

WE CAN SAVE IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE CAN KEEP OUR SAVINGS IN OUR HOUSE.



However, while a penny saved: May 88 a penny "Urned" if you keep your savings in an Urn.— Or: anywhere else in your house:——IT won't earn. Any interest.

HOWEVER, IF YOU DEPOSIT YOUR SAVINGS INTO AN ACCOUNT WITH A BANK, YOU EARN INTEREST AND YOUR SAVINGS WILL GROW.



ACTUALLY, THE WORD "BANK" IS AN OVERSIMPLIFICATION: THERE ARE REALLY MANY DIFFERENT TYPES OF DEPOSITORY INSTITUTIONS; OR INSTITUTIONS THAT ACCEPT DEPOSITS, SUCH: AS COMMERCIAL BANKS, SAVINGS AND LOAN! ASSOCIATIONS; AND CREDIT UNIONS. FOR SHORT, THOUGH, WE'LL" JUST CALL THEM "BANKS."

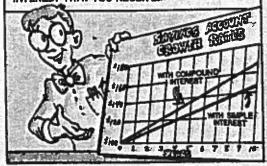


WHEN YOU DEPOSIT YOUR SAVINGS WITH A BANK, NOT ONLY DO YOU BARN INTEREST ON YOUR SAVINGS, BUT YOU CAN ALSO BARN INTEREST ON THE INTEREST THAT YOU RECEIVE AND KEEP IN YOUR ACCOUNT.





FOR EXAMPLE, IF YOU DEPOSIT \$100 IN A BANK AT 5% INTEREST, AT THE END OF TEN YEARS YOU WON'T HAVE JUST \$150 (THE ORIGINAL \$100 PLUS 10 "SIMPLE" INTEREST PAYMENTS OF \$5 EACH); YOU'LL HAVE MORE THAN \$160, BECAUSE YOU'LL EARN INTEREST ON THE INTEREST THAT YOU RECEIVE:



WHEN INTEREST RATES ARE HIGHER, "COMPOUNDING" HAS A GREATER EFFECT IN MAKING YOUR SAVINGS ACCOUNT GROW: FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE RATE OF INTEREST IS 10%, SIMPLE INTEREST WOULD INCREASE A \$100 DEPOSIT TO \$200 IN 10 YEARS, BUT COMPOUND INTEREST WILL INCREASE IT TO ALMOST \$260.



THAT'S RIGHT. WITH A 5%.
RATE OF INTEREST, YOUR.
SAVINGS WILL DOUBLE IN
ABOUT I'T YEARS: BUT WITH
AN INTEREST RATE OF 10%,
THEY'LL DOUBLE IN ABOUT.
SEVEN YEARS:

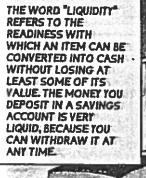
7.2 10 72.0 70 20



IN GENERAL, THE LONGER YOU ARE WILLING TO LEAVE YOUR SAVINGS IN A BANK, THE HIGHER THE RATE OF INTEREST YOU CAN EARN. THE REASON INVOLVES SOMETHING CALLED "LIQUIDITY."

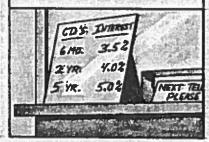


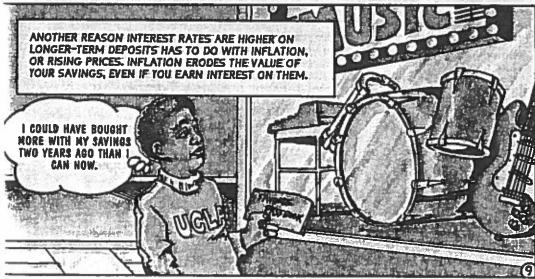






HOWEVER, IF YOU AGREE TO LEAVE YOUR SAVINGS ON DEPOSIT IN WHAT'S CALLED A "CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT" FOR, SAY, TWO YEARS OR FIVE YEARS, YOU SACRIFICE LIQUIDITY AND YOU RECEIVE A HIGHER RATE OF INTEREST IN RETURN FOR THAT SACRIFICE.

