

PSF

Norway

1935-39

RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION



PST Norway

7-22-35



Carlton Hotel
WASHINGTON



Norway

My dear Mr President:—

I am deeply sensible of the great honor which you have conferred upon me, by appointing me Minister to Norway. I consider it a real privilege to serve under you, for whom I have the most profound admiration and affection, and to become a part of your Administration, who, under your guidance, have so effectively coped with the greatest problems that ever faced our nation.



Carlton Hotel
WASHINGTON

I thank you from the
bottom of my heart,
and I assure you that
I will do everything within
my power to justify
the confidence which you
have placed in me.

Respectfully,
Tony Biddle.

July twenty-second
1935

PSF Norway

Oslo, Norway,
September 17, 1935.

My dear Mr President:

How thoughtful of you
and Mrs Roosevelt to
have sent Margaret and
me the beautiful flowers
on the day we sailed!
And what a thrill we
experienced, when we found
them, with your cards
attached, in our cabin!
This was extremely kind
of you and Mrs. Roosevelt,
and in behalf of us
both, I hasten to reiterate
our most sincere appreciation.

We are fortunate to have arrived in Oslo before the commencement of bad weather; the surrounding country is magnificent and looks beautiful and green; also fortunate are we to find the Legation most attractive. Just seven days after our arrival we moved in, and we are now very comfortably installed.

Having met my predecessor, Mr. Hoffman Phillip, in London, and discussed matters requiring the attention of this Legation, and later, having conferred with the Officers of the American Embassies in London and Paris, I arrived here, feeling that I had thus acquired information

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which would prove of constructive advantage in approaching the business at hand, and in assuming charge of the Legation.

There is one thing that this Legation needs - cryingly needs - and that is an official photograph of your good self. We personally are the proud possessors of an excellent photograph which you so kindly inscribed to us some time ago - but that is our personal "pièce de résistance" on the living-room mantle. What I believe

4. is necessary now, is an official photograph to be hung in the entrance hall, as part of the Legation itself. Therefore if we could obtain this we should have it framed ourselves, and hang it in the proper place for posterity.

Again thank you so much,
Mr. President, for the beautiful
flowers and ~~for~~ your great
kindness — With affectionate regards,
Faithfully yours,
Tony Riddle, Jr.

TSE - Norway
State Dept
(S) (1)

September 28, 1935.

Dear Tony:-

It is delightful to get yours of September ninth and I am glad that you had such a successful audience with the King. From all I hear, the Royal Family and the Court life are simple and genuine in character. Also, I am sure that you will find Oslo a place of many interests. I envy you the winter sports.

I am dictating this on my way across Nebraska, and hope next Wednesday to leave on the U.S.S. HOUSTON to come back through the Canal and, incidentally, get a good rest.

I am sending a large photograph by the pouch as soon as I get back to Washington.

My warm regards to you both,

Always sincerely,

Honorable A. J. Drexel Biddle, Jr.,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

PSF Norway

Oslo,
Norway.
September 9th, 1935.

The President,
United States of America,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President,

I have the honor to report my arrival in Oslo on the morning of August 31st. On September 3rd I paid an informal visit to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, with whom I had a very friendly and satisfactory conversation. Professor Koht impressed me as an intellectual broadminded man of affairs with whom my relations may be frank and cordial. He visited the United States several times, travelling extensively throughout the country on each occasion. He stated that he had given a series of lectures at Harvard University and that he was appreciative of the cordial hospitality which he had enjoyed while in America. The Minister stated that my audience with The King would be arranged for an early date.

On the

On the morning of the 7th inst., upon which date my family and I moved into the Legation from the Grand Hotel where we had been temporarily quartered, Mr. Thomas Bevan, Charge d'affaires, and I, were called for by the Chamberlain of the Court, who escorted us to the Palace, where I was received in formal audience by His Majesty King Haakon VII. His Majesty impressed me as a man of strong character, keen intellect, and alert observation. His conversation revealed the fact that he is a student of economic and political conditions at home and abroad. His natural charm of manner and sincerely cordial greeting caused me to believe that my relations with the Norwegian Court will be what you would desire.

Upon entering His Majesty's presence, I read a few formal remarks, a copy of which I had previously given to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and a copy of which I now have the honor of attaching hereto for your information. At the conclusion of my formal remarks, His Majesty welcomed me most cordially to Oslo, saying that he was pleased with my appointment. He then requested me to express to you his feelings of high esteem and sincere friendship, and to convey his best wishes for your happiness, and for the welfare of the Government, and of the people of the United States.

The King

The King then conversed very informally. He observed that current day conditions everywhere demand on the part of diplomats even a closer observation now than in the past of trade and general economic conditions at home as well as in the countries to which they are accredited. He feels that the diplomat of today is of necessity playing a more and more active part in the maintenance and stimulation of trade relations.

Touching on the labor problems of Norway, he expressed some concern over the threatened strike in the paper industry.

At this point of the conversation, I availed myself of the opportunity to convey to The King your personal message which you requested me to transmit during the last visit which I had the honor of having with you at The White House. His Majesty was exceedingly pleased at your having recalled the details regarding your cousin's visit with him in Norway, and in consequence he reminisced at some length over the experiences which your cousin and he had enjoyed together.

When I conveyed to The King your invitation to Their Royal Highnesses, The Crown Prince, and The Crown Princess, I prefaced the invitation by quoting you as wishing that The King and Queen could be your guests, but that you realized that Affairs of State and such circumstances would undoubtedly prevent their giving you that pleasure

at this

at this time. The King was especially delighted and sincerely appreciative of your thoughtfulness to himself and The Queen, and he wished me to express his appreciation for this thoughtfulness on your part, adding that you were correct in your assumption that Affairs of State would prevent their taking advantage of your gracious kindness. He was highly pleased and evinced great interest in your invitation to his son and daughter-in-law, Their Royal Highnesses, The Crown Prince, and Crown Princess. He stated that Affairs of State permitting, he would welcome the opportunity for them to accept your kind hospitality, and he requested me to express to you his gratitude, and that on the part of Their Royal Highnesses for your thoughtful invitation.

He then dwelt at some length on the general political and economic situation of his country. He touched on the uncertainties which attend changes in government, and he reviewed the experiences of other monarchs in Europe during the past several decades. He said, that nowadays conditions throughout the world had arrived at a point whereat a ruler of any country, and heir apparent, must consider seriously all phases of conditions of their respective country before making a decision to visit elsewhere. Pursuing that point, he added rather facetiously and yet with an underlying seriousness, that if a monarch leaves his country for several months in these times, upon his return

return he would not know what he might expect to find had developed in his country during his absence. He then scanned briefly a tentative program of forthcoming political events in Norway: reconvening of the Storting in January, elections in October 1936, and meanwhile, the necessity of settling peacefully several pending strikes in several leading industries. In short, His Majesty summarised a number of problems to be faced in the political and economic life of his country, which for the moment prevent his accepting your cordial invitation to The Crown Prince and Crown Princess at this time. He wishes me to tell you all of this in order that you might appreciate the reason for his not being in a position to accept your invitation immediately with the greatest of pleasure, which he otherwise would like so much to do.

In concluding his conversation, he requested me to express to you in behalf of The Crown Prince and The Crown Princess, their sincere appreciation of your's and Mrs. Roosevelt's gracious invitation to visit you either at The White House, or at your home at Hyde Park. And to say to you, that he hopes you will understand that under the current circumstances which I have described in the foregoing, he does not feel in a position to accept at this time, He added however, that
when

Page 6.

when and as the political and economic skies become clearer, he would like to have further conversation on the subject, as he would welcome the opportunity to have The Crown Prince and Crown Princess visit you in America. Unless and until I hear from you to the contrary, I shall follow up this matter with discretion.

I realize that this matter was taken up on a personal rather than an official basis, and I have therefore not reported the matter to the Department of State.

Faithfully yours,

A. J. Drexel Biddle Jr

Enclosure:- I.

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PSF Norway

Oslo, September 3, 1935.

Your Majesty:

I have the honor to place in Your Majesty's hands the Letters of Recall of my distinguished predecessor, Mr. Hoffman Philip, as well as the Credentials whereby The President of the United States of America accredits me near Your Majesty.

The President has especially asked me to express to Your Majesty, the feeling of high esteem and sincere personal friendship which he entertains for Your Majesty, and to convey his best wishes for Your Majesty's happiness and for the welfare and peaceful progress of Norway and of the people of Norway.

It is a great honor and a real personal pleasure for me to have been designated by The President to fulfill this high Mission, the importance of which I fully appreciate.

I shall exert every effort to the end
that the cultural, commercial and historical ties,
which now unite the Government of Norway with that
of the United States of America, will be strengthened
during my incumbency.

In striving to attain this, I venture
to express the hope that I may enjoy the good will
and confidence of Your Majesty and the friendly
cooperation of the Government and people of Norway.

Anthony J. Drexel Biddle Jr.

out file

PST Norway

Oslo, Norway. November 22nd, 1935.

The President
United States of America,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President,

I was greatly touched by your thoughtfulness in replying to my letter on September 28th aboard the train while crossing Nebraska, for I can well imagine how many other matters were occupying your attention at that time.

I followed with the keenest interest, accounts describing your trip, and was thrilled to read about the great ovations which you were so deservedly accorded everywhere.

The last pouch brought us the happy surprise of your splendid photograph.

In behalf of the Staff of the Legation and myself, I hasten to express to you our heartfelt appreciation of this thoughtfulness on your part.

We are all extremely proud to have this photograph with the valued inscription which you so kindly wrote, and already it has been handsomely framed and now occupies the most prominent place

The President

United States of America.

Page 2.

place in the Legation.

We are so pleased that it arrived before "Thanksgiving", for on that day we shall have a reception, to which will come members of the Court, Government, Diplomatic Corps, and business and industrial life of the community.

I sincerely hope that you enjoyed a well deserved rest on your homeward trip abroad the U. S. S. Houston.

With renewed thanks in behalf of all of us here for your highly prized photograph, and the thoughtful inscription.

With affectionate regards,

Faithfully yours,

Tony Biddle Jr

PSE
Norway
1936

March 12, 1936.

Dear Tony:-

That is an extremely interesting letter of yours of February twenty-fourth. I am glad also to have the picture of the European scene as you get it. Within the last few days Germany has again thrown a bombshell.

It is fine to know that you will be back for the Convention. Things political are going, on the whole, very well.

My warm regards to you both.

Always sincerely,

Honorable A. J. Biddle,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

PSE Norway

Oslo, Norway.
February 24th, 1936.

The President
United States of America,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President,

I greatly appreciate your kind letter of January 8th, in acknowledgement of my cable of congratulations on your magnificent speech at the opening of Congress. Realising how occupied you are, I was greatly touched by your writing me.

I cannot tell you how delighted I am over the current announcement of the Supreme Court's decision favoring the T.V.A. This is indeed a great victory, and I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart.

Margaret and I are so proud and happy that Philadelphia has been selected for the Democratic Convention, and I have already written to the Secretary of State requesting leave of absence, in order to be in Philadelphia at that time. For we want to do everything in our power towards helping to make the Convention a success.

During the past few months, I have been extremely interested in conversations with the leaders of the Norwegian Government Party, and in particular with Mr. Halvdan Koht, Minister for Foreign Affairs, about you and your policies. Only last night, at dinner here in the Legation, Mr. Koht told me that he and his associates in the Government, followed each and every move of yours with interest and study.

May I not take this opportunity to congratulate you heartily upon your highly constructive conception of a conference between the United States and the Latin American States, towards furthering peace in our own hemisphere. This is a tremendous step forward, a move of the most vital importance, which commands the attention and respect of the whole world.

The conservative press of Norway, which I feel has in the past been "Republican-minded", is now showing signs of appreciating the bigness, fairness, and humanitarianism of your policies.

Special

The President
United States of America.

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Special writers are more and more contributing articles favorably bearing on various phases of your program - special attention is given the trade agreement policy. For example, on March 22nd, "Morgenbladet", (regarded as Norway's most conservative newspaper), carried a signed article contributed by a well informed Oslo business man. This article referred most complimentarily to the trade agreement policy, and deals at some length with it's far reaching benefits and it's value towards creating a more solid and lasting basis for world peace. Especially it refers to the blessings accruable therefrom to Norway, a country limited industrially, and in it's foreign trade. Since appearance of this article, I have talked with the writer. He said that he intended this article to be forwarded to Norwegian newspapers in the United States, in order to inform the readers of such publications of your Administration's fairness to their former native land, or country of their ancestors, as the case may be. I assure you, that I have been doing everything possible to encourage public expression of such views, for I myself appreciate the constructive value to the world at large in such a broad policy. The writer further maintains, that because of the love which every naturalised American citizen still carries for his native country, they will appreciate in the best interests thereof, the significance of our Administration's policy, as against the policy of a tariff wall.

It might interest you furthermore, to learn that Mr. Carl Hambro, President of the Storting, whom you so graciously received during his visit to America, to a large extent dictates the "Morgenbladet's" policy, and frequently contributes to it's editorials. Mr. Hambro has on many occasions warmly expressed his appreciation of your having received him. At the time of his departure for the United States, he was known to hold decided views as regards the relative merits of the policies of the political parties at home. In this regard it is significant that he is leader of the ultra-conservative group in the Storting. Hence it is interesting that his visit with you has resulted in moderating materially his previous antipathy towards our Party in general. I am convinced that his visit with you was not only an honor and pleasure to him, but also a highly constructive move in the interests of our two countries.

The President
United States of America.

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As of possible further interest to you, I have learned, in conversation with several special writers, well informed on the relations between the United States and Norway, that there has been considerable discussion here lately, to the effect, that yours and Secretary Hull's efforts to reach a more lasting world peace, by encouraging nations to enter into reciprocal trade pacts, sooner or later will result in your both receiving the Nobel Peace Prize.

Oslo has recently been swarming with bankers from New York, Stockholm, London, and Paris. They have been bidding on the conversion of the Norwegian 6% dollar loan. Lazard Freres, of New York, London, and Paris, succeeded in getting the business with a high bid of 97.3/8, and will shortly issue the bonds on a 4 1/2% basis.

Each bankers' eagerness to acquire the business, was most apparent. If this conversion goes over "big", there will probably be an additional amount of 30 million dollars in bonds, open for conversion this year. While the prospect of this additional business is undoubtedly partly responsible for the bankers keenness for the current conversion, they have at the same time, substantially demonstrated their interest and faith in this country.

Between conversations with these visiting bankers, and with Norwegian shipowners, who, through their many business connections throughout the world, are necessarily well informed in international affairs, I have learned much interesting information bearing on the international situation. Therefore, for your information, I take the liberty of setting forth an outline of what I have heard, in memorandum form, and am attaching it hereto.

Margaret joins me in affectionate regards, and every good wish for continued success and happiness.

