Mr. Benjamin Strong,
Governor, Federal Reserve Bank,
New York City.

Sir:

The Department advises you of the receipt, through the Consul General of Montenegro at New York, of a diploma stating that the Third Class of the Order of Prince Danilo the First, instituted for the independence of Montenegro, has been conferred on you "in acknowledgment of the distinct services you have rendered to the Montenegrin People."

The Department informs you that, in view of the provision contained in Article I, Section 9, of the Constitution of the United States that "no Person holding any Office of Profit or Trust" under the United States "shall, without the Consent of the Congress, accept of any present, Emolument, Office, or Title, of any kind whatever, from any King, Prince, or foreign State", the Department is constrained to retain in its custody the diploma, and any decoration which may be received for you in this connection, until such time as the Congress of the United States shall authorize its acceptance, or during your continuance in the Government Service.

I am,
I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

For the Acting Secretary of State:

Alvan E. Adams
Second Assistant Secretary.

To Hon. Frank P. Blair, Jr.
Secretary of State
JUN-2 1876
Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of May 13th in relation to the diploma conferred upon me by the Government of Montenegro.

From the last paragraph of your letter I gather that you have misunderstood the situation in regard to my office with this bank. I am not an officer of our Government, nor is the Bank owned by the Government, simply operating under a Government charter as do the national banks. I receive no emolument from the Government, nor do I hold any office or title of any kind in the Government of the United States.

I would, therefore, appreciate the courtesy of delivery of the document handed to the Department by the Consul General of Montenegro at New York.

I beg to remain,

Respectfully,

Honorable Alvey A. Idee, Secretary of State, Washington, D.C.
U.S.

W. Wilbur J. Carr
U.S. State Dept
Consular Service
1914-1916
My dear Mr. Strong:

In reply to your letter of the 15th it will give me a great deal of pleasure to see Mr. Joseph P. Day, Chairman of the Sub-committee of the London Relief Committee and who was in charge of transportation matters and I feel sure that the Secretary would also be glad to see him. Your letter of the 21st reached me this morning and I hasten to say that the Secretary has been absent from the city for some days but will return tomorrow morning according to our present information and I will then bring your letter to his attention and ascertain whether he can make an appointment to see Mr. Day. I shall, of course, promptly notify you of the result.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong, Jr.,
President, Bankers Trust Company,
16 Wall Street,
New York City.
My dear Mr. Strong:

Replying to your note of the 24th in regard to the possible appointment of Mr. Day with the Secretary, I think you ought to know that the Secretary came back for a day only and returned at once to North Carolina, so that there has been no opportunity to make an appointment thus far. He is expected to return next week, however, and I will then take the matter up with him.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Benj. Strong, jr., Esquire,
President, Bankers Trust Company,
16 Wall Street, New York City.
TO HIM ON MAURETANIA

WILLIAM J. CARR

SECRETARY CAN PROBABLY SEE MR. DAY IF HE SHOULD CALL WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON TOMORROW. LETTER FOR DR. STRONG MAILED TO HIM ON MAURETANIA.

WILLIAM J. CARR

Received Sep 30, 1914 9:41 AM

TELLER'S DEPT.
THE POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY (INCORPORATED)

TRANSMITS AND DELIVERS THE WITHIN TELEGRAM SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a telegram should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated telegram rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, THIS IS AN UNREPEATED TELEGRAM AND PAID FOR AS SUCH, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the telegram and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any UNREPEATED telegram, beyond the amount received for sending the same; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED telegram, beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, UNLESS SPECIALLY VALUED; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; NOR FOR ERRORS IN CIPHER OR OBSCURE TELEGRAMS.

2. In any event the Company shall not be liable for damages for any mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery of this telegram, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond fifty times the REPEATED telegram rate, at which amount this telegram, if sent as a REPEATED telegram, is hereby valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing hereon at the time the telegram is offered to the Company for transmission, and an additional sum paid or agreed to be paid based on such value equal to one-tenth of one per cent. thereof.

3. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this telegram over the lines of any other Company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Messages will be delivered free within the established free delivery limits of the terminal office. For delivery at a greater distance a special charge will be made to cover the cost of such delivery.

5. No responsibility regarding messages attaches to this Company until the same are presented and accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if any message is sent to such office by one of this Company’s messengers, he acts as the agent of the sender for the purpose of delivering the message and any notice or instructions regarding it to the Company’s agent in its said office.

6. The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the telegram is filed with the Company for transmission.

7. The above terms and conditions shall be binding upon the receiver as well as the sender of this telegram.

8. NO EMPLOYEE OF THIS COMPANY IS AUTHORIZED TO VARY THE FOREGOING.

CHARLES C. ADAMS, VICE-PRESIDENT.

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, PRESIDENT.

EDWARD REYNOLDS, VICE-PRES. AND GENERAL MANAGER.

CHARLES P. BRUCH, VICE-PRESIDENT.
October 1, 1914.

Dear Mr. Strong:

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 30th of September in which you inform me that you did not receive my telegram in time for Mr. Day to come to Washington to see the Secretary. If Mr. Day can come to Washington Wednesday morning of next week I feel sure the Secretary will be able to see him then.

Very sincerely yours,

Benj. Strong, Jr., Esquire,

President, Bankers Trust Company,

16 Wall Street,

New York City.

Sent copy to Sec. Hay's office.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

October 26, 1914.

My dear Mr. Strong:

On the fifteenth of September you sent me a volume containing copies of correspondence, telegrams and messages relating to the gold fund shipped to Europe. The collection has proved of great interest and of real service in enabling me to understand many things which were never clear because my connection with the relief work in Europe did not begin until after many things had been done.

I am now returning the correspondence herewith and thank you for the courtesy you did me in letting me have the use of it for a time.

