



# BANK OF FINLAND

## MONTHLY BULLETIN

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### THE FINNISH MARKET REVIEW.

#### THE MONEY MARKET.

The turn for the better on the money market which was referred to in the previous Review has continued in the autumn, the situation thus having slightly improved after a long period of stringency. This may chiefly be ascribed to the influx of money into the credit institutions being livelier than for a long time, and to the restraint and discrimination exercised in credit granting in compliance with the principles laid down by the Bank of Finland. Hereby the strain on the banks has slightly relaxed, and their position has clearly improved. This favourable tendency is largely due to seasonal circumstances, but also lasting events have worked in the same direction, such as the increase in the interest rates and the weakening of the belief in inflation. The situation on the money market has not, however, improved so much that a turn for the worse would not be possible. As to its real value saving is still less than before the war, while the demand for credit is very great, for reasons such as the continuous rising tendency in prices and the ensuing constant strain on the liquidity of business enterprises.

All data on the credit institutions are not yet available for October, but the figures for August and September show that last Summer's increase in the deposit accounts of the public has continued in Autumn. A particularly good result was recorded in August, when the increase was

2,689 million marks or substantially more than in any previous month this year. In September the increase was again smaller, 531 million marks. At the end of September these accounts totalled 71,573 million marks, thereby exceeding the corresponding figure for December 1947 by 8,536 million marks. In January—September 1947 the increase was 6,544 million marks or about 2 billion less than in the same months of the current year. For the *Commercial Banks*, too, data show a favourable movement in September, the total deposits of the public increasing by 2,258 million marks. This was chiefly the result of the big rise in cheque accounts in September, by 2,113 million marks; in August they had decreased, mainly because the sales tax was then collected. On the other hand, deposits proper developed less favourably in September than in the previous months, increasing only by 145 million marks as against 910 million in August and 457 million in July. In the last few months this has allowed the banks to strengthen their position, the cash increasing and the rediscounts with the Bank of Finland being reduced.

As the Commercial Banks have used most of their recent deposits and short-term funds to strengthen their position, their ability to grant more credits has not grown in the same proportion as the influx of money and less credits have been granted than in the beginning of the year. Timber felling has considerably decreased as compared with the last few years and there-

fore the woodworking industry has needed less credit. Credits granted by the Commercial Banks have been lower for several months excluding July and in September the bills and other credits were reduced by a total of 616 million marks. Credits granted in the beginning of the year were rather large and the total amount of Commercial Banks' loans has increased by 5,183 million marks in the first nine months of the year as against 6,318 in the corresponding months of last year.

In consequence of the easier position on the money market the Commercial Banks have not lately needed the support of the Bank of Finland to the same extent as earlier in the year, as stated in the previous Review. Bills rediscounted have substantially decreased month by month. At the end of September only 648 million marks of rediscounts remained, as against 1,418 million as late as the end of August. In October they decreased practically to nil, being only 78 million at the end of the month. The highest amount was reached on June 8th of this year at which date the *Bank of Finland* had rediscounted 4,944 million marks' worth of bills. Its direct credits to business and industry have also decreased of late, to 15 billion marks at the end of October, having been nearly 18 billion at the end of June. Treasury bills, on the other hand, have begun to increase very much, as pointed out already in the previous Review. Their lowest point this year was at the beginning of June — 13,630 million marks — increasing to 23,730 million at the end of October, thus by more than 10 billion marks in four months. This has given rise to a public discussion about the proposition made by the Board of Management of the Bank of Finland in 1947 to limit the Bank's right to grant credits. The proposition, of which an account has already been given in this Bulletin, has been approved by the Bank Supervisors, but not yet carried out. The notes in circulation started to increase in Spring, and this tendency has continued although fairly slowly. At the end of September a maximum was recorded — 28,189 million marks — but it decreased somewhat in October, being 28,011 million in the last week of that month. At the end of October

1947 the corresponding figure was 25,128 million marks.

#### PRICES.

Prices have still remained fairly stable. The cost of living index (August 1938—July 1939 = 100) has indeed risen during the year but more slowly than a year ago, not to mention the two preceding years, when the rise was violent. In January—September the cost of living rose by 12.8 per cent, while in the same period of last year the increase was much greater, or 31.8 per cent. In September the cost of living index fell by 4 points to 812. The wholesale price index (1935 = 100) has similarly varied. The special cost of living index computed for fixing wages and based on October 1947 = 100, rose in August by only one point to 112, which is a very noticeable achievement from the point of view of monetary policy. Now no general increase in wages has been necessary as it would have been if the index had risen to 115. The favourable picture of the price and wages tendency given by these figures has been disturbed by the serious unrest on the labour market and the demand for higher wages raised in various quarters and often supported by illegal strikes.

#### TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The figures regarding industrial development in the third quarter of this year are not yet available, and no new relevant facts can be given. Trade has been lively in the last few months as is usual at this time of the year. Exports indeed have not progressed so well as imports which have been expanding very much. In January—September imports amounted to 46,640 million marks or 57 per cent more than the corresponding value in 1947. In the same period the value of exports, 39,909 million, was only 27 per cent above the corresponding exports in 1947. This unexpected weakness has resulted in a considerable surplus of imports for the year, but in the last few months exports have exceeded imports, raising hopes of a decrease in the surplus of imports. For January—September the exports of war indemnity goods amounted to 8,535 million marks this year as against 7,945 million last year.

## CONTENTS OF THE TABLES.

### I. MONEY MARKET.

#### *Bank of Finland:*

1. Statement.
2. Note issue.
3. Notes in circulation, foreign correspondents and cover for the issue of notes.
4. Note reserve, home loans and re-discounted bills.
5. Treasury bills and balances of current accounts.
6. Rates of exchange.

#### *Commercial Banks:*

7. Home deposits and the credits from the Bank of Finland.
8. Home loans.
9. Position towards foreign countries.
10. Foreign Payment Position of all Banks.
11. Deposits in Post Office Savings Bank.
12. Deposits in the Savings Banks.
13. Deposits in Co-operative Credit Societies and Consumers' Co-operative Societies.
14. Deposits in all Credit Institutions.
15. Insurances in life assurance companies.
16. Changes in number and capital of limited companies.
17. Bankruptcies.
18. Stock Exchange.
19. Stock Exchange index.

### II. STATE FINANCES.

20. Public Debt.
21. State Revenue and Expenditure.
22. Collection of Customs.
23. Collection of Excise dues.

### III. TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

24. Value of imports and exports.
25. Value of imports and exports in different classes of goods.
26. Imports of the most important articles.
27. Exports of the most important articles.
28. Foreign trade with various countries.
29. Unit value index of imports and exports.
30. Total sales of some wholesale firms.
31. Index of industrial production.
32. Building activity.

### IV. TRAFFIC.

33. Foreign shipping.
34. State Railways.

### V. LEVEL OF PRICES.

35. Wholesale price index.
36. Cost of living index.
37. Bank of Finland building cost index.

## SOME ARTICLES IN EARLIER ISSUES OF BANK OF FINLAND MONTHLY BULLETIN.

1946 Nos. 7—9	Public Economy of Finland during the War and after the Armistice.	1947 Nos. 7—9	Finland's Balance of Payments for 1946.
» » »	Industry during the War.	» » 10—12	Exports and the Economic Development in Finland.
» » »	Finland's Balance of Payments for 1945.	» » »	The State of Finnish Agriculture at the end of 1947.
» » 10—12	Finland's War Indemnity.	1948 » 1—2	The Bank of Finland in 1947.
» » »	Compensation for Property Lost in the War of 1941—1944.	» » »	The Economic Position in Finland in 1947.
1947 » 1—3	The Bank of Finland in 1946.	» » 3—4	Finland's Foreign Trade in 1947.
» » »	The Economic Position in Finland in 1946.	» » »	The Post-War Land Reform in Finland.
» » »	General Outlines of Finland's Economic Policy in 1947.	» » 5—6	Prospects of Power Supply in Finland.
» » 4—6	The Commercial Banks during and after the War.	» » »	The Finnish Commercial Banks in 1947.
» » »	Finland's Forest Resources and their Utilization.	» » 7—8	Finland's Balance of Payments for 1947.
» » »	Finland's Foreign Trade in 1946.	» » »	Ore Resources in Finland and the use of them.
» » 7—9	Public Finances in 1946.		
» » »	Finland's Industry since the War.		

**STATISTICS.**  
**1. — STATEMENT OF THE BANK OF FINLAND.**

	1947	1948					
	Mill. mk	Mill. mk					
	31/10	31/5	30/6	31/7	31/8	30/9	30/10
<b>ASSETS.</b>							
I. Gold Reserve .....	2	269	268	268	268	268	268
Foreign Correspondents .....	464	577	652	592	545	611	575
II. Foreign Bills .....	328	327	327	344	340	386	409
Foreign Bank Notes and Coupons .....	24	19	31	28	24	16	21
Inland Bills .....	33 290	36 752	37 348	37 893	38 823	37 788	38 511
III. Loans on Security .....	24	22	22	22	22	22	22
Advances on Cash Credit .....	385	345	257	217	279	540	837
Bonds in Finnish Currency .....	220	202	200	746	745	743	741
» » Foreign » .....	167	161	161	151	152	152	150
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	24	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sundry Assets .....	1 049	1 167	880	892	761	1 505	1 800
Total	35 987	39 841	40 146	41 093	41 959	42 031	42 884
<b>LIABILITIES.</b>							
Notes in circulation .....	25 129	27 112	27 204	27 371	28 078	28 189	28 011
Other Liabilities payable on demand:							
Balance of Current Accounts due to the Treasury	277	56	—	72	112	—	190
» » » » » Others .....	1 308	1 024	1 046	1 372	1 309	2 057	3 235
Bank-Post-Bills .....	51	67	43	46	51	37	117
Foreign Correspondents .....	188	1 275	1 191	1 187	1 048	1 070	1 145
Foreign Clearing Accounts .....	2 375	3 065	3 656	4 060	4 051	3 255	2 792
Sundry Accounts .....	80	518	180	111	273	297	55
Capital .....	1 250	1 250	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000	5 000
Reserve Fund .....	1 433	1 735	135	135	137	137	137
Bank Premises and Furniture .....	32	—	—	—	—	—	—
Earnings less Expenses .....	397	285	340	397	450	590	740
Undisposed Profits .....	—	2	2	2	—	—	—
Sundry Liabilities .....	3 467	3 452	1 349	1 340	1 450	1 399	1 432
Total	35 987	39 841	40 146	41 093	41 959	42 031	42 884

**2. — NOTE ISSUE OF THE BANK OF FINLAND.**

	1947	1948					
	Mill. mk	Mill. mk					
	31/10	31/5	30/6	31/7	31/8	30/9	30/10
<b>RIGHT TO ISSUE NOTES.</b>							
Gold Reserve and Foreign Correspondents .....	466	846	920	860	813	879	843
According to Law of Dec. 13, 1939 <sup>1)</sup> .....	33 642	37 098	37 706	38 205	39 187	38 190	33 941
Additional Right of Issue .....	1 800	1 800	1 800	1 800	1 800	1 800	1 800
Total	35 908	39 744	40 426	40 865	41 800	40 869	41 584
<b>AMOUNT OF ISSUE USED.</b>							
Notes in circulation .....	25 129	27 112	27 204	27 371	28 078	28 189	28 011
Other Liabilities payable on demand .....	4 279	6 005	6 116	6 348	6 844	6 716	7 564
Undrawn Amount of Advances on Cash Credit .....	583	585	673	786	723	463	616
Total	29 991	33 702	33 993	35 005	35 645	35 368	36 191
NOTE RESERVE .....	5 917	6 042	6 433	5 860	6 155	5 501	5 373
Grand total	35 908	39 744	40 426	40 865	41 800	40 869	41 584

<sup>1)</sup> Bills payable abroad in foreign currency, foreign bonds listed on foreign Stock Exchanges, interest coupons in foreign currency which have fallen due for payment, foreign bank notes, and inland bills falling due not later than within three months' time.

**Bank Rate since February 6, 1948, 7 1/4 %.**

### 8. — BANK OF FINLAND, NOTES IN CIRCULATION, FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS AND COVER FOR THE ISSUE OF NOTES.

End of Month	Notes in Circulation Mill. mk				Foreign Correspondents <sup>1)</sup> Mill. mk				Cover for the Issue of Notes Percentage of Liabilities payable on demand				End of Month
	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	
	[13 598]				[1 283]				[115.46]				
Jan.	15 580	17 172	23 258	— 1 904	1 611	2 350	1 395	+ 774	112.10	110.38	115.26	+ 2.09	Jan.
Febr.	15 631	18 896	24 448	+ 1 190	1 883	2 391	1 799	+ 404	112.75	110.59	114.35	— 0.91	Febr.
March	17 323	20 944	26 776	+ 2 328	1 216	3 116	2 452	+ 653	113.10	110.07	109.41	— 4.94	March
April	18 534	21 566	27 850	+ 1 074	1 038	1 931	446	— 2 006	111.95	111.82	110.59	+ 1.18	April
May	18 442	21 653	27 112	— 738	604	1 893	577	+ 131	109.97	112.44	112.59	+ 2.00	May
June	17 657	22 415	27 204	+ 92	848	1 157	652	+ 75	109.73	112.18	113.63	+ 1.04	June
July	17 269	22 956	27 371	+ 167	775	1 248	592	— 60	108.35	113.78	111.60	— 2.03	July
Aug.	17 966	23 945	28 078	+ 707	1 365	762	545	— 47	109.11	114.11	112.22	+ 0.62	Aug.
Sept.	19 076	24 484	28 189	+ 111	1 586	776	611	+ 66	110.27	112.96	110.47	— 1.75	Sept.
Oct.	19 667	25 129	28 011	— 178	1 475	464	575	— 36	109.92	113.73	109.93	— 0.54	Oct.
Nov.	19 492	25 809			1 977	685			110.62	114.71			Nov.
Dec.	18 233	25 162			1 915	621			108.59	113.17			Dec.

