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WHILE GOING AHEAD

We have here the second number of the Bulletin of the International Thrift Institute.

In the first number of the Bulletin, which was issued in July, we hinted at the possibility of the regular publication of successive numbers. This review is now being continued in accordance with the wishes of the Organising Committee of the Institute, which at the foundation sitting, held at Milan on the 28th June, 1925, unanimously expressed the desire that the Institute should issue a periodical publication, which would serve as a means of communication with all its Member Savings Banks, totaling at present, roughly, 4000 from 22 different countries. The same wish was expressed once more at the recent meeting of the Committee held at Paris, on the 27th July, when it simultaneously closed the first business year of the Institute and concluded its activities by constituting the Permanent Committee.

The aspect which the Bulletin will eventually assume, its size and the frequency of its publication are dependent on various factors, such as the decisions of the Permanent Committee, the development of the Institute, the nature of its activities, the means at its disposal, the needs and wishes of the Member Savings Banks, as well as events of international importance which might tend to have an influence on saving, on its Institutions and their cooperation; however, the appearance and arrangement of this number, as

well as, these few words of introduction will give a general idea of the functions and fundamental characteristics of the Bulletin, according to the views and intentions which we now have in mind.

Without intending to separate in any way factors which have a direct bearing on one another and which are closely connected with the fundamental work of the Institute, « World Thrift », in accordance with suggestions put forward by the Organizing Committee, will comprise three principal parts which, to facilitate the reader and for the purpose of reference, we shall endeavour to maintain as far as possible in the same order.

The first part will consist of official communications and information on the internal administration, which the Institute requires to bring to the notice of the Member Savings Banks, either for the purpose of regulating affairs of a collective character with them, or for letting the Savings Banks know how the Institute's own organization is being improved and developed, of its various activities and their results with the means at its disposal, what it proposes to do and the aims it has in view.

Although of purely internal character, the information appearing in this section will, in many cases, be of importance for the individual Savings Banks and their activities. To take an

example, the list which will be published of Institutions adhering to the Institute, grouped together under different localities will allow of their corresponding directly with one another, and of pointing out to the depositor who intends emigrating the corresponding Savings Bank at which he can deposit his savings with the maximum security. The list of the material, i. e. documents and publications which are received by the Institute, will allow the Savings Banks to make use of them at once.

The second part of the Review, that is to say, the central and fundamental part, will show the results of the work which the Institute is carrying out on the basis of the material sent in by all the Savings Banks over the whole world, aided, as it will be, by their studies and experiences, and helped by their collaboration, for the realization of the aims laid down in the Bye-Laws for the welfare of the Member Savings Banks, and to attain the common ideal.

In the beginning, and especially in this second number of the Review, this part will, of necessity, be rather restricted and of small value, as the Institute does not yet dispose of a sufficient amount of books and material for studying purposes. However, now that the work of recruiting memberships is well under way and definite results have been obtained, we shall be able to give up more time to studies and productive work than we have been able to do in the past.

In this field of work the Institute will also have to carry out precise tasks, set by the resolutions carried at the Congresses.

It would be futile and not in accordance with the high standard of reliability of the Savings Institutes, were the Institute to accumulate from Congress to Congress, propositions and decisions, only to let these remain a platonical expression of uncertain and contradictory actions.

No! the decisions which have been come to by competent representatives of Savings Institutes, after careful and mature consideration and the necessary discussion, are binding on the Institute, which makes it its duty to study the best way of bringing these about or of having them carried out; they are also binding on the Savings Banks who, through the intermediary of their Delegates, have approved these decisions. When convening and organizing a Congress, it is necessary for the Institute and the Savings Banks to examine, in the first place, whether they have done everything in their power to realize that which they had in view and whether a new meeting will serve firmly to establish a result already obtained, or whether such a meeting will help towards its realization.

The constant bearing in mind whether a proposal is feasible will tend to have a favourable influence, not only on the choice of a proposal, but also on the decisions it leads to and on the conclusions arrived at.

It is hoped that « World Thrift » will only have to announce victories in the beneficial scopes that Savings Banks have in mind, scopes which have been prepared in the congresses and attained by daily collaboration.

The Review will be completed by a third section dedicated, not to the activities of the Institute, but to what is said, written, and accomplished in the world and anything which crops up having a more or less direct bearing on Thrift and its Institutes.

This part of the Bulletin will, therefore, principally comprise a list of reviews or books and in some cases a resumé of these.

The directors and employees of the Member Savings Banks, who feel the need of keeping up to date and continually expanding their technical, economical, juridical or administrative

knowledge, will find under this heading the right subject matter for their requirements, or they will, at least, be able to extract from it information which will enable them to make a suitable choice, and the Institute is, naturally, always prepared to assist them in this.

If, after looking through the concise account published on a given subject, their interest is excited rather than satisfied, they can apply to the Institute, who will be glad to send them a more detailed resumé, or a copy of the original or even lend the original itself for some time, when possible.

The Institute is also ready to arrange for the translation of articles and summaries of articles from any one language into the desired one, only asking in return the cost of such work. Those who know what a very delicate and difficult task is that of translating, more especially when the work consists, not of descriptions of a technological nature concerning material and precise objects, but of actions and institutions of a juridical, economical and administrative character, will be able to value the importance of this supplementary service.

Special care will be given to forming a representative collection of the laws and jurisprudence concerning Saving in the various countries.

However, this part of the Bulletin will be more especially dedicated to the assiduous exchange of notes, of data, and of experiences with the affiliated Savings Banks.

Only too often that which is written about a social factor and the law making devoted to it, results in concealing or disguising the truth of the facts.

In our Review the greatest importance will be given to these facts and to their true value; in each number of the Review these facts must always stand out clearly before the reader, suggesting to him ideas and actions, and establishing

an assiduous and sincere collaboration between all competent persons.

Our Review must naturally select from the vast and varied material at its disposal, that which lies within its field of work, extracting from the theoretical productions and national experiences that matter which, because of its importance and nature, oversteps the boundaries of one country, and more especially that which, on account of its not being closely connected with local conditions, offers the possibility of its beneficial application to all or many countries.

The Institute, with its mature and maturing knowledge of the needs, the possibilities and the traditions of the Savings Banks of all countries and of the localities in which they operate, is in a position to be able to form a criterion in making this choice, guided by a tactful understanding of what will be both opportune and useful.

Thus, « World Thrift » will not touch on the same arguments as are dealt with in the publications of individual national associations, neither does it wish to, nor can it trespass on their field, although cordially exchanging with them news of information, relying on them for the supply of data and explanations, and always being ready to cordially reciprocate such information.

As a result of this constant collaboration and of the large amount of correspondence which the Institute exchanges, also directly with Savings Banks and with individual persons interested in the study of thrift, the common matter will easily distribute itself in the International Review, in the national bulletins and to individual persons, enriched for all by the exchange of information and correspondence which has taken place.

Finally it must be remembered that information and detached data concerning single facts or single institutions cannot be correctly interpreted,

estimated or used, if the reader does not possess a sufficient knowledge of Thrift in the respective country; the Review will endeavour to supplement in part this knowledge by opportune comments, and will also try to furnish its readers, little by little, with such knowledge, by giving a concise, clear and complete outline of Thrift and its Institutions in the different countries, thus preparing the ground for the correct interpretation of such notes and detached data.

All the matter in this third section of the Bulletin to which the Institute does not contribute except by its industrious search for appropriate material, its judgement in choosing same and the impartiality in the way it is presented, will find expression in a world-wide record of social, economic and political facts relating to Thrift. Such a record will respond to those needs and those aspirations which ensured the success of the First International Thrift Congress, which brought to life this Inter. Institute, and which made it grow up, arise and prosper as it has done. These needs and aspirations reflect in the sphere of the Savings Banks the absolute necessity of a common life between all nations, the necessity of completing and interpreting that which takes place around us in our restricted circle, especially in contact with our individual Institutions, not only with the knowledge of the life in our Country, but with the knowledge, at least syntetical and, I might almost say, the universal sensation, of the life in other countries, which exert an always deeper influence on national life.

We have chosen the size and appearance of the Bulletin keeping in mind the necessity of adapting it to any decisions we may form, to the development of arguments and new matter in the extensive and varied material contained in the three sections.

Our Review must also have an attractive appear-

ance, as any publication should, if it wishes to please, to be anxiously awaited and to be received and perused with pleasure.

It is also a good thing to point out whenever possible that there is nothing mean or sordid about thrift, that it must not be regarded as being opposed to beauty: it is well too, that the International Institute should try to reflect in all its manifestations the nobility and the might of the Institutions which adhere to it, and the imposing moral grandeur of their international union.

The size of the Bulletin is ample for allowing the clear and efficacious reproduction of documents relating to bookkeeping, records, lists, large statistical tables and diagrams of propaganda material, posters, almanacs, works of art, plans of buildings and offices, furniture and apparatus, etc.

The size of the Review also allows of its preserving a certain dignity of appearance and important contents even when issued in a few pages only.

There is another point which, although not inherent in the aims and purpose of the Review, must not be lost sight of, in view of its practical importance for the existence of the Bulletin, namely that this Review being of a pleasing appearance and large in size, can serve as a most desirable medium for publicity for firms of worldwide importance. Such advertisements would afford the Institute a not indifferent income, thus diminishing the costs of publication and making it possible to still further develop the review and give it a wider circulation.

Helped also in this way, our Review should succeed in transmitting its store of facts and ideas, the spirit which animates the Institute and the ideals which support it, to all Savings Institutes in all countries, even to the most insignificant and small institutions, situated amongst those far off groups of workers and savers, be it to the

countries which are most propitious to earning and in which wealth and riches are easily assembled, be it also to those countries which are suffering and afflicted by moral and financial crisis.

This sign of fellowship and of collaboration with their stronger colleagues will be received also by the less fortunate institutions; in moments of uncertainty they will feel the security of this mighty union of Institutions, of ideals and of financial means; they will be comforted and will receive the promise of the success of others; they will draw new impetus for work, new ideas for propaganda, technical matter which will assist them in the work of reconstruction; they will all feel that they are bound together with the same bonds of human solidarity which unite them with their depositors. This feeling of brotherhood has already been diffused by them amongst the latter for more than a century.

We are obliged to face a serious difficulty in our endeavours to make the influence of our review as widely felt as possible, namely that of the languages. The ideal but, an unattainable ideal, would be for « World Thrift » to appear in all the languages which the depositor employs when speaking to the staff of the Savings Banks and in which the latter replies. Only in this way would it be possible for our work to have the greatest efficacy and to come as near perfection as possible. However, there are probably very few who do not grasp what an expense would be entailed in order to materialize this ideal, not only on account of the large number of translations and the great difficulty in getting these made sufficiently well, but also because of the vast organization which would be required, in order that the editions in all the different

languages could appear contemporaneously, or as nearly as possible. For each additional language the difficulties are not only increased but multiplied.

Out of purely financial considerations we have decided, on the suggestion of the Organizing Committee, to limit ourselves for the present to the use two languages only, namely English and French, which languages are most generally known and adopted by the most important International bodies even where they are not spoken by the whole population.

This restricted choice must not be regarded as a tribute which we are paying to these two languages but as a homage to the culture of those countries, in which it may be presumed that almost any employee of not too low an order, in any Savings Bank, will understand one of these two languages.

At any rate until it is in its power to do more, the Institute feels sure that in almost every country it can count on the help of Savings Banks Associations, who publish in general very valuable reviews.

« World Thrift » will be glad to see its matter appear in the columns of these publications and thus to serve them by its contents. The Institute will be grateful if these Reviews will be, as some already are, its propagators and interpreters and if, through their intermediary, it will be able, even anonymously, to benefit their Institutions, all the more so if they regard themselves together with the Institute, not only as factors of the greatest importance in national prosperity, but also as factors, not less important, in a new, active and sincere international cooperation, from which the work and saving of every nation will draw new and steady hopes for assured progress.

The Pass Book

is a fundamental element in the life and activities of all Savings Banks, ever since their foundation,

is an extremely important factor in their progress,

is a bookkeeping document and a means of propaganda.

Send the Internat. Thrift Institute

a specimen of your Pass Book, not less than two copies,
and if you have various kinds of Pass Books
in use, send two of each category.

The Institute will be able to gather valuable information from the comparison and study of these Books, and it will not fail to bring such information to your notice.

If you require any advice about your Book, the Institute will be happy to assist you.

If you intend to change your Book in some way, the Institute will study the matter for you and place different types of Books at your disposal.

Collaborate with other Savings Banks through the intermediary of the Institute, for such collaboration will surely benefit you also.

Send today specimens of your Pass Books to

THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE

VIA MONTE DI PIETÀ 4 - MILAN

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ON THE FIRST YEAR OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE

As is often the case at the beginning of an enterprise, or in the initial stages of an Institute, uncertainty and scarcity of financial means are serious sources of preoccupation and our Institute was no exception to the rule, during this first year of its existence. That wonderful dream of being able to organize without delay men and labour, in proportion to the aims and ideals, very seldom comes true, and in the case of our Institute it will probably be slow of realization, just as the Institutions which were responsible for its birth also only gradually attained their present flourishing state.

The uncertainty of means was due to the fact that it was impossible to foresee the amount of the contributions which would come in promptly, and the Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde, true to its traditions of prudence, could not see its way to binding itself to a fixed sum, or for a fixed period. The scarcity was owing to the Cassa di Risparmio having made it a just condition for granting advances, that these should not exceed the amounts strictly necessary for securing a first nucleus of adherents, sufficient to ensure the existence of the Institute, and, of course, the membership sub-

scriptions were for some months null, or at least, extremely small.

Annex No. 1 shows the financial situation of the Institute at the 30th June (provisional balance, as the first financial period closes on the 31st December of this year), and No. 2 deals with the receipts and expenditure which constitute the actual balance for this year, but it has also seemed advisable to compare, month by month, as has been done in annex No. 3, the expenditure against the cash coming in order that you may be able to judge if everything was done which our means allowed us to accomplish, taking into account that out of our funds the amount owing to the Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde has to remain at its disposal for an eventual call on the part of the Bank.

I feel confident that from these figures and from the brief statement which follows, you will draw the conviction that everything was done very sparingly, with one exception, namely work; and this conviction will not fail to be brought home to you, if you dwell for a moment on the fact that the uncertainty and scarcity of means at the disposal of the Institute precluded the engagement of a sufficient staff competent

to cope with the manifold work of the Institute, so that during this first year there was only one employee who with the Director worked every day, and the whole day. Other help was engaged for some hours daily or weekly.

It must also be remembered that the work of the Institute is made more formidable, in fact one may say increased five-fold, by the necessity of using various foreign languages; this is, of course, indispensable if the Institute is to maintain its international character, all the more so as at the present time the susceptibilities of all nations are still very acute, which is an aftermath of the recent war.

It is also extremely difficult to find good translators, at not too high a remuneration, for subjects, of an economic-juridical character (for example, during this first year seven English translators followed each other in rapid succession), and to obtain publications in foreign languages, correctly printed. Even the questions of registering, filing, calculation of the subscriptions, bookkeeping, etc., are rendered very complicated, on account of the corresponding documents being written in Italian, French, German, English, Spanish, Swedish, Dutch, Yugoslavian, Czecho-Slovakian, etc., so that hours and days are wasted on my part in struggling with work

which cannot hope to gain recognition, to the detriment of more worthy studies, affording also much greater satisfaction.

I shall divide the work, carried out by the Institute during this year, as far as possible into two sections, viz. the external part, consisting principally of dealings with third parties, and the internal part, which concerns, above all, the intimate life of the Institute. I shall not take up any place in this report in discussing the formidable work entailed by the publication of the Acts of the Congress, as this does not enter into the programme of the Institute. I do not consider, either, that which can and should be accomplished in the future, as this will, in accordance with the respective agenda, be brought up for discussion at the Philadelphia sitting. I only take the liberty of expressing the hope that you, who have been the founders of the Institute, and who have watched with anxious affection its first developments, will be able, as members of the Permanent Committee, to assist me with your valuable advice, by indicating the road to be followed, in the same way as now, as members of the Organizing Committee, I hope you will not fail to give your helpful criticisms on the work which has already been accomplished.

I.

In the first place it was necessary to proclaim that the foundation of the Institute was an accomplished fact, to make known its Bye-Laws, to explain its creation, the spirit and aims which brought it about, as well as to solicit membership. In order to give a secure basis to this first step, it appeared both correct and useful to obtain the approval of the Organizing Committee to the Minutes of the Constitutive Meeting; these were, therefore, translated into various languages

from the stenographic report, entailing a not insignificant amount of work, and submitted to each of you.

The making known of the Institute and the recruiting of members could not be uniformly carried out in the different countries, for the following reasons: either because of the various attitudes taken up by the respective Savings Banks towards the Congress, and towards the proposition of the foundation of the Institute,

or on account of the existence of National Organizations of Savings Banks in each country, or the position occupied by one or more associations in such organizations, or because of agreements come to with these associations before, or at the foundation of the Institute. For example, in Spain, where no associations of Savings Banks exist, the Institute at once got into direct touch with each individual Bank. In France, however, direct contact was only established after the assembly of the *Conférence Générale* and the subsequent meetings of the *Conférences Régionales*, as a result of which the Institute was brought to the notice of the individual Savings Banks by their representatives, who were solicited to adhere, which, as a matter of fact, they did. In Germany, as in Czechoslovakia, the Institute treated only with the association, which brought the adhesion of its Savings Banks. The American Association, on the other hand, thought that it would only be possible to obtain members through the Convention at Philadelphia, a small number of Savings Banks, however, subscribed in the meantime contributions on various bases. A special procedure was initiated for the Post Office Savings Banks and those of a State character, and so on.

Just as the methods of recruiting members were very varied, so also was the procedure followed for collecting contributions.

It should be remembered that these two operations entailed, for this first year, the not inconsiderable work of verifying, on the basis of the documents which each Savings Bank was requested to furnish, whether each individual Savings Bank answered to the conditions for admission, as laid down in the Bye-Laws, and further, of estimating each individual quota, on the basis of the last balance sheet. Once the doubtful cases had been solved by correspondence, lists were drawn up, showing the requests for membership, and these lists were sent to

each member of the Organizing Committee, and after its decision had been taken, the membership was conferred on the respective Savings Bank. This work monopolised a great part of the time of the small staff, but thanks to the support it found in every country, and thanks, more especially to your personal interest and active propaganda, one can say with truth that it has given a solid foundation to the Institute for the future, as from annex No. 4 we see, that on the 30th June last, the number of Savings Banks who adhere to the Institute is 4,008 from 22 different countries (1).

