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**THE GOLD STANDARD
IN THEORY AND PRACTICE**

BY
R. G. HAWTREY

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PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION

IN this edition the four lectures given in 1926 remain as they were. Some illustrative allusions have become out of date, but to alter them would have implied that the whole was to be read as if written at the present day. And there is some advantage in what is in the main a theoretical exposition of the Gold Standard being definitely dated at a period when the Gold Standard was working effectively and was accepted as a settlement of our monetary affairs.

Recent events have thrown the subject once again into the melting pot. An additional chapter has been added describing the course of events, tracing the causes of the breakdown of the Gold Standard, and discussing the problems of the future.

What I have written represents my own personal views, and is not to be associated in any way with my official position in a Government Department.

R. G. HAWTREY.

20th October, 1931.

PREFACE

THIS book is composed of four lectures, which were delivered for the Institute of Bankers in November and December, 1926. They appeared in the Institute's Journal for January-April, 1927, and are here reproduced without material alteration.

Currency is better explained in terms of credit than credit in terms of currency. That is so in theory, in practice and in law. I have here expounded the gold standard in close relation to the theory of banking and credit.

Much of the ground covered is the same as in parts of my books, *Currency and Credit* and *Monetary Reconstruction*, but I have shortened and simplified the treatment, and, where it seemed desirable, have followed somewhat different lines.

The first two chapters are theoretical; the third is historical; the fourth deals with the problems of the present day.

R. G. HAWTREY.

May, 1927.

CONTENTS

	PAGE
CHAPTER I	I
CHAPTER II	31
CHAPTER III	59
CHAPTER IV	87
CHAPTER V	115
INDEX	158

INDEX

ACCOUNT—

- money of, 8, 59, 61
- unit of. *See* Monetary unit
- Albania, preference for gold coin in, 95
- America. *See* United States
- America, Latin, 73, 151
- Argentina, 73, 91, 107, 135
- Assignats, collapse of the, 62-3
- Assignment of debts, 4, 5, 6
- Australia, 135, 151
- Australian gold discoveries, 67
- Austria-Hungary: currency reform in, 68, 75; gold exchange standard, 57; gold unit adopted, 71; paper money, 67, 68, 71, 73; silver, free coinage suspended, 71; war finance, 89
- Austrian Credit Anstalt failure, 138

BALANCE of payments, 97, 98, 133, 146, 147, 148

Balances. *See* Unspent margin

Bank—

- assets, 4
 - clearing balances, 5, 6, 21, 40, 51
 - credit, 9, 31
 - as medium of payment, 7, 9
 - existing without money, 6, 8
 - expansion, effects of, 9, 13, 14, 23, 26, 27, 53
 - restriction, effects of, 9, 13, 14, 130
 - deposits compared to a reservoir, 12-13
 - foreign exchange business, 32, 34, 137
 - lending, 4, 12-15, 21, 26-7, 40-2, 44-6, 53, 80-1, 87-8
 - notes, 5, 6, 29
 - profits, derivation of, 14, 15, 21
 - rate, 26, 54, 83, 117-18, 127, 133, 156
 - during depression, 118, 127
 - effects of a rise in, 26, 83-4, 118, 127
 - reserves of cash, 21, 22, 24, 50, 53
 - pooling of, 21 *et seq.*
- Bank, Central—
- assets of, 23
 - clearing settlements, 5, 23
 - credit control, 26, 27, 39, 53
 - currency unit regulation, 38, 88, 93-4
 - foreign exchanges, and, 38, 39
 - gold market, functions in, 25, 27, 30, 39, 47, 48

