WEALTH MARKETS AND COMMERCE

The Government's Financial Year

Washington, Nov. 25.—The great inflow of gold into the country during the past fiscal year increased the Treasury holdings of the precious metal to $1,803,493,933 on June 30 last, an increase of $420,533,943 over the previous year, according to the United States Treasurer's annual report, made public to-day. Gold imports were $494,009,301 and exports $90,249,548.

Money in circulation in the United States at the close of the fiscal year aggregated $4,024,097,762, an increase of $454,878,188 over the previous year. There was a remarkable growth in the gold coin and certificates in circulation, the increase being $388,091,123.

The gold and silver coin trust funds, held to redeem outstanding notes and certificates, increased $387,987,402 during the year and at its close amounted to $2,057,409,391. The increase in gold in the trust fund was $391,691,300, while the silver decreased $3,703,898.

The government's ordinary receipts, totalling $779,664,552, were an increase of $87,180,107 over those of 1915; ordinary disbursements, $724,492,999, were $5,610,593 less than the preceding year, and the surplus on ordinary transactions, $55,171,554. Panama Canal transactions showed a net excess of disbursements of $14,633,733, paid out of the Treasury general fund, and the total net balance expended out of the general fund and reimbursable from Panama bonds not yet sold is $228,710,200.

Receipts and disbursements on account of the public debt showed a net excess of receipts of $33,783,489.

The balance in the general fund on June 30, including $55,000,000 to the credit of disbursing officers, was $235,925,946. The Treasury distributed to sub-treasuries and banks $1,098,748,025, a $256,000,000 increase over the previous year.

Finance - Economics

GARET GARRETT, Editor
WALL STREET OFFICE: Mills Building, 15 Broad St. • Telephone: Hanover 6514

Saturday, November 25, 1916

It was officially announced last week that the most important war industry of Europe will open a branch on this side of the Atlantic. It is the money printing industry. Beginning on December 1, British Treasury bills will be printed in New York and sold at the prevailing rate of interest to American banks, in indeterminate amounts. This is a form of money. The bills will be discounted by the banks and the proceeds, in the form of currency, will be paid over to those who sell war goods to Europe. In the same way Great Britain finances her purchases of war goods at home.

A rise in prices is a dynamic phenomenon. Business derives a certain momentum from the expectation of higher prices. At the heart of the economic mechanism there is a throttle by which prices may be controlled. Its name is credit. And no one dares to touch it. If notice were served on the country that the throttle had been moved to the notch marked "Stationary Prices," so that the rise were at an end, buying in the next twenty-four hours would slump. Nobody knows how much it would fall off. At a guess it might shrink 10 per cent. This seems a contradiction. People everywhere are pretending to complain of rising prices, and yet if they knew positively that the rise were over they would lessen their buying and begin very soon to complain of the state of business. The concern that had been willing to cover its wants for three or six months ahead would reduce its orders immediately. Just the idea of higher prices is a tremendous stimulus to buying. "In all leading branches the rush to cover future needs continues," says Dun's Weekly Review of Trade, "and steel and iron, textiles, hides and leather and footwear have gone still higher, with no sign even now that the crest has been reached." Certainty that the crest had been reached would stop a rush, and we should begin at once to talk of a falling off in orders.

When people talk of an embargo on the exports of foodstuffs they mean all sorts of things. "The Northwestern Miller," organ of the flour trade, is pained to hear that the National Association of Master Bakers has committed itself to the idea that American crops ought to be conserved for the American people, "which means an embargo on the exports of wheat and flour." The bakers have taken a poll of 100 newspapers. Seventy-four expressed themselves in favor of an embargo. "The Northwestern Miller" scoffs at this manner of ascertaining what public opinion is, dismisses the newspapers that have expressed their views as unimportant organs and takes its position with "a well known Pacific Coast miller," who says that an embargo is unnecessary, politically impracticable and altogether improbable. To this the flour trade organ adds its own shrewd suspicion that the talk of an embargo is a new form of German propaganda. The National Grange, in session at Washington, states the point of view of the wheat producer. If an attempt were made to put an embargo on wheat exports he would rise against all those who have been charging him high prices; besides, he would retaliate by decreasing his acreage. He would have the last say. "But," adds the National Grange, "if embargoes are to be placed to help the situation they should be on manufactured goods, especially munitions of war. This would give the farmer more laborers and reduce the prices of what he buys." Will "The Northwestern Miller" suspect the National Grange of German leanings when it asks that embargoes be placed on exports which tend to increase the scarcity, and therefore the price of everything the farmer buys, and protects at the same time against an embargo on what he sells?