Faithfully yours,

Tony Biddle Jr

PSF Norway

MEMORANDUM

February 27th, 1936.

GENERAL PICTURE.

Realignment of major Powers taking place.

At the present moment, the scene on this side of the Atlantic may be described as a mad scramble for position, in view of the major re-groupings.

In order to forestall further ambitious attempts on the part of the expansionists; Germany, Japan, and Italy, it would appear, for the time being at any rate, that England and France might look to Russia for the balance of power. Pending such re-groupings' taking definite form, Poland is on the fence as regards definite position. In her desire to take a position in the realignments from which she can derive the greatest advantages, she has remained to date, non committal. It is considered that, so far she has been able to maintain, so-to-speak, an even balance between Russia and Germany. Though it is felt by foes of the Soviet here that Poland would naturally join the Italo-German group, were it to take definite form, nevertheless, the keenest, and less prejudiced observers believe that Poland must eventually fall in line with the British-French-Soviet combination.

Several nights ago, the Soviet Minister told me confidentially, that it was essential for his country to arm to the teeth, even though it was extremely expensive for them at this time, for they fully recognised the combined threat of Germany on one side, and Japan on the other.

THREAT OF GERMANY'S
ARMED POSITION.

As regards the recognised threat of Germany's heavily armed position, England's and Russia's recently announced armament programs, and England's recent friendly gestures to Russia, together with the pending ratification of the Franco-Soviet pact, have had a dampening effect on German confidence.

It has

MEMORANDUM

February 27th, 1936.

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It has given inner Government circles a jolt, and forced them to realise that others could and would match their armed strength. Perhaps it has caused even the Fuhrer to stop and reconsider his position. In the early stages of his deliberate steps to rearm Germany on a gigantic scale, he was known to have remarked to a friend of the Press, that public opinion was bankrupt - that in the final analysis, effective collective action was out of the question. Even before the recent announcement of the British and Russian armament programs, the German General Staff, exemplified by their strongest and ablest member, General von Fritsch, was recognised by foreign observers as the most conservative element in Germany, and probably the one element which does not believe in seeking trouble at this time. It is felt, the General Staff do not consider that Germany will be ready to fight for at least two years. On the other hand, there are those here who feel that Germany's huge investment in armament was not necessarily effected for the purpose of actually waging war, but to augment her trading position when the Government might deem it the psychological moment to insist on territory for expansion, or return of colonies.

FRANCO*SOVIET
PACT.

Even amongst those Frenchmen who favor the Soviet pact, there is a certain apprehension over closer dealings with the Soviet, due to past disagreeable experience; encountered not only by France, but also by other nations. They feel that there is no real assurance that the Soviet will refrain from repeating her subversive propaganda through the same old channels, the Third International. Hence ^{future} closer dealings would best be handled with "asbestos gloves".

It is

MEMORANDUM

February 27th, 1936.

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ITALO-ETHIOPIAN
CONFLICT

From shipowners here, and visiting bankers, I learn the following information:

It is confidently expected that these hostilities will have come to a close by early fall. England will have acquitted herself gracefully in the eyes of the black races of her Empire, as the protector of their rights, without so materially assisting the Ethiopians as to lead to the defeat of the white forces. It is felt that at the close of the conflict, England will accommodate Italy with refinancing in return for certain revisions in Italian Mediterranean bases which are today deemed a threat to British trade routes in that area.

PEACE WILL BE
EXPENSIVE.

It is felt here now, that to maintain peace in Europe, will be expensive to those powers possessing credit and natural resources, whether the demands of the expansionist countries will have to be met eventually, or not. These countries will ultimately require refinancing, not only for the territories within their present borders, but also for any territories which might accrue to them through possible future trading. On the one hand, Germany will eventually require refinancing on an extensive scale, as will Italy; win or lose. Europe cannot afford to have a bankrupt Germany, or a bankrupt Italy.

FRENCH DEVALUATION
IN PROSPECT.

As regards the political situation in France, and its bearing on eventual devaluation, it is confidently expected by several of the well informed continental bankers, recently here, that a 25% devaluation in the French franc will take place under the guidance of M. Paul Reynaud,

(several

MEMORANDUM

February 27th, 1936.

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(several times Minister of Finance), shortly after the next election in the latter half of April or Early May. In such event, Switzerland and Holland will follow suit. As to what effect on forestalling devaluation will be caused by the recent 40 million pound sterling loan from London to Paris, Norwegian observers feel that, whereas it will temporarily alleviate the situation, it will not indefinitely stave off devaluation.

Moreover, in pointing to the clause in the loan providing for repayment in sterling, they observe that repayment on such basis in the event of a depreciated franc, would create considerable difficulty in France.

BRITISH POLITICAL
PICTURE.

As regards the British political picture, it is expected here that Mr. Winston Churchill will eventually replace Mr. Baldwin.

PSF
Norway - 1936

April 15, 1936.

Dear Tony:-

I find your delightful letter of March eighteenth on my return from a two weeks cruise in the Bahamas.

The general situation on the other side seems not only chaotic but much in need of some new plan and new leadership. Perhaps the time is not ripe but it is at least worthwhile pointing towards it.

Things here seem to be going well.

My warm regards to you both,

Always sincerely,

Honorable Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, Jr.,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

OSF Norway
Oslo, Norway.
March 18th, 1936.

My dear Mr. President,

As Norway's merchant fleet plays such an important part in world commerce, the shipowners here are, as I have written you before, well posted on international affairs bearing directly or indirectly on their business. Likewise are the bankers for these shipping interests, well informed. Through my constant contact with these men, and others who represent Norwegian business with important international connections, I am able to keep very close touch with what transpires internationally - especially when matters have a bearing on business here.

Although Norway has fulfilled her obligations to the League as regards sanctions against Italy, the imposition thereof, have caused detrimental repercussions in the Norwegian economic structure. The fishing districts of the northern part of this country supplied Italy with about 46% of their annual catch of stockfish. Now that they no longer ship to Italy, they have been unable as yet to find another market; this however, is just one instance.

It is interesting in this connection, that Dr. Munch, Danish Minister for Foreign Affairs, and representing the Scandinavian countries at the recent London Conference, stated flatly, that the Northern States were opposed to the imposition of sanctions against Germany, on the grounds that they were not signators of the Locarno Pact. Hence it would seem that the questions of sanctions has become a vital one to the Scandinavian group.

As regards Norway, officials, as well as shipping men, were seriously concerned over the proposal to include shipping transportation in sanctions.

As regards sanctions, I learn from well informed circles, that we are about to enter a stage wherein a breakdown in sanctions will take place, and a subsequent cessation of the Italo-Abyssinian hostilities, with a realistic settlement of their differences.

It seems that Mr. Runciman, head of the British Board of Trade, several days ago circulated a memorandum among the Cabinet officers, pointing out the inadequacy of current sanctions, and urging that they be dispensed with on account of the unfavorable repercussions they were effecting, not only on British trade, but on that of other countries as well.

For your information, I am attaching hereto, a memorandum containing information gathered from well informed sources today. The information portrays a vast scheme proposed to be enacted over the next twelve months, towards a definite objective of bringing about a peaceful solution of current European difficulties. It calls for a New Deal for international relationships in Europe, with the British taking the lead. I deemed this information so important,

that

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that I am today cabling the substance of the attached memorandum to the Department of State.

My most sincere wishes for your continued success, and good health.

With warmest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Tony Bidder Jr.

MEMORANDUM:

[3-18-36]

I am led to believe that we are about to enter upon an era where we may watch for vast peace proposals on the part of Great Britain. From various authoritative sources I am informed that the British have conceived a new policy involving a vast scheme of peace proposals to be put forward by stages over the next twelve months. The definite objective of this course is to bring about a "New Deal" in Europe in which Germany must have a part. There must be security for Belgium and France and equality and security for Germany. The main stages through which this is planned to be brought about are as follows:

- I. To relieve the tension brought about by the present situation.
- II. To suggest a new Locarno Pact for Western Europe to include an international force to patrol the Rhineland.
- III. Other peace suggestions along lines of Hitler's proposals and some other proposals of the British. In other words a series of pacification pacts between Western European countries.
- IV. To call a disarmament conference to be conducted along the lines of the recent Naval Conference. The policy underlying this conference will not be to reduce armaments but rather simply to state what armaments each nation has as of that instant. It will be assumed by the meeting that whatever armaments exist at that time will have been essential for each country. Thereupon each nation will be requested to report its proposed program for the ensuing year, in order to eliminate the element

This newly proposed course on the part of the British entails a realistic diplomatic policy calling for a New Deal in Europe with the objective of arriving at realistic settlements. Therefore, I believe we may look for diplomatic maneuvers to be conducted along the foregoing lines for the next twelve months. Mainly responsible for the new British policy is Neville Chamberlain.

*** In its bearing on the Italy-Abyssinian conflict, I understand that the foregoing policy will entail an even more strenuous effort to bring about a cessation of hostilities and a realistic settlement. Meanwhile, serious consideration is being given to the elimination of existent sanctions, for the British will take the lead in endeavoring to eliminate everything which would give rise to tension and intrigues.

*** Regarding the Franco-Soviet Pact, I understand that it will be referred to The Hague Tribunal in due course.

We are entering a stage of breaking down of sanctions and of settlement of an Italian-Ethiopian conflict.

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FILE

file
personal

PSF Norway

Oslo, Norway.

April 23rd, 1936.

My dear Mr. President,

I greatly appreciated your thoughtful letter of March 12th, and your kind acknowledgement of my previous letter of February 24th to you. I follow with the most sincere interest every move you make, and I can only say I am more proud of you, and our mutual friendship, every day.

It was fine of you to see Bernt Balchen during his recent visit to the United States, and I assure you, that your cordial reception of Bernt, whose standing in Norway is just about 100%, and whose influence is proportionate, contributed importantly towards focussing Norwegian interest in American aviation products, as well as the system we employ both as to flying and ground administration.

When Bernt returned here, he immediately came to see me, and with a burst of enthusiasm recounted his visit with you. Of late, he has been demonstrating his enthusiasm for American aviation methods by employing his time since his return to Norway in delivering a series of addresses before technical associations in Oslo and elsewhere. He recently addressed the Politechnic Society on the subject of "Test Flying Methods in the United States" before an audience which included the entire Military Affairs Committee of the Storting, and high officials of

Ministry of Commerce, amongst whom were the Chief of the Division of Highways, and Director of Aircraft. The last named, on conclusion of Bernt's address, remarked that he had never before realised the degree of thoroughness with which the Americans studied aviation problems, and technique; he was obviously most favorably impressed.

At a later date, Bernt delivered a radio address on "Air Transport Aviation History". And still later, he spoke before the Norwegian Aviation Club on "American Transport Aviation". Continuing this series of expositions of American aviation development, Bernt plans to speak at Bergen, before the Shipowners Association of that city, on "Economical Operations of Aircraft" based on experiences in the United States.

In all his talks, Bernt has emphasised the importance for Norwegians of taking advantage immediately of the opportunity for collaboration with American interests; because of the existence of good will in the United States toward Norway. In fact, he ends each address with the following: "It's just up to you to grasp the outstretched hand across the ocean".

It might interest you furthermore to learn, that after Bernt's visit to the United States in accompaniment with the Norwegian Aviation Commission, "Norwegian Airways", the aviation company of Norway, which amounts virtually to a monopoly, and of

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which Bernt is the consulting engineer, has purchased two Stinson aeroplanes and one Sikorski. Furthermore, the Norwegian Government, after consultation with Bernt upon his return, have made inquiries through me regarding price and delivery on eight planes of several different types manufactured at home.

Bernt was very appreciative of Jim Farley's reception and helpfulness in every way to him and the Norwegian Commission during their stay at home.

Again thank you so much for your welcome letter. Margaret and I are looking forward enthusiastically to the Convention in Philadelphia, and we have every confidence in your re-election by a tremendous majority.

With warmest regards from us both, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Tony Biddle Jr

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

PST
Hill Norway

May 20, 1936.

Dear Tony:-

That is an extraordinarily interesting
chart and is a wholly new approach.

I am looking forward to seeing you
both very soon.

Always sincerely,

Honorable Anthony J. Drexel Biddle, Jr.,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

PSF Norway
Oslo, Norway.

May 7th, 1936.

My dear Mr. President,

I greatly appreciate your thoughtful and welcome letter of April 15th in kind acknowledgement of mine of March 18th.

Just recently, during conversations with the head of the important munitions interests of this country, I came across some information in which I thought you might be interested. I learned that the German sales of Toluene, an important ingredient for T. N. T., have been of sufficient volume during the past 30 days to indicate to authoritative munitions circles, that the Germans do not intend to initiate war for at least two years. It is felt accordingly, that Germany could not spare the amounts she is now selling, and offering, were she contemplating war within that time. Munitions interests feel, that Germany would undoubtedly prohibit exports of Toluene in the event of definite war plans.

My attention was furthermore drawn to the munitions manufacturers barometer for gauging war tendencies: namely, a chart showing the price trend for glycerine from 1884 up to the present month. For your information, and of possible interest, I am enclosing herewith a copy of such chart, showing the price range in terms of Norwegian øre per kilogram.

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D.C.

It

It was confidentially pointed out to me, with particular regard to the trend in price of the immediate past and present, that one year and a half ago, the price had reached 60 ¢re per kilogram, constituting a sub-normal level. Thereafter, the price advanced to 160 ¢re per kilogram, as of December 1935; an exceedingly high level, indicating imminent war tendencies. Thereafter, the price gradually declined to the current level of 135 ¢re; indicating in turn, a diminution of war tendencies. Munitions interests accordingly believe that the likelihood of war in the near future has materially lessened.

This "barometer" interested me so much, that I have drawn up the accompanying chart with the tracing paper laid over, containing an explanatory outline of major historical events leading up to, and culminating in, the corresponding important swings in the trend of glycerine prices.

For the sake of brevity, and in order to point out an interesting example as to how the chart works, I should like to draw your attention to the causes motivating the major swings in the price trend after 1905. It is interesting to observe the gradual incline from 1906 to 1908 - then the more abrupt ascendant course which took place between that year and 1911: during the latter period, there was growing international unrest leading to important Franco-German crisis in 1911 (Agadir affair). This resulted in a period of tension

when

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

when war seemed imminent between these countries. Differences were adjusted, and it will be noted that the glycerine price consequently dropped abruptly from 1911 to 1912; whereupon it started again on a gradual ascendant course to the outbreak of the war in 1914. It can be noted from the outline of events (on tracing paper cover) that from 1911 to 1914 was a period indicated by growing unrest, increasing tension, extensive expansion of military and naval establishments on the part of Germany, first and second Balkan Wars; all finally leading to the World War.

In 1919, the price level reached its lowest since the commencement of hostilities in the Great War. Thereupon followed an up-swing in glycerine prices from 1919 to 1920, during which period there was a succession of more or less serious crises resulting from tension during peace negotiations, which led to re-accumulation of glycerine.

