

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

ELEVEN WALL STREET

JOHN HASKELL
VICE PRESIDENT

September 3, 1947.

Hon. James J. Caffrey
On Board S.S. Queen Elizabeth
Cabin M 121
New York, New York.

Dear Jim:

I have just heard from Mr. McAdams that you would like to have the names of the people in London who are most qualified from a policy or technical point of view in the management of the London Stock Exchange. I am taking this opportunity to give you the names of these people and also to provide you with copies of some recent reports that the staff of the Exchange has made to its Board of Governors with respect to the development of private American finance overseas. These papers are as follows:-

1. My report of July 8, 1946.
2. My memorandum of September 27, 1946, with respect to revision of the listing requirements, and a copy of the revised provisional listing requirements for foreign shares as adopted by our Board on October 3, 1946.

Also enclosed is a copy of a memorandum which I sent to the London Stock Exchange recently, commenting on the very negative attitude of the British Treasury and Bank of England, with respect to encouraging American private investment by way of American purchases of British investment equity securities.

I do not know whether or not, under present conditions, American private investment capital could be expected to flow into Britain and other foreign areas; but I do feel that, even if such development were to occur in the future, there are many complications in the way of exchange controls, different security laws, differences in language, customs and accounting, which would have to be overcome. I believe that they can be overcome, if the problem is approached with an open mind on all sides. For example, in view of Britain's new securities legislation, could not reciprocal securities treaties between U.S. and U.K. be worked out, based on respect for each country's own securities legislation, much on the same principle that reciprocal taxation treaties have been evolved?

The Chairman of the London Stock Exchange is Mr. H. L. Urling Clark, a very able man, who was a member of the Cohen Committee for the revision of the British Companies Act. The Exchange staff member whom we have found most helpful and informed is Mr.

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A. F. B. Cooke, Secretary of the Share & Loan Department. We expect to invite these gentlemen to visit the New York Stock Exchange this fall.

The President of the Exchange in Amsterdam, Lt. Colonel Carel F. Overhoff, is the man to be certain to see. He speaks English quite well and is fully up-to-date on all Exchange matters.

In Brussels, the President of the Exchange is Mr. Theunis and the Treasurer, who was here recently, is Mr. Etienne Biernaux.

Should you go to Paris, you will find Mr. Marc Desache, the President of the official Paris market, fully informed and very helpful.

I hope you will have a chance to read over this material before you reach London and that some of it, at least, may be helpful to you.

Sincerely yours,


John Haskell.