

SCHWABE COLL

April 17, 1946

Mrs. H. F. Carlson  
1539 South Atlanta Avenue  
Tulsa, Oklahoma

My dear Mrs. Carlson:

I have received your letter of April 10th urging and advocating my support of the proposed British Loan. I have received many letters from people on this subject, some of whom are for the loan, but most of whom are against it.

Some time ago, I sent a questionnaire to 40,000 people of my District, including this question. The list of questions was sent indiscriminately; they went to every holder of a rural or star route mailbox, and to every small town family have a post office box where there was no free delivery of city mail, and to names taken at random from the telephone directories of the larger towns. This was certainly a fair and impartial distribution, without regard to political affiliation. Their replies were more than ten to one against the making of this loan. I doubt if you would expect me to support this loan under this circumstance, for a true representative of the people should voice the desires of his constituents.

Of course, I am glad to have your views, and appreciate your having written me; but I seriously doubt if many of the Representatives from the Middle West will vote in favor of this loan.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

GS:LW



Tulsa, Oklahoma,  
April 10, 1946.

Hon. George B. Schwabe,  
House Office Building,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Schwabe:

As a constituent of yours, I am asking for your support of the British Loan when it comes before the House.

Yes, Mr. Schwabe, I know that three and three-quarters billions of dollars is a lot of money. I know that two percent is an exceptionally low interest rate, barely more than the United States Government, with its unmatched credit, has to pay upon its borrowings. I also know that payments do not begin until 1951, and that we shall see the twenty-first century before it is finished, however, I know, too, that a prosperous United Kingdom is an essential part of the world in which we wish to live in the future.

In granting England this proposed credit with which to buy raw materials to restock her factories, we will be but finding a ready market for our industrial machinery.

As you know, the World Bank expects to be opened formally on May 7, if England is not granted this credit she will have to withdraw from the Bank and the Fund. Neither the Fund nor Bank can be expected to operate successfully unless the British have access to dollars.

I have read and studied all the arguments for and against the loan and I have come to the conclusion that orderly trade and stable money exchanges are far better for us all than tight controls and economic warfare. If we are to have a decent world to live in for ourselves and our children, then the advantages of the loan far outweigh the cost.

I sincerely hope that you can see your way clearly to support this loan.

Very truly yours,

*Melba Carlson*

Mrs. H. F. Carlson,  
1539 S. Atlanta Ave.