The Savings Banks were always requested to supply with their Bye-Laws and Balance Sheet, other publications, propaganda material, bank-books, etc.

As a certain number of Savings Banks of a given country had joined the Institute, the latter invited them to arrange for the nomination of delegates to the Permanent Committee. As the Bye-Laws had not specified anything relating to this question, the matter was extremely simple as far as the Savings Banks, who are already united under an organization, are concerned, but in countries where this is not the case, and the individual Savings Banks have up to the present ignored each other's existence, and when they also differ from one another very widely as regards origin and character, the matter is not so simple, and calls for much time and a great deal of correspondence.

In order that there may be in each country an organ to whom the International Institute may refer, and to respond to a wish expressed by the Organising Committee, and which is implied in the aims of the Institute mentioned under Article 3 of the Bye-Laws, the Institute has striven earnestly to promote the constitution of a National Association in those countries whe-

(1) Now increased to 4355.

re this does not already exist, but where its foundation could be realisable; for example, in Spain some nuclei are already coming into existence, which leads one to suppose that a National Association may eventually be promoted by the Institute.

On account of its international character, the Institute regarded it as one of its first duties to introduce itself, as one might say, to those other associations exercising international functions, to exchange with the latter Bye-Laws and correspondence, so as to make itself known to them, and to learn to know them. The Institute is now in touch with about sixty international associations; starting with those of a purely scientific character, such as the « Bureau International de Statistique », of a philanthropic character, « La Ligue des Sociétés de la Croix Rouge », of a moral character, « La Fédération des Unions Nationales des Amis de la Jeune Fille », of an economical character, « La Chambre de Commerce Internationale », and going to those institutions working in the widest field of official international relations, such as the « Bureau du Travail » and « La Société des Nations ». With the latter the Institute got into even more close touch, because it considered it its duty to try to take a modest part in the action set on foot by Loucheur for an International Economic Conference, in order to ensure that, in the preparatory studies and in the discussion and conclusions Thrift and its Institutes might have the place which they rightly deserve, no matter how weak may be the voice, or how small the means of the Institute which represents them, in this first year of its existence, in comparison with that great organ of international life, endowed with both large financial means and a strong force of competent collaborators.

All that the Institute did, already during the first months of its existence, to promote the celebration of the 30th October, in 1925, and after-

wards to gather and study minutely, detail by detail, the reports and the notices which were submitted to it, and finally, to organise even more fittingly the celebration for 1926, thus stabilizing a lasting basis for all the successive celebrations, is shown to a great part in the booklet already distributed. This report, although ready in one language at the beginning of March, could only now be published, at this rather late date, owing to the fact that for some time the Institute thought that the costs of publication were heavier than could be prudently borne.

On the cover of this booklet was inscribed, after some hesitation, the number « 1 », which is intended to express a hope, namely, that this be only the first of a long series of regular publications, establishing eventually that Bulletin, which appears to be one of the main objects of the Institute. Although many of the results of the work and studies of the Institute can be conveniently published in the Bulletins of the national associations, other matter, holding interest for all countries and dealing with questions of a principally international character, or reflecting the internal activities of the Institute, can only find their right place in a Bulletin issued by the Institute itself.

Although as yet only sparingly provided with publications, documents and staff, the Institute has had the honour of receiving many requests for information from Savings Banks and Associations of various countries, and was often able to respond to the calls in a rather satisfactory manner.

Later, on its own initiative, the Institute issued various printed reports, for example, « For World Thrift Day », « The International Thrift Institute and its Aims », « Save to Travel », « The commencement of the International Thrift Institute », « The Savings Banks in the U.R.S.S. State », « At Philadelphia », etc.

The Institute was also honoured by receiving

various visits for studying purposes of different gentleman, for example, of M. Basile Cojocareano, Inspecteur du Ministre des Finances de la Roumanie à Bucarest, M. Fr. Vrtilek, Directeur de la První Kontribucenská Sporitelna à Vyskove (Czechoslovakia), M. Alex. Cooch, Assistant General Manager of the State Savings Bank of Victoria, who showed special interest in the work carried out by the Savings Banks in connection with dwellings for the working

classes, and Dr. Prof. Walter Hoffman, Professor of political economy at Freiberg (Germany), who very courteously wished to state that he had found at the Institute the documentary information which he had searched for in vain elsewhere, and had not expected to find in an Institute which had hardly been founded, and in the *Handwörterbuch der Staatswissenschaften* (Fischer, Jena, 1926) he speaks very fully of the Institute.

II.

These exterior manifestations, however, and the working up of relations with third parties, cannot be materialised and developed in a worthy, enduring and fruitful manner, if they are not fostered by an assiduous internal preparatory work on the part of the Institute. To take an example, the publication of a Bulletin which can aspire to furnish useful information to Savings Banks, also to those in countries where Associations already exist, having long traditions of studies and works, and provided with a first-class staff and almost unlimited means, entails the necessity of a systematic gathering together and recording of an extensive amount of material, the formation of a rich library and the choice and engaging of a competent staff.

A library is slowly being formed in the Institute.

The material which is received from the various Savings Banks undergoes a summary examination and classification; afterwards, from the reviews and other publications of greater importance, the points of vital interest are abstracted and recorded on cards in different languages; these are then systematically grouped together under the most important headings regarding Thrift, and how it is carried out in the various countries and in its institutions, in order to form

little by little a kind of permanent encyclopedia of Thrift.

In addition to these records a glossary is also being slowly compiled of the terminology of Thrift in various languages; the object of this glossary is to ensure more and more exact translations, and to furnish at the same time, when published, a useful instrument for reading documents and publications, for those studying Thrift in different countries.

Besides these, other works are in course of preparation in accordance with the means of the Institute. A statistical plan is also being drawn up, which will gather on a uniform basis, the data of Thrift in the different countries.

As regards the bookkeeping of the Institute, this was always attended to most carefully and exactly by our one employee who, although having a sufficient knowledge of languages to understand the original documents, is not a qualified bookkeeper. However, recently a qualified bookkeeper has been engaged, unfortunately having no knowledge of languages, and on the basis of the records kept, of which mention has just been made, we have been able to adopt the usual American double-entry bookkeeping, with the Journal-Ledger and waste-book, the various developments, and so on.

Our bookkeeping requires to be carried out with a certain care and intelligence, as, apart from the linguistic difficulties, the adhesions and the contributions, that is to say, the debit and credit entries have to be made in the most varied currencies, and during the time which elapses between one operation and the other, the exchange is always fluctuating; in addition, the subscriptions are paid into the bank on accounts in Lit. or Lstg. and as the respective deposits are not credited by the Bank on the very day that they are paid in, new fluctuations occur, which must be taken into account when making our entries; these are made in Lstg. for the purpose of checking the Bank, in Lit. in order to have the bookkeeping on a common basis, as well as in Francs (gold) in the prospectuses drawn up for the members of the Organizing Committee.

The rooms where the Institute has its offices, and for which it pays an exceedingly small rent to the Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde, are not too well adapted to the work of making studies, the compiling of statistics and reports, and often dictating these in a foreign language, as they are fully exposed to the noise of one of the busiest streets of the city. The furniture, which to a great part has been very kindly lent by the Cassa di Risparmio, does not certainly impress the visitors on account of its elegance. But for those who work here everything is embellished by the vision of what the offices of the International Institute will be like in a future which, I believe, is not too far distant.

Among the fittings there is also an apparatus for collecting the deposits of school-children, and it is the beginning of a collection which the Institute is making of all that material, designed by industry, for diffusing the idea of Thrift, for facilitating the making of deposits and for perfecting the work of the Savings Banks.

To complete this concise report of the modest work zealously carried out by the Institute during this first year, I would ask you to recollect the large exchange of letters and cables with the American Association, as well as my journey to London, in connection with the Philadelphia Convention; this called for my greatest attention, for two reasons, viz. because it showed the impossibility of obtaining at once a part of the largest contributions, which were expected, when preparing the foundation, and involved duties which had not been considered in the first plans of the initial organization, and secondly, because the idea of this Convention, impelled by sincere interest for the Institute and inspired by the most noble purposes, opens out great possibilities for the future.

I would mention in closing, that a not inconsiderable part of my work was to endeavour to keep in close touch with you, Honourable Members of the Organizing Committee, who took such deep interest in the modest commencement of the Institute, so that now, finding myself once again amongst you at this Meeting, and while presenting this report, it appears to me that I am only continuing a collaboration which has never ceased since the first of July of last year; perhaps this has been slightly troublesome, for some of you, but it has greatly helped the Institute, and for my part, I wish to assure you of my profound gratitude, as from your collaboration I gathered counsel, when struggling with difficulties, faith, when discouraged, and enthusiasm for carrying on the work which you did me the honour of entrusting to me, and which is indeed worthy of the most complete devotion.

PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

Director

Milan, 18th July, 1926.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE

ON THE 30th JUNE 1926

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	Gold frcs.		Gold frcs.
Sundry Creditors:		Cash on hand 30/6/1926	156,90
Cassa di Risparmio delle P. L., balance of amounts anticipated		Accounts current:	
Gold frcs. 9.226,95		Banca Commerciale Italiana	
Rent » » 1.000,—		(in stlg. . . 500.12.5 = 12.019,70	
Società Italiana		(» Ital. Lrs. 195,—	
Prod. Alcool, ...		Cassa di Risparmio delle	
heating » » 401,40		P. L. 7.695,90	
	10.628,35		19.910,60
Contributions in advance for the 2nd half year 1926	5.475,35	Sundry Debtors:	
Reserve Fund:		for contributions subscribed but not yet paid	19.510,30
against losses on exchange and contributions	2.000,—	Furniture, Books, etc.	1.000,—
	18.103,70		
Surplus Balance on 30th June 1926	22.474,10		
	Gold frcs. 40.577,80		Gold frcs. 40.577,80

1 Gold Franc = Doll. 0,193 - Lstg. 0=0=9¹/₂ - Rm. 0,810 - It. L. 5,33 - French Frs. 6,83 - Austrian sh. 1,363

The Director:
PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE TO 30th JUNE 1926

EXPENDITURE		RECEIPTS	
	Gold frcs.		Gold frcs.
Salaries	13.498,—	Ordinary Contributions	43.286,60
Travelling Expenses	985,80	Extraordinary »	1.524,20
Fees for Translators	1.590,70	Interest on current accounts	193,90
Printed matter and office appliances	782,05	Sundry Takings	95,60
Postage, telegrams, telephones	960,50		
Rent, heating, lighting, etc.	1.559,60		
Depreciation on furniture, books, etc.	1.122,50		
Reserves against losses on exchange and contributions	2.000,—		
Sundry Expenses	127,05		
	22.626,20		
Surplus balance	22.474,10		
	Gold frcs. 45.100,30		Gold frcs. 45.100,30

1 Gold Franc = Doll. 0,193 - Lstg. 0=0=9¹/₂ - Rm. 0,810 - It. L. 5,33 - French Frs. 6,83 - Austrian sh. 1,363

The Director:
PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE ON THE 30th JUNE 1926

RECEIPTS				OUTLAY			
	Amounts advanced by the Milan S. Bank	Contri- butions	Total Receipts	Total Outlays	Reimburse- ments - to the Milan S. Bank	Installation Expenses	Mana- gement Expenses
Date	Gold frcs.	Gold frsc.	Gold frcs.	Gold frcs.	Gold frcs.	Gold frcs.	Gold frcs.
1925							
July . . .	672,60	—	672,60	672,60	—	142,60	530,—
August . .	1.239,65	—	1.239,65	1.239,65	—	90,60	1.149,05
September .	2.329,85	—	2.329,85	2.329,85	—	1.158,60	1.171,25
October . .	1.486,25	—	1.486,25	1.486,25	—	29,60	1.456,65
November .	1.326,95	—	1.326,95	1.326,95	—	85,05	1.241,90
December .	1.208,40	1.334,05	2.542,45	1.208,40	—	64,60	1.143,80
1926							
January . .	1.451,10	6.863,90	8.315,—	1.451,10	—	20,10	1.431,—
February . .	3.681,95	1.659,90	5.341,85	3.681,95	—	462,10	3.219,85
March . . .		2.884,80	2.884,80	1.769,65	—	—	1.769,65
April . . .		5.216,15	5.216,15	5.325,70	3.600,—	—	1.725,70
May		4.211,80	4.211,80	1.699,50	—	—	1.699,50
June		8.700,75	8.700,75	2.195,60	569,80	69,20	1.556,60
Gold Francs	13.396,75	30.871,35	44.268,10	24.387,20	4.169,80	2.122,45	18.094,95

1 Gold Franc = Doll. 0,193 - Lstg. 0 = 0 = 9 1/2 - Rm. 0,810 - It. L. 5,33 - French Frs. 6,83 - Austrian sh. 1,363

The Director:
PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

STATISTICS
OF THE SAVINGS BANKS ADHERING TO THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE
ON THE 30th JUNE 1926

Country	Number of Savings Banks adhering		Savings Deposits	Corresponding Value in Gold Francs
Austria	199	sch.	416.104.717	324.561.679
Belgium	1	frs.	2.621.000.000	411.497.000
Bulgaria	1	leva	148.519.151	5.643.727
Czechoslovakia .	200	kr.	8.654.000.000	1.419.256.000
Denmark	1	kr.	44.450.145	65.786.214
France	254	frs.	5.778.802.207	893.402.561
Germany	3.000	dep.	482.095.832	636.206.498
		giro	542.050.099	715.506.131
Great Britain . .	13	Lstg.	51.597.724	1.393.138.548
Ireland	1	»	441.232	11.913.264
Italy	170	lire	11.127.986.959	2.225.597.392
Jugoslavia	1	din.	2.105.746	206.363
Luxembourg . . .	1	frs.	206.869.264	32.478.474
Norway	5	kr.	201.316.938	245.606.664
Holland	99	fl.	179.226.178	397.882.115
Poland	2	zl.	16.789.718	9.234.345
Spain	18	pes.	674.599.863	607.139.877
Sweden	7	kr.	67.163.246	100.207.563
Switzerland . . .	2	frs.	85.366.230	91.854.063
Chile	1	pes.	130.344.949	87.852.496
United States . .	29	doll.	1.341.139.392	7.456.735.019
Australia	2	Lstg.	110.643.452	2.987.363.204
Tasmania	1	»	1.815.689	49.023.603
Countries 22, . .	4.008		Gold Francs	20.168.102.800

1 Gold Franc = Doll. 0,193 - Lstg. 0 = 0 = 9¹/₂ - Rm. 0,810 - It. L. 5,33 - French Frs. 6,83 - Austrian sh. 1,363

The Director:
PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA



GR. UFF. ING. GIULIO CERETTI



ON. AVV. MARCHESE
GIUSEPPE DE CAPITANI D'ARZAGO



MILIVOJ CRNADAK



EMILE JACQUES DEROOVER



LUCIEN DESERT



EDOUARD DESROYS DU ROURE



S. E. MARCHESE
CESARE FERRERO DI CAMBIANO



STADTRAT A. D. JURSCH



CAV. UFF. DOTT. RAG.
FRANCESCO LAMI



CHARLES ADDISON MILLER



SPENCER J. PORTAL J. P.

COMMITTEE

OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE

PRESIDENT

ON. AVV. MARCHESE GIUSEPPE DE CAPITANI D'ARZAGO

*Gran Cordone S.S. Maurizio e Lazzaro, già Ministro dell'Agricoltura del Regno d'Italia, Deputato al Parlamento,
Presidente della Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde, Milano
Presidente del Primo Congresso Internazionale del Risparmio*

MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

NOMINATED AT THE LAST SITTING OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL THRIFT CONGRESS
(Milan, 31st Oct., 1924)

GR. UFF. ING. GIULIO CERETTI

*Cavaliere del Lavoro, Vice Presidente della Cassa di
Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde, Milano*

MILIVOJ CRNADAK

*Vice-Président et Directeur Général
de la Première Caisse d'Epargne Croate à Zagreb.*

EMILE JACQUES DEROOVER

*Grand Officier de l'Ordre de Léopold II
Ancien Ingénieur militaire
Directeur Général de la Caisse Générale d'Epargne et de
Retraite de Belgique - Bruxelles
Vice-Président
de l'Association Royale des Actuaires Belges,
Membre de la Commission des accidents du travail,
de la Commission Permanente des Sociétés Mutualistes
et de la Commission Nationale pour l'étude des réformes
à préconiser en matière d'habitations à bon marché*

LUCIEN DESERT

*Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur de France,
Directeur de la Caisse d'Epargne de la République et
Canton de Genève*

EDOUARD DESROYS DU ROURE

*Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur
Vice-Président du Conseil des Directeurs de la Caisse
d'Epargne et de Prévoyance de Paris,
Président de la Conférence Générale et de la Commission
Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France,
Directeur honoraire au Ministère des Finances,
Membre du Conseil Supérieur des Retraites Ouvrières
et Paysannes,
Membre de l'Institut International de Statistique*

S. E. MARCHESE
CESARE FERRERO DI CAMBIANO
*Senatore del Regno, Ministro di Stato,
Presidente dell'Associazione fra le Casse di Risparmio
Italiane,
Presidente dell'Istituto di Credito delle Casse
di Risparmio Italiane, Roma*

STADTRAT A. D. JURSCH
*Geschäftsführender
Direktor der Deutschen Girozentrale in Berlin
Deutschen Kommunalbank*

CAV. UFF. DOTT. RAG. FRANCESCO LAMI
*Vice-Direttore Generale della Cassa di Risparmi
e Depositi di S. Miniato,
Segretario del Comitato Esecutivo dell'Associazione fra
le Casse di Risparmio Italiane, Roma*

CHARLES ADDISON MILLER
President of the Savings Bank of Utica

SPENCER J. PORTAL J. P.
*Chairman of the Trustee Savings Banks Association,
Preston,
Chairman of the London Savings Bank, London,
Director of the Royal Exchange Assurance,
Chairman of the National Provincial Insurance,
Member of the Council of the Hampshire Friendly
Society*

DR. GUILLAUME POSPISIL
*ancien Directeur Général de la Caisse d'Epargne
Municipale de Prague
ancien Président de la Fédération des Caisse d'Epargne
Tchécoslovaques
Vice-Président de l'Office Bancaire du Ministère des
Finances à Prague
Membre du Comité Financier de la Société des Nations
Gouverneur de la Banque Nationale Tchécoslovaque
Prague*

DON CARLOS PRAST
Y RODRIGUEZ DE LLANO
*Senador,
Presidente de la Camara de Comercio de Madrid
Miembro del Consejo de Administración del Monte de
Piedad y Caja de Ahorros de Madrid*

STANISLAS JULES STEIN
*Directeur de Section de la Caisse d'Epargne Postale
de Varsovie*

GR. UFF. AVV. EDMONDO VALDISERRA
*Direttore della Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie
Lombarde, Milano*

SECRETARY

CAV. RAG. PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA
*Organiser of the Congress;
Director of the International Thrift Institute, Milan*



DR. GUILLAUME POSPISIL



DON CARLOS PRAST Y RODRIGUEZ DE LLANO



STANISLAS JULES STEIN



GR. UFF. AVV. EDMONDO VALDISERRA



JAKOB CREMER



DR. JANKO HACIN



MILTON W. HARRISON

UNDERWOOD & UNDERWOOD
STUDIOS N. Y.



