

Basil O Connor (1936-1939) Subject File - Box 160

Box 160

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
D. BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

ROOSEVELT & O'CONNOR
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

December 16, 1930.

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Governor of the State of New York,
49 East 65th Street,
New York City.

Your Excellency:

There are times when even a close and delightful relationship such as has existed between you and me for many years can no longer stand the strain, and I regret that I am compelled to state to you that I think that time has arrived.

For many years I have willingly collaborated with you in many nefarious undertakings, although, as you know, I always strenuously objected to participating in them. So far we have fooled the Press. I have listened to more nonsense from people engaged in your avocation than it seems possible any one man could bear in a short lifetime. Only to appease one of your many idiosyncrasies I have allowed myself to be almost frozen to death riding in an open car with you. I have even permitted politicians to speak to me, and I have been compelled to look at the Press although I am happy to say I have never spoken to it. It would seem that no one could ask his worst enemy to go farther than all of this, and yet you ask me to break bread with the Press! That surely is -

"THE GOVERNOR'S COWARDLY ACT."

How could you have overlooked Shakespeare's famous line:-

"Press not a falling man too far."

There is just one possible explanation of this betrayal of me on your part and that is it may be that you have forgotten my views on the Press. Still wishing in every way to maintain our delightful friendship, I shall re-state those views to you now so that after fully realizing them again you may have the opportunity of apologizing.

As you know, Ripley and I for many years have been investigating the history and meaning of popular phrases. That he has made more money at it than I have is no indication that his work has been any more thorough. The results of my labor have never appeared in the Press for reasons which will become obvious as you devour this communication. Ripley has spent a lot of time on things that weren't really so bad. I chose the Press as my field.

The first thing I observed was the fact that these sheets are no longer referred to as "newspapers" but are commonly called the "Press." The reason for this must be obvious. The word "Press" fits the case exactly. Webster defines it as meaning "to horn in and bear down" and you can tell me that Webster was a bright young feller.

I then studied at great length the meaning of the phrase "news sense." There's a good one! As a matter of fact there's no sense to it - it's simply another form of mental degradation. Its history, though, is very interesting. You will recall that it was only a short time ago that newspaper man learned to read and write, and some of them

can't write yet. Prior to that time they had heard a great deal of "nuisance" because they had always been called that. When the first newspaper man learned to write, thinking that was an honorable title, he wrote it "news sense" - and that's that!

The feature of the Press that has interested me most of all, however, is the birds who write the editorials and particularly the guy who writes them for the EVENING WORLD. I have never met him and that's his good luck, but if I am to judge by his editorials I am certain that if he wrote them in his own blood it would certainly be "yellow journalism." The only difference between him and the inmates at Islip is that we don't have to pay his board and room - and that sure does count!

As far as the boys are concerned who go around the country endeavoring to do so-called reporting and, as far as I can make out, endeavoring at all times to avoid news, I have the kindest feelings toward them. I suppose they have to work at something, or at least someone has to pay them. I think no worthier movement could be supported by you as Governor of this great State of 18,000,000 people than one which would involve an attempt to make these boys respectable, and this I think can be done in a very simple way by giving them each a box of apples and letting them "go to it."

Compared with my feelings for the Press in general and particularly for the editorial writers, there is one specie of this genus that I absolutely abhor and that is the ex-newspaper man - and Howe! It has always seemed ridiculous to me that we did not adopt toward news-

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt

December 16, 1930.

paper men the same policy as we have with respect to those unfortunates who occupy places like Islip. In their case, I understand, our theory of government is once a nut, always a nut, and they never get out.

Dine with the Press I will never! My TELEGRAM to each of those estimable gentlemen is as follows: Return to your POST as a TRIBUNE and be AMERICAN; reflect the SUN from the MIRROR on the WORLD, but for God's sake don't let it burn. The odor would be awful.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor

PSF: O'Connor

June 1, 1933.

Dear Doc:-

At six o'clock on Friday evening last I learned that you had been in Washington all day, or at least someone who claimed to be you. Missy tried to get you on the telephone to come to dinner but you had evidently changed your room in the hotel and did not wish to play with respectable people!

After a careful search by the Secret Service, we find that you told people that you were leaving on the six o'clock train but that you were seen in Washington during the course of the night.

In view of the fact that you are under constant observation by Mr. Pecora, former President Hoover's Secretary Richey and John W. Davis as counsel for J. P. Morgan & Co., I strongly recommend that the next time you come to the National Capitol you make the White House your headquarters. At least you will be in respectable society when inside our iron fence!

Please consider yourself properly called down; apologize to Elvira for your conduct; and give her my love — and a big kiss.

AS ever,

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

RT

PSF: ~~D'...~~
Sen. Corres "O"

JAMES G. O'CONNOR
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
BANGOR, MAINE

m to h
2
u

my.
June 27, 1933.

FD 69



Dear Basil:

It is rumored that committeeman Dubord troubled the President on his vacation and after conference, the slate is wiped clean and Dubord is to name the District Attorney and Utterback is to select the Collector.

Dubord is said to be after the Collector job now and is endeavoring to compromise with Utterback to get Utterback's man, Piper, out of the way on account of his old age.

Recently, Utterback made the remark to a real democrat in Bangor, that he, Utterback, would bet anything that I would not get the Collector job or any other. He was promptly rebuked and driven away.

Rumors are, of course, unreliable but I believe you should know about them.

Love,

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York.

Utterback Voted 'Nay' On Muscle Shoals

A story by one of the Washington correspondents, to the effect that Hon. John G. Utterback, representative in Congress from the Third Maine district, did not vote upon the Muscle Shoals bill has been given wide publicity and served as the basis of at least one editorial.

The Commercial has been asked to correct this statement by the Washington correspondent. The Congressional Record of Wednesday, May 17, shows that Mr. Utterback was among the 112 who voted "nay."

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Letter gone to P.M.G. from the Pres.
in regard to placing James O'Connor in
job.

Enclosure from John J. O'Connor, M. C.

PSF
O'Connor

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE
NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON
▲

JAMES A. FARLEY
CHAIRMAN

September 14, 1933

Oh-hum!

File Personal

Hon. John J. O'Connor,
House of Representatives.

Dear John:

I have received your letter of September 8 relative to your brother James G. O'Connor of Bangor, Maine, who wants to be appointed Collector of Internal Revenue in that State.

All the leaders up there are opposed to this appointment, John, and have made another recommendation. I talked with the Maine leaders while up there on Saturday and because of my attitude in the affair they said that they will make every effort to work out something for Jim, which I hope will be satisfactory.

Sincerely yours,

JAF

JAF:ER

→ Sure, they were all for Smith!
Doe

I thought I rated this - but - no hum!
Doe

← a lot of political leaders here have been opposed to appointments made here but that seems to be different
Doe

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

Private
PSF
O'Connor

FDR

Referring to the conversation I
had with you when I was
last in Washington I would
like very much to be on that
Committee to be appointed
by you re: Foreign Bonds. I do
hope you won't consider
this presumptuous.

I have never found ~~any~~
any of these issues and

I have never represented
any Banking house that
issued any of them.

I'm not at all interested
in making any money
as a member of such
Committee.

It would be a great thing
for me.

If you can't do ~~this~~ - you
know where I always
stand - with you

Oct Joe
10/18/33.

Personal

PSF
O'Connor

October 18, 1933.

MEMORANDUM FROM THE PRESIDENT
FOR P. M. H. -

The inclosed comes to me confidential. I do not vouch for the truth of it. Will you look into it and speak to me if there is any thought of appointing this man?

Inc.

FAB
Very confidential, of course
Doc

JAMES G. O'CONNOR
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
BANGOR, MAINE

3-10-33
Refer to...

July
17th
1933



~~Dear Basil-~~

Information has come ^{*confidentially*} ~~to me~~ from an Inspector of the Maine Internal Revenue office that candidate Piper is the instigator of a suit now pending in Court entitled, Blodgett Tanning Co., VS. Col. of Int. Rev., the plaintiff being one of Piper's clients in the making of tax returns, the amount involved in this action being about \$10,000.

Piper is not an Attorney, but officials declare it to be his doings through a local firm of Attorneys, and that he, Piper, will be the star witness against the government. They also state that since his retirement from governmental service he has employed his wits in every direction to defeat the government of its income taxes, and they believe he represents nearly all the income tax dodgers in eastern Maine.

This Inspector called on me yesterday and seemed surprised at the news that Piper was to be appointed Collector and requested me to let Mr. Farley in on these facts.

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York.

Love,
James

8 Crosby Street,
Augusta, Maine,
July 17, 1933

My dear Mr. O'Connor:

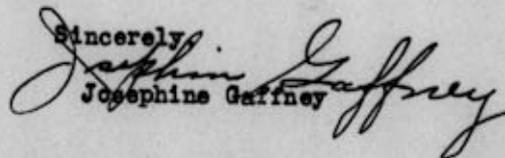
Another day has come and gone and no announcement! All these payless pay days for the Democrats. Mr. Ham told me today that Kingsbury had it all sewed up. I know all the Republicans in the office want him and that is why they are shouting for him. Lloyd Shapleigh was down here from the Bangor office about ten days ago and he said to me that Kingsbury would make no changes if he got in and that all the employees wanted him. Isn't that grand for Kingsbury to be able to make such promises!

For myself I shall hate to see Mr. Piper get the position. The office needs a collector who will get an insight into the work and not leave it all to the telephone operator and I think Mr. Piper will be as weak as Mr. Ham has been. If the Government wants to cut expenses I do not think Kingsbury will be the man for them.

Another angle to the situation appeared today and that was there would be no change in political positions until after the State of Maine voted on the liquor question. You can take this for what it is worth. The grape vine is busy these days.

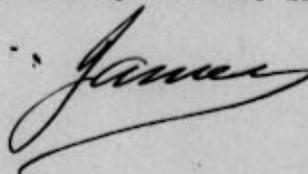
I hope you are in communication with Washington and that it will not be many days before I will see your name in the headlines for the Collectorship of Maine.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Josephine Gaffney

Note;

Mr. Ham is the present Collector. Kingsbury is Piper's surname. The writer is secretary to Ham. She knows who's who in the office.



June 15, 1934.

Dear Doc:-

The President found this correspondence the other day and suddenly decided that he still wants to be a member of the New York Yacht Club. You probably remember the conversation we had about it. Of course, he should be an Honorary Member while he is President, but if they are highhat about it, let me know and we will send the dues. I think at the time you said you were going to speak to them but it may have slipped your mind.

As ever yours,

MEMORANDUM

Get a 2
PSP
O'Connor

Date: 6/21/34

FOR THE PRESIDENT

Conboy is going to Ireland on the 27th of this month and will be glad to do anything you might wish him to.

Incidentally, I know that he would like very much to be the representative of this government in Ireland.

B.O'C.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
KENNETH HOFFMAN
MAURICE MOUND

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

*Paula
file
O'Connor* ^{BSF}

August 17, 1934.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Miss Marguerite A. Le Hand,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Le Hand:

A young Dartmouth man, Walter Wanger, produced the picture, "Gabriel Over The White House." He is now about to produce a picture entitled, "The President Vanishes." Farrar & Rinehart are going to bring out a book under that name. The picture, of course, will be slightly different from the book. Enclosed are the advance sheets of the book which Wanger has had sent to me. I have not read them but Miss Judge has. She says she sees nothing in the book of any importance to the President one way or the other.

It might be a good thing, however, if you read the proof over the week-end and let me know unofficially whether you have any ideas about it. I am not in any sense approving the proof and I would not expect the White House to. The only point at all is that if there is anything objectionable in it, it undoubtedly could be changed.

Sincerely yours,

BOP

Enc.

PST O'Connor

jp [1934]

Dear Mr. President:

With all the things
you have on your mind,
I think it was most
thoughtful of you to
remember us on our
anniversary. As far
as weakening I think
it is a little too
late to do that after
sixteen years. Doc is
a habit. I don't know
what I'd do without
him - the old dear.

I hope you had
a good summer,
and that things
are going well with
you.

Many thanks again
for your thought.

as always

Affectionately
Elvira

October
twentyth

Mrs. Basil O'Connor

Empire Trust Company

580 FIFTH AVENUE



1411 BROADWAY

120 BROADWAY

Our Foreign Department

The Foreign Department of the EMPIRE TRUST COMPANY is organized to meet your every requirement in all matters involving Travellers' Letters of Credit, Foreign Drafts and Exchange and Foreign Collections, with an unusually large number of Foreign Correspondents. Your inquiries are invited.

the
document
present BF

(5)(1)

James J. Dooling plans or hopes to be able to talk to your friend this week end during his visit to attend the Gridiron Dinner Saturday night. ~~of all the candidates mentioned for all the post:~~ I should like to prepare the way for this visit in case my name is mentioned in connection with the organization of the next House. It looks now as though Byrns would be elected Speaker and I have a very good chance to be elected Leader, if my own delegation gets active for me. This latter depends upon the adjustment of any differences between your friend and Dooling. I have had several talks with the latter, and he is very bitter about the treatment he is receiving as to patronage. He claims every assurance was given to him and his group when they made the fight against Curry. He is particularly incensed about the hold up of the Solomon appointment and is constantly told by all his adherents that the Administration is set on "destroying the Organization". I have argued persistently against the truth of this, but the situation is tense. On his visit he hopes to get some encouragement that his suggestions will be recognized.

My fate is tied up in that difficult situation. While I have support all over the country, no one can get very far if his own delegation is not openly behind him. Dooling will not care who runs the House if he is left without recognition. I am positive he is most anxious to go along with your friend in all things if he can satisfy his followers. If he gets no satisfaction, his interest in affairs in Washington, including me, will cease entirely and it may result in a continuance of the old fight between the Hall and the Administration. This can be avoided by the carrying out of promises alleged to have been solemnly made.

It may happen that Dooling may sound out your friend's attitude toward me. I hope the answer will be agreeable and if the direct question is asked as to whether I would be satisfactory, I

trust the answer will be at least "yes". Incidentall^y it is interesting to note that of all the candidates mentioned for all the positions, I am the only one who supported your friend 100%. Every one of them were against him on some one or more Bills, such as Economy Bill, Bonus or others. One of the two top places is going North, which undoubtedly means New York.

P.S.F. O'Connor

RECEIVED
O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY, N.Y.

1935 FEB - 8 - AM 9:38

JAMES G. O'CONNOR
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
BANGOR, MAINE

file

FAR

6th February 1935

Dear Basil-

Yesterday was my 18,627th day of existence
being my fifty-first birthday, 10,957 days of
which I have diligently labored for the present
political party in power.

Please omit flowers.

Love,

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
New York.



file
private

PSF
O'Connor

August 16, 1935.

MEMORANDUM FOR F.D.R.

My dear Mr. President:

Yesterday, a Mr. Franklin telephoned our office stating that he was a friend of Louis Howe's and also stating that you and Louis were under the impression that the O'Connor boys had sold out to the Associated Gas & Electric for \$25,000. Of course I don't believe this, and, in any event, "taint so." Neither one of these particular O'Connor boys can be bought, but they can be sold by others, as you frequently are, but nothing can be done about this.

Attached is a statement which sets forth the facts very clearly and very simply. It will be released when I think the time is necessary and advisable.

Faithfully yours,

B.O'C.

I was retained in November, 1934, by the Associated Gas & Electric Company in a particular piece of litigation pending in the Southern District of New York against that Company under Section 77b of the Bankruptcy Act. This was seven months before any Utility Bill was introduced in the House or the Senate. I was retained solely in connection with the litigation to which I have referred. I have never advised or been requested to advise the A.G.E. as to either Utility Bill, nor have I ever discussed either of those Bills with my brother or any member of Congress or of the Senate, or with anyone connected with this Administration, directly or indirectly. I am certain that my brother had no knowledge of my retainer in the particular case referred to above, any more than he would have of any other retainer which I have, and I am equally certain that if he had, it would have had no effect whatsoever on his judgment.