Now that the pressure of relief measures has somewhat subsided and I have a moment for a personal note I want to thank you for your encouraging message some time ago. It is most gratifying to have you say that I was of the least help in the task which you so generously undertook of guiding us through the work which was so suddenly thrown upon the Government. Without you I feel that the story of the Government relief measures would have been far less creditable and I personally feel deeply grateful for all that you were good enough to do and I am sure the Secretary has the same feeling of appreciation. My only regret is that we could not have profited to a greater degree by your
advice and escaped some of the unnecessary work which you foresaw
and which I fear will continue to plague us for some time to come.
On the whole, however, everything has turned out rather well in view
of all the difficulties that were encountered.

Permit me to offer a word of congratulation upon your selection
as head of the Federal Reserve Bank in New York. The Government is
indeed fortunate in having been able to induce you to give your abili-
ties to public instead of private interests. As I wrote Mr. Olds some
days ago, it is encouraging that this administration should have been
so unusually successful in obtaining the services of men so eminently
fitted for the very important new work which it has undertaken.

With renewed thanks for your courtesy and assistance and with
kindest regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Director of the Consular Service.

Enclosure:

Correspondence relating to gold fund shipped to Europe.

Benjamin I. Strong, Esquire,
Bankers Trust Company
16 Wall Street
New York, New York.
TELEGRAMS
August 3: Telegram to Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of Treasury, from Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Will meet Mr. Lansing, State Department, Metropolitan Club, Washington, nine o'clock tonight regarding arrangement for foreign travelers I discussed with you. Would very much appreciate your assistance. Can you join us there or have a representative? Must return on midnight train. Please wire answer.

August 3: Telegram from George R. Cooksey, Private Secretary, Washington, D. C., to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Secretary McAdoo now enroute to Washington from New York. Will place your telegram before him upon arrival about three thirty.

August 4: Telegram to Hon. W. J. Bryan, Secretary of the State, Washington, D. C., from Benjamin Strong, Jr.
We have received cable advice from Germany that Baroness von Romberg payment has been made. We greatly appreciate your assistance.

Your telegram received. The President sent a special message to the Congress at two o'clock asking for an appropriation of two and one-half millions of dollars for the relief, protection and transportation of American citizens in Europe, and for the power to use such of the vessels, officials and officers of the Government as he may determine, and to take all necessary measures to accomplish said purpose. The money is to be used not only for the relief of the destitute, but in the form of advances to citizens who may reimburse the Government on their return. Until Congress makes the appropriation and grants this power, it is impossible for me to advise you about fiscal agencies and other points in your letter, but the President will, I am sure, authorize the appointment of such agents when he has the power. I see no reason why bankers should not receive from individuals deposits of gold for transmission at shipper's risk. Our idea is to send the money in one of our naval vessels. We hope for prompt action by the Congress. The Secretary of State and I are going before the Appropriations Committee of the Senate at four o'clock this afternoon, and shall appear before the Appropriations Committee of the house tomorrow morning at half past ten.

August 5: Telegram to Adolph C. Miller, C/o Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., from institutions mentioned below.
The five million gold shipment contributed by ten institutions sending this telegram never intended to be limited to cash travelers' credits issued only by such ten institutions, but always intended and will be shipped only for relief use in cashing to extent immediate needs of tourists holding travelers' credits in form either of Letters of Credit or Travelers' Cheques issued by any American bank, banker or concern. Validity of credit and goodness of drawer to be established in manner customary to such transactions through O. K. of foreign
drawees of such credits.

(National City Bank.)
Farmers Loan and Trust Co.
Brown Brothers and Co.
Guaranty Trust Co.
Kidder, Peabody & Co.
National Bank of Commerce.
American Express Co.
Bankers Trust Co.
J. P. Morgan & Co.
First National Bank.

August 5: Telegram to Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of Treasury, Washington, D. C., from Benjamin Strong, Jr.

Personal intimations have just reached me that word has been received in Washington of lack of harmony respecting gold shipment or appointment in connection with handling same. There is absolutely no foundation for this report so far as I know. The gold is being shipped by ten institutions and firms who are in entire harmony in this effort to protect all Americans holding Letters of Credit, no matter by whom issued. The gold will be used for the benefit of all responsible users of Travelers' credits through such agencies as may be employed, and the recommendations which have gone to Washington from our committee are the names recommended by the ten firms or institutions contributing. It occurs to me to suggest to you personally that if there should be any question on the part of anybody as to whom the consignee should be, I want you to feel perfectly free to eliminate our name, if you desire to do so. What we want to do is to insure that the shipment is made to responsible people who have facilities to conduct the business.

August 6: Telegram from W. G. McAdoo to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Your telegram received; also telegram signed by Farmers Loan and Trust Co., Brown Brothers and Co., Guaranty Trust Co., Kidder, Peabody & Co., National Bank of Commerce, American Express Company, J. P. Morgan & Co., First National Bank, Bankers Trust Co. Also telephone message from Irving S. Olds to Doctor Miller. It is not the purpose to receive deposits for shipment on the Tennessee from any other than bankers' committee, and all inquiries from other bankers than your committee have been referred to you.

August 10: Brooklyn Navy Yard telephoned that they had received a wireless from Secretary Breckenridge on board the Tennessee, asking for a complete list of issuers of Travelers' Cheques and Letters of Credit. We telephoned the Navy Yard, stating that we could only supply them with a partial list, and advising them that a complete list could be obtained from Mr. Fred I. Kent, C/o Hotel Waldorf, Aldwych Street, London, and instructed them to send a message to Secretary Breckenridge on board the Tennessee, requesting him to send a wireless to Mr. Kent, informing Mr. Kent of the port of arrival, so as to enable the London Committee to make full and complete arrangements for the immediate transfer of the gold to London - which
message was confirmed over the wire by the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

August 11: Telegram from W. G. McAdoo to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Please telegraph me the names of the gentlemen to whom you advise that invitations be extended as members of the proposed committee referred to in my letter of August eighth.

August 11: Telegram to Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, signed Benjamin Strong, Jr.

