..	50,824,630	+	26,353,072
Other securities	85,200,078	+	4,517,283
Reserve	3,342,913	+	6,281,326
Notes	18,392,435	+	7,911,215
Gold and silver	1,817,684	+	6,127
% of reserve to liabilities ..	142%	+	68%

SCOTTISH UNION & NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1824.

ASSETS EXCEED £12,000,000
FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.London: 5, Walbrook, E.C.4 and 4, St. James' Street, S.W.1.
Edinburgh: 35, St. Andrew Square.

Clerical, Medical & General

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

2½% Valuation
and
BONUS as BEFORE

Chief Office: 15, St. James's Square, S.W.1, London

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.	% of Reserve to Liabilities.	Bank Rate.
Sept. 29, 1921.	128,414,267	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
Oct. 6, 1921.	128,413,541	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
12, 1921.	128,421,587	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
19, 1921.	128,417,061	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
26, 1921.	128,413,527	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
Nov. 2, 1921.	128,418,244	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
9, 1921.	128,420,853	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
16, 1921.	128,433,199	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
23, 1921.	128,438,365	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
30, 1921.	128,442,340	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
Dec. 7, 1921.	128,433,576	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
14, 1921.	128,437,271	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%
21, 1921.	128,431,144	124,972,580	117,652,258	113,854,769	21,891,787	18.5	5%

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

At corresponding date with the present week.	Dec. 20, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Dec. 23, 1919.	Dec. 22, 1920.	Dec. 21, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	29,285,900	28,933,380	92,148,760	134,582,240	126,671,026
Public deposits	15,207,032	19,014,809	20,337,942	13,769,834	14,116,381
Other deposits	40,839,755	41,248,964	133,360,971	136,030,543	124,206,562
Government securities	15,371,183	11,046,570	68,676,120	77,177,702	58,824,630
Other securities	35,218,933	41,461,280	85,179,072	78,914,458	85,200,078
Reserve of notes and coin	23,304,432	25,465,980	17,632,006	11,628,793	20,210,119
Coin and bullion	34,140,332	35,947,360	91,391,566	127,761,633	128,431,144
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	49.8%	42.1%	11.1%	7.2%	14.8%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills	3½%	3%	5%	5%	5%
Price of Consols	31½	74½	50½	44½	50½
Price of silver per oz.	25½d	26½d	76d	40½d	35½d
Average price of wheat.	32s 11d	33s 0d	72s 6d	85s 11d	45s 11d
Exchanges	25-23-26½	25-17-20	40-00-05	59-50-80	51-90-52-90
on New York	84-3½	84-7½	83-3½-84	83-5½-84	84-20-21½
on Amsterdam	12-1½	12-05-10	10-1-16	11-25-29	11-41-42
on Berlin	20-4½	20-09	18-1-18	22-25-27	20-74-75
Clearing house return	326,092,000	199,913,000	772,697,000	680,941,000	760,444,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.			
January 1-December 14	30,400,591,000	2,881,946,000	33,282,537,000
December 21	701,252,000	59,192,000	760,444,000
Total to date 1921	31,101,843,000	2,941,138,000	34,042,981,000
Do 1920	34,129,649,000	4,003,276,000	38,132,924,000
Increase or decrease in 1921 ..	- 3,027,805,000	- 1,062,138,000	- 4,089,943,000
	- 8.8%	- 26.5%	- 10.7%
Total for 1920	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	3,356,768,000	28,385,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920 ..	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39.6%	+ 20.2%	+ 39.4%

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to December 17.			
BIRMINGHAM	183,304,700	118,522,800	- 64,781,900
BRISTOL	88,387,000	74,016,000	- 14,371,000
DUBLIN	411,079,300	357,235,900	- 83,843,400
HULL (44 Weeks ended Dec. 17) ..	84,413,600	49,097,600	- 35,316,000
LEEDS	59,709,700	55,229,700	- 4,479,000
LEICESTER	789,683,700	431,677,600	- 358,006,100
LIVERPOOL	1,421,504,400	716,577,000	- 704,927,400
MANCHESTER	153,593,800	68,628,700	- 84,965,100
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	55,171,300	34,981,100	- 20,190,200
NOTTINGHAM	83,836,800	54,283,700	- 29,553,100
SHEFFIELD	..	..	..

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 8, 1921.	Week's Movement.	Dec. 13, 1920.
RESOURCES.				
Total gold reserve	2,869,170	2,851,030	+ 18,140	2,035,270
Legal tender notes and silver reserve ..	63,886,192	63,886,192	..	63,886,192
Bills discounted for member banks	1,152,830	1,170,660	+ 17,830	2,716,840
Bills bought in open market	99,740	81,780	+ 17,960	241,630
Government obligations owned	229,790	202,400	+ 27,390	355,220
All other resources	62,430	60,710	+ 1,720	37,380
LIABILITIES.				
Government deposits	69,410	52,340	+ 17,070	28,390
Other deposits	1,673,350	1,665,950	+ 7,400	1,633,910
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation ..	2,353,780	2,373,360	+ 20,420	3,311,840
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual circulation ..	78,310	77,010	+ 1,300	214,520
All other liabilities	25,580	25,450	+ 130	113,930
Capital and surplus	316,950	316,910	+ 40	263,920
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined ..	72.6%	73.1%	- 0.5%	44.5%

STATEMENT OF CANADIAN BANKS.

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.
ASSETS.			
Cash and bank balances	509,629,101	480,457,342	594,793,585
Bank balances abroad	74,325,555	74,325,555	82,446,915
Call and short loans	277,375,321	290,020,026	301,503,361
Securities	345,581,096	360,813,142	367,881,462
Loans in Canada	1,345,531,564	1,345,445,512	1,497,774,391
Loans abroad	156,518,933	151,489,861	193,749,657
Other assets	102,305,236	101,970,661	117,852,033
LIABILITIES.			
Note circulation	193,546,363	186,797,922	249,165,707
Deposits—			
Government	136,986,833	136,180,510	135,072,150
Public in Canada	1,816,974,475	1,798,071,304	1,958,927,532
Foreign	284,254,860	295,574,501	339,955,233
Bank balances—			
Canadian	11,561,996	12,577,629	15,377,031
Foreign	39,048,200	47,444,013	52,738,460
Bills payable and acceptances	33,530,439	33,073,315	57,183,917
Other liabilities	3,213,425	2,865,834	3,556,099
Capital and rest	264,338,629	264,334,153	257,682,757

BANK OF FRANCE.

	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 8, 1921.	Dec. 16, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 28, 1914
--	----------------	---------------	----------------	------------------	-----------------------

BANK OF NORWAY.

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1921.	Dec. 15, 1920.	Week's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Assets.					
Coin and bullion—Gold	147,293	147,293	147,293	—	44,224
Balance abroad and foreign bills	39,529	37,536	56,204	+ 1,993	28,533
Norwegian & Foreign Government securities	8,792	8,792	10,499	—	8,816
Discounts and loans	445,924	444,359	439,147	+ 1,565	76,911
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	401,713	392,508	460,681	+ 9,205	113,484
Deposits at notice	121,231	126,672	89,449	+ 5,441	7,188

New rules for issuing bank notes have been given by Statute of November 2, 1920. We are authoritatively informed that the right of issue of the Bank of Norway is calculated at an amount of 250 million crowns above the stock of gold and at present extraordinary additional amount of 50 million crowns from July 26, 1921, until further order.

POLISH NATIONAL BANK.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Aug. 31, 1921.	July 31, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Assets.					
Gold	20,200	19,400	19,200	19,100	+ 800
Silver	41,600	41,200	40,800	40,500	+ 400
Foreign coin	55,300	57,200	53,700	53,700	+ 28,100
Foreign banks	2,747,701	1,634,400	772,300	1,004,900	+ 1,123,800
Advances to the Govt.	194,500,000	178,000,000	158,000,000	146,250,000	+ 20,500,000
Private loans and discounts ..	21,551,800	16,115,800	11,662,300	8,795,600	+ 5,436,000
Other assets	19,813,200	18,120,200	14,976,000	9,594,600	+ 1,693,000
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	182,777,300	182,800,000	133,734,200	115,242,300	+ 23,977,300
Government accounts	30,255,500	23,764,000	17,681,500	16,975,300	+ 6,491,500
Other accounts	14,732,700	16,330,000	17,587,100	5,895,200	+ 1,537,500
Reserve	68,900	68,900	68,900	68,900	—
Other liabilities	16,977,300	22,710,200	17,576,000	13,007,600	+ 5,732,900

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 25, 1921.	Nov. 18, 1921.	Nov. 11, 1921.	Nov. 4, 1921.	Oct. 28, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.						
Govt. securities ..	10,98,00	11,08,50	11,15,60	12,39,74	12,90,18	+ 11,50
Other securities ..	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,45	1,33,44	—
Loans	26,93,97	26,93,97	27,12,25	24,70,69	24,65,05	+ 4,78
Cash credits	22,59,79	22,14,22	22,11,25	22,83,87	22,66,71	+ 4,57
Inland bills	6,14,87	6,23,65	6,32,72	6,15,09	6,51,01	+ 14,78
Foreign bills	3,68	5,59	6,28	7,98	7,25	+ 1,91
Bullion	2,17,58	2,17,23	2,15,44	2,14,08	2,15,12	+ 35
Dead stock	45,61	44,91	44,37	43,59	37,14	+ 70
Sundries	14,01	10,54	9,43	10,23	10,15	+ 3,47
Cash	24,68,44	23,99,74	26,31,97	27,12,53	29,23,67	+ 68,70
LIABILITIES.						
Subscribed capital ..	11,23,84	11,23,84	11,08,76	11,03,76	11,08,76	—
Capital paid up	5,62,21	5,62,21	5,58,44	5,58,44	5,58,44	—
Reserve	3,94,79	3,94,79	3,83,66	3,83,66	3,83,66	—
Public deposits	8,86,18	8,86,18	8,86,18	8,86,18	8,86,18	—
Other deposits	75,20,14	77,93,79	78,73,56	79,48,74	79,87,88	+ 2,75,65
Loans against secs.	73,90	71,91	71,63	70,68	71,08	+ 1,99
Sundries	1,15,53	1,09,46	1,07,95	1,04,24	95,12	+ 6,07
The above includes—						
Deposits in London	36,800	31,300	30,200	34,200	30,300	—
Advances in London	549,200	549,100	549,700	549,000	542,600	—
Cash, &c., at other banks in London	85,447	64,044	58,752	62,426	60,453	—

NATIONAL BANK OF EGYPT.

(000's omitted.)

	Oct. 31, 1921.	Sept. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Assets.					
Gold	3,364	3,371	3,363	+ 7	1,571
Government securities ..	41,575	36,476	49,794	+ 5,099	2,084
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	35,875	34,722	42,305	+ 1,153	2,400
Government deposits	2,476	2,150	3,775	+ 126	2,315
Other deposits	13,847	13,334	18,256	+ 513	2,160

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

BANK OF FINLAND.

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 8, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Dec. 3, 1920.	Movement.	Position May 31, 1914.
Assets.					
Gold	48,252	42,625	42,625	—	35,091
Balance abroad and foreign bills	387,289	396,715	247,436	+ 9,426	90,379
Finnish and Foreign Government securities	891,058	891,346	1,064,574	+ 88	21,826
Discounts and loans	451,808	452,094	294,234	+ 286	105,151
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation	1,330,841	1,327,057	1,338,170	+ 3,784	123,941
Treasury notes	124,042	151,462	116,519	+ 35,420	21,225
Deposits at notice					

BANK OF PORTUGAL.

(000's omitted.)

	Nov. 25, 1921.	Nov. 16, 1921.	Nov. 9, 1921.	Nov. 24, 1920.	Week's Movement.
Assets.					
Coin and bullion ..	27,549	27,565	27,623	27,491	+ 16
Of which gold	8,577	8,577	8,577	8,577	—
Balance abroad	11,991	11,816	11,763	11,688	+ 175
Discounts	115,019	114,438	112,815	130,041	+ 641
Government loans ..	620,109	620,109	620,109	620,109	—
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	689,490	690,138	689,465	566,883	+ 648
Deposits	55,278	55,957	50,901	24,422	+ 679

NATIONAL BANK OF BULGARIA.

(000's omitted.)

	Mar. 31, 1921.	Feb. 28, 1921.	Jan. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Month's Movement.
Assets.					
Gold	37,461	37,244	37,150	37,092	+ 217
Silver	24,396	20,725	16,876	16,910	+ 3,773
Treasury notes	216,700	244,535	258,899	263,735	+ 27,835
Bills discounted	7,002	7,034	7,088	7,185	+ 33
LIABILITIES.					
Notes in circulation ..	3,193,777	3,216,879	3,248,315	3,274,938	+ 23,102
Deposits	1,426,138	1,381,737	1,367,468	1,329,258	+ 44,401

THE STATE SAVINGS AND CREDIT BANK OF LATVIA.

	November 16, 1921.	November 1, 1921.	October 1, 1921.	Month's Movement.
Assets.				
Total cash	1,198,484	68,534,354	49,267,780	+ 22,664,130
Foreign bank	374,315,168	367,429,873	182,607,091	+ 6,885,295
Discounts and loans	391,498,366	389,867,553	342,318,524	+ 1,630,753
Other assets	169,953,318	165,543,622	51,549,394	+ 4,409,626
LIABILITIES.				
Capital	300,000,000	300,000,000	300,000,000	—
Deposits	410,849,503	370,050,935	311,562,921	+ 40,798,568
Other liabilities	316,115,773	321,324,537	14,179,868	+ 5,268,764

BANK OF ESTHONIA.

	Nov. 30, 1921.	Oct. 31, 1921.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Monthly Movement.
Assets.				
Total cash	342,493,106	307,256,714	66,743,939	+ 35,236,391
Discounts and loans	1,397,925,865	1,267,295,858	564,738,756	+ 130,623,946
LIABILITIES.				
Capital paid up	250,000,000	250,000,000	10,000,000	+ 1,000,000
Reserve	11,674,154	10,674,155	184,663	+ 1,000,000
Notes in circulation	350,000,000	250,000,000	250,000,000	+ 100,000,000
Deposits	1,021,017,110	976,597,597	565,448,243	+ 44,421,513

BANK OF CZECHO-SLOVAKIAN REPUBLIC.

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 7, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 23, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.				
Liabilities of the Austro-Hungarian Bank to the Banking Office resulting from bank notes, current accounts, Exchange bills issued by the Austro-Hungarian Bank and taken over by the Banking Office	10,084,504	10,084,504	10,084,503	—
Discount and advances	4,317,721	4,339,486	4,414,798	+ 21,785
Gold	1,145,963	1,024,004	1,125,080	+ 121,759
Other assets	1,240,288	1,252,790	1,229,738	+ 22,502
LIABILITIES.				
State notes in circulation	11,742,246	11,871,647	11,515,945	+ 129,401
Deposits	1,198,115	1,785,163	2,312,660	+ 162,952
Other liabilities	3,118,035	3,063,974	3,025,514	+ 54,121

NATIONAL BANK OF THE SERBS, CROATES, AND SLOVENES.

(000's omitted.)

	Dec. 8, 1921.	Nov. 30, 1921.	Nov. 22, 1921.	Week's Movement.
Assets.				
Gold	74,282	74,178	74,127	+ 104
Other coin and notes	19,031	19,012	17,749	+ 19
Foreign credits	293,043	302,067	323,136	+ 9,024
Bills	591,580	595,096	623,690	+ 3,536
Govt. advances	4,438,499	4,422,921	4,422,699	+ 16,008
LIABILITIES.				
Notes in circulation	4,645,879	4,619,361	4,546,021	+ 26,518
State credits	370,100	370,100	369,880	—
Deposits	284,115	263,697	431,538	+ 20,418

LONDON RATES.

	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 17, 1921.	Dec. 19, 1921.	Dec. 20, 1921.	Dec. 21, 1921.	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 23, 1921.
Bank rate (reduced from 5½% Nov. 3, 1921)	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
Market rates of discount—							
60 days' bankers' drafts	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
3 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
6 months' do.	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½
Discount (Treasury Bills)—							
3 months'	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Loans—Day to day	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Short	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½	2½
Deposit allowances: Banks	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Discount houses at call	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
At notice	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

† Additional to those offered by tender in the preceding week.

Comparison with the previous weeks:—

Compared with the previous weeks.									
		Short Loans.	Bank Bills.			Trade Bills.			
			3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	3 Months.	4 Months.	6 Months.	
Oct.	1921.	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
7.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
14.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
21.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
28.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Nov.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
11.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
18.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
25.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dec.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
2.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
9.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
16.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
23.	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

IRISH BANKS' RATE.

	Present Rate.	Date Changed.	Previous Rate.	Date Changed.
Discount	6	July 21, 1921	5	June 23, 1921
Deposit	2½	Nov. 4, 1921	3	June 23, 1921

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

OVERSEAS BANK RATES.

	Bank Rate		Bank Rate		
	Changed.		Changed.		
Amsterdam	July 1, 1915	4½	Madrid	Nov. 4, 1920	6
Athens	May 15, 1920	5½	Paris	July 28, 1921	5½
Berlin	Dec. 23, 1914	5	Prague	Aug. 16, 1921	5½
Brussels	May 19, 1921	5	Rome	May 11, 1920	6
Bucharest	Sept. 4, 1920	6	Sofia	June 14, 1921	5½
Calcutta	Dec. 15, 1921	6	Stockholm	Oct. 19, 1921	5½
Christiana	July 5, 1921	5½	Swiss Bank		
Copenhagen	Nov. 5, 1920	5½	places	Aug. 11, 1921	4
Reinsborg	Nov. 8, 1920	5	Vienna	Nov. 18, 1919	8
Lisbon	Sept. 5, 1920	7	Vienna	Aug. 15, 1921	6
New York Fed- -ral Reserve	Nov. 2, 1921	4½	Warsaw	Sep., 1921	7

for cash and two months' delivery were touched on Saturday. The upward movement was assisted by a temporary withholding of Continental and other supplies. Less energy in the Indian inquiry, rather than freer selling, brought about an easier tendency, and prices have sagged away.

INDIAN CURRENCY RETURNS.

	Nov. 30, 1921.	Dec. 7, 1921.	Dec. 15, 1921.
Notes in circulation	17,348	17,236	17,103
Silver coin and bullion in India ..	7,842	7,729	7,597
Silver coin and bullion out of India ..	2,432	2,433	2,432
Gold coin and bullion in India ..	6,440	6,440	6,440
Securities (Indian Government) ..	634	634	634
Securities (British Government) ..	634	634	634

No coinage of rupees was reported during the week ending 15th instant. The stock in Shanghai on the 17th instant consisted of about 27,300,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 570 silver bars, as compared with 27,900,000 ounces in sycee, 24,500,000 dollars, and 1,520 silver bars on the 10th instant. The Shanghai exchange is quoted at 3s 7d the tael.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.	Silver.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.
Date.			
Dec. 17 ..	98 10	36 3/4	35 1/2
19 ..	98 1	35 1/2	35 1/2
20 ..	97 8	35 1/2	35 1/2
21 ..	97 7	35 1/2	35 1/2
22 ..	97 9	35 1/2	34 3/4
23 ..	..	..	..
Dec. 29, 1915	26 1/2	..	..
29, 1916	36 1/2	..	..
28, 1917	43 1/2	..	..
28, 1918	48 1/2	..	..
26, 1919	..	..	..
24, 1920	..	..	..

NOTICES.

At a general meeting of the members of the British Overseas Banks Association, held on December 16, 1921, the following were elected to form the committee for the ensuing year:—Mr. Percy Arnold, O.B.E., Bank of Adelaide; Mr. Charles Cambie, Canadian Bank of Commerce; Mr. Leslie Couper, C.M.G., Bank of British West Africa; Mr. T. J. Finnie, London and Brazilian Bank; Mr. W. E. Preston, Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China; Mr. Sydney F. Rogers, Imperial Bank of Persia; Mr. Francis Shipton, Standard Bank of South Africa; Mr. Geo. H. Soul, Anglo-Egyptian Bank; Mr. T. R. Whitley, Royal Bank of Canada; and Mr. Arthur Willis, National Bank of New Zealand. At the subsequent meeting of the committee Mr. W. E. Preston, of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, was elected chairman thereof, and Mr. Francis Shipton, of the Standard Bank of South Africa, was re-elected honorary secretary and treasurer.

During the rebuilding of their premises in Bishopsgate, the Banque Belge pour l'Etranger, S.A., will occupy temporary offices at Moorgate Hall, Moorgate (Finsbury pavement), E.C. 2, as from December 27th. The telegraphic address remains unchanged, "Eglebonis," but the telephone numbers will be London Wall 1502, 1503 1504, 6700, 6701, and 3448, the last for the stock department only.

The London Joint City and Midland Bank, Limited, announce the opening of new branches as follows:—43A High street, Littlehampton (Mr F. H. Bush, manager); 1 Cornhill, Wisbech (Mr Henry Douglas Blount, manager); and 57 High street, Stone, Staffs (Mr Douglas P. Taylor, manager). An office has also been opened at 4 Station view, South road, Bishop Auckland.

Barclays Bank, Limited, announce that as from January 3rd next their branch at 33 to 35 Castle street, Liverpool, will be under the management of Mr M. E. Robinson. Mr Thomas Cooper, the present manager, is retiring on the 31st inst., after 45 years' service.

The Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited, advise the opening of a branch of the bank at Napier, New Zealand.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER, 1921.

	Tons Crushed.	Gold Recovered.	Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Oz.	£	£
Gold.				
Jumbo (Tip Top)	1,450	600	458	500
Mining Corp. of Canada ..	8,168	..	..	140,814
Ontario Consolidated	21,424	..	..	892,868
Quro Preto	7,100	..	2,221	10,720
Planet Areturus	5,900	1,085	1,661	2,746

Tin.	Output.	Other Notes in Return.
Tons.	Tons.	
Guram River	12	..

BROKEN HILL PROPRIETARY COMPANY.—Report for the four weeks ending December 7, 1921.—Coke produced 29,465 tons. No. 1 blast furnace produced 8,753 tons. No. 2 blast furnace 11,494 tons. No. 3 blast furnace 12,050 tons pig-iron respectively. Open hearth produced 21,437 tons steel. Blooming mill produced 19,930 tons. Rail mill produced 9,647 tons. 18-in mill produced 6,920 tons. 12-in mill produced 1,105 tons; shut down November 24th. 8-in mill produced 866 tons; shut down November 26th. Rod mill produced 2,612 tons. Broken Hill Ore-dressing mills produced 274 tons lead concentrates and 3,386 tons silices. Zinc separation plant produced 3,057 tons zinc concentrates. Slimes flotation plant produced 1,122 tons lead concentrates and 3,086 tons zinc concentrates.

ANALYSIS OF BALANCE-SHEETS.

SAMUEL ALLSOPP AND SONS.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. stock	315,707	..	Breweries	592,793	.. + 34,560
Prof. shares	753,710	..	Freehold, leasehold, and copyhold properties ..	977,986	.. + 7,966
4 1/2% debts	1,199,000	..	Trade and other investments ..	275,672	.. - 10,943
5% debts	460,340	.. - 9,462	Debtors	246,577	.. - 149,851
Deb. sinking fund ..	45,910	.. + 9,462	Stocks	464,300	.. - 293,135
Creditors, &c.	673,490	.. - 287,320	Cash	339,972	.. + 101,084
Contingent acc't ..	36,821	..	War Loan, &c. ..	133,862	..
Reserve account	200,000	.. + 50,000	Deb. dep. & invest. ..	41,209	.. + 1,524
Ord. shs. div. acc. ..	748	.. +	Goodwill	700,000	..
Prof. shs. div. acc. ..	1,381	.. + 249			
Profit and loss	85,284	.. - 71,812			
Total	3,772,391	.. - 308,795	Total	3,772,391	.. - 308,795

SLATERS, LIMITED.

September 30, 1921.

LIABILITIES.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.	ASSETS.	Amount.	Inc. or Dec.
Ord. shares	255,000	..	Freeholds and leaseholds	408,982	.. + 44,528
Prof. shares	100,000	..	Goodwill	124,500	..
Debenture stock	100,000	..	Plant, &c.	77,360	.. + 9,507
Reserve fund	47,781	..	Debtors	20,450	.. + 297
Special reserve	5,012	.. - 741	Sale of properties ..	..	.. - 2,100
Leases reserve	106,403	.. + 6,505	Deposits	95	.. + 95
Reserve for dilapidations ..	20,889	.. + 1,122	Suspense account ..	..	..
Creditors	37,326	.. - 6,839	Stock	28,294	.. - 17,778
Unclaimed div.	770	.. + 140	Investments	44,712	.. - 11,251
Deb. interest	788	..	Unex. ins., &c.	..	.. - 574
Bank overdraft	13,547	.. + 13,547	Cash	1,606	.. - 19,433
Profit and loss	18,483	.. - 10,283			
Total	705,999	.. + 3,391	Total	705,999	.. + 3,391

TRANSVAAL GOLD OUTPUT STATISTICS.

Name of Mine.	October, 1921.			November, 1921.		
	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.	Ore.	Est. Yield.	Est. Profit.
Aurora W. United (10s shares) ..	10,130	113,872	803	10,730	114,181	863
Brakpan	58,000	113,603	38,877	57,000	116,926	40,374
City Deep	30,600	188,730	66,723	30,500	174,315	54,785
Consolidated Langlaagte	45,100	169,091	17,136	45,000	166,632	15,025
Consolidated Main Reef	50,000	169,091	17,136	50,000	166,632	15,025
Crown Mines (10s shares)	198,000	304,391	63,253	171,000	280,880	70,388
Durban Roodepoort Deep	27,000	145,788	4,29	27,000	144,249	1,066
East Rand Proprietary	127,000	169,153	3,250	124,500	152,308	2,662
Ferreira Deep	32,500	151,260	9,395	33,100	152,544	10,360
Geduld Proprietary	46,500	188,136	36,003	46,000	187,757	37,876
Goldenbush Deep	47,321	163,830	2,73	48,777	165,014	869
Glyn's Lydenburg	4,003	18,069	2,435	3,600	16,752	1,218
Goch, New	17,000	119,544	806	16,000	118,517	99
Government Areas	147,000	159,087	160,122	140,000	131,903	168,128
Kleinfontein, New	51,000	170,223	5,500	48,000	166,125	3,158
Knight Central	28,000	133,177	2,675	30,000	133,447	1,528
Langlaagte Estate	43,600	169,020	15,513	45,000	169,160	14,521
Luipdaars Vlei	21,160	23,660	1,830	18,760	20,360	1,909
Meyer and Charlton	14,500	143,131	25,281	14,600	143,076	25,122
Modderfontein B.	59,000	115,930	78,541	59,000	115,604	75,223
Modderfontein Deep Levels ..	43,300	112,003	78,541	43,300	112,077	74,226
Modderfontein East	27,000	119,471	7,016	24,600	111,020	7,371
Modderfontein, New (24 shs.) ..	107,000	125,703	138,330	108,000	125,400	140,786
New Unified	11,200	115,488	2,248	11,700	113,142	2,041
Nourse Mines	44,500	175,131	5,727	45,400	178,077	7,291
Primrose, New	21,000	123,326	3,369	22,500	124,621	4,015
Randfontein Central	118,500	1180,850	15,293	121,000	1179,327	15,642
Robinson (25 shares)	40,200	140,552	704	39,500	140,863	1,443
Robinson Deep	61,300	137,773	20,088	60,500	130,699	22,703
Roodoepoort United	20,500	120,663	1,718	17,650	118,785	9,025
Rose Deep	57,700	170,985	9,789	55,900	169,818	9,912
Simmer and Jack	60,000	170,680	9,920	60,000	170,775	8,458
Spring Mines	41,400	183,032	30,559	45,300	195,158	32,601
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates ..	10,200	129,424	7,288	10,400	130,269	6,600
Transvaal Gold Mining Estates ..	15,040	127,659	4,308	14,330	121,906	7,776
Van Ryn	33,300	179,990	6,631	32,600	176,883	6,039
Van Ryn Deep	53,400	151,944	83,054	55,400	150,826	86,043
Village Deep	53,200	185,260	8,967	51,100	181,686	7,950
West Rand Consolidated	34,100	146,974	4,720	33,000	144,878	4,029
Witwatersrand Deep	33,170	149,773	7,283	33,100	150,555	6,530
Witwatersrand (Knight's)	40,500	152,265	10,062	42,700	156,237	10,009
Wolfontein	33,200	141,031	4,512	31,200	138,655	1,670

* Loss. † £5 3s per fine oz. ‡ £5 1s 6d net per fine oz. § £5 1s 9d net per fine oz. || £5 2s per fine oz. ¶ £5 3s 3d net per fine oz.

OIL OUTPUTS.

UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD, LIMITED.—Combined production for the week ending Wednesday, December 14, 1921, amounted to 823 tons.

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1921.

UNDERGROUND-ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Week's Receipts, 1921.	Aggregate Receipts, 1921.
Metropolitan District	49 weeks	Dec. 10	223,015	..	11,582,275
London Electric	..	..	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Trams ..	49 weeks	Dec. 10	48,898	..	2,680,200
London United Trams	..	..	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Trams	..	..	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..	..	..
Gearless Motor	..	..	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.		
				1920-21. + or -		1920-21. + or -		
				Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
INDIAN.								
Assam Bengal	33weeks	Nov. 19	993	2,27,602	- 49,270	52,71,464	- 17,668	
Barsi Lt. Ry.	34weeks	Nov. 26	118	23,900	+ 20,000	7,89,500	- 1,583	
Bengal & Western	7weeks	19, 20, 26	1,267	6,36,720	+ 1,83,991	36,00,400	+ 5,142	
Bengal Nagpur	33weeks	19, 26	1,267	12,75,000	+ 86,000	3,93,15,184	- 10,574	
Bombay, Bar. & C.L.	10weeks	Dec. 10	2,871	19,80,000	+ 1,24,000	1,87,88,000	+ 4,390	
Burma	32weeks	Nov. 12	1,342	50,79,000	- 52,019	1,82,54,946	- 1,551	
Delhi, Umballa & Kalkee	10weeks	Dec. 10	2,339	91,000	- 2,553	9,89,100	- 14,400	
East Indian	10weeks	Dec. 10	1,212	30,25,800	+ 1,62,900	2,96,48,000	- 2,450	
G. Indian Peninsula	34weeks	Nov. 26	3,028	11,50,000	+ 82,099	4,25,40,036	- 14,600	
Madras & Mahr.	7weeks	19, 25	259	4,024	+ 1,070	3,03,583	- 49,000	
Rohilk' & Kumaon	7weeks	19, 30	303	53,980	+ 3,120	3,57,995	+ 22,200	
Do Lucknow-Breilly	34weeks	19, 26	1,852	8,03,581	+ 2,16,139	2,89,98,209	+ 15,920	
South Indian	34weeks	19, 26	1,852	8,03,581	+ 2,16,139	2,89,98,209	+ 15,920	
Shim. Punjab (month)	5 mths	Aug. 31	717	7,41,430	- 1,62,473	40,72,416	- 3,508	
Argentine (a).								
Argentine N.E.	23weeks	Dec. 10	752	10,900	+ 1,800	271,300	- 130	
Argentine Trans.	24weeks	Dec. 10	1,111	9,200	- 776	43,805	- 53	
B. A. and Pacific	24weeks	Dec. 10	3,428	135,000	+ 20,000	2,909,000	- 14,000	
B. A. Gt. Southern	24weeks	Dec. 10	3,691	164,000	+ 3,000	3,540,000	- 26,000	
B. A. Western	24weeks	Dec. 10	1,882	80,000	+ 34,000	462,000	- 89,000	
Buenos Ayres Cent.	4 mths	Oct. 31	190	40,000	+ 6,000	1,827,000	+ 43,000	
Central Argentine	24weeks	Dec. 10	3,305	16,000	+ 14,000	218,000	- 7,000	
Cordoba Central	24weeks	Dec. 10	1,205	48,200	- 9,300	402,705	- 3,000	
Entre Rios	23weeks	Dec. 10	811	17,900	- 400	414,000	- 73,000	
Brazilian (b).								
Brazil Gt. Southern	11 mths	Nov. 30	1,155	44,000	+ 2,700	528,150	+ 33,000	
Gt. West. of Brazil	50weeks	Dec. 10	1,831	16,000	- 4,800	691,800	- 37,000	
Leopoldina	50weeks	Dec. 10	1,831	27,261	- 9,569	1,653,989	- 87,000	
San Paulo	50weeks	Dec. 10	1,831	23,687	- 17,057	1,481,486	- 85,000	
State of Bahia, S.W.	1 mth	Nov. 30	52	52,000	- 101,000	776,000	- 437,000	
Chile and Peru.								
Antofagasta	49 weeks	Dec. 11	838	14,255	- 31,355	995,575	- 1,267	
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	+ 500	..	..	
Nitrato (2 weeks)	50 weeks	Dec. 15	366	18,066	- 23,524	..	- 487,000	
Peruvian Corp.	5 mths	Nov. 30	1,053	31,377,630	+ 442,580	6,174,010	+ 540,000	
Taltal	5 mths	Nov. 30	180	9,608	- 18,180	48,444	- 95,000	
Cuban.								
Havana Central	23 weeks	Dec. 10	..	9,455	- 4,372	243,518	- 6,000	
United of Havana	24 weeks	Dec. 10	1,210	58,732	- 42,387	1,294,183	- 1,695	
Uruguayan.								
Central Uruguay	25 weeks	Dec. 17	273	26,593	+ 3,690	578,766	+ 13,000	
C. Urug. (East Ext.)	25 weeks	Dec. 17	311	30,823	- 125	110,111	- 15,000	
C. Urug. (North Ext.)	25 weeks	Dec. 17	185	3,298	- 82	63,484	- 6,000	
C. Urug. (West Ext.)	25 weeks	Dec. 17	211	22,335	- 930	51,355	- 15,000	
Midland Uruguay	5 mths	Nov. 30	519	17,421	- 12,288	72,619	- 14,000	
North-West Urug.	4 mths	Nov. 30	113	9,574	+ 3,154	34,314	+ 4,000	
Uruguay North	5 mths	Nov. 30	30	3,085	+ 1,063	9,612	- 6,000	
Other Foreign.								
Albany and Gandle	50 weeks	Dec. 17	35	20,000	+ 5,500	822,600	+ 138,000	
Bibao	11 mths	Nov. 30	15	1,815	- 450	18,427	- 17,000	
Bolivar	11 mths	Nov. 30	136	8,271	+ 1,260	109,568	+ 3,000	
Colombian Nat. Ry.	10 mths	Oct. 31	86	17,240	- 3,940	193,391	- 25,000	
Costa Rica	4 mths	Nov. 30	70	16,710	- 5,151	79,792	- 2,000	
Dorado Extension	11 mths	Nov. 30	30	17,050	- 1,800	209,000	- 24,000	
Egyptian Delta	34 weeks	Nov. 30	559	413,645	- 1,121	26,949	- 81,000	
Gt. Southern of Spain	49 weeks	Dec. 10	1,007	65,652	- 35,266	2,835,777	- 1,472,000	
Inter-Atlantic of								
Central America	11 mths	Nov. 30	30	Gross	49,315	6,945	74,858	- 8,000
La Guaira & Caracas	11 mths	Nov. 30	232	Net	8,336	9,168	26,225	- 6,000
Mexican Railway	23 weeks	Dec. 14	403	(b) 20,000	3,180	133,980	- 46,000	
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	403	\$ 335,500	+ 76,100	7,771,560	+ 177,000	
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	403	\$ 153,400	+ 302,700	5,677,900	+ 1,551,000	
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	403	\$ 407,000	+ 167,100	1,192,100	+ 1,551,000	
Do	9 mths	Sept. 30	403	Net	15,497	8,819	113,090	- 75,000
Ottoman Railway.								
Smyrna to Gandle	1 week	Dec. 10	193	6,059	- ..	90,210	- 28,000	
Paraguay Central	23 weeks	Dec. 10	107	3,640	- 88	16,880,765	+ 5,299	
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	9 mths	Feb. 28	35	\$ 2,311,374	+ 414,841	16,880,765	+ 5,299	
Puerto Cabello, &c.	11 mths	Nov. 30	35	5,003	+ 750	51,000	- 5,000	
Salvador	24 weeks	Dec. 10	100	2,282	- 921	53,563	- 26,000	
Sante Fe Province.								
French Railways	1 mth	Oct. 31	..	123,021	- 37,662	104,550	+ 40,000	
Samana & Santiago	11 mths	Nov. 30	..	5,150	- 1,132	142,094	- 14,000	
Zelma and Huera	10 mths	Oct. 31	112	(a) 15,500	+ 838	15,192,401	- 22,000	
Canadian.								
Canadian Northern	49 weeks	Dec. 14	9,750	\$ 1265,300	- 221,800	66,065,930	+ 3,951	
C. nadian Pacific	49 weeks	Dec. 14	13,402	\$ 3811,000	- 136,000	184,193,030	- 62,000	
Grand Trunk	49 weeks	Dec. 14	3,616	\$ 256,582	- 120,442	15,192,401	- 22,000	

RUBBER OUTPUTS AND DIVIDENDS.

In the table below we give the latest and past three years outputs, and dividends for five complete years of a number of Rubber Companies, while the latest reports of Rubber Companies are analysed under our Summary of Profit and Loss Accounts each week. The latest dividends declared appear under Dividend Announcements, and the Rubber Share Market is dealt with in our Stock Market section. Particulars as to the Market Price of the Commodity and other information will be found in our Produce Market Section.

