

PSF

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY

PSF

Box 

149

Subject File "F"

70-100
Security
Folder

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Feb. 8, 1941

FROM: The Secretary of War
The Secretary of the Navy
The Federal Security Administrator

SUBJECT: Outline of respective responsibilities of the War Dept., the Navy Dept., and the Federal Security Agency in connection with Leisure-Time activities for Military and Naval Personnel.

SEE: War Dept. Folder - Drawer 2 for original memorandum.

PSF

Fed. Sec. - 241
March 14. 1941

P. O. BOX 38
HYDE PARK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

JLH

Dear Franklin,
minority member Social Security Board

Thanks were so much for
you letter of March 12th. I
see the points perfectly.

It will be hard to beat
Pigge. I do wish that he
could be persuaded to stay
on!

Ever yours

Bernard Morgan

PSF Fed. Security Agency

March 12, 1941

Dear Gerald:

I do appreciate your letter about Mr. Williamson particularly since I had great difficulty at the time Mr. Bigge was appointed in finding a person who was both a member of the minority party and also familiar with the social security field.

The only difficulty is, however, that we have trouble in getting highly trained experts such as Mr. Williamson to come into the Government service. Under the circumstances, therefore, there is some question in my mind as to whether I should shift a man from a highly technical position in which he has proved himself proficient to an entirely different sort of position where he cannot make full use of his expertness, but is obliged to become familiar with a whole range of problems and many times make adjustments for inevitable differences of opinion.

As ever yours,

Republican member
Social Security Board

Feb 25. 1941

P. O. BOX 38
HYDE PARK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

audited
3/14/41
Dear Franklin,

I wonder whether even a longish letter about the appointment which I mentioned to you on Sunday might not after all be less bother to you than for me to talk to you about it, at least at present.

Albert Hinton wrote to me a few weeks ago to say that Digge might resign next summer to go back to teaching, and asked me whether I did not think that in that case H. R. Williamson, the Chief Actuary of The Board,

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HYDE PARK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

Would qualify very well for the position. Linton knew that I was an intimate friend of Williamson.

Williamson is in fact thoroughly qualified. Williamson told me that when Winant resigned, Winant and Arthur Betmeyer favored his appointment, but that Miles wouldn't have it, on the ground that Williamson was not sufficiently liberal. All I can say is, that I have found Williamson exceedingly liberal.

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P. O. BOX 38
HYDE PARK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

Albert Linton is president of
The Provident Mutual Life Insurance
Co. of Philadelphia. He is an actuary
himself. He is an organization Republican.
He is not without influence both
in business and politics, but my
guess is that his interest in
Williamson is purely a friendly
one, just as mine is.

I don't know how Arthur
Meyer feels about all this.
I haven't said a word about it
to anybody except to Williamson
himself. I had to speak to
Williamson because I wasn't

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HYDE PARK
DUTCHESS COUNTY
NEW YORK

Sure That he would be willing
in his family circumstances to
give up his civil service status.
I really am intimate with him.
I never bother you with this
sort of thing, but this man has
been kindness itself to me from
the very beginning four years ago.

I ought to add that I
know Biggs quite well too, and
that I have the highest possible
opinion of him.

Ever yours Gerald Morgan

P.S. I hope you had a grand
holiday here. I'll never spoil a
minute of my holidays
Ym.

FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD
WASHINGTON

ARTHUR J. ALTMAYER, CHAIRMAN
ELLEN S. WOODWARD
GEORGE E. BIGGE

March 6, 1941

Memorandum for the President

From Mr. Altmeyer

Subject: Gerald Morgan's Letter Suggesting Mr. W.R. Williamson
to Succeed Commissioner Bigge

Mr. Bigge, the present Republican member on the Board, is planning on returning to his post with Brown University upon the expiration of his term next August. I believe that Mr. Morgan is correct in his belief that Mr. Williamson, the Chief Actuary of the Social Security Board, could qualify as a Republican. There is no question as to Mr. Williamson's high qualifications as an actuary and his sincere interest in the social security program. However, because of his highly specialized training he might find it difficult to serve as a member of a Board where it is necessary to develop perspective on a whole range of problems and to compose differences of opinion. I would suggest that you write Mr. Morgan somewhat as follows:

"I have your letter of February 25 relative to the possibility of appointing W. R. Williamson, the Chief Actuary of the Social Security Board, to succeed Commissioner Bigge. I certainly appreciate your suggestion since I had great difficulty at the time Mr. Bigge was appointed in finding a person who was both a member of the minority party and also familiar with the social security field.