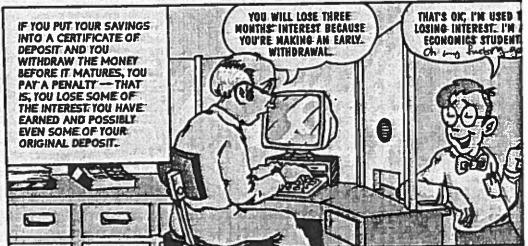


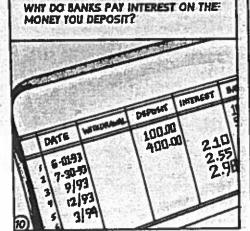




SO, THE LONGER YOU COMMIT YOUR SAVINGS TO A BANK, THE HIGHER THE RATE OF INTEREST YOU'LL WANT TO RECEIVE.







BANKS PAY INTEREST IN ORDER TO ATTRACT DEPOSIT THEY THEN LEND OUT MUCH OF THE MONEY AT INTEREST RATES HIGHER THAN THE RATES THAT THE PAY THE DEPOSITORS. THAT'S HOW BANKS EARN A PROFIT — SOMETHING THAT'S NECESSARY TO KEEP! ANY ENTERPRISE IN BUSINESS!



A BANK IS WILLING TO PAY HIGHER RATES OF INTEREST ON LONGER-TERM DEPOSITS BECAUSE THE ASSURANCE OF HAVING THE MONEY FOR A LONG TIME ALLOWS THE BANK TO EXTEND LONGER-TERM LOANS:



IF BANKS LEND THE MONEY THEY RECEIVE AS DEPOSITS, HOW CAN YOU BE SURE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO WITHDRAW YOUR MONEY WHEN YOU WANT IT?



WE'RE RUNNING LOW

ON TWENTIES; BETTER

PUT SOME MORE ON:

THE SHELFS

THE ANSWER IS
THAT BANKS DON'T
LEND ALL TH
MONEY THEY RE
CEIVE AS DEPOSITS:
THEY ALWAYS
ENOUGH ON HAND
TO M TH
N OF THEIR.
CUSTOMERS.

ALSO, BANK ACCOU ON WHICH YOU CAN WRITE CH AND IN WHICH YOU CAN SOME SAVINGS ARE SUBJ TO. "RESERVE REQUIREM THE RESERVE; THE NATIO CENTRAL BANK, REQUI THAT BAN REFRAIN FROM LENDING A PERCENT OF THE DEPOSITS IN THOSE ACCOU

dies fester

THE FEDERAL
RESERVE SAYS THAT I
CAN LEND ONLY 490 OF'
EYERY 4100 DEPOSITED
IN CHECKING
ACCOUNTS...



AGAIN, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, EVEN IF A BANK MAKES UNWISE LOANS AND CAN'T COLLECT THEM, THE BANK HAS ITS OWN MONEY, ITS CAPITAL, THAT IT CAN USE IF SOMEONE WANTS TO MAKE'A WITHDRAWAL. INDEED, THE GOVERNMENT WON'T ALLOW A BANK TO OPEN UNLESS IT HAS A LOT OF CAPITAL.



ALSO, AS A LAST LINE OF DEFENSE, PEOPLE'S DEPOSITS OF UP TO \$100,000 IN EACH BANK ARE INSURED BY A GOVERNMENT AGENCY. SO ALL DEPOSITORS WILL GET THEIR MONEY BACK, UP TO THAT AMOUNT.