Name. Year ends December 31, Except where Stated.	Outputs.			Output Month Nov. 1921.	Increase or Decrease.	Output Eleven Months of 1921, Except Where Otherwise Stated in Brackets.	Increase or Decrease.	Dividends paid in Past 5 Complete Years.					
	Year 1918.	Year 1919.	Year 1920.					1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	
	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.	%	%	%	%	%	%
Allagar	260,400	359,250	350,450	153,300	—	20,700	246,900(9)	35	15	10	10	10	10
Anglo-Java	1,842,011	2,416,470	2,103,300	153,300	—	20,700	1,578,700	353,400	15	10	10	10	10
Anglo-Malaya	1,386,264	1,662,991	1,430,807	44,438	—	53,306	751,794	543,622	85	65	45	60	10
Anglo-Sumatra (May 31)	790,899	771,865	1,058,736	52,822	—	14,254	301,893(6)	219,684	50	30	20	30	10
Ayer Kuning	609,360	960,175	943,803	70,000	+	7,500	728,550	141,050	30	20	15	30	10
Bah Lias (Oct. 31)	576,285	574,520	1,261,555	79,775	—	37,896	79,775(1)	37,895	5	5	10	10	10
Bajoo Kidool (Mar. 31)	709,515	941,776	1,026,504	72,155	—	26,967	370,441(8)	275,322	13	10	25	20	10
Bakap (June 30)	213,000	225,800	233,300	19,000	+	5,944	89,350(5)	3,105	25	10	10	5	10
Bandar Sumatra (July 31)	446,573	474,148	614,867	39,100	+	5,958	187,500(4)	14,729	10	6	12	10	10
Bantam (Java) (June 30)	965,374	749,146	913,616	—	—	—	76,125(2)	15	10	15	15	5	10
Batang (Selangor) (April 30)	407,196	348,145	571,712	—	—	—	213,330(6)	4,484	22	10	15	25	—
Batang Consolidated	265,004	321,271	407,586	23,700	—	3,807	265,109	—	—	—	—	—	—
Batu Caves	593,644	675,534	647,153	49,526	—	5,864	489,477	104,314	210	160	110	150	5
Batu Tiga	591,500	784,000	765,100	42,000	—	10,000	464,000	251,100	50	35	30	30	10
Bekoh (June 30)	454,948	443,860	—	23,337	—	10,820	144,686(5)	—	20	10	10	25	10
Bertam Consolidated (March 31)	1,007,358	1,531,416	—	139,400	+	37,400	—	55,140	27	5	10	30	5
Bukit Cih	364,250	375,743	342,250	22,000	—	5,760	260,000	7,938	25	12	5	10	10
Bukit Mertajam (June 30)	851,435	697,900	881,671	53,435	—	4,257	277,148(5)	15	10	10	10	10	10
Bukit Mertajam (March 31)	590,213	200,681	900,000	56,848	—	20,378	411,219(8)	227,625	15	10	10	10	10
Bukit Rajah (March 31)	—	—	—	—	—	—	601,583(8)	207,919	100	50	50	150	10
Bukit Sembawang	630,239	1,060,000	1,636,320	—	—	—	—	—	12	10	10	10	10
Ceylon (Para)	811,382	1,118,202	1,213,449	106,638	+	12,023	860,877	239,422	40	25	27	40	10
Cheroneese	554,389	665,165	652,456	51,134	+	13,747	441,092	156,270	14	6	12	20	10
Cheviot	468,180	815,285	875,814	51,080	—	11,920	792,710	24,880	15	10	7	21	5
Consolidated Malay	732,319	1,002,435	1,065,140	62,391	—	15,609	756,301	21,976	140	75	75	60	10
Dampasara	640,882	748,935	801,897	50,000	—	9,150	614,793	256,301	83	50	40	37	10
Dennistown	491,337	565,621	436,210	41,800	+	11,366	340,239	121,104	55	40	28	32	10
Djember	329,691	451,577	550,000	—	—	—	327,500(8)	49,369	12	5	10	20	10
Dusun Durian	587,996	752,223	1,053,163	42,629	—	37,299	679,400	291,411	12	5	5	32	10
Eastern Sumatra (June 30)	225,183	338,504	454,740	32,000	—	3,000	142,500(5)	75,500	—	—	—	—	10
F. M. S. Planters	378,000	793,000	933,000	70,000	—	5,200	606,800	54,700	6	12	5	25	10
General Ceylon	889,881	1,252,782	1,247,524	124,000	+	37,393	944,990	177,999	25	20	15	30	10
Goleonda Malay	455,045	535,932	612,403	39,349	—	2,679	424,672	142,252	45	35	20	35	10
Golden Hope	290,571	376,849	461,824	17,293	—	13,152	204,970	21,979	25	20	10	25	10
Grand Central (Ceylon)	3,382,536	5,164,927	5,217,447	522,567	+	162,628	3,888,758	794,481	14	10	10	10	10
Gula-Kulumpang	1,013,200	1,549,500	1,618,987	—	—	—	—	—	16	10	10	10	10
Harpenden	315,736	423,423	454,966	22,500	—	7,650	295,700	125,608	125	90	30	72	10
Highlands and Lowlands	1,123,799	1,504,374	1,533,919	105,100	—	5,226	1,076,383	331,433	38	17	17	30	10
Inch Kenneth (May 31)	417,249	361,180	427,039	24,980	—	3,100	172,340(6)	7,470	75	40	40	45	10
Jaya Amalgamated	663,661	937,688	932,212	70,500	—	4,235	799,654	129,068	15	10	10	10	10
Jaya Rubber Plantations	242,446	317,381	380,504	48,000	+	15,115	317,000	13,000	10	10	10	10	10
Jeram (March 31)	200,219	319,403	294,240	19,960	—	10,334	141,571	75,776	22	10	10	15	10
Jong-Landor (June 30)	613,197	564,325	663,950	59,000	+	14,704	288,500(5)	11,467	25	15	20	15	10
Jugra Land and Carey (Nov. 30)	—	—	2,457,721	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Kamuning (Perak) (June 30)	778,418	705,772	902,605	64,980	—	12,638	248,870(5)	182,408	20	6	12	12	10
Kapar Para	792,763	1,036,566	1,020,758	66,830	—	1,057	765,642	186,169	70	70	50	40	10
Kawie (Java) (March 31)	425,300	549,219	610,200	47,800	—	3,500	284,500(8)	139,100	25	20	20	20	10
Kepidalla (March 31)	557,815	505,217	536,311	—	—	—	—	—	10	5	2	10	10
Kepong (Malay)	419,320	419,320	535,704	45,399	—	15,373	418,828	252,603	85	60	40	65	10
Kinta Kelas (March 31)	450,030	700,023	693,757	63,750	—	14,200	384,150(8)	170,297	15	10	10	10	10
Kuala Lumpur (June 30)	1,627,748	1,579,662	1,709,537	79,000	—	33,600	442,000(5)	213,120	45	15	10	10	10
Kuala Selangor	506,075	640,857	656,468	56,890	—	7,031	603,473	14,104	150	133	62	62	10
Labu (F.M.S.)	700,200	1,133,792	1,120,230	60,240	—	6,160	933,480	66,220	40	30	22	25	10
Landron	1,121,362	1,245,745	1,451,209	89,532	—	28,972	996,825	309,102	10	5	6	20	10
Langen Jawa (Aug. 31)	698,281	700,222	812,728	36,300	—	10,696	94,000(3)	49,237	15	12	15	7	10
Langkat Sumatra	403,000	467,900	500,000	35,000	—	1,760	300,000	8,300	30	15	12	12	10
Leabury	528,226	703,329	635,259	32,220	—	19,375	397,462	216,677	32	20	15	25	10
Linggi Plantation, Ord.	1,782,052	2,804,900	2,804,217	191,330	—	6,796	1,933,005	648,231	140	116	50	25	10
London Asiatic	1,177,919	1,615,566	1,607,086	114,040	—	9,357	1,301,210	259,643	45	40	25	35	10
Lumut (Sept. 30)	974,500	1,108,000	1,431,500	83,700	—	4,160	180,500(2)	18,760	20	12	17	12	10
Malacca, Ordinary	3,250,504	4,210,746	4,084,666	264,440	—	72,994	3,198,890	524,766	45	20	10	30	10
Malayalam	1,519,844	1,752,709	1,853,366	109,300	—	83,018	1,131,251	496,487	10	8	8	12	10
Mendaris	543,014	1,025,557	1,416,558	101,802	—	3,198	1,005,289	306,040	10	10	10	5	10
Merlimau	1,248,978	1,509,080	1,646,217	108,333	—	882	1,027,810	489,940	18	16	14	19	10
New Crocodile	494,830	625,709	782,070	50,940	—	1,195	457,910	260,840	20	10	10	17	10
Nordana (Johore)	523,435	608,753	734,464	—	—	—	398,316(10)	239,479	13	11	10	10	10
North Hummock (March 31)	637,621	548,392	653,558	58,500	+	14,290	370,479(8)	70,035	30	15	15	25	10
Padaang Java (March 31)	213,429	339,188	302,272	23,193	—	838	172,453(8)	41,744	16	6	10	20	10
Panawatie	495,293	676,583	751,379	77,605	—	12,830	650,068	27,694	25	22	12	20	10
Pataling	507,813	578,278	761,538	44,854	—	3,932	489,772	212,028	300	250	150	250	5
Pegoh (Sept. 30)	606,558	769,308	1,067,238	55,804	—	13,093	100,665(2)	48,135	20	10	35	10	10
Perak Rubber (March 31)	426,736	593,490	587,171	47,797	—	19,140	349,272(8)	78,629	37	22	6	18	10
Port Dickson-Lukut (March 31)	538,644	851,318	787,500	58,800	—	12,441	396,350	113,100	12	10	10	10	10
Rangoon Para	390,543	511,142	535,365	49,970	—	17,730	407,945	53,068	7	6	10	10	10
Rani (Travancore)	748,083	883,806	793,597	92,789	—	14,495	615,239	82,940	16	12	6	15	10
Rubber Estates of Johore	538,832	677,548	722,240	43,934	—	8,317	463,300	182,027	20	20	12	25	10
Sampang Java	334,350	415,000	352,770	31,000	—	6,500	264,650	18,010	17	10	5	12	10
Sapumakande	195,341	280,900	3										

now asking prices based on the recent advances in tops. Some fair weights of yarn have been booked during the past week, and this is one of the most encouraging features of the trade. There is also rather more doing in piece goods, and manufacturers who have orders for which they have not covered in yarns are placed in a quandary owing to the rising market. On the whole, the year is drawing to a close with values exceedingly firm, and a much brighter outlook than at any time during recent months.

COLONIAL WOOL. (FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

Wool markets are firm and advancing everywhere, and it looks as if a new chapter has opened in connection with the raw material. Buyers are apparently becoming more optimistic, the activity seen during December having inspired them with greater confidence regarding the future. The sale held at Hull last week passed off very satisfactorily, notwithstanding that the offerings were of a most miscellaneous and disappointing character. There was a good deal of grumbling among the buyers at the many lots which were catalogued as "extra super combing," but which were not even passable combing, and if they had known the actual character of these wools some of the buyers would have left earlier. One of these had been round all the offerings by 3 o'clock on Monday, and was kicking his heels till Thursday greatly disappointed at what he had seen. Intending buyers are entitled to better consideration than this. It is essential that all wool should be correctly described in the catalogues, and it is certainly ridiculous to catalogue as extra super combing wools that would not give a clean yield of more than 43 per cent., and which was distinctly deficient in length and character. However, anything of combing style showed 5 per cent. advance, though many question the advance quoted in the public Press for crossbreds, 10 to 15 per cent., which was the rise named, surprising a good many. No doubt values were distinctly in sellers' favour, and many felt that even crossbreds were worth buying, although in Bradford no one is paying any more for medium and coarse crossbred tops. The closing sales for the year have finished with a strong tone, and with the attitude of buyers distinctly more favourable to the free movement of the raw material.

Turning to colonial markets, Australian and South African advances all show a strong tone, and it now remains for European markets to maintain a similar front. It is understood that during the past ten days a very large business has been done in Bradford in tops and yarns, covering practically all qualities, but consisting mostly of merinos. It looks as if the home trade have made up their mind to buy, and it is a fact that many firms have now sold their whole output of tops and yarn to the end of March; 3s 9d has been paid for 64's tops for April delivery, which is clear proof of returning confidence in the future. Those who have sold at 3s 5d stand to suffer serious loss unless they have covered in Australia. The latest cable advices state that in Sydney last week good 64-66's topmaking wools were selling on a clean basis of 39d, c.i.f. Bradford. Good spinners 64's were disposed of on a clean basis of 42d, which is all proof that there is nothing cheap in Australia.

A sale of B.A.W.R.A. wool, including 1,700 bales of Australian, and a quantity of New Zealand wool, and consisting almost entirely of inferior scoured and greasy lots, was held in Bradford on Tuesday. The purpose of this sale was to separate the inferior offerings from those available for sale in other centres in this country in order to give the better lines of wool a better chance. What will happen at future sales in London when good combing wools are offered remains to be seen, but it now seems pretty certain that all declines are for the time being done with. With regard to the Bradford offerings, prices were fully maintained on a level with the previous sale at Hull, when values for all greasy wools were above a parity with London. The shabbiest lots were largely taken by merchants.

THE TIMBER TRADE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Contrary to expectations, the wintry weather has changed, and shipments on a fairly large scale have been made from Sweden and Finland. Even now navigation is permissible at Baltic ports in the Sundsvall and Gelfe districts, whilst from Archangel cargoes have been reaching us, showing that Soviet Russia is not sparing in trouble and expense to get timber lying there to this country. Thus the moderate stocks of wood on the British market a month ago have been supplemented by fairly large arrivals, with promise of still more to come, but in spite of these additions to spot stocks, the home market has shown a firmness in values over the month, and rumour has it that the market will go higher before f.o.w. next year. The deliveries of building woods from docks and ex ship have been fairly good, but not on such a large scale as those of last year, and it must also be added that much of the recent clearances have gone to replenish timber merchants' yards, which had been allowed to get very low in stock owing to the lull in f.o.b. purchasing between January and August. The legitimate consumption is not, however, of such a satisfactory character as those holding moderate to large stocks would desire, and the speculative element in the market, though at the moment not very large, might send prices to a figure that would still further restrict buying for consumption, and have the effect of eventually entailing losses on an inflated market.

The question of timber prices for 1922 is now being considered by English importers, who are faced with a similar, though less acute, difficulty as that which confronted them exactly a year ago. Then Swedish exporters insisted on a £32 Petrograd standard

basis for 7 in. battens, which stopped f.o.b. trading for six months (ending with the break-up of the selling combine), whereas they are now demanding £20. Whether the future will provide a demand that will make the above basis quotation a business one remains to be seen; but in view of the fact that the high prices of timber (though not nearly so high comparatively as other building materials) are now restricting the demand, little purchasing for f.o.w. can be expected until importers are absolutely compelled to come into the market. Advices to hand state that Swedish exporters have shipped only a little more than half-a-million standards this year (about half of her 1913 shipments), and that with overlying stocks and new productions, she will have a million standards for next season. With the supplies from Finland and likely increases from Russian and other European ports, there seems to be a prospective sufficiency of supplies that would make it difficult for foreign timber manufacturers to hold at other than supply and demand prices. The lower values ruling a few weeks ago for mahogany logs have greatly stimulated the demand, and considerable quantities have been disposed of and yards replenished. For American hardwood lumber the inquiries have fallen off to some extent owing to the approaching holidays, but better business is expected in the New Year. For cedar the market has shown an improvement for the better grades. Teak timber is still a disappointing market, the demand continuing to be of a very limited character.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The year is closing with a better tone in the hide market, as prices are gradually recovering from the recent slump. Provincial prices held firm this week, and tanners seem in a better mood. The foreign position is also steady, and business done in frigorifics at origin has been at steady prices, as America is still in the market. Dry hides have also sold better, B.A. Americanos making 8½d shipping weights. The American position is cabled as easier, with best heavy packers still quoted at 16½ cents.

On the whole, the year is closing with a better tone in the leather trade, and tanners seem hopeful the worst has passed. True, trade is quiet for sole leather, but this is partially accounted for by the lack of wintry weather. Repairers are finding their business very slow, and the amount of repairing very much below normal at this time of the year. Good-class repairing bends are selling at 3s to 3s 2d per lb, but low, dry hide bends, favoured by the cheap manufacturing trade, may be bought freely at about half this figure, although there are already complaints as to the wear of much of the rubbish which has of late flooded the market. Anxiety is still expressed at the possibility of a dump of American sole leather now that the exchange has improved, and of late fair-sized quantities have been landed in Liverpool. The upper leather section is slow, with the demand for low grades still a feature. American supplies are increasing, and offers of big blocks of willow and box leather have lately been received from the other side. British glacé tanners are, however, fairly busy again, although the high price of goat skins hampers their enterprise.

The shoe trade is slowly improving, as inquiries are coming in from overseas customers, and much is hoped for in view of the probable Irish settlement, as quite a large business was formerly done in boots with the Emerald Isle.

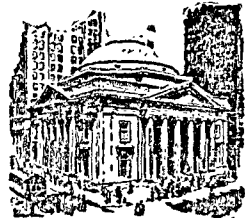
PORTLAND CEMENT.

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocrete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

GIRARD TRUST COMPANY

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.



Chartered 1836.

Capital and Surplus - \$10,000,000.

Member of Federal Reserve System.

Equipped to perform all kinds of fiduciary service—under appointment by courts, corporations and individuals.

Correspondence invited.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Thursday, December 22.

Business in most directions pursued a quiet course, holiday influence being felt, and prices in some instances ruled weaker.

SUGAR.—A further decline was registered on all descriptions, and a fair demand predominated. Messrs Tate and Lyle's cubes sold, 52s to 53s; crushed, 49s 3d; nibs, 50s; granulated, fine and coarse, 47s 9d; London, 47s 3d; caster, 49s 3d to 49s 9d; yellow crystals, 41s 9d. No. 2, and also London granulated, January, 46s; and February-March, 45s 6d. West India crystallised sold, 38s to 39s 6d, as to quality. American granulated, spot, changed hands at 46s 9d; ditto, January-March, 18s, c.f. and i. terms. White Java, spot, sold, 44s to 44s 6d; ditto, due steamer, 19s, c.f. and i. White Mozambique, 43s to 45s; white Natal, 43s 6d to 45s; Belgian crystals, spot, sold, 43s to 44s, as to sample; ditto, ready, 13s 3d, f.o.b., Antwerp. Brazilian, basis 80 per cent., January-February, London, sold, 9s 6d, c.f. and i.; with Peruvian and Cuban, basis 96 per cent., January-February, offered, at 11s 6d, c.f. and i. Stocks in Cuba amount to 940,500 tons, against 205,300 last year. Terminal market quiet and featureless. White, May, also August, sold, 17s 3d.

COFFEE.—There was a fair general inquiry for all the better qualities, and full recent rates were secured. Common sell rather quietly as export requirements do not extend. Future delivery market quiet. March, sold, 52s to 51s 9d; and May, 53s to 52s 6d.

TEA.—Only 23,000 packages Indian were offered during the week, and engaged but moderate attention, while prices ruled somewhat irregular and easier, particularly with regard to the finer descriptions.

COCOA.—Market still quiet, but rates show no material change. Cocoa butter slow at 1s 7d per lb.

RICE.—Market quiet and featureless. Two Stars Rangoon, spot, 17s 6d. Broken kinds neglected and nominal. New crop scarcely mentioned. Beans quiet. Rangoon, hand-picked, spot, 8s 6d; afloat, 7s 9d, c.f. and i. Japanese peas, January-February, 30s.

SPICE.—A moderate amount of business was effected in pepper at generally steady prices. Fair black Singapore, spot, sold, 3½d; October-December, steamer, 3½d to 3½d; Aleppy, spot, quoted 4d; Tellicherry, 4½d; white Singapore, spot, 7½d; Muntok, ditto, 7½d; ditto, January-March, sold, 7½d to 7½d, and 7½d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 6d to 1s 6½d; December-February, steamer, 1s 4½d. Pimento, spot, 2½d. Tapioca steady, quiet. Fair flake, spot, sold, 1½d; ditto, December-February, steamer, London, 15s 3d; fair Penang seed pearl, on spot, sold, 16s; ditto, December-February, London, quoted 16s 6d. Small sago, spot, 26s; sago flour, October-December, sellers, 13s 9d; January-March, 13s 3d. Dried coconut, fine cut, spot, sold, 41s; medium, 42s; and February-March, halves, quoted 40s. Cinnamon steady, quiet. Ceylon firsts, 1s 1d per lb.

FRUIT.—The market for currants ruled quietly steady. Pyrgos quoted 53s; Amalia, 56s to 60s; Vostizza, 75s to 85s. Valencia raisins quiet. Halves quoted 128s to 130s; quarters, 132s to 155s. Sultanas steady, quiet. Smyrna, 110s to 125s; choice, 140s. Dates sold quietly at previous quotations, Siar, 28s 6d.

JUTE.—Despite stiff advices by cable from Calcutta and the settlement of the strike, a quieter tone ensued in the London market, and prices were the turn easier. Continental spinners were inclined to show more reserve after recent fairly liberal purchases. The close, however, was steady. New crop, first grade, December-January and January-February, Continent, sold, £26 to £25. Lightning grade ditto, £21 10s to £21; heart grade quoted £17 10s. Calcutta hessians steady. 10-oz, spot, sold, 22s 9d; 8-oz quoted 19s 3d. A twills, spot, quoted 78s; B, ditto, 62s.

HEMP.—The market for Manila presented much firmer features, sellers adopting reserved measures, owing to higher rates now ruling with regard to Mexican sisal on the imposition of an export tax. New Zealand and African sisal also influenced thereby. C grade, December-February quoted £54; D, £50; E, £46; G, £39 10s; J, £38; K, £35 10s; L, £35; M, £32. Streaky one, £43; two, £41; three, £39. New Zealand high point, fair, spot, quoted £38, and business done in fair at £36.

SHELLAC.—Market steady, though rather quiet. T.N., spot, sold, 330s; March delivery, 295s to 297s 6d and 287s 6d.

COPRA.—Market steady, but actual dealings were on a small scale. F.M.S., Straits, December-February and also January-March, Rotterdam, sold, £26 10s to £27; F.M., ditto, December-February, Marseilles, £26; Ceylon, December-February, London, quoted £28; South Sea Islands, ditto, £25 10s; Cebu, ditto, Hamburg, £25 18s 9d; Java, January-March, Rotterdam, £27 5s. Palm kernels firm. January-March, Liverpool, sold, £18 5s to £18 15s.

EGG PRODUCTS.—Market quiet, but steady. Prime liquid yolk, spot, 110s; ditto, April-June, 67s 6d, c.f. and i. Albumen, spot, 2s 11½d.

MENTHOL.—Spot, 21s; Japanese peppermint oil, 4s 6d; aniseed 2s 2d. Japanese slab camphor, spot, 5s; crude, spot, 3s 11d per lb. Japanese wax, spot, 100s cwt.

RUBBER.—Market unsettled, and easier during the greater part of the week. Standard crepe and also sheet, spot, sold, 11½d to 10½d and 11½d; January-March, 11½d to 11½d and 11½d; April-June, 1s 0½d to 11½d, and 1s. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 2½d; ball ditto, 8½d per lb.

OILS.—Linseed steadier. Spot, net, naked, 28s 6d; January-April, 27s 6d; May-August, 27s 9d. Rape dull. Crude, spot, 45s; refined, 50s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 37s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 45s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 66s; and shipment, 64s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 46s; December-January, 42s 6d; Cochin, ditto, 46s. Soya steady. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 34s 6d. Japan fish quiet. December-January, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 29s to 30s. Groundnut quiet. Eng-

International Banking Service

THE Guaranty Trust Company of New York offers a complete and direct banking service to all parts of the world.

Its chief functions and facilities are:

Opening current and deposit accounts
Dealing generally in foreign exchange and collecting foreign bills

Issuing documentary credits and discounting approved acceptances

Issuing letters of credit and travellers' cheques
Supplying credit information to responsible firms and companies

Buying and selling foreign and domestic securities for customers' account
Safe-keeping of securities

Acting as executor and trustee under wills, etc.

The Company issues a series of booklets which explain the wide range of its services and also contain commercial and financial information of current interest.

A list of "Publications of Current Interest" will be sent on request.

Guaranty Trust Company of New York

A Complete International Bank

LONDON OFFICES
32 Lombard Street, E.C.3
50 Pall Mall, S.W.1
29 Kingway, W.C.2
LIVERPOOL OFFICES
27 Cotton Exchange Buildings and 51 Castle Street
NEW YORK PARIS BRUSSELS HAVRE ANTWERP CONSTANTINOPLE

SOUTH-NORWAY.

FREDRIKSSTAD PRIVATBANK,

Fredriksstad.

Paid-up Capital
and Reserves:
Kr. 23,000,000.

Banking and Exchange
Business
of every description.

London Bankers:—Hambros Bank of Northern Commerce, Limited; London County Westminster & Parr's Bank, Limited; London Joint City & Midland Bank, Limited; Cox & Co.

The Economist,

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL TIMES,

Bankers' Gazette and Railway Monitor:
A POLITICAL, LITERARY, AND GENERAL NEWSPAPER.

Vol. XXIII.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1921.

No. 4,088.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The Money Market	1145	Company Meetings	1163
Leading Articles—		Government Returns—	
Cannes	1147	Treasury Bills by Public	
Money in 1921	1148	Tender	1169
A Year's New Capital ...	1149	Currency Notes Account..	1169
Labour in 1921	1150	Public Income & Expendi-	
Russian Financial Policy. 1152		ture	1169
Business Notes—		Bankers' Gazette—	
Banca Italiana Di Sconto. 1153		Bank of England	1170
Coal Output	1153	Clearing Returns	1170
Rubber Problems	1153	Overseas Bank Returns ..	1171
Official Cotton Trade		Loan and Discount Rates	1172
Statistics	1153	Overseas Bank Rates	1173
The Situation in Mexico..	1154	Rates of Exchange	1173
Bulgaria's Difficulties...	1154	Bullion	1174
Roumania's Recovery	1154	Imports and Exports of	
The Salvador Debt Settle-		Gold	1174
ment	1154	Gold and Silver Prices ..	1174
S. Smith and Sons	1155	Company News—	
Hungarian Property ...	1155	Dividend Announcements. 1162	
Overseas Correspondence—		Mining Output Statistics. 1174	
United States	1155	Reports and Notices	1174
France	1156	Railway and Tramway	
Italy	1157	Traffics	1175
Australia	1158	Profit and Loss Accounts.. 1176	
Poland	1158	Commercial Reports—	
Switzerland	1159	Corn Trade	1176
Books and Publications—		Iron and Coal Trade	1177
Reviews	1159	Cotton Trade	1178
Books Received	1160	Wool Trade	1178
Stock Exchange News—		Vegetable Oils and Oilseeds 1179	
The Stock Markets	1160	Hide and Leather Trades.. 1179	
New Issues	1161	Portland Cement	1179
Active Securities	1162	Overseas Produce Markets 1179	
		Price Current	1180

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Quarterly, 14s 6d; Half-yearly, £1 9s 6d; Yearly, £2 18s 6d.
Colonies and Abroad, £3 15s 6d per Annum.
Single Copies, One Shilling.

Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Proprietors of the "Economist."

Office: Granville House, Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C. 2.

Copies of the *Economist* may always be obtained in the City at Messrs Davies and Co., 95 Bishopsgate; Leathwait and Simmons, 5 Birchin lane; Barker and Howard, 6 Fenchurch buildings, Sugar Loaf court, Leadenhall street; Pottle and Son, 15 Cullum street; Willing and Co., Limited, 50 Cophall avenue, and 53 Finsbury pavement.

Paris: Galgani Library, 224 Rue de Rivoli; Messrs Brentano's, 37 Avenue de l'Opera. New York: *Economist* Office, 20 Broad street (Room 1,709).

THE MONEY MARKET.

AFTER the Christmas holiday there was a heavy accumulation of home and foreign payments to be made in the money market. With the last day of the year falling on a Saturday, there was no inclination to postpone the application for loans from the Bank of England which is usual at this season, so the market borrowed a fair amount there on Wednesday and Thursday, and still more yesterday. Three months' bills were taken at 3½ per cent. for cash, but for delivery after the turn of the year the rate was naturally

lish crushed, naked, spot, 45s; deodorised, barrels, 59s. Turpentine irregular. American, spot, 67s 3d; January-April, 67s 9d. Rosin lower. American, grade B, 16s; F, 16s; G, 16s; K, 18s; WW, 21s; French, F/G, 15s; H, 15s; WW, 18s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OILSEEDS.—Linseed: Market irregular. Calcutta, December-January, sold, £16 12s 6d to £17 5s; Plate, spot, Hull, quoted £17 5s; afloat, £17; December-January, £16 10s; January-February at £16 5s. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, December-January, £18; real bold Ferozepore quoted £18; brown Cawnpore, £17. Cotton-seed quieter. Egyptian black, December, sold, £13 to £12 15s; and white, £12 10s to £12 5s. Bombay, December-January, £9 2s 6d. Gingly firm. Chinese, November-December, Continent, £24 10s. Castor, Bombay, December-January, £16 10s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, December-January, Hull, £20 15s; new crop, December-January, Continent, £20 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £20 15s per ton.

METALS.—Tin: The market exhibited irregularity and ease until last Tuesday, cash fluctuating down to £171 10s, and three months' to £172 5s, while since registered at £173 10s. During the middle of the week, cash changed hands at £172 to £171 10s, and three months' between £173 15s and £173, finally at £173 7s 6d. At Thursday's session the tendency was rather easier. Cash sold at £170 5s to £171, late January £171 15s, early February £172 5s, and three months' £172 10s to £172 5s, while since done at £173. English ingots £170 10s to £171. Copper remained generally quiet and slightly lower, being steady at the decline. Standard cash during the first part of the week moved at £66 17s 6d to £66 15s, and three months' £67 17s 6d to £67 15s. At Wednesday's meeting a low but steady tone prevailed, with business chiefly in cash at £66 15s, and early January at £67. Rates declined slightly at Thursday's market. Cash realised £66 5s, and three months' £67 10s to £67 5s. Electros, £74 10s to £75 10s. Lead steady at £25 5s to

£24 7s 6d as to position. Spelter maintained at £27 7s 6d. Antimony: English regulus, £36 to £39. Aluminium: Home delivery, £120; export, £125.

TALLOW.—Messrs Colchesters and Woolner write on December 21, 1921, as follows:—The tallow market was steadier during the week and prices show no quotable decline. There was almost sufficient demand to clear the last catalogues, and the next catalogues are fixed for January 4th. Shipments of tallow from Australasia during November, amounted to 2,906 tons. At auction to-day—casks tallow were offered, and—were sold. Quotations are:—Australian mutton: Fine, 44s; good to fair, 42s to 40s; dull to dark, 37s to 34s; hard, 44s. Australian beef: Fine, 42s; good to fair, 40s to 37s; dull to dark, 36s to 34s; sweet, 45s. Present shipment from Australasia:—Mutton, fair coloured, 48 degs., 41s; and mixed, 43½, c.i.f., London, 40s. The market letter is unchanged. Town tallow, 35s 6d per cwt. Rough fat, per 8 lbs, 1½d; melted stuff, 23s per cwt. Quotations are:—Town, 33s 6d net cash, naked, ex works. Country: Frail casks, 30s; home melted, shipping casks, net, f.o.b., good coloured, none; fair to dull, 34s to 32s. Bone fat: White, none; pale, none; benzine, 28s; melted stuff, 28s, f.o.b.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—DECEMBER 21.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	s	d	s	d	Sheep—Downs	s	d	s	d
Short-horns	7	8	8	0	Longwools	9	6	10	0
Devons	8	4	9	0	Crossbred	8	0	9	4
Norfolks	8	4	9	0	Scottish	9	6	10	0
Scottish	9	0	0	0	Lamb—Downs	nominal			
Irish	7	0	0	0					

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—DECEMBER 21.

Per Cwt.	s	d	s	d	Per Cwt.	s	d	s	d
King Edwards	9	6	11	0	Evergoods	6	0	7	0
British Queen	8	0	9	0	Blacklands	5	6	9	0

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.				DRUGS.—s d s d				INDIA RUBBER.—lb—s d s d				PROVISIONS.—s d s d				SPICES.—Pepper, per lb—s d s d			
COCOA—Duty, British grown				Cape, good to fine. 25				Para, fine, hard, spot 1				Butter—per cwt.				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.				Balmam Peru. 7				Plantation crepe 0				Irish creamery				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Trinidad, per cwt.				Campli 2				INDIGO—per lb				Do factory nom				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Granada 43				Cayenne, refined 1				Bengal, good red vici-				Argentine 133				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Ceylon, plantation . . . 72				Cardamoms, Ceylon. . . . 1				let to fine 11				Do nom				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Guatemala, do 54				Cantharides 0				Mid. ord. vici. to good . . 9				New Zealand 148				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Bahia, finest 58				Castor-oil 10				Low to good ord 7				Danish 132				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
COFFEE—British grown				Castor-oil, Siam 7				Madras, dry leaf, good . . 5				Becon, singl.—Irish 131				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
35s. foreign 42s. cwt.				Gum Gutt. Siam 7				Do low to ord 1				Danish 134				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do good to fine 110				Oilbannum, drops 0				Kurpah, g. mid. to g. d. . . 6				Canadian 110				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do good to fine 140				Ipecacuanha 6				Low to mid. 4				American 100				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Central American, g. d.				Jalap. 75				HEMP—per ton				Hemp—Irish 114				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Mid. to fine 110				Oil, Cassia 6				St. Petersburg, layer . . . nom				Canadian 114				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Colombian, ordinary . . . 60				Aniseed 2				Manila, Oct./Dec. 38				American 105				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do good to low mid . . . 70				Peppermint, H. G. H. . . 45				N. Z. spot, high fair . . . 38				Irish bladders 70				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do mid. to fine 95				RHEUMATISM, H. G. H. . . 45				JUTE—s d s d				Lard—Irish bladders . . . 70				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
CHEMICALS.—per lb—s d s d				DYE STUFFS, &c.—				Native first marks, Jan./Feb. 1st grade . . . 25				Pork—per 8 lbs 6				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Acid, citric 2				Galls, China, per cwt . . . 0				LEATHER—per lb—s d s d				Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb . . 6				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Nitric 0				Turmeric, Bengal 20				Sole Benda 6/10 lb. . . . 2				Neotech 8				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Oxalic, net 0				Rhubarb, Bengal 24				Do do 10/12 2				Cheese—Irish 9				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Tartaric, English 1				Gambler, block 35				Do do 12/14 2				New Zealand 9				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Foreign 1				Cutch, ord. to fair 35				Do do 14/16 2				Eng. Cheddars 123				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Alum lump, per ton				DYEWOODS—				Do do 16/18 1				Cheshire nom				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do ground 150				Eucalyptus, per ton . . . 14				Do do 17/18 1				Eggs, per 12 1/2 English . . 72				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Ammonia, carb., p. lb . . 0				Rustic, Jamaica 18				Bark Teak 10				Irish 38				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Muriatic, White, ton . . 70				Cuba 15				Shldrs fr DS Hides . . . 0				FLOUR—250 lbs				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sulphate 216				Lima Wood 20				Do Eng or W8 do 11				Eng. straight ex mill 46 . . 0				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Arsenic, lump, per ton . . 70				Logwood, Camaguey . . . 20				Bellies fr DS do 0				RICE—per 100 lbs				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Powder 50				Houttu 12				Do Eng or W8 do 0				Rangoon No. 2 17				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Ashes, pot., per cwt . . . 50				Jamaica 12				Dressing Hides 1				Broken 1a 12				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Pearl do 100				Red Sanders 12				Ro. Eng. Calif. 20/50lb . . 4				ROBIN—per ton—				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Bleaching pwr. p. ton . . 160				Sapsang Ceylon 15				Australian Silks 1				American 16/0				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Borax, crystals 50				FLAX—spot—c. l. f. . . . 2				METALS—B. Copper . . . s d s d				French 15/0				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do powder 32				KIDNEY—KIDNEY 115				Best selected 68				SAGO—Pearl, per cwt . . . 25				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Cream Tartar 122				Pernau Hyd. 115				Sheets (strong) 68				Sago flour 17				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
35% powder 122				Siamet U-A Mediam 125				Do 66				SHELLAC—per cwt—s d s d				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Calomel 4				FRUIT—New selected				Lead—Eng. Pip. p. ton . . . 0				Second, fair to fine . . . 395				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Iodine, dry 1				Do 4				Soft Foreign 24				TN Orange 353				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Nitrate of Soda, p. ton . . 150				Do 4				Splitter G.O.B. 27				Karni, Lac, AG 235				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Chlorate, net 0				Do 4				Tack, English 19				Butter—Pure 420				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Frussate 1				Do 4				Do do bars 170				Buckley (TUN) 316				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sulphate 25				Do 4				Standard, cash 170				SHILK—per lb				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sal-Acetic 10				Do 4				OILS—Fish, per ton—s d s d				Canton 32				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sal-Ammoniac, per ton . . 10				Do 4				Seal, pale 43				Tussah 12				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Soda Bicarb., per ton . . . 210				Do 4				Seed, Linseed, per ton . . . 28				Re-cleared 10				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Crystals, ex ship, p. ton . . 270				Do 4				Net, unsked 50				Japan 50				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Alkali 250				Do 4				Rape, refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Canstic 250				Do 4				Cotton-seed, crude 37				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sugar of lead white ton . . 0				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Foreign white 247				Do 4				Cocoa-nut, crude 0				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sulphate Quinine nom				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Foreign do 3				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Sulphate Copper, p. ton . . 280				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Zinc, cut 28				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Schur Flour 16				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Do 16				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb . 4				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
English 4				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
COPRA—per ton c. l. f. . . 2				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Malabar, Jan./Mar. . . . nom				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
Ceylon 28				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
FMS Singapore 28				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
FM Straits 26				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			
COCHINEAL per lb 2				Do 4				Edible refined 45				Do 45				SINGAPORE—Pepper, per lb			

weaker, and, apart from the seasonal piling-up of cash balances, the supply of money was as great as ever.

	Dec. 30, 1921.	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 16, 1921.	Dec. 9, 1921.	Previous Rate and Date Changed.
Bank Rate	5%	5%	5%	5%	(Nov. 3, '21)
Banks Deposit Rate	3	3	3	3	3 (Nov. 3, '21)
Discount, Call	3	3	3	3	3 (Nov. 3, '21)
Houses (Notice)	3½	3½	3½	3½	3½ (Nov. 3, '21)
Treasury Bills, 3 months ..	3½	3½	3½	3½	..
Market rate (3 months' bills)	3½	3½	3½	3½	..

* Additional to those offered by tender the preceding week.

The Bank return showed an addition of £3,200 to the stock of gold, and a reduction of £150,800 in the note circulation, so that the Reserve was £154,000 higher. Government securities were further reduced by £13,862,600, and Other securities were £2,035,200 lower. Deposits thus declined by £15,733,600, Other being reduced by £17,674,500, while Public rose by £1,941,000. The circulation of currency notes was increased by £1,155,500 to £325,584,400, which includes £1,745,400 for notes called in but not yet cancelled. The fiduciary issue is £275,889,000, or £41,666,200 below the maximum.

The following table shows public income and expenditure for the week ended December 24, 1921:—

RECEIPTS.	Min. £	EXPENDITURE.	Min. £
From Revenue	23,612	Supply Services	15,738
		Interest on Debt	2,543
		Sundries	466
		Reduction of Debt	4,853
		Added to Exchequer Balances ..	512
	23,612		23,612

These operations reduced the National Debt by the sum of £4,852,946, and caused the following changes:—

	Min. £		Min. £
Treasury Bonds	+ 10,465	Surrenders of Bonds, &c.	- 725
National Savings Certificates ..	+ 220	Bank of England Advances ..	- 13,000
Treasury Bills	+ 4,112	Public Department Advances ..	- 7,054
Housing	+ 3,440	Unemployment Insurance	- 440
		Depreciation Fund	- 1,000
		Telegraph (Money) Act	- 800
		Sundries	- 551
	+ 18,217		- 23,070

Customs and Excise yielded £8,693,000, Special Receipts under Miscellaneous £7,250,314, and Property and Income-tax £2,086,000. Treasury Bond sales amounted to £10,465,000. The floating debt was reduced by £15,959,000, to £1,274,710,000, advances by the Bank of England being entirely wiped off by the repayment of £13,000,000.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES.

The short business period since the 23rd has been the quietest for a long time past, not only in consequence of the holiday period, but because there is a general feeling of uncertainty as to the results of the coming conference on the economic affairs of Europe. For a large part any favourable results of a satisfactory settlement of reparation and a serious attempt to tackle the problem of Russia have already been discounted, and the markets are waiting anxiously to know which way to turn. The only marked feature has been a rapid rise in the lira from 94.50 to 99.25, as the result of the serious banking trouble in Italy, and the fear that it may not be possible to isolate the affairs of the bank in question. Until greater clarity has been obtained we may perhaps expect a further rise. In Paris the rate improved from 52.77½ to 52.10 on the 28th, but it has since risen again to 52.57½ yesterday morning, consequent upon the position in which France has placed itself by its attitude over the submarine question. As usual, the Brussels rate has moved in sympathy, falling from 55.07½ to 54.54½, and rising again to 55.05. The rate for futures in Paris is par to

2 centimes per month over spot, while in Brussels it is 8 to 12 centimes per month below spot. The Berlin rate has been exceptionally steady, quotations yesterday morning being 780, as compared with 797½ on the 23rd, after being down to 771 on the 29th. The future quotation is 2 to 3 marks per month below spot. The New York rate has also been relatively steady, and has moved quietly in favour of this country from 4.18½ to 4.19½. The rate for futures has narrowed slightly to ½ per month over spot. Among the "neutral" exchanges, Holland has moved 1 cent. against us to 11.43½, while Switzerland has risen from 21.43½ to 21.45, and Spain from 28.12½ to 28.15½, after some considerable fluctuations. In the Northern group Finland, whose improving trade gives promise of better rates, after some improvement, is back again at 215½, the same as the 23rd; Norway has continued its recent improvement, being 26.27½, as compared with 26.72½; Stockholm has moved from 16.81½ to 16.77½, while Copenhagen has moved up sharply again, after its recent recovery to 21.15½. In Central Europe the Austrian rate for Inlandskronen on the 23rd, the last date for which figures are available, was 23,500, as compared with 27,150 the week before. The Auslandskrone rate yesterday was 11,000, as compared with 10,500 on the 23rd. Warsaw, at 12,000, remains unchanged, as also Budapest, at 2,600. The Prague rate continues to improve, and is now down to 290; Belgrade, however, is still marked 270 sellers, Bucharest is still unquoted, and Sofia remains about 600. In the East, Calcutta at 1s 4d is slightly dearer than a week ago, while Japan at 2s 3½d is slightly cheaper. The silver market is quiet, with rates practically unchanged. Hong Kong is quoted at 2s 7½d, Shanghai at 3s 8d. Of the South American exchanges, Buenos Ayres, at 43½d, is rather cheaper; Montevideo, at 41½d, rather dearer; Valparaiso, at 39.90s, is 20 below the rate of the 23rd, while Rio shows little change.

A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL FINANCE.

FINANCIAL YEAR, 1921-22 (TO DATE) APRIL 1 TO DECEMBER 24, 1921.

Total spent	£ 730,237,709	Raised by revenue ..	£ 661,849,274
Inc. in balances	1,442,438	Net borrowings	69,830,873
Total	731,680,147	Total	731,680,147

ESTIMATES for YEAR 1921-22.

Ordinary Receipts ..	£ 1,058,150,000	Ordinary Expenditure	£ 974,023,000
Special Receipts ..	158,500,000	Special Expenditure	65,705,000
Total	1,216,650,000		1,039,728,000

Surplus* 176,922,000

* Owing to liabilities which could not be precisely calculated, it was estimated that the final balance would not exceed about £80,000,000.