Basil O'Connor

July 30, 1935.

PSF: O'Connor
(11)

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

hi personal

January 25th, 1936.

My dear Mr. President:

Thanks a lot for your letter
of the 24th. I am out now and feel fine.

Yesterday I received word that
James had been appointed Postmaster at
Bangor, Maine, and I need not tell you
that I appreciate that very much.

Faithfully yours,

Joe

Mr. President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

January 30, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR D. B. O'G

Yours of January twenty-eighth fills me with unholy joy. In view of the absolutely insulting demand for his final \$25,000 from the Democratic National Committee, early in the morning after the Jackson Day dinners were such a success, I think you are not only justified but almost called on to demand the amount Raskob owes the Warm Springs Foundation.

If I had remembered about this debt of Raskob when his demand came in, I would have told Jim Farley to send him two checks -- one payable to the order of the Treasurer of the Warm Springs Foundation for \$12,000, and the other payable to Raskob for the balance. Go to it!

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
HON. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

January 28, 1936.

My dear Mr. President:

In 1932 Raskob made a certain subscription to the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation for the Bill Raskob Foundation; \$12,000 of this subscription has remained unpaid. On February 9, 1932, he wrote me in substance that the Bill Raskob Foundation had to borrow money and would not be in a position to pay the balance of \$12,000 due on that subscription until late in the year, perhaps November or December, 1932.

In response to a communication I addressed to him on December 16, 1932, he wrote me that due to the stoppage of dividends the Bill Raskob Foundation was not in a position to make further payment on the subscription and that there might be a delay of another six months, although he hoped that things would improve in a way that would make payment possible long before that time.

On September 25, 1933, in reply to a letter of mine dated September 22, 1933, he wrote me as follows:

"Dear Mr. O'Connor:

In reply to your letter of the twenty-second, would advise that I hope to be able to take care of the balance of this obligation before the end of the year. The demands upon me at the minute are very heavy and I am trying hard to collect \$80,000, which the National Committee owes me and which I am borrowing at bank. If I could get rid of this obligation it would be very helpful, but please feel sure that my mentioning the matter in this letter is not in any way a request that you try to help in getting it paid. In fact, it is my desire that you say nothing about it as I am sure that Jim Farley has the matter in mind and will arrange to liquidate it in the very near future.

Hoping all is well with you and with kindest regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

J. J. Raskob"

Inasmuch as the National Democratic Committee has now paid him all it owed him, I am wondering whether or not I should be reminding him of the balance due from the Bill Raskob Foundation. As I consider this a somewhat delicate situation, I will do nothing until I receive your opinion.

Faithfully yours,

The President,
Washington, D. C.

Doe

PSF: O'Connor

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 3, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR DCG

I think it is a grand idea that Sheelagh wants to become a philatelist. First of all, you should know how to pronounce this.

Second, as one of the earliest stamp collectors in the world's history, I suggest to her that she start in by specializing. In the old days so few stamps had been issued in all the world that one could collect generally. Specializing means choosing anything from one country up to a dozen, or a Continent. It is my own thought that:

- (a) Europe is very dull.
- (b) Too many people collect United States stamps.
- (c) The British Colonies offer a rather high priced field.

Therefore, if I were starting over again I think I would choose either South America or

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

-2-

something like French Colonies, or Dutch Colonies or Portuguese Colonies. Or Sheelagh could take some one country like Cuba, Haiti or Santo Domingo.

As far as equipment goes, I would suggest a loose-leaf album and a Scott catalogue, some stamp hinges and about \$5.00 worth of "mixture", i.e., hundreds of loose common stamps from the country or countries selected.

An old friend of mine, M. Ohlman, 116 Nassau Street, New York City, would be very helpful.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
KENNETH HOFFMAN
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

February 17, 1936.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

You are asked so frequently to give your opinion on matters so vital to the American people that you will probably find some relief in answering a question that is not of national or international consequence: -

Sheelagh, who is now ten years old, says she wants to start saving stamps. The question is, how should I start her? I know of no more eminent authority to whom this question could be referred than to your good self.

Faithfully yours,

Doc

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

*file
personal* PSF: D' Connor

May eleventh, 1936.

Dear Mr. President,

It was very thoughtful of you to send me those beautiful roses and carnations when I was in the hospital. They lasted for several days and were a real joy.

I'm in fine shape again and shall continue to be if I can remember to take things a bit slowly for a while. It's a great strain, though, on an impatient young fellow!

I'm looking forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks. In the meantime, you have my sincere thanks and regards.

Faithfully yours,

Doc

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

file

PST
O'Connor

H O - H U M

Reading the attached re Federal Judges in
this District retarded my recovery in the
Hospital.

It's incredible that this is the best you
can do out of 20,000 lawyers in this District.

You might do worse - but I don't know
how!

Remember these appointments are in your own
bailiwick. There's no alibi.

I'll be seeing you two weeks from tomorrow.
Can't you hold this up until I can talk to you?

I have no candidates!

But it really is important.

5/11/36

COPELAND FAILS TO BLOCK BILL FOR TWO JUDGES

Amendment Increasing Federal Judiciary Here Withdrawn by Ashurst.

O'CONNOR DROPS ATTACK

Appointments by Roosevelt Expected To Be on Non-Political Basis.

Despite the opposition of Senator Copeland New York City will get two federal judgeships. It was learned here today by members of the federal bar.

The withdrawal of an amendment to a court bill concerning Pennsylvania, but providing for the New York judges, in the Senate yesterday was at first ascribed to Senatorial deference to Senator Copeland's opposition. It is understood now that the amendment was withdrawn by Senator Ashurst (D., Ark.) after he had been assured that the bill would be reported to the House.

Copeland Motion Beaten.
Senator Copeland opposed consideration of the amendment to the Pennsylvania bill on March 22, but was beaten 36 to 25 by administration Senate supporters.

The administration is said to feel certain that when the bill now being held up in the House by Representative John J. O'Connor, chairman of the Rules Committee, is reported out and voted on in the Senate it will pass over Senator Copeland's opposition.

The opposition of both Senator Copeland and Representative O'Connor has been described as purely political. It is known that James J. Dooling, Tammany Hall leader, has insisted on having a hand in naming at least one of the new judges, and failure to obtain assurance of this is said to have been lack of the moves by Copeland and O'Connor.

Amendment Withdrawn.

Senator Ashurst withdrew the amendment which he could have pressed yesterday after a telephone talk with Joseph B. Keenan, assistant to Attorney General Cummings. Mr. Keenan also talked with Representative O'Connor, and when Senator Ashurst became convinced that Representative O'Connor was willing to have the bill reported he withdrew his amendment.

Efforts to have President Roosevelt agree in advance to the naming of any particular judge is understood to have failed.

As in other cases the President is ready and willing to listen to the recommendations of political leaders, but knowing both conditions and personalities in his own State as well as he does he is going to reserve the right to make his own final choice. This will depend largely on his own knowledge of the aspirants to judicial honors.

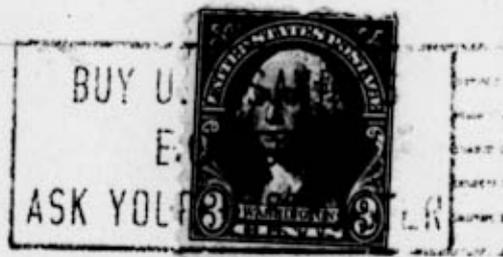
It is understood the political animosities and complexities brought about by the fight for the judgeships has strengthened the determination of the President to name the new judges for fitness instead of political affiliations.

Among those known to be under consideration and with political pressure behind them are State Senator Samuel Mandelbaum; Vincent Liebel, former law associate of Senator Robert L. Wagner; and Joseph Clancy, a friend of Edward J. Flynn, Bronx leader.

Department of Justice officials, whose concern is with the crowded condition of the federal calendars, are confident the House bill will now be reported out and the judgeships created.

They are also hopeful that the President will use the political rows as a reason for disregarding politics in making the appointments.

CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK



PERSONAL

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

S



PSF
O'Connor

F.D.R. I understand that
of the new directors
to be added to the Fair

~~Mrs.~~ Basil O'Connor

Commission here - one
is to be chosen by you to
represent the U.S. Government.

I could be drafted!!

Doc

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 16, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR D. B. O'G.

The people in New York suggested a delightful plan for me to name a Director. There ain't no authority for this unless a Bill goes through! If one does, your idea is grand.

F. D. R.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
KENNETH HOFFMAN
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS

O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

For the President

*PS F
O'Connor*

May 25, 1936.

*file
O'Connor*

W. Forbes Morgan, Esq.,
Federal Farm Board,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Forbes:

I am writing to you about a subject that to me is very disagreeable - tickets for the Democratic Convention which, I am informed, is to be held in Philadelphia next month. Keith Morgan tells me that you have charge of the tickets for that affair.

At the Convention which was held in Chicago, several of us who thought, undoubtedly erroneously, that over a period of years we had in one way or another contributed to the advancement of the cause of Rooseveltism, were unable to get any tickets for the Convention until the second day of its session, despite promises which had been made to us by officials of the National Committee over a period of many weeks prior to the Convention. Even at that, our tickets were obtained only by appealing to individuals whom we had never heard of before as active in the Roosevelt cause and whose names we were unable to pronounce. I don't think that I need to say to you that one such experience is sufficient.

I don't suppose that it makes the slightest difference whether I or anyone else goes to the Convention in Philadelphia as long as there are two thirds of the elected delegates there. In fact, after mature deliberation, I can think of only two reasons why I should be present at the Convention: One is that I pronounce the name of Roosevelt correctly; the other is that I speak English without an accent.

So, my dear fellow, whether I shall be at the Convention or not lies solely in your hands. I should like to have 12 tickets, and should you have doubts as to whether such a request on my part is proper, I should be very glad to compare my qualifications with those of others receiving 12 tickets, other than delegates, if you will be good enough to send me a list thereof. If I am to receive the tickets, I think it would be the courteous thing that they be sent to me before I leave for the Convention and thus save me from the humiliation that was perpetrated in Chicago on so many of the Old Guard.

As you so delicately suggested in one of your radio speeches, I expect to pay for my tickets eventually. I hope you will be able to count with equal certainty on the other recipients of tickets.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd.) Basil O'Connor.

PSF: O'Connor
y

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
HON. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

June 1, 1936.

To:

The President,
Dr. A. Graeme Mitchell,
Mr. Keith Morgan.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to me from Mr. Arthur Carpenter, under date of May 29th, 1936, with reference to what appears to be an entirely different method of the after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis which is going on at the Children's Hospital at Baltimore. Also enclosed is a copy of a letter from Mr. Henry Pope to me, under date of May 28th, with reference to the same matter.

I wish you would read these letters carefully and let me have whatever comments you have, and oblige,

Very truly yours,

Basil O'Connor

Chairman of the Executive Committee.

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s

C O P Y

HENRY POPE
538 South Wells Street
Chicago

May 28th 1936.

Mr. Basil O'Connor, Treasurer,
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation
120 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. O'Connor:

I had a very interesting day yesterday at Baltimore with Mr. Carpenter at the Childrens' Hospital School, and was very much interested in what I saw. I think the work they are doing there should be considered very thoroughly in connection with the work at Warm Springs.

This school is commencing to receive considerable attention, and there was several people in training there sent from various parts of the country. I have asked them to recommend to me a person whom they consider confident to carry out their methods of treatment, whom I will gladly employ to work in Chicago or vicinity. I hope to have my friend, Dr. Crego visit this institution at an early date.

I am very much indebted to Mr. Carpenter in bringing this school to my attention and arranging for the visit. They gave us every opportunity to see their records and their cases, and Dr. Bennett was most considerate, and also assisted us. On my next trip to New York, if you have time, I should like to talk to you personally about same.

With kind personal regards, I remain,

Yours very truly,

Henry Pope

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C O I

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THE COMMITTEE AGAINST INFANTILE PARALYSIS

Sponsored by
THE GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, Inc.
50 E. 42nd Street - Phone Murray Hill 2-2657
NEW YORK CITY

Arthur Carpenter,
Executive Director

May 29th, 1936.

Mr. Basil O'Connor, Chairman,
Executive Committee,
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, Inc.,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

It seems clear that so long as the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation exists and continues to operate an institution at Warm Springs, it will have a continuing interest in the after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis regardless of what may be the future policy as to preventive research, rehabilitation, etc.

Columbus was looking for the Indies when he discovered America. I think the Foundation's voyage of exploration and pioneering in the after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis may turn out much the same way.

In the first years of our association you used to ask me frequently what I honestly thought of the merit of the treatment being given at Warm Springs. The reply was probably reasonably accurate.

Then came a time when it was apparent that too much dependence was being put upon physical therapy in water, to the exclusion of some of the other things which would go to make up a well-rounded orthopaedic program for the after-care of polio. Meanwhile, largely through the influence of the Foundation and the public interest in its activities, the use of physical therapy in water was adopted by a good many hospitals as a part of their program of after-treatment work so that this use of water was no longer a feature anything like exclusive to Warm Springs. It might be noted, in fact, that a few others, notably Dr. Lowman, had been doing the water work prior to the organization of the Foundation.

With the advent of Dr. Hoke as surgeon-in-chief this possible over-emphasis of the water phase of the work lessened and much original work has been done at Warm Springs in the past few years, in several phases of the orthopaedic after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis. Therefore, to a degree the institution at Warm Springs has continued to represent a leadership in the after-treatment of polio sufficient to make it stand out from the average of standards available elsewhere.

However, during the past five years there has been evolved at the Children's Hospital School at Baltimore a program of after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis based upon a somewhat different philosophy than that which has actuated the Foundation's institution at Warm Springs under both Dr. Hubbard and Dr. Helm.

My judgment is that the results of this work are so outstanding as to make the after-treatment of polio at Baltimore far superior to that which has existed at Warm Springs at any time since the organization of the Foundation and represent at least as much of an improvement over our methods as ours are over the general standard of orthopaedic hospitals throughout the country.

Let me put it this way -- if by some unfortunate chance one of your children were to come down with Infantile Paralysis and you were seeking my advice as to what to do for the child, I would feel that I was less than a friend if I did not strongly urge you to put the youngster under the care of the Baltimore organization.

That is a strong statement, I know, coming from one associated with the Foundation, but it is perfectly sincere and I do not think it represents a snap judgment. Assuming that the Trustees are interested in the Foundation only for what it can contribute to the fight against Infantile Paralysis, such an advance as I believe has been made at Baltimore in the method of after-treatment should be a source of joy to all concerned.

There is always the natural tendency, however, for this to work in reverse so that it might almost be said that the Trustees are interested in polio for what it can do for the Foundation.

I would like to make it clear that my enthusiasm for the method used at Baltimore is based entirely upon results which they are apparently achieving. It looks as though with the application of their method to early cases that the great majority of them could be restored to a condition which for all intents and purposes would represent normalcy. In practice, of course, there is the difficulty of getting your family physician or pediatrician to call in the orthopedist during the acute stage, and in turn, the task of actuating the orthopaedic surgeons and their assistants to an acceptance and application of these methods would be so great that I am stating the ideal rather than a thing that will ever be completely accomplished.

However, if I am right about this, the eventual effect will be to make obsolete the philosophy on which a great deal of the treatment at Warm Springs is based at present.

Interestingly enough too, the method which works so remarkably well in the early cases seems to produce the maximum possible gain for the cases of long standing. The exciting thing is the possibility of so handling the cases from the outset as to get practically a complete recovery but it is worthy of note that a considerable number of families who had patients at Warm Springs have transferred them to the care of this organization and have stuck with it so that it is evident that they do not regard our work in the after-treatment of the cases of long standing to be superior.

