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ADDRESS DEDI V TO FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD

WASHINGTON

July 12, 1917.

Dear Sir:

The Federal Reserve Act empowers the Federal Reserve Board "to add to the number of cities classified as reserve and central reserve cities under existing law in which national banking associations are subject to the reserve requirements set forth in Section 19 of this Act; or to reclassify existing reserve and central reserve cities, or to terminate their designation as such."

A committee of the Board has had under consideration for some time past the suggestion that certain cities which are now the domicile of "country banks" should be given the status of reserve cities. The committee has prepared a list of cities as shown on the list enclosed herewith, which might, by reason of their population, be classed as reserve cities. From this list of 27 cities, the committee has recommended that 8 cities be named as reserve cities, to wit:

> Buffalo, N. Y. Toledo, Ohio. Peoria, Illinois.

Jacksonville, Florida. Grand Rapids, Michigan. Evansville, Indiana. Memphis, Tennessee. Oakland, California.

In all but one of these 8 cities, amounts due to banks exceed 23 per cent of the total deposits. In the city which constitutes the single exception - Buffalo - the bank deposits aggregate only 13.4 per cent of the total, but the sum total of these (more than \$12,000,000), the population of the city and its importance as an industrial center, would seem to justify the reclassification proposed.

You are requested to bring this letter to the attention of your Executive Committee or Board of Directors, and to acquaint the Board at your earliest convenience of the consensus of opinion regarding the proposed action, at the same time making any suggestions which you may deem proper.

Very truly yours,

Governor.