

Frederick B. Adams - Subject File -

Ellen W. Warren Delano III's

PSF ~~████~~

daughter, married F.B. Adams in 1907.

F. B. ADAMS

25 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

December 20, 1935

My dear Miss LeHand:

May I ask if you would be willing to read this to the President. I would not bother you or him if I did not think it possibly of first importance.

I am probably going to be asked on Monday afternoon to take a place on Secretary Roper's Business Advisory Council. Entirely aside from certain doubts in my own mind as to my qualifications, I am not, as you can imagine, looking for anything more to do.

There is one thing that would decide me. If the President felt I could be of any help to him personally - that it might give him an occasional chance to talk some of these problems out with a well-wisher on whose discretion he could rely, and thereby help, no matter how little, toward a better understanding and feeling between industry and Government, I should be inclined to take the job on, and do my best to be effective. If not, I cannot see any reason for my joining this Council.

Would it be too much to ask you to get me some word by noon on Monday, to 25 Broadway - just YES or NO to indicate how he would feel about it.

Incidentally, my best wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Marguerite LeHand,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

(n) SF Subj File
F.B. Adams
F.B. Adams

PSF: Subj File
F. B. Adams

8 East Fifty ninth Street

Y. H. (2)
New York Feb 9.

Dear Mr. President—

Just a word more about
the railroad situation we discussed last
night.

In talking with Averell Harriman
before leaving Washington this morning
I found his ideas had gone farther than
mine in some respects, and should he
seek an interview it might be worth your
while if you can spare the time to add
his point of view to those you already
have.

Also if you felt like telling him
what was in your mind about railroad
financing this year in general, and the
New York Central situation in particular,
you might find in him not only a

Sympathetic but a potent ally in the furtherance of your ideas as to ~~privately~~ financing through bankers which you expressed to me. You remember the Union Pacific, of which he is Chairman, has a big stake in N.Y. Central Securities.

Also when Lyman Nelson returns next week he is scheduled to take up the Atlantic Coast line refunding with J.P.M. The maturity date is earlier, the amount involved much smaller. There is a chance we may be able to make the issue attractive to investors. If it goes well, it might ^{be} the match that would light the torch for the big issues later. We shall try

Our best to make it do.

Thanks for a wonderful experience
last evening — And — at the risk
of being thought presuming in a field
I don't belong in — beware the visiting
"Jap" we spoke of last night!

Yours faithfully

W. A. Davis

W. A. Davis

file
CAMPBELL ISLAND
NEW BRUNSWICK
CANADA

Saturday Aug 13

[1938]

RSF

F. B. ADAMS

Sub. File

Dear Mr. President —

I am sorry to have been so inarticulate when I came to say good bye at Pensacola. I can only hope you realized that I was deeply moved at having to part company with you, and completely at a loss to know how to express my thanks for having asked me on the Cruise — It was an experience I never dreamed would fall to my lot, and one whose memory I shall cherish the rest of my life —

I found on my arrival here that all had gone well while I was away.

2/
I have had along visit with your mother
who looks and seems very well - The
rest and change have certainly restored
the vigor of mind and spirit that is so
much a part of her. The damp wet
summer of course has not helped any
one's muscles and joints, but after all
that's more or less a minor matter and
one of things we all have to reckon with.
I think she has not yet made up her
mind definitely about the visit to Anna.
She has however decided that if she goes
it will not be by way of St Andrews and
Canada, but that she will probably motor
leisurely home as usual, and then

3/

yet a fresh start and use the new, quick, comfortable trains via Chicago and San Francisco - I must say I believe the trip would be an easier one for her that way.

Jimmy looks like a different man from the one I saw at Johnny and Ann's wedding, and although the matter of this article and the broadcast from Eastport have undoubtedly bothered him, I can see he is relieved to have it back of him, and it seems to me he has done the wise and courageous thing - He has certainly given his friends something to hit back with if occasion arises - but now that

4/
the balloon has been deflated I imagine
that the matter may soon cease to be
of "national interest" — We shall all
try to keep him here as long as we
possibly can, and only hope that people
will not too generally discover his
whereabouts and begin to pester him —
He seems to be holding conscientiously
to his prescribed routine of living and
diet, and to realize the necessity for doing
so. — Betsey is well — Everyone loves
having her with them and she is so
ever thoughtful of others' pleasure and
comfort —

