

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY
NEW YORK

B. A. TOMPKINS
ASST. SECRETARY

January 14, 1919.

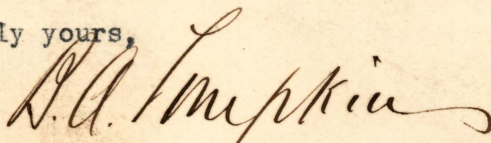
Dear Governor Stokes:

I don't know whether a letter from a former employee of yours will mean anything to you or not. But during the course of your speech last evening I felt a certain pride in the recollection that at one time I had had the privilege of working with you. While all of the men at my table were mighty enthusiastic about the things you had to say, I felt that I was championing an old hero and one from whom I myself had received an early training.

At any rate let me congratulate you on your address. You said some things that we have all been anxious to hear and in a way that carried conviction.

With best personal wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



Mr. Edward C. Stokes,
President Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

PROPERTY OF
MIKE RAY

DATE _____



CORN EXCHANGE
NATIONAL BANK

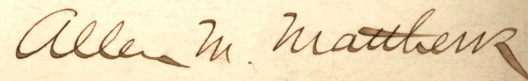
PHILADELPHIA January 14, 1919

My dear Governor:

I cannot help writing you just a line in reference to your talk last evening. It was wonderful. I think the best among the many great talks I have heard you give and there is no doubt in my mind but that it will have a decided effect upon the opinions of those who heard you. I, myself, am particularly glad that I had the opportunity.

With very kind personal regards

Very sincerely yours,



Hon. E. C. Stokes
Mechanics National Bank
Trenton, N. J.

January 14, 1919.

My dear Mr. Stokes:

I cannot refrain from writing you just a few lines to congratulate you upon the remarkable speech which you made at the banquet of Group 8 of the New York State Bankers' Association last evening. Your words were wonderfully inspiring, and I am confident that your expressions and the principles outlined in your speech met with the approval of the audience. Personally, I thoroughly enjoyed it.

With kindest regards, believe me to be

Very sincerely yours,

A. County.

E. C. Stokes, Esq.,
c/o Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, N. J.



Newark, New Jersey,
January 16, 1919.

My dear Governor Stokes:

Just a note to tell you how thoroughly I enjoyed your splendid address to the bankers in New York last Monday evening. I have heard you speak many times, and always well, but I have never heard you deliver a finer address than upon that occasion.

I had intended to write to you the next day to offer you my sincere congratulations, as I do now, but I am glad that I did not as since the dinner I have met in New York a number of men who were at the banquet and, without exception, they spoke in the highest praise of your talk. You made a great impression.

Trusting that if you are in this vicinity you will give us the privilege of seeing you,

Believe me to be,

Cordially yours,

Wm. H. Sydney

Hon. Edward C. Stokes,
Trenton, N. J.

4.
E. C. BROWN,
52 VANDERBILT AVENUE,
NEW YORK

January 14, 1919.

Honorable E.C. Stokes,
New Jersey.

My dear Sir:

As one of the guests at last evening's Bankers dinner, I was very much pleased and instructed by your very scholarly address.

I was disappointed not to find in today's papers a more extended account of your address than I was able to discover recorded therein.

I believe you spoke without preparatory notes, nor do I believe your speech had been memorized - it seemed to me altogether too natural for that - but it occurs to me that possibly your remarks may have been taken down stenographically and later on they may be put in printed form. In that case I should be very much pleased if your courtesy permits you to favor me with a copy.

Congratulating you on the able and convincing alinement of conditions which you expressed, believe me

Very truly yours,

E. C. Brown

New York State Bankers Association

GROUP VIII

GATES W. MCGARRAH, CHAIRMAN.
HERBERT P. HOWELL, SECY AND TREAS.
31 NASSAU STREET.

New York January 14, 1919

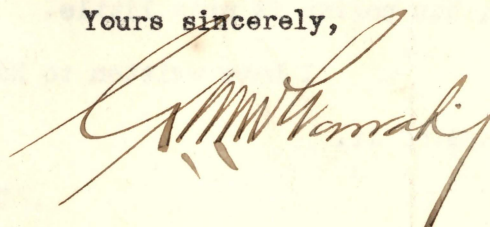
My dear Governor:-

Without any disposition to 'throw bouquets' and with a busy day ahead of me, I just want to tell you that your speech was the speech of the evening and everyone said so.

