

THE PLAZA BANK OF ST. LOUIS
TWELVE THIRTY OLIVE STREET
SAINT LOUIS

F. R. VONWINDEGGER
PRESIDENT

November 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Eccles:

Usually when I receive a copy of one of your speeches, I drop everything to read it, but this time your speech before the National Industrial Conference Board on November sixteenth arrived on Tuesday, when it was my great privilege to be host for the day to that illustrious statesman, Sumner Welles, who was kind enough, at my request, to make a major speech before the St. Louis Win the Peace Forum in which I have taken a most active part.

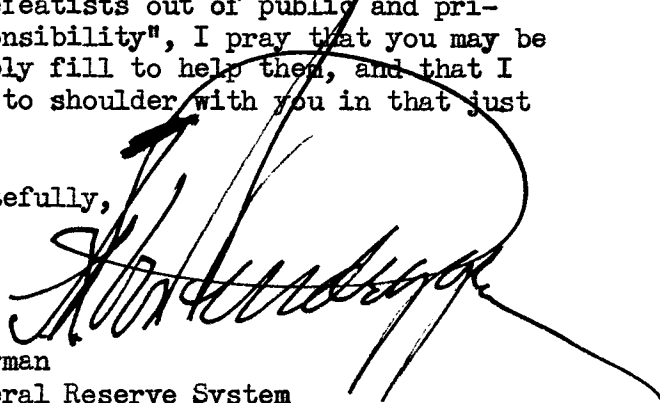
After recognizing the growing cynicism among our people, Mr. Welles, to my great joy and gratification, called on us to re-dedicate ourselves to the Four Freedoms. How tragically they are being ignored as an ideal for which to fight, and I wonder if this is not one reason for our growing cynicism.

A copy of his speech has been turned over to the printer to put in pamphlet form as part of our educational program here. I will send you a copy. May I have your permission to use yours in the same way?

As soon as I had taken him to his plane for Washington, I made an opportunity to read your speech. Like all of them, it is full of wisdom, courage, and the soundest of economic doctrine, but in my opinion this is the best speech you ever made for in the last four paragraphs you rose to great heights of economic statesmanship.

When the boys come home, if they rightly find it necessary to "take command and throw the defeatists out of public and private places of power and responsibility", I pray that you may be in the position you now so nobly fill to help them, and that I may be here fighting shoulder to shoulder with you in that just cause.

Gratefully,



Hon. Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Washington, D. C.

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

November 30, 1944.

Mr. F. R. vonWindegger, President,
The Plaza Bank of St. Louis,
1230 Olive Street,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Dear Mr. vonWindegger:

Your comments on my occasional speeches are always most heartening, and I appreciate your letter of November 25 in regard to the talk before the National Industrial Conference Board in New York.

You were wise, it seems to me, in getting Sumner Welles, for whose judgment and ability I have a very high regard.

I should feel honored to have my effort used in any way you consider appropriate in your educational program. I am enclosing another copy since a few revisions have been made in the original text.

with best regards,

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,
Chairman.

Enclosure

ET:b