What emerges from all this discussion is clearly the fact that everybody wants what he buys to stop rising in price and wishes what he sells to be left free to go on rising. Our enormous exports of manufactures are creating a scarcity of goods and labor, so that prices and wages rise; normal exports of foodstuffs out of a short crop cause food prices to rise very rapidly. Therefore, those who produce wheat and buy manufactures talk of an embargo on the export of industrial products and those who produce manufactures and buy wheat wish an embargo to be placed on the export of foodstuffs. Roughly speaking, the industrial part of the population wants cheap food and dear manufactures; the agricultural part of the population wants to be able to exchange dear food for cheap manufactures. This is all a question of price. There is another question. It is one of supply. It is possible that we shall without knowing it sell more grain for export out of the short crop of 1916 than we can afford to sell at any price. Therefore, one who is neither German in sympathy, industrial in pursuits nor agricultural in point of view may talk of an embargo on the export of wheat for a sound economic reason, concerning all of us alike.

The annual cereal food requirements of the American population are statistically known. The production of 1916 and the carry-over from preceding crops constitute our stock of wheat, and that, too, is statistically ascertainable. Sales to foreign buyers are the unknown factor. The record of exports is not conclusive, for wheat may be put under contract for export and left in storage. Steps should be taken to determine, first, what the surplus of wheat over domestic requirements is and then to limit sales for export to that quantity. That would meet the question of supply. The price could be left to take care of itself.

Relevant Information

Atchison.—Publication of Atchison's excellent operating statement for last month brought no response in the stock yesterday, which closed unchanged. Earnings set a new high record for the month of October, with gross revenues of $13,591,999, an increase of $2,207,000 over a year ago, and net income of $5,516,442, an increase of $1,761,329. Net income for the first four months of the new fiscal year increased $5,163,737 over the corresponding period of 1915. Atchison's earnings are now running in excess of 18 per cent on the $214,190,000 common outstanding, compared with 12.30 actually returned in the fiscal year ended June 30 last.

International Nickel.—This issue advanced a fraction yesterday on a small volume of business, closing at 46⅝. Two weeks ago Nickel was selling around 52. There is $41,834,600 (par $25) common outstanding, and $8,912,600 (par $100) of 6 per cent non-cumulative preferred. Dividends of 6 per cent are being paid on the preferred and $6 a share on the common. The latest official report on earnings covering the six months from April 1 to September 30 shows operating income of $7,211,249, compared with $6,215,629 in the same period of last year. In the fiscal year ended March 31 last Nickel earned 27.34 per cent on the common, compared with 13.32 per cent in 1915, and 11.20 per cent in 1914. On September 1 it was stated that the company was turning out about 3,000,000 pounds of nickel a month.

United States Steel.—Out of 8,954,000 shares traded in on the New York Stock Exchange last week, United States Steel common contributed a total of 1,818,900. Steel's price movement ranged from a low of 124 to a high of 129, the latter yesterday's closing level. The gain on the week was 2¾ points, of which 2⅛ points were recorded yesterday. A year ago Steel was selling around 87.