ADRIEN LACHENAL



THOMAS HENDERSON J. P.



STANISLAS PAWLOWICZ



CAV. RAG. PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

The above-mentioned gentlemen held their first meeting on the same day on which they were nominated by the Congress, and at this meeting they made arrangements for the prompt organization of the Institute. Following on this meeting, a great amount of correspondence was exchanged, as a result of which the By-Laws were drawn up. These gentlemen met once more in Milan on the 28th June, 1925, the By-Laws were approved and the Institute was declared founded (1). They cordially collaborated with the Director, assisting him in the work of organization, and met together for the last time at Paris on the 27th of July last, when the general and financial report of the Director was discussed and unanimously approved; this report related to the first year in the life of the Institute (2). The questions on the Agenda were all gone into carefully and, in accordance with the By-Laws, the **Permanent Committee** was constituted; this Committee is composed of the delegates of the different countries.

MEMBERS OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE

(NOMINATED UP TO DATE)

AUSTRIA

DR. WALTER SCHMIDT

*Verbandsanwalt
des Reichsverbandes deutscher Sparkassen in
Oesterreich, Wien I*

DR. FRIEDRICH THAUSING

Direktor der Ersten Oesterreichischen Sparkasse, Wien I

(1) At this meeting the following gentlemen were also present and the Statute was signed also by them:
Direktor JAKOB CREMER, Geschäftsführendes Vorstandsmitglied des Deutschen Sparkassen und Giro-Verbandes, Berlin, representing Stadtrat a. D. Jursch;
LUCIEN DURA, Chef de Propagande de la Caisse Postale d'Epargne de Varsovie, Membre du Conseil d'Administration de l'Association des Diétines des Districts en Pologne, representing Mr. Stanislas Jules Stein;
DR. JANK HACIN, Gérant Suppléant de la Première Caisse d'Epargne Croate, Succursale de Belgrade, representing Mr. Milivoj Crnadak;
MILTON W. HARRISON, Executive Vice-President of the National Association of the Mutual Savings Banks, New York, Trustee of the Bowery Savings Bank, New York; representing Mr. Charles Addison Miller;
THOMAS HENDERSON J. P., F. S. A. SCOT, Actuary of the Glasgow Savings Bank, President Scottish Area Committee of the Trustee Savings Banks Association, Glasgow; representing Mr. Spencer J. Portal, J. P.
ADRIEN LACHENAL, Avocat, Administrateur de la Caisse d'Epargne de la République et Canton de Genève, Conseiller National, accompanying Mr. Lucien Desert.

(2) At this meeting the following gentlemen were also present:
Direktor JAKOB CREMER, Geschäftsführendes Vorstandsmitglied des Deutschen Sparkassen und Giro-Verbandes, Berlin, representing Stadtrat a. D. Jursch;
THOMAS HENDERSON J. P., F. S. A. SCOT, Actuary of the Glasgow Savings Bank, President Scottish Area Committee of the Trustee Savings Banks Association, Glasgow; representing Mr. Spencer J. Portal J. P. and Mr. Milton W. Harrison.
STANISLAS PAWLOWICZ, Membre du Conseil d'Administration de la Caisse d'Epargne Postale à Varsovie, representing Mr. Stanislas Jules Stein.

FELIX FREY

*Kommerzialrat Kammerrat
Direktor der Sparkasse der Stadt Mödling
(Nieder-Oesterreich)
Geschäftsführer des Landesverbandes
niederoesterreichischer Sparkassen,
Vorstandsmitglied des Reichsverbandes österreichischen
Sparkassen*

BELGIUM.

M. ANSPACH

*Commandeur de l'Ordre de Léopold
Ing. Président de la Fédération des Constructeurs
métallurgiques de Belgique
Président du Conseil d'Administration de la Caisse
Générale d'Epargne et de Retraite*

EMILE JACQUES DEROOVER

*Grand Officier de l'Ordre de Léopold II
Ancien Ingénieur militaire
Directeur Général de la Caisse Générale d'Epargne et de
Retraite de Belgique - Bruxelles
Vice-Président de l'Association Royale
des Actuaire Belges,
Membre de la Commission des accidents du travail,
de la Commission Permanente des Sociétés Mutualistes
et de la Commission Nationale pour l'étude des réformes
à préconiser en matière d'habitations à bon marché*

P. RIGAUX

Directeur Général au Ministère des Finances

Alternate Delegates:

L. BERTRAND

*Ministre d'Etat
Membre du Conseil d'Administration de la Caisse
Générale d'Epargne et de Retraite.*

CH. BEAUJEAN

*Commandeur de l'Ordre de la Couronne
Premier Directeur de la Caisse Générale d'Epargne et de
Retraite
Membre de la Commission des réformes administratives*

R. VERRIEST

Sous-Directeur au Ministère des Finances

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA.

DR. GUILLAUME POSPISIL

*ancien Directeur Général de la Caisse d'Epargne
Municipale de Prague
ancien Président de la Fédération des Caisses d'Epargne
Tchécoslovaques
Vice-Président de l'Office Bancaire du Ministère des
Finances à Prague
Membre du Comité Financier de la Société des Nations
Gouverneur de la Banque Nationale Tchécoslovaque
Prague*

DR. MILOS PECENKA

*Directeur de la Fédération des Caisses d'Epargne
Tchécoslovaques, Prague*

DR. FRANÇOIS WENZEL

*Directeur de la Caisse d'Epargne Municipale de Liberec
Membre du Comité de Direction
de la Fédération des Caisses d'Epargne tchécoslovaques
Président de l'Association des Caisses d'Epargne
allemandes dans la République Tchécoslovaque
Membre du Comité de la Banque Centrale des Caisses
d'Epargne allemandes à Prague*

Alternate Delegates:

DR. OTAKAR CMUNT

*Directeur Général de la Caisse d'Epargne Municipale
de Prague
Membre de Direction de la Fédération des Caisses
d'Epargne Tchécoslovaques*

CHARLES JANDA

*Directeur de la Caisse d'Epargne de Hradec Kralové
Membre de Présidence de l'Association des Caisses
d'Epargne Tchécoslovaques*

VACLAV SKLENICKA

*Directeur Général
de la Caisse Epargne de Kraloušké Vinohrady*

FINLAND.

KAARLO KAIRA, B. C. L.

Member of the Board of Directors of Helsingin Suomalainen Säästöpankki (Finnish Savings Bank) in Helsinki

Director of Säästöpankkien Keskus-Osake-Pankki (Savings Banks' Joint Stock Bank) in years 1917-1919, Chairman of the State Committee for reforming the legislation concerning Savings Banks

J. K. LAURILA

Director of Tampereen Säästöpankki (Savings Bank in Tampere)

J. LAHERMA, M. A.

Director of Helsingin Työväen Säästöpankki (Workers' Savings Bank in Helsinki), Member of the State Committee for reforming the legislation concerning Savings Banks

Alternate Delegates:

JOHN DAHLSTROM, J. P.

Director of Sparbanken i Borgå (Savings Bank i Borgå)

J. W. MINNI M. A.

Government Secretary and Referendary in the Ministry of Finances of matters concerning Savings Banks

M. TIRANEN

Secretary of the League of Finnish Savings Banks, editor of «Säästöpankki» and «Sparbanken» (Savings Banks) the Finnish and Swedish organs of the League of Finnish Savings Banks

FRANCE.

EDOUARD DESROYS DU ROURE

Commandeur de la Légion d'Honneur, Président de la Conférence Générale et de la Commission Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France, Vice-Président du Conseil des Directeurs de la Caisse d'Epargne et de Prévoyance de Paris, Directeur honoraire au Ministère des Finances, Membre du Conseil Supérieur des Retraites Ouvrières et Paysannes, Membre de l'Institut International de Statistique

ANDRE LEBERT

Sénateur, Président de la Caisse d'Epargne du Mans, et de la Conférence des Caisses d'Epargne de l'Ouest et du Sud-Ouest, Vice-Président de la Commission Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France

WULFRAN JAUFFRET

Avocat, Président du Conseil des Directeurs de la Caisse d'Epargne des Bouches-du-Rhône, Marseille, et de la Conférence des Caisses d'Epargne du Midi et du Sud-Est, Membre de la Commission Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France

Alternate Delegates:

PAUL ROZEY

Vice-Président du Conseil des Directeurs de la Caisse d'Epargne de Reims, Président de la Conférence des Caisses d'Epargne de l'Est et du Nord, Membre de la Commission Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France

FRANÇOIS ALBERT CHARLES OESINGER

Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur, Croix de Guerre, Président du Conseil d'Administration de la Caisse d'Epargne de Strasbourg, Président de la Conférence des Caisses d'Epargne d'Alsace et de Lorraine, Membre de la Commission Supérieure des Caisses d'Epargne de France

J. P. ISAAC-DOGNIN

Administrateur de la Caisse d'Epargne du Rhône, Lyon

GERMANY.

REICHSMINISTER A. D. DR. DR. SCHOLZ

Vorsitzender der Verbandsversammlung des Deutschen Sparkassen- und Giro-Verbandes, und des Allgemeinen Deutschen Sparkassen- und Kommunalbanken - Tages, Berlin

DR. KLEINER

*Präsident Geheimer Regierungsrat
Vorsitzender des Vorstandes des Deutschen Sparkassen-
und Giro-Verbandes, Berlin*

JACOB CREMER

*Direktor
hauptamtlicher Geschäftsführer des Ausschusses für das
Sparkassenwesen
Geschäftsführendes Vorstandsmitglied des Deutschen
Sparkassen u. Giro-Verbandes, Berlin*

Alternate delegates:

RITTER

*Erster Bürgermeister, Mannheim, stellvertretender
Vorsitzender der Versammlungen des Deutschen
Sparkassen und Giroverbandes*

DR. MATZERATH

*Bürgermeister
Mitglied für die Landesbank der Rheinprovinz des
Vorstandes des Deutschen Sparkassen-
und Giro-Verbandes, Köln am Rhein*

DR. KOEHLER

*Landrat Geheimer Regierungsrat
stellvertretender Vorsitzender der Versammlung
des Deutschen Sparkassen und Giro-Verbandes,
Greifenhagen.*

GREAT BRITAIN.

LONDON AND GLASGOW

Alternate Delegates:

MANCHESTER AND EDINBURGH

SPENCER J. PORTAL J. P.

*Chairman of the Trustee Savings Banks, Association,
Preston,
Chairman of the London Savings Bank, London,
Director of the Royal Exchange Assurance,
Chairman of the National Provincial Insurance,
Member of the Council of the Hampshire Friendly
Society*

THOMAS HENDERSON J. P., F. S. A. SCOT

*Actuary of the Glasgow Savings Bank, Glasgow,
Vice President of the Western Mutual Assurance Society,
President Scottish Area Committee of the Trustee
Savings Banks Association*

C. EDGAR SCHOLLES

Actuary of the Manchester Savings Bank, Manchester

KENNETH J. STIRLING

Actuary of the Edinburgh Savings Bank, Edinburgh

GEORGE ANDERSON M. B. E., C. A.

*Actuary of the Preston Savings Bank
Representative of Trustee Savings Bank on the National
Savings Committee; Honorary Secretary of the Trustee
Savings Bank Association*

F. W. DURANCE

Actuary of the Lincoln Savings Bank

HOLLAND

DR. J. H. ANDRIES

Président du Bond, avocat à la Haye

DR. P. J. C. TETRODE

*Vice-Président du Bond, Directeur de la Nederlandsche
Bank, à Amsterdam*

DR. W. A. MEES

Trésorier du Bond, Banquier à Rotterdam

Alternate Delegates:

H. W. BOSCH

Directeur de la Caisse d'Épargne à la Haye

G. H. KOLFF

*Directeur du Bureau Central des Caisses d'Épargne
(Nederlandsch Spaarbankbureau) à Amersfoort*

DR. H. J. J. POST

Directeur de la Caisse d'Épargne de la Ville d'Amsterdam

ITALY.

S. E. MARCHESI
CESARE FERRERO DI CAMBIANO

*Senatore del Regno, Ministro di Stato,
Presidente dell'Associazione fra le Casse di Risparmio
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HOW FRANCE JOINED THE INSTITUTE

It is interesting in the history of the International movement of Thrift, to consider how each country came to form part of the International Thrift Institute. In this manner the degree to which each country has developed their Savings Banks, their nature, their structure, the existence of district or national organisations which bind them together, the relations between the adhering banks and such organisations and, in many cases, the activity and zeal of one or more individuals in the cause of Thrift and the Institute can be ascertained.

We will commence with France: her rally to the Institute presents very interesting characteristics in view of the coexistence of several Associations of various degrees, the outstanding feature of which is that they do not limit the freedom of their members, and, above all, in view of the satisfactory results obtained.

The autonomous, municipal, or mixed French Savings Banks, are grouped in District Conferences, which are not actual Associations in the juridical sense of the word, but co-ordination centres and Committees for the purpose of study and action, which, in turn, are centralised at a General Conference which is held in the Savings Bank Building in Paris. The President of this General Conference is Mr. Desroys du Roure. It is to

his prestige, his ability, and his untiring zeal that we owe the intimate union which has been established and which is extending more and more between the Institute and the French Savings Banks. We say « intimate union » as it is owing to the flexibility of these District and Central Conferences and their active propaganda that the French Savings Banks, although coming to the Institute in body, also come individually, each deciding on their adhesion with an exact knowledge of what the Institute represents and how each can cooperate with it.

The phases of this conquest developed with such rapidity, and such logic, that it would be instructive to call them to mind.

The International Thrift Institute was formed on the 28th June, 1925. Mr. Desroys du Roure, the eminent Vice-President of the First International Thrift Congress, on the same day, the 28th June, fixed, with the Director, the programme to be followed in France for the collecting of adhesions. The Institute was to supply the documents and necessary elements; Monsieur Desroys du Roure would himself get into touch with the Presidents of the District Conferences, each of which act for the Savings Banks in which they are interested.

On the 15th July, barely a fortnight after the

foundation of the Institute, Mr. Desroys du Roure assisted at Bordeaux with the work of the West and South-west Conference and informed the representatives of the Savings Banks present as to the importance of the Institute and induced them to hand in their adhesions without delay. In August 1925, « Le Journal des Caisses d'Épargne » published at the head of the monthly item an article which was no doubt inspired and very probably edited by Mr. Desroys du Roure personally, announcing the foundation of the Institute to all the French Savings Banks. The article concluded with the words « We are convinced that the French Savings Banks who sent a delegation to the Milan Congress, the importance of which was remarked upon, will make it a point of honour to adhere in large numbers to the new International Thrift Institute ».

On the 21st. October, at the fourteenth session of the General Conference, the President gave an account of the work of the Milan Congress and the foundation of the Institute and expressed his opinion « that it would be greatly in the interest of all the French Savings Banks to become members of the International Thrift Institute ».

As the dynamic action of Mr. Desroys du Roure developed and extended, the Institute followed it up and supported him with propaganda material, replying to each enquiry received from Savings Banks and decentralising its action with all the District Conferences.

The first adhesion came from the Wassy Savings Banks, followed by those of Toulouse, Lunéville, Pithiviers, Orléans, etc.

After having made a « call to arms », Mr. Desroys du Roure « sounded the charge ».

He assisted at all the District Conferences in 1926; he was at Sens on the 15th May, at Roanne on the 6th June, at Orange on the 12th, at Flers on the 21st, at Besançon on the 28th June, at

Metz on the 11th July, speaking of the Institute everywhere and advising adhesions everywhere. The following are the results: 234 Savings Banks in France became members of the Institute, from the largest such as those of Paris, Lyon, St. Etienne, Marseilles and Bordeaux to the smallest which we will not mention in order to avoid discouraging those which are even smaller.

The Savings Banks which are still absent are on the threshold and holding out their hands to us. But this is not all.

On the initiative of Mr. Rozey, President of the District Conference for the East and North-east, who together with Messrs. Joseph Fabre, Lebert, Isaac, Jauffret, de Singly, Bocheux, Ocsinger, Devaux, Cormont, is one of the most worthy partisans of the Institute, several Conferences asked to become members on their own account, apart from the Savings Banks forming a part of same, rating themselves on the basis of 5 francs for each Associated Savings Bank. Almost all French Savings Banks dated their membership from 1st July 1925.

The organising Committee of the Institute, under the terms of the last paragraph of Art. 4 of the Bye-Laws accepted this request with enthusiasm thus establishing the possibility for each Association, whose Savings Banks already belonged to the Institute to, in turn, become a member. No doubt all the French Savings Banks will soon be enrolled under the flag of the Institute. This rapid episodic summary will have served to show once more the geniality and enthusiasm, coupled with the logic and practical sense, which characterises the French spirit.

It will be interesting to see in succeeding numbers how the characteristic virtues of other nations are manifested from the manner in which their Savings Banks adhere to the Institute.

AN ADVOCACY FOR INTERNATIONAL STATISTICS OF SAVINGS

BY

PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA

DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE

- I. THE NECESSITY AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL SAVINGS STATISTICS.
- II. DIFFICULTIES INHERENT TO INTERNATIONAL SAVINGS STATISTICS.
- III. EFFORTS, PAST AND PRESENT, FOR OBTAINING INTERNATIONAL SAVINGS STATISTICS.
- IV. THE POSITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE IN RESPECT TO THE QUESTION.
- V. WHY AND HOW THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE CAN FACE THE DIFFICULTY.
- VI. CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHING OF WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BE KNOWN AND WHAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO KNOW. ILLUSTRATION AND TABLE OF DATA WHICH SHOULD BE COLLECTED.
- VII. A FIRST PLAN OF COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE AND THE NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

I. The Necessity and Development of International Savings Statistics.

The comparison which one Savings Bank was able to make with its own past and with neighbouring Savings Banks was sufficient while such institutions were still in their infancy and when they were yet few and possessed a more or less local character; but side by side with their development arose the desire and the need to extend these comparisons to all the Savings Banks in their country.

