

401 West Broad,
Montesano, Wash.
March 25, 1941.

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

Dear Sir:

Your reply to Patman's proposal to print new money to meet the expense now being incurred by the U. S. in the rearmament program, was printed in this morning's Seattle Post intelligencer.

You were quoted in this paper as saying, "I feel that your statements should not remain unanswered lest the public be misled into supposing that issue by the government of interest-bearing bonds is unnecessary, extravagant and wasteful."

If the above quotation is correct, I am sorry, for I can't believe that there is any informed, intelligent person, could honestly make a statement of that kind. I don't blame a person in your business for wanting the country to continue borrowing on bonds, but that it is beneficial to the country; I am unable to conceive that any one would, for one moment, think that it was to the Country's best interests, but rather the reverse.

As to it being inflationary, don't make me laugh! There is no danger of inflation in any way, until such a time as our people are fully employed, with sufficient money in circulation to distribute the production of this country in an efficient manner; then more money would be superfluous, and would tend to depreciate the dollar's value. As the country stands today, it could stand the printing, and putting into circulation of many billions of dollars; and run no chance of having to contend with that terrible bugaboo, "INFLATION".

This money that would take care of the needs of this nation, under any, and all conditions, wouldn't cost the people one penny. I can easily imagine how the bankers would squawk when they saw their hot-air money going up in smoke, and as they always do, bring out that tried and successful method of squelching the people by howling, "INFLATION".


I hope and trust, that the time is not too far distant when this country will wrest the control of it's money from the private banking institution, and place it where it belongs, in the hands of its people through the government.

Never, until that time arrives, can this country have continued prosperity and freedom for its people.

When this National banking act was passed, the bankers took advantage of the country's dire need to force this nefarious measure through. A greater calamity never happened to this, or any other country.

The mystery in which they constantly try to shroud this money question, would be laughable, if it wasn't so tragic. I have, for many years, studied this deep and supposedly mysterious subject, and the only mystery that so far, I have been able to find, is why do One Hundred Thirty odd Millions of our people allow a handful of bankers to take them for a ride?

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Schelle Mathews". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

Schelle Mathews,
401 West Broad,
Montesano, Washington.

March 31, 1941

Mr. Schelle Mathews
401 West Broad
Montesano, Washington

My dear Mr. Mathews:

In the absence of Chairman Eccles from the city, I wish to acknowledge your letter of March 25, 1941, in which you comment upon his letter of March 21, 1941 to Congressman Wright Patman. Your comments have been noted and your interest in the matter is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Lawrence Clayton

Lawrence Clayton
Assistant to the Chairman

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FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF ST. LOUIS
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