

# The New York Times.

JUN 13 1944

## World Bank Seen as Need

Supplying Europe With Funds Viewed  
as Primary Reason for Organization

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

If the report is true that there was more opposition in American Bankers Association circles to the international bank plan than to the stabilization scheme, a word of earnest warning is needed.

As THE TIMES has repeatedly—more recently in its editorials of April 24 and June 6—pointed out, stable currencies are the automatic outcome of well-balanced economic and financial conditions. It clearly follows that whatever international cooperation is needed after the war must of necessity tackle first and foremost the problem of assisting the war-torn nations in restoring their economic machinery. To that end most of them probably will need loans for purchases abroad. Even these will benefit them little if they are not given the opportunity in the long run to sell enough abroad to pay for their imports. In this light it seems worse than useless to speak of a stabilization "scheme" and nothing else.

At some point we shall clearly have to face the fact that our cooperation is needed to furnish Europe with funds and goods to restart its industrial, agricultural and commercial processes; and we may as well do that now. Whether we do that through an international bank or otherwise is of secondary importance, but some sort of international organization seems advisable, for many good reasons.

When that problem has been taken care of stabilization will no longer be a formidable problem and certainly will require no complicated "scheme."

An international discount bank, merely for the purpose of discounting commercial bills, to equalize the financial effects of seasonal trade cycles, will certainly be beneficial. But in view of the urgent desirability of leaving to Europe itself the problem of trying to balance its own commercial movements, earnest consideration might be given to the establishment of a European discount bank which would be the link between Europe and the international discount bank.

This would make Europe autonomous in this field, and for us it would have the undoubted advantage that all discount operations by the European discount bank at the international discount bank would thus become the joint and several obligations of all the members of the European institute.

LEONARD KEESING.

Bronxville, N. Y., June 10, 1944.