THIRTY-FIFTH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM



COVERING OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR

1948

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, June 30, 1949.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 10 of the Federal Reserve Act, as amended, I have the honor to submit the Thirty-fifth Annual Report, prepared by direction of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, covering operations during the calendar year 1948.

Yours respectfully,

THOMAS B. McCABE, Chairman.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Reserve policies during most of 1948, as in the preceding eight years, were directed toward exerting restraint on inflationary credit expansion while at the same time maintaining stability in the market for Government securities. During the late fall of 1948 and more definitely in 1949, economic developments began to reflect widespread abatement of the inflationary pressures. The adjustments evident in the economy then called for relaxation of measures of credit restraint, and accordingly the Board of Governors took prompt action to modify its policies.

Inflationary forces continued dominant in the economy during the greater part of 1948, the year covered by this Thirty-fifth Annual Report of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Commodity prices, which had risen sharply in 1946 and 1947, advanced generally until late summer of 1948 after showing some weakness early in the year. Production increased moderately from the unusually high levels reached in 1947. Incomes continued to expand, as did expenditures for consumer goods, housing, plant and equipment, and public works. Federal Government expenditures increased as programs of international aid and military defense expanded, while personal income taxes were reduced. Businesses, farmers, home owners, and individuals continued to borrow. Further lending by banks and other financing institutions was made possible in part by widespread selling of Government securities to the Federal Reserve. However, the over-all volume of credit was checked somewhat by voluntary action by the banks as well as compulsory restraints on private credit expansion.

As the year progressed, supplies in many lines came more nearly into balance with demands and in some cases exceeded demands at prevailing prices. After August, commodity prices declined in both wholesale and retail markets. The average level of wholesale prices, which had risen 16 per cent in 1947, was no higher at the end of 1948 than at the beginning. Consumer prices rose 3 per cent in 1948 compared with 9 per cent in 1947. Toward the end of the year credit expansion slackened and persistent selling of Government bonds by nonbank investors ceased.

In the early months of 1949, further easing of inflationary pressures was reflected in a slackening in consumer buying, more general price reductions, declines in production and employment, a rise in unemployment from the very low levels of recent years, and a decline in bank credit.

FEDERAL RESERVE POLICIES UNDER CHANGING CONDITIONS

In view of the inflationary tendencies prevailing during most of 1948, as well as of the possibility of further inflation through credit expansion, the policies of the Federal Reserve System continued to be directed toward exercising as much restraint upon credit expansion as was possible under the limitations imposed by the need for supporting the market for Government securities. Notwithstanding further substantial credit growth, monetary expansion was more effectively restrained in 1948 than in any other year since before the war. The principal limiting element was the substantial surplus of the Treasury, reinforced by restrictive policies pursued by the Federal Reserve.

Early in 1949, as evidences of economic readjustment indicated less need for restrictive credit policies, the Board of Governors relaxed certain of its regulations and requirements. In March, it reduced margin requirements on security loans by brokers and banks, fixed in Regulations T and U, from 75 to 50 per cent of the market value of the collateral securities (in May it made a further change permitting a 25 per cent margin in the case of securities acquired through the exercise of subscription rights when certain specified conditions are followed). In March and again in April, it amended Regulation W, governing consumer instalment credit, to reduce minimum down payments on articles other than automobiles and to increase the maximum period permitted for repayment of all credits under the regulation. The April amendment also raised the specific exemption in terms of sales price of articles covered by instalment contracts. In April, the Board also reduced reserve requirements by 2 percentage points on demand deposits at member banks in central reserve cities, by I percentage point on demand deposits at all other member banks, and by one-half percentage point on time deposits at all member banks. The effect on the money market of this reduction was offset, however, because banks sought, and Federal Open Market Committee policy of maintaining short-term rates required, sales of securities from the System's portfolio. In anticipation of the expiration on June 30 of the remaining temporary reserve authority, releasing the residue of approximately 800 million dollars of reserves, the Open Market Committee on June 28 modified its policy so that reserves thus released or accruing later might have effect in the money market. In taking all of these steps, the Federal Reserve authorities acted in conformity with a long-established policy of administering credit controls in a flexible manner so as to meet changes in economic conditions.

The Treasury cash surplus exerted some drain on bank reserves during the first quarter of 1949 but the amount was much less than in the same period of 1948. Banks were under relatively little pressure and such reserves as were needed were readily available. After March, the money market became easier. Many banks increased their holdings of Treasury bonds in

the first quarter and subsequently there was also a demand for short-term. Government securities. Bond yields declined slightly and shorter term money rates became less firm even at their relatively low levels.

The banking system has emerged from the long period of inflationary pressures exceptionally well equipped to meet changed conditions. Banks have a large proportion of their assets in liquid and riskless form. Loans are close to record volume but cash and Government securities constitute about two-thirds of all assets of commercial banks. This is a somewhat larger proportion than in 1939 and more than twice that for 1929. The volume of highly speculative loans appears much smaller than has often been the case in the past. Mortgage loans, which have expanded rapidly on the basis of high property values, are generally on a better amortization basis than was previously customary, and a large portion of them are insured by Government agencies.

The Federal Reserve System is also much better equipped than ever before to meet the credit needs of the economy in a period of downward readjustment. Through open market operations, the System has virtually unlimited means of supplying the money market with additional reserves, if the situation should call for such action. The Reserve Banks have about 23 billion dollars of gold certificate reserves, only half of which are currently needed to meet gold reserve requirements. Accordingly, the System could more than double its note and deposit liabilities. Furthermore, the Banking Act of 1935, by removing some of the technical limitations on the lending functions of the Reserve Banks, placed them in a position to lend to member banks on any assets considered to be acceptable as security for advances. This makes possible a liberal lending policy on the part of the Reserve Banks. Also, the Reserve Banks have authority to make so-called Section 13b loans for working capital purposes to business and industry when other credit is unavailable.

Although the Federal Reserve System has substantial powers to act for the purpose of counteracting contraction of credit, the System continues to lack adequate means of coping with a recurrence of strong inflationary pressures. This country has a virtually unlimited potential for further increase in deposits and bank reserves as well as for a more rapid use of money. The volume of deposits and currency outstanding is nearly three times the maximum prewar level, and the turnover of bank deposits is currently less rapid than it has been in previous periods of high economic activity. Spending for all purposes could be considerably expanded through more active use of the money supply already outstanding.

The problem of exercising credit restraint in the United States, or of encouraging expansion, centers on the supply of bank reserves. While individual banks obtain or lose reserves largely through the shifting of deposits among banks, the banking system as a whole acquires reserves in three major

ways: imports of gold, return of currency from circulation, and purchases of Government securities by the Federal Reserve Banks. If credit expansion, during a period of inflation, is to be held in check, additional reserves arising principally from these sources have to be absorbed or immobilized.

Commercial banks alone hold more than 60 billion dollars of marketable Government securities, which they can convert at will into reserves capable of supporting an enormous credit expansion. The exceptional and assured liquidity of the banking system, which is an element of strength in a period of recession, can be a source of danger in a period of boom. Also, sales of securities to the Federal Reserve from the large volume of nonbank holdings can create additional reserves.

As the Board has pointed out in previous Annual Reports and other statements, large-scale selling of Government securities to the Federal Reserve increases the supply of money and of bank reserves and thus accentuates inflationary pressures when production is insufficient to satisfy demand. Continuous market transactions aggregating large amounts are inevitable in view of the large volume of marketable Government securities outstanding and the wide distribution of their ownership. Therefore, regular and active participation in the market by the Federal Reserve is necessary for the maintenance of orderly conditions and the prevention of unnecessarily wide fluctuations in prices.

In earlier periods, when the public debt was a relatively small part of the debt structure, there was little or no need for supporting the market for Government securities and, therefore, no problem of dealing with additional bank reserves created through support operations. Federal Reserve policies could be and were directed primarily toward the maintenance of the volume of bank reserves and the cost of obtaining reserves at levels that conformed to the current needs of the economy. With a large Government debt which is likely to be a dominant part of the debt structure for many years, the Federal Reserve has to cope with the dual problem of maintaining an orderly Government security market and exercising control over the volume of bank reserves.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

Proposals for legislation which the Board has repeatedly presented to the Congress have been in general designed to enable the Federal Reserve authorities to meet more effectively the responsibilities placed with the System by the Congress.

Power to increase reserve requirements. In its Annual Reports and other public statements since the end of the war, the Board of Governors has stressed the limited effectiveness of the traditional instruments of credit policy in the general monetary situation created by war finance. In August 1948, the Congress granted temporary authority for increasing the reserve requirements of member banks. This temporary authority expired on June 30, 1949.

In his Economic Report for 1949, the President pointed out that the monetary authorities should at all times be in a position to carry out their traditional functions of exerting effective restraint upon excessive credit expansion in an inflationary period and conversely of easing credit conditions in a time of deflationary pressures. The powers of the Federal Reserve to exert effective restraint on credit expansion are limited by the obligation to support the market for Government securities. In order to be in a better position to discharge its responsibility for maintaining sound credit conditions, the Board requested continuation of the temporary authority to apply a supplemental reserve requirement to member banks, and the extension of the requirement to all insured banks.

The Board recognized that the proposed supplemental reserve requirement was not the perfect or final way of providing the Federal Reserve with adequate means to perform its primary function. It was proposed as an interim authority that could be used, if necessary, without making drastic changes in existing practices, until a more fundamental solution could be provided.

Chairman McCabe summarized the Board's views in a statement presented before the Banking and Currency Committee of the Senate on May 11, 1949, recommending that the temporary authorities with respect to consumer instalment credit and special reserve requirements be extended, provided the latter were made applicable to all insured commercial banks. The statement continued:

We are suggesting the extension of these authorities in the hope that the Congress will in the meantime survey the entire framework and functioning of our financial system and of the role of banking and Government therein. It is evident from the resolutions which members of this Committee have sponsored to create a National Monetary Commission that you are well aware of the need for a thorough and painstaking study of this whole complicated and difficult subject. We hope that you will press ahead to authorize such a review and reappraisal in all its ramifications of the function of the entire banking system and its role in contributing to national economic stability through the financing of individuals, business enterprises, and Government.

We in the Federal Reserve System are naturally concerned over the areas of controversy that surround the System's functioning and responsibilities as a central banking, monetary, regulatory, and supervisory authority. We trust that Congress will review its delegation of authority and responsibility to the System to be sure that they are commensurate with each other and with the objectives established by Congress. Such a review would include consideration: (1) of the System's open market powers and their relation to Federal financing and the administration of the public debt; (2) of the use of selective credit controls such as those over security loans and consumer instalment loans and of the proper sphere for the application of such types of control; (3) of the distribution of bank regulatory and supervisory power among the various Government

agencies; (4) of the need for some mechanism of policy coordination on the domestic financial front such as we have available through the National Advisory Council on the international financial front; (5) of the objectives of central banking and supervisory policies; and (6) of the relation of the Federal Reserve System as a central banking organization to the banks of the nation, both member and nonmember.

In any such review the role and function of reserves will inevitably receive prominent consideration. As you know, the System has been conducting extensive studies of this subject and believes that a more scientific formula for establishing reserves can be determined by the Congress. I feel confident that solutions to these problems can be found without impairment of our long established institutions, or encroachment upon either State or national prerogatives. Indeed, it is imperative to find solutions that avoid, on the one hand, extremes of centralization which would threaten the dual banking system, or, on the other hand, jeopardize the effectiveness of national policy by disunity, discrimination, and divided counsels.

The Board feels strongly that all insured commercial banks, and not member banks alone, should participate when national monetary conditions require that additional reserves be set aside. Banks now enjoying the protection of Federal deposit insurance include 95 per cent of all commercial banks and hold 98 per cent of all deposits in commercial banks, while member banks of the Federal Reserve System include slightly less than half of the total number and hold about 85 per cent of the deposits.

The banking laws of the 48 States lack uniformity and do not take into account the relation of bank reserves to national credit and monetary requirements. It will require statesmanship of the highest order on the part of the financial community and public authorities, both State and national, to bring about a long overdue reform in all banking laws covering reserve requirements. Otherwise the dual banking system will be jeopardized, particularly in a period of emergency. Only wise action, promptly undertaken, can insure the preservation of the dual banking system.

It is inequitable to have member banks bear the entire burden of credit action undertaken in the public interest. Any expansion in reserves is likely to spread throughout the banking system and increase the lending power of nonmember as well as of member banks. Member banks already carry higher effective reserves than nonmembers, even where requirement percentages are the same. Member banks can count as reserves only their balances with the Federal Reserve Banks. Nonmember banks can count vault cash, balances with city correspondents, and, in some States, securities issued by the Federal Government or by States or their political subdivisions. Correspondent balances do not immobilize funds but simply shift lending capacity from one bank to another. Nonmember banks, nevertheless, benefit by the

strength which the very existence of the Federal Reserve System gives to the entire credit structure of the country. Failure to apply national monetary measures to all insured banks seriously impairs the effectiveness of national monetary policy.

What is needed for an effective and flexible national monetary policy is a system of bank reserves that will apply to all commercial banks enjoying the benefit of Federal insurance of deposits but permit continuance of our dual Federal and State chartering and supervision of banks. Differences in reserve requirements should be based more largely on the nature of deposits than on the location of banks. It is essential, in view of the potential sources of bank reserves and possible changes in the country's credit needs, that reserve requirements for all insured banks be as uniform as practicable in order to apportion basic reserves equitably in the banking system as a whole and to regulate their amount to accommodate the needs of commerce, industry, and agriculture.

Consumer instalment credit regulation. The Congress in August 1948 also granted the Board of Governors temporary authority, which expired June 30, 1949, to reinstate controls over consumer instalment credit, and the President in his Economic Report for 1949 recommended that this authority be continued. The Board has urged that the Congress pass legislation extending this authority for an additional period of two years with the basic objective of furthering economic stability. In adapting the regulation to changing economic conditions, under a continuing authority, the Board would have in view the prevention of excessive expansion or contraction of consumer instalment credit as well as contributing to sound credit conditions in this area and in the economy generally. Modifications of the regulation, effective March 7 and April 27, 1949, are examples of the flexible use of this authority.

Considered against the long background of credit history, consumer instalment credit is relatively new. Its rapid development goes back only to World War I. It began to assume recognized importance in our credit structure towards the mid-twenties. Since that time the outstanding credit volume has shown a noteworthy growth trend, as well as wide fluctuations. Its volume at the end of 1948 stood at 8.6 billion dollars contrasted with roughly 1.2 billion in the mid-twenties.

A continuing growth trend for consumer instalment credit can be a constructive development for the economy. Sustained expansion of instalment credit has accompanied a more widespread use of durable consumer goods, especially those of high unit value, and consequently has contributed to a rising standard of personal consumption. Wide fluctuations in volume about the growth trend, however, are undesirable from the standpoint of stability. The addition of credit funds to consumer spending power from income accentuates economic upswing and at maximum limits of production can only make

for inflationary pressures. Liquidation of instalment credit diverts consumer income to repayment of old debts and accentuates business downswing. In some circumstances it may seriously aggravate deflationary tendencies.

The use of instalment credit by consumers is especially volatile because it is so closely associated with the acquisition of expensive durable goods and high-priced services. For most consumers, the purchase of these goods and services is occasional. In each case the purchase represents a very important buying decision, and in most instances the decision is postponable.

While continuing fluctuations in instalment credit volume are to be expected, a moderating influence on such fluctuations can be exercised by the regulation of credit terms. During boom periods, higher required down payments and shorter maturities can damp down the rate of increase of this credit. During recession periods, smaller required down payments and longer maturities can help to brake the speed of decline. Regulation along these lines is administratively practicable, and can be exercised in a manner that is consistent with our economic and political system.

Such a regulation would not in itself enable attainment of greater financial stability for the economy. It could be, however, a useful supplement to other monetary and credit instruments available for this purpose. Established public policy in this country recognizes that broad monetary and credit controls, properly administered, are a principal means of fostering the national objective of a rising standard of living on the basis of sustained high levels of output and employment and stable values. As a result of recent war finance, the Reserve System's available means of influencing current credit developments with a view to greater economic stability have been seriously weakened. Extension of the Reserve System's temporary authority to regulate consumer instalment credit would have gone some distance toward remedying this condition.

Bank holding company legislation. The Board again urges the enactment of legislation to provide more effective supervision and control of bank holding companies and to curb abuses in that field. Congress endeavored to deal with this problem in the Banking Act of 1933 by requiring holding company affiliates of member banks to obtain voting permits from the Board in order to vote their stock in such banks. However, the Board's experience in administering the law over a period of more than 15 years has demonstrated the need for additional legislation if regulation of bank holding companies is to be effective in correcting and preventing practices which are contrary to public policy and interest.

The regulation of bank holding companies as an incident to the granting of voting permits is largely on a voluntary basis since holding companies can control subsidiary banks without voting their stock. In addition to failing to reach those companies which elect not to obtain voting permits, the present law fails to reach others because of the inadequate definition of the term "holding company affiliate." Even in those cases in which bank holding companies obtain voting permits, the law prescribes few requirements or restrictions and does not vest in the Board the authority necessary to require corrections in the policies and practices of holding companies.

Hearings on this subject were held by the Senate and House Committees on Banking and Currency of the 80th Congress and a bill was reported favorably by the Senate Committee, but no further action was taken. The Board believes the existing law is clearly inadequate and that new legislation, providing for the regulation of all bank holding companies and including provisions controlling expansion and requiring the divorcement of activities unrelated to banking, should receive prompt consideration.

Capital requirements for member banks. The Board has recommended in previous Annual Reports that consideration be given to amendment of the statutory provisions prescribing capital requirements for the admission of State banks to membership in the Federal Reserve System and the establishment of branches by such banks. Legislation of this nature is needed because, without justification, the present arbitrary requirements prevent many sound banks from becoming members of the Federal Reserve System, although they otherwise would be entitled to membership. Most of these banks are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. In addition, present statutory requirements result in unwarranted discrimination between State member banks and other State banks in connection with the establishment of branches. In order to correct this situation, the Board urges the enactment of legislation repealing the existing requirements and vesting full discretion in the Board to determine the adequacy of the capital of State banks applying for membership and of State member banks desiring to establish branches, except that a minimum capital of \$50,000 (or \$25,000 in the case of banks heretofore organized) would be required for admission to membership.

Financing of business enterprises. The Board has heretofore called attention to the fact that Section 13b of the Federal Reserve Act, which authorizes Federal Reserve Banks to make and guarantee business loans, contains undesirable restrictive provisions. In previous Annual Reports, it has recommended legislation to broaden the authority of the Reserve Banks in this field.

FEDERAL RESERVE POLICIES IN 1948

In 1948 a large Treasury surplus, a substantial part of which was used to retire Government securities held by the Federal Reserve System, absorbed bank reserves and deposits. The anti-inflationary effects on bank reserves, however, were more than offset by purchases of Government securities by the

Federal Reserve System in carrying out its market support policy. Banks were also supplied with a moderate amount of reserves through gold acquisitions and a return flow of currency from circulation. Continued expansion in bank loans provided new deposits, but this expansion was smaller than in other recent years. The net result of all factors was a small decline in bank deposits and currency held by the public—the first decrease for any year since 1937.

Policies pursued by the Federal Reserve to restrain credit expansion included the following:

- (1) In consultation with the Treasury, the Federal Reserve accepted cash for maturing securities held by the System and thus prevented the return of reserves to the banking system.
- (2) Likewise, interest rates on Treasury bills and certificates were permitted to rise and banks and others were thereby encouraged to hold more of these securities, which made it possible for Federal Reserve holdings to be reduced. In line with this policy, discount rates at Federal Reserve Banks were raised.
- (3) Reserve requirements of member banks were increased so as to absorb additional reserves made available by the gold inflow and by Federal Reserve purchases in support of the market for Government securities.
- (4) Regulation of consumer instalment credit was reimposed for the purpose of slackening the rapid rate of growth of this volatile type of credit.
- (5) High margin requirements were retained on loans for purchasing and carrying securities in order to discourage the possible development of speculative credit expansion in this field.

The cash surplus of the Treasury, which was largely responsible for the reduction in bank deposits during 1948, amounted to 8 billion dollars for the year as a whole. It was supplemented by about 1.5 billion dollars obtained from sales of savings bonds and savings notes in excess of redemptions. The bulk of these funds was obtained in the first quarter of the year. The surplus was used largely to retire over 5 billion dollars of Government securities held by the Federal Reserve Banks. The Federal Open Market Committee, which directs transactions in Government securities for the Federal Reserve Banks, accepted cash for as many of the System's holdings of maturing issues as the cash position of the Treasury would permit. Occasional reduction by the Treasury in the amount of weekly offerings of Treasury bills also resulted initially in a decrease in Federal Reserve holdings of bills and some drain on bank reserves.

Rates on Treasury bills, which had been permitted to rise from 3% per cent in the summer of 1947 to about 1 per cent near the end of that year, rose further in the latter half of 1948 to about 1½ per cent. Rates on new offerings of one-year certificates, which had been raised from 7% per cent in 1947 to 1½ per cent at the beginning of 1948, were increased to 1¼ per

cent in the fourth quarter of 1948. The higher rates contributed to increases in holdings of these securities, particularly bills, by both banks and nonbank investors, and in substantial declines in Federal Reserve holdings.

Policies pursued by the Federal Reserve served to limit the expansion of bank loans, but Federal Reserve purchases of Government securities from non-bank holders provided funds for an increase in loans by nonbank lenders. Also, the demand for credit slackened somewhat in the course of the year. Although measures of restraint did not prevent a further expansion in bank loans, the rate of growth slackened, particularly in the last quarter of the year, as compared with other recent years. Total loans of commercial banks increased by 4.4 billion dollars in 1948, compared with 6.9 billion in 1947.

Deposits and currency held by individuals and business declined by 6 billion dollars in the first quarter of 1948, reflecting the large Treasury surplus. They increased by more than 5 billion dollars during the remainder of the year, largely as a result of bank loan expansion, Federal Reserve purchases of Government securities from nonbank holders, and the gold inflow.

The ability of banks and other investors to sell Government securities through the market to the Federal Reserve and the large amount of securities outstanding limited the restraining effect of monetary and fiscal policies. To the extent that banks needed additional reserves, the drain on bank reserves resulting from the Treasury surplus and its use to retire securities held by the Federal Reserve was offset by bank sales of securities, which the Federal Reserve purchased. Banks were also in a position to meet increases in reserve requirements by selling Government securities.

Nevertheless, the combined measures exerted some degree of restraint. When banks find it necessary to sell Government securities in order to offset a drain on reserves resulting from Treasury withdrawals of cash or to meet an increase in reserve requirements, their liquidity is reduced and they are likely to be less willing to sell additional amounts in order to increase loans. Conversely, additional reserves flowing to banks, unless absorbed by some means, serve as an inducement to expand loans. So long as bank holdings of Government securities, particularly short-term issues, can be readily converted to other uses without the risk of loss in liquidation, they are in effect excess reserves. Thus, an increase in bank holdings of short-term Government securities expands the potential lending power of banks. Conversely, a decrease in such holdings and any measures which limit their availability serve to reduce the potential liquidity of banks.

It is primarily through the means outlined in the foregoing pages that monetary and fiscal policies may influence the lending activities of banks and also to some extent the willingness of other owners of Government securities to hold them or to shift to other assets. Whether Government securities

are to be held or sold is decided by the banks and other holders of the securities. As long as the Reserve System functioned as the residual buyer of the securities offered for sale the initiative in the creation of bank credit rested with the market, not with those charged with responsibility for national monetary policy.

THE PUBLIC DEBT

Changes in the volume, structure, and ownership of the Federal Government debt continued in 1948 to be an important factor in monetary and credit developments. As in the preceding year, an excess of Treasury cash receipts over cash outlays made possible further reduction in the public debt. As the table shows, the cash surplus was larger in 1948 than in 1947, reflecting an increase in cash receipts and some decline in cash outlays. A small part of the surplus was used to increase the Treasury's cash balance, which had been drawn down during 1947. The more substantial part of the surplus was used to repay cash borrowings, principally marketable debt issues. The debt reduction thus achieved was partly offset by an increase in noncash borrowing, chiefly through special issues to Government agencies and trust funds.

Debt reduction. The total public debt outstanding was further reduced by 4 billion dollars in 1948 to a total of 253 billion at the end of the year. The reduction was larger than in 1947, when retirement of debt was

Treasury Cash Operations and Changes in Cash Balance and Public Debt [In billions of dollars]

Item		Calendar year	
reem	1948	1947	1946
Cash operating income!	45.0 36.9	44.3 38.6	41.6 41.4
Net cash surplus (+)	+8.1	+5.7	+0.2
Change in Treasury cash balance	+1.1	2-2.2	-22.5
Change in public debt: Net cash repayment of borrowings Noncash borrowing, etc.4	-7.0 +2.9	-7.9 +5.4	-22.7 +3.5
Change in debt5	-4.1	-2.5	-19.2
Public debt, end of period ⁵	252.9	257.0	259.5

¹ The cash budget differs from the budget based on the Treasury's daily statement principally in that all receipts and expenditures are consolidated and intergovernmental transfers of funds are excluded. Refunds of taxes, which amounted to 2.2 billion dollars in 1948, 2.6 billion in 1947, and 2.8 billion in 1946, are treated as a deduction from cash income rather than as cash outgo as formerly.

² Includes also a decrease of 1.8 billion dollars in the Exchange Stabilization Fund in part payment of the United States contribution to the International Monetary Fund.

³ Includes principally net changes in marketable debt, net sales or redemptions of savings bonds and savings notes, and net market sales or purchases of marketable issues by Government agencies and trust funds.

⁴ Includes principally changes in special issues to Government agencies and trust funds, net accrued interest on savings bonds and Treasury bills, and amounts of Federal securities issued in payment of certain budget expenditures, such as armed forces leave bonds. Includes also small adjustment for net market sales or purchases of marketable issues by Government agencies and trust funds which do not affect total outstanding debt.

⁵ Includes guaranteed debt.

also made possible by a Treasury cash surplus. The total reduction effected through cash surpluses in these two years was much smaller than that in 1946, when cash balances accumulated largely during the last war loan drive were used to reduce the debt by 19 billion dollars.

The amount of the debt in marketable form decreased by 8 billion dollars in 1948, while nonmarketable issues held by the public increased by about 2 billion and special issues to Federal agencies by nearly 3 billion. The decline in outstanding marketable securities was smaller than in 1947, but so also was the increase in nonmarketable public and special issues. Matured and other noninterest-bearing debt declined slightly in 1948 after increasing in 1947.

Composition of the debt. Composition of the Government debt has been changing gradually as the result of refunding, further sales of special issues to Government agencies, and increased efforts to place more savings bonds.

In 1948, the Treasury retired 2.9 billion dollars of bills. Maturities of other marketable issues totaled 35.5 billion dollars, including 21.2 billion of certificates, 7.8 billion of notes, and 6.4 billion of bonds. About 5.4 billion of these maturities were paid off in cash. The remainder was refunded into short-term securities which, with the exception of one 18-month note issue, were one-year certificates. As a result of the debt operations, the amount of outstanding marketable bonds was reduced by 6.4 billion dollars. Short-term types of securities were reduced by 1.8 billion. As indicated in the table, a reduction of 2.9 billion dollars in bills was partly offset by an increase of 1.1 billion in notes and certificates.

PUBLIC DEBT OUTSTANDING AT END OF 1948, BY TYPE OF ISSUE
[In billions of dollars]

	1948	Change during		
Type of issue		1948	1947	1946
Gross public debt, total ¹	252.9	-4.1	-2.5	-19.2
Marketable public issues, total ² . Treasury bills Certificales and notes Treasury bonds.	157.5 12.2 33.7 111.4	-8.3 -2.9 +1.1 -6.4	-10.9 -1.9 -7.5 -1.5	-22.2 (³) -21.6 -1.1
Nonmarketable public issues, total	61.4 55.1 4.6 1.8	+1.9 +3.0 -0.8 -0.3	+2.8 +2.3 -0.3 +0.9	-0.2 +1.6 -2.5 +0.2
Special issues	31.7	+2.8	+4.4	+4.0
Debt bearing no interest	2.2	-0.5	+1.2	-0.9
Detail on marketable public issues, due or callable: Within 1 year	49.1 44.1 64.4 14.7 49.6	-1.7 -5.9 -0.7 -0.7	-4.2 +10.4 -17.0 -17.0	-15.6 +4.2 -10.8 -8.2 -2.6

¹ Includes guaranteed securities.

Includes a small amount of postal saving and prewar bonds not shown separately.
 Less than 50 million dollars.

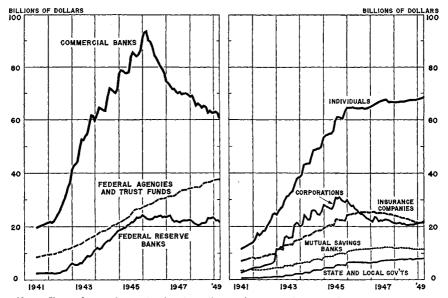
Note: Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

The total of nonmarketable public debt issues held by the public increased further in 1948 but by a moderate amount, 1.9 billion dollars. Savings bonds outstanding increased by 3 billion dollars, as 7.3 billion of sales, together with net interest accruals on outstanding bonds, exceeded redemptions. The sales volume in 1948 resulted in part from an increase in the annual purchase limit permitted for individuals and a special drive to place savings bonds with both individuals and savings institutions.

At the end of 1948, about three-fifths of the debt of 253 billion dollars was composed of marketable issues. The remainder included 32 billion dollars of special issues held by Government agencies and trust funds, 55 billion of savings bonds held largely by individuals and redeemable on demand or short notice, and small amounts of several other types of nonmarketable issues, largely savings notes held by corporations. The marketable debt of 157.5 billion dollars included about 46 billion dollars of short-term types of securities (bills, certificates, and notes) and about 47 billion of Treasury bonds due or callable within five years. Of the 64 billion dollars of bonds with longer periods to run, almost 50 billion were issues that are restricted as to ownership by banks.

Ownership of Government securities. The largest change in ownership of Government securities during the year was the decline of 6 billion dollars in commercial bank holdings, as is shown in the accompanying chart and table.

OWNERSHIP OF U. S. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES



Note: Chart relates to interest-bearing debt, direct and guaranteed. Reported holdings are shown for (1) Federal agencies and trust funds and (2) Federal Reserve Banks, and Treasury estimates for other groups. Figures are for June and December 1941 and for end of each month thereafter.

The Treasury cash surplus and its use to retire Government securities held by the Federal Reserve, together with increases in reserve requirements, resulted in a drain on bank reserves which the banks met by selling Government securities, largely certificates and notes. Changes in types of securities held by the banks also reflected other factors. Holdings of Treasury bonds that matured were for the most part exchanged for certificates and notes, offsetting to this extent market sales of these types of securities. Commercial banks also sold some Treasury bonds, but they added to their holdings of bills.

Reserve Bank holdings of Government securities increased by 800 million dollars notwithstanding the policy of accepting cash for as many maturing holdings as the cash position of the Treasury would permit and the consequent retirement of 5.5 billion dollars of maturing securities. The Reserve Banks made substantial purchases of restricted bonds from insurance companies and other nonbank investors. They also bought some bank-eligible bonds and made some net purchases of certificates and notes, but sold a substantial amount of bills.

OWNERSHIP OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

[Partly estimated. Par values, in billions of dollars]

	Amount held on		Change in	
Type of owner	Dec. 31, 1948	1948	1947	1946
U. S. Government agencies and trust funds, total ² Marketable issues Special issues	37.3 5.5 31.7	+3.0 +0.2 +2.8	+3.4 -1.0 +4.4	+3.9 -0.7 +4.6
Federal Reserve Banks, total Bills, certificales , and notes Bank-eligible bonds Restricted bonds	23.3 12.4 4.0 7.0	+0.8 -7.4 +1.7 +6.4	-0.8 -2.9 +1.5 +0.6	-0.9 -0.7 -0.2
Commercial banks, total Bills, certificates, and notes Bonds, due or callable: Within 5 years After 5 years Nonmarketable issues	62.6 16.9 32.9 10.6 2.2	-6.1 +0.8 -6.0 -1.3 +0.4	-5.8 -4.8 +10.5 -11.3 -0.2	-16.3 -17.9 +7.8 -5.9 -0.3
Mutual savings banks	11.5	-0.5	+0.2	+1.1
Insurance companies	21.5	-2.8	-1.0	+0.9
State and local governments	7.9	+0.6	+1.0	-0.2
Other corporations and associations ³	21.2	(4)	-1.2	-7.8
Individuals ⁵	67.6	+1.0	+1.7	+0.1
Total, all investors	252.9	-4.1	-2.5	-19.2

¹ Includes guaranteed securities.

Insurance companies and mutual savings banks, which had maintained or expanded their Government security portfolios in the early postwar period, reduced them in 1948 by 2.8 billion and 0.5 billion dollars, respectively.

