

CLARA
BELLE

Thompson & Lukes Wise

MARGARET
LUKES

4312 CHESTNUT ST. ★ EVERgreen 0374 ★ PHILADELPHIA, PA.

4

Marriner Eccles
Chr Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Washington D C

Dear Mr. Eccles:

William C. Lengel (Fawcett Publications) has a compelling public service idea for his two million Today's Woman readership. It is so challenging it brings us directly to you as a leader of American thought. The crux of his idea: plenty for all. In America we have a vast and bountiful productive system, a swift and all-embracing distribution. Yet thousands in our country, in a land in which there is and should be plenty for all, haven't even the bare necessities, and other thousands have to use every last cent just to live.

You probably like Mr. Lengel feel this is a problem not beyond solving, and that now is the time to start. But it will take the biggest minds of America to develop the solution -- not Democratic, not Republican minds, just pro-American. For it's not a question of why we don't have as much as we should, but how we can have more than we do now; not a case of what might be wrong, but what can be done to make it right.

A solution, even a part solution, to this problem can affect not only the lives of Mr. Lengel's Today's Woman readers, but of every man and woman in our country. As magazine writers we were commissioned to do the Today's Woman article - but in a very special way. We first were to put ourselves in the place of typical Mr. and Mrs. America, travel all over the country, and see exactly what conditions are. Second, with this knowledge, we were to contact the outstanding minds of the country, the men who are shaping the future, to find out their suggestions about bringing about this plenty for all.

We well realize how pressed for time you are. But only because you have given yourself so unstintedly to public affairs, we pose one question: will you make a single suggestion as to a way to bring a more widely shared plenty for all in our country? //

Our sole reason or excuse for hoping for an early reply is the tremendous concern we found everywhere among the men and women in every area we visited, and we visited from Oregon to Florida, Maine to California. So, as representatives of Mr. and Mrs. America, may we thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Clara Belle Thompson
Will Thompson
Clara Belle Thompson
Will Thompson

March 18, 1946.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Thompson,
4312 Chestnut Street,
Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Thompson:

In response to your letter of March 13, I am venturing to enclose a copy of an address I made before the National Industrial Conference Board in November of 1944 since it outlines in a general way the public policies that in my opinion would result in bringing about more widely shared plenty for all in our country. No one suggestion would be adequate. It will require a well-integrated, comprehensive program.

This address, though it was delivered a year and a half ago expresses now, as it did then, my general viewpoint in connection with the question you present.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles,
Chairman.

Enclosure

ET:b
