FOREIGN EXCHANGE: THEORY AND PRACTICE

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Foreign exchange: theory and practice by Thomas York

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THOMAS YORK

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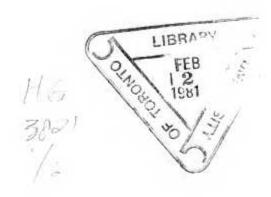
By

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TO

I. S. Y.

PREFACE

Foreign exchange is attracting more attention than any other branch of finance. The interest evinced is universal and is no longer confined to bankers, international traders, and financial writers, as was the case prior to the Great War. The general public is showing a decided disposition to acquaint itself with the dislocation of the exchanges brought about by the conflict. Nor is this interest likely to suffer much abatement, since normal conditions will probably not be restored in international financial relations for a number of years to come.

The author's purpose in this book is to explain the operation of the exchanges between gold-standard countries under normal financial conditions. In a subsequent volume now in preparation he proposes to deal with the present irregular position of the exchanges, and with exchange between a gold- and a silver-standard country. It is quite impossible, however, to gain an adequate appreciation of the problem presented by the deranged condition of the exchanges unless their operation under the normal functioning of the commercial and financial machinery of the world is first thoroughly understood.

The subject of foreign exchange, even in its greatest refinements, offers comparatively little difficulty after the student has once mastered the meaning of the gold standard, or what constitutes money in a gold-standard country. The present volume, therefore, attempts to give in the introductory chapter a complete understanding of this fundamental principle of all finance.

A hypothetical method of treatment is followed in the theoretical part of the discussion. This approach has proved of great assistance to the writer in evolving the various principles laid down in the book, and will enable the reader to follow the course of reasoning more closely. In the last few chapters the hypothetical assumptions are abolished and attention is given to practical foreign exchange operations as conducted in the New York market.

THOMAS YORK.

New York City, January 1, 1920.

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	P	AGE
I	THE FUNDAMENTAL THEORY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE	I
	Foreign Exchange Defined Money the Medium of Exchange Gold as a Standard of Values Coining Gold What the Gold Standard Really Is The Status of Subsidiary Coins Two Elements of Money High Development of Monetary Credit System Analysis of a Foreign Exchange Transaction An Illustrative Transaction Different Types of Foreign Exchange Transactions Hypothetical Method of Treatment Followed	
11	SPOT CABLE EXCHANGE	14
	Spot Cable Exchange Defined A Simple Case Technical Expressions Two Methods of Quoting Exchange Demand and Supply of Exchange Various Classes of Exchanges Sources of Exchange Supplies The Exchange Rate at a Discount The Gold Export Point of the Spot Cable Rate The Upper Limit A Sample Case Calculating the Gold Export Point Varying Gold Export Points The Gold Import Points The Gold Import Point of the Spot Cable Rate Calculating the Gold Import Point Both Specie Points Variable Minor Factors Affecting the Specie Points Specie Points When Rates Are Expressed in Foreign Gold	
ш	THE DUAL SYSTEM OF EXCHANGE	34
	An Exchange Market in Both Cities Unity of the Two Markets Two Distinct Viewpoints Manner of Quoting Rates Exchanges Between People of Different Countries Graphic Illustration of the Two Exchange Markets The Tendency of the Spot Cable Rates in the Two Centers to Balance	
	VII	

CONTENTS

CHAPTER	P	AGE
	Another Example The Effect of Disparity of Exchange Rates Spot Cable Rates in Two Centers, Each Below "Parity" of Other Effect of Rates Below Parity Further Observations on Parity Relations Process of Adjustment to New Level Concurrent Specie Points in the Two Centers Effect of Different Quotation Methods in Two Cities New York Gold	
iv	FUTURE CABLE EXCHANGE	53
	Future Cable Exchange Defined Typical Future Exchange Transaction Sources of Future Exchange Delivery Dates Spot and Future Cable Rates at Mutual Parity Relation of Spot and Future Rates Illustrated Calculating Spot and Future Cable Rates Tendency Toward Mutual Parity Means of Parity Readjustment Gold Export Point of Future Cables The Future Export Rate Gold Import Point of Future Cable Exchange Relation of Specie Points to Shipments Future Exchange Traded in in Both Cities Future Cable Rates Expressed in Foreign Gold	
v	Limitations of Cable Transfer Demand Exchange Defined Relation of Demand and Spot Cable Rates at Mutual Parity A Typical Case A Sale of Exchange Demand Exchange Tends to Parity With Spot Cables Difference Less Than Parity Spread Parity Relationship Realized Gold Export Point of Demand Exchange Parity of Export Rates Gold Import Point of Demand Exchange Demand Rate Below Import Point Demand Exchange Transacted in Both Centers Demand Exchange Under the Second System of Quotation Future Demand Exchange	70
VI	Long Exchange	86
	Long Exchange Defined	