

COMMITTEE OF TREASURY

MINUTE BOOK

47



Present.  
a full Committee

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

The proceedings of the Committee on Wednesday, the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, and on Friday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £123,000,000.

The Governor reported that the subscriptions for National War Bonds had much fallen off lately; that he had mentioned the subject to the Clearing Bankers and had pointed out the desirability of their making increased efforts to push the sale of these Bonds.

An application from Mr Hoare to join the Board of the Anglo Brazilian Trading and Agency Company was referred to the Court.

The Governor mentioned that there was a great demand for Bank of England Notes on the Continent; that certain forgeries had been traced to Holland, and that Messrs. Freshfield, in conjunction with the Police, were taking the necessary steps in the matter.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals contained in the accompanying Minute of the Staff Committee -

Staff Committee,  
7<sup>th</sup> May, 1918.

Resolved,

"That it be recommended to the Committee of Treasury for submission to the Court of Directors that the following appointments be made, viz:-

"To fill the vacancy caused by the appointment of Sir Gordon Maime, Chief Cashier, to be Comptroller of  
"the



8<sup>th</sup> May, 1918

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"the Bank:-

"Mr Ernest M. Harvey, C.B.E., Deputy Chief Cashier, to be Chief Cashier with the salary of £3,000 a year attaching to the post.

"Mr Charles T. Paice, Deputy Principal of the Discount Office, to be Deputy Chief Cashier with the salary of £1,500 a year attaching to the post.

"Mr Cyril P. Mahon, Assistant Principal of the Discount Office, to be Assistant Chief Cashier with the salary of £700 a year attaching to the post.

"Mr James A. Stark, Assistant Chief Cashier, to be Assistant Secretary, with the salary of £600 a year attaching to the post and a personal additional salary of £200 a year

M. Norman

"Bank of England."

The question of the Bank's subscription to the Lord Mayor's Fund for making a presentation to Their Majesties the King and Queen on the occasion of their Silver Wedding was deferred pending a formal application from the Lord Mayor.

Present  
A full Committee

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> May, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £125,000,000.

The Governor mentioned that it was freely rumoured in the Market that cheaper rates for money were being discussed and that increased applications for



15<sup>th</sup> May, 1918

for six months Treasury Bills had been made during the week.

He had taken the opportunity to speak to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, while most anxious that subscriptions for National War Bonds should be increased, had expressed doubt as to the need for cheaper money.

✱ The Governor referred to the Government Securities which are held in the Issue Department. The Act of 1844 does not specifically state what securities should be so held and the Governor explained his intention to transfer to the Issue Department short-dated Government Securities, such as Treasury Bills, &c., following on the suggestion of the Committee on the Bank Act of 1844. ✱

He again referred to the great shortage of silver, particularly in Ireland, where it was being hoarded, in view of the dislike in that Country to Currency Notes, and mentioned that he was to attend a Meeting of the Bankers that afternoon when no doubt the matter would be discussed.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court proposals of the Staff Committee for Appointments as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Governor again brought before the Committee the question of contributing to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the purpose of making a presentation to Their Majesties The King and Queen, on the occasion of their Silver Wedding, and after discussion it was agreed to recommend to the Court to make a contribution of One thousand guineas.

The question was raised as to the procedure in Court for the selection of a new Candidate for the Strectorate, and after discussion the matter was left over for future consideration.

Present

a full Committee

Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1918

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



22<sup>nd</sup> May 1918.

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The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £127,000,000, and that in future the amount of Premortatorium Bills would be read to the Committee quarterly instead of weekly.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court: that a General Court of Proprietors be appointed for Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> instant, for the election of a Director for the remainder of the year in the room of Mr. Sandeman: that Sir Charles Addis be recommended to the Proprietors for election and that public notice by Advertisement be given thereof.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court to propose to the Secretary of State in Council for India, certain alterations and additions to be made in the List of Persons authorised to sign and countersign Bills upon the Government of India, as detailed in a separate Minute.

A Memorandum was read, detailing the various Orders which had been made from time to time between 1794 and 1887 in regard to the selection of Candidates for the Direction.

It appeared that the various Orders had been in abeyance since 1887 and for many years before, and that they referred to the course to be pursued for the selection of Candidates at the Annual Election of Directors, rather than to the selection of a new Director during the year, inasmuch as prior to 1900 a casual vacancy occurring during the year had always been filled by an ~~hsc~~-Director.

The Committee were of opinion that, as at the annual election so in the case of a casual vacancy, it was not necessary or desirable for the Court to vote by ballot so long as, the procedure regarding notice as laid down by the Court of the 21<sup>st</sup> February 1918, was followed.

Present.  
a full Committee

Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> May 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



29<sup>th</sup> May, 1918.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign Commitments, was laid before the Committee.

With regard to the foreign money borrowed, it was reported that Finnish money, being no longer eligible, balances amounting to £7,500,000 were removed from the Bankers lists.

The Governor mentioned that at the request of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who wishes every possible inducement given to the public to invest in National War Bonds, the Clearing Bankers had agreed as from the 1<sup>st</sup> June to give no higher rate than 3% for any money either on Deposit or Current a/c, and that at the Chancellor's request he was communicating with the Overseas, Colonial and Foreign Banks asking them to adopt a similar practice.

He also mentioned that the Committee for Submission of Candidates recommended that the names of Mr. Acheson, Chairman of Canamels, Laird & Co., and Mr. Anthony de Rothschild, should be the first to be approached to fill future vacancies. After discussion the Committee agreed to consider the matter further at a later date.

Present.  
a full Committee

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> June, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £126,900,000.

The Governor read a letter from Mr. V. C. Vickers, in which, in view of his continued ill-health and inability to carry out his duties, he placed his resignation unreservedly in his hands.

The Committee concurred in the Governor's view that the question of his resignation should be postponed until October.

The



5<sup>th</sup> June, 1918.

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The Committee again considered the names of Mr. Fichens and Mr. Anthony de Rothschild as possible Candidates for the Court, and after discussion it was felt that there was no urgency in either case and that, in the circumstances no steps need now be taken to ensure their holding themselves free for future vacancies.

The Committee, however, wished the Special Committee to continue their efforts to suggest suitable candidates.

Present.

The Governor (Sir John Lubbock)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Col.  
Sir Bernard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Col. Hambury.

Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> June, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £128,250,000 and reference was made to the large increase in the circulation of Bank Notes.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for Appointments and War Bonus, etc., as detailed in a separate Minute, subject to the alteration of "during the period of the war" to "31<sup>st</sup> March 1919".

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past quarter, etc., was laid before the Committee.

The Governor brought forward the Report of the Special Committee appointed to consider and report as to the desirability of a revision of the Bank Act of 1844 and other kindred matters.

He also read to the Committee a letter from the Ministry of National Service dated the 11<sup>th</sup> June in regard to the issue of Protection Certificates to all employees of the Bank, and to the question of a further release from the Bank of as many of its employees as possible.



7 Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
Mr. Norman  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Penfell  
Col. Hambury.

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> June, 1918.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statements of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

The Governor reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £129,250,000 and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had suggested that the Timish money which had recently been removed from the Bankers' lists be replaced, but that he had urged the Chancellor not to agree to this proposal, otherwise there would be no end to the pressure which would be brought upon the Bank for the inclusion of special cases under the head of foreign money.

The Governor also mentioned that it had been suggested that the regular Agents, e.g. Cose and Co. should no longer keep the account of the Royal Air Force but that at an interview with the Air Minister he had pointed out with the concurrence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer the serious effect which such a change would have upon credit, and begged him not to carry out the suggestion.

Some discussion took place on the Report of the Special Committee on the Bank Act of 1844.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Penfell  
Colonel Hambury.

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



26<sup>th</sup> June 1918.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee; also the Monthly Statement of praemortuam Bills.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £130,350,000.

The Governor read an answer, dated 21<sup>st</sup> June, to a letter he had recently addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the evil effects of the alleged extravagance in Public Departments and fears of a levy on Capital.

Also a letter which he proposed writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer suggested by the fresh agitation against "German Banks and Businesses", deprecating the closing off firms in the City with world-wide connections, on the ground that such connections once severed were likely to be established in other Countries to the injury of London as a financial centre.

The Committee were unable to come to any decision on the subject.

An application for an allowance from Mrs Link, Widow of O. L. E. Link, a Parlor Messenger, who was killed in Action on the 30<sup>th</sup> March last, was considered, and it was agreed that her case be deferred until it is known what pension she will receive from the State for herself and three children.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Clyne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Frenfell  
Col. Ashbury.

Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> July, 1918.

The Minutes of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £130,300,000.

A further discussion took place on the question of addressing a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the  
subject



3<sup>rd</sup> July 1918

subject of the agitation against so-called German Banks and businesses. The Committee were not unanimous as to the advisability of doing anything, and the discussion was closed by an intimation from the Governor that he would consult with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Croker)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Kinnaird  
Mr Penfoll  
Col. Sandbury

Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Accounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £137,225,000.

The Governor mentioned that since last week he had spoken to the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the question of enemy-alien agitation and the fear lest it should lead to a demand for action against certain Houses in the City with international connections which would be very prejudicial to the Country. The Chancellor did not think that the agitation would get out of hand or that there was any danger of attacks on the class of firm referred to.

The question was raised of making a contribution to the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Building Fund, but the Committee did not consider that the time was opportune for subscribing to any Building operations of this character.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Mr J. H. Potter, a Senior Clerk in the Dividend Accounts Office, be allowed to retire on account of failing eyesight, and that he be granted a Pension equal to his salary to the 31<sup>st</sup> December next, and thereafter, during pleasure, of £210:5:4 a year, in accordance with the scale.

It was agreed to concur in a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending Appointments, etc.

The



10<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

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The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on the Accountants and Cashiers Departments was laid before the Committee.

An appeal for a donation on behalf of the French Red Cross Society was, after discussion, declined.

The Governor mentioned that there were rumours of further Bank Amalgamations taking place. He felt that he ought to be in a position to give advice to the Government as he had already done privately to the Chancellor before definite action was taken. But as the Government had already appointed a Committee to deal with these cases he did not think that any formal advice could now be given by the Bank.

He also referred to an interview with Sir Thomas Robinson and to a request from a Deputation of the Stock Exchange for the Bank's support as financial Agents of the Queensland Government in a protest against a re-introduction in the Queensland legislature of two Bills relating to the Brisbane Electric Tramways, on the ground that if passed into law in their original form, the Bills would be prejudicial to the credit of the Queensland Government in this Market and might render impossible for many years to come the successful issue here of another Queensland Loan.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cohen)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Lambie  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Col. Manbury

Mr. Trotter and  
Sir Robert Henderson  
attended.

Thursday, the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

The Governor explained that, in view of the urgency of the matter, he had called the Committee together to consider the proposed letter to the Treasury in reply to the letter of the Select Committee on National Expenditure dated 10<sup>th</sup> May, asking for a reduction in the Bank's profits out of Government Banking business. He reminded the Committee that the Bank had already made certain reductions in the charges for management of the Public Debt and that the Special Committee, who had given a great deal of time and thought to the question, had yesterday come to the conclusion that the desired end could be best attained by adjusting the rate of interest on Ways and Means Advances and that they had drafted a letter embodying this proposal.

The Committee of Treasury then considered the letter, and after discussion agreed that it be sent to the Treasury.



21<sup>st</sup> July 1920.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

That as regards the payment of interest on enemy balances which was mentioned to the Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> ultimo, Counsel's opinion was strongly in favour of payment and he saw no object in contesting a friendly action.

That he proposed to leave over until the Autumn the question of filling the vacancy on the Bank Court.

It was agreed to recommend that a pension of £103:17:4 be granted to James Surridge, a Messenger to the Ashurst Store Office, as from the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, on his attaining the age of 65.

### Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)

Mr. Grenfell

Mr. Tiarlo

Sir Charles Addis

and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1920

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:—

1. That owing to the exchange of new for old Silver Coinage and to the temporary accumulation of the former, he proposed to limit the Silver Coin to some 10% of the Reserve.

2. That he proposed, until further notice, to pay to the New South Wales Government

such



Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Mr Campbell  
 Mr Cole  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Col. Hambury

Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup> July 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £136,575,000.

As regards the £10,000,000 Treasury Bills issued to the Japanese Government in New York on which the exchange had been guaranteed by the Bank at \$4.76½, the Governor reported that it had been arranged to dispense with the Bank's guarantee on the renewal of the Bills.

On an application from the Widow of W. J. S. Beard, a Pensioner, late of the Birmingham Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year, in accordance with the scale.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Arthur M. Hughes, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in the Dividend Office, be allowed to retire on account of continued ill-health, and that he be granted a pension, during pleasure, and according to scale, of £146:3:- a year.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Mr Campbell  
 Mr Cole  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Col. Hambury

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> July, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts & Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the Foreign Money borrowed amounted to £136,890,000.



24<sup>th</sup> July, 1918.

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As regards the shortage of Silver Coin, the Governor mentioned that, at the request of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he had attended a conference at the Treasury, at which the Bankers were present, when the question of the steps to be taken to meet the difficulty were fully discussed.

Although America was still supplying this Country with Silver to the extent of £150,000 to £200,000 a week, the supply was barely equal to the demand, and the Americans demurred to supplying us on this scale, in addition to meeting the requirements of India, while no attempt was made to economize silver here by the use of notes of as low a denomination as those current in the United States. The Chancellor was in favour of the issue of 5/- notes and suggested bringing the matter before Parliament this session, but in view of the strong representations of the Bankers on the ground that it would inevitably lead to hoarding of Silver, he agreed not to take any action at present.

With reference to the New South Wales  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  loan for £12,648,000, which is repayable on the 1<sup>st</sup> September, the Governor reported that £4,360,000 had not been converted under the scheme and would be paid off.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors—

That the Half Yearly Accounts be brought before the Court of Directors on Thursday, the 12<sup>th</sup> September next;

That a General Court to consider of a Dividend (which will also be a Half Yearly General Court) be held at the Bank on Thursday, the 19<sup>th</sup> September next:

That, with a view to the preparation of a Dividend, the balance of the Stock Ledgers of Bank Stock be taken on the night of Thursday, the 19<sup>th</sup> September next:—  
and

That the Dividend Warrants be delivered on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> October next.



Present.

Wednesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1913.

The Governor (Sir Brien Colquhoun)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Mr. Campbell  
 Mr. Cole  
 Sir Edward Hambro  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Col. Hambury

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the Foreign Money borrowed amounted to £141,000,000.

With reference to the increase in the active circulation, the Governor raised the question as to the prohibition of the export of Bank Notes but suggested no action at present.

The altered request of Messrs. Armstrong Whitworth & Co., as recently put forward, was explained, but the Governor stated that (unless against an impending issue of preference shares) there was no idea of increasing the present advance without a regular charge or debenture.

The Governor informed the Committee, in reference to the issue of small notes, that although £200,000 in silver had been issued from the Mint during the week, the reserve had only increased by £1,000. He said that the Bankers were proposing to send out a Circular to their Branch Managers urging economy in regard to silver.

The Governor informed the Committee that he had attended a meeting at the Mansion House yesterday, on behalf of the British Red Cross Society. He mentioned that he might be asked to act as Chairman of a Sub-Committee for raising funds from the Banks and that he would in due course ask the Committee to recommend a donation of £5,000 from the Bank as in previous years.

The Governor said that it was proposed to create a Commercial Degree of the University of London in order to encourage Commercial Education and that the Bank would probably be asked to subscribe. It was agreed, before considering the matter, to obtain further particulars.

The Governor referred to the issue of the Fifth Report of the Select Committee on National Expenditure and it was agreed that each member of the Committee be furnished with a copy of the Report.



The Governor (Sir Brien  
Clyne)

Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Grenfell  
Colonel Hanbury

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £143,535,000.

The Committee had before them a letter from John W. Slade, a 4<sup>th</sup> Class Clerk in the Public Drawing Office, tendering his resignation from the service of the Bank on account of illness contracted while on Active Service. The Governor informed the Committee that Slade had only been in the service of the Bank for 8  $\frac{3}{4}$  years and was consequently not eligible for a pension, but that in view of the circumstances he proposed to make him a grant of £100 from the Samaritan Fund. In this the Committee concurred.

The Governor informed the Committee that the position in regard to silver was still bad, the reserve having been reduced by £88,000 during the week, and purchases in America being unsatisfactory. He said that the Banks had now issued a circular to their Branch Managers urging economy in the use of silver on general grounds.

Copies of a circular issued by the University of London in regard to the proposed Commerce degree were supplied to the Members of the Committee.

It was agreed that in future Interest on Advances to Customers, other than short loans, such as those to the Market, and Stock Exchange Advances, should be charged at Bank Rate varying. Interest will thus be claimed on the date when the Advance falls due, instead of the date when it is made as hitherto.



Present.  
 The Governor (Sir Brew Chaynes)  
 Mr Cole  
 Mr Campbell  
 Mr Penfell  
 Colonel Hanbury.

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> August 1918.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £145,765,000.

The question of a subscription to the Fund for creating a Commerce Degree at the University of London was again considered, and postponed.

The Committee had before them an appeal for a donation to St. Dunstan's Hostel for Blinded Soldiers and Sailors, and it was agreed that the appeal be considered in February next.

The Governor informed the Committee that he had been asked to arrange for a Committee to collect Subscriptions for the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John of Jerusalem from the Bankers, with which he thought should be included Financial and Discount Houses. In view of this the Committee agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors to-morrow that a donation of Five thousand pounds be made to the Funds of the Society, as in preceding years.

The Governor suggested for the consideration of the Committee whether a "Pension Fund" should be formed out of the Bank's Unappropriated Profits so that in the event of the Bank ever being wound up the moral liability to Pensioners and Staff would be provided for. He did not propose that the Staff should possess any rights in the monies belonging to the Fund or that there should be any restriction on the Bank's power to use the money for other purposes should they wish to do so.

After discussion it was agreed that  
 further



14th August 1918

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further consideration of the proposal be deferred until the Governor had had an opportunity of discussing the matter with Sir William Leese.

Present.

The Governor  
(Sir Brian Cokayne)

Mr Campbell

Mr Penfell

Col. Hambury

Wednesday, the 21st August, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £147,380,000.

Present

The Governor  
(Sir Brian Cokayne)

Mr Campbell

Mr Cole

Sir Edward Hambro

Mr Penfell

Wednesday the 28th August 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £146,300,000.

The Governor read to the Committee an estimate of the Bank's profits for the half-year ending the 31st instant.

The Governor mentioned to the Committee that he yesterday saw the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who said that he had been unable at present to go into the matter of the Bank's charges to the Government.



Present.

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Mr Campbell  
 Mr Cole  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Sir Gerard Hambro

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,000,000.

The Committee considered the case of George C. Foreman, a Pensioner, formerly of the Dividend Office, who in March 1915 was granted a pension of £82:5:8 a year on account of ill-health. It has recently come to the knowledge of the Bank, and is admitted by Foreman, that he was in the hands of a money lender at the time he was pensioned and that he still owes £21:4:2. In view of Rule 14 for Clerks, and all the circumstances it was agreed to recommend to the Court that Foreman's pension be discontinued but that enquiry be made as regards his employment and pay &c.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a Pension of £65 a year, in accordance with the scale, be granted, during pleasure, to Richard Rushton, a Bank Note Stamper, as from the 9<sup>th</sup> September, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

Further that a gratuity of £25 be granted to him in recognition of his constant attendance for the last 48 years, during which time he has only been absent on account of sickness for four days.

The Deputy Governor mentioned that at the request of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York a copy of their Agreement with the Bank of England dated 3 May 1917 would be forwarded to the Bank of France with whom they were treating for similar arrangements as therein provided.

He also mentioned the proposed definition of Banking business by the Board of Trade for purposes of Trading with the Enemy Act 1918, and

That a petition had been received from the Porters and Bank Note Stampers for an increase of pay.



Present.

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Col. Hanbury

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,000,000.

It was agreed to concur in the recommendations of the Staff Committee as detailed in a separate Minute, for Appointments and further War Bonus to the Clerical Male Staff and Temporary Men, and to the Posters on the Permanent Staff, Temporary Posters and the Stampers of Bank Notes.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on the payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Chief Accountant produced the accounts of the Bank for the past half-year.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Aneur  
C. Skayne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Col. Hanbury

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> September, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £150,310,000.

The



18<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

The Governor mentioned that Mr. Vickers had definitely decided to resign his Directorship in view of his continued illhealth.

He reported that the silver position was a trifle better, but that there was a scarcity of bronze coin: also that he had attended a Meeting at the Foreign Office on the question of the export of Notes, but that as there was no evidence of their use by the enemy, it had been decided to take no action.

He also referred to an interview with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who expressed the view that in order to increase the sale of War Bonds it might be well again to lower Money Rates. The Governor had urged the Chancellor against taking any steps which would tend to make the monetary position more artificial than it was at the present time.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a donation of One thousand guineas, and a similar donation annually for the first five years after the scheme comes into operation, be subscribed towards the scheme for a Commercial Degree which the University of London are about to create in order to encourage commercial education in this country.

It was agreed that a request for the Governor's greetings to the American Bankers Association Meeting at Chicago on the 25<sup>th</sup> September should be declined by means of a visit from the Secretary to the Ministry of Information, who had put forward the request.

A scheme was proposed having for its objects-

- (1) The offer to approved Temporary Women Clerks of not less than two years service to be transferred to the Permanent Staff.
- (2) The increase of the salaries of Permanent Women Clerks up to a maximum of £150 and in special cases £200, exclusive of War Bonus, and of pensions up to a maximum of £75 and in special cases £100.
- (3) A corresponding increase in the Salaries and Pensions of all the Superintendents.

The scheme met with general approval.

With reference to the Minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup>

July



18<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

July last, a request from Messrs. Armstrong that the Bank would be willing to receive applications for an issue of £1,000,000 Third Preference Shares was approved and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension of £333:6:8 a year be granted, during pleasure, to Raymond W. Lovelock, a Cashier, as from the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

An appeal from the Ministry of Pensions for a contribution to the Fund for the re-establishment of Officers and Men disabled in the War was not acceded to.

Present

The Governor  
(Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Bonman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Francis Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Col. Hanbury

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £151,360,000.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he had declined to accede to a request from the Discount Market for special terms for money at the end of the present Quarter.

That, if the price of 5% War Stock should again rise well over 95, he had hopes of being able to reduce the Bank's holding.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer had decided not to lower money rates at the present time; further that he had not yet had time to look into the question of the Bank's charges.

That the Paris Rate had now fallen well below the rate fixed under Article 5 of the Agreement for the French Credit, viz: 27, and that he had accordingly written to the Bank of France to enquire whether, in accordance therewith, they would not cease to present Bills for discount.

With



25<sup>th</sup> September 1918.

With regard to the contract made in September 1914, under which the gold mines in India sell their gold to the Bank, a request had been received from Messrs. John Taylor & Sons that part payment should be remitted to India at the fixed rate of 15 rupees to the £ sterling to save the Companies the loss which they incur by having to remit from London at the current rate of exchange.

Even if some concession were advisable such a request could not be entertained.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cragoe)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Penfell  
Col. Hanbury.

Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that there had been a slight reduction in the foreign money borrowed since last week, which now amounted to £150,065,000.

The Governor stated that M. Pallain had written to complain of any restrictions on the renewal of Bills under the French Credit, but there was no intention on the part of the Bank of allowing further discounts without, at least, a demand for reimbursement so long as the rate remained below 27 fcs. Without such demand the Treasury guarantee would be likely to lapse, as Article 5 would not have been observed, and gold might be withdrawn hence while the Credit was still in full operation.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for Advances during the quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> December was read and referred to the Court.

Letters of resignation from J. A. S. Pyper, Stock Office Librarian at Southampton, and H. Bartram, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk at the Liverpool Branch, were considered and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that the resignations be accepted and that pensions be granted according to the Scale, as detailed in a separate Minute.

a



2<sup>nd</sup> October 1918

A memorandum in regard to Allowances to Widows of former Mechanics, Bank Note Stampers and men in the Works Department was brought forward, and consideration thereof was postponed.

Present.

a full Committee

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £150,840,000.

Letters of resignation on account of continued ill-health from the following Members of the Staff were laid before the Committee, viz:-

W. W. Wise, Principal of the Dividend Office.

Henry Carne, Principal of the Issue Office.

Harold Wallis, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Dividend Office.

A. J. Cooke, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Accountants' Bank Note Office.

and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that the several resignations be accepted and that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for Appointments etc., as detailed in a separate Minute dated the 8<sup>th</sup> instant.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on the Offices in the Accountants' and Cashiers Departments was approved and referred to the Court.

With reference to the Allowances to Widows of former Mechanics, Bank Note Stampers and men in the Works Department, it was agreed that in future in cases where the husband was entitled under the Regulations to a pension from the Bank, an Allowance of 5/- a week, during pleasure, be granted to the Widow until such time as she is entitled by age to an Old Age Pension, but that in cases where the husband

was



9<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

was not entitled to a Pension the Widow be not entitled to an Allowance.

It was agreed to recommend that a personal Salary at the rate of £7,500 per annum be paid to Sir Gordon Naime, Bart., as from the 9<sup>th</sup> May last, when he was appointed Comptroller of the Bank, and that this amount rank for pension in accordance with the Regulations; but that it be not stated in the House List.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That up to the present no instructions had been received to issue any of the new French Loan.

That it had been decided to set up a List of those Members of the Staff who have joined His Majesty's Forces.

That the freehold premises of the Auction Mart were for sale, the basement and sub-basement of which the Bank have leased until December 1921 for the use of the Bank Club, and it was agreed that it was desirable for the Bank to purchase the property.

Present.  
a full Committee.

Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,000,000.

The resignation of Arthur F. Wallace, a Bullion Porter, in consequence of continued ill-health, was considered and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension, as detailed in a separate Minute.

It



16<sup>th</sup> October 1918.

It was agreed to grant allowances, during pleasure and according to scale as follows: - To the Widow of John Jancourt, a Pensioner, late of the Issue Office - £60 a year, and to the Widow of J. G. Hammond, a Pensioner, late of the Portsmouth Branch - £50 a year.

The Governor informed the Committee,

That the Bank of France were not satisfied with his request for repayment under Article 5 of the Agreement dated 25 April 1916 for the French Credit, and that they had referred the matter to the French Treasury:

That the United States Treasury had opened an account with the Bank for the purpose of meeting expenses incurred in this Country, under a reciprocal arrangement covering a similar account in America.

Present.

The Governor  
(Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Ancliffe  
Lord Revestoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Col. Sandbury

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £157,930,000.

On an application from the Widow of E. J. Martin, a Clerk in the Bank, who was killed in Action on the 4<sup>th</sup> September 1918, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, the full allowance of £30 a year in view of the fact that her husband was not permitted, when he applied, to increase his assurance with the Bank Provident Society.

