

# Proclamation

## RESPECTING FINANCIAL PRACTICE REFORM

**The Financial Practice Reform League**, being duly constituted an organization for the advancement of civilization and political science.

*To all to whom these presents shall come or may concern,*

### GREETING :

Know ye, that our loyal, public spirited and enterprising members have voluntarily, and not by authority, accepted as fundamental for the time being the set of opinions hereinafter stated ; and

Know ye, also, that not wishing to be considered too radical or as attempting too comprehensive a reform we have restricted our opinions herein to institutions known respectively as

1. The Chartered Banks.
2. The Savings and Loan Companies.

Wherefore let it be assumed :

1. That Gold Coins are in the possession of some of us, although they have never been and may never be seen by many of us.

2. That the custom of "promising to pay dollars" has been permanently fixed by habit and law, and that the Act making Gold Coins a legal tender in fulfillment of "promises to pay dollars" is an indispensable interpretation of indefinite contracts.

3. That the act of "promising to pay dollars" creates a **Debit** and a **Credit**, and the relationship of **Debtor** and **Creditor**, and develops the need for two services, namely :

1. A Debt Clearing Service.
2. A Debt Continuing Service.

We submit :

1. That the chartered "banking" companies are designed to be companies of "discount and issue," and are chiefly engaged in buying, sometimes for **cash** but more often on **credit**, such instruments of commerce known as *Bills of Exchange* and *Promissory Notes*; and,

2. That it is the purpose of the acceptors and makers of said instruments to effect a clearance of debts.

1. That the "savings and loan" companies are designed to be companies for "saving and lending," and they invest their funds chiefly in mortgages on real estate ; and

2. That such investments are largely of a comparatively permanent or continuing character ; and are better security for the saving public than mercantile paper.