FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK

Fiscal Agent of the United States

Circular No. 2453

TREASURY BILLS

To all Incorporated Banks and Trust Companies in the Second Federal Reserve District and Others Concerned:

In this bank's circular No. 2430, dated May 8, 1942, reference was made to an increase in the weekly offering of Treasury bills which the Secretary of the Treasury had announced would begin with the issue dated May 13, 1942. The belief was then expressed that the larger weekly offerings of bills would provide a convenient opportunity for employment of funds upon which banks and others might wish to obtain some income without real sacrifice of liquidity. It was also pointed out in the circular that the attractiveness of the Treasury bill, as a short-term investment, had been increased by the rise in yields which had taken place in the previous six months, and by the enhanced liquidity of these securities now assured by the undertaking of the Federal Reserve Banks to purchase all bills offered to them on a discount basis at the rate of $\frac{3}{5}$ percent per annum.

The first increase in the weekly offering of Treasury bills was from \$150,000,000 to \$250,000,000. On June 5, 1942 the Secretary of the Treasury announced that beginning with the issue dated June 10, 1942 weekly bill offerings would be further increased by \$50,000,000 to \$300,000,000. The increased availability of bills arising out of the larger offerings and the assurance of a market at a fixed price has already given greater breadth to the Treasury bill market. Tenders for new issues of Treasury bills have been received in increasing numbers from outside of the principal money centers, where these bills find their principal market, and many inquiries have been received, from banks and others, as to the correct procedure to follow in bidding for Treasury bills. In view of these inquiries and in the interest of a further broadening of the market, the procedure used in submitting tenders for new issues of Treasury bills and other pertinent data are outlined on the following pages.

Allan Sproul,

President.

INFORMATION REGARDING TREASURY BILLS

The Treasury bill is a bearer obligation of the United States issued on a discount basis. Maturities of new issues of Treasury bills have varied in the past, but in late years the usual maturity has been 91 days. The income on Treasury bills represents the difference between the purchase price and the sale price or maturity value. The income, whether interest or gain from the sale or other disposition of the bill, is subject to Federal taxation, but is exempt from State and local taxes.

Treasury bills are freely traded in the open market, and new issues when offered may be obtained direct from the Treasury by tender through the Federal Reserve Banks. The Secretary of the Treasury follows the practice of inviting competitive tenders, each week, for a specified amount of Treasury bills of stipulated maturity to be issued on a discount basis. Public announcement of offerings of Treasury bills is usually made on Friday. Tenders are received up to 2 p.m., Eastern war time, on the following Monday, and bills are usually dated and issued on Wednesday. In the case of qualified depositaries, the Secretary of the Treasury from time to time in his discretion allows payment to be made by credit in the War Loan Deposit Account. Instructions with respect to the procedure to be followed in submitting tenders are given in Treasury Department Circular No. 418*, as amended, and in the circulars of this bank which contain public notice of Treasury bill offerings. The circulars are mailed to all incorporated banks and trust companies in the Second Federal Reserve District and to other interested investors.

On the reverse side of these offering circulars there is provided a special form for use in submitting tenders for Treasury bills. Tenders must be made for an amount that is an even multiple of \$1000, on a maturity value basis, and the price or prices submitted by the bidder for the amount or amounts desired (at maturity values) must be stated and expressed on the basis of 100, and to the third decimal place only. For example, a bank wishing to bid for 91-day Treasury bills dated July 1, 1942 and maturing September 30, 1942 (current issue) should fill out a tender form and forward it to reach this bank not later than 2 p.m., on Monday, June 29, 1942. If it were desired to bid a price of, say, 99.909 for \$100,000 maturity value, the price of 99.909 would be inserted in the blank space after the word "pay" on the tender form and \$100,000 in the space after "amount of" so that the tender form would read as follows:

"Pursuant to the provisions of Treasury Department Circular No. 418, as amended, and to the provisions of the public notice on June 26, 1942, as issued by the Secretary of the Treasury, the undersigned offers to pay 99.909 for a total amount of 100,000 (maturity value) of the Treasury bills therein described, or for any less amount that may be awarded, payment therefor to be made at your bank in cash or other immediately available funds on the date stated in the public notice."

