increased offerings by large banks—the rate is now from 3¼ to 3½ p.c. Time money also has receded and is quoted at 4 to 4½ p.c. for all periods from sixty days to six months. In their Saturday statement the clearing house banks resumed the practise of reporting actual conditions. Loans increased $22,500,000, circulation decreased $8,800,000, net demand deposits decreased $15,200,000, reserve in own vaults decreased $9,300,000, reserve in Federal Reserve Bank decreased $1,470,000, and excess reserve decreased $11,700,000. This brings the excess reserve down to $119,465,000.

U. S. BANKING POSITION.

In considering the position of New York it will now be necessary to take account of the statement of the Federal Reserve Bank there. During the week the cash holdings of this institution fell from $107,-600,000 to $106,200,000—the deposits falling about the same amount, and the note circulation falling from $678,000 to $401,000. This reserve bank is, of course, the strongest of the new institutions established in various parts of the United States. As its liabilities to the public, in the form of deposits and note circulation, amounted on December 5th to $105,525,000, as against cash on hand, $106,200,000, the cash reserve thus far represents more than 100 p.c. of the liabilities—the funds employed in rediscounts as yet do not amount to so much as the capital stock paid in. This, of course, was to be expected at the outset. If the member banks have recourse freely to the rediscount facilities provided by the reserve banks, the ratio of cash reserve to liabilities will undergo diminution. Also the position of the Boston Reserve Bank, the Chicago Reserve Bank, and that of the Philadelphia Bank is relatively much the same as that of New York—the cash on hand being equal to or greater than the liabilities. The Chicago institution has $38,700,000 cash, and the Boston institution $14,-900,000. The Philadelphia bank has $19,504,000. It is to be noted that both Chicago and Philadelphia are ahead of New York in the matter of note circulation. With reference to rates of discount officially quoted at the several reserve banks it is to be noted that they are 5½ and 6 p.c.—all of them being 5½ except St. Louis, Atlanta and Minneapolis. During the week Chicago, Cleveland, Richmond, Kansas City, Dallas and San Francisco came down from 6 to 5½.

Employes of the Ford Motor Company, men and women, are reported to have increased their life insurance within the last twelve months by 86 per cent.

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A trial order of 200,000 shells having been filled satisfactorily, a second order for 600,000 shells has been given out by the British war office in Canada. Over 40 plants are working on different parts of the shells. The present order will keep them busy till June and represents a distribution of over 5½ million dollars.

BRITISH MONEY AND THE DOMINION TRUST FAILURE.

The amount of twaddle which the London correspondents of the Canadian daily newspapers manage to get into their cables and mail communications in proportion to the whole is widely notorious. A particularly flagrant instance of it appeared last week in a Winnipeg journal, which printed a sensational London story regarding the Dominion Trust failure. This story included the statement, attributed to a Canadian financier visiting London that "if the worst that is feared happens, it will be impossible to obtain British money for Canadian mortgages in the future." The "Canadian financier" is probably enough merely a journalistic *facon de parler;* anyway, the statement made is utterly at variance with the known facts and the probabilities.

Since the Dominion Trust failure was announced, many of the Canadian mortgage companies have made their periodical arrangements for the renewal of large amounts of debentures in London. It has been the universal experience of these companies that these renewals have been arranged very satisfactorily—much more satisfactorily, in fact, in many instances than the companies themselves expected owing to the moratorium legislation in some of the western provinces. Not a single word has been said by any of the companies that they encountered difficulties on account of the Dominion Trust's failure. These facts are interesting in view of what the London correspondent alleges the "Canadian financier" said.

The Dominion Trust failure is bound to leave a bad impression in England, in the same way as any other failure of its extent and importance. But the general confidence of British investors in Canadian mortgages is hardly likely to be irretrievably shaken by an incident of that kind. The various well-managed and old-established mortgage companies in Canada will continue to draw on British resources vry largely, and those resources, it may in fact be expected, will be supplied more and more freely.

Mr. J. E. Clement, manager of the Mount Royal Insurance Co., spent some days this week in the Eastern Townships.

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Mr. W. J. Cleary, manager for Montreal, London Mutual Fire, is visiting the Head Office of his company at Toronto this week.

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Mr. R. MacD. Paterson, joint manager for Canada of the Phoenix Assurance Company of London, England, has been elected vice-president of the Quebec Bank in succession to Mr. Vesey Boswell.

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Mr. T. D. Belfield, manager for Canada, Alliance Assurance Company, Limited, has been visiting agencies of his company in the West for the past three weeks, and is expected to return in the course of two weeks.