Another high was reached in 1927, which was due to the crisis between China and Japan, resulting in international occupation of Shanghai. Once this situation was adjusted, the price fell and continued along a fairly even course until 1932.

It is then interesting to note, that from 1932, which year marks Hitler's commencement of power in Germany, the price has swung rather steadily up to a new recent high in December 1935, indicating Germany's rearmament and preparation

The President, for

The White House,

Washington, D. C.

- 4 -

for war. This was augmented of course by activities in the Far East, and France's and Russia's armament expansion. Finally we find the price trend dropping from December 1935 to the present month, a fact which indicates to the munitions manufacturers that the likelihood of war in the immediate future has somewhat lessened during the past five months.

This particular subject interested me and I thought that it would likewise prove of interest to you.

I am in the course of preparing a report on this subject to the State Department.

Margaret and I are so happy over and proud of your outstanding success indicated by the results of the primaries.

According to present plans, we expect to arrive in Washington the middle part of June, and I am looking forward to the honor and pleasure of seeing you during our stay in America.

With warmest regards from us both.

Faithfully yours,

Tony Biddle Jr

Enclosures

P.S. I am attaching hereto a list of important events from 1884 to 1923 for convenient reference.

The President,

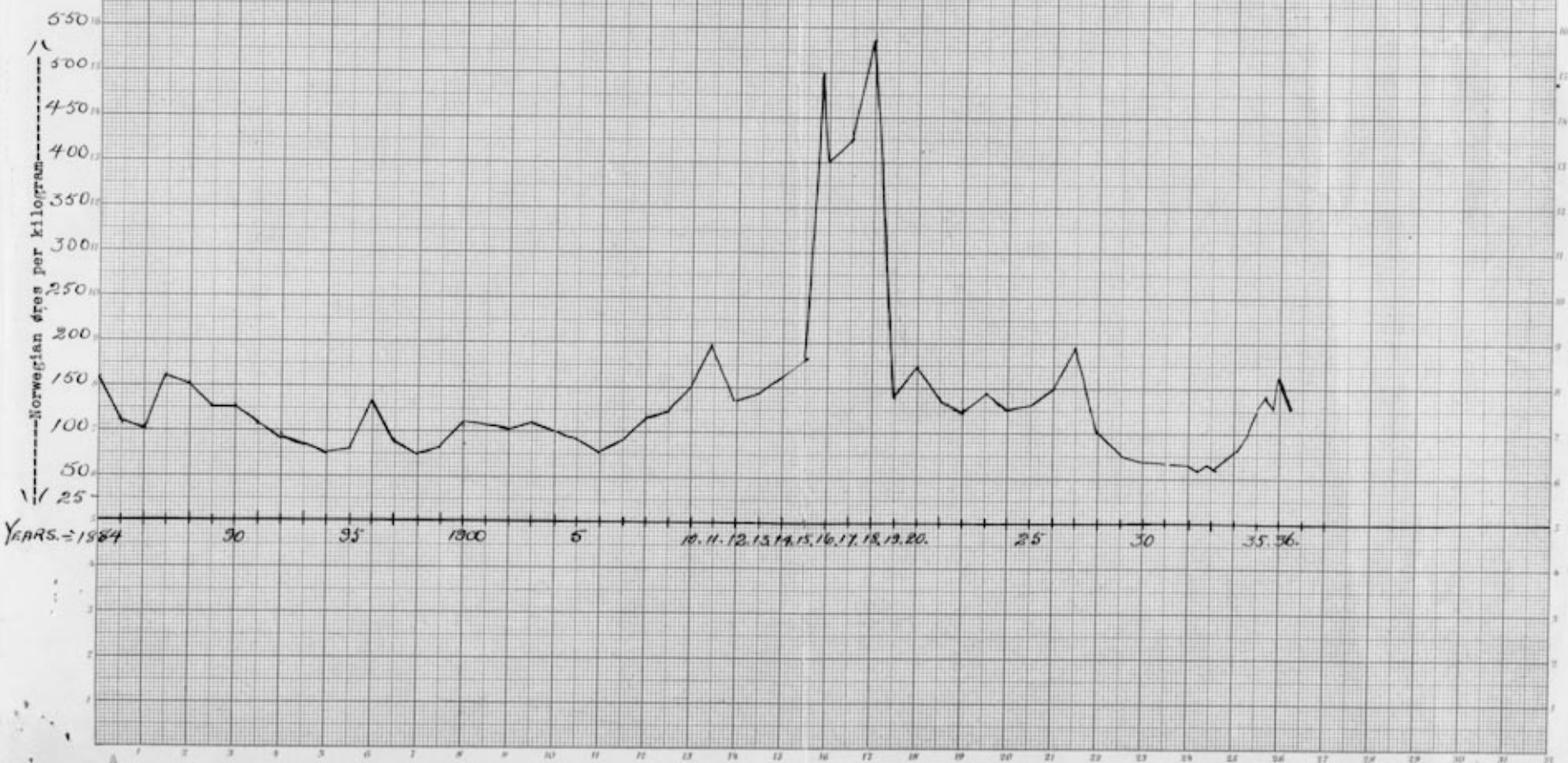
The White House,

Washington, D. C.

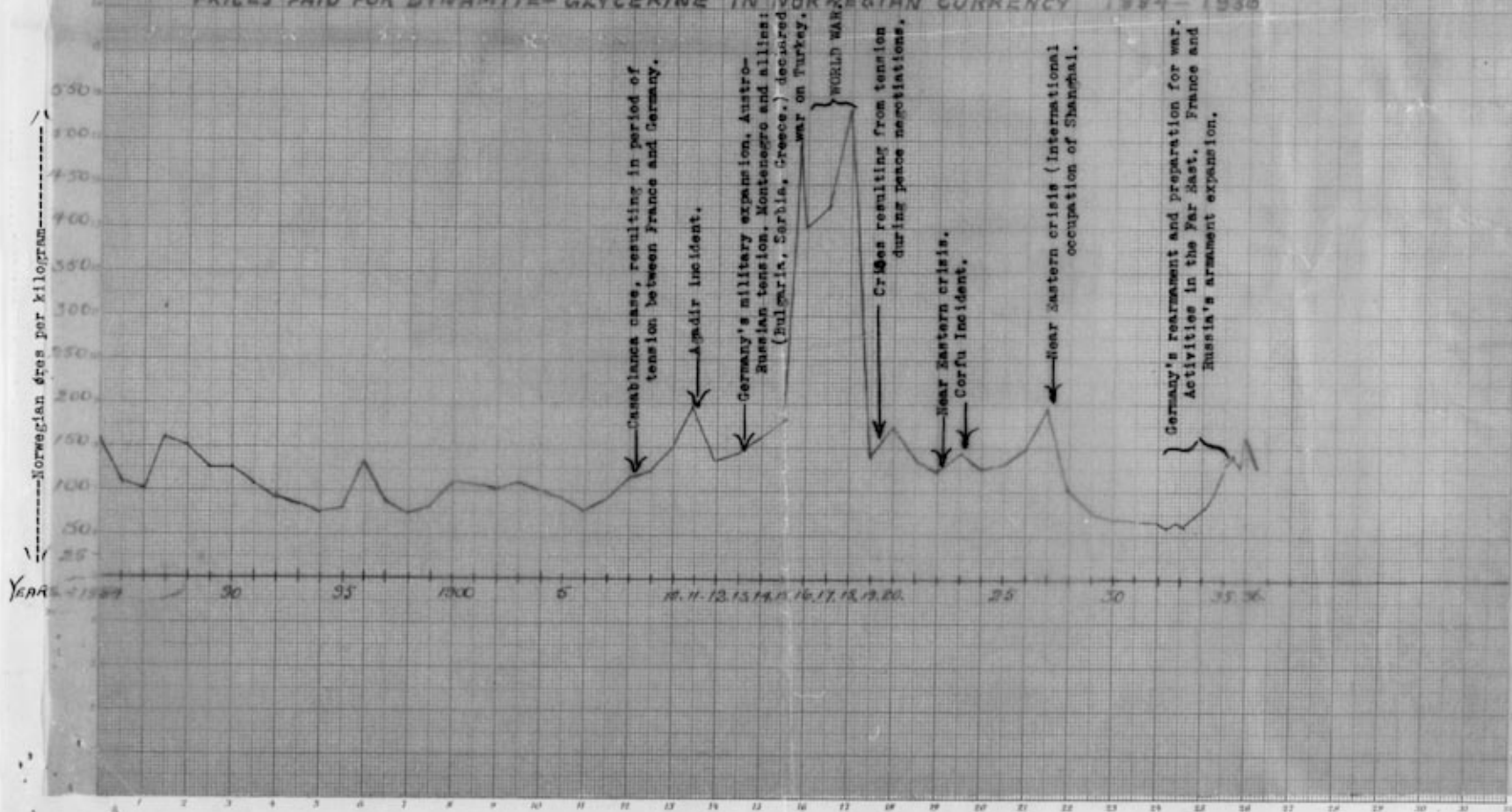
Important Events from 1884 to the present time.

- 1882 - 1884 - First Egyptian War.
- 1884 - British Troops arrive at Khartum.
- 1885 - Khartum captured by the Mahdi. Relief expedition under Lord Wolseley.
- 1884 - 1885 - Franco-Chinese War.
- 1885 - Tension between England and Russia over Russia's occupation of Penjdeh in Afghanistan.
- 1885 - Serbian-Bulgarian War.
- 1886 - Greece armed for occupation of Macedonia.
- 1886 - Allied Fleets blockaded Greek Ports.
- 1886 - Renewal of Triple Alliance (Germany, Austria and Italy) (Increase in German Army)
- 1887 - German Army increase because of military activity of France and Russia.
- 1890 - 1903 - Period throughout Europe of social unrest indicated by anarchistic, socialistic, and anti-semitic agitations some times assuming acute phases. In Germany and Russia a policy of naval expansion was inaugurated. Political map of Africa more clearly marked.
- 1891 - Third treaty of Triple Alliance signed for 6 years with expansion for another 6 unless notice to the contrary given. This renewal, with the sympathy of Great Britain, finally drove Russian Czar to consider cooperation with France.
- 1892 - Franco-Russian military convention signed, resulting in bill to increase German army.
- 1893 - Franco-Russian convention finally accepted without amendment, resulting in dividing Europe into two armed camps. With British support the Triple Alliance remained the stronger, but when British support was transferred to France and Russia, the balance of power was shifted.
- 1894 - 1896 - Armenian massacres.
- 1895 - German naval expansion to protect commercial expansion.
- 1896 - Jameson Raid.
- 1896 - 1899 - Creton Revolt and Turco-Greek War.
- 1896 - German Navy Law laid down - Large shipbuilding program to be completed in seven years.
- 1898 - Spanish American War.
- 1899 - 1902 - South Africa - Boer War.
- 1900 - Second German Navy Law providing for further naval expansion.
- 1901 - 1903 - Macedonian Revolt.
- 1901 - Rupture of Franco-Turkish diplomatic relations resulting in naval demonstration.
- 1904 - 1905 - Russo-Japanese War.
- 1906 - Third German Naval Law permitting naval expansion.
- 1908 - New German Naval Law accelerated speed of naval program.
- 1908 - Casablanca case, resulting in period of tension when war seemed imminent between France and Germany.
- 1911 - Second Morocco crisis, Agadir incident, leading to period of tension between France and Germany.
- 1911 - Italy declared war on Turkey.
- 1913 - First Balkan War.
- 1913 - Discontent with Turkish rule in Macedonia led to declaration of war against Turkey by Montenegro. Bulgaria, Serbia, and Greece joined Montenegro as allies.
- 1913 - Considerable Austro-Russian tension.
- 1913 - Special defense law in Germany sanctioned immediate additions to army. Great uneasiness abroad, especially in France, where Parliament replied by voting large sums to increase army. Russia also took like steps.
- 1913 - Second Balkan War.
- 1914 - 1918 - World War.
- 1922 - Near Eastern crisis.
- 1923 - Corfu incident.

PRICES PAID FOR DYNAMITE-GLYCERINE IN NORWEGIAN CURRENCY 1884-1936



PRICES PAID FOR DYNAMITE-GLYCERINE IN NORWEGIAN CURRENCY 1884-1936



TELEGRAM

*file
personal*

*PSF
file
naming*

41WUC 38 Radio Via RCA

**The White House
Washington**

SS Europa, N. Chatham, 7:40PM. July 8, 1936

The President.

Tremendously appreciate aid greatly appreciate your thoughtful telegram cannot tell you how much I enjoyed honor of seeing you.

We both join in warmest regards and renewed thanks. Faithfully.

Tony Biddle, Jr.

8:15pm

*File
Private Diplomatic* *P3F Norway*
*File
Norway - ?*

Oslo, Norway.
February 17th 1937.

My dear Mr. President,

I started this letter on your birthday in order to send you Margaret's and my congratulations and every good wish for a long life of continued success and happiness, and to say that what you have done for our country through your courageous intelligence, human understanding, and constructive action, has already made the date of your birth one to be revered in the nation's annals for all time to come!

Then as I received your welcome letter of January 19th with enclosures, concerning the Nobel Prize, during the course of writing the foregoing message, I concluded to embody the latter in this reply to your own letter.

Immediately subsequent to receipt thereof, I had the pleasure of carrying out your expressed wishes in full. My cordial relationship with the members of the Nobel Committee facilitated my transmitting your thoughts to them in the same spirit in which you expressed them to me. I enjoyed an interesting and lengthy conversation, especially with Professor Frederick Stang, Chairman of the Nobel Committee. He was frank to express his sense of pride in the fact that you personally had evinced such interest in the proposal and endorsement of Secretary Hull's name, and the Professor thoroughly appreciated the spirit in which you had conveyed your feelings in the matter. Moreover, he manifested unfeigned enthusiastic in the Secretary's candidacy.

In connection with the latter, and for your information, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler's and Mr. Newton D. Baker's letters of endorsement have been received, noted with real interest, and filed for the Committee's October-November reference, as well as a cable and subsequent letter of confirmation thereof from Senator Nye renewing his last year's endorsement. Moreover, I reviewed in detail, together with Professor Stang, the contents of the foregoing communications.

I am happy to report therefore, that the matter is in order and that in my opinion the prospects for Secretary Hull's receiving the Nobel Prize are excellent. I shall keep in touch with the Committee, and shall follow up the matter with due discretion.

In connection with the personnel of the Nobel Committee, Professor Stang informed me in strictest confidence that he looked for the Norwegian Parliament to make several changes between now and June. This is undoubtedly a direct result of the division of opinion in parliamentary as well as governmental circles as regards the Ossietzky award. Professor Stang furthermore told me that definite consideration of details in connection with each candidate would not take place until October-November. He assured me that in the meantime
he

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

He would be glad to confer with me on the subject from time to time.

