

MAR 24 1945

Global Money Plans Assailed as Tending to Totalitarianism

Washington, D. C., March 23 (AP). — W. L. Hemingway, St. Louis banker, told congress today the Bretton Woods proposal for an international currency stabilization fund tends toward "managed economy and that is totalitarianism."

"We see here an economic super-state imposing its will on its members and the members in turn adopting or extending a program for managed currency," he said.

Hemingway, who is president of the Mercantile-Commerce Bank and Trust company, St. Louis, and past president of the American Bankers' association, appeared before the house banking committee with other witnesses for the A. B. A.

Single Agency Proposed.

The A. B. A. has urged that the currency stabilization activities proposed in a separate fund be embodied in the bank for reconstruction and development loans, where the United States would have veto power over all the dollars it subscribes to the international bank and stabilization operations.

Hemingway made these points:

1. An applicant for a stabilization loan "does not put up collateral, but merely its own note without maturity, nonnegotiable and non-

interest bearing, altho it really pays a low interest rate in the form of charges." He argued that this is not the way to lend money and said: "There is no distinction between those countries having good credit based on past performance and those having poor credit."

"Difficult to Interpret."

2. The fund proposal is "very difficult to interpret." He said discussions in this country and in England "are evidence that there is already a difference of understanding between two of the principal members of the fund."

3. Too much power is delegated to the executive director, who would act for the United States if the fund is approved as proposed.

Rep. Crawford (R., Mich.), banking committee member, displayed before the committee reproductions of Detroit papers containing accounts of Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau's appearance in Michigan City for a Bretton Woods speech.

Describing treasury distribution of this material as "diabolical, un-American, and pressure of the highest order," he told the committee the taxpayers' money is being used for propaganda purposes.