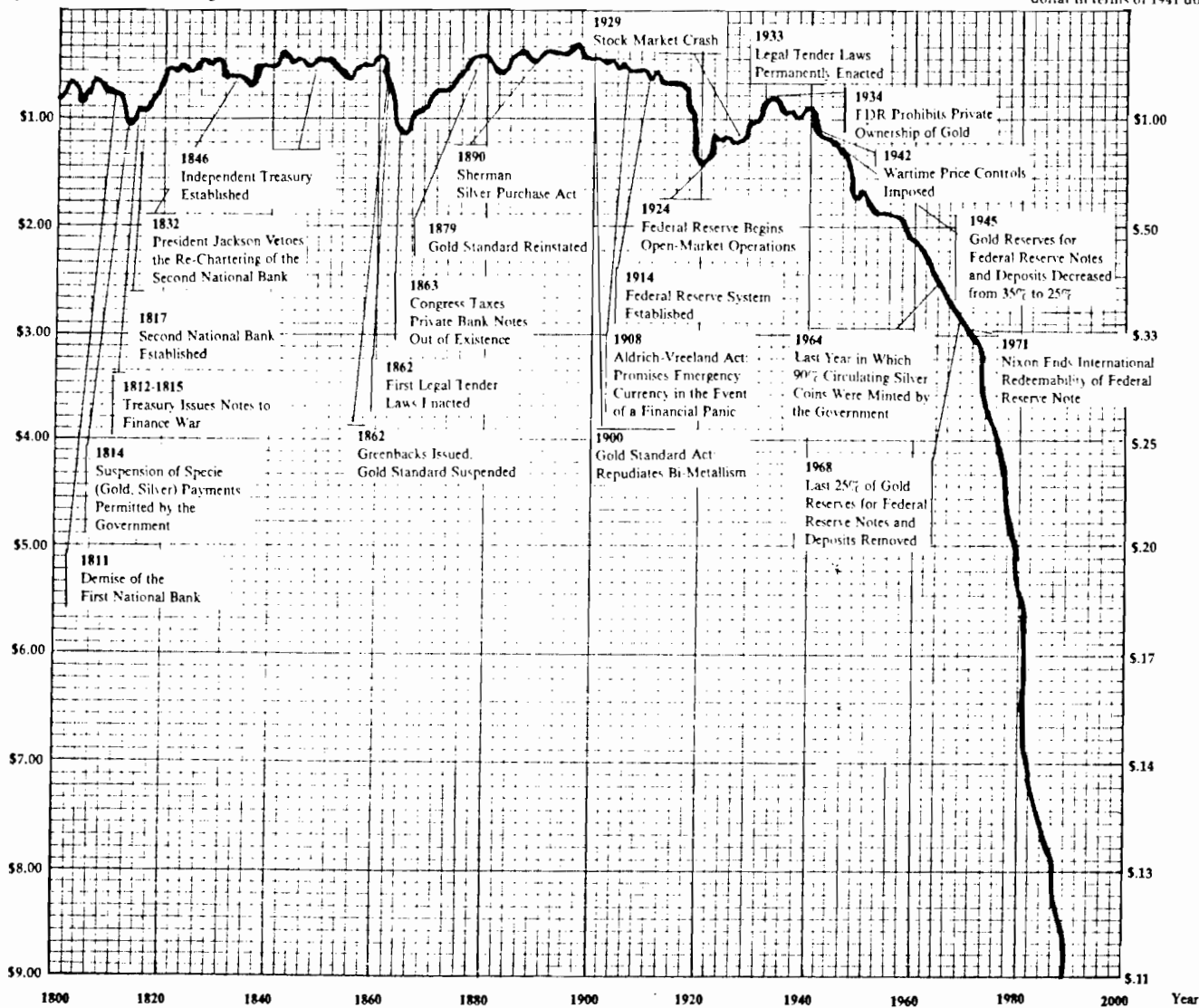


Declining Value of the Dollar

Amount needed in current dollars to purchase the same basket of goods.

U.S. Price Index: 1800-1988

Purchasing power of current dollar in terms of 1941 dollar.



Prepared by the George Edward Durrell Foundation

The Decline of the Dollar

The accompanying chart shows the decline in the purchasing power of the U.S. dollar from 1800 to the present. Please note that the most serious declines in the value of the dollar coincide with "emergencies" --war and economic troubles such as the depression -- during which the government used the opportunity to increase its power by intervening in new and more severe ways in the management of money and banking.