August 11: Telegram to Hon. W. G. McAdoo, Secretary of the Treasury, from Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Referring my previous wire, suggest inviting William L. Benedict, of Kidder, Peabody & Company, New York, on account of their important foreign connections.

August 11: Telegram from W. G. McAdoo to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Have invited representatives of the firms you suggest. Thanks.

August 13: Telegram from W. G. McAdoo to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
It was the distinct understanding that the bankers in New York represented by you should take care of American travelers in Europe holding unexhausted Letters of Credit, and to enable you to get funds to them, you were permitted to send a committee on board the Tennessee and also to have transported free of cost three million dollars of gold for this purpose. It was understood that the government would advance money to take care of American citizens in Europe, who had exhausted their Letters of Credit and had no other available means. For this purpose one million, five hundred thousand dollars of gold was sent on the Tennessee in charge of Treasury agents. Since that time requests have come from several of the embassies to have funds transferred to them by cable. This has been done in the case of London, Paris, Rome and Berne, Switzerland, the government having agreed reimburse the banks making such advances out of the gold shipped on the Tennessee. It now transpires that many Americans holding unexhausted Letters of Credit are seeking and have secured from our embassies advances on such Letters or Travelers' Cheques. I am consenting that this be done upon the condition only that all such advances against Letters of Credit or Travelers' Cheques shall be repaid to the American Embassadors out of the bankers' funds now on board the Tennessee immediately upon the arrival in Europe, or through any other means available to the bankers. Unless this is done, the Treasury funds will be exhausted in making advances upon bankers' Letters of Credit, and will not be available...
for the relief of destitute Americans. Congress made the appropriation for the relief of destitute Americans only. Today I have a request from the State Department that we place one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars to the credit of the White Star Line in Naples, to be advanced against Letters of Credit or Travelers' Cheques. I cannot sanction this payment to the White Star Line except upon the express condition that the bankers will reimburse the Treasurer immediately upon arrival in Europe for all advances made by the White Star Line upon Letters of Credit or Travelers' Cheques, or that the bankers reimburse the Treasurer promptly through some other available channels. I understood also that Messrs. Morgan, Harjes and Company, Paris, had been put in possession of three million dollars of gold for the purpose of caring for American travelers holding Letters of Credit and Travelers' Cheques. It does not seem to me necessary that the government funds should be drawn upon to protect obligations of the bankers, unless it may be until the Tennessee arrives in Europe. It is most important to keep this distinction in mind, and to have complete understanding on this point. Good deal of confusion exists in State Department on this subject, and I want to have it clarified without delay. Please let me hear from you promptly.
MISCELLANEOUS CABLEGRAMS

[Text not legible]
August 5: Cablegram to Ambassador Page, London, from Secretary of State.

Congress today appropriated $2,500,000 to make advances to American travelers in Europe in need of assistance. F. I. Kent, Vice-President Bankers Trust Co. of New York, at Hotel Savoy, London, has cabled that $300,000 is needed immediately to relieve Americans on the Continent who are in great distress. The Secretary of the Treasury is sending you by cruiser Tennessee, sailing August sixth, $300,000 in gold. Please advise Kent of this fact, whereupon he will arrange to place $300,000 to your credit and make it immediately available for relief purposes. Confer at once with Kent and with any American Relief Committee that may be organized in London, or if you think wise, organize such a committee if none exists and take all such steps as quickly as possible to extend relief to American citizens in England or on the Continent who need it, arranging, if you find it necessary, to dispatch a ship from an English port to some port on the Continent for this purpose on such terms as you think the circumstances justify. It is highly important to make the most effective possible use of these funds. You may employ such additional clerical or other assistance as you may require to carry on this work and pay the same out of this fund. You should take from every one to whom advances are made an obligation to reimburse the Government as soon as possible. Please cable fully and as frequently as possible the steps you take. For your information $1,200,000 additional will go on the Tennessee, to be disbursed under direction of Government representatives who accompany the ship.

August 9: Cablegram to American Legation, Berne, Switzerland, from W. J. Bryan.

Yours August 5th 7 P. M. Treasury will deposit tomorrow $50,000 in gold with National City Bank, New York, to your credit in Banque Nationale Suisse. You will use the money for necessary relief and protection American citizens, taking from each person, on behalf of whom disbursements are made, a signed receipt, agreeing to reimburse the Treasurer of the United States for the amount, to take the first available means of transportation to the United States, and giving their permanent American address. Secure reimbursement of advances by assignment of Letters of Credit, Travelers' Cheques or other money demands, or in any way practicable. Where no security is possible, necessary advances may be made on receipt and personal obligation to reimburse. You will submit account to Secretary of State for all amounts so advanced, supported by obligations and securities to be delivered to the Treasury Department with report. Notify consuls and delegate authorities to them use part of this fund in your discretion, but in strict accordance with foregoing instructions. For better co-ordination direct them to address their communications regarding relief and transportation to the Legation instead of the Department, except answers to specific instructions and reports on individuals. Use every precaution to guard against imposition.
August 10: The reply to cablegram to American Legation, Berne, Switzerland, stated that it would not be satisfactory to have the credit opened up to the American Ambassador, but it must be a credit to the Banque Nationale Suisse, and that has been done.

August 12: Cablegram received by D. P. Kingsley, President, New York Life Insurance Co., New York, signed Grow, dated August 11. Your cable received today saying Washington has arranged for payment of American Bankers checks through Ambassador Page. Your information not correct. I have seen Ambassador, Government Officials and Bankers. Currency famine here. Only way for us to realize is described my cable August seventh. Have Secretary of State cable Ambassador Page guaranteeing through Ambassador that United States Government will repay Bank of Italy one million Lire, and we can get that amount immediately, and more later same way, if needed. Ambassador will draw money and appoint fiscal agents such as American Express Company or Thomas Cook and Son to disburse fund, take securities and render account to our Government. We have twenty-five thousand dollars from Washington now, but this is devoted to relief. We need Italian money for Americans holding American Travelers' securities. Most people here can help themselves if my suggestion followed to the letter at once. Cable should be to Ambassador and read:

"United States authorize Ambassador Nelson Page to draw one million Lire from Bank of Italy and guarantees repayment to Bank of Italy. Signed Bryan, Secretary of State."