In cases where bidders prefer to wait until the last day on which tenders are received (usually Monday), and distance prevents delivery to a Federal Reserve Bank or Branch by hand, the bid or bids should be tendered, through a bank, by telegram. Tenders submitted by incorporated banks and trust companies by telegram should be confirmed immediately by mail, on tender forms, and both the telegrams and tender forms should indicate whether the tenders are for account of the bank or for account of its customers.

A bidder who submits bids at more than one price is required to execute a separate tender at each price. Tenders may be submitted without deposit by incorporated banks and trust companies and by responsible and recognized dealers in investment securities. In the absence of an express

* Additional copies may be obtained from Federal Reserve Bank of New York upon request.

guaranty of payment by an incorporated bank or trust company, tenders by others must be accompanied by deposit of 10 percent of the face amount of the Treasury bills for which tenders are submitted.

Upon expiration of the time set for placing bids, all tenders received at each Federal Reserve Bank are opened and the details communicated by wire to the Secretary of the Treasury. Starting with the highest price, the Secretary awards bids in full until the Treasury has obtained the approximate amount of funds stated in the offering circular. Where two or more bids are made at the same price and only a part of the tenders at such price can be accepted, the amount accepted is prorated in accordance with the respective amounts bid for.

The Secretary of the Treasury makes a public announcement of the results of each weekly sale of Treasury bills which generally appears in the newspapers on the morning following the closing of bidding. The Reserve Banks, at the same time and on instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, advise those who have submitted tenders of the acceptance or rejection of their bids. Attached to the advice sent to successful bidders is a form to be filled out by them indicating the denominations in which the bills are to be issued, the disposition to be made of the bills, and the method of payment.

Notwithstanding the fact that competitive bidding for Treasury bills is conducted on a price basis, these securities are quoted in the market on a discount basis. A rate of discount equivalent to a given price may be calculated as follows:

- 1. Subtract the price from face value (i.e. maturity value) to obtain the amount of the discount.
- 2. Divide the amount of discount by the actual number of days to maturity of the bill to obtain the amount of discount per day.
- 3. Multiply the amount of discount per day by 360 (the number of days in a commercial year of 12 months of 30 days each) to obtain the amount of discount per year.
- 4. Divide the amount of discount per year by face value to obtain the rate of discount.

For example, if Treasury bills maturing September 30, 1942 were purchased July 1, 1942 (91 actual days to maturity) at a price of 99.909 per \$100, the annual rate of discount could be determined by the following calculation:

FORMULA:

Face value less purchase price divided by actual number of days to maturity multiplied by number of days in a commercial year divided by face value equals annual rate of discount.

EXAMPLE:

$$\frac{100.000 - 99.909}{91} \times 360 \div 100 = .0036 \text{ or } 36/100 \text{ of } 1\%$$

Conversely, if it is desired to ascertain the price of a Treasury bill purchased at a specified rate of discount, the following method may be used:

- 1. Multiply the annual rate of discount by face value in order to obtain the amount of the annual discount.
- 2. Divide the amount of the discount by 360 (the number of days in a commercial year of 12 months of 30 days each) to obtain the amount of discount per day.
- 3. Multiply the discount per day by the actual number of days to maturity of the bill to obtain the amount of discount for the remaining life of the bill.
- Deduct the amount of discount for the remaining life of the bill from the face value of the bill to arrive at the purchase price.

For example, if the same Treasury bills referred to in the preceding example were purchased on the same date at a rate of 0.36% discount, the price could be determined as follows:

FORMULA

Rate of discount multiplied by face value divided by number of days in a commercial year multiplied by the actual number of days to maturity equals amount of discount for the remaining life of bill.