I am confidentially informed by leading members of the Norwegian Shipowners Association, both nationally and internationally an important and influential organization, that they welcome Secretary Hull's candidacy as a rallying point for all advocates of trade liberalization. He symbolizes, in this respect, their long term objectives. Before publicly announcing their endorsement, they propose to exert energetic but discreet efforts to engage the Norwegian Labor Party's support in behalf of the Secretary, for the Labor Party is, and will undoubtedly continue to be prominently represented on the Nobel Committee.

Frequently, the Shipowners Association have been publicly accused of entertaining "war hopes" because of consequent high freights and resultant profits. Especially the seasoned members of the Association resent this accusation; for through the school of hard experience they have learned to appreciate that to be able to look for a steady and fair profit over the long term, is far more desirable than the quick profits of a temporary sharp rise in freights during a war period, only to be followed by an inevitable post-war vertical decline - aside from their natural abhorrence of war itself and its attendant dangers. They share with other far-sighted business circles and economists the objective of flattening out the abrupt curves in the economic cycle. They desire to establish public recognition of this objective on their part, and they are determined to offset the erroneous impression given by attacks on their alleged "war hopes".

For your information and files, I am enclosing copy of a cable of January 29th 1937 to the Norske Stortings Nobel Committee from Senator Gerald P. Nye, and a copy of his subsequent letter of confirmation of January 29th 1937.

I am also returning herewith for your files, the following enclosures, which you attached as enclosures to your letter of January 19th 1937:

Your letter on January 9th 1937 to The Hon. The Acting Secretary of State, R. Walton Moore.

Letter of January 13th 1937 from Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler to The Hon. The Acting Secretary of State, R. Walton Moore.

Copy of letter of January 13th 1937 to the Nobel Committee from Mr. Newton D. Baker.

Covering

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

- 3 -

Covering letter of January 15th 1937 to The Hon. The Acting Secretary of State R. Walton Moore from Mr. Newton D. Baker.

Letter of January 14th 1937 covering the foregoing four enclosures to The President from The Hon. The Acting Secretary of State, R. Walton Moore.

For your information I am attaching hereto an outline of the general European situation and trends as viewed in various informed Norwegian circles. I am forwarding a copy of this outline to the Department of State.

With every good wish for continued happiness and success which you so richly deserve, and with warmest regards, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Tony Bidder

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

PSF Norway

Norway.

July 17, 1937.

Dear Daisy:-

I am so glad that you have safely arrived, met the King and got everything started. Also, I am glad to know about your talk in connection with the Nobel Prize.

You are lucky to escape Washington this summer. It is a bit of a madhouse but that has happened before and the country has survived!

Always sincerely,

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman,
Minister to Norway,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.



PSF Norway

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

July 2, 1937

Dear Mr. President:-

The first morning after my arrival, I asked to see a member of the Nobel Prize Committee, Professor Keilhau. As he was ill, I didn't succeed in meeting him until yesterday.

He was very frank with me in re the Nobel Prize situation and what he told me was confidential, except, of course, for you.

There are two people under serious consideration for the Prize—Secretary Hull and Lord Cecil. The only reason that the latter may be chosen is that, owing to his age, they feel that they should not defer, too long, doing him honor. However, the Professor assured me that nothing would be definitely decided until after September, and that either nominee might finally be the recipient.

You have heard, I am sure, from Ambassador Biddle that the suggestion of your name came at too

late a date to be put forward. This, I know is agreeable to you.

Ambassador Bullitt did everything possible to make my visit to Paris interesting. I dined twice at the Embassy where I met the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delbos, and, later, M. Blum.

The Ambassador has a unique relationship with members of the Government which I don't believe was ever enjoyed, in quite the same way, by any of his predecessors. We had a long talk and he brought me up to date on the European situation.

I am enchanted with this Legation; what I have seen of Norway; and the possibilities this job holds for usefulness. However, the Biddles were so popular that it is not easy to follow them.

As the King has received me, I will hold the usual Fourth of July reception on Monday.

Faithfully yours

Taisy Harwood

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 16, 1937

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

My dear Mr. President:

With reference to my letter to you of July 20, 1937 concerning the possibility of a visit to the United States by Mr. Halvadan Koht, Foreign Minister of Norway, a despatch has now been received from Mrs. Harriman to the effect that Mr. Koht has advised her in strict confidence that he has definitely decided to visit the United States this coming autumn.

Mr. Koht expects to leave Norway for the United States on October 12 by the Norwegian steamer Stavangerfjord, returning in the middle of November.

The Minister added that he was looking forward with the most lively interest to this opportunity to widen his knowledge of the United States and to renew and make the acquaintance of those who are directing the country's policies. He emphasized, however, that any possible fruitful result from his visit would be rendered problematical
should

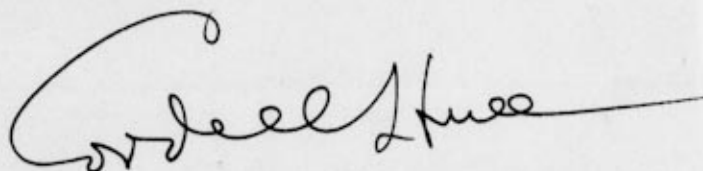
The President,

The White House.

-2-

should premature publicity occur concerning it. He will make the matter public on September first, when he expects to proceed to Geneva for the meeting of the Assembly of the League of Nations.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cordell Hull". The signature is written in dark ink and extends horizontally across the right side of the page.

PSF Norway

PF
Norway

Oslo, November 20, 1937.

Dear Mr. President:

The newspapers here, as well as the best informed people, say that the Nobel Prize decision was a switch at the last minute from Secretary Hull, or the Nansen International Office for Refugees, back to Lord Cecil.

My best judgment is that it is an effort at this time not only to honor Lord Cecil, but through him to strengthen the League. Mr. Hambro, President of the Storting, and most Norwegian statesmen express the greatest devotion to the League idea and are doing everything in their power to keep it alive.

As Lord Cecil has been visiting you and is such an old friend, I am sure that your disappointment about Secretary Hull has been somewhat tempered. Personally, as Mr. Hull couldn't get it, I am pleased about the award.

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D.C.

Professor Lange, who has just been lunching with me, is a member of the Nobel Committee. He admitted that Lord Cecil's fidelity and close association with the League had played a great part in the decision. He says that as there are only five members of the Committee, it is easy to keep their secrets. I believe that when I wrote you last, the news I gave you was correct, but since the meeting of the Assembly a change in the majority opinion took place.

Dr. Koht has returned full of enthusiasm over his reception in the United States, and so proud and pleased that you gave him as much time as you did.

It is gratifying that the preliminary steps toward a trade agreement between the United States and Norway are being taken.

With every good wish,

Faithfully,

Taisy Larrabee

PSF Norway

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1937.

My dear Mr. President:

In response to the inquiry contained in your memorandum of December 28 whether there is any sort of form to fill in for nominations for the Nobel Award, I may say that the only printed forms received by the Department of State are the forms of which I transmitted an example with my letter to Mr. McIntyre of December 11. I am enclosing a further copy herewith.

Since there do not seem to be any regular nomination forms available and in view of the short time remaining before the nominations can be received by the Nobel Committee, I would suggest that you address a formal letter to the Nobel Committee, as indicated in the document transmitted herewith, placing the name of the Secretary in nomination.

If this suggestion meets with your approval, will you have your letter sent over to me and I will then have it transmitted in the pouch to our Minister in Oslo,

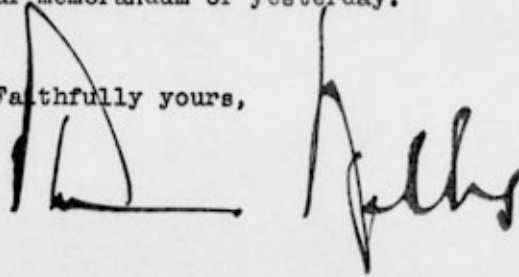
The President,

The White House.

as suggested in your memorandum of yesterday.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized capital 'A' followed by a series of connected loops and a final flourish.

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

All proposals of candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize, which is to be distributed December 10th, 1938, must, in order to be taken into consideration, be laid before the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament by a duly qualified person *before the first of February of the same year.*

Any one of the following persons is held to be duly qualified: (a) Members and late members of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, as well as the advisers appointed at the Norwegian Nobel Institute; (b) Members of Parliament and Members of Government of the different States, as well as Members of the Interparliamentary Union; (c) Members of the International Arbitration Court at the Hague; (d) Members of the Council of the International Peace Bureau; (e) Members and Associates of the Institute of International Law; (f) University professors of Political Science and of Law, of History and of Philosophy; and (g) Persons who have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Nobel Peace Prize may also be accorded to institutions or associations.

According to the Code of Statutes, § 8, the grounds upon which any proposal is made must be stated and handed in along with such papers and other documents as may therein be referred to.

According to § 3, every written work, to qualify for a prize, must have appeared in print.

For particulars, *qualified persons* are requested to apply to the Office of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, Drammensvei 19, Oslo.

PSF Norway
Cordell Hull
Norway

January 13, 1938.

Gentlemen:-

I have hitherto hesitated to propose a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded in 1938, because I have felt a delicacy in proposing a member of the Government of which I am the head.

I do so, however, in the belief that the members of the Committee will understand that I am actuated solely by my feeling that Mr. Cordell Hull has, during the past few years, contributed directly and greatly to the cause of world peace.

Since the Spring of 1933, Mr. Hull has been largely instrumental in establishing on a firm footing among the twenty-one American Republics the so-called principle of "The Good Neighbor." At the outset there was much of suspicion and distrust in the Western Hemisphere. Through his efforts a wholly new spirit has been restored, and in addition several disputes of potential danger have been or are being peacefully adjusted.

In the world field, largely through Mr. Hull's efforts, trade barriers have at least been lowered on the principle not of bilateral agreements alone but on the principle of the most favored nations' clause, thus making it possible for nations voluntarily to join in the reduction of economic barriers which have been so greatly responsible for isolation and, therefore, for hostile actions.

Finally, I respectfully call to your attention the integrity of character which has given to Mr. Hull the confidence of all who have dealt with him in any relationships between nations.

For these reasons, as a member of Government of the United States, I take the liberty of proposing the name of Mr. Cordell Hull as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded in 1938.

Please accept, Gentlemen, the assurances of my high esteem.

Very truly yours,

To The
Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament,
Drammensvei 19,
Oslo,
Norway.



LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OSLO

PSF Norway,
June 20 - 34 -

Dear Mr. Mr. Intyre.

Just a line to ask

You to remember about
the letter the President was
good enough to say that he
would send me in the
Crown Princess & Crown Princess
of Norway - I think that
it would be as well to
have it to show the authorities
as soon as possible now

That I am back -

With every best wish

Faithfully

✓ Larry Harmonian

mom
July 7 - 1938
Norway
d-
PS

July 7, 1938.

Dear Daisy:-

Do you remember that when you were here that I expressed to you the hope that the Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Norway would be able to visit us in this country? Apart from the pleasure it would give all of us to have them come, I think it is important from many angles that the democracies of the world keep in close personal and official touch with each other -- and Norway and the United States have always had close associations.

It occurs to me that the Crown Prince and Crown Princess might care to be here in 1939 during the New York World's Fair and if they could continue to San Francisco and see the Fair there it would, I think, interest them. As you doubtless know, the small boat international races generally take place on Long Island Sound in August or early September and, as the Crown Prince is so much interested in racing, he might care to be here at that time.

My best wishes to you,

Always sincerely,

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

175F.
Norway
P. F.

AMERICAN LEGATION
Oslo, July 7, 1936.

8-2
Norway
Dear Mr. President:

When I was in Washington this spring I spoke to you about the coming visit to the United States of Mr. Carl J. Hambro, President of the Norwegian Storting.

The day before he sailed for America, Mr. Hambro came in to see me, at my Fourth of July reception, to say goodbye. I gathered that he was very anxious that there should be no chance of any accident preventing his having the opportunity of paying his respects to you. He is especially desirous of doing so since he has something that he wishes to present to you.

Accordingly, I have thought that a word from me might not be amiss, as with all your thousands of engagements, he might be overlooked. President Hambro has been exceedingly kind and helpful to me ever since I have been here. He arrives at New York on the motor liner OSLOFJORD on July 14th, but, knowing of your western trip, would only expect to see you after your return.

With all best wishes,

Very sincerely,

Harry Harriman



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PSF
Norway

f-v
Boeing

Oslo, August 15, 1938.

Dear Mr. President:

With all that you must have had on hand just as you were leaving on your trip, you were good to remember the letter in re the Crown Prince. It was exactly what was wanted. I took it to the Foreign Minister who was delighted with it and asked for a copy to show the Cabinet. Then, through the Hoffchef, it was shown to the King and the Crown Prince. The King sent me word that he deeply appreciated your writing, thought it most courteous of you etc. He also drew my attention to the fact that the Crown Prince must return home early in July so couldn't attend the International races in August. However, as the latter seems very anxious to do some sailing, I am sending a letter to Mr. Holmes of the State Department. He is liaison officer with the Fair authorities for the entertainment of distinguished guests and can, I hope, arrange some yachting for the Prince late in June, after his return from San Francisco, or perhaps he could be taken to the New London boat races. I am to see His Royal Highness this coming week to talk over all such details.

Everything looks so much better in the U.S.A. that I am filled with optimism. Your trip was certainly a triumphal march,

Page 2.

and I only regret that all the antis were not routed. But, the Barkley, Bulkley, Pepper, Caraway, and other victories were certainly heart warming.

I sent the article on "Royal Democracy" to Mr. Bye some time ago, and so far have heard nothing. I am afraid they don't like it.

The usual mid-summer official dullness was broken this year by the visit of Foreign Minister Beck of Poland. He strikes one as ^a man of quiet but unusual force. There seemed no indication that his trip here was anything more than one of courtesy, although the papers were full of suggestions that he might have made it with a desire to further his Baltic Black Sea Axis plan. This, although he disclaims any part in the original idea. All the Poles spoke enthusiastically of Tony, saying that he was doing a great job. They were also deeply impressed by his Embassy, describing it as one of the very finest palaces in Warsaw. He is certainly a born diplomat. No one could have been more popular than he was here also.

We have had the usual July and August influx of Americans. I went to the North Cape in July and also visited many places in Western and Central Norway. I felt that I should know the country better, and have now been almost everywhere. Next winter I hope to go to the Lofoten islands to see the Fishing fleet come in.

As I know the Norwegians better and better and realize the great beauties of their surroundings, I am more and more contented and happy. I am indeed grateful to you for sending me to such a congenial and lovely place.

Page 3.

