

March 15, 1945

Mr. and Mrs. Howard R. Foster
1151 S. Rockford
Tulsa 5, Oklahoma

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Foster:

I am just in receipt of your letter of March 13, endorsing the "Merchant Seamen's War Service Act," H. R. 2346. I have secured a copy of this bill and am studying the provisions of the same.

I appreciate the noble service the men of the Merchant Marine are rendering and that they are entitled to fair and equitable protection. However, there are some serious questions arising in connection with any bill seeking to give them the same rights and privileges as are given the soldiers and sailors under the "G. I. Bill of Rights." One of these considerations is that those in the Merchant Marine service are getting a salary much larger than the pay that is given the other men in the service and that the Merchant Marines at least fare much better while the war is on than their brothers in the fighting forces. There are other questions which suggest there should be differences in benefits. I don't know just what will happen but I am frank to tell you that we must consider the overall picture and each measure must stand on its own bottom and receive fair consideration.

I shall endeavor to do what seems to be right and fair to all parties concerned and use my influence in that direction at all times.

Sincerely yours,

GBS:CMG

George B. Schwabe, M. C.

1151 S. Rockford,
Tulsa 5, Okla.
3-13-45.

Hon. Geo. B. Schwab,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Re: H. R. 2346
Merchant Seaman's
Bill of Rights.

Your Honor:-

We again call your attention
to the "Merchant Seaman's Bill of
Rights H. R. 2346".

Having read this Bill in
full, we feel that its sections
fully cover the need of such a
bill, which will give the Merchant
Seaman equitable rights in their
service in the United States forces.

May we urge that you
actively support this bill the
same as you previously indicated
to us, that you were in favor
of a bill protecting Merchant Seaman
and their families.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Howard R. Foster

Howard R. Foster