Face value less amount of discount for the remaining life of bill equals purchase price.

EXAMPLE:

$\frac{.0036 \times 100}{360} \times 91 = .091$								
Face	value	100.000						
Less		.091						
Purcl	hase Price	99.909						

For the convenience of investors in determining equivalent prices and rates of discount for specified time periods, the table on the following pages has been prepared showing the cost of or proceeds from United States Treasury bills per \$100 at rates of discount ranging from 0.25% to 0.50%. The table may be used in calculating tenders for any amount of new offerings of Treasury bills since bid prices must be expressed only to the third decimal place. It should also prove useful to investors who buy and sell Treasury bills in the market, although the decimals have not been extended sufficiently to give accurate market prices, to the last cent, on amounts in excess of \$1,000,000. The utility of the table may be illustrated by the example of an investor wishing to obtain, by tender, new 91-day Treasury bills at a discount of 0.36%. Since a bidder must make his tender on a price basis, he could immediately arrive at the appropriate price by finding 91 in the column headed "days to run" and then taking the figure corresponding to 91 days in the column headed "0.36%". Thus, the price equivalent to a rate of discount of 0.36% for a 91-day bill would be 99.909.

DISCOUNT RATE AND PRICE PER \$100

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Days Rur	to 1 0.25%	0.26%	0.27%	0.28%	0.29%	0.30%	0.31%	0.32%	0.33%	0.34%	0.35%	0.36%	0.37%	0.375%
1 2 3 4 5	99.998611 99.997917 99.997222	99.998556 99.997833 99.997111	99.998500 99.997750 99.997000	99.998444 99.997667 99.996889	99.998389 99.997583 99.996778	99.998333 99.997500 99.996667	99.998278 99.997417 99.996556	99.998222 99.997333 99.996444	99.999083 99.998167 99.997250 99.996333 99.995417	99.998111 99.997167 99.996222	99.998056 99.997083 99.996111	99.998000 99.997000 99.996000	99.997944 99.996917 99.995889	99.997917 99.996875 99.995833
6 7 8 9 10	99.995139 99.994444 99.993750	99.994944 99.994222 99.993500	99.994750 99.994000 99.993250	99.994556 99.993778 99.993000	99.994361 99.993556 99.992750	99.994167 99.993333 99.992500	99.993972 99.993111 99.992250	99.993778 99.992889 99.992000	99.994500 99.993583 99.992667 99.991750 99.990833	99.993389 99.992444 99.991500	99.993194 99.992222 99.991250	99.993000 99.992000 99.991000	99.992806 99.991778 99.990750	99.992708 99.991667 99.990625
11 12 13 14 15	99.991667 99.990972	99.991333 99.990611	99.991000 99.990250	99.990667 99.989889	99.990333 99.989528	99.990000 99.989167	99.989667 99.988806	99.989333 99.988444	99.989917 99.989000 99.988083 99.987167 99.986250	99.988667 99.987722	99.988333 99.987361	99.988000 99.987000	99.987667 99.986639	99.987500 99.986458
16 17 18 19 20	99.988194 99.987500 99.986806	99.987722 99.987000 99.986278	99.987250 99.986500 99.985750	99.986778 99.986000 99.985222	99.986306 99.985500 99.984694	99.985833 99.985000 99.984167	99.985361 99.984500 99.983639	99.984889 99.984000 99.983111	99.985333 99.984417 99.983500 99.982583 99.981667	99.983944 99.983000 99.982056	99.983472 99.982500 99.981528	99.983000 99.982000 99.981000	99.982528 99.981500 99.980472	99.982292 99.981250 99.980208
