

Please answer

JOSEPHINE CARPENTER  
574 BERGEN AVENUE  
JERSEY CITY, N. J.  
DEL. 3-2815

March 9/43

Mr. M. S. Eccles:

I belong to the "over 60 old-age people" who by hard work, deprivation and saving feel entitled to a dignified decent standard of living even tho it does not include vacations, cars, oppression of lower income people, etc.

I speak not only for myself but the army of old people dying or becoming invalided from worry. My heart "aint" so good either

You know we are now  
taxed over 30% in our

many variety of taxes. Do you  
not? You among high-income  
men do not realize what it  
does to small income people  
to have their money (from  
all accounts = splashed) all  
over the world -- refugees  
~~kept~~ at hotels =  $5 \frac{1}{2}$  million  
on payrolls. Some being  
paid bonuses, getting raises  
so they will not feel increase  
cost of living (all N. J. State  
payroll birds for instance).  
I am daughter of a Civil  
War veteran - was very

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patriotic -- now I can think  
of it only as "government ~~for~~  
of the Politicians for the politicians  
their assistants, voters, etc etc.

I have a hundred shares  
of Gen Motors purchased at \$80.  
per share. I believed in American  
Industry. I get 50% less dividend  
than one year ago = tax of  
profits at the source. (Same  
profits are, of course taxed over-  
again - which according to  
my Puritanical ideas is not  
even honest of Uncle Sam.  
Why do you men misrepre-

sent in comparison of U. S.  
taxes with those of ~~comp~~  
countries we are so generous  
helping (no one seems to be  
helping us) = we are taxed in  
<sup>so many directions,</sup>

For the sake of people  
older than I am, without  
much income or cash

I implore you -- if you  
will try to get all you  
can out of American  
oppressed old people who don't  
want government doled

Received in  
Chairman's Office

MAR 12 1943

Board of Governors  
of the  
Federal Reserve System

Exclude those over  
65. we were usually honest  
paid income taxes  
in the latter of a Century =

W. H. Carpenter



BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
OF THE  
FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

March 15, 1943.

Miss Josephine Carpenter,  
574 Bergen Avenue,  
Jersey City, New Jersey.

Dear Miss Carpenter:

On behalf of Chairman Eccles, who is temporarily out of the city, permit me to acknowledge your letter of March 9 with regard to taxation.

Those who are of the fixed income group are, of course, as you point out, the particular victims of increasing taxation and rising costs of living. The question of whether some special treatment can be accorded to this group is one that Congress will have to answer, for, as you know, it is Congress that writes the tax laws. Nevertheless, our level of taxation is low compared with that in Canada, England, New Zealand and other allied countries. It is the most effective single instrument for dealing with inflation, which would strike at the fixed income groups with particular violence.

It occurred to me that you might perhaps be interested in seeing the text of Mr. Eccles' recent talk, which I assume prompted your letter, and I accordingly enclose a copy.

Sincerely yours,

*Elliott Thurston*

Elliott Thurston,  
Special Assistant to the Chairman.

Enclosure

1. tax

5.00

I pay on a safe deposit box to keep stock certificate  
Rent is terribly high due to high cost local  
taxation.  
Cannot even go to movies, meal in N.Y. for 1.00  
etc without taxes and more taxes.

*Wants to tax 30% estimated  
total then would be 50%*

*Plus State, County,  
Local, and all*

*kind  
hidden  
taxes*

*and we lowered  
income  
people take  
less dividends*

*from Corporation  
taxes*

*from all accounts  
this comparison is  
untrue =*

*My dividends on g.m.  
is cut 50% -- Corporation Tax.*

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ET:b