

● PSF Eugene Talmage (Gov. of Georgia) - Subject File - Box 186

2 items

FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON

PSF
Talmdge file

May 3, 1935

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Missy:

I am returning herewith a letter written
the President on March 26 by Governor Talmdge con-
taining the President's longhand memorandum to me.

I was under the impression that I had a
confidential report from the Georgia Administrator
regarding Mr. L. H. Edenfield; however, on taking the
matter up with her, I find that such was not the case.
She has now written me regarding Mr. Edenfield, and
I am enclosing a copy of her letter herewith for
such action as the President wishes to take.

Very sincerely yours,



Harry L. Hopkins,
Administrator.

Encl

COPY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF ADMINISTRATION
OF GEORGIA

TEN FORSYTH STREET BUILDING
ATLANTA GEORGIA

April 27, 1935

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Miss Kathryn Godwin
Secretary to the Administrator
Federal Emergency Relief Administration
1734 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Godwin:

I acknowledge your letter of April 17th transmitting to me a copy of letter written Governor Talmadge by Mr. L. H. Edenfield of Stillmore, Georgia.

I do not seem to have any record of sending a confidential memorandum to Mr. Hopkins regarding Mr. Edenfield, but I will advise that the matter referred to in Mr. Edenfield's letter has been discussed with him by one of our Field Representatives. It seems that his complaint is not against our Administration but refers to the Agricultural Program and the general situation.

The laborers referred to in Mr. Edenfield's letter are not on relief and he has been advised of this fact. He stated to our Field Worker that he knows of no instance of laborers refusing work because of being on relief. He was given specific information concerning working hours and wage rates of people on relief.

I do not seem to have in my files any specific information regarding Mr. Edenfield personally and it is quite possible that Mr. Hopkins had someone else in mind. Our Field Worker advises that his attitude was not unfriendly to our Administration.

If there are any further details which you or Mr. Hopkins will desire about this matter, let me know.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) GAY B SHEPPERSON
(Miss) Gay B. Shepperson
Administrator

GBS/ Dt



Executive Department
Atlanta

EUGENE TALLADGE
GOVERNOR

March 26, 1935.



CARLTON MOBLEY
SECRETARY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

HH
Do you
think I
need to
answer this?
JHT

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:-

I am enclosing copy of letter which is self-explanatory.

I have had a similar complaint in the last few days from our good old mutual friend John Whitley.

John needed some extra hands to work on his farm. He offered them seventy-five cents a day, which is more than the average paid in that community for farm labor, and offered to carry them back and forth to their work on his farm. He made this offer to men on relief, thinking they would be more interested in getting work. They stated however that they could not take any jobs, if they did, they could not get back on the relief work. Another man there in LaGrange wanted 25 or 30 extra hands for his farm and received the same answers.

This is demoralizing the farm labor as you can see, and John says they are all going to have to quit farming if it continues.

This condition is general all over the State.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Eugene Talladge
Governor.



Executive Department

EUGENE TALMADGE
GOVERNOR

Atlanta, Georgia,
RFD 1, Box 34,
March 25, 1935.

CARLTON MOBLEY
SECRETARY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Eugene Talmadge, Governor,
Atlanta, Georgia.

My dear Sir:

I want you to advise me as to what some of us farmers are going to do about farm labor.

I have been working three wage hands. On last week two of them quit and moved away; the other one says that he will work on this week, then he will quit. I have been paying them 50 cents per day, but in the face of it, the FERA is paying them \$1.20 per day to shovel a little dirt in the branch, and I know that the old Irish ditchers who used to ditch for my father when I was a little boy would move as much dirt in one hour as the relief workers move in eight hours.

The relief workers are working 54 hours a week now at 15 cents per hour, against the farm laborer working 10 hours at 5 cents per hour. It is a shame that such a nuisance is allowed to exist as it does - the government in competition with us as a gift for relief against the farm labor. I say, if it must exist, it should not be more than farm hands are getting.

