

inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The application also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the standards enumerated in the BHC Act (12 U.S.C. 1842(c)). If the proposal also involves the acquisition of a nonbanking company, the review also includes whether the acquisition of the nonbanking company complies with the standards in section 4 of the BHC Act. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than December 23, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City (D. Michael Manies, Assistant Vice President) 925 Grand Avenue, Kansas City, Missouri 64198-0001:

1. Commerce Bancshares, Inc., and CBI-Kansas, Inc., both of Kansas City, Missouri; to acquire Pittsburg Bancshares, Inc., Pittsburg, Kansas, and thereby indirectly acquire City National Bank, Pittsburg, Kansas.

B. Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (Genie D. Short, Vice President) 2200 North Pearl Street, Dallas, Texas 75201-2272:

1. American State Financial Corp., Lubbock, Texas, and American State Financial Corp Delaware, Wilmington, Delaware; to merge with Security Shares, Inc., Abilene, Texas, and thereby indirectly acquire Security State Bank, Abilene, Texas.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 24, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-31312 Filed 11-26-97; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals To Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies That are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has

determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated.

The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than December 23, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago (Philip Jackson, Applications Officer) 230 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Illinois 60690-1413:

1. Marshall & Ilsley Corporation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; to acquire Advantage Bancorp, Inc., Kenosha, Wisconsin, and thereby indirectly acquire Advantage Bank, FSB, Kenosha, Wisconsin, and thereby engage in the operation of a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4)(i) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 21, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-31142 Filed 11-26-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Notice of Proposals To Engage in Permissible Nonbanking Activities or To Acquire Companies That are Engaged in Permissible Nonbanking Activities

The companies listed in this notice have given notice under section 4 of the Bank Holding Company Act (12 U.S.C. 1843) (BHC Act) and Regulation Y, (12 CFR Part 225) to engage *de novo*, or to acquire or control voting securities or assets of a company that engages either directly or through a subsidiary or other company, in a nonbanking activity that is listed in § 225.28 of Regulation Y (12 CFR 225.28) or that the Board has determined by Order to be closely related to banking and permissible for bank holding companies. Unless otherwise noted, these activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Each notice is available for inspection at the Federal Reserve Bank indicated. The notice also will be available for inspection at the offices of the Board of Governors. Interested persons may

express their views in writing on the question whether the proposal complies with the standards of section 4 of the BHC Act.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding the applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than December 23, 1997.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of New York (Betsy Buttrill White, Senior Vice President) 33 Liberty Street, New York, New York 10045-0001:

1. North Fork Bancorporation, Inc., Melville, New York; to acquire New York Bancorp, Inc., New York, New York, and thereby indirectly acquire Home Federal Savings Bank, New York, New York, and thereby engage in operating a savings association, pursuant to § 225.28(b)(4)(ii) of the Board's Regulation Y.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 24, 1997.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

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FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Federal Open Market Committee; Domestic Policy Directive of September 30, 1997

In accordance with § 271.5 of its rules regarding availability of information (12 CFR part 271), there is set forth below the domestic policy directive issued by the Federal Open Market Committee at its meeting held on September 30, 1997.¹ The directive was issued to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as follows:

The information reviewed at this meeting suggests that growth of economic activity remains brisk. In labor markets, hiring continued robust over the summer months and the civilian unemployment rate, at 4.9 percent in August, remained near its low for the current economic expansion. Industrial production increased considerably further in July and August. Retail sales have risen sharply over recent months after a pause during the spring. Housing starts declined in July and August, but home sales have been strong. Business fixed investment has increased substantially further since

¹ Copies of the Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting of September 30, 1997, which include the domestic policy directive issued at that meeting, are available upon request to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C. 20551. The minutes are published in the Federal Reserve Bulletin and in the Board's annual report.