² Includes nonmarketable issues not shown separately.
Includes savings and loan associations, dealers and brokers, and investments of foreign balances and international accounts in this country.

Less than 50 million dollars.
 Includes partnerships and personal trust accounts.

These changes resulted largely from sales of long-term, restricted Treasury bonds. Other nonbank investors, including nonfinancial corporations, brokers and dealers, State and local governments, and individuals increased their total holdings of Government securities during the year. They sold marketable bonds on balance, but increased their holdings of certificates and bills by about 4 billion dollars. Purchases of savings bonds exceeded redemptions.

BANK CREDIT DEVELOPMENTS

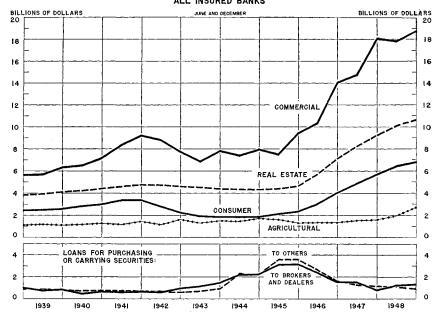
The money supply in the hands of businesses and individuals declined somewhat in 1948 following a rapid growth in the preceding postwar years. The decline occurred entirely in the first quarter of the year and reflected the large Treasury cash surplus, which was either used to retire securities held by the banking system, including the Reserve Banks, or held in Treasury balances. Loan expansion at commercial banks and gold inflow, which continued during the year, accounted for a substantial growth in deposits during the last nine months. For the year as a whole, these factors almost offset the contractive effect on the money supply of Treasury operations.

Expansion of bank loans was not as great in 1948 as in either of the two preceding years. Growth in loans slackened considerably in the last quarter of the year following action by the Federal Reserve, largely under special legislation enacted in August, to absorb funds available to banks for lending and to place under restraint the demand for consumer instalment credit. Substantial amounts of loans by nonbank lenders and some decline in the credit needs of business reduced somewhat the demand for bank loans. Programs for encouraging restraint in lending, undertaken by the banks themselves under the leadership of the American Bankers Association and by the bank supervisory agencies, also helped to limit loan expansion.

Reduced growth in bank loans. Slackened expansion in 1948 characterized bank lending to businesses, consumers, and real-estate owners in all sections of the country. Total loans at commercial banks increased by about 4.4 billion dollars as compared with 6.9 billion in 1947 and over 5 billion in 1946.

Business loans, which usually decline over the first half of the year and rise in the second half, showed considerably less than the normal seasonal reduction in the first half of 1948. Early in the second half of the year rapid expansion in the volume of these loans was resumed. After September, however, bank loans to businesses showed little further growth as compared with an increase of about 2 billion dollars in the same period of the previous year. Total growth in bank loans to businesses was about 0.7 billion dollars in 1948 compared with about 4 billion in 1947, as shown in the chart. Most of the increase occurred at banks in New York City and in the Southwest and Far West, while in 1947 the increase was more general throughout the country.

COMMERCIAL BANK LOANS ALL INSURED BANKS



Note: All insured commercial banks in the United States. Commercial loans include commercial and industrial loans, open market commercial paper, and acceptances. Consumer loans are partly estimated prior to Dec. 31, 1942.

Business demand for bank credit was less active in 1948 than in other postwar years, in part because a larger volume of funds was obtained from other sources. As is indicated in the following section of this report, in 1948 businesses financed a larger proportion of their capital expansion programs from retained earnings and funds obtained from sales of securities and loans from nonbank lenders than they did in 1947.

Bank loans to real-estate owners increased by about 1.4 billion dollars in 1948, which was somewhat less than in previous postwar years. The volume of new mortgages continued about as large as in 1947, but banks acquired a smaller proportion of the total. They were more selective in making real-estate loans and showed a growing tendency to regard their existing mortgage portfolios as large enough under existing conditions.

Banks continued to be active lenders to consumers in 1948, accounting for about 40 per cent of the expansion of more than 2 billion dollars in consumer instalment credit during the year. Instalment credit extended by banks to consumers expanded at the rate of about 80 million dollars each month through September 1948. In the last quarter of the year, however, this type of indebtedness showed little further change. In part, leveling off of bank loans to consumers reflected reimposition in September of the Board's regu-

lation of consumer instalment credit under authority granted by Congress in August.

Agricultural loans at banks, which had risen only gradually in 1947 and 1946, increased by more than 1 billion dollars in 1948. Most of the growth in such loans was associated with large crop surpluses and the consequent decline in prices of leading crops to Government support levels. Many farmers obtained bank loans on wheat, corn, and cotton that were guaranteed by the Commodity Credit Corporation under the Government's price support program. Other loans to farmers showed only moderate expansion, which occurred in the first half of the year.

Loans for purchasing and carrying securities increased 300 million dollars during 1948, as a result of a sharp expansion late in the year in loans to brokers and dealers for carrying United States Government securities. Loans for purchasing and carrying corporate stocks and bonds declined somewhat.

Banks participated to an almost negligible extent in the large amount of financing in the market by corporations and by State and local governments in 1948. Although the volume of such issues for new money was over 8 billion dollars, commercial bank holdings of these securities increased only about 0.2 billion dollars as compared with an increase of nearly a billion dollars in 1947. Most of the change in 1948 occurred in the first half of the year, when an increase in holdings of State and local government securities at reserve city and country banks more than offset a reduction in holdings of such securities and corporate securities at central reserve city banks.

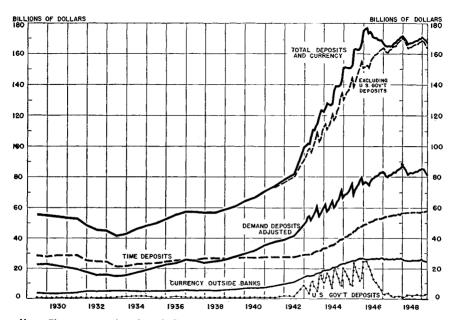
Changes in volume and activity of money. The decline in total deposits and currency held by businesses and individuals was about I billion dollars in 1948. This reduction was small in contrast with the very rapid monetary expansion during the war and first two postwar years. It was the first year-to-year decline in the money supply held by businesses and individuals since 1937, as is shown in the chart.

In the first quarter of the year deposits and currency of individuals and businesses declined 6 billion dollars, as shown in the table on page 20. This decline reflected primarily seasonally large Treasury receipts from income taxes and other sources which were applied to retiring bank-held securities and building up Treasury deposit balances. In each of the subsequent three quarters, privately held deposits and currency increased somewhat. Expansion of bank credit and gold inflow more than offset some further monetary contraction effected by a moderate Treasury cash surplus.

The Federal Reserve Banks purchased in the market a substantial volume of long-term Government securities sold by nonbank investors, particularly insurance companies. These transactions were especially large in the last half of the year. During most of the year, and particularly in the first quarter, nonbank investors were net buyers of short-term Government securities.

Taking all classes of Government securities, both long-term and short-term, nonbank investors were net purchasers in the first part of the year and net sellers in the second half. For the year as a whole, sales of long-term Government securities by nonbank investors as a group were practically balanced by their purchases of short-term issues. On balance, therefore, these transactions tended neither to increase nor decrease the supply of bank deposits. In the first quarter of the year, however, the effect was to reduce deposits, whereas in the last two quarters the effect was to increase deposits.

BANK DEPOSITS AND CURRENCY



Note: Figures are partly estimated. Deposits are for all banks in the United States. Demand deposits adjusted exclude U. S. Government and interbank deposits and items in process of collection. Time deposits include deposits in the Postal Savings System and in mutual savings banks. Figures are for June and December, 1929-42; end of month, 1943-46; last Wednesday of month, 1947 through March 1949.

Currency in circulation outside banks was reduced about 400 million dollars in 1948, with the strengthening of the postwar tendency to return \$10 and \$20 bills from circulation. Privately held demand deposits declined by 1.6 billion dollars in 1948 in contrast with an increase of nearly 4 billion in the previous year. Time deposits rose by 1.1 billion dollars, after having risen by 2.5 billion in 1947. In 1948 nearly the entire increase occurred in the first half of the year. The decrease in demand deposits was distributed among nearly all the major groups of holders—businesses, farmers, and individuals. Demand deposits of individuals as a group declined by an amount approximately equal to the increase in their holdings of Government securities.

Major Factors Affecting Deposits and Currency [In billions of dollars, partly estimated]

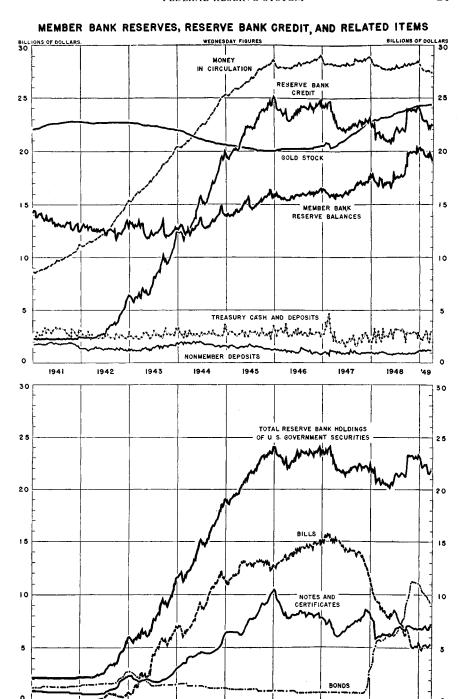
		1948				
Factor	Fourth quarter	Third quarter	Second quarter	First quarter	Total	1947
	(Sig	n indicate	s effect or	deposits	and curren	ıcy)
Bank loans ¹	+1.0	+2.0	+1.2	+0.9	+5.2	+7.4
Gold inflow	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	+1.5	+2.9
Purchases (+) or sales (-) of U. S. Government securities by commercial banks and Federal Reserve Banks from or to nonbank investors. Restricted bonds, net Other securities, net	+0.7 +1.5 -0.8	+0.8 +2.6 -1.8	$\begin{vmatrix} +0.2 \\ +0.2 \\ +0.2 \end{vmatrix}$	-1.5 +1.8 -3.3	+0.2 +5.9 -5.7	+0.2 +0.6 -0.4
Retirement of U.S. Government securities held by: Federal Reserve Banks		-1.1 -0.5	-0.3 -0.2	-3.7 -0.2	-5.5 -0.9	-3.2 -3.6
Treasury deposits	+0.9	-0.4	+0.3	-2.1	-1.3	+1.2
Other factors, net	-0.3	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+1.1
Change in deposits and currency held by individuals and businesses, total	+2.2	+1.2	+1.7	-6.0	-0.9	+6.0
Demand deposits adjusted	+1.6 +0.2 +0.4	+1.2 -0.1 +0.1	+1.2 +0.5 (2)	-5.6 +0.5 -0.9	$ \begin{array}{c} -1.6 \\ +1.1 \\ -0.4 \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} +3.8 \\ +2.5 \\ -0.3 \end{array}$

¹ Includes loans of commercial and mutual savings banks.

Expenditures of all private groups in the economy continued to expand throughout 1948 despite the moderate decline in the privately held money supply. This development reflected a further increase in the average rate at which money was used. Over the three years following the end of the war, the annual rate of turnover of demand deposits at banks rose significantly. At banks in leading cities outside New York, the ratio between the amount of checks drawn on demand deposits and the amount of deposits outstanding was about one-fifth higher in 1948 than in 1945, the last war year. In fact, use of demand deposits at these banks was about as rapid in 1948 as it was on an average over the four-year period 1938-41, although the volume of these deposits was about three times as large.

Availability of bank reserves. From the end of the war, and particularly from mid-1947 until the end of 1948, Federal Reserve credit policies and Treasury fiscal and debt management programs had as a major objective as much restraint on the availability of bank reserves and therefore on monetary and credit expansion as was consistent with maintenance of orderly and stable conditions in the market for Government securities. Action toward this objective on the basis of existing powers included concentration of the Treasury program of debt retirement on securities held by the Reserve Banks, upward adjustment of rates on short-term Government securities and in the Federal Reserve discount rate, reduction in Federal Reserve support prices for

² Less than 50 million dollars. Note: Changes are based on figures for Dec. 31, 1946, Dec. 31, 1947, and Mar. 31, June 30, Sept. 29, and Dec. 31, 1948. Quarterly figures may not add to yearly total because of rounding.



medium-term and long-term Government securities, and increases in reserve requirements on deposits of member banks.

Treasury operations exerted a contractive force on bank reserves of 5.8 billion dollars in 1948, as is shown in the table. Most of this effect was concentrated in the first quarter of the year when seasonally large income tax payments increased substantially the Treasury balances at the Reserve Banks and these funds were used largely for retirement of securities held by the Reserve Banks.

In addition to the loss of reserve funds which banks sustained because of Treasury operations, member banks were required to hold a larger volume of reserves as a result of actions taken by the Board of Governors to raise reserve requirements. Effective in February and again in June, reserve requirements of member banks in New York and Chicago were increased by 2 percentage points on net demand deposits, and each of these actions increased required reserves by almost 500 million dollars. During September, largely in accordance with additional authority granted to the Board in August at the special session of Congress, reserve requirements were raised at all classes of member banks by 2 percentage points on net demand deposits and 1.5 percentage points on time deposits. As a consequence, required reserves were increased by about 2 billion dollars.

Major Factors Affecting Member Bank Reserves
[In billions of dollars]

			1948			
Factor	Fourth quarter	Third quarter	Second quarter	First quarter	Total	1947
		(Sign	indicates	effect on	bank resei	ves)
Gold inflow	$+0.4 \\ -0.1$	+0.3 -0.2	+0.4 -0.1	+0.4 +1.1	+1.5 +0.6	+2.9 +0.1
Reserve Bank market purchases of Government securities, net	+0.3	+3.2	+0.8	+2.0	+6.3	+2.5
Banks. Treasury deposits at the Reserve Banks. Nonmember deposits at Reserve Banks. Other factors, net.	$ \begin{array}{r} -0.4 \\ +0.5 \\ -0.3 \\ +0.1 \end{array} $	-1.1 +0.3 (1) +0.1	$ \begin{array}{c c} -0.3 \\ $	$\begin{array}{c c} -3.7 \\ -1.1 \\ -0.1 \\ +0.1 \end{array}$	-5.5 -0.3 -0.3 +0.3	$ \begin{array}{c c} -3.2 \\ -0.5 \\ -0.1 \\ +0.1 \end{array} $
Change in member bank reserve balances, total	+0.5	+2.6	+0.8	-1.3	+2.6	+1.8
Change due to deposit changes	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	-0.9	-0.1	+0.8
requirements		+2.0	+0.5	+0.5	+3.0	
Excess reserves	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	-0.8	-0.3	+0.9

¹ Less than 50 million dollars.

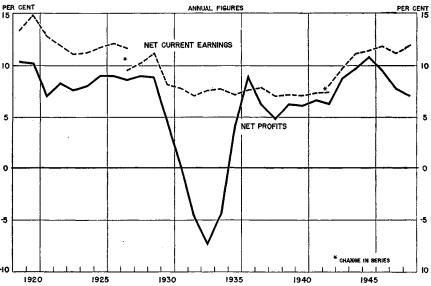
Banks were supplied with reserves in 1948 as a result of a further gold inflow of 1.5 billion dollars. This gold was received in part settlement of the country's large excess of exports over imports. A return flow of currency from circulation of 600 million dollars also added to the reserve funds available to banks. The additional reserves needed were supplied through Federal Reserve purchases of Government securities sold for the most part by com-

mercial banks. Over the full year 1948 these purchases amounted to a net of 6.3 billion dollars.

Banks continued throughout the year to increase their loans, thus creating additional deposits and adding to reserve requirements. During the last nine months of the year, member bank reserve requirements increased by about 800 million dollars as a result of growth in deposits. Had reserve requirements not been raised by Board action, member banks could have expanded credit without selling any securities during this period.

Bank earnings and earning assets. Member bank net current earnings before income taxes were larger in 1948 than in any previous year. They amounted to 1,033 million dollars, an increase of 104 million or 11 per cent over the amount reported in 1947. Increased earnings on loans more than offset decreased earnings on United States Government securities and increased expenses. The ratio of net current earnings before income taxes to total capital accounts increased to 12 per cent, the highest level since the 1920's. The ratio of net current earnings before income taxes to total assets rose from 0.73 per cent in 1947 to 0.79 per cent in 1948.

EARNINGS RATIOS OF MEMBER BANKS PERCENTAGES OF CAPITAL ACCOUNTS



Note: Net current earnings are total earnings from current operations less current operating expenses. Net profits are net current earnings plus recoveries, profits on securities, etc., less losses and charge-offs and taxes on net income. Capital accounts consist of all forms of capital, including capital notes and debentures, surplus, undivided profits, reserves for contingencies, and other miscellaneous capital accounts. Prior to 1927 profits on securities were included in current earnings; beginning in 1942 taxes on net income were excluded, while recurring depreciation was included, as a current operating expense deduction from earnings.

Member bank net profits after taxes (and after adjustments for losses, recoveries, profits on securities, and transfers to and from valuation reserves)

decreased 32 million dollars and amounted to 621 million for the year. The decline in net profits, in contrast to the increase in net current earnings, reflects principally an increase in transfers to establish reserves for losses on loans under the reserve method of accounting for bad debts as authorized by the Bureau of Internal Revenue in December 1947. Net profits were 7.2 per cent of total capital accounts and, as is shown in the chart on page 23, the ratio of net profits to total capital accounts continued its downward trend from the peak of nearly 11 per cent reached in 1945. The lower ratio in 1948 was due in part to increases in capital accounts.

Earning assets of member banks amounted to about 96 billion dollars at the close of 1948, a decrease of over 2 billion during the year. A decline of nearly 6 billion dollars in holdings of United States Government securities during the year was partly offset by an increase of more than 3 billion in loans. These changes were somewhat similar to those in 1947 but, as is shown in the table, the increase in loans was less than in the previous year, and the decrease in Government securities somewhat more.

Member Bank Loans and Investments
[In billions of dollars]

Itom	Outstanding	Change during year		
Item	Dec. 31, 1948	1948	1947	
Loans and investments, total	95.6	-2.2	+1.5	
Loans, total Commercial and industrial loans Agricultural loans Loans for purchasing or carrying securities Real-estate loans Consumer loans All other, including loans to banks	17.6 1.8 2.2 8.2 5.6	+3.4 +0.6 +0.7 +0.3 +1.1 +0.9	+5.9 +3.8 +0.2 -1.1 +1.8 +1.4 -0.1	
U. S. Government securities, total Bills, certificates, and notes Bonds		-5.8 +0.8 -6.6	-5.1 -4.2 -0.9	
State and local government securities	4.5	+0.3	+0.7	
Other securities	2.9	-0.2		

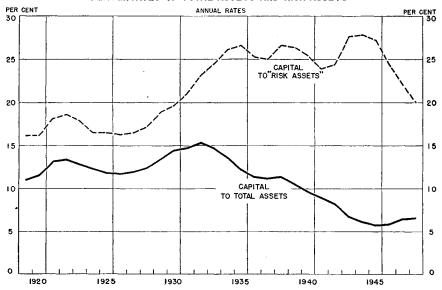
¹ This loan total is a net figure, comparable with other totals in table and with loan totals for previous years. Individual loan items are gross figures (i.e., before deduction of valuation reserves). They do not add to total and are not entirely comparable with net figures shown in previous reports. Before computing annual changes for 1948, individual loan items for the end of 1947 were adjusted to a gross basis.

Total holdings of Treasury bills, certificates, and notes increased for the first time since 1945, and Government bond holdings declined by 6.6 billion dollars in contrast to a decline of less than 1 billion in the previous year. These shifts resulted from higher yields available on short-term securities, the retirement of bonds maturing or called for redemption, and perhaps some uncertainty as to whether the current support level of Government bond prices would be continued. The average yield to member banks on their Government security holdings increased slightly from 1.53 per cent in 1947 to 1.56 in 1948. The average yield on loans also continued to increase, from 3.56 to 3.83 per cent.

Capital accounts. Capital accounts of member banks increased by 337 million dollars in 1948, as compared with an increase of 369 million in the previous year. Retention of profits accounted for most of the increase. Sales of additional common stock increased slightly and retirements of preferred stocks and capital notes declined slightly from 1947, resulting in a capital increase of 11 million dollars from these transactions, as compared with a net decline of 6 million in 1947. Dividend payments amounted to 294 million dollars in 1948, an increase of 13 million over the previous year. They represented 3.4 per cent of total capital accounts at the year end and 47 per cent of net profits.

The ratio of average total capital accounts to average total assets increased for the third successive year, as is shown in the accompanying chart, and amounted to 6.6 per cent in 1948. In contrast, the ratio of average total

CAPITAL RATIOS OF MEMBER BANKS PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL ASSETS AND "RISK ASSETS"

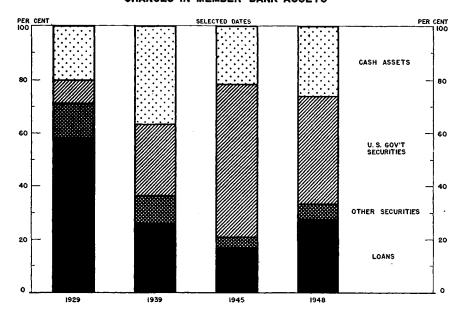


Note: "Risk assets" represent total assets other than cash assets and U. S. Government securities. Capital and asset figures are based on averages of June and December call date figures 1919-40 and of three or four call date figures thereafter.

capital accounts to average risk assets, defined to include all assets other than cash assets and United States Government securities, continued to decline from the peak reached in 1944 and amounted to only 20 per cent in 1948, the lowest ratio since 1930. The decline has resulted from a far greater relative growth in so-called risk assets than in total capital accounts. In 1947 and 1948 there were increases of nearly 7 billion and 4 billion dollars, respectively, in risk assets.

Changes in the distribution of member banks assets by broad groups during the past two decades are shown in the accompanying chart. It will be noted that loans and securities other than those of the United States Government, which comprised three-fourths of total assets in 1929, were only a fifth of the total in 1945 and, notwithstanding the subsequent increase in loans and decline in holdings of Government securities, were still only about a third of the total at the end of 1948.

CHANGES IN MEMBER BANK ASSETS



NONBANK SOURCES OF INVESTMENT FUNDS

A lower rate of expansion of private loans and investments by commercial banks in 1948 was accompanied by a substantial increase in lending and investing by other groups in the economy. Financial institutions other than commercial banks—especially the savings institutions—increased their investments in business securities and mortgages. Individuals purchased a considerably larger volume of corporate and State and local government securities last year than in the previous year. Finally, business enterprises invested slightly more of their own funds in 1948 than in 1947.

Savings institutions as a group extended a substantially greater volume of credit to private borrowers in 1948 than they did in previous years. This credit was extended largely to provide business corporations with additional funds for carrying out capital expansion programs and to finance the purchase of homes and other construction. The amount of new savings flowing to such institutions was slightly smaller in 1948 than in other recent years.

The increase in their lending was financed by the liquidation of a large volume of United States Government securities.

During 1948 the life insurance companies are estimated to have reduced their portfolios of United States Government securities by 3.3 billion dollars. The proceeds of this liquidation were added to 3.6 billion dollars of receipts from other sources, mainly new individual savings, to provide nearly 7 billion of funds for increased private investment. This increase was approximately 35 per cent larger than the increase in 1947. The principal increases in life insurance investments in 1948 occurred in corporate securities—4.2 billion dollars—and in mortgages—2.2 billion.

At mutual savings banks, additional deposits and retained earnings amounting to 0.7 billion dollars, together with a reduction of 0.5 billion in holdings of United States Government securities, provided 1.2 billion for new investment in 1948, as compared with 1.0 billion in 1947. They invested most of these funds in business securities and real-estate mortgages.

Savings and loan associations, in contrast to life insurance companies and mutual savings banks, invested slightly less in 1948 than in 1947—1.8 billion dollars as compared with 1.9 billion. Funds came largely from new savings. A small decline in holdings of Government securities was partly offset by an increase in cash.

The continued large volume of internal funds available to business corporations in 1948—principally from retained profits, amounts set aside for depreciation allowances, and a small reduction in liquid asset holdings—enabled them in the aggregate to finance their record expenditures with relative ease. Such funds amounted to 16.3 billion dollars in 1948 and 15.5 billion in 1947. The total of internal funds was a slightly larger proportion of total business funds from all sources, external as well as internal, in 1948 than in the preceding year. The large volume of internal funds available to businesses in 1948 was largely invested in plant, equipment, inventories, and customer credit.

During 1948 individuals and unincorporated businesses reduced their holdings of currency and demand deposits by approximately 1 billion dollars. At the same time individuals increased their holdings of corporate and State and local government securities by almost 3 billion dollars, which was slightly more than double the increase in 1947. Individuals also added further to their holdings of United States Government securities.

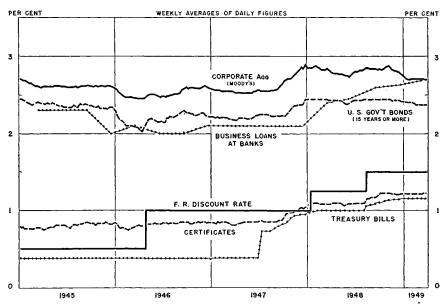
CHANGES IN STRUCTURE OF INTEREST RATES

Short-term money rates rose further in 1948, chiefly as a result of official policies permitting a rise in rates on short-term Government securities while maintaining yields on long-term Treasury bonds. Yields on corporate and municipal bonds fluctuated during the year but were slightly lower at the

end than at the beginning. Stock yields rose to quite high levels for prosperity conditions.

In the first two months of 1948, rates on short-term Government securities continued to rise as they had during the last half of 1947 and then changed little until August. One-year certificates were offered at 1½ per cent and rates on Treasury bills were just under 1 per cent. In August, the Treasury announced 1¾ per cent one and one-half year notes in exchange for notes maturing September 15, and 1¼ per cent one-year certificates for certificates and notes maturing October 1. Rates on Treasury bills rose to about 1½ per cent by the end of the year. Federal Reserve Bank discount rates, which had been raised from 1 per cent to 1¼ per cent in January, were increased again in mid-August to 1½ per cent.

MONEY RATES



Note: For Treasury bills, rate is average discount on new issue during week. Federal Reserve discount rate is for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Rate on business loans at banks is average for loans made at banks in 19 selected cities in the first 15 days of March, June, September, and December.

Some increases also occurred in the interest rates charged by banks on loans to their customers. Average rates for all types of short-term business loans made by banks in 19 selected money centers rose from 2.1 per cent in December 1947 to 2.6 per cent in December 1948, as is shown in the accompanying chart. The rise in rates applied to business loans of all sizes.

Bond yields generally, which had advanced somewhat during the last four months of 1947, showed little further change in 1948. The average yield

on high-grade corporate bonds, for example, was 2.8 per cent in December 1948 compared with 2.9 per cent in December 1947. A slight decline in yields in the first half of the year was followed by a rise in the summer and another slight decline in the closing weeks of the year. Yields on other grades of corporate bonds and on municipal bonds fluctuated more during the year than did those on high-grade corporate issues and showed small, mixed changes for the year as a whole.

INCREASED SUPPLIES AND MORE SELECTIVE PRICE MOVEMENTS

During 1948 production in most areas of the world increased further and more goods and services were made available to consumers and producers than at any other time since the end of the war. As a consequence, many of the shortages which had persisted during 1946 and 1947 were eliminated, and price developments became more selective—by country, by product, and by stage of production and distribution. The increase in supplies resulted largely from further progress toward orderly conditions of production and trade in many parts of the world, further development by the United States of a broad program of aid to Western Europe, expansion in plant capacity and material supplies, and more favorable growing conditions for crops in important areas. Demand, while uneven and not as much in excess of supply as before, on the whole was still strong, providing the incentive required for heavy production in this period.

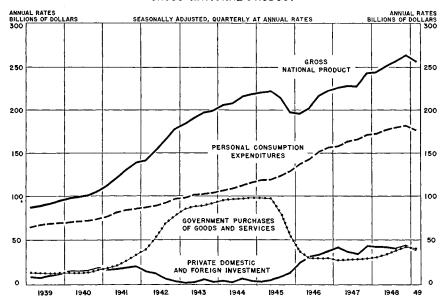
In the United States, where production before 1948 had already risen to levels very close to capacity, further increases were generally moderate. Crop production was considerably larger than in 1947, and there were substantial increases in construction activity and electric power production. Output of manufactures and minerals expanded only moderately, owing in some instances to supply limitations but in others to a leveling off or a reduction in demand. As before, more goods were shipped abroad than were received but the difference, which had been very great in 1947, was considerably reduced in 1948 because exports declined and imports increased. Government purchases for stockpiling and other military purposes expanded, but altogether the share of domestic production available for civilian use was somewhat larger than in 1947 and actual supplies available to consumers and businesses reached new high levels. Some of the increased product available for civilian use went into business inventories, facilitating future production, speeding the delivery of goods to customers, and weakening the bargaining position of sellers.

As a consequence of this and of various other developments, such as the replenishment or building up of supplies of goods in the hands of domestic consumers and a reduction in export demand, inflationary pressures eased somewhat. The general level of wholesale commodity prices, which had advanced rapidly in 1947, declined early in 1948. Then it rose to a new

peak in the third quarter, with sharp advances in meats, livestock, and metals and metal products, and little change for most other commodities. In the last quarter of 1948, prices declined to about the level prevailing at the end of 1947, and in early 1949 they declined more sharply. Wage rates advanced further in 1948, particularly during the late spring and summer months. In capital markets, farm land values showed some further rise until the latter part of the year, while real property values in urban areas continued close to earlier high levels and security prices showed little change.

Reflecting the larger volume of goods sold as well as the higher level of prices prevailing, total expenditures for goods and services during the year amounted to 255 billion dollars, as compared with 232 billion in 1947, an increase of 10 per cent. The rise from the fourth quarter of 1947 to the fourth quarter of 1948 was almost as large as this. The course of expenditures in 1948 is shown in the chart for the total and for broad types of outlays. Subsequently, in the first quarter of 1949, expenditures showed the first significant decline since the period immediately following the end of the war.

GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT



Note: U. S. Department of Commerce data.

From the fourth quarter of 1947 to the fourth quarter of 1948, outlays by governments for currently produced goods and services rose by 12.5 billion dollars. Federal outlays showed a marked increase, chiefly for military purposes and foreign aid in the form of grants, and there was further substantial growth in outlays by State and local governments, both for current operations and for construction projects, particularly schools and highways.

The slight reduction indicated for private domestic and foreign investment together reflected a sharp decline in net foreign investment which more than offset a 7.5 billion dollar increase in domestic investment. The sharp decline in foreign investment was due chiefly to marked declines in net exports of goods and in the share of Federal aid to other countries which took the form of loans rather than grants. The rise in domestic investment reflected mainly a further rise in outlays for producers' equipment and an increase in inventory accumulation. Part of the increase in inventory accumulation was accounted for by a shift in the situation on farms where, because of very large crops, stocks were being increased rather than depleted.

Personal consumption expenditures in the fourth quarter of 1948 were at an annual rate about 10 billion dollars higher than in the final quarter of 1947. Meanwhile personal disposable income increased by about 18.5 billion and consumption expenditures declined as a proportion of personal disposable income. Expenditures for new houses, regarded as investment rather than consumption outlays, were at about the same level at the end of 1948 as a year earlier. There was a substantial increase in net current personal saving, which includes expenditures for new houses as well as accumulations of securities and liquid assets minus increases in debt. Consumer indebtedness for housing and other purposes continued to increase, although at a slackened rate toward the end of the year.

PERSONAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURES In billions of dollarsl

Item	Year		Fourth quarter	
ren	1948	1947	1948	1947
Personal income. Disposable income ² . Consumption expenditures.	213.6	195,2	219.6	203.1
	192.6	173,6	199.4	180.9
	177.7	164.8	181.0	171.1
Durable goods	22.7	21.0	22.9	22.1
	103.6	96.5	105.1	100.2
Services	51.4	47.3	53.0	48.8
	14.9	8.8	18.4	9.7

More selective price movements. Price movements, which had been very generally upward most of the time from the end of the war through 1947, became much more selective in 1948, especially in commodity markets but also to some extent in markets for real property. Upward adjustment of wages was also somewhat more selective. The general level of wholesale prices, which had risen 16 per cent the previous year, showed no net change in 1948 and consumer prices rose only 3 per cent, as compared with 9 per cent in 1947. In wholesale markets, prices of some products, notably metals and many of their manufactures, rose further, as demand continued in excess of supply during most of the year; at the other extreme, prices of crops declined

Seasonally adjusted quarterly totals at annual rates.
 Disposable income is personal income less income taxes.
 SOURCE: U. S. Department of Commerce.

sharply, to Federal price support levels, under the impact of harvests greatly in excess of current use. Consumer prices were higher at the year-end than at the beginning of the year for most types of goods and services but were somewhat lower for foods. Comparative data are given in the accompanying table.

