



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

WASHINGTON

January 10, 1948

Dear Marriner:

I guess you have been around this town long enough to become hardened to the lies and misinformation that newspapermen and columnists put out, but it gets under my skin for people to make deliberate efforts through the press to stir up trouble through misstatements of fact.

I ran across the enclosed article by Ray Tucker referring to you and it is so untrue and unfair to you that I thought you ought to see it.

I do not know what, if any, action you should take, but my policy has been when any reporter published an untruthful statement about the Treasury, I have asked him to come in and see me and have straightened him out. In practically every case the results have been good. I do not know whether you would want to talk to this man Tucker or not.

Tucker's statements about you and the Treasury are to ridiculously absurd and untrue that nobody with any knowledge of the facts will be misled. However, there are a lot of people who do not know the facts who may believe what Tucker says.

Regards.

Sincerely yours,


A. L. M. Wiggins

Honorable Marriner Eccles
Chairman, Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Washington, D. C.

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Tucker, Ray. "Ray Tucker's Letter." *Brooklyn Eagle*, January 2, 1948, p. 6.

January 13, 1948.

Dear Lee:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me the clipping from Ray Tucker's column. I talked to him by telephone yesterday and let him know that he was just one hundred per cent wrong. He said he was very sorry about it and I am satisfied that the article was prompted by ignorance rather than by malice. He is coming in to see me on Thursday with a view to writing a correction. I agree with you that informed people would not be misled but others certainly would be by this ridiculous article.

We have tried over the years to get these writers to check on their facts before writing stories, but they always seem to be in such a hurry that they write the stories first and check the facts afterward, if at all. I agree with you also that it is generally helpful to take up misrepresentations of this kind individually with the reporter.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

The Honorable A. L. M. Wiggins,
Under Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington 25, D. C.

ET:b