Well, Mr. President, I'll sign off

CAMPOBELLO ISLAND
NEW BRUNSWICK
CANADA

For the time being — Bink and I are
returning tomorrow to New York for
ten days where I must pick up the
loose ends again, — then I hope to
come back for two weeks to complete
my eventful summer —

If there's ever anything I can do
for you either in New York or here I
beg you to let me know — I hope I'll
have a chance to see you again before
too long and that you will believe
me meantime

Yours faithfully
Fred. B. Adams

file
personal

Subj: File

Frederick B. Adams, Jr., 520 East Eighty-sixth Street, New York

PSF
F.B. Adams

WHITE HOUSE
JUL 8 10 27 AM '39
RECEIVED

July 7, 1939

Dear Cousin Franklin:

It was terribly nice of you to write me about Radical Literature. I am having fun making this collection and perhaps repeating your experience with American naval history, because fortunately I don't suffer yet from any expensive competition and I have the fun of explorer and detective combined.

Ruth and I visited Oneida and met a great many of the original children but Mr. Pierrepont Noyes was away. I read his book with much pleasure when it came out.

I rather hoped I would get a chance at Margie Delano's wedding to congratulate you on choosing Mac-eish for Librarian of Congress but the talk was so much Hudson River that I didn't want to interrupt with something less appropriate. I can't see any reason why a man who has written books all his life shouldn't make as good a chief librarian as one who has simply handled them. In Mac-eish's case his Fortune work proved him a good organizer. He has imagination and personality, and he's a good speaker, and those are all important qualifications usually lacking in librarians!

I don't know how accurate Carl Carmer is, but it was news to me to read in his book on the Hudson that Tivoli was originally a planned community.

Affectionately,

Frd.

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

PSF: Suby File - F.B. Adams

Frederick B. Adams, Jr., 520 East Eighty-sixth Street, New York

*file
personal*

September 8, 1939

Dear Cousin Franklin:

I am amazed that you can find time these days to write a letter about stamps. Thank you tremendously for your interest. I expect to increase the revenues of the post office department on the twenty-fifth when the Stephen Day Press stamp comes out. If you ever find time you might enjoy reading an article in the Autumn 1938 issue of the Colophon by George Parker Winship called Facts and Fancies and the Cambridge Press which gives a good idea of what we do know and what we don't know about that pioneer venture.

I'm afraid the celebration of 500 years of printing may run into some opposition from unthinking people because the beginnings were in Germany!

Affectionately yours,

Fred

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

8 East Sixty-ninth Street

New York

Dear Mr. President—

I hope you will
accept this rod with the very best
Christmas wishes I can muster—
I hope you will find it a comfortable
one to handle and that it will bring
you much luck— Bartos felt
that you could fit a rod like this
in among your others to good ad-
vantage at special times, and I
hope his diagnosis is right— We
had fun one morning planning
it out with Abercrombie & Fitch &

I hope you will think all hands
did a good job — At any rate,
good or not, it was born of many
pleasant memories and looks
forward to a thrilling and useful
career —

With best wishes for the New
Year, as well as for a happy
Christmas season believe me

Yours faithfully
Wm. B. Adams

9-1
February 16, 1939.

Dear Fred:

My boy Johnny is going to call on you next week in New York at my suggestion -- and I hope you do not mind.

As you know, he has done an awfully good piece of work at Filene's since last September and from what Mr. Kirstein says he has not only been extremely faithful in his work but he has also got on well with all the people over his and with his fellow neophytes.

John feels, and I think rightly, that there is little future in a place like Filene's and that he has gone as far as he can in learning the lowest part of the business, unless he stays there for another four or five years and gets promoted to more important work in the normal course of things. Therefore, he is looking for suggestions and advice, etc. to what kind of work to go into if he leaves Filene's -- starting, of course, at the bottom but obtaining a wider working education.

He goes to see you merely to get your advice on various kinds of work and I know of no one who can give this to him better than you can.

Awfully sorry to trouble you with it. I am off tonight on what I think will be a trip with very little fishing and very little of interest outside of the purely Naval end of the maneuvers. I shall miss you a lot, as well as Pa and Dan and Ross -- the only other passenger is Admiral Leahy, the Chief of Operations.