<sup>1)</sup> Credit balances with foreign correspondents.

### 4. — BANK OF FINLAND, NOTE RESERVE, HOME LOANS AND RE-DISCOUNTED BILLS.

End of Month	Note Reserve Mill. mk				Home Loans <sup>1)</sup> Mill. mk				Re-discounted Bills (Included in Home Loans) Mill. mk				End of Month
	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	
	[5 018]				[22 397]				[—]				
Jan.	4 379	4 561	6 205	+ 279	22 151	27 452	31 843	— 3 054	—	968	530	— 2 966	Jan.
Febr.	4 461	4 737	6 092	— 113	21 794	28 699	32 470	+ 627	625	2 474	3 384	+ 2 854	Febr.
March	4 731	4 852	4 927	— 1 165	24 433	30 580	33 855	+ 1 385	949	1 352	2 197	+ 1 187	March
April	4 687	5 387	5 470	+ 543	26 429	32 174	37 617	+ 3 762	934	998	2 570	+ 373	April
May	4 601	5 463	6 042	+ 572	30 726	31 451	37 119	— 498	2 481	2 257	4 436	+ 1 866	May
June	4 685	5 397	6 433	+ 591	32 283	32 164	37 627	+ 508	2 874	1 909	3 980	+ 456	June
July	4 336	5 832	5 860	— 573	32 837	32 033	38 072	+ 445	1 646	687	1 077	— 2 903	July
Aug.	4 617	6 021	6 155	+ 295	32 920	33 242	39 124	+ 1 052	2 156	730	1 419	+ 342	Aug.
Sept.	4 989	5 641	5 501	— 654	33 043	32 859	38 350	— 774	1 679	466	648	— 771	Sept.
Oct.	4 777	5 917	5 333	— 108	31 845	33 699	38 920	+ 570	1 048	369	78	— 570	Oct.
Nov.	4 839	6 246			30 312	34 208			1 959	2 537			Nov.
Dec.	4 245	5 926			29 409	34 897			2 458	3 496			Dec.

<sup>1)</sup> Inland bills, loans on security and advances on cash credit.

### 5. — BANK OF FINLAND. TREASURY BILLS AND BALANCES OF CURRENT ACCOUNTS.

End of Month	Treasury Bills (Included in Home Loans) Mill. mk				Balance of Current Accounts due to the Treasury Mill. mk				Balance of Current Accounts due to others than the Treasury Mill. mk				End of Month
	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	1946	1947	1948	Monthly Movement	
	[18 600]				[149]				[2 685]				
Jan.	17 950	18 000	17 830	— 670	— 213	160	— 20	— 134	888	1 087	1 182	— 1 702	Jan.
Febr.	16 450	16 950	14 000	— 3 230	— 69	— 567	— 32	— 12	743	789	1 048	— 134	Febr.
March	18 150	19 300	16 900	+ 2 300	69	— 153	— 653	— 621	654	1 550	1 587	+ 539	March
April	19 550	20 300	18 400	+ 1 500	94	556	190	+ 843	1 068	798	1 356	— 231	April
May	21 750	17 500	14 730	— 3 670	— 139	— 17	56	— 134	1 047	1 221	1 024	— 332	May
June	22 500	18 400	15 430	+ 700	64	144	— 364	— 420	860	853	1 046	+ 22	June
July	23 900	19 700	20 030	+ 4 600	195	425	72	+ 436	855	597	1 372	+ 326	July
Aug.	23 500	21 000	20 830	+ 800	— 146	62	112	+ 40	973	1 011	1 308	— 64	Aug.
Sept.	24 300	20 800	21 230	+ 400	39	293	— 39	— 151	1 036	1 301	2 057	+ 749	Sept.
Oct.	23 520	21 350	23 730	+ 2 500	147	277	190	+ 229	1 427	1 308	3 265	+ 1 208	Oct.
Nov.	20 370	18 800			246	872			683	633			Nov.
Dec.	17 920	18 500			599	114			1 481	2 884			Dec.

The figures in brackets [ ] indicate the position at the end of the previous year.

## 6. — RATES OF EXCHANGE QUOTED BY THE BANK OF FINLAND.

		1946	1946	1946	1946	1947	1948	1948
		31/5	30/6	31/7	31/8—31/12	31/1—31/12	31/1—30/9	31/10
New York	1 Dollar	136:—	136:—	136:—	136:—	136:—	136:—	136:—
London	1 Pound	547:—	547:—	547:—	547:—	547:—	547:—	547:—
Stockholm	100 Kronor	3 230:—	3 230:—	3 790:—	3 790:—	3 790:—	3 790:—	3 790:—
Paris	100 Francs	114:—	114:—	114:—	114:—	114:—	63: 35	51: 37
Brussels	100 Francs	310:—	310:—	310:—	310:—	310:—	310:—	310:—
Amsterdam	100 Guilders	—	5 120:—	5 120:—	5 120:—	5 120:—	5 120:—	5 120:—
Basle	100 Francs	3 175:—	3 175:—	3 175:—	3 175:—	3 175:—	3 175:—	3 175:—
Oslo	100 Kroner	2 745:—	2 745:—	2 745:—	2 745:—	2 745:—	2 745:—	2 745:—
Copenhagen	100 Kroner	2 830:—	2 830:—	2 830:—	2 830:—	2 830:—	2 830:—	2 830:—
Prague	100 Koruny	—	275:—	275:—	275:—	275:—	275:—	275:—
Montreal	1 Dollar	124:—	124:—	135: 50	135: 50	135: 50	135: 50	135: 50
Lisbon	100 Escudos	560:—	560:—	560:—	560:—	560:—	560:—	560:—
Rio de Janeiro	100 Cruzeiros	760:—	760:—	740:—	765:—	765:—	765:—	765:—

## 7. — COMMERCIAL BANKS. HOME DEPOSITS AND CREDITS FROM THE BANK OF FINLAND.

End of Month	Due to the Public				Due to other Credit Institutions		Total			Monthly Movement	Credits from the Bank of Finland		End of Month
	Cheque Accounts		Deposits		Mill. mk		Mill. mk				Mill. mk		
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1948	1947	1948	
	[13 695]		[17 564]		4 171]		[35 308]				[2 896]		
Jan.	13 641	17 417	17 912	20 152	4 055	6 855	33 731	35 608	44 424	+ 88	722	530	Jan.
Febr.	12 507	15 685	18 101	20 335	3 990	5 934	32 833	34 598	41 954	+ 2 470	2 438	3 384	Febr.
March	13 301	18 001	18 774	20 760	5 062	5 898	33 314	37 137	44 659	+ 2 705	1 476	2 201	March
April	13 857	18 063	18 939	21 175	5 515	5 982	34 076	38 311	45 220	+ 561	1 159	2 590	April
May	14 384	17 359	18 955	21 154	5 625	5 095	33 737	38 964	43 608	+ 1 612	2 257	4 441	May
June	14 657	17 827	18 966	21 308	5 480	4 702	33 675	39 103	43 837	+ 229	1 908	3 850	June
July	14 829	19 000	19 197	21 765	6 001	6 067	34 008	40 027	46 832	+ 2 995	682	896	July
Aug.	14 779	17 627	19 646	22 675	7 059	6 354	34 072	41 484	46 656	+ 176	728	1 409	Aug.
Sept.	16 426	19 740	19 514	22 820	6 867	5 908	34 488	42 807	48 468	+ 1 812	466	640	Sept.
Oct.	16 767		19 270		6 933		35 431	42 970			374		Oct.
Nov.	16 217		19 098		5 824		34 438	41 139			2 542		Nov.
Dec.	17 754		19 981		6 601		35 430	44 336			3 502		Dec.

Tables 7—9 according to Finnish Official Statistics VIII, D, Bank Statistics. Mortgage banks are not included.

## 8. — COMMERCIAL BANKS. HOME LOANS.

End of Month	To the Public				To other Credit Institutions		Total			Monthly Movement		End of Month
	Inland Bills		Other Credits		Mill. mk		Mill. mk					
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948	
	[10 176]		[18 598]		[755]		[22 293]					
Jan.	10 345	17 173	19 092	20 163	658	1 933	24 431	30 095	39 269	+ 566	+ 1 609	Jan.
Febr.	10 818	18 382	19 418	19 626	614	1 732	24 704	30 850	39 740	+ 755	+ 471	Febr.
March	11 984	18 939	19 280	19 435	873	1 700	26 015	32 137	40 074	+ 1 287	+ 334	March
April	13 707	20 830	19 515	19 759	942	1 681	27 175	34 164	42 270	+ 2 037	+ 2 196	April
May	14 639	21 691	19 487	19 830	1 086	1 501	28 576	35 212	43 022	+ 1 048	+ 752	May
June	14 670	21 822	19 404	19 657	971	1 309	29 059	35 045	42 788	+ 167	+ 234	June
July	15 171	22 053	19 616	19 934	1 320	1 984	29 047	36 107	43 971	+ 1 062	+ 1 183	July
Aug.	15 543	22 326	19 056	19 351	1 372	2 126	28 621	35 971	43 803	+ 136	+ 168	Aug.
Sept.	15 929	21 780	19 163	19 281	1 322	2 183	28 417	36 414	43 244	+ 443	+ 559	Sept.
Oct.	16 236		19 854		1 711		28 903	37 801		+ 1 387		Oct.
Nov.	16 801		20 045		1 433		29 245	38 279		+ 478		Nov.
Dec.	16 583		19 289		1 782		29 529	37 660		+ 619		Dec.

The figures in brackets [ ] indicate the position at the end of the previous year.

## 9. — COMMERCIAL BANKS. POSITION TOWARDS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

End of Month	Claims <sup>1)</sup>				Indebtedness <sup>2)</sup>				Net Claims (+) or Net Indebtedness (-)				Monthly Movement		End of Month	
	Mill. mk				Mill. mk				Mill. mk				1947	1948		
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948				
Jan.	[125]				[247]				[-122]							
Jan.	125	342	2 501	2 982	251	355	2 299	2 566	-126	-13	+ 202	+ 416	-154	- 721	Jan.	
Febr.	103	473	2 397	2 447	255	357	2 092	2 219	-152	+116	+ 305	+ 228	+103	- 138	Febr.	
March	84	662	2 322	2 380	263	720	2 224	2 161	-179	- 58	+ 98	+ 219	-207	- 9	March	
April	86	696	2 351	2 890	276	819	2 309	2 340	-190	-123	+ 42	+ 550	- 56	+ 331	April	
May	91	781	2 588	2 583	274	982	2 450	2 282	-183	-201	+ 138	+ 301	+ 96	- 249	May	
June	95	796	2 815	2 496	283	999	2 474	2 217	-188	-203	+ 341	+ 279	+203	- 22	June	
July	86	672	3 351	2 394	296	868	2 442	2 184	-210	-196	+ 909	+ 210	+568	- 69	July	
Aug.	98	673	3 232	2 505	292	860	2 230	2 221	-194	-187	+1 002	+ 284	+ 93	+ 74	Aug.	
Sept.	104	859	3 777	2 631	301	911	2 564	2 359	-197	- 52	+1 213	+ 272	+211	- 12	Sept.	
Oct.	176	1 169	3 975		313	919	2 792		-137	+250	+1 183		- 30		Oct.	
Nov.	232	1 090	4 150		317	932	3 105		- 85	+153	+1 045		-138		Nov.	
Dec.	385	2 460	4 085		352	2 104	2 948		+ 33	+356	+1 137		+ 92		Dec.	

<sup>1)</sup> Credit balances with foreign correspondents and foreign bills. — <sup>2)</sup> Due to foreign correspondents.

10. — FOREIGN PAYMENT POSITION OF ALL BANKS. <sup>1)</sup>

End of Month	Net Claims (+) or Net Indebtedness (-)				Monthly Movement	
	Mill. mk				1947	1948
	1945	1946	1947	1948		
Jan.	[-822]					
Jan.	- 822	-1 166	-4 806	-1 631	+ 347	-1296
Febr.	- 875	- 398	-4 621	-1 525	+ 185	+ 106
March	- 991	-1 289	-3 762	-1 061	+ 859	+ 464
April	- 951	-1 487	-4 572	-3 185	- 810	-2124
May	- 887	-6 509	-3 722	-3 135	+ 850	+ 50
June	- 929	-8 486	-3 360	-3 589	+ 362	- 454
July	-1 332	-9 289	-1 940	-4 101	+1 420	- 512
Aug.	-1 379	-8 620	-1 968	-3 930	- 28	+ 171
Sept.	-1 507	-7 439	- 690	-3 056	+1 278	+ 874
Oct.	-1 624	-6 350	- 588		+ 102	
Nov.	-2 543	-5 595	- 364		+ 224	
Dec.	-1 556	-5 153	- 335		+ 29	

11. — DEPOSITS IN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK. <sup>2)</sup>

End of Month	Deposits				Monthly Movement		End of Month
	Mill. mk				1947	1948	
	1945	1946	1947	1948			
Jan.	[3 170]						
Jan.	3 355	5 319	7 365	8 581	+152	+ 187	Jan.
Febr.	3 337	5 370	7 481	8 418	+116	- 163	Febr.
March	3 342	5 589	7 574	8 487	+ 93	+ 69	March
April	3 413	5 712	7 527	8 509	- 47	+ 22	April
May	3 749	5 784	7 609	8 371	+ 82	-138	May
June	4 112	5 846	7 692	8 438	+ 83	+ 67	June
July	4 139	5 940	7 796	8 606	+104	+168	July
Aug.	4 130	6 488	8 086	9 113	+290	+507	Aug.
Sept.	4 494	6 647	8 094	9 184	+ 8	+ 71	Sept.
Oct.	4 681	6 777	8 123		+ 29		Oct.
Nov.	4 784	6 845	7 956		-167		Nov.
Dec.	5 417	7 213	8 394		+438		Dec.

