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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Kansas City, Missouri
October 5, 1936

KENNEDY F. REA, CLERK
JOHN W. R. SMITH, ASST. CLERK

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

Dear Governor Eccles:

I am very much interested in the
vacancy now existing in the Federal Reserve
Board, caused by the resignation of Mr.
Morrison of Texas.

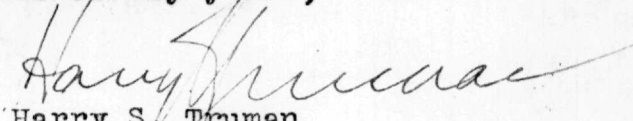
You will remember that we tried
to find a farm member for the Board from
Missouri who could qualify, and didn't
succeed in doing so.

We have a young man in Missouri
who is eminently qualified for this place.
He is James K. Vardaman, Jr., who is now in
charge of the Reconstruction Finance Corp-
oration for this State. He is the son of
former Senator Vardaman.

We ought to have at least one
representative on the Board west of the
Mississippi River, and Mr. Vardaman has had
all the background, experience, and every-
thing else that is necessary to make him a
qualified Member of the Board.

If you feel like recommending him
to the President, I will appreciate it.

Sincerely yours,


Harry S. Truman

HST/cb

October 9, 1936

Honorable Harry S. Truman
United States Senator
Kansas City, Missouri

My dear Senator Truman:

I have your letter of October 5th with reference to Mr. James K. Vardaman, Jr., and his qualifications. As you are aware, the question of filling the remaining vacancy on this Board is a matter entirely of the President's prerogatives, but I shall of course be glad to present the information you have sent me in case I am called upon for advice in this connection.

As you know, the appointment of Chester Davis to this Board provides the agricultural representative required by law, and since he lived most of his life in Montana and his work in agriculture has been nation-wide in its scope, I think you will agree that he may be said to be representative of the agricultural west beyond the Mississippi River. Moreover, as I have spent practically all of my life west of the Mississippi River and am appointed to the Board from the twelfth Federal Reserve district, I feel that we now have representation on the Board from the west. I mention this because it seems to me that it would be better to base Mr. Vardaman's qualifications on other grounds than that of agricultural representative or representative of the country west of the Mississippi.

With kind regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

M. S. Eccles
Chairman

ET/r

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Kansas City, Missouri
October 12, 1936

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

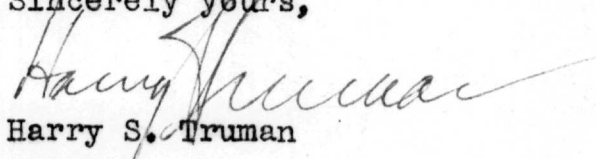
Dear Mr. Eccles:

I certainly appreciate yours of
October Ninth very much.

My grounds for saying that we
need a man west of the Mississippi River are
these. You represent the whole United
States as Chairman of the Board, and while
I know your sympathies are west of the
Appalachians, I still think we need another
Member of the Board west of the Mississippi
River. While Mr. Davis may have had his
experience in Montana, and all that, still
he has been living east of the Appalachians
so long that he has, in my opinion, entirely
lost his western viewpoint.

I am still going to urge the ap-
pointment of Mr. Vardaman, because I think
the territory west of the Mississippi needs
another Member of the Board.

Sincerely yours,


Harry S. Truman

HST/cb