- Bank, Central—*continued*—
 legal tender money, sole source of, 25
 lending by, 22-6, 53-5
 liabilities, 23
 reserves, 24, 29, 50
 inclusion of foreign bills in, 58
 gold reserves, 27, 38, 39, 50 *et seq.*, 93, 95
 main considerations, 38-9
 right to issue small notes: effect of, 29
 surplus, 52, 54
- Bank of England, 5, 54-5, 95
 Bank Charter Act, 1844, 110
 Bank rate, 117, 121, 124, 126, 133
 discount market, and, 55 *n.*, 111-12
 fiduciary issue, 126, 154
 Genoa plan, and, 112
 gold, buying price for, 20
 obligation to buy and sell, 110, 141
 gold holding, 121, 140, 154
 notes, 5, 6, 9, 110
 and currency note, 8-9
 reserve, pre-war, 54-5
 sovereigns convertible into bullion at, 19
 suspension of gold payments, 1797, 5
- Bank of France, 67, 70, 122-5
 assets, character of, 123
 foreign exchange accumulation, 124
 gold reserve, 55, 123-4
 holding of five franc pieces, 70
 inconvertible notes, 67
 stabilisation measures, 123-4
- Banker, 4, 5
 Banking system, 31, 60
 Belgium, 67
 Bimetallism, 64 *et seq.*, 68, 69, 73, 74, 75, 76, 93
 Brazil, 73
 Bullion: demand for, 18; convertibility of sovereigns into, 19;
 market, 36, 111
- CALIFORNIAN gold discoveries, 67
 Capital accumulation, 146
 Central Bank. *See* Bank
 Charles II, 60
 Cheque, 5
 Chili, 73
 China: silver standard in, 74, 151
 Circulation—
 drain of coin into. *See* Money, demand for
 effects of a general credit expansion on, 46, 47
 effects of, on coinage, 17, 19, 95
 withdrawals of notes into, 52-3

- Clearing, Bankers, 5, 40
 - international movements of gold analogous to, 40
 - payment of balances, 5, 51
- Coal-mining industry, 83
- Coin, shortcomings of, 17, 18, 19
- Coinage Acts, 8, 63
- Coinage, 60
 - circulation, effects of, on, 17, 19, 95
 - free of gold, 16, 17, 20, 70
 - loss in respect of interest, 19, 20
 - suspended, 110
 - free of silver, 64
 - suspended, 63, 64, 69, 70, 71, 75
 - effect of suspension, 75
 - gold, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 59, 95, 96
 - illegal practices with, 17
 - price of gold : England, 17, 63
 - price of silver : England, 63, 64
 - shortcomings of, 17
 - gold contents, deficiency of, 17, 18, 19
 - silver issue at Government discretion, 64
 - defective in seventeenth century, 61
 - legal tender, limitation on, 63, 68
 - unlimited, 62, 64, 70
 - subsidiary (England), 62
 - suspended (1798), 63
- Consumers' income, 11, 12, 13, 117, 128, 129, 130, 143, 144, 146, 147
 - daily expenditure, 10, 11
 - reaction to expansion or contraction of credit, 13
- Consumers' outlay, 11, 80, 117, 128, 129, 130
- Contraction of credit. *See* Credit
- Credit—
 - contraction, 45-6, 53, 130
 - effects of, 53-4, 82, 83-4, 116-17
 - control of, by Central Bank, 15, 26, 53, 54, 109, 116-17
 - cycle, 82, 84
 - expansion—
 - effects of, 13, 41, 46, 80, 81, 98, 108, 116-17
 - illustrative figures, 42 *et seq.*
 - progressive tendency in, 44-5
 - expansion or contraction, 13, 84-5, 153
 - and balance of payments, 97, 98
 - and gold movements, 81, 83, 96, 97
 - imprudent use of, 114
 - limitation on : effect of gold standard, 26, 81, 82, 84, 85
 - nature of, 1, 2
 - regulation : Genoa plan, 93 *et seq.*
 - restriction, 120, 126 ; effects of, 27, 28, 133
- Crises, financial, 53, 56, 83, 84, 98, 113, 138 *et seq.*
 - United States, 6, 7, 72, 98

