



**INVESTMENT TRUSTS
AND FUNDS**

from

**THE INVESTOR'S
POINT OF
VIEW**

By

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and

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FOREWORD

VIRTUALLY all economic problems are both public and personal. It may seem that the racketeering methods of high finance encouraged by the inflationary prosperity of the 1920's were solely personal problems for those misguided investors who foolishly bought investment trust and other securities at fantastic prices; nevertheless, the subsequent popularity of the Townsend Plan and the adoption of the Social Security Act demonstrate that the dissipation of private savings becomes a public, as well as a personal, problem. It may seem that the balancing of a Federal budget is only a public problem of little or no personal concern to the individual; but, the rising cost of living and the increasing burden of taxation are gradually driving home the realization that a public economic problem is likewise a personal one.

The primary purpose for the existence of American Institute for Economic Research is to seek the solution of economic problems. It is believed that the solution of such problems in a competitive society is dependent primarily on the scientific approach; that is, on the careful accumulation of data, on logical analysis, and on unbiased judgment. The inexorable forces of competition will force into the discard economic institutions and methods which scientific analysis shows are not what they pretend to be.

With the foregoing principles in mind, we have not attempted either to expose individuals or reform investment trust management. Our attention has been concentrated on assembling the facts, on logical analysis, and on rendering an unbiased judgment, in the belief that, once the investor has adequate information, competition will eliminate the abuses which have become so notorious in the investment trust field.

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ROBERT L. BLAIR

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CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
I. THE INVESTOR'S PROBLEM	5
Unwise Trust Provisions	6
Minority Control	9
The Problem	11
II. EARLY DEVELOPMENT, BRITISH TRUSTS	12
British History	13
Conclusions	23
III. AMERICAN TRUSTS AND FUNDS	24
The Boom Decade Development	26
Public and Private Investigations	30
Later Stages of the Boom	31
The Aftermath	33
Fixed Trusts	34
Income Trusts and Savings Funds	35
Recent Federal Investigation	35
Conclusions	38
IV. THE IDEAL INVESTMENT TRUST	39
Management and Administration	39
Investment Restrictions	41
Capital Structure	43
Publicity and Accounting Procedure	45
Conclusions	46
V. WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS TRUST?.....	47
American Investment Trusts	50
Foreign Investment Trusts	62
VI. SELECTED AND RECOMMENDED ISSUES	69
Final Selections and Recommendations	75
The Recommended American Trusts	75
The Recommended British Trusts	94
Final Considerations	97
CHARTS: AMERICAN AND BRITISH TRUSTS	76 to 87