

A meeting of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System was held in Washington on Saturday, August 10, 1940, at 12:15 p.m.

PRESENT: Mr. Eccles, Chairman
 Mr. McKee
 Mr. Davis
 Mr. Draper

Mr. Bethea, Assistant Secretary

The action stated with respect to each of the matters herein-after referred to was taken by the Board:

The minutes of the meeting of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System held on August 9, 1940, were approved unanimously.

Letter to the board of directors of "The First Savings Bank of Ravenna, Ohio", Ravenna, Ohio, stating that, subject to conditions of membership numbered 1 to 3 contained in the Board's Regulation H, the Board approves the bank's application for membership in the Federal Reserve System and for the appropriate amount of stock in the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland.

Approved unanimously, together with a letter to Mr. Fleming, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland, reading as follows:

"The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System approves the application of 'The First Savings Bank of Ravenna, Ohio', Ravenna, Ohio, for membership in the Federal Reserve System, subject to the conditions prescribed in the enclosed letter which you are requested to forward to the Board of Directors of the institution. Two copies of such letter are also enclosed, one of which is for your files and the other of which you are

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"requested to forward to the Superintendent of Banks for the State of Ohio for his information.

"It is assumed that your office will follow the matter of the bank's bringing into conformity with the provisions of law and the Board's regulations the savings account listed on page 16 of the report of examination for membership."

Letter to the board of directors of the "Crosby State Bank", Crosby, Texas, stating that, subject to conditions of membership numbered 1 to 3 contained in the Board's Regulation H, the Board approves the bank's application for membership in the Federal Reserve System and for the appropriate amount of stock in the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Approved unanimously for transmission through the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

Memorandum dated August 8, 1940, from Mr. Goldenweiser, Director of the Division of Research and Statistics, stating that Colonel Roos of the office of Donald Nelson, Coordinator of National Defense Purchases, had asked the Division of Research and Statistics if it could obtain from the Federal Reserve Banks from time to time spot-check information on conditions in particular industries which could be used by them in deciding where to award contracts for specific purchases. The memorandum stated that it was believed the Federal Reserve Banks could supply information that would be of use for this purpose and the Division was willing to give it a trial. The memorandum stated further that, in view of the fact that Colonel Roos

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desired the data as a check on information which he would receive from the War Department and other sources, he would like to have the arrangement as informal and as secret as possible, and that, unless the Board had objection, the Division of Research and Statistics would make arrangements with the Federal Reserve Banks to supply this service.

Approved unanimously, together with the following letter to the Presidents of all of the Federal Reserve Banks to be sent over the signature of Mr. Goldenweiser:


"One of the divisions of the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense has asked us if we could obtain from the Federal Reserve Banks from time to time spot-check information on conditions in particular industries. Information would be wanted primarily regarding demand and supply conditions and employment in the industry. Data as to employment conditions in the communities where establishments in the industry are located would also be useful.

"It is desirable that the information be obtained without indicating to the trade that it is for the use of the Defense Commission.

"We will wire specific requests, as soon as received, to the heads of the Reserve Banks' statistical departments. Replies will be needed within 48 hours. Extensive or detailed reports will not be expected.

"Anything that you can do to help obtain such information will be appreciated."

Thereupon the meeting adjourned.


Assistant Secretary.

Approved:


Chairman.