"However, we also have trouble in getting highly trained experts such as Mr. Williamson to come into the Government service. Therefore, there is some question in my mind as to whether I should shift a man from a highly technical position in which he has proved himself proficient to an entirely different sort of position where he cannot make full use of his expertness, but is obliged to become familiar with a whole range of problems and many times make adjustments for inevitable differences of opinion."

Enclosure

Fed Security
2-41

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1941

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. ARTHUR ALTMAYER

What do you think I can
tell Gerald Morgan about this? It
is, of course, wholly a personal
letter and nothing should be said
about it.

F. D. R./tmb

Enclosure

Let to the President from Gerald Morgan,
P. O. Box 38, Hyde Park, New York 2/25/41
re the Republican member of the Social
Security Board. Says Albert Linton wrote
him that Bigge (George E.) might resign in
the fall to go back to teaching and asking
if W. R. Williamson, Actuarial Consultant
might not qualify. Morgan says Williamson
is a liberal but that when Winant resigned
Winant and Altmeyer favored Williamson's

appt. but Vincent Miles objected on grounds
that Williamson was not sufficiently
liberal. Says Williamson is willing to
be appt. Williamson formerly counsel for
the left to go back to government and working
with these people (people E.) which led to
political power. Says Vincent Miles alone
is the representative member of the society
E. C. Box 26, 11400 Park, New York 25, N.Y.
let to the President from George H. W. Bush

Enclosure

E. D. H. / JEP

Page 12

Letter and meeting should be with
us of course, mostly a Belmont
with George H. W. Bush and
let to the President from George H. W. Bush

Now, Vincent Williamson

Williamson Box

Williamson & Williamson

Page 1, 1941

Williamson
The White House

• Nf Eng. 397

PSF: Federal Security Agency, ~~Sec~~
U. S. NAVAL COMMUNICATION SERVICE 2-41 ✓
SRS

FROM: THE PRESIDENT
TO: FEDERAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR

28 MARCH 1941

FOR PAUL V MCNUTT CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION EARLY IN MAY IS
APPROVED ROOSEVELT

THE FEDERAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1941

THE WHITE HOUSE

MAR 26 8 52 AM '41

RECEIVED

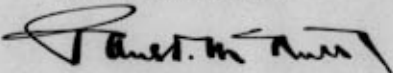
My dear Mr. President:

Among the several responsibilities you have given me as Coordinator, I have been impressed by the primary importance of developing a national program for nutrition. A competent Advisory Committee has been working on this problem for several months and has submitted a recommendation for a national nutrition conference which we hope you may approve of holding early in May. A copy of this recommendation is enclosed.

As Dr. Parran told you during his conference recently, the various groups working on nutrition, including the formal committees considering the defense aspects of nutrition, representatives of labor, industry, agriculture, and the professions have all agreed that a national conference on nutrition now would be a valuable contribution to our national defense effort. We are impressed especially with its timeliness in relation to our own defense program and the plans being worked out for food aid to Great Britain.

Before proceeding further with discussions and plans for a conference, I should very much appreciate your approval and your indication of a date which would be acceptable to you.

Very cordially yours,



Paul V. McNutt

The President
The White House

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
DIRECTOR OF EXTENSION WORK
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 19, 1941

Paul V. McNutt, Administrator
Federal Security Agency
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McNutt:

The Advisory Committee on Nutrition to the Coordinator of Health, Welfare, and Related Activities, held a meeting on March 14 in which the necessity of a national conference on nutrition was fully discussed. The Committee discussed the great importance of nutrition in relation to total defense. It was their judgment that the health and vitality of the entire population can be perceptibly improved by and through a truly national nutrition program. The status and experience of the nutrition program in the countries at war give positive evidence of the tremendous importance of nutrition at this time. The preliminary work has been done by State Nutrition Committees and by the various organizations within the Federal Government having to do with nutrition, and the way has been paved for the development of a national nutrition program in such a manner as to be national in scope and to be representative in, and coordinate with, the important defense activity in the present emergency.

