Orleans bankers are endeavouring to arrange for supplies of money from Europe in payment for cotton. Mr. Cortelyou is also to be asked to make deposits of Government money in the Southern States.

Gold and Note Currency.

In view of the present undeniable shortage of money in the United States relative to the demands of business, it is rather startling to learn that the amount of gold in that country now, is more than double the amount in 1893. In 1893 it was $600,000,000; this year there is more than $1,500,000,000. The United States Treasury has free gold, not covered by gold certificates in circulation, to the amount of about $250,000,000. The San Francisco Mint has received instructions from Washington to coin $15,000,000 of gold bullion and the Mint in Denver is busy coining $40,000,000 of gold bars.

Existing gold engagements for the United States from Europe now approximate $24,000,000. The Bank of France has unofficially intimated that if London wants £3,000,000 of gold to assist matters further, it will be forthcoming. November dividend and interest disbursements are estimated at $75,000,000. Their release will naturally benefit the market.

The proposal by the United States Treasury Department that the National banks substitute other securities for their government bonds on deposit with the Treasury, and use the bonds thus released for taking out additional circulation should great'y help the situation.

The Canadian Situation.

The Canadian situation is practically unchanged. Our banking institutions had wisely during recent months provided for all possible contingencies. They have met, and are in a position to meet all necessary legitimate requirements of the country although they are not prepared to give any new money for stock market or speculative purposes. In fact our banks are in about the same condition to-day as they were a year ago, as the essential figures in their returns indicate. Of course at such times it is to be expected that thoughtless irresponsible parties will take it for granted that there must be something wrong in Canadian affairs as well as in those of the United States; and they endeavor to get up little rumours, which are without foundation. The position of Canada is sound and there is no necessity for worrying, owing in no inconsiderable degree to the foresight and preparation of our bankers.

The Bank of England Rate.

The discount rate of the Bank of England was raised on Thursday from 4½ to 5½ p.c. The increase, which was generally anticipated, was of course, necessitated by the disturbance of the financial equilibrium in the United States and the consequent demand in that country for gold from England. There are also great demands for gold in Egypt, Brazil and Germany. The 4½ p.c rate has prevailed since April 11, when it was reduced from 5 p.c. to that figure.

President Roosevelt's Responsibility.

At all the chief financial centres of the world there is a disposition to hold Predent Roosevelt largely responsible for the financial troubles of the United States. He is generally given credit for good intentions and there are, of course, those who claim that his criticisms are justified, but most of those even, who claim that the President said the right thing, admit that he said it at the wrong time. He did a great deal to destroy public confidence at a time when public confidence was the one thing needed to avert disaster. Mr. James J. Hill says: "There is absolutely nothing in the actual business situation of the United States to warrant present conditions in Wall Street, except, of course, the lack of confidence, which is very widespread. If confidence can be rehabilitated as its rehabilitation is warranted by the business situation, then there is no reason why things should not progress favourably."

Mr. James Ross who has just returned from New York remarked to a Montreal reporter that it was most unfortunate that Mr. Roosevelt had spoken as he did as his speeches went a great way towards destroying confidence. He did not suppose, however, that the President realized the harm he was doing.

M. Arthur Rafflalovitch, Imperial agent of the Russian Ministry of Finance at Paris, interviewed by a New York corresponden, said: "The real trouble with America is not a shortage of gold, but a shortage of credit, and if you will permit me to say so, you have yourselves killed the goose with the golden eggs.

"The combined effect of your railroad and insurance scandals and of the finance bills that were offered so freely over here last year has been very considerable. Capitalists on this side have said to themselves: 'America is a great country with enormous possibilities and much undeveloped wealth, but until we see it can keep clear of irregularities of this kind we have to bear in mind that if we lend it money there is always danger of a depreciation in the value of our claim.'

"Again, the morality campaign on which the Federal authorities have entered has frightened a great many people."

Rothchild on J. P. Morgan.

Lord Rothchild in an interview on the financial situation incidentally remarked: "I would like to add a word concerning the unselfish remedial action of Mr. Morgan. Before now he has been generally recognized and agreed to be worthy of his reputation as a great financier and man of wonderful resources, but this latest action fills one with admiration and respect for him."

THE PEOPLE OF MONTREAL are to be congratulated upon the fact that the City Council is not going to send a delegation to Quebec next session, for the purpose of tinkering the charter. Deficient as the charter is in some respects, it does not stand much chance of improvement by any amendments likely to be passed next session.