

Ivy L. Lee and Associates
111 Broadway
New York

Memorandum

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

April 3, 1926.

Dear Mr. Easley:

I note with a great deal of interest your long letter to me. Let me assure you, my dear Mr. Easley, that you are entirely wrong when you assume that "I have taken on the job of putting over the Bolshevik demand for recognition by our Government". All I have done is to suggest that the Chamber of Commerce, the most conservative business organization in the United States, appoint a committee of its own members to investigate the situation and make a recommendation.

You quote in your letter the very excellent passage from the last message of President Coolidge in which he said:

"Whenever there appears any disposition to compensate our citizens who were despoiled, and to recognize that debt contracted with our Government, not by the Czar, but by the newly formed Republic of Russia; whenever the active spirit of enmity to our institutions is abated; whenever there appear works meet for repentance, our country ought to be the first to go to the economic and moral rescue of Russia".

I am glad to say that I agree with President Coolidge one hundred per cent. The sole question is whether the conditions precedent to our "economic and moral rescue of Russia" are near at hand. If not, how can we bring them about? It is solely to bring those conditions about that I am interested in the subject.

Do not get worried about me, my dear brother Easley. I am neither a Red nor a Pink. I believe, however, in getting full information, not discussing things on the basis of prejudices or suppositions. I never dreamed of stirring up so much publicity on this subject for I wanted to do what I did in the matter inside the Chamber of Commerce, feeling that if the Chamber of Commerce spoke the wise word on the subject, it would be followed.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) IVY L. LEE

Mr. Ralph M. Easley,
1 Madison Avenue,
New York City.