

The Chairman has a previous letter from Mr. Baruch in the S. 408 file, so perhaps this one should go in there. If not, I can put it in my miscellaneous correspondence file on S. 408.

PERSONAL

June 16, 1947.

Dear Mr. Baruch:

I was delighted to be among those invited to attend that inspiring ceremony which had the particular merit of honoring the living and, in your case, one who has even more to contribute in the coming years to the welfare of this country. Your own words on this occasion could not have been more appropriate, in my opinion, or more heartening. You were so surrounded afterward that I did not have the opportunity I would have liked to have had at the time to shake your hand and congratulate you.


You will not, I am sure, think it amiss because during the ceremony I was reminded of your keen interest, as expressed by your report with Mr. Hancock, in legislation to permit the Federal Reserve System to continue and enlarge its service by authority to guarantee in part loans made by private banks particularly to small business, which needs longer term financing up to as long as ten years but cannot go to the capital markets. I feel somewhat encouraged by the prospect that the bill to accomplish this objective has been favorably reported to the Senate by the Banking and Currency Committee and is now on the calendar. It may, however, languish there in the press of other business unless sufficient interest is manifested in its passage to impress the leaders. The bill appeared to have a favorable reception before the House Banking and Currency Committee and I think it quite likely that they will report it favorably.

While I realize that you have many preoccupations with matters of far greater importance, you have been so much interested in the principle of this proposal that I make no apologies for the suggestion that a letter or a word from you, if you felt so disposed, would be very helpful at this time. I do not know whether you are well enough acquainted with Mr. Taft and Mr. Wolcott, Chairman of the House Banking and Currency Committee, to communicate directly with them but if you are, I think it would be decidedly in the public interest. You have no personal axes to grind, nor has the Federal Reserve System which is unitedly behind this bill, so that you will not, I trust, feel that I am presuming in sending you this letter.

With every good wish,

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,
Chairman.



Mr. Bernard M. Baruch,
597 Madison Avenue,
New York City.

BERNARD M. BARUCH

597 Madison Avenue

New York 22, N. Y.

June 18, 1947.

Hon. Jesse P. Wolcott,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Wolcott:

I understand there is a bill before your Committee to permit the Federal Reserve System to continue and enlarge its service by authority to guarantee in part loans made by private banks particularly to small business.

This has been approved by Mr. Eccles and the Federal Reserve System which is unitedly behind this bill.

I trust you will not think it presumptuous of me to endeavor to impress upon you the need for this bill. I recommended such a bill in my Report on War and Post-War Adjustment Policies.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,