21 22 23 24 25	99.984722 99.984028 99.983333	99.984111 99.983389 99.982667	99.983500 99.982750 99.982000	99.982889 99.982111 99.981333	99.982278 99.981472 99.980667	99.981667 99.980833 99.980000	99.981056 99.980194 99.979333	99.980444 99.979556 99.978667	99.980750 99.979833 99.978917 99.978000 99.977083	99.979222 99.978278 99.977333	99.978611 99.977639 99.976667	99.978000 99.977000 99.976000	99.977389 99.976361 99.975333	99.977083 99.976042 99.975000
26 27 28 29 30	99.981250 99.980556 99.979861	99.980500 99.979778 99.979056	99.979750 99.979000 99.978250	99.979000 99.978222 99.977444	99.978250 99.977444 99.976639	99.977500 99.976667 99.975833	99.976750 99.975889 99.975028	99.976000 99.975111 99.974222	99.976167 99.975250 99.974333 99.973417 99.972500	99.974500 99.973556 99.972611	99.973750 99.972778 99.971806	99.973000 99.972000 99.971000	99.972250 99.971222 99.970194	99.971875 99.970833 99.969792
31 32 33 34 35	99.977083	99.976167	99.975250	99.974333	99.973417	99.972500	99.971583	99.970667	99.971583 99.970667 99.969750 99.968833 99.967917	99 968833	99 967917	99 967000	99.966083	99.965625
36 37 38 39 40	99.974306 99.973611 99.972917	99.973278 99.972556 99.971833	99.972250 99.971500 99.970750	99.971222 99.970444 99.969667	99.970194 99.969389 99.968583	99.969167 99.968333 99.967500	99.968139 99.967278 99.966417	99.967111 99.966222 99.965333	99.967000 99.966083 99.965167 99.964250 99.963333	99.965056 99.964111 99.963167	99.964028 99.963056 99.962083	99.963000 99.962000 99.961000	99.961972 99.960944 99.959917	99.961458 99.960417 99.959375
41 42 43 44 45	99.970833 99.970139 99.969444	99.969667 99.968944 99.968222	99.968500 99.967750 99.967000	99.967333 99.966556 99.965778	99.966167 99.965361 99.964556	99.965000 99.964167 99.963333	99.963833 99.962972 99.962111	99.962667 99.961778 99.960889	99.962417 99.961500 99.960583 99.959667 99.958750	99.960333 99.959389 99.958444	99.959167 99.958194 99.957222	99.958000 99.957000 99.956000	99.956833 99.955806 99.954778	99.956250 99.955208 99.954167
46 47 48 49 50	99.967361 99.966667 99.965972	99.966056 99.965333 99.964611	99.964750 99.964000 99.963250	99.963444 99.962667 99.961889	99.962139 99.961333 99.960528	99.960833 99.960000 99.959167	99.959528 99.958667 99.957806	99.958222 99.957333 99.956444	99.957833 99.956917 99.956000 99.955083 99.954167	99.955611 99.954667 99.953722	99.954306 99.953333 99.952361	99.953000 99.952000 99.951000	99.951694 99.950667 99.949639	99.951042 99.950000 99.948958
51 52 53 54 55	99.963889 99.963194 99.962500	99.962444 99.961722 99.961000	99.961000 99.960250 99.959500	99.959556 99.958778 99.958000	99.958111 99.957306 99.956500	99.956667 99.955833 99.955000	99.955222 99.954361 99.953500	99.953778 99.952889 99.952000	99.953250 99.952333 99.951417 99.950500 99.949583	99.950889 99.949944 99.949000	99.949444 99.948472 99.947500	99.948000 99.947000 99.946000	99.946556 99.945528 99.944500	99.945833 99.944792 99.943750
56 57 58 59 60	99.959722	99.958111	99.956500 99.955750	99.954889 99.954111	99.953278 99.952472	99.951667 99.950833	99.950056 99.949194	99.948444 99.947556	99.948667 99.947750 99.946833 99.945917 99.945000	99.945222 99.944278	99.943611 99.942639	99.942000 99.941000	99.940389 99.939361	99.939583 99.938542
