

S-491

TELEGRAM

May 26, 1942

(Addressed to the Presidents of all Federal Reserve Banks)

Classification "Jewelry (including precious stones and costume jewelry)", Group A-19 of Regulation W, includes such articles as cigarette cases and compacts when the article is made of or ornamented with precious metals or precious or semi-precious stones. Classification also includes such articles as men's and women's belt buckles, key chains, tie clips and collar fasteners. Principle involved is that classification includes all articles which are found to be customarily classified as jewelry by the trade, particularly when in addition the article comes fairly within the dictionary definition which refers to articles of personal adornment.

The Reserve Banks are requested to note for application to other questions concerning listed articles that the foregoing interpretation is based primarily upon investigation into the facts of prevailing trade usage and also that it follows a studied pattern in stressing the inclusive aspect of the classification and leaving the exclusive aspect to implication. Board would like as a matter of policy to avoid hereafter as far as possible rulings that will either (1) state categorically that a given article is not a listed article or (2) appear by going into small details to countenance efforts to search out possible gaps in the list.

(Signed) Chester Morrill