

*file*

May 16, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. THURSTON

Dear Elliott:

I really think this is an exceptionally fine speech. In my off-hand judgment, its cohesion would have been improved by omitting all of page 17 (with the starting paragraph at the bottom of page 16), and pages 18, 19 and page 20 down to the start of the first full paragraph. As a substitute, the subjects unemployment and insurance could be incorporated in two short paragraphs which give Marriner's bare conclusions, regretting that time prevents elaboration. Then I believe the remainder of the last half of the speech might have been cut and boiled, suggesting rather than elaborating some of the points, so that the entire address could have been compressed into 15 or 16 pages.

With the Chairman's form of delivery, he cannot be counted on to do a page in two minutes. I think it even preferable, as I told you once before, that he hold his talks to  $12\frac{1}{2}$  or 13 pages maximum.

None of this is said critically. Everything in the New York speech was good, and every bit of it might have been used if he had the whole session to himself. My comment is directed, as you know, to form rather than substance.

C.C.D.

*C.C.D. avis*

Attachment: Z-316  
Mr. Eccles' speech  
May 9, Economic Club  
of New York.