

December 23, 1938.

Dear Steve:

I am sending you herewith, confidentially, a letter which Mr. Eccles plans to release for Monday morning newspapers, replying to Senator Byrd's attacks on him and others in Washington whom Byrd denounced as "crack-pots". This is a pretty powerful letter which I think blows Byrd out of the water and may have some effect in calling public attention to factors usually overlooked in connection with the deficit, the budget, etc. My plan is to give it to the press about four o'clock this afternoon to hold for Monday release.

As you know, we had a rather impressive ceremony here today for Glass and I am, therefore, hesitant about giving it out for simultaneous publication in tomorrow's papers so that it might be said that Eccles patted one Virginia Senator on the back and gave the other a swift kick. Likewise, I do not like to have it released for Christmas morning. Hence, the Monday release. I wanted you to have an opportunity to glance at it yourself before I gave it out.

Faithfully,

Honorable Stephen Early,
Secretary to the President,
The White House.

ET:b