I will not go into the details about the methods of treatment used at Baltimore. The important point is that it is passive treatment rather than active. However it is a whole lot more than just staying in bed because the patient is carefully splinted and braced so as to give absolute protection to the weakened muscle groups. At the same time, things are done to stimulate circulation and avoid atrophy. There is so little use of active exercise in the early cases as to be almost negligible. The water is used almost entirely in weight bearing work, after the patients get to a point where it is possible to walk. No swimming is used, even for the cases of long standing.

Clearly then, if they are right, we are wrong.

Think what all this means in possible application to the work of the Foundation and its institution at Warm Springs.

I know all this sounds as though I were talking for Baltimore and against the Foundation, but as a matter of fact if the Foundation's objective is to do something about polio, then it is most important that this be looked into for if I am right in the conclusion that they have something of tremendous importance to add to the whole program of Infantile Paralysis, then the truth will out eventually and the only position for the Foundation is to have expedited it.

This is no question of the comparison of one surgeon with another. Dr. Hoke and Dr. Bennett are both most able orthopaedic surgeons. Dr. Hoke has had the longer experience and likely has made more original contributions to the art of orthopaedic surgery and he certainly has evolved many helpful and useful things at Warm Springs. This is a question of a philosophy of approach to the treatment. There was the value of Warm Springs from the outset in that it discouraged the over-emphasis of early surgery, etc. in favor of physical therapy, protection against deformity, etc. This philosophy at Baltimore which has been largely evolved by a man named Kendall who is the chief physical therapist there, carried out another step and is apparently demonstrating that physiological rest - that is rest with the muscles protected against stretching - can be made to result in the maximum return of power and in the early cases in a restoration of something approaching normalcy in a great proportion of the cases. It has been slowly evolved.

Dr. Bennett admits that he has come to see things happen that he did not believe possible. Practical application of this means, if applied early enough, that the patient never gets to be surgical case. It is preventive orthopaedic surgery.

In no case do I think that my opinion should be taken about this. I visited the institution several times, have seen the cases in it, attended the clinics, examined the records, etc. After all I am a layman and not a thoroughly trained observer.

Neither do I think that you can ever hope to get an unbiased opinion from the medical staff at Warm Springs. Theoretically the staff there should

cannot be better than it is at present. However it is a matter of time before we can get the most out of the present. The intelligent parent to the parent. I will not go into the details of the

Mr. O'Connor

Mr. O'Connor

always be the first to look into developments in the after-treatment of Infantile Paralysis that occur anywhere in the country, to examine such matters with open minds, and to adopt whatever seems an improvement upon their own methods. In actual practice, human nature being what it is, I do not think you will ever accomplish this. That is one of the places that an independent orthopaedic advisory committee can be made to function.

I would like to see three doctors spend some time at Baltimore, going over the records and watching the work of the institution and likewise to spend an equivalent period at Warm Springs, if they have not already visited it, and then to give to the Board, through the Chairman of the Orthopaedic Advisory Committee a report on what they think of the relative merit in terms of end results of the two methods.

Coming back to my parallel about Columbus -- we may find that the right answer is not in the direction in which we are looking.

This has a direct bearing on about everything that you have under consideration at the moment and if you are going to examine it, now is the time inasmuch as you are facing a change in medical direction.

As I understand it, the Trustees did not vote an appropriation for a new pool, but rather authorized a committee to make a study of what might be done for a fixed sum of money -- such study to be submitted next November.

If the Baltimore method of after-treatment were to be adopted at Warm Springs, it is conceivable that you would want a small pool up on the campus and that the present pools could be used for the public and those who are resident but not under treatment like Mr. Rogers and Miss Dewey. The whole architectural plan for the buildings at Warm Springs has been based on the idea of having group buildings, community living and ambulatory patients. Much of this would necessarily be reversed in the adoption of the Baltimore method.

We have had pride in the morale and social life of Warm Springs -- in short, in that thing called the spirit of Warm Springs. A lot of that would necessarily disappear. The whole thing would be much more institutional but the final question is are we wedded to the means or to the end? Progress and industry are often retarded because the management cannot face the logic of obsolescence of equipment and protect the stockholders. We may come to a cross-roads something like that in the Warm Springs situation on whether our method of treatment is going to be dictated by our plant and the fact that we have a place which was built up around a spring and around water treatment.

The personnel would also be effected by the decision in this matter as there would be no point in trying to apply their methods unless the directing heads of the medical staff at Warm Springs were in sympathy with the plan. Incidentally, just as a guess, this method should be less costly of application than the one which we now use.

File O'Connor
PSF

June 3rd--1936

Copy of letter to Board of Trustees of Warm Spgs. Foundation

~~in~~re-recommending remainder of Trustees.

From D. Basil O'Connor

SEE--Warm Springs File--(S) Drawer 1--1936

By: Please read this
hand as of

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Q-210

~~B...~~

Theresa I. ...

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Doc
12/19/26

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29. Please read this and
hand to the Pres. as soon
as you properly can
when he returns.

It doesn't seem fair.

Doc

12/14/36.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
LYNNE A. WARREN

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

PSF
O'Connor

December 14, 1936.

RE: JOHN J. O'CONNOR

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

John has spent 25 years in attaining the position that he now holds in public life. His election as Majority Leader in the next Congress is, I am informed not only by him but by others, assured unless the political bosses in the various states are convinced that you personally are against him. I cannot and I do not believe that you are against him. However, during your absence, certain individuals, such as Garner, Guffey, Clark and Rayburn, have seen fit to assume to speak for you to this effect and, unfortunately, their statements purporting to be authorized by you have had weight in some quarters.

If John should fail to be elected Majority Leader because it is believed that you are against him, when in fact you are not, it would seem to me to be a sad commentary on public life in this country.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

December 18, 1938.

Dear Basil:-

On my return I find, of course, all kinds of lunatic stories. The only possible thing I can do is to have the question asked at my Press conference on Friday and in reply to point out that in previous choices of Speakers and Majority Leaders I have taken literally no part whatsoever - either directly or by in-direction. Incidentally, this happens to be true and the rule holds.

I am too sorry to hear about Elvira's operation but I am glad that all goes well. Give her my love.

As ever yours,

**Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York City,
New York.**

BF
File O'Connor.

Letter from Basil O'Connor.
In re-Hardy

SEE--Hardy--Gen. Correspondence-H-Drawer 2 --1936

file

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Doc O'Connor
(S) 11-37*

March 29, 1937.

The Atlas Company in 1931 took over the Iriquois Investment Company in Buffalo. In addition, the Atlas has taken over 22 other investment trusts. The Iriquois was originally sponsored and brought out by O'Brien, Potter and Stafford, of which firm Curtis Dall was a member.

The S.E.C. has been investigating investment trusts of which Atlas is one. The plan is first to investigate the 23 companies Atlas took over and then investigate Atlas from that time on. It is starting with the Iriquois, which is only a small trust (\$2,000,000). They are only having public hearings on five of the twenty-three. They have set tomorrow as the date to start with the Iriquois and have subpoenaed Rollin O'Brien and Potter of the old firm. Both O'Brien and Odlum, who owns the Atlas, say that there is nothing to be gained from this investigation of a \$2,000,000 trust.

The people in the S.E.C. who are handling it are Coolidge and Shencker and Basil thinks it ought to be stopped. It will make a fuss in Buffalo and does not mean anything. He has not been approached by Curt Dall. He does not think he knows anything about it. O'Brien contacted him.

STANDARD FORM No. 14 A

APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

MARCH 10, 1926

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM

PSF: O'Connor
The White House
Washington

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 72663

April 6, 1937.

BASIL O'CONNOR, ESQ.,
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK CITY
NEW YORK

DELIGHTED TO HAVE YOU AND ELVIRA FOR DINNER AND THE NIGHT
ON SATURDAY SORRY ELEANOR WILL BE AWAY

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Miss Le Hand

Mrs Roosevelt

Perhaps
they could
spend the
night at the
W.H.

Missy

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

ask them to stay
captain I'll
be away &
see you

Dear Peg-

Elvira and I are planning to be in Washington on Saturday night April 10 for the dance the Morgans are giving the Girards. We will be there Sunday April 11 also. Since Elvira has not seen the President since Election I know she would enjoy it if we could call at the White House sometime on Sunday. Do you think this could be arranged without inconvenience?

ER

Faithfully

4
1 ← -wed day!
7

Joe

F.A.R.
 This is from
 Haslam's & Sells.
Confidential
 Doc
 4/3/7

file
 personal

PSF
 O'Connor

The following is a summary of the number of Federal income tax returns which our organization was engaged to prepare and the number of extensions requested for the calendar years 1935 and 1936, showing the increase and percent of increase, also the ratio of the number of extensions requested to the number of returns and the increase in such ratio.

INDIVIDUALS

	<u>1935</u>	<u>1936</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Returns	934	1057	123	13.17%
Extensions	88	113	25	28.41%
Ratio of Extensions to Returns	9.42%	10.69%	1.27%	

CORPORATIONS

Returns	928	967	39	4.20%
Extensions	249	313	64	25.70%
Ratio of Extensions to Returns	26.84%	32.37%	5.53%	

TOTAL

Returns	1862	2024	162	8.70%
Extensions	337	426	89	26.41%
Ratio of Extensions to Returns	18.10%	21.05%	2.95%	

While the summary shows that the number of extensions requested for 1936 returns increased 26.41% over 1935, the ratio of the number of extensions to the number of returns for 1936, only increased from 18.10% for 1935, to 21.05% for 1936.

We think this a more significant picture of the situation than the percent of increase in the number of extensions, since the latter is affected by the number of returns prepared.

The reasons given by our various offices in explanation of the increase in the number of extensions requested in 1936, as compared with 1935, are summarized below in the order of their relative importance in the cause of such increase.

- (1) Pressure of work.
- (2) Returns for new clients requiring more time for audit work and consideration of the clients' problems.
- (3) Data furnished by taxpayers received too late to permit completing returns prior to March 15th.
- (4) Engagements taken too late to permit preparation of returns without additional time.
- (5) Complications arising out of reorganizations and the voluminous data required for the returns in such cases.
- (6) Preparation of registration statement for filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission requiring precedence, due to time limitations not subject to extension.

PSF
O'Connor

O'CONNOR & FARMER
COUNSELLORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

August 2, 1937.

July 29, 1937.

Dear Doc:-

I never heard the sugar story until you wrote me about it. It is typical of the sugar lobby.

As a matter of fact, you ought to be puffed up by all these stories about rich and powerful clients. I am going to start one myself which ought to bring you as clients all the fat cats who want to get into "society" -- to wit -- that you have been selected as the Legal Advisor to David and Wallace Windsor!

Brother John is in the rotten position of being kicked around by every Congressman with a bad Bill, and also by every lobby on the Hill. That is saying a mouthfull!

As ever yours,

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
LYNNE A. WARREN
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER

COUNSELORS AT LAW

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

July 29, 1937.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

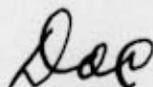
Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I am sending to my brother John today about my alleged representation of the sugar interests, which, I understand, you were informed was the reason why he would not give a rule on the Sugar Bill. I don't know, in fact, whether he will or won't give a rule on the Sugar Bill, and I don't care. So far as sugar is concerned, that letter speaks for itself.

Some time ago the story was that John would not give a rule on the investigation of R.C.A. because I represented R.C.A. That was similar bunk, and, in fact, VARIETY ran a story denying that there was any truth in it.

I don't say that I wouldn't like to represent a lot of people, and I don't say that I would not represent a lot of people, but I do say that I don't represent a lot of people for which I get the credit and someone else gets the money.

Faithfully yours,



Enc.

O'CONNOR & FARBER

120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

O'CONNOR
C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK JR.
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
LYNNE A. WARREN
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

July 29, 1937.

Hon. John J. O'Connor,
House Office Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

You have just telephoned me that you understand that yesterday somebody told the White House that you were not giving a rule on the Sugar Bill because I represent the sugar interests.

As far as I can make out, there isn't any interest in the world that I don't represent, except possibly the Pope, and I still have hopes that I can get his representation in this country. Certainly my morals would justify that position.

As far as the sugar interests are concerned - I don't know what the Sugar Bill is; I don't know where it is; I don't know who wants it; I don't know who doesn't want it; I don't know anybody in the sugar business, and I don't represent anybody in the sugar business directly, indirectly or otherwise. Apart from that, the information given to the White House is substantially correct!

It is just another one of those representations that I hear of every Monday morning but for which I never get paid. I have no doubt, however, that there are times when both you and I, to say nothing of the President, are sold down the Potomac. As far as I can see, there's not much we can do about it.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd.) Basil

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 6, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR
MEMORANDUM FOR
BASIL O'CONNOR
BASIL O'CONNOR

The enclosed copy of letter
speaks for itself. Will you be
good enough to send a little note
to the Dean?

F. D. R.

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF LAW
CHARLOTTESVILLE

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

August 2, 1937



President Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

In response to your letter of July 30 I beg to advise you that Franklin Jr.'s application for admission is complete in every respect but one. His transcript of record from Harvard College indicating his AB degree came through in due course. We have also received the main application blank and his two photographs.

The only additional requirement will be two letters of recommendation to be sent directly to this office certifying the writers "personal opinion as to his general desirability as a student, from the standpoint of character, personality and habits." No doubt this will seem to you, as it does to a great many parents, to be an arbitrary and completely unnecessary requirement. However, we make no exceptions whatsoever, and we have found it one of the most valuable items of the formal application in, so to speak, scaring away undesirable applicants. The letters for your son may, of course, be very brief.

Very sincerely yours,

Geo. B. Eager, Jr.

Geo. B. Eager, Jr.

GBE/amh

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PSF
O'Connor

Hyde Park, N. Y.,
October 15, 1937.

MEMORANDUM FOR

D. B. O'G.

Will you and Keith prepare a reply for me to send to Mr. Doherty? In one way he is rather pathetic, but, at the same time, he obviously does not understand the larger picture. I think my reply should be a very nice one, and, frankly, I wonder whether we ought not to include him among the twenty-seven or twenty-eight other names.

Carl Byoir is trying to see me evidently about the same subject. Perhaps you and Keith would see Carl and pat him on the back.

F. D. R.

November 11, 1937.

Personal and Confidential

Dear Doc:

I have a copy of the President's memorandum of October fifteenth, in which he asks you and Keith to prepare a letter for him to send to Mr. Doherty. I wish you would send me a copy of this letter for our files. We do not find any in our files.

This is in the strictest confidence:

Byoir thinks or represents that Doherty has been let down suddenly, completely and in a way that makes for misunderstandings and perhaps a rupture of friendly relations -- after all that Doherty has done for the cause of infantile paralysis. Still in confidence, Byoir has given me the attached draft of a letter which was proposed to have the President send Doherty. I talked to Keith Morgan about this this morning and he gave me much enlightenment -- a story the like of which I had never heard nor suspected. In view of what Keith tells me, I do not see how we can possibly oblige Byoir's request. Yet, I would like to have you see it. It is in that connection that I looked in the files for the President's letter to Doherty and failed to find it.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY

Mr. Basil O'Connor,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Enclosure.

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

file

November 18, 1937.

Personal

THE PRESIDENT'S 1938 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mr. Stephen T. Earley,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Steve:

For your files, I am enclosing a copy of the letter the President wrote to me under date of October 18th and a copy of my reply under date of October 26th, all with reference to the 1938 Birthday Celebration.

The President's letter of October 18th refers to a letter to him from me under date of October 15th. There was no such letter.

Faithfully yours,

Encs.

October 18, 1937.

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
Treasurer,
Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, Inc.,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

I have your letter of the 15th with respect to using again my birthday in 1938 in the cause of infantile paralysis.

As you know, I am very much interested in the steps that are being taken to perfect the organization of the new National Foundation for infantile paralysis about which I made a public announcement on September 23rd of this year.