On an application from the Widow of O. L. E. Link, a Parlour Messenger, who was killed in Action on the 13<sup>th</sup> March last, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of 5/- a week until her youngest boy reaches the age of 15 years.

The Governor informed the Committee: -

That he had increased the Bank's donation to the British Red Cross Society, from five thousand pounds as ordered by the Court, to five thousand guineas.

That



23<sup>rd</sup> October, 1918.

That he had declined to nominate a trustee on behalf of the Bank to serve on the proposed "Army Trust."

CT 138.

That he had spoken to Sir William Leese on the subject of appointing members of his firm to act as solicitors to the Bank, who agreed with him in thinking such appointments unnecessary.

That H. M. Treasury had proposed that the Post Office issue of Exchequer and National War Bonds should be represented by an entry in the Books of the Bank in the name of the "National Debt Commissioners," and that the amounts of such entry should be excluded from the debt on which remuneration is paid to the Bank. He had, therefore, referred the matter to the "Committee on Special Profits of the Bank, &c" who considered that while it would be advantageous to adopt the first part of the Treasury's proposal it did not necessarily follow that no remuneration whatever should be paid in respect of these amounts, and that this question should be considered in conjunction with the general question now under consideration of the terms to be paid to the Bank.

A discussion took place as to filling the vacancies on the Bank Court.

Present.

A full Committee

Wednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Accounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee, also the Quarterly Statement of Premortuum Bills.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £158,955,000 and that the Bank's liabilities on Bills endorsed in Holland had been reduced to £5,577,000.

The Governor informed the Committee:

That he had attended Meetings at the Treasury on the subject of the advances to the French Government and of the Bank's agreement for the French Credit: that at present nothing had been settled as regards re-payment under Article 5.

That



30<sup>th</sup> October, 1918.

26

That he had been asked to give evidence before the Gold Production Committee. He anticipated that the question of Refiners' charges would come under consideration and it might be advisable for the Bank themselves to erect a Refinery. The Committee concurred.

That the Bank had agreed to purchase the freehold premises of the Auction Mart subject to confirmation by the Shareholders of the Auction Mart Company.

With reference to  
The Minutes of the Committee of the 18<sup>th</sup> ultimo with reference to an amended scheme for the employment of selected Members of the Temporary Staff of Women Clerks was approved, in lieu of the existing Regulations for election of permanent Women Clerks.

Present.

A full Committee

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> November, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £158,780,000.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignation on account of ill-health of John Stephens Chief Clerk at the Hull Branch, be accepted, and that he be granted a scale pension, during pleasure, of £270 a year.

In connection with the forthcoming enquiry as to the naturalization of Baron Schroder, the Committee although some Members preferred that the Bank should not appear, agreed with the Governor that, if so requested, he should attend and advise against denaturalization, the matter in that event to be brought before the Court.



Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Mr. Campbell  
 Mr. Cole  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Colonel Hanbury.

Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £158,340,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for Appointments, &c. as detailed in a separate Minute, dated the 15<sup>th</sup> instant.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignation of Elizabeth A. Kingston, a Woman Clerk, be accepted and that she be granted, during pleasure, a pension according to scale as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That no basis of agreement had been reached as regards the Bank's Credit to the Bank of France which operation he considered was still covered by the Treasury Guarantee in spite of non-compliance with Article 5 of the Agreement.

That, with reference to the Minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> ultimo H. M. Treasury had decided that for the present the Post Office, Exchequer and National War Bonds should not be inscribed in the Books of the Bank.

The question of a history of the Bank was discussed and deferred.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Mr. Campbell  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Sir Everald Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Col. Hanbury.

Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> November 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and  
 Advances



20<sup>th</sup> November, 1918.

Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £159,000,000.

On an appeal from the Treasurer of the Institute of Bankers, it was agreed to recommend to the Court that a special donation of £500 be made towards meeting the deficit incurred by the Institute, owing to the absence of members at the War.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignations of Horace M. White and Clara E. Cozens, Women Clerks, be accepted, and that in all the circumstances they be granted during pleasure pensions as detailed in a separate Minute.

Further, that an amount equal to three months full salary and war bonus, in lieu of notice, be granted to two Women Clerks appointed in 1915 and 1916, whose resignations had been called for.

## Present.

The Governor (Sir Allen Colquhoun)  
 Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Mr Campbell  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Lord Keblestone  
 Mr Penfold  
 Colonel Kenbury

Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> November, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £160,560,000.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That nothing having been settled as regards the Bank of France Credit, the idea of submitting Clause 5 to Arbitration by M. Recoring of the Nederlands Bank was for consideration.

It did not, however, meet with general approval.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer had referred to Sir Robert Chalmers the matter of the Bank's war charges to the Government.

That



27<sup>th</sup> November, 1918.

That December 31<sup>st</sup> falling on a Tuesday, he intended to point out to the Bankers that any window dressing at the end of the year would be shown in the Bank's figures if January 1<sup>st</sup> proved to be a Holiday.

That Messrs. Portal had been obliged to abandon a rule which had long been in force, of employing no one belonging to Trades Unions.

On an application from the Widow of H. W. Lovelock, late of the Consols Office, who was killed in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> September, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, and according to scale, an allowance of £39 a year.

It was agreed to recommend three months' salary and War Bonus to two Women Clerks whose resignations had been called for.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian C. Payne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Mr Fenwick  
Col. Haslebury.

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> December, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £162,500,000.

The Committee agreed to meet in Christmas week on Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> December, at 11 o'clock, Wednesday being Christmas day.

It was agreed that the opinion expressed in paragraph 3 page 5 of the Report of the Special Committee, dated 21<sup>st</sup> February 1918, as regards the selection of Candidates, should be adhered to by the Committee for the selection of Candidates for the Direction.

On an application from the Widow of Alexander Bouquet, a pensioner formerly of the Securities Office, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year in accordance with the scale.

The



4<sup>th</sup> December, 1918.

30

The Report of the Special Committee on the Bank Act of 1844, &c. was received and referred to the Court.

An application for a donation in aid of St. Paul's Cathedral Preservation Fund was declined.

Present.  
A full Committee

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> December, 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £165,000,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for Appointments etc. as detailed in a separate Minute dated the 10<sup>th</sup> instant.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on the payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Committee approved of the terms of a Resolution in regard to members of the Staff which it was agreed to refer to the Court.

Present.  
A full Committee

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee, with a note that the Treasury had made arrangements to deal with the Bills endorsed in Holland at their maturity.

It



18<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £165,000,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted to Mr. Harrison, the Principal of the India Office and Mr. Woollard, the Principal of the Intelligence Office as detailed in a separate minute.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for advances during the Quarter ending the 31<sup>st</sup> March next was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Governor made the following statement in regard to the Bank's war profits -

That after several discussions Sir Robert Chalmers had come to the conclusion that the most satisfactory way of settling the question was that the Bank should offer to pay over the remainder of their net Excess Profits for the five years ending the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1919. This suggestion had been fully considered by the Profits Committee, who will make an interim report to the Court to the effect that if it is formally put forward by the Treasury as a final solution of the question up to that date, the Bank would be wise to accept it, subject to legal arrangements. This is likely to entail a refund of some £2½, 500,000.

The suggested arrangement would be held to supersede the suggestions made by the Bank, under pressure from the Select Committee on National Expenditure, in their letters of the 14 March and 11<sup>th</sup> July 1913 to the Treasury, for the modification of some of the Bank's charges to the Government during the War.

With regard to the Bank's position in the matter of charges to the Government after the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1919 Sir Robert Chalmers stated that these subsequent charges would be dealt with in the usual way when the time comes.

The Governor stated finally that the legal points were being dealt with by Sir William Lee and that notice would be given to the Court to-morrow of a Resolution a week later to carry out the above recommendation.



Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Stokes)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Evershed Hambro  
Mr Grenfell  
Col. Hambury.

Tuesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> December 1918.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £163,820,000.

Referring to the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> February 1917, it was agreed to recommend to the Court that, as an exceptional case, the Commonwealth Bank of Australia be added to the list of Banks and Insurance Companies whose indemnity is accepted by the Bank when paying the amount of Bank Notes which have been lost or mislaid.

The Interim Report of the Committee on Special Profits of the Bank was received and referred to the Court, and in connection therewith the Governor informed the Committee that the Treasury, by letter of the 21<sup>st</sup> instant, had stated that they would regard a settlement of the Bank's war charges on the suggested lines as final for the period named.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Stokes)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Evershed Hambro  
Mr Grenfell  
Colonel Hambury.

Thursday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> January, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the reduction of about £10,000,000 during the week in the foreign money borrowed, which now amounted to £152,600,000 was chiefly due to its withdrawal by the Banks for window dressing purposes.

It



2<sup>nd</sup> January 1919.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that certain Clerks who resigned the service in order to join H. M. Forces be reinstated, as detailed in a separate Minute.

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> January 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £163,800,000.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignation on account of ill-health of G. P. Jenkin a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Bank Stock Office, be accepted and that he be granted, during pleasure, a pension of £102: 17: 4 a year, in accordance with the scale.

It was agreed that as a mark of appreciation of the services rendered by those Pensioners who willingly returned to work during the War period, some of whom are still at the Bank, the following bonuses be paid when they finally cease work:-

To Pensioners - formerly Clerks - who have completed not less than two years of service from the date of resigning, a bonus at the rate of £25 a year: and to Pensioners - formerly Porters - a bonus at the rate of £10 a year.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Annuities be purchased for the benefit of those Members of the Staff who, while on Active Service, may have been incapacitated by wounds or sickness from returning to work at the Bank.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That in view of the urgent need for a larger Clerical Staff it was proposed to appoint 100 Clerks



8<sup>th</sup> January 1919

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Clerks on two years' probation. The idea was approved in principle and left for the Staff Committee to put forward.

That, in view of the shortage of office space, it might be necessary to purchase or lease further outside premises.

That M. Avenol had called and stated that he was "authorized to act for the Bank of France" and had made the following suggestion with regard to Clause 5 of the Agreement for the French Credit, after the Governor had assured him that 20 centimes difference in rates could never be considered. "The Bank to be free to draw on the Bank of France, whenever Paris cheque could be sold in London at or below 25.40, surrendering French Treasury Bills to an amount equal to the proceeds of such drawings. The Bank of France to be free to require Bills up to the full extent of the credit to be discounted by the Bank of England whenever London cheque could be sold in Paris at or above 25.90"

To this the Governor was in no way committed, but with his knowledge M. Avenol was to telegraph it to Paris.

Present  
a full Committee

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> January 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £151,000,000, after withdrawal of the French and Italian money.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee and their recommendations in regard to the appointment of Junior Clerks were read and referred to the Court.

A discussion took place as to the vacancies on the Bank Court.

The Governor explained his fear that  
the



15th January 1919.

Present  
A full Committee

the South African Government would set up a mint and refinery, but it was agreed, as before, that the Bank should themselves proceed to erect a refinery in due course.

Wednesday, the 22nd January 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate. The Governor foreshadowed the need for free rates for deposits, to be followed by higher rates for Treasury Bills as soon as the Chancellor could see his way to agree.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £152,900,000.

Proposals of the Chief Accountant for the appointment of General Courts for a Dividend and for the Election of Governors and Directors for the year ensuing were read and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending an Appointment in the Accountants Department.

Present.

Wednesday, the 29th January 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It



29<sup>th</sup> January 1919.

36

It was reported that there was no alteration since last week in the total of the foreign money borrowed.

A Report of the Staff Committee in regard to the nightly charge of the premises at the Branches was read and referred to the Court.

The question was raised as to making a donation to the fund which the Lord Mayor is raising for the reception of the City Troops, and it was left to the Governor to ascertain what was being done by the other Banks.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Mr Robert Wallace of Wallace Bros. Ltd. be recommended to the Proprietors to fill Mr Brook's vacancy on the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee that in his opinion it was very desirable to try and get the Foreign Exchanges right before Peace is signed, as otherwise he feared the possibility of a depletion of the Gold Reserve. He detailed the various steps which he thought should be taken and suggested writing to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, but before doing so, wished to hear the Committee's views.

### Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Thomas Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Hambro

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the total of foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,710,000.

It was agreed that owing to increased work Dr A. J. Davies, the Bank Medical Officer, be granted an additional Bonus of £50 per annum as from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1918 for the period of the War, also that he similarly receive the following sums:-

£200 per annum as from the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1919 to enable him to obtain assistance in his examinations (other than of the Printing

Staff



5<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

Staff) until the number of cases to be reported upon falls to 1,000 per annum.

£100 per annum as from the 1<sup>st</sup> February 1919 to enable him to obtain assistance to examine the Printing Staff, such assistance to be available in case of need or accident, whether here, at Tabernacle Street, or at St. Luke's.

Mr. Davies to be responsible for the efficiency of any assistant whom he may employ and all reports upon candidates for permanent service, if not made by him, to be initialed as approved by him.

CT 66  
A proposal for a grant of £50,000 to the Assurance and Annuity Branch of the Bank of Scotland Society was considered and approved in principle.

A petition from certain Pensioners who had returned to work at the Bank for a continuation of the whole or part of the War gratuity, was not entertained.

With reference to the French Credit the Governor submitted a French draft of a Supplementary Agreement, and stated his intention of impressing on M. Avenol the vital importance of maintaining the Bank's gold reserves and of proposing, inter alia, that whenever gold is withdrawn the Bank shall have the right to discount Bills of an agreed amount and draw daily on Paris until the exchange gets back to say, 27 fcs.

The Governor also mentioned that he proposed to recommend to the Court of Directors that Mr. Herbert Infield Cobb, of the Firm of Keen Cobb and Lee, be appointed a Scrutiniser in the room of Mr. J. L. Goyett.

#### Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Campbell  
Mr. Ble  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Fenfell  
Col. Hambury

Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> February, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments



12<sup>th</sup> February, 1919.

Commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £55,850,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court to grant a donation of £100 to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the reception of the City Troops.

Letters of resignation were laid before the Committee from Mr Aeneas Adam, a Cashier who is over 61 years of age, and from W.H. Eke, Porter to the Securities Office, who, owing to ill-health, is quite unfitted to perform his work, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate minute.

A report of the Staff Committee upon the classed staff at the Head Office and Branches together with a Minute of the Committee recommending appointments was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present.

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> February, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £57,675,000.

Letters of resignation were laid before the Committee from Henry Palmer, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in the Consols Office, Arthur A. Bartlett, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in the Accountants Bank Note Office and Robert Robison, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Public Drawing Office, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted, as detailed in a separate Minute.

A Report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts on the names of the Discounters at the Head Office was submitted and referred to the Court.

It



19th February 1919.

It was agreed to grant a Supplementary Allowance of £50 a year for a period not exceeding five years to Mrs Eleanor J. Hill, Widow of J.H. Hill, late a Clerk in the Dividend Office to assist her in the education of her three young children.

The Committee agreed to renew the following Charitable Subscriptions for the current year, viz:-

City of London Truss Society	£10. 10. -
Royal National Life Boat Institution (City of London Branch)	£21. - : -
Royal Surgical Aid Society	£10. 10. -
Bank Clerks' Orphanage	£52. 10. -
King Edward's Hospital Fund for London	£250. - : -
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses	£10. 10. -
City of London Lying In Hospital	£10. 10. -
<u>The Rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury</u>	
of a Lectureship Fee	£21. - : -
of a Bishop of London's Fund	£20. - : -
of a East London Church Fund	£5. - : -
of a Poor Parishes adjacent to the City	£20. - : -
of a Easter Gift	£10. 10. -

It was further agreed to recommend to the Court to grant a donation of £105 to the Reedham Orphanage, Purley, and £100 yearly to the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for Women and the Samaritan Free Hospital for Women, jointly for the benefit of the Women Staff.

The Governor informed the Committee.

That the home silver position was distinctly better.

That M. Avenol, having no reply in regard to the Bank's proposal referred to in the Minutes of the 5th instant, he feared the Agreement between the Bank and the Bank of France might come up for discussion at a pending conference in Paris.

The



19<sup>th</sup> February 1919.

The Committee thought that letters should therefore be written in general terms to the Treasury and to the Bank of France, pointing out that the Bank beg to be consulted before any arrangement is made, and that after such delay the question seemed to require a direct settlement.

1742  
CT 113.02

The Governor stated his intention of making it known before Peace, that (except in special cases) only bona fide Commercial Bills would thereafter be entitled to fine rates of Discount at the Bank.

Letter in  
CCO/493

He also read a letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer dated the 15<sup>th</sup> instant in regard to Ways and Means Advances.

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> February, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign Commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £157,500,000.

A Report from the Staff Committee, recommending additions to Salaries etc. was considered and referred to the Court.

A Report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts on the Discount business during the past year was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee.

1742  
CT 113.02

That, as foreshadowed last week, he had formally warned Mr Leaf, of the eventual discrimination against Finance Bills by the Bank. With this prospect, as well as the consequent reduction in drawing credits, Mr Leaf seemed well satisfied.

That, at the same time, he had discussed with



24th February, 1919

with Mr. Leaf the means of restricting the withdrawal of gold after Peace to what was absolutely demanded by foreigners for immediate export.

That, with reference to the Bank's excess War Profits, Sir Edward Carson was of opinion that, having regard to all the circumstances, it was within the powers of the Governors to carry out the proposed arrangement as set out in the correspondence between Sir Robert Chalmers and the Governor dated the 21st and 23rd December, 1918; but he considered that the Governors were entitled to obtain from the Treasury the assurance that they are advised by the Law Officers that the transaction is intra vires and an undertaking that the Treasury will indemnify the Governors and the Bank against any loss that may arise should it be held that the arrangement was ultra vires.

That he had suspended the Principal and the Assistant Principal of the Consols Office who were suspected of drinking in their Office after business hours, and that, he had referred the matter to the Staff Committee for investigation.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Rensselaer  
Mr Jenfell  
Col. Hanbury

Wednesday, the 5th March 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, and in this connection it was agreed to recommend to the Court that a letter be written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pointing out that if the Gold Standard were to be maintained after the War, steps should be taken beforehand to restore gradually to the Bank the requisite power to exercise effective control of the situation.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £157,665,000.

A

See Court Papers  
6.3.1919.



5<sup>th</sup> March, 1919.

A Report of the Staff Committee on the case of Stanley S. B. James and Frank L. Gibson, the Principal and Assistant Principal of the Consols Office, was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Committee had before them a letter from Mr Charles M. Lutter, the Chief Accountant, in which, following on the suspension of Messrs. James and Gibson, he tendered his resignation.

It was agreed to recommend that Mr Lutter's resignation be accepted, and that he be granted a pension equal to his full salary for six months, and thereafter during pleasure, of £1,500 a year in accordance with the scale.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending the appointment of a Chief Accountant and the granting of a personal additional salary to the Chief Cashier, was approved and referred to the Court.

On an application from the Widow of Henry Carne, a Pensioner, formerly Principal of the Issue Office, it was agreed to grant her an Allowance, during pleasure, of £58 a year in accordance with the scale.

Letters of resignation were laid before the Committee from Ernest M. Beach, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in the Securities Office, and Newburgh R. Smyth, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk at the Liverpool Branch, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

It was agreed to recommend that a donation of Two hundred pounds be granted to the City of Hull Great War Trust, on the understanding that the formation of the Trust is a civic and official matter.

With reference to the Bank's excess war profits, the Governor informed the Committee that the Law Officers of the Crown had stated that the Directors have power to accept the arrangement set out in the correspondence between Sir Robert Chalmers and the Governor, but that the Treasury had told him that if they give any indemnity the matter must be ~~disclosed~~ disclosed to Parliament.

Sir Edward Carson had now expressed the opinion that the Bank would be justified in accepting the arrangement without an indemnity from the Treasury, provided they stated in their letter that they were doing so in reliance on the assurance of the Law Officers of the Crown that the transaction was intra vires.

It

Papers in  
CCP/72A.



5<sup>th</sup> March, 1919.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that this course be adopted.

A draft of an addition to the Rules and Orders for Clerks was agreed upon for submission to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee -  
That, with reference to the Memorandum from the Staff, he intended to propose the appointment by the Court of a Special Committee, consisting of -

The Deputy Governor

Mr Johnston

Mr Lubbock, and

Sir Alan Anderson.

to enquire into certain complaints on behalf of the Staff, and kindred matters.

That the Bank had secured a lease of some new offices in King William Street.

That it was proposed to place one or two of the Agents on the retired list in order to facilitate promotion

#### Present

The Governor. (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Campbell  
Mr Cole  
Sir Eduardo Hambro  
Lord Roselstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Colonel Hambury

Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £156,500,000

The House List of Governors and Directors for the ensuing year was submitted and referred to the Court.

It



12<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension of £333.6.8 be granted, during pleasure, and in accordance with the scale, to E. P. Gilly, a Cashier, as from the 13<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on the payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments.

The Annual Report by the Secretary upon the Samaritan Fund and Clerks' Guarantee Fund was submitted and referred to the Court.

On an application from the Widow of E. B. Graves, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Private Drawing Office, who died on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, it was agreed to grant her the usual scale allowance, during pleasure, of £36 a year, together with a special allowance of £50 a year for a period not exceeding five years, to assist her in the education of her four children.

Also to grant to Mrs Berry, Widow of John Berry, a Pensioner and undischarged Bankrupt, the scale allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year, subject, however, to reconsideration in six months' time.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he had discussed with the Bankers the general question of Gold Reserves after the War.

That they were disposed to discourage the use of gold for internal purposes and were considering present Money Rates.

That he believed the Chancellor of the Exchequer had been giving some consideration to the suggestion that he should appoint a City Committee to advise him on financial matters, which, in the Governor's opinion would amount to putting either the Chancellor or the Governor into Commission, and that any such step should be most strongly opposed.

That he would propose to the Court, to modify the instructions to Directors taking Branch Audits during the ensuing year.

That he proposed to make a statement (of which a draft was read) to the General Court on the 20<sup>th</sup> instant in regard to the disposal of the Bank's Excess Profits during the War.

The Committee concurred.

The



12<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

The Deputy Chief Accountant attended the Committee and produced the Accounts of the Bank for the past half-year.

A discussion took place as to increasing the fees paid to Directors and, while opinion was divided as to the desirability of the fees being eventually increased, the Committee were of opinion that no change was advisable at the present moment.

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> March, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £154,855,000.

Letters of resignation, accompanied by Certificates from the Bank Medical Officer, were laid before the Committee from -

E. A. Garnett, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Dividend Accounts Office,

J. R. Drummond, a 11<sup>th</sup> Class Clerk in the Bank Stock Office.

S. B. F. Savill, Porter at Newcastle, who is incapacitated by wounds received whilst on Active Service, and

J. W. Ellis, a Mechanic in the Printing Department who is 66 years of age.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

In consideration of the services of C. H. Roud, Overseer in the Printing Department in connection with certain improvements which he had originated, it was agreed that (as an exception) he be granted a gratuity of £500.

The



19<sup>th</sup> March, 1919.

The Governor informed the Committee that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had made a fresh Agreement with the French Government covering inter alia the probable sale of the gold held under the Bank of France Credit.

A letter was read from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in regard to the steps to be taken to rehabilitate the monetary standard.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for Advances during the ensuing quarter was read and referred to the Court.

5

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,400,000.

On an application from Mrs Erica A. Stuart, widow of Herbert G. Stuart, a Clerk in the Bank, who died on the 7<sup>th</sup> instant from broncho pneumonia while in hospital suffering from wounds received in Action, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, the full allowance of £30 a year in view of the fact that her husband was not permitted when he applied, to increase his assurance with the Bank Provident Society.

The Governor informed the Committee

That on the removal of the peg from the American Exchange he had repeated his regular and persistent advice to the Chancellor to allow freedom of deposit rates and an increase in the discount on Treasury Bills - a change which if gradually effected would have the support of the Clearing Bankers

and

Letter 18.3.53 in  
CCO/493

CCO/493



26th March, 1919.

and follow the Currency Committee's Report, but that the Chancellor did not at present see his way to making any change.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer was being urged to consider the advisability, in view of the American Exchange rates, of definitely prohibiting the export of gold. The Governor was of opinion that it would be unwise now to make any such prohibition and had so informed the Chancellor who wished however to obtain the views of the Clearing Bankers.

The Governor mooted a suggestion that the Bank should pay to the South African Producers the same price for the gold as they would obtain either in the United States or in Canada.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Everard Hambro,  
Lord Revelstoke,  
Mr. Grenfell,  
Mr. Trotter,  
Sir Charles Adair.

Wednesday, the 2nd April 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

On an application from the Widow of Cecil A. Wilmot-Busdon, a 3rd Class Clerk at the Plymouth Branch, who died on the 7th February, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £38 a year in accordance with the scale.

An application from the League of Nations Union for a donation was declined.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee of an application from the Guaranty Trust Company (who have long had an account in London) to continue an account at the Liverpool Branch for the main purpose of financing cotton. On the general ground that the Bank should not directly encourage the business of foreign institutions, the application had been declined.

The



2<sup>nd</sup> April, 1919.

The Governor informed the Committee -

of the proposals for appointments of Committees, etc. for the current year which were to be referred to the Court.

That if the Bank ever take over the printing of small Notes many machines would be necessary. A prompt order for 10 machines - which would cost about £20,000 - would ensure the refusal of a further ten, and so eliminate the chance of competition. The Government being anxious that if any alteration were made the Bank should undertake the plate printing of Currency Notes, the order had been placed.

With regard to Gold Exports, that, to his regret, the Clearing Bankers were unanimous in recommending immediate prohibition and the Chancellor's advisers being also in favour of that the order had been issued.

The question of South African Gold was again discussed, especially as regards advances thereon by the Bank, on the basis of the statutory price, and the free right of sale and re-export by the producers in the London Market.

X

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brewster Chalmers)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Edward Hambro  
Mr. Kempell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addey

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> April 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £150,655,000.

The Committee had before them letters of resignation from Mr. Hugh A. N. Smith, Agent at the Birmingham Branch, and Mr. George J. Charleston, Agent at the Hull Branch, and it was agreed to recommend to



9<sup>th</sup> April, 1919.

to the Court that Pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending sundry appointments etc. and a further Minute recommending the creation of Supernumerary posts and appointments thereto were submitted and referred to the Court.

On an application from the Widow of Alfred R. D. Creser, a Pensioner and former Clerk, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year, in accordance with the scale.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the French are unwilling to carry out the agreed sales of Gold held in connection with the Bank of France Credit.

Of the projected arrangements with the Union Government for South African Gold to come freely to the Bank of England in London for refining and delivery to others with right of export, advances by the Bank of England to be arranged through the Union Government if required later.

That an unsatisfactory answer had been received from the Treasury to the Bank's suggestions in regard to current charges for Government work.