August 15: Cablegram to Government's representative at Lisbon from State Department, Washington. Muller, Schall & Co., New York, are cabling equivalent of two thousand dollars for your credit through Durnay. Please apply at once for money, cabling confirmation of receipt to State Department. You will use this money for necessary relief and protection destitute American citizens, taking from each person on behalf of whom disbursements are made a signed receipt agreeing to reimburse Treasurer of the United States for the amount, to take the first available means of transportation to the United States and giving their permanent American address. You will submit account to Secretary of State for all amounts so advanced, supported by receipts and securities for delivery to Treasury Department with report. Use every precaution to guard against imposition. Any further funds required for relief work to be arranged by cable direct to Ambassador Page, London, who is disbursing fund of gold shipped by cruiser Tennessee in cooperation with Fred I. Kent, Waldorf Hotel, London, Chairman London Relief Committee. If credit required for cashing Travelers' Cheques and credits, arrange by cable direct to London relief committee and Ambassador Page, London, who will give instructions as to manner accounting and settlement. Please report this department amounts of advances arranged through Ambassador Page.
August 15: Cablegram to Government’s representatives at Madrid, Stockholm and Copenhagen from State Department, Washington. United States authorities guarantee of your drafts for equivalent $ - - - - - . You will use this money for necessary relief and protection American citizens, taking from each person on behalf of whom disbursements are made, a signed receipt agreeing to reimburse Treasurer of United States for the amount, to take the first available means of transportation to the United States and giving their permanent American address. You will submit account to Secretary of State for all amounts so advanced, supported by receipts and securities for delivery to Treasury Department with report. Notify consuls and delegate authority to them to use part of this fund in your discretion, but in strict accordance with the foregoing instructions. For better coordination direct them to address their communications regarding relief and transportation to the Legation instead of the Department, except answers to specific instructions and reports on individuals. Use every precaution to guard against imposition. Ambassador Page, London, and F. I. Kent, Waldorf Hotel, London, Chairman London Relief Committee, are in charge disbursement of gold shipped by cruiser Tennessee. Arrangements for reimbursement of above credit, also applications for further funds for relief work or to secure payment on Travelers’ Cheques and credits should be made direct to London Relief Committee.

August 15: Cablegram to (American Embassy) Thomas Nelson Page, Rome, from State Department. You are authorized to arrange for advance by Bank of Italy of one million Lire to be expended by American Express or Cooks in cashing Travelers’ Cheques and Letters of Credit for Americans, giving guaranty of Government for repayment to bank. The American Ambassador, London, will hold equivalent amount in gold out of shipment by New York bankers to secure government for guaranty, and you are directed to arrange for delivery of account with paid checks and documents to him for settlement with London Committee, F. I. Kent, Waldorf Hotel, Chairman. London Committee will advise you of each credit arranged by them and give details about accounting. Reimbursement of expenditures out of twenty-five thousand credit already arranged should be made through Ambassador Page, London, out of Government funds shipped on cruiser Tennessee.

August 15: Cablegram to Consul General, Naples, from State Department. You are authorized upon request of Ambassador Page, London, to arrange through White Star Line for a credit from Banca Commerciale Italiana of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars, giving Government guarantee therefor to be disbursed through agent to be appointed by London Embassy in advances to Americans on Travelers’ Cheques and Letters of Credit. London Embassy will furnish you full particulars method of handling checks and account and will hold like amount of gold to secure Government for guaranty. Convey this cable to London Embassy and ask for detailed directions.
August 15: Cablegram received at Washington from Berlin, via Copenhagen, addressed to Secretary of State, Washington. Answering yours ninth, Germany will allow entrance "Tennessee" with gold. Is allowing Americans to leave as fast as train service restored. If Germany blacked any coast will allow Americans to leave. If you pay German Embassy, Washington, 100,000 gold will pay Embassy here corresponding amount in gold, providing you approve proposed rate of exchange of four Marks nineteen three quarters equalling one dollar. Deutsche Bank will give me credit up to five million Marks, provided United States Government deposits equal sum with its correspondents New York. (Signed) Gerard, Berlin.

August 17: Cablegram from Bankers Committee, Falmouth, to Benjamin Strong, Jr.
English Committee instructs gold shall not leave Tennessee without insurance covering from ship to Bank of England. Commanding Officer Tennessee demands receipt on deck before delivery gold to be lightered by what we consider adequate ships launch to Falmouth transhipped by American Express to Bank of England. Do policies cover to Bank of England? Reply by cable Tennessee Falmouth quickly, as responsibility has been placed on us.

August 17: Cablegram to Bankers Committee on board U. S. Cruiser Tennessee, Falmouth, England, from Benjamin Strong, Jr.
Cablegram received. Gold insured to place of delivery in London.

August 18: Cablegram from Grier and Gibson, Falmouth, to Mr. Strong.
Gold goes to London tonight, arriving there Tuesday morning.

August 18: Cablegram from American committee, Switzerland, from Berne, addressed to National City Bank, Bankers Trust, Guaranty Trust, Brown Bros., New York.
The sending of a collective telegram by New York's important banks, or the addressing of the Banque Nationale Suisse, Berne, by the National City Bank, will materially better the situation of Americans in all Switzerland to obtain money from Swiss banks. This cable should give assurance that the drafts against Letters of Credit will be paid directly in New York, instead of passing through London, against deposits of gold in New York. We recommend taking urgent steps and immediate action.

August 18: Cablegram to American committee, Berne, Switzerland, from Benj. Strong, Jr., Chairman New York Bankers' Committee, representing institutions addressed and others.
Answering your cablegram National City Bank, Bankers Trust, Guaranty Trust, Brown Bros. (stop) Understand London Committee arranged credit twenty thousand Pounds Sterling with Swiss Bankverein for cashing Travelers' Cheques. United States Government deposited fifty thousand dollars gold with National City Bank for credit Banque Nationale Suisse for similar purpose. Does your cable just received mean that additional credits are required against guarantee of repayment in gold in New York, and if so, how much?
January 10th, 1916.

My dear Mr. Carr:

I am planning to sail for Europe on the "Rotterdam" on February 1st and would like to be furnished with such passports and other credentials as will ensure my reaching London and Paris with a minimum of difficulty.

May I trouble you to advise me just what course it would be best for me to pursue in getting suitable credentials? The British Ambassador, whom I know, would, I am sure, be very glad to give me a letter if it would be worth while, but of course, I do not like to trouble him, with no particular object in doing so.

I expect to be in Washington next week or the week following and will stop to see you with reference to any arrangements that are necessary.

Thanking you in anticipation and with best wishes for the New Year, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Wilbur J. Carr, Esq.,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

BS Jr/VGM
My dear Mr. Strong:

In reply to your letter of the 10th of January, I beg to say that I think the best course will be for you to bring with you when you come to Washington three small photographs of yourself, about 3" x 3", and go direct to the Citizenship Bureau of this Department and have your passport issued. Inasmuch as you are going to London and Paris, both cities being in ally territory, you will encounter no difficulty in obtaining a passport. I am having a suitable letter of introduction issued in your behalf to the Diplomatic and Consular Officers of the United States and will send you also personal letters of my own to our Consul at Liverpool and to the Ambassador and Consul General in Paris. I take it that you know our Embassy in London sufficiently to make letters of introduction unnecessary.

If by any chance you should fail to come to Washington you can get your passport at No. 2 Rector Street where we have a Special Agent of this Department stationed.

Hoping to see you when you come to Washington and with all good wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Benjamin Strong, jr., Esquire,
Federal Reserve Bank of New York,
New York City.
My dear Mr. Washington:

It gives me great pleasure to introduce to you Mr. Benjamin Strong, Jr., Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who is about to visit England. I know that you will be glad to make the acquaintance of Mr. Strong and will extend to him every courtesy consistent with your official duties.

With many thanks for whatever you may do for him, I am,

Yours faithfully,

Horace Lee Washington, Esquire,
American Consul,
Liverpool, England.

January 11, 1915.
January 14th, 1916.

My dear Mr. Carr:

There is a slight possibility that I may find it desirable to go to Holland and I am writing to ask if you could make arrangements for me to get passports to Holland, also.

I shall be in Washington most of next week and will look you up at your office.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

Wilbur J. Carr, Esq.,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

BS Jr/VOH
January 15, 1916.

My dear Mr. Strong:

I am just in receipt of your letter of the 14th of January and in reply beg to say that I believe there will be no difficulty in having Holland included in your passport as one of the countries you wish to visit on your trip to England and France.

I shall be in my office every day next week and shall be very glad to see you at any time you may find it convenient to call.

Very sincerely yours,

Benjamin Strong, jr.,

Federal Reserve Bank of New York,

New York City.
January 17th, 1916.

Dear Mr. Carr:

I am very grateful to you indeed for your courtesy in the matter of my passports and particularly in furnishing me with letters to our Consuls at Liverpool and Paris and for the Secretary's letter addressed to Ambassador Sharp.

While I have not had the pleasure of meeting Ambassador Page, I think it is safe to say that we are pretty well known to each other after the exchange of cables a year ago last August and September, and I shall take the first opportunity of calling at the Embassy on arriving in London.

If possible, I will bring suitable photographs with me to Washington to-morrow, but if unable to get them in time, I will have some taken in Washington, as I expect to be there all the week.

With kindest regards, and again thanking you for your assistance which is very much appreciated, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Wilbur J. Carr,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Carr:

In an endeavor to comply with the request for birth certificates in connection with my passports, I have written to such authorities as might be able to furnish them and am attaching their replies hereto.

Very truly yours,

Hon. Wilbur J. Carr,
State Department,
No. 2 Rector Street,
New York City.

VCM
My dear Mr. Carr:

I have decided to take a secretary with me and fearing the possibility of delay in getting his passports in time, I am sending him to you with this letter of introduction. He is Mr. H. D. Burrell, who was for many years one of my boys over at the Bankers' Trust Company, and I can vouch for him in every way. He will, of course, need a passport enabling him to go to England, France and Holland, the same as mine, and he should be entered as traveling as my secretary.

The "Rotterdam" sails at six o'clock on Wednesday next which will not give him very much time to have his passport vised by the French Consul General and on that account, I will again trouble you to help me out.

With kindest regards and thanking you in anticipation, I am,

Very truly yours,

Honorable Wilbur J. Carr,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

BS Jr/VCM
US

Henry F. Fgeletie

US. Dept. of State

1917
Dear Prather:

With reference to the departure of Ambassador Garrett from Holland, I would appreciate it if you would write him a letter stating that I expect to visit Holland soon for the purpose of consulting with the heads of various financial institutions on important business connected with the Treasury Department, and that you have given me a letter to him.

It might also be well to add in your letter to the Ambassador that, in case of his absence at the time of my arrival, you would appreciate his arranging with some subordinate to facilitate the transaction of my business as much as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Henry P. Fletcher,
c/o Department of State,
Washington, D. C.
June 30, 1919.

Dear Prather:

Many thanks for your note of the twenty-seventh
and for the letters of introduction, which will be of
great service and are just what I wanted.

Faithfully yours,

Honorable Henry P. Fletcher,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

BS/MSB
June 27, 1919.

Benjamin Strong, Esquire,
President of Federal Reserve Bank,
15 Wall Street, New York City.

Dear Ben:

I enclose the letters you asked for, and in case you need any other help while in Europe, if you cable me telegraphic instructions will be sent immediately.

Sincerely,

By Celia

[Signature]

Signed in William H. Halsey's presence by

Celia Halsey

Test to Mr. Wells
U.S.

To Joseph & Helen
Under Secretary of State
1925
October 1, 1925

My dear Joe:

It is very kind of you to accommodate me by sending the enclosed package to Gilbert by the pouch.

I rarely have occasion to ask such a favor, but circumstances seem to justify it, and it will be appreciated by Gilbert, as it is by me.

I beg to remain

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Joseph C. Grew,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Enc.

(Dictated, but signed for Mr. Strong)
THE UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

October 2, 1925.

My dear Ben:

I wish to acknowledge your letter of yesterday and to say that the envelope addressed to Mr. Gilbert has been sent by pouch to the Embassy at Berlin with the request that it be delivered by hand.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Benjamin Strong,
33 Liberty Street,
New York City.

[Signature]
October 5, 1925.

My dear Joe:

Thank you for your note of yesterday, and for arranging to send the package to Gilbert by the Fouch for hand delivery. I hate to bother you, but it seemed necessary in this instance.

My best regards to you, as always.

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Joseph C. Grew,
The Undersecretary of State,
Washington, D. C.
Office of
Third Assistant Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1916.

Dear Mr. Strong:

I have your letter of the 26th instant inclosing a note addressed to Ambassador Page, who is now en route to the United States. In reply I hasten to advise you that the communication is being held pending his arrival in Washington.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

[William Phillips]

Benjamin Strong, Esq.,
Estes Park, Colorado.
Denver, Colorado  
February 26, 1897  

PERSONAL.  

My dear Phillips:  

With this I am enclosing a letter to Basil Miles, answering one just received, which I am again forwarding to you to go in the Embassy Pouch, if not taking liberties with your courtesy in that regard. 

I have just come across a curious little book in the Public Library out here and am wondering whether you have heard of it. It is entitled - "The Supplies for the Confederate Army, How They Were Obtained in Europe and How Paid For" by Caleb Huse, Major and Purchasing Agent, C.S.A., published in 1904 by T. R. Marvin & Son, Boston. 

This little book of thirty-six pages is a rather brief and sketchy account of the experiences of the author covering a period of three or four years while he was acting as Purchasing Agent abroad, under commission from Jefferson Davis from 1861 to 1864. 

Huse graduated from West Point, accepted an appointment as military instructor in a southern academy just before the outbreak of the war, resigned from the army, then accepted a Confederate commission and at once went to Europe as Purchasing Agent. The interesting matter contained in the book consists of an account of the purchase of 100,000 rifles and 10 batteries of artillery, consisting of 60 pieces, from the Austrian government which were delivered to him at the Government's Arsenal at Vienna, and subsequently delivered via Hamburg and Bermuda, notwithstanding the protests of the United States Minister, Mr. Motley. 

Major Huse died quite recently but prior to his death he purchased a place and established a school of preparation for West Point somewhere
To - Mr. Phillips.  February 26, 1917.

on the Hudson, near the Academy, and I first heard of him through a retired United States army officer, who knew him quite well in his West Point days and frequently talked with him of his experiences during the Civil War.

I doubt if the book has much historical value and there are one or two places where I am inclined to doubt the accuracy of the statements it contains, but it does throw an interesting side light on this question of minitions traffic and I thought if you had not seen it, you might be interested in looking it up. Doubtless there is a copy in the library in Washington; if not, possibly I can arrange to have this one sent to you.

Hoping that you fellows are not being worked to death and with kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

William Phillips, Esq.,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

Enc.
The Assistant Secretary of State  
Washington  
March 20, 1917.  

My dear Strong:  

I have your letter of February 26th enclosing a communication addressed to Basil Miles, which went forward much more promptly than my acknowledgment.  

I am interested in what you say about Major Huse's book, and I shall at the first opportunity take a glance through it. I am sure a copy can be found in one of the many libraries in Washington, so you need not go to the trouble of having it sent to me from Denver.  

I think of you often, and I sincerely hope that you are fast regaining your health. The work here is very voluminous, but it is of such tremendous interest that we are all bearing the strain wonderfully.  

With kindest regards and best wishes,  

Sincerely yours,  

Benjamin Strong, Esq.,  
4100 Montview Blvd.,  
Denver, Colorado.
Denver, Colorado,
April 6, 1917.

PERSONAL.

My dear Phillips:

I suppose in these days you are not only swamped with work, but literally flooded with suggestions, and far be it from me to add to your troubles.

There is, however, one matter which is very much in my mind and I am writing to you about it, prompted by our chat nearly a year ago in regard to conditions in France and England. My visit to France in March, 1916, convinced me that underlying the characteristic politeness and geniality of our French friends, there was a very deep feeling of sentiment in regard to the position which the United States Government had taken in regard to its neutrality. We none of us at home can realize the extent of the awful sacrifices which are being made by the French people, and, as I recall stating to you, the feeling prevailed very strongly in France when I was there that they had their backs to the wall, facing an antagonist, by whom they might be overwhelmed at any time, and what they needed was help.

Now that this country is aligned with them, an opportunity arises to do a great thing for France. I do not mean simply sending armies and navies to help them fight, nor giving them money for war purposes. The war must be conducted on a business basis and that included financial arrangements, but if our country should make a large appropriation, how large I should not assume to say, but unmistakably a very large one, to
To - Hon. Wm. B. Phillips.  

April 6, 1917.

be expended for all kinds of relief work, make it a gift to the Nation and as recognition of the fact that after 130 years, opportunity arises to discharge our debt to the French people, it would result in an im-

perishable friendship, which would be an asset to this country for all time.

Any such plan should be undertaken very promptly and, of course, would need to be done in a tactful way to avoid giving any offense.

It seems to me that here is an opportunity to separate war and sentiment, to bring home to our own people, as well as the French people, that we recognize that they have made the real material and personal sacrifices for democracy, which we have had no opportunity as yet to make, and that the people of this country are glad to take advantage of that inadequate means to help an old friend.

You can understand how irksome it is to be out here literally marooned, when so much is going on and I doubt if I am able to stand it more than a few weeks longer, so I may see you in Washington probably by the early part of June. Meantime, if you and your associates in the government have any influence to promote a plan along the lines of the above suggestions, it will in my opinion be one of the finest things that can be done just now.

With best regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Hon. William B. Phillips,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

P.S. I am enclosing a letter addressed to Ambassador Page, which I trust can be forwarded to him in the pouch.
April 14, 1917.

My dear Strong:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 6th. I am exceedingly glad to have your suggestion regarding the gift to France, and I have communicated the substance of your letter to Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve Board who is now handling all matters relating to International Finance. This suggestion has been mentioned by other persons but I do not know the attitude of the Reserve Board on the subject.

I did not fail to forward your letter to Mr. Page as you requested.

Assuring you of my appreciation of your suggestion.

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin Strong, Esquire,
4100 Montview Boulevard,
Denver, Colorado.
US + France

Frank L. Polk
Acting U.S. Secretary of State
1919
June 7, 1919.

Honorable Frank L. Polk,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Frank:

My plans for sailing are materializing and I shall hope to be able to get away the latter part of this month. The trip contemplates taking me to England, France, Belgium and Holland, but probably not elsewhere. I shall apply for passports through the bureau at No. 2 Rector Street, New York City, for myself, Secretary and servant.

If there are any means by which the inconvenience of travel, examination of papers, etc., can be minimized for me during this trip, it will be a very great help. I would not suggest it except from consideration of health, which I must constantly take care of.

Without asking for anything which will be unreasonable or improper, if you feel able to cut any red tape for me, it will be very greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
June 9, 1919.

Dear Ben:

Replying to your letter of June seventh, I will be only too glad to fix you up and will stretch a point for your secretary, but as far as the servant is concerned, there will be some difficulty. I refused a request from Jack Morgan to take a servant over and so far as I know, we have refused all requests for maids and servants, that is, where they are American citizens. There have been some cases where maids and servants have gone over, but according to my information they were French or British, so we had nothing to do with their passports. If we could have something from the Federal

Benjamin Strong, Esquire,
Federal Reserve Bank,
New York City.
Honorable Frank L. Polk,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Frank:

Many thanks for your note of the 9th.

Possibly I should have explained more in detail the object of my trip and why it seems desirable to take some assistants with me.

Our Directors feel that the time has arrived for the Bank to get more information, by direct inquiry on the ground, as to conditions abroad as was done in 1916 when I spent two months in England and France. Furthermore, we have important relations with the Bank of England and relations pending with the Bank of France which have not functioned because of various war measures, such as embargo on gold exports, control of foreign exchange, etc. Now that the embargo on gold exports has been lifted, it is quite possible that the relations between the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Bank of England, particularly, may become active and of great importance, and it seems necessary to discuss the operation of our agreement with them in some detail as soon as possible.

We are about concluding, at the request of the Treasury Department, an arrangement for the purchase of 510,000,000 marks gold from the German Government, or the Reichsbank, in cooperation with the Food Commission, in connection with furnishing food to Germany. This gold, for the present, must be left in Belgium and Holland, and it seems desirable that I should go to Brussels, Antwerp and Amsterdam in order to deal with that matter on the ground.

Other matters of less importance are pending which seem to justify this trip.

Much of our business is of such a confidential nature that I do not feel justified in relying upon obtaining a reliable secretary and stenographer abroad, and I am anxious to employ the services of a secretary who speaks and writes French, which explains the reason for my request for a passport for a secretary.
As to a servant, I can probably get one on the other side and would not consider taking one from here were it not for the fact, as you know, that I am obliged to take the utmost possible care of my health, and minimize the inconveniences and annoyances of travel, and particularly avoid carrying any heavy luggage. The most serious inconvenience is that encountered on the docks in England, crossing the Channel and at the railroad stations, and if I were able to take a competent servant with me, it would relieve me of much of the hardships and uncomfortable travel conditions, which, I believe, are still prevalent abroad.

If it is contrary to the policy of the Department to give passports to personal servants, please do not hesitate to so advise me, and I will rely upon getting someone on the other side.

As I am now planning to sail on the Baltic July 1st, it will probably be desirable for me to obtain my passport before leaving Washington this week, otherwise I would not trouble so busy a person as yourself.

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Governor.
Honorable Frank L. Polk,
Acting Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Frank:

This is to thank you for your interest and your courtesy in connection with arrangements for my trip abroad, which I deeply appreciate.

I know you understand that I dislike greatly asking anything which appears in any way to be a favor or a special courtesy, but having had experience on my last trip abroad, I know that delays, inconveniences and even hardships sometimes result unless the path is smoothed out. Unfortunately my health is not equal to a trip of this kind unless I can be protected against hardships, especially tedious waits, sometimes even in the rain, such as I experienced in 1916.

I have arranged for Mr. Harold Vaughan to go with me as Secretary. He is a very competent linguist and stenographer, and early next week I will arrange for him to come to Washington and get his passport himself, and will furnish him with a suitable letter for his identification.

With many thanks, I am,

Sincerely yours,
My dear Frank:

I am sorry to bother you again about passports, but you can doubtless pass this along to the proper person without much trouble to yourself.

Mr. Fred I. Kent, Vice President of the Bankers Trust Company, who has been an Acting Deputy Governor for the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and, at the same time, serving as Chief of the Division of Foreign Exchange Control of the Federal Reserve Board, deferred a trip to Europe quite recently at the urgent request of Secretary Glass, as it was felt that he was needed here in connection with Treasury Department matters. These matters have now been disposed of, and I find that it will be of great aid to the work which is taking me to Europe if he can go at the same time. He had been furnished with the regular passport in connection with his proposed trip, but, as he will be with me a part of the time, and possibly go with me to Belgium and Holland, I have taken the liberty of suggesting to him that he have his passport changed, if that can be done, so that he will be able to go somewhat as attached to my party.