As the desire and need of every Savings Bank to

draw, from more extensive comparisons, clearer notions for determining its line of action and for its own advantage, coincided with the desire and need of governing bodies to follow the progress of a factor which was assuming ever-increasing importance in the economic and moral life of the nation, the compilation of national statistics on savings was soon undertaken. From 1835, when the first attempts in France were made for their compilation, these statistics have been acquiring year by year still greater accuracy, wealth and uniformity of data.

It was, however, natural that with the formation

of the present « International Atmosphere », the more progressive Savings Banks or those which by reason of geographical position or political happenings found themselves in contact with foreign banks, should study the various forms of activity of these banks, their legislative and administrative changes with the accompanying successes or failures, and should especially study those which summarily evidenced themselves in an increase or decrease of deposits.

Nor was it less natural that legislators who wished to propose or combat a measure which had already proved itself good or bad elsewhere, should arm themselves with information collected beyond the confines; without considering that, for some nations which arose during the last century, statistics were, it might be said, both national and international at one and the same time (as, e. g., Germany after the union of the various States, and Italy at the beginning of its unity).

Then again, the statesman or politician who feels the need of defining the physiognomy and characteristics of his own country in relation to others whether friendly, enemy or competitive, was driven to seek the symptoms of force or weakness also among the data regarding savings. In this way, therefore, year in year out, figures relating to national savings are proclaimed and brought into comparison, with ever-increasing frequency and confidence, in parliaments, newspapers and book-form. Their progress is followed with increasing attention and auspices are anxiously drawn therefrom.

The student who is animated by a pure spirit of enquiry and has anxiously directed his best efforts towards learning this movement, looks on not without disquietude at its progress, and does not refrain from advancing doubts and recommending prudence. And he is right.

II. *Difficulties inherent to International Savings Statistics.*

Above all there are the errors connected with the extraction and elaboration of the national data. He who stands near the source of these data uses them with all due caution, but with their gradual alienation from the place of origin and from the surroundings which gave them birth and for which they were at first destined, they acquire an ever-increasing unimpeachability and are used with greater confidence and security. This is the case with notions pertaining to every branch of human learning; originally used with circumspection by competent specialists, they become indisputable verities for students of other branches of knowledge, who have neither the competence nor the means of investigating and testing their real constitution.

But besides this fount of errors existent in national statistics, and ignoring the various possibilities of interpretation, there are sources of errors which only come to light on comparison of the data supplied by different countries. Above all, the absence of uniformity, which may from the beginning vitiate the national data itself, assumes gigantic proportions in the field of international statistics, on account of the diversity in the object considered. For instance, in the statistics published by one Government, we find the depositors and amount of deposits divided by nationality, in those of another classified by sex, while in still another neither of these divisions may exist.

Sometimes, the item extracted is the same, but the manner in which the data are grouped is different (e. g., two sets of statistics might group depositors according to their professions or social condition but at the same time employing

different classifications or following different criteria).

We would also add that a source of errors, which is often ignored and beyond control but of great practical importance, is the varying interpretations given to foreign words.

Let us complete the picture of difficulties with that which permeates the interpretation even of exact, comparable and rightly apprehended data, viz., the diversity of surroundings in which the facts are evolved.

Rather than enter into a more minute analysis of this cause of error, it might perhaps be to advantage to see how it acts along with the other causes of error in some example.

Let us compare the deposits in two groups of Savings Banks which originally paid the same rate of interest, this being changed at a later date by one of the groups considered.

What is to be understood by the same or different rate of interest when the mode of reckoning it differs so greatly?

There are Savings Banks where the interest takes effect from the day following that in which the deposit is made until the day preceding the withdrawal; others deduct a few days to the detriment of the depositor; others, again, calculate the interest from the 15th or even from the end of the month in which the deposit is effected, and discontinue it from the 1st or 15th of the month in which it is withdrawn; and there are cases of three months' deductions also according to the notice of withdrawal required.

There are Savings Banks which credit interest monthly on the minimum total of the deposits; others apply the same system every two or even three months.

Some Savings Banks deduct withdrawals from the amount existing at the beginning of the period from which interest is calculated; others

deduct each withdrawal from the precedent payment-in; and so on with all its variants, without considering possible expenses for forms, bank-books etc., which in reality diminish the interest. And what value for comparison has the same rate of interest paid by the Savings Banks if, in the countries under comparison, both the official and the current rates are different?

Again, what difference in the degree of importance has the rate of interest in a country where its function is understood and appreciated, and where, on the other hand, it is taken into little account by depositors?

Another example: The figures showing deposits and savings. What is meant in the various countries, according to law, the statutes, regulations and usages, and therefore in statistics, by the expression « savings deposits »?

Does this denomination cease when the deposit has reached a certain level or not?

Are savings deposits to be considered as such when they are withdrawable at sight, or is the expression only to be applied to those where notice of withdrawal is required?

Do they only take the form of savings deposits when paid into certain institutes or when deposited with any kind of credit institute?

Has the amount of deposits and number of depositors equal significance in a country which offers no other form of savings beyond the deposit made under certain restrictions, and a country, where, on the other hand, many public or private securities of small denomination may be acquired even in small instalments?

And what interpretation may we give to the development of deposits expressed in different currencies whose value oscillates among themselves and with respect to gold and whose purchasing power increases or diminishes (and not always parallelly) while the purchasing power of

gold, to which they are compared also oscillates in different proportions in the different countries?

The whole of the foregoing has reference to savings in money, which assume a different degree of importance and meaning according to the country considered, and especially according as to whether certain classes of population predominate (such as the peasant proprietor or independent worker) who find, in their own holdings or businesses, a more direct, easy and natural employment of their earnings and savings, which thus partially escape the statistics columns.

III. Efforts, past and present, for obtaining international statistics of savings.

This complex possibility of error has had for effect that for years students have been discussing the possibility, utility and reliability of international savings statistics.

If we follow the tracks of this discussion through its most authoritative and competent medium, viz., « *Le Bulletin de l'Institut International de Statistique* », we find that at the Paris Congress in 1855, the question was already on the agenda, and that an international formula was established for the collection of data. In 1875, a paper was read by the Italian Office of Statistics at the Buda-Pesth Congress. Again, the Congresses of Haye (1884) and St. Petersburg (1897) resolved that efforts should be made for procuring international statistics regarding Savings Banks. The subject came up again for discussion at the Buda-Pesth Congress of 1901, and Eugène Rostand, the leading light of the movement and study of savings in France, proposed a scheme in connection with savings statistics to be adopted by each State.

It may be said that every sitting where this subject is treated concludes by charging one or more specialists with the task of elaborating a project for the next sitting. Thus, at the Berlin Congress held in 1903, in addition to a questionnaire by Neymarck (who however requested opinions, rather than statistics, on what should or should not be done by Savings Banks) which was discussed, an admirable memorial on the legislation, administration and statistics of savings presented by George Evert came up for treatment. The task of elaborating a complete plan was laid upon this gentleman for presentation at the next session.

In the meantime, international statistics of savings received some notice, giving rise to polemics and controversies whose echoes are also heard in the reports of the « *Bulletin de l'Institut* ».

The League of Nations has also published data and notes on savings respecting a fair number of countries in its precious « *Memorandum des Monnaies* ».

At present the powerful « *American Bankers' Association* » seems to be making a definitive effort for compiling complete statistics regarding savings in all countries.

In the meantime, and almost to confirm the necessity of having data on savings in the various countries, the League of Nations, in its excellent « *Bulletin Mensuel* », and the « *Institut International du Commerce* » in Brussels, in its praiseworthy « *Recueil Mensuel* », not to mention other less important works, regularly publish monthly data on the amount of savings deposits in respect to a large number of states. These data are, it is superfluous to add after what has been premised, incomplete and lack uniformity and explanations.

IV. *The position of the International Thrift Institute in respect to the question.*

The International Thrift Institute naturally cannot remain indifferent to the subject. The institutes which are rallying round it from an ever-increasing number of countries count for a ponderous aggregate of figures.

Many of their points of resemblance and disparity are manifested in figures; in figures also many of their vicissitudes. Figures offer the shortest, simplest and most synthetic manner of presenting a large part of that complex of notions which are imposing and composing themselves in the mind by the study of individual institutes and their national groupings.

In saying this, we do not wish to exaggerate the importance of statistics for those who direct and administrate Savings Banks.

Much that is useful and necessary remains outside statistics; the existence and programme themselves of this Bulletin prove that. Indeed, as far as the individual Savings Bank is concerned, integral and live statements of what another Savings Bank is doing have far more value. But these also are in part translatable in figures, or only when comprised in a synthesis giving the statistics of the institutes or savings of a country are they liable to a correct interpretation.

Thus, for instance, the rules of a certain Savings Bank are modified to provide for an increase in the limit as to deposits, and the amount of these increases. This connection will have a different value for the Director of a Savings Bank who is considering the convenience of increasing the limit in his own institution. He must evidently investigate whether or not that increase of

deposits is common to all Savings Banks in the country under consideration, or in a certain district or presenting certain characteristics even if they have not raised the limit of deposits.

And even if the greatest synthesis should have more interest for the politician and legislator than for the technician of the Savings Bank, is it not in our best interests that they find ample and reliable material of which we hold the keys, and which we can unlock, in order that they may talk and legislate on savings, with a surer knowledge of their subject, in the most useful manner?

For the present we must pacify ourselves with the conclusion at which all students in order to console themselves usually arrive after having ascertained the defects of existing statistics and the difficulty of obtaining better ones, and that is « Even though imperfect and incomplete, they still permit of comparisons being drawn and of acceptable and useful conclusions being arrived at ». We do not pretend to be more severe and careful in judging and using statistics than statisticians themselves, and in this number of our Bulletin we show our capacity of adaption. But such resignation is a fount of deep regret for searchers after truth.

Neither would the student wager his fortune on the accuracy of the figures which he accepts and on the conclusions he draws from them. For our part, unless we only intend to indulge in a little scientific trifling, it is essential that we have figures and possibilities of deduction upon which we may guide the destiny of that, which, to us as workers, is sacrosanct, viz., the money entrusted to us.

The effort towards accuracy, the greatest accuracy possible, is our duty.

V. Why and how the International Institute can face the difficulty.

Do not however let us exaggerate the difficulties of carrying this out.

The scope of the present investigation is to eliminate those fundamental difficulties resulting from lack of uniformity and therefore, comparability of national data.

Uniformity is to be the natural and unfailing fruit of our collaboration.

Inasmuch as regards the diversity of surroundings, which undoubtedly constitutes a difficulty, but without which we could not isolate essential elements and study relations of cause and effect, we plan to accompany the savings data with all the information which is necessary in order to characterise their surroundings and to describe and measure them. The vastness of the collection hereby proposed is directed to this end.

Let us take it that the Savings Banks are in a position to offer us sincere statistical data, as, with the exception of a few balance-sheet items in countries heavily hit by the fiscal authorities, there is nothing to hide. As a rule, they do not compete with each other either at home or abroad.

In working for an international synthesis, they may allow themselves even greater sincerity, as it is feasible they may have less fear of the possible action both of political parties and of fiscal authorities.

Finally, it is not laid down that international statistics have to represent the synthesis of national ones, and that therefore they must bide their time until these latter are up-to-date, complete and perfect.

No, and « no » in two senses.

I) A comparison between statistics of some countries can already give rise to feasible conclusions.

If we succeed in obtaining sufficient data, even from half a dozen countries, we already find ourselves confronted by a sufficiency of similar elements existing under conditions widely diverse, to enable us to draw useful conclusions respecting both the elements and the conditions.

II) Even if no country gave us complete statistics regarding all its savings institutes, but that we were able to obtain those relating to individual banks directly from a large number of Savings Banks, international statistics based on these direct contributions could very well be compiled.

Let us bear in mind that we are neither statesmen nor legislators. We must try to place ourselves in a position to be able to tell these people, and incidentally it is in our interest to know, how much Italy or Germany, or any other country for that matter, saves in its totality, or whether the virtue of thrift is more highly developed say in France than in England and so on; but also to those who are responsible for the future of a savings institute it is no less interesting, and perhaps more so, to know how and why the amount of deposits, or certain specific deposits, of an institute similar to his own which works under similar conditions or conditions in regard to which he is able to gauge the exact diversity from those of his own, should, with the varying of different circumstances, increase, fluctuate or decrease.

It is also not to be excluded that international statistics based directly on data supplied by individual Savings Banks may give rise to new groupings (ideal, let it be understood, not political or juridical) which may be of equal importance for the student and practitioner, at least as much as are national groupings (e. g., in large medium and small Savings Banks, or of Banks in industrial and agricultural centres) and that statistics gathered under these new non-national points

of view, may reveal new courses or new laws of great interest.

With this in mind the Bye-laws of the International Institute has decreed it the duty of the Institute and laid down the manner of its getting in direct contact with individual Savings Banks, even where National Associations exist, establishing by art. 4 that the former and not the latter form part of the Institute. And the Institute endeavours to keep faithful to this principle despite the greater amount of work involved.

There is another difficulty to which we do not think fit to give excessive importance; it is of a subjective nature, and more than the object, concerns the persons who usually occupy themselves with international statistics.

It often happens that students or politicians, brought to a standstill in their investigations or in their action at a given moment by the fallacy and deficiency of the material at their disposal, make manifest the results of their criticism or deception in an article or report, and embody in a project the needs of their investigation. Criticisms and projects which, like those of Rostand, undoubtedly promoted and improved national savings statistics, but, proffering schemes capable only of long post-dated fulfilment and accordingly beyond the waiting capacity of the parties interested, remained at the stage of projects.

In our case, however it is the International Thrift Institute which wants to know, and this Institute, arisen from the Savings Banks themselves, animated by their spirit of foresight and accustomed by their history to measure results by centuries, is not actuated by any restless need to know immediately, and is prepared to wait. It will constantly accumulate material for years and tens of years in order to attain the result at which it aims. In the meantime, as is case with

the exercise of thrift where, apart from the accumulation of savings, moral qualities and advantages are developed, so it will be with the Institute in the technical ability and the profound knowledge of institutions and forms of saving, accumulated during its long daily effort of collection, comparison, grouping, without counting the multiplicity of its relations with Savings Banks in a vast and intimate collaboration.

This is a great advantage which will consolidate our union more and more, in the same way that the bonds of any community are cemented, viz., by working together.

VI. Concerning the establishing of what is required to be known and what it is possible to know. Illustration and table of data which should be collected.

In order to establish the object, it is too early to say of our investigations, but at least of the discussion from which these must draw a concrete line of action, let us see, above all, what interests us as regards savings in each country.

We have described it in the conspectus which follows and which we present with only strictly necessary comments.

In order not to extend the treatment too long, on this occasion we have neglected the administrative part, as for instance, that relating to investments, which presents the double difficulty and double interest of the classification of the very different categories of securities, debentures, mortgages etc.; and that part connected with the distribution of credit to the different social classes; that of overhead expenses; that respecting reserves and provident funds, and that concerning profits and losses, etc. Statistics tables of this kind have hardly ever been attempted even

from a national point of view, and yet they are of vital interest to the technician to whom they should try to convey as much as possible whilst at the same time conveying as little as possible to the fiscal authorities of his country. What we have already said as to initiating a long term investigation should be borne in mind; here it is not a question of filling up the conspectus, of replying to all the queries expressed or implied, today for the present and for the past. Not at all! From certain countries reliable replies for the past may very well be forthcoming, as for very many years minute statistics concerning savings have been kept, but the investigation would be limited to these few nations, a very few, and as also among them uniformity would be difficult to obtain, it would be of little use for our purposes. Do not let us forget also that we have had the War in the meantime, this profound laceration of all recent history of humanity; that this same War has confounded minds and economies in many countries; and that, for us, the years preceding it constitute a past so distant from the present epoch that calling on it for purposes of references would be of questionable utility to us. We live in the present and the future; let us consider ourselves, as in a great measure we are, a new humanity, that must construct, and let us begin to keep a diligent record of the progress of our work, which we trust will always proceed in harmony.

We wish to bring this point well into relief, viz., that the work in question is a work of preparation, and we have still another point to insist on, which is that what we are presenting is only a draft to be offered for the examination of the competent parties and for discussion.

The first result of our collaboration must therefore consist of the precise and definite setting

down of what is necessary for us to know. It is quite feasible that we may eventually arrive at the compilation of a form suitable for all institutes which are in a position to furnish us data. In a common elaboration not only should all appropriate explanations be given, not only should those modifications dictated by the diversity of interests and institutes be noted, but also those inspired by the necessity of adapting the investigations so as to render them possible on the part of individual institutions. Neither is it certain that the larger Savings Banks can supply us with a more abundant and exact mass of data than the smaller ones. On the contrary, as a rule the former are not so prone to take on work not absolutely necessary because of the greater and more febrile nature of counter work, which is the main fount of statistics.

Savings Banks of a public character, principally state and postal services, are generally exceptions, as they usually do not lack a statistics organisation.

A preliminary study of what must form the basis of the investigation will serve to indicate what may be added and what may be taken away from the conspectus, having regard to those items which the participating institutes do not feel able to extract and those which, on the other hand, they consider can be easily furnished.

We have endeavoured to take into account this possibility of co-operation which should not be such as to disturb the normal working of each Savings Bank, and have accordingly refrained from asking for several data, which could be quite interesting, and which are not generally difficult to supply (e. g., statistics relating to cancelled and lost bank-books, as also those in suspense).

On the other hand, it is not our intention to fix insurmountable limits. The institutions which

have the means and desire to supply data in greater abundance are free to do so. So much the more, as we have to do at times with data which are of importance to some countries and not to others (although, *a priori*, this exclusion would seem to be questionable). Thus, for instance, the query demanding the nationality of the depositors.

The conversion of the figures into graphs, although not asked for, would be quite acceptable. Savings Banks which furnish data to a central institute of national importance, be it an association of savings banks, be it a government organ or institute for study, would oblige by remitting them at the same time also to the International Institute for elaboration from a non-national point of view, of which we have had occasion to mention the importance. In the meantime, in compliance with the invitations which we shall not fail to renew, the Savings Banks of every country will have furnished us with all documents in which their activity is displayed and lives, and which the statistics draw together and synthesize in figures.

The data should be accompanied by particularised explanations undeterred by the fear of saying things considered as understood or trifling; it should be remembered that often what seems the most obvious and known to everybody who lives and works in certain surroundings, is instead, just because it is characteristic, difficult of comprehension to strangers.

