

until it also approached its old New York and Montreal parity of \$4.866. With the exception of the last three months of the year, when readjustments within the former gold bloc were occurring, 1936 exchange fluctuations were unusually narrow. This was broadly true also for 1937, although there were considerable declines in the French franc, Spanish peseta, and Brazilian milreis.

On May 5, 1938, the French franc was devalued to a minimum rate of 179 francs to the pound sterling; the pound itself dropped sharply during the year from an average of \$5.00 in January to \$4.71 in December. The Canadian dollar remained at fractional discounts in New York from March to December.

Foreign exchange trading, outside of the United States, was subject to a marked increase in official control in 1939. Soon after the outbreak of hostilities in September, belligerents took action to safeguard the positions of their currencies and foreign exchange reserves. However, both sterling and the Canadian dollar were depreciated materially in September as may be observed from Table 8.

### 8.—Monthly Averages of Exchange Quotations at Montreal, 1938 and 1939.

NOTE.—The noon rates in Canadian funds upon which these averages are based have been supplied by the Bank of Canada.

Month.	Australia. Pound.		Belgium. Belga.		Denmark. Krone.		Finland. Markka.		France. Franc.	
	Old par value.		-1390		-2680		-0252		-0392	
	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	4.000	3.765	.169	.170	.223	.210	.022	.021	.033	.027
February.....	4.013	3.767	.170	.169	.224	.210	.022	.021	.033	.027
March.....	3.998	3.764	.169	.169	.223	.210	.022	.021	.031	.027
April.....	4.005	3.763	.169	.169	.224	.210	.022	.021	.031	.027
May.....	4.006	3.759	.170	.171	.224	.210	.022	.021	.028	.027
June.....	4.009	3.754	.171	.170	.224	.209	.022	.021	.028	.027
July.....	3.964	3.751	.170	.170	.221	.209	.022	.021	.028	.027
August.....	3.918	3.706	.169	.170	.219	.208	.022	.021	.027	.026
September.....	3.867	3.529	.170	.187	.216	.212	.021	.021	.027	.025
October.....	3.851	3.576	.171	.186	.215	.214	.021	.021	.027	.025
November.....	3.793	3.576	.170	.183	.212	.214	.021	.020	.027	.025
December.....	3.771	3.576	.170	.184	.210	.214	.021	.019	.027	.025

  

Month.	Germany. Reichsmark.		Netherlands. Florin.		Italy. Lira.		Norway. Krone.		Spain. Peseta.	
	Old par value.		-4020		-0526		-2680		-1930	
	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.	1938.	1939.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
January.....	.403	.404	.557	.546	.053	.053	.251	.236	.061	.047
February.....	.404	.403	.559	.539	.053	.053	.252	.237	.061	1
March.....	.404	.403	.557	.533	.053	.053	.251	.236	.058	1
April.....	.404	.403	.559	.534	.053	.053	.252	.236	.058	1
May.....	.405	.403	.558	.538	.053	.053	.252	.236	.059	.111
June.....	.407	.402	.559	.533	.053	.053	.252	.236	.058	.110
July.....	.404	.402	.553	.534	.053	.053	.249	.236	.057	.110
August.....	.402	.401	.548	.537	.053	.053	.246	.234	.058	.111
September.....	.402	1	.543	.585	.053	.057	.243	.249	.053	.115
October.....	.404	1	.549	.590	.053	.056	.242	.252	.051	.113
November.....	.403	1	.547	.589	.053	.056	.238	.252	.051	.111
December.....	.405	1	.549	.590	.053	.056	.237	.252	.050	.110

<sup>1</sup> No quotations received.