

Tuesday
April 26, 1955

Internal Memorandum

Telephone Conversation with Mr. Junius Morgan concerning the papers of his father, Mr.

J. Pierpont Morgan

Mr. Morgan's telephone call came in reply to a letter written to Mr. Thomas Lamont asking specifically where the Morgan papers were. He limited his reply to correspondence concerned with Benjamin Strong and said that he was quite sure his father's files would not reveal anything excepting the other side of the same papers which are in the Benjamin Strong files. In other words, if the Benjamin Strong files have carbons, the Morgan files would have originals, and vice versa. He said that Mr. Strong and Mr. Morgan exchanged opinions and decisions mostly by telephone, and of these calls no record was made.

When I queried him further, he said that his father's papers had not been sorted since the elder Morgan's death. This would be a tremendous job, and nobody had undertaken it as yet. His father was not a writer of memoranda or a keeper of diaries.

Trying to get a more precise reply, I asked if Mr. Morgan Sr.'s papers were in the care of the family or incorporated in the business records of the Morgan firm. This question was particularly aimed to find out about correspondence concerning international transactions. Mr. Junius Morgan dodged that question but then said that if specific queries were made concerning the release of papers on specific incidents, this would have to be thoroughly cleared.

This still leaves us without a very precise reply as to where the papers are and what papers are available. It would seem probably that if Dr. Chandler or anyone else working in this field desired to consult Morgan records the area of consultation should be quite specifically defined and a letter go straight through to the present head of Morgan and Company. Probably, in the last analysis, the papers are under joint control of the Morgan family and the Morgan Company.

c.c. - Dr. Chandler