The Institute will decide which of these explanations may be left out and which must accompany the figures in their definitive synthesis.

Of course not all the data which will appear each year in the statistics which a country or individual institute may send us can have reference to the same period of time, such as, for instance, figures respecting population, and those in re-

gard to insurance or deposits, as the census tables may not be compiled at the same time or at the closing dates of the period under review in respect of the other data. It will indeed be great fortune if all the data extracted year by year on savings are contemporaneous.

In respect of these latter let us fix the date at the 31st December of each year and let us agree that where an item refers to another period of the year in progress or to another year, the fact be noted within brackets at the side of such item. Let it also be agreed that where certain items have been computed and not extracted, they be underlined so as to distinguish them from the latter.

With reference to the Conspectus given further on:

The data comprised in A. B. C. D. E. F. serve to circumscribe our main subject, Savings deposits, within a small radius even in the absence of a uniform and univocal definition, framing it in indications which become more precise as they approach it and so present the conditions under which Savings evolve themselves in the life, especially the economic, of a given country, and thereby establishing the essential basis for interpreting Savings data and their vicissitudes. The data comprised under the above-mentioned letters need not necessarily be supplied by the Savings Banks, as the Institute could trace nearly all of them through the various publications, official or otherwise; but should an Association of Savings Banks, or any individual Savings Bank furnish them through a diligent examination and selection of national sources, especially if these latter are not in one of the more generally known languages, it would render itself well-deserved of our investigation.

Some of the data asked for have no importance by themselves, but may very well serve for pur-

poses of verification or to enable us to deduct other figures which we would thereby avoid asking for and which more or less roughly substitute those which cannot be furnished us.

As we are dealing with students and technicians of Savings Banks, it is superfluous to point out the significance and importance of these data. It is also very evident, e. g., that a greater or smaller number of families, must have a decisive influence on Savings and its forms, as each of them is an economic and educative centre.

In this way also, given equal densities of population, the abundance or scarcity of the means of communication which determine the ease with which Savings Banks may be visited, is by no means a negligible factor.

Dealing with occupational statistics respecting the population as a whole, we have adopted the same classification as that for the occupations of depositors, as in so doing, it seems to us that we shall obtain a more significant indication regarding the tenor of life of the respective classes, the greater or smaller response of the Savings Banks to their needs and the utility or otherwise of special forms of savings and of special services. This is the sub-division proposed by Rasp who specially interested himself in the occupational statistics of savings depositors, and, as it avoids many other sub-divisions, it seems to us that it minimises the risk of creating groupings that are not easily comparable among themselves. On the other hand, the groups which have the greatest interest for Savings Banks are clearly shown.

In order to give the exact interpretation of each group of indications, we have to make the following observations:

A-1) No deduction for water courses etc.

A-2-e) Including those who frequent the schools while at the same time following an occupation; as schools generally constitute centres of thrift

propaganda and also for the collection of deposits.

In group B we enter into an atmosphere more really economic. The meaning of each heading is clear, but this cannot be said of the figures which correspond thereto in official statistics. It is therefore desirable, that in addition to mentioning the source of information, some explanation should be given as to the constituent elements of the figures.

The conversion into gold francs should be effected to correspond with the rate ruling at the period under consideration.

On a further occasion it will not be out of place to discuss more fully the reason for our choice of the gold franc as the medium of reference, a coin which in reality does not exist but whose denomination is accepted as meaning 0,3226 grammes of coined gold of a fineness 900/1000.

It would certainly have been more simple to have adopted the dollar which is quoted everywhere and whose rate of exchange is identical with that of gold.

On the other hand, we are laying the foundations of a work which has to continue for tens of years, and it is not to be excluded, at least by way of hypothesis, that the dollar may some day find itself subject to the vicissitudes of inflation, even although not comparable with those undergone by currencies at one time the essence of stability. If this should happen, it would be necessary to change the medium of reference, and the comparison of our data from a chronological point of view would be made very difficult.

These are the reasons, disputable and to be discussed we do not omit to repeat, for our choice.

B-6) If this should be missing in official statistics, it could be searched for by an Association of Savings Banks.

The boundary between Savings and Providence is often uncertain, because while the former responds also to desires for acquiring and for action, it frequently has as its sole scope the affronting of probable or inevitable misfortunes or needs, which are covered also by certain forms of insurance.

The existence or otherwise of accredited and solid insurance companies and state insurance departments, of early or recent foundation, cannot fail to have a great influence on Savings and its institutes.

Thus, e. g., the data regarding workmen's savings have a different meaning according as to whether the men draw their wages intact or whether a compulsory deduction is made on account of insurance against sickness or old age. We are limiting ourselves however to a consideration of those insurances of a popular nature, which nature may be ascertained by a comparison of the total amount insured for and the annual premiums with the number of policies, taking as reference for judging the amounts, the quota of individual wealth B-2, its increase B-4, average salary B-5 and the minimum cost of subsistence B-6.

In B. D. E. F. G., all amounts should be given in national currency and gold francs at the average exchange ruling in the year to which the data refer.

Neymarck, amongst others, has often pointed out the connection between savings and securities. An issue of public bonds or shares in denominations accessible to the small purse, and which are at the same time safe and offer a good yield, is certainly an element to be considered as explaining possible oscillations in Savings Deposits.

There is no doubt that should someone invest money in such securities it is as much an act of

saving as if the money were deposited in a Bank, which, in its turn, invests in securities.

In some countries this form of savings assumes imposing dimensions; it will be sufficient to mention the 775 millions of « Savings Certificates » in the hands of British savers.

As in the example cited, these securities must be of a popular character, that is of small denominations (with, say, a face value of not more than ten times B-6 which is the minimum cost of subsistence), and purchasable, or better purchased, on small instalments of, say under a tenth of B-6. It is essential to know whether the securities in question are registered or to bearer, as in the latter case it is possible, indeed probable, that a saver may buy many securities of small denomination instead of a single security of large denomination. Knowing whether or not these securities have been acquired through savings institutes serves not only to characterise the function of these latter in a given country, but also to verify through information as to the surroundings in which the acquirer operates whether it is a real saving or merely a speculative investment. In F we are getting in contact with real savings but are not there yet as real savings are characterised by a liberty of destination which implies a constant and victorious effort of will not to make withdrawals, whereas here we are considering deposits whose destination cannot be changed or can only be changed with a loss to the depositor.

Deposits which respond to the following requisites may however be considered as savings:

- a) small individual and annual payments-in,
- b) individual totals of small importance (the minimum cost of life B-6 may be used purposes of comparison).

Numerous attempts have been made to define Savings Deposits, which is the central object of

our investigation, but as they are all permeated with the concepts, sentiments and predetermined ends of the author as well as by the character of the institutes and legislation of his country at a given time, it is absolutely unadvisable to use them as a basis for international investigations. Then again, there would not seem to be the necessity for starting from a particular definition if it is considered that the data we ask for tend to give a sufficiently exact isolation of certain forms of savings, and enable us to separate, even in the ambit of these, those discordant local elements which might deprive of homogeneity that which we wish to compare.

The importance of the data in G is, of course, much greater than elsewhere in the project. The investigations must therefore be conducted with greater circumspection and attention to details. The precise dispositions of law and regulations enter into play here; they are reflected in the figures in which the student forces himself to recognise or imagines he is recognising the characteristic of a period or people.

In order to be able to interpret practically the whole of the figures it will be evident how important it is to know, e. g., whether only bearer or personal bank books, or whether both classes of books are used; and whether in the case of personal books the name corresponds to actual fact, (i. e. whether proof of identity is required and whether penalties are applied against transgressions or whether any name whatever will do without verification).

The same may be said of the limits in respect of deposits and withdrawals and as regards length of notices required.

In G-12 as « Own Receiving Places » are to be considered also those established with third parties (commercial houses, workshops, schools, mines, post offices not for the Post Office Savings

Bank) so long as they receive deposits under the responsibility and under the guarantee of the Savings Banks of which they are the mandate-holders. The distribution by large regions of the same country, besides offering possibility of interesting comparisons between different countries, may be of the greatest importance in cases of calamity, crisis, local political vicissitudes as also in the event of a re-staking of the national frontiers.

The variety in the rates of interest already considered and the manner of bringing them to a uniform basis, is a subject which requires special treatment and will be dealt with in a following number.

Great heed should be taken to combine in all possible and useful ways the data here enumerated one after the other.

So, for instance, the classification by occupation could be very well applied not only to G-a-1, but also to G-b-4, 5, 6, 7, to show which institutions enjoy the patronage of this or that social group, and it has for G-b-8 no less importance than for G-a-1.

The same may be said for many countries in regard to the classification by nationality, and for all countries in respect of age, sex, etc.

The modes and tables of these combinations may vary ad inf., and obviously cannot be the subject of this initial essay. At H we leave behind us the field of Savings to enter those of commerce and business.

We will however stop at H-a still in the ambit of our institutions, which here will have an opportunity of presenting in brief characteristic statements the various forms of deposits which alongside of savings deposits, they deal in owing to the necessity of competition or with a desire to integrate the services which their savers have need of.

In H-b we will explore as far as possible what is being done at our borders and which cannot fail to influence what we are doing, can and must do.

The preparation of statistics relative to other institutes does not, of course, depend on us or on our collaboration, and we must therefore content ourselves with collecting and interpreting what we find.

(A) 1. AREA in sq.km.

2. DEMOGRAPHY

A - { 1) Total population.
2) Per sq.km.

B - NUMBER OF FAMILIES

C - SEX { 1) Men.
2) Women.

D - AGE { 1) Under fifteen years.
2) Fifteen to sixty years.
3) Over sixty years.

E - SCHOLASTIC POPULATION { 1) Under fifteen years.
2) Over fifteen years.

F - OCCUPATION { 1) Agriculture
2) Industries
3) Commercial
4) Professional
5) Sundry } *divided according to sex and according to whether paid wages or salaries or of independent means.*

3. COMMUNICATIONS

Length of track in km. of Railways and Trams.

Highways and Roads in km.

Water courses, navigable or otherwise traversable, in km.

Coastline in km.

(B) NATIONAL WEALTH

1) Total in gold francs.

2) Individual quota in gold francs.

3) Total annual increase in national wealth, gold frs.

4) Annual Increase of individual quota, gold frs.

5) Average income of different wage or salary-earning groups, in gold frs.

6) Cost of the minimum required for subsistence, in gold frs.

(C) MONETARY CIRCULATION

1) At face value.

2) In gold francs.

- 3) Variations in the purchasing power of the money
(Index numbers).
- 4) Variations in the rate of exchange with gold.
- 5) Rate of interest on sure investments.
- 6) Official rate of discount.

(D) INSURANCE

- 1) OBLIGATORY { a) Quota of wage and salary earners.
b) Number of policies.
- 2) FREE { a) Amount for which insurances are effected and
premiums paid.
b) Number of policies

(E) INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES OF A POPULAR NATURE

- 1) PRIVATE { a) Registered { *through the medium of institutes com-*
b) To bearer { *prised in (G) b. 4, 5, 6, 7.*
- 2) PUBLIC { a) Registered { *through other mediums.*
b) To bearer {

(F) SAVINGS DEPOSITS WITH FIXED DESTINATION

- 1) Purchase of dwellings { *deposited with institutes comprised in (G) b.*
- 2) Other ends { *4, 5, 6, 7. deposited elsewhere.*

(G) SAVINGS DEPOSITS

STATIC

Amount without interest credited.

Amount of interest fallen due during the period under review.

- a) 1. Deposits of individuals { *Classified by sex, age, profession as at (A)*
2. c, d, e, f. { *Classified by nationality.*
2. Deposits of institutes { *already comprised in these statistics (groups...).*
not comprised.
3. Deposits { *prescribed by law.*
voluntary.
- b) 4. Deposits with Savings Banks of an autonomous nature but
subject to special laws and under the control of public
authorities
5. Deposits with institutions that do not respond to these requi-
sites but according to law offer to savers special guarantees
which are officially ascertained
6. Deposits with other institutions
7. Deposits with Savings Banks { *Postal.*
Other State-owned.

8. Number of accounts $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{to bearer} \\ \text{personal} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{maximum number of a/c's} \\ \text{allowed to any single in-} \\ \text{dividual.} \end{array}$

9. Number of accounts amounting

FROM	TO I GOLD FR.	TOTALS
	from 1 - 20	
	20 - 100	
	100 - 1000	
	1000 - 2000	
	2000 - 5000	
	5000 - 10000	
	10000 - 20000	
	above 20000	

(NB. Underline or insert the highest figure which represents the maximum allowed, if such limit exists).

10. Rate of interest for each group of accounts

(if this has varied during the year, indicate when and to what extent. If this applies to different institutes, indicate the maximum, minimum and mean rate).

a) Nominal interest.

b) Real interest reckoned as though the nominal were applied from the day following each deposit to the day preceding each withdrawal and with all expenses chargeable to the depositor deducted.

c) Total interest fallen due in respect of each group.

AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS AND NUMBER OF DEPOSITORS in each of the three largest Savings Banks.

AMOUNT OF DEPOSITS AND NUMBER OF DEPOSITORS in each of the three smallest Savings Banks.

11. Number of institutes $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{having deposits greater than the average.} \\ \text{number of their depositors.} \\ \text{having deposits smaller than the average.} \\ \text{number of their depositors.} \end{array} \right.$

12. Number of places where deposits are received $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{own.} \\ \text{of third parties.} \end{array} \right.$

Number of house-to-house collectors, if any $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{officers of the bank.} \\ \text{not officers of the} \\ \text{bank.} \end{array} \right.$

13. Distribution of receiving places (N. 12), number of accounts and amount of deposits in the large political and administrative districts.

DYNAMIC

Statistics of the Movement of Savings Deposits.

	<i>month in which maximum amount of de- posits is made.</i>	<i>month in which minimum amount of de- posits is made.</i>
14. Number and total amount of payments-in of the minimum amount allowed, viz., ...		
Number and total amount of payments-in from the mini- mum allowed up to 1 gold fr.		
from 1 - 2 gold frs.		
» 2 - 4 » »		
» 4 - 10 » »		
» 10 - 20 » »		
» 20 - 40 » »		
» 40 - 80 » »		
» 80 - 100 » »		
» 150 - 300 » »		
over 300 » »		

(NB. Underline or insert the maximum amount eventually allowed)

Number and total amount of payments-in at the bank counters.

Number and total amount of payments-in by transfers { *in the country.*
from abroad.

	<i>month in which maximum with- drawals are made</i>	<i>month in which minimum with- drawals are made</i>
15. Number and total amount of withdrawals of the mini- mum amount allowed, viz.,...		
Number and total amount of withdrawals from the minimum allowed up to 1 gold fr.		
from 1 - 2 » »		
» 2 - 4 » »		
» 4 - 10 » »		
» 10 - 20 » »		
» 20 - 40 » »		
» 40 - 80 » »		
» 80 - 150 » »		
» 150 - 300 » »		
over 300 » »		

(NB. Underline or insert the maximum amount eventually allowed)

NOTICE	<i>prescribed by (number of) S. B's.</i>	<i>normal notice de- manded by (num- ber of) S. B's.</i>
days 1 - 3		
3 - 7		
7 - 10		
10 - 15		
15 - 30		

Number and total amount of withdrawals at the bank counters.

Number and total amount of withdrawals by transfers } *in the country.*
from abroad.

16. Accounts opened during the year { *spontaneously.*
presented by institute.

17. Accounts extinguished during year.

(H) OTHER DEPOSITS

- a) with institutes mentioned in (G) b. { *static and dynamic as above*
b) with others

VII. *A First Plan of Collaboration between the International Institute and National Institutions.*

Just as the foregoing outline of what the Institute deems it advisable to collect, must necessarily be the object of discussion, so likewise must be the following plan of collaboration.

It is proposed to give this three aims:

I. To establish what data must and can be collected.

II. To fix the substance of each datum as clearly as possible.

III. To choose the methods to be followed.

Here are three tasks intimately connected, as e. g., it is obvious that the suggestion of a simple and sure method of obtaining certain data allows of these latter being placed amongst those to be collected, whereas in the event of a costly, lengthy and complicated enquiry they would have to be ignored.

The publications which will have to be examined may be divided into seven principal groups:

1) publications of individual Savings Banks divisible in their turn into *ordinary publications*, (as in the case of reports which accompany balance-sheets, monthly house-organs), and *extraordinary publications* (such as those printed on the occasion of centenaries, fiftieth anniversaries or change of premises, etc.);

2) publications by Associations of Savings Banks;

3) publications by national scientific institutions;

4) publications by banks and their associations;

5) government publications;

6) publications of international bodies;

7) individual, editorial and publications of various origin.

The subjects treated in these publications may be as follows:

a) (chiefly those in 1) « Individual Thrift Institutes »

b) (chiefly 2, 3, 4, 5, 7) « Savings respecting a district or country »

c) (chiefly 6) « Savings in various countries ». Each of these publications may deal not only

with Savings and its relative institute or institutes but may also consider other aspects of the social and economic side of life more or less directly connected with Savings and Savings Institutions.

Another class of publication, extraneous to those before-mentioned, which must be the object of study for the purposes of our investigation, is that relating to the criticisms and methodology of statistics as far as concerns Savings.

The advantage of employing uniform criteria in the choice, valuation and interpretation of the vast material to be collected might counsel the advisability of charging the International Institute with this task, but who is there that does not realise the enormous development that the Institute would have to give to its organisation and the time that would be required for such a vast elaboration.

As against this possible advantage might also be set the greater error-possibility in the interpretation and valuation of material which would arrive separated from the surroundings in which it was created and to which it was initially destined, and deprived of the experience and material which might serve towards a correct and ready interpretation.

We are of opinion therefore that the Institute should find a competent person in every country who might be chosen in agreement with the

National Association of Savings Banks where such exists, and who, compensated by the Institute, could elaborate the national data and forward it to this latter, accompanied by the original material, for that verification and re-elaboration which has already been touched on when illustrating the conspectus.

The task of the International Institute will therefore consist in the collection, verification co-ordination, choice and ultimate synthesis of the results of all these various concordant investigations; in addition, the Institute would directly undertake the study of publication 6 and 7 as also of the theoretic group mentioned apart. Up to now, international investigations of such a magnitude have only been attempted by that ponderous organ, the League of Nations.

For the present, the intention of our Institute, is to promote, by means of this project, a study of the convenience, line of action and methods of the investigation. Its consummation would undoubtedly constitute a monument from which the Savings Banks would draw new honours and new advantages, and would certainly incite other bodies to follow the example, throwing a vivid light on the new and complex life of post-war humanity and especially on those elements which cling to Thrift as the fundamental factor of human progress.

