

SCHWABE COLL

1310 Cherokee Ave.,
Bartlesville, Oklahoma.
January 30, 1946.

Honorable George Schwabe,
Congressman, 1st Oklahoma District,
Capitol Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

First, I wish to congratulate you upon your thorough research into the thoughts, desires and hopes of the citizens in this district during your recent visit. I feel sure that you now know better than ever the trend of thought here relative to both domestic and foreign affairs.

Second, I wish to commit myself with regard to a few of the more important problems of the day as follows:

Labor - I am most friendly towards labor and labor organizations believing that organized labor has a definite place in the scheme of our national life. However, I firmly feel that labor must, in some manner, be held responsible for the fulfillment of their commitments under negotiated, executed contracts. Also, the rights of non-striking labor must not be interfered with through the medium of picketing or otherwise.

Economy - A little calculating has more than startled me. Although many agencies have been eliminated and reduced we have over three million civilian government employees. Well, at a reasonable wage; with office rent, office equipment and supplies, together with expence accounts I believe that the burden of this extravagance nears the ten billion dollar mark on an annual basis-perhaps that figure is conservative. No one of sound thinking expects our budget ever to be balanced, the thought of debt reduction impossible, with current proposals of full employment, extended un-employment benefits, and many other ideas that would multiply our obligations many times the present pledges. Obviously, the only possible chance we have for extended prosperity is for all unnecessary governmental expenditures to be drastically reduced. Such a program of economy would encourage both industry and labor and would release billions of government debts for industrial spending. Eventually there will be some sort of business reaction or adjustment. How soon no one knows or even how severe. Unless our national economic situation becomes much more substantial before that occurs I hesitate to even think of the terrific mess we all will be in.

Foreign - We should be more firm and definite in our foreign relations. We seem to be the goat and I feel that a firmer stand on our convictions would result in more respect from others and certainly more self respect. The loan to Britain should be made only upon a sound, repayment basis. The British Empire produces many raw products we must import. A small percent of the value of such imports, guaranteed as to amount of imports and percent of value, should be applied to the loan. If Britain doesn't want it that way lets turn it down.

In general I feel very much disturbed as do millions of Americans. I have found it necessary to stop allotment purchase of bonds and shall cash in most of those I have bought. I cannot subscribe to and help finance a system of thoughtless,

unnecessary, wasteful spending. Billions of dollars can and should be cut from appropriations without depriving one single citizen of the aid or benefits that properly belong to him under our present security and benefit plans. To continue to help support such extravagance, in my opinion, is unpatriotic to say the least. It certainly is not my patriotic duty to encourage it any further. My conscience is clear - veteran of both World wars, and I am not asking for one single personal thing when I mention that. My country owes me nothing but a return to something that resembles stability.

It is nice to be able to write to you as I feel that you do not condone the evident principles of the bureaucrats of socialistic leanings. Sorry to take up as much of your time - this is much longer than I expected it to be. By the way, I am an employee - not an employer and just as interested as anyone in fair wages for a fair days work.

Yours very truly,

(J. H. Skinner)
J. H. Skinner

P.S. I voted from Guam two years ago.