- Crusades, the, 59
 Currency (*and see* Foreign exchange)
 depreciation, 11, 105, 140, 142-4
 legislature, the, and, 88
 notes, British, 7, 9, 110
 restoration (1819), 63, 78
 stabilisation, international, and gold reserves, 99 *et seq.*
 systems, defect in, 85
 theory: object of study of, 3
 troubles since 1914, 87, 92
 unit stabilisation, 49, 101, 144
 fluctuations, 83
 Currency and Bank Notes Act, 1914, 8, 55; 1928, 154-5
- DARMSTADTER Bank, 138
- Debt, Debts—
 assignment of, 4, 5, 6
 discharge of, 2, 3, 4
 process of setting off, 4, 6
 idea of, 2, 3, 8
 nature of, 3
- Deflation, 109
- Denmark, 69, 151
- Depreciation of the monetary unit, 18, 65, 89, 100
- Depression—
 effects on "New" countries, 135
 reaction in different countries, 131, 135
 vicious circle of, 128-9
- Discount market, 55 *ff.*, 111
- Discount rate (London market), 111, 117, 118
- Dollar, 37, 72, 92, 107
- ENGLAND. (*See also under* Bank of England, London *and* Great Britain)
 coinage, 63; *and see* Coinage
 gold reserve, 49
 gold standard in, 60, 62, 63
 ceases to function, 90
 restoration of, 109, 115, 116, 117, 131
 suspension (1931), 139-42
 paper money, 90, 95, 110; *and see* Currency notes
 war finance policy, 90
- Exchange, medium of, 2
 "Exchange dumping," 142, 143
 Exchange, rate of, 145, 147, 148
- Exports, 96, 97
 effect of currency fluctuations on, 35, 37-8, 40
- External price level, 143, 144
- FAR Eastern currencies, 67, 74
- Federal Reserve Act, 1913, 6, 107, 108

- Federal Reserve Banks—
 concentration of gold in, 94, 107
 credit expansion policy, 127-8
 Federal Reserve note, 29
 Financial crises. *See* Crises
 Financial markets, 110 *et seq.*; *and see* Foreign exchange
 Financial soundness and economic prosperity, 109
 Fixed fiduciary issue, 52
 Florence, 59
 Forced sales in a crisis, 53, 136; effect on prices, 54, 83-4, 98
 Foreign exchange market, 31 *et seq.*, 106, 112-13, 137
 balances, residual, in, 40
 credit expansion, effect of, on, 40 *et seq.*
 illustrative figures, 42 *et seq.*
 function of, 31, 32, 33
 gold standard, effect of, in, 36-40, 137
 prices, rise and fall of, in, 34, 35, 36
 effect on commodities, 35
 speculative tendency in, 34 *n.*
 supply and demand in, 35, 36
 unfavourable exchange, 45
 Foreign exchange reserves: distrust of, 155-6
 Foreign investments, 98, 146-8
 Foreign trade products, 44
 France. (*See also* Bank of France *and* Latin Union)
 Assignats, the, 62-3
 Bank of, 55, 67, 70, 122-5
 bimetalism in, 64-6, 67, 74, 93
 Bons de la Défense Nationale, 88
 coinage system, 64
 gold coinage of, 1785, 62, 63
 depreciation, 121
 gold absorption, 125-6
 gold reserve, 49, 55, 122
 gold standard breakdown, and, 123 *et seq.*, 139
 internal price level, 122
 monetary circulation, 121-2
 note issue, 121, 122, 124, 125
 note issue limitation, 55
 paper money, 69, 95
 silver, free coinage suspended, 69
 silver of unlimited legal tender in, 70
 stabilisation, 121, 122, 123, 132, 157
 wages, post war, 122, 132
 war finance policy, 87, 88, 89
 wealth and population, 65, 66
 Franco-German war indemnity, 68
 Free coinage. *See* Coinage
 French Revolution Assignats, 62-3

