

August 17, 1942.

Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre,  
Secretary to President Roosevelt,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Marvin:

The Texas Memorial Museum is an institution made possible through the President and his approval of the centennial fund in Texas in 1936. It is a marvelous building located on the grounds of the Texas University in Austin.

Mr. A. Garland Adair, Curator of the Museum, has been working on a plan to have placed in the museum portraits of some of Texas's constructive citizens and supporters. Accordingly, the museum now contains portraits of Governor Coke Stevenson, the late Senator Morris Sheppard, former Vice-President John N. Garner and, incidentally, the writer.

With this thought in view, Sid Richardson and other friends are joining me in the move to cooperate with Mr. Adair in the matter of providing the portraits. We, accordingly, have arranged with Mr. Seymour Stone of New York, internationally known artist, who is now in Washington, to paint portraits of Jesse Jones, Tom Connally and Sam Rayburn. As a matter of fact, he has finished the portrait of Tom Connally and practically completed that of Secretary of Commerce Jones, as well as having started on Speaker Rayburn's picture which will be finished as soon as the Speaker returns to Washington.

Now comes the matter which is close to our hearts--we are anxious to have a portrait of the President to be hung in the most prominent place in the Museum. As stated, Mr. Stone is in Washington and could paint the portrait anytime at the President's convenience. Mr. Stone is an elderly, pleasant, fine genteel gentleman and I am sure would make it agreeable and easy for the President to cooperate with him in the picture.

As the best evidence of what Senator Connally thinks of his portraits, I enclose a photo-static copy of his letter to Mr. Stone.

Also, attached, is a copy of a letter from Jesse Jones. Although he is a little facetious, he does state that "it is delightful and good to have him around" - referring to Mr. Stone.

In line with the above thoughts, I take pleasure in enclosing, herewith, a letter which I received from Governor Coke Stevenson, of Austin, Texas, setting forth his urgent request in the hope that we could prevail on the President to permit Mr. Stone to paint the portrait. As you will recall, I discussed this matter over the telephone with you and if you will take it up with the President and let me hear from you I will appreciate it very much.

I would be delighted to have Mr. Stone call and see you to discuss the matter at your convenience. He is now living at the Hotel Benedick, 1808 Eye Street, Northwest, Washington.

Please tell the President for me that all of us realize, as stated by the Governor, the tremendous load he is carrying but maybe a few minutes rest and relaxation, if we could prevail on him to do so, would have its compensating effects.

With the sincere hope that we can secure permission to have Mr. Stone do the portrait and with best wishes, I remain

Sincerely,