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Bank of America

SAN FRANCISCO HEADQUARTERS

A . P. GIANNINI
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

July 18, 1935

Mr. Lawrence Clayton, Assistant to the Governor, Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clayton:

Mr. Giannini asked me to send you the enclosed copy of a telegram which he sent today to Senator Hiram W. Johnson, thinking that you might be interested in the information it contains.

Very truly yours,

For Mr. A. P. Giannini.

HONORABLE HIRAM W. JOHNSON MEMBER OF SENATE WASHINGTON D.C.

BELIEVE TOO LITTLE THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE FEBERAL RESERVE BOARD FROM POSSIBLE DOMINATION BY PRIVATE INTERESTS STOP MEMBERSHIP ON THE BOARD SHOULD BE A LIFE CAREER SIMILAR TO THE SUPERICE COURT JUDGES STOP SENATE PROVISION OF FOURTEEN YEAR TERM WITH NO REAPPOINTMENT AND NO PENSION PUTS BOARD MEMBERS IN A POSITION WHERE THEY WILL BE FORCED TO SEEK A NEW CONNECTION AT A TIME IN THEIR LIVES WHEN IT IS MOST DIFFICULT TO DO SO STOP THE ANSWER IN MANY CASES WILL BE TEMPTING OFFERS FROM INTERESTED PRIVATE PARTIES TO GUARANTRE THEM A JOB AS SOON AS THEIR TERM EXPIRES STOP IMAGINE THE POSITION OF A CAPABLE MAN OF FORTY FIVE ACCEPTING A FOURTEEN YEAR APPOINTMENT AND AT FIFTY NINE HAVING TO START ALL OVER AGAIN IN A NEW POSITION WITH NO CHANCE OF GETTING A PENSION FOR HIS SERVICES WITH NEW EMPLOYER STOP RELIEVE THIS MATTER SHOULD HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF ATTENTION AS PRESENT SENATE ACT WILL NOT TEND TO MAKE MEMBERS INDEPENDENT AND MAY TEND TO MAKE THEM SUBSERVIEW STOP AGREE WITH ADOLPH MILLER THAT BOARD SHOULD NOT BE BI-PARTISAN AND ONLY CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT SHOULD BE ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR THE POSITION STOP KNOW YOU ARE BUSY MAN BUT THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WISH TO HAVE THIS PHASE OF MATTER POINTED OUT AM JUST PASSING IT ON TO YOU FOR WHATEVER IT MAY BE WORTH KINDEST REGARDS

A P GIANNINI