I want to thank you again for your great kindness in coming over because I know it was made at a sacrifice of a good deal of comfort. I sincerely hope that your cold is better and that you found some enjoyment in the evening.

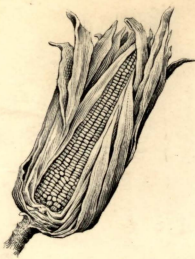
With kind regards, I am

Yours sincerely,



Hon. E. C. Stokes,
c/o Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

P.S. I have had several inquiries this morning as to whether your speech was in such form that it could be published. I have not been able to answer the question, but hope that it is and we may be favored with the manuscript.



CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK

CHAS. S. CALWELL, PRESIDENT
M. N. WILLITS, JR., VICE PRESIDENT
THOS. J. JEFFRIES, VICE PRESIDENT
NEWTON W. CORSON, CASHIER
ALLEN M. MATTHEWS, ASST. CASHIER
ALBERT N. HOGG, ASST. CASHIER

PHILADELPHIA January 14, 1919.

Hon. E. C. Stokes,

Mechanics National Bank,

Trenton, N. J.

My dear Governor:-

I was very sorry not to be able to be in New York last night. I fully intended going to the Banquet, but owing to the fact that my little boy broke his arm it was impossible for me to get away.

Mr. Matthews tells me that he heard one of the finest talks from you that he ever heard in his life. You certainly had a great opportunity to give such an address as you did.

With kind personal regards and best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

M. N. Willits

MINW-V

CAPITAL \$ 11,250,000

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

SURPLUS \$ 11,250,000

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**BANKERS TRUST
COMPANY**

16 WALL STREET

— AND —

5TH AVENUE AND 42ND STREET

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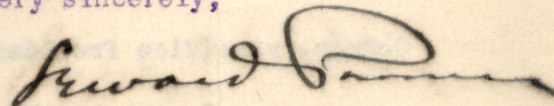
16 WALL STREET

NEW YORK January 14, 1919.

My dear Governor Stokes:

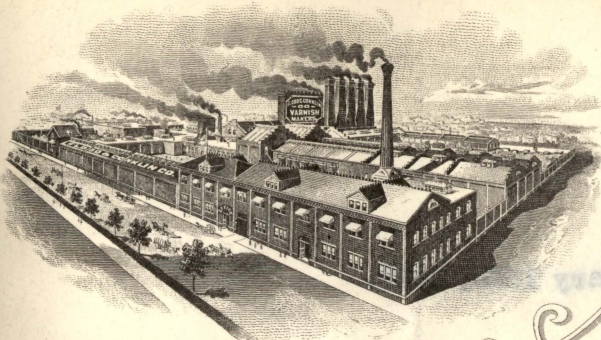
Last evening I was at the Bankers' Dinner where you spoke, and I want to take this early occasion to say to you that I think you sounded a keynote of the future as it applied to business. It was a courageous, sound talk and I was mighty glad to hear it. I wonder if your speech is in such shape that you could let me have a copy of it? If you could, I would very much appreciate it.

Yours very sincerely,



Gov. E. C. Stokes,
c/o Mechanics' National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

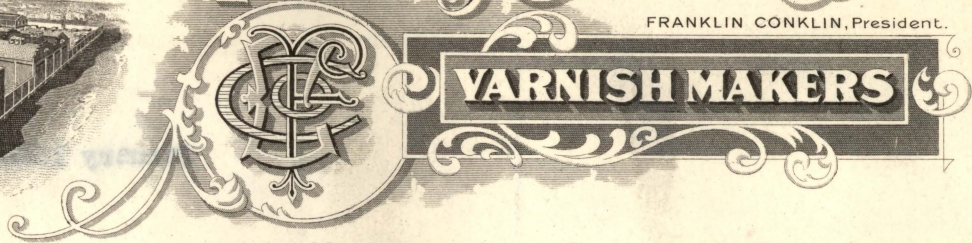
A.



