

COPY

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Attached for the Secretary's information are the names of the finance ministers, the central banks, and the senior central bank officials of the following countries:

United Kingdom

Switzerland

Belgium

Greece

France

Turkey

Italy

Egypt

Sweden

FRANCE

Minister of Finance — Maurice Petsche (Paris)

Guindey (Director of International Finance
Department)

Central Bank — Banque de France

Central Bank Officials:

Wilfred Baumgartner	(Governor)
Saltes	(Vice Governor)
de Blatterie	" "
Bolgert	(Director of Foreign Department)
Koszul	(Assistant)
Gravieres	(Director Other Departments)
de Seze	" " "
Faure	" " "

ITALY

Minister of Finance — Pella (Treasury Minister) (Rome)

Vanoni (Finance Minister, concerned only
with internal financial matters)

Central Bank — Banca d'Italia

Central Bank Officials:

Donato Menichella	(Governor and President)
Formentini	(Deputy Governor and Director General)
Bernasconi	(Deputy to Deputy Governor)

SWEDEN

Minister of Finance -- Ernst Wigforss (Stockholm)

Central Bank -- Sveriges Riksbank

Central Bank Official:

Klaus Bøök (Governor)

SWITZERLAND

Minister of Finance -- Nobs (Also President of the Swiss
Confederation this year -- Socialist)

Central Bank -- Swiss National Bank (Zurich)

Central Bank Officials:

Dr. P. Keller (President) (Zurich)

P. Rossy (Vice President) (Bern)

GREECE

Minister of Finance -- D. Helmis (also spelled Chelmis)

Central Bank -- Bank of Greece

Central Bank Official:

Mantzavinos (Governor)

TURKEY

Minister of Finance -- Ismail Rıstü Aksal

Said Ergin (Director General of Treasury --
International Department)

Cemil Sait Barlas (Minister of State in
Charge of Foreign Economics
Economics and Financial
Affairs)

UNITED KINGDOM

Chancellor of the Exchequer -- Sir Stafford Cripps (London)

Central Bank -- Bank of England

Central Bank Officials:

C. F. Cobbold	(Governor)
D.G.M. Bernard	(Deputy Governor)
Sir Charles Jocelyn Hambro	(Director)
Sir Patrick Ashley Cooper	"
J. C. Hanburg-Williams	"
Sir Otto Ernst Wiemayer	"
L.J. Cadbury	"
R. E. Brook	"
Lord Piercy	"
H. K. M. Kindersley	"
Lord Braintree	"
G. L. F. Bolton	"
Sir George Chester	"
M. J. Babington-Smith	"
Sir Kenneth G. Peppiatt	"
H. C. B. Mynors	"

BELGIUM

Minister of Finance -- Gaston Eyskens (Brussels)

Central Bank -- Banque Nationale de Belgique (Brussels)

Central Bank Officials:

Maurice Frere	(Governor)
Adolphe Baudeqyne	(Vice Governor)
Pierre Berger	(Director)
Jean Van Nieuwenhuysse	"
Franz De Voghel	"
Hubert Anxiaus	"

(TURKEY - - Cont'd)

Central Bank -- Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey

Central Bank Officials:

Sadi Bekter	(Governor of Bank)
Kemal Sunel	(President, Board of Directors)
R. Aksam	(Director in Charge of Foreign Relations)

EGYPT

Minister of Finance -- Hussein Fahmy Bey

Central Bank -- National Bank of Egypt (a private bank carrying
on certain central bank
functions)

Central Bank Officials:

Aly Shamay Pasha	(President of the Board)
Sir Frederick Leith-Ross	(Governor of Bank)

BELGIUM

Biographical Notes:

Gaston F. Eyskens - Minister of Finance

Mr. Eyskens is an economist who was Minister of Finance in 1945 and again from 1947 to the present. He is also Vice-President of the Belgian Government and Governor of the International Bank. He has held various posts in the government since 1934 and prior to that year he was a professor at the University of Louvain. He is a member of the Christian Social Party.

