

418 1/2 Mildred St.,  
Montgomery Ala  
Dec. 27th 1938.

Mr. Marinus S. Eekels  
Chairman Federal Reserve Board.  
Washington D.C.

My Dear Sir:

Will you please allow this  
from me a stranger, but a loyal American.  
Your reply to Senator Harry F.  
Byrd, I believe meets with the approval  
of every thinking American, who knows  
anything. I am enclosing the "Clippings"  
With out this relief many would  
suffer, there is too & scores of good  
men on the relief that would not  
be there if other jobs was available, that  
I know, they are not looking "something  
for nothing."

Mr. Eekels for 30 years I traveled  
on the road selling goods, I am 58 years  
old, today I am out of work and have  
been for last 7 or 8 years you might say  
only catching what I could. Myself & others  
today, will not employ over 45.

I traveled and sold Guns & ammunition  
for 20 years. 10 years with the Peters Cartridge Co.  
now with Cunningham Arms Co. now owned by  
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

The Puponts, I got out Sept 1930.

"Conditions," I was traveling at the time Delaware and Maryland. Since 1930. I have had it tough, have sold during last 8 years Insurance, Candies & various things; however they have not amounted to much,

My home town and state is Wilmington N.C. Came here living with my brother who cannot afford it. Have tried everywhere to get connected after all it takes that which I have not, "money" to get started. The W.P.A. here is crowded they are on the waiting list, just lots of good men.

Mr. Eccles is it possible that you could suggest something, after getting the above outline of my past, I know that you are a busy man but a word a suggestion from you I would appreciate. I am in good health and can step do if I get it.

With best wishes, I am. Thanking you in advance.

Yours very truly  
W.L. Robbins

January 3, 1939.

Mr. W. L. Robbins,  
418½ Mildred Street,  
Montgomery, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Robbins:

This is to thank you for your letter of December 27th with reference to my recent reply to Senator Byrd. Your own experience is similar to that of innumerable others who, like yourself, have taken the trouble to write to me.

It is especially distressing to me not to be able to make a genuinely helpful suggestion to you or to so many other deserving Americans who through no fault of their own are in distress and who, like yourself, are experienced in business, are capable, and are anxious to find employment in private enterprise.

It is because of such circumstances as you describe that I particularly resent the charge made by Senator Byrd that "millions of able-bodied citizens rely upon the government for support and have ceased to exert their efforts for self-help to obtain private employment." I see no other solution except for the creation of more not less employment, and a larger not a diminished national income. That will help to solve your individual problem and that of many others who need, want and are capable of work.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,  
Chairman.

ET:b

Received in  
Chairman's Office  
DEC 29 1938  
Board of Governors  
of the  
Federal Reserve System