

Curb on Flow of U.S. Dollars To Foreign Lands Takes New Urgency

Washington — (UPI) — The problem of curbing the flow of U.S. gold and dollars into foreign hands has taken on new urgency with the promise of a presidential directive to all government agencies and a report that the outflow rose sharply.

The loss of gold and dollars jumped during July, August and September to the highest level in a year, the Commerce Department has reported. It estimated the outflow hit an annual rate of \$4.3 billion, up from \$2.9 billion in the preceding three months.

A flight of short-term capital to countries where interest rates were higher caused the U.S. international payments position to worsen despite an encouraging widening of the surplus of exports over imports.

In Augusta, Ga., vacationing President Eisenhower conferred late Tuesday with two Cabinet officers over ways to reverse the unfavorable trend in the nation's international balance sheet.

Curtail Foreign Spending

One possible new step would be to curtail spending in foreign countries by dependents of servicemen stationed abroad. Pentagon sources said this could be done by slowing down the movement of dependents overseas.

Simply stated, the balance of payments problem is this: The United States has been spending more abroad — through imports, foreign aid, private investment and military support costs — than it has been earning overseas. In 1959 this excess of spending hit a record \$3.8 billion. In 1958 the deficit was \$3.4 billion.

Many of these dollars have passed into the hands of foreign governments, which have used them to buy American gold from the U.S. Treasury. While the Treasury's gold reserves are still far above what is needed to back up the U.S. currency, government leaders are convinced that the payments deficit must be reduced — sharply and promptly.

The Commerce Department report on the summer setback underscored the importance to the administration of getting European countries — especially West Germany — to assume more of the costs of foreign aid and NATO defenses. The West German Foreign Ministry indirectly has indicated some willingness to do this.

Additional hundreds of millions of dollars are spent in West Germany by and for the more than 210,000 soldiers and airmen stationed there and the 189,000 wives and children with them.

Millions of dollars spent in PX's are for purchase of goods made in Germany or other foreign countries, although substantial sums are also spent for American-made goods.

The U.S. government already has moved in various ways to reduce the dollar drain. It has launched an export promotion drive, pressured foreign countries to quit discriminating against American goods, directed military buyers abroad to "buy American" as much as possible and required foreign countries to spend economic development loans in the United States.

One result of the rush of dollars abroad was acceleration of the gold outflow. It hit \$637 million in the third quarter of the year as against \$50 and \$94 million in the first two quarters.

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Blood Pressure Can Be Lowered By New Operation

San Francisco (Science Service) — High blood pressure resulting from insufficient flow of blood to the kidney has been treated by a new operation performed experimentally on dogs. A short segment of ileum, or small intestine, near the kidney was used to bring about transfer of blood supply.

Drs. James F. Glenn, B. Marvin Harvard and Clyde L. Deming of Yale University reported the operation to the Clinical Congress of the American College of Surgeons meeting here.

Hasn't Helped

Although surgery has previously restored normal blood pressure in a limited number of patients who have had major defects in the kidney artery, the operation has not helped the majority of patients with high blood pressure who have kidney damage. Such patients suffer from diffused insufficiency of blood supply in the general kidney structure rather than an insufficiency because of a localized clot or hardening of the kidney artery.

The surgeons stripped the segment of ileum of its lining and joined the denuded muscular layer to the kidney from which the capsule or membranous envelope was removed.

They said the most successful transfer of blood supply occurred when they established a need for blood in the animals through constricting their arteries either partially or completely.

Doctors Warned About Treatment Errors by Chute

Chicago (Science Service) — Children can be easily poisoned with overdoses of aspirin or tranquilizers, the American Academy of Pediatrics meeting here was told.

Dr. A. Lawrence Chute, chief of pediatrics, Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada, warned doctors against mistakes commonly made in treatment ranging from blood transfusions to oxygen therapy.

One of the most common forms of drug disease caused by over-prescription by physicians for children, he said, is poisoning by acetylsalicylic acid, or aspirin.

Chute warned against indiscriminate use of antibiotics. He said that, next to the antibiotics, few drugs have been given to patients by physicians with the same abandon as the steroids, among which is cortisone.

Inhibit Growth

Esteroids over a prolonged period can inhibit growth in children and cause severe osteoporosis (bone disease). When used during pregnancy in the form of testosterone or progesterone to prevent habitual abortion, steroids can produce sexual changes in the offspring of women so treated, Chute cautioned.

Blood transfusion can overload the circulation or be dangerous because of incompatibility, and in the case of the Rh factor and the possible transmission of infection, the potential danger is great.

Jobs Said To Reach 70 Million in 1961

Chicago — (UPI) — Nationwide employment will reach a record high of 70 million persons in 1961, employment agency officials have predicted.

The board of directors of the National Employment Board said during the group's meeting here the "inevitable" increase was indicated by a 25 per cent jump in job orders in recent days.

The U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics last month reported 67.49 million persons employed in the United States. The nation's peak was 68.68 million in July.

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