- 2 -

Nevertheless, I am taking the wonderful new rod along in case we get a chance to do a little trolling near Santa Domingo or the Virgin Islands.

Affectionately yours,

F. B. ADAMS

ROOM 2012
60 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

March 1, 1939

THE WHITE HOUSE
MAR 2 11 46 AM '39
RECEIVED

Dear Mr. President:

A few days after receiving your letter Betsey called up to say that Johnny and Ann were coming to spend Monday night with her in New York and could Johnny see me then. Ellen asked all three to dine with us so we had a good visit with them, and after dinner Johnny and I discussed careers.

You know I have always liked Johnny - he has good common sense as well as the ability to enjoy all the good times that come his way; and we had a first-rate talk.

We agreed it was going to be more and more important for a young man to choose the line of work that most held his interest rather than the one that offered perhaps the greatest monetary rewards, because as time went on increasing tax burdens and greater restrictions would tend to diminish the old-time large rewards. In other words we felt that the successful businessman of the future would probably be the one who got more satisfaction out of building up something new and absorbing and constructive and decently profitable than out of building up a great fortune. Following this line of thought Johnny told me he had made up his mind that the thing in business that would interest him most would be the manufacture and distribution of some important article or commodity.

I then mentioned a development that had been under discussion for some months that if arrangements regarding it were brought to a successful conclusion would mean putting to a new and countrywide use an important article that had already proved its value in another field. The man who would undertake this development is already the head of a large business enterprise and is known favorably to you and to myself. I mentioned his name to Johnny and it seems that he had met him on one or two occasions casually and was attracted by him. Johnny seemed to think that this was the type of thing that might interest him very much to get into at the start and grow up with, if the arrangements for developing it were consummated; and I told him I would let him know, possibly within two or three weeks, whether the plans would be carried out.

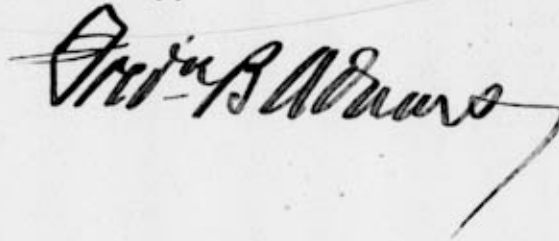
Johnny said he would like to explore this particular matter on his own initiative without any help from anybody, once I told him they were going ahead, and said he would like to get in touch with the man in question himself, relying on his own acquaintance with him. This attitude on Johnny's part I liked and can understand, but of course I

told him I would go to the bat for him if he felt at any time it would help. If this development fails to materialize no harm will be done and we shall try and think up something else; but it seems to me that this type of undertaking is the one for a young man to get into if he can do so, rather than go to work for a big established organization like Filene's or the U.S. Steel Corporation.

I am spending tomorrow and next day in Washington with your new Secretary of Commerce at meetings of the Business Advisory Council and am looking forward to my visit with a good deal of interest.

I have read the dispatches from the HOUSTON in the papers and have visualized your life aboard ship. This trip must have had a special appeal for you and I hope it is returning you to Washington full of health and vigor.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George B. Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

F. B. ADAMS

ROOM 2012

60 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK

3
June 7, 1939

Dear Mr. President:

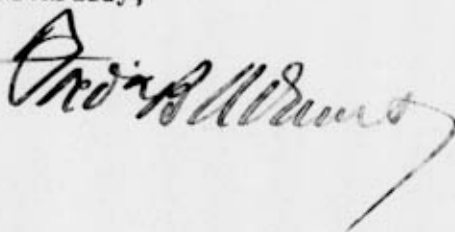
Again I am grateful to you for sending me the Smithsonian pamphlet giving further details of discoveries of flowering plants on the Presidential cruise last summer. Yesterday Dr. Schmitt was thoughtful enough to send me a description of the palm which I remember he discovered on Cocos Island, and which he told me at the time he was going to name in your honor if it turned out to be the rarity that he expected. I was interested too this morning in the notices which our papers here had of the new discovery.

It was with less satisfaction, however, that I read yesterday of the churlish action of the House in defeating the Bill for the Library at Hyde Park. While I have no doubt they will reconsider their decision and make it possible for you to carry out your plan, it must take some of the pleasure out of doing things like that to have your motives distorted and misinterpreted.