NATIONAL DEBT.

(Million £.)

	Aug. 1, 1914.	Mar. 31, 1915.	Mar. 31, 1916.	Mar. 31, 1917.	Dec. 31, 1918.	Mar. 31, 1919.	Dec. 31, 1920.	Mar. 31, 1921.	Dec. 24, 1921.
Funded Debt	588	584	518	518	515	515	515	515	515
Term Annuities	30	28	22	22	20	19	19	18	18
3½% War Stock	349	63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
4½% War Stock	16	14	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
4½% War Stock	2,091	2,068	2,047	2,047	2,040	2,008	1,995	1,957	1,957
National War Bonds ..	649	1,636	1,509	1,476	1,476	1,441	1,413	1,201	1,201
4% Funding Loan	..	..	..	409	409	407	405	405	405
4% Victory Bonds	..	..	..	360	357	358	348	346	346
3½% Conversion Ln.* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	24
5½ year Treas. Bonds ..	..	..	..	..	..	18	23	24	24
5½% Treasury Bonds ..	15	77	961	957	1,107	1,102	1,121	1,088	1,088
Treasury Bills	..	..	392	384	323	319	292	289	218
Exchequer Bonds	20	67	138	227	267	274	279	285	294
Natnl Savings Certs.	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..
War Expend. Certs.	..	..	944	1,241	1,306	1,181	1,164	1,132	1,097
Other Debt	..	..	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
American Loan	1	..	204	455	443	805	306	154	186
Temporary Advances	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Capital Liabilities	654	1,105	5,872	7,435	8,033	7,829	7,785	7,574	7,756
	57	57	49	46	46	47	47	49	49
Total Liabilities	711	1,162	5,921	7,481	8,079	7,876	7,832	7,623	7,805

NOTE.—These figures have now been revised in accordance with a recent Treasury return on internal debt.

POSITION OF THE FLOATING DEBT.

Way and Means Advances	Dec. 25, '20.	Mar. 31, '21.	Dec. 24, '21.	Movement week ended Dec. 24, '21.
Outstanding—				
Advances by Bank of England ..	53,000,000..	..	..	—13,000,000
Advances by Public Departments ..	220,772,000..	154,489,000..	186,454,000..	7,054,000
Treasury Bills outstanding	1,120,349,000..	1,120,841,000..	1,088,256,000..	+ 4,095,000
Total Floating Debt	1,394,121,000..	1,275,330,000..	1,274,710,000..	—15,959,000

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

DECEMBER 24TH.—Prince of Wales at Calcutta. Death of M. Raffalovich.

DECEMBER 26TH.—Premier goes to Cannes. Italo-Russian commercial agreement signed.

DECEMBER 27TH.—Bank Holiday. Severe gale.

DECEMBER 28TH.—Premier states that Government can go no further in Irish Treaty question. Washington Conference resumed.

DECEMBER 29TH.—Banca Italiana di Sconto closes its doors. Committee of business men leaves for Paris.

DECEMBER 30TH.—British, French, Italian, and Belgian business men meet in Paris.

The Stock Exchange re-assembled after Christmas to find only a small accumulation of orders. However, the general tone has been cheerful, the continued strength of the gilt-edged market being the feature. There have been speculative purchases of Russian bonds, owing to developments in international politics, and Argentine Railway stocks have advanced. Home Railway prior-charge stocks are a strong market.

In the principal commodity markets the holidays have restricted operations. But firmness is the characteristic in all sections of wool markets, while the demand for cotton goods is reported to be rather more encouraging. The iron, steel, and coal trades have been quiet under the influence of the holidays, and there is little fresh to report from these industries, except a general disappointment with the extent of the railway rates concessions. The markets for vegetable oil and oilseeds have been quiet since the holidays. In the leather business stocktaking is in progress, and most boot and shoe factories have not yet resumed.

Details of movements and news in the principal markets from special correspondents will be found on later pages of this issue.

CANNES.

WELCOME, if long overdue, is the decision of the European Allies to take up once more the problem of the European economic chaos, and to endeavour at Cannes to find the road which will lead back to normal conditions. The experience of the past year has demonstrated in this country the futility of searching for a means of rehabilitating industry or for panaceas for unemployment without dealing first with the international conditions which have produced the present world-wide crisis of under-production. The business world has, in fact, been attempting the hopeless task of trying to overcome difficulties mainly outside its control, and we are glad to think that the Government at last recognises what are the causes which have rendered abortive so many of their attempts to deal with the internal economic situation. The Prime Minister has done well to call in expert assistance at the outset of his task, though the usefulness of this step has been limited by his incurable habit of hurried action, which has made it quite impossible for the four gentlemen selected to get into touch with business opinion in London before being carried over to Paris. We welcome also the intention, which has been encouraged from the other side of the Atlantic, to follow the meeting of the Premiers by a European Economic Conference. Experience has taught the world much since the Brussels Economic Conference, which met in the autumn of 1920. The exchange crisis existing at that date has been succeeded by stagnation and unemployment in Great Britain, while the nations of Europe have made hardly any progress at all in carrying out the cardinal principles then laid down, namely, the balancing of income and expenditure and the removal of economic barriers.

But we deceive ourselves if we imagine that a Conference can prove a royal road to prosperity, or that some grandiose scheme such as has been vaguely foreshadowed, of an international consortium to take charge of the railways of Europe and restore international trade by means of a new currency independent of Governments, can save the nations from the difficulties in which their Governments have placed them. It is of the first im-

portance that the statesmen who meet at Cannes should recognise that politics are the root cause of our present ills, and that they cannot shuffle out of their responsibility by leaving the task of reconstruction to business men. The best and wisest advice of expert business men is useless when countered by political folly. We have already seen numerous well-founded plans, such as that of the League of Nations scheme for the rehabilitation of Austria, rendered abortive by political obstacles, and the same fate will inevitably befall any economic scheme for dealing with Central Europe or Russia until the politicians have cleared the ground. The French Government has not made this task easier by its unwillingness to fall in with the proposal to limit submarine construction—an attitude which has led Mr Balfour to declare bluntly that a large French fleet of submarines can only be useful for offensive action, and that Britain cannot fail to regard very seriously indeed the creation of such huge undersea fleets a few miles away from her own shores. According to a *Reuter* cable, Mr Balfour said: "It is not unreasonable for Great Britain, when threatened by the establishment within a few miles of her coast of a vast fleet of submarines which are of no use except to destroy commerce, to say candidly that she cannot look with indifference upon the situation thus created." Mr Hughes pointed out tersely that the Washington Conference was called to consider not the expansion, but the limitation of armaments, while Signor Schanzer expressed the serious view taken by Italy of the French naval programme. It may be that the French Government is, in its naval demands, merely manoeuvring for position in the discussion on the German question; but it is evident that for the moment the prospects of sane international co-operation are gravely jeopardised, and that until such questions are settled the reports of conferences and the schemes of business men are so much labour wasted.

We are given to understand that reparations and the problem of Russia are the two main dishes on the menu at Cannes. But it is important to recognise that from the standpoint of Great Britain the former problem is not only of much greater urgency, but is also far more susceptible of early treatment than the latter. It is true that the world needs Russia to resume her place as one of the great food-producing countries, but in the last five years some compensation has been found by development elsewhere. Germany, on the other hand, is a country whose trade not only is of much greater importance to Great Britain, but also plays a far larger part in international commerce. It is conceivable that the world's trade might return to a fairly normal post-war basis with Russia excluded; but if Germany and Central Europe remain in their present abnormal condition a new equilibrium which would provide a tolerable commercial prospect for Great Britain is impossible. Moreover, while a solution of the reparation question which would hold out some prospect of leading to exchange stabilisation on lines which would command much approval in this country is within the power of the Premiers who meet at Cannes, the rehabilitation of Russia is a problem of a different order. Economic growth on modern lines in Russia was a young and tender plant before the war, and the conditions which

LONDON JOINT CITY AND MIDLAND BANK LIMITED

CHAIRMAN—

The Right Hon. R. McKenna

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTORS:—

S. B. MURRAY F. HYDE E. W. WOOLLEY

Subscribed Capital - - £38,116,815

Paid-up Capital - - - 10,860,565

Reserve Fund - - - 10,860,565

Deposits (June 30th, 1921) - - 371,322,381

HEAD OFFICE: 5, THREADNEEDLE STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

OVER 1,550 OFFICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

OVERSEAS BRANCH: 65 & 66, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 2.

AFFILIATED BANKS:

BELFAST BANKING CO. LTD. THE CLYDESDALE BANK LTD.

OVER 110 OFFICES IN IRELAND

OVER 160 OFFICES IN SCOTLAND

obtained from 1914 to 1916 killed it. The Bolshevik régime has in many ways removed means of its rebirth, and in none, perhaps, so effectively as in the annihilation of the commercial and professional classes, and by throwing back the peasant upon his own economic resources, and so removing the impulse to add to his well-being by trade. Russia's recovery involves rebuilding from new foundations, and important though it be, it would be regrettable if the discussion of this question should drive from the centre of the stage the greater and more immediate problem of reparation, with its corollary of more stable relations between Germany and Central Europe and the rest of the world.

But if a European Economic Conference will not afford a short cut to the millennium, it will at least be of great service if it restates in terms suited to the problems of the day the underlying economic truths of Brussels. This is more likely to happen if the delegates occupy the same independent position as at the former conference, and speak the opinion of the business world without qualifying it in the interests of their respective Governments. Such declarations, if endorsed by official and unofficial opinion in the leading countries, are one of the few means available for wearing down and tempering the excessive nationalism which at present stands in the way of either currency reform or any general unification or centralisation in the working of the transport system of Central Europe. But, unfortunately, the success or failure of Europe's uphill struggle towards economic recovery depends upon Governments and policies. The political wisdom or folly of European statesmen can open or can bolt the only doors that lead to the resumption of normal activity and well-being.

MONEY IN 1921.

Economic historians of the future will probably regard 1921 as merely the successor, in monetary matters, of 1920. The fall in money rates which took place in 1921 will be regarded as the outcome only of the rise which took place in 1920. The steady decline in wholesale prices (our Index Number fell from 131 per cent. above the pre-war level in December, 1920, to 74 per cent. in November, 1921) will be put down to the adoption of a policy of checking further inflation in 1920. In fact, the year, from the banking point of view, has been one of very great anxiety. The last time prices fell on anything like the scale of 1921 was after 1815, and then the failures of commercial houses and country banks were on a large scale. In 1921 there were few country banks left outside the orbit of the "Big Five," and commercial failures, though numerous, were on a relatively small scale. But a fall of 25 per cent. in wholesale prices must obviously, from the credit point of view, have rendered precarious the position of those who trade in commodities to the extent of an average of five times their capital. In addition, repudiation of contracts in the East, bad debts on the Continent, and difficulties in America must have contributed to the troubles which confronted dealers in credit. The history of 1921 is a tribute to the soundness of mercantile and banking methods in England. At the end of that year the credit position is sounder than it was at its beginning. Thus, though the authorities were able to reduce the Bank rate from 7 per cent. (by four reductions of $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in each case on April 28th, June 23rd, July 21st, and November 3rd) to 5 per cent., the price of gold, normally 77s 9d, fell from 116s 1d on December 31, 1920, to 97s 10d on December 28th, and the price of silver fell from 40 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per ounce to 35 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. If we consider also that Treasury bills were reduced from £1,102 millions to £1,088 millions. (on December 24th), and Ways and Means advances from £306 to £186 millions (all from Public Departments), it is clear that the financial strength of this country has survived a severer test than that it had to face during the war.

FLOATING DEBT.			
	Dec. 31, 1920.	June 30, 1921.	Dec. 24, 1921.
Bank of England advances	£ 87,250,000	£ 39,250,000	Nil.
Public Department advances	218,722,000	113,074,000	186,454,000
Treasury bills	1,102,109,000	1,221,647,000	1,088,256,000
	1,408,081,000	1,373,971,000	1,274,710,000

The trade depression was accompanied by a decline in the demand for currency notes. The total of these outstanding fell from £367.6 millions on December 29, 1920, to £311.6 millions on October 26, 1921, and had only risen to £325.6 millions on December 28th. Similarly, the total of bank-notes in circulation fell during the same period from £132.8 millions to £126.5 millions.

Without the support given in 1920 from the reserves of other banks in the United Kingdom, the Bank's gold holding showed no further increase, being £128.4 millions on December 28th, compared with £128.2 millions at the end of 1920, and the gold in the currency note department remained at £28 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions, the proportion of gold to notes being consequently higher in each case.

The fall in the value of money here has followed that in New York, and has been accompanied by a fall in most Continental centres.

CHANGES IN BANK RATES.

April 6, 1921, Swiss Bank rate reduced	$\frac{1}{4}$ % to $\frac{1}{2}$ %
April 15, 1921, Austrian " " raised	1% to 6%
April 26, 1921, Swedish " " reduced	$\frac{1}{2}$ % to 7%
May 5, 1921, Danish " " "	$\frac{1}{2}$ % to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
May 4, 1921, Swedish " " "	$\frac{1}{2}$ % to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
May 5, 1921, New York Federal Reserve reduced	$\frac{1}{4}$ % to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
May 19, 1921, Belgian Bank rate	" " 4% to 5%
June 2, 1921, Indian " " "	" " 1% to 5%
June 16, 1921, New York Federal Reserve	" " $\frac{1}{4}$ % to 6%
July 5, 1921, Swedish Bank rate reduced	$\frac{1}{4}$ % to 6%
July 5, 1921, Danish " " "	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ % to 6%
July 5, 1921, Norwegian " " "	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ % to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
July 21, 1921, New York Federal Reserve reduced	$\frac{1}{4}$ % to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Aug. 11, 1921, Swiss Bank rate	" " $\frac{1}{4}$ % to 4%
Sept. 21, 1921, New York Federal Reserve	" " $\frac{1}{4}$ % to 5%
Oct. 19, 1921, Swedish Bank rate	" " $\frac{1}{4}$ % to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Nov. 2, 1921, New York Federal Reserve	" " $\frac{1}{4}$ % to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Nov. 5, 1921, Danish Bank rate	" " $\frac{1}{2}$ % to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ %
Dec. 15, 1921, Indian " " raised	1% to 6%
Dec. 30, 1921, Indian " " raised	1% to 7%

The lowering of the official discount rate has been accepted by the banks, which have lowered their deposit rates, in succession to each lowering of the Bank rate, from 5 to 3 per cent., the notice rates of the discount houses remaining $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. above the deposit rates.

DAILY AVERAGE OF MONEY RATES.

BANK RATE.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
First half.....	£ s d 5 6 0	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 6 8 7	£ s d 6 16 0
Second half.....	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 5 6 0	£ s d 7 0 0	£ s d 5 8 9
Whole year	5 3 0	5 0 0	5 3 0	6 14 4	6 2 4

MARKET RATE—THREE MONTHS' BILLS.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
First half.....	£ s d 4 16 7	£ s d 3 13 0	£ s d 3 10 0	£ s d 6 2 2	£ s d 6 2 7
Second half.....	£ s d 4 15 9	£ s d 3 10 5	£ s d 4 7 9	£ s d 6 13 8	£ s d 4 6 0
Whole year	4 16 2	3 11 9	3 18 10	6 7 11	5 4 3

DEPOSIT RATE—BANKS.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
First half.....	£ s d 4 0 0	£ s d 3 2 0	£ s d 3 0 0	£ s d 4 8 7	£ s d 4 16 0
Second half.....	£ s d 4 0 0	£ s d 3 0 0	£ s d 3 7 9	£ s d 5 0 0	£ s d 3 8 9
Whole year	4 0 0	3 1 3	3 3 10	4 14 4	4 2 4

SHORT LOANS.

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
First half.....	£ s d 4 11 0	£ s d 3 6 2	£ s d 3 4 7	£ s d 4 16 0	£ s d 5 7 2
Second half.....	£ s d 4 5 6	£ s d 3 4 11	£ s d 3 14 7	£ s d 5 11 2	£ s d 3 18 2
Whole year	4 8 3	3 5 6	3 9 7	5 3 7	4 12 8

The New York Trust Company

Accepts deposits drawing interest from foreign banks, firms and individuals.

Buys and sells drafts and cable transfers on foreign countries.

Furnishes credit and trade information to foreign firms desiring to buy or sell in the American market.

Finances import and export transactions

Buys and sells American and foreign securities.

100 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

London Correspondents

Barclay's Bank, Ltd.

Hambro's Bank, Ltd.

When the year began banks and financial houses were still feeling the results of 1920's demand for credit, so that the margin between the rates of three months' bills and short money was about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. At its close three months' bills and short money were each, on the average, worth about the same, so that the margin had disappeared. On April 21, 1921, the Treasury began offering its weekly quota of Treasury bills by public tender, instead of "on tap" at a fixed rate, and the results, together with the rates for "additional bills," introduced at the same time, are shown in the subjoined table:—

TREASURY BILL SALES BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Date.	Amount Offered.	Amount Applied For.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for "Additional" Bills.
1921.	£	£	£ s d	%
April 21	50,000,000	51,930,000	5 19 3-95	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
May 5	50,000,000	94,620,000	5 12 11-18	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
June 3	50,000,000	84,775,000	5 12 1-06	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
July 1	60,000,000	77,540,000	5 7 3-34	5
August 5	50,000,000	77,955,000	4 10 10	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
September 2	50,000,000	83,540,000	4 7 1-53	4
" 9	50,000,000	73,835,000	4 1 6-36	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 16	45,000,000	71,075,000	4 0 6-33	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 23	60,000,000	83,985,000	3 19 11-31	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 30	60,000,000	83,755,000	4 9 2-34	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
October 7	60,000,000	154,390,000	4 3 0-81	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 14	60,000,000	127,825,000	3 18 3-13	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 21	60,000,000	84,160,000	3 13 8-38	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 28	60,000,000	83,445,000	3 14 5-63	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
November 4	60,000,000	87,405,000	3 16 2-60	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 11	45,000,000	78,340,000	3 17 0-43	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 18	40,000,000	54,365,300	3 17 8-27	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 25	45,000,000	78,155,000	3 14 2-15	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
December 2	50,000,000	67,640,000	3 12 0-07	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 9	45,000,000	82,850,000	3 8 1-71	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 16	45,000,000	66,840,000	3 5 3-45	3
" 23	60,000,000	67,975,000	3 7 11-09	3 $\frac{1}{2}$
" 30	60,000,000	117,040,000	3 13 6-52	3 $\frac{1}{2}$

When the year began the total of commercial bills outstanding was not much less than it was in 1914 (£350 millions); by its end the total was probably of the magnitude of £100 millions. Similarly, the advances of the clearing banks decreased from £861 millions to £792 millions. As has already been mentioned, commercial failures were on a relatively small scale, and so bankers' deposits did not decline in proportion to the decline in bankers' advances, and were, in fact, 40 millions higher in November than they had been in February. Thus, though £266 millions of new Treasury bonds (including conversions) were created in the second half of the year the demand for Treasury bills exceeded the supply, and the margin between bills and money disappeared, to the disadvantage of banks' and discount houses' profits. This process was accentuated by the employment in the market of certain special balances connected with the settlement of Reparations and of the Government's liabilities to special industries. But from the standpoint of banking profits the effects of this process were counteracted by the consequent substantial appreciation in all gilt-edged securities, depreciation in

which had used up a large part of the profits, not only of the last seven, but of several years before 1914. This recovery in long-dated securities was most marked (contrary to precedent) in December, when also the decline in the weekly returns of the town clearing was checked.

It may be said, then, that this country's banking and credit system faces 1922 with a consciousness of proved strength. The liquidity of banking resources has been proved to be quite as great as any informed critic ever supposed it, so that, despite difficulties in unexpected quarters, the capacity of bankers to take their part in any reasonable revival of trade activity need not be doubted. At the same time, the money market has had a wholesome reminder that it is only the servant of trade and industry.

A YEAR'S NEW CAPITAL.

The aggregate of new capital issues in the London market in 1921 at nearly £389 millions exceeded the aggregate for 1920 by nearly £21 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions. But in 1921 British and Colonial Governments absorbed nearly six times as much as in the previous year, while the activities of industrial and other private borrowers were severely restricted. Another feature of the figures which we analyse below is that more than one-half of the 1921 aggregate was raised during the last quarter of the year, after the great decline in money rates had set in. The amounts borrowed quarter by quarter for the past eighteen years are set out below:—

New Capital Applications.

Year.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.	Total for Whole Year.
	£	£	£	£	£
1904.....	19,905,000	50,654,000	9,547,000	42,913,000	123,019,000
1905.....	67,301,200	36,915,500	22,854,100	40,116,600	167,187,400
1906.....	30,264,800	55,059,800	10,835,800	24,012,800	120,173,200
1907.....	49,428,600	40,304,600	15,631,400	18,265,400	123,630,000
1908.....	45,287,900	64,385,600	31,541,800	50,988,400	192,203,700
1909.....	64,238,400	56,835,200	27,694,400	33,588,800	182,356,800
1910.....	99,355,600	88,721,400	28,111,600	51,250,500	267,439,100
1911.....	61,245,000	56,238,800	14,914,500	59,361,100	191,759,400
1912.....	47,966,100	62,377,500	40,687,100	59,819,300	210,850,000
1913.....	50,344,700	70,014,900	29,961,800	46,216,000	196,537,000
1914.....	97,610,200	54,739,100	20,265,200	339,908,100	512,522,600
1915.....	46,313,500	25,693,200	586,772,500	26,462,500	685,241,700
1916.....	156,251,200	131,022,500	111,578,000	186,584,700	585,436,400
1917.....	825,925,200	221,254,300	57,054,400	214,362,100	1,318,596,000
1918.....	475,258,700	220,921,500	329,674,000	367,527,200	1,393,381,400
1919.....	291,901,400	93,879,000	536,502,200	113,776,800	1,036,059,400
1920.....	135,094,500	98,011,700	61,195,600	73,247,800	367,549,600
1921.....	63,382,100	65,281,900	57,890,600	202,423,600	388,978,200

British Government borrowings, as will be seen from a subsequent table, totalled £202,896,300 in 1921, against only £37,530,700 in 1920. These figures are exclusive of Treasury bills and Ways and Means advances, which are not taken into consideration in our calculations. From statistics given elsewhere in this issue it will be seen that during 1921 the floating debt has been reduced by about £133 millions, a reduction which is due not, unfortunately, to excess of revenue over expenditure, but to the

replacement of temporary borrowings by $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Treasury bonds. The 1921 total for British Government borrowings is made up as follows:—

5½ % Treasury Bonds.....	£ 173,866,300
Savings Certificates (excess of sales over encashments) ..	11,130,000
3 % Local Loans Stock	17,900,000
	202,896,300

Of this total the last quarter was responsible for over £143½ millions, thanks mainly to heavy Treasury bond subscriptions. The purposes to which the remainder of the new capital was devoted are analysed in the following table:—

	Whole Year 1920.	Year 1921.		
		Three Quarters to Sept. 30.	Fourth Quarter.	Total for Whole Year 1921.
British Government Loans	£ 37,530,700	£ 59,248,800	£ 143,647,500	£ 202,896,300
Colonial Government Loans	11,970,000	32,409,600	41,240,400	75,650,000
Foreign Government Loans	nil	5,905,000	nil	5,905,000
British Corporations, &c.	46,571,000	16,586,200	2,417,500	19,003,700
Colonial Corporations	nil	4,506,000	376,000	4,882,000
Foreign Railways	1,116,000	585,000	45,000	636,000
Australasian Mines	54,700	387,500	18,600	18,600
South African Mines	3,526,000	150,900	35,000	387,500
Other Mines	14,131,100	1,831,300	95,000	188,900
Exploration, Financial, &c.	1,894,700	1,067,400	3,350,000	1,926,300
Breweries	1,760,300	300,000	nil	4,407,400
Merchants, Importers, &c.	78,666,000	19,619,000	142,500	300,000
Manufacturing	6,090,800	3,500,000	300,000	23,761,500
Stores and Trading	1,743,000	818,900	nil	5,800,000
Rubber and Land	5,893,500	1,101,900	30,000	818,900
Oil	13,004,600	14,864,400	957,300	15,821,700
Iron, Coal, Steel, & Engineering	25,292,100	3,803,800	970,000	4,773,800
Elec. Light, Power, & Telegraph	6,247,000	3,649,000	2,028,800	5,677,800
Tramway and Omnibus	1,021,300	774,000	nil	774,000
Motor Traction & Manufacturing	8,567,700	905,000	nil	305,000
Gas and Water	990,200	2,297,100	159,500	2,447,600
Hotels, Theatres, & Entertainments	6,452,900	2,329,900	199,500	2,529,400
Patents and Proprietary Articles	1,068,200	116,200	15,300	131,500
Docks, Harbours, and Shipping	18,150,600	5,183,200	nil	5,183,200
Banks and Insurance	16,879,400	2,302,000	1,277,000	3,579,000
Miscellaneous	55,057,800	2,319,500	1,127,700	3,447,200
	367,549,600	186,554,600	202,423,600	388,978,200

A comparison of the first column with the last shows at a glance that almost every branch of trade, commerce, manufacture, and miscellaneous enterprise figures very much less prominently than in 1920, a fact clearly explained by the existence of high money rates during the first part of the year, and the grave trade depression extending over the whole period. Colonial Governments were exceptionally active during the last quarter, when Ceylon, New South Wales, Nigeria, the Commonwealth of Australia, Kenya Colony, Western Australia, South Africa, Straits Settlements, and India between them raised over £41 millions. Most of these loans took the form of 6 per cent. stock, issued at prices ranging from 95½ to 97. The foreign Government loans were those floated by the State of San Paulo, Norway, and Iceland. British Corporations figure less conspicuously than in 1920, but Birkenhead, Newcastle, Nottingham, Salford, Birmingham, Liverpool, Derby, Gateshead, Newport, Reading, Wallasey, Glasgow, Sheffield, London-derry, the Port of London Authority, and Croydon have all been in the market. In the last few months of the year the abnormally large output of high-class investment securities failed to satiate the appetite of the public. Quick oversubscription in this period has been frequent, and the new scrips have in most cases gone to a premium.

In the sphere of industrial borrowing, the feature has been the vogue of the debenture, which suited contemporary investment fashion as well as the short term note, the participating preference share, and the ordinary share suited the less sober taste of 1920. The important industrial debenture issues of the year make an imposing list. The following is a selection:—

LARGE DEBENTURE ISSUES IN 1921.				
	Amount.	Rate of Interest.	Issue Price.	Redemption Date and Price.
Lever Bros.	£ 4,000,000	7	92½	par, 1931-41
Dunlop Rubber	3,000,000	8	98	105, 1928-40
General Electric	3,500,000	7	92½	par, 1922-53
Peter Walker and Robert Cain	2,000,000	7	92½	par, 1922-64
Cunard Steamship	2,425,844	7	90	par, 1941
Baldwins	2,250,000	7½	95	par, 1931-50
Joshua Hoyle	1,500,000	7½	94	par, 1922-50
British Thomson-Houston	1,500,000	7	92½	par, 1922-62
Pearson and Knowles	1,000,000	7½	97	par, 1951

In July, Eagle Oil Transport issued £3,000,000 12-year notes at 98; in April, Brunner Mond issued £2,500,000 7½ per cent. cumulative preference shares at par; and in the same month appeared the offer of £2,000,000 8 per cent. cumulative preference shares of Nestlé and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk. In March, Harrods offered £1,000,000 7½ per cent. cumulative preference shares, and the Anglo-Persian Oil Company £3,500,000 9 per cent. cumulative second preference shares of £1 each at par. Large issues of industrial ordinary shares were infrequent, the largest being the offering in January of 4,313,865 ordinary shares of £1 8s each at par by the Mexican Eagle Oil Company.

The extensive Colonial Government borrowings referred to above have changed the complexion of the analysis of geographical destination:—

	DESTINATION OF NEW CAPITAL.				
	Whole Year.				
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1920.	1921.
United Kingdom.....	£ 26,145,900	£ 45,335,300	£ 35,951,200	£ 328,021,400	£ 276,176,500
British Possessions	64,994,800	72,642,400	76,137,200	31,639,800	90,577,800
Foreign countries ..	100,618,700	92,872,300	84,448,600	7,868,400	22,223,900
Total	191,759,400	210,850,000	196,537,000	367,549,600	388,978,200

The distribution is veering back towards the pre-war proportions. If the borrowings of the Imperial Government be eliminated, more new capital in 1921 was destined for British possessions than for domestic employment. The amount of new capital for foreign countries is beginning to grow, but is, of course, still very far behind the pre-war figure.

LABOUR IN 1921.

(BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT.)

THE past year will stand out as an important period in the history of the British Labour movement. When the year opened unemployment had already reached a high level; the time had passed for that "audacity" to which the Prime Minister himself had prompted the organised workers; "reconstruction" had become a memory. When the New Year dawned the prospect was black, and the past twelve months have in many respects been a black year for Labour. During the whole of the year there has been serious unemployment. Trade union savings to the extent of ten million sterling have been distributed in out-of-work pay supplementary to the benefits payable under the contributory State scheme. The drain upon trade union resources was increased by the long and bitter stoppage in the coal industry. The events of "Black Friday," when the Triple Alliance strike was finally called off, seemed to many workers to be a public confession of the weakness and lack of solidarity of organised Labour. In every industry wages were reduced, and in some below the level of real wages prevailing before the war. The Agricultural Wages Board was abolished, and a serious attack made upon the legal minimum wage system in operation under the Trade Boards Acts. Hours of labour were here and there increased, and towards the end of the year it appeared that further attempts would be made to lengthen the working day. There were defections from the ranks of the trade unionists, particularly in the case of the unions of semi-skilled workers. The story of Labour's development during 1921 is, however, not one of quite unrelieved gloom. The trade union movement, notwithstanding the decline in the number of trade unionists, is far stronger than it was in 1914, and will remain so. And though wages have fallen and hours of labour tended to increase, the degradation of labour standards has not been as considerable as might have been anticipated having regard to the general economic situation. It may be, however, that the movement towards lower standards has not yet expended itself. Moreover, though the

farm-workers have lost their minimum wage, the trade board system remains intact.

But the significance of the past twelve months from the Labour point of view does not rest on the immediate economic reactions upon the workers of the trade depression: The real importance of 1921 lies in the new developments which have taken place in the structure and machinery of the Labour movement, in the new temper of Labour, and in the heart-searchings which have been a marked feature of the year. As regards the last, there has been a good deal of discussion of methods and policies. The formation of the Council of Action in the summer of 1920 focussed attention on the need for some effective central organisation of the Labour movement; the amalgamation of unions which had proceeded fairly rapidly during the past few years had resulted in stronger trade union machinery, but it was not clear that the spirit of the rank and file had been strengthened; the shop stewards' movement had cast doubts on the method of organisation of the trade unions; the advance of Socialism on the Continent had influenced the "left wing." There was, therefore, a ferment at work in the Labour movement, which naturally affected the temper of organised Labour. Like all movements, the Labour movement has three sections—a large centre body of opinion, flanked by a left wing and a right wing respectively. A part of the left wing has been strongly influenced by Communism, and has formed the Communist Party of Great Britain. It is, however, the outlook of the large centre group which is of real importance. Notwithstanding the attempts which have been made to identify Labour with Bolshevism, all who have any knowledge of British Labour are aware that it is not, and never has been, Bolshevik. The best proof is to be found in the formation of a separate Communist party.

The truth is that the effect of the ferment on trade unionism has been to direct its attention not so much to a re-orientation of its policy as to a reconsideration of its organisation. The movement feels that no revolution in its policy is required; but it is convinced of the need for consolidating its forces and improving its machinery. This has been the prime task of the past year—a task undertaken as a result of past experience and in view of the future which Labour believes lies before it. It is true that there has been a good deal of consideration of policy, but the conclusions which have been reached, notably in the fields of foreign affairs and unemployment, have been developments of established policy, and have not in any sense been new departures. The Russo-Polish crisis in the summer of 1920 and the unemployment situation illustrated the need for some body which could speak with the full weight of the Labour movement. Labour has three organs of expression—the Trades Union Congress, the Labour Party, and the Parliamentary Labour Party. At the Labour Party Conference in June last and the Trades Union Congress in September it was decided to set up a National Joint Council representative equally of the General Council of the Congress, the executive of the Labour Party, and the Parliamentary Labour group. This council of 15 members, which has already been appointed, is charged with the duty of co-ordinating Labour policy and securing common action on questions which arise. In the future this body will play an increasingly important part, and its formation marks a stage in the development of the Labour movement.

The two Labour assemblies which ratified the proposal to set up a National Joint Council also approved a scheme of co-ordination affecting the headquarters of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party. Though the former really gave birth to the latter, the industrial and political movements have remained distinct, and the organisation and machinery of the latter has naturally become larger than those of the parent body. With the growth of the Labour Party and the formation of a Labour group in the House of Commons, some of the chief functions of the Parliamentary Committee of the Congress, as its executive was called, passed over to the political movement. But the relative spheres of the industrial and political sides of the Labour movement were never clearly thought out. Recently, however, it was realised that whilst it had undoubtedly been a wise step to establish an

independent political movement with its own organisation, it was time for the Trades Union Congress and the Labour party to enter into closer relations, for two reasons. In the first place, there are few questions which can be labelled either purely industrial or purely political. Industry and politics cannot be kept distinct. Unemployment, though an industrial problem, is a matter largely for Parliamentary action. Hence the need for the National Joint Council, to which reference has already been made. In the second place, it was felt, the Congress and the Labour Party should minimise overlapping, and make their work more effective, through a common administration, so far as this was practicable. Accordingly, it was decided to establish four joint departments. Under the adopted scheme there is to be a Research and Information Department, an International Department, a Publicity Department, and a Legal Department, each in charge of a responsible officer and under the control of a joint committee of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and the National Executive of the Labour Party. Steps have been taken to put the co-ordination scheme into operation. In this respect also the year which is closing has seen a new development of considerable importance to the Labour movement. The character and scope of the joint departments are significant. They are an indication of a desire for an effective equipment.

Mention must be made of the supersession of the old Parliamentary Committee of the Trades Union Congress by the new General Council, an enlarged executive with wider powers. From the point of view of the industrial Labour movement, this development is the most important step which has been taken since the foundation of the Trades Union Congress over half-a-century ago, except perhaps the formation of the Labour Representation Committee in 1900—the body which became in 1906 the Labour Party. The General Council, with its grouping of allied unions under its auspices, pre-supposes a more elaborate administrative machinery than the Congress has hitherto possessed, and steps have been taken in this direction. It is certain that the trade union movement, so far as its general headquarters are concerned, will be far better equipped in the future than it has been in the past.

Education has always been a plank in the programmes of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party, and this year has witnessed a widespread interest in education throughout the whole Labour movement. At the Labour Party Conference in June there was an *informed* and interesting discussion on the postponement of the Fisher Education Act, and the subject has been ventilated both before and since in Labour circles. At the Congress in September the delegates ratified the general approval given by the Parliamentary Committee to the Report of the Trade Union Education Inquiry Committee set up by a conference convened under the auspices of the Workers' Educational Trade Union Committee. This Report contains far-reaching proposals on the question of adult education, and its acceptance is an indication of the recognition by the trade union movement of the value of education to the rank and file. A fortnight ago a joint meeting of the General Council of the Trades Union Congress and the Labour Party Executive unanimously passed a resolution protesting against the reduction of the annual universities grant from £1,500,000 to £1,200,000, and the educational economies proposed by the London County Council. It may be news to many people that either body had ever heard of the universities grant or had any interest in it. These examples are mentioned in order to show the emphasis which the Labour movement now places upon education.

The key notes of 1921, so far as Labour is concerned, are organisation and education. The attention which has been paid to both of these questions springs from a common purpose—the desire for the better utilisation of Labour's resources. The past year clearly demonstrates that the Labour movement has entered upon a new stage in its history. The days of the Combination Laws, to the Trade Unionists, have been won. Labour is now seeking power, and its methods are effective organisation and education.

RUSSIAN FINANCIAL POLICY.

(BY A CORRESPONDENT.)

It seems inevitable that during periods of social upheaval attention should be almost entirely focussed on the political theories surging in and around the struggle. It was so during the French Revolution and the many minor ones which marked the course of European 19th century history, and history in this respect, at least, has repeated itself in the world's way of looking at the Russian experiences during the last four years. Yet, after all, political theory is but the yeast, the ferment, which rises to the surface in times of intense internecine or international struggle; a real understanding and appreciation can only be gained by a study and knowledge of the deeper and more fundamental currents of economic and financial policy and intention. A mere statement of the fact that on January 1, 1921, the issue of Russian paper money had reached the meaningless total of 1,168,598 million roubles, whilst production of ordinary industrial commodities had dropped to an average of 15 per cent. of the pre-war total (figures of the Commissariat of Finances), is at once more dramatic and indicative of catastrophic change than all the political polemics which have littered the world during the last few years. In Russia the broad and easy path of inflation was entered soon after the commencement of the war in 1914. In August of that year the State Bank had issued 1,700 millions of roubles against which 1,604 millions of gold roubles were held. Free conversion was forbidden by decree before the end of the year, and on January 1, 1915, the note issue had risen to 3,215 million roubles. This total had risen to 5,737 million roubles a year later, and on January 1, 1917, the amount of paper money in circulation was 9,225 millions of roubles. At the moment of the February revolution the Kerensky Government found 9,975 millions of paper roubles in circulation, and, following the well-beaten path of all revolutionary Governments, kept itself by an intensified use of the printing press, so that when it fell in November of 1917, it left as an epitaph of its stormy existence a paper currency swollen to 18,917 million roubles. The Bolsheviks seized power, and in 1918 temporarily lost the Ukraine, Siberia, the Ural, Caucasus, and the Don, which partly accounts for the comparatively modest increase to 61,265 million roubles which had been reached by January 1 of 1919. The following 12 months showed a logarithmic advance to 225,016 million roubles, and the next year to January 1, 1921, to 1,168,598 million roubles.

Industry during the same period had declined through many reasons, not the least being the concentration on war purposes. The middle of 1920 saw the bottom touched, since when there has been a tendency, slow and fluctuating, to show an upward trend. At that time M. Larin in the *Economic Life*, a Russian daily paper, published a list of production in the main branches of the national industrial life. A selection from this list is interesting:—

	Yearly Production in Year 1913-1914.	Production First Half of 1920.	% to Half-year Production before the War.
	Poods.	Poods.	
Dye stuffs	3,000,000	33,000	2.2
Paper	13,500,000	1,030,000	15.2
Naphtha oil, Caucasus and Emba	600,000,000	100,000,000	33.0
Copper	1,330,000	less than 330,000	less than 50.0
Platinum	300,000	50,000	33.0
Gold (Siberia)	4,000	240,000	12.0
Iron ore (without Crimea)	530,000,000	32,000,000	12.0
Cast iron	267,000,000	30,000	2.4
Cotton-wool (raw)	(in 1915) 20,000,000	(in 1919) 4,000,000	20.0

NOTE.—A Russian pood = 36 En.

According to all precedents, this 1921 divergence between a decreasing productivity and an inflated currency should have led to the worthlessness of the paper money being generally recognised, it would cease to be accepted, and its use as a means of exchange necessarily ended. Such was the

fate of the French Assignats, yet in Russia, where the paper money issued is incomparably greater both in quantity and in relation to productivity than during the French upheaval, the worthless stuff is still accepted with nothing more disturbing to the Government than a fatalistic acceptance of the certainty of another bound in prices at any moment. The printing of the notes themselves raised problems of technical difficulties. The addition of noughts and the substitution of T's (thousands) for H's (hundreds) failed to keep pace with the increased demand and necessity of issue, so that whereas note manufacture was originally carried on only in Petrograd, the Government found it necessary in the spring of 1918 to open a new factory in Penza, and to supplement these by additional factories in Moscow and Perm. From a technical point of view, the later issues mark an advance on previous issues, those of 1920 bearing water print marks and an "orlov" net, which makes forgery difficult. In 1920 4,000 tons of rags were used, and a special department for their collection had to be inaugurated. On January 1, 1921, 13,616 labourers were employed in the manufacture of the notes. To account for the absorption of this unimaginable quantity is a difficult task. The only thinkable solution is mainly a psychological one. There are undoubtedly a few people in the country who have gathered the notes in the expectation of an appreciation in their value, but this is but an unimportant factor. The bulk of them have gone into the peasants' homes, thousands of whom could, with no exaggeration, paper the walls of their small wooden huts with their collections of notes. In spite of this fact, the Russian peasant, possibly with a less grace, still accepts them in exchange for his essential products. Such an attitude is unthinkable on the part of a more educated Western land-worker, but in Russia, the land of unending steppes and forests, the difference between paper money and wealth has not been realised with such vivid clearness as in the countries nearer to the Atlantic. In some few places, such as the Ukraine, the difference has been slowly realised through painful experience, and there old Tsarist and Kerensky notes have retained a high measure of value, not so much because they indicate a hope of the return of either of the two former régimes, but as a standard of measurement for exchange purposes.

