

HAFLEIGH & COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS OF

**BONE BUTTONS, BONE RINGS,
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CODES
BENTLEY'S AND PRIVATE

CABLE ADDRESS
"HAFLEIGH"

BUCHANAN, VA. Dec. 27, 1938

Marriner S. Eccles,
Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In Monday's "Roanoke Times" the writer notes you criticize Senator Harry F. Byrd, and as I check with Mr. Byrd's views in every position he has taken in Washington on various subjects, I am writing to say that I am afraid you do not have a close-up of the money-spending program.

In this town is a man on the Federal payroll drawing, I believe, \$200.00 per month. I could not use his services profitably at \$50.00 per month. When I went to see him on Sunday morning, December 18, in regard to a family in destitute circumstances, consisting of a one armed father who cannot read nor write, a mother and ten children, photograph of one of which I enclose, I was given a very short answer and also insulted by his daughter who told me quite plainly that her father had an office and business hours.

Also, I know of another case of a man whom I believe receives \$25.00 per month relief money and who spends most of it for liquor, who is drunk practically all of the time and sleeps on the floor or bench of the C. & O. Railroad Station at night.

I could tell you of other cases, but these samples will suffice.

The main trouble is that the workers or producers of the world's wealth have been loaded down and are carrying on their backs the bureaucrats, non-producers, loafers and bums, all lapping up the taxpayers' money, from the President down to the lowest dinky on relief.

The men running affairs in Washington and in many of the State Capitols have no comprehension of the words "efficiency" and "economy".

If you are lucky enough to get an answer to your letter to a bureaucrat, it will take thirty days, and if any business man or corporation undertook to run his business like any department in the Federal Government he would be in the hands of the sheriff in very short order.

The whole make-up is ridiculous and preposterous.

Machinists in industrial shops earning 65¢ to 75¢ an hour are carrying on their backs machinists in the Government service getting \$1.10 or \$1.15 an hour.

Clerks in industrial shops getting \$15.00 to \$20.00 a week with one or two weeks vacation a year are carrying on their backs clerks in Washington getting \$35.00 or \$40.00 a week with thirty days vacation and maybe thirty days sick leave a year.

Boys from well-to-do families serving as pages, getting \$4.00 a day and men with families out of a job at 25¢ an hour.

Senators and Representatives getting 20¢ a mile travelling expenses and hitch-hikers being arrested trying to get to a job to make \$11.00 a week.

I think Senator Harry F. Byrd put it very mildly when he called it nine years of fiscal insanity. In my judgment the whole world is nothing but a lunatic asylum.

Yours very truly,


N. B. Hafleigh

NBH:JSC

January 4, 1939.

Mr. N. D. Hafleigh,
Hafleigh & Company,
Buchanan, Virginia.

Dear Mr. Hafleigh:

Chairman Eccles requested me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 27th commenting upon his recent reply to Senator Byrd of Virginia. The Chairman asked me to tell you that he was interested in the specific cases which you cite.

Undoubtedly there are many similar instances all over the country. The Chairman was endeavoring to discuss general economic questions rather than specific examples, of which he was quite well aware.

Because of your interest in writing, I am enclosing a copy of the full text of the reply to Senator Byrd as well as a copy of the text of the Chairman's recent address in New York which was the subject of the Senator's criticism. It occurred to me that you might be interested in looking over both of these.

Sincerely yours,

Elliott Thurston,
Special Assistant
to the Chairman.

enclosures

ET:b