That the Bankers are much concerned about the method to be adopted for obtaining payment for supplies made to the poorer Allied Countries, and had suggested to the Treasury that 3 or 5 year Bonds should be issued at a substantial rate of interest, of which a certain proportion should be paid to the Government for their guarantee; but that the Treasury were not in favour of the plan.

The Committee discussed the question and were not disposed to approve of the plan suggested.

§



Present:-

The Governor (Sir Brian Stanger)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Jenfell  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 16th April, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £151,135,000.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee including the "Overs" and "Shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute recommending sundry appointments.

On an application from the Widow of W. H. Streatfield, a Pensioner late of the Western Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year in accordance with the scale.

An application for financial assistance from Miss Maude Maunsell, daughter of a Pensioner, deceased, was considered and it was agreed to leave the matter in the Governor's hands to give such assistance as he may think necessary from the Samaritan Fund.

Leave of absence for three months, as from the 14th instant, without pay, was granted to Douglas Iron, a Supernumerary 4th Class Clerk in the Cashiers Department, pending the result of his application for a Permanent Commission in the Royal Air Force.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he proposed to make a payment on account of the Excess Profits Duty for the past year under Discount of 5%.

That



16<sup>th</sup> April 1919.

That he had had a simple Agreement prepared and sent to the Colonial Office for submission to the Union Government of South Africa, in regard to the consignment of gold to the Bank, which the Treasury had approved.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,835,000.

On an application from the Widow of Windsor Ansted, a Pensioner, formerly a Cashier, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, of £60 a year, in accordance with the scale.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> April, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee, also the Quarterly Statement of Promissory Bills.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £150,135,000.

The



30th April, 1919.

The resignation on account of ill-health of William Richter, Superintendent in the Issue Office, was tendered and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate Minute.

On an application from the Widow of J. B. G. Wallace, a Senior Clerk in the Chief Cashier's Office, it was agreed to grant her an Allowance during pleasure, and in accordance with the scale, of £28 a year.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for sundry appointments, as detailed in a separate Minute, dated the 29th April.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 7th May, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £150,000,000.

A letter was read from the Bank's Solicitors reporting the result of the Bank's prosecution of certain offenders under the Forgery Act for uttering and possessing "Bank of Engraving" Notes. The Recorder, in passing sentence, remarked that it was most important that all such cases should be prosecuted by the Bank.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Trotter

Wednesday, the 14th May 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



14<sup>th</sup> May 1919.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £148,600,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a Pension of £333:6:8 a year be granted, during pleasure, to R. A. London, a Cashier, as from the 16<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for appointments as detailed in a separate Minute dated the 13<sup>th</sup> May.

The resignation, owing to ill-health as the result of wounds received in action of M. R. Bonquet of the Dividend Office, was tendered and it was agreed to recommend that an annuity be purchased for him equivalent to the amount of his pension, viz. £86:11:8.

Letters of resignation from W. J. C. Brown of the Consols Office, and Ernest Withers of the Chief Cashier's Office, were received and referred to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brun Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis.

Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> May 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £147,285,000.

The



21<sup>st</sup> May, 1919.

The question as to whether the Bank should take any part in the Peace celebrations, such as illuminations, etc., was raised, and it was left to the Governor to follow what was being done in the Government Offices.

The Committee again discussed arrangements for the shipment of gold from South Africa to London, especially as to whether the Bank should act as selling Agents for the producers, irrespective of the prices to be paid for the gold for export. The Committee were not unanimous, and the Governor said that he would see the producers and General Botha again and try to arrange a contract with or without an advance on easy terms, if possible without committing the Bank to act definitely as selling Agents.

## Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> May, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £145,610,000.

Sir Robert Kindersley attended the Committee by invitation and joined in the further discussion which took place on the general question of shipment of gold from South Africa to London.

## Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



28<sup>th</sup> May 1919.  
cc. present

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £146,760,000.

On an application from Mrs Isabel S. Lovelock, Widow of the late Harold W. Lovelock, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Consols Office, who was killed in action on the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1918, it was agreed to grant her an additional allowance of £60 a year for 10 years to assist her in the education of her two children.

The Governor informed the Committee:—

That, subject to completion of an agreement for the import to London of the Gold produced in South Africa and with the consent of the Treasury, he was arranging to release to the South African Producers at the purchase price a moderate amount of Bar Gold for sale within the Country, so as to reduce the price of over £5 per oz. now being paid by the Trade.

That the Chancellor was now committed to the issue of a Loan in the near future and that it was of vital importance to the Bank that the Loan should be a success, it had been arranged to make advances, as required, to the Bankers, possibly below Bank Rate, to assist them with their customers applications.

Of a proposal by the President of the Board of Trade - with which he personally did not agree - for obviating unemployment here by facilitating the export of our manufactures to the devastated countries of Europe on credit with Government guarantee.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brien Cohayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Guérard Hambro  
Mr. Cole  
Mr. Trotter.

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



11<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that there was no alteration, as compared with last week, in the total of the foreign money borrowed.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That a suggestion had been made by the London Clearing Bankers that all Banks should close on Saturdays at 12 o'clock. He was, however, uncertain if it was possible to take such steps at the present time.

That he had had an interview with General Smuts on the subject of the South African Gold and had left with him a draft of the Contract to be entered into with the Producers, under which the Bank undertakes to make advances at 1% under Bank Rate or at Treasury Bill Rate, whichever is the lower, on the security of the Gold.

That the Bank had agreed to make advances at  $\frac{1}{2}\%$  under Bank Rate varying with a minimum of  $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ , to Bankers and approved applicants for the new Loans.

That the Clarence House Estate adjoining the Bank of England Sports Club at Roehampton was shortly to be put up for sale. He thought that if the property, which had a good frontage to Priory Lane, could be acquired at a reasonable figure, it would be to the advantage of the Bank to purchase.

The Committee concurred.

#### Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Croker)  
The Deputy Governor (Sir Norman)  
Sir Francis Hambro  
Mr. Cole  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addison

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,560,000

The



18<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court the proposals of the Staff Committee for appointments together with Provisional Rules and Orders for Women Clerks on the Permanent Staff, as detailed in separate Minutes dated the 13<sup>th</sup> June.

Further discussion took place on the subject of the proposed Agreement with the South African Gold producers, especially as regards any License for re-export covering either bar Gold or the resulting sovereigns.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Abner)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Keblestone  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> June, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments was laid before the Committee. Also the Quarterly Statement of Pre-Moratorium Bills.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £15,135,000.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for Advances during the ensuing Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Sir Richard Hambro  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Keblestone  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It



2nd July 1919.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,000,000.

Letters of resignation were laid before the Committee from E. J. Wise Chief Clerk at the Western Branch, C. H. Knight, a Cashier and W. G. Hodges a Cashier, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that Pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

CT 71.01  
The Governor mentioned that the Government were negotiating an agreement with the Royal Dutch-Shell group, the object being to ensure British Control of the Oil Companies and that it was proposed to appoint the Governor of the Bank for the time being as the "British nominee" referred to in the Draft Agreement. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had specially requested that the Governor of the Bank would consent to act and in these circumstances the Governor stated that he would submit the proposal to the Court to-morrow for their approval.

The Committee concurred.

X

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cohen)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Roscliffe  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Adair

Wednesday, the 9th July 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., including foreign commitments, was laid before the Committee

It



9<sup>th</sup> July 1919.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,900,000.

On an application from the Widow of A. L. Clibbe, a Superintendent in the Bank Stock Office, who died on the 14<sup>th</sup> June, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, an Allowance of £50 a year in accordance with the scale.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Mr Arthur Whitworth, a Director of Forbes, Forbes, Campbell & Company, Ltd., be invited to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy on the Court consequent on the death of Mr Campbell.

A discussion took place on the "Provisional Scheme for an Advisory Council of Directors and Staff" which the Special Committee had presented to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Russell  
Mr Penfoll  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> July, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended to the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £148,225,000.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee, including the "overs and shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute dated the 14<sup>th</sup> instant recommending sundry appointments.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute, to W. J. Bunce, a Honey Porter, and C. B. Pyne, a Painter in the Works Department who are both certified by the Bank Medical Officer as being unfit for further duty at the Bank.

It



16th July, 1919.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court to-morrow that an invitation be extended to Mr Walter Kennedy Whigham, of Messrs. Robert Fleming & Co., to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy on the Court, caused by the resignation of Mr. V.C.ickers.

With reference to the "Provisional Scheme for an Advisory Council of Directors and Staff" the Deputy Governor mentioned that he had submitted the scheme in confidence to Mr Bryant, a representative of the Staff, who had expressed his entire approval of the method of representation and of the provisional rules.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Lord Rochdale  
Mr Macmillan  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Adair

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> July 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,000,000, and in this connection the Governor stated that, as the Bank was ceasing to borrow Home Money at 3%, he hoped eventually to get rid of the 4½% rate for foreign money.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors that the half-yearly Accounts be brought before the Court on Thursday, the 11<sup>th</sup> September next, that a General Court to consider of a Dividend be held at the Bank on Thursday, the 18<sup>th</sup> September next, and that the Dividend Warrants be delivered on Monday, the 6<sup>th</sup> October next.

A discussion took place as to the existing prohibition on the export of Gold, the fact of which was regretted and the removal of which was hoped for at the earliest possible moment.



Present :-

The Governor (Sir Brian Coghane)

Mr. Cole

Lord Curcliffe

Mr. Grenfell

Mr. Trotter

Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> July, 1919

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £146,000,000.

On an application from the Widow of Frank P. Purdie, a 4<sup>th</sup> class clerk at the Birmingham Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, and in accordance with the Scale, of £31 a year.

A Report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts, recommending the opening of sundry Discount Accounts, was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee that the Bank were offering to make arrangements with all their gold consignees similar to those entered into with the South African Gold Producers.

Present :-

The Governor (Sir Brian Coghane)

Lord Curcliffe

Sir Charles Addis

Mr. Trotter

Thursday, the 31<sup>st</sup> July 1919

The Governor informed the Committee that he had summoned them in order to ascertain their views on a scheme which Sir John Bradbury wished



31<sup>st</sup> July 1919

to submit to the Chancellor, whereby Bank notes might be earmarked as security against future expansion of the issue of currency notes, in such amounts and at such times as the Bank and the Treasury might mutually approve.

After discussion the committee agreed in principle to the proposal.

Present:-

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Coke) (in)

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)

Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Trotter

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> August 1919

The proceedings of the last committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,000,000.

The Governor informed the committee that the Italian Finance Minister was trying to raise money in London, and had called upon him to ask if the Bank could render any assistance, by discounting Bills, or otherwise, but that he had given him no encouragement.

Present:-

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)

Mr. Cole

Lord Cunliffe

Mr. Grenfell

Mr. Trotter

Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> August 1919

The proceedings of the last committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



13<sup>th</sup> August 1919

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £151,000,000.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignation on account of continued ill health of Edward C. Moy, a 2<sup>nd</sup> class clerk of the Liverpool Branch, be accepted, and that he be granted, during pleasure, a pension of £117 a year, in accordance with the scale.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for appointments contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee dated the 11<sup>th</sup> instant.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee :-

That some of the Bank's Gold is now being brought back from South Africa, and that it has been agreed to lend part to India, who will repay in kind within a certain definite period.

That suggestions had been made as to new arrangements in regard to the currency notes, whereby the Bank should be enabled to make some charge for their services.

That owing to the difficulties as to the basis of the charges by the Bank to the Government, he proposed during the Autumn to employ from outside an expert in "costing" to estimate the expenses of management. The Committee approved.



Present

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> August, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £152,700,000.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee that the Ministry of Labour have made an informal request to the Bankers to set up a National Whitley Council.

It was agreed that a limited number of Clerks be allowed to volunteer for service as Special Constables, on the understanding that they enrol in the City.

It was agreed that the loss of a limb should not necessarily render a Candidate for a Clerkship ineligible, provided his health was satisfactory and the injury was not such as to impair his efficiency as a Clerk.

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Present

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> August, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,450,000.

The



27<sup>th</sup> August, 1919.

The estimates of the Bank's Profits for the current half year were discussed.

The Committee had before them a letter of resignation from Henry L. Colebrooke, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Dividend Accounts Office. Colebrooke is 55 years of age, and his pension according to the scale, with War Bonus, would be £248.13.4. The case is covered by the recommendation of the Special Complaints Committee that individual applications for permission to retire on a reduced pension before the recognised age should be considered. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors that Colebrooke's resignation be accepted, and that he be granted, during pleasure, a pension equal to his full salary to the 9<sup>th</sup> October next, and thereafter of £200 a year without War Bonus.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee that the Bankers had had a meeting on the subject of a National Whitley Council for Banking. It was the general opinion that such a council was not needed by their Staffs, and that it would not be in their interest.

X

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Trotter.

Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £158,500,000.

The



30 September, 1919.

66

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he had been in communication with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the subject of the recent heavy demands made by the Government for Ways and Means Advances, and the desirability of curtailing these Advances by putting up the Treasury Bill Rate; but that the Chancellor did not yet see his way to adopt this course.

That, with regard to complaints which had been made by certain Bank Stock Proprietors concerning the disposal of the Bank's Excess Profits, he had decided, after consulting Sir William Leese, to make a short statement at the General Court on the 18th instant, and that Sir William Leese was preparing some notes on the subject.

Sir Everard Hambro raised the question as to the propriety of the sale of gold from South Africa before its arrival in this country. This he understood had actually taken place. It was agreed that such a course was contrary to the intention of the arrangement with the South African Gold producers.

On an application from the Widow of Herbert B. Woollett, a Pensioner, formerly Stock Office Librarian, who died on the 19th ultimo, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, an Allowance of £60 a year in accordance with the scale.

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Present

The Governor (Sir Brian A. Keynes)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Mr Cole  
Lord Cantill  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Adde  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 10th September, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £153,000,000.

Further



10<sup>th</sup> September 1919.

Further discussion took place on the subject of the Government's borrowings on "Ways and Means" and the urgent need for curtailing these Advances.

The Governor stated that he was to discuss the whole question with the Chancellor to-morrow.

With reference to the Bank's charges for management of the Government Debt, the Governor mentioned that the Chancellor could not see his way to agree to more than £150 per million for management of the Funded Debt in excess of £500,000,000 and that the Profits Committee had considered this and were disposed, in view of the probable abnormal business of the Bank in other respects during the next two years - in particular the probable continuance of the French Credit during that period - to recommend the Court's acceptance of the terms, on the understanding that they form no precedent for the future.

He also read a statement which Messrs. Freshfield had prepared for him to make at the General Court in regard to the disposal of the Bank's Excess Profits, and discussed the question whether any such statement should be made if the matter were not raised by one of the Proprietors. The Committee were of opinion that it would be better not to refer to the matter unless questioned. In this connection it was agreed that, in future, Bank Stock Proprietors who attend General Courts should be asked to write their names on a sheet of paper at the entrance to the Court Room.

The Half-Yearly Accounts of the Bank were laid before the Committee.

Present.

Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup> September 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



17<sup>th</sup> September, 1919.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £151,000,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted, according to scale, to two Bank Note Stampers, as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute dated the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, recommending sundry appointments.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, applying for Advances during the ensuing Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court and in this connection the Governor stated that he would ask the Court to authorize him to draw the Chancellor's attention both to the amount and to the duration of these Advances, which for the past two years have in effect to a large extent partaken of the nature of a continuous loan, and to express the earnest hope that such loans may hereafter be obtained from the public, and the Bank's Advances once more confined to the Treasury's temporary requirements.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Sir Brian  
Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Gerard Hambro  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Charles Addey

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £149,000,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a further 200 Probationary Male Clerks be appointed, preference being given to Candidates over 22 years of age.

An application from the Salvation Army for a donation to their Jubilee Fund was declined.

The



24th September, 1919.

The Governor informed the Committee that he had discussed with the Chancellor of the Exchequer the question of Money Rates, and that the Chancellor had requested the Governor to write him a letter, expressing fully the views of the Bank Court on the matter. He read to the Committee a draft which had already been seen and approved by the Chancellor of the letter which he proposed to submit to the Court to-morrow for their approval.

The Committee concurred therein.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Lord Revelstoke  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 1st October, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £160,000,000, being an increase during the week of £10,000,000.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Francis Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 8th October 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £165,400,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors that the resignation on account  
of



8<sup>th</sup> October, 1919.

of continued ill-health of Henry H. Lempriere, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Dividend Pay Office, be accepted, and that he be granted, during pleasure, a pension equal to his full salary until the 29<sup>th</sup> February, 1920, and thereafter of £253.15.4 a year in accordance with the scale.

The result of the Election of Representatives of the Staff to serve on the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff was reported to the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee that he intended to propose to the Court that Lord Revelstoke be appointed Chairman of the Council, and that

Mr. Norman  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Alan Anderson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Price

be appointed Members.

§

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Frederick Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addison.

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> October 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was reported that the foreign money borrowed amounted to £133,400,000.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for appointments contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee dated the 11<sup>th</sup> inst.

§



Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Mr. Cole  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Lord Rosetoke  
 Mr. Kempell  
 Mr. Proter  
 Sir Charles Adair  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Committee had before them an appeal from the Governors of St. Bartholomew's Hospital for a Donation, and it was decided to leave the matter in abeyance.

The Governor informed the Committee:

That he had at last seen M. Avenol, who had told him that it was not a favorable moment for raising the question of a settlement of the disputed interpretation of the Bank of France Credit, and considered it advisable to wait until sentiment in France had improved.

That he proposed to exchange part of the Bank's holding of 5% War Stock 1929/47 for National War Bonds 1922/29.

In view of the continued increase in the price of Silver, the Committee were of opinion that steps should be taken as soon as possible to prohibit the melting and export of Silver.

Present

a full Committee.

Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> October, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The



29<sup>th</sup> October, 1919.

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The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee including the "overs and shorts" at the Head Office and Branches was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute dated the 27<sup>th</sup> instant recommending sundry appointments, &c.

The following Memoranda were laid before the Committee.

- (1) Detailing the future arrangements in regard to the work and Clerical Staff at St. Luke's.
- (2) Mentioning the changes which may be proposed in the Management of the Clerks' Luncheon Club.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the Committee of the Stock Exchange were in favour of all underwriting Commission being disclosed in prospectuses, and had asked him for support of a proposal to this effect.

This was deferred for further consideration.

That owing to rise in price the Government were taking steps to prohibit the melting of silver coin and the export of silver bullion.

The Governor consulted the Committee as to the advisability of his bringing before the Currency Committee all or any of the changes recommended by the Bank Act Committee (whose report was approved by the Court on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 1918) in order that they might be embodied as recommendations in a subsequent Report of the Currency Committee.

The question was raised as to -

- (1) The adoption this year of the recommendation of the Currency Committee paragraph 42 that when reductions have been effected in the Currency Note Issue the actual maximum fiduciary circulation in any year should become the legal maximum for the following year, and
- (2) The termination of advances under the Currency and Bank Note Act 1914

This was deferred for further consideration.

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Present.

The Governor (Sir Owen  
 (Hayne)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Mr Cole  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Mr Trotter  
 Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 5th November, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he proposed with regard to Customers' fortnightly money invested in Treasury Bills that such transactions should in future be eliminated from the Bank's accounts, and be subject to a charge varying with the rate at which Treasury Bills were being issued to the Public.

That he felt the time had arrived for a rise in the Bank Rate, in view of the increase in the Currency Note and Bank Note circulation and the serious reduction in the Reserve. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Court that the Bank Rate be raised to 6% to-morrow, provided the Chancellor of the Exchequer would agree to a general advance in Rates.

A memorandum was approved proposing a "Special Gift" to the Members of the Staff if and when before the 31st March 1920 the Board of Trade returns published monthly in the Labour Gazette show the average increase in the cost of living as having risen to 150 per cent. above pre-war level.

The question of all underwriting commission being disclosed in prospectuses was again discussed. The Committee were in favour of this, provided it could be permanently enforced and applied to all securities hereafter dealt in on the Stock Exchange.

The question of the advisability of the Governor bringing before the Currency Committee all or any of the changes recommended by the Bank Act Committee was again discussed but no decision was taken as to any action in the matter.

The Governor said that he had been asked by the Committee of the Stock Exchange for his opinion in regard to the resumption of fortnightly settlements, and it was agreed that the time for this had not yet arrived.

The Committee were not in favour of an issue of Premium or Lottery Bonds.



Present  
a full Committee

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Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> November 1919

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Committee had before them a letter of resignation from Herbert C. Bell, the Deputy Chief Clerk at the Western Branch, and it was agreed to recommend that his resignation be accepted as from the 20<sup>th</sup> instant, and that he be granted, during pleasure, a pension of £324 a year in accordance with the scale.

A letter was laid before the Committee from Ernest M. Beach, a Pensioner, formerly a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in the Securities Office, asking for some financial assistance towards the education of his two sons, and it was agreed to recommend that he be granted, during pleasure, £50 a year for this purpose from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1920.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for Appointments etc. contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee dated the 10<sup>th</sup> instant.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer was quite prepared to consider the recommendation of the Currency Committee that when reductions have been effected in the Currency Note Issue the actual maximum fiduciary circulation in any year should become the legal maximum for the following year but he would not commit himself at the present time, and further that the Chancellor was prepared if possible to terminate advances under the Currency and Bank Notes Act, 1914.

That the Chancellor of the Exchequer had asked the Currency Committee to report on the Silver Currency. It was agreed that the Governor should give evidence on behalf of the Bank. A general discussion took place as to the steps to be taken.

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Present

Mr. Brown (Governor)  
 Mr. Cole  
 Lord Cunliffe  
 Mr. Everett Hambro  
 Lord Kockatke  
 Mr. Kempell  
 Mr. Prother  
 Mr. Charles Adkins

Wednesday, the 19th November, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend that the resignation on account of ill-health of Owen E. Williams the Principal of the Colonial & Corporation Stocks Office, be accepted as from the 30th instant, and that he be granted thereafter during pleasure a pension of £537 12/- a year, in accordance with the scale.

The Committee again discussed the question of the evidence to be given by the Governor before the Currency Committee in regard to the Silver Currency. The opinion of the Committee generally appeared to be that no change should be made in the Silver Currency except in case of absolute necessity, and then only as a temporary measure, but that if any change had to be made it would be advisable to be prepared to issue small notes - 5/- notes at first and subsequently of values down to 1/- . It was not considered that it would be an effective remedy to start debasing the currency when, if ever, the necessity should arise for immediate action.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That on Saturday last the Discount Market were not working. In order to induce them to work he saw representatives of the Discount Houses on Monday morning and told them that he would take bills maturing early in January at the minimum rate. No Bills came to the Bank, but his announcement had the desired effect and the Market is now working freely.

2. That one of the South African Banks has been buying gold here, changing it for sovereigns

and



19th November 1909

and shipping the sovereigns to South Africa; also that there was considerable criticism on the part of the South African gold producers of the terms of the contract with the Bank.

3. That at the end of last week he was approached by Sir W.G. Armstrong Whitworth & Co., Ltd., to allow the Bank's name to appear on the prospectus of an issue of their shares. He found that Armstrongs had sold the shares to a syndicate who were proposing to re-issue certain of them at a discount and that the request was really made on behalf of the syndicate. He said that he could not give any promise without reference to the Court, and as the issue could not be delayed the work had been given to Lloyds Bank. He was very sorry because he feared we might as a result lose some of Armstrong's business but he did not feel under the circumstances that he could commit the Court.

4. That an appeal had been received from the Permanent Porters for consideration of their wages and conditions of service, and that, in the absence of the Deputy Governor, Mr. Trotter was enquiring into the matter.

5. That the Governor of the Bank of Ireland had been approached in regard to the formation of Whitley Councils for Irish Banks, and that he was coming to see him to-morrow.

6. That a customer of the Bank, Joseph Benson, who had many trustee accounts at the Bank, had embezzled about £250,000 of Trust Funds. It was a matter between Benson and his Co-trustees, and the Bank were not responsible in any way.

7. That on Monday <sup>the 17th</sup> he had attended a Meeting at the House of Commons to meet Dr. Addison and to discuss the advisability of raising money to finance the Government schemes of housing. He had told Dr. Addison that he thought it a most inauspicious moment for attempting to raise money and that he thought Local Authorities could probably raise in their own districts such money as they required on better terms than the Government could obtain.

8. That the Chancellor had been approached on the subject of a Bank Holiday on Saturday the 27th December, and wished to obtain the views of the Bank. The Committee were in favour of the proposal.

9. That



19<sup>th</sup> November, 1919.

9. That he proposed to obtain the consent of the Court for the Bank's name to appear, as Bankers to the Company, and willing as such to receive applications at the Head Office and Branches, on a Prospectus of a Re-Insurance Company, which was being formed by the London Assurance Corporation. The Committee approved.

10. That he thought it would be well to purchase the Clarence House property, which adjoined the Bank's property at Rochampton. He thought it would be useful when the Bank came to take over the issue of Currency Notes and would also increase the value of the property. The Committee authorised him to spend up to £15,000 for this purpose.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brian Craggs)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Ancliffe  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Adair

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> November 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that the Committee should meet in Christmas Week on Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> December, at 11 a.m., Thursday being Christmas Day.

The Committee had before them a report from Miss Kate Gough, daughter of Mrs. Harriet Gough, Widow of a Pensioner, for continuance of the allowance formerly paid to her Mother. A similar request had been refused by the Committee in May, 1918, but Miss Gough was then given a sum of £50 from the Samaritan Fund. It was agreed that no further assistance, could be given by the Bank.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That



26th November, 1919.

1. That he had seen Sir Lionel Phillips, who had shown him a copy of a resolution passed unanimously at a Conference held last month in South Africa, requesting the Gold Producers to take steps to obtain a modification of their contract with the Bank by making it terminable at shorter notice. He thought it would be good policy, on the part of the Bank to agree to this and the Committee agreed that it might be desirable to make the Contract terminable at 3 months notice instead of 6 months.

2. That it had been arranged for Stock issued by the Post Office (Treasury Bonds and National War Bonds) to be represented by an entry in the Bank Books in the name of the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt.

3. That he had given evidence in regard to the Silver Currency on the 24<sup>th</sup> instant before the Sub-Committee of the Currency Committee.

4. That he had been approached with regard to opening an Account at the Bank for an Austrian Relief Fund. The Committee approved.

5. That the Members of the Irish Bank Officials Union had threatened to strike on the 31<sup>st</sup> December, unless certain demands were granted, but he understood that one at any rate of the Banks was not expecting the strike to take place.

6. That he was inclined to think the proposed extra Bank Holiday at Christmas afforded a good opportunity for dropping the Banking Holiday on the 1<sup>st</sup> January, but he understood that the other Bankers were almost unanimous in their desire to continue this holiday, at any rate for the coming year. He considered there was less justification for the holiday on the 1<sup>st</sup> July than for the January Holiday.

