

Cooke, Morris-L. FROM
1946-52

January 15, 1947

Dear Mr. Cooke:

I would rather doubt that my husband had attended the conference in Charlottesville, but I do not question that he heard of the results and that he was deeply interested in them.

I always heard my husband talk of the TVA and all of the other developments, not simply as power plants, but as social experiments. When we visited the TVA and the other dams, that was the theme on all occasions.

Very cordially yours,

THE HAY-ADAMS HOUSE

WASHINGTON 5, D. C.



"COMPLETELY AIR-CONDITIONED"

January 13, 1947

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I was associated with what ultimately became the TVA legislation from about 1922 on. As far as I know, up to 1932 it was a power plan, pure and simple.

Gossip has it that early in 1933 Senator Norris spent a half hour with President Roosevelt and on returning to his office began revamping his bill so as to have it provide for a "great social experiment", rather than simply a power plan. From the information I have, I think there is no doubt that he got this idea from F.D.R.

What I would like to know is were President Roosevelt's regionalization ideas a more or less gradual growth or was he particularly affected by what he heard at a conference in Charlottesville in July 1931. Odum, Stuart Chase, et al, spoke there and think that the several days of conferences made a deep impression on Mr. Roosevelt.

Do you happen to know whether he went to this conference, and do you recollect whether he reported what went on there with any enthusiasm?

If you have no information on this subject please do not bother to reply, but it would be very useful to me if you have information along this line. to contribute.

Yours very sincerely,

Morris L. Cooke

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MLC:s