I honestly believe that if all the farms in my county, Candler, had all the laborers that they could use this Monday morning there wouldn't be 10 idle men for the relief.

There is nothing that would please me any better than for Georgia to follow suit with some other states, and not match one dollar for federal relief, and let Mr. Hopkins withdraw from Georgia all such funds - then our people would have to go to work and receive their little mite honest and just.

I do hope the Legislature will fix it so that Georgia will be dropped.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Yours truly,

(signed) L. H. Edenfield.

PSF
Talmadge

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FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

PSF
Talmadge

May 8, 1935.

Dear Mr. Roetzel:-

Many thanks for your note with its enclosure. I do not think that the Georgia type of attack will get very far in the face of our really constructive achievements.

Very sincerely yours,

G. F. Roetzel, Esq.,
Supervising Examiner,
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
Room 902, Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,
Kansas City,
Missouri.



SUPERVISING EXAMINER
FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
ROOM 902, FEDERAL RESERVE BANK BLDG.
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

*See Salmond
file*

May 5, 1935

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with genuine pleasure that I attach hereto a copy of letter recently addressed to Honorable R. E. Gormley, Superintendent of Banks for the State of Georgia, by Honorable Howard C. Johnson, bank Commissioner for the State of Oklahoma, in response to a letter received from the Georgia official dated April 27, 1935. That letter, apparently, contained considerable criticism of this Corporation and the proposed bankingact of 1935.

I am forwarding this copy to you for the reason that you are specifically mentioned in the last paragraph.

Very respectfully,


G. F. ROETZEL,
Supervising Examiner.

C O P Y

OKLAHOMA STATE BANKING DEPARTMENT
OKLAHOMA CITY

Hon. R. E. Gormley,
Superintendent of Banks,
State Capitol,
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of April 27, 1935, addressed to W. J. Barnett, Bank Commissioner, has been referred to me for attention due to the fact that on January 23, 1935, I succeeded Mr. Barnett as Bank Commissioner of the State of Oklahoma.

At the time of the banking holiday in 1933, and for some period following that event, there seemed to be no disposition upon the part of any group of persons to criticise the plan of Federal Deposit Insurance. Practically every banker in the Nation felt that the Federal plan of deposits insurance was the only plan which stood between them and complete oblivion.

The risk of losses under this plan is borne by the F.D.I.C. as a Federal agency. Under the original act creating this insurance plan little or no authority was granted to the F.D.I.C. to regulate and control the methods of banking, although full responsibility for the payment of deposits up to \$5,000 was thrown heavily on the shoulders of the Corporation. In other words, the original act made the Corporation responsible for all of the mistakes and bad management of each and every State Banking institution and left their hands tied in the matter of promulgating any rules or regulations which might have been a safeguard against the losses which would be incurred through unsound and unsafe banking operations. This is an anomaly which must be corrected if the Federal plan of deposit insurance is to be made successful and I, for one, believe wholeheartedly that the institution which bears the risk of the losses should be accorded the privilege of making regulations which will minimize the losses to be borne.

I therefore do not agree with you in your suggestion that the Bank Commissioner of Oklahoma assume any leadership in a campaign which undertakes to thwart or oppose President Roosevelt's ideas concerning a proper regulation of State Banks whose deposits are insured by the F.D.I.C.

In closing I observe that your letter of criticism, directed at the Banking Act of 1935, is coincident with a general attack leveled by the United States Chamber of Commerce against the entire National Administration under the leadership of Franklin D. Roosevelt. I thoroughly believe in his honesty and wisdom and decline to join with any group in building up a program of critical propaganda which unquestionably will be used between now and the general elections of 1936, to defeat him and to destroy the constructive progress which this Nation has made under his leadership.

Yours truly,

HCJ/np
CC - Governor E. W. Marland
Hon. G. F. Roetzel

Howard C. Johnson
Bank Commissioner.