

NEW YORK
Herald Tribune

August 6, 1936

Dear Mr. Eccles:

I think that perhaps Postmaster General Farley and Mr. Early have already written to you about the Annual Forum for Women on Current Problems, which will devote three sessions this year to discussions by candidates and leaders of all the parties appearing on the ballot, of "The Political Issues Which America Faces in 1936."

This note is to invite you formally to speak at the second session on the afternoon of September 23rd, on some phase of our monetary problems from the Democratic viewpoint. I have already discussed this matter with President Roosevelt, and he feels that you are the most important person to present the Administration's policies on this subject. As you doubtless know, he has himself consented to speak to the Forum as usual from the White House.

It may interest you to know that the audience in the Waldorf Astoria ballroom, where the meetings are held, will be about three thousand at each session, and that they come as delegates from eighteen hundred organizations, including all of the national federated groups of women in the United States,--a total of about twelve million.

At the morning session all of the presidential candidates of the minor parties will speak in person; the afternoon and evening sessions will be devoted to an impartial presentation of the principal campaign issues by the Democratic and Republican parties. However, the speeches will in no sense be arranged as debates, and there will be no rebuttals and no questions from the floor. Because the program will be on the air, with a national hook-up by N.B.C., we have had to limit each speaker, except for the President and the keynote speakers, to fifteen minutes.

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As you will see from a copy of the printed Report of last year's Forum, which I am sending you under separate cover, the keynote speeches were made by Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Norman Davis. Among the sixty some other speakers there were also many other members of the present Administration.

We are making up a tentative schedule which has to go to the printer very soon, and I shall therefore be grateful if you will let me know whether we can count on you to be present and to give us one of your fine speeches. I should be especially appreciative if you could, if possible, send me a telegram of confirmation preceding your letter.

Very sincerely,

Wm. W. Meloney
Mrs. William Brown Meloney
Chairman

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