

INTERNATIONAL BANK AND FUND

First Annual Meeting

FOR THE PRESS

Release #6 (Joint)

(The following address by Chairman Snyder before the closing session of the First Annual Meeting of the International Bank and Fund is for release upon delivery.)

In this meeting of the Boards of Governors we have put into action the principles of international good will and cooperation which must be the foundation of a peaceful and prosperous world which we all hope to build. The results have been gratifying and I am sure that all of you share with me the deep sense of satisfaction and pride of having participated in it. The efficient manner with which the problems before this meeting were handled has been very pleasing.

As a result, the way has been cleared for the Fund and Bank to become active institutions in their respective fields. The reports of the Executive Directors of the Fund and of the Bank reveal the progress which has been made since the Savannah conference. Organizational and procedural arrangements have been completed. The Fund has recently issued a call for the communication of par values of the currencies of the members. Following the establishment of the par values by agreement between the Fund and the members, the Fund will be in a position to carry out its purpose by rendering financial assistance to countries through stabilizing the values of their currencies, and through removing discriminatory and restrictive exchange controls. The Bank is now in a position to begin making loans for reconstruction and development. Two calls for subscriptions for capital stock have been made and members have been notified of the intention of the Executive Directors to make two additional calls of five percent each.

It is clear that the Fund and the Bank will have substantial resources available for their operations during 1947. But the benefits of these institutions will not be limited by their ability to render financial assistance. The determination of a satisfactory structure of exchange rates will make a major contribution to the restoration of international trade and domestic economic stability in all countries. The activities of the Bank in directly promoting sound international lending will provide a stimulus to trade, which will extend far beyond the immediate effects of the Bank's lending operations.

I am sure that the Boards of Governors join me in congratulating the Executive Directors of both the Fund and Bank on the splendid reports which they have submitted. The progress which the Executive Directors of both institutions have made in the few short months since their organization is clear evidence of their high level of confidence and statesmanship. The policies which the Directors have adopted are sound and entirely in accord with the purposes of the Fund and the Bank. The difficult problems of organization and administrative procedure had been worked out with thoroughness and farsighted judgment. I think that the Boards of Governors can have every confidence in entrusting the operations of the Fund and the Bank during the coming year to the hands of the present Directors and their able administrative staffs.

I note with satisfaction the approval given to the application of Italy, Turkey, Syria and Lebanon for membership in the Fund and the Bank. This expansion of the areas of international monetary and financial cooperation will strengthen the Fund and the Bank, and will further the realization of their objectives. I again express my hope that other peace-loving nations will soon be added to our federation.

I want to congratulate Chancellor Dalton on his election as Chairman of the Boards of Governors of the Fund and the Bank. I think that all of us can be proud of having made this excellent choice. Chancellor Dalton brings with him as Chairman, broad training and knowledge in the field of international finance, and a deep understanding of the problems of the Fund and the Bank. We can all be confident that under his wise leadership the Fund and the Bank will, during the next twelve months, play an impressive role in solving the pressing economic problems which confront the world in the post-war era.

In closing, I want to thank Mr. Gutt and Mr. Meyer, the Executive Directors, and the members of their administrative staffs, for their invaluable assistance in making this conference a success. I also want to express my appreciation to the Member Governments for sending their most able financial officials to serve as Governors and Alternates and Technical Advisors at this meeting. It has been a pleasant and profitable experience for me to meet you and to work with you. In meeting here we have not only served the interests of the Fund and the Bank, but we have had an excellent opportunity for exchanging ideas and for reaching a better understanding of our respective problems. I hope for each of you a pleasant and comfortable journey home, and may you carry with you my best wishes for the future.

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Release #5 (Bank)

FOR THE PRESS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 30, 1946

Luis Machado of Cuba, Executive Director of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, today issued the following statement:

I have just read a statement attributed to me, I have made no statement, but will make one now.

As a Latin American I shall support Paraguay's right to a revision of her quota. It is a well-known fact that at Bretton Woods an inadequate quota was approved for Paraguay. I am confident that all the Governors attending this meeting will concur with me in this opinion and will lend their support to correct this mistake.

The case of Paraguay is so just that there is no need whatsoever to form a "block of nations" to defend it.

Everyone knows that the Latin American Republics are a brotherhood of nations bound together by a common history and a common devotion to the cause of international peace and justice. When a case of international justice is involved, all Latin Americans know their place, as I am confident everyone else at this meeting does.