

have ready the kind of services that are wanted and our organisation adjusted to bring them into play.

The need for the small business undertaking to raise medium- or long-term capital, at times a matter of some difficulty before the war, seems likely to be more widely felt with the return of peace, and there is little doubt that the national interest will call for a somewhat broader conception of the place of banking in relation to this need, as well as to the parallel needs of larger concerns. I may say quite categorically that the intention of our own Bank is what it has always been in the face of change, namely, to match new wants with new and appropriate services. I would emphasise that our system of Local Head Offices, supervised and controlled by Local Directors, with District Managers and Managers, all having intimate local experience and with discretionary powers to deal with every kind of application or commercial proposition, is well adapted to meet this need. In the post-war period the wants of small traders will call for careful consideration, for we recognise how necessary it is to help them to re-establish themselves on sound lines.

After the war, no pains can be spared by the people of this Country in their efforts to increase the national output of goods and services. Moreover, it is imperative that the change-over of industry from a war to a peace footing, presenting admittedly difficult problems, should take place rapidly, so that men, materials and modern machinery may be employed early in producing the goods and providing the services on which our hopes for the future must be based. Our desperate and protracted struggle has obliged us to use up our resources on a grand scale, quite properly regardless of the future and without counting the cost, and we shall set out upon our journey burdened by a heavy load of indebtedness to countries overseas on account of large purchases for which we have been unable to pay by means of exports. We also seek a higher standard of social security and welfare than ever before. In the light of these considerations, our export trade, which has dwindled of necessity under the constricting influence of war, takes on a new and special significance. Our greater dependence upon current effort gives it a high place in the list of priorities, and so we must be ready to produce those goods and services of which other countries stand in need, and be able to provide them at competitive prices, for, ultimately, it is only thus that we can buy what we need and must have from abroad. The problem, both domestic and international, is, and will remain for

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED

Report and Accounts 31st December, 1944

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Stockholders of Barclays Bank Limited will be held at the **HEAD OFFICE of the Bank, 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C. 3, on Wednesday, the 24th day of January, 1945, at 12.30 p.m.**, to receive a Report from the Directors on the affairs of the Company, to declare Dividends, to elect Directors, to appoint Auditors for the ensuing year, and to transact any other business proper and to be transacted at such Ordinary General Meeting.

By Order of the Board,

P. J. DIBOLL,

Secretary.

54, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 3.

15th January, 1945.

Blades, East & Blades Ltd., Abchurch Lane, E.C. 4.

some time, how to produce enough to satisfy the most urgent and crying need, but in the process of meeting this, markets will be built up and connections re-established. Therefore, it is especially important to develop our export trade along sound lines, and with speed, vigour and imagination. We may be sure that competition will develop strongly. The enormous industrial resources and capacity of the United States, for instance, must find an outlet in markets abroad and, inasmuch as larger sales of American products bring in their train increased purchases, so will that country move towards fulfilling the obligations which rightly attach to a large creditor nation, with all the responsibilities which that position entails. But, in order that we, in this Country, may participate to the fullest extent possible, the degree of efficiency and adaptability required in competition is such as will call for high endeavour from us all and the avoidance of any unnecessary restraint upon the production of goods and services. With this very much in mind, we must not forget the handicap imposed on industry by abnormally high taxation.

A great deal of preparatory work has been done towards the solution of our problems, and now the time is approaching when its logical successor, action, becomes the order of the day. But so that Government action may bring full success in the difficult phase of transition upon which we hope soon to enter, not only must it be timely and well-devised, but it must be attended by another and vital element—the ready co-operation of the ordinary citizen of this country, the man in the street. Social security, a better standard of living and all those advantages that we properly desire, depend upon the industry of every one of us.

While the whole national effort has been directed to an end, easily defined and recognisable by all as paramount, everyone has accepted the means: long hours of work and duty, restriction, discomfort, hardship, danger. With the tension finally eased, however, the sense of urgency will inevitably slacken and, unless there is some new unifying motive, a feeling of loss of direction is bound to follow in singleness of purpose for more than five years.