In at least one other interesting example has Russian experience differed from the West. There has been no near or far relationship established between currency issues and prices. Until 1916 there was free interchange of goods and services on the market, yet prices, as judged by the cost of bread, lagged behind the issue of circulating money. The following table shows this clearly:—

	Actual Price of Bread. Kopecks.	In %.	Quantity of Currency in Circulation.	Issue of New Paper Money.
1914	2.8	100	100	100
1915	3½	125	183	183
1916	4½	160	235	244

From 1916 onwards the balance between town and country began to swing surely in favour of the country. Industrial products became increasingly scarce, but food remained none the less vital. In 1918 private banks and credit houses were "liquidated" by a series of Government decrees, and the velocity factor of the quantity theory was practically eliminated. Notes began to serve the purposes of only one exchange, and then to find a more or less permanent resting in the strong box of some peasant or peasant family. It became a question not of injecting more paper into a circulating system, but of pouring it like water into an arid, sandy desert; each issue was absorbed, leaving no trace of its absorption. "Wealth," said Bacon, "is like muck—of no use unless evenly spread." One would hardly call Russian paper money wealth. It is certainly of little use, and it is certainly not evenly spread. For the time being, at all events, the towns are in bondage to the country, and it is a bondage to escape from which will need more than the cleverness of a Portia. The unevenness is leading to some curious effects at the present moment in the country. Under the new economic policy the "speculators" of the towns are reaping a rich harvest through "arbitrage operations." The absence of easy communication has led to as many price levels in Russia as there are administrative districts. Rice is a good example. Before the

famine dictated the Government absorption of all surplus stocks rice in Turkestan was selling for 300 roubles per lb. In Moscow the price was 18,000. The restaurant-keepers of the latter place had established an intricate system of family relays, whereby each member was appointed a place in a chain stretching from the border country to the capital, and along which passed in one way the worthless paper of Moscow, and the other the precious rice from the South.

In view of the realised need of establishing trading relationships abroad, and a stabilised currency abroad, the financial policy of the Soviet Government has loomed to a position of vital importance. The success of their new economic policy will depend to a large degree on their success in establishing a stable currency. Their task is made doubly difficult by the fact that not only has their currency swollen to dropsied proportions, but their industrial policy will demand for some years hence an attention to the building up of plant and to repairing, rather than to its productive ability.

Business Notes.

Banca Italiana Di Sconto.—The apprehensions held in interested circles in London that the situation in which the Banca Italiana di Sconto had found itself would prove difficult of adjustment, were confirmed on Thursday by the news received that the bank had decided to apply to the Italian Government to take advantage of a Moratorium, provision for which exists under legislation devised to meet temporary embarrassment on the part of companies possessing a capital of 5,000,000 lire or over. The root of the trouble appears to lie in the loss of popular confidence owing to the publicity given to the large advances granted by the bank to the Ansaldo industrial group. Attempts to transfer to a syndicate of bankers part of the weight of these advances, had proved difficult of consummation, and there is no doubt that events were hastened by notices to withdraw deposits, many of which matured at the end of the year. It is too early yet to speak of the results of the steps taken, but hopes are held that eventually depositors will not suffer heavily, and it is believed that the trouble will not be allowed to spread to other banks.

Coal Output.—The production of coal from the mines of Great Britain continues to expand, and for the week ended December 17th the highest figure for 1921 was recorded—namely, 5,026,800 tons. The weekly output since the conclusion of the three months' stoppage has been as follows:—

1921.	Tons.	1921.	Tons.
July 9th	2,352,700	October 1st	4,118,200
July 16th	3,935,200	October 8th	4,287,900
July 23rd	4,334,200	October 15th	4,237,200
July 30th	4,592,500	October 22nd	4,236,600
August 6th	3,623,200	October 29th	4,210,200
August 13th	4,536,600	November 5th	4,182,400
August 20th	4,327,800	November 12th	4,372,500
August 27th	4,101,700	November 19th	4,646,300
September 3rd	4,141,900	November 26th	4,673,600
September 10th	3,939,800	December 3rd	4,693,300
September 17th	4,161,700	December 10th	4,855,100
September 24th	4,273,100	December 17th	5,026,800

In the week ended December 18, 1920, the production was 5,307,000 tons.

Rubber Problems.—The rubber industry appears to be plagued with unexpected difficulties in the way of securing harmony between the various interests. First, it is the interests abroad that are in conflict. Then it is the selling agency arrangements in which lack of agreement becomes manifest. Again, it is the Rubber Growers' Association and the Rubber Shareholders' Association which admit, through their various committees, that they are unable to settle upon a joint line of action. In practically every consideration of the rubber industry that has appeared in the pages of the *Economist* for the past five years this aspect of the case has been emphasised *ad nauseam*. The trouble has mainly centred upon the fact

HARRISONS & CROSFIELD, LIMITED

(Associated with Harrisons Ramsay Proprietary, Ltd., established throughout Australasia).

1-4 Great Tower Street, LONDON, E.C.3.

EASTERN AND GENERAL MERCHANTS.

Buying and Selling Agents in London and Abroad.

Dealers in all Classes of Eastern Produce.

Colombo, Calcutta, Quilon, Calicut, Batavia, Bandoeng, Medan, Sourabaya, Kuala Lumpur, Kobe, Montreal, Tangier.

that rubber is grown under such varying conditions that it is only natural for discord to break out when attempts are made to formulate a common policy. In Ceylon, for instance, charges are unusually low; in Java and Sumatra the soil is particularly fertile, and in other parts of the world labour and soil conditions differ considerably from those which rule in the countries mentioned. Some rubber-producing companies turn out their produce even to-day at 9d per lb, while others find it costs them twice as much to market their rubber. The Dutch rubber-producing interests have all along stood out against proposals to take a common line in connection with restriction of output and centralisation of selling. It was largely this action which prevented the recent scheme of the Rubber Growers' Association from coming to a successful head. The Rubber Shareholders' Association stepped into the limelight last October, and attracted no little attention from those who have been inclined to criticise the older body as torpid and unenterprising, though to anyone conversant with the difficulties against which the R.G.A. has had to struggle such charges carry no weight. The Rubber Shareholders' Association, however, being a younger body, entered the field with the determination of putting into force a vigorous campaign for benefiting the industry at large. The association applied to the Colonial Office for the right to add one of its representatives to the Committee which the Colonial Office formed, a little while ago, for examination of the conditions surrounding the rubber industry, although, in point of fact, the Colonial Office declined to accede to this request. After that, the R.S.A. approached the R.G.A. for a joint conference on the question of initiating an active propaganda campaign. The Rubber Growers' Association has already developed several of the suggestions now put forward—e.g., encouragement of the use of manufactured rubber goods, appeals to shareholders, development of suggestions, publicity for new uses of rubber, establishment of the Press service, &c. The proposals of the Rubber Shareholders' Association are somewhat similar, but go further. They aim at getting the rubber-producing companies to subscribe a fund of £25,000 for immediate propaganda purposes. This amount, admittedly, they state, is in the nature of a trial, which if successful would be followed by a much wider process on a more permanent basis. A decided cleavage between the two bodies is shown by the Rubber Shareholders' Association's statement that their Committee feel the attitude adopted by the R.G.A. shows the hopeless incapacity of the latter to grasp the essentials of the situation. The R.S.A. appeals for support towards the active and vigorous prosecution of its proposals, support which may be worth the rendering as it is, but which would be doubly useful if a path could be found, even at this late hour, that should bring the Rubber Growers' Association to join hands with its younger sister in exploring the avenues leading to the rubber industry's return to prosperity in the New Year.

Official Cotton Trade Statistics.—Since the Board of Trade in 1920 ceased the publication of the linear yardage figures of cotton piece goods exported from this country, and substituted square yardage returns, traders have been at the great disadvantage of being unable to compare current returns with those of past years. This has been a special difficulty, because the pre-war basis has been and remains the only valuable basis for comparisons. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce, writes our Man-

chester correspondent, has made urgent representations for the publication of both sets of figures, at any rate until such time as square yardage figures have been published for a period of years sufficient to provide all the comparisons required. These representations having met with no success, the Chamber went to considerable expense and trouble to secure the linear yardage figures for the first six months of this year. A table in due course was published, and the trade showed its appreciation in no uncertain way. The authorities have been impressed with the need for the figures, and although they still maintain their inability to include the linear yardage in the Board of Trade monthly returns, recent interviews between representatives of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce and the authorities in London indicate that the Government will endeavour to supply the necessary figures in 1922. The Chamber will publish them in the monthly record, and the arrangement is considered a very satisfactory settlement of the difficulty.

The Situation in Mexico.—A correspondent writes:—The chairman's speech at the annual meeting of the Mexican Railway Company last Wednesday confirms the indications in the company's report that trade is suffering from the prolonged delay in recognising President Obregon's Government. Non-recognition, as he pointed out, only strengthens the hands of the anti-foreign party, while recognition would set up a boom and a general improvement in trade and traffic. His views will be endorsed by all observers of Mexican conditions; but France and Great Britain are obviously awaiting the action of President Harding's Government, which apparently still demands that President Obregon shall sign a treaty guaranteeing American interests, and especially the oil companies, against the threat to their rights implied by the Carranzist Constitution. President Wilson's experience shows that no President of a Republic with a Constitution of the type of that of the United States can promise that its Congress will accept a Treaty; but the recent decisions of the Mexican Supreme Court should allay American fears. Recognition would, among a multitude of other and more obvious benefits, remove the landowners' fear of expropriation by enabling the Government to obtain the funds required for the preparation of waste land for small holders—a process which, if carried out judiciously, offers the best safeguard against future revolutions. But the United States Government, having done its best to secure world-peace at the Washington Conference, can hardly refrain much longer from a fresh effort to stabilise Mexican conditions.

Bulgaria's Difficulties.—The Bulgarian Government has shown its desire to meet its engagements as far as practicable by compounding with its foreign bondholders, and by delivering the livestock required by the Treaty of Neuilly as compensation to Greece, Roumania, and Jugo-Slavia for what was carried off by its troops during the war. It is about to begin delivery of the coal due under the Treaty to replace what was taken during the occupation of Serbia; but it has asked that the reparation payments may be postponed for three years more. The total amount of these, it will be remembered, is fixed by the Treaty at 2,250,000,000 in gold, payable half-yearly from July 1, 1920. The first two instalments represent interest at 2 per cent. per annum on the whole sum; the remainder is to be paid in 74 instalments, each including interest at 5 per cent. per annum, and so adjusted that the whole sum will be paid off by 1958. The payment is supervised by an inter-Allied triumvirate, representing Great Britain, Italy, and France, which makes recommendations to the Reparations Commission in Paris, and has power to advise postponement of payment or acceptance of commodities, concessions, securities, ships, or Bulgarian currency instead of gold. The three payments now due—the first two of which were postponed by the Inter-Allied Commission at the outset of its labours—amount together to about £5,266,000, which represents over three milliards of leva at the present rate of exchange. Budget deficits were chronic before the war, and the financial aid rendered by Germany appears to have consisted chiefly in

guaranteeing issues of Bulgarian currency. It is true that the peasants, who are four-fifths of the population, made large war profits through the rise in the price of food, and still more of tobacco; they paid off their mortgages and largely increased their savings bank deposits; but their wealth is widely distributed and mostly not liquid, and there is no means of getting at it rapidly. Payment in concessions must await concessionnaires; and the Sofia correspondent of the *Temps* suggests that strict financial supervision, coupled with guarantees for eventual payment and economic penalties for default, will stimulate the development of resources which will afford means of payment. The Inter-Allied Commission, according to the same authority, is in favour of postponement, and is devising a scheme. Insistence on prompt payment would obviously endanger the service of the external debt, which is largely held in France. And it may be noted that the same correspondent argues in another letter that, in view of the inevitable revision of the Treaty of Sévres, the allocation of Western Thrace to Greece may be subject to revision, and that Bulgarian agriculturists, who are cramped for room at home, could develop the district better than the Hellenes, who are commercial and maritime rather than agricultural. French interests are evidently in favour of lenient treatment for Bulgaria.

Roumania's Recovery.—A lengthy and encouraging account of the financial recovery of Roumania from the effects of the war, given by her Finance Minister, M. Titulesco, appeared in the *Temps* of December 7th. Briefly, the service of the pre-war loans has been resumed as regards English and French holders, who constitute the great majority; the currency of the new and the old territories has been unified, Austrian kroner and Russian rubles giving place to lei; the hand-to-mouth finance which followed the Armistice has been replaced by regular Budgets, of which the first was passed in July; new taxes, some of them already in operation, have been imposed on inherited property, on various kinds of income, and on total income, on war profits and business turnover, and on successions; preparations are being made for a new land tax, and the revenue shows a progressive increase. A settlement with the few Swiss and Italian holders of the pre-war loans is pending; the Belgian holders are standing out for better terms than the Government is prepared to give. (The French bondholders have accepted payment in francs.) The post-war Treasury bonds will be dealt with when the names and addresses of the holders are sent in to certain specified banks—in Great Britain to the Bank of Roumania. (They have since been formally invited to furnish full particulars before January 10th.) The ordinary Budget amounts roughly to 7.7 milliard lei; though prices of food are surprisingly low, the lei is worth only one-twelfth of its gold value, but as the pre-war Budget was some 600 million lei in gold, the present expenditure, with a greatly increased territory, is not much more. The extraordinary Budget of three milliards comprises expenditure in connection with the distribution of land (now complete), payment of the State debt to the National Bank, and expenditure on railways and schools, and all of this, in one form or another, tends to augment the national wealth. The reasons for the depreciation of the foreign exchange, the Minister declares, are psychological rather than economic. But steps have been taken to remove them by prohibiting, as from November 14th, all dealings in lei which cannot be shown to represent actual imports, exports, or services approved by the Commission on Exchange. M. Titulesco notes also that the ratio of the existing currency to the population is very much smaller than in France. It may be noted that, owing to the change of Ministry, he is about to become the representative of his country in Great Britain.

The Salvador Debt Settlement.—At the bondholders' adjourned meeting on Wednesday the chairman was fortunately able to announce that the obstacle to an arrangement had been removed. Three series of bonds are to be issued and secured on the gross Customs revenue: (a) To the amount of \$5,000,000, to be placed in the United States; (b) the equivalent in dollars of £951,388, the nominal amount of the existing external loans; (c) bonds

satisfying the claims of other creditors, to an amount bringing up that of the three series to \$16,000,000 at most. The American syndicate concerned, however, had unexpectedly added a demand for the right to issue another \$5,000,000 of "A" bonds whenever the gross Customs revenue for three years running should have reached twice the amount required for the service of all three series; but it has now withdrawn this demand, and the settlement goes through. Holders of external bonds are invited to deposit them with the London and South American Investment Trust, 62 Old Broad street, E.C. The settlement takes place before the inauguration of the new Federal Republic of Central America, and, though not conflicting with its constitution, might have encountered difficulties had it been undertaken at a later date. But the inauguration, fixed for February 1st, may possibly be interfered with by the recent revolution in Guatemala.

S. Smith and Sons.—The condition of many companies in the motor manufacturing industry is reflected in the latest accounts just published of S. Smith and Sons (Motor Accessories), Limited. For the twelve months ended July 31st a loss of £292,768 on the year's trading is recorded. Profits amounting to £59,444 were recorded for 1918-19, and to £98,338 for 1919-20. In the report published a year ago it was pointed out that the accounts covered "the whole of the transition period," and it was optimistically observed that "the company's works are now fully organised to manufacture the various products under the most favourable circumstances." The difficulties through which the motor industry was passing is illustrated by the statement then made that "latterly the company has been requested by its principal customers to hold up delivery owing to the demands made upon them having slackened," and though it was admitted that the company had been "suddenly called upon to finance large stocks without commensurate sales," it was confidently stated that "the contracts on hand, however, will enable these stocks to be realised on a profitable basis." The sequel is recorded in the present report. With the large volume of orders in hand, the company made "corresponding commitments for raw material." Stocks depreciated heavily in value, and the directors, with wisdom and courage, "have considered it advisable to write off the whole of the loss." In addition, the failure of several big motor manufacturing companies "involved the company in a considerable loss in respect of bad debts, which have also been written off." During the year an issue of £600,000 8½ per cent. first mortgage debentures has been authorised, of which £65,100 have been issued to shareholders and £520,000 deposited with the company's bankers as security for advances, which now total £570,149. Investments in subsidiary companies are stated at £337,747, but these yielded nothing. This is not a very pleasant picture, but with efficient management and the loyal support of shareholders it may be that the undertaking has passed through its worst difficulties.

Hungarian Property.—The Board of Trade announces that all persons or corporations within the United Kingdom who hold or have under their control or management any property, rights or interests, including shares, stocks, debentures, or other securities belonging to or held on account of Hungarian nationals, or who are indebted to any such persons in respect of pre-war transactions or contracts, are required at once to communicate the fact, in writing, giving full particulars, to the Administrator of Hungarian Property, Cornwall House, Stamford street, London, S.E. 1, unless a return of such property has already been made to the Public Trustee in accordance with the provisions of the Trading with the Enemy Acts, 1914-18. Failure to furnish such particulars renders the person in default liable on summary conviction to a fine of £100. This notice concerns the property in the United Kingdom of all Hungarians who are resident in the United Kingdom, as well as those resident abroad, irrespective of whether or not they were at any time interned, and is addressed to all Hungarians who have property, rights, and interests in the United Kingdom, as well as to other persons who hold any such property, rights, or interests on their behalf.

French American Banking Corporation

67 William Street
NEW YORK CITY

Cable Address - FRENAMBANK
PAID UP CAPITAL and SURPLUS - \$2,500,000

We transact a general foreign and domestic banking business and solicit your inquiries.

Oversea Correspondence.

UNITED STATES.—STRONG INVESTMENT DEMAND—NEW YORK CITY BOND SALE—GOVERNMENT NEW SAVINGS CERTIFICATES — BUILDING ACTIVITY.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, December 16.

UNDER broad investment buying of both old and new issues, the bond market continues to display exceptional strength and activity. Railroad, industrial, and other corporate bonds and notes, as well as government and municipal securities, are being absorbed on an extensive scale, owing principally to the easier money situation and to the present light demand for fresh capital in trade and industry generally. Prices of all classes of bonds have recorded further advances within the past few days, United States Government War loans, especially, registering marked gains; the Liberty bonds and Victory notes reached new high records for this year, while the Victory 4½'s commanded the highest premium in their history. But the feature which attracted most attention, perhaps, was the highly successful sale this week of \$55,000,000 City of New York 4½ per cent. 50-year corporate stock to a banking syndicate headed by J. P. Morgan and Co. Other members of the syndicate are the Chase Securities Corporation, the First National Bank, the National City Company, the Guaranty Company, the Bankers' Trust Company, Brown Brothers and Company, and Harris, Forbes, and Company. The syndicate's bid was 103.407 for all or none. The premium is the highest ever received for this class of stock, and will bring the city approximately \$1,800,000 additional. The last previous sale of long-term bonds with which this week's offering is comparable was on July 12, 1917, when \$47,500,000 50-year 4½ per cent. bonds brought an average bid of only 100.6507. That was the last long-term issue, because during the war only short-term issues were put out in order not to interfere with the Government's flotations. In June, 1915, when the United States was not at war, a similar issue brought only 101.253, and in May, 1913, a like offering went for 100.137. The total of bids, 58 in number, exceeded \$218,000,000, or nearly four times the amount of the issue. The bonds are now being offered to the public at 104½, at which price they will yield investors slightly more than 4½ per cent.

The Government this week placed on sale at post offices and Federal Reserve banks a new issue of Treasury savings certificates in three denominations, maturing five years from date of issue (December 15, 1921), and bearing compound semi-annual interest at 4½ per cent. The certificates, which are known as thrift bonds, are issued on a discount basis, but are offered to the public at flat prices instead of at prices which increase from month to month; for the present the prices are \$20 for the \$25 certificate, \$80 for the \$100 certificate, and \$800 for the \$1,000 certificate. The bonds are redeemable before maturity upon presentation and surrender to the Treasury Department in Washington, and in that event will yield interest at the rate of about 3½ per cent. per annum, compounded semi-annually. The Government will discontinue the sale of 25-cent and \$5 war-saving stamps after this month, but for a time the \$1 stamps will continue on

sale as a convenience to those who wish to accumulate the purchase price of the new certificates by acquiring such stamps, which are non-interest bearing, but are redeemable on demand.

Present indications point to further activity and possibly still higher prices in the bond market. A great deal of financing remains to be done. The early part of 1922 will probably be marked by new issues of all sorts on a large scale. Many first-class offerings are scheduled to be made within the next month or two, including, it is understood, bonds of several foreign governments as well as domestic, municipal, and corporate issues. According to precedent, money should work easier after the turn of the year; any downward tendency is expected to stimulate purchases of bonds, as it has in the last month or two. It remains to be seen, however, to what extent the usual January re-investment demand may have been anticipated or discounted by the heavy buying in recent weeks at rising prices.

Reports of building activity throughout the country continue very favourable. Reports to Bradstreet's from 157 leading cities of the United States show that the total expenditure for which permits were issued in November amounted to \$142,512,634. While that total represents a decrease of about 15 per cent. from that reported by the same cities for October (which was the second best month in the annals of American building), it is 95.4 per cent. larger than in November a year ago. In fact, the returns indicate far less than the usual slackening in a late autumn month, and show that a big business in actual construction is being prepared for next year, following a high record business in the year now closing.

FRANCE.—BUDGET AND DEBT SERVICE—LABOUR DEVELOPMENTS—BOURSE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, December 27.

THE Senate is making remarkably good progress with the Budget, and there is now every hope that it will go back to the Chamber in time to be passed into law before the close of the year. So far, with the exception of making a somewhat heavy cut in the Army Estimates, and again refusing to approve the credits asked for in connection with the maintenance of the French Embassy to the Vatican—which may lead to delay in the Lower House—the Senate has made little modification in the Bill as it left the Chamber.

The most striking feature of the discussion has been the report presented on the national finances by M. Henry Chéron, the *rapporteur général* for the Budget, who has sounded therein a note of alarm that has attracted wide attention. He points out that the French national debt, including the external debt, which amounted to some 30,000 odd millions in 1914, rose to 171,000 million francs by the end of 1918, and is now, if the external debt be taken at the current rate of exchange, over 328,000 million francs. This enormous increase in three years, however, is largely due to the high rate of exchange. As a matter of fact, the year 1919 resulted in an additional debt charge of over 45,000,000,000, 1920 in another 35,000,000,000, and the present year 24,000,000,000. From 1922 to 1929, M. Chéron estimates, the cost of re-constituting the devastated regions will require an additional expenditure of 66,000,000,000, the payment of pensions another 28,000,000,000, the liquidation of the various "special accounts" another 4,000,000,000. This, with a further 20,000,000,000 or more that will be required by the Treasury to meet various services, will bring the total indebtedness of the country up to 467,000,000,000, without including the interest on the foreign debt of France, or the special expenditure that, as M. Chéron expresses it, "will be indispensable for bringing up to date the national roads, bridges, defence, &c." Moreover, supplementary credits and annual budgetary deficits, during the coming seven years, may be estimated at 80,000,000,000, from which must be deducted debts owing to France by other nations, say 14,000,000,000, and the produce from reparation payments, estimated at 45,000,000,000. This would leave a net additional sum

of 21,000,000,000 to be added to the total of 446,000,000,000 already arrived at, making a grand total of 467,000,000,000.

Assuming, for reasons which it is unnecessary to go into here, that the French national debt amounts, at the end of 1929 to 427,000,000,000, M. Chéron points out that the annual charge to be met will amount (at 5 per cent.) to 21,350,000,000 a year, "which is equivalent to saying that almost the whole of our Budget resources will be absorbed in meeting the interest on the public debt, without leaving anything to pay our public officials or to ensure any of the public services. There lies the peril: the possibility that the whole of our budgetary resources may be absorbed in paying the interest on our public debt." In 1919, he points out, the Treasury had to pay out 62,000,000,000, in 1920 58,000,000,000, in 1921 53,000,000,000, and in 1922 it will have to pay 41,860,000,000 on this account. He expresses the opinion that the annual budgetary deficit will increase in future to such an extent that it will be necessary to procure in some way 7,000,000,000 of new resources from fresh and permanent taxation.

Supposing that these new milliards be obtained from the taxpayer, however, and Germany is compelled to carry out her obligations—two very substantial assumptions, it is admitted—M. Chéron has faith that from 1931 onwards the situation will be greatly improved. From 1931 it will be possible to convert the 1915, 1916, and 1920 issues of Rentes, which will enable substantial economies to be effected. He insists, however, that in the meantime it is absolutely imperative that a balance between income and expenditure should be brought about every year, and that any kind of deficit should be rigidly suppressed.

The past week has witnessed what appears to be the last act in the long-drawn-out process of cleansing French trades unionism of Bolshevism. After the disastrous general strikes of last year, it will be remembered, the leading officials of the *Confédération Générale du Travail*, the supreme body in French organised labour, were placed on their trial on charges of having surpassed their legal rights and taken on the complexion of a political revolutionary body. The officers were found guilty, and an order was made for the C.G.T. to be dissolved. The Government, however, prudently held this sentence in suspension, in order to give the organisation an opportunity to place its house in order by purging itself of the revolutionary element. This the C.G.T. has been making a conscientious effort to do. Rules were adopted rendering liable to expulsion any union or federation of unions that proclaimed its adhesion to the Moscow International, and under this rule the extremist unions among the railwaymen's federation, who were the real cause of the last general strikes, were some time ago actually expelled. In spite of this example, many of the extremists in other trades (chiefly in the Paris district) have for some months past been fomenting a movement to seize control of the C.G.T. in order to force French labour to proclaim itself openly Communist. In defiance of the new rule referred to above, the leaders of these extremist unions recently convoked an independent congress, in open defiance of the C.G.T., with the avowed intention of formally giving in their adhesion to the Moscow or Red International. This congress actually opened a day or two ago. The governing body of the C.G.T., once this attempt at open rebellion had been consummated, took immediate action, and it was announced to-day that all unions that participated in the Communist Congress will be expelled as from January 1st. The decision is all the more impressive in view of the fact that a few days before the congress was due to meet telegrams were sent by the Moscow International to the secretary of the Amsterdam International (to which both French and British labour is affiliated), pointing out that such a gathering could lead only to a split in the ranks of the French proletariat, and urging that the congress should at any cost be postponed.

A tendency towards recovery on the Bourse that was noticeable at the beginning of December has not been sustained, though this week, as a result of favourable political news from London, there was another slight optimistic tendency. It was, however, of short duration, the reason being that buyers are remaining shy. French 3 per cents. are at 54.75, and Foreign Government stocks

have, as usual, reacted in sympathy with the exchange. Banks have been irregular, Union Parisienne having dropped from 745 to 710, and *Crédit Lyonnais* from 1,427 to 1,415. *Banque de Paris* is rather stronger at 215, after 195, while *Crédit Mobilier* remains firm at 418. Railway stock has suffered from over-liquidation. P.L.M. is back at 806, as against 835, and Nord at 910, as against 920, while Orléans remains firm at 864. Nord-Sud has improved from 168 to between 185 and 180. Shipping has declined, *Chargeurs Réunis* dropping from 490 to 475, *Transatlantique* from 234 to 230, and *Messageries* from 209 to 205. Electrical undertakings have been calm, Thomson fluctuating from 770 to 760, while other electrical undertakings have either remained unchanged or have been weaker. Metallurgical enterprises have also been irregular; thus Longwy has advanced from 1,060 to 1,070, and Micheville from 805 to 950; *Acieries de la Marine* have dropped from 1,020 to 1,006, and St Nazaire from 785 to 766.

The returns of the Bank of France for the last week, the previous week, and the corresponding week of 1913 are as follows:—

DEBTOR.	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 26, 1913.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Capital of the Bank.....	182,500,000	182,500,000	182,500,000
Profits in addition to capital....	30,297,689	30,297,689	8,006,145
Reserve.....	22,105,750	22,105,750	22,105,750
Reserve of funded property.....	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Special Reserve.....	8,407,444	8,407,444	8,407,444
Sinking Fund account (Law, December 20, 1918).....	556,913,950	560,288,647	..
Surplus earmarked for Sinking Fund for advance to State.....	1,257,227,346	1,242,126,301	..
Supplementary Sinking Fund for Interest (Law, Dec. 20, 1918).....	7,595,711	7,595,711	..
Notes in circulation.....	36,246,315,535	36,407,132,475	6,713,551,290
Interest on securities.....	75,457,354	53,825,018	19,929,999
Bank notes to order.....	904,832	798,781	3,929,732
Treasury accounts.....	13,181,325	42,347,826	403,358,907
Current accounts, Paris.....	1,641,677,619	1,533,517,541	500,040,611
Do branch banks.....	932,473,816	912,662,196	75,284,125
Dividends payable.....	3,865,432	4,024,422	1,600,603
Discounts and sundries.....	102,416,385	98,783,969	39,833,604
Re-discounts.....	15,389,701	15,389,701	5,407,880
Sundries.....	1,096,380,142	1,123,504,334	250,557,497
Total.....	42,197,010,046	42,249,411,409	7,238,513,487

CREDITOR.	Dec. 22, 1921.	Dec. 15, 1921.	Dec. 26, 1913.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
Cash in hand.....	5,803,746,852	5,803,570,560	1,157,454,630
Balances abroad.....	606,937,964	608,015,240	..
Commercial bills overdue.....	695,180	390,733	78,855
Discounts in Paris.....	1,254,198,858	1,297,145,656	553,058,719
Foreign bills.....	5,363,272	6,200,131	14,565,071
Treasury bills.....	321,194	415,501	109,782
Discounts in branches.....	985,277,854	1,043,694,698	958,669,544
Advanced payments, Paris and branches.....	57,826,581	61,201,189	..
Advances on bullion.....	12,874,000	12,874,000	29,960,000
Do on public securities.....	417,642,837	412,626,922	199,577,631
Do by branch banks.....	1,859,114,115	1,863,726,858	242,865,141
Advance to State (ordinary).....	220,000,000	220,000,000	200,000,000
Do (for war).....	21,500,000,000	21,500,000,000	..
Treasury bonds in respect of Advances to Foreign Governments.....	4,141,000,000	4,137,000,000	..
Government stock reserve.....	12,980,750	12,980,750	12,980,750
Do disposable.....	101,858,558	101,858,558	59,573,294
Rentes indisponible.....	100,000,000	100,000,000	100,000,000
Premises and furniture.....	54,172,327	53,754,358	44,230,216
Expenses and management.....	41,843,943	40,689,345	..
Special reserve.....	8,407,438	8,407,438	8,407,394
Sundries.....	2,032,748,332	1,984,789,947	311,597,960
Total.....	42,197,010,046	42,249,411,409	7,238,513,487

BANK OF FRANCE RATES.

	%
Discount.....	5½
Advances on bullion.....	5
Advances on public securities.....	5½

ITALY.—THE DEBT CHARGE—BANKING DEPOSITS—STOCK MARKET DEPRESSION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

TURIN, December 24.

FROM the vast mine of the appendices to the Budget speech, which have been circulated only to-day, it is possible to add various interesting facts to my last letter. The figures of the annual charge on the public debt are as follows:—

	(Millions of Lire.)	1913-14.	1920-21.	1922-23.
Perpetual debt.....	359.6	2,097.9	2,082.5	..
Redeemable debt.....	89.3	157.4	155.3	..
3, 5, and 7 years' bonds.....	38.3	261.9	265.0	..
Other long term bonds.....	31.3	25.8	24.5	..
Exchequer bills.....	10.0	575.0	1,500.0	..
Current account.....	2.1	71.4	77.4	..
Internal debt.....	530.8	3,189.4	4,098.7	..
External debt.....	..	972.0	1,100.0	..
Total.....	530.8	4,161.4	5,198.7	..

National Bank of Commerce in New York

President
JAMES S. ALEXANDER

Capital Paid up \$25,000,000
Surplus and Undivided Profits
over \$30,000,000

The National Bank of Commerce in New York places complete banking services at the disposal of business throughout the world bringing it in contact with all phases of commerce and industry in the United States.

LONDON REPRESENTATIVE,
Gresham House, Old Broad Street,
London, E.C.2



The sum inscribed under the head of external debt is only figurative, as the interest is accumulating from year to year on the debts towards Great Britain and United States. If these debts were to be repaid, their repayment would absorb a great deal more in paper money, as the 972 millions for 1920-1921 and 1,100 millions for 1922-1923 are in gold lire.

Deposits in banks (issue and ordinary) and in savings banks are increasing, as the following figures show:—

	End of June.	1914.	1915.	1919.	1921.
Banks of issue.....	100.0	649.6	774.5	996.8	..
Ordinary banks.....	1,044.6	664.8	3,447.6	5,612.5	..
Popular and co-operative banks.....	1,211.3	1,010.8	2,661.2	3,665.7	..
Savings banks (ordinary).....	2,800.3	2,552.4	5,589.2	7,475.8	..
Postal savings banks.....	2,121.3	1,861.7	4,225.7	7,869.4	..
Pawn banks (Monti di Pietà).....	214.5	220.0	457.4	553.7	..
Rural banks.....	103.7	96.9	282.0	444.4	..
	7,595.4	7,056.2	17,435.5	26,618.3	..

The middle of 1915 was the moment of maximum panic and of reduced deposits. But thereafter deposits went on increasing year after year. It may, however, be observed that deposits have only increased about 3½ times, as compared with the pre-war figure, whereas the purchasing power of the lira is only one-fifth of what it was before the war. If deposits had multiplied in the same ratio as the lira depreciated, the sum total of deposits should have increased to about 38 billion lire, instead of to 26. But we have to reflect that, upon a total sum of 26.6 billion lire of deposits at June 30, 1921, upward of 21.7 billions were savings deposits and 4.8 current accounts. In Italy only these last are truly banking deposits of the trading and financial classes. The savings deposits are derived from the middle, employee, and working classes, and are apt to reflect the pinch of high cost of living. As this cost has risen from 100 in 1913 to about 500 in 1921, it is interesting to find that these classes have maintained a sufficient margin for saving. It is also interesting to

observe that the greater volume of deposits is not accumulated in the ordinary or issue banks, but in co-operative or public banks. Only 6,609 million lire are deposited with the issue and ordinary banks, 20 billions being under the patronage of the co-operative and public banks. This is an element of stability in the financial situation of Italy. In the last two weeks we have heard much of disastrous results of some giant companies, such as the well-known Ansaldo and Ilva iron and steel concerns. Shareholders' meetings were summoned to hear a story of capital wholly or almost wholly dissipated. Share quotations dwindled, to the despair of unfortunate holders. Much loose talk was heard about the consequences of the winding-up of concerns of such magnitude on the creditor banks; and a consortium was formed, under the Bank of Italy's guidance, for guaranteeing the Banca Italiana di Sconto,* which, however solid, was known to the public as the Ansaldo's patron, against the peril of a rush by depositors. Amid all these rumours, the foundations of Italian credit remain unshaken, as depositors of popular and savings banks are sure that their savings are invested by their old-fashioned institutions in acquiring bills of the surest description and moderate amount, and securities gradually written down to current prices. The stock exchanges are, however, closing the year in a very pessimistic temper, as they are feeling acutely the influence of the bad news relating to Ansaldo and Ilva companies. The public which has bought these iron and steel shares at 300 lire and upward and sees them to-day quoted at 45 and 16 lire, with a downward tendency, is shy of the share market.

AUSTRALIA.—BANK FIGURES—TRADE OUTLOOK.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, November 21.

THE quarterly average returns to September 30th of bank liabilities and assets within Australia and New Zealand (exclusive of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia) show deposits and advances (including Government securities) comparing with the previous quarter and a year previously as follows:—

	September Quarter, 1920.	June Quarter, 1921.	September Quarter, 1921.
Deposits—			
Australia	213,548,008 ..	218,936,020 ..	212,896,899
New Zealand	60,659,079 ..	53,699,629 ..	47,101,629
Total	274,207,087 ..	272,635,649 ..	259,998,528
Advances—			
Australia	185,477,816 ..	192,742,752 ..	186,934,894
New Zealand	46,117,399 ..	61,112,085 ..	54,234,076
Total	231,595,215 ..	253,854,837 ..	241,168,970
Cash items—			
Coin and bullion (Australia and N.Z.)	27,465,456 ..	27,435,031 ..	27,559,664
Australian notes	30,073,803 ..	29,564,235 ..	27,955,160
Legal tender notes of other banks (N. Z. only) ..	830,693 ..	971,180 ..	643,773
Total cash	58,369,952 ..	57,970,446 ..	56,158,597

Deposits show a decrease of £14,208,559 as compared with a year ago, this being the net result of a decrease of £18,406,088 in current accounts and an increase of £4,197,529 in deposits bearing interest. Advances show an increase of £9,573,755 on the year, but a decrease of £12,685,867 on the quarter. The latter movement, which is unusual for the September quarter, when the country districts usually look to the banks for accommodation, is partly due to the fact that the cash received on account of wool and wheat payments in Australia in July has reduced the borrowing requirements of the country, and partly to the reduction of trading overdrafts, which had assumed unusual proportions earlier in the year in consequence of heavy importations. As progress has been made in realising stocks, the importers have been able to reduce their liabilities to the banks, both in Australia and New Zealand, to an extent which would be more fully displayed if absolute figures at fixed dates were available, instead of averages for the quarter.

* Further developments since our correspondent wrote are discussed in a "Business Note" in this issue.

The principal figures (within Australia) of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, not included in the table above, compare as follows:—

	September Quarter, 1920.	June Quarter, 1921.	September Quarter, 1921.
Deposits—			
Not bearing interest	15,686,266 ..	15,966,669 ..	16,588,230
Bearing interest	12,452,446 ..	10,672,210 ..	12,486,109
Total	28,138,712 ..	26,638,879 ..	29,074,339
Savings bank deposits	18,305,601 ..	34,324,917 ..	35,687,445
Discounts, loans, &c.	12,586,695 ..	14,896,362 ..	13,678,539
Govt. and municipal securities ..	18,092,776 ..	33,640,763 ..	33,575,297
Coin and bullion	1,855,879 ..	1,857,556 ..	1,718,611
Australian notes	3,776,789 ..	4,922,840 ..	6,271,218

The increases in the Savings Bank deposits and in the Government and municipal securities held by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia as compared with a year ago are largely due to the taking over of the Queensland Government Savings Bank.

Adding to the coin and bullion held by the ordinary banks, £27,559,664, that held by the Commonwealth Bank in its banking department, £1,718,611, and the approximate average of the gold reserve held against the Australian note issue, £23,700,000, the total stocks of coin and bullion in Australia and New Zealand amount to £52,978,275, against £52,721,335 for the September quarter 1920, and £45,826,337 for the June quarter 1914.

After the decline in imports for some months past, there are indications that importers are launching out again in ordering. At the lower prices now ruling this will not mean such large values as a year or so ago, but against this the outlook is for a reduced amount of Australian import trade, owing to the much lower prices now obtainable for wheat, butter, and frozen meat, and the unprofitable state of the mining industry, which does not encourage operations. From the point of view of exchange, the various borrowings in London have helped to relieve the strain experienced some time ago, but it is felt in financial circles that a close regulation of the volume of imports is still required.

POLAND.—FINANCIAL REFORM—NEW OIL DEPOSITS—SUGAR PRODUCTION.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

WARSAW, December 20.

WHEN at the beginning of October Mr Michalski became Minister of Finance he hoped that in a few weeks he would be able to collect a capital levy of 100 milliards. His expectations in this respect were too optimistic. Only after a struggle lasting two and a-half months have the Financial Reform and Capital Levy Bills passed through the Diet. The fundamental principles of Mr Michalski's programme (see *Economist*, October 15th, p. 582) are embodied in the two Acts, and the modifications introduced by the Diet are only of a secondary importance. While Mr Michalski was in favour of a uniform rate of taxation for all kinds of rural property, the majority of the Sejm introduced a progressive scale for great estates. The Financial Reform Bill has been passed by a majority of only eight, 140 members voting for and 132 against it. The powers conferred on the Minister of Finance are very wide. Neither the Cabinet nor the Diet can vote new credits without the consent of the Minister. He has also an absolute financial control over all branches of administration. It may be expected that the new Acts will enable Mr Michalski to stop the progress of inflation and to bring the revenues and expenditure of the country into equilibrium. Some small step has been already accomplished in this direction. In November, for the first time, the returns of the Polish National Bank reveal a less rapid progress of Government indebtedness than during the previous months. According to the estimates of the Financial Committee of the Diet, the capital levy will yield 80 milliards; 60 or 70 milliards will be contributed by agriculture, the rest by industry and trade and by the urban population. If these expectations prove true, the Government will be able to cover its expenditure for three or four months in the beginning of next year without resorting to the use of the printing press.

Little has hitherto been known of the extent of the

Galician oil deposits. It was only after the foundation of the new Polish State that a systematic survey was organised for ascertaining the mineral wealth of Galicia. A special geological department as a branch of the Petroleum Board has been founded and charged with this task. The results of this survey have now been made public. In Galicia can be distinguished an outer and an inner zone of oil deposits. Hitherto the inner zone has been mainly exploited, while the outer zone is still, as far as oil production is concerned, virgin land. In this zone the existence of 42 saddles stretching along a line of 570 kilometres has now been ascertained. Of this area only 47 kilometres are exploited. According to the estimates of Dr Nowak, Director of the Geological Department of the Petroleum Board, 7,500 new shafts could be easily constructed in Galicia. They could yield 600,000 tons a year. The quantity of the Galician oil reserves is estimated at 37,500,000 tons, so that they would not reach exhaustion for years. Though Poland possesses very rich unexhausted deposits, the production is actually steadily declining, as shown by the figures below:—

PRODUCTION OF CRUDE OIL.			
Wagons of 10 Metric Tons.			
1909	205,315	1915	73,009
1910	176,142	1916	89,870
1911	145,303	1917	84,973
1912	118,650	1918	82,294
1913	107,104	1919	83,064
1914	87,802	1920	76,569

In 1921 will probably be seen a further decline. It is certain that as the inner zone is exhausted, the centre of the Galician oil production will necessarily be shifted to the still virgin outer zone.

The outlook for this year's sugar season is very favourable. The area under sugar-beet amounted to 87,528 hectares, which is only 50.5 per cent. of the average area under cultivation during the last three pre-war years, but in comparison with 1920 there is an increase of 15.5 per cent. for Congress Poland and for the former Austrian Poland, and of 25 per cent. for Posmania and Western Prussia. The year's crop is estimated at 2,000,000 metric centales, or 37.2 per cent. of the pre-war production. According to the estimates of the Ministry of Finance, 400,000 metric centales will be available for export. It is expected that the sugar industry will yield to the State a revenue of 30 milliards.

SWITZERLAND.—BUDGET DEFICITS—RAILWAYS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

GENEVA, December 21.

THE accumulated deficits of the Swiss Federal Treasury since 1913 had reached 1,173 million of francs by the end of 1920, of which 532.2 millions were due to the mobilisation during the war. Originally the items of military character amounted to 1,253.9 million francs, but about 720 millions have been redeemed since by the means of extraordinary taxation. The next big instalment of redemption will take place in 1922, and will probably yield 400 millions. A further important reason for the deficit is the State monopoly for the import of foodstuffs, which was originally created for the purpose of cheapening imported foodstuffs, but has now become one of the chief instruments of artificially increasing the cost of living in favour of the peasants' league. These deficits on State commerce amount to a total of 275.25 millions. Imported foodstuffs are now being sold by the State at very much over the world market prices, but there is no likelihood that these commercial services will at any time yield any profit to the Treasury. Besides these excesses of expenses over income in the extraordinary Budget, the ordinary Budget of the Confederation has closed regularly since 1913 with a deficit. This deficit amounted in 1920 to 99.6 millions, in 1919 to 95.7 millions, in the average of the five years of war to 35 millions, and in 1913 to only 5.3 millions. The estimate of the deficit for the year 1921, excluding the 80 million francs for unemployment assistance, exceeds 100 million francs.

Furthermore, the Federal Treasury is responsible for the accumulated deficits of the Swiss Federal Railways,

AKTIEBOLAGET UNIONBANKEN I FINLAND.

Amalgamation of:
WASA AKTIE BANK, establ. 1879.
ÅBO AKTIEBANK, " 1896.
LANDTMANNABANKEN, A.B., " 1910.
Head Offices: WASA, ÅBO, HELSINGFORS.

57 Branches.

Capital Paid Up and Reserves:

Fmk. 235,000,000.

Telegr. Address: "Unionbank."

Every description of Banking business transacted.

which at the end of 1920 had reached 92.7 millions, and was estimated for 1921 at 48.9 millions, and for 1922 at 30.3 millions. No wonder, therefore, that many people are demanding some form of denationalisation of the Federal Railways. Denationalisation is, of course, an impossibility, owing to the numerous local lines constructed without any economic necessity, and only for the purpose of pleasing the electorate. There is no doubt that, in spite of very high wages (owing to the high value of the currency and a superfluous staff—the individual man is not better paid than in the private railway companies of the country) the main lines of the Federal system are still well paying, but their excess of profit is not sufficient to cover the deficits of the many local lines, which ought to be managed in a different way, but would certainly not yield any appreciable profit even under the most skilful commercial management.

Books and Publications.

REVIEWS.

Economie Industrielle. Par Wilhelm Roscher. 8th Edition, revue et augmentée par Wilhelm Stieda. Traduit par M. P. Halluin. (Bibliothèque Internationale d'Economie Politique). Tome II. Paris: Marcel Giard. 1921.

PROFESSOR WILHELM ROSCHER, of Leipzig University, who died in 1894, was among the best-known of German "historical" economists, and his great work, like those of other leaders of German learning, has now become a classic. This volume represents the last half of the third volume of the standard German edition, originally published between 1899 and 1906, but brought up by Prof. Stieda to the year before the war. It deals with the history of industry in Europe from the break-up of the old organisation (which survived longer in Germany than elsewhere), with State regulation of labour conditions and of industry, cartels and trusts; with co-operative societies, trade unions (including the non-militant kinds peculiar to Germany and France); and goes on to technical education, international exhibitions, crises due to over-production, and, finally, the history and regulation of mining. The erudition is immense and various; industrial crises, for example, are illustrated from seventeenth-century Holland and fourteenth-century Florence, and the mining history begins with the later Roman Empire; but the particulars given are mainly about Germany, and the treatment of trusts and of English labour legislation and trade union history is by no means adequate or properly brought up to date. But in spite of these lacunæ, the work is of high value to all students of economic history.

"L'Evolution Actuelle du Bolshevisme Russe." Par Simon Zagorsky. Préface de M. Emile Vandervelde. (Paris) J. Povolosky et Cie. 1921.

EARLY this year Professor Zagorsky set forth the failure of Bolshevik economics; now he describes very fully, and from Bolshevik evidence, the acknowledgment of failure implied in the determination to revert to "capitalism." Briefly, the Soviet system of distribution has collapsed through lack of goods; a new bourgeoisie has arisen; on nineteen-twentieths of the agricultural land there are peasant proprietors, with very unequal holdings, and a firm intention to stick to them; and there are small master craftsmen in the villages and towns; the "col-

lectivist" Government farms have failed through grotesque mismanagement; freedom of exchange has been legalised again; production is encouraged in the factories by making wages dependent on output, with piece-work and overtime; factories are to be leased to foreign capitalists, who will pay partly in imported goods; taxes are to be paid in money; competition is officially favoured as stimulating the workers, and the hoarded paper money received by the peasants for illicitly sold goods is to be recovered for the State by setting up savings banks and paying interest on deposits! The famine has incidentally increased the inequality among the peasants, and has supervened on a long and artificial dearth. M. Vandervelde's Preface maintains that Socialism can only be realised at an advanced stage of economic development, and can nowhere be lasting if forcibly imposed by a small minority, as in Russia.

"Industrial Government." By J. R. Commons and others. (New York) The Macmillan Company. 1921.

NINE representatives of the University of Wisconsin, financed for the most part by four Wisconsin manufacturers, set out in 1919 to investigate some of the more progressive types of industrial government in the United States. In this volume they describe 18 of the establishments visited (including some as well known as the Ford Motor Works), and summarise the inferences on the subject of industrial relations which they draw from their experience. Specially interesting to the English reader is the account of the organisation at Demuth's, with its miniature copy of the United States Constitution, and the arrangements at Filene's Store (Boston), where the Board of Arbitration, composed entirely of elected representatives of the employees, has the final decision upon all discharges, and can even retain employees against the wishes of the management. The authors are not revolutionary in their conclusions. "Labour, as such, in control of industry, breaks down on discipline, on credit, on depreciation accounts, on planning for the future, on finding managers who can shoulder responsibility..... What we find that labour wants, as a class, is wages, hours, and security without financial responsibility, but with power to command respect." The book tends to a somewhat ecstatic style, and does not leave the impression of a very scientific and unprejudiced investigation.

"National Welfare and National Decay." By Prof. W. McDougall, F.R.S. Methuen. 1921. 6s.

THE theme of this volume is that men and races not being all alike or all equal, it is of the utmost importance that populations should be replenished from the best and strongest stocks. In any population, mental and moral, as well as physical, qualities are distributed according to a normal "frequency curve," a relatively small number having any given quality in an extremely high or in an extremely low degree, the great majority being of moderate stature, moderate intelligence, and moderate character. As far as intelligence goes, Professor McDougall adduces evidence (which we do not think is conclusive) to show that the distribution of intelligence roughly coincides with the distribution of social status, and that consequently the low birth-rate of the middle and upper classes is quite disastrous. As between race and race, he sees certain clearly marked distinctions, the Negro, for instance, having less innate capacity for education than the white population of the United States. In Europe he distinguishes two principal types, the Nordic, with a tendency to fair hair, curiosity, neurasthenia, divorce, and suicide; and the Mediterranean, dark-haired, and prone to hysteria and violence, but not to self-destruction. The book is well written, and should command much attention.

"Industrial Fatigue and Efficiency." By H. M. Vernon, M.A., M.D. Routledge, 1921. 12s 6d.

DR VERNON, Investigator to the Industrial Fatigue Research Board, aims in this volume at giving a "fairly complete account of our present-day knowledge concerning Industrial Fatigue and its influence on Efficiency." The book is packed with information, since every conclusion is supported by reference to a number of actual work-

shop investigations. For the most part it is concerned with the effects of various conditions of work upon output. We learn (and experience shows that in this we need much telling) that the "optimum hours" of work cannot be determined by a priori argument, but are matter for careful investigation in each industry; that overtime is nearly always objectionable, even when it is not excessive, because it upsets the routine adjustment of effort to work, and that the way to obtain increased output is not simply to lengthen the hours worked. Dr Vernon also deals with the thorny subject of conscious restriction of output, and explains how the existence of this may be detected by a study of "output curves." If these do not conform to the "laws of probability," there is ground for supposing that the workers have some agreement to keep their output within a certain limit. The later part of the book deals with lost time, sickness, mortality and accidents, and contains a wealth of valuable data bearing on the relation of fatigue to these misfortunes.

In a review of "Business Costs," by Mr De Witt Carl Eggleston and Mr F. B. Robinson, which appeared on page 1069 in our issue of December 17th, the price of the book should have read as 35s net, and not 18s net as stated.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

- History of the Port of London.* By Sir Joseph G. Broodbank. (London) Daniel O'Connor. In Two Volumes. £3 3s net.
- The South Sea Bubble.* By Lewis Melville. (London) Daniel O'Connor. 25s net.
- The People's Year-Book.* An Annual of Facts and Figures on Co-operative Labour and Allied Subjects. (Manchester) The Co-operative Wholesale Society, Limited. 2s 6d net.
- A Study of Exchange Direct and Through the Medium of Currency.* By Sir Lancelot Hare. (London) P. S. King and Son, Limited. 2s 6d net.
- Review of the Trade of India in 1920-21.* (Calcutta) Department of Statistics.
- Currency Inflation and Public Debts.* An Historical Sketch. By Edwin R. A. Seligman, with a Prefatory Note by Alvin W. Krech. (New York) The Equitable Trust Company.
- Geology of Heidelberg* (with Diagrams and Maps). By W. E. Bleloch. (London) W. E. Bleloch, 3 London Wall buildings, E.C. 2.
- The Czecho-Slovak Trade Journal.* December, 1921. (Prague) 714 Vodickova. Printed in English.

BANK CIRCULARS.

- Review.* December, 1921. (London) London County Westminster and Parr's Bank, Limited.
- Circular.* December 22, 1921. (London) The British Bank of South America, Limited.

STOCK EXCHANGE NEWS.

SETTLING DAYS.

TICKET. January 11. ACCOUNT. January 12.

Three days make a short week's work, even for the Stock Exchange, and with the same amount of holidays ahead for the New Year, it is natural that markets should offer few features of interest. The Stock Exchange reassembled after Christmas to find a slender accumulation of orders, most of which appeared to consist of further investment in the gilt-edged groups. Speculative purchases of Russians have been taking place this week, and another feature was provided by a spurt in Argentine railway stocks. The mining markets have been enlivened by a recovery in Russo-Asiatics, but in South Africans, business sunk to the minimum.

The War Loan rose abruptly until it touched 92½, while advances in the Funding Loan and in Victory Bonds imparted an air of robust strength to the market as a whole. Participants in the improvements which have occurred this week are to be found in the lists for colonial and corporation stocks.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C.3.

This Bank is in close touch with leading Bankers in all parts of the world, and provides facilities for the financing of every description of Overseas business. Traders interested in the Foreign Markets are invited to correspond with

THE FOREIGN MANAGER.

Foreign Branch: 168, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

Home Railway debenture, preference, guaranteed and rent-charge securities have made fresh upward strides. The premium on the new issue of India 5½ per cent. stock dwindled to a small discount on the news received from the country, but the reception of the Prince of Wales in Calcutta and elsewhere, has served to assuage nervousness. Various new issues are known to be coming early in the New Year.

Russian bonds, Government, railway and municipal, have risen several points on the opening of the Conference at Cannes. It is expected that something may yet be done to re-establish trade with Russia, more particularly as the Russo-Asiatic Consolidated has been approached by the Soviet Government in placable mood, with the request that negotiations may be restarted. Part of the buying of Russians emanates from Paris. French bonds are themselves better, and Germans pursued a fairly steady path. Norwegian Sixes at 95½ are now 7½ points above their issue price; most Norwegian, Danish and similar securities have steadily advanced. Finland 4½ per cents. are five points higher than they were a week ago. The South American group is quiet, and there is nothing much going on either in Chinese or Japanese.

Apart from the strength of prior-charge stocks already mentioned, the Home Railway market is very placid. Rises in Undergrounds have been checked a trifle, and until some of the early dividends appear, it is not anticipated that Home Railway Ordinary stocks will show marked signs of life. Grand Trunks continue to harden. Mexican Railways are dullish by reason of the meeting of the company this week. The chairman painted the present position none too brightly, but spoke more hopefully of the outlook for the future. Argentine Railway stocks spurted sharply, in consequence of the better prospects that are opening in the Argentine Republic for trade and industry. The traffics begin to look less discouraging. It is thought that the Argentine railway industry may have touched something like the lowest point of its depression. The market is comparatively bare of stock, so that it took but little demand to bring about a smart rally in quotations. Brazilians are also better, and in this department, as in that for Home Railway stocks, the pre-ordinary issues are difficult to obtain.

Nothing of fresh interest has transpired amongst rubber shares so far as the market is concerned, and oil shares are unusually quiet, the main feature of interest being recoveries in some of the Russian companies' shares. The Shipping market is firm under the leadership of the higher-priced stocks. Scarcely a charge has occurred amongst banks. Insurance shares show a few rises. The cable group has further recovered, while the wireless shares mark time. Levers are better, on the announcement of a dividend on the ordinary shares. In Dunlops, the interest centres upon the expected publication of the report, now fully due. Stores shares are holding their prices, and amongst textiles price-movements are insignificant. The Iron and Steel market attracts no particular attention, and the brewery section is equally uninteresting.

With the price of gold showing no recovery, Kaffirs are naturally quiescent, this month's batch of dividends being regarded as disappointing on the whole, though some of the announcements are exceptionally good. The chartered company's report caused a slight stiffening of the price in advance of the document's appearance. Russo-Asiatics spurted, on the invitation of the Soviet Government, already referred to above, and Esperanzas, with Colombian mining shares, gave a little exhibition of activity upon buying that was largely of professional character. Broken Hills are dull, in consequence of the Proprietary Company's announcement that part of its iron and steel works will have to be closed owing to labour conditions. The various tin shares, Malayan, Cornish, and West African, can scarcely be said to have developed at all.

Stock Exchange shares, now £25 paid, finished the year at 87, while Nominations are quoted about twenty pounds. The number of members who have made a living, outside those connected with the investment markets, is admittedly small.

To complete our record of new issues and summary of profit and loss accounts, company secretaries are requested to furnish us with copies of new prospectuses and report and accounts. Our readers can also assist by forwarding copies of prospectuses and company reports and accounts which may fall into their hands.

NEW ISSUES.

The new issues of the week and the current year and date of opening of the lists have been as follows:—

	Nominal Capital, £	Cash Subscription, £	First Payment, £	Further Liability, £
ISSUES OF THE WEEK—				
Amount previously recorded....	..	*377,851,485 ..	..	..
		* Adjusted figures.		

TREASURY BONDS.

Total receipts, 5-15 Year, 1925-35	£ 1,062,317
5½% 1923 receipts to December 17, 1921	158,005,199
Week to December 24, 1921 (new series)	10,465,000
Receipts to date	168,470,199

NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES.

NET RECEIPTS INTO THE EXCHEQUER WEEK ENDED DECEMBER 24, 1921.

April 1 to December 24, £5,880,000	200,000 ..	200,000
--	------------	---------

To the Public—				
San Paulo Mortgage and Finance Co., £100,000 (1922-37), 8% First Mortgage Deb. Stk. (red. at 102½ 1922-37, issued at 95%) ..	100,000 ..	95,000 ..	10,000 ..	85,000
Total offered to Public	..	95,000 ..	10,000 ..	85,000
To Shareholders only—				
Parent Tyre, 281,250 Def. Shares, £1, at £1 7s 6d	281,250 ..	386,718 ..	386,718 ..	..
Total offered to Shareholders only ..	..	386,718 ..	386,718 ..	..
Total offered for subscription for whole year:—				
1921	..	388,978,203	..	..
1920	..	367,549,656	..	..
1919	..	1,036,059,951	..	..
1918	..	1,393,381,441	..	..
1917	..	1,318,596,010	..	..
1916	..	585,436,853	..	..
1915	..	685,236,326	..	..
1914	..	512,522,633	..	..
1913	..	196,536,980	..	..
1912	..	210,106,156	..	..

5½ per Cent. Treasury Bonds.—Issued at £99 per cent. and repayable at par on May 15, 1930. Interest payable half-yearly on May 15th and November 15th. Full particulars of this issue will be found in the *Economist* for December 3rd (see page 986).

New Zealand—New Plymouth Harbour Board 6½ per Cent. Loan.—Issue of £128,000 debentures, being part of an authorised issue of £300,000. Principal will be repayable at par on February 1, 1932, at the London office of the Bank of New Zealand. Under authorisation by the New Plymouth Harbour Board, the Bank of New Zealand is negotiating this sale of debentures amounting to £128,000. Subject to a loan of £300,000, "the principal and interest of these debentures will be secured by the rents, profits, and dues chargeable and receivable by the Board, and by a special rate over an area valued in 1913 at £8,961,746, which, if required, would yield an annual income of £25,050." The ordinary revenue of the Board for the past five years averaged £24,645, and for the year 1920 amounted to £35,284. The indebtedness of the Board amounts to £300,000, represented by debentures maturing in 1939, having the service of a sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum, in respect of which £50,000 has already been accumulated. The loan is free from all New Zealand taxes, unless held by person domiciled in the Dominion of New Zealand. This information is extracted from an announcement in the Press to comply with Stock Exchange regulations. At a reasonably attractive yield these debentures would be a fairly good investment.

Parent Tyre Company, Limited.—The directors of the Parent Tyre Company announce that 281,250 of the 500,000 shares recently created are now offered at the price of 27s 6d per £1 deferred share to ordinary and deferred shareholders. In the event of the issue being over-subscribed, a minimum allotment will be made to the ordinary and deferred shareholders of one share for each four shares held. Subject to this offer to the ordinary and deferred shareholders, the shares are offered to the holders of preference shares on the same conditions. It will be interesting to learn the results of this offer. On Wednesday business was done in the existing £1 deferred shares at 26s 6d ex rights. It would, therefore, appear that holders of the shares have faith in the future of the undertaking.

The San Paulo Mortgage and Finance Company, Limited.—Authorised and issued capital £100,000, divided into ordinary shares of £1 each. This is an offer for sale of £100,000 8 per cent. first mortgage debenture stock at 95, and is part of a total authorised issue of £200,000. This stock will be secured by a trust deed, "constituting it a first specific

charge on all moneys receivable by the San Paulo Mortgage and Finance Company, Limited." The security offered cannot be regarded as of a gilt-edged nature, and one is naturally led to ask the question why it was necessary to form a financing company, with a share capital of £100,000, to finance an undertaking with an issued share capital of £2,000,000. The issue is to be redeemed by March, 1937, but the company may, on giving three months' notice after December 31, 1923, pay off debentures at 102½ per cent. It is understood that there is to be no Stock Exchange quotation for the debenture stock, and we are not informed of the price paid by the present vendors. Having regard to published information and lack of other details which are necessary, the offer is one which the cautious investor will leave alone.

Sunday Publications, Limited.—Authorized share capital £250,000, divided in shares of £1 each, "all of which has been allotted." The company is the owner of two newspapers, of which "it is obviously a little too early to speak with confidence of the earning capacity." But estimates are worked out which show profits as sufficient to pay a dividend of "nearly 30 per cent. upon the share capital." Astute people will no doubt accept this generous estimate at its true value. This is an offer for sale by Mr Horatio Bottomley, M.P., of £100,000 7 per cent. first mortgage debentures, "income-tax free, and carrying a bonus of two fully-paid £1 shares in respect of each debenture allotted." The statement making this offer says that "the debentures constitute a first charge upon the copyrights, goodwill, machinery, and other assets of the company." But the document in which the offer is made is deficient in information on three most essential matters, which we enumerate as follows:—(1) What is the value of the net assets, which, we assume, are to be definitely assigned as security for the first mortgage debenture-holders? (2) Is the charge to be made by means of a trust deed, and who are the trustees; and (3) will there be a Stock Exchange quotation for these debentures? Any person who acquires these debentures solely on the information contained in the document in front of us will, indeed, have thrown all financial caution to the four winds.

ACTIVE SECURITIES

The following tables show the movements of the week in the more active securities of the various markets:—

British and Colonial Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
War 3½% 1925-28 .. 90½ .. 91½ .. + 1			
Loans 5½% 1925-28 .. 91½ .. 92½ .. + 1			
4½% 1929-47 .. 91½ .. 92½ .. + 1			
Funding Loan 4% .. 75½ .. 76½ .. + 1			
Victory Bonds 4% .. 80½ .. 81½ .. + 1			
Conversion Loan 3½% 66½ .. 67½ .. + 1			
Consols 2½% .. 50 .. 50½ .. + ½			
Irish Land Stock 2½% 51½ .. 52½ .. + 1			

Banks.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Barclays B (£1, 1 p.d.) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..			
Lloyds (£5 with 1 p.d.) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..			
London Joint City & Midland (£12 with 2 p.d.) .. 7 .. 7½ .. + ½			
London County West- minster and Parr's (£20 with 5 p.d.) .. 15 .. 15 ..			

Colonial and Foreign Railways.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Antofagasta Cons. 42 .. 42 ..			
B. A. & Pacific .. 34 .. 36 .. + 2			
B. A. Gt. Southern .. 52 .. 57 .. + 5			
Buenos Ayres West. 50½ .. 55 .. + 4½			
Canadian Pacific .. 142 .. 143 .. + 1			
Central Argentine .. 47 .. 52½ .. + 5½			
Grand Trunk Ord. 1½ .. 1½ ..			

Foreign Government Securities.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Argentine 5% 1886-7 .. 97 .. 98 .. + 1			
Belgian 3% .. 64 .. 65 .. + 1			
Brazil 5% Fund 1914-65 .. 65 .. 67 .. + 2			
Chilian 4% 1897 .. 67 .. 67 ..			
Chinese 5% 1912 .. 67 .. 67 ..			
Egyptian 4% .. 61½ .. 61½ ..			
French 5% .. 40½ .. 42 .. + 1½			
Do 4% .. 32½ .. 33½ .. + 1			

Telegraphs.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Anglo-American "A" 184 .. 184 ..			
Eastern Telegraph .. 163½ .. 167½ .. + 4			
Marconi Wireless .. 11½ .. 11½ ..			

British Railways.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Great Central Pref. 81 .. 83 .. + 2			
Great Eastern .. 27 .. 27 ..			
Great Northern Def. 23½ .. 24 .. + ½			
Great Western .. 72½ .. 73 .. + ½			
Lancs. and Yorks. 50 .. 50 ..			
London, Brighton, & A. 38½ .. 38½ ..			
London, Chatham .. 55 .. 55 ..			
Do Arb. Pref. 37 .. 38 .. + 1			

American Railroads.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Chesapeake & Ohio .. 66 .. 65 .. - 1			
Erie .. 12 .. 12 ..			
Do 4½ 1st Pref. 19 .. 18 .. - 1			

Miscellaneous.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Aerated Bread (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..			
Armstrong (Sir W. G.) and Co. (£1) .. 15 .. 15½ .. + ½			
Ass. Pind. Cement (£1) 13½ .. 13½ ..			
Bham Small Arms (£1) 8½ .. 8½ ..			
Brazil Traction (£100) 3½ .. 3½ ..			
British-American Tobacco (£1) .. 3½ .. 3½ ..			
Brit. & Arg. Meat (£1) 1 .. 1 ..			
Burmah Oil (£1) .. 5½ .. 5½ ..			
Coats (J. and P.) (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..			
Courtaulds (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..			
Cunard (£1) .. 8½ .. 8½ ..			
Dorman, Long (£1) .. 8½ .. 8½ ..			
Dunlop Rubber (£1) .. 7½ .. 7½ ..			
Fine Cotton Spinners (£1) .. 11½ .. 11½ ..			
Forestal Land (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..			
Furness, Withy (£1) .. 1½ .. 1½ ..			
Highlands and Low- lands Rubber (£1) 11½ .. 11½ ..			
Hudson's Bay (£1) 5½ .. 5½ ..			
Imperial Tobacco (£1) 2½ .. 2½ ..			
International Paint (£1) 7½ .. 7½ ..			
Living Plantations (£1) 1½ .. 1½ ..			
Lipton (£1) .. 8½ .. 8½ ..			

Mines.

	Price Last Week.	Latest Price.	Rise or Fall.
Brakpan (£1) .. 23 .. 23 ..			
Broken Hill Prop. (8) 13 .. 13 ..			
Chartered (£1) .. 7½ .. 7½ ..			
Cons. Gold Fields (£1) 4½ .. 4½ ..			
Crown Mines (10) .. 14 .. 14 ..			
De Beers Def. (£2½) 9½ .. 9½ ..			
East Rand Prop. (£1) 2½ .. 2½ ..			
Goldfield (£1) .. 2½ .. 2½ ..			
Gov. Gold Areas (£1) 4½ .. 4½ ..			

COMPANY NEWS.

DIVIDEND ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Name of Company.	Rate % per Annum, except where marked % or stated in Cash.	Interim Div.	Final Div.	Method of Payment.	Dividend for Whole Years.	Last Year.	Previous.
Railways.							
Bengal and N. Western	6½	Feb.	Less tax 3/6 in £	11	11		
Delhi-Umbera-Kalka	7½	Jan. 30	Less tax 3/6 in £	11	11		
New York Central	6½	Feb. 1	Less tax 3/6 in £	11	10		
Rohilkund and Kunson	6½	Feb. 1	Less tax 3/6 in £	11	10		
Banks.							
Canadian Bank of Commerce ..	4%	(& extra 4%)	..	13	13		
Equitable Trust of New York ..	4%	..	..	..	..		
Tea and Rubber.							
Palmadulla Rubber	10%	Jan. 3	Less tax	..	..		
Mining.							
Clydesdale (Transvaal)	7½	Feb. 9	..	..	..		
Stimmer and Jack Proprietary ..	2½	Feb. 9	..	..	..		
Sub Nigel	5%	Feb. 9	..	..	..		
Other Companies.							
Aeolian, Pref.	7½	Jan. 1	..	10	10		
Bertrams, Limited	4%	Jan. 9	Less tax	..	..		
Bolover Colliery	4%	..	Less tax	..	..		
Broughton Copper	5%	..	Less tax	..	..		
Chicago Bre.eries	7½	Jan. 5	..	..	..		
Crompton and Co., Pref.	11%	Feb. 1	..	..	..		
Dominion Steel Corporation, Pref.	3½	Feb. 1	Tax free	7	7		
Dudley Gibbons	3½	..	..	10	10		
East Kent Road Car	5%	..	Less tax	22½	30		
Edward Wood and Co.	5%	Jan. 3	Less tax	64	64		
Egyptian Salt and Soda	..	..	..	10	6		
Frederick Hotels	..	..	..	124	124		
Frodair Iron and Steel	10½	..	Less tax	..	..		
Glamorgan Wagon	5½	Dec. 31	..	..	..		
Goodwin, Foster, Brown, L., Pref.	1½	Jan. 1	Less tax 6/ in £	..	..		
Hall and Co., Croydon	15	..	..	10	10		
Home and Colonial Stores	16 p.d.	..	..	..	..		
Huggins and Co.	1½	Dec. 30	..	..	..		
Imperial Tobacco of Canada	1½	Dec. 30	..	..	..		
Do	1½	..	..	..	..		
John Bland and Co.	3 p.d.	..	Less tax	10	10		
John Cressley and Sons	5 p.d.	..	Less tax	2 p.s.	2 p.s.		
Lochgelly Iron and Coal	1 p.s.	..	..	7	7		
Newcastle Breweries	5½	..	Less tax	10	10		
New Zealand & River Plate Land ..	5½	..	Less tax	..	..		
Plymouth and Stonehouse Gas ..	6	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..		
Light, Ord.	9½	Jan. 2	Less tax	..	..		
Do Additional	9	..	..	..	..		
Do New Shares	2%	..	Tax free	10	20 (a)		
Reading Company	6%	Feb. 1	Less tax	..	..		
R. Hood, Haggie, and Son	12%	Jan. 10	..	..	..		
Shanghai Electric Construction ..	12%	..	..	..	..		
Shawinigan Water and Power ..	12%	..	..	..	..		
Sheepbridge Coal and Iron, Pref. and Ord.	6 p.s.	..	Less tax	..	..		
Do Pref. part paid	2-4 p.s.	..	Less tax	..	..		
Spanish River Pulp and Paper ..	3 p.s.	..	Less tax	..	..		
Spicer Brothers	15%	Jan. 9	Tax free	35	35		
Steel Company of Canada	15%	..	..	74	124		
United Tobacco Companies	..	..	..	4	6 (b)		
Vulcanite	..	..	..	..	..		
W. B. Mew, Langton, and Co.	..	..	..	..	..		

(a) Also capitalised bonus of 50%.

(b) Also capitalised bonus of 175%.

LEYEN BROTHERS, LIMITED, have declared a dividend of 10 per cent. on the ordinary capital and dividend on the co-partnership certificates. In addition, the company propose to place to reserve fund a sum equal to a further 10 per cent. on the ordinary capital.

NEW CHARTERLAND EXPLORATION.—The accounts of the North Charterland Exploration Company (1910) for the year ended December 31, 1920, show a debit balance of £6,073, which sum has been carried to the balance-sheet. After allowing for the sum of £4,291 standing to the credit of profits and loss account as at December 31, 1919, the debit balance is reduced to £1,782. Ample depreciation under the various headings has been allowed. The board are not able to pay a dividend on the preference shares.

MEXICAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

RECOGNITION OF THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT NECESSARY.

BRIGHTER OUTLOOK FOR THE FUTURE.

The 113th ordinary general meeting of the Mexican Railway Company, Limited, was held, on the 28th instant, at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, E.C., Mr Vincent W. Yorke, chairman of the company, presiding.

The secretary (Mr C. Tennant) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said he was glad they had been able to return more or less to normality in the form of the report and accounts now presented. The only difference as regarded the past was that the comparison was given with the preceding half-year instead of with the corresponding half-year, as would be the case in the old days. He was afraid they might consider the results of the half-year distinctly disappointing, but he did not think they were more so than he led the shareholders to expect at the last meeting. There had been several reasons for the unsatisfactory result: they had insufficient equipment to work with, the property had been in a very bad state of repair, and they had had a very serious strike—a partial one, but a serious one—from March 1st to April 14th. These three causes, together with the high cost of materials and rise of wages, had led to an enormous increase in their expenses.

SATISFACTORY INCREASE IN GROSS REVENUE.

If it had not been for the very satisfactory increase they had received in gross revenue, which showed 40 per cent. increase over 1913, they would have made a very bad showing. Passenger traffic gave an increase of 28 per cent. Express business showed an enormous gross increase of from 330,000 pesos in 1913 to 1,850,000 pesos during the half-year under review. The congestion at Vera Cruz had now been cleared up, and the shortage in foreign traffic might be regarded as transitory. The final result, which, as he had said, was distinctly disappointing, had only given them £101,882, and, after deducting debenture interest and taxation, there was only about £19,000, which was not much more than the profit on exchange in respect to their remittances by which to reduce the large debit to the revenue account.

That was all he had to say with regard to the dark side of the picture; the rest of his remarks, he was glad to say, would be of a rather more cheerful nature.

INCREASE OF RATES.

He had ventured to express the hope at the last meeting that the two important questions of raising of rates and the indemnity would be decided in a short time by the Government, and, as shareholders would have seen, an increase of rates was granted to them from September 1st last. The increase was 25 per cent. in all. Half of this had been published in their weekly returns and half retained in the coffers of the company, and credited to the Government as part payment of the indemnity they owed to the company. Shareholders should bear in mind that the 12½ per cent. in respect of the indemnity only applied to certain classes of their traffic; it did not apply to articles of prime necessity, Government passengers, and so forth. It might be roughly taken to amount to 7 per cent. on goods and 10 per cent. on passenger traffic, and the round figure brought into the company was something like £300 per diem. In addition to that, they had been allowed to retain about £100,000, which they had already collected from the public in the shape of extra fares before the question of indemnity had been gone into by the Government. That was, he need scarcely say, a valuable concession on their part. The indemnity now amounted to the large figure of about 2½ millions sterling, and at the present rate of collection—£300 a day—it would take them over 20 years to collect it all. He only hoped they would be able to induce the Mexican Government to accelerate the rate of payment before long. The effect on the net earnings of the raising of the rates had been quite satisfactory. The two months' returns which they had received—September and October—came together to 796,000 pesos, altogether about £80,000, without counting in any profit on exchange, or just about £480,000 per annum. He was also hopeful that various large purchases of equipment they had had to make would result in a sensible reduction in working expenses.

EASIER WORKING OF THE LINE.

Unfortunately they had to be paid for, and in the early months of the coming year the bills in respect of these articles might come to nearly £20,000 per month, but owing to the fact that they now possessed this new equipment, the working of the line in the current half-year had been very much easier. As stated in the report, the congestion of goods at Vera Cruz, which was severe when he was in Mexico in February and March last, had been entirely

cleared up, and the fact that that was so reflected great credit on the general manager and staff.

TRAFFIC PROSPECTS.

The traffic situation, generally speaking, had also been cleared. With regard to the prospects of the traffic in the future, he thought they might say that on the whole they were fairly satisfactory. Business had been, and still was, going through very difficult times in Mexico, as elsewhere. Delay on the part of the railways had much hampered commerce. It had led to very high costs, and in consequence, to a very slow sale of stocks, but so far as he could learn there had been very little repudiation on the part of Mexican traders, as, he believed, had happened in other parts of Latin America. The harvest promised to be moderate, and there was less land under cultivation. The railway, however, would be helped in the future by imports of corn which must come along to supply the full amount of food required by the country. There was also promise of a large sugar crop in the southern region served by the company. Alcohol, also, a traffic which in the old days used to be competitive, he now understood came almost completely over their line.

CABLE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER.

They had just received a cable from their general manager as follows:—"Business conditions here very dull. Large stocks on hand bought at high prices last spring. Few buyers all waiting for fall in prices. Very few new orders being placed at present, and imports are decreasing. Some maize, wheat, and flour being imported, which is not a good sign. Agrarian owners reluctant to plant on large scale owing to fear of expropriation. Political conditions quiet, but present Government can make no headway without recognition, which would create a boom and bring about general improvement in trade. I think we shall have a dull time during the next six months."

This did not read altogether cheerfully, but if they could have telegrams sent by the managers of foreign railways all over the world he thought they would be couched in very much the same language as the one sent to them. Business depression had taken some time to reach Mexico, but it had reached Mexico now in good earnest.

POSITION OF DEBENTURE-HOLDERS.

The scheme with regard to the debenture-holders would come to an end on December 31st. They brought a new scheme before them a week ago, which met with a good deal of criticism from the certificate holders—the people who, he understood, were not interested in the company before it got into trouble. The debenture-holders who had retained their certificates mostly supported the scheme. To allay the dissatisfaction they consented to a compromise—namely, to pay 4½ per cent. on the "A" debenture stocks and 3 per cent. on the "B" until the stocks were redeemed. This was carried, but the scheme had still to be approved by the courts. but as the resolutions were passed unanimously, he did not anticipate trouble in that direction.

Shareholders might be interested to know that the board were studying the question of the electrification of the mountain section of the railway with the assistance of the General Electric Company of America, who had been good enough to send a man down to report thereon without making any charge to the company, and without any engagement on their part. They had been assured on all sides, by perfectly competent experts, that the problem which they had for solution was an ideal one from the point of view of the electrical engineer. It would, however, naturally be impossible for the company to undertake any works of that nature until they were out of debt.

The last matter he would touch upon was that of the recognition of the Mexican Government. He had referred to that at the last meeting, and could not help referring to it again. He believed the present Government in Mexico, to be friendly to foreigners and foreign investors, but it was no good concealing the fact that there was an anti-foreign party. The longer recognition was withheld the stronger that party would grow. That party had shown its strength from time to time in promoting socialistic legislation, and it was difficult as things stood for the Central Government to take up a firm attitude which he thought they would like to take. As it was, he had to confess himself as amazed at the success which had attended the efforts of the present Mexican Government to restore prosperity to the country, and the peaceful methods they had employed in doing so, and he also confessed himself amazed that their performance had not met with the reward of recognition by the civilised Powers of the world.

Mr C. J. Cater-Scott seconded the motion, and the Chairman having replied to questions, it was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and staff terminated the proceedings.



HEAD OFFICE:
1 Dale Street,
LIVERPOOL.

LONDON:
Chief Office,
1 Cornhill, E.C.3

TOTAL ASSETS exceed - £20,000,000
TOTAL CLAIMS PAID over - £102,000,000

FIRE. LIFE. ACCIDENT. MARINE.

Annuities, Leasehold Redemption, Burglary, Fidelity Guarantee, Motor Car, Plate Glass, Personal Accident, Workmen's Compensation, Sickness, Live Stock, Loss of Profits, &c.

OFFICES IN ALL THE CHIEF COMMERCIAL CENTRES

JOHANNESBURG CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS DESPITE TRADE DEPRESSION. LABOUR AND WORKING COSTS.

The annual meeting of the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, was held in Johannesburg on Wednesday, November 23, 1921.

The Chairman (Professor J. G. Lawn), in moving the adoption of the report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1921, said:—During the year, under review Mr Joel, the permanent chairman of the company, accompanied by Mr Imroth, one of your directors, visited South Africa. Mr Joel's energy and capacity for work are so well known that it seems needless to state that during his comparatively brief stay he made himself thoroughly conversant with the recent developments of the company's interests in South Africa, and assisted the board of directors here with much valuable advice.

The period we are considering was one of considerable difficulty and anxiety. Financial strain and crisis was the dominating note in many businesses, especially in the latter part of the company's year. This was owing to the beginning of a period of deflation which was inevitable after the universal inflation which followed the conclusion of the Great War. Fortunately only certain sections of your company's business was affected, so that, although the year was not quite so prosperous as the year before, still, the results as exhibited in the accounts must be considered highly satisfactory in view of the prevailing conditions. The directors were happy to find themselves in a position to declare a dividend of 10 per cent. on June 23rd last, and yet leave the financial position of the company in practically the same position as it was at the end of the previous year.

I shall now proceed to review the principal items in the accounts before you.

THE ACCOUNTS.

The issued capital remains unchanged at £3,950,000. The reserve fund of £250,000 is the same as at June 30, 1920. Sundry creditors, £1,449,104—this item shows a decrease of £463,003, due to the reduction of deposits and of the ordinary current liabilities of the company. Contingent liabilities, £349,635—our contingent liabilities show a decrease of £249,292 over last year's figures, principally due to the calling up of the balance on partly-paid shares in the New State Areas, Limited.

