BOARD OF COVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Statement for the Press

For release in morning newspapers of Thursday, November 10, 1938.

November 9, 1938.

The Board believes that the principles of Section 8 of the Clayton Act, which relate to interlocking bank directorates, are in the public interest and should be applied to all classes of banks. The law is now discriminatory in that it applies only to cases involving member banks of the Federal Reserve System or private banks. The Board does not believe that there should be discrimination in any respect among classes of banks subject to Federal authority.

In view of the fact that less than a month will elapse between the convening of the new Congress and February 1, 1939, on which date certain existing relationships would terminate, the Board has exercised its discretion under the law, as to such relationships involving not more than two banks, to extend this time to August 1, 1939. This action was taken for the purpose of calling the matter to the attention of Congress when it convenes, with a recommendation that the existing discrimination between member banks and non-member banking institutions be removed so that the provisions of the law will apply alike to all banks under Federal authority.

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