

ALLAN SPROUL

I. IDENTITY IN BANKING COMMUNITY

President of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. (Associated with Bank in various capacities since 1926)

II. HARRISON, FRIEND OF BIS, INDOCTRINATES SPROUL (1930)

In November, 1930, Sproul accompanied Harrison on a month's trip abroad to confer with banking authorities in England, France, and Germany, and eventually succeeded him as president.

III. CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT LENDING, GOVERNMENT ENCROACHMENT IN FINANCE (1943)

"This nation has much to do and it is high time we are getting to it.

"On the home front there is the question of Government lending and Government guaranteed loans in fields which might have been or might be considered fields for private banking enterprises. It can be too readily assumed that Government or Government guaranteed loans are the way out of every tough spot. If that charge could be sustained the private banking system would soon be busy justifying its existence.

"It is hazardous to expect the Government to step in when things look risky and to pull out when risks have practically disappeared and profits seem secure. The Government tends to stay once it gets in and borrowers want to know where they can go for credit in winter as well as in summer."
[Speech before New Jersey Bankers Association, December 1943]

IV. URGES BANKERS TO PREPARE TO SUPPLANT GOVERNMENT LENDING (1943)

He urged the bankers to study the situation carefully to ascertain whether they can be of greater aid to small and medium-sized borrowers worthy of capital or credit who now in many instances turn to the Government for aid. [Speech before New Jersey Bankers Association, December, 1943]