INCOME AND SAVING CAPACITY

IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES

If it is desired to measure and compare the effective intensity of Savings in different countries it is not enough to calculate the quota of Savings per inhabitant nor to compute the percentage of the same in relation to income.

It is evident that the portion that can be put aside for future needs is a function of income, and therefore a savings of ten dollars on the part of a poor man has neither the same value nor the same significance as ten dollars coming from a rich person.

In the same way, the measure of saving to income does not give a sufficiently expressive result. A quota of savings equal to 20% of income has a different significance according as to whether the income from which it is derived is so low as to suffice only for the satisfying of the bare needs of existence, or whether it is sufficiently high to render possible an elevated tenor of life and the expenditure of conspicuous sums in entertainment and the consumption of luxury commodities.

Except in the case of certain countries, savings data in their various forms are not available, and even the few statistics at hand are not even

remotely comparable amongst themselves owing to the vast difference in substance, volume and meaning between those of one country and those of another.

Another article in this number of our Bulletin deals with the difficulties entailed in the collection of data and explains what the International Thrift Institute proposes doing in this field of work. Pending the collection of such data, it might be interesting to discover what is the quota of income in each country which could be set aside for saving, in other words the maximum capacity for saving in the various countries.

The ideal limit of this capacity is governed by the income: it is impossible to save more than is received. *Ideal* limit also, because the means of existence necessary to maintain the population in a condition to be able to produce have first of all to be provided out of income. Taxation by State and local authorities has also to be allowed for. The balance outstanding will then give an idea of the capacity or availability of savings in the different states. For the present we will confine ourselves to a consideration of the

principal nations, the available statistics of which are fairly recent and homogeneous.

Few words are necessary to point out the enormous technical and practical difficulties encountered in calculations of this kind. It is to be clearly understood therefore that all figures given have only a crudely approximative value and are to be accepted with due reservation.

Information relating to Belgium, France, Great Britain, Italy and the United States has been based on the studies recently made in Washington by the committee for the settlement of war debts, while that in connection with Germany has been drawn from English and French studies which have lately appeared.

As the following table shows, income varies greatly between one country and another. Italy is the poorest country amongst those considered, having a mean income of 101 dollars per inhabitant, while the richest country is the United States of America which can boast of an income of 614 dollars per head. Great Britain lies between these two extremes with a mean income of 419 dollars, followed at a respectful distance by Belgium with 224 dollars, France with 196 dollars and Germany with 150 dollars per head. It should be borne in mind of course that the difference in degree of well-being enjoyed by the various peoples is not to be taken as corresponding exactly to the difference between the mean incomes per head. This will be apparent if the methods used for the calculation of mean income are considered, especially in connection with female labour. A great volume of the work done by women in America, e. g., is paid for in the ordinary way as expended labour-power, and consequently counts as income, whereas in other countries, such as Belgium, France, Italy, this item does not appear, or at least only part-

ially. If the women work in factories or offices they draw income which duly appears in statistics; but if they stay at home, as is still largely the case on the continent of Europe, to do household work, cleaning up, cooking, washing, mending etc., the statistics remain unchanged despite the fact that here also useful and really productive work has been done in the economic sense and to the benefit of society and the family, in making possible a greater saving on a given income.

It should however be recognised that there really exists a notable difference in the level of living among the various countries, e. g., between the United States and Italy. This difference becomes real in fact when comparing the consumption of certain commodities. The United States, e. g., consumes 75 kilogrammes of meat per head of population whereas in Italy the consumption is only about 16 kg., the consumption of sugar is in the ratio of almost half a quintal to 8 kg., and Americans smoke 2,700 grammes of tobacco per head as against the 700 grammes smoked in Italy.

The cost of the necessities of life must now be deducted from the gross mean income, taking into account the different levels of prices and standards of living of the various countries. The deductions agreed upon are: 48 dollars per head for Italy, 50 dollars for Germany, 60 for France and Belgium, 75 for Great Britain, and 100 for the U.S.A. Deductions on account of taxation work out at: 22 dollars per head in Italy, 23 in Belgium, 30 in Germany, 39 in France, 85 in Great Britain and 71 in the United States. Nett income per subject of the different states is accordingly: 31 dollars in Italy, 70 in Germany, 97 in France, 141 in Belgium, 259 in Great Britain, and 443 in America.

The last figures represent the quotas which are effectively available for savings.

If all above what is strictly necessary were put on one side and saved, the total would amount to nearly 70 billion dollars for the six nations herein considered, calculated on the basis of the foregoing statistics.

For example, the Savings Banks of a country in which the figure in column 5 of the table is very low should thus be chary about imitating the outlay and the methods of propaganda of the Savings Banks of a country in which this figure is high. Apart from the question of the distribution of income among the different social strata (to be studied case by case) an intense and

INCOME, NECESSARY EXPENDITURE AND SAVING CAPACITY IN SOME OF THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

1	2	3	4	5	6
Country	Gross income per inhabitant	Quota for necessities of life	Quota for taxation p. h.	Nett income available for saving: quota per head	Total sums available for saving: per country
	\$	\$	\$	\$	millions of \$
U.S.A.	614	100	71	443	47,500
Gt. Britain	419	79	85	259	11,000
Belgium	224	60	23	141	1,100
France	196	60	39	97	3,900
Germany	150	50	30	70	4,400
Italy	101	48	22	31	1,200
					69,100

What, instead, is the quota actually saved? On the termination of its researches, the International Thrift Institute will be able to reply to this interesting inquiry, also supplying useful and instructive details as to the characteristics and forms of saving among the various peoples. It is necessary to point out at once that our studies, in addition to furnishing a general view of the economic conditions of the largest agglomerations of mankind in constant contact with each other, and besides helping to put in true perspective, to appraise, and to make the best use of isolated data, will be also of direct and immediate practical utility to those who are professionally concerned with savings.

expensive propaganda for attracting deposits would be out of place where, after deductions for the necessities of life and taxation, there is only a minimum margin left for saving, and where this margin is not greatly in excess of the total of savings already being effected.

Where, on the other hand, the figure in column 5 is high and the total savings deposits relatively low, it is the duty of the Savings Banks, and also to their advantage, to dedicate means and energy to the conquest of the vast territory which might still be annexed to their moral and financial dominion.

354 DELEGATES *from* 27 COUNTRIES

TOOK PART IN THE
FIRST INTERNATIONAL THRIFT CONGRESS
HELD AT MILAN FROM THE 26th TO THE 31st OCTOBER 1924

As many as 21 official reports were presented, dealing with the following subjects:

Organisation and Legislation of the Savings Banks in various countries. Thrift Propaganda, especially among the working and middle classes. The Protection of Emigrants' Savings. How far and within what limits the Savings Banks may act as, and perform the functions of Banking Concerns, without frustrating their own ends and original purpose. The Institution of an International Organ to study and co-ordinate the activities of the Savings Banks.

Further, about 40 very interesting studies were presented on arguments dealing with the above subjects and questions of great importance for Thrift and its Institutions were also discussed.

This entire matter has been gathered together in a volume of about 1000 pages, cloth gilt and containing illustrations and diagrams.

This volume is an *Encyclopædia of World Thrift* and is the first of a series which will be published from time as successive International Thrift Congresses are held.

This book should be found in the library of every Savings Bank and every Director and high official should have a copy of it amongst his books. Those interested in the study of the Thrift Movement should also not fail to acquire a copy of the volume.

Supplied by:

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French volume	" " 110.—	" "	" 100.—
English volume	" " 120.—	" "	" 110.—

PHILADELPHIA

Whilst this number of the Bulletin was being prepared we continually received more information about the great assembly of Savings Banks which is to be held at Philadelphia from the 18th to the 22nd October, an assembly promoted by the powerful National Association of Mutual Savings Banks, for the purpose « of more fully understanding, more firmly establishing and permanently cooperating with the recently founded International Thrift Institute, established at Milan (Italy) ».

The kindness of the Americans and the cordiality of their invitation, as well as our ceaseless and fervid endeavours to obtain a response, our appeal published in the first number of the Bulletin and the many letters sent by us to the centres of the Savings Banks and to influential personalities, requesting them to persuade the Savings Banks of their country to form groups, each group to send a common delegate to Philadelphia, will perhaps succeed in attenuating the justifiable financial preoccupations of those who would like to be present at the Convention.

We have the assurance that 24 delegates of Savings Banks from various countries will be present at Philadelphia, among whom:

The Marquis GIUSEPPE DE CAPITANI D'ARZAGO,
President of the Cassa di Risparmio delle Pro-

vincie Lombarde and President of the International Thrift Institute, Milan;

from Australia:

F. D. WILKINSON, of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Sydney;

R. W. MAY, of the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales, Sydney;

ALEX COOCH, Assistant General Manager of the State Savings Bank of Victoria, Melbourne;

WALTER ANGEL, of the Savings Bank of South Australia, Adelaide;

from France:

JOSEPH P. ISAAC-DOGNIN, Membre d'Administration de la Caisse d'Epargne et de Prévoyance du Rhône, Lyon;

from Germany:

SCHNEIDER, delegate of the Deutscher Sparkassen und Giroverband, Berlin;

Dr. LUDECKE, delegate of the Deutscher Sparkassen und Giroverband, Berlin;

from Great Britain:

SPENCER J. PORTAL J. P. Chairman of the London Savings Bank and Chairman of the Trustee Savings Bank Association, London;

WILLIAM P. URE J. P. Chairman of the Glasgow Savings Bank, Glasgow;

THOMAS HENDERSON J. P. Actuary of the Glasgow Savings Bank, Glasgow;

KENNETH J. STIRLING, Actuary of the Edinburgh Savings Bank, Edinburgh;
W. A. BARCLAY, Actuary of the Perth Savings Bank, Perth;
C. EDGAR SCHOLES, Actuary of the Manchester Savings Bank, Manchester;
COLONEL WEST of Newbury;

from Holland:

Dr. J. H. ANDRIES, President of the Spaarbankbond, La Hague;
Dr. H. J. J. POST, Director of the Amsterdam Savings Bank.

from New Zealand:

Dr. E. TEICHELMANN, Trustee of the Hokitika Savings Bank, Hokitika;

from Russia:

S. GOLDBERG, General Manager of the Workmen's Savings Banks, Moscow;
N. JANOWSKY, of the Workman's Savings Bank, Moscow;

from Sweden:

C. WESTBERG, of the Oppunds Harads Sparbank, Katrineholm;

from Switzerland:

M. PETER, of the Caisse d'Epargne du Canton de Genève;

and

Prof. Rag. Cav. FILIPPO RAVIZZA, Director of the International Thrift Institute, Milan.

We have received from America an expressive and austere badge for the delegates to wear during the Convention.

The Marquis De Capitani d'Arzago, President of the International Thrift Institute, accompanied by Marchioness De Capitani, their son and the Hon. Sioli-Legnani, will leave for Philadelphia on the « Duilio », on the 5th October.

The delegates of the various European countries, together with the Director of the Institute, will spend a pleasant and profitable week together on the « Lancastria » of the Cunard Line, which will sail from Havre on the 8th October.

The next number of the Bulletin will contain ample information about the historical assembly of the First Meeting of the Permanent Committee, which has been called for the 23rd October at Philadelphia and of the significance it will have for the newly-founded International Thrift Institute in its work of promoting Thrift and assisting the Savings Banks the whole world over. The Savings Bank Journal of New York states that 1000 American delegates will attend the Philadelphia Convention.



« and like your grand-parents you shall bring your savings here ».

Calendar issued on the occasion of the First Centenary
of the Cassa di Risparmio delle Provincie Lombarde: 1823-1923.

NEWS AND EXTRACTS

After the title of each article, we have indicated the approximate number of words of the original article, for the guidance of those wishing to have a translation of same.

The cost of translating has been fixed at:

Lire 6 to 10 for every 100 words, from one into another of the following languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Italian;

Lire 10 to 12 for translations from one into another of the following languages: Portuguese, Polish, Czecho-Slovakian, Yugoslavian, Russian;

Lire 12 and upwards for translations from and into languages not mentioned above.

The prices given above may vary a little according to the difficulty of the translation or if a translation is desired from a language in one group into a language in one of the other groups.

No extra charges for commission, or the like, will be added to the prices stated.

LEGISLATION IN SPAIN.

From the GACETA DE MADRID (government publication), dated the 16th April, 1926.

The Royal Decree of the 9th April, 1926, instituted the introduction of a Register and established the inspection of the Savings Institutions, Finance Bodies, etc.

The aims are:

To adjust the regime of liberty by keeping a check on the mathematical and financial possibilities of the programmes offered to the public and by constantly supervising whether this liberty is used within its moral and just limits.

To define precisely responsibilities which today are not taken seriously and which are only too easily lost sight of. To avoid the administration of National Savings by speculators.

To check the fever of speculation with the Savings of others.

To regulate the way in which Savings are employed, leaving, however, enough elasticity so as not to do away with a legitimate profit, acting in such a way that the national funds remain in the country.

The law introduces a Register at the Ministry of Labour, Commerce and Industry and establishes the inspection of Savings Institutions and Societies, Finance Bodies and similar undertakings (Art. 1).

The decree prohibits the foundation and the activities — in case of their non-inscription in the above mentioned Register — of Savings Banks, Finance Bodies and similar undertakings, whose work consists in the collection and the formation of capital by means of deposits, with or without interest, and of Banks, Savings Accounts, and the accumulation of capital at a fixed or fluctuating rate of interest, and of any kind of Company, Society, Mutual Aid Society, personal Enterprise or National or Foreign Corporation which receive money for the purpose of investing it, distributing it, administering it, accumulating it, or for any like purpose.

It is not obligatory for the following bodies to be inscribed:

Scholars' Relief Insurance Societies, Cooperative Societies with public functions, Post Office Savings Banks, Central Credit Banks, Cooperative Societies and Mutual Aid Societies for agriculturists and fishers, the Savings Departments of Banks and Banking Houses registered

at the Office of the Commissary of the Private Banks, National Friendly Societies, etc. (Art. 3).

It will not be permissible for the Institutions registered to use the words « Savings Bank » or any other such expression containing the word « Saving », in their name or in the denomination denoting their activities, unless these be Institutions whose aim it is to receive savings from private individuals, at a certain rate of interest, and to invest these savings (1).

Prohibited likewise, are the activities of those institutions which display names or denominations liable, either directly or indirectly, to mislead the public as to their aims, scopes and the commercial, social or official character of the enterprise or association (Art. 4).

Under no circumstances will the registration be authorized in the future of Savings Institutions, Finance Societies or similar undertakings, if such are not Limited Companies or purely Mutual Aid Societies; therefore, from now onwards, all those concerns of a collective or individual character, which purpose dedicating themselves to activities comprised in the preceding articles, are prohibited.

Likewise prohibited are those Institutions and concerns promoting, managing or administering mutual Savings, or are concerned with capitalization, cooperation and analogous operations, if their work is not absolutely gratuitous or for benevolent purposes (Art. 5).

A condition for registration of Limited Companies, which is worthy of note, is that these Companies must have a subscribed capital of over 2 millions of pesetas, at least half of which paid up; if the paid up capital exceeds 1 million pesetas, it will only be necessary to pay up 25% of the subscribed capital exceeding the two millions pesetas.

The legal representative — of Spanish nationality — should be over 25 years, of age, and should never have been condemned for committing any crime, neither should he have at any time become insolvent. Further, the Company must demonstrate scientifically the basis of the operations they intend carrying out and the technical possibilities of these.

The Company Bye-Laws must show the way in which the funds are to be employed.

The Savings Banks and Finance Societies are obliged to invest at least 50% of the deposits in public national securities, the half in perpetual National Debt at 4 % and the remainder in public securities or mortgages on buildings situated in towns, having a population of at least 20,000, or in loans to depositors against a lien on their pass-books or in industrial or commercial Spanish

(1) Therefore, the Savings Departments of the Banks, not being obliged to register their names in the new Register, are permitted to use the designation « Savings Banks ».

securities, mentioned in the list which will be compiled quarterly by the Office for Inspection (Art. 27).

It is the duty of the Minister of Work, Commerce and Industry to plan and draw up the Register and to supervise the activities of all the Bodies inscribed therein, through the medium of the Technical Corps for the inspection of Trade and Insurance.

NOTE. This Decree has been severely criticised by the Savings Banks.

ASSEMBLY OF THE GERMAN SAVINGS BANKS

The Assembly of the German Savings Banks was held on the 6th September in Augsburg and was attended by 2500 representatives of Savings Banks, Giro Centrale and Communal Banks.

The following subjects were discussed:

Problems relating to Public Finance, By DR. MULERT, President.

The Public Banks in Political Economy, By DR. TERHALLE, University Professor.

Communal Credit considered in relation to Savings Banks and Giro Organization, By DR. KLEINER, President.

Finance and Trade Economy Problems in Communal Banking, By General Director BEL.

Communal Giro Service, its Development and its Future, By DR. EEBERLE, President of the Association.

1. The Savings Banks consider it one of their most pressing duties to foster real credit. A great effort is being made to raise, in the near future, the mortgage loans of the Savings Banks, as in pre-war times, to 40% of the Savings Deposits, where this percentage has not already been reached. When considering the present figure of the mortgage business it must be considered that a very appreciable part of the communal credit of the Savings Banks has been devoted to long term investments, especially building operations. It must also be taken into consideration that the large buying-up of mortgage deeds and bonds on the part of the Savings Banks must be regarded as long term business.

In order to satisfy the urgent need of financial assistance on the part of the agriculturist, the Savings Banks and Giro Organization intend to transfer the surplus means of the larger Savings Banks to the rural Savings Banks, thus establishing a certain uniformity through the medium of the Giro Centrale.

2. The middle-class clients of the Savings Banks, who cannot offer land as security, are nevertheless entitled to financial assistance from the Savings Banks, i. e. short

term business loans at suitable rates of interest and in a form suitable for the middle-classes.

For these reasons, the granting of loans on current account becomes of first importance. The extent of this loan business, which is fed principally from short term Giro deposits, is still rather restricted, partly on account of the Savings Banks requiring to maintain liquid funds for meeting the continual demands for communal and real credit, and also because of the laws regarding investment.

3. The expansion of the Giro activities is both in the interests of the Savings Banks and in the interests of general economy. One of the most important economic tasks of banking is considered to be the further development of communal Giro business and Giro network.