Maurice Frère - Governor, Banque Nationale de Belgique

Mr. Frère is an economic expert who has held, among other posts, that of Economic Counsellor of the Berlin Transfer Committee under the Dawes Plan from 1924 to 1930. He has been Governor of the National Bank since 1944 and is Chairman of the Board of the Bank for International Settlement, Governor of the International Monetary Fund and Alternate Governor of the International Bank. Since 1918 Mr. Frère has held posts with the government and prior to that time he taught at Brussels University.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

Until recently the Banque Nationale de Belgique was a private institution although it had the privilege of issuing the national banknotes. In the latter part of 1948, however, the bank was freed of all private interests. As a result, the Government and the Central Bank now have common interests and responsibilities and bank action must be strictly in conformity with Government policy.

EGYPT

Biographical Notes:

Hussein Fahmy Bey - Minister of Finance

He obtained his present post earlier this year. He is a career Government employee though from 1943 to 1949 he was in business as Managing Director of Salt and Soda Company. Prior to this period, he was Under Secretary of Supply. He is a member of the Independent Party.

Aly Shamsy Pasha - President of the Board, National Bank of Egypt

Mr. Shamsy is a business man and politician. He is, in addition to his post as President of the National Bank, the Egyptian Representative on the Suez Canal Co. He is considered as an elder statesman and is reported to be intensely nationalistic.

Sir Frederick Leith-Ross - Governor, Bank of Egypt

Mr. Leith-Ross is a financial expert who has been Governor of the Bank since 1946. From 1944 to 1946 he served as Deputy Director and then Chairman of the European Committee of UNRRA. He previously held many economic and financial posts with the British Government, and for some years before the war was the leading economic adviser to the British Government. He commenced his government career in 1909 with the Treasury.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The National Bank of Egypt is a privately owned bank, the majority of whose stock is owned by British interests. The President of the Board of Directors is an Egyptian as are a majority of the directors. The Governor of the Bank is British.

The abrogation, in the summer of 1948, of the right to issue new currency against British securities has given the Egyptian Government a greater measure of control over the operations of the bank because the new note cover is limited to gold and Egyptian Government securities.

The Egyptian Government has contemplated the establishment of a new central bank to replace the present National Bank of Egypt or to nationalize this privately owned bank. These covert threats have made the National Bank of Egypt cooperative with the Finance Ministry and apparently the Finance Ministry no longer has any difficulty in enforcing its policies of control.

FRANCE

Biographical Notes:

Maurice Petsche - Minister of Finance

Mr. Petsche is a lawyer who was a Deputy to the French Parliament from 1925 to 1942 and again to the National Assembly in 1946. He became Minister of Finance under the present Queuille cabinet in about January of this year. Prior to this time he was Secretary of State to the Minister of Finance.

Wilfred Baumgartner - Governor, Banque de France

Mr. Baumgartner is a financial expert who became Governor of the Bank early in the current year. Prior to this time he was a member of the General Council of the Bank as well as Director General and President of the Conseil d'Administration du Credit National. From 1925 to 1937 he held various posts in the Ministry of Finance.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The Bank of France was formally nationalized after the war, although the government had exercised considerable control since about 1936.

When Baumgartner became Governor in January of this year, it was understood that he was a close friend of Finance Minister Petsche, and his appointment was regarded as something of a victory for the Finance Ministry since his views coincided more closely with the Finance Ministry than those of his predecessor, Monick.

GREECE

Biographical Notes:

Dimitrius Helmis (Chelmis) - Minister of Finance

Mr. Helmis became Temporary Minister of Coordination and National Economy and Temporary Minister of Finance in August 1947 and in September 1947 became Minister of Finance under Premier Sophoulis.