CHANGES IN PRICES

	Percentage increase or decrease					
Group	Dec. 1947 to Dec. 1948	Dec. 1946 to Dec. 1947	1935-39 to Dec. 1948			
Basic commodity prices (28 items)	-15	+17	+153			
General wholesale index:						
Total	1	+16	+101			
Farm productsFoodsOther commodities	-10 -5 +5	+17 +11 +17	+133 +115 +88			
Textile products Building materials Fuel and light Metals and products	+6	+10 +21 +30 +12	+107 +126 +82 +89			
Consumers' prices. Food Apparel. Rent	-1 +5	+9 +11 +8 +6	+71 +105 +100 +20			

Note.—Based on Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

While net changes in prices over the whole year were small, changes within the year were large. In the first few weeks of 1948, the rapid rise in prices which had characterized the latter part of 1947 came to an end and in February prices of numerous products, especially grains and livestock, dropped sharply. There were declines in retail as well as wholesale markets for some products, particularly meats. The reaction in prices, however, did not become general.

During the spring and summer months, although crop prospects improved and prices of some crops remained near Federal support levels, prices in many markets advanced considerably, bringing the general average to a new high. Cotton prices rose from 32 cents a pound in February to 37 cents in May and June. During the summer, metal prices rose more rapidly than at any time since the end of 1946, when Federal price controls were removed; livestock and meat prices advanced to new peaks, despite the prospect of greatly increased feed supplies; and prices of fuels rose somewhat further. This strengthening did not extend to as many markets as had earlier advances but it was nevertheless important. Beginning in May it was accompanied by further wage advances which, though not as large as those in 1946 and 1947, were substantial.

The whole upward movement in prices and wages after the reaction in prices early in the year reflected largely the widespread strength of existing

demand, although for some commodities, such as nonferrous metals, interruptions to supply were also important. The demand situation was strong at this time, partly because many demands deferred from the war period had not been fully met, an expanded defense program and a program of economic aid to Western Europe were being inaugurated, and Federal taxes on personal incomes were being reduced. To some extent the rise in metal prices represented an adjustment of prices to market conditions which had prevailed for some time rather than a response to further expansion in demand.

The high point of this advance in commodity prices as a whole was reached in August, and during the remaining months of the year there were declines in both wholesale and retail markets. Sharp reductions in prices of livestock and meats, marked continuing declines in textiles, and reductions in some types of lumber were offset only in part by further increases in metals and metal products. In markets for some metal products such as household appliances, moreover, sales declined toward the end of the year, production schedules were revised downward from earlier exceptional peak levels, and later, in the early part of 1949, prices were reduced somewhat. Prices in used car markets declined rather more than seasonally. Supplies of fuel, which had been very short in the winter of 1947-48, increased and inventories accumulated, setting the stage for some decline in production and prices of fuel in the early part of 1949.

In general, the easing of inflationary pressures in the latter part of the year was in marked contrast to the resurgence of upward pressures in the latter part of 1947, but activity and employment continued at a high level, incomes reached a new peak, and unemployment remained at a very low level. Later, in the first quarter of 1949, further easing in the general situation was reflected in further price reductions, declines in production and employment, and an increase in unemployment.

Production close to capacity and demand. In broad terms, production in 1948 continued close to capacity and, for a variety of reasons, supplies came to approximate demands in most lines and to exceed demands in a number of other lines. As the year began, much progress had already been made in replenishing inventories at all stages of production, distribution, and consumption and in modernizing and expanding the country's industrial plant. During 1948 output was larger than in 1947 and the volume of goods exported was reduced from earlier peak levels. Domestic consumer demand continued strong until the latter part of the year when there was some weakening in a number of markets. At the year-end public programs called for further increases in outlays and private investment programs were still large in many lines, particularly the public utilities, but in some other lines, such as residential building, less new work was being undertaken.

Production was larger in 1948 than in 1947, partly because capacity and supplies in some lines had been increased and partly because weather con-

ditions were much more favorable to crops. Construction activity rose further in 1948 as supplies of materials and labor expanded and in some fields, such as residential building, supply came to equal or exceed demand at existing high price levels, tending to ease the market for both old and new houses and to encourage caution on the part of potential home buyers, financing agencies, and builders. Electric power output expanded further by a large amount, but capacity and output at the end of the year were still inadequate to meet expanding demand in some areas, particularly the Pacific Northwest.

In industry—at factories and mines—output for the year, at 192 per cent of the 1935-39 average, was moderately higher than the 1947 level of 187. It showed little change during the course of the year, however, as further advances in output of some products, notably steel, automobiles, and petroleum, were offset by declines in output of some other products such as cotton textiles, shoes, and coal. In many industries, such as the machinery, chemicals, and food processing industries, output continued at earlier high levels.

In transportation there was not much change in the total volume of traffic from 1947 to 1948, partly because much of the increased output of agricultural products was held on farms. There was some further shift of traffic from the railroads to other forms of transportation; toward the end of the year carloadings fell below the levels prevailing late in 1947. Substantial current output of freight cars eased the shortage of railroad equipment, and demand for new automobile trucks was fairly well maintained although the number of trucks on the road reached a new peak.

As long as production in the economy was generally close to capacity but still short of demand, and as long as prices consequently were increasing at a rapid rate, one important question was how much production might be short of demand. Another was how long it would take to increase production enough to make up the difference and this posed the question of the course of demand as well as of supply. Would demand increase further, especially if military or related demands expanded? On the other hand, would it perhaps decline, as some of the more urgent deferred demands were met?

By the beginning of 1949, as production seemed to be catching up with or exceeding demand in an increasing number of lines, and as price declines became more numerous, questions concerning the course of prices and employment in the immediate future came more into the foreground. Earlier weaknesses in some prices during 1947 and 1948 had been followed by sharp advances and the extent of future demands, especially in connection with international developments, was not known. It was evident also that the financial position of consumers and producers was still relatively strong and that, as in other postwar years of generally rising incomes, sellers having excess stocks had often been able to dispose of them by reducing prices only moderately.

But, as supplies increased throughout the economy, in the hands of consumers as well as producers and distributors, demands were becoming less urgent. Consumers were saving more of their incomes and there were important questions concerning the course of consumer buying and the utilization of the increased personal savings together with the exceedingly large volume of undistributed business profits available for investment purposes. In the field of private investment the general tendency was toward a lower rate of expenditure, while Government outlays for goods and services were rising somewhat.

On the whole, the prospective course of prices, production, employment, incomes, and expenditures appeared to be downward in the early part of 1949 but economic activity was still not far below the peak levels reached during 1948.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND FINANCE

In 1948 there was a sharp reduction in the United States export surplus from the record peacetime level of 1947. As has been indicated earlier, this development was the combined result of a substantial decline in exports and a marked increase in imports. Exports of goods and receipts for services performed for foreigners amounted to 16.8 billion dollars in 1948, a decline of 2.9 billion from the preceding year. At the same time, imports and payments to foreigners for services amounted to 10.5 billion dollars, a figure almost one-fourth larger than in 1947. While still large, the export surplus, amounting to 6.3 billion dollars, was the smallest since 1942, and was 44 per cent below the level of 1947.

In the financing of the export surplus, the greatest change from the pattern of 1947 occurred with respect to the use of foreign gold and dollar assets. The net liquidation of such assets during the year was less than 1 billion dollars, as compared with 4.5 billion in 1947. There was also a decrease in United States Government aid, which, notwithstanding inauguration of the European Recovery Program, declined from 5.7 billion dollars in 1947 to 4.7 billion in 1948. Partly as a result of continued political uncertainty abroad, private investment and lending by international institutions continued at relatively low levels.

While the previous depletion of foreign gold and dollar resources and the decrease in United States aid were in part responsible for the reduction in the export surplus, this decline should also be regarded as evidence of a gradual return to a more balanced situation for the world as a whole. In large measure, the export surplus of recent years has reflected the contribution of the United States to postwar reconstruction. It was, therefore, to be expected that, as reconstruction proceeded, the abnormal dependence of foreign countries on United States production and financial assistance would

diminish and that the United States would purchase an increasing amount of goods and services from abroad.

The movement toward international balance reflected in the United States balance of payments in 1948 was by no means uniform for all countries. The United Kingdom, largely because of a persistent sellers' market abroad and continued austerity at home, was able to reduce its over-all external deficit by more than four-fifths and its gold and dollar deficit by more than one-half. Canada and Italy also substantially improved their positions and, largely as a result of increased exports, were able to increase their dollar holdings during the year. Other countries, such as France, did not succeed in materially reducing their balance-of-payments gap, and Germany and Japan continued to need large amounts of outside aid. Finally, further deterioration in the international economic positions of such countries as South Africa, Argentina, and Mexico led to losses of reserves, tighter import controls, or currency depreciation.

The long-run policy of the United States continued to be directed toward the gradual elimination of trade restrictions as an important step in bringing about a high level of mutually beneficial international trade. An important objective of the European Recovery Program has been to prepare the European nations to participate in freer multilateral trade.

Exports and imports of the United States. Recorded exports of merchandise in 1948 amounted to 12.6 billion dollars, as compared with 15.3 billion in 1947. Owing to a 7 per cent increase in the average level of prices of export commodities, the decline in physical volume of exports was even greater than indicated by the decline in dollar amount. Receipts from services and investments, amounting to 3.4 billion dollars, were slightly below the 1947 level.

Recorded United States imports of merchandise amounted to 7.1 billion dollars in 1948, an increase of 1.3 billion from the level of 1947. This increase was accounted for by an 11 per cent increase in the import price level and by a roughly similar increase in physical volume. The growth in imports was shared by all major types of commodities. Payments to foreign countries for services and on investments increased from 2.4 billion dollars in 1947 to 2.8 billion in 1948. Imports of goods and services were equal to 4.7 per cent of the national income of the United States in 1948, as compared with 4.2 per cent in 1947. In the years immediately preceding the war, the corresponding percentage was about 6 per cent.

Until recent years, an export balance in United States merchandise trade with Europe, North America, and Africa was usually offset in part by an import balance with Asia and with South America. Since the war, however, United States exports have exceeded imports in every major area. This continued to be true in 1948, but to a less impressive extent. In the case of

each major foreign area, the ratio of United States imports to United States exports was considerably higher in 1948 than in 1947. Recorded exports and imports of merchandise, by areas, are shown in the accompanying table.

	<u> </u>	1948 trade	·	Imports as a percentage of exports			
Area	Exports	Exports Imports Net exports		1948	1947	1935–39 annual average	
Recorded trade, total \$ Africa Asia Europe North America Oceania South America	785 2,094	\$7,070 407 1,332 1,092 2,538 164 1,537	\$5,549 378 762 3,194 855 —11 371	56.0 51.8 63.6 25.5 74.8 107.2 80.6	37.4 39.8 44.9 14.4 56.0 48.6 52.5	82.4 53.1 145.7 55.3 81.4 40.8 118.8	

United States Merchandise Trade [Dollar items in millions]

641

\$7,711

138

57.6

37.8

84.9

\$5,687

779

\$13,398

Means of financing export surplus. About three-fourths of the total export surplus of the United States in 1948 was financed by gifts and loans from the United States Government. The dollars to cover the remaining net exports were derived, as shown by the table on page 38, from private United States investments and gifts, from loans by the International Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and from the sale of gold and other foreign-owned assets to the United States. In contrast with 1947, these sales were of relatively minor importance to the financing of the export surplus in 1948.

In 1948, the United States Government extended financial assistance to foreign countries amounting to 4.7 billion dollars, or 17 per cent less than in 1947. The amount of donations, however, was more than twice as large as in 1947, since the great bulk of Government assistance in 1948 took the form of gifts rather than loans. European countries received more than three-fourths of the aid extended by the United States Government in 1948, largely as part of the European Recovery Program.

Private gifts and investments continued to finance a part of the net exports from the United States. The net amount of charitable contributions and personal remittances in 1948 was about 600 million dollars. The net outflow of private capital, amounting to about 900 million dollars, consisted mainly of advances by parent companies in this country to their subsidiaries abroad.

As previously indicated, various countries found it necessary to draw on their holdings of gold and other liquid assets in the United States. Net

Unrecorded trade1....

¹Consists mainly of certain U. S. Government transactions. On the export side, sales of Government surplus property to foreigners, and certain categories of civilian supplies distributed by the armed forces in occupied areas, accounted for the bulk of such transactions in 1947 and 1948.

sales of gold to the United States by foreign countries amounted to 1.5 billion dollars during the year. In considerable part, however, these sales were offset by an increase of 1 billion dollars in foreign banking funds held in the United States. Part of the gold sales represented new foreign production of gold, which remained at the 1947 level of about 700 million dollars (not including Soviet production). Total foreign gold and dollar holdings, which had been depleted considerably in 1947, thus remained approximately constant in 1948.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED STATES AND MEANS OF FINANCING¹
[In billions of dollars]

	1948	1947
United States exports, total	16.8 13.4 3.4	19.7 16.1 3.7
United States imports, total	10.5 7.7 2.8	8.5 6.1 2.4
Net purchases from United States by foreign countries	6.3	11.3
Sources of financing utilized by foreign countries, total	7.5	12.3
United States Government, net total Credits. Donations	4.7 0.9 3.8	5.7 3.9 1.8
United States—private, net total Foreign investment (long- and short-term) Donations	1.5 0.9 0.6	1.3 0.7 0.6
International Institutions, net total Dollars disbursed by International Bank Dollars drawn from International Monetary Fund	0.4 0.2 0.2	0.8 0.3 0.5
Foreign countries' own capital assets, net total Sales of gold to United States. Reduction of banking funds in United States. Liquidation of other assets in United States.	0.9 1.5 2-1.0 0.3	4.5 2.8 1.2 0.5
Errors and omissions	-1.1	-1.0

¹This table is derived largely from U. S. balance-of-payments data compiled by the Department of Commerce. Gold and dollar transactions between the United States and the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank are omitted while gold and dollar financing provided by the Fund and the Bank are included. ECA disbursements that are ultimately to be placed on a loan basis are treated as credits. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

² Increase.

CHANGES IN BANKING STRUCTURE

Number of banking offices. There was a net increase of 189 banking offices in the United States in 1948. This was the fifth consecutive annual increase and followed somewhat larger increases of 207 in 1947 and 225 in 1946. The number of newly organized banks and branches was 242, as compared with 271 in 1947 and 301 in 1946. The banking offices that went out of existence in 1948 totaled 53, a smaller number than in either of the two preceding years. At the end of 1948 there were 19,164 banking offices (14,703 banks and 4,461 branches and additional offices). There were also 70 banking facilities at military reservations, excluded from the foregoing figures, a decrease of one during the year; at the end of the war, there were about 350 of these offices.

The number of banks (head offices) declined in 1948 for the first time since 1944. The net decline of 11 compares with net increases of 14 in 1947, 32 in 1946, and 18 in 1945. The number of new banks opened for business was 80, a decline from the corresponding figures of 111 in 1947 and 144 in 1946. These declines followed increases beginning in 1943 and reaching a peak in 1946. Twenty of the 80 banks opening for business were member banks, 41 were insured nonmember banks, and 19 were noninsured banks. Of the 91 banks discontinued through consolidation, liquidation, etc., 56 became branches. The number of banks in operation at the end of 1948 was 14,703 (14,171 commercial banks and 532 mutual savings banks).

The number of branches and additional offices, exclusive of offices at military reservations, increased by a net of 200 during the year. This increase in 1948, although only slightly larger than in 1947 and 1946, was the largest since 1934. The number of such offices has increased in every year since 1933 except 1942, when it remained unchanged.

Approximately 40 per cent of the new banks opened for business in the past four years have been in Georgia, Illinois, and Texas, where branch banking is prohibited. About the same percentage of the new branches have been in California, Massachusetts, Michigan, and New York, while the new banks opened in these four States have amounted to only 6 per cent of the total.

Changes in Federal Reserve membership. Membership in the Federal Reserve System decreased for the first time since 1938. The loss of 5 banks in 1948 compares with net gains of 23 in 1947 and 16 in 1946. The number of national banks decreased by a net of 14 and the number of State member banks increased by a net of 9. Admissions to membership were more than offset by consolidations, etc., in which 37 banks became branches. Of the 49 banks admitted to membership, 17 were national banks and 32 were State banks; of the latter, 5 were newly organized and 27 were already in operation. All but one of the 27 had previously been admitted to membership in the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and their total deposits amounted to about 83 million dollars. A survey made by the Reserve Banks as of December 31 showed that nearly one-third of the nonmember commercial banks were ineligible for membership in the Federal Reserve System on the basis of statutory capital requirements.

The 6,918 member banks in operation at the end of 1948 accounted for 49 per cent of the number and 85 per cent of the deposits of all commercial banks in the country. The State member banks accounted for 21 per cent of the number and 65 per cent of the deposits of all State commercial banks. These percentages have remained practically unchanged in recent years.

Par and nonpar banks. During 1948 there was a net increase of 24 in the number of banks on the Federal Reserve Par List and a net decrease of

30 in the number of nonpar banks.¹ These changes continued the trend of several years but the number of banks involved was somewhat smaller. During the year, 112 banks were added to the Par List, 7 were withdrawn, and 81 banks formerly on the list terminated existence. Of the latter, 72 were absorbed by other par banks and 55 of the 72 were converted into branches. There were net increases in nonpar banks in only three States.

At the end of 1948 there were 12,061 banks remitting at par and 2,011 nonpar banks. The latter represented only 14 per cent of the banks on which checks are drawn and held a very small proportion of the deposits of all commercial banks in the country. The number of nonpar branches of commercial banks, which has been decreasing slightly in recent years, was 318 at the end of the year.

In February 1949, when the last nonpar bank in one State came on the Par List, there were 5 Federal Reserve districts and 28 States and the District of Columbia in which all banks were on the Federal Reserve Par List. In each of 5 other States, the number of nonpar banks was less than 10. At the end of 1948 over 99 per cent of the banks not on the Par List were in the following 15 States: Minnesota 416, Georgia 294, Mississippi 165, Arkansas 124, North Carolina 116, Wisconsin 107, Alabama 106, Louisiana 103, South Dakota 100, Tennessee 95, North Dakota 89, South Carolina 89, Missouri 67, Florida 63, and Texas 58.

Check routing symbols. Further progress was made during 1948 in the uses of routing symbols on checks to facilitate their collection. The program was inaugurated by the American Bankers Association and the Federal Reserve System in June 1945.

Nearly all of the banks on the Federal Reserve Par List now have check routing symbols printed on some of their checks in the approved location, i.e., in the upper right-hand corner. On the basis of a survey made as of December 1, 1948, it was found that 58 per cent of all checks clearing through Federal Reserve Banks carried routing symbols in the approved location.

Designation of reserve cities. In accordance with the basis for the classification of reserve cities adopted in December 1947 by the Board of Governors and published in the 1947 Annual Report, the following changes were made in the classification of reserve cities, effective March 1, 1948: The city of National City (National Stock Yards), Illinois was classified as a reserve city, and the designations of the following cities as reserve cities were terminated: Grand Rapids, Michigan; Ogden, Utah; and Spokane, Washington.

BANK SUPERVISION BY THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

The year 1948 ended with a very moderate decrease in the total resources of all member banks. There were also changes in the character of assets held

¹The Federal Reserve Par List comprises all member banks, which are required under the law to remit at par for checks forwarded to them by the Federal Reserve Banks for payment, and also such nonmember banks as have agreed to do so.

by the banks, representing in the main a continuing shift from what are usually termed riskless assets (cash assets and United States Government securities) into loans. The larger volume of risk assets commensurately increased the responsibilities of bank managements and bank supervisory authorities to detect and correct elements of weakness as they develop.

While the number and volume of assets of State member banks with problem characteristics were small in the aggregate, the fact remains that the high level of business activity in 1948, as in the past several years, tended to obscure real and potential elements of risk in loans and to increase the difficulty of their proper appraisal by bank managements and examiners. Manifestly, a diminution of business activity could affect adversely the collectibility of many loans and disclose a greater degree of deterioration than is now apparent.

Difficulty in finding and attracting capable bank personnel continued to be a problem during the year, for some of the smaller banks in particular.

The continued increase in risk assets in 1948 was not offset by proportionate increases in aggregate capital. Therefore, the need for capital became even more pronounced. While a relatively few State member banks sold additional common stock during the year, many were reluctant to take such action. In some cases this reluctance appears to spring from unwillingness of controlling interests to dilute their stockholdings through sales of new stock. In other cases lack of market appears to be the most important obstacle. In such circumstances it has been urged that caution be exercised in further expansion of risk assets and disbursement of earnings through cash dividends.

The Board continued during the year to work closely with the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Executive Committee of the National Association of Supervisors of State Banks on matters of mutual interest pertaining to bank examination and supervision.

Examination of Federal Reserve Banks. The Board's Division of Examinations examined each of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks and their twenty-four branches during the year as required by law.

Examination of State member banks. State member banks are subject to examinations made by direction of the Board of Governors or of the Federal Reserve Banks by examiners selected or approved by the Board of Governors. The established policy is to conduct at least one regular examination of each State member bank, including its trust department, during each calendar year, by examiners for the Reserve Bank of the district in which the bank is situated, with additional examinations if considered desirable. In order to avoid duplication and to minimize inconvenience to the banks examined, wherever practicable joint examinations are made in cooperation with the State banking authorities or alternate examinations are made by agreement with State authorities. The 1948 program for the examination of State member banks was substantially completed.

A conference of the Vice Presidents in charge of bank examination and supervision at the several Federal Reserve Banks was held at the offices of the Board of Governors on February 12 and 13, 1948 to consider current supervisory problems. Representatives of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation participated in the conference. The annual convention of the National Association of Supervisors of State Banks, held in Louisville, Kentucky, in September, afforded another opportunity for an informal meeting of the bank supervisory officers of the Federal Reserve Banks with representatives of the Board to consider matters of current interest.

Bank holding companies. During 1948 the Board acted on applications for voting permits submitted by holding company affiliates of banks and authorized the issuance of four permits for general purposes and five permits for limited purposes.

The regular annual reports were obtained from holding company affiliates to provide information with respect to the organizations to which voting permits have been granted. In accordance with established practice, a number of holding company affiliates were examined during the year by examiners for the Federal Reserve Banks in whose districts the principal offices of the holding companies are located.

Section 301 of the Banking Act of 1935 provides that the term "holding company affiliate" shall not include, except for the purposes of Section 23A of the Federal Reserve Act, any organization which is determined by the Board not to be engaged, directly or indirectly, as a business in holding the stock of, or managing or controlling, banks, banking associations, savings banks, or trust companies. During the year the Board made such determinations with respect to seven organizations.

As mentioned in previous reports, the existing statutes do not provide adequate means for regulation of bank holding companies. The Board's recommendations for the strengthening of such regulation are presented earlier in this report.

Trust powers of national banks. During the year, 13 national banks were granted authority by the Board to exercise one or more trust powers under the provisions of Section 11(k) of the Federal Reserve Act. This number includes the grant of additional powers to one bank which previously had been granted certain trust powers. Trust powers of 10 national banks were terminated by voluntary liquidation or consolidation. At the end of 1948 there were 1,788 national banks holding permits to exercise trust powers. A list of such banks, with indication of the power or powers each bank is authorized to exercise, will be supplied to those requesting it.

Foreign branches and banking corporations. The Board approved six applications made during 1948 by member banks pursuant to the provisions

of Section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act for permission to establish foreign branches. During the year member banks opened eight foreign branches, several of which had been authorized by the Board prior to 1948. The new branches were distributed geographically as follows: Brazil 3, Germany 1, Japan 3, Philippines 1. Owing to disturbed conditions, the operations of one foreign branch were in temporary suspension at the end of the year under the provisions of the Board's Regulation M. The types of banking operations conducted by branches in Germany and Japan are restricted by the terms of the licenses issued by the military occupation authorities.

At the end of 1948, seven member banks had in active operation a total of 89 branches in 22 foreign countries and possessions of the United States. Of the 89 branches, four national banks were operating 83, and three State member banks were operating 6. The foreign branches in active operation were distributed geographically as follows:

Latin America		England	10
Argentina Brazil. Chile. Colombia. Cuba. Mexico. Panama. Peru.	8 2 3	Far East China Hong Kong India Japan Philippines Singapore	17 1 1 2 7 5
Uruguay. Venezuela. Continental Europe. Belgium.	1 1 5 1	U. S. Possessions Canal Zone Puerto Rico	11 4 7
France Germany	1 3	Total	89

At the end of 1948 there were four corporations organized under State laws which operate under agreements entered into with the Board pursuant to Section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act relating to investment by member banks in the stock of corporations engaged principally in international or foreign banking. These corporations are First of Boston International Corporation, International Banking Corporation, Morgan & Cie., Incorporated, and Bankers Company of New York. One of the four has no foreign affiliates or branches, one has a branch in England and during the year opened a branch in France, one operates a branch in France, and one has an English fiduciary affiliate.

During the year the agreement with the Board under which French American Banking Corporation operated was terminated, owing to the acquisition by other interests of the stock in the Corporation formerly held by member banks.

The Board's Division of Examinations examined during the year the head office of The Chase Bank, the one banking corporation in active operation organized under the provisions of Section 25(a) of the Federal Reserve Act and chartered by the Board to engage in international or foreign banking. The bank has a fiduciary affiliate in England, and operates a branch in France, two branches in China, and a branch in Hong Kong.

CHANGES IN REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Reserves of member banks. The Board's Regulation D, relating to reserves required to be maintained by member banks with Federal Reserve Banks, was amended to increase the required reserves against demand deposits for banks in central reserve cities from 20 to 22 per cent effective February 27, 1948, and from 22 to 24 per cent effective June 11, 1948. It was again amended effective September 24, 1948, as to banks in reserve and central reserve cities, and effective September 16, 1948, as to other member banks, to increase the required reserves against time deposits from 6 to 7.5 per cent for all member banks, and to increase the required reserves against demand deposits from 24 to 26 per cent for central reserve city banks, from 20 to 22 per cent for reserve city banks, and from 14 to 16 per cent for other member banks. The regulation also was amended in minor respects effective September 16, 1948, to reflect changes in the applicable statutes.

Effective in May 1949, the Board reduced reserve requirements by 2 percentage points on net demand deposits at member banks in central reserve cities, by 1 percentage point on net demand deposits at all other member banks, and by one-half percentage point on time deposits at all member banks. These reductions became effective May 5, 1949 for member banks in reserve and central reserve cities and May 1, 1949 for other member banks.

Membership of State banks. The Board's Regulation H, relating to membership of State banks in the Federal Reserve System, was amended effective September 1, 1948, to eliminate certain conditions of membership which were not considered essential as standard conditions of membership for State member banks of the Federal Reserve System. This action was taken as part of a program to accomplish greater uniformity in the conditions of membership applicable to State member banks.

Check clearing and collection. The Board's Regulation J, relating to the clearing and collection of checks by Federal Reserve Banks, was amended effective January I, 1949, pursuant to recommendations of the American Bankers Association, to permit conditional payment of checks and other cash items presented by Federal Reserve Banks. The amendment authorizes a procedure under which a cash item which a Federal Reserve Bank presents to a drawee bank, and for which remittance or settlement is made by the drawee bank on the day it receives the item, may be returned for credit or refund at any time prior to midnight of the drawee's next business day.

Interlocking bank directorates. The Board's Regulation L, relating to interlocking bank directorates under the Clayton Act, was amended effective July 1, 1948, to permit a director, officer, or employee of a member bank to be at the same time a director, officer, or employee of not more than one bank which is principally engaged in international or foreign banking and which does not receive deposits or make loans in the United States except as may be incidental to its international or foreign business.

Margin requirements for purchasing securities. The Board's Regulation T, relating to the extension and maintenance of credit by brokers, dealers, and members of national securities exchanges, and Regulation U, relating to loans by banks for the purpose of purchasing or carrying stocks registered on a national securities exchange, were amended effective April I, 1948, to permit a customer to make substitutions on certain conditions in an undermargined account without having to supply additional margin. Previously, substitutions were limited by the rule that the proceeds of sales of securities in an undermargined account be used to the extent necessary to increase the margin on the remaining securities until it was on the margin basis prescribed by the regulations.

Effective March 30, 1949, the margin requirements under the Board's Regulations T and U were reduced from 75 per cent to 50 per cent. Effective May I, 1949, these regulations were amended to simplify operations in the special cash account under Regulation T and to relax further the provisions relating to substitutions of securities under the regulations. Effective May 16 the regulations were amended to permit a 25 per cent margin in the case of securities acquired through subscription rights when specified conditions are met.

Consumer instalment credit. The Board's Regulation W, relating to consumer instalment credit, was reissued effective September 20, 1948, in much the same form as the regulation was when terminated on November 1, 1947. The new regulation covered instalment sales and loans for the purchase of 12 kinds of consumers' durable goods, excluding articles selling for less than \$50. It also covered instalment loans for most other consumer purposes. The regulation required down payments of at least 33½ per cent on purchases of automobiles and 20 per cent on purchases of the other listed articles. On all types of instalment credit subject to the regulation, maturities were restricted to 15 months for credits not exceeding \$1,000 and 18 months for larger amounts (with monthly payments of at least \$70 on amounts over \$1,000). Instalment credits in excess of \$5,000 were not regulated. The regulation was amended effective November 1, 1948, to permit customer trials of appliances without prior down payments under certain specified conditions.

Effective January 1, 1949, Regulation W was amended to provide that, for purposes of the exemption of articles selling for less than \$50, any applicable sales taxes might be disregarded. Effective March 7, 1949, the regulation was amended to reduce required down payments on articles other than automobiles from 20 per cent to 15 per cent and to increase to 21 months the maximum period permitted for repayment of all credits under the regulation. Certain technical changes were made at the same time. Effective April 27, 1949, the required down payment on articles other than automobiles was reduced to 10 per cent, the maximum period permitted for repayment of

all credits under the regulation was increased to 24 months, and the exemption of articles selling under \$50 was changed to an exemption of articles selling under \$100.

LITIGATION

Suit regarding condition of membership. The Supreme Court of the United States on March 15, 1948 reversed the decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia in the suit of Peoples Bank, Lakewood Village, California, against the members of the Board of Governors. The suit asked for a declaration that a condition of membership accepted by the Peoples Bank at the time of its admission to membership in the Federal Reserve System was invalid and sought an injunction against its enforcement. The Supreme Court held that "the Bank's grievance here is too remote and insubstantial, too speculative in nature, to justify an injunction against the Board of Governors, and therefore equally inappropriate for a declaration of rights." Two Justices dissented and two Justices did not participate in the decision. A rehearing was denied April 19, 1948. The opinions of the Supreme Court are reported in 333 U. S. 426 and were printed in the Federal Reserve Bulletin for April 1948, pages 398-402.

Hearing under Clayton Antitrust Act. On June 24, 1948, the Board issued a complaint against Transamerica Corporation, a holding company having its principal place of business in San Francisco, California, together with a notice of a hearing to determine whether an order should be entered requiring the Corporation to cease and desist from violating Section 7 of the Clayton Antitrust Act, which vests specifically in the Board the responsibility for enforcement with respect to banks, banking associations, and trust companies. The complaint charged that the Corporation violated the Act by acquiring the stock of numerous banks. After certain preliminary motions had been heard and disposed of, the taking of testimony began before a Hearing Officer on February 2, 1949.

LEGISLATION

Consumer instalment credit. A Joint Resolution approved August 16, 1948, restored the Board's authority to regulate consumer credit for a period ending June 30, 1949, in accordance with Executive Order No. 8843, dated August 9, 1941, in so far as it relates to instalment credit. This authority had been terminated on November 1, 1947, by a Joint Resolution approved August 8, 1947.

Reserves of member banks. The Joint Resolution approved August 16, 1948, also amended Section 19 of the Federal Reserve Act to give the Board additional authority to increase the reserves required to be maintained by member banks with Federal Reserve Banks during a period ending June 30, 1949. This amendment authorized the Board to increase the required reserves against time deposits to a maximum of 7.5 per cent for all member banks

and to increase the required reserves against demand deposits to not more than 30 per cent for central reserve city banks, 24 per cent for reserve city banks, and 18 per cent for other member banks.

Real-estate loans. An Act approved May 25, 1948, amended the third paragraph of Section 24 of the Federal Reserve Act, so as to make it clear that the restrictions and limitations of that section upon real-estate loans by national banks do not apply to loans which are made to established industrial or commercial businesses and in which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation cooperates or purchases a participation.

Criminal provisions. Under an Act approved June 25, 1948, which became effective September 1, 1948, Title 18 of the United States Code, entitled "Crimes and Criminal Procedure," was revised and codified into the criminal code. The Act repealed certain criminal provisions contained in Sections 12B and 22 of the Federal Reserve Act and in related statutes and incorporated the substance of these provisions in the revised Title 18.