#### Present

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Cotnam)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Curzon  
Sir Francis Baring  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Frouwell  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addison

Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

Applications



3<sup>rd</sup> December, 1919.

Applications for Allowances from the Widows of G. A. Darby and A. A. J. W. Zennes, Pensioners, were considered and it was agreed to grant Allowances, during pleasure and in accordance with the scale, of £23:10/- per annum and £36 per annum, respectively.

A letter of resignation was laid before the Committee from Philip J. Rowlatt, a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Clerk in the Bill Office, and it was agreed to recommend that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate minute.

In view of the probable extremely low figures of this week's Bank Reserve, the question was raised as to the desirability of including in the figures some of the gold which had been set aside in connection with the Italian Credit.

Under the Agreement between the Italian Government and H. M. Treasury this gold must be returned to the Bank of Italy when the Bills are repaid, but Lord Cunliffe mentioned that when the gold was sent it was clearly understood by Italy and also by France in connection with their Credit, that it would not be kept intact, but used.

After discussion it was agreed that a portion of this gold should be transferred to the Bank this week in order to strengthen the Reserve.

Present

The Governor (Sir Brien Cokayne)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Sverdrup Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Greenfell  
Mr. Footes  
Sir Charles Adair

Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> December, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that the Committee should meet on Wednesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> December, at 11 a.m.,  
Thursday



10th December, 1919.

Thursday, the 1st January, being a Close Holiday for Banks.

The Governor mentioned that he proposed to ask the Court to renew the food subsidy at the Clerks' Luncheon Club, together with the food allowance to Clerks at the Branches, until the 31st March, 1920; on the recommendation of the Advisory Council.

Present

The Governor (Sir Arden Chamberlain)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Peel (Stoke)  
Mr. Penfoll  
Mr. Drotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 17th December 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute, dated the 15th instant, recommending sundry appointments, &c.

On an application from the Widow of J. J. Burrow, a pensioner, late a House Porter, it was agreed to grant her the scale allowance of £18 a year during pleasure, together with an additional amount of £5 a year until such time as she is eligible for an Old Age Pension.

The Governor gave an estimate of the figures of the Bank's Reserve at the end of the year and raised the question as to the desirability of including in the figures this week move of the gold which had been set aside in connection with the Italian Credit.

After discussion it was decided to take no action at present.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the Government had assented to the French Government borrowing in this Country in March.

That some of the Banks were giving a donation to the Austrian Relief Fund.

That



17<sup>th</sup> December 1919.

That the gold mining Companies in India had complained that the existing arrangement with the Bank was very hard on them, but he proposed to leave the matter for discussion with the Deputy Governor on his return.

That, in view of the Report of the Committee on Currency, the Chancellor of the Exchequer intended to ask the Bankers to pay in their gold to the Bank in January.

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> December, 1919.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Copestake)  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Brotherton.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for advances during the ensuing quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Governor mentioned that enquiry had been made as to whether the Bank would be prepared to take over the examination and destruction of Currency Notes and that he proposed to write to the Treasury to the effect that the Bank were willing to undertake at full cost all the work in connection with Currency Notes, viz., both the printing and the work just mentioned, as soon as they could make arrangements for doing so, and also as from the 1<sup>st</sup> January next the work of issue, &c., which they are at present performing free of charge. But that this arrangement would be liable to be superseded by any agreement which might subsequently be made with the Bank either for taking over the issue as part of their own or for doing the work on a scale of charges.



Present

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Chaynes)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)

Mr. Cole  
Lord Cunliffe  
Mr. Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1919.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor mentioned that the Bankers had agreed to commence paying in their gold on the 7<sup>th</sup> January.

Present.

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> January, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On an application from the Widow of E. W. Davis, a Pensioner, late of the Liverpool Branch, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, an Allowance of £60 a year, in accordance with the scale.

In the case of the Widow of W. J. Bunce, a Pensioner, late a House Porter, it was agreed, in view of special circumstances, to continue to Mrs. Bunce the pension granted to her husband of £50.14.- for a period of six months, and thereafter, during pleasure, an Allowance of £18 a year in accordance with the scale.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That, as foreshadowed the Contract with the South African Gold producers had been made terminable at three, instead of six months' notice.

That the purchase of the Clarence House property and the Farm at Roehampton, had practically been completed, at a cost of £13,500.

That



7<sup>th</sup> January 1920

That he had been asked to sign an (international) Appeal to Government to call an International Conference to consider the provision of financial aid to the Countries of Europe. Opinions were divided on the advisability of his so doing.

That, with reference to the proposed re-building of the Bank, it would be necessary to secure other large premises before the work could be begun.

For some time past the Bank had been trying to find a suitable place, and after much search and enquiry the only site available might be as remote as Finsbury Circus, provided the distance was not too great.

The Committee concurred as to the necessity for obtaining other large premises, as remote as the Finsbury Circus site, if no more suitable position could be obtained.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Kewen Cowan)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Ravelston  
Mr. Grenfell  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> January, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for appointments etc., contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee dated the 12<sup>th</sup> instant.

It was also agreed to recommend that the resignation of Colonel Erskine, Agent at the Newcastle Branch, be accepted and that he be granted a pension based on his ordinary salary only as detailed in a separate Minute of the Staff Committee.

Referring to the Minutes of the  
Committee



14<sup>th</sup> January 1920

Committee of the 5<sup>th</sup> November last, approving a Special Gift to Members of the Staff should the cost of living increase to 130 per cent. above pre-war level before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 1920, it was agreed, on the advice of the Chairman of the Advisory Council to recommend the Court to sanction payment of the Special Gift at the present time in view of the continued high cost of living - although the figure of 130 per cent. had not been reached.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he proposed to gradually replace, out of the gold now being paid in by the Bankers, the four millions of gold taken from the amount set aside of the Bank of Italy.

That, with a view to providing cover for payment of £8,000,000 French Treasury Bills, for which tenders for only £1,240,000 had been accepted, he proposed to make an advance for the honour of the French Government and subject to the Treasury's concurrence, not exceeding £2,000,000, without definite security, but on the understanding that repayment would shortly be effected from the proceeds of gold sold by the French to the Indian Government. He thought the French Representative had been mistaken in declining to follow definite advice as to reducing the amount offered for tender and he regretted the inability of the Chancellor to assume the liability in lieu of the Bank.

A discussion took place in regard to filling the vacancy on the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Chaynes)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Norman)  
Mr Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis

Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> January 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It



21<sup>st</sup> January 1920.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for Appointments contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee, dated the 19<sup>th</sup> instant.

The Report of the Audit Committee on Audits taken by the Audit Department between the 9<sup>th</sup> October and the 12<sup>th</sup> instant, was submitted and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to grant Allowances, during pleasure, and according to scale, as follows:-

To the Widow of W.C. Woollard, a Pensioner, late of the Bristol Branch, £60 a year.

To the Widow of C.A. Cullinan, late a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk at the Western Branch, £41 a year.

At the request of the Governor -

It was agreed to place £500 to the credit of the Samaritan Fund Account.

A general scheme for paving the Garden Court and removing the smaller tree, in connection with the Clerks War Memorial, was approved.

It was agreed to discourage the desire of Sir Alan Anderson to become Chairman of the (new) British Cellulose Company in view of its past history.

With the object of ensuring temporary premises during the rebuilding of the Bank, the purchase of the Finsbury Circus site was again discussed, and approved at an estimated cost, when completed, of half a million.

The question of filling the vacancy on the Bank Court was again discussed.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian O'Keefe)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Trotter  
and  
Sir Charles Addison.

Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> January 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



28th January, 1920.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a General Court to consider of a Dividend be held at the Bank on Thursday, the 18th March, and that a General Court for the Election of a Governor and Deputy Governor be held on Tuesday, the 30th March and for the Election of Directors on Wednesday, the 31st March.

With reference to the Special Notes used in the Daily Adjustment between Issue and Banking Department, it was agreed to recommend to the Court that Special Notes be also printed and set aside for use, as and when required, on account of the Currency Note Redemption Account, as detailed in a separate Memorandum.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee including the "overs and shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, was submitted and referred to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee that repayment had been made by the French Government of the £2,000,000 Advance in connection with the recent issue of French Treasury Bills.

Further discussion took place in regard to filling the vacancy on the Court.

Present.

The Governor  
(Sir Brian Copland)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Kenelesoke  
Mr. Penfell  
Sir Charles Addey  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 4th February, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court, to propose to the Secretary of State in Council for India, certain alterations in the list of persons authorised to sign and countersign Bills upon the Government of India, as detailed in a separate Minute.

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1920  
4th February, 1920

A Report of the Staff Committee, dated the 2nd instant, on the case of Winon R. Dean, a 1st Class Clerk in the Securities Office, was approved and referred to the Court.

On an application from the Widow of E. H. Purdie, a Pensioner, late Chief Clerk at the Liverpool Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, and according to scale of £60 a year.

Further discussion took place in regard to filling the vacancy on the Court.

#### Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Colquhoun)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Herbert Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Gurnell  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 11th February, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

A Report from the Staff Committee, upon the Classed Staff at the Head Office and Branches and the Permanent Women Clerks, together with a Minute of the Committee recommending Appointments, was submitted and referred to the Court.

Letters of resignation on account of ill-health were laid before the Committee from Lawrence Luson and from Walter J. Hodson, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Committee agreed to renew the following Charitable Subscriptions for the current year, viz:-

City of London Truss Society	£10: 10: -
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	21: -: -
Royal Surgical Aid Society	10: 10: -
Bank Clerks' Orphanage	52: 10: -
King Edwards Hospital Fund for London	250: -: -

Queen



11<sup>th</sup> February, 1920.

Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses	£ 10 : 10 : -
City of London Lying-In Hospital	10 : 10 : -
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for	50 : - : -
Samuelson Free Hospital Women for Women	50 : - : -

The Rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury.

In Lectureship Fee	21 : - : -
of Bishop of London's Fund	20 : - : -
of East London Church Fund	5 : - : -
of Poor Parishes adjacent to the City	20 : - : -
of Easter Gift	10 : 10 : -

It was further agreed to recommend to the Court that a Donation of £250 be made to the Funds of the Officers' Association now being raised by Field Marshal Earl Haig; also that a Donation of One hundred guineas be made annually to Guy's Hospital.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Mr. Michael Seymour Spencer-Smith, D.S.O., M.C., be invited to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy in the Court consequent on the death of Lord Cunliffe.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he had sanctioned, as a special case, advances to Messrs. Bainbridge, Ltd., of Newcastle, sole and valued Customers of the Branch, without specific security, but against the individual guarantees of the Directors.

That at the request of Mr. Whigham he proposed to ask the Court to allow him to join the Board of the North Eastern Railway.

The Committee concurred.



Present.

The Governor (Sir Brien Colquhoun)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr Penzell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> February 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments, together with a Report recommending additions to salaries, &c, was submitted and referred to the Court.

On an application from the Widow of Percy Storr, a Senior Clerk in the Consols Office, who died on the 8<sup>th</sup> January it was agreed to grant her an allowance during pleasure and according to scale of £40 a year.

A recommendation from the Chairman of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff in regard to the Scheme of 1906 for the classification of the Staff was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brien Colquhoun)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> February 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On an application from the Widow of Harry Bartram, a Pensioner, late of the Liverpool Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance during pleasure and according to scale, of £48 a year.

The Committee considered the question of the advisability of making some change in the existing scale of pensions to Mechanics in the

Printing



25th February 1920

Printing Department in consequence of the increase of wages which had been awarded as bonus to these persons in view of Agreements arrived at between the Master Printers' Association and various Unions connected with the Printing Trade, and agreed to make certain recommendations to the Court, as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Governor informed the Committee of the estimated Profits of the Bank for the past half-year.

That he proposed to ask leave of the Court to sign a Memorial which was being circulated by the League of Nations Union.

The Committee concurred.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Trotter  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 3rd March, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On the proposal of the Governor, it was agreed to recommend to the Court that a sum of about £3,300 be tendered to the Institute of Bankers by way of meeting the deficit occasioned by the War period.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Trotter  
The Comptroller

Monday, the 8th March, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Governor read to the Committee the following letter dated the 5th instant from Mr Blackett of the Treasury, in regard to the repayment of the Anglo French Loan, together with a draft reply, which the Committee approved; the General feeling



8<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

feeling being that the alteration in Rates should be made this week.

"Treasury, S.W.

5<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

"Dear Mr. Governor,

"Referring to our conversation on the subject of the maturity of the Anglo-French Loan and to the announcement made that the British and French Governments have decided not to renew the Loan or to issue any public loan in the United States of America for the purpose of meeting the maturity, I have now received directions from the Chancellor of the Exchequer to write to you in reference to the provision of gold for export to the United States of America to meet so much of the maturity as cannot be covered out of dollars already in the hands of the Treasury or out of income expected to be received in the interval from now to the date of maturity.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer is strongly of opinion that at any rate the first £5,000,000 in gold should be found in such a way as to appear as an outgoing from the published gold reserves of the United Kingdom, and he proposes that the Treasury should formally request the Bank of England to sell to the British Government on the 6<sup>th</sup> instant a sum of £5,000,000 in gold, such gold to be held by the Bank to the order of Messrs. Morgan Grenfell & Co. for shipment to New York.

"But it appears to the Chancellor of the Exchequer that the whole amount of gold required cannot be found out of the gold which figures in the published reserves of the United Kingdom without an undue strain on those reserves. He has accordingly decided to make use of the sum of approximately £22,200,000 of gold which is held by the Bank of England in accordance with the arrangements made between the British Government and the Italian Government on 18<sup>th</sup> July, and 19<sup>th</sup> November 1915 and for which the Bank of England gave deposit receipts to the Italian Government. He proposes to cause an official letter to be sent to the Bank of England in this sense requesting the Bank to hold the above amount of £22,200,000 at the disposal of His Majesty's Government for shipment to New York as and when required, and relieving the Bank of England of all responsibility in respect of the deposit receipts above mentioned to such extent and in such amount as the gold in question is placed at the disposal of His Majesty's Government by request of the Treasury for shipment to the United States of America.

"Before the official letter mentioned above is issued I should be glad if you would inform me that the Bank of England agree to the



8<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

"the proposals of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and will be ready to carry into effect the directions which he has decided to give."

"I may add, that there is reason for believing that the sum of £27,200,000 gold above mentioned may suffice to enable the necessary shipments of gold to the United States of America to be made without further demand upon the Bank of England."

"Yours very truly,

(Signed) Basil P. Blackett

"The Governor  
"of the Bank of England."

"8<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

"Dear Mr Blackett,

"With reference to your letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> instant I was glad to learn that no attempt is to be made to renew the Anglo-French Loan and that it will be repaid at maturity; this should go far to improve our credit in the United States."

"Subject to the Bank of England being furnished by the Chancellor of the Exchequer with a satisfactory indemnity as to the liability arising under the Deposit Receipts furnished to the Bank of Italy, I shall be prepared to recommend my Court to acquiesce in his "commandeering" for the purpose of the above repayment the gold set aside here against such Deposit Receipts, and I shall further be prepared to ask the Court to approve of £5 millions of gold being taken from the Bank's Reserve on the 9<sup>th</sup> instant for the same purpose, as you suggest."

"But in view of this loss of gold and of the recent increases in the circulations and in "other securities" I anticipate the need for an early increase of 1% in the Bank Rate, and before settling aside for the Government the above-mentioned gold I shall be glad to hear that the Chancellor agrees to make such a rise in rate effective by ordering a similar and simultaneous increase in the Treasury Bill Rate."

"Yours sincerely  
(Signed) Owen Cockayne

"Basil P. Blackett, Esq. C.B."



Present.

The Governor (Sir Owen Cotgrave)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Sir Edward Hambro  
 Mr. Cole  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Gunfitt  
 Mr. Brierley  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 10th March, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee

That as regards his letter to Mr. Blackett and while seemingly in favour of the Bank's policy, the Chancellor had felt it his duty to consult the Bankers, and that at present he could not therefore support an increase in the Bank Rate by raising the Treasury Bill Rate.

That the Chancellor had asked the Bankers to prepare some kind of alternative scheme and discuss the matter again with him on Thursday.

In the meantime, the Chancellor had agreed that the 5 millions of gold should not be taken out of the Bank's figures this week.

It was accordingly agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

That he had given instructions that Sterling Bills drawn on foreign branches of British Banks and accepted payable in London should be treated as domiciled Bills.

The Committee concurred.

That the Accountants who had been employed to consider a "Costing System" in regard to management had made suggestions for putting such system into effect.

The Chief Accountant attended the Committee and produced the Accounts of the Bank for the past half-year.

It was agreed to recommend that a half-year's dividend of interest and profits be made on the 6th April net of 5% less Income Tax.

The



10th March, 1920.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments, &c.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Norman)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Mr Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Fenell  
Mr Trotter  
The Comptroller

Thursday, the 11th March 1920.

The Governor mentioned to the Committee -

That he had reason to believe that the Bankers, who were to meet the Chancellor of the Exchequer to-day, were not in a position to suggest any scheme, as an alternative to an increase of rates.

That it was possible the Chancellor would agree to adopt the Bank's suggestion and put up the Treasury Bill Rate by 1% immediately, and he thought that if this happened the Bank should charge 1% over Bank Rate for fresh discounts and advances but that the rate should not be raised officially until next Thursday.

The Committee considered that it was not necessary to bring the matter before the Court, beyond mentioning the request for gold.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian  
Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Norman)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Mr Cole  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Fenell  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Addey  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 17th March 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor read to the Committee the Chancellor's and Mr Blackett's letters of the 16th instant, and regret was expressed that the Chancellor did not at present see his way to joining with the Bank in effecting a rise of 10% in rates, which the situation appeared to the Committee to demand.

In view of the extreme importance, especially in present conditions, of maintaining the Co-operation of the Chancellor in the Bank's money-rate policy, the Committee decided after a long discussion to defer action and to recommend the Court to make no change to-morrow.

The



17<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

The House List of Governors and Directors for the ensuing year was submitted and referred to the Court.

A letter of resignation, on account of ill-health, was laid before the Committee from Frank W. Dennis of the Cashiers Store Office, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate Minute.

On an application from the Widow of Oliver Goldsmith, late Chief Clerk at the Plymouth Branch, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure and according to scale, of £46 a year.

With regard to the Election of the Committee of Treasury for the ensuing year which should be held at the Court on the 1<sup>st</sup> April, the Governor mentioned that in view of the probability of a small attendance of Directors on that day owing to Easter, he proposed that the votes should be taken on the previous Thursday; that Directors who had not voted on the 25<sup>th</sup> March should be allowed to record their votes on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and that the votes be counted after Court on the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The Committee concurred.

Present.

The Governor (Sir Brian Cokayne)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Norman)  
Mr Cole,  
Lord Reade-Stoke  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

A Report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts on the Discount business during the past year was submitted and referred to the Court, together with the Annual Report by the Secretary upon the Samaritan Fund and the Clerks Guarantee Fund.

It



24<sup>th</sup> March 1920.

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It was agreed to recommend that the Securities held on account of the Clerks Guarantee Fund be increased to £20,000.

*Present. (Ind. Nom.)*  
The Governor (~~Mr. Baines~~)  
The Deputy Governor (~~Mr. Baines~~)  
Mr. Cole  
Lord Ruskell  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> March, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the Treasury proposed in future to show separately in their Accounts the Ways and Means Advances, taken respectively from the Bank and from the various Departments.

That, the Bankers at the request of the Chancellor had agreed to furnish him monthly and in confidence with their average weekly figures and that the Chancellor had agreed to release the 5% War Loan held in the Treasury Deposit account.

That in his opinion, it was desirable that steps should be taken without delay to reduce the floating debt, and he thought that as the War Profits Committee appeared unable to make a recommendation some additional direct taxation should be imposed for this purpose. He proposed to discuss the matter with one or two of the Bankers and others, and to advise the Chancellor on the above lines.

The Committee concurred.

A letter was read from the National Traders Defence League expressing disapproval of the proposals made by Mr. Derbyshire at the Half Yearly General Court, advocating representatives of the Miners Association & Co-operative & Trades Union movements on the Court of Directors.

The proposed Housing Campaign was discussed.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

Proposals for the appointment of Committees etc. for the current year, were submitted and referred to the Court.

Letters of resignation from two employees in the Printing Department were laid before the Committee, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted as detailed in a separate Minute.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That, in view of the decrease in Treasury Bills, necessitating heavy Ways and Means Advances and worsening the Bank's position, the Chancellor had raised the Treasury Bill Rate to 6½%. In these circumstances the Committee agreed to recommend to the Court to-morrow to raise the Bank Rate to 7%.

Memo in Govs' Misc  
 File. (War Wealth)

That with reference to a Minute of the Committee of the 31<sup>st</sup> March he had submitted to the Chancellor a confidential Memorandum dated April 10<sup>th</sup>, signed by representatives of the Bankers and others - a copy of which he laid before the Committee.

That



14<sup>th</sup> April, 1920.

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That he had it in mind to make tentative enquiries as to the acquisition, in conjunction with a Joint Stock Bank, of the Bank of Scotland.

That he had had an application from H. E. McLeod, of the Accountants' Department, for permission to resign the service in December next, on a pension, with a view to entering the Church.

It was agreed to grant him an Annuity, on pre-War scale less 5 years, next December.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee including the "overs and shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute dated the 12<sup>th</sup> instant recommending sundry Appointments.

A letter of resignation from J. H. Nobbs, a Porter at the Birmingham Branch, on account of ill-health contracted while on War Service, was laid before the Committee, and it was agreed to recommend that an Annuity be purchased for his benefit, equivalent to the amount of his pension.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman),  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Butler),  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Warkles  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> April, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he proposed to ask the Court to accede to the request of Mr. Whigham for permission to join the Board of the Britannic Syndicate Limited, a private limited Company.

That a Committee consisting of representatives of the Treasury, Inland Revenue and Post Office, together with the Comptroller representing the Bank, had been appointed to look into the question of a Register and other



21<sup>st</sup> April 1920.

other matters in connection with Currency Note Issue.

The question of the acquisition by the Bank (in conjunction with a Joint Stock Bank) of the Bank of Scotland, with such objects as a Scottish Stock Register, the use of the same Currency, and a Bankers' Bank, was again referred to, and, the proposal being approved in principle, the Committee agreed that the Governor should take such preliminary steps as he might think fit.

### Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Marks  
Sir Charles Addey  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 28th April, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee —

That he proposed to ask the Court to accede to the request of Mr Jackson for permission to become a Director of the Anglo Danubian Association, a private limited Company.

+ 344  
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That, in answer to various Members of the Discount Market, he had confirmed the unwillingness of the Bank to take Shipbuilding Bills at current rates.

That, as regards the Bank of Scotland, he had gathered from a private conversation with Dr. Leaf, that the only real difficulty to the proposal was the low price of the Shares of the London County Westminster and Parr's Bank.

That, owing to the clashing of Municipal issues for housing purposes, such as were being strongly urged by the Ministry of Health, he was trying to arrange for co-operation between the Banks for future issues, in such sequence as the Ministry of Health might select.



## Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Motter)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Allen of Aethelbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Janks  
 Sir Charles Addey  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> May 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

An application for pecuniary assistance from H. Wells Holland, formerly a Clerk in the Bank, was declined.

On an appeal from the Lord Mayor, it was agreed to recommend to the Court to grant a donation of 100 guineas to the London Orphan School, Watford.

The Governor informed the Committee

That the India Council had called to request the Bank to allow interest on their available money from day to day, instead of their investing in Treasury Bills, but that he had informed them that the Bank would discount Bills if they wished but could not lend money for less than 14 days, it therefore seemed likely that the India Office would revert to the pre-war custom and lend through their Broker.

ET 65 That the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff had recommended in principle a contributory scheme for Annuities of £150 to Widows of all Permanent Male Clerks marrying after a date to be fixed, the Bank to pay  $\frac{3}{5}$ ths of the premiums and the Clerk  $\frac{2}{5}$ ths. He proposed to put this forward to the Court, and, if the Committee agreed, to recommend that Permanent Clerks already married be given the option of participating in the scheme but that the premiums in their case be payable as to  $\frac{2}{5}$ ths by the Bank and  $\frac{1}{5}$ th by the Clerk. This Scheme would do away with the existing non-contributory allowances.

The Committee concurred.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Lord Roylestone  
 Mr. Jenkell  
 Mr. Jinks  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> May, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

Minutes of the Staff Committee, recommending Appointments, etc., also a revised scale of Salaries etc. for the Temporary Women Clerks at the Branches, together with alterations in the conditions and rates of pay for Overtime for the Women Clerks, both Permanent and Temporary were submitted and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend that a Special Committee consisting of -

Mr. Lubbock (Chairman)

Mr. Booth

and

Sir Alan Anderson

be appointed to consider, if thought advisable, the preparation of plans and the arrangements in connection with the re-building of the Bank.

It was agreed to recommend that a pension of £83. 3/- be granted to James Shaw, a Porter at the Western Branch, as from the 15<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That, with reference to last week's Minutes and in reply to a further enquiry from the India Council he had offered a temporary scale for the employment of their monies in Treasury Bills.

That, as regards the Municipal Issues for Housing purposes, he had now arranged informally with the three principal Brokers for their co-operation and joint action in regard to all such prospectuses during the next few months as concerned any one of them.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke (Mr Trotter)  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Marks  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> May 1920.

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The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The result of the Election for Representatives of the Staff on the Advisory Council was reported and referred to the Court.

It was agreed, on the proposal of the Governor, to recommend that the following be appointed to serve as Members of the Council for the current year -

Lord Revelstoke (Chairman)  
Mr Trotter  
Sir Alan Anderson  
Mr Wallace  
Mr Clegg  
Mr Paine

The Governor informed the Committee -

That if the premises now leased for the Bankers Clearing House were to be offered for sale, he thought that the Bank should join the Bankers in the purchase, and should take the opportunity to urge the admission of more Members to the Clearing. He hoped eventually that the Clearing House would be housed here when the Bank was rebuilt.

The Committee concurred.

That Messrs. Armstrong of Newcastle, had made tentative enquiries as to whether the Bank would finance a Contract of £3,000,000 for a period of from 5 to 10 years for locomotives for the Paris-Orleans Railway: but that they had been informed that the business was not such as the Bank would care to undertake at the present time.

That an unsatisfactory reply had been received by the Bank from Messrs. Johnson Matthey & Co. whose conduct of their business as shown by the "Sykes" case had been the subject of a Report.

That



19<sup>th</sup> May 1920.