Georgios Mantzavinos - Governor, Bank of Greece

Mr. Mantzavinos is a lawyer and economist who became Governor of the Bank of Greece in 1946. Prior to that time he had held the posts of Minister of Finance 1935 to 1936 and again in 1945 and Deputy Governor of the Bank of Greece from 1936 to 1946. He began his government career in 1906.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The central bank is the Bank of Greece. (The National Bank of Greece is a commercial bank.) It is supervised by the Government but is privately owned. The Governor, Deputy Governor, and Sub-Governor are appointed by the cabinet on nomination of the Board of Directors of the Bank. In addition, the Minister of Finance may appoint a Commissioner who has the right to attend general meetings of the Bank, etc.

The Bank of Greece acts as fiscal agent for the Government. All Government accounts are required to be maintained with the Bank of Greece. The most important relationship between the Bank and the Ministry of Finance arises out of the former's role as the sole issuer of currency. The Government's substantial budgetary deficits are financed by over-drafts with the Bank of Greece - i.e., by the issuance of new currency. Also, since the war, the low level of bank deposits has meant that the bank of Greece, through the issuance of currency, has been almost the sole source of funds for the extension of credit by the commercial banks. Currency issuance is therefore a vital factor in the Government's budgetary and credit control operations.

Complete authority over the issue of currency has since 1946 been exercised by the Currency Committee, composed of the Ministers for Coordination and Finance, and the Governor of the Bank of Greece, in addition to one United Kingdom and one United States member. The unanimous approval of this Committee is required for any issuance of new currency. The Committee also plays an important role in shaping related fiscal and monetary policy, such as gold sovereign sales policy. Under this arrangement, the Bank of Greece and the Ministry of Finance must act in close cooperation on all major fiscal and monetary matters.

ITALY

Biographical Notes:

Giuseppe Pella - Treasury Minister

Mr. Pella is an economist who became Treasury Minister in April 1948. Prior to this time he was a professor of Business Administration. During the war he was active in one of the partisan groups. He is a member of the Christian Democratic Party.

Enzo Vanoni - Finance Minister

Mr. Vanoni is an economist who became Finance Minister in 1948. In 1947 he was Minister of Foreign Trade. He is also, at the present time, President of the National Institute of Commerce and Vice-President of the Economic Commission, World Federation for the United Nations. He taught economics and finance at various universities from 1930 to 1940. He entered Government service early in the 1940's. He is also a member of the Central Committee of the Christian Democratic Party.

Donato Menichella - Governor and President, Banca d'Italia

Mr. Menichella is a banker who was Director General of the Bank from 1946 to 1948 when he became Governor. He is also President of the Foreign Exchange Office, Italy's Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and President of the Finance Corporation for Industry (Consorzio Sovvenzioni su Valori Industriali). He began a banking career in 1922 with the Bank of Italy and later held posts with private banks.

Relation of Central Bank to Treasury:

The central bank in Italy, the Bank of Italy, is a governmental institution. It is the sole bank of issue and exercises important functions with respect to interest rates and credit control.

The Treasury Ministry is responsible for coordinating the government's budget and is the most important government department insofar as the determination of broad internal and external economic policy is concerned. The Ministry of Finance is primarily concerned with tax collection and internal finance.

Treasury Minister Pella is also Minister of the Budget and is Vice-Chairman of the CIR, the Interministerial Committee on Reconstruction which is the top cabinet level coordinating committee on economic policy. (The Prime Minister is only nominally the Chairman of CIR.) His success in decreasing the budgetary deficit and getting ECA approval to use the Lira Fund

Italy - Cont'd

for meeting investment expenditures within the budget raised Pella's prestige and contributed to his obtaining the position of economic coordinator of the Government.

The Bank of Italy while technically an administrative branch of the government exercises an important influence on policy through its Governor, Menichella, who is an important member of the CIR.