<sup>1)</sup> For the Bank of Finland the net result of the debit and credit accounts with foreign correspondents, foreign clearing transactions and foreign commercial debt as well as foreign bills are taken into account, and for the Commercial Banks their net position is taken into account according to table 9 above.

<sup>2)</sup> According to figures supplied by the Post Office Savings Bank.

## 12. — DEPOSITS IN THE SAVINGS BANKS.

End of Month	Savings Accounts			Current Accounts			Total				Monthly Movement		End of Month	
	Mill. mk			Mill. mk			Mill. mk				1947	1948		
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948				
Jan.	[17 583]			[1 247]			[13 697]							
Jan.	17 465	19 637	23 102	916	1 228	1 969	14 004	18 381	20 865	25 071	+ 84	+147	Jan.	
Febr.	17 603	19 834	23 282	923	1 263	1 920	14 216	18 526	21 097	25 202	+ 232	+131	Febr.	
March	17 770	20 203	23 506	981	1 426	1 953	14 311	18 751	21 629	25 459	+ 532	+257	March	
April	17 896	20 530	23 951	1 050	1 624	2 030	14 334	18 946	22 154	25 981	+ 525	+522	April	
May	17 884	20 681	23 997	1 156	1 654	1 808	14 553	19 040	22 335	25 805	+ 181	-176	May	
June	18 303	20 763	24 075	1 262	1 669	1 820	15 004	19 565	22 432	25 895	+ 97	+ 90	June	
July	18 431	21 100	24 515	1 260	1 787	2 039	15 186	19 691	22 887	26 554	+ 455	+659	July	
Aug.	18 586	21 497	24 987	1 353	1 798	1 970	15 401	19 939	23 295	26 957	+ 408	+403	Aug.	
Sept.	18 628	21 567	25 233	1 409	1 946	2 020	16 294	20 037	23 513	27 253	+ 218	+296	Sept.	
Oct.	18 562	21 591		1 363	2 132		16 831	19 925	23 723		+ 210		Oct.	
Nov.	18 593	21 519		1 334	2 082		17 201	19 927	23 601		- 122		Nov.	
Dec.	19 461	22 880		1 320	2 044		18 830	20 781	24 924		+1 323		Dec.	

According to figures supplied by the Central Statistical Office.

The figures in brackets [ ] indicate the position at the end of the previous year.

### 13. — DEPOSITS IN CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES AND CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES.

End of Month	Deposits in Co-operative Credit Societies <sup>1)</sup> Mill. mk				Monthly Movement		Deposits in Consumers' Co-operative Societies <sup>2)</sup> Mill. mk				Monthly Movement		End of Month
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948	
Jan.	[4 507]						[1 268]						Jan.
Febr.	4 602	6 757	8 339	11 332	- 52	- 28	1 318	2 031	2 315	2 824	+ 53	+ 69	Febr.
March	4 661	6 838	8 433	11 334	+ 94	+ 52	1 341	2 053	2 354	2 862	+ 39	+ 38	March
April	4 804	7 118	8 962	11 687	+529	+ 303	1 354	2 085	2 414	2 938	+ 60	+ 76	April
May	4 842	7 304	9 292	12 015	+330	+ 328	1 363	2 112	2 459	3 074	+ 45	+ 136	May
June	4 978	7 405	9 407	11 982	+115	- 33	1 388	2 112	2 473	3 201	+ 14	+ 127	June
July	5 150	7 534	9 604	11 971	+197	- 11	1 429	2 138	2 521	3 204	+ 48	+ 3	July
Aug.	5 246	7 606	9 838	12 408	+234	+ 437	1 447	2 132	2 549	3 249	+ 28	+ 45	Aug.
Sept.	5 332	7 739	10 412	13 085	+574	+ 677	1 465	2 127	2 573	3 314	+ 24	+ 65	Sept.
Oct.	5 657	7 869	10 618	13 043	+206	- 42	1 599	2 126	2 584	3 343	+ 11	+ 29	Oct.
Nov.	5 901	7 883	10 667		+ 49		1 690	2 130	2 586		+ 2		Nov.
Dec.	6 061	7 871	10 597		- 70		1 755	2 145	2 595		+ 9		Dec.
	6 926	8 391	11 360*		+763		2 036	2 262	2 755		+160		

<sup>1)</sup> Figures supplied by the Central Bank for Co-operative Credit Societies. — <sup>2)</sup> According to data supplied by the Finnish Co-operative Wholesale Society and the Co-operative Wholesale Association.

### 14. — DEPOSITS IN ALL CREDIT INSTITUTIONS. <sup>1)</sup>

End of Month	Total Deposits due to the Public Mill. mk				Monthly Movement	
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948
Jan.	[44 535]					
Febr.	45 061	59 332	70 534	85 598	+ 517	+ 185
March	45 586	59 378	70 036	84 182	- 468	- 1 416
April	46 263	60 517	72 866	87 632	+2 800	+ 3 450
May	46 420	62 351	74 405	89 047	+1 539	+ 1 415
June	47 396	62 475	75 290	88 090	+ 885	- 957
July	49 098	63 601	76 046	88 245	+ 756	+ 755
Aug.	49 067	64 423	77 264	91 306	+1 218	+ 2 961
Sept.	49 285	65 664	79 070	93 014	+1 806	+ 1 208
Oct.	52 835	66 716	81 102	95 604	+2 032	+ 2 590
Nov.	54 874	67 988	81 290		+ 288	
Dec.	56 186	67 504	80 303		-1 067	
	61 417	70 017	85 413*		+5 110*	

<sup>1)</sup> Commercial Banks, Post Office Savings Bank, Savings Banks, Co-operative Credit Societies, Central Bank for Co-operative Credit Societies, Consumers' Co-operative Societies, and Mortgage Banks.

### 15. — INSURANCES IN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANIES.

End of Month	New risks accepted <sup>1)</sup>			
	1947		1948	
	Number	Amount Mill. mk	Number	Amount Mill. mk
January	14 135	834	14 093*	1 336*
February	15 919	981	16 387*	1 620*
March	18 071	1 133	16 842*	1 709*
April	15 669	1 011	16 621*	1 772*
May	14 404	944	15 287*	1 673*
June	14 719	983	16 188*	1 841*
July	9 541	685	11 033*	1 222*
August	10 837	787	13 214*	1 482*
September	13 214	1 038	15 310*	1 822*
October	15 952	1 288		
November	18 527	1 540		
December	20 069	1 764		
Total	181 057	12 988	134 975*	14 477*
Jan.—Sept.	126 509	8 396		

<sup>1)</sup> According to information supplied by the Finnish Life Assurance Companies.

### 16. — CHANGES IN NUMBER AND CAPITAL OF LIMITED COMPANIES.

Year and Quarter	Companies founded		Companies with increased Capital		Companies liquidated		Companies with reduced Capital		Net increase (+) or reduction (-)		Year and Quarter
	Num-ber	Capital Mill. mk	Num-ber	Increase of Capital Mill. mk	Num-ber	Capital Mill. mk	Num-ber	Reduction of Capital Mill. mk	Num-ber	Capital Mill. mk	
1943	866	573	541	1 250	193	134	6	9	+ 673	+1 680	1943
1944	523	238	316	633	176	128	2	1	+ 347	+ 742	1944
1945	1 485	797	428	511	120	111	4	34	+1 365	+1 163	1945
1946	1 355	649	956	3 764	110	51	8	7	+1 245	+4 355	1946
1947	955	749	826	2 740	98	47	7	73	+ 857	+3 369	1947
1947											1947
July—Sept.	192	134	194	210	21	6	1	67	+ 171	+ 271	July—Sept.
Oct.—Dec.	221	264	221	1 340	43	19	5	3	+ 178	+1 582	Oct.—Dec.
1948											1948
Jan.—March	202	480	177	500	37	14	5	37	+ 165	+ 929	Jan.—March
April—June	316	236	174	827	37	13	1	2	+ 279	+1 048	April—June
July—Sept.	363	682	132	985	22	17	5	3	+ 341	+1 647	July—Sept.

Figures supplied by the Central Statistical Office.

The figures in brackets [ ] indicate the position at the end of the previous year.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.



## 17. — BANKRUPTCIES.

Month	Bankruptcies <sup>1)</sup>					
	Number					
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
January	15	7	10	13	15	8
February	8	10	7	8	14	8
March	8	4	6	10	8	14
April	10	12	3	7	10	11
May	13	6	7	11	5	9
June	9	2	12	6	12	5
July	11	9	3	6	5	3
August	4	12	8	6	8	11
September	1	15	2	6	11	10
October	7	10	11	17	8	
November	12	10	2	13	12	
December	11	8	8	5	7	
Total	109	105	79	108	115	
Jan.—Sept.	79	77	58	73	88	79

<sup>1)</sup> Preliminary figures compiled by the Central Statistical Office from the reports sent in by the various Courts including all bankruptcy petitions, of which only about half will lead in due course to actual bankruptcy.

## 18. — STOCK EXCHANGE.

Month	Turnover of Stock Exchange <sup>1)</sup>					Month
	Mill. mk					
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
January	24	30	29	54	83	122
February	26	38	41	75	84	105
March	29	44	117	65	70	106
April	34	27	108	57	81	147
May	48	41	81	144	106	88
June	30	49	129	87	75	120
July	28	31	114	59	70	100
August	24	44	132	40	53	91
September	59	51	219	87	166	93
October	37	33	157	170	151	99
November	40	53	94	206	110	
December	46	47	109	144	200	
Total	425	488	1 330	1 188	1 249	
Jan.—Oct.	239	388	1 127	838	939	1 071

<sup>1)</sup> According to data supplied by the Stock Exchange Committee.

## 19. — STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX. 1935=100.

Month	Share Prices												Month
	All kinds				Bank Shares				Industrial Shares				
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	
January	218	414	324	337	111	143	108	110	262	536	411	423	January
February	214	324	304	304	109	130	106	105	258	407	379	377	February
March	260	293	297	259	122	121	107	99	322	364	366	313	March
April	305	324	310	269	134	124	105	102	383	405	338	322	April
May	352	396	296	265	147	130	104	101	451	519	371	315	May
June	458	436	292	273	160	129	102	99	611	582	365	328	June
July	651	378	282	272	205	122	99	101	878	496	348	326	July
August	691	356	282	259	206	121	98	100	916	462	348	306	August
September	499	358	308	247	167	125	102	97	661	463	334	290	September
October	497	368	337	237	162	123	103	97	648	477	424	272	October
November	417	370	332		143	117	103		541	481	418		November
December	416	340	336		140	110	104		545	436	423		December
Whole year	415	363	308		134	125	104		540	469	335		Whole year

\*Units\* index based on the prices quoted for the shares of 3 banks and 10 industrial firms.

## 20. — PUBLIC DEBT.

End of Year and Month	According to the Finance Accounts									Mill. Dollars <sup>2)</sup>	End of Year and Month
	Mill. mk <sup>1)</sup>										
	Funded Debt			Short-term Credit			Total Public Debt				
	Foreign	Internal	Total	Foreign	Internal	Total	Foreign	Internal	Total	Total Public Debt	
1944	4 010	38 608	42 618	2 088	22 806	24 894	6 098	61 414	67 512	1 368	1944
1945	15 664	39 994	55 658	4 283	25 782	30 065	19 947	65 776	85 723	630	1945
1946	26 561	51 301	77 862	5 072	22 137	27 209	31 633	73 438	105 071	773	1946
1947	33 484	57 292	90 776	5 073	22 251	27 324	38 557	79 543	118 100	868	1947
1948											1948
March	35 100	56 427	91 527	5 092	20 625	25 717	40 192	77 052	117 244	862	March
April	36 044	56 169	92 213	5 093	20 035	25 128	41 137	76 204	117 341	863	April
May	36 434	56 171	92 605	5 098	16 677	21 775	41 532	72 848	114 380	841	May
June	36 381	55 974	92 355	5 114	18 235	23 349	41 495	74 209	115 704	851	June
July	36 769	55 746	92 515	5 107	21 201	26 308	41 876	76 947	118 823	874	July
August	37 146	54 607	91 753	5 102	23 203	28 305	42 248	77 810	120 058	883	August
September	37 911	53 559	91 470	5 098	25 771	30 869	43 009	79 330	122 339	900	September

<sup>1)</sup> According to data supplied by the Treasury. Internal loans are given at their nominal value and foreign loans in Finnish currency according to current rates of exchange. — <sup>2)</sup> The outstanding amounts of both internal and foreign loans have been converted into United States dollars at the Helsinki rates of exchange of the respective currencies.

## 21. — STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Year and Month	Total Revenue	Current Revenue <sup>1)</sup> derived from							Capital Revenue	Expenditure			Year and Month
		Income and Property tax <sup>2)</sup>	Excise on spirits, wines, etc.	Stamp duty	Sales tax	Interest and Dividends	Railways, Posts, Telegraphs <sup>3)</sup>	State Forests <sup>2)</sup>		Total	Current	Capital	
1947 Jan.—Aug. Whole year	45 656 94 261	7 720 23 349	249 427	1 152 1 775	7 737 18 288	6 235 6 329	457 279	528 1 493	11 407 24 054	48 807 87 811	38 162 66 578	10 645 21 233	1947 Jan.—Aug. Whole year
1948 Jan.—Aug.	61 785	15 365	262	2 085	12 823	7 667	1 721	609	4 765	59 438	44 737	14 701	1948 Jan.—Aug.
1948 Budget	72 494	20 330	425	1 500	14 000	8 136	872	821	4 667	72 445	52 892	19 553	1948 Budget
Supplem. Budgets <sup>4)</sup>	28	—	—	—	—	—	—3	—20	—	9 366	4 460	4 906	Supplem. Budgets <sup>4)</sup>

Tables 21—23 according to preliminary monthly accounts kept by the Treasury, the Customs and the Board of Excise Revenue.