The following motion was unanimously adopted by the Committee:

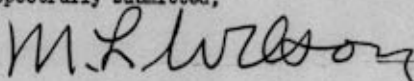
"That the Advisory Committee on Nutrition recommend that a national nutrition conference be called by the President as soon as possible, and approve the general outline attached herewith, with the understanding that the details will be worked out later."

The Committee discussed the tentative outline for the program and general organization of such a conference. It was largely our thought that the conference be organized on the basis of invited delegates and that between four and five hundred invitations be extended to individuals widely scattered throughout the United States. It was also the opinion of the Committee that the conference should be held in May and that because of the organization work which has been done by the State Nutrition Committees and by the educational and administrative organizations concerned with nutrition, it will be possible to have a satisfactory national conference on reasonably short notice.

- 2 -

We trust that these recommendations will meet with your approval and we assure you that the Advisory Committee stands ready to give full service and support to the development and organization of such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. L. Wilson", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

M. L. Wilson, Chairman
Advisory Committee on Nutrition

Att.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION FOR DEFENSE

Objectives.

1. To report on the present status of human nutrition in the United States, and its relation to defense through effects on the health, efficiency, and morale of the population.
2. To relate the improvement of our nutrition problems to national policy.
3. To make recommendations to the President regarding principles and policies so that definite efforts to improve the national nutrition will be made at community, state and national levels as an essential part of the present emergency, and a part of a continuing national health and welfare program.

The entire program should be built around the idea that better nutrition will contribute to a stronger America, and the Conference must result in a program which will bring about improved nutrition on a national scale.

General Organization.

1. Conference to be called by the President under the sponsorship of the Federal Security Agency, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labor, and other Government agencies.
2. Public General Sessions to present and discuss the problems.
3. Section groups of invited persons to consider the problems and prepare recommendations to the President.
4. Invitations to section groups to be sent to representatives of both professional and lay groups interested in nutrition problems and means of correcting them.
5. Conference to run three days.

PROGRAM FOR
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION FOR DEFENSE

FIRST DAY

Morning - Public Session.

Statement of the Problems.

I. Keynote by Federal Coordinator Paul V. McNutt:

Background of the Conference - Relationship to human
needs and to total defense - statement of objectives.

II. Symposium: What are the special nutrition problems and the present
nutritional deficiencies of the American population?

- A. Physical Defects related to Malnutrition as shown
by Selective Service analyses (Osborn - Rountree)
- B. Nutrition problems of workers in defense industries
(Boudreau)
- C. Nutrition deficiencies in the general population
(McLester - Wilder)

Afternoon Session.

Section meetings.

Evening Session.

Address by President Roosevelt

SECOND DAY

Morning Session.

Section meetings.

Afternoon Session - Public Session.

Statement of National Policy and its implications to nutrition.

- I. Food Production and Agricultural Policies in relation to Nutrition and Defense. (Wallace - Wickard)
- II. Food Needs of the Democracies and the United States Policy of Assistance (Berle)
- III. Consumer Policies as they relate to better nutrition. (Elliott)
- IV. United Action for a Stronger America. (To be selected)

THIRD DAY

Morning - Public Session.

- I. What Federal and State Governments have contributed to better nutrition. Introduction of section chairmen; why chairmen were assigned certain tasks. (M. L. Wilson)
- II. Reports of Section Chairmen (20 minutes each)

Afternoon - Public Session.

- I. Reports of Section Chairmen - continued.
- II. Urgent next steps; presentation of the united report of the Conference (Coy - Taft - Parran)
- III. Comments by professional, civic, welfare and health leaders. (5 minutes each)
- IV. Conclusion of the Conference. The Place of Nutrition in the Coordinated Activities of the Government. (McNutt)

SECTIONS OF THE
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION FOR DEFENSE

- Section I. Nutrition standards and the need for research.
- Section II. The economic and social aspects of nutrition.
- Section III. Public Health and medical aspects of nutrition, with
 special reference to the needs of women and children.
- Section IV. Nutrition of the worker in defense industries.
- Section V. Methods of popular education in nutrition.
- Section VI. Professional education in nutrition.
- Section VII. Distribution and processing of foods; consumer problems.
- Section VIII. Government regulation and control as related to problems
 of the food industries and trades.