The deepest impression I brought away from my ten days visit to England, besides Kennedy's real success, was that the people who are for Chamberlain are also Franco sympathizers. The House of Lords to a man comes under this head. The man in the street, and those of modest incomes, are on the other side.

With all best wishes.

Very sincerely,

Travis Harrison

Oslo, December 7, 1938.

Dear Mr. President:

His Majesty the King received at the Palace this morning the Special Diplomatic Representatives to Queen Maud's funeral. The first thing he did was to ask me to thank you particularly and personally for your very kind cable, and to tell you how much he appreciated your having appointed a Special Representative to attend the funeral. The King added: "You, Mrs. Harriman, were one of the few diplomats who knew the Queen well unofficially, and having dined and lunched with us informally, you know what our home life was like."

The loss of the Queen has hit him very hard, and I fear that he is going to be very lonely. There was a close comradeship between them.

On receipt of a cable from Sumner this morning, I ordered a wreath of Easter lilies, as every other variety of flowers had been already commandeered, -

The President,

The White House,

Washington, D.C.

and sent it from you.

I had tea yesterday at the British Legation with the Duke of Kent. He spoke very critically of Anthony Eden and said it was a pity he couldn't remain permanently out of the country! I can't see myself but that everything Eden warned would happen if England didn't take a stronger stand with the dictators hasn't come to pass.

Needless to say, I was not happy over the election results, nor the way the Nobel Peace Prize was awarded. It doesn't seem as if the financial help to the Nansen Committee would make a very substantial dent in the enormous amount needed for refugee work. I understand, though, from the Foreign Minister, that they felt that the award would stimulate action on the part of other organizations. He said, too, that Secretary Hull was the only candidate considered until the last moment.

Your Chapel Hill speech was grand. I have read it to several groups of Norwegians.

With best regards,

Faithfully,

Taisy Tarnaud

PSF Norway - 1938



Royal Palace, Oslo,
19th December 1938.

My Dear Mr. President,

May I express, Your Excellency, the Crown Princess' and my most sincere thanks for Mrs. Roosevelt's and your most kind invitation to be your guests at Hyde Park, an honour we appreciate very much indeed.

We hope that our date of arrival in New York on April 26th will suit you and that our visit to you will not be of too great inconvenience.

We are looking forward with great expectations to visit you Sir and Mrs, Roosevelt and to our becoming acquainted with the great country of the United States and with the American people, which also counts men and women of Norwegian origin.

May I please venture to wish you a happy
New Year, and looking forward to meet you in April,
I remain

Yours most sincerely,

Blair

*File
personal*



His Excellency The President of The United

The White House.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

U.S.A.

PSF Norway

December 27, 1938.

Dear Daisy:-

It is good to get your note. I was genuinely sorry about the Nobel Peace Prize but I think we should continue to press for it for Secretary Hull next Autumn. If the Committee could only realize what a real contribution he continues to make to the cause of peace, not only in this Hemisphere but among all the smaller nations of the world, there could be no hesitation.

We are looking forward to seeing the Crown Prince and Crown Princess at Hyde Park just before the opening of the World's Fair. You might tell them that I plan for them a very simple family visit with no formalities.

With my warm regards and every best wish for the New Year,

Always sincerely,

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 21, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR

MAC

To tell Sumner Welles to
show my letters to the Secretary.

F. D. R.

P3 F Norway

January 19, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

I received from Mr. Forster two days ago the letter which you addressed to Mrs. Harriman and the communication which you asked her to transmit to the Nobel Committee. I had the originals of these two documents sent off immediately by mail to the American Legation in Oslo, but because of my fear that they might not reach the Legation before February 1, which is the deadline for the presentation of nominations to the Nobel Committee, I telegraphed Mrs. Harriman the texts of both communications. I asked her at the same time to transmit immediately to the chairman of the Nobel Committee the text of your communication and to inform the Committee that the signed original would be given to the Committee as soon as she received it.

I have this morning received a telegram from Mrs. Harriman of which I am enclosing a copy for your information.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

Enc.

Sumner Welles

The President,

The White House.

PSF Norway

COPY

JR

GRAY

Oslo

Dated January 19, 1939

Rec'd 9:25 a.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

3, January 19, noon.

Department's telegram No. 2, January 17, 3 p.m.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY.

I have personally this morning handed to Professor Frederik Stang Chairman of the Nobel Committee the telegraphic communication of the President and informed him that the original text would be transmitted as soon as received by mail.

HARRIMAN

DDM:WNC

file personal

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

*PSF
Hawley*

January 17, 1939

Personal

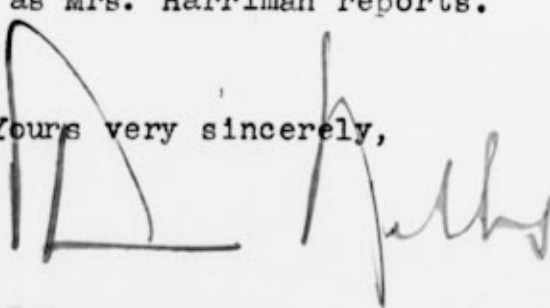
Dear Marvin:

I received your memorandum of January 17, requesting me by direction of the President to transmit to Mrs. Harriman, the American Minister to Norway, a letter addressed to her by the President as well as a communication addressed by the President to the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament.

I have telegraphed the texts of these two communications to Mrs. Harriman instructing her to deliver the President's communication to the Nobel Committee immediately and to inform the Committee that the signed communication is on its way to her and will be delivered by her to the Committee as soon as she receives it. I shall inform the President further as soon as Mrs. Harriman reports.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,



The Honorable
Marvin H. McIntyre,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
PR 857.0011/32

March 1, 1939

My dear Miss LeHand:

There is transmitted herewith a sealed letter addressed to the President by the King of Norway, which was forwarded to the Department by the Minister of Norway in Washington, who states that the letter contains a notification of the decease of Her Majesty Queen Maud of Norway.

After the letter is opened, if you will return it to me, I shall be glad to see that a suitable reply is prepared for the President's signature.

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Sumner
Chief of Protocol.

Enclosure:
Sealed letter.

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
Private Secretary to the President,
The White House.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
PR 857.001/32

March 14, 1939

My dear Miss LeHand:

With reference to the President's memorandum of March 6, 1939, I am now transmitting herewith for the President's signature a warrant and an autograph letter addressed to the King of Norway in reply to his recent communication.

If you will return the autograph letter and warrant to the Department when signed by the President, I shall be glad to see that the President's communication is forwarded to the American Minister at Oslo for appropriate delivery to its high destination.

Your file is returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

L. C. Hughes
Chief of Protocol.

Enclosures:
Autograph letter;
Warrant;
Your file.

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
Private Secretary to the President,
The White House.

[Translation]

Dear and Great Friend:

It is with the most profound sorrow that I fulfill the sad duty of announcing to you the decease, at London, on November 20 last, of my very dear and well-beloved wife, Her Majesty Queen Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria, born Princess Royal of Great Britain and Ireland.

The evidence of affectionate interest which you were good enough to show by accrediting Mrs. Florence Jaffray Harriman on special mission to the funeral service of Her late Majesty the Queen and in having the beautiful wreath placed at her bier has been a precious source of consolation for me in my deep grief and I beg you to receive my warmest thanks.

In expressing my most sincere wishes for your personal happiness and for the prosperity of the United States of America, I avail myself of this occasion to offer to you the assurances of the high esteem and sincere friendship with which I am

Dear and Great Friend,

Your good Friend,

HAAKON R.

Royal Palace,
Oslo, January 30, 1939.

The President of the
United States of America.

Tr: :BFB:SS

President of the United States of America.

To His Majesty

Haakon VII,

King of Norway.

Great and Good Friend:

I have received the letter of the thirtieth of January by which Your Majesty conveyed to me the sad tidings of the death, on the twentieth of November last, of Your Majesty's very dear and well-beloved wife, Her Majesty Queen Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria, born Princess Royal of Great Britain and Ireland.

It was with deep sorrow that I learned of the great affliction which had befallen Your Majesty and the Royal Family of Norway, and I assure you of my sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

I greatly appreciate the sentiments of esteem and friendship expressed in your letter, and I renew my best wishes for your Majesty's health and for the welfare of your subjects and your country.

May God have Your Majesty and Your Majesty's Family in His safe and holy Keeping.

Your Good Friend,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT.

By the President:

From King of Norway
1939

Cher et Grand Ami,

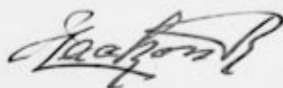
C'est avec la plus profonde affliction que Je remplis le triste devoir de Vous annoncer le décès à Londres, le 20 novembre dernier, de Ma très chère et bien-aimée Epouse, Sa Majesté la Reine Maud Charlotte Mary Victoria, née Princesse Royale de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande.

Le témoignage de l'intérêt affectueux que Vous avez bien voulu manifester en accréditant Madame Florence Jaffray Harriman en mission spéciale au service funèbre de feu Sa Majesté la Reine et en faisant déposer la belle couronne à Sa bière, a été pour Moi une source précieuse de consolation dans Mon deuil profond et Je Vous prie d'en recevoir Mes meilleurs remerciements.

En formant les vœux les plus sincères pour Votre bonheur personnel et pour la prospérité des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, Je saisis cette occasion pour Vous offrir les assurances de la haute estime et de la sincère amitié avec lesquelles Je suis

Cher et Grand Ami

Votre bon Ami



Palais Royal,

Oslo, le 30 Janvier 1939.

Monsieur le Président
des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

PSF Norway

Oslo, March 31, 1939.

file
personal.

Dear Mr. President:

This is a very tardy reply to your letter of December 27, asking me to tell the Crown Prince and Crown Princess that you "plan for them at Hyde Park a very simple visit with no formalities." The Crown Princess was not well, and then was away, so that I did not have a chance to see her until quite recently. She said that she understood about Hyde Park, and that they felt immensely pleased to be going to visit you in your own home. They are looking forward with delighted anticipation to their trip, but from the itinerary that I have seen I think that they will be too fatigued to enjoy things thoroughly, especially the Crown Princess who has been rather delicate lately as the result of a serious illness last summer.

I have recently returned from the Lofoten fisheries,

away above the Arctic circle. I am asking the Department of State to send you a copy of the report on my trip in case you should be interested and have the time to look at it. I thought often of how much you would have enjoyed the novelty of fishing in a snow storm. It may amuse you to see from the enclosed photograph how your Minister looks on such an expedition!

The Foreign Minister has just returned from a visit to Paris, and, contrary to his usual state of mind, is very pessimistic about the general outlook.

I am not returning to the United States this spring as everything is so uncertain that even in peaceful Norway it would seem best to stay put.

Everything that you have said in re the European situation has been so courageous and timely that I have been prouder than ever of being a small cog in your administration.

My best to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Faithfully,

Wm. W. Warren



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 19, 1939

Dear Marvin:

At the request of Mrs. Harriman, the Minister to Norway, I am enclosing for the information of the President, should he wish to read it, a copy of her despatch of March 29, 1939, reporting on her visit to the center of the Norwegian codfish industry in the Lofoten Islands north of the Arctic Circle.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure:

From Oslo,
March 29, 1939.

The Honorable

Marvin H. McIntyre,

Secretary to the President,

The White House.

Department of State

BUREAU
DIVISION

Eu

ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted 4/15/39

ADDRESSED TO

The Honorable

Marvin H. McIntyre.

PSP Norway

No. 392.

Oslo, March 29, 1939.

Subject: The Minister's Trip to the Lofoten Fisheries.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that on Sunday, March 12, together with the Danish Minister, Mr. Kauffmann, Consul General and Mrs. Askvig, Mr. Thor Thoresen, and my granddaughter, I left for the Lofoten Islands, way above the Arctic Circle. These islands are, as the Department is aware, the center of the important Norwegian cod-fish industry.

industry. From Trondheim, where we went over night by rail, we were on board a ship for two days and one night. Our first stop at the islands was Stamsund, where there is an interesting and almost medieval situation. A Mr. Johansen reigns like a feudal lord over the 8,000 inhabitants, half of whom are fishermen. He is referred to as the Czar of Lofoten. In this very social-minded and Labor dominated country his methods are those of American employers before the labor unions became strong. None of his workers are allowed to organize, they are paid with scripts, and the company store racket is in full force. He has built, and owns, fine concrete piers and factories, as well as a tank for the oil which he imports directly from America. He competes with the Shell and other large oil companies here. The fishermen's houses, although not of the most modern type, are not bad.

From Stamsund we went on by boat to Svolvær, our destination. There, large crowds of fishermen awaited our arrival on the quays, our visit having been well advertised in advance by the local authorities. On both the trips north and south my granddaughter and I were guests of the steamship companies. As no Ministers had ever before visited Lofoten in winter, and in fact few Norwegians, our advent caused the greatest excitement. A movie camera man went from
Oslo,

Oslo, and numerous journalists dogged our footsteps.

The day with the fleet was a real adventure and never to be forgotten. The Life Boat Association, besides having one of their officials accompany us from Oslo, had put one of the best boats at our disposal. The commandant of the fishermen went in command of it. At 10 a.m., when we left Svolvær, it was intensely cold and snowing, and once out of the lee of the land quite a high sea was running. However, before reaching the fleet, which that day consisted of 4,000 boats, the sun came out and made the snow-clad mountains rising out of the blue sea seem a back drop of crystal and stardust. It was all indescribably beautiful.

Many of the fishermen evinced the greatest enthusiasm, sailing around and around our boat, waving their arms, and some shouting: "Show us the American Minister, we want to see her." Later, on land, one was heard to say: "Of course President Roosevelt, being such a great fisherman, wanted to come himself, but as he couldn't, he sent his Minister!" We caught many large cod -- one line had six on at the same time! The fleet of 4,000 that day caught an average of 1360 fish per boat.

At the request of many of the leading men, I was interviewed over the radio, a copy of which is enclosed. One of the officials of the Foreign Office told me since: "Your interview over the radio was the best propaganda I have ever heard for Norway."

About twenty-five officials, including the mayors of Svolvær and the neighboring town of Kabelvåg, came in at one o'clock the last day and we gave them light refreshments,

refreshments, and they expressed their great appreciation of our visit.

On the return trip to Oslo I spent twenty-four hours in Trondheim to speak before the British-American Society. The President of the University and many Professors attended the lecture as well as the banquet. The next day I gave another interview for the largest Trondheim paper, both of which are enclosed.

People seem to think that we were very venturesome, but, except for the excessive cold on the water, I didn't find any discomforts. I think that the fact that we made the effort, and had the interest to go has made a very fine impression here. Anyway, every paper has asked for interviews, and all kinds of casual people have expressed their pleasure and satisfaction about it. Several Norwegians say that they are going next year, their curiosity having been whetted by reading of the success of our experiment.

In short, as this was the first time that any American Minister, or in fact any foreign Minister, had visited the cod fisheries at Lofoten, I feel that this visit served a most useful purpose as increasing the good feeling between the United States and Norway.