<sup>1)</sup> The current revenue derived from Customs duty, and some other State receipts are specified in tables 22 and 23 below. — <sup>2)</sup> Including special and supplementary taxes on income and property but not the Capital Levy nor the surplus income tax and inheritance tax. — <sup>3)</sup> The figures given refer to net revenue. — <sup>4)</sup> Passed in April and June.

## 22. — COLLECTION OF CUSTOMS.

Year and Month	Total Customs Receipts	Customs duty on		Fines, Light Dues, etc.
		Imported goods incl. storage charges	Exported goods	
1947 Jan.—Sept. Whole year	3 186 4 666	3 123 4 556	0 0	63 110
1948 Jan.—Sept.	6 367	6 221	0	146
1948 Budget	6 008	5 950	1	57

## 23. — COLLECTION OF EXCISE DUES.

Year and Month	Total Excise Dues	Excise on				Year and Month
		Tobacco	Spirits	Beer	Matches	
1947 Jan.—Aug. Whole year	2 939 5 371	2 359 4 392	108 186	141 241	148 241	1947 Jan.—Aug. Whole year
1948 Jan.—Aug.	5 667	3 987	107	155	189	1948 Jan.—Aug.
1948 Budget	4 940	4 000	155	270	250	1948 Budget

## 24. — VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Month	Imports (c. i. l.) Mill. mk			Exports (l. o. b., free exports) Mill. mk			Surplus of Imports (—) or Exports (+) Mill. mk			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	944	2 825	3 963*	957	1 961	2 505*	+ 13	— 864	— 1 458*	January
February	884	2 304	4 285*	681	1 170	3 354*	— 203	— 1 134	— 931*	February
March	1 330	1 138	3 589*	1 013	784	2 986*	— 317	— 354	— 603*	March
April	1 388	1 463	4 939*	1 067	2 107	4 467*	— 321	+ 644	— 472*	April
May	1 999	3 843	6 025*	1 708	4 855	3 696*	— 291	+ 1 012	— 2 329*	May
June	2 511	3 939	7 006*	1 965	4 582	5 201*	— 546	+ 643	— 1 805*	June
July	2 988	4 899	5 938*	2 068	5 768	6 349*	— 920	+ 869	+ 411*	July
August	2 729	4 014	5 397*	2 505	5 498	5 407*	— 224	+ 1 484	+ 10*	August
September	2 391	5 196	5 498*	2 379	4 808	5 944*	— 12	— 388	+ 446*	September
October	2 316	5 219		3 240	4 885		+ 924	— 324		October
November	2 269	4 972		2 907	5 018		+ 638	+ 46		November
December	2 525	7 169		2 561	3 792		+ 36	— 3 367		December
Total	24 274	46 971		23 051	45 223		— 1 223	— 1 743		Total
Jan.—Sept.	17 164	29 621	46 640*	14 343	31 533	39 909*	— 2 821	+ 1 912	— 6 731*	Jan.—Sept.

Tables 24—29 according to Finnish Official Statistics I, A, Foreign Trade of Finland, Monthly Reports.

The term *Imports* covers all imported goods which are placed on the market either immediately after importation or after storage. *Exports* covers all goods exported from the open market, including re-exports. Goods are declared to the Customs by their owner, who must at the same time state the value of the goods as calculated at the frontiers of the country.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.

## 25. — VALUE OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS IN DIFFERENT CLASSES OF GOODS.

Classes of Goods	Imports (c. i. f.) Mill. mk					Exports (f. o. b.) Mill. mk.				
	Whole year		January-September			Whole year		January-September		
	1946	1947	1946	1947	1948*	1946	1947	1946	1947	1948*
Dairy produce, eggs, honey	702	203	376	201	1 539	107	34	59	34	—
Other animal products, live animals .....	606	688	320	350	884	67	1 098	38	830	186
Vegetables .....	9	13	5	12	14	0	32	—	11	1
Eatable fruit .....	74	247	6	38	218	14	12	6	9	5
Coffee, tea, spices .....	171	296	107	212	476	—	—	—	—	—
Cereals, milling products ..	3 088	6 586	2 863	4 198	5 607	—	0	—	0	12
Certain seeds and fruit, plants for industrial purposes ..	153	293	146	241	334	29	10	22	5	6
Raw materials for tanning and dyeing .....	78	122	44	93	61	—	—	—	—	—
Animal and vegetable fats	333	1 288	248	846	994	0	0	0	0	1
Meat and fish products ...	62	92	58	63	200	0	—	—	—	0
Sugar, sweets .....	846	1 250	649	830	1 459	—	7	—	6	12
Beverages, vinegars .....	166	236	94	145	166	19	152	10	79	138
Fodder .....	143	381	128	368	674	0	—	0	—	—
Tobacco .....	415	624	315	450	566	—	—	—	—	—
Minerals, ore .....	864	954	573	678	769	76	71	33	42	97
Mineral fuel and oils .....	3 643	6 317	2 646	3 688	7 758	0	0	0	0	0
Chemical and pharmaceutical products .....	1 010	1 768	724	1 142	1 447	39	127	18	75	125
Tanning and dyeing extracts, varnishes .....	340	808	224	478	791	2	13	1	9	5
Caseine, albumine, glues ..	263	394	171	243	223	1	0	1	0	—
Fertilizers .....	854	2 105	578	1 548	1 303	—	—	—	—	—
Hides, skins, leather and furs; manufactures of these materials .....	215	670	159	430	658	97	261	39	225	265
Rubber and rubber articles	656	968	476	529	784	0	1	0	1	4
Wood and wooden goods ..	21	51	15	40	65	9 744	19 467	5 350	12 992	16 171
Woodpulp .....	1	10	1	10	4	4 285	10 722	2 952	7 939	11 744
Cardboard and paper, their applications .....	38	61	29	38	65	6 915	11 001	4 651	7 772	9 272
Textile materials, textile goods .....	1 719	3 935	1 321	2 685	4 196	646	744	431	555	631
Footwear .....	101	206	51	178	147	4	0	0	—	2
Articles of stone and of other mineral material, glass ..	222	326	155	214	346	204	356	129	229	275
Base metals; articles made therefrom .....	3 433	7 708	2 310	4 539	7 551	445	581	360	366	429
Machinery, apparatus .....	1 428	2 449	905	1 609	2 692	41	103	26	60	118
Electrical machinery and apparatus .....	535	1 136	349	674	1 250	46	93	30	52	83
Transport material .....	1 533	3 879	732	2 238	2 478	10	29	7	19	57
Instruments, clocks and watches, musical instruments .....	111	245	76	163	210	5	9	4	6	9
All others .....	441	662	310	450	711	255	305	176	217	261
<b>Total free trade</b>	<b>24 274</b>	<b>46 971</b>	<b>17 164</b>	<b>29 621</b>	<b>46 640</b>	<b>23 051</b>	<b>45 228</b>	<b>14 343</b>	<b>31 533</b>	<b>39 909</b>
Reparation deliveries .....						8 775	10 405	6 455	7 945	8 535
Restitution goods .....						655	—	655	—	—

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.

## 26. — IMPORTS OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ARTICLES.

Month	Wheat Tons			Rye Tons			Sugar Refined and unrefined Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	5 242	17 065	1 871*	22 724	14 341	14 840*	1 659	1 501	4 130*	January
February	4 764	—	9 328*	2 403	12 817	21 825*	2 276	1 587	3 688*	February
March	3 953	7 774	10 917*	14 924	2 467	8 381*	2 161	1 431	4 172*	March
April	4 435	3 657	14 820*	1 049	18 239	2 129*	2 020	626	6 861*	April
May	0	12 700	10 793*	9 459	2 601	14 445*	1 963	2 529	8 636*	May
June	16 011	2 099	18 354*	40 308	9 333	26 580*	2 410	7 802	8 159*	June
July	17 454	11 004	3 281*	21 047	9 192	20 034*	4 892	6 040	10 072*	July
August	30 274	9 488	—	15 312	14 257	14 093*	3 690	5 168	11 804*	August
September	12 735	9 434	6 096*	19 861	26 608	31*	3 112	3 773	9 075*	September
October	1 551	90	—	8 829	30 138	—	3 531	13 765	—	October
November	—	18 476	—	213	7 533	—	3 656	3 892	—	November
December	—	—	—	—	26 354	—	1 128	350	—	December
Total	96 419	91 787	—	156 129	173 880	—	32 498	48 464	—	Total
Jan.—Sept.	94 868	73 221	75 460*	147 087	109 855	122 358*	24 183	30 457	66 597*	Jan.—Sept.

Month	Raw Tobacco Tons			Coal and Coke Tons			Petrol Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	167	215	319*	19 422	40 833	203 586*	—	7 545	13 395*	January
February	142	205	355*	23 868	50 620	88 621*	191	7 404	12 473*	February
March	152	254	336*	46 747	5 018	32 167*	36	8 697	15 028*	March
April	166	232	399*	78 911	61	111 205*	386	9 989	15 406*	April
May	197	247	328*	88 959	24 555	267 139*	1 201	10 137	11 040*	May
June	144	245	318*	70 041	112 824	297 885*	4 122	12 854	24 908*	June
July	102	124	130*	154 693	223 939	313 171*	5 279	15 222	18 007*	July
August	208	345	382*	95 672	140 047	163 571*	6 969	16 454	18 961*	August
September	198	328	358*	126 632	238 278	257 148*	5 819	16 086	17 138*	September
October	192	353	—	95 977	245 516	—	6 315	15 637	—	October
November	182	331	—	62 322	164 656	—	6 457	12 428	—	November
December	108	216	—	79 719	252 630	—	5 554	16 295	—	December
Total	1 958	3 095	—	937 933	1 498 977	—	42 329	148 748	—	Total
Jan.—Sept.	1 476	2 195	2 925*	699 945	836 175	1 734 493*	24 003	104 388	146 286*	Jan.—Sept.

Month	Raw Cotton Tons			Pig Iron Tons			Bar Iron and Bar Steel Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	1 137	1 088	1 154*	101	10	613*	654	3 193	4 006*	January
February	441	3 430	1 088*	—	5	599*	1 825	3 789	8 320*	February
March	276	1 451	1 000*	150	20	632*	2 124	846	7 605*	March
April	1 402	—	15*	660	100	325*	2 694	1 005	9 262*	April
May	423	1 871	1 178*	150	920	575*	4 467	7 890	8 773*	May
June	719	1 263	—	220	270	1 695*	3 491	7 759	10 804*	June
July	502	—	—	69	40	1 079*	6 531	6 736	11 556*	July
August	2 583	93	2 570*	100	2 255	2 619*	3 820	5 427	9 540*	August
September	118	—	—	—	3 902	35*	4 218	9 532	6 182*	September
October	647	587	—	471	4 985	—	4 173	10 064	—	October
November	203	12	—	65	1 040	—	7 100	8 977	—	November
December	67	859	—	242	2 066	—	4 152	20 314	—	December
Total	8 518	10 654	—	2 228	15 613	—	45 249	85 532	—	Total
Jan.—Sept.	7 601	9 196	7 005*	1 450	7 522	8 172*	29 824	46 177	76 048*	Jan.—Sept.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.

## 27. — EXPORTS OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ARTICLES. 1)

Month	Wooden Houses and Barracks Tons			Round Timber All kinds excl. fuel 1 000 m <sup>3</sup>			Sawn Timber All kinds 1 000 standards			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	11 368	7 971	6 077*	24	30	35*	2	15	10*	January
February	9 949	8 393	11 641*	9	15	4*	0	5	10*	February
March	7 580	11 542	10 894*	15	—	1*	0	5	11*	March
April	471	10 159	21 324*	26	1	0*	0	4	7*	April
May	1 029	15 832	20 375*	74	33	3*	6	9	9*	May
June	6 819	13 088	20 274*	88	118	54*	20	34	26*	June
July	13 914	11 651	15 999*	153	387	329*	31	66	81*	July
August	11 575	11 159	12 430*	258	391	510*	34	72	64*	August
September	13 058	15 005	11 202*	187	415	438*	43	63	76*	September
October	13 116	16 711		235	280		64	53		October
November	16 136	13 699		149	178		48	58		November
December	16 791	13 671		121	88		30	32		December
Total	121 806	148 881		1 339	1 936		278	416		Total
Jan.—Sept.	75 763	104 800	130 216*	834	1 390	1 379*	136	273	294*	Jan.—Sept.

1 standard sawn timber = 4,672 m<sup>3</sup>.

Month	Matches Tons			Plywood 1 000 m <sup>3</sup>			Bobbins (spools) Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	24	205	26*	2	8	9*	41	67	158*	January
February	78	114	98*	1	7	14*	65	46	357*	February
March	53	4	100*	10	1	9*	256	—	184*	March
April	301	105	189*	9	10	13*	108	212	380*	April
May	126	424	73*	16	22	14*	212	511	322*	May
June	260	195	11*	12	20	17*	123	252	311*	June
July	148	36	55*	8	14	14*	212	145	110*	July
August	180	80	16*	9	12	12*	86	154	355*	August
September	154	31	56*	10	10	15*	162	369	322*	September
October	278	47		14	17		146	251		October
November	114	6		9	15		158	466		November
December	87	249		10	19		217	260		December
Total	1 803	1 496		110	155		1 786	2 733		Total
Jan.—Sept.	1 324	1 194	624*	77	104	117*	1 265	1 756	2 499*	Jan.—Sept.