- GENOA conference, 1922, 93, 152; currency reconstruction plan, 93 *et seq.*, 99, 101, 108, 109, 112, 113, 156; gold exchange standard, and, 99, 156
- German Reparation payments, 125
- Germany—
- crisis of 1931, 138, 139, 140
 - currency reform, 68
 - gold reserve, 49
 - gold standard, 68-9, 75, 77, 92-3
 - industrial depression, 116, 120, 135
 - paper money, 95
 - post-war financial position, 136 *et seq.*
 - silver standard, 67, 68, 69
 - trade with Far East, 68
 - war finance policy, 87, 89
- Gold—
- bullion standard, 95, 110
 - coinage price. *See* Coinage
 - cost of transporting, 37
 - debts, 104, 135
 - demand for, 29, 75, 76, 78, 92, 103, 110, 117, 151, 152
 - in industry, 30, 48, 49, 100, 101
 - demonstration, instance of, 105
 - discoveries of 1849 and 1850, 67, 74
 - exchange standard, 56-8, 99, 104-5, 110, 124, 155
 - Genoa conference, and, 99-100
 - India, 73-4
 - Russia, 57
 - export of, prohibited: England, 112; United States, 91, 106
 - international medium, as, 56
 - market, 30, 55, 91, 92, 93, 112
 - monetary stock in the seventies, 75
 - movements, 38, 40, 41, 45, 46-7, 52, 96, 97, 98, 99, 112-13, 129, 130, 154
 - illustrative figures, 42 *et seq.*
 - price of (*see also* Coinage) 18, 20, 25, 29-30, 31, 49, 64-5, 94, 149, 154. *See also* Value, *infra*
 - production, 47, 76, 77, 78, 79, 100, 101
 - total world output, 47, 74-5
 - purchase and sale of, by Bank of England, 20, 110, 141
 - purchasing power, determination of, 49. *See also* Value, *infra*
 - ratio of, to silver. *See* Ratio
 - reserves, 38, 39, 47 *et seq.*, 94-5, 155
 - coin as second time reserve, 95, 96
 - Genoa Conference recommendations, 99 *et seq.*, 156
 - determination of future demands, 50, 95, 96
 - increase, excessive, in, 38-9, 94
 - inflation, and, 89
 - laws, 50-1
 - pre-war policy, 55-6
 - post-war change, 56

Reserves—*continued*—

- various countries, 48-9
 - specie standard, 109
 - standard, 36-41, 59, 60, 62, 63, 69, 72, 74, 79, 88, 92, 106, 107, 112, 115, 119, 120, 132, 135
 - breakdown (1931), 115, 123 *et seq.*, 133, 138-41
 - classical form of, 15-16
 - coin, exclusive use of, not essential, 29
 - an imperfect application of, 95
 - credit movements and, 26, 81, 82, 84, 85
 - defect in, 82, 85, 107
 - foreign exchanges and, 36, 37-8, 39, 40
 - forms of, 109
 - foundation of, 31
 - functions of, 14, 15, 18, 149
 - inflation, prevention of, and, 89
 - spread of, 59
 - suspension of (1931), 139-42
 - effects of, 142 *et seq.*
 - in "New" countries, 135
 - value, or purchasing power, 16, 29, 30, 31, 76, 77, 79, 91-2, 94, 98, 100, 105, 116, 129, 134, 135, 141, 151
 - determination of, 47-9
 - effect of appreciation of, 135, 138, 145
 - for long period contracts, 79, 81
 - periodic fluctuation in, 80
 - world market. *See* Market, *supra*
- Gold Standard Act, 1925, 19, 95, 110
- Great Britain (*see also* England):
- gold losses, 121, 126, 132, 140
 - gold standard in—
 - re-establishment of, 115, 116, 117, 131
 - suspension of (1931), 139 *et seq.*
 - considerations for the future, 152, 155, 157
 - industrial depression, 115, 116, 119, 121, 126, 127, 131, 132, 133, 145-6
 - wages, and the gold standard in, 115
- Guineas, 60, 61, 63

HOLLAND: bimetallic system in, 66; paper money, 95; efforts to introduce gold coin, 95; silver, free coinage suspended, 69; silver standard, 66, 67