RESERVE BANK OPERATIONS

Earnings and expenses. Current earnings and expenses of the various Federal Reserve Banks are given in detail in Table 6 on pages 70-71, and a condensed annual statement for all the Reserve Banks combined since 1914 is shown in Table 7 on pages 72-73. The table below gives a condensed comparative summary for all of the Reserve Banks for the years 1947 and 1948.

Earnings, Expenses, and Distribution of net earnings of Federal Reserve Banks 1947 and 1948

Item	1948	1947
Current earnings Current expenses	304,161 72,710	158,656 65,393
Current net earnings	231,451	93,263
Additions to current net earnings	6,517 414	2,887 508
Net additions	6,103	2,379
Transferred to reserves for contingencies. Paid U. S. Treasury (Sec. 13b). Paid U. S. Treasury (interest on outstanding F. R. notes).	40,421	406 36 75,224
Net earnings after reserves and payments to U. S. Treasury		_
	30,443	19,976
Dividends paid Transferred to surplus (Sec. 13b)	11,920	11,523 87
Transferred to surplus (Sec. 7)	18,523	8,366

IIn thousands of dollars

The increase of about 145 million dollars in current earnings in 1948 reflected principally an increase of 143 million in earnings on United States Government securities in the System Open Market Account. Current expenses increased only about 7 million dollars, so that current net earnings were 138 million more in 1948 than in 1947.

After net additions to current net earnings of 6 million dollars (consisting mostly of net profits on sales of United States Government securities) transfers to reserves for contingencies of 40 million, and payments of 167 million to the United States Treasury as interest on outstanding Federal Reserve notes, remaining net earnings were 30 million dollars in 1948. Dividends to member banks, as provided in the Federal Reserve Act, totaled about 12 million dollars, leaving 18 million, which was transferred to surplus.

As noted above, earnings on Reserve Bank holdings of United States Government securities were 143 million dollars more in 1948 than in 1947. This increase reflected a higher average rate of earnings in 1948, which resulted from a somewhat higher yield on Treasury bills and certificates and a shift from Treasury bills into bonds, with little change in total holdings. Earnings from discounts and advances were greater in 1948 than in 1947, reflecting the increases made in the Federal Reserve Bank discount rates in 1948, as well as a larger volume of loans. The accompanying table shows average holdings, earnings, and average rates of earnings on loans and securities of the Federal Reserve Banks during the past four years.

RESERVE BANK EARNINGS ON LOANS AND SECURITIES, 1945-48 [Dollar amounts in thousands]

Item and year	Total	Discounts and advances	Accept- ances purchased	U.S. Government securities, direct and guaranteed	Indus- trial loans					
Average daily holdings: 1945. 1946. 1947! 1948!	\$21,742,589 23,570,260 22,552,491 21,841,623	\$375,958 310,308 218,755 330,706	\$ 22 8,457 384	\$21,363,244 23,250,195 22,331,740 21,509,321	\$3,365 1,300 1,612 1,596					
Earnings: 1945	141,631 149,703 157,823 303,316	1,977 2,497 2,195 4,371	(2) 43 4	139,553 147,125 155,564 298,903	101 38 60 42					
Average rate of earnings (per cent): 1945	0.65 0.64 0.70 1.39	0.53 0.80 1.00 1.32	0.50 0.51 1.01	0.65 0.63 0.70 1.39	2.99 2.90 3.75 2.64					

¹ Based on holdings at opening of business.

Foreign transactions. Total dollar and gold assets of foreign central banks and governments held by the Federal Reserve Banks increased in 1948 by nearly 900 million dollars, thereby reversing the downward trend which had been in evidence since the high point of about 7 billion dollars was reached in September 1945. The increase, however, was less than the amount of foreign-owned gold that was shipped to this country during the year. At the end of the year, dollar deposits, earmarked gold, United States Government securities, and other dollar assets held for all such accounts amounted to about 4.2 billion dollars.

² Less than \$500.

The rise in assets held for foreign account took the form largely of United States Government securities and dollar deposits, although the amount of gold held under earmark also showed a net increase of 195 million dollars for the year.

The amount of gold and dollar assets held by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund increased only moderately. This contrasted with the sharp net rise in 1947, when member countries made large payments covering their participation in the Fund and the Bank.

As a result of increased demands from foreign central banks for loans against gold, the total of such loans outstanding rose from about 50 million dollars at the end of 1947 to a new record high of nearly 260 million in August, but then receded to about 190 million at the end of 1948. These loans, which were designed to cover temporary requirements for dollar exchange on the part of the borrowing countries, were made for periods not exceeding three months. Interest was at the discount rate of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, which was raised from 1 to 1½ per cent during the year. Of four loans on gold outstanding at the beginning of the year, two were repaid in full, and one in part during the year. Loans were made to five other central banks during the year, of which two were repaid in full, while the amount advanced to the other three had been considerably reduced by the end of the year.

Three regular foreign accounts were opened during the year, one of which represented the transfer of a balance from an account which the Federal Reserve Bank of New York had previously maintained as fiscal agent of the United States.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York, as fiscal agent of the United States, continued to operate the United States Stabilization Fund in accordance with authorization and instructions from the Treasury Department and to act in a fiscal agency capacity in the administration of foreign funds control. Under the Executive Order of January 15, 1934, and Treasury regulations issued thereunder, the Federal Reserve Banks continued to collect and analyze reports from banks, security brokers and dealers, and others covering the international movement of capital.

The Federal Reserve Bank of New York handled a variety of operations during the year for the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund. Operations undertaken for the International Bank included making investments in United States Government securities, holding securities in custody, receiving deposits, making payments under loans granted by the Bank, and acting as fiscal agent of the Bank in connection with its two bond issues floated in 1947. For the Fund, the operations consisted largely of making dollar payments in connection

with its foreign exchange and gold transactions with member countries, and of holding gold and securities in custody.

Volume of operations. Operations in the principal departments of the Federal Reserve Banks during 1948 were on the whole somewhat higher than in 1947 and checks collected and currency and coins handled registered increases to new all-time peaks. As in the preceding two years of adjustment from a war economy, there was some decline in 1948 in the number of issues, redemptions, and exchanges of Government securities by Reserve Banks acting as fiscal agents for the United States Treasury and Government agencies. Volume of operation figures for 1948 as compared with the previous four years are shown in Table 5 on page 69.

Bank premises. The policy stated in the 1947 Annual Report of approving the preparation of plans for needed building construction or extensive alterations and repairs at Federal Reserve Banks and their branches but not authorizing commencement of construction unless of an emergency character was continued during 1948.

Under this policy the only construction projects authorized in 1948 were completion of the rehabilitation of the building acquired by the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis in 1944, air conditioning of a few floors at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago in order to complete the air conditioning of the building, and construction of a coin vault in the Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

In addition, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco was authorized to proceed with the preparation of final plans for the construction of buildings to house its Portland and Seattle Branches on sites acquired in 1946 and 1945, respectively, and to execute purchase contracts for structural steel and elevators for these buildings. The Portland and Seattle Branches occupy rented quarters, and in each case the owners of the buildings have asked that the space be vacated as soon as possible for other use.

RESERVE BANK PERSONNEL

Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen. One of the three Class C directors appointed by the Board of Governors for each Federal Reserve Bank is designated annually to serve as Chairman of the Board of Directors and as Federal Reserve Agent, and another Class C director is appointed annually as Deputy Chairman. A list of the Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen is shown on page 106.

The Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen at the Federal Reserve Banks were redesignated to serve as such for the year 1948, except for the following changes:

Harold D. Hodgkinson, Vice President, General Manager and Chairman of Management Board, Wm. Filene's Sons Company, Boston, Massachusetts, who had been a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston since January 1, 1947, was appointed Deputy Chairman for the year 1948.

Robert T. Stevens, Chairman of the Board, J. P. Stevens and Company, Inc., New York, New York, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on May 14, and designated Chairman and Federal Reserve Agent for the remaining portion of the year 1948. He formerly served as a Class B director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York from January 1, 1934, to January 8, 1942, when he was called into active service with the United States Army.

Wm. H. Bryce, Vice President, Dixie Wax Paper Company, Memphis, Tennessee, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis on March 22, and Deputy Chairman for the remaining portion of the year 1948.

Directors. A list of the directors of the Federal Reserve Banks and Branches as of the close of the year is shown on pages 107-15.

The Board of Governors made the following appointments of new directors either for terms beginning January 1, 1948, or to fill vacancies during the year:

Class C Directors. Ames Stevens, Treasurer, Ames Worsted Company, Lowell, Massachusetts, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston on July 26.

Robert T. Stevens, Chairman of the Board, J. P. Stevens and Company, Inc., New York, New York, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on May 14.

Allan B. Kline, President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago, Illinois, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for the term beginning January 1, 1948.

Wm. H. Bryce, Vice President, Dixie Wax Paper Company, Memphis, Tennessee, was appointed a Class C director of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis on March 22.

Branch Directors. Lewis B. Swift, President, Taylor Instrument Companies, Rochester, New York, was appointed a director of the Buffalo Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York on January 23.

- R. E. Ebert, President, Dixie Home Stores, Inc., Greenville, South Carolina, was appointed a director of the Charlotte Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- J. Roy Faucett, a partner of Faucett Brothers, Northport, Alabama, was appointed a director of the Birmingham Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for the term beginning January 1, 1948.

Marshall F. Howell, Secretary-Treasurer, Bond-Howell Lumber Company, Jacksonville, Florida, was appointed a director of the Jacksonville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for the term beginning January 1, 1948.

Howard Phillips, Vice President and General Manager, Dr. P. Phillips Company, Orlando, Florida, was appointed a director of the Jacksonville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta on February 5. Mr. Phillips formerly served as a director of the Jacksonville Branch from February 28, 1938, to April 18, 1942, when he was called to active service in the Army of the United States.

- J. Hillis Miller, President, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, was appointed a director of the Jacksonville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta on August 16.
- C. E. Brehm, Acting President, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee, was appointed a director of the Nashville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- Ben R. Marsh, Vice President and General Manager, Michigan Bell Telephone Company, Detroit, Michigan, was appointed a director of the Detroit Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- A. Howard Stebbins, Sr., Chairman of Board, Stebbins and Roberts, Inc., Little Rock, Arkansas, was appointed a director of the Little Rock Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis on February 11.
- Alvin A. Voit, President, The Mengel Company, Louisville, Kentucky, was appointed a director of the Louisville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis on January 20.
- Smith D. Broadbent, Jr., of Cadiz, Kentucky, was appointed a director of the Louisville Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis on June 15. Mr. Broadbent is engaged in farming.
- M. P. Moore, a partner of E. E. Moore and Company, Senatobia, Mississippi, was appointed a director of the Memphis Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- C. W. Cotton, President, C. W. Cotton Supply Company, Tulsa, Oklahoma, was appointed a director of the Oklahoma City Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- Joseph W. Seacrest, Co-Publisher, Nebraska State Journal, Lincoln, Nebraska, was appointed a director of the Omaha Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City on April 16.
- Edward E. Hale, Chairman of the Department and Professor of Economics, University of Texas, Austin, Texas, was appointed a director of the San Antonio Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas for the term beginning January 1, 1948.
- Henry C. Isaacson, President, Isaacson Iron Works, Seattle, Washington, was appointed a director of the Seattle Branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco on January 16.
- Change in Presidents. Laurence F. Whittemore resigned as President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston effective October 4, to become President

of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad Company. Mr. Whittemore had served as a Class B director from September 7, 1944, to February 28, 1946, and as President of the Bank since March 1, 1946.

Joseph A. Erickson was appointed President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston to succeed Mr. Whittemore and assumed office on December 15. Mr. Erickson formerly was Executive Vice President of the National Shawmut Bank of Boston.

Staff. At the end of 1948, the total number of officers and employees of the twelve Federal Reserve Banks and their twenty-four branches was 19,087, representing a decline of 277 since the end of 1947. The total Reserve Bank personnel has declined steadily since 1943 when it was at its peak owing to the great expansion in the volume of operations resulting from the war. The total number of officers and employees of the Reserve Banks and Branches at the end of each year beginning with 1941 was as follows:

1941	14,083	1945	23,522
1942	19,972	1946	21,430
1943	24,741	1947	19,364
1944	24,442	1948	19,087

BOARD OF GOVERNORS—STAFF

Appointments of Board members and designation of Chairman. The appointment of Thomas B. McCabe, of Pennsylvania, as a member of the Board of Governors for the unexpired portion of the term ending January 31, 1956, was approved by the Senate on April 12. On April 15 the President designated him as Chairman of the Board for a four-year term and he took the oath of office as a member of the Board.

M. S. Szymczak, of Illinois, whose term as a member of the Board of Governors expired on January 31, 1948, was reappointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate for an additional term of 14 years.

Staff. On December 31, 1948, the Board's staff, exclusive of those on leave without pay, numbered 517, as compared to 504 at the end of 1947.

Carl E. Parry, Director of the Division of Security Loans, retired March 31, as a member of the Board's staff, under the provisions of the Federal Reserve Retirement System. Mr. Parry became associated with the Board on October 1, 1924, and had served as Director of the Division of Security Loans since November 24, 1934.

Winfield W. Riefler rejoined the Board's staff on May 10, as Assistant to the Chairman of the Board. He was a member of the research staff of the Board of Governors from 1923 to 1933 and a director of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia in 1941 and 1942. Mr. Riefler had been a professor at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey, since 1935 and has served as an officer or director of several organizations engaged in economic research. From 1942 to 1944 he was in London as United States Minister and Special Assistant to the Ambassador.

J. Burke Knapp resigned as an Assistant Director of the Board's Division of Research and Statistics effective May 23, to accept a position with the Department of State. Mr. Knapp was associated with the Board's Division of Research and Statistics from February 1940 to August 1944, when he resigned to accept a position with the Department of State. He returned to the Board in October 1945, and served as Special Assistant to the Chairman until June 1, 1946, when he was appointed an Assistant Director of the Division of Research and Statistics.

Frank A. Southard, Jr., was appointed an Associate Director of the Board's Division of Research and Statistics to be in charge of all international activities of the Division and assumed his duties on August 16. Mr. Southard was Chairman of the Department of Economics at Cornell University and was on leave of absence serving as Director of the Office of International Finance of the Treasury Department at that time. During the war, he was Financial Adviser at the Allied Force Headquarters in the Mediterranean.

Robert F. Leonard, formerly the Director of the Division of Examinations, was appointed Associate Director of the Division of Bank Operations, effective September 1. Mr. Leonard became Director of the Division of Bank Operations on January 1, 1949, following the retirement of Mr. Smead, former Director, at the end of 1948.

Edwin R. Millard, formerly an Assistant Director of the Division of Examinations, was appointed Director of the Division of Examinations to succeed Mr. Leonard, effective September 1.

Frederic Solomon and John C. Baumann were appointed Assistant General Counsel, effective August 13. Mr. Solomon and Mr. Baumann had been Assistant Counsel in the Board's Legal Division for a number of years.

Bonnar Brown resigned as Assistant Director of the Division of Research and Statistics effective October 15, to become associated with the Stanford Research Institute, Stanford, California. On October 1, 1937, Mr. Brown was employed as a member of the staff of the Division of Security Loans and served as Assistant Director of that Division from July 1, 1944, until October 1, 1947, when he was appointed Assistant Director of the Division of Research and Statistics.

On December 6, the title of J. Leonard Townsend, formerly Associate General Counsel of the Board's Legal Division, was changed to that of Solicitor. Mr. Townsend assumed charge of a separate division in the Board's organization which is responsible for the representation of the Board in all litigation to which the Board may be a party, and for the institution and conduct of all formal proceedings by or on behalf of the Board to enforce provisions of law or of the Board's regulations. As Solicitor, Mr. Townsend also continues to handle questions arising in connection with the proposed legislation relating to the regulation of bank holding companies.

Prior to his association with the Board's legal staff, Mr. Townsend had been Assistant Solicitor of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Before entering government service, Mr. Townsend had been engaged in the general practice of law in Washington with the Honorable A. Mitchell Palmer, former Attorney General of the United States, and with the Honorable James M. Beck, former Solicitor General of the United States.

Clarence C. Hostrup was appointed an Assistant Director of the Division of Examinations effective December 12. Mr. Hostrup became associated with the Board on October 1, 1933, and had been a Federal Reserve Examiner since January 1, 1934.

Edward L. Smead, Director of the Division of Bank Operations, retired at the end of the year as a member of the Board's staff, under the provisions of the Federal Reserve Retirement System. Mr. Smead became associated with the Board on April 19, 1915, and had served as Director of the Division of Bank Operations since April 12, 1920. Mr. Smead also served successively as Acting Administrator for the War Loans Committee and Administrator for War Loans during the period from October 1942 to August 1946.

J. R. Van Fossen, Assistant Director of the Division of Bank Operations, also retired as of the close of the year as a member of the Board's staff, under the provisions of the Federal Reserve Retirement System. Mr. Van Fossen joined the Board's staff on October 22, 1917, and had served as Assistant Director of the Division of Bank Operations since January 1, 1922.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS—INCOME AND EXPENSES

The following table shows the income and expenses of the Board for the year 1948:

OPERATING SURPLUS, January 1, 1948	\$ 340,067.67 917.46	\$ 339,150.21
INCOME:		
Assessments on Federal Reserve Banks	3,243,670.69	
Sale of Federal Reserve Bulletin	14,916.82	
Sale of other publications	29,121.25	2 201 121
Miscenaneous	6,712.81	3,294,421.57
		3,633,571.78
EXPENSES:	2.002.555.40	
Salaries	2,083,777.12	
Retirement contributions—regular	150,867.05	
Retirement contributions—special	421,972.00	
Traveling expenses	146,307.72	
Postage and expressage	19,227.31	
Printing and binding	62,596.51 139,778.69	
Stationery and supplies	27,022.01	
Furniture and equipment, including rental	35,402.65	
Books and subscriptions	10,932.15	
Heat, light, and power	32,811.50	
Repairs and alterations (building and grounds)	7,338.59	
Repairs and maintenance (furniture and equipment)	4,797.42	
Medical service and supplies	1,139,51	
Insurance	2,663,02	
Miscellaneous:	2,000.02	
Survey of consumer finances \$127,597.19		
Cafeteria (net)		
All other	175,768.93	3,322,402.18
OPERATING SURPLUS, December 31, 1948		\$ 311,169.60

In addition to the foregoing, the Board made certain expenditures on a reimbursable basis for which it received reimbursements in 1948 as follows:

Printing Federal Reserve notes, including cost of ad-	
ditional equipment\$3,	533,182.00
Leased wire service (telegraph)	96,561.22
Leased telephone lines	9,684.00
Federal Reserve Issue and Redemption Division	
(Comptroller of the Currency)	89,511.90
Miscellaneous	17,826.25

The accounts of the Board for the year 1948 were audited by the Auditor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who certified them to be correct.

RESEARCH AND ADVISORY SERVICES

Analysis of conditions affecting the availability and use of money continued to be the major objective of the Board's research activities during 1948. Subjects of special importance included Treasury financing and the market for Government securities, bank and nonbank credit, the capital markets, liquid asset holdings and current saving, production and employment, prices, gross national product and individual incomes, and the effect of foreign commitments on domestic resources.

On several occasions, members of the Board appeared before congressional committees to give information regarding monetary and credit conditions and the ability of the Federal Reserve to meet possible contingencies. Members of the Board's staff assisted congressional committees to investigate special problems and participated in public and private conferences relating to agricultural credit, building codes, home mortgage credit, industrial classification, and national income and productivity. Staff members also served on many interdepartmental committees concerned with analysis of particular economic developments and the improvement of statistics and other information required to interpret current developments.

A third annual survey of consumer finances was sponsored by the Board of Governors early in 1948 to obtain information regarding changes in the financial position of consumers. The data collected also reflected the attitude of consumers toward the economic outlook and their plans with respect to saving, liquid asset holdings, and investment. The survey was conducted for the Board by the Survey Research Center, a division of the Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. The results were published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin. A fourth annual survey is being conducted in 1949.

Work has continued on the study of the flow of money payments. Financial statements tracing these flows on an annual basis have been completed for most sectors of the economy, covering the period from 1936 to 1947. The statement showing the flow of funds through the banking sector was published in the January 1948 *Bulletin*.

The Board of Governors sponsored the publication of the pamphlet, Distribution of Bank Deposits by Counties, showing demand and time deposits of individuals, partnerships, and corporations in all banks by counties, States, and Federal Reserve districts, as of December 31, 1947. Data for national banks and banks in the District of Columbia were obtained by the Comptroller of the Currency, for State member banks by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and for nonmember banks by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; data for noninsured banks were obtained with the cooperation of the State bank supervisory authorities. The pamphlet was published in July 1948. Corresponding data for the war years 1941-44, obtained in the same manner, are available in pamphlets published by the Treasury Department.

Early in 1948 the Board of Governors and the Federal Reserve Banks conducted a nation-wide survey of the lending operations of sales finance companies during 1947. The results of the survey, which complement the release on the activities of sales finance companies issued monthly by the Board of Governors, were published in the *Bulletin* for July 1948.

Progress was made in revising and supplementing the Board's regular statistical series to improve their composition and increase their usefulness for analysis of current developments. The quarterly series of interest rates on bank loans to business was completely revised to take account of the new and more satisfactory data that have recently become available through Federal Reserve surveys. The revised series was first published in the Bulletin for March 1949. The new monthly series of assets and liabilities of all banks in the United States, referred to in the Board's Annual Report for 1947, was completed and published for the first time in the Bulletin for April 1948. This series continues the semi-annual data published by the Board over a long period, and is comparable with the semi-annual series announced by the three Federal bank supervisory authorities as of June 30, 1947 except for exclusion of banks in the possessions of the United States.

Various components of the Board's consumer credit statistics were revised to give them broader coverage or to make them more representative of short-term credit. The revision was described in the *Bulletin* for August 1948. Following discussions with the trade, the Board's statistics on department store sales and stocks were expanded to include data for additional sub-departments and published on the new basis beginning with April 1948.

In connection with the increased activities of the United States in world affairs, the Board's staff continued to provide studies in the international economic and financial field to help furnish a basis for United States policy decisions. As in the two preceding years, a large part of this work was closely geared to the activities of the National Advisory Council on International Monetary and Financial Problems, of which the Chairman of the Board of

Governors is a member. Members of the Board's staff collaborated closely with the other agencies represented on the Council, and were active in interdepartmental committees and working groups preparing material for use by the Council. The Council gave close attention to financial problems arising under the European Recovery Program and to important questions dealing with other foreign lending and assistance activities of the United States and with policies and operations of the International Fund and the International Bank. The Board's staff also continued to work on the special problems and operating responsibilities of the Federal Reserve System in the international field.

The Board continued to cooperate in projects of an international nature by supplying members of its staff for assignments abroad. Early in the year, two of the Board's economists spent three months in Manila assisting representatives of the Philippine Government in drafting central bank legislation. In March, two examiners from the Board's staff with one representative each from the Federal Reserve Banks of Richmond and Chicago, went to Haiti at the request of the Haitian Government as members of a mission to examine the Banque Nationale de la Republique d'Haiti. In the late spring, one of the Associate Directors of the Board's Division of Research and Statistics headed a financial mission to Japan, and an economist from the Board's staff was also a member of this mission. At the end of August, a member of the Board's staff was assigned as an adviser to the Joint Brazil-United States Technical Commission for a period of four months; a Vice President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York was one of the three members of this Commission. In the fall of the year, a member of the Board's staff was sent abroad to study economic and financial conditions in France and Italy. Late in the year, one of the Board's economists was given six months' leave of absence to act as General Policy Adviser to the Central Bank of the Philippines, and another economist was lent to the Government of Ceylon for a period of six months to assist representatives of that government in drafting central bank legislation. In addition, the Board from time to time provided the services of members of its staff to the Economic Cooperation Administration to assist in work on specific problems.

The Board had numerous visitors from foreign central banks and governments who had come to the United States for official negotiations or for consultation with financial authorities, international organizations, bankers, and others. It also facilitated the work of visitors who had come for the study of American banking, supervisory methods, and related matters.

PUBLICATIONS AND RELEASES

During the year 1948, interest in the Board's publications and releases continued to increase. There was a special demand for the 1947 edition of the publication entitled, The Federal Reserve System—Its Purposes

AND FUNCTIONS. This booklet was used extensively in teaching and training programs of educational and business institutions. Several periodic releases were initiated. In addition to regulations and various reprints, the following publications were issued:

FEDERAL RESERVE BULLETIN. Issued monthly.

FEDERAL RESERVE CHARTS ON BANK CREDIT, MONEY RATES, AND BUSINESS. Issued monthly.

MEMBER BANK CALL REPORT. Three issues, one each in April, July, and October.

STATE BANK MEMBERS AND NONMEMBER BANKS THAT MAINTAIN CLEARING ACCOUNTS WITH FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS. Complete list in February with monthly supplements.

LIST OF STOCKS REGISTERED ON NATIONAL SECURITIES EXCHANGES. Complete list in February with supplements in May, August, and November. Banking Studies (1941). Reprinted in March.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM. Published in May.

RETAIL CREDIT SURVEY-1947. Published in July.

DISTRIBUTION OF BANK DEPOSITS BY COUNTIES, December 31, 1947. Published in July.

PAR LIST. Complete list in August with monthly supplements.

FEDERAL RESERVE MEETINGS

The Federal Open Market Committee met in Washington on February 27, March 1, May 20, October 4, November 15, and November 30, 1948, and the executive committee of the full Committee met from time to time during the year. Under the provisions of Section 12A of the Federal Reserve Act, the Federal Open Market Committee has responsibility for determining the policies under which the open market operations of the Reserve Banks will be carried out. A record of the actions taken by the Committee on questions of policy will be found on pages 94-99 of this report.

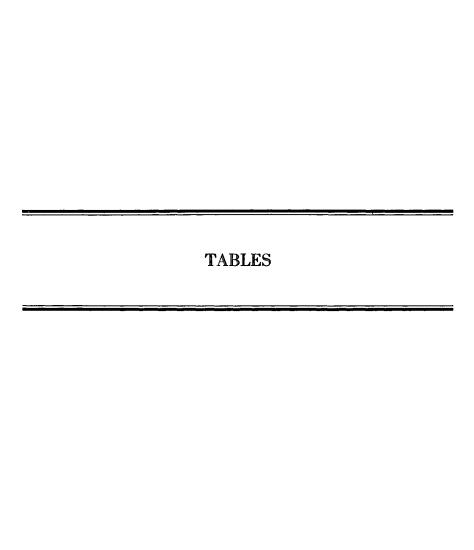
Conferences of the Chairmen of the Federal Reserve Banks were held on May 29-31 and December 9-10, and were attended by members of the Board of Governors.

The Conference of Presidents of the Federal Reserve Banks held meetings on February 25-26, May 18, October 1-2, and November 29, and the Board of Governors met with the Presidents on February 27, May 21, October 5, and December 1.

Meetings of the Federal Advisory Council were held on February 15-17, April 25-27, September 19-21, and November 14-16. The Board of Governors met with the Council on February 17, April 27, September 21, and

November 16. The Council is required by law to meet in Washington at least four times each year and is authorized by the Federal Reserve Act to consult with and advise the Board in all matters within the jurisdiction of the Board.

During the year conferences were held by each of the following, attended by representatives of the Federal Reserve Banks and of the Board of Governors: Federal Reserve Bank officers in charge of examination departments, trust examiners, personnel concerned with accounting, and personnel administering Regulation W (consumer instalment credit). Meetings were held with Committees of the Presidents' Conference, such as the Committee on Collections and the Subcommittee on Personnel; and representatives of the Board met also with other groups to discuss international monetary and credit matters, domestic credit problems, bank holding company legislation, consumer credit statistics, and other subjects with which the Board was concerned.



NO. 1—STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS (IN DETAIL) DECEMBER 31, 1948

ASSETS

(Amounts in boldface type are those shown in the Board's weekly statement.	In thousand	s of dollars.]
Interdistrict settlement fund. 7,745,986 Gold certificates on hand. 1,010,444 Gold certificates with Federal Reserve Agent 13,579,000		
Gold certificates on hand and due from U. S. Treasury	22,335,430 630,650	
Total gold certificate reserves		22,966,080
Other cash: United States notes Silver certificates. Standard silver dollars. National and Federal Reserve Bank notes. Subsidiary silver, nickels, and cents.	31,468 220,159 2,521 4,207 33,948	
Total other cash		292,303
Discounts and advances secured by U. S. Government securities: Discounted for member banks		
Other discounts and advances:	32,630	
Discounted for member banks 50 Foreign loans on gold 190,125	190,175	
Total discounts and advances	222,805	
Industrial loans	832	
Bills		
Total U. S. Government securities	23 ,332 ,746	
Total loans and securities		23 ,556 ,383
Due from foreign banks Federal Reserve notes of other Federal Reserve Banks. Uncollected items: Transit items. Exchanges for clearing house.	2,631,640 163,257	49 186,738
Other cash items	65,374	
Total uncollected items	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	2,860,271
Bank premises: 1.00 Land 2.00 Buildings (including vaults) 45,754 Fixed machinery and equipment 17,868	13,070	
Total buildings 63,622 Less depreciation allowances 44,344	19,278	
Total bank premises		32,348
Other assets: Industrial loans past due		
Total. 332 Less valuation allowances 166		
Net	166	
Fiscal Agency and other expenses, reimbursable Interest accrued Premium on securities Deferred charges. Sundry items receivable	67,883 72,828	
Real estate acquired for banking house purposes. Suspense account All other.	1,955 430	
Real estate acquired for banking house purposes	1,955 430 84	148,699

NO . 1—STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS (IN DETAIL) — Continued

LIABILITIES

Federal Reserve notes outstanding (issued to Federal Reserve Banks) Less: Held by issuing Federal Reserve Banks	25,127,171 966,068	
Federal Reserve notes, net (includes notes held by U. S. Treasury and by Federal Reserve Banks other than issuing Bank)		24 ,161 ,103
Member bank—reserve account. U. S. Treasurer—general account. Foreign. Other deposits:	20 ,479 ,200 1 ,122 ,900 641 ,692	
Nonmember bank—clearing accounts. 105,055		
Total other deposits	547 ,252	
Total deposits		22,791,044
Deferred availability itemsOther liabilities:		2,319,336
Accrued dividends unpaid	14	
Discount on securities. Sundry items payable.	$8,849 \\ 1,622$	
Suspense account	160	
Total other liabilities		10,652
Total liabilities		49 ,282 ,135
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS		
		201 .351
Capital paid in . Surplus (Sec. 7)		201 ,351 466 ,711 27 ,543
Capital paid in. Surplus (Sec. 7). Surplus (Sec. 13b). Other capital accounts: Reserves for contingencies:	••••••	466,711
Capital paid in . Surplus (Sec. 7) . Surplus (Sec. 13b) . Other capital accounts:		466,711
Capital paid in. Surplus (Sec. 7) Surplus (Sec. 13b). Other capital accounts: Reserves for contingencies: Reserve for registered mail losses. All other. Earnings and expenses:	7,131	466,711
Capital paid in Surplus (Sec. 7). Surplus (Sec. 13b). Other capital accounts: Reserves for contingencies: Reserve for registered mail losses. All other.	7,131	466,711
Capital paid in. Surplus (Sec. 7). Surplus (Sec. 13b). Other capital accounts: Reserves for contingencies: Reserve for registered mail losses. All other. Earnings and expenses: Current earnings. (7)	7,131	466,711
Capital paid in	7,131	466,711
Capital paid in Surplus (Sec. 7) Surplus (Sec. 13b) Other capital accounts: Reserves for contingencies: Reserves for registered mail losses All other Barnings and expenses: Current earnings (2) Current expenses (2) Current expenses (2) Add—profit and loss (3) Deduct—dividends accrued since January 1 (3) interest on Federal Reserve notes (2)	7,131 58,000	466,711

 $^{^{\}rm I}$ Includes such organizations as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund.

² Amount in this account closed out at end of year.