Needless to say, Ellen and I are looking forward to at least catching a glimpse of you tomorrow night at your reception for the Royal visitors. It was most considerate of you and Eleanor to include us among the guests.

Yours faithfully,

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.



PST Subj File

F. B. Adams

8 East Sixty-ninth Street

Grand 3

file
Adams

New York Feb 12
[1941?]

Dear Mr. President—

I'm sure I have
you to thank for the new set
of Smithsonian pamphlets relating
to more discoveries made on the
eventful "Houston" voyage of
1938.

As this is the only scientific
expedition with which I shall
ever be identified you may be
sure that I shall keep securely
all my memorabilia about it,

and am glad through your
thoughtfulness to be able to
add to my Collection -

We were terribly sorry that
Young Laura's sudden and tedious
attack of the flu prevented our
coming to you at the White House
for the week-end - It was a
great disappointment to us all -

I hope the Coid that the
Paper says you have been
threatened with will not materialize.
I know it will not if Rossi
still can prevent it. Too much

depends now on your strong
mind and body to take any
chances with it—

This takes you all the
encouragement & support we
can wish you at this time of
crisis—

Yours faithfully,
Wm. A. Adams

November 12, 1943

Dear Cousin Franklin:

It was a great joy to receive your "thriller of years ago", and to think that you may have written the inscription when you already knew what the Moscow conference had accomplished, but before the great news was broadcast. I spent yesterday trying to get four engineers to agree on a new design to meet an immediate production requirement, and the experience made me marvel all the more at the clear definition of the agreements made with Russia!

The Revolutionary fifth column was a mighty serious problem, even though in your documents only one seems to have been guilty enough to lose his commission. Troublesome as they were, I imagine you would often be willing to trade Mr. Lewis for a few of these 18th Century monkey-wrenches.

I am enclosing the second installment of my amateur FDR bibliographical study. Miss Suckley and the books in your room at the Hyde Park Library were tremendously helpful. When the peace is won, and you have a little more time for avocations, I'll get to work on installment number three and hope to do a more complete job, with your advice in some of the tough spots.

Affectionately,

Fred

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

#83
young
P.K. in
packed
to Adams
sent 12/28
What
down?
attached.
M-

Mr. Roosevelt Continues, as

President and Author. By

Frederick B. Adams, Jr. Bibliog.

Soc. of Am. 1943. [a separate]

Placed in library.

BF-Subj File

~~Y. B. Adams~~

3-44

F. B. Adams

December 28, 1944.

Dear Fred:-

That is a mighty nice note of yours and I was proud to think, as I travelled on the Coast Line on the way north, that you were Chairman of the Board.

I had a grand time at Warm Springs though the weather was terribly cold.

I am up to my neck in these foreign developments and expect to take a trip soon! I do wish you could go along too.

Ellen
Love to Eleanor and Binky. I do hope you can come down early in the New Year and let me tell you in person how really glad I am that you took the Chairmanship.

With every best wish of the Christmas Season to all of you,

Affectionately,

"F. B. R."

Frederick B. Adams, Esq.,
Chairman of the Board,
Atlantic Coast Line Railroad Company,
71 Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

O
P
Y

ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD COMPANY
71 Broadway,
New York 6

F. B. Adams
Chairman

Dec. 19th, 1944

Dear Mr. President:

You may well believe I got a big lift from the news that reached me first thing this morning of your safe arrival in Washington. You had been constantly in my mind since you began your journey from Warm Springs, and though I knew you would get the best possible care from everyone on the line it was a relief, just the same, to know all had gone well.

Laura told you I had taken on the Chairmanships of the two railroad boards. They wore me down until my alibis were exhausted and when I realized what you were willing to undertake for the next four years I was just ashamed to duck it - And now I'm in for it, I'm going to do a job.

This takes you my best Christmas wishes and fond hopes for health and every possible success in the New Year.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) FREDRK. B. ADAMS

ATLANTIC COAST LINE RAILROAD COMPANY.

71 BROADWAY

F. B. ADAMS
CHAIRMAN

NEW YORK 6, Dec. 19th 1944

Dear Mr. President

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Yours faithfully,
Fred B. Adams