

3/28/42

Original letter from Mr. Baxter and enclosed clipping returned to Dr. Ezekiel in accordance with telephone request from his office.

meb

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

March 23, 1942

To: Office of Mr. Eccles
Federal Reserve Board

From: Mordecai Ezekiel

Subject: Letter from Mr. John L. Baxter,
dated March 19th, together with
enclosures.

It is felt that Mr. Eccles might be interested in seeing this reaction to his speech, a copy of which we sent to Mr. Baxter.

C
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H. C. BAXTER & BRO.
BRUNSWICK, MAINE

March 17, 1942

Mr. Mordecai Ezekiel
Department of Agriculture
Office of the Secretary
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ezekiel:

Thank you for yours of February 19 enclosing copy of speech by Chairman Eccles of the Federal Reserve Board. I was particularly interested in that part of the speech which dealt with municipal budgets. For several years now I, as Chairman of the Budget Committee of Brunswick have been following a similar policy. We keep the tax rate where it is, the highest it has ever been, don't spend any more money than we have to and apply the difference between necessary expenditures and the income produced by the taxes, to payments on the town debt. In the last three years we have nearly cut the debt in half.

I am enclosing clipping from the local paper giving an account of this last year's town meeting.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

(signed) John L. Baxter

JLB/L
Encl.

March 25, 1942.

Dear Zeke:

Thank you for sending me the letter you received from Mr. John L. Baxter commenting on my address to the Conference of Mayors and enclosing the clipping showing how the Brunswick, Maine, budget has been operated in accordance with the general principles which I undertook to state. It was interesting to me to know of this instance of municipal good management.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Mordecai Ezekiel,
Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

ET:b