American Agricultural Chemical.—Revival of speculative activity in American Agricultural Chemical during the last week carried that issue from 88 to 101. The stock closed 11⅜ points up on the week, at 99¾, and is now selling at the highest level in the company's history. There is $18,430,900 of common stock outstanding and $27,558,200 of 6 per cent cumulative preferred. The common stock was placed on an annual dividend basis of 5 per cent in September. This compares with 4 per cent paid from 1912 to 1915, inclusive. The preferred has received full dividends since 1900. The company earned in the year ended June 30 last 20.57 per cent on the common stock, compared with 10.97 per cent in 1915, and 7.68 per cent in 1914. In the ten year period from 1907 to 1916 annual average earnings on the common stock, after allowing 6 per cent on the preferred, were 9.16 per cent. The company is engaged in the manufacture and sale of fertilizers, glue, gelatine, bone black and other by-products. Important discoveries of potash salts were made in Spain during 1914, and in that year this company obtained from the Spanish government some large concessions in the territory affected. The company owns extensive phosphate properties in Florida, comprising 108,000 acres and estimated to contain 75,000,000 tons of phosphate rock.

U. S. Treasury Finances

Washington, Nov. 25.—The condition of the United States Treasury at the close of business to-day was: Net balance in general fund, $130,891,824; total ordinary receipts, $2,076,642; total ordinary payments, $1,491,277.

The deficit this fiscal year is $100,088,012, against a deficit of $46,617,513 last year, exclusive of Panama Canal and public debt transactions.

Money and Credit

Federal Reserve Banks

Washington, Nov. 25.

Further gains during the last week in deposits, resulting in substantial increases of the gold and total reserves, are indicated by the weekly bank statement of the Federal Reserve Board, while the larger demand for liquid funds, as reflected by the higher money rates in the New York market during the week, apparently accounts for the considerable increase in the acceptance business of most of the Federal Reserve banks.

Aggregate gold reserves show a gain during the week of $24,300,000, all the banks except New York and St. Louis sharing in the increase. The New York bank reports large gold transfers in favor of the other banks on account of the final reserve instalment due on November 16, and these transfers are largely responsible for the decrease of $12,000,000 in its gold reserve. Cash reserves other than gold increased about $1,400,000, mainly at the New York bank.

Total earning assets stand now at $195,353,000, an increase of about $9,000,000 for the week, and constitute 351 per cent of the banks' paid-in capital, as against 335 per cent the week before. Of the total earning assets 52.3 per cent is represented by acceptances, 20.2 per cent by United States bonds, 11.3 per cent by warrants, 10.5 per cent by discounts, and 5.7 per cent by Treasury notes.

Federal Bank notes in circulation show a slight decrease. A further increase by $2,379,000 in the amount of Federal Reserve notes issued is shown, the total outstanding being now $258,081,000. Against this total the agents hold $241,566,000 of gold and $16,848,000 of paper. The banks report a total of $240,448,000 of Federal Reserve notes in circulation and aggregate liabilities of $14,296,000 on notes issued to them by the agents.

The Federal Reserve Board's statement of combined resources and liabilities of the twelve Federal Reserve banks at the close of business November 24 follows:

RESOURCES

In money:	
Gold coin and certificates in vault	$283,730,000
Gold settlement fund	174,801,000
Gold redemption fund with U. S. Treasury	1,414,000
Total gold reserve	$459,935,000
Legal tender notes, silver, etc.	17,974,000
Total reserve	$477,909,000
Five per cent redemption fund against Federal Reserve Bank notes	470,000
Bills discounted:	
Maturities—	
Within 10 days	$17,465,000
From 11 to 30 days	27,472,000
From 31 to 60 days	50,751,000
From 61 to 90 days	25,373,000
Over 90 days	1,532,000
Total	$122,593,000
Investments:	
United States bonds	$39,427,000
One-year United States Treasury notes	11,167,000
Municipal warrants	22,166,000
Total earning assets	$195,353,000
Federal Reserve notes—net	15,414,000
Due from Federal Reserve banks—net	43,263,000
All other resources	2,651,000
Total resources	$735,060,000

LIABILITIES

Capital paid in	$55,711,000
Government deposits	26,319,000
Member bank deposits—net	637,072,000
Federal Reserve notes—net	14,296,000
Federal Reserve banknotes in circulation	1,028,000
All other liabilities	634,000
Total liabilities	$735,060,000

Gold reserve against net deposit and note liabilities, 72.5 per cent.