Fresh inspiration and incentive there must be, and I believe that an enlightened understanding by the individual of our national problems and our aims, with scope for the proper exercise of individual initiative, forms a basis on which our future prosperity can be firmly established.

IF UNDELIVERED PLEASE RETURN TO:—
BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED,
54, LOMBARD STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 3.

BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

Head Office: 54, LOMBARD STREET, LONDON, E.C. 3.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL - - - - £20,000,000
ISSUED AND PAID-UP CAPITAL - £15,858,217
RESERVE FUND - - - - - £11,250,000

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

EDWIN FISHER, *Chairman*.
SIR WILLIAM MACNAMARA GOODENOUGH, BART., } *Deputy Chairmen*.
HUGH EXTON SEEBOHM, }
WALTER OSBORNE STEVENSON, *Vice-Chairman*.

LIEUT.-COLONEL THE HON. JOHN JACOB ASTOR, M.P. HORACE LE PELLEY GRIMWADE.
THE RIGHT HON. LORD BETHELL. QUINCY EDWARD GENEY.
BERTRAND YORKE BEVAN. GEORGE COLVILLE HAYTER HAMES, C.B.E.
DAVID MARTYN EVANS BEVAN. SIR JOHN DONALD HORSFALL, BART.
LAWRENCE EMLYN DOUGLAS BEVAN. THE HON. PATRICK CHARLES KINNAIRD, M.C.
HENRY ANTHONY BIRKBECK, M.C. THE RIGHT HON. LORD MELCHETT.
LIEUT.-COLONEL EDWARD HOBLYN WARREN ERNEST HENRY MURRANT, M.B.E.
BOLITHO, C.B., D.S.O. ROGER HENRY PARKER, M.C.
LIONEL GURNEY BUXTON, M.V.O., M.C. CLAUD EDWARD PEASE.
THE RIGHT HON. LORD CORNWALLIS, M.C. COLONEL THE RIGHT HON. LORD ROCHDALE, C.B.
EDWIN HENRY GALSORTHY. JOHN HAYES SIMONDS, C.B.
ARTHUR BEVINGTON GILLET. SIR HAROLD EDWARD SNAGGE, K.B.E.
LIEUT.-COLONEL LORD DUDLEY GLADSTONE WILLIAM HENRY WIGGIN, C.B., D.S.O.
GORDON, D.S.O. CECIL MERCER WOODBRIDGE.

GENERAL MANAGERS:
A. W. TUKE. F. C. ELLERTON.

GENERAL MANAGER (STAFF):
C. FITZHERBERT.

SECRETARY:
P. J. DIBOLL.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS WITH STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS ANNEXED

To be presented at the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Stockholders, to be held at the HEAD OFFICE of the Bank, 54, Lombard Street, London, E.C. 3, on *Wednesday, the 24th day of January, 1945, at 12.30 p.m.*

The Directors report that after payment of all charges and after making provision for all Bad and Doubtful Debts and for Contingencies, the net profit for the year ended 31st December, 1944, amounted to the sum of £1,673,351 11s. 3d., to which has to be added the sum of £589,460 3s. 9d. brought forward from 31st December, 1943, making a total of £2,262,811 15s. 0d.

	£	s.	d.
To Contingency Account	250,000	0	0
To Premises Reserve Account (for Deferred Repairs and Reinstatement) ..	250,000	0	0
To Staff Widows' Fund (towards Annuities for War Widows)	64,767	0	0
To Interim Dividend of 5 per cent. on the "A" Stock, and Interim Dividend of 7 per cent. on the "B" and "C" Stock respectively, less Income Tax in each case, paid 8th August, 1944:	520,734	0	8
The Directors recommend a Final Dividend of 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year, on the "A" Stock, and a Final Dividend of 7 per cent., making 14 per cent. for the year, on the "B" and "C" Stock respectively, less Income Tax in each case, payable on the 8th proximo:	520,734	0	8
Leaving a balance to be carried forward of	656,576	13	8
	£2,262,811	15	0

The Directors record, with deep regret, the death of their colleagues, The Right Hon. LORD ESSENDON and SIR FOLLETT HOLT, K.B.E.

They have elected Mr. HUGH EXTON SEEBOHM as a Deputy Chairman of the Board. Lieut.-Colonel LORD DUDLEY GLADSTONE GORDON, D.S.O., and Mr. ERNEST HENRY MURRANT, M.B.E., have been appointed Directors of the Bank. In accordance with the Articles of Association, they retire, and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Directors report the retirement of Mr. NORMAN SHILLINGFORD JONES, a General Manager of the Bank, and desire to record their appreciation of his services. Mr. CUTHBERT FITZHERBERT, formerly a Local Director at Birmingham Local Head Office, has been appointed a General Manager (Staff).

The Directors report that on the 31st December, 1944, 5,809 Members of the pre-war Staff of the Bank were serving with His Majesty's Forces, or were absent from the Bank on other full-time National Service.

The Directors report that Major WILLIAM PHILIP SIDNEY, Grenadier Guards, a Member of the Staff at Pall Mall Local Head Office, has been awarded the Victoria Cross.

In addition to 252 Members of the Staff whose deaths have already been reported, the Directors record that a further 91 have lost their lives while on Active Service or as a result of enemy action in this country. The Directors, on behalf of themselves and the Stockholders, offer their sincere sympathy to the relatives in their bereavement.

The following Directors retire by rotation, viz.:—The Right Hon. LORD BETHELL, Mr. LAWRENCE EMLYN DOUGLAS BEVAN, Lieut.-Colonel EDWARD HOBLYN WARREN BOLITHO, C.B., D.S.O., Mr. EDWIN FISHER, Sir WILLIAM MACNAMARA GOODENOUGH, BART., Mr. GEORGE COLVILLE HAYTER HAMES, C.B.E., and Mr. CLAUD EDWARD PEASE, all of whom, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

The Auditors, Messrs. PRICE, WATERHOUSE & Co., and Messrs. KEMP, CHATTERIS & Co., offer themselves for re-appointment.

By Order of the Board,

P. J. DIBOLL, *Secretary*.

10th January, 1945.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
CURRENT, DEPOSIT AND OTHER ACCOUNTS (including Reserve for Taxation and Contingencies and Balance of Profit and Loss)	903,149,116	6	0				CASH IN HAND AND WITH THE BANK OF ENGLAND
Balances in account with Subsidiary Banks	14,626,444	1	0	917,775,560	7	0
ACCEPTANCES, GUARANTEES, INDEMNITIES, ETC., FOR ACCOUNT OF CUSTOMERS				15,092,928	1	2	BALANCES WITH OTHER BRITISH BANKS AND CHEQUES IN COURSE OF COLLECTION
CAPITAL:—						
Authorised—							MONEY AT CALL AND SHORT NOTICE
1,425,000 "A" Shares of £4 each	5,700,000	0	0			
14,300,000 "B" and "C" Shares of £1 each	14,300,000	0	0				BILLS DISCOUNTED
	20,000,000	0	0			
Issued (converted into Stock)—							TREASURY DEPOSIT RECEIPTS
"A" Stock	3,430,356	0	0				INVESTMENTS:—
"B" Stock	11,760,811	0	0				(Including £351,207 10s. 7d., lodged as security for Public Authority and other Accounts)
"C" Stock	667,050	0	0	15,858,217	0	0	Securities of, or guaranteed by, the British Government
RESERVE FUND				11,250,000	0	0
							British Dominions and Colonial Government Securities, Bank of England and British Corporation Stocks
						
							Other Investments
						
							INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARY BANKS:—
							(at cost, less amounts written off)
							The British Linen Bank—
							£1,242,394 12s. 6d. Stock
						
							Other Banks—
							(Including fully paid Stock and 500,000 "B" Shares of £5 each, £1 per Share paid up, in Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), and 1,000,000 Shares of £1 each, 5s. per Share paid up, in Barclays Bank (France) Limited)
						
							ADVANCES:—
							Customers and other Accounts
						
							Balances in account with Subsidiary Banks
						
							LIABILITY OF CUSTOMERS FOR ACCEPTANCES, GUARANTEES, INDEMNITIES, etc.
						