106-138 CHESTNUT ST.

Flood & Conklin Co.

FRANKLIN CONKLIN, President.



VARNISHES OF SCIENTIFIC RELIABILITY

NEWARK, N.J. Jan 14th 1919

Hon E C Stokes
Trenton N J

My dear Mr Stokes:

I consider myself fortunate to have been at the Bankers' dinner last night, as it gave me the privilege of hearing your (what seemed to me inspired) speech. The soundness of your attitude impressed me so deeply that I am taking the liberty of trespassing upon a long but slight acquaintance with you, to ask if there is any way I can obtain a copy of your speech. I will gladly pay the expense necessary, and consider it an honor to add it to a collection of speeches that I treasure very highly.

Very truly yours,

Franklin Conklin

EDWARD D. DUFFIELD
VICE PRESIDENT AND ASSOCIATE GENERAL COUNSEL

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY
OF AMERICA
HOME OFFICE, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

January 15, 1919.

Hon. Edward C. Stokes,
Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

Dear Governor:

I am wondering whether you really realize what a remarkably able speech you delivered at the Bankers' Dinner on Monday last.

I have, of course, heard you frequently and always with pleasure, but I think I never heard you deliver anything that was as good as what you said then. My only regret, and it is a lasting one, is that it was not delivered in the United States Senate for it certainly was entitled to the broadest possible audience.

With kind regards and congratulations,

Sincerely yours,

Edward Duffield

JAMES W. RUSLING

REAL ESTATE

MORTGAGES

OFFICES: 224 E. STATE ST.

P. O. Box 224

BELL PHONE 413

TRENTON, N. J. Jan. 15, 1919.

Hon. E. C. Stokes,
Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, N. J.

Dear Governor:

I have read your speech in New York with a great deal of pleasure. It well deserves the publicity given to it and I am sure it will do a lot of good.

Should you desire any information for speeches on the results of Government ownership in foreign countries, I would suggest you write to the Clerk of the Joint Committee on Interstate Commerce, Washington, D. C. for the History of Government Ownership of Railroads in Foreign Countries by Mr. Acworth, the English expert. This is a public document and can be obtained gratuitously. It is the strongest argument I have yet seen against Government ownership. The articles do not deal in theories but give quotations *from official reports* on the results of Government ownership, which are indisputable proof of conditions.

Mr. Acworth is such an authority on the subject that when the Interstate Commerce Commission heard he was in this country they called a special meeting just to hear his views and devoted practically three days to hearing him.

Trusting that you may find this document useful, I am

Yours very truly,

James W. Rusling



THE American Bankers Association

FIVE NASSAU STREET

NEW YORK

January 16th, 1919.

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ROBERT F. MADDOX, President Atlanta National Bank, Atlanta, Ga.

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RICHARD S. HAWES, Vice-President Third National Bank, St. Louis, Mo.

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GENERAL COUNSEL
THOMAS B. PATON, Five Nassau Street, New York City

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WILLIAM G. FITZWILSON, Five Nassau Street, New York City

MANAGER PROTECTIVE DEPARTMENT
L. W. GAMMON, Five Nassau Street, New York City

EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL
GEORGE LEWIS, Five Nassau Street, New York City

CABLE ADDRESS
"ABAN"

PERSONAL.

Hon. E. C. Stokes,
President - Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

Dear Mr. Stokes:

I want to congratulate you on your magnificent address at the New York Bankers Banquet on Monday evening. This is a time for a statement of plain facts and a warning not only to Washington but to the people of the country. I am a pessimist in this respect and believe with you that we are confronting great trouble in this important and radical action as taken to check socialism in its various phases. It is good to hear one speak who has the courage of his convictions and is not afraid to express them.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

F. E. Farnsworth
General Secretary.

FEF:LB.