HERE'S A QUESTION TO PONDER: IF A BANK TAKES YOUR SAVINGS AND LENDS THEM TO A BORROWER WHO PAYS A HIGHER INTEREST RATE THAN THE BANK PAYS YOU, WHY CAN'T YOU LEND THE MONEY DIRECTLY TO THE BORROWER AND RECEIVE



TO ANSWER THE QUESTION, SUPPOSE SOMEONE APPROACHED YOU AND ASKED TO BORROW YOUR SAVINGS. HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHETHER THE PERSON IS A GOOD CREDIT RISK — THAT IS, HOW WOULD YOU KNOW WHETHER YOU COULD COUNT ON THE PERSON TO REPAY THE LOAN?







THERE ARE OTHER REASONS WE PUT OUR SAVINGS IN BANKS, RATHER THAN LENDING THEM DIRECTLY TO BORROWERS. ONE IS THAT BORROWERS OFTEN BORROW AMOUNTS OF MONEY THAT ARE MUCH LARGER THAN THE SAVINGS OF A SINGLE PERSON. A BANK TAKES THE SAVINGS OF MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE AND COMBINES THEM INTO A SINGLE LOAN.



ALSO, YOU MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO FIND SOMEONE INTERESTED IN BORROWING THE PRECISE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT YOU HAVE SAVED. A BANK, THOUGH, IS ALWAYS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE AMOUNT THAT YOU HAVE SAVED AND PAY YOU INTEREST ON THAT AMOUNT.



ANOTHER REASON WE DEPOSIT OUR SAVINGS IN BANKS, RATHER THAN-LENDING DIRECTLY TO THE PEOPLE WHO BORROW FROM THE BANKS, IS THAT THE BORROWERS WE KNOW MAY WANT TO BORROW MONEY FOR LONGER!THAN WE ARE WILLING TO PART WITH IT.





IF YOU WANT TO SAVE AND EARN INTEREST ON YOUR SAVINGS, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT YOUR MONEY' IN A BANK. THERE ARE OTHER. WAYS TO SAVE ONE IS TO BUY U.S. SAVINGS BONDS.

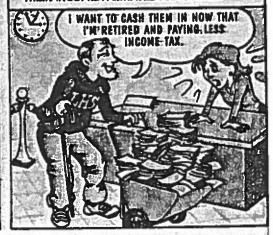




U.S. SAVINGS BONDS HAVE A NUMBER OF ADVANTAGES, ONE IS:THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY INCOMETAX ON THE INTEREST YOU EARN EACH YEAR; YOU CAN POSTPONE PAYING THE TAX UNTIL YOU "CASH IN". THE BOND — THAT IS; UNTIL YOU ASK UNCLE SAM TO REPAY THE LOAN.



MANY PEOPLE BUT SAVINGS BONDS DURING THEIR WORKING TEARS AND THEN CASH THEM IN AFTER THEY RETIRE — WHENT THEIR INCOME TAX RATES ARE LOWER!



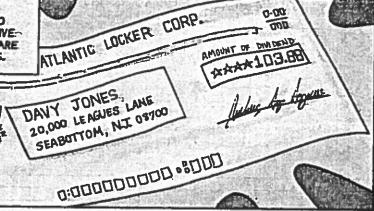
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE BUT SAVINGS BONDS THROUGH A PAYROLL SAVINGS PLAN — THEY HAVE MONEY DEDUCTED FROM THEIR EARNINGS EACH PAY PERIOD AND APPLIED TO THE PURCHASE OF SAVINGS BONDS.



THERE ARE MANY OTHER WAYS TO SAVE. SOME PEOPLE LIKE TO PUT THEIR SAVINGS INTO THE STOCK MARKET — THAT IS, THEY BUY STOCKS, OR SHARES IN CORPORATIONS.



WHEN YOU BUT STOCKS, YOU CAN EARN A RETURN IN TWO WAYS. FIRST, YOU MAY RECEIVED DIVIDENDS — THAT IS, A SHARE OF THE COMPANY'S PROFITS.