As I said in that statement, it is the desire of everyone interested in this cause that the work of the new Foundation be carried forward as expeditiously as possible. Nevertheless we all realize that plans of such importance and magnitude must at the same time be worked out carefully and soundly, and that undue haste may be as fatal to the cause as delay. To pick the personnel of the new Foundation wisely and to project its purposes properly must of necessity consume some time.

Against this is the fact, as I stated on September 23rd, that it is my opinion that all fund raising should be under the control and supervision of the new Foundation, including the activity for raising money in connection with the celebration of my birthday in January, 1938. Heretofore we have for one reason or another, over which no one had control, always been crowded for time in which to make arrangements for properly permitting the public to participate in those occasions for the benefit of the cause of infantile paralysis. You have advised me that if the plans for that event in 1938 are delayed until the perfection of the organization of the new Foundation, we will again find ourselves handicapped by lack of time in making the proper arrangements for the 1938 birthday celebration.

In these circumstances, and in view of the fact that the past birthday celebrations have to a very large extent been organized and super-

vised by individuals officially connected with Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, I feel that we should not take any chance of delay, particularly in view of the much larger work to be done by the new Foundation. I therefore wish that, as an officer of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, you would undertake to define and carry out plans for the 1938 celebration. The funds received from that occasion will, of course, go to the new Foundation, and when its organization is complete it will take over the supervision of that event as well as any other fund raising activity.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Franklin D. Roosevelt

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

October 26, 1937.

Dear Mr. President:

Under date of October 18, 1937, you asked me as Treasurer of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation to draft a plan whereby machinery might be set in motion immediately to make effective use of your birthday in 1938 for securing funds to continue the fight against infantile paralysis. You requested me to do this with the thought in mind that it will take the trustees of the new Foundation, the creation of which was announced by you on September 23, 1937, some little time to meet, to organize and to formulate the plans of the new Foundation.

The use of your birthday each year in the cause of infantile paralysis and the work which has been done at Warm Springs and by many other agencies interested in fighting this disease have unquestionably aroused the interest of the American people in this cause to the point where they undoubtedly agree with you that the "time has now arrived when the whole attack on this plague should be led and directed, though not controlled, by one national body," and it was for this reason, obviously, that you stated that the purpose of the new Foundation would be to "lead, direct and unify the fight on every phase of this sickness."

As you say, the officers of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation have been closely in touch with the celebrations that have been had of your birthdays and have helped organize and supervise them. You will recall that in the past different methods have been used in distributing the proceeds received from your birthday celebrations. All of the proceeds of the first event held in 1934 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation. None of the proceeds of the celebration held in 1935 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, but 30% went to a National Commission appointed by you for research work in infantile paralysis and the remaining 70% was left in the community where raised for its local infantile paralysis problem. In 1936 and 1937 30% of the proceeds of your birthday celebrations went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation and 70% was left in the local communities.

Any funds raised from the celebration of your birthday in 1938 are to be administered by the new Foundation. The efforts of that new Foundation are not to be confined to research or after-treatment or any one phase of the disease, but are to attack the problem from every angle and

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

as a whole. With this thought in mind, and with the general knowledge of results that have been obtained through the proceeds of previous celebrations, it is unhesitatingly recommended that all funds raised in the communities on your coming birthday be sent in their entirety to the committee hereinafter referred to to be given to the new National Foundation to be administered by it for the good of the cause locally or nationally.

If the organization of the new National Foundation was complete, it would of course conduct the celebration of your 1938 birthday itself. To bridge the gap and to prevent any delay, it is believed advisable to create a committee for the celebration of your coming birthday which will be composed as far as possible of trustees of the new Foundation, thus assuring the proper cooperation between that committee and the new Foundation when organized. In the organization of such a large campaign, it is necessary to move rapidly and to make quick decisions, and it is therefore recommended that the chairman of the proposed committee be given full authority to plan and direct the campaign.

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd.) Basil O'Connor

Treasurer.

The President,
Krum Elbow,
Hyde Park,
Dutchess County, N. Y.

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

*file
Warm Springs*

November 12, 1937.

Mr. Stephen T. Karley,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Steve:

In response to your note of the 11th I enclose here-
with copy of Col. Doherty's letter to the President under date
of October 12th, 1937, and a copy of the President's reply
thereto under date of October 26, 1937, both of which you should
read very carefully. The President's reply to Col. Doherty
under date of October 26th was not prepared in haste, but, as
you would expect, after very careful consideration of all of the
factors involved in the situation and, of course, with a very clear
picture of past history. In any event, in view of Col. Doherty's
statement that he had "never reached at any time a state of re-
covery that would justify me (him) in attacking a problem of the
first magnitude," the President's answer seemed inevitable.

It has always been my policy, so far as possible, never
to burden the President or those around him with problems that
could be solved without so doing. Let me say to you frankly
that Keith Morgan didn't tell you anything! If you would like
to take a couple of days off sometime, I think you could spend
them listening to a very interesting story. All I need say to you
now is that a very unfortunate and unsatisfactory situation has
been well disposed of and that it should rest just where it is.

Faithfully yours,

Chairman, Executive Committee.

Encs.

HENRY L. DOHERTY
60 Wall Street
New York

October 12, 1937.

Dear Mr. President:

I was heartsick when the reports commenced to come in of the widely separated outbreaks of poliomyelitis and especially because I had felt we were getting pretty well towards the close of the most dangerous period and I thought 1937 was going to show an excellent record.

When you gave out your interview just before starting on your western trip was the first intimation I had that you were not satisfied with the progress that was being made, and planned to form a new or wider foundation with new or added helpers. If you were not satisfied with the part of the work I have been trying to do I would have welcomed being put on notice as to where I was out of step or not securing adequate results.

I am trying to keep in touch with all of the points where they experienced a local epidemic this year and I think we will find much less damage has been done than we expected or that we even now still expect. I also think that the developments from the research work are more than ordinarily encouraging and that perhaps as much has been accomplished as could be expected when everything is considered and especially when compared with results secured in previous medical research in other branches.

In the campaign to raise money and spread public interest we have seemed to encounter bad luck in some form or other each year. Last year the flood conditions affected us unfavorably in many ways and to an extent and in a manner that would not be appreciated without careful study. I felt you would not want us to do anything that would appear to detract in the slightest degree from the campaign for funds for the flood sufferers and I think I can assure you that everybody connected

with this annual campaign has wanted to anticipate your wishes as perfectly as our understanding and ability would permit.

The floods were so dramatic and presented so many examples of suffering with the appealing need for relief that the public mind seemed entirely filled by the flood problem which presented an emergency and immediate need while those who still were mindful of the campaign for paralysis sufferers seemed to justify putting everything except the need for funds for the flood sufferers in the background. To encourage subscription to the paralysis fund without detracting from the appeal for flood relief I personally went so far as to subscribe one hundred thousand dollars of which fifty thousand dollars would go to each fund hoping that this would cause others to follow my example by encouraging them to subscribe all they had ever intended to subscribe to the flood sufferers without curtailing their subscription to our campaign.

In our early work I felt that no one attached as much importance as I did to the feature of endeavoring to continually arouse and indefinitely extend public interest but I think everybody appreciates the benefit of this policy.

I have not had much experience with medical research work but I have had long and extensive experience with research work in other fields and have tried to study research work in the abstract for all of it has many basic principles in common. The longer and more extended my observation has been the more convinced I am that results are more likely to spring from unsubsidized and unexpected sources due to the creation of a widespread interest in some subject rather than from the laboratories of nationwide reputation that have enjoyed an allocation of funds to prosecute the work.

We can subsidize a few hundred but if the other one hundred

and thirty million can be aroused to show a deep interest in the problem it not only stimulates those who are subsidized but it may bring knowledge of the problem from unexpected sources. I wish we had some way of knowing how much has been appropriated or donated to the local orthopedic institutions entirely aside from what has been provided from the share of the funds received from our annual campaign and due to the widespread interest that has been aroused. It would I believe show a surprising amount with every evidence of a greatly accelerated growth.

At the very time that you expressed disappointment of what had been accomplished there appeared in the American Medical Journal an editorial which was practically a complaint that poliomyelitis was getting more attention than it deserved in relation to some of the other medical problems of first magnitude and specifically referring to heart trouble which has become alarmingly prevalent and on which little progress has been made.

However I know of no one connected with this work that does not feel as I do. While we all have a keen interest in the subject and while anxious to have consideration given to such of our views as might seem almost a conviction on our part nevertheless we all feel that your vision and courage in inaugurating this work makes this exclusively your problem and what is accomplished must go to your credit and we all feel we are merely pulling an oar for you and want to carry on according to your wishes doing whatever you may ask or standing aside with equal good wishes hoping that victory will completely crown the efforts you have made and at the earliest possible date.

I want you to know that I am just as confident as ever about what I told you in a visit I made to you at the White House which I think was in July, 1935, and without regard to Mr. Young's skepticism my my health has been such that while I have welcomed a goodly share

of work and only work seems to fully keep me contented nevertheless I have not reached at any time a state of recovery that would justify me in attacking a problem of the first magnitude. I am still fighting ulcers and yet trying to maintain a front which will not show I am seriously handicapped. I am still confident of becoming a well man with much of my old time vigor.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) Henry L. Doherty

personal participation, I believe it wise to have the new Foundation undertake the guidance of all fund raising activities. Consequently I am asking the members **October 26, 1937.** to incorporate this task in their plans. It naturally follows, therefore, that I give to the new Foundation the full **My dear Mr. Deherby:** an aid to the cause.

It was with great personal interest and deep regret that I read your letter of October 18th in which you state that, despite your long siege of treatment, you have not reached at any time a state of recovery that would justify you in attacking a problem of the first magnitude. An attempt such as we are going to make through the new National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis to lead and direct the whole attack on that disease involves just that kind of problem. with me on the problem of Infantile Paralysis during the past ten years to "pinch his" by drafting an immediately operative plan. How to bring this disease under control, how to disseminate the new care which has been learned to prevent much of the unnecessary crippling, how to restore, even a limited number of these now suffering, is a big threefold job. Some progress has been made. In the larger plan I have outlined, I am indeed heartened to know of your success in again. The results in the whole field of after-treatment are decidedly encouraging. Also in the field of medical research, the work has gone forward not only because of the financial stimulation received from the special President's Birthday Ball Commission for Infantile Paralysis Research created by me in 1935, but through the untiring efforts of the researchers themselves. Apropos of this, we must not overlook the fact that while the Research Commission made grants totaling \$241,000 to such laboratories as those maintained by the universities of Yale, Harvard, Chicago, California, Leland Stanford and some ten others, many more thousands than this have in the past been spent not only by these laboratories but by others who have long been engaged in this great fight.

Perhaps the established researcher may find the answer. Perhaps a totally unknown hero will eventually emerge. We must prepare to help all.

30 Wall Street,
New York, N. Y. For the assistance which your Committee has given, just as for the assistance which other individuals and agencies have given in working so unselfishly with me to get at the basic problems of this disease, I am very appreciative.

Because I believe the nation will be served best through the coordination of a unified and unrelenting fight against Infantile Paralysis, I authorized the creation of a new National Foundation - the broad purposes of which are outlined in my public statement of September 23, 1937.

Furthermore, since public financial participation in any national endeavor is so closely associated with public

personal participation, I believe it wise to have the new Foundation undertake the guidance of all fund raising activities. Consequently I am asking the incoming trustees to incorporate this task in their plans. It naturally follows, therefore, that I give to the new Foundation the full use of my birthday as an aid to the cause.

As I have said in my published statement: "The work of the new organization must start immediately. It cannot be delayed." It will take a little time for the trustees of the new Foundation to meet, organize and establish what they feel to be wise policy.

Therefore, I have requested the officers of the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, who have worked side by side with me on the problem of Infantile Paralysis during the past ten years to "pinch hit" by drafting an immediately operative plan for making my next birthday, which comes in January, a component part of the new work.

Although, as you say, your present health prevents you from actively participating in the larger plan I have outlined, I am indeed heartened to know of your confidence in again becoming well and vigorous, and I earnestly hope that that day will not be long delayed.

You will always have my personal appreciation for the service you have rendered.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Mr. Henry L. Doherty,
60 Wall Street,
New York, N. Y.

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

7
November 12, 1937.

Mr. Stephen T. Earley,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Steve:

In response to your note of the 11th I enclose here-
with copy of Col. Doherty's letter to the President under date
of October 12th, 1937, and a copy of the President's reply
thereto under date of October 26, 1937, both of which you should
read very carefully. The President's reply to Col. Doherty
under date of October 26th was not prepared in haste, but, as
you would expect, after very careful consideration of all of the
factors involved in the situation and, of course, with a very clear
picture of past history. In any event, in view of Col. Doherty's
statement that he had "never reached at any time a state of re-
covery that would justify me (him) in attacking a problem of the
first magnitude," the President's answer seemed inevitable.

It has always been my policy, so far as possible, never
to burden the President or those around him with problems that
could be solved without so doing. Let me say to you frankly
that Keith Morgan didn't tell you anything! If you would like
to take a couple of days off sometime, I think you could spend
them listening to a very interesting story. All I need say to you
now is that a very unfortunate and unsatisfactory situation has
been well disposed of and that it should rest just where it is.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor

Chairman, Executive Committee.

Encs.

ML
Have told Byovis
no letter possible *R.E.*

HENRY L. DOHERTY
60 Wall Street
New York

October 12, 1937.

with this annual campaign has participated your wishes as far as possible
fully as our understanding and ability would permit.

Dear Mr. President:

I was heartsick when the reports commenced to come in of the widely separated outbreaks of poliomyelitis and especially because I had felt we were getting pretty well towards the close of the most dangerous period and I thought 1937 was going to show an excellent record.

When you gave out your interview just before starting on your western trip was the first intimation I had that you were not satisfied with the progress that was being made, and planned to form a new or wider foundation with new or added helpers. If you were not satisfied with the part of the work I have been trying to do I would have welcomed being put on notice as to where I was out of step or not securing adequate results.

I am trying to keep in touch with all of the points where they experienced a local epidemic this year and I think we will find much less damage has been done than we expected or that we even now still expect. I also think that the developments from the research work are more than ordinarily encouraging and that perhaps as much has been accomplished as could be expected when everything is considered and especially when compared with results secured in previous medical research in other branches.

In the campaign to raise money and spread public interest we have seemed to encounter bad luck in some form or other each year. Last year the flood conditions affected us unfavorably in many ways and to an extent and in a manner that would not be appreciated without careful study. I felt you would not want us to do anything that would appear to detract in the slightest degree from the campaign for funds for the flood sufferers and I think I can assure you that everybody connected

with this annual campaign has wanted to anticipate your wishes as perfectly as our understanding and ability would permit.

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I have not had much experience with medical research work but I have had long and extensive experience with research work in other fields and have tried to study research work in the abstract for all of it has many basic principles in common. The longer and more extended my observation has been the more convinced I am that results are more likely to spring from unsubsidized and unexpected sources due to the creation of a widespread interest in some subject rather than from the laboratories of nationwide reputation that have enjoyed an allocation of funds to prosecute the work.

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has been such that while I have welcomed a gladly share

and thirty million can be aroused to show a deep interest in the problem it not only stimulates those who are subsidized but it may bring knowledge of the problem from unexpected sources. I wish we had some way of knowing how much has been appropriated or donated to the local orthopedic institutions entirely aside from what has been provided from the share of the funds received from our annual campaign and due to the widespread interest that has been aroused. It would I believe show a surprising amount with every evidence of a greatly accelerated growth.

At the very time that you expressed disappointment of what had been accomplished there appeared in the American Medical Journal an editorial which was practically a complaint that poliomyelitis was getting more attention than it deserved in relation to some of the other medical problems of first magnitude and specifically referring to heart trouble which has become alarmingly prevalent and on which little progress has been made.

