

Housing
opa

April 1, 1946

Mr. J. T. Rogers
202 South Victor Avenue
Tulsa 4, Oklahoma

Dear Friend:

I have just received your letter of March 29th telling me of the adverse effect of Mr. Wyatt's new housing program and ruling. Others have written me along the same line; but no one has made a clearer statement of the case than you have. I think what you say is unanswerable.

You state that they have attacked the problem by the wrong method. I have never known this New Deal crowd to attack any problem in the right direction. They always want, as Chester Bowles said before Congress, to take the over-all picture into consideration. They want to lay down a hard and fast rule for everybody to follow, regardless of the variable and varying conditions that prevail in this complex population of ours. People of different communities require a different solution to the same problem. What will work well in New York may not work at all in Oklahoma, and vice versa. But this New Deal crowd has insisted upon a planned economy. It began with NRA, and after losing that as a result of the decision of the Supreme Court - and thank God we had a Supreme Court in those days - holding that the principles of the NRA was unconstitutional, which in plain English means un-American, not in keeping with the letter and spirit of the principles of Americanism as layed down in our constitution.

Now, they have the OPA, a stabilizer, an expeditor, etc. As Mr. Roosevelt used to say, it was planned that way. I think that is true; they planned so we would have a scarcity and people would become frantic and ask them to help them out of their dilemma. In fact, I have caught them up here getting people into the very perplexity from which they claimed they were extricating them. It is, indeed, a vicious circle. I am in a position here where I can fight back, and I certainly am doing it at every opportunity.

I am one of only twelve Members of the 435 in the House of Representatives who voted against the extension of OPA last June, and I am itching for an opportunity to do it again.

J. T. ROGERS
202 South Victor Ave.,
Tulsa 4, Oklahoma.

March 29, 1946.

Honorable George B. Schwabe, M. C.,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe:

This letter is in protest to the ruling made by the war Housing Administration, Mr. Wyatt's bureau, wherein they froze all building except homes for G. I's., in an effort to make more material available for them.

In this case as in every other case, they have attacked the problem in the wrong method. The only reason why there has ever been a scarcity of material is due to the fact that the O. P. A. has pursued an unreasonable policy of price control. Remove these price controls and destroy O.P.A., returning us back to the original system of free business enterprise and the law of supply and demand will, in a short time, level the prices off to a sound, economic structure. The planned theory of scarcity, if allowed to continue, will, within a very short time, ruin and impoverish our nation. This ruling will shut down many plants which produce building material that was made by the plants especially for use in building homes for G.I.'s and others.

The ruling the building of small business houses which would have housed many small enterprises that a lot of G.I's could have used to establish their own business, for there is just as inadequate a supply of business houses as there is a lack of homes. It will throw out of employment a lot of returned veterans and therefore work a hardship upon the very ones they seek to help, for what good does it do to give a man a right to build and then destroy his source of income which he must have to finance the transaction. It is also a piece of class legislation, for these G.I.'s live under the same constitution and bill of rights as the man and woman does who never went to war but did contribute their full amount of patriotic love and devotion to their country.

We have started a building material company in Tulsa to manufacture and sell a special type of insulated building blocks. We have our machinery ordered and payments made on it and other financial commitments made, which we are obligated to take and pay for in full. We have sold many thousands of these blocks for the purpose of erecting small business houses in Tulsa. This ruling prevents our buyers from completing their buildings and as a result they feel compelled to cancel their orders and leave us in a precarious financial position.

March 29, 1946.

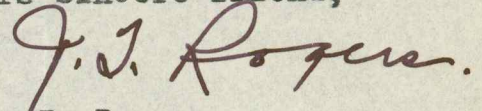
This ruling is too drastic and severe in its entirety. They are attempting to cut a pattern that will regulate the whole country under one ruling, and it does not take into consideration the individual conditions of each community but makes all operate under the same pattern.

It is these kinds of political wizards who seem to think that they and they alone have the correct answers to the economic ills that disturb these United States, when in fact it is their own inability to reason things out in a sane, orderly and practical manner; and their own mistakes causes all of our troubles.

Mr. Schwabe, I have written you several letters protesting a lot of New Deal theories that I thought was wrong, and you have very graciously supported me in those protests and did what you could. In this matter, I want to impress upon you that it is very essential that you use your influence to have this order or ruling made less severe, or remove entirely, because this organization, in which all of my time and money and labor are invested, depends upon the building of small business houses, tourist cabins, garages, farm homes, and many other types of houses and buildings that are now barred under this ruling.

With my best wishes to you personally and politically, I am, as always,

Yours sincere friend,



J. T. Rogers.

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