ALSO, IF THE COMPANY DOES WELL, THE VALUE OF YOUR STOCKS MAY GO UP, AND IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN THEN SELL THE STOCKS FOR MORE THAN YOU PAID FOR THEM,



STOCKS HAVE THE POTEN-TIAL TO GIVE YOU A MUCH HIGHER RETURN THAN A... BANK ACCOUNT DOES.



BUT THERE IS ALSO A RISK WHEN YOU BUY STOCKS. THEIR VALUE CAN DROP!





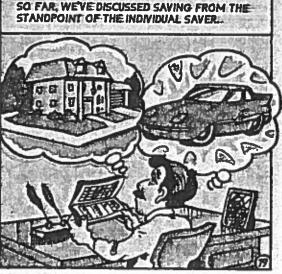


POTENTIAL RETURN











IF AMERICANS DON'T SAVE, BUSINESSES WILL NOT BE ABLE TO INVEST IN THE MACHINERY, BUILDINGS, AND OTHER THINGS THAT ARE ESSENTIAL FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH.



THAT'S BECAUSE WHEN A BUSINESS WANTS TO BUILD A NEW BUILDING OR BUY NEW MACHINERY, IT USUALLY HAS TO BORROW MONEY.





THE U.S. SAVINGS RATE --THE PERCENT OF INCOME THAT AMERICANS SAVE --HAS BEEN DECLINING SINCE THE 1980's

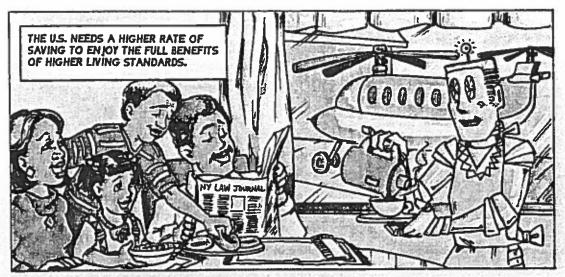


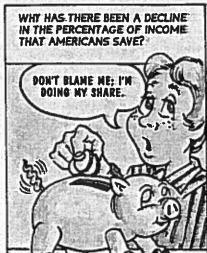






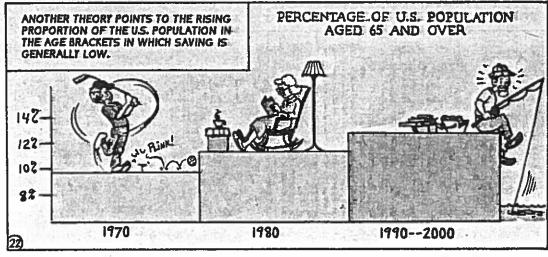


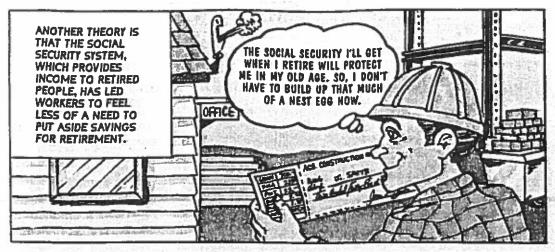


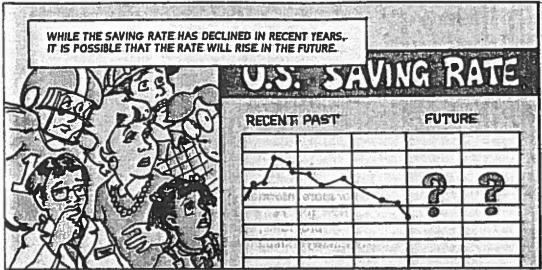


ECONOMISTS OFFER SEVERAL EXPLANATIONS. ONE IS THAT AMERICANS' WEALTH GENERALLY HAS INCREASED, AND WHEN PEOPLE HAVE MORE WEALTH, THEY FEEL LESS OF A NEED TO SAVE OUT OF CURRENT INCOME.









NOW THAT YOU'VE FINISHED READING THE COMIC BOOK ON SAVING, WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH IT?



