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Memorandum: Policies Interview

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When I reached the discussion on Young's presidential boom, if we can call it that, I certainly should point out the way in which for the last few months he has deliberately refused to say or do anything which would be rightly interpreted as showing an interest in a candidacy.

I am inclined to think that Y. is extremely sensitive to the feelings of his friends, political or otherwise, that he leans over backward perhaps to avoid giving offense. I take he is doing this in the case of Hoover and Hoover certainly has been - I do not like to say it - over-sensitive and small in regard to Young's expressions.

At the time of the San Francisco 1929 he said to one of Young's friends, I do not know who it was, but one that was sure to repeat it, "Supposing that it is all through why say it now."

And a more important thing to say then, or that was said then, I do not know.

After the Bonus talk he sent word to Hoover that he had embarrassed him surely. After the Lotus Club speech, in which Mr. Young gently insinuated that there was such a thing as good and bad creditors, Hoover took pains to say in his press conferences emphatically that United States had no intention of cutting the matter of the foreign debt. Case called my attention
to this. It should be looked up as to exact wording.

His invitation to Governor Roosevelt to speak at the Van Hornesville Commencement was I think a disarming gesture. It was proper of course that I should be there for the occasion was notable in the matter of primary state education, but it looked to me like a way of saying to Roosevelt and to the public, "I am giving you this speech, I am not a candidate for the presidency."