Investments in stocks and shares, £3,915,649—investments in stocks and shares show an increase as compared with June 30, 1920, of £232,537. The increase represents the difference between investments acquired and realised and the amount of depreciation written off.

The investments acquired during the year include holdings in various coal companies, which it is confidently expected will eventually yield a satisfactory return on the capital invested. The payment of calls to the New State Areas, Limited, referred to in my remarks on contingent liabilities, have likewise added largely to the total cost of our shareholdings.

In accordance with our usual practice, our holdings have been written down to their market value at June 30th in cases where the book value was above the market value, but no credit has been taken in the accounts for the appreciation of such of our shareholdings as have to-day a higher market value than the value at which they stand in the books. The appreciation represents a very considerable sum.

Mining properties and advances to mining and other companies, £277,312—a decrease of £106,751 is reflected under this heading. The whole of the amount due by the Randfontein Estates Gold Mining Company, Limited, has been repaid, while the total amount due by other companies in which this company is interested, and which require advances from time to time of a more or less temporary nature, is somewhat larger than a year ago.

Real estate and buildings, £421,031—this amount is made up as follows:—Johannesburg properties, £270,059; Johannesburg suburban estates, £42,002—£312,061. Other properties in South Africa and London, £108,970—total, £421,031.

The decrease of £13,133 is accounted for by amounts received from the sale of ground on our various suburban estates during the year, and the redemption of ground rents.

Carlton Hotels (South Africa), Limited.—The business of the hotel was affected to some extent by the commercial depression which prevailed in the town, especially during the latter half of the company's year. The hotel is nominally owned at the present time by a company registered in England called the Carlton Hotels (South Africa), Limited. By reason of the registration in England we have to pay heavy income-tax in England, as well as being taxed in South Africa, on the profits made by the hotel. In order to avoid the double taxation it has been decided to liquidate the company and domicile the ownership of the hotel in South Africa. To effect this it will be necessary to offer the hotel for sale by auction, and I would like to take the opportunity of saying that it is not intended that this shall in any way interfere with the ordinary running of the hotel, as the Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Company, Limited, holds itself responsible for carrying on in the meantime.

Polana Hotel.—This hotel is being built at Lourenço Marques for the Delagoa Bay Lands Syndicate, Limited, in which your company is largely interested. At the time of our last annual meeting it was hoped that the hotel would have been completed by the end of this year, but owing to certain alterations the completion will be a little delayed. However, there seems every reason to hope that it will be completed in time to admit of its being opened at the beginning of the coming winter season.

Loans on Mortgage and Real Estate, £161,026.—This amount is approximately the same as last year, a small decrease of £843 appearing between the figures for the two years, representing the difference between loans reduced or paid off and new advances granted. Our loans under this heading continue to be of a satisfactory nature and amply secured.

Loans at Short Call on Market Securities, £455,878.—A substantial reduction of £322,366 is reflected here; a decrease which may be regarded as natural in view of the restriction of business consequent on the unsettled and depressed conditions universally prevailing.

Sundry Debtors and Dividends Accrued, £798,323.—The dividends accrued, but not paid at June 30th, were slightly in excess of the corresponding figure of last year. Sundry debtors representing temporary current balances of accounts are substantially lower than they were last year at the same date, the result being that the total figure shows a decrease of £264,482 as compared with June 30, 1920.

Cash at Bankers, £190,345.—This figure varies from day to day, and does not call for special comment.

Financial Position.—It will be seen by an examination of the balance-sheet that the difference between the total assets and the liabilities to the public, excluding contingent liabilities, after allowing for payment of the dividend of £395,000, declared on June 23rd last, amounts to £4,384,411. The corresponding figure for last year was £4,391,453, so that the surplus for this year only shows a difference of £7,042, as compared with the corresponding figures for last year. In each case it must be remembered the surplus is based on the book value of your assets, and takes no account of the large appreciation in some of your shareholdings, to which reference has already been made.

I think it will be acknowledged that the position of the company as at June 30, 1921, was a very fine one, especially when account is taken of the difficulties which had been passed through.

The net profit for the year amounted to £387,958, which, with the balance carried forward from last year, left an available balance for the profits appropriation account of £579,411. After providing for dividend No. 24 of 10 per cent., we were in the position of carrying forward to the current year an amount of £184,412, a decrease of approximately only £7,000 on the amount carried forward last year. Although the distribution was 2½ per cent. less than that of last year, yet shareholders have much reason to be gratified with the results obtained.

GOLD MINES.

The gold mines of the Rand profited very substantially from the premium on gold, as they did during the previous financial

EUROPEAN WORKERS.

We now come to the European workers, and it is in connection with them that most room for economies exists. Wages have been increased enormously since pre-war days. Thus it will be seen from the Government mining engineer's reports that in 1920 it cost in European wages £11,047,256 for the winning and treatment of 24,157,515 tons of ore; a sum £4,315,325 greater than would have produced a similar effect in 1914. The Prime Minister recently pointed out that the average white wage in 1914 was £324, whereas the average white wage in 1920 was £499.

The white workers have already agreed to certain reductions in wages, based on the fall in the cost of living, but whether this sliding scale will afford sufficient relief will depend chiefly upon the gold premium, any heavy fall in which would make it necessary to reconsider the whole position with regard to rates of wages. A point which is often overlooked is that before the Great War there was no place in the world where such a high level of wages was paid as on the Rand.

Turning next to the efficiency of European labour, this has been reduced by a shortening of the hours of work, and by the granting of regular holidays amounting to four weeks per year in the case of underground workers. These were just measures, but it must not be forgotten that the industry has paid and is paying for them. I suppose there is no industry in the world where the European workers have better conditions of service than on the Rand, but there is no reciprocal keenness or loyal service on the part of the workers.

WORKING COSTS.

Another point in this connection is that there are more white workers employed in the industry than are necessary, which greatly adds to working costs. These surplus workers are thrust upon the industry by Government regulations, and by agitation and threats on the part of the European employees. It is quite clear that a large number of white men must always be employed—both in skilled work and in supervision—but every unnecessary white man means a high wage and increased costs in native wages and stores. Indeed, it would be much cheaper for the industry to support these men in idleness at the coast than to keep them on the mines. If economic laws are transgressed the industry will die prematurely, and then it will provide neither work for white or black nor revenue for the country at large.

After dealing with the individual mines controlled by the company, the Chairman continued: Despite the prevailing depression and the uncertainty of what the immediate future has in store, there is every reason to hope that gradually more stable conditions will be established and the present clouds which hang over the financial world dispelled.

Mr C. Marx seconded the resolution, which was carried.

STOLL PICTURE THEATRE (KINGSWAY), LIMITED.

SIR OSWALD STOLL ON TRUE AND FALSE PRINCIPLES.

CRITICISMS OF ENTERTAINMENT TAX AND L.C.C. INTERFERENCE.

The annual general meeting of the Stoll Picture Theatre (Kingsway), Limited, was held on the 29th instant.

Sir Oswald Stoll, chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, which recommended a dividend making 12½ per cent. for the year, said:—

I rise to move the adoption of the report and accounts, which I assume may be taken as read. They compare well with the generality of the reports and accounts that are being issued at the present time. There are no heavy losses to chronicle, but, on the other hand, substantial profits. Those profits would have been higher but for higher expenses and lower receipts caused by circumstances over which we had no control. A living wage nowadays has to be higher than it ought to be owing to the chaotic conditions regulating the cost of everything, and consequently the cost of living.

Our revenue was reduced not only by the coal strike, but by the exceptionally fine and protracted summer. These were causes during part of the year. But other causes extended throughout the year. The chief of these was the taxation drain upon the people, which left them little or nothing to spend on luxuries. In addition to our usual rates and taxes, running into thousands of pounds, which are quite sufficient burden on our business, the Entertainments Tax paid by this company on the year amounted to £24,927. Added to our revenue, that sum would have equalled a further dividend of nearly 17 per cent.

It is said that the company does not pay this tax, but that it is paid by the company's public. So, for that matter, is all our other expenditure. But that other expenditure contributes to our entertainment, whilst our Entertainment Tax does not. All the money that the general public can spend on entertainments is not additional to the tax, but included the tax. It is one total. If the Government obtains part of that total and the entertainment industry only the other part, it is obvious that the industry's receipts are reduced to the full extent of the tax. As the times

Considering next native wages, it can scarcely be expected that the rate of wage paid can be reduced, because, in spite of the increase in the cost of living, there has been comparatively little increase beyond the pre-war rate. We must look, then, for increased efficiency under this head. One step in this direction has been made possible by the alteration of one of the mining regulations recently arranged by the Prime Minister, which will enable more time to be worked in the stopes by natives. Then, no doubt, the number of natives on miscellaneous services can be reduced. This kind of labour is often used wastefully because it is considered cheap; but it is not really cheap and should be used with every economy.

become harder, the public stay away from more and more theatres rather than give money for nothing. This tax really is money for nothing, in so far as the entertainment public is concerned. Thus the Treasury is depriving entertainments of receipts to an extent which threatens the bulk of the industry, and is daily adding to the industry's unemployed, for the sake of a diminishing return from a tax which, in common with taxes in general, is supposed to be imposed and applied in order to protect life instead of to worry and starve it, and to protect property instead of to ruin it. Either this tax is bad in principle, and should therefore be dropped, or, if it is sound in principle, it should be imposed all round on every consumer in respect of everything consumed, whilst other taxes incompatible with that principle should be dropped. But the demands of the Treasury are not the only menaces to our receipts.

L.C.C. AND THE CINEMAS.

The London County Council is subordinate to the Central Government, but it is the autocrat of the London area. Together with its own subordinate authorities—the municipal bodies—it levies very heavy and increasing rates on the entertainment world. The rates must be paid from revenue, yet the Council never tires of hitting that revenue with weapons fashioned out of any absurd idea that may occur to the mind of any so-called reformer within its ranks. The latest is a sweeping generalisation that cinemas are not fit places for persons under 16 years of age unless those persons are accompanied by a parent or guardian. That is a cruel aspersion to be spread broadcast against a lawful and legitimate industry by a public authority. The irony of it is that the more the respect in which public authority is held in this country, and the present is more than usually a time when such respect should be both encouraged and upheld, the greater the damage such sweeping decisions can do. The one generalisation involves another in classing persons under 16 years of age as one homogeneous body without distinction of sex or circumstances to whom a single autocratic rule may reasonably apply. It is all merely a question of age—about one-quarter of the normal span of life. If people lived to-day as long as in the days of Methuselah, then before they could visit a cinema children up to the age of 240 years would have to be accompanied by a parent or guardian. In my youth I began to manage a theatre at the age of 14 years and three months. It was fortunate for me that no such council existed in those days. Our authorities to-day are creating false general principles on the

one hand through misinterpreting facts, and on the other hand they are creating harmful facts through misinterpreting sound general principles. One might despair of our outlook if it were not so easy to see how conditions of abounding prosperity would be created if proper authorities would in the main merely reverse their present policies. This will doubtless be done before long if only through the force of circumstances.

BAKER STREET COMPANY.

Our report explains that a new company is to be formed in connection with an enterprise at Baker street. As a reply to inquiries I may say that all those having an interest in this company will have preferential treatment should they desire to participate in the issues of that company when the prospectus appears. Turning to our balance-sheet, the only point to be noticed is that the cash which stood at £46,889 in 1920 is reduced to £25,865.

But we have large cash resources at call, and we shall have use for them for the construction of the Bijou Theatre and Cafes at the rear or northern end of our existing theatre. The restrictions upon building as well as the high cost of building have held up unduly this intended expansion of our business, for which necessary plans have long been issued. But now the building restriction has been removed, and we are advised that the cost has come down. We are obtaining definite tenders, and we hope that we shall find them low enough to enable us to proceed with the building, which will greatly enhance the value of the services that it is the business of the company to render to the public.

BOARD'S SOUND POLICY.

For this reason and other reasons which you will have gathered from my remarks, we are not recommending as high a dividend as the company's resources would allow. But we have had only one complaint on that score against several letters of congratulation. The wise investor knows that a strong cash position should be maintained in uncertain times. It is the best way in which to safeguard any undertaking. It is the undertaking as a whole that lies to the charge of the directors. They represent the collective interest, and are therefore not free to embark on an unsound dividend policy merely because an individual who may have reason to sell his shares desires before he does so that a higher dividend shall be paid.

Sir James W. McCraith seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

VICKERS, LIMITED.

DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE AND ITS EFFECTS.

The annual general meeting of Vickers, Limited, was held at the River Don Works, Sheffield, on the 22nd instant, when Mr Douglas Vickers presided over a largely attended meeting.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, referred at the outset to the accounts, and said that the item £370,000 secured loans under the item "Creditors" referred to £220,000, an interest in the successful shipping company of Donaldson South American Lines, Limited, which the company financed by deposit of the shares and £150,000, a similarly secured advance to one of the subsidiary companies, the Rubber and Water Proofing Company, Limited. These investments were shown on the assets side of the balance-sheet. The total of creditors was down about £5,700,000, as compared with the last balance-sheet, these reductions being chiefly due to the liquidation of liabilities. The value of land, buildings, machinery, &c., had increased, due to additions during the year. No depreciation was mentioned. The fact was that the future, chiefly owing to what might be the possible results of the Washington Conference, was so uncertain that the directors were of opinion that the question of depreciation should be left over until the final results of the Conference were known, and the effect arrived at by the Conference became more clear, as also the position of trade generally. Interests in subsidiary and connected companies showed an increase over the last balance-sheet of about £840,000, partly due to a transfer of £250,000 from marketable securities, and the acquisition of certain electrical interests. The outstanding interest in this account was the Metropolitan Carriage, Wagon and Finance Company, Limited, which stood at about £12,954,000, against which might be set a considerable sum received as premium on the shares sold to the underwriters to pay those Metropolitan shareholders who elected to receive cash. This covered 99.9 per cent. of the capital of that company, and electrical manufacturing interest directly held by Vickers was that of Messrs W. T. Glover and Co., Limited, cable makers, in which they owned about 99 per cent. of the capital, which stood in their books at about £227,000. Their interest in the Wolseley Motors, Limited, was the whole of the ordinary shares, a million in number, and standing in their books at £700,000. The Isle of Walney Estates Company, Limited, was formed to provide housing accommodation at Barrow, and stood at £24,000. Another housing company at Crayford stood at £45,000. The interest in W. Beardmore and Co., Limited, was 845,000 £1 shares standing at £484,000. This low figure was due to Vickers having secured 750,000 of them by exchange of shares at a premium in connection with manufacturing companies abroad concerned mainly with armaments. They had interests in Spain and Italy and Japan. These investments were made many years ago partly to manufacture their material, and partly to secure the acceptance of their technical designs in the countries in question. The results had been satisfactory. He referred to other subsidiary holdings, and mentioned that the total investments under this head came to about £17,389,000.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Turning to the profit and loss account, he said that this showed that a profit had been made for the year of £511,260, and after payment of the preference dividends for 1920 the carry-forward amounted to £991,639. He had no doubt that it would be urged that the directors with this amount to carry forward should have recommended a small dividend. The matter was, of course, considered from every point of view. If it had been considered prudent, the directors would have been glad to recommend the distribution of such a dividend, for their sympathy was entirely with the shareholders in this matter. It was held, however, that there were so many disturbing elements at present that such a course would have been inadvisable. Reviewing the past year, he went on to say that adverse influences of 1920 continued during the past year. Owing to depression in the shipping trade, construction had been suspended or cancelled, and in some cases completed on terms involving loss to the shipbuilder.

WASHINGTON CONFERENCE.

In other engineering trades high wages and low output at home as compared to low wages and high output in foreign countries with depreciated currencies had made it most difficult to secure orders. The price of coal still remained at far too high a level, as very nearly all the company's interests were in steelmaking, shipbuilding, or engineering. Nobody could expect the results for the year to be good. As far as armaments were concerned there had been a little relief through the order obtained from the Japanese Government about twelve months ago, but except for that this year had been no better for ordnance work than the previous one. The effect was more serious, because at the request of the Government the very expensive organisation was kept ready for future construction. The company obtained a fair share of the orders for the four battle-cruisers, although the orders for the

hulls were placed elsewhere. These orders raised a hope of better times, but owing to the discussions at the Washington Conference instructions were received recently to suspend work on them. It was not clear yet whether the four cruisers were entirely only partly abandoned or whether ships of somewhat different design may be substituted for them, nor was it clear whether their representatives had given up one of England's greatest advantages by assenting to the prohibition of the building of ships of war in private yards for foreign countries. In any case, it appeared that the field for armament work would be very much reduced, and that it would be impossible for the company to retain more than a small proportion of the large expert staff or to continue to spend large sums, as of old, on development and experiment in this connection. Measures have been taken to effect at once very large reductions. The conditions brought about by the Washington Conference were from the point of view of the Vickers' shareholders another justification of the policy which led to the absorption of the Metropolitan Carriage Company and the acquisition of the electrical interests. The great engineering schemes of the near future were certain to be centred round electrical power traction and transportation, and in no other field did it seem possible to find work for the steelworks and non-special engineering plants which were created for war purposes. Mr Vickers concluded with a reference to the recent litigation with Sir Percy Scott and the work done by Commander Burney in connection with paravanes. He also referred to many changes on the board, and afterwards moved the adoption of the report.

The report was adopted.

PHOENIX OIL AND TRANSPORT COMPANY, LIMITED.

COMPANY'S PROGRESS—PROFIT EARNING REACHED.

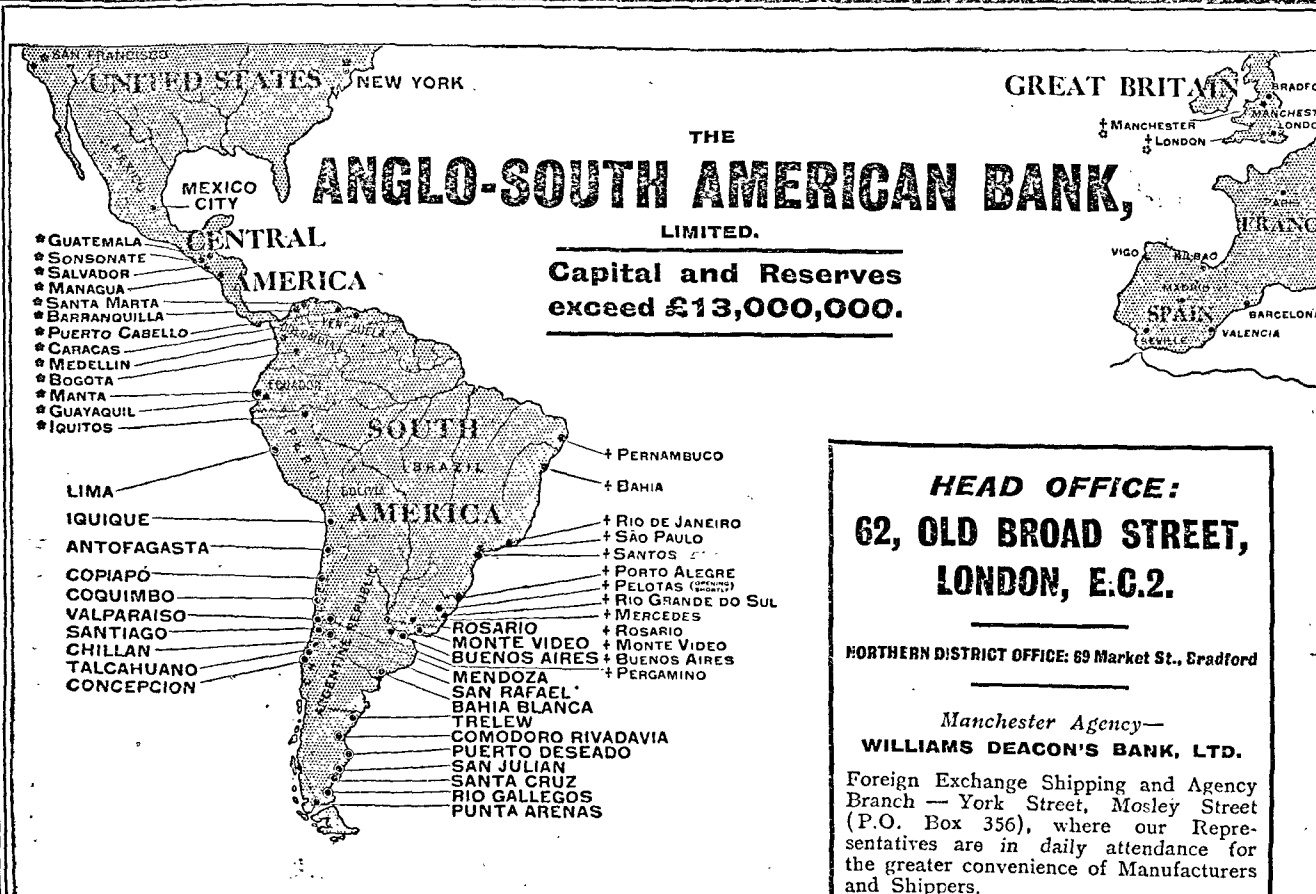
The first annual ordinary general meeting of Phoenix Oil and Transport Company, Limited, was held, on the 28th inst., at River Plate House, Finsbury circus, London, Mr E. Manville, M.P. (the chairman of the company), presiding.

The Chairman said that the meeting was a formal one, as the accounts were not yet ready for presentation to the shareholders. They would be made up to the end of December, and presented early in the spring, to which date this meeting would be adjourned. The shareholders would doubtless recollect that he paid a visit to the properties last June. A short report was circulated on the termination of his visit, setting forth the progress the company had made up to that date. Since that time very good progress had been made in various directions. The progress had perhaps been a little slower than was anticipated, but it had been very steady and sure, and, he thought he might say, very satisfactory in every respect. The business was divided into three parts—oil production, refining, and distribution. Dealing with production, up to date they had unplugged and reconstructed 10 of the old wells which were in existence before the German occupation of Roumania, in addition to those which had been unplugged by the Germans themselves and came into the possession of the company as producing wells. Those wells had between them produced in the aggregate a very substantial quantity of oil, and were still producing at a very satisfactory rate. There were seven distinct oil fields in which the company were interested, and each of these was situated at some considerable distance from the others. It required a very great deal of energy and time to transport the requisite materials to the sites on which wells were to be drilled.

DRILLING WORK.

In order to start drilling the wells they now had in hand, no less than 3,500 tons of materials had had to be transported to the various sites over imperfect roads, and therefore it was greatly to the credit of those who represented the company on the spot that to-day—little more than one year since operations were started—no fewer than seven new wells were in process of being drilled. Several of those wells were approaching the oil horizons; one had already reached the producing sands, and was producing oil of a very high grade. Four further new wells were in process of preparation for drilling and would shortly be commenced, and two further ones had had the preliminary preparations made for drilling. They had one very distinct advantage in drilling on the sites upon which they were operating; instead of starting from the surface they started at a considerable depth beneath the surface, thus minimising the time taken in reaching the oil sands. The sites of the new wells had all been very carefully chosen. So far as it was humanly possible to speak when talking of oil production, it was probable that all of them would be producing wells, and some of them very satisfactorily. Another very satisfactory feature was the large amount of materials which they had recovered belonging to the various companies they controlled.

With regard to the refining side of the business, the refinery was started at the end of August, and was now capable of refining 250 tons of oil per day. They had contracted for large quantities



THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LIMITED.

Capital and Reserves exceed £13,000,000.

HEAD OFFICE:
62, OLD BROAD STREET,
LONDON, E.C.2.

NORTHERN DISTRICT OFFICE: 69 Market St., Bradford

Manchester Agency—
WILLIAMS DEACON'S BANK, LTD.

Foreign Exchange Shipping and Agency Branch—York Street, Mosley Street (P.O. Box 356), where our Representatives are in daily attendance for the greater convenience of Manufacturers and Shippers.

BRANCHES OF THE ANGLO-SOUTH AMERICAN BANK, LTD.

BRANCHES OF THE BRITISH BANK OF SOUTH AMERICA, LTD.

BRANCHES OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF SPANISH AMERICA, LTD.

of crude oil, which, together with their own production, was enabling the refinery to be operated under satisfactory conditions from the financial point of view.

TRADING AND SALES ORGANISATION.

The third side of the business, namely, that of trading and sales of the company's commodities, had been developed very largely during the last six months. They were fortunate in having the services of Dr F. Bossel, who was a gentleman very distinguished in Roumania for his connection with the refining industry and with commercial dealings in petroleum products. That gentleman was now entirely in the company's service, under Captain Master-son, and the results which he had achieved up to date were of an extremely satisfactory character. The trading part of the business was going to be an increasingly important one. One direction in which they wanted to develop it was that of local distribution—the distribution of the company's commodities along the banks of the Danube and the Pruth. That meant a development in the way of sea carriage, and Mr Cornrich came to their help in that matter by supplying them on very reasonable terms—chiefly for shares in the company—with four new tugs of a description eminently suitable for enabling the products to be taken along the Danube and up the shallow River Pruth. Having regard to Dr Bossel's connection in that neighbourhood, they had every prospect of being able to dispose with great facility of their products. Generally, he thought it might be said that the very high quality of Roumanian oil, and especially of that in which the company was particularly interested, and the geographical position of Roumania, were of great importance to the future of the company. He thought he might say they had reached the first epoch in the history of the company, inasmuch as they had now reached a point when their receipts were in excess of their expenditure. They had actually entered the profit-earning stage, and when he said that the receipts were in excess of expenditure he meant all the expenditure, whether of a capital nature or otherwise. Therefore the position of the company from that point of view was one that must be satisfactory to the shareholders. The position of the company financially was extremely sound. In conclusion, he stated that the future of the company looked promising.

The retiring directors and auditors having been re-elected, the meeting was adjourned to a date not later than May 31st next.

THE STOLL FILM COMPANY, LIMITED. LARGE PROFITS AND STRONG POSITION.

The third annual meeting of the Stoll Film Company, Limited, was held, on the 29th instant, Sir Oswald Stoll, chairman of the company, presiding.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, which showed a profit balance of £55,669 3s, and recommended a dividend of 15 per cent. on the ordinary shares, said:

I rise to move the adoption of the report and accounts, which, I assume, may be taken as read. It is common knowledge that very few companies in the film industry have made so good a showing as this one. It is equally true that this company, amongst its own kind, stands alone in having obtained such excellent results. This, in my view, is entirely due to the fact that whereas other companies have set out with the double object of both making and renting pictures in a green industry, the conditions of which are changing daily, and which is developing in various forms and directions, both unforeseen and unexpected, we, on the contrary, have set out with a single object one on which we have set both our eyes, instead of having to keep one eye on one object and the other eye on another object, in a manner which always produces, vulgarly speaking, one-eyed results. We have endeavoured to do one thing well. We have known that the ground in any new industry is treacherous, and with one interest alone to observe, we have refrained from putting our foot in anywhere too deeply for it to be withdrawn. With one object in view, we have been able to watch how the daily changes affected it, and to act accordingly. It would be better for every branch of the cinema industry at the present time if such cautious methods of business were observed. Every branch of it is in process of two phases of reconstruction. The one, the industry's own particular reconstruction, due to greater experience of the requirements of a new industry; the other, more general in its character, due to the unavoidable participation of the industry in the general reconstruction of the industrial situation of the whole country. We, as a company, are in a very strong position. We have made large profits, and have used practically the whole of them in order to strengthen that position. If there is a bad time before us we shall be able to bear it. If there are only good times before us we shall show splendid results.

ANSWER TO CRITICISMS OF BOARD'S FINANCIAL POLICY.

There has been only one criticism of our accounts. It was said that we should call up the whole of our capital, instead of using loans; that the preference shareholders have a right to expect that.

On that point, however, the directors differ from the critic. The preference shareholders have a right to expect the dividend. The rest is a question of management, and one which may be safely left to the discretion of the board. The board can, and will, use all the financial resources available as and when it finds this both safe and expedient. With proper care for the future, this company may be regarded as in its infancy, because the film industry in general is one which, when it has cast its swaddling clothes, acquired strength in its limbs, brains in its head, and sound character in its composition, is going to astonish mankind with its general usefulness. This company will make all the progress that is possible when it is possible. It cannot do so earlier. We have a managing director in Mr Jeffery Bernerd who is quite equal to any situation he may have to meet, but, like all who know their work and are willing to do it, he, figuratively speaking, likes a fixed destination and a clear course before going full steam ahead.

Major B. W. Broad, M.B., seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

FREDERICK HOTELS, LIMITED. SATISFACTORY YEAR—INCREASED PROFITS.

The twenty-third ordinary general meeting of the Frederick Hotels, Limited, was held, on the 30th instant, at the Hotel Russell, Russell square, London, Mr Ronald Peake (the chairman) presiding. The general manager and secretary (Mr A. Macmurchy) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors,

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report and accounts, said that in postponing the meeting to such a late date they had hoped to have included in their report a statement of the final settlement with the Government in respect of the Hotel Great Central claim for the consideration of the award of the War Compensation Court. The business of their hotels, and particularly those out of London, was very seriously affected by the coal strike in the spring of this year. It had affected them in two ways, from the effect of the lack of visitors, and its effect in accentuating the depression in trade. The turnover at the hotels was not so great as that of the previous year, but it was still at a very high level. The costs of foodstuffs, wages, and all expenses showed very little reduction on those of the war years. The balance of profit carried to the balance-sheet showed an increase of £18,672 over the previous year. They had paid a dividend of 6d. per share on the ordinary shares, equal to 6-2-3 per cent.

With regard to the prospects for the current year, their expenditure on the Sackville Hotel, Bexhill-on-Sea, had been justified by an increased business at the hotel. The other seaside hotels had, however, not done so well as in the previous year. They were suffering from the competition of Continental watering-places, which had spent large sums of money in advertisement in the British Press for the purpose of attracting visitors. With regard to their London hotels, the Hotel Great Central and Hotel Russell, they were well known, and had good connections, and he felt sure that visitors would continue to patronise those hotels. The reduced spending power of visitors had been very noticeable for some time past, particularly on wines and cigars. They were, however, accommodating themselves to the changed conditions by reducing their prices, and hoped by that means to retain their customers. There were two factors which were ever before them. One was the number of visitors they had in the hotels, and the other was the amount which each visitor spent. To fill their hotels with visitors they must keep their properties in a high state of repair,

KANSALLIS-OSAKE-PANKKI

(National Joint Stock Bank).

ESTABLISHED 1889.

Head Office: HELSINKI (Helsingfors),
FINLAND.

Capital and Reserves - Fmk. 240,000,000.00

Deposits and Cheque Accounts
(31/5/21) - Fmk. 1,200,000,000.00

123 BRANCHES AT ALL IMPORTANT BUSINESS CENTRES IN FINLAND.

Telegraphic Address: Kansallispankki.

provide efficient service, and supply the best of food. Their success in the past had been due in great measure to their observance of those essential factors, and to paying the closest attention to the details of their business. During the war years, and also for a part of the year under review, many commodities were still being controlled, but latterly they had changed over from the period of control and war-time restrictions to normal methods. It was very difficult to prophesy what the prospects of hotel business would be in the immediate future, but the shareholders might rest assured that the board would do their utmost to secure the economical and efficient working of their various hotels.

Sir John H. Bethell, Bt., M.P., seconded the resolution, and it was carried unanimously.

SAMUEL ALLSOPP AND SONS, LIMITED.

BEER DUTY AND RAILWAY RATES.

The 33rd annual general meeting of this company was held, on the 30th instant, at the Cannon street Hotel, London.

Sir William B. Peat, C.V.O., who presided, said that the divisible profit was less by £72,000 than in the year ended September 30, 1920, and this was attributable to three causes. The first was the curtailment of demand; the second was that they were carrying somewhat heavy and high-priced stocks in September, 1920; and the third that during the whole of the past year railway rates had been 100 per cent. higher than pre-war. With regard to the first point, Allsopp's main supplies went to the industrial districts of the country most affected by the coal strike, lack of employment, and reduction in wages, with the consequent curtailment of the spending power of the people, and a lessened consumption of the necessities of life, including beer. In regard to the second point, it would be seen by the balance-sheet that the stock had been substantially reduced as compared with September 30, 1920, in money value, and he might also add in quantity. The stock remaining had been written down to the market price at September, 1921. As to the increase in railway rates, this affected them in a peculiar way. Less than 10 per cent. of their entire trade was within carting distance; the remainder had to go by rail, and a large proportion of it might be regarded as long-distance traffic, so that a profit could very quickly be substantially cut by the operation of increased railway rates. How serious this was for Allsopp's could be seen from the fact that whereas on the pre-war basis of railway rates their carriage of beer outwards last year would have been £52,000, it was actually £103,000. The trade was also subject to increased railway rates on materials consumed in the manufacture of beer, and they could not pass on to their customers any of these extra costs. The Burton brewers had made representations to the railway authorities interested in Burton, and these were being seriously considered. In 1914 the company had large holdings of licensed property in such far-off places as Belfast, Dundee, Newcastle, South Wales, and Plymouth, but few in their neighbouring counties of Stafford and Derbyshire. When the present board took office they adopted the policy, as favourable opportunity offered, of selling their more distant properties, and invested the money nearer Burton, and this policy they were continuing.

Dealing with the balance-sheet, he pointed out that the cash and War Loans totalled £474,000, as compared with £373,000 at the corresponding date in 1920—an increase in cash resources of practically £100,000. The company's brewery and maltings were solidly built, but as regarded labour-saving machinery they were based on the practice of the year 1886, when they were built, and the directors had steadily and at great expense been modernising the plant and installing labour-saving machinery, with great advantage to economic manufacture and the saving of unnecessary waste—a most important point when the beer duty was not 7s 9d a barrel as in 1914, but £5 as in 1921.

With regard to the current year's prospects, with a beer duty of £5 per barrel, excessive railway rates, excessive local taxation, and high labour costs, it might be impossible to make any reduction in the price of the commodity the company sold sufficient to bring that commodity within the reach of the straitened circumstances of many of the people. There was some hope that, accompanying diminishing costs, the volume of the trade of the country might be increased and greater numbers of men might be in full employment at lower rates of wages, but, taking a broad view of the situation, it did not seem to him that the brewer could, with confidence, look forward to better times in the current year.

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

Orders for the publication in these columns of the reports at Company Meetings should be addressed to the Reporting Manager of the ECONOMIST, 3 Arundel street, Strand, London, W.C.2.

GOVERNMENT RETURNS.

TREASURY BILLS BY PUBLIC TENDER.

Tenders for £60,000,000 in three months' Treasury Bills, dated from Tuesday to Saturday, Jan. 3rd-Jan. 7th, were opened on Dec. 30, 1921, and the total amount applied for was £117,040,000. Tenders for Tuesday to Saturday bills at £99 1s 5d, about 98 per cent., and above in full. The average rate of discount was £3 13s 6½d per cent.

The following table shows Treasury Bills by tender outstanding:—

Date of Bills.	Amount Offered.	Amount Applied for.	Average Rate of Discount.	Rate for Additional Bills.
1921.	£	£	£ s d	
December 2	50,000,000	67,640,000	3 12 0-07	3½
December 9	45,000,000	82,850,000	3 8 1-71	3½
December 16	45,000,000	66,840,000	3 5 3-41	3½
December 23	60,000,000	67,975,000	3 7 11-09	3½
December 30	60,000,000	117,040,000	3 13 6-52	3½

The amount to be offered next week will be £60,000,000.

CURRENCY NOTES ACCOUNT.

(000's omitted.)

Date.	Notes and Certificates Outstanding.	Investments Reserve Account.	Advances to Bankers.	Savings Banks.	Gold and Coin in Bullion.	Bank of England Notes.	Ratio to Notes.	Government Securities.	Balance at Bank of England.
1914.	£	£	£	£	£	£	%	£	£
Aug. 25	21,535	..	6,302	3,810	..	..	48-1	9,924	11,423
Dec. 30	38,478	..	169	600	18,500	..	..	9,924	9,256
1915.									
Dec. 29	103,125	729	159	249	28,500	..	27-6	54,621	20,536
1916.									
Dec. 27	150,144	2,430	64	40	28,500	..	19-0	118,102	6,869
1917.									
Dec. 26	212,782	8,554	39	675	28,500	..	13-4	186,637	5,486
1918.									
Dec. 31	323,241	15,529	..	570	28,500	..	8-9	305,133	4,586
1919.									
Mar. 26	328,064	14,926	..	500	28,500	..	8-7	308,577	5,413
June 25	342,310	17,143	..	500	28,500	..	8-3	327,321	3,271
Oct. 1	335,021	16,524	250	320	28,500	1,350	8-9	317,536	3,589
Dec. 31	356,152	17,182	250	245	28,500	4,000	9-1	337,537	2,802
1920.									
Mar. 31	335,372	15,569	..	190	28,500	5,000	10-6	313,370	2,981
June 30	357,386	16,700	..	190	28,500	13,400	11-7	331,680	263
Sept. 29	353,795	16,215	..	..	28,500	18,700	13-3	322,425	298
Dec. 29	367,626	16,962	..	..	28,500	19,450	13-0	336,504	134
1921.									
Mar. 30	343,626	15,599	..	..	28,500	19,450	13-9	311,334	141
June 29	323,884	14,965	..	3,000	28,500	19,450	14-8	287,750	150
Sept. 28	314,382	14,830	..	3,000	28,500	19,450	15-2	278,119	143
Dec. 14	318,329	14,331	..	3,000	28,500	19,450	15-1	281,545	165
21	324,429	15,250	..	3,000	28,500	19,450	14-8	288,590	139
28	325,584	14,658	..	3,000	28,500	19,450	14-7	289,151	161

* Includes notes called in, but not yet cancelled. † Maximum fiduciary issue for 1920 fixed at £320,600,000. ‡ Maximum fiduciary issue for 1921, £317,555,200.

PUBLIC INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

RECEIPTS INTO AND ISSUES OUT OF THE EXCHEQUER.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22. (See Note.)	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1921, to Dec. 24, 1921.	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from Apr. 1, 1920, to Dec. 25, 1920.	Receipts. Week Ending Dec. 24, 1921.	Receipts. Week Ending Dec. 25, 1920.
Balances in Exchequer on 1st April:—					
Bank of England	..	2,591,051	7,159,773	..	..
Bank of Ireland	..	483,455	2,209,324	..	..
..	..	3,074,506	9,369,097	..	..
REVENUE.					
Customs	126,800,000	96,933,000	93,749,000	3,993,000	3,746,000
Excise	196,200,000	148,860,000	148,498,000	4,700,000	2,420,000
Motor Vehicle Duties ..	9,000,000	3,282,000	..	..	..
Stamp Duty	48,000,000	36,337,000	35,682,000	1,631,000	3,454,000
Stamps	21,000,000	11,559,000	..	250,000	162,000
Land Tax	2,500,000	470,000	410,000	10,000	10,000
House Duty	..	..	..	..	..
Property & Income Tax (including Super Tax & Mineral Rights Duty) ..	410,500,000	170,754,000	153,177,000	2,086,000	1,957,000
Excess Profits Duties, &c. ..	120,000,000	29,714,000	154,389,000	..	2,972,000
Corporation Profits Tax ..	30,000,000	10,020,000	..	480,000	..
Post Office	60,000,000	38,000,000	35,000,000	1,500,000	750,000
Crown Lands	650,000	570,000	510,000	50,000	50,000
Interest on Sundry Loans	12,000,000	8,463,219	12,409,982	832,047	5,000
Miscellaneous	21,500,000	17,338,785	17,781,085	829,525	348,323
Ordinary Receipts	158,500,000	89,548,270	199,407,713	7,250,314	4,610,427
Special Receipts	..	..	..	..	..
Revenue	1,216,650,000	661,849,274	875,649,840	23,611,886	20,864,750
Total, Inc. Balance	..	664,923,780	885,018,937	..	..
OTHER RECEIPTS.					
Temporary Advances Repaid:—					
Bullion	..	6,980,000	3,490,000	250,000	150,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure Money Act (1904)	..	169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	..	520,000	..	..	..

The Bankers' Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

Week ended Wednesday, December 28, 1921.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	145,064,880	Government debt	11,015,100
		Other securities	7,434,900
		Gold coin & bullion ..	126,614,880
	<u>145,064,880</u>		<u>145,064,880</u>

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' capital ..	14,553,000	Government securities	36,961,987
Reserve	3,334,313	Other securities	83,164,909
Public deposits*	16,057,335	Notes	18,544,635
Other deposits	106,532,000	Gold and silver coin ..	1,819,479
Seven-day & other bills	14,362		

*Including Exchequer, Savings Banks, Commissioners of National Debt and Dividend Accounts.