Month	Mechanical Pulp <sup>1)</sup> Tons			Sulphite Cellulose <sup>2)</sup> Tons			Sulphate Cellulose <sup>3)</sup> Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	4 838	4 075	1 352*	14 419	19 410	29 651*	10 154	10 653	19 175*	January
February	1 697	1 162	3 267*	7 816	9 742	26 763*	7 785	8 591	27 342*	February
March	1 598	—	2 094*	11 082	1 166	27 084*	8 170	1 806	24 245*	March
April	1 037	142	9 541*	15 897	10 328	36 597*	11 546	10 750	37 194*	April
May	7 221	13 011	9 090*	27 990	45 149	19 203*	24 109	35 379	21 232*	May
June	11 836	8 405	17 528*	23 778	34 597	46 404*	15 731	25 657	38 785*	June
July	10 090	15 137	11 807*	11 798	44 240	33 570*	15 082	50 147	32 654*	July
August	11 190	9 667	10 237*	17 309	24 695	17 485*	22 642	34 002	21 103*	August
September	4 053	4 877	8 126*	10 823	24 468	33 029*	12 521	31 523	26 159*	September
October	5 304	4 873		19 880	22 423		15 916	23 378		October
November	4 187	3 411		19 562	33 237		16 965	26 712		November
December	3 207	366		22 211	20 242		20 327	19 899		December
Total	66 258	65 126		202 565	289 697		180 948	278 497		Total
Jan.—Sept.	53 560	56 476	73 042*	140 912	213 795	269 786*	127 740	208 508	247 889*	Jan.—Sept.

<sup>1)</sup> Free exports. — <sup>2)</sup> Dry weight.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.

## 27. — EXPORTS OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ARTICLES. — Continued.

Month	Cardboard All kinds Tons			Paper All kinds Tons			Newsprint (Included in previous column) Tons			Month
	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	1946	1947	1948	
January	5 834	7 891	5 921*	23 867	24 094	23 848*	16 551	12 880	16 318*	January
February	3 761	2 675	8 021*	14 376	9 300	32 121*	7 588	4 953	17 935*	February
March	9 870	812	8 230*	20 378	9 919	21 698*	13 321	7 299	11 337*	March
April	9 486	8 170	8 620*	20 783	24 521	45 207*	13 354	15 389	31 769*	April
May	7 056	16 957	8 132*	26 621	55 029	37 564*	16 496	32 864	26 217*	May
June	7 783	11 102	7 974*	29 129	43 875	36 018*	19 113	26 861	26 341*	June
July	8 214	8 510	10 084*	29 463	40 110	40 466*	19 667	29 713	29 054*	July
August	9 425	7 161	9 076*	29 125	45 278	36 369*	20 925	32 561	27 467*	August
September	7 105	8 266	9 632*	27 526	28 050	28 013*	17 864	18 323	18 587*	September
October	8 123	10 857		33 035	36 402		20 953	23 358		October
November	6 889	11 711		33 568	37 101		22 120	23 749		November
December	8 187	9 011		29 762	29 655		19 559	18 423		December
Total	91 733	103 123		317 633	383 334		207 511	246 378		Total
Jan.—Sept.	68 534	71 544	75 690*	221 268	280 176	301 304*	144 879	180 848	205 025*	Jan.—Sept.

## 28. — FOREIGN TRADE WITH VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country	Imports (c. i. f.)					Exports (f. o. b., free exports)				
	Whole year		January—September			Whole year		January—September		
	1946	1947	1947	1948*	1946	1947	1947	1948*		
	%	%	%	Mill. mk	%	%	%	Mill. mk	%	
Europe:										
Belgium .....	5.8	7.9	7.4	2 440	5.2	7.3	5.2	1 567	3.9	
Bulgaria .....	0.1	0.0	0.0	15	0.0	0.0	0.0	64	0.2	
Czechoslovakia .....	0.1	0.7	0.5	344	0.7	0.1	0.3	215	0.5	
Denmark .....	10.3	6.4	6.3	4 176	9.0	11.1	7.2	2 614	6.5	
France .....	2.6	4.3	4.5	2 021	4.3	3.8	3.9	1 879	4.7	
Germany .....	0.1	0.0	0.0	275	0.6	—	0.1	381	1.0	
Great Britain .....	21.4	17.5	17.6	11 562	24.8	26.7	30.0	11 519	28.9	
Greece .....	0.0	0.5	0.3	159	0.3	0.3	0.7	364	0.9	
Holland .....	1.8	4.7	4.5	2 419	5.2	3.1	4.5	2 032	5.1	
Italy .....	0.0	0.4	0.2	262	0.6	0.3	1.6	186	0.5	
Norway .....	2.7	3.9	3.4	1 232	2.7	2.4	2.0	545	1.4	
Poland .....	0.1	3.6	3.2	3 224	6.9	0.0	2.1	899	2.2	
Rumania .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	—	0.0	—	—	
Soviet Union .....	21.4	11.3	12.8	6 354	13.6	20.1	12.4	6 437	16.1	
Sweden .....	10.0	4.3	5.4	1 999	4.3	9.4	5.7	2 191	5.5	
Switzerland .....	0.4	0.8	0.7	552	1.2	1.0	0.9	325	0.8	
Turkey .....	0.4	0.5	0.6	195	0.4	0.0	0.4	208	0.5	
Other European countries	0.3	0.4	0.1	452	1.0	1.2	1.7	588	1.5	
Total for Europe	77.5	67.7	67.5	37 681	80.8	86.8	78.6	32 014	80.2	
Asia .....	0.0	0.2	0.3	60	0.1	1.2	1.5	501	1.3	
Africa .....	0.1	0.1	0.1	78	0.2	1.9	3.1	1 217	3.0	
United States .....	19.5	23.7	24.8	5 958	12.8	6.9	11.5	4 560	11.4	
Other States of North America .....	0.0	0.5	0.4	246	0.5	0.1	0.1	39	0.1	
South America .....	2.9	7.8	6.9	2 607	5.6	3.0	4.5	1 351	3.4	
Australia .....	0.0	0.0	0.0	10	0.0	0.1	0.7	227	0.6	
Grand total	100.0	100.0	100.0	46 640	100.0	100.0	100.0	39 909	100.0	

The country of import indicates the land in which goods were purchased, the country of export the land to which goods were sold.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.

**29. — UNIT VALUE INDEX OF IMPORTS AND EXPORTS. 1935=100.**

Year and Month	Total Imports	Groups of Imported Goods				Total Exports	Principal Exported Goods				Year and Month
		Raw materials	Machinery	Food-stuffs	Other consumption goods		Sawn timber	Mechanical pulp	Dry cellulose	Paper	
1943	420	457	346	486	324	304	277	271	320	311	1943
1944	457	468	360	560	400	323	292	309	337	314	1944
1945	709	729	798	713	447	452	433	597	436	445	1945
1946	896	888	883	947	846	799	802	835	700	777	1946
1947	950	941	898	1 030	912	1 175	1 177	1 257	1 148	1 049	1947
1947 Jan.—Sept.	947	941	861	1 062	878	1 151	1 161	1 230	1 117	1 025	1947 Jan.—Sept.
1948 Jan.—May	1 021	1 012	977	1 080	1 030	1 355	1 350	1 832	1 344	1 167	1948 Jan.—May
1948 Jan.—June	1 022	1 025	975	1 055	1 035	1 357	1 348	1 828	1 354	1 187	1948 Jan.—June
1948 Jan.—July	1 037	1 061	985	1 042	1 025	1 364	1 333	1 817	1 366	1 197	1948 Jan.—July
1948 Jan.—Aug.	1 036	1 071	966	1 036	1 016	1 372	1 329	1 799	1 374	1 209	1948 Jan.—Aug.
1948 Jan.—Sept.	1 039	1 084	932	1 025	1 007	1 378	1 320	1 791	1 380	1 226	1948 Jan.—Sept.

Calculated by the Statistical Dept. of the Board of Customs. For details concerning the calculation of the indices see article in this Bulletin No. 4, 1939.

**30. — TOTAL SALES OF WHOLESALE FIRMS.**

Month	Total Sales Mill. mk							Month
	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	
January	677	981	1 046	1 412	2 840	3 456	5 514	January
February	821	1 073	1 206	1 482	2 957	3 897	8 348	February
March	923	1 306	1 360	1 585	3 470	4 617	7 594	March
April	914	1 266	1 246	1 626	3 680	4 241	9 342	April
May	1 007	1 329	1 411	1 848	4 039	5 327	8 997	May
June	1 138	1 099	1 043	1 759	3 731	4 675	8 472	June
July	1 186	1 106	948	1 400	3 402	4 633	8 451	July
August	1 072	1 167	1 229	1 847	3 911	5 302	9 148	August
September	1 125	1 308	1 023	2 420	4 040	6 438		September
October	1 098	1 337	1 077	2 954	4 622	6 470		October
November	1 076	1 302	1 191	3 186	4 551	6 415		November
December	1 188	1 429	1 419	3 267	5 024	7 311		December
Total Jan.—Sept.	12 225 8 863	14 703 10 635	14 199 10 512	24 786 15 379	46 267 32 070	62 782 42 586	76 035	Total Jan.—Sept.

Calculated by the «Uusi Suomi». The figures represent approximately 80-90 % of the turnover of all wholesalers in Finland

**31. — INDEX OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION. 1935=100.**

Month	Home Industries										Exporting Industries					Month	
	Value index					Volume index					Volume index						
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948		
January	204	244	221	530	624	} 97	97	76	94	105	47	40	55	75	83	January	
February	257	288	264	607	814			89	107	137	48	38	55	76	88	88	February
March	237	265	220	548	749			73	94	125	51	40	57	79	84	84	March
April	203	211	220	582	733	} 89	76	70	97	123	53	44	59	79	101	April	
May	208	222	220	528	681			69	88	113	51	47	66	80	92	92	May
June	201	199	239	561	691			69	93	115	40	50	63	80	93	93	June
July	226	239	213	582	655	} 77	78	56	97	107	31	47	65	67		July	
August	194	235	309	620	732			69	103	113	33	48	62	73		73	August
September	184	199	341	676	799			72	112	123	32	52	70	82		82	September
October	179	195	390	609	850	} 75	72	76	101	126	32	56	69	82		October	
November	205	230	484	669	1 069			89	111	152	32	54	70	75		75	November
December	221	221	470	713	1 121			85	118	152	38	51	71	78		78	December
Whole year	208	225	303	607	795	82	80	76	102	125	40	47	64	78		Whole year	

\*Units: index based on seasonally adjusted monthly figures.

## 32. — BUILDING ACTIVITY.

Month	Consumption of Cement in Finland <sup>1)</sup> 1 000 tons						Plans approved in the Capital <sup>2)</sup> All buildings, 1 000 m <sup>3</sup>						Month
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	
January							7.1	0.6	64.7	105.6	39.2	34.7*	January
February	28	31	46	27	54	74	18.3	0.3	35.5	91.8	28.4	71.3*	February
March													25.6
April	73	60	89	79	112	160	4.8	2.9	116.8	97.1	64.3	80.2*	April
May													8.1
June	79	52	83	127	152		19.9	70.2	101.7	56.9	62.2	91.4*	June
July													82.7
August	46	44	63	96	103		11.5	6.9	42.5	87.4	72.5	35.3*	August
September													1.2
October	46	44	63	96	103		12.7	1.7	47.7	101.6	122.5		October
November													2.0
December							0.5	42.0	36.1	119.2	27.9		December
Total	226	187	281	329	421	234	357.3	200.4	1 036.6	1 004.2	689.7		Total
Jan.—June	101	91	135	106	166	234	342.1	116.1	801.9	710.2	501.4	725.7*	Jan.—Sept.

<sup>1)</sup> Comprising the total quantity of cement delivered by the country's 2 cement factories and including the quantity imported which is, however, only a negligible part of the total consumption. — <sup>2)</sup> According to data compiled by the Municipal Building Surveyor's Office in Helsinki.

## 33. — FOREIGN SHIPPING.

Year and Month	Arrivals				Sailings				Year and Month
	Number of vessels		Net reg. tons		Number of vessel		Net reg. tons		
	Total	of which Finnish	Total	of which with Cargo	Total	of which Finnish	Total	of which with Cargo	
1945	1 360	768	930 358	384 412	1 412	810	975 256	823 805	1945
1946	3 024	1 557	2 338 761	1 482 639	3 020	1 571	2 332 110	1 844 150	1946
1947	4 020	1 926	3 568 942	2 362 715	3 989	1 895	3 492 515	2 684 134	1947
1947									1947
Jan.—Sept. 1948	2 867	1 303	2 474 903	1 556 698	2 818	1 314	2 373 311	1 888 948	Jan.—Sept. 1948
May	402	217	356 940	311 910	349	183	317 242	147 654	May
June	559	253	388 667	321 930	531	280	384 257	218 449	June
July	796	295	495 843	300 895	881	354	519 402	391 425	July
August	815	344	509 246	266 131	795	336	486 130	408 107	August
September	731	351	491 608	287 212	707	324	466 076	360 470	September
Jan.—Sept.	3 859	1 780	2 900 527	2 067 545	3 830	1 811	2 861 557	1 978 321	Jan.—Sept.

Figures supplied by the Statistical Office of the Shipping Board.

