

UNITED NATIONS MONETARY AND FINANCIAL CONFERENCE

July 17, 1944

Mr. Ganson Purcell, Chairman  
Securities & Exchange Commission  
18th & Locust Streets  
Philadelphia 3, Pa.

Dear Ganson:

It was decided this morning that the Conference which was scheduled to adjourn on Wednesday should be continued until Saturday. This decision, I understand, was largely predicated upon the burden of work carried by the Drafting Committee and the fact that many of the members of the delegations had been required to put in extremely long night work to prepare material for committee meetings. It is, therefore, a real relief to those of us who have been thus engaged. The postponement, however, is not so far as I am aware necessitated by any material disagreements on either the Fund or the Bank. The matters which have been at issue on the latter proposal have been discussed at our ad hoc committee and we were prepared today to submit drafts which I believe would have been entirely acceptable to the other delegations.

The Fund was pretty well cleared up at the meeting of Commission I on Saturday. The provisions with respect to the operation of the Bank which have been under debate have, as I believe I indicated in my previous letter, been settled in a compromise fashion. I believe that the institution when it is set up along these lines will be entirely acceptable to bankers and in accordance with their ideas.

I twitted Lord Keynes on this point yesterday and he admitted that he had been persuaded at least to some length by his banking advisers. As he said, if this Bank is a success there is no reason why its capital could not be increased or a new bank set up to encompass the purposes which we originally had in mind with respect to long-term trends in international investment.

I think that one of the first things that I would like to do upon returning would be to go over the Stabilization Fund and the Bank and to mark out those provisions in which the Commission would have the most direct interest and as to which it should be of most service. I should also like to discuss the draft agreements with the Commission if you think they would be interested.

My relations with the representatives of other departments, our delegates and the delegations of other countries continue to be very harmonious and I have had frequent opportunity to explain some of the technical and difficult provisions to them as well as to press representatives.

Sincerely,

Walter C. Louchheim, Jr.  
Assistant Director