

## Wall Street

Monetary Policy Issue Involves Question of Whether Creditor or Debtor Will Be Favored.

By RALPH HENDERSON  
Times Special Financial Writer

Stripped of all its frills and pressed down to its bare fundamentals, the question to be decided by President Roosevelt in determining his monetary policy is whether he will favor the creditor or the debtor or whether he will attempt to do his best by both.

Inflation is essentially a boon to the debtor class. Credit expansion is designed to help creditors primarily. A little of each might help both debtor and creditor.

If it is to be effective in raising prices the currency of the country must be diluted to the point where holders of coin will discard it in favor of tangibles. In effect, this would tend to reduce debts, because the debtor would be able to pay off his claims with dollars to which a certain amount of "water" had been added.

If business is increased through credit expansion, creditors probably could be paid off with undiluted dollars. If the credit is made available by the government, the chances are that the results will be a shifting of the credit account from private to federal strong boxes. In other words, those who now owe individuals will wind up owing the government.

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## Inflation Cuts Debts

In the case of inflation debts are, in effect, reduced. In the case of credit expansion debts are increased. The chief danger of inflation is that debts may be almost completely wiped out. The chief criticism of credit expansion is that debts already are too heavy and the situation can not be helped by adding to those debts.

Advices from Washington indicate that President Roosevelt, who has the final say in the matter, listened first to the debtor side of the story. Now he is said to be lending his ear to the creditor side. Both sides are now awaiting a definite decision on how he will handle the situation.

To date, since the President took office, the debtor class has been favored. By suspending gold payments the dollar already has been cheapened and the price of tangibles has been increased. Other measures, including the NRA program, have been designed to raise prices so that debt payments may be more easily met.

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## Creditor Class Also Helped

The creditor class also has been given consideration, however, and stands to be helped further by new plans. The railroads have been loaned money with which to pay their interest charges; the government has made arrangements to bail out holders of real estate mortgages, and now it proposes to loan money to banks with which to pay off creditor depositors.

It may be assumed that no one would like to see the dollar go the way of the old German mark, although it is obvious that a vast volume of "water" would have to go into the dollar before it could be diluted to that extent. By the same token, no one would like to see industry loaded with so much debt that it could never hope to get out, even though the government did happen to be the creditor. It is small wonder that President Roosevelt is taking this time about announcing a definite monetary policy.

## New York Stocks

(By Abbott, Hoppin & Co.)

—Oct. 13—**Amusements**—

Oils—High, Low, Close, Prev. Pct. 100%.

Amerasoda 44% 42% 43% 45% 10% 18%

Art & Co. 27% 25% 25% 25% 10% 18%

Barnstable 9% 9% 9% 9% 8% 8%

Consol. Oil 13% 12% 12% 13% 8% 8%

Conn. Dist. 10% 9% 9% 9% 8% 8%

Houston (new) 5% 4% 4% 4% 7% 7%

Houston (old) 27% 26% 26% 26% 7% 7%

Ind. Dist. 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 12%

Mid. Dist. 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 12%

Mid. Cont. Pet. 12% 12% 12% 12% 12% 12%

Ohio Oil 18% 17% 17% 17% 17% 17%

Pet. Cos. 16% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15%

Phillips Pet. 16% 15% 15% 15% 15% 15%

Royal Dutch 33% 32% 32% 32% 13% 13%

Bld. Oil 40% 38% 38% 38% 10% 10%

Summs Pet. 7% 7% 7% 7% 7% 7%

Skelley Oil 7% 7% 7% 7% 7% 7%

S. O. of Cal. 42% 40% 42% 42% 10% 10%

S. O. of Kan. 32% 32% 32% 32% 10% 10%

S. O. of Okla. 32% 32% 32% 32% 10% 10%

Sun Oil 47% 47% 47% 47% 10% 10%

Texaco Corp. 22% 21% 21% 21% 10% 10%

Tidewater Assn. 10% 10% 10% 10% 10% 10%

Un. Oil of Cal. 21% 19% 19% 20% 10% 10%

Std. Oil 18% 17% 17% 17% 10% 10%

Am. Roll Mills. 18% 17% 17% 17% 10% 10%

Beth. Steel 34% 32% 32% 32% 10% 10%

Brown Mfg. 26% 25% 25% 25% 10% 10%

Co. Fuel & Iron. 5% 5% 5% 5% 10% 10%

Crus. Steel 22% 21% 21% 21% 10% 10%

McKeppert Tin. 78% 73% 73% 73% 10% 10%

Rep. Iron & Steel 41% 39% 39% 39% 10% 10%

Rep. Iron & Steel 30% 30% 30% 30% 10% 10%

Rep. Iron & Steel 90% 85% 85% 85% 10% 10%

Vanguard 2% 2% 2% 2% 10% 10%

Mid. Steel. 43% 41% 41% 41% 10% 10%

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