NO. 2—STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF EACH FEDERAL RESERVE BANK AT END OF 1948 AND 1947

[In thousands of dollars]

	То	otal	Bos	ston	New	York	Philad	lelphia	Clev	eland	Rich	mond
Item	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947
ASSETS												
Gold certificates	22,335,430	20,810,170	757,179	759,612	7,390,440	6,259,354	1,011,054	1,016,538	1,442,156	1,434,229	971,500	1,044,281
notes	630,650	687,127	54,026	56,120	55,182	120,919	60,212	60,691	75,340	75,702	57,788	60,479
Total gold certificate reserves Other cash	22,966,080 292,303	21,497,297 272,631	811,205 32,787	815,732 24,804		6,380,273 39,412	1,071,266 17,967	1,077,229 14,687	$1,517,496 \\ 22,367$	1,509,931 23,878	$1,029,288 \ 20,827$	1,104,760 19,620
Discounts and advances: Secured by U. S. Govt. securities. Other	32,680 190,125	34,444 50,981			17,860 60,840			3,455 3,386	215 17,492			615 2,479
Total discounts and advances Industrial loans	222,805 832	85,425 1,387	13,068	5,473	78,700	41,860	17,495 767	6,841 1,357		6,790	10,591 65	3,094 30
U. S. Government securities: Bills. Certificates Notes. Bonds.	5,487,406 6,077,569 790,550 10,977,221	11,433,410 6,796,505 1,476,550 2,852,869	340,112 408,558 53,144 737,933	442,209 96,070	1,317,805 1,457,291 189,560 2,632,140	1,482,995 $322,183$	434,121 56,469	468,634 101,811	582,657	1,040,322 647,980 140,776 271,995	$394,702 \\ 51,341$	485,785 $105,536$
Total U. S. Govt. securities	23,332,746	22,559,334	1,539,747	1,495,808	5,596,796	5,697,741	1,666,658	1,565,522	2,236,910	2,101,073	1,515,322	1,431,814
Total loans and securities	23,556,383	22,646,146	1,552,815	1,501,281	5,675,496	5,739,601	1,684,920	1,573,720	2,254,617	2,107,863	1,525,978	1,434,938
Due from foreign banks	49	95	3	6	116	¹ 31	4	8	4	9	2	5
Federal Reserve notes of other Federal Reserve Banks Uncollected items Bank premises. Other assets	186,738 2,860,271 32,348 148,699	2,984,999 33,007	239,342 1,185	1,241	20,331 507,095 8,023 35,252	8,239	10,935 173,597 3,053 10,279	$10,866 \\ 192,379 \\ 3,182 \\ 7,455$	290,167	275,270 4,938	$243,580 \\ 2,557$	22,291 253,489 2,637 8,219
Total assets	50,042,871	47,711,654	2,654,852	2,603,956	13,734,379	12,880,719	2,972,021	2,879,526	4,114,242	3,941,591	2,865,832	2,845,959

¹After deducting \$33,000 participations of other Federal Reserve Banks on Dec. 31, 1948, and \$64,000 on Dec. 31, 1947.

LIABILITIES	1	1	1 1	ı			.			1		
Federal Reserve notes	24,161,103	24,820,434	1,421,708	1,472,299	5,582,297	5,765,916	1,662,531	1,681,880	2,144,650	2,139,963	1,657,802	1,741,896
Member bank—reserve account U.S. Treasurer—general account Poreign. Other	20,479,200 1,122,900 641,692 547,252	17,899,371 870,031 391,849 569,433	859,338 85,223 40,049 6,025	$\begin{array}{c} 766,622 \\ 66,431 \\ 21,125 \\ 7,444 \end{array}$	6,701,274 184,745 1209,368 430,976	5,573,276 229,639 168,000 472,411	104,176	77,363 26,649	1,510,027 $104,469$ $58,484$ $12,347$	1,386,873 79,221 30,597 12,185	848,901 69,937 31,150 5,918	784,772 43,913 16,121 2,062
Total deposits Deferred availability items Other liabilities including accrued divi-	22,791,044 2,319,336	2,449,763	990,635 193,312	861,622 224,606	390,869	449,937	134,949	164,635	,	227,328	955,906 212,326	846,868 221,555
dends	10,652	14,806	642	901	2,670	4,109	674	898	1,086	1,383	624	762
Total liabilities	49,282,135	47,015,687	2,606,297	2,559,428	13,502,199	12,663,288	2,911, 11 5	2,823,246	4,044,271	3,877,550	2,826,658	2,811,081
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS					· 			•			}	
Capital paid in	466,711 27,543	$195,517 \\ 448,189 \\ 27,543 \\ 24,718$	29,347 3,011	$\begin{array}{c} 11,243 \\ 28,117 \\ 3,011 \\ 2,157 \end{array}$	143,019 7,319	138,596 7,319	36,704 4,489	35,350 4,489	19,073 43,968 1,006 5,924	42,173 1,006	22,417 3,349	8,220 21,210 3,349 2,099
Total liabilities and capital accounts	50,042,871	47,711,654	2,654,852	2,603,956	13,734,379	12,880,719	2,972,021	2,879,526	4,114,242	3,941,591	2,865,832	2,845,959
Contingent liability on acceptances purchased for foreign correspondents Commitments to make industrial loans.	3,329 1,643	2,460 7,434	210 75		21,06 5	2787	270 46	199 490	306 969	228 1,642	163 131	121 78
FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE STATEMENT												
Federal Reserve notes: Issued to Federal Reserve Bank by Federal Reserve Agent Held by Federal Reserve Bank and	1}		1 '	' '	· '	1 ' '	' '	1 ' '		1 '		,
forwarded for redemption	966,068	885,550	70,968	63,699	166,760	163,710	68,461	64,221	90,209	89,895	75,015	63,629
Federal Reserve notes, net ³	24,161,103	24,820,434	1,421,708	1,472,299	5,582,297	5,765,916	1,662,531	1,681,880	2,144,650	2,139,963	1,657,802	1,741,896
Collateral held by Federal Reserve Agent for notes issued to Bank: Gold certificates. Eligible paper. U. S. Government securities		12,719,000 32,410 13,550,000			4,870,000 17,810 1,000,000	3,570,000 24,880 2,400,000	550,000 2,095 1,200,000	550,000 3,455 1,200,000	745,000 1,500,000			675,000 615 1,150,000
Total collateral held	25,809,080	26,301,410	1,561,090	1,562,235	5,887,810	5,994,880	1,752,095	1,753,455	2,245,000	2,235,000	1,776,275	1,825,615

After deducting \$432,276,000 participations of other Federal Reserve Banks on Dec. 31, 1948, and \$223,720,000 on Dec. 31, 1947.
 After deducting \$2,264,000 participations of other Federal Reserve Banks on Dec. 31, 1948, and \$1,673,000 on Dec. 31, 1947.
 Includes Federal Reserve notes held by the U. S. Treasury and by Federal Reserve Banks other than the issuing Bank.

NO. 2—STATEMENT OF CONDITION OF EACH FEDERAL RESERVE BANK AT END OF 1948 AND 1947—Continued [In thousands of dollars]

Item	Atla	1947	Chic	1947	St. I	ouis	Minne	apolis	Kansa	s City	Dal	llas	San Fr	ancisco
	1948	1947	1948	1947			Minneapolis		Kansas City		Dallas		San Francisco	
ASSETS					1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947
						-								
Gold certificates	,059,483	1,013,770	4,371,528	4,182,995	669,692	620,743	470,419	431,975	827,337	750,224	574,293	505,160	2,790,349	2,791,289
notes	44,408	40,529	106,421	90,074	44,871	46,693	23,136	22,880	36,192	35,619	26,711	26,180	46,363	51,241
Total gold certificate reserves1,	,103,891, 23,506	1,054,299 23,750		4,273,069 42,326	714,563 16,622	667,436 15,047	493,555 12,128	454,855 6,793	863,529 11,516	785,843 10,380	601,004 14,918	531,340 12,455	2,836,712 36,789	
Discounts and advances: Secured by U. S. Govt. securities Other	35 7,795	80 2,075	$\begin{array}{c} 2,300 \\ 25,857 \end{array}$	175 6,882	500 6,845	50 1,771	175 4,753	1,265	7,035 6,654	700 1,771	6,464	1,670	100 16,731	475 4,453
Total discounts and advances	7,830	2,155	28,157	7,057	7,345	1,821	4,92 8	1,265	13,689	2,471	6,464	1,670	16,831	4,928
Certificates Notes	275,100 304,687 39,633 550,320	396,910 86,229	863,550	1,535,867 946,565 205,644 397,328	302,977 335,561 43,648 606,086		167,963 186,029 24,198 336,001	298,577 223,788 48,618 93,936	255,774 283,281 36,848 511,660	522,437 328,193 71,300 137,759	35,827	395,279 363,390 78,947 152,534	507,259 551,703 71,764 996,479	134,632
Total U. S. Govt. securities 1,	,169,740	1,181,355	3,332,925	3,085,404	1,288,272	1,207,931	714,191	664,919	1,087,563	1,059,689	1,057,417	990,150	2,127,205	2,077,928
Total loans and securities	,177,570	1,183,510	3,361,082	3,092,461	1,295,617	1,209,752	719,119	666,184	1,101,252	1,062,160	1,063,881	991,820	2,144,036	2,082,856
Oue from foreign banksederal Reserve notes of other Federal	2	4	7	13	2	3	1	2	2	3	2	3	4	8
Reserve Banks	19,581 180,309 1,574 7,536	1,559	3.191	22,440 464,388 3,064 15,992	8,853 160,762 1,941 8,593	10,191 161,999 1,973 7,162	9,274 73,484 1,177 4,465	8,158 67,641 1,208 3,657	154,841	$10,128 \\ 159,158 \\ 2,456 \\ 5,726$	10,122 126,991 756 6,738	7,051 109,719 797 6,012	$\begin{array}{c} 25,398 \\ 245,759 \\ 1,638 \\ 13,938 \end{array}$	1.713
Total assets	,513,969	2,461,255	8,390,235	7,913,753	2,206,953	2,073,563	1,313,203	1,208,498	2,148,499	2,035,854	1,824,412	1,659,197	5,304,274	5,207,783

LIABILITIES	1		1			'					1		1	!
Federal Reserve notes	1,329,272	1,397,716	4,598,426	4,636,568	1,144,264	1,143,968	631,349	626,969	939,231	949,067	623,721	624,739	2,425,852	2,639,453
Deposits: Member bank—reserve account U. S. Treasurer—general account. Poreign Other.		55,312 13,489	3,121,362 114,069 86,455 10,925	2,655,849 101,887 44,744 5,724	776,122 84,998 22,885 10,236	41,733 11,515	74,130	450,542 43,975 8,225 2,645	942,409 80,835 22,249 3,133			863,227 39,504 10,857 2,292	55,989	50,383 29,012
Total deposits	171,763	173,035	353,456		•			57,024		,	108,995	93,632		179,501
dividends	490	619	1,753	2,337	563	678	381	867	457	601	418	446	894	1,205
Total liabilities	2,481,281	2,431,838	8,286,446	7,819,918	2,177,883	2,047,913	1,292,998	1,190,247	2,119,769	2,010,276	1,796,703	1,634,697	5,236,515	5,146,205
CAPITAL ACCOUNTS]	
Capital paid in Surplus (Sec. 7) Surplus (Sec. 13b) Other capital accounts.	20,028 762	19,110 762		23,827 66,217 1,429 2,362	6,693 17,974 521 3,882	16,972 521	11,797 1,073	4,293 11,233 1,073 1,652	6.968 17,008 1,137 3,617	$\begin{array}{c} 6,522 \\ 16,148 \\ 1,137 \\ 1,771 \end{array}$	7,852 14,954 1,307 3,596	7,304 14,111 1,307 1,778	40,653 2,140	38,952 2,140
Total liabilities and capital accounts	2,513,969	2,461,255	8,390,235	7,913,753	2,206,953	2,073,563	1,313,203	1,208,498	2,148,499	2,035,854	1,824,412	1,659,197	5,304,274	5,207,783
Contingent liability on acceptances purchased for foreign correspondents. Commitments to make industrial loans.	136 288	101 400	453 31	335 351	120	86 580		62	117	86 3,750	113	81	293 103	217 143
FEDERAL RESERVE NOTE STATEMENT													j 	
Federal Reserve notes:	1													
Issued to Federal Reserve Bank by Federal Reserve Agent Held by Federal Reserve Bank and	1,399,057	1,458,483	4,747,788	4,769,011	1,186,204	1,187,366	648,743	644,064	969,727	972,664	659,057	660,981	2,576,194	2,766,307
forwarded for redemption	69,785	60,767	149,362	132,443	41,940	43,398	17,394	17,095	30,496	23,597	35,336	36,242	150,342	126,854
Federal Reserve notes, net1	1,329,272	1,397,716	4,598,426	4,636,568	1,144,264	1,143,968	631,349	626,969	939,231	949,067	623,721	624,739	2,425,852	2,639,453
Collateral held by Federal Reserve Agent for notes issued to Bank: Gold certificates	575,000	675,000	2,765,000	2,990,000	315,000			200,000	280,000	280,000	184,000	169,000		2,100,000
Eligible paper	850,000	800,000	2,000,000	1,800,000	500 950,000		175 450,000	450,000	7,035 700,000	700,000 700,000	500,000	500,000	800,000	1,000,000
Total collateral held	1,425,000	1,475,000	4,765,000	4,790,000	1,265,500	1,265,050	660,175	650,000	987,035	980,700	684,000	669,000	2,800,100	3,100,475

¹ Includes Federal Reserve notes held by the U. S. Treasury and by Federal Reserve Banks other than the issuing Bank.

NO. 3-HOLDINGS OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SECURITIES BY FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, END OF DECEMBER 1946, 1947, AND 1948

[In thousands of dollars]

Trung of insur	Rate of		December 31		Change	during							
Type of issue	interest (Per cent)	1948	1947	1946	1948	1947							
Treasury bonds: 1947-52 1948-50* 1948-51 1948-51 1949-51*, June 1949-51*, Dec. 1949-52 1949-53 1950-52*, Mar. 1950-52*, Sept. 1950-52*, Sept. 1951-55 1951-53 1951-53* 1951-53* 1951-53* 1951-53* 1951-53* 1951-55* 1952-54*, June 1952-54*, June 1952-55*, June 1952-56*, June 1952-56*, June 1952-58* 1954-56 1955-60 1956-59* 1956-59* 1956-59* 1958-63 1959-62*, June 1961-69*, June 1962-67*, June 1962-67*, June 1963-68*, June 1964-69*, June 1964-69*, June 1967-72*, June 1967-72*, June 1967-72*, June	414 234 114 22 2314 22 2314 2214 2214 22	102,360 247,081 170,365 24,525 72,600 139,284 421,524 63,200 61,175 12,229 787,429 18,105 13,148 83,994 504,323 130,603 476,707 83,461 338,363 11,725 991,121 929,097 63,250 181,670 359,980 434,582 100,668 1,237,097 434,582 2,310,793	49,600 100,500 66,000 4,700 5,706 18,551 32,000 77,600 8,065 57,1,350 86,400 19,520 400,666 44,270 3,700 38,242 174,796 50,236 283,810 16,238 3,150 30,545 63,269 291,591 21,316 72,591 55,524 113,693 96,185 16,260 20,672 8,437 71,315	12,000 39,600 100,500 25,000 7,750 500 31,500 31,500 21,150 31,500 31,600 13,700 14,500 6,940 5,000 40,900	-49,600 -100,500 -66,000 +97,660 +241,375 -5,000 +131,219 +364,263 -8,150 -25,225 -7,291 +386,763 -6,165 +9,448 +45,752 +329,527 +192,897 -16,238 -31,50 -30,545 +20,192 -21,316 -60,866 +935,597 +815,404 -32,935 +165,410 -26,732 +165,410 -16,410 -	-12,000 +10,000 -3,050 +5,206 +18,551 +500 +3,500 +3,500 +3,500 +3,700 +3,700 +38,242 +174,796 +18,636 +28,3810 +2,538 +31,50 +16,045 +26,329 +291,591 +16,316 +31,691 +55,524 +113,693							
Total Treasury bonds		10,977,221	2,852,869	753,390	+8,124,352	+2,099,479							
Treasury notes:* Mar. 15, 1947. Sept. 15, 1947. Sept. 15, 1947. Sept. 15, 1948. Oct. 1, 1948. Jan. 1, 1949. Apr. 1, 1950.	11/4 11/4 11/2 11/2 1 11/8 13/8	244,050 546,500	548,150 928,400	3,500 10,000 46,400 295,400	-548,150 -928,400 +244,050 +546,500	-3,500 -10,000 -46,400 +252,750 +928,400							
Total Treasury notes Certificates*	7/8 1 1 11/8 1 1/4	790,550 	1,476,550 6,338,863 457,642	355,300 7,496,012	$\begin{array}{r} -686,000 \\ \hline -6,338,863 \\ -457,642 \\ +4,550,372 \\ +1,527,197 \end{array}$	+1,121,250 -1,157,149 +457,642							
Total certificates		6,077,569	6,796,505	7,496,012	-718,936	-699,507							
Treasury bills:* Option accounts System account			ii,433,410	4,905,617 9,839,366	-5,946,004	-4,905,617 +1,594,044							
Total bills		5,487,406	11,433,410	14,744,983	-5,946,004	-3,311,573							
Total holdings		23,332,746	22,559,334	23,349,685	+773,412	-790,351							

^{*} Taxable.

Restricted as to commercial bank ownership.

NO. 4—FEDERAL RESERVE BANK HOLDINGS OF SPECIAL SHORT-TERM TREASURY CERTIFICATES PURCHASED DIRECTLY FROM THE UNITED STATES, 1942–481

- [In millions of dollars]

Date	Amount	Date	Amount	Date	Amount
1942—June 16	58	1943Mar. 6	543	1943—June 15	805
19	70	8	591	16	659
20	47	9	648	17	350
22	34	10	632	18	256
23	94	11	790	19	212
Sept. 15	324	12	940	Sept. 8	11
16	189	13	1,043	9	126
17	286	15	1,302	10	243
18,	76	16	1,250	11	246
19	53	17	981	13	214
Nov. 27	139	18	836	14	179
28	329	19	778	15	424
30	422	20,	768	16	258
Dec. 1	98	22	603	1945—Mar. 15	4
10	16	23	700	Dec. 4	107
15	145	24	512	5,	318
1943—Jan. 29	115	25	432	6,	374
30	202	26	384	7	484
Mar. 2	3	27	304	8	484
4	174	29	104	10	202
5	354	30	40		

There were no issues during the years 1944, 1946, 1947, and 1948. Interest rate 1/4 per cent throughout.

NO. 5—VOLUME OF OPERATIONS IN PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, 1944-48

[Number in thousands; amounts in thousands of dollars]

	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Number of Pieces Handled ¹					
Discounts and advances: Notes discounted and advances made	5	8	8	11	10
Industrial loans: Loans made	.6	.3	.2	.3	.3
Commitments to make indus-	1			1	1
trial loans	3,006,898 4,167,265	3,016,719 4 ,562,709	3,423,547 5,743,862	$\begin{array}{c} (^{2})\\ 3,491,962\\ 6,159,697 \end{array}$	3,754,584 6,531,128
U. S. Government checks All other	426,460 1,288,465	510,608 1,341,342	380,634 1,597,377	331,914 1,668,651	331,866 1,780,185
U. S. Government coupons paid	17,054 4,622	18,292 4,483	20,192 4,551	19,003 37,135	17,417 11,373
of U. S. Government securities Transfer of funds	357,782 906	382,067 939	245,904 1,059	177,351 1,148	164,556 1,220
Amounts Handled				ļ	
Discounts and advances Industrial loans:	14,922,128	34,778,804	20,133,819	17,234,926	19,138,175
Loans made	20,381	14,043	3,445	9,296	15,994
trial loans	4,769 17,157,034 417,014	2,350 18,307,687 445,892	8,845 20,945,847 519,892	6,069 22,099,562 622,054	2,187 24,307,644 578,857
U. S. Government checks All other	127,931,710 532,755,045	124,610,917 563,498,349	80,419,096 651,457,054	72,577,329 719,630,054	69,605,341 799,771,839
U. S. Government coupons paid	1,840,647 7,962,994	2,348,172 9,295,666	2,817,311 9,312,790	2,491,424 6,455,968	2,379,155 4,965,273
of U. S. Government securities. Transfer of funds	264,138,176 215,006,532	302,353,553 223,490,280	278,422,685 252,991,164	254,060,950 316,459,625	321,953,221 393,459,807

¹ Two or more checks, coupons, etc., handled as a single item are counted as one "piece." ² Less than 50.

⁸ Increase reflects mid-year change in method of counting items.

NO. 6-EARNINGS AND EXPENSES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS DURING 1948

Item	System	Boston	New York	Phila- delphia	Cleve- land	Rich- mond	Atlanta	Chicago	St. Louis	Minne- apolis	Kansas City	Dallas	San Francisco
				С	URRENT	EARNING	S						
Discounts and advances Industrial loans Commitments to make in-	\$4,370,951 42,099	\$253,546	\$ 1,410,523	\$299,520 33,538	\$376,153	\$259,604 2,351	\$193,434 6,210		\$190,412	\$88,859	\$202,049	\$116 ,230	\$275,428
dustrial loans	14,385 298,903,034 830,349	424 20,050,265 17,966	71,691,491 120,830	21,349,295 9,493	5,559 28,654,256 229,207	$\substack{1,120\\19,411,678\\22,316}$	753 14,986,852 31,451	$\begin{array}{r} 2,499\\42,591,873\\108,162\end{array}$	1,249 16,325,579 27,476	9,148,680 8,889		13,522,038 12,987	1,363 27,238,514 59,420
Total current earnings	304,160,818	20,322,201	73,222,844	21,691,846	29,265,175	19,697,069	15,218,700	43,407,727	16,544,716	9,246,428	14,318,132	13,651,255	27,574,725
CURRENT EXPENSES													
Operating expenses:		Î			1								
Salaries: Officers Employees	3,448,209 49,162,858	212,909 3,125,008			289,630 4,206,414		247,141 2,242,702	414,683 7,731,717		181,571 1,451,069	242,869 2,613,646	218,779 2,158,103	
Retirement System con- tributions Legal fees	5,031,949 21,070	317,910 358	1,190,223	299,721	427,578 5,910	330,078 42	248,949 87	758,330		146,703	289,727 100	231,228	496,210 80
Directors' fees and ex- penses	271,772	19,431	17,549	17,339	19,201	17,921	36,068	17,125	22.645	19,350	30,055	23,372	31,716
Federal Advisory Council, fees and expenses. Traveling expenses	22,180	1,472	1,204	1,139	1,808	1,060	2,175	1,757	1,832	1,888	2,089	2,841	2,915
(other than of direct- ors and members of Federal Advisory	70. 00.0	00.050	00.404	00.400	#0.000	20.545	40.501	0.2 51.4	40.104	40.544	= 0.000	50.001	00.516
Council)	731,236 8,297,751 508,509	813,633	98,636 1,336,664 94,567	30,620 543,774 30,297	59,903 718,930 46,6 4 3	63,745 717,236 28,312	43,591 608,869 42,942	96,714 1,108,785 38,034	60,134 445,449 44,403	46,544 277,686 23,315	58,028 465,363 40,602	52,921 410,651 33,362	80,742 850,711 62,434
Printing, stationery, and supplies. Insurance Taxes on real estate Depreciation (building)	3,834,151 635,463 1,850,018 1,359,172	45,752 191,086	757,085 140,589 478,083 240,861	227,347 28,867 91,436 129,213	309,096 52,138 216,490 258,389	200.098 37,789 85,753 87,896	218,327 29,058 77,060 55,699	765,227 88,907 251,441 186,451	224,470 48,368 79,887 92,672	101,826 28,657 90,825 31,406	216,689 41,128 102,677 84,765	46,449	342,085 63,937 138,831 74,854
Light, heat, power, and water. Repairs and alterations. Rent. Furniture and equipment.	743,721 611,042 343,986	48,061 31,734 6,556	194,905 68,037	42,910 28,012 7,339	94,453 112,385 1,210	47,630 22,340 7,113	38,940 49,336 33,793	91,044 109,024 120,170	50,974 51,540 10,541	26,270 45,658 1,356	29,512 41,473 18,425	38,443 22,428 11,196	40,579 29,075 126,287
including rental All other Inter-Bank expenses	3,030,583 r1,190,993		492,839 163,040 -318,183	232,465 69,749 37,901	300,054 210,070 43,048	249,395 57,042 22,928	212,686 63,606 19,184	494,031 167,344 63,637	211,579 r86,449 16,845		145,104 61,187 16,377	189,401 52,966 15,909	268,715 99,795 41,177
Total operating expenses	r81,094,663	5,522,966	17,740,955	4,972,266	7,373,350	5,339,222	4,270,213	12,504,421	r4,800,970	2,646,263	4,499,816	3,747,819	7,676,402

Less reimbursement for certain fiscal agency and other expenses	r16,814,392	972,072	3,310,522	841,450	1,313,498	1,000,480	980,763	3,097,002	r939,776	527,260	1,045,364	837,923	1,948,282
Net operating expenses	64,280,271	4,550,894	14,430,433	4,130,816	6,059,852	4,338,742	3,289,450	9,407,419	3,861,194	2,119,003	3,454,452	2,909,896	5,728,120
Assessment for expenses of Board of Governors Federal Reserve currency:	3,243,670	204,420	1,035,555	261,768	299,362	158,694	132,681	442,737	115,549	80,229	115,543	110,478	286,654
Original cost	4,425,883 760,364		869,225 131,808	337,464 47,775	339,459 58,863	$367,505 \\ 62,724$	414,766 73,096	877,611 115,746	307,469 44,232	88,202 18,666	156,629 34,500	163,675 32,077	217,305 96,128
Total current expenses:	72,710,188	5,086,636	16,467,021	4,777,823	6,757,536	4,927,665	3,909,993	10,843,513	4,328,444	2,306,100	3,761,124	3,216,126	6,328,207
		"			PROFIT A	ND LOSS		<u>'</u>	·			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Current net earnings Additions to current net earnings:	231,450,630	15,235,565	56,755,823	16,914,023	22,507,639	14,769,404	11,308,707	32,564,214	12,216,272	6,940,328	10,557,008	10,435,129	21.246,518
Profits on sales of U. S. Governmentsecurities (net)	6,214,838 301,849	424,725 704	1,502,316 3,788	456,165 3,567	596,016 69		327,611 1,657	826,315 289,304	322,194 137	179,381 828	299,614 1,032	279,104 405	604,707
Total additions Deductions from current net earnings:	6,516,687	425,429	1,506,104	459,732	596,085	397,048	329,268	1,115,619	322,331	180,209	300,646	279,509	604,707
Special depreciation on bank buildings All other	282,238 131,943	4,511	3,757	1,247	109,899	4,587	1,143	282,238 2,582		344	479	1,440	1,769
Total deductions	414,181	4,511	3,757	1,247	109,899	4,587	1,143	284,820	185	344	479	1,440	1,769
Net additions	6,102,506	420,918	1,502,347	458,485	486,186	392,461	328,125	830,799	322,146	179,865	300,167	278,069	602,938
contingencies	40,420,453	2,675,977	9,884,088	2,960,087	3,906,750	2,592,033	1,992,637	5,676,601	2,129,843	1,210,753	1,845,874	1,820,182	3,725,628
est on outstanding F. R. notes)	166,690,356	11,071,200	39,809,041	12,184,077	16,153,370	10,855,278	8,260,729	23,621,237	9,014,434	5,081,916	7,743,024	7,589,538	15,306,512
Net earnings after reserves and payments to U. S. Treasury	30,442,327 11,919,809	1,909,306 679,032	8,565,041 4,141, 7 97	2,228,344 874,343		1,714,554 508,237	1,383,466 465,488		1,394,141 392 , 300	827,524 262,776	1,268,277 407,803	1,303,478 460,093	2,817,316 1,116,584
Transferred to surplus (Sec. 7)Surplus (Sec. 7), January 1	18,522,518 448,188,608	1,230,274 28,116,876	4,423,244 138,595,953	1,354,001 35,350,216	1,794,840 42,172,710	1,206,317 21,210,350	917,978 19,109,885	2,624,684 66,217,133	1,001,841 16,971,986	564,748 11,232,568	860,474 16,147,926		1,700,732 38,952,190
Surplus (Sec. 7), December 31	466,711,126	29,347,150	143,019.197	36,704,217	43,967,550	22,416,667	20,027,863	68,841,817	17,973,827	11,797,316	17,008,400	14,954,200	40,652,922

r Revised.

NO. 7—EARNINGS AND EXPENSES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, 1914-48

Bank and period	Current earnings	Current expenses	Net earnings before pay- ments to U.S. Treasury ¹	Dividends paid	Franchise tax paid to U. S. Treasury ²	Paid to U. S. Treasury (Sec. 13b)	Paid to U. S. Treasury (Interest on F. R. notes)	Transferred to surplus (Sec. 13b)	Transferred to surplus (Sec. 7)
All Federal Reserve Banks, by years: 1914-15. 1916. 1917. 1918. 1919.	\$ 2,173,252 5,217,998 16,128,339 67,584,417 102,380,583	\$ 2,320,586 2,273,999 5,159,727 10,959,533 19,339,633	\$ -141,459 2,750,998 9,582,067 52,716,310 78,367,504	\$ 217,463 1,742,774 6,804,186 5,540,684 5,011,832	\$ 1,134,234				\$ 1,134,234 48,334,341 70,651,778
1920. 1921. 1922. 1923. 1924.	181,296,711 122,865,866 50,498,699 50,708,566 38,340,449	28,258,030 34,463,845 29,559,049 29,764,173 28,431,126	149,294,774 82,087,225 16,497,736 12,711,286 3,718,180	5,654,018 6,119,673 6,307,035 6,552,717 6,682,496	59,974,466 10,850,605 3,613,056			<i></i>	82,916,014 15,993,086 -659,904 2,545,513 -3,077,962
1925	41,800,706 47,599,595 43,024,484 64,052,860 70,955,496	27,528,163 27,350,182 27,518,443 26,904,810 29,691,113	9,449,066 16,611,745 13,048,249 32,122,021 36,402,741	6,915,958 7,329,169 7,754,539 8,458,463 9,583,913	818,150 249,591				2,473,808 8,464,426 5,044,119 21,078,899 22,535,597
1930	36,424,044 29,701,279 50,018,817 49,487,318 48,902,813	28,342,726 27,040,664 26,291,381 29,222,837 29,241,396	7,988,182 2,972,066 22,314,244 7,957,407 15,231,409	10,268,598 10,029,760 9,282,244 8,874,262 8,781,661	2,011,418				-2,297,724 $-7,057,694$ $11,020,582$ $-916,855$ $6,510,071$
1935	37,900,639 41,233,135 36,261,428	31,577,443 29,874,023 28,800,614 28,911,608 28,646,855	9,437,758 8,512,433 10,801,247 9,581,954 12,243,365	7,940,966 8,019,137		227,448 176,625 119,524		27,695 102,880 67,304 -419,140 -425,653	607,422 352,524 2,616,352 1,862,433 4,533,977
1940	41,380,095 52,662,704	29,165,477 32,963,150 38,624,044 43,545,564 49,175,921	25,860,025 9,137,581 12,470,451 49,528,433 58,437,788	8,214,971 8,429,936 8,669,076 8,911,342 9,500,126		141,465 197,672 244,726		-54,456 -4,333 49,602 135,003 201,150	17,617,358 570,513 3,554,101 40,237,362 48,409,795
1945	158,655,566 304,160,818	48,717,271 57,235,107 65,392,975 72,710,188	92,662,268 92,523,935 95,235,592 197,132,683	10,962,160 11,523,047 11,919,809		67,054 35,605	\$75,223,818 166,690,356	262,133 27,708 86,772	81,969,625 81,467,013 8,366,350 18,522,518
Total—1914-48	2,382,499,229	1,055,001,656	1,255,247,264	266,629,883	149,138,300	2,188,893	241,914,174	3 - 3,658	4595,379,672

Aggregate for each Federal Reserve Bank, 1914-48: Boston New York. Philadelphia Cleveland. Richmond.	160,031,132 658,429,057 180,806,648 218,842,475 128,439,761	75,043,687 252,679,369 78,958,679 98,072,920 62,188,519	81,755,625 397,381,131 99,780,898 112,126,765 61,423,310	18,544,742 91,419,829 24,027,637 26,855,815 11,233,617	7,111,395 68,006,262 5,558,901 4,842,447 6,200,189	280,843 369,115 722,406 82,930 172,493	16,105,846 58,176,983 17,856,193 23,164,043 15,663,568	+135,412 $-433,413$ $+290,661$ $-9,907$ $-71,516$	39,577,387 179,842,355 51,325,100 57,191,437 28,224,959
Atlanta	114,341,527	51,371,966	56,202,311	9,583,817	8,950,561	79,265	12,283,283	+5,491	25,299,894
Chicago	328,030,880	140,201,880	174,666,870	31,137,792	25,313,526	151,045	33,870,572	+11,681	84,182,254
St. Louis	109,690,323	55,583,953	47,639,902	9,268,916	2,755,629	7,464	12,567,467	-26,514	23,066,940
Minneapolis	73,047,545	35,957,004	34,697,355	6,428,364	5,202,900	55,615	7,206,198	+64,875	15,739,403
Kansas City	113,983,939	61,035,277	48,599,273	8,963,998	6,939,100	64,213	11,500,958	-8,674	21,139,678
Dallas	90,825,154	47,048,845	39,330,283	8,730,718	560,049	102,083	10,595,083	+55,336	19,287,014
San Francisco	206,030,788	96,859,557	101,643,541	20,434,638	7,697,341	101,421	22,923,980	-17,090	50,503,251
Total	2,382,499,229	1,055,001,656	1,255,247,264	266,629,883	149,138,300	2,188,893	241,914,174	-3,658	595,379,672

¹ Current earnings less current expenses, plus other additions and less other deductions.
² The Banking Act of 1933 eliminated the provision in the Federal Reserve Act requiring payment of a franchise tax.
³ On Dec. 31, 1948, surplus (Sec. 13b)—relating to funds received from the Secretary of the Treasury under Section 13b of the Federal Reserve Act for the purpose of making loans to industry—amounted to \$27,542,653 (\$27,546,311 received from the Secretary of the Treasury minus the \$3,658 net debits shown here).
⁴ On Dec. 31, 1948, surplus (Sec. 7)—accumulated pursuant to Section 7 of the Federal Reserve Act—amounted to \$466,711,126 (\$595,379,672 retained net earnings, shown here, minus \$139,299,557, charge-off cost of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation stock, and \$500,000, charge-off on bank premises, plus \$11,131,011 transferred from reserves for contingencies).

