

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND COMMERCE

March 7, 1936

Honorable M. S. Eccles
President, Federal Reserve Board
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles:

We are looking forward with a great deal of pleasure to your coming visit with us and to your talk and discussion on "Current Economic and Banking Problems" which you will give before our Business and Professional Men's Group on Friday evening, March 20.

Dean Herman Schneider would be delighted to have you as his guest at an informal dinner at 6:00 o'clock on that evening. Just a small group of ten men would be present. Perhaps there are several persons in Cincinnati whom you would particularly like to meet. It will be a pleasure to include them in the dinner party. It is customary for the speaker and the guests to wear business dress at the dinner and at the meeting.

Following the dinner the group goes to the University campus where the meetings are held. We try to start promptly at 8:00 o'clock. There are no formalities---just a short introduction and then your talk. The speaker usually talks for an hour. Then, after a short intermission, there follows another hour of questions and discussion. We always close the meeting by 10:15 o'clock. It has been our experience that the more informal and direct the talk is, the better the men seem to react during the discussion period. The speakers, therefore, do not prepare a formal paper, but talk from notes instead.

As you requested, and in accordance with our general policy for this group, we have arranged to have the newspapers consider this meeting and discussion as "off the record" and to have no reporters present. Our experience has been that with this arrangement the speakers are always a great deal freer in expressing themselves fully and frankly on the subject under discussion.

However, the Associated Press, and the local and several out-of-town newspapers are very much interested in this series, and we are trying to cooperate with them as much as possible within our policies. All of the speakers have helped us by mailing us a day or two in advance about a 1000-word statement covering some of the main points planned for the evening's talk, which statement we then used as a release on Saturday morning. Also some of them were willing to be interviewed

by reporters at a convenient time during the day. We are only too glad to be guided by your wishes in this matter. If it is convenient for you to send us a release, or if you would be willing to be interviewed by the reporters, it would help us a great deal in our relations with the newspapers, and I know they would appreciate the courtesy. However, if neither arrangement is possible or desirable, we shall explain the situation to them.

As soon as you have made definite plans, will you please ask your secretary to let us know when you will arrive in Cincinnati and by what train? I shall also be glad to make a reservation for you at the Netherland Plaza Hotel.

It may be of interest to you to know some of the subjects which have already been discussed as a part of this year's program: Ralph Robey spoke on "Government Spending." Dr. Edward S. Corwin, of Princeton, discussed "The Constitution and the Courts." He was followed by Dr. Harland Allen, consulting economist of Chicago, on "Hurdles Ahead of American Business," and later by Dr. Oscar Riddle, whose subject was "Biological Sources of Human Behavior." Harold G. Moulton spoke last Friday on "The Road to Economic Progress," and this week George H. Soule spoke on "A Changing Social Philosophy." Next Friday evening George E. Sokolsky will discuss "Conflicting Interests in the Far East." Then follows your talk on March 20. March 27 is the concluding date for this year's series, and for that evening we are scheduling the subject "World Resources and World Politics."

We want to do everything we can to make your visit with us both interesting and pleasant. We hope, therefore, that you will not hesitate to call upon us for any arrangements that you would like to have made or for any service that we can render.

May I hear from you as soon as possible concerning the arrangements we have suggested?

Sincerely yours,



V. H. Drufner,
Director, Business and
Professional Men's Group

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