

3/1/46  
Mr. Marriner Eccles.

Federal Reserve.

Washington.

D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles.

Of the 10% rise in cost  
of living is put in effect. &  
the roth collar Employee  
has no union to fight  
& there by can not go on

● Strike: high prices was  
a War measure not to  
be a permanent Law  
for the American people  
I work for an advertising  
Agency: & most of the

are still <sup>2</sup> sub-standard:  
- it is a most humiliating  
factor to have to ask for a  
raise:

How about a raise for  
the white collar Employee,  
if the fare will be raised:

& the cost of living 10%  
that is \$120.00 per month-day  
with income tax taken  
about \$15.00 or more: per mo.

I have to pay the high  
cost of living & all  
my obligations yes! No!

Here hoping that  
the white collar Employee  
can get a raise with  
a stroke:

I meet the High cost of living.

Respectfully  
yours

(Miss) Lillie Y. Kiefer

147 - W. 105 St  
apt 1.F. NY 25 NY

March 5, 1946.

Miss Lillie J. Kiefer,  
147 West 105th Street,  
New York 25, New York.

Dear Miss Kiefer:

This is to acknowledge your letter of March 1 with regard to rising living costs. Some of the newspaper accounts misrepresented my answers to questions when I appeared before the House Banking and Currency Committee in advocacy of the extension of price controls. I did not state that the cost of living would rise another 10 per cent because that would merely be a guess at best.

The official figure used by the OPA is that living costs have risen 33 per cent since the beginning of the war. In answer to a question by Congressman Patman, I said that based on the new wage-price policy we might get some further increase, and I added, "It is estimated that there is a possibility of it reaching as high as a maximum of 40 per cent." I added that if we could hold the line at that point we would have done a fairly good job all things considered, in view of the enormous inflationary pressures resulting from the financing of the war.

Miss Lillie J. Kiefer     -2-

I recognize, of course, the plight of white-collar workers and fixed-income groups in any inflationary period, and certainly sympathize with you in the situation in which you find yourself as a result of increased costs.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,  
Chairman.

ET:b