

war, for which she has not received, nor will receive, any compensation,—except, possibly, an increased wisdom.

The statement of the Bank of Russia for June 21, 1905 and 1904, is as follows:—

	June 21, 1905.	June 21, 1904.	Increase or Decrease.
	\$	\$	\$
Gold.....	457,435,000	413,185,000	Inc. 44,650,000
Balance abroad...	72,520,000	54,865,000	Inc. 17,655,000
Silver & coins....	34,220,000	42,345,000	Dec. 8,135,000
Sec. & short loans.	116,985,000	140,830,000	Dec. 23,845,000
Other loans.....	62,435,000	58,750,000	Inc. 3,685,000
Securities owned..	29,216,000	20,720,000	Inc. 8,495,000
Miscellaneous.....	22,575,000	27,145,000	Dec. 4,570,000
Dis. bran's & treas	34,465,000	14,830,000	19,635,000
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$830,250,000</b>	<b>\$772,670,000</b>	<b>.....</b>
Circulation.....	453,180,000	336,815,000	Inc. 116,365,000
Deposits.....	255,680,000	239,165,000	Inc. 16,515,000
Treasury account.	35,965,000	144,815,000	Dec. 108,850,000
Miscellaneous....	20,320,000	20,505,000	Dec. 185,000
Due to bran's & tre	37,585,000	3,850,000	Inc. 33,735,000
Capital.....	27,520,000	27,520,000	.....
<b>Totals.....</b>	<b>\$830,250,000</b>	<b>\$772,670,000</b>	<b>.....</b>

There are no signs in the above statements of any financial strain having been put upon Russia by the war, indeed the chief changes indicate rather increase of strength than otherwise.

Japan has borrowed for war purposes about \$200,000,000 from the people, and \$260,000,000 to \$320,000,000 from outside money markets. Japan's debt is estimated to have been increased to extent of from \$510,000,000 to \$530,000,000 by the costs of the war, the total debt being stated to be \$882,000,000.

These figures, however, only represent a portion of the financial sacrifices inflicted on each nation by their struggle. There have been enormous losses of national property by both combatants, and losses imposed upon private persons by the injuries done to commerce and the destruction of private property. In negotiations about war indemnities these private claims have been recognized as valid. When then the costs of the war to Japan and to private citizens are put together it would not be surprising if the Japanese claims aggregated \$1,000,000,000.

The transference of this enormous sum from the treasury of one country to that of another country will be a great financial event. There need not, necessarily, be any disturbance in the money market caused by the indemnity being paid. It is conceivable that the money might be paid by Russia to Japan by one cheque. When China was paying an indemnity to Japan, the procedure was by cheques on the Bank of England handed over, on the dates arranged, by the Chinese to the Japanese ambassador.

It is probable that Paris will be the market where

payment of the indemnity will be arranged and carried out. Russia would have to negotiate a series of loans at intervals, the successive proceeds of which would be passed to the credit of the Government of Japan, probably in the Bank of France. The war being over, there would be no difficulty in Russia affecting such a financial arrangement. The Japanese indeed might underwrite a portion of the war indemnity loan and carry the securities to be sold, as money was needed, or paid over to those from whom she was buying ships, armaments, railway materials, and other articles for national purposes. There may be thus a wide distribution of these Russian securities. There can be no doubt that in whatever form the indemnity is paid to Japan, there will be very large expenditures incurred by that power over armaments which will be needed to replace those destroyed during the war and to put Port Arthur and other places in as good condition as they were before the war. There is every probability that England will receive a handsome share of the indemnity, as the Japanese prefer to have their balances in London rather than in Paris. To English firms will be given orders for ships, cannon, rifles, cloth for uniforms, saddlery, machinery, etc., so the old country is likely to have cash resources and trade enlarged by the Russian indemnity.

#### THE HALF-YEAR'S FIRE LOSS.

The fire loss of the United States and Canada for the month of June, as compiled from the records of the New York "Commercial Bulletin," shows a total of \$11,789,800, which makes the aggregate for the half-year \$93,111,900. The following table shows the losses by months for the first half of 1905 and a comparison with the losses for the same period in 1903 and 1904:

	1905.	1904.	1903.
January.....	\$16,378,100	\$21,790,200	\$ 13,166,350
February.....	25,591,000	90,051,000	16,090,800
March.....	14,715,400	11,212,150	9,907,650
April.....	11,901,350	23,623,000	13,549,000
May.....	12,736,250	15,221,400	16,366,800
June.....	11,789,800	10,646,700	14,684,350
<b>Total 6 months.</b>	<b>\$93,111,900</b>	<b>\$172,534,450</b>	<b>\$ 83,754,950</b>
July.....	.....	11,923,200	12,838,600
August.....	.....	9,715,200	8,428,350
September.....	.....	14,387,650	9,939,450
October.....	.....	12,866,200	10,409,800
November.....	.....	11,515,000	13,589,550
December.....	.....	19,422,350	17,224,700
<b>Total 12 months</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>\$252,364,050</b>	<b>\$156,195,600</b>

During the month of June there were 228 fires of a destructiveness, each, of \$10,000 or more. They may be classified as follows:—

\$ 10,000 to \$ 20,000.....	100
20,000 to 30,000.....	43
30,000 to 50,000.....	30
50,000 to 75,000.....	18
75,000 to 100,000.....	10
100,000 to 200,000.....	20
200,000 to 597,000.....	7
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>228</b>