

At a regular meeting of the Federal Reserve Board held in the office of the Board on Friday, February 2, at 11 a. m.,

PRESENT:

Mr. Harding, presiding,	Mr. Delano,
Mr. Hamlin,	Mr. Williams,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Willis, Secretary.
Mr. Warburg,	

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of February 1 were read and, on motion, approved.

A report prepared by Mr. Warburg with reference to a form of trade acceptance intended for transmission to Mr. W. D. Isham, of the Harley-Davidson Motor Company, was read to the Board, and, on motion, ordered transmitted. It was also ordered that copies of the correspondence be sent to the Federal Reserve Banks affected.

The Secretary of the Board presented the Bond of Mr. F. W. Fleming, Deputy Federal Reserve Agent, Kansas City, duly executed and approved by Counsel. The bond was noted and ordered passed to file.

The application of the Commonwealth Trust Company of Boston for membership in the Federal Reserve System, duly recommended by the Committee on Member and State Banks, was presented to the Board, and on motion approved.

The Governor of the Board read a draft of a letter prepared for transmission to the Secretary of the Treasury with respect to the proposed arrangement as to the holding of gold by the State Bank of Russia on behalf of Federal Reserve Banks, indicating that in the opinion of the Board such action would not be wise at the present time. The letter was approved in substance and ordered transmitted.

The special order of the day, the general status and policy of the Board with respect to the Federal Reserve Bulletin, coming up for discussion, Mr. Hamlin moved that the general scope of the Bulletin for the future be that of a strictly official routine publication, after an alternative plan which had been set forth in a report prepared by the Secretary of the Board under instructions. General discussion ensued, and Mr. Hamlin withdrew his motion, whereupon Mr. Warburg moved that it

is the sense of the Board that the Bulletin consist of a general section devoted to a record of facts and statistics scientifically presented, such matters of opinion and the like as may be provided for to be published as a second section of the Bulletin, if such section should later be sanctioned. After discussion, Mr. Warburg's motion being put to a vote, prevailed.

Various propositions with reference to the Federal Reserve Bulletin were then by unanimous consent put to an informal vote, with the result that the following instructions with reference to the future management of the Bulletin were adopted and ordered entered:

1. That the present section of the Bulletin entitled "Review of the Month," shall be continued upon substantially the same lines as those adopted in the February, 1917, issue.
2. That the section entitled "Business Conditions," shall be retained upon substantially the present lines, with such improvements as the editor of the Bulletin can introduce into it.

3. That the present statistical tables furnished in the Bulletin instead of being published upon a quarterly and monthly basis, as at present, shall be published upon a semi-annual and quarterly basis.

4. That the editor of the Bulletin shall not be precluded from preparing descriptive articles embodying the substance of speeches made by members of the Board in which the salient points shall be quoted verbatim, with a descriptive summary of the remainder of the addresses.

5. That reports prepared by members of the Federal Reserve System may be published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin, such publication in each instance to receive appropriate sanction. Reports on the clearing situation in New England and the management of the Memphis Agency to be obtained from Governor Aiken and Federal Reserve Agent Martin respectively were so sanctioned as a beginning.

It was further informally voted that the following propositions be laid down for the management or control of the Bulletin:

1. That the Bulletin Committee shall continue in sole charge of the Bulletin.
2. That the editor of the Bulletin shall be at liberty to consult with any member of the Board especially interested in a particular subject to be treated in the Bulletin, submitting to him such data as may relate to such subject and providing him with proofs of the Bulletin.

Upon application of the Secretary of the Board, approval was granted for his delivering a course of lectures at Columbia University on Saturdays during the next few weeks, such absences to be charged against his annual leave.

Mr. Delano presented to the Board a statement concerning the situation at the Byromville National Bank, Byromville, Ga., and Governor Harding read a letter he had prepared, addressed to Federal Reserve Agent Wellborn, with reference to the policy to be adopted toward the Byromville institution, suggesting that the Federal Reserve Agent at Atlanta enforce the use of the penalty for depleted reserves in order to maintain satisfactory conditions,

and exercise when necessary his power to examine member banks.

A letter from the Pompeian Oil Company with reference to the present state of exchange was referred to the Executive Committee.

On motion the Board adjourned to meet on Monday, February 5, at 11 o'clock, a. m.

H. Parkhouse
Secretary.

APPROVED:

W. A. ...
Chairman.