

ORGANIZED 1871

CAPITAL & SURPLUS \$2,600,000.00

The First National Bank of Lincoln

Lincoln, Nebraska

December 10, 1947

P. R. EASTERDAY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
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Mr. Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman
 Federal Reserve Board
 Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eccles:

Maybe we are a little presumptuous, but we can't help dropping this line to commend you on the position you are taking relative to the "special" reserve requirements which you are proposing.

It is difficult to understand just why our "big" banking friends appear so unanimously against the proposal.

Your original statement to the Committee we thought was a most excellent presentation. Since then all we get is newspaper reports of the testimony which you are offering, and we think your position is entirely sound.

At the start-off of the proceedings, it appeared that there was little chance of Congress giving serious consideration to this "special" reserve plan, but we think you are right in hammering along on it. We, personally, have thought for three or four years that something along the line of this plan would be adopted eventually.

Regardless of what might be the opinions of others, we agree fully with your statement that it would be catastrophic to let governments go below par. In fact, we think they are close enough to par at the present moment, and would be fearful of any break below the existing quotations. Whatever you do, don't let it get out of hand. This debt is the biggest thing in this country and nothing must happen to create any lack of confidence in its market stability.

We realize that this letter is of no particular importance to you, but we did not feel comfortable in sitting out here and letting most of our eastern bank friends unite in their opposition, without expressing our own opinion, regardless of its insignificance.

This letter does not even call for an acknowledgment, but we just had to write it.

Sincerely,

P. R. Easterday
 P. R. Easterday

For Action
 First to Mr. Eccles
 Mr. Eymann.....
 Mr. Draper.....
 Mr. Evans.....
 Mr. Vardaman.....
 Mr. Clayton.....
 Mr. Thurston.....
 Mr. Merrill.....
 Mr. Carpenter.....
 Mr. Hammond.....
 Mr. Sherman.....
 Mr.....
 Mr.....
 Mr.....
 Please note and return to Mr. B...

December 17, 1947.

Mr. P. H. Easterday,
Chairman of the Board,
The First National Bank
of Lincoln,
Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dear Mr. Easterday:

In all the turmoil of these days it is a great satisfaction to have a letter such as yours of December 10. It is most heartening to know that the opposition, which is centered in New York, is not representative by any means of general opinion in the banking and business community through the country. I was glad also to see the clipping of your forthright and first-rate address at Dallas.

I assure you that your letter is of genuine importance to me and to other members of the Board, to whom I have taken the liberty of circulating it.

Sincerely yours,

M. C. Eccles,
Chairman.

ET:b