IMPORTS, 96, 97, 129, 146-7; "invisible" imports, 146-7

effect of currency fluctuations on, 35, 37-8, 40

Income. *See* Consumers' income

Income, national, 10, 11, 27

Inconvertible paper money, 7, 71, 72, 74, 75, 79, 141, 144, 149

Index numbers of prices, 77, 78, 79, 108, 116, 119, 134, 149

fluctuation in, 80

- India: gold demands of, 48; gold exchange standard, 57;
 rupee price, 73-4; silver, free coinage suspended, 73
- Industry, demand for gold in, 30, 48, 49, 100, 101
- Inflation, 88, 120, 121; avoidance of, 89-90, 109; gold reserve,
 and, 89
- International trade, 31-2
- Investments, 10, 97-8; foreign, 98, 146-8
- Italy, 75; (*and see* Latin Union)
 paper money, 67, 69
- JAPAN, 91, 107**
- KEYNES, Mr. J. M.:** proposals of, regarding gold standard, 101-6,
 115, 144 *and n.*, 150, 151
- LATIN UNION, 67, 68, 69**
 five franc pieces of, 69, 70, 71
 silver, free coinage suspended in, 69
- Legal tender money, 2-4, 5, 7-8, 15, 16, 21, 25, 62, 95
 demand for, 27, 28, 81, 85, 96
 gold reserve and, 96
- Lending by banks, 4, 12-15, 21, 26-7, 40-2, 44-6, 53, 80-1, 87-8
- Loans, international, 104
- London: bullion market, 112-13; clearing house for inter-
 national trade, *as*, 106; credit centre, *as*, 111, 112;
 discount market, 55 *n.*, 111, 118-19; financial centre,
as, 67, 110-12, 118-19, 133, 140, 156
- MACMILLAN Committee, 154-5**
- Margin, unspent. *See* Unspent margin
- Markets, financial. *See subject headings*
- Metallic currency, use of, 1
- Metallic standard, 74, 76
 fluctuations in rates of exchange, 66
- Mexico, 73
- Middle Ages, silver standard of, 18
- Mint, 16, 17, 19, 20
 profits, 19
- Monetary disturbances, data indicating, 108
- Monetary unit, 18, 20, 25, 62
 commodity value, 9, 25-6, 78, 94, 100-2, 105
 gold standard, and, 31, 49
 gold value, 16, 18, 20
 interrelation of monetary units, 30, 31
- Money—**
 of account, 8, 59, 61
 in circulation, need not be of gold, 95
 control of, 94
 defined, 1
 demand for, 17, 24, 27, 28, 47
 idea of, 2, 3, 8

Money—*continued*—

- medium of payment, as, 7, 8
- supply: and control of bank credit, 14
- unstable, evils of, 113, 114

Moratorium, 1914, 112

NEWTON, Sir Isaac, 61, 62

New York, 112, 113, 119, 156 (*see also* United States)

New Zealand, 135

Norway, 69, 151

Note issuing authority: responsibility of, 15

Notes. *See under* Bank and Currency

OUTLAY, consumers'. *See* Consumers' outlay

Overend and Gurney crisis, 117

PAPER money, 47, 63, 67, 68, 69, 71, 95, 96, 110, 141; gold cover for, 96; lending operations, and, 14, 15; limitation on, 47; over issue, 14

Paris, 67

Parity, 37

Payment—

- means of, 9
- with bank credit, 9

Peru, 73

Pound sterling, the, 8, 37, 98, 115, 116, 141, 144, 148; stabilisation problem, 148-9; the old parity, 157

Precious metals, the: as monetary standard, 1; as standard of value, 76-7, 92

Price, prices—

- index numbers, 77, 78, 79, 80, 108, 116, 119, 134, 149
- periodic fluctuations in, 79-80, 81-2
- nature of, 10, 30
- rise and fall of, 9-11, 13, 14, 35, 78-83, 91, 98, 116, 118, 119, 130, 134

