

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
OF THE
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

Office Correspondence

Date January 12, 1937.To Chairman Eccles

Subject: _____

From Mr. Thurston

G P O 16-852

Eugene Meyer phoned yesterday to ask on behalf of Paul Bellamy and Marvin Creager, who are the moving spirits in the American Society of Newspaper Editors, whether you would be willing to speak at their annual meeting to be held here April 15, 16 and 17. They have already obtained Winthrop Aldrich's consent to be a speaker.

I understand that if you were agreeable, you could speak off the record and would not need a prepared speech. They would particularly like to have your views on how the press could improve the quality of the news and information which it conveys on governmental affairs, notably matters affecting economic and banking conditions. Hence, I do not see why you need get into any controversy with Aldrich. However, I would wish to have it understood that he was to precede you on the program.

As you know, this is a most representative group of editors and publishers from all over the country, and I think it would give you an excellent opportunity to work in the necessity for cooperation of the press in adequately and truthfully explaining your own program for conserving the recovery movement, even though that often-times seems to require a departure from traditional checks and controls.

Mr. Meyer said that while he was governor he once spoke to this group off the record and while what he said was not kept confidential, he was not subjected to direct quotation and was careful not to say anything that he did not wish to have repeated.

I do not like to suggest burdening you with any more of a load than you are already carrying, but I do feel that this is worthy of serious consideration, and barring some contingency which I do not now foresee, I think it would be all to the good if you could agree to speak off the record and after Aldrich at one of these sessions, which are usually held in the auditorium of the National Press Club.



*Accept but
can you 12-17
always arrange*