							BANK PREMISES AND ADJOINING PROPERTIES
							(at cost, less amounts written off)
						
							£959,976,705 8 2
							£959,976,705 8 2

E. FISHER, *Chairman.*W. M. GOODENOUGH, } *Deputy-Chairmen.*
H. E. SEEBOHM, }
W. O. STEVENSON, } *Vice-Chairman.*A. W. TUKE, } *General Managers.*
F. C. ELLERTON, }F. G. BACON, *Chief Accountant.*
P. J. DIBOLL, *Secretary.*

AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BARCLAYS BANK LIMITED.

We have compared the above Balance Sheet with the balances on the Books at the Head Office, and with the detailed Returns from the Branches. We have verified the Cash with the Bank of England, the Cash and Bills at the Head Office, the Investments of the Bank and the securities held against Money at Call and Short Notice. We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required, and we are of the opinion that the above Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us and as shown by the Books and Returns of the Bank.

LONDON, 10th January, 1945.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO., } *Auditors.*
KEMP, CHATTERIS & CO., }

Dr. PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the Year ended 31st December, 1944. Cr.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
TO CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT	250,000	0	0	BY PROFIT UNAPPROPRIATED ON 1ST JANUARY, 1944	589,460	3	9
„ PREMISES RESERVE ACCOUNT (for Deferred Repairs and Reinstatement)	250,000	0	0	„ NET PROFIT AFTER MAKING PROVISION FOR ALL BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS AND FOR CONTINGENCIES	1,673,351	11	3
„ STAFF WIDOWS' FUND (towards Annuities for War Widows)	64,767	0	0				
„ INTERIM DIVIDEND, less Income Tax	520,734	0	8				
„ FINAL DIVIDEND, less Income Tax	520,734	0	8				
„ BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	656,576	13	8				
	2,262,811	15	0				£2,262,811 15 0

The profits of the Subsidiary Banks for the year have been included in the above Accounts to the extent of the dividends received.

The Auditors' report on the last Balance Sheet of Barclays Bank (France) Limited contains a qualification that as the principal offices of that Bank were then in enemy or deemed enemy territory, no accounts for those offices were available for the periods since 31st December, 1939, and in consequence such Balance Sheet does not contain a complete summary of the Assets and Liabilities of that Bank. Barclays Bank S.A.I. is a subsidiary in territory subject to military control and no audited accounts are available.

The sum paid to the Directors as remuneration for their services amounted to £69,419 14s. 11d. (exclusive of remuneration paid to certain Directors by Subsidiary Banks—£17,521 17s. 10d.).

E. FISHER, *Chairman.*W. M. GOODENOUGH, } *Deputy-Chairmen.*
H. E. SEEBOHM, }
W. O. STEVENSON, } *Vice-Chairman.*A. W. TUKE, } *General Managers.*
F. C. ELLERTON, }F. G. BACON, *Chief Accountant.*
P. J. DIBOLL, *Secretary.*

LONDON, 10th January, 1945.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN.

As the proceedings at the Annual General Meeting will again be confined to formal matters, I am addressing a few remarks to the Stockholders to accompany the Report and Accounts in the same way as last year.

We record with sorrow the death, in March last, of SIR FOLLETT HOLT, K.B.E., a valued Member of our Board. The death of LORD ESSENDON in June was a severe loss to us. Outstanding in his generation, his undoubted ability and industry raised him to a position of great prominence in the world of shipping, and to the service of his Country he brought all the authority of his unique experience.

MR. HUGH EXTON SEEBOHM, lately a Vice-Chairman, has been elected a Deputy Chairman of the Board, and LIEUT.-COL. LORD DUDLEY GLADSTONE GORDON, D.S.O., and MR. ERNEST HENRY MURRANT, M.B.E., have been appointed Directors. We welcome both as Members of the Board. Mr. Murrant is no stranger to us, for he worked many years in close association with Lord Essendon and succeeded him as Chairman of Furness, Withy and Company, Limited.

MR. NORMAN SHILLINGFORD JONES, who has been a General Manager since 1931, retired at the end of 1944 after over 44 years in the Bank. We are grateful for the exceptional quality of his service, and we wish that he may long enjoy the retirement he has earned so well.