Respectfully yours,

Florence J. Harriman.

Enclosures:

1. Radio Interview with the Minister.
2. Translation of Interview with "Adresseavisen", Trondheim.
- 2-a. Translation, Article in "Nidaros", Trondheim.
3. Translation, Article in "Tidens Tegn".
4. Translation, Article in "Lofotposten".
5. Translation, Interview in "Journal of Commerce and Shipping", Oslo.

FJH:MT

A true copy of
the signed
MS

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939,
from the American Legation, Oslo, Norway

Pof Norway

Interview on March 14, 1939, with
the American Minister, Mrs. F.J. Harriman.
(Broadcasted over all Norwegian Stations)

It is a great pleasure to have the American Minister,
Mrs. Florence Jaffray Harriman, here in Svolvær, where
she will have an opportunity to see at close hand the
life at the Lofoten Fisheries.

Mrs. Harriman has very kindly offered to answer a
few questions before the microphone.

Your Excellency:

On behalf of the citizens of Svolvær, the inhabitants
of Lofoten and the about 25,000 fishermen from all parts
of The Northern Norway, Trøndelag and Møre, which today
are taking part in the Lofoten cod fishery, it is a great
pleasure to me to wish Your Excellency a hearty welcome
to Svolvær and the Lofoten Islands. We very much appreciate
that Your Excellency has taken this strenuous trip up here
to the North of the Polar Circle, this time of the year.
We dare hope that Your Excellency may enjoy your visit here,
as we sincerely hope you must do it. And so to my questions:

I hope that Your Excellency has had a fine trip up here
from Oslo?

"Yes, it could not have been more comfortable or the
ship's company more thoughtful for our well being. It was
rather tempestuous in the Vestfjord, but we enjoyed even
that."

What gave you the idea to come up here and see this
grand show?

"I went to the North Cape on the "Meteor" last summer,
and all that I saw and heard made me anxious to return and
see the fishing fleet under winter conditions."

Yesterday Your Excellency has been out on the

fishing places on the Vestfjorden. What are your impressions from the Lofoten cod-fishery?

The number of boats seemed incredible at first, but after all, this is the largest fishing fleet in the world. I was so fortunate as to get some large fish myself, and I have never before done deep-sea fishing where the catch was so remunerative."

What has Your Excellency found most interesting here in Lofoten?

"That here, close to the Arctic regions, one finds civilization just as advanced and living conditions on just as high a plane as anywhere else."

What was your most thrilling moment during this trip?

"When we approached the thousands of fishing boats massed against the snow-covered mountains glistening in the sun. Artistically, I have never seen anything more startlingly lovely."

Your Excellency has been up here before, in the summer time. What do you like best - the Northern Norway by summer - or by winter?

"It is almost impossible to compare them. Each season has its special charm and beauty."

"Do they know anything about the Lofoten fisheries in the United States of America?

"In a general way they do, but it would not be possible for them to visualize the immensity of it if they had not been here."

Do you have anything remotely like the Lofoten fisheries along the water-fronts of your vast country?

"There is a large fleet that goes out from Gloucester, Massachusetts, and also from Cape Cod, but nothing that compares in size with that of Lofoten."

As Your Excellency will know, this interview is

transmitted

transmitted over the short-wave transmitters of Oslo and Jelsy. Perhaps you should like to say a few words to your friends in America?

"If any of my friends should be listening in, I would urge them not to miss any opportunity to visit Norway. In this land democracy has reached the greatest perfection of it, in that there is no extreme poverty, and no excessive riches. Here every phase of outdoor life can be enjoyed, and the beauties of nature are unexcelled. I am happy to have visited the homeland from north to south of the many Norwegians who are now Americans. These people who have added so much of rugged strength and straight thinking to our citizenry."

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939, from the
American Legation, Oslo, Norway.

Translation

Source: ADRESSEAVISEN,
Trondheim, Norway.
March 25, 1939.

The Peace Idea and the World Today
First Peace Within Oneself.

The Masculine and Feminine Mentality
Must supplement Each Other.

The Minister Has Qualified Belief
In the Ability of Organizations to
Change People.

Mrs. Florence J. Harriman, American Minister to Norway, has visited the Lofoten fisheries, she has visited Trondheim, and on Sunday she was on her way back to Oslo again. We have heard her express herself in regard to our country; but a woman in such a prominent position, representing such a large ~~ex~~portion of the world, - perhaps she might be willing to tell an inter-viewer something more. Dare we question her in regard to a few problems?

Britannia's head waiter offers to be our spokesman. He is successful in obtaining an interview for us. A secretary receives us - and there comes Mrs. Harriman: stately and imposing, alert, and gracious -- but as all Ministers -- cautious. "One never knows" - Mrs. Harriman says - "where an interview may land. One must be able to defend one's words." And we must admit the truth of this.

Peace must commence with the individual and
the home and disseminate to society.

Is the Minister of the opinion that the large international women's organizations and press organizations have been able to accomplish anything for the cause of peace?

"Yes", she says with firmness, "but peace must live in the hearts of each individual first. One must have peace within oneself in order to spread it to one's closest surroundings, to the home, to the community and to the social order. It is only with peace thoughts in our hearts that we can influence others

toward peace. No being, poor or rich, can work successfully for the peace ideal unless the home conditions are harmonious. Real love for one's neighbor should come first, and then the rest will follow naturally. Tolerance is what everyone should practice."

Mrs. Harriman takes the notebook from me and sketches what she means. "Here", she says, "you may see - here is the individual (the Minister draws a head) - here is the family, and here is society. From the individual the good and constructive forces should radiate to the surroundings."

"I have seen so much of organizations that I have come to the conclusion that, good as they are, they cannot accomplish much unless the individual members are practising what they preach. However, I do not wish to belittle peace societies. They make a fine contribution in educating people to realize the utter futility of war."

Ability the Decisive Factor.

We take up the question of women's rights. Mrs. Harriman is of the opinion that the special protection laws for women now in operation in the United States must remain, at least for the present, as a means of protecting women against exploitation by unscrupulous employers. "Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Perkins, the Secretary of Labor, regard this as necessary. And Mrs. Roosevelt is working unceasingly for the social interests of women, especially for those who are the family breadwinners."

What is the President's standpoint with regard to the appointment of Ministers to other countries -- he must regard women with favor since he has entrusted them with such responsible positions?

"President Roosevelt", Mrs. Harriman states, "makes appointments without regard to whether the appointees are women or men,

if they have the ability and fitness for the work."

World Otherwise?

Have we not the right to believe that the world today would have been less chaotic if women had had greater influence in the governments and legislative bodies of their countries?

"It seems to me that women have brought a fresher and less stereotyped viewpoint into public affairs and the masculine and feminine mentality complement each other."

There is, after all, a deeper need in women's souls for peace and understanding between people -- an innate abhorrence of war and its horrors?

"Perhaps, ultimately, women suffer most from war."

Is there not a great difference in this respect between the mentality of men and women?

"That depends on the individual mentality."

Who is Mrs. Roosevelt?

Has the Minister any objection to saying a few words regarding America's First Lady?

"Certainly not. I have the greatest admiration for her ability, initiative, courage, and desire to bring about better conditions for the less-favored citizens."

Enclosure No. 2 - a - to despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939,
from the American Legation, Oslo, Norway

Translation

Source: NIDAROS, Trondheim.
March 20, 1939.

AMERICA'S MINISTER WON THE
PEOPLE OF TRONDHEIM.

Lecture in the British-American Society on
Roosevelt's America.

The first meeting of the newly-organized British-American Society at Trondheim was held on Saturday. The hall of the Stock Exchange was entirely filled by a representative and interested public, and if one could judge by this meeting, the Society has made a favorable start.

But then the committee in charge had been so fortunate as to secure the American Minister to Norway, Mrs. Harriman, to open its activities. She became the new Society's godmother, as the chairman expressed it.

The woman Minister proved to be a most charming personality. From the very first moment she established contact with her audience. Simple, and at the same time full of wit and humor as she is, she immediately won the hearts of the people of Trondheim. And when it comes to all the beautiful words she had to say about our country - its wonderful scenery and its realization of democratic ideals - the inhabitants of Trondheim blushed to their very heels.

The Minister regretted that she did not speak Norwegian well enough to use our language in her lecture and that she could still feel the rolling of the high waves after the trip to the fisheries. The trip to Lofoten had been a wonderful experience. The 4,000 fishing boats against the snow-covered mountains had been a beautiful sight. And she would urge everyone
here

here to visit these great fisheries -- one of the finest things in the world.

Then the Minister spoke about Roosevelt's America and its background. She told about Thomas Jefferson who founded the Democratic Party, Andrew Jackson who first commenced the struggle against the moneyed interests, and with whom Roosevelt is sometimes compared; William Jennings Bryan and Woodrow Wilson whose progressiveness had both exerted an influence on the present President.

The Minister described the great store of knowledge regarding the most varied conditions which the President possessed and the interest he has for our country. She discussed the great work he has done to rehabilitate the country after the crisis. One who had seen the bread lines and who had seen how they had disappeared a few months later, when people secured work, appreciated the great contribution he had made. Those in the ^{Civilian} Conservation Corps and all who are doing emergency government work are still called unemployed - and therefore the American figures for unemployment are higher than those of countries where the contrary is the case.

The moneyed interests are opposed to Roosevelt, but the ordinary man is for him. Roosevelt is a great friend of the people. He, who suffered so much during his long illness, understands the sufferings of others. It is fortunate for the country to have at this time a leader who so thoroughly believes in democracy.

The neutrality act may at times have benefitted the aggressor, and there has therefore been talk of altering it. President Roosevelt desires to maintain peace, but he will also support the ideals of democracy.

The chairman, Engineer Roar Knudtson, introduced and thanked the speaker. The Minister had come, seen and conquered.

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939
from the American Legation, Oslo, Norway.

TRANSLATION:

Source: TIDENS TEGN, Oslo.
March 18, 1939.

Mrs. Harriman was crowned Chief Boatsman at Lofoten
And Fished Huge Cod together with Minister Kauffmann

As mentioned before a very exclusive party is now on its way northward to the Lofot Fisheries. It comprises the Danish and American Minister together with their Norwegian friends, Consul General Askvig and Mrs. Askvig and Shipowner Thor Thoresen. - Our photograph shows the Danish Minister Mr. Kauffmann (right) and (left) The American Minister Mrs. Harriman and her young niece. The photograph was taken on board the "Lofoten" which is carrying the party northward.

From Svolvær reports have been received showing that the visit of the American Minister Mrs. Harriman and the Danish Minister Mr. Kauffmann at the Lofot Fisheries has been very successful. Both Ministers have caught huge cod, and thereafter eaten the fish, freshly boiled. They have seen the busy life at the fishing grounds and they have seen the queer old structures in the fishing villages and the many modern plants which have been established recently. When Mrs. Harriman Thursday boarded the "Mira" to return southward both she and her 19 year old niece, Miss Phyllis Russell, said they had gained impressions for all time.

The party arrived at Svolvær Monday evening by "Lofoten". In addition to the Ministers and Miss Russell the party comprised, among other, Consul General and Mrs. Askvig, Shipowner Thor Thoresen, and Sec-Gen. Holter in the Life-Saving Society. The party was received by Disponent Johns and Secretary Leif Kignig who had made the plans and arrangements for the trip. The following day - Tuesday - they went on board the cutter "Idun" which had been placed at their disposal for the trip. They started out in snowing weather and half an hour afterward storm warnings from Svolvær were received by the boat's radio, but

this was kept secret from the party. A strong breeze is nothing for a cutter like the "Idun" and it was unnecessary to disturb anyone. However, the weather cleared and instead of a storm there was glorious sunshine. Out on the fishing grounds Mrs. Harriman and Mr. Kauffmann could put out their fishing lines. Minister Kauffmann got the first nibble and shortly afterwards he hauled a huge cod up alongside the cutter. It was carefully taken up by the crew. Immediately afterwards Mrs. Harriman also had a cod on the hook. We are told that she hauled in like a veteran fisherman, and could shortly afterward show her first cod. The woman American Minister to Norway had become a real Lofot fisherman, and now there was a surprise for her: She was crowned chief boatsman (this is an old custom - the most popular man is chosen head of the boat) of the "Idun" and the crown was a huge pilot cap of black leather with great wooly ear muffs.

After a tour around the fishing grounds the "Idun" went to Henningsvær, and only an hour after fishing, the cod, liver and row were put into the kettles. After a festive dinner on board with speeches by the Ministers, the return was made to Svolvær.

Wednesday morning Minister Kauffmann left for Reine, while Mrs. Harriman and her niece remained in Svolvær. During the day they visited the church, the city hall, the refrigeration plant and the Lofoten Cod-liver Oil and Fish Refinery. On Thursday they motored to Kabelvåg where they studied a 300-year old refuge for fishermen and the State's new, modern lodging. Miss Russell was given a glass buoy as a remembrance of the visit. With great interest they also studied the local aquarium which for the occasion was "populated" with more than 30 codfish.

All in all the Ministers have had a both amusing and interesting time at Lofoten. Minister Kauffmann left for the north with Consul General and Mrs. Askvig to make a trip on skis across the Finnmark Steppes.

Enclosure No. 4 to Despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939,
from the American Legation, Oslo, Norway.

Translation:

Source: LOFOTPOSTEN,
March 15, 1939.

THE VISIT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS TO SVOLVAER.

Lofoten truly wanted to show its best side on the occasion of the visit of the American Minister, Mrs. Harriman, and the Danish Minister, Mr. Kauffmann.

In a roaring southwest wind the Vesterålske's beautiful passenger ship "Lofoten" plowed across the Vestfjord with the Ministers on board yesterday afternoon. Up under the Lofoten Mountains the west wind asserted itself, but when the ship anchored alongside the quay at Svolvær in the evening, the northwest wind did its best to smooth out the violent seas which the southwest wind had stirred up.

The quay at Svolvær was crowded with people who wanted to see the celebrated travelers. However, the police maintained praiseworthy order, and way was made clear as for a royal cortège. The Ministers stopped at "Hotell Lofoten", where arrangements had been made for the comfort of the notable visitors. The evening was spent quietly, in rest to gain strength after the strenuous trip and for the trip next day to the Lofoten fisheries -- although the prospects seemed small of reaching them in the morning.

The fine-spirited, alert, and handsome Minister Harriman was of the opinion, however, that the northwest wind was to be preferred to the southwest, and the trip was fixed for 10 o'clock next morning with the sturdy life-saving cutter "Idun" which had been placed at the disposition of the Ministers by the commandant of the Lofoten fisheries, Mr. Anderssen-Strand.

The

The commandant, with the "Idun", arrived promptly in the morning. The start was made somewhat after 10 o'clock in a dense snowstorm which made it difficult to see more than a few yards ahead of the bow. However, as the "Idun" made its way out to the fishing grounds, the sea grew more quiet.