COMPARISON with PREVIOUS WEEK and a YEAR AGO.

	Amount, Dec. 24, 1921.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Week.	Inc. or Dec. on Last Year.
Rest	3,334,313	£ 8,600	£ 5,274
Public deposits	16,057,335	+ 1,940,954	+ 1,752,568
Other deposits	106,532,000	+ 17,674,562	+ 69,022,567
Government securities ..	36,961,987	+ 13,862,643	+ 70,902,811
Other securities	83,164,909	+ 2,035,169	+ 2,863,333
Reserve	20,364,114	+ 153,995	+ 6,497,594
Note circulation	126,520,245	+ 150,780	+ 6,330,905
Coin and bullion	126,614,880	+ 3,215	+ 1,668,899
% of reserve to liabilities	168%	+ 2%	+ 98%

THREE MONTHS' RECORD.

Date.	Coin and Bullion.	Circulation (excluding Bank Post Bills).	Deposits.	Securities in Banking Department.	Reserve.
1921.					
Oct. 5	128,413,841	125,666,690	147,038,604	143,489,546	21,197,151
12	128,421,587	124,613,620	149,805,296	145,222,743	22,257,967
19	128,417,061	124,684,130	171,602,456	166,131,591	23,182,931
26	128,413,527	123,915,830	175,038,529	169,779,091	27,947,697
Nov. 2	128,418,944	124,102,130	141,802,138	137,856,128	21,728,899
9	128,420,853	124,403,190	122,305,928	118,135,305	22,467,663
16	128,433,196	123,587,030	126,004,853	129,518,806	23,296,166
23	128,438,365	123,305,915	139,684,230	133,885,916	23,582,450
30	128,442,340	123,112,960	144,160,001	140,172,503	21,779,380
Dec. 7	128,433,576	124,961,865	154,738,656	150,700,714	21,921,711
14	128,437,271	124,734,450	154,737,609	150,482,425	22,152,821
21	128,431,144	126,671,025	159,322,943	156,024,703	20,210,119
28	128,434,359	126,520,245	172,589,335	170,126,896	20,364,114

TEN YEARS' RECORD.

	At corresponding date with the present week.	Dec. 27, 1911.	May 27, 1914.	Dec. 31, 1919.	Dec. 29, 1920.	Dec. 28, 1921.
Circulation (excluding Bank post bills)	£ 29,192,780	£ 28,933,380	£ 91,349,990	£ 132,851,150	£ 126,520,245	£ 126,520,245
Public deposits	16,330,809	19,014,809	19,213,209	14,304,767	16,057,335	16,057,335
Other deposits	44,791,819	41,248,964	180,617,913	175,554,567	106,532,000	106,532,000
Government securities ..	15,271,183	11,046,570	92,469,207	107,864,798	36,961,987	36,961,987
Other securities	41,514,475	41,461,280	106,777,576	85,028,242	83,164,909	83,164,909
Reserve of notes and coin ..	21,695,372	25,463,920	18,442,165	13,866,520	20,364,114	20,364,114
Coin and bullion	32,438,162	35,947,360	91,342,155	128,267,670	126,614,880	126,614,880
Proportion of reserve to liabilities	35%	42%	91%	71%	168%	168%
Bank rate of discount	4%	3%	6%	7%	5%	5%
Market rate, 3 months' bills ..	3 1/2 - 1 1/2	2 1/2	5 1/2	6 1/2	4 1/2	4 1/2
Price of Consols	77	74 1/2	51 1/2	44 1/2	49 1/2	49 1/2
Price of silver per oz.	25 1/2	26 1/2	76 1/2	44 1/2	45 1/2	45 1/2
Average price of wheat	32s 9d	33s 0d	72s 6d	88s 9d	45s 2d	45s 2d
Exchanges on Paris	25-20-22 1/2	25-17 1/2-20	40-80-41-40	60-60-30	51-80-52-25	51-80-52-25
New York	84-8 1/2	84-7 1/2	83-7 1/2-77 1/2	83-0 1/2-52	84-19-20 1/2	84-19-20 1/2
Amsterdam	12-1 1/2	12-05-10	10-07-10	11-22-26	11-45-46	11-45-46
Berlin	20-4 1/2	20-4 1/2	186-189	225-250	75-180	75-180
Clearing house return	119,340,000	199,913,000	509,880,000	523,711,000	483,115,000	483,115,000

BANKERS' CLEARING RETURNS.

Week Ending	Town Clearing.	Country Clearing.	Total.
1921.	£	£	£
January 1—December 21	31,101,843,000	2,941,138,000	34,042,981,000
December 28	448,687,000	34,428,000	483,115,000
Total to date 1921.....	31,550,530,000	2,975,566,000	34,526,096,000
Do 1920	34,603,496,000	4,048,139,000	38,651,635,000
Increase or decrease in 1921. {	= 3,052,966,000	= 1,072,573,000	= 4,125,539,000
	= 8%	= 26%	= 10%
Total for 1920.....	34,946,683,000	4,072,220,000	39,018,903,000
Do 1919	25,028,614,000	5,386,768,000	30,415,382,000
Increase or decrease in 1920. {	+ 9,918,069,000	+ 685,452,000	+ 10,603,521,000
	+ 39%	+ 20%	+ 34%

	Total Receipts into the Exchequer from		RECEIPTS.	
	Apr. 1, 1921, to Dec. 24, 1921.	Apr. 1, 1920, to Dec. 25, 1920.	Week Ending Dec. 24, 1921.	Week Ending Dec. 25, 1920.
	£	£	£	£
Money Raised by Creation of Debt:—				
(a) For Capital Expenditure Issues:				
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	3,561,474	4,000,000	..	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913.....	27,500	115,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914 ..	35,000	30,000	..	..
(b) Under the Unemployment In- surance Acts, 1921	5,355,000	..	..	..
(c) For other Issues:—				
By Treasury Bills for Supply ..	2,938,097,000	2,965,619,000	51,342,000	38,875,000
By 4% Funding Loan, 1960-90..	..	270,552	..	..
By 4% Victory Bonds	..	769,061	..	..
By 5% Exchequer Bonds, 1925 ..	..	258,784	..	..
By National Savings Certifi- cates—				
Under the War Loan Acts, 1914-1919	..	20,760,794	..	360,794
Under the Finance Act, 1920 ..	30,230,000	8,420,000	850,000	600,000
By National War Bonds	5	..	..	..
By Treasury Bonds—				
5-15 year, 1925-35	1,062,317	17,814,924	..	575,000
5%	168,470,199	..	10,465,000	..
By Other Debt created under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	10,961,454	36,810,813	..	3,204,824
(d) Ways and Means Advances	1,055,746,000	1,068,462,000	116,439,000	123,922,000
Anglo-Persian Oil Company—				
Dividends on Shares acquired ..	..	3,504	..	22
Repayments—				
In respect of Cunard Loan	130,000	130,000	..	..
Do Issues under Civil Conting- encies Fund Act, 1919	7,250,000	..	..	..
Do Issues under Land Settlement (Facilities) Act, 1919	43,938	9,423	..	..
Do Issues under Section 59 (4) of the Finance Act, 1920	12,225,325	..	3,439,688	..
Interest received under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	321,533	..	..	..
Total	4,906,110,343	5,010,152,610	206,397,574	188,172,390

EXPENDITURE AND OTHER ISSUES.

	Estimate for the Year 1921-22, including Supplementary Grants.	Total Issues out of the Exchequer to meet Payments from	Issues.	Issues.
	£	£	£	£
EXPENDITURE.				
Permanent Charge of Debt	24,500,000	12,003,224	12,300,229	7,614,938
Interest, &c., on War Debt	320,500,000	269,451,624	267,907,078	4,350,616
Road Fund	8,400,000	2,981,000	2,966,689	..
Payments to Local Taxation Accounts &c.	11,115,000	6,834,711	6,528,168	210,060
Payments to Northern Ireland Exchequer ..	5,000,000	2,318,454	5,170,203	107,249
Land Settlement	..	..	100,000	..
Other Consolidated Fund Services	1,757,000	1,274,765	1,334,048	53,750
Supply Services	774,851,000	444,273,931	520,554,172	14,825,531
Expenditure	1,146,123,000	753,237,709	816,758,587	20,269,515
OTHER ISSUES.				
Temporary Advances—				
Billion	7,000,000	3,400,000	300,000	100,000
Interest on Exchequer Bonds under the Capital Expenditure (Money) Act, 1904	169,818	169,818	..	..
Under the Unemployment Insurance Acts, 1921	7,475,000	..	440,000	..
Issues to meet Capital Expenditure—				
Under the Telegraph (Money) Acts, 1913 and 1920	5,561,474	4,000,000	800,000	..
Under the Post Office (London) Railway Act, 1913	27,500	115,000	..	..
Under the Housing Act, 1914	50,000	30,000	..	..
Redemption of Unfunded Debt—				
Treasury Bills for Supply	2,569,265,000	2,950,293,000	47,230,000	50,000,000
War Loans, Exchequer Bonds, &c. under Section 34 of the Finance Act, 1917	26,530,413	48,216,683	725,534	599,259
Principal of National Savings Certificates—				
(a) Repaid by Issues under Section 59 (5) of the Finance Act, 1920	14,650,000	23,700,000	650,000	600,000
(b) Repaid otherwise	9,700,000	..	..	..
Principal of Exchequer Bonds paid off—				
1921-22	18,962,820	25,646,808	..	250,000
6%, 1920	2,986,808	..	..	..
5%, 1920	22,560,000	..	..	..
5%, 1920	18,962,820	..	..	..
Other Debt under the War Loan Acts, 1914 to 1919	51,494,036	53,143,688	100	3,209,140
Principal of American Loan under the American Loan Act, 1915 ..	..	59,229,221	..	..
Ways and Means Advances Repaid ..	1,023,781,000	999,577,000	136,493,000	113,064,000
Depreciation Fund, under the Finance Act, 1917	22,280,179	21,280,178	1,000,000	1,160,022
Issues to National Debt Commissioners to Reduce Debt—Cunard Loan Repayments	130,000	130,000	..	..
Proceeds of National Savings Certificates, issued under the Finance Act, 1920, Section 59 (4)	14,165,000	725,000	..	..
Old Sinking Fund, 1910-11, issued under Section 16 (1) (b) of the Finance Act, 1911	112,450	197,766	..	..
Balances in Exchequer—				
Bank of England	4,901,593,339	5,006,618,749	266,385,280	189,251,936
Bank of Ireland	2,241,681	1,659,613	89,000	1,080,800
Total	4,516,944	3,533,861	12,254	1,079,546

Note.—Budget Estimate as in House of Commons, Paper No. 89 of 1921. Treasury, December 27, 1921.

DEPRECIATION IN INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENTS

can best be covered by a Limited Payment Policy in the

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

HEAD OFFICE:

6, St. Andrew-square, Edinburgh.

London: 3, Lombard-street, E.C.3.

West End: 17, Pall Mall, S.W.1.

ACCUMULATED FUNDS - £16,750,000

PROVINCIAL CLEARING RETURNS.

	1920.	1921.	Inc. or Dec.
Aggregate Totals to December 24.	£ 185,821,300	£ 120,593,100	- 65,228,200
BIRMINGHAM	90,085,300	75,436,000	- 14,649,300
BRISTOL	418,037,200	264,323,400	- 153,713,800
DUBLIN	..	50,130,948	..
HULL (45 Weeks ended Dec. 24) ..	85,591,000	56,321,600	- 29,269,400
LEEDS	60,415,300	39,065,500	- 21,351,800
LEICESTER	801,183,600	439,829,100	- 361,354,500
LIVERPOOL	1,437,842,300	730,917,400	- 706,924,900
MANCHESTER	155,022,500	70,493,700	- 84,528,800
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	55,775,700	35,601,200	- 20,174,500
NOTTINGHAM	85,013,400	55,156,700	- 29,856,700
SHEFFIELD	..	..	..

OVERSEAS BANK RETURNS.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS.

	Dec. 23, 1921	Dec. 15, 1921,	Week's Movmnt.	Dec. 20, 1920.
RESOURCES.				
Total gold reserve	2,870,990	2,699,170	+ 1,820	2,054,370
Legal tender notes and silver reserve	122,070	132,410	+ 10,340	180,100
Bills discounted for member banks	1,224,700	1,152,830	+ 71,870	2,596,750
Bills bought in open market	126,530	97,740	+ 28,790	234,610
Government obligations owned	21,710	229,790	+ 18,080	392,480
All other resources	62,680	62,430	+ 250	38,910
LIABILITIES.				
Government deposits	54,880	69,410	+ 14,530	53,170
Other deposits	1,729,880	1,675,350	+ 56,530	1,501,420
Federal Reserve Notes in actual circulation ..	2,447,560	2,393,780	+ 53,780	3,344,330
Federal Reserve Bank Notes in actual cir- culation	82,750	78,310	+ 4,440	217,470
All other liabilities	25,950	25,580	+ 370	116,830
Capital and surplus	316,990	316,950	+ 40	264,070
Ratio of total reserves to gross deposit and Federal Reserve note liabilities combined ..	70.7%	72.6%	+ 1.9%	45.6%

By authority of the Egyptian Government British Treasury Bills were deposited in lieu of gold.

LONDON RATES.	
	Dec. 23, 1921.
	Dec. 24, 1921.
	Dec. 25, 1921.
	Dec. 27, 1921.
	Dec. 28, 1921.
	Dec. 29, 1921.
	Dec. 30, 1921.

London		3 47	4 13	4 16	4 21
60 days		3 57	4 17	4 20	4 25
C. l/c	Dollars for £1	4 8666	3 575	4 1762	4 20875
Cheques		3 53	4 1725	4 2050	4 2375
Paris	cheques	7 53	7 50	8 00	8 00
Brussels	"	19 30	6 43	7 6150	7 68
Switzerland	"	19 30	15 25	19 40	19 55
Italy	"	19 30	3 48	4 53	4 53
Berlin	"	23 83	1 3750	0 52	0 5825
Vienna	"	20 26	0 24	0 25	0 25
		13 45	13 40	14 95	14 95

935	Christiania		1	90	30	30	30	30
18		(a) Approximate rates.						
75		OVERSEAS DOMINIONS RATES.						
	COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND.							
	London on Australia and New Zealand.						Australia and New Zealand on London.	

BULLION.

The gold movements to or from the Bank of England are no longer announced. For the week ended December 28, 1921, the stock of coin and bullion show an increase of £3,215, compared with the previous return.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Dec. 21, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Dec. 21, 1921.
Channel Islands	£ 5,000	Switzerland	8,000
British South Africa	953,909	Italy	2,725
		United States America	828,500
		British India	45,000
Total values of import of gold	956,209	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	834,225

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF GOLD.

Gold Imported into the United Kingdom.		Gold Exported from the United Kingdom.	
Countries from which Consigned.	Week Ended Dec. 28, 1921.	Countries to which Exported.	Week Ended Dec. 28, 1921.
	£	Belgium	4,100
	Nil.	United States America	771,200
		British India	33,521
Total values of import of gold	Nil.	Total declared value of exports registered in the week	808,821

Messrs Samuel Montagu and Co. write on December 29th as follows:—

GOLD.

Only small supplies of gold were available, the chief proportion of which was taken for the United States of America. Gold valued at \$8,776,000 has arrived in New York—\$5,796,000 from London, \$2,040,000 from Sweden, \$640,000 from France, \$200,000 from Uruguay, and \$100,000 from Germany.

CURRENCY.

The large amount of French, Italian, Belgian and Greek five-franc silver pieces which had accumulated in Switzerland during the war proved a source of embarrassment, and these foreign five-franc pieces were removed from circulation. A convention has been concluded between the Latin Union countries empowering Switzerland to coin her own silver five-franc pieces to the extent of 80,000,000 francs, using for the purpose 35,400,000 Italian francs, 29,400,000 Belgian francs, and 900,000 Greek francs, all in five-franc pieces. Arrangements were made that Switzerland should receive payment in full for the balance of the silver coin not provided for as above—the payment to be made in five years, commencing 1927. The total amount concerned amounts to 225,000,000 francs, in five-franc pieces, and 6,500,000 francs in Belgian pieces of smaller denominations.

SILVER.

Owing to the holidays, the market has been inactive. The few buying orders, which have come through from the Indian bazaars, have been met by sales on Continental account. The tone continues to be somewhat dull. In our letter of the 15th inst. we referred to the arrival at Bombay of a large amount of silver kraans (Persian coins). It is stated that a quantity of Persian coins has been struck recently by the Russian Mint, which holds possession of authentic dies. The issue does not appear to be under the control of the Persian Government, to whom any seigniorage should belong as a matter of sovereign right. The fact suggests that the emission of these coins may be a profitable method of utilising such silver resources as may be under the control of the Soviet Government. Indian official statistics indicate the scale upon which the exchange of gold for silver has been made recently by the Indian people. During the seven months ending with October, the net export of gold from that country was 1,281,743 fine ounces, worth, say, £6,960,000, whilst the net import of silver was 32,542,032 fine ounces, worth, say, £5,400,000. The stock in Shanghai on the 24th inst. consisted of about 29,400,000 ounces in sycee, 24,000,000 dollars, and 2,930 silver bars, as compared with about 27,300,000 ounces in sycee, 23,500,000 dollars, and 570 silver bars on the 17th inst.

GOLD AND SILVER PRICES.

The price of gold and cash and forward prices of bar silver during this week and in previous years are as below:—

1921.	Gold.		Silver.		Date.	Silver.
	Per Ounce.	Cash, Per Ounce.	Forward, Per Ounce.	Compared with Previous Year.		
Dec. 24 ..	s d	d	d	34½	Jan. 6, 1915	d 21½
26 ..	Boxing	Day	34½		6, 1916	26½
27 ..	Public	Holiday	34½		5, 1917	29½
28 ..	97 10	35½	34½		4, 1918	44½
29 ..	98 0	35½	35		4, 1919	48½
30 ..	98 0	34½	34½		Dec. 31, 1920	40½

NOTICES.

The Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, announce that, consequent upon the retirement of Mr J. M. Wallace, after many years of valued service as London manager of the African Banking Corporation, and more recently as manager of the London Wall office of the Standard Bank of South Africa, Limited, Mr J. C. Alleyne and Mr Charles Lammond have been appointed manager and sub-manager respectively of the London Wall branch. They also announce that their sub-branch at Breyten, near Ermelo, in the Transvaal, has been converted into a full branch.

MINING OUTPUT STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER, 1921.

Gold.	Tons Crushed.		Gold Recovered.		Value.	Profit.
	Mill.	Gra.	Mill.	Gra.		
Esperanza (Nov.)	2,300	..	..	..	7,998	£415
Frontino and Bolivia	..	..	..	..	..	..
Oroville Dredging	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nochi (17 days to Dec. 15) ..	..	..	..	..	\$45,808	..
Pato (13 days to Dec. 9th) ..	..	..	..	..	\$8,923	..

Tin.	Output.		Other Notes in Return.	
	Tons.	66½	First half of Dec.	
Renong	79,813	Week ended Dec. 17th.		
Chinese Engineering	829	Week ended Dec. 24th.		
East Kent	73,560			
Witbank				

BRITISH BROKEN HILL.—Cable dated Dec. 24th:—"No. 12 level crosscut assays 13 ozs silver, 18½ per cent. lead, 18 per cent. zinc; similar ore at 262 ft. Tons milled last week, 2,327; produced lead concentrates 400 tons, zinc concentrates 400 tons. Carbonates raised 180 tons."

THE MOUNT LYLE MINING AND RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.—"From Nov. 17th to Dec. 14th inclusive, ore treated by flotation plant, 6,390 tons; concentrates produced by flotation plant, 1,767 tons. A total quantity of 9,209 tons of ore was smelted, being 5,805 tons from the Mount Lyle mine, and 3,404 tons from the North Mount Lyle mine; also 1,931 tons concentrates. The converters have produced during the same period 595 tons of blister copper, containing copper 591 tons, silver 13,781 ozs, gold 402 ozs. Furnace in blast 671 hours."

Reports and Notices.

Mr Marcus L. T. Hare and Mr Charles Warren have been appointed directors of William Hollins and Co., Limited. Mr L. T. O'Hanlon and Mr David Brooks have been appointed secretaries of the company.

The governor and committee of the Hudson's Bay Company have accepted with great regret the resignation of Sir William Mackenzie as a member of the committee. Acting under the powers conferred by the company's charters, the board have elected Mr F. H. Richmond, a managing director of Messrs Debenhams, Limited, to fill the vacancy thus created.

The British Empire Trust Company, Limited, notify that on and after January 1, 1922, their address will be Stafford House, 14-20 King William street, London, E.C. 4.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS, &c.

ORIENTAL REPUBLIC OF URUGUAY 5 PER CENT. LOAN OF 1896.—Messrs Glyn, Mills, Currie, and Co., as agents of the Government of Uruguay, hereby announce that, in accordance with the conditions of the general bond of this loan, the 38th amortisation will take place by public tender in London on Tuesday, the 10th proximo, the amount applicable being £22,802. They are therefore prepared to receive tenders of bonds for redemption on January 10th, on forms which may be obtained at 67 Lombard street, E.C. 3. Tenders will be opened at 2.30 p.m., and should be lodged not later than 2.15 p.m., on January 10th. They must not be made at any fraction of a shilling, other than threepence or multiples of threepence, and should be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked outside "Tender of Uruguay 5 per cent. 1896 Bonds for Redemption." All bonds tendered must bear the coupons due April 1, 1922, and all subsequent coupons. Messrs Glyn, Mills, Currie and Co. reserve the right of accepting or rejecting the whole or part of any tender, and may require the deposit of the bonds offered for sale under any tender.

RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS AND TRAMWAYS.—Report of the Railway Commissioners for New South Wales on the working of the railways and tramways for the quarter ended September 30, 1921, is as under:—

RAILWAYS.		TRAMWAYS.	
Revenue	Inc. or Dec. Compared with Previous Year.	Revenue	Inc. or Dec. Compared with Previous Year.
£3,516,682 ..	+ £119,918	£860,142 ..	+ £101,203
Expenditure ..	2,759,761 ..	776,336 ..	+ 82,517
No. of passengers ..	29,928,496 ..	79,803,475 ..	+ 4,246,319
Tonnage	3,821,105 ..	..	..
Lines open ..	5,042½ ..	..	..
Miles ..	..	..	..
Percentage expenditure to earnings	78.48 ..	..	..

RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY TRAFFIC RETURNS.

No traffic returns of British Railways have been issued since the Government took control of the Railways at the outbreak of the War. The Government took over control of the Irish Railways as from January 1st, 1917.

UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC RAILWAYS OF LONDON.

		Week's Recpts, 1921.	Aggregates Recpts, 1921.
Metropolitan District	51 weeks Dec. 24	£32,609	12,040,376
London Electric	..	..	..
City and South London	..	..	..
Central London	..	..	..
L.G.O.	..	..	..
Metropolitan Electric Tramways	..	..	..
London United Tramways	..	..	..
South Metropolitan Tramways	..	..	..
Tramways (M.E.T.)	..	..	..
Gearless Motor	..	..	..

OVERSEAS RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

Name.	Period.	Ending.	Present Mileage.	Gross Receipts for Week or Month.		Total Gross Receipts.	
				1920-21.	+ or -	1920-21.	+ or -
INDIAN.							
Assam Bengal	33weeks	Nov. 19	993	Rs. 2,27,602	- 49,270	Rs. 52,71,464	- 17,66,882
Barsi Lt. Ry.	35weeks	Dec. 3	118	27,200	+ 6,100	8,16,700	- 1,52,200
Bengal & N. Western ..	8weeks	Nov. 26	2,067	5,75,310	- 12,900	41,75,710	+ 3,01,508
Bengal Nagpur	33weeks	Nov. 19	2,697	12,75,000	+ 86,000	5,35,15,184	- 10,37,473
Bombay, Bar. & C.L. ..	11weeks	Dec. 17	2,871	20,01,000	+ 1,43,000	2,07,89,000	+ 5,82,000
Burma	33weeks	Nov. 19	1,342	5,55,019	- 23,312	1,89,09,865	+ 1,35,872
Delhi, Umballa & Kalka ..	12weeks	Dec. 24	239	1,01,000	- 2,227	11,73,142	- 1,76,075
East Indian	33weeks	Dec. 24	2,772	25,57,000	- 1,34,300	3,48,62,000	+ 11,08,000
G. Indian Peninsula ..	38weeks	Nov. 26	17,321	30,56,300	+ 48,900	9,48,92,196	- 1,76,028
Madras & S. Mah.	14weeks	Nov. 26	3,028	11,50,000	+ 82,099	4,25,44,036	- 1,20,16,668
Rohilk'd & Kumaon	8weeks	Dec. 26	259	47,230	+ 4,113	3,50,813	- 54,014
Do Lucknow-Breilly	8weeks	Dec. 26	302	59,000	+ 3,082	4,16,941	+ 25,318
South Indian	34weeks	Dec. 26	1,852	8,03,581	+ 2,16,139	2,89,98,209	+ 13,92,870
Sihm. Punjab (month) ..	5 mths	Aug. 31	717	7,41,430	- 1,62,473	40,72,416	- 3,05,853
Argentine (a).							
Argentine N.E.	25weeks	Dec. 24	752	8,400	- 200	289,100	- 13,400
Argentine Trans.	25weeks	Dec. 24	111	2,200	- 974	46,005	- 14,635
B. A. and Pacific	25weeks	Dec. 24	3,428	137,000	+ 20,000	3,046,000	- 34,000
B. A. Gt. Southern	25weeks	Dec. 24	3,891	168,000	- 5,000	3,700,000	- 31,000
B. A. Western	25weeks	Dec. 24	1,882	74,000	+ 4,000	1,901,000	- 47,000
Buenos Ayres Cent.	4 mths	Oct. 31	190	11,000	- 11,000	229,000	- 81,000
Central Argentine	25weeks	Dec. 24	1,305	47,614	- 3,405	202,775	- 11,563
Cordoba Central	25weeks	Dec. 24	1,205	167,000	- 18,000	4,307,000	- 75,000
Entre Rios	25weeks	Dec. 24	811	19,400	- 2,700	1,328,300	- 120,730
Brazilian (b).							
Brazil Gt. Southern ..	11 mths	Nov. 30	..	Ms 44,000	+ 2,700	528,150	+ 33,150
Gt. West. of Brazil	51weeks	Dec. 24	1,005	17,700	+ 1,000	709,500	- 378,100
Leopoldina	51weeks	Dec. 24	1,831	30,415	- 5,843	1,690,404	- 85,779
Sao Paulo	51weeks	Dec. 24	25	22,188	- 13,918	1,504,473	- 888,967
State of Bahia, S.W. ..	11 mths	Nov. 30	554	Ms 52,000	- 101,000	776,000	- 437,000
Chile and Peru.							
Antofagasta	51weeks	Dec. 25	838	14,800	- 24,440	1,025,375	- 1,324,545
Arauco	1 mth	Apr. 30	644	12,000	- 500	..	..
Nitrato (2 weeks)	50weeks	Dec. 15	366	18,066	- 23,594	..	- 487,168
Peruvian Corp.	5 mths	Nov. 30	1,059	£137,650	+ 442,580	6,174,010	+ 540,335
Taltal	5 mths	Nov. 30	180	(b) 9,608	- 18,180	48,444	- 96,390
Cuban.							
Havana Central	24weeks	Dec. 17	1,210	9,041	- 5,374	2,25,559	- 74,884
United of Havana	25weeks	Dec. 17	1,210	60,574	- 41,173	1,354,762	- 1,106,003
Uruguayan.							
Central Uruguay	25weeks	Dec. 24	273	26,761	+ 2,109	605,527	+ 96,201
C. Urug. (East Ext.) ..	25weeks	Dec. 24	311	5,104	- 2,360	115,215	- 17,956
C. Urug. (North Ext.) ..	25weeks	Dec. 24	185	3,412	+ 101	66,925	- 6,701
C. Urug. (West Ext.) ..	25weeks	Dec. 24	211	3,313	- 308	54,870	- 10,987
Midland Uruguay	5 mths	Nov. 30	319	17,621	- 1,288	72,619	- 14,662
North-West Urug.	4 mths	Nov. 30	113	9,574	+ 3,154	34,314	+ 4,168
Uruguay North	5 mths	Nov. 30	3	3,083	+ 1,068	9,612	- 602
Other Foreign.							
Alcoy and Gandia	51weeks	Dec. 24	31	Pa 27,000	+ 7,000	849,600	+ 143,100
Bilbao	11 mths	Nov. 30	15	1,815	- 450	18,427	- 17,484
Bolivar	11 mths	Nov. 30	136	8,271	+ 266	109,568	+ 7,745
Colombian Nat. Ry.	10 mths	Oct. 31	85	17,240	- 1,340	193,331	+ 3,531
Costa Rica	4 mths	Nov. 30	190	16,710	- 3,151	72,072	- 27,914
Dorado Extension	11 mths	Nov. 30	70	17,250	+ 1,000	209,000	+ 24,822
Egyptian Delta	34 weeks	Nov. 30	5594	113,615	- 1,121	261,919	- 81,239
Gt. South. of Spain	50 weeks	Dec. 17	104	Pa 54,638	- 34,897	2,840,415	- 1,507,126
International of Central America ..	11 mths	Nov. 30	Net	45,315	- 6,945	742,858	+ 8,718
La Guaira & Caracas ..	11 mths	Nov. 30	233	(b) 2,000	- 3,180	103,980	- 46,750
Mexican Railway	24 weeks	Dec. 21	403	\$228,200	- 27,300	8,053,700	+ 1,744,400
Do	4 mths	Oct. 31	403	\$153,240	+ 302,700	5,677,920	+ 1,046,300
Nasajo Oscarshahn	9 mths	Sept. 30	..	\$407,000	+ 167,100	1,192,100	+ 155,200
Ottoman Railway	1 week	Dec. 17	193	5,980	..	119,090	- 76,275
Samara to Aidin	25 weeks	Dec. 24	274	3,020	- 610	95,960	- 30,360
Paraguay Central	9 mths	Feb. 28	..	\$2,311,374	+ 414,841	16,889,765	+ 5,293,660
Piraeus-Athens, &c.	11 mths	Nov. 30	35	5,000	+ 750	51,000	- 5,750
Puerto Cabello, &c.	25 weeks	Dec. 24	100	2,676	- 1,068	56,039	- 28,483
Salvador	1 mth	Nov. 30	..	131,821	- 5,834	104,560	- 40,044
Santa Fe Province, French Railways	11 mths	Nov. 30	30	5,120	- 1,132	142,094	- 14,255
Samana & Santiago ..	10 mths	Oct. 31	112	(a) 15,508	+ 838	142,094	+ 14,255
Canadian.							
Canadian Northern	50 weeks	Dec. 21	9,750	\$122,200	- 340,600	67,292,130	+ 3,610,907
Canadian Pacific	50 weeks	Dec. 21	13,402	\$440,000	- 104,000	187,630,000	- 23,720,000
Grand Trunk	50 weeks	Dec. 21	3,616	\$255,470	- 83,390	15,447,571	- 7,822,822

SUMMARY OF COMPANY PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Company.	Period Ending.	Balance from Last Account.	Net Profit After Payment of Dividend Interest.	Amount Available for Distribution.	Appropriation.				Corresponding Period Last Year.	
					Dividend.			Carried to Reserve, Depreciation, &c.	Balance Forward.	Net Profit.
					Prefco.	Ordinary.	Rate.			
					Amount.	Amount.	Rate.			
Financial, Land, &c.										
New Zealand and River Plate Land	Oct. 31	22,224	62,124	84,348	..	49,000	7	10,000	25,348	59,891
Oilfields Finance.....	June 30	15,437	Dr 31,409	Dr 15,972	..	..	..	Dr 2,998	Dr 12,974	19,582
Iron, Coal, and Steel.										
Bertrams.....	Sept. 30	4,708	10,377	15,085	..	4,500	10	5,500	5,085	12,723
Motor and Cycle.										
S. Smith & Sons (Motor Accessories)	July 31	91,452	Dr 295,437	Dr 203,985	..	..	..	..	Dr 203,985	96,638
Rubber, &c.										
Tebrau.....	June 30	20,345	Dr 31,540	Dr 11,195	..	..	..	..	Dr 11,195	19,760
Textiles.										
London Woollen Co.....	Nov. 17	5,799	Dr 45,425	Dr 39,626	..	..	..	..	Dr 39,626	10,330
Other Companies.										
A. M. Peebles and Son.....	June 30	41,742	Dr 85,352	Dr 43,610	(1) 2,500	..	..	..	Dr 43,610	49,493
Glamorgan Wagon.....	Nov. 30	1,640	2,578	4,218	..	1,250	12½	..	2,968	2,063
Ship Canal Portland Cement.....	Mar. 31	23,950	45,535	69,485	6,305	..	..	25,000	38,180	36,487
Vulcanite.....	Oct. 31	4,872	7,017	11,889	1,708	2,625	7½	..	7,556	13,335

(1) For half-year.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ALBY UNITED CARBIDE FACTORIES, LIMITED.—At the meeting of shareholders, held December 22, 1921, the chairman, Colonel O. C. Armstrong, D.S.O., stated that suggestions had been received from Norway urging an adjournment of the meeting in order to give the directors an opportunity of making a further effort to save the company. After a general discussion a resolution for adjournment until a date not later than February 28, 1922, was unanimously passed.

A. M. PEEBLES AND SON.—The directors regret that, owing to the heavy fall in the price of paper and the consequent decrease in the value of raw material and paper stocks, there has been a loss on the working of £85,352 for the year ended June 30, 1921. The depression in the paper trade which has occurred during the past year is unprecedented, and this company has, in common with other companies, felt the full effects of this depression. Owing to great pressure of work, the inspector of taxes has stated that he will not be able to deal fully with the company's claim for repayment of excess profits duty until the New Year, and as some considerable time is bound to elapse before a final settlement is reached, the directors have decided to publish the accounts now, rather than wait until the reclaim has been agreed.

NEW ZEALAND AND RIVER PLATE LAND MORTGAGE.—After making due provision the net profit for the year ended October 31, 1921, exclusive of the amount brought forward from the preceding year, amounts to £62,123. By the addition of £22,223 brought forward from the preceding year, the balance to the credit of profit and loss account amounts to £84,347. To payment of a dividend of 7 per cent. for the year, subject to income-tax, absorbed £49,000; to reserve, £10,000 (making the reserve £245,000); to be carried forward, £25,347.

SHIP CANAL PORTLAND CEMENT.—The trading profit for the year ended March 31, 1921, amounted to £91,299, and after writing off £12,500 to depreciation, setting aside £12,000 as reserve for taxation, and charging maintenance repairs and all general expenses, there is a credit balance of £45,535. To this must be added the credit balance brought forward from the previous year, viz., £23,950, making £69,485. Preference dividends were paid to June, 1921, amounting to £6,305, leaving a balance of £63,180 to the credit of profit and loss account. Of this sum it is proposed to transfer £25,000 to reserve, and to carry forward the balance of £38,180 to the current year's account. Whilst during the year under review a full year's preference dividend was paid, the directors regret they were unable to pay off any of the accumulated arrears, the changed trading conditions necessitating husbanding the company's cash resources in order to provide for capital expenses.

Commercial Reports.

THE CORN TRADE.

Mark Lane, Friday Evening.

Weather conditions have continued mild and open, while favourable to growing crops. Cultivation is well advanced, and the young plant appears strong and healthy. Useful rains have fallen, but more moisture would be welcome in some districts where the water supply remains low. Market presented a holiday appearance throughout the week, transactions being on a limited scale, but prices for the most part maintained a fairly steady level. English wheat is in fair supply, and suitable milling grades rule at 46s to 49s, with inferior down to 40s per 504 lbs, free on rail. Imported descriptions generally quiet. No. 1 Northern Manitoba quoted 55s 6d ex ship per 480 lbs; No. 2 hard winter, 54s; and Australian 53s, both landed per 496 lbs. In the forward market prices ruled barely steady, and business almost at a standstill. Cargoes of Rosafé, 62½ lbs loading, sold 50s 6d. Australian arrived 52s 6d. Crop reports from the principal exporting countries are favourable,

while visible supplies in North America are well maintained. Flour steady, with a slight improvement in demand for home-milled grades. London standard straight run quoted 47s; town households 45s, patents 50s, all English straight run 43s per sack delivered London district. All English country straights 37s to 39s, free on rail at London stations. Imported steady. Canadian export patents quoted 46s, straights 43s, Kansas top patents 43, and Australian 43s 6d per 280 lbs, ex store. On c.i.f. terms, Canadian patents, January seaboard, quoted 42s; straights 40s, Kansas patents 43s, and Australian new crop, January-February, 35s per 280 lbs. Millers' offals quiet. Broad bran quoted £8 15s to £9 5s; ordinary ditto, £8 5s to £8 10s; middlings £9 10s per ton, ex mill. Fancy Plate, middlings, £11 10s, and pollards £9, both ex ship, per ton. Barley quiet, and without new feature. English malted nominally 43s to 65s, grinding sorts 37s to 41s per 448 lbs, free on rail. Imported steady. No. 4 Canada Western, 32s, Canada feed 29s 6d, American feed 29s, and La Plata 30s, all landed per 400 lbs. Business on c.i.f. terms remains in abeyance. Maize ruled steady on light shipments, though demand shows no appreciable expansion. Yellow La Plata, ex ship, sold 33s 6d; ditto landed quoted 34s 9d. American mixed quoted 33s; yellow round African 34s, white flat Rhodesian 33s, all landed terms per 480 lbs. White African maize meal quoted £7 17s 6d per ton, ex store. Forward market unsettled, but generally quiet, and no cargo sales reported. Oats quietly steady. English quiet, with liberal supplies on offer. Whites quoted 30s to 33s, grey winter 29s to 30s, and black winters 28s to 30s per 336 lbs, free on rail. Imported fairly steady. Plate f.a.q. quoted 26s 6d, ditto clipped 27s, No. 2 Canada Western 32s, No. 3 ditto 31s, and Chilian tawny 28s, all per 320 lbs landed terms. Oatmeal in moderate request, and prices reduced by 10s per ton for English at £19 to £20, all cuts. Ordinary Scottish quoted £18 to £18 10s, American and Canadian £18 to £19, English rolled oats £21 to £22, ditto flaked £23 to £24, all per ton. The demand for English beans ruled quieter, and rates eased slightly. Good winters quoted 49s to 51s, while choice lots of springs are held for 55s to 57s 6d per 532 lbs. Chinese horse beans quoted £10 10s to £11 10s, ex store. Peas move off quietly, though English varieties were in rather better request. Maples rule from 68s to 74s, and best Duns 52s to 53s per 504 lbs. Of imported, New Zealand blue quoted 21s to 24s, and Dutch blue 22s to 26s per cwt landed. Home-ward freight markets quiet, but rates steady for heavy grain for early shipment. From the River Plate 33s 9d was paid, up river, January 15th, to U.K./Continent, with option of clipped oats at 2s 6d ton extra, with 30s established for a steamer Bahia Blanca. February 15th, later dates being worth 27s 6d to 25s. North America steady, and range to West Italy quoted 20-21 cents; Greece, 24 cents per 100 lbs, while U.K. indicates 4s per qr, heavy grain. Gulf ports to Continent would come at about 15 cents per 100 lbs. Eastern markets inactive, and Bombay on dead weight nominally 20s 6d to U.K./Continent. Australia steady for wheat at 50s, loading at usual ports to U.K./Continent, while Indian requirements are now fairly well covered. West Australia paid 45s 9d home. South Africa quiet at 30s to 31s 3d for maize cargoes U.K./Continent, January. Alexandria cottonseed would come at about 9s 6d per 60 cubic feet. Mediterranean dull, and other departments nominally unaltered.

COMPARATIVE AVERAGES OF GRAIN.

The following table gives the estimated sales of home-grown wheat during the harvest year 1921-22, contrasted with 1920-21, 1919-20, and 1918-19.

HEAD OFFICES: LIVERPOOL AND LONDON

ROYAL

INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED

ALL CLASSES OF INSURANCE EFFECTED

	1921-1922.	1920-1921.	1919-1920.	1918-1919.
Estimated sales of home-grown wheat—				
1 week to December 24.....	Cwts. 384,537	Cwts. 140,147	Cwts. 331,193	Cwts. 299,807
16 weeks to December 24.....	7,136,535	6,186,811	4,488,097	5,192,654
Average price of English wheat per	s d	s d	s d	s d
quarter.....	45 2	86 9	72 6	72 3
= per cwt.....	10 6	20 3	16 11	16 10

The following is a statement showing the Quantities Sold and the Average Price of British Corn (Imperial Measure) in the past week, and for the corresponding week in each of the years from 1917 to 1920:—

	QUANTITIES SOLD.			AVERAGE PRICES.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
1921.	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	qrs bsh	s d	s d	s d
Dec. 17.....	106,248 2	84,756 2	27,641 0	45 11	45 7	28 6
24.....	89,739 2	58,446 4	21,164 7	45 2	44 5	28 4
1917.....	63,017 2	63,790 1	13,119 2	71 1	57 7	44 10
1918.....	69,955 1	79,270 2	10,223 0	72 3	62 3	50 6
1919.....	88,945 1	93,839 0	18,668 1	72 6	105 10	57 2
1920.....	33,950 7	76,753 7	11,444 0	86 9	72 7	42 9

IRON, STEEL, AND COAL.