Cash reserve against net deposit and note liabilities, 75.3 per cent.

Cash reserve against net deposit liabilities after setting aside 40 per cent gold reserve against aggregate net liabilities on Federal Reserve notes in circulation, 76.1 per cent.

In the above statement the principal items compare with a year ago as follows:

Total gold reserve	Inc.	$138,867,000
Bills discounted	Inc.	73,620,000
Member bank deposits	Inc.	239,120,000
Net liability for notes	Inc.	911,000

New York Federal Reserve

Wall Street, November 25.

The condition of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York at the close of business Friday, compared with the previous week, follows:

RESOURCES

	Nov. 24.	Nov. 17.
Gold reserve	$168,481,707	$180,524,607
Legal tender money	13,977,440	12,327,689
Total reserve	$182,459,147	$192,852,297
Discounts	35,268,311	33,245,648
Investments	9,786,567	6,283,464
Fed. Res. notes (net)	9,784,820	12,009,345
All other res.	124,435	62,292
T'l resources	$237,423,282	$244,453,047

LIABILITIES

Capital	$11,908,800	$11,908,800
Member bank deposits	214,232,540	213,597,996
Gov. deposits	3,069,901	2,973,711
Due to other Fed. Res. bks. (net)	8,212,040	15,972,540
T'l liabilities	$237,423,282	$244,453,047
Fed. Res. notes outstanding	$88,668,215	$89,176,715
Secured as follows:		
Gold dep. with Fed. Res. agt.	88,668,215	89,176,715

Clearing House Statement.—The actual condition of the New York Clearing House banks on Saturday was as follows:

Loans and discounts	$3,415,522,000
Reserve in own vaults	398,087,000
Reserve in F. R. Bank	181,411,000
Reserve elsewhere	56,238,000
Net demand deposits	3,351,975,000
Net time deposits	168,995,000
Circulation	30,152,000
Aggregate reserve	635,736,000
Excess reserve	68,647,240

The changes from the actual condition of the week before were:

Loans and discounts	Dec.	$32,599,000
Net demand deposits	Dec.	67,624,000
Net time deposits	Inc.	4,900,000
Circulation	Inc.	96,000
Aggregate reserve	Dec.	33,618,000
Excess reserve	Dec.	21,249,840

McGarrah on the Financial Situation.—Gates W. McGarrah, president of the Mechanics and Metals National Bank, in discussing the financial situation says we cannot prudently absorb all the gold that we have recently received. To exercise caution in financing new enterprises and at the same time permit proper expansion a free rein is, he says, the special duty of the bankers of the country to-day. Their duty, he holds, is one of ultra conservatism, notwithstanding the fact that by extending credit and taking up the money market "slack" they would be enabled to name more remunerative rates for their funds in the future.

Bank Exchanges.—The day's clearings at New York and other cities:

	Exchanges.	Balances
New York	$706,528,383	$43,425,895
Baltimore	7,579,112	604,621
Boston	40,228,594	5,119,471
Philadelphia	47,166,495	6,805,495

Sub-Treasury.—New York banks lost to the Sub-Treasury $2,076,000.

Silver.—Bars in London, 35⅝ pence; New York, 73⅜ cents; Mexican dollars, 56¾.

The New British Internal Loan.—According to Srinivas R. Wagel, plans are being formulated in England for the issue of a loan for $5,000,000,000, with interest in the neighborhood of 5 per cent. He says:

If the present plans prove successful this will be the largest issue in the world. The government is anxious to start with a clean slate, and fund and distribute all the floating debt. The floating debt, at date, amounts to £1,240,000,000. England expects to distribute at least £100,000,000 worth of treasury bills in the United States. As far as possible, every effort will be made to distribute the balance of the treasury bills in the British colonies. The success of the loan will depend upon the ability of British banks to keep down the interest rate. If, however, market conditions necessitate the payment of a higher rate of interest, the issue of the loan will be postponed to a future date. Developments in the several theatres of war within the next two or three weeks will decide the nature and date of the issue.