The party included, in addition to the two Ministers, Miss Russell, the American Minister's 19 year old granddaughter, a charming young lady, Consul General and Mrs. Askvig, of Oslo, Shipowner Thor Thoresen, Secretary-General Holter of the Life-Boat Association, Mr. Johns, of Svalber, Mr. Gabrielsen, of Oslo, Secretary Valvik of the Vester-Ålske Steamship Company, and Secretary Kienig of the Lofoten Turist Association.

Shortly after departure, the commandant turned to Minister Harriman with the following short speech:

"Your Excellency: I have the honor of appointing you chief boatsman for this trip on the life-saving cutter 'Idun', the best cutter ever launched. However, to fill this responsible position Your Excellency must have the necessary equipment consisting of oil skins and a pilot's cap, or, as we call it in Lofoten "a dory cap". You already have the oil skins, and I now take pleasure in placing upon your head this cap as a symbol of your position as chief boatsman of the "Idun". I hope that Your Excellency will keep the cap as a memento of Lofoten."

The Minister thanked the commandant heartily for this honor and the event was greeted with a three times three hurrahs.

Shortly after, an amusing incident occurred. A stowaway was discovered on board. He proved to be a representative of one of the Trondheim newspapers who,
with

with American smartness had concealed himself until the cutter was well on its way.

About an hour after departure the fishing fleet came into sight -- a forest of masts extending for more than a mile. About 4,000 boats were assembled on the fishing grounds. Enthusiasm was great over the beautiful sight. In the meantime the echo-sound apparatus had been adjusted and shortly after the presence of a school of fish of more than 10 meters' depth was registered at a depth of 50 to 60 meters. The cutter was brought up against the wind. Fishing lines were put out and soon the Danish Minister proudly hauled in the first cod. "Now I have seen the first Danish cod at Lofoten", exclaimed the commandant.

The weather cleared and the sun came out. The next cod was pulled in by Mrs. Harriman, followed shortly after by a catch by Miss Russell. The event was filmed. One cod after another was hauled in until the party could no longer struggle against their desire to taste the catch. The course was set for Henningsver and the steward commenced preparations for dinner. On the way in the life-boat "Storebrand" and the entire fishing fleet was passed. At 2:30 the "Idun" anchored at Henningsver and shortly after the delicious smell of cod arose from the galley where the steward was at work with pots and kettles. In the meantime the passengers admired the glorious scenery of Henningsver as well.

The dinner gong was sounded and the guests did full justice to the fresh-boiled cod, served with the roe and liver.

Secretary*General Holter made a speech of welcome. Commandant Anderssen-Strand brought a message of greeting to the

to the Ministers, and especially to Minister Harriman, from the 25,000 fishermen now assembled at Lofoten. With appreciation and gratitude they would always remember the visit of the Ministers and hoped to see them both again on a visit to Lofoten.

Minister Harriman expressed her thanks for the hearty welcome she had been given here and stated that she would greatly appreciate seeing representatives of the fishermen before leaving Lofoten. The commandant promised to arrange this.

Minister Kauffmann joined Mrs. Harriman in warm appreciation of the reception at Lofoten.

After a delightful dinner a message was received that the crew of the "Ragnhild Schanche" would like to show the party their ship. A short visit was paid on board this beautiful vessel which had come up alongside the "Idun". Shortly after 4 o'clock the course was set for Svolvær.

It had again commenced to snow - as though Nature wanted to say - "Now that you have seen how beautiful it can be at Lofoten, the storm may continue."

The passengers went below where the steward served hot coffee, and soon after Svolvær came into sight.

Strong were the superlatives, in American, Danish, and Norwegian, expressing enthusiasm over the glorious and successful trip, which will be a memory for life for each one of the participants.

. . . .

Enclosure No. 5 to Despatch No. 392 of March 29, 1939,
from the American Legation, Oslo, Norway.

Translation

Source: "Norwegian
Journal of Commerce and
Shipping" March 29, 1939.
(Norges Handels og Sje-
fartstidende)

IN LOVE WITH NORWAY, The American
Minister Says.

Advertise More for Your Country
and your Products.

An Interview with the Minister
after her Trip to Lofoten.

When a Minister for a large and powerful country travels northward during the winter to the polar regions of our own country, it is not merely for amusement and pastime. Such a trip is motivated by a desire to acquire a more comprehensive picture of Norway. What does such a picture signify for a foreigner who is in possession of the prerequisites for observation and reflection? We come with this question to the Minister of the United States to Norway, Mrs. F.J. Harriman, who has just returned from Lofoten.

"With respect to the landscape," says the Minister, "Norway is as magnificent and beautiful as anything I have seen in my life." -- "I am in love with Norway," she adds softly to herself. "And the people," she continues, "display an honest and direct character, and hospitality such as one does not often encounter. Everyone of you wants to do something for us foreigners. Here people are so neat and orderly. And even the poorest keep everything so neat and clean that one enjoys going into their homes. It is not always that way in other countries."

Is there any one incident or experience which made a special impression on you during your trip to
Lofoten?

Lofoten?

"The fisheries were of course an unforgettable experience. The day I was out there were caught an average of 1350 fish per boat and there were 4,000 boats. But that which impressed me most were the fishermen themselves, their enthusiasm and pleasure over our visit. They cried out: 'Where are the Ministers? Let us see them.' And then they waived their greetings, and some said: 'President Roosevelt, who is so interested in fishing, would surely have come himself, if he had had time, but he sent his Minister instead!' Wasn't that sweet?"

You who come from such a rich country perhaps find it strange to see a polar country maintained in the manner we are able to?

"Norway does not give the impression of being a poor country."

North Norway may in a way be compared with Alaska, and you have managed to make Alaska a profitable portion of the United States, while North Norway is administered with a deficit. Do you, Minister, think that we have possibilities of making North Norway into a profitable region of Norway?

"You will appreciate that this is a question difficult for anyone to answer, particularly the Minister of a foreign country." I can say that one of the most important means of promoting trade is by extensive advertising. Other countries have practised that profitably, both in point of trade and encouraging a greater influx of tourists."

We too have understood it, but it is so expensive. But with regard to foodstuffs: Is it so that you in the United States have a pure food law? And does this law

permit

permit only the sale of natural products? Has this law, which is doubtless inspired by considerations for the health of the people, had any noticeable effect on the standard of health of the nation? This is a question of interest now that we are living in a complex period.

"Yes, the United States has such an act entitled "The Federal Food and Drugs Act", of 1906. This does not discriminate between natural and synthetic products, but does establish minimum standards of purity. This law has been enforced for many years and has unquestionably raised the standards of the products and consequently the health of the people."

The Minister's active interest and understanding attitude with respect to these problems gives us courage to ask this modest question. - It is said that President Roosevelt, when he appointed you Minister to this country, stated that you were going to a country which was slightly ahead of others with regard to development?

"Yes, 25 years ahead of our country with respect to social reforms."

Other prominent Americans have occasionally given us the same impression as you, Minister, that in the United States there is a strong and sincere interest in Norway. Is this something we Norwegians only hope and believe, now that our country, for all that we know, comes into the future plans of the Dictatorship States?

"Norway will always have our sympathy because it occupies a high position among the democracies of the world," says Mrs. Harriman.

She has obviously lost her heart to North Norway,

for

- 4 -

for she again and again takes out a little snapshot of the fishing fleet on the sea with a forest of masts against the snow-covered Lofoten mountains. "Isn't it wonderful."

.

PSF Norway 18

Miss LeHand

Norway

DINNER AT HYDE PARK
Friday evening, April 28, 1939,
at 8 o'clock.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. James Roosevelt (Hostess)

H.R.H. The Crown Prince and Crown Princess of Norway

The Minister of Norway and Mme. Munthe de Morgenstierne

Maj. and Mme. N. R. Ostgaard

Capt. N. A. Ramm

Lt. Col. Harold M. Rayner

Comdr. Greene W. Dugger, Jr.

Hon. George T. Summerlin

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Morgan

Mrs. Vincent Astor

Miss Marguerite LeHand

Mr. John Roosevelt

NORWEGIAN ROYAL PARTY

The Royal party will arrive at Poughkeepsie on Friday, April 28th, at approximately 4:30 p.m. There they will be transported by automobile to Hyde Park. They will remain at Hyde Park until 9:30 or 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 30th, when they will motor to New York City.

The following rooms have been assigned to the members of the Royal party.

Two East rooms and bath - H.R.H. Crown Prince Olav
H.R.H. Crown Princess Martha

Chintz room and bath - The Min. of Morway, Hon. W.
Munthe de Morgenstierne and
Mme. Munthe de Morgenstierne

Pink and green rooms
and back bath - Maj. & Mrs. N. R. Ostgaard
(Court Marshal and
Lady-in-Waiting)

With Mrs. J. R. Roosevelt - Capt. N. A. Ramm - Aide to H.R.H.

Nursery - 1 maid

3rd floor room - 1 man servant

The Chief of Protocol, Hon. George T. Summerlin, and the two American military and naval aides, Col. Harold M. Rayner and Comdr. G. W. Dugger, Jr., will stay on the Potomac.

COPY GLW

Norway

ROYAL NORWEGIAN LEGATION

List of Members

in T.T. R.R. H.H. Crown Prince Olav's and Crown
Princess Märtha's Party at visit to President
and Mrs. Roosevelt, Hyde Park, N.Y.

Hon. W. Munthe de Morgenstierne, Minister of Norway
Madame Munthe de Morgenstierne

Major N.R. Østgaard, Court Marshal to His Royal Highness
Mrs. Østgaard, Lady-in-Waiting

✓ Captain N. A. Ramm, Aide to His Royal Highness

1 man servant

1 maid servant

Personal file

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1939.

R.F.

Ask the State Dept. if I need
reply to this.

F.D.R.

MR. PRESIDENT:

Summerlin thinks no reply to the
attached telegram is necessary. He said
the Crown Prince would be in Washington
in June and would have tea at the White
House.

R. F.

TELEGRAM

PSF Norway

The White House
Washington

2pome 20 708p

WA New York, May 2, 1939.

The President.

On leaving New York my wife and I send our heartiest thanks for
all kind hospitality shown us at Hyde Park.

Olav.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF PROTOCOL

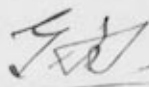
MEMORANDUM

May 9, 1939.

General Watson:

I am returning a memorandum from the President about a reply to a letter he has received from the Crown Prince of Norway.

Since the letter is in the nature of a bread and butter letter for hospitality received at Hyde Park, I should say "no" to the President's question whether it required an answer.


George T. Summerlin

Enclosure:

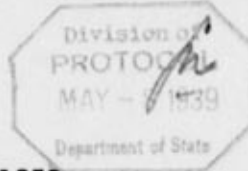
Memorandum from President,
May 8, 1939;
Original letter from Crown
Prince of Norway, May 4, 1939.

033.5711 Prince Olav/57

PSF Norway

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE



May 8, 1939.

1939 MAY 8 PM 2 52

MEMORANDUM FOR

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
THE STATE DEPARTMENT

Is it necessary to reply
to this letter from the Crown
Prince of Norway?

F. D. R.

h



1939 MAY 8 PM 2 52

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Chicago PSE Norway
May 4th 1939

My dear Mr. President

At last I have time to write to you
to thank you, your wife Mrs. Roosevelt,
and your mother Mrs. Roosevelt, for on
behalf of my wife and myself, for
the extremely kind hospitality
you showed towards us, and the very
great kindness that radiated to us
all during our visit to Hyde Park
Words, that I can pen, cannot express
our sincere feeling of gratitude for
being allowed to make your acquaintance

in that enchanting informal manner, which has made us feel that we are not your ~~for~~ acquaintances but also your friends. I can assure you we enjoyed every moment of our visit.

Our visit to West Point is also one of the great moments of our stay here in the United States. The whole atmosphere of the place was extremely nice and most impressive.

I hope the World's Fair will be the success it deserves to be as I thought everything looked so nice and gave a wonderful expression of American life of to-day giving us all a glimpse of what may be the World of to-morrow.

So far our visit here has been a great success from our point of view as everyone has been so very kind and seemed so very pleased to see us.

I have not been able to follow the international situation very well as there has been very little time for reading the papers; but to-day's development in Russia seems to me to be of great significance, but, I fear, not a change to the better from our point of view.

Looking forward to seeing you again in Washington, and with my wife's and my very best regards to yourself Mr. President and both to your wife and your mother,

I remain in yours most sincerely

Clay



*His Excellency Franklin D. Roosevelt Esq
President of the United States
The White House
Washington D.C.*

REGISTERED

no. **864073**

PSF *Will Norway - 1939*

TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

21wu h 69 6:56 p. m.

wa, New York, N. Y., July 6, 1939

THE PRESIDENT:

On sailing to-day for home, we want to express to Mrs. Roosevelt and yourself our heartfelt thanks for your kindness and hospitality in connection with our visit to the United States. We shall always cherish the memory of the days spent with you at Hyde Park and of our visit to the White House, and gratefully remember that our great American adventure was due principally to your invitation and encouragement.

Olav and Maertha.

Crown Prince & Princess of Norway



PSF Norway

New York
July 6th 1939

My dear President

On the day I sail from your wonderful country, I wish to express my wife's and my own most sincere thanks for all the very kind hospitality shown us, by yourself sir, and by everyone we have had the good fortune to meet on our entire

town. It was indeed a pleasure for us to have
the opportunity of meeting you again at the
White House. I am sending you the copies
of the photographs taken there which I hope
you will like. Hoping we will meet again
at a not too distant future, and with
my wife's and my best regards to Mrs.
Roosevelt and yourself, sir, I remain most
sincerely yours

Oliver

to have the



*The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt &
The President of the United States
The White House
Washington D.C.*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 28, 1939.

Dear Mrs. Harriman:-

The enclosed is a personal note from the President to His Majesty. Will you be good enough to see that it is delivered to the King?

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

M. A. Le Hand
PRIVATE SECRETARY

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, *Minister*
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

(Enclosure)

PSF Norway - 1939
(3)

July 28, 1939.

My dear King Haakon:-

May I thank you for your telegram and tell you from the bottom of my heart what a great privilege it was for my wife and me to have the delightful visit from your son and daughter-in-law.

I have heard from many people all the way to the Pacific Coast that they made a splendid impression throughout their long journey, gaining friends for themselves and for Norway in every place they visited.

We were especially happy to have them with us for the family visit at Hyde Park, which was all too short.

Please give them both my very warm regards and tell them to tell you what Uncle Ted said about you after he had visited you in Oslo many, many years ago.

Faithfully yours,

His Majesty
Haakon VII,
King of Norway.

