

UTAH STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

ELMER GEORGE PETERSON, PRESIDENT

LOGAN, UTAH

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April  
ELEVENTH  
1934

The Honorable M. S. Eccles  
Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Marriner:

I have for some time contemplated calling to your attention the housing need at many colleges and universities represented by inadequate or insufficient dormitory facilities. We feel this in Utah particularly where, at both the University and the College, we have no dormitories or residence halls. In this respect I think we are the exception among the states. In many states, however, the dormitory facilities are quite inadequate.

I am having sent you a recent book issued by the American Association of University Women entitled HOUSING COLLEGE STUDENTS which provides an admirable analysis of the whole problem in a series of papers making up the publication.

Could not the government wisely interest itself in this project as a physical contribution to the many students affected, and I think even more important as a social contribution. Here I believe is a problem of very large significance in a national sense.

Anyway I thought I would call the matter to your attention for whatever you think it is worth.

With good wishes in the large responsibilities which friends tell me you are advancing so admirably.

Sincerely yours,



President

April 17, 1934.

Dear Elmer:

I have your letter of April 11th, together with the book issued by the American Association of University Women entitled "Housing College Students".

I am passing the book on to the Public Works Administration as that is the only present agency in the Government which has the organization and facilities to undertake the public work of the type referred to in your letter.

I personally feel that the construction of public buildings, which are greatly needed, would be one of the most effective and desirable methods of helping to meet the tragic unemployment situation, particularly in the capital goods industries. At present, however, there is very little likelihood of the Government being willing to supply government funds for projects such as indicated in your letter. The time may come when greater Government spending for projects of great social value will be recognized as the most desirable and effective method of creating employment.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Elmer G. Peterson,  
President,  
Utah State Agricultural College,  
Logan, Utah.

April 17, 1934.

Dear Mr. Wiener:

I received the attached book, together with letter, from a friend of mine who is the President of the Utah State Agricultural College at Logan, Utah.

I don't suppose there is anything which can be done about the matter, but I am passing it on to you as evidence of the tremendous field which is available for useful, socially valuable, permanent improvements.

Sincerely yours,

MSE:VE  
Att.

Frederick B. Wiener, Esq.,  
Federal Emergency Administration  
of Public Works,  
Washington, D. C.