5/29/73

Bill:

attached is Wireless to conference dated July 3, 1933

See Public Papers 1933

p. 264.

RCD

FDR Wireless to London
Economic Conference July 3, 1933.

Original presented to
FDR Library by FRR, Jr.
Memorial Day Ceremonies
FDR Library, Hyde Park, N.Y.
May 28, 1973. Received by
Director.

JCD

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 12, 1938

Dear Grace:

I was searching through my file yesterday for something for Mrs. Roosevelt and Franklin, Jr. was standing over me and discovered this document.

He gave it to me a long time ago to keep for him and that was the last any of us thought of it. He tells me now that you have been searching frantically for it and I am terribly sorry that I did not know you were looking for it, as I might have recalled it or at least made a search.

Franklin says this is personal property, that his father gave it to him, and he wants it back.

M.T.S.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Phillips
Acting Secretary of State
Washington -

Please send following to Hull as soon as possible.

~~Quote~~: Herewith is statement ~~from~~ ~~the~~ which I think you can use Monday morning as a message from me to you. If you think it best not to ~~[illegible]~~ give it out ~~[illegible]~~ in London let me know at once and in that event I will release it here as a White House statement.

Quote

I would regard it as a catastrophe amounting to a world tragedy if the great conference of nations, called to bring about a more ~~the~~ real and permanent financial stability and a greater ~~material~~ prosperity to the masses of all nations, ~~and their people~~, should, ~~the~~ in advance of any serious effort to consider these broader ~~this tremendous~~ problems, ~~on the early solution of which modern civilization depends~~, allow itself to be diverted by the proposal ~~adoption~~ of a purely artificial and temporary experiment affecting the monetary exchange of a few nations only. Such action, such diversion, shows a (Insert A) ~~of purpose at this time can have but one result. A feeling that the major work of the conference has been accomplished. A further excuse for a continuance of the basic economic fallacy that underlies so much of the present world-wide depression. Incidentally, those nations which have lacked the ability or the courage to face boldly their present peril by reducing government expenditures, increasing government income, and by joining other nations in restoring international trade, will continue to postpone balancing their national budgets, lulled by the specious fallacy that the achieving of a false and temporary stability in international exchange on the part of a few large countries only, will prove a cure-all of the world depression.~~ The conference was called to achieve a particular [illegible] not be diverted from such an achievement. Until that [illegible] settled [illegible] other business before

/

Insert A.

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singular lack of proportion and a failure to remember the larger purposes for which the Economic Conference ~~[illegible]~~ originally was called together.

It I do not wish the thought that insistence on such action should be made an excuse for the continuance of the basic economic errors that underlie so much of the present world wide depression.

The world will not long be lulled by the specious fallacy of achieving a temporary and probably an artificial stability in foreign exchange on the part of a few large countries only.

The sound internal economic system of a nation is a greater factor in its well-being

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them the price of its currency in changing terms of the currencies of other nations.

It is for this reason that reduced cost of government, adequate government income, and ability to service a government debts, [redacted] are all so important to ultimate stability. So too old fetishes of so called international bankers are being replaced by efforts to plan national currencies with the objective of giving those currencies a continuing purchasing power which does not greatly vary in terms of the commodities and necessities of modern civilization. Let

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me be frank in saying that the United States seeks the kind of a dollar which a generation hence will ~~buy debts and buy goods in the same~~ have the same purchasing and debt paying power as the dollar value we hope to attain in the near future. That objection intends more to the good of other nations than ~~[illegible]~~ a fixed ratio for a month or two in terms of the pound or the franc.

Our broad purpose is the permanent stabilization of every nation's currency. Gold, or gold and silver, can well continue to be a metallic reserve behind currencies,

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but this is not the time to dissipate gold reserves. When the world works out concerted policies in the majority of nations to produce balanced budgets and a living within their means then we can properly discuss a better distribution of the world's gold and silver supply to act as a reserve base of national currencies.

Restoration of world trade is an important factor both in the means and in the result. ~~There also~~ Here also temporary exchange fixing is not the true answer. We must rather ~~mitigate existing embargoes~~ mitigate existing embargoes to make easier the exchange of products which one nation has and the other nation has not.

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To

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The Conference was called to better and perhaps to cure fundamental economic ills. It must not be diverted from that effort.

End quote

Franklin D Roosevelt

This is the property of and to be filed with other documents.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Jr.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr.