

GEORGE H. ROCKWELL
748 MAIN STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

January 24, 1939.

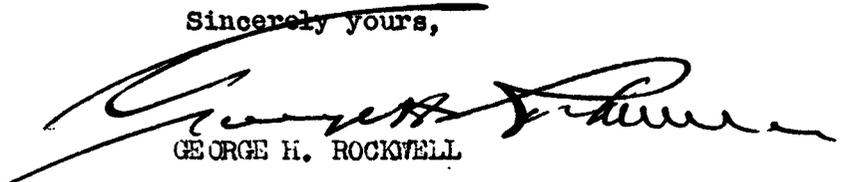
Mr. M. S. Eccles,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I was very much interested in your talk over the radio last evening.

It's my opinion that the policy you outline is a very dangerous one. Certainly, there are no precedents over years which would indicate that the policies which you and the President advocate are sound. With a wonderful country like ours, it does concern people like myself greatly when officials of high standing advocate policies that have never proven successful. In all the history of the world, no country has ever been successful with continued spending of money in excess of receipts. You people who are advocating these policies, in my opinion, are taking a great responsibility. I have confidence in men like Senator Byrd who are opposed to your views and I sincerely hope that there will be a steady uprising of public opinion against the policies you are advocating.

Sincerely yours,



GEORGE H. ROCKWELL

January 27, 1939

Mr. George H. Rockwell
748 Main Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Rockwell:

Mr. Eccles has asked me to acknowledge your letter of January 24 which he has read with interest. He notes that in your opinion his views are unsound and that you make special point of the fact that there are no precedents over the years to justify such views. In a sense the precedent is on the Chairman's side inasmuch as he advocates policies which will prevent the contraction of the total debt of the country. If one looks back over the years he will see that we have never had prosperity except through expansion of the total debt and on the other hand, every depression has been accompanied by debt contraction, the most conspicuous example being the period from 1929 to 1933. With a contraction of around 14 per cent, the national income fell 50 per cent.

However, this is a large subject, too large for discussion by letter. At the Chairman's suggestion I am enclosing a copy of an excerpt from Macaulay's History of England which, I think, will be found to be thought-stimulating with reference to the question of national debt.

Yours sincerely,

Lawrence Clayton
Assistant to the Chairman

enclosure

LC/fgf