Both Pella and Menichella have been strong advocates of anti-inflationary policies and balanced budgets. The Treasury Minister has been one of the principal forces in the Government in support of a sound financial policy. In view of the progress being made in stabilizing the Government's finances he has favored an increase in investment in fiscal 1949/50. The Finance Minister, Vanoni, has been critical of the conservative credit policies pursued by the Governor of the Bank of Italy. Menichella has favored a cautious credit policy and has maintained that the banking system has extended as much credit as it could even to the extent of permitting an unorthodox use of commercial funds for long-term investments. Menichella has also been concerned with the necessity of building up dollar reserves for the future while the Finance Minister has been urging current use of available foreign exchange and stimulation of the investment program through the expansion of credit facilities and lowering of interest rates. The ECA Mission has tended to support the views of the Finance Minister in this matter.

SWEDEN

Biographical Notes:

David Hall - Minister of Finance

It has been reported that Mr. Hall will assume this post on July 1 to replace Mr. Ernst Wigforss. Mr. Hall is a former harness maker and a member of the Riksdag and Vice-Chairman of the Governors of the Riksbank.

Klas Erik Book - Governor, Sveriges Riksbank

Mr. Book is a diplomat and banker. He became Governor of the Bank in December of 1948. He is also head of the Commercial Department of the Foreign Office, Deputy Chairman of the Export Credit Guarantee Board and a member of the Foreign Exchange Control Board and Foreign Funds Control Board. He has held at various times in the period 1936 to 1946 the posts of Secretary, Head of Research Department, Deputy Manager, Manager and Deputy Governor of the Bank of Sweden.

Relationship of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The central bank is the Sveriges Riksbank (Bank of Sweden). It is the oldest bank of issue in the world, having been founded in 1656. The bank is owned by the state and is controlled by a board of seven directors, one of whom, the chairman, is appointed by the Government, represented by the Ministry of Finance, and the other six are elected by the Riksdag (the two legislative chambers). The Riksbank has the sole privilege of issuing bank notes and coins. The discount rate set by the Riksbank guides the rate policy of the other banks and banking institutions. Exchange control is vested in the Riksbank and a Foreign Exchange Office (Valutakontoret), an independent institution maintaining close relations with the Riksbank.

In the past there has been some conflict on banking policies between the Ministry of Finance, represented by Ernst Wigforss, and the Riksbank. Ivar Rooth resigned from his post as Governor of the Riksbank in a letter to the Riksdag dated December 4, 1948. Klas Book was elected Governor in his place by the Riksbank Directors on December 17, 1948. Approximately the first of December, Dag Hammarskjöld resigned as Chairman of the Riksbank's Board of Directors, and his positions in the Foreign Exchange Office and in the Konjunkturinstitut giving as his reason the press of his duties in Paris. Conrad Jonsson, a Social Democrat provincial governor, was appointed as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

The conflict between former Governor Rooth and the Social Democratic Labor Party administration, represented by Finance Minister Ernst Wigforss, has been mainly over the Government policy of supporting Government bond prices by purchasing them from commercial banks and other holders and low interest rate policies, which he has unsuccessfully opposed since 1946.

The immediate reason for resigning he told the Treasury Representative in Stockholm on December 6, was that he found it impossible to accept the decision on November 11 to increase the Riksbank's support of certain bonds in order to provide assurance that there would be no change in the interest rate policies. According to Rooth, Wigforss had made an agreement with the Civil Service Union not to change interest rate policies or permit a rise in the cost of living during 1949, and this commitment was not known to Rooth for a number of weeks.

Rooth also believed in a surplus in the budget and the retirement of debt at the rate of 200 million kroner a year, a tightening of commercial credit and investment, which a rise in the interest rate would help accomplish, a heavy reduction of imports and an expansion of exports.

The Conservative press (Svenska Dagbladet December 5, 1945) supported the financial views of Governor Rooth. The Liberal newspaper, Dagens Nyheter (December 5, 1948) commented that the independence of the Riksbank from political forces is at stake. The Social Democratic newspaper Morgon-Tidningen, approved of the resignation on the grounds that his policies were in conflict with those primarily supported by the Social Democratic Party.

