

ing the sterling rates at very low levels. British financial authorities are said to be conferring with the New Yorkers in regard to practicable measures for re-adjusting the exchange situation.

NEW YORK POSITION.

Call loans in New York are $1\frac{7}{8}$ to 2 p.c.; 60 days, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 p.c.; 90 days, 3 p.c.; and 6 months, $3\frac{1}{4}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ p.c. In their Saturday statement the clearing house banks in New York showed decrease of \$430,000 in loans and of about \$4,500,000 in total reserve held. The excess reserve amounted to \$137,200,000, which figure represents a decrease of about \$2,700,000 from the preceding week. Not much change occurred in the position of the federal reserve banks. Taking the whole twelve of them their holdings of cash amounted to \$281,605,000, which is practically the same as at the end of the preceeding week. The bills discounted and loans amounted to \$17,762,000—an increase of about \$700,000. Investments were \$15,314,000. The cash reserve against all liabilities amounted to 97.9 p.c., as against 98.8 p.c. in the preceeding statement.

TRUST COMPANIES' REQUIREMENTS.

That the investing public purchasing securities depends largely upon the trust company's certification as an evidence that the trustee's investigation regarding the corporation of which the trusteeship of bond issues, etc., has been accepted has resulted satisfactorily, and that therefore, the trustee is under moral obligation to make trustworthy and thorough examination before accepting a trust, is the contention put forward in a paper by Mr. J. E. Bangs, of the Colonial Trust and Savings Banks of Chicago.

In accepting corporate trusts and certifying bonds, he points out, the trust companies exercise a potent influence in preventing mismanagement or avoiding other causes which lead to default. Trust companies cannot be expected, and are not obligated by the terms of their trust indentures, to stand guard over every corporation which issues bonds. Nevertheless they employ every precaution and safeguard as a rule, before accepting trusteeships or undertaking to certify bond issues. Considering, however, the large volume of indebtedness to-day outstanding and on which bondholders receive no interest because the corporations are in default, it is obvious, thinks Mr. Bangs, that trust companies cannot err upon the side of conservatism in accepting corporate trust obligations.

Particular stress is laid by this authority upon detailed information regarding the location and nature of the business, financial standing of the corporation and personnel of the company. From this information, he says, the trust officer can readily decide whether or not the proposed trust warrants further investigation with a view to the acceptance of the trust by the trustee. If every trust company were a little more rigid in requiring full information under this head there would be much fewer undesirable trusteeships, a smaller number of failures to record, and fewer foreclosure suits to institute.

WHERE BRITISH CAPITAL WENT IN 1914.

The following tables compiled by the London *Economist* shows the destination of British capital borrowed in the London market during 1914. There is shown a huge increase in the United Kingdom total as a result of the war loan, and there is a falling off in the foreign total, which is bound to become much more pronounced this year:

DESTINATION OF NEW CAPITAL.

	—Whole Year.—	
	1913.	1914.
United Kingdom—total.....	£35,951,200	£364,420,400
British Possessions—		
Canada.....	44,119,000	45,430,400
Australasia.....	18,628,900	19,403,200
India and Ceylon.....	3,824,000	6,150,200
South Africa.....	6,294,700	5,278,700
Other British Possessions.....	3,270,600	4,677,700
Total British Possessions.....	£76,137,200	£80,940,200
Foreign Countries—		
Norway.....	2,402,200	422,900
Russia.....	8,955,900	12,744,100
Sweden.....	485,000	488,500
Other European countries.....	Nil	35,692,200
Argentina.....	11,989,600	15,305,700
Brazil.....	15,093,400	5,890,100
Central America.....	414,900	Nil
Chili.....	2,699,400	2,533,100
Mexico.....	10,641,500	1,823,000
United States.....	18,746,100	10,395,200
Other South American Republics.....	525,000	1,242,200
China.....	6,883,000	700,000
Japan.....	Nil	Nil
Austria-Hungary.....	107,700	4,366,200
Belgium.....	Nil	4,902,500
Greece.....	Nil	1,556,300
France.....	Nil	50,000
Turkey.....	Nil	758,600
Germany and Possessions.....	Nil	12,500
Dutch East Indies.....	1,497,700	32,600
Cuba.....	891,700	49,000
Philippine Islands.....	712,500	360,000
Other foreign countries.....	2,403,000	Nil
Total foreign countries.....	£84,448,600	£67,162,900
Total whole year.....	£196,537,000	£512,522,600

If the colonial governments are unable to tempt the British investor on their own account, remarks the *Economist*, the British Government may lend its credit more than it has done so already. The plight of Brazil and other nations whose credit will be very low on the London market for some time is not a happy one. They will have to adapt their scale of living to a self-supporting basis, and the process will not be an easy one.

The directors of the Commercial Union Assurance Company, Limited, in their capacity as trustees and executors of the will of the late Sir William Dunn, says an English exchange, have made a grant of £1,000 to Guy's Hospital, to be applied exclusively for the treatment of the teeth of soldiers now serving and of men desirous of enlisting.

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Mr. Robert Lewis, the veteran general manager of the Alliance Assurance Company, is a member of the committee appointed by the British Government to investigate the damage to persons and property sustained in the Hartlepool-Scarborough-Whitby bombardment with a view to affording relief from Imperial funds to the persons affected.