New York at Mid-Week. The necessary delay in extending to the interior the relieving effects of gold imports, had caused a renewal of frantic bids for actual money, and on Wednesday the premium for currency in New York was again pushed up. Hoarded money had not yet responded to the demand in the quantities hoped for, but bankers incline to the view that the present week's bank statement will be reassuring enough to tempt still timid private holders to yield up their store, and to convince speculative hoarders that further continuance of their game would make it a losing one.

Mr. James J. Hill declares that there is nothing in the actual business conditions of the United States to account for the financial stress. He says the trouble clearly comes from the hoarding of money not by the few but by the many, and he adds that it as much the duty of every citizen to deposit his surplus cash in a solvent bank, as it would be to subscribe to a war loan. Mr. Hill has diagnosed the case correctly, but the average citizen apparently hesitates to take the medicine prescribed.

With the money market disorganized, the stock market was brought practically to a stand still. While sterling exchange went higher to 4.86.25, $3,000,000 new gold was announced as engaged.

The Situation Yesterday. The general feeling in New York is that the worst is over, and it is now only a question of currency and confidence. Governor Hughes has requested the leading bankers to make suggestions regarding necessary legislation to prevent a recurrence of the recent crisis. The Government deposits now amount to about $73,000,000 and the gold imports arranged for to $61,000,000, about half of which has already been received. It is expected that the next bank statement will be more favourable than the last. Money is to be had at from five to twelve per cent. A limited amount of time money is offered for sixty or ninety days at fifteen per cent. Men are being discharged at several points for want of currency to pay them. It is alleged that some large trust companies will not resume business according to agreement when assistance was rendered. Upon the whole the situation is improving slowly and if the Roosevelt brass band investigation utterances cease, the improvement will continue, but there is no easy money in sight. Speaking of the Presidency, Governor Hughes is being widely spoken of as the next incumbent.

Some International Monetary Features. Of necessity, the engagement by New York of over $61,000,000 of gold has acutely affected all monetary centres. While direct imports from other markets than London have been proportionately trifling, that world centre of finance has—since raising its rate to 7 p.c. yesterday week—been attracting large quantities of gold from the continent, where also official discount rates were advanced. As this week's Bank of England statement shows, the gold thus contributed towards America's demands was sufficiently great to obviate the necessity yesterday of further advancing the discount rate, for the present at least. However, a leading financial writer remarked some days ago, that if New York were to take $10,000,000 more gold without some plain understanding between high financial authorities there and in London, the Bank rate might well be advanced to 9 or even 10 p.c., followed by rises in the rates of Continental banks.

So complicated have been recent influences and counter-influences affecting the international monetary situatiton, that the normal tendencies arising from advances in the Bank of England have been at times altogether hidden from view. However, sterling exchange in New York rose quickly above the import point on the announcement of the 7 p.c. rate a week ago, although on the following day it reacted to 4.85½ for demand. Saturday, however, brought an advance to 4.86 for demand and by Wednesday of this week the rate was 4.86.25. That the high Bank rate has not resulted (as might have been expected) in a more pronounced rise above the import point in foreign exchange, is due not only to the freer offering of grain and cotton bills but to a large aggregate of investment purchases by Europe of American securities at bargain prices.

But even when the exchange rate ran up to 4.87¼ a week ago, gold engagements could be made with prospects of profit, owing to New York's premium on gold. Ordinarily an importer could bring in gold without loss with sterling exchange selling at say, 4.84½. But New Year's 3 p.c. premium on gold would amount to 14½ cents on each pound sterling, which, added to 4.84½, at the gold-importing point, would give 4.99, or virtually $5. The banker, therefore, could import gold profitably even with exchange selling as high as 4.88¾, a figure at which gold has often been exported.

Reverting to the matter of the Bank rate, the following table giving the Bank of England weekly position since the New York situation became acute, shows how necessary it was for the directors of that institution to use the 7 p.c. weapon of defence.

	Bullion.	Reserve.	Loans.	Ratio of res. p.c.
Nov. 7.....	£28,765,225	£17,694,000	£36,100,000	35¼
Oct. 31....	31,729,252	20,833,602	34,839,000	39¾
Oct. 24....	34,773,314	24,018,254	29,784,340	47¼
Oct. 17......	34,676,428	23,836,593	27,332,526	49¾
Oct. 10....	35,251,365	24,139,225	29,675,818	46¼
Oct. 3.....	37,106,836	25,636,348	30,829,967	48¾
Sept 25....	38,768,667	28,039,292	30,606,515	51¼

This week's satisfactory showing gives a reserve of £21,113,000 and a ratio of 40½ p.c.

The European Stock Markets. Despite the advance to 7 p.c. in the Bank of England rate, consols lost but little ground during the week ending Saturday last. While stock market business in London was generally depressed, investment purchases of Americans continued to be made in considerable volume. The heaviest liquidation in Europe came from Germany, Berlin holdings being dumped freely in a way that affected both London and Paris considerably. One cause of this would seem to be the paternalistic law prohibiting selling stocks short in Berlin, a regulation which overloads bankers with collateral they