However I know of no one connected with this work that does not feel as I do. While we all have a keen interest in the subject and while anxious to have consideration given to such of our views as might seem almost a conviction on our part nevertheless we all feel that your vision and courage in inaugurating this work makes this exclusively your problem and what is accomplished must go to your credit and we all feel we are merely pulling an oar for you and want to carry on according to your wishes doing whatever you may ask or standing aside with equal good wishes hoping that victory will completely crown the efforts you have made and at the earliest possible date.

I want you to know that I am just as confident as ever about what I told you in a visit I made to you at the White House which I think was in July, 1935, and without regard to Mr. Young's skepticism my my health has been such that while I have welcomed a goodly share

of work and only work seems to fully keep me contented nevertheless I have not reached at any time a state of recovery that would justify me in attacking a problem of the first magnitude. I am still fighting ulcers and yet trying to maintain a front which will not show I am seriously handicapped. I am still confident of becoming a well man with much of my old time vigor.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) Henry L. Doherty

personal participation, I believe it wise to have the new Foundation undertake the guidance of all fund raising activities. Consequently I am asking the incoming trustees to incorporate this task in their plans. It naturally follows, therefore, that I give to the new Foundation the full use of my birthday as an aid to the cause.

As I have said in my published statement: "The work of the new organization must start immediately. It cannot be delayed." It will take a little time for the trustees of the new Foundation to meet, organize and establish what they feel to be wise policy.

Therefore, I have requested the officers of the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, who have worked side by side with me on the problem of Infantile Paralysis during the past ten years to "pinch hit" by drafting an immediately operative plan for making my next birthday, which comes in January, a component part of the new work.

Although, as you say, your present health prevents you from actively participating in the larger plan I have outlined, I am indeed heartened to know of your confidence in again becoming well and vigorous, and I earnestly hope that that day will not be long delayed.

You will always have my personal appreciation for the service you have rendered.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Franklin D. Roosevelt
Doc

Mr. Henry L. Doherty,
60 Wall Street,
New York, N. Y.

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

November 12, 1937.

Personal

THE PRESIDENT'S 1938 BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mr. Stephen T. Earley,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Steve:

For your files, I am enclosing a copy of the letter the President wrote to me under date of October 18th and a copy of my reply under date of October 26th, all with reference to the 1938 Birthday Celebration.

The President's letter of October 18th refers to a letter to him from me under date of October 15th. There was no such letter.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor
Doe

Encs.

vised by individuals officially connected with the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, I feel that we should not take any chance of delay, particularly in view of the much larger work to be done by the new Foundation. I

Basil O'Connor, Esq., as an officer of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, you would undertake to define and Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, Inc., 120 Broadway, New York, N. Y. and when its organization is complete it will take over the supervision of that event as fund raising activity.

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

I have your letter of the 15th with respect to using again my birthday in 1938 in the cause of infantile paralysis.

As you know, I am very much interested in the steps that are being taken to perfect the organization of the new National Foundation for infantile paralysis about which I made a public announcement on September 23rd of this year.

As I said in that statement, it is the desire of everyone interested in this cause that the work of the new Foundation be carried forward as expeditiously as possible. Nevertheless we all realize that plans of such importance and magnitude must at the same time be worked out carefully and soundly, and that undue haste may be as fatal to the cause as delay. To pick the personnel of the new Foundation wisely and to project its purposes properly must of necessity consume some time.

Against this is the fact, as I stated on September 23rd, that it is my opinion that all fund raising should be under the control and supervision of the new Foundation, including the activity for raising money in connection with the celebration of my birthday in January, 1938. Heretofore we have for one reason or another, over which no one had control, always been crowded for time in which to make arrangements for properly permitting the public to participate in those occasions for the benefit of the cause of infantile paralysis. You have advised me that if the plans for that event in 1938 are delayed until the perfection of the organization of the new Foundation, we will again find ourselves handicapped by lack of time in making the proper arrangements for the 1938 birthday celebration.

In these circumstances, and in view of the fact that the past birthday celebrations have to a very large extent been organized and super-

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 WINDWAY

NEW YORK

vised by individuals officially connected with Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, I feel that we should not take any chance of delay, particularly in view of the much larger work to be done by the new Foundation. I therefore wish that, as an officer of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, you would undertake to define and carry out plans for the 1938 celebration. The funds received from that occasion will, of course, go to the new Foundation, and when its organization is complete it will take over the supervision of that event as well as any other fund raising activity.

Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Franklin D. Roosevelt

The use of your birthday each year is the cause of infantile paralysis and the work which has been done at Warm Springs and by many other agencies interested in fighting this disease have unoperably aroused the interest of the American people in this cause to the point where they undoubtedly agree with you that the time has now arrived when the spirit attack of this plague should be led and directed, though not controlled, by one national body, and it was for this reason, obviously, that you stated that the purpose of the new Foundation would be to "lead, direct and unify the fight on every phase of this sickness."

As you say, the officers of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation have been closely in touch with the celebrations that have been had of your birthdays and have helped organize and supervise them. You will recall that in the past different methods have been used in distributing the proceeds received from your birthday celebrations. All of the proceeds of the first event held in 1934 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation. None of the proceeds of the celebration held in 1935 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, but 30% went to a National Committee appointed by you for research work in infantile paralysis and the remaining 70% was left in the community where raised for its local infantile paralysis problem. In 1936 and 1937 30% of the proceeds of your birthday celebrations went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation and 70% was left in the local communities.

Any funds raised from the celebration of your birthday in 1938 are to be administered by the new Foundation. The efforts of that new Foundation are not to be confined to research or after-treatment or any one phase of the disease, but are to attack the problem from every angle and

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

October 26, 1937.

Dear Mr. President:
Under date of October 18, 1937, you asked me as Treasurer of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation to draft a plan whereby machinery might be set in motion immediately to make effective use of your birthday in 1938 for securing funds to continue the fight against infantile paralysis. You requested me to do this with the thought in mind that it will take the trustees of the new Foundation, the creation of which was announced by you on September 23, 1937, some little time to meet, to organize and to formulate the plans of the new Foundation.

The use of your birthday each year in the cause of infantile paralysis and the work which has been done at Warm Springs and by many other agencies interested in fighting this disease have unquestionably aroused the interest of the American people in this cause to the point where they undoubtedly agree with you that the "time has now arrived when the whole attack on this plague should be led and directed, though not controlled, by one national body," and it was for this reason, obviously, that you stated that the purpose of the new Foundation would be to "lead, direct and unify the fight on every phase of this sickness."

As you say, the officers of Georgia Warm Springs Foundation have been closely in touch with the celebrations that have been had of your birthdays and have helped organize and supervise them. You will recall that in the past different methods have been used in distributing the proceeds received from your birthday celebrations. All of the proceeds of the first event held in 1934 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation. None of the proceeds of the celebration held in 1935 went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, but 30% went to a National Commission appointed by you for research work in infantile paralysis and the remaining 70% was left in the community where raised for its local infantile paralysis problem. In 1936 and 1937 30% of the proceeds of your birthday celebrations went to Georgia Warm Springs Foundation and 70% was left in the local communities.

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GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY

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PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

as a whole. With this thought in mind, and with the general knowledge of results that have been obtained through the proceeds of previous celebrations, it is unhesitatingly recommended that all funds raised in the communities on your coming birthday be sent in their entirety to the committee hereinafter referred to to be given to the new National Foundation to be administered by it for the good of the cause locally or nationally.

If the organization of the new National Foundation was complete, it would of course conduct the celebration of your 1938 birthday itself. To bridge the gap and to prevent any delay, it is believed advisable to create a committee for the celebration of your coming birthday which will be composed as far as possible of trustees of the new Foundation, thus assuring the proper cooperation between that committee and the new Foundation when organized. In the organization of such a large campaign, it is necessary to move rapidly and to make quick decisions, and it is therefore recommended that the chairman of the proposed committee be given full authority to plan and direct the campaign.

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd.) Basil O'Connor

Treasurer.

The President,
Krum Elbow,
Hyde Park,
Dutchess County, N. Y.

10/27/37

MEMORANDUM FOR F.D.R.

BSF
file @ Connor
(S) Drawer 1-37

I hear that Kennedy, through Loening, is going to make a report recommending that the Maritime Act be amended to take over the aviation situation along the same lines as the ship situation. Of course, I don't know whether or not this is true. If it is true, while it may sound sensible, it is utterly unsound whether it applied to the domestic or foreign situation, or both. If there is truth in this rumor, I sincerely hope that you will not approve the report until you have given me a chance to present the other side of the question to you.

B. O'C.

PSF: O'Connor
Dinner

Hyde Park, N. Y.,
October 29, 1957.

Dear Elvira:-

Thank you ever so much for that nice letter. How I envy you your time at Cornell! It ought to be great fun and, incidentally, very instructive.

That is a lovely looking squash and I certainly shall tell them to make pies for Thanksgiving.

Eleanor and I have both written Miss Rose. I am sure you will like her as much as we both do.

Let us hear from you occasionally as to how things go.

Affectionately,

Mrs. Basil O'Connor,
College of Agriculture,
Cornell University,
Ithaca,
New York.

Dear Missy:

When the time is
right will you be good
enough to pass my
note and the snapshots
along to the President?
I think you, too, will

be amused by the
picture of our "Farmer"
O'Connell!

Love,

Elvira.

To Missy

Mrs. Basil O'Connor

1220 Park Avenue

1220 Park Avenue

October 26. 1937.

Dear Mr. President:

You were sweet to remember that Anniversary of ours with such a nice telegram. Yes, it is really nineteen years and I, too, can't believe it. And now that I'm turning into a school girl (?) again it will seem even less real.

You've heard about my new venture and I'm so glad you approve. Of course, I'm having to take a lot of joshing from Dor and the girls, but secretly I think they are proud of me and perhaps envy me a little too.

By the way, I sent a huge "Inez Harbar" gown

squash down to you at
Warm Springs by Emmet
Boone when he drove down.
It weighs over a hundred
pounds and I think it's
a picture. I hope your chef
will make some pies for all
of you when you are there
at Thanksgiving - using
the same recipe as for
Pumpkin pies. We've had
them and they are grand.

Thanks again for your
telegram, and do wish me
luck as a student of
agri- and floriculture.

Much love —

Olivia.



This is the squash. Take one
of our quinces beside it - to
gauge its size.

Farmer O' Connor, his seller,
"Reddy Bay", Sheelagh's Scallops
"daddie" and THE squash.

PSF
O'Connor

In re-dividend of American Cyanamid Co.

SEE--Personal Financial--1937

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK JR.
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
LYNNE A. WARREN
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

file personal
PSF
O'Connor

January 6, 1938.

FDR

Mr. Carlo C. Conway,
Continental Can Company, Inc.,
100 East 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Carlo:

I really read very carefully your letter of the 5rd about your Company. I am very sincere when I say that I think it presents a remarkable record, particularly in view of the new competition that has come into your field. Frankly, the results you have been able to obtain seem to me to be a splendid example of how important mental attitude is.

Without your permission, I am sending a copy of your letter to the President because I know he will be very much interested.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor

RECEIVED
& FARBER
120 BROADWAY, N. Y.

CONTINENTAL CAN COMPANY, INC.
100 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

1938 JAN 3 PM 12:20

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

January 3rd, 1938

Mr. D. Basil O'Connor,
O'Connor & Farber,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Basil:

I thought you would be interested in the following pertaining to our Company. Obviously, some of the figures are approximations, but they are sufficiently accurate for this purpose.

- First: Our sales for 1937, as compared with 1936, have increased approximately 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ % and our profits have decreased approximately 6%. The cost of many raw materials entering into the manufacture of our product also shows a considerable increase.
- Second: Our wage rates have increased approximately 18% and our total payroll in dollars for 1937 over 1936 shows an increase of approximately \$3,000,000.00.
- Third: Notwithstanding marked increases in labor and cost of materials, the average selling price of our products sold during the year 1937 was approximately 5% less than that obtained in 1936.
- Fourth: For several years our Company has operated on a five-day, forty-hour week basis, with increased pay for overtime and with wage rates materially greater than those fixed by the N. R. A.
- Fifth: Our Company distributed last year approximately \$175,000.00 as a Christmas bonus to approximately 15,000 employees, no one person, regardless of position, receiving a sum in excess of \$50.00.
- Sixth: The amount spent by us in capital expenditures and Betterments during the past few years has been as follows:

1933	\$2,662,741.41
1934	4,399,011.55
1935	6,228,877.74
1936	9,722,160.41
1937 (approximately)	6,500,000.00

CONTINENTAL CAN COMPANY, INC.

To Mr. D. Basil O'Connor

SHEET No. -2-

DATE 1/3/38

So as to enable it to keep pace with Betterments needed for service and through such expenditures to help economic conditions generally, we have recently gone into the capital market, selling \$20,000,000.00 par value $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ preferred stock.

- Seventh: We have 33,967 stockholders, 16,200 employees (average for the year) and 10,000 customers. The Company has no financial interest in any competing company.
- Eighth: During the years 1936 and 1937 our Company paid out practically all of its earnings in dividends to its stockholders.
- Ninth: Our Company has always had keen competition from the American Can Company, the largest factor in the business, as well as sharp competition with approximately a hundred other smaller companies making cans for their own use and resale and others for sale only. In the last two years two large and well-financed companies, the Owens-Illinois Glass Company and the Crown Cork and Seal Company, have entered the can business, resulting in the severest competition the company has ever had.
- Tenth: There is an abundant supply of can making equipment available for anyone desiring to enter the business and some of our new competition claims to have equipment more efficient than ours.

In conclusion, I would add that as the year closes the management of this Company have the satisfaction of feeling that they have striven to the best of their ability to be fair to their three primarily interested groups, namely their employees, customers and stockholders.

Yours very truly,

Carle C Conway

Chairman

full
personal

PSF: O'Connor

SNUG HARBOR
WESTHAMPTON BEACH
LONG ISLAND

Dear Mr. Prudent.

I don't think I ever was
so thrilled as I was when
I received your book at
Christmas. That the book
itself is a perfect item
is almost nothing compared
with the fact of your thinking
of me and taking the time
to endorse it as beautifully
as you did. You're always
grand tho and I ought to be
used to it.

Faithfully yours.

Paul O'Connor
Doc

1/8/8

PSF: O'Connor
file
PSF: Basil O'Connor

Memo from Dan Roper

Feb. 11, 1938.

Says it is being reported in some quarters that management of the Warm Springs equipment and endowment is paying too high salaries and the expenses are excessive--thinks it a good idea to have them published.

Pres. memo to Basil O'Connor attached--suggests Basil publish them.

SEE--Roper folder-Drawer 1--1938

PSF: O'Connor

file
personal

SNUG HARBOR
WESTHAMPTON BEACH
LONG ISLAND

Dear Mr. President.

Your hospitality
is perfect whether you
are in the North or South!
I had a grand time - just
nice and restful and easy.
Thanks a lot.

Elvira and the girls join
me in sending you all
our love

Faithfully

3/28/8

Doc
O'Connor

PSF Subject:
O'Connor

April 7, 1938.

Dear Doc:-

In regard to my income tax for the current year, it occurs to me that the time has come to get from Curtis Dall a final settlement of the loan which I made to him on his Stock Exchange seat. As you know, none of the principal has been paid, though he has from time to time paid some of the interest -- though none at all for the last three or four years.

I am certain, of course, that the loan is a loss but I cannot deduct the loss from my income tax without further steps. Can this be done without getting an actual judgment against him?

As ever yours,

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York City,
New York.

of file
copy to
colleagues
Date Rec:-

P.F.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
—
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
ALBERT E. HADLOCK, JR.
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.
CARL S. FORSYTHE

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

April 12, 1938.

Dear Mr. President:

I have your letter of the
7th about the Dall loan. I will
give the matter immediate considera-
tion and take it up with you just
as soon as possible.