4. As regards long term communal loan business, the Giro Centrale have brought about a considerable improvement in the financial position of the middle-size and small Communal Unions, by promoting collective loans. According to the prevailing principles of the Organization, the collective loans of the state and provincial Giro Unions, respectively Landbank, are the rule and the individual loans granted by the German Savings Banks and Giro Unions are the completion of these collective loans. The Savings Banks and also the Giro Centrale are prepared to collaborate loyally with the Credit Associations and Private Banks. Firstly, agreements which promise to be successful are come to with the associated central Unions and secondly, it is presumed that the private banks will not try to hinder the public banks and credit institutions from carrying out their duties implied by the statute.

Extract from the Bulletin of the AMERICAN MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION, New York, 1926 (N. 42).

A SUCCESSFUL SAVINGS PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES, By JOHN F. TINSLEY, Vice-President and General Manager, Cromton and Knowles Loom Works.

The Plan is exceedingly simple. The employee authorises the deduction of a fixed amount from his weekly wage, and this amount is deposited in a Savings Bank specified by the employee.

He can draw money from the Bank through the firm. In the firm under consideration the plan has been working satisfactorily for seven years.

A very interesting discussion is given.

COMBINED CALCULATING TABLE AND MEANS OF PROPAGANDA.

The Perth Savings Bank and that of Glasgow have published two double cards containing two very interest-

ing diagrams prepared by Mr. W. A. Barclay, Actuary and Cashier of the Perth Savings Bank, Scotland.

The outside of these cards give the most important information concerning the Savings Banks in question and invite the reader to make use of the diagrams and, by this means, to understand the power of thrift.

By means of one of these diagrams — that published by the Glasgow Savings Bank — can be ascertained the sum which can be deposited by saving a fixed sum each week for a certain number of years, and how much of that sum is contributed by the Savings Bank as interest. From the second pamphlet can be ascertained how much should be contributed weekly, or annually, to arrive at a fixed amount in a certain number of years.

These diagrams represent a very ingenious application of the logarithm system; the figures arrived at are absolutely exactly in accordance with the graphical scale (1/5th. of m/m).

It is a very practical diagram for solving various questions either way.

It is prepared for interest at the rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent but can naturally be elaborated to meet any other scale of interest required.

SCHOOL TIME-TABLES AS A MEANS OF PROPAGANDA.

School Time-Tables are thought to be an excellent means of propaganda in the schools, as these Tables are used for the whole year, and are being constantly referred to by the pupils.

Such Time-Tables have been prepared by the Printing Department of the « Deutschen Sparkassen und Giroverbandes », Berlin.

Extracts from the DEUTSCHE SPARKASSEN ZEITUNG, dated Tuesday, 31st August, 1926, appearing every fortnight.

EXTRAORDINARY PLENARY ASSEMBLY OF THE « ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN SAVINGS BANKS IN AUSTRIA ». (3250 words).

This Assembly, which was held on the 28th August at Vienna, was attended by about 300 representatives of Savings Banks.

Its purpose was to decide what attitude the Savings Banks should adopt towards the demand made by the Government for the repayment of the amounts advanced by the State for the Central Bank of the Savings Banks, and what means could be adopted to free the deposits of the Savings Banks, amounting to about 12 million shillings, which are still bound to the Central Bank. Two conflicting points of view were discussed. The first, upheld by a large majority of the Board of the

Association, maintained that the amount standing to the credit of the Savings Banks with the Central Bank should be liberated without delay as it was the moral duty of the Savings Banks to take part in the repayment of those amounts which were given in their interest by the Government, and lastly that an effort should be made to establish definitely the risk involved in repayment.

The second point of view was that on no account should the Savings Banks take, of their own free will an obligation to pay, and that the Savings Banks could obtain much more favourable conditions in the matter of refunding the amounts advanced, in the further development of the parliamentary negotiations, than they had been able to obtain from the negotiations with the Government.

The Assembly closed without having come to any decision on the questions set forth in the Agenda, deciding, however, to call another meeting during the month of September.

Extracts from LE JOURNAL DES CAISSES D'EPARGNE, Paris (August, 1926).

THE NEW MAXIMUM OF DEPOSITS (4000 words).

This article gives a report of a discussion held at the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, which voted the increase of the maximum of deposits at the Savings Banks from 7,500 to 12,000 francs for individual depositors, and from 30,000 to 50,000 francs for Mutual Aid Societies and such Institutions authorised to make deposits with Savings Banks.

CONFIDENCE (1200 words).

This article treats the question of the refunding of deposits by the Savings Banks and warns the depositor against speculation in foreign stock, in buying up land and large stores of provisions etc. It is now, more than ever, the duty of the French to save.

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION AND THE SAVINGS BANKS (530 words).

The Minister of Finance has prohibited the Savings Banks from drawing their contribution to the sinking fund from their personal income, as this constitutes the security for the depositors.

THE MEETING OF THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL THRIFT INSTITUTE (840 words).

This is a report of the meeting held at the Hôtel de la Caisse d'Epargne de Paris, on the 27th July, 1926.

Extracts from the magazine entitled SPARKASSE, dated 5th September, 1926, Organ des Sparkassen und Giroverbandes, Berlin, appearing twice monthly.

THE GRANTING OF LOANS TO THE MIDDLE CLASSES AND FOR BUILDING, By DR. J. CREMER, Berlin (5000 words).

On account of the inflation the middle classes have lost a great part of their working capital.

The credit which they were able to obtain from either private or public concerns was unfavourably influenced by the very high rate of interest in vigour at the time when the loans were contracted and, further, in the background, there was always the fear of having to repay at short notice. The middle classes can only rely on the Savings Banks.

The Savings Banks, fighting against great difficulties, have once more energetically started the work of collecting deposits; these institutions were founded for the middle and lower classes, whose savings they receive, and it is to these classes that credit should be allowed, more especially to the agriculturists, the artisans, to the smaller industries and for the building of houses.

As deposits accumulate more rapidly in the Savings Banks of the large towns, these should be ready to grant loans to the Savings Banks which are situated in agricultural centres, where the need of credit is greatly felt and it is probable that these Savings Banks would have increased their deposits to such an extent, within 5 or 6 years, to permit of their repaying the loan they received. In order to encourage building, the Savings Banks and the municipalities should endeavour to promote the formation of cooperative building societies, through which it will be possible for those who wish to construct their own dwelling-house to obtain, in addition to the financial help they can receive from the state, short term loans, in the form of mortgages to be repaid by fixed rates of deposit.

SAVING. By DR. HÖPKER, Vize-President des Preussischen statistischen Landesamts, Berlin. (2200 words).

The writer criticises the definition of « Savings », according to which it is the deliberate renunciation, in favour of future needs, of that which is at the moment superfluous or which can be done without.

Under Thrift is also included the economical use of material riches.

Greater propaganda should be made for this form of saving, and more education given to it, all the more so, as women appear to be losing this virtue.

He points out the difference between saving and avarice, saving and capitalisation, between saving in the true sense of the words and saving in order to throw away the

money later on in enjoyments, and shows that real saving is characterised, not solely by renunciation, but by the aims in view, that is to say, the definite use to which the savings will be put. It is one of the principal duties of the Savings Banks to see that these Savings are properly invested.

THE AUSTRIAN SAVINGS BANKS, THEIR FIELD OF ACTIVITY AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THEIR REALIZING PROFITS, By DR. WALTER SCHMIDT, *Verbandsanwalt des Reichsverbandes deutscher Sparkassen in Oesterreich*. (2000 words).

In this article a comparison is drawn between the activities, the investments and the general situation of the Austrian Savings Banks before and after the war, more especially following upon the decree of the 22nd June, 1922, which confers upon them the right to open active current accounts and to grant personal credit, and facilitates also discount and exchange operations. As normal conditions are again making themselves felt in the country, these facilities do not interfere with the Savings Banks granting mortgage loans of rather long duration, as the need of these is greatly felt.

Total amount of Deposits, roughly Gold Kr. 2.963.000.000 (before the war) allocated as follows:

Mortgage Loans	Gold Kr. 1.816.000.000	61%
Loans to Municipalities	225.000.000	7%
» on Bills	50.000.000	1.7%
Securities	635.000.000	21.7%
Loans on securities	44.000.000	1.5%
Deposits with Banks	130.000.000	5%
Cash on hand	18.000.000	0.6%
Sundries	45.000.000	1.5%

Total amount of Deposits at end of 1924, Gold Kr. 2.564.200.000.000 allocated as follows:

Mortgage Loans incl. loans to Municipalities Gold Kr. 586.900.000.000	22.8%
Credit on Current Account	986.330.000.000 38.6%
Loans on Bills	123.470.000.000 4.9%
Loans on Securities	35.110.000.000 1.2%
Deposits with Banks	741.980.000.000 29.0%
Cash on hand	53.830.000.000 2.1%
Sundries	36.580.000.000 1.4%

Whilst in the year 1913 the gross profit of the Savings Banks amounted to about 0.95% of the deposits, from which 0.45% was employed for administration expenses and taxes, leaving a net profit of 0.50%, in 1922 the total profit was 26%, 24% being employed for costs of

management and for taxes, the net profit being 2%. From a summary which has been made from the balance sheets for 1925 of about 50 Savings Banks, we see that the gross profits amounted to 4.28% of the deposits, the administration expenses to 2.75%, from which the taxes 0.69%, the net profit being 0.93% (sic).

SAVINGS BANKS AND SOCIAL ASSISTANCE, By DR. LINK, *President, Lübeck* (2500 words).

The task of rendering social assistance has become very grave since the war and in consequence of the disasters it caused and also owing to the subsequent inflation and deflation of the currency. The author gives many examples which show that the authorities dealing with the matter of social assistance should seek to promote Thrift and to establish a closer contact with the Savings Banks which, in their turn, have an interest in cooperating in the work of giving social assistance.

THE ECONOMICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE REVALUATION OF DEBTS, By DR. ADOLF LAMPE, *Privatdozent an der Universität München* (2500 words).

The writer discusses from the economic point of view the hopes which have been raised in the German Depositors, ruined by the inflation, by the laws regarding the revaluation of the currency; these hopes find their most drastic expression in the phrase, « the paper Mark must be changed again into the gold Mark, because the wrong done to the creditor who has been the victim of the inflation, is too great. It is possible for the Government to do this and it is also its duty ». The application of such laws would cause to a large part of the population more harm than that which was caused by the inflation, and would have such a disastrous effect on national economy as indirectly to wipe out the small advantage which the individual would slowly obtain.

THE SAVINGS BANKS AS A FACTOR IN NATIONAL ECONOMY By *Regierungsassessor*, By DR. NICOLAI, *Münster* (2500 words).

The writer outlines the position and activities of the Savings Banks in the economic history of Germany. He shows them to be, first of all, the saviours of the middle and working classes, at the time when these classes were no more under the protection of the medieval laws and were threatened by economic liberalism. Later, the Savings Banks began to be neglected and overlooked and ideas on economics and political economy ceased to be national; however they acquired importance once more when it was realized what great influence economy has on the State.

THE RIGHT OF LIEN ON PASS BOOKS AND SIMILAR DOCUMENTS, By DR. ERDEL, Mannheim (2400 words).

The author criticises the right of pledging according to the German law, which states:

An especially dangerous case is that of paragraph 1280 BGB, according to which, for the validity of a lien in the case of a claim being put in, in order to effect the transfer of the pledge to another party, it is sufficient for the creditor holding the lien to advise the debtor of the transfer of this pledge.

THE UNIVERSAL CHEQUE OF THE DEUTSCHEN SPARKASSEN- UND GIROVERBANDES, By ERNEST WICHMANN, *Leiter der Vordruckstelle des Verbandes, Berlin* (1200 words).

In this article the technical procedure and the machines for the making of the cheques for the German Savings Banks are fully described.

ARE THE RATES OF INTEREST LAID DOWN BY THE BANKS AND SAVINGS BANKS AT THE END OF 1923 JUSTIFIABLE?, By *Landgerichtsrat SCHÄFFER, Trier* (2000 words).

The introduction of the Reichsmark on the 20th November, 1923, did not preclude the possibility of another depreciation in the currency, and the rates of interest included, therefore, as at the time of the inflation, a certain percentage for the risk. The writer discusses the case of those who, having counted on speculating on the probable depreciation in the currency, endeavour to get out of the losses they have sustained on account of the unexpected stabilization, by contesting that the rates of interest which they had accepted were beyond all bounds of reason unjustifiable.

Extracts from the August number of the VAKBLAND NEDERLANDSCHE SPAARBANKEN, Rotterdam. (Savings Banks Technical Review - Organ of the Dutch Savings Banks Association).

THE INCREASE OF RATE OF INTEREST IN SAVINGS BANKS, By W. VAN ENST (1050 words).

This article replies to one by Mr. G. H. Kolff, which appeared in the previous number and in which Mr. K. affirmed that the increase or decrease of interest offered by the Savings Banks had but little influence on saving. The writer of the article does not agree with Mr. K. and he criticises the data quoted by Mr. K. as being taken from too small a centre.

(Same subject as above), By M. C. M. DE GROOT (400 words).

This writer also does not agree with Mr. Kolff and says that his statistical figures have been too carefully chosen instead of being taken more promiscuously.

G. H. KOLFF replies to both the above writers and states that he takes his data from exactly the same sources as they take theirs and repeats that his practical experience teaches him that savers are not so much enticed by a high rate of interest as by the reliability of a Savings Bank.

Extracts from the RIVISTA DELLE CASSE DI RISPARMIO - Organ of the Association and of the Credit Institute of the Italian Savings Banks. (August, 1926).

THE PRIVILEGE OF SAVINGS IN SOUTH AMERICA, By DR. G. LAMI (660 words).

The law of Chili, 26th. Sept. 1925, N. 556 decrees an absolute privilege of the assets of the banks, in favour of savings deposits up to 10,000 pesos per passbook; these deposits must be paid before any other debts, as soon as it is ascertained that the assets are sufficient to cover them. Argentine has a law decree, which has been ready since 1923 for the creation of Savings Banks, and in this project an identical privilege is sanctioned, besides which the investment of 60 % of the deposits in State bonds or guarantees by the State, is made obligatory.

TO FACILITATE LOANS TO THE CORPORATIONS, By PROF. G. FASOLIS (710 words).

After observing that the cash deposits and Loans Autonomic Section and the Savings Banks can no longer properly meet the requests of Corporations for loans, the writer proposes the creation of an Institute ad hoc on the lines of the Land and Agricultural Credit Institutes, with authority to issue shares enjoying all the privileges of state loan bonds.

THE GROWTH AND POSITION OF ITALIAN THRIFT TODAY, By DR. G. VIOLI (1500 words).

The savings and current account deposits with ordinary savings banks, P. O. Banks, Pawn Institutions, Issuing Institutes, principal National and Provincial banks, and the investments in loans and treasury bonds amounted in 30th May 1926 to 86 milliards 839 millions of lire divided up as follows.

Deposits with Institutes	32270	millions
Invested in ordinary		
Treasury Bonds	18568	»
Invested in National Loans . . .	36000	»

A summarised table of thrift over periods and for certain institutes is given.

Transfer during the first months of 1926 of the deposits from the Provincial Banks, Pawn Institutes and P. O. Savings Banks to the four great credit institutions and of the three largest People's Banks; permanent deposit of the savings with the ordinary Savings Banks and greater affluence of the investments in ordinary Treasure Bonds.

Reasons of the thrift crisis: more apparent than real - since thrift has sought and found more profitable investments, thus directly contributing to the preparation of new and more intense means of production. From the end of June, 1926, the methodical and continual affluence of savings to the P. O. Savings Banks and the ordinary S. Banks has recommenced and still continues. From the aspect of the *subject* that saves, one concludes that the sentiment of thrift has already spread throughout the working classes and especially to farmers and farm labourers.

Minimum influence of the deflation of Italian currency on the formation of new savings, necessity of faith in the recovery of the lire and of the cooperation of all sound forces, of all bodies and organs to that end.

INCOME TAX ON OUTSTANDING INTEREST, By DR. A. ZURMU (600 words).

The taxation on passbook deposits should be excluded from ordinary (current accounts, besides the current accounts by correspondence at present exempt.

Under JURISPRUDENCE two important sentences of the Court of Cassation are summarised. These sentences sanction the principle that the *bank paying a bank cheque endorsed is not bound to identify the person presenting same for payment.* (1800 words).



Extracts from THRIFT, Warsaw, 23rd August, 1926, N. 30. (Appears every fortnight).

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THRIFT IN POLAND (1000 words).

Nothing was able to be done to celebrate the 31st. October last year on account of economic and financial difficulties; now, however, the work of convening a National Thrift Congress for the 31st October 1926 has met with the support of the Government and an Organising Committee was formed last month, composed of the representatives of the Ministry of Finance, the Bank of National Economy, Bank of Agriculture and the Municipal Bank.

Up to the present all those who have made deposits with the Savings Banks, private banks or State Banks, have

lost, thus causing them to lose faith in such institutions. Therefore the first duty of the Savings Banks is to protect the interests of the depositors; a law should be passed guaranteeing the deposits; an organ for the purpose of control and revision should be created for thrift institutions. As it may happen that any Savings Bank, quite apart from any desire of theirs, may be faced with failure, a common fund for all the Savings Banks should be constituted, to guarantee the safety of the deposits made.

The Congress, which will take place on the 31st October next, should discuss the following principal points:

- I.... Economic basis of Thrift.
- II. The Legislation and Organisation of Thrift Institutions in Poland.
- III. Manner in which Capitalisation in Poland is to be developed.
- IV. The Organisation for Polish Savings abroad.
- V.. Propaganda for Thrift.
- VI. The Organisation of a Permanent Institution for the purpose of Collaboration between Thrift Institutions.

The Congress should state the public opinion on all the points mentioned above, and this would have a great influence in the re-establishment of economic conditions. At the conclusion of the article the writer makes an appeal to the Polish Nation, saying that « Thrift Day » (the 31st October next) should represent a day of intense and creative work.

ON THE VALUATION OF PRE-WAR PRIVATE DEBTS, By DR. T. POZNANSKI (1230 words).

An urgent task of the Polish Government is the correction of the Revaluation Law of the 14th May, 1924, which does not sufficiently establish the question of private debts of long standing, the fall of the zloty not being foreseen at that time.

THE CARE OF EMIGRANTS' SAVINGS (600 words).

This article is based on the speech made by Mr. Enrico Dor, at the first International Thrift Congress in Milan, 1924.

CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS OF THE POLISH BANK (750 words).

The most important change concerns the gold reserve for notes issued; the Board of Directors of the Bank, in agreement with the Ministry of Finance, are empowered to reduce the amount of the gold reserve to below 30%; the Polish Bank shall pay to the Treasury a tax for all the notes issued above the sum fixed, which tax will

increase progressively in proportion to the notes issued not covered by a gold reserve.

PROPAGANDA TECHNIQUE (860 words).

PROPAGANDA BY WORD OF MOUTH (950 words).

The economic and financial situation in Poland is improving.

Propaganda is necessary for obtaining the development of thrift. The best form of propaganda, although the most difficult, is that by word of mouth. Propaganda is generally carried out in the Thrift Institutions by educating those who are interested. With us, however, the moment of immediate contact between the person interested and the Institution is not sufficiently appreciated. It is therefore most necessary to commence preparing and training the employees of the Savings Banks more carefully, so that they may know how to distribute propaganda amongst the clients.

The other method of propaganda by word of mouth is the organisation of lectures, speeches and popular conversations. Savings Banks should act in unison with the social Institutions of education and culture, with young people's organisation, with schools for adults etc. A programme for a thrift institution wishing to carry out propaganda by word of mouth is presented.

To facilitate the organisation of lectures for the Savings Banks, they are commencing to print a cycle of lectures in the journal for the various circles. It is not necessary to point out that for each circle, the subject must be treated in a different manner. A specimen of a conference entitled « The Art of Becoming Rich » has been printed in large quantities.

CONFEDERATION FOR THE CONTROL OF MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT SAVINGS BANKS (270 words).

This was founded recently. Its duties are:

- a) Collaboration in the organisation of the Savings Banks.
- b) Supporting all the associated banks.
- c) Representing the Savings Banks with the Government, Government offices, and public and private institutions.
- d) Propaganda of the thrift idea.
- e) Permanent and salutatory control of the offices and books of the Savings Banks.

The International Thrift Institute welcomes the new national association of Savings Banks as from the programme it seems to be much more

and something better than a mere organ for controlling purposes.

The Institute formulates its most sincere wishes for the work which will be profitable to all the savers and to the economy of noble Poland.

LEGISLATION OF CREDIT (150 words).

The Ministry of Finance is working with great solicitude in order to create new laws with the object of regulating the actions of the ordinary Banks, of the Savings Banks, and monetary circulation in general.

GOLD DEPOSITS WITH POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS (120 words).

From the 10th August the Savings Bank has commenced to receive deposits in gold zloty. Interest is at the rate of 6% per annum. The deposits can be made in current zloty or in foreign currency, but are credited in gold.

The Bank will pay in current zloty at the current rate of exchange.

From the monthly Review SBEREGATELNOE DELO, Moscow. (The Business of Savings). N. 7 (10) July, 1926.

SAVINGS BANKS AND CORN SUPPLIES, By A. BELOBORODOFF (750 words).

The necessity of arranging the work of the Savings Banks in conformity with the divers demands of national economy. The importance of the collaboration of all employees in this sense. The difficulties of national economy in the autumn and the measures necessary for surmounting them. Savings against specific ends.

THE HEROES OF THE «NATURE LARGE» ARE NOT OUR HEROS, By L. Sosnosvsky (900 words).

The idea of savings is not well comprehended by certain communists. Example. Economy and savings are indispensable in order to make socialism a real thing. The moral concept of the proletariat.

THE ROLE PLAYED, SO TO SPEAK, BY THE DEPOSITS OF INSTITUTES IN THE SAVINGS BANKS, By V. G. VVEDENSKY (1250 words).

The amount of deposits of institutes before the war and now. The preference to deposits by private persons. The necessity of accepting deposits from institutes, especially on the land. An early increase of these last.

SAVINGS BANK BOOK TO BEARER, By K. I. BILINSKI (750 words).

The savings bank books to bearer in 1841 and the reforms of 1862, 1923 and 1925. The importance of bank books to bearer for developing thrift.

ABOUT PROPAGANDA WORK AND THE SEARCH FOR VIRILE METHODS, By B. A. (1200 words).

The proof of the vitality of the Savings Banks shown by the increase in deposits. The rationalisation of the workman's budget by means of the distribution of wages through the Savings Banks. The inquiry begun by the General Management of the Savings Banks.

WHAT ARE THE WAYS FOR BRINGING THE SAVINGS BANKS TO THE PEASANTS, By P. DEDUCHENKO (1100 words).

The results of the experiment of opening Savings Banks attached to the various agricultural organisations. The necessity for utilising the organisation of the Post and the difficulties which present themselves in connection therewith.

ABOUT THE INSTITUTION OF AN ANNUAL PROGRAMME FOR THE NETWORK OF SAVINGS BANKS, By F. NESTROJEFF (750 words).

Plan for increasing the number of Savings Banks in the next few years from 13,000 to 25,000. The means for the creation of an annual programme for enlarging the network and the organisations that must co-operate.

NO USELESS FORMALITIES, By I. ROSENBERG (900 words).

The difficulties of organising the periodical paying-in of the small savings of workmen (from 3 to 10 % of wage) in the big factories. Proposals to diminish formalities and increase the commission payable to employees.

ABOUT THE RATIONALISATION OF WORK, By A. SCHILLING (500 words).

The institution of a bureau for the rationalisation of work connected with the big organisations. The creation of a similar bureau in the Executive of the Savings Banks. The programme of work of this bureau and its immediate problems.

PROJECTED SYSTEM OF STAMPS AND COUPONS IN THE OPERATIVE TECHNIQUE OF THE SAVINGS BANKS, By P. CHERBAKOFF (1300 words).

The necessity for a sole system of operative technique in the different kinds of Savings Banks. Theory of the present operative technique of the Savings Banks. The system of double control (the cashier and the controller). The necessity for reforming this system. The perfecting of the Belgian and French system (stamps and coupons). The advantages of the proposed system. Examples and designs of models and stamps.

A FEW QUESTIONS AND REPLIES OF PEASANTS AND WORKMEN REGARDING PROPAGANDA WORK ON THE SPOT, By D. LINETSKY AND N. SMIRNOVA. (1200 words).

Classified according to their distance from intellectual centres.

THE TECHNIQUE FOR EFFECTING REMITTANCES IN THE SAVINGS BANKS, By P. ALBITZKY (2200 words).

Money Orders. Savings Banks authorised to issue money orders. The technique of the operation and the formalities to be observed. The assignment of a bank book or open account in favour of another. The technique of the operation, the formalities to be observed, and the cost of the assignment. Limitation in the amounts to be transmitted according to their destination.

CONDENSED REVIEW OF THE WORKING OF THE SAVINGS BANKS DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE 1926 (1500 words).

Statistics arranged according to districts and Republics concerning the amount and increase in the number of depositors, deposits, etc.

OUR PROPAGANDA WORK, By E. KISSELEFF (1650 words).

Dynamic and static propaganda means employed with success by the government of Samara.

NOTES.

MORE ATTENTION TO THE INFORMATION AND CONSULTATION BUREAU, By P. DEDUCHENKO (900 words).

The institution of the Bureau with the aim of giving the population information and advice of a legal nature relative to the questions of actual living - the necessity for popularising the Bureau.

CHRONICLE.

The work of the Savings Banks in June 1926. Temporary Savings Banks. The arranging of hours of opening to suit those which the workman has free. Children's savings by means of stamps. Edition of plans for the new ordering of the Savings Banks. (3200 words).

LEGAL COLUMNS.

PARAGRAPH 36 OF THE ACT OF THE 27TH NOV. 1925 REGARDING SAVINGS BANKS (*concerning testamentary provisions*), By G. KANNIVITZKY (1700 words).

ABOUT THE DELIVERY OF SAVINGS DEPOSITS AFTER THE DEATH OF THE DEPOSITOR, By A. MILUTINE (1050 words).

ENLIGHTENMENT ON PARA. 36, By V. L. SCOOVSKY (1100 words).

THE RIGHT TO DISPOSE OF MINORS' SAVINGS, By P. LINDE (1100 words).

Extracts from of the SAVINGS BANK JOURNAL, New York, September, 1926.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF BANKING DISCUSSES SAVINGS PHASES (5800 words).

At the Savings Dept. Conference of the American Institute of Banking at its 24th annual convention at Dallas, Texas, in July, Mr. Lester, Asst. Vice-President of the Bowery Savings Bank of New York, affirms that in the interest of the economic advancement of his country, there should be a mutual savings bank in every community large enough to support it, and there should be enough public-spirited citizens willing to give time to its promotion without thought of personal profit. He sees no conflict between mutual and commercial banks. There must be a re-construction and liberalisation of the banking laws that will give permission at least to do the common things which the average individual and family require in the management of their personal financial problems. He looks forward to the time when people will come to the Savings Bank for practical financial assistance and advice as they now come to make deposits. He gives a very wide idea of what should be intended as «service» by Savings Banks, and how these Savings Banks have to combat their competitors, how they have to co-operate with the educators and have to show to employers that they have a responsibility in relation to their employees that goes deeper in the social life of the community, than merely paying wages. Mr. Albig spoke of the trend of time deposits from the

state banks to national banks since the inauguration of the federal reserve system.

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF THE \$ 1 DOWN, By WILLIAM A. KNIFFIN (2500 words).

It is not so many years ago that to furnish a home on the instalment plan was looked upon as a social error and a sure mark of financial embarrassment. A recent survey of instalment buying which covers eight leading articles show that the yearly value of these articles is approximately 3,937,000,000 dollars of which about 3,293,000,000 dollars is sold on instalment. The author believes that many people have «saved» in this form who never would have saved at all. The business-man who prefers to pay by instalments rather than cut into his working capital is a legitimate time buyer. The principal objection to instalment buying is not economic but social. When it is possible to live on borrowed capital, the individual sets up for himself a false standard of living. There may be financial menace in the fact that out of an estimated sale of products amounting to more than 5,000,000,000 dollars in 1925, an excess of 65% was sold on the instalment plan. These buyers have without doubt mortgaged their future earning capacity to the extent of 3,000,000,000 dollars. The manufacturers have created saleable goods to the above amount in one year which must be paid for in the next, and thus are a year ahead of the consumptive power of the buyers.

BOYSEARN AND SAVE LARGE SUMS (1100 words).

A promising field for the education of American youth in thrift and self-support is represented by the work of the Boys' Clubs Federation and the Y.M.C.A. in co-operation with Savings Banks. More than 80 clubs throughout the U. S. have their own Savings Bank, an increase of 50% in two years, and the enrolment of 12,561 boys with bank deposits represents an increase of 25% for the same period. A diversity of ideas is utilised by the boys to earn their regular deposit. They have formed stock companies for the sale of refreshments, athletic goods, flowers, rent of skates etc. They plan their work along corporation lines, participating shares being sold to each boy and the directors being elected from amongst the members. The oldest and largest club Savings Bank is conducted by the Salem Fraternity where a bank has been continuously operated for more than 27 years.

INTERNATIONAL THRIFT DAY - OCTOBER 31st (1400 words).

After giving to the Americans a summary of the new international civil celebration of which the first number

of this Bulletin has widely treated, the author of the article makes a stirring appeal to the American Savings Banks to join other nations' banks in celebrating the World Thrift Day.

BADGERING THE SAVINGS BANKS (1700 words).

An article against the Tax Commissioner of Massachusetts who has made private interpretations of the law with the purpose of forcing mutual Savings Banks to pay money not demanded by law.

WHEN DOES AN ACCOUNT PAY ITS COST? (900 words).

Continuing the exposition of a preceding inquiry, new statements are made on this subject. One says that an account pays its cost when it amounts at least to 264 dollars: another puts it at 200 dollars: a third concludes that an account of 50 dollars is profitable: two decide on 81.50 dollars.

RUSSIA'S LABOUR SAVINGS BANKS, By PROF. FILIPPO RAVIZZA, *Director Int. Thrift Institute* (1400 words).

Savings in Russia may be invested in three ways: in government loans, in co-operative societies, and in Savings Banks. An idea of these three classes of investment is given, with special regard to the Savings Banks. The foundation of the labouring classes' Savings Bank dates back to Dec. 26th, 1922. The present great effort of the Russian State economists is to re-construct and develop manufactures and agriculture maintaining a right equilibrium between these two forms of activity. Savings Banks have to furnish the State with the necessary means for the realisation of this great task. Thrift is recommended by State authorities not as a means of accumulating individual capital, but only as a means of saving what may be needful for attaining immediate ends, such as the purchase of a draught horse or the bettering of the « isba ». At present, the administration of the labour class Savings Banks is taking great pains to develop thrift. A great propaganda is being carried on throughout Russia. At the same time, pains are also being taken to ensure secrecy as to the amount of the deposits and to prepare good functionaries. Deposits are exempted from taxes and other facilities are extended to them.

BOOK GIVES WORLD STORY OF SAVINGS, By W. A. BARCLAY (2700 words).

The article is an enthusiastic encomium of the First International Thrift Congress and especially of the volume which has been published, containing not only the debates and the reports of the congress, but material and articles covering savings and thrift in all countries and in all forms.

Monumental in its scope and form, the book is the last word descriptive of the refinements of savings bank practice and finance, and affords a striking example of the spirit of disinterested service which Savings Banks render not only to their own communities but to the world at large. The gratitude of all Savings Banks is due to Italy and the Italians for so worthy a publication. A mead of praise also is due to that Nation for the inception of the idea of greater cooperation and understanding between the Savings Bank systems of the world, and a higher conception of their beneficent mission. In the face of much difficulty this idea, charged with so great potentialities, has been transformed by the enthusiasm and enterprise of the Italians, and by the hearty cooperation of other nations, into an accomplished fact, and an International Thrift Institute formed with its present headquarters in Milan.

The motto of the book, « In principio erat verbum », is fully justified by the dignity and importance of the cause which it seeks to advance. First the book, then the deed. The book is educative and inspiring in the highest degree, as it tells of the early struggles of the banks, the achievements which lie to their credit and the position of influence they today hold, not only in the countries of their origin, but all over the globe. By the study of its pages, suggestions will present themselves to the practical banker which cannot fail to be useful to him in many ways. Methods which are unfamiliar to him now, may, by modification and adaptation, be found by him to be applicable to his own local conditions.

The compilation of so much elaborate detail in so attractive a vehicle cannot fail to excite admiration for the great work which has here been accomplished in the cause of thrift.

The volume is well indexed, beautifully illustrated and artistically produced. No book yet published in England gives such a wide range of information concerning Savings Banks and the writer has no hesitation in commending it unreservedly to the attention of all progressive thrift institutions as an educative medium of the highest interest and value.

EXPERIMENT WITH « ELECTRIC FARM », By CHARLES J. STUART (5800 words).

BUS LINES LOSING EARLY GAINS (3000 words).

SUPPORT LOWER RAIL INTEREST RATE, By E. G. BUCKLAND (3000 words).

RAIL EARNINGS MAKE SPLENDID SHOWING (450 words).

and other articles are interesting so far as they concern public utility securities in which American Savings Banks may invest.

GREAT PROMISE FOR 1926 CONFERENCE (1400 words).

U. S. KINDLY PUTS ON SHOW, By WILLIAM J. LUM (1300 words).

deal with the big Philadelphia Convention of which the second part of the first number of our Bulletin treated. The second of the above-mentioned articles is a particularly witty letter about the Exhibition which will be in full swing in Philadelphia during the period of the Convention.

When this number of our Bulletin reaches English-speaking countries, it will be too late to re-inforce effectively once more the American invitation, but if a last appeal might still be of some effect the Institute would again ask all Savings Banks members to send delegates to Philadelphia, from which they will return richer in experience, knowledge and inspiration, to the advantage of their institutions.

COMMUNITY ADVERTISING BY BANKS, By T. H. SEWELL (1400 words).

Banks should develop their communities; and in just the proportion they give to the advancement of that community, will be the return to that community and to that bank. Community advertising presents many opportunities, many subjects upon which to base « copy »: local industries, institutions, geographical and commercial advantages, natural and improved facilities for manufacture, markets, manufactured products and so on.

SEPTEMBER BRINGS RETURNING TOURIST HORDES (800 words) and other articles under the general heading « Save to Travel Dept. » offer a glimpse at the great interest which American Savings Banks take in the promotion of savings deposits destined for the purpose of holidays or travel.

10th THRIFT WEEK LOOMS GREATEST (700 words).

Early signs indicate that the 1927 Thrift Week in January, which will mark the tenth anniversary of the annual events under the auspices of the National Thrift Committee, will exceed in magnitude all predecessors. The national character of this movement is often lost to the worker in local fields. National Thrift Week is not confined to one city. At the same time that local committees are spreading the gospel of « success and happiness » to townfolk, hundreds of others are doing the same thing in other sections of the country. Savings bankers in extending their cooperation during Thrift Week, are contributing to a movement that is gaining

greater momentum annually. The resultant benefits to the individual, community and institution cannot be measured, but it can be seen that a movement so broad in its scope and influence is well worthy of cooperation.

DINNER FOR EACH MILLION (60 words).

The Washington Mutual Savings Bank, Seattle, Wash., has the custom of celebrating with a dinner each million dollar increase in savings deposits.

SAVINGS BANKS COVER THE EARTH, By THOMAS HENDERSON (1400 words).

Legislation, characteristic features, of the most important British institution for savings with results achieved.

WOULD REDUCE INVESTMENT HANDICAP, By HORACE W. FOSTER (900 words).

A guaranteed first mortgage certificate is a share in a guaranteed first mortgage, co-ordinate with all other participations. These certificates are issued against large mortgages and occasionally against a group of mortgages. Mortgages, however, if taken entire, must be invested in exactly as they are made, in fixed amounts. An available mortgage may be for 125,000 dollars while the bank may have 150,000 dollars to invest at the moment. 25,000 dollars must remain at lower interest until a suitable mortgage can be found. Guaranteed first mortgage certificates, if available for savings banks, would bridge the gap between these amounts, or the entire sum at the disposal of the bank could be placed in these securities at once. This kind of investment should be permitted to Savings Banks.

PRIZES FOR ESSAYS ON THRIFT.

\$ 1,500.00 in prizes is offered annually by Alvan T. Simonds, President of the Simonds Saw and Steel Company, to encourage the study of economics and thrift.

Fifth annual contest 1926, open to everybody everywhere.

SUBJECTS. Saving and Spending as Factors in Prosperity. With special reference to the effect of Simplified Practice and the Elimination of Waste on the Standard of Living.

FIRST PRIZE, \$ 1,000. Two Second prizes of \$ 250 each. Contest closes December 31st, 1926.

NOTE. For further information kindly apply to The International Thrift Institute, Via Monte di Pietà, 4, Milan, Italy, or to The Contest Editor, Simonds Saw and Steel Company, 470 Main Street, Fitchburg, Mass. U.S.A.