Fidelity Trust Company

Wyal H. Mc Carter
President

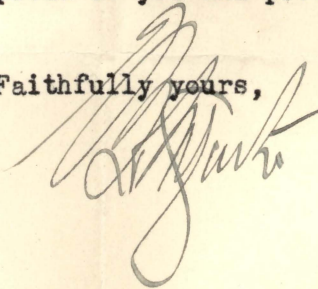
Newark, N. J. January seventeenth,
Nineteen hundred nineteen.

My dear Governor:-

I have been intending to write to you ever since the dinner the other night, to congratulate you upon what I believe to be the best speech you ever made, or at least the best public speech I ever heard you make. You certainly received an ovation from your audience and, following as it did, the prosy address of the Secretary of the Treasury, to whom you were most kind in your reference.

Your speech shown out with singular brightness, force and energy, and I was proud of you and proud of the state that produced you.

Faithfully yours,



Hon. E. C. Stokes,
c/o Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, N. J.

THE MECHANICS & METALS NATIONAL BANK
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

20 NASSAU STREET

CAPITAL
\$ 6,000,000
SURPLUS AND PROFITS
\$ 9,000,000

HARRY H. POND
VICE PRESIDENT

NEW YORK

January 17, 1919

Dear Mr. Stokes,

Referring to your letter of the 15th instant, I take pleasure in enclosing a menu. A list of guests is not at hand but I will try to secure one for you and send it later.

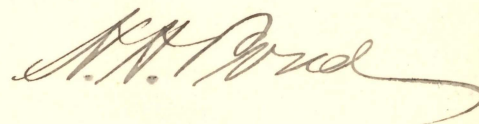
Concerning the printing of your speech, Mr. McGarrah has sent you a copy for correction and approval, so I presume you have received it ere this.

The loss of your automobile was indeed a severe one and I am very sorry for you. I am glad, however, that you were not in the car when the accident occurred.

Your speech was by far the speech of the evening, and I have heard a great many enthusiastically favorable comments. Your statements were presented in such a forceful manner that your audience drank in every word with rapt attention. The close attention paid was very noticeable.

Assuring you of my appreciation of your kindness in speaking, I am,

Very truly yours,



Hon. E. C. Stokes
c/o Mechanics National Bank
Trenton, New Jersey

Encl.

143 LIBERTY ST.
NEW YORK.

January 18, 1919.

Dear Mr. Stokes:-

I have your letter, and you have made no mistake in writing to me as coming within the category of one of your best friends, and one who will not hesitate at any time to tell you when he disagrees with you in thought or action.

I had quite a talk immediately after the Dinner with Mr. McGarrah, and said to him that you had unquestionably given us the speech of the evening, and its reception by the audience, as compared with that given by Secretary Glass, was one upon which everyone in the vicinity of the table where I sat was commenting and chuckling about. Mr. McGarrah's remark was, "I knew that he would strike out from the shoulder".

I subsequently met Mr. McGarrah again, and he told me that he had received many requests for a copy of the paper, and also suggestion that it be published.

A peculiar coincidence, in this connection, was that the following day I had a meeting with Mr. George F. Baker at the First National Bank. President Hine and myself were talking, when Mr. Baker came in, and reference was made to the speech of the previous evening, and Mr. Baker remarked that he had never heard you before, and had no idea that you were able to make such a speech, and that he had said to McGarrah that it should be published in pamphlet form, and also sent to all of the principal newspapers throughout the country, as it was the kind of material that the country needed, and should have the benefit of.

Coming from such a source as Mr. George F. Baker, I can readily understand why Mr. McGarrah is getting busy on the job, especially when similar request has been made by so large a number of other men whose standing in the business-world is such that their opinion is worth while.

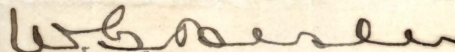
I have heard in several instances since that time remarks complimentary and in endorsement of your speech, and last evening at the New York Railroad Club, in discussing a paper on the subject of Railroads and Government Ownership, which was presented by the Director of Operation, in charge of Maintenance, and in the course

of the paper he made repeated reference to the establishment of Boards to control about everything in sight,- I said that my conception of a board was that, once given to me by an Army officer, - who stated that in the army a board was considered to be something "Long, narrow, and wooden"; and I then followed it up by saying that Governor Stokes, in a speech a few evenings ago to the Bankers, had pointed out that all human progress had been accomplished as the result of individual activity and effort, and I quoted, as near as I can remember it, your speech that, "No Board or Bureau had every painted a picture; carved a statue, written a poem", etc. etc.; and I asked my hearers, what the results might have been, had the Hills, the Harrimans, the Spencers, the Reas, the Willards, and others, been hampered by the interference or dictation of the activities of such Boards as the Speaker had suggested, which were to take over the responsibility of management!