That he was threatened with an action by Messrs. Crews. & Co. Stockbrokers, as the result of certain information from the Foreign Office which he had passed on to the Committee of the Stock Exchange concerning dealings in securities from Holland.

That, owing to Labour difficulties in the Printing Trade, it was possible that the Members of the various Unions concerned in the Printing Department would be called out on Strike, and in the event of those men wanting to return to the Bank he thought that they should only do so without their former privileges.

That certain gold was likely to be offered in London on behalf of the Bolshevik Government, which would raise questions of great difficulty as to ownership and title.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Mr. Penfell  
Mr. Marks  
Mr. Charles Aldis  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> May 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On an application from C. H. S. Carter, a Pensioner, who has a wife and three young children to maintain and is unable on account of blindness to do anything to supplement his pension of £164 a year, it was agreed, as an exceptional case to grant him an additional £50 a year for three years.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

That the amount of Currency Notes outstanding was fast approaching the fiduciary maximum, and that if this were reached a difficult question would arise, owing to the extent to which Bankers' Gold had been sent to America and replaced by Currency Notes.

That the Premier of Queensland had called upon him in regard to loans for development purposes.



26th May 1920.

purposes, but that owing to recent legislation affecting Pastoral Leases and Brisbane Tramways, no such issue seemed possible at present.

That he had had a visit from the Finance Chairman of the London County Council, who, while pleased with their recent issue, had informed him of a pending issue of £5,000,000 local Housing Bonds through the London County and Westminster Bank. This action on the part of the Council was not fair treatment to the Bank, and he had protested accordingly.

That he had received a letter from the President of the Board of Trade, inviting him to join the Executive Committee of the British Empire Exhibition in 1923, of which Lord Morris was Chairman.

The Committee generally, were not in favour of the Bank being represented.

Present  
The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)

Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Marks  
Sir Charles Addison  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 2nd June 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, but that, in view of the increase in the amount of Currency Notes outstanding, it might be necessary to reconsider the question next week.

The Governor informed the Committee

That the amount of Currency Notes outstanding was now less than £6,000,000 below the fiduciary maximum, and that he would prefer further increases if any, to be by expansion of the fiduciary issue up to the legal maximum. If and when the legal maximum is reached the strain of any increase beyond that point would be thrown on to the Bank, who would press for a penal Rate on their reserve dropping below, say, £15,000,000. The Treasury on the other

hand



2<sup>nd</sup> June 1920.

hand were in favour of keeping the fiduciary issue at a fixed point below the present legal maximum, in order to ensure a reduction in the legal maximum for next year.

That the position as to Russian Gold was unchanged, but that, if any arrangement was come to, he hoped a Custodian would be appointed.

That the arrangement made by the London County Council with the London County Westminster & Parrs Bank in regard to their pending issue of Housing Bonds had been cancelled, and that the London County Council will for the time being act as their own registrars with a view of the Stock being ultimately managed here.

That a further answer had been received from Messrs. Johnson, Matthey, & Co. which was extremely unsatisfactory.

That a claim, which has been refused by the Bank, has been made by the Custodian of Enemy Balances for payment of interest on balances on current account during the War period, and that a friendly action might be brought against the Bank to decide the question.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Droller)  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addey  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> June 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That



9<sup>th</sup> June, 1920.

1. That, as regards the War Wealth Report, he had last week urged the Chancellor of the Exchequer to take some action on the lines of his Memorandum of the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant, but without success.

2. That, as the Government were unwilling to take such action, he was endeavouring to find a way by which the conversion of Treasury Bills into Treasury Bonds might be brought about, in order to reduce floating debt.

3. That he was shocked to find that Messrs. Samuel Montagu & Co. had received licenses from the Board of Trade to export gold for some time past, contrary to his undertaking with the Treasury.

4. That he was trying to arrange for the funding of the pre-war advances to the Austrian Länderbank and to the Anglo Austrian Bank, in order that their respective businesses might be kept together - perhaps under a different nationality.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff for the payment of a special bonus to the Clerical Staff to be paid quarterly and to be based on the cost of living figures as published in the Labour Gazette, also a gift to Members of the Permanent Clerical Staff.

With regard to a corresponding payment to the other employees of the Bank, including the Printing & Works Department, it was left in the Deputy Governor's hands to make such arrangements as he might think fit.

## Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Starks  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> June 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



16th June 1920.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

With reference to last week's Minutes, the Governor informed the Committee -

(1) of various schemes for reducing the Floating Debt, such as

(a) inviting tenders for a limited amount of Treasury Bills and so forcing money into Treasury Bonds,

(b) attaching to Treasury Bonds some form of borrowing rights to stimulate their sale,

(c) a voluntary loan campaign throughout the Country.

but having grave doubts as to whether any of these would meet the case he feared that nothing could be done till next year, and the Committee took the same view.

(2) That, with reference to the temporary occupation of the Amersbury Circus Property, he proposed to form a company which would lease the Offices to the Bank.

(3) That pending a new Issue Messrs. Armstrongs expected to require advances up to £1,500,000 during the next few months.

(4) That for political reasons Sir John Anderson had asked that about £2,000,000 Gold be left for the present in the Irish Banks in Dublin.

(5) That he proposed to ask the sanction of the Court to act as one of the Trustees to be appointed in connection with an appeal which is about to be made for funds for the restoration and maintenance of Westminster Abbey.

The Committee concurred.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Lister)

Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Penelope  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee :-

1. That as regards the payment of interest on enemy balances which was mentioned to the Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> instant, legal opinion seemed inclined to the view that, under the terms of the Peace Treaty, all such balances on the outbreak of War were to be treated as matured debts, on which interest would be payable. He did not, however, propose to pay over any interest pending a legal decision.
2. That the P. & O. Banking Corporation Ltd. had made application to open a Drawing Account at the Bank, which he proposed to sanction.
3. That the construction of the Bank's Refinery was practically completed, and that he proposed to begin melting Silver for the public as soon as a scale of charges had been formulated.
4. That with reference to a Minute of the Committee of the 26<sup>th</sup> ultimo, he had had a further visit from the Premier of Queensland, who stated that, if necessary, he would now be willing to withdraw the 1920 Land Legislation in order to obtain a loan, but in that case would raise the relative revenue by a special tax which would virtually fall on the shoulders of the same pastoral Leaseholders. The deadlock therefore remained, and the Bank could not issue a Loan.

The question of filling the vacancy on the Court was discussed, and it was left to the Selection Committee to recommend a suitable Candidate.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Rosetothke  
 Lord Allen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Penfoll  
 Mr Sparks  
 Sir Charles Addey  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 30th June 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, notwithstanding the reduction in the reserve.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That as the result of a further visit from Mr. Theodore, the Premier of Queensland, and in accordance with a memorandum dated the 28th instant, he proposed to sanction a Banking Advance up to £1,000,000 in favour of the Agent-General of Queensland.

The Committee concurred.

2. That he proposed to obtain the consent of the Court for the Bank's name to appear on the prospectus of an issue of Venture Stock by Sir W. G. Armstrong Whitworth & Company Limited.

3. That an issue of Corporation of London Bonds for £3,500,000 was about to be made.

4. That Mr Jackson having written to ask if the Bank would give a donation to the Vienna Emergency Relief Fund of which he was Chairman, he proposed, as a special case, to ask the Court to place a sum up to £500 at the disposal of Mr Jackson, on the understanding that the name of the Bank does not appear in any list of Subscribers.

The Committee concurred.

5. That applications for gold in payment of Notes were again becoming very numerous, and that, as actions were threatened, it might be necessary to take some steps in the matter.

The question of filling the vacancy on the Court was again referred to, and in this connection the Governor read a letter, dated the 29th instant from Mr S. P. Derbyshire, a Bank Stock Proprietor, urging the Bank to consider the question of the appointment on the Court of a representative of either the Miners or Railwaymen or Co-operative Association.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> July 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, but, in connection with the low Reserve and the increase in the amount of Currency Notes outstanding, the Governor mentioned a suggestion made to the Treasury, that an undertaking by them to replace the gold withdrawn this year from circulation and used for the payment of foreign indebtedness, might be used as a means of temporarily increasing the fiduciary maximum.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That he proposed to ask the Court to grant a donation of £1,000 to the Westminster Abbey Fund.
2. That the question of reverting to the pre-War custom of keeping the London Banks open until 4 o'clock had been raised with the Treasury, but that the Banks generally were against making any change.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, after the Governor's letter to Mr. Niemeyer dated the 12<sup>th</sup> instant had been read.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That



14<sup>th</sup> July 1920.

1. That he hoped the Bank would secure the printing of such Notes as might be needed by the Union Government of South Africa in connection with their proposed banking arrangements.

2. That Messrs. Johnson Matthey & Co., having suggested to the South African producers an increased charge for refining he had pointed out to the London Refiners the probable effect, inasmuch as the Bank's Refinery was now beginning to melt and the South African Refinery was expected to do so within six months or a year.

3. That the liability under the Government Guarantee to the Yorkshire & Penny Bank as at the 30<sup>th</sup> June amounted to £334,266:19:2 - an increase on the previous year, and left the Bankers' guarantee unchanged.

4. That, after long negotiation, he had received a letter from Messrs. Johnson Matthey & Co. dated the 12<sup>th</sup> instant, which he read to the Committee, and which appeared to justify the attitude taken up by the Bank in relation to the action of this firm as disclosed by the evidence in the case of 'Sykes' and Others.

5. That, he proposed to ask the Court to allow the Bank's name to appear on the Prospectus of an issue of Debenture Stock by the Imperial Paper Mills Limited, sole Customers of the Law Courts Branch.

6. That he proposed to decline an application from the Chairman of the British Empire Exhibition to contribute to the Guarantee Fund which is about to be formed.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee, including the "Overs" and "Shorts" at the Head Office and Branches was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute dated the 13<sup>th</sup> instant recommending appointments.

Proposals for the appointment of a General Court for the declaration of a dividend were submitted and referred to the Court.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr Trotter)  
 Sir Francis Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Kempell  
 Mr Banks  
 Mr Charles Addey  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 21st July 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, and in this connection the Governor mentioned that the Treasury had decided to reduce the total of Currency Notes outstanding by the amount of Notes of Series 1 and 2 still in the hands of the Public, which latter Notes have ceased "to be current or legal tender" in pursuance of the Treasury Order of the 11<sup>th</sup> June 1920. Further, to discontinue the effort recently made, to maintain the fiduciary issue at a figure not less than £5,000,000 below the authorised maximum, thus there still remains a margin of about £12,000,000 available to meet further expansion of the issue before the authorised maximum fiduciary figure is reached. Meanwhile an increase in the rate for the sale of Treasury Bills is not approved.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On an application from Messrs. Portal it was agreed to allow them to manufacture paper for the Trade on the following conditions:-

1. That, as hitherto, Laverstoke Mills be employed exclusively for the Bank except with the special permission of the Bank asked and given in writing.
2. That at the other Mills preference be given at all times to orders for the Bank.
3. That no orders be accepted, without the approval of the Bank given in writing, for the manufacture of paper required for documents of value (except for Notes of the Bank of Ireland and Bank of Scotland already approved.)
4. That, apart from Bank Note, Security and other papers containing the Bank's special waveline watermark, the Bank are to be free to obtain tenders and/or place orders elsewhere.
5. That these conditions, more particularly as they affect Overton Mills, be reviewed in the event of the Bank being asked to undertake the manufacture of British Currency Notes or to replace such Notes by other similar Notes forming part of the Bank's own issue.

The



21<sup>st</sup> July 1920.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

That as regards the payment of interest on enemy balances, which was mentioned to the Committee on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> ultimo, Counsel's opinion was strongly in favour of payment and he saw no object in contesting a friendly action.

That he proposed to leave over until the Autumn the question of filling the vacancy on the Bank Court.

It was agreed to recommend that a pension of £103:17:4 be granted to James Swridge, a Messenger to the Ashurst Store Office, as from the 24<sup>th</sup> instant, on his attaining the age of 65.

### Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> July, 1920

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That owing to the exchange of new for old Silver coinage and to the temporary accumulation of the former, he proposed to limit the Silver coin to some 10% of the Reserve.

2. That he proposed, until further notice, to pay to the New South Wales Government

such

The Governor  
Sir Norman  
Mr. Marks  
The Comptroller



such dividends and monies due on redemption of Stock as were unclaimed for 10 years and upwards, on the understanding that, in the event of a claim, the relative amount would be repaid on the Bank's application.

It was noted that a similar request was refused 30 years ago, and that this proposal gives the Bank no legal contract or security.

3. That, having been advised that Clarence House, Roehampton, was of no use, he proposed to have the house pulled down.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension according to scale be granted to William Bull, a foreman of Bank Note printing, in view of his state of health, as detailed in a separate minute.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr Marko  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> August 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court an increase in the Bank Rate ~~of~~ to 8%: provided only that the Chancellor would authorise a concurrent increase in the rate for Treasury Bills.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension according to scale be granted to A. J. Truman, a Mechanic in the Printing Department, as from the 1<sup>st</sup> August, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

On an application from A. N. L. Burne, a Pensioner for the continuance of an allowance of £50 a year to his sister-in-law, Mrs W. L. Burne, wife of W. L. Burne, formerly at Leeds, which ceased at his death

on



4<sup>th</sup> August 1920.

on the 17<sup>th</sup> July, it was agreed in all the circumstances to recommend the Court to renew the Allowance of £50 a year to Mr A. N. L. Burne during the life of Mrs Burne and on the understanding that he assumes responsibility for her maintenance.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr. Marks  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> August, 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee-

1. That, as arranged last week, he had a long conversation with the Chancellor on the 4<sup>th</sup> instant, when having called attention inter alia, to the fall in the W. S. Exchange, to the increase in the Economist index of Commodity prices, in the circulations and in the Bank's Ways and Means Advances, along with the decrease in the outstanding Treasury Bills, in the Reserve and in the proportion, he urged an increase in the Rate for Treasury Bills concurrently with the Bank Rate. In spite of support to the Governor's proposal from the Treasury Officials who were present, the Chancellor was from the outset determined to make no change in Rates and said in effect that it was politically impossible for him to do so, or to state under what future conditions he would be able to do so.

2. That the Committee of the Sports Club had decided not to suggest a change in the Rule prohibiting Card Playing at the Club or matches on Sundays.

3. That he had offered to allow Hugh A. N. Smith, the late Agent at the Birmingham Branch, to commute a portion of his pension. He considered that



11<sup>th</sup> August 1920

that generally it would be advantageous to the Bank to do this at the present time when a considerable proportion would be charged to the Government.

4. That J. J. Bodilly, a stockholder, through his Solicitors was raising objections, *inter alia*, to the action of the Bank in handing over their profits to the Government and their failure to increase the amount of the dividends.

Present  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Hottel)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addison  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court for adoption the proposals for appointment etc. contained in a Minute of the Staff Committee dated the 10<sup>th</sup> instant.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension of £66.1.8 a year, in accordance with the scale, be granted to W. G. Friend, a Mechanic in the Printing Department.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee -

1. That there are in Ireland at present about £750,000 of the original issue of Currency Notes which will have to be exchanged for Currency Notes of the current issue. The decrease in the Currency Note circulation offers a favourable opportunity for making this exchange and it is hoped that it may be effected this week.

2. That the purchase of the Clearing House by the Banks has been effected for £300,000 completion being due on the 29<sup>th</sup> September. He expected the Bank's share of the cost would be about £25,000.



18<sup>th</sup> August 1920.

3. That he had had an interview with the Minister of Estonia and a Director of the Bank of Estonia, and he anticipated that a request would be made for the Bank to open an account for the Bank of Estonia.

Present.

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Mr. Parkes  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> August 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The estimates of the Bank's Profits for the current half-year were discussed.

The Deputy Governor brought before the Committee a Report by a Sub-Committee of the Staff Committee on the case of John Bryson, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Public Drawing Office, who was heavily involved in debt.

The Committee approved of the Report subject to certain modifications being made.

Present:-

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Parkes  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 1<sup>st</sup> September 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> September 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On an application from the Widow of Joseph Groom, a Pensioner, and formerly a Senior Clerk at the Law Courts Branch it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, and according to the scale, of £60 a year.

The Governor submitted to the Committee summaries of the Accounts for the period 1<sup>st</sup> March to 30<sup>th</sup> June last of the Printing Department - which had been audited by Sir William Plender, who will also audit the future accounts of the Department - and of the Works Department.

The Committee were of opinion that it might be advisable to deduct say 5% for Corporation Tax from the dividends of the individual Stockholders before deduction of Income Tax; but it was decided not to make any such deduction from the October dividend.

The Governor read to the Committee a letter which he had written on the 7<sup>th</sup> instant to Mr Blackett in regard to Tenders for Treasury Bills and repayment of Floating Debt if necessary by means of a compulsory loan, and the draft of a further letter to the Treasury in regard to an increase in the Bank Rate in the event of the sale of Norwegian Treasury Bills in this Country.



Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Barlow  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> September 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That, he proposed to obtain from Sir William Plender a certificate as to the correctness of the figures in the Blue Books for the year ending February 1921, especially as regards the due payment of taxation.

2. That the Ordinary Cash Reserves of the Bank were now estimated at one half of the Capital, or £7,000,000 net, and it was for consideration whether -

(a) Further Special Reserves be set aside

(b) A sum be set aside towards meeting the increasing cost of pensions

(c) Provision be made for the payment of regular dividends in years when - after the period of reconstruction - the Bank's earnings might be greatly diminished as compared with the present.

3. That a request had been made by the Agent General for New Zealand similar to that from the New South Wales Government mentioned on the 28<sup>th</sup> July, for payment of Unclaimed Dividends and monies due on redemption of Stock outstanding for 10 years and upwards.

That he proposed similarly to grant their request.

4. A letter from Henry Head & Co., was read to the Committee, raising objections to the action of the Bank in handing over the Excess Profits to the Treasury and suggesting an increase in the dividend.

The



15<sup>th</sup> September 1920.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on Payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending Appointments.

The Chief Accountant attended the Committee and produced the Accounts of the Bank for the past half-year.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a half-year's dividend of Interest and Profits be made on the 5<sup>th</sup> October next of £5% less Income Tax.

It was agreed as an exception to grant a donation of £105 to the Printers' Pension Almshouse and Orphan Asylum Corporation, as from the Printing Works.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Trotter)

Mr Marks  
Sir Charles Addison

Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed to recommend no change in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee that a week ago he was present when the Chancellor met a few of the Bankers, and inter alia, expressed his disapproval of

1. The continuing increase in Bankers' loans.
2. The suggested sale of Securities to be issued by Norway or other neutrals,

and warned them that any increase in the Treasury Bill Rate, apart from Bank Rate was largely dependent on the action of the Bankers themselves.

A



22<sup>nd</sup> September 1920.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for Advances during the ensuing Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

Provisional Rules and Orders for Watchmen in Charge, together with revised Regulations for the Superintendents of the Nightly Watch, and in connection with water supply, fire and frost, etc. were laid before the Committee and referred to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Rolfe)  
Sir Gerard Hambro.  
Lord Revels to be  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Marks

Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1920.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee

1. That as regards "Reserves" which were mentioned on September 15<sup>th</sup> the Bank held approximately £1,000,000 of Government Securities maturing in each of the years 1922/1928, and he proposed to purchase gradually a further £1,000,000 maturing in 1929 and 1930, respectively, and to defer the question of a Pension Fund for the present.

2. That the question of future pensions was to be brought before the Advisory Council, and he thought, in the event of any increase being recommended, that it should take the form of a periodical gift based on the rise or fall in the cost of living.

3. That in the event of the Reparations Commission and the Bank of Estonia applying to open accounts with the Bank, he proposed

to



29<sup>th</sup> September, 1920.

to ask the Court to agree.

The question of filling the vacancy on the Bank Court was again considered.

A Report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts recommending the regading of certain Firms at the Branches was submitted and referred to the Court.

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee of the 14<sup>th</sup> April last a letter of resignation from A. E. McLeod of the Power of Attorney Office as from the 31<sup>st</sup> December next was submitted and it was agreed to recommend that, as an exceptional case and in all the circumstances, McLeod be allowed a sum equal to the capital which would be required to purchase for him an annuity of £08:5/- a year on the understanding that the money is satisfactorily placed in Trust.

The Governor laid before the Committee a copy of the following letter dated the 27<sup>th</sup> instant, to the Prime Minister on the subject of the proposed resumption of trade relations between the United Kingdom and Russia.

"Bank of England.

"27<sup>th</sup> September, 1920.

"Dear Prime Minister,

"In view of the proposed resumption of trade relations between the United Kingdom and Russia, which it is understood, His Majesty's Government have in negotiation, the Bankers have had the whole matter under their consideration and we trust that, having regard to the great importance of the subject, you will be good enough to give consideration to their views.

"The third condition laid down by the Government in the Note and addressed by them to the Soviet Government the text of which was circulated in the House of Commons by Mr. Bonar Law on the 14<sup>th</sup> July last, has given rise to considerable anxiety, as it appeared and has been understood to imply that the recognition by the present de facto Russian Government of debts owing to British Nationals, upon which His Majesty's Government were insisting as a condition of the resumption of Trade relations, might only extend to debts and obligations arising out of trading operations

"similar



29<sup>th</sup> September 1920.

"similar to those which it is now proposed to  
"renew.

"In our view it is of the utmost importance  
"in the interests of this Country, at large, as well  
"as of the Banks and their Customers, that this  
"formal recognition by the present Russian  
"Government should extend not only to trading  
"debts but to all the following classes of debts and  
"obligations owing to or held by British subjects,  
"viz: -

- "1. Bonds and other obligations issued or  
"given by any previous Russian Government.
- "2. Securities and obligations of Russian  
"Municipalities, Corporations, Banks and other  
"Companies.
- "3. Debts and obligations owing by Russian  
"Nationals to British subjects arising out of  
"trade or other contractual relations before and  
"during the War.
- "4. Losses incurred by British subjects through  
"the confiscation by the present Russian  
"Government of concessions or other private property  
"belonging to them in Russian Dominions.

"The position is complicated by the fact  
"that the present Russian Government has in  
"large measure assumed to itself the property of  
"its subjects and such a proceeding would seem  
"to involve, as a necessary corollary, that it  
"has also assumed responsibility for the debts  
"and obligations attaching to such property.

"We submit that it should be made a  
"condition of any resumption of trade relations  
"that all bona fide and valid debts ascertained  
"and ascertainable owing to British subjects by  
"the Russian Nation, or by Russian Nationals,  
"whether Municipalities, Corporations, Banks, or  
"other Companies or individuals, should be  
"formally acknowledged by the present Russian  
"Government as obligations to be discharged or  
"provided for by that Government or its successors.

He



29<sup>th</sup> September 1920

"We are, Dear Prime Minister,  
 "Yours most faithfully,  
 "(Sd) M. Norman  
 Governor

"(Sd) Robert Hollans Martin  
 Chairman, British Bankers  
 Association.

"(Sd) Frederick Keith Jackson.  
 "Chairman, Accepting Houses Committee

"To  
 "The Right Honourable  
 "The Prime Minister.

## Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Trotter)

Sir Gerard Hambro

Lord Revelstoke

Mr Grenfell

Mr Marks.

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate. In this connection the Governor mentioned that, although the Reserve was much reduced and the Currency Notes outstanding had increased and the price of commodities was unyielding (as compared with the U. S.) the Treasury continued to be guided by political rather than financial considerations and declined to join with the Bank in raising the value of money.

He mentioned the following possible means of improving the Bank's position:

1. To apply for an increase in the fiduciary issue to the extent authorised by the Act of 1844 in respect



6th October 1920.

respect of the lapsed issues of other banks, now about £1,173,000. but he was doubtful if it would be advisable to do so at a time when we were trying to reduce the fiduciary issue of Currency Notes.

2. To obtain from the Bankers the £1,000,000 sovereigns known to be in their hands, but to which he anticipated considerable opposition.

3. To ask the Treasury to release gold from the amount at present set aside on their account.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That arrangements are being made whereby all gold imported as a by-product may be licensed for export on terms agreed to by the smelters.

2. The question having been raised by the Institute of Bankers as to whether the Bank were entitled to give silver up to £2 in payment of a Bank of England Note, he proposed to give the answer informally that the Bank made no claim to pay any part of their Notes in silver.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Sir Henry Robinson Smith, K.C.B., be asked to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy on the Court consequent on the death of Mr. Cole.

On an application from the widow of W.E. Soltan, a Pensioner, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, and according to scale, of £55 a year.

An application from G.W. Lawrence for the commutation of his pension of £40:6:8 to enable him to go to South Africa, where he promises to make his permanent home, was considered and it was agreed, as an exceptional case, to recommend the Court to accede to his request.

It



6th October 1920

It was agreed to concur in the recommendation of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff, that the draft Regulations for the proposed Annuity Scheme for Clerks' Widows and Children, which was approved in principle by the Court on the 6th May last, be now adopted and carried into effect.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Hornum)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Trotter)

Mr. Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of  
Auchbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
and  
Mr. Marks.

Wednesday, the 13th October 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

(1) That, at the request of Messrs. Sicklemore & Crawford, Valued Customers, he proposed to ask the Court to agree to an indemnity being given in connection with the loss of a Mortgage Bond for £50,000 of the Manchester Corporation.

(2) That he proposed to ask the Court to contribute £100 in response to a special appeal for funds which was being made privately for the Upkeep of the Fabric of St. Paul's Cathedral, the appeal being limited to £100 for each subscriber.

(3) That, in view of the financial situation, he had declined an application from the Commonwealth Bank for a loan of £10,000,000 for six months.

(4) That negotiations were proceeding between the Stock Exchange and the Treasury on the question of the resumption of "Arbitrage" dealings on joint account, which had been prohibited during the war.

(5)



13th October 1920.

(5) That he proposed to recommend to the Court of Directors that Mr. J. A. Mullens, of the Firm of Mullens, Marshall, Steer, Lawford & Co. be appointed a Scrutineer in the room of Mr. A. A. Daniell, who has resigned.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee, including the "Overs" and "Shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Harbo  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 20th October 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

On the suggestion of the Governor it was agreed to recommend, on the lines of a recent discussion of the Advisory Council, the allocation of a sum not exceeding fifty thousand pounds for the assistance of those Members of the Staff who have retired on a pension at the age of 60 or over since the Armistice, or who may so retire during the present high cost of living.

The question of granting some assistance to those pensioned prior to the date of the Armistice was deferred.

