

N.Y. speech file
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GILBERT MACKAY

19 WEST 44TH STREET
NEW YORK 18

January 12, 1950

The Honorable Marriner S. Eccles
Member, Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles:

We feel we owe you an apology for what appears to have been a possible quotation from your off-the-record talk at the Dinner Forum on December 6, 1949. As you may have learned, the monthly publication of the Empire Trust Company of New York referred to some comments you supposedly made at a "private dinner in New York."

Frazar Wilde and I are extremely sorry this happened. We have spent considerable time trying to determine the facts. It seems that Joseph Stagg Lawrence, the author of the article, had planned on attending our forum, but the day before he became ill and was unable to be with us. His article had already been written, was in the printer's hands and we are told that our forum was not the source of his information.

Frankly, we are still very much embarrassed about this coincidence. We wanted you to know that we have done everything in our power to correct this and we sincerely apologize in case there was any negligence on our part.

It was such a successful meeting and you gave such a superb talk that it is a shame to have anything go wrong. For sixteen years these confidential meetings have never had a leak. We sincerely hope that this one was no exception and that our findings are accurate.

The next time I am in Washington I would like very much to see you and perhaps we can arrange a golfing reunion at Burning Tree.

Most sincerely,


Gilbert MacKay

GM/jd