We deeply regret that there has been further loss of life amongst Members of the Staff on Service, and that the renewed attack upon London and Southern England caused casualties, two of them fatal, amongst those at home. In all, 91 have lost their lives since our last Report was issued, making a total of 343 since the war began. At the present time, 34 are reported as missing and 210 are known to be prisoners of war.

The spirit of service on the part of the Staff, which has been a source of so much pride to us, was well exemplified recently by Members from Provincial Branches who came voluntarily to give help in our Offices in London during the period of attack by flying bombs. A proposal to place on record an expression of our gratitude to the Staff will be made at the Meeting.

With the end of the war drawing appreciably nearer, we have been preparing for the reabsorption into the Bank of Members of the Staff now away on Service. It was felt that special measures would be needed to smooth their path back to a way of life made strange by long absence, and so we are designing courses of instruction which should help them to restore the broken threads of their interrupted careers. These special courses are only part of a wider scheme which we hope to develop so as to provide a better training in bank work and ensure for the future such a body of men as will uphold the efficiency and dignity of the profession of banking.

At the close of 1944, our Current, Deposit and Other Accounts stood at the record high level of £917,775,560, against £822,499,871 at the end of the previous year. Our Cash in Hand and with the Bank of England; Balances with other British Banks and Cheques in Course of Collection; Money at Call and Short Notice; Bills Discounted, and Treasury Deposit Receipts reached a total at the end of last year of £554,400,650, or 60.4 per cent. of our Current, Deposit and Other Accounts. Treasury Deposit Receipts are £77 million

higher than at the end of 1943, and our holdings of Treasury Bills and Money at Call and Short Notice are also somewhat larger. Our Bill portfolio is so spread that a proportion matures each day, while by far the greater part of our holding falls due every month. Substantial amounts of Treasury Deposit Receipts mature almost daily so that on most days we have several million pounds cash accruing to us from these two sources. In addition, a large part of our Money at Call and Short Notice is callable each day and is, therefore, available if necessary to augment our cash resources. Thus our holding of cash is continually freshened and powerfully reinforced.

The rise in our Investments, excluding those in Subsidiary Banks, from £216,391,769 to £217,340,642, is much smaller than in any year since 1939, but our Advances have declined further to £158,998,247 on 31st December last, compared with £160,976,408 at the close of 1943.

The Net Profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st December last, after payment of all charges and after making provision for all Bad and Doubtful Debts and for Contingencies, amounted to £1,673,351 11s. 3d., which compares with the figure of £1,584,113 11s. 5d. for 1943. As will be seen from the Report, the Directors have allocated from the Profit £250,000 to Contingency Account, £250,000 to Premises Reserve Account (for Deferred Repairs and Reinstatement) and £64,767 to the Staff Widows' Fund, towards annuities for war widows. Interim Dividends at the same rates as in 1943 were paid on 8th August last. The Directors now recommend the payment of Final Dividends of 5 per cent., making 10 per cent. for the year, on the "A" Stock, and 7 per cent., making 14 per cent. for the year, on the "B" Stock and "C" Stock, less Income Tax in each case.

Both Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) and Barclays Bank (Canada) showed good results in their latest reports. These Banks, linking the Mother Country with many of the other parts of the British Commonwealth and Empire, place our own Bank in a specially favourable position to help international trade. With the liberation of France we look forward to a revival of the business of Barclays Bank (France) Limited.

Month by month during the past year, the gathering crescendo of military success, bringing with it rising hopes that our enemies in Europe would be well on the way to defeat in the not distant future, imparted a growing sense of urgency to the preparation of plans for meeting the post-war situation. The fluid and general discussions upon our many-sided problems, on which I ventured a few remarks a year ago, have very largely settled in the form of official statements of Government intentions and to some extent have crystallised in actual legislation.

Within the limitations imposed by the circumstances, a great deal of thought has also been given by individuals and by organisations to their own particular position. We ourselves have been much pre-occupied with measures for achieving a state of readiness to meet the future in such a way that the Bank shall not be found wanting in any respect in the fulfilment of its appointed task. Our own problems are naturally somewhat different from those of productive industry, but we also must always be able to adapt ourselves rapidly so that we may