

April 6, 1940

Chairman Eccles

Emile Despres

Howard Hunter told me this morning that the President, after a meeting with Woodrum, has decided that he will have to send a message to Congress on WPA and that he expects to send it early next week, perhaps on Tuesday. Hunter advised that, with a message from the President, there will be little Congressional opposition to increasing the WPA appropriation above the original Budget estimate. He did not know how much the message will ask for, but he thought that you and Secretary Wallace might want to consider the desirability of urging again a sufficient appropriation to permit some expansion in WPA rolls. I told Hunter that I would pass this along to you, and to Ezekiel and Gilbert, who would, in turn, inform their chiefs. Hunter said he knew you would understand that he was passing this along in strictest confidence and on a private, unofficial basis.

*Mr. Jackson was ill*