SWITZERLAND

Biographical Notes:

Ernest Nobs - Minister of Finance and President of the Swiss Confederation

Mr. Nobs is a leading politician of the Socialist Party and newspaper editor. He has been Finance Minister since 1943 and is, in addition, presently the President of the Swiss Confederation. From 1915 to 1935 he was editor of Volkesrecht, and from 1935 to 1942 Minister of Public Economy in Zurich.

Paul V. Keller - President, Swiss National Bank

Mr. Keller is an economist and has been President of the Bank since 1947. Prior to this time he was the Swiss Delegate for International Commercial Arrangements from 1937 to 1946. From 1926 to 1937 he was a professor of economics at St. Gall.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The Swiss National Bank is a private institution which under law performs fiscal services for the Government. It is the sole bank of issue. It exercises control over credit through interest rate policy but does not enter directly into the capital market. The bank also administers foreign exchange controls and through its restriction of dollar transfers influences the domestic economy. The Bank has been opposed to the relaxation of restrictions on dollar transfers because of its belief that its efforts to curb inflationary trends would be jeopardized.

The Bank is largely independent of the Ministry of Finance. The latter is primarily concerned with tax collection functions. Economic policy is determined by the Political Department of the Government in collaboration with the Bank.

The Central Bank has been pursuing policies aimed at maintaining stability in internal purchasing power and the external value of the Swiss franc.

TURKEY

Biographical Notes:

Ismail Hustu Aksal - Minister of Finance

Mr. Aksal is a career government employee and a student of political science. He became Minister of Finance this year. From 1946 to 1949 he was the deputy to the National Assembly and from 1942 to 1945 Financial and Commercial Attache in London. He is a member of the Republican Peoples Party.

Said Ergin - Director General of Treasury, International Department

Mr. Ergin is a career employee who has held his present post since 1946. From 1942 to 1946 he was Director General of Tax Collection and from 1932 to 1942 was Inspector, Ministry of Finance. His political affiliations are not known.

Cemil Salt Barlas - Minister of State for Foreign Economic and Financial Affairs

Mr. Barlas is a career government employee trained in the law. He has held his present post since early this year; from 1948 to 1949 he was Minister of Commerce. He is a member of the Republican Peoples Party and is considered a moderate.

Sadi Bekter - Governor, Central Bank of Turkey

Mr. Bekter is a banker and has been in his present position since early this year. From 1946 to 1949 he was a deputy in the Grand National Assembly and has since 1941 held various posts with the Central Bank. From 1929 to 1931 he was Assistant Inspector of the Agricultural Bank.

Relation of Central Bank to Ministry of Finance:

The Central Bank of the Republic of Turkey is, as its name implies, the central bank of the country. It is wholly Turkish owned, with some 25 percent of its shares owned by the Government and the remainder held by various banks and individuals. The Turkish Finance Ministry exercises a strong control over the policies and operations of this bank.

UNITED KINGDOM

Biographical Notes:

Sir Stafford Cripps - Chancellor of the Exchequer

Sir Stafford commenced the practice of law in 1913 and became a Member of Parliament in 1931 where he remained as a member of the Labour Party until 1939. As a result of disagreement on foreign policy he became an Independent from 1939 to 1945 and retained his seat in Parliament. He was readmitted to the Labour Party in 1944 and became, from July of 1945 to September 1947, the President of the Board of Trade; from September to November 1947, the Minister for Economic Affairs; and from November 1947 to the present the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Cameron F. Cobbold - Governor, Bank of England

Mr. Cobbold is a banker by profession and rose from Deputy Governor of the Bank of England to Governor this year.

Relation of Central Bank to Treasury:

The Bank of England came under direct control of the British Treasury on March 1, 1946, the date on which the 1945 act nationalizing the Bank became operative. Actually no important changes in the relationship of the Bank to the Treasury followed this formal nationalization. Since 1931 the Bank of England has cooperated with the Treasury and its policies have largely been determined by the Treasury.