The resignation of A. A. Ashmore of the Public Drawing Office, as from the 2nd December next when he will complete 40 years service, was considered and it was agreed to recommend that he be granted a pension according to scale, as detailed in a separate Minute.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Bucker)  
Sir Edward Hambro  
Lord Roselake  
Lord Cullen of Rosburgh  
Mr. Marks  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> October 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee :-

1. That, being unwilling to sanction any more attractive form of borrowing, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had decided to issue a second series of Treasury Bonds, beginning on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, on the same terms as the first series, and to give certain privileges to the holders of 5% Exchequer Bonds maturing on the 1<sup>st</sup> December who re-invest in Treasury Bonds.
2. That, in view of the Corporation Profits Tax it was for definite consideration whether future dividends on Bank Stock should not be declared subject to some deduction for this Tax.
3. That Sir Henry Babington Smith had accepted the invitation of the Court to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors for election as a Director in the room of Mr. Cole. It was agreed to recommend that a General Court of Proprietors for the election of a Director be held on Wednesday, next.
4. That the Bank had advanced about £34,000 to the Bank Provident Society, at 3½% towards meeting applications for loans from Members for purchasing their houses. Assuming that the question of the recovery of Income Tax was settled on a satisfactory basis, he proposed to agree to the granting of further Advances to a limited amount to the Bank Provident Society, as and when required, for the purchase by Members of their houses.

The Report of the Audit Committee on Audits taken during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.



Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Grenfell and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That he had requested the Metropolitan Water Board, and had so advised the Ministry of Health to make an issue of £2,500,000 5½% Stock, in order to provide for deficiencies which would be in excess of the amount they are authorised to borrow from the Bank.

2. That the Union Government of South Africa would issue £2,000,000 6 months Treasury Bills in the near future.

3. That the publication monthly of their weekly average balances was to be discussed by the Clearing Bankers to-morrow. He thought that, in spite of some opposition, the principle would be adopted and that it would probably lead to an outflow of Bank Notes, a diminution in Treasury Bills and the consequent increase in Ways and Means Advances.

It was agreed to concur in the recommendation of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff that a gift be made to certain Pensioners as detailed in a separate Minute, and with reference to the Committee's Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> October, it was further agreed to recommend that a sum of £35,000 be allocated forthwith for the purpose of carrying out this scheme and that any balance remaining on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1925 or on the termination of the scheme, if earlier, be retransferred to the Bank.



Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Harko  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> November, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, and in this connection the Governor mentioned that the Treasury had promised to transfer £500,000 gold in order to strengthen the Reserve.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

A Minute of the Staff Committee, dated the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, recommending appointments etc. was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup> November, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That gold to the amount of about £4,000,000 was in course of being received from Paris and, after having been melted and assayed, was to be added to the Treasury holding, an approximately equivalent amount being transferred from the Treasury holding to the Bank's Issue Department at the statutory price; such transfer representing a special transaction in connection with the repayment in New York of the Anglo-French Loan. Shipments of an equivalent amount are being made to New York and the ultimate holding of Treasury gold will therefore be reduced to about £7,000,000.

2. That the proposed establishment of a Central Bank in South Africa seemed to him a matter of supreme importance to the Empire, to this Country, and to the Bank of England. That the policy and methods of the new Bank should from the outset accord with those of the Bank of England was of almost equal importance and the difficulties now arising from the methods of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia were an instance of such



17<sup>th</sup> November 1920.

such difficulties as might otherwise arise in connection with South Africa and as may yet arise in connection with Canada. It was therefore to our interest from every point of view to assist the new Bank even to the extent of making a considerable sacrifice.

That the position of Governor of the new Bank had been offered to the Chief Accountant, Mr. Clegg, for a period of five years at a salary of £5,000 a year. Subject to his acceptance, he suggested that it be recommended to the Court that as on the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1920 Mr. Clegg be allowed to retire as if he had attained the age of 60 on a pension of £1,500 a year to be either paid as such in the usual manner or commuted for a single payment.

Further, that in the event of Mr. Clegg returning to London at the end of his service in South Africa, the right be reserved to reconstitute him at a nominal salary in his present or any other official position, or alternatively to consider him eligible for the Directorate - as an Ex-Governor of the South African Reserve Bank.

The Committee concurred.

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee of the 20<sup>th</sup> October last, the Deputy Governor brought forward a Scheme for granting some assistance by way of a gift to those Members of the Staff who had retired on pension prior to the date of the Armistice or who were not included in the gift sanctioned by the Court of the 4<sup>th</sup> instant; also to the Widows, Children and relatives of former Clerks and to the Widows of former Porters and Mechanics &c. in receipt of Allowances.

The Committee approved the Scheme in principle and agreed to recommend that it should come into force for a period of 2 years as from the date of the official ending of the War and take the place of the gratuities granted to Pensioners by Order of Court of the 27<sup>th</sup> September 1917. Approximate cost £40,000 to be set aside for the purpose.

On an application from the Widow of N. J. Draper a Porter in the Treasury, who died on the 1<sup>st</sup> November, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, the usual Allowance of £18.



Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Rother)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of  
 Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Tarkenton  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> November, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc. was laid before the Committee.

Referring to last week's Minutes of the Committee, the Governor read a letter from Mr. W. H. Clegg resigning his position as Chief Accountant of the Bank consequent upon his having accepted the appointment of Governor of the South African Reserve Bank and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that Mr. Clegg's resignation be accepted and that he be granted an allowance equal to his present salary and other emoluments up to the 31<sup>st</sup> December next, and as at that date a pension of £1,500, as if he had attained the age of 60, such pension to be commuted for a single payment of £20,000.

The Governor mentioned -

The prospects of signature of a Trading Agreement with the Soviet Government.

The question of deducting Corporation Tax from Bank Stock Dividends on the lines of a specimen which had been printed.

The question of filling the next vacancy on the Court for which the name of Mr. Peacock seemed to be generally favoured.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 1<sup>st</sup> December 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



1<sup>st</sup> December 1920.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee

that the Clearing Bankers, since one of their number held over 25% of the shares in the Yorkshire Penny Bank, intended to ignore a recommendation of the "What is a Bank" Committee, which provided that a holding of 25% or more in an "affiliated Bank" should be included in a special entry in their monthly balance sheets, and that a motion was to be brought forward to increase such proportion to 50%.

This would be a pity, and he therefore proposed, if an opportunity offered, to suggest taking over from the Bank concerned the excess, viz.,  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the Bank's holding in the Yorkshire Penny Bank in order to avoid reversal of the original recommendation.

The Committee concurred.

The Committee approved in principle of the form in which a Bank Stock Dividend Warrant should be printed if anything is done about Corporation Profits Tax.

Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> December, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

that, with reference to last week's Minutes, he had offered informally to acquire the former joint stock Bank's holding of  $12\frac{1}{2}\%$  in the Yorkshire Penny Bank, provided the entry "investments

in



8th December 1920.

in affiliated Banks "in the Bankers monthly figures would be interpreted as holdings of 25% or over.

That the mere consideration of such offer had been refused and the matter therefore not carried further; the Bankers having seemed glad of an excuse to raise their interpretation of the entry to 50% or over.

That the new silver coinage would be issued on Monday, the 13th instant, and that a Treasury notice to that effect would appear in the Press on Friday, the 10th instant.

That the Bank have adopted at St. Luke's the Canadian method of assaying gold - three dips from each melting - and are paying 2/- for one assay from each dip instead of 4/- for a triple assay of each bar.

The Committee discussed the present method of fixing the daily Market Price for Gold.

#### Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Trotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Roselake  
Lord Cullen of Rosburgh  
Mr Grenfell  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 15th December 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a Pension of £353.6.8 be granted, during pleasure, and in accordance with the scale, to Harrison Woodruff, a Cashier, as from the 17th instant when he will attain the age of 65 years.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee on payments made during the past Quarter was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending Appointments.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending the appointment of two Chief Accountants was approved and referred to the Court.

The



15<sup>th</sup> December 1920.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That the Gold Import Bill had passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> reading in the House of Commons and that our agreements with the producers seemed to be adequately safeguarded.

That in order to protect the margin of £5,000,000 in the Currency Note Issue, he proposed, if necessary, to allow the Bank's reserve to be depleted during the next two weeks.

That this week he had authorised payment of the first amount on account of Corporation Profits Tax, amounting to between £30,000 and £40,000 for the months of January and February 1920, subject to the approval of Sir William Plender.

That he had agreed to Sir Henry Babington Smith's name appearing as a promoter of a scheme for which Parliamentary Powers are being sought. In the event of a Statutory Company being eventually formed Sir Henry would become a Director, and then only would look for the consent of the Court.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Gausfell  
Mr. Jarkis  
Sir Charles Addis, and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be made in the Bank Rate.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors that Sir Arthur J. Jaines, who was appointed Medical Officer of the Bank by the Court of the 11<sup>th</sup> January 1906 for a period not exceeding five years and re-appointed by the respective Courts of the 8<sup>th</sup> December 1910 and 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1915, be continued in his appointment, with his present emoluments, for a further period not exceeding five years from the 11<sup>th</sup> January next, when his present term of office expires.

It



22<sup>nd</sup> December 1920

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Pensions be granted, during pleasure, in accordance with the scale, as follows:

To Alfred E. Lovering, Chief Clerk at the Law Courts Branch, as from the 25<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years, £460: 5: 8 a year.

To Montagu C. Wright, a Cashier, as from the 27<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years £400: -:- a year.

On an application from the Widow of John W. Stundwick, a Pensioner, formerly a House Porter, who died on the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, it was agreed to grant her, during pleasure, the usual allowance of £18 a year.

A letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for advances during the ensuing quarter was submitted and referred to the Court.

With regard to the scheme approved in principle by the Committee on the 17<sup>th</sup> November last for granting a gift to certain Pensioners, &c. as from the date of the official ending of the War, it was agreed to submit the scheme to the Court of Directors for approval and to recommend that the gift should come into force for a period of two years from January next.

Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Trotter)  
Lord Roschitzke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Charles  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> December, 1920.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, &c. was submitted and attention was drawn to certain apparent changes in the mentality of the Banking Community towards the recent pace in the process of deflation.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

On



29<sup>th</sup> December 1920.

On an application from the Widow of Francis C. Miller, a Pensioner, and formerly Principal of the Bullion Office, it was agreed to grant her an allowance during pleasure and according to the scale of £59 a year.

The Governor informed the Committee

That he proposed to ask the Court to accede to the request of Mr. Hoare for permission to join the Board of Eshton Hoare & Co. Ltd., which will be reconstructed as a Private Limited Company early in the new year.

That he had been told in confidence this morning by the London County, Westminster & Parr's Bank that they had had a serious run on their Barcelona Branch yesterday and were fully expecting a run on their Madrid Branch to-day. They had asked if he could help them to obtain Spanish Currency and he was taking all steps to that end.

Present

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Dutton)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Trarke  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc. was submitted.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee :-

That the purchase of the Bankers Clearing House had now been completed and that the Bank's quota of £25,000 towards the purchase price had been paid.

That yesterday he had had an interview with the Official Receiver and Sir Lionel Nalzey, who had asked the Bank to advance on the assets of Farrow's Bank a sum sufficient to enable an immediate dividend of  $2\frac{1}{6}^d$  in the £ to be

declared



5<sup>th</sup> January 1921.

declared, this being the smallest dividend which in their opinion would be of any practical use to the depositors. He informed the Committee that most of the securities held were of a very inferior character, and in these circumstances the Committee did not see their way to make an advance.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Dwyer)  
Sir Ivaror Hambro  
Lord Roselake  
Lord Cullen of  
Auchbournie  
Mr. Gairns  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc. was submitted.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

Minutes of the Staff Committee recommending the appointment of a Deputy Chief Accountant, and sundry appointments etc. were approved and referred to the Court.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee-

That the Official Receiver had approached the Clearing Bankers with regard to Tarrow's Bank and he believed the Banks were proposing jointly to offer to advance a sum sufficient for a dividend of 27 in the £. He said further that the Bank would probably be invited to participate and the Committee agreed to decline any such invitation.

That there would be an issue of Local Loans at the end of this week of the same amount and on the same terms as the previous issue.

That certain Corporations had been enquiring as to the Bank's terms for Management of Stocks transferable by Deed or in the Bank's Books at the holders' option.



Present

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> January 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, &c., was submitted.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Quarterly Reports of the Staff Committee including the "Overs" and "Shorts" at the Head Office and Branches, together with the Report of the Audit Committee on Audits taken during the past Quarter, were submitted and referred to the Court.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee that the Hull Corporation have been called upon by the Ministry of Health to provide a further £500,000 for Housing purposes and have asked the Bank for a Loan. The Committee agreed that the Corporation should approach the Ministry of Health and make arrangements with them for an issue of Stock, but that the Bank might grant them a temporary Loan on an undertaking that an issue would be made.

Present

The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> January, 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, &c., was submitted.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that General Courts be held at the Bank



26th January 1921.

as follows -

To consider of a Dividend on Thursday the 17th March.

For the Election of a Governor and Deputy Governor on Tuesday the 5th April.

For the Election of Directors on Wednesday the 6th April.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Hosmer)

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Foster)

Lord Revelstoke

Lord Cullen of  
Auchbourne

Mr. Harris

Sir Charles Adair

and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 2nd February, 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc. was read.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate this week.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

Of his fears lest the Treasury be shortly forced to reduce the Treasury Bill Rate, and discussion took place as to the course to be adopted as regards Bank Rate in this event.

That a voluntary Funding operation on a large scale in the later Spring, was in his opinion, impossible.

That he feared that the Imperial Bank of India were proposing to open a Branch for Banking business in London.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
 Sir Sverre Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Jukes  
 Sir Charles Addison  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> February, 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc. was read.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Committee approved, and referred to the Court, a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending the adoption of the Scheme, as amended, for salaries etc. of Probationary Clerks on election to the Permanent Staff which was provisionally approved by the Court of the 11<sup>th</sup> March, 1920.

The Committee agreed to renew the following charitable subscriptions for the current year, viz:-

City of London Truss Society	£10: 10: -
Royal National Life Boat Institution	21: -: -
Royal Surgical Aid Society	10: 10: -
Bank Clerks Orphanage	52: 10: -
King Edward's Hospital Fund for London	250: -: -
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses	10: 10: -
City of London Lying-in Hospital	10: 10: -
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for Women	50: -: -
Samaritan Free Hospital for Women	50: -: -
Guy's Hospital	105: -: -
	<hr/> £570: 10: - <hr/>

The Rector of St. Margaret's, Lothbury.

of a Lectureship Fee	£21
of a Bishop of London's Fund	20
of a East London Church Fund	5
of a Poor Parishes adjacent to the City	20
of a Easter Gift	10: 10: -
	<hr/> £76: 10



9<sup>th</sup> February 1921.

It was further agreed to recommend to the Court that a donation of One thousand pounds be made to the Lord Mayor's Fund for the Relief of the City of Verdun.

An application from the University of Birmingham for a donation was declined.

A proposal for the establishment of a Recreation Ground for the Bank's Messengers, jointly with those of the London Joint City & Midland Bank, London County Westminster & Parry Bank and the National Provincial Union Bank, involving a present expenditure of £250 and an estimated annual expenditure of £125 was approved and referred to the Court.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee that the completed figures up to the 31<sup>st</sup> December last in regard to the Widows Annuity Scheme had now been received. 352 Clerks out of a possible total of 420 had applied to be included in the Scheme and 37 of these had been rejected by the Insurance Companies.

It was suggested that the Bank should purchase now an annuity of £100 for the wife of each of these 37 Clerks at an immediate cost of about £53,000 this sum being the immediate equivalent of the Bank's proportion of the scale premiums, and that the Bank should take the annuities during the lives of the Clerks concerned. This proposal was approved in principle, subject to annual payments by the Clerks.

See letter from Sir William Leese dated 16<sup>th</sup> January 1920 of which a copy is with the Committee of Treasury papers of 1920.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Mr E.R. Peacock be invited to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy that will occur on the Court at the end of the year by the resignation of Lord Hollenden.

The Governor informed the Committee :-

1. That Messrs. Deloitte, Plender & Co's Report on the Income Tax and Excess Profits Duty paid by the Bank had been received and shows that under the special system

See letter from Sir William Plender dated 10 December 1920 with Chief Accountant.



9<sup>th</sup> February 1921.

system adopted, by arrangement with the Inland Revenue, since 1887, the Bank have in recent years paid Income Tax in excess of the amount payable in usual course under the provisions of the Income Tax Act to the extent of about £1,000,000.

In view of the possible alteration in the law as to the three years' average and the proposed method of assessment of the Bank's profits, the points raised in the Report are being carefully considered.

2. That, in view of the removal of the Excess Profits Duty, and the fact that Corporation Profits Tax will not be increased this year, he was no longer of opinion that the time had now come for deduction of Corporation Profits Tax from the amount of Bank Stock Dividends.

The Committee concurred.

3. That he had again been approached by the Committee of the Sports Club with a view of obtaining the sanction of the Court to Sunday Cricket matches.

#### Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Rowlands  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr Marks  
Sir Charles Addis  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> February 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, &c. was read.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Committee approved and referred to the Court a Minute of the Staff recommending appointments, &c. together with the Annual Report on the Clerical Staff at the Head Office and Branches and the Permanent Women Clerks.

On an application from the Widow of Daniel J. Keene, a Pensioner, and formerly of the Cashier's Store Office, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure, and according to the scale of £60 a year.

The



The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That he had made a practice of taking Bills from the Market below Bank Rate on the understanding that the proceeds were invested in Treasury Bills.
2. That he had agreed, subject to legal formalities, to make large advances to the North British Railway on the understanding that the Railway will, if required, make an issue of Stock and that they will permanently keep a larger balance with the Bank.
3. That he had similarly agreed to make an advance of about £500,000 to Pilkington Brothers, Ltd. on security, which is not quoted on the Stock Exchange, but is believed by their Auditors to be of sufficient value.
4. That he had had an interview with the Agent General for Queensland as to further Loans here. He felt that the Bank should not lend more money to the Queensland Government, but he considered it to be politic to render them some assistance and would, if necessary, propose an issue of Treasury Bills in London by tender, the Bank to take up any unallotted balance.
5. That he had had a long talk with Sir Bernard Hunter and was doubtful if the Imperial Bank of India was really intending to observe the rules which ought to govern Central Banking. He thought there should be an Agency in London rather than a Branch, and if established on sound lines, it would be reasonable for such agency to be entrusted with a part of the Government of India business now done by the Bank.
6. That the work at St. Luke's was decreasing and that the Bank might shortly be faced with an annual loss on the Printing Works unless steps were taken to obtain fresh contracts. He suggested that it might be advisable to appoint someone whose object it would be to secure sufficient and proper work to keep the Department fully employed.

Discussion took place and further consideration was postponed.

The Committee agreed in principle to the appointment for one year of a member of the Staff to assist in furthering the activities of the various Societies for recreation and sports.



Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Deller)  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 and  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1921.

The Minutes of the previous Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

A Report of the Staff Committee recommending additions to Salaries was submitted and referred to the Court.

Letters of resignation were laid before the Committee from Henry J. B. Marriott of the Securities Office, on the grounds of ill health, and from Ethel MacLaine, a Woman Clerk, who is eligible to retire on a pension on attaining the age of 45 on the 13<sup>th</sup> May next.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted in each case, as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Governor informed the Committee of the estimated profits of the Bank for the half year to 28<sup>th</sup> February, and that in order to provide an available profit on the repayment of capital apart from interest he proposed to "write off" approximately £800,000 from the Bank's holdings of Securities maturing during the years 1924-1929.

The Committee concurred.

The question of the rate of interest on Ways and Means Advances, which was raised in connection with the Bank's Profits, was held over for the present.



Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Erasmo Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Harlio  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 2nd March, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor laid before the Committee an Interim Report of the Committee on the Re-building of the Bank, which was approved and referred to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That the audited Accounts of the Printing Department for the half-year to the 31<sup>st</sup> December last had been received and were satisfactory, but he feared that the development of H. M. Stationery Office would result in loss of business to the Bank.
2. That as another instance of uneconomical expenditure the Mint, in spite of an offer by the Bank to melt the accumulations of old silver coin at cost, had set up a plant at Woolwich Arsenal for the purpose.
3. That as the liability for Excess Profits Duty would cease as from 1<sup>st</sup> March he was of opinion that if the Bank were to escape criticism and public attack it would be politic to inform the Treasury in the near future that the Bank would be prepared for the current year to make some concession or payment to the Government in respect of

- (a) the Interest received on Ways and Means Advances
- (b) the amount received for Management; or
- (c) the Profits made out of the French credit.

The Committee agreed in principle to the suggestion preferably on the lines of (a) or (c) further discussion of the subject being postponed.



Present

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
 Lord Penelope  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> March, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee of the 9<sup>th</sup> ultimo, in regard to the Widows' Annuity Scheme, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Court that the proposals then agreed to in principle for the purchase of an immediate Annuity of £100 for the Wife of each of the Clerks who had been rejected by the Insurance Companies, be adopted, as set forth in detail in a separate memorandum; and further, that in the case of Clerks who had been accepted by the Insurance Companies at increased rates of premium, the Bank should pay the same proportion of the increase as of the premium according to scale.

The Governor reported that he had had a visit from the Agent General for Queensland who informed him that his Government had been able to arrange matters without the Bank's help, until the maturity of their Loan on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Further discussion took place on the subject of making some concession to the Government during the current year, and the Committee concurred in the Governor's suggestion that it should take the form of a graduated scale for interest on Ways and Means Advances, it being left to the Governor to arrange the actual details.

The



9<sup>th</sup> March, 1921.

The Chief Accountant attended the Committee and produced the Accounts of the Bank for the past half year.

Present:-

The Governor (Mr. Mowlem)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Trotter)  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen  
Sir Charles Addis  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> March, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee

That on the 10<sup>th</sup> instant he had received instructions to reduce the rate on Three Months Treasury Bills to 6% and to offer Twelve Months Bills at the same rate a decision which the Chancellor appeared to have reached somewhat unexpectedly on that day.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee was submitted and referred to the Court; together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending the election of certain Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.

With regard to the Election of the Committee of Treasury for the ensuing year, the Governor mentioned that as some of the Directors would in all probability be away owing to Easter, he proposed to recommend that votes be taken at the Court on the 7<sup>th</sup> April and counted after Court on the 14<sup>th</sup> April, when the result of the Election would be declared, and that Directors who should not have voted on the 7<sup>th</sup> could record their votes on the 14<sup>th</sup> April if present in Court on that day.



Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor  
 (Mr. Trotter)  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Harbo  
 Sir Charles Addis, and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup>. March, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Annu List of Governors and Directors for the ensuing year was submitted and referred to the Court: also a letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer applying for Advances during the ensuing quarter.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That a letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> March, had been received from Messrs. Freshfields & Lees, which gave a categorical reply in the affirmative to certain definite questions as to the powers of the Bank under the Charter to refine gold or silver and to do printing work.

2. That, as stated in a memorandum dated the 18<sup>th</sup> instant the usual present charge for issue of stock by the Bank was £2500 per £1,000,000 of stock. In view of the fact that the charges by other Banks were much lower he proposed that the Bank's charge should be reduced to £1250 with a minimum of £1250 in respect of any single issue, such charge to apply to all issues whether made by tender, at a fixed price, or for the purpose of conversion.

3. That, at the invitation of the President of the Board of Trade the Deputy Governor had consented to serve on the Committee to be formed under S.5 of the German Reparation (Recovery) Bill.

The Annual Report by the Secretary on the Clerks' Guarantee Fund and the Samaritan Fund was submitted and referred to the Court, together with a Minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments.

On



23<sup>rd</sup> March 1921.

On an application from H. J. B. Marriott, late a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Securities Office, who was granted a pension of £70:12:8 by the Court on the 24<sup>th</sup> February last, it was agreed that he be allowed to commute his pension for a cash payment of £943:1:10 to enable him to purchase a farm in Nova Scotia.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Grotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr Grenfell  
Sir Charles Addey, and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> March, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee that, following on the establishment of a Recreation Ground for the Porters, he proposed to make similar arrangements for the Staff of the Printing Department.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr Grotter)  
Lord Cullen  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Hanks  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

Referring to the Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> March, the Governor read to the Committee letters dated the 31<sup>st</sup> March and 4<sup>th</sup> April which had passed between the Bank and the Treasury on the subject of Interest on Ways and Means advances and



6th April 1921.

and stated that the terms offered by the Bank appeared to have given great satisfaction to the Treasury.

That, with the view of co-ordinating all the Clubs and Societies - recreative and other - established under the auspices of the Bank and of bringing them more prominently before the Staff, he had appointed Mr. C. E. E. Riley (of the Branch Banks Office) to be "General Welfare Organiser".

That a test case was shortly to be brought before the Mixed Tribunal regarding the question of the rate of interest charged to acceptors under the Treasury Scheme of 5th September, 1914, and that he proposed to ask Lord Cullen to give evidence on behalf of the Bank.

Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Mr. Robert Haydon  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Lord Hesketh  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Banks  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 13th April 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee -

1. That arrangements for the reconstruction of the Austrian Länderbank as a French Bank were now practically completed subject to an Act being passed through the Austrian Parliament.

2. Similarly, that a scheme had been agreed upon for the reconstruction of the Anglo-Austrian Bank as a British Company on lines which would leave the control of the concern in the hands of the Bank on behalf of the Government, and that, in order to further the scheme



13<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

Scheme, he had offered to subscribe £50,000 towards the new capital of the Bank.

3. That an informal request had been made by Messrs. Portal for permission to supply ~~Messrs.~~ ~~Portal for permission to supply~~ Messrs. Waterlow with milled paper at their Overton Mill for the printing of Currency Notes. This question affected the arrangements between the Bank and Messrs. Portal, as referred to in these Minutes of the Committee of the 21<sup>st</sup> July last, and after discussion the matter was deferred for further consideration.

*End of meeting*

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending Appointments, together with a Report of the Staff Committee recommending the Election of certain Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff, and alterations to the Rules and Orders for Clerks and of the Regulations of the Clerks' Guarantee Fund, were submitted and referred to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Trotter)  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Callen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Jenfell  
Mr. Jarrico  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That the arrangements for the reconstruction of the Austrian Landersbank as a French Company are now practically completed, subject to the terms being approved by the Austrian Parliament.

2. That a Scheme on similar lines was proposed for the reconstruction of the Anglo Austrian Bank as a British



13<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

British Company, under which the Bank of England would nominate the majority of the Board, and in order to facilitate the scheme he proposed if requested by the Treasury to do so, that the Bank should subscribe for £50,000 of the new capital in the Company.

3. That a Committee had been appointed by the Treasury to advise privately as to the disposal of the surplus silver resulting from the new coinage. The Committee consisted of one of the Governors as Chairman, a representative from the Treasury and from the Mint, Sir Bernard Hunter, Imperial Bank of India, and Mr. C. J. Wood, Colonial Bank.

CT 98.