Our Middlesbro' correspondent's report, dated December 29th, 1921, is as follows:—Pig-iron: No further development in the position. Business practically suspended during the holidays. Much disappointment is expressed on all hands at the inadequate reduction of the railway rates. The assistance towards reduced costs by the last reduction will be trifling. Manufactured iron and steel: Steel works are closed during the holidays. So far there is no increased demand for steel. Iron ore: The demand is extremely small, most attention being given to working off arrears of old contracts. Best Rubio can be bought at about 26s.

Our Sheffield correspondent writes:—The year 1921 will be a black memory for traders in whatever industry they may be interested, and many people are glad that it has come to an end. The hopeful feeling with regard to the new year is becoming general. In the pig-iron and heavy steel branches, makers are sending out inquiries for scrap and other raw materials, which indicate that they are about to restart their furnaces. At present the iron and steel furnaces working do not exceed one-fourth of the total available, and in the Lincolnshire area production has been almost at a standstill for months. This state of things is due to makers finding it more expedient to produce finished goods from foreign raw material. As British quotations for pig-iron and steel billets now approximate those of European countries, there no longer exists any inducement to buy from abroad. When makers of wire rods, bar iron, bright bars, strip, &c., place their orders for materials at home instead of abroad, British works will be moderately busy again, and this is what must happen so soon as the imported stocks are used up. British foundry iron can now be bought at £4 12s 6d, compared with £12 10s a year ago. The recovery of the heavy steel departments is certain to react favourably upon the tool steel branch, which has been stagnant all the year. It would also be helped by a revival of engineering. The state of the exchanges makes the cost of Sheffield tool steels prohibitive in Germany, France, and Italy, who were large buyers of such materials before the war. At the present time there is practically no export trade in high-speed steel, and there are large stocks of it in this country. An early improvement in the overseas demand for hand tools and cutlery is prophesied. At the moment, these branches are doing very badly. The coal trade has been quiescent all the week in consequence of the holidays. The position is unchanged, except that industrial consumers are showing some interest in forward contracts. The house coal demand is also likely to be strong in the future, as stocks in consumers' cellars are low and the severe weather necessitates good fires.

Our Glasgow correspondent (writing on Thursday) says:—In industrial circles this week attention has been solely given, it may be said, to the clearing off of as much work as possible, in view of the Scotch New Year holidays, and a big lot of material has thus been pushed through the finishing departments in iron and steel. Operations will generally be suspended to-morrow afternoon, and there will be no resumption to speak of for the next seven to ten days. This because order-books are on all hands very light—hardly exist, in fact—and therefore there is no call for hurrying up a restart. During the interval opportunity will be taken to carry out repairs on machinery and to check stocks, an easier task, no doubt, than has been the case for years. Managements report that over the past week there have been no new orders of any significance placed in the district, and that is not matter for surprise considering the uncertainty that obtains as to the future course of events in all leading iron and steel departments. There is particular lack of life observable in business in pig-iron, though one or two houses advise that export inquiries, even from the Continent, are more numerous than of late; whether they will materialise in actual business remains yet to be seen. Some sanguine dealers believe they will. Prices continue nominally where they were a week since—£6 per ton f.o.b. Glasgow for Scotch hematite, £6 for No. 1 foundry, and £5 15s for No. 3. These constitute the lowest level of the year. But that in reality applies to quotations for all representative materials. Consumers of steel are thought to be holding off the

market for a further break in terms. For all inquiries on circuit keen competition prevails, English makers especially manifesting eager anxiety to increase their footing here. It is reported to-day that Scotch 4 in. ship plates have been dealt in at £9 15s Glasgow, the last officially fixed list price being £10 10s. Angles are given as near £9 10s. All the rolling mills at Mossend (Beardmore's) are said to be in full operation, but conditions are slow elsewhere. Still, producers are not without hope, and several firms are taking advantage of the current slackness to introduce improvements, and at Clydebridge works a powerful rolling mill for ship and boiler plates is being put down—one of the most up-to-date plants in the United Kingdom. Though not confirmed, those who should know are disposed to credit a story going round that orders for a couple of first-class steamers have been placed with Clyde builders, to be proceeded with on the turn of the year. Completed returns of work executed on the river in the course of 1921 show that 314 vessels of 514,549 tons were put into the water—not a bad result in the circumstances, but appreciably below the figures for 1920, when 263 vessels of 660,960 tons were launched. There is a sharp shrinkage noted in the amount of tonnage in hand; many yards are wholly empty. Yet more than one influential builder has expressed the conviction that by next midsummer construction will have returned to its normal state. But outward appearances afford scant encouragement. Exceptionally, the season is winding-up more hopefully for the black sheet and sheet bar trades. For sheets a good inquiry is in evidence for India, and in that connection a factor has leaked out about which strict secrecy has so far been maintained. It appears that consumers in India are endeavouring to get into touch direct with makers, thus eliminating merchant firms in this country, who hitherto have been the medium through which business has passed. More will be heard of the matter, as it involves an important trade departure.

CUMBERLAND IRON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The conclusion can scarcely be resisted that rock bottom was touched in the last few weeks of the year, and that the New Year opens with prospects of a slow but steady recovery of trade. Labour costs have now fallen to the lowest level to which they can drop in present circumstances, and if the reduction in railway rates is not nearly so satisfactory as was desired, it is, at all events, sufficient to warrant the expectation of a further "cut" in the price of iron, and if that "cut" brings Bessemer mixed numbers down to £5 per ton at works, it is more than likely

THE STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA, LIMITED.

(with which is incorporated the
AFRICAN BANKING CORPORATION, LTD.)
Bankers to the Government of the Union of South Africa in Cape Province; to the Imperial Government in South Africa; and to the Administration of Rhodesia.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL ...	£10,000,000
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL ...	£3,916,660
PAID-UP CAPITAL ...	£2,229,165
RESERVE FUND ...	£2,893,335
UNCALLED CAPITAL ...	£6,687,495
	£11,809,995

Board of Directors.
William Reiersen Arbuthnot, Esq. Solomon B. Joel, Esq.
Sir David M. Barbour, K.C.S.I., K.C.M.G. Horace Peel, Esq.
Edward Clifton Brown, Esq. Rt. Hon. the Earl of Selborne, K.G.
Stanley Christopherson, Esq. William Smart, Esq.
Robert E. Dickinson, Esq. Rt. Hon. Lord Sydenham, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E.
James Fairbairn Finlay, Esq., C.S.I.

Senior General Manager in South Africa—J. P. Gibson.
Joint General Managers in South Africa—John Jeffrey, James S. Shiel.
Asst. Gen. Managers in South Africa—G. F. Le Sueur, W. K. Robertson.
London Manager—Francis Shipton. Secretary—Herbert G. Hoey.

Head Office: 10, CLEMENTS LANE, LOMBARD ST., LONDON, E.C.4
London Wall Branch: 63, London Wall, E.C.2.
West End Branch: 17, Northumberland Avenue, W.C.2.

(Adjoining the Royal Colonial Institute.)
NEW YORK AGENCY: 68 WALL STREET.
ROTTERDAM BRANCH: 15 COOLSINGEL.
AMSTERDAM BRANCH: 69 ROBIN.
HAMBURG AGENCY: 49-53 SCHAUBENBURGER-STRASSE.

Bank of British West Africa, Ltd., 49-53 SCHAUBENBURGER-STRASSE.
Over 400 Branches, Sub-Branches and Agencies in
CAPE PROVINCE, NATAL, ORANGE FREE STATE, TRANSVAAL, RHODESIA,
NYSALAND, BASUTOLAND, KENYA COLONY, KENYA PROTECTORATE,
UGANDA, ZANZIBAR, PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA, SOUTH WEST
AFRICA, TANGANYIKA TERRITORY, BELGIAN CONGO.

BANKING BUSINESS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION transacted at all Branches and Agencies.
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened on the usual terms, and **DEPOSITS** RECEIVED for fixed periods at rates which may be ascertained on application.
SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS opened on terms, particulars of which may be obtained at Branches.
BILLS NEGOTIATED and **COLLECTED.**
DRAFTS issued, **MAIL** and **TELEGRAPHIC REMITTANCES** made.
LETTERS OF CREDIT and **COMMERCIAL CREDITS** established.
TRAVELLER'S LETTERS OF CREDIT issued available in all parts of PURCHASE and SALE of Stocks and Shares effected. (the world, DIVIDENDS, ANNUITIES, ETC., received and COUPONS COLLECTED, STRONGROOMS provided for the safe custody of Securities and Valuables of Customers.
ASSAY DEPARTMENT—Gold, etc., and all Mineral Ores assayed and **EXECUTOR** and **TRUSTEE** business undertaken. (realised.
The Officers of the Bank are bound not to disclose the transactions of its customers.

that business will be forthcoming on a more considerable scale than has been witnessed this year. There are large requirements of hematite pig-iron waiting to be placed directly users are convinced that there is little to be gained by delaying any longer, and the impression is growing that at £5 per ton iron will be at a price below which it will not recede for some time to come. It is not at all unlikely, therefore, that between now and the end of March we shall see an additional 10 or 12 furnaces put into full blast. At the moment only four furnaces are in operation, three having been damped down during the latter part of the month, and these may be anticipated to be blowing again before the close of January. Of course, a great deal depends upon what happens in the steel trade. Orders as yet are very scarce, and neither at Workington nor at Barrow, where most of the old contracts have been executed, is there a substantial amount of work awaiting to be undertaken. But the outlook is not so bad as it looks, and quick and satisfactory developments would not be surprising. The steel trade absorbs the greater part of the production of ordinary iron. For the special and semi-special iron there are foreign as well as home needs to be considered; and it is undoubted that the American demand for ferro-manganese, of which there has been no make since March, is reviving. The iron-ore industry is almost entirely idle, but if the difficulty as regards the selling price of iron, on which wages are to be based, is disposed of, substantial activity in the hematite iron-ore field may be expected in the course of a month or two. The coal trade is very dull, and must remain so until the collieries here can restart their coking plants. The impossibility of dealing with the accumulations of smalls hampers the collieries at every turn. There will be no return of prosperity for the coal trade until at least 20 furnaces on iron in East Cumberland and North Lancashire are in full draught. No Continental market can be found for the local coke, and, with the ovens idle, the collieries are dependent entirely for the absorption of their output upon the Irish market and the local land-sale trade.

THE COTTON TRADE.

LIVERPOOL OFFICIAL QUOTATIONS—December 29, 1921.

Description.	Com.	Med.	Good Med.	Med. Fine.	Fine.	Extra Fine.	Same Period 1920.			Same Period 1919.					
							Med.	Good Med.	Fine.	Med.	Good Med.	Fine.			
American.	d	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a			
Sea Island.....per lb.	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm			
Florida ditto.....	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm	nm			
American.	Ord	G	O	L	M	Mid	G	M	F	G	O	L	M	G	M
	7-96	8-71	10-26	11-46	12-21	13-31	5-26	7-51	12-01	21-34	23-79	28-84			
Brazilian.	Mid	M	F	Fr	G	F	Gd.	Fne	M	F	Fr	Gd.	M	F	Gd.
Pernambuco, &c.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Paraiba.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Maceio.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Mossoro, &c.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Ceara.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Maranhão.....	9-41	11-91	13-41	..	..	..	7-01	11-01	..	21-84	23-34	..	..	..	..
Egyptian.															
Brown.....	..	..	15-25	16-75	19-25	21-00	..	14-50	20-50	..	nm	52-00			
Upper.....	..	..	15-00	16-00	18-00	19-00	..	12-50	16-50	..	nm	49-50			
West Indian—Sea Island.....	..	..	28-00	29-00	32-00	34-00	..	35-00	45-00	..	..	..			
Peruvian—Rough.....	..	..	13-00	13-75	15-00	..	..	12-00	17-00	..	..	39-50			
Ditto Mod. Rough.....	..	..	11-00	12-50	13-00	..	..	9-00	14-00	..	..	31-50	5-50		
Ditto Smooth.....	9-66	12-91	14-16	14-66	15-66	8-01	13-01	17-51	33-34	36-34	41-84				
Ditto Sea Island.....	..	..	nm	nm	nm	..	..	nm	..	..	44-50	51-00			
African, East, &c.....	8-75	9-75	11-75	12-75	13-75	14-75	9-50	12-50	18-50	32-50	32-70	37-20			
East Indian.	G	F	For	Gd.	F	G	Fne	S'tn	For	Gd.	Fne	For	Gd.	Fne	
Surat—Mac. Ginned Surtee.....	10-55	11-05	11-55	..	..	..	10-05	11-05	..	..	24-60				
Broach.....	9-05	9-55	10-55	10-55	11-05	11-55	8-15	8-65	9-65	23-10	23-35	23-85			
M. Ginned Brown.....	7-05	7-80	8-55	9-55	10-55	11-05	6-44	7-19	8-54	19-04	19-79	20-79			
M. Ginned Comra, No. 1.....	7-15	7-90	8-65	9-15	9-65	10-40	6-50	7-25	8-50	19-01	19-55	20-55			
M. Ginned Khandeish.....	..	7-15	7-90	8-40	8-90	9-40	4-50	5-25	6-60	18-60	19-35	20-35			
M. Ginned Comptah.....	9-25	..	9-75	..	..	..	..	8-75	..	..	22-60				
M. Ginned Bengal.....	6-50	7-00	7-50	8-00	8-50	9-00	5-50	6-00	7-00	..	..	..			
M. Ginned Seinde.....	6-40	6-90	7-40	7-90	8-40	8-90	5-32	5-82	6-82	16-00	16-75	17-75			
Tinnivelly.....	10-55	11-05	11-55	..	..	..	10-00	10-50	..	23-85	24-10	..			
Madras, Western.....	8-50	9-00	9-50	10-00	..	..	8-75	9-25	..	23-50	22-60	..			
Coccona, Red.....	Fr.	9-25	..	..	..	..	7-50	..	..	21-85	..	..			
M. Ginned Coccona, Red.....	Fr.	9-35	..	..	..	..	7-75	..	..	22-10	..	..			

MANCHESTER, December 29.

Owing to the holidays this has been a short week in the market, and a rather unsettled feeling has prevailed. The undercurrent of demand, however, continues rather more encouraging, and in certain sections a considerable inquiry has been dealt with. Despite the fact that the political outlook in India is still uncertain, more business has been offered in cloth, especially for Calcutta, and fair lines have been booked. Transactions of any importance for China have been isolated, but trade has been done in shirtings and sheetings. The Near Eastern outlets have been quiet, and the disturbances in Egypt cause anxiety. Printing and finishing styles have been in request for South America, and trade advices from that part of the world are rather better. Practically nothing has been done in home trade fabrics. There seems to be a possibility of more looms being started early in the new year. American and Egyptian yarns for home use have been firmer in quotation, and in an irregular way rather more business has been about, but prices remain on a very low basis. Useful orders continue to be secured in bundles for India.

(I.) Comparative Statement of the Cotton Trade.

	Price, Dec. 29, 1921.	Previous Weeks in 1921.				
		Price, Dec. 21.	Price, Dec. 15.	Price, Dec. 8.	Price, Dec. 1.	Price, Nov. 24.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American.....per lb	11-81	11-30	11-04	11-13	11-29	12-18
—Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair.....	21-50	20-75	20-75	19-75	20-50	21-50
Egyptian.....per lb	18 1/2	18 1/2	18	18 1/2	18 1/2	19 1/2
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	18 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	17 1/2	18	19
—40's twist.....per lb	32	32	32	32	33	34
—60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	31	31	31	31	32	33
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's.....	31	31	31	31	32	32
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's.....	31	31	31	31	32	32
38-in. ditto, 58 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	18	18	18	18	19	19
39-in. ditto, 57 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs.....	18	18	18	18	19	19

(II.) Compared with Previous Years.

	Price, Dec. 29, 1921.	Corresponding dates in				
		1920.	1919.	1918.	1917.	1916.
Raw Cotton—Fully Mid. American.....per lb	11-81	10-27	30-75	23-52	10-83	8-35
—Sakellaridis Fully Good Fair.....	21-50	23-00	54-00	31-40	19-95	10-60
Egyptian.....per lb	18 1/2	24 1/2	55 1/2	38 1/2	17 1/2	12 1/2
Yarns—32's twist.....per lb	18 1/2	23 1/2	52	38	17 1/2	12 1/2
—40's twist.....per lb	32	35	97	47 1/2	35 1/2	19
—60's twist (Egyptian).....per lb	31	31	84	51	24	18
32-in. Printers, 116 yds, 16 by 16, 32's and 50's.....	31	31	84	51	24	18
32-in. Shirtings, 75 yds, 19 by 19, 32's and 40's.....	31	31	84	51	24	18
38-in. ditto, 58 yds, 18 by 18, 10 lbs.....	18	18	25	18	13	10
39-in. ditto, 57 1/2 yds, 16 by 15, 8 1/2 lbs.....	18	18	25	18	13	10

THE WOOL TRADE.

Our Bradford correspondent, writing on Thursday, says:—The holidays have naturally interfered with the normal flow of business, and with mills closed during the early part of the week there was not much opportunity to test the position. On 'Change to-day, however, there was quite a good attendance, and although actual business was of a restricted nature, the tone of the market was sound, and in all departments prices were very firm at late rates. Spinners have recently booked some very good orders in Botany and fine crossbreds, and several firms are now beginning to be a bit anxious about deliveries of tops. Unfortunately, the output from the combs is not equal to any sudden spurt in the demand, and in some quarters a marked scarcity of fine tops is anticipated. Good warp 64's tops are quoted at about 49 3d per lb, and 80's are 3d dearer at 55 6d. An advance is also recorded in 58's comeback at 38 to 39 3d. The outlook for worsted spinners has greatly improved during the past two or three weeks, and most firms now have sufficient work in hand to keep machinery running for the next two or three months. Yarn prices are very firm, and some firms are refusing new business except on their own terms. There is also a slight improvement in the manufacturing section of the industry, though this still constitutes the danger zone. What is wanted in order to put things on a really sound basis is a good general demand for pieces, and until this trade opens out there will always be cause for a certain amount of anxiety in the other departments. Some firms believe, however, that the wholesale houses will be forced into the market in the not distant future, and as wool values now appear to be fairly well established, it is possible that those who have been waiting for lower prices will decide to operate without further loss of time.

COLONIAL WOOL.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

It must be said that 1921 has been one of the most disastrous years in the history of the wool trade. It has been bad for both growers and consumers, and there has hardly been one redeeming feature. The year opened with heavy clouds of depression upon the entire trade, and they continued to rain loss and disaster upon all sections of the trade up to the end of April. Values declined very materially, for out of April London sales wool was bought to bring in good 70's tops at 25 45d. Such a price was no good to either the grower of the raw material or the consumer of same; in fact, during most of the year wool values

ALEXANDERS DISCOUNT Co., Ltd.

24, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.3

Telephones: 1332 & 225 Avenue. Telegrams: "Alexanders, Thread-London."

CAPITAL SUBSCRIBED - £1,000,000 RESERVE FUND - £270,000
CAPITAL PAID UP - £550,000 RESERVE LIABILITY £450,000

Approved Mercantile Bills discounted. Money received on deposit at call and short notices at current market rates; for longer periods on specially agreed terms. The Company deals in British Treasury Bills of any maturity.

have been sensibly below an economic level, and it is only during the past three months of the year that merinos can be said to have shown sufficient recovery to make them a profitable proposition. Values were all on the easy side from April to the middle of August, it being at times very difficult indeed to shift the raw material at all. B.A.W.R.A. did their very best to stabilise prices, encourage demand, and promote consumption, but the law of supply and demand was the dominating force, and will continue to be so. The complete dearth of new business led to demoralised markets everywhere up to the end of August, when at the lowest point Bradford topmakers sold forward heavily in merino tops at as low as 25 3d. A very big business at around 25 9d to 3s was also done, and when sales on a large scale had been effected, a big covering movement began in September, which led to a rapid rise in merino values. That rise continued during the September and October series of London sales, many seeing what a big blunder had been committed. When the covering movement had to a large extent been completed, and when the desire for further business had been checked materially by a big slump in the value of the mark, a setback took place, values declining sensibly in consuming centres and also during the first two weeks of the last series of London sales. Towards the finish a slight improvement took place, which paved the way for some big sales of both tops and yarns, Bradford spinners purchasing heavily of good 64's on a basis of 39 5d to 3s 6d. Topmakers soon put up their prices, the year finishing with good 64's tops around 4s for March-April-May delivery.

One cannot review the past without feeling that the year has not been productive of any good to anybody engaged in the wool textile industry. Almost from first to last it has been a case of clearing out dear piece stocks at the best price possible, and endeavouring to get values down to a sound, economic level—one on which it would be possible to commence business operations anew. I think that point has now been reached. Crossbreds are certainly much below where they should be; there is need for sensibly advanced values to establish them on a really profitable level. There is, however, good reason to anticipate that the forthcoming year will see a sensible improvement in every section of the wool textile trade, and that values will remain firm and sound. Extreme advances are not to be advocated. There is the most need for crossbreds to have a lift. Given the establishment of Continental exchanges on a more reasonable basis, both medium and coarse crossbreds will appreciate. The manufacturing machinery of the world is hungry for wool, and millions of people are in urgent need of good clothing.

VEGETABLE OILS AND OILSEEDS.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Markets opened quietly after the holiday, with very little disposition or inducement to do business. The demand for linseed oil by home consumers continues most disappointing, and practically no inquiries are in the market on foreign account. Cotton oils remain steady and late quotations are maintained, as is also the case with other crude oils. In the oilseed section supplies of Plate linseed are short, and spot seed commands a premium of 20s to 25s per ton over "shipment." Calcutta has received more attention of late, prices being relatively favourable. No black Egyptian seed appears to be offering, and Sahellarides is held for about £12 10s spot. Manchurian soya beans on passage have been bought for Hull at £12 15s.

A good deal of interest centres in the estimates of the new Argentine crop which will soon be offering. The consensus of opinion on information received from various American sources is that surplus available for export will be round 700,000 tons, plus 150,000 tons old crop carried over. This is much below expectations. The outlook at present for a larger yield is not encouraging, and this, and the reports that "shorts" will be found buying freely, account for the steady maintenance of values. On this side, crushers, in view of the unsatisfactory oil demand, are content to hold their hands and watch the course of events.

HIDE, LEATHER, AND ALLIED TRADES.

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

No public auction of home-slaughtered cattle hides and skins has been held in London this week, but in the provinces where a few sales have taken place since the holidays prices remain steady at the recent range of values. In the foreign hide market sufficient time has not yet elapsed since the closing down of last week to mark any alteration in the position as compared with that last recorded. It is stated that a few frigorifics on the spot have changed hands, while at origin sales of Saladeros and Montevideos are reported. Most descriptions of dry and dry salted are only receiving a limited enquiry.

Most of the firms connected with the production and distribution of leather have been engaged since the resumption of business on Wednesday with the annual stocktaking, and I am afraid for many the task will be a most unpleasant one. Prices have fluctuated to such an extent during the past 12 months, and in many instances forced down to the point where no profit was made, even if a loss was not incurred. Generally speaking, therefore, those firms who have been able to pass through the 1921 trading period without making a loss, leave alone a profit, must consider themselves fortunate. Regarding the coming year more optimism is noticeable,

although it is feared finance may be a troublesome feature. As it is many firms are experiencing considerable difficulty in obtaining prompt payment of their accounts, while the rumour of the impending embarrassment of a very old-established house in the trade has now become a *fait accompli*. Demand for both sole and upper leather during the week has been practically non-existent. Supplies of the former are quite sufficient to meet the possible call for some few weeks, and taken on the average values are to some extent easier. In the upper leather section the only decent enquiry at the moment is for suede leathers for ladies' shoes, although some of the material going into consumption for this purpose would make a very poor showing in wet weather.

The majority of shoe factories are closed down until next Monday, so that at the time of writing no business is passing. Opinion is inclined to the view that so far as the shoe trade is concerned the corner has now been turned, and that the early part of the coming year should mark an improvement.

PORTLAND CEMENT

The following quotations for Portland cement are supplied by the Cement Marketing Company, Limited:—Best English, complying with British standard specification, delivered in London area—in full van or motor loads to site, 77s 6d to 83s per ton; alongside in River Thames up to Vauxhall Bridge in full barge loads (80 tons minimum), 70s 6d per ton. Extra on above prices for the following special brands:—

"Blue Tiers," a fine-ground slow-setting cement, and "Red Tiers," a fine-ground quick-setting cement, 3s per ton. "Ferrocete," a cement prepared to meet the requirements of specialists in ferro-concrete constructions (in 20 sacks to the ton), 10s per ton.

OVERSEAS PRODUCE MARKETS.

Mincing Lane, Friday, December 30.

The markets presented very quiet features while under holiday influence, though in one or two directions a fair business was effected at lower prices.

SUGAR.—This market opened after the holidays at a general decline of 9d per cwt for spot goods, and at this reduction a fair business was effected, chiefly in British refined. Messrs Tate and Lyle's cubes sold, 51s 3d to 52s 3d; crushed, 48s 6d; granulated from 46s 6d to 47s, as to quality; caster, 48s 6d to 49s; icing, 49s 6d; ditto, in drums, 48s 9d; pieces, 36s to 42s; yellow crystals, 41s. Granulated No. 2, also London second half January delivery, sold, 45s 9d; ditto, February-March, 45s 3d. Crystallised West India slow, with small transactions, from 37s to 39s, according to sample. American granulated, spot, sold, 46s; ditto, January-March, steamer, quoted, 17s 6d, c.f. and i. terms U.K. Belgian crystals on the spot changed hands at 43s; and ditto ready delivery, 17s 9d, f.o.b., Antwerp. White Java, spot, quoted, 43s 6d to 44s; white Mozambique, 43s to 44s 6d; white Natal, 43s to 45s. Terminal market ruled quiet. White May sold, 17s 13d to 17s.

COFFEE.—Spot market quiet, but all the finer qualities command full prices, while in small supply. Future delivery market slow. March quoted 52s; May, 52s 9d.

COCOA in quiet request, but sellers required steady asking prices. **COCOA BUTTER** quiet, and English quoted 1s 7d per lb.

TEA.—Market quiet, unaltered, business being quite of a holiday character.

The First National Bank of Boston

Transacts commercial banking business of every nature

Correspondence Solicited

Capital, Surplus and Profits
\$37,500,000

RICE.—Market very quiet, and quotations for the chief part nominal. Rangoon, Two Stars, spot, 15s to 15s 6d. Broken kinds quite neglected. Beans dull of sale, and Rangoon, hand-picked, spot, quoted 7s 6d per cwt.

SPICE.—Pepper market steady, though quiet. Fair black Singapore, spot, 33d; ditto January-March, 33d; Aleppy, spot, 4d; Tellicherry, 44d; white Singapore, 74d; Muntok, 78d; ditto January-March, 74d. Zanzibar cloves, spot, 1s 7d; December-February steamer, 1s 5d. Pimento quiet at 23d. Tapioca steady, quiet. Fair flake, spot, 18d per lb; fair Penang seed pearl, on spot, 10s 3d; small sago, 26s; sago flour, December steamer, quoted 14s 3d; January-March, 13s 3d; desiccated coconut, fine cut, spot, 41s; medium, 42s. Ginger flat. Japanese lime, spot, 40s; fair washed rough Cochín, 45s.

JUTE.—Market presented steady features, a moderate demand in force being reservedly met. New crop, first grade, January-February, usual Continental ports, quoted £25 5s; ditto February-March, sold, £25 15s; old crop, spot, Antwerp, at £27; new lightning grade, January-February, Continent, quoted £21 5s. Heart, grade ditto, £17 15s. Daisiee, grade No. 2, January-February, Dundee, £25 10s; ditto No. 3, £21 10s; Sova Daisiee, No. 2 ditto, sold, £25 10s ton. Hessians steady. 10 oz. spot, sold, 22s 6d; 8 oz. quoted 19s 6d. A twills, afloat, sold, 78s; B, January-February, 63s.

HEMP.—Manila steadily held, but there was not much response from buyers. C grade, December-February, sellers, £54; D ditto, £50; E, £46; G, £39; J, £38 10s; K, £36 10s; L, £36; M, £32 10s; streaky one, £43; two, £41; and three, £39 10s. New Zealand fully steady. High point fair, spot, £38; fair, £35 10s.

SHELLAC.—Market remained quiet. T.N., spot, 32s; December, 30s; March, 28s.

COPRA.—Market quiet, but held for steady prices. F.M.S. Straits, January-March, Rotterdam, sold, £26 17s 6d to £26 12s 6d; ditto February-April, £27 to £26 15s; F.M.S. Straits, December-February, Marseilles, £25 17s 6d; Ceylon, ditto to London, £28; South Sea Islands ditto, £23 10s; Cebu, ditto to Hamburg, £26. Palm kernels steady, quiet. January-March, Liverpool, quoted £18 10s.

RUBBER. steady during the greater part of the week, but general trade moved quietly. Standard crepe and sheet, spot, sold, 11½d to 11½d; January-March, 11½d to 11½d; April-June, 11½d to 11½d. Fine hard Para, spot, 1s 2d; Caucho ball, 8d.

OILS.—Lined steady. Spot, net, naked, 28s 6d; January-April, 27s 6d; May-August, 27s 6d. Crude, spot, 45s; refined, 50s. Cotton quiet. Crude Egyptian, 37s; Bombay, nominal; common edible, 45s. Chinawood: Hankow, spot (barrels), 65s; and shipment, 63s. Coconut quiet. Ceylon, spot, 46s; December-January, 42s 6d; Cochín, ditto, 46s. Soya steady. Oriental, barrels, ditto, 34s 6d. Japan fish quiet. December-January, cases, 21s. Cod quiet. English, spot, 29s to 30s. Groundnut quiet. English crushed, naked, spot, 45s; deodorised, barrels, 59s. Turpentine

steadier. American, spot, 68s; January-April, 68s 3d. Rosin easier. American, grade B, 15s; F, 15s; G, 15s; K, 17s; WW, 20s. French, F/G, 14s; H, 14s; WW, 17s; extra pale, nominal. Petroleum quiet. American standard white, 1s 4½d; and water-white, 1s 5d per gallon.

OLSEEDS.—Lined steady. Calcutta, December-January, quoted £17 5s; Plate, spot, Hull, quoted £17 5s; afloat, £17; December-January, £16 5s; January-February at £16. Rapeseed quiet. Toria, January-February, £17 10s; real bold Ferozepore quoted £17 10s; brown Cawnpore, £16 10s. Cottonseed slow. Egyptian black, December, quoted £12 15s; and white, £12 5s. Bombay, December-January, £9 2s 6d. Gingelly quiet. Chinese, December-January, Continent, £24. Castor, Bombay, December-January, £16 10s. Ground nuts quiet. Coromandel, machine-dried, December-January, Hull, £20 10s; new crop, December-January, Continent, £20 10s. Chinese decorticated, f.a.q., ditto, Continent, £20 10s per ton.

METALS.—Tin: At the renewal of business last Wednesday, the market exhibited a firmer tone, dealings being on a satisfactory scale, cash moving up to £172 5s, three months' fluctuating to £174 7s 6d. An easier feeling prevailed at Thursday's market, while cash sold at £171 5s to £171, late February at £172 10s, and three months' from £174 to £173. At Friday's session cash realised £171 to £171 15s, late February £172 10s, and three months' £172 10s to £173 5s, while finally registered at £173. English ingots, £170 10s to £171. Copper: After remaining steady last Wednesday, the standard market manifested a rather weaker tone at Thursday's meeting, with business in cash at £66 2s 6d, and three months' £67 5s. A quiet but steady tone prevailed at Friday's session. Cash sold at £66, early February £66 7s 6d, and three months' at £67 to £67 2s 6d. Electro, £74 to £75; best selected, £68 10s to £70 10s; strong sheets, £98. Wire bars, £74 to £75. Lead easier at £24 7s 6d to £24 2s 6d, as to position. Spelter rather lower at £27 2s 6d to £27 5s. Antimony: English regulus, £36 to £39. Aluminium: Home delivery, £120; export, £125.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE.—DECEMBER 29.

British Beasts, per stone of 8 lbs to sink the offal. Sheep, per stone.

Beasts—Herefords	7 4 to 8 0	Sheep—Downs	9 6 to 10 0
Shorthorns	7 8 to 8 4	Longwools	nominal
Devons	8 4 to 9 0	Crossbred	8 0 to 9 4
Norfolks	8 4 to 9 0	Scottish	9 6 to 10 0
Scottish	9 0 to 9 6	Lamb—Downs	nominal
Irish	7 0 to 8 0		

LONDON POTATO MARKETS.—DECEMBER 29.

Per Cwt.	Per Cwt.
King Edwards	9 6 to 10 6
British Queen	8 0 to 8 6
Evergoods	6 0 to 6 6
Blacklands	5 6 to 9 0

Commercial Times.—Weekly Price Current.

The prices in the following list are revised with the assistance of an eminent firm in each department.

LONDON, FRIDAY.		DRUGS.		INDIA RUBBER.—lb.		PROVISIONS.—		SPICES.—Pepper, per lb.	
COCOA—Duty, British grown	35s. foreign 42s. cwt.	Aloes, fine E.I., p. cwt	180 0	Para, fine, hard, spot	1 2 0	Butter—per cwt.	120 0	Singapore, fair White	0 73 0
Trinidad, per cwt.	50 0	Caper, good to fine	30 0	Plantation crepe	0 11 0	Do factory	nom	Black Singapore	0 33 0
Grenada	52 0	Balsam Peru	7 6	INDIGO—per lb.		Australian	96 0	White Siam	0 72 0
Ceylon, plantation	52 0	Capivi	2 0	Bengal, good red vilo-		Argentine	100 0	Pimento	0 72 0
Guayaquil	52 0	Cassia	2 0	let to fine	11 6	Dutch	nom	Cinnamon—late sort	0 72 0
Bahia, finest	52 0	Cantharides	4 9 5	Mid. ord. vilo to good	9 6	New Zealand	110 0	Do 2nd	0 72 0
COFFEE—British grown	52 0	Castor-oil	0 65 0	Low to good ord.	7 6	Danish	110 0	Do 3rd	0 72 0
55s. foreign 42s. cwt.		Cinnamon	0 65 0	Madras, dry leaf, good	5 0	Bacon, smd.	131 0	Do 4th	0 72 0
E. India fine good to fine	112 0	Oilbanum, drug	10 0	Do low to ord.	1 6	Danish	131 0	Chips	0 34 0
Do good to fine	112 0	Opuntia	0 6 6	Do low to mid.	4 0	Canadian	110 0	Cassia Lignea	45 0
Costa Rica, ord. to mid	112 0	Peppercorn	0 6 6	Low to mid.	4 0	American	110 0	Cloves—Zanzibar	1 64 0
Good to fine	112 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	HEMP—per ton		Hams—Irish	110 0	Penang	2 8 0
Central American, ord.	112 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	St. Petersburg, layer	nom	Canadian	nom	Cochin, cut	100 0
Ord. to mid	112 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Manila Oct./Dec.	38 10	American	95 0	Do small rough	0 75 0
Mid. to fine	112 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	N. Z. spot, high fair	38 0	Lard—Irish bladed	78 0	Do washed	0 75 0
Columbian, ordinary	112 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	JUTE—		American boxes, 56lb	62 0	Japan	45 0
Do gd. ord. to low	112 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Native first marks		Pork—per 8 lbs	7 8 8	Jamaica	45 0
Do mid. to fine	112 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Jan./Feb. 1st grade	25 0	Beef—Frozen, per 8 lb	2 2 4	Do small	0 75 0
CHEMICALS.—		Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 2nd	25 0	Scottish	88 0	Nutmegs, good to fine	1 1 1
Acid, citric	2 3	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Cheese—Cwt. Canadian	92 0	Small to medium	0 8 0
Nitric	2 3	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	New Zealand	92 0	Chillies—per cwt	165 0
Oxalic	2 3	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Eng. Cheddar	120 0	TALLOW—per cwt.	42 0
Tartaric	2 3	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Chester	120 0	Good mutton	40 0
Foreign	2 3	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Eggs, pr 12½—English	33 0	Beef	40 0
Alum lump	18 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Dutch	33 0	TAPIOCA—per lb.	
Do ground	18 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	FLOUR—280 lbs	33 0	E. I. Flake, fair, spot	0 18 0
Ammonia, carb. p. lb	4 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Eng. straight ex mill	46 0	Pearl	0 18 0
Muriate, White, ton	70 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	RICE—per cwt. c.i.f.	15 0	foreign 1s per lb	
Sulphate	210 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Broken 1s	11 0	Indian and Ceylon	
Arsenic, lump, per ton	70 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	American	15 0	Pekoe	0 11 0
Powder	42 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	French	15 0	Broken Pekoe	0 11 0
Ashes, pot.	90 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	SAGO—Pearl, per cwt	25 0	Orange Pekoe	0 11 0
Pearl	90 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Sago flour	17 0	Broken Orange	0 11 0
Bleaching pwr. p. tn	15 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	SHELLAC—per cwt.	4 0	Pekoe Boucheong	0 11 0
Borax, crystals	31 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Orange, first marks	400 0	TIMBER—Timber & Heavy Woc	
Do powder	32 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Second, fair to fine	390 0	E. I. Teak (load)	20 0
Cream Tartar	122 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	TN Orange	330 0	Kauri Pine cubic ft.	6 0 6
35% powder	122 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Garnet, Lac, AG	285 0	Satinwood super	1 6 6
Calomel	11 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Blocky	285 0	Cedar cubic	0 4 1
Iodine, dry	1 1	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Button—Pure	410 0	Japanese Oak	0 8 1
Nitrate of Soda, p. tn	15 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Blocky (TN)	317 0	American Ash	0 34 0
Potash	0 6 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	China—Blue Elephant	32 0	TOBACCO—	
Chlorate, net	14 1 2	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Canton	32 0	Duty 2/2-10/4 per lb.	
Do Foreign	14 1 2	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Manila, bold	32 0	Virginia leaf	
Sulphate	11 1 2	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Rasah	12 0	Common to fine	1 3 2
Sal-Acetic	25 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Re-reel	0 0	Strips	2 0 2
Sal-Ammoniac, pr. cwt	75 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Japan	35 0	Kentucky leaf	
Soda Bicarb., per ton	10 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Itain—Raw, fr. Milan	40 0	Common to fine	1 0 1
Crystals, ex ship, p. tn	27 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	SHELLAC—M.-o-P. per cwt.	14 0	Strips	1 3 1
Alkali	25 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Edible refined	15 0	China	1 3 1
Gaustic	25 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Macassar	15 0	Borneo and Sumatra	1 0 1
Sugar of lead white	0 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Sydney	15 0	Seedleaf	1 6 4
Foreign white	0 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	W. Australian	15 0	Havana	1 6 6
Sulphate Quinine	4 1 4	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Bombay	15 0	Green	0 1 6
English Brands	4 1 4	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	SUGAR—per cwt duty	25 0	Cigars, duty 15/7 per lb	2 0 0
Foreign	4 1 4	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	per cent. polarisation	25 0	TURPENTINE, p. cwt	60 0
Sulphate Copper, p. tn	23 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	W. L. muscovado	30 0	Yellow Crystals	41 0
Zinc, cut	15 0	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Crystallised	38 0	English, Southdown, whsd.	17
Do Roll	15 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Java, spot	43 0	Lincoln hog	21
Vermillion, Chinese, p. lb	4 1 4	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Refined—London	41 0	Queensland, scd. sup. cimg.	24
English	4 1 4	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	La Plata Dec./Jan.	51 0	N.S.W. greasy, sup.	21
COPRA—per ton c.i.f.	4 1 4	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Cuba	51 0	N.Z. grsy., hlf-brd. (50-55s)	12
Malabar, Jan./Mar.	23 0	Peppercorn, green	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Crushed	48 0	crossbred (40-44s)	12
Ceylon	23 0	Peppercorn, black	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Granulated	46 0		
F.M.S. Straits	23 0	Peppercorn, white	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Crystals, No. 3	46 0		
COCHINEAL per lb	2 0 3	Peppercorn, red	0 6 6	Do 12th	2 2	Castor	48 0		