

85 Cochran Pl.,  
Valley Stream, N. Y. Oct. 1,

Mr. Fedes  
Dear Sir,

I read your wage ceiling recommendation and wonder what you would recommend if you were a wage earner.

I have to work 51 hours a week in an airplane factory at the rate of 55 cents to earn \$30. On this inflationary pay I must support two small children, my wife and myself. Every week the price of bread and milk goes up and I think you will admit they are necessities for growing children. Fruit which they should have for the proper teeth and bone growth are out of the picture,

I know full well your family doesn't lack anything yet you have the nerve to want my working week reduced to 48 hours straight time which means about \$26, is that fair. It is such assinine outbursts that prevent the real americans from uniting behind the deliberate war plans of this government.

Yours truly,

Eugene H. Fertseh

*Eugene H. Fertseh*

October 10, 1941.

Mr. Eugene H. Fertsch,  
85 Cochran Place,  
Valley Stream, New York.

Dear Mr. Fertsch:

Your letter of October 1 is apparently based upon newspaper reports of my testimony, which were so abbreviated as to leave an erroneous impression. For your information, I enclose a transcript of just what I said in connection with wages. From these excerpts you will see that my testimony was directed to the basic question of how to prevent the inflationary price rises which you mention.

You will see, I think, that I was not proposing that wage earners make sacrifices unless all other groups do likewise. If there is any other way to curb rising prices, it has not yet come to light.

You ask what I would recommend if I were a wage earner. I would probably try to get all I could - but I would expect my government to do all it could to prevent inflation - and that means getting maximum production. It means producing as many goods as we can, first for defense, then for civilian consumption. And it means keeping consumer buying power from bidding up to ever higher levels the price of goods left over, after defense needs, for civilian use.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,  
Chairman.

Enclosures - 2

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