The Dollar in Foreign Exchange

Weakness of the Teutonic exchanges stood out as the leading feature of the week's transactions in foreign exchange. English and French bills, on the other hand, continued to display firmness and were maintained at practically the same levels as the week before. German marks on their decline went to 68⅛, a new low record. At the same time Austrian kronen established a new low record at 11.81 cents. One of the interesting developments was the recovery of Swiss francs, which went to a premium for the first time since the war began. Early in the week they were quoted at 5.17 to the dollar, compared with a parity of 5.18¼. Russian rubles fluctuated a good deal, closing a fraction down.

If you calculate the cost of the dollar in terms of foreign money—that is, as if you were buying dollars with pounds, marks or francs—its value at the close of last week, as compared with a year ago, would be about as follows:

	Cost of one dollar. Yesterday.	Year ago.
In English money	$1.02	$1.04
In French money	1.10	1.14
In Dutch money	.97	.96
In German money	1.39	1.18
In Swiss money	1.00	1.02
In Swedish money	.95	.97
In Russian money	1.68	1.57
In Italian money	1.29	1.25
In Austrian money	1.70	1.40
In Argentine money	1.01	

Marks declined further yesterday, with checks falling to 68⅛. The market was generally dull.

	Yesterday.	Week ago.
Sterling, demand	4.75⅝	4.75½
Sterling, sixty days	4.71⅝	4.72
Sterling, cables	4.76⁷⁄₁₆	4.76½
Sterling, ninety days	4.69½	4.71
Francs, demand	5.84½	5.84½
Francs, cables	5.83½	5.83½
Guilders, checks	40⅜	40⅜
Guilders, cables	40½	41
Reichsmarks, checks	68⅛	69
Reichsmarks, cables	68¼	69⅛
Lire, checks	6.73	6.71½
Lire, cables	6.72	6.70½
Swiss, checks	5.19	5.19¾
Swiss, cables	5.18	5.19
Austrian, kronen, ch'ks	11.82	11.86
Stockholm, kr., checks	28.35	28.30
Copenhagen, kr., ch'ks	26.95	27.10
Pesetas, checks	20.42	20.40
Rubles, checks	30.30	30.90
Pesos (Argentine)	1.0125	1.0155

Below is given the current exchange value of foreign money in dollars and cents, together with the intrinsic gold parity, as calculated by the United States Mint:

	Current exchange value.	Intrinsic value.
Pounds, sterling	$4.75⅝	$4.86⅝
Francs	0.17.1	0.19.3
Guilders	0.40¾	0.40.2
Marks	0.17.1	0.23.8
Rubles	0.30.30	0.51.2
Lire	0.14.9	0.19.3
Crowns (Denmark)	0.26.95	0.26.8
Crowns (Sweden)	0.28.35	0.26.8
Pesos (Argentine)	0.98.76	0.96.4

The above rates express the cost of foreign money in terms of the American dollar. You buy an English pound sterling for $4.75⅝; the intrinsic parity is $4.86⅝ per pound. Thus, you say either that pounds are at a discount or that dollars are at a premium, which is owing to the fact that in England the demand for dollars with which to settle accounts in this country is greater than the demand in this country for pounds with which to settle accounts in England.

DANGERS LURK IN WAR PROSPERITY

Manufacturers Base Future Contracts on Present High Cost of Materials

Philadelphia, November 24.

This market is trying to take its bearings in the presence of the most extraordinary demand for leather that the world has ever seen and a general scramble for various classes of raw material. The developments have been so sensational as to make it difficult for sane men to believe that they were sane. Certain manufacturers have made so much money out of the effort to clothe belligerent Europe that they are setting aside a "rainy day fund" to cover the vicissitudes of the readjustment period. This is only natural under the circumstances, for no one of ordinary intelligence can expect such conditions to continue indefinitely.