## 34. — STATE RAILWAYS.

Month	Weight of Goods transported 1 000 Tons				Axle-kilometres of goods trucks Mill. km		Revenue (less Re-imbursments) Mill. mk				Regular Expenditure Mill. mk				Month
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	
Jan.	752	995	1 144	1 154	70	66	189	414	477	1 017	197	495	480	786	Jan.
Febr.	703	855	1 022	1 157	62	73	162	370	443	1 048	230	509	557	951	Febr.
March	886	1 052	1 118	1 239	69	79	203	459	479	1 194	218	479	587	1 003	March
April	947	1 073	1 167	1 313	73	84	224	500	552	1 205	237	465	540	956	April
May	988	1 189	1 326	1 350	77	73	236	484	616	1 136	367	520	693	1 081	May
June	1 046	1 231	1 282	1 493	68	72	279	575	646	1 281	314	497	782	1 020	June
July	996	1 363	1 492	1 416	68	74	294	596	880	1 293	284	511	702	1 043	July
Aug.	1 079	1 391	1 395		70		377	600	877		376	558	608		Aug.
Sept.	971	1 261	1 439		69		331	528	827		548	582	696		Sept.
Oct.	986	1 375	1 408		69		347	513	840		488	512	681		Oct.
Nov.	1 036	1 182	1 203		64		333	515	721		538	627	692		Nov.
Dec.	1 212	1 094	1 160		65		492	532	902		696	731	496		Dec.
Total	11 602	14 061	15 156		824		3 467	6 086	8 260		4 493	6 486	8 514		Total
Jan.—July	6 318	7 758	8 551	9 122	487	521	1 587	3 398	4 093	8 174	1 847	3 476	4 341	6 840	Jan.—July

According to Monthly Statistics of the Finnish State Railways.

\* Preliminary figures subject to minor alterations.



**35. — WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX. 1935=100.**

Month	Index for Goods in Finnish Wholesale trade										Articles of Import (s. i. f.)		Articles of Export (f. o. b.)		Month	
	Total Index		Finnish Goods						Imported Goods							
			Total	Products of agriculture		Products of forestry		Products of industry								
1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	
Jan.	[725]		[672]		[667]		[891]		[603]		[859]		[764]		[883]	
Jan.	721	1 076	666	1 042	655	1 504	901	1 415	593	771	860	983	810	978	1 027	1 265
Febr.	726	1 093	673	1 050	681	1 479	903	1 428	596	788	860	992	827	988	1 040	1 274
March	759	1 074	717	1 106	903	1 456	903	1 457	598	879	860	995	838	986	1 041	1 271
April	766	1 079	726	1 103	941	1 393	908	1 458	599	894	866	1 019	847	990	1 159	1 285
May	775	1 089	729	1 114	946	1 391	903	1 474	603	908	889	1 025	840	996	1 158	1 285
June	781	1 102	735	1 132	970	1 431	909	1 474	603	924	895	1 027	850	996	1 162	1 276
July	799	1 124	755	1 112	967	1 463	982	1 566	613	933	909	1 027	854	1 006	1 175	
Aug.	853	1 118	824	1 153	1 015	1 412	1 169	1 566	649	935	926	1 030	885	1 009	1 171	
Sept.	862	1 116	836	1 147	1 034	1 362	1 207	1 543	650	948	926	1 038	894		1 171	
Oct.	882	1 110	858	1 141	982	1 318	1 271	1 546	681	952	940	1 032	921		1 174	
Nov.	968		973		1 453		1 322		704		957		932		1 174	
Dec.	1 010		1 029		1 571		1 386		738		962		955		1 174	
Whole year	825		793		1 010		1 063		636		904		871		1 135	

Calculated by the Central Statistical Office. For details concerning the calculation of the index see article in this Bulletin No. 4, 1939.

**36. — COST OF LIVING INDEX.**

Month	Aug. 1938— July 1939 = 100			1935 = 100										Month				
	Total Index			Total Index				Foodstuffs		Rent		Fuel and light			Clothing		Taxes	
	1946	1947	1948	1945	1946	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948		1947	1948	1947	1948
Jan.	[404]			[221]				[533]		[144]		[968]		[568]		[916]		
Jan.	423	471	763	222	461	513	831	556	1 037	144	161	968	1 226	554	745	786	1 247	
Febr.	423	482	753	222	460	525	820	579	999	144	161	968	1 242	556	785	786	1 247	
March	431	524	761	223	470	571	829	675	990	144	161	970	1 317	557	809	786	1 247	
April	434	546	765	225	473	594	833	727	976	144	161	971	1 326	560	816	725	1 331	
May	437	559	765	228	476	609	833	753	963	144	161	970	1 343	566	847	725	1 331	
June	450	567	773	264	490	618	842	771	976	144	161	973	1 347	567	859	725	1 331	
July	463	595	809	306	504	648	881	786	983	161	161	976	1 349	570	868	1 103	1 908	
Aug.	466	607	816	341	507	661	889	805	993	161	161	1 010	1 349	582	883	1 103	1 908	
Sept.	469	617	812	354	511	672	885	809	978	161	161	1 037	1 372	595	899	1 103	1 908	
Oct.	469	632		422	511	689		829		161		1 054		603		1 155		
Nov.	467	690		434	508	751		946		161		1 069		642		1 155		
Dec.	468	720		440	509	785		994		161		1 211		679		1 155		
Whole year	450	584		307	490	636		769		152		1 015		586		942		

Calculated by the Research Office of the Ministry for Social Affairs according to monthly reports from 32 different centres. For details concerning the calculation of the cost of living index see article in this Bulletin No. 6, 1937.

**37. — BANK OF FINLAND BUILDING COST INDEX. 1935=100.**

Year	Total Index					Index of the Contractor					Index of Overhead Costs					Year
	I	II	III	IV	Aver.	I	II	III	IV	Aver.	I	II	III	IV	Aver.	
1937	.	.	.	.	120	.	.	.	.	120	.	.	.	.	115	1937
1938	.	.	.	.	127	.	.	.	.	127	.	.	.	.	121	1938
1939	129	130	134	141	134	130	130	134	141	134	124	124	128	134	128	1939
1940	151	157	165	172	161	152	158	165	173	162	141	147	154	157	150	1940
1941	180	189	195	199	191	181	191	196	201	192	164	173	178	182	174	1941
1942	212	226	231	243	228	213	227	233	245	230	193	206	204	215	205	1942
1943	244	252	259	264	255	246	254	261	266	257	216	223	230	233	226	1943
1944	267	271	272	283	273	269	273	274	286	276	236	240	241	245	241	1944
1945	299	306	303	329	432	302	309	307	534	436	259	342	435	457	373	1945
1946	564	613	657	683	629	570	619	664	689	636	489	530	569	591	545	1946
1947	706	733	781	935	789	708	734	782	937	790	679	715	762	911	767	1947
1948	1 125	1 194	1 206			1 115	1 182	1 192			1 246	1 348	1 380			1948

Quarterly indices and yearly averages of them. For details concerning the calculation of the index see p. 35 in this Bulletin Nos. 4-6, 1946.

The figures in brackets [ ] indicate the position at the end of the previous year.

## CERTAIN PARTICULARS ABOUT FINLAND.

### 1. FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

Finland formed a part of the kingdom of Sweden from 1154 to 1809; from 1809 it was an autonomous Grand Duchy connected with Russia up to December 6, 1917, when Finland declared its independence, which was acknowledged by all the Powers including Soviet Russia. It became a republic in 1919. The legislative power of the country is vested in the Diet and the President. The highest executive power is held by the President chosen for a period of 6 years. The present President Juho Kusti Paasikivi is elected for the term March 11, 1946, to March 1st, 1952.

The Diet, composed of 200 members, is elected by universal suffrage. The proportions of the different parties in the Diet elected in 1948 are at present as follows:

	Number
Agrarian party .....	56
Social-Democratic party .....	54
Democratic League .....	38
Unionist party .....	38
Swedish party .....	14
Progressive party .....	5

### 2. LAND.

THE AREA is 337 113 square kilometres (Great Britain's area is 245 000 sq. km and Italy's area 310 000 sq. km). Of the total area 9.4 % are inland waters. On an average 13.5 % of the land in the South of Finland is cultivated, 1.6 % in the North, 7.5 % of the whole land. Of the land area 21.7 mill. ha (53.5 mill. acres) or 70.9 % are covered by forests.

### 3. POPULATION.

NUMBER OF INHABITANTS (1947): 4.1 millions (of whom 0.2 million emigrants). Sweden (1947) 6.8, Switzerland (1947) 4.5, Denmark (1947) 4.1 and Norway (1947) 3.1 millions.

DENSITY OF POPULATION (1947): In South Finland 22.2, in North Finland 3.1 and in the whole country an average of 12.8 inhabitants to the square kilometre.

DISTRIBUTION (1947): 74.8 % of the population inhabit the country, 25.2 % the towns and urban districts. The largest towns are (1947): Helsinki (Helsingfors), the capital, 371 682 inhabitants, Turku (Åbo) 96 470, Tampere (Tammerfors) 89 071.

OCCUPATION (1940): agriculture 51.5 %, industry and manual labour 21.0 %, commerce 5.1 %, transport 4.6 %, other occupations 17.8 %.

LANGUAGE (1940): Finnish speaking 90.0 %, Swedish speaking 9.6 %, others 0.4 %.

RELIGION (1945): Lutheran 96.0 %, Greek-Orthodox 1.8 %, others 2.2 %.

EDUCATION (1947): Practically all persons over 15 years of age are literate. There are three universities (the oldest founded in 1640) and 7 colleges of university standard.

INCREASE OF POPULATION (1946): Births 26.4 ‰, deaths 11.4 ‰ (deaths in France in 1946 13.3 ‰ and in the United Kingdom in 1946 12.2 ‰) natural increase 14.7 ‰.

### 4. TRADE AND COMMUNICATIONS.

FOREST RESOURCES (1945): The growing stock of the forests is 1 370 million cub. m (48 379 million cub. feet). The stock of standing timber measuring 6 in. at a height of 18 ft. amounts to 1 031 million trees. Of this number pine is represented by 63.6 %, spruce by 30.1 %, the conifers thus constituting 93.7 % or 966 million trees, leaf-trees, mostly birch, 6.3 % or 65 million trees. The annual increment is 41 million

cub. m (1 441 million cub. ft.). The total removal in the felling season 1945/46 was 47 million cub. m. (1 672 million cub. ft.).

AGRICULTURE (1941): Cultivated land 2.3 million hectares, divided as follows: area under cultivation under 10 hectares 33.1 %, 10—50 ha 54.4 %, 50—100 ha 7.2 %, over 100 ha 5.3 %. Cultivated land (1947) is divided between the different kinds of crops as follows: 39.8 % hay, 11.9 % temporary grass-land for grazing, 15.5 % oats, 6.7 % wheat, 6.6 % rye, 5.8 % barley, 3.8 % potatoes, 9.9 % other. The number of dairies in 1947 amounted to 517.

OWNERSHIP OF LAND (1941): The land area is distributed among different classes of owners approximately as follows: private 49.2 %, State 41.6 %, Joint Stock Companies etc. 7.1 %, communities 2.1 %.

INDUSTRY (1946): Number of industrial concerns 5 691, workpeople 236 723, gross value of products of industry 112 090 million marks.

LENGTH OF RAILWAYS (1947): 4 966 km, of which 4 713 km State railways and 253 km private. The gauge is in general 1 524 m.

MERCHANT FLEET (1948): Steamships 383 (415 802 gross reg. tons), motor vessels 96 (61 764 gross reg. tons), sailing ships with auxiliary engine 154 (14 664 gross reg. tons), other sailing ships 11 (11 913 gross reg. tons). Total 644 (504 139 gross reg. tons).

### 5. FINANCE AND BANKING.

CURRENCY. Since 1860 Finland has its own monetary system. From 1877 up to 1914 the currency maintained its stable gold value, and after the disturbances caused by the war a gold standard was again introduced from January 1st, 1926. The unit of currency is the mark (Finnish marka = 100 pennä). According to the monetary law of December 21, 1925, a gold coin of 100 marks' value shall contain 3 <sup>12</sup>/<sub>100</sub> grams of fine gold. Since October 12, 1931, the redemption of bank notes in gold is, however, suspended.

STATE FINANCES. According to the finance accounts for 1947 the State revenue was 94 261 million marks of which 70 207 million marks were current revenue, and State expenditure 87 811 million marks, of which 66 578 million marks were current expenditure. The principal sources of revenue were as follows: direct taxes 27 855, indirect taxes 9 927, sales tax 18 288, interest and dividends, etc. 6 429, State property and undertakings (net) 2 502, and capital revenue 24 054. For Public Debt see table 20 in this issue.

MUNICIPAL FINANCES. According to the finance accounts for 1948 expenditure amounted to 4 792 million marks. Income from taxation was 2 360 million marks, taxed income 29 308 million marks. The municipal income tax (non-progressive) averaged 8.1 % of the ratepayers' income.

THE BANK OF ISSUE. The Bank of Finland (founded in 1811) is a State Bank. Its head office is in Helsinki (Helsingfors) with branches in Turku (Åbo), Pori (Björneborg), Vaasa (Vasa), Oulu (Uleåborg), Kuopio, Joensuu, Mikkeli (St. Michel), Tampere (Tammerfors), Hämeenlinna (Tavastehus), Jyväskylä, Kotka and Lahti (Lahtis).

THE COMMERCIAL BANKS (1947): Number 7, possess 464 offices, where all kinds of banking business is transacted. There is one banking establishment per 8 734 inhabitants.

The largest banks are: Kansallis-Osake-Pankki, Oy. Pohjoismaiden Yhdyspankki — Ab. Nordiska Föreningsbanken and Helsingin Osakepankki — Helsingfors Aktiebank, all with head offices in the capital.

OTHER BANKS (1946): Mortgage banks 5, Savings banks 468, Co-operative Credit Societies 841 and a Central Bank for the latter.

## BUILDING IN FINLAND DURING AND AFTER THE WAR.

BY

KAARLO RAUTKARI.

