

SCHWABE COLL

April 10, 1946

Mrs. Leonard S. Allen
2121 East Thirty-Sixth Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Dear Mrs. Allen:

I have your letter of April 6, thanking me for my letter of March 21, but complaining that I did not answer your question as to how I was going to vote on the proposed British loan.

I have no disposition whatever to dodge an issue, but in the hundreds of letters I receive every day it is almost impossible for me to go into detail in every reply.

As to the British loan, or the Russian loan proposal that is almost sure to come up next, the proposed loans to Italy, France, and almost every other country in the world, which are in the offing and simply waiting to see what we do with the British loan; I must say that I think there is a time to call a halt on giving away, and that is what it really is, the substance of our citizens. I know the arguments pro and con. I asked 40,000 people in my district, an average of one to every four voters, in lists which I sent out indiscriminately to 40,000 people in the 10 counties in my district a short time ago, their opinions. You might be interested in knowing that their answers showed that more than ten to one were opposed to these loans and gifts. Under those circumstances, together with the deep and abiding conviction that I have that this New Deal crowd is bent upon giving away what we have until we are down on the level with other countries, it seems to me that the only vote on the present proposal, as it is about to be submitted to Congress, is a "No" vote.

How far should we go in depleting our own resources, before we stop giving away to others? We must keep ourselves strong, in order that we may be an inspiration to and in a position to help the peoples of other lands. If the present policies of this Administration are pursued, we shall soon reach the point where we cannot help others and will not be able to sustain our own economy. We are operating on a deficit spending basis at this time. We have to borrow all this money from our citizens. We can't borrow it from anyone else or from any other source.

I am in favor of letting everyone who wants to make a loan to Great Britain do so out of his own private funds; but I am not willing to tax the American people, already overburdened, to pay money into the Treasury of the United States to give away to some foreign country - England, Russia, Italy, France, or any other - in such huge sums. We all know that under similar circumstances a loan to a friend would likely result in a destruction of the

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relationship of friends and likely would make the borrower an enemy of the lender. The same thing will happen with reference to nations. England is already outsmarting us in world trade and is depriving us and our industries right there in Tulsa of many of the connections that we are entitled to have in our trading relations with peoples of the Western Hemisphere. This Administration constantly puts them in a better position to take advantage of us. We cannot buy England's friendship and good will. As a matter of fact, I would rather vote for an outright gift than a loan.

I wish I had time to go into this subject more fully, but since my people have told me that they do not want this loan to be made, and since from conviction I believe that it is wrong, I presently intend to vote against it.

I am sure you will appreciate my frankness. I intend to be courteous to all, but cannot agree with everybody on every question. However, I do think that when my people are so overwhelmingly of one mind, I should be prudent enough to listen to them and attempt to represent their views as their Representative in Congress. Don't you think so?

With kindest personal regards and best wishes, I am

Your friend,

George E. Schwabe, M. C.

GBS/msp

MRS. LEONARD S. ALLEN
2121 EAST THIRTY-SIXTH STREET
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

April 6, 1946.

Rep. George Schwabe,
House Office Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe,

Thank you for your nice letters.
However, you didn't answer my question. How
are you going to vote on the British Loan?

I am in favor of it because
of the added prosperity that will come to our
own country thereby.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth C. Allen
(Mrs. L. S. Allen)

Loan Britain

March 21, 1946

Mrs. Leonard S. Allen
2121 East Thirty-Sixth Street
Tulsa, Oklahoma

My dear Mrs. Allen:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th and note what you say about the loan to Britain.

I also note that you suggest that it might be well for me to jump on the bandwagon. Of course, I don't play the game that way. That is one of the difficulties with our politicians and would-be statesmen today. Too many of them are bandwagon riders and chasers. I have strong convictions, as you know, but I am tolerant of the views of others. Hence, I do appreciate your views, and shall appreciate getting your ideas at any time on any subject.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M.C.

GS:LW

MRS. LEONARD S. ALLEN
2121 EAST THIRTY-SIXTH STREET
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

March 18, 1946.

Mr. George Schwabe
House of Rep.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Schwabe,

Both Mr. Allen and I feel very strongly that the credit of \$3,750,000,000 to Britian should be allowed. We are in favor of this because, we feel, entirely aside from the emotional side of the amount contributed by Britian to the war effort, it will be one of the biggest factors toward a prosperous U.S.A.

It is important to our prosperity that the socalled "Sterling Block" be broken. The loan takes care of that. It is important to our prosperity that a two way trade be opened up for us, not merely exports.

I think the thing to do is to allow the credit without much delay of bickering and unpleasant insinuations. It will be allowed anyway in due time. But it will be unfortunate to wait until we have thoroughly aroused their ill will by our insulting talk. As long as it will be granted in the end, we might just as well do it now and receive some good-will in exchange.

I remember when we interviewed you in Tulsa, about the Bretton Woods Proposals, you assured us that it would never be brought to a vote. You probably feel the same way about this, and it could be that you may again be wrong.

The financial men of the country know it is important to our prosperity and will in the end win. Why not jump on the bandwagon.

Cordially,

Elizabeth C. Allen.