Production—

- credit expansion, increased by, 13, 41, 42, 44
- credit restriction, effects of, on, 28, 82-3
- increase or decrease in, effects of, 97
- periodical fluctuation, 80

RATIO between gold and silver, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 68, 72, 74, 76

France, 62, 63, 64, 66

United States, 66, 72

Recoinage, 18

Reserves: and a currency stabilisation policy, 99; and demand for legal tender money, 85; (*see also under* Bank reserves, Gold reserves, and *Names of countries*)

Retail prices, 134

Ricardo, 110

Russia, 75, 89: gold exchange standard, 57; gold reserve difficulties, 57; gold unit adopted, 57, 71; paper money, 67; silver, free coinage suspended, 71

SAVINGS, 10, 98

Scandinavia, 67, 105, 151

Seignorage, 19

Shilling, 8

Short-term loans, 4, 133, 137; international, 137-8

Silver coinage. (*See also under* Coinage)—

defective, 61

five franc pieces, 69, 70, 71

legal tender, limitation on, in 1783, 63, 68

unlimited, 62, 64, 70

subsidiary (England), 62

issue at Government discretion, 64

thalers, 68, 69, 70

Silver standard, 59-61, 64, 66, 67, 69, 74, 77, 151

abandoned, 69-70, 92, 103

inconveniences, 59-61

various countries, 67

South Africa: gold production, 47

South Africa, Union of: preference for gold coin in, 95

Sovereign, 8, 19, 63, 64

Spain, 49, 71, 101, 141-2, 151; the peseta, 141-2

Stabilisation of currencies, 99 *et seq.*

Stabilisation problem, 148 *et seq.*, 156

Standard, monetary, 1

Sterling as rival standard to gold, 151

Strong, Governor Benjamin, 152-3

Sweden, 69, 151

Switzerland, 67, 95; *and see* Latin Union

TARIFF protective, 147, 148

Trade cycle, 82, 83, 84, 108, 113, 153

Traders' profits, 13

Treasury Bills, 88

UNEMPLOYMENT, 82, 83, 113, 116, 117, 130, 135

problem, and gold standard suspension, 143, 144

United States (*see also* New York)—

Bank failures, 136

Central Bank system, 107

Civil war, depreciated paper, 72

credit contraction in, 91, 120-1, 126

credit regulation in, 108, 109, 153

credit relaxation policy, 119-20, 124

Federal Reserve Act, 1913, 6, 107, 108

Federal Reserve Banks, 94, 107, 120, 127, 128

Federal Reserve notes, 29

financial crises in, 6-7, 72, 98

United States—*continued*—

- gold export prohibition, 91, 106
- gold reserves in, 48, 91, 101, 107, 108, 113, 120, 154
- gold standard in, 72, 73
 - post-war reintroduction of, 91, 92, 106
- Gold Standard Act, 1900, 73
- inflation and deflation in, 107
- loans payable in gold, 104
- paper money, 67, 72, 75
- productive activity, 119, 121, 132; set back, 127
- silver standard in, 66
 - abandonment of: protests against, 72
 - compromise on, 72-3
 - standard nominally bimetallic, 66
- Stock Exchange speculation in, 120-1, 126, 127
- war, the, entry into, 91
- Unspent margin, 11-12, 14, 42, 43-4, 128-9
- Uruguay, 73, 135

VENICE, 59

WAGE reductions, 130-1

Wages, post-war, various countries, 132; monetary stabilisation problem and, 150

Wages settlements, 83, 113

Wall Street collapse, 126, 127

War, the—

- debts, 104
- financial policy, various countries, 87, 88, 90
- gold depreciation, and, 91
- loans, 87
- money requirements, and, 87
- prices, rise of, and, 91
- United States entry into, 91

Wholesale prices, 134

Working classes, demand for legal tender money by, 27, 28

World price level, 115, 116, 122, 129, 130, 133, 153

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