

1. AVAILABILITY OF LOANS

There is every indication that borrowing of substantial amounts of money will be done by churches. Population is increasing, church membership in many areas and in many denominations is increasing more rapidly than total population. Thus places of worship will be enlarged, replaced, and supplemented by organization of entirely new congregations. Likewise funds will be sought for building parochial schools at the primary, secondary, and college levels. In some very sizable religious denominations church instruction is concentrated into Sunday school and/or Bible class program. Educational plants for these programs, too, will require expansion.

The pressure to build more hospitals and to enlarge existing hospitals is evident through study of these and other factors:

1. The Nation's increasing population;
2. Broadening of the scope of health services performed in hospitals;
3. Popular acceptance of techniques performed by doctors in hospitals;
4. Hospital insurance;
5. Medicare;
6. Health education—Preventive medicine; and
7. Lengthening lifespan.

The Hill-Burton grants of Federal funds to hospitals, usually for one-third of the cost of a hospital building project has assisted materially in keeping available hospital facilities reasonably current with the need. In connection with most hospital building projects borrowed funds are required, whether or not a Hill-Burton grant was involved. It has been a very satisfactory combination, and an effective method of accelerating expansion of available hospital facilities.

Still other loans will be required for the building of nursing homes, homes for the elderly, public rental housing, etc. In the past some projects in these relatively newer public facility fields have been obliged to search diligently for loan funds unless the obligation was—

1. Insured by an agency of the Federal Government;
2. Guaranteed by an agency of the Federal Government;
3. Guaranteed by a strong religious denomination;
4. A satisfactory past performance record; or
5. Based on a recent demonstration of strength such as participation in a building fund campaign.

2. AVAILABILITY OF INVESTABLE FUNDS

As the Nation's economy expands, the opportunities for savings are simultaneously expanded. Large portions of the savings can and usually are productively invested for extended periods of time. Selection of the specific vehicle for investment varies among types of investors and with further changes related to trends in economic conditions. The past record of performance of a general investment classification, the relative rate of return which it offers, and the contracted term of arrangement are all factors which determine relative popularity of a specific type of investment at a particular time.

Since the overall performance record of church, school, and hospital bonds and notes of private nonprofit organizations has been for an extended period of time far better than the average for all debt