4. That a tentative enquiry had been made by Portals as to whether the Bank would grant them permission to supply, mould made paper to Messrs. Waterlow for the manufacture of 10<sup>s</sup> Currency Notes. This raised the whole question of the relations between the Bank and Portals and the granting of such permission might prejudice the Bank in the future. The matter was discussed and deferred for further consideration.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending Appointments, together with a Report of the Staff Committee recommending the Election of certain Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff, and alterations to the Rules and Orders for Clerks and of the Regulations of the Clerks' Guarantee Fund, were submitted and referred to the Court.

Present.

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Trotter)  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Frouwell  
Mr. Banks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate. The Governor stated that he felt it very desirable that the Bank should continue to act in co-operation with the Treasury, and consequent on the reduction of the



20th April, 1921.

the Treasury Bill Rate in March and the re-introduction of the tender system, he suggested that it might be advisable, if in the opinion of the Chancellor political and industrial circumstances are favourable, to recommend a reduction in the Bank Rate to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. next week.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor mentioned that the Bank had received a parcel of gold coin (roubles) said to have been the property of the former State Bank of Russia, of which ownership is now claimed by or through the Soviet Government; and that in accordance with the terms of the letter accompanying the Trade agreement this gold is to be the subject of a test case to which the Bank has been made a party.

Proposals for the appointment of Committees etc. for the current year were submitted and referred to the Court.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee, including the "Overs" and "Shorts" at the Head Office and Branches was submitted and referred to the Court, together with the Quarterly Report of the Audit Committee.

#### Present

The Governor (Mr. Norman)  
The Deputy Governor (Mr. Foster)  
Sir Edward Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Starks  
Sir Charles Adair  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 27th April, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

In accordance with last Minutes of the Committee, it was agreed after discussion to recommend a reduction in the Bank Rate to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That



27<sup>th</sup> April, 1921.

That, at the request of the Treasury, he proposed to ask the Court to agree to the opening of a Drawing Account by the Peruvian Government, which was a step towards the establishment of a central Bank in Peru and that he was endeavouring to recommend an Adviser for this object.

That he proposed to convert the Bank's holding of Short National War Bonds into the new  $3\frac{1}{2}$  Conversion Loan and also to exchange a part of the Bank's holding of £5% War Loan into Funding Loan.

On an application from the Widow of A. H. Bartlett, a Pensioner, formerly of the Bank Note Office, it was agreed to grant her an allowance, during pleasure and according to the scale, of £42 a year.

The Committee had before them a letter of resignation on account of ill-health from H. R. Pearce, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Clerk in the Colonial & Corporation Stocks Office.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate Minute.

The Minutes of a meeting of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff, recommending Regulations for Clerks whose lives are "loaded" or rejected in future under the Clerks' Widows Annuity Scheme, were referred to the Court.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
(Mr. Trotter)

Sir Everard Hambro

Lord Revelstoke

Lord Cullen of Ashbourne

Mr. Frenfell

Mr. J. J. Harris

Sir Charles Addison

Sir Henry Babington Smith

and the Comptroller

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> May 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



4<sup>th</sup> May 1921.

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The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension of £112:13:4, according to scale, be granted during pleasure to E. W. Thorpe, a Bank Note Stamper, as from the 8<sup>th</sup> instant, when he will attain the age of 65 years.

Present.

The Governor  
Sir Ivor de Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Jenfell  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addey  
Sir Henry Dabington Smith  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> May 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee -

That he had been requested to receive as Security "Export Credit Bills" which are about to be created. These Bills being foreign acceptances domiciled in this country would not in the ordinary course be taken at the Bank but if the Bills bear the un-conditional guarantee of the British Government in a satisfactory form he proposed to regard them as Treasury Bills.

That after to-morrow he hoped to arrange for Treasury Bill tenders to be opened on Friday instead of Thursday.

That in order to relieve the Chief Cashier, as far as possible of much of the work connected with the general administration at St. Luke's he proposed to utilize to the fullest extent the services of the Supervisor as detailed in a separate memorandum which was submitted.

A letter of resignation was laid before the Committee from Mr. F. F. Somers, a Cashier, who is 60 years of age and in indifferent health  
and



11th May 1921.

and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate Minute.

It was agreed to refer to the Court the following Minutes of the Staff Committee, viz:-

- (1) Recommending appointments.
- (2) Recommending temporary increases in the rates of Overtime.
- (3) Recommending the election of 24 Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff, also a report of the Committee on Advances and Discounts on the discount business of the Bank during the past year.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
 The Deputy Governor (Mr Trotter)  
 Lord Cullen of Achesbourne  
 Mr Ponfoll  
 Mr Marks  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 Sir Henry Babington Smith  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 18th May 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

The Governor mentioned -

That the Agreement for issue and management of London County Council Stocks which expired in 1919 was being continued, with certain modifications, for a period of 25 years.

That Sir W.G. Armstrong Whitworth & Company had outstanding Advances of £1,400,000 at the Newcastle Branch, together with guarantees amounting to £200,000, and he proposed that the Account should be continued on the same lines as heretofore.

That



18th May 1921.

That he intended to urge the expediency of defining the end of the War by statute.

That Mr. J. A. Stark, the Assistant Secretary, had tendered his resignation consequent on his having accepted the position of Secretary to the London and Brazilian Bank. It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Mr. Stark's resignation be accepted with regret, as per the accompanying Minute.

Present.

The Governor (Mr Norman)  
The Deputy Governor  
(Mr Dutton)

Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Charles  
Sir Henry Robinson Smith  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 25th May 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc. was read.

The result of the Election for Representatives of the Staff on the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff was reported and referred to the Court.

It was agreed that the nomination of Representatives for the Official side be deferred until the Deputy Governor's return.

At the request of the Mercer's Company on behalf of the Gresham Trustees, it was agreed to furnish a portrait of Sir John Houblon to fill one of the small panels in the Royal Exchange.

With reference to Messrs. Portal's request for permission to supply paper to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons for the manufacture of Currency Notes which was mentioned to the Committee on the 13th April last, the Governor discussed in detail with the Committee a memorandum of an arrangement with Messrs. Portal.

Details

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25<sup>th</sup> May 1921.

Details of arrangement made with Messrs.  
Portal in regard to Tenders for Currency Note Paper

That Messrs. Portal are to be free to tender during the next few weeks to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons for £1 Currency Note Paper to be made at the India Mill only; also for 10/- Currency Note mould paper to be made at Overton only.

The Bank to be advised fully of any negotiations and of any Tender-Contract or Acceptance or Refusal - with details.

Any arrangement in this connection to be for a definite amount of paper and for a limited period (not exceeding 6 or 12 months) without further commitment or promise, and to be terminable at the Bank's request and in their discretion.

In no event are Messrs. Portal to grant better terms to Messrs. Waterlow & Sons than to the Bank, to whom they agree at all times to grant preferential treatment.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

1. That the South African Refinery will probably be ready in 6 months' time and the Gold Producers wish as from that date to vary the existing agreement so that they may be at liberty to send refined or unrefined gold to this Country for re-export in such amounts as they may from time to time decide. In his opinion this was not a proposal to which the Bank could agree or which they could advise the Treasury to accept.

2. That Sir Charles Addis had greatly obliged him by consenting to go to Paris to discuss the Collection of sums due by Germany to the Reparation Committee.

3. That



25<sup>th</sup> May 1921

3. That the Queensland Government wish to borrow more money and he had told the Agent General that the Bank would not agree to this, and moreover that they were not prepared to continue the present indebtedness of £1,000,000 without a definite promise on his part of repayment at maturity. He had told the Agent General that if £450,000 were repaid in 6 months the Bank would probably consent to renew the balance for a further 6 months on his promise to repay at the end of that time.

4. That before long the French may be making an advance to Austria and it would seem advisable for this Country to do the same, in anticipation of a loan presently to be issued under the auspices of the League of Nations.

That the Government would have to go to Parliament for permission to make such an advance and he suggested for future consideration the possibility of the Bank making an Advance under the partial guarantee of the Government, the Advance to be repaid out of the proceeds of the Loan when issued.

A letter was read from Sir Thomas Rose thanking the Court of Directors for their gifts to him and to Lady Rose.

### Present.

The Governor (Mr. Hornum)  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 Sir Henry Babington Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 1st June, 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc was read.

Li.



1<sup>st</sup> June, 1921.

In continuation of last week's minutes it was agreed that the Bank should be committed to an eventual liability of three eighths of £2,000,000 in connection with temporary advances to be made in one form or another to the Austrian Government in accordance with the Report of the Finance Committee of the League of Nations.

The Governor informed the Committee:-

(i) That he had granted permission to Mr Dale, the Deputy Secretary, to act as one of the Trustees of the Bankers Health Insurance Society.

(ii) That, with the approval of H. M. Treasury, he had submitted to the Peruvian minister the name of Col. W. A. Eskine as a suitable head for a Central Bank to be set up in Peru, and as Financial Adviser to the Peruvian Government.

### Present

The Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Curzon of Ashburnham  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Starks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> June, 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers &c was read.

The.



8<sup>th</sup> June, 1921

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a pension of £105:6:8, according to scale, be granted during pleasure to George Gurratt, a messenger to the Treasury, as from the 15th instant when he will attain the age of 65 years.

The Committee agreed that if the Reichsbank ask permission to open an account it would be advisable to recommend acceptance by the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee that in connection with a renewal of the agreement for the management of India Stocks, he would shortly be negotiating with the India Council and would take the line that it was wrong in principle for an outside Banker - as member of the Council - to take part in such negotiations with a Central Bank.

Present.

The Governor  
 The Deputy Governor  
 Sir E.A. Hambro  
 Lord Roelsto Rø  
 Lord Cullen of Redbourne  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Mr Tuckers  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 Anthony Babington Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



15<sup>th</sup> June. 1921

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc was read.

On an application from the Widow of William Wallace, a pensioner, formerly of the Secretary's Office, it was agreed to grant her an allowance during pleasure and according to the scale of £50 a year.

A Minute of the Staff Committee recommending an appointment etc., together with a Quarterly Report of that Committee and a Report recommending the appointment of certain Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff were approved and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that the following be appointed to serve as members of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff for the current year —

Lord Revelstoke (Chairman)  
 Mr Trotter  
 Mr Wallace  
 Mr Whitworth  
 Mr Walker  
 Mr Paice

In continuation of previous Minutes, the Governor informed the Committee

1. That he did not wish to make any change in the existing agreement with the South African Gold producers, but that he foresaw some political difficulties and was prepared if necessary to exempt from the terms of the agreement, say, the first 200,000 ounces of gold to be refined in South Africa.

2. That



15<sup>th</sup> June, 1921

2. That he had now made an advance of £700,000 to the North British Railway on security approved by Messrs Freshfield and that he proposed similarly to increase the amount of the loan on the understanding that the advance would be repaid out of monies due to the Railway by the Ministry of Transport, unless otherwise repaid previously.

3. That he had advanced £350,000 to Pilkington Brothers on the security of Debentures of the Company, and that he proposed to increase the advance to £700,000 — that portion of the advance not secured by Debentures to be covered by the personal guarantee of Directors of the Company.

### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Rosbarn  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr Tunks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Robinson Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

Taking into account the disintegration of the miners position as regards the Coal Strike it was agreed to recommend to the Court that the Bank Rate be reduced to-morrow to 6 per cent.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., was read.

It was agreed that the Agent at the Law Courts Branch be authorised to make a donation of £105 to the Bemersyde Fund in view of the fact that the Bank has received about £320 as commission on monies of the Fund employed by the Branch.



Wednesday, the 29<sup>th</sup> June, 1921.

Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of  
Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tarkes  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the previous Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc. was read.

With reference to previous minutes the Governor

1. Informed the Committee that he had arranged to exchange £3,000,000 of the Bank's holding of 5% War Stock for £4,500,000 Conversion Loan at prices giving the same return.

2. Gave a further outline of the position of the Queensland Government and intimated that owing to their connection with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia it was probable that the Bank would eventually lose the Queensland Government's business here.

Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tarkes  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 6<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers etc. was read.

The Governor informed the Committee

(1) That difficulties had arisen with the Czecho-Slovakian Government over the Anglo Austrian Bank and,

at



6<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

at his request, Mr. Spencer-Smith had kindly agreed to go to Prague on behalf of the Bank to endeavour to arrange a settlement of the various matters in dispute.

(2) That as Mr. Orchard, the Bank's Nominee on the <sup>Trustees</sup> Savings Bank Inspection Committee, had, for reasons of health decided to retire from the position, he proposed to ask one of the Directors to consent to be nominated in his place.

(3) That he had been impressed with the statistical charts submitted to him by Mr. Snyder of the Federal Reserve Bank, and the question as to whether the Bank should take action on similar lines was deferred for further consideration.

### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Dantes  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babinston  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 13<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

The proceedings of the previous Committee

were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and

Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc. was read.

It was agreed to refer to the Court the following Minutes of the Staff Committee—

(1) Recommending appointments.

(2) Recommending the election of thirty one Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.



Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

Present.

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grayell  
Mr. Danks  
Sir Charles Addison  
Sir Henry Robinson  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

On the proposal of the Governor it was agreed to recommend to the Court that the Bank Rate be reduced to-morrow from 6% to 5½%.

The Governor informed the Committee

(1) That Sir Alan Anderson had kindly agreed to represent the Bank on the Trustee Savings Bank's Inspection Committee on the retirement of Mr. Orchard.

(2) That owing partly to the Mint Authorities having refused the offer of the Bank to melt surplus silver at cost price and having set up a plant at Woolwich for the purpose, the Refinery at St. Luke's was without work. That when the South African Refinery was completed gold refining in London might, he feared, practically cease and that the future of the Bank's Refinery would have to be considered. At present he thought that the standing charges should be reduced as far as possible and the Refinery merely maintained for possible future use.

(3) That the Bill before the Austrian Parliament dealing with the reconstruction of the Lander-Bank and the Anglo Austrian Bank had failed to pass and further consideration had been postponed until the Autumn with the result that the arrangements for resuscitating these Banks could not be completed.

(4) That he hoped the issue of dividend warrants with counterfoils attached stating the particulars of tax deducted would commence on January 1 next in respect of such Stocks managed by the Bank as were liable to deduction at the source.

(5) That



20<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

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(5) That since the amalgamation of Messrs Mullens Marshall & Co., the Bank's Brokers, with Messrs Steer, Lawford & Co., the question had arisen as to the propriety of the Firm's name appearing as Brokers in the case of Issues made other than by the Bank. He understood that hitherto it had not been the custom for the Bank's Brokers to identify themselves with such Issues, and he asked the Committee to consider what action, if any, the Bank should take in the matter.

(6) That Excess Profits Only payable by the Bank for the final accounting period ending the 28<sup>th</sup> February, 1921, amounted to £3,517,594 : 15 : 4, the Corporation Profits Tax for the same period to £236,727 : 16 : 10 and the balance of Income Tax to £745,421 : 12 : 5. That, in his opinion, the present method of computing Income Tax payable by the Bank, although irregular, should be continued for the Income Tax years 1921/2 and 1922/3, after which the whole question should be raised with the Inland Revenue.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee with "overs" and "shorts" was submitted and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that an Annuity of £100 be purchased for Mrs. Tarrant, widow of C.E. Tarrant, a Clerk in the Bank, as detailed in a separate minute.

It was agreed to concur in a recommendation of the Advisory Council of Directors and Staff dated the 19<sup>th</sup> instant in regard to the Sliding Scale Bonus to the Permanent Clerical Staff for the quarter commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> September next.



Wednesday, the 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

Present.

The Governor,  
The Deputy Governor,  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne,  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Danks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir H. Babington Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alterations be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee

(1) That he had had a visit from Mr. Campion on behalf of the Head Office of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, who asked that the terms arranged for the repayment of the Bank's loan to the Queensland Government might be reconsidered, and that Mr. Hunter had been present.

As he had had no request from the Queensland Government on the subject, he proposed to take no steps in the matter at present.

(2) That, owing to the reduction in the Bank Rate, the private arrangement <sup>made</sup> with the Treasury for the current year as from 1<sup>st</sup> March in regard to the rate of interest on Ways & Means Advances had been raised by the Treasury.

Proposals for the appointment of a General Court for the declaration of a Dividend were submitted and referred to the Court; also a Report of the Audit Committee on Audits taken by the Audit Department, dated the 22<sup>nd</sup> instant.

A letter



27<sup>th</sup> July, 1921.

A letter of resignation was laid before the Committee from Mr. E. S. Fott, Principal of the Sub-Treasury, who is over 60 years of age, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate minute.

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The Governor laid before the Committee a Statement of the Bank's holdings in Government Securities other than Treasury Bills and Ways & Means Advances, and stated that his intention was that the amount held in long dated Securities should be gradually increased until the gross income therefrom was approximately equal to the present gross dividend on the Bank's capital.

### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Cullen of  
Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tiarke  
Sir H. Dabington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor laid before the Committee Messrs Deloitte's certificate, dated 29<sup>th</sup> July 1921, to the effect that they had examined the Balance Sheet dated 28<sup>th</sup> February 1921 and that, in their opinion, it exhibited a correct view of the state of the affairs of the Banking Department, and further that the Bank had duly accounted for the amounts payable in respect of Excess Profits Duty and Corporation Profits Tax for all accounting periods to 28<sup>th</sup> February 1921, and for Income Tax to the 5<sup>th</sup> April 1921.

The



3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1921.

The Governor informed the Committee —

(1) That on the abandonment of the Government Housing Programme, the arrangements made in May 1920 with the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr Addison in regard to the formal control of Issues had now come to an end.

(2) That his attention had been called to the somewhat neglected condition of the Directors' Library, and he asked the Committee to consider what steps, if any, should be taken in the matter.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Mr. C. H. Lavington, Chief Clerk at the Bristol Branch, be granted a pension as from the 10<sup>th</sup> August, when he attains the age of 65 years, as detailed in a separate Minute.

A minute of the Staff Committee was submitted and referred to the Court in regard to —

(1) Payment of Bouns to the Probationary Clerks and Temporary Clerks (Men & Women) for the Quarter commencing the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

(2) Modification in the terms of the Bouns to Porters, etc., and in the Gift to Pensioners.

(3) Alteration in the age limit, etc., of Probationary Clerks, and as to the engagement of Porters at the Branches.



Wednesday, the 10<sup>th</sup> August, 1921.

Present -

The Deputy Governor  
 Lord Cullen of  
 Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Darks  
 Sir Henry Babinpton  
 Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alterations be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Deputy Governor informed The Committee

1. That negotiations were practically completed for the sale of the lease of Moorgate Hall, which expires in 1925, at a premium of £5000 and that arrangements were being made to accommodate the Staff at the Bank's Premises in Tabernacle Street.

2. That the Finance Act contained certain provisions affecting the Bank

- (1) As to deduction of tax on the Interest of certain Government Stocks on request of the Stockholder.
- (2) Unclaimed Dividends
- (3) Redemption of Government Stocks.

3. That the Finance Act also contained provisions for the exemption of Superannuation Funds from Income Tax, and he felt that the question of a Pension Fund should be carefully considered.

A Letter of Resignation was laid before the Committee from A. K. Wallace, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Clerk in The

Bill



10<sup>th</sup> August, 1921.

Bill Office, which was tendered pursuant to Order of Court of the 17<sup>th</sup> February last requiring him to retire on completing 45 years' service, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a Pension as from the 28<sup>th</sup> September, as detailed in a separate Minute.

It was agreed to refer to the Court the following minutes of the Staff Committee -

1. Recommending Appointments.
2. Recommending the election of 31 Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mrs. Grenfell  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, The 17<sup>th</sup> August, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Billbrokers was laid before the Committee.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

Referring to the Minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> July, the Deputy Governor informed the Committee that he had received a formal request from the Agent General on behalf of the Queensland Government to further extend the time for the repayment of the Bank's loan from 1 to 2 years. He laid before the Committee cables sent to and received from the Governor and the Committee concurred in the suggestion that an offer should be made to defer the payments due this autumn until the 30<sup>th</sup> September 1922 and the payment due the 30<sup>th</sup> June 1922 until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1922.

That



17<sup>th</sup> August, 1921.

That Mr. J. F. Wetherall, the Sub Agent at Leeds, had requested to be allowed to retire from the Service.

The Committee had before them a letter of resignation from Arthur Gregory (age 57½) of the Bristol Branch. Gregory, had been told that he would be required to retire at 60 and had been offered the alternative of retiring at the present time with a pension calculated as though he were 60 years of age. It was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension of £296 : 5 : 4, as from the 30<sup>th</sup> September, as detailed in a separate minute.

It was agreed to accede to an application from the Agent at Liverpool for a donation of £20 towards completion of the Roll of Honour Panels in the Town Hall, Liverpool.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tarkes  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup> August, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Deputy Governor read to the Committee an estimate of the Bank's profits for the half-year ending the 31<sup>st</sup> instant.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court of Directors to propose to the Secretary of State in Council for India certain alterations and additions to be made in the list of persons authorised to sign and countersign Bills drawn upon the Government of India, as detailed in a separate minute.



Wednesday, the 31<sup>st</sup> August, 1921.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Danks  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee—

1. That he had received from Messrs Deloitte Plender & Griffiths the Audited Accounts of the Printing Department, Refinery and Works Department to the 30<sup>th</sup> June last.
2. That he had had a visit from Dr. Grim, the Austrian Finance Minister, and the Austrian Ambassador, who informed him of the serious consequences of the delay in obtaining financial assistance through the League of Nations.
3. That the Printing Department had received the order for printing the first Series of Notes for the South African Reserve Bank and that there was a possibility of the Bank being approached as to the printing of Notes for other Countries.

A letter of resignation was laid before the Committee from Mr. Walden McPherson, Deputy Principal of the Accountant's Bank Note Office, who is 60 years of age, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a Pension as detailed in a separate minute.



Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> September, 1921.

Present

The Deputy Governor,  
Lord Cullen of Aulborne,  
Mr. Grenfell,  
Mr. Tunks,  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Deputy Governor informed the Committee—

1. That a special appeal had been made by the Manchester & District Bankers Institute for further assistance owing to the expiration of their present lease and the need for increased accommodation, and that he was making enquiries as to what the other Banks were doing in the matter.
2. That he proposed to ask the Court to agree to the continuance of the drawing account at the Western Branch of Miss Schilizzi, who is about to marry a Foreign Subject resident abroad.
3. That Mr. R. S. Bunch, a Pensioner, had asked to be allowed to commute a part of his pension to enable him to complete the purchase of a house and he thought that, as a special case, the application might be acceded to.

The Committee concurred.

Present

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> September, 1921.

The Deputy Governor,  
Lord Revelstoke,  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tunks  
Sir Henry Robinson Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.



14<sup>th</sup> September, 1921.

A minute of the Staff Committee recommending appointments, together with Reports on certain Clerks, and Assistants, and the usual Quarterly Report of that Committee, were submitted and referred to the Court.

An application for assistance on behalf of Miss E.G. Beard, daughter of the late W.F.D. Beard formerly of the Birmingham Branch, was considered. Miss Beard is 52 years of age and has an Income of about £50 a year, but owing to a serious operation she is incapacitated from earning her own living and it was agreed, in all the circumstances, to grant her an Allowance, during pleasure, of £26 a year.

The Chief Accountant attended the Committee and produced the Accounts of the Bank for the past half-year. It was agreed to recommend to the Court that a half-year's dividend of Interest and Profits be made on the 5<sup>th</sup> October next of £5% less Income Tax.

### Present

The Governor,  
The Deputy Governor,  
Sir Charles Addis,  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith.

Wednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> September, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate, which would thus remain above the corresponding Rate in New York.

The Governor informed the Committee of the particular purpose of his visit to the United States, viz:—

(1) To



21<sup>st</sup> September, 1921.

(1) To further relationship with the Federal Reserve Board and Banks,

(2) To promote common action between the Federal Reserve Banks and other central Banks,

(3) To interest America in the financial needs of Eastern Europe,

and recorded his thanks for the valuable assistance received from Sir Charles Addis.

Referring to the Minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> September, it was agreed to recommend to the Court that a donation of £250 be made to the Manchester & District Bankers Institute.

#### Present

The Governor.  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Danks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith.

Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> September, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed, after discussion, that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

That, with reference to the Minute of the Committee of the 27<sup>th</sup> July last, he had agreed with the Treasury, that the maximum rate of interest on Ways and Means Advances should be reduced from 5% to 4½% as from the 1<sup>st</sup> September, the terms to be reconsidered in the event of any change being made in the Bank Rate and in any case not later than the 28<sup>th</sup> February 1922.

That following on his visit to the United States he proposed with Mr. Piene Jay, of the Federal Reserve Bank, to see

Dr. Vissering



28<sup>th</sup> September, 1921

Dr. Vissering, President of the Nederlandsche Bank, in Amsterdam, or in London.

The usual application from the Chancellor of the Exchequer for advances during the ensuing Quarter was laid before the Committee and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to grant a donation of £100 to the Clerks' Library to assist in the expense of re-binding and cataloguing certain of the books.

### Present

The Governor,  
The Deputy Governor.  
Sir Gerard Hambro,  
Lord Revelstoke,  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne,  
Mr. Grenfell,  
Sir Charles Addis,  
Sir Henry Babington Smith.

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

1. That in company with Mr. Pierre Jay, of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York he had paid a private visit to Dr. Vissering, President of the Nederlandsche Bank in order to discuss and further —

(1) An understanding as to the general financial policy of ~~the~~ Central Banks.

(2) Co-operation on international and economic lines among Central Banks.

(3) An eventual consortium of Central Banks (under the lead of the Federal Reserve Bank) for the rehabilitation of Austria and Eastern Europe on purely economic lines.

The result



5<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

The result had been entirely satisfactory and it was agreed informally that such visits were desirable - that they should be treated as secret and that Dr. Vissering should, as he offered, pay an early visit to the President of the National Bank of Switzerland to promote the above objects.

2. That at the suggestion of the Reichsbank Mr. Järnkens had kindly undertaken to meet a Representative while he was in Hamburg.

3. That he had received a letter and confirmatory telegram from Mr. Spencer-Smith stating that, in spite of the unfriendly attitude of the French Government, the bill relating to the reconstruction of the Anglo-Austrian Bank and the Austrian Landbank had been passed, subject to ratification, by the Austrian Parliament.

4. That with reference to a Minute of the Committee of the 1<sup>st</sup> June in regard to the submission of Colonel Erskine's name for appointment as Head of a central Bank to be set up in Peru, he had now received from Colonel Erskine a letter which had been addressed to him by the Peruvian Legation to the effect that "at the present moment it is not possible to take action in this matter." The Governor felt that the Bank and Colonel Erskine had been treated badly and he proposed to communicate with the Foreign Office, at whose request he had nominated someone for the post.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Robert Carr, 1<sup>st</sup> Doorkeeper, who attains the age of 65 on the 8<sup>th</sup> October be allowed as a special case to remain in the service until the 31<sup>st</sup> December, and that he be granted thereafter a pension of £162 a year according to scale.