More than one leather man will tell you that there is danger of a shoe shortage developing in this country if foreign buyers continue their purchases of sole and other grades of leather. This situation has been made more difficult by the determination of the British War Office to take possession of all ox, cow and bull hides imported into the United Kingdom from various countries, including South America. Many tanners of heavy leather are sold up for months to come. The foreign demand has been urgent, with total sales more extraordinary than most people have any idea of.

A real shortage in hides is confronting the United States, owing largely to the activity of foreign agents in not only buying all of the American supply that they can lay their hands on, but in getting control of most of the South American stocks that will become available during the next few months. This accounts for the action of shoe dealers in charging $9 and $10 a pair for shoes that they formerly retailed for $6 or $7. No one knows how much higher prices will go, since the American supply has been pretty well covered by contracts already made with domestic and foreign interests. The large sole leather houses are turning down, every day, lucrative orders which under normal conditions they would be glad to book at less than the prices offered. At the prevailing prices for hides, the large tanners cannot replace the leather that has been sold. If they seek their supply in South America they will have to compete with Great Britain, so that it is difficult to increase production.

A further rise in the price of basic iron has carried that market to new high levels, so that fresh buying is being attracted from various sources. This demand reflects an immense volume of domestic business, as well as that which belongs to the category of war orders. Some of the large textile mills are booked way ahead, and those engaged with the production of yarns are getting prices which will enable them to increase their output as much as possible.

More Machinery than Labor

But the labor shortage is so great that this is impossible, even in cases where the necessary machinery could be supplied. It is exasperating to find highly paid labor becoming more indifferent and more independent as the demand for it increases. In some industries there are two or three places for every available man. This means that the average employer has to treat his employe with as much deference as the book agent shows to a man to whom he is trying to sell a $150 encyclopedia.

The story is the same throughout this district. It is probably true that 100,000 additional skilled workers could be advantageously employed at a day's notice if they should apply for jobs. But the men are not available, and if you have them you have to pay almost any reasonable wage to keep them.

Philadelphia has a good many "war made millionaires." Besides these there are dozens of producers who will clear from $250,000 to $500,000 on the year's business. Almost any banker you meet can tell you stories which show that his customers are enjoying prosperity which they never dreamed of before the war began. One true story concerns a manufacturer who in a single day not long ago booked twice as much business as he normally handles within a year. Besides the large industries, there are numerous small producers located here whose bulging bank balances tell a story of prosperity.

It is recognized, however, that this sort of prosperity involves serious dangers which must be guarded against in advance. One difficulty is in connection with the stocking up with raw material at prices which could not be paid in normal times. The danger is in overstocking with raw material purchased at "war prices." The increasing cost of raw materials, together with a constantly advancing wage scale, is reflected in the new policy adopted by a prominent Philadelphia manufacturer in refusing to book future contracts except in cases where the buyer agrees to pay a price based on manufacturing costs prevailing at the time that the work is produced. Sharp fluctuations in the price of wool also have helped to make dealers decline future contracts which are not protected by a sliding scale of prices.

Merchants are preparing for an immense Christmas trade, as wage earners have large bank rolls. The chances that this business will reach record totals, as the distribution of bonuses and end of the year allowances are apt to be pretty heavy. This is always an interesting business to deal with and because of the extraordinary prosperity this year the "turnover" this month is likely to be impressive. The chances are that more automobiles, pearl necklaces and diamond rings will figure in Christmas giving this year than this old Quaker town ever thought of before. The only deterrent is the burdensome scale of living expenses which is making life miserable for the clerk on a fixed salary. Perhaps the most unfortunate class in this community is represented by the $1,500 a year office man, who is getting no benefit whatever from the increased prosperity which has helped along every other class of the population.

