

**1893. June.** President Cleveland announces extra session of United States Congress to take action on the proposed repeal of the Sherman Silver Act. Heavily decreased bank clearings. Banks restricting credits. Open market for commercial paper disappears. Depression in business shows itself in lower prices. Iron furnaces, mills and foundries work only on orders. Totals of bank reserves become smaller. Rates of interest increase. Money hoarding evident everywhere. New York and Philadelphia banks begin the use of clearing house certificates. Foreign trade totals grow smaller. Great shipment of money from New York to the West. Silver bullion drops in price from 81 cents to 62 cents per ounce on the closing of the East Indian mints to free coinage. Banks failing in every direction.

**July.** Savings banks feel the effects of withdrawals of deposits due to widespread fear of approaching insolvency of these institutions. Money hoarded in safe deposit boxes. Weekly bank clearings smaller than at any previous time. Iron, steel, woollen, cotton, shoe and glass industries putting out fires and closing doors. Clearing-houses suspend operations in some cities. Commercial paper goes begging in nearly all the large cities. Mercantile collections well-nigh impossible. Railways begin to go into the hands of receivers. Banks begin refusing to cash cheques on deposits. Mercantile failures increase rapidly. Domestic and foreign trade indicators show that the volume of business decreased to about one-half the normal of the month.

**August.** Month opens with money easier due to sale of Government bonds by savings banks and individuals in order to raise funds to meet current demands. Feeling better, owing to meeting of Congress on August 17th, belief being that repeal of Silver Act would be the beginning of action for restoration of confidence and the consequent loosening of purse-strings at home and abroad. Savings banks take advantage of the 60 days clause, to prevent serious runs. Money still being hoarded. Currency at a premium of from 1 to 3 per cent. Silver dollars bring a premium as the demand for currency is more pressing than at any previous time. Banks cashing cheques, even for customers with ample deposits, only when absolutely necessary and even then only in part. Restriction of industrial production more pronounced than ever. *Brad-streets'* inquiries show over one million idle industrial, mining, building and other employees in the country. In mercantile circles prices of staples greatly depressed. Collections as difficult to make as in the preceding month. Woollen manufacturers report many cancellations of orders. Bank clearings touch low water mark. Volume of business only about one-half the normal. Gold returns to the country, actual receipts during first half of month about \$10,000,000. Total net receipts for month over \$40,000,000. Resumption of business by suspended banks marks the concluding week. Hoarding of funds less noticeable.

**September.** More confidence in the stock market. The premium on currency disappears. Bank deposits increase. Bank clearings gaining in volume. Freer offerings of loans on time and extensions of discount. Rapid retirement by New York banks of clearing-house certificates. More favourable weekly bank statements. The receipt of \$2,500,000 in gold during the first week of the month ends such importations for a time. Cotton and woollen mills start up and run on short time with reduced force.

**October.** Month opens with more cheerful reports concerning domestic trade. Collections continue slow but available funds in banks are heavier. Production of pig iron at the rate of one-third of that one year before and other leading manufactures continue depressed. List of railway embarrassments added to by a receivership for the Union Pacific, and by the failure of the Northern Pacific Railway Co. In the fourth week of the month there were gains in the volume of trade. Increased purchases of shares and bonds at the New York Stock Exchange. Larger supplies of money to lend on time and further offerings to purchase commercial paper.