NO. 8—BANK PREMISES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS AND BRANCHES DECEMBER 31, 1948

		Co	ost		
Federal Reserve Bank or branch	Land	Building (Including vaults)	Fixed ma- chinery and equipment	Total	Net book value
Boston	\$ 1,246,726	\$ 3,542,603	\$ 662,157	\$ 5,451,486	\$ 1,184,948
New York Annex Buffalo	5,215,656 $592,679$ $255,000$	$\substack{12,183,528\\1,451,570\\465,707}$	4,827,595 215,418	22,226,779 2,259,667 720,707	6,799,350 850,731 372,525
Philadelphia	1,884,357	* 4,463,369	* 920,743	7,268,469	3,052,938
Cleveland	1,295,490	6,464,253	1,636,430	9,396,173	2,372,304
	380,744	*1,038,384	* 200,131	*1,619,259	1,242,075
	781,364	1,049,451	379,694	2,210,509	1,252,747
Richmond	271,924	2,101,178	663,667	3,036,769	1,071,578
	80,333	482,482	109,132	671,947	146,252
	250,487	1,247,262	331,970	1,829,719	910,870
	105,701	291,175	154,449	551,325	427,938
Atlanta	283,000	1,461,474	308,082	2,052,556	740,150
Birmingham	124,137	330,680	65,491	520,308	136,492
Jacksonville	45,842	238,231	39,669	323,742	87,433
Nashville	48,000	211,616	35,091	294,707	99,247
New Orleans	277,078	762,455	212,281	1,251,814	510,589
Chicago	2,963,548	6,426,383	1,779,868	11,169,799	2,242,304
	1,022,064	1,081,281	176,355	2,279,700	948,866
St. Louis.	1,355,374	2,126,302	1,320,454	4,802,130	1,316,638
Little Rock	85,007	240,733	151,092	476,832	188,923
Louisville	131,177	226,259	72,463	429,899	168,372
Memphis.	128,542	287,468	105,837	521,847	267,332
Minneapolis	600,521	2,316,746	660,969	3,578,236	1,067,827
	15,710	126,401	44,142	186,253	109,206
Kansas City	495,300	3,391,101	933,404	4,819,805	1,538,605
Denver	101,512	449,876	79,268	630,656	275,773
Oklahoma City	65,021	409,890	95,480	570,391	222,550
Omaha	176,427	397,938	94,548	668,913	348,964
Dallas	189,831	1,350,945	* 451,242	*1,992,018	435,709
El Paso	39,003	114,644	30,191	183,838	44,171
Houston	78,812	313,335	112,111	504,258	153,630
San Antonio	75,002	159,743	55,859	290,604	122,334
San Francisco	443,488	3,144,407	784,102	4,341,505	927,892
Los Angeles		988,109	323,195	1,754,792	486,376
Salt Lake City		341,449	84,814	540,338	224,039
Total	21,631,928	61,678,428	18,117,394	101,427,750	32,347,678

OTHER REAL ESTATE ACQUIRED FOR BANKING HOUSE PURPOSES

Boston				\$ 451,381	\$ 291,341
New York	45,000	125,864	<i>.</i>	170,864	63,700
Pittsburgh	1 316,537] <i></i> .]		316,537	220,000
Richmond	107,248	1,099		108,347	72,914
Charlotte	10,868			10,868	10,868
Atlanta	35,000			35,000	35,000
Jacksonville	1 155,617	<i></i>		155,617	155,617
St. Louis	176,055	413,023 \$	146,456	735,534	600,139
San Francisco	60,000	l		60,000	60.000
Los Angeles	35,000			35,000	35,000
Portland ²	160,000	<i>.</i> <i></i>		160,000	160,000
Seattle ²	1 250,000			250,000	250,000
Total	1,723,913	618,779	146,456	2,489,148	1,954,579
J			J		ļ

^{*} Revised.

I Includes building on site.
The Portland and Seattle branches occupy rented quarters.

NO. 9-NUMBER AND SALARIES OF OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

[December 31, 1948]

Federal Reserve Bank	President	Oth	er officers	Em	ployees¹		l'otal
(Including branches)	Annual salary	Number	Annual salaries	Number	Annual salaries	Number	Annual salaries
Boston New York Philadelphia Cleveland	50,000 25,000	19 50 13 28	\$196,450 667,945 147,500 264,250	1,265 3,959 1,068 1,749	\$3,249,789 11,985,988 2,923,683 4,118,164	1,285 4,010 1,082 1,778	\$3,471,239 12,703,933 3,096,183 4,407,414
Richmond Atlanta Chicago St. Louis	25,000 35,000	23 30 37 23	212,700 233,600 385,450 201,200	1,284 997 2,903 1,137	3,016,777 2,265,751 7,383,538 2,792,194	1,308 1,028 2,941 1,161	3,254,477 2,524,351 7,803,988 3,018,394
Minneapolis Kansas City Dallas San Francisco	25,000	17 25 24 35	162,000 224,400 203,500 313,800	$\substack{626 \\ 1,113 \\ 929 \\ 1,715}$	1,474,363 2,620,731 2,173,601 4,680,860	644 1,139 954 1,751	1,661,363 2,870,131 2,402,101 5,019,660
Total	\$335,000	324	\$3,212,795	18,745	\$48,685,439	19,081	\$52,233,234

¹ Includes 563 part-time employees. Note: During the year 1948, \$10,768,324 was reimbursed to the Banks on account of salaries.

NO. 10—FEDERAL RESERVE BANK DISCOUNT, INTEREST, AND COMMITMENT RATES, AND BUYING RATES ON BILLS

[Per cent per annum]

In effect December 31, 1948

Type of transaction	Bos- ton	New York	Phil- adel- phia	Cleve- land	Rich- mond	At- lanta	Chi- cago	St. Louis	Min- neap- olis	Kan- sas City	Dal- las	San Fran- cisco
Discounts for and advances to member banks under Secs. 13 and 13a of the Federal Reserve Act	11/2	1½2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2	11/2
nerships, or corporations other than member banks secured by direct obligations of the United States (last paragraph of Sec. 13 of the Federal Reserve Act) Loans to industrial or commercial businesses under Sec. 13b of the Federal Reserve	21/2	2½	21/2	21/2	21/2	$2\frac{1}{2}$	28/4	2½	28/4	21/2	21/2	21/2
Act, direct or in participation with financing institutions Discounts for and purchases from financing institutions under Sec. 13b of the Federal	2½-5	2½-5	2½-5	2½-5	21/2-5	21/2-5	21/2-5	3-5	2½-5	2½-5	2½-5	21/2-5
Reserve Act: On portion for which institution is obligated. On remaining portion. Commitments to make loans under Sec. 13b of the Federal Reserve Act:	(1) (3)	(1) (3)	(2) (3)	(1) (3)	(1) (3)	(1) (3)	2½-5 2½-5	1½-2 (3)	(1) (3)	(1) (3)	(1) (3)	(1) (3)
To industrial or commercial businesses To financing institutions	1/2-11/2 1/2-11/2	1/2-11/4 1/2-11/4	1⁄2-11⁄4 1⁄2-11⁄4	1½-1¼ 1½-1¼	1/2-11/4 1/2-11/4	1/2-11/4 (4) 1/2- 11/4	14-114 14-114	½-1¼ ¼-1¼	½-1¼ ½-1¼	1/2-11/4 1/2-11/4	1/2-11/4 (4) 1/2-	1/2-11/4 (4) 1/2-
Effective minimum buying rates on prime bankers' acceptances payable in dollars 1-90 days 91-120 days 121-180 days	(5)	1½ 15/8 13/4	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)

¹ Rate charged borrower by financing institution less commitment rate.

³ Rate charged borrower. by other Federal Reserve Banks.

Note: Maximum maturities for discounts and advances to member banks are: 15 days for advances secured by obligations of the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation or the Home Owners' Loan Corporation guaranteed as to principal and interest by the United States, or by obligations of Federal intermediate credit banks maturing within 6 months; 90 days for other advances and discounts made under Sections 13 and 13a of the Federal Reserve Act (except that discounts of certain bankers' acceptances and of agricultural paper may have maturities not exceeding 6 months and 9 months respectively); and 4 months for advances under Section 10(b). The maximum maturity for advances to individuals, partnerships, or corporations made under the last paragraph of Section 13 is 90 days. Industrial loans and commitments made under Section 13b of the Federal Reserve Act may have maturities not exceeding 5 years.

² Rate charged borrower, but not to exceed 1 per cent above the discount rate.

⁴ Financing institution is charged 14 per cent on undisbursed portion of loan.

The same minimum rates in effect at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York generally apply to any purchases made

NO. 11—MEMBER BANK RESERVE REQUIREMENTS

[Per cent of deposits]

	Ne	t demand deposi	ts¹	Time deposits
Period in effect	Central reserve	Reserve city banks	Country banks	(All member banks)
June 21, 1917-Aug. 15, 1936. Aug. 16, 1936-Feb. 28, 1937. Mar. 1, 1937-Apr. 30, 1937. May 1, 1937-Apr. 15, 1938. Apr. 16, 1938-Oct. 31, 1941. Nov. 1, 1941-Aug. 19, 1942. Aug. 20, 1942-Sept. 13, 1942. Sept. 14, 1942-Oct. 2, 1942. Oct. 3, 1942-Feb. 26, 1948. Feb. 27, 1948-June 10, 1948. June 11, 1948-Sept. 15, 1948. Sept. 16-24, 1948-Apr. 30-May 4, 1949? May 1-5, 1949-June 29-30, 1949. June 30-July 1, 1949 and after 2.	19 \\ 2234 26 2234 26 224 24 20 22 24 26	10 15 171/2 20 171/2 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 21 20	7 10½ 12¼ 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 14 16 15	3 41/2 51/4 6 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 71/2 7

¹ Demand deposits subject to reserve requirements, i.e., total demand deposits minus (1) cash items in process of collection, (2) demand balances due from domestic banks, and (3) war loan and Series E bond accounts during the period Apr. 13, 1943 to June 30, 1947, and all U. S. Government demand accounts Apr. 24, 1917 to Aug. 23, 1935.

2 Changes effective Sept. 16, May 1, and July 1 at country banks; Sept. 24, May 5, and June 30 at

other classes.

NO. 12-MAXIMUM RATES ON TIME DEPOSITS

Maximum rates that may be paid by member banks as established by the Board of Governors under provisions of Regulation Q

[Per cent per annum]

Types of deposit	Nov. 1, 1933,	Feb. 1, 1935,	In effect
	to	to	beginning
	Jan. 31, 1935	Dec. 31, 1935	Jan. 1, 1936
Savings deposits. Postal Savings deposits. Other time deposits payable:	3	2½	2½
	3	2½	2½
In 6 months or more. In 90 days to 6 months. In less than 90 days.	3 3 3	2½ 2½ 2½ 2½	$2\frac{1}{2}$

Note: Maximum rates that may be paid by insured nonmember banks as established by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, effective Feb. 1, 1936, are the same as those in effect for member banks. Under Regulation Q the rate payable by a member bank may not in any event exceed the maximum rate payable by State banks or trust companies on like deposits under the laws of the State in which the member bank is located.

NO. 13—MARGIN REQUIREMENTS¹

Prescribed by Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System in accordance with Securities Exchange
Act of 1934

[Per cent of market value]

	Nov. 1, 1937–	Feb. 5, 1945–	July 5, 1945	Jan. 21, 1946-	Effective
	Feb. 4, 1945	July 4, 1945	Jan. 20, 1946	Jan. 31, 1947	Feb. 1, 1947
Regulation T: For extensions of credit by brokers and dealers on listed securities. For short sales. Regulation U: For loans by banks on stocks.	40	50	75	100	² 75
	50	50	75	100	² 75
	40	50	75	100	² 75

¹ Regulations T and U limit the amount of credit that may be extended on a security by prescribing a maximum loan value, which is a specified percentage of its market value at the time of the extension; the "margin requirements" shown in this table are the difference between the market value (100 per cent) and the maximum loan value,

² Changed to 50 per cent effective Mar. 30, 1949.

NO. 14—MINIMUM DOWN PAYMENTS AND MAXIMUM MATURITIES ON CONSUMER INSTALMENT CREDIT SUBJECT TO REGULATION W

Prescribed by Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System effective September 20, 1948, in accordance with Public Law 905, approved August 16, 1948

		Effective Sept. 20, 1948 ¹			
Type of $\operatorname{credit}_ullet$	Minimum down payment (Per cent) ²	Maximum maturity (Months)			
Instalment sales: Group A Automobiles Group B Cooking stoves and ranges, dishwashers, ironers, mechanical refrigerators, washing machines, combination units incorporating any of the foregoing. Room-unit air conditioners, radio or television sets and phonographs, sewing machines, vacuum cleaners, furniture and softsurface floor coverings.	33¼ 20	15–18 15–18			
Instalment loans: To purchase listed articles	(3)	15-18 15-18			

¹ Effective Mar. 7, 1949 the down payment became 15 per cent for all articles except automobiles, which remained at 33½ per cent, and maximum maturities were changed to 21 months for all credits under the regulation, regardless of amount.

the regulation, regardless of amount.

Effective Apr. 27, 1949, the down payment became 10 per cent for all articles except automobiles, which remained at 33 1/3 per cent, and maximum maturities were changed to 24 months for all credits

under the regulation.

² Down payments determined after deduction of any trade-in, except in case of automobiles.

³ Where credit is to purchase listed articles, requirements same as on instalment sales of the respective articles.

4 Maximum maturities for all instalment credits under the regulation, prior to Mar. 7, 1949, were 15 months for credits of \$1,000 or less, and 18 months for credits over \$1,000, provided that if the maturity was more than 15 months the monthly payment must have been at least \$70.

Note: Limitations are subject to various exceptions; for exceptions in detail, and for additional provisions not reflected in this table, the regulation should be consulted.

NO. 15-MEMBER BANK RESERVES, RESERVE BANK CREDIT, AND RELATED ITEMS-END OF YEAR 1918-48 AND END OF MONTH 1948

[In millions of dollars]

		Reserve	Bank cr	edit out	standir	ng .								bank r	nber eserve
End of	dvances		Govern					cy out-	ation	oldings	ts with ve Bank	osits	eserve	bala	nces
year or month	Discounts and advances	Bonds Bonds Balls, certificates, and notes All other! Total Gold stock Standing Money in circulation	Money in circul	Treasury cash holdings	Treasury deposits with Federal Reserve Banks	Nonmember deposits	Other Federal Reserve accounts	Total	Excess						
1918 1919 1920 1921	2,215 2,687	239 300 287 234	28 27 26 32	211 273 261 202	493 777 380 185	2,498 3,292 3,355 1,563	2,873 2,707 2,639 3,373	1,795 1,707 1,709 1,842	4,951 5,091 5,325 4,403	288 385 218 214	51 31 57 96	121 101 23 27	118 208 298 285	1,636 1,890 1,781 1,753	51 68 99
1922 1923 1924 1925	618 723 320 643	436 134 540 375	29 30 75 61	407 104 465 314	351 382 441 441	1,405 1,238 1,302 1,459	3,642 3,957 4,212 4,112	1,958 2,009 2,025 1,977	4,530 4,757 4,760 4,817	225 213 211 203	11 38 51 16	29 23 39 29	276 275 258 272	1,934 1,898 2,220 2,212	14 59 44
1926 1927 1928 1929	637 582 1,056 632	315 617 228 511	48 291 54 77	326	430 456 524 440	1,381 1,655 1,809 1,583	4,205 4,092 3,854 3,997	1,991 2,006 2,012 2,022	4,808 4,716 4,686 4,578	201 208 202 216	17 18 23 29	65 26 27 30	293 301 348 393	2,194 2,487 2,389 2,355	-56 63 -41 -73
1930 1931 1932 1933	251 638 235 98	729 817 1,855 2,437	164 360 422 443	457 1,433	393 398 55 153	1,373 1,853 2,145 2,688	4,306 4,173 4,226 4,036	2,027 2,035 2,204 2,303	4,603 5,360 5,388 5,519	211 222 272 284	19 54 8 3	28 110 43 132	375 354 355 360	2,471 1,961 2,509 2,729	96 33 576 859
1934 1935 1936 1937	3	2,430	396 216 491 752	2,215 1,939	26 50 67 39	2,463 2,486 2,500 2,612	8,238 10,125 11,258 12,760	2,511 2,476 2,532 2,637	5, 536 5, 882 6, 543 6, 550	3,029 2,566 2,376 3,619	121 544 244 142	189 255 259 407	241 253 261 263	4,096 5,587 6,606 7,027	1,814 2,844 1,984 1,212
1938 1939 1940 1941		2,484 2,184	841 1,351 1,285 1,467	1,723 1,133 899 787	34 102 87 104	2,593 2,274	14,512 17,644 21,995 22,737	2,798 2,963 3,087 3,247	6,856 7,598 8,732 11,160	2,706 2,409 2,213 2,215	923 634 368 867	441 653 1,732 1,360	260 251 284 291	8,724 11,653 14,026 12,450	3,205 5,209 6,615 3,085
1942 1943 1944 1945	5 80	6, 189 11, 543 18, 846 24, 262	2,793 1,630 1,243 947	3,396 9,913 17,603 23,315	484 691 819 580	6,679 12,239 19,745 25,091	22,726 21,938 20,619 20,065	4,131	15, 410 20, 449 25, 307 28, 515	2, 193 2, 303 2, 375 2, 287	799 579 440 977	1,278 1,716 1,598 1,308	256 339 402 495	13,117 12,886 14,373 15,915	1,625
1946 1947	163 85	23,350 22,559	753 2,853	22,597 19,706	581 536	24,093 23,181	20,529 22,754	4,562 4,562	28, 952 28, 868	2,272 1,336	393 870	822 961	607 563	16, 139 17, 899	562 1,499
1948— Jan. Feb. Mar. Apr. May. June July Aug. Sept. Oct. Nov. Dec.	431 430 249 306 265 318 323 325 339 337	21, 925 21, 024 20, 887 20, 340 20, 662 21, 366 21, 325 21, 577 23, 413 23, 042 23, 206 23, 333	5,688 5,671 6,167 6,319 6,206 6,757 7,781 9,260 10,925 11,181	112.0251	608 268 392 207 333 494 339	22,782 22,109 21,607 20,858 21,576 21,900 22,035 22,107 24,071 23,875 23,881 24,097	23,036 23,137 23,169 23,304 23,532 23,679 23,725 23,872 24,004 24,166	4,565 4,571 4,575 4,580 4,585	28, 111 28, 019 27, 781 27, 716 27, 812 27, 866 27, 865 28, 055 28, 118 28, 176 28, 331 28, 324	1,305 1,325 1,325 1,319 1,322 1,327 1,323 1,321 1,321 1,321 1,323 1,332	2,343 1,591 1,972 1,236 1,684 1,928 1,755 1,919 1,664 1,610 1,601 1,123	1,049 1,154 999 826 1,057 859 1,067 864 843 1,074 932 1,189	588 546 546 592 572 565 585 542 541	16, 919 17, 062 16, 639 16, 944 17, 021 17, 696 17, 679 17, 679 19, 986 19, 736 19, 894 20, 479	768 762 655 737 848 742 877 1,038 742 809 1,202

 $^{^{1}}$ Includes Government overdrafts in 1918, 1919, and 1920. 2 Figures available only on call dates prior to 1929.

NO. 16-ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NUMBER OF BANKING OFFICES DURING 1948

			mercial a d nondep				Mu	tual
	All banks			mber nks		nember nks		ings nks
		Total	Na- tional	State member	In- sured	Non- insured	In- sured	Non- insured
	14,714	14,181	5,005	¹ 1,918	6,478	783	1194	339
Changes during 1948:		1 1				1	ŀ	ŀ
New banks ²	+80	+80	+15	+5	+41	+19		
Banks converted into branches	-56	-56	-21	-16	-18	-1		
OtherVoluntary liquidations ³	$-20 \\ -12$	-19 -12	-9	$-1 \\ -1$	-6 -8	-3 -3		
Unclassified	$\begin{bmatrix} -12 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$	-12		-1		-3 -3		,
Inter-class changes: Conversions—								
National into State	l	<i></i> 1	-2		+2	1		l <i></i>
State into national		1	+3	-1	-2			
Federal Reserve membership:		1	ł		00			
Admissions of State banks Withdrawals of State banks				+27 -4	-26	-1		
Federal deposit insurance:5		1		-4	+4		· · • · • • •	
Admissions of State banks		1 1	Í	1	+33	-33		Í
Withdrawals of State banks								
Net increase or decrease	-11	-10	-14	+9	+20	-25	-1	
Number of banks, Dec. 31, 1948	14.703	14,171	4.991	11.927	6.498	758	1193	339
Number of branches,6 Dec. 31,	,	/	1,002	-,	-,			
1947	4,261	4,090	1,817	1,168	1,038	67	124	47
Changes during 1948:	'	i ' i	1	'	•			
De novo branches	+162	+151	+68	+36	+41	+6	+8	+3
Banks converted into branches		+56	+31	+19	+6			
Branches discontinued	-18	-18	-6	-6	-6			
Inter-class branch changes: State member to national] [
Nonmember to State member.			+3	-3 +5	-5			
Noninsured to insured					+5			
Net increase or decrease	+200	+189	+96	+51	+41	+1	+8	+3
Number of branches,6 Dec. 31,	'200	1200	'*	' *		' - '	, ,	, ,
1948	4,461	4,279	1,913	1,219	1,079	68	132	50
Number of banking facilities at	, i	1 1	'	'	•			
military reservations,7 Dec.								
31, 1947	71	71	53	13	5			
Changes during 1948:	!	1 1						
Established	+1	+1	+1					
Discontinued	-2	$\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$	-2	· • • • • •				· • · • • •
	_1	-1						
Number of banking facilities at military reservations, Dec. 31, 1948	70	70	52	13	5			
		1			_			

¹ The State member bank figures and the insured mutual savings banks figures both include three member mutual savings banks. These banks are not included in the total for "commercial banks" and are included only once in "all banks."

² Exclusive of new banks organized to succeed operating banks.

³ Exclusive of liquidations incident to the succession, conversion, and absorption of banks.

⁴ Exclusive of conversions of national banks into State member banks, or vice versa. Such changes do

Exclusive of conversions of national banks into State member banks, or vice versa. Such changes do not affect Federal Reserve membership; they are included under "conversions."
 Exclusive of insured nonmember banks converted into national banks or admitted to Federal Reserve membership, or vice versa. Such changes do not affect Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation membership; they are included in the appropriate groups under "inter-class bank changes."
 Covers all branches and other additional offices at which deposits are received, checks paid, or money

^{7&}quot;Banking facilities" are provided through arrangements made by the Treasury Department with banks designated as depositaries and financial agents of the Government. The figures shown do not include branches that have also been designated by the Treasury Department as "banking facilities."

NO. 17—NUMBER OF BANKING OFFICES ON FEDERAL RESERVE PAR LIST AND NOT ON PAR LIST, BY FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICTS AND STATES, DECEMBER 31, 19481

	which c	banks on hecks are			On	par list	Not on par list (nonmember)			
Federal Reserve		and their s & offices	Т	otal	M	ember	Non	member	(noni	nember)
district or State	Banks	Branches and offices	Banks	Branches and offices	Banks	Branches and offices	Banks	Branches and offices	Banks	Branches and offices
DISTRICT Boston New York Philadelphia Cleveland Richmond Atlanta Chicago St. Louis Minneapolis Kansas City Dallas San Francisco	495 908 841 1,134 1,009 1,183 2,488 1,469 1,278 1,749 1,015 503	302 858 140 274 462 175 579 133 112 9 41 1,248	495 908 841 1,134 798 557 2,434 1,126 620 1,740 906 502	302 858 140 274 341 139 555 73 44 9 32 1,248	336 783 645 704 478 346 1,003 495 476 760 618 268	222 795 103 236 219 122 230 40 26 6 19 1,179	159 125 196 430 320 211 1,431 631 144 980 288 234	80 63 37 38 122 17 325 33 18 3 13 69	211 626 54 343 658 9 109 1	121 36 24 60 68
Total	14,072	4,333	12,061	4,015	6,912	3,197	5,149	818	2,011	318
STATE Alabama Arizona Arkansas California Colorado Connecticut Delaware Dist. of Col. Florida Georgia Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Mississippi Missouri Montana Nebraska Nevada Nevada New Hampshire New Hersey New Hersey New Hork North Carolina North Dakota Oregon Pennsylvania Rhode Island South Carolina South Dakota Tennessee	224 10 230 193 142 115 39 19 181 394 47 882 486 666 608 383 163 163 183 442 679 205 595 595 112 409 8 74 334 49 49 646 209 666 384 479 159 169 179 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 18	23 44 199 917 1 26 14 39 2 31 48 3 97 162 216 6 6 58 218 2 141 111 730 181 24 204 1 1 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	118 10 106 193 142 115 39 19 118 100 47 880 486 666 666 383 58 63 163 183 442 263 344 209 8 74 334 49 646 93 666 37 67 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97 97	23 44 5 917 1 26 14 39 2 27 48 3 97 162 2 69 109 109 162 216 6 6 10 2 111 730 64 64 204 1 1 1 88 166 2 33 33 66	89 5 67 114 92 66 17 16 237 165 214 112 46 38 77 146 229 206 32 180 144 65 229 237 146 32 180 32 180 32 180 32 180 32 180 32 180 38 37 37 37 38 38 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40 40	23 33 1 873 1 1 34 36 4 2 26 45 37 73 31 146 166 6 6 3 11 126 6 7 11 126 127 13 14 14 15 16 16 16 16 17 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	29 55 379 50 49 222 376 249 501 392 271 225 86 37 213 57 213 57 28 28 29 215 48 19 29 29 20 215 215 215 216 217 217 218 218 219 219 219 219 219 219 219 219	11 44 44 13 10 3 3 1 13 10 3 3 16 162 32 36 16 16 50 7 7 1 1 1 1 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5 1 5	106 124 63 294 2 103 416 165 67 116 89 8	14 4 23 48 48 48 25 16
Texas. Utah Vermont Virginia Washington West Virginia Wisconsin Wyoming	895 55 69 314 122 181 550 55	3 22 11 96 124	837 55 69 309 121 180 443 55	3 22 11 96 124	567 31 40 203 53 109 164 41	3 20 2 48 117	270 24 29 106 68 71 279 14	2 9 48 7	58 5 1 107	49

¹ Does not include mutual savings banks, on a few of which some checks are drawn, but does include 70 banking facilities (see footnote 7, Table 16). The difference in the number of member banks on Dec. 31, 1948 shown in this table and in Table 16 is due to the fact that this table excludes 3 nondeposit trust companies and 3 mutual savings banks on which no checks are drawn. The difference between the number of nonmember commercial banks is due to the fact that this table excludes 96 banks and trust companies on which no checks are drawn.

Back figures.—See Banking and Monetary Statistics, Table 15, and previous Annual Reports.

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APPENDIX

RECORD OF POLICY ACTIONS BOARD OF GOVERNORS

JANUARY 9, 1948

Changes in Rates on Discounts and Advances to Member Banks under Section 13, 13(a), and 10(b) of the Federal Reserve Act, and in Minimum Buying Rates on Bankers' Acceptances.

The Board approved for the Federal Reserve Banks of New York, Philadelphia, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis, and Dallas, effective January 12, 1948, a rate of 1½ per cent on discounts and advances under Sections 13 and 13(a) of the Federal Reserve Act except advances to individuals, partnerships and corporations other than member banks under the last paragraph of Section 13; and a rate of 1¾ per cent on advances under Section 10(b).

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

Pursuant to the policy established by this action, the Board subsequently approved the rates mentioned above for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston effective January 14; for the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco effective January 15; and for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City effective January 19.

Also on January 9, to be effective January 12, the Board approved, by the same votes, a minimum buying rate of 1½ per cent on bankers' acceptances for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and subsequently approved the same rate for the following Federal Reserve Banks, effective on the dates indicated:

Boston	January	14,	1948
Philadelphia	January	19,	1948
Cleveland	January	26,	1948
Richmond			
Atlanta			
Chicago			
St. Louis	. January	23,	1948
Minneapolis	. January	15,	1948
Kansas City			
Dallas	. February	14,	1948
San Francisco	. January	15,	1948

While minor changes were made at some of the Federal Reserve Banks in rates on advances to individuals, partnerships, and corporations other than member banks under the last paragraph of Section 13 and in various rates under Section 13b, the new rates were within the limits of rates

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These actions were taken by the Board as a part of an anti-inflationary program, described elsewhere in this report, which was designed to keep pressure on member bank reserves and thereby to restrain the expansion of bank credit while at the same time continuing the policy of supporting the long-term rate on Government bonds. The effect of the increase, together with the increase from one per cent to 11/8 per cent in the issuing rate on one-year Treasury certificates, effected by the Treasury in connection with the refunding of the November and December 1947 issues of maturing Treasury securities, was to increase rates in the short-term area of the market, thereby reducing the spread between the long- and short-term rates and increasing the inducement for banks to hold short-term Government issues. It was pointed out that, as long as the System continued its policy of supporting the market for United States Government securities, member banks would have ready access to reserves through the sale of such securities and that, if the discount rate were fixed at a somewhat higher level than the issuing rate on Treasury certificates, banks would be encouraged to adjust their reserve position through the sale of certificates and bills rather than by borrowing from the Federal Reserve Banks. The discount rate of the Federal Reserve Banks was fixed at 1¹/₄ per cent for that reason.

January 23, 1948

Increase in Reserve Requirements of Member Banks in Central Reserve Cities.

The supplement to Regulation D, Reserves of Member Banks, was amended, effective as of the opening of business on February 27, 1948, to require that member banks in central reserve cities (except such banks in outlying sections of such cities as were authorized by the Board to maintain lower reserves) maintain reserves of 22 per cent, instead of 20 per cent, of their net demand deposits.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Draper, Evans, and Vardaman. Votes against this action: none.

The effect of this increase was to raise the required reserves of member banks in central reserve cities by approximately 500 million dollars and the increase was approved as one step in the anti-inflationary program, discussed elsewhere in this report, which was designed to restrain further inflationary expansion of bank credit.

The Board would have preferred to take action affecting the required reserves of all member banks but was unable to do so for the reason that requirements of reserve city and country banks were already at the maximum permitted under the law. The action was not taken earlier because the reserve position of banks had been under considerable pressure during the latter part of 1947, and, while it had been anticipated that the banks would also be under pressure during February and March, the return flow of currency after the year-end and increased reserves resulting from System purchases of securities in December had eased the money market and total loans of member banks in central reserve cities had increased. The action of the Board had the effect of reducing the supply of Government securities which the central reserve city banks had available for sale to the Federal Reserve Banks to create reserves for further loan expansion and absorbed some of the reserves created by the sale to the Federal Reserve Banks of securities by nonbank holders during December and January.

March 5, 1948

Amendments to Regulation T, Extension and Maintenance of Credit by Brokers, Dealers, and Members of National Securities Exchanges, and Regulation U, Loans by Banks for the Purpose of Purchasing or Carrying Stocks Registered on a National Securities Exchange.

Effective April 1, 1948, Regulations T and U were amended to permit a customer to make substitutions in an undermargined account (one having a margin of less than 75 per cent) without having to supply additional margin.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

A typical method of making such substitutions would be by selling one security and purchasing another. Previously such substitutions had been limited by the rule that the proceeds of sales of securities in an undermargined account must be used to the extent necessary to increase the margin on the remaining securities until it was on the 75 per cent basis.

The changes were essentially technical amendments which did not add to the amount of credit available for stock market transactions under existing regulations. The substitutions permitted by the amendments made it somewhat easier for customers with undermargined accounts to shift their holdings from one security to another in cases where there was no increase in the total holdings or total credit.

June 1, 1948

Increase in Reserve Requirements of Member Banks in Central Reserve Cities.