Clerks' Situation Serious

This is a really serious matter which some of the welfare organizations ought to take hold of. If it is not handled intelligently, the day is not far distant when the surety companies will have to raise their rates for guaranteeing the good behavior of clerical employes. It is ridiculous for the banks, the trust companies, the insurance companies and the great mercantile houses to pay their clerks a wage which comes pretty near to the starvation point in these days of exorbitant living costs. In the judgment of fair-minded students of industrial conditions, the minimum wage should be raised to a level which will enable the ordinary clerk to make both ends meet. He cannot do it to-day without sacrifices which his family should not be asked to bear, at a time when general business is showing a large margin of profit.

Philadelphia will be hard hit if the car shortage becomes more acute. The effect of it upon the iron and steel industry is most feared. Many of the local plants have reached the limit of their productive capacity, so that any interference with traffic conditions at this juncture would be detrimental to large industries here. This is another possibility in a situation characterized by record earnings, large profits and a sort of uncertainties which make the shrewd business man think kindly of a large bank balance even in a 4 per cent money market.

SHIPBUILDING PLANTS MAY BE CONSOLIDATED

Newport News and Cramp Concerns Named in Merger Rumor

Negotiations still in a tentative stage may result in a merger of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company and the Cramp Ship and Engine Building Company. The controlling interest of the former concern now is in the hands of H. E. Huntington, while Chandler & Co., of this city and Philadelphia, have been closely identified with the management of the Cramp corporation. In Wall Street yesterday it was said that if a merger resulted the latter concern would be taken in on a basis better than $100 a share.

It is understood that present plans provide for taking over the Newport News company for cash. The price mentioned is between $15,000,000 and $20,000,000. Reports have coupled the name of the American International Corporation with the deal, but these reports have not been confirmed.

The Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company is one of the most important shipbuilding companies in the country. It employs about 6,000 men and has orders on its books for a number of large merchant vessels, to be completed within the coming year. Other large contracts are pending, including those for two super-dreadnoughts, provided under the United States naval programme, on which the company was the lowest bidder. There is authorized and outstanding $6,000,000 5 per cent cumulative preferred stock and $2,000,000 common. The funded debt on December 31, 1915, was $7,600,000. The Cramp concern, in addition to its shipbuilding operations, produces machinery and other lines utilized in the building of ships. The company has $6,098,000 capital stock outstanding. The funded debt is $4,030,444.

PRICE OF PAPER FOR 1917 IS ANNOUNCED

The International Paper Company announced yesterday that its price for renewed newsprint contracts covering 1917 newsprint will be approximately 3.10 cents a pound net f. o. b. mill. This announcement follows the statement by P. T. Dodge, president of the company, about a month ago, that the 1917 price would not be less than 3 cents f. o. b. mill. Last year paper cost the publishers only 2.15 cents a pound delivered.

The form of contract under which 1917 newsprint will be sold has not been disclosed, but it is understood to be the intention of the company to fix the price for shorter periods than a year in order to keep it in line with the fluctuations in raw materials.

Entire output of the company this year will approximate 365,000 tons, 25,000 tons being drawn from the reserve supply.

Tickling the Soil Obsolete

With land at its present high value, with farm crops bringing the cash returns they do, no farmer can afford, from a purely economical point of view, to limit the capacity of his farm by failing to try to harvest a crop with [illegible] plough [illegible] crop with [illegible] every. The [illegible] covered by the difference in yield on a single crop if the farmer would only be made to see it.—Inland Farmer.

News Digest

Foreign

Stocks Steady in London.—London, Nov. 25.—The stock market was generally steady to-day. Business was of the usual Saturday dimensions, consisting chiefly of home funds and copper, rubber and shipping shares at hardening prices. The decline in Argentine rails was checked. American securities improved under the lead of United States Steel and closed steady.

Money and discount rates were inclined to harden and rates on New York are being carefully watched. Money, 4¾ per cent. Discount rates, short and three-month bills, 5⅛@5⅝ per cent. Gold premiums at Lisbon, 75.

