

check
with currier

Dayton Ohio
January 26-1938

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

Dear Mr. Eccles,

I have just finished reading
your article in the National
Labor paper. issue of -
January 3rd. 1939.

Defending the right to work,
it sure was a knock out,
and part of the letter to
Senator Harry F. Byrd of
Virginia. More power to you.
The statement by yourself
in this article. that the -

Federal Budget Was Balanced
between June 30-1937 and
March 30-1938 With ^{\$}100,000,000
above Expenditures,, My main
reason for asking you for this
information is that I have
been Challenged to a Wage;

Is this statement true?
Would you be so kind as to
inform me by return mail.

I shall always be very
grateful to you,,

I Remain

Yours Truly

James P. Barnett

406 W. Fourth. St.

Dayton Ohio

February 3, 1939

Mr. James P. Barnett
406 W. Fourth Street
Dayton, Ohio

Dear Mr. Barnett:

Mr. Eccles has asked me to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of January 26 which he read with interest. You ask for the official figures respecting the government's cash position between June 30, 1937 and March 30, 1938, since one of your friends has made a wager with you as to the fact that for the period in question the budget was balanced. If you will refer to the enclosed copy of Mr. Eccles' radio address you will see from his language that he was speaking of the cash budget rather than the bookkeeping budget. It is the difference between the Treasury's cash receipts and its cash disbursements which contributes to community purchasing power.

The Treasury figures for the period in question are as follows (in millions of dollars):

Cash receipts	5,501
Cash disbursements	<u>5,216</u>
Excess of receipts	285

Source: Bulletin of the Treasury
Department, Jan. 1937, p. 7.

Mr. Eccles joins me in hoping that you are successful in collecting your wager.

Received in
Clearing Office
JAN 9 1939
Board of Governors
Yours sincerely,
Federal Reserve System

Lawrence Clayton
Assistant to the Chairman