The supplement to Regulation D, Reserves of Member Banks, was amended, effective as of the opening of business on June 11, 1948, to require that member banks in central reserve cities (except such banks in outlying sections of such cities as were authorized by the Board to maintain lower reserves) maintain reserves of 24 per cent, instead of 22 per cent, of their net demand deposits.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: Messrs. McCabe and Szymczak.

When this action was taken, the reserve position of central reserve city banks was easy and there were increasing evidences that an inflationary psychology was again taking hold of the country. It was the feeling of the majority of the Board that action at this time should be taken as a part of the anti-inflationary program discussed elsewhere in this report for the purpose of limiting the reserves available for the expansion of bank credit. The reasons for the action were substantially the same as those which prompted similar action by the Board on January 23, 1948.

Messrs. McCabe and Szymczak voted "no" because they felt that much of the restraining effect of an increase in reserve requirements at central reserve city banks in June would be nullified by System open market operations to maintain stability in short-term rates pending the Treasury refinancing. They favored postponing decision until later in the summer when the Treasury refinancing would be out of the way and the probable course of credit developments could be more clearly evaluated.

JULY 1, 1948

Amendment to Regulation L, Interlocking Bank Directorates under the Clayton Act.

Regulation L was amended, effective July 1, 1948, by the addition of a new paragraph (f) providing that any director, officer, or employee of a member bank of the Federal Reserve System might be at the same time a director, officer, or employee of not more than one bank which was principally engaged in international or foreign banking and did not receive deposits or make loans in the United States except as might be incidental to its international or foreign business.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

The statute authorized the Board by regulation to permit an interlocking relationship between a member bank and not more than one other bank. It also contained a specific exemption of an interlocking directorate between a member bank and a corporation principally engaged in foreign banking which has an agreement with the Board under Section 25 of the Federal Reserve Act. In the circumstances, since the only competition between a member bank and a corporation principally engaged in foreign banking is to a limited extent in the field of international banking, it was felt that it would be appropriate to amend the regulation to permit interlocking directorates between a member bank and not more than one corporation principally engaged in foreign banking even though not subject to an agreement with the Board under Section 25.

August 3, 1948

Amendment to Regulation H, Membership of State Banking Institutions in the Federal Reserve System.

Regulation H was amended effective September 1, 1948, to eliminate certain conditions of membership in the Federal Reserve System relating to the sale of real-estate obligations and the exercise of trust powers. The amendment added the following paragraph to footnote numbered six concerning the effect of the elimination of these conditions:

"For many years, the Board prescribed, as standard conditions of membership, a condition which, in general, prohibited banks from engaging as a business in the sale of real-estate loans to the public and certain conditions relating to the exercise of trust powers, including one which prohibited self-dealing in the investment of trust funds. The elimination of these conditions as standard conditions of membership does not reflect any change in the Board's position as to the undesirability of the practices formerly prohibited by such conditions; and attention is called to the fact that engaging as a business in the sale of real-estate loans to the public or failing to conduct trust business in accordance with the applicable State laws and sound principles of trust administration may constitute unsafe or unsound practices and violate condition numbered I."

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

In connection with the foregoing change in the standard conditions of membership, the conditions of membership of each State bank member were reviewed and certain additional conditions were canceled in individual cases. State member banks were informed of this and of the foregoing action in a letter reading as follows:

Over the period of more than 30 years since the Federal Reserve System was established the number and type of conditions of membership have varied from time to time. Practically all State member banks, however, are subject to present standard conditions of membership numbered 1 and 2, which have been prescribed since January 1, 1936, or to conditions prescribed in earlier years which contain provisions comparable in whole or in part. The Board's program contemplates the retention of these conditions, conditions prohibiting or restricting the exercise of unusual powers which banks apparently had under their charters or applicable State laws when admitted to membership, and only such other conditions as appear desirable in the light of the facts of particular cases. As a result there will be a much greater uniformity and simplicity in the conditions of membership applicable to State member banks, regardless of the dates of admission to membership.

The program does not reflect any lowering of the standards expected of State member banks and the cancellation of a condition of membership is not to be construed as indicative of any change in the Board's views as to the desirability or undesirability of the practice to which the former condition referred. For correction of unsound policies and practices with respect to matters previously covered by specific conditions of membership, reliance will be placed upon the regular examination and supervisory

procedures and the general conditions of membership.

The program is one of cancellation only. No conditions have been added, and no provisions have been expanded or reworded. The Federal Reserve Banks have been requested to advise each member bank of any cancellation and, for the convenience of the member bank, to furnish it with a copy of the conditions or portions thereof which continue in effect.

August 12, 1948

Changes in Rates on Discounts and Advances to Member Banks under Sections 13, 13(a), and 10(b) of the Federal Reserve Act; on Advances to Individuals, Partnerships, and Corporations other than Member Banks under the Last Paragraph of Section 13; and in Minimum Buying Rates on Bankers' Acceptances.

The Board approved for the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, New York, Cleveland, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, Minneapolis, Dallas, and San Francisco, effective August 13, 1948, a rate of 1½ per cent on discounts and advances under Sections 13 and 13(a) except advances to individuals, partnerships, and corporations other than member banks under the last paragraph of Section 13; and a rate of 2 per cent on advances under Section 10(b).

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

Pursuant to the policy established by the foregoing action, the Board subsequently approved the rates mentioned above for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia effective August 23; for the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis effective August 19; and for the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City effective August 16.

Also on August 12, to be effective August 13, the Board approved, by the same votes, for the Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, New York, Richmond, Atlanta, Chicago, and Dallas a minimum buying rate of 1½ per cent on bankers' acceptances, and subsequently approved the same rate for the following Federal Reserve Banks, effective on the dates indicated:

Philadelphia
ClevelandAugust 30, 1948
St. Louis
Minneapolis
Kansas CityAugust 16, 1948
San Francisco

In furtherance of conformity with the above rates, the Board approved a rate of 23/4 per cent for advances under the last paragraph of Section 13, on August 12 for the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago effective August 13, and on August 20 for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis effective August 23.

While other changes, of a minor nature, were made at some of the Federal Reserve Banks in rates on advances to individuals, partnerships, and corporations other than member banks under the last paragraph of Section 13 and in various rates under Section 13b, the new rates were within the limits of rates previously established at other Federal Reserve Banks.

These rates were approved for substantially the same reasons as prompted similar action of the Board on January 9, 1948, and to maintain the desired relation of the discount rates of the Federal Reserve Banks with the issuing rate on Treasury certificates which the Secretary of the Treasury had announced would be increased to 1½ per cent in connection with the refunding of certificates and notes maturing on October 1, 1948.

August 17, 1948

Adoption in Revised Form of Regulation W, Consumer Instalment Credit.

Mr. Evans moved that in the revised Regulation W to be issued by the Board, the down payment requirement for automobiles be fixed at 33½ per cent with 20 per cent for all other items covered by the regulation; and that for credits not exceeding \$1,000, the maximum maturity be fixed at 15 months, and for credits in excess of \$1,000, the maximum maturity be fixed at 18 months, except that the monthly payments on credits of more than \$1,000 be not less than \$70.

Mr. Vardaman moved to amend Mr. Evans' motion to provide for a down payment of 20 per cent for furniture and 33½ per cent for all other items, and a maximum maturity of 15 months for all credits.

Mr. Vardaman's motion was put by the Chair and lost, Messrs. Eccles and Vardaman voting "aye," and Messrs. Szymczak, Draper, Evans, and Clayton voting "no."

Mr. Clayton then moved that Mr. Evans' motion be amended to provide for a down payment of 20 per cent for furniture and 33½ per cent for all other items, and a maximum maturity of 18 months for all credits.

Mr. Clayton's motion was put by the Chair and lost, Mr. Clayton voting "aye," and Messrs. Eccles, Szymzak, Draper, Evans, and Vardaman voting "no."

Mr. Evans' original motion was then put by the Chair and carried.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

Thereupon, by the same votes, the Board adopted Regulation W in the revised form provided in Mr. Evans' motion, to become effective September 20, 1948, under the authority of Public Law 905 (S.J. Res. 157), approved August 16, 1948, authorizing the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to exercise consumer instalment credit controls until June 30, 1949.

The majority of the Board disapproved Mr. Vardaman's and Mr. Clayton's motions because it was felt that a down payment of 33½ per cent for any items other than automobiles and a return to the over-all maturity of 15 months prescribed by the old regulation which expired November 1, 1947 would provide a more restrictive change from terms currently being offered than would be suitable in the existing situation, and that an over-all maturity of 18 months would not provide sufficient restraint.

With the exception of down payments and maturities, the regulation was in substantially the same form as Regulation W which expired on November 1, 1947. A fundamental purpose of the revised Regulation W was to restrain the expansion of consumer instalment credit. From the end of 1945 to the end of June 1948, such credit had been growing rapidly at a rate of about 2 billion dollars a year, and this credit growth materially contributed to inflationary pressures in markets for consumer and other goods. Since the November 1, 1947 expiration of the old regulation, terms offered by merchants and lenders in the consumer instalment credit field had been relaxed considerably. The requirements of the regulation issued effective September 20, 1948, were somewhat less restrictive than those in effect at the expiration of the old regulation, but somewhat tighter than terms generally in effect before September 20, 1948.

SEPTEMBER 8, 1948

Increase in Reserve Requirements of Member Banks and Amendment to Regulation D, Reserves of Member Banks.

The supplement to Regulation D, Reserves of Member Banks, was amended to increase member bank reserve requirements 2 percentage points against net demand deposits and 1½ percentage points against time deposits, effective September 16, 1948, at banks in non-reserve cities and September 24, 1948, at other banks, except that as to member banks in outlying sections of reserve and central reserve cities which have been authorized to maintain the same reserves as banks in non-reserve cities, the amendment was to be effective September 16, 1948. Regulation D was also amended in certain minor respects to conform to required changes in the law.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

This action, like the two previous actions in 1948, was taken in an inflationary period as a part of the program of the Federal Reserve System to restrain the inflationary expansion of bank credit, and to that end utilized additional authority granted the Board by the Congress at the special session in August. It placed reserve requirements on time deposits at the maximum authorized by the Congress and requirements on net demand deposits at 2 percentage points less than the maximum at reserve and non-reserve city banks and at 4 percentage points less than the maximum at central reserve city banks.

OCTOBER 27, 1948

Amendment to Regulation W, Consumer Instalment Credit.

Effective November 1, 1948, subsection 6(g) of Regulation W was amended to permit the delivery of a listed article (other than an automobile) exclusively for the purpose of a bona fide trial, approval, or demonstration without a deposit equal to the required down payment, provided that certain specified conditions were followed and that within 10 days after such delivery the required down payment or the return of the article was obtained.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Draper, and Evans. Votes against this action: none.

The amendment was designed to reduce certain technical difficulties experienced by instalment dealers subject to the regulation, and was not intended to result in any relaxing of the credit restrictions. It had been the custom for some dealers to deliver appliances and other articles subject to the customer's approval or for demonstration purposes. When such deliveries were made in anticipation of an instalment sale, the regulation previously had required a down payment at or before the time of delivery. The amendment provided that if certain specified conditions were followed, the seller might allow a trial period of not more than 10 days without previously obtaining the down payment.

November 24, 1948

Amendment to Regulation J, Check Clearing and Collection.

Regulation J, Check Clearing and Collection, was amended effective January 1, 1949, to authorize a procedure for the conditional payment of cash items presented by Federal Reserve Banks subject to the right of drawee banks to return unpaid items for credit or refund on the next business day following their receipt by the drawee.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, Vardaman, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

The reasons for this action are set forth in the following statement released in the morning papers of November 26, 1948:

Several months ago, the American Bankers Association recommended that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System amend its Regulation J, relating to the clearing and collection of checks by Federal Reserve Banks, in order to authorize a procedure for the conditional

payment of cash items presented by Federal Reserve Banks subject to the right of a drawee bank to return unpaid items for credit or refund on the next business day after their receipt by the drawee. The recommendation was made in the light of the fact that in recent years many banks have adopted the practice of "delayed posting" which involves a procedure of this kind with respect to the return of unpaid items and that the practice has been recognized by the enactment of statutes in a number of States and by rules adopted by numerous clearing house associations.

On April 16, 1948, the Board of Governors published in the Federal Register a preliminary notice of proposed amendments to its Regulation J to give effect to the procedure recommended by the American Bankers Association; and at that time a statement with respect to the proposed changes was sent by the Federal Reserve Banks to their member banks for their information.

The Board has now adopted the amendments to Regulation J, to become effective January 1, 1949, in the form in which they were previously published in the Federal Register (except for a change in the footnote and one other minor change). These amendments are being published in the Federal Register on or about November 30, 1948. It is contemplated that the Federal Reserve Banks will amend their operating circulars or letters relating to the collection of cash items to conform to the amendments to the Regulation. In effect, the amendments to the Regulation and to the operating circulars or letters of the Federal Reserve Banks authorize the Federal Reserve Banks to accept, as conditional, payment for checks and other cash items made on the day such items are received by a drawee bank and to permit the drawee bank to return items as unpaid, for credit or refund, at any time up to midnight of the drawee's next business day following receipt of and remittance for such items.

It should be noted that adoption of these amendments does not mean that any bank is required to follow the practice of delaying the return of unpaid cash items; and any bank may continue to return unpaid cash items with its remittance on the day of receipt.

It is also to be noted that the procedure provided for in these amendments for the return of unpaid items on the day after presentment and remittance applies only to checks and other items handled by the Reserve Banks as "cash items" and does not apply to items handled by them as "noncash items" under the Board's Regulation G.

In May 1948 the American Bankers Association transmitted to banks which are members of the Association a suggested form of collection agreement with depositors, for use by banks on deposit tickets, signature cards, and the like, in order that the banks may be afforded adequate protection with respect to the collection of items in accordance with such conditional payment procedure. The Association has also drafted a model statute authorizing a procedure of this kind and has informed the Board of Governors that it will send a copy of the proposed statute, together with an explanatory statement, to the State Bankers Association of each State, urging its adoption.

DECEMBER 17, 1948

Amendment to Regulation W, Consumer Instalment Credit.

Effective January 1, 1949, Regulation W, Consumer Instalment Credit, was amended to release from the scope of the regulation articles selling for \$50 or more only because of the inclusion of applicable sales taxes in the price of the article to the purchaser.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Eccles, Szymczak, Draper, Evans, and Clayton. Votes against this action: none.

In communities and regions which had sales taxes, the effect of adding the tax to prices just under \$50 was to raise the price of some articles above the \$50 level at which Regulation W became applicable. The Board's view was that such situations called for a technical exception, and the amendment was adopted to reduce operating difficulties in the trade, particularly for those merchants serving areas which include some localities with sales taxes and others without them.

RECORD OF POLICY ACTIONS FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE

March 1, 1948

(A meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee—the last before the members of the Committee took office who were elected as representatives of the Federal Reserve Banks for terms of one year beginning March 1, 1948 was held on February 27, 1948, for the purpose of ratifying actions which had been taken under existing policies and of discussing developments in the monetary and credit situation. At that meeting no policy actions were taken.)

1. Authority to Effect Transactions in System Account.

The following direction to the executive committee was approved:

The executive committee is directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for such transactions for the System open market account, either in the open market or directly with the Treasury (including purchases, sales, exchanges, replacement of maturing securities, and letting maturities run off without replacement), as may be necessary, in the light of the general credit situation of the country, for the practical administration of the account, for the maintenance of stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market, and for the purpose of relating the supply of funds in the market to the needs of commerce and business; provided that the aggregate amount of securities held in the account at the close of this date other than special short-term certificates of indebtedness purchased from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury shall not be increased or decreased by more than 3 billion dollars.

The executive committee is further directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for the purchase for the System open market account direct from the Treasury of such amounts of special short-term certificates of indebtedness as may be necessary from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury; provided that the total amount of such certificates held in the account at

any one time shall not exceed 1.5 billion dollars.

Votes for this action: Messrs. Eccles, Sproul, Clayton, Draper, Evans, Gilbert, Leedy, Szymczak, Vardaman, Williams, and Young. Votes against this action: none.

During February a very sharp decline occurred in prices of farm products and foods which served to weaken somewhat the pressure on the general price level. Although the future trend was not clear when this meeting was held it appeared that the underlying economic conditions would foster further upward price movements and that the situation would continue to be fundamentally an inflationary one. The volume of capital expenditures and consumer buying which characterized 1947 had continued into 1948 and the demand for funds was reflected in part in very large sales of Treasury bonds to the System account and in further increases in bank loans. For reasons Digitized foutlined in the Annual Report of the Board of Governors for the year 1948, of which this record is a part, these movements, together with an inflow of gold and a return flow of currency, were adding to the inflationary pressures in the economy. In the period December 9, 1947 to February 28, 1948, inclusive, total securities in the System account declined by approximately 900 million dollars. However, the composition of the account changed very materially, Treasury bill holdings having been reduced by about 3 billion dollars and certificates by about 2.9 billion, while note holdings increased nearly 300 million and bonds 4.5 billion.

Since the meeting of the Committee on December 9, 1947, the policy of combating inflation had been further implemented by additional retirements of maturing Government debt, a downward revision on December 24, 1947, of the prices at which the System would purchase Treasury bonds in the market in carrying out the policy of maintaining the long-term issuing rate on Government securities, an increase in the issuing rate of one-year Treasury certificates from 1 to 1½ per cent followed by an increase in January in the discount rates of the Federal Reserve Banks from 1 to 1¼ per cent, and an increase in February in reserve requirements of central reserve city banks from 20 to 22 per cent of net demand deposits.

Discussions with the Treasury had continued during the period and the representatives of the Federal Open Market Committee had expressed the opinion that Federal Reserve credit and Treasury debt management policies during the immediate future or until conditions changed should be determined with a view to exercising continuing restraint upon the expansion of bank credit. It was also suggested that the existence of a large Treasury surplus during the first quarter of the year would be the principal weapon available in the credit field for combating inflation, that retirement of Government securities held by the Federal Reserve Banks should be continued as long as surplus funds were available and that funds of the Treasury held in war loan accounts should be withdrawn at such times as would aid in carrying out the policy of keeping bank reserves under pressure. A further proposal was that at the proper time it would be desirable for the rate on one-year Treasury certificates to rise to 11/4 per cent with a further increase in the discount rates of the Federal Reserve Banks. There was also discussion of the desirability of channeling withheld tax payments through war loan accounts and of the issuance of a new series of savings notes the yields on which would be more in line with existing short-term rates.

The approval of the direction adopted at this meeting, which was in substantially the same form as the direction issued at the meeting on December 9, 1947, continued the existing open market policy of the Committee which, as part of the program outlined above, was for the purpose of keeping pressure on the market and thereby restraining the expansion of bank credit while at the same time continuing the policy of supporting the long-term rate on Government bonds.

May 20, 1948

1. Authority to Effect Transactions in System Account.

The following direction to the executive committee was approved:

The executive committee is directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for such transactions for the System open market account, either in the open market or directly

with the Treasury (including purchases, sales, exchanges, replacement of maturing securities, and letting maturities run off without replacement), as may be necessary, in the light of the general credit situation of the country, for the practical administration of the account, for the maintenance of stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market, and for the purpose of relating the supply of funds in the market to the needs of commerce and business; provided that the aggregate amount of securities held in the account at the close of this date other than special short-term certificates of indebtedness purchased from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury shall not be increased or decreased by more than 1.5 billion dollars.

The executive committee is further directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for the purchase for the System open market account direct from the Treasury of such amounts of special short-term certificates of indebtedness as may be necessary from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury; provided that the total amount of such certificates held in the account at any one time shall not exceed 1.5 billion dollars.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Sproul, Clayton, Draper, Eccles, Evans, Gilbert, Leedy, Szymczak, Williams, and Young. Votes against this action: none.

Although important changes in the economic situation had occurred since the previous meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, they did not change the fundamentally inflationary situation with which the Committee had to deal. It was the view of the Committee, therefore, that its existing anti-inflationary policy of keeping pressure on the money market for the purpose of restraining the expansion of bank reserves should be continued and the above direction was issued for that purpose. In taking this action it was understood that discussions with the Treasury of credit and debt management policies would be continued with a view to a further increase in the short-term rate to be followed at the appropriate time by an increase in the discount rates at the Federal Reserve Banks and in reserve requirements of banks in central reserve cities.

The direction was in the same form as the direction issued at the meeting of the Committee on March 1, 1948, except that the limitation contained in the first paragraph on the amount by which the securities in the account could be increased or decreased was reduced from 3 billion dollars to 1.5 billion. The reduction was made because it was felt that the factors affecting the Government securities market and the changes in the System account that would be required to carry out System policies in the interim before another meeting of the Committee would not call for a larger authority.

October 4, 1948

1. Increase in the Authority to Effect Transactions in System Account.

The actions of the members of the Federal Open Market Committee on August 11 and September 24, 1948, increasing from 1.5 billion dollars to 3 billion and from 3 billion to 4 billion, respectively, the limitations on the authority of the executive committee with respect to increases or decreases in the total amount of securities in the System account, as contained in the first paragraph of the direction issued at the meeting of

the Federal Open Market Committee on May 20, 1948, were approved, ratified, and confirmed.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Sproul, Clayton, Draper, Eccles, Evans, Gilbert, Leedy, Szymczak, Williams, and Young. Votes against this action: none.

Following the previous meeting of the Committee pressure on the market for restricted Treasury bonds developed to an unexpected extent and during the latter part of the period the pressure on bank eligible bonds again increased. By August 11 Treasury bonds held in the System account had increased from 6.3 billion dollars on May 19 to 7.2 billion and by September 24 these holdings had grown to about 9 billion. Holdings of certificates had also increased. It appeared at the time the actions of the members of the Committee were taken that pressure on the bond market would continue for a further period and the increased authorities were approved in order that the executive committee might carry out the policy of supporting the long-term rate on Treasury bonds and maintaining stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market.

2. Authority to Effect Transactions in System Account.

The following direction to the executive committee was approved:

The executive committee is directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for such transactions for the System open market account, either in the open market or directly with the Treasury (including purchases, sales, exchanges, replacement of maturing securities, and letting maturities run off without replacement), as may be necessary, in the light of the general credit situation of the country, for the practical administration of the account, for the maintenance of stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market, and for the purpose of relating the supply of funds in the market to the needs of commerce and business; provided that the aggregate amount of securities held in the account at the close of this date other than special short-term certificates of indebtedness purchased from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury shall not be increased or decreased by more than 2 billion dollars.

The executive committee is further directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for the purchase for the System open market account direct from the Treasury of such amounts of special short-term certificates of indebtedness as may be necessary from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury; provided that the total amount of such certificates held in the account at any one time shall not exceed 1.5 billion dollars.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Sproul, Clayton, Draper, Eccles, Evans, Gilbert, Leedy, Szymczak, Williams, and Young. Votes against this action: none.

When this meeting of the Committee was held the inflationary elements in the economy continued strong and an appraisal of the situation appeared to justify the conclusion that the prospects for the rest of 1948 were clearly expansionary and that a downturn was not to be expected even if some of the "soft spots" in the economy should spread. Discussion by members of

the executive committee and by representatives of the full Committee with representatives of the Treasury had continued since the previous meeting of the Committee and several actions had been taken to carry out the anti-inflationary program of keeping the reserve position of banks under pressure and discouraging further inflationary credit expansion.

Effective June 11, 1948, the Board of Governors increased reserve requirements on demand deposits of member banks in central reserve cities by 2 percentage points and following the granting of increased authority at the special session of Congress in August reserve requirements of all member banks were increased by 2 percentage points on demand deposits and 1½ percentage points on time deposits, effective September 16 for non-reserve city banks and September 24 for reserve and central reserve city banks. On August 9 the Treasury announced that the certificates and notes maturing on October I would be refunded into I¹/₄ per cent certificates. This announcement was followed by an adjustment in short-term rates to bring them in line with the 11/4 per cent rate and by an increase in the discount rates at all Federal Reserve Banks from 11/4 per cent to 11/2 per cent. On August 18 the Treasury announced a new issue of savings notes, Series D, with a higher scale of interest rates than the previous issue. On August 19 the Board of Governors announced the reissuance of its regulation on consumer instalment credit under authority granted by the special session of the Congress. During the period the Treasury continued to manage its balances with the Federal Reserve Banks and in war loan accounts so as to further the policy of keeping pressure on bank reserves and to utilize available balances to retire maturing debt. To the extent possible, the effects on bank reserves of securities purchased for the System account in carrying out the policy of supporting the long-term rate on Treasury bonds and maintaining stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market had been offset by the sale of Treasury bills from the System account.

The above direction was adopted so that the management of the System open market account could be continued as a part of the anti-inflationary program to the fullest extent possible consistent with the policy of supporting the Government bond market and maintaining stable and orderly conditions in that market.

It was the opinion of the Committee at this meeting that other steps that might be taken to carry out the program would include (I) a further increase in short-term rates with corresponding increases in the bill rate with a view to bringing about greater flexibility in the bill market and increasing the holdings of bills outside the Federal Reserve Banks, (2) a further increase in the discount rates at the Federal Reserve Banks to follow the increase in short-term rates, (3) the continued retirement of Government debt to the extent permitted by Treasury balances, (4) the continued timing of calls on war loan accounts to exert some drain on bank reserves, and (5) continued study of the situation for the purpose of determining what, if any, action should be taken further to increase member bank reserve requirements.

The limitation of 2 billion dollars contained in the first paragraph of the direction set forth above represented an increase of 500 million over the limitation in the direction issued at the meeting on May 20, 1948. The limitation was fixed at that amount for the reason that it appeared that over the next month or more a very substantial amount of securities would have to be purchased in carrying out the policy of supporting the long-term rate on Government bonds.

November 30, 1948

(A meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee was held on November 15, 1948, to consider monetary and credit and debt management problems but no policy actions were taken at that time.)

1. Authority to Effect Transactions in System Account.

The following direction to the executive committee was approved:

The executive committee is directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for such transactions for the System open market account, either in the open market or directly with the Treasury (including purchases, sales, exchanges, replacement of maturing securities, and letting maturities run off without replacement), as may be necessary, in the light of the general credit situation of the country, for the practical administration of the account, for the maintenance of stable and orderly conditions in the Government security market, and for the purpose of relating the supply of funds in the market to the needs of commerce and business; provided that the aggregate amount of securities held in the account at the close of this date other than special short-term certificates of indebtedness purchased from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury shall not be increased or decreased by more than 2 billion dollars.

The executive committee is further directed, until otherwise directed by the Federal Open Market Committee, to arrange for the purchase for the System open market account direct from the Treasury of such amounts of special short-term certificates of indebtedness as may be necessary from time to time for the temporary accommodation of the Treasury; provided that the total amount of such certificates held in the account at any one time shall not exceed 1.5 billion dollars.

Votes for this action: Messrs. McCabe, Clayton, Draper, Eccles, Evans, Gilbert, Leedy, Szymczak, Vardaman, Williams, Young, and Rounds (alternate for Mr. Sproul). Votes against this action: none.

When this meeting was held the situation had again changed considerably. Pressure on the long-term Government bond market, which had continued through the early part of November, had subsequently eased. The economy continued to operate at a high level but the outlook for total expenditures was obscure because increases were expected in Governmental expenditures while reductions might occur in consumer and business demands. Various alternative actions that might be taken by the Committee were considered, and it was agreed that the above direction, which was in the same form as the direction issued at the meeting on October 4, 1948, should be adopted to enable the System to continue to cope with conditions as they developed.

ACTION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON BANK HOLDING COMPANY LEGISLATION

SEPTEMBER 21, 1948

In connection with proposed bank holding company legislation, the Council adopted the following resolution on May 20, 1947:

RESOLUTION

The Council for the past few years has at almost every meeting discussed the holding company situation, the inadequacies of existing legislation, and proposals for additional legislation in connection with it.

(1) The Council believes that holding company legislation should be enacted at this time. Experience has shown that the present legislation is inadequate and that additional legislation is urgently necessary.

(2) It approves the general approach to the holding company problem

embodied in Senate Bill 829.

(3) It believes Senate Bill 829 should be amended—

(a) By adding to the declaration of policy and the standards for Federal Reserve Board, Comptroller of the Currency, and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation action a more definite statement of objectives and standards. (A memorandum is attached which was the subject of discussion between the Board of Governors and the Federal Advisory Council which indicates the type of amendments in this regard which the Council believes necessary.) [The memorandum follows below.]

(b) By granting tax exemption to such holding companies as are required to divest themselves of nonbanking assets. Simple justice requires that such tax exemption should be granted, and a precedent

exists for it in the utility holding company legislation.

(c) By requiring a larger percentage than 10 per cent of the ownership of stock in two or more banks in order to create an automatic

holding company relationship.

(d) By providing that incidental ownership of bank stocks in fiduciary capacities such as executor, trustee under a will, etc., should not create an automatic holding company relationship.

The Council urges the Board to submit amendments in accordance with these suggestions and to press for the enactment of the bill as so amended.

MEMORANDUM

SUBMITTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION

I. To reach and regulate any banking operation which, functioning in an area or with a structure larger than that permitted to independent banks, can Digitized for Rose through the medium of concentrated control, jeopardize independent http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/

competitive banking at local or regional levels or place independent banks under the particular circumstances at a competitive disadvantage;

2. To confine the size and expanse of any such banking operation, regardless of its competitive or other aspects, within limits consistent with adequate

and sound banking; and

3. To control the magnitude and expanse of any such banking operation, regardless of all other considerations, to the end that, in the event of adverse general economic conditions, such an operation will not be subjected to any inordinate pressure arising from unwieldiness due solely to mere size and expanse which, in turn, may put an inordinate pressure on the nation's banking structure.

On February 17, 1948, the Council adopted the following resolution regarding bank holding company legislation:

RESOLUTION

The Federal Advisory Council has approved by resolution Bank Holding Company legislation. It believes that Senate Bill No. 829 with the amendments suggested by the Council in its resolution of May 20, 1947 should be passed by this session of the Congress and that action by the Congress should not be delayed.

The Federal Advisory Council urges the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to use its best efforts to secure the passage of the bill, with the amendments suggested by the Council and asks that this resolution be transmitted to the members of the Senate and House Banking and Currency Committees.

* * * * *

The Council reaffirms the position it took on bank holding company legislation as expressed in the above resolutions, and favors the enactment of such legislation at the next session of the Congress.

MEMORANDUM OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CREDIT CONDITIONS, NOVEMBER 22, 1948

The unforeseen outcome of the election has brought at least a temporary reluctance on the part of business concerns in some sections of the country to promote further capital expansion programs. This hesitation to proceed with business plans will probably continue until the Administration program relating to taxes, labor legislation, and other measures concerning business has been announced and the attitude of the new Congress can be appraised. The election has also affected the security markets. The Government bond market has been stronger, partly because of the feeling that the Administration will maintain the present support policy for Government securities, and partly because of the feeling that it is likely the volume of new corporate securities offered will be less because of the cancellation or postponement of expansion plans and that a Government bond yielding 2½ per cent may be an attractive investment in comparison with the probable yield on the reduced supply of high-grade corporates.

The members of the Council do not now find any clear and uniform economic trend evident throughout the twelve Federal Reserve districts. The Council, therefore, believes that until the trend following the election becomes much clearer, it would not be advisable "to rock the economic boat." Specifically, the Council believes it would not be desirable under present circumstances to change (1) the reserve requirements, (2) the rediscount rate, or (3) the support policy for Government securities.

The Council further believes that increasing bank reserves is not the proper method of dealing with the problem of inflation. One of the results of an increase in bank reserves under current conditions is the transfer of Government securities from banks to the Federal Reserve System, thereby largely nullifying any possible benefits from increasing the reserves and making the problem of debt management by the Treasury more difficult. An increase in member bank reserves not only makes membership in the System less desirable, but it also affects the earnings of some banks adversely. The over-all earnings of banks may be satisfactory, but the arbitrary character of an increase in reserves in all banks affects the earnings of individual banks unfairly.

The repeated emphasis on bank deposits and on the banks as a major factor in causing inflation gives the public an erroneous impression of the principal reasons for the current inflation, which are to be found in the great expansion in the production of durable goods including housing and in large expenditures for defense, foreign aid, and veterans' assistance. Attempts to control through monetary policy an inflation which has resulted from conditions largely outside the banking system are certain to be unsuccessful.

The Council appreciates that members of the Board have on some occasions called attention publicly to those factors outside the banking system which are principally responsible for the inflation. If these facts could be re-emphasized whenever the occasion permits, it would be very helpful to a better Digitized in public sunderstanding of the situation.

With the conditions now prevailing, any proposals to increase reserves under the present authority, to request additional authority to impose still higher reserves, or to seek authority for special reserves for banks would in view of the foregoing comments be opposed by the Council, and by bankers

generally, as detrimental to the best interests of the economy.