Paris Bourse Inactive.—Paris, Nov. 25.—Trading was quiet on the Bourse to-day. Three per cent rentes, 61 francs 10 centimes for cash. Exchange on London, 27 francs 81½ centimes. Five per cent loan, 87 francs 85 centimes.

New York

Tennessee Copper Plan Operative.—J. S. Bache & Co. and Adolph Lewisohn & Sons, syndicate managers, announced yesterday that sufficient deposit of stock of the Tennessee Copper Company has been made to make the plan of readjustment operative.

Telephone Collateral.—It is understood that the collateral which will be deposited behind the new $80,000,000 issue of American Telephone and Telegraph Company bonds will consist almost entirely of subsidiary stocks. As of September 30 last they had a par value of $408,289,000. Of the total $294,543,000 is in unpledged.

New Baldwin Locomotive Directors.—Directors of the Baldwin Locomotive Works have been elected as follows: Guy E. Tripp, chairman of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company; Sydney F. Tyler, chairman of the Fourth Street National Bank, of Philadelphia; William E. Corey, president of the Midvale Steel and Ordnance Company, and Sydney E. Hutchinson. On account of the Clayton act, John G. Shedd, E. T. Stotesbury, T. De Witt Cuyler and Otis H. Cutler recently resigned as directors of the company.

New Third Avenue Director.—E. A. Manice, of E. A. Manice & Co., has been elected a director of the Third Avenue Railway Company, to succeed George W. Davison, vice-president of the Central Trust Company.

Other Cities

New York Produce Exchange Complains of Freight Rates.—Washington, Nov. 25.—The New York Produce Exchange complained to the Interstate Commerce Commission to-day that its members are subjected to unreasonable and discriminatory charges by railroad tariffs that apply to domestic freights, rules and regulations on shipments actually exported, though not originally consigned for export.

Boston Coppers.—Boston, Nov. 25.—Although trading on the local exchange was only of moderate volume during the short session to-day, advances were general throughout the list. Increase in copper and zinc shares ranged from fractions to over 2 points. The market closed quiet but firm. Allouez, 81½; Old Dominion, 80; Copper Range, 82½.

Canadian Banks Extend Wheat Credits.—Montreal, Nov. 25.—A syndicate of Canadian banks has arranged to extend credits of $20,000,000 for six months to the Royal Wheat Commission of Great Britain for the purchase of grain in Canada, it was announced to-day by E. L. Pease, president of the Canadian Bankers' Association.

Dividends

American Iron and Steel Manufacturing.—Regular quarterly dividend of 1¼ per cent on the preferred and 1¼ per cent on the common stock, both payable January 1 to stock of record December 20.

Atlantic Coast Line of Connecticut.—Regular quarterly dividend of $1.50 a share, payable December 11 to stock of record November 28.

Swift & Co.—Regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent, payable January 1 to stock of record December 9.

Pennsylvania Water and Power.—Regular quarterly dividend of 1½ per cent, payable January 2 to stock of record December 19.

Chicago & Northwestern Railway.—Regular quarterly dividend of 2 per cent on the preferred and 1¾ per cent on the common stock, payable January 2 to stock of record December 1.

McKinley-Darragh-Savage Mines.—Regular quarterly dividend of 3 per cent, payable January 1 to holders of record December 9.

Corporation Returns

Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe

	1916.	1915.
October gross	$13,591,999	$11,384,903
Net after tax	5,516,442	3,755,113
Four months' gross	51,304,544	43,506,916
Net after tax	19,508,880	14,344,943

Atlantic, Gulf & West Indies

	1916.	1915.
September gross	$2,672,338	$1,713,132
Net	765,590	442,871
Surplus after charges	599,273	261,598
Nine months' gross	23,947,613	14,732,131
Net	7,790,306	3,637,049
Surplus after charges	6,311,197	2,169,379

Norfolk & Western

	1916.	1915.
October gross	$5,266,499	$4,628,127
Net after taxes	2,126,078	2,007,692
Four months' gross	20,576,361	17,964,291
Net after taxes	8,075,399	7,444,244