

Loan Britain

SCHWABE COLL

February 13, 1946

Mrs. Victor F. Barnett, President
Oklahoma League of Women Voters
613 McBirney Building
Tulsa 3, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Barnett:

I have your letter of February 5th urging me to vote for the loan to Britain.

I fear I cannot encourage you much in your wish that I agree with you on this subject. That was one of the questions I submitted to the people of my District, indiscriminately, when I sent out forty thousand questionnaires during the month of December. The returns have not yet been published. In fact, they have not all been compiled. But from the way they are running, confidentially more than 90% of them are against this loan. Do you think that I should ignore the thinking and the wishes of such a predominant proportion of my constituents?

Furthermore, I do not find many Members of Congress except those who are tied in with the New Deal, who are inclined to support this proposed loan. I firmly believe that if a vote were taken in the House of Representatives today, 75% or 80% of them would vote against the making of this loan. Frankly, they do not believe that it is sound economically, good judgment nor fair to the American people. If any of our citizens want to subscribe to the loan, I think it would be all right for the Government to act as an agent or permit English representatives to sell the English I.O.U.s in this country. But the soundest thinking here seems to be to the effect that the people of this country should not be forced into buying bonds under our present deficit financing system, or be taxed to lend money to Britain, Russia, France or any other foreign country at this time.

I know you know me well enough that when you ask me for a frank expression of my views you expect me to give you one; and I am giving it at your request and with all the graciousness of my soul. Just now I cannot give you any reason to think that I shall vote for this loan.

OKLAHOMA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS



Affiliated with the
National League of Women Voters
613 McBirney Bldg.,
Tulsa 3, Oklahoma

February 5, 1946

Mr. George Schwabe,
House of Representatives,
House Office Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe:

I am sorry I did not see you when you were in Tulsa recently but I understand that some of the members of the Tulsa League of Women Voters had an interesting interview with you. I did read the newspaper stories giving the answers of citizens in this community to questions you had sent them. It seemed a fine way to arouse thought on legislative matters.

Now the Oklahoma League of Women Voters asks you to vote for the U.S. loan to Britain. I am sure you have already studied the bill and must agree with the League that the United States in order to provide full employment to its people must have trade with the nations of the world. In order to trade with Britain, British export trade must be re-established, - she must have dollars to buy capitol goods, raw materials, food and clothing. The United States can not afford to lose this market and we must make it possible for one of our best customers to continue to trade with us - I hope that this time you will agree with me. If you do not vote for the loan could you please send me your reasons for opposing it. This latter request is personal and I shall hold it confidential if you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Victor F. Barnett,
President

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