Faithfully yours,

Dal

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

*PSF
Beard @ Connor
1*

*FDR
Be sure to read
yourself before
Doc
6/1/8*

*file
personal*

June 1, 1938.

Mr. John F. Riddell, Jr.,
30 Rockefeller Plaza,
New York City.

Dear Jack:

Thanks for sending me the article, "Shall We Make Depressions Permanent?" by Ray L. Dudley in THE OIL WEEKLY.

I am returning it to you with these comments which I wish you would consider and try to get some of your friends to consider.

At the beginning of the article he sets forth three "ifs."

As to his third "if," namely, that if a government consistently spends more money than its sources of revenue can provide, political bankruptcy will inevitably ensue - no one could, of course, dispute that.

As to his second "if," namely, that if the management of a corporation consistently spent more money than the employees of the institution could earn for it, either management would be discharged or bankruptcy would ensue - no one could, of course, dispute that.

As to his first "if" - WHICH IS THE ONLY IMPORTANT "IF" OF THE THREE - and which is the one Dudley, you, and all of your friends ignore - namely, that if an individual consistently spent more money than he could legitimately expect to earn, bankruptcy would shortly end his dreams of luxury - no one could, of course, dispute that. But that is exactly what the individual must do under the present economic system that has been built up in the last 35 years in this country in order for the economic system to survive; and he must do that, not because

COPY

WILLIAM F. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.
BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

Mr. John F. Riddell, Jr.

-2-

June 1, 1936.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

any government requires him to do it, but because industry, in order to survive, compels him to do it.

The ordinary individual - not you or I - can't possibly expect to earn enough money to buy all the automobiles, all the clothing, all the food, all the furniture, all the travel service, all the radios, and all the everything else that he has to buy in order to keep our present economic system going. He never can earn that much, and so he has to resort to credit, and industry has to urge him to use credit; and then when somebody gets nervous over the question as to whether or not that kind of credit is absolutely sound, you have the so-called "lack of confidence" - not really in any President of the United States, but in the economic system itself - and then things go to Hell.

Ask your friend Dudley, ask yourself, and ask your friends what's the answer to that "If." If you answer that "If," you'll never have to answer the other two "Ifs."

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) Basil O'Connor

COPY

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM

The White House
Washington

PSF: D'Connor

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 93321

August 31, 1938.

d-1
MRS. BASIL O'CONNOR
WESTHAMPTON
LONG ISLAND
NEW YORK

CONGRATULATIONS ON THE ANNIVERSARY STOP I AM PROUD TO HAVE
BEEN ABLE TO BRING YOU BACK A BIGGER AND BETTER HUSBAND STOP
PLEASE CHECK AND REPORT ON HIS FISHING STORIES DURING AUTUMN
AND WINTER STOP I WANT MINE TO COINCIDE AFFECTIONATELY

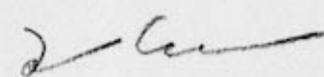
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

PSF
d-1-34 O'Connor

September 7, 1938.



The President,
Hyde Park,
Dutchess County,
New York.

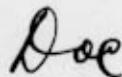
Dear Mr. President:

I am still hopeful that you will appoint Judge Patterson to the Circuit Court of Appeals here. I have given you all the reasons I think such an appointment is both sound and smart - particularly just at this time.

As you know, the Circuit Court of Appeals will begin to sit very soon now, and the question is bound to come up as to what is to be done about the appointment.

Again I say to you that in urging Patterson's appointment, I am going against my own best interests.

Faithfully yours,



1-1

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*PSF
O'Connor*

October 12, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR

D. B. O'G.

Can you have somebody
look into this and let me know
whether you think I should put
up the additional \$200.00?

F. D. R.

PSF: Subject
O'Connor

R.F.

October 15, 1938

PRIVATE MEMORANDUM FOR DOC O'CONNOR

Did you read that C. B. D. won his case in the Court of Appeals against Time Publishing Company? All that remains is for the jury to assess damages. Don't you think this is the time to do something about a judgment or a renewal of the indebtedness?

F. D. R.

fdr/tmb

PSF: O'Connor
letter
plus mail

FAG - Hyde Park

You really should read
this.

Doe

10/18/8

And - you ought to get
a copy of the letter Iches
wrote Cummings in February
1937 telling Homer what
Iches thought of the oil
cases!
Doe

Memo from: BASIL O'CONNOR

OIL COMPANY HEAD HITS TRUST LAWS

Sees Them Outmoded and Industry as Result Like Ship Without Rudder

Due largely to the fact that any co-operative movement on the part of the oil industry to regulate oil production, refinery output, and competitive practices would probably bring about more indictments under our antiquated anti-trust laws Frank Phillips, chairman of the board of Phillips Petroleum Co., at the 25th annual National Business Conference at Babson Park, Mass., yesterday declared that today the oil industry is like a ship without a rudder.

Mr. Phillips reviewed the long strides toward stabilized conditions, higher wages and general improvement that the oil industry witnessed under the provisions of the N. R. A. but went on to declare that just as the program was becoming effective and producing results N. R. A. was held unconstitutional.

Confused by President

"Then our President," Mr. Phillips declared, "in a sincere effort to carry out the recovery program, urged industry, employers and employes to continue voluntarily those policies and principles that had been established under N. R. A., so that all which had been gained might not be lost. The oil industry, perhaps somewhat confused, continued to carry on in what it sincerely thought was

(Continued on Fifteenth Page)

OIL COMPANY HEAD HITS TRUST LAWS

(Continued from First Page)

the spirit of the recovery program. Conditions were sufficiently improved to permit profitable operations. Our stockholders again received full dividends and although hours of work were reduced more than one-third, monthly wages were raised and are now higher than ever before in the history of the industry, and higher than in many other major industries.

All this was accomplished without undue burden to the consumer. As a matter of fact, the refinery price of branded gasoline in 1937, the highest since the depression, was only 57 per cent of the 1929 price, while the average price of all manufactured products, according to Government statistics, was 78 per cent of the 1929 level, proving that self-regulation by the industry under Government supervision is practical and effective and does not injure the buying public.

The improved conditions of the oil industry was brought about without financial assistance from the Government. It was accomplished without shooting, plowing under or destroying any usable commodity, but after about three years of profitable operation a bombshell exploded. We were indicted and prosecuted at Madison, Wis., for violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Law for doing the very things we understood we were expected to do.

Refers to Prosecutions

These Federal prosecutions might lead one, erroneously, to believe that the oil industry, through monopoly and rigging of prices, was extracting a high and unfair price for its products, but nothing could be further from the truth. The annual gasoline bill of the nation is now almost a billion dollars less than it would be at 1929 prices. This saving, however, has not been realized by the consumer for the reason that our national petroleum tax bill has been increased until it is now approximately \$1,300,000,000 annually.

With apparently no possible means of self-regulation, the oil industry is now like a ship without a rudder. Any co-operative movement on the part of industry to regulate oil production, refinery output, and competitive practices, or to maintain stabilized conditions would undoubtedly bring upon us more indictments and more prosecutions under our antiquated anti-trust laws.

PSF: O'Connor

Forty Refineries Closed
Without the good influence of co-operative regulation, late in 1937, surplus stocks of refined products were again accumulated and prices dropped. Although demand was increasing, more than forty refineries were forced to shut down because they were operating at a loss, all due to overproduction and lack of regulation.

If the rate of flow from all oil pools in the United States were so regulated as to assure the greatest total ultimate recovery, it would slow down production in many of our flush fields to a point where the crude oil production in the United States might today be no more than the demand. This would eliminate much waste of an irreplaceable national asset and be beneficial to the oil industry and in the long run beneficial to the public.

Refers to State Compact

Much has been accomplished in this direction by the influence of the Interstate Oil Compact (a compact among some of the oil-producing States), the purpose of which is to conserve oil and gas by the prevention of waste. Legislation should also be enacted authorizing an agency of the Federal Government, operating under the supervision of the Secretary of Interior, to restrict the volume of crude oil and refined products that may move in interstate commerce, even to the extent of regulating the throughput of refineries whose products are manufactured for movement and sale in interstate commerce. The Federal Government should continue to prohibit the movement in interstate commerce of illegally produced oil as it does at present under the Connally Act.

Anti-Trust Laws Outgrow

This same Federal agency should also control trade practices within the industry. Before doing this, however, it will be necessary to change our present restrictive laws, which in recent years have permitted the development of unethical trade practices. Our nation has outgrown our forty-eight-year-old anti-trust laws. Conditions today are in no way comparable to conditions then, with our present legal barriers it is impossible for the oil industry to regulate its refining and marketing operations. Our laws, applicable to the conduct of business in interstate commerce, should be so amended that the oil industry, with the approval of a governmental agency such as I have suggested, could enter into co-operative agreements affecting trade practices and operating policies. I am not in favor of absolute Government control of the oil industry in a sense of a national utility, but I firmly believe that if all the oil producing States are willing to join in the compact and immediately extend its power so as to maintain complete control of oil production, or if the industry is unwilling to co-operate in a plan of self-regulation with Government participation, then, in my opinion, Federal control (within constitutional limits) of all phases of the industry is inevitable.

Confidential
BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

PSF

Thursday 10. P. M.
11/3/8.

8-1
F.D.R. Please see attached clipping
from morning NY Times.

Really - can't this guy be stopped.

First - he's going to make industrial Pans.

Second - " " " " disaster " "

how " " " " Ability " "

And it's all bunk - and he knows it.

Why set up the S. E. C. to prevent frauds
and at the same time let this man
continue to issue fraudulent statements
and deceive the American people as
he has done for 6 years.

I'm writing this not as a lawyer with
any client. but just as an American Citizen
Doc.

*File
Confidential*

FINAN

RFC READY TO AID UTILITY EXPANSION

Jones Says Carlisle Put Amount
That Might Be Sought
at \$250,000,000

COOPERATIVE ACTS HAILED

Recent Conferences Held to Be
Indication Administration Does
Not Intend to Be Unfair

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—Jesse H. Jones, chairman of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, said today that the recent conferences between the National Defense Power Committee and utility executives was to him a definite indication that the Roosevelt Administration does not intend to be in any sense unfair to the public utilities or to any other industry.

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PSF
BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

file
personal

Monday 8.45 P.M.

11/21/8

Dear Mr. President.

I don't suppose there's more I can say or do about Judge Robert P. Patterson for C.C. of A. here in the Second District. Everyone is hoping you'll appoint him - everyone except apparently Waquer. I hear he's for Clark of the Yale Law School. There's one of them - on the C.C. of A. now - Swan - and he's the one who paid his compliments of you to Felix Frankfurter last year at the Harvard Law School dinner - and such compliments! It was two years ago.

I don't know Clark and I don't believe Waquer does either.

I hope you have a grand rest
and keep everything under control
until I get back from the West
Coast.

Faithfully
Dae

PSF: O'Connor
file

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

December 9, 1938

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

This is the first opportunity I have had to respond to the complaint contained in your memorandum of November 12th to the effect that you were completely forgotten when dear old Dartmouth humiliated dear old Yale. I make no comment on the fact that you now seem to claim that you personally are the "forgotten man". You base your complaint on the fact that you are a member of the Class of 1929 and I must say that to that extent at least there is some merit in your contention. Balanced against this, however, there is your historical past for which I certainly am not to blame and as to which you will probably enter a plea of youthful indiscretion. You will recall that at one time you attended an institution at Cambridge, Massachusetts, and did receive therefrom, probably with less effort than you did your degree from Dartmouth, a piece of paper certifying that you were nothing less than a Bachelor of Arts. To be sure, that was some time ago, but one must not expect to eradicate the results of such an experience in so short a time as thirty-four years, despite the fact that some of your Cambridge associates would affirm - in fact, somewhat vociferously assert - that in your particular case that has taken place completely. Be that as it may, we who are legitimate members of the alumni body of the greatest educational institution in the country, are not prone to make such hasty conclusions.

I am, therefore, compelled to say to you, Sir, that as a neophyte in the alumni body of a College

The President

-2-

December 9, 1938

that produced men like Webster, Choate, O'Connor and
Bob Jackson, you are still on trial.

Hoping that the day will come when I may
give you the grip, I remain, dear Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Boil Owens
Doc

PSF: D'Connor

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 10, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR

D. B. O'G.

I forgot to tell you this the other day.

Mr. Al Persons, the husband of the Postmistress of Warm Springs, died a few weeks ago. He owned 108 acres on the mountain -- a peach farm through which the road to the Knob runs. It is bounded on the east by my farm, on the west by Mr. Hudson's landlot of 204 acres, and beyond that by my woodland Knob property of about 1,000 acres.

The Foundation ought to own this Persons' property, as it is now for sale, and I have reason to believe that we can pick up the Hudson landlot fairly soon. That would give us, with my land, the complete ownership of five miles of highway from the Columbus Road to the Knob -- this land being intersected by the new State owned scenic drive. Also, it would give us an uninterrupted road from the Foundation to the road, all on our own property. Therefore, I think we should buy it.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

-3-

Mrs. Persons wants \$2,500 for it and it has a fairly good tenant house and barn. The peach trees are pretty old but there are enough of them to supply the Foundation's needs. Mrs. Persons wants to sell two very good mules for \$300 extra. It is my thought that the Foundation should make the offer to Mrs. Persons for the farm and include in the purchase price the two mules and whatever farm equipment in the way of ploughs, etc., is on it. The mules can be used either for work in the peach orchard or on my farm -- and, incidentally, I wish to goodness the Foundation would buy my farm too!

Mr. Boone is trying to work out a plan by which Otis Moore will kill for him one fatted steer a week - this would save the Foundation money and provide Moore a steady market.

If you approve, will you tell Boone about the Persons' land?

F. D. R.

*file
personal*

*PSF
O'Connor*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

December 20, 1938

The attached letter is from a classmate of mine in Harvard Law School. IT IS NOT TO BE PASSED ALONG TO ANYONE ELSE.

It amuses me because it shows that despite all the violent denunciation of those leaders of the Bar who have represented the economic royalist, the associates of those leaders of the Bar immediately move into all Governmental agencies - particularly the new ones as quickly as they are created.

This, of course, has been going on for six years and apparently nothing can be done about it.

When I think of what the late Thomas Nelson Perkins of the firm of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, used to say about you, and when I am informed from the attached letter that five of the former associates of his distinguished firm are in Washington "in various branches of the Government service, the latest to arrive being Welch Pogue * * * now Assistant to the General Counsel of the Civil Aeronautics Bureau", well - - - - -

HO! HUM!

C
P
Y

Washington, D. C.
December 16, 1938

I received your letter a few days ago and was delighted to hear from you. I came here about two months ago as a Special Assistant to the Attorney General to do some research work in which Carl McFarland, Assistant Attorney General, is interested.

The transition from Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins to the Department of Justice is only seemingly the converse of the customary evolution of a lawyer, there being five of my former associates at Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins down here in various branches of the Government service, the latest to arrive being Welch Pogue, formerly associated with the firm in Boston, Paris and New York successively, and now Assistant to the General Counsel of the Civil Aeronautics Bureau.

I should very much enjoy seeing you again and when I next come to New York shall drop in at your office on the chance of your being there.

Sincerely yours,

The White House isid
any hot house (or
maybe it is!) and
I do hope these next
two years will so work
out that you'll have
every joy possible.

faithfully
Doe

Boil O'Connor

December Twenty-Seventh
Nineteen Hundred
Twenty Eight

PSF: O'Connor ^{file}
^{personal}

SNUG HARBOR
WESTHAMPTON BEACH
LONG ISLAND

My dear Mr. President -

You were grand to
send me that interest-
ing picture for
Christmas. I do
appreciate your thinking
of me.

We had a perfect
Christmas, all four
of us together for once!

PSF Subject:
O'Connor

*file
personal
financial*

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

January 13, 1939.

Dear Mr. President:

I suggest that you not file
your income tax return for the year 1938
until I have a chance to discuss the Dall
situation personally with you, which I
could do 'most any time at your conveni-
ence.