### INTRODUCTION.

When entering upon a description of the extent and development of building in Finland during and since the war it is good to recall the periods through which she has passed in recent times and the changes in general conditions. The years preceding the winter war saw a boom in building. Then came the hundred days' winter war in 1939, a short period of peace, and the new war in 1941 during which great difficulties were experienced in all spheres of productive life; now, four years after the Armistice, building activity is only recovering from those difficulties, in spite of the fact that reconstruction has proceeded much more rapidly in Finland than in many other European countries.

When, at the end of November 1939, Finland found herself at war the building situation — like many others — changed completely. Almost unlimited liberty was followed by very strict control which was already evident in 1940, when the shortage of labour and building materials forced the authorities — in view of future tasks — to introduce a priority system for different building operations. The principal of these were then the repair of damages caused by the winter war and the erection of the industries lost by the cession of Carelia elsewhere in the country.

The housing problem of the evacuated population also demanded action, the export industries had to be revived, and at the same time extensive defence works on our long frontiers had to be erected rapidly and effectively. When the new war broke out in 1941 the situation again became entirely different. The provision of dwellings, which until then had been considerable, had to give way to reconstruction work in the recaptured territory. The building needs of the munitions and other

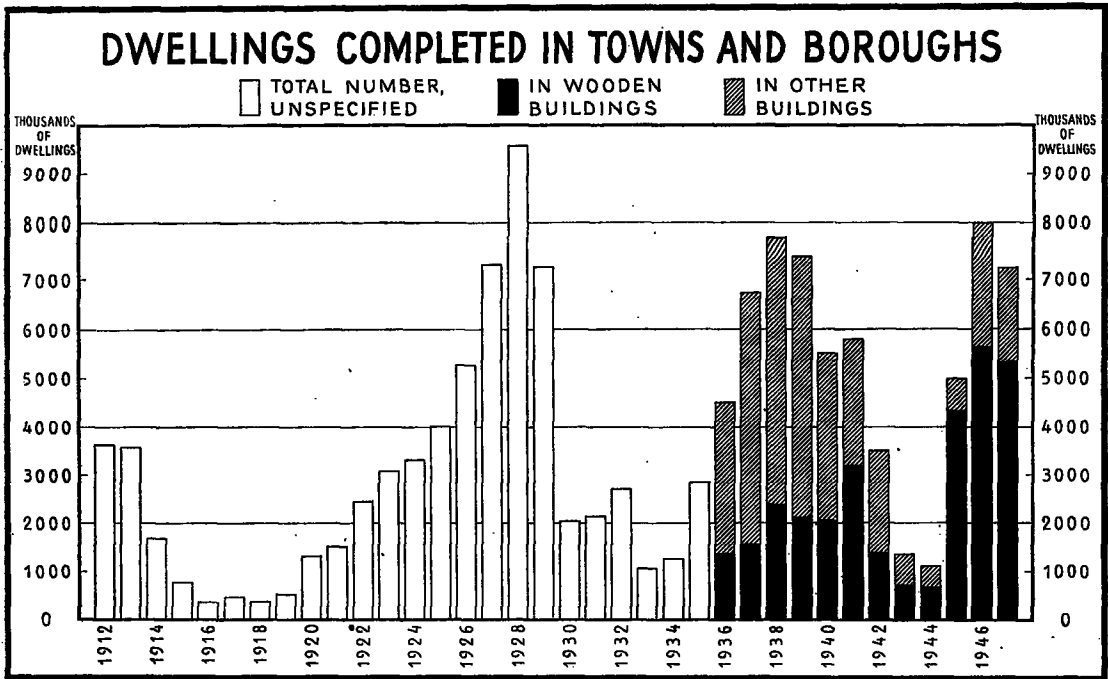
essential war industries had first to be met, and the care of civilians in the conquered areas also demanded its share of the scanty supplies of building materials, not to mention the needs proper of the army.

With the coming of the Armistice in 1944 Finland was faced by new problems. Besides the repair of bomb and other war damage there was the resettlement of the displaced population (450,000 persons) from the once again ceded Carelia, and the lost industries, above all the ceded power stations, demanded substitution. In addition, the heavy war reparations industries required extension and partial rebuilding of large plants; and there was also the 90 per cent destruction of Northern Finland by the Germans. Things being as they were, the housing problem in the rest of Finland, which had been a pressing social question even in 1941, had to await its turn.

The restricting factors in building operations both during and after the war were the shortage of building materials and labour, and the lack of capital; all at different times and in different degrees.

In 1942 the question of labour began to affect increasingly the possibilities of building work. The war-time army man-power, the re-expanded fortification work, and the settlement and reconstruction of the recaptured territory made necessary the control of all labour employed in building as from July 2, 1942. This period did not, however, last longer than until the turn of 1943/1944 when the shortage of labour was overtaken and rapidly outdistanced by the shortage of building materials. Lack of capital began to be felt really in 1946 until which time monetary considerations had not restricted building action. Particularly in 1942 the optimism due to the successful war operations and the abundance of





high percentages for industries and power stations and the low percentages for housing. Road and underground construction has always — even in peace time — accounted for a comparatively modest share of building: for instance in 1938 it was only about 10 per cent of the estimated total expressed in marks. The group „other purposes” includes those of commerce and public buildings, such as hospitals, schools, administrative buildings, etc., and it is thus natural that the share of this group has been slight during the period of shortage. It also comprises the iron used for building in rural districts but this is comparatively unimportant because the chief building material there is wood.

The consumption of steel reinforcing bars in building operations proper amounted to about 100,000 tons in 1940—1947 which — in comparison with the normal annual consumption, 60,000 tons — shows the severity of the shortage of materials. For comparison it may be stated that about 200,000 tons was used for defence works in the war years.

Even though the amount of steel reinforcing bars used cannot be considered a quite correct standard of comparison, the

above figures show plainly that industrial building has received very much attention during the war and up to the present. This is due especially to the war reparation deliveries and the vital importance of the export industries.

The building of power stations has been thoroughly dealt with in previous issues of this Bulletin. In considering the expansion of industry proper the foundries should be mentioned first. By enlarging old foundries and erecting new ones the melting capacity, which in 1938 was about 40,000 tons, has been raised by about 80 per cent in the last ten years. This expansion is mainly due to the war reparations programme. The same applies to the considerable enlargements necessitated in the heavy industries, the cable and the electric industries. The return to a normal export trade has demanded the expansion of the wood fibre board industry, the capacity of which has risen by more than 150 per cent since 1938. Among the other branches of the wood-working industry is the production of pre-fabricated houses. This was mainly started and developed during and after the war, and its present output is about 100,000 standards of finished houses a year,

equalling fully one million square metres of living space. The paper and pulp industries, on the other hand, have not been so much expanded, nor has it been possible to do all the necessary repairs. Further the production of the Oy Arabia Ab earthenware factory was increased by 50 per cent during the war. Among the industries serving domestic consumption priority has been given only to foodstuffs. The Central Machine Shop of the State Railways and the Central Foundry of the State Metal Works are among the largest building enterprises, each comprising well over 100,000 cubic metres.

It is probable that the desire for industrial building will be more limited in the next few years, especially if the lack of capital continues. The percentages indicating building of dwellings illustrates the relative share of building in towns only because, as stated already, rural dwellings are built almost solely of wood.

In the last few years wood has been relied upon increasingly for the construction of dwelling houses also in towns, which is reflected in the low percentage for housing in the table. While 96.1 per cent of all dwellings completed in Helsinki in 1938 were of brick, the corresponding figure in 1947 was as low as 60 per cent.

The yearly variations in the production of dwellings in towns and boroughs is shown in detail in the diagram on p. 21. According to it the production during and since the war has not fallen below those of earlier periods of depression, but the war has caused changes in the structure. Apart from the smaller proportion of brick buildings it is remarkable that the share of the Capital which normally accounts for about one half of the volume of dwellings built in all towns, is 26.9 per cent in 1947 and — estimated on the basis of building permits granted — only 14.2 per cent in 1948. In spite of the great shortage of pipes the relative share of dwellings with central heating in new buildings has remained within pre-war limits in the Capital, and in the other towns the number of dwellings furnished with central heating has even increased proportionally. The same is noticed as regards bathrooms and lavatories. The standard of post-war buildings has thus not been appreciably lowered.

#### THE PRESENT DEFICIT OF DWELLINGS.

To evaluate the present housing crisis in towns it will be of service to see how statisticians calculate the present deficit. Assuming that the housing situation in 1939 — just before the outbreak of the war — was practically in equilibrium the Research Office of the Ministry for Social Affairs has estimated the housing deficit in the beginning of 1947 on the basis of the changes in available housing and in the number of family units needing dwellings as follows:

##### *Increase in the need for dwellings 1939—1946.*

Dwellings bombed in the winter war . . . . .	3,352
"          "      in the war 1941—1944 . . . . .	5,147
New "marriages" . . . . .	83,000
Surplus due to removals . . . . .	11,100
Displaced population . . . . .	27,500
	<hr/>
	Total 130,099

##### *Decrease in the need for dwellings 1939—1946.*

Died, widowed and divorced . . . . .	27,400
Marriages between widowed and divorced . . . . .	2,900
	<hr/>
	Total 30,300

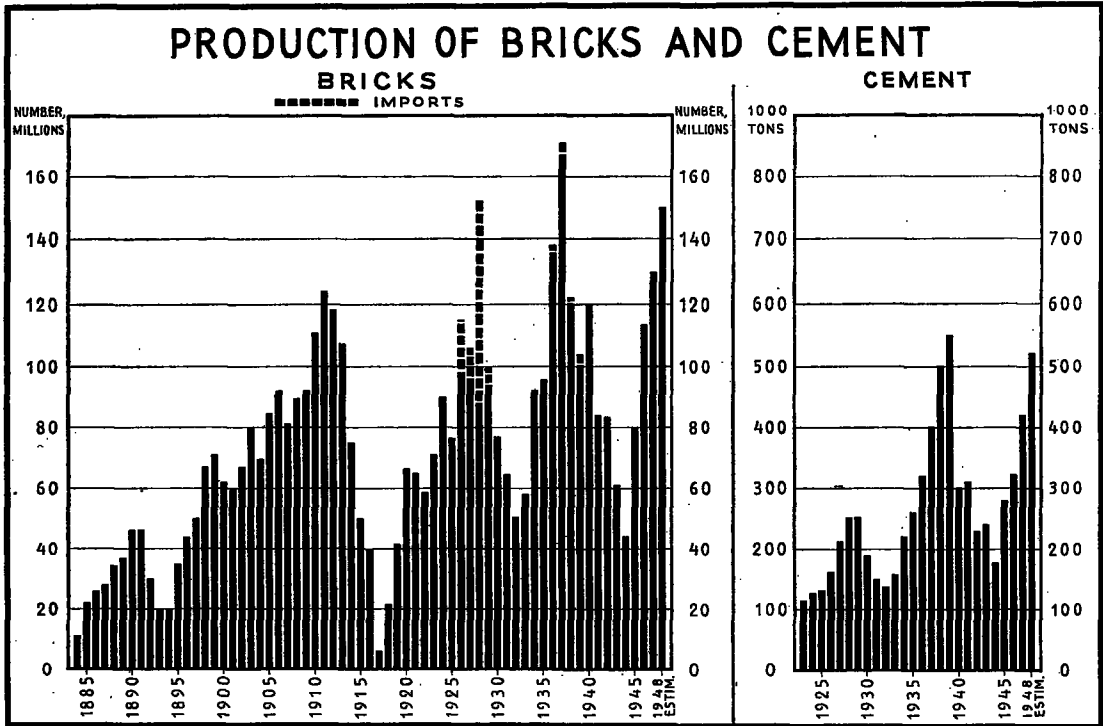
Net increase . . . . .	99,800
New dwellings built in 1939—1946 . . . . .	36,000
	<hr/>
<i>Deficit of dwellings Jan. 1st, 1947 . . . . .</i>	63,800

Assuming that normal provision of dwellings will be revived in the near future to meet the current annual requirements, probably much exceeding 6,000 dwellings a year, it must nevertheless be stated that the deficit of about 64,000 dwellings at the beginning of 1947 can be remedied only by quite exceptional measures, even if this theoretical figure may be somewhat too high.

#### THE RURAL HOUSING PROBLEM.

Perhaps even more problematic and at least much more extensive is the provision of dwellings in rural districts. It is true that the solving of this problem is favourably affected by the fact that building as such requires practically no foreign currency and that the enterprise of the particular builder can be of great assistance.

By the cession of territory Finland lost about 88,000 rural dwellings at the Armistice. Moreover the Germans de-



stroyed over 4,000 dwellings in rural areas in Northern Finland. Allowing that part of the displaced rural population has moved into towns this necessitates the building of about 90,000 dwellings with the necessary cattle-houses, offices and outhouses. For towns the corresponding figures due to destruction and cession of territory is 36,000 dwellings. The difference is thus considerable, especially in view of the fact that a town housing unit equals at most one half of a rural unit which includes also cattle-houses and outhouses.

In the post-war period the chief emphasis has, in fact, been both on industrial and on rural building as is very clearly reflected in the distribution of cement in recent years: rural building has received about one half of the whole cement production, while industrial building has had less than 20 per cent during the same period. Even during the war, in spite of the defence works and the large requirement of industry, the relative share of rural building was more than 20 per cent.

The results of this rural building are clearly discernible in the resettlement of

the displaced population in rural districts. The last phase of this was begun early in 1946 under the Land Expropriation Act and has advanced so far that about 20,000 families are resettled in homes of their own. The whole housing scheme under the Land Expropriation Act which provides for the housing of 120,000 families is calculated to be completed by 1960.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Public buildings were practically speaking not erected at all during the war. An exception is the large Children's Clinic in Helsinki which was started in 1943 with workers who owing to their poor health could not be sent to fortification work or to the front. The building complex was completed in 1945.