FAST



RCA

DIRECT



RADIOGRAM
R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
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TO ALL THE WORLD — BETWEEN IMPORTANT U. S. CITIES — TO SHIPS AT SEA

RECEIVED AT 1112 CONNECTICUT AVE., WASHINGTON, D. C., AT _____ STANDARD

WN33CL ETAT GHR OSLO 70 6 1645 1/50

1939 JUL 6 AM 11 38

THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON

AS MY SON AND DAUGHTER IN LAW ARE LEAVING TODAY AFTER THEIR VISIT TO U S
AMERICA I NOT ONLY THANK YOU AND MRS ROOSEVELT FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY TO
THEM BUT ALL THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OF NORWEGIAN ORIGIN AS WELL AS THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE AT THE DIFFERENT PLACES WHERE THEY HAVE BEEN FOR THEIR
KINDNESS AND GOOD WILL SHOWN THEM WHERE EVER THEY HAVE BEEN

HAakon R

Telephone: National 2600

Form 115WN—TD 22

To secure prompt action on inquiries, this original RADIOGRAM should be presented at the office of R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, Inc. In telephone inquiries quote the number preceding the place of origin.

Pst
Norway
1

August 2, 1939.

Dear Daisy:-

Many thanks for that nice note of yours.

The Crown Prince and Princess were in every way charming and both Eleanor and I quite lost our hearts to them. Incidentally, their trip through the country was also very successful and I am glad they liked the whole of their visit.

I do hope Cordell will get that Nobel Prize. He certainly deserves it -- also that the generally pessimistic attitude both in Europe and here will prove false and that we shall not have war this Autumn.

Always sincerely,

Mrs. J. Borden Harriman,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

PSF Norway

Oslo, July 21, 1939.

Dear Mr. President:

I am indeed grateful for the kind messages you sent me through Ethel. I am not sure that I can arrange to go to America this autumn, but will surely be there next spring to be of whatever help I can at the Convention and later too.

The Crown Prince and Princess arrived here on Sunday and received a most warm welcome. Last night I dined at the Palace with 269 others, all Norwegians. As a gesture to America, the Crown Prince took me in to dinner so that I had a good opportunity to hear his account of his American visit. He couldn't say enough about their reception and the kindness that had been shown them on every side, but his greatest enthusiasm was reserved for you. He said that he had never met anyone with so fine, charming and winning a personality. He asked me to please convey to you the deep feeling of gratitude of both himself and the Crown Princess.

The President,

The White House.

The trip wrought a most extraordinary psychological change in Prince Olav. He has lost his shyness, talks a great deal, and seems to have gained complete self-confidence. Everyone speaks of this.

After dinner the King talked to me for quite a long time and said "do write to the President tomorrow and tell him of the homecoming, and of my very great appreciation of all he did". The King, and the Foreign Minister who sat next me at dinner, are both very pessimistic about the international outlook. In fact, Dr. Koht says that war is surely coming in September. The King, of course, is principally concerned about Norway. He pointed out that after the last war conditions here were terrible, and bolshevism rife. I suggested that perhaps there was more now to be feared from the right than the left. His reply was that he was selfishly thinking of his own country where the margin between the socialist party and extreme radicalism is slight.

It looks to me as if Mr. Hull will get the Peace Prize as numerous men connected with the Committee have come to see me to ask questions about him, and talk him over. However, one can never be sure.

You and Mrs. Roosevelt were so kind to have Ethel at the luncheon for the King and Queen. She has written me enthusiastically about it. What a great success all the Royal visits were!

I deplore the fate of the Neutrality Act. Really,

your patience is phenomenal.

With affectionate messages to Mrs. Roosevelt,

Faithfully,

Tracy Warriner

Will
plus mail

PSF Norway

Aug. 11-39

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Norway

Dear Miss L. Hand -

The President's note
was placed in the hands
of the Hogg cheer at the
Consul, for delivery to His
Majesty, yesterday. - It
arrived here per pouch in the a.m.

Now! The Congress has adjourned
hope that you will have some
resting space - You must be weary
we are here, busy here
preparing for the reception
of the delegates to the

Interparliamentary Union,
With best regards,

S. Sincerely,

Frederic J. Harrison

Norway
1939

Letter to the President from Daisy Harriman -December 5, 1939.

Subject: The selling to Norway several of our destroyers now at Philadelphia.

The President sends her letter to Edison asking what he can tell Mrs. Harriman-Edison prepared reply and sent it W. H. on Jan 6, 1940. The President writes her on Jan 9, 1940.

For the above correspondence-See: Norway-Drawer 4-1940.



PSF Norway Skaugum
near Oslo

THE WHITE HOUSE

Dec. 6th 1939

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RECEIVED

My dear President Roosevelt.

Allow me, as we are drawing near
to the Festive Season that brings glad
tidings to us about Peace and Good-Will,
to write to you and take up some of your
valuable time. I have, as everyone in
our part of the World, with the greatest
interest followed your efforts to maintain
peace before hostilities started in Europe
and likewise your appeals to the belligerent
powers after the outbreak of war. No-one, I
can assure you, have followed these endeavors
with more sympathy or with more sincere hope

for their success than I. I recall with
the greatest pleasure all my recollections
from my tour of the United States this summer
and specially the very interesting talks
I had the privilege of having with you
at Hyde Park.

Thanks to the later
developments it seems a very long time ago
^{since} that my wife and myself had this opportunity.

The war between Germany and Great Britain
& France was bad enough for us in the Nordic
Countries, but the brutal and unprovoked
attack of Russia on Finland is of course
from our point of view very much more
serious. All the uncertainty of situation
does not make it any the easier apart
from the moral side of the question.

So far Finland seems to be able to
hold its own well against the hosts
of the aggressor, and if Right gives

Might then Finland should have all prospects of getting through her overpowering difficulties; but I feel this is not enough.

I do most sincerely pray that in some way there can be brought help and really effective help to that brave and resolute little nation, who undoubtedly only is fighting for her own existence and her right to live as a free democratic sovereign state.

(naty) I am afraid this is not a very cheerful letter, but the times do not seem to be made for much cheerfulness these days. Let us sincerely hope that the New Year will bring us all peace and security from all those dangers which today seem so overwhelming that one hardly can see one's way around them.

My wife joins me in wishing you and
Mrs. Roosevelt a Merry Christmas and
a Happy New Year, and our renewed
thanks for all kindness and hospitality
shown us by you and by everyone we
had the pleasure and privilege to meet
in your wonderful country this Summer.

I remain Sir yours most sincerely

Clark



His Excellency F. D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
The White House of America
Washington D.

and: U.S.A.

PSF Norway

December 22, 1939

Dear Daisy:

Many thanks for yours of December fourth. I, too, am sorry that the Nobel Committee made the definite mistake of not awarding the prize this year.

Yesterday I received the formal notice for recommendations for next year and I have written the enclosed to the Committee. Will you be good enough to see that it is duly delivered to them?

You are certainly in the midst of things in Oslo. The definite surge of public opinion in favor of Finland and against Russia over here is amazing and we are literally doing everything we can without legislation to help the Finns.

As ever yours,

Mrs. Florence Jaffray Harriman,
American Minister,
American Legation,
Oslo,
Norway.

Enclosure

Let to the Committee
+ copy of it for Mrs Harriman

if tmb

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 20, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE SECRETARY OF STATE

To read and return.

F. D. R.

Enclosures

Many thanks -
CH

PSF Norway

Personal.

Oslo, Norway.
December 4, 1939.

Dear Mr. President,

It didn't seem possible to me that again this year the Nobel Committee would pass over Secretary Hull. I haven't met a single prominent Norwegian man, since the decision not to award the prize this year was made, who has not deprecated it.

Dr. Koht said this morning that he was no longer a member of the Committee, but that, if he had been, he would certainly have voted for Mr. Hull. Also, confidentially, he thought that the Committee's psychology had been quite wrong.

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 534 of December 1, 1939, from
the American Legation, Oslo, Norway.

Translation.

Source: TIDENS TEGN
(Independent)
of November 29, 1939.

A DISAPPOINTMENT.

We hope that it is not the intention of the Norwegian Nobel Committee to maintain that the war has rendered superfluous its work. The decision not to award any peace prize this year is an admission of failure which merely serves the forces of war. Courage is a quality which is needed not only at the front but is equally indispensable in the battle that must be waged for culture and peace. The Norwegian Storting's Nobel Committee should have headed this battle, but it appears that the gentlemen have decided to desert the bulwarks.

It is possible that it will be contended that there were no suitable candidates this year. This argument, however, is plainly an excuse because the candidates during several years when the prize was awarded were no more warranted than those of this year. The most important thing is not to find the absolutely right man but to manifest the ideal of peace which the prize represents and to award it to the one who has worked in its spirit. Such a manifestation would have been of especial significance at a time when a great portion of humanity has fallen back to the stage of barbarism. The Committee, however, thought differently.

It will probably be maintained also that the peace prize was not awarded during the years 1914, 1915 and 1916. However, it should not be forgotten that in 1917 the prize was awarded and then to the International Red Cross. This organization is very much in need of funds today. There are also other organizations working under very difficult economic conditions

for related objectives and which deserved aid.

Humanity, despite all things, is vital and active, and one need not be especially keen to discover its contribution through the individual and through organizations. The Nobel Committee, however, has not desired to look to that side and has thus weakened the real object of its purpose.

Translation.

Source: DAGBLADET (Left)
Editorial of
November 29, 1939.

NO PEACE PRIZE

The Norwegian Nobel Committee made a most regrettable decision yesterday: the peace prize will not be awarded this year. The Committee will give no reasons for this distressingly passive decision. However, the grounds are doubtless anxiety, caution and diplomacy. There is war, and the friends of peace must be careful not to disturb or offend any of those who are fighting.

The reason for not awarding the peace prize certainly cannot have been the impossibility of finding one deserving of it. Many candidates have been proposed, but one was outstanding: Cordell Hull. In an article elsewhere in this paper we explain some of Cordell Hull's special services to international peace.

The very existence of war obligates the friends of peace to fight for their cause. One of the best weapons is the peace prize which the Swede Nobel entrusted to the Norwegian Committee because he trusted that here no irrelevant considerations would be taken. Norway was the first country to take an active part in the work for peace. This tradition carries with it obligations.

The present composition of the Nobel Committee no longer affords an excuse for diplomatic considerations; a Foreign Minister is no longer a member of the Committee which is now free to make its decision. Moreover, the man whose services it would have been right to honor this year belongs to a country which is not at war -- this is a coincidence which removes many objections we would otherwise have heard.

The Norwegian Nobel Committee has lowered the peace flag this year. It consoles us with the fact that next
year

year it may award two peace prizes. One to each of the belligerents, perhaps, in order to be really diplomatic? The negative decision of yesterday is a great disappointment. It shows that the Nobel Committee most certainly needs to be renewed in order to achieve vigourousness and not drown in withered scruples.

File personal

*P. F.
Newman
1*

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1939.

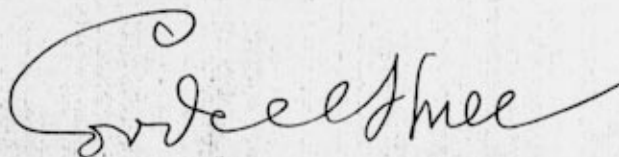
My dear Mr. President:

I cannot thank you in sufficient terms for your letter of the twenty-seventh instant, informing me that for a number of years you have been recommending me for the Nobel Peace Prize. I am everlastingly grateful to you for your generous action in so doing. I shall never forget this fine exhibition of good opinion and good will on your part.

I must earnestly urge that you do not further continue your efforts on my behalf. It is so singularly appropriate that you should receive this recognition that I am very earnestly recommending you to the proper committee at Oslo. Needless to say, it gives me the greatest personal satisfaction to do so.

Again my lasting thanks and my warmest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,



The President,
The White House.

PSF
Norway
1939

December 27, 1939.

Dear Cordell:-

I have been careful for a number of years not to let you know that I have been recommending and re-recommending you for the Nobel Peace Prize. Just for your own family records I think you may care to have copies of my previous letters and of this year's letter to the Nobel Committee.

I do not need to tell you that I hope before I am through this very just and well-earned award will be made to you.

As ever yours,

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

(Enclosures) Letter written to the Nobel Committee under date of January 13, 1938 and memorandum sent to the Committee on January 16, 1939.

December 22, 1939.

Gentlemen:-

It is well known to you that on several previous occasions I have proposed for the Nobel Peace Prize the name of Cordell Hull, Secretary of State of the United States of America.

At this time I have the honor to renew this recommendation.

For nearly seven years Secretary of State Hull has carried on with great consistency his twofold efforts to bring about international relationships, especially among the twenty-one American nations, based on the principle of the good neighbor. That this has been eminently successful throughout this Hemisphere is known to all.

In addition Secretary of State Hull has been consistent in pressing for the lowering of barriers of all kinds against world trade.

It is my thought that both of these principles will play an important part in the ultimate restoration of peace in Europe and in the Far East.

I, therefore, with the utmost sincerity renew to your honorable Committee my suggestion of Mr. Hull for the award of the Nobel Peace Prize.

Faithfully yours,

Nobel Committee
of the Norwegian Parliament,
Drammensvei 19, Oslo.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
FA 093.57N66/368

December 21, 1939

Miss Heffand

My dear Mr. Early:

The Department of State has received from the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament copies of its circular with reference to proposals of candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize for the year 1940 to be distributed among those persons in the United States qualified to propose candidates.

I, therefore, enclose a copy of the circular for the information of the President.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure:

Circular of the
Nobel Committee.

The Honorable

Stephen Early,

Secretary to the President,

The White House.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION (FA
BUREAU (

ENCLOSURE

TO

LETTER DRAFTED

ADDRESSED TO

The Hon. Stephen Early

NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

All proposals of candidates for the Nobel Peace Prize, which is to be distributed December 10th, 1940, must, in order to be taken into consideration, be laid before the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament by a duly qualified person *before the first of February of the same year.*

Any one of the following persons is held to be duly qualified: (a) Members and late members of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, as well as the advisers appointed at the Norwegian Nobel Institute; (b) Members of Parliament and Members of Government of the different States, as well as Members of the Interparliamentary Union; (c) Members of the International Arbitration Court at the Hague; (d) Members of the Council of the International Peace Bureau; (e) Members and Associates of the Institute of International Law; (f) University professors of Political Science and of Law, of History and of Philosophy; and (g) Persons who have received the Nobel Peace Prize.

The Nobel Peace Prize may also be accorded to institutions or associations.

According to the Code of Statutes, § 8, the grounds upon which any proposal is made must be stated and handed in along with such papers and other documents as may therein be referred to.

According to § 3, every written work, to qualify for a prize, must have appeared in print.

For particulars, *qualified persons* are requested to apply to the Office of the Nobel Committee of the Norwegian Parliament, Drammensvei 19, Oslo.