Faithfully yours,

Doc

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

PSF: O'Connor

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH

KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

*file
personal*

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

February 14, 1939.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Everybody congratulates the man who receives the appointment to an office; no one ever praises the individual who does the appointing.

This letter is, therefore, an exception - to congratulate you on your wisdom and soundness in the recent federal judicial appointments you made, particularly that of Robert P. Patterson to the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. That is one appointment I am positive will always be a source of pride to you.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor
Doc

FOR

Boe

o

FBI

DATE

2/14/19

file
personal

SPECIAL

I would not pass this letter
on to anyone. Just file
Boe.

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION, INC.

120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
HON. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

February 14, 1939

PSF
O'Connor

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

After reading your letter of February 4th, and a copy of the letter which Mrs. Schafran wrote to Mr. Kannee, I decided that the matter was of such a nature that I should investigate it personally and I, therefore, made a special trip to the Foundation at Warm Springs on Saturday morning, February 11th, for that purpose.

I talked with Mr. Boone and Mrs. Schafran and Mrs. Stern. I did not talk with Mrs. Rosenbaum because I gathered the impression from Mrs. Schafran and Mrs. Stern that Mrs. Rosenbaum would probably prefer not to discuss the matter further.

Of course, it is never possible to get the precisely true picture in any such situation after it has happened. This is not because any of the parties involved are not telling the truth, but it is due in part to their recollection as to what actually was said, and in this particular case it is possibly due to the different interpretations that have been put on what Mr. Boone said.

There is no doubt but that the specific instance in the pool relating to Bobbie Rosenbaum was extremely regrettable although I don't believe it was intended to be vicious. However, it certainly was extremely unfortunate, to put it in the very best light.

I know personally that there is nothing in Mr. Boone's background that would lead him to make the statements attributed to him and he feels, whether justifiably or not, that what he did say was misinterpreted.

In any event, if my instructions are followed, and I shall see to it that they are, there will be no such recurrence. But, of course, the general situation is really much more important than any specific incident and on this I want to make these comments:

So far as I know, we have never had any problem along these lines at the Foundation. As an example, I have never known how many Jewish, Catholic or other kind of patients we ever had at the Foundation at any one time. In fact, we do not, as most institutions do, require the applicant to set forth his religion. Incidentally, at the moment, we have, out of sixty-six patients at the Foundation, eleven Jews and five Catholics. Our present somewhat low total number of sixty-six is due to our building operations and also due to transitional period where at the moment there is a hiatus between those who have left and those who are coming to take their places.

Frankly, I don't think there ever has been any cause where race, creed, religion and politics have been submerged as completely and as well as they have in the cause of infantile paralysis. This has not only been true in the work at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation at Warm Springs, Georgia, but has equally been true in the new National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. So far as I personally am concerned, this will always be true and I don't think anyone needs to elaborate the very definite views you have always had about such matters.

However, I am very glad that Mrs. Schafran and Mr. Kannee called the matter to our attention. I think I am absolutely safe in saying that both you and they can rest assured that whatever modicum of foundation there might have been for the beliefs of Mrs. Schafran and Mrs. Stern, has been totally eradicated.

In this letter I haven't, of course, gone into all the details of statements and counter-statements because that seemed to me to be unnecessary.

Faithfully yours,



Chairman, Executive Committee.

PSF

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

file
press
Sunday - 3/19/19
12 Midnight.

My dear Mr. President -

A great crisis has arisen in
my life!

You must assist me.

I have an autographed picture
of you.

Elvira has one.

Bettyann has one.

Sheelagh Louis! - and she's
nursing hell.

It's done everything I could
to save you this trouble.

I've said you were away.

I've said she wasn't old enough.

I've said you broke an arm.

I've said you couldn't write.

I've said you didn't know her.

I've said you didn't like her.

I've even said you weren't so
hot - but that made her furious!

So for God's sake (including Hitler)
send her a picture and do it
soon else I perish!

Doe.

*PSF
O'Connor*

*File
Personal*

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

April 14, 1939.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Some of the newspapers here are referring to Allen MacDuffie, now with the New York office of the S.E.C., as the possible new head of the S.E.C. I don't know, of course, whether or not there is anything in this. However, I have known MacDuffie ever since he was at college at Dartmouth. He is a young man, a lawyer, and a very able individual. I understand that he has done fine work here in the New York office of the S.E.C., and I can assure you that you would make no mistake in considering him seriously for the Commission in Washington.

Faithfully yours,

Paul O'Connor

PSF
O'Connor

d-2 ✓

May 17, 1939.

Dear Elvira and Basil (and Bettyann):

July fifteenth is down on
my calendar for the great day at Westhampton.
I will be there if I possibly can.

As ever yours,

Basil O'Connor

Mr. and Mrs. Basil O'Connor,
120 Broadway,
New York City,
New York.

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

May 16, 1939

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

This is just to let you know that Bettyann's wedding has been set definitely for Saturday, July 15th, probably at 11:00 A. M.

I don't need to tell you that next to the wedding itself, it will be a great moment if you can be there, and you know what it will mean to Elvira and me.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor
Doe

PSF: O'Connor

d-2

May 17, 1939.

Dear Basil:-

Enclosed are the telegrams which we have received in re the public pool at Warm Springs. They have been acknowledged and in each case we have told them that they were being referred to Mr. Boone.

Always sincerely,

M. A. Le Hand
PRIVATE SECRETARY

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
120 Broadway,
New York City,
New York.

(Enclosures)

May 16, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

D. B. O'G.

I agree that the public pool should be closed eventually but this way of going about it is completely dumb from the point of view of public relations.

For over one hundred years there has been a public pool at Warm Springs and at this time of the year people look forward to the use of it during the Summer. To have an announcement made, therefore, in May comes as a shock to people who, consciously or subconsciously, were figuring on using it tomorrow or next week. Naturally people will get mad. I would.

If, on the other hand, announcement is made toward the close of the season, i.e., about September first, that the pool will not be operated for the public the following year, the public would take it in a good spirit and we would have few complaints.

As an expert on public psychology, I suggest we keep the pool open this year, spend just as little money on it as possible, and announce about September first that it will not be open in 1940.

F. D. R.

PSF
Dr. Goulet

PARAGUAYAN SITUATION

has assurance that construction of the road will be undertaken

1. President Estigarribia is lunching with you tomorrow, under a contract between Ulen & Company and the Paraguayan Government, Tuesday, June 13th.

Government on a cost plus 10% basis not to exceed \$3,226,000.

2. At the end of the lunch, I understand you will sign the terms and details of that agreement to be worked out as soon as possible between Ulen & Company and the Paraguayan Government the Export-Import Bank regarding (a) the so-called \$300,000 and, of course, to be subject to the approval of the Export-Import stabilization fund and (b) the road contract.

Bank.

3. President Estigarribia has already told Welles that these letters, particularly the road letter, are not satisfactory.

4. At the lunch he will suggest to you that the letters as drawn by the Export-Import Bank be signed on the understanding, however, that construction of the road referred to in the road letter will be undertaken under a contract between Ulen & Company and the Paraguayan Government on a cost plus 10% basis not to exceed \$3,696,000.

5. He will want your assurance that the Export-Import Bank will be instructed to proceed with the road matter in that manner, and he will probably present to you a brief memorandum as to the terms of the agreement between the Paraguayan Government and Ulen & Company to build the road.

6. He needs your definite assurance that the Export-Import Bank will carry out the road transaction in the manner indicated because of the extreme intensity of the situation in Paraguay with respect to the building of this road by Germany.

Summarized, therefore, President Estigarribia can sign the two letters prepared by the Export-Import Bank provided he

has assurance that construction of the road will be undertaken under a contract between Ulen & Company and the Paraguayan Government on a cost plus 10% basis not to exceed \$3,696,000, the terms and details of that contract to be worked out as soon as possible between Ulen & Company and the Paraguayan Government and, of course, to be subject to the approval of the Export-Import Bank.

file PSF
O'Connor
(2)

June 14, 1939

Letter to Basil O'Connor
from W. L. Colze--500 Riverside Drive-N.Y.

In re-Joseph Kennedy speaking with the
Germanophile circle which is behind the
London Times ---feels he is sympathising
with Franco because of his church etc.

See:Joseph P. Kennedy--Foreign file-Drawer 1-1939

Miss Le Haed PSF
JUL 6 1939
file
Personal
O'Connor
Wednesday.

B
A
C
C
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt
The silver vegetable
dishes are beautiful - I am
really thrilled with them,
and don't know how to thank
you and Uncle Franklin except
for remembering me so

generously. The engraving is lovely, and I will be so proud to have those dishes in my new home - I will treasure them always I know.

Lidsey wants to express his thanks to you both, and joins me in wishing that you could be with us on the fifteenth. Sincerely, Betsy Anne.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT
MARCH 10, 1926

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

COPY

Mrs Sidney Culver
c/o Basil O'Connor
Canoe Place Inn
Hampton Bays L I New York

My affectionate greetings to you both on your
wedding day. I am deeply sorry that I cannot be with you.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

FROM

The White House
Washington

July 15, 1939

*** 16-6481

File
copy

PSF

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

*File
Personal
(2)*

July 8, 1939

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

I don't suppose you know as yet whether you are going to be able to come to Bettyann's wedding Saturday morning. All I wanted to make clear was that the formal invitation that you received was to the reception at Canoe Place Inn, but if you are able to come, we, of course, also want you to come to the wedding at our home which is at eleven o'clock. We're still hoping.

Faithfully yours,

Joe

Letter to the President
From Basil O'Connor
July 25, 1939

PSF

Basil O'Connor
✓

In re-Letter sent to Mrs. Roosevelt by W. T. Sanger of the Medical College of Virginia. He wants to build a small unit for negro crippled children and wants help from the Foundation. Says Keith Morgan assured him of financial help to build hospital but it has not been forthcoming. Appeals to Mrs. Roosevelt for help. Sanger's letter attached.

See--Keith Morgan-Drawer 2-1939

BASIL O'CONNOR
120 BROADWAY, NEW YORK

file

PSF: D'Conner
2

July 25, 1939

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

I want to thank you very much for sending me, initialed by your good self, the Galapagos pamphlets which are a very valuable addition to my already noteworthy collection derived from that wonderful trip.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor

2.

know how very pleased
we are with the
beautiful silver
vegetable dishes. I
am especially fond
of them because
they are so simple
in design — and
of course the engraving
is marvelous.

You couldn't have

[c. July 1939]



file
personal

PSF
O'Connor

Wednesday

Dear Uncle Frankies,

I've been wanting
to write to you for
some time but know
how very busy you've
been, and probably
still are.

Sidney and I
both want you to

are having so much
fun trying to get
it finished. I hope
some day you really
will have an opportunity
to see it, Uncle Frankie.

Don't forget to take
good care of yourself;

Affectionately,

Beth Ann.

3. done anything nicer
for us, Uncle Frankie,
and we do appreciate
your thoughtfulness
so much.

I do wish you
were free of your
presidential duties
and could come to see
us in our new little
house — we're really
so fond of it, and

F.D.R.:

Please read.

B.O'C.

*file
personal.*

2

PSF
O'Connor

B.O'C.:

Cyrus Eaton of Cleveland called this morning and was very anxious to get in touch with you and if possible to see you today. He has just returned a week ahead of time from his vacation in Nova Scotia because of the war clouds that are gathering. I said I should probably be hearing from you but couldn't reach you because you were fishing, so he gave me the following message:

"During the World War, J. P. Morgan & Co. were fiscal agents for the Allies and purchased all materials, supplies and foodstuffs shipped from this country. Morgan made a substantial profit and at the same time enormously enhanced his influence and power in this country. Morgan is working for the same relationship if there should be an outbreak of hostilities now. This arrangement should not be permitted because the supplies and foods are produced mainly in the Middle West.

"Eaton was extremely shocked to learn that a War Resources Board of 6 members had been created in this country to cooperate with the War and Navy Departments. The Board consists of Stettinius, chairman, Gifford of A.T.&T., Pratt of General Motors, and 3 other fellows who are not in a position to offer any opposition to Morgan's plans because they all represent Morgan companies. This committee was obviously selected in the Morgan office and represents in Eaton's mind nothing short of a scandal. Eaton thinks the President should be warned."

A.W.J.

8/28/39

FAR
He's really a very
good friend of yours -
I treat confidentially &
return Doc

PSF
O'Connor

File
Personal
Basil O'Connor

CYRUS S. EATON
320 CUYAHOGA BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO

RECEIVED
O'CONNOR & FARBER
120 BROADWAY, N.Y.

1939 SEP 5 AM 9:38
September 2, 1939.

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

Please add the attached memorandum to the
one I gave you on July 28th.

The rank-and-file of voters will forgive
the Administration for mistakes that have been made
out of humanitarian motives; they will not forgive,
however, the swift increase in control of financial
and banking power in a few hands in New York. Nor
will they condone the complete delivery of this country
into the hands of the Morgan-New York ring through the
newly created War Resources Board and the Financial
Advisory Committee.

I will be in New York on Wednesday and
Thursday and hope I can see you for a few minutes.

Sincerely yours,

C. S. Eaton

Basil O'Connor, Esq.,
Messrs. O'Connor & Farber,
120 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

*P.S. New is not a
democrat or voter
Committee.*

Enclos.

September 7, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY MORRIS THAU

To speak to me about.

F. D. R.

Enclosure

fdr/tmb

Undated and unsigned memo (sent to the President through Basil O'Connor from Cyrus S. Eaton, 320 Cuyahoga Building, Cleveland, Ohio) protesting against membership of the War Resources Board and the Financial Advisory Committee.

file
December

file
2

Governor Roosevelt stated in a speech on January 8, 1932, that "A concentration of all banking resources and all banking control in one spot or in a few hands is contrary to a sound public policy." The effect of that pronouncement was to rally thousands of independent business men, lawyers and bankers to Mr. Roosevelt's standard.

Yet figures show that deposits of New York Clearing House banks rose 71.9%, from \$6,462,292,000 on December 31, 1931, six days before the speech, to \$11,103,080,000 on December 31, 1932, six years after the New Deal went into office.

Deposits of all other banks in the country, however, rose but 15.2% during this period, from \$43,751,871,000 to \$50,439,715,000, while Cleveland and Detroit bank deposits actually fell 9.5% and 6.1%, respectively.

In the case of admitted assets of insurance companies, the same phenomenon occurred. As the assets of the Big Five - Metropolitan, Equitable, New York Life, Mutual and Prudential - increased 41%, from \$10,679,437,000 on December 31, 1931, to \$15,053,482,000 on December 31, 1932, the rest of the country's insurance companies showed an increase of 33.4%, from \$10,889,573,000 to \$14,525,518,000.

In securities underwriting, the trend has likewise been to New York. Figures recently published by the S.E.C. show that, in the four years ending June 30, 1939, New York houses managed 89% of the new issues of the country, a disproportionately large amount. Of this business, the bulk was handled by five firms - Morgan Stanley & Co., Kuhn Loeb & Co., Harriman Ripley & Co., The First Boston Corporation and Smith Barney & Co. - backed by the power and influence of the large New York banks and law firms. And it is significant that all of these five houses except Kuhn Loeb & Co. were set up by the banks to circumvent the legislation which had put the latter out of the underwriting business. The most conspicuous of these bank offshoots is, of course, Morgan Stanley & Co. which was set up by J. P. Morgan & Co.

Shocking facts would surely be revealed by a searching study of these banks, banking houses and law firms, which are inextricably interconnected and intertwined in the domination of the large insurance companies, the front line railroads, most of the nation's public utilities and the giant industrial companies. It should be stressed that control of this greater aggregation of wealth and power in 1939 is vested in exactly the same New York Ring which dominated the smaller combination in 1931. That the rest of the country has surrendered what the New York group has seized is evident. This is a situation which could be very harmful to the record of the New Deal, if it were not corrected before 1940.