Your speech has gotten me wound up to the point of writing an essay, or talking about it whenever I get the chance, and I had better stop now before I repeat it to you verbatim.

With personal regards, I remain,

Faithfully yours,



Hon. E. C. Stokes,
c/o The Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, N. J.

7



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 20, 1919

Dear Governor Stokes:

I trust you will pardon this belated acknowledgment of yours of January 14th, and I am sure you will when I tell you that this is the first moment since the receipt of your letter that I have been able to seize for attention to personal correspondence. I am glad to have your views concerning the next bond issue, and am especially pleased that you take the position indicated by your letter. If all bankers would view the matter in the same considerate way the burdens of the Treasury would be made much less difficult.

Please permit me to say how much I enjoyed hearing you at the dinner in New York. With much that you said I most heartily agree; but even when one does not agree with what he hears he can derive great satisfaction from hearing a clear and impressive statement of views in which he may not be able fully to concur.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Carter Glass

Hon. E. C. Stokes,
Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, N. J.

*Union National Bank
of Newark*

Newark, N. J.

*Office of
Vice President*

February 4th, 1919.

Hon. E. C. Stokes,
Trenton, N. J.

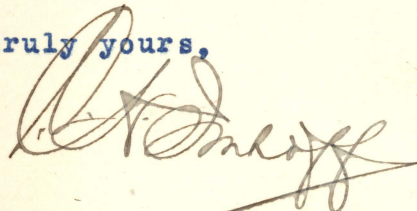
My dear Governor:-

It was my good fortune to be present at the Bankers Dinner and hear your wonderful speech on "Individualism", at least that is the title I like to call it by. Since that time I have looked into several of the banking papers hoping to find a printed copy of the speech, but have not seen it.

May I inquire whether you had the same printed and if so, may I have a few copies, or can you tell me if any newspaper or banking paper gave a rather voluminous account of it?

It is one of the best speeches I ever heard and I want to compliment you upon the same.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. T. Dwyer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the left and then curves back under the signature.



1003 South 49th St.
Philadelphia

Dear Governor

Instead of confining my reading to the "Book of Books" this Sunday evening I have been enjoying the reading of your speech, a copy of which you were good enough to give to me. To plagiarize that other distinguished Jerseyman - "may I not" offer you belated congratulations & the "Peoples National" family are also to be congratulated on having as chief one who has the vision & power of expression so lucidly & logically of thoughts which are somewhat vaguely in the minds of others but which they are unable to convey. As "one star differeth from another star in glory" we may have been appreciating ~~the~~

LAW OFFICES
J. F. SCHAPERKOTTER
WEST END TRUST BUILDING
BROAD STREET AND SOUTH PENN SQUARE

NEW YORK OFFICES
42 BROADWAY

PHILADELPHIA, PA. March 13th, 1919.

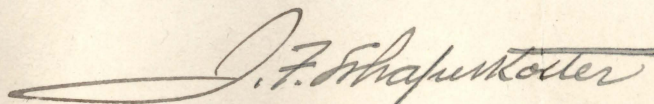
Hon. Edward C. Stokes,
President, Mechanics National Bank,
Trenton, New Jersey.

My dear Governor:

I received the copy of the Address delivered by you at the Annual Dinner of the New York State Bankers Association, at the Waldorf-Astoria, on January 13th, 1919, and read it, not only with great pleasure and interest, but I can honestly say with considerable educational benefit to myself; my daughter takes considerable interest in public affairs and I was so much impressed with your Address that I turned it over to her for her perusal, and she has expressed her indebtedness to me, for giving her the opportunity to read the same.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



JFS/HZ