The Council believes it would be helpful if a comprehensive study could be made of the whole question of bank reserves, including such subjects as the purposes bank reserves serve, whether authority to vary reserves should be granted or whether they should be fixed definitely by legislation, and the proper relationship of reserves to the various classes of deposits, and to the size and location of banks. This study might be undertaken by a committee including representatives of the banking agencies of the Federal Government, the banking departments of the State governments and the banks. An objective and exhaustive study in this field would be a useful guide to ultimate legislation.

In relation to the matter of interest rates on Government securities, the Council has at other times stated that under present conditions it would be beneficial to our economy to have a modest rise in short-term rates. Even a small increase in these rates is helpful in reducing the demand for credit by making both borrowers and bankers aware of the dangers in the present situation. The timing of any increase in such rates should be a matter of

agreement between the Board of Governors and the Treasury.

* * * * *

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

[December 31, 1948]	
	Term Expires
THOMAS B. McCabe, of Pennsylvania, Chairman	January 31, 1956
MARRINER S. Eccles, of Utah	January 31, 1958
M. S. SZYMCZAK, of Illinois	January 31, 1962
Ernest G. Draper, of Connecticut	January 31, 1950
R. M. Evans, of Virginia	January 31, 1954
JAMES K. VARDAMAN, Jr., of Missouri	January 31, 1960
LAWRENCE CLAYTON, of Massachusetts	January 31, 1952

ELLIOTT THURSTON, Assistant to the Board CHESTER MORRILL, Special Adviser to the Board WINFIELD W. RIEFLER, Assistant to the Chairman S. R. CARPENTER, Secretary

BRAY HAMMOND, Assistant Secretary MERRITT SHERMAN, Assistant Secretary

GEORGE B. VEST, General Counsel FREDERIC SOLOMON, Assistant General Counsel JOHN C. BAUMANN, Assistant General Counsel
J. LEONARD TOWNSEND, Solicitor

WOODLIEF THOMAS, Director, Division of Research and Statistics

RALPH A. YOUNG, Associate Director, Division of Research and Statistics FRANK A. SOUTHARD, JR., Associate Director, Division of Research and Statistics

EDWIN R. MILLARD, Director, Division of Examinations

GEORGE S. SLOAN, Assistant Director, Division of Examinations C. C. HOSTRUP, Assistant Director, Division of Examinations

EDWARD L. SMEAD, Director, Division of Bank Operations ROBERT F. LEONARD, Associate Director, Division of Bank Operations

J. R. VAN FOSSEN, Assistant Director, Division of Bank Operations J. E. HORBETT, Assistant Director, Division of Bank Operations

LOWELL MYRICK, Assistant Director, Division of Bank Operations FRED A. NELSON, Director, Division of Personnel Administration

LISTON P. BETHEA, Director, Division of Administrative Services

GARDNER L. BOOTHE, II, Assistant Director, Division of Administrative Services

FEDERAL OPEN MARKET COMMITTEE

[December 31, 1948] **MEMBERS**

THOMAS B. McCABE, Chairman (Board of Governors)

ALLAN SPROUL, Vice Chairman (Elected by Federal Reserve Bank of New York)
LAWRENCE CLAYTON (Board of Governors)
ERNEST G. DRAPER (Board of Governors)

MARRINER S. ECCLES (Board of Governors)
R. M. Evans (Board of Governors)

R. R. GILBERT (Elected by Federal Reserve Banks of Atlanta, St. Louis, and Dallas)

H. G. LEEDY (Elected by Federal Reserve Banks of Minneapolis, Kansas City, and San Francisco)

M. S. SZYMCZAK (Board of Governors)

JAMES K. VARDAMAN, JR. (Board of Governors)

ALFRED H. WILLIAMS (Elected by Federal Reserve Banks of Boston, Philadelphia, and

C. S. Young (Elected by Federal Reserve Banks of Cleveland and Chicago)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THOMAS B. McCABE, Chairman

ALLAN SPROUL, Vice Chairman MARRINER S. ECCLES M. S. SZYMCZAK ALFRED H. WILLIAMS

AGENT

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK ROBERT G. ROUSE, Manager of System Digitized for Frogram Market Account http://fraser.stlouisfed.org/

OFFICERS CHESTER MORRILL, Secretary S. R. CARPENTER, Assistant Secretary GEORGE B. VEST, General Counsel J. LEONARD TOWNSEND, Assistant General Counsel

Woodlief Thomas, Economist KARL R. BOPP, Associate Economist WATROUS H. IRONS, Associate Economist JOHN K. LANGUM, Associate Economist T. BRUCE ROBB, Associate Economist JOHN H. WILLIAMS, Associate Economist

FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

[December 31, 1948]

WEMBERS

- District No. 1—CHARLES E. SPENCER, JR., Chairman, The First National Bank of Boston, Boston, Massachusetts.
- District No. 2—W. RANDOLPH BURGESS, Chairman, Executive Committee, The National City Bank of New York, New York, New York.
- District No. 3—DAVID E. WILLIAMS, President, Corn Exchange National Bank and Trust Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- District No. 4—JOHN H. McCoy, President, The City National Bank and Trust Company of Columbus, Columbus, Ohio.
- District No. 5-ROBERT V. FLEMING, President, The Riggs National Bank, Washington, District of Columbia.
- District No. 6—J. T. Brown, President, The Capital National Bank of Jackson, Jackson, Mississippi.
- District No. 7—EDWARD E. BROWN, Chairman, The First National Bank of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.
- District No. 8—JAMES H. PENICK, President, Worthen Bank and Trust Company, Little Rock, Arkansas.
- District No. 9—HENRY E. ATWOOD, President, First National Bank of Minneapolis, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
- District No. 10—JAMES M. KEMPER, Chairman, Commerce Trust Company, Kansas City, Missouri.
- District No. 11-J. E. Woods, Chairman, Temple National Bank, Temple, Texas.
- District No. 12—RENO ODLIN, President, Puget Sound National Bank of Tacoma, Tacoma, Washington.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

EDWARD E. BROWN, ex officio W. RANDOLPH BURGESS JOHN H. MCCOY CHARLES E. SPENCER, JR., ex officio DAVID E. WILLIAMS ROBERT V. FLEMING, ex officio

OFFICERS

President, EDWARD E. BROWN Second Vice President, ROBERT V. FLEMING First Vice President, CHARLES E. SPENCER, JR. Secretary, HERBERT V. PROCHNOW

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

[December 31, 1948]

CHAIRMEN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMEN OF BOARDS OF DIRECTORS

Federal Reserve Bank of-	Chairman and Federal Reserve Agent	Deputy Chairman
Boston	Albert M. Creighton	Harold D. Hodgkinson
New York	Robert T. Stevens	William I. Myers
Philadelphia	Vacancy	Warren F. Whittier
Cleveland	George C. Brainard	Reynold E. Klages
Richmond	W. G. Wysor	Charles P. McCormick
Atlanta	Frank H. Neely	J. F. Porter
Chicago	Clarence W. Avery	Paul G. Hoffman
St. Louis	Russell L. Dearmont	Wm. H. Bryce
Minneapolis	Roger B. Shepard	W. D. Cochran
Kansas City	Robert B. Caldwell	Robert L. Mehornay
Dallas	J. R. Parten	R. B. Anderson
San Francisco	Brayton Wilbur	Harry R. Wellman

CONFERENCE OF CHAIRMEN

The Chairmen of the Federal Reserve Banks are organized into a Conference of Chairmen which meets from time to time to consider matters of common interest, and to consult with and advise the Board of Governors.

Mr. Shepard, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, served as Chairman of the Conference and as Chairman of the Executive Committee until December. The other members of the Executive Committee were Mr. Avery, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and Mr. Dearmont, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis.

At the meeting of the Conference on December 10, Mr. Dearmont was elected Chairman of the Conference and Chairman of the Executive Committee. The other members of the Executive Committee elected at that time were Mr. Wilbur, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, and Mr. Stevens, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

DIRECTORS

Class A and Class B directors are elected by the member banks of the district. Class C directors are appointed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The Class A directors are chosen as representatives of the member banks and, as a matter of practice, are active officers of member banks. The Class B directors may not, under the law, be officers, directors, or employees of banks. At the time of their election they must be actively engaged in their district in commerce, agriculture, or some other industrial pursuit.

The Class C directors may not, under the law, be officers, directors, employees, or stockholders of banks. They are appointed by the Board of Governors as representatives

not of any particular group or interest, but of the public interest as a whole.

Federal Reserve Bank branches have either five or seven directors, of whom a majority are appointed by the Board of Directors of the parent Federal Reserve Bank and the others are appointed by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

District No. 1—Boston				
	Term Expires Dec. 31			
Class A: Leon A. Dodge	1048			
Class B: Frederick S. Blackall, jr President and Treasurer, The Taft-Peirce Manufacturin Company, Woonsocket, R. I	. 1948 . 1949			
Class C: Ames Stevens	i. 1, 1949			
District No. 2-New York				
Class A: Howard A. Wilson Fresident, Citizens National Bank and Trust Company of Fulton, Fulton, N. Y Winthrop W. Aldrich Chairman of the Board, The Chase National Bank of the City of New York, New York, N.Y Frederic E. Worden Chairman of the Board and President, The National Bank of Auburn, Auburn, N.Y. Class B: Carle C. Conway Chairman of the Board, Continental Can Company, Inc. New York, N. Y Chairman of the Board, Johns-Manville Corporation New York, N.Y Charles E. Adams Chairman of the Board, Air Reduction Company, Inc. New York, N. Y Class C: William I. Myers Dean, New York State College of Agriculture, Corne University, Ithaca, N. Y Robert D. Calkins Director and Vice President, General Education Board New York, N. Y Chairman of the Board, J. P. Stevens and Co., Inc. New York, N. Y	. 1949 . 1950 . 1948 . 1949 . 1950			
Buffalo Branch Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:				
Charles H. Diefendorf President, The Marine Trust Company of Buffalo, Buffalo, N. Y	. 1948 1- . 1949 . 1949			
Clyde C. Brown	. 1948			
Lewis B. Swift	r, . 1950			

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948—Cont. District No. 3—Philadelphia

District No. 3—Philadelphia				
	Term Expires Dec. 31			
George W. Reily	1948 1949 1950			
Albert G. Frost	1948 1949 1950			
Class C: Vacancy	. 1948 1949 1950			
District No. 4—Cleveland				
Class A: Ben R. Conner	1948 1949 1950			
Joel M. Bowlby	1948			
Pa. L. H. Lund	1950			
Class C: Reynold E. Klages	1948 1949 1950			
Cincinnati Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Neil McElroy				
Appointed by Board of Governors: Francis H. Bird	f . 1948 . 1949 . 1950			
Pittsburgh Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Archie J. McFarland	1948 f 1948 1949 , 1950			
Appointed by Board of Governors: A. H. Burchfield, Jr President and General Manager, Joseph Horne Company Pittsburgh, Pa Howard W. Jordan President, Pennsylvania Rubber Company, Jeannette, Pa Josiah M. Koch Vice President, Quaker State Oil Refining Corporation Oil City, Pa	. 1948 . 1949			

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948—Cont. District No. 5—Richmond

District No. 5—Richmond				
	Term Expires			
DIRECTORS—Cont.	Dec. 31			
Class A: James D. HarrisonPresident, First National Bank of Baltimore, Baltimore	. 1948			
Warren S. JohnsonPresident, Peoples Savings Bank and Trust Company	, 1940			
Md. Warren S. Johnson	. 1949 . 1950			
Class B:				
Charles C. Reed	. 1948 . 1949 . 1950			
Class C: W. G. Wysor	., . 1948			
Richmond, Va. Edward R. Stettinius, JrRector, University of Virginia, Rapidan, Va Charles P. McCormickPresident and Chairman of Board, McCormick & Con pany, Inc., Baltimore, Md	. 1949 1-			
Baltimore Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Holmes D. Baker President, The Citizens National Bank of Frederic	ς,			
Frederick, Md	. 1948 3,			
George M. Moore	. 1949			
Eugene G. Grady	. 1949 . 1950			
Appointed by Board of Governors:				
James E. Hooper	, . 1948			
I. Vinton Hershey President and General Manager, Hagerstown Shoe Con	1.			
pany, Hagerstown, Md	1. 1950			
Charlotte Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:				
Angus E. Bird Chairman of the Board, The Citizens & Southern Nation. Bank of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C	· 1948			
Bank of South Carolina, Columbia, S. C	ıs . 1949			
N. S. Calhoun	. 1949 . 1950			
Appointed by Board of Governors: R. Flake ShawExecutive Vice President and Secretary, North Carolin	a			
Farm Bureau Federation, Greensboro, N. C	. 1948			
S. C				
in E. Esteriori, Tresident, Ester From Stores, Inc., dicenvine, S. C	. 1930			
District No. 6—Atlanta				
Class A:				
R. C. WilliamsPresident, The First National Bank of Atlanta, Atlant	1049			
W. D. Cook Chairman of the Board, First National Bank in Mer	i- 1040			
George J. White	a.			
	. 1950			
Class B. J. A. McCrary	ur.			
Inc., Atlanta, Ga Donald ComerChairman of the Board, Avondale Mills, Birmingham, Al	. 1948			
A. B. Freeman	g			
Company, Ltd., New Orleans, La	. 1950			

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948—Cont.			
DIRECTORS—Cont.	Term Expires		
Class C:	Dec. 31		
J. F. Porter	. 1948 v . 1949		
Birmingham Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
M. B. Spragins	1010		
Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala	. 1949		
James G. Hall. Executive Vice President, The First National Bank o Birmingham, Birmingham, Ala R. L. Adams. President, Bank of York, York, Ala. W. C. Bowman Chairman of the Board, The First National Bank o Montgomery, Montgomery, Ala.	. 1949 f . 1950		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
Wm. Howard SmithPresident, McQueen-Smith Farms, Prattville, Ala Thad HoltPresident-Treasurer, Voice of Alabama, Inc., Birming	. 1948		
J. Roy FaucettFaucett Brothers, Northport, Ala	. 1949		
Jacksonville Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
Winter Garden, Winter Garden, Fla	. 1948		
Max Losner	, 1949		
H. S. Moody Executive Vice President, Manatee River Bank & Trus	t . 1 949		
J. S. Fairchild. Executive Vice President, The First National Bank of Winter Garden, Winter Garden, Fla. Max Losner. President, The First National Bank of Homestead, Fla. H. S. Moody. Executive Vice President, Manatee River Bank & Trus Company, Bradenton, Fla. J. T. Shands. President, The Atlantic National Bank of Jacksonville Jacksonville, Fla.	1950		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
J. Hillis Miller	1948		
Company, Orlando, Fla	1949		
· •	1930		
Nashville Branch Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
Edward Potter, Jr President, Commerce Union Bank, Nashville, Tenn L. R. Driver President, The First National Bank in Bristol, Bristol	1948		
Tenn. T. L. Cathey	1949 1949		
W. H. Hitchcock	1050		
Telini,	1950		
Appointed by Board of Governors:	1040		
H. C. MeachamFarmer, Franklin, Tenn	1948		
Nashville, Tenn	1949		
Tenn.	1950		
New Orleans Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
T. G. Nicholson	1948		
Tabe Lagion Proceeding National American Bank of Nov. Orleans	1949		
W. S. Johnson Executive Vice President, The First National Bank of McComb City, Miss.	1949		
T. J. EddinsPresident, Bank of Slidell, Slidell, La	1950		
Appointed by Board of Governors:	1010		
John J. Shaffer, Jr Planter, Ellendale, La	1948		
H. G. Chalkley President, Sweet Lake Land and Oil Company, Inc.,	1949		
Lake Charles La	1050		

District No. 7—Chicago Term Expires Dec. 31 DIRECTORS-Cont. Class A: 1948 1949 1950 Class B: William C. Heath. President, A. O. Smith Corporation, Milwaukee, Wis...
William J. Grede. President, Grede Foundries, Inc., Milwaukee, Wis...
Nicholas H. Noyes. Vice President in Charge of Finances, Eli Lilly and
Company, Indianapolis, Ind....... 1948 1949 1950 Class C: Clarence W. Avery......President and Chairman, The Murray Corporation of
America, Detroit, Mich.....
Paul G. Hoffman....Director, The Studebaker Corporation, South Bend, Ind.
Allan B. Kline....President, American Farm Bureau Federation, Chicago, 1948 1949 1950 Detroit Branch Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: 1948 1948 1949 Appointed by Board of Governors: Ernest Gilbert.....Farmer, Waldron, Mich......Ben R. Marsh.....Vice President and General Manager, Michigan Bell
Telephone Company, Detroit, Mich...... 1948 1949 District No. 8-St. Louis Class A: 1948 1949 1950 Class B: A. Wessel Shapleigh......President, Shapleigh Hardware Company, St. Louis, Mo. K. August Engel......President, Arkansas Democrat Company, Little Rock, Ark. Louis Ruthenburg......President and General Manager, Servel, Inc., Evans-1948 1949 ville, Ind. 1950 Class C: J. P. Redman. Farmer, Cairo, Ill...
Russell L. Dearmont. Chief Counsel for Trustee, Missouri-Pacific Lines, St.
Louis, Mo.
Wm. H. Bryce. Vice President, Dixie Wax Paper Company, Memphis,
Tenn. 1948 1949 1950 Little Rock Branch Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Chas. A. Gordon. Vice President, Simmons National Bank, Pine Bluff, Ark. Lloyd Spencer. President, First National Bank, Hope, Ark. Einmet Morris. Chairman, Worthen Bank and Trust Company, Little Rock, Ark. 1948 1948 1949 Geo. S. Neal....... President, Bank of Russellville, Russellville, Ark...... 1950 Appointed by Board of Governors: 1948 1949 Rock, Ark..... 1950

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948-Cont.			
directors—Cont.	Term Expires Dec. 31		
Louisville Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Lee L. Persise	. 1948 . 1948 . 1949 . 1950		
Appointed by Board of Governors: Geo. O. Boomer	. 1948 . 1949 . 1950		
Memphis Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Norfleet Turner	t . 1949 -		
Appointed by Board of Governors: Leslie M. Stratton, Jr Executive Vice President, Stratton-Warren Hardward Company, Memphis, Tenn	1948 1949 1950		
District No. 9—Minneapolis			
Class A: F. D. McCartney			
Class B: Ray C. Lange	1948		
Class C: Paul E. Miller Director, Agricultural Extension Division, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn	1948 1949		
Helena Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Theodore Jacobs	1948 1948 1949		
Appointed by Board of Governors: R. B. Richardson	1948 1949		
District No. 10—Kansas City			
Class A: T. A. Dines Chairman of the Board, United States National Bank, Denver, Colo Chairman of the Board and President, Citizens National Bank, Emporia, Kan W. L. Bunten. Executive Vice President, Goodland State Bank, Goodland, Kan	1948 1949		

DIRECTORS AND SERIOR OFFICERS OF TEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 51, 1946—cont.				
Term Expires				
DIRECTORS—Cont. E	ec. 31			
Willard D. HosfordVice President and General Manager, John Deere Plow				
Company, Omaha, Neb	194 8 1949			
J. M. Bernardin . Lumberman, Kansas City, Mo. L. C. Hutson . President and General Manager, Chickasha Cotton Oil Company, Chickasha, Okla	1950			
	1930			
Class C: Lule I. Heave Perman and steelimen Charakse Okla	1948			
Lyle L. Hague	1949			
Robert L. Mehornay President, North-Mehornay Furniture Company, Kansas City, Mo	1950			
Denver Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:				
J. D. Allen				
J. D. Allen	1948 1 94 8			
P. K. AlexanderVice President, The First National Bank of Denver, Denver, Colo	1949			
	17.7			
Appointed by Board of Governors: M. F. Noonen Sheen rancher, Kremmling, Colo	1948			
M. E. Noonen Sheep rancher, Kremmling, Colo				
Denver Tramway Corporation, Denver, Colo	1949			
Oklahoma City Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:				
D. M. TylerFirst Vice President, Dewey Portland Cement Company, Dewey, Okla	1948			
Hugh L. HarrellVice President, First National Bank and Trust Company, Oklahoma City, Okla				
S. A. Bryant	1948 1949			
Appointed by Board of Governors:				
Rufus Green	1948			
C. W. Cotton President, C. W. Cotton Supply Company, Tulsa, Okla.	1949			
Omaha Branch				
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:				
Fred W. Marble President, Stock Growers National Bank, Cheyenne, Wyo. Walter S. Byrne General Manager, Metropolitan Utilities District of	1948			
Walter S. Byrne	1949 1949			
	-,.,			
Appointed by Board of Governors: Fred S. WallaceFarmer, Gibbon, Neb	1948			
Joseph W. Seacrest Co-Publisher, Nebraska State Journal, Lincoln, Neb	1949			
District No. 11—Dallas				
Class A:				
Walter P. Napier Chairman of the Board, Alamo National Bank, San Antonio, Texas	1948			
J. Edd McLaughlin Vice President, Security State Bank and Trust Company,	1949			
Ralls, Texas	1950			
Class B:				
J. R. Milam	1948			
George L. MacGregorChairman of the Board, President and General Manager, Dallas Power and Light Company, Dallas. Texas	1949			
Dallas Power and Light Company, Dallas, Texas W. F. Beall	1950			
	2700			
Class C: R. B. Anderson	1948			
R. B. AndersonGeneral Manager, W. T. Waggoner Estate, Vernon, Texas J. R. PartenPresident, Woodley Petroleum Company, Houston, Texas G. A. Frierson	1949 1950			
O. A. Pheison A. Pheison & Son, Shreveport, La	1930			

DIRDOTORO INID SELVIOR OTTICI	or repetite Repetit Philips, Dec. 31, 1940	- Cont.	
		Term Expires	
DIRECTORS—Cont.		Dec. 31	
	El Paso Branch		
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: W. S. Warnock	ce President, El Paso National Bank, El Paso, Texas: resident, Lone Star Motor Company, El Paso, Texas ice President, State National Bank, El Paso, Texas secutive Vice President, Security State Bank, Pecos Texas	1948 1948 1949 1950	
Appointed by Board of Governors: Dorrance D. RoderickPr	esident, Newspaper Printing Corporation, El Paso	, 1948	
Hiram S. CorbettPr	esident, J. Knox Corbett Lumber Company, Tucson Ariz	1949	
	II D I		
	Houston Branch		
=	ttorney, Vinson, Elkins, Weems & Francis, Houston	. 1948	
Malvin Rouff Fi	resident, Wharton Bank & Trust Company, Wharton Texas	1948	
R. Lee KempnerCl	Texas	. 1949 s . 1950	
Appointed by Board of Governors: Ross StewartPr	resident, C. Jim Stewart and Stevenson, Inc., Houston	,	
George A. SlaughterFa J. E. WheatA	Texas	. 1948 . 1949 . 1950	
	San Antonio Branch		
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: Robert D. BarclayPr	r <u>es</u> ident, National Bank of Commerce, San Antonio	,	
~~	Texas resident, The First National Bank of Weslaco, Weslaco Texas	, . 1948	
<u>-</u>	kecutive Vice President, First State Bank, Kerrville Texas	. 1949	
Appointed by Board of Governors:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Henry P. DroughtA	ttorney at Law, San Antonio, Texas	. 1948 . 1949	
Edward E. HaleCl	Texas	. 1950	
District No. 12—San Francisco			
Class A:	resident, The First National Bank of Willows, Willows		
	Calif	. 1948	
	cisco, San Francisco, Calif	. 1949	
Chas. H. StewartPi	resident, Portland Trust and Savings Bank, Portland Ore	. 1950	
Class B:	resident. Union Oil Company of California Lo	9	
Walter C Televier	resident, Union Oil Company of California, Lo Angeles, Calif	. 1948	
watter 5. johnsonPi	Calif	1949	
St. George HoldenSt	Calif. George Holden Realty Company, San Francisco, Calif	. 1950	
Class C:			
Harry R. WellmanD	rector, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California, Berkeley, Calif	. 1948	
Brayton Wilbur	irector, Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California, Berkeley, Calif resident, Wilbur-Ellis Company, San Francisco, Calif. ember of the firm, Williamson & Wallace, Attorney	. 1949	
with it. wanace, ji	at Law, San Francisco, Calif	. 1950	

	Term Expires		
DIRECTORS—Cont.	Dec. 31		
Los Angeles Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank: M. Vilas Hubbard President, Citizens Commercial Trust and Savings Ban of Pasadena, Pasadena, Calif Frank L. King President, California Bank, Los Angeles, Calif W. R. Bimson President, The Valley National Bank of Phoenix, Phoenix, Ariz	. 1948 . 1948		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
Fred G. SherrillVice President, J. G. Boswell Company, Los Angeles	,		
Calif. Y. Frank FreemanVice President, Paramount Pictures, Inc., Hollywood Calif.			
Portland Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
William C. Christensen President, The Commercial National Bank of Hillsboro			
Hillsboro, Ore	. 1948		
E. B. MacNaughton Chairman of the Board, The First National Bank o Portland, Portland, Ore	f		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
R. B. TaylorLivestock and farming, Adams, OreAaron M. FrankPresident, Meier and Frank Company, Inc., Portland, Ore	. 1948 . 1949		
Salt Lake City Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
Chas. L. Smith	. 1948 o 1948		
D. F. RichardsPresident, American National Bank of Idaho at Idah Falls, Idaho Falls, Idaho	0		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
Merle G. Hyer Livestock and farming, Lewiston, Utah			
Seattle Branch			
Appointed by Federal Reserve Bank:			
Benj. N. Phillips Chairman of the Board, The First National Bank in Por Angeles, Port Angeles, Wash	. 1948		
Fred C. Forrest	.1		
Lawrence M. ArnoldChairman of the Board, Seattle-First National Bank Seattle, Wash	,		
Appointed by Board of Governors:			
John M. McGregor Manager, McGregor Land & Livestock Company, Hooper			
Wash	. 1948 . 1949		

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948—Com: SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

[December 31, 1948]

Federal Reserve Bank of—	President First Vice President	Vice Presidents	
Boston	Joseph A. Erickson William Willett	Robert B. Harvey ¹ E. G. Hult E. O. Latham	Alfred C. Neal Carl B. Pitman O. A. Schlaikjer R. F. Van Amringe
New York	Allan Sproul L. R. Rounds	E. O. Douglas H. H. Kimball L. W. Knoke Walter S. Logan	A. Phelan H. V. Roelse Robert G. Rouse V. Willis R. B. Wiltse
Philadelphia	Alfred H. Williams W. J. Davis	Karl R. Bopp Robert N. Hilkert E. C. Hill	Wm. G. McCreedy P. M. Poorman ²
Cleveland	Ray M. Gidney Wm. H. Fletcher	W. D. Fulton J. W. Kossin A. H. Laning²	B. J. Lazar Martin Morrison Donald S. Thompsor
Richmond	Hugh Leach J. S. Walden, Jr.	R. L. Cherry Claude L. Guthrie ² E. A. Kincaid	R. W. Mercer W. R. Milford C. B. Strathy Edw. A. Wayne
Atlanta	W. S. McLarin, Jr. L. M. Clark	P. L. T. Beavers V. K. Bowman J. E. Denmark Joel B. Fort, Jr.	T. A. Lanford E. P. Paris S. P. Schuessler
Chicago	C. S. Young Charles B. Dunn	Allan M. Black¹ Neil B. Dawes W. R. Diercks E. C. Harris	John K. Langum O. J. Netterstrom A. L. Olson Alfred T. Sihler W. W. Turner
St. Louis	Chester C. Davis F. Guy Hitt	O. M. Attebery Wm. E. Peterson C. A. Schacht	Paul E. Schroeder William H. Stead C. M. Stewart
Minneapolis	J. N. Peyton O. S. Powell	H. G. McConnell A. W. Mills ² Otis R. Preston	R. E. Towle Sigurd Ueland Harry I. Ziemer
Kansas City	H. G. Leedy Henry O. Koppang	L. H. Earhart Delos C. Johns R. L. Mathes	John Phillips, Jr. G. H. Pipkin C. E. Sandy¹ D. W. Woolley
Dallas	R. R. Gilbert W. D. Gentry	E. B. Austin R. B. Coleman H.R. DeMoss W. E. Eagle	W. H. Holloway Watrous H. Irons L. G. Pondrom ² C. M. Rowland Mac C. Smyth
San Francisco	C. E. Earhart H. N. Mangels	Albert C. Agnew W. N. Ambrose D. L. Davis J. M. Leisner ²	W. L. Partner C. R. Shaw H. F. Slade W. F. Volberg O. P. Wheeler

¹Cashier.

²Also Cashier.

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR OFFICERS OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS, Dec. 31, 1948—Cont. VICE PRESIDENTS IN CHARGE OF BRANCHES OF FEDERAL RESERVE BANKS

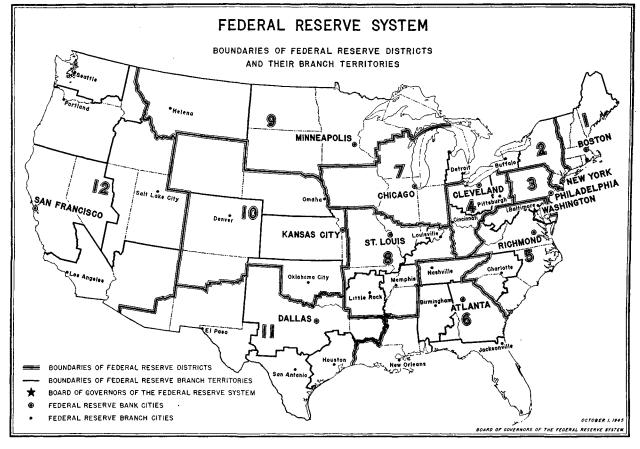
Federal Reserve Bank of—	Branch	Chief Officer
New York	Buffalo	I. B. Smith ¹
Cleveland	Cincinnati Pittsburgh	B. J. Lazar J. W. Kossin
Richmond	Baltimore Charlotte	W. R. Milford R. L. Cherry
Atlanta	Birmingham Jacksonville Nashville New Orleans	P. L. T. Beavers T. A. Lanford Joel B. Fort, Jr. E. P. Paris
Chicago	Detroit	E. C. Harris
St. Louis	Little Rock Louisville Memphis	C. M. Stewart C. A. Schacht Paul E. Schroeder
Minneapolis	Helena	R. E. Towle
Kansas City	Denver Oklahoma City Omaha	G. H. Pipkin R. L. Mathes L. H. Earhart
Dallas	El Paso Houston San Antonio	C. M. Rowland W. H. Holloway W. E. Eagle
San Francisco	Los Angeles Portland Salt Lake City Seattle	W. N. Ambrose D. L. Davis W. L. Partner C. R. Shaw

¹General Manager.

CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

The Presidents of the Federal Reserve Banks are organized into a Conference of Presidents which meets from time to time to consider matters of common interest, and to consult with and advise the Board of Governors.

During the year Mr. Davis, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, served as Chairman of the Conference and Mr. Peyton, President of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, served as Vice Chairman. In May Mr. Charles G. Young, Jr., Assistant to the General Counsel of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, was elected Secretary to succeed Mr. William F. Treiber, Assistant Vice President and Secretary of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.



Note: There has been no change in district or branch territory boundaries since the publication of the description in the Annual Report of the Board of Governors for 1942, pp. 138-45.

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tion of	46
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Check routing symbols, progress in use of	
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Circulation outside banks	20
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Deputy Chairmen, Federal Reserve Banks:	
Bryce, William H., appointed at St. Louis	51
List of	50 106
Redesignated for 1948.	50
Directors, Federal Reserve Banks:	50
Appointments during year	51
Chairman	51
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Hodgkinson, Harold D., appointed Deputy Chairman at Boston	50
List of	51
Stevens, Ames, appointed Class C at Boston	107 51
Stevens, Robert T., appointed Class C and designated Chairman and	
Federal Reserve Agent at New York	51
Directors, Federal Reserve Branch Banks:	·
Appointments during year	51
Brehm, C. E., appointed at Nashville	52
Broadbent, Smith D., Jr., appointed at Louisville	52
Cotton, C. W., appointed at Oklahoma City	52
Ebert, R. E., appointed at Charlotte	51
Faucett, J. Roy, appointed at Birmingham	51
Howell, Marshall F., appointed at Jacksonville	52
Isaacson, Henry C., appointed at Seattle	51
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Marsh, Ben. R., appointed at Detroit	52
Miller, J. Hillis, appointed at Jacksonville	52

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Moore, M. P., appointed at Memphis	52
Phillips, Howard, appointed at Jacksonville	52
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Ebert, R. E., appointed director at Charlotte Branch	51
Economic developments during 1948	I
Employees:	
Board of Governors, number of	53
Federal Reserve Banks:	
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Erickson, Joseph A., appointed President at Boston	53
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Federal Reserve Bank of Boston:	
Personnel:	
Erickson, Joseph A., appointment as President	53
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Earnings on loans and securities	7 0 48
Employees	40
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Officers, list of	116
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Isaacson, Henry C., appointed director at Seattle Branch.	
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