


THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 30, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR  
GOVERNOR ECCLES

Thank you for the enclosed about Mr. Manuel. Nevertheless, there is a situation in the Northwest which has been very disturbing to practically all the smaller bankers in the smaller communities. Mr. Peyton is strongly opposed by them and I am inclined to think that they have a pretty good case running back a good many years - especially because many of them were ruined by the chain banks started in that territory.

I wish you would try to find someone who would not antagonize the smaller bankers as much as Mr. Peyton does and would.

 F. D. R.

1/30/36

Chairman  
~~MEMORANDUM~~

January 28, 1936.

My dear Mr. President:

Attached is a memorandum with reference to Mr. Manuel about whose availability for Chairman of the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank you inquired.

Respectfully yours,

The Honorable  
The President of the United States,  
The White House.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
EAB

January 28, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

By note of January 25th you requested me to speak to you about Ralph W. Manuel, President of the Marquette National Bank of Minneapolis, to replace John Peyton as Chairman of the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank at Minneapolis.

I had occasion to have Mr. Manuel's record thoroughly checked because he was a candidate for appointment to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and no one exerted himself more energetically than he did in an effort to secure an appointment. He does not have high standing as a banker in the Northwest. His bank is a small one and has two affiliates whose policies he dominated which had to be re-organized after the banking holiday on a basis of 50% waiver of deposits and a 100% stock assessment. According to the bank examiners' reports "the files indicate that the bond accounts in the affiliated banks, in which the major losses were incurred, were supervised by Bank Shares Corporation of which Mr. Manuel was President."

For the practical job of running a Federal Reserve Bank, John Peyton is the best man we have in the entire Federal Reserve System. He has cooperated more completely and more intelligently with the Board here than any of the other reserve bank chairmen. It is true that the independent bankers in his territory have been vigorously opposed to him. To my mind, these bankers are presumptuous, to say the least, for they are not even members of the Federal Reserve System and never have been, yet they undertake to advise as to how the System should be managed and who should manage it.

Personally, I feel it would be a very serious blow to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and to the entire Federal Reserve System to replace a conspicuously capable executive like Peyton because of opposition from a Senator who was formerly the State Bank Commissioner and appears to be biased in favor of the little state banks which, as you know, were in the worst difficulties during the depression.

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ET:b

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 25, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR  
GOVERNOR ECCLES

Will you speak to me  
about this?

F. D. R.

M. F. Files

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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In place of John Fryken  
Ch. Bd. F. R. Bk. Minneapolis

Put in Ralph Merrill Pres  
Marguerite Nat Bk - Minn.

Sen. Ransom N. & the Farmers  
'd express. the indep. bankers.