Mr. Kent will go to Washington this week and make the application in due course, but I am sending you this letter in advance to indicate the object of his application for a change of passport, which I hope will be entirely satisfactory, and meet with your own approval.

Don't work too hard during this hot weather!

Sincerely yours,

Honorable Frank L. Polk,  
Acting Secretary of State,  
Washington, D.C.
P. S. If there is any way in which I can be of service to you in connection with my trip abroad, won't you please command me?

B3/MSB
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON  
June 27, 1919.

To the
Diplomatic and Consular Officers  
of the United States of America  
in England, France, Belgium and Holland.

Gentlemen:

At the instance of the Honorable Henry P. Fletcher, American Ambassador to Mexico, I take pleasure in introducing to you Mr. Benjamin Strong of New York City, who is about to proceed abroad.

I cordially bespeak for Mr. Strong such courtesies and assistance as you may be able to render, consistently with your official duties.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Acting Secretary of State.
Treasury Department

July 8, 1919.

Ambassador,

Paris (France).

Benjamin Strong, Governor of Federal Reserve Bank of New York is sailing for Europe on July 18th in connection with the purchase by Federal Reserve Bank at request of Supreme Economic Council of German gold marks now at De Nederlandsche Bank in Holland and National Bank of Belgium in Belgium.

Mr. Strong will have occasion to transmit cables through the Mission to Department for Federal Reserve Bank. Upon request by him so to do you are authorised to transmit cables to the Department and to deliver to Mr. Strong cables from the Department.


FOLK

Acting
In reply refer to CA.

My dear Mr. Leffingwell:

I am enclosing herewith for your information copy of the cable which this Department has despatched in order to carry out the request contained in your letter of July 2d, 1919, to facilitate the work of Governor Strong of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York in connection with the purchase by the bank of approximately 700,000,000 German gold marks.

There is also enclosed a letter of introduction for Mr. Strong to the Diplomatic Officers of the United States at London, Paris, Brussels and The Hague. Will you be kind enough to deliver this letter to Mr. Strong?

I am, my dear Mr. Leffingwell,

Very sincerely yours,

Enclosures:
Copy of cable despatched.
Letter of introduction.

The Honorable

R. C. Leffingwell,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

July 9, 1919.


Gentlemen:

I take pleasure in introducing to you Mr. Benjamin Strong, Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, who is about to proceed to Europe in behalf of the Treasury Department of the United States and of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

It is desired that you give to Mr. Strong all needed assistance in the facilitation of his mission, and put him in the way of meeting any governmental or local officials with whom he may desire to confer.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Acting Secretary of State.

C-A
Dear Ben:

Just a line to thank you for your note. I am sorry you are going home, but in view of the attitude of the British I think it would be very much better if we all went home, why the British should feel that they have the right to say, without consulting anyone, when the Conference should begin and cease is beyond me. The Lord knows I want to go home, but I am not prepared to go when it suits the convenience of the British Prime Minister.

Looking forward to seeing you soon and wishing you a safe trip,

Yours faithfully,

Benjamin Strong, Esquire,

Ritz Hotel, London.
February 19, 1920.

Dear Mr. Folk:

Mr. Benjamin Strong, governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, desires to make a trip abroad on April 10 on business for this bank, and I am writing to request that a passport be issued to him in order that he may visit Japan, China, India and other countries.

Thanking you in advance for courtesy you may extend to us in this regard, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. H. CASE  
Acting Governor.

Honorable Frank L. Folk,  
Acting Secretary, Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.
US

Wenzel, Lesser

Dept of State

1919
My dear Lanier:

Taking advantage of your suggestion, I am sending this note to you by Mr. Harold Vaughan, who is to accompany me to Europe as my secretary. Mr. Vaughan's signature is attached to this letter for identification.

If a passport can be issued to him of such a nature as will enable him to avoid delay in visa, etc., as in my own case, it will be a great convenience indeed, and I will be grateful for anything that you and your associates can do to accomplish that. I am sailing on the Baltic on July first.

With best regards, I am,

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Mr. Vaughan will sign:

__________________________________________

Lanier L. Winslow, Esq.,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

BS/MSB
My dear Lanier:

I have had the good fortune to get a first-class man to go abroad with me, Mr. Harold Vaughan, as my secretary, and I am taking the liberty of sending him to you with a letter in the hope that you will be able and willing to facilitate his getting the necessary passport.

Mr. Polk was good enough to give me a special passport and, as Mr. Vaughan will be with me during the entire trip, it will be a great convenience if he can be given such credentials as will enable him to experience no greater delay that I in connection with the trip.

Many thanks in advance for your help and courtesy.

Very truly yours,

Lanier L. Winslow, Esq.,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.
PERSONAL.

June 17, 1919

Governor Benjamin Strong,

Federal Reserve Bank,

Pine and Nassau Streets,

New York City.

Dear Ben:—

I have received your letter this morning regarding Mr. Vaughan and also the letter of introduction which he presented himself. I have taken the matter up of granting him a special passport and have succeeded in obtaining permission for the issuance of the same. Mr. Vaughan is now in touch with the Passport Bureau, making out his applications, and I have every reason to believe that in the next few hours the passport will itself be granted or at least shortly sent to New York for him.

If I do not see you again before you leave, I do hope you will have a very successful and pleasant trip. I wish I were going with you.

With all good wishes for the best of luck,

Faithfully yours,

[Signature]

[Note: The signature appears to be partially cut off or unclear.]
Dear Lanier:

Many thanks for your note of the seventeenth and for helping Mr. Vaughan to arrange his passport. He is back today with word that everything was done most promptly and with the utmost courtesy, and again I have to thank you and your assistants for seeing matters through.

Sincerely yours,

L. Lanier Winslow, Esq.
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.