



R. R. GILBERT
PRESIDENT

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

March 29, 1947

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Marriner S. Eccles
Care Board of Governors of the
Federal Reserve System
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Governor Eccles:

I have read with a great deal of interest your letter of March 20, 1947, and attachments, and, as requested, will prepare and mail to you within the next week or ten days a memorandum setting forth my recollection of the statements and comments made by Governor Vardeman at the luncheon in San Antonio on January 6, 1947, which we arranged at his suggestion. Some of the statements and comments included in the memorandum which accompanied your letter were also made at the meeting in San Antonio.

I am enclosing a memorandum which will give you such information as I have been able to obtain about Mr. Walter W. Schroeder of New Orleans, Louisiana, from which you will observe that his banking experience has been limited to very few activities. If I am able to obtain any additional information about his background or business experience, I will communicate with you again.

With kindest personal regards and all good wishes,
I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R. R. Gilbert".

R. R. Gilbert
President

Enclosure

Off the record, some of
Walter's friends think that
his views lean toward the
"socialistic" side, that he
is always for the "underdog"
although he is not a church
man + that he agrees with
the "share-the-wealth" idea.

Mr. Walter W. Schroeder was born in Illinois, moved to New Orleans when he was a very young man, and became connected with the old Canal Bank and Trust Company of that city, predecessor of the National Bank of Commerce.

He served for sometime as a paying or a receiving teller, and when the bank closed he was connected with its bond department. In the reorganization he became associated with the public relations officer of the bank, who was a Mr. Bandi. When Mr. Bandi died several years ago, Mr. Schroeder succeeded him as the public relations officer at the National Bank of Commerce, of which institution he is now a vice president. Mr. Schroeder is reported to be an outstanding public relations officer.

He is a past president of the Rotary Club of New Orleans and takes considerable interest in civic affairs. He is in his early fifties, is married, and has one son who married recently and who is now employed by a bank in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He is considered to have the equivalent of a college education, but his banking activities do not include any experience in credits or in many other phases of banking.