61 62 63 64 65	99.956944 99.956250 99.955556	99.955222 99.954500 99.953778	99.953500 99.952750 99.952000	99.951778 99.951000 99.950222	99.950056 99.949250 99.948444	99.948333 99.947500 99.946667	99.946611 99.945750 99.944889	99.944889 99.944000 99.943111	99.944083 99.943167 99.942250 99.941333 99.940417	99.941444 99.940500 99.939556	99.939722 99.938750 99.937778	99.938000 99.937000 99.936000	99.936278 99.935250 99.934222	99.935417 99.934375 99.933333
66 67 68 69 70	99.953472 99.952778 99.952083	99.951611 99.950889 99.950167	99.949750 99.949000 99.948250	99.947889 99.947111 99.946333	99.946028 99.945222 99.944417	99.944167 99.943333 99.942500	99.942306 99.941444 99.940583	99.940444 99.939556 99.938667	99.939500 99.938583 99.937667 99.936750 99.935833	99.936722 99.935778 99.934833	99.934861 99.933889 99.932917	99.933000 99.932000 99.931000	99.931139 99.930111 99.929083	99.930208 99.929167 99.928125
74	99.950000 99.949306	99.948000 99.947278 99.946556	99.946000 99.945250 99.944500	99.944000 99.943222 99.942444	99.942000 99.941194 99.940389	99.940000 99.939167 99.938333	99.938000 99.937139 99.936278	99.936000 99.935111 99.934222	99.934917 99.934000 99.933083 99.932167 99.931250	99.932000 99.931056 99.930111	99.930000 99.929028 99.928056	99.928000 99.927000 99.926000	99.926000 99.924972 99.923944	99.925000 99.923958 99.922917
77 78 79	99.947222 99.946528 99.945833 99.945139 99.944444	99.944389 99.943667 99.942944	99.942250 99.941500 99.940750	99.940111 99.939333 99.938556	99.937972 99.937167 99.936361	99.935833 99.935000 99.934167	99.933694 99.932833 99.931972	99.931556 99.930667 99.929778	99.929417 99.928500 99.927583	99.927278 99.926333 99.925389	99.925139 99.924167 99.923194	99.923000 99.922000 99.921000	99.920861 99.919833 99.918806	99.919792 99.918750 99.917708
81 82 83 84	99.943750 99.943056 99.942361 99.941667 99.940972	99.941500 99.940778 99.940056 99.939333	99.939250 99.938500 99.937750 99.937000	99.937000 99.936222 99.935444 99.934667	99.934750 99.933944 99.933139 99.932333	99.932500 99.931667 99.930833 99.930000	99.930250 99.929389 99.928528 99.927667	99.928000 99.927111 99.926222 99.925333	99.925750 99.924833 99.923917 99.923000	99.923500 99.922556 99.921611 99.920667	99.921250 99.920278 99.919306 99.918333	99.919000 99.918000 99.917000 99.916000	99.916750 99.915722 99.914694 99.913667	99.915625 99.914583 99.913542 99.912500
86 87 88 89	99.940278 99.939583 99.938889 99.938194 99.937500	99.937889 99.937167 99.936444 99.935722	99.935500 99.934750 99.934000 99.933250	99.933111 99.932333 99.931556 99.930778	99.930722 99.929917 99.929111 99.928306	99.928333 99.927500 99.926667 99.925833	99.925944 99.925083 99.924222 99.923361	99.923556 99.922667 99.921778 99.920889	99.921167 99.920250 99.919333 99.918417	99.918778 99.917833 99.916889 99.915944	99.916389 99.915417 99.914444 99.913472	99.914000 99.913000 99.912000 99.911000	99.911611 99.910583 99.909556 99.908528	99.910417 99.909375 99.908333 99.907292
91 92 93	99.936806 99.936111 99.935417	99.934278 99.933556	99.931750 99.931000	99.929222 99.928444	99.926694 99.925889	99.924167 99.923333	99.921639 99.920778	99.919111 99.918222	99.916583 99.915667	99.914056 99.913111	99.911528 99.910556	99.909000 99.908000	99.906472 99.905444	99.905208 99.904167
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DISCOUNT RATE AND PRICE PER \$100

DISCOUNT RATE AND PRICE PER \$100												ove to	
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99.976778 99.975722 99.974667	99.976167 99.975083 99.974000	99.975556 99.974444 99.973333	99.974944 99.973806 99.972667	99.975500 99.974333 99.973167 99.972000 99.970833	99.973722 99.972528 99.971333	99.973111 99.971889 99.970667	99.972500 99.971250 99.970000	99.971889 99.970611 99.969333	99.971278 99.969972 99.968667	99.970667 99.969333 99.968000	99.970056 99.968694 99.967333	99.969444 99.968056 99.966667	21 22 23 24 25
99.971500 99.970444 99.969389	99.970750 99.969667 99.968583	99.970000 99.968889 99.967778	99.969250 99.968111 99.966972	99.969667 99.968500 99.967333 99.966167 99.965000	99.967750 99.966556 99.965361	99.967000 99.965778 99.964556	99.966250 99.965000 99.963750	99.965500 99.964222 99.962944	99.964750 99.963444 99.962139	99.964000 99.962667 99.961333	99.963250 99.961889 99.960528	99.962500 99.961111 99.959722	26 27 28 29 30
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99.960944 99.959889 99.958833	99.959917 99.958833 99.957750	99.958889 99.957778 99.956667	99.957861 99.956722 99.955583	99.958000 99.956833 99.955667 99.954500 99.953333	99.955806 99.954611 99.953417	99.954778 99.953556 99.952333	99.953750 99.952500 99.951250	99.952722 99.951444 99.950167	99.951694 99.950389 99.949083	99.950667 99.949333 99.948000	99.949639 99.948278 99.946917	99.948611 99.947222 99.945833	36 37 38 39 40
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99.945111 99.944056 99.943000	99.943667 99.942583 99.941500	99.942222 99.941111 99.940000	99.940778 99.939639 99.938500	99.940500 99.939333 99.938167 99.937000 99.935833	99.937889 99.936694 99.935500	99.936444 99.935222 99.934000	99.935000 99.933750 99.932500	99.933556 99.932278 99.931000	99.932111 99.930806 99.929500	99.930667 99.929333 99.928000	99.929222 99.927861 99.926500	99.927778 99.926389 99.925000	51 52 53 54 55
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99.929278 99.928222 99.927167	99.927417 99.926333 99.925250	99.925556 99.924444 99.923333	99.923694 99.922556 99.921417	99.923000 99.921833 99.920667 99.919500 99.918333	99.919972 99.918778 99.917583	99.918111 99.916889 99.915667	99.916250 99.915000 99.913750	99.914389 99.913111 99.911833	99.912528 99.911222 99.909917	99.910667 99.909333 99.908000	99.908806 99.907444 99.906083	99.906944 99.905556 99.904167	67 68
99.921889	99.922000 99.920917 99.919833	99.920000 99.918889 99.917778	99.918000 99.916861 99.915722	99.917167 99.916000 99.914833 99.913667 99.912500	99.914000 99.912806 99.911611	99.912000 99.910778 99.909556	99.910000 99.908750 99.907500	99.908000 99.906722 99.905444	99.906000 99.904694 99.903389	99.904000 99.902667 99.901333	99.902000 99.900639 99.899278	99.900000 99.898611 99.897222	71 72 73 74 75
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99.903944 99.902889 99.901833	99.900333	99.897778	99.895222	99.892667	99.890111	99.887556	99.885000	99.882444	99.879889	99.877333	99.874778	99 872222	91 92 93

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