

Internal Memorandum

Monday, March 1st, 1954

Interview with Mrs. Odgen Mills concerning her husband's papers.

Mrs. Mills telephoned us some weeks ago, at the suggestion of Mr. Case, and said that nobody had asked for her husband's papers since they had been put in the garage at Brookfield, Long Island. She herself had gone through several boxes last summer, and had destroyed certain material, but she had found very quickly that she was not equipped to judge what was useful and was not. She said there was at least one box and she thought two which were marked Federal Reserve Board. There are also boxes marked with the name of the Treasury.

Mrs. Mills said that she had sat next to Mr. Walter Lip^Fman, the journalist, on the previous evening and had talk with him about what to do with Mr. Mills papers. Mr. Lipman had recommended that they go to Yale University where he was putting his own papers. He himself, graduated from Harvard, but his phrase to Mrs. Mills was that he could get better terms from Yale.

I suggested to Mrs. Mills that as her husband was a statesman engaged in the national affairs, his papers rightly belong in the Library of Congress. She had not expected that suggestion. Apparently she had thought that we could take them over and bring them directly to the bank. She said that she would prefer to give them to Mr. Case.

Mrs. Mills will talk with her children and with a sister of Mr. Mills, whose name is Mrs. Phipps, about the disposal of the papers. She is eager to get them into the proper hands and will then let us know as soon as possible what the decision is.

The next morning I telephoned Mr. Case and told the substance of the conversation. I suggested that if Mrs. Mills should call him regarding the papers he might like to agree with my suggestion that they properly belong in the Library of Congress. He was interested in this idea and apparently thought favorably of it.

M. A.

March 1, 1954

Addition to Mrs. Ogden Mills Memorandum

This is a memory of Montagu Norman. Mrs. Mills told the story of a conference at their country home in Long Island. (I think this is probably at Brookville) which was attended to by Montagu Norman, Mr. Rist, of the Bank of France, and Mr. Schacht of the Bank of Germany. In spite of the warm weather Mr. Norman who was by way being more of an actor than a banker (this I have from an expert on English banking) wore his velvet collared wide cloak. He chose to sit in one of those great fan-back oriental chairs which are so picturesque, placed at the end of the room, and garbed thus dramatically he dominated the conference. Mrs. Mills said that in spite of this drama, her husband's cool banker brain was the really effective factor in the conference.

This is an interesting memorandum on the by-gone day and if Mr. Mills himself made notes at the time it might be a very interesting detail. This was a conference which had to do with the devaluation of currency. She did not give us the dates.

M.A.