

France

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

DECEMBER , 1945
No.

SIGNING OF BRETTON WOODS AGREEMENTS

The signing of the Bretton Woods Fund and Bank agreements is scheduled to take place on Thursday, December 27, 1945, in the Department of State on behalf of the United States of America and of such of the other countries signatory to the Final Act of the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference held at Bretton Woods in July 1944 as are prepared to sign those agreements on that date.

(time + place)

Czechoslovakia
China, Ethiopia, and the Philippine Commonwealth *and the Union of South Africa* have already indicated their readiness to sign the agreements, and their acceptance by Great Britain appears likely in view of the recent large majority vote by the House of Commons favoring such action. Reports received by the Department *is informed* also indicate that Belgium, Canada, *Colombia (Ecuador)*, Cuba, *and Yugoslavia* Guatemala, the Netherlands, ~~and~~ Venezuela may be prepared to sign the agreements with the United States, and that by December 27 a number of other countries *probably* will accept them.

Participation by the United States in the Fund and Bank is authorized by the Bretton Woods Agreements Act approved July 31, 1945 (Public Law 171, 79th Congress). [Similar legislation has been passed by the Philippine Congress and was approved by President Truman on November 20, 1945. The Philippine act, which is also entitled "Bretton Woods Agreements Act" became effective on the date it was proclaimed by President Osmena, December 4, 1945.]

Each country signatory to either of the agreements is required to deposit with the United States, as depositary, an instrument of acceptance setting forth that it has accepted the agreement in accordance with its law and has taken all steps necessary to enable it to carry out all of its obligations thereunder, and to transmit to the United States Government one one-hundredth of one percent of its quota (Fund) or subscription (Bank) to meet the administrative expenses of the Fund or Bank.

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M.L. (The Secy of Treas. Fred M. Vinson, has been authorized to sign the two agreements.)

W.S. (agreements + notes above see p. 2)

Print Mr. Sutherland

In accordance with the provisions of the two agreements they can enter into force ^{when signed} ~~if signature and compliance with other procedural requirements are made~~ on behalf of governments having 65 percent of the total of the quotas or subscriptions set forth in Schedule A of each agreement. Forty-four of the forty-five countries listed in those schedules, including the United States, are those which signed the Final Act of the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, on July 22, 1944. No quota in the Fund or subscription to the Bank has as yet been fixed for Denmark, the forty-fifth country.

The total of the quotas for the Fund is \$8,800,000,000 and the total of the subscriptions to the Bank is \$9,100,000,000. Sixty-five percent of those amounts would be, respectively, \$5,720,000,000 (Fund) and \$5,915,000,000 (Bank). The total of the quotas indicated in Schedule A of the Fund agreement and the total of the subscriptions indicated in Schedule A of the Bank agreement for the following four countries are slightly more than sufficient to bring both agreements into force, provided all other requirements therefor pertaining to those countries are fulfilled by them:

	<u>Fund Quotas</u>	<u>Bank Subscriptions</u>
China -----	\$ 550,000,000	\$ 600,000,000
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics ---	1,200,000,000	1,200,000,000
United Kingdom -----	1,300,000,000	1,300,000,000
United States -----	2,750,000,000	3,175,000,000
Totals -----	\$ 5,800,000,000	\$ 6,275,000,000

In the event that the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics should not be prepared to sign as an original member of the Fund and Bank, the total of the quotas and subscriptions, respectively, of the following combination of countries listed in Schedule A of the agreements would be sufficient, when

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Mr. Young*

added to those of China, the United Kingdom, and the United States, to permit the agreements to come into effect if other procedural requirements are met by the countries listed:

*Print
Mr.
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	<u>Fund Quotas</u>	<u>Bank Subscriptions</u>
Australia -----	\$ 200,000,000 -----	\$ 200,000,000
Canada -----	300,000,000 -----	325,000,000
India -----	400,000,000 -----	400,000,000
New Zealand -----	50,000,000 -----	50,000,000
Union of South Africa	100,000,000 -----	100,000,000
Belgium -----	225,000,000 -----	225,000,000
Totals -----	\$1,275,000,000	\$1,300,000,000

Of the 44 countries listed in Schedule A of the agreements for which ~~quotas (Fund) or subscriptions (Bank) have been indicated in~~ ^{the following} ~~millions of U.S. dollars, the following 14 appear therein as having~~ ^{quotas or subscriptions} ~~the largest of such amounts:~~

	<u>Fund Quotas</u>	<u>Bank Subscriptions</u>
Australia	\$ 200,000,000	\$ 200,000,000
Belgium	225,000,000	225,000,000
Brazil	150,000,000	105,000,000
Canada	300,000,000	325,000,000
China	550,000,000	600,000,000
Czechoslovakia	125,000,000	125,000,000
France	450,000,000	450,000,000
India	400,000,000	400,000,000
Netherlands	275,000,000	275,000,000
Poland	125,000,000	125,000,000
Union of South Africa	100,000,000	100,000,000
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	1,200,000,000	1,200,000,000
United Kingdom	1,300,000,000	1,300,000,000
United States	2,750,000,000	3,175,000,000

It is provided in each of the agreements that as soon as it enters into force each member country shall appoint a governor to the Fund and to the Bank, and that the first meeting of the Board of Governors of the Fund and the Board of Governors of the Bank shall be called by the member having the largest quota or the largest subscription, as the case may be, thus inaugurating the Fund and Bank. The quota and the subscription of the United States are the largest of those fixed for the Fund and Bank, respectively.

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The two agreements will remain open for signature through December 31, 1945 on behalf of the countries listed in Schedule A to permit them to become original members of the Fund and Bank.