Wednesday, the 12<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

Present

The Governor,  
The Deputy Governor,  
Lord Revelstoke,  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne,  
Mr. Grenfell,  
Sir Charles Addis,  
Sir Henry Babington Smith.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

CT 117.01

(1) That he proposed to ask the Court to agree to the opening of Drawing Accounts for His Majesty the King of Spain and other members of the Spanish Royal Family.

(2) That Queensland had obtained a loan in New York, and he was hopeful that other similar loans would be arranged in that market.

(3) That he had received a letter stating that the Bill for the Reconstruction of the Anglo Austrian and Landersbankes had been ratified, and further, that a favourable arrangement had been arrived at with the Czech Government through the good offices of Mr. Spencer Smith.

(4) That he had also been requested by the Anglo-Austrian Bank to receive a certain quantity of silver for disposal in this country, and he proposed to give what assistance he could.

CT 117.01

(5) That in his opinion it was desirable to open Drawing Accounts for the Nederlandsche Bank or any central Bank should they make application to do so, and in such cases for the Bank to make reciprocal arrangements.

The



12<sup>th</sup> October, 1921

The Report of the Committee on the Rebuilding of the Bank, dated the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, was submitted and referred to the Court together with a minute of the Staff Committee recommending the election of 34 Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that W. H. Gossage, a Cashier, be granted a Pension as from the 16<sup>th</sup> instant as detailed in a separate minute.

### Present.

The Governor  
 Sir Everard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Charles Addis  
 Sir Henry Babington  
                     Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

(1) That the Treasury had not seen their way to accept the Bank's offer on the 12<sup>th</sup> instant to set aside £50,000 Bank Notes on Currency Note Reserve Account.

(2) That along with the Comptroller he had yesterday received, by arrangement, a special visit from M. Leprieux, Vice Governor, and M. Janssen, a Director, of the National Bank of Belgium, to whom under pledge of confidence he had told of his visit with Sir Charles Addis to America, of his visit with Mr. Jay to Amsterdam, and of Dr. Vissering's projected visit to Switzerland.

He had made no mention of the Reichsbank but had read and discussed the minute of the 5<sup>th</sup> October, the contents of which were agreed without hesitation by both visitors on

behalf



19<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

behalf of their Governor, to whom they promised to report the conversation.

The Governor had thought it right at the outset to ascertain that after the end of this month M. Lepreux would cease to be a Senator and would devote himself entirely to the interests of the National Bank of Belgium.

(3) That, bearing upon the Minutes of the Committee of the 16<sup>th</sup> February and 20<sup>th</sup> July last, he proposed to ask the Court to appoint a Committee to report and advise on the Finance, methods, and administration at St. Luke's, and generally as to the organisation of the Staffs. The Committee to consist of The Deputy Governor, Col. Hanbury, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Whigham, and Mr. Peacock.

(4) That he had suspended R. M. Browne, a 4<sup>th</sup> Class Clerk at the Liverpool Branch, for betting Transactions.

(5) That, as regards the Recreation Ground for the Bank's Messengers, which, as explained to the Committee on the 9<sup>th</sup> February last, it was proposed to acquire jointly with three of the large Clearing Banks, a suitable ground had now been heard of at Beckenham Hill which could be obtained at a capital expenditure of £5000, including the cost of levelling, etc., and he had agreed to subscribe £1250 being the Bank's share. It is not expected that any annual payment for upkeep will be required as was originally proposed.

(6) That, with reference to a Minute of the Committee of the 3<sup>rd</sup> August he had authorized the Secretary to spend an amount not exceeding £50 on books for the Director's Library.

(7) That the pictures belonging to the Bank had all been examined and where necessary were in process of being restored.

(8) That



19<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

(8) That, at the request of the Reparations Commission he had invited Mr. Paice, The Deputy Chief Cashier, to assist them in the organization of their Cashiers Department in Paris.

Following upon the Minutes of the Committee of the 20<sup>th</sup> July last the Governor submitted a specimen warrant with counterfoil attached to be used for the payment of dividends on Government and other Stocks, the issue of which, subject to approval by the Inland Revenue, would commence on January 1<sup>st</sup> next.

Mr. Spencer-Smith attended the Committee and gave a full account of his visits to Vienna and Prague in connection with the proposed reconstruction of the Anglo-Austrian Bank. He expressed himself as much pleased with the results of his visits and spoke with confidence as to the future of the new Anglo-Austrian and Anglo-Czech Banks. The Committee agreed that the Bank should give financial support to the new Bank in order to assist business in Eastern Europe and to support the agreed Investment arising out of Cold Storage Bills.

### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 26<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

In this connection the Governor mentioned that Mr. Goodenough, who is acting as Chairman of the Committee of Clearing Bankers in Mr. McKenna's absence, had informed him that he proposed to call a meeting of his Committee to consider lowering the deposit rate.

The

et. 99



26<sup>th</sup> October, 1921.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers, etc., was laid before the Committee.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee together with a Minute of that Committee recommending appointments, etc. were approved and referred to the Court.

The Governor informed the Committee —

(1) That he proposed to refuse a second application for a donation to St. Bartholomew's Hospital.

N/E.  
Paper in CT32.

(2) That he had a long informal conversation with Sir Robert Aitken on the 20<sup>th</sup> October to the following effect:

Provided —

- (a) The Imperial Bank can assure for itself a future free from political control and interference,
- and (b) Can obtain the whole of its Government's business both in Great Britain and in India, thus removing all financial questions and operations from the India Office and Council,
- and (c) Will "marry" the Bank of England once and for all (which should include the Government Brokers),

then we will do our utmost privately to make a reasonable arrangement with the Imperial Bank whereby they may take over a portion of the Banking and/or Management which would otherwise be conducted by us for India.

The Governor further had asked Sir Robert Aitken to consider whether the time might not come when no Bank (other than the Bank of England) could afford to the Government of India all the assistance it might require in this country in times of stress: and therefore whether it would be desirable entirely to remove all Indian business from the Bank of England.

Sir



26<sup>th</sup> October, 1921

Sir Robert Aitken seemed in complete agreement and said the idea would be pursued further next Spring.

(3) That at the request of the Agent General for Queensland he had agreed as an exceptional case to allow the Queensland Government to repay their loan to the Bank now and renew it next Spring.

The Committee had before them a Report of the Staff Committee on the case of Richard M. Browne, a 4<sup>th</sup> Class Clerk at the Liverpool Branch, and after consideration it was agreed to recommend to the Court that Browne be required to tender his resignation from the Service of the Bank.

Present

A Full Committee

Wednesday, the 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

Following on a projected change in the Federal Reserve Bank Discount Rate, it was agreed to recommend to the Court to-morrow that the Bank Rate be reduced to 5%.

CT 99

The Governor informed the Committee —

(1) That, with reference to the Minute of the 5<sup>th</sup> October, Mr. Tjarks had succeeded in persuading President Havenstein and Mr. Kauffmann of the Reichsbank to come to London where they had spent several days last week with apparent satisfaction, followed by a visit to Dr. Vissering in Amsterdam.

That the advantages of co-operation with the Federal

Reserve



2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1921.

Reserve Bank and other similar Banks in Europe had been generally approved, that he had agreed to open an account for the Reichsbank and to grant liberally whatever facilities were appropriate to the business of a Central Bank, but beyond this the President had made no request, although he had admitted that in view of the Reparations payments the future position of Germany was obscure, if not dangerous.

(2) That the question of the nationality of Candidates for clerkships having been raised, especially by Maltese applicants, he proposed to ask the Court uniformly to agree that it be an instruction to the Secretary to refer to one of the Governors all applications for clerkships in the Bank received from persons not born and educated in the United Kingdom.

On an appeal from the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital it was agreed to make them a special donation of £100 for services rendered to certain employees in the Bank.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted to Walter Westrup of the Dividend Pay Office and to William Watson, a mechanic in the Printing Department, as detailed in a separate minute.

It was agreed to concur in a recommendation of the Advisory Council of the Directors and Staff, dated the 1<sup>st</sup> instant, in regard to the Sliding Scale Bonus to the Permanent Clerical Staff and to refer to the Court the usual quarterly Report of the Audit Committee.

The



2<sup>nd</sup> November, 1921.

The Governor having withdrawn, the Deputy Governor reminded the Committee that the selection of Governors for the ensuing year would take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>, and that in his opinion it would be in the best interests of the Bank if the Governor were invited to serve for another year as he felt continuity both in and outside the Bank to be of particular importance under present conditions. He further informed the Committee that if it was the wish of the Court he would himself gladly serve as Deputy Governor for another year.

The Committee, while of opinion that the principle of a two-year Governorship should be firmly maintained, agreed that, under the present very exceptional circumstances and without creating a precedent, the Governors should be invited to continue to serve for another year, and that the Deputy Governor should so acquaint the Court on the following day, and invite their approval of this recommendation.

### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Sverdrup Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of  
Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Sir Charles Addis  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> November, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that R. C. J. Codrington of the Power of Attorney Office be granted a Pension as from the 15<sup>th</sup> instant as detailed in a separate minute.



Present

The Governor  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Sir Henry Babington Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup> November, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

The Governor informed the Committee

That the question had been raised as to whether the Bank would accept from the Market Bills drawn under the Government Export Credit Scheme. Although these Bills will be drawn on a party in a foreign country, they will bear the endorsement of the Board of Trade, and, after discussion, the matter was left over for further consideration.

That the Bank of Ireland, Dublin, had been asked by the Irish Office whether it would be possible <sup>for them</sup> to set up an office in Belfast for the registration of Government Stocks. He read to the Committee the letter from the Governor of the Bank of Ireland, together with his proposed reply.

It was agreed to refer to the Court the following Minutes of the Staff Committee recommending—

- (1) Appointments,
- (2) The Election of 24 Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.
- (3) A Sliding Scale Bonus to the Probationary Clerks and Temporary Clerks (men and women).
- (4) That E.C.S. Ringer be removed from the list of Clerks.



Present.Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 1921.

The Governor.  
 The Deputy Governor.  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Henry Babington  
 Smith

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was laid before the Committee.

The Governor informed the Committee that, in addition to the extra Bank holiday on December 27<sup>th</sup>, the Chancellor had decided that the 2<sup>nd</sup> January next should be a close holiday for Banks.

~~12/12~~  
 CT 117.01

The question of the opening of Drawing Accounts for Foreigners resident either abroad or in London was discussed and further consideration postponed.

PresentWednesday, the 30<sup>th</sup> November, 1921.

The Governor  
 The Deputy Governor  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of  
 Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Henry Babington  
 Smith

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

~~12/12~~  
 CT 117.01

The Committee again considered the question of Drawing Accounts in the names of Foreign Banks

and



30<sup>th</sup> November, 1921.F/12  
CT 117.01

and persons and Branches opened by such Banks in the United Kingdom, the Bank's policy in regard to which appeared to have varied from time to time. Thus, whereas an account was opened for the London office of the Comptoir National in 1889, an account was refused in 1905/6 to the London office of the Société Générale. On the other hand, in 1907 an account was authorised for the London office of the Banco Español del Río de la Plata, and in 1911/12 accounts were authorised for the Banca Commerciale Italiana and the Credito Italiano.

In 1916 permission was granted to the London office of the Russo-Asiatic Bank, but in 1917 and 1918 permission was refused to the London Offices of the Banco de Bilbao and the Farmers Loan & Trust Company, respectively.

Having regard to the disturbed state of economic and financial conditions throughout the World, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Court that the Bank should adhere to the policy followed recently, and that, except in the case of Central Banks, no Drawing Accounts should be opened in the name of a Foreign Bank or of any Branch thereof opened in the United Kingdom, or of any Foreign Subject resident abroad.

The Governor laid before the Committee a confidential memorandum which he had given to the Chancellor on the subject of —

1. The postponement of Reparation Payments.
2. A general and simultaneous settlement of all international indebtedness arising out of the War.

CBP-16  
(24.11.21)



30<sup>th</sup> November, 1921

It was agreed to place £300 to the credit of the Samaritan Fund to meet possible claims, and to decline an appeal from the Charing Cross Hospital.

Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Hanks  
Sir Henry Robinson  
Smith  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 7<sup>th</sup> December 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

1. That the Banks of Issue of the Powers represented on the Reparation Commission had been invited to co-operate with the Commission in considering the effect of Reparation payments upon the Exchanges, and the Bank having been asked by the Treasury to nominate a representative, he proposed to invite Sir Charles Addis, on his return, to serve on the Committee.

2. That he had received a letter dated the 25<sup>th</sup> November from the President of the Reichsbank on the subject of obtaining advances in this country for Reparation payments, and his reply dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> instant was read to the Committee.

3. That, at the request of the Treasury, a new account had been opened in the name of the National Bank of Roumania, and a letter was read to the Committee dated the 5<sup>th</sup> instant inviting that Bank to co-operate on the exclusive lines of "Central Banking".

Papers in  
CB 8/16

N/E  
Letter in CT 14



7<sup>th</sup> December, 1921.

CT. 50.01

4. That, in continuation of the policy approved by the Committee on the 27<sup>th</sup> July last, the amount held by the Bank in long-dated Securities had been increased so that the yearly interest therefrom would amount approximately to £1,460,000, equal to the Bank's dividend.

5. That, with reference to a minute of the Committee of the 6<sup>th</sup> October 1920, he thought it might now be advisable to raise the question of an increase in the fiduciary issue in respect of the lapsed issues of other Banks, now about £1,300,000.

6. That he had been asked whether the Bank would continue the pre-war policy of making advances to certain privileged Stockbrokers and, after discussion, the Committee thought the practice might be continued but limited generally to Trustee Securities.

7. That, in the case of the new Anglo-Austrian Bank, he suggested provisionally that The Executive Committee in London should consist of the following—

Sir Herbert Lawrence

Mr. Barts

Mr. Barry

Sir Gordon Navine (as an exception)

Mr. Spencer Smith

in addition to one or more Austrians and Czechs.

Furthermore, he suggested that a retainer of £1000 be given by the Bank to Mr. Barts by way of recognising such immediate services as he might render either in this country or in Eastern Europe.



7<sup>th</sup> December, 1921.

8. That it might now be thought wise to exchange the Treasury Bills, held as part Security for the Fiduciary Note Issue, for long-dated Investments but, in view of the report of the Special Committee on the Bank Act of 1844 dated 26<sup>th</sup> November, 1918, the matter was held over for later consideration. ~~XX~~

The Minute of the Committee of the 19<sup>th</sup> February 1919 having been read and it having been reported that the Brazil Warrant Company had recently arranged a credit which was in part conditional upon the obligation to accept three "Renewal" Bills at 90 days each, the Committee agreed—

that, in accordance with the policy of the Bank, especially during the past few years, acceptance credits which call for "Renewal" Bills be discouraged by all possible means.

The Governor stated that he would so inform the Court.

A letter of resignation was laid before the Committee from E.W. Hamford, of the dividend office, who is 60 years of age and in indifferent health, and it was agreed to recommend to the Court that he be granted a pension as detailed in a separate Minute.

### Present

The Governor  
Sir Edward Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of  
Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tunks  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 14<sup>th</sup> December, 1921

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



14<sup>th</sup> December, 1921.

The Governor informed the Committee that there were now two vacancies on the Court owing—

- (1) To the death of Mr. Jackson, and
- (2) To the desire of Mr. Johnston not to seek re-election. Mr. Johnston had first stated that this decision was due to the policy of the Bank in connection with the credit arranged by the Brazil Warrant Company but had subsequently stated that he now agreed with that policy and that his decision was due entirely to advancing years.

Referring to the question of the Securities held in the Issue Department against the fiduciary Note Issue, which was before the Committee last week, and to the recommendation of the Special Committee on the Bank Act that such Securities should be confined to short-dated Government Securities, it was agreed, after discussion, to ask the Court for power to depart from this recommendation if such a course should at any time appear to the Committee to be desirable.

It was agreed to refer to the Court the following Minutes of the Staff Committee recommending—

- (1) Appointments
  - (2) The election of 14 Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff; together with the usual Quarterly Report of that Committee.
-



PresentWednesday, the 21<sup>st</sup> December, 1921.

The Governor  
 Sir Edward Hambro  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Sir Henry Babington  
 Smith  
 The Comptroller

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee —

1. That, with reference to the Minute of the 7<sup>th</sup> instant and on the suggestion of the Treasury, he proposed to allow the question of increasing the fiduciary issue to stand over for a year in order to avoid danger from now bringing up the whole question of the management of the Currency and Bank Note Circulations.

2. That, on further reconsideration, Mr. Johnston desired his resignation to take effect from 1923 instead of 1922.

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee of the 13<sup>th</sup> April and 19<sup>th</sup> October and to the Treasury letter dated the 21<sup>st</sup> April last, it was agreed to recommend to the Court to subscribe £250,000 towards the capital on the formation of the new Anglo-Austrian Bank.

The question of exchanging the Treasury Bills now held against the 'Fiduciary Note Issue for long dated Government Securities was again discussed and, in view of the authority given to the Committee by the Court last week, it was agreed to make a beginning to the extent of £1,000,000.

The usual application from the Chancellor

of



21<sup>st</sup> December, 1921.

of the Exchequer for advances during the ensuing Quarter was laid before the Committee and referred to the Court.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that B. R. Conder, a Cashier, be allowed to retire on a pension as from the 27<sup>th</sup> December, when he will attain the age of 65.

Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tunks  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 1921.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor informed the Committee—

1. That, with reference to a memorandum dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> instant and with the view of securing the control of the patents relating to the 14 plate printing machines recently acquired from Mr. J. W. Macdonald, he proposed to authorise the purchase <sup>from Mr. Macdonald</sup> of all rights, drawings and models, including all patent rights taken out in this country or abroad in connection with such machines, at an estimated cost of, say, £15,000 to £20,000.

2. That the raising by France or Germany of long or short dated loans in this country for Reparation payments would, in his opinion, be a misfortune at the present time and militate against agreement on a new schedule of Reparation payments.



22<sup>nd</sup> December, 1921.

3. That, with reference to last week's Minutes, he had bought £1,000,000 Treasury Bonds 1929 for the Issue Department. It was agreed that further Treasury Bonds might be purchased, if the opportunity occurred.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Tunks  
Sir Henry Babington  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> January, 1922.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

With reference to last week's Minutes, the Deputy Governor informed the Committee that Mr. Macdonald had agreed to accept £17,500 for his patent rights, etc., in connection with the plate printing machines recently acquired by the Bank.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Tunks  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> January, 1922

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

On an application from the widow of J.F. Somers, a pensioner, formerly a Cashier, it was agreed

to



11<sup>th</sup> January, 1922

to grant her an allowance, during pleasure and according to the scale, of £57 a year.

The Report of the Committee on the Rebuilding of the Bank dated the 10<sup>th</sup> instant was submitted and referred to the Court.

Present

The Deputy Governor  
Sir Everard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Tiarlo  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
and  
The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 18<sup>th</sup> January, 1922.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

The Quarterly Report of the Staff Committee with "Overs" and "Shorts", together with a Minute of that Committee recommending appointments, were approved and referred to the Court, together with the Quarterly Report of the Audit Committee embodying recommendations in regard to the Regulations governing the Audits by Directors of Securities held at the Western and Law Courts Branches.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that pensions be granted to R. D. Eicke of the Accountant's Department and H. W. Smith, a Bank Note Stamper, as detailed in a separate Minute.

Referring to the Minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> February and 19<sup>th</sup> October last, the Deputy Governor

informed



18<sup>th</sup> January, 1922 informed the Committee that a Recreation Ground for the Bank's Messengers had now been acquired in conjunction with three other Banks at Beckenham<sup>Hill</sup> and that the Bank's share of the cost amounted to £1000, further that the Porters had expressed their thanks for the Bank's action in the matter.

### Present

The Deputy Governor  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr Grenfell  
 Mr. Tiarke  
 Sir Henry Babington  
 Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller

Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup> January, 1922

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that General Courts be held at the Bank as follows —

- (1) To consider of a dividend on Thursday, the 16<sup>th</sup> March.
- (2) For the election of a Governor and Deputy Governor on Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- (3) For the election of directors on Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup> April.

### Present

The Governor  
 The Deputy Governor  
 Sir Gerard Hambro  
 Lord Revelstoke  
 Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
 Mr. Grenfell  
 Mr. Tiarke  
 Sir Henry Babington  
 Smith  
 and  
 The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 1922.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The



1<sup>st</sup> February, 1922.

The Weekly Statement of Discounts and Advances granted to Bill Brokers was read.

The Governor informed the Committee—

(1) That, with reference to the formation of the Anglo-Austrian Bank, General Lawrence had written to make it clear that the prospects of the Bank depend upon the political stability of Eastern Europe.

The Committee agreed entirely with his view.

CT 84.02

(2) That the Reichsbank, for the purpose of testing spurious Notes, had asked to be furnished with specimen Bank of England Notes. He thought that, although contrary to custom, it was in the Bank's interests to comply with their request.

(3) That, after consultation with the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he had written to the Bankers' Clearing House a letter which he laid before the Committee on the subject of the issue of short-term Foreign loans in London.

It was agreed to propose to the Court to-morrow that Mr. Kenneth Goschen be invited to allow his name to be recommended to the Proprietors to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Jackson.

An application for assistance from <sup>the</sup> Sir Adam Block on behalf of Turkish Refugees in Constantinople was considered and declined.

Referring



1<sup>st</sup> February, 1922

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee in December last, it was agreed in principle to substitute long for short-dated securities in the Issue Department.

Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of  
Ashbourne  
Mr Grenfell  
Mr. Hawks  
Sir Henry Babington-  
Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

N/E  
Letter CT 95.04

Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup> February, 1922

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

It was agreed that no alteration be recommended in the Bank Rate.

The Governor read a letter, dated the 27<sup>th</sup> January, from Mr Moll of the Riksbank, Stockholm, as to the advisability of reverting to the gold standard at the earliest possible moment and informed the Committee as to his proposed reply.

The Governor informed the Committee—

(1) That he had received an enquiry from the National Bank of Switzerland as to whether the Bank would take charge of gold purchased by them in the London Market, that he had replied agreeing in principle and inviting them to co-operate with the Bank on lines similar to those made with other approved Central Banks.

CT 98. (2) That he had had a visit from Mr Marchant of Messrs T. H. Saunders & Co., Ltd., Paper Manufacturers, who complained in general terms of the competition by Messrs Portal. He proposed to ask the "Committee on St. Luke's" who were investigating the affairs of the Printing Department and the Bank's arrangements with Messrs Portal, to see Mr Marchant on the subject.

(3)



8<sup>th</sup> February, 1922.

(3) That the Committee of the Stock Exchange were considering arrangements to revert to the pre-War practice of fortnightly Settlements and Contangos. He hoped, in view of the condition of the Exchanges, that business with Foreigners would be excluded from such arrangements and he thought that it would be a physical impossibility for the Bank to deal with monthly or fortnightly settlements in Government Stocks.

Referring to the Minutes of the Committee of The <sup>20<sup>th</sup></sup> 21<sup>st</sup> July last, the question as to whether Messrs Mullens, Marshall & Co., the Bank's Brokers, should be allowed to identify themselves with Issues made other than by the Bank was again discussed, and consideration postponed.

A Report from the Staff Committee, dated the 6<sup>th</sup> instant, on the Classed Staff at the Head Office and Branches and the Permanent Women Clerks was submitted and referred to the Court.

#### Present

The Governor  
The Deputy Governor  
Sir Gerard Hambro  
Lord Revelstoke  
Lord Cullen of Ashbourne  
Mr. Grenfell  
Mr. Marks  
Sir Henry Babington Smith  
and  
The Comptroller.

Wednesday, the 15<sup>th</sup> February, 1922.

The proceedings of the last Committee were read and agreed.

On the proposal of the Governor it was agreed to recommend to the Court to-morrow that the Bank rate be reduced from 5% to 4½%.

With reference to the Minute of last week, it was agreed to inform Messrs Mullens & Co., that  
in



15<sup>th</sup> February, 1922 in the event of their name hereafter appearing on any prospectus, other than in connection with Securities issued through the Bank, other Brokers would be employed for a portion of the Bank's business.

The Governor informed the Committee —

(1) That, following conversations he had previously had with Sir R. Aitken and Sir B. Hunter, he had had an interview with Sir Norcott Warren of the Imperial Bank of India on the points raised in the minute of the 26<sup>th</sup> October last as to the relationship between that Bank and the Bank of England and the principles of central banking. Sir Norcott had taken private notes of that Minute and in principle had expressed himself in sympathy therewith agreeing that until the necessary freedom could be obtained for his Bank no definite arrangement was practicable.

(2) That while in his opinion dividends on Bank Stock had rightly during the War period been maintained at 10% per annum less Tax the arguments for and against any post-War increase or bonus should now be considered and he suggested further discussion on the subject next week.

CT. 57.01 (3) That he had supplemented to the extent of £150 the amount subscribed by the Staff of the Bank to the Mansion House Fund for a Wedding Gift to H. R. H. Princess Mary.

It was agreed to recommend to the Court that Mr. Spencer-Smith be requested to represent  
the



15<sup>th</sup> February, 1922.

the Bank on the Boards of the new Anglo-Austrian Bank and its subsidiary the Anglo-Czech Bank, on their formation.

It was agreed to renew the following Charitable Subscriptions for the current year -

City of London Truss Society	£ 10 : 10 : -
Royal National Lifeboat Institution	21 : - : -
Royal Surgical Aid Society	10 : 10 : -
Bank Clerks Orphanage	52 : 10 : -
King Edward's Hospital Fund for London	250 : - : -
Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institution for Nurses	10 : 10 : -
City of London Dying-in Hospital.	10 : 10 : -
Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital for Women	50 : - : -
Samaritan Free Hospital for Women	50 : - : -
and to increase the Annual Subscription to Guy's Hospital from £105 to £250	250 : - : -
	<hr/> £ 715 : 10 : - <hr/>

Further that in view of the retirement of Prebendary Ingram, Rector of St. Margaret's, Dothbury, a payment of £50 be made this year to the new Rector in lieu of the donations hitherto made amounting to £76 : 10 : -.

It was agreed to continue, during pleasure, the Allowance of £20 per Quarter granted in September, 1918, for the period of the War, to the wife of



15<sup>th</sup> February 1922 of G. C. Foreman whose pension had been discontinued by the Court on the grounds that he was in the hands of a Moneylender at the time he was pensioned.

An Interim Report of the Committee on St. Luke's was submitted and referred to the Court together with Minutes of the Staff Committee recommending —

- (1) The election of fourteen Probationary Clerks to the Permanent Staff.
  - (2) Appointments, etc.
-