PSF: D'Connor

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 20, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

D. B. O'G.

I did not send the letter to Will Moore as I think it would be best not to dampen his enthusiasm and that of Cason Callaway in regard to the lake.

Personally, I wholly approve of the idea of the lake, though I agree with you that it should not ever become a burden to the Foundation. Perhaps it might be possible to work out a plan for a wholly separate "county authority" to which the Foundation could deed the land and the "authority", with the help of Callaway and Moore, would build the lake and run it. Patients and families on the Foundation should, of course, get the priority benefit from, and use of, the fishing and boating.

We have to remember that while the golf course has nothing to do

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

-2-

with the treatment of the great majority of patients, it is nevertheless an almost indispensable adjunct to the Foundation for parents, visitors and the Foundation staff.

F. D. R.

PSF: O'Connor
Jen

GEORGIA WARM SPRINGS FOUNDATION

120 BROADWAY

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
TREASURER
BASIL O'CONNOR

September 13, 1939.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This is the first chance I have had since my return to the office to respond to your memorandum of August 28th requesting me to prepare a reply to William Moore's letter of August 8th (which I return to you herewith) about the proposed lake at Warm Springs.

If you will review my letter to Cason Callaway of March 6th and my letter to Moore of March 14th (copies of which were sent to you), you will read between the lines that the fact is that I question very seriously the advisability of the lake project. That statement, however, is not to be construed in any way to the effect that the points which I raised in those letters are not very serious and sound.

As you yourself have indicated, Warm Springs has more and more become a medical center, and we have plenty of problems to handle in that limited field without taking on any others unless they are of great value to us. My suggestion, therefore, is that the lake proposition be still further postponed and that you send William Moore a letter along the lines of that attached hereto.

Faithfully yours,

Basil O'Connor
Chairman Executive Committee

Encs.

Proposed letter to be sent
by the President to William Moore
re lake proposition at Warm Springs

The President,
Eyes Park,
N.Y.

Dear Will:

Inasmuch as Mr. O'Connor was away on vacation, this is the first chance I have had to reply to your letter of August 8th about the proposed lake at Warm Springs.

We have been doing considerable work in connection with a new sewage disposal plant at the Foundation, and recently Cason Callaway has had up with me a definite plan for the construction of that plant.

The lake proposition presents several difficulties which still have to be examined into very carefully, and I don't think we should consider it in any event until we have the sewage disposal plant entirely out of the way.

Sincerely yours,

Chas. Moore

WILLIAM S. MOORE
BAR HARBOR
MAINE

August 8th, 1939.

The President,
Hyde Park,
N.Y.

Dear Mr. President;

I enclose copy of a letter I have just sent to Basil O'Connor. I understand that nothing has been done as yet towards a new sewage disposal plant for the Foundation, and am wondering whether we could get the dam started without waiting for the sewage disposal plant. Gason, Ben and I had hoped to have some good sized Bass in there this Fall before you came down, and this might still be done if work could begin soon.

It does seem too bad not to be able to get underway, as we had the necessary funds and the plans ready when we were (and still are) held up for the sewage plant.

With my very best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Wiel Moore.

PSE
Basil O'Connor

October 25, 1939

Copy of Basil O'Connor's letter to Dr. R.D.W. Connor, Archivist,
ack his letter of Oct 23rd to Frank Walker. Referred to Basil
O'Connor in Walker's absence. Answers Connor's request to
Walker about material which should be placed in the copper box
to be placed within the cornerstone of the Library. Mentions
or suggests four items.

See:FDR Library folder-Drawer 2-1939

FFB

PSF: O'Connor
file
personal
&

O'CONNOR & FARBBER
180 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date, October 30, 1939.

To: B. O'C.

Re:

From: J.O.F.

**ROOSEVELT SPURS
LATIN BOND SALVAGE**

**Reiterates Stand for Soaling
Down as Drive to Increase
Commerce is Pressed**

By JOHN H. CRIDER
Special to The New York Times.
WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—President Roosevelt held out new hope today to holders of defaulted Latin American securities for some more expeditious adjustment of these debts when he reiterated his stand in favor of soaling them down.

He expressed himself as rather disappointed with the work of the Foreign Bondholders Protective Council, Inc., the semi-official agency set up pursuant to a section of the Securities Act of 1933 to serve as a central agency for coordinating negotiations in the interest of American holders of foreign obligations.

This criticism was interpreted as giving credence to reports that there was a strong sentiment within the Administration for demanding some affirmative action on the part of the Latin American debtors as a prerequisite to liberal extension of credits in accordance with the general desire here to promote economic as well as political solidarity among the American governments.

The statement by the President came in answer to a question at his press conference.

Fails to Act in 1933
The questioner said that there had been a great deal of discussion to the effect that the debts of the Latin American nations were an obstacle to the good neighbor program and asked if the President favored a soaling down process.

Mr. Roosevelt replied that of course he favored soaling down this debt, the matter going back to 1933 when the Administration gave its blessing to the Foreign Bondholders Protective Council.

He added that the members of the council had been working along and he did not think they had got very far. He said that he was rather disappointed with their operations.

The Treasury and the State Department have worked jointly in the past few years to find some basis for the extension of credits to Latin American nations, the principal efforts to date having been with respect to Brazil.

The work is now progressing in the hands of an interdepartmental committee comprising representatives of the State, Treasury and Commerce Departments and James H. Jones, Federal Loan Administrator.

The principal difficulty in the discussion of this group appears to turn on whether the methods employed heretofore to obtain some material satisfaction from the Latin American debtors should be persisted or whether these methods

Continued on Page Seven

**ROOSEVELT SPURS
LATIN BOND RESCUE**

Continued From Page One

should be scrapped for some more direct negotiations, possibly with the full weight of this government's influence behind such talks.

While some officials who have attended his meetings expressed dissatisfaction with the present machinery, others insisted that a plan might be worked out on the basis of past negotiations if a new approach were made. All seemed agreed that there had not been enough paying by the Latin-American debtors.

"In 1933, as in previous years," said the last annual report of the Foreign Bondholders Protective Council, "the Latin-American countries, taken as a world group, have made relatively the poorest showing in the adjustment of their defaulted bonds."

The report added that the total of outstanding dollar bonds of Latin-American governments, their political subdivisions and corporations having governmental guarantees aggregated \$1,400,000,000 on Dec. 31, 1938. Of this amount, the report added, about 77 per cent was in total or partial default.

This contrasted with European defaults of 48 per cent of dollar bonds outstanding at the end of 1933, it was stated.

While Brazil last week availed itself of arrangements for obtaining additional dollar credits collateralized by gold in the amount of up to \$80,000,000 which Brazil might buy from the United States, the feeling among general among Administration officials that the Brazilian plans had not gone as well as they might.

Negotiations for the arrangements were continued in 1937 and it took all the intervening period for Brazil to get sufficient free exchange to enable their use. Thus far only about \$1,000,000 of the gold has been bought.

Much more important in the broad plans which have been laid down in discussions with the Brazilian Government is a formula for letting Brazil have \$20,000,000 of gold as reserve for its central bank. It is understood that political differences in Brazil have been largely responsible for the delay in going forward with this arrangement, which requires action by Congress when Brazil is ready.

Perhaps you saw this in the New York Times of Saturday morning.

If invited, it seems to me that

this is a situation in which we

could be of particular assistance.

PSF: D'Connors
Telle
personal

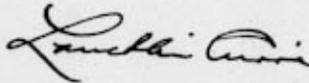
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Re: U. S. Branches of British Insurance
Companies

I raised this question with Senator Wagner who expressed his misgivings but undertook to sound out some of the members of his committee. I called him again a few days ago. His personal opinion is that the sharing of American government business in the housing field with British companies would result in immediate and unfavorable repercussions on the Hill.



Lauchlin Currie

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 12, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. LAUCHLIN CURRIE
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

Will you speak to me about
this?

F. D. R.

PSF: Basil O'Connor
2

O'CONNOR & FARBER
COUNSELORS AT LAW
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

BASIL O'CONNOR
JOHN C. FARBER
ARNOLD T. KOCH
KENNETH L. HOFFMAN
HENRY K. URION
WILLIAM F. SNYDER
MAURICE MOUND
EARLE R. KOONS
STEPHEN V. RYAN, JR.

October 10, 1939.

U. S. BRANCHES OF BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANIES

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Don't you think this would be a good time for the Committee on Banking and Insurance of the Senate to withdraw its embargo on the U. S. Branches of British Insurance Companies so far as F.H.A., R.F.C. and H.O.L.C. insurance is concerned?

Maybe a word to Senator Wagner on this matter would be helpful. Of course there isn't any question as to the financial ability of these U. S. Branches of British Insurance Companies despite the war, since the assets against which they insure are in this country held in trust for the benefit of American policyholders. Despite this, the agents of the American companies are having a field day on these U. S. Branches, combining in one argument the fact that England is at war and the fact that these U. S. Branches are embargoed by the United States Government.

Faithfully yours,

Joe

PSF
O'Connor
2

December 13, 1939.

Letter from Mrs, Frank C. Walker

Sends \$100 dollars for contribution to Warm Springs
The President sent to Doc O'Connor for his special fund
for some future deserving case.

See: Warm Springs folder-Drawer 3-1939

DATE 12/27/6

SPECIAL

*file
per mail*

Please read carefully.

PSF
O'Connor

1. Pan American Airways currently maintains a twice weekly trans-Atlantic service to Lisbon.
2. Increased traffic has justified an increase to six round trips per week as soon as the six new super-Clippers now under construction are delivered.
3. Trans-Atlantic passenger demand already greatly exceeds available capacity. The Italian air line is providing a direct connection at Lisbon with Rome. The French air line has just inaugurated a direct connection to France. It is expected that the British and Swiss services will also shortly inaugurate direct connections to England and Switzerland. With improved traffic distribution at Lisbon, the demand for trans-Atlantic passenger service will more than keep pace with Pan American's added frequencies as they become available.
4. Trans-Atlantic air mail loads also have greatly exceeded both company and Government estimates and are reducing available passenger capacity.
5. The Post Office Department has advised that it desires to utilize the four additional trans-Atlantic weekly schedules to transport the increasing volume of American mail, when necessary appropriations have been made. It is understood that the Post Office Department is presenting the covering estimate to the Bureau of the Budget for inclusion in the Deficiency Bill.
6. An appropriation of approximately \$125,000 is required for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1940, during which the third weekly trans-Atlantic service would be inaugurated, together with an appropriation of approximately \$850,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1941, during which period it is expected the fourth, fifth and sixth weekly schedules will also be inaugurated.
7. As an alternate to a fixed rate of compensation per trip, Pan American Airways have stated their willingness to transport the American air mail on all four additional weekly frequencies at the rate of \$10 per pound, an amount less than the postal revenue derived from this trans-Atlantic service by the Post Office Department. The postal revenues derived from stamp sales would more than provide the necessary Government funds for payment to the carrier even before the service is rendered. The appropriations, which will permit the Post Office Department to provide air mail service to the American public on the four additional weekly trans-Atlantic trips, will be self-liquidating, even yielding a profit to the Government.

PSF

O'Connor
2

In re-Paterson Ramapo Railroad stock

See: Personal Financial-Drawer 3-1939

PSF
O'Connor
2

(1939)

In re-President's correspondence with Mr. O'Connor
regarding the selling of his 6 shares of
Paterson and Ramapo Railroad Stock.

See: Personal Financial folder-Drawer 3-1939

RSF
O'Connor

THIS IS A HO HUM MEMORANDUM

You may hear that I was retained by Globe & Rutgers Fire Insurance Company to secure the passage through Congress of a bill permitting the R.F.C. to purchase preferred stocks in insurance companies. This is a lie and known to be such by the source from which it emanated - namely, the distinguished Grenville Clark of the firm of Root, Clark & Buckner to which your dear friend, Arthur Ballantine, is returning this week (God speed him!) as a member.

You know that my efforts in instigating the aforesaid bill were due to my knowledge of the insurance situation gained in the last four years and also in part a result of my various conferences with Van Schaick. To be sure, as I told you, had this legislation been in existence at the time I initiated it, it might have been of great value to Globe & Rutgers Fire Insurance Company.

I have told you the source from which this fabrication is issuing. I shall now tell you the reason why it is issuing. The distinguished Mr. Grenville Clark solicited the Superintendent of Insurance of this State to engage his firm as counsel for the Superintendent of Insurance in the Globe & Rutgers matter, stating that Mr. Clark saw no conflict between his firm representing both the Superintendent of Insurance and the Globe & Rutgers Company. The Superintendent did not see his way clear to accede to Mr. Clark's solicitation and retained me as his counsel in this matter - and well he might after all the advice I have given that Department in the last four years as a public servant!

And this leads me to call your attention to a matter of which I have heretofore spoken to you: Your intimate associate, Mr. Arthur Ballantine, left the firm of Root, Clark & Buckner to become the Under Secretary of the Treasury. Thereupon his firm became counsel in New York City for the R.F.C., and at or about the same time another member of that firm - namely, Mr. Plimpton, who was at the White House to lunch last Sunday, became general counsel for the R.F.C. in Washington. This is what is commonly called "not letting government interfere with business." Incidentally, I really think that Plimpton is a very nice fellow.

I am still hoping that the day will be speeded when the New Deal will arrive for attorneys in New York City (and I do not mean myself) in which the lawyers here, who for the last twelve years have been representing not only the money changers but the government, will be confined to advising only the money changers, and your friends who supported you will be given the honor of representing the government to the extent that it needs representation in this vicinity.

HO HUM!

*See
memo to*

COPY

*From
Doc B'Connor
PSF*

Good morning sir: Keith, I have definitely made up my mind to go back to practice in Atlanta this Fall unless there is some reason for the Trustees to change before that time - It will be two years this Fall since Doc said to me "go on back & run it for two years" - I took that as a mandate, an obligation - and it times very well for there are some unfinished things that I want to get done. To get things clear to the other party is difficult if attempted by letter - You are here & I want to talk with you - My purpose? as it always has been - in the interest of the Foundation - as I see things - right or wrong - I never know perfectly - The immediate thing is the scheme of admission of patients - Freiberg has been appointed chairman of a committee to define a "system" - he has taken the bit by the teeth - The matter does not concern me since I shall not be here. But it does concern you trustees - The very very difficult thing here - superlatively difficult has been to keep the outside contacts straight with the polio people, senators, congressmen, public health workers, and God knows what other types who write in here thinking the great humanitarian President has founded a thousand bed hospital free for all applicants.

It would be a God send to this institution if those who operate it here could have some system based on facts to follow.

Life is about a day long - There is something good & something bad in everything - like the weather - on the whole good has been done by this thing - I send you a few samples of the difficult & entirely unnecessary correspondence that has had to be carried on with the outside world in relation to the subject that Freiberg is to organize - the admission of patients - Read it over & then we can sit down & go over the problem - You as you know are in the committee - You see Freiberg evidently has a mandate from someone - His letter to me is amusingly peremptory - I am very tired of it all - I have finished the job I came here to do - It has not been peaceful - But I think I can check it off as something accomplished that is worth while and it's "all OK by me."

Give me a ring.

Yrs. sincerely,

Mike

For J.D.L.

Should Charlie Tuttle be forgot,
To history left unknown,
He banked on the reformers' vote,
And they all stayed at home.

Should dear old Baumes be forgot,
Who did so much for crime.
Who though he tried to be half dry
Was all wet all the time.

Should Lawyer Bookstein be forgot,
Who thought he had a cinch.
But Bennett pulled his Legion stuff,
And downed him in the clinch.

Should Mayor Conway be forgot,
He tried to lick Tremaine,
But Morris is a foxy guy,
He'll have to try again.

Here's to the wets and to the drys,
And Tammany as well;
We've no more politics to write,
They all can go to Hell.