The building of hospitals, „health houses” (Consulting Office of the District Nurse), and schools has to some extent been resumed since 1946.

The road and railway network suffered no appreciable damage from the war, except in Northern Finland where the de-

struction was very great. At least 150 railway bridges were completely destroyed, as well as over 100 kilometres of railway lines. In some sections of the latter all buildings, water towers, turntables, signal and safety devices, telephone and telegraph etc., were destroyed. The destruction of roads was equally thorough. During their retreat in 1944 the Germans destroyed altogether 970 highway bridges in the provinces of Lapland and Oulu, the total length being 11 kilometres. About 3,000 culverts were destroyed. Most of the ferries — over 30 in number — were put out of order. All this required prompt reconstruction, the bridges being built temporarily of wood. To put only the highway system in order required at once 6,000 workers, 300 lorries, 120 builders, and 20 engineers. The bridges are now being rebuilt of steel and it is estimated that about 8,000 tons of bridge steel is needed for the purpose.

#### THE CAPACITY OF THE BUILDING MATERIALS' INDUSTRIES.

In order that a clearer idea may be obtained of the possibilities for reconstruction in the past years, now and in the future, it will be useful to give a short survey of the building materials' industries.

Brick factories number about 150 apart from very small ones built only for home use. Sixty have an annual output exceeding 1,000,000 bricks. Not more than about 20 factories produce annually 3,000,000 to 7,000,000 bricks. The total brick production of the country in the different years is shown in the diagram on p. 23 (left figure). The highest pre-war production figure was about 160,000,000 bricks per annum. Through the war about 10 per cent of the production capacity including areas of clay was lost. In the post-war period the output of bricks has been very uncertain, owing primarily to the uncertain supply of fuel and labour. For instance in 1944 the output of bricks fell to about 40,000,000. As the situation has gradually returned to normal it can now be estimated that the factories in their present state can turn out 200,000,000 bricks under favourable conditions. The figures quoted above include also the two factories producing lime-sand bricks with an annual output of 15,000,000.

Cement production was started in Finland as late as during and after World War I, but it has since been rapidly and purposefully developed to a fairly high technical level. The management of the industry have continually studied the development of their line and it is at present up to modern standards, technically as well as financially. Furthermore the cement industry is one of those which very readily adapted their activity to the difficulties due to the war.

There are three cement factories in different parts of the country. The right hand figure in the diagram on p. 23 shows the imports and production of cement. During and after the war production fell considerably, the lowest figure being about 250,000 tons. This year a production of 530,000 tons will probably be attained.

In spite of all efforts the country has suffered from a continuous shortage of cement and the situation is not likely to change in the next few years, as the normal need for cement is now much higher than pre-war.

An attempt to discover the reason for this reveals first of all the large consumption of cement in rural districts. According to statistics the rural districts have used amounts of cement in the last few years equalling the total annual production before the war, with the exception of a few boom years. The relation of the amounts of cement and iron used in recent years also supports the opinion that proportionally much more cement is used at present and under post-war conditions for other purposes than formerly. Thus 22,000 tons only of steel reinforcing bars was used 1947, or only one third of the corresponding normal figure, 60,000 tons, but the consumption of cement has remained practically unchanged. In view of the serious housing shortage in towns and, especially as regards cement, the experience from bomb damage, which shows that there is no reason to give up the almost 100 per cent use of reinforced concrete sound floors in blocks of flats, the unavoidable fact is that Finland's cement industry cannot possibly as it is at present suffice to meet the needs unless rural building can temporarily greatly reduce its consumption of cement. This is necessitated



also by large power plants under construction and planning, and industrial building as a whole.

With the development in the brick and the wallboard industries the situation has been to some extent eased, as cement need not be used for walls when it is urgently needed for other structures.

The iron and steel industries do not nearly meet the domestic demand and continued imports are of vital importance for the metal industries as a whole. It is true that the country is self-sufficing in pig iron, if ore and coke is obtained in sufficient quantities. To meet the demands of war reparations so many foundries have been built in recent years that their capacity will be sufficient as soon as these demands begin to diminish. Until now there has been a serious shortage of cast iron goods, for instance kitchen ranges and particularly radiators and drain-pipes; this because the war reparations industries have absorbed most of the capacity of the foundries. The total controlled pig iron requirements of the metal industries have been about 50,000 tons annually and there is only one factory in Finland which produces pig iron.

The domestic production of the rolling mills has been about 60,000 tons in normal years and this figure has been maintained during the war and until now. Since 1947 it has even increased to about 90,000 tons. At present there are three such factories. As the peace-time requirement was about 300,000 to 350,000 tons, imports are of essential importance. Further it deserves attention that domestic production does not include flitch plates, sheet-iron, wrought iron pipes, cold-rolled hoop iron, steel wire, steel wire netting, etc., nor any bar iron, section iron, or even rails, except in some special sizes.

After the Armistice imports almost came to a standstill, being only 35,000 tons in 1945; as one factory had been lost under the Armistice Agreement it is clear that rolling-mill products have been and still are the bottleneck for many lines. The building trade has perhaps suffered most from this shortage. The following table shows roughly the use of rolling-mill products, the normal annual consumption, and the criteria of distribution in recent years.

	Normal year Tons	Year of shortage Tons
War reparations industries	—	70,000
Other industries .....	130,000	50,000
State railways .....	80,000	30,000
Agricultural machines ....	20,000	10,000
Building .....	100,000	25,000
Miscellaneous .....	20,000	15,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>200,000</b>

Since the close of the war about 150,000 to 220,000 tons of rolling-mill products have been available per annum.

The iron and steel industries have also adapted themselves to the present requirements. As regards building the new high quality reinforcing steel bars should be mentioned which have been turned out for several years. It is hoped that the pipe welding factory now under construction will come into operation in 1949. The annual imports which are now 4,000 to 5,000 tons as against 25,000 tons pre-war give an idea of the acuteness of the pipe shortage.

Another building materials' industry is that of window-glass of which the capacity is sufficient even for exports, provided the raw materials, soda and quartz sand, are obtained in sufficient quantities. The roofing-felt industry is another that has an adequate capacity, but it is also entirely dependent upon imports of its raw material, bitumen. However, the need of these industries for foreign currency is comparatively modest in relation to the value and importance of their products.

It is clear that timber will not be an obstacle to building activity in Finland, even though the capacity of export sawmills must largely be reserved for purposes which provide foreign currency. There is a large number of smaller sawmills which meet local needs, and in connection with the work of export sawmills a great many qualities are produced which are better suited for home consumption than for export. Private enterprise in procuring timber is also a very important factor.

The electric branch may also be mentioned with satisfaction. Nearly all necessaries required for indoor fittings have been critically short since the German production stopped at the close of the war. However, the home industry has increased its output in the last few years

and extended its production programme so that, at least as far as the most usual electric equipment is concerned, the situation is now satisfactory, also from the point of view of more extensive building operations. The production of the electric industry is, in fact, considerably larger than before the war.

#### SUMMARY.

On the basis of the preceding survey the situation in the building industry may be described roughly as follows: The needs of the war reparations industries are practically satisfied; the most urgent building programme of power stations will probably be completed by 1950; the dwelling centres

of the North have been rebuilt and the bomb damage in the rest of the country largely repaired. On the other hand the resettlement of the population of Carelia has not until now got well under way, buildings all through the country are badly in need of repair, and the housing shortage especially in towns and boroughs is in some places appalling. When this is correlated with the possibilities that exist in the way of capital, building materials and labour, it is seen that there must be a consistent programme for future building; it must be drawn up on the basis of experience gained and in consideration of the actual facts without allowing theoretical arguments to decide action.

## ITEMS.

**Budget proposal for 1949.** Late in September the Government introduced its Budget for the ensuing calendar year. The following figures give a general idea of it as compared with that of 1948.

	1949 Budget proposals Mill. mk	1948 Budget Mill. mk
<b>Revenue</b>		
Current .....	92 692	67 827
Capital .....	5 839	4 667
<b>Total</b>	<b>98 531</b>	<b>72 494</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Current .....	67 451	52 892
Capital .....	31 055	19 553
<b>Total</b>	<b>98 506</b>	<b>72 445</b>

The above figures indicate that expenditure will exceed that of the ordinary Budget for the current year by about 26 billion marks. Actually, however, the increase will not be so large as it seems, because if the supplementary Budgets that have been or are still to be passed in the course of the year are taken into account, State expenditure may be expected to amount to approximately the same total as that proposed for 1949.

**The Bank Supervisors of the Diet.** The Electors of the new Diet chose Bank Supervisors on October 12th, re-electing the previous ones. The chairman will now be V. Vesterinen, Agrarian Party, and O. Peltonen, Social-Democrat, will be vice-chairman.

**A Commercial Bank closes down.** Pohjolan Osake-Pankki, which has had 30 offices

in Northern Finland, closed down in October. As the number of banks and their branches in the North was small even before considering the extent of the territory, and in order that banking should not be interrupted in those parts, Kansallis-Osake-Pankki has taken over the banking business of the Pohjolan Osake-Pankki by an agreement signed on October 29th, 1948. The reason for this closing down is said to be the decreasing profitability of its small business, partly because the real value of the bank's own funds and deposits has been reduced owing to the inflation and consequently its ability to grant loans, partly in consequence of the constant rise in costs.

**Increase in the share capital of a Commercial Bank.** On October 25th the administrative board of the Kansallis-Osake-Pankki, which is now the largest bank in the country, proposed that the shareholders and depositors of the bank should be offered 1 730 540 new shares of the bank at a nominal value of 200 marks a share, the shareholders 1 430 540 and the depositors 300 000 such shares. — The share capital of the bank, which is now 585 270 000 marks, would thereby be increased to 931 378 000 marks.

**Trade agreements.** In consequence of negotiations carried out by a Finnish delegation in the Danube countries in September-October, trade agreements were concluded with Hungary on September 25th, with Yugoslavia on October 1st, and with Bulgaria on October 6th.

In the *Finno-Hungarian* agreement import and export quotas have been fixed for the last three months of the current year and the whole of next year. The exchange of goods is calculated to amount to about 1.6 million dollars in each direction. Finland will export such goods as cellulose, pulp, paper, pasteboard, pine oil, asbestos, machines and sporting utensils. Imports will comprise maize, oilcake grits, steel pipes and sheets, seeds, raw tobacco, chemicals, machines and electrical machines, radio parts and lamps, fireproof bricks, and medicine.

The agreement with *Yugoslavia* is for one year ending September 30th, 1949, for 2.3 million dollars' worth of trade in each direction. Finland's most important articles are woodworking industry products, such as cellulose, various kinds of paper and pasteboard, wooden houses and airplane plywood, and machines. The imports are lead, mercury, antimony, calcinated and caustic soda, red lead, zinc white, lead acetate, raw hemp, raw tobacco, maize, and dried prunes.

The list of commodities in the *Finno-Bulgarian* trade agreement which is in force to the end of 1949, contains such Finnish exports as cellulose, pasteboard, some kinds of paper and some products of the metal industry, such as separators and locks. Imports will include tobacco, opium, castor oil, oilcake grits, maize, dried fruit, raw hides etc. The total trade in these commodities exceeds 2 million dollars. This is a great increase over the trade resulting from the previous agreement.

On September 28th a trade and payments agreement was signed in Berlin between Finland and the *German East Zone*. The trade involved is valued at about 6.5 million dollars for the year beginning October 1st, 1948. Finnish exports will be chiefly cellulose, paper and iron pyrites, while potassic fertilizers, machines, electric appliances, various chemicals, textiles, and machine-shop and optical products are imported.

A trade agreement between Finland and *Czechoslovakia* was signed on October 16th, 1948. It will be in force until September 30th, 1949, and the resulting trade should be about double that of the previous twelve months, or about 2 billion marks

(about 14.7 million dollars). Finnish exports are chiefly woodworking industry products, such as paper, cellulose, spools, plywood, building-plates and pine oil, and besides this such articles as copper, feldspar, sporting utensils and alopecurus seeds. Czechoslovakia sends us textiles, such as cotton and woollen cloth and yarn, knitted goods, and hats, rubber shoes, machines and apparatus, tools, electrical apparatus and equipment, special glass, rolled steel products, nails, chemicals and hops.

Some new trade agreements are expected shortly as a result of the negotiations carried on with Belgium, France, Norway and some other countries.

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#### Weather conditions and crop prospects.

Reports of the crop prospects have been given in the preceding two issues of this Bulletin. As the harvest has progressed, new figures have been made available. The following table shows the crop prospects in the middle of October 1948 and 1947 (8 = very good, 7 = good, 6 = above average, 5 = average, 4 = below average, 3 = poor, 2 = almost failure, 1 = failure).

	1948 October	1947 October
Autum wheat .....	5.8	4.5
Spring wheat .....	5.8	4.8
Rye .....	4.9	5.3
Barley .....	5.5	4.7
Oats .....	6.0	4.7
Potatoes .....	6.2	4.6
Hay .....	5.2	4.0

The table below is an estimate of the total crops in 1948, based on the situation in the middle of October, and the figures for 1947, in million kilogrammes.

	1948	1947
Wheat .....	250	196
Rye .....	198	196
Barley .....	212	160
<b>Total bread grain</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>552</b>
Oats .....	614	431
Potatoes .....	1 681	1 114
Field hay .....	2 350	1 720

\*

**Statistical Year Book.** After an interval of two years the Central Statistical Office has again issued a compendium of Finnish official statistics — the Statistical Year Book of Finland. The book which has now been thoroughly revised includes a list of the official statistical publications of Finland in addition to the statistical tables. The text is in